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The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

APRIL 7, 1945 Entered as Second Class matter at Postoffice at Kansas City, Mo., under Act of March, 1879. 25c Per Copy. Per Year, $7.50 NATIONAL EDITION

INVENTORIES INDICATE 5,000,000 FEET OF SURPLUS RAW FILM STOCK IS AVAILABLE FOR CIVILIAN REQUIREMENTS . . . STUDIO WALKOUTS UNSETTLED AS STRIKERS SCOFF AT PRODUCERS' "DISCHARGE" NOTICES . . . NORTH CENTRAL ALLIED TO SEEK AID OF OPA ON FILM PRICES . . . TOLEDO THEATRE FINALLY GIVES IN TO CURFEW . . . OKINAWA NEWSREEL FILMS ARRIVE IN SEVEN DAYS



"We waited for
hours to see M-G-M's
'Mrs. Miniver'
and never a
squeak out of me."



"Call me a heel
but I didn't
mind the block-
long lines for M-G-M's
'Random Harvest'."



"We were patient
when they hung out
the S.R.O. for M-G-M's
'Mrs. Parkington.' We
took such a shine to it."



"We didn't mind
the long hold-out for
M-G-M's 'National Velvet.'
It gave us
such a lift!"

Keep Selling Bonds!

21 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

"HERE WE ARE AGAIN, BOYS!"



It's another M-G-M hit at Radio City Music Hall, so get on line, people!





SPENCER

TRACY

KATHARINE

HEPBURN

off to another long M-G-M run in the Star Hit—

"WITHOUT LOVE"



The story of the Kissless Bride and the man who walked in his sleep is convulsing New York in Record-Breaking World Premiere!

SPENCER TRACY • KATHARINE HEPBURN in "WITHOUT LOVE" with LUCILLE BALL • Keenan Wynn Carl Esmond • Patricia Morison • Felix Bressart • Screen Play by Donald Ogden Stewart • Based on the Play by Philip Barry • Directed by Harold S. Bucquet • Produced by Lawrence A. Weingarten • An M-G-M Picture

Bette again!

Bette again!

Bette again!

Bette again!

Bette again!



Marvelous, Marvelous, Marvelous in THE CO

BETTE DAVIS in "THE CORN IS GREEN" with JOHN DALL • JOAN

Directed by IRVING RAPPER • Screen Play by Casey Robinson & Frank Cavett • From the Stage Play by EMLYN WILLIAMS •



N IS GREEN another great play that **WARNERS** bring to the screen!

ORRING • NIGEL BRUCE • RHYS WILLIAMS

roduced by Herman Shumlin • Music by Max Steiner • Produced by JACK CHERTOK

N.Y. HOLLYWOOD NOW!

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

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SAN ANTONIO—531 North St., L. J. B. Ketner.
SAN FRANCISCO—25 Taylor St., Gail Lipman, ORdway 4812-4813.
SEATTLE—2418 2nd Ave., Joe Cooper, Seneca 2460.
WASHINGTON—1217 H St., N. W., Al Sherman, Executive 0715. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

CALGARY—The Albertan, Wm. Campbell.
HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.
MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

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APRIL 7, 1945

Good Citizenship —

A LETTER received from Mr. E. P. Willcox, associate advertising director of The Parents' Magazine, gives us a pleasant pat on the back. With all due modesty we publish the letter and the enclosure that came with it, because it contains a message—a timely one that has a value for years to come—and because it so appropriately fits in with the subject of another letter, from Mr. H. M. Warner, addressed to the exhibitors of the nation. Following is Mr. Willcox's letter:

"Attached is a copy of The Parents' Forum—which material is used on approximately 250 radio stations throughout the country. I thought you would be interested in the excerpt of a letter which appeared in BOXOFFICE; we used this quotation on page 6.

"This is the first time I can remember that we have quoted from another magazine . . . and never a motion picture trade publication! . . . So you can be quite proud of the fact.

"We have always been very thorough in our reviews of motion picture productions—because parent-teacher associations, better-film councils, churches, schools and other organizations interested in child welfare use our film appraisals; so when we endorse material from another publication, it reflects our high regard . . . which is another way of saying: 'Ben, you are doing a most constructive job.'"

The quotation on page 6 of the radio manuscript referred to follows:

"It seems only fair since we so often remind the motion picture industry of its responsibility for making pictures suitable for the whole family, that we should tell you about some of the difficulties they encounter—problems parents could help solve—in planning wholesome entertainment. One theatre manager writing in BOXOFFICE lists some of these stumbling blocks. '(1) Many parents permit their youngsters to go to the theatre on Saturday afternoon regardless of what picture is shown. Little wonder, then, that the manager shrugs off his responsibility with, "If parents don't care what their children see, why should I care?" (2) When there are double bills, one of the two films is almost certain to be unsuitable for children, yet attendance drops if only one film is shown. On the other hand, it is almost impossible to get the children to leave the theatre at the end of one feature if another one is to follow. (3) It requires a great deal of showmanship, advertising and additional expense for a theatre manager to maintain good children's programs.' The author of the letter added some comments on children and the movies with which we heartily agree: 'The motion pictures our children see probably contribute more to the development of their attitudes than any other influence that beams upon their daily lives. Because it is the most vivid and dramatic form of story telling, the film is usually more emotional than intellectual in its appeal. Not all movies, however, foster the most desirable attitudes toward human beings and the world they live in. But if a parent or teacher chooses carefully, he can select one or two or three films each month that will contribute to children's understanding and appreciation of human relations, particularly if the films are discussed at home or in the classroom. Homes must take the movie problem more seriously.'"

The theatre manager quoted in the foregoing is an astute showman who recognizes his theatre's place in rendering a

Good Showmanship

public service on behalf of good citizenship; and that the task to be most effective must be applied to child patronage in a manner that will do the greatest amount of good.

Selectivity of films to "foster the most desirable attitudes toward human beings and the world they live in" and which "will contribute to children's understanding and appreciation of human relations" is part of the job that calls for every exhibitor's earnest effort. The suggestion that "the home must take the movie problem more seriously" is good. But it is incumbent upon the exhibitor to make the home—and the school and the church—cooperatively conscious of their joint responsibilities, along with the theatre owner, in helping to guide child thought, attitude and behavior into paths of better understanding that lead to better citizenship.

This has been an ever-present problem for the industry, heightened by the war and still further to be increased in its aftermath. It is an unending responsibility that must ever be watched. For, if it once gets out of hand, there will be hell to pay.

* * *

Every so often an exceptional picture is produced that has an important bearing and value to this subject. Currently Warner Bros. have made a two-reel picture, titled "It Happened in Springfield." It is entertaining as well as enlightening. Dealing with the plan worked out in Springfield, Mass., whereby school children are taught the real meaning of democracy, and to learn for themselves respect and consideration for each other, it sets a high and successful example that can be followed by all communities. It is about this picture that Mr. Warner has written a letter to every exhibitor in the nation, asking that they book and play the picture as quickly as possible, because of its timeliness and wide interest.

As Mr. Warner says in his letter, the picture cost so much it cannot be a profitable venture for his company; it was made "as part of this firm's investment in America . . . as part of our effort to 'combine good citizenship with good picture-making.'"

Every exhibitor who plays this picture will be combining good citizenship with good showmanship. He will earn the respect and goodwill of the people of his community and be rendering a great service to the cause of democracy . . . to America.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Threaten "Life" Expulsion For Crossing Picket-Line

Union tells carpenters such action revokes cards "for good"; Hollywood producers "fire" strikers as CSU head says 14,000 in walkout ranks are intact.

• • • —

Equipment Men Excited Over Materials' Moves

"Must" reading for them are latest pronouncements by WPB on prospects for easing restrictions; salesmen taking orders, first-come, first served basis.

• • • —

Majors Ask Supreme Court Not to Hear Arthur Plea

Brief contends St. Louis operator has no right to intervene in antitrust case because consent decree is not final; cites numerous precedents.

• • • —

Shortage of Film Cancels Early Showings in Camps

Industry practice of making pictures available for armed services here ahead of national release dates fast being abandoned, due to shortage of positive stock.

• • • —

England's Trade Board Wants Quota Observed

Defaults increased during 1944 due to lack of studio space, but some studios are soon to be released by government and production is expected to gain.

• • • —

Dr. P. C. Goldmark Quits SMPE Tele Committee

His company, CBS, recently took stand in opposition to television licenses for theatres; as result committee will be reorganized with only film men as members.

• • • —

British Require Export Licenses for All Film

Move due to raw stock shortage; ruling effective April 11 and applies to newsreel prints as well as all other subjects.

• • • —

AMG Using Whole Output Of Belgium's Raw Stock

Gaevert's plant in reoccupied area, spared from damage during German occupation, may resume manufacture of new color film, halted when Nazis invaded Low Countries.

• • • —

Intermountain Exhibitors Again Name S. L. Gillette

Tooele, Utah, showman is re-elected president of ITOA at the group's annual meeting in Salt Lake City, and plans are made for vigorous participation in Seventh War Loan.

FIVE MILLION FEET OF SURPLUS FILM STOCK MAY BE AVAILABLE

Inventories Indicate Extra Quantity May Be Pegged For Civilian Use

By AL SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—Inventories now under way on surplus raw film stock indicate that more than 5,000,000 feet of film will be available for civilian requirements, according to the WPB. Of that quantity, a large portion will be turned over to the WAC for use as needed. Meantime, according to Lincoln V. Burrows, chief, photographic section, WPB, no replies have been received from film companies commenting on the WPB proposal that allocations on raw stock be lifted after military requirements are met.

"Agency Still Open-Minded"

Burrows stated that replies to the letter discussing this proposal should be in by next week, at which time WPB officials will analyze the answers and submit the suggestions made to the next industry advisory committee meeting scheduled to be held June 7. The WPB official also added that, despite current rumors, the government agency "still is open-minded about allocation proposals and that no definite figures have been set as yet for the disposal of extra raw stock available because of army and navy credits."

Army inventories on surplus raw stock are continuing with the statement that the anticipated excess of 5,000,000 feet of film pegged for civilian use will not be disposed of until the inventories are completed.

Following a meeting with the industrial film producers' industry advisory committee, the WPB has reported there will be an increase in raw stock allotments for producers of educational, training and factual films. For the second quarter the increase is 2,500,000 feet, totaling 7,500,000 feet, as against the 5,000,000 allotted for the first quarter. An even larger quantity may be available to the industry in the third quarter, WPB spokesmen said.

This presages a possible additional supply of footage for Hollywood producers, it was indicated here.

Urge Cancellation of Further Cuts

Meantime, motion picture industry executives, including George J. Schaefer, liaison between the WPB and the industry advisory committee, are urging the WPB to cancel all further proposed raw stock cuts. The fact that the educational film industry has been granted an increase, even though in actual footage it is a small percentage of the over-all needs of Hollywood producers, may be used as an argument to persuade the WPB to return to the industry some 30,000,000 feet of raw stock not credited at the first quarter of the year when repayments on film from the army were placed on a current basis.

While the WPB still is toying with the idea of having ration controls eliminated for commercial raw stock users, industry executives who were approached on this at the last advisory committee meeting expressed themselves as being opposed to such a plan. While no industry executive would permit himself to be quoted directly, there was a feeling that the larger producers, through their greater purchasing power, would be in a position to tie up all raw stock available on the market after the armed forces had been supplied. However, the WPB now has letters out to industry heads, raw stock manufacturers and laboratories asking their views on the possibility of taking control of raw stock allocations out of the WPB and letting the manufacturers assume the brunt of such disposal.

One of the reasons ascribed for this WPB move is the seeming lack of understanding on mutual problems that, according to reports, had turned industry advisory committee meetings into what one individual described as "dog-eat-dog" sessions.

Schaefer Thinks Chances Are Good For Restoring 30,000,000 Feet

NEW YORK—No definite decisions were reached following the conferences between George J. Schaefer, industry liaison man, and Stanley B. Adams, director of the WPB's consumers durable goods division, concerning several pressing raw stock problems facing the industry.

Upon his return from Washington, Schaefer answered questions concerning the restoration of 30,000,000 feet of raw stock per quarter by the army to the industry with the following statement:

"A shortage of any critical material, whatsoever it may be, creates a problem for the manufacturer and the consumer and is bound to cause confusion and misunderstanding. I am certain after a review of all the facts with respect to the 50 per cent film credit reserved for the industry, the WPB will continue to make available the same amount of film as in previous quarters, which approximates about 30,000,000 feet, or 120,000,000 feet a year.

"Since the 30,000,000 feet made available to the army was for the purpose of making release prints of finished product in advance of release date and was taken from the original stockpile, it seems only proper that the army now put back into the stockpile the said allotment and it be divided proportionately among the companies."

There Is No 285-Print Limitation, And Never Was, Says the WPB

WASHINGTON—There is no 285-print limitation; there never was a 285-print limitation and, insofar as the WPB is concerned, there never will be, according to Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the photographic section of the WPB.

This is the latest development in the film raw stock allocations situation and the whole matter begins to take on the aspect of an Alice-in-Wonderland setting, with March Hare overtones and Mad Hatter implications.

According to the WPB official, the 285-print limitation was discussed at earlier industry advisory committee meetings and it was a voluntary imposition set by the companies themselves. At no time was it a legal order and, insofar as the WPB is concerned, it was a gesture made by the industry representatives to work out a feasible print supply based upon the film allotment of each company.

The 285-print limitation was tried out by Paramount, Warner Bros., 20th-Fox and M-G-M, but "difficulties" developed, and so the companies have decided not to adhere to an arbitrary print limitation, it was stated.

There was no explanation of the "difficulties," but it may be assumed that the producers had decided that a 285-print limitation might create problems in booking if adhered to with exactitude.

Meantime, Stanley B. Adams, chief of the consumers durable goods section, WPB, is reported coast-bound to see at first hand what makes a motion picture studio click.

Says 285-Print Limitation Never An Order; Dropping It Is Likely

NEW YORK—George J. Schaefer, industry liaison, said the recommendation which the industry agreed to in the interests of raw stock conservation was never put into the form of an order by the WPB and would probably be dropped without further ado. Schaefer also disclosed that the WPB would probably abandon the practice of making advance prints available for showing in army camps as long as shortage in raw stock exists. If adopted, this would supply the industry with an estimated 30,000,000 feet of additional raw stock for each quarter.

Reduction from 350 to 285 prints would have created a serious situation in distribution, making necessary a staggered releasing setup in various exchange areas to provide enough prints for circuit "breaks."

Exhibitor in Toledo Bows to the Curfew

TOLEDO—Because Mrs. Jack O'Connell is the wife of a theatre man, and knows how to operate projection machines, curfew did not ring Wednesday at midnight in the Loop here; however, the next day, Thursday, O'Connell said he had run his last after-hours show, thus ending his 17-day defiance of the national closing order.

When midnight struck Wednesday, the IATSE projectionist employed by O'Connell walked out of the booth, despite a temporary court order restraining the union from withdrawing the all-night theatre's early morning operator. Mrs. O'Connell walked in, and the machines ran as before.

On Thursday Judge Harvey G. Straub turned down O'Connell's application to continue the temporary injunction restraining the union from interfering with operation of the theatre after midnight. Then the exhibitor went into conference with officials of the IATSE. Following this meeting, the theatre owner announced he would hereafter close his theatre at midnight.

"If shutting down my theatre for one hour would save the life of one American soldier, I would close it for a year," O'Connell said.

The Loop's case was to have been reviewed by a regional WMC labor-management panel Saturday, April 7, in Cleveland.

Until Thursday of this week, the fight was a stalemate between the exhibitor on one side and powerful government agencies on the other, plus three or four film exchanges who entered the fray with announcements they would refuse to serve product ticketed to be shown after midnight.

(Other details appear on page 21.)

Saltonstall to Foreign Post for MPPDA

NEW YORK—Philip Leverett Saltonstall has been named for an overseas assignment as a representative of the MPPDA's international department. He will leave shortly for England, where he will remain until circumstances permit his crossing over to the continent.

The appointment is regarded as further expansion of the plan to represent the interests of the American film industry in foreign capitals throughout the world. These representatives will act as liaison between the companies, diplomatic officials of our government and officials of the foreign governments.

Saltsonstall met the foreign managers of the American film companies late last year. He will go to England accompanied by Fayette W. Allport, who returned recently from England, where he acted as representative. Saltonstall was at the helm of the Los Angeles office of a governmental war agency prior to his association with the MPPDA. For the past six months he has been surveying all branches of the film industry in Hollywood, New York and Washington.

"U" Facing Infringement Charge by Harold Lloyd

LOS ANGELES—Harold Lloyd Corp. has filed three actions in federal court asking $1,700,000 damages and $115,000 counsel fees from Universal Pictures Co., Inc., charging "wholesale copyright infringement." The plaintiff alleges Universal's "Her Lucky Night," "So's Your Uncle" and "She Gets Her Man" contained sequences "boldly misappropriated" from Lloyd's "The Freshman," "Movie Crazy" and "Welcome Danger."

Complaint asks injunctions and destruction of all prints of the three Universal releases mentioned.

Harold A. Fendler, for plaintiff, in each complaint, charges that the former Lloyd employes, Clyde Bruckman and Warren Wilson, now Universal writers, infringed on their former employer's copyrights. The first suit asks $500,000 general damages and $500,000 special damages for infringement on "Freshman" in "Lucky Night"; the second action asks $150,000 general and $150,000 special damages because Universal is alleged to have used parts of "Welcome Danger" in "She Gets Her Man"; the third suit asks $200,000 general, $200,000 special damages, because parts of "Movie Crazy" were purportedly used in "So's Your Uncle."

J. E. McVeigh, general manager and secretary of the Lloyd Corp., said Universal had declined his company's request to withdraw the three films from circulation. The complainant asks accounting of profits made by the trio of productions.

G. B. Frawley Observes 25th Para't Anniversary

NEW YORK—G. B. "Judge" Frawley, Paramount executive, will observe his 25th anniversary with the company April 19. He joined Paramount, after serving with the National Bank of Commerce, to reorganize the company's financial structure. He remained upon completion of this mission, to handle important auditing and statistical chores.

Frawley also acted as liaison officer between Paramount's financial and distribution departments and as convention manager, functioning in various parts of the country.

Harold Lewis Joins PRC

NEW YORK—Harold Lewis has joined the staff of Bert Kulick, general sales manager for PRC, as an administrative assistant.

Studio Strike Still On; Scoff At "Discharges"

HOLLYWOOD—Nine major film studios on Wednesday night, in answer to the unions' defy of the 24-hour back-to-work ultimatum, mailed "discharge" notices to all employes who have been on strike for the last 25 days, involving some 14,000 workers. Striking unionites termed this latest move of the producers as a "bluff," Herbert Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, scoffing at the "threat" by stating that the producers had been trying to fill the strike-vacated spots ever since the walkout was called.

Richard Walsh, IATSE chief, arrived in Hollywood at midweek and it was expected that he would carry on locally his efforts to reach a settlement of the jurisdictional disputes, or, failing that, to break the strike by furnishing producers with manpower from his IA locals to replace the strikers in CSU ranks.

Accordingly, as the week was ending, the strike was still at a stalemate, with every prospect of going into its fifth week. There were a few scattered sluggings and some arrests, but this latest development was well taken care of by the Los Angeles and Hollywood police forces.

Producers to Live Up to Decision

Word came from Washington that the NLRB had handed down a decision clarifying the disputed results of the recent election to determine whether the Screen Actors Guild or the Screen Players Union was to be designated as bargaining agent for extras in the screen capital. This election, incidentally, had been overwhelmingly won by the SPU, and it developed that the NLRB decision confirmed SAG's contention that it should retain exclusive jurisdiction over all screen acting work, including that of bit and part players.

Producers issued a statement that while the full text of the NLRB decision had not been received, that they would live up to any decision from that agency in the fight over extras, also with respect to the dispute over the set decorators.

SAG made a request for a resumption of negotiations, in order to discuss modifications of the basic pact between the film makers and SAG.

A later statement from the producers contained the pledge that "everything would be done to continue making motion pictures," and exhorted the union leaders to order their striking personnel back to work.

Senate Group to Launch Probe of the Industry

Washington—The senate small business committee, headed by Sen. James Murray of Montana, will immediately begin its investigation of the motion picture industry, with emphasis upon exhibitor policies on the part of major film companies, it was learned this week. Announcement to that effect will be made formally this Monday, it was learned. The investigation will get under way under the supervision of Dewey Anderson, committee counsel.

The committee's investigation of the industry will concentrate upon policies of the producer-distributor-exhibitor companies, it was learned.

This bears out the story first published in BOXOFFICE's "Washington Report" column that the Murray committee has its eye upon the film industry as a source of study.

Londoners Are Hoping Aerial Bombs Will End

NEW YORK—The sustained terror caused in England, particularly in the southern coastal regions and the London area, by the German robot bomb assaults has shown signs of abating recently, with the longest lull reported in the nine months since the beginning of the attacks.

London theatres have suffered heavily through the bombings, and at one period, film shows were prohibited in many areas because too many people were congregated in one spot, thereby increasing the possibility of large numbers of casualties in case of a hit. British Ministry of Information officials recently stated that many of the theatres devastated in attacks would remain that way for a long period after the conclusion of the war in Europe, top priority in materials going to housing and industry.

Cautioned Against Optimism

While reports have been current that the Germans were abandoning their rocket launching sites along the Netherlands coast in a wild attempt to evade the armored noose being drawn around their positions by Allied forces at the northern end of the front, Britains have been cautioned against the optimistic assumption that the danger had been permanently passed. It was felt that the Nazis might attempt a new, desperate assault with obsolete bombers, stripped of all nonessential equipment, and loaded down with explosives, for a remote-controlled, one-way trip to Britain.

Latest dispatches from the front indicate the danger is lessening to the port of Antwerp and the capital city of Brussels in Belgium, where the fury of Nazi robot bombs caused widespread destruction. Motion picture theatres were closed during the height of the attacks, and gatherings of 50 persons or more were forbidden.

Thomas Hodge to England

NEW YORK—Thomas Hodge, assistant director, film division, BMOI, has left for a month's refresher visit in England. While in England, Hodge will study recent developments in nontheatrical distribution.

Capital "Paper Holiday" Draws Kudos From WPB

Washington—The WPB has publicly praised Washington's theatre operators for their wholehearted support of the "paper holiday," campaign designed to conserve the use of needed paper.

Trailers in 50 Washington theatres, as well as radio announcements and full newspaper and local store support, signalized a paper holiday that, according to the WPB, should serve as a pattern for similar events in large cities of the nation.

Set Mochrie Weeks

NEW YORK—The last two weeks of RKO's Ned Depinet sales drive, beginning April 27, will be known as "Bob Mochrie" weeks in honor of the company's general sales manager. Present goal of the drive, now in its tenth week, has been set at $1,000,000 a week.

N-C Allied to Seek Aid Of OPA on Film Prices

MINNEAPOLIS—Kicking over the traces after a long period of peace, North Central Allied, comprising mostly Twin City independent exhibitors, will seek aid from the Office of Price Administration and members of Congress to force down film prices.

It also will take newspaper space and radio time to inform the public that independent exhibitors are being "crushed" by "the distributors' unfair trade practices," hoping to arouse sympathy and enlist public support in a fight against the distributors.

Moreover, reversing a previous stand, it will get behind the theatre divorcement bill now before the Minnesota state legislature. The measure would require the Minnesota Amusement Co., Paramount subsidiary, to relinquish its theatres. A few weeks ago the organization, which had nothing to do with the measure's introduction, voted that it would keep hands off.

All this resumption of old-time belligerency was announced following what was called "the annual meeting," when Bennie Berger, independent circuit owner and always an advocate of militant action, was elected president to replace peace-loving Henry Greene, under whose administration the organization apparently maintained harmonious relations with the distributors, not making public any grievances or hostile moves.

It also was announced that a fund has been raised for the purpose of employing proper legal talent as well as for the newspaper and radio advertising campaign to acquaint the public with the independent exhibitors' "sorry plight."

"Exorbitant Percentage Demands"

Following the meeting, to which no trade press or other reporters were invited, President-Elect Berger gave out the following statement:

"Over 90 per cent of the theatre owners in the Twin Cities were present at the annual meeting of the North Central Allied which was held March 30 at the Hotel Nicollet. An annual election of officers took place and newly-elected officers are as follows: Benjamin Berger, president; Lyle Carrisch (Wayzata, Minn., exhibitor), vice-president; Martin Lebedoff, secretary, and Max Torodor, treasurer. (Lebedoff is the only officer re-elected. Both he and Torodor are Minneapolis exhibitors.)

"A committee has been selected to alleviate the present exorbitant percentage demands made by the distributors. The members have authorized this committee to take up the matter of prohibitive increases in film rentals with the Office of Price Administration, and with our senators and congressmen.

"A fund has been raised for the purpose of employing proper legal talent and space for newspaper and radio advertising to inform the public of the terrible plight that the independent exhibitors are in.

"While the independent exhibitors have at all times stayed shy from presenting their problems before the public, they now feel that they have nothing to lose by asking for the public's cooperation and help.

"While the distributors are bathing in gold, they have pursued a policy of extracting the last drop from the independent exhibitor. It was the unanimous opinion of the exhibitors present that the distributors have only one thought in mind—to crush and put the independent theatre owner out of business.

Seek to Stop Arrogant Bureaucracy

"The new officers of North Central Allied have pledged themselves to leave no stone unturned to secure the proper rights for independent exhibitors. The arrogant bureaucracy which has been developed in the motion picture industry, which has made it possible for every flunky in the distributor's office to humiliate the independent exhibitors, must be stopped.

"The divorcement bill, which is now pending in the Minnesota state legislature, was brought before the meeting. There was a unanimous vote in support of the bill. The organization has pledged itself to fight and work for a divorcement bill so long as producers and distributors will be in the exhibition business."

The divorcement bill now reposes in committee in both branches of the Minnesota state legislature. There is known to be considerable sentiment among Minnesota independent exhibitors generally against such a law. Some of these exhibitors have openly declared at exhibitor meetings that they feel that John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president, has operated the big circuit with fairness and a let-live policy toward independents and that they would much prefer to have the first runs owned and operated by him.

Crossing the Rhine Films May Come Next Week

WASHINGTON—Films showing the American crossing of the Rhine are being rushed from Europe and soon as they are processed will be turned over to the newsreel companies for immediate showing on the nation's screens, Lieut. Col. Gordon Swarthout, acting chief, photographic section, Army Bureau of Public Relations, stated.

While no definite date has been assigned for these films, it is believed that they will be available to newsreel companies some time next week.

Freon Restrictions Removed

Washington—Restrictions on the use of freon for air conditioning were removed by the WPB and it was stated that adequate supplies of the refrigerant gas should continue to be available if gas containers are returned with reasonable promptness.

Under the terms of the new order M-28, motion picture theatres and other amusement enterprises, in addition to hotels, transit terminals, residential builders and stores classified on what is known as list "A," are permitted the full use of freon, but precedence is given to orders for freon for installation in systems of more essential users. The WPB order does not clarify who are the "essential" users.

Failure to return empty cylinders may result in the necessity of reimposing restrictions, WPB said, except where such cylinders are owned by the user. In general, cylinders should be returned within 30 days after they are received by the user.

Ad and Publicity Staff For Bond Drive Named

NEW YORK—Members of the advertising, publicity and exploitation committee for the forthcoming Seventh War Loan, May 14-June 30, have been named to serve during the campaign by John Hertz jr., national publicity director.

Committee members have been granted leaves of absence from their companies and will give up their full time to the Seventh War Loan, or as much time as is necessary.

The committee is headed by Jerry Zigmond, who will serve as coordinator. William Boley, film account executive for Buchanan & Co., will be assistant advertising coordinator. Al Finestone of the Paramount publicity staff will be assistant director of publicity.

Other members of the committee include Bernard M. Kamber, UA director of special events, who will serve as public press adviser; Ernest Moeller, assistant media director for Buchanan & Co., who will be publications contact; Nat Storm, radio department business manager for Buchanan & Co., who will be director of radio; Jack Alicoate, Film Daily publisher and chairman of the trade press division of WAC, who will serve as chairman for trade publications.

Sam Shain, assistant to Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, aide; Walton C. Ament, vice-president of Pathe News and chairman of the WAC newsreel division, in charge of newsreel cooperation; Alec Moss, Paramount exploitation manager, will direct national cooperative exploitation, assisted by Sid Mesibov of his staff, and Henry Spiegel, Columbia's assistant exploitation manager, who will be field exploitation adviser.

FWC Theatre Collections On R. C. Hit a New High

LOS ANGELES—Charles P. Skouras, California chairman of the industry's Red Cross drive, has reported to N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman, that collections in Fox West Coast theatres over the state hit an all-time high of $236,687. This is more than 40 per cent of last year's total Red Cross collections.

There are 633 theatres in the Los Angeles zone, of which 601 are pledged for the 1945 campaign. Of this latter number, 362 as of midweek, reported total collections of $365,-281.57. This leaves 239 theatres yet to make their reports.

"Pirate" Tops of 1944 Among Armed Forces

NEW YORK—The U.S. army motion picture service's poll of the armed forces in the United States and on continental bases has selected "The Princess and the Pirate" as the best picture of the year from a boxoffice standpoint.

At the Astor Theatre, where the Bob Hope film is about to enter its ninth week, men and women in uniform comprise a steadily increasing percentage of the audience, according to tabulations made by Myrtle Candee, house manager, and Jerry Rogers, her assistant.

Harry Browning Recovers

NEW YORK—Harry Browning, executive assistant to Sam Pinanski, national chairman for the Seventh War Loan, is fully recovered from a recent appendicitis operation, and is working at campaign headquarters in New York for the duration of the drive. Browning is advertising and publicity director for M&P Theatres in Boston.

for the first time

SONJA HENIE



Skates Dances Romances

IN LAVISH, GLORIOUS, SPECTACULAR

TECHNICOLOR

The Wonder-Thrill Spectacle with G

. . . and All the Splendors and Excitements of a $6.00 Ice Show!

International Pictures Presents

SONJA HENIE

in

"It's a Pleasure!"

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

MICHAEL O'SHEA

MARIE McDONALD · BILL JOHNSON

GUS SCHILLING



Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER

Produced by DAVID LEWIS

SCREEN PLAY BY
LYNN STARLING AND ELLIOT PAUL



rious

Romance!



Bill Johnson



Marie ("The Body") McDonald


more
proof
that
"good
entertainment
is
International"
and
It's a Pleasure!"
everywhere!
GOOD ENTERTAINMENT
INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, INC.
IS "INTERNATIO
Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES,

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

20th-Fox Moves Fast

MOST of the film company moves in connection with television are made with a minimum of publicity, but this does not mean there are not plenty of them. Twentieth-Fox has jumped a couple of spaces on the checker board by leasing station WIXG in Boston and by making an application to the FCC for an experimental license. WIXG has been inactive, but it is strategically important.

The first radio relay hookup of the AT&T will be between New York and Boston. The sites have been acquired and the FCC has given every indication that it will soon grant permits to build these. They will go up in a hurry when materials are available. As soon as it has been demonstrated that the air relays work, television stations in a hookup will be possible in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York. The existing co-axial cables extend through Philadelphia to Washington and connections with them can be made for short distances by what is called balanced telephone circuits. This makes television possible to quite a sizable number of important theatres or directly to the homes of an important segment of the population.

Because of the close relations between 20th-Fox and General Precision Instrument Co. which will make the television projectors designed for theatres by Scophony it is obvious 20th-Fox will not be caught napping.

* * *

More Capital Trouble

WASHINGTON reports that the senate small business committee will start another investigation of the industry is further proof that most of the industry's troubles will continue to be centered in the capital. In the last investigation Wendell Willkie, in spite of the refusal of the investigators to permit him to cross-examine witnesses, made the investigation look silly in a matter of days. Senators who were obviously not averse to the publicity involved in the investigation soon woke up to the fact that their headlines were the wrong kind and the investigation came to an abrupt halt. Willkie refused to be buffaloed by anybody. Finding another counsel like him may be a job, but there must be an able counsel available somewhere.

* * *

Materials Outlook

JAMES F. BYRNES' second quarterly report to the President as director of war mobilization and reconversion, has a number of items of interest to this industry. Outstanding among them, of course, is the promise that the curfew and the brownout will be ended after V-E Day. That may happen anytime.

He also said there might be an increase in the gasoline ration—an item that will interest salesmen. Munitions making may be cut 20 per cent, he said. That will release a lot of steel. Hard goods may be cut back 30 per cent, a diversion of $13,000,000,000 of these goods back to civilian uses. Army supplies will be cut back 15 per cent to 20 per cent.

During 1944 45 per cent of the total national output went for war purposes. Construction of 142 Liberty ships has been halted. Orders for more than 70 naval ships have been cancelled. Some time within the next six months many materials used in theatres should become available.

Byrnes says there is $140,000,000,000 of pent up demand for civilian supplies. This, he believes, will keep business extremely active for some time to come, although he predicts there will be local unemployment areas while industrial readjustments are being made.

* * *

THERE is a scene in the new Sonja Henie picture, "It's a Pleasure," as colorful as a Maxfield Parrish painting. The foreground is a blue ice as brilliant as a mirror. In the background are white mounds with skaters in colorful costumes. The amazing part of it is that the ice retains its unmarred beauty as the skaters glide over it. It is some kind of a liquid that does not spatter. Whoever worked it out deserves a big hand.



CONGRATULATING STURDIVANT—Charles P. Skouras, right, extends felicitations to B. V. Sturdivant, northern California division manager for FWC Theatres, who has been named as Latin-American manager for National Theatres Amusement Co., with headquarters in Mexico City. Skouras declared, incidentally, that NT anticipates an ambitious program in the southern countries, laying especial emphasis on the prefabricated metal theatre developed by his company, which will be ready for a world-wide market upon the cessation of hostilities.

Higher Court Upholds Film Racket Verdict

WASHINGTON—The supreme court has refused to review conviction of seven men accused of violating the federal antiracketeering act in the $1,000,000 shakedown of the motion picture industry. The men were convicted of extorting large sums from leading film companies, among them Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warners.

Sentences of ten years' imprisonment and fines of $10,000 each were imposed on Louis Compagna, Paul de Lucia, Phil D'Andrea, Charles Gioe, John Rosselli and Francis Maritote. Louis Kaufman was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined $10,000.

The government said the sums were paid for "protection" against obstructions to the production, distribution and exhibition of motion pictures. The highest tribunal's decision to uphold the convictions parallels the action of the second federal circuit court in New York City.

Bond-Charteris Enters Television Film Field

NEW YORK—Acting on the theory that television programs for the next five years will be based largely on films, Anson Bond and Leslie Charteris have formed Bond-Charteris Enterprises and have signed contracts for production of television films in both cartoon and live-talent form.

One of its first clients is the Gruen Watch Co. Bond-Charteris is already producing the Saint series for regular broadcasts. The visualization of product in the Gruen account will be done with cartoons in a light mood, and with jingles furnished by Kent-Johnson, Inc. Watches are introduced as characters in the cartoon stories. Series somewhat similar to standard film shorts will be introduced and popularized. One character in the Gruen series is Chloe, a blackface clock, intended to advertise luminous dials.

Bond says television films will have to condense subjects of wide scope into brief, informative film. These will run from one minute to a half hour, with graphs, montage, simplified imagery and cameo-type closeups interspersed. Charteris wrote 30 Sherlock Holmes stories for films under the name of Bruce Taylor. He has made 70 films for special government purposes since the start of the war. Bond was a newspaper correspondent and film writer before entering the documentary film field. He is now negotiating with WRBG, General Electric television station in Schenectady.

NBC Television Newsreel Features Rhine Smash

NEW YORK—The NBC television station WNBT will feature latest newsreel shots of the Allied break-through west of the Rhine on its newsreel program, "The War As It Happens."

Outstanding features of the reel show the Ludendorff bridge at Remagen; the fierce fighting centering around several German towns, and pictures of fighter plane support given our infantry troops.

"The War As It Happens" is presented every Monday night at 8 p. m., and is compiled from the latest newsreel releases by cameramen of the army, navy and marines. The film is edited by Paul Alley, NBC's television newsreel editor.

"Desert" Tradeshowings Set

NEW YORK—Warners has set national tradeshowing of "Escape in the Desert" for Monday, April 23. Picture's cast is headed by Helmut Dantine, Philip Dorn, Jean Sullivan and Alan Hale.


IT'S
Chili Williams
THE PIN-UP IN
POLKA DOTS
KEEP SELLING BONDS!

THE COMIC SIDE OF HOMICIDE!



RKO's frightfully funny murder mystery . . . with a bride and groom and a best-man "wolf" tangled in a trail of clues and killers and gorgeous glamour gals!

PAT O'BRIEN
Sherlock in search of a body

•

GEORGE MURPHY
Groom in search of a suite

•

CAROLE LANDIS
Bride in search of excitement

Having Wonderful Crime

WITH **LENORE AUBERT**

Screen Play by Howard J. Green, Stewart Sterling and Parke Lev...

Produced by Robert Fellows
Directed by Eddie Suth...

RKO RADIO PICTURES



ON THE PERUVIAN FRONT——Les Whelan, foreign publicity manager for 20th-Fox, is back from a two-month tour of Central and South America. He brought this picture with him from Peru. Whelan is third from left. Edward Cohen, fifth from left, is the new supervisor for South America. The others are members of the Lima exchange staff.

New Distribution Concern, Cardinal Pictures, Formed by Independents

ATLANTA—Following preliminary meetings at St. Louis and Chicago, a score of independent distributors have effected organization of Cardinal Pictures Corp., it was announced this week by John W. Mangham of this city, who is chairman of the new company. Officers will be elected permanently upon receipt of incorporation papers. John L. Franconi of Dallas is secretary; M. S. Schulter of St. Louis is treasurer; the other members of the executive committee being John J. Jones of Boston and New Haven and Robert L. Lippert of San Francisco.

While charter members of the new company are also franchise holders of Film Classics, Mangham explained that the two companies are separate and distinct from one another, and each will be operated as going concerns. He said that Film Classics, with a listing of Goldwyn and Selznick and other rereleases, has a definite place in the exhibition field, especially on the present market.

Makes Initial Contract

He added that the new company, Cardinal, had made its initial contract with Lippert and his associates through their Action Pictures Corp. for a series of all-color outdoor action pictures. First subject is "Wildfire," to be followed by "Sunrise" and "Death Valley." Other deals are pending.

"Business will be done with independent producers," said Mangham, "on the several accepted and established plans followed within the industry. We will handle worth-while productions, and eventually will establish headquarters in New York and Hollywood, but high-salaried officials will be conspicuous by their absence." He declared there had been no employment of persons in any official capacity at the present time, "nor is this likely for the near future."

Mangham said that "unauthorized and unauthentic" press reports had stemmed from the recent meeting of the distributors in Chicago. He added that the new company was formed because "there is a known need for a new national distributing company to furnish an outlet for ranking independent producers of Class A pictures."

Charter members of Cardinal, who will own franchises for their respective centers, follow:

John W. Mangham, Atlanta and Memphis; Arthur Lockwood and Al Swerdlove, Boston and New Haven; J. F. White jr., Charlotte; John J. Jones, Chicago; John L. Franconi, Dallas; Julian H. King, Des Moines and Omaha; Al Dezel, Detroit; John Bannerman, Los Angeles; Joseph Wolf, Minneapolis; L. C. Montgomery and Joy Houck, New Orleans; Carr Scott, Oklahoma City; Jack Engel, Philadelphia; Bert Stearn, Pittsburgh; Harry C. Arthur jr., M. S. Schulter and Andy Dietz, St. Louis; Sam Wheeler, Washington; Robert L. Lippert, San Francisco; H. J. Allen, Toronto. A committee is arranging with distributors in other exchange centers not covered by the present listing.

Distributors already associated with the company have more than 500 theatres under their control in some of the richest exhibition fields in this country and Canada, and in the foreign field, Mangham added, a special department will be set up to handle all product completely controlled by the firm.

Clair Hilgers Joins FC in Southeast; Takes Charge at New Orleans, Memphis

ATLANTA—Clair Hilgers, formerly district manager for Republic Pictures, has joined Film Classics of the Southeast, and will be in charge of sales in the New Orleans exchange, as well as at an exchange soon to be established in Memphis. Hilgers is also understood to have acquired an operating interest in the two exchanges under his supervision, from John W. Mangham and Frank Harris and associates, owners of the FC franchise in the southeastern territory.

Hilgers, whose experience in the several branches of the industry is of an international character, is retaining his interest in the Crawford Theatre at El Paso, Tex. For years he was branch manager for 20th-Fox at Dallas, and also saw service with that company in South Africa.

Alperson and Partner Deny Film Classics for Sale

NEW YORK—Edward L. Alperson and L. E. Goldhammer denied in a statement there was any foundation in the reports Charles Casanave was taking over any part of Film Classics in the formation of a new distributing company.

"Film Classics, which has been doing a healthy business, will positively continue its distribution in the reissue field," the statement read. Alperson also declared it was the orginal intention of Film Classics to produce new product, but that current difficulties in obtaining sufficient quantities of raw stock precluded such action at the present time.

Kingsberg Congratulates Loew's on Bond Sales

NEW YORK—The outstanding record hung up by Loew's New York theatres was lauded by Malcolm Kingsberg, New York chairman for the Sixth War Loan, in a letter to C. C. Moskowitz, vice-president of the circuit's theatres.

"It is a pleasure," Kingsberg wrote, "to congratulate Loew's for having captured not only the top place, but the first four top places in the list of the honored 100 managers, for their sales of E bonds during the Sixth War Loan. Messrs. Weiss, Landwehr, Heiber and Marbe sold more bonds than any other managers in the lower New York area. They had tough competition and you can be proud of their performances.

"Loew's theatres also sold more bonds for bond premieres than any other group of theatres including our own. It is a pleasure to congratulate you."

Airmail Postage to Some Foreign Countries Reduced

WASHINGTON—Airmail charges to most of the Latin-American countries have been cut in half, effective now, it was announced by the post office department. The new rates per half ounce are as follows:

Argentina, 20 cents, reduced from 40 cents; Barbados, 10, reduced from 25; Bolivia, 20, from 35; Brazil, 20, from 40; British Guiana, 15, from 30; British Honduras, 10, from 20; Canal Zone, 10, from 15; Chile, 20, from 40; Colombia, 25, from 35; Costa Rica, 10, from 15; Curacao, 10, from 25; Ecuador, 15, from 30; Falkland Islands, 20, from 40; French Guiana, 15, from 30; Guadeloupe, 10, from 15; Guatemala, 10, from 12; Republic of Honduras, 10, from 12; Leeward Islands, 10, from 15; Martinique, 10, from 15; Nicaragua, 10, from 12; Panama, 10, from 15; Paraguay, 20, from 40; Peru, 15, from 30; El Salvador, 10, from 12; Surinam, 15, from 30; Trinidad, 10, from 15; Uruguay, 20, from 40; Venezuela, 15, from 25; Windward Islands, 10, from 15.

Hollywood's Paramount To Install Television

HOLLYWOOD—The local Paramount Theatre will be among the first of the nation's showcases to have a permanent installation of television receiving equipment, according to plans announced by Klaus Lansberg, Paramount studio's director of television. Lansberg's program provides for construction of a small screen in the near future, which is to be replaced by a large screen just as soon as priorities will permit.

Being considered as regular television items for the theatre program are vaudeville acts, boxing and wrestling cards, GI shows and news analyses. Also to be included are the twice-weekly telecasts of the Paramount subsidiary, Television Productions, Inc., Station W6XYZ.

20th-Fox Leases Video Station WIXG, Boston

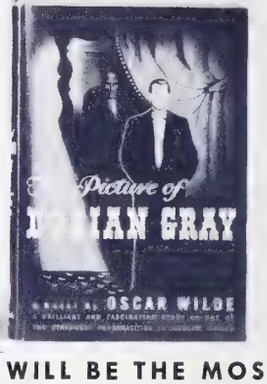
BOSTON—General Television Corp. has leased station WIXG to 20th Century-Fox for an indefinite period. Lessee plans a program of video experimentation and work, including tele programming and use of sound films for entertainment purposes.

Application will be made for an experimental license to operate the station, which has been inactive for some time.

Mel Gold NSS Ad Manager

NEW YORK—Mel Gold, editor of National Screen Service's monthly promotional publication, Mr. Showman, is functioning as advertising manager.

TALK *Sells* TICKETS!



IT WILL BE THE MOST DISCUSSED FILM OF 1945!

VOGUE says: *"So amazing!"*

WINCHELL says: *"Orchids!"*

SKOLSKY says: *"See it!"*

FILM DAILY says: *"Rugged box-office stuff!"*

BOXOFFICE says: *"Exceptionally good!"*

N. Y. TIMES HOLLYWOOD CORRESPONDENT FRED STANLEY says: *"Truly remarkable!"*

PHILIP K. SCHEUER, LOS ANGELES TIMES says: *"One of the best in years!"*

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER says: *"Magnificence hardly approached ever!"*

ALTON COOK, N. Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM says: *"Monumental achievement!"*

HAROLD SWISHER, UNITED PRESS says: *"Marks a milestone!"*

JANE CORBY, BROOKLYN EAGLE says: *"Something socko!"*

HOWARD BARNES, N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE says: *"Fascinating!"*

JOHN TODD, INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE says: *"No one should miss it!"*

★



THE PICTURE THAT SET A TWO YEAR RECORD AT N. Y. CAPITOL!

M-G-M's

THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

"THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY" with George Sanders, Hurd Hatfield, Donna Reed, Angela Lansbury, Peter Lawford, Lowell Gilmore, Richard Fraser • Screen Play by Albert Lewin Based Upon the Novel by Oscar Wilde • Directed by Albert Lewin • Produced by Pandro S. Berman • An M-G-M picture

Keep Selling Bonds

Toledo Curfew Fight Becomes Test Case

COLUMBUS—The "Battle of the Loop," between Jack O'Connell, owner of the curfew-violating Loop Theatre, Toledo, and government agencies intent on enforcing the Byrnes midnight curfew, is developing into a test case for the validity of the curfew order.

Assurances came from four major film companies to John L. Craig, Columbus, Ohio, WMC director, that they will not lease film to the Loop while it continues open past midnight. These companies are RKO, 20th-Fox, Warner Bros. and M-G-M. Craig had sent telegrams to the eight majors asking that they "insist" that their films not be shown at the Loop. Harry M. Warner, president of WB, went a step further in assuring Craig that he will prevent his films from being shown at any hour by the Loop until it fully complies with WMC standards.

A "ceiling zero" employment order may be applied by Craig against the Loop. Craig threatened to send in a WMC recruiting force to persuade Loop employes to take war jobs in an effort to stop the theatre's showing of films after the midnight curfew. A zero ceiling would mean that the theatre could not legally employ new workers to replace losses once the present force is gone. O'Connell countered that numerous persons had offered to work without pay should the ceiling be applied. He claims his theatre is serving war workers unable to see pictures at normal times.

Armed Forces Kept Away

Military police have been stationed at the Loop to enforce the curfew among members of the armed forces.

Ralph Snyder, Toledo area WMC director, has certified the Loop to Washington for "application of sanctions."

On the other side of the battle, Local 4, Mechanics' Educational Society of America, and its 4,000 members, voted to commend the Loop management for keeping the show open for late shift workers. Workers of Cito Auto Stamping Co., Willys-Overland Motors and Textileather Corp. sent telegrams to O'Connell, backing his stand, while representatives of the Spicer Manufacturing Co. and American Propellor Corp. visited O'Connell's office and promised him support in the fight.

O'Connell pointed out that he has contracts with the film companies to which Craig sent telegrams, to furnish films and there is no specification as to what hours they be shown. These contracts have several months to run.

O'Connell had contracted to show an M-G-M film in connection with the anniversary celebration of that company. Loew's urged him not to show this film after midnight but the film was shown as booked March 24-25.

With increased attendance each night since the start of the battle, the Loop on its first weekend of the fight had its biggest day since the theatre opened six years ago, according to O'Connell. More than 500 patrons came to the theatre after midnight. The theatre seats 750.

Red Cross Take at Roxy Tops All U.S. Records

NEW YORK—The sum of $25,641.60 was collected by the Roxy Theatre during the recent Red Cross drive. According to officials at Red Cross headquarters, the amount sets a new mark for collections in any theatre anywhere in the United States.

During the drive the Roxyettes, garbed as nurses, performed in a pageant. The theatre staff was assisted in the collections by volunteers of the American Red Cross.



AID CLOTHING DRIVE—United National Clothing Collection posters (a replica above), are being distributed to theatres by National Screen Service, on behalf of the United National Clothing Collection, April 1-30. This is a united effort on the part of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and all the voluntary war relief agencies of the United States, under the chairmanship of Henry J. Kaiser. The War Activities Committee, Office of War Information, and National Screen are cooperating in furnishing the posters to theatres. Goal of the clothing drive is 150,000,000 pounds, for free distribution to needy and destitute men, women and children in war-devastated countries.

Seeking to Hike Production Of Paper for Photographs

WASHINGTON — Methods of increasing production of sensitized photographic paper as well as plans for a more orderly distribution of this needed material, were discussed at a recent meeting of the newly organized photographic paper manufacturers' industry advisory committee with members of the consumers durable goods division of the WPB.

Production of photographic paper now has reached the point where further substantial increases can be achieved only through plant expansion, the WPB said, but inasmuch as this is not possible at the moment, it is proposed to meet civilian requirements by means of individual directives to the manufacturers to establish ceilings on the amount of paper, specified as to type, which may be delivered by each manufacturer for particular purposes.

Second quarter requirements for waterproof paper total 74,609,649 square feet, as compared with estimated second quarter production of 47,990,000 square feet; contact and enlarging paper requirements are 223,700,000 square feet as compared with production of 124,840,000 square feet; requirements for photocopy paper 100,300,000 square feet and 100,250,000 produced.

Essential civilian users, which includes motion picture producers, may expect to obtain approximately 38 per cent of contact and enlarging paper production and about 71 per cent of photocopy paper production, WPB reported.

Show "Decision" on April 10

NEW YORK—"The Valley of Decision" (M-G-M) will be tradeshown here and in Los Angeles on April 10. No release date has been set for the picture which stars Greer Garson and Gregory Peck.

Distribution Loan Chairman Named

NEW YORK—The WAC distributors' division for the Seventh War Loan is now ready to go into action with the exhibitors in the industry's bond drive. Tom Connors, national distributor chairman, has made public the list of exchange area distributor chairmen and district distributor chairmen who will function in this drive. Many of the distributor committees in the field have already begun their organization work. The distributor chairmen in each exchange area and district are as follows:

Metropolitan New York: Henry Randel, Paramount; Ed Bell, Paramount, New Jersey.

Northeastern district: Norman Ayres, Warners, New York; district distributor chairman; William Horan, Warners, Boston; Carl Goe, Warners, New Haven; Ray Smith, Warners, Albany; Al Herman, Warners, Buffalo.

Eastern: Salem Applegate, Universal, Philadelphia, district distributor chairman; George Schwartz, Universal, Philadelphia; John Allen, Loew's, Washington; Dave Miller, Universal, Cleveland, district distributor chairman; Joe Krenitz, Universal, Cleveland; Pete Dana, Universal, Pittsburgh.

Shalit in Detroit Area

Eastern central: Carl Shalit, Columbia, Detroit, district distributor chairman; Alan Moritz, Columbia, Cincinnati; Joe Gins, Columbia, Detroit; W. Guy Craig, Columbia, Indianapolis.

Southeastern: Charles Kessnich, Loew's, Atlanta, district distributor chairman; William Zoellner, Loew's, Atlanta; Benn Rosenwald, Loew's, Charlotte; Luke Conner, Warners, New Orleans.

Southwestern: Phil Longdon, 20th-Fox, Dallas, district distributor chairman; Cecil House, 20th-Fox, Dallas; Tom Young, 20th-Fox, Memphis; M. W. Osborne, 20th-Fox, Oklahoma City.

Midwestern: Allen Usher, Paramount, Chicago, district distributor chairman; J. Harold Stevens, Paramount, Chicago; Ben Blotcky, Paramount, Minneapolis; Harold Wirthwein, Paramount, Milwaukee.

Prairie: T. R. Thompson, UA, Kansas City, district distributor chairman; B. J. McCarthy, UA, St. Louis; William E. Truog, UA, Kansas City; Jack Kennedy, Loew's, Des Moines; D. V. McLucas, UA, Omaha.

Rocky Mountain: Arthur Abeles, 20th-Fox, Denver; Charles Walker, 20th-Fox, Salt Lake City.

West coast: Herbert McIntyre, RKO, Los Angeles, district distributor chairman; Harry Cohen, RKO, Los Angeles; Newton Jacobs, RKO, San Francisco; Mark Corey, RKO, Portland; Maurice Saffle, Loew's, Seattle.

Columbia Gets Out Special Anniversary Accessories

NEW YORK—A special series of accessories has been prepared for the Montague 20th anniversary campaign, Columbia's sales and billings drive named for A. Montague, general sales manager. The campaign was launched March 16 and will continue for 15 weeks, through June 28.

The accessories include banners, pennants and burgees, which have been sent to all Columbia exchanges. In addition, there is an 80x60 double hinged display, which symbolizes the campaign in honor of Montague and the expansion of the company from 1925 to 1945.

Another feature is a stock of campaign letterheads and return self-addressed postcards for the convenience of exhibitors in submitting dates. There will also be prepared campaign messages to exhibitors from each branch manager, salesman and booker.



ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE——These are the Columbia men who are handling the Montague Twentieth Anniversary Campaign. Rube Jackter, chairman, is seated in the center. Others are: Seth Raisler, sales contract department; Maurice Grad, director of sales promotion; Vincent Borelli, assistant to circuit sales executives; Louis Astor, circuit sales executive; Lou Weinberg, circuit sales executive; George Josephs, manager sales accounting; M. J. Weisfeldt, sales executive, and Sidney Singerman, assistant to manager of exchange operations; H. C. Kaufman, manager of exchange operations, was in the field at the time.

Don Pepe Urges Cantinflas as Arbiter Of Striking Factions in Hollywood

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY — Production was started again after five long weeks of fighting among union leaders, in both the Azteca and Clasa studios. Staff members had to clean up things to enable directors to pick up matters where they were.

There is still a lot of arguing going on. The leader, Salbador Carrillo, over whose actions all the differences started, and his followers, are still belligerent and in Guadalajara the popular actor, Palillo, and in Torreon the duet Los Kikaros, were not allowed to go on the stage by members of the opposing union. However, Cantinflas's popularity has apparently overcome all difficulties.

After everything is finally and satisfactorily settled, we respectfully suggest Cantinflas be loaned to Hollywood to straighten out Cinemaland's own strikes and difficulties.

Federico Rodriguez, junior member of the Rodriguez circuit of Northern Mexico, was in town, and is reported to have made necessary arrangements to inaugurate roadshows with up-to-date equipment, to tour different parts of the country. Monclova, in Coahuila, will be the first site to get one.

New Drive-In Planned

Carlos Amador, another enterprising showman, is also figuring on open-air drive-ins.

Jorge Negrete, the popular star, returned from Cuba after a successful personal tour. He will lend a helping hand to Cantinflas in satisfactorily ironing out all difficulties with the old union.

"Going My Way" is still being shown with success at the Chapultepec. Next door to this beautiful house, a modern office building, also called Chapultepec, is being remodeled for film companies. Producer Grovas is among the first to take offices there. After the Peace Conference, Chapultepec is a well known name.

"Bartolo Toca la Flauta," the latest Contreras Torres production, again starring Medel of Pito Perez's fame, is being shown at the Palacio Chino.

Warner Bros. presents Humphrey Bogart next week at the Chapultepec in "Tener O No Tener," another hundred per cent Spanish dialog production.

Due to the Holy Days, one of the most suitable pictures was chosen at the Magerit, Cecile B. DeMille's "The Sign of the Cross."

At the Metropolitan, Metro will present another of the Spanish dialog translations, Wallace Beery in "La Ciudad de Oro."

A few friends were discussing film matters and of course the question of American pictures presented with Spanish dialog was brought up. Artists must get a kick if they attend one of these productions and hear themselves talking in Spanish.

Calderon Films are now located at Artes 28, a building which is rapidly being turned into a regular film exchange building.

Producciones Mexico was reorganized and Don Jose U. Calderon is now president.

And: "Hasta luego."

20th-Fox Forms Radio Dept.

NEW YORK—A new radio department has been formed in the publicity and advertising departments of 20th-Fox under Hal Horne's direction, with Ted Lloyd in direct charge of radio activities. This new department will consolidate all of the radio exploitation, publicity and paid time functions and will be in charge of the creation, production and placement of both transcribed and live programs.

"Silver Fleet" Screened

NEW YORK—PRC held a trade screening at the World Theatre for "The Silver Fleet," a British importation.

Canadian Papers Begin To Relax on Ad Space

Toronto—Newspapers in Canada are showing a more generous attitude toward theatre managers in the matter of space for paid advertising and film news, the newsprint supply situation having become less critical with the end of the European fighting approaching. The Hamilton Spectator recently raised the maximum daily limit for theatre advertising from 600 to 700 lines and has added some film-page news features.

Industry to Sponsor Broadcast to Latins

NEW YORK—Executives of all of the major film companies are favorably disposed to a proposed series of weekly half-hour radio shows, both in Spanish and Portuguese, to be aired on both long and short waves to Latin America as a kind of "salute to good neighbors" from the American film industry.

Merwin C. Travis, head of the Motion Picture Society of the Americas, dismissed the proposal with company executives during the week. He made a brief trip east from the coast, accompanied by Jack Runyon, head of the west coast section of the Office of Inter-American Affairs, who will supervise the actual formulation of the broadcasts.

The Motion Picture Society of the Americas is an instrumentality of the film industry, and acts as a liaison to the OIAA. It is a nonprofit organization set up by the film industry at the request of the OIAA.

As a result of his conversations with film executives, Travis declared that each company expressed the willingness to sponsor one half-hour broadcast. On the basis of his conferences, he said the series might include from 10 to 12 programs. With the details of the project yet to be worked out, Travis said he hoped actual presentations of the programs would begin around June.

Also discussed with company executives were the present and future activities of the society, with the purpose of expanding its operations on a broader basis than heretofore. Travis and Runyon returned to the coast at the end of the week.

Princeton Unit Making 13 Educational Films

NEW YORK—Current production of 13 special purpose film programs by the Princeton Film Center of Princeton, N. J., is a reflection of the sharply increased interest in the use of films by foundations, educational and business organizations in their teaching, public information, employe relations and merchandising programs.

The films now in preparation or in work include a subject on U.S. postwar trade; an orientation film for showing to employes of a large department store; a series of postwar educational films sponsored by an international airline; a film designed to continue new techniques developed since the war for the use of wood, and others.

Alfred W. Perry Is Named Empire-Universal's Head

TORONTO—Alfred W. Perry has been named president of Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., and will continue as general manager of this exchange while also holding the position of vice-president of Sovereign Films, it was announced by Paul L. Nathanson, managing director of Empire-Universal.

In a joint statement Nathanson and Perry also announced that Empire-Universal had renewed its Canadian distributing franchise with Universal Pictures on a long term basis.

Cagney Sells Farm

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS. — Robert Wrubel, New York attorney, has bought James Cagney's 150-acre farm, Chilmark, and plans to move in immediately. Purchased by Cagney in 1936, the property has for many years been one of the show places on the New England coast.

Plays Landlady in "Danger Signal"

Virginia Sale has been given the role of landlady in Warners' "Danger Signal."

M-G-M TRADE SHOW OF "SON OF LASSIE"



M-G-M's NEW ADVENTURE IN TECHNICOLOR!

"SON OF LASSIE"

Starring

PETER LAWFORD · DONALD CRISP

with

JUNE LOCKHART · NIGEL BRUCE

WILLIAM "BILLY" SEVERN · LEON AMES

DONALD CURTIS · NILS ASTHER · ROBERT LEWIS

LASSIE and LADDIE

Photographed in TECHNICOLOR

Story and Screen Play by Jeanne Bartlett · Based on some Characters from the book "Lassie Come Home" by Eric Knight

Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON · Produced by SAMUEL MARX

ALBANY	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway**	THUR. 4/19	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	**20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.**	THUR. 4/19	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	**M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street**	FRI. 4/20	10:30 A.M. Also 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	**20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street**	THUR. 4/19	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	**20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	**H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	**RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street**	THUR. 4/19	8 P.M.
CLEVELAND	**20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
DALLAS	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street**	THUR. 4/19	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	**Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street**	THUR. 4/19	3 P.M.
DES MOINES	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
DETROIT	**Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	**20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street**	THUR. 4/19	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	**Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
MEMPHIS	**20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	**Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	**20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street**	THUR. 4/19	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	**20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK / NEW JERSEY	**M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	10:30 A.M. Also 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	**20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
OMAHA	**20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	**M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street**	THUR. 4/19	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	**M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies**	THUR. 4/19	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	**B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	**S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street**	FRI. 4/20	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	**20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	**20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street**	THUR. 4/19	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	**Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	**20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.**	THUR. 4/19	1 P.M.

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Hollywood Told to Beware Postwar Plans of the Nazis

Hollywood motion picture producers may become the goats for Nazi postwar propagandists, it was revealed by a state department spokesman, in amplifying a government statement that "reliable information collected by Allied governments clearly indicates that that Nazi regime in Germany has developed well-arranged postwar plans for the perpetuation of Nazi doctrines and domination."

Pre-Hitler importance of Germany in motion picture direction and production, with particular reference to Ufa's dominance in Europe, will be emphasized by smooth-talking technical experts who will offer their services for modest fees to Hollywood producers. The first moves to be made by these "experts" will be an attempt to persuade film executives to produce motion pictures that will give fair treatment and "fair play" for Germans. There also will be offers of German capital to American producers, directors, stars and technicians to presumably aid in the rehabilitation of the German film industry but actually to persuade such American talent to act as apologists for Germany and thus subtly to become propagandists for a "new and better Rhineland."

The state department report reads like the synopsis of a Hollywood spy film, but it strikes an impressive and definite note of warning against possible infiltration by Germany into American industry. The report states that Nazi party members, German industrialists and the German military, realizing that victory can no longer be won, now are developing postwar commercial projects; are endeavoring to renew and cement friendships in foreign commercial circles and are planning for renewals of prewar cartel agreements.

German technicians, cultural experts and undercover agents have well laid plans to infiltrate foreign countries with the object of developing economic, cultural and political ties, the report states. German technicians and scientific research experts will be made available at low cost to industrial firms and technical schools in foreign countries. German capital and plans for the construction of ultra-modern technical schools and research laboratories will be offered at extremely favorable terms since they will afford the Germans an excellent opportunity to design and perfect new weapons. The state department added that the U.S. government now is in possession of photostatic copies of several volumes of German plans on this subject.

But of especial interest to the motion picture industry is the statement that the German propaganda program is to be an integral part of the over-all postwar Nazification program. The immediate aim of the propaganda program will be directed at removing Allied control measures by softening up the Allies through pleas for "fair treatment" of Germans. Later, the program will be expanded and intensified with the object of giving rebirth to all Nazi doctrines and furthering German ambitions for world domination. In this particular field, the Nazis, it was reported, are planning to make full use of motion pictures as a means of re-emphasizing Hitlerian doctrines to a world which, present German leaders hope, will suffer widespread postwar depression.

The recent inter-American conference on problems of war and peace held in Mexico City recognized this danger and numerous resolutions have been adopted aiming at uncovering and eliminating all Nazi influences in this hemisphere. Further the policies decided upon by the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union also are directed toward taking action as may be necessary to smash the political and economic foundation of future German aggression.

V-E Day Will Mark Lifting Of Curfew, Brownout Bans

War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, in revealing his new reconversion program, announced that V-E Day will mark the end of the curfew and the brownout. It also may mark the resumption of a flow of civilian goods and materials now completely restricted, if the Byrnes reconversion program is approved. The report did state that there may be no "formal day of victory in Europe. The German army may surrender in small units and other small units may continue to hold out for weeks."

However, the Byrnes recommendation that V-E Day be a day of work and worship is being emphasized in theatre advertising placed by local Washington houses. The Loew theatres have been running a box urging everyone to work and worship on V-E Day and to recognize that so long as American soldiers are in combat, the war is far from over.

The Surplus Property Board Pamphlets Now Available

The surplus property board will have available within two weeks two pamphlets giving information on the resale of government surplus property. Of interest to theatre owners and producers is the pamphlet containing sections XVI through XXI of the handbook of standards for describing surplus property. This deals with office furniture and supplies; furniture and fixtures; photographic and optical goods and equipment; plastics, metal containers, handtools, miscellaneous products and equipment. Also of interest to theatre owners (especially these approaching hot days) is the pamphlet covering sections X and XI, which deals with plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and lighting fixtures.

The government wishes to emphasize the fact that these pamphlets do not list surplus property for sale but are designed to furnish sufficient information in commercial terms to allow a surplus property disposal agency to arrange for resale without calling upon added terms of description. Both pamphlets may be obtained at a price of 10 cents each by writing to the superintendent of documents, government printing office, Washington 25, D. C.

Farming Exhibitors Should Read All of This Report

The department of agriculture has just issued its "demand and price situation" report and exhibitors who cater to farming communities might find it worthwhile reading on a quiet afternoon. According to this report, agricultural prices received by farmers during February was two points below the peak reached in January but four points higher than February, 1944. But from September, 1944, to January, 1945, the index figure, which incidentally was 199, was increased to a total gain of nine points. This means, in simpler and less governmental language, that farmers are doing right well and exhibitors in farming communities may count on patronage for quite a while. It might also be well to point out that total cash receipts for farm marketings in March are expected to be about $1,387,000,000, three per cent above the income of $1,343,000,000 in February, although three per cent below the receipts for March last year. Hi, Hiram!

Answering YOUR Question:

I first read in your column in BOXOFFICE about the senate small business committee's plans to investigate the film industry, with special emphasis upon exhibition. Just how would this investigation affect me?—D.C.

The film industry has an unfortunate way of focusing public attention mostly upon its ills—and rarely upon its good qualities. Thus the recent newspaper and tradepaper accounts of the justice department's antitrust suit against producer-distributors was bound to win some attention from Sen. James Murray's committee. Just how a possible investigation may affect you as an individual exhibitor is hard to say. Exhibitor organizations, such as the MPTOA and Allied, may have their representatives testify; senatorial investigators will swarm into Hollywood, New York and other centers to study books, to talk to exhibitors, distributors, exchange men. A lot of gripes will be aired; some faults may be corrected. I'm afraid that the minor wrongs of the industry will be emphasized in headlines and any resultant bad publicity is bound to have its effect upon you, as the direct contact with the public. Because you are the individual the public considers the personal emissary of the motion picture industry, you have a grave responsibility in assuring your patrons that the film business is worthy of respect and understanding. If you have the welfare and dignity of your industry at heart, you'll see to it that it is worthy of the public's respect in every way.—A.S.

Industry Seemingly Facing Serious Shortage of Stills

Film fans who used to toss quarters Hollywood-wise for star stills may have to invest that loose change in war saving stamps, while exhibitors may find it expedient to change lobby boards to use fewer stills. There just isn't enough photographic paper to go around, according to the WPB, because all the photographic paper manufacturers are running at full capacity and have all they can do to meet present requirements without even stopping to fill the large backlog of orders on hand.

I've Heard:

That Walt Disney has been approached by the Shell Oil Co. to make a series of animated cartoons and that the deal looks like a sure thing;

That Fred Kogod's plans, as chairman for the D. C. film men in the Seventh War Loan drive, call for intensive effort on the part of some of Washington's most astute showmen;

That there's hellzapopping around the FCC, with Sen. Burton K. Wheeler ready to toss in a bombshell any day now;

That it may be well for the other producers—and not only the clever Freres Warner—to give heed to the educational film field.


it's from LUBITSCH
....and it's Luscious



IT'S LOVE



LOVE - L

TALLULAH
BANKHEAD · CHARLES COBURN

ANNE
BAXTER · WILLIAM EYTHE

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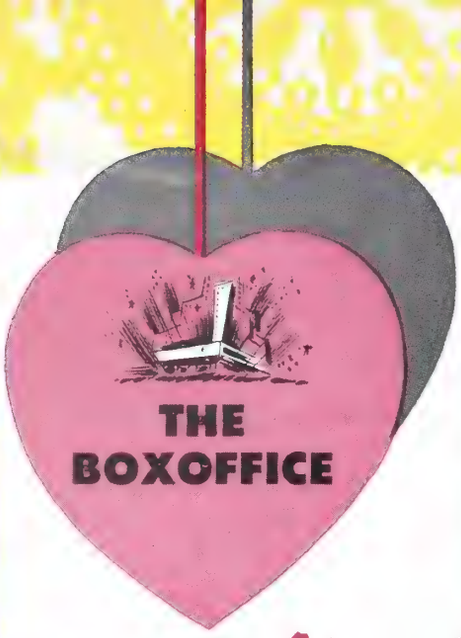
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OTTO PREMINGER · PRODUCED BY ERNST LUBITSCH

Screen Play by Edwin Justus Mayer · Adapted by Bruno Frank · From a Play by Lajos Biro and Melchior Lengyel

LUBITSCH TOPS "HEAVEN CAN WAIT" WITH HIS


OVE! with that electric Lubitsch touch!
SCANDAL
ERRIFIC NEW HIT FROM
20th CENTURY-FOX
30th ANNIVERSARY





Always a torrid romance!

BETTY SMITH'S

A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN

MARY O'HARA'S

THUNDERHEAD SON OF FLICKA

IN TECHNICOLOR

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE

AT POPULAR PRICES

MOLLY AND ME

HANGOVER SQUARE

A. J. CRONIN'S

THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

THE FIGHTING LADY

IN TECHNICOLOR

MOSS HART'S

WINGED VICTORY

Name Publicity Heads For 7th War Loan

NEW YORK—John D. Hertz jr., national publicity director for the Seventh War Loan, has named the state publicity chairmen who will serve during the forthcoming campaign, May 14-June 30. They will work closely with exhibitors and distributors in putting over special events to achieve the goal of $4,000,000,000 in E bond sales.

The personnel follows:

Alabama—Bill Wolfson, Wilby-Kincey Theatres, Montgomery; Arizona—Arthur G. Pickett, Orpheum Theatre, Phoenix; Arkansas—Sam B. Kirby, Rialto Theatre Bldg., Little Rock; Southern California—Seymour Peiser, Fox West Coast Theatres Corp., Los Angeles; Mort Goodman, Warner Bros., Hollywood (cc-chairmen); Northern California—Fay Reeder, Fox West Coast Theatres; San Francisco; Colorado—Ted Halmi, Orpheum Theatre, New Haven; Connecticut—Lou Brown, Loew's Poli Theatre, New Haven; Delaware—Edgar J. Doob, Loew's Aldine Theatre, Wilmington.

District of Columbia—Frank La Falce, Warner Bros. Theatres, Washington; Florida—J. L. Cartwright, Florida State Theatres, Inc., Jacksonville; Howard Pettengill, Florida State Theatres, Inc., Jacksonville (co-chairmen); Georgia—Herb Pickman, Warner Bros., Atlanta; Idaho—Nevin McCord, Ada Theatre, Boise; Illinois—Bill Bishop, M-G-M, Chicago; Larry Stein, Warner Bros., Chicago (co-chairmen); Indiana—Boyd Sparrow, Loew's Theatre, Indianapolis; Iowa—Russell Fraser, Tri-States Theatre Corp., Des Moines; Kentucky—Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington; Kansas—Senn Lawler, Fox Midwest Theatres, Kansas City, Mo.; Louisiana—Maurice F. Barr, Paramount-Richards, Inc., New Orleans.

Maine—Harry Botwick, State Theatre, Portland; Maryland—Louis E. Shecter, Old Town Bank Bldg., Baltimore; Massachusetts—Paul Levi, M&P Theatres, Boston; Michigan—Mrs. Alice Gorham, United Detroit Theatres Corp., Detroit; Marie Meyer, United Detroit Theatres Corp., Detroit (co-chairmen); Minnesota—Charles Winchell, Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis; Mississippi—Burgess Waltmon, Princess Theatre, Columbus; Missouri—M. L. Plessner, St. Louis Amusement Co., St. Louis; M. D. Cohen, Newman Theatre, Kansas City (co-chairmen); Montana—Jack Edwards, Marlow Theatre, Helena; Nebraska—Ted Emerson, Orpheum Theatre, Omaha; Nevada—Harry Hunsaker, Granada Theatre, Reno; New Hampshire—Mel Morrison, Strand Theatre, Dover; Northern New Jersey—George Kelly, Newark; Southern New Jersey—Isador Perlin, Warners' Grand Theatre, Camden; New Mexico—George Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque; Metropolitan New York—Morris Kinzler, Kayton-Spiero Co., Inc., New York City; New York (Albany area)—Charles Smakwitz, Warner Theatres, Albany; New York (Buffalo area)—Charles B. Taylor, Buffalo Theatres, Inc., Buffalo.

North Carolina—Roy L. Smart, Charlotte; North Dakota—Ed Kraus, Fargo Theatre, Fargo; Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox, Minneapolis (co-chairmen); Ohio (Cleveland area)—Charles Deardourff, Loew's, Cleveland; Ohio (Cincinnati area)—J. E. Watson, Loew's, Cincinnati; Oklahoma—Robert Busch, Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City; Oregon—Jack Matlack, Broadway Theatre, Portland; Eastern Pennsylvania—Michael Weiss, 20th-Fox, Philadelphia; Western Pennsylvania—James Totman, Warner Bros., Pittsburgh; Rhode Island—Ed Reed, Leroy Theatre, Pawtucket; South Carolina—Sam Suggs, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.

South Dakota—Clifford Knoll, Paramount Theatre, Mitchell; Norman Pyle, M-G-M, Minneapolis (co-chairmen); Eastern Tennessee—James Pepper, State Theatre, Kingsport; Western Tennessee—M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatre, Memphis; Texas—Ray Beall, Bob Kelly, Interstate circuit, Dallas (co-chairmen); Utah—Helen Garrity, Intermountain Theatre, Salt Lake City; Vermont—Edward J. Briteau, Flynn Theatre, Burlington; Virginia—Brock Whitlock, Loew's Theatre, Richmond; Washington—V. C. Gauntlett, Evergreen Theatres, Seattle; West Virginia (partial)—James M. Totman, Warner Bros., Pittsburgh; Wisconsin—William V. Geehan, Milwaukee; Wyoming—G. H. Turner, Lusk.

Three Regional Meetings Scheduled for the WAC

NEW YORK—WAC will hold a series of three regional meetings at which exhibitor, distributor and publicity state chairmen will meet with the national committee to develop final plans for the Seventh War Loan drive.

First meeting, for chairmen of 19 eastern and southern states and the District of Columbia, will be held at the Hotel Astor, Tuesday, April 10; second meeting, for midwest chairmen, will be held at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Monday, April 16, and third meeting, for western chairmen, will be held in Denver. Date for western meeting is subject to travel restrictions.



BOND VOLUNTEERS—Film stars offer their services to Chairman Sam Pinanski for the Seventh War Loan drive. Left to right: John D. Hertz jr., Jerry Zigmond, Yvonne DeCarlo, Danny Kaye, Pinanski, Herman Gluckman, Bonita Granville, Walter Abel, John Kinsky, Martin Mullin, Edward S. Lauer, Robert M. Weitman and Bernard M. Kamber.

Okinawa Newsreel Films Arrive in Seven Days

By J. M. JERAULD

NEW YORK—For the second time within a few weeks the public of this country has seen newsreel pictures from the South Pacific within a few days after the battles have taken place. The first was the invasion of Iwo Jima; the second the naval attack on Okinawa and other Ryukyu Islands.

Delivery of the films in New York ready for the newsreel editors is one of the amazing feats of the war. It's a story of planning beginning in Washington and extending to the decks of airplane carriers at the scene of action with the cooperation of Admiral Nimitz.

Flew in Midst of Fighting

For two days the navy cameramen flew into the midst of the air fighting and over the bombarded areas. Jap planes burst into flame and fell right and left. Ships' guns blazed on the near and far horizons. The pictures were being made while the Tokyo radio was talking about invasion and nothing was being admitted on the U.S. side.

The pictures released this week include action with the fleet on March 22. About 30,000 feet of negative was assembled among the fleet units that night and was started by special plane for the U.S. It is not permitted to say where landings and relays were made, but there was no halt. The last stop before San Francisco was Pearl Harbor. The negative arrived in Washington Thursday, March 29—exactly seven days from the time it left Japanese waters.

Capt. Gene Markey, assistant to the secretary of the navy in charge of photographic services; Capt. J. B. (Min) Miller, public relations officer with the Pacific fleet; Comdr. Arthur A. Schmidt, assistant director of the navy photographic services, and Lieut. Comdr. William Park have been working out plans for better newsreel coverage for months. They have used the newsreel technique of assigning special functions to all concerned. Admiral Nimitz has cooperated wholeheartedly.

When the negative arrived in Washington it was immediately developed and the job of editing began. Commander Park flew about 1,500 feet of negative to New York as soon as the job was finished and delivered it to Pathe for printing. Each reel did an individual job of editing over the weekend, and by Tuesday morning prints were ready for shipment around the country by air for theatre showings.

Nothing like this has ever been done before either in peace or war.

At the same time the navy men in Washington went to work on a film called a "Fleet Report" and this was started back to Guam with the expectation that Admiral Nimitz and his aides would see it late Thursday or Friday. Elapsed time from the making of the pictures to their return to the Pacific area for exhibition was 14 days.

More negative is expected shortly on the actual invasion of Okinawa.

In contrast with this speed it might be pointed out that films of the invasion of North Africa and the Casablanca conference did not get into theatres for weeks until after the events.

Plethora of Material

When Pathe received the fine grain navy positive it worked all day Monday and distributed dupe negatives to all the other reels. It so happened that dramatic developments also were taking place in Europe, so instead of devoting their entire reels to the navy footage each used about 350 feet of navy pictures and gave much of the rest to the advancing armies in Germany.

All the newsreel staffs worked all day Monday and all night Monday night. The Okinawa footage shows planes taking off from carrier decks, Japanese planes being blasted out of the air in flames, a magnificent shot from the bridge of a battleship showing the bow dipping into the surf, and the bombing of ships. Some of the photography is outstanding. One new shot, not familiar so far in this war, shows a big ship a considerable distance from shore. The bow opens and amphibious tanks pop into the water one after another and start toward shore in a smother of foam.

Fast Work on "Zoya"

NEW YORK—"Zoya," Soviet film of an 18-year-old girl partisan, is being prepared for release in the U.S. It will have an English text by Howard Fast, author of "Citizen Tom Paine" and "Freedom Road." Artkino will distribute.

To the Theatre Men

Please Read

I Have Sent

This is a reprint of an announcement published on April 3rd.

of America:

a Letter You Today.



President
WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.
Burbank, California

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Mayer and Others Honored With Canadian Citations

Tribute was paid to the motion picture industry by Canada when special citations were presented by that country, to Louis B. Mayer, Spencer Tracy and other executives and actors at a luncheon held at Metro studio. The citations were presented by John J. Fitzgibbons, prominent Dominion showman and chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee, in recognition of the good accomplished in Canada through the motion picture, "Tomorrow, John Jones," which was produced at Metro to aid the Canadian war bond drives. The picture was written by Carey Wilson, produced by Jerry Bresler, and directed by Harry Beaumont. Starring were Spencer Tracy and Phyllis Thaxter, Fay Holden and Henry Daniels in the cast. All were given citations.

Paramount Outlines Program Of What to Do on V-E Day

Throughout the country, optimism runs high that the war in Europe is drawing to a close—and Hollywood is no exception. Witness: Paramount studio, first of the film capital studios to announce to employes what the lot's program will be on V-E Day. A bulletin from the front office informed that should word of Germany's surrender come before noon, the lot will immediately close down for the remainder of the day, to reopen the next morning. In case the good news comes during the afternoon or on a Sunday, the shutdown will be initiated immediately and prevail through all of the next day. It was thought likely that this pattern established at Paramount will be adopted by other plants.

Wohl Signs Deal With Hirliman For Eight Westerns in 16mm

Herman Wohl has signed a deal with George Hirliman to produce a series of eight westerns in 16mm for International Theatrical and Television Corp. The series will center around the character of Calamity Jane and will be filmed in color.

Sherman to Reinstate "Hopalong" When Raw Stock Is Available

Harry Sherman, veteran producer of westerns, has announced his plans to reinstate, as early as raw stock can be made available, his popular Hopalong Cassidy series. As showmen who specialize in outdoor features will remember, the "Hoppy" pictures were originally distributed by Paramount, later by United Artists. More than 50 of the films were produced by Sherman with William Boyd in the title role.

When the star and producer terminated their long-time association approximately a year ago, the gallopers were discontinued. Sherman informed BOXOFFICE that nothing definite has been set concerning a release or a star, although intimated was the possibility that Boyd might again be starred. The producer has, however, closed a new 11-year deal with Clarence E. Mulford, author of the "Hoppy" yarns.

A Ten-Year-Old Nashville Lad Wins Role of "Jody" in "The Yearling"

Metro's search for a young boy to play the role of Jody in "The Yearling" was ended with the signing of 10-year-old Claude Jarman jr., of Nashville, Tenn. . . . Also at Metro, John Qualen was cast in a featured spot in the Clark Gable-Greer Garson starrer, "This Strange Adventure," which Victor Fleming will direct and Sam Zimbalist produce . . . Lloyd Corrigan was added to the cast of "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest," Columbia Technicolor production . . . Doris Merrick was ticketed for the leading feminine role in "Main Street Girl," at Monogram . . . Kim Hunter has been borrowed by Hal Wallis Productions from David O. Selznick for a topline in his current Paramount production, "You Came Along."

Return to the screen of Susan Hayward following the birth of her twin boys two months ago will be made in the stellar feminine role of "Deadline at Dawn" . . . Walter Colmes has signed Nancy Kelly for the top feminine role in "The Web," which he will produce and direct for Republic . . . George Coulouris was hired by Warner for one of the top roles in "The Adventures of Don Juan."

Esther Williams' Next Starrer At Metro to Be "Fiesta Brava"

Esther Williams' next starring picture at Metro will be "Fiesta Brava," the story of a feminine bullfighter to be produced by Jack Cummings. George Bruce spent two months in Mexico last year developing the story, which was an original idea by Cummings, and is currently working on the screenplay . . . While that addition was being made to the constantly-growing list of proposed features with Mexican or Latin-American backgrounds, one of the group was temporarily shelved. "Riocabana," which 20th Century-Fox had announced as a top-budget musical, to be produced by William Le Baron, will not go into work until after war's end in Europe. More favorable transportation facilities are being awaited so that the entire cast and crew can be sent to South America to film the feature.

Film Center's Story Market Enjoys Healthy Buying Week

Indicating that Hollywood is confident of continuing production at the high levels which have prevailed during recent years, strikes and raw stock shortages to the contrary, the film center's story mart enjoyed one of the best weeks of the past several months.

"Flight From Youth," a Redbook magazine serial by William E. Barrett, was purchased for early production by Metro. Story is about an aviator who was killed in World War I, and, years later, is reincarnated to resume his romance with his sweetheart. Setting is in England and America . . . Ivan Tors, Metro writer recently released from the army, has sold to Monogram "Jumpin' Joe," an original story written while he was in service. It will be made as a part of Monogram's 1944-45 program, with Lindsley Parsons producing.

Purchase of screen rights to "The Sun Field," novel by the late Heywood Broun, for production by Paramount, was announced by Henry Ginsberg. It is a human interest yarn concerning the romance of a professional baseball player and a ballet choreographer. Following its publication as a book, it was dramatized by Paul Lazarus, and produced as a play on Broadway. Danny Dare has been assigned to produce and Lewis Meltzer is working on the screenplay . . . "Confidence Man," an original comedy by Jack O'Donnel, dealing with a swindler who reforms, was bought by PRC. Martin Mooney has been assigned as producer.

Frank Borzage's initial venture under his new producer-director pact at Republic will be "Concerto," from an original by Borden Chase, screen rights to which he has purchased. Scheduled for a July start, the picture will be filmed in Technicolor, first time the tint process has ever been employed on the Valley lot . . . The venerable mystery, "The Moonstone," by Wilkie Collins, will be made by Warner, the Burbank lot having laid it on the line for the screen rights. Arnold Albert drew the producer chore.

Samuel Goldwyn, who produces for RKO Radio distribution, bought from Paramount the rights to an old Harold Lloyd starrer, "The Milky Way," which was originally filmed from a play by Lynn Root. Goldwyn plans to use only one character from the original and build around it a picture titled "The Kid From Brooklyn" with Danny Kaye in the title role.

Producer Edelman, Editor Geller, Terminate Connections With WB

Two Warner executives have terminated their deals through mutual agreement with the studio. Ankling the lot are Lou Edelman, producer, and James Geller, story editor. Neither has announced a new connection . . . William Castle, Columbia director now in New York on leave of absence to direct rehearsals of a stage play, had his option lifted by the studio . . . Another Columbia director, Will Jason, asked for and received cancellation of his pact, which had three more months to go . . . Herbert Sterne was loaned by Columbia to assist Irving Rubine, director of advertising and publicity for Mutual Productions.

Paramount closed a deal with I. A. Bezzerides, novelist, for a year's writing contract. Bezzerides wrote the Warner picture "They Drive by Night" . . . Jack Kelly, assistant to Les Kaufman, publicity director at Republic, resigned to report to AMG authorities in Washington for a possible overseas assignment in the occupied or conquered territory . . . Another pact amicably terminated was that between Producer Irving Starr and 20th Century-Fox studio.

Writer Bertram Millhauser was signed to a term deal by Universal and at the same studio, Jane Murfin was signed to a long-term writer-producer deal. The signing of Miss Murfin gives Universal two woman writer-producers; Joan Harrison is the other.

Oliver Drake will direct two additional films in Monogram's Jimmy Wakely series, under the terms of an option lift . . . Dick Hyland has been signed by PRC to write the script on "I Ring Doorbells," Russell Birdwell story, which will be produced by Martin Mooney . . . At the same studio, Lew Landers was set by Alexander-Stern to direct "Arson Squad" . . . Lloyd Bacon was assigned to pilot 20th Century-Fox's "The Enchanted Voyage."



CLEVER WITH CERAMICS—Walter Lantz, Universal shorts producer, shown with the ceramics made from his Cartune characters to be used in promoting his product. The promotional campaign includes more than 50 tieups to plug his "Woody Woodpecker" and "Andy Panda" series. Lantz devoted more than six months to organizing his campaign.

"PACKS A WALLOP POSSESSED BY NO FILM OF ITS KIND IN YEARS!" —MOTION PICTURE HERALD



"A PREDICTION OF CEILING-CRACKING GROSSES IS UN-AVOIDABLE!" —BOXOFFICE

BOOK IT HOT!

BEST PICTURE OF THE WEEK!

"...PACKED WITH EXCITEMENT!"
— JIMMIE FIDLER
BLUE NETWORK



MONOGRAM PICTURES

DILLI

EDMUND LOWE · ANNE JEFFREYS

DUARDO CIANNELLI · MARC LAWRENCE · ELISHA COOK, Jr.

MONOGRAM

DELIVERS IT—AND DELIVERS IT RIGHT!...WITH ALL THE SHOCKS AND THRILLS THAT MADE DILLINGER THE MOST NOTORIOUS OUTLAW OF OUR TIMES!



A KING BROTHERS PRODUCTION

NEMESIS

and introducing **LAWRENCE TIERNEY** *as* **"DILLINGER"**

Produced by MAURICE and FRANKLIN KING

DIRECTED BY MAX NOSSECK · SCREENPLAY BY PHILIP YORDAN

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Import Senor Cantinflas?

KANSAS CITY—This publication's correspondent at Mexico City is a bilingual expert who writes under the pseudonym of Don Pepe. He is a former Texas exhibitor and writes from the showman's angle, because showmen are showmen the world over, whether in Boston, Bombay or Barcelona.

In half-humorous, half-serious fashion, Don Pepe makes a suggestion in his column this week that Cantinflas, beloved comedian of Mexico, be named as an arbiter in the union strike at Hollywood. It seems that Cantinflas stepped into a five-week old production strike in Mexico, and, by sheer personality, got almost everybody in a good humor, the strikers going back to their jobs.

Believes in Santa Now

BOSTON—Harry Aaronson, manager of the Rialto here, has never believed in Santa Claus; rather has depended on hard and faithful work to bring him success in life. But today he not only believes in Santa but knows that the old boy really lives.

This week Aaronson became owner of 50 per cent of the stock in the theatre which he has operated since after the last world war, the gift of A. M. Burroughs, Aaronson's boss since he started work more than 30 years ago as an office boy for Burroughs and his partner Louis Boaz, now dead.

"I am still in sort of a daze over my good fortune," commented Harry.

Shows for Victory Day

KANSAS CITY—Victory over Germany is coming by degrees; it is already partly here! As a result local theatre men have recast their V-E Day plans, figuring that the official announcement of victory possibly will be "old news" for the public and not the occasion for riotous celebration such as was the armstice at the end of World War I.

Area WAC executives, meeting at the Hotel Muehlebach, canceled plans for immediate closing of theatres following receipt of the announcement and passed the word along that the question of closing will be left to each manager's judgment. In fact, they intimated it might be a good idea to stay open if all taverns slam their doors as planned.

Death of Harry McDonald

HARTFORD—Stricken in his room in Hotel Bond here was Harry McDonald, 56, Universal exploiteer from Boston, a few moments after he had phoned George Landers, E. M. Loew city manager, and Jim McCarthy, Strand manager, in connection with a promotional campaign. He was buried at Springfield, his former home.

Herb Pitts Wins Again

HALIFAX, N. S.—A campaign scrapbook designed and prepared by Herbert Pitts, assistant manager of the Orpheus here, has been awarded first prize for Nova Scotia and second prize in a Dominionwide contest for promotional work in connection with the Seventh Victory Loan. The Orpheus, an FPC house, figured one-two in the same grooves for the Sixth Loan.

Antitrust Suit Hangs Fire

ST. LOUIS—The motion of distributor defendants to dismiss the $285,000 antitrust damage suit against Paramount et al by the St. Louis Amusement Co. was argued at length in federal court here this week, following which Judge Richard M. Duncan announced he would hand down his decision later. He gave the battery of attorneys a total of 25 days for filing of new briefs and answers.

The suit of the St. Louis Amusement Co., a Fanchon & Marco concern, attacks the consent decree and the whole arbitration setup as illegal and violative of the antitrust law.

Stagehand Ruling in Effect

ST. LOUIS—A regional labor board directive put into effect the findings of a special arbiter, fixing the number of stagehands to be employed in each of the motion picture theatres here, the hours they shall work and the duties to be performed. The directive also put into effect recommendations by a three-man panel for a 15 per cent increase in the stagehands' base pay rate of $75 a week, plus vacations.

Child Ban Still Strict

MONTREAL—The treasury department of Quebec confirmed reports that a license to operate has been issued to the Palace Theatre of Verdun, an Odeon house, which had its license revoked recently for admitting children under 16. It also was learned that the Palace pleaded guilty to violating the juvenile infringement law and paid a fine, thus starting off with a new license and a promise to observe the law.

Exhibitors May Appeal

PITTSBURGH—Exhibitors in the Roth vs. Paramount litigation over checking of percentage pictures this week considered appealing a ruling by U.S. Judge Nelson McVicar granting distributor defendants the right to inspect the books of the plaintiff theatres.

Devaney Heads Pioneers

TORONTO—Leo M. Devaney has been elevated to the presidency of Canadian Picture Pioneers, succeeding the late Clair Hague, a chief founder of the Canadian society for those who have a record of 25 years or more in the film business. Devaney is general manager for RKO Distributing Corp. of Canada.

New Waterville Show

DETROIT—A. Milo "Bring 'Em Back" DeHaven, well known local showman, announced plans to erect a 400-seat theatre and complete recreation center at Waterville, Ohio, a town of only 1,500 population about 70 miles south of here.

Maybe a Husband Wears Rose-Colored Glasses

McPherson, Kas.—Philosophers through the centuries have pondered the question of what a wife is worth, but the opinion of a small boy has this town roaring with laughter.

A man and his wife entered a motion picture theatre and couldn't find seats together, so he sat down in the next row. He saw a small lad sitting beside the wife. Leaning over, he offered the youngster a quarter to change seats with him.

The boy, so the story goes, took one look at the wife and countered, "She ain't worth it." When the husband insisted, the boy went on, "Well, I'll change," but added softly, as he pocketed the money, "Sucker."

Discharged Vets Hired By New Checking Co.

NEW YORK—Confidential Reports, Inc., the newly formed national checking organization, is providing opportunities for part-time employment to many honorably discharged service men now in colleges and universities under the governmental education program for veterans, according to Jack H. Levin, vice-president and general manager of the organization.

John J. O'Connor is presently serving as president of the company, which began operations April 2. Other executives of the home office in New York are Harold L. Graves, field director; Jules Z. Willing, manager of branch operations, and Harold Saxe, controller. Appointment of district and branch managers, as well as other home office department heads, were to have been made following a series of regional conferences during the week.

Edward Locke, Dramatist, Dies at Williams Home

NEW YORK—Services were held at the Percy Williams' Home for Edward Locke, 76, veteran dramatist and author of "The Climax," who died there this week. Born in England, Locke came to this country in 1882, studied singing and acting, appearing in Broadway productions with David Warfield and Cecil Spooner. He retired in 1932.

He was a former president of the Schubert Club in Pittsburgh, a vice-president of the Actors Society of America and a member of the Players and Lambs clubs. He leaves his wife, Mrs. Edward Locke; a daughter, Mrs. Edna O'Keefe, both of Beverly Hills, and a sister, Mrs. Norah Williamson of Pittsburgh.

McCormick on West Coast Setting Ad Campaigns

HOLLYWOOD—S. Barret McCormick, RKO director of publicity and advertising, has arrived from New York and is conferring with studio executives on advertising campaigns for "The Spanish Main," "George White's Scandals of 1945," "Johnny Angel," "Those Endearing Young Charms" and "Bells of St. Mary's."

While here McCormick will meet also with Leo Spitz and William Goetz on promotion plans for International's "Along Came Jones," and with Sam Goldwyn on "Wonder Man." Prior to his departure from New York, McCormick set national campaigns on "The Enchanted Cottage" and "China Sky."

Stone Appoints Zeltner Eastern Publicity Man

NEW YORK—Irwin Zeltner, publicity manager for the Loew circuit for ten years and more recently special home office publicity representative for 20th Century-Fox, has been appointed eastern publicity representative for Andrew Stone Productions.

His initial assignment will be "Bedside Manner," a forthcoming UA release starring John Carroll.

Sets Gus Schaefer Week

NEW YORK—RKO Radio branch managers of the northeastern district have designated the week of April 5-11 of the 1945 Ned Depinet sales drive as Gus Schaefer week in tribute to the northeastern district manager.

"Lassie" Tradeshow Date

NEW YORK—M-G-M will tradeshow "Son of Lassie" nationally April 19, with the exception of Boston and St. Louis, where the picture will be screened April 20.

Blue Net Will Change Name to 'American'

NEW YORK—The Blue Network will be known as the American Broadcasting Co. June 15, permanently dropping the Blue appellation at that time, according to Fred Smith, vice-president in charge of advertising and public relations. Key station for the company is WJZ in New York.

Eight new stations will join the network on the same day. This brings the total of affiliated or completely owned outlets to 197. Mark Woods, network president, explained the change was made to end confusion arising with NBC, which established the Blue network in 1927 to parallel its Red network. The Blue was sold to the American Co. in July, 1943, following the FCC ruling forbidding single ownership of rival chains. NBC was ordered to divest itself of one of its networks.

Woods declared, "It is our responsibility to see that our operation of the American Broadcasting Co. is such that it will conform to standards and ideals that have come to mean the American way of life throughout the world."

Four of the 197 stations in the network are owned and operated by the American company. They are WJZ in New York; WENR, Chicago; KECA, Chicago, and KGO, San Francisco.

Charles Skouras Pledges Full Aid to War Loan

NEW YORK—Charles P. Skouras, exhibitor state chairman for southern California, has given his pledge to Sam Pinanski, national chairman for the Seventh War Loan, that his territory will cooperate fully in the forthcoming campaign.

Skouras also pledged 100 per cent cooperation on behalf of all divisions of National Theatres, of which he is president. Skouras was present at a national committee meeting at campaign headquarters in New York, where plans were formulated. He was accompanied by Rick Ricketson, head of Fox Intermountain Theatres and exhibitor state chairman for Colorado, and H. J. Fitzgerald, president of Fox Wisconsin Theatres and exhibitor state chairman for Wisconsin.

Unger Winds up First Of UA Sales Meets

CHICAGO—J. J. Unger, UA western sales manager, has completed the first of several sales meetings to be held in his territory, and has left for Milwaukee. Among those present, conferring with Unger on sales plans and policies on current and forthcoming product, were Rud Lohrenz, district manager; Nat Nathanson, branch manager, and salesmen from the local UA office.

From Milwaukee Unger will proceed to similar sales meetings in Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Kansas City and St. Paul. He will return to the home office in New York the latter part of this month.

Legion Promises Full Aid On Industry Bond Drive

NEW YORK—Complete cooperation of the American Legion in the Seventh War Loan drive has been promised to Samuel Pinanski, national chairman of the industry's drive committee, in a letter from H. L. Chaillaux, director of the National Americanism committee of the American Legion. In his letter, Chaillaux assured Pinanski of the fullest cooperation by state and local Legion posts above and beyond their normal war work.

Review >> << Flashes

LA RIVAL DE SU HIJA (Azteca)—Since the second title of this is "El Abanico de Lady Windermere" (Lady Windermere's Fan), there will be a certain amount of literary interest in it. However, in this country the exclusively Spanish dialog will not be too incomprehensible because Oscar Wilde's story is so well known. Since it is a society drama in any language, depending upon clever and sophisticated dialog, the usual audience for Mexican pictures in the United States will not be too much impressed. Anita Blanch, Susana Guizar, Rene Cardona, Augusto Novaro.

TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE (RKO)—Tom Conway, in this light-vein murder mystery, steps out of his customary role as the Falcon, super and suave sleuth, but he is divorced from neither his propensity toward snooping nor suavity. Herein he contrives to be both the suspect and the amateur hawkshaw, a neat trick, particularly inasmuch as he is a victim of amnesia during its performance. The film probably was designed to serve as nothing more than the second feature on routine dual programs and in such niche it will satisfy the average customer. Tom Conway, Ann Rutherford, Richard Lane, Emory Parnell. Directed by Anthony Mann.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE

V-E Day Won't Lessen All Controls by WPB

WASHINGTON—V-E Day will not mean a lessening of WPB controls, according to Chairman J. A. Krug who, however, gave categorical approval to former mobilization director, James F. Byrnes', reconversion report, submitted before Byrnes resigned.

The WPB, however, will relax and revoke material and production controls as rapidly as possible as may be consistent with continuing the all-out war effort against Japan.

There may be relaxation of construction orders to permit the most urgently needed civilian construction. When questioned about the possibility of theatre building, a WPB spokesman stated that present plans do not permit of a relaxing of the construction order to provide for such work. WPB will continue to exert specialized controls over all materials continuing in tight supply, such as tin, crude rubber, textiles, lumber and certain chemicals to assure meeting all essential war and civilian needs.

"WPB controls affect almost everyone and their relaxation and revocation should be handled in such a way as to avoid, to the greatest possible extent, the dislocation and confusion which otherwise might characterize the changeover from our present unprecedented war production to the manufacture of more civilian goods," stated Chairman Krug, adding:

"Procurement for the major military effort against Japan will be enormous. The first duty of WPB is to see to it that these demands are met on schedule and to make certain that only those resources which are not needed for the war against Japan and for essential war-supporting production and activities are released for reconversion to civilian production."

Theatre Managers Are Assured Of V-E Day News Coverage

NEW YORK—Theatre managers are assured complete newsreel coverage of V-E Day. Camera crews, laboratory staffs and shipping personnel are already alerted, waiting to photograph, process and deliver flash prints America's spontaneous reaction to the long-awaited news of Germany's surrender.

Coverage will be by individual companies, not by pool, according to a Pathe newsreel executive. "It will be a strictly individual operation," he said. "Like most newsreel organizations, we plan to release a V-E Day reel, but it's difficult to say in advance exactly what form the subject will take, other than of a general newsreel nature.

Fresh Footage on Every Plane

"We have no special day release complete as yet, nor have we shipped any footage of the sort to our exchanges; to do so would be stupid, as it would mean missing much excellent footage now arriving on almost every plane. When we've a reel lined up, we'll probably hold it up for a few hours in order to include shots of public reaction to the news from overseas."

News of the Day intends to release a V-E Day reel, an official of that organization admitted, but declined to say whether it is near completion. "We've made no iron-clad plans as yet," he explained; "we'll be governed entirely by circumstances."

Universal newsreel has already started getting out historical background material for a special V-E Day film, but no reel has been completed as yet. "Naturally we'll cover crowd reactions in New York City, Washington and other focal points," a spokesman said, "and include such last-minute footage in our release. We hope President Roosevelt will make a statement so we can include his remarks in our reel. We're willing to permit a 12- to 24-hour lag between the newsbreak and the time we ship prints in order that we get perfect coverage on what may be regarded as the world's most important news event."

Movietone News will be ready with its share of coverage, a company executive said. "Washington is trying to play down V-E Day excitement; is asking people to go to church to pray; I doubt if they'll do it. We'll be ready to cover whatever occurs in the way of parades, demonstrations, etc."

Shroud Three-Reeler in Mystery

Probably the release most shrouded in secrecy is the U.S. army three-reeler, "Two Down and One to Go," dealing with the disposition of the armed forces after the war in Germany ends. Carefully guarded prints of this military subject are already in exchange vaults throughout the country, awaiting the green light from Washington to release them to exhibitors in every state of the Union. Government officials fortunate enough to have seen the picture pronounce it superior in every way.

This Is America does not plan to make a V-E Day subject. Nor does March of Time; the latter organization is already set on its next subject, "The Returned Veteran," due to be released in April.

Paramount newsreel executives have not made known their plans.

ACTION! MUSIC! RADIO STARS! SCREEN



YOUR SCREEN WILL ECHO WITH THE RIP-ROAR OF THIS ROLLICKIN', FROLICKIN' OUTDOOR ACTION MUSICAL



COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

ROCKIN' in the ROCK



There's plenty of song hits in them thar hills: "MISS MOLLY" "ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES" "ONE O'CLOCK JUMP" · "WAH-HOO" "WABASH BLUES" · *and many others!*

COLUMBIA PICTURES

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS!

STARS! RODEO STARS! RECORDING STARS! COMEDY STARS







IES

THE THREE STOOGES

Their *first* BIG feature frolic!

MARY BETH HUGHES

Beautiful but *smart!*

THE HOOSIER HOTSHOTS

Hits of radio's National Barn Dance Show!

JAY KIRBY

Watch this new action star!

THE CAPPY BARRA BOYS

Sensational harmonica quartet!

GLADYS BLAKE

Laughter and song!

TIM RYAN

Fast and funny!

SPADE COOLEY, KING OF WESTERN SWING

Noted radio and recording artist!





Screen Play by J. Benton Cheney and John Grey

Produced by COLBERT CLARK

Directed by VERNON KEAYS

Again! A GREAT REC

I cannot bear the Torture of seeing you in his arms!



Emily Brontë's powerful drama of the desperate man who avenged a lost love . . . a truly great picture, produced in the Samuel Goldwyn tradition of excellence in entertainment. An immortal screen version of an immortal novel!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN *presents*

WUTHERING HEIGHTS

A Story of Vengeful, Thwarted Love

co-starring MERLE OBERON • LAURENCE OLIVIER • DAVID NIVEN

with Flora Robson • Donald Crisp • Geraldine Fitzgerald • *Screenplay by* Ben Hecht *and* Charles MacArthur • *Directed by* WILLIAM WYLER

Released thru FILM CLASSICS Inc.

Flash!

SOLD TO ENTIRE R.K.O. CIRCUIT New York City

In the field of RE-ISSUES, FILM CLASSICS, by Performance, by Man-Power, by its unusual facilities for distribution, and BY ITS OWN PERFORMANCE RECORD . . . Is Definitely TOPS! This Record is VISIBLE for ALL TO SEE! . . . and that Record will *PROVE* that in our handling of 31 Goldwyn features; 7 Selznick-International productions; Hal Roach's "Topper" and more than 300 of his short subjects, FILM CLASSICS is putting a NEW MERCHANDISING PUNCH into OLD RECORD BREAKERS for NEW BOX-OFFICE RECORDS!

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FILM CLASSICS EXCHANGE FOR BOOKINGS ON THESE MONEY-MAKERS!

ORD BREAKER – EVERYWHERE!

4 MONTHS—WORLD THEATRE—NEW YORK CITY ★

3 WEEKS—MAJESTIC THEATRE—BOSTON ★

2 WEEKS—KARLTON THEATRE—PHILADELPHIA ★

A NEW HIGH—METROPOLITAN—WASHINGTON ★

TOP BUSINESS—STATE THEATRE—OMAHA ★

EXCELLENT—MISSOURI THEATRE—ST. LOUIS ★

HOLDOVER—LIBERTY THEATRE—NEW ORLEANS ★

2 BIG WEEKS—GRAND THEATRE—CHICAGO ★

GREAT BUSINESS ALL OVER: PARAMOUNT THEATRE, Syracuse — STRAND, Atlantic City — PALACE, Newport News — ALLEN, Cleveland — ORPHEUM, Des Moines — STACY, Trenton — SHUBERT, Cincinnati — ASTOR, Reading, Pa. — ORPHEUM, Sioux City — ALBEE, Providence, R. I. — ORPHEUM, Davenport, Ia. — PALACE, Bethlehem, Pa. — PROCTOR'S, Newark, N. J. — CAPITOL, Meriden, Conn. — STATE, Ithaca, N. Y. — KLEIN MEMORIAL, Bridgeport, Conn. — LOEW'S, Hartford, Conn. — EMPIRE, Portland, Me. — STATE, Burlington, Vt.

CURRENT RELEASES ☆ COMING RELEASES

DEAD END • KID FROM SPAIN
TOPPER • COWBOY AND THE LADY
RESURRECTION • I WAS FAITHFUL
BARBARY COAST • WUTHERING
HEIGHTS • I WAS A CRIMINAL
RAGGED ANGELS • ONE HEAVENLY
NIGHT • ARROWSMITH

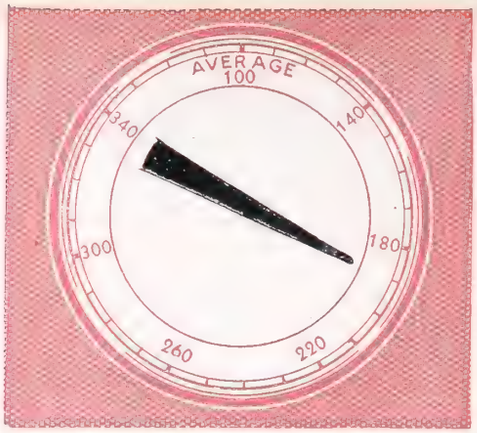
LADY OF FORTUNE • THE STARS LOOK
DOWN • KID MILLIONS • BULLDOG
DRUMMOND • GOLDWYN FOLLIES
DODSWORTH • STELLA DALLAS
COME AND GET IT • BELOVED
ENEMY • ADVENTURES OF MARCO
POLO • SPLENDOR • THE WESTERNERS
THE HURRICANE • THESE THREE

Released thru FILM CLASSICS Inc.

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Practically Yours—

Denver 190
Dallas 130
Boston 125

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Adventures of Kitty O'Day (Mono)	100					100	100						100	100			100		100		100	140	**104**
Alaska (Mono)			110			135	150	100	100		105			100			145			175	130		**125**
Blonde Fever (M-G-M)	100	93		95		100	100					100	100	125	100			110				100	**102**
Circumstantial Evidence (20-Fox)	125											100	100	150							100		**115**
Eadie Was a Lady (Col)		100	115	95	105	120		100										100					**105**
Experiment Perilous (RKO)	100	200		120	70	120	140	115		100	130		100	100	93	165	130			160	155	125	**125**
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110			95	75		175									150					150		**126**
Grissly's Millions (Rep)	100		110			120	110		100	100			100				100			165	100		**111**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125		90			110	150				105		90	115	103	175		190					**125**
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)		115		95				100			120			125			125						**113**
Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)	110	105	115	110	65		148				97		100	140	120	170			90		125	140	**117**
Here Come the WAVES (Para)	145	167		125	140	135	235	105	130	125	210	219		175	108	200	155	240	125	160	160		**161**
Hotel Berlin (WB)	115	104		110	90		150	100			125	200	110		95	180	100	205				150	**131**
I Accuse My Parents (PRC)						100	100		130	90	100												**104**
I Love a Mystery (Col)	100							100				100	100	100	100		95		80				**97**
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)		170		115	135		213		125			150		200	110		130	195			180	150	**156**
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110					130									130						**122**
Keys of the Kingdom (20-Fox)	135	105	130	113	90	120	165	85	175		168	175	125	140	90	285	110	155	150	145	160	150	**141**
Mademoiselle Fifi (RKO)	100	115	110			125	100		100				100	100	95					100	150	100	**108**
Man in Half Moon Street (Para)	100			100				100		100		100	100	120	100	125		180		100	100	110	**110**
Meet Me in St. Louis (MGM)	125	260	125	125	185	135	230	105	145	180	185	187	135	170	130	210	150	170	170		180	200	**167**
Ministry of Fear (Para)	125	135	110			130	90		100			128	100	115	100	160	90	175	60	175	110	120	**119**
Mr. Emmanuel (UA)		118			120									125	78				45		110		**99**
National Velvet (MGM)	130							105		125	200	147				160		210		250			**166**
Nevada (RKO)		110	100			125	100		100		100			110	83					150	100	100	**107**
Night Club Girl (Univ)	100	100	100				100				100		100									100	**100**
Nothing But Trouble (MGM)		82						85	100							80	100	135					**97**
Objective, Burma! (WB)			120	115	115	125	170	100		150		175	100		100	225	105	195	90		135	170	**137**
Practically Yours (Para)	125				100	130	190	100						160	105		140		75				**125**
Sergeant Mike (Col)		100				125	100						100	110	80		100		95	100			**101**
She's a Sweetheart (Col)	100		115				100						75	110	93		100		85				**97**
Sing Me a Song of Texas (Col)						115	100				100										100	140	**111**
Storm Over Lisbon (Rep)	100		120	100		125	100		95	95	95	100	95		90	120	110		100	150	100	90	**105**
Suspect, The (Univ)	130	128	110			120	185	90	120		87	100		100	85	180			115		160	175	**126**
Thin Man Goes Home, The (MGM)	125	93	110	115	100	135					135				97	165	95	170	90	120		150	**121**
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115			160	120				150	100	140			110			150	170		**141**
Three Is a Family (UA)	100	86	125	95	70		160	85			90	100	100	150	90		150	125		100	110		**109**
Thunderhead, Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130			115				105			123	150	100			150	135				140		**128**
Till We Meet Again (Para)	110	136	110	110	120	130	125	100	90	100	120	103	100	100	135	250	125	185	55	175	130	135	**125**
Tonight and Every Night (Col)	140	214		105	95	125	150	100	130	100		133	110	100	103	125	120	195	125			175	**130**
Winged Victory (20-Fox)	125	206	125	120	100	130	190	100	200	160	185	192	120	160	125	215	180	170	135	185	130	200	**157**



WALTER WANGER AGAIN MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO THE INDUSTRY

Walter Wanger has always demonstrated the vision of a real showman, with such diversified pictures as "Arabian Nights," "Algiers," "Foreign Correspondent," "Blockade," "Eagle Squadron," "Stagecoach," "Gung Ho!"

With his newest Technicolor production, "Salome, Where She Danced," Walter Wanger successfully brings to the screen a new personality in Yvonne DeCarlo, in addition to giving the industry a truly exciting motion picture.

Universal believes that the trade in general will share its enthusiasm for Walter Wanger's production, "Salome, Where She Danced."

WALTER WANGER presents

SALOME, Where She Danced

in TECHNICOLOR

with **YVONNE DeCARLO** • **ROD CAMERON** • **DAVID BRUCE** • **WALTER SLEZAK**

ALBERT DEKKER • **Marjorie Rambeau** • **J. Edward Bromberg** • Screenplay by Laurence Stallings • From an original story by Michael J. Phillips

Directed by CHARLES LAMONT • Associate Producer, ALEXANDER GOLITZEN • Produced by WALTER WANGER

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Wyoming Hurricane (Col)—Russell Hayden, Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys, Alma Carroll, Walter "Dub" Taylor. So good that several came the second night. Just the type show for our midweek. Lots of action, good comedy and I must say Hayden is coming to the front as a real fightin' Texas boy which makes 'em roll in the aisles. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Lost in a Harem (M-G-M)—Abbott and Costello. On a par with most of the other pictures of this pair of comedians and the picture drew well enough to show a nice profit. Metro allocated the picture in the bracket that was right, for once. Good enough for any time and will please their fans. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Two Girls and a Sailor (M-G-M)—June Allyson, Gloria De Haven, Van Johnson, Tom Drake. Here is a swell feature from Metro that should do well anywhere. Lots of good comment on this one—nothing adverse heard. Had bad weather conditions the second night, which cut receipts some. Played Sat., Sun.—Edw. H. Belz, Community, Athens, Wis. Rural and small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Double Indemnity (Para)—Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck, Edward G. Robinson. Very good. An adult picture and one that teaches you that the insurance companies take no chances and nothing can be slipped over them—very educational, and Fred MacMurray and Stanwyck did a swell job of acting. So did Robinson. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

I Love a Soldier (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. This is a very good comedy showing the love life of a soldier on leave. Played Sun., Tues. Weather: Fair.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Small town and farm patronage.

Sign of the Cross (Para)—Reissue. Fredric March, Elissa Landi, Claudette Colbert, Charles Laughton. I'm sorry that people have to look at such a picture. We have horrors in the present day to look at and should not have to go back into history. There were plenty of walkouts and we didn't blame them. Played Wednesday. Weather: Fair.—J. S. Hoar, Riverside, Kingfield, Me. Small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

Marine Raiders (RKO)—Pat O'Brien, Ruth Hussey, Robert Ryan. Very good and I'm glad I showed it as it shows some actual government shots everyone should see. A nice, well-made picture that drew well and should anywhere. All of the cast good. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Princess and the Pirate, The (RKO)—Bob Hope, Virginia Mayo, Walter Brennan, Walter Slezak. We had squawks on this Bob Hope and I believe the complaints were justified. Costumes are out in the small towns and it hurt the draw of this well-made and beautifully colored comedy. Don't promise too much and you'll get by, but not like you have on his others. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Heaven Can Wait (20th-Fox)—Don Ameche, Gene Tierney, Charles Coburn. We played this one late. Consequently most fans had forgotten about it—result, less business. Excellent Technicolor and that sort of entertainment that makes the operator want to watch it from downstairs. Laird Cregar's speech at the end leaves one something to ponder. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Gray Barker, Ass't Projectionist, Pictureland, Glenville, W. Va. Rural and small town patronage.

Irish Eyes Are Smiling (20th-Fox)—June Haver, Dick Haymes, Monty Woolley, Anthony Quinn. This brought them in—very entertaining, beautiful color, sure fire. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—H. Goldson, Plaza, Chicago, Ill. Neighborhood patronage.

Irish Eyes Are Smiling (20th-Fox)—June Haver, Dick Haymes, Monty Woolley. They don't make them any better. Patrons liked it 100 per cent. I hope there are more like this. Played Sunday. Weather: Fair.—J. S. Hoar, Lakeside, Rangeley, Me. Small town patronage.

Keys of the Kingdom (20th-Fox)—Gregory Peck, Thomas Mitchell, Vincent Price, Rosa Stradner. A good picture that is slowed down to a walk by a lot of heavy dialog and lacks the drawing power of a big picture. Some nice settings and a big cast of extras lift the picture out of the ordinary but it just won't draw. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Laura (20th-Fox)—Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews, Clifton Webb, Vincent Price. One of the finest mystery pictures I ever played. Fine weather, but the natives just won't go for this kind. Flat rental, but I paid too much for it.—W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan, Ind. Low income patronage.

A Real Veteran Showman Is M. Bailey of Ontario

One of the real old-timers is M. Bailey of the Strand Theatre at Dryden, Ont., Canada. He started in show business back in 1913 and has operated his present theatre all of the 32 years since that time.

It must be admitted that Bailey has the manpower problem licked, however, for no less than five members of his family help him out at the theatre. This is doubtless the reason he can list so many hobbies, which are, in the order of their importance, perhaps: Boating, fishing, hunting and drinking.

Asked to name the exhibitor's major problem today he listed "collecting taxes." And his suggestion for its remedy is, and we quote: "No suggestion, unless we close up and go fishing."

UNITED ARTISTS

Stagecoach (UA)—Reissue. Claire Trevor, John Wayne, Andy Devine. This is a picture long to be remembered. We did good business all three days. A lot of our patrons had already seen it once, too, but made the remark they wanted to see it again. Played Sun., Mon., Tues.—L. D. Brown, Gem, Brownwood, Tex. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Gypsy Wildcat (Univ)—Maria Montez, Jon Hall, Peter Coe, Nigel Bruce. This picture was mis-titled. It deserved a better name. People stayed away thinking it was just another wild western type but it was not. Played Sunday. Weather: Fair.—J. S. Hoar, Lakeside, Rangeley, Me. Small town and country patronage.

Merry Monahans, The (Univ)—Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie, Ann Blyth. You can't go wrong on this one. Well liked here. Played Saturday. Weather: Cold.—J. S. Hoar, Lakeside, Rangeley, Me. Small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Tiger Shark (WB)—Reissue. Edward G. Robinson. This picture seemed to please the most of them. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Small town and rural patronage.

More boxes of popped corn — much more profit by using the perfected hybrid that excels all others! Grown in Iowa-Nebr. silt loam

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America's Finest Tasting Popcorn

Letters from actual users of SUPER-POP testify as to its much higher volume of popped corn—easily 25% above ordinary corn. SUPER-POP has been developed by extensive efforts over a ten-year period, to excel any ordinary corn. It is fully ripened in the field, stored under ideal conditions, free from rodents, and correct moisture content is assured, as well as freedom from chaff.

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Bank References on Request

Baruch Sees 5-7 Year Boom Following War

NEW YORK—That the U.S. will see a period of prosperity of from five to seven years following the conclusion of the war, "no matter what is done or not done," was the assertion of Bernard Baruch, 75-year-old financier and close adviser to President Roosevelt, in an interview published in Stars and Stripes, army newspaper.

The interview was given to the Stars and Stripes reporter in London, and probably took place on a park bench outside the house of commons. Baruch was in London for conferences with Prime Minister Churchill, but would not discuss his mission. He did, however, talk freely about the postwar future, and said, "What happens after those five or seven years depends on the peace the big boys are preparing for us now."

Baruch's prediction for economic prosperity takes the opposite view to that expressed in some circles that the rapidly-approaching end of the war in Europe will bring with it cutbacks on army contracts and widespread reconversion with attendant unemployment and general diminishing of the business boom.

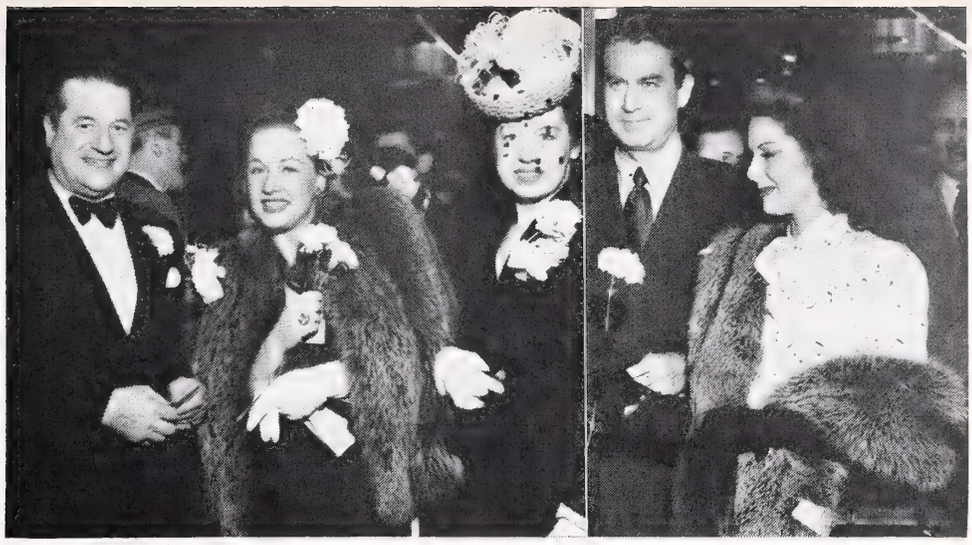
Baruch also spoke for the need of strengthening the "GI Bill of Rights" so as to assure the returning service men his rights, "which are not charity dispensed by a beneficent community but rights which he earned." Speaking of employment for returning veterans, Baruch declared that the jobs "must be the kind of work to give a man a decent standard of living, and that means good food, clothing, housing, education, medical care and a certain amount of amusement and leisure."

Tod to Capital Post

NEW YORK—Mort Blumenstock, eastern head of Warner's publicity and advertising department, has appointed Ted Tod manager of publicity and exploitation activities of the Washington, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh exchange areas. Tod's previous duties as head of the company's midwest field exploitation staff are being carried on jointly by Lucia Perrigo and Stanton Kramer.

Susan Hayward Plays in "Deadline"

Susan Hayward has been borrowed from Paramount for the stellar feminine role in RKO's "Deadline at Dawn."



"COLONEL BLIMP" OPENS—Celebrities turned out in force for the opening of United Artists' British picture at the Gotham in New York. Left to right: Arthur Kelly, head of Eagle-Lion Pictures; Bonita Granville and Mrs. Kelly; Hugh Owen of Paramount and Arleen Whelan.

"Showmen's Seventh" Title Of the New Bond Drive

NEW YORK—"The Showmen's Seventh" is the official title bestowed on the Seventh War Loan.

The slogan, "One hundred per cent showmanship equals 99 per cent perspiration and one per cent inspiration," emphasizes that enthusiasm, ingenuity and the personal efforts of each showman will be necessary to make the drive a success.

The theme was suggested by one of the contestants in the Sixth War Loan exploitation contest. Seventh War Loan officials believe that it sums up the showmen's task.

Kaufman Tours Field

NEW YORK—H. C. Kaufman, Columbia's manager of exchange operations, has left on a business trip to six of the company's branches. He will visit the Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Omaha, Kansas City and Washington, D.C., offices.

New York Broadens Discrimination Act

ALBANY—Discrimination, on the grounds of "national origin," in facilities provided in places of "public accommodation, resort or amusement" is one of the types interdicted in a bill signed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey.

The final measure adds "national origin" to "race, creed and color" and forbids discrimination in theatres, in the sale of alcoholic beverages, selection of jurors, employment by utility companies, labor organizations, civil service employment, public schools, admission to the practice of law, public work contracts, civil rights, work relief projects and housing projects. It amends the alcoholic beverage control, civil rights, civil service, education, judiciary, labor, penal and public housing laws. The sponsors were members of the temporary commission against discrimination.

The old civil rights statute barring discrimination has not been enforced nor is it enforcible, according to negro assemblymen. They have introduced a number of bills in recent years to tighten provisions of this law and to establish more effective enforcement machinery. One of these bills passed the assembly three years ago but was lost in the last minute shuffle before adjournment. Some motion picture interests were reported to have opposed the act.

Majority Leader Irving M. Ives declared during a discussion of his bill that most of the present antidiscrimination laws and even the constitutional provision had been weakly, if at all, enforced because they lacked adequate machinery, which is supplied in the Ives-Quinn law. In addition to this, a bill was passed by the legislature this year authorizing and directing the attorney general to institute and defend actions brought under the antidiscrimination statutes.

Fields N. Y. Publicity Chief

NEW YORK—Jules Fields, publicity manager for 20th-Fox, has been appointed public relations chairman for the New York area during the Seventh War Loan by Irving Lesser, chairman of the district. Fields will be in charge of all newspapers, tradepapers and radio publicity. Other publicity committees for the New York area are being formed, and will be announced by Lesser when completed.



PRESIDENTIAL LINEUP—Present and former heads of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, who participated in the recent installation of officers for 1945, are in the picture. They are: (front, l-r) Irving H. Greenfield, Loew's; Arthur Israel jr., Paramount; Adolph Schimel, Universal; (rear) Albert A. Senft, Sterling Sign Co., who is serving a second year, and Alfred W. Schwalberg, International Pictures, who was first and honorary president.

BROADWAY

James E. Finey, domestic sales head for Walt Disney Productions, left for a month's tour of RKO exchanges. His itinerary includes visits to Des Moines, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Oklahoma City, Dallas, New Orleans, Memphis, Charlotte and Atlanta . . . Terry Turner, RKO Radio exploitation head, visited Boston on company business.

W. C. DeVry, president of DeVry Corp., left Chicago for New York and Washington conferences on the continuation of equipment manufacturing for the armed forces.

Louis Lober, assistant chief of OWI Overseas Film Bureau, is vacationing . . . John J. Dacey jr., son of John J. Dacey, local RKO exchange short subject sales manager, was appointed advertising manager for Goodall-L. C. Chase Fabrics Corp.

A son was born to Ray Bell, motion picture publicist, formerly with M-G-M's New York office, and now with Pennsylvania Central airlines . . . Haskell Masters, former vice-president of Odeon Theatres, Ltd., Canada, is back after a Florida vacation.

Arthur M. Loew, head of M-G-M's foreign department, postponed his return from South America for three weeks.

Bonita Granville, RKO star, headed the cast of the radio version of Maxwell Anderson's stage hit, "Saturday's Children," over WABC-CBS . . . Sam Wood, coproducer and director of Jack Skirball's "What Every Woman Wants," starring Don Ameche and Claudette Colbert, arrived from Hollywood.

Betty Field, starred in UA's "Tomorrow the World" and a new film, "It's Spring Again," soon to be released, was interviewed by Hollywood commentator, Radie Harris, over the facilities of the Blue Network . . . Leo Gorcey, featured in Monogram's East Side Kids series, signed for a 13-week stint on the Bob Burns radio show over KFI-NBC . . . Jacques Kopfstein, Astor Pictures executive, made a trip to Boston and Montreal to visit company exchanges.

Mike Fish, art supervisor in Alex Evelove's publicity department at the Warner studio on the coast, left for Chicago . . . Peter Lorre, Warner star, who completed a month of personal appearances in connection with the premiere of "Hotel Berlin" at the Strand Theatre, returned to the coast.

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warners, and Mort Blumenstock, head of advertising and publicity in the east, left for Chicago discussions with Balaban & Katz circuit officials on product and campaigns for the remainder of the 1944-45 season . . . W. Stewart McDonald, Warner International vice-president, was expected back from his Florida vacation.

Lew Fields of the M-G-M art department returned from a Mexican holiday.

Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, arrived from the coast . . . Tom Gerety, editor of Lion's Roar, M-G-M publication, recovered from a week's illness and is back at the home office . . . Ramos Cobian, Paramount theatre partner in Cuba, is back in Havana after a visit here . . . Dee Lowrance of the M-G-M publicity department is fighting a siege of pneumonia . . . Charles Moskowitz, Loew vice-president, left for a vacation in Florida.

A daughter Lynn was born to Sgt. D. John Phillips, former advertising and publicity manager of Paramount short subject and newsreel department, and his wife, Edith Schaffer, attorney for Paramount Pictures . . . Al Wilkie, Paramount home office publicity manager, is back from the coast after discussions with George Brown, studio publicity director, on campaigns for new releases.

George F. Dembow, National Screen Service vice-president, returned from Florida . . . Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of Paramount sales, returned to his office from the south.

Roy Disney, vice-president of Walt Disney Productions, returned to the Hollywood studio upon completion of conferences with RKO Radio executives . . . Herman Wobber, veteran 20th-Fox division manager at present 30th anniversary drive leader, will visit several of the exchanges he heads for sales conferences en route to his San Francisco headquarters.

Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager for 20th-Fox, returned to the home office to complete a tour of exchange cities with William Eythe, star of "A Royal Scandal" . . . N. Peter Rathvon, president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., is expected back from Hollywood about the middle of April . . . E. B. Hatrick, vice-president and general manager of News of the Day and Cosmopolitan Productions, arrived from the coast.

Hank Linet, executive assistant to Maurice Bergman, Universal eastern publicity and advertising head, after attending funeral services for Harry McDonald, the company's New England advertising director, set out on a tour of the New England territory . . . Merwin C. Travis, general manager of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, and Jack Runyon, head of the west coast section of the Office of Inter-American Affairs, left for Hollywood.

The weekly meeting at the Fabian offices was attended by Saul J. Ullman, general manager of Fabian upstate; Larry Cowen, publicity director, and Joe Shure, booker.

Joseph A. McConville, president of Columbia Pictures International Corp., has returned from a two-month business trip to the company's offices in Latin America . . . Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager for Warners, left for visits to Philadelphia and Scranton.

Joe Feldman, assistant to Moe Silver, Pittsburgh zone manager for Warner Theatres, has left after conferences at the home office.

Allan Kohane, Warner field representative formerly assigned to the Pacific northwest territory, has gone to Louisville for exploitation of "God Is My Co-Pilot" . . . Mitchell Leisen, who directed Paramount's "Practically Yours," currently showing at the Paramount Theatre, returned to Hollywood with Billy Daniels, dance director, who accompanied him east. During his stay, Leisen viewed several Broadway stage plays with an eye to their film possibilities, while Daniels was seeking instructors to augment the dance school personnel at the company's coast studio.

Sidney S. Kulick, PRC eastern sales manager, made a business trip to Philadelphia . . . Bert Kulick, general sales manager for PRC, attended the world premiere of "Strange Illusion" at the Rialto in Atlanta during the first stop on his business trip south.

Jack Harris of Eagle-Lion Films in London ended his New York visit with a trip to the coast, where he will remain until the end of the month . . . Walter Vincent of the Wilmer & Vincent circuit underwent a minor operation at the New York Hospital . . . The arrival of E. W. "Gene" Street, city manager for Wilby-Kincey Theatres in Knoxville, to assume his duties as Seventh War Loan coordinator for the south with supervision over 13 states, completes the campaign coordinating committee, which will work closely with the field during the drive.

Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales for 20th-Fox, returned from his Florida vacation and has plunged into work in behalf of the company's 30th anniversary celebration, and as distributor chairman of the Seventh War Loan.

Bert Goldberg, sales manager for Hollywood Pictures Corp., left on an extensive sales tour of the south in connection with the Lena Horne featurette, "Boogie, Woogie Dream" . . . Stanley B. Adams, chief of the WPB consumers durable goods division, visited from Washington . . . Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of the Fanchon & Marco theatres, arrived from St. Louis accompanied by Marco Wolf.

Thomas Hodge, assistant director of BIS film division, left for a month's stay in England . . . Bernard G. Kranze, RKO eastern central district manager, arrived from Cleveland to confer with Robert Mochrie, sales manager.

"Tree" Smashes "Wilson" Record at Roxy, New York

NEW YORK—Despite the clamping down of a nationwide curfew entailing the closing of the Roxy boxoffice an hour earlier, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" broke the six-week record for the theatre established by "Wilson."

Film version of best-seller wound up its sixth week at the Roxy on April 10. Ernst Lubitsch production, "A Royal Scandal," commenced its world premiere there the following day.

Gehring Again Elected 20th-Fox Club Head

NEW YORK—William C. Gehring, 20th-Fox western sales manager, has been unanimously elected president of the company's Family Club. This makes his third term. Other officers chosen were:

Lew Lehr, first vice-president; Jack Sichelman, second vice-president; Eugene McEvoy, third vice-president; Theodore A. Shaw, treasurer; Elsie Boland, secretary. The board of governors includes the foregoing officers and Doris Adelman, Hettie Gray Baker, Morris Breggin, N. N. Brower, Morris Caplan, Francis X. Carroll, Edna Dreher, Frank Kelly, E. H. McFarland, Harry Reinhardt, Anne Schneider, Joseph Seco, Stella Sidel, Norman Steinberg and Julia Wolpin.

"Belle" in 2nd Week

NEW YORK—"Belle of the Yukon," International's Technicolor musical, started its second Broadway week at RKO Palace on April 5. Picture costars Randolph Scott, Gypsy Rose Lee, Dinah Shore and Bob Burns.



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Broadway Grosses Up With Easter Holiday

NEW YORK—Boxoffices at the first runs responded to the twin lures of Easter and new attractions with waiting lines, while theatre managers were wearing their best holiday smiles counting grosses. Business took a definite upswing after the seasonal Lenten lull and many new entries showed marked hit possibilities.

Among new arrivals that hit the bell were: "Practically Yours," at the Paramount; "The Corn Is Green," Hollywood; "Affairs of Susan," Rivoli, and "Between Two Women," Criterion.

Holdovers that showed sustained drawing power or even improvement included: "God Is My Co-Pilot," Strand; "Without Love," Capitol, and "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," Roxy.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), 8th wk. 105
Capitol—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 5th wk. 120
Criterion—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M) 145
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB) 195
Palace—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO) 125
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), plus stage show 200
Radio City Music Hall—**Without Love** (M-G-M), plus Easter Show, 2nd wk. 170
Rialto—**The Mummy's Curse** (Univ) 105
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para) 150
Roxy—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 5th wk. 135
Strand—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 210
Victoria—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 125

"Tree" Makes the Best Showing In Under-Par Buffalo Week

BUFFALO—Holy week brought the usual boxoffice lull. Making the best showing was a second week of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Great Lakes. The weather was fine for March, drawing thousands to city and county parks. Hundreds visited summer cottages to get them in shape for the coming summer season. "It's a Pleasure" recorded better than average at the 20th Century, but others were off. Despite the severe winter, March turned out to be the warmest in the history of the local weather bureau.

Buffalo—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **High Powered** (Para) 104
Great Lakes—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 142
Hippodrome—**Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M) 82
20th Century—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Grissly's Millions** (Rep) 119
Lafayette—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ) 105

Philadelphia Business Fine Despite Holy Week Observance

PHILADELPHIA—In spite of Holy week, business last week was excellent. The biggest take of the week was reported by the Fox, where "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" is playing. Following closely was "Woman in the Window."

Aldine—**Song to Remember** (Col) 180
Arcadia—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 4th d. t. wk. 150
Boyd—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col), 2nd wk. 155
Earle—**Dangerous Passage** (Para), with Charlie Spivak orchestra and Buddy Lester on stage. 145
Fox—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) 220
Karlton—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 6th d. t. wk. 140
Keith's—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 165
Mastbaum—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk. 125
Stanley—**Woman in the Window** (RKO) 205
Stanton—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ) 195

Briskin Ends Navy Task

NEW YORK—Samuel Briskin has completed a three-week study of naval motion picture production problems and has submitted his report to the secretary of the navy through Capt. Gene Markey, USNR, director of naval photographic services, under whose auspices the survey was conducted.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

OVER THE TOP was the recent campaign for volunteers to assist theatres on various war loan drives launched by exchange men. Although only a limited time was available to the exchange men, their work was so thorough that they recruited upward of 200 volunteers. Most of the volunteers offered their services during the Red Cross drive at theatres nearest their homes and were welcomed with open arms by exhibitors and managers.

Idea for the drive was conceived by branch executives and salesmen who felt they could be of assistance to short-handed theatre staffs. The proposal met with instant response from theatre men, who, faced with wartime shortages in personnel, were working under a great handicap in the various war drives.

EXHIBITOR NOTES: Recent visitors to Filmrow included: Sam Davis, Phoenicia, N. Y.; Mike Levy, Greenwood, and Sid Meyers, Garden, both of Trenton, N. J., and Phil Lewis, Valley Theatre, Spring Valley, N. Y. . . . Lew Klein is the new general manager for the J&J circuit. He formerly managed the circuit's Luxor, Bronx.

Lew Kugel, former cashier at the M-G-M exchange here and now in the navy, visited former associates. He is stationed in Cleveland . . . Offices of the Island circuit, 678 Eighth Ave., are being enlarged and refurnished. Exhibitor Irving Pinsker and Film Buyer Sonny Liggett are in charge.

Century circuit's supervisors have been summoned to a meeting at the Patio, Brooklyn, by General Manager Joseph R. Springer to discuss plans for the forthcoming Seventh War Loan . . . Century's managers have been asked to turn over all old phonograph records they collect at the theatres to Halloran Hospital, Staten Island, for use of wounded veterans.

Some 30 members of the Film Exchange Employes Union B51, employed at the Republic and Monogram exchanges, have received the retroactive pay granted them recently by a NLRB decision awarding them a ten per cent increase in salary . . . Monogram's "Dillinger" follows "Thunderhead — Son of Flicka" in the Victoria . . . Irene Silverberg, of the United Artists booking department, was married to Lieut. Sheldon Greenberg, AUS, who recently returned from overseas duty.

Two 20th-Fox reissues, "Jesse James" and "The Return of Frank James," opened to a fare-thee-well at the Esquire, Eighth Ave. and 44th St. . . . Al Suchman, film buyer for the newly-formed Independent Theatres Service, Inc., New Jersey buying and booking office, is making his temporary headquarters at the former offices of the Associated Theatres of New Jersey.

Jack Safer and Seymour Jonas, manager and salesman, respectively, of PRC's Washington branch, were Filmrow visitors . . . John J. Dacey jr., son of John J. Dacey, dean of Filmrow sales executives, has been appointed sales manager of Goodall—L. C. Chase Fabrics Corp. . . . Ronny Fayles, manager of R&B's Laurel, Long Beach, won a silver loving cup for having turned in the largest percentage of increase in the circuit's Red Cross collection.

Pfc. Harold Levine, brother of Phil Levine, UA booker, former cocaptain of CCNY's tennis team, has entered the semifinals of a GI tennis tourney in Calcutta, India . . . Sol Kravitz, who works for Warners in one of the southern exchanges, visited old friends along Celluloid Lane . . . Ralph H. Pielow, Metro branch manager, was a weekend visitor to Albany . . . J. J. Bowen, Pielow and Ben Abner, metropolitan district, New York and New Jersey managers, respectively, engaged in home office huddles during the week.

VETERAN SHOWMAN: Meyer Solomon, Monogram salesman, was the manager of the Star Theatre, Manhattan, in the old days when Eddie Cantor and other stars were just breaking into show business. The Star, a well-known breakin house for vaudeville acts, boasted of other such names as: Irving Berlin, Houdini, Gus Edwards, Rosa and Carmela Ponselle, the late Henry Lewis, L. Wolfe Gilbert and Anatol Friedland. "The audience was tough in those days," says Solomon, adding: "We had to frisk many of the customers to relieve them of their lethal weapons."

Good Friday was pretty much of a holiday, many of the exchanges declaring a half-holiday so that their employes could attend church . . . "This Man's Navy" opened at the Globe, April 7 . . . Walter W. Vincent of the Wilmer & Vincent circuit has returned from a southern vacation . . . Tommy Farrell, Metro salesman, having passed his physical, has been placed in 1A.

Ann Levy, secretary to Charles Boasberg, metropolitan district manager for RKO, is in Florida for a three-week stay . . . Louis Allerhand took his family to Lakewood for the Easter weekend . . . James Ashcraft, Metro's field exploiteer assigned to Philadelphia, was a Gotham visitor . . . Loew's has booked 20th-Fox shorts in all of its metropolitan circuit, in observance of the company's 30th anniversary.

Lieut. Edward Stern, in civilian life booking manager for the R&B circuit became a benedict in England recently when he married Lieut. Dorothy Vernon, a U.S. army nurse who hails from North Carolina.

INDIAN SIGNS: Exhibitors who have visited the Warner exchange lately have been getting a load of laughs from the signs advertising the current sales drive. Known as Warners' "heap big powwow," the Indian motif prevails both in the atmospheric backgrounds and copy that promotes the drive. Signs bearing the outline of tepees have been placed in front of the desks of the following district, branch and office managers and bookers:

"Pinto Pete" Saglembeni, "Paleface" Leshansky, "Running Deer" Roth, "Fleet Wing" Simone, "Brave Heart" Weinberger, "Arrowroot" Archie Berish, "Laughing Boy" Eiseman and "Crazy Horse" Ayres.

So true to life are the signs that one expects a war whoop to resound from the quiet precincts of the exchange momentarily.

RKO Tradeshows 'Courage'

NEW YORK—RKO will tradeshow "Two o'Clock Courage," starring Tom Conway and Ann Rutherford in New York and Los Angeles on April 3.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



25 YEARS WITH "U"—Joseph H. Seidelman, president of Universal International Films, presents an inscribed parchment scroll to Al Daff, vice-president, in honor of his completion of 25 years of service with the company. Daff began as a booker in the Melbourne exchange. Shortly after presentation of the scroll he left for Europe.

Universal Shares In Large Turnover

PHILADELPHIA—The SEC reported this week that movement in Universal Pictures securities highlighted the activity in motion picture stocks for the February 11 to March 10 period.

The largest block of stock disposed of was 111,283 Universal common warrants and 26,500 shares of Universal common by the Standard Capital Co., which is in process of dissolution.

William A. Scully, New York, reported the disposal of 9,000 Universal common warrants; 600 additional warrants during January.

Daniel M. Sheaffer, Philadelphia, acquired 4,607 shares of Universal common, bringing his total to 24,265. Nathan Blumberg, Universal City, Calif., added 5,000 shares of common warrants, bringing his total to an even 24,000.

Activity in 20th-Fox securities was limited to the sale of 1,000 shares by Robert Lehman, New York, reducing his holdings to 500.

Henry Ginsberg, Hollywood, reported the sale of 400 shares of Paramount Pictures common, leaving him with 1,000 shares. His wife reported holding 100 shares. Maurice Newton, New York, sold 50 shares of Paramount, bringing his total down to 10,415.

Monogram Southern Exchanges, Inc., reported the sale of 3,900 shares of Monogram Pictures common, reducing its total to 15,172. Alton A. Brody, Hollywood, sold 500 shares, leaving him with 2,500. Arthur C. Bromberg, Atlanta, reported holding 1,086 shares, and W. B. Hurlbut, Detroit, reported holding 3,363. Monogram Pictures of Michigan added 400 shares of Monogram common, raising its total to 2,000.

Loew's, Inc., added 106 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres, bringing its total holdings to 121,341.

"Babyland" Preview

ROCHESTER—Reporters and radio men were entertained by Jay Golden, local RKO-Comerford manager, at a cocktail party and preview screening of a locally-filmed Universal short. "Author in Babyland," dealing with the everyday life of H. W. Roden, president of the Clapp Baby Foods Co. here. The film opened a week's run at the Palace.

New Checking Group Names Branch Aides

NEW YORK—Confidential Reports, Inc., new checking group, has appointed the following branch managers:

Francisco S. Ingres, St. Louis; Clarence E. Richmond, Chicago; Joseph H. Birmingham, Kansas City; Botille E. Smith, Minneapolis; Maurice G. Butler, Indianapolis; Harry H. Daniels, Cincinnati; Harold E. Lombard, Omaha; Thomas Holland, San Francisco; Barry Halpert, Los Angeles; Louis Soffer, Milwaukee; Edgar Wolf, Salt Lake City; William L. Gettings, Denver; Cecil N. Johnson, Charlotte; Malcolm H. Ritchie, Atlanta.

Joseph F. Landy, Memphis; William Dunn, Dallas; Arthur W. Davis, Washington; George Schwartz, New York; Herman Jacobs, Albany; Leo Weiss, Buffalo; Oliver Bradley, New Haven; Harvey Shelley, Philadelphia; William J. Ahern, Seattle, and Herman Spachner, Cleveland.

The following will be assigned to their territories later: O. Stradley, R. Konigsberg, R. Gordon, J. Donnelly, P. Buechler, B. Rose and F. Weilandt. The cities to which they will be assigned include Portland, Oklahoma City, Boston, Detroit, Des Moines, Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

Regional meetings of the newly-appointed personnel were held in New York, Memphis, St. Louis and Los Angeles.



LOOKING UP—Leonard Grant, assistant manager of the Palace Theatre, New York, who was one of the first to exhibit films in Alaska in the lush Klondike days, is looking up. So is business at the Palace. The object of Grant's attention is Dave Ballard, a mere youth who is already over seven feet tall. He is dressed up as a Yukon bigwig as part of the ballyhoo for "Belle of the Yukon," and the girls on Broadway are getting stiff necks trying to catch his eye.



THEY SEEM TO LIKE IT—Sam Pinanski (right), chairman of the industry's Seventh War Loan campaign, inspects the first print of "The All-Star Bond Rally," 15-minute WAC short, with Tom W. Baily, industry consultant with the treasury department.

Latin Trade Upswing Seen by McConville

NEW YORK—Thanks to a recent Argentinian government decree that all motion pictures be sold on a percentage basis, American films are now receiving earnings commensurate with their merit, said Joseph A. McConville, president of Columbia Pictures International Corp., on his return from an extensive tour of South and Central America.

"Now that selling pictures on a fixed-price basis is a thing of the past, a good feature will make more money," he said, "and a poor one less."

Many U.S. films have been in the censor's hands for months, he declared and this bottleneck may still be in effect, although recent political developments should release most of the films to an eager public in the Argentine. Nazi pictures were subject to the same delays. These German pictures play only a few theatres subsidized by the Reich.

No theatres in the Argentine are controlled by American distributing companies. Some houses play Spanish-language films only, others present foreign pictures exclusively. The houses are, in many instances, every bit as modern as the most up-to-date American theatre, and presentations and exploitation campaigns are on a par with our best.

There are four or five studios in Buenos Aires producing pictures regularly. The films are not as perfect as ours technically, but have the advantage of presenting native stars, backgrounds and stories. A topnotch Argentinian picture will outdraw an equally-good American film, McConville said.

Picture business all over South America is improving, and is away up over last year's, he declared. He looks for an even greater upswing all over Latin America, particularly in Brazil and Colombia.

SPG Fetes Ex-President, About to Be Inducted

NEW YORK—Several hundred film industry representatives attended a cocktail party given for Jonas Rosenfield, assistant advertising manager of 20th-Fox, by members of the Screen Publicists Guild at the Hotel Astor on the occasion of his imminent induction into the armed forces. He is a former president of SPG, ex-newspaper writer and contributor to many magazines.

THE EASTERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Edward N. Rugoff, partner in Rugoff & Becker, entered the industry in 1916 as an associate of Harry Rapf, then an independent producer. Became an owner of the Montauk, Brooklyn, in 1920. His interests grew until today he and his partner operate 15 houses in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Long Island. With Herman Becker, formed R&B in 1928. Is married and has one son, Donald, a Harvard student. Lives in Lawrence, L. I. Headed National War Fund drive in New York and was on the Sixth War Loan committee. Hobbies: golf and deep sea fishing.



One of the women pioneers in the motion picture business is **Sara McBride** of Newport, Pa. Back in the early days of 1915 she acquired one machine and a house with a seating capacity of 217. With this equipment she opened a theatre in Mifflin. Today she still owns the Mifflin Theatre there. It is now a 350-seat house. But her spirit of enterprise did not allow her to stop with one theatre. In 1924 she opened the 360-seat Newport Theatre in the town of that name. She operates the house today and is able to look back at many pleasant theatre memories.



From usher to owner of four theatres is the success story of **Walter F. Yost** of Harrisburg, Pa. In 1908 he was working as an usher for Wilmer and Vincent. After serving in France during the last war, he returned to this country in 1919 to become manager of the Colonial Theatre. Since then he has obtained the Paramount in Mechanicsburg and the Grand, Penway and Roxy in Harrisburg. A Moose and an Elk, Yost is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. His hobby is golf.



After 12 years of office work and several more of selling insurance, **Arlington H. "Arl" Edwards** of Orwigsburg, Pa., turned to motion pictures in 1912. He is now the owner of Orwigsburg's Orpheum Theatre, a 300-seat house, and is convinced that motion picture work is the most interesting. Edwards is civic minded and the Orpheum is always at the disposal of all worthy local entertainers. He likes to race homing pigeons and raises chickens on his farm. His son, J. Donald, is manager of the Park and Karlton at Williamsport, Pa.



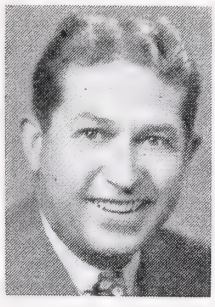
During the first world war **Peter Marinos** of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was a captain in the Greek army. He and his brother came to America and entered the motion picture business in 1924. Marinos had obtained a law degree at the University of Athens, but after coming to America he gave up law for the picture business and is now owner of the Wyoming in Wyoming, Pa. Chairman of Greek War Relief in Luzerne County, a Mason and member of the Greek Orthodox Church, Marinos enjoys card games with pinochle a favorite.



When his father died, **Edward A. Schlear** took over his theatre, the Strand in Hamburg, Pa., and carried on in his place. The Strand is a 500-seat house and has been successfully run by Schlear. With his family, which includes two daughters, Jean and Dorothy, he maintains residence in Hamburg. A son, Edward jr., is now overseas in the army. Schlear is an active outdoor sportsman and enjoys especially either an exciting game of baseball or a golf match. He is a Mason, a member of the Odd Fellows and Allied.



Abraham Herman Levy started in show business in 1912 with Kessell and Bauman. He now is the owner of the Arena, the Park West, the Howard and the Washington theatres in New York City. He is a member of the Masons. Levy is married and has two children: his son, Harold, is in school; his daughter, Estelle, is a model. He enjoys reading good books. Friends call him "Honest Abe" and he lives at the Hotel Edison. His business address is 623 Eighth Ave. Levy finds that membership in the Bookers Club and MPA keeps him in touch with film affairs.



Harry F. Bachman, general manager of the Circle Theatre in Washington, D. C., entered the picture business in 1922. He became interested through a brother who was manager of Educational Films Co. Since the death, several years ago, of Dr. William P. Herbst, owner of the Circle, Bachman has managed the theatre for Dr. Herbst's estate. He is a member of MPTO of the District of Columbia and Variety. Bachman is a great supporter of WAC and welfare drives. He is married and has a son, James Phillip, age 3. Bachman is a sports fan.



Before he decided to become an exhibitor in 1923, **Philip Shafter,** known to his Beechhurst, L. I., friends as "Pop," was a manufacturer of knitted sportswear. He operates the Rialto, a 600-seat house in nearby Whitestone, L. I. A Masonic member of Menorah Lodge No. 903 in Brooklyn, his greatest pleasure is digging in his garden. He likes to grow flowers and vegetables of all kinds. Of his three children, Alfred M. is a lieutenant in the Judge Advocate Branch of the army, Bernard is an attorney and Rhoda E. is a secretary.



George "Dick" Eckerd of the Perry Theatre in New Bloomfield, Pa., has been in the motion picture business since 1919. In that year he purchased the theatre from Mrs. Sara Raffensberger. Eckerd, as a resident of New Bloomfield, long has been interested in the civic affairs of that town. He considers hunting one of the most exciting of sports and likes to get out in the fields with his gun whenever possible. Eckerd belongs to the Odd Fellows. He is married and has two sons, both of them now serving in the armed forces.



Charles Frederick Haubert of Milford, Pa., remembers the days when at the end of each reel a slide was thrown on the screen reading: "One Minute Please to Change Reels." This was in 1912 when he was a reel boy in a Brooklyn theatre. Today he owns the Haubert Theatre in Newfoundland, Pa., and the Milford in Milford. He has a fine collection of programs and posters from the early picture and legitimate theatres. He is treasurer of the Milford Chamber of Commerce, Tail Twister of the Lions, and belongs to the Milford fire department.



E. Garland Reed of Washington, D. C., started in the business 30 years ago and is still expanding. He is a head of the Alexandria Amusement Co., a circuit with three theatres in that city, the Reed, Richmond and Ingomar. As soon after the war as it is possible to resume building operations he plans to open two new houses, one in Shirlington and the other in Alexandria proper. Reed is a Shriner. He enjoys a game of baseball for relaxation from business cares. He is married and has two daughters, both of whom are married.



PARTY FOR IRVING RAPPER—Warner director, in town for the opening of "The Corn Is Green," was guest at reception in the Sherry-Netherland. Shown here: (l-r) Mort Blumenstock, eastern director of advertising and publicity; Ricardo Cortez, Margaret Hayes and Rapper.

WAC Report Shows Industry's 1944 Bond Campaigns Cost $15,000,000

NEW YORK—Participation in the three war bond campaigns of 1944 cost the industry more than $15,000,000, according to the WAC annual report entitled Movies at War Vol. III.

The contributions of theatre men during bond drives last year included the sponsoring of 15,110 free shows, bond premieres, children's premieres and free movie days at a loss of more than $4,500,000 in admissions. Distributors waived film rentals. Both distributors and exhibitors used their employes on campaign work and spent large sums of money to advertise war bond shows.

The value of 16mm overseas gift films to Dec. 31, 1944, is estimated to be in excess of $24,800,000. The gift film service at the end of the year had provided 24,867 prints of feature films for overseas army and navy showing and 26,341 prints of shorts. The shows played to an estimated audience of 1,450,000 GIs at 3,500 showing each day.

The WAC report, referring to newsreel, said of the 2,241 subjects shown in the newsreel releases of 1944, more than 1,100 were devoted to war scenes. Thirty-four per cent of the clips were devoted to scenes of the European fighting and only 14 per cent to the Pacific. Political events claimed only eight per cent of the footage and sports less than two per cent.

Since May 1943, 833½ pages of advertising space have been contributed to the industry's war efforts by the 13 tradepapers and magazines represented in WAC. The ads represented $272,934. The trade press also devoted 13,554 columns of news to war activities.

More than one-third of the industry's male workers in Hollywood have entered the armed forces. From the Screen Actors Guild 1,501 joined up for fighting. Forty-eight producers and executives are in uniform, 132 members of the Screen Directors Guild, and 230 of the Screen Writers Guild. It is believed that more than 40,000 industry people have been in the armed services.

7th Headquarters Opened

NEW YORK—Irving Lesser, chairman of the metropolitan New York area War Activities Committee, has established headquarters for the Seventh War Loan drive in the Roxy Theatre Bldg., with entrance at the executive door, 153 West 50th St.

Salmon Named Chairman B'way Theatres Drive

NEW YORK—Montague Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli, has been named chairman of the Broadway first run theatres for the New York area of the Seventh War Loan by Irving Lesser, chairman of the district.

Salmon is well-known for his activities in past campaigns. As chairman, Salmon will supervise all of the Seventh War Loan bond-selling activities in the Times Square district.

20th Sets Two for May

NEW YORK—Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe" and Laurel and Hardy's "The Bullfighters" will be released in May, says W. J. Kupper, 20th-Fox general sales manager. "Diamond Horseshoe," Technicolor musical starring Betty Grable, was directed by George Seaton, writer of the screenplay. Mal St. Clair directed Laurel and Hardy comedy.

Paramount's Net Up Slightly Last Year

NEW YORK—An estimated net of $16,488,000 after all charges and contingencies has been reported by Paramount Pictures, Inc., for the year ending Dec. 30, 1944. Included in this amount is $1,745,000, representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings of the year of partially owned nonconsolidated subsidiaries. Last year's estimated net was $16,140,821, including a $1,556,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned nonconsolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the quarter which ended last December 30 are estimated at $4,012,000, compared to $4,486,000 for the corresponding quarter of 1943. The net is less the dividends received during the period from the partially owned subsidiaries to the extent that such dividends represent distribution of earnings reported as undistributed in previous quarters.

The 1944 net represents $4.39 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding, compared to $4.30 in the previous year. Per share estimated earnings for the quarter ending December 30, were $1.07, compared to $1.19.

Included in the charges deducted from the gross earnings were interest, reserves set aside for postwar contingencies and estimated provision for all federal normal and excess profits taxes.

Lab Union Negotiations Are Still Under Way

NEW YORK—Negotiations are still in progress between company representatives and officials of the Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians local 702, IATSE, on the union's demands for an increase in the number of job classifications and a readjustment in the wage scale.

John Francivella, president of the union, said that the counterclaims of the film processing laboratories had been presented to the local's representatives at a session in the Consolidated Film Laboratories home office, and that these claims would have to be considered by the union membership.

A statement is expected from the union early next week. Involved in the dispute are about 1,800 lab workers in 12 companies.



ALBANY RED CROSS CHECK—C. J. Latta, center, zone manager for Warners' New York state theatres and Red Cross area chairman, turns over to Ruben Clarke, right, local Red Cross chapter chairman, a check for $14,050, the results of the recent theatre collection. Also seen in the photograph are Joseph Shure, Fabian Theatres, and C. A. Smakwitz, standing, WAC public relations chairman in the Albany area.



CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR—Morris Kinzler of the Kayton-Spiero Advertising agency, who has been named metropolitan New York area chairman for the Seventh War Loan by Irving Lesser. He will make his headquarters at the Roxy Theatre during the drive.

WAC New York Report on Sixth War Loan Is Out

NEW YORK—"Final Report," a booklet covering completely the successful participation of the New York area WAC in the Sixth War Loan, has been published by the executive committee. The booklet augments Chairman Malcolm Kingsberg's over-all report with reports from chairmen of the various territories comprising the New York area, and is highlighted by a salute to the industry in the form of a letter from Fred H. Gehle, New York state chairman for the war finance committee of the treasury department.

The booklet includes not only a complete listing of all theatres participating and their sales, but lists of those not taking part in the drive. Acknowledgement is made to distributors for their cooperation.

"Final Report" contains the name of every manager aiding in the Sixth War Loan drive as well as those of the county and borough chairmen and the executive committee. The booklet will be distributed to all participants in recognition of their work.

AMPA Membership Drive To Observe 30th Year

NEW YORK—AMPA has launched a membership drive. With a record of nearly 30 years of continuous service, AMPA is one of the oldest organizations in the industry.

Any one associated with the film business is eligible for membership and does not necessarily have to be a publicity or advertising man to be qualified.

The next luncheon meeting to be held in the near future will elect a nominating committee and select nominees for the new slate of officers. Current president is Martin Starr; secretary, David A. Bader.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

ALBANY

S H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, visited situations in this district on brief inspection trip. He went to Troy with S. J. Ullman, upstate manager, and Larry Cowen, publicity director here, for a look at Proctor's, where the ceiling is being redecorated. He also inspected the Plaza in Schenectady, where a recarpeting job is under way, and the Empire, Cohoes, which is undergoing a refurbishing after a fire in January.

Pauline Iveson, who, as chief switchboard operator, has been answering "Fabian Theatres" at the Palace for ten years, visited relatives in Rochester over the Easter weekend . . . Among other girls credited with telephone personality in local film business are Margaret Hopkins, RKO; Miss Fisher, Metro, and Jean Johnson, Paramount.

Pvts. Charles and Bernard Golding, twin sons of Lou Golding, director for the Fabian-Wilmer & Vincent chain, are with the 66th division which has received a citation in Germany. The boys were separated for a time after their induction but finally were reunited at a Carolina camp, and sailed overseas together.

Bob Shure, son of Joe Shure, booking manager of Fabian upstate houses, has been admitted to the officers candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. . . . Two former Schenectady managers are now sergeants in the Pacific area. Dick Murphy, formerly of Proctor's, is a sergeant on Iwo Jima. Lou Rosenfeld, ex-boss of the Strand, has been awarded a Purple Heart.

Warner Bros. and Fabian Theatres were among Albany firms which sponsored a page advertisement for the clothing collection for overseas war relief. The local quota is five pounds a person, including children . . . Sid Kallett, buyer and booker for the Kallett circuit, was due back at headquarters in Oneida this week after a month in Hollywood and California.

Mrs. Imogene Provensal, booker and office director for the General Stark, Bennington, Vt., is taking a month's vacation. Her physician ordered a rest. Mrs. Christopher Buckley, whose late husband operated the house for ten years and prior to that had the largest theatre holdings in Albany, is now owner of the General Stark. Dave Fonda is manager. Walter Morey, associated with Buckley for years in Albany and Bennington, is now working on the west coast.

Larry Cowen, managing director of Proctor's Troy and publicity director of Fabian upstate theatres, was guest at meeting of Troy Legion post. Cowen, who in February completed four years of naval duty, spoke on the navy in this and the last war.

The Plaza and Proctor's at Schenectady were donated by S. H. Fabian for noon-day Holy week services arranged by the Schenectady County Council of Churches, Masonic clubs and Knights Templar.

U.S. Court Approves Schine Hotel Plan

ALBANY—The Schine Corporation's reorganization plan for the Ten Eyck Hotel has been confirmed by Stephen W. Brennan, federal judge. The Gloversville firm will assume outstanding indebtedness.

Immediately following Judge Brennan's statement, Carroll E. Mealey, trustee in reorganization of the Albany Hotel Corp., revealed plans for the expenditure of $400,000 to make the Ten Eyck one of the best hotels between New York and Chicago.



FRITZ LANG ARRIVES—Well-known director arrives in New York to start research work on his next for Universal, "Scarlet Street," in which Joan Bennett will be starred.

BUFFALO

In observance of Good Friday, downtown theatres opened that day at 3 p. m. instead of the usual time. Community theatres opened that evening at the usual time . . . Competition was strong last week with the 11th annual Shrine circus playing matinees and evenings for six days at Memorial Auditorium.

For Easter week, Dewey Michaels booked a Disney "festival" for his Main St. Mercury. In the group were "Snow White," "Ferdinand the Bull," "Three Little Pigs," "The Ugly Duckling" and "Donald's Lucky Day." Guess Dewey was pretty satisfied with his last endeavor along those lines. The house was packed a few months back when he played "Dumbo and "Bambi."

Services were held last Saturday for Mrs. Alice M. McFaul, 57, wife of Vincent R. McFaul, president of Buffalo Theatres, Inc., operating the Shea Theatres. She died after undergoing an operation . . . Plans are just about complete for a Hollywood opening here of "God Is My Co-Pilot," scheduled to go into Shea's Buffalo this month. The premiere will be along the lines of the one staged in Macon, Ga. The Curtiss-Wright Corp., maker of the fighting planes used by Col. Robert Lee Scott, author of the book, is cooperating.

"The Strange Adventure," Clark Gable's first picture since his discharge from the air corps, is based on a novel, "The Anointed," written by Clyde Brion Davis in Buffalo during the middle 30s when Davis was a reporter for the old Buffalo Times . . . A class of 158 girls were capped as Red Cross nurse's aides last Friday evening on the stage of Shea's Buffalo.

Confidential Reports, Inc., has opened an office here in the Andrews Bldg., 35 Court St. Leo Weiss is the manager. Irwin Tannen is district manager . . . May is Columbia's short subjects month and Phil Fox, branch manager, has started the boys off early on their campaigns. All salesmen were in Monday for a meeting with Fox.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

Kinematograph's Poll Lauds 20th's Output

LONDON—Kinematograph Weekly, pioneer British trade journal, following a year-long poll among nearly 4,000 exhibitors, adjudges 20th-Fox "the No. 1 company of 1944." According to the tradepaper, "the fight for leading places in the 1944 stakes was the keenest" since the weekly was established at the turn of the century.

The poll was divided into numerous sections. Under "best output," 20th-Fox was listed first. Under "biggest winners," were listed "Song of Bernadette," "Jane Eyre," "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and "The Sullivans." Two of the three "best musicals" came from 20th-Fox; they were "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," starring Betty Grable, whose name appeared under the heading of "Most Consistent Established Stars."

For her performance in "The Song of Bernadette," Jennifer Jones was listed under "best newcomers."

Para Sets Radio Tieups

NEW YORK—Guest appearances on radio programs are scheduled for Robert Benchley, Cass Daley and William Bendix, Paramount stars, in connection with radio exploitation campaigns on forthcoming pictures. Benchley will appear on the Andrews sisters program on April 22. He is now being seen in "Practically Yours."

Cass Daley's new picture, "Out of This World," will be plugged when she appears on the Rexall Hollywood Revue on April 29, May 1, May 3, and May 5. William Bendix, star of "Two Years Before the Mast," is scheduled to guest star on the Suspense program April 19.

Para Renews With CBS

NEW YORK—Arthur Hull Hayes, general manager of WABC, has reported renewal of Paramount's current campaign on that station. The film company continues its Monday-through-Saturday participation in the Arthur Godfrey program, heard from 6:30 to 7:45 a. m., EWT, for its various forthcoming releases.

Connor Due in N. Y.

NEW YORK—Jack Connor, M-G-M field exploiteer assigned to the Omaha exchange, will arrive here April 16 for a week's visit. Connor had been scheduled to accompany several other midwest exploiteers on a visit to New York some time ago, but was unable to make the trip because of illness.

"Horn" Premiere April 20

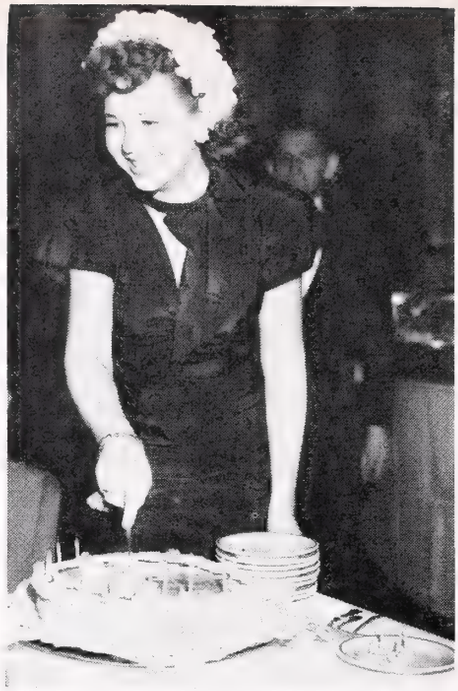
NEW YORK—Warners' "The Horn Blows at Midnight" will have a simultaneous world premiere on the east and west coasts April 20. Film opens at the New York Strand and at the Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern in Los Angeles.

"Tree" Held 6th Week

NEW YORK—Twentieth-Fox's "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" is being held for a sixth and final week at the Roxy. Meanwhile, Hal Wallis' "The Affairs of Susan," a Paramount release, enters its second stanza at the Rivoli.

"IBSY" Into Capitol

NEW YORK—UA's "I'll Be Seeing You," starring Ginger Rogers, Joseph Cotten and Shirley Temple, is the screen attraction at the Capitol.



JUST NINETEEN—Jane Withers blew out 19 candles the other day and began cutting a cake. It was one of the highlights of her New York visit. She will leave soon to resume work for Republic on the coast.

"In the Bag" Set for 18 Prerelease Showings

NEW YORK—"It's in the Bag," forthcoming Jack Skirball production to be released by UA, has been set for 18 prerelease engagements in key cities throughout the nation, according to Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager.

The picture will have it premiere in 15 day-and-date engagements April 12 in the following cities: Loew's Capitol, Washington; Loew's Century, Baltimore; Loew's State, Norfolk; Loew's, Richmond; Orpheum, San Francisco; Palace, Newport News; State, Altoona; Albee, Cincinnati; Loew's Aldine, Wilmington; Loew's, Reading and Harrisburg; Boyd, Bethlehem; Rialto, Williamsport; Apollo, Atlantic City, and the Maryland, Cumberland. Other prerelease runs include the Boyd, Easton; Rialto, Allentown, and Loew's Palace, Memphis.

Educators Contribute To Warners' Brochure

NEW YORK—The brochure prepared by Warners' educational bureau on "The Corn Is Green" will have special articles written by two prominent educators, Dr. Willard E. Givens and Mrs. Marion E. Hawes.

Dr. Givens is the executive head of the National Education Ass'n, Washington, and Mrs. Hawes is head of the educational section of the Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, and editor of the yearly list of 60 best books in her field.

Brochure will be distributed to schools, colleges, libraries, discussion groups and other institutions.

Snyder Joins Schine

ROCHESTER—Charles H. Snyder has been appointed manager of Schine's Riviera, succeeding William Sellman, former Schine city manager, who resigned and moved to Cleveland. Snyder comes from Hartford where he was with Warners.

Fabian Managers Give V-E Day House Rules

ALBANY — Instructions for Victory day have been issued by Saul J. Ullman, upstate general manager of Fabian Theatres. Managers are instructed to confer with employes on ways and means of expediting early opening and the handling of crowds, and to eliminate all newsreel shots including Nazis and Japs. Announcement of the armistice or cessation of organized hostilities is to be made immediately on receipt of authentic information. Full house lights are to be kept on during the announcement. The latter is to be followed by the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and other songs of national character that may be available on films or records.

Semi-house lights are to continue for a short time until the excitement subsides. After that, the amount of light is left to the discretion of the manager. Managers are directed to announce important flashes from time to time. If armistice comes any time in the morning, all personnel is to be notified to report to the theatre. Performances in larger cities and key locations are to be started as soon as the house crew reports. If word of the armistice comes late in the evening, patrons leaving the house may make earlier closing desirable or necessary, Ullman's instructions point out. If the armistice comes after theatre closing, the manager or key employes should be stationed in front or about the theatre for protective purposes. It is suggested that managers endeavor to have policemen or firemen on hand also. If possible, managers should arrange to have special officers or firemen available for immediate call.

The plan is to run continuous, if that is not already the theatre's policy. The exception is where this would not be advisable because of location. Managers are instructed to cover the house constantly and keep the audience controlled. All loose displays and removable bric-a-brac, urns and vases should be taken from the lobbies, foyers and restrooms. Cash is to be removed from the boxoffice as often as appears advisable.

RKO Radio Makes Changes In Exploitation Staff

NEW YORK—Several changes in the field staff of RKO's western division are reported by Terry Turner, exploitation manager, Al O'Camp, formerly of Seattle and Portland, moves to Los Angeles, his former post being taken over by Earl Keates. Bidwell McCormick has been appointed to Denver and Ed Terhune to Salt Lake City.

Fred Calvin, recently assigned to Dallas and Oklahoma City, has resigned as of April 15. No replacement has as yet been appointed.

Margolies in Washington On "G. I. Joe" Premiere

WASHINGTON — Al Margolies, eastern publicity and advertising director for Lester Cowan Productions, arrived here from New York to complete arrangements for the premiere of Ernie Pyle's "Story of G.I. Joe." Audience reaction and opinion cards obtained at a west coast sneak preview indicate the Burgess Meredith starring vehicle will prove one of the most popular pictures ever released by UA, according to Margolies.

"Zoya" Opens Apr. 14

NEW YORK—"Zoya," Soviet film of a partisan heroine with an original score by Shostakovich and English titles by Howard Fast, opens at the Stanley April 14.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Red Cross Gifts Set All-Time Record

Establishing an all-time record, Hollywood responded to the appeal for oversubscription of the 1945 Red Cross war fund by contributing $705,537.37, its largest sum, by nearly $50,000, ever given in such a campaign.

Not only did the motion picture drive go over the top but it carried with it the Greater Los Angeles collection, which exceeded its goal by more than three per cent and reached a grand total of $5,441,917. The report of Chairman Walter Wanger climaxed a final luncheon meeting at the Biltmore Bowl and was applauded by some 800 leaders of the campaign in the Los Angeles area.

Special Credit to AMG

Wanger paid special tribute to members of the Artists Managers Guild who gave their services in the final week of the drive to solicitation of upper bracket clients.

Figures brought to the meeting by studio and guild colonels and representatives of labor, and tabulated while the program was under way, showed that in spite of the strike which had hampered solicitation, 22,997 industry workers had responded to the Red Cross appeal. This happened to be exactly the same number of pledges shown in the final audit of the 1944 campaign; however, late contributions were certain to establish a new record for this year, Wanger pointed out. Thus far the industry drive, with less than four per cent of the total number of subscriptions for Greater Los Angeles, has provided more than 13 per cent of the money.

Wanger abbreviated his remarks to a word of gratitude to the group leaders and some 800 other volunteers who had made the new record possible. He was unable to introduce the Hollywood representatives for individual reports, which had been tabulated for presentation in the following order:

M. C. Levee, for the Artists Managers Guild, 362 subscriptions for $26,953.85.

Emmett Lavery, Screen Writers Guild, 328 subscriptions, $37,274.01.

J. P. McGowan, Screen Directors Guild, 168 contributions, $38,593.50.

Lucile Webster Gleason, Screen Actors Guild, 710 pledges, $104,424.05.

Jane Murfin, president of the permanent charities committee, for the producer-executive group, 1,012 gifts, $130,867.33.

Edward Arnold, executive vice-president of permanent charities, 26 corporate subscriptions, $125,-352.52.

Carl Cooper, chairman of labor's executive committee, 20,328 subscriptions, $216,710.11.

Following is a breakdown by studios, including the name of each colonel, the number of subscriptions, and the amount:

General Service, Creighton J. Tevlin, 192, $2,000.
PRC, Ed Beck, 185, $2,283.10.
Disney Studio, Walter Pfeiffer, 762, $6,118.85.
Monogram, Fred S. Steele, 189, $7,250.11.
Technicolor, Leo Bowen, 1,026, $8,154.75.
Samuel Goldwyn Studios, Marvin Ezzell, 402, $7,778.50.
Republic, H. J. Glick, 915, $15,831.33.
International, John Beck, 135, $13,225.
United Artists, George Bagnall, 332, $20,776.98.
Allied Industries, Van Herron, 1,059, $48,741.86.
Universal, A. H. McCausland, 1,816, $45,598.17.
Columbia, William K. Hopkins, 1,578, $43,040.25.
RKO, Earl Rettig, 1,446, $50,263.97.
Paramount, A. B. Hilton, 2,673, $82,959.78.
Warner Bros., E. L. DePatie, 3,086, $90,960.83.
20th-Fox, Fred S. Meyer, 3,305, $113,169.44.
M-G-M, W. K. Craig, 3,527, $120,225.65.

Fifth Week of Walkout Looming In Hollywood

"Many are the eyes turning toward the east to see the dawn of peace."

Which line (probably misquoted) from the ditty that found stem in the Civil War easily could serve as the theme song of strike-bound Hollywood. Or, at least, it could have so served until the middle of the walkout's fourth week, at which time the eyes were made to turn westward again with the news that the labor overlords in whose hands rested a possible settlement were moving themselves, their respective retinues and their discussions to Hollywood.

At midnight the studios sent "discharge" notices to some 14,000 striking employes, but this move was called "a bluff" by union leaders, who said that the producers had for some time been seeking a way to fill the jobs vacated by those involved in the walkouts.

When, a week ago, the union generalissimos converged on New York for the avowed purpose of threshing out their jurisdictional disputes, hope ran high in the film capital that the costly and production-crippling walkouts were about to end. Obviously, however, nothing materialized at the Gotham powwows and the battle scene was again shifted to the west coast with the news that William L. Hutcheson, international head of the carpenters union; Richard Walsh, chief of the IATSE; Pat Casey, labor contact for the producers, and other conferees were en route to Hollywood further to pursue their negotiations.

Pickets Still Plodding

While all of the palavering was being carried on, the strike itself was more or less status quo. Pickets still plodded their weary ways before studio gates; pictures continued to start, shoot and finish, as best they could under makeshift labor conditions and inescapable handicaps; the producers continued to issue statements, and there were no material changes in the number of striking toilers from the celluloid vineyards. One new and strident note was added to the score with scattered reports of violence between pickets and workers whom they considered strikebreakers. The lay press devoted plenty of paper and ink to scattered sluggings and a few arrests. That new phase of the battle was promptly and ably quelled by Los Angeles' effective constabulary and had little effect on the main issues of the labor wars.

Possibly growing tired of their in-the-middle position, the producers at midweek themselves made a pass at getting tough. In a wire addressed to the local and international heads of all striking unions, the bosses issued a 24-hour ultimatum to the effect that, unless the strikers returned to work within that specified time, the producers would feel free to fill the vacated jobs "from other sources." Inasmuch as the studio heads already had been doing just that, as far as it was possible, the manifesto was considered as just a move to expedite bringing the various jurisdiction issues to a head.

At the same time, a new twinge was added to the filmmakers' labor headache with word from Washington that the National Labor Relations Board had rendered a decision clarifying the disputed results of the recent election to determine whether the Screen Actors Guild or Screen Players Union was to be designated bargaining agent for Hollywood's extras. That election was won, it will be recalled, by the SPU with an overwhelming majority. The NLRB's decision, however, confirmed SAG's position that it should retain exclusive jurisdiction over all screen acting work, including bits and parts.

Chiefs Present Request

No sooner had word of the decision reached the coast than both the producers and SAG chiefs swung into action, the former with a statement, the latter with a "request."

Said the producers' statement:

"While we have not received the full text of the National Labor Relations Board decision, we repeat what we have always said—we will abide by whatever decision the NLRB hands down. This applies not only to the controversy over extras, in which the NLRB has just given its final decision, but also to the jurisdictional dispute over the set decorators. Whatever the NLRB may rule in that case, the producers will respect that ruling and live up to it."

SAG's "request" was for resumption of negotiations, for the purpose of discussing modifications of the basic contract between the producers and SAG. It was outlined in a letter from John Dales jr., executive-secretary of SAG, to E. J. Mannix, president of the motion picture producers association. SAG's negotiating committee is currently composed of George Murphy, president; Walter Abel, second vice-president; Cary Grant; Executive Secretary Dales; Cliff Lyons, Tudor Williams, Larry Steers and Harry Cording.

Later and touching on the overall phases of the labor situation, the producers issued still another statement, outlining their position, to-wit:

"Simultaneous meetings of motion picture company presidents in New York and studio heads in Hollywood, with subsequent discussions by telephone between the two groups, were held over the weekend to survey conditions after three weeks of the strike in the studios. Both groups announce unanimous decisions that the studios shall be kept open and that production shall continue.

"A survey of production showed that three new pictures were started last week and that a total of 25 are in work. Five more pictures

(Continued on next page)

Fifth Strike Week Looms on Horizon

(Continued from preceding page)

will be started Monday, and a sixth will get under way on Thursday.

"The producers declare their position in the jurisdictional dispute remains unchanged. Only one small group, Set Designers Local 1421, is admittedly on strike. The great bulk of employes realize that it is only a technical difficulty over union control and that no employer-employe problems are involved. The producers can only hope that the leaders of this strike, which has been called 'unjustified' by the head of the AFL and a 'flagrant disregard' of labor board's demand that the men be ordered back to work until a decision is reached by the National Labor Relations Board.

"In view of our obligation to our loyal workers, and in recognition of our duty as a war-essential industry, the company and studio heads pledge that everything possible will be done to continue making motion pictures.

"We are particularly concerned that a continuing flow of new features and short subjects be delivered to the armed forces overseas. It is not generally realized that, although the industry has a limited backlog of films for domestic release, practically all of those pictures which are suitable for the maintenance of morale already have been sent to our fighting men. From Hollywood's entire product as it is completed—often many months in advance of general release—the army selects three feature pictures each week for the theatres of war, with one more added for non-combat areas. These are shown to a nightly audience, around the world, officially estimated at 1,450,000 Americans in uniform. This industry's gift film program has furnished 28,000 prints of feature films to date and the producers are determined that this essential service shall continue."

Gotham Parleys Come to Naught; Labor Leaders Go Back to Coast

NEW YORK—Labor leaders who spent several days in New York attempting to resolve their differences in the jurisdictional dispute which is still holding up production at the coast studios broke camp after their discussions proved fruitless.

Among those who departed were William Hutcheson, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; Joseph Cambiano, general representative of the carpenters' international; James Skelton, business representative of Local 946, and Cappy DuVal, business agent of Affiliated Property Craftsmen, Local 44, IATSE, the union originally embroiled in the jurisdictional squabble with the Screen Set Designers, Local 1421 of the Conference of Studio Unions, which went out on strike at the Hollywood studios.

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, participated in the conferences at the Commodore Hotel. After the first day of the sessions, it became obvious that a serious jurisdictional battle was being waged, far greater in scope and importance than who should represent the set designers, some 77 in number. This local, incidentally, was not represented at the talks at the Commodore.

According to Walsh, the snag upon which the negotiations between himself and Hutcheson repeatedly caught was the question over who should have jurisdiction over all the studio help operating woodworking machinery, or making anything requiring wood and wood substitutes. Walsh said he was willing to make certain concessions to Hutcheson, but would never accede to all the demands of the carpenters' head.

Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, participated in the first day's talks with the labor leaders, as did Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's president, and Joseph Vogel, vice-president. The producers' representatives retired to the sidelines when it became obvious the dispute was purely a union matter, and could only be decided by the union officials. When it was learned the discussions had broken down in New York, Casey departed immediately for the coast, where it is probable further talks will take place in an effort to settle the strike and all jurisdictional claims.

Sam Wood Acquires Full Rights in Three Stories

Producer-Director Sam Wood, currently in New York, has revealed that he has purchased Columbia's share in three vehicles previously jointly owned. They are "Tatania," an original by Von Cube; "Turnip's Blood," a novel by Rachel Maddux, and the New York stage play, "The Land Is Bright," by Edna Ferber and George Kaufman.

Wood is negotiating with the state department on the possibility of his going to Paris to make arrangements for the filming of "Tatania" in France as soon as raw stock is made available. The background of the story is laid in France.

Millhauser Signed Up

Universal has signed Bertram Millhauser, writer, to a term deal. Millhauser wrote the screen play of many of Universal's Sherlock Holmes stories as well as the script of "The Suspect." His current chore is "White Tie and Tails."

Gen. Azacarate at Metro

Gen. Juan F. Azacarate, Mexican film producer, visited the Metro studios, as the guest of Louis B. Mayer.

To Join Roster of "The Bandit"

George Eldredge and Nelson Leigh have joined the roster of "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest," a Columbia production.



RECORD FOR R. C.—Hollywood's record contribution of $705,537 to the Red Cross War Fund climaxed the windup of the Greater Los Angeles campaign. Shown above, at the final meeting at the Biltmore Bowl, are Walter Wanger, chairman of the industry drive; Joan Fontaine, who gave a dramatic reading during the program; David T. Babcock, general chairman of the Los Angeles area drive; and Jane Murfin, president of the Permanent Charities Committee, motion picture industry.

Leonard Smith Named ASC President Again

Leonard Smith has been re-elected president of the American Society of Cinematographers for the third successive year. Other officers chosen at the annual election:

Charles G. Clarke, first vice-president; Joseph Walker, second vice-president; Arthur Edeson, third vice-president; Ray Rennahan, secretary; Fred W. Jackson, re-elected executive vice-president and treasurer; George Folsey, sergeant-at-arms.

The officers were elected by the members of the newly-elected board of governors, consisting of John Arnold, John Boyle, Charles G. Clarke, Arthur Edeson, George Folsey, Lee Garmes, Byron Haskin, Fred W. Jackman, Sol Polito, Ray Rennahan, John Seitz, Leon Shamroy, Leonard Smith, William V. Skall and Joseph Walker.

Easter Week Puts Added Crimp in Biggie Travel

Already curbed to a minimum by wartime restrictions, coast-to-coast travel by industry importants was further curtailed by the Easter weekend.

Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal, and Walter Wanger, Universal producer, trained for New York. Blumberg's trip to the east is to confer with home office officials on the 1945-46 schedule. Wanger went to New York to meet Fritz Lang, producer-director, and Joan Bennett, star of "Scarlet Street." Lang is currently shooting background scenes for the picture.

Mervyn LeRoy left on his second series of cross-country talent searches for "The Robe," planning to stop at Denver, Salt Lake City, Chicago and New York. Director LeRoy planned to be gone ten days.

Olin Clark, head of the New York story department for Loew's, Inc., returned to Gotham after having spent a week here in business conferences.

George Pal returned from New York after conferring with Russell Holman, eastern production manager, and Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects sales manager, on a releasing deal with Paramount for another two years. Also while in New York he arranged a number of commercial tieups with his representative, Bud Fox, for comic books, children's books that will be brought out this year by Fawcett Publications and Diamond Publishing Co.

Scheduling a four-day stop in San Francisco, James R. Grainger, president and sales head of Republic, left for Manhattan after spending nearly a month at the studio.

Independent Producer Jack Skirball was back at his desk after a New York business jaunt.

Don McElwaine, director of publicity and advertising for PRC, returned to the studio from a two-week tour of eastern exchanges during which he set advance campaigns for "Crime, Inc." and arranged new setup for company's eastern publicity department.

Eldon, Mo., Theatre Man Starts the New Airpark

From Midwest Edition

ELDON, MO.—Tom Edwards, owner of the Ozark Theatre, is commissioner of the "airpark" under development here as a national model for facilities for private aviation and feeder-line air service in small communities.

The town voted nine to one for a $25,000 bond issue; ground has been obtained; letting of contracts for improvements has started, and firms which will erect service buildings are ready to start work. Edwards and the mayor are directing the project.

"All-Star Bond Rally" Hailed as Top Seller

"All-Star Bond Rally," two-reel subject, which was produced at 20th-Fox for the Canadian Eighth Victory Loan, and was their selection as one of the films for the U.S. Seventh War Loan, was praised as the industry's top bond-selling production in a telegram to Darryl F. Zanuck from Ted R. Gamble, national director of the treasury's war finance division. It read:

"Twentieth Century-Fox and War Activities Committee have done marvelous piece of work in production of 'All-Star Bond Rally' which I consider best bond-selling and entertainment picture which industry has ever produced. Tom Baily tells me of great personal enthusiasm displayed by everyone in studio from yourself and Col. Jason Joy down to the grips and laborers during making of film, and of fine cooperation given him in planning and executing subject. All of this is reflected in finished picture of which you and industry can be very proud."

The film, which features 17 Hollywood personalities and was produced by Fanchon and directed by Michael Audley from a script by Don Quinn, also has brought praise from John J. Fitzgibbons, national chairman of the Canadian motion picture war activities committee. He called it "undoubtedly the greatest bond-selling motion picture ever produced."

Average Weekly Earnings Up a Bit in February

According to the monthly California labor statistics bulletin, employment, pay rolls and average weekly earnings in motion picture producing went up during February. Average weekly earnings for the month were $76, as compared to $74.81 during January and $72.70 for February 1944.

Employment index shows 105.1 per cent employment during February, against 102.3 in January and 103.6 in February last year. An index of pay roll for the month was 179.9 per cent compared to January's 172.3, and 170.1 a year ago.

Average working hours per week increased from 44.9 in January to 45.9 in February, but average hourly earnings dropped from January's $1.66.8 to $1.65.7 for February. Average hours per week for the month was under the 46.7 for February a year ago, and average hourly earnings were above the $1.56.9 paid in February 1944.

William LeBaron Leaves 20th-Fox After Four Years

After a four-year association with 20th-Fox, as a top-budget producer, William LeBaron has severed connections with that studio.

"Riocabana's" shelving until the end of the European war induced LeBaron to leave. He will, however, return to complete his assignment on this musical when it goes into production.

LeBaron had completed his contract several months ago, but had remained to wind up "Don Juan Quilligan," his last production. He joined 20th-Fox after lengthy terms as production head at Paramount and RKO. His future plans are indefinite.

Sherman Plans Comeback For Hopalong Cassidy

Harry Sherman has announced his plans for the resumption of the popular Hopalong Cassidy series. A new 11-year deal with Clarence E. Mulford, author of the yarns, has been set.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

MARSHALLING that split-second timing, admirable opportunism and originality that won him distinction as the Behemoth of Blurb, Russell Birdwell displayed his old-time form (no pun) in his most recent stunt, a strip poker game. With Renee de Marco as hostess, participants were Toni 7, Ann Miller, Evelyn Ankers and Nina Foch.

"Take Off Your Clothes for the United National Clothing Collection" was the Birdwellian slogan for the very intriguing card session, which was tied into the inauguration of the United National Clothing Collection drive.

Members of the Hollywood press were invited to watch the four pulchritudinous gamboleers try to outdraw—or outstrip—one another. How much the newshawks thought of the stunt was established by the amount of desirable space it commanded in the local newspapers.

Roving, romantic Russell overlooked just one bet to make the game a perfect enterprise. He should have permitted the reporters to take turns dealing the game.

➡

In fact, the week brought to attention several noteworthy and above-average items from the stress agents. Rating a bow were:

A four-color brochure outlining and singing the praises of Monogram's "hit of the month plan." The booklet, prepared by Lou Lifton's advertising and publicity department, is an excellent job of typography, printing and salesmanship.

From Charles Einfeld, each one individually inscribed to a member of the Hollywood press, came copies of Warners' book, titled "Joe, the Exhibitor From Mo. in Search of a Co." In light vein, via brightly-written copy and clever cartoons, the "short story" is a clever, original, and attention-demanding presentation of the Warner product lineup.

Also off the beaten path was the series of mailing pieces sent in connection with the forthcoming Jerry Fairbanks-Paramount "Unusual Occupations" short. The subject, and a splendid briefie it is, treats with the work of Artist Zoe Mozert, who paints and poses for her own pinups. One of her paintings, "Enchantress," has been termed by Life magazine 1945's best selling calendar. The mailing pieces, distributed to exploit a "Pin-up Premiere" at the Hollywood Paramount Theatre, each reproduced one of her curvaceous creations. The campaign was concocted by Paramount praisers in cooperation with Lithographers Brown and Bigelow.

➡

"LION PRECEDES LAMB
ON CAGNEY'S SCHEDULE."
—Tradepaper headline.

What a digestion! And where's he getting the red points?

➡

"Down to the napkins and toothpicks in the olives, the world-famous Stork Club at No. 3 Fifty-third St., New York, is being reproduced on a sound stage at Paramount," a George Brown release reveals.

It being strictly an "A" production, the budget can double for a lunch check.

➡

Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson entertained at the annual retirement dinner for foot traffic officers of the Los Angeles Police Force.

It would have been a more logical assignment for Fred Astaire.

➡

Divulges a publicity tidbit from Alex Evelove, "Errol Flynn will sing two numbers in 'The Adventures of Don Juan.'"

"Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby?" ain't going to be one of them.

➡

"Entire stock of swords, foils and sabres in studio's cutlery department is in use at Warner Bros.," a release from that studio reveals.

What bleeding backs there must have been among Alex Evelove's busy blurbers.

➡

Esther Williams will be starred as a feminine bullfighter in "Fiesta Brava," her next Metro picture.

Understandably, the lads in Howard Strickling's publicity department, most of whom qualify for the job, are jockeying to be assigned as technical advisor on the film.

➡

A completely equipped amusement park, including a regulation-size merry-go-round, slide, shoot-the-chutes and shooting gallery will be constructed by Columbia for a production number in "Tars and Spars." Seems like a woeful and unnecessary waste of effort and materials to build a merry-go-round when Whitney Bolton's publicity department is just around the corner . . . And by more or less the same logic, Perry Lieber's praisery could serve as background when RKO Radio starts shooting the Boris Karloff starrer, "Chamber of Horrors," inspired by Hogarth's famous drawing, "Bedlam."

➡

Hollywood bookmakers, whose business has been none too good since the ban on horse racing, probably would be willing to lay odds that the RKO Radio feature, which is to be produced by Burgess Meredith and star Paulette Goddard, will never go to the post under its proposed title, "The Diary of a Chambermaid." Not while the Hays office is doing the handicapping, and remembering the various yarns concerning traveling salesmen.

➡

This week's contribution to the Hollywood-at-War casualty list should furnish a double chuckle to the lads in the foxholes. It comes from Pessis and Ettinger, catch-as-catch-can press agents and reveals:

"Russell Wade is under doctor's care at home after dislocating his shoulder during a workout at the Hollywood Athletic Club. Actor just completed his role in RKO's 'The Most Dangerous Game.'"

➡

In view of Bay City residents' antipathy toward having their fair city referred to as anything but the full San Francisco, there is double meaning in Columbia's forthcoming "Frisco Fury."

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

After the completion of "The Cobra Strikes," his next Charlie Chan film, SIDNEY TOLER will make an eastern personal appearance tour.

Paramount

GIL LAMB, comedian, is on personal appearance tour with his vaudeville troupe.

Republic

SUNSET CARSON plans to make personal appearances in veteran's hospitals and USO shows upon completion of his "Union Pacific Scouts" film. His trick horse "Cactus" goes along.

Blurbers

Columbia

Irving Rubine gets HERBERT STERN on loan, to handle unit work on Mutual Production's "Pardon My Past."

Independents

ORIN BORSTEN, former New York public relations counsellor, has joined Russell Birdwell and Associates.

Republic

JACK KELLY leaves his job as Les Kaufman's assistant to report to AMG authorities in Washington for a possible overseas assignment in reoccupied or conquered territory.

Briefies

Columbia

A one-reeler, featuring summary of the 17 years of Academy awards, will be prepared by RALPH STAUB as one of Screen Snapshots subjects for his current 25th Anniversary series.

Universal

WILL COWAN to act as director and associate producer for two-reel musical featurette starring Phil Ohman and his band.

"Loose Nut!" has been added to the WALTER LANTZ schedule of Woody Woodpecker Cartunes. JIMMY CULHANE is pegged to meg.

Cleffers

Paramount

DANIELE AMFITHEATROF has been assigned the scoring chore on "The Virginian."

Three music writing teams are providing new songs for B. G. De Sylva's "The Stork Club," PAUL WEBSTER and HOAGY CARMICHAEL; JAY LIVINGSTON and RAY EVANS; PAUL WEBSTER and HARRY REVEL.

Warners

ADOLPH DEUTSCH set to compose original score for "Three Strangers."

Loanouts

Paramount

KIM HUNTER borrowed from David O. Selznick for Hal Wallis' "You Came Along."

RKO Radio

SUSAN HAYWARD borrowed from Paramount for stellar feminine role of "Deadline at Dawn."

Meggers

Monogram

Under terms of his option, OLIVER DRAKE set to meg two additional films in Jimmy Wakely series. Date of next set back to await return of LINDSLEY PARSONS, producer, who is currently in Mexico City.

PRC Pictures

LEW LANDERS signed by Alexander-Stern to direct "Arson Squad."

Republic

FRED BRANON, recently elevated to director status, draws as his first megging assignment the serial, "The Purple Shadow Strikes," which he will co-pilot with SPENCER BENNETT.

Options

Columbia

GEORGE ELDREDGE and NELSON LEIGH join roster of "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest."

ANITA ALVAREZ signed to debut in a specialty dance number in "Song of Broadway."

Metro

FRANKLIN PANGBORN inked for comedy stint in "For Better, for Worse."

CARLETON YOUNG cast in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

CLAUDE JARMAN Jr., ten-year-old Nashville, Tenn., boy, signed for role of Jody in "The Yearling."

Additions to the cast of "For Better, for Worse," included EDDIE ACUFF, CHESTER CLUTE, JOE DUREDA and SHIMEN RUSKIN.

Cast of "For Better, for Worse," adds MONA MACGILL.

A featured spot assigned JOHN QUALEN in "This Strange Adventure."

Monogram

ISABEL JEWELL and CONSTANCE WORTH inked for roles in "Main Street Girl."

"Main Street Girl" cast adds BYRON FOULGER, JANET SHAW, SIDNEY MELTON and MINERVA URECAL.

Leading femme role in "Main Street Girl," slated for DORIS MERRICK.

Paramount

CARMEN CLIFFORD, BROOKE EVANS, JERRY JAMES, LUCY KNOCH, AUDREY KORN, CHARLES MAYON, WILLIAM MEADER, BEVERLY THOMPSON and AUDREY WESTPHAL join cast of "The Blue Dahlia."

PAT PHELAN assigned role in "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

MATT McHUGH and RAY TEAL check into "The Blue Dahlia."

B. G. De Sylva has signed the KING COLE TRIO to a personal contract.

ROSARITA VARELA and LILLIAN MOLIERI Mexican folk dance interpreters will be featured in the Pine-Thomas production "People Are Funny."

HUGH BEAUMONT wins role in "The Blue Dahlia."

PRC Pictures

Cast for "The Intruder" includes CHARLES ARNT, VEDA ANN BORG, FAY HELM, RICHARD POWERS, JOHN ROGERS, JO ANN MARLOWE, HELENA PHILLIPS EVANS and ROBERTA SMITH.

Republic

Walter Colmes, producer-director, has signed RUTH FORD, HARRY TYLER and ALMIRA SESSIONS for "The Web."

Veteran of menace roles, ROY BARCROFT, to get his first opportunity as leading man in 15-episode serial, "The Purple Shadow Strikes."

NANCY KELLY signed for femme lead in "The Web."

RKO Radio

THE TOWN CRIERS, radio songsters, set for spot in "Radio Stars on Parade."

Costarring roles in "Deadline at Dawn," to PAUL LUKAS and ex-swimming champ BILL WILLIAMS.

Universal

JOHN LITEL inked for featured role in "Night in Paradise."

ROD CAMERON's option picked up.

Lead roles in the "Secret Agent X-9" serial, assigned to LLOYD BRIDGES and JAN WILEY.

KEYE LUKE, VICTORIA HORNE, SAMUEL HINDS, GEORGE LYNN, BENSON FONG, JACK OVERMAN, ARNO FRYE, CLARENCE LUNG, CY KENDALL, EDMUND COBB and JEAN STUTENROTH have been signed to round out cast of "Secret Agent X-9."

ROD CAMERON and MARIA MONTEZ will costar in an original story being written for them by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. Picture, as yet untitled, is scheduled for production in Technicolor by Pagano.

Warners

GEORGE COULOURIS inked for role in "The Adventures of Don Juan."

Role of landlady in "Danger Signal" given to VIRGINIA SALE.

Scripters

Columbia

DAVID LANG signed to script "Frisco Fury."

Metro

Scripting of "Boys' Ranch," assigned to WILLIAM LUDWIG.

RICHARD SHERMAN scripting "Two Sisters From Boston."

Monogram

Final revision of screenplay on "Gregory the Great" handed to MYLES CONNOLLY, author of the original story.

Paramount

I. A. BEZZERIDES, novelist, signed to a year's writing contract.

PRC Pictures

DICK HYLAND inked to screenplay "I Rang Doorbells."

Ticketed for screenplay chores are: ALLEN BORETS, "Mexican Honeymoon"; WILLIAM BOWERS, "The Gibson Girl," and DWIGHT BABCOCK, "The Fabulous Alibi."

Story Buys

Metro

"Flight From Youth," magazine story by William A. Barrett, has been purchased.

"Flight From Youth," Redbook magazine serial by William E. Barrett, has been purchased for early production. Yarn is about an aviator who was killed in first World War, and, years later, is reincarnated to resume his romance with his sweetheart who has grown older, while he remains the same age. Setting is in England and the United States, and an all-star cast is planned.

PRC Pictures

An original comedy, "Confidence Man" by Jack O'Donnel, dealing with a swindler who reforms, has been purchased for Martin Mooney's production slate.

RKO Radio

Samuel Goldwyn has bought the rights to the old Harold Lloyd starrer, "The Milky Way," from Paramount. One character only will be lifted from the story for Danny Kaye's next film, "Kid From Brooklyn."

Warners

Screen rights to "The Moonstone," Wilkie Collins' whodunit, have been acquired and assigned to Arnold Albert for production. Yarn is laid in England in 1850.

Technically

Columbia

L. W. O'CONNELL set to lens "Rusty."

Metro

CHARLES SCHOENBAUM assigned as cameraman on "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

WALTER STROHM assigned as unit manager on "This Strange Adventure."

EDDIE WOEHLER named unit manager for "Two Sisters From Boston."

JACK BAKER inked as assistant dance director for "Early to Wed."

Paramount

DOROTHY O'HARA signed to a new two-year contract as a fashion designer.

ARTHUR SCHMIDT named film editor for "The Blue Dahlia."

RKO Radio

Dance numbers for Eddie Cantor's as-yet-untitled western musical assigned to ERNST and MARIA MATRAY, choreographers.

HARRY WILD named as cameraman and HARRY D'ARCY assistant director for "Radio Stars on Parade."

United Artists

Jules Levey has signed DUNCAN CRAMER as art director on "The Homesteaders."

Warners

Cameramen assignments include: CARL GUTHRIE, "Janie Gets Married"; SID HICKOX, "The Adventures of Don Juan"; PEV WARLEY, "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," and JAMES WONG HOWE, "Confidential Agent."

Assistant megger's spot on "The Adventures of Don Juan," assigned to REGGIE CALLOW with LES WHITE as second assistant.

CHUCK HANSEN named unit manager and CLAUDE ARCHER assistant director on "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

Title Changes

Monogram

MURDER IN MANHATTAN is tag for previously untitled mystery story.

PRC Pictures

APOLOGY FOR MURDER substitutes for "Her Last Mile."

Republic

THE PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY, replaces "Glory Road."

Benny Picture to Premiere At Three Houses

World premiere of Warners' "The Horn Blows at Midnight," Jack Benny starrer, will be staged at the local Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern theatres following engagement of "Roughly Speaking," now playing.

World premiere of PRC's "Strange Illusion" was held at the Rialto Theatre, Atlanta. Arnold Stoltz, newly-appointed eastern publicity representative of the company, handled the opening.

Mark Robson Given New Three-Way RKO Contract

Mark Robson has been handed a new three-way contract by RKO calling for his services as associate producer, director and writer. Robson is currently scripting "Chamber of Horrors," which he will also direct, with Val Lewton producing under the executive supervision of Jack Gross.

Intermountain Ass'n Re-Elects Gillette

SALT LAKE CITY—S. L. Gillette of Tooele, Utah, was re-elected president of the Intermountain Theatre Owners Ass'n during the group's annual meeting last week.

Other officers selected were Harry S. Ungerleider, Salt Lake, and Julian Bills, Bountiful, vice-presidents, and J. A. Christensen, Salt Lake, secretary-treasurer. Directors include the preceding, plus Tracy Barham and Hall Baetz, Salt Lake; Hugh Drennan, Rexburg, Idaho; William McFarlane, Manti, and Victor Anderson, Orem.

The meeting was held in conjunction with a planning parley for the Seventh War Loan and the visit to Salt Lake of Claude F. Lee, New York City, public relations director for Paramount. A cocktail party for intermountain distributors and operators also was held in the Hotel Utah.

Skouras Goal Exceeded, Cross Reports Indicate

LOS ANGELES—Early returns reported in the local industry's drive on behalf of the Red Cross war fund indicate that the campaign will substantially top the quota set for it.

Out of 601 Los Angeles County houses pledged to raise money for the fund, 362 had reported at midweek and their collections totaled $365,281.57. Fox West Coast, from which complete returns had been recorded, accounted for $238,678.00.

Predicated on the above figures, Victor Adams, FWC executive in charge of compiling the reports, predicted that the quota set by Charles Skouras, local industry campaign chairman, would be exceeded. Skouras at the kickoff luncheon which launched the drive promised local Red Cross officials that the theatres would top last year's collections by at least 25 per cent.

L. Edelman and J. Geller Cut Warner Bros. Ties

Lou Edelman, producer, and James Geller, story editor, both have severed connections with Warner Bros. by mutual agreement. Edelman, who recently completed "Hotel Berlin," was unable to find story material for future pictures. Geller had been at the Burbank studio three years.

Producer Irving Starr Asks 20th-Fox Release

After a year's association with 20th-Fox, Irving Starr has asked to be released from his producer contract. His last assignment for the studio was "Something for the Boys."

"Riocabana" Shelved

"Riocabana," 20th-Fox's proposed high-budget musical, will be shelved until after the end of the war in Europe. As soon as transportation of cast, technicians and equipment is possible, the studio plans to shoot major portions of the film against its natural backgrounds in South America. Producer William LeBaron has script and score ready for the players, Carmen Miranda, John Payne, June Haver and Martha Stewart.

Goetz to Welfare Fund

William Goetz, president of International Pictures, has been named chairman of the motion pictures division of the United Jewish Welfare Fund for the year 1945. He succeeds Walter Wanger.

WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Louis L. Bard, Los Angeles pioneer showman and founder of the Bard Theatres, remembers when Hollywood Blvd. was an orange grove, and DeMille and Lasky made films in a barn. Executive vice-president and general manager of the Far West Theatre circuit, organized in 1925-26, Bard was president and director for many years of the TOA of Southern California, Arizona and Nevada. Serving on labor and legislative committees, he was exhibitor's representative on the Continuing Committee of Three for southern California.



J. Paul Swickard, like most "native sons," has been a booster not only for California but for that state's great industry, motion pictures. In 1917 he operated the University Theatre and 14 years later the Strand, Los Angeles, a 1,000-seat house, his present property. A resident of San Marino, Swickard is a member of the Masons and Rotary Club. Married, he has three sons, all in uniform: J. Paul jr., and Donald R. with the army, Ross H. aboard a submarine. Swickard's home address is 2806 Gainsborough Drive in San Marino.



Two Los Angeles houses, the El Rodeo and Maryland, acquired respectively in 1916 and 1917, comprised **Grover L. Smith's** first toehold in the industry. Today he owns the Vogue, Roxy, Cosmo and Showshop theatres in Glendale, in addition to the Atwater and York theatres in Los Angeles. A member of the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n, he has seen the motion picture business grow into a billion dollar industry. Smith is married, lives in Glendale. His diversions are hunting and fishing, although his half-dozen houses allow little spare time.



Charles P. Skouras of Beverly Hills, president of National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc., entered the industry in 1913 in partnership with his brothers, Spyros and George. Today Skouras theatres have a seating capacity of over 600,000. He is on the directorate of many clubs and organizations, among them United Nations War Relief Council, United Hospital Fund of Los Angeles County, California State War Chest and the Los Angeles City War Council. He is president both of Variety Tent 25 and the Greek War Relief Ass'n of Southern California.



Showman **William Martin** of Hemet, Calif., entered picture exhibition in 1915, and since then has remained active in the business. Head of the Hemet there and San Jacinto at San Jacinto, he also is owner of the historic Ranchito Gold Mine, now closed for the duration of the war. Holding no civic office at present, he was at one time councilman and street superintendent. His clubs include the Lions, of which he is president. Martin enjoys sports of all types. He has two daughters and a son; the latter has served in the army four years.



Otis W. Lewis of California, better known as Ote, broke into the exhibitor ranks in 1918, when he operated the Alhambra Theatre. He successfully guided the destinies of this house until 1932 when he opened the Mission. In San Gabriel he operates the Mission Playhouse, seating 1,492 persons, and the San Gabriel, a 748-seater. President of the Chamber of Commerce for two years, Lewis is a member of Variety, Kiwanis, Elks, Knights Templar and is a charter member of Rotary. Fishing and raising rabbits and chickens occupy his spare time.



As a boy in his teens, **Harry M. Popkin** of Los Angeles worked for the Gore Bros. circuit in various capacities. He later went into business for himself and eventually acquired the Joy Theatre and the Gore circuit, since operating as the Popkin and Ringer circuit. Popkin, who has an interest in over 40 houses in southern California, recently organized his own motion picture producing company, which bought the film rights on the current New York play, "Ten Little Indians," now in production. He is responsible for bringing Lena Horne to Hollywood.



Frank Lucido, Pittsburg, Calif., owner of the Palace, California and Enean there, and the Enean, Concord, started at the ripe age of 10 in 1912 as a janitor of the theatre he now owns. Four years later he took over all the bookings for the Palace and soon after for the California and Enean. In 1934 Lucido became part-owner of the Enean Theatre circuit. He was one of the winners in the Metro exploitation contest, 1940. He is a member of Independent Theatre Owners and is past president of the Lions Club. He also conducts the Municipal Band.

LOS ANGELES

Booking on the Row were Paul and Ray Swickard of the Strand Theatre on Whittier Blvd., and Vic Rosen of Warners' Beverly Hills Theatre . . . Switchboard operators Cora King of Warners and Sandra Zalis of Exhibitors Service have handed in their resignations.

N. A. McTaggart, formerly with the Vinnicof Theatre circuit, is now booking at Columbia . . . Harry Rackin and Jimmy Loomis of Exhibitors Service are on a combined business and pleasure jaunt through Arizona.

Florence Ervin, Columbia booker, has resigned to await a summons from the stork . . . Larry Pulis, Paramount booker, is away on sick leave . . . Marjorie Burke, a clerk at the Metro exchange, has been selected for a screen test by Howard Hertz, Metro exploiteer.

Foster Blake, city manager, and Mrs. Blake will spend two weeks vacationing in Portland, while Al Bowman, city salesman, and Mrs. Bowman will spend a fortnight in Palm Springs. Charles Feldman, western division manager, returned from a two-week vacation. They are all Universalites.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kay were all set to open their new Barbara Theatre. It is their third local house, the other two being the Kiva and Linda . . . Morrie Kleinman, of the Theatre Upholstering Co., is the father to twin boys, born March 28 at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, weighing five and seven pounds.

Friends of Sgt. E. D. Harris, former manager of the Fox West Coast Glendale at Glandale, have been informed that after two and a half years in the marine corps public relations section in San Francisco, he has been given an honorable discharge.

N. A. McTaggart left the Vinnicof Theatre circuit and is replaced by Dave Grossfield, formerly of Rochester, N. Y. . . . Lloyd Katz, formerly with Columbia, is new booker at Film Classics . . . Mike Newman, Columbia exploiteer, off to Tucson and Phoenix praising "Song to Remember" . . . Group of Metro Club girls, headed by Hermine Halliday, president, Rae Winnick, vice-president, and Elinor Kaluzna, chairman, took 150 gift packages to the boys at the Torrance army hospital.

After 18 months in the navy, Lloyd Hubbard has received a discharge and is back on his old job at the National Theatre Supply . . . Art Brick of the Palace Theatre, Las Vegas, was booking and buying on the Row . . . Lieut. Comdr. Howard Marx, former manager at National Theatre Supply, visited friends on Filmrow. He is stationed in San Diego.

Doraye Hassan, former clerk at PRC, is now handling Helen Weiss's clerking chore with the Roy Dixon booking service . . . Lester Tobias, ex-salesman for Monogram, is the new city salesman for the PRC exchange.

Drive-In Chain Buys 15-Acre Omaha Site

From Midwest Edition

OMAHA—Purchase of 15 acres of land from J. W. Campbell here put into action plans to give Omaha its first drive-in theatre.

Construction will begin as soon as materials become available, Barton H. Kuhns of Finlayson, McKie & Kuhns, local representative for Midwest Drive-In Theatres, Inc., announced. If the war in Europe ends soon sponsors hope to open it before the summer ends.

Estimated cost is $75,000, according to Philip Smith of Boston, president of the corporation, which operates similar theatres in Kansas City, St. Louis, Indianapolis and other midwest cities. New theatres also are planned for Des Moines, Minneapolis and several eastern points, Smith said.

Smith said the theatre here will possess a screen towering more than 80 feet, and provide facilities for more than 500 cars. The amphitheatre, he continued, will consist of sloping, semicircular ramps, with 50-foot roadways between each ramp "to make perfect vision possible from any location in the theatre and, in addition, to permit cars to come or go without obstructing the views of those already parked."

The theatre will occupy a 350-foot frontage on West Dodge St., with the entrance and exit roads 60 feet wide, he explained. The screen building and boxoffice will set in about 200 feet from the highway. The projection booth will be skyward, the opposite of the procedure in indoor theatres.

Another new feature will be individual speakers for each auto, taking the place of the central amplifying sound system now in use in other drive-ins through the country.

The management plans two shows nightly. A specially-treated screen surface plus high intensity projection will enable the theatre to operate in the rain, Smith said. Charge will be on a per-person basis with no fee for the auto.

Hunter to Play in "You Came Along"

Kim Hunter has been borrowed from David O. Selznick for Hal Wallis' "You Came Along."

SAN FRANCISCO

Don Brown, manager of the Los Gatos Theatre, reported to police the theft of two or more large posters from the lobby. With the shortage of paper, posters are not plentiful, he said, and promised "strong measures" if the thefts continue.

Roy Cooper of Golden State Theatres and northern California chairman of the Red Cross drive, has appealed to all theatres to send in their collection reports immediately so he may complete a record of results . . . Local Red Cross chapters furnished volunteers to collect and in those theatres where no volunteers were available service men and women assisted. The theatre industry of northern California cooperated 100 per cent in appealing for funds.

Row Ramblings: The Artists Guild Productions at the Green Street Music Hall recently closed a successful run of "Ten Nights in a Barroom" and prepared to start rehearsing a new show, Andrew Saucier, manager of the company, announced . . . Andy recently renewed a long acquaintance with Meggs Lexings who is now appearing at the Golden Gate Theatre.

Ed C. Rowden, former booking manager for Oakland, the Golden State Theatre Corp., is joining forces with Pat Patterson of Astor Pictures at 250 Golden Gate Ave. . . . Morris Rosenberg, the former manager for the Chimes Theatre in Oakland, has taken over the Rowden position with Golden State.

B. F. Shearer Co. gave its building a new paint job for Easter . . . Warner Bros. exchange has been "scaring" half of Filmrow with its "heap big powwow" activities. The state's drive started April 1 and lasts until July 28. The entire office is all decked out in Indian feathers and wigwams . . . Crowds lined up on Taylor St. to Jones waiting to see Alan Jones and Jean Parker on the stage of the Golden Gate and Sonja Henie on the screen in "It's a Pleasure."

Constance Moore made several appearances at the Stage Door Canteen here where she announced the most "delightfully dangerous" girl in San Francisco as selected by a service men's poll taken at the canteen. Miss Moore appeared at the United Artists Theatre to introduce the winner.

Tommy Bond, an Our Gang Veteran, in Navy Now

From Southern Edition

MEMPHIS—Tommy Bond, an actor with more than 50 pictures to his credit, is now an acting petty officer at the naval recruit training center here. As one of the steadies of the Our Gang comedies he was in more than 40 pictures.

Now in the third week in the boot camp, Bond first appeared in the films 13 years ago when he was five years old. His last two pictures, neither yet released, are "It's Never Too Late" (Univ), and "Twice Blessed" (M-G-M). Theatregoers will remember Bond's latest feature, "The Man From Frisco," in which he had an important part.

He is taking preparatory naval training and hopes to be a flyer. After the war, he wants to return to pictures.

Dude Smith Makes Filmrow Happy

PORTLAND—Easter greetings extended to every member of the feminine gender on Portland's Filmrow by Dude Smith were received with applause by the girls and every male member as well. Dude bought gardenia corsages for the same number of girls from inspectors to bookers. It was really quite a sight to see every one of Filmrow's ladies wearing a corsage and a smile worth a million bucks of appreciation.

Smith owns and operates the Coliseum and Castle theatres in Tillamook, Ore. About a month ago a thumbnail sketch appeared in BOXOFFICE with a short story about his career in show business, citing his hobby as being exploitation.

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Los Angeles Grosses Bounce Right Back

LOS ANGELES—After one of their poorest weeks in the last several years, grosses at the local first run houses bounced back encouragingly. Showing noteworthy comeback powers, Columbia's "A Song to Remember" recorded the best business for the stanza, reporting an unusually impressive 180 and 190 per cent, respectively, at the Pantages and Hillstreet. Shining among the newcomers were Walt Disney's "The Three Caballeros" and Metro's "The Picture of Dorian Gray," the latter being reported for only the last two days of a split week.

(Average is 100)

Chinese, State and Uptown—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 100
Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 3rd wk. 100
Downtown Paramount—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk. 80
Egyptian—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. (5 days) 100
Egyptian—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), first 2 days 150
Guild, United Artists, Wilshire—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep) 150
Hillstreet—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 5th wk.; **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 190
Hollywood Paramount—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk. 112
Los Angeles—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. (5 days) 60
Los Angeles—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), first 2 days 140
Pantages—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 5th wk.; **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 180
Ritz—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. (5 days) 100
Ritz—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), first 2 days 140

"Girl Rush" at the Golden Gate Tops the Show List

SAN FRANCISCO—"Girl Rush," plus a stage show at the Golden Gate, held the strongest boxoffice pull this week, with "Tonight and Every Night," Orpheum, a close second.

Esquire—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col) 110
Fox—**Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M) 140
Golden Gate—**Girl Rush** (RKO), plus stage show 155
Orpheum—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) 150
Paramount—**Three Caballeros** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), 2nd wk. 120
State—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 4th wk.; **Grissly's Millions** (Rep) 100
St. Francis—**Objective, Burma!** (WB); **Thoroughbreds** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
United Artists—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA); **She's a Sweetheart** (Col) 115
Warfield—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**, 3rd wk. 105

"Practically Yours" Takes Big Money To Rate Holdover at Denver Denham

DENVER—"Practically Yours," by taking the heavy money, rated at least a second week and probably more, at the Denham.

Aladdin—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), after a wk. at each the Denver and Esquire 150
Denham—**Practically Yours** (Para) 190
Denver—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col), day-date with the Esquire 150
Esquire—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col), day-date with the Denver 150
Orpheum—**Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Dixie Jamboree** (PRC) 160
Paramount—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col) 100
Rialto—**A Song to Remember** (Col), after a wk. at each the Denver and Esquire and two wks. at the Aladdin 125

Halliday With "Senorita"

Jackson Halliday, former producer and director of summer theatres on the east coast, will act as dialog director on "The Gay Senorita," Columbia musical starring Jinx Falkenburg. Halliday served at Clinton, Conn., and at the Theatre-By-the-Sea in Matunuck, R. I.

John Litel in "Night in Paradise"

John Litel has been inked for the feature role in "Night in Paradise," a Universal production.

Long Films a Sign of Evolution!

From Midwest Edition

MINNEAPOLIS—Pictures are getting longer, but few patrons object, Robert E. Murphy, Minneapolis Sunday Tribune film editor, pointed out in his Sunday column.

"You may note some night when you go to a movie," wrote Murphy, "that you spent an unconscionable length of time in the theatre, but you may note further that it didn't seem so long until you looked at your watch. The increasing length of photoplays is one of the current signs of cinematic evolution.

"There may be objections to this trend from those accustomed to a program length of two hours or less, but a little research produces evidence that whatever faults a super-movie may have are well outbalanced by its good points in most instances.

"The exhibitors haven't suffered. Increased attendance has more than made up for fewer showings. Greater length has encouraged producers to make stories they wouldn't attempt if restricted to an hour and a half's length. And while the double feature has never been a problem here, the long film is sounding its death knell in other cities.

"It is undeniable that sitting through some of the longer offerings may be slightly numbing, anatomically. Perhaps the theatre seat manufacturers will take care of this after the war. For the time being the producer counts on his film's interest to counteract your tendency to become molded in a sitting position."

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DENVER

William Dollison, Fox Intermountain booker, is hobbling around with a broken ankle . . . C. U. Yaeger has remodeled and redecorated the Jewel and reopened it . . . Beverly Axcell has been added to the Fox Intermountain Theatres staff as a stenographer.

Jack Bruno, city manager at Greeley for the Cooper Foundation Theatres, was in town after reopening the Park following a redecorating job . . . The Kerby, Worland, Wyo., is now being booked by the Rose Booking Service.

Margot Berry, Fox Intermountain Theatres auditor, and her husband became parents of a baby son . . . Tom Berta, city manager at Rock Springs, Wyo., has gone home after a stay at St. Luke's Hospital here . . . The miners' union, celebrating the anniversary of the eight-hour day, again gave the youngsters at Hanna, Wyo., a free matinee show at Tom Love's Hanna Theatre. The show annually is presented April 1, and consists of a western, appropriate shorts, candy, etc.

Bill Agren, Fox Intermountain city booker, is recuperating at home after an operation . . . Friends on the Row were greeting Mrs. Max Schuback, who went to Riverton some time back for a visit with Mrs. Lee Mote, owner of the Acme Theatre, and stayed there. Mrs. Mote was with her, booking films and buying supplies.

Parasang, a C. U. (Bank Night) Yaeger, horse, ran the mile and 70 yards in a record time of 1:41 1-5 to win the $3,000 added La Jolla handicap at the Tijuana race track Sunday . . . With the naming of Ethelyn Caragher as manager of the Webber, Fox Intermountain now has four women managers. She succeeded Robert Etter, resigned.

C. W. "Stub" O'Brien is awaiting his induction orders after passing his physical. He is city manager for Fox Intermountain at Montrose, Colo.

Out-of-town exhibitors on the Row: J. C. Parker, Dalhart, Tex.; S. E. Newcomb, La Jara, Colo.; Mike Joseph, San Luis, Colo.; A. Hurley, Tucumcari, N. M.; Mrs. Marie Goodhand, Kimball, Neb.; Fred Lind, Rifle; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Coulter, Loveland; C. E. McLaughlin, Las Animas; C. J. Severson, who is opening the theatre at Wolf Point, Wyo.; Kenneth Powell, Wray; E. J. Tuey, Grant, Neb.; Lynn Zorn, Julesburg; J. R. Smith, Steamboat Springs; N. O. Reed, Glenrock, Wyo.; George McCormick, Cannon City, and Fred Crouse, La Veta.

Curfew Increasing Juvenile Problem

DENVER—Theatre managers here are of the opinion that if theatres were allowed to run as usual to their regular time after midnight, that it would do much toward alleviating the juvenile delinquency problems. Before the curfew about a dozen houses here ran midnight shows Saturday nights, and on other nights ran long enough to allow patrons to finish the show, mostly after 12.

Amusement for the younger element particularly is going under cover to some extent, with the worst feature being illicit selling of liquor and the renting of a cheap hotel room for the night.

They need some place to let off steam, and a theatre is better than most places for this.

Chicago Censors Ink Out Scenes From "Dillinger"

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—The same fate that "Scarface" was accorded in 1932 was handed out to Monogram's "Dillinger" by the Chicago police censor board when it barred the feature from Chicago. It took years to get the former by and, strangely enough, "Scarface" is playing a revival date in the loop right now.

The censors made no comment on the decision; neither did Irving Mandel, local Monogram head. Whether he will appeal to Police Commissioner Alman, as was done by 20th-Fox when "Roger Touhy" was "pinked" and the chief reversed the decision, is not known.

Rowites feel "Dillinger" is being picked on unfairly, since the Chicago Daily News ran a double spread in roto on the bloody career of the gunman a short time ago and there were no police repercussions then. Consensus is Chicago censors don't like pictures which play up gangsters and their ilk.

"Hangover Squire" was "pinked" recently, but Commissioner Alman overrode the ruling. He takes such action usually when certain cuts are made to "eliminate whatever is negative."

Change Tag on "New Faces of 1945"

"An Angel Comes to Brooklyn" is the new title for the Republic production, "New Faces of 1945."

SALT LAKE CITY

At the April Fool costume party and dinner dance on Filmrow, James Mooney, husband of one of the co-chairmen, Mrs. Mooney, won first prize in the contest for men with best costumes. Mrs. William Gordon, costumed in a red mop on her head for hair; long underwear cut off at the knees showing striped stockings and old-fashioned green shoes, walked away with first prize for women. The party, held March 31 and attended by more than 100 members of Filmrow, was arranged by Mrs. Si Sanders, Mrs. Will Seib, Mrs. Henry Ungerleider, Mrs. William Gordon and Mrs. Ray Hendry.

Sam Siegel of the Seattle office of Columbia was here in connection with "A Song to Remember," which has a large advertising budget tieup with local papers. The show was booked for the Centre Theatre . . . Jack Leewood of the Denver office of Warners was in Utah with "Hotel Berlin" and "Roughly Speaking."

Mrs. Gus Floor of the Star Theatre management is expecting a visit from the stork soon . . . Charlie Pincus of the Utah Theatre and Warren D. Butler of the Lyric were judges for a citywide contest of jitterbugs last week. They ruled a brother-sister negro team, Shirley and Teddy Steward, 13 and 15 years old, as the best hepcats, giving the two youngsters a week's booking at the Lyric.

"I'll Be Seeing You," which Intermountain Theatres booked for a week at the Centre and a holdover at the Capitol, was in its fourth week in town, playing for the second week straight at the Rialto, a Joe Lawrence showhouse. Few pictures in Salt Lake play four straight weeks, especially with a switch from Intermountain to Lawrence Theatres.

William Henry Howard, treasurer for the old Orpheum here and for many years chief deputy Salt Lake County recorder, was killed in an automobile collision in Salt Lake on March 31. The accident occurred shortly after Howard bid goodbye to a son, Lieut. Paul L. Howard, who was returning to duty following a furlough.

Presidents of women's clubs and secretaries of lunch clubs were special guests of the Utah Theatre management during showing of the OWI film "Watchtower Over Tomorrow."



"MILE-HIGH CITY" GOES "SKY HIGH" FOR MONTAGUE DRIVE—Superlatives as big as this anniversary cake would be needed to describe the rising enthusiasm of Denver's Columbia exchange staff as it started the Montague 20th Anniversary campaign. Manager Bob Hill is serving the cake. Among those pictured are Salesmen Barney Shooker, Gay Storm Pinnel and Thomas J. Robinson.

Kohn's Stagehands Findings in Effect

ST. LOUIS—The regional war labor board at Kansas City has issued a directive making effective the findings of the special arbiter, Jules E. Kohn, Kansas City attorney, fixing the number of union stagehands to be employed in each of the motion picture theatres of St. Louis, the hours they shall work and the duties to be performed. The directive also ordered carried out findings of a three-man panel, which early last year recommended that the stagehands be granted a 15 per cent increase in the $75 a week base pay plus a one-week vacation with pay for men on the pay roll one year and two weeks for those employed more than five years in the same house.

The WLB directive affects 41 motion picture theatres that use stagehands. While Kohn recommended that only a total of six stagehands be dropped in the city, the most important phases of his decision was the determination of the hours of work, so as to permit the theatres to obtain greater real use of the men's special skill; definition of the exact duties to be performed, making the men subject to the manager's orders within the terms of the contract, and permitting the theatre owner to have some choice as to the men to be employed, providing, of course, there shall be no discrimination against the union.

New Missouri Bill Favors Libel Suit Claimants

JEFFERSON CITY, MO.—A bill to permit the filing of libel suits in counties where the offending publication may have been circulated has been approved by the house of representatives judiciary committee. The bill was introduced by Rep. George Munger, Stoddard County Democrat. The present statute on libel restricts the filing of a suit to the county in which the paper, magazine, etc., is published. The bill, if enacted into law, will give the person who claims to have been libeled the advantage of picking the county most favorable to his chances of obtaining a judgment. A similar bill was defeated two years ago.

Student Speech Classes Help Red Cross Drive

MILWAUKEE—A successful Red Cross campaign among patrons of the Times and Grand theatres, Clintonville, was reported by Donald Harrington, manager of the theatres.

Harrington arranged with the speech classes in Clintonville High School for speakers to appear at both houses, requesting donations.

Jack Roberts, One Time Tom Mix Double, Dies

MILWAUKEE—Jack Roberts, 55, one-time movie double for Tom Mix, and a movie actor in his own right, died recently after a heart attack at Haines City, Fla. A native of Waukesha, Roberts had contemplated visiting in Milwaukee this summer with friends and relatives. His wife survives.

Newsboys See "Co-Eds"

CHICAGO—Through the cooperation of the RKO Palace with the Chicago Daily Times, 1,800 boys who deliver the Times, enjoyed a special showing last Saturday morning of Universal's new comedy hit, "Here Come the Co-Eds," featuring Lou Costello and Bud Abbott. The boys paraded from the Times office through the loop to the theatre with banners flying.

20th-Fox Appeal Slated In "Ragtime Band" Suit

ST. LOUIS—Attorneys for 20th-Fox were expected to take steps for an appeal to the U.S. circuit court of appeals from the ruling of U.S. District Judge George H. Moore last week overruling the company's several motions in the million-dollar plagiarism suit of Marie Cooper Oehlar Dieckhaus, against the film company, in which the court entered judgment for the plaintiff several months ago.

Judge Moore, in his latest order, overruled motions to amend the court's findings of fact and conclusions and denied a motion for a new trial.

The suit is based upon the similarity of the motion picture, "Alexander's Ragtime Band," to the former Marie Cooper Oehlar Dieckhaus's unpublished novel "The Love Girl." Judge Moore read the novel and viewed the picture prior to entering his judgment for the author. He held that the similarity was so pronounced as to lead to the conclusion the persons who produced the picture must have had script based upon the novel. Later, he named a special commission to determine the exact amount of damages to be awarded the author for the plagiarism. It has been estimated that the picture grossed $5,000,000. In similar cases successful plaintiffs have been awarded 20 per cent of a film's net receipts.

"Any Number Can Play" Wins Author $45,000

MILWAUKEE — Edward Harris Heth, young Milwaukee novelist now living in New York, recently sold film rights for a new story, "Any Number Can Play," to 20th-Fox at a minimum of $45,000. Other payments are in line for Heth in preparing the screen version. Heth expects to go to Hollywood, and Fred MacMurray, Wisconsin boy who made good, is in line for the lead.

"Any Number Can Play" is a novel of gambling, and Heth, it is reported, got the background material from Milwaukee.

Censors "Pink" Two

CHICAGO—The police motion picture censor board looked at 357,000 feet of film, representing 87 releases last month, and made 15 cuts and "pinked" a pair. Monogram's "Dillinger" and PRC's "Crime, Inc." are still on the rejected list.

Single-Bill Plan Fades In St. Louis Houses

ST. LOUIS—Apparently the St. Louis plan for the gradual elimination of double feature programs is another victim of the war, or something. For some of the local subsequent run theatres are not currently following through what at one time appeared to be a generally accepted understanding that all of the followup houses would adhere to the policy of the first run house with respect to any given feature picture.

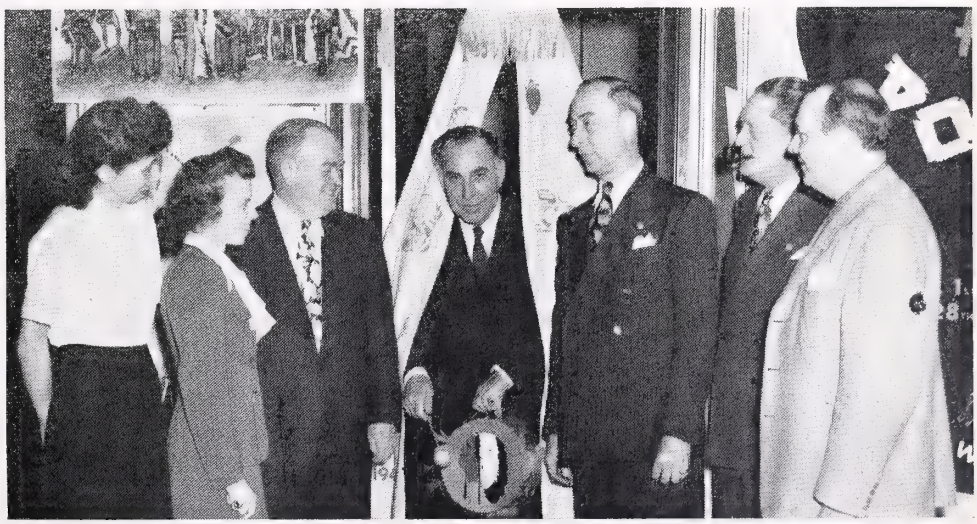
In short, if an outstanding first run picture was played single bill, without an accompanying stage show, and supported only by short subjects, such as newsreels, and, perhaps, a cartoon or brief comic, all other theatres booking that picture here should also play it single bill.

It will be recalled that Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. houses, led the fight for the elimination of duals. He attempted to have all of the 112 theatres in St. Louis and the county definitely committed to a single bill policy on and after June 1, 1943, but the owners of many of the small theatres balked. They raised two principal objections. First, they would be called upon to play single bill pictures that had previously been run in double bills first and perhaps also second run, and secondly, that the first runs might show a single with a supporting stage show, thus giving them a big advantage over the small houses without stage shows.

Then a sort of compromise was worked out providing that the smaller houses should follow the policy set by the first run house. For some time apparently most houses followed that plan but in recent weeks it has been noted that even some of the larger circuits have gotten away from the arrangement. For instance "Meet Me in St. Louis" and "Tokyo" were both played single bill but several of the subsequent run houses are currently showing both in double bills, in some instances with A pictures.

Observes 88th Birthday

CHICAGO — Mrs. Rose Perlberg received congratulations from hundreds of friends on her 88th birthday anniversary recently. She is the mother of Jonas Perlberg, Chicago representative of BOXOFFICE.



INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS IN POWWOW—Chief "Flying Goose" Claude McKean, manager of Warners' exchange in Indianapolis, is seen at the entrance of his tent, beating the tom-tom calling his salesmen and bookers to the first meeting to discuss WB's Heap Big Powwow, which runs from April 1 to July 28. The exchange is decorated in Indian relics and has the appearance of a redskin camp.

Left to right: Jane Gibson, Dorothy Robison, bookers; R. D. McRaven, salesman; McKean; Sol Greenburg, office manager; R. S. Shrader and Gayle Black, salesman.

MILWAUKEE

Ben Poblocki, that busy sign man just returned from New York and, boy, was he wearing an Easter suit! Kelly green with reddish plaid overcast. Ben has been getting a few practice pokes at the old golf ball at Tuckaway, and reports it looks like a big year. Are you listenin', Jackie Ellis?

Mary Guiiffre, former National Screen ledger clerk who joined the WAVES, has completed her training at Hunter's College. Mary is stationed at Washington, D. C., and has been assigned to the maintenance department bureau of ships. She likes the WAVES, likes Washington, has been seeing the sights, and sends greetings to the gang on the Row . . . Jack Quirk, RKO praise boy, was out around the state educating the natives on "Woman in the Window."

Ralph Wolf and Jerrie Brown, currently doing a solid job at Steubens' with their duo-piano and Hammond organ stuff, expect to head for the west coast shortly . . . Joe Malits, Metro booker, says he was kept waiting from noon until late evening for a lunch promised by Lou Orlove, Metro tub thumper. And, Lou ordered "ham and eggs."

Ray C. Fahrenberg of Milwaukee Camera Exchange talked at the Amateur Movie Society of Milwaukee meeting . . . John Brennan of the stagehands union, now in service, paid a surprise visit to Jack Worner, business agent of the local. Brennan was reported missing for a time around the Aleutians. He wears the Air Medal and four battle stars . . . That Film Service bowling team composed of Charley Trampe, Eddie Gavin, Harold Becker, John Ermi and Father "Mike" of Denmark copped first place in the Moose State tourney at Columbus Hall, Green Bay . . . Park Agnew, Metro traveling booker, was in town the same time Charlie Agnew and his band played Hotel Schroeder. Parke informed that mail for both, they're distantly related, constantly became crossed. Parke informed his mother many years back that he'd travel, thus avoid her tongue lashings (Parke was about ten at the time), and travel he did for the last 20 years.

Booking on the Row: W. C. Fischer, Campo Theatre, Campbellsport; Floyd Alberts, Strand Theatre, Mount Horeb; Tom Coffey, veteran Marinette exhibitor; Walter Baier, Fort Atkinson exhibitor; Mike Lencione, Hollywood and Lincoln Theatres, Kenosha; Augie Geyer, Troy Theatre, East Troy; Bill Exton, Roosevelt Theatre, Kenosha; W. D. Washburn, Park Theatre, Wautoma, and Bud Bacon, who took over the Edward Hanus portable showings at clubs and lodges.

Barney Wiese, Metro shipper, has a new summer (I fell asleep in the barber chair) crew, GI haircut . . . Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Riskin for the loss of an infant son, shortly after birth . . . Harry Riskin is 20th-Fox shipping clerk . . . Jake Kaiser of the Warner office hasn't been home evenings for three months. In addition to duties at the exchange, Jake is business agent of the front office union, and has bowled three nights a week all season . . . Due to recent stretch of mild weather, talk of vacations has been popping up around the Row.

Frank Sutter, National Screen shipper, has a new wrinkle for his after hours night club work . . . Now at Club Royal, Sutter gets the trade in the mood with a few fast words of political import, dressed as a senator. When they are properly softened up, Sutter gives them the business with some "truth or consequences" stuff. He also throws some rapid fire "portrait" stuff in, and they jump for more.

Bob Allen, United Artists manager, has been on the search for a dwelling place for some time, found one (the same house Nat Nathanson resided in while UA manager here) and brought the family here from Evanston. They were driving into town on highway 41, when a speed cop ordered Bob to "pull over." "You aren't going to give me a ticket, are you?" Bob queried. Joanne, Bob's 5-year-old daughter gave the bluecoat, "Say, man, do you really have to have a ticket to get into Milwaukee?"

Could there be wedding bells in the offing? Dorothy Wasichek, RKO biller, wasn't able to sleep while her flame was stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala. Now that he's in town she can't sleep, either, what with all the places to go. Who's the lucky lad? Albert Wehr . . . Johnny Mednikow, National Screen manager, was out in the territory . . . That noise you heard along the Row was Manning Silverman of the Ogden blasting a deal with Harold Beecroft, 20th-Fox manager, and George Edgerton, 20th-Fox salesman. When the smoke of battle cleared, and Silverman surveyed his beachhead, he exploded, "Well, I'll tell you one thing. It wasn't worth all that yelling I did. You birds clipped me again!" Beecroft's office was quiet, and Silverman rushed out.

With the termination of stage shows at the Riverside Theatre, and nothing coming up at the local legit house, the Davidson, for a time, the stagehands are sunning themselves at the lake front . . . Teddy Fabian and his "Monarchs of Monkeyshines" take a USO jaunt in the CBI war theatre shortly . . . When Count Basie and his hot colored band played the Riverside, local dark gentry wrecked nearly 30 up front theatre seats. That's one thing Eddie Weisfeldt won't have to worry about with the existing straight picture policy at the Riverside.

On one of the windy days, Lou Orlove, Metro picture praiser, chased a woman's hat for three blocks on the "main street." Then Orlove retrieved four other hats. Having difficulty in locating the owners, he informed local papers that errant hats could be claimed at 736 W. State St. by describing said hats to the switchboard operator. But Orlove failed to mention the name of the operator, Gay Schmidt, who is recovering from the myriad phone queries, or Metro Pictures! How come, Lou?

Dean Murphy, Milwaukee boy who made good, was reported seen around town. The mimic, a favorite of the Franklin D's, has appeared in pictures . . . That movie "Forty Thousand Horsemen," a story of the Australian Anzacs in the first world war, was shown at the University of Wisconsin Play Circle. Filmed in Australia in 1940, "40,000 Horsemen" introduced the Anzac marching song, "Waltzing Matilda" to America . . . Michael St. Angel of Beloit, is starred in "The Brighton Strangler." And his name was not changed. Sigmund Romberg, composer of "Blossom Time," "Desert Song" and other musicals appears at the Parkway Theatre in Madison with his concert orchestra for three concert performances, April 27 and 28.



Henri Elman, Capitol Film Exchange, 1327 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

Andy Dietz, Astor Pictures, 3206 Olive St., St. Louis 3, Mo.

Joseph Bohn, PRC Exchange, 438 N. Illinois Ave., Indianapolis 4, Ind.

C. D. Koehler, Astor Pictures, 725 W. Wells St., Milwaukee 3, Wis.

Holy Week Brings No Chicago Complaint

CHICAGO—Holy week, which perennially strikes a low in the show business, did not cause as much boxoffice damage as usual this year. Unusual weather, one day hitting an all-time high of 80 for March, brought a lot of people into the loop. As a result, the RKO Palace, the United Artists, the Chicago and the Oriental could not complain. The Woods got off to a good start with the new Sonja Henie opus, too, and holdovers offered no cause to dip into the red ink.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 5th loop wk. 105
Chicago—**Till We Meet Again** (Para), plus Raye and Naldi and Lou Breese band on stage 120
Garrick—**Fighting Lady** (20th-Fox); **Sunday Dinner for a Soldier** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 105
Grand—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **Night Club Girl** (Univ), 3rd loop wk. 105
Monroe—**Behind the Enemy Lines** (Globe); **Nevada** (RKO) 115
Oriental—**Alaska** (Mono), plus Les Brown band heading stage revue 120
Palace—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ) 115
Roosevelt—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 105
State-Lake—**To Have and Have Not** (WB), 4th wk. 105
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 13th wk. 105
United Artists—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 110
Woods—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO) 110
World Playhouse—**Moscow Skies** (Artkino), 2nd wk. 100

"Naughty Marietta" Is Only Picture To Go Above 100 in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE — What with Holy week, Good Friday, and a last-minute shopping rush, some houses dropped below average. "Thunderhead," in the second week at the Wisconsin, registered 80. "Naughty Marietta," the reissue at the Palace, went over, reaching 110. "Hotel Berlin," in the second week at the Warner, maintained 100.

Alhambra—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd wk. 95
Palace—**Naughty Marietta** (M-G-M); **Drums Along the Mohawk** (20th-Fox), reissues 110
Riverside—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), plus Ted Lewis and band on stage 100
Strand—**Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox); **The Fighting Lady** (20th-Fox), 4th d. t. wk. 90
Warner—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Moonlight and Cactus** (Univ), 2nd wk. 100
Wisconsin—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 80

Throngs Packing the Indiana Call "Objective, Burma!" Best War Film

INDIANAPOLIS — "Objective, Burma!" drew the crowds at the Indiana and topped the boxoffice take in first run houses. It was pronounced the most convincing war picture to date. A holdover, of course, was inevitable and it began showing to big crowds at the Lyric in its second week.

Alamo—**Sheriff of Las Vegas** (Rep); **Army Wives** (Mono) 90
Ambassador—**I'm From Arkansas** (PRC); **I Accuse My Parents** (PRC) 90
Circle—**Ministry of Fear** (Para); **Man in Half Moon Street** (Para) 100
Indiana—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 150
Loew's—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 80
Lyric—**Enemy of Women** (Mono); **Torrid Zone** (WB), reissue 90



CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



John Balaban, secretary-treasurer of Balaban & Katz Corp., has been in the motion picture business since 1911 when he became associated with General Film Co. as a booker and salesman. In 1917 when Balaban & Katz launched its first large theatre in Chicago he became manager of that house. In 1924 he joined the executive staff and now he is the operating head of Balaban & Katz with over 100 theatres under his direction. Balaban has always been active in philanthropic drives and home front war activities. He is married and has two children.



In 1917 **James A. Weece** bought a theatre in a small Illinois town. From there he went on to operate houses in other parts of that state. In 1927 he acquired the Princess in Farmington but several years later he sold a half interest in the house and moved to Galva where he now lives and runs the Galva Theatre. He is president of the First National Bank there, owns several farms in that section of Illinois, where he enjoys raising cattle. He also has a rose garden to which he devotes much time and care. He likes to hunt quail and pheasant.



George Fischer has been in show business all his life. He started in 1897 as a program boy at the Alhambra Theatre in Milwaukee. After having been connected with several other houses he became manager of the theatre where he was once program boy. Then he went to Chicago and managed the Woodlawn there. Later he returned to Milwaukee and has since run the 740-seat Capitol Theatre there. He is a director of Independent Theatres Owners, president of Variety and a member of Rotary. His hobby is showing pictures to shut-ins in Catholic institutions.



Guy Faul and **J. J. Overton** of Winchester, Ill., are veteran showmen of many years' standing. In addition to the operation of the Lyric Theatre they have many other interests in their community. Faul (at right) is editor of the Winchester Times, has served as city clerk and city treasurer, and is an Odd Fellow and past president of Kiwanis. Overton is wholesale distributor for an oil company, a member of the grade school board, a Mason and an Odd Fellow. Both are members of the Southern Illinois and Eastern Missouri Exhibitors' Ass'n.

ST. LOUIS

Arthur Greenblatt, Monogram district manager, left for New York after spending a week with Barney Rosenthal, St. Louis manager. Barney was in the happy position of being able to advise his boss that he has closed deals with all of the important circuits in the St. Louis territory for Monogram's 1944-45 pictures and with 90 per cent of the theatres in St. Louis. Barney planned a special trade screening of the much talked about "Dillinger."

Seen along Filmrow were O. L. Wright, Monroe City, Mo.; Clarence Denny, Roodhouse, Ill.; Ed Clarke, Mattoon, Ill., and Jimmy Frisina, Springfield, Ill.

Ward Ellis Scott, district manager for 20th-Fox, and B. B. Reingold, St. Louis manager, went to Paducah, Ky., to confer with Leo F. Keiler, president of Columbia Amusement Co., with several houses in Paducah and Murray, Ky. Keiler was back briefly from California, where his mother has been seriously ill. He planned an early return to the coast, it was understood.

A Missouri senate committee killed the Falzone bill setting up a minimum wage standard of 40 cents an hour in Missouri in face of support for the bill from labor, religious, cultural, civic, professional and welfare groups from all sections of the state. Sen. F. M. Frisby, Republican of Bethany, is chairman of the committee that gave representatives of the supporting organizations a decided "brush off" the night of March 26.

A bill which would make it a misdemeanor for anyone to permit a person under 17 years of age to play a pinball or slot machine has been killed in the St. Louis aldermanic legislation committee. Various religious and school organizations supported the bill.

"Thunderhead" will open a run at the Fox April 10, while "Song of Bernadette" will start its popular-price first run engagement at the Ambassador on April 4.

RKO announced the following trade screenings at the S'Renco's: "Zombies on Broadway" at 11:30 a. m., April 17, and "Those Endearing Young Charms" at 2:30 p. m. the same date, "China Sky" at 2:30 p. m., April 18, and "Tarzan and the Amazons" at 11:30 a. m., April 19.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



CHICAGO

More candy probably will be available for theatre sales. The war food administration has reduced from 50 to 35 per cent the quantity of packaged candy for the armed forces . . . Ray Thompson, former manager of the B&K Belpark and now overseas in a chemical warfare division, has been promoted to sergeant.

Irv Kupcinet, Times columnist, was back from a fortnight on the west coast where he met a lot of ex-Chicagoans, including Sid Landfield, Roy Prinz and Bill Jacobs . . . Walter Immerman, B&K's head man, was back from a trip east. His Girl Friday, Gertrude Studdard, is vacationing in Arizona . . . Bill Eythe, young star who plays opposite La Bankhead in "Royal Scandal," was in to be dined and press-met at the Morrison; also appeared on the Breakfast Club radio show and told how he broke into show business in an amateur contest staged in Pittsburgh by Dick Powell, then appearing at the Stanley Theatre.

Cpl. Robert Baker, former manager of the B&K Maryland who has seen plenty of action overseas, is confined to Mayo General Hospital, Galesburg, Ill., where he will remain for several months to recuperate from shrapnel wounds . . . The Essaness Woods has the distinction of having premiered four pictures in the last year or so-sort of setting 'em up for New York as 'twer, i. e., "Up in Arms," "Belle of the Yukon," "Princess and the Pirate" and the current "It's a Pleasure."

Jimmy Savage and other Bill Hollander boys of B&K are accepting congratulations on the new issue of the Balabanner, which contains more pinups than a line of laundry . . . The I&I Contact, house organ of the Manta & Rose circuit, is another shining example of what such a publication should be. The latter is a credit to Glorya Holtman, the editor, and circuit employes who assist her.

V-Day will see the airing of a Columbia community sing reel (now in the vaults awaiting the joyous occasion) as well as the army's short, "Two Down, One to Go," a three-reel color subject, nature of which is a secret.

Ted Tod, longtime Warner publicist here, is being shifted to Washington, Lucia Perrigo and Stan Kramer will take over here . . . Clara Skorup, secretary to Gene Atkinson, Local 110 business manager, is back from a Mexican vacation. She brought back several cartons of those Mexico ciggies that nobody wants . . . Robert M. Gustafson, former manager of the I&I Fox, has been awarded a Bronze Medal.

Howie Mayer, representing Columbia's publicity department in this area, is back from a west coast business trip . . . C. R. Miller has been named manager of the B&K warehouse accessory department . . . E. M. Gluckman was on a business trip to New York. He's ready to release All American featurettes, the 40 minute musical-comedy mystery productions Bud Pollard directed in the east.

Bob Casey is dramatic critic for the News now, Carl Guldager continues to review films and C. J. Bulliet is director of the drama department for the paper. The changes following the departure of Lloyd Lewis, former B&K publicist, who was assistant to the publisher, sports editor and drama editor at that paper for several years . . . Lieut. Kenneth D. Plank, formerly of the Elco Theatre's managerial staff at Elkhart, is a prisoner of war in Germany. An Air Medal was presented to his wife, who is cashier at the Elco.

A. J. Patel, Bombay, India, film distributor, visited Bell & Howell's and arranged with Manager W. F. Kruse for the distribution of various India color travel shorts . . . H. W. Kahn, M-G-M sales manager, gave an interesting talk before the students of Sullivan High School in Rogers Park last week. He told of the patriotic endeavors of the industry and explained how films are shipped and shown to the armed forces.

Sgt. Ted Mendelssohn, former branch manager for Universal in Detroit and prior to that with M-G-M here, sent Easter greetings via Saul Goldman to his pals on the Row from Germany.

Sam Horowitz, sales manager for Vanguard Films in the central and southern divisions, opened elaborate offices at 33 North LaSalle. Peg DuPont, formerly with UA, is the amanuensis. (We love that word) . . . Robert Brunner, assistant manager of the B&K Lakeside, has been inducted and was replaced by Jack Zemater, former Drake assistant . . . Mr. and Mrs. Saul Goldman are accepting orchids on their 17th wedding anniversary.

Members of Local 110 were saddened by the death of Chares E. Wiedder, veteran projectionist, March 27 . . . Burlesque is back again at the Rialto (which was the Downtown and before that was the Rialto). Capacity crowds attended the gala opening program which was "Scanties of 1945" on the stage and Universal's "Her Lucky Night" on the screen. Harry Hilmas is back again as manager.

Mervyn LeRoy, the producer-director, was in town to look over local talent for possible roles in "The Robe" . . . If anybody sees the picture of a red-headed child in red dress, measuring two feet square, it belongs to the RKO Palace. Louis Mayer, manager, says somebody copped it out of the lobby. It's worth $100 . . . Al Bogatch is now at the B&K Terminal as assistant manager and was replaced at the Admiral by Virginia Gilman.

Virginia Seguin of the 20th-Fox publicity department spent Easter with her husband, Sgt. Eddie Seguin, deep in the heart of Texas . . . Dave A. Wallerstein, B&K supervisor, was in the east, getting the lowdown on the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Madeline Woods, who has been suffering and sulfa-ing with a cold, is able to amble again . . . The widow of Sidney Spiegel, late executive of Essaness, is here to sell her real estate holdings. She will reside on the coast.

Alan Usher, M-G-M district manager, was home with a bad cold . . . Sid Blumenstock, 20th-Fox publicist, was here shepherding Bill Eythe . . . Victor Moore was in town and guest starred on Hildegarde's radio show . . . A wag sends this in: Al Raymer of I&I circuit phoned a theatre and asked, "Is this Spruce tree-tree-tree?" and the cashier replied, "No, this is Walnut, fir-fir-fir-fir," which prompts us to remark this is Strictly nutz-nutz-nuts.

B&K Television Station Asks Set Owners' Views

CHICAGO — B&K's television station WBKB, through its general manager, Elmer Upton, has sent questionnaires to owners of sets in this area asking for suggestions for programs and comments on other matters having to do with the framing of televised entertainment.

Film Makers Get Papers

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Certificate of incorporation was issued by the secretary of state's office to SVE Products, Inc., 100 East Ohio St., Chicago, Ill., to manufacture, produce, create, buy, sell, lease, license, deal in and exhibit both still and motion picture films and productions for educational, industrial and amusement purposes. It will have 100 shares of $10 par value common stock. Incorporators were B. J. Kleerup, I. Doyle and M. Witham.

INDIANAPOLIS

A feature of the installation of newly-elected officers of Variety Club, was the presentation of gifts to re-elected officers. Lawrence J. McGinley, re-elected chief barker, and Arthur Landes, who was re-elected property master, were given traveling bags, and Albert "Al" Blocher, re-elected doughguy, was presented a toilet kit.

Filmrow was saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Trueman Rembusch at her home in Tucson, Ariz., after a long illness. She was the wife of Trueman Rembusch, who operates a chain of theatres in Indiana. Survivors besides the husband are three children, a brother and a sister.

A preview of "Watchtower Over Tomorrow" an official government film, was held Wednesday last week at Indiana Memorial for the governor, the mayor and members of the Indiana committee for victory.

Red Cross collections in the downtown theatres included: Loew's, $8,034.39 in ten days; the Greater Amusement Corp., which comprises the Circle, Indiana and the Lyric theatres, $7,398.36, seven days. The total collected in all theatres exceeded $28,000, $900 more than last year.

Eddie McEvoy, Universal short subject sales manager, met here last week with local booking staffs and the sales department . . . The Union Theatre, Uniontown, Ky., reopened March 30 after being submerged during the recent flood . . . Gail Lancaster, operator of the Huntington Theatre, has become a member of Affiliated Theatres.

Bob Langer of the Universal exchange at Atlanta, was called here by the critical condition of his mother . . . Jerry Abrams, the son of Sam Abrams, PRC sales manager, has enlisted in the navy. Herbert, his older son who has seen service in the South Pacific, has returned to his post.

Charles Glosson is new assistant shipper at RKO . . . Earl Gingery has returned to Warners to assume charge of the advertising and sales department. He succeeds Cecil Clayton . . . William Rosenthal Enterprises has moved to new quarters in the Illinois Bldg. at Market and Illinois Sts. . . . Earl Dye has taken over the Palace Theatre, Kokomo, formerly operated by Max Page.

Claude McKean, WB manager, announces the closing of a contract for 1945 Vitaphone short subjects with Affiliated Theatres and the Y&W circuit . . . Ward Scott, 20th-Fox midwest district manager, Kansas City, was a caller at the local exchange . . . Georges Droulia, formerly with 20th-Fox in Cleveland, has been transferred here to work the Kentucky territory.

Seen on Filmrow: Joe Schilling, Connersville; Julian Longest, Rockport; Roger Scherer, Fort Wayne; Henry Smith, English; Roy E. Harrold, Rushville; J. B. Stine, Terre Haute; Charles Krieghbaum, LaFayette; Doyle Carter, Bloomington; Jack Alexander, Lebanon, and Douglas Haney, Albion.

National Theatre Supply reports the following sales of equipment: Old Trails Theatre, Indianapolis, complete booth equipment including Super-Simplex mechanisms complete with 18-inch magazine, LL pedestals, Peerless Magnarc lamps, Simplex 40-amp rectifiers, Bausch & Lomb Super-Cinephor lenses and a new Walker American plastic molded screen; the Strand, Kendalville, a new Walker American plastic screen; the Carlton, Evansville, 450 yards of Crestwood carpet.

Fox Wisconsin Service Men Spurn New Fields; Want Old Jobs Back

MILWAUKEE—Many World War II veterans may be looking for new fields to conquer in postwar civilian life, but former Fox Wisconsin employes now in service want to remain in the theatre business.

This fact stands out in letters from former employes to Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, and co-workers as printed in the Service Men's Letter. The men in uniform also indicate what a lift they get in news from the home front and the knowledge that their old associates are behind them.

Radio Mate Walter Luebke writes: "I want to thank you and the Fox Wisconsin organization for all that they have done for me while I have been in the service. I know that it is a swell thing for a gob, soldier or marine to have that kind of people behind him back home. It gives you a sense of self-satisfaction, I know."

From the Pacific, Cpl. Kenneth W. Yeko writes: "It certainly makes a fellow feel good to know that even though he is in the armed forces, he still is remembered by his former employer . . . I'm enclosing the card pertaining to postwar plans. I certainly would like to be back with Fox."

From the Philippines T/5 William A. Pearson writes: "Received your latest letter, and also the Christmas check . . . It sure is a swell feeling to know that Fox Wisconsin still remembers all of us, and is right in there pitching for us. The last time I wrote I was in Dutch New Guinea . . . But this Pacific theatre has gone in for offensive in a big way, and is really leading the schedule. Things are pretty quite now. Tojo's air force pays a night visit, when they can find one or two planes to do it with.

"The movie situation is much better than it ever was in New Guinea . . . Some of our recent showings were 'Rhapsody in Blue,' 'Hail the Conquering Hero,' 'Saratoga Trunk' and 'Lost in a Harem' . . . I really ran about the most interrupted version of 'Rhapsody in Blue' ever shown. Started at 6:45; was interrupted by four raid alerts, and also rained out for a half hour. Finally finished at 12:15. Boy, what a show!

"Am enclosing the postwar plans questionnaire that you sent. I really want to come back to work for the company . . . I had almost four years with Fox Wisconsin when I entered the service, and I get darn lonesome for the old projection booth, and some decent equipment . . . especially after running a show which depends on bailing wire . . . I've made a lot of emergency repairs that would make a civilian operator freeze with horror."

From the Netherlands East Indies, Pvt. Robert Klein writes: "Air raids keep me pretty busy . . . Since I last wrote, I have made a few moves. I was at the Admiralty Islands for several months, and have been here for a couple of months already . . . The trouble with the air raids is that they usually come over during the show at night, and I have missed the ending of a lot of good pictures . . . I saw Bob Hope and his troupe back at the Admiralties. It really was great."

From Santa Ana, Calif., Capt. Joe M. Baisch writes: "We have lectures, interviews and physical examinations a couple of hours a day. The rest of the time we are free to roll, with plenty of beer around to while away the time."

From the South Pacific, Seaman Wallace Aho writes: "Your Thanksgiving booklet brought back many pleasant memories of the past, when I worked for Fox."

From Fort Knox, Ky., Pvt. Joseph Jeknavarian writes: "I received your postcard today. I intend to re-enter theatre business . . . I'd like to be an assistant manager to Dan Psiropoulous at the Miller Theatre if he is still there."

Gusdanovic Buys Florida Ocean Site for a Hotel

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND — From Fort Lauderdale comes word that Paul Gusdanovic, head of the Paul Gusdanovic circuit of Cleveland, has purchased 200 feet of ocean front property on which he plans to build a 150-room hotel after the war. The property value is reported to be $105,000.

Flood Magic Swamps Magician

From Mideast Edition

LOUISVILLE—J. Johnson Musselman, manager of the Rialto Theatre, who years ago carried a roadshow and specialized in magic, still appears at some of the theatres within traveling distance of here.

During the recent Ohio Valley flood, when Louisville territory had its second highest water on record, Musselman had some trouble in reaching southern Indiana destinations.

The result was a story appearing in the column of Harry Bloom, columnist for the Louisville Times, who carries a daily feature of doings of Louisville people. It read:

"As Aska, the Magician, J. Johnson Musselman, manager of Rialto Theatre, does tricks that confound onlookers, but even his magic was not enough to solve the maze that was put up to him when he tried to get through to give a show at Georgetown, Ind., after the main road was cut off by the flood. Calling up to learn whether he could get there by detouring, he got the following directions:

Cross bridge, go straight ahead, 62-150, detour at markings till hit Charlestown Road. Turn right on Charlestown Road, one-quarter mile past city line turn left on McDonald Lane. Go to end of McDonald Lane, turn right on to Grant Line Road. Go one-half mile and turn left on Mt. Tabor Road and then go to end of Mt. Tabor Road and turn left on Green Valley Road to State St. Stop at service station and get directions to Georgetown, go 150 feet and turn left on Captain Franks Road to the end and turn right on Old Vincennes Road, then turn first road to left on 62 to Edwardsville, then go north three miles to Georgetown, Ind.

As if that were not enough to decipher, he had the misfortune to encounter Indiana state guardsmen every mile or so, who, coming from other parts of the state couldn't identify the road they were on, or where it would take a traveler. He kept going in the black of the night, however, until a torch shone forth through the darkness and another soldier loomed up. Aska got out of his car to talk directions and the soldier asked: "Aren't you that magician fellow who was over at Pekin last week?" When the traveler acknowledged he was the same fellow, the soldier lost all interest in travel instructions and began to ply him with questions as to how the various tricks were performed. By the time this conversation ran down, it was too late for the show to go on and there was nothing to do but to call it a bad day and turn back.

Chauffeurs Upset Dope In Chicago League

CHICAGO—With only two weeks to go before the season closes for the Chicago Motion Picture Bowling League, the Oscar was practically in the lap of Universal, but along came Film Chauffeurs last week and upset the dope, taking a trio from the leaders. Now "U" is tied with M-G-M for top place, the latter moving up by taking three from Republic which team is now tied with Monogram for third place. Taking a pair from Warners is what put Monogram into third place tie. Just which team will wind up champs is a knotty problem, at this point.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Metro	45	36
Universal	45	36
Film Chauffeurs	43	38
Republic	41	40
Monogram	41	40
Warners	28	53

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

	Avg.
Jack Kirsch	181
F. Hanzelin	178
V. Swanson	178
P. Shoemaker	175
E. Klass	174
C. Keim	174
A. Fischer	171
M. Canavan	171
Bill Bishop	171
E. Friedman	171

Republic has the 3-game high total with 2,803, Universal next with 2,747; while individual leaders for the 3-game high totals are F. Hanzelin with 684 and Jack Kirsch with 675. Team high for a single game is claimed by Republic with 960; Monogram second with 953; and high individual scores for single game belong to V. Swanson with 279 and E. Klass with 249.

Team No. 2 Rolls High Series Of 2,634 in Milwaukee Loop

MILWAUKEE—In the IATSE Bowling League, weekly event, high three games went to team No. 2, with 2,634; team No. 5 was second, with 2,615, and team No. 7 was third, with 2,556.

High single game honors went to team No. 5, with 974; team No. 7 was second, with 943; team No. 7 also was third, with 927, and team No. 5 was fourth, with 927.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Team No. 8	52	35
Team No. 5	51	36
Team No. 3	47	40
Team No. 7	46	41
Team No. 4	42	45
Team No. 2	41	46
Team No. 6	35	52
Team No. 1	34	53

New Film Shows Need For War Hospital Help

CHICAGO—To spur enlistment of civilian personnel for duty in army, navy and veteran hospitals throughout the country, the civil service commission has produced a new color film, "Fighting Their Way Back."

The film illustrates activities in the hospitals and methods by which the men are treated and cared for. S. E. Tarbox, manager of the recruiting and placement division of the commission, said that the need for personnel is great.

Confidential Reports Gets Set at Chicago

CHICAGO—Confidential Reports, Inc., theatre checking service, has opened offices for this area at 53 West Jackson Blvd. C. W. Richmond is in charge. First assignment is checking Columbia's "Song to Remember," which starts at the B&K Apollo April 13. RKO, Universal, Paramount and United Artists, as well as Columbia, are listed as customers.

Motion to Dismiss Suit Studied in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—U.S. District Judge Richard M. Duncan late Monday took under advisement the motions of defendants in the St. Louis Amusement Co. $285,000 antitrust damage suit against Paramount Distributing Corp. The motions were for dismissal of the suit and to enter a summary judgment in favor of the several defendants. The court granted Russell Hardy, counsel for the exhibitors, 15 days in which to file briefs in answer to those previously filed by the distributor defendants and an additional ten days was allowed the distributors to answer any new points brought up.

Whitney North Seymour of New York made the principal argument in support of the film companies' request for dismissal of the suit, stressing the fairness of the arbitration setup under the consent decree. He attacked the suit on the grounds that it did not include the government as a complainant, and said that if the injunction asked should be granted it would have the effect of bringing the film companies into contempt of the New York court for failing to do the things directed under the consent decree.

Answers Judge's Question

In answer to a question by Judge Duncan, Seymour said that while the consent decree is not binding on the exhibitor plaintiffs in the action or on any other exhibitors not parties to the original proceedings in the New York court, it does fully apply to the five consenting film companies, all of which except Loew's, Inc., are defendants in the local case.

S. Mayner Wallace, attorney for the AAA, said that every action of the AAA and its various tribunals has been in accordance with the terms of the consent decree and that Attorney General Biddle had moved the entry of the consent decree in the New York case.

Hardy's principal attack was on the grounds that the consent decree was legislative in character, a clear invasion of the rights reserved to Congress alone and therefore unconstitutional.

He said when a court exceeds its powers its rulings are void, therefore neither the plaintiffs nor the defendants in the case were bound by the consent decree, which he also argued had expired. He said that it was not necessary to have the government a party in this case since should the court find for the exhibitors it would strengthen the position of the department of justice in the New York case. He said that the fact Attorney General Biddle has moved for a modification of the consent decree is a clear indication he is not satisfied with its terms or results.

Attacks Consent Degree Edict

Hardy said there is no precedent in law to support the New York court's sweeping "illegal delegation of judicial powers" to the AAA and that no other court had even approached it. "We want to be let alone, so that we may continue to make reasonable contracts for films to continue our legitimate business," he declared.

Wallace rejoined that the New York court is the place for the St. Louis exhibitors to take action and not in St. Louis.

Seymour took Hardy to task because he had stated at the outset of his argument that he was not attacking the New York district court and then in his pleadings had criticized sections of the consent decree and its operations. He alleged that Hardy had made many misstatements in his argument, which lasted well over two hours.

At one point Judge Duncan asked Hardy to state specifically whether the consent decree was binding on the plaintiffs and what he wanted it to do about it.

Hardy replied that the consent decree does not stand between the St. Louis court and the relief he is seeking. "All we need is an injunction to prevent the AAA tribunal from interfering with our legal businesses," he added, saying that each and every other motion picture exhibitor in the U.S. is in exactly the same situation, since the consent decree affects fully all of them.

He said that the monopoly against which the government had directed the original New York antitrust case, the basis for the consent decree, would "crumble if the injunction we ask is issued."

At one point in his arguments, Hardy charged that nowhere in the consent decree is there any relief provided for exhibitors against the monopolistic practices of the five consenting film companies, and he further charged that the sections dealing with unreasonable clearance contain a special reservation on behalf of distributor-owned theatres. He added that the block booking provisions of the decree expired in 1943.

He said that the consent decree had concentrated in the AAA powers far superior to any court of the rank before which this case was being argued, and that aside from the meaningless provision for an appeal to the appeals board of the AAA, an exhibitor who may be the victim of the arbitration plan is barred from seeking relief to any other court, if the system is upheld.

Other Attorneys

Other attorneys in court during the arguments were Mat J. Holland for the plaintiffs, Jacob M. Lashly and Israel Treiman, Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox and RKO; Julia H. Drucker, local counsel for Paramount; Rene J. Lusser, representing Harry G. Erbs, AAA arbiter; Maury Rosecan, representing the owners of the Apollo and Princess theatres; Erb and Harold Conner, former clerk of the St. Louis AAA tribunal, one of the defendants in the case.

Although the case may prove one of the most historic in the field of antitrust proceedings the arguments attracted no outside spectators.

Nancy Kelly to Play in "The Web"

Nancy Kelly has been signed for the femme lead in "The Web," a Republic production.

Caged, But They See Lots of Life

CHICAGO—Holdup attempts, marriage proposals and pure corn dished out by amateur jokesmiths were among the unlooked-for and funny situations encountered by B&K cashiers as recounted in a recent issue of Balabanner.

Here are some of the experiences of the women at the wickets:

Eleanore Keeley, Tower Theatre: "My most exciting boxoffice experience took place one evening during my first year at the Tower, when a well-dressed man walked up to the window and gave me a slip of paper which read, 'Hand over the money fast.' I glared at him, gave the note back to him and said, 'I haven't any money to give away.' Without another word, he walked into the theatre, brushing right past an usher. Mr. Nesbitt, then manager of the theatre, grabbed the man and tossed him out of the theatre. When I realized what danger I had been in, I really shook with fright."

Hazel Friedman, State Theatre: "My funniest boxoffice experience happened when a man called up one evening and asked if the theatre was located on a streetcar line. 'Yes, I assured him, 'it is.' His reply really knocked me for a loop: 'Well, you'd better get off the tracks. A streetcar's coming!' "

Cashier Hazel Friedman works almost as long for the Red Cross as she does for B&K. She has totaled 743 hours on volunteer jobs which include making bandages and serving as a nurses' aide at Hines Hospital.

Sarah Stewart, Tivoli Theatre: "I've received everything from Christmas presents to proposals in my many years in B&K boxoffices. Proposals—no less than four of them—when I was cashier at the Chicago several years ago. One man used to hand me his card whenever he bought a ticket. Later, he introduced his mother and sister. He invited me to go on a yachting party, and, when I refused, asked me to marry him!

"This Christmas, a little six-year-old who delivers newspapers in the neighborhood around the Tivoli, gave me a Christmas present—a pair of blue earrings from the dime store! He was proud of his gift and would not be satisfied until I had put the earrings on."

Goldie Sobel and **Violet Pattishall,** Roosevelt Theatre: "One of the funniest experiences we've had at the Roosevelt happened on New Year's Eve, when a drunk staggered up to the boxoffice and asked when the theatre would open. We had quite a time convincing him that the theatre was already open!"

Red Cross Collections Up in Chicago Houses

CHICAGO—Red Cross funds collected through theatres in this area will top last year's figure by far, although quite a number of houses are yet to be heard from, including B&K circuit and Allied.

Charles Ryan, assistant zone manager of Warners, reports a grand showing for audience collections in 19 houses amounted to $18,846.96. The Capitol topped the list with $2,358.15. Employes contributed an additional $1,041.20.

Jim Booth, reporting for Essaness, said collections in 29 theatres totaled $16,665.45 and that an additional $4,295 was contributed by executives and employes of the chain. Frank Smith, division manager for RKO, said the Palace came up with $5,554.68 and the Grand with $1,400. Jack Hunt, Oriental Theatre manager, reported $4,607, and the four Banowitz neighborhood theatres collected $1,761.

M-G-M Branch Managers Discuss Trade Trends

CHICAGO—Jack Flynn, M-G-M western division sales manager, conducted a meeting of the company's branch managers in the Blackstone recently at which coming releases and trade trends were discussed. Other executives attending included Sam Shirley, district manager; "Doc" Bamford, Chicago; Harry Shumow, Milwaukee; W. H. Workman, Minneapolis; John Kemptgen, Omaha, and D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines. It was announced that "National Velvet" would open at the B&K State-Lake April 12.

Ready for Conversion

CHICAGO—Motiograph Co. is ready for postwar conversion, according to Fred Mathews, executive of the company. Parts for projectors will be turned out as soon as Washington gives the word. Three plants of the company were awarded the E flag with two stars for war production.

Add Four to "For Better" Cast

Eddie Acuff, Chester Clute, Joe Dureda and Shimen Ruskin have been added to the cast of Metro's "For Better, for Worse."

Laffmovie Makes Hit With Comedies Only

From New England Edition

BOSTON—Completing the first six months of activities, Laffmovie, which was opened here last fall by J. J. Mage, announces that its policy of playing "nothing serious" will continue and that it has proved a success. At the outset Laffmovie announced that a fair trial would be given the plan of playing only comedy pictures and that at the end of this period an announcement would be made.

Since opening the Laffmovie, Mage also has taken over the leases of the Tremont Theatre opposite Boston Common and the Old South Theatre opposite the Old South Meeting House. Both houses have been successful. The Tremont plays feature pictures while the Old South offers shorts and news reels.

"Seven Deadly Sins" By Theatre Patrons

CHICAGO—The "seven deadly sins" committed in motion picture theatres (by the patrons, not the management) as listed by persons questioned by the inquiring cameraman of the Chicago Tribune, are the following:

1. Loud talking, upon entering a theatre when a performance is going on.
2. Trying to find a seat in a darkened house and having sitters refuse to budge or ease the task of climbing over them.
3. Children playing "cops and robbers" up and down the aisles.
4. Explainers telling out loud what's coming next on the screen.
5. The opening and rattling of cellophane bags and crunching of peanuts and popcorn.
6. Ladies with feathers and flowers stuck in their hair, pointing this-a-way and that-a-way and neckers putting their heads together, thus obstructing the view.
7. Shoes-taker-offers who can't find said shoes when ready to leave, so grab ankles (anybody's) in their search.

Exhibitors Battling Michigan Tax Bill

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—Michigan exhibitors are aroused to fight an excise tax bill in the state legislature which is aimed, they believe, directly at them. It is written in general terms, allowing a measure of "home rule" to towns and cities, whereby each could tax any individual type of business for the purpose of raising revenue.

However, exhibitors here believe they have good ground to believe that the bill is designed chiefly for one purpose, to allow local taxation of motion picture theatres, without being specifically aimed at one industry, and thereby encountering more open opposition.

They point out that amusement enterprises universally are the first to be taxed. Principal objectives of the tax are stated to be to allow adequate financing of postwar construction or other plans to meet the anticipated unemployment situation.

Zola Life on Art Program

CHICAGO—The Art Institute showed "The Life of Emile Zola" as its free weekly film show. The Chicago Natural History Museum supplanted its usual Saturday afternoon lecture with a motion picture, "Pledge to Bataan."

Features Mexican Folk Dancers

Rosarita Varela and Lillian Molieri, Mexican folk dance interpreters, will be featured in Pine-Thomas' "People Are Funny."

Ohio Film Censorship Is Antiquated And Antidemocratic, Says Writer

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—The subject of state film censorship has become a live topic in this state. It was the subject of a forum discussion sponsored recently by the Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland, where it was violently attacked by Emanuel Gebauer, English teacher at John Hay High School, on the ground of being un-American and archaic. W. Ward Marsh, photoplay editor of the Plain Dealer, has always been an opponent of motion picture state censorship. Now William McDermott, Plain Dealer authority on things of the theatre, tells why in his opinion motion picture censorship is antiquated and antidemocratic.

The article:

Ward Marsh reminds us of something that it does not flatter us to remember—namely, that the taste and discretion of the people of Ohio are considered of so low an order and their manners so vulnerable to deleterious influence that the state must support a special board of censorship to examine Hollywood movies before they are publicly shown and purge them of any scenes the censors decide might be in bad taste, or, for one reason or another, not good for us to see.

Most states rely on the local police departments and the native decency of their citizens to protect the commonwealth from the effects of impurities in the films. In Ohio, it has been thought necessary to institute a special group of censors to excise from the films anything they find improper or to hold up the showing of a movie altogether if its moral qualities fail to meet with their approval.

This kind of superimposed censorship is so antiquated, so antidemocratic in concept, so suggestive of attitudes and policies in Germany, Japan and Fascist Italy that you wonder how it came into being, why it has been tolerated for so long and why nothing has been done by successive legislatures representing a more or less liberal spirit, to get rid of it. Surely such bureaucratic meddlesomeness is offensive to all that Gov. Frank Lausche stands for and all that he believes in.

Movies Are Reputable

Ohio's censorship system was instituted when the movie industry was younger, poorer and less responsible. There may have been some justification for it at one time as a preventive against the showing in the state of designedly sensational and prurient movies made by fly-by-night companies for the stag trade in cheap theatres.

But the movies now are rich and respectable and their general standards of taste and decorum, as filtered through the Hays office are as high as they have ever been in the history of popular art and higher than they currently are on the Broadway stage or in the night clubs.

To submit them to a special Ohio censorship after they have been approved by the Hays office and shown in other states without apparent ill effect on public morals seems not only meddlesome and superfluous but offensively reflective on the intelligence and the character of the people of Ohio.

Are We Weak of Mind?

Have we so little taste, are we so weak of mind, is our impressionability so child-like that we cannot decide for ourselves what is good and bad in a movie, but must have an official board of censors settle such matters for us and protect us against the possibility of corruption, although the people of other states appear to be able to take such risks without measurable damage to their characters or their morals?

Who are these august men and women who tell the people of Ohio what scenes shall not affront their eyes in a movie? Are they great poets, great preachers, great critics?

You would expect that people who have the power arbitrarily to decide what the public may be permitted to see in a movie must be distinguished specialists in the field of morals, art and criticism. Can you catalog the qualifications of the Ohio censor board members for their tasks? Indeed, can you name a single member of the board?

Trivial and Niggling

It is ironic that the censors who approve or disapprove scenes enacted by players whose names are household words, and who police an entertainment patronized daily by millions, are unknown to the public at large and they discharge their duties anonymously.

I do not know how much harm has been done to movie art or entertainment by the scissoring of the censors. Perhaps not much.

When you hear about some censorial action it is usually trivial and niggling. But even where the results of arbitrary censorship are not intolerable the idea itself remains antidemocratic and objectionable.

What has brought the protest of Marsh and other moviegoers is the action of the Ohio censors in cutting some scenes of a current movie in which Lauren Bacall is pictured as kissing Humphrey Bogart with unrestrained enthusiasm. The censors apparently considered the enthusiasm excessive and cut the scene to such a degree that a prolonged and pulsating embrace becomes a casual peck and the lines which follow it are rendered meaningless.

I saw "To Have and Have Not." I enjoyed it greatly and would not have noticed the osculatory deletion if it had not been called to my attention.

But the film would have been nearer what it was intended to be if the scene had been left alone. I doubt that the slightest damage would have been done to public morals or manners. The cut was merely spinsterish and it exposes the whole business of state censorship to ridicule.

For it makes it possible to ask a servant of the state in the critical days of a great military struggle, "What did you do today to win the war?" and to receive the reply, "I cut five feet 11 inches out of a Lauren Bacall kiss."

Hartford Pushes Plan For a Parking Plaza

From New England Edition

HARTFORD—Detailed plans for a large parking plaza proposed for downtown Hartford were outlined at civic conferences at city hall by the city plan commission. The area would cover several city blocks bordered by Talcott, Market and Temple Sts. and Connecticut Blvd. A unique feature is a provision for the transporting of patrons from the plaza to the downtown shipping and theatre districts.

The municipal postwar public works committee, Mayor Mortensen, representatives of the Hartford Chamber of Commerce, members of the real estate board and newspaper men have been invited to attend the meetings. Later it is expected leading film exhibitors will be asked to attend as further aspects of the project unfold. Spencer Gross is chairman of the city plan commission.

Town Criers to Sing in "Radio"

The Town Criers, radio songsters, were given a spot in RKO's "Radio Stars on Parade."

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Hot Nebraska Fight Over Ascap Likely

LINCOLN, NEB.—The next few days may bring the hottest fight of this session of the Nebraska legislature.

It's the Ascap legislation again. LB 252, which would place the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers back in business in Nebraska, is scheduled to come up for general discussion. There has been strong lobbying on both sides. Proponents of the bill have hurled the charge of "chiselers" at those who oppose it, claiming that they are commercial music users who just don't want to pay for music.

Opponents have replied that Ascap is attempting to "coerce" those in the entertainment business to support the bill.

Condemned as Monopoly

In 1937, after there were charges that Ascap was engaging in unfair, arbitrary and discriminatory practices in Nebraska, the legislature passed a law condemning it as an "unhealthy monopoly" and banning it from doing business in the state. LB 252 would repeal this law.

Senators have been receiving letters from theatres, radio stations and ballroom operators urging passage of the bill. The letters have been somewhat surprising because most of them come from men who previously had supported the present law.

The bill's opponents charge that powerful Ascap has frightened the writers into supporting the bill by threatening that its members will bring infringement suits against them for using their music without paying a fee.

Most Deal Through Ascap

Most letters contend that:

Federal law gives authors, composers and publishers the right to collect a fee for public performance of their music for profit. Most of the music men deal through Ascap, which can't operate in Nebraska because of the state law.

The law contemplates that music users deal directly with individual music men. Such dealing is impossible because of the great number of individuals involved. Thus, there is no legal way to use any Ascap music in Nebraska.

If music is used without paying a fee, the owner of the copyright can sue for $250 for each performance. The only way to enable music users to use popular music without risking lawsuits is to reopen the door to Ascap.

Joe Malec, Peony Park operator, who says he will not be "coerced," and Frank Brady, former state senator and tax commissioner, who authored the anti-Ascap law, are leading the fight against it. B. Collins, Ascap official from New York; W. S. Livingston, Lincoln theatre operator, and Max Towle, Lincoln attorney, has been leading the fight for the bill.

Nebraska is the only state that has an anti-Ascap law. Florida had one, but gave it up. Wisconsin had one, but the courts ruled it out.

Suit Under Way to Encourage Action on Anti-Ascap Repeal

OMAHA—Defendants, including hotels and amusement places, have filed a petition in federal court here seeking a retrial of suit against them by a half dozen music publishing houses. In seeking the retrial, the defendants seek to encourage repeal of the anti-Ascap law, although attorneys for the plaintiffs insist that Ascap is not a party to any of the suits.

Defendants are trying to subpoena Max Towle, Lancaster County attorney; John G. Paine and B. Collins of New York, Ascap officials; Yale Holland, Omaha Ascap attorney; W. S. Livingston, Lincoln theatre man, and others.

Plaintiffs included the Remick Music Corp., M. Witmark & Son, T. B. Harms Co., Chappel & Co. and Jerome Kern. The defendants charge that the plaintiffs sought to compel them to repeal the law. They contend they were threatened "with enough more infringement actions to drive them out of business" unless the law is repealed.

Frank J. Brady, former state senator, said in connection with the filing that: "It is not anticipated that the legislature will be fooled into repealing an antimonopoly statute on the right to sing and play musical compositions bought and paid for."

Exhibitors Told to Use Own Judgment As to Closing Theatres V-E Day

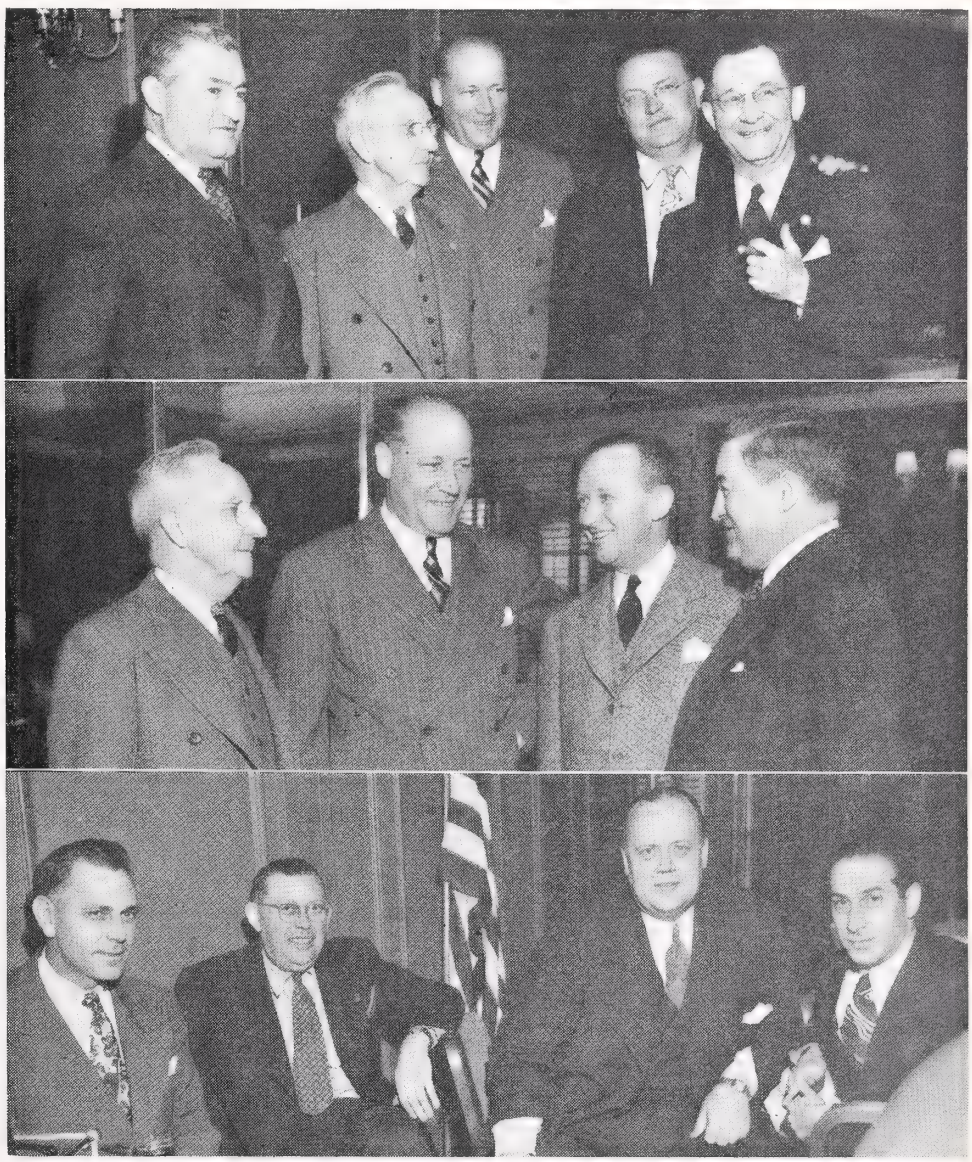
By A. JULES BENEDIC

KANSAS CITY—With war news going the "right way," Kansas City area showmen have done a 'bout face on plans for V-E Day, which they fondly hope is fairly close at hand.

Initial decision was to close theatres down tightly and snugly, until the exuberant crowds had had their fling, then reopen when things settled to a near normalcy.

But of recent weeks there has been a reversal of thought. Allied victories have been numerous, and folks generally are accustoming themselves to the idea that at least a semblance of surrender from Germany can't be very far off now. Accordingly, the first

(Continued on next page)



MR. SCHULTZ KEEPS A PROMISE—Folks along Kaycee's Filmrow are still talking about that shindig thrown last week by Clarence Schultz. It was held at Hotel Muehlebach and a goodly crowd was there. In addition to the host, O. K. Mason and other Commonwealth officials were on hand, entertaining several hundred Rowites. Refreshments included steaming tables of sea food and other comestibles. It all came about over a promise: Schultz said he would throw a party if Filmrow met its Red Cross quota. Whereupon the denizens of the 18th and Wyandotte area quite handily exceeded the mark set. In the photos, usual order:

Top: Finton Jones, Arthur Cole, E. C. Rhoden, Schultz, Bill Truog. Center: Cole, Rhoden, Byron T. Schutz, Jones. Bottom: L. J. Kimbriel, Robert Shelton, Russell Borg, M. D. "Babe" Cohen.

Closing on V-E Day Left to Exhibitors

(Continued from preceding page)

official cracking of the enemy, sufficient to cause a nationwide celebration, will be a much milder affair than originally contemplated.

At least, this was the consensus of opinion at a meeting this week of the executive group of the area's WAC, held at Hotel Muehlebach.

Accordingly, word went out that closing on V-E Day, or staying open, is being left to the individual exhibitor's judgment. Some showmen said they'd remain open on the Day of Victory, but added that they'd shut up tight in a hurry if there was any untoward disturbance. Virtually all of Kansas City's houses, downtowners and suburbans, are planning full schedules, tempered always with preparations for something quite different if the unexpected occurs.

Kansas City's city manager was declared to have passed on the word to theatre owners that staying open might be highly desirable, especially since the taverns will be closed. It is expected that other cities and towns in the area served by the local exchanges will follow the lead of the Kansas City clan.

With Senn Lawler presiding, M. D. "Babe" Cohen, manager of the Newman, and Russ Bovim, pilot of Loew's Midland, were introduced as new members of the committee. The former also will fill the post of WAC publicity manager made vacant when Jerry Zigmond went to New York.

Lawler announced a new record is in the offing on the Red Cross theatre collection drive which ended recently. He said that of the approximately 500 theatres in the area, 100 per cent participated, and that up to date only 83 of this number had not reported their collections. He expects all reports in by the end of the mouth.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

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Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 — Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825

Holy Week Services Held In Big Radio City House

MINNEAPOLIS—John J. Friedl, president of the Minnesota Amusement Co., offered the 4,000-seat Radio City Theatre here without cost to the Federated Council of Churches for Holy week joint interdenominational services downtown. It was Friedl's own idea and the churches eagerly availed themselves, through the Federated Council, to hold the services jointly in the huge de luxe showhouse.

It was necessary for the theatre to set back its schedule of afternoon shows, delaying the start of the opening shows from one to two hours. The services drew more than 14,000 people.

Another goodwill gesture by Friedl has been to make trailers and show them on the screens of all his theatres, urging the public to attend church services on Sunday.

KANSAS CITY

Mrs. Rolla Booth, salesmen agree, no doubt is the oldest of Missouri exhibitors. At 82 she still is active with her son Shirley in the management and operation of the Booth Theatre and a funeral home in the same block at Rich Hill, Mo. Mrs. Booth and Charley Fisk of the Fisk at Butler, Mo., are the only old-timers on Highway 71 still operating the shows they started with. The Booth is said to be one of the first motion picture theatres to have been opened in the state. Mrs. Booth has been in the show business 35 years.

Cle Bratton, whose Ritz at Council Grove, Kas., is being operated by his father and mother during his navy service, is expected to visit Filmrow during a three-week leave. He is a gunnery instructor at Alameda, Calif. . . . O. A. Dickson of the Colonial at Alma, Kas., was confined to his bed at Lawrence the past week convalescing from a tonsil removal, reports Jim Ronsiek, Metro salesman who visited him.

William Z. Porter, Monogram home office auditor, has been at the local exchange the last ten days . . . Mike Lee, manager, and his staff at the local Monogram office, wound up the Victory drive with what they hope was a blaze of glory. The Kansas City group was first a week before the close. They thank exhibitor friends who gave assistance in the drive.

A booth fire at the Lambert, Princeton, Mo., March 20, was confined to the machine and occurred toward the end of the night show. The damage was slight . . . Ed Hartman, manager of the Ritz, was notified by the janitor at 10 a. m. Monday that the office was "a mess" and the safe had been blasted open and wrecked. Hartman found that $35 in cash was missing. Three weeks ago several boys were caught while leaving the theatre.

Norma Shankland, Republic inspector, has been promoted to utility girl . . . Frank Meyers, manager of the Summit, has been transferred to the Ashland, succeeding Norris B. Cresswell who has joined PRC as salesman. The Summit post has been assigned to Anne Boehl, for 16 years secretary to Eddie Mansfield in the management of the downtown Regent and at present as city manager for Commonwealth.

In addition to personal compliments from patrons, a letter from the Pershing School P-TA was received by Stanley Goldberg, operating the Mary Lue, expressing appreciation of the good order and cleanliness he has maintained. The theatre has been remodeled and improved following a fire last summer. Goldberg expressed appreciation of the P-TA action in a Mary Lue's newspaper ad.

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"Pleasure" Far Ahead In Des Moines Run

DES MOINES—Sonja Henie's new picture, "It's a Pleasure," showing at the Orpheum Theatre, far outranked the other pictures here last week. The skating film was on a double bill with "Jade Mask."

"Bring On the Girls" at the Des Moines, and "Three Is a Family" at the Paramount, had below par audiences for the week. Tri-States officials believed that the strike at the Register and Tribune, which prevented any advertising for five days, was responsible for some of the attendance difficulties.

An abbreviated form of the two papers was published daily, but no regular advertising was carried. However, during the last three days of the five-day controversy, which ended March 30, a listing of the films at all 17 Des Moines houses was given. During the next few weeks, theatres will have a chance to use additional space, compensating for that lost during the strike.

(Average is 100)

Des Moines—**Bring On the Girls** (Para)..... 90
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Jade Mask** (Mono) 130
Paramount—**Three Is a Family** (UA); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) 85

"Bring On the Girls" Leads Field At the Minneapolis Radio City

MINNEAPOLIS — Business was good all along the line last week. "Bring On the Girls" led the field, but "Keys of the Kingdom" and "The Three Caballeros," running neck and neck, also clicked nicely. "Mr. Emmanuel" was sturdy and the two holdovers, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "Thunderhead," in their third and second weeks, continued to pull strongly.

Aster—**Dangerous Passage** (Para); **Babes On Swing Street** (Univ).....100
Century—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....125
Gopher—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO).....100
Lyric—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 120
Orpheum—**Three Caballeros** (RKO).....140
Radio City—**Bring On the Girls** (Para).....150
State—**Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox).....140
World—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) 125

Perfect Weather Easter Weekend Starts Off Bumper Runs in Omaha

OMAHA — An Easter weekend of perfect weather started all first run downtown houses off to bumper boxoffice weeks.

The Orpheum Theatre, featuring "Bring On the Girls" and "Main Street After Dark," the Paramount with "I'll Be Seeing You" and the Brandeis with "It's a Pleasure" and "Rough, Tough and Ready" were all at the front of the Easter parade.

Brandeis—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col).....130
Omaha—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk., moveover from Paramount; **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ).....120
Orpheum—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M).....130
Paramount—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA).....130
State—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Adventures of Kitty O'Day** (Mono).....110
Town—**Prairie Chickens** (UA); **St. Louis Blues** (Para) and **Navajo Trail** (Mono), split with **Happy Go Lucky** (Para); **Brazil** (Rep), and **Forty Thieves** (UA).....105

Harry Herman Handling "Mom" in Midwest Area

CLEVELAND — Harry Herman, operator of the Herman Theatres of New Hampton, Iowa, has accepted the post as middlewest representative of Hygienic Productions of Cleveland. Herman will book the new hygiene film, "Mom and Dad" in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri. After negotiating a deal with J. S. Jossey and Kroger Babb, producers of "Mom and Dad," Herman departed for his home in New Hampton, stating he would open a unit of the new show on May 6.

MIDWEST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



After his release from the army at the close of the first world war, **Charles F. Carpenter** of the Strand and Majestic Theatres in East Moline, Ill., became interested in the motion picture business. He and a younger brother built the Strand in 1919 and in 1924 they became owners of the Majestic. Carpenter is a leading figure in the government of East Moline, having served as councilman and as mayor. In 1938 he was elected to the state senate and re-elected in 1942. He is vice-president of Quad City Theatre Managers' Ass'n.



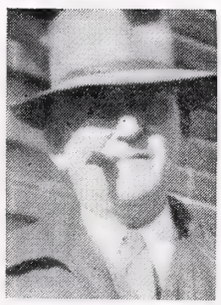
William D. Powers, owner of the Rex and Gem theatres in Glenwood, Iowa, became a part of the motion picture industry in 1923 when he bought his first theatre, the Empress, in another Iowa town. He is a member of the Iowa-Nebraska Exhibitors and the Commercial Club. Powers likes to relax and enjoy a good cigar to relieve the tension of work. He is married and has two sons; Paul is with the air force and Carl aids his father in the management of his theatres. "Good pictures make good business" is Powers' maxim.



Because they didn't like the long hours it was necessary to devote to their grocery business, **Mr. and Mrs. Glen Moskau** gave it up and turned to the theatre. That was 20 years ago and Glen and Dora are still in show business. They run the Regal Theatre in St. Joseph. There is nothing they enjoy more than to get out their tackle and go off on a fishing trip. Glen was in the army during the last war and is a member of the American Legion. They have a son in his senior year at high school. They are affiliated with the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Ass'n.



When you are left with some movie equipment, there is only one thing to do—go into the business. That is what **M. B. Presley** of Savannah, Mo., decided when he found himself in that position. He got a hand-crank machine on a $60 loan and, when he realized he was stuck with it, set to work learning about the industry. Today he owns the Globe at Savannah, the Binney at Pattonsburg and the Madison in Huntsville, Ark., and is a member of Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners Ass'n. Of his seven children, four are in theatre management.



R. D. Strickler of the Craig Theatre in Craig, Mo., bought his motion picture house in 1918 as an investment. He has stayed with it and intends to go right on running his theatre for some time to come. Comments Strickler on theatres: "I've seen about everything so far." He is a member of Kansas - Missouri Theatre Owners. Strickler devotes as much of his spare time as possible to the country life, especially hunting and farming. He is married and has one son who is a copilot in the intercontinental command of T.W.A. and slated to receive a captain's rating soon.



A bandleader during the Spanish-American War, **Charles L. Fisk** of Butler, Mo., turned from trouping to theatre exhibition. In 1915, he gave up his band and acquired the Fisk Theatre in Butler. Since then he has operated the 550-seat house and says he still enjoys doing so. In his free time, Fisk prefers hunting game. He has a life membership in the Elks. One of his sons, Charles jr., is an army sergeant and the other, Joseph L., following in the footsteps of his musical father, is with a USO orchestra. Fisk found trouping an excellent background for pictures.



Until 1915 **Ben Brinck** of West Point, Iowa, was in the mercantile business. Following his doctor's orders he gave it up and turned to motion pictures. In the last two years he has issued a pass to each bond purchaser. His West Point Theatre has a capacity of 302, and Brinck is proud to say he has poster advertising in 50 Iowa and Illinois towns. He is now president of the Chamber of Commerce and is a member of Allied Exhibitors of Iowa. The Brincks have two daughters and two sons, both staff sergeants; one of the latter now is stationed in China.



Frank G. Weary of Richmond, Mo., has 30 years of motion picture experience behind him. In 1915 he acquired the lease on the Farris Theatre as a business venture and he has stayed with show business ever since. At one time president of the Rotary Club, he is still an active member. He held the office of president of the Chamber of Commerce for many years. As a hobby Weary operates a variety store. He likes to play bridge. His son, Frank III, is now in Europe with the Third army; his married daughter, Frances Robertson, lives at Caruthersville.

OMAHA

Ben Rahn, transferred from Davenport, is the new student manager at the Brandeis Theatre . . . Mrs. Mildred Williams of 20th-Fox spent the weekend with her father at Mason City . . . Omaha's Monogram exchange is still second in the company's national drive.

Jim Farley of New York, a member of the Walt Disney organization, was here visiting at RKO . . . W. S. Powers, Glenwood, Iowa, is getting almost enough cigars to keep up to par through help of the Omaha film salesmen . . . No fooling, RKO Salesman Max Rosenblatt had a birthday April 1 . . . Morris Safier, PRC western sales manager, spent a week in the territory traveling with Harry Rogers, Omaha manager . . . Bert Shopenn, UA exploiteer, was here to work on "I'll Be Seeing You."

Rosemary Reeves, secretary to the first booker at M-G-M, is resigning to move to Phoenix, Ariz. . . . Omaha friends of Bernard Mariner, former PRC branch manager now in the marines, believe he is on the latest Pacific invasion . . . Tommy Thompson, owner of the Rivera Theatre, St. Paul, Neb., needs a five-horse power or less outboard to go with the cabin he purchased at Hackensack, Minn., last summer. Tommy plans to take his vacation there early in the summer.

E. G. Gannon, new exhibitor at Schuyler, Neb., is getting off right in community circles by joining the Schuyler Chamber of Commerce and the Schuyler Golf Club. A Minnesotoan, Gannon likes the milder Nebraska weather, but admits it is a "little windier" in the Cornhusker state. Note to film salesmen: Honest, it's the elements he's talking about this time.

B. C. Marcus of Kansas City, district manager of Columbia, spent several days here this week . . . Benjamin Lorber, head of the Universal insurance department, also visited here . . . Mrs. Bert Beams, wife of the Red Cloud, Neb., exhibitor who was operated on at Hastings, Neb., is recovering rapidly.

Sol Francis, Monogram representative, was here. He reported "Dillinger" is set for May 2 at the Brandeis . . . RKO's Omaha exchange is leading the country in short subjects . . . Harry Rogers, PRC branch manager, took his first golf swings a week ago and now offers to challenge any Filmrow linksmen.

Mrs. Joe Jacobs, wife of the Columbia manager, is home from Clarkson Hospital following an operation and is showing splendid progress . . . Lieut. H. B. Johnson jr., son of the Universal manager, is home on a 30-day leave . . . G. N. Bragg, station agent at Bruning, Neb., and exhibitor at Guide Rock, spent a week's vacation at Lincoln.

Libby Fishberg, secretary to WB Manager Frank Hannon, will be married April 12 to Irving Lincoln of Omaha. Lincoln is a veteran of this war, having served in the Aleutians . . . Wayne Stephenson, Paramount salesman, is now a salesman without an auto. Wayne swerved his car to avoid hitting a truck near Missouri Valley, Iowa, and crashed his 1941 Buick into a bridge. It will take at least 90 days to patch up the vehicle, garage men tell him.

Bill Miskell, Tri-States district manager, stands pat on his original offer to throw one of the city's largest theatres open for a service of thanks on Victory day . . . Berne Enslin, Community Playhouse director, says he is planning to go through with his idea for a summer theatre in Omaha and has just closed arrangements for an auditorium.

Gene Krupa and his 30-piece orchestra was at the Chermot Sunday evening . . . Allan Kohan, former Omahan, has been transferred to the midwest to continue his exploitation work . . . Exhibitors in the central Nebraska vicinity report a record number of geese, estimated as high as 50,000 and mostly snow or blue species, hovering over fields there. What a mouth-watering sight for hunters in a nonseason month.

A. J. Chantry, Osceola exhibitor, was in Omaha last week to have his teeth removed. Needless to say, he was offered countless steak dinners—and safely, too . . . Visitors along the Row: Tom Kenyon, Genoa; Carl Johnson, Red Oak, Iowa; Arnold Johnson, Onawa, Iowa; Hazel Dunn, Valentine; E. G. Gannon, Schuyler; Frank Good, Red Oak, Iowa; Tobby Stewart, Shenandoah, Iowa; Mr. and Mrs. John Noffsinger, Madison; A. Burrus, Crete; Mrs. Neil Munkres, Weeping Water; C. C. Moore, Dunlap, Iowa, and Ed Kugel, Holstein, Iowa.

MINNEAPOLIS

Bill Sussman, Paramount salesman, is recovering nicely from a serious illness . . . Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, went to Omaha to beat the drums for "Thunderhead" . . . Morrie Steinman, Republic salesman, reports at Ft. Snelling this week for his army physical.

Walter Hoffman, who may be a little prejudiced because he's 20th-Fox exploiteer, calls "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" the finest film musical he ever has seen . . . Correcting an error: The latest arrival at the Landys wasn't the stork's first visit there, but its third. The dad is the popular Columbia office manager.

Welcomed back was Gene Meredith, who returned as Warner Bros.' cashier after two years in the navy during which he saw plenty of action and was wounded once. Gene also is a veteran of World War I and was one of the first to enlist for the present conflict . . . Vi Shapiro, Columbia South Dakota salesman, is taking a leave of absence because of illness.

Jack Cohen, 20th-Fox manager, reports "Thunderhead" is doing a record business throughout the territory. It was in its third week here after turning in a sensational gross at Radio City Holy week.

Ruth Silverstein of the 20th-Fox staff is taking a two-week vacation with her service man husband, back on furlough after two years overseas where he participated in the North African and Italian campaigns . . . Another 20th-Fox office staff vacationer is Georgiana Arlt who is spending it with her wounded service man husband.

There also was a large outpouring of club members and friends last Monday night to hear Arthur R. Upgren, Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank vice-president and economist, tell about "The United States' Interests in the Peace Settlement." It was an extremely interesting and enlightening talk by an authority on economy who was present at the Bretton Woods conference and related some of its highlights and significance.



DES MOINES

Several Des Moines Filmrowers visited in their home towns over Easter. At Central States, Betty Gabbert went to Marshalltown; Iola Barlow spent the day in Algona, and Kay Kidwell went to Scranton . . . Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Lee celebrated the holiday by visiting Lee's parents in Rippey . . . And Don West journeyed to Knoxville.

Dorothy Day seems to have been one of the few from that office to remain at home—and she had a bouquet of wild flowers on her desk to show for the trip to the woods she and Harry took on Easter Sunday . . . Betty Johns of Paramount spent the weekend in Osceola . . . Harry Hamburg's daughter Geraldine was home from Chicago for two days . . . Doris Wolf of Universal spent the day in South Dakota, visiting a friend.

Maxine Harpole, Columbia biller, was on the second week of her vacation last week . . . At NSS, Blythe McFarland is a new biller, and Sachi Furuto, print control clerk, resigned to await a visit from the stork . . . Your correspondent can sympathize with Mel Newman, Universal booker, who was suffering with an attack of hives last week. And if you're looking for any free advice, Mel, just let me know!

Sol Francis, Monogram's district manager, spent last week here . . . Word has been received at Paramount that Ralph Hayden, paratrooper, was one of the jump masters in the recent battle over the Rhine . . . Bob Kurtz, formerly of Paramount's shipping department, was home on leave . . . Another former shipper, Willard "Skippy" Howe, also was home on furlough, and visited along the Row . . . New in Paramount's shipping department is Al Rodriguez, a Drake student, who is working part time.

Alberta Collins, Paramount inspector, had a birthday recently, and was honored by fellow employes with a party. Betty Johns baked a cake, and Alberta was presented with a string of pearls . . . Another birthday celebration in Paramount's shipping room occurred last week, when Head Shipper John Murano added another year. The inspectors presented Johnny with some cologne and shaving lotion.

Some confusion resulted at Republic last week when the picture of the Columbia office force appeared in BOXOFFICE. The said confusion was similar to that which follows a Frank Sinatra appearance—and all was caused by one of the girls spotting Bert Thomas' picture in the group. If Columbia's casting directors in Hollywood could hear the comments about Bert's tall, dark and handsome person, we're sure he'd no longer be a booker, but a star, unrivaled!

Iola Barlow, Central States secretary, has a stunning wrap-around shirt with fringe, which only Iola could wear! Reba Hamand is a new employe of the Tri-States advertising department.

Several exhibitors and theatre managers visited here last week. Ed Mason, former exhibitor at Osage, greeted old friends along the Row. Cy Fangman, manager of the Rialto and Princess theatres, Boone, Iowa, was in the Tri-States' offices one day . . . Jess Day, of Fort Dodge, also visited at Tri-States . . . E. E. Morris, Central States partner from Eagle Grove, was in the home office . . . Other visitors included Mrs. C. S. Hoffmann, Knoxville; John Waller, Osceola; Mrs. Katherine Davis and Mrs. Katherine Thurber of Montezuma, and Eddie Forester, Massena and Cumberland.

DeHaven Will Build Recreation Center

DETROIT—A. Milo "Bring 'em Back" DeHaven, who was widely known for a number of years as the exploiteering manager of the Belmont and Woodward Grand theatres in the suburb of Highland Park, plans to erect a new 400-seat theatre and complete recreation project in the theatreless town of Waterville, Ohio. Spot is located in the northwestern corner of Ohio, about 70 miles south of Detroit, and is near DeHaven's present theatrical ventures at Whitehouse and Grand Rapids, Ohio.

DeHaven plans to erect a bowling alley and a number of stores in his new structure, in addition to providing a large parking space. It will be an ambitious project for a town of only 1,150 population.

Parents With Bill Eythe On Pittsburgh Round

PITTSBURGH—William Eythe, 20th-Fox star, was here for several days exploiting "A Royal Scandal," in which he appears with Tallulah Bankhead. Prior to going to New York to attend the premiere of this comedy of amorous conquests and intrigue, he spent a few days at his home in nearby Mars, Pa. Eythe, former local Playhouse juvenile and a graduate of the drama school of Carnegie Tech, met members of the local press and he appeared on three radio programs here. Sid Blumenstock of the 20th-Fox home office publicity staff accompanied the young star. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Eythe, parents, were here with him greeting his friends and attending theatre parties and screenings. Fan magazine photographers went to the Eythe home at Mars to picture his family life.

Theatre Wing Has Staged 1,186 Shows for Wounded

PITTSBURGH—Harold Vermilyea, appearing in "Jacobowsky and the Colonel" at the Nixon, outlined the work of the American Theatre Wing at Mrs. Florence Fisher Parry's "drama day" which was celebrated by the Woman's City Club. In summary he stated that the American Theatre Wing has given 1,186 performances for wounded service men, recruited 276,000 blood donors and sold $32,000,000 worth of war bonds. Mrs. Parry, Press columnist, stages "drama day" annually.

Film Truckers Threatened Strike But Call It Off

CINCINNATI—A strike of film truckers, which threatened to tie up the industry in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, was amicably settled following a meeting of Otto Frobe, secretary-treasurer and directors of the AFL Chauffeurs and Helpers Union Local 100 with truck drivers who had asked for a strike vote under the Smith-Connally act.

Marion Conly Is Named Cincinnati F27 Head

CINCINNATI—Film workers Local F27 has chosen Marion Conly of Paramount as president to succeed George Daumeyer, who resigned following his promotion to office manager at Warners.

Eugene Tunick of RKO was chosen to succeed Bob Morrell, who resigned at Metro to enter the armed services.

Army Rejects Schmertz

CLEVELAND — Ray Schmertz, 20th - Fox salesman, reported for induction into the armed forces recently, only to be told that men with punctured ear drums were personna non grata.

Exhibitors Considering McVicar Action Appeal

Calvin Leeder Appointed Cincinnati FC Head

CINCINNATI—Calvin C. Leeder has been appointed Film Classics manager here, according to an announcement of Albert Dezel, effective April 2. Leeder succeeded Louis Van Baalen.

Leeder has been in the distributing business 20 years, recently as Warner office manager here.

Republic Has Special Tieup With Rodeo

PITTSBURGH—In connection with the appearance of Roy Rogers as star of the annual ranch rodeo at the Gardens here, April 30 through May 5, Republic Pictures has announced a special tieup with theatres in this film area whereby a girl and a boy, as contest winners, will be guests of "the king of the cowboys" at a luncheon and at a matinee performance of the rodeo on Saturday, May 5. Syd Lehman, Republic branch manager, has arranged the events. Many theatres have enrolled and additional contracts are being received daily.

With Rogers will be his beautiful palomino, "Trigger," billed as the "smartest horse in the movies." In former years kiddies luncheons and attendance at rodeo performances with Gene Autry and Roy Rogers have been very popular. While here Rogers will make appearances at children's hospitals and he will return to the Deshon General Hospital, Butler, Pa., to entertain wounded service men. The Roy Rogers Show, sponsored by Goodyear Tires, will be broadcast nationally from here May 1. Many of the Rogers pictures will be showing at local area theatres during the period prior to and during the week of April 30.

Detroit's Keglers Roll Into Three-Way Tie

DETROIT—United Artists and General Theatre Service pulled up into a three-way tie with Monogram for the lead in the Film Bowling League this week:

	Won	Lost
United Artists	27	17
Monogram Pictures	27	17
General Theatre Service	27	17
Film Truck Service	25	19
Cooperative Theatres	21	23
Theatrical Advertising	17	27
Republic Pictures	16	28
RKO Radio Pictures	16	28

Only high scores of the week were rolled by Bill Pasanen, 201, and Lou Metzger, 200.

Theatre Polio Funds Total $57,578 in Kentucky

LOUISVILLE—Figures released by Fred J. Dolle, state chairman for the 1945 March of Dimes drive revealed that 192 theatres in 81 counties of the state collected funds for the Kentucky chapter.

The amount raised was $57,578.48, compared with $44,339.99 in 1944, when 136 theatres participated. The theatre collections amounted to about one-fourth of the entire collections from the state.

PITTSBURGH—Exhibitor plaintiff counsel in the Roth vs. Paramount case this week considered appealing the ruling of Judge Nelson McVicar, granting a motion of distributor defendants to compel exhibitors to produce their books, accounts and records for distributor inspection. Nathan M. Katz, AMPTO counsel and attorney for 27 local independent theatre owners, stated that there was no decision on what action would be taken, but exhibitor plaintiffs expected "something doing" soon.

Distributors allege that exhibitors came into court with unclean hands and seek damages to amounts found unaccounted for by plaintiffs should irregularities be found on percentage pictures, plus exemplary damages. Eight distributors had filed actions against one local exhibitor, seeking to have book entries on percentage engagements made available for inspection. Other theatre owners here had received letters from the distributors demanding their books; they refused to surrender these documents and they filed action in federal court to prevent such surrender, claiming the film contracts were illegal, etc.

Republic and Co-Op Swap Pittsburgh Offices Soon

PITTSBURGH — The Republic exchange and Cooperative Theatre Service will swap offices May 1 when the film buying and booking outfit occupies the first floor of the Van Bldg., 1701 Blvd. of the Allies, with executive offices on the second floor (Max and Martha Shulgold's Crown Film office remains on the second floor), and Republic goes into the former Co-Op headquarters on the second floor at 1709 Blvd. of the Allies. In the switch, Republic's exchange with all departments will be under one roof for the first time in this city. The company's accessory, inspection, storage and shipping departments have occupied the rear half of the second floor at 1709 for a number of years.

Louisville Theatre Owner Run Down by Motor Car

LOUISVILLE—Harry L. Zimmerman, 49, was in serious condition at General Hospital after he was struck by an automobile at 38th and Broadway at 11 p. m. Proprietor of the Shawnee Theatre, 3725 Broadway, Zimmerman was carrying a bag containing the theatre's receipts when he was caught by traffic flow at the intersection.

Driver of the automobile was Oscar T. Rhodes. He was charged with assault and battery and failure to yield right-of-way.

Zimmerman suffered a brain concussion, a possible skull fracture, a compound fractured right leg and internal injuries, hospital attaches said.

Jack Kane Reopens Gayety As Grind Burlesque

AKRON—Jack Kane of Youngstown, formerly a third owner of the Gayety, has acquired full ownership of the house which has been reopened with a grind burlesque policy at popular prices. To conform with the curfew midnight shows Friday, Saturday and Sundays have been dropped, running time being 11 a. m. until midnight, seven days a week.

CINCINNATI

Pre-Easter visitors on the Row included C. A. Metro, Portsmouth; C. F. Pfister, Troy; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Venard, Jamestown; J. C. Shanklin, Roncevert; F. E. Price, Newark; R. Filson, Point Pleasant, and John Kaiser, the Royal, Chillicothe, who spent the week in the Queen City.

Frank Yassenoff was in booking for the reopening of his Outdoor Theatre, Stockton, dark all last year. Yassenoff also operates the Hamilton Drive-In . . . Paul Hollen of the Alpine circuit was in . . . Ditto Bernie Kranze of RKO, who was calling on circuit accounts . . . Joe Oulahan, Paramount manager, was called to Washington last week by the fatal illness of his sister, who died shortly after his arrival.

Jane Yinger, M-G-M, spent Easter weekend with her folks in Portsmouth . . . George Kirby, Republic, returned from the coast . . . Filmrow observed Good Friday with exchanges closing for three hours . . . "Bring On the Girls," has been set in the Albee for April 17.

Hardie Meakin, assistant division manager of RKO Theatres, was called to Washington by the illness of Mrs. Meakin . . . Max Tull, RKO Theatres screening room, received word his son Harold has been wounded in Germany . . . It's a baby daughter, Sandra, for Pfc. and Mrs. Arthur Piccolo. The former manager of the Lyric is in Europe now.

Helen Sharp, secretary to Florence Kipp, manager of the Lyric, reports her brother Gene, wounded in Germany, has returned to a government hospital in the States . . . George Daumeyer is new office manager at Warners . . . Thieves breaking into the 20th Century, operated by Willis Vance, caused damage but left empty handed.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

A Bradford Theatre Project Gets Okay

BRADFORD, PA.—Shea's circuit has been given WPB approval to erect a new and modern de luxe theatre near its present Shea's Theatre here at a cost of upward of $250,000.

CLEVELAND

Phil Smith, the drive-in theatre man from Boston, was in to arrange openings of his two Cleveland drive-ins on April 20 . . . Bill Kumzmann of National Carbon Co. was taken ill while on a business trip down state last week. Now he's under doctor's orders to stay in bed three or four weeks.

Jerry Steel, owner of the Apollo, Oberlin, was in town. He has turned over his buying and booking problems to Cooperative Theatres of Ohio . . . Harry Reinhart, Canton theatre owner whose weekly Filmrow visits have been cut to the vanishing point since gas rationing, was in last week.

Ray Schmertz, 20th-Fox salesman and son of Manager I. J. Schmertz said his farewells last week all for naught. He reported for induction on Tuesday only to be informed that a recent automobile accident made him personna non grata to either the army or navy. But anyhow, Ray had a big weekend. Now he's back on the road.

Messrs. Todd and McMahon, well-known former industry names, who used to own and operate a theatre in Willoughby, are reported to have plans to build a new theatre there as soon as material becomes available. Rumor also has it that the Scoville, Essick & Reif circuit, owners of the present Willoughby Theatre, will build a new theatre in the town.

Lieut. Tom Mooney, son of Cooperative's Milton Mooney, is waiting for a new assignment. He has completed an 18-month teaching assignment at Pensacola, Fla. . . . Bill Twigg made his final adieux at the Paramount exchange on Saturday and on Monday reported for duty as head booker for Peter Wellman's circuit. Twigg will establish his home in Youngstown.

J. S. Jossey and Kroger Babb, heads of Hygienic Productions, producer of "Mom and Dad," have appointed Harry Herman, head of the Herman circuit of New Hampton, Iowa, as northwest sales representative covering Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri. Floyd Lewis has been named representative for the Illinois-Indiana territory.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

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and ASSOCIATES

CINCINNATI, OHIO

PITTSBURGH

Irvin H. Jacobs, who received a discharge from the army recently, took to the road last week as a temporary sales representative for M-G-M. He was a former booking head here for Metro . . . Among new members of the Legion's Variety post are Anthony Antonoplos and John S. Stahl, East Pittsburgh and Homestead exhibitors, respectively, and Tommy Duran of WCAE.

Doug Beck, RKO exploitation representative, is concentrating on special detail for "The Three Caballeros" and "Pan-Americana" at Morgantown, W. Va., where the annual pan-American educational conference will be held on the university campus May 7-9 . . . An Indian tepee is walked through to gain entrance to the office of Chief Big Smoke "Dinty" Moore, Warner exchange manager. The wigwam and special decorations are in keeping with the 17-week "heap big powwow" drive which opened April 1 and no foolin', Warners wants wampum!

Sgt. Walter T. "Wolly" Lobel, 26, Columbia exploiteer, was killed in action in the South Pacific. He was a tail-gunner.

A daughter, named Mary Ann LaMantia, was born January 26 in Mercy Hospital, Johnstown, to the Joseph LaMantias of the Victory Theatre, Nanty-Glo . . . Herman Beiersdorf, 20th-Fox manager, while in Philadelphia the other day called upon Naval Lieut. Harold Cohen, owner of the Embassy, Lewistown, who headquarters here . . . A Filmrow visitor was Cpl. Norbert Sosinski, formerly of the M-G-M staff, who operates projection machines at Camp Wheeler, Ga.

Pfc. Henry Mulbauer, formerly of the Warner, Jack Judd accessories and M-G-M shipping departments on Filmrow, is hospitalized in England with an arm wound . . . Bill Mack, National Screen salesman, who was hospitalized at DuBois for several weeks with pneumonia and pleurisy and who has lost upward of 15 pounds, has been convalescing at the DuBois Hotel.

Marine Cpl. Melvin Mann, former RKO booker who was wounded on Iwo Jima, is now at a naval hospital in San Francisco . . . Capt. Richard D. Marks, former Clarksburg, W. Va., exhibitor, is now with the 57th air service squadron in Europe . . . Sally Roberta has resigned at M-G-M to go into a government office.

Lieut. F. E. Hasley jr., son of the East Pittsburgh exhibitors, is in Germany with the Ninth army . . . Jim Totman, Warner circuit local publicity director, addressed the annual luncheon of the motion picture division of Allegheny County Federation of Women's Clubs Monday noon . . . A Good Friday noon service was conducted at the downtown Warner. Theatres remained closed until 2 p. m., and neighborhood houses didn't open until an hour later. On Filmrow, employes were given a half-holiday.

Lieut. Herb Joseph, son of the Abe Josephs of the Triangle, who is with the Third army, has been sending home a number of war souvenirs . . . T/5 Wesley R. Lund, former manager of the Strand, Aliquippa, is in service in Luxembourg. He is a son of Jess Lund, Alpenn-Notopoulos Aliquippa city manager . . . Andy Battiston's son Richard, of a heavy tank outfit in Germany, has been promoted to sergeant . . . Doc Stork will be making another stop at the K. A. "Gus" Vaverises.

RKO exchange has new goldleaf letters on the large front windows, and being installed are front awnings, side window blinds and new floor linoleum . . . Variety Club was dark for several days for spring house cleaning.

W. L. "Pop" Peacock, Harris relief manager and a veteran in this circuit, is convalescing after an operation . . . Variety Club's gin rummy tournament gets under way here April 16 . . . ZaSu Pitts' "Ramshackle Inn" opens at the Nixon April 30. In that same week Roy Rogers will be here in his final rodeo appearance prior to induction into the army . . . John Notopoulos, manager of the State, Ambridge, devotes off-duty hours to the ration board of which he is a member.

The latest Pennsylvania legislative move to legalize bingo games failed, 100 to 93. Active in the assembly is the Sunday bowling bill, which is before the house law and order committee. Various of the so-called antidiscrimination bills remain foremost in the news out of Harrisburg.

Bernard Buchheit, Manos circuit district manager, and Mrs. Buchheit, were in New York on a business and pleasure trip . . . Harry Browarsky, city exhibitor, is as brown as a berry after returning from his vacation in Florida . . . Also home from Florida are the Steve Rodnenoks, Oakmont exhibitors . . . Mayer Silverman, pioneer exhibitor and film man, temporarily retired, vacationed in Philadelphia and Atlantic City.

"Buck" Smith, cash night emcee at Abe Joseph's Triangle, East Liberty, is popular with the customers, especially the bobby-sockers . . . The Bill Walkers, Crafton exhibitors, have been enjoying a vacation in Florida . . . Frank J. Harris, president of the Harris circuit, was confined to his home for about two weeks with the grippe. He has taken off a lot of weight . . . Pvt. Gus Davis, formerly Warner circuit's short subject booker here, is stationed in New Delhi, India.

A third communication has been received here from Pfc. Charles R. "Dick" Allen, Art Morrone's son-in-law and former clerk at the Superior Supply store, who is a prisoner of war in Germany . . . Elinor Savage, local theatrical agent, was in New York over the Easter holiday with Mary Lou, back from Hollywood after an invitation trip for a screen test . . . Sammy Speranza, Warner circuit booker, reports that his brother, Sgt. Joe Speranza, was wounded in the Remagen bridge break-through over the Rhine.

Al Weiland, Coraopolis exhibitor, expects his sons, Pvt. Bob and Cpl. Ken, here next weekend . . . Roy Davis, United Artists' veteran shipper, reports that his brother, Sgt. Earl Davis, who served in World War I and who quit his Carnegie Steel job here to serve again, is an army cook in France . . . Co-op meeting last week brought a number of exhibitor members to Filmrow.

Lieut. Frank R. McFeatters of Wilkinsburg, Sun-Telegraph artist, was killed in action Dec. 16, 1944, with the 28th division at Luxembourg, his sister, Mrs. William E. Kane, wife of the Pitcairn exhibitor, has been



Jack Zide, Allied Film Exchange, 2310 Cass Ave., Detroit 1, Mich.

Lee Goldberg, Popular Pictures, 1632 Central Parkway, Film Bldg., Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

Max Jacobs, Imperial Picture Co., 718 Film Bldg., Cleveland 15, Ohio.

Max Shulgold, Crown Film Co., 1701 Blvd. of Allies, Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

notified. A brother, Capt. John R. McFeatters, is in the Pacific area.

Danny Davis, PRC executive here, whose daughter died two weeks ago, had been ill for several days prior to her passing, but he has had improved health and has returned to his desk. Danny suffered a slight heart attack . . . Charlie Kosco was the first 20th-Fox salesman in the nation to line up all theatres in his zone for the 30th anniversary month drive, and George Moore, C. C. Kellenberg and Jim Thorpe, also local representatives, were not far behind in the status sheet.

Louis F. Guimond, formerly of BOXOFFICE and now eastern director, military and naval welfare service of the Red Cross, was here booking pictures for government hospitals . . . Fred LaBelle, Warner circuit's personnel manager, has been granted a 60-day leave of absence and he is visiting his son, Maj. Russell LaBelle, air force, who has served for several years in Australia and the South Pacific, and who is now in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Shadley of the Academy, Meadville, planned a trip to Washington, D. C., to visit their son, Fritz, who graduated from naval radar school . . . Pvt. Max Silverman, who managed the Ritz and the Squirrel Hill before going into uniform, was wounded in action in Germany. He is a brother of Mrs. Joe Hiller, wife of the theatrical agent.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Antonoplos, East Pittsburgh and Turtle Creek exhibitors, departed for Hot Springs. Their son, Pvt. Milton Antonoplos, former theatre manager, is with the signal corps somewhere in India . . . Robert Bowman, manager of the Warner, Erie, and Alton Rea, manager of the Smoot, Parkersburg, have been reclassified and are heading for induction into the armed service . . . John A. Reilly, manager of the Regent, East Liberty, hobbled for a week or so as the result of injuring a leg when he fell from a ladder.

Good Friday Observed In Detroit's Theatres

DETROIT—Most downtown Detroit theatres and many neighborhood theatres strategically located made their annual contribution to religious public service by a wide observance of Good Friday.

Almost without exception, showhouses halted programs from noon until 3 p. m., the three hours when, according to tradition, Christ was upon the cross. Many other establishments in the city observed this "Tre Ore" period. Many theatres here as well as upstate, opened their doors during these hours to church services. In Detroit, individual churches or groups of churches took over the services.

Most ambitious of the series was arranged by the Detroit Council of Churches, with their ace program at the Fox, largest theatre in town, picked up as a remote by WWJ, and a youth meeting at the Michigan, next largest house, picked up for 75 minutes by WXYZ. Other programs were booked at the Fisher, Riviera, and Hollywood theatres by this church group.

At the United Artists and Regent theatres, the Lutheran Center Ass'n held services. A virtual day-and-date booking was set by the Temple Baptist Church with J. Frank Norris as the headliner, appearing at both the Madison and the Broadway-Capitol theatres. Other neighborhood theatres booked included the Flamingo, and the Westown.

The churches used newspaper and radio advertising to announce their plans. Theatres were donated virtually at cost in most instances.

Coulouris to Play in "Don Juan"

George Coulouris has been assigned a role in Warners' "The Adventures of Don Juan."

MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Samuel J. Brown of Highland Park, Mich., first became interested in the motion picture industry in 1922. In that year he built the Acme Theatre in Detroit. He has continued his work in show business since that time, operating three theatres: the Ambassador in Detroit, the Belmont and the Grand in Highland Park. Brown likes to spend his leisure hours on a golf course, but would not comment on how good a game he plays. He is married and has two children, a boy and a girl, two and four years old, respectively. He is much interested in civic affairs.



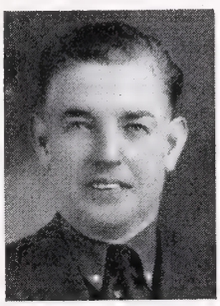
Her many years in the motion picture business has taught **Mrs. Mary M. Hauer** that a woman may combine successfully and happily a career with raising a family of four children. The 500-seat American Theatre, 512 West 18th St., Erie, Pa., has been providing excellent entertainment for the citizens of Erie since the building was erected in 1915 and opened under Mrs. Hauer's management. Her son, John Robert, and a daughter, Pauline, live at home and another daughter, Betty, is married. She is not a member of an exhibitor organization at present.



In 1908, when the motion picture still was a flickering novelty and a two-reel picture was a masterpiece, **Harry H. Baldensperger** was a handy boy in the old Family Theatre in Warren, Pa. Through all these years of growth, "Baldy," as he is known to his friends, has been in show business and at present operates the Utopian Theatre at Sheffield, Pa. Baldensperger is a member of the Sheffield Rotary Club and the local Elks lodge. He is married and makes his home in Sheffield. Baldensperger is an ardent follower of baseball.



Migrating from Romania to the U.S. in 1907, **John Tatu,** Detroit, owner of the Casino and Nortown Theatres there, hired out first as a locomotive fireman. Soon tiring of that occupation, he went into the grocery business and after saving enough capital entered the picture industry. In 1917, he started the Davison and Park there, and, in 1925 and 1928, the Hazel Park and Cameo, respectively. President of the Romanian-American Business Men's Ass'n, he holds membership in the North Detroit Exchange Club. His hobbies are fishing and swimming.



For **Harvey C. Callier** of Lowell, Mich., learning at the ripe age of 18 to operate a film projector held more fascination than working in a flour mill. Today he owns the Empress in Belding and Strand in Lowell, so his youthful inclination paid off. A member of Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan, he still emphasizes his long-held opinion that cooperation between distributor and exhibitor will go far to solidify the motion picture industry. His social affiliations include the local Masonic Lodge. His favorite pastime is billiards. His son, Jake, is in the service.



During his 23 years in the theatre business in the small town of Galeton, Pa., **J. A. Nordquist,** owner of the 462-seat Main Street Theatre, has enjoyed a pleasant and successful career. Almost everyone in Galeton knows Nordquist, the business man, and almost everyone likewise hails this amiable and friendly showman as "Al." Nordquist has been very active in all WAC drives. He has a son, Albert R., who is assistant manager of the Main Street, but who is now in the service. Nordquist is a Mason. His hobbies are fishing and hunting.



Jafet J. Rytkonen's purchase of the Bijou, Chicago, from D. E. Rice, brought him into the industry. In 1911 he constructed the Star Theatre, Negaunee, Mich., and in 1926 opened the Vista in the same city. He purchased the Ishpeming and the Butler, Ishpeming in 1943. He belongs to the Francis M. Moore Consistory, Ahmed Temple Shrine, Elks and Knights of Kaleva. Fond of hunting and fishing, he is a great traveler. He has four daughters; his son, William, is in business with him. To his friends he is either "J. J." or Jeff. He lives at Negaunee.



Since 1921 **Carl "Jack" Mapel** has managed Barney's Theatre, Point Marion, Pa., a 675-seat house opened by his father in 1905. In addition, he operates two restaurants in town. Mapel is a member of Citizens Service organization, the American Legion and the Variety Club. Over the weekend, he generally can be found at his cabin in the mountains near Point Marion or at the golf course. Married, Mapel has a son, Carl jr., 14. He is a devotee of crossword puzzles, and is a staunch believer in the future of the industry.

DETROIT

Under the Marquees: Hazen Funk of the Great Lakes started his annual "rough on rats" spring campaign . . . Clyde Demerest, manager of the Clawson Theatre at Clawson, was to go to the University Hospital at Ann Arbor for a spinal operation for high blood pressure, which he's had for seven years.

Exchanges: Arthur D. Knapp, veteran 20th-Fox salesman, had trouble convincing his insurance company he had a policy with them . . . Uncle Charlie Garner, Artkino manager, has a date next summer to go to Bob-Lo, with Joseph Ellul's daughter, age three.

Mannie Gottlieb, Universal district manager, got word from his son Jerry, home on an unexpected furlough, in the midst of a little game over at Variety Club—and his luck immediately changed, but good . . . Lou Berman of Universal is working with a 20-inch pencil . . . Jack Lothamer, former booker at Paramount, has taken Henry Mayer's place at Warners . . . Harry H. Thomas, Monogram eastern division manager, was a local visitor . . . Harry Goldstein, Paramount district manager, spent several days visiting with Jack Ryder, branch manager.

Fred W. Witte, formerly with PRC and RKO at Cleveland, is new Film Classics salesman in the river territory, working out of Cleveland, District Manager Al Dezel announces . . . Sol Cohen will continue to handle the Toledo territory for Film Classics. Donald Shields, stepson of Al Dezel of Film Classics, is home on leave, recovering from injuries.

Calvin Leeder, former Warner salesman at Cincinnati, has been named branch manager for Film Classics in the Queen City . . . Louis Van Baalen becomes office manager for Classics.

Short Circuits: Storekeeper Peter Kavel, former manager of the Ace, expects a new assignment of duty after service on a destroyer, now in an eastern port for refurbishing . . . Pvt. Herman "Wonder Boy" Cohen, former manager of the Dexter, says he had a wonderful time visiting Filmrow and local theatres on his furlough . . . Booker Emil Beck was busy trying to date a two-reeler at RKO . . . Mike Schreiber, we hear, is doing a nice job in a difficult situation at the Irving.

Mrs. Jeff Williams was in the hospital at Mount Clemens, recovering from injuries, including a broken kneecap, suffered when she stepped off a ladder at home . . . Sgt. Sam Greisman, former manager of the Center, sends along a fine amusement guide of Paris, a weekly edition, showing how the boys really can find recreation in Gay Paree . . . Pvt. Harold M. Chargot, son of Michael J. Chargot, circuit owner, has been awarded a Bronze Star for bravery. He was wounded in Belgium.

Up in the Booths: Harry Braiker of the Columbia is a close double for Harry Brewer of the Downtown . . . Roy C. Thompson of the Oakland in Highland Park has been classified 1A by his draft board . . . J. R. Davison of the Irving is attending the radio school with three other operators . . . Eugene Woidhams, formerly of the Colony, has moved to New York City.

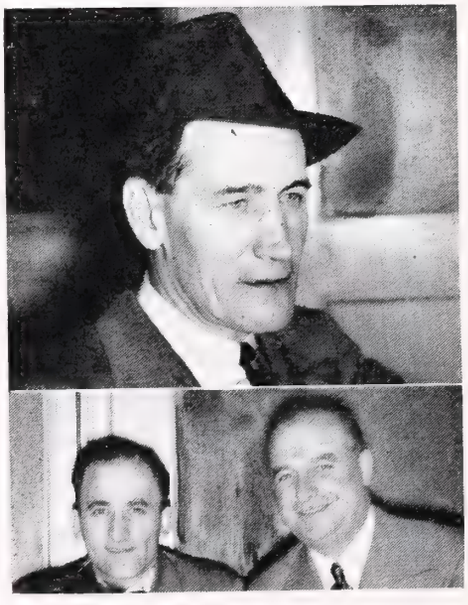
Theatrical Post Notes: Gil Light, adjutant, got out notices for the big meeting April 9, with a bigger attendance than ever expected, as some of the boys couldn't make it before the curfew closed their houses at midnight, when the post starts up . . . Sam Harris is back from Miami, reports Owen Blough, who met him on the street . . . Earl McGlinnan of the Downtown celebrated his 50th birthday . . . Bob Henri is now a sergeant in the Michigan state troops . . . The post is mourning Preston Carr, operator at the Roxy . . . Max Kolin made detailed plans to go out and celebrate the false rumors of the German surrender . . . Harry Carson is plugging away for Poppy Day with plenty of preparatory work.

Along the Rialto: John L. Loell, clerk of the arbitration tribunal, reports a flood of labor cases coming in . . . Sgt. Leon Arozian, formerly of Film Drug Store, is back on a 25-day furlough . . . Charles Simpson of Central Shipping Bureau, an avid reader of BOXOFFICE in the Pacific theatre, has been promoted to private, first class . . . Pvt. Pete Simon, son of the film producer, captured a postcard addressed to an enemy flier somewhere in Germany, and found it was addressed to "Herr Peter Simon." His dad has it as a souvenir . . . Jack Bell of the United Billposting came back from a trip to Chicago, tired from planning for the Olympic Circus . . . Lloyd Hammond, former independent film producer, is back with Edgewater Park for his second season as promotion manager.

Square Notes: William Carlson, past potentate of Moslem Temple, and past chief barker of Variety Club, was cheered by word that his son, Pvt. William E. Carlson, is a prisoner in Germany . . . Wade Allen, owner of the Fine Arts and Arcade, is now bowling with the 60-team Shrine Bowling League every Wednesday evening and manages to hit the high brackets.

Supply Stuff: Met Fred C. Dickely, Altec manager, having a late lunch over at Cliff Bell's . . . John Sherman, formerly of National Theatre Supply, was a German prisoner in territory now reported liberated . . . Antonio Eugenio, theatrical decorator, was busy on a big job over at Kresge's . . . Hal Burris has a display of 18 water colors at the Hudson Fine Art Gallery, selling from $75 to $150 . . . Harry Lush from Plymouth was a visitor, looking 'em over.

Wolverines: Fred Pennell, Allied office manager, made a wild goose chase to Grand Rapids to serve on the federal grand jury, only to find it was postponed . . . J. M. McKiernan and William Potts, fast-growing upstate circuiteers, have taken over the Our Theatre at Berrien Springs from Michael Spadafore, who has other upstate business interests.



PLAYDATES IN THEIR HONOR—Harry Rees, top, is observing his 27th year with United Artists at Pittsburgh, and the branch employes are conducting a May-June playdate campaign designated as the 57 Year Service drive, which also honors Rees's fellow UA salesmen: Bill Scott, lower left, 21 years with the company at the Pittsburgh branch, and Jimmy Nash, for nine years in that area. Rees had been connected with the film industry at Pittsburgh for a decade before United Artists came into existence 27 years ago.

Michigan Passes Goal For Wounded Vets

DETROIT——The film industry of Michigan, in cooperation with Variety Club, has completed the donation of recreation equipment for the rehabilitation of the wounded at two major veterans hospitals, the Percy Jones and the Fort Custer. Two day rooms were completely equipped at the latter, and one day room, a complete photographic dark room and three pool tables were furnished to Jones Hospital.

Plaques are being placed in each hospital testifying to the joint response of the industry and Variety Club in this cause. The fund itself was oversubscribed, according to Arthur Robinson, circuit owner, who is doughguy of Variety, and the surplus will be used for charity activities through the Heart of Variety fund.

Robbery at Louisville

LOUISVILLE—The Downs Theatre on Taylor Blvd. near the Churchill Downs race track was broken into and robbed of $883 the night of March 29. Leo Ciacio, operator, said the robbers smashed through the boxoffice.

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Ralph Kinsler
General Manager

"Fear" at Top Place In a Normal Week

CLEVELAND—The Easter week bugaboo failed to materialize, and business, while not booming, held to the average of the past few months. At the top of the heap were "Ministry of Fear" at the Ohio and "Pan-Americana" at the Palace with Louis Prima heading the popular stage show. "Objective, Burma!" continued its grip on the public. It came through with a par take at the Lake in its third week on the main stem and is holding over for a fourth week.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk. 60
Hippodrome—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) 90
Lake—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Ohio—**Ministry of Fear** (Para).....140
Palace—**Pan-Americana** (RKO), plus Louis Prima orchestra on stage 115
State—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M).....90
Stillman—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk..... 95

Slump Grips Detroit When The Patrons Go Sunning

DETROIT — The anticipated pre-Easter slump in local show business materialized, but was less severe than normal, probably because the general curve of show business locally is strongly downward anyway. Two weeks of very pleasant weather have caused the competition of outside recreation, including just plain "getting out in the sun," to interfere strongly, especially with matinee business.

Adams—**A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col); **Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), after 1 wk. at Fox.....105
Broadway-Capitol—**The Jade Mask** (Mono); **To Have and Have Not** (WB), after 2 wks. at Michigan 110
Cinema—**32 Rue Montmarte; Hotel Du Nord** (Fr.).. 80
Downtown—**The Pride of the Yankees** (RKO), plus Ann Corio and Smiley Burnette on stage.....100
Fox—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **Destiny** (Univ).....125
Michigan—**Three Is a Family** (UA); **And Now Tomorrow** (Para) 130
Palms-State—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk. 115
Paradise—**Dr. Maniac** (SR), plus Tiny Bradshaw orchestra on stage 110
United Artists—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 120

"Here Come the WAVES" Rings Bell And Holds Over in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—Paramount's "Here Come the WAVES" rang the bell at Loew's Penn and was awarded a holdover. Other holdover attractions, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," in its third week at the Harris; "Murder, My Sweet," at the Ritz, and "Meet Me in St. Louis," in its fourth downtown week, were over the top.

Barry—**Man Hunt** (20th-Fox), reissue; **I Love a Mystery** (Col) 80
Fulton—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) 45
Harris—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 110
Penn—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para).....125
Ritz—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk.....120
Senator—**Naughty Marietta** (M-G-M), reissue; **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M).....100
Stanley—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 90
Warner—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 4th d. t. wk.....105

Lenten Lull Takes Its Final Toll With Cincinnati Peak Only 110

CINCINNATI — The Lenten lull took its final toll of the boxoffice grosses, with the peak running only ten per cent above average. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" bowed out after the fourth successful week. The dimout is working out, with no complaints from exhibitors, although the dreary effect on business is evidenced in grosses.

Capitol—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk...110
Grand—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk.....110
Keith's—**Frisco Sal** (Univ) 95
Lyric—**The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para); **House of Fear** (Univ).....100
Palace—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), held.....110
RKO Albee—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), held and shifted 105
Shubert—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 100

COLUMBUS

Clarence Sullivan, 67, former press representative for the Lee M. Boda Theatres in Toledo, Dayton, Springfield, Columbus and Indianapolis, died at his home here of a heart ailment. With his wife, he operated the Emilie Sullivan studios here, specializing in theatrical costumes. He disposed of the business last November. Three daughters survive.

Petty Officer Robert Lee Byers, storekeeper in the navy and former assistant manager of Loew's Broad, is missing in action. The aircraft carrier on which he was serving was hit by a Jap torpedo off Iwo Jima February 21. He entered the navy more than four years ago. He had served in both the Atlantic and Pacific and took part in the invasion of Luzon.

Magic Hobby Club is staging its annual "ladies night" dinner, magic show and dance at the Variety Club April 7 . . . Norman Phillips Clevenger, student assistant manager at the Palace, is awaiting his induction April 13. He has been succeeded by Ted Jones.

Frances Wallingford is the new office assistant at Loew's Broad . . . Sgt. Roger Garrett of the marines, former Ohio organist, is off for Pearl Harbor and other Pacific bases

Danny Flavin, former Ohio State Journal columnist and relief theatre editor, was back in town for an Easter furlough from the Great Lakes naval station.

Akron Spicer Reopens After Fire

AKRON—R. E. Paulus' Spicer Theatre, recently damaged by fire, has been reopened. The house has been improved extensively.

Exhibitors! Join the

ROY ROGERS

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The winning girl and boy from your theatre will have lunch with THE KING OF THE COWBOYS and attend his Rodeo, Saturday noon and afternoon, May 5, 1945, at Webster Hall Hotel, and The Gardens, Pittsburgh, Pa. Yes, "Trigger" will be there too.

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REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP.

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Harry McDonald, 56, Dies at Hartford

HARTFORD—Harry McDonald, 56, Universal exploitation representative, died here unexpectedly March 26 at the Hotel Bond, where a few moments before he had phoned George Landers, E. M. Loew city manager, and Jim McCarthy, Strand, in connection with exploitation activities. He also was here to make arrangements for the screening of "The Co-Eds" for a group of hospital patients.

McDonald, whose headquarters were at Boston, was very popular among theatre managers throughout the southern New England area. Many representatives of the industry attended the funeral, which was held in Springfield on March 30 at St. Michael's Cathedral.

Besides his wife and a sister, McDonald leaves two brothers, Irving T. McDonald, radio news commentator for station WEEI in Boston, and Charles McDonald, zone manager for RKO Theatres in New York. He was the former manager of the New York Hippodrome and Brooklyn Strand and had been associated with RKO and 20th-Fox.

McDonald was New England director of advertising and publicity for Universal and formerly was division manager of RKO and Fox theatres. He once was associated in Boston with Charles Koerner, now head of RKO.

In recent months, McDonald's promotion plans for various pictures in Boston and his work for the Red Cross and the war fund campaigns brought him distinction and recognition. There was perhaps no one man more popular in the Boston film and theatre district. He had served in every capacity, both as distributor and as exhibitor.

M&P's Employes Head Boston Blood Donors

BOSTON—Employes of the M&P Theatres are taking top places on the blood donor honor roll these days. Last week 20 persons from M&P went as a group to the Red Cross center and donated 20 pints.

District Manager Robert M. Sternberg and General Manager Edward Cuddy were right up in front with Henri Schwartzberg, who has made his eighth donation. Manager Harry Goldberg couldn't donate blood with the group because the proper amount of time had not yet elapsed since his last donation. Goldberg has given 17 pints.

Free Vacations for Wives Of Variety Service Men

BOSTON—Members of the Variety Club have pledged $10,000 for free two-week vacations for wives and children of service men members who are overseas. Ted Fleisher, chief barker, read a story in a New York paper of the necessity for recreation for these wives and children and promptly called a meeting of members. The club has leased Camp Sunlight at Egypt, Mass., where more than 160 mothers and their children, ages one to six years, will be cared for. The club also voted $1,000 to the American Red Cross.

Edmund F. Kelleher Dies At Hospital in Hartford

HARTFORD——Edmund F. Kelleher, 73, associated with his brother, Martin Kelleher, as assistant manager of the Princess here 15 years, died at St. Francis Hospital recently from a heart ailment. He had been in poor health three years. Besides his brother Martin he leaves one son, Edmund J. Kelleher of Newington.

O'Shea, Home Few Days, Gets No Phone Calls!

Hartford—When Michael O'Shea, east for publicity appearances on "It's a Pleasure," came home here for a few days recently, he felt somewhat let down because none of his local friends phoned him. It wasn't until he had left for Hollywood that it was discovered that his telephone had been out of order during his entire visit!

Ex-Competitor's Daughter Wins Daniels Publicity

WORCESTER—Elmer R. Daniels, manager of the Capitol, cracked the Dailies with a story on the daughter of a former manager of another theatre here. She was Melva Anstead, a dancer in the film, "Earl Carroll Vanities." She is the daughter of Joe Anstead, manager of the Poli Elm Street until a year ago, when the family moved to California. Under contract to Republic, she also is appearing in "Flame of Barbary Coast" and "San Fernando Valley."

Another former Worcesterite was scheduled to come back here in person—Reed Lawton, starring in the American Civic Opera production of "Naughty Marietta," booked for the Auditorium.

Circus Lot to Gardens

HARTFORD—The city-owned circus lot, site of the disastrous Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus fire of last July 6 would be converted into a community tract under a proposal of the war garden committee. Edgar M. Brown, director, said the lot will furnish 100 additional gardens in the area.

Lana Turner at Easton

BRIDGEPORT—Lana Turner passed the weekend in nearby Easton. She has been vacationing in New York City.

Exhibitors Appear Against Two Bills

HARTFORD—A large exhibitor representation attended a judiciary committee hearing here to oppose the two two-men-in-a-booth bills. In similar "public health and safety" form, bills on this subject have been introduced in the legislature each year for the last eight years, but none has been passed. James Shannon of Bridgeport, Louis Feinmark of New Haven, attorneys for the AFL, and John Kelly of the projectionists Local 273 spoke on behalf of the bills, while Attorney Herman M. Levy of New Haven, Joseph Reed, of Washington Depot and Bantam Theatres, and Irving C. Jacocks jr. of Branford Theatre, argued in opposition.

No report has yet been made by the committee.

Jane Withers Honored At Hartford Dinner

HARTFORD — Manager Theodore Harris, State Theatre, and Mrs. Harris gave a dinner at the Heublein Hotel in honor of Actress Jane Withers, State weekend headliner, with local press, radio, and theatre representatives in attendance. Jane's anecdotes of such stars as Lon McCallister, Shirley Temple and Van Johnson appeared in local newspapers. She is being accompanied by her mother.

Harry Browning to Return To Loan Drive Desk Soon

BOSTON—Harry Browning, M&P publicity chief, has been discharged from Corey Hospital after undergoing an appendectomy and is at his home in Arlington on Lake Shore Drive. Browning is in charge of the national publicity for the Seventh War Loan drive and will again be at his desk in the Waldorf-Astoria within the next ten days.



"CUTTING IN" ON MONTAGUE "DATES"—The Montague 20th Anniversary campaign has been keeping the nation's bakers as busy as the sales staffs. Top, Columbia's New Haven exchange employes look on while Branch Manager T. J. O'Toole cuts an anniversary cake. Bottom, employes of the Boston exchange gather around as Branch Manager Harry Rogovin wields the knife.

BOSTON

Tim Whelan obtained leave of absence from RKO studios to present his comedy "Dinner for Three" at the Plymouth Theatre here . . . Phil Engel of UA announced that 150, 24-sheets will be used on the "I'll Be Seeing You" campaign, which is more posters than ever have been used on any picture here. There also will be radio spot announcements over most of the major networks . . . Irving Mendelson, UA office manager, received word that his brother had been wounded in action.

Dick Sullivan, publicist and member of Macaulay post of the American Legion, was master of ceremonies at the Globe-sponsored hospital show held in cooperation with the USO citizens' committee at Cushing Hospital. Dick is a discharged veteran of the 45th division and he ran across a patient at Cushing, Sgt. Seward Linton, friend from his army days.

Mathew Moriarty, former Universal booker here, returned for a visit to the film district this week after more than 18 months in the Pacific. He is a machinist's mate in the navy and has taken part in four major engagements. Moriarty joined the navy in June 1942.

Maurice N. Wolfe, district manager of M-G-M, has been re-elected president of the Sentry lodge of B'nai B'rith.

"National Velvet" was screened for the critics at Metro. The screening was attended by Charlie Howard of the Globe, 80-year-old dean of the critics, and many others. This picture has been well received by both the press and the exhibitors.

Francis Driscol, M-G-M booker, was ill with pneumonia at home . . . Helen Leavitt, M-G-M contract clerk, returned recently from New York where she spent a two-week vacation . . . District Manager James Winn of United Artists held a meeting for his entire sales staff, bookers and branch managers. The meeting was preceded by a screening of "Brewster's Millions" and "Colonel Blimp."

The marriage of Irving Shapiro to Miss Ruth Snider was one of the leading events of the last week. Many prenuptial parties were given for the couple and the Variety Club and other organizations held special events. Miss Snider's father, Ralph Snider, is one of the major theatre chain owners of the New England district, while Shapiro is head of one of the largest theatre confectionery concessions.

The total gate of the "Ice Follies" at the Garden was better than $480,000, exceeding by more than $100,000 its own previous high record . . . A cocktail party for the press was held at the Ritz Carlton with Katharine Cornell as hostess.

Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus set May 22 as opening date for a two-week engagement at Boston Garden. Preceding it here will be Frank Braden, veteran press agent who resigned from 20th-Fox to return to the circus.

Tom Walsh, for 23 years assistant manager at the Copley Plaza, has moved across the street as manager of the Copley Square . . . The "Vincent Ventures," annual musical review of the Vincent Club, was as usual a financial, social and artistic success. Better than $15,000 was realized for the Vincent Hospital Fund. Miss Barbara Hale alone sold more than $3,000 worth of advertising in the program . . . The Skating Club's annual carnival will be held at the club April 13, 14 and 15.

Sam Pinanski, head of the industry's Seventh War Loan drive, commutes to Boston over weekends to spend that time with his family in Brookline . . . During the illness of Harry Browning, chief tub thumper, George Carens, vice-tub thumper, is carrying on the executive work of the organization which now has permanent headquarters in the Parker House.

Tech. Sgt. Domenic Lupo, former motion picture publicist, is now stationed at a camp in North Carolina after serving three years in the marines during which he took part in many of the Pacific engagements . . . Word has been received from Donald B. "Tim" Wood that he is now a captain in the army and is with the invasion forces across the Atlantic. He entered as a private three years ago . . . Horace Nichols is now an ensign in the navy and is stationed at an Atlantic port.

Joe Marquis, manager of the M&P-owned Capitol Theatre of Allston, Boston suburb, recently completed his 20th year in the service of Paramount-Publix and M&P. Marquis started with Lawrence Bearg, then manager of the Metropolitan here, in 1925.

District Manager Ben Rosenberg of the M&P Theatres in Rhode Island still commutes to his home in Brookline but maintains his offices in Pawtucket . . . Braves Field may be the scene of a gigantic five-ring circus in midsummer, sponsored by the baseball club.

Sgt. Harold Rosenbaum, husband of Rose Rosenbaum, Warner inspector, was reported killed in action with the infantry in France . . . Pvt. Malcolm Wolf, son of Office Manager Ben Wolf of M-G-M, has been awarded a Purple Heart. He was wounded in the Holland invasion.

John Deery, owner of the Empire and Paramount theatres in Salem, was in Florida . . . Lieut. J. R. Levenson, son of Max Levenson of the Levenson circuit, returned home after 25 months with the amphibious forces in the Pacific.

Arthur Morton, Fenway manager who recently was classified 1A by his draft board, received a deferment and will remain at his managerial post . . . Frederic L. Berg, son of Head Booker Sam Berg of 20th-Fox, has been promoted to corporal. He is with the signal corps in France . . . Homer A. Graves, owner of the Rialto in Lancaster, N. H., has been confined to the hospital by illness . . . Harry Kirchgessner, National Screen Service manager, returned to Boston after a leave of absence of three weeks, which was spent in Atlantic City . . . Irving Mendelson, United Artists office manager, arranged a screening of "Delightfully Dangerous" for office employes.

Five new members, veterans of World War II, were accepted into the theatrical Legion post: Harold M. Fentin, Alfred I. Levine, Willian T. Donnelly, Abraham Fishman and Joseph Nuzzolo.

Bob Goodfried, United Artists New York publicist, was in cooperating with Phil Engel, Joe Longo and Joe DiPesa on the forthcoming exploitation on the Boston preview of "I'll Be Seeing You" . . . Harry Browning of H&P Theatres underwent an emergency appendectomy at Corey Hill Hospital. Browning expected to return to his desk in about a month.

Macaulay Post, American Legion, participated in the Evacuation Day parade recently. Adj. Dick Sullivan, publicist, was in charge of the arrangements . . . Sgt. Ralph E. Robbins, widely known in the film district, who suffered a serious leg injury near St. Lo in the Normandy invasion, is a patient at Lovell General Hospital . . . Max Melincoff, Harry P. Smith, Harry Germaine, Edward Dobkin, Ernest Warren and Arthur Galvin all are regular blood donors.

Candy Clerk to Dancer

WORCESTER—Miss Frances Spreadby has graduated from the front of the house at the Plymouth to backstage. She resigned as clerk of the candy concession to join the Clyde Jordan dancers, and almost immediately the group was booked into the Plymouth.

BRIDGEPORT

Manager Harry A. Rose of Loew's Majestic celebrated a birthday . . . Fire destroyed an auto and garage belonging to Peter Benard, projectionist at the Warner . . . Samuel Haddelman, who operates the Capitol and Colonial, had a busy time caring for his year-old son Allan, while his wife and daughter Susan were visiting in Washington.

Manager James Tobin of the Warner has been ordered to report for his preinduction physical . . . Ann Carney was back in the ticket booth at Loew's Globe after an illness . . . Murray Kaufman swelled his Red Cross collections by placing jars in the lobby bearing the names of former patrons who are now in the armed forces.

Louis Levy, Warner projectionist, is back from three weeks in Georgia . . . The Klein Memorial auditorium is reported considering a six to eight weeks' season of dramatic stock this spring . . . John C. Wilson of Southport has gone to Hollywood. He is seeking permission to go to London in June to confer with his partner, Noel Coward.

Manager Al Domain of the Globe has lost his secretary. When she married recently her husband took her to Columbia, S. C., to live . . . Victor Miller is the new doorman at the Warner . . . Robert Platz, Globe usher who recently underwent an operation, is convalescing at his home . . . Cute brunet Edith Palumbo has succeeded Gertrude Dimino as candy girl at the Merritt . . . Virginia Alter, Globe usherette, has been on the sick list.

Manager Given Half of Theatre

BOSTON—Faithful service over a quarter of a century was rewarded here this week when A. M. Burroughs, owner of 50 per cent of the stock in the Rialto Theatre, gave his stock to Harry Aaronson, manager.

At the start of the first world war, Aaronson, then an office boy in the offices of Burroughs and his late partner, Louis Boaz, left for service. On his return he was made first assistant manager and then manager of the Rialto.

Before this Burroughs favored Aaronson many times in substantial ways.

Aaronson said, "I never used to believe in Santa Claus, but now I know the old boy really lives and that his name is A. M. Burroughs. I am still in sort of a daze over my good fortune. Certainly no man ever worked for finer people than Mr. Burroughs and his associates."

Burroughs was high in his praise of his manager and said that he was confident that under his direction and ownership the Rialto would soar to new heights. There will be no change in the policy of the theatre which has operated successfully for so many years.

Early Mildness Hits New Haven Trade

NEW HAVEN—Business was hit again by holiday shopping and unseasonably fair weather. "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Roger Sherman was high downtown and stayed over for a second week. Second weeks of "Practically Yours" at the Paramount and "Tonight and Every Night" at the College were fair.

(Average is 100)

Bijou—**Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col); **The Big Bonanza** (Rep) 93
College—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **When Strangers Marry** (Mono), 2nd wk..... 96
Loew's Poli—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO); **She's a Sweetheart** (Col) 93
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Double Exposure** (Para), 2nd wk..... 100
Roger Sherman—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA)..... 110

"National Velvet" Tops "Berlin" In High Boston Week

BOSTON—"Hotel Berlin" was strong at the Fenway and Paramount and "National Velvet," which opened at the Loew's State and Orpheum, was tops in town. "Keys of the Kingdom" did good business at the Exeter and "Three Caballeros" was held for another week at the Majestic. "Three Caballeros" will be followed by "Mr. Emmanuel," which is expected to do a big business. "It's a Pleasure" opened at the Memorial, but the grosses are not quite up to what was expected.

The Easter season caused a slight drop in business but grosses were still high.

Boston—**Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), plus stage show 135
Exeter—**Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox)..... 130
Fenway and Paramount—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk.; **Town Went Wild** (Rep) 135
Majestic—**Three Caballeros** (RKO), 6th wk..... 120
Memorial—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 120
Metropolitan—**Practically Yours** (Para)..... 125
State and Orpheum—**National Velvet** (M-G-M)..... 140

"National Velvet" Rings the Bell In Gala Hartford Easter Week

HARTFORD—It was a gala Easter week business at theatres in this area. "A Song to Remember," held in its fourth stanza at E. M. Loew's. Second week holdovers at the Palace and Strand chalked up good figures. "National Velvet" rang the bell.

Allyn—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 145
E. M. Loew's—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 4th wk. 135
Palace—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M), 2nd wk..... 130
Poli—**National Velvet** (M-G-M)..... 180
Regal—**Pan-Americana** (RKO) 130
State—**Strange Illusion** (PRC), plus Olsen and Johnson's "Sons O' Fun" on stage..... 110
Strand—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk..... 160

SPRINGFIELD

Don Zelaya, recently in "The Purple Heart," appeared in person at the Court Square. Ruth Gordon has appeared two days this week at the Square in "Over Twenty-One."

Many local showmen attended the funeral here of Harry McDonald, 60, who died in Hartford on March 26. He was Universal exploitation representative for this area from Boston . . . Manager Ed Smith, Paramount here, and Mrs. Smith announce the marriage of their son, Maj. Jack Smith, to Miss Jane Stilz of Atlantic City.

Elihu Glass, owner of the Majestic, for the first time tripped to Boston on the newly organized flight service which makes the 100-mile jump in 45 minutes . . . Western Massachusetts theatres hosted Westover Field army officers and members of the Russian relief organization at a screening of "The Rainbow" at the Little Theatre here.

N. ENGLAND 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Charles A. H. Brooks is a business man of varied interests. In addition to operating six theatres in Maine, he manages a grocery store, a garage, and is a bank president in Ashland. In 1915 when he became interested in motion pictures he was employed by a telephone company. In that year he opened his first house and has operated at least one theatre continuously since then, except for time out in 1917 when he went to Europe with the AEF. He is a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows, and of the American Legion.



Nathan E. Goldstein, started in 1910 with a third interest in a penny arcade, ran it up into the Western Massachusetts Theatres, of which he is president. He's director of the Springfield Red Cross, WAC regional director, theatre committee chairman, headed first liberty loan drive, is past-president and directer of the YMHA, vice-president of New England Zionist region, president of Kodimoh congregation, B'nai B'rith general committeeman, Zionist Organization life member, on National Advisory Council of Junior Achievement.

Waterbury's Plaza Billed For "Thrills and Action"

BRIDGEPORT—Roger Mahan is billing his Plaza in Waterbury as the "Thrill and Action Theatre." The house was the first in the state to play "Main Street Girl," and limited attendance to adults.

N. HAMPSHIRE

"Farmers in Production," a film made in England, was shown at a recent meeting of the stewards' club committee of the industrial USO in Portsmouth . . . The semi-finals in a series of amateur stage shows at the Palace, vaudeville-film house in Manchester, were held recently. The winners were assured of participation in the grand final show to be held during April. Gerry Kearney has been acting as master of ceremonies.

Melvin Morrison, manager of the Strand in Dover, has been named to a committee which will arrange a program of advertising and promotion for the city of Dover under auspices of the Dover Retail Merchants' Ass'n.

Winthrop A. Pinkham, a Dover soldier recently freed from a Jap prison in the Philippines, has returned home. During his stay in San Francisco, newspaper photographers took pictures of him dining at the Stage Door Canteen with the M-G-M beauties, Gloria DeHaven and Marilyn Maxwell, and another soldier.

Crowds at theatres in Lebanon and Hanover remained calm and quiet through two different interruptions in power service which left them in darkness the other night. One unexpected "blackout" lasted 28 minutes and the other seven minutes.

Films are being shown Monday and Thursday afternoons and Tuesday evenings at the new youth Drop Inn at the YMCA in Portsmouth.

Theatre men, like other Granite Staters who experienced one of the toughest winters within memory from the standpoint of zero weather and big snowdrifts that cut down rural travel, were glad to see the mercury smash all records by hitting an official reading of 83 degrees in Concord on March 29. There was surf bathing at Hampton Beach.

House Bill 234, increasing New Hampshire workers' unemployment compensation benefits to a maximum of $20 a week for a 20-week period, has been signed by Gov. Charles M. Dale.

Norwich Boy Victim Of "Lady" Accident

NORWICH—Manager Joseph Boyle of the Broadway reports that of thousands who witnessed his recent showing of the "Fighting Lady" only a few realized that a Norwich boy was the victim of one of the most tragic scenes in the picture. Near the end of the film a fighter plane cracked up alongside of the navy carrier, known as the Fighting Lady. In the cockpit of that plane was Ensign Andrew Scopelitis, son of Mrs. Paul Scopelitis of this city, who was killed in the accident.

Scopelitis was reported lost in a plane crash at sea on June 8, 1944. The fact that he died alongside of the Fighting Lady has been verified by a roommate who recently wrote to members of the family.

Manager Boyle reported the story to the Daily Record during the run and good notices resulted.

NEW BRITAIN

Bernard Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, was here on inspection tour . . . A reissue of "Penny Serenade," Irene Dunne-Cary Grant opus, scored at the Music Box . . . Manager Norman Rowe, Windsor, Plaza, went to Boston for three days while Mrs. Shappard, cashier, held the fort.

Harold Thomas, former manager of the Norwalk, now is in naval training at Sampson, N. Y. Stan Redmond, former manager of the Allyn, Hartford, takes his place . . . Manager Murray Howard of the Palace, Norwalk, is using a "Search for Talent" contest weekly . . . Ellen McLaughlin, former assistant to Ernie Dorau, Middletown theatres, has been appointed manager of the Pouzzner-operated Victory, New London.

Pvt. Pat Vendrillo, ex-Circle, Manchester, arrived home from Camp Pickett, Va., on furlough and, as boxing was one of his hobbies prior to army induction, he took part in a six-round bout at the Hartford Auditorium and won! On his return, Pat will be reassigned to Washington.

Vaudeville-film combination at the Carberry, Bristol, is still clicking. Vaudeville is a drawing card at the Poli, Meriden, every Saturday night now.

WORCESTER

Dennis Guerard, doorman at the Plymouth, has been critically ill in City Hospital . . . George Heeley, manager of the Marlboro in that city, passed his examinations for the service . . . Miss Mary M. Sweeney, formerly of the Plymouth and the Poli, has joined the Elm Street.

Thomas F. Kilcoyne, manager of the Strand and Globe in Clinton, announced that Warner Bros. had donated $500 to the Clinton Hospital building fund . . . Natalie Thebodeau and Lillian Domiano of the Capitol were recent visitors in Boston . . . Seaman Domiano of the Capitol were recent visitors in Boston . . . Seaman Dorothy M. Dupont, who was with the Poli until she entered the WAVES, has returned to Washington, D. C., after a leave here.

The Better Films Council approved "The Fighting Lady," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," "San Diego, I Love You" and "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" for the family; "And Now Tomorrow," "Earl Carroll Vanities," "Grissly's Millions," "Hi, Beautiful," "Hotel Berlin" and "Tonight and Every Night" for mature-family audiences, and none for adults only.

The forthcoming marriage of Miss Mary Foley, an assistant manager of the Poli, to Lieut. Russell Moriarty, formerly assistant manager of the Poli, was announced . . . The opera, "Aida," drew 1,500 to the Auditorium . . . Jerry Wald, the band leader, was in town.

For "Naughty Marietta," Manager Frank Dubinsky announced free tickets for all women named Marietta . . . "Dark of the Moon," directed by Bob Perry, formerly of the Whalom in Fitchburg, drew fine notices on Broadway, and he was appointed to a permanent post on the Shubert's staff of directors as a reward.

Gloria Jean's personal at the Plymouth was cancelled by her when she was stricken ill while playing a Newark, N. J., house . . . Joseph Asselin, doorman at the Capitol, recently observed his 80th birthday, making him the oldest theatre employe in the city.

Bob Shore, chief of service at the Capitol, passed his navy tests . . . Manager Harold H. Maloney of the Poli conducted a preview of "The Fighting Lady" . . . Arthur Mabey, manager of the State in Milford, reports the Red Cross collections totaled $486.21.

Peter Meek is the new doorman at the Plymouth . . . Esther Forbes, Worcester author, is working with Elmer Harris in revising her play, "Love and Obey," for production in New York . . . Leo Lajoie, assistant manager of the Capitol, has been besieged for autographs ever since one of the papers said he looked like Alan Ladd.

The town of Westboro has voted to petition the state legislature in order to get permission to reimburse George M. Beede, manager of the Strand in Westboro, for land purchased several years ago . . . Mrs. Charles Desimone is an addition to the Plymouth's staff.

Manager Ralph Eaton of the Plymouth announced that first-place winners of all 21 talent nights conducted this season will be used in a locally-produced revue which will play the Plymouth and other New England houses. A New York producer will be brought in to handle the show.

Patrons at the Capitol are getting some extra-special ushering. Dick Tynan, Purple Heart survivor of action in the Pacific, came home on a 60-day leave, and for the sake of old times, he returned to the Capitol's service staff for a month.



NEW HAVEN

Balmy weather and unusually early spring shopping dented the theatre business somewhat . . . Norman Ayers of Warner home office was in town for meetings with the local manager, salesman and bookers on the pow-wow drive. Ben Rappaport, Universal traveling auditor, was a visitor.

All exchanges closed half a day Good Friday in keeping with the legal holiday.

Sid Swirsky started March 26 as assistant to William Brennan in the print department of Columbia Pictures, New York . . . Johnnie Pavone was "still loafing" and enjoying it . . . Lou Ginsbergs of Amalgamated went to New York for the holiday weekend, and the Bernard Levys of the same outfit were in Providence . . . Marshall Stauffer has resigned as manager of the Weiss Avon, Stamford.

Harry F. Shaw, Loew Poli division manager, was back at his desk after a back injury . . . Ray Wiley, UA manager, went to his old home, Syracuse, for the weekend. He was arranging the move to his new home here . . . Jimmie Martagh, Palace, Meriden, projectionist, was off sick . . . Marion Wass, former assistant manager, was in a Meriden hospital with pneumonia.

George Wooster, 95-year-old 20th-Fox superintendent, is recuperating from pneumonia and says he'll soon be back . . . Jerry Lewis of Republic was in New York to see his mother who is ill . . . Sid Levine, Warner booker, was in bed with a strep throat.

Mollie Rosenthal, whose husband is Morris Rosenthal, Poli New Haven manager, again takes on a big job as Red Cross chairman in Bridgeport . . . "Song to Remember" opened for a week at the Shubert.

Gleanings from another excellent Lou and Shirley Brown Home Front News: W. O. Elliot Kronish, formerly at the Loew Poli division office, is now at Selfridge Field, Mich., in charge of crash boat operations . . . Mary Foley, assistant at the Poli, Worcester, became the bride of Lieut. Russell Moriarty, former assistant at the Elm Street, Worcester, April 3.

Pvt. Jack Sidney, former assistant at the Poli, Bridgeport, is now in eastern France . . . Cpl. Tony Massella, former assistant at the Poli here, is doing administrative personnel work in Hawaii . . . Pvt. Sheldon Rose, once at the Lyric, Bridgeport, has organized a 16-piece band somewhere in the Pacific and entertains at hospitals and at dances.

At the Broadway, Norwich, community service is a byword: Manager Joe Boyle of the house, is co-chairman of the UNNRA drive, chairman of the military committee of Lions, co-chairman of the WAC, and an air raid warden . . . Matilda Pysyk, assistant manager, is active on the Red Cross motor corps . . . Stage Manager Neil Crowley is chairman of the amusement committee of the city, an alderman, and a deputy chief air raid warden . . . Projectionist Norman Soules is also active in local defense work.

RKO was standing fourth in the Ned Depinet drive with six more weeks to go.

HARTFORD

Local theatres prepared to assist the old clothes salvage drive with trailers and posters . . . As a first wedding anniversary gift Sgt. Ben Cohen, stationed in the Marshall Islands, sent Mrs. Cohen a watch . . . Martha Gilwich, student assistant, attended to "spring cleaning" at the Palace office.

Warner folks had mail from Frank Ramsey, former Lenox manager who recently was granted an army discharge and has been recuperating in California . . . Al Lessow, assistant at the Strand, Waterbury, tripped in on his day off . . . The birthday of Little Judy O'Toole, daughter of the Warner district executive secretary, Estelle O'Toole, was April 1.

Lou Cohen is awaiting further developments from Polysseus, details of which were recently reported here . . . Stanley Fitzson, naval hubby of "Doty" Fitzson, Allyn, has arrived in the Philippines . . . Rube Lewis, Palace, and Charlie Obert, Allyn, are getting their fishing tackle ready.

Happy birthday to Florence Cambria, chief bookkeeper at the Daily headquarters . . . Americo Marino jr. left for army induction at Camp Devens March 29. He was given a farewell party by the gang . . . Barny Pitkin, RKO, was a visitor . . . Henry Wittke, Lenox, reports that adult patronage has increased as a result of his campaign to "weed out" the juvenile trouble-makers even before they present money at the boxoffice till.

Marilyn Landers, will play a lead in "Angelica," to be presented in May by the Julius Hart School of Music . . . Pvt. Art Waterbury, former Regal usher, is now at Parris Island with the marines . . . Mike, the Strand's famous house cat, is passing out cigars as his mate, the Duchess, has presented him with a litter of kittens!

The Strand marquee has been repainted in blue and white . . . A new lobby section is being constructed at the Regal . . . Richard Maller, son of the Lyric manager, will celebrate his 14th birthday April 21 . . . Andy Anderson, Lyric, has reported for naval training at Sampson, N. Y.

Robert Rudner is new on the Regal staff . . . Johnny Forte has been promoted to flight officer with the air corps in Texas.

Pfc. Tony Bifolk, ex-Lyric, writes from Saipan . . . Hugh Campbell has started on a Victory garden . . . Rus Hughes, former Strand chief of service, V-mailed from a South Pacific naval situation . . . Sgt. Russ Grant, ex-Loew's circuit, is stationed in Luxembourg . . . Olsen and Johnson presented their "Sons O' Fun" show at the State last weekend.

Harry F. Shaw, Loew's division manager, and Mrs. Shaw, plan to leave for a vacation in Florida on April 30. Under his physician's orders, Shaw was unable to accept the chairmanship for the industry's Seventh War Loan drive in Connecticut . . . Mrs. Ed Fitzgerald, wife of the Poli manager in Waterbury, is ill at a local hospital . . . Robert Knepton, Warner contact manager, looks in top condition after a three-week vacation in Augusta, Ga. . . . Theatre activity is stirring along the shore. June opening is expected for the New Colony, Soundview.

Whispering Bill at Club

HARTFORD — Whispering Bill Smith, screen, stage and radio star, opened at the Melrose Inn last Monday, the 11th anniversary of the night club.

Uncle Joe in Show Business 62 Years

DALLAS—J. E. "Uncle Joe" Luckett, who reached his 74th birthday recently, not only is a veteran among theatre operators, mostly legitimate, but also qualifies as an old-timer in distribution. Although 74 he tells everybody that all future birthdays will be "21." He has been in the show business 62 years.



J. E. LUCKETT

On his last birthday Luckett brought in a bottle of imported wine of before prohibition vintage to celebrate with P. K. Johnston, Interstate head booker. He and Johnston have been close friends for over 25 years, having met in Washington. Their reminiscences included the old Knickerbocker Hotel's famous theatrical bar at 42nd and Broadway and the large mural running the full length of the bar showing old King Cole smiling.

Uncle Joe was connected with one of the first picture experiments thrown on a screen. He was proprietor of the Columbia Theatre in Washington when Burton Holmes came along with a lecture using a picture outfit to show the subjects. Thomas D. Armat was inventor of a projection machine using the first shutter. He filed suit against Holmes and won. Edison bought Armat's patent, and went on to devise the first motion picture machine.

Uncle Joe lost his Columbia lease and went with legitimate roadshows, handling several for the owners. He next presented the big Griffith pictures, "Birth of a Nation," "Intolerance" and "Hearts of the World." After Griffith helped found the United Artists Luckett came to Dallas to open a local branch. He established a reputation among exhibitors by refusing to oversell them and readily made adjustments.

After United Artists, Uncle Joe went with Warners and First National as branch manager. He retired from distribution about 15 years ago. In late years he has been in the employ of Interstate circuit doing special work in the home office. He is manager of the White Theatre in South Dallas.

WB Squawlettes Cause A Filmrow Traffic Jam

ATLANTA—Indian tepees, blankets, bows and arrows and other items of the Seminole tribe now help decorate the Warner exchange here. With three "Indian maidens" they were used to create a powwow atmosphere at the southeastern sales meeting at which Warners' new releases were announced by R. L. McCoy, district manager. The Indian "squawlettes," Nell Drake, Edna Taylor and Dorothy Brown, caused a traffic jam along Filmrow when they marched in full regalia to a popular eatery.

Annual Variety Golf Play At Dallas on April 29-30

DALLAS—The tenth annual spring golf tournament of the Variety Club of Texas, will be held April 29-30 with preliminaries on the first day at the club quarters in the Adolphus Hotel and the playoff on Monday at Glen Lakes Country Club. The golf committee: Chairman Duke Evans, Ben Bedford, Benny Bickers, Riley Hickman, Charlie Meeker, Sol Sachs, George Schepps, Frank Starz, Kendall Way.

Kind Censor Supplies Missing Dollar Bill

Atlanta—The censors who edit the mail from the boys overseas can be pretty tough sometimes but attractive Mrs. Margaret Walker, who is with Warner Bros. here thinks there's one censor in particular who's "pretty darned nice."

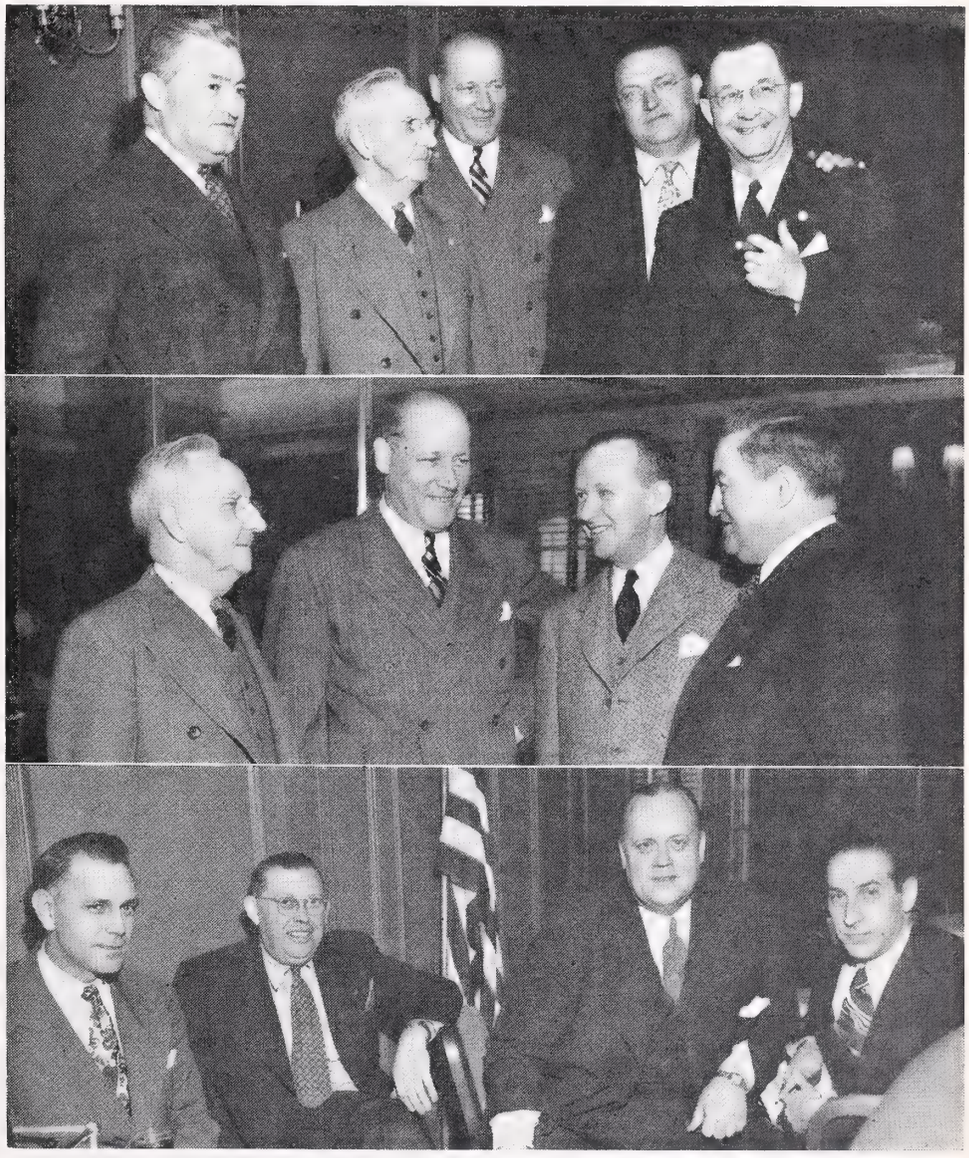
She received a letter from her brother-in-law, Seaman Arthur Walker, from the South Pacific recently in which the brother-in-law wrote that he was enclosing $3 for the baby boy, Johnny. At the end of the letter he added a P. S., "Please put another dollar with this. I haven't got but $2 with me."

Mrs. Walker examined the money attached and found there were three one-dollar bills. She looked back at the letter again and noted a second postcript. It read, "Here's the other dollar." Signed "The Censor."

Oakley to Manage Jefferson Circuit

DALLAS—S. L. Oakley, vice-president of Jefferson Amusement Co. in charge of buying and booking and with headquarters in Dallas, has moved to Beaumont where he will be general manager of circuit operations at its home office. He will continue to have supervision of the Dallas buying and booking office. Oakley's move to Beaumont fills the gap caused when C. C. Porter left the organization recently. Mrs. Oakley and children, Judith and Gordon, likewise are to be Beaumont residents. Before taking over the Dallas post, Oakley had a background of theatre operating experience with the circuit.

Sam Landrum, public relations executive who has been at Beaumont headquarters for several years, has been transferred to Dallas to manage the local booking office. No other moves are anticipated, Oakley said. Oakley and Landrum returned last week from a trip to New York.



MR. SCHULTZ KEEPS A PROMISE—Folks along Kaycee's Filmrow are still talking about that shindig thrown last week by Clarence Schultz. It was held at Hotel Muehlebach and a goodly crowd was there. In addition to the host, O. K. Mason and other Commonwealth officials were on hand, entertaining several hundred Rowites. Refreshments included steaming tables of sea food and other comestibles. It all came about over a promise: Schultz said he would throw a party if Filmrow met its Red Cross quota. Whereupon the denizens of the 18th and Wyandotte area quite handily exceeded the mark set. In the photos, usual order:

Top: Finton Jones, Arthur Cole, E. C. Rhoden, Schultz, Bill Truog. Center: Cole, Rhoden, Byron T. Schutz, Jones. Bottom: L. J. Kimbriel, Robert Shelton, Russell Borg, M. D. "Babe" Cohen.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Charlie Smith, formerly with Boyter Booking Agency, who has been released from the coast guard, is visiting his brother Duke who owns and operates the Cadet Theatre in Dawson. Charlie is expected to return to work on the Row soon . . . J. T. Little is planning the opening of his new Star Theatre in McClain for April 18. He is the manager of the Southwestern Light & Power Co. there. The Star will make two theatres in McClain.

Don Timmons, former shipper for RKO, released from Canadian air force, is back here working in another kind of business . . . Paul Ketchum, with Standard Theatres here for many years and now owner of the Century Theatre in Texarkana, writes from Hawaii of meeting several local Filmrow buddies there in the services. His wife runs the theatre. During a recent rainstorm water flooded the Century on one of the busiest Fridays for a long time. Boards were laid in the aisles and the show continued.

Betty Ditto, NSS biller, and Wayne G. Harris, booker for Universal, were married recently . . . 20th-Fox's tradeshowing of "Diamond Horseshoe" was well received by the screening room audience . . . Owner Sykes of the Villa, Marlin Butler of the Log Cabin and Harry Holt of the Wes-Ten reported Easter Sunday and Holy week were poor business days in all neighborhood theatres.

C. B. Akers and Marion Osborne, state WAC leaders, will attend a Chicago meeting April 16-18 for the Seventh War Loan drive. More theatre issuing agencies will be established for this campaign . . . One of those timely breaks that come rarely in the exhibition business occurred at the Uptown where "Gaslight," which stars Ingrid Bergman in the role that won her the 1945 academy award, ran simultaneously with the newsreel that featured the presentation of the Oscar to Ingrid.

Visitors on the Row: Oda Terry of Konawa, Charles Knauf of Beggs, Virby Conley of Perryton, L. A. White of Weatherford, A. J. Sigmund of Lexington, Gus Tolsdorf of Depew, C. E. Norcross of Cordell, V. A. Wilkinson of Comanche, J. B. Denny of Jay, Wright Hale of Spearman, Roy Eakins of Helena, Mrs. Mary Norcross of Seiling, C. L. Lance of Skellytown, Mr. and Mrs. William Copeland of Geary, Elmo Rankin of Custer City, Waite Kerr of Sulphur, John Gray of Chickasha, D. A. White of Collinsville.

Dudley Tucker jr., former booker for Columbia, has been released from the marines. Following a visit with relatives he is expected to return to the Row.

Grosses at the leading theatres in Tulsa have taken a big drop from the peak of a few months back. Oklahoma City has been following the same trend many weeks. Patrons again are shopping for the better attractions. "Meet Me in St. Louis" did a big three-week business recently while other leading theatres suffered.

Warners has been gaily decorated in an Indian motif for the big powwow drive . . . 20th-Fox is asking all exhibitors to play some of their film, whether a customer or not, during April to help celebrate the 20th-Fox 30th anniversary . . . Present plans are for most theatres to close 24 hours following announcement of victory over Germany.

M-G-M's Showmandiser truck has been working out of this exchange for the past weeks . . . Local neon sign company officials have been hinting the brownout will be lifted before the end of May and again may light up fronts and turn on attraction signs.



Rod Cameron's Option Picked Up

Universal has picked up Rod Cameron's option.

"COOLING"

Get Ready Now — Do Not Wait Until a Hot Day

1. Clean, paint your cooling plant for protection
2. Clean, oil motors, pumps, etc.
3. Check fuses and wiring

and order now while we have them

Aspen Wood Excelsior Mats

(Sizes in stock now)

Mat Number	Approximate size in inches	Price FOB Dallas
51	33 x 33 x 3	$1.50 each
52	27 x 29 x 3	1.50 "
53	28 x 57 x 3	2.40 "
54	37 x 51 x 3	2.70 "
56	23 x 49 x 3	1.95 "
57	57 x 52 x 3	1.90 "

Order now as we do not know what the supply will be. Figure the square foot area and order the pads to cover same.

HERBER BROTHERS

"Fair Treatment and Adequate Service Always"

408 S. HARWOOD DALLAS, TEXAS

H. S. Leon, an Operator Of 14 Theatres, Dies

DALLAS—H. S. Leon, widely known Texas showman operating 14 theatres in ten towns, died late last week in a local hospital following an illness of several weeks. He was 47. He and Mrs. Leon lived here at 4301 Westway.

Burial was in Rule, Tex., his home since early childhood until he moved here recently. Active pallbearers included business men from in and near Rule and A. M. Morgan, former Grand Prairie theatre man who was Leon's partner in their first theatre at Rule. Honorary pallbearers were: Phil Isley, Fred Larned, LeRoy Bickel, Jack Bettis, Neal Mancil, Claude Ezell, C. J. Zern, R. H. Clemmons, H. A. Cole, Sebe Miller, all of Dallas; W. H. O'Bryan, Oklahoma City; Frank Bettis, El Paso; Claude Kennedy, Brownsville; Virgil Meadows, Haskell, and P. V. Williams, Munday.

Survivors are his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Madge Leon Moore, a former U.S. air transport pilot; four brothers, three of whom live in western Texas and another, C. D. Leon of Dallas, who has a financial interest in the circuit; and two sisters who also reside in western Texas.

Leon was born in a small community in eastern Texas, and when very young moved with his parents to Rule. During early manhood he operated his first theatre there. He sold out a few years later and opened a theatre in Sweetwater, which he also sold. During the next few years he opened and built a number of theatres over the state. At the time of his death he owned theatres in El Paso, Albany, Crowell, Baird, Del Rio, Brownsville, Ysleta, Haskell, Graham and Amarillo. He was vice-president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas and a member of the Variety Club.

Leon moved to Dallas about five years ago and opened an office at 2009½ Jackson St.

C. D. Leon, who has managed several of the houses at different times and who has been doing executive work in the Dallas office for the last three years, has taken over operation of the circuit as general manager.

Law Falks of Graford Opens Fishing Resort

GRAFORD, TEX.—Law Falks has resigned his position as manager of the Rio and Ramon theatres at Raymondville for the R. N. Smith circuit, to open a fishing and boating camp on Possum Kingdom Lake. This will cater especially to theatre men. Fawks has been in Raymondville as manager for the last three years and was in his 22nd year of show business. He was connected with Oskar Korn for 11 years as manager at Plainview and at McCamey. The balance of the time he was working for himself at Graford and at Mineral Wells.

Falks still will retain ownership in his Graford Theatre, but due to his health, has leased it to Albert L. King. However, Falks will still keep in touch with theatre affairs, as he has sent in his subscription order with the comment, "I want to make sure I have BOXOFFICE each week."

Guy Perdum of Wichita, Kas., is taking over as manager of the Raymondville theatres. For a number of years he has been connected with the Griffith Theatres there, working with Barnes Perdue.

In Booking Mexican Film

SAN ANTONIO—Exhibitors in town booking Mexican pictures along the film market were Mart Cole, Cole circuit, Rosenburg; Mr. Hall, Sonora; Ernest Mollison, Mexico, Raymondville; R. O. Smith, Marble Falls, and several others.

Invalid Morrison's Worries Gone Now

MEMPHIS—A. B. Morrison, dean of Memphis theatre men, "is setting pretty" once more. Friends in the theatre business staged a floor show and dance at the Casino last week to raise funds for Morrison, who has been an invalid for several years.

More than $3,000 was raised. The debt on his home will be paid off. Money for an eye operation will be provided. A trust fund will be set up for him to use as he sees fit.

In addition, Jack Warner of Warner Bros. has set aside a $30 a month pension for Morrison.

Morrison was assistant manager of Warner Theatre here when he fell and injured himself several years ago, forcing his retirement.

Chalmers Cullins, veteran theatre man, and Aubrey Clapp, welfare commissioner, arranged the party. Tickets were put on sale at all theatres, both downtown and in the residential sections.

Morrison's letter of thanks, read at the party, said: "There is a Santa Claus." Morrison slept soundly at his home while thousands made merry at the party in his honor.

Betty Blames Her Decline On Too Many Films a Year

MEMPHIS—Betty Compson, the blonde beauty of the silent screen, leaned across the cosmetic counter of the Kress store here last week and said: "The women of America are finally getting bright. They are learning it is not necessary to pay $15 a jar for cleansing cream."

Miss Compson was gesturing with a small jar that turned out to be her own product—a complete makeup that sells for 25 cents. Miss Compson became a star in the same picture as did Lon Chaney more than 20 years ago. She has been with the House of Hollywood promoting beauty preparations for six years.

To her Hollywood is "a phony place, done with mirrors and wires." The reason for her decline in films? "I made eight or ten pictures a year when I should have made two to four."

R. B. Weatherall Building Third Huntsville House

DALLAS—Reliable sources here report R. B. Weatherall is building a third theatre in Huntsville with foundation in and work started on the upper structure. Weatherall is an ex-service man, having been discharged from the navy some time ago.

In former years Weatherall worked for Sam Parish, who has owned two theatres there for more than a quarter century and during the last few years has had an R&R circuit affiliation. Weatherall left Parish and opened the Plaza Theatre in Madisonville which he sold later to J. G. Long circuit. Weatherall was in the equipment business in Houston and then operated a repair service.

"Dillinger" Under Ban But It May Be Reconsidered

MEMPHIS—"The Life of John Dillinger" has drawn the temporary ban of the local censor board. However, the board is reconsidering, according to Bailey Pritchard, Monogram manager.

"Lloyd Binford, chairman of the censor board, told me after seeing the picture that he did not believe the showing of it would benefit the public," Pritchard said. "He indicated, however, he would give the question further consideration."

The picture had been scheduled for showing at Warner Theatre soon.



BESA SHORT'S SHORTS DEP'T "GOING ON 12"—A birthday cake with 11 candles highlighted an informal party held in the Interstate circuit's short subjects department. Mrs. Besa Short, gifted in advertising and publicity work, organized the department 11 years ago. Continuous functioning has caused it to be an important angle of the Interstate operation.

The photo above constitutes a challenge to any circuit office or west coast studio. Here are young women with versatile backgrounds and much experience in different phases of industry work, all of which has been valuable in further specialized training by Mrs. Short. For instance, one girl is a former RKO inspector and later worked in the main office of that exchange before going with Interstate. Two of the girls were in an exchange front office for several years.

Left to right: Anna Mae Handlin, Sally Eason, Lillian Pratt, Nell Fridge, Besa Short, Virginia Lyons and Sally Curtright.

MEMPHIS

Charles A. Shaw, in the theatre business for the past six years, has been named RKO field representative for the Memphis and New Orleans territory. He was here this week with Fred Ford, field superintendent of the southeastern division, who was showing him the ropes. His headquarters will be in Memphis. He has been with United Artists in New York until recently. During the past six years Mr. Shaw has been in New England, New York and Florida in the theatre business.

Harry Graham, Atlanta, district manager for Universal, was here on business last week . . . Columbia employes are working out their vacation schedules, which started April 1 and will continue through October 1.

At Paramount this week Evelyn Miles, booking stenographer, was back on the job after a two-month leave. Gwendolyn Crace, a new employe, was taking over her duties in the accounting department as Mrs. Frances Malhoit, resigned, was preparing to leave.

J. A. West, president of the Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi Motion Picture Theatre Owners Ass'n, is planning a directors meeting soon. Notice of time and place will be mailed . . . The Hollywood Theatre, operated by West, has a birthday plan which works this way: A birthday list is kept and a pass is mailed to all boys and girls in the community inviting them to a birthday party at the Hollywood. The pass admits the boy or girl with their parents.

Oscar S. Oldknow, vice-president of National Theatre Supply, and R. W. Dassow, manager of the Chicago office, were visiting the Memphis office . . . Mrs. Alice Graham was in last week buying equipment to open a theatre at Tuckerman, Ark., named the New . . . Mrs. Shirley Hopper is the new stenographer at National Theatre Supply.

At M-G-M, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, office manager, was on vacation last week. Mrs. Corrine King, stenographer, was about the happiest person in town. Her husband, Cpl. Leo King, was home for a visit after three years overseas.

Mrs. Henry V. Goodall was seated in a local theatre the other night when she suddenly saw her husband, Lieutenant Commander Goodall, in a newsreel. She hadn't seen him since 1940. He was taken prisoner of the Japs after the fall of Manila. He was shown with some of the Americans who had liberated him. Mrs. Goodall had already been notified that he was freed but seeing him in the newsreel was "a real thrill."

Sigmund Romberg's concert packed them in last Saturday night at Ellis Auditorium. Romberg and his orchestra were brought here by Ike Myers, promoter . . . "Martha," the popular opera in English, will be heard April 10 at Ellis. Mrs. Martha Angier, Memphis promoter, is presenting the opera . . . Jimmy McClain, radio's Dr. I. Q., and his troupe were presented for the navy personnel at Millington last week.

Roof Blown Off; Patrons Sit On Enjoying Show

New Braunfels, Tex.—Recent winds blew the roof off of the Capitol Theatre here and set it down in a nearby neighbor's yard while the patrons enjoyed the evening performance not knowing what had happened. The portion of the roof was torn off from the back part of the house, which is owned by Banker-Showman Emil Heinen.

CHARLOTTE

Earl Smith, brother and partner to Ira Smith in operation of the Breeze and Palm theatres, Beaufort, S. C., has been elected president of the Beaufort Rotary Club . . . Mrs. Ruby Mercer, National Screen Service cashier, was married March 27 to J. T. Fincher of the Reconstruction Finance Corp.

The annual "rummage matinee" was staged this week by the Charlotte Junior League at the Dilworth and Visulite theatres for the benefit of the medical social service department of the Memorial Hospital. Through the cooperation of A. B. Craver, manager of the Visulite, and Mrs. Dorothy Ramsey of the Dilworth, who donated the theatres, and the union operators at both houses who donated their services, children were admitted without buying a ticket provided they brought a bundle of rummage.

Kings for the Day at the Variety Club luncheon at the Hotel Charlotte were Bill White and Cy Dillon. Graham Morrison, county farm agent of Lincolnton, N. C., gave a humorous talk. The door prize was won by RKO District Manager Dave Prince of Atlanta. The prize (cigarets) was promptly donated by Prince to the older boys at the Memorial Hospital polio center.

Cy Dillon, Republic manager, left Monday for Nashville where he will meet with Merritt Davis and N. J. Colquhoun, district managers, for conferences with Bijou Amusement Co. officials.

Visitors on the Row: H. P. Howell, Howell, Smithfield, N. C.; Fin Davis, Mimosa, Morganton; Tom Fleming, Sylvia, York; Morris Littman, Sylvan, Rutherfordton; Charles Cash, Dixie, Kings Mountain; George D. Carpenter and J. V. Benfield, Colonial, Valdese; Hall Houpe, Rogers, Shelby; Harry Cook, Center, Mount Olive.

L. L. Drake, owner of the Ansonia Theatres in Wadesboro, N. C., was dismissed from Saturday Memorial Hospital in Charlotte where he underwent a serious operation . . . RKO Notes: Salesmen Gene Dyer and Roger Mitchell, away on two-week trips, spent the Easter weekend in Raleigh and Greenville, respectively . . . Jim Wallace, booker, is recuperating from a serious operation at Memorial Hospital.

Cadet Capt. Jack Griffith, student at Oak Ridge Military Institute, spent the Easter holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Griffith.

H. F. Kincey, WAC exhibitor chairman for the Seventh War Loan, and Benn H. Rosenwald, distributor chairman, will attend the WAC meeting in New York Monday, April 9.

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Paul Campbell Buys Palace at Hico, Tex.

DALLAS—Paul Campbell, who recently returned to Texas from California, said here this week that he has purchased the Palace Theatre in Hico and that he is now operating the house. He owned and operated the Gwen at Handley but sold it because his draft board in California was saying his number was coming up. Back in California he was turned down. So he returned to Texas. Campbell did some booking and buying while in town.

Mrs. Henry Seel Dies After Brief Illness

JACKSON, MISS.—Mrs. Henry Seel, wife of the manager of Kennington-Saenge Theatres, died recently at the family residence after a brief illness. Final rites were held from the Wright & Ferguson chapel, with burial in Cedarlawn Cemetery.

R. J. Ingram Cuts the Cake

ATLANTA—As Columbia people in 31 states celebrated the 20th anniversary of A. Montague as general sales manager, the local branch staged a large party and dance at which R. J. Ingram, southern division manager, cut a large birthday cake and all members of the staff joined in a toast to "the boss." The celebration also launched the Montague sales drive.

Gypsy Smith Jr. on Stage

SAN ANTONIO—The evangelist, Gypsy Smith jr., was heard daily from the Empire Theatre stage for the noon services last week.

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CHARLOTTE, N. C.

T. A. LITTLE

FRANK BEDDINGFIELD

Two Films Hold Over Despite Dallas Rains

DALLAS—Continued rain didn't do first run grosses any good but there were two holdover pictures despite that. "Practically Yours" and "Winged Victory" went over average by the same percentage, and "Meet Me in St. Louis" finished a third and closed. The lesser runs were around the average mark.

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col); **Youth on Trial** (Col), split with **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ); **Three on One Trail** (PRC).....115
Majestic—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox).....130
Melba—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox).....110
Palace—**Practically Yours** (Para).....130
Rialto—**Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo** (M-G-M), 2nd run, split with **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M).....120
Tower—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....115

Univ. Starlet Grew Up In Lone Wolf, Okla.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Karen Randall, Universal's new starlet from Oklahoma, was Miss Lena Bell McCarrick to the home folks at Lone Wolf, where she was born and graduated from high school, and at Hobart, where she went to junior college and studied dramatics, and at the University of Oklahoma at Norman, where she was a student for one year.

Lena Bell and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McCarrick, went to Hollywood two years ago during the summer vacation. Lena Bell got a chance, so they stayed. Now she is under a seven-year contract with Universal and worked under Walter Wanger's direction in "Salome, Where She Dances."

Mexican Film Releases Announced by Azteca

SAN ANTONIO—The Azteca Films Distributing Co. here announced the following Mexican pictures for current release: "Murallas de Pasion," "La Rival de su Hija," "Nino de Las Monjas," "Amor de Los Amores" and "Me Ha Besado un Hombre."

In the near future the company will have the film success, "Me He de Comer Esa Tuna," with Jorge Negrete, singing star of Mexico.

Bugie Now Manager

DALLAS—William F. Bugie, formerly salesman in the Republic exchange, succeeds N. J. Colquhoun as branch manager. Colquhoun recently took over district management of southwestern sales for the company.

IN MEMORIAM

TO MY

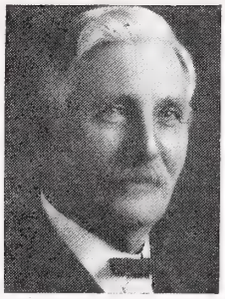
AFFECTIONATE FRIEND

HAROLD B. ROBB

MARCH 29, 1945

Wallace W. Walthall

SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



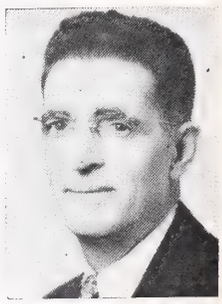
The Dixie in Athens, Tex., has been under the same management for 33 years; at its helm that grand old showman of East Texas, **N. G. Dorbandt,** nearly 91. He has relinquished active management to sons Will and Ed, but is a nightly visitor at the Dixie and the Liberty, the second house. BOXOFFICE is indeed happy to announce that the erroneous report of Mr. Dorbandt's death was, to say the least, "exaggerated," to quote from Mark Twain. The confusion occurred through the fact that the elder Mr. Dorbandt recently lost his wife.



In 1906, the year before Oklahoma was formally admitted to statehood, **Domenic Buffo,** owner of the Liberty in Hartshorne, Okla., began his business career by opening a general store. He operated that store until 1919 when he entered the theatre field, where he has happily remained ever since. His wife, Mrs. Lucy Buffo, is a partner in the Liberty operation. Buffo is active in exhibitor and club affairs in his community and his hobby is woodworking. A son, John, is a sergeant in the army signal corps. He is an Odd Fellow.



W. J. Wilke, a director of Texas Theatre Owners, decided last December it was time to dispose of his Liberty Theatre, Graham, after rounding out 40 years in show business. He started in an airdome and second floor "opera house," playing vaudeville and a few feet of film. He operated theatres in Abilene and Wichita Falls and leased a theatre in Burkburnett during the famous oil boom. Wilke built the Liberty in 1923 and his daughter, Miss Morene M. Wilke, has assisted him in operation of the location for the past 20 years.



About the same time W. C. Handy was immortalizing Memphis's famous Beale Street in a blues song, **Joseph M. Maceri** was entering show business by opening the Daisy Theatre on that colorful thoroughfare. Today he owns a circuit of eight theatres, including the Daisy, New Daisy, Lamar, Linden Circle, Capitol, Joy, Memphian and Rialto. Maceri is married and has a son, Mike Philip Maceri. He is a fourth degree Knight of Columbus and for diversion plays handball, gin rummy and indulges in some fishing. He offers an open challenge to anyone at these games.



During the depression of 1931, **William M. Wade** entered the industry to help out Mrs. Wade in a theatre venture. Their theatre is the Augus at San Augustine, Tex. Wade has a great deal of civic pride that the town, situated on the Old Spanish Trail, is said to be one of the oldest towns in Texas. He is a great-nephew of E. O. Le Grande, one of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Whenever he can assign all necessary details of home and office to Mrs. Wade, he likes to hunt. His son, Nelsyn E., is an ensign in the South Pacific.



In 1919 **T. A. Ballas** of Memphis bought a suburban theatre which he and his brother intended to operate as a sideline. "I found out I couldn't operate that way so I gave it my full time," Ballas remarks. He bought other theatres through the years but now is operating only the Madison in Memphis. Ballas is a Mason, a member of Ahepa and the Variety Club. For diversion he takes a "postman's holiday" and makes amateur motion pictures. "This business is fascinating once you get it in your blood," Ballas commented recently.



One of the early exhibitors of Arkansas, **Cecil Cupp** entered the industry in 1919 and was an organizer of the Arkansas Exhibitors' Ass'n. He owns the 600-seat Royal and the 350-seat Co-ed Theatre at Arkadelphia. Although his major interest is the theatre, he is also active in real estate and banking. Director and past president of the Tri-States MPTO, he is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce, a steward in the Methodist Church, a member of the Masons and a Shriner. Cecil jr., 20, is in the navy at San Diego.



Teen-age showmen are not solely a phenomena of the present wartime manpower shortage. **Wallace R. Kauffman,** for instance, operator of the Imp and Victory at Benton, Ark., and the Bauxite Theatre at Bauxite, Ark., started his career as a projectionist when he was 13 years old. He moved to Benton in 1917, served two years in World War I and returned home to become an exhibitor. He became a partner of Robb & Rowley-United in 1936, has two children and is a member of the Rotary Club. A daughter is in high school; the son is a coast guardsman.

DALLAS

News of the death of Phil Schnitzius with the armed forces in Germany has been received at Warners where he was a booker. He had been in the army nearly three years and in Europe more than a year . . . A. M. "Buck" Morgan, former theatre operator in Grand Prairie, is running for mayor there against stiff opposition from the incumbent, who has held the office for several years. Morgan sold his two theatres to W. G. Underwood and associates. He is on the Grand Prairie rationing board and has been doing quite a bit of church work.

Herschel Crawford, owner and operator of the Palace at Slaton, was on the Row buying and booking. On the way into town on the treacherous Fort Worth cutoff, he had a car accident but received only minor bruises.

Cpl. Durwood Witherspoon spent a few days here and on the Row while on a furlough from overseas duty. His home is in Lufkin where he worked for Lee Threet when the latter had the Texas Theatre. Then he moved to Dallas and worked for Threet when the showman had a theatre office here and later for Forrest White at Ind-Ex Booking Service.

Jack Holman, who has been connected with the Wallace Blankenship circuit at Levelland for several years, was in town on a short business trip. Jack operated the Ritz in Texarkana for about two years soon after the war started, but sold out and returned to Levelland.

It's private citizen Charles L. Brent now but up until a few days ago he was lieutenant in the navy. In civilian clothes he visited along Filmrow and at the Variety Club and left for Phoenix, Ariz., to see his friends, Phil Isley and wife, who are visiting there while their daughter, Jennifer Jones, is on location thereabouts. Brent, who was over age, volunteered immediately after Pearl Harbor. He will probably return to theatre operating. He holds an interest with Isley in the Brazos in Mineral Wells.

John Blocker of the Texas in Abilene, here for several days on film matters, said his town is not as devoid of soldiers as news reports stated. He said the soldier personnel at Camp Barclay is slim, but he believes a new army of trainees will be there soon.

Miss Florence Gary and P. C. McPherson, theatre managers in Henderson for East Texas Theatres, have received medals from the Texas WAC for their outstanding work in the Sixth War Loan drive.

Lieut. Gordon Clark, son of Duke Clark, Paramount district manager, arrived here over the weekend even though railroads were not operating for a day or two. The lieutenant was on his way from Lexington, Va., where he did special army work, to Camp Bowie in Brownwood. His group became waterbound in Texarkana. Wanting to see his father here and still make schedule to camp, he and four other officers hired a car to drive them in to Dallas. There was a brief family reunion and everybody was happy.

The Paramount Pep Club had one of its parties in the exchange club room. There was good eating and dancing. Manager Fred Larned and Sales Manager Heywood Simmons were on their toes helping out.

Francis Faris, RKO salesman, was rejected by army doctors because of high blood pressure. For a time it looked as though RKO would be up against it for salesmen with Frank Wilson, Jack Schumpert and Faris all called. The first two were deferred for six months but now all three remain on duty for the company.

Flight Officer Gene Autry, stationed at Love Field here, was a visitor on the Row, talking to a number of friends. There was report that Gene had been or is being released by army. He "knows nothing about it." He was scheduled to go to Houston to make a personal appearance for Variety Club at the Plantation night club, the proceeds to go to the Boys Ranch at Copperas Cove. Chief Barker Jack Groves of the Houston tent was in charge.

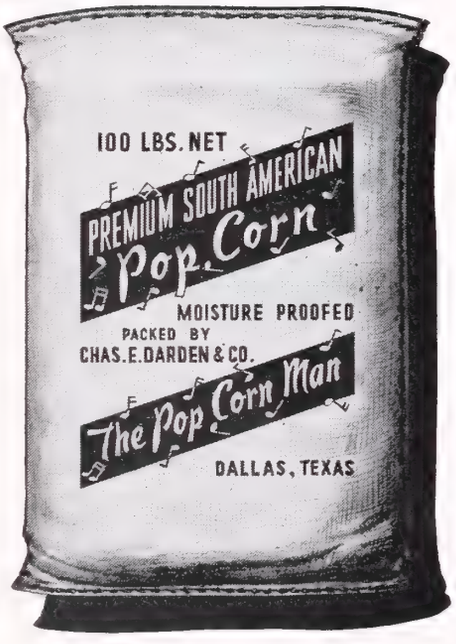
A Nashville boy, Claude Jarman jr., has the role in M-G-M's forthcoming picture, "The Yearling." He has done no previous dramatic work, but his old south dialect won. A number of Texas boys were considered in a nationwide talent search.

Lightman Fills Promise

MEMPHIS—A week ago M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, Inc., promised the American Legion he would help get entertainment for the U.S. veterans hospital here. Miss Martha Wood, pretty blonde singer, called Lightman. The result was a stage show was worked out by Miss Wood and others and presented this week. Veterans of both the first and present world wars are at the hospital.

De Sylva Signs the King Cole Trio

B. G. De Sylva has signed the King Cole Trio to a personal contract.



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ATLANTA

The York Theatre, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., was destroyed by fire . . . Eddie Bonns, UA southern publicity director, is back at his desk after several months of illness, and no longer uses his cane . . . William "Snake" Richardson, president of Astor Pictures of the Southeast, has returned from a trip through Florida.

Ike and Harry Katz, PRC franchise holders, were hosts at a luncheon at the Mayfair Club given in honor of Arnold Stoltz, eastern PRC publicity and advertising director, and the motion picture editors of local papers . . . Two Florida exhibitors were called to report for their physicals last week. They were Jimmy Biddle of the Fay at Jasper, and J. Paul Smith of the Washington, DeLand.

Merritt Davis, southern division manager of Republic, has just returned from the west coast where he visited officials and reviewed future releases . . . George M. Jones, Tennessee representative for Motion Picture Advertising Service, has completed his first trip into the state.

Pvt. Joseph T. Scott, formerly with Columbia, is now overseas . . . Sgt. Cecil Peacock, formerly with 20th-Fox, is fighting the Japs . . . Back from New York were Arthur C. Bromberg, president, and Harold Cohen, sales representative of Monogram Southern . . . Pete Harrison, publisher of Harrison Reports, passed through en route from Florida to New York.

Mrs. Grace Hollingsworth, formerly with Benton Bros. Film Express, is leaving for Orlando, Fla. Pricilla Richardson is taking her place. Gladys Fincher has been added to the bookkeeping department.

Mrs. Christine Banks, head accessory clerk at 20th-Fox, is leaving for a temporary stay in Florida . . . John Jenkins of Astor Pictures at Dallas and the Jaybee Exchange here was a visitor . . . Other visitors: Mrs. Mary Hayes Davis, La Belle, Fla.; W. H. Youngblood, Sevier Theatre, Johnson City, Tenn.; R. E. Higginbottom, Pell City, Ala.

Harry Paul of Wil-Kin returned from Pensacola . . . Dorothy Smith is the new secretary to Fred Nash at Wil-Kin . . . Jerry Austin and Mrs. Jesse Crichton have been added to the accounting department at Wil-Kin.

Mrs. N. E. Savini, wife of the Savini Films executive, was in New Orleans visiting her mother and relatives . . . H. L. Barrett has been added to the shipping department of National Screen Service. H. L. is the son of Jack Barrett, Florida salesman of Monogram Southern . . . The son of Mrs. Adalaide Gallinger, 20th-Fox, was home on an army furlough . . . Ashton Matthews of Charlotte was in booking.

Norman H. Moray, Warner Bros. vice-president in charge of short subjects, passed through . . . Now at Universal are Jean Sherill, Pat Farmer and Virginia Griffin . . . Lieut. Bolivar Hyde, formerly with the navy motion picture division in Miami, is now stationed in the same capacity at Washington.

Gus King, president of Capitol City Supply has returned from Miami Beach. While there King entertained at the 5 o'Clock Club in honor of Al Vogle, theatrical equipment manufacturer of Milwaukee; Ed Wolk, theatre supplies executive, Chicago, and King's son Buddy, who was leaving for the merchant marine.

On the Row were E. J. Hunter, Colquitt Theatre, Colquitt, Ga.; Abe Borisky and Jay Soloman, Chattanooga; Cleo Manley, Buena Vista, Ga.; Bill Griffin, Cullman, Ala. . . . Robert Helms, chief petty officer in the navy and formerly with Theatrical Printing Co., was home on leave.

Mrs. Patricia Howell, formerly connected with Film Classics and Universal exchanges, is joining the Monogram Southern in the booking department . . . Mrs. Ruth Kolbaba of Monogram and her husband left to visit relatives in Cherry Point, N. C. From there they were to go to Cleveland and Chicago . . . Jimmy Gillispie, 20th-Fox publicist, was in New York.

Bryan, Tex., Houses Get $1,434 for Red Cross

BRYAN, TEXAS—Following unusual success in war bond sales and March of Dimes appeals, Mrs. Morris Schulman of the Palace, Queen and Dixie theatres reported Red Cross collections of $1,434 in the three houses.

Late Double Features Too Much for Boy, 8

Oklahoma City, Okla.—The double feature at the neighborhood Victoria Theatre was just too much for sleepy-eyed, eight-year-old Richard Gregory. So he went to sleep.

Early the next morning, Richard's father called police to say that he was afraid his son had fallen asleep at the show and was locked inside. Upon arrival at the showhouse, police shouted to Richard through the locked doors and, after awakening him, told a tearful and scared little boy how to let himself out through a fire escape door.

Richard still likes motion pictures, but he intends to avoid the late shows, especially double features.



A TOAST TO MONTAGUE—A toast is being offered by the Memphis employes of Columbia Pictures. They are drinking the toast to Abe Montague of New York, general sales manager. The party was held last week in connection with Montague's twentieth anniversary with the company.







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WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES



AND ONLY SIXTH!—In case you don't notice him, that's Al Burks, M-G-M exploiteer, passing a $50 war bond to Miss Jennele Strange of Columbia, S. C., sixth prize winner in M-G-M's national bathing beauty contest. Miss Strange is secretary to Manager Joe Edmundson of the Carolina Theatre at Columbia.

Keene Misses Train; Lands in Show Work

ATLANTA—A sly trick of fate gave Lionel Keene, now owner of the Emory Theatre here, his shove toward a career in show business. At the age of 18, fresh from a business school, Keene was selected from many applicants to apply for the position as secretary to Woodrow Wilson, then in the midst of his first campaign for the presidency.

Wilson had expressed the desire to employ a keenminded ambitious youth but Keene missed the train literally and figuratively. He was in Baltimore at the time to have boarded the presidential train as it passed through and start the job. Keene was at the station two hours before the appointed time, but due to a mixup in schedule, he was left behind.

Then along came an advance press representative of E. H. Sothern and Julia Marlowe, Shakespearean players, in quest of a secretary, which sealed Keene's fate as a member of the show world.

Keene will show the film "Wilson" on the screen at his theatre not only because it is doing good business at the boxoffice but because of the added sentimentality attached.

Drive-In Openings Set

DALLAS—W. G. Underwood and C. C. Ezell scheduled the opening of their Chalk Hill Drive-In Theatre on the Fort Worth pike for April 6. Their Northwest Highway Drive-In here will open soon and their Boulevard Drive-In at Fort Worth is being readied for opening.

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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Wallace Walthall Honors Memory of Harold Robb

Dallas—Because March 29 was the birthday of the late Harold B. Robb, his lifetime friend, Wallace W. Walthall, came into the Harwood St. headquarters of BOXOFFICE and ordered a small display space as a memoriam to the departed circuit owner.

Both had observed that day together for many years.

SAN ANTONIO

Interstate plans to build several more suburban theatres after Victory Day. The circuit has sign boards posted near South San Antonio, North Main Ave. and Zarzamora St., stating that new houses will go up in these and other parts of the Alamo City.

Cpl. "Eli" Adkins Lenoir, formerly an Interstate employe here, was recently promoted to that rank at the troop carrier command base at George Field, Lawrenceville, Ill., where he is a radio operator on a C47 transport airplane . . . Miss "Jo" Henson, pretty Texas Theatre cashier and former city champion, was the winner in Sunday's (25) golf sweepstakes for the femmes, played at Brackenridge Park. She posted a net 81-5-76.

Johnnie Dennis, business manager for the local No. 497, and Martin Villapadierna, state projectionist, were in Dallas recently calling upon the home office there . . . Back from a pleasure trip to New Laredo, Mexico, is L. J. Buttrom sr., who, incidentally, is no kin to Patt of Chicago . . . Cpl. Clyde Cole has gone into the Texas State Guard's communication-signal corps. His right arm took a 4,000-volt charge of electricity recently while he was employed as a radio engineer-technician.

Paul Garza of the new Alameda, now nearing completion out near South Santone, was in Dallas on a showshopping tour of "big D's" Filmrow . . . Ramiro Cortes, the impresario, is expected back from his California sojourn around April 26 . . . Mrs. Leatrice Powers, Empire treasurer, returned from her San Francisco trip.

They say that Majestic Theatre Skipper Jack O. Mitchell is about the best-dressed theatre man in town. Righto! . . . Exhibitors in the Alamo City to book Mexican product at the film exchanges included C. V. Jones, Palace and Roxy, San Angelo; Lew Bray, Interstate valley district manager, Harlingen, and Ed H. Rowley, R&R United, Dallas.

Al Krakow, former chief of service at the Palace, left for San Diego April 5 for enlistment in the navy . . . Rose Yvonne Stein, the song composer who writes her own Easter wishes, celebrates another birthday on April 9.

Seaman J. C. Webb was in town recently on leave from his naval duties. He has finally received the "go ahead" signal on rebuilding his Bantex Theatre in Bandera which was destroyed by fire several months ago . . . L. J. Pico off for his native New Orleans April 15. "Pic" is widely known along the Row there, having lived in the Cresent City many years before making sunny Santone his permanent quarters.

Theatre Row was saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Katie Fielder, 63, beloved mother of F/O Johnny W. Fielder of the army, stationed at a Montana airfield . . . Mrs. Gloria Dale Moreland, local high school graduate, has just returned to the west coast to resume her career in films. She recently received her husband's air medal He has been reported missing in action over New Guinea for 14 months.

Miss Doris Vacca, erstwhile relief cashier for Loew's Ohio, Columbus, is enjoying a vacation in the Alamo City and expects to return to the Ohio capital city next month . . . Shades of Hollywood: Those two Wacs sunbathing atop a local office building, looking petite in their cute blue and tan two-piece garments.

Both Mexican film exchanges let their Catholic employes off on Good Friday to attend religious services . . . When recent high waters hit Helotes and forced Mrs. Isabel Perron up a high tree to escape being drowned, John T. Floore, former local theatre manager came to her rescue and saved her life. Floore is now owner of the Helotes Red & White store.



HERO AND HOST—A record crowd such as the small coal mining town of Paris, Ark., never had seen packed the Logan Theatre and overflowed hundreds in the street outside when Marine Cpl. Dennis Rainwater jr., one of the 500 prisoners of war liberated from the Cabatanuan Japanese prison, was welcomed home. "Vic" Farrar, manager of the theatre, is shown extending a greeting to the young leatherneck. The Logan is one of the K. Lee Williams group in Arkansas.

Sidney C. Bond, Griffith's, Dies in Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY—Sidney C. Bond, who had served almost 20 years in the Griffith Amusement Co. auditing department, died here last Saturday. He was born in San Bois, Indian Territory, Dec. 25, 1888, and joined Griffith in 1926. His brother Green is the cashier at Griffith's.

Lady Manager Speaks

BLACKSHEAR, GA.—Mrs. Berma Hendrick, manager of the Royal Theatre here, was the principal speaker at the April meeting of the Blackshear Woman's Club and the Patterson P-TA. Mrs. Hendrick gave a summary of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. She is president of the eighth district women's Democratic organization and is also a member of the Georgia state executive committee.

BUFFALO COOLING EQUIPMENT
10th Fl., 2nd Unit, Santa Fe Bldg. BUFFALO ENGINEERING CO., INC. Dallas, Tex.

FPC Transfers Two Houses in Toronto

TORONTO—As part of a reorganization of theatre holdings here, the Belsize and Bedford in north Toronto have been transferred from Famous Players Canadian Corp. to 20th Century Theatres, an affiliate of the major circuit.

W. G. Hunt has retired as manager of the Bedford, but Al Sedgwick continues in charge of the Belsize under the new sponsorship. Hunt has been active in the construction sphere, having built both the Bedford and Belsize. He was in charge of the latter theatre when it was opened some 20 years ago.

Sedgwick, who has been prominently identified with the Toronto Theatre Managers Ass'n for Famous Players houses, is a brother of Harry Sedgwick, head of station CFRB and chairman of the Canadian Ass'n of Broadcasters, and Joseph Sedgwick, former deputy attorney general of Ontario. Al Sedgwick was with Famous Players for 18 years, having first gained attention at the Tivoli in downtown Toronto, and is the spark plug of the Mt. Pleasant Business Men's Ass'n which he has served as president for several terms.

As part of the Toronto theatre developments, it is understood that Famous Players is buying out several partner-owners of important neighborhood houses to bring the latter directly into the circuit for a consolidation of interests for the postwar period. Official announcements are not yet available.

Odeon's Hamilton Houses File Financial Report

TORONTO—The first financial statement of Theatre Properties, an Odeon subsidiary which acquired the physical assets of the Capitol and Palace in Hamilton, Ont., in February 1944, showed net profit of $28,304 to Dec. 10, 1944, with current assets listed at $45,908 and current liabilities of $29,521.

Operating profit was $103,137 and chief deductions included $38,520 for depreciation, $15,571 bond interest and $19,378 set aside for taxes. The two theatres were purchased from Hamilton United Theatres and at that time Famous Players entered legal action to upset the Odeon purchase on the ground that it had made a higher financial bid for the two theatres, which are ace houses. The decision was in favor of Odeon.

A. J. Jeffery Recovering From Prolonged Illness

TORONTO—A. J. Jeffery, who became district manager in Canada of United Artists when D. H. Coplan went to England to be managing director of the British company, is reported to be on the road to recovery in a Toronto hospital after a long illness. The latest word is that he is regaining weight and expects to be released shortly, but will have to take further rest.

Jeffery was unable to attend the recent Canadian managers sales conference in Montreal when executives of the company in New York discussed plans and policies for the coming months.

Toronto Tries to Time Opening to Berlin Fall

TORONTO—"Hotel Berlin" has been booked into the big Imperial for early showing—with an eye on war's developments in Germany for the opening of the Canadian premiere simultaneously with the entry of the allied armies into the German capital.

Ilsley Stresses Trade Is Main Bond Drive Cog

Notable Audience Sees A Preview at Toronto

TORONTO—A recent outstanding event was the special advance showing of "Demi-Paradise," a British film, in the Eaton Auditorium under the auspices of the National Council for Canadian-Soviet Friendship, before a notable gathering headed by the governor-general of Canada and Princess Alice.

Features included an address by Leonard W. Brockington, K. C., Ottawa, a director of Odeon Theatres, brief talks by Vincent P. Reid of the national council, and Maj.-Gen. A. E. Potts, C.B.E., officer commanding the Toronto military district, and a reception which was conducted according to Russian procedure. Tickets were sold by subscription, the proceeds being turned over to the council for further educational work to stimulate Russo-Canadian relations.

Frank Kershaw, New GTS Executive, at Calgary

CALGARY—Reporting he had come west on a preliminary survey of prospects and sites for new branches, Frank Kershaw was here several days last week. The recently promoted executive of the expanding General Theatre Supply of Toronto, a subsidiary of Famous Players Canadian, was en route to the west coast where he formerly was district manager.

Kershaw's itinerary included Chicago, Montreal, Winnipeg and Regina. While in Chicago he viewed some television productions, and expressed the opinion that television programs in all but the larger metropoli, would probably consist of reproductions and transcriptions.

TORONTO—Extending a special appeal to the film industry for support for Canada's Eighth Victory Loan, opening April 23, J. L. Ilsley, Dominion minister of finance, paid tribute to the film men in Canada and to Hollywood for cooperation in past war finance campaigns. The tribute was incorporated in a letter by Ilsley to J. J. Fitzgibbons, Toronto, chairman of the Canadian motion picture war services committee, which comprises all theatres and film exchanges in the Dominion.

The letter is as follows:

"Dear Mr. Fitzgibbons:

"The motion picture industry has once more surpassed its previous efforts in plans for support of Canada's Eighth Victory Loan campaign. I regard the help of the motion picture community, both in Canada and in Hollywood, as a major element of our appeal.

Need Will Continue

"While I know we all look forward to an early termination of the European conflict, I wish to emphasize the need for intensive application to our task on the home front. Even should our hopes be realized, the need for funds will continue at a high level. The continuance of our effort here in Canada will be an important factor in consolidating the victory. In addition, Canada will share large responsibilities in prosecuting the Asiatic war.

"I am sure that members of the Canadian motion picture industry are aware of these circumstances and that, come what may, they will devote all their energy to the successful achievement of the Eighth Victory Loan."

Swimming Star Cast as Bullfighter

Esther Williams, Metro star and former swimming champion, will be starred as a feminine bullfighter in a forthcoming Technicolor production titled "Fiesta Brava."



GETTING NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY—Capping an expansive publicity campaign for the Canadian premiere of Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls," Jack Randall of the Capitol in Calgary had Mayor Andy Davison of that city photographed receiving an oversized envelope delivered by special postal messenger. Photo was accepted for insertion in the Calgary morning daily. The mayor turned out for the opening night, being one of the speakers on a mezzanine floor broadcast over CJCJ, voicing audience opinions of picture.

United Amusement Net Off Last Year

MONTREAL—United Amusement Corp. reports an increase in gross revenues for the year ended Dec. 31, 1944, but a decrease in net profit after provision of heavier taxes.

Gross income was $1,271,764 in 1944 against $1,257,406 in 1943. Net profit was $154,796, or $1.91 a share on 80,829 shares, against $187,136 or $2.31 a share in 1943. Provision for income and excess profits taxes in 1944 was $163,912, including refundable portion of excess profits tax of $11,755, against $127,352 in 1943. Including amusement taxes and general taxes and licenses, the total tax provision was $798,192 against $748,583.

Dividend payments totaled $80,829 in 1944 against $64,663 in 1943. After deducting an adjustment of $33,183 in respect of taxes affecting prior years, surplus is carried forward at $557,171 against $516,387 last year. The balance sheet as at Dec. 31, 1944, shows current assets of $705,250 and current liabilities of $146,218, indicating net working capital of $559,032, against $454,130 at end of 1943.

Ernest A. Cousins, president, in his report states in part: "The outstanding first mortgage five per cent sinking fund bonds due Feb. 1, 1956, amounting to $1,267,000 were redeemed on February 1 of this year and were replaced with a new issue of $1,250,000 20-year bonds with interest rates from 2½ to 3½ per cent on the serial bonds totaling $450,000 and 4 per cent on the longer term bonds of $800,000, resulting in a substantial saving on interest charges.

"Your company's properties have been maintained in their customary high state of efficiency and, while no new theatres were added during the year due to building restrictions, the directors have under consideration, plans and locations for the erection of new theatres in the postwar period. These additions will be carried out as soon as materials and supplies are available and government regulations permit."

Empire Television Hookup Forecast

MONTREAL—A system of television covering the British empire by cable was visualized in London by Sir Allan Powell, BBC chairman, according to the London Daily Mail. "Perhaps we shall have a cable as simple as the present submarine cable," he told the Commonwealth broadcasting conference in London, "and with some device to boost up its strength we will send the picture as easily as we now send a telegram.

"If we can have the Derby from Epsom we might as well have the Test March from Sydney, and when we have combined vision with sound as the cinema people have done the reverse way, we might even hear the pointed observations of the spectators on the mound at Sydney. It is for the government to say what is to be done in this country, and from our point of view they cannot say it too soon."

The deputy prime minister, Clement Attlee, said: "I expect in ten years or so we shall have to close many places of entertainment because we can get it in our own homes."



BBC to Broadcast More From Empire Countries

MONTREAL—More radio programs from British Empire countries are to be broadcast by the BBC, W. J. Haley, director-general, said at the conclusion of the commonwealth broadcasting conference in London. Empire countries also plan to take more of each other's work, the Trans-Atlantic Daily Mail reports.

ST. JOHN

Two maritime circuit heads have been in Florida simultaneously. Fred G. Spencer went to Daytona Beach for a March stay and was accompanied by his wife. Joe Franklin has been at Miami Beach since mid-December, also accompanied by his wife.

Archie MacDonald, a retired railway mail clerk in Nova Scotia, is living at Havre Boucher. He is the father of Wallie MacDonald, who has been in the Hollywood lineup for more than 30 years, first as an actor and later as a producer, now with Columbia. In the first world war, Wallie returned to Halifax and joined a coast battery unit, and was stationed at Halifax when the war ended. His birthplace was at Mulgrave. He started business life as a bank clerk at Halifax. He has one brother, Vincent, who is dean of the law school at Dalhousie University, Halifax, and for several years was a deputy labor minister at Ottawa for special war service.

The Monte Chases (he's the projection veteran) both participated in a recent musical program . . . Wallie Humby, projectionist at the Mayfair, was a daddy for the third time recently.

If the United Mine Workers and Steel Workers unions attain their objective in broadcasting the liquor control laws in Nova Scotia to cover beer sales by the glass, the beer taverns may be established in connection with some theatres located on Cape Breton Island.

Odeon-Rank is interested in a corner location on Gottingen St. in Halifax. This circuit is already leasing and operating the Casino and the Oxford, and committed to building a theatre on the burned Baptist church site. The Garrick will also be leased at the expiration of the current Famous Players lease.

Abe Garson Buys Stock In New Glasgow House

ST. JOHN—In behalf of Odeon-Rank, Abe Garson has acquired the stock interest of Norman W. Mason, 81-year-old New Glasgow exhibitor, in the Roseland. This theatre seats 900.

B&L Theatres, in which Garson once was a silent partner, bought the Mason-controlled and operated Roseland and Academy at New Glasgow two years ago, but completion of the deal was blocked by other stockholders in a series of actions in which Mason was reported to have lost control of the company.

The B&L cash is still on deposit in a New Glasgow bank and the case is in appeal. If B&L wins in the litigation, Garson will have a large block of the New Glasgow stock, with the theatre in control and operation of a competitor. One of the New Glasgow stockholders is Frank Sobey, who owns and operates the Roxy in Westville and Jubilee in Stellarton, both suburbs of New Glasgow. He disputed the right of Mason to sell to B&L.

Herb Pitts, Halifax, Again Prize Winner

HALIFAX—Herbert Pitts, assistant manager of the Orpheus here, has been awarded second prize in a Dominionwide contest and first prize for Nova Scotia, for promotional work in connection with the Seventh Victory Loan. The awards were made by the Dominion motion picture war services committee for Canada. Judging was based on the campaign scrapbook designed and prepared by Pitts. The Orpheus figured one-two in the same grooves for the Sixth Loan drive.

The coworkers of Pitts at the Orpheus (FPC) are arranging a celebration dinner for him to be held in Norman's eatery where Pitts, Marty Simpson, Henry Deveau, Ralph Young, Freeman Skinner, all Famous Players executives, gather almost nightly after shuttering the Capitol and Orpheus.

Skinner is manager of the Orpheus. Deveau, assistant manager at the Capitol, likely will take a course in theatre maintenance at Pratt Institute, New York City, within the next few months. Simpson and Skinner have become members of the new Lions Club.

Ken Craig, then manager of the Capitol, St. Catharines, has won the national first prize of $100 for his campaign in the theatre managers contest for the Seventh Victory Loan drive last fall. Since that event, Craig has become manager of the Hamilton Tivoli where the late Jack Purves had been in charge for several years.

Nova Scotia Censors Shift Office Quarters

HALIFAX—After being many years in the Casino Theatre Bldg., the offices of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors are being shifted to the provincial headquarters of the Mounties.

In the provincial legislative session, members of the opposition had criticized the outlay of $1,752 for the rent of the offices in the Casino for 1944. Stevie Doane is chairman of the board.

St. John Buildings Talked

ST. JOHN—Construction of two new distribution buildings here are under consideration. Monogram has taken an option on a lot near the film center, and plans to erect a one or two-story structure. Indication are that Empire-Universal also will be located in the new building. Huddles also have been taking place between top bracket executives of Paramount, Regal, RKO and United Artists, with a view to sharing space in a new building.

"The Plainsman" for "Glory Road"

"The Plainsman and the Lady" is the new tag for Republic's "Glory Road."

CALGARY

Jack Reid of UA returned from the regional sales meeting at Montreal all primed for a big sales drive . . . Max Garfin, operating the Chaba Theatre at Jasper, was here on work for the forthcoming war loan campaign in his northern Rocky Mountain resort.

Owing to the illness of his daughter, Mrs. Smith, who has been operating the Garry here, Frank Shepard, owner of the Majestic at Biggar, Sask., is handling the suburban house at present . . . The city fathers of the Biggar hamlet have a pawky wit. Signboards on all incoming roads read: "New York is Big, but this is BIGGAR."

TORONTO

Ben Cronk, promotion manager of Empire-Universal, has taken over the suite of offices on the second floor of the Toronto Film Bldg. formerly occupied by the late Clair Hague, with whom he had been closely associated in business and fraternal activities over many years.

Following a business trip to Chicago, H. J. Allen, manager of Producers Releasing Corp. of Canada, was rushed to a local hospital for an operation from which he is recovering nicely, it is reported . . . Word has been received of the death in action while serving with the U.S. army in the South Pacific of Sgt. Thomas J. Spencer, brother of Manager Cornelius T. Spencer of the Capitol at Hamilton. Sergeant Spencer, who was born in Windsor and went through several heavy actions, including the invasion of Luzon and the recapture of Manila.

The Empire at Windsor had a real Easter weekend show for juveniles in a program comprising "Bambi" and "Dumbo." Quite a number of theatres in the Toronto district had matinee performances on Good Friday but patronage was not extensive because of religious services and balmy weather.

Bill Dineen former air force officer who had thrilling experiences in Europe following a crash during a raid, was all set for a position in a downtown theatre but decided to go into another line of business for himself. His father is with the Tivoli.

Maurice Doyle, Al Sedgwick and Tom Daley were appointed to an entertainment committee at a midnight meeting of the Toronto Theatre Managers Ass'n, to arrange programs for luncheon gatherings during coming months . . . Stanley Milligan, veteran projectionist at Shea's, died unexpectedly. He leaves his wife, a daughter and two sons, one of whom is in the air force. He was a brother of Art Mulligan, president of Local 173 of the Moving Picture Operators Union. Stanley started in the old Red Mill 25 years ago.

John McCarthy, Belleville Picture Pioneer, Dies

BELLEVILLE, ONT.—John C. McCarthy, 78, proprietor of the McCarthy here, which he constructed in 1938 after building several theatres in other towns of the province, died after being ill for two weeks. He leaves a wife, Clara.

A native of Belleville he had spent part of his early life at Akron, Ohio, and Chattanooga, Tenn., but returned to Canada at the turn of the century. He erected the Belle here in 1924 and was identified with the construction of the Trent at Trenton, Ont., and the Delaney at Gananoque. He was a devout member of St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Halifax Deal Reported

ST. JOHN—In an adjustment of second run nonclearance difficulties at Halifax, the distributors are reported to have agreed not to sell to the Oxford beyond current contracts. In event of the Oxford continuing to refuse to pay the second run prices, the subsequent runs will be moved up and the other theatres will thus get the second runs at third and fourth run rates. Since declining to pay the second run charges, the Oxford has been using pictures which have gone through the runs, the result being a jam on second runs.

Montreal Houses Filled No Matter What Fare

MONTREAL—Scarcity of wartime housing accommodation has its counterpart in scarcity of amusement centers. Not only first run but practically all theatres are crowded, no matter what the fare offered.

Second week of "The Woman in the Window" held up well at Loew's, and so did the second week of Warners' French language film, "Le Tresor Secret de Tarzan" (Tarzan's Secret Treasure). "Guest in the House" drew more than average houses at the Palace, and a double bill, headed by "The Master Race," proved an attraction at the Capitol. The Princess, which almost always reaches its apex at weekends, was consistent in that respect while showing a double bill of "Youth on Trial" and "Strange Affair."

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**The Master Race** (RKO); **What a Blonde** (RKO) ..... Good
Loew's—**The Woman in the Window** (RKO) ..... 2nd wk. maintained
Orpheum—**Le Tresor Secret de Tarzan** (WB) ..... Drew bobbysockers
Palace—**Guest in the House** (UA) ..... Attractive
Princess—**Youth on Trial** (Col); **Strange Affair** (Col) ..... Fair enough

War News Credited With Great Theatre Week at Toronto

TORONTO—Abetted by enthusiasm over the prospect of early termination of the war in Europe, the people gave vent to their feelings by flocking to the shows during Easter week. The average attendance was well over one-third greater than the patronage during the previous week at all mainstem theatres and, with one exception, the attractions were of the escapist type. The exception was the revived "The Sign of the Cross" which brought excellent crowds at both the Tivoli and Eglinton, particularly the former in the downtown district. "Here Come the WAVES" was strong at Shea's and the same can be reported of "The Princess and the Pirate" at the Imperial, "Music for Millions" at Loew's and "Here Come the Co-Eds" at Loew's Uptown.

Eglinton—**The Sign of the Cross** (Para) 115
Imperial—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO) 135
Loew's—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) 135
Shea's—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para) 140
Tivoli—**The Sign of the Cross** (Para) 125
Uptown—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ) 130

Theatres at Calgary Making Hay While Competition Is Inactive

CALGARY—Theatres have been making hay these spring days with little doing in rival sports attractions. With the hockey season closed, baseball and football not yet started and amateur gardeners still inactive, shows form the principal amusement. All report business excellent with top attractions getting the cream.

Capitol—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. ..... Very good
Grand—**Tomorrow the World** (UA) ..... Very good
Palace—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox) ..... Good
Palace—**Marine Raiders** (RKO); **Goin' to Town** (RKO) ..... Fair

A. M. Jolly Scheduled to Succeed Taube at MPTA

TORONTO—A. M. Jolly has been selected tentatively as executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Ontario, in succession to Sydney B. Taube who has resigned to enter another line of business. The formal appointment is scheduled to be made at a board meeting April 10 at the MPTO room, 26 Queen St. East. N. A. Taylor of 20th Century Theatres is president of the organization which has a membership of 320 theatres in Ontario including both chain and independent houses.

MONTREAL

Parisian films before the war had a strong hold on cinemas in the province of Quebec, but a perusal of the Montreal French language dailies advertising columns show that the theatres in what is known as the "French end" of the city are for the most part now showing Hollywood films exclusively. Exceptions are the St. Denis, which had an Easter program with a double bill of Parisian films suited to the festival; the Beaubien of the Odeon group, with two Parisian revivals; the National, an independent, with a semireligious French film program, and the Stella, another independent, with a Parisian double bill.

The nearest that some of the others could get to French films are the dubbed-in French language Hollywood films shown at the Orpheum, and, as half of its double bill by the Amherst. Others like the Seville and the Rivoli depended for French atmosphere on the Hollywood English language film, "Frenchman's Creek," or, in the case of the Maisonneuve, "Assignment in Brittany."

Sean Edwin in Montreal Herald expresses interest but not regret at the disappearance of roadshow films, although this resulted in Canada being bereft of "For Whom the Bell Tolls." The wartime prices and trade board's ukase preventing the charging of higher than normal prices is responsible.

An Odeon appointment of interest here is that of Don Gauld promoted to district manager of the Quebec and Ottawa-Cornwall zones . . . There is talk of a new cinema for Catherine St. at Pell and of another on Green Ave., Westmount, between St. Catherine and Sherbrooke.

Anne Brown, who stars in Warners' "Rhapsody in Blue," was booked by France-Film for a personal recital at the St. Denis April 6. She, of course, is the original star of "Porgy and Bess" . . . Wood Hall, famous dance pavilion in Verdun, has closed, having been taken over by selective service.

Leo Devaney Named Pioneers President

TORONTO—The board of directors of Canadian Picture Pioneers has elevated Leo M. Devaney to the presidency to succeed the late Clair Hague, a chief founder of the Canadian society for those who have a record of 25 years or more in the film business. The only other former president of the Pioneers, Oscar R. Hanson of Toronto, has been named vice-president until the next annual meeting here in November.

Devaney is Canadian general manager of RKO Distributing Corp. of Canada and president of the Motion Picture Distributors Ass'n of Canada.

The new Pioneer head executive at the board meeting dealt with the expansion of financial reserves for needy cases among old-timers of the theatre and film exchange field in the Dominion and acceptance was indicated of a proposal to create what will be known as the Clair Hague Memorial Fund, in tribute to the former trade leader. Already more than $7,500 has been collected for the fund through subscriptions, including a $1,000 donation from J. Arthur Rank of England.

In the last year or two it has been the practice to nominate those in need as "honorary members" of the Canadian Picture Pioneers to qualify them for assistance. This procedure is to be dropped because of the undue prominence to recipients of donations.

Wm. Ludwig to Script "Boys' Ranch"

The scripting of Metro's "Boys' Ranch" has been given to William Ludwig.

Strict on Child Ban While Law Remains

MONTREAL—The treasury department of Quebec confirmed reports that a license to operate has been issued to the Palace Theatre of Verdun, an Odeon house, which had its license canceled a few days ago for admitting children under 16. It also was learned that the Palace pleaded guilty to pending charges of infringement of the juvenile prohibition law and paid a fine. The theatre thus started off with a new license and a promise to observe the law.

Last autumn the license of the Gayety here similarly was canceled for opening on Sunday. Later a new license was granted and Sunday shows were dropped.

Strict Enforcement Is Policy

The government aim, it has been repeatedly, pointed out by Premier Maurice Duplessis, to enforce the law as long as it remains on the statute books, and not to permit the growth or continuance of a system whereby the law is consistently violated with payment of fines at intervals. This system has been in existence for some time at some local theatres, police court records show. In effect, under this arrangement, it was a gamble to be decided by the theatre whether the additional business derived from illegal admission of children was worth the fines.

The question of the admission of children under 16 has not been raised in the Quebec legislature since the prohibition went into effect in 1928, and the pressure of business now and its prospective continuance during the postwar period, indicates that it will be difficult to obtain a review of the whole situation. Of course any private member could bring on a discussion by merely putting a motion on the order paper, but government legislation on the matter is not likely for some time to come.

Duplessis Regime Lenient at First

During the first Duplessis government, 1936-1939, there was shown a disposition to permit special children's shows in fireproof theatres, such as for "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." This picture was witnessed by thousands of children in Montreal without any government interference. In that period the whole subject was under study, and had the Duplessis government remained in office and times been normal, there possibly would have been a review of the whole question of juvenile motion pictures attendance.

The prohibition of entry of children into motion picture houses was enacted in 1928 after a commission, headed by Justice Louis Boyer, had investigated the Laurier Palace disaster here of Sunday, Jan. 9, 1927, in which 78 children died. Though the fire in the Palace started the investigation, other phases of the child attendance question became linked to it, relegating the fire to the background.

Ottawa Theatre Tearoom Nets $52,000 War Aid

OTTAWA—The Capitol Theatre tearoom, unique war work assignment of the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club, has turned in $52,000 to the club's war charities fund since it was started four years ago.

The tearoom, which specializes in inexpensive lunches and substantial afternoon teas, was set up on the theatre's mezzanine floor to raise money for charities and also to help relieve noon-hour congestion in Ottawa's few downtown restaurants. Members of the club take turns staffing the restaurant. In the past month, 9,826 meals were served.

St. John Youth Runs Wild At "Youth Runs Wild"

St. John—The increasing trouble with young gangs at showhouses here reached a climax when youths timed a demonstration of disorder with the opening of "Youth Runs Wild" at the Mayfair. Members of the staff ejected a half dozen of the group who became exceptionally noisy and belligerent. Annoyed patrons came to the aid of the employes in removing the youths, ranging from 16 to 19 years old.

All theatres report increased trouble with noisy youngsters of both sexes who insist on talking loudly while shows are in progress, draping their legs and footwear on the backs of seats in front of them, scratching and cutting the woodwork and leatherette. They travel in groups of from three to twelve, and many theatre staffs are afraid to check them.

OTTAWA

Ben A. Proulx, film distribution officer of the National Film Board, has received official word that his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. N. Linley and son, have been liberated from a prison camp in the Philippines by the U.S. forces. Proulx himself escaped from Japanese-held Hong Kong and made his way back to Canada while his wife and daughter were later among the few captives who were repatriated. All members of the family group are now free.

The Capitol and Regent, leading Famous Players houses here, combined once more for a special cartoon show for juveniles at Easter, the programs being presented twice at each theatre during the morning hours to accommodate the crowds. The cartoon performances were conducted during the Christmas holidays on the last occasion with great success.

Theatres in Hull, Quebec, did not open for matinees on Good Friday until after the special church services on that day . . . The Capitol at Belleville attracted considerable attention with a radio broadcasting stunt in which auditions for district talent were sponsored by the theatre and the selected contestants appeared in a regular program. A similar radio popularity feature has also been conducted by the Royal at Fort William under the title of "School of the Air Broadcast."

A recent visitor was R. W. Bolstad, vice-president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., here to check on the postwar situation and prospects.

The Theatre Holding Corp., headed by the Allens, has been revealed as the purchaser of a theatre site in Smiths Falls on which to erect a 1,000-seat house when conditions permit. The Allens now operate the Capitol at Smiths Falls under a partnership lease arrangement with B. H. Soper of that town, a member of the Canadian house of commons.

Dorothy Smith Named Universal Executive

Toronto—Appointed to an executive post in the film industry here is Dorothy Smith who becomes Canadian representative of Universal Pictures, New York, in succession to Clair Hague, dean of Canalian moving picture men who died recently. She was private secretary to Hague many years.

Frank Vaughan New Executive for E-U

TORONTO—Frank Vaughan, Winnipeg manager of Empire-Universal Films before joining the air force, has been appointed executive assistant to General Manager A. W. Perry. He recently has been in charge of the British films division of Empire-Universal.

Vaughan succeeds Frank Fisher who has become chief booker and film buyer of Odeon Theatres of Canada, replacing F. Ralph Dale, resigned.

While with the air force, Vaughan supervised the booking and distribution of films to the many air stations under the Empire air training plan, which officially came to a close March 31 after producing many thousands of pilots, air and ground crews for the forces of the United Kingdom and numerous British dominions.

Vaughan started in the film business at Calgary in 1917 when he joined the Allen Theatre organization. Subsequently he was with 20th-Fox, First National and Educational Films until he went with Canadian Universal in 1924.

George Peters, executive assistant to President, Paul L. Nathanson, left Toronto for the Pacific coast to join the Odeon head on a survey of western Canadian conditions and complete the western division organization of Odeon.

It also has been announced that C. A. Metcalfe, Empire-Universal salesman at Montreal, has been appointed manager of Sovereign Films, 16mm distributor for the province of Quebec and the Atlantic district. Metcalfe follows Frank Leduc who died recently.

Nathanson Sketches Odeon Objectives

CALGARY—Conferring with local Odeon managers and exchange executives here, Paul Nathanson, president and managing director of Odeon Theatres and president of the Empire-Universal Films, stayed over three days on a trans-Canada trip. He was accompanied by George Peters, assistant secretary-treasurer.

A summary of his statements to reporters here included:

Intention to found a youth organization in Canada seven to 14-year-old, similar to the Odeon National Film Club of England which now has over 140,000 members.

Build 50 theatres in the larger communities of Canada as soon as building material is available. The return of J. I. English, Odeor architect, from a month's visit to England where he studied modern theatre construction, was a preparation for this construction project.

Organize a construction and supply company with headquarters in Toronto. Many of these supplies would come from the G. B. Kalee Supply Co. of London, England, one of the world's largest.

Nathanson garnered much space in the dailies during his visit.

Winnipeg Raises $55,000 For French Radio Unit

WINNIPEG—A total of $55,000 has been raised here in a campaign for funds to finance a 1,000-watt broadcasting station which is to be erected in St. Boniface. The provincial goal is $125,000 and the appeal has been made not only to French-speaking citizens in Manitoba and Quebec, but to all French-speaking groups of America.

Preservation of the French language and culture was the primary aim of the station, said Father D'Eschambault, secretary of the committee in charge.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

All-Shorts Program Making Circuit Round

DALLAS—It all started in Little Rock where Ed Rowley jr. reported big success with all-shorts program at the Royal Theatre two months ago. Then Sam Stokes in Corpus Christi tried the idea at his Palace with equal success. The stunt is apparently going the rounds of all Robb & Rowley towns.

Lately an hour and a half all-shorts programs played at the Texas Theatre in the Oak Cliff section here. The boxoffice opened at 1:45 and the show went through to midnight. "The Year's Best Fun Show" was the way Manager Lloyd Pullen expressed it.

In all the situations adults have attended the shorts show in as large numbers as children.

Shorts Triumph: One Gives Rare Joy to An Invalid

The following might be listed under a heading, "Unexpected Joys of a Showman, or a Short Triumph." It was related by Cornelius Webb of the Varsity Theatre in Dallas in a letter to Besa Short, head of the short subjects department of Interstate circuit. It follows:

"We were playing the Speaking of Animals subject, "Who's Who." A lady and her sister came in at opening. It was explained to me that the sister was a victim of infantile paralysis and it was necessary to assist her to a seat. Well, we helped her in and set a desk chair at the head of an aisle. I checked the first show and was sitting quite near her. Honestly, she almost had hysterics when the above mentioned short was shown.

"Helping her to her car after the show, I asked if she enjoyed it and so forth. She told me that it was the first time in over 16 months that she had been out of her home and that she was so grateful for a laugh.

"The lady came back to thank us and she told me that when the animals were on she couldn't enjoy it properly for there were tears in her eyes at hearing her sister laugh for the first time in almost two years. If that doesn't make shorts ace high, what does?"

Letter Contest Arranged For "Tomorrow World"

A letter contest based on a problem presented in the screen version of "Tomorrow the World" has been arranged by Lester Cowan Productions with Comic Cavalcade.

Prizes totaling $1,000 will be offered for the best letter explaining "What you would do with Emil Bruckner." The role of the Nazi-indoctrinated boy is played in the film by Skippy Homeier.

Grade, junior and senior high school students are eligible to enter the contest. Judges include Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Paul Gallico, William Shirer and Rex Stout. The latter two are members of the writers' war board.

Comic Cavalcade in a recent issue devoted an entire section to an adaptation of the film in which was featured details of the contest.

Making Benefit a Success—

Whole Town Solicited For Tickets to "Navy"

The success of a benefit deal, from the showman's viewpoint, depends on a guaranteed broad advance sale of tickets, except when the house is turned completely over to a philanthropic or patriotic organization at cost when, of course, it's the sponsor's baby.

Cyril Mee of the City Opera House at Frederick, Md., describes to Selling Seats how nearly everyone in town was solicited for ticket purchases when he lined up the American Legion for a benefit arrangement on an offering of "This Man's Navy" and the short, "I Won't Play" for two nights, April 5-6.

An important facet of the thorough campaign was the advance ticket sales promotion. Two men from the Legion were named to head the advance sales committee. Through them 300 Legionnaires were mailed five tickets each, a total of 1,500. In addition sales booths were placed in 12 stores three weeks in advance, sales were made at the Opera House and its sister Tivoli, and letters were mailed under Legion signature to school principals with tickets, also three weeks in advance.

To further guarantee maximum advance sales, a $25 war bond was offered to the Legionnaire son or daughter who sold the most tickets.

In promoting the benefit, the pictures were sold on entertainment value, although the benefit was stressed.

Louis Eichelberger of the Legion was enrolled as head of the promotional campaign, which took in all the usual channels of exploitation—radio, newspaper publicity and advertising, store windows, etc.—plus about every civic organization in town. Mee had the Rotary, Lions, Frederick Chamber of Commerce, public and parochial schools, etc., plugging for the show.

He had front and lobby panels pulling for the show two weeks in advance, spot announcements plus interviews with Legion officials on the radio, and through special permission of the city council put up 160 14x20 cards on all posts along the city's white way. Twenty merchant windows featured the presentation, downtown street corners were stenciled, Goodyear trucks were bannered.

On opening night a torchlight gasless parade, headed by the Legion bugle and drum corps, proceeded from Legion Hall to the theatres where the corps gave a concert in front. Two army and navy officials from nearby camps escorted by Legion guard to stage, where all navy Purple Heart recipients were honor guests. The Legion commander and the mayor spoke briefly (two minutes each).

Big Posting Campaign On Atlanta "Berlin"

ATLANTA—Lucas & Jenkins' exploitation department is taking advantage of the timeliness of "Hotel Berlin" by papering the city in advance of the opening at the Paramount Theatre April 12.

Twenty-four sheets have been posted in some 50 stands. These have been augmented by hundreds of three-sheets and one-sheets. Extensive radio coverage is also arranged. Two radio stations will be used for spot announcements with discs furnished by Warners.

A newspaper teaser campaign used effectively for the New York premiere of the film is being repeated.

Garden Exhibits in Lobbies

CHATTANOOGA—The lobbies of two local theatres, the Liberty and Amusu, are showing exhibits promoting Victory gardens for 1945.

Showmen Upset Naval Precedent

CHICAGO—Naval precedent went into a tailspin and for the first time in history a woman landed on an aircraft carrier when "Fighting Lady" opened at Garrick Theatre here.

The stunt, planned as promotion for the naval film, originated with B&K's publicity chief, Bill Hollander, who suggested to naval public relations men that they invite newspaper reporters to make a flight from Glenview naval air station to the deck of the baby flat top U.S. Sable out in Lake Michigan. The Daily News, Hollander's own alma mater, assigned Julia Edwards, described by fellow reporters as a "hell of a good newspaper man." Navy officers, on learning a woman was to cover the story, protested. A News city editor replied that if the army was willing to take her with other newsmen on an eight-hour flight over Ohio River floods, the navy ought not to cringe at the proposed carrier landing.

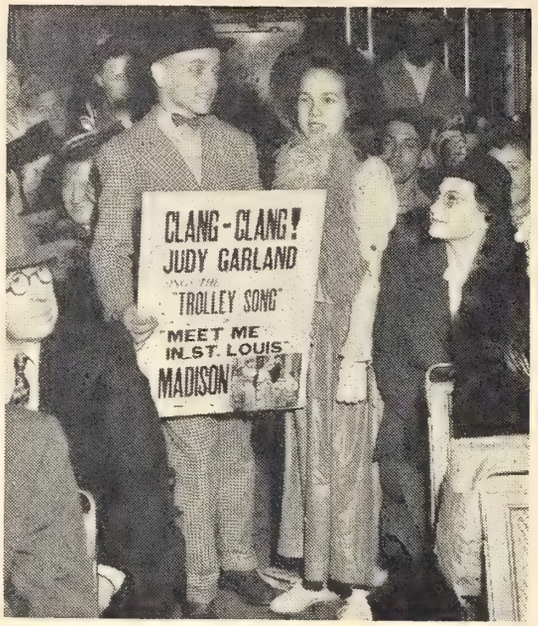
After the matter had been referred to Washington, Adm. Ernest J. King finally came through with an okay.

Miss Edwards' story, telling how it feels to land on a pocket-sized flying deck, ran on the front page of the Daily News, providing unusual publicity for "Fighting Lady."

Lobby Displays and a Tram Bally



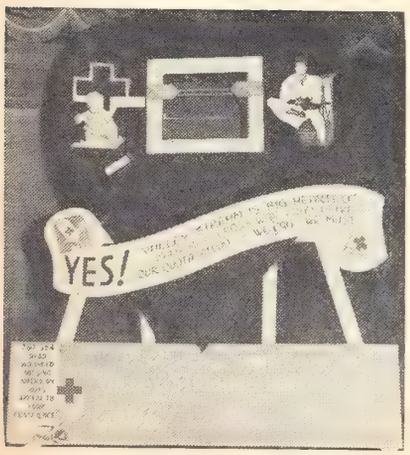
EASILY MADE—Any theatre with a cutall machine can reproduce this display from a three-sheet or a 24-sheet. It was worked out by William Farnsworth, manager, and Dan Gould jr.



"TROLLEY SONG" CAME TO LIFE in Peoria when Len Worley, Great States city manager, and Bill Green, M-G-M publicist, got together to make natives conscious of "Meet Me in St. Louis" at the Madison. They dressed a pair of kids in costumes shown above and placed them on street cars to sing the popular "Trolley Song" of the film. The public loved it and applauded and never failed to join in the chorus.

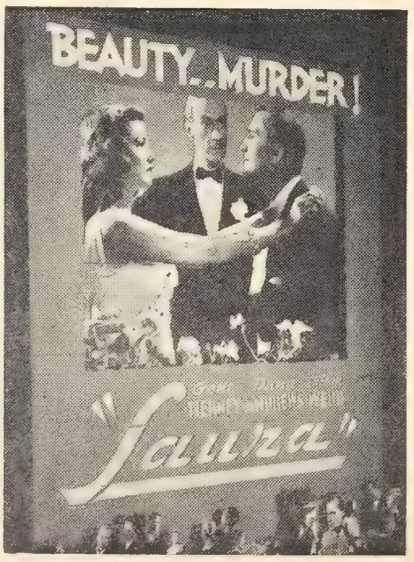


GREAT FOR THE YOUNGSTERS—Jerry DeRosa, manager of Loew's Bronx Paradise Theatre, found a Trenton mechanic who could make moving models of an amusement park. Then he built a display around it. The success was so outstanding that the display also was used in Loew's State, Broadway, and Loew's Kings and Gates theatres, Brooklyn.



DIGNIFIED DISPLAY — Manager Ben Mindlin of Century's Valley Stream Theatre, Long Island, had this "Big Heart" collector in the lobby as an aid to his Red Cross collections.

LOBBY PIECE at Lincoln, Washington. Giant blowup was indirectly lit from all sides in shadow box with green fluorescent tubes. Title was stencilled and lit with green flasher. Stencilled star names were lit with daylight tubes.



Shoppers Receptive To Essay Conests

Shoppers newspapers, which usually fill their news columns with local items to the exclusion of national items, are agreeable more often than the regular dailies to essay or letter contests. George Freeman, manager of Loew's at Springfield, Mass., realized this when he and his assistants, Sam Horwitz and Phyllis Santamoor, laid out a campaign for "Between Two Women."

Forwarding the details of his campaign to Selling Seats, Freeman reports he planted an essay contest in the Springfield Shopping News on this question: "Why Do You Think Van Johnson Is So Likeable?" Passes were awarded to the best answers.

To make sure additionally that theatregoers were aroused by the presence of the popular Johnson in the film, photos of him were distributed in and around the theatre in advance and current.

Other details of the campaign:

A radio contest was set on WMAS giving passes to the first 25 correct answers on "Can You Name Six Films in Which Van Johnson Has Appeared, Including His Latest Picture, 'Between Two Women,' Starting Thursday at Loew's Poli?" The names of the other films were "White Cliffs of Dover," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "A Guy Named Joe," "The Human Comedy," "Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant," "Three Men in White" and "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Tieup was made with Woolworth's for a card on the cosmetic counter using this copy: "If you are undecided between two women, choose the one who uses Woodbury's cream and see, etc."

Tieup made with Kresge's music department for a card.

Ad tieup made with a beauty salon.

Broadcast Leads "Utah" Premiere Promotion

SALT LAKE CITY—Gov. Herbert B. Maw of Utah and Mayor Earl J. Glade of Salt Lake City headed the list of civic dignitaries and prominent personalities who were heard over station KLO and the intermountain network on a broadcast direct from the lobby of the Lyric Theatre March 17, when "Utah" had its premiere. The broadcast was one of the highlights of an excellent campaign arranged by Joseph Rosenfield and Manager Jerry Ross of the Lyric.

The governor proclaimed Saturday (17) as "Utah" or Roy Rogers Day, in honor of the opening. Rogers transcriptions were used a week in advance on the intermountain network. All these stations regularly carry the Tuesday night broadcast of the Roy Rogers show, heard coast to coast over the Mutual network. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., sponsors of the program, cooperated in the campaign, and 14 Goodyear tire stores and gasoline stations are using displays plugging the premiere as well as the air show.

As advance promotion, Rosenfield arranged a theatre party on Saturday a week in advance at which members of the police school traffic department and 600 junior school police were guests of the Lyric, with the announcement made that every child attending the Lyric during the showing of "Utah" would receive a color photo of Rogers.

Rosenfield used an elaborate western front, two huge shadow boxes in the foyer and planted department and music store displays to herald the opening.

FBI at "Guard" Preview

ALBANY—FBI employes here attended a screening of "On Guard," RKO short dealing with the federal investigation organization. Manager Max Westebbe, Exploiteer Alan Weider and Head Booker Abe Van Deusen arranged the preview.

Brochure Sent Out On Typing Contest

So successful was the "Typewriter Sweepstakes" a typing contest held at the Strand in Albany, N. Y., in connection with the engagement of "Roughly Speaking," that complete details have been printed by Warner Bros. in a special four-page 11x7-inch folder. (First described in SELLING SEATS March 10.) The brochure has been sent to exhibitors and company branch managers from coast to coast to be used in the regional campaigns.

The stunt was conceived by Manager Leo Rosen of the Strand, with the assistance of Jerry Atkin of the circuit's local zone office. It included a tieup with the Knickerbocker News and Underwood Typewriter Co.

Underwood Sent a Champion

Underwood thought so highly of the idea that the company sent to Albany at its own expense the world's champion typist, George Hossfield, who appeared on the stage.

Contestants included 24 girls, one representative from each Albany business college and commercial high school, as well as state offices and business firms. All of the typewriter companies cooperated hoping that their machine might be the one used by the winner.

To Pick "Rosalind Russell"

"Roughly Speaking" received much word-of-mouth publicity. Heralds were widely distributed and planted in all office buildings. They not only plugged the film but served as an entry blank for contestants. Albany's own "Rosalind Russell" turned out to be Wilma MacArthur, a student at the Mildred Elley School.

The entire proceedings were broadcast over local networks. Each of the contestants sat at a typewriter table in front of a large single letter of "Roughly Speaking," starting with the letter "R." This made an attractive stage display.

The Albany showmen emphasized the contest was not to uncover a speed expert but for the fun of both contestants and audience.

Butler, Pa., Mill Workers Sponsor "Caballeros"

BUTLER, PA.—"The Three Caballeros" received a special gratis campaign here contributed by the American Rolling Mills. Approximately 4,000 employes designated the cartoon feature as "the picture of the year" to be seen by themselves and their families, and the company's club expended upward of $500 for newspaper displays, radio announcements, bulletin boards, invitations, etc. Booked into Pennler-Notopoulos' Penn, the Disney special opened for one day at the Penn and the corporation's Capitol, thereafter playing at the former de luxe theatre. Doug Beck, RKO exploitation representative, arranged the mill tieup and many others.

Uses Names of Employes In Praising "Victory"

WINNIPEG—For "Winged Victory" Manager Bill Novak of the Metropolitan ran a series of smart ads in which employes of the house praised the picture as one of the best they had ever seen. The names of Ab Dennison, chief projectionist; Ethel Conrad, cashier, and Zig Rubin, Famous Players display artist, were used.

Another local theatre operator whose advertising has been attracting considerable interest is H. Lee, manager of the Valour, who has been using original copy. A recent example was to the effect that "if he were the publisher of the local papers, he could do no better than to urge the public to see his current offerings."

Pigtail Parade for "Tree" Attracts 310 Girls at Bridgeport Theatres

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.—The greatest draw of any contest staged here in recent years was experienced by a "Pigtail Parade" which attracted 310 girls, up to the age of 12, and their mothers. The stunt was engineered by Robert Carney of Loew's Poli Theatre and Ralph F. Stitt of 20th-Fox in connection with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Cooperating was the Bridgeport Post.

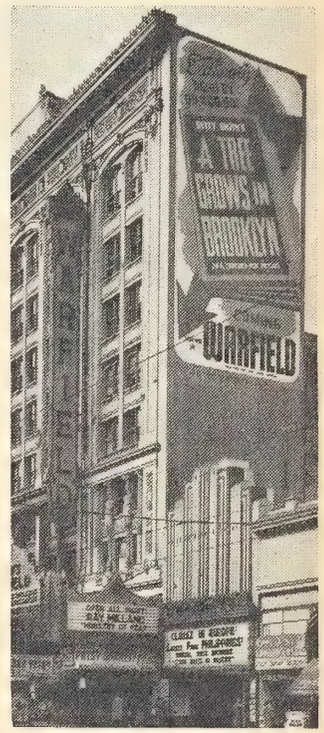
When approximately 620 persons lined the street in of the Lyric Theatre, where the elimination contest was held, it was quickly decided to double the number of "pigtailers," originally planned on for the finals. The finals were held on the stage of the Poli on a Saturday morning.

War bonds and a hairdo by a leading hairdresser were the prizes. Mothers of the winners were also awarded a hairdo. Judging of the "pigtails" was on a basis of length and thickness.

SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE—It takes imagination to catch the spirit of a story with an ordinary cloth backdrop on a frame. Faye Reeder, publicity chief of FWC's Warfield Theatre, San Francisco, did this for the showing of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," (at bottom).

At right is the Warfield Bldg. with a 40x60-foot sign painted on the side five weeks in advance of the opening. Many patrons called asking the signs to be changed to 60,000,102, etc.





San Francisco Campaign Starts Five Full Weeks in Advance

SAN FRANCISCO—The campaign for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Warfield here started five weeks in advance with cross-plug trailers in all 12 local Fox West Coast theatres. These cross-plugs were changed every week with a different character from the book featured each week; thus, "This is Aunt Cissie in 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn.' She wasn't bad—just friendly. See Joan Blondell as Aunt Cissie, etc."

A large 40x60-foot painted sign on side of Warfield Theatre Bldg. five weeks in advance of playdate brought much comment. Copy read, "Exciting . . . Read by 60,000,001 . . ." This was good for a plug in Robert O'Brien's column in the Chronicle. He reported that patrons were calling the theatre asking them to change the sign to read 60,000,002 as they had just finished reading the book.

With the cooperation of the distributor of the popular priced edition of the book, 27 local dealers made up special book windows. This included the city's five largest department stores. The public library system co-operated by displaying special 40x60 display cards with stills in all 27 branches.

The newspaper publicity included a full page Chronicle layout of picture and story in the Sunday magazine section, and Call-Bulletin reproductions of Chaliapin drawings of the six principal characters on a Saturday before opening. The J. C. Penny book department ran a 500 line tieup ad on day before opening on the motion picture edition of the book. The Examiner ran a four column, full color art of Joan Blondell as Cissie on Sunday magazine section first page two days before opening.

A flash lobby was constructed featuring huge blowups of scenes and characters from the picture. One side of lobby panels covering wall-space of 20 feet featured enlargements of scenes with catchlines telling story in pictures.

Campaign included heavy billboard coverage and concentrated radio plugging for week before opening.

Newspaper Aids Free Show For Service Children

MINNEAPOLIS—In conjunction with the Minneapolis Star-Journal, the Minnesota Amusement Co. is giving a free show at its 4,000-seat Radio City Theatre here Saturday morning (7) for all children under 16 whose fathers are in the armed forces. The show will include a comedy feature, cartoons and special shorts. The newspaper published a special coupon with complete information for the kiddies on how to obtain free tickets.

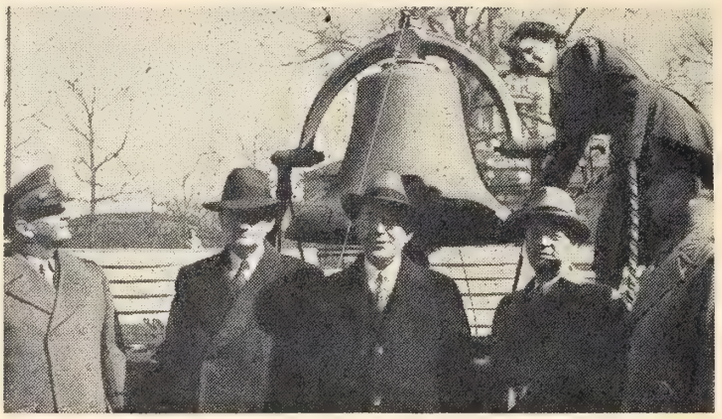
Uses Apartment Gag

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—For "Hotel Berlin," Manager Andy Sette, Capitol, here, ran ads reading: "1,000 apartments to rent. Apply Manager of the Capitol Theatre." In addition to lines at the boxoffice, Manager Sette reports he was deluged with phone calls with patrons who actually phoned and asked where the apartments were located!

Flatcar on Tram Tracks Tolls Out For Wac Recruits and "The Bell"

ALL FOR "THE BELL"—Four Wacs were assigned to the flatcar below, with the bell, which was towed around Denver streets as a part of the campaign for the film and to boost Wac recruiting

At the right a Wac poses with Brig. Gen. Omar Quade, Gov. John C. Vivian, Mayor Ben Stapleton, B. D. Cockrill of the Denham and Major Hulsey, Wac recruiter.





Photos show an outstanding exploitation for "For Whom the Bell Tolls" that was put on by Dave Cockrill, managing director, and Margaret Goyette, publicity director, of the Denham Theatre, Denver. With the usual street ballyhoos taboo these folks secured the cooperation of the tramway company and the Wac recruiting service and put over a street publicity stunt that made both dailies, also very unusual, and was instrumental in keeping the film at the Denham for three weeks. Both dailies gave the streetcar stunt three-column art.

A huge bell was secured, mounted on a flat car, and with four girls aboard, the car made the rounds of all the city tram lines, with the bell being tolled at regular intervals. The Wac recruiting office gave the stunt plenty of credit for booming recruitments for the period and for several days following.

The bell was then placed in a window at the May Co. on a corner that before the war was passed by more than 300,000 persons daily. After that the bell was placed in front of the Denham, where the film was showing, and all that bought a war bond could toll the bell.

Department stores, along with the Wac recruiting office, used 10,000 small dodgers in statements and otherwise.

Full-Page Magazine Ads To Sell "Hotel Berlin"

Warners have placed full-page ads in national magazines with a total circulation of about 35,000,000 as part of the campaign on "Hotel Berlin." The publications include:

Liberty, April 21 issue; Times, April 30; Life, May 7; Newsweek, May 7; Fortune, May issue; Redbook, May issue.

These special ads will supplement the regular magazine, newspaper, radio and promotion activities, says Mort Blumenstock, eastern publicity and advertising director.

DES MOINES—Nine radio stations in the midwest are to be used by the Tri-States circuit in cooperation with Warners as part of the promotional campaign on "To Have and Have Not" and "Hotel Berlin."

Two radio stations each will be used in Des Moines, Omaha and Waterloo and one station each in Davenport, Cedar Rapids and Moline. Spot announcements will begin a week in advance, being aired several times daily on each of the radio stations.

Readers on Front Page

CLEVELAND—J. Knox Strachan, Warner Theatres publicity director, used three front page readers a day in local newspapers on "Hotel Berlin" for four days prior to the opening of the picture at the Hippodrome. Public reaction, he reports, was excellent. Copy read "1,000 rooms to Let . . . 'Hotel Berlin' . . . Occupancy March 22. Hippodrome Theatre."

"Here Come" Films Create Confusion Among Fans

SAN FRANCISCO—There were too many "Here Comes" in film titles and much confusion among theatregoers on Market St. here recently.

The Orpheum offered "Here Come the Co-Eds."

The Fox presented "Here Come the WAVES."

As a result many a fan who wanted to see "The Co-Eds" ended up by viewing "The WAVES."

Starting Honor Roll Screenings

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.—Manager Pat McMahon, State, is asking patrons to bring in photos of service men for use in an "Honor Roll" screenings.

Spring Style Motif Gets Full-Page Ad

SANDUSKY, OHIO—Jack Scholer, manager of the Ohio, proved that the impossible can be accomplished if you try hard enough. Overcoming every type of resistance and handicap, he secured the cooperation of the Cohen store, one of the town's largest department stores, in a full page ad in the Register-Star in connection with the showing of "Meet Me in St. Louis." The ad contained five pictures of Margaret O'Brien modeling new spring clothes of the type sold at the store. There was the Margaret O'Brien spring coat, the O'Brien jerkin suit, the O'Brien spring suit, the O'Brien date dress and the O'Brien quilted robe.

A cooperative page like this hasn't been accomplished in this territory since Pearl Harbor. Scholer worked on it for several months.

Naval Induction Fills Syracuse Loew's State

SYRACUSE—Before a deeply impressed audience, 58 youths, aged 17, were sworn into the navy at the climax of a special 20-minute program on the stage of Loew's State here March 27. The ceremony, which featured the appearance of six young naval veterans, was arranged by the local recruiting staff at the invitation of Harold Morton, manager. The event, staged between showings of "This Man's Navy," rated deep attention from the local press and from navy officials as an "all-navy show." The house was filled, many patrons having traveled considerable distance to see their sons' investiture. The group of recruits was drawn from the large upstate area and had spent the day, undergoing physical examinations at the local induction center.

Highlight of the program was the introduction of Eugene Clark of Auburn, who, though only 17, is already a veteran of more than a year's naval service, including the Normandy invasion. The youth enlisted when 15.

Usherettes in WAVE Suits Give Heralds at Schools

MERIDEN, CONN.—Usherettes at the Palace here were outfitted in WAVE uniforms as a part of the campaign carried out by Manager Mollie Stickles for "Here Come the WAVES." She had usherettes distribute contest blanks and heralds to students of all the local high schools. Passes were awarded to students who assembled a correct list of the jumbled song hits and titles taken from the film attraction. A tieup was set with all main stem soda fountains and confectioner dealers who presented a special WAVE sundae, plus menu stickers totaling more than 5,000, and placards, 14x22, for window coverage.

Envelope for Sweetheart Trick Used by H. A. Parrott

MILFORD, IOWA—H. A. Parrott, owner of the Strand Theatre, passed out a small envelope to fellow townsmen. On the outside it read:

"We Dare You to Hand This to Your Wife or Girl Friend Unopened." Inside, was a card reading: "I have been neglectful of you of late so I am making a date with you right now to see 'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo' with Spencer Tracy. From advance reports it is one swell show.

"It's showing Friday through Tuesday (dates) at the Strand Theatre in Milford.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ❶ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⊛ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING 1944	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAY 27		JUNE RELEASES: (85) Drama 427 THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson Marilyn Maxwell R—May 6—PG-529 (124) Comedy 428 TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR June Allyson Gloria DeHaven Van Johnson R—Apr. 29—PG-528	27 (64½) Mystery 320 CHARLIE CHAN AND THE CHINESE CAT Sidney Toler Benson Fong R—Apr. 15—PG-523	GROUP 4—1943-44: (75) Melodrama 4317 THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN Franchot Tone Veronica Lake Binnie Barnes John Sutton R—Mar. 4—PG-511 (79) Com.-Mus. 4318 YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE Betty Rhodes Johnnie Johnston Marjorie Weaver Johnnie "Scat" Davis R—Mar. 4—PG-512 (75) Drama 4316 THE NAVY WAY Robert Lowery Jean Parker Bill Henry Roscoe Karns R—Mar. 4—PG-512		SPECIAL: (106) Musical 452 ❶UP IN ARMS Danny Kaye Dinah Shore Dana Andrews Constance Dowling R—Feb. 12—PG-508 SPECIAL: (83) Disney Car. 492 ❶SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS R—Mar. 18—PG-516 GROUP 5—1943-44 (64) Mystery 421 THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale Don Douglass R—Mar. 11—PG-514 (86) Drama 422 DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck Maria Palmer Lowell Gilmore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (83) Adventure 423 THE YELLOW CANARY Anna Neagle Richard Greene Nova Pilbeam R—Apr. 15—PG-524 (92) Mus. Drama 425 SHOW BUSINESS Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (74) Comedy 424 SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Alan Carney Marcy McGuire Gordon Oliver R—Apr. 22—PG-525				
JUNE 3	1 (72) Drama 5010 ADDRESS UNKNOWN Paul Lukas K. T. Stevens Carl Esmond R—Apr. 22—PG-526		3 (65) Comedy 312 FOLLOW THE LEADER East Side Kids Joan Marsh Jack LaRue R—June 24—PG-544		3 (59) Western 457 SPOOK TOWN Jim Newill Tex O'Brien		Reissue: 1 (60) Western 3304 MELODY TRAIL Gene Autry Smiley Burnette	(83) Musical 427 ❶PIN-UP GIRL Betty Grable John Harvey Martha Raye R—Apr. 22—PG-525	31 (58) Western 491 MYSTERY MAN William Boyd Andy Clyde Jimmy Rogers R—June 24—PG-543	26 (74) Mystery 8019 THE SCARLET CLAW R—May 6—PG-529	
JUNE 10			10 (51) Western 365 SONORA STAGECOACH Hoot Gibson Bob Steele Betty Miles R—Sept. 2—PG-564		10 (66) Melo. 415 WATERFRONT John Carradine J. Carrol Naish Maris Wrixon R—May 20—PG-534		9 (55) Melodrama 317 SILENT PARTNER Beverly Loyd William Henry Grant Withers	(65) Mystery 428 BERMUDA MYSTERY Ann Rutherford Preston Foster Charles Butterworth Helene Reynolds R—Apr. 29—PG-527	2 (93) Musical 492 SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD Edgar Bergen Jane Powell R—May 6—PG-529	26 (56) Western 8085 BOSS OF BOOMTOWN Rod Cameron 2 (87) Mus-Com 8012 THIS IS THE LIFE Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster Peggy Ryan R—May 6—PG-530	
JUNE 17	15 (65) Drama 5043 THEY LIVE IN FEAR Otto Kruger Pat Parrish Clifford Severn	SPECIAL: (126) Drama 491 ❶THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshal R—Mar. 18—PG-516	24 (60) Horror 319 THE RETURN OF THE APE MAN Bela Lugosi R—July 15—PG-548				17 (67) Com. Mus. 320 GOODNIGHT, SWEETHEART Robert Livingston Ruth Terry R—June 10—PG-539	GROUP 2: JUNE RELEASES.	16 (91) Drama 493 THE HAIRY APE William Bendix Susan Hayward Roman Bohnen R—May 20—PG-533	9 (78) Horror 8008 THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE Jon Hall Evelyn Ankers R—June 3—PG-537	10 (82) Comedy 317 MAKE YOUR OWN BED Jack Carson Jane Wyman R—May 20—PG-534
JUNE 24	22 (54) Western 5208 THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills & Texas Playboys	GROUP 3: JULY RELEASES:	24 (57) Western 355 RANGE LAW Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Sarah Padden R—Sept. 2—PG-563				24 (69) O'd'r Mus. 342 YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS Roy Rogers Dale Evans R—May 20—PG-534	(96) Drama 429 EVE OF ST. MARK Anne Baxter William Eythe Michael O'Shea R—May 20—PG-534	23 (60) Western 494 FORTY THIEVES William Boyd Andy Clyde Jimmy Rogers R—July 22—PG-549	16 (68) Comedy 8015 GHOST CATCHERS Olsen and Johnson Gloria Jean Martha O'Driscoll R—June 10—PG-540	Rerelease: 24 (115) Musical 224 ❶THIS IS THE ARMY Men of Armed Forces George Murphy R—Aug. 7—PG-458
JULY 1	29 (67) Comedy 5040 SHE'S A SOLDIER TOO Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Jess Barker R—July 29—PG-551	(95) Com.-Dr. 430 THE CANTERVILLE GHOST Charles Laughton Margaret O'Brien Robert Young R—June 3—PG-538					1 (91) Melodrama 318 MAN FROM FRISCO Michael O'Shea R—May 13—PG-532	(61) Dr.-Rom. 430 LADIES OF WASHINGTON Sheila Ryan Trudy Marshall Doris Merrick R—May 20—PG-533	30 (86) Musical 495 SENSATIONS OF 1945 Eleanor Powell W. C. Fields Sophie Tucker R—June 24—PG-544	23 (61) Drama 8043 SOUTH OF DIXIE Anne Gwynne David Bruce Samuel S. Hinds R—May 27—PG-536	1 (95) Melodrama 318 MASK OF DIMITRIOS Sydney Greenstreet Faye Emerson Zachary Scott R—June 10—PG-540
JULY 8	13 (67) Musical 5019 LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter Richard Lane R—July 22—PG-549	(101) Musical 425 ❶BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams Basil Rathbone R—June 3—PG-537	8 (79) Comedy 304 JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE Simone Simon R—May 20—PG-533				2 (56) Western 3312 MARSHAL OF RENO		14 (106) Drama 496 SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell Anna Lee R—May 27—PG-535	30 (93) Drama 8002 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Deanna Durbin R—June 17—PG-542	15 Reissues (103) M'drama 341 MANPOWER Edward G. Robinson (79) M'drama 345 TIGER SHARK Edward G. Robinson
JULY 15	20 (82) Drama 5008 SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Carole Landis Chester Morris R—June 3—PG-537		15 (73) Melodrama 305 ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot R—June 24—PG-544	SPECIAL: (Adv. price) (157) Drama 4338 ❶⊛FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Katina Paxinou R—July 24—PG-454			7 (59) Melodrama 319 CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS Janet Martin Allan Lane William Lane			7 (67) M'drama 8018 JUNGLE WOMAN R—May 27—PG-536	(92) M'drama 342 THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL John Garfield (66) Horror 344 THE WALKING DEAD Boris Karloff (89) Comedy 343 BROTHER RAT Ronald Reagan
JULY 22	25 (65) M'drama 5037 U-BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett Erik Rolf John Abbott R—July 22—PG-549		22 (67) Comedy 323 THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom R—Sept. 2—PG-563		25 (60) Western 465 FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty		14 (56) Outdoor 356 CALL OF THE ROCKIES Smiley Burnette Rerelease: 15 (56) Western 3305 COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN Gene Autry	JULY RELEASES: (65) Melodrama 431 ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen Lois Andrews R—May 27—PG-535		7 (65) Horror 8036 THE MUMMY'S GHOST R—May 13—PG-531	(66) Comedy 346 SOLO JOE Joe E. Brown
JULY 29					30 (61) Western 458 BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Tex O'Brien		20 (55) Western 461 SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane Peggy Stewart Wally Vernon	(85) M'drama 432 CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA James Mason Carla Lehmann Raymond Lovell R—June 3—PG-538	20 (174) Drama SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotten R—July 29—PG-552	7 (58) Western 8036 TRIGGER TRAIL 14 (62) Musical 8045 TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE R—June 10—PG-538	
AUG. 5	3 (80) Com. Dr. 5007 MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR Edward G. Robinson Ruth Warrick Ted Donaldson R—July 15—PG-547	AUGUST RELEASE SPECIAL: (145) Drama 500 DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	5 (57) Western 356 WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580	SPECIAL: (136) Drama 4337 ❶⊛THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL Gary Cooper Laraine Day Signe Hasso Dennis O'Keefe Carol Thurston R—Apr. 22—PG-526	1 (69) Musical 404 MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields R—June 24—PG-543 5 (62) Mystery 417 SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH R—Aug. 19—PG-557		26 (68) Mystery 321 SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD R—June 24—PG-543 31 (69) Mus. Com. 325 THREE LITTLE SISTERS R—Aug. 5—PG-554	(103) Romance 433 ❶HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain June Haver Lon McCallister R—May 27—PG-536	4 (80) Comedy 497 ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—July 22—PG-549	21 (65) Comedy 8040 ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery jr. Martha O'Driscoll R—May 6—PG-529	22 (130) Biog. 315 THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March R—May 6—PG-530
AUG. 12			16 (59) Western 366 MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580		10 (72) Drama 416 DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay R—July 15—PG-547		5 (56) Melodrama 322 GIRL WHO DARED 5 (75) O'd'r Mus. 344 SONG OF NEVADA R—June 17—PG-542 11 (56) Western 451 BORDERTOWN TRAIL 12 (70) Musical 401 SING, NEIGHBOR, SING R—Aug. 19—PG-558				12 (127) Drama 319 MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains Walter Abel R—May 27—PG-536

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
AUG. 19	17 (63) Horror 5027 CRY OF THE WEREWOLF R—Aug. 26—PG-560 17 (61) Horror 5026 SOUL OF A MONSTER R—Aug. 26—PG-559		19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564	GROUP 5—1943-44:	15 (72) Musical 505 DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford R—July 15—PG-548 18 (67) Melodrama 421 MACHINE GUN MAMA R—Aug. 19—PG-558	SPECIAL: (110) Mus. Drama 461 GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina Rafael Rivelles Armanda Calvo R—May 27—PG-536	13 (58) Melodrama 324 PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 16 (56) Western 3313 SAN ANTONIO KID Wild Bill Elliott Reissue: 1 (60) Mus Wst. 3306 RIDE, RANGER, RIDE Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes	AUGUST RELEASES: (70) Musical 501 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548		18 (74) Comedy 8001 IN SOCIETY Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558	
AUG. 26	24 (72) Musical 5012 KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee			(96) Mus.-Com. 4321 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527		GROUP 6—1943-44: (63) Comedy 426 GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST Harold Peary Marion Martin Richard LeGrand R—June 24—PG-544	12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT			1 (86) Drama 9005 GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556	2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Guinn Williams	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES: (112) M'drama 501 THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552	2 (71) Mystery 306 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558	(65) Comedy 4322 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527	2 (62) Western 466 RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(65) Adventure 428 A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538	14 (68) Com.-Mus. 328 THAT'S MY BABY R—Sept. 23—PG-569	(97) War Drama 502 WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550		8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559	9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559	(87) Comedy 502 BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-552	9 (64) Mystery 317 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565	(100) Drama 4323 THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-526	8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582	(88) Musical 429 STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545	15 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 15 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562			15 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONA HANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch. R—Sept. 23—PG-567	(90) Comedy 504 MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 503 WATERLOO BRIDGE Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor	16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUTLAWS	(66) Melodrama 4324 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528	21 (56) Western 551 GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570					22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	23 (118) Mys-Farce 403 ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 6201 COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER			(106) M'drama 4325 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528			30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake	SEPTEMBER RELEASES: (75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554		29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
SEPT. 30	26 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571	OCTOBER RELEASES: (117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556	30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele	GROUP 6—1943-44:	4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577			(73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557		6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(100) Rom.-Fan. 506 KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-560		(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541		(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	(82) Musical 505 GREENWICH VILLAGE Carmen Miranda Don Ameche William Bendix R—Aug. 12—PG-555			13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575			(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch. R—June 10—PG-539		(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576			20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575			(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES: (74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568			
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582					(81) Comedy 434 BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshal Marsha Hunt R—July 29—PG-552	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567			
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574	NOVEMBER RELEASES: (122) Drama 510 AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-546	3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY		31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579		6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581			3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583	(124) Drama 507 MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568 Reissue: (104) Musical 508 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald	10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561	(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	(72) Comedy 435 HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly Barbara Hale Gordon Oliver R—July 29—PG-551	7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN		10 (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583	10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569	11 (99) Rom.-Dr. 406 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon		17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(83) Drama 4330 THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field Harry Carey William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	15 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer	SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD 15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY	(90) Mus.-Rom. 508 IRISH EYES ARE SMILING June Haver Dick Haymes Monty Woolley R—Oct. 14—PG-573		17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark	

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. B.
NOV. 25			24 (67) Drama **WHEN STRANGERS MARRY** Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557	**SPECIAL:** (125) Com.-Dr. 4335 **GOING MY WAY** Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511		**GROUP 1—1944-45:** (113) Drama 501 **NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART** Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572 (87) Western 503 **TALL IN THE SADDLE** John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572 (96) Drama 502 **THE MASTER RACE** George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567 (75) Drama 505 **MY PAL WOLF** Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568 (69) Comedy 504 **GOIN' TO TOWN** Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake R—Sept. 30—PG-571	30 (91) Musical 405 **BRAZIL** Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577		23 (81) Drama **THREE IS A FAMILY** Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	24 (72) Mystery 9018 **ENTER ARSENE LUPIN** Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585	25 (102) Comedy 407 **THE DOUGHGIRLS** Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
DEC. 2		**DECEMBER RELEASE:**	1 (56) Western **SONG OF THE RANGE** Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White				30 (71) M'drama 404 **FACES IN THE FOG** R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 **FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA** Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 **RED RIVER VALLEY** Gene Autry	**BLOCK 4:** **NOVEMBER RELEASES:** (88) Mys. Melo. 509 **LAURA** Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576 (87) Musical 510 **SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS** Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582		1 (61) Mystery 9034 **MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM** Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	
DEC. 9	7 (69) M'drama 6032 **SHE'S A SWEETHEART** Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587		8 (..) Comedy **CRAZY KNIGHTS** Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 **ROGUES' GALLERY** Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605					8 (120) Drama **GUEST IN THE HOUSE** Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	8 (64) Comedy 9031 **HI BEAUTIFUL** Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
DEC. 16	14 (60) Musical 6038 **DANCING IN MANHATTAN** Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594		15 (68) Mys-Com. 416 **SHADOW OF SUSPICION** Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct. 21—PG-575	9 (60) Western 556 **OATH OF VENGEANCE** Buster Crabbe 15 (79) Comedy 501 **THE TOWN WENT WILD** R—Nov. 11—PG-581						16 (63) Musical 9037 **MY GAL LOVES MUSIC** Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586	
DEC. 23	21 (55) Western 6203 **SADDLE LEATHER LAW** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 **TOGETHER AGAIN** R—Nov. 11—PG-581	**JANUARY RELEASE:** **SPECIAL:** (138) Drama 511 **THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO** Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	22 (76) Melodrama **ALASKA** Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573	22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 **CASTLE OF CRIMES** Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall				23 (85) Musical 406 **LAKE PLACID SERENADE** Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593		22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 **DESTINY** Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587	
DEC. 30	28 (63) Romance 6205 **TAHITI NIGHTS** Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593	**JANUARY RELEASES:** (101) Com.-Dr. 513 **THE THIN MAN GOES HOME** William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587 (56) Drama 514 **MAIN STREET AFTER DARK** Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	29 (62) Com.-Dr. **BOWERY CHAMPS** East Side Kids	29 (55) Western 553 **THE WHISPERING SKULL** Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson				30 (60) Melodrama 407 **THE BIG BONANZA** R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 **SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS**		29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 **CAN'T HELP SINGING** Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589	30 (124) Musical 409 **HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN** Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
1945											
JAN. 6	4 (60) Comedy 6039 **LET'S GO STEADY** Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598		5 (..) Western **NAVAJO TRAIL** Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton					16 (71) M'drama 409 **GRISSLY'S MILLIONS** Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597		5 (60) Musical 9035 **NIGHT CLUB GIRL** Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
JAN. 13	11 (59) M'drama 6041 **YOUTH ON TRIAL** Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595		12 (68) Comedy **ARMY WIVES** Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589			(94) Comedy 551 **THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE** Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576		22 (69) Comedy 410 **THE BIG SHOW-OFF** R—Jan. 20—PG-597		12 (74) Comedy 9020 **SHE GETS HER MAN** Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596	
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 **EADIE WAS A LADY** Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	**SPECIAL:** (113) Dr./Mus. 512 **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS** Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor R—Nov. 11—PG-582	19 (63) Mys.-Com. **ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY** Jean Parker Peter Cookson	**GROUP 2—1944-45:** (85) Drama 4406 **AND NOW TOMORROW** Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575		GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 **GIRL RUSH** Frances Langford Wally Brown R.—Oct. 28—PG-577				19 (57) Western 9039 **UNDER WESTERN SKIES** Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597	20 (108) Drama 410 **TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT** Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 **I LOVE A MYSTERY** Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601	**FEBRUARY RELEASES:** (117) Musical 515 **MUSIC FOR MILLIONS** Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590	26 (83) Drama **FOREVER YOURS** Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(92) Drama 4407 **THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET** Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578		(67) Mystery 507 **FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD** Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588		26 (55) Western 464 **THE TOPEKA TERROR** Allan Lane Linda Stirling		26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 **THE SUSPECT** Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 **SAGEBRUSH HEROES** Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor		2 (66) Mystery **THE JADE MASK** Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland	(113) Romance 4408 **FRENCHMAN'S CREEK** Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce R—Sept. 23—PG-567		(95) Mystery 508 **MURDER, MY SWEET** Dick Powell Anne Shirley Claire Trevor R—Dec. 9—PG-588				2 (88) Mus-Com. 9002 **HERE COME THE CO-EDS** Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 **SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS** Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams 22 (72) Comedy 6019 **LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE**	(69) Drama 516 **BLONDE FEVER** Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	9 (..) Melodrama **CISCO KID RETURNS** Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga	(76) Mys.-Com. 4409 **ONE BODY TOO MANY** Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577		(62) Western 509 **NEVADA** Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys R—Dec. 16—PG-590				9 (63) Musical 9021 **HER LUCKY NIGHT** Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 17	22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 **TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT** Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	(100) Drama 517 **THIS MAN'S NAVY** Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595	16 (..) Western **GUNSMOKE** Johnny Mack Brown 16 (..) Com-Mys. **THERE GOES KELLY** Jackie Moran	(84) Mys.-Dr. 4410 **MINISTRY OF FEAR** Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds Carl Esmond R—Oct. 21—PG-567	3 (54) Western 557 **HIS BROTHER'S GHOST** Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King 6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 **KID SISTER** 8 (58) Western 554 **MARKED FOR MURDER** Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien 10 (63) Mdr.-Mys. 523 **THE SPELL OF AMY NUGENT** R—Mar. 3—PG-610 15 (72) Drama 516 **FOG ISLAND** Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606		15 (56) Western 3317 **GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY** Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming	**JANUARY** **SPECIAL RELEASE:** (137) Drama 514 **THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM** Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592 (61) Doc.-Dr. 515 **THE FIGHTING LADY** U.S. Navy Carrier Ship R—Jan. 13—PG-595	19 (92) Drama **MR. EMMANUEL** Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	16 (71) Mystery 9013 **HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 **THE MUMMY'S CURSE** R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 411 **OBJECTIVE, BURMA!** Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ⓑ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE R—Feb. 10—PG-602			BLOCK 3—1944-45:	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama ⓑA SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon R—Feb. 3—PG-599	MARCH RELEASES:	2 (..) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591	
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	9 (..) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611	(62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591	
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale		(158) Drama 4413 ⓑFOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE R—Feb. 3—PG-599
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen R—Mar. 3—PG-609	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604	22 (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R-Mar. 17—PG-614	(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592	15 (..) M'drama SWAMP MAN
MAR. 31			23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown		31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger R—Mar. 3—PG-609		30 (..) Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS Harry Carey Paul Kelly Ducky Louie	(64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592	
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611		6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta	BLOCK 4—1944-45:	
APR. 21	17 (62) Western ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES 19 (66) Mystery THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER		7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⓑBRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	15 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. R—Feb. 10—PG-601
APR. 28	19 (..) Western RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID 26 (..) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks		20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608	19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe
MAY 5				(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog
MAY 12				(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	
MAY 19					

WEEK ENDING	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
FEB. 24	SPECIAL: (84) Musical 583 ⓑBELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586	19 (69) Musical 411 A SONG FOR MISS JULIE Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607 28 (55) Western 454 SHERIFF OF CIMARRON Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill	FEBRUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (128) Drama 517 A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599		23 (94) Musical 9012 FRISCO SAL Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	SPECIAL: (71) Disney 591 ⓑTHE THREE CABALLEROS Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590		(77) Drama 516 HANGOVER SQUARE Laird Cregar George Sanders Linda Darnell R—Jan. 20—PG-598		2 (76) Drama 9006 ⓑSUDAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10		12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans R-Mar. 17—PG-613			16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R-Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 17	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes Dan Duryea	MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 ⓑTHUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599	31 (92) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
MAR. 24	(82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN Richard Arlen Cheryl Walker Roger Pryor R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R-Mar. 17—PG-614		7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dana Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
MAR. 31	(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604		APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	(..) Mys.-Drama SPELLBOUND Ingrid Bergman Gregory Peck	13 (64) Musical I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant Milburn Stone	
APR. 7	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604			21 (90) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan	
APR. 14	(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603		(..) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R-Mar. 24—PG-615	(..) 2,000 WOMEN Phyllis Calvert Stewart Granger	27 (..) ⓑSALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith Delores Moran
APR. 21	SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610			4 (..) COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr	4 (..) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook	
APR. 28			(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R-Mar. 17—PG-613	(..) Comedy BEDSIDE MANNER John Carroll Ruth Hussey	11 (..) Musical HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper	
MAY 5				18 (..) Drama IT'S SPRING AGAIN Zachary Scott Betty Field		
MAY 12						
MAY 19						

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Yolanda and the Thief

CAST: Lucille Bremer, Fred Astaire, Frank Morgan, Mildred Natwick, Leon Ames, Mary Nash. PRODUCER: Arthur Freed. DIRECTOR: Vincente Minnelli. ORIGINAL: Ludwig Bemelmans and Jacques Thiery. SCREENPLAY: Robert Nathan and Irving Brecher.

Fred Astaire and Frank Morgan, absconding to South America, meet Yolanda (Lucille Bremer), wealthy, convent-reared, and traveling with her duenna, who has told the girl that everyone has a guardian angel. Fred schemes to relieve Lucille of her wealth, and when he saves her as a boulder hits their coach, she thinks he is her guardian angel, thus making it a cinch for him to win her confidence. Also, on the train is Ben Ames, thought by Fred to be a likely contender for the girl's fortune. Fred succumbs to the charming Lucille, and when he and Frank are ordered out of town, returns some bonds he has stolen with a letter confessing everything. Ben, on the train that is taking the roguish pair away, reveals that he is the real guardian angel, and has caused a bridge ahead to be washed out so Fred can return and marry Lucille.

Monogram

The Scarlet Clue

CAST: Sidney Toler, Benson Fong, Mantan Moreland, Helen Devereaux, Robert Homans, Virginia Brissac, J. Stanford Jolley. PRODUCER: James S. Burkett. DIRECTOR: Phil Rosen. ORIGINAL: George Callahan. SCREENPLAY: George Callahan.

The murder of a suspect during the investigation of a plot to steal secret radar plans starts a series of murders. Sidney Toler (Charlie Chan) traces the murder car to Helen Devereaux, radio actress, whose sponsor, Virginia Brissac, fails to cooperate with the police. Another actress is killed by a mysterious gas while in a crowded studio; still another suspect meets death through a trap door in an elevator; and a third is murdered during a broadcast before he can tell Toler of a clew he has unearthed. Closing in on the killer, Sidney discovers ingenious death machines placed in microphones. Miss Brissac is revealed to be both the murderer and head of the radar plot, and falls into her own elevator death trap.

Paramount

Masquerade in Mexico

CAST: Dorothy Lamour, Arturo de Cordova, Patric Knowles, Ann Dvorak, George Rigaud, Mikhail Rasumny, Martin Garralaga. PRODUCER: Karl Tunberg. DIRECTOR: Mitchell Leisen. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Karl Tunberg.

American Showgirl Dorothy Lamour is tricked into taking a stolen gem into Mexico. The FBI trail her and she slips the diamond into the pocket of a fellow plane passenger, Patric Knowles, wealthy banker. In Mexico City, posing as a Spanish countess to avoid detection, she again meets Knowles who has by this time been picked up with the diamond and subsequently cleared of the theft charges. Impressed by her ingenuity, he hires her to "steal" Bullfighter Arturo de Cordova away from his (Knowles') wife, Ann Dvorak, who has become enamored of the toreador. Dotty captivates de Cordova, but the police close in and arrest her. By now Dotty and Patric are in love. He obtains a divorce from his flirtatious wife and gets Dotty paroled to him—so everything looks well for that happy ending.

You Came Along

CAST: Robert Cummings, Lizabeth Scott, Charles Drake, Bob Sully, Don Defore. PRODUCER: Hal B. Wallis. DIRECTOR: John Farrow. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Robert M. Smith and Ayn Rand.

Three flying heroes return from overseas for a bond-selling cross-country tour. Assigned to travel with them is Lizabeth Scott, who represents the treasury department. During the course of their close association, Lizabeth falls in love with one of the flyers, Robert Cummings, but tragically she discovers that he has an incurable blood disease which eventually will cause his death. Faced with this problem, Lizabeth still desires marriage to the doomed flyer and their wedding is followed by a period of contentment and happiness. Eventually Cummings departs for England, pretending it is just a "trip" but in reality he is bound for the hospital and knows he will never return. The brief but beautiful period they had shared brings them a measure of consolation and equips them to face the future unafraid.

PRC Pictures

The Gangster's Den

CAST: Buster Crabbe, Al (Fuzzy) St. John, Sydney Logan, Charles King, Emmett Lynn, Kermit Maynard, Stan Jolley. PRODUCER: Sigmund Neufeld. DIRECTOR: Sam Newfield. ORIGINAL: George Plympton. SCREENPLAY: George Plympton.

Buster Crabbe and Al (Fuzzy) St. John operate a gold mine to the latter's disgust, who wants action and decides to buy a local saloon; thereby running into difficulties with Stan Jolley, crooked lawyer, who also wants the saloon, and by whose gang he is ambushed. When Jolley brings a deputy to oust Sydney Logan and Michael Owen from their ranch, using a false quit claim, Owen shoots the deputy, believing he has killed him; but Crabbe's detective work points to Jolley as the real murderer. Fuzzy now wants to sell out to Stan, but before negotiations are completed, Jolley is killed by one of his own men, and Fuzzy is stuck with both the saloon and the money the lawyer had paid him. Finally giving the saloon to his old swamper, Fuzzy goes back to mining with Buster, a more experienced and better satisfied man.

Republic

Behind City Lights

CAST: Lynne Roberts, Peter Cookson, Jerome Cowan, Esther Dale, William Terry, Victor Kilian, Moroni Olsen. PRODUCER: Joseph Bercholz. DIRECTOR: John English. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Richard Weil.

The marriage of Lynne Roberts and William Terry is interrupted, and indefinitely postponed, when an accident occurs in front of the house. Peter Cookson and Jerome Cowan, both of New York, are brought in injured. Lynne falls in love with Peter, who represents to her all the glamour and sophistication she has dreamed of; and after he is well, follows him to the city. Dropping an uncut diamond which Peter has given her for an engagement ring, she is questioned by a suspicious officer and learns the gem had been stolen by Peter and Jerome. Cookson is apprehended and fatally injured in an attempted getaway. Too proud to go back, Lynne remains in the city until Terry, sensing trouble, goes to New York and tactfully asks her to marry him. They return home together.

Corpus Christi Bandits

CAST: Allan Lane, Helen Talbot, Jack Kirk, Twinkle Watts, Roy Barcroft, Tom London, Kenne Duncan. PRODUCER: Stephen Auer. DIRECTOR: Wallace A. Grissell. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Norman S. Hall.

As Bomber Pilot Allan Lane (Capt. James Christi) returns home from Europe, a hero, the story flashes back to the life of his grandfather, Corpus Christi Jim, supposed desperado. Jim (also played by Lane), a disillusioned Civil War veteran, returns to find his home ruined, parents dead, his future questionable. In self-defense, he shoots a commissioner; is jailed, and escapes. As means of getting a new start in life, he holds up a stage coach—his first and only crime—later paying back the money. When a warrant comes through for the old killing, Lane is wounded while resisting a friend's attempt on the marshal's life. He recovers to marry, have children and grandchildren like Capt. Allan Lane, today being decorated by the governor of Texas.

The Fatal Witness

CAST: Evelyn Ankers, Richard Fraser, George Leigh, Barbara Everest, Barry Bernard, Frederic Worlock, Virginia Farmer. PRODUCER: Armand L. Schaefer. DIRECTOR: Lesley Selander. ORIGINAL: Rupert Croft-Cooke. SCREENPLAY: Jerry Sackheim.

Barbara Everest is found strangled to death the morning after an argument with her wayward nephew and heir, George Leigh. With a fool-proof alibi that he was in jail the night before, George fails to allay Inspector Richard Frazer's suspicions, although the latter does not know Leigh bribed the jailer to let him out for an hour. To trap George, Frazer arranges to have an actress play Barbara's ghost at a dinner party. The other guests are in on the ruse and pay no attention as the "ghost" hovers over Leigh. Unnerved, George screams at the apparition and threatens to kill her again. As Frazer is about to congratulate the actress, a butler brings a telegram from her saying that illness prevents her going out this evening. Will tomorrow night do as well?

20th Century-Fox

The Dolly Sisters

CAST: Betty Grable, June Haver, John Payne, Frank Latimore, S. Z. Sakall, Gene Sheldon, Reginald Gardiner. PRODUCER: George Jessel. DIRECTOR: Irving Cummings. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: John Larkin and Marion Spitzer.

The Dolly Sisters (Betty Grable and June Haver), talented Hungarian children, arrive in New York in 1904, making their debut a few years later in Elmira, where Betty meets Harry Fox (John Payne), who later dedicates "I'm Forever Chasing Rainbows" to her. They romance and marry during their struggles for success before Oscar Hammerstein (J. Edward Bromberg) launches the sister team on an internationally famous career. Fame brings sorrow to Betty; important engagements in Europe result in estrangement and divorce from John. Darlings of Paris, the sisters remain on the continent during most of World War I, returning to New York in 1921, when they give a special benefit performance at the Manhattan Opera House where John is also billed. Once again the two are happily together.

United Artists

Blood on the Sun

CAST: James Cagney, Sylvia Sidney, Porter Hall, John Emery, Robert Armstrong, Wallace Ford, Rosemary De Camp. PRODUCER: William Cagney. DIRECTOR: Frank Lloyd. ORIGINAL: Garrett Fort. SCREENPLAY: Lester Cole; additional scenes by Nathaniel Curtis.

In 1928 blood flows, and excited mobs riot in the streets of Tokyo because headlines of an English-language newspaper blare Japan's plot against China and the United States, which the younger, liberal element opposes. James Cagney, managing editor of the paper, gets a copy of the Tanaka Memorial, but before he can send the paper to America a panorama of infamy, intrigue, murder, harakiri, judo, spies and Japanese duplicity passes in quick succession. Cagney manages to get a fellow American, Sylvia Sidney, aboard a sampan, waiting to take them both to an American freighter, but he stays behind holding off Jap officers. With the odds against him, Jimmy puts up a terrific struggle until Hugh Beaumont of the American embassy comes to his rescue.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

Community Sing

Col **(No. 6—Series 8)** **10 Mins.**

Tuneful. Sprightly tunes, played by Don Baker at the organ with a vocal assist from the Song Spinners, make this an enjoyable reel. Songs include "Let's Sing a Song About Susie," "An Hour Never Passes By," "Up, Up, Up," "The Very Thought of You" and "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby."

Film-Vodvil

Col **(No. 4—Series 2)** **11 Mins.**

Good. This reel features the nonsense of the Korn Kobblers, and the music they play amply bears out their title. In addition, there are Frances Urban, a specialty dancer who plays the violin while she dances, and Cynda Glen, an eccentric comedienne. This is a well-rounded variety reel and contains good entertainment.

Screen Snapshots

Col **(No. 6—Vallee-Allen)** **9 Mins.**

Fair. Part of the Rudy Vallee radio show, with Fred Allen as guest star, features this ever-popular series. Also shown are shots of the opening parade in Hollywood's Sixth War Loan campaign, with many screen favorites taking part. A fashion show at Ciro's, with lots of stars as spectators, is included in the reel.

Three Pests in a Mess

Col **(All-Star Comedies)** **15 Mins.**

Fair. The Three Stooges go through their familiar paces, beating themselves and each other almost to a pulp in a bid for audience laughter. The locale for their gymnastics is a cemetery, and the cause celebre is a dummy, mistaken by the playful three as a corpse. That's all you need to know about the plot, and the rough-and-tumble that takes place.

Seeing El Salvador

M-G-M **(FitzPatrick Traveltalk)** **10 Mins.**

Average. Mildly interesting but weak from a color standpoint this single-reeler offers little of novelty to picture audiences. Least dull are scenes of natives fishing, picking coffee berries and washing clothes in a running stream. Narration is on a par with the picture itself.

Track and Field Quiz

M-G-M **(Pete Smith Specialty)** **9 Mins.**

Excellent. Up to the high standard maintained by this series, this one-reeler mixes instruction and entertainment most amusingly. He asks (and gives the answers to) some tricky questions on shot putting, hurdle racing, broad and high-jumping and other track and field events. As always, Smith's ingratiating personality, voice and narration evoke their quota of chuckles.

Jasper Tell

Para **(George Pal Puppetoons)** **8 Mins.**

Entertaining. This attractively-Technicolored novelty maintains the standard established by George Pal, its producer. Utilizing to amusing effect the three previously-established Puppetoon characters of Jasper, the scarecrow and the blackbird, it parodies the story of William Tell and his son. In this version the scarecrow waylays Jasper and tells him about the Swiss archer in order to filch the apple he (Jasper) is taking to his teacher. A surprise ending furnishes one of the loudest laughs in the picture. Picturesque Alpine backgrounds and an artistic musical accompaniment augment the entertainment value of the production.

Scrappily Married

Para **(Noveltoon)** **8 Mins.**

Amusing. Henry, the henpecked rooster, caught trying to sneak out for the evening, is caught by Sweetie Pie, made to wash the dishes while she plays solitaire. Henry's pal, Herman the mouse, comes to Henry's rescue by scaring Sweetie Pie out of her wits—and the house. Sweetie Pie tries to get rid of Herman by disguising herself as a cat. The ruse works, but only momentarily. At film's end, Henry and Herman triumph.

She-Sick Sailors

Para **(Popeye Cartoon)** **8 Mins.**

Good. By a series of deceptions Bluto persuades Olive Oyl he is the one and only Superman. Fooled completely by his Superman makeup and carefully-planned gags, Olive becomes infatuated with the impostor and cold shoulders Popeye. The latter tries to win Olive back by emulating and out-Supermanning his rival. No soap. Finally resorting to his customary muscle-builder, a can of spinach, Popeye performs Herculean tasks, rescues Olive from Bluto's clutches, knocking his rival cold.

Flicker Flashback, No. 5

RKO **(Flicker Flashbacks)** **9 Mins.**

Very good. Amusing in their own right, these reissues of 40-year-old shorts are made even more hilarious by the clever narration. In addition to the dramatic gems, "Confidence, or the Romance of a Beautiful Nurse" and "The Girl and Her Trust," the current one-reeler shows some bright shots of Bobby Harron, Theda Bara, Agnes Ayres, Lionel Barrymore and others doing some heavy emoting.

On Guard

RKO **(This Is America)** **18½ Mins.**

Excellent. Brought right up to the minute with actual footage of the two German spies recently apprehended by the FBI and sentenced to be hanged by a military tribunal at Governor's Island, this is unquestionably one of the finest shorts of this outstanding series. It deals with the work of the FBI in fighting what is termed as the "Battle of the U.S.," and is concerned mostly with our watchfulness against the activities of enemy agents in the early years of the war. Actual 16mm film, used by the FBI in smashing spy rings, are shown in the short. Also included are scenes of Nazi meetings in Madison Square Garden, seemingly innocent "picnics" of bunds on Long Island, and shots of captured sabotage equipment intended for destructive use by spies landed in the U.S. from submarines.

Ski Gulls

RKO **(Sportscope)** **8 Mins.**

Very good. Subject matter, scenery and narration all combine to make this single-reeler exceptionally pleasing to eye and ear. Attractively photographed on the snow-clad slopes of the Wasatch mountains, the current Sportscope release depicts some amazing skiing feats by youngsters whose ages range from five to 15. Topping off the reel are some breath-taking shots of two American record-holders making sensational jumps.

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 60: Battle of Germany; capture of Cologne; Rhine bridge at Remagen; delegates to San Francisco parley confer; names in news; Wallace learns to fly; naval heroes decorated; Commandos Fluckey, Davenport receive Congressional Medals of Honor; exploits of submarine warfare; Henry Kaiser opens clothing drive for war needy; Notre Dame starts 1945 gridiron season with spring practice; Man of War, famous race horse, 28 years old.

News of the Day, No. 258: Yanks cross Rhine; capture of Cologne; Monty sees victory; on road to world security; U.S. submarine heroes honored; appeal for aid to war victims.

Paramount News, No. 61: Beyond Rhine; united united national clothing collection; what price peace?

Pathe News, No. 63. Prepare San Francisco conference; Kaiser opens clothing drive; Yanks cross Rhine.

Universal News, No. 384: Allies drive across Rhine to victory; world's eyes on security conference; Kaiser seeks clothing for war victims.

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Movietone News, No. 61: Soviets blast eastern front; U.S. ammunition ship explodes; aviation; XB-19A bomber; shipyard girls' idea of hat styles; newest fire bomb in attacks on Tokyo; navy boxers in New York bouts.

News of the Day, No. 259: Race for Berlin; laugh on Nazis; peace charter, labor and management; death of American ship; new gasoline fire bomb; navy boxers.

Paramount News, No. 62: Hat news; management-labor signs pact; navy; Japs strike back; race to Berlin.

Pathe News, No. 64: Labor-management unity charter; new fire bomb; ammunition ship explodes; Dutch children to England; Midway christened; Canada produces soap for Europe.

Universal News, No. 385: Reds in Germany; fire bombs; code for labor and industry; bombs wreck ship; on stage everybody; navy slugfest.

●

All American News, Vol. 3, No. 128: Makes good income repairing basketballs, footballs for army camps, etc.; woman author wins publishers award for her book, "The Street," written about living conditions in Harlem; Harlem Globe-Trotters star in world cage championship; negro convoy travels Lido-Burma road.

Fury in the Pacific

WAC-WB (U.S. Army-Navy Special) **20 Mins.**

Smashing. It is not only the patriotic duty but the unforgettable privilege of every showman to present this two-reeler to his patrons. Never before has war been presented so graphically, grippingly and poignantly. A camera crew of 39 photographed the action; nine of them fell, one was killed. The terrific impact of the Palaus battle scenes are heightened by a magnificent score especially written for the film by Lieut. (jg) Lehman Engel, USNR, formerly a prominent Broadway composer and conductor. Photography and editing are brilliant, narration is inspired and inspiring. BOOK IT! BOOST IT!! SHOW IT!!!

Herr Meets Hare

WB **(Bugs Bunny Special)** **7 Mins.**

Excellent. It was inevitable that Bugs and the Hitler gang would meet up someday, somewhere. In this incomparably funny reel, Bugs proves the master not only of Herr Hermann Goering, but A. Hitler as well. The locale is the Black Forest in Germany, and Bugs pops up there on his way to Las Vegas, a slight detour in his travels. The satire on Goering and his Wagnerian complex, his uniform complex and his other multitude of complexes is devastating, while Hitler is dissected to a ridiculous pulp in one brief sequence. The short is a high spot in the career of wonderful Bugs.

When I Yoo Hoo

WB **(Blue Ribbon Hit Parade)** **7 Mins.**

Fair. A cut and dried version of the old hillbilly feud between the Matthews and the Weavers. The local sheriff finally declares their battle must be settled by a cock fight. With both clans heavily represented, the roosters commence, only to end up with ringside seats while the families and the sheriff have it out.

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

The Affairs of Susan

F — Comedy

Paramount (4421) — **110 Minutes** — **Rel. May 25, '45**

Here is a natural, the answer to a showman's prayer. A host of exploitation angles will immediately suggest themselves to enterprising theatre managers, and if there are any managers so lacking in enterprise as not to get behind this picture for all it's worth—word-of-mouth advertising will help put it over. Joan Fontaine, in a many-sided role that not only demonstrates her versatile talent but makes her this voter's choice for an Oscar in '46, is a delight from start to finish. The story is that of a girl so guileless and naive she nearly ruins her husband's career and her own happiness by an addiction to truth-telling. Divorced, she alters her character and personality to suit those of three subsequent suitors. The results are hilarious, fast-moving—and boxoffice. William Seiter directed superbly.

Joan Fontaine, George Brent, Dennis O'Keefe, Walter Abel, Don DeFore, Mary Field.

Colonel Blimp

F — Drama

GCF-UA (——) — **148 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Because this is one of the important films produced in Technicolor with J. Arthur Rank's backing many months ago, and because it has been seen here by a number of industry figures who consider it a great picture, "Colonel Blimp" has already received a remarkable amount of word-of-mouth advertising. It is worth it. It is the story of what this hard-boiled generation calls the stuffy old gentlemen soldiers of the past, among whom there lingers a chivalrous regard for the rules of warfare. Roger Livesey, as Colonel Blimp, comes out of the past as he departs for the Boer War, and relives his career from pre-World War I days through that struggle to World War II as he heads the English Home Guard, still unconvinced that the Nazis have cast aside all regard for civilized restraints. The story is told with charm and good humor; it is worthy of a top spot anywhere.

Roger Livesey, Anton Walbrook, Deborah Kerr, Jane Millican, Ursula Jeans, Felix Aylmer.

The Horn Blows at Midnight

F — Comedy

Warner Bros. (415) — **80 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 28, '45**

No matter what brand of humor the patrons favor—name it and they can have it in this merry meringue of satire, fantasy, subtlety and slapstick. Atrophied indeed the funny bone that will not be given a thorough workout by the film. Add to such fun-making assets, top bracket production values, sterling performances by a solid cast and nimble direction and it should sum up to one of those happy exhibition experiences where sure profits are a foregone conclusion. The story is hand-tailored for Jack Benny's drolleries and, resultantly, he never appeared more advantageously. A ham musician, he falls asleep during a broadcast, dreams he is an angel sent to earth to destroy the planet, only to get into a devil of a mess by being thrown in too close contact with the fleshpots. Directed by Raoul Walsh.

Jack Benny, Alexis Smith, Dolores Moran, Allyn Joslyn, Reginald Gardiner, Guy Kibbee, John Alexander.

Scared Stiff

F — Mystery Comedy

Paramount (4423) — **64 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

On the proposition that into every life some rain must fall, can be hung the appraisal that this is the poorest offering to date from the production line of Messrs. Pine and Thomas, whose ability to supply the trade with excellent action fare made at comparatively little cost is widely known. Herein, however, the film-making Bills missed their usual score by a wide margin. The film, essaying to be a whodunit with accent on comedy, starts out promisingly on an interesting if not novel premise. From which it becomes enmeshed in labyrinthal plot development, never to disentangle itself. It will be tolerated as support to a strong first picture, but the feature adds nothing to the P&T productional stature. Story concerns the nitwit newshawk who stumbles onto a murder and solves the crime in spite of himself. Directed by Frank McDonald.

Jack Haley, Ann Savage, Barton MacLane, Veda Ann Borg, Arthur Aylesworth, George E. Stone, Lucien Littlefield.

The Corn Is Green

F — Drama

Warner Bros. (——) — **114 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Bette Davis again proves her ability to handle a different role. As Miss Moffat, a school teacher who is determined to bring enlightenment and knowledge to a Welsh mining town and especially to a talented young mine boy, she carries admirably the burden of an overlong script. This picture will be favorably received wherever there is a following of Davis fans. Exceptionally fine performances are given by two newcomers, John Dall, as Miss Moffat's protege who is driven on to win an Oxford scholarship, and Joan Lorring, as a new kind of screen female menace. The featured players are backed up by a supporting cast which turns in uniformly excellent characterizations as Welsh townspeople. Musical Director Leo F. Forbstein has provided a background of beautiful and nostalgic Welsh choral music. Directed by Irving Rapper.

Bette Davis, Nigel Bruce, Rhys Williams, Rosalind Ivan, Mildred Dunnock, Arthur Shields, Gwenyth Hughes.

A Medal for Benny

F — Drama

Paramount (4424) — **80 Minutes** — **Rel. June 29, '45**

In many minds, motion pictures with messages are suspect per se. This adroitly-contrived, human, heart-warming document manages, however, to register its gentle preachment without even slightly jeopardizing its sterling entertainment qualities. Masterfully scripted, expertly and understandingly directed, it should prove a joy to any spectator. Virtually every performance is a standout, while J. Carrol Naish's delineation of a simple, trusting Mexican-American should win him Academy nomination. It's his son, Benny, who'd been something of a bad 'un as a civilian, who is posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor because he killed 100 Japs. The dignity with which his father, and his Jim Town friends, accept the honor, while rebuffing the city's Babbits who attempt to commercialize the lad's heroism, is an inspiration to all. Irving Pichel directed.

Dorothy Lamour, Arturo de Cordova, J. Carrol Naish, Mikhail Rasumny, Fernando Alvarado, Charles Dingle, Frank McHugh.

Murder, He Says

F — Comedy

Paramount (4422) — **93 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Literally and figuratively, this is so far off the beaten path that it should attract considerable attention from critics, exhibitors and quite probably, cash customers. Describing the picture, to say nothing about attempting to foretell its commercial fate, is something of a problem. Fundamentally comedy—with emphasis on gag and slapstick—the play resorts to many devices standard in mysteries, horror films. Then, to render the entire procedure the more unusual, the story unfolds against a hillbilly background, reminiscent of the Esquire cartoons. Obviously, the writers, the cast, director, et al, kept their tongues deeply parked in cheeks in concocting the offering and if auditors will view it with like attitude, seeing the film can be a lot of fun for them. Further, the toplines are impressive enough to help build good grosses. Directed by George Marshall.

Fred MacMurray, Helen Walker, Marjorie Main, Jean Heather, Porter Hall, Peter Whitney, Mabel Paige.

Counter-Attack

F — War Drama

Columbia (——) — **89 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 26, '45**

If there be any logic in the opinion that two strikes have been called on war films—unless they are exceptional—before such offerings go to bat, here is the film that will call the third strike. Its one and only asset is what magnetism may exist in Paul Muni's name, but his proven fine talent is helpless against the material supplied him. Senseless, dialog-topheavy, abounding in loosely-related melodramatics, lacking in action, the story has the additional disadvantage of being dated. Its locale is Russia and its time is 1942, the period when the Red armies, mauled and massacred by the Nazi invaders, are preparing for their glorious comeback. Historically, the film contributes only vagueness, and entertainmentwise it supplies even less. Thus, the film is too weak for topside, too long for support. Directed by Zoltan Korda.

Paul Muni, Marguerite Chapman, Larry Parks, Philip Van Zandt, George Macready, Roman Bohnen, Harro Meller.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Corn Is Green"**

Exhibitors will find they have a great presold audience for this film, since it is the screen version of a highly successful stage play which had a long run on Broadway. A name of considerable marquee weight is that of Bette Davis, who plays the leading part in the picture. Sell the picture as one of the finest performances Miss Davis has ever given. The accent on rural education presents much material for tie-ins with the local school systems, as well as excellent subjects for discussion groups and essays in the local newpapers.

CATCHLINES:

The Inspiring Story of One Lonely Woman . . . Valiantly Fighting Against Tradition and Ignorance . . . To Bring Opportunity and Happiness to a Talented Boy!

Bette Davis in Her Greatest Role . . . As a Woman Who Despised Men, Yet Sacrificed Her Own Happiness to Protect a Man's Secret From the World!

Can One Mistake, One Night of Madness, Ruin a Brilliant Career? . . . Yes, Says a Spiteful Wench, Who Uses Her Child as a Weapon Against the Woman She Hates!

SELLING ANGLES: **"A Medal for Benny"**

Through press and radio urge townspeople to loan souvenirs, sent them by their boys overseas, for a War Souvenir exhibit. As a prize for the most unusual souvenir give a war bond. Arrange with army and navy for a display of all military awards. Issue free passes to all men whose first name is Ben or Benny.

CATCHLINES:

An Inspiring Story of an American Town . . . Heart-Warming Drama! . . . The Town's Bad Boy Becomes a Hero! . . . A Congressional Medal of Honor Puts a Small Town on the Map . . . They Were the Town's Outcasts but He Made Them the Talk of the Town.

A Poignantly Beautful Story . . . Love and Youthful Dreams Frustrated by War Seeking Fulfillment.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Murder, He Says"**

Send a sandwich man through the streets after dark with his face, hands and clothes treated with phosphorescent paint and carrying picture billing. Try for cooperative advertising or window displays with local merchants, ala "Jones, the Furrier. It's 'Murder, He Says' to sell these coats at such low prices." From a collector, borrow a set of the famous hillbilly cartoons which appeared in Esquire and use them for lobby display.

CATCHLINES:

A Combination of Farce Comedy and Suspenseful Mystery . . . Hillbillies on the Rampage With Murder as a Hobby . . . A Public Opinion Investigator Looking for Facts Discovers Murder . . . And Spring Water That Causes People to Glow in the Dark.

It's Chock-Full of Chuckles . . . It's Teeming With Thrills . . . It's Mighty With Merriment . . . It's Crammed Full of Chills . . . It's "Murder, He Says."

SELLING ANGLES: **"Counter-Attack"**

Set up a lobby display with flags and pictures honoring the United Nations. Emphasize Russia. Utilize enlargements of newspaper headlines of Russian advances. Sponsor a letter-writing contest in the local press for the best letter on "How I Can 'Counter-Attack' on the Home Front." Give a war bond as a prize. Use loudspeaker attachment to street giving hourly war bulletins tied in with picture title.

CATCHLINES:

An All-Time Topper in Suspense and Thrills . . . What Did He Do While Sealed in a Cellar With Eight German Prisoners? . . . Dramatic Thunderbolt! . . . Packed With a Wallop That Keeps You Tense!

An Exciting War Drama Replete With Daring . . . Stirring! Emotional! Soul Searching! . . . A Dramatic Story of Heroism Under Fire.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Affairs of Susan"**

This is a woman's picture, stress its star's glamor, magnificent wardrobe and ability. Much of the action is Broadway back-stage; play up the colorful atmosphere of the theatre. Tie up with jewelry stores, dress shops, cosmeticians, airways, sporting goods, emporiums, etc. Offer ticket prizes for the best essay, letter, interview or reply to an inquiring reporter on "When Is Lying Justifiable?" Stage a fashion show for amateur modistes and models.

CATCHLINES:

She Lost Her Husband Because She Told the Truth . . . When She Learned to Lie Her Boy Friend Ditched Her . . . She Tried Doing Both and Lost Her Fiance . . . See What Happened to Number 4 in "The Affairs of Susan."

She Was All Things to All Men . . . An Innocent Country Lass . . . A Glamorous Broadway Star . . . A Rip-Snortin' Western Gal . . . Until She Got Her Signals Crossed . . . And Got Kissed Off by the Only Men She Ever Loved.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Colonel Blimp"**

With this picture, J. Arthur Rank makes his opening bid for an important share of the American trade. United Artists proposes to back it heavily with advertising. Exhibitors should cast aside their fears of the British accent. It is prevalent in this, but it is understandable and seems a necessary part of the story. Understandable, human, attractive personalities are presented in a story that will appeal to Americans' sense of fair play.

CATCHLINES:

He Observed the Rules . . . He Didn't Kick a Man When He Was Down . . . He Respected His Opponent . . . And Then the Unspeakable Nazis Came.

A Great Heart Beat Beneath a Stuffed Shirt . . . You'll Love Colonel Blimp Because He Typifies History.

Colonel Blimp—Man Who Could Fight Without Rancor . . . Who Could Extend His Hand to the Vanquished . . . Who Could Face Tragedy With a Smile.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Horn Blows at Midnight"**

Tie up with local night spots, jointly sponsoring teaser ads: "We abide by the curfew regulation—'The Horn Blows at Midnight.' Come Early!" etc. In the lobby suspend blown-up stills of Jack Benny, wings flapping against a celestial background of clouds, stars and planets. Construct a huge cardboard trumpet extending into street tied up with public address system to blast advertising.

CATCHLINES:

Jack Benny as a "Casper Milquetoast" Angel Assigned to Blow the Earth to Bits . . . Gets Involved in the Problems of "Homo Sapiens" . . . Loses His Horn . . . And Through a Series of Mad Misadventures Recovers It . . . And Saves the Earth.

Heavenly Days . . . Benny's an Angel . . . In a Wild Rollicking Farce Comedy . . . That Will Split Your Sides . . . And Send You Rolling Down the Aisles.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Scared Stiff"**

Place a dummy, clothed in a full dress suit, on a slab in the lobby. Suspend a huge sign over him reading "He Was Scared Stiff." A part of the lobby may be set aside to simulate a winery, filled with musty barrels, kegs and bottles and dimly lighted. In various spots in the winery, place skeletons and white robed figures. Over it all hang signs ala "You'd Be 'Scared Stiff' too."

CATCHLINES:

Jack Haley as a Reporter With No Nose for News . . . Becomes Involved in a Series of Spooky Murders in a California Winery . . . While Trying to Find an Antique Chess Set . . . He Stumbles on Clues . . . And Accidentally Solves the Murders.

A Hilarious Mystery-Thriller-Diller . . . Ghosts Galore and Murders by the Score . . . You'll Laugh Loudly and Shriek Shrilly . . . It's Screamingly Funny . . . And Gaily Chilling.

CLEARING HOUSE

The Industry's Market Place for Purchase or Sale of Equipment, Theatres, Service

• **Classified Ads 10c Per Word, Payable in Advance.** **Minimum $1.00. Display Rates on Request** •

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—NEW

PRE-WAR built new 40x60 glass size stainless steel poster cases, equipped with 2-36" long fluorescent lighting. Catalog upon request. BEN B. POBLOCKI & SONS CO., 2159 So. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 7, Wis

IF YOU DON'T WRITE, YOU'RE WRONG! We have anything and everything you want, reasonably priced. A COMPLETE stock of 35mm sound portables, Simplex and Holmes, 2,000 ft. magazines, with Baby Arcs or Mazda lamps. Unlimited quantities of Powers 6B mechanisms with roller pin type movements; Motiograph mechanisms, Peerless low intensity arc lamps; Weber, RCA and Ultraphone soundheads, also complete Ultraphone sound systems; new and used fireproof enclosed automatic rewinds; new and used 30 amp rectifiers. Liberal tradein allowances. Dealer inquiries invited; export shipments a specialty. WESTERN FEATURE FILMS, the house of a million bargains, 845 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—USED

ARMY CALLS—Two portable Holmes moving picture machines; projector, amplifier, speaker, 100 ft. cord, automatic shutter. In A-1 condition, ready for use. First $400 will take these machines. Ship C.O.D. Write R. K. Lawrence, Mountain Home, Ark.

COMPLETE BOOTH EQUIPMENT—Simplex projectors; Motiograph Lamps; Hertner Generator; Bestone Sound; Screen. J. P. Lannan, West Point, Neb.

COMPLETE COOLING EQUIPMENT—35,000 CFM Fan with 10 h. p. motor and speed control; air washer complete with pump and motor. J. P. Lannan, RIVOLA THEATRE, West Point, Neb.

COMPLETE SIMPLEX OUTFIT—Bases, lamphouses, projectors, rectifiers, lenses, soundheads, amplifiers, four speakers turntable, film cabinet, rewind and splicer. Used only eight months. Reasonable. H. A. DANIELS, Palace Theatre, Seguin, Tex.

SEVEN SOLD LAST MONTH—COMPLETE SIMPLEX BOOTH OUTFITS CONSISTING PROJECTORS, LAMPHOUSES, LENS, SOUNDHEADS, MOTORS, AMPLIFIER, SPEAKERS and SOUNDSCREEN. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year—$1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

ARMY SURPLUS GENERATORS, GOOD FOR YEARS, 40/80A 220V, worth $500, now $95; Arc Spotlamp 100A with pedestal, $125; Simplex E-7 intermittents, $75; Water cooler, DC only, $77.50; Brenkert F2 Combination slide effect machine, cost new $750, closing out, $265; Roth Actodecotor Suprex Generators, rebuilt, $397.50; Low Intensity Arclamps, $75. Spring Bulletin now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

FOR SALE—Extra heavy Buffalo Blower, 22,500 CFM. Cash only. PALACE THEATRE, Whitewright, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two RCA portable sound projectors, complete with portable stands, speaker, speaker table and amplifiers. Fine for roadshows. B-2176, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

WANT BURCH Popcorn machine. POPCORN SUPPLY, Box 838, Atlanta, Ga.

POWERS PROJECTORS, 16MM & 35MM SOUND PORTABLES. GOT ANYTHING? HIGHEST PRICES PAID. B-2158, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANT CUSHION CHAIRS for theatre. LOYAL LARSON, Kennedy, Minn.

BURCH, MANLEY, CRETORS, ADVANCE poppers. All electric machines. French fry type. KRISPY KIST KORN MACHINE CO., 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6.

WANTED—HOLMES EDUCATOR MODEL MACHINES. With or without magazines or lamp house, but with governor type motor and ball bearing. Must be good condition. Cash. G. W. Owen, Seymour, Mo.

AIR COOLING EQUIPMENT

NEW AIR WASHERS, ROTARY SPRAY MAT TYPE TO WORK WITH ANY BLOWER—EASILY INSTALLED. 5,000 cfm, $115; 7,000 cfm, $140; 10,000 cfm, $170; 15,000 cfm, $200; 20,000 cfm, $230. Recirculating Pump slightly additional. New prewar Blowers, starting at $106.50 for 5,500 cfm; also Diffuser Grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO Priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Catalogue. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

40,000 cfm, absolutely silent. No. 8 Sturdevant with V-belt drive, two speed motor and two hp turbine recirculating pump and nozzles for air-washer. Sell, $800 or exchange for 10,000 cfm job. SUGAR THEATRE, Sugar City, Idaho.

THEATRES FOR SALE

ILLNESS COMPELS SALE—Small town, heat, janitor, and chair maintenance included in $100 per month, nine year lease. Western Electric equipped. $10,000 cash terms or exchange to warm climate. Present business good. Postwar better. Located near Sun Valley, Yellowstone and Jackson's Hole; all sportsmen's paradise. Manage until satisfied before purchase. Hugh McKee, Sugar City, Idaho.

350-SEAT THEATRE — Equipment good condition. Middle Georgia town, approximately 1,000 population. Good agricultural and pulp wood section. Ideal for couple who want small theatre where they will not be worried about competition. B-2170, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRES WANTED

SMALL TOWN—EXCLUSIVE. Prefer Kansas or southwest. Give details first letter. B-2175, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WILL BUY PAYING THEATRE—anywhere in the country, preferably in midwest. Town 2,000 to 5,000. ROBERT HUTTE, Osceola, Iowa.

WILL BUY, LEASE OR MAKE OPERATING DEAL on small theatre, Kansas City exchange territory. Fifteen years theatre experience. B-2173, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED—Paying theatre in east. Cash. P. O. Box 1283, Southside, Springfield, Mo.

BUY OR LEASE THEATRE in New Jersey. Box 117, Passaic, N. J., A. Sinofsky.

WILL BUY paying theatre in middle west, preferably small enterprising town. Charles Means, 1130 Belmont, South Bend, Ind.

THEATRE SEATING

800 GOOD USED VENEER CHAIRS—Will sell all or part, $2.90 each. FOB Chicago. CHICAGO USED CHAIR MART, 844 South Wabash Ave., Chicago.

USED BOX SPRING THEATRE CHAIRS—500 American, 700 Heywood Wakefield. As is, or will recondition at reasonable cost. Write for prices. RUSSELL CARR, 1148 Taylor, Detroit 2, Mich.

THEATRE CHAIR PARTS — Standards, hinges, clamps, seats, backs, bolts, screws, cup washers, for all makes of chairs. Leatherette—send samples of your required replacements. CHICAGO USED CHAIR MART, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

575 HEYWOOD WAKEFIELD HEAVY PANEL BACK, SQUAB CUSHION CHAIRS, steel tubular standards, excellent condition, as is, $4.35; 500 Heywood Wakefield heavy panel back, box spring cushion chairs, excellent condition. $5.95; 200 Irwin heavy panel back, squab cushion chairs, excellent as is, $4.75; 900 Irwin chairs, heavy panel back, box spring cushions, newly reupholstered, rebuilt, $7.50; 700 American veneer chairs three-ply backs and seats, reconditioned, $4.50; Aislelites, $2.97. Wire us now. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

CHAIR UPHOLSTERING, factory method, done in theatre. ROBERT PURCELL, 332 Essex St., Corry, Pa.

THEATRE CHAIRS FOR EVERY PURSE—300 refinished, hardwood, castiron, stadium chairs, $3 ea; 500 new 5-ply back, 5-ply seat, refinished steel legs, $5 ea; 400 Irwin steel rebuilt, fully upholstered chairs, steel back panel, steel bottom board, corduroy covering, $7.50 ea. CENTURY SEATING CO., 360 West 44th St., NYC.

SOUND EQUIPMENT

SOUNDMAN'S TESTING OUTFITS NOW AVAILABLE on AA2 MRO (theatres may issue this priority) $28.40; Presto Professional Disc Recorder, $325; Sound Opticals, $15.95; Soundfilm Test Loop, $2.50; Tubes, Exciters, Photocels, Prewar service, ceiling prices. RCA 30 Watt PA Army Surplus amplifiers, $95. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

SIGN PAINTING

EASY WAY TO PAINT SIGNS. Use letter patterns. Avoid sloppy work and wasted time. No experience needed for expert work. Write for free samples. JOHN RAHN, B-1329 Central Ave., Chicago 51, Ill

BUSINESS STIMULATORS

THEATRE GAMES WITH GREATER AUDIENCE INTEREST. MORE THRILLS and MORE SUSPENSE. BINGO—$1.50 per thousand cards, No. 1-75 die-cut. Buy direct from LOUIS KESSLER, NOVELTY GAMES CO., 1434 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn 16, N.Y. Manufacturer and printer, servicing exhibitors exclusively for over 12 years. Various other games available.

BINGO CARDS—Die-cut, 75 or 100 numbers, $20 lots of 10,000. Smaller quanaities, $2.25 per thousand. S. KLOUS, c/o BOXOFFICE, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

FILMS WANTED

WILL BUY — Exploitation feature negative and prints for states. Advise. B-2174, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

HELP WANTED

PROJECTIONIST and managers needed for permanent position with circuit. Good possibilities for the right man. BOX 1431, Bay City, Texas.

MANAGER WANTED—Midwest city, give experience, references and salary desired. B-2154, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGERS AND PROJECTIONISTS WANTED—Permanent jobs for the right men; managers participate in profits. Must be sober, reliable, with good references. Drifters do not apply. WALLACE THEATRES, P. O. Box 878, Levelland, Texas.

WANTED—MANAGER for Modern theatre in coal mining camp. Also two operators for other towns. These positions permanent with excellent opportunity for advancement. State age, draft and family status, experience, references, salary expected. Boozers, drifters, and chasers need not apply. CHEROKEE AMUSEMENTS, INC., Erwin, Tenn.

MANAGER—Pennsylvania medium sized town. Good wages and opportunity for dependable experienced high type manager. Must stand rigid investigation. B-2169 BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

PROJECTIONIST—Good salary, working conditions, 44-hour week; small college town unaffected by war boom. Give personal details. B-2172, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

POSITIONS WANTED

THEATRE MANAGER DESIRES CHANGE—Real showman, community builder, expert buyer, booker, publicist. Will consider any good offer anywhere. Address ATHA, 1812 Elsmere Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

GENERAL MANAGER, booker, buyer. Experienced in small circuit booking and buying. Discharged from service. Now employed, want to make change for permanent postwar employment. B-2164 BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGER or PROJECTIONIST—Fifteen years experience in all phases of theatre operation. Married, draft exempt. WILLIS ROBERTS, 114 S. Orange, Sturgis, Mich.

THEATRE MANAGER—Capable experienced; state salary. Connecticut or New York preferred. FRED BROWN, 48 Redfield Road, Fairfield, Conn.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT

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POPCORN MACHINES FOR SALE. Manleys, Burch, Cretors, Advance and Stars. CONSOLIDATED CONFECTIONS, 1116 South Michigan, Chicago 5, Ill.

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A Song for Miss Julie

featuring

SHIRLEY ROSS

BARTON HEPBURN

and

JANE FARRAR • ROGER CLARK

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ALICIA MARKOVA • ANTON DOLIN

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Directed by WILLIAM ROWLAND • Screen Play by Rowland Leigh • Original Story by Michael Foster • Adaptation by Leighton K. Brill • Co-Producers: WILLIAM ROWLAND and CARLEY HARRIMAN

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The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

APRIL 14, 1945 Entered as Second Class matter at Postoffice at Kansas City, Mo., under Act of March, 1879. 25c Per Copy Per Year, $7.50 NATIONAL EDITION



Senators Probing Charge Of Exhibition "Monopoly"

(See Page 8)





"I PROMISE the millions who saw Judy in 'Meet Me in St. Louis' that this is her greatest performance yet!"

—LEO



WATCH THE CAPITOL! The World Premiere on Broadway is the tip-off to a BIG ONE!

WHEN JUDY GARLAND AND ROBERT WALKER COME TO YOUR TOWN IN "THE CLOCK"

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MGM

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TEMPTING STORY!

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one smile . . . and EVE was in paradise!
one kiss . . . and ADAM was in trouble!

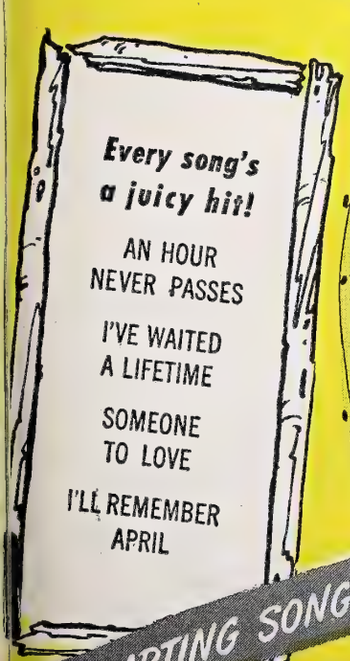
COLUMBIA PICTURES'

EVE KNEW HER APPLES



starring

ANN MILLER



TEMPTING SONGS!

with WILLIAM WRIGHT · ROBERT WILLIAMS · RAY WALKER

Screen Play by F. Edwin Moran · Produced by WALLACE MacDONALD · Directed by WILL JASON

COLUMBIA PICTURES



Starring

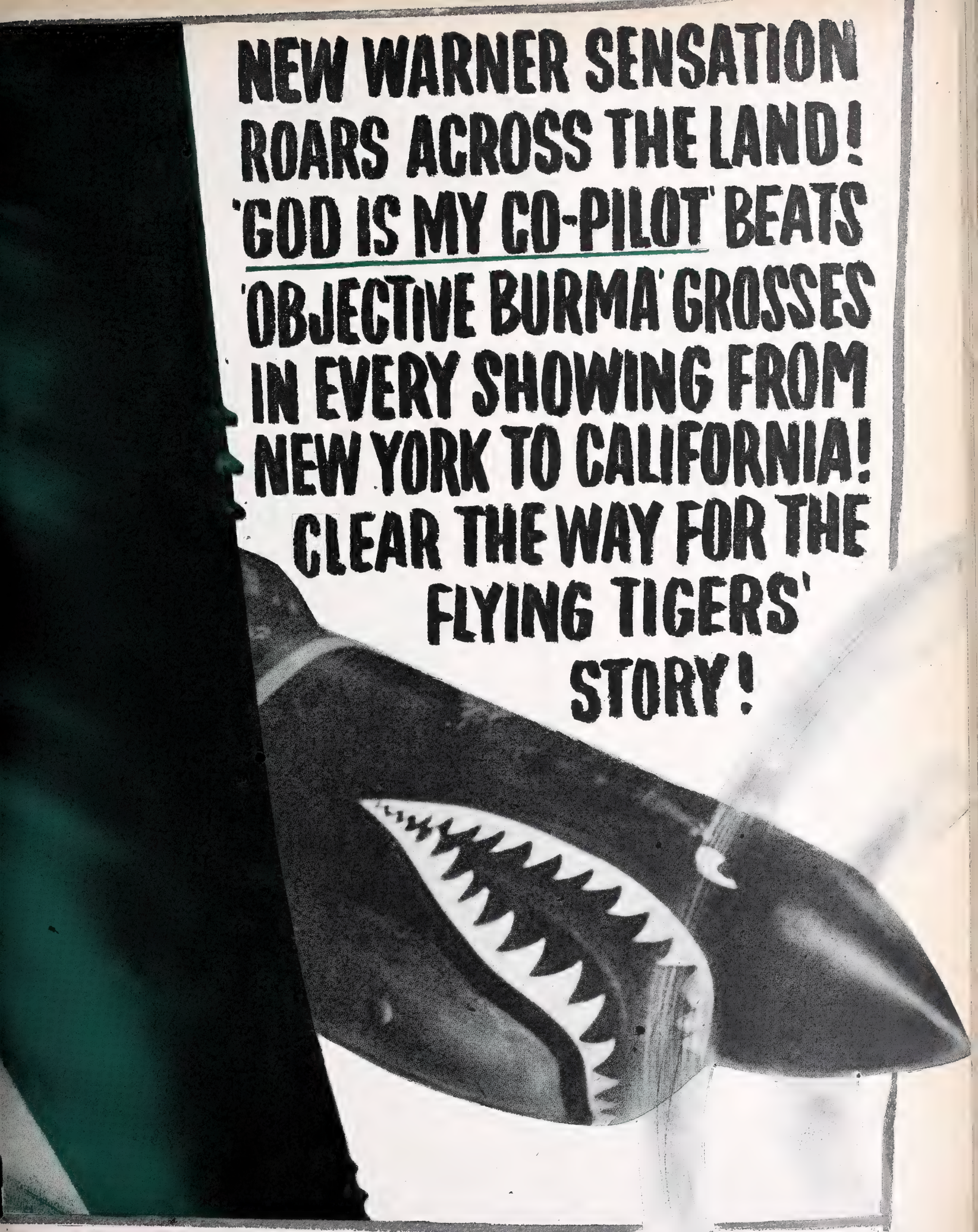
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CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE FLYING TIGERS' STORY!



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KEEP SELLING BONDS

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY

PUBLISHED IN EIGHT SECTIONAL EDITIONS

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HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.

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TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.

VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.

VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.

WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 46 No. 23

APRIL 14, 1945

BOXOFFICE



Franklin Delano Roosevelt



☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

The world has lost a great Humanitarian and Statesman; the motion picture industry a Friend.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Theatres Close in Deference To Memory of the President

As a mark of respect to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, leading circuits closed their houses all day Saturday, April 14, while the national WAC sent request to all theatres to close until 6 p. m. No amusement advertising was carried in New York papers Saturday; just announcement of closing.

H. M. Warner sent word to all WB houses to close Saturday. National Theatres and Paramount partners were in meeting at press time.

Hollywood studios were at standstill following news of the President's sudden death. Operations suspended voluntarily; producers' association passed resolution mourning loss, pledging itself to nation's new leader.

Crowds thinned along Broadway in New York by 9 p. m. Thursday. Most theatres flashed bulletins at supper shows.

All newsreels rushed to completion reel on life and career of FDR; it went to laboratories early Friday. Most first runs had reel late Friday, with swearing in of Truman included; footage was 630 to 860 feet.

• • • ——

Print Use Is Lengthened From 18 to 30 Months

Some distributors notify outlets this must be done to conserve raw stock; plan believed feasible because of longer first runs and improved care in celluloid handling.

• • • ——

State Department Invites 44 Nations to Send Films

Idea is to have participants in San Francisco Peace Conference represented by their product, if any; N. Y. committee contacts foreign representatives for suggestions.

• • • ——

British Government Plans Autumn Studio Releases

Production increase coming with 14 sound stages to be freed of restrictions; studios requested to list requirements; propose enforcing quota requirements later.

• • • ——

Argentina Removes a Ban On Anti-Nazi Production

Previously taboo, "The Hitler Gang" was shown last week; government may let down bars also on "Confessions of Nazi Spy," "Mission to Moscow," "Dictator" and others.

• • • ——

Majors Will Get Free Hand Soon in Three More Areas

Office of War Information sends word to be ready to take over film distribution in Greece, Belgium and liberated Italy, as conditions get better in those countries.

• • • ——

Quick Shift to 35mm Film In Europe Planned Now

Joseph H. Seidelman of Universal going abroad for WAC to arrange theatre showings in liberated areas for uniformed personnel, replacing temporary 16mm setups.

SENATE GROUP PROBES CHARGE BY EXHIBITOR OF "MONOPOLY"

Small Business Committee Launches Inquiry Into Alleged Practices

WASHINGTON—A complaint which he received from his home town of Butte, Mont., from an independent exhibitor, said Sen. James E. Murray of Montana this week, charges that "the great producer-exhibitor monopoly is using unfair, coercive means to destroy his business." Senator Murray is chairman of the senate committee on small business, which is launching an inquiry into the motion picture industry.

The Butte complaint charges, Senator Murray said, that nine out of the 12 theatres formerly existing in Silver Bow County, Mont., had been absorbed by the major companies or "forced out of business by their competition," until only three theatres remained in Butte in 1932, all owned by one major producer-distributor.

"First Runs Changed Policy"

The complaint adds that these three theatres operated on a policy of showing first run feature films until an independent house was opened in Butte with a second run policy. In order, it is charged, to hamper and restrict the operation of the independent, the three first runs changed their policy; two of them became second run, showing 480 features in the year following the opening of the new theatre. During the previous year, these two houses had shown 260 productions. It is also charged that these theatres contracted for more pictures than they could use, for the "purpose of preventing the independent from obtaining sufficient films to operate his theatre."

In "connivance with other major producer-distributors," the complaint charges, one major producer-distributor deprived the independent theatre owner of free access to second run product. When this exhibitor opened a large, modern, first run theatre in Butte in 1940, it is charged that other major distributors again combined with this dominant producer-distributor in refusing to rent first run films to the new theatre.

"Used Strong Bargaining Power"

It is claimed that the major producer-distributor used its strong bargaining power as the largest theatre owner in the territory to secure the cooperation of the other major distributors in eliminating competition from independent theatres.

The complaint also alleges that the major producer-distributor tried to influence the independent exhibitor's creditors to bring pressure on him to sell his theatres to the affiliated chain.

"Such charges as these certainly warrant investigation," Senator Murray said. "Similar coercive measures are described in other complaints."

"The vital importance of motion pictures as a medium for the communication of thoughts and ideas gives the public a real stake in them," Senator Murray observed. "Any practices which result in restraint of trade, or prevent the exhibition of films in any area of the country would infringe on the public interest in that territory."

"An objective investigation will be made of these and other charges to correct any evils which might be found to exist," Senator Murray added. "We must make certain that the field of motion picture exhibition is open to all competitors on equal terms. Returning men of the armed services must be given their fair chance to open and successfully operate motion picture theatres. Our studies, reports, negotiations with complainants and producer-distributor groups should prove beneficial to the whole industry and to the general public."

Senator Murray said he had instructed Dewey Anderson, secretary of the committee, to make a thorough study of this and other complaints. Open hearings will be conducted if necessary.

The senator added that unaffiliated independent exhibitors "have represented to the committee that they are being subjected to a relentless squeeze, forcing them to close their theatres, or else suffer absorption by the major producing companies and the larger theatre chains."

Unfair Preferences Alleged

It is charged in the complaints received, the senator continues, that "five theatre-owning producing companies give unfair preference to the theatres affiliated with them . . . and, in addition, the large chains of non-affiliated theatres use their extensive purchasing power to secure preferential treatment over small theatre owners. According to the independents, said the solon, 'these combinations and favors' have made it increasingly difficult for them to survive."

The bulletin from the office of the senate small business committee closes with the statement:

"The figures of the Hays organization itself show that during the past decade the relative importance of small independent theatres has declined sharply. Between 1933 and 1941 the total number of motion picture theatres in this country increased from 13,416 to 16,951. Independent theatres, which were 68 per cent of the total number in 1933, dropped to 56 per cent in 1941. During the same period the number of theatres belonging to large unaffiliated chains increased from 15 per cent of the total to 28 per cent. The number of the chain systems also increased from 233 in 1933 to 357 in 1941."

Opposing Antitrust Suit Attorneys Agree on Scope of Coming Trial

BULLETIN:

NEW YORK—Refusal of the justice department and distributor attorneys to answer each other's interrogatories has resulted in a call by Judge Goddard for a new conference to decide what is relevant in the antitrust suit. Date of the new conference will be announced shortly.

NEW YORK—Government attorneys headed by Robert L. Wright and distributors' counsel held an all-day conference Tuesday at the offices of the antitrust division of the department of justice here, discussing evidence and testimony to be introduced at the scheduled equity suit against the distributors in the New York federal court on October 8.

Both Wright and attorneys for the distributors, when asked whether the two sides had discussed a possible compromise of the issues said: "The matter wasn't even brought up."

That the two sides have at least agreed on the scope and type of evidence to be introduced at the forthcoming trial was indicated by the fact that no further conferences were scheduled. Nor were any contemplated in the near future.

It was learned the distributors might move to have the government furnish replies to certain interrogatories. This would indicate the government has refused to furnish this information. Interrogatories are used by litigants as a time-saving device in furnishing necessary information at a trial.

Tuesday's pretrial conference resumed where a previous one held in Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard's chambers left off. Much progress was reported to have been made at the latest conference.

Theatre Turned Over To Peace Delegates

HOLLYWOOD—Through arrangements perfected here, daily exhibition of motion pictures will be staged in San Francisco for the exclusive attendance of official delegates, the press secretariats and others holding credentials to the Peace Conference starting April 25. The Alcazar Theatre of the Bay City, donated by Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, will be renamed the United Nations Theatre for the duration of the conference. Its 1,100 seats will be held available for those officially attending the conference. Announcements of the daily programs, which will start at 5 p. m., will be part of official convention bulletins.

The schedule of programs will be in charge of an industry committee, composed of Claude Lee, Fay Reeder, who will be in San Francisco during the conference, Jason Joy and S. Charles Einfeld in Hollywood and Howard Dietz, Arthur DeBra and Glen Allvine in New York.

Conference Theatre Available

In addition there will be a conference theatre for the presentation of films of documentary nature. This theatre is available upon application of the secretariats and for the showing of pictures from all governments represented at the conference.

The operation of these theatres will be a contribution of the United States motion picture industry. Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, is the executive chairman of the committee cooperating with the government. Howard Dietz, vice-president of Metro, is chairman of the planning committee. The film plans for the San Francisco conference were submitted in Washington by a motion picture delegation, headed by Francis S. Harmon of the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry, representing exhibitors, distributors, producers and newsreels. The department of state was quick to accept the cooperation offered.

Stay Open on VE-Day, Is Plan Over Nation

NEW YORK—On VE-Day motion picture theatres throughout the land will, in the words of a home office executive, "keep grinding," except in those localities where war plants or local authorities necessitate temporary closing.

Paramount has prepared a special VE-Day reel, "When G.I. Johnny Comes Marching Home!" the short is sealed in theatre safes and will be flashed on the screen as soon as the long-awaited bulletin from supreme Allied headquarters in France arrives. "Whether or not our theatres stay open on VE-Day," a Paramount home office executive said, "is entirely up to our partners, the managers. Unless local authorities request closing the houses, I very much doubt if such a step would be taken voluntarily."

At the 20th-Fox home office a theatre department executive said: "Each locality will handle its own problems. All managers will cooperate with their respective local civic authorities."

In the Best Possible Taste

Another special VE-Day reel has been waiting in the safes of Warners houses for some months. Less than 200 feet long, the reel starts with a brief announcement that the Reich has officially admitted defeat; this is followed by a reminder "there's still another war to be won," the short closing on a rendition of the national anthem. WB theatres have received no set instructions. "What our houses do depends entirely on local conditions," said a Warner representative, "we've left it up to our zone managers to handle the situation in the best possible taste. I doubt closings will be necessary."

Loew's theatres plans to keep all its houses open VE-Day, unless instructed to the contrary by local authorities. "Closing houses down on such an occasion would be nothing short of ridiculous," a home office executive said. "In the safe of each theatre is a special VE-Day reel, prayerful and powerful, reminding the patrons we've no right to be jubilant but merely grateful, we still have boys dying in the Pacific. The reel was produced by Carey Wilson and features Margaret O'Brien."

"Short But Sweet"

RKO theatres will stay open. In each safe is a sealed trailer awaiting exhibition on VE-Day. Following an announcement by the manager that Germany has capitulated, the trailer will be flashed on the screen. The short reel opens with the words and music of the national anthem, followed by what a representative of RKO termed a "short but sweet announcement" regarding the cessation of European hostilities. "The theatres will," he concluded, "keep grinding."

Columbia Pictures has no houses of its own, but has already distributed to each of its customers a "Community Sing" reel. These shorts, at present in sealed cans resting in theatre safes, comprise patriotic music with brass band accompaniments and commentary by Basil Ruysdael.

Universal has adopted, perforce, what might be termed the negative approach: "No reel—no plans—no theatres," to quote a spokesman of the organization.

"Each manager will use his own discretion, and try to curb any too-frenzied demonstration," a representative of Century circuit said. "If the audiences should become too carried away, our managers would probably stop the film momentarily, have patriotic music played and sung until the crowd had blown off steam. We're sure the audiences won't get out of hand, particularly as our managers have been instructed to keep the patrons from parading up and down the aisles."

Studio Strike in a Rut As "Innocents" Suffer

HOLLYWOOD—Dragging into its sixth week, Hollywood's studio strike also was falling into something of a rut. There were no great changes in the walkout's status, except that it had developed those inevitable by-products: misfortune for innocent bystanders, mud-slinging and a few cracked heads.

Probably this status will continue to stand until ranking American Federation of Labor officials decide to sit in on the game or unless something satisfactory to all factions comes out of the next hearing before the National Labor Relations Board on the jurisdictional disputes over the set decorators, that handful of workers over control of whom all the shooting started. NLRB has scheduled such a hearing for Washington on April 26.

The innocent bystanders were employes of Republic, the first studio to take advantage of the standard strike clause in all contracts to lay off actors, actresses, assistant directors, and other production personnel. While studio spokesmen admitted that notices of suspension had been served on several such employes because of conditions created by the strike, no announcement had been made up to midweek as to just how many non-striking employes were affected by the move. Nor was there indication that a similar policy might be pursued by other studios. In fact, the opinion was expressed by usual news sources at the other film foundries that there was little likelihood that their executives would invoke the strike clause to apply to non-striking individuals or crafts. That opinion was based upon the fact that in most instances production programs and routines were returning closer to normal than at any time since the strike was called.

Sorrell Tosses Latest Mud

'Twas Herbert Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, to which master group most of the strikers and their unions belong, who tossed the latest mud. The occasion was a weekly mass meeting attended by 3,000 Hollywood unionites. Sorrell charged that Richard Walsh, president of IATSE, whose forces are aligned against Sorrell's in the current film capital labor battles, had received sizable sums from the unsavory two per cent assessment that had been levied against IA members a few years ago. At the same time, Sorrell expressed the same confidence that he had reflected at the week-earlier mass meeting by declaring that the strike was 93 per cent won.

The cracking of heads resulted from continuance of the few scattered physical encounters between pickets and the workers whom they consider strikebreakers. No serious injuries were reported and there were only occasional arrests.

With Walsh doing everything within his means to fulfill his promise to the producers that he will replace from the ranks of his own IA unions all of the workers who are on strike, production handicaps were being constantly removed and picture-making routine continued to return toward normalcy at most strike-bound studios.

Following their action of last week, which officially "discharged" all of the strikers and terminated collective bargaining contracts with their respective unions, the producers take the attitude that they can no longer deal with the strikers or their representatives, that they can now replace the striking workers with men from the ranks of other unions, and in accordance with Walsh's offer.

Text of "Firing" Telegram

The telegram which "fired" CSU workers declared, "The undersigned producers hereby rescind and terminate the collective bargaining contracts now in effect between the undersigned producers and your union. Such action is taken by us by reason of your breach of your obligations under such contracts and the failure of your members to perform their services in accordance with such contracts." It was signed by Columbia Pictures Corp., Samuel Goldwyn, Loew's, Inc., Paramount Pictures, Inc., RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., Republic Productions, Inc., Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp., Universal Pictures Co., Inc., Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., and was directed to the following labor groups: Local 644 of the Brotherhood of Painters, Society of Interior Decorators, Screen Set Designers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Local 40, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Local 946, International Ass'n of Machinists and Lodge 1185, Building Service Employes International Union (janitors only) and Local 278.

Refuse to Take Boxcar Through Picket Lines

Hollywood — Additional complications arose in the studio strike Tuesday, when Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen workers, after delivering a boxcar to one of the studios, refused to take it through picket lines.

Leaders in the walkout said this was a "significant" development, declaring that all location production would be stopped unless unit equipment is transported by truck.

"Lab" Workers to File Notice on Strike Vote

NEW YORK—Counter-proposals by the representatives of the eastern processing laboratories have been rejected by members of the Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians Unions, Local 702, and the executive council of the union has been authorized and instructed by the membership to file notice with the appropriate governmental agencies of the intention to take a strike vote within a 30-day period under the terms of the Smith-Connally Act.

This action resulted from a special roll call membership meeting of the union at the Hotel Diplomat during the week. The meeting was called to consider counter-proposals of the laboratory representatives, submitted in the contract and wage scale negotiations opened in December, 1944. Involved are 17 laboratories and 1,800 union members.

The union decision to the strike vote was described as necessary, despite the no-strike pledge, because of the apparent desire of the employers to take advantage of the pledge by submitting counter-proposals which in effect meant cutting the existing wage scales in some categories, denying increases in others, and granting very small increases in a few.

The union spokesman also declared that the union's demands for doubling the number of job classifications, plus vacations, sick leaves, group insurance, a guaranteed work week and other benefits were entirely ignored by the laboratory representatives. He also stated that the companies sought to remove certain workers from union jurisdiction.

SUCCESS OF LOAN CAN ASSURE 20-YEAR PROSPERITY—GAMBLE

Backlog of 150 Billions in Savings Will Avert After-War Slump, He Says

NEW YORK—First of a series of regional meetings to discuss plans for the Seventh War Loan was held at the Astor Hotel early in the week, with all company heads, top executives and leading exhibitors from up and down the Atlantic coast present.

Theodore F. Gamble, assistant to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, explained quite frankly why the goal of $14,000,000,000, with $7,000,000,000 of this intended for sale to individuals, is higher than in any previous drive; why the drive must run 90 days, and why its success will contribute to postwar prosperity. With 150 billions of wage earners' savings in war bonds this country can look forward to a 20-year period of prosperity, he said.

It would be impossible to make the drive shorter, he pointed out, because the total sum sought would be as high as the total income of the purchasers, if the drive were to be compressed into three or four weeks.

Treasury Has Four Principles

"Why more money?" Gamble asked at the start of his talk. "Why a billion increase in E bonds over any previous drive?" Then he proceeded to answer his own questions with a mass of figures that fascinated some of the industry's leading executives.

Four principles have guided the treasury department in its borrowing, he said. One of these is direct taxation. At the early stages of the war before enabling legislation was enacted direct taxation amounted to about 40 per cent of the federal income. Now it is running about 46 per cent. This compares with about 29 per cent in World War I. Another principle was a decision to finance the war as cheaply as possible. The cost is running about 1.92 per cent. A third was to keep the banks as liquid as possible, so the slump of 1930 would not be repeated. To do this the maturities have been fixed at ten years. The fourth principle he explained as the pressing of sales to individuals to prevent inflation.

"This is something you can't explain to the public," he said; "it is something that requires the showmanship and the emotional push supplied by the film industry."

The government, he said, had borrowed $177,000,000-odd from institutions; a deficit of $160,000,000,000; had borrowed $75,000,000,000 from banks; had sold $50,000,000,000 in securities, and had borrowed $102,000,000,000 from outside banks. In 1944 the borrowings totaled $52,000,000,000.

Higher Income a Danger

Sales to individuals have not been a "perfect job," he said. Only 12.098 per cent of bonds held by individuals has been redeemed. This record is better than in any other country, he said. A total of more than 85,000,000 persons has bought bonds, and, of these, 20,000,000 never saved before.

Individual incomes are now higher than they were a few months ago, he said, and it is important that this purchasing power be siphoned off to prevent inflation through runaway prices on scarce articles. He predicted these articles would be scarcer during the coming months, especially food, because since the armies moved out of England many things are being shipped direct from this country which were formerly obtained on reverse lend-lease in England.



TREASURY POSTER—One of the posters being sent to theatres throughout the country by the U.S. treasury department to stimulate pay roll savings in connection with the Seventh War Loan.

At present, he said, about 40,000,000 persons are wage-earners in this country. In figuring the quota for E bond sales, he said, the treasury had estimated that anyone earning $250 per month should buy $250 in bonds during this drive, with the percentages declining on the lower wage brackets.

"We had to extend the drive to 90 days," he said, "in order not to ask for more than the actual income for the bond drive period. It's a tremendous challenge. We will need more help than we have ever had before. This 150 billion backlog of savings can mean prosperity in America for 20 years."

Session Starts in Morning

The session began with a general discussion of exploitation plans in the morning, with Sam Pinanski, national chairman, presiding. At 12:30 luncheon was served. Pinanski spoke briefly and turned the chairmanship over to Francis Harmon, coordinator for WAC.

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, and chairman of the special events committee for the drive, explained plans for a parade and pageant, with a big bond show at the Paramount with the house scaled at $4,000,000. One national stunt under consideration, he said, is to have "retreat" sounded at 5 p. m. daily during the drive, with the assistance of the military where possible, with bond sales in front of theatres at that hour daily.

At the close of the luncheon the campaign short, "All-Star Bond Rally," was shown. It was received with an outburst of enthusiasm.

Treasury Department Uses B&K Video Station WBKB

CHICAGO—The U.S. treasury department has inaugurated a series of video programs over Balaban & Katz station WBKB. The telecasts include screen, stage and radio stars as well as entertainers from USN.

Television receiving sets have been set up at the Treasury Center on Adams Street where guests may view the shows.

Distributors Outline Film Plans for Special Events During the Campaign

NEW YORK—National distributors have adopted an agreement whereby films will be made available to exhibitors during the Seventh War Loan for war bond premieres, children's morning premieres and free movie days, according to Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman.

Connors said the distributors would "open their vaults" to exhibitors in order to assure a record amount of special events. Sam Pinanski, national chairman, said, "The national committee is delighted with the distributors' plan. The distributors are full partners with the exhibitors in this great all-industry campaign, and cooperation between the distributors and exhibitors is more vital in this drive than ever before."

The agreement provides:

(1) Between May 14 and June 30, the period of the drive, the distributors will furnish for one performance only, known as a war bond premiere, any picture the exhibitor has under contract, but not earlier than 30 days prior to its availability for booking at his theatre, provided the exhibitors having clearance do not object. Reissues will be considered as new pictures.

Films for Children's Premieres

(2) As a special inducement for bond sales to and by children, the distributors will also furnish a picture for a children's morning premiere under the same conditions as for a war bond premiere.

(3) To stimulate the number of bond premieres in small towns, the distributors will furnish a picture for this purpose to any exhibitor making a request, even though the exhibitor may not have the picture under contract and regardless whether the exhibitor is a regular customer, provided the population of the town is not over 7,500 and the picture booked for the premiere shall have been generally released prior to Nov. 1, 1944.

(4) The distributors endorse the plans of the national Seventh War Loan committee for a national free movie day, and agree that admission may be free on that day to each purchaser of a bond.

(5) Upon the exhibitor's request, the distributors will provide pictures for repeat showings at war bond premieres.

(6) Features handled at advanced admission prices are excluded from this agreement.

Goldenson Heads Advisory Committee for 7th Drive

NEW YORK—Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president of theatre operations, has been appointed chairman of the national advisory committee for the Seventh War Loan.

Goldenson said that his committee would include prominent leaders in various war activities from every branch of the industry. Members of the committee will be available for consultation with the national committee and with the state and area committees in their respective localities.

Theatre Construction Under Study by CPO

WASHINGTON—Theatre construction and motion picture production will be among the businesses discussed and studied by the newly created Committee on Period One, now alphabetically known as CPO, which has been set up by: WPB Chairman J. A. Krug to take over the details of modifying and relaxing war and war-supporting production controls on industry. It will be the policy of the committee to consult with all segments of industry so far as possible before final action on reconversion problems is taken. Chairman of the new committee is J. D. Small, executive officer of the WPB; vice-chairman is S. W. Anderson, chairman of the requirements committee and the CPO executive is W. E. Haines, executive assistant to Anderson.

Eleven subcommittees have been set up but five of these groups may be directly concerned with motion picture problems insofar as they relate to theatre construction, manpower and needed materials. Anderson will serve as chairman, aided by Shaw Liveright, deputy chairman of Committee No. 3, which will deal with critically-needed consumer products and urgent nonmilitary construction; Committee No. 5, headed by John L. Haynes, will determine the status and prospects of essential civilian construction, the problems of reconversion in the construction industry and desirable changes in construction controls. Committee No. 6, John C. Houston, chairman, will recommend a simplified priorities system, etc.; Committee No. 8, A. C. C. Hill jr., chairman, will deal with consumer and product distribution controls, the rationing of gasoline, fuel oil, tires, solid fuels, stoves, etc. Committee No. 10, Ralph Hetzel, chairman, will examine the relationship of WMC controls to WPB plans; manpower provisions in WPB controls; manpower clearances, labor conditions related to manpower, etc.

Hydroquinone Is Placed In Allocations Control

WASHINGTON—Hydroquinone, used as a photographic developer, has been placed under allocations control, the WPB announced. The over-all supply of this chemical no longer is adequate to meet all requirements because of increased demands for smoke-dyes for military use and for the expanding synthetic rubber program, in which this chemical plays an important role.

While hydroquinone is under allocation control, scheduled for the entire month of May, users of this chemical for photographic work are advised to fill out application form WPB-2,945 and file it before the 20th of the month.

Three copies of this form, one certified, must be sent to the WPB chemicals bureau.

CBS National Broadcast Will Honor H. M. Warner

NEW YORK—A tribute to Harry M. Warner in recognition of his efforts in producing "It Happened in Springfield" will be broadcast by the Youth on Parade program over a nationwide CBS hookup on April 28. Ceremonies will include an address by the mayor of Springfield, Mass., speaking from Boston. The film deals with the Springfield Plan for promoting civic harmony, racial and religious tolerance and the principles of democracy.

Norman Moray's Daughter Wed

NEW YORK—Norma Helen Moray, daughter of Norman H. Moray, general sales manager for Warners' short subjects, was married last week to Sgt. Charles Du Paul of the army transportation corps.

War Has Trained Many Men to Fit Into Film Industry, Says Reisman

NEW YORK—Army showing of motion pictures has created a greater potential audience for the postwar era than ever saw films prior to the war, and has also trained men in the science of distribution who will fit perfectly into the industry after the war.

These were the observations of Phil Reisman, vice-president and foreign sales manager for RKO Radio, who returned recently from a tour of inspection in Great Britain and France. In a report to WAC, Reisman said:

"Everywhere I went, I saw men who told me before they entered the army they had only gone to the movies occasionally. They told me, time after time, they had gotten into the movie habit now, and never would again be satisfied with only an occasional film."

Discussing distribution of the 16mm gift films, Reisman said, "I cannot speak too highly in praise of the uniformed personnel who see that our 16mm prints of the latest Hollywood features reach the fighting men of the army and navy. We who are engaged in the commercial exhibition and distribution of films can have no real conception of the difficulties which confront film handlers of the army pictorial service.

"Some of the men working for the overseas exchanges of the army pictorial service are former members of the motion picture industry. Many others, probably a majority, were not in the film business before they entered the army. But they are in business now, on a scale which defies description. In them can be found one of the principal reasons for the bright postwar future of the motion picture industry."

Graham in New Post At Paramount Int'l

NEW YORK—Robert L. Graham, who returned recently from a special assignment in Spain, has been appointed assistant to A. L. Pratchett, Paramount International Films, Inc., Latin American division manager, by John W. Hicks jr., president.

Graham will make his headquarters in Mexico City following several weeks of home office conferences. For the last year and a half, he had been a special overseas representative for Paramount in Spain. Prior to that assignment, Graham was the company's manager in Mexico for three years.

Graham made an extensive survey of the film market in Spain for Paramount while on assignment there. More recently he handled the organizational work connected with formation of Paramount-Mercurio Films, S. A., in Madrid. This is the distribution outlet for Paramount Films de Espana, S. A., which was formed following Graham's survey.

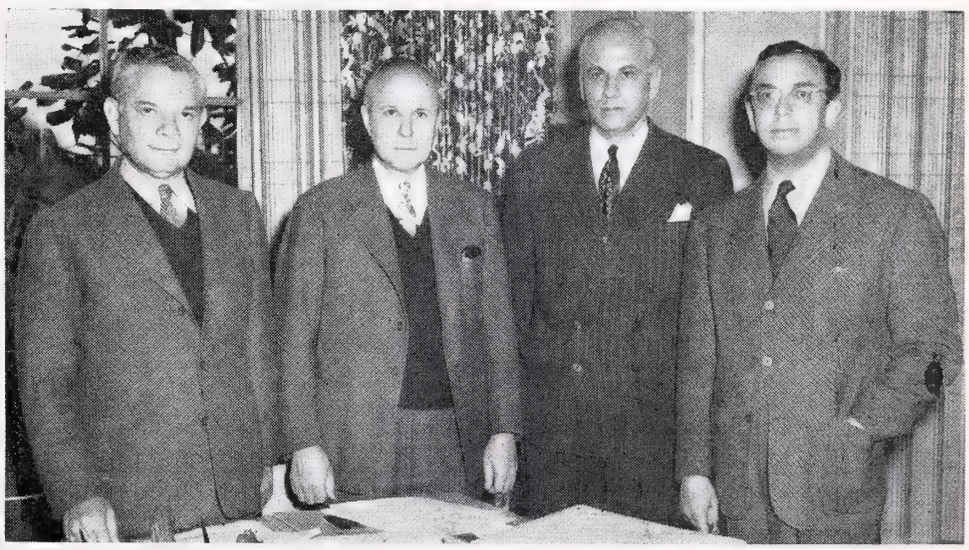
Crescent Counsel Claims Longer Period of Grace

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The year of grace in which Crescent Amusement Co. and its affiliates must comply with the terms of the decree of Judge Elmer D. Davies of the U.S. district court, began Jan. 18, 1945, date of the affirmation of the decision by the supreme court at Washington, and not May 17, 1944, according to Crescent's chief counsel, George H. Armistead.

These property and relationship adjustments "are being worked out," he added. The fact that both plaintiff and defendant appealed the original decision to the supreme court is responsible for the grace period not beginning until the later date, according to Armistead.

Rathvon, LeRoy in N. Y.

NEW YORK—Among motion picture figures to arrive from Hollywood during the week were N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, and Mervyn LeRoy, director of that company's forthcoming film, "The Robe."



RKO AND INTERNATIONAL SIGN—Formal signing of contracts assuring distribution of International Pictures by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., for another year, occurred in Hollywood upon the visit of N. Peter Rathvon, chairman of the board for RKO, to confer with William Goetz, International president and Leo Spitz, chairman of the board. The Gary Cooper production of "Along Came Jones," recently completed; "Tomorrow Is Forever," starring Claudette Colbert, Orson Welles and George Brent and Sonja Henie's second Technicolor spectacle, "Countess of Monte Cristo," with Dennis O'Keefe; will be the first three International pictures released under the new deal.

Left to right, Spitz, Rathvon, RKO Director Laurence Green and Goetz.

"Add 'The Enchanted Cottage' to the ever-growing list of fine Hollywood efforts. By its own merits, this attraction carves itself a splendid niche ...Here is a film which rests heavily on the believability and the integrity of its principal performances and the steady, yet understanding, hand in its direction. It is a happy circumstance to report that this proves the case." —MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST RUNS EVERYWHERE SOON!

"A natural, both as to box office and entertainment." —*Motion Picture Herald*

"Gives one the feeling of having discovered some rare jewel." —*Hollywood Reporter*

"Will play a merry tune at the box-office." —*Variety*

"One of the month's most noteworthy screen events." —*Boxoffice*

"In the top bracket." —*Hollywood Variety*

"Deeply moving . . . has tremendous appeal for women." —*Film Daily*

"Timely . . . should prove beneficial to box-office." —*Showmen's Trade Review*

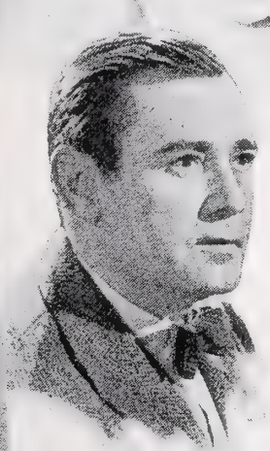
"Unusual love story will get the women's vote." —*The Exhibitor*

Back in that strange world called "Home"

A pilot finds his dreams are shattered . . . a girl despairs of ever being adored . . . 'til they meet by a miracle of love and keep a rendezvous with rapture!



The story of a hero, facing his greatest crisis when he comes home to love again!



Dorothy McGuire · Robert Young

the Lovers of "Claudia"

Herbert Marshall

"the Enchanted Cottage"

Mildred Natwick · Spring Byington · Hillary Brooke · Richard Gaines

Directed by John Cromwell · *Produced by* Harriet Parsons

Screen Play by DeWitt Bodeen and Herman J. Mankiewicz

Based on the play by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero

RKO RADIO Pictures

RKO BACKS IT WITH TOP NATIONAL CAMPAIGN!

Full pages in the biggest national magazines to a total of

29,007,375 CIRCULATION

— Publications like WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION — McCALL'S — RED BOOK — COLLIER'S — LOOK — LIBERTY — WOMAN'S DAY — TRUE STORY — FAMILY CIRCLE and the ENTIRE FAN LIST. The ad reproduced herewith appears in Woman's Home Companion, Collier's, Woman's Day and three fan magazines.

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

RCA HANDBOOK ON TELEVISION IN THEATRE SCANS THE FUTURE

Forecast Network Progress, Programming and Actual Projection Problems

By PAUL PEREZ

NEW YORK—RCA is so confident video is just around the corner it is already distributing a handbook for projectionists. Theatre Television, as the 104-page brochure is titled, has been prepared primarily with the needs of motion picture projectionists in mind, but it should prove of considerable value to others in the film industry.

RCA engages in no extravagant prophecies as to the future of television in a postwar world; in fact the organization seems purposely to play down video's possibilities. It is these general understatements that make one or two guarded predictions seem the more credible.

Executives Cautious in Statements

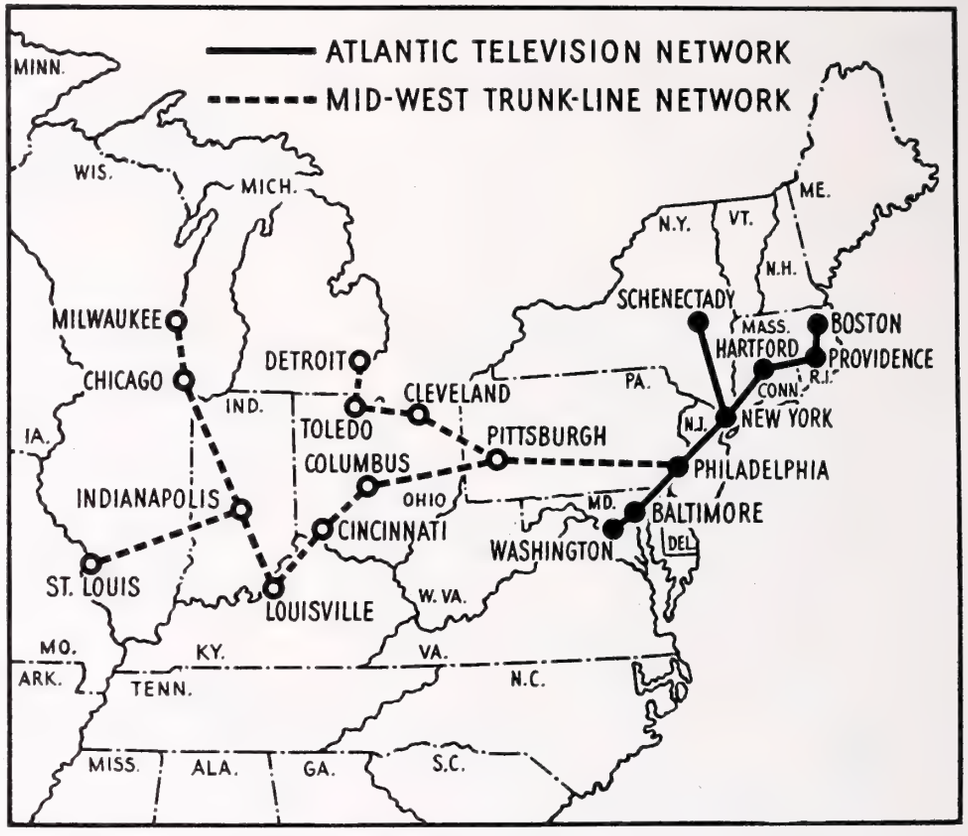
"Some theatres may elect to show television programs exclusively," the handbook says. "The large majority of theatres will, however, use television as a means of enhancing and supplementing their present film entertainment." It is cautious statements like the foregoing which, by contrast, add credence to the following: "Events that can be presented via television in theatres will appeal to a new and far greater audience than the 85,000,000 who now witness the nation's movies each week," the brochure goes on to explain, "among this new audience will be fans to whom the newness of the television art will have a special appeal and sports lovers unaccustomed to attending movies regularly."

Video will bring not only bigger audiences but better techniques. RCA has no blueprints for future developments; while it doesn't mind counting unhatched poultry, it hesitates to predict the precise manner in which the fowl will be served. Thus, instead of taking bows for the strides its engineers have helped the latest infant industry to take, RCA professes to believe future developments will stem from the film industry. "The realization of the full possibilities of theatre television will require only the vision, courage and resourcefulness of the leaders who have made the motion picture theatre the outstanding entertainment medium that it is today," the handbook declares.

Great Strides in Equipment

Programs transmitted to the theatre television network may originate at a ballpark, a football field, sports arenas, on-the-spot at news events, in a central studio or even on the stage of a particular theatre. The number of tele cameras used may run from two to six, depending on the nature of the subject material. Great strides have been made in reducing the size and weight of such camera equipment. According to RCA, several equipments can be readily transported in an ordinary station wagon.

Where the frequency of use justifies it, permanent camera control equipment may be installed rather than the portable type. Essentially the same picture quality may be expected from either type. From this point of origin the television signal enters its transmission phase. The signal may be conducted to a central control studio and thence to the theatre subscribing for the service by any of the following methods or by a combination of them: (a) ordinary telephone line, specially selected and balanced; (b) co-axial cable, plus repeaters; (c) high frequency radio relay link.



The telephone line method of transmission has proved satisfactory over short distances, in some cases up to five miles. Repeaters are installed along the route of the line, usually in telephone central offices and at the terminating point on the line. These repeaters are amplifiers serving to boost the strength of the signal up to its original value after it has traversed the line and, by maintaining the proper frequency band-width, insure full quality picture transmission.

After the picture has reached the central control studio it is again monitored and adjusted for highest quality. Leaving the control studio it may be transmitted to nearby theatres via telephone lines as above, or, if it is being transmitted to other cities, the method of transmission may be via co-axial cable or via radio relay link or a combination of both. From the technical standpoint, RCA feels, there would seem to be little choice between the two methods; in some locations the radio link may prove to be somewhat more economical. In any case, the theatre would normally be unaware of, and as little concerned with, the particular method of transmission employed, as is the average telephone user of today.

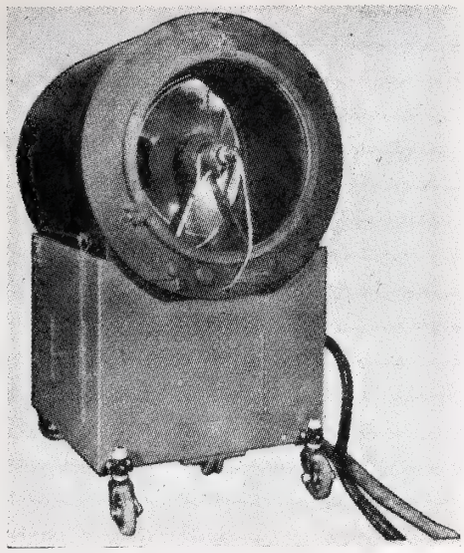
Additional Facilities Available

At the present writing, co-axial cable circuits suitable for television exist between New York and Philadelphia and also between Minneapolis and Stevens Point, Wis. According to recent correspondence between AT&T and NBC executives, additional television transmission facilities may be made available as follows: 1945, New York-Washington; 1946, New York-Boston; Washington-Charlotte; Chicago-Terre Haute-St. Louis; Los Angeles-Phoenix; 1947, Chicago-Toledo-Cleveland-Buffalo; Charlotte-Columbia-Atlanta-Birmingham-Jackson-Dallas-El Paso - Tucson-Phoenix; 1948-1950, Washington-Pittsburgh-Cleveland-St. Louis-Memphis-New Orleans-Kansas City-Omaha-Des Moines-Minneapolis-Atlanta-Jacksonville-Miami-Los Angeles-San Francisco.

Radio Relays Experimental

Radio relay links are on an experimental basis at present. A proposed link from New York to Boston probably will be the first to go into commercial operation. Radio relay link equipment consists briefly of a radio receiver and transmitter which serve to pick up the weak signal from its point of origin, amplify it and retransmit it on to the next station in the link where the same process is repeated. Since radio transmission at the high frequencies involved in television is largely restricted to line-of-sight distances, relay stations must be located at approximately 50-mile intervals; the actual distances may be greater or less than this, depending on the nature of the terrain between adjacent stations in the link. Since both the receiving and transmitting antennas of a radio relay station can be made highly directional, but little power is required; this, plus the fact that fully automatic, unattended operation is feasible, indicate such radio relay links may be reasonably economical in first cost and in operation.

Having thus explained briefly the technical considerations involved in theatre television networks, RCA next poses the question likely to arise in many minds: Who is going to perform all these operations essential in supplying programs to the subscribing theatres, and also how will the costs be met? Concrete answers to these questions are not available at present, RCA frankly admits, but it is not difficult to envisage the formation of groups or agencies setting themselves up as program-supplying organizations. Such an agency



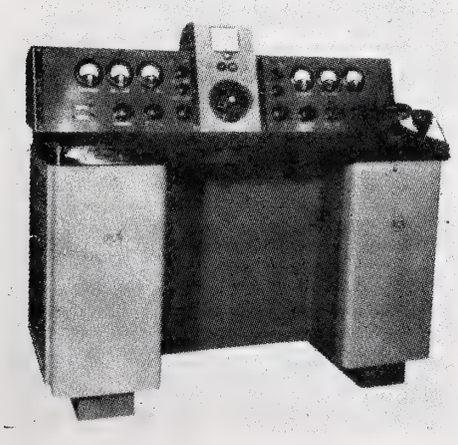
Closeup of Big-Screen Television Projector

would enter into negotiations with the owners of events for the program rights, would seek bookings for the exhibition of their program, arrange for telephone or other transmission facilities for the programs and perform all necessary functions to deliver suitable programs to the subscriber theatres.

Program Agencies Coming

The staff of such an agency, or agencies, would include executives empowered to secure program rights and to secure theatre bookings, program directors, possibly even playwrights, composers, actors and musicians, and also technical personnel such as cameramen, lighting experts, sound engineers, control operators, repairmen and transmission experts. The programming agency would also include in its functions collection of its program charges from the theatres, etc. Granting the existence of agencies of this sort, the personnel of the theatres would be responsible only for booking the program and then projecting it onto its screen.

Particularly pertinent is the promise that, at such time as theatre television systems become available, RCA will be in a position to supply trained technicians for the purpose of supervising installations and rendering regular service inspections. Many former theatre service engineers are now employed on far-flung battle fronts installing and maintaining vital electronic apparatus in ships and planes. While such activities are immediately important to the all-out war effort, the training and experience these men are getting will particularly well prepare them to handle the new postwar art, theatre television.



Closeup of Projector Control Console

U.S. Radio Firms Must Renegotiate Rights on Philips Patents July 1

NEW YORK—After July 1 the nation's radio communications manufacturers will have to renegotiate all licenses they hold with RCA under the U.S. patents of the Philips Incandescent Lamp Works of Holland. Practically all major radio communications equipment today incorporates principles covered by Philips patents.

The Philips patents have been used by American manufacturers through a license agreement with the Dutch company made in 1925. The 20-year agreement "technically expired two or three years ago when renewal arrangements were supposed to be made but were not," according to the Hartford National Bank & Trust Co., trustee for the Dutch concern.

Since licenses under the Philips patents were granted by RCA to the U.S. government for war purposes, the bank said it "is taking steps to make the patent rights available to the government and industry under appropriate terms after the present license expires. RCA, GE and Westinghouse will continue to hold "non-exclusive" licenses after July 1 under existing patents, but will have to negotiate for any future licenses, the bank declared.

American radio manufacturers are of the opinion the move presages the entry of the Philips company into the U.S. radio market. The Dutch organization's American subsidiary is currently operating three plants engaged in war production. The company for a time manufactured radios here for the export market.

CBS '44 Report Asks Further Tele Study

NEW YORK—Television and a reiteration of its stand for further experimentation in the higher channels features the Columbia Broadcasting System's annual report to the stockholders for the fiscal year ending Dec. 30, 1944.

The report is a summary of the operations of the network for the year. Special emphasis is given to the CBS position on television by the use of the inside front and back covers of the 34-page booklet. The front cover carries a full-color picture of what television would be like if developed in the higher frequencies. The back cover is in black and white, and shows the approximate quality of the prewar pictures in the present standards.

In the section devoted to television, the report goes over the CBS position, and once more advocates experimentation in the higher frequencies, embodying the advances made in wartime electronics. It holds that to proceed with the manufacture of receiving sets based on present standards would be foolhardy, since those standards would soon be recognized as obsolete.

The report states that as a result of its stand, important independent manufacturers have rallied to its support, and the FCC has officially proposed that the required space in the spectrum be set aside for a higher quality of television and color television. CBS has also contracted with the the Federal Radio and Telegraph Co. for the first experimental television transmitter capable of broadcasting the improved pictures in full color. This new transmitter is to be installed in the Chrysler Tower in New York as soon as war priorities permit.

A second television transmitter to operate on the new standards has been tentatively ordered by CBS from the General Electric Co. A mountain-top site just outside Hollywood is under lease for this transmitter.

Topics treated in the report are VE-Day and invasion broadcasting, electronic equipment for VE-Day, the CBS part in the presidential election, participation in the Sixth War Loan and other subjects.

American Tele Society Holds Its April Meeting

NEW YORK—Two Museum of Modern Art officials addressed the American Television Society on the subject of "A Cavalcade of Production Techniques," and the nominees for the 1945-46 slate of officers of the ATS were presented at a meeting of the society at the museum during the week.

Speakers were Iris Barry, curator of the museum's film library, and Edward F. Kearns, technical director of the film library of the David Hale Halpern, chairman of the program committee, was in charge of the arrangements.

Charles H. Kleinman, chairman of the ATS nominating committee, reported the following nominations by his committee: for president, George Shupert; vice-president, David Hale Halpern; treasurer, Don McClure; secretary, Alice Pentlarge; members of the board of directors, Dan D. Halpin, Edward C. Cole, Evelyn Pierce, Theodore Hutson, John Flory, Charles H. Kleinman and Herbert E. Taylor jr.

Radio Executive Asks That FM "Stay Put"

NEW YORK—A plea to keep frequency modulation in its present position on the broadcasting spectrum, and not to follow the proposal by the FCC to move it up to the 100 megacycle band has been made by telegram to every congressman and senator. The telegram was written by E. F. McDonald jr., president of the Zenith Radio Corp.

McDonald says the FCC has proposed to move FM from its present position in the broadcasting spectrum "where it has given unexcelled service for five years," to the proposed 100 megacycle band, which is untried and unproved for broadcasting service. This, he contends, would make obsolete all present FM broadcasting stations and destroy the FM value of many millions of dollars worth of radio sets now in the hands of the public.

McDonald asserts there is no substantial argument for moving FM out of the 40-50 megacycle band except "the highly technical theory developed by a former FCC employe that in the present wave band FM will experience interference. McDonald declares that seven of the eight experts questioned by the FCC stated the disturbing of present FM channels is unnecessary.

"Manufacturers universally concede that if FM is moved to the higher channels the public will have to pay more money for FM receivers which will function properly in the 100 band," the telegram says. "This will cause the public to pay to radio manufacturers many additional and unnecessary millions of dollars. Moving FM to this untried and unproved channel would also set FM back from two to five years at a cost of tens of thousands of jobs because FM is the one new thing in radio that is ready to go and provide new employment during and after reconversion."

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

NO WONDER IT TURNED ST. LOUIS UPSIDE DOWN!

"DESERVES SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR BIG BOX-OFFICE!" —*Film Daily*

"A REAL EXPLOITATION NATURAL!" —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"SHOULD DO STRONG BIZ!" —*Variety*

"FANS WILL GO FOR THIS!" —*The Exhibitor*

"FAR SUPERIOR TO GENERAL RUN!" —*Motion Picture Daily*

"SHOULD ATTRACT HORROR FANS IN DROVES!" —*Boxoffice*

"TOPS IN HORROR FILMS!" —*The Independent*

"IT WILL CLEAN UP!" —*Film Bulletin*

"AN UNQUALIFIED LULU!" —*Hollywood Reporter*

FIRST-RUN MISSOURI THEATRE HITS WITHIN INCHES OF ALL-TIME RECORD!

LOOK AT THE KIND OF ADS THEY HAD TO WORK WITH!

RKO RADIO PICTURES


GRAVES ROBBED!
CORPSES CARVED!
THE DEAD DESPOILE
THE DEAD STOLEN...
THE LIVING SLAIN...
to get bodies for dissection!
Panicky thrills of terror and macabre mystery, dramatized from the foul facts of the dark days of early surgical research, when no man's body was safe in its own grave.
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S
Boris KARLOFF
The Body Snatcher
WITH
BELA LUGOSI
HENRY DANIELL
EDITH ATWATER
RUSSELL WADE
SHARYN MOFFETT
RKO RADIO PICTURES
THE MOST DARING
SHRIEK AND SHUDDER
SHOCK SENSATION
EVER BROUGHT TO
THE SCREEN!
KARLOFF in
Robert Louis Stevenson's
BODY SNATCHER
A LUGOSI
Foul TRAFFIC IN DEAD BODIES!
Thrills of terror and mystery

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

It Wasn't Official

ALL the excitement about the 285-print limitation was unnecessary. It wasn't official. Practically everybody in the business in this part of the country, at least, thought it was a ukase—something like the Byrnes midnight curfew. Obey it—or else. Now the raw stock situation seems to be back somewhere near where it started—there's a shortage.

Who gets hit and how hard are the remaining mysteries. Stanley Adams, director of the consumers durable goods division of the WPB, has gone to the coast for conferences after indicating in the east that he may drop all controls and let rival factions in the industry fight it out.

* * *

Krock's "Hair Shirt Theory"

IN THE New York Sunday Times Arthur Krock devotes two columns to a discussion of the Washington idea that the American public cannot stand good news from the war fronts without a letdown in war production. He calls it the "hair shirt theory" and "don't rejoice technique."

His references to probable VE-Day reactions are: "And for very many Americans prayer and not parade will be the instinctive and appropriate way in which to make the long step towards peace. But both prayer and parade can be expressions of rejoicing and optimism. And by these and other expressions the cause of the enemy can hardly be served."

Krock says there is nothing to indicate that good news has slowed production, because strikes and absenteeism have been equally prevalent when the news has been bad.

"And if curfews, the suspension of racing and certain forms of rationing have turned upward any important line in the 'morale' graphs, no incontrovertible or even statistical proof has been offered," he says.

* * *

Was It a Mistake?

EVERYBODY seems to agree that James F. Brynes, ex-head of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, is a nice fellow, but there are many who think he became imbued with the current Washington idea that something drastic should be done to make people conscious of the war when he ordered the curfew and brownout. With ten million men in service there is hardly a family in America not completely conscious of all the conflict implies in the way of personal nerve strain and tragedy.

Mayor LaGuardia of New York made this cryptic remark when informed of Brynes' resignation: "I am very sorry to hear that Jimmy has resigned. Fred Vinson is a good man."

* * *

Refined Cruelty

THE FLURRY of talk recently on the type of films to be shown to the Germans after the war, what the proper subjects should be, whether the Nazis should be spoon-fed with pictures or led to the trough, ad infinitum, elicited a succint remark by Emeric Pressburger, British producer.

Pressburger said, "If I were in the driver's seat, I would show the Germans a steady diet of their own pictures for a six-month period after the end of the war. That would be punishment enough for any man."

* * *

An Industry Defender

DON CARLOS GILLETTE of Warners' publicity department does a neat job of industry public relations in the May issue of Esquire. His headline is: "World's Most Pressured Industry. Motion Pictures Far From Being a Free Art, Are Annoyed by Blue Noses and Ax Grinders With Every Imaginable Squawk."

* * *

TITLE credits on 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe" are terrific. With Billy Rose's name included the credits before the cast is reached total 27. Only 16 players are mentioned.

* * *

J ARTHUR RANK has denied he is seeking a showdown battle with American distributors on handling his product here. His trip to this country in mid-May will be for a combination of business and pleasure, he says. Spyros P. Skouras, head of 20th-Fox, will leave any day for England. On his agenda are conferences with Rank. They may even return together.



PRESENTS LOEW'S GIFT—Charles C. Moskowitz, right, vice-president and general theatre executive at Loew's, presents corporate checks for $35,000 to Walter "Red" Barber, chairman of the Greater New York Red Cross War Fund. The checks were allotted as follows: New York chapter, $15,000; Brooklyn, $9,000; The Bronx, $7,000; Central Queens, $3,500, and Queens North Shore, $500. A total of $85,000 in corporate gifts was given by Loew's to Red Cross chapters in cities throughout the country where the company operates theatres.

VE-Day Is Quite Near, Hollywood Believes

HOLLYWOOD—Optimism that the European war soon will end continues to spread in Hollywood. Witness the fact that, in anticipation of the collapse of German resistance, rules and conditions for the observance of VE-Day in the major studios have been announced by the Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers.

A uniform policy for VE-Day observance was worked out last autumn, and it is now stated that the schedule then arranged will be used. However, extra precautions are provided to insure against false reports and such premature celebrations.

"Because of the nature of the fighting now going on in Europe, and the likelihood that there will be no formal armistice," the producers' announcement said, "it has been decided that VE-Day and V-Hour must be determined by a confirmed official statement that organized resistance by Germany has ceased.

Studio Folk to Remain on Jobs

"To avoid confusion, studio employes are to remain at their jobs until dismissed by proper authority. Studios will receive the official flash from the association offices."

If V-Hour occurs before 12 o'clock noon on any weekday, the studios will close for the balance of that day. It it occurs after 12 o'clock noon from Monday through Friday, the studios will close for the remainder of the day and all of the day following. Should the official announcement be received at any time on a Sunday, the studios will remain closed the next day. If V-Hour occurs at any time on a Saturday, work will be resumed as usual the following Monday morning.

The producers said that all employes who are at work when V-Hour occurs are guaranteed the minimum call for that day. Calls for which employes have not reported when the V announcement is made will be postponed until the reopening day.

Central Casting expects to close promptly when the news of the victory is received. The filling of studio calls for extras will be halted until the scheduled reopening day, when at 5 a. m. an augmented staff will resume filling the calls.

Int'l Confab Scheduled By Independent Group

NEW YORK—Invitations have gone out to the leaders of the arts, sciences and professions in the principal United Nations to participate in an international conference with the hope that a permanent organization of this sort will emerge, according to Jo Davidson, chairman of the Independent Citizens' Committee.

"We believe such an organization would make an important contribution to lasting world peace and substantially implement world security," Davidson said.

Plans for the international conference were decided upon following a conference attended by more than 25 leaders of American professional associations at the request of the Independent Citizens' Committee. The state department has been approached with a request for representation at the United National Conference in San Francisco at the end of the month.

Among those present at the planning meeting were Fredric March; Elmer Rice and Marc Connelly, Hollywood Writers Mobilization; Paul N. Turner, Associated Actors & Artists of America, and John McManus, New York Newspaper Guild.

Exhibitor Chairmen Roster Completed

NEW YORK—The complete roster of exhibitor state chairmen who have accepted appointment to serve in the Seventh War Loan campaign has been made public. All state chairmen are prominent theatre operators and acquainted with exhibitors in their territories. Many have served in similar capacities in other wartime campaigns. In releasing the list of chairmen, Samuel Pinanski expressed the national committee's deep appreciation that they have volunteered their services in this drive.

The complete list of exhibitor state chairmen follows:

Alabama—R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham; Arizona—Harry Nace, Phoenix; Arkansas—Claude C. Mundo, Little Rock, co-chairman; Cecil Cupp, Arkadelphia, co-chairman; southern California—Charles P. Skouras, Los Angeles; northern California—George Mann, San Francisco; Colorado—Rick Ricketson, Denver; Connecticut—Henry Needles, New Haven, co-chairman; Herman Levy, New Haven, co-chairman; Deleware—A. Joseph DeFiore, Wilmington; District of Columbia—Fred F. Kogod, Washington; Florida—J. L. Cartwright, Jacksonville; Georgia—W. K. Jenkins, Atlanta; Idaho—Walter Casey, Bonners Ferry; Illinois—Ed Zorn, Pontiac, co-chairman; Walter Immerman, Chicago, co-chairman; Indiana—Don Rossiter, Indianapolis; Iowa—A. H. Blank, Des Moines; Kansas—Howard Jameyson, Wichita.

Kentucky—Lew Hensler, Lexington; Louisiana—E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Maine—C. J. Russel, Bangor; Maryland—Frank Durkee, Baltimore, co-chairman; Elmer Nolte jr., Baltimore, co-chairman; Massachusetts—M. J. Mullin, Boston; Michigan (peninsula)—Martin Thomas, Iron Mountain; Michigan (balance of state)—Ray Branch, Hastings, co-chairman; James F. Sharkey, Detroit, co-chairman; Minnesota—John Friedl, Minneapolis; eastern Missouri—Harry Arthur, St. Louis; western Missouri—Elmer Rhoden, Kansas City; Mississippi—Burgess Waltmon, Columbus, co-chairman; Arthur Lehmann, Jackson, co-chairman, Montana—J. A. English, Anaconda; Nebraska—William Miskell, Omaha, co-chairman; Sam Epstein, Omaha, co-chairman; Nevada—Homer LeBallister, Reno; New Hampshire—Mel Morrison, Dover; New Jersey (northern)—Harry Lowenstein, Newark, co-chairman; Frank Damis, Newark, co-chairman; New Jersey (southern)—I. Epstein, Philadelphia; New Mexico—George Tucker, Albuquerque; New York (metropolitan)—Irving Lesser, N.Y.C.; New York (Albany area)—C. J. Latta, Albany; New York (Buffalo area)—Max Yellen, Buffalo; North Carolina—H. F. Kincey, Charlotte; North Dakota—M. Cooper, Grand Forks, co-chairman; Ed Kraus, Fargo, co-chairman; Ohio (Cleveland area)—Meyer Fine, Cleveland; Ohio (Cincinnati area)—Maurice White, Cincinnati; Oklahoma—C. B. Akers, Oklahoma City; Oregon—O. J. Miller, Portland; eastern Pennsylvania—Sidney Samuelson, Philadelphia; western Pennsylvania—M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; Rhode Island—Martin Toohey, Pawtucket; Ed Fay, Providence.

South Carolina—Warren Irwin, Columbia; South Dakota—Byron McElligot, Aberdeen; eastern Tennessee—Kermit Stengel, Nashville; western Tennessee—M. A. Lightman, Memphis; Texas—R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas; Utah—Tracy Barham, Salt Lake City; Vermont—Frank Vennett, Rutland; Virginia—Hunter Perry, Charlottesville, co-chairman; Frank O'Brien, Richmond, co-chairman; Washington—Frank Newman sr., Seattle; West Virginia—S. J. Hyman, Huntington; Wisconsin—Harold J. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee; Wyoming—T. E. Knight, Riverton.

D-Day Anniversary Set For Free Movie Event

NEW YORK—Free Movie Day during the Seventh War Loan will be observed June 6, the first anniversary of the landing of American troops in Normandy and the subsequent invasion of the continent. Sam Pinanski, national chairman, told the Showmen's Seventh conference at the Astor on that date the nation's theatres would accord free admissions to all bond purchasers.

As a prelude to Free Movie Day, Glenn Miller Day will be staged June 5. This observance will be a tribute to the popular orchestra leader who has been reported missing in action for several months. Bob Weitman, special events director, is handling plans for the occasion.

Seidman Gets WAC Post

NEW YORK—Lloyd Seidman, vice-president of Donahue & Coe Agency, has been put in charge of all newspaper advertising for the Seventh War Loan drive.



START PLANS FOR THE SEVENTH LOAN—Standing in front of a poster made from the historic picture made at Iwo Jima by Joe Rosenthal, AP correspondent, left to right: William Eythe, 20th-Fox player; Tom Connors, Sam Pinanski, Bonita Granville, Brian Aherne, Ted Gamble, John Hertz jr., Charles Skouras and Joe Rosenthal.

"Bond Rally" Is Great Entertainment; Two-Reeler Gratis to All Showmen

By PAUL PEREZ

NEW YORK—We've just come from a preview of a picture costarring Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Betty Grable, Harry James and his orchestra, Carmen Miranda, Linda Darnell, Fibber McGee and Molly, Harpo Marx, June Haver and a few other cinemagnets. That's a lot of names. And it's also a lot of picture.

Usually, in pictures boasting a star-studded cast, the name players have little to do. In this film, however, they've got plenty to do and they do it tellingly. Surprisingly, each does his or her stint in the allotted footage—not a bit of padding. As a matter of fact, we wished the picture had run more than 19 minutes. That's right, 19 minutes. It's only a two-reeler—but what a two-reeler!

The picture, in case you haven't already guessed, is "All-Star Bond Rally." WAC made it and 20th-Fox will handle it. The exhibitor gets it for free. And this is one time when the best things in life really are free. WAC considers the film so important it has practically doubled the regular number of prints—1,200 instead of 687—so that every theatre in every village, town and city throughout the nation can play it quickly and effectively.

The audience at the preview of "All-Star Bond Rally" comprised hardboiled reviewers and critics from the lay and trade press. But they weren't too hardboiled to roar with laughter at the fast routines of Hope and Crosby, Fibber McGee and Molly, Harpo Marx and—a harp. Nor were they too hardboiled to swallow a lump in their throats when Bob and Bing, winding up on a serious note, paid a heart-warming tribute to the industry.

Immediately after the lights went on, following the preview, Tom Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, got up to say a few words. We, for one, couldn't hear his opening remarks; the hardboiled reviewers were making too much noise applauding or blowing their nose. But what we did hear Connors say is worth passing on:

"'All-Star Bond Rally,'" he said, "sells the industry, as well as induces the public to buy bonds. Our aim is to have every house in the country not only show the film but sell bonds every performance between May 14 and June 30. It's the first picture in which the patron is directed to buy bonds in the theatre where he's viewing the film. And it's the first picture to give the theatre manager public recognition for the great job he's doing.

"Occasionally, you know, there have been tradeshows at which, unfortunately, not a single exhibitor turned up. Managers sometimes, I regret to say, have not even bothered to take WAC films from their containers, or if they did unpack the reel they instructed the projectionist to 'put it on during the supper show,'" Connors continued. "You members of the press have just seen this picture; it's up to you to let the exhibitor know about it, see to it he shows the picture at every performance. It's great entertainment; convince the manager he should ballyhoo it, tie into it, go to town with it!"

Connors knows a good picture when he sees one, and when he called "All-Star Bond Rally" great entertainment he meant it. So, also did Bob Hope mean what he said when, to quote his own words in the film, he gravely remarked: "The theatre is a community center in this city because your theatre manager has gone from show business into the grim business of war . . . your theatre manager has a red, white and blue streak up his back."

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Murray Committee Probe Prompts "Gripe" Flood

Word that the senate committee on small business, chairmanned by Senator James Murray of Montana, would start a probe of the motion picture industry with especial attention to exhibitor problems, is bringing in a flood of "gripes" to Dewey Anderson, executive secretary of the committee. Complaints vary from the unnamed exhibitor who took over theatre operation for his brother who was drafted and now finds he may lose the theatre, to the gentleman from Butte who hired a Butte lawyer, Francis J. McGan, to make formal complaint to the committee about the alleged monopolistic practices of the circuit operators. That many of the complaints may have justification is the problem that the committee will endeavor to solve.

Despite the complaints that, according to Anderson, are coming in with regularity, it develops that the committee will base its preliminary studies upon the 1941 report of the temporary national economic committee, better known as monograph 43. This report went into an exhaustive analysis of the motion picture industry and the material in that monograph will serve as a pattern for the committee. Incidentally, Anderson stated that he will leave no stone unturned to secure new complaints for investigation by the Murray committee.

Just how the findings of the committee will have a bearing upon the present antitrust action of the department of justice against the major producer-distributor companies is a moot question. There is a feeling that the committee will find itself duplicating the findings of the justice department. Regardless of that, however, there is no doubt that in the course of the committee's investigation, its activities, with relationship to the motion picture industry, should be productive of many headlines.

The TNEC monograph draws some interesting conclusions from its report. In summarizing the results of the TNEC investigation, the monograph states:

"Any remedy or solution to the problems of the motion picture industry in its relations with the consuming public will not be a simple one. It is a mistake to assume that any such cure-all as 'divorcement of exhibition from production' or 'restoration of competition in the production field' or any other single proposal will resolve all the difficulties of all the elements with an interest in the industry. Any single step may well ameliorate the effects of some of the undesirable practices of the industry as they affect the consumer, the exhibitor or some other interested group. The motion picture industry exhibits symptoms which are common to many of our great enterprises. Its problems are part of the larger problem of the development and direction of American industry. More than anything else, perhaps, intelligent and sympathetic study is indicated."

The Problem on Raw Stock Puts Krug in Active Role

The doubts and uncertainties that surround film raw stock allocations may compel the WPB chairman, J. A. Krug, to take an active role in settling this problem. It is no secret that the matter has reached a point where the watchword seems to be confusion rather than an effective answer to a pressing question. Despite the fact that Stanley B. Adams, chief, consumers' durable goods division of the WPB, is in Hollywood discussing the film situation with studio executives, the efforts of the WPB to arrive at a solution that will satisfy all parties concerned have resulted only in emphasizing uncertainty to a point where even the producers find themselves hitting up against a blank wall of governmental indecision.

There is a growing feeling here that the allocations problem now has reached a stage where it will take an Alexander to cut the Gordian knot of confusion that surrounds it. For that reason, Cap Krug may find it expedient to call in Adams upon the latter's return from Hollywood for a heart-to-heart talk. If and when this discussion takes place it may result in one of two things:

Either the WPB will wash its hands entirely of film allocations and leave it up to the manufacturers to supply the producers after military needs are met; or the WPB will get tough—but tough—and tell the film companies that the allocations decided upon in industry advisory committee meetings are going to stick and no pressuring or statements from industry executives will prompt any deviation.

Grierson to Head State Department Film Unit

John Grierson, one of the best of the documentary producers and the chap most responsible for the Canadian Film Board's excellent series of documentary motion pictures, is slated to take over active operation of a film unit sponsored by the state department, with Assistant Secretary Archibald MacLeish actively supervising.

Secretary of State Stettinius has expressed himself as widely enthusiastic over the possibilities of such a program, following the great interest shown in "Watchtower for Tomorrow," the short subject that permits the secretary to explain, in simple terms, the full meaning of Dumbarton Oaks. For weeks the state department, through MacLeish, has been giving attention to the possibilities of similar films designed to explain its diplomatic program in easy-to-understand terms so that the average American may have full knowledge of what is the intent and meaning of the international discussions that have taken place and will take place.

It is believed that if the state department wins full approval of such a program, Grierson will assume active control of all production. Grierson had been consulted at previous times by the American government on documentary film production. During his stay with the Canadian government as film commissioner, Grierson turned out some of the finest documentaries of the war and one of his shorts, "Churchill's Island," received the Academy award in 1941 as the best of its type for the year.

OPA Ready to Increase Rations on Gasoline

Holders of A and B ration cards may find a glimmer of hope in the recent announcement by OPA Administrator Chester Bowles that they will be "given first consideration when additional gasoline supplies are available." Holders of A cards may get their allowance increased sufficient to allow them to run six miles per day instead of the present four, if VE-Day brings about an increase of 200,000 barrels per day additional to be available then for civilian use.

But until Petroleum Administrator Ickes agrees to release that much gasoline, you'll have to be content with your present rations. And, judging from a gloomy statement by the deputy petroleum administrator, Ralph K. Davies, present flood waters along the Mississippi threaten to turn oil transportation into a shambles with the likelihood that, VE-Day or no VE-Day, gasoline rationing still may be tough, especially for car owners along the Atlantic seaboard.

Surplus Raw Film Stocks Offered for Direct Sale

The surplus property board will offer for direct consumer sale the inventory of surplus raw film stock to be turned back by the armed forces, it was learned here. Under the existing surplus property act regulations, this will mean that the treasury department will be the disposal agency of some 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 feet of raw film stock now being inventoried by the army and navy. It is possible, as previously reported, that part of the footage will be allocated to WAC for use in producing government documentaries, but the major part of the film available will be offered on an "as is, where is" basis, which means that the ultimate purchaser takes a chance on the usableness of the film.

The surplus property act regulations provide that all surplus property be assigned to designated disposal agencies to avoid the possibility of a sale of the same property by different agencies. In the case of surplus raw film stock, it is indicated that such material will be disposed of by the treasury department, which has been assigned to handle the sale of surplus consumer goods.

Freon Release Augurs More Loosening of WPB Controls

The WPB has under consideration plans for releasing restrictions on construction materials, air conditioning equipment, projection machines and replacement parts, it was learned. There is every likelihood that relaxing of controls on freon may well pave the way for further loosening of WPB restrictions on those civilian requirements within the next few weeks. While full production of these products will not be under way for some time, priority requirements may be lowered soon to make present stocks available in larger quantities for civilian use.

All in all, the situation is such that the American showman faces the summer feeling a lot better than he did last year.

I've Heard:

That Herman Lowe, one of the best reporters in this town, has done a swell yarn about movie life in Washington for the American Mercury;

That Charlie Stofberg's able directorship of the clothing drive in this town is bringing in exciting results;

That film delivery firms will have a chance to get shiny new trucks if they can hold out until 1946, because the ODT's asking for a green light on a motor transport program calling for the construction next year of 1,063,000 trucks;

That Tony Muto's gift of a watch from Mexico's president as a reward for Tony's fine work at handling the newsreel men during the Mexico City inter-American conferences may be matched by an equally nice mark of distinction from our own state department;

That the ODT is going to clamp down harder than ever on rail and bus travel by civilians because shortage of replacement equipment is making it difficult to keep present vehicles on the rails and road;

That Fred Kogod's grand job as war loan poohbah rates extra bouquets plus a gaudy orchid or two for being one of the nicest guys in Washington show business.

EXTENDED

ENGAGEMENTS

"TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN" IS YEAR'S EXTENDED RUN CHAMPION

History in hold-overs is being made by Betty Smith's "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." New York, Los Angeles Dayton, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Minneapolis, Portland, St. Louis, San Francisco D[illegible]erlead long hold-over list

Pencil in extra playing time! Lubitsch's "A ROYAL SCANDAL"



20th CENTURY-FOX

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Nat'l Bond Committee Appointments Made

NEW YORK—Prominent industry executives have accepted invitations to serve on the national committee of the Seventh War Loan. Theodore R. Gamble, national director of the treasury's war finance division and theatre operator in Portland, Ore., is among those who have accepted appointments.

Honorary chairmen are national chairmen of previous war loan drives as follows: S. H. Fabian, chairman, theatres division of WAC, who led the Second War Loan; L. C. Griffith, Third War Loan chairman; Charles P. Skouras, Fourth; R. J. O'Donnell, Fifth, and Harry Brandt, Sixth.

Honorary distributor chairmen are former national chairmen of the distributors division of war loan drives. They are: William A. Scully, Second; William F. Rodgers, Third, and Ned Depinet, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth War Loans.

Gradwell L. Sears, national distributor chairman of WAC for 1945, is a member of the national committee.

Special consultants who have accepted appointment are: Stanton Griffis, commissioner, American Red Cross, Pacific ocean areas; George J. Schaefer, Francis S. Harmon and Herman Gluckman, WAC; Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE; Herman Robbins, WAC coordinating committee, and Tom W. Baily, industry consultant to the treasury. Austin C. Keough will serve as counsel to the national committee.

Chairmen for industry sales are Neil F. Agnew, in the east, and Henry Ginsberg, for the west coast.

Columbia Offering $1,000 As Exploitation Prizes

NEW YORK—Columbia is offering $1,000 in war bonds as prizes to theatre managers for the best exploitation campaigns on "The Monster and the Ape," latest of the company's serials. First place winner in the contest will receive a $500 war bond; second place $200 in bonds; third place $100 in bonds, and fourth place $50 in bonds. Those finishing in from fifth to tenth place will each be awarded a $25 war bond.

All exhibitors booking the serial are eligible to compete in the contest. Entrants are required to register in advance of their first date, and on finishing the run submit completed campaign to the contest department, Columbia home office. Final judging will take place on or about Nov. 16, 1945.

Ralph Beal, SMPE Member, New RCA Vice-President

NEW YORK—Ralph R. Beal, research director of RCA, was elected vice-president in charge of engineering of RCA Communications, Inc. He has been serving recently as assistant to the vice-president in charge of RCA Laboratories.

Beal joined RCA in 1926. He is a member of the Institute of Radio Engineers and a Fellow of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

Latest Canada War Short Is 16mm "Peace Builders"

NEW YORK—"The Peace Builders," 16mm one-reeler produced by the National Film Board of Canada, which presents a pictorial survey of the international conferences of the United Nations, has been released for general nontheatrical distribution in this country. The film is available for immediate use by school, library, club and other community groups.

Review >> << Flashes

BULLFIGHTERS, THE (20th-Fox)—Low in cost and entertainment, this latest Laurel & Hardy effort may get by on a dual if the counterattraction is outstanding. Too slow-moving for the average comedy fan, the picture proceeds at a pedestrian pace through gags long since discarded by modern comedians, milking each situation and bit of business bone-dry before stumbling on to the next. Laurel & Hardy, Margo Woods, Carol Andrews, Ed Gargan. Mal St. Clair directed.

DIAMOND HORSESHOE (20th-Fox) — In tune with the times, this lavishly produced musical is so loaded with entertainment values that it is top spot in any situation. Betty Grable is big name, Dick Haymes' romantic interest; fine orchestration and a talented cast capably directed by George Seaton, who also wrote the screen story, all tot up to a till-tinkling smash. The magic name of Billy Rose and his supper spot also means a lot. Betty Grable, Dick Haymes, Phil Silvers, William Gaxton. George Seaton directed.

VALLEY OF DECISION, THE (M-G-M)—Truly a triumph in every department is the screen version of Marcia Davenport's best-selling novel, and its wide appeal to every class of audience, with the possible exception of the bobby-sockers, should be so powerful as to establish it as one of 1945's record grossers. The film is produced and directed with consummate skill and understanding from a screenplay which expertly catches the atmosphere and situations of the original. Greer Garson, Gregory Peck, Donald Crisp, Lionel Barrymore. Tay Garnett directed.

ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY (RKO) — A heavy-handed blend of horror, humor and hokum, this morsel of supporting material obviously was not designed to assert an appeal to discriminating film tastes. For the juveniles and those adults who relish their chuckles and their chills served in their broadest interpretations the feature can prove to be a lot of fun. There is something of originality in the story premise, but its unfolding resorts to the standard devises of countless preceding horror plays. Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Bela Lugosi, Anne Jeffreys. Gordon Douglas directed.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE.

Actor Jimmy Stewart Now Is a Full Army Colonel

LONDON—Actor Jimmy Stewart, who entered the army air forces of the United States as a buck private, is now a full colonel, and serving as chief of staff for the Eighth air force combat wing, consisting of several bomber groups. He came to the European theatre of operations 18 months ago as a B24 pilot with the rank of captain.

The actor has flown in 20 combat missions, several of them as command pilot, and led a formation of 250 Liberators over Berlin the first time the Nazi capital was attacked in daylight by U.S. bombers. After a dozen flights as squadron leader, Stewart was taken off regular flying status and became group operations officer.

Memphis Censors Ban "Brewster's Millions"

MEMPHIS—City board of motion picture censors have unanimously voted to ban "Brewster's Millions" because it considers the Edward Small production "inimical to the friendly relations between the races now existing here," according to Lloyd T. Binford, board chairman.

"We believe it presents too much familiarity between the races. It has 'Rochester' (Eddie Anderson) in an important role. He has much too familiar a way about him and the picture presents too much social equality and racial mixture," Binford asserted. "We don't have any trouble with racial problems here and we don't intend to encourage any by permitting films like this one to be shown."

The board feels the people of the south do not want to see negroes starring on the screen and resent the recent presentation here of two films with all-negro casts, the chairman said.

"The censor board doesn't object to films with all-negro casts being shown in negro film houses," Binford concluded.

New Type Wire Recorder Is Being Demonstrated

NEW YORK—An improved model of the wire recorder was demonstrated recently by engineers of the Stromberg-Carlson research laboratories. The recorder is said to reproduce the tones of the musical scale with the greatest fidelity yet achieved by the instrument. The Armour Research Foundation holds the basic patents on the recorder, the invention of Marvin Camras, an associated physicist with the foundation.

Frederick C. Young, vice-president in charge of engineering and research for the company, declared "the laboratory model's ability to record and play back music with so markedly high a fidelity has removed one of the chief obstacles to the instruments' early future application to the radio receiver."

A magazine containing recordings of fine music up to two hours in length can be played back with as high fidelity as that possible with present day phonograph records. Young said that his company looked upon the recorder as a supplement to records rather than a substitute.

Ryukyu Invasion Filmed By 105 Navy Photographers

NEW YORK—Appearing on the We the People radio show last Sunday, Lieut. John Monroe, USNR, said a total of 105 naval motion picture and still photographers covered the invasion of the Ryukyu Islands. Newsreel pictures of this operation, particularly that of Okinawa, the largest island in the group, were in newsreel houses in the New York area on Thursday.

Lieutenant Monroe, formerly an editor of Fox Movietone News, was the first man back from the invasion. He reported to Capt. Gene Markey, USNR, director of the navy photographic services in Washington, just four days after he left Okinawa Island. Lieutenant Monroe carried with him 40,000 feet of film, both in black and white and kodachrome, which was rushed to newsreel representatives.

Lieutenant Monroe said that although the landings were made with exceedingly light opposition, three of the combat photographers were killed. He also covered the Iwo Jima invasion.

NBC Teles Breakthrough

NEW YORK—Motion pictures of the Allied breakthrough to the Rhine were televised over NBC station WNBT this week.

EXTENDED ENGAGEMENTS

"THUNDERHEAD" TOPS HOLD-OVER TOTALS OF "HOME IN INDIANA"

20th's Technicolor hit, "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," has swept past the company's biggest hold-over attractions! Extended runs already far outnumber "Home in Indiana," ... double those of "... Friend Flicka"

Keep extra dates open! Billy Rose's "DIAMOND HORSESHOE" in Technicolor



CENTURY-FOX

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Loew and Lewin Swinging Into Action on "Bel Ami" Subject

David L. Loew and Albert Lewin, the team that was formed many months ago to make features for United Artists distribution, and whose previous venture together was "The Moon and Sixpence," are again swinging into action. They have begun preparations to bring to the screen Guy de Maupassant's novel, "Bel Ami," the yarn about a gay blade who in today's Hollywood parlance would be known as a wolf. Loew will produce the picture while his partner will handle the scripting and directing chores. They are negotiating for George Sanders for the starring role.

Briskin-Capra Firm Preparing To Enter Production Again

Indications that the recently-organized independent production company headed by Sam Briskin and Col. Frank Capra soon will swing into action, were seen in the return to Hollywood of Briskin, who has completed his special assignment for the U.S. navy motion picture photographic services in Washington. During his two-month absence, he spent several weeks in New York on general business for the Briskin-Capra firm.

Short From Metro Studio to Aid In Juvenile Delinquency Fight

Of double interest to showmen should be an announcement from Metro studio of a forthcoming short subject intended to aid in the campaign currently being waged nationally to combat juvenile delinquency, of which vandalism in theatres has been a large and costly adjunct. The film will be titled "Street Gang" and will be one of the studio's Crime Does Not Pay series. Production details are now being perfected by Jerry Bresler, in charge of Metro's shorts production.

Stephen Ames Has a New RKO Pact To Make Two Technicolor Pictures

Stephen Ames, who debuted in motion picture production as associate producer under Robert Fellows, at RKO, has been signed on a new contract to produce two Technicolor productions at that studio.

New features, both of which are scheduled as top-budget films, will be "Sinbad the Sailor," for which John Twist and George Worthing Yates have been signed to write the screenplay, and "The Fabulous Invalid," screen version of the Broadway play by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Richard Berger will be associate producer on the latter.

Columbia Has Decided to Resume Production of Lone Wolf Series

Columbia has decided to resume its Lone Wolf series that starred Warren William several years ago. The star who will replace William has not yet been selected. Story which will be basis of the first picture in the resumed series, "The Lone Wolf on Broadway," has been purchased from William Bower, and the screenplay has been assigned to Martin Berkeley. Producer is Ted Richmond, who will work under the supervision of Leonard Picker.

A New Site for "Green Mansions": The Sprawling Domain of Leo

"Green Mansions," W. H. Hudson's classic, which has been prominent in Cinemania's news during recent weeks, has a brand new site upon which to be erected—none other than the sprawling Culver City domain of Mighty Leo. Announced more than a year ago as the kickoff production effort of James B. Cassidy, newcomer filmmaker, who acquired the film rights from RKO Radio, the property became controversial when, recently, a PRC share-cropping producer declared his plans to film the subject.

When reminded that Cassidy had a clearly-defined priority, the ambitious PRCer altered his program. Now Cassidy has sold the property to Metro, explaining that the demands of his current film production, a picturization of Lewis Browne's novel "See What I Mean?" make it impractical to produce the other picture.

Paramount Continues Expansion Of Studio Executive Personnel

Paramount continues to expand its studio executive personnel. Lou Edelman, recently resigned from Warners, where he was a producer, joins the Marathon St. firm in a similar capacity and with a seven-year ticket . . . Another newcomer to Paramount's production ranks is D. A. Doran, who formerly was at Columbia . . . After serving as first assistant at Columbia for the last five years, Ray Nazarro has been promoted to full-fledged director. His first assignment will be "Outlaws of the Rockies," a western starring Charles Starrett.

Mark Robson, who recently was elevated from film editor to director by RKO Radio, has been handed a new three-way contract by the studio, calling for his services as associate producer, director and writer . . . Signing a seven-year contract, John Cromwell, veteran director, has joined the pilots' ranks at 20th-Fox and draws as his first chore thereunder the megging of "Cluny Brown," an Ernst Lubitsch production . . . Meanwhile, the Westwood studio lost a producer. William Le Baron ankled the lot after having been there for four years . . . Joseph Tushinsky has severed his association with United Artists Producer Charles Rogers. He plans to hang out his own shingle to make "My Wild Irish Rose," which he previously had planned to produce with Rogers.

Another UA producer, Sol Lesser, has signed Ilse Lahn to a new contract for a year. At the same time the option on Jeane Cohen, story editor for Lesser, was exercised. The Misses Cohen and Lahn have been assigned to the treatment of Clark McMeekin's novel, "Show Me a Land."



TEMPLETON'S NEW POST—At his new desk is shown George Templeton, recently-appointed as producer of Paramount's musical featurettes. Templeton has three of the briefies in the works for the new season, the initialer of which will be "Little Witch," to costar Olga San Juan and Bob Graham.

Para't to Star Barry Fitzgerald In Gotham Yarn, "Third Avenue"

Paramount has announced plans to star Barry Fitzgerald in "Third Avenue," a story of modern New York. It is being written by John McNulty and Anne Froelick. Fitzgerald will portray the owner of a rundown boarding house, with a penchant for playing the horses and other worldly pastimes . . . "Rawhide," a story of the rehabilitation of a cowboy, with the pioneer west as its background, has been added to RKO's agendum. It will have John Wayne, as star, and Edward Dmytryk, as director. Original idea for the western was supplied by Dmytryk. Paul Fix and Ben Barzman have been assigned to the screenplay. Robert Fellows will produce . . . At the same studio, Robert Clarke, has been given the romantic lead opposite Frances Langford in "Radio Stars on Parade" . . . Conrad Nagel and Margaret Lindsay have been signed by Columbia to play the adult leads in "Rusty," tale of a boy and his dog which will star 11-year-old Ted Donaldson . . . Lana Turner and John Garfield have been set as the costarring team in Metro's picturization of the James M. Cain novel, "The Postman Always Rings Twice," which Carey Wilson will produce . . . Also at Metro, James Craig was assigned top role in "The Yearling" . . . Lois Collier was ticketed by Universal to play the feminine lead opposite Noah Beery jr., in "Hear That Trumpet Talk."

Cinemaland's Story Market Enjoys One of the Best Weeks in Months

The wailing wall knew not the presence of Hollywood's purveyors of literary material suitable for filming, as the film capital's story market enjoyed one of its best weeks in many months.

Columbia shook down its piggy bank to purchase a pair. "Corpus Delicti," murder mystery yarn by Harry Essex, was one and was assigned for production to Ted Richmond, who will work under the supervision of Leonard Picker. The second, "Dream Glow," an original by Lorraine Edwards, was set for scripting by the author. The picture will be produced by Alexis Thurn-Taxis under the supervision of John Stone and will be released under the title, "Sing While You Dance" . . . The Producing Bills, to wit, Pine and Thomas, whose action pictures are distributed by Paramount, laid it on the line for an original, limned by one of their associates, Maxwell Shane. Its title: "Speak Up, Mr. Thursday." Described as a fantasy about a ventriloquist and a dog, the feature will be placed on P&T's schedule for next year.

Another Paramount share-cropping producer, B. G. DeSylva, bought "After Dinner Story," a group of novel mystery stories just published, and is making preparations for adapting the material to the screen. Author of the book is William Irish, also known as Cornell Woolrich. DeSylva has selected three of the six tales in the collection to form the basis of a whodunit script. They are "Night Reveals," "The Rear Window" and "Marijuana" . . . William Goetz, International Pictures head, has scheduled another suspense drama on his 1945-46 program. "The Dark Mirror" by Vladimir Pozner, just purchased, will be the fourth production on International's current schedule for RKO Radio release and Nunnally Johnson will write and produce the melodrama. It tells of a unique murder cover-up.

EXTENDED

ENGAGEMENTS

"BERNADETTE" AT POP PRICES ROLLS UP HOLD-OVER RECORD

High among highest grossers of all time, "The Song of Bernadette" at popular scale is repeating its advanced-price hold-over performance. Variety reports: "Smash biz—Detroit!" "Business figure San Francisco"

Figure on another hold-over! "WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" in Technicolor

20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

30 Years in One Operation!

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Thirty years of continuous operation is long enough to put a theatre high on the seniority list of American theatres, and when one manager has been on the job that entire span the combination approaches the unique in the comparatively brief history of motion picture exhibition.

Such is the distinction of the Strand here, which will celebrate its 30th anniversary during the week of June 4 and also the 30th anniversary of Ed Reed as manager there. Reed plans one of the biggest theatre celebrations ever held in Rhode Island, and has obtained the cooperation of Paramount's advertising and publicity departments.

Real Utopia in Kansas

WICHITA—Frank Berglas, National Screen Service representative, reports that Harry Jones, new owner of the Victory Theatre at Vermillion, Kas., has created a showman's Utopia there.

"Jones told me," Berglas said, "that he has his customers feeling so obliged to come to his show that if they can't come for some reason or other they bring him the money anyway, taxes and all!"

It's the RKO-Brandeis

OMAHA—The Brandeis Theatre, operated by Mort Singer until his death about a year ago and since then by his estate, has been taken over entirely by RKO, with whom Singer had the house in a partnership. The official name has been changed to the RKO-Brandeis, the first hyphenated theatre name here.

Antitrust Charges Pile Up

ST. LOUIS—Antitrust charge piled on antitrust charge here last week, and a consent degree case giving two small theatres improved clearance under their circuit competitors was thrown into a loop. It's this way:

The Princess and Apollo theatres, neighborhood houses owned by Adolph Rosecan and Joseph Litvag, respectively, originally were granted reduced clearance after competing houses of the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. circuit. F&M thereupon hied to federal court and filed suit for $285,000 damages against Paramount, Warners, RKO, 20th-Fox, the AAA and the two neighborhood theatres alleging violation of the antitrust law.

Now the Princess and Apollo come back and sue the F&M interests for damages, also alleging antitrust violations by the St. Louis Amusement Co. circuit.

Redskins Lose Feathers

DES MOINES—If Pinkerton's men aren't too busy looking for the persons who took the bow and arrow from Warners' powwow display at Kansas City, the sleuths are urgently needed at the exchange here. A whole tepee full of Indian headdress has vanished into thin air.

These rather specialized commodities were an integral part of Warners' annual sales promotion drive which began April 1 and lasts through July 8. Home office chose the Indian motif, and explicit instructions were given to all employes to don headdress during working hours. The other morning when the staff arrived ready to line up and don feathers, the disappearance was discovered.

The nearest Indian reservation is 100 miles away. The sabotage theory has received some credence. Mutterings had been heard about the relationship of feathered headgear to June and July. In all, the situation is extremely ticklish. Home office probably will be asked for a complete new set. Some are hoping the mails are late.

Ascap Is Coming Back

LINCOLN—Passage of a measure to legalize Ascap collection of its music copyright fees in Nebraska seems assured this week when the bill repealing the anti-Ascap law of 1937 was advanced in the state legislature by an overwhelming 29-9 committee vote. The action came after a sizzling debate.

Paradoxical Veteran

CLEVELAND—Manager I. J. Schmertz has gone 20th-Fox seven better. He's celebrating his 37th year with the organization which is observing its 30th anniversary. Schmertz stepped from a classroom onto the William Fox ladder and had in seven years' service when the present setup had its inception. So far as is known, Schmertz has been with 20th-Fox and its immediate predecessors longer than anyone, including its top men.

North Central Changes Mind

MINNEAPOLIS—The North Central Allied Ass'n here, which announced a hands-off attitude toward the divorcement bill introduced into the Minnesota legislature, designed to break up the Minnesota Amusement Co. circuit's tieup with Paramount, has done an about face.

Now President Bennie Berger announced the group will support the measure, which, however, "lacks influential support, wasn't introduced and isn't backed by the right people and politics already have been used to defeat it," so he says.

"Byrneout" Is News to Her

KANSAS CITY—An elderly woman patron at the downtown Regent seemed dismayed when the show ended, the crowd left and the lights started going out near midnight.

"Why, I thought you stayed open all night," she remarked bewilderedly to an usher.

"Not since the curfew went on," she was told.

"What curfew?" she asked.

Chronology of Connor: Add Insult to Injury

Omaha—That serial featuring the misfortunes of one Jack Connor, M-G-M exploiteer, continues.

Already the victim of having his house sold out from under him, a several months stretch in the hospital and an operation, plus the Nebraska wind which blew the top off his convertible automobile, Jack reported additionally this week.

He parked his topless car downtown. Someone came along; flipped a cigaret in the seat. Jack didn't notice the cigaret, drove his car home and put it in the garage.

He happened to look out, saw his garage smoking. There was more smoke than fire, so Jack came to the rescue with a garden hose, snuffed out the blaze, but not in time to save his upholstering.

All of which, Jack says, is adding insult to injury.

Book Tells of Industry Contributions to War

HOLLYWOOD—Many phases of the motion picture industry's contribution to the war effort have found their way into a book of 291 pages titled "Movie Lot to Beachhead."

Told mostly in pictures, compiled and supplemented with text by the editors of Look, and published by Doubleday, Doran, the story starts with Hollywood's early awareness of the dangers of war and the warning testimony of the newsreels, then launches into the varied phases of cinemaland's cooperation. There is a preface by Robert St. John, war correspondent, who pays tribute to the screen and its people and who looks forward with confidence to the vital role which movies can play in the postwar world.

First important project undertaken by the industry was the instruction of signal corps personnel in the making of motion pictures. Studios began to make training films to supplement the programs of the services. By the end of 1944, about 1,300 such pictures were in use by the army alone—pictures which are estimated to have speeded up the training of service men by as much as 40 per cent.

Part Hollywood Citizens Play

Headed "Costumes by Uncle Sam," one chapter deals with the entrance into service of thousands of Hollywood citizens—more than 1,500 actors, 132 directors, 230 writers, and swarms of technicians from the many crafts. Clark Gable, Douglas Fairbanks jr., Robert Montgomery and other stars are pictured in action, and Jimmy Stewart, newly-promoted to the rank of full colonel, is followed in photos from his induction as a private to his flights over Germany as an air corps officer.

The "Movie Lot" really goes to the "Beachhead" in the chapter dealing with overseas entertainment. In a graphic sequence focussed on the tours of a few stars such as Bob Hope, Paulette Goddard and Joe E. Brown, tribute is paid to all of the hundreds whom the Hollywood Victory Committee and USO-Camp Shows have sent around the foxhole circuit. Also shown is the operation of the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service, which distributes everywhere Americans are stationed the pick of Hollywood's current features. Of each of these, 110 prints are donated by the industry.

Especially exciting is the little-known story of the combat cameraman in action, and scarcely less so are realistic photos of make-believe warfare in the studios of movietown. Other chapters in "Movie Lot to Beachhead" tell of Hollywood showmanship in the causes of bond-buying and blood-giving, the important place of war information films on the home front, and the job that movies are doing in telling the truth about U.S. democracy to the rest of the world.

Dave Griesdorf Now PRC's Canadian Sales Manager

TORONTO—Following his resignation at Vancouver as British Columbia supervisor of Canadian Odeon Theatres, Dave Griesdorf has become general sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp., in which he has acquired an interest, it was announced Wednesday by President H. J. Allen of Canadian PRC.

Griesdorf takes over the Toronto post April 16. Prior to joining Canadian Odeon in 1941, Griesdorf was with the James Roosevelt Co. at New York and United Artists at Los Angeles. Allen said the appointment marks the start of an extensive expansion program for PRC in the Dominion.

WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

"ESCAPE IN THE DESERT"

MONDAY, APRIL 23rd, 1945

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	2:00 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin St.	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	8:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	Paramount Sc. Room	412 S. Harwood St.	2:00 P.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	Paramount Sc. Room	362 S. Second St.	2:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Room	70 College St.	11:00 A.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Room	1220 Vine St.	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Room	221 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.

Films Second in List As Morale Builders

WASHINGTON—As a morale factor motion pictures are second only to mail from home, according to Charles S. Thomas, just returned from a 30,000-mile tour of the Pacific on a morale and recreational survey for Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal. Thomas listed in order of importance as morale factors: mail, motion pictures, beer, ice cream and soft drinks, athletics, radios, books and magazines and ship stores.

Among numerous other recommendations, Thomas suggested the navy buy more reprints of excellent old movies to avoid having to take some of the poorest pictures of the current Hollywood crop.

Thomas made the five and a half week trip as special assistant to Forrestal. Morale in the forward areas in general was, he said, "simply superb."

Special Prizes Offered Columbia Sales Drive

NEW YORK—Division managers will compete for a special group of awards in Columbia's Montague 20th anniversary campaign, named in honor of A. Montague, general sales manager. The drive started March 16 and runs through June 28.

The awards will go to the four division managers whose districts show the greatest improvement in sales and billings over their quotas during the drive period. Prizes will total 10 weeks' salary. Division managers eligible for these special prizes are:

Nat Cohn, New York; Sam A. Galanty, mideast, covering Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Washington; Jerome Safron, western, covering Denver, Los Angeles, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle; Carl Shalit, central, covering Albany, Buffalo, Detroit, Indianapolis and St. Louis; Ben C. Marcus, midwestern, covering Des Moines, Kansas City, Minneapolis and Omaha; R. J. Ingram, southeastern, covering Atlanta, Charlotte and New Orleans, and J. B. Underwood, southwestern, covering Dallas, Memphis and Oklahoma City.

Donald Duck Celebrates His Tenth Birthday

NEW YORK—Donald Duck observed his tenth birthday Friday, the 13th. He has been called everything—"virtuoso of venom," "patron saint of frustration," etc., but he is



still going strong, and doing nicely for Walt Disney.

Donald is a star in "The Three Caballeros" this year, as well as in his usual series of nine shorts annually. RKO doesn't mind having it known that "Caballeros" had a nine-week Broadway run at the Globe which ended on the 13th.

Donald's current short subjects include: "The Plastics Inventor," "Donald's Off Day," "The Clock Watcher," "The Eyes Have It," "The Old Army Game," "Old Offense," "Commando Duck," "Trombone Trouble" and "Donald and the Gorilla."

RCA Promotes Two

CAMDEN, N. J.—Julius Haber, RCA director of publicity, has been appointed assistant director of advertising and sales promotion. His former assistant, Harold D. Desfor, becomes director of publicity of RCA Victor Division.



PLEDGE THEIR SUPPORT—Two prominent San Francisco exhibitors pledge their cooperation in the Montague 20th anniversary campaign at Columbia. Left to right, are: Robert Lippert, George Mann circuit; Rube Jackter, chairman of the committee in charge of the campaign, and William B. David, vice-president of Redwood circuit.

Britishers' Production Trend to Small Units

NEW YORK—The trend in British production of films is turning more and more to small, independent companies, loosely connected to their financial backers, but completely preserving creative and artistic integrity.

This was stated at a press interview by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, main components of The Archers, makers of "Colonel Blimp," released in this country by UA, and "The Silver Fleet," a PRC release.

Powell and Pressburger declared they were the forerunners of the small, independent production pattern. They said there were many such companies operating in Great Britain today. They believe films produced in this manner are finer quality productions in every sense, and hope for even a wider application of the system, as opposed to the centralized production with supervision and control centered in the hands of a few large companies.

Only Quality That Counts

Questioned as to producing films specifically intended for the world market, Pressburger said, "In the final analysis, a good picture will stand the test of public approval on any screen. All we do is attempt to make the best picture possible with the creative and physical facilities at our command. The number of films intended for export is not the important factor; it is only the quality that counts."

Powell and Pressburger left for the coast to secure the services of an American actress for the lead in their next picture, called "A Matter of Life and Death." This film will be in Technicolor, and the producers will confer with Technicolor representatives on several new ideas they have for the use of color in the film. They also seek a male lead for the picture, which is scheduled to go into production in England in June.

Another film completed by the pair is "I Know Where I'm Going," starring Roger Livesey, of "Colonel Blimp" fame, and Wendy Hiller, last seen in the U.S. in "Major Barbara." This was done in black and white, and will probably be released in this country during the fall.

Powell and Pressburger use only original material for their pictures. They complement each other in their work, but if separated, Powell is the director, while Pressburger is the dramatist. Together, however, they write, produce, direct and deliver their films. Their plans for the coming year call for not more than two pictures. Difficulties in securing studio space, materials, equipment and personnel at the present time in Britain preclude any plans beyond just two pictures.

Both men expect to return from the coast at the end of the month, and will go to England when transportation facilities become available.

Ray Stock Cut May Mean Fewer UK Playdates

LONDON—President Hugh Dalton of the board of trade informed the house of commons recently a further cut in film was in store for distributors, owing to the increased demand for raw stock for the armed services and other government departments as well as for export. The amount of the cut has not been settled.

Asked if he would take steps to prevent the recent cut on one-sixth in the supply of raw stock from affecting the supply of films for exhibition to the public and the armed forces, Dalton replied: "I am most anxious the supply of entertainment films for the forces should not be reduced. Discussions on this and other problems connected with the cut are now taking place with the distributors."



THE PRODUCTION STARTS . . .

The motion picture industry is as good as its great pictures.

On February 20, 1945, perhaps the most ambitious of all screen projects began.

THEY WERE EXPENDABLE

From William L. White's story of daring days that wrote history, a mammoth production is under way with the biggest budget of the year.

The saga of the gallant men of the PT boats who were there at the fall of the Philippines, made possible General MacArthur's escape, and came back with the glorious invasion he led. The greatest of all stories behind the headlines.

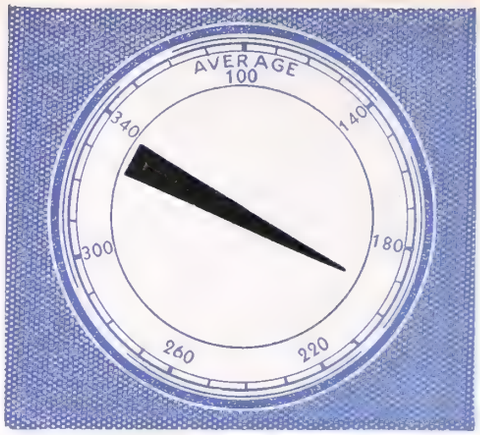
The facts of its progress are of industry-wide importance and from time to time in coming months, M-G-M will record them in the trade press.



BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Thunderhead—Son of Flicka

Denver 195

Indianapolis 140

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
And Now Tomorrow (Para)	130	175	105	110	90	135	200	100	100	100	145	183	130	175	135	185	150	180	75	150	140	250	**143**
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115			140	138		100		125	150			145	165		**128**
Between Two Women (MGM)					90					100				165		145		200					**140**
Blonde Fever (MGM)	100	93		95		100	100		100	100		100	100	125	100			110			100	100	**102**
Bring On the Girls (Para)						130		90			150			150	105	155	130						**130**
Circumstantial Evidence (20-Fox)	125						100					100	100	150			100				100		**111**
Crime Doctor's Courage, The (Col)	100		90		90		100	100					90	100	93	70	100		65		100		**92**
Dancing in Manhattan (Col)	100	100					100		100			100	100	100	97		100					100	**100**
Dark Waters (UA)	130	131	110	100	200		165		160		90		85				130	190	75	150	175	180	**138**
Destiny (Univ)	115		115			100			100		100		100		100	125	100				100	100	**105**
Eadie Was a Lady (Col)		100	115	95	105	120	160	100				100						100			100		**110**
***For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para)	125	130		110		130	175		125	110	105	120	100	100	105		105	165		175	140	250	**134**
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110			95	75		175		125							150			75		150		**119**
Girl Rush (RKO)	100	110	100			135	100	100	100			100		100	100		100	150			145	100	**110**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125		90	105		110	150		100		105	127	90	115	103	175		190					**122**
Here Come the WAVES (Para)	145	167	120	125	140	135	235	105	130	125	210	219	115	175	108	200	155	240	125	160	160		**157**
Hotel Berlin (WB)	115	104		110	90		150	100			125	200	110		95	180	100	205	70		170	150	**130**
House of Fear, The (Univ)	130	105	100	100					120				110		100	95							**108**
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)		170		115	135		213		125			150	115	200	110	185	130	195			180	150	**155**
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110				130									130				150		**124**
Jade Mask (Mono)	110	100	110			125		100	100	100	100			100	93		100		100	100			**103**
Leave It to Blondie (Col)						100		100	100			100			100		100						**100**
Main Street After Dark (MGM)			82	95		100	100	100	100		100		100	120		125	100	125	100		100	100	**103**
Mummy's Curse, The (Univ)	100	100	135	100		100	100	100	100	100			100		100	105		160	70	100			**105**
Murder, My Sweet (RKO)	100	209	115	115				95		90	120	130	100	80		140			100		175		**121**
Music for Millions (MGM)				110	130		130		120	140	170	150		150	135	165	130	215					**145**
National Velvet (MGM)	130			120				105	130	125	200	147			105	160		210		250			**153**
One Body Too Many (Para)	100	78				100	100	90	130	90		90	100	100		100	110	100			100	100	**99**
Practically Yours (Para)	125				100	130	190	100		125		173		160	105	180	140		75				**134**
Rough, Tough and Ready (Col)			115			100										85	100				110		**102**
Roughly Speaking (WB)				110				110			110	140		100	110	175	95	200					**128**
Song to Remember (Col)	135	212		110		140	175		125			195			108	170		180			225		**161**
Thin Man Goes Home, The (MGM)	125	93	110	115	100	135	160	100			135				97	165	95	170	90	120	140	150	**124**
This Man's Navy (MGM)		108		105						120	87		100	125				175					**117**
Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130			115			195	105		140	123	150	100	175		150	135	150			140		**139**
Tonight and Every Night (Col)	140	214		105	90	125	150	100	130	100	105	133	110	100	103	125	120	195	125		150	175	**130**
Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20-Fox)	160	213	120	120			188			130	140	200	120	175	125	180		220	185		200	180	**166**
Under Western Skies (Univ)		100	105			120	100					100			78		100						**100**
When Strangers Marry (Mono)	100		100			125	100		115		100	100	100	100	100		100				100		**103**
When the Lights Go On Again (PRC)			100			130			100	125	100				100						100		**108**
Woman in the Window, The (RKO)	105	214	100	125	110	130	145	110	100	115	170	175	100	150	122	220	130	205	110	150	175	150	**141**

*Playing at regular admission prices.

De Forest Will Make Raw Film in Mexico

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY — The biggest news this week is the arrival of wizard Lee De Forest. Announcement has been made of the organization of a company to manufacture raw film under his personal guidance and supervision. Necessary capital has already been made available and construction of the plant will be started shortly. It is needless to say how happy all producers are over this notice, and now the only thing necessary to make everybody happy, is the final solution of difficulties that the old union under leader Carrillo, is still trying to set in Cantinflas's way of progress.

Things were rather quiet at the studios due to the holidays, but there are four pictures being produced at both the Azteca and Clasa Studios.

Pan-Americanism is bearing fruits—from Chile comes a film star, one Alicia Barrio, who is expected to film one or two pictures here. With the same purpose the famous Argentine star, Hugo del Carril, arrived this week. He is under contract to Films Mundiales.

Another important visitor is B. V. Sturdivant, manager of National Theatre Corp., who plans to establish offices in Mexico for his company.

A new bank to finance purchase of equipment, remodeling, construction, etc., of theatres has been formed. It will operate under the name of Banco Radiocinematografico. Jose U. Calderon will be president, and on the board of directors appears the name of an old-timer, Jose J. Jiminez.

Films a Solace on Ship Returning the Wounded

New York—Enough has been written about the morale and therapeutic effects of motion pictures on embattled and wounded service men to remove any shadow of doubt as to the value of films, but further evidence of the most poignant type is offered in the first of a series of articles by Meyer Berger, New York Times feature writer, on the evacuation of our wounded from Iwo island by a navy hospital ship, the Samaritan.

After describing the sights and sounds aboard the ship, Berger writes: "Out on the aft deck, as the Samaritan moved swiftly in her own white aura, walking wounded, some 150 or more, with their arms in slings, their legs in casts, heads or faces bandaged—quietly watched an Edward Arnold crime movie flickering on a big outdoor screen."

Blue Network Gets More New Picture Accounts

NEW YORK—Several film companies are included in the new business signed by station WJZ during the last half of March, according to Robert I. Garver, WJZ sales manager.

Among them are Samuel Goldwyn Productions, which purchased two one-minute station break announcements for promotion of "Princess and the Pirate" through Donahue & Coe.

Loew's, Inc., bought five one-minute and six station break announcements for "I'll Be Seeing You" through Donahue & Coe. Republic purchased two station break announcements for "Earl Carroll's Vanities" through Donahue & Coe, and RKO bought four station break announcements for "Belle of the Yukon" through Foote, Cone & Belding.

First Show in Manila Draws Record Crowd

NEW YORK—It was standing room only, with hundreds of people turned away at the boxoffice, at the first showing of motion pictures to the civilians in Manila since the city was freed of the Japs. Showing was held at the Times Theatre April 1, according to Louis Lober, assistant chief of the overseas branch of the OWI motion picture bureau.

The program consisted of Universal's "His Butler's Sister," starring Deanna Durbin and Pat O'Brien; "Cowboy," the OWI documentary, and "Memphis Belle," the Eighth air force documentary film.

The Times was actually opened the night of March 31, when the audience was composed of military and civic officials. For the present, the house will continue to operate from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. daily for civilians, and will be taken over in the evening by the special service branch of the army.

Including the Times, there are only seven houses out of some 85 in the Manila area that can be put to use in the near future. There are 17 theatres still standing that can be eventually repaired. All property and records of American film companies in the Philippines have been destroyed with the exception of a supply of films which was stored outside Manila. These films are now being brought to the capital for inventory and checking.







"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" Wins March Blue Ribbon Award

Twentieth Century-Fox has won the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award for March with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." This is the second consecutive month for this company, having scored with "The Keys of the Kingdom" for February.

Dorothy McGuire and James Dunn give a convincing performance of the Nolans, two opposite types of parents portrayed in Betty Smith's current best-seller of the same title. Mrs. Nolan's fierce determination to wrest something better for her children than she has had, poverty and hard work, is handicapped by Johnny Nolan's lovable but weak character. Peggy Ann Garner gives a sensitive interpretation of little Francie Nolan and Joan Blondell provides comedy relief as the husband-collecting Aunt Sissy. Elia Kazan is the director and Louis D. Lighton the producer.

The Cast

Katie .....DOROTHY MCGUIRE
Aunt Sissy.....JOAN BLONDELL
Johnny Nolan.....JAMES DUNN
McShane .....LLOYD NOLAN
Francie Nolan..PEGGY ANN GARNER
Neeley Nolan.....TED DONALDSON
McGarrity .....JAMES GLEASON
Miss McDonough.....RUTH NELSON
Steve Edwards.....JOHN ALEXANDER
Christmas Tree Vender
.....B. S. PULLY
Grandma Rommely
.....FERIKE BOROS
Carney.....J. FARRELL MACDONALD
Mrs. Waters
.....ADELINE DE WALT REYNOLDS
Mr. Spencer.....GEORGE MELFORD
Tynmore Sisters
.....MAE MARSH, EDNA JACKSON
Henny Gaddis.....VINCENT GRAEFF
Flossie Gaddis.....SUSAN LESTER
Mr. Crackenbox....JOHNNY BERKES
Librarian .....LILLIAN BRONSON
Werner .....ALEC CRAIG
Mr. Barker.....CHARLES HALTON
Cheap Charlie.....AL BRIDGE
Hassler.....JOSEPH J. GREENE
Miss Tilford.....VIRGINIA BRISSAC
Herschel.....HARRY HARVEY JR.
Augie .....ROBERT ANDERSON
Ice Man.....ART SMITH
Principals of Schools
....NORMAN FIELD, GEORGE MEADER
Undertaker .....ERSKINE SANFORD
Mother.....MARTHA WENTWORTH
Priest.....FRANCIS PIERLOT
Union Representative.....AL EBEN
Barber.....PETER CUSANELLI

Production Staff

Executive Producer
.....DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Produced by.....LOUIS D. LIGHTON
Directed by.....ELIA KAZAN
Screenplay by
TESS SLESINGER AND FRANK DAVIS
Adapted from the Novel by
.....BETTY SMITH
Music .....ALFRED NEWMAN
Orchestral Arrangements
.....EDWARD POWELL
Director of Photography
.....LEON SHAMROY, A.S.C.
Art Direction.....LYLE WHEELER
Set Decorations.....THOMAS LITTLE
Associate.....FRANK E. HUGHES
Film Editor.....DOROTHY SPENCER
Costumes .....BONNIE CASHIN
Makeup Artist.....GUY PEARCE
Special Photographic Effects
.....FRED SERSEN
Sound.....BERNARD FREERICKS,
ROGER HEMAN

This Award is given each month to the film receiving the highest number of votes from members of the National Screen Council, whose selection is governed by the outstanding merit and suitability of the film for whole family entertainment. Members of the Council are selected from the following groups throughout the country: Motion picture editors of newspapers and magazines, radio film commentators, reviewing committees, club women, better films councils, social, civic and educational organizations.

THE Exhibitor Has His Say
ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Carolina Blues (Col)—Ann Miller, Victor Moore, Jeff Donnell, Georgia Carroll. A musical comedy that looked good before it arrived but caused some restlessness before it had run its full length. I think the best part of the entire picture was the remarkably good makeup on Victor Moore when he sat as a family "group" in the theatre box. Played Mon., Tues.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Small town and rural patronage.

Cyclone Prairie Rangers (Col)—Charles Starrett, Constance Worth, Walter "Dub" Taylor, Jimmy Davis. Starrett's westerns always seem to satisfy on double bills for the weekend trade.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Impatient Years, The (Col)—Jean Arthur, Lee Bowman, Charles Coburn, Edgar Buchanan. A fair comedy show. Too many shows about the "lone" situation, although it did play to well attended performances. Rental was too high for my situation. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Cold.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Between Two Women (M-G-M)—Van Johnson, Lionel Barrymore, Gloria De Haven, Keenan Wynn. This man Johnson is moving up on the star list very fast. Very popular with the bobby-socks trade. The picture only fair. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

Kismet (M-G-M)—Ronald Colman, Marlene Dietrich, James Craig, Hugh Herbert. Enhanced by gorgeous Technicolor, this fantasy played to average business and was well received, which was more than I expected from our rural patronage. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Open.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Small town and rural patronage.

Meet Me in St. Louis (M-G-M)—Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer. One for the books—give it all you've got. It comes very near to being a universally liked picture. Played Easter Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

And Now Tomorrow (Para) — Alan Ladd, Loretta Young, Susan Hayward, Barry Sullivan. Our highest praises go to this picture, for it is certainly an excellent and interesting story, very true to life. For once the audience seemed to appreciate something really good. (This is not always so.) We heard all good reports, without exception, and business was excellent. Played Sun., Tues. Weather: Good. —M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Frenchman's Creek (Para)—Joan Fontaine, Arturo de Cordova, Ralph Forbes. This one just didn't jell—no business on our best time and the same old story so far as costume pictures are concerned in a small town. Gave it our best time, usual advertising. Then starved to death. Played Tues., Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

I Love a Soldier (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. Nothing outstanding in this picture. Our patrons didn't seem to think it very good, although I thought it okay. Played Mon., Tues. —Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

National Barn Dance (Para)—Jean Heather, Charles Quigley, Robert Benchley, Mabel Paige. The type of corn we thrive on. Sincere entertainers talented in the kind of music and comedy we understand and enjoy. Played Sunday.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Small town and rural patronage.

Our Hearts Were Young and Gay (Para)—Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, Charles Ruggles, Dorothy Gish. Our heart was neither young nor gay—it was old and sad after we saw the returns at the boxoffice. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

PRC PICTURES

Machine Gun Mama (PRC)—Armida, El Brendel, Wallace Ford. Not very good. Your only chance of getting anything is to exploit the title, which is sort of catchy. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Minstrel Man (PRC)—Benny Fields, Gladys George, Alan Dinehart. One of PRC's best, but it failed to do business. I guess the people in Rivesville don't feel like going to a show in a heavy storm—the worst we had had in years. Played Tues., Wed.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

RKO RADIO

Bride by Mistake (RKO)—Laraine Day, Alan Marshal, Marsha Hunt. They don't seem interested in brides here, although there were many good laughs. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

None But the Lonely Heart (RKO)—Cary Grant, Ethel Barrymore, Barry Fitzgerald, June Duprez. A well-acted picture but not good enough for small town patronage. English accent characters hard to understand. Producers must do better for Cary Grant than this. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

Passport to Destiny (RKO)—Elsa Lanchester, Gordon Oliver. English dialect — therefore, poor business. It's a silly story and will go well on a double bill. Doubled with "Waterfront" (PRC)—which didn't help any. Played Tues., Wed.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Step Lively (RKO)—Frank Sinatra, George Murphy, Adolphe Menjou, Gloria De Haven. Here is an outstanding musical comedy that would have done very good business but we had a big storm which cut our grosses in half. It is one of the fastest musicals made. The music is beautiful and the gags come thick and fast. This should have been used to introduce Sinatra instead of "Higher and Higher" (RKO). Played Sun., Mon.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Woman in the Window (RKO)—Edward G Robinson, Raymond Massey, Edmond Breon, Joan Bennett. We didn't do so well on this one and while the picture is above the ordinary programmer, it still lacks a lot of being a super. We played on our best time and had plenty of room all three days. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Brazil (Rep)—Tito Guizar, Virginia Bruce, Robert Livingston, Edward Everett Horton. A boxoffice disappointment. The picture has no mass appeal for a situation like this. The stage performances are good and as a whole there was something different about this one. It would be a natural for midweek, at best. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Call of the South Seas, The (Rep)—Janet Martin, Allan Lane, William Lane, Adele Mara. Here is a nice feature for a double bill. A little music, a little action, and a little comedy on a tropical island—what else does the public want? Played Fri., Sat.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

In Old Monterey (Rep)—Reissue. Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette, George Hayes, June Storey. Extra good and some came the second night. As good a western as ever—this has everything a western could have. Hoosier Hot-Shots took the cake. Old "Gabby" and Smiley, plus Gene, at their best. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Sing, Neighbor, Sing (Rep)—Brad Taylor, Ruth Terry. This did the biggest weekend business in months. The weather was better and titles appealed. Doubled with an older one, "Come On, Danger" (RKO).—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Greenwich Village (20th-Fox)—Carmen Miranda, Don Ameche, William Bendix, Vivian Blaine. I thought this a very good musical but the patrons didn't agree, from the boxoffice standpoint — business below average. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Hangover Square (20th-Fox)—Laird Cregar, Linda Darnell. An excellent drama and most pleasing to the patrons who desire that type of play—excellently done. Cregar was a great star. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Okay.—Ken Gorham, Town Hall, Middlebury, Vt. General and college patronage.

Irish Eyes Are Smiling (20th-Fox) — June Haver, Dick Haymes, Monty Woolley, Anthony Quinn. Everything about this musical is tops —the story, the music, the coloring, and Dick Haymes' singing. We heard all good comments and it was generally enjoyed by all

(Continued on following page)

The Haneys of Milan, Ind., Are Both Show Veterans

Although W. J. Haney has had his present Milan Theatre at Milan, Ind., for seven years, he had a varied showman experience before that time. Among the show jobs he held were those of billposter, advance agent, publicity man, and later, minstrel, vaudeville and musical comedy star. He built the Milan with everything new. It seats 400 and is all modern but he will build again as soon as he can get materials. "I could use 700 seats on Saturdays," he writes.

Mrs. Haney's theatrical career is hardly second to his. She is a former ballet mistress for the J. J. Schuberts in New York City; Williams and Tate, Australia. Haney originated and manufactured the first metal dance tap in 1924 and this is still an active business. He believes the small town exhibitor's major problem today is the percentage picture, because it won't click in his situation, and suggests producers make more hokum comedies.

His hobby? "I still ham," he confesses.

THE

THEATRE PARTNER

THE HUMAN SIDE OF THE BUSINESS

ALEXANDER FILM CO.



THEATRE PARTNERS---OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Aaron Tribbett of the Texas Theatre in Bay City, Texas (one of the Long Theatres), has one of the best "teasers" we've seen. Aaron had these printed on regular calling cards and passed them out in his lobby and on the streets. They proved very effective.

TOO BUSY
HE HADN'T TIME

to greet the day
to laugh or play
to wait awhile
to give a smile
to read the news
to dream or muse
to just be kind
to rest his mind
to hear a joke
to write his folks
to eat a meal
to deeply feel
to take a rest
to act his best
Take time out and enjoy yourself

to help a cause
to stop and pause
to pen a note
to cast a vote
to sing a song
to right a wrong
to send a gift
to practice thrift
to exercise
to scan the skies
to heed a cry
to say goodbye
to lend or give
or really live
to read this verse

AND SEE.....

AT THE .....THEATRE

The Alexander Film Co. advertising shows the gratifying increase in 1944 of 67% over 1943. THEATRE PARTNERS — OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! When the leading merchants of your town are placed on your screen, men who are prominent in city affairs, they take pride in their screen campaign and this draws them and their families to the theatre practically every week.

The World's Largest ALEXANDER FILM CO. **Colorado Springs, Colorado**

(Continued from preceding page)

the audience. Business was very good. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Winged Victory (20th-Fox)—Sgt. Mark Daniels, Pvt. Lon McCallister, Cpl. Don Taylor, Jo-Carroll Dennison. Now here is a picture that will do some business and the longer you run it the better the draw. The only drawback is the cheapening of this well-made picture by inserting some Coca-Cola advertising in two or three scenes. We ran four days and did plenty of business. You can't go wrong on this one. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Johnny Come Lately (UA)—James Cagney, Grace George, Marjorie Main, Marjorie Lord. Although Cagney has boxoffice draw, it didn't show up in this picture. We find when costumes are old-fashioned, pictures are harder to sell. Played Thurs., Fri.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Can't Help Singing (Univ)—Deanna Durbin, Robert Paige, Akim Tamiroff, David Bruce. An outdoor musical, beautifully photographed in Technicolor. Business above average. Some customers expressed disappointment, apparently because of story weakness, which caused chuckles where they should not have been. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Open.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Small town and rural patronage.

Can't Help Singing (Univ)—Deanna Durbin, Robert Paige, Akim Tamiroff, David Bruce. Very good but not best yet for Durbin, I would say. Will pull the crowd in, to be sure. Played Sun., Mon.—Ken Gorham, Town Hall, Middlebury, Vt. General and college patronage.

Moonlight and Cactus (Univ)—Andrews Sisters, Leo Carrillo, Elyse Knox. Played family night and hit the bull's-eye. Everyone enjoyed it. A lot of good laughs in it. Played Wed., Thurs. Three in the rain at showtime the first night.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

San Diego, I Love You (Univ)—Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton, Edward Everett Horton, Eric Blore. Here is a swell little picture that didn't pull average business, but this was not due to the picture. It can well stand on its own feet and walk alone. Worth playing anywhere, anytime. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Janie (WB)—Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, Robert Benchley, Joyce Reynolds. This one makes everybody happy.—Sid Coffey, Rex, Winnipegosis, Manitoba, Canada. Small town patronage.

Mr. Skeffington (WB)—Bette Davis, Claude Rains, Walter Abel, Richard Waring. The lowest business in months—and as usual, with Bette Davis. We waste our best playing time on pictures like this—and on percentage, too. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Hollywood Canteen (WB)—Jack Benny, Jack Carson, Bette Davis, Joan Leslie, all-star cast. A very good picture that held up satisfactorily and everybody satisfied. Lasted for a four-day run here. Quite unusual, but the weather was very favorable. Not quite as good as "Stage Door Canteen" (UA), largely because of Warners' paucity of stars for such a feature. Played Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Sabbath Films' Bill Stirs Up Opposition

ELKTON, MD.—A new effort to have a bill passed in the Maryland general assembly at Annapolis, to enable the showing of motion pictures on Sunday in Cecil County was quick to stir up opposition among church members. The bill was introduced in the house of delegates without revealing the backers of the measure, and apparently got scant notice from the Baltimore papers, except for the formal inclusion of it in the calendar. However, when it became known that such a bill had been introduced in the final rush of last minute legislation, opponents of the measure started petitions, urging the county delegation to see that the measure was defeated.

A similar bill was defeated at the last session. At the same time, supporters of the bill were not letting any grass grow under their feet. Postal cards began reaching the legislators urging support for the measure.

Cecil County has probably the greatest surplus of temporary residents just at this time, of any area in Maryland. Not only are there several thousand war workers temporarily living there, and working in the two big munition plants located just outside of town, but within easy traveling distances are Bainbridge, naval training station near Port Deposit, and the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, each with their many thousands of service men. There are few theatres in the county.

There is one fairly large house at Elkton, and John M. Smith, who was just elected mayor of Northeast, operates a small circuit in the county, one at Northeast, another at Chesapeake City, and another at Port Deposit. There is also a small hall at Rising Sun. Several months ago there was an announcement that a site had been purchased for a new theatre in Elkton, but who was back of it has never been disclosed.

France, U.S. Sign Pact On Visa Requirements

NEW YORK—Civilian travel between the U.S. and France has been facilitated by an agreement on visas signed in Paris by U.S. Ambassador Jefferson Cafferey and French Foreign Minister Georges.

Visas will be granted henceforth upon the presentation of a letter secured from either the state department or the French ministry of foreign affairs, stating that the proposed trip is of national importance.



THAT'S IT!—Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution of 20th-Fox and distributor chairman for the Seventh War Loan, looks over the art work and emphatically says the industry will do its best.

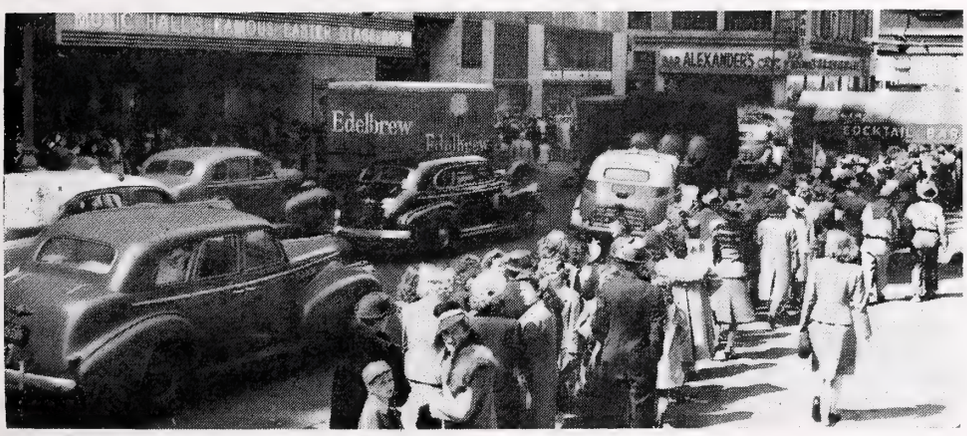
Gerber Bureau Chairman, United Jewish Appeal

NEW YORK—Gustave A. Gerber, attorney for Associated Theatre Ticket Agencies, will again serve as chairman of the speakers bureau for the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. Head of the bureau since 1941, Gerger is one of the pioneers in the field of legal work for the radio industry, a director of the Saratoga Springs Foundation and impartial chairman of the Residence Clubs.

"The United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York must this year raise this city's share of the $75,000,000 needed by its agencies to finance vital relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction work here and overseas," Gerber said on accepting the chairmanship for the fifth consecutive year. "I hope the members of my profession as well as of other professions, trades and industries, will give our drive the generous support it deserves."

Sets Video Precedent

NEW YORK—Probably the first Franco-American program in the history of television, Soldiers Without Uniforms, was presented over CBS video station WCBW. Subject of telecast was dramatization of episodes in resistance movement in Paris, based on material brought here by Pierre Schaeffer and Pierre Garrigues, representatives of the French Broadcasting Service.



EXTRAORDINARY LINE—All the unusual features of this line are not visible. It couldn't be covered with a camera without making it a travelog. This shot was taken on the north side of the Music Hall on 51st St., with the camera pointing west. The line began on the south side of the building on 50th Street at Sixth Avenue, extended the entire length of the building to Rockefeller Plaza, north on the plaza to 51st Street, west on the south side of 51st Street to the corner of Sixth Avenue, and east on the north side of 51st Street. The picture was M-G-M's "Without Love," with the Music Hall's annual Easter stage show.

Death of FDR Thins Crowds on Broadway

NEW YORK—News of President Roosevelt's sudden death reached Broadway as the picture houses were concluding their supper shows. By 9 p. m. usual Big Stem crowds were approximately half their normal size.

Theatre managers advised patrons of the President's death in various ways. At the Music Hall, after an announcement from the stage, the organist played "Lead, Kindly Light," followed by the National Anthem, with the audience joining in the latter.

The Roxy flashed a bulletin from the screen, while announcements were made from the stage by the managements of the Astor, Palace, Paramount and other houses.

Lights were turned out at the Rivoli and the anouncement was followed by a silent prayer.

Newsreel companies worked feverishly through Thursday night in order to complete a reel on the life and career of the President and early the next day the reel went to the laboratories. Then the companies sought to obtain priorities for plane service.

Most of the first runs showed the reel, which had footage varying from 630 to 860 feet, on their screens late Friday.

Members of the national War Activities Committee went into session around noon Friday, then sent requests to all theatres to close on Saturday until 6 p. m. H. M. Warner sent word to WB houses to close, while National Theatres and Paramount partners, as well as other circuit and independent executives, were in meeting on the subject at press time.

National Theatres Hit New Red Cross High

DENVER—Over-all Red Cross collections of National Theatres, of which Charles P. Skouras is president, amounted to $584,375, establishing a new all-time high, as 1944 collections were $445,000 and the year before $269,462.

This information was contained in a telegram sent by Skouras on Saturday, April 14, to N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman of the Red Cross drive.

Industry Urged to Push Salvation Army Drive

PHILADELPHIA — William F. Brooker, chairman of the motion picture division of the Salvation Army Maintenance Fund drive for 1945 in the Philadelphia area, this week called the campaign the most important in the history of the organization.

"I should like to feel," he said, "that every person in the motion picture industry would make of himself a self-appointed assistant chairman to participate actively in the drive."

"The goal is $750,000, and, as the approach of victory nears, the need of Salvation Army services on all fronts, because of the additional thousands of service men and women to be cared for, and the vast expanse of territory to be covered, has increased."

WB Adds Three Exploiteers; Reassignments to a Pair

NEW YORK—Warners have shifted Allan Kohan, exploiteer, from Seattle to the Cincinnati - Cleveland - Indianapolis area, with Ira E. Epstein, a new man, as his aide.

Ed Benjamin, formerly a newspaper man in New York City, joins the Detroit force. J. D. Woodard, recently with Lucas & Jenkins at Atlanta, takes charge in the deep south, while Richard Stephens goes from Cincinnati to Buffalo.

BROADWAY

Ray Milland, Paramount star, was able to fly from the coast for a radio appearance due to Director Sidney Lanfield's revision of the shooting schedule of "The Well-Groomed Bride" . . . H. F. Kincey, general manager of North Carolina Theatres, Inc., left Charlotte to attend the WAC meet.

Alan M. Gundelfinger, chairman of the board of Cinecolor, Inc., arrived from the coast for a few days on business . . . William A. Scully, Universal vice-president in charge of sales, returned from his Florida vacation . . . Rube Jackter, Columbia assistant general sales manager, is vacationing in Florida's sunny clime.

Emeric Pressburger, writer, and Michael Powell, director-producer, are expected back from their Hollywood sojourn April 23.

Edward Hyman, Paramount theatre executive in charge of the company's northern division, left for Cincinnati conferences with Harry David, head of Northio Theatres . . . John E. Flynn, M-G-M western sales manager from Chicago, and John Maloney, central sales manager with headquarters in Pittsburgh, were in for discussions with home office executives.

Charles E. Kessnich, M-G-M district manager, arrived from Atlanta to attend the Seventh War Loan drive meet. Benn Rosenwald, Charlotte manager; John S. Allen, Washington manager; Emery Austin, field promotion man with headquarters in Atlanta, and Tom Baldridge, Washington exploiteer, also were present at the meeting.

Proud poppa, Ed McGuire, head of RKO Radio claim department, announced the birth of his second son.

Harry Reiners, eastern field supervisor for RKO, is touring Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus, to arrange campaigns for "The Enchanted Cottage" . . . Gus Schaefer, RKO northeastern district sales manager, is seriously ill at the Newton Hospital in Newton, Mass.

Carole Landis, costar of RKO Radio's "Having Wonderful Crime," following her personal appearance at the St. Charles Theatre, New Orleans, on April 12, is scheduled for a repeat performance at the Oriental in Chicago on April 20.

Perc Westmore, head of Warners' studio makeup department, is here on a two-week business trip . . . Moe Silver, Pittsburgh zone manager for Warner Theatres; James Totman, his assistant; C. J. Latta, Albany zone manager, and Charles A. Smakwitz, assistant, conferred with Joseph Bernhard, Harry M. Kalmine, Harry Goldberg and other home office executives during their visit here.

Fred Allen, star of Jack H. Skirball's UA release, "It's in the Bag," left for a series of theatre appearances in connection with the film's opening in Washington, Baltimore, Richmond and Norfolk. Several press and radio receptions have also been scheduled in connection with Allen's tour.

Jack Connor, M-G-M field promotion representative, is scheduled to arrive from his Omaha headquarters on April 16 to visit the various home office departments . . . An eight and a half pound boy, Anthony George, has been born to Floyd Fitzsimmons, Albany M-G-M field promotion representative, and Mrs. Fitzsimmons.





BACK FROM COAST—N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, returns to New York after three weeks on the coast for conferences with Charles Koerner, production head. He is accompanied by his daughter, Judy.

Norma Helen Moray, daughter of the Warner short subjects sales manager, was married to Sgt. Harvey Du Paul.

Austin Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, arrived in Hollywood . . . Among the five Warner field representatives who conferred with Mort Blumenstock on future assignments were Ted Tod, who is assuming a new post with headquarters in Washington; George Fishman, Philadelphia; Art Moger, Boston; Herb Pickman, Atlanta, and Richard Stephens, central district.

Maxine Vergesslich, daughter of Joe Vergesslich of the Warner metropolitan sales staff, was married in Ventura, Calif., to William Zipp, who is attached to the Pacific naval air base . . . I. J. Hoffman, New Haven zone manager for Warner Theatres, and Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia zone head, returned to their posts after home office conferences.

Samuel J. Briskin of the newly organized Capra-Briskin production firm arrived in Hollywood after completing a special assignment for the navy motion picture photographic services in Washington.

Miriam Quirk Lockwood, former secretary to Maurice Bergman, Universal eastern advertising and publicity head, is the mother of a baby girl, born at the Margaret Hague Hospital in Jersey City.

Niles Trammell, NBC president, and Mrs. Cleo M. Black were married in Maryland . . . Leon Fromkess, PRC president, is in from Hollywood for several weeks' stay.

Sam Shain, assistant to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, attended the Denver Seventh War Loan drive with Charles Skouras.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president; Director Mervin LeRoy; Yvone Bellamy, secretary to Charles Koerner, vice-president in charge of production in Hollywood and Blanche Furst, secretary to Perry Lieber, studio publicity head, arrived from the coast.

Sam Horowitz, midwestern and southern sales manager for Vanguard Films, arrived for conferences.

Bill Ornstein of M-G-M's home office publicity department is expected to break into print in the June issue of Pageant Magazine with an article on third dimension, titled "Goodbye to Shadows." Another literary effort is slated for publication in Swing, a Kansas City monthly.

Gilbert Cote, formerly with the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R., has joined the transportation division of M-G-M's special service . . . Sam Katz, Nat Wolff and Harriet Frank, M-G-M Studio executives, arrived for a two-week visit.

John G. Paine, Ascap general manager, and Herman Finkelstein, resident counsel, left for Europe by clipper from Washington. During their stay abroad they will meet with representatives of European performing right societies.

Steps on Land Mine, And Breaks His Leg!

NEW YORK—T/Sgt. Jack Ward, formerly employed in the local office of National Theatre Supply, stepped on a land mine and lived through the explosion, his only injury—a broken leg.

"At last this damn war has caught up with me," a letter received at NTS from a hospital in England reads. "My buddy and I were carrying signal equipment for a special job and had nearly arrived at our destination when PHOOEY! BANG! something threw us into a tree.

"We had stepped on a land mine . . . A nearby truck was a mess and so were my buddy and I . . . But they tell me the broken leg will be healed in no time and there isn't any cause to worry," the letter from Ward concludes.

Philadelphia Considers Racial Tolerance Plan

PHILADELPHIA—"It Happened in Springfield," Warner Bros. documentary short on the Springfield plan to combat racial intolerance is being studied by public, parochial and private school heads as well as law enforcement heads here. They are considering using the film to fashion a similar system in Philadelphia.

Some 2,400 nuns were to view the film in the auditorium of the Hallahan Catholic High School. Judge Nochem Winnet, chairman of a Philadelphia committee on juvenile delinquency, and public school heads already have seen the film.

Ted Schlanger, Warner zone boss here, and Irving Blumberg, director of publicity, are handling promotion of the film in Philadelphia, where there has been considerable racial tension.

Mono First Runs Trio

NEWARK—Three Monogram features began first runs here last week, all at important downtown houses. They were "G. I. Honeymoon" at Proctor's, "Docks of New York" at the Capitol and "There Goes Kelly" at the Adams.

Uhlig Named to New Post

NEW YORK—Max Uhlig, formerly assistant sound supervisor at CBS, has joined the Columbia Recording Corp. to head a new sound and production department.

"Seeing You" Sets Record at Capitol

NEW YORK—While there was a partial letdown in Broadway first run grosses following Easter week's scintillating takes, business continued on a satisfactory level.

Selznick International's UA release, "I'll Be Seeing You," was the cock of the walk among the new entries, its opening stanza at the Capitol setting a new four-day mark during the first four days. Early reports indicated that it might set a new mark for the entire week, too.

"The Affairs of Susan," opening to better than average business during Holy week, was in its third week at the Rivoli and showed evidence of long staying powers.

"God Is My Co-Pilot" and "The Corn Is Green," Warner films at the Strand and Hollywood, respectively, were leading the holdover contingent.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), 9th wk. 100
Capitol—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), plus stage show 195
Criterion—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 125
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 2nd wk. 185
Palace—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO), 2nd wk. 90
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 165
Radio City Music Hall—**Without Love** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 155
Rialto—**The Mummy's Curse** (Univ), 2nd wk. 85
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk. 145
Roxy—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 6th wk. 125
Strand—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 190
Victoria—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 120

"Bring On the Girls," in Double Bill, Tops Buffalo's Grosses With 159

BUFFALO—"Bring On the Girls" and "The Man in Half Moon Street" were the leaders here, recording better than one and one-half times average at the Great Lakes. A second week was assured. "It's a Pleasure" continued above average in a second week at the 20th Century and so did "Here Come the Co-Eds" at the Lafayette. "Music for Millions" was scheduled for a moveover to the Hippodrome after a successful first week at the Buffalo. "Hotel Berlin," a moveover at the Hipp, continued strong. The weather has been ideal here.

Buffalo—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) 119
Great Lakes—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para) 159
Hippodrome—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **High Powered** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover 119
Lafayette—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Destiny** (Univ) 125
20th Century—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Grissly's Millions** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk. 130

"Co-Pilot" and "Tree" Double Average Grosses in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA—"God Is My Co-Pilot" and "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" led the grosses in the central city area here. "Experiment Perilous" at the Boyd was a newcomer which did well.

Aldine—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. 185
Arcadia—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M), return 155
Boyd—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO) 150
Earle—**Pan-Americana** (RKO), plus Raymond Scott orchestra and Gloria Jean on stage 145
Fox—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 205
Karlton—**Can't Help Singing** (Univ), return 165
Keith's—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), return 135
Mastbaum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 215
Stanley—**Woman in the Window** (RKO), 2nd wk. 175
Stanton—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ), 2nd wk. 130

Series Set for "Co-Pilot"

NEW YORK—Western Newspaper Union has acquired rights to Warners' "God Is My Co-Pilot." The story will be issued in 29 installments featuring stills from the film.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

ALL AROUND THE TOWN: The Atlantic Theatre, 205 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, closed for eight years, has been reopened by M. E. & H. Amusements, Inc. Same outfit operates the National and Terminal, also in Brooklyn . . . Twentieth-Fox, exhibitors will be glad to know, plans to produce "Smoky," story of an outlaw horse which will be "shot" in Technicolor. Boy, page the ASPCA!

John J. Darcey, short subjects sales manager at the RKO exchange informs exhibitors that the Ned Depinet sales drive ends May 10. "We are in first place in the short subject contest," he says, "and this is our big chance to stay in first place and win some of the prizes offered." He has asked exhibitors for their cooperation.

Standing of the RKO exchange in the various categories follows: "Snow White," seventh; short subjects, first; "Up in Arms," first; This Is America, 14th; Walt Disney shorts, first. With five weeks to go, the branch was in fifth place in the nationwide standings. Charlie Boasberg, metropolitan district manager and Phil Hodes, branch manager, are urging their minions on to greater efforts for the closing spurt.

PERSONAL ODDMENTS: T/S Marty Kiernan, former theatre broker, sends a card to Ralph H. Pielow, Metro branch manager, from a chateau in France . . . Cpl. Harold Rosen, erstwhile Universal booker, informs M-G-M Booker Moe Rose, that he has formed a ten-piece orchestra. Rosen is now stationed in France.

Donald Grant, formerly of the U.S. maritime service, is now a clerk in Leo's booking department . . . New Jersey Branch Manager Ben Abner and Salesmen Tommy Farrell, Robert J. Ellsworth, Alex Arnswalder, Louis Allerhand and Howard Levy are wearing broad smiles these days. They have won the coveted honor of securing playdates in every theatre for some unit of M-G-M service.

New York Bookers' Club is planning a drawing for its service men's fund . . . Republic exchange is being decorated for its tenth anniversary . . . Murray Orr, UA's Cleveland branch manager, was a visitor to Filmrow . . . Local UA exchange has a novel display on "Brewster's Millions." Made to simulate a safe, the display copy reads: "All Can Be Yours . . . Ask Your Booker."

TAKE A BOW: Latest group of Filmrow folk to donate blood to the Red Cross is a contingent from the Metro branch, many for the second and third time. They include Anne Pelner, Esther Ackerman, Florence Perau, Mae Friedman, Gloria Halpern, Beatrice Friedman, Frances Drummond, Ruth Greenspan, Helen Markowitz, Dorothy Benson, Marie Hitz, Sophie Olitsky, Edith Finkelstein, Howard Levy, Robert J. Ellsworth, Alex Arnswalder, Louis Allerhand, Tommy Farrell, Ben Abner, Ralph Pielow and Sidney Stockton.

Some 200 employes of the R&B circuit with the company one year or more are now receiving hospitalization and life insurance benefits. Premiums are being paid by the company. Insurance ranges up to $5,000 for the managers, smaller amounts for others.

May issue of Mr. Showman, National Screen Service's monthly promotional tract sent to exhibitors, is an attractive printing job which contains selling hints via trailers for Mother's Day, Memorial Day, cool trailers, Seventh War Loan, curfew, serials and teasers. A glance through its pages may give exhibitors at least one idea on how to solve some selling problem.

S. Sanford Herman, attorney with offices at 8 West 40th St., acting for himself and a syndicate purchased the Rex Theatre Bldg., 2086 Second Ave., Manhattan. Title to the property was held by the New York Title and Mortgage Co. The building includes a 1,165-seat theatre and several stores. The theatre has been operated by the Kamar Amusement Corp.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Exhibitors who played "Arctic Passage," "Letter to a Hero" and "That Men May Live," This Is America subjects, may like to know something about Larry O'Reilly, director and cameraman who is responsible for them. O'Reilly was born in Brooklyn. Although only 40 years old, he has been a professional photographer since 1918, free-lancing at the start.

His first newsreel assignment came in 1927 when he made the first interior films of the West Point graduation. A roving cameraman in the U.S. and Canada, he served for five and one-half months in Paris and in various parts of the continent for Pathe News. An energetic lad, O'Reilly at one time set up a laboratory in his hotel room. From this lab, he covered local news stories, developed his own negative, printed, edited and titled the film, then rushed the finished product to local theatres to score a "beat" over his competitors.

O'Reilly went to England and France to gather on-the-spot material for "That Men May Live," the story of the overseas work of the Red Cross. He outlined the script, shot the picture and then brought it back to the U.S. for cutting and narration.

"One-Man" Scene Show Draws

NEW YORK—The Museum of Modern Art has inaugurated its new permanent gallery for the continuous display of material related to the visual art of the theatre, ballet and screen with a one-man show of Robert Edmond Jones' scene and costume designs. Of particular interest to the film industry are panels with sketches of sets and costumes for two Technicolor milestones, "La Cucaracha" and "Becky Sharp," directed by Lloyd Corrigan and Rouben Mamoulian, respectively, in 1934 and 1935.

The exhibition, a selected survey from 30 years' work by the dean of American stage designers, consists of approximately 50 drawings showing the range and variety of Jones' work. Recent sketches include projects for new scenic solutions, making use of simplified scenic elements or projections.

When the present exhibition closes June 24, it will be succeeded by others related to the theatre and the ballet such as a selection of theatrical models by Norman Bel Geddes, selections from the museum's collection, including work by Berman, Rivera and Watkins, as well as new acquisitions.

Guy Graves to War Board

SCHENECTADY—Guy Graves, managing director of Proctor's, has been appointed a member of the county war finance committee.



"DOSE BUMS" GET A CHUCKLE—All in fun, and good publicity. Danny Kaye, being a Brooklyn boy and a Dodger fan, Leo Durocher (left), Dodger manager, accepted a photo of Kaye for the clubhouse when Rutgers Neilson of RKO sent it over, but Frenchy Bordagaray was in a mood for batting practice. It all has something to do with the opening of "Wonder Boy" at the Music Hall.

Freon Reordered, But There Is No Stampede

BUFFALO—Engineers of downtown theatres promptly entered orders for freon in varying amounts when the WPB last week gave the go-ahead signal to 23 broad groups of businesses that had been barred from buying the refrigerating gas, for air-conditioning purposes since November 1943. Supplies, since that date, have been restricted to use for food refrigeration for the army and lend-lease, for hospitals and as a carrier for insecticides used by the army in mosquito-infested areas.

There was no stampede, however, when the curb was relaxed because Buffalo's main theatres started the period inaugurated by the ban with their tanks well filled with freon gases and, further, not all the downtown houses use freon.

Shea's Buffalo uses carbon-dioxide; Shea's Hippodrome, methyl-chloride; the Lafayette, carene, and the Palace, fans and a blower system. The 20th Century had a supply of freon on hand and will now reorder. The Erlanger, with a season of summer stock in prospect, is probably in the best position to benefit by the lifting of the ban on freon's use for civilian comfort. A 200-pound order was placed by Buffalo's legitimate playhouse as soon as the restrictive order was canceled.

Ed Frank, superintendent of buildings for the Shea Theatres, has 1,000 pounds of freon ordered, most of it to go to the neighborhood houses of that chain.

The Colvin, one of the city's newest community houses, had freon equipment installed at the time of its building. Methyl-chloride was used last year, which necessitated new valves and an emergency exhaust. Freon will refrigerate that theatre this summer.

At least two houses in the Buffalo area are cooled by a water-and-pump system, the Kenmore and the Granada. The Capitol in South Buffalo cools its house through waters from a natural spring beneath the theatre.

High State Executive Joins "Co-Pilot" Event

BUFFALO—One of the highlights of the powerful exploitation campaign for the premiere of "God Is My Co-Pilot" is a letter to Buffalo citizens from Lieut. Gov. Joe R. Hanley, who will attend the opening.

"The effort which the employes of the Curtiss-Wright plant, airplane division, have put forth in this war is highly commendable," the executive's letter states. "The P40 plane has made its niche in every theatre of war. It has helped the allied nations greatly, especially in General Chennault's group of famous flyers. They have done a wonderful job in the CBI theatre of war and I personally salute you and want to thank you for your contribution to these fighting men.

"Without your help, there is no question that everything they have done would not be possible. This theme of struggle, sacrifice and bravery is brought out in Col. Robert L. Scott's story, 'God Is My Co-Pilot,' which has been produced by Warner Bros. and is to be premiered at Shea's Great Lakes Theatre in Buffalo on Thursday, April 26.

"Let me again urge you to do everything possible through your efforts to help bring victory and peace to the entire world."

Posters on "Co-Pilot" Out

NEW YORK—The latest in the series of display posters prepared by Warners' educational bureau on films adapted from best-selling books deals with "God Is My Co-Pilot," and has been mailed to more than 25,000 schools, colleges, libraries and other educational channels throughout the country. Copies have also been sent to exchanges, theatre zone headquarters, field men and first run exhibitors for use in local tieups.

PRC of New York Formed

ALBANY—PRC Exchange of New York City, Inc., has been formed with a capital stock of 200 shares, no par. Incorporators: Jerome Edwards, 802 W. 109th St.; Frieda Klein, 2005 Vyse Ave.; Peter A. Lewis, 133 Seaman Ave., New York.

ZaSu Pitts in Buffalo

BUFFALO—ZaSu Pitts was apearing at the Erlanger here in "Ramshackle Inn."

Rosenfield Feted Prior To Leaving for Army

NEW YORK—Jonas Rosenfield jr., 20th-Fox assistant advertising manager, was given a farewell dinner by more than 150 of his associates at the Sherry-Netherland, prior to his induction into the military service. Rosenfield has been with the company for four years and is slated to enter the army at the end of the month.

Hal Horne was the principal speaker, and Charles Schlaifer acted as master of ceremonies. Among those attending were Irving Lesser, Rodney Bush, Sid Blumenstock, Dave Bader, Jerry Pickman, Ted Lloyd, Jules Fields, Earl Wingart, Max Stein, Al Kayton, Jerry Spiero, Leonard Gaynor, Vic Sedlow, Morris Kinzler, Jerry Novat, Louis Shanfield, Harry Hochfeld, Christy Wilbert, George Gomperts, Abe Goodman, Virginia Morris, Homer Harman, Dave Sternfeld and others.

"Unseen" Set for May Opening

NEW YORK—Paramount's "The Unseen" will open in the Globe Theatre sometime early in May. The murder mystery film features Gail Russell, Joel McCrea and Herbert Marshall in leading roles and was directed by Lewis Allen.

Prerelease Dates Set For Wallis-Para't Film

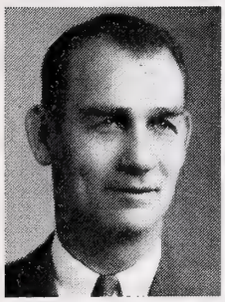
NEW YORK—"The Affairs of Susan," first Hal B. Wallis production for Paramount, will open in seven key cities in April and May prior to its national release May 25, according to Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales.

The picture will open its prerelease engagements at the Buffalo Theatre, Buffalo, May 4; Albee, Cincinnati, April 26; Fox, San Francisco, May 9; Denham, Denver, May 4; Newman, Kansas City, April 25; Boyd, Philadelphia, May 3, and the Fox, Atlanta, April 26.



CURTISS-WRIGHT COOPERATES—Warners and Shea's Buffalo theatres have put on an outstanding campaign for "God Is My Co-Pilot" with the cooperation of the big Curtiss-Wright airplane plant there. Shown here inspecting posters are: (l-r) George Mason, manager of Shea's Great Lakes Theatre; Charles Taylor, publicity director for the circuit; Herbert O. Fisher, Curtiss-Wright chief pilot, and A. D. Palmer jr., director of public relations for Curtiss-Wright.

THE EASTERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Senator Benjamin T. Pitts, Fredericksburg, Va., president of B. T. Pitts Theatres, started in show business about 30 years ago with an upstairs house in Fredericksburg. Gradually he acquired other theatres in that area until today his company controls 23 houses in Virginia and West Virginia. He is a state senator and is very active in charity work; each year he donates scholarships to various schools. He is a member of the Elks, Kiwanis, and other civic orders. An ardent racing fan, Pitts owns several thoroughbred horses. He is married and has one married daughter.



John V. Schreck and J. J. McFadden began their long career in the motion picture field in 1905 with an agreement to open a nickelodeon in partnership. Schreck is a resident of Ashland, Pa., where two of his theatres, the Roxy and the Temple, are located. Another house which Schreck operates is the Majestic in Tamaqua. He devotes a good deal of his time to community affairs, serving on the Ashland rationing board. Schreck is president of the Fountain Springs Country Club and a member of the BPOE. His son is a corporal in the army.



In 1904 **John J. McFadden** of Renova, Pa., was showing pictures in a roller rink as an added attraction. The following year he opened a nickelodeon in Renova in partnership with J. V. Schreck. Later they acquired houses in other Pennsylvania towns and today he runs the Rialto. Married, he has two daughters and a son, an ensign in the navy. "Mac" is a member of the Elks, Rotary and Knights of Columbus. He is a good dancer and enjoys a turn around the dance floor. In fact, he once taught ballroom dancing in his early days.



In 1919 **Fred L. Clark** bought the Grand Theatre in Westfield, Pa. He rebuilt it and changed its name to the Clark in 1927. "Broadway Melody" was his first sound picture, shown in 1929. One-time president of the Cowanesque Valley Agricultural Ass'n, he owns and operates a farm. He says he gets a kick out of buying real estate but is never able to sell anything. In addition to his farm interests, he has served as councilman and auditor of Westfield Borough. He still owns and manages the Clark, a 445-seat house.



Chris W. Geoghegan of South Hill, Va., followed his father into the motion picture business in 1924. They managed the Cozy Theatre in Chase City. At present Geoghegan owns the Colonial, a 350-seat house, in South Hill. He is director of MPTO of Virginia and is extremely active in civic and charity work in his community, serving as vice-president of the Rotary Club, treasurer of National Infantile Paralysis Fund of Mecklenburg County, a member of Variety, and as issuing agent for war bonds. He was chairman of the National War Fund.



Ralph D. Wilkins, Pitman, N. J., entered the motion picture industry in 1912 in conjunction with his father, when he started showing pictures on the second floor of the Opera House, Woodbury, N. J. The program consisted of three one-reel subjects from Biograph, Kalem, Selig or Pathe, and an illustrated song, all for five cents. He acquired the Broadway Theatre, Pitman, in 1926, and the Glassboro Theatre, Glassboro, eight years later. Wilkins is second vice-president of Allied, past president of Kiwanis and past councilman of Pitman Borough.



John H. Voorhees, successful in mercantile pursuits for the past half century, entered the film industry in 1910, when he accepted the managership of the Kennett Square, Pa., fire company and took over the operation of the Fireman's Auditorium. He still operates the house. He is interested in civic affairs, but has never held public office, says "business and politics don't mix." A past president of the Lions, he is a member also of the Masons and Odd Fellows and has been with the Voorhees department store many years. He is fond of fishing and baseball.



Warren E. Fenstermacher started in show business in 1924 when, in partnership with H. H. Blank, he built the Grand in East Greenville, Pa. Managing this 450-seat house has been a full-time job and what leisure hours he has he likes to spend fishing. He also enjoys the relaxation of good music. He is a member of the Order of Owls and is known among his friends as "Warry." Fenstermacher is married and has one son, Linwood, also married. Citizens of East Greenville have always enjoyed the film entertainment found at the Grand.



A veteran exhibitor is **Charles Steiner** of New York, head of the Steiner Enterprises, Inc. Since 1908, he has built, owned and operated the Harlem Grand, 125th Street Theatre, Harlem Opera, Apollo and 22 others. Formerly president of the S. W. & S. Amusement, and vice-president and treasurer of the Belle Theatres, Inc., Steiner now is vice-president of the Theatre Owners Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the State Exhibitors Ass'n, and on the board of directors of ITO. Steiner is training his two-year-old grandson to become an exhibitor in 1960.



Louis Pilosi of Old Forge, Pa., has been in show business since 1912, when he bought an interest in an Old Forge theatre; later he became manager. Not long after he sold out to Comerford and purchased the Lincoln Theatre in DuPont. He has continued to operate the Lincoln ever since. In addition to his managerial duties, he also owns a variety store in the town. Pilosi is a member of the American Legion, Sons of Italy, and Lackawanna Motor Club. He is married and has four children, two of them in school. His hobby—art.



Elias N. Coury has been in show business since 1908. He is a resident of Lansford, Pa., and owns the Capitol in Summit Hill. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks. The Courys have four children, two sons and two daughters. Both sons have distinguished themselves in action during this war. Richard S. was commended by his officer for saving the lives of 75 men on an LST during the Normandie invasion; he is now on a sub-chaser. The other son, John, has served in Europe more than a year.



Clifford E. Smith, head of 13 theatres operating throughout New Jersey, started in the motion picture business as an operator in Winchester, Tenn., back in 1907. His first theatre was the Bellevue in Upper Montclair, and since then he has owned or operated more than a dozen houses. He belongs to the Kiwanis and American Legion. Smith is the father of four daughters, Diane, Leah, Lucille and Lorraine, and four sons, Ronald, Neil, Lawrence and Houston. Houston is serving in the Southwest Pacific. The family home is in Washington, N. J.

Committees Named For District Drive

WASHINGTON—Committtees for the Seventh War Loan drive have been appointed. They will serve under Fred S. Kogod, District of Columbia chairman.

For the WAC: John J. Payette and Carter T. Barron, co-chairmen; Frank LaFalce, publicity chairman and coordinator; John S. Allen, distributor chairman, and Nat Browne. secretary.

Special assistants to Kogod will be Frank Boucher and Joseph B. Brecheen.

The District and suburban Maryland areas have been divided into sections with a chairman for each to work directly under A. Julian Brylawski, president of the MPTO of the district. The sectional chairmen:

Georgetown, Harry Bachman; colored, Graham Barbee; northeast (1) Louis Bernheimer; northwest (1) Walter Cersley; northeast (2), Charles O. Clark; suburban (Montgomery), Claude Land; suburban (Prince Georges), George Shepp; northwest (2), Lawrence Snoots, and southeast, Lloyd Wineland.

Other committees:

Special Events: Payette, Barron, Harry Anger, Boucher, Edward Eynon, Gene Ford, Clark Griffith, Fred Hand, S. G. Loeffler, Hardie Meakin, Edmund Plohn, Loenard Schloss, Charles Schulman, Sol Sorkin, A. M. Tolkins and Mike Uline.

Bond premieres: Payette, Barron, Allen, George Crouch and Brecheen.

Tickets for premieres, rallies, etc.: Brylawski and E. N. Read.

Quotas for theatres: Brylawski, Read and Roland Robbins.

Special sales: A. E. Lichtman and Sidney Lust.

Publicity: LaFalce, Nelson Bell, Jay Carmody, John Maynard, Andrew Kelley, Lew Carroll, Bud Cole, George Daly, William Hoyle, Dorothy Kolinsky, Bertram Linz, Mrs. Florence Lowe, Tom Means, William Michalson, Maurice Mitchell, Ben Morgan, Andrew Older, Bryson Nash, Lee Septembre, Alexander Sherman, Charles Stofberg, Henry Shields, and Sara Young, William Ewing and Robert Cousins.

Exchange area supervisors: Central, Joseph B. Brecheen; Georgetown, Oscar Blumenthal; northeast (1), Walter Davis; northwest (1), Vincent Dougherty; southeast, Charles Hurley; northeast (2), Joseph Kronman; colored, John O'Leary; suburban (Montgomery and Prince Georges), Gerald Price, and northeast (1), Milton Schneiderman.

Union committee: Payette, DeWitt Bittenbender, Paul Schwarz, Daniel Peck, Elwood E. Vivian and Walter G. St. Clair.

Lesser Names WAC Aides For 7th War Loan Push

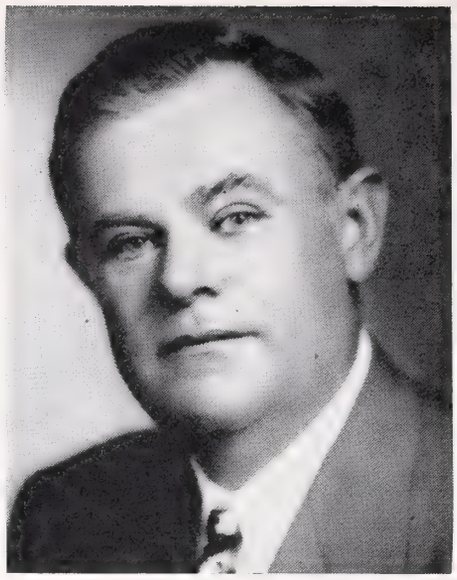
NEW YORK—Irving Lesser general chairman for New York area of WAC, has completed his appointments for aides in the Seventh War Loan drive. They are:

Executive committee: Harry Brandt, Max Cohen, Oscar Doob, Wilbur England, Si Fabian, Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Mandel, C. C. Moskowitz, Sam Rinzler, Edward Rugoff, Fred Schwartz, Robert S. Weitman, William White.

Borough chairmen: Manhattan, George C. Ritch, Riviera Theatre; Bronx, Eugene Meyers, Loew's Theatres; Brooklyn, Helen Beckerman, Elm Theatre; Queens, Fred W. Brunelle, Queens Theatre; Richmond, Louis Goldberg, Fabian Theatres.

County chairmen: Westchester, Russell Ende, RKO Theatres; Suffolk, Walter F. Higgins, Prudential Playhouses; Nassau, John Endres, Playhouse, Great Neck; Sullivan, Max Cohen, Rialto, Monticello; Rockland, Fred Lichtman, Lafayette Theatre, Suffern; Lower Orange, Mrs. Bess Fisher, State Theatre, Middletown; Ulster, Robert W. Case, Broadway Theatre, Kingston; Duchess. Harry L. Royster, Bardavon Theatre, Poughkeepsie.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers



—Photo by Harris and Ewing

HEADS DofC CAMPAIGN—Fred S. Kogod, Washington theatre owner and prominent civic leader, who has been named by the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry as District of Columbia chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive.

Bond Premiere Mark Is Seen by Lesser

NEW YORK—The greatest number of bond and special children's premieres since the beginning of the war loan drives is forecast for the forthcoming Seventh War Loan, by Irving Lesser, metropolitan chairman.

A special committee consisting of C. C. Moskowitz, James Brennan and Fred J. Schwartz has been appointed to serve as a liaison between the film companies and independent exhibitors in this area. The committee will also endeavor to secure the best available screen fare for the bond premieres.

Appoints Committee Chairmen

NEW YORK—Irving Lesser, metropolitan chairman, has appointed the following committee chairmen:

War Finance liaison, Daphne D. Skouras, of Skouras' war effort department; woman's division, Annette Downes Kent, 20th-Fox society editor; accounting, Ferdinand Reinlieb, Roxy purchasing agent; issuing agents, Edward Rugoff, of Rugoff & Becker.

CDVO, AWVS Pledge Support

NEW YORK—The CDVO and AWVS have pledged their cooperation in the impending drive. Both groups will lend their fullest assistance in the Times Square district and in individual theatres throughout the metropolitan area.

Rauch, Swensen to Posts In the 7th Bond Drive

NEW YORK—Sam Rauch of the Roxy Theatre talent department, has been named talent chairman for the New York area Seventh War Loan drive. Bauch, who formerly headed the talent division for Fanchon and Marco Theatres, has figured in the Night of Stars, Greek Relief, Red Cross and Knights of Pythias shows staged at Madison Square Garden and so is in close contact with talent that will assist in this war loan drive.

Joel Swensen of Warners' publicity department will serve as campaign coordinator for this area in the Seventh War Loan.

Adams 7th Loan Head Over Essex County

NEWARK—Adam A. Adams was elected general chairman of all Seventh War Loan activities for Essex County at a meeting in the Adams Theatre called by Harry E. Manning, New Jersey war finance administrator.

Adams endorsed the "Overseas Caravan," a stage show starring members of the First combat infantry band, as the opening project of the campaign. The show played the Mosque Theatre Friday, and was sponsored by the treasury department in cooperation with the downtown theatres and the Newark Evening News.

Goal of the war finance campaign in Newark is $290,040,000.

All theatres were represented at the meeting in the Adams. Lee Stewart and Roland Trenchard of station WAAT's special events committee were present, and were appointed to a program committee which includes William Phillips, Loew's State; Harry Weiss, RKO Proctor's, and George Kelly, Warner Theatres. Kelly is publicity state chairman for northern New Jersey.

Ben Griefer of the Paramount organization and Frank Dailey of the Terrace Room head a committee to supervise all staging activities. Jay Wren, Paramount-Adams advertising and publicity manager, will handle all special events, advertising and publicity during the drive.

Three other shows were set to follow the combat band. One of these, an all-star stage show, is scheduled for the Adams May 22. Others will be a film premiere and a navy show.

Wobber Is Bond Pilot In the Western Area

NEW YORK—Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox division manager for the Pacific coast, will serve as western area distributor chairman for the Seventh War Loan. The territory includes 11 states.

Wobber will represent Tom Connors, national distributor chairman, at the western Seventh War Loan conference at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, April 19. He will present the distributors' plan and bring a personal message from Connors. Wobber will work with Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres president and Loan chairman for the western area.

The area includes California, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Colorado and Utah, and the exchange areas of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City and Denver.

Scollard Appoints Aides

NEW YORK—C. J. Scollard, chairman of Paramount's Seventh War Loan drive in the metropolitan area, has completed his appointments for the bond campaign.

The committee is composed of Oscar Morgan, general sales manager of short subjects and Paramount News, who is co-chairman; treasurer, G. B. J. Frawley, distribution department executive; assistant treasurers, G. Knox Haddow, head of the exchange service department, and Lester Coleman, assistant to George A. Smith, western divisional manager. Handling publicity is C. N. Odell.

ACE REEL END ALARM
JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer



Movies help smooth the rough road back

FILMS that helped our boys prepare for the toughest of life's jobs . . . today are being matched by a wide variety of "rehabilitation films." These special pictures are shown before appreciative audiences in hospitals and convalescent centers.

Because of the part played in these new films by men who were themselves hurt in mind or body, they prove that, with pluck and patience, handicaps can be overcome to a remarkable degree.

These "rehabilitation films" help to lift the spirits of boys who have been eating their hearts out in hospital beds . . . make them say to themselves: "I can do it, too." They help smooth the rough road back—to an extent that we whole ones can never fully appreciate.

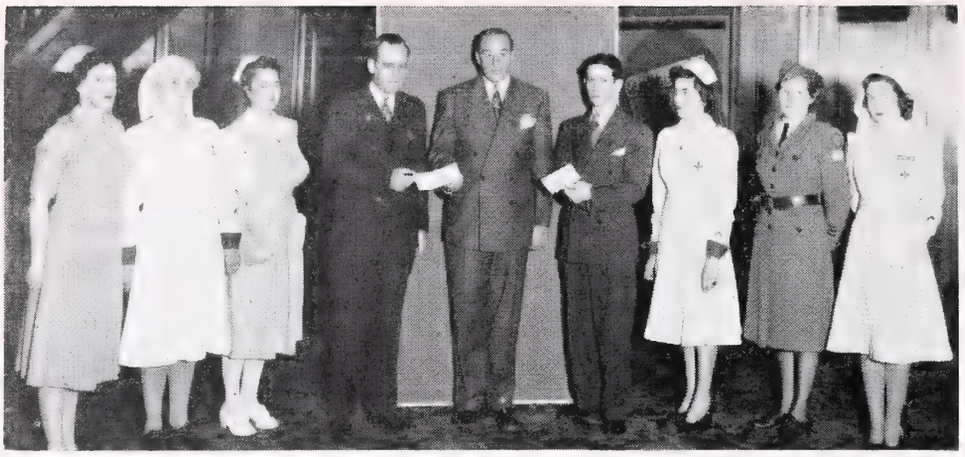
One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war.



Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD



UNDER THE CROSS—Standing beneath the gigantic red cross in the lobby of Reade's Majestic, Julius Daniels, manager, and Samuel Shumer, manager of Reade's Strand, are shown presenting checks to Harold D. Runyon, Perth Amboy, N. J., commissioner and general chairman of the Red Cross drive. The Majestic's collections totaled $1,720.42 and the Strand's $571.01. Above, left to right, Mrs. A. F. Schantz, canteen corps; Mrs. Frank H. Gunkel, production corps; Miss Anne Cladek, nurses' aide corps; Daniels, Runyon, Shumer, Miss Josephine Fusco, production corps; Mrs. William Rosenvinge, motor corps, and Mrs. Marcus Leon, staff assistants corps. The cross, not shown here, was made of six large beaverboard sheets and towered to the Majestic's ceiling.

Film Man, Long Prisoner of Japs, Says Liberation Was Big Surprise

BUFFALO—Arthur G. Doyle, former prisoner of the Japs at the Santo Tomas University war prison, revealed during an interview here last week that as the Americans swept toward Manila, many internees attributed the heavy machine gun fire outside the prison gates to possible food riots or guerrilla activities, but "never dreamed U.S. troops were attempting to free us."

Doyle, a native of this city, was Far Eastern representative for 20th-Fox when he was captured. Having arrived in the U.S. March 30, he spent a few days at the home of his sister, Mrs. Leo P. Meyer, here before leaving for New York.

The night the camp was liberated, Doyle said, he was surprised to see ten Japs who were guarding the hospital building break through the barbed wire fences in a mad dash for one of the main buildings.

Believed They Were Japs

"We then heard tanks roaring down the roads and believed the Japs had sent them to quell this disturbance," he said. "The next thing I saw was the silhouette of a soldier, his rifle slung over his shoulder. He said something in English and I yelled back, 'Those aren't American tanks, are they?' The reply was, 'Sure they are. You're all free.' "

Doyle served as an aide at the camp hospital. His weight dropped from 190 to 149. However, after getting his "fill of good old American chow," he is back to 168.

The food situation became acute when administration of the camp was taken over by Jap military authorities in February 1944, he said. Before that, the camp was ruled by Jap civilians who allowed prisoners to buy food at the front gate.

"After February, we had to depend solely upon the smuggling system," he said. "The Japs only gave us four tablespoons of rice a day. Our smuggling line was operated from the nuns' quarters on the first floor of the hospital building. It was supposed to have been sealed off from us, but we managed to contact either the nuns or their serving girls and pass money to them. They bought food from the Filipinos and brought it back to us."

The Santo Tomas "black market" boasted unbelievably high prices. Sugar sold for $50 a pound; corned beef for $40 a pound, and cigarets for $40 a package. Doyle emphasized that "the cigarets bore no similarity to American brands!"

The Japs were not "unnecessarily cruel," Doye said, but if internees disobeyed they were severely punished. Aside from the food situation, the next worst thing was the overcrowded living quarters. Each person was allowed only 30 inches of space and the buildings were infested with vermin.

"Benny" Rivoli's Next

NEW YORK—"A Medal for Benny," co-starring Dorothy Lamour and Arturo de Cordova, will follow the current attraction, "The Affairs of Susan" into the Rivoli. Inasmuch as "Susan" is booked for an indefinite engagement, no opening date has been set for its successor.

WE Names F. R. Lack To Its Directorate

NEW YORK—Frederick R. Lack, vice-president of Western Electric and manager of its radio division, was elected to the board of directors at the annual meeting of stockholders. The present directors were re-elected and all WE officers were returned to office.

Starting with the company as an assembler in 1911, Lack, save for a year when he saw action in France with the signal corps in 1918, has been with WE or its affiliate, Bell Telephone Laboratories, for 33 years. As a result of his development work on radio telephony he was assigned to supervising the installation of a radio telephone link in China between Peking and Tientsin. In 1942 he served as director of the army and navy electronics production agency with offices in Washington.

"Co-Pilot" Grosses Up Despite Curfew Regulation

NEW YORK—Initial boxoffice reports on Warners' first general release since the curfew went into effect, "God Is My Co-Pilot," show no adverse effects from the curfew curtailment of operating hours.

First 14 openings show "Co-Pilot" not only Atlantic City, Bridgeport, Danbury, Dayton, doing from 30 to 60 per cent better than the average business for the respective houses, but even exceeding the returns of the precurfew release, "Objective, Burma!"

Among the houses where the film is currently topping the business done by "Burma" is the New York Strand. Other stands include Hartford, Jamestown, Johnstown, New Haven, New London, Sharon, South Norwalk, Waterbury and Springfield, Mass.

Crosby's Life Aired

CHICAGO—Life and career of Bing Crosby was broadcast over Mutual network this week on Freedom of Opportunity hour. The dramatization traced Bing's success story from his days as one of Paul Whiteman's Rhythm Boys to his present position as world's most popular singer, Oscar winner, and ranking favorite entertainer of men overseas.

Joan Blondell's Option Lifted

Joan Blondell's option has been lifted for another year at 20th-Fox.



EAST VS. WEST—Republic's sales forces on a visit to the studio, where Roy Rogers was working in "Man From Oklahoma" at the time: Shown here: Dale Evans; Maxwell Gillis, eastern district sales manager; George "Gabby" Hayes, and Rogers; (back row) Sam Seplowin, central district sales manager; Merritt Davis, southern district sales manager; Will Baker, midwestern district sales manager; George Kirby, Cincinnati branch manager, and Leo V. Seicshnaydre, New Orleans branch manager.

SCRANTON-WILKES-BARRE

John J. "Cap" Murray, a native of Pittston, and a Comerford employe for more than 30 years, died last week in the State Hospital as the result of a fall. Murray, who was 69, was a close friend of the late M. E. Comerford, founder of the Comerford enterprises, and became identified with the circuit when it was started. He was the manager of the Manhattan here at the time of his death.

Barbara Howard, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. George Howard, Scranton, became the bride of Qm. Joseph F. Comerford jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Comerford, in St. Paul's Church, Greenwich, last week. Young Comerford, who is stationed at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

Scranton and Lackawanna County detectives were guests last week of Byron Linn, manager of the Strand at a screening of "The Woman in the Window" held in the Comerford projection room. The mystery film was stopped near the end and the sleuths were asked to give their solutions. None gave the correct one . . . Gloria Jean, the singing actress, and a native of Scranton, spent a week's vacation at the home of her uncle here, John Davis . . . In accordance with a custom established many years ago, Holy week noon services were held under the sponsorship of the United Churches of Lackawanna County in the Strand. The services were preceded each noon by 15 minutes of music led by Mrs. Jane Fray Kurtz.

David J. Thomas, circulation manager of the Scrantonian and chairman of Lackawanna County's Red Cross campaign, announced this year's drive total reached $290,277.66 or 110.8 per cent of the quota. With still another week to report solicitations, the report marks the first time the county has reached its Red Cross goal. J. J. O'Leary, president of Comerford Theatres who was chairman of the commercial theatres division, reported collections of $18,720.03 or 104 per cent of his quota.

The candy department of Comerford Theatres, of which Tom Hoffman is in charge, has opened new headquarters in the building adjacent to the Capitol here . . . Construction of a new Summit Theatre at Clarks Summit, Pa., will begin April 15, according to Chester Labarr, owner-manager of the former theatre which was destroyed by fire last January. The new theatre is expected to be completed by July.

Chris Delray, 21-year-old trapeze performer, suffered injuries to lower leg when she fell ten feet from the top of a pole to the stage of Penn Theatre at Wilkes-Barre. The accident occurred at the finale of the aerialist act in which the girl starred with her husband, and her brother-in-law. Manager Fred Lee said the audience apparently considered the fall a part of the act.

Marine Cpl. Frederick K. Solomon, former assistant manager of the Hart, received considerable publicity in Wilkes-Barre when he and a taxi driver rescued five persons from a burning home. The fire was caused by a lighted cigaret. Solomon, 19, was home on furlough.

Vaudeville has closed for the summer in Pottsville and Binghamton . . . All theatres of Wyoming Valley were closed on Good Friday until 3 o'clock . . . George Parrick, Roman, Pittston, the father of nine children, one of whom is in the navy, has passed his examination for military service and is awaiting his call . . . Gene Hahn, formerly of the Irving, Wilkes-Barre, is in Germany. Paul Tigue, manager of the Capitol there, has passed his draft examination and has been placed on the list for future quota calls.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



CAROLE VISITS RKO — That little brochure Carole Landis is clutching so gracefully is the RKO booklet, "Salute," which goes out to all RKO men and women in service. Jack Level, the editor, presented it to her. Miss Landis costars in "Having Wonderful Crime."

Girls at the Comerford home office have established a bowling league, playing Tuesday nights in the American Legion bowling alleys . . . Bill Andres, a marine formerly of the Comerford candy department, is in the Solomon Islands . . . Jerry Catoret, Comerford Theatres, is a patient at the Mercy Hospital . . . Charles Zagrans, RKO, was a Comerford home office visitor.

Frank Loftus, manager of the Globe, left on a two-week vacation in Atlantic City . . . Mary Maloney, Comerford accounting department, who underwent an operation a month ago, has returned to work . . . Frank Kelly, Sam Gross and Edgar Moss of 20th-Fox, were in during the week.

Clair Palmer is the new switchboard girl at Comerford offices. She came from the Comerford Theatre where Helen Cuff succeeded her. At the Strand, Martha Patrick replaces Betty Gilbride, who has been transferred to the main office.

Al Farrell, assistant Comerford district manager at Binghamton, is in India managing a theatre for his outfit. In a recent letter he says: "It's almost unbelievable but India has an abundance of everything and a superabundance of everything nasty. It is in the same breath, beautiful and filthy, strong and weak, brilliant and stupid."

Pvt. Robert N. Berry, a former employe of the Comerford Theatre, won praise for his work from his commanding general at an air service depot in England. He and his fellow workers set a record for 1944 by sending back into combat more than 17,000 overhauled engines totaling more than 21 million horsepower.

RICHMOND

Sam Bendheim jr., general manager of Neighborhood Theatres, and Brock Whitlock, Loew's manager, have been appointed co-chairmen for the theatre division in the Seventh War Bond drive.

Graham Barbee came down from Washington to personally present bonds to the Lichtman managers who won them during the last bond drive. James Conway, manager of the Robinson Theatre, won first prize and Lorenza Minor, manager of the Hippodrome, second prize.

Lieut. Elliott Calisch, son of Edith Linderman, Times-Dispatch film editor and WRNL commentator, has returned to the U.S. after completing his tour of flights over Germany.

When "I'll Be Seeing You" opened at Loew's, Brock Whitlock arranged with the USO to select five service men who placed phone calls to their homes from a phone in the lobby of the theatre. Proceedings were broadcast over WRNL and played up in both papers.

Charles Chaple, Loew's assistant manager, has been making frequent trips to Washington and Norfolk on his days off . . . Vivian Brown, Loew's, also visited Portsmouth . . . All theatres recently increased their night prices, advancing five cents.

A. D. Harlow, manager of the Pitts' Orange, has been a patient in the University of Virginia Hospital, Charlottesville . . . Max Cohen, Universal branch manager and Barney Frank, salesman, were in town.

Lou Golding and Sam Rosen, Fabian officials, paid Frank O'Brien a short visit . . . Fred Beiersdorf, Warner Washington branch manager, was in town on business for his company.

Robert Brooks, Loew's projectionist, has been inducted into the army . . . Ben Caplon, Columbia branch manager, was a recent visitor from Washington.

Ober Boyd, member of the Brookland staff, and driver for Highway Express, is slated for induction into the army this week . . . Floyd Stawls, former manager of the Carillon, is now with the air corps in India.

Charlie Hann, Byrd operator, has returned from a four-week vacation in Florida . . . Frank Owen resigned from the Brookland to enter the navy.

The husband of Mary Redford, Brookland, is now in Alaska . . . Dave Dugan, formerly at the National, was a visitor from his camp in Louisiana. He is in the air corps.

The tour of the "Winged Victory" roadshow will terminate here next week at the Mosque . . . Jimmy Pitts, former manager of the East End and Patrick Henry theatres, is now a full lieutenant in the navy.

Charlie Denmead, manager of the York, West Point, was a recent visitor . . . Edgar Goth is the new publicity manager for the Fabian Wilmer and Vincent Theatres. He came here from Staten Island.

Homer "Speed" Lambert, United Artists' exploiteer, was here in advance of Fred Allen and his new picture . . . Hal Sands, who has been booking the stage shows into the National for two seasons, is now booking Norfolk.

Staff Sgt. Branch Taylor, former member of the State staff, was wounded in Germany and is now convalescing in a hospital in England . . . Bill Michalson, Fox exploiteer, has been in town laying out campaigns for several pictures booked into the State and Byrd.

WASHINGTON

Official Washington and newspaper men were on hand to meet Fred Allen on Wednesday evening at the Statler Hotel where a reception and buffet supper was held in his honor. He made a personal appearance at the Capitol Theatre where his picture, "It's in the Bag," opened on Thursday. Allen recently received an award from Catholic University.

The glaucoma clinic of the Episcopal Hospital has treated 126 patients in the past six months, according to a report just issued by Rudolph Berger, chairman of the welfare committee of the Variety Club. The clinic, sponsored and supported by the showmen's organization for the prevention of blindness, has made every effort to acquaint the public with symptoms of glaucoma and the importance of treatment. The club has engaged Phyllis J. Howe, a medical social worker, to aid patients at the clinic.

Warner Theatres: A large group of Warnerites turned out to attend the marriage of Mildred Smith, switchboard operator, and A. W. Bernhardt, chief electrician at the Earle Theatre, April 5, at the St. Paul Lutheran Church . . . The new secretary to Charles McGowan, contact manager, is Arman Arslanian.

Lew Carroll, RKO publicist, was here conferring with Frank LaFalce on "Having Wonderful Crime," which will play at the Metropolitan Theatre . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harry Welch, Glenburnie, Md., are the parents of a son, named Harry jr. . . . M. Ware, who recently acquired the Mayfair Theatre, Colonial Beach, Va., visited Filmrow this week with the former owner, Eddie Cumberland, who will devote his time to the hotel business.

Seaman Bill Dalke jr., Dalke circuit, was home on leave . . . June Duncan Jones, Republic bookkeeper, has resigned to become a mother. Husband is Chief Specialist Bill Jones who books for the Potomac River naval command . . . Coast Guardsman O. F. Leland spent his leave last week in New York and Washington.

Lieut. Leon Back, formerly with the Rome circuit, now is working with Seaman Ira Sichelman, formerly with PRC, and Lieut. Charley Mayer, former 20th-Fox representative in India . . . The 20th-Fox salesman, Fred Klein, has bought a home in Kensington, and his family is making plans for a Victory garden and chicken raising . . . Charles Murdaugh, booker for the Fifth naval command, recently was promoted to lieutenant.

Fred Schmuff, Durkee district manager, was out of town for several days . . . Sidney Lust's Hippodrome has entered the art cinema field with the presentation of "Pepe le Moko" and "The Forgotten Village." The theatre is under the management of his son Bernard . . . Metro's Phil Bobys and wife Jean spent several days in New York.

Hardie Meakin came in from Cincinnati to visit Mrs. Meakin who was confined to a hospital with pneumonia . . . Shirley Lazar has returned to her desk at UA after a 30-day leave.

Tony Muto, 20th-Fox, is the proud owner of a handsome wrist watch which was presented to him by the president of Mexico during the recent inter-American conference in Mexico City . . . Rose Frisch, PRC has returned from Toronto.

At the last board meeting of the Variety Club the following members were inducted as members: Lieut. Charles Brendler, Martin Wickett, David Rosenthal, Bernard Dougherty, Sam Bandler, Capt. E. M. Bancher, John J. Marcon, Kopeland Ornoff, George Schaefer.

Did you read the swell story in the Sunday Star of April 8 about the Variety Club from its inception up to the present date? . . . John M. Smith, owner of theatres in Northeast, Chesapeake City and Port Deposit recently was elected president of the board of commissioners of Northeast, Md. . . . Tom Baldridge has been named state publicity chairman for Virginia in the forthcoming Seventh War Loan drive.

Richard Bendheim, son of Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Bendheim, is now stationed at Kingman, Ariz. . . . Virginia Kennedy, 20th-Fox telephone operator, has resigned . . . Berle has installed a candy counter in the Grand Theatre, Richmond . . . Loew's Richmond former assistant manager, Peter Stainback, has been on leave for several weeks on account of illness . . . Thomas McNamara has succeeded James Provoo at the Park Theatre in Richmond.



VE-DAY PLEDGES IN DofC—John J. Payette, general zone manager for Warner Bros., receives VE-Day pledge from Warner executives on behalf of all the organization's theatre managers and employes in D. C., and surrounding territories. The pledge asserts the belief of the Warner personnel that VE-Day should not be observed as a holiday—but that it be devoted to work and prayer to an early victory over Japan.

From left to right: Charles Grimes, district manager for Virginia; Harry Anger, managing director of the Earle Theatre; John J. Payette; Harry Lohmeyer, district manager for D. C.; Nat Glasser, district manager for Maryland.



HONOR RODNEY COLLIER—Variety Club's Baltimore Tent, No. 19, presented an engraved plaque to Rodney Collier, manager of the Stanley Theatre, in recognition of his accomplishments while chief barker. Frank J. Durkee (left), present chief barker, made the presentation.

"What Price Happiness" Wins "Safety Oscar"

NEW YORK—The National Safety Council has awarded its Safety Oscar for the best picture on home safety to "What Price Happiness," theatrical short of nine minutes' duration produced by Newark Safety Council. Prize-winning two-reeler shows home accident situations, and was scripted by W. C. Graham, public relations director of producing body.

Photography and editing was done by John M. Orts, chairman of Newark Council's motion picture committee and director of safety education, Public Service Corp. of N. J. Commentary was delivered by William E. Leaman, WMCA radio commentator.

Prints of the 19-minute short are available for exhibition to theatres in New Jersey free of charge. Requests for bookings should be sent to Al. O. Bondy, 630 9th Ave., N. Y. 19.

Gabriel, a Metro Booker, Quits After 25 Years

PHILADELPHIA—William Gabriel, popular Metro booker, is retiring after 24 years' service with the company. He is being succeeded by Dave Titleman. Gabriel has been in the industry for 35 years. He plans a short vacation, but has not revealed future plans.

SEC Okays Radio Deal

WASHINGTON—The Securities and Exchange Commission has granted an application of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange for permission to extend unlisted trading privileges to the 30-cent par value common stock of the National Union Radio Corp. of Newark, N. J.

Change Title on White's Scandals

The yearly designation of "George White's Scandals of 1945" has been dropped. From now on the filmusical will be known as "George White's Scandals."

Strickland of IT&T Dies in East Orange

NEW YORK—Services were held for Claude H. Strickland, 50, general service manager of International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. who died of heart disease at his home in East Orange. He had been in poor health for some months but continued at his duties until last week.

Born in Ozona, Tex., Strickland joined IT&T as an accountant in 1925, was sent to Madrid the following year to serve in the controller's department of the company's Spanish affiliate. Returning to New York, he was subsequently transferred to Cuba, remaining there until 1943.

Clarence Coulter

BUFFALO — Clarence "Bud" Coulter, 58, known to the New York show world as the man who introduced the harmonica to vaudeville, died here last week after an illness of four days. Before he retired from show business and came to Buffalo seven years ago, he appeared on the stages of nearly every American theatre. His last local appearance was about ten years ago, when he presented a harmonica act in Shea's Buffalo. He is survived by his wife, sister, mother and brother.

John L. McElwaine

NEW YORK—John L. McElwaine, 58, in charge of electrical motor maintenance for S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp. died suddenly on Tuesday. He is survived by his wife and one son now in the army, while two of his other sons were recently killed in action. McElwaine was for 18 years employed by the Brooklyn Edison Co., in charge of armature winding and was well known in electrical trade.

William F. Gossner

NEW YORK—William F. Gossner, for eight years associated with M-G-M's exploitation and royalty departments, died March 30 at his Putnam Valley, N. Y., home. Funeral services were held April 3 at the Church of the Assumption, Peekskill. Burial was in Gates of Heaven Cemetery, Woodlawn. Survivors are his wife Helen and a brother Valentine.

Joseph O'Brien

NEW YORK—Joseph O'Brien, cameraman and editor of Universal Newsreel since 1938, died Thursday at Medical Center here following a long illness. He entered the business at the age of 14, with American Biograph. He was cameraman with Fox Movietone News when sound came in. Later he became makeup editor for Pathe. He joined Universal in 1938.

Herbert W. Forster

NEW YORK—Services were held for Herbert W. Forster, 47, advertising manager of Western Electric, who died suddenly following an acute heart attack. A former chemist and newspaper man, Forster joined WE in 1924.

Charles E. Gable

SHARPSVILLE, PA.—Charles E. Gable, 85, manager of the Ritz Theatre since 1935, is dead here. An uncle of Clark Gable, he operated the Gable Hotel and Gable Theatre in Sharon for many years.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



IN HONOR OF MONTAGUE—Sam Galanty and Ben Caplon of Columbia Pictures in Washington are in the picture above, celebrating with the sales staff the party that was held in honor of Abe Montague's 20th anniversary.

"Kiss" in Scranton Area

SCRANTON—"Kiss and Tell" was presented here at the Masonic Temple, at the Capitol in Wilkes-Barre and the Strand, Binghamton, this week. Starting Wednesday (11) there was one presentation, on following nights in each city at popular prices.

"Life With Father" and "Oklahoma" are scheduled for future dates, and "The Student Prince" has been booked for April 23 on the same basis. The Comerford organization promised to present "the best shows available" during the coming months.

Pfc. Joseph Iovine Killed

PHILADELPHIA—Pfc. Joseph Iovine of the Third marine division, formerly employed in the shipping department of the Paramount Philadelphia exchange, was killed in the invasion of Iwo Jima. Iovine, who enlisted before his 18th birthday, had worked at the exchange for almost a year. His death added a second gold star to the local exchange honor roll. The first was in honor of Pvt. William J. Walker, also of the shipping department, who died of wounds sustained in Italy in May 1944.

TB Film Is Presented

BUFFALO—"Sand in the Gears," a National Tuberculosis Ass'n short dealing with the cause and cure of tuberculosis, was presented two nights at two community Shea houses, the Roosevelt and the Lackawanna. The film is distributed by the Buffalo and Erie County Tuberculosis Ass'n.

Kleiman Opens Agency

CHICAGO—A new advertising agency has been incorporated here by Fredric R. Kleiman. He has over 15 years of experience in diversified fields and recently was with the Henry H. Teplitz agency. The Kleiman headquarters is at 105 W. Adams St.

Cross Quota Exceeded

WILKES-BARRE—Manager Bill Walsh of the Comerford, who was the chairman of the theatres division in the Luzerne County Red Cross campaign, has announced that his division oversubscribed its quota.

1,200 N. Y. Showmen Ready for 7th Loan

NEW YORK—More than 1,200 of this city's leading theatre operators, executives and managers, representing more than 700 theatres in the metropolitan area, are mobilized for the Seventh War Loan drive, according to Irving Lesser, WAC general chairman of the New York area.

Representing a seating capacity of three-quarters of a million, with a weekly capacity of 11 million patrons, this group expects to top the total of 439,532 individual E bonds which were sold during the Sixth War Loan by metropolitan New York theatres.

Plans are now under consideration by borough and county chairmen for novel exploitation and promotional features for this campaign. An extensive daily schedule of activities by the groups and individual houses is being planned to promote the bond selling drive.

Fred Joyce Will Handle "Tomorrow" in Midwest

CHICAGO—Fred Joyce has been appointed midwest exploitation representative of Lester Cowan Productions and will work out of Chicago under direction of Albert Margolies, eastern publicity and advertising director. He was previously associated with UA and Selznick, and had his own publicity office here.

Handling key city runs of "Tomorrow the World" will be Joyce's first assignment. He will concentrate on exploitation of the UA release in Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Louis, Dayton, Columbus, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Louisville and Pittsburgh.

Exhibitor Injured Fatally

LOUISVILLE—H. L. Simmerman, operator of the Shawnee Theatre, died from injuries sustained when struck by an automobile while crossing the street in front of his theatre after he closed the house Saturday night.

WE Shifts Traffic Dep't to N. Y. City

NEW YORK—Western Electric Co.'s traffic department, located at the Hawthorne Works in Chicago since 1918, was moved to the company's general headquarters in this city last month. The transfer was made to coordinate the activities of the traffic organization with those of the company's other general departments at headquarters and brings W. McGirr, traffic manager; R. C. Colton, assistant traffic manager, and other members of their group to the city.

In addition to these transfers, G. M. Schifferdecker, traffic agent at the Kearny, N. J., plant becomes assistant traffic manager in New York, and F. A. Demarest, division traffic manager in New York, succeeds Schifferdecker as Kearny agent.

Scollard Appoints Para Collectors for 7th Loan

NEW YORK—C. J. Scollard, chairman of the Seventh War Loan drive in the metropolitan area for Paramount, has appointed the following collectors authorized to receive funds for the purchase of bonds:

William O'Connell, Charles Bruda, J. P. McLoughlin, Lambert Schroeder, Murray Waterman, David Cassidy, Harriet Miller, Ray Fisher, Stanley Chase, Joseph Phillipson, Lou Siberling, Robert Shapiro, Daniel F. Hynes, Helene Coleman, Joseph Davis and Mina Postove.

Leo Mishkin Joins CBS

NEW YORK—Leo Mishkin has been appointed trade news editor of the Columbia Broadcasting System by George Crandall, director of press information. Mishkin replaces Joan Lane, who resigned from the network to join the Crowell-Collier Publishing Co.

Mishkin was formerly New York press representative for David O. Selznick, and worked in the publicity departments of M-G-M and Universal.

Monroe in New Radio Post

NEW YORK—Robert Allan Monroe has joined Inter-American Radio, specialists in radio promotion for Latin America, as director of motion picture radio. For the past several years, Monroe has been associated with the OIAA. He was formerly radio production manager for Donahue & Coe.

D-Day Anniversary Set For Free Movie Day

New York—Free Movie Day during the Seventh War Loan will be observed June 6, the first anniversary of the landing of American troops in Normandy and the subsequent invasion of the continent. Sam Pinanski, national chairman, told the Showmen's Seventh conference at the Astor on that date the nation's theatres would accord free admissions to all bond purchasers.

As a prelude to Free Movie Day, Glenn Miller Day will be staged June 5. This observance will be a tribute to the popular orchestra leader who has been reported missing in action for several months. Bob Weitman, special events director, is handling plans for the occasion.

Schless of Paramount Is Off to Continent

WASHINGTON — Robert Schless, Paramount general manager for continental Europe, North Africa and Near East division, has left for London and Paris; he will make his permanent headquarters in the latter city.

Henri Michaud, his assistant, plans to join Schless late this month.

Hirliman's New Deal

NEW YORK—International Theatrical and Television Corp. has purchased 69 Chesterfield and Invincible and Feature Productions, with the full reissue and 35mm remake rights for worldwide distribution. The deal was completed by George A. Hirliman, IT&T president, and Arthur Schwartz, attorney for the producers.

Laud RKO's "Cottage"

NEW YORK—"The Enchanted Cottage" received further official commendation this week when the Motion Picture Council of Central Queens termed it "an intensely moving picture." Board praised RKO release, saying, "it deals with a serious problem of readjustment which any one of us may have to face."

Meredith to Debut as Producer

Burgess Meredith's debut as a Hollywood producer will be "The Diary of a Chambermaid," Mirbeau's famous novel.



OFF FOR COAST—Nine of the ten winners of the Blue Network program On Stage Everybody selected from 4,000 contestants, leave Grand Central Station for Hollywood with contracts to appear in Universal's "On Stage Everybody." Left to right: June Brady, Detroit singer; Ronnie Gibson, Brooklyn dancer; Bob Hopkins, Chicago, impersonator; Jean Hamilton, Hamilton, Mont., pianist; Beatrice Fung Oye, swing singer from Port Huron, Mich.; Billy Usher, Omaha, tenor; Georgianna Bannister, Charlotte, contralto; Ilene Woods, Portsmouth, N. H., soprano, and Cyril Smith, Boston, monologist.

Monogram on the Air To Boost "Dillinger"

NEW YORK—Monogram is using an intensive radio campaign to launch "Dillinger," making a particular effort to re-establish his name as synonymous with gangster by providing network shows with suggestions and dialog pointing up the association.

References to Dillinger as a gangster have been made on several network shows recently, among them the Fibber McGee and Molly show and This Is My Story. The star of the picture, Lawrence Tierney, has appeared on numerous radio programs in the past weeks, ranging from dramatic skits to straight interviews.

Negro Films Scheduled

NEW YORK—Jack and Bert Goldberg, producers of negro motion pictures, are planning a schedule of 12 feature-length pictures to be released this year. Last year they produced "We've Come a Long, Long Way," one of a series of negro documentary films which is now playing in the 700-odd negro theatres throughout the country.

"Drive Within Drive"

NEW YORK—Columbia sales force has set May as "Short Subject Month," with personnel of company's 31 branches concentrating on booking as many shorts and serials during this period as possible. Project constitutes a "drive within a drive," since it is part of current Montague 20th anniversary campaign.

Get Film Classics Posts

NEW YORK—Irving Wormser, eastern sales manager for Film Classics, Inc., has appointed Seymour Schusel branch manager for the New York exchange, and placed Leon Herman in charge of the Buffalo office. Schusel comes from Columbia Pictures' sales force, Herman from United Artists'.

W. C. Michel on Drive

NEW YORK—W. C. Michel, 20th-Fox executive vice-president, will serve during the Seventh War Loan as home office corporate investments chairman for WAC. A. W. Smith jr., 20th-Fox eastern sales manager, will serve as chairman of Seventh War Loan activities for the New York film exchanges.

"Murder" Going Big

NEW YORK—"Murder, My Sweet" has grossed better than the average top pictures over 40 RKO metropolitan theatres, according to reports from the company's home office. The Dick Powell starrer also chalked up two record weeks at the Pantages and Hill Street Theatres in Los Angeles.

Educators See Tele Show

NEW YORK—A discussion among officials of the International Education Assembly and a broadcast of part of "Abe Lincoln in Illinois," the play by Robert Sherwood, featured a special public service television broadcast for delegates of the education group recently.

20th-Fox Leases WIXG

BOSTON—General Television Corporation has leased its presently inactive television station WIXG to 20th-Fox. The film company is applying to FCC for an experimental license to operate the facilities and study new program techniques.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Merger Creates Big New Talent Agency

What will probably be the biggest talent agency the entertainment world has ever known will result from a merger, details of which have been agreed to by all parties, of the Music Corp. of America, the Hayward-Deverich agency of Beverly Hills and the Leland Hayward agency of New York.

The deal was worked out between Jules Stein, MCA president; Nat Deverich and Leland Hayward. Sonny Werblin, New York, and Maurice Lipsey, Chicago, MCA key city executives, helped.

Both Hayward and Deverich will become vice-presidents of the enlarged business, the former to headquarter in New York, the latter to remain at the local offices.

Plans provide for the retention of the entire executive and office personnel of the three agencies.

Metro's Smith Repeats In Safety Film Award

Pete Smith, Metro shorts maker, has received the unusual distinction of being the first producer to be a consecutive two-time winner of the National Safety Council's film award.

His "Safety Sleuth" has been designated as "the best motion picture on occupational safety released in 1944 as well as the best picture on any safety subject produced primarily for theatrical showing."

In 1943 Smith's "Seventh Column" was chosen. He again will receive the Council's silver plaque for his achievement.

A committee representing 17 national organizations makes an annual award for the film contributing the most to public safety.

Ames Is Signed for Two Technicolor Features

RKO has signed Stephen Ames on a new contract to produce two top budget Technicolor features.

One of the films, on which he will work with Richard Berger as associate producer, is "The Fabulous Invalid," screen version of the Moss Hart-George Kaufman Broadway success, the other, "Sinbad the Sailor."

Coburn Signs as Costar In Univ's "Shady Lady"

Signed by George Waggner, Charles Coburn has been set to costar with Susanna Foster in Universal's "Shady Lady," scheduled to roll early in May with Waggner as producer-director. Coburn will portray a genial and kindly old confidence man who is on speaking terms with every jailer in the country. Locale of story is Chicago, 1945.

Bright Postwar "Dream" Challenge to Film Men

It is the responsibility of the motion picture industry in the postwar era "to crystallize and help project the dream the whole world is dreaming, the brotherhood of man."

Such is the opinion of Dore Schary, producer in David O. Selznick's organization, as expressed in an address before the Advertising Club of Los Angeles.

Schary voiced his confidence concerning the ability of the motion picture business to help that dream reach realization.

"I have pointed out" he said, "that the screen has articulated trends and not actually initiated them. It may be that in the future the screen will be used for an initiating force because we know better today the function of the film; we know its power, we know its scope, and knowing all those things, we will perhaps be able to dramatize this new world, this one world, this good world dream."

Industry Has Important Role

"This industry is going to take its place in the postwar world," continued the producer, "as a medium that will bring to the public of the world what must be said and what shall be said. Not only the picture business, but the world is facing its brightest future, its brightest dream. I honestly feel that entire mankind is at the threshold of a door that can lead to peace, prosperity and enlightenment, or lead to despair, defeat and anarchy. I want to help make better pictures that will help this better dream come true. I am grateful to the industry and to the American public for the rewards they give people in the picture business, and I want to function as one who will answer the challenge to the motion picture business.

"This great powerful industry has in its hands the power to help fashion a new world of good and decency and dignity. If it fails to use that power, it is not only going to lose friends, it is going to lose profits. But the picture business, being what it is, will rise to this postwar challenge and will continue to win the respect and admiration of the world and will reflect in its product all the glorious facets of our great nation, the U.S.A."

Scoffs at Propaganda Use

Schary scoffed at the thought that the screen has been used as a means of propaganda. "Motion pictures do not initiate" he declared. "They only articulate the public consciousness. They pick up that consciousness and go on from there. No motion picture ever started a trend of public opinion or thinking. The public makes the trend, not the film industry."

To illustrate, Schary stated that the nation's attitude toward prohibition brought about the era of gangster pictures. The Lindbergh kidnaping started the trend of G-men films.

"In 1939," he explained further, "the American public by poll was 78 per cent willing to help England fight the Germans even if it meant getting into the war. Motion pictures during that era merely reflected the change in American thinking. It dramatized that change with good and courageous pictures."

War Heroic at First

Actual war films, according to Schary, have served the function the public wanted them to serve. "The early ones were heroic and grand," he said. "But then as news of death came along, the public's attitude changed. The picture business caught that attitude so our war pictures became tougher, more realistic, more hard-boiled.

"Now as we enter the last days of the European war, we are trying to guess what the public attitude toward war films is going to be. My own opinion is that the public will go to see any good film.

"The postwar world during the period of readjustment is going to be full of tensions and points of view and problems. These tensions and points of view and problems are going to be discussed in the press, the radio, the theatre, and if the motion picture fails to discuss these same issues, tensions and problems, it's going to overlook an important market."

Esther Williams Will Don Mantle in Next Film

Esther Williams, Metro swimming star, will forsake her bathing togs for a bullfighter's mantle in her next starring vehicle, "Fiesta Brava." To be produced by Jack Cummings and filmed in Technicolor, the film will tell of romance, triumphs and tragedies of a great matador, with Mexico as the locale.

An original idea by Cummings, George Bruce spent two months in Mexico developing the story and is currently working on the screenplay.

'Cowboy Serenade' Named

"Cowboy Serenade" has been set as the title of Monogram's next musical western starring Jimmy Wakely and featuring Dennis Moore and Lee "Lasses" White. Oliver Drake will direct.

Edelman to New Job Soon

Lou Edelman, formerly with Warners, will take up his new post at Paramount as production aide to Henry Ginsberg after a few weeks' vacation. Edelman will also produce.

Hollywood At War

Hollywood personalities made 4,377 free patriotic appearances in the first quarter of 1945, according to a Hollywood Victory Committee quarterly report. The actors and actresses took part in 563 events, touring battle areas, visiting hospitals, making recordings to be shipped overseas and selling war bonds. An average of 368 performers contributed services in each of the three months covered by the report.

Twenty-two soldiers in greasepaint entertained overseas in USO-Camp Shows units: Brian Aherne, Don Barclay, Mary Brian, Charles Butterworth, June Clyde, Marlene Dietrich, Charlotte Greer, Merrial Harvout, Amparo Iturbi, Boris Karloff, Herbert Locke, Ella Logan, Irene Manning, Frank McHugh, Martha O'Driscoll and a seven-player unit of "Three Men on a Horse," headed by Sam Levene. Twenty-three players made hospital tours and 128 troupes played individual shows at hospitals, embarkation points and redistribution centers.

Total Mounts to 44,042

Total figures of 44,042 appearances by 3,760 artists in 6,433 events are cited by the report for the entire period since the Hollywood Victory Committee was set up, three days after Pearl Harbor, as a clearing house for war-related free appearances by Hollywood stars.

Nor did the pace slacken during the early days of April. Current contributions to the war program included:

Linda Darnell and Adolphe Menjou were set by HVC to feature war bond rallies at southern California war plants as part of the drive to boost pay roll deduction bond sales before opening of the Seventh War Loan campaign. Miss Darnell appeared at three rallies at the Douglas El Segundo plant, and Menjou did an around-the-clock stint at Douglas Long Beach plant, speaking at six rallies from 10:30 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Crosby Headlines Platter

Bing Crosby headlined Command Performance with Dame May Whitty, Lionel Barrymore, Johnny Mercer, Marilyn Maxwell, the Charioteers and Ken Carpenter.

Set for her third overseas tour, Kay Francis left for the east, whence she will take off for the Caribbean. The trip was set up to fill a special war department request for a star to visit American military installations and hospitals at island bases. Miss Francis' initial overseas tour covered the European area and North Africa, with the first overseas troupe of feminine celebrities from Hollywood. A year ago she visited Canadian and American outposts in the Arctic.

Bob Hope and Bette Davis headlined a cast assigned to do double duty at the Hollywood Canteen. The stars, with Arthur Treacher, Toni 7, Mel Blanc and Harry Mitchell, recorded a GI Journal overseas transcription in addition to entertaining the canteen audience.

Gil Lamb was pegged for a tour of GI hospitals. With a USO-Camp Shows troupe he was to open at Nichols general hospital, Louisville, on April 11, winding up at Indianapolis April 21.

Soviet Film at Scranton

From Eastern Edition

SCRANTON—A Soviet film, "Rainbow," depicting life of Russians under Nazis, was shown on a recent Sunday at the Grand here. Elizabeth Flynn, member of the national executive committee which is sponsoring the picture, spoke on the Crimean agreement and postwar problems of mine workers.

Empty Barrels at Studios For Clothing Donations

Headed by Ginger Rogers, and under the vice-chairmanship of a dozen actresses at as many studios, the motion picture clothing collection got under way. Bins and barrels were placed on all lots to receive bundles of used clothing and shoes which will be part of the 150,000,000 pounds to be gathered throughout the country for distribution overseas by the United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration.

Posters signed by Miss Rogers and carrying an appeal to the industry were being put up around the studios.

Following are the drive's vice-chairmen: Barbara Bates, Universal; Joan Caulfield, Paramount; Marguerite Chapman, Columbia; Ellen Drew, RKO; Faye Emerson, Warners; Peggy Ann Garner, 20th-Fox; Frances Gifford, Metro; Joyce MacKenzie, International; Virginia Mayo, Samuel Goldwyn; Lynne Roberts, Republic; Toni Seven, PRC; Gale Storm, Monogram.

Friday the 13th Jinx Used in Horror Bally

Hollywood—Friday the 13th held no terror for the management of the Hawaii and Elite theatres who opened a double horror program on that day presenting two Republic pictures, "The Phantom Speaks" and "The Vampire's Ghost." A jinx exploitation campaign was planned and a stage prologue featuring the spookiest in jinx ideas was presented.



ENTERTAIN VETERAN—Veteran of the entertainment industry is Dick Pritchard, who for the last five years has been entertainment director at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles and manager of that hotel's theatre. At the age of 15, Pritchard started in show business as usher and doorman at the Rialto and Palsee theatres, Racine, Wis., which at that time were managed by Nate Blumberg, now president of Universal Pictures. After a stint of managing theatres in Milwaukee, Pritchard came to the west coast to become manager of service for Fox West Coast Theatres and Warner Bros. theatre. He later had posts with both Columbia and Universal studios where he worked on exploitation.

Sol Lesser to Utilize Glass "Silk" on Light

Material made of woven glass for use over all equipment for shadows and softening effects will be utilized in motion picture production by Sol Lesser. The development in photographic light control just has been perfected from especially woven "silk" made from glass, which can be used as filters over sun arcs, broads, baby spots, etc.

By arrangement with the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., the new material will be used for the first time on two forthcoming Lesser productions.

Advantage of glass material is its continued use under terrific heat without singeing or discoloration, in addition to being considerably cheaper in cost than the real silk usually required. Lesser also plans to use it to replace Brussells net for scrims and other shadow-effect devices.

Little Travel Reported For Hollywood Leaders

Travelers from home offices and studios continued to scrape the bottom of the barrel for space on transcontinental trains and jaunts by the industries biggies, whether for business, pleasure or both, remained at wartime minimums.

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, returned to New York, having completed conferences with Charles Koerner, executive vice-president in charge of production. S. Barret McCormick, that company's director of publicity and advertising, arrived at the studio for a gander at the new pictures and huddles with Perry Lieber, studio publicity director, on forthcoming campaigns. Terry Turner, director of national exploitation, arrived later to join him here. Roy Disney, vice-president, Walt Disney Productions, returned after a visit to the RKO home office in Gotham.

Sol C. Siegel, who produced "Kiss and Tell" in partnership with George Abbott and F. Hugh Herbert for Columbia release, left for New York with J. J. Milstein, sales head of the producing corporation, to confer with Columbia home office executives on the release of the picture. Upon his return, Siegel will report to Paramount to take over his new executive post at that studio.

Among traveling Metroites: Herbert Stothart, studio musical director-composer, left for New York and Washington on business. He was to be gone for a month. Producer Everett Riskin took off for Manhattan for a three-week business trip, while Producer Sam Marx returned from a similar trek. Robert Vogel of the international department, departed for New York on studio business.

Perc Westmore, head of makeup at Warner, left for New York on a two-week business trip.

Just having closed a deal to release his forthcoming pictures through United Artists, Producer Edward Golden went to New York to iron out details for his next, "Breakfast in Hollywood." Another Hollywood visitor at UA's home office was Sig Schlager.

Ed Peskay, eastern representative of Popular Pictures, whose initialer, "Ten Little Indians" goes to the trade via 20th-Fox, came to Hollywood to see the picture and to powwow with Benedict Bogeaus, whom he represents additionally.

Dickens' Romantic Life Slated for Fall by UA

"The Romantic Life of Charles Dickens," based on the life of the English novelist, has been slated for fall production by Benedict Bogeaus, producer for United Artists.



Movies help smooth the rough road back

FILMS that helped our boys prepare for the toughest of life's jobs . . . today are being matched by a wide variety of "rehabilitation films." These special pictures are shown before appreciative audiences in hospitals and convalescent centers.

Because of the part played in these new films by men who were themselves hurt in mind or body, they prove that, with pluck and patience, handicaps can be overcome to a remarkable degree.

These "rehabilitation films" help to lift the spirits of boys who have been eating their hearts out in hospital beds . . . make them say to themselves: "I can do it, too." They help smooth the rough road back—to an extent that we whole ones can never fully appreciate.

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Blurbers

RKO Radio

CHARLES HUY engaged for exploitation of International's "Along Came Jones."

United Artists

BOB JOSEPH, a Hunt Stromberg exploiteer, has handed in his resignation in favor of Uncle Sam's OWI. He reports at San Francisco on April 16 for a European theatre assignment.

Briefies

Paramount

"Little Witch," Technicolor featurette, to be produced and directed by GEORGE "DINK" TEMPLETON, will costar Olga San Juan and Bob Graham.

Universal

WILL COWAN, associate producer, has signed Jan Garber and his orchestra to make a two-reel musical featurette.

Warners

Sam Salter, radio commentator, has been signed to write narration on sports short subjects to be produced by GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD. First will be "With Rod and Gun in Canada."

DEL FRASIER set to meg two shorts for GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD, producer. "Stars in Sports" will depict recreational activities of the studio's stars, and "Ranch in White" is story of White Horse ranch in Nebraska.

Cleffers

RKO Radio

FRANKIE CARLE and his orchestra signed to a long term pact.

Warners

Score for "Pride of the Marines" assigned to FRANZ WAXMAN.

Meggers

Columbia

RAY NAZARRO, promoted to a full-fledged director, will meg "Outlaws of the Rockies" as his first assignment. The picture, which stars Charles Starrett, is scheduled to roll this month.

As his first directorial assignment, EDWARD BERNDS will guide the Three Stooges in a comedy short which he wrote.

Metro

Next production for MARTIN GOSCH will be "Remember When," an original comedy by HARRY RUSKIN. Scripting chore assigned to BARRY TRIVERS.

CLARENCE BROWN has been assigned to produce and direct his first musical film, "Song of Love," based on the life of Robert Schumann, composer, which the studio purchased from a play manuscript by Bernard Schubert and Mario Silva. Screenplay will be written by Schubert.

Monogram

EDWARD LILLEY signed to meg "Gregory the Great."

PRC Pictures

Rights have been acquired to "The Gallant Shepherd," which MARTIN MOONEY will produce. Yarn, a dog story, by Taylor Cayen, was originally announced as a Jack Schwarz production.

RKO Radio

Megging of the as-yet untitled Eddie Cantor western comedy assigned to FELIX FEIST.

20th Century-Fox

JOHN CROMWELL signed to a seven-year pact. First megging job to be "Cluny Brown."

Universal

As his second of the Sherlock Holmes series to be made this year, ROY WILLIAM NEILL, producer-director, has selected "Terror by Night," suggested by characters from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Empty House." Frank Gruber has been signed to script the screenplay.

CHARLES BARTON, associate producer-director, has the triple assignment of developing, producing and megging "Idea Girl," an original musical comedy, concerning a girl song plugger. Several name bands will be featured.

JOHN HOFFMAN signed for directorial chore on "Hear That Trumpet Talk."

Options

Columbia

Adult leads in "Rusty" fall to CONRAD NAGEL and MARGARET LINDSAY.

CAROLE MATHEWS named for femme lead in "Durango Kid."

Ticketed for "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest" are HENRY DANIELL and MILES MANDER.

IAN WOLFE inked for stint in "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest."

Borrowed from Columbia, MARGUERITE CHAPMAN set for femme lead in Mutual's "Pardon My Past."

MARGUERITA SYLVA signed for character role in "The Gay Senorita."

Metro

REGINALD OWEN slated for spot in "For Better, for Worse."

Signed for featured parts in "The Yearling" are HARRY DAVENPORT and MARGARET WYCHERLY.

LANA TURNER and JOHN GARFIELD set to costar in the picturization of the James M. Cain novel, "The Postman Always Rings Twice," which CAREY WILSON will produce.

DONALD McBRIDE inked for featured spot in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

JAMES CRAIG assigned to "The Yearling."

DEAN STOCKWELL, joins cast of "The Kissing Bandit."

Monogram

Additions to the cast of "Main Street Girl" are: MAURICE MURPHY, DEWEY ROBINSON, HELLA CROSSLEY, MILTON KIBBEE, DEWEY NELSON, JOHN HAMILTON, LEE "LASSES" WHITE and BOBBY BARBER.

Maurice Rubin's "RUBINETTES DANCERS" signed for ensemble and chorus numbers in "Main Street Girl."

Paramount

REX LEASE signed by Hal Wallis Productions for "You Came Along."

MIKHAIL RASUMNY joins cast of "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

BARRY FITZGERALD set to star in "Third Avenue," yarn of modern New York. He will portray the owner of a run-down boarding house, with a penchant for playing horses and other worldly pastimes. John McNulty and Anne Froelick are scripting.

Role in B. G. De Sylva's "The Stork Club" slated for EDGAR NORTON.

Republic

Added to cast of "The Web" are J. FARRELL McDONALD, ELSPETH DUGEON and EMMETT VOGAN.

JOHN LODER has been added to the cast of "The Web."

RKO Radio

DICK POWELL has been signed to star in "Cornered," an original by Ben Hecht, Czenzi Ormonde and Herman Mankiewicz and set for production by Adrian Scott with Edward Dmytryk directing. Powell's role will be that of a two-fisted, honorably discharged RAF flier engaged in the hazardous adventure of tracking down a war criminal in South America. Filming is scheduled to start early in May.

Newcomer ROBERT CLARKE signed for romantic lead in "Radio Stars on Parade."

JOHN WAYNE set to star in "Rawhide," story of the rehabilitation of a cowboy with the pioneer west as its background, which Robert Fellows will produce and Edward Dmytryk, who supplied the original idea, direct. Paul Fix and Ben Barzman have been assigned the screenplay.

FRANK VELOZ of the Veloz and Yolanda dance team, inked to dance with Sonja Henie in "Countess of Monte Cristo," International picture.

ANN RICHARDS given a new contract.

EDNA MAY WONNACOTT signed for "The Bells of St. Mary's."

20th Century-Fox

After a retirement of nearly two years, ALICE FAYE will star in "Fallen Angel," to be produced and directed by Otto Preminger. Second femme role set for LINDA DARNELL.

JOAN BLONDELL's option lifted for another year.

United Artists

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" cast adds CHARLES DINGLE.

Universal

Feminine lead in "Hear That Trumpet Talk" set for LOIS COLLIER.

JACQUELINE DE WIT signed to a long term deal, under which her first assignment will be in "Lady on a Train."

Male leads in "Hear That Trumpet Talk" assigned to NOAH BEERY Jr. and DANNY MORTON.

Warners

"The Adventures of Don Juan" cast adds MORRIS CARNOVSKY.

ANN BLYTH pacted for "Danger Signal."

Scripters

Columbia

Screenplay of the musical "Hayfoot, Strawfoot" assigned to RICHARD WEIL.

WILFRID PETTITT draws scrivening chore of "Hayfoot, Strawfoot," next Judy Canova starrer.

GILBERT PRATT inked to a term pact as writer of two-reelers which will star the Three Stooges.

PRC Pictures

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR signed to script "Arson Squad."

Republic

Treatment of "That Brennan Girl" ticketed for DORIS ANDERSON.

Scripting of "Hit Parade of 1945" assigned to ARTHUR PHILLIPS.

United Artists

Options on both ILSE LAHN and JEANE COHEN have been exercised by Sol Lesser. They are assigned to collaborate on the scripting of "Show Me a Land."

Universal

GEORGE BRICKER reassigned for scrivening stint on "House of Horrors," second of the Creeper yarns.

Story Buys

Columbia

"Corpus Delicti," murder mystery yarn by Harry Essex, has been purchased and added to Ted Richmond's production slate, who will work under the supervision of Leonard Picker.

"Dream Glow," an original by Lorraine Edwards, has been purchased for release under title of "Sing While You Dance." Picture is set for Alexis Thurn-Taxis' production slate under supervision of John Stone, and will be scripted by the author.

Paramount

"Speak Up, Mr. Thursday," an original by Maxwell Shane, has been purchased by Pine-Thomas for production next season.

B. G. DE SYLVA has purchased "After Dinner Story," a collection of mystery yarns by William Irish, and is readying one for the screen.

Republic

"Canteen Hostess," an original by Martin Van Laas, has been purchased as a starring vehicle for Adele Mara.

JOE KANE's original, "Bells of the Gold Coast," has been purchased by the studio for production and direction by Kane.

RKO Radio

William Goetz, International Pictures head, has purchased "The Dark Mirror" by Vladimir Pozner. Nunnally Johnson has been assigned the scripting and producing of this murder melodrama.

20th Century-Fox

Edward Harris Heth's novel, "Any Number Can Play," acquired in manuscript form.

Technically

Columbia

Switch in dialog directing assignments puts MELCHOIR FERRER on "Some Call It Love" and EDWIN PHILIPS on "Song of Broadway."

MILTON FELDMAN set as assistant director on "The Gay Senorita."

CARTER DE HAVEN Jr. and EDWIN PHILIPS set as assistant director and dialog director, respectively, on "Outlaws of the Rockies."

TED TETRICK, fashion designer, has been inked by Mutual Productions to design Marguerite Chapman's wardrobe to be worn in "Pardon My Past."

Metro

LEN SMITH set as cameraman on "The Yearling" and MARVIN STUART named assistant director for "This Strange Adventure."

ART SMITH set as unit manager and EARL McEVOY as assistant director of "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

RKO Radio

Promotion, from assistant to head of the studio sound department, given to GORDON SAWYER by Samuel Goldwyn.

20th Century-Fox

THOMAS P. MOULTON, former Samuel Goldwyn sound department head, assumes the same duties as replacement for EDMUND HANSEN who resigned due to ill health.

Head cameraman assignment to NORBERT BRODINE on "Now It Can Be Told."

Warners

REGGIE CALLOW, assistant director, and HERSCHEL DAUGHERTY, dialog director, have been assigned to "The Adventures of Don Juan."

Assistant meggers added to the staff of "A Stolen Life" include BOBBY VREELAND and DICK MODER.

"Janie Gets Married" to be edited by CHRIS NYBY.

Title Changes

Republic

THE IMMORTAL new tag for "Mozart's Trip to Prague."

"The Magnificent Mr. M" now THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE.

RKO Radio

Yearly designation of "George White's Scandals of 1945" has been dropped. From now on the filmusical will be known as GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS.

Book "The Cisco Kid"

LOS ANGELES—The Fox West Coast theatres in Long Beach and Pomona, top showcases in their respective cities, have booked "The Cisco Kid Returns," first of Monogram's new series starring Duncan Renaldo.

"U" Offers No Comment On Harold Lloyd's Suit

Other than admitting that they had been served in the action, executives at Universal studio declined to comment on the suits that were filed against the company by the Harold Lloyd Corp., alleging three cases of copyright infringement. The actions, filed in the U.S. district court of Los Angeles, seek to recover averred damages in the total amount of $1,700,000 and an additional $115,000 in attorney fees.

Lloyd's complaint contends that three recent pictures, produced and distributed by Universal, pirated parts of former Harold Lloyd starrers. Named as co-defendants with Universal are Clyde Bruckman and Warren Wilson, former employes of the Lloyd firm, now working at the Universal City studio.

The three pictures charged with the alleged plagiarism are "She Gets Her Man," accused of infringing upon copyrighted material in Lloyd's "Welcome Danger"; "Her Lucky Night," charged with encroaching on "The Freshman," and "So's Your Uncle," claimed as a steal on "Movie Crazy." Each of the trio is made the subject of a separate suit, with varying amounts named in the trio of damage allegations. The litigation, initiated by Harold A. Fendler, attorney for the Lloyd company, further seeks an accounting of profits on the three features and an injunction demanding destruction of all prints thereof.

Edward Arnold Elected To Victory Committee

Edward Arnold has been named vice-chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee, it was announced following a meeting of the committee's executive board, of which Kenneth Thomas is chairman. Arnold takes the post in which the late Mark Sandrich served. As executive vice-president and treasurer of the film industry's permanent charities committee, Arnold is active in all industry charity campaigns. He also serves on the board of directors of the Los Angeles chapter of the Red Cross, on the board of the Los Angeles area USO, and on the board of the Screen Actors' Guild, of which he is a past president.

Tenth Anniversary Fete Extended by Republic

Observance of Republic's tenth anniversary has been extended from May 27-July 27, a period of nine weeks, it was announced by Allen Wilson, vice-president. Originally, the celebration was planned for a duration of five weeks. The anniversary program will include entertainment and social affairs here and at the home offices in New York. "Flame of the Barbary Coast" has been chosen as the leading anniversary picture.

"Dillinger" Record-Maker At Strand in Cincinnati

"Dillinger," Monogram's gangster drama, broke all house records on its opening at the Strand, Cincinnati, according to a telegram received at the studio from William Onie, Ohio franchise holder. Admissions on the first three days totaled more than 12,000. The boxoffice was forced to open an hour earlier than usual, and the theatre's third balcony was used for the first time in three years, Onie reported.

Veloz to Dance With Sonja Henie

Frank Veloz, of the Veloz and Yolanda dance team, has been signed to dance with Sonja Henie in "Countess of Monte Cristo," International picture.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

IF THEIR plaints are to be taken at face value, independent exhibitors get the worst of it in virtually every situation that touches on their operations. Be that the case or not, there is no doubt that local unaffiliated showmen have ample and just cause for lament over the manner in which most of Los Angeles' daily newspapers are printing their independent theatre guides.

In their necessary efforts to conserve paper stocks, the publishers have cut the advertising space devoted to such directories to a bare minimum; so small in fact, that a reader, desirous of ascertaining what is showing at a neighborhood theatre, needs the patience of Job and a magnifying glass to ferret the information out of the mess of closely-packed, diminutive type.

Exhibitors know that the directories are referred to constantly by ticket buyers who habitually patronize outlying houses. Consequently, they should be considered an asset to the newspaper for their reader interest value, over and above the advertising revenue concerned. Making them virtually unreadable, even in the interest of conserving space, doesn't seem to be the smartest of publishing procedure, particularly in view of the fact that the same newspapers apparently have trimmed but little on the news column space devoted to other matters cinematic—most especially art. For example, and to keep the discussion within the bounds of industry subjects, let some member of the film colony become involved in a bit of a scandal and the same newspapers devote almost unlimited space to the lurid details, lavishly illustrated.

While this department is not unmindful of the presumption which may be involved in a tradepaper daring to question the policy wisdom of mighty metropolitan dailies, inescapable is the opinion that these newspapers would be better serving their average readers by devoting a little less space to Hollywood's foibles and a little more to what is playing at the little Gem Theatre, just around the corner.

And, incidentally, the over-a-barrel position in which the little showmen have been placed by the space curtailment should be a challenge to the resourcefulness of the master minds who operate the various independent theatre owners organizations, of which this community has more than its share.

→

Certainly ambitious, if not downright fantastic, is the widely-publicized lawsuit which Harold Lloyd, comedian-turned-producer, has brought against Universal alleging that three of that company's current pictures are guilty of pirating certain copyrighted material from former Lloyd starrers.

Reportedly the first legal action on record in which one production organization charges another with plagiarism, the Lloyd litigation seeks to recover $1,700,000 for averred damages, an additional $115,000 for attorney fees, and injunctions ordering destruction of all prints of the three pictures.

On the last point, the authorities who control the allotment of raw stock probably will have some very definite ideas—and they're not likely to be in Litigant Lloyd's favor.

As concerns how substantial is the claim of piracy, that will be a matter for federal jurists to decide. It may be interesting to have it determined, assuming the case ever comes to trial—which it probably will not—just how far copyrights can protect gags and situations.

Granting for the moment that there may be some, even considerable, similarity between general material used in the ancient Lloyd pictures and U's accused trio, few indeed are the comedies produced in Hollywood which to some extent are not similarly guilty of utilizing previously-employed devices.

Let it be hoped that the Lloyd action does not set an example for other companies. If every producer undertook to institute plagiarism or infringement suits when the efforts of fellow film-makers resort to formerly-used gags, situations and even dialog, more films will be shown in the nation's courts than in the theatres. And how litigious Mack Sennett could become.

→

"'KISMET' SETS NEW
RECORD IN INDIA"
—Metro publicity headline.

Home town stuff, huh?

→

A prestige plum of which to be proud was picked by Lee and Losh, local free-lance publicity outfit, heretofore best known for its activities as press relations liaison for the Screen Actors Guild. L. & L. was retained by the state department and the city of San Francisco to handle press relations for them during the forthcoming peace conference. It's an assignment over which many of the better known among Hollywood's publicity gentry can well be green-eyed.

→

Unless Bill Hebert stops breaking into print with his squawk over how he has been classified by the Screen Publicists Guild, his classification in the minds and conversation of fellow toilers in the gentle art of press agentry will not be fitten to put into print.

→

Walter Lantz, Universal shorts producer, has added "Loose Nut" to his Woody Woodpecker Cartune program.

Artful Arthur Eddy continues as Lantz's press agent.

→

"TERMITES CAME IN
BEHIND SCHEDULE"
—Columbia publicity headline.

Bolton's busy blurbers scooped again.

→

Edith Head, chief costume designer at Paramount studio, has authored a book, "What Are You Going to Wear?" which Doubleday, Doran will publish.

Gypsy Rose Lee and Ann Corio are not prospective readers.

Buchanan & Co. Branch

John Hertz jr., chairman of the board of Buchanan & Co., has announced the establishment of a Hollywood branch office to offer advertising agency service to motion picture clients. The local office will be in charge of Arthur Menken, recently returned here after serving with the office of strategic services in Europe. Menken will work with Sumer W. Singer, Buchanan agency executive in charge of independent film accounts, who will headquarter in New York, with occasional trips west. Menken formerly was with RKO Pathe News, Paramount News, United Press and CBS.

LOS ANGELES

Fire in the shipping room and warehouse of the National Theatre Supply Co. did estimated damage of nearly $50,000. The origin was undetermined . . . Bill Seldstein, Universal salesman in San Francisco, was enjoying a brief vacation . . . Fred Stein, Fox West Coast executive, is off to a new post in Milwaukee.

Bill Srere of the Metzger-Srere-Ross theatre circuit has been named an alternate director of the Southern California Theatre Owners' Ass'n to fill the place vacated by the death of Harry Srere . . . Paul Williams, general counsel of SCTOA, took off for San Diego with Exhibitor Jack Y. Berman to familiarize himself with exhibition conditions in the border city.

Off on business trips: Ben Taylor, Warner Bros. checking service manager, to Phoenix and Tucson; Joe Rosenberg, Warner Bros. salesman, to San Diego; Ralph Pollack, exploitation manager of the Million Dollar Theatre, and Francis Bateman, Republic sales executive, to San Francisco.

Melvin Rosenberg (son of Joe), former employe of Universal, received his medical discharge after three years overseas service with the army . . . C. E. "Buck" Buchanan reported back to work as manager of the Cosmo in Glendale after a three-month sick leave.

Singular coincidence department: Flight Officer Buddy Gatty and Lieut. Clifford Colb, pilot, are members of the same B24 crew which recently took off for the South Pacific. Both their wives are employed at Metro. Buddy's wife, Mary, has taken a leave of absence to await the coming of the stork.

Mayor Frank Martin of Clifton, Ariz., owner of the Martin Theatre in that city, as well as the Royal in Morenci, Ariz., was on the Row booking and buying . . . Ed Urschel, Metro home office auditor, was here on a routine check of the books.

After a three-week vacation in Texas, Jean Simmons, secretary to Sam Gardner, Metro manager, is back on the job . . . Cpl. Howard Munroe, owner of the Ritz Theatre, Long Beach, has been transferred to Miami.

W. J. Underhill, newcomer to the coast, will build a theatre at 29 Palms . . . Harry Nace jr. passed his physical and enters the armed forces . . . On sick leave: Lee Grunden, booker for Dickson Booking Service.

George Hickey, western division manager for Metro, bought 960 acres of land outside Palm Springs for a future subdivision . . . Gloria Wilson, Metro hello girl, celebrated her 21st birthday by donating a pint of blood to the Red Cross blood bank.

New phone girl at Warners: Audrea Ehrhart . . . Head Booker Jack Valpey of Metro was on leave of absence due to wife's illness . . . Announcement of the marriage of their daughter, Joy, is made by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Simos of the Virginia Theatre in Bakersfield.

On the Row booking and buying were the following California theatre owners: Mrs. Foster Jackson, Elsinore; Ernie and Glen Harper, Corona and Fontana, respectively; Mr. and Mrs. John Menard sr., Bellflower; R. D. Dunagan, Rio, Blythe; Dick Lemucchi, Bakersfield; Lester Perkins, Mesa, Victorville; C. Carr, Lamont. Arizona representative: Mariano Pierucci, Buttonwillow.

Al Snadow, Rubin Snadow and Harry Hollander have formed the Central Theatre Corp. with offices in the Film Exchange Bldg. Bill Finn is their booker and theatre supervisor . . . Booked for Los Angeles first run at the Orpheum Theatre in successive weeks were two Monogram films, "Fashion Model" and "The Cisco Kid Returns."

Frisco Gives Iturbi First Ride With Police Escort

SAN FRANCISCO—Jose Iturbi, pianist, conductor and film star, was accompanied by Lieut. Harold Baldwin, head of the armed forces entertainment committee here, to Treasure Island to give a performance for the boys. They had ten minutes in which to go from Sixth and Market to the island and much to the delight of Iturbi were given police escort all the way. "It's the first time in all my years of entertaining that I've ever had such service" was the delighted Iturbi's reaction.

It's a Boy for Adamses

PORTLAND—The Al Adamses of the Palace Theatre at Silverton are the parents of a son named Alfred Lou, born at Emanuel Hospital here April 3.



THE SILVERMANS ENTERTAIN—At the annual theatre party of the Santa Monica Bay Women's Club, Saul Silverman, owner of the Majestic Theatre in that suburban city, and Mrs. Silverman, a member of the club, entertained with a Warner Bros. preview of "Roughly Speaking." Pictured above are Mrs. H. W. Seiger, first vice-president and program chairman; Mrs. Robert Armour, motion picture chairman; actor Dana Clark; the host.

SAN FRANCISCO

With the restrictions on advertising space in newspapers and the scarcity of billboards, more and more theatre men are turning to the medium of the Traveling Billboards, of which Al Sigel is managing-owner.

Local critics have given warm endorsements to "Music for Millions" . . . Theatre managers here commended "The Affairs of Susan," tradeshown at the Paramount screening room.

Row ramblings: Freddie Dixon, out-of-town booker for T&D jr. rushed madly from the office to attend the Paramount tradeshowing of "The Affairs of Susan" . . . Jimmy Stainton, head of the pay roll department for United California Theatres, is in need of a secretary . . . S. H. Levin and son of the San Francisco Theatres returned from a Palm Springs vacation . . . Edwin Morris of PRC celebrated a wedding anniversary.

Andrea King, star of "Hotel Berlin," was in town recently to meet her husband, Lieut. Nathaniel Willis, back from 18 months in the Pacific . . . Jean Parker, appearing in person at the Golden Gate, is making a research among the service men hospitals and camps on the inquiry: "What would boys have an actress wear." Alan Jones, also appearing at the Golden Gate, gave benefit performances at the YMCA for underprivileged children.

Al Taylor, who started with Paramount here years ago in the advertising department, is now in the Los Angeles office as branch manager . . . Herbert Harris of the Cortland Theatre blossomed forth with two new hand-painted neckties.

Charles Walker, 20th-Fox, Up to District Manager

SALT LAKE CITY—Charles Walker, manager of the Salt Lake City office of 20th-Fox, has been promoted to district manager. He announced that 20th-Fox for the first time will maintain district offices here and not move to Denver as had been rumored when the promotion was announced.

Walker, one of the state's two-decade showmen, has been in Salt Lake City for the past 28 years, 18 of which he has served as 20th-Fox manager in this city.

Clyde Blasius, who handled business in the Idaho area, has been made Salt Lake office manager. Walker said no other changes or increase in personnel will be made at this time.

FWC $332,526 Polio Check Presented to Jos. Schenck

LOS ANGELES—Fox West Coast Theatres has turned over to Joseph M. Schenck, California state chairman of the March of Dimes campaign, a check for $332,526.03, the amount collected in the circuit's houses in ten southern California counties. Victor Adams, FWC executive, and Clyde Eckhardt, manager of the local 20th-Fox exchange, made the presentation to Schenck and Fred L. Metzler, state chairman of the polio drive.

Skouras Party on Tour Of 20th-Fox Theatres

LOS ANGELES—Charles P. Skouras, president of the National Theatres; Harry Cox, treasurer; John Bertero, counsel, and Tom Page, Skouras' executive aide, are making a tour of the circuit's theatre divisions. The tour, Skouras' first in a year and a half, will be utilized to discuss future plans with personnel and as an operational checkup.

'Pleasure' Enjoys Edge Over 'Berlin' at Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO—"It's a Pleasure" aided by a stage show at the Golden Gate, led the first runs, edging out by five points the Fox's double bill of "Hotel Berlin" and "Fashion Model."

(Average is 100)

Fox—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Fashion Model** (Mono)....170
Golden Gate—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), plus **Alan Jones, Jean Parker** on stage....175
Orpheum—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 2nd wk....125
Paramount—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), (popular prices) 135
State—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk....150
St. Francis—**Objective, Burma!** (WB); **Thoroughbreds** (Rep), 3rd d. t. wk....125
United Artists—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA); **She's a Sweetheart** (Col), 2nd wk....100
Warfield—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 140

"Thunderhead," Day Dating in Denver Takes Top Spot for Both Houses

DENVER—"Thunderhead, Son of Flicka" with "Circumstantial Evidence" took the top percentages at both the Denver and Esquire, where it showed day and date. "Practically Yours" at the Denham was third in the percentage list and stayed for a third week.

Aladdin—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk....140
Denham—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk....180
Denver—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox)....200
Esquire—Same as Denver 190
Orpheum—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M)....130
Paramount—**Eadie Was a Lady** (Col); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col) 160
Rialto—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 165

"Practically Yours" Wins the Top Grosses at Los Angeles Theatres

LOS ANGELES—"Practically Yours," in its first week at the Hollywood and Downtown Paramount theatres, was a standout best grosser among the first run bills, scoring a substantial 200 and 145, respectively. Most of the remainder of the showcases, where new programs were the rule rather than the exceptions, showed encouraging above par figures, while the one holdover, "The Three Caballeros," held its own with the newcomers.

Chinese—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **Swing in the Saddle** (Col) 125
Downtown Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Double Exposure** (Para) 145
Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M) 125
Guild and Wilshire—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), 2nd wk....115
Hillstreet—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col) 135
Hollywood Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para)....200
Pantages—Same as Hillstreet....125
State—Same as Chinese 140
United Artists—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), 2nd wk....125
Uptown—Same as Chinese and State....115
Warners' Downtown Hollywood and Wiltern—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 140

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WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Traveling as a ventriloquist with a medicine show wagon in Texas, was **Harry Holland's** initial appearance in the theatrical world. In 1911 he joined a troupe engaged for a week at the Bishop Opera House, Bishop, Calif., and at the end of his engagement decided to stay there. Going into business for himself, Holland opened his first house, the Gem, converted from a vacant shoe shop. It featured three single-reel subjects and two illustrated songs. Admission was ten cents. Later he built the present Bishop Theatre. He has two sons in the service.



Phil J. Pecharich of the Ritz and Liberty theatres in Jerome, Ariz., has been in motion picture business since 1913. At that time he was playing two-reel features and one-reel comedies. He spent five years away from the motion picture industry to develop and market a 60-acre subdivision in Los Angeles and at the time of the 1915 San Francisco World's Fair tried the hotel business. In 1921 while his Arizona theatres were under lease, he built and operated the California Theatre in Long Beach. His wife assists him in his business.



Charles A. Thompson, Pioche, Nev., is a man whose hobby, running motion pictures, turned into a profitable business. His first house was the Electric Movies Theatre which he continues to operate. Progressing in the business, he built the Gem, a 400-seat, fireproof house, in 1937. Interested in civic affairs, Thompson is the local fire commissioner, a member of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada, and belongs to all the Masonic bodies from Blue Lodge to Shrine. Interested in mechanical engineering, he helped promote Boulder Dam.



Lester E. Funk, owner of the Bellflower and Circle, Bellflower, Calif., began his career as an apprentice at the Meralta in Los Angeles in 1919. Seven years later, he moved to Bellflower, opening his first house there, and in 1929, opened the Bellflower, now in operation. In 1941 he built the Circle. A member of the ITOA of Southern California and Arizona, he also is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Masons. His son, John Lester, is with the Red Cross in Bremerton, Wash. Traveling, fishing and golf are pastimes of this Californian.



One of the exhibitors proudest of the industry is **Kenneth A. Roberts,** Chiloquin, Ore. Becoming familiar with the industry in 1923 in Severy, Kas., he stayed there until 1929 when he moved to Chiloquin. Owner of the Gem Theatre there, Roberts claims the motion picture industry is one of the greatest morale builders of our time, and also believes it serves a broad educational purpose. At present, nonactive in civic affairs, he spends a great deal of his time promoting war bond sales. His cocker spaniel, "Rhumba," a champion show dog, is his pet hobby.



Show business is an old story to **Henry J. Siler** of Newport Beach, Calif. He started in the entertainment field before pictures and has seen the industry grow from nickelodeons to the present cinemas. In 1907 he left the business for six years and then returned to establish himself in Whittier. With 195 folding chairs and one machine, he opened his first house. He remained there until 1935. At Newport Beach he operates the Lido and Balboa in partnership with his son, Mason, now in uniform. Siler is on the board of the Chamber of Commerce.



William McFarlane of Manti, Utah, was a projectionist in 1913 at an Evanston, Wyo., theatre. In 1918 he came to Utah and took over the operation of the Manti Theatre there. McFarlane likes to hunt deer and is a trout fisherman, but says that since the war he has not been able to devote much time to these sports. Local politics interest him very much—he is a staunch Democratic booster. He is a member of the Manti Lions, Salt Lake Motion Picture Club, and Intermountain Theatre Owners Ass'n. His hobby is collecting antiques.



John J. Hunter of Elko, Nev., entered the industry in 1910, left it in 1912, re-entered in 1923 when he converted a rink into a theatre. In 1917 he built the Hunter, a 730-seat house, followed in 1937 by the Elvada, seating 450. He has been a member of the Elko Grammar School board since 1912, and the State Board of Education for 13 years. He belongs to Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce but to no exhibitor organization. A son, Jack, discharged after two years with the armed forces, is now Hunter's associate.

SALT LAKE CITY

Utah's leading entrant in the nationwide search for an unknown to play the role of Salome in Frank Ross' color production of Lloyd C. Douglas' "The Robe," is Mrs. Charles S. Merrill, 3510 20th East St. She saw a newspaper notice that Ross was looking for someone to play the roll, and said she thought so much of the story of Salome, she sent in her application immediately. Director Mervyn LeRoy is expected in Utah some time this month to interview applicants for parts in the contest.

Jack H. Zamsky, Utah salesman for Universal, has been transferred to San Francisco. No successor has been selected.

Denied visits to national parks in the southern part of the state due to war restrictions, Utahans have been taking vacations to this state's wonderlands via the motion pictures. Latest Utah-made film to be released is "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," which currently is doing what Manager Charles Pincus describes as "good business" at the Utah Theatre.

SAG Says Bill 1953 Will Straitjacket Unions

Charging that assembly bill No. 1953 is "uncalled for, unjustified and discriminatory," and that if approved by the California legislature it "would weaken labor unions so that they would be unable to defend themselves against antilabor legislation," the board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild has approved a resolution damning the proposed legislation. Copies were sent to John Lyons, chairman of the assembly industrial relations committee, and C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California Federation of Labor.

Denver Plan Calls For a Half-Million

DENVER—J. P. Dikeou, wholesale candy and tobacco merchant, has announced he will invest about half a million in a theatre here, to be built at 1629-41 Welton, just a block from three first runs, the Orpheum, Denver and Paramount, and the Telenews. This is the first postwar theatre to be announced and Dikeou says he will start building as soon as the government releases the materials.

Metzger Is Co-Chairman For Southern California

LOS ANGELES—Gus Metzger has accepted appointment as exhibitor state chairman for southern California during the Seventh War Loan, Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres president and national chairman of the Fourth War Loan, will be active in the forthcoming campaign as Los Angeles area chairman of WAC.

Other exhibitor state chairman appointments include H. V. "Rotus" Harvey of San Francisco, co-chairman with George Mann for northern California; Morris Finkel of Pittsburgh, co-chairman with M. A. Silver for western Pennsylvania, and M. J. Pruniski of Little Rock, co-chairman with Claude C. Mundo for Arkansas.

George Fishman of Philadelphia has been appointed state publicity co-chairman with Michael Weiss for eastern Pennsylvania.

Tushinsky Quits Rogers; May Film "Rose" Alone

Joseph Tushinsky, associate producer, has severed his connection with Charles R. Rogers Enterprises. He was scheduled to make "My Wild Irish Rose" for Rogers, but now hopes to produce the picture independently, it was stated.

DENVER

Chet J. Bell, who has been in Los Angeles as manager of the Paramount exchange, will be welcomed back to Denver as local Paramount manager again. Harry Haas, Paramount manager here, moves to the managership at Charlotte, N. C.

Fred Frazer has sold his Rialto in Fruita to R. A. Walker . . . Harry Huffman, city manager of Fox Intermountain, will act as impresario for a series of concerts here next winter, principally by stars of the Metropolitan Opera Co. The performances will be given in the city auditorium and the Denver and Tabor theatres.

New Simplex 4-Star sound has been installed in the Rialto . . . Smith & Reed, who operate at Glenrock, Wyo., have bought the Star, Imperial, Neb., from R. M. Hough . . . Carlos of Hercuveen, a huge dog commonly known as Mac, belonging to Mike Roth, Broadway manager, copped three ribbons, a blue, a purple and a purple and gold, in the Denver dog show.

Ross Salazar is opening a new theatre at Espanola, N. M. . . . Lon T. Fidler, Monogram franchise holder, is visiting his Salt Lake City branch.

Salt Lake Red Cross Gifts Total $20,576.53

SALT LAKE CITY—Motion picture theatre collections, contributions and home office contributions during the Red Cross drive in Salt Lake County totaled $20,576.53, H. S. Ungerleider, treasurer for the drive, announced. This represented an increase of $3,000 over 1944.

Figures for the Utah area have not been compiled, but Sam Gillette, Utah area drive chairman, indicated they will top last year's contributions by several thousand dollars. "When the need is greatest, the people come through," he said. The motion picture phase of the Utah campaign was praised by state directors of the drive as of "inestimable value."

Officers of Salt Lake Film Club Elected

SALT LAKE CITY—Frank Smith, Paramount manager, has been elected president of the Motion Picture Club of Salt Lake City. Other new officers are Hall Baetz, district manager for 20th-Fox, vice-president; Sie Sanders, booker for 20th-Fox, secretary, and Henry Ungerleider, Intermountain Theatres auditor, treasurer.

In addition, five directors were elected. They were Tracy Barham, Dave Edwards, Phil Guss, C. R. Wade and Charles Walker. A party Monday night at the club honored outgoing officers.

Army Air Force Recalls Frank Lloyd to Duty

Col. Robert B. Miller, chief of the army air force motion picture division, announced the recall of Frank Lloyd is slated for a special overseas assignment at the personal request of Gen. H. H. Arnold to make a survey of all combat camera units in the army air force. He is undertaking the duty as a civilian specialist.

"Charlie Chan" to Tour East Soon

Sidney Toler will make an eastern personal appearance tour after the completion of "The Cobra Strikes," his next Charlie Chan film.

Diary of a Roving Reporter

By HAROLD C. DONNER

PORTLAND—Nowadays, when passengers of airlines and railroads get bumped as a rule and not as an exception, it is a good idea to plan something to do while cooling your heels. In our case it was "take a busman's holiday" and call on other theatre men.

Well, we got bumped at Spokane so looked up Joe Rosenfield, who at one time was booker for John Danz Theatres out of Seattle. Joe now operates the Post Street in Spokane, the Auburn Theatre in Auburn and the Lyric in Salt Lake City. Joe wasn't in at the moment, but Dick Reed, manager of the Post Street, took us in tow. Dick was as busy as the proverbial bee getting ready for the opening of a big stage production the next day. It was an all-girl show with lots of cuties.

The Ritz is owned by Mrs. Miller, whose husband passed away a few months ago. G. H. Lambert, brother of Mrs. Miller, is at the Ritz on leave from his work in San Francisco to help out for a while. They report that business is fair since the army was taken away from Spokane some time ago. The help situation is much better than in the coast areas.

Harry C. Luff played host to us for a while in his office at the Rainbo Theatre. We didn't hear much of what he said, being too interested in his pictures on the office wall. He had some beautiful pictures of . . . deer and elk and trout.

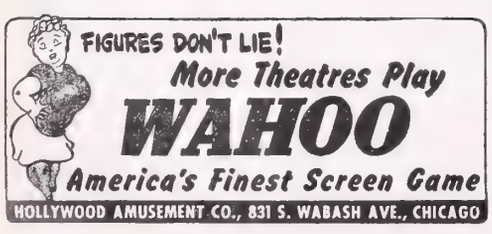
The Band Box proprietor, W. A. Lindsay, wasn't at the theatre when we called, but we hung around and finally saw him. He had a hot picture on and it was doing business so we didn't bother him too long, although he did help out in locating the other theatre men in town.

Mrs. A. P. Mitchell, wife of the Unique Theatre owner, was quite ill so didn't get to see him as he was home.

Eventually all waiting ends and another airliner came in with an empty seat so we proceeded on our way to Helena, Mont.

Jack Marlow, city manager for Fox West Coast Theatres in Helena, has been with this firm for 15 years and is quite happy about it. The Marlow Theatre is the only operating house at the moment, but they face quite a lot of competition in the numerous bars up and down the street. They are as busy as room permits.

In Missoula—it's amazing how fast you can travel on your own transportation—Chris Needles is assistant city manager and is manager of the Missoula. Chris has been with FWC for 15 years in various capacities. His help situation is okay. His cashier promised us some news, but we got away without even getting her name. Next time we'll get the news.



Quimby Takes Over Fort Wayne Shrine

FORT WAYNE—Changes have been made in the long-time theatre operations here. Mrs. Helen W. Quimby, operator of the circuit bearing her name, has leased the Shrine, a 2,000-seat auditorium which has been used solely for concerts, meetings, legitimate shows and civic events. It was built in 1926 at a cost of more than $1,500,000. The lease on the building, which is to continue under the name of the Shrine, is for 20 years.

Concurrent with this was the announcement that the Jefferson Theatre property has been leased to P. J. Dee, president of the Alliance Theatre Corp. of Chicago for 20-year period, the new ownership to go into effect when the Quimby lease expires Dec. 31, 1946. Quimby interests ran the house since 1913. It is to be rehabilitated and operated as a first run.

Quimby announced also an extension of another 15 years on the circuit's lease of the Palace, where from now on only first run films will be shown, the stage shows having been transferred to the Shrine. Quimby operates the Paramount, Emboyd and Palace here.

The only motion pictures to be shown at the Shrine will be the big roadshow films, which do not exceed more than two or three a year. The Shrine otherwise will operate on the same policy as in the past, plus the Palace stage performances. Harvey Cocks, general manager of Quimby Theatres, will serve as manager of the new unit and will be in charge of booking legitimate shows.

Plans call for redecorating completely the Shrine as soon as possible. At the same time the acoustics will be improved. Later it is planned to build a marquee for the house. There will be no change in the name for the present.

The lease calls for a consideration of $380,000. Of this amount $180,000 is to be paid in the first ten years, and $200,000 in the next ten years.

$300,000 Reputedly Paid For Chicago Majestic

CHICAGO—The reputed price paid for the Majestic Theatre property, purchased by the Schuberts through Monroe Properties, Inc., a Schubert-controlled outfit, is $300,000. This makes five theatre Lee and Jake Schubert own in Chicago. The Majestic is to be completely overhauled and will be readied for a June opening if materials are available.

Morris Fensin Dies; A Seating Pioneer

CHICAGO—Morris Fensin, 65, founder of the Fensin Seating Co., and a pioneer motion picture equipment dealer on Chicago's Filmrow, died Saturday (7), following a short illness. Surviving are his wife Minnie B. and two sons, Morton L. and Edwin R., who will continue operation of the seating company.

Judge E. F. Oakley Dead

ST. LOUIS—Circuit Judge Ernest F. Oakley who died here April 4 won national attention in the motion picture industry in March, 1940, when he issued a decree ousting John P. Nick, vice-president of the IATSE, and Clyde A. Weston, business manager, from control of the Local 143 of the projectionists union, canceling the membership cards of some 50 men holding cards issued by Nick and Weston and named a receiver for the union. His action paved the way for a cleanup in the union affairs.

Small Theatres Add New Facet to St. Louis Case

ST. LOUIS—The Princess Theatre clearance case against the Big Five, which is the basis for the $285,000 antitrust damage suit of the St. Louis Amusement Co. against Paramount, Warners, RKO, 20th-Fox, the AAA, Harold D. Connor, former AAA clerk here; Harry G. Erbs, an AAA arbiter, and the Princess Apollo theatres, probably will be continued by consent of counsel when it is called for hearing before Arbiter Erbs April 18.

The similar case of Gregory Carey of the Stadium Theatre, Caruthersville, against the Big Five, also will be continued.

Attorney Unable to Appear

John Dunn of counsel for 20th-Fox will not be able to be in St. Louis on either April 18 or 19, the tentative dates for hearing the cases.

In the meantime an interesting and highly unexpected new situation has been presented in the St. Louis Amusement Co.'s damage suit by the answers and counterclaims that Attornew Mortimer A. Rosecan has filed on behalf of Adolph Rosecan of the Princess Theatre, and for Joseph Litvag of the Apollo Theatre.

Attorney Rosecan would change the St. Louis Amusement Co. and other plaintiffs in the original antitrust suit into the role of defendants to charges that they themselves have set up and are continuing to maintain a monopoly that has done great damages to his clients. On behalf of the Apollo, Rosecan asks that a total of $90,000 damages be granted by the district court against the St. Louis Amusement Co. and other plaintiffs, the four distributor defendants in that case (Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox and Warners), plus Universal, United Artists and Columbia, which also furnish films to the 31 theatres of the plaintiff corporations.

No Specific Damages Asked for Princess

No specific damages were named for the Princess. Attorney Rosecan explained that in the Apollo situation an exact basis for damages is available, being the business done by that theatre since Erbs in an AAA arbitration case reduced the clearance formerly enjoyed by certain of the St. Louis Amusement Co. houses over the Apollo and that theatre's experience during the six years prior to the reduction of the clearance.

In addition to charging that St. Louis Amusement Co. group has created and is maintaining a monopoly, Attorney Rosecan asks that the amusement company group and the distributors be required to cease and desist from imposing the unreasonable clearance that has been granted to the 31 theatres, that the plaintiff owners also be required to desist from their policy of delaying and prolonging the exhibition of pictures in their first, second, third, fourth and fifth houses, since such tactics have done great injury and continue to injure the business of the Apollo and the Princess. The court is also asked to issue an order setting aside and declare void the contracts for films between the plaintiffs' 31 theatres and the seven film companies, and that the court grant to the owners of the Apollo and Princess such further relief as the court may deem proper.

Paramount, 20th-Fox, Warners and RKO already have filed separate answers to the counterclaim of the Apollo and Princess.

It will be recalled that on April 2 U.S. District Judge Richard M. Duncan took under advisement the distribution motions in the $285,000 damage suit to dismiss the proceedings and enter a judgment in behalf of the defendants. Judge Duncan gave the plaintiffs' counsel 15 days in which to file briefs and defendants counsel an additional ten days for reply briefs.

The Apollo and Princess theatres counterclaims create an entirely new situation in the proceedings and even should Judge Duncan dismiss the original suit, the St. Louis Amusement Co. et al may still find themselves in the federal court as defendants in an antitrust case for $90,000 or more damages.

De Kalb 'Cry Room' Wired For Sound—One Way!

De Kalb, Ill.—A noiseproof "cry room" has been installed at the State Theatre for the convenience of mothers of small children. The room contains 15 pushback seats so arranged that the parent need not miss any part of the picture, which she views through glass panels. The room is wired for sound—one way! J. J. McFarland is manager of the State, first house to install such conveniences in this area.

Chicago Variety Sets April 29 for Benefit

CHICAGO—Variety Club has set April 29 as the tentative date for the presentation of its annual benefit show, in the Civic Opera House, for the benefit of the club's pet charity, La Rabida-Jackson Park Sanitarium for Children with heart ailments. The show this year will be a memorial to the late Hal Halperin, who was a prominent member of the Chicago tent. Jack Kirsch, barker, and John Balaban of B&K are executives in charge of this year's performance, which will feature such notables as Dean Murphy, Sophie Tucker, Larry Kent, Lou Holtz, Willie Howard and other stage, radio and screen stars.

B&K Suit for Accounting Awaits Leonard's Return

CHICAGO—Date for the court hearing of the suit by B&K Corp., seeking an accounting of receipts from theatres operated by the West Suburban Amusement Corp., and the Oak Park Amusement Corp., subsidiaries of Essaness Theatre Corp., has been delayed, pending the return of Morris Leonard, B&K attorney who has been on a business trip in Florida. B&K has a financial interest in the two suburban sudsidiaries. Answers to the charges were filed recently by the defense attorneys.

Handling Hygienic Film

CLEVELAND—Floyd Lewis, territorial representative for Hygienic Productions, has returned from a trip through Illinois. He has set engagements of "Mom and Dad," new hygiene picture, in the Varsity and Beverly theatres, Peoria, and the Paradise Theatre, Moline.

Shown at Library

MILWAUKEE—"Combat America," produced and narrated by Clark Gable, was shown at a recent meeting at the public library.

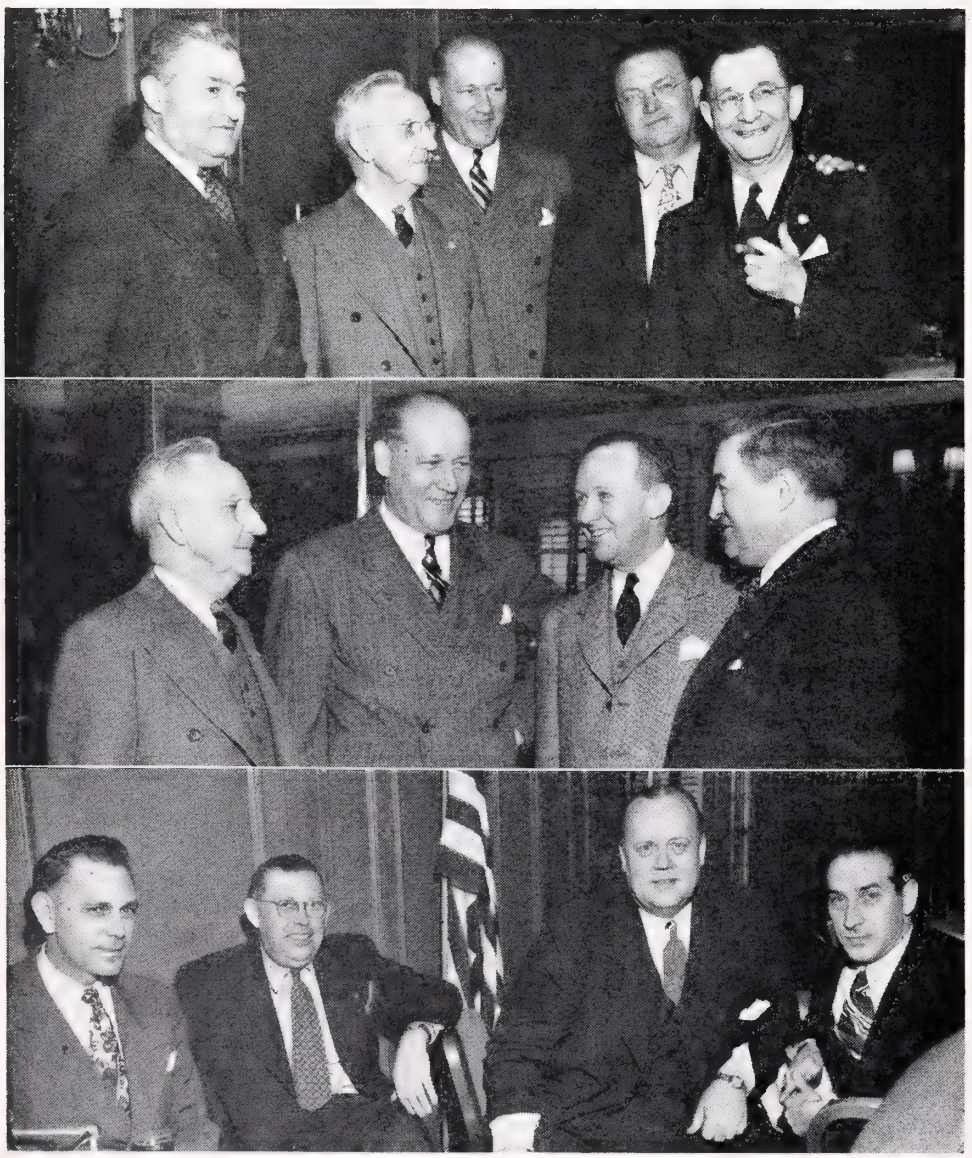
CHICAGO

Victory day will be very dry here. Mayor Edward J. Kelly and his city council put over an ordinance closing all the bars in the city to make sure that when the last shots are fired over there, not too many "shots" will be downed over here . . . Irv Kupcinet, Times columnist (Kup's Kolumn), answered the newspaper blast at motion picture people who, it was alleged, get train accommodations when nobody else can, Kup pointing out that 90 per cent of the stars on the move are traveling to USO centers, hospitals and elsewhere in patriotic causes. We doff our derby to Kup.

Edwin Silverman, Essaness executive, and his wife are expecting their third visit from the long-legged bird . . . Incidently, Essaness won't have to move its offices out of the 540 North Michigan Bldg. which Time magazine has purchased, but will have to transplant itself from the eighth to the third floor . . . And while on the subject of that circuit, Edna Adams, the right-hand girl to Norm Kassel, is putting on weight but on her it looks good.

Jack Hunt, the Oriental's head man, got nice press breaks on "Tomorrow the World," among them a good blurb from the Times when he had all the Times carriers witness the picture at a special showing.

Nat Bernstein, head of the circuit bearing his name headquartered in Hammond, is back from Miami where he spent two months. He paused on the Row to report a lot of changes in the circuit's personnel. For instance, H. C. Ryan has reassumed management of the Times Theatre, Waukegan, where he was before serving Uncle Sam; Leonard Hirsch is now manager of the Brandt at Harvey; Bill Sigerfoos is looking after things at the State in Elkhart, and also supervises the Casino and various concessions attached thereto; Frank Windsor has been transferred from the Lake at Gary to the Hohman in Hammond, and Vincent McKelski of Elkhart has been placed in charge of the new Lake at Gary, which recently had its face lifted and is all dolled up.



MR. SCHULTZ KEEPS A PROMISE—Folks along Kansas City's Filmrow are still talking about that shindig thrown recently by Clarence Schultz. It was held at Hotel Muehlebach and a goodly crowd was there. In addition to the host, O. K. Mason and other Commonwealth officials were on hand, entertaining several hundred Rowites. Refreshments included steaming tables of sea food and other comestibles. It all came about over a promise: Schultz said he would throw a party if Filmrow met its Red Cross quota. Whereupon the denizens of the 18th and Wyandotte area quite handily exceeded the mark set. In the photos, usual order: Top: Finton Jones, Arthur Cole, E. C. Rhoden, Schultz, Bill Truog. Center: Cole, Rhoden, Byron T. Schutz, Jones. Bottom: L. J. Kimbriel, Robert Shelton, Russell Borg, M. D. "Babe" Cohn.

Lou Cochevety, South Bend theatre operator, was a visitor on the Row, taking in this and that at National Theatre Supply . . . Max Factor, Irving Davis and George Topper spent a weekend at St. Joe, Mich. . . . Mervyn LeRoy copped a lot of space in the dailies while visiting here briefly . . . Tom Flannery of White Way Sign Co., has his crew ready to restore brilliance to browned out canopies. Five hours after the ban is lifted, lights will blaze.

Manta & Rose has added the New Rex and the Owl theatres to their circuit. The houses formerly were operated by Jim Chrissis . . . Ben Banowitz, head of the circuit by that name, and his wife are in Miami for a while, and Johnnie Gallagher, formerly of Detroit, is pinch-hitting here for Ben.

The Telenews now is selling books in the lobby. Sophie Tucker's "Some of These Days," her autobiography, is the best-seller . . . Speaking of fresh kids (who isn't lately?), one went backstage at the Chicago the other day and asked Eileen Barton, the singer for an "autographed brassiere." Talk about a holdup! . . . Isadore E. Levine, secretary-treasurer of the LaPorte Theatre Corp., also legal counsel for his company, left for the capital for ten days of business.

Carl Peterson, a vox-popper in one of the dailies, contends that the American public, by its haphazard support of the legitimate theatre, indicates it doesn't care much for that kind of entertainment and contends that motion pictures have proved themselves as the most desirable kind of amusement. He added that if a fraction of the interest manifested by the public in flickers were to be given to the stage, the American actor and producer would have easier sailing. No arguments.

Irvin K. Longenbach, former manager of Kerasotes Bros. Palace at Chillicothe, now in the navy at Great Lakes, has his wife subbing for him at the Palace and she is doing a swell job . . . Ben Katz, Universal publicist, got back from Milwaukee only to set off for Detroit . . . Max Wirtshafter, new assistant manager at the JL&S LaSalle, formerly sold pictures for Paramount in Vienna, and he used to operate his own theatres. His brother, Adolph, is assistant manager of the McVickers.

David Hellman, pioneer showman and brother of Morris, United Artists sales department, died recently . . . Larry Stein, who has been with the Warner circuit for 14 years as director of publicity and advertising, has resigned, effective May 1, to go into the publicity business with a loop office handling radio and amusement accounts.

I. Klingensmith, head of Elect-Tel Service, sound engineers and equipment dealers, has moved from 1314 to 1248 S. Wabash . . . Sam Becker, former assistant at Warners' Jeffrey, is on an emergency furlough from overseas . . . Jim Fennell, former assistant manager at Warners' Hamilton, is hospitalized at the Gardiner General and is doing fine.

Local television is enjoying a bit of postwar boom which the industry expects. With Victory day just around the corner, several advertisers are manifesting interest in shows. WBKB has premiered three shows recently and will come up with another new trio this month.

Arthur Willi, RKO talent scout, was in town looking over likelies for Mervyn LeRoy's "The Robe" . . . M-G-M's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" was singled-featured in 65 neighborhood houses during Easter week with good

results . . . "Keys of Kingdom" is being soloed by B&K in a number of spots, while "Since You Went Away" is also standing on its own in a number of spots . . . Maybe "Diamond Lil," with Mae West who wrote it and Cary Grant, will reopen the 11-year-dark Majestic, the Freres Schubert declare.

Henri Elman is peddling chances on two cases of whisky! It's for one of his pet charities, the Agudas Achim North Shore Temple. The freight is a buck a chance.

Two former Chicagoans, now Hollywood executives, were here briefly—Mike Fish, ex-Times photo editor now with Warners, and Louis Lipstone, once in charge of stage productions and booking for B&K, now musical director for Paramount . . . Joseph Kaufman, former chief film buyer for B&K, who went to the west coast some time ago to be producer, will debut with "Main Street Girl" for Monogram. It goes before the cameras now.

Milton Officer, manager of the B&K Will Rogers, phoned a mother to inform her that her offspring had thrown three rocks at the screen, putting a hole therein and the parent exclaimed: "Oh, missed with two of them, eh?" . . . At a farewell luncheon, the B&K warehouse employes presented Elmer Enke with a war bond. He joined Altec Service when B&K discontinued its sound department.

George Valos, former manager of the Geneva Theatre of the Valos circuit now in the navy, recently was transferred from Glenview air base to Shoemaker, Calif., and has been chosen by the Greek government to represent the Greeks in this country as interpreter at the San Francisco conference.

Morris Safier, PRC western sales manager, was in from the coast to confer with Henri Elman, along with Leon Fromkess, PRC president. Later he went on east . . . P. J. Dee, president of Alliance circuit, is back from Palm Springs, Calif., holiday . . . Jay Stern of Ross Federal Service has returned from a business trip. His outfit is checking on Mexican films . . . During April, 700 theatres hereabouts will play 20th-Fox films, that exchange says, thus making merry the company's current 30th anniversary celebration.

Nate Gumbiner of the Commodore Theatre and Stan Kramer, Warner publicist, have been taken into Variety Club . . . Ted Tod, former Warner Bros. head publicist here and with the Herald-Examiner some time back, said adieus at the Variety Club and trained out for Washington . . . The Woods Theatre is going to have a victory garden atop the marquee, according to Jack Belasco.



$62,567.75 FROM ST. LOUIS—Total Red Cross contributions in the metropolitan St. Louis area announced by Harry C. Arthur jr., industry chairman of the drive for eastern Missouri, were divided as follows: Audience collections, $45,082.66; exhibitors and employes, $10,347.24; exchanges and supply houses, $5,770.75, and operators' and stage employes' unions, $1,367.10. In the absence of Arthur, Albert Stetson, left, director of war activities for Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. theatres, presents the check to Walter Boehmer, chairman of the drive in St. Louis.

Bond Selling Via Television Reported Phenomenal

CHICAGO—Starting off Seventh War Loan activities in the middle west, the U.S. treasury Friday last week dipped into television as a bond-selling medium for the first time, via WBKB, the B&K station. Treasury officials called the results "phenomenal." A half-hour variety show telecast at 12:30 p. m., featuring stage, radio and screen stars, was beamed to sets in the treasury center on Adams St. where hundreds viewed it. It likewise was viewed by workers in war plants and hundreds of television set owners in the Chicago area. Phone calls from viewers interrupted the show periodically with bond pledges. Pledges and direct sales at the Center hit $5,000 during the program. A large percentage of this total came from private set owners, comprising the regular WBKB audience.

Red Cross Totals

CHICAGO—Maurice M. Rubens, Illinois co-chairman for the Red Cross collections in this area, announced the total from the Balaban & Katz houses was $65,000 and from Publix Great-State downstate theatres, $47,139. Jack Kirsch, co-chairman with Rubens, estimated the total from Allied theatres in Chicago would reach $50,000.

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INDIANAPOLIS

The following Variety Club committee heads have been named by L. J. McGinley, chief barker: Foster Gauker, welfare and charity; Milton Krueger, visiting the sick; Don L. Hammer, entertainment; George Landis, golf; Russell Brentlinger, membership; Art Landes, privilege men; Boyd Sparrow, publicity; Sol Greenburg, shows for shut-ins, and Joe Cantor, promotional.

Florence Izaak of PRC and Sgt. Marcus Rosenstein, Fort Benjamin Harrison, were married April 8 . . . Pfc. James R. Newton, former assistant manager at the Fountain Square who was reported wounded February 21 in the battle on the Iwo Jima airstrip, is now reported recovering at a hospital in the Marianas.

Morris Reinking, Terre Haute exhibitor, has returned to his duties after a sojourn in Florida . . . Film Classics of Indiana, Inc., has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state as follows: Harry Mandell, local agent; 150 shares of no par value stock. Incorporators are Julian Bamberger, Josephine M. Leath and Ralph Bamberger.

"Practically Yours" was moved over to the Lyric following a week's run at the Indiana . . . Visitors on Filmrow: W. C. Kohlhurst, Napanee; D. J. Abbott, Crothersville; Pete Mallers, Fort Wayne; T. J. Arrington, New Haven, and Joe Schilling, Connersville . . . Russell R. Brentlinger, RKO manager, was a business visitor in Chicago . . . Thirty orphans from the Lutheran Orphans Home were guests of Manager George Pappas at the Circle to see "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka."

Albert Collins, father of Kenneth Collins, manager of the Greater Amusement Co. of Indianapolis, died at Ridgeville, Ind. Thursday. He was 84 . . . Joe Million's Outdoor Theatre, west of here, will open April 20.

Burdette Peterson, stationed at Great Lakes naval station, is suffering with a broken elbow caused while playing basketball. Before his entry into the navy, he was manager of the National Theatre Supply Co. here.

Nat Bernstein Announces Miami Beach Project

HAMMOND—Nat Bernstein, president of the Bernstein circuit, who operates theatres in Indiana and Illinois, returned from Miami and announced completion of negotiations for the construction and operation of a postwar theatre project at Miami Beach. Construction contracts have been signed.

The location is on Washington Ave., near Lincoln Rd., a prominent business spot in Miami Beach. This will be a 1,100-seater, of Moorish design. Incidentally, Bernstein pioneered the Miami field, having erected several theatres there some years ago—Tivoli, Miami; Dania, Dania, and Hialeah, Hialeah.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

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RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!

TAMPA, Fla., hasn't seen a Monday matinee lineup like this in many a moon. The State overflowed and "MOM AND DAD" rang up a swell two-weeks gross. The picture was praised from a local church pulpit as a "sermon on film."

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WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
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Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Chick Evens New UA Publicity Director

CHICAGO—Fred Joyce has announced his resignation as Chicago publicity director for United Artists to open an advertising company of his own with headquarters in the Stevens Hotel. He will specialize in amusement and radio accounts.

Rud Lohrenz, Chicago UA district manager, announced the appointment of Harold W. "Chick" Evens, UA exploiteer here for the past six months, as publicity director to succeed Joyce. Previous to his joining UA, Evens was associated with Loew's for 15 years as exploiteer in Ohio.

Metro Edges Out Univ. In Chicago Pin League

CHICAGO—Metro broke the tie for leadership in the Chicago Motion Picture Bowling League, taking a pair from Universal, thus dropping the latter to second place. Film Chauffeurs still hold third place, having dropped two to Monogram, which team now trails by one game. Warners seem destined to stay in the cellar, despite the fact they took a duo from Republic. The latter now leads in three-game totals with 2,803, followed by Universal with 2,746.

F. Hanzelin is individual leader in the three-game totals with 684; Jack Kirsch next with 675. Republic shot high for a single game, 960; Monogram next, 953. Individual high for a single game went to V. Swanson with 279, followed by E. Klass with 249.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Metro	47	37
Universal	46	38
Film Chauffeurs	44	40
Monogram	43	41
Republic	42	42
Warners	30	54

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

	Avg.
Jack Kirsch	182
F. Hanzelin	179
V. Swanson	178
P. Shoemaker	175
C. Stocketh	174
E. Klass	173
C. Keim	173
A. Fischer	171
M. Canavan	171
E. Friedman	171

Censors in Chicago Ban New York "Crime, Inc."

CHICAGO—A gangster epic labeled "Crime, Inc.," produced by PRC and having to do with New York's widely publicized Murder, Inc., in real life, has met the same fate at the hands of the Chicago police censor board as did Monogram's "Dillinger." The PRC special was set to premiere at the B&K Garrick and, when the censors nixed it, everyone concerned was surprised since the film passed in New York without as much as a cut, Henri Elman, local PRC head declares. The board's decision has been appealed to Police Commissioner James Allman. The board also "pinked" a Swedish-made picture, produced by Scandia, Inc., and called "Garrasson's Boy," which was set to open at the Lake Shore Theatre.

A Spot in "For Better, for Worse"

Reginald Owen, Metro, has been assigned a role in "For Better, for Worse."



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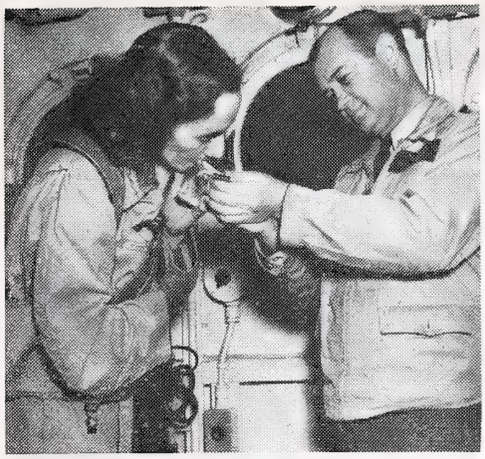
Every Chicago Show Clicks After Easter

CHICAGO—Only the bunny laid eggs this Easter. Every show in town clicked. Fine weather brought out finery which finally wound up in the showhouses, there being few other places to go. Even the 60-mile gale which whipped the town midweek, blowing down signs and blowing up dresses and blowing out tempers, failed to keep fans from blowing in their money.

The B&K Chicago did so big with "Here Come the WAVES" that it went into a second week, along with a snappy stage show which featured Dean Murphy and Hal LeRoy. The Oriental had such a big click in "Tomorrow the World" that it was held over, also, but paired with a new stage show headed by Chico Marx. The United Artists thrived with its "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," now in the third stanza, and so did other holdovers, including the RKO Palace's "Here Come the Co-Eds" plus "House of Fear," the State-Lake's "To Have and Have Not" and "Behind the Enemy Lines" at the Monroe. "Meet Me in St. Louis" at the Apollo did well enough for a seventh week holdover.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 6th loop wk.....110
Chicago—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); Dean Murphy, Hal LeRoy on stage.....130
Garrick—**Fighting Lady** (20th-Fox); **Sunday Dinner for a Soldier** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk.....105
Grand—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **Night Club Girl** (RKO), 4th loop wk.....105
Monroe—**Behind the Enemy Lines** (Globe); **Nevada** (RKO), 2nd wk.....110
Oriental—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); Jane Withers heading stage show.....130
Palace—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd wk.....110
Roosevelt—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox), 4th wk.....105
State-Lake—**To Have and Have Not** (WB), 5th wk...105
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 14th wk. 105
United Artists—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk.....115
Woods—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk.....100
World Playhouse—**Thunder Rock** (English Film).....110



LIGHT AFTER THE FLIGHT—Julia Edwards, Chicago Daily News reporter, arrives aboard the U.S.S. Sable and accepts a light for her cigaret from Comdr. W. H. Ashford jr. The flight from the Glenview naval air station to the carrier out in Lake Michigan was arranged as a promotion for "Fighting Lady" at the Chicago Garrick. It broke naval precedent; Washington permission had to be obtained for a woman to land on the warship.

Milwaukee Boxoffices Hum Again With "Tree" Leading Comeback

MILWAUKEE—Easter week, with the kids vacationing from school and the lifting of Lenten observance, resulted in a big boost at the turnstiles. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" knocked off $17,250 estimated; "Here Come the WAVES" brought in about $14,000; "For Whom the Bell Tolls," in the third week downtown, collected $14,000. All other houses did above average.

Alhambra—**Forever Yours** (Mono); **When Strangers Marry** (Mono) 110
Palace—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); **One Body Too Many** (Para).....115
Riverside—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd wk.; **The House of Fear** (Univ).....115
Strand—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.; **Watchtower Over Tomorrow** (WAC)....120
Warner—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA).....115
Wisconsin—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox); **Watchtower Over Tomorrow** (WAC).....120

"Thunderhead" Sets Indianapolis Pace in an Upswinging Week

INDIANAPOLIS—First run theatres had a good attendance last week, much better than the previous week. The Circle headed the list with a youngsters' favorite.

Ambassador—**Bluebeard** (PRC); **Jade Mask** (Mono) 100
Alamo—**Topeka Terror** (Rep); **Adventures of Kitty O'Day** (Mono) 90
Circle—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Double Exposure** (Para) 140
Indiana—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Dangerous Passage** (Univ) 125
Loew's—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M) 120
Lyric—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk.....100

Devine Packs 'Em In At Annual Easter Ball

MILWAUKEE—The annual Easter ball, with the parade of bands at George Devine's Million Dollar ballroom, jammed the dance palace. In spite of the fact that hundreds of local musicians are in the armed forces and many others in war work, this event sponsored by the Milwaukee Musicians Ass'n attracted the largest group of dancers since the U.S. entered the war.

Dear Folks of Columbia!

• Best wishes for the success of the 20th Anniversary Campaign and to Mr. Montague. We do not know anyone more deserving of this honor. You have always been fair, honest and considerate. We pledge our support.

Greetings and appreciation to C. D. HILL, Columbia's St. Louis branch manager.

COMMONWEALTH THEATRES, Inc.

Home Office: 213-15 West 18th St. Kansas City, Mo.



INDIANAPOLIS VARIETY'S GIFT TO HOSPITAL—Variety Tent No. 10 at Indianapolis has donated to the City Hospital two electric units for treatment of varicose veins and 100 water thermos bottles.

At the presentation ceremonies last week were Lawrence J. McGinley, second from left, chief barker; Dr. Charles Meyers, superintendent of the hospital; Albert R. Blocker, Herman Morgan, property master of Variety, and Marc J. Wolf. The man at extreme left is one of the hospital staff.

Three Television Houses Planned for Loop

CHICAGO—Television installation is in the plans of three new theatres tentatively marked for postwar construction in the loop area.

Officials of RKO Theatres and RKO Pictures were reported by a Chicago source to have requested dimensions of the site available on the southwest corner of Washington and Dearborn streets preliminary to acceptance or rejection of this location for a modern cinema.

The Arthur J. Rank interests of London have been reported as eyeing the loop for a new showcase for their English productions.

The third theatre will be built by Balaban & Katz on the northwest corner at State and Lake streets.

Danny Kaye Gives Out With Plenty of Talk

MILWAUKEE—Danny Kaye, in town for a local brewery sponsor, gave out with plenty of talk relative to his film plans, radio plans and his past.

The Milwaukee appearance revived memories for Kaye, as he reported that it was here in 1933 that he and Roland Pierre Tournier, dramatic tenor, played vaudeville together in "La Vie Parie." The two later toured the orient and made their first motion picture in Shanghai. The shooting of this required 24 hours.

With the finish of his current radio program Kaye begins work on the film, "Kid from Brooklyn." Then he intends to take a whirl at a Broadway musical, a revised version of "The Milky Way." This vehicle is planned to satirize some recent musicals in a style similar to Hope-Lamour-Crosby flickers.

J. J. Unger Sees Branch Managers on New Film

CHICAGO—New sales policies on current and forthcoming productions were interpreted by J. J. Unger, western sales manager for United Artists, at a conference April 3-4 at the Blackstone Hotel, attended by branch managers. Rud Lohrenz, Chicago district manager, was host to the managers: Ralph Cramblet, Minneapolis; Bob Allen, Milwaukee; Elmer Donnely, Indianapolis, and Nat Nathanson, Chicago, and his salesmen.

Among the new UA releases discussed were "It's in the Bag," "I'll Be Seeing You," "Brewster's Millions" and "Delightfully Dangerous."

Unger was to preside over similar sessions in Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Kansas City and St. Louis.

Houses Burn Same Day At Lynn, Manchester

From New England Edition

BOSTON—Two theatre fires in this area caused $50,000 damage recently.

The Uptown in Lynn, ten miles from Boston, took a loss of about $25,000 when fire ravaged the interior. Ushers quickly cleared the house and no one was injured. In Manchester, the State also was handed a loss of about $25,000 when fire in an adjoining store spread to the theatre.

Two Stickups, Shooting in Chicago

CHICAGO—Cashiers were warned by circuit officials and independent theatre owners to be on the alert and managers have been instructed to keep cash at the lowest figures practical following two holdups and escapes by lone bandits in the brownout, and one shooting.

H. Chatkin, manager of the B&K Century, reported the loss of $100 from the boxoffice to a lone bandit. Anthony Steuver, manager of the Studio, announced the loss of $80 in a similar stickup.

Clem Gates, 34, night watchman at Warners' Oakland Square, shot and wounded Emmett Boyd, 22, who was reported by Gates to police to have been attempting to enter the theatre's boxoffice.

LeRoy Seeks Unknown For Top 'Robe' Role

CHICAGO—A department store stock boy, an amateur thespian or a discharged war veteran all have as much chance of winning a top role in the film version of "The Robe" as any leading Hollywood actor, according to Mervyn LeRoy, who is now in Chicago interviewing applicants for the much-heralded picture which he will direct.

LeRoy feels that the public much more readily would accept a film unknown than an actor already identified with previous screen roles. He is searching for the Gary Cooper-Gregory Peck type of personality for the role of the Roman tribune, Marcellus. No lead characters have as yet been cast.

The enthusiasm of a navy chaplain aboard the U.S.S. Saratoga first sold LeRoy on directing the epic. The chaplain, who had emptied his pockets buying copies of the "Robe" for his crew to read, told LeRoy that its filmization could do more for humanity than anything Hollywood has yet produced. That's also why Producer Frank Ross recently refused a $1,000,000 offer for the book he bought for $100,000.

Zotos's Son Shoots Down Japs, Wins Sergeancy



WILLIAM ZOTOS

ST. LOUIS — Proudest exhibitor in this area these days is Chris Zotos of the Roosevelt Theatre. Zotos recently received word that his son William, an aerial gunner, had downed several Jap planes and had been promoted to a sergeancy for his bravery. Details of the action were not available.

Hoblitzelle Gives Site For a Park Cities Center

From Southern Edition

DALLAS — Karl Hoblitzelle, president of Interstate circuit, has been a leader in the movement for adoption of the Greater Dallas Master Plan of improvements as drafted by Harlan Bartholomew, and one of the master plan proposals is the consolidation of Highland Park and University Park with the city of Dallas, which will come before the voters April 3.

In a recent statement to newspapers, Hoblitzelle answered rumors that he owned properties in the Park cities which he would benefit financially from the merger. He explained that he had owned two pieces of property in the Parks, his home and lots on Preston road at Normandy. To further plans for a civic center, Hoblitzelle announced, he has purchased additional land on Preston and deeded it all to the community authorities for conversion into a civic center for the people of the Park cities. This leaves him with only his home north of University Park.

J. B. Underwood, Columbia divisional manager and a University Park resident, has called a meeting of film and theatre men who live in the park areas to support the merger.

"Barry" to Play a Worldly Role

Barry Fitzgerald is set to star in "Third Avenue," a yarn of modern New York. He will portray the owner of a run-down boarding house, with a penchant for playing horses and other worldly pastimes. John McNulty and Ann Froelick are writing the script.

Joyce Ballantyne Topnotch Artist

From Midwest Edition

By LOU GERDES

OMAHA—Nebraskans remember Joyce Ballantyne as the young lady who did the murals at the Fort Theatre at Kearney, Neb., and at the Beacon Theatre here about four years ago. And they also remember her as the daughter of Robert Ballantyne, owner of the theatre equipment company bearing his name.

Joyce's murals at the Fort Theatre were 26x6½ feet. One was of an Indian village, the other of a covered wagon scene. She took time out from her studio work at Chicago to work 18 hours a day on the large fluorescent murals.

A Sketch in Times Column

Now Joyce is doing some of the top painting jobs for the country's billboards and advertisements in leading magazines. Betty Walker, in her Chicago Daily Times column, "No Man's Land," gives this sketch of the former Omahan:

"Joyce Ballantyne is that rarity among local commercial artists—a successful woman painter who's as golden-haired and glamorous as any of the beauties who spring from her paintbox.

"Although she's still in her early twenties she is classified as an 'old' artist. For she launched her career as a child, painting paper dolls for her Omaha playmates. And when she was 16, a home-town dry goods magnate commissioned her to do a mural for his department store.

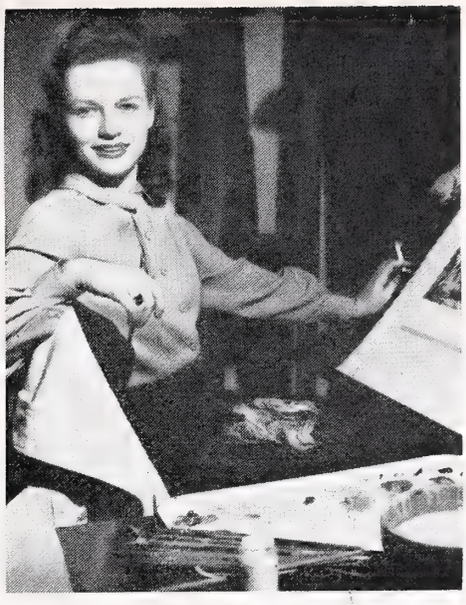
Father Held Out for N. U.

"That work of wall art was such a success that local art critics implored her father to let her study art—seriously. But the senior Ballantyne, a staunch believer in general education, held out for the University of Nebraska, which she attended for two years. Then she descended upon the American Academy of Fine Arts here.

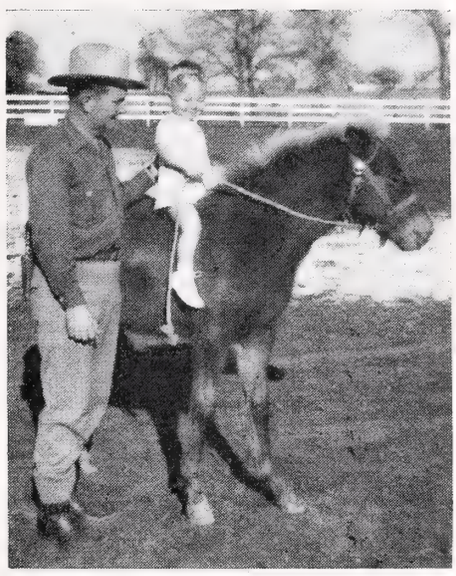
"She left the security of the classroom to free-lance and—after a varied career, illustrating children's books, painting murals for bookstores, doing maps for school atlases and dashing off calendar girls—ended up on the staff of Stevens & Gross, one of our town's topdrawer agencies. Today she paints people—faces exclusively. To see them, all you need do is scan the billboards, or study the ad pages of your favorite periodical.

"When you ask her, as everybody does, what is her favorite pastime, she answers quickly: 'Painting—landscapes.' Indeed she's literally as well as figuratively married to her art. For her husband, Eddie Augstiny, is also a topnotch artist, and their home is a studio (two easels side-by-side, etc.) in the Italian Court Bldg.

"Next to 'marrying Eddie,' the biggest thrill she's had since coming to Chicago six years ago, she says, has been 'sharing a steak dinner with Norman Rockwell at the Erie Cafe.' That happened several months ago when the famous New York artist was here completing the research on his now famous Satevepost cover of North Western Station. 'Mr. Rockwell,' she informs you with schoolgirlish enthusiasm, 'is exactly like his paintings—wonderful.'"



A RARITY—"A rarity among local artists," thus the Chicago Daily Times recently described Joyce Ballantyne, Chicago artist and daughter of Omaha's Robert Ballantyne. Joyce, who painted the large fluorescent murals at the Beacon Theatre a few years ago, could pose for her own glamour-girl drawings.



From Southern Edition

TAKING TIME OUT—When harassed by the intricacies that plague the wartime distributor of popcorn, Charles E. Darden takes time off and retires to his farm near Dallas. In the picture Papa Darden is watching his cowboy son ride Tony, a year-old pony who promises to be a comer.

Supplies of Freon Believed Enough

CHICAGO—Theatregoers are looking forward to a comfortable summer and exhibitors are relaxing after learning of the WPB decision to release freon to show houses and other places of amusement. The supply has been curtailed since November 1943.

Only string attached to the new order is that war plants, hospitals and such places will get first crack at the supplies and, should it run low, other places must take what's left. But it is assumed there will be plenty to go around, for the national supply has been built up until there is a big reserve, according to WPB officials. Larger theatres, hotels and other places using gases other than freon for cooling plants still will be out of luck.

Most of the gas used here is produced in plants of Kenitic Chemicals, a Du Pont subsidiary.

Three Mideast Showmen Slain on War Fronts

From Mideast Edition

Three former mideast film and theatre men serving with the armed forces were reported killed in action recently on widely scattered battlefronts.

Lieut. Melvin S. Barrett, 29, formerly of the Pittsburgh Paramount ad sales department and later promoted to the company's Cleveland branch as ad sales manager, was killed in Italy while fighting with the army ski troops. A former marine, Barrett enlisted in the army air force in September 1942, and later transferred to the ski troops. He was widely known and liked.

Lieut. Louis Dattola, assistant manager of the Miami at Springdale, Pa., before entering the army, was killed in action February 25, the war department informed his parents. Lou, a former Carnegie Tech football star, was well known on Pittsburgh's Filmrow. His parents, the Elmer Dattolas, former Springdale exhibitors, are residing in Florida at present. A brother, Elmer jr., is in service and a younger brother Joe will be of military age within a month. Lou was a nephew of the Navari brothers, Rudy, Verona, Pa., exhibitor, and Sam, Universal, Pa., exhibitor, and a second cousin of Bart Dattola, New Kensington, Pa., theatre owner.

Lieut. Louis A. Wells jr., 28, a former trumpet player at the Michigan Theatre, Detroit, was reported killed in action in the South Pacific, where he was a radio gunner on a B24. Lieutenant Wells was a member of the Detroit Federation of Musicians. He is survived by his parents.

James Craig to "Yearling" Cast

James Craig of Metro has been assigned to the cast of "The Yearling."

Wife Bears Baby on Day Husband Reported Missing

From New England Edition

HARTFORD—Lieut. Rus Weldon, formerly on the Central staff, was reported missing in action over Germany. On the same day that the telegram report arrived from the war department, Mrs. Weldon gave birth to a baby boy, their first child. Weldon, a pilot, was last home in July.

Red Roses Show Up as Television Cabbage

Chicago—If the likeness of a cabbage flashes on the screen of television sets, don't start yelling for corned beef. You'll probably be seeing a televised red rose, WBKB engineers said. The discovery that only white flowers are suitable for television was made at the rehearsal for a show scheduled by the Society of American Florists. Red and pastel shades aren't photogenic.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



because they are short and direct

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CLASSIFIED ADS GETS RESULTS!

(SEE INSIDE BACK COVER)

"Best Magazine I Have Ever Read"

"I think you have the best magazine I have ever read. I can hardly wait for the next issue each week. I like the feature on twenty years in the show business, but each page is good."—(A young man from the south who wants to buy an interest in a theatre.)

Sell Used Equipment

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Buy a Theatre

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- in -

The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

Only 10c a Word — 4 Insertions for the price of 3

Bond Short Release During May 10 Week

By BABE COHN

Publicity Director in the Kansas City Area for the War Loan Drive

Plans are being made for a wide distribution of the special WAC short, "The All-Star Bond Rally," which will be released nationally during the week of May 10.

A telegram from Sam Pinanski, national chairman of the Seventh War Loan, received at the local publicity headquarters here, states that this short subject is believed to be a definite factor in the sale of war bonds, due to its excellent quality of production. Tom Connors, national distributor chairman, will advise all distributors of the plan to release this picture after a substantial increase in prints has been effected.

Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division, said: "Have just seen 'The All-Star Bond Rally' short. It is the greatest bond-selling picture the industry has ever turned out, and one that should be run in every theatre in the nation."

The 15-minute subject has on its roster of stars Vivian Blaine, Jeanne Crain, Bing Crosby, Linda Darnell, Betty Grable, June Haver, Bob Hope, Harry James and his orchestra, Faye Marlow, Harpo Marx, Fibber McGee and Molly, Carmen Miranda and Frank Sinatra. It features such songs as "Saturday Night," "We'll Be Marching to a Love Song" and the new Seventh War Loan tune, "Buy a Bond," written by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson.

It has been announced that those making the trip from Kansas City to the regional meeting on the Seventh War Loan campaign being held in Chicago, will be:

Elmer Rhoden, area chaiman; William Truog, distributor chairman; T. R. Thompson, district distributor chairman; Howard E. Jameyson, Kansas state chairman; Senn Lawler, co-chairman of the Kansas City area, and Babe Cohn, publicity.

The Chicago meeting is being held for the purpose of informing all committee chairmen in the area on the various phases of the coming campaign. It is expected at that time that the material to be used in the drive will be made available from the national publicity headquarters.

The meeting will open on the morning of Monday, April 16 at the Blackstone Hotel, and last all day.

Three Girls Operate Harvard in Nebraska

HARVARD, NEB.—Three years ago the manpower shortage began to affect business in this city, now site of a B29 base.

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Franks, owners of the Harvard Theatre, soon came up with a solution that still is paying dividends. They now have a staff of three girl operators.

Dean of the group and chief operator is a high school girl, Lizetta Bieck, 16, who has worked three years for the Franks as an operator. Then there's Faye Jones, 23, who has been her relief for a year and one-half. The third member of the crew is Marjorie Will, 16, another high school pupil, who has eight months' experience.

Blank, Fraser, Kennedy To Attend Loan Parley

DES MOINES—A. H. Blank, president of Tri-States Theatres, and Russ Fraser, advertising manager, will attend a Seventh War Loan area meeting in Chicago April 16. Also attending will be Jack Kennedy, M-G-M manager.

The Ballantyne Clan Rally at J. A.'s Party

Omaha — Robert Ballantyne, owner of the theatre equipment company bearing his name, was among the 50 "members of the clan" who gathered around J. A. Ballantyne sr., at Norfolk for the annual celebration of the elder Ballantyne's birthday. Sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters and great grandsons were among those present. For the past 25 years the annual get-together has been the custom with all responding without invitation on the nearest Sunday to Ballantyne sr.'s birthday.

Kansas City IATSE Local Elects Ray Crandall

KANSAS CITY—Ray Crandall, National Screen, has been elected president of local B23 of IATSE. He succeeds C. C. Knipe, who continued to finish out the year as president, though now district manager for Universal. Other officers elected were:

Bessie Buckhorn, Warner Bros., vice-president; Irene Sharp, 20th-Fox, business agent; Robert L. King, 20th-Fox, recording secretary, succeeding Carl Bain, United Artists, who, nominated, suggested the election of King so that this official function might be passed around; Goldie Woerner, 20th-Fox, financial secretary; Charles Lewis, Republic Midwest, treasurer; Bill Jeffers, Warner Bros., guide; Webster Knight, Universal, reading clerk, and Peggy Hayes, Warner Bros., sergeant-at-arms. Jeffers was elected to replace Ed Bruegging, who preceded him as head shipper, Warner Bros., and now is in the army. Knipe had been president of the local for several years.

Branton Heads Des Moines Nat'l Clothing Drive

DES MOINES—G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatres Corp., has been named Des Moines chairman of the United National Clothing Collection, April 23-28. Branton was appointed by Henry J. Kaiser, national chairman of the drive.

The Coliseum will be used as the central depot and packing center for the city and county drive and the collections from homes will be handled by trucks, with city employes, civilians and members of the women's army corps driving.

Good substantial used clothing for men, women and children is needed, Branton said.

Allied Meet Will Set Divorcement Action

MINNEAPOLIS—A North Central Allied meeting has been called to decide how much pressure it will utilize to try to obtain passage of the theatre divorcement bill aimed at the Minnesota Amusement Co., now before the Minnesota state legislature, it was announced by President Bennie Berger.

Although the body had decided to keep hands off before the recent election of Berger as president and although Berger in an interview, after it had reversed its previous stand and come out in favor of divorcement, said that an investigation at the capitol convinced him the present bill is doomed to defeat, it is possible now that the officers may go before the house and senate and request passage, and funds may be expended, if necessary, to put the bill over.

When the bill was up before the subcommittee of the lower house general legislation committee, no member of the legislature or anybody else appeared to speak for or against it. Despite this apparent lack of interest, however, the three subcommittee members voted to recommend it to the main committee of 21. Following his visit to the capitol, Berger said the measure "lacks influential support, wasn't introduced and isn't backed by the right people and politics already have been used to defeat it."

In consequence, Berger, at that time, didn't expect North Central Allied would work for the bill. Instead, he said, efforts would be directed toward attaining the divorcement goal through federal action.

At the meeting called by President Berger, North Central Allied will map out plans to bring out-of-town exhibitors into the organization, now comprising mostly Twin City independents. The approved program calls for an appeal to the OPA and members of Congress to help in the fight to bring down film costs and a newspaper and radio advertising campaign to acquaint the public with "exhibitors' terrible plight" and to enlist its support and cooperation in the battle against distributors' allegedly unfair trade practices and exorbitant film prices.

The organization has opened offices in the Pence Bldg. here and will employ a secretary, President Berger announced.

M. E. Ichenberg Succeeds E. Dunas at Columbia

OMAHA—Morten E. Ichenberg will succeed Elmer Dunas, who resigned as salesman because of poor health for Columbia in the South Platte territory, Joe Jacobs, branch manager, announced this week.



SOLVING THE "MANPOWER" PROBLEM—Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Franks, Harvard, Neb., exhibitors, and the trio of girls who solved their "manpower" problems. The three girl projectionists at the right, in usual order, are: Lizetta Bieck, 16, a three-year veteran; Margaret Will, 16, and Faye Jones, 23.

DES MOINES

Tri-States executives are comparing notes on their children's illnesses these days. Dale McFarland's young daughter fractured an ankle; Russ Fraser's daughter barely got over the chickenpox when she came down with the mumps, and Thelma Crittenden's son Vic, now stationed at San Diego, was in the navy hospital there with scarlet fever.

Virginia Orr was forced to resign her job as G. Ralph Branton's secretary when the problem of obtaining help to care for her young son during working hours became insurmountable. Replacing Virginia is Maxine Bishop, who formerly was a secretary at the air storage depot here. Maxine recently was informed by the war department that her husband had been killed in action in Germany.

Lucille Wesp of Tri-States' advertising department spent last weekend in Fredericksburg . . . Kay Kidwell, Central States, visited her in-laws in Chicago over the weekend . . . Ruth Alber, Central States, was ill with a cold for a week, but is back on the job.

Ruth Ankrom, Warner Bros. secretary, is back at her desk after spending two weeks with her husband who was home on furlough . . . Ruth Vass has joined the staff at NSS as biller . . . Gloria Lindquist, stenographer at NSS, has resigned . . . Earl Jones, NSS shipping department, resigned and James Kelly has taken over his duties . . . Marcella Stenoish started off the vacations for NSS by taking hers this week.

Bill Dippert, former booker for Universal, was home on furlough last week . . . Esther Hueston, Universal, spent the weekend at her home in Gilman . . . William Z. Porter, traveling auditor, spent the week at Monogram . . . Ellowene Jensen, Monogram cashier, took last week off to be with her husband, home on leave from the SeaBees.

Sylvia McCann, former Paramount stenographer, visited at the exchange . . . Mildred Begley, former biller at Paramount, has a new daughter named Kathie Ann. Mildred's husband is in the army, stationed in Oregon.

Another former Paramount employe, Elaine Chipman, was visited by the stork recently . . . Elaine's husband is a lieutenant in the air corps . . . Virginia Gravett, Paramount's switchboard operator, was ill a few days last week.

Joe Dietch's daughter Jackie is playing a part in the current Kendall Playhouse production of "Old Maid." Jackie is a student at Roosevelt High, and takes special drama work at Drake University. She is planning to continue her dramatic work with a stage career in mind. The Dietches plan to join Mr. Dietch in New York as soon as school is out.

Dora Middlesworth, Tri-States' accounting department, recently heard from her son in the marines. He was leaving Pearl Harbor for points farther out in the Pacific.

Betty Olson, M-G-M booker, received a new Easter bonnet from her husband, who now is in Germany. The bonnet was a German helmet . . . Fred Armington, office manager at M-G-M, is about to build private offices for each of his 26 employes. It seems that all 26 have different ideas as to the proper temperature, and the thermostat goes up and down, jackets and sweaters go off and on, and a gay time is had by all!

Filmrowers were grieved to hear of the death of A. J. McGough's brother. "Mac," M-G-M exploiteer, journeyed to Stillwater, Minn., when he learned of his brother's illness, and stayed until after the funeral.

Visitors along the Row last week included: Don Gran, Sioux Rapids; Joe Smith, Laurens; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peterson, Hampton; T. J. Evans, Lyons; Ed Nordis, McGregor; Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wolcott, Eldora, and M. L. Dickson, Mount Pleasant.

Friday, the 13th Again For Tower Anniversary

KANSAS CITY—Barney Joffee manager of the Tower here, candidly admits he has all of the typical show business superstitions—only he insists that 13 is his lucky rather than his unlucky number. After being closed two and a half years, his theatre opened under its present name on April 13, 1934—which fell on a Friday.

This year the 11th anniversary of that opening also fell on a Friday. Business was good and Mary Beth Hughes was making a personal appearance as well as supporting Eric Von Stroheim in "The Great Flamarion." Mary, by the way, is a former Missourian brought up in St. Louis, and a niece of the late Roy Frank Britton, one-time lieutenant governor of the state. She is Mrs. Ted North in private life. Ted North sr. was manager of the Isis Theatre here for a time.

One Theatre Cross Total 60 Times Last Year's

OMAHA—Read it and blink! One theatre in the Omaha area skyrocketed its 1945 Red Cross collection 6,000 per cent over 1944. Right, a slim total last year made it possible.

As a sample of outstanding Red Cross efforts, WAC Chairman Don McLucas cited these: Oxford, Neb., 9½ times the 1944 mark; George, Iowa, 5 times; Dunlap, Iowa, 4 times; Cedar Bluffs, 2½ times, and Hebron, Chambers and Burwell, Neb., and Beresford, S. D., 2 times.

McLucas also issued a plea to all exhibitors to send their final reports immediately to William Miskell, care of the Orpheum Theatre, Omaha.

Sister Fills In

GREENFIELD, MO.—While Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Peterson were away a week or so in Minnesota, Mrs. Richard Bratton of Jerico Springs, Mo., who is a sister of Mrs. Peterson, was in charge. She also is a sister of Mrs. Harold Porta of Humansville and Richland where they operate the Community and Gem. This is the first time in six years that Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been gone from Greenfield at the same time.

Wins Role in "You Came Along"

Rex Lease has been signed by Hal Wallis Productions for "You Came Along."



Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

Ascap Defendants Denied New Trial

OMAHA—Federal Judge John W. Delehant has denied the request of defendants in Nebraska copyright infringement suits for a new trial and to reopen their case with music publishing companies for the purpose of producing additional testimony.

In a December decision, Judge Delehant ruled that a section of Nebraska's anti-Ascap law was unconstitutional and awarded damages of about $6,000 to the publishing companies, which include Remick Music Corp., Chappel & Co., M. Witmark & Sons, T. B. Harms Co., Jerome Kern and Shapiro-Bernstein.

Asserted cooperation of music publishing companies in urging repeal of the anti-Ascap law is "no concern of the court," Judge Delehant said. W. J. Hotz, attorney for the defendants, had charged that the music publishers had tried to compel the users to work for repeal of the law. Judge Delehant answered the contention that a court should incline to sustain rather than overturn the will of the legislature, by saying such a course could bring a policy of inaction.

Hotz announced the defendants would appeal.

Passage of Bill to Return Ascap To Nebraska Appears Likely

OMAHA—Ascap is en route back to business in Nebraska. This seemed assured this week when LB 252, which would repeal the anti-Ascap law of 1937, moved on to select file in the Nebraska legislature at Lincoln. The opposition will have one more serious crack at the repeal bill within the next few weeks, but insiders believe it will be passed.

Advancement of the repeal bill came after a sizzling afternoon-long debate and after a motion to kill the bill had been beaten down, 9-29. Senator J. E. Concklin's amendment which would increase the tax Ascap has to pay on receipts from three to five per cent also failed, 6-26.

Charges "Al Capone" Ascap Tactics

In moving to kill the bill, Senator John Mekota charged that the big question was "whether Ascap in New York is bigger than the state of Nebraska." He asserted that Ascap was using "Al Capone" tactics in threatening state music users with lawsuits and persecution if they did not support the repeal bill.

But Senator Ladd J. Hubka, introducer of the bill, said the right of composers to collect fees is guaranteed by federal copyright laws. He stated that hundreds of Nebraska amusement places have been using Ascap music illegally since 1937, because the law prevents music users from dealing with Ascap, which is designated by the users to collect fees for public performances. Most of the users want the anti-Ascap bill repealed, he added, because the users want some agency to pay for the use of the music.

Names Biggest Users

He said further that about the only music users in the state fighting the bill are Omaha's WOW and Peony Park, "the biggest music users" in Nebraska. The users, he contended, are making big money from copyrighted music, but don't want to pay for the use of it.

Broadcast Music, Inc., and the Society of European Stage Authors and Composers are still collecting fees in Nebraska for use of music they control, Fred Seaton, owner of KOWH, Hastings, and an introducer of the bill, pointed out. He added that composers have a "moral right" to collect fees in Nebraska and that the state shouldn't deny that right.

Congratulations

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With Columbia Pictures

« «

Fox Midwest Theatres

KANSAS CITY

Benjamin Lorber, head of the Universal's insurance department here on his annual visit, was witness of a demonstration by the Kansas City fire department. A grass fire on the vacant lot adjoining the Universal exchange brought the department to Filmrow. The firemen put on a good show with precision hardly equaled in Hollywood.

Herman LaVine, recently with Arthur Burke, now is operating the Pic, Bernie Shaner having gone to Odessa to assist his father, C. P. Shaner, with the Dixie.

Nat Bregstein, BOXOFFICE roving circulationist who was there to watch the fire, had visions of the vacant lot being tilled and cultivated by Filmrow Victory gardeners. He recalled the Victory garden on Pittsburgh's Filmrow last summer, the previously unbeautified small plot in front of the A&S Steinberg offices, described in BOXOFFICE at the time.

Virginia White is new secretary to Woody Walker, Metro booker . . . Walter Talbutt, Victory, Rogers, Ark., regretfully spreads the news that temperatures of 26 hit that region with savage destruction of blossoming fruit.

P. J. "Pres" Gordon of the Anne, Maryville, went to Kansas University Hospital Monday (9) for an operation, expecting to be there a couple of weeks . . . R. F. "Bob" Withers, Republic Midwest manager, spent the week in northern Kansas . . . Eddie O'Neil, Republic Midwest salesman, had a cold while out in western Kansas, which went from bad to worse, and he has been home resting up . . . Paul Bayzman, former Republic Midwest booker, is in Hawaii with the 75th field hospital.

Kansas City's WAC delegation to the Seventh War Loan meeting at the Blackstone, Chicago, called by Tom Connors, will include E. C. Rhoden, Missouri chairman; Senn Lawler, co-chairman; T. R. Thomp- "Babe" Cohn, area WAC publicity chairman. son, district distributor chairman; W. E. Truog, area distributor chairman, and M. D. Howard E. Jameyson, Kansas chairman, will join the party here for the trip.

W. L. "Bill" Presley, taking care of the Globe, Savannah, while his father, M. B. Presley, is taking time off in Arkansas, had Architect R. O. Boller up there making the preliminary survey for plans to rebuild. The theatre burned a year ago. M. B. made a usable theatre out of a church building.

Lieut. Ralph Morrow jr., instructor, stationed at Victoria, Tex., flew home for Easter . . . Joe Stark, Paramount salesman, and Mrs. Stark were in Kansas City over the weekend . . . Gib Jones, RKO booker, is a new grandfather. His son Clifford, chief petty officer in the navy, flew here from Seattle, Wash., to see his wife, Emmeline Ann, and the daughter, Sharon Ann, born March 29.

George Summers, Royal, Unionville, Mo., who has been in California the past few months, is reported to have bought a home in Los Angeles. His son Dow is running the theatre and a film developing and printing shop next door.

C. B. Kelly, who entered the theatre business by buying one at Wakeeney, Kas., back in 1923, was on Filmrow this week, accompanied by W. K. Heyl, with whom he is associated in ownership of the Kaw at Junction City. Kelly built a theatre to replace the old Kelly when it burned in 1929, and now he is planning another new house to be built after the war. He will use the present building for a skating rink.

Cpl. Terry Anderson, son of "Andy" Anderson, Paramount salesman, sent word that he was wounded in Germany, is now in a hospital in England and getting along all right. Terry went overseas last October.

J. A. Becker, Associated Theatres, Independence, has been named district governor for Rotary International to take office July 1. Becker was a charter member of the Independence Rotary setup in 1937; has been its president. His new duties require his visiting the 45 Rotary clubs of the western Missouri district.

Visitors at the Griffith Theatres offices were Arthur Turner and Mrs. Turner of Parsons, Kas., where Turner is city manager . . . Griffith Theatres announces the appointment of Jim Bell as assistant manager of the Griffith houses in Manhattan, Kas. Prior to his three years' service in the navy, Bell was associated with the Griffith company in Manhattan, and during his years in the navy was familiar on Filmrow as motion picture director at the Olathe naval base.

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Hal Wise Booker Head

MINNEAPOLIS — Hal Wise, transferred from St. Louis, is the new Paramount booking manager. He succeeds Johnny Pritcher who is taking a leave because of illness. The Paramount office staff gave a farewell party for the latter at the Rainbow cafe.

John Loder to Cast of "The Web"

John Loder, Republic, has been added to the cast of "The Web."

Dear Folks of Columbia!

■ Best wishes for the success of the 20th Anniversary Campaign and to Mr. Montague. We do not know anyone more deserving of this honor. You have always been fair, honest and considerate. We pledge our support.

Greetings and appreciation to TOMMY BALDWIN,
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Kansas City Grosses Soar on Chill Wind

KANSAS CITY—The chill weather of a suddenly reluctant spring was fine for theatregoing and all houses shared in the benefits. The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway continued to enjoy excellent business through the second week with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." At the Newman, "Bring On the Girls" held up well during its second week. At the Midland, "Tonight and Every Night" made no history but kept the ticket sellers busy with results slightly above average.

The Orpheum reported terrific business with "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "The Jade Mask." The Tower, with a big stage review and Mary Beth Hughes in person, plus her picture, "The Great Flamarion," and "When the Lights Go On Again," held the totals well over the average.

(Average is 100)

Esquire—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 115
Fairway—Same as Esquire, 2nd wk 115
Midland—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) 105
Newman—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk 140
Orpheum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **The Jade Mask** (Mono) 160
Tower—**The Great Flamarion** (Rep); **When the Lights Go On Again** (PRC); Mary Beth Hughes in person, plus stage show 110
Uptown—Same as Esquire, 2nd wk 120

"It a Pleasure" and "The Thin Man" Tie for First at Des Moines

DES MOINES—Business was just average at downtown "A" houses here last week. Sonja Henie in "It's a Pleasure," in its second week at the Orpheum Theatre, tied with William Powell in "The Thin Man Goes Home" for first place honors. Co-hit with the skating picture was "The Jade Mask," and on a double bill with the Powell show was "Main Street After Dark." "Song of Bernadette," starring Jennifer Jones, failed to draw good crowds at the Des Moines. The picture had shown before as a bond premiere.

Des Moines—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) 90
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk.; **Jade Mask** (Mono) 100
Paramount—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M) 100

Extended Runs Are Good Boxoffice At Omaha First Run Houses

OMAHA—Only one new first run duo was on Omaha's theatre bill last week, but boxoffice receipts didn't suffer in the slightest. "I'll Be Seeing You" and "Under Western Skies" had the best comparative score at the Omaha. It was the second week and a moveover from the Paramount for "I'll Be Seeing You." "It's a Pleasure" and "Rough, Tough and Ready" at the Brandeis did virtually the same business as they did during Easter week. "Dark Waters" and "Circumstantial Evidence" at the Orpheum, the lone new first run bill, also went well. A late snow melted from the streets.

Brandeis—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col), 2nd wk 130
Omaha—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Under Western Skies** (Univ) 140
Orpheum—**Dark Waters** (UA); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 130
Paramount—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), (at regular prices) 95
State—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox), return 110
Town—**Paris Honeymoon** (Para); **Lake Placid Serenade** (Rep); **Firebrands of Arizona** (Rep); split with **Taxi, Mister** (UA); **Carolina Blues** (Col); **Saddle Leather Law** (Col) 105

"Between Two Women" and "Music" Are Hits at Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS—The Orpheum led the way with a strong show that included Vaughn Monroe's orchestra, Guy Kibbee of the films and other acts in person on the stage and the film "Between Two Women." The State also had a fine week with "Music for Millions." Holdovers still doing well were "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka," in its third week, and "Bring On the Girls" and "Keys of the Kingdom" in their second.

Aster—**Night Club Girl** (Univ); **Power of the Whistler** (Col) 110
Century—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk 100
Gopher—**Enter Arsene Lupin** (Univ) 90
Lyric—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 125
Orpheum—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), stage show 175
Radio City—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 100
State—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) 150
World—**Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk 90

H. E. Lombard Omaha Area Manager for Reports, Inc.

OMAHA—Confidential Reports has opened an office on the seventh floor of the City National Bank Bldg. here. The manager is Harold E. Lombard, who will be in charge of the company's activities in Nebraska and parts of Iowa and South Dakota.

Other members of the staff of six full-time workers are George Northouse jr. and W. H. Hoffman, field supervisors; Mrs. Ruth Spaulding, secretary; Mrs. Gail Coulter, accountant.

This is Lombard's first connection with the film business. Formerly he was manager of the Knickerbocker Village, 11 years with Dr. Lewis B. Stillwell, nationally-known engineer, worked with the Federal Reserve system in New York, and was an official with a steel company, an engineering and a real estate firm.

Lorber in Des Moines

DES MOINES—Ben Lorber of the Universal insurance department spent a few days in here recently.

"Right Way" Appeal Works on Teen-Agers

KANSAS CITY—A reversal of form in the campaign against juvenile delinquency was apparent in the promotion by the Regent and Ashland theatres of "Three to Be Served," a Manufacturers' Ass'n "free" picture.

The neighborhood Ashland's ad line for this addition to the regular bill was "Extra! . . . 'Three to be Served' . . . The Story of Teen-Agers Who Were Not Delinquent." The downtown Regent announced the addition thus: "Not Delinquent . . . Not Wild . . . Not Reckless . . . Teen-Agers Who Went the Right Way . . . 'Three to Be Served.'"

Eddie Mansfield, city manager for Commonwealth, and the house managers, not only used effectively the materials provided by the manufacturers but prepared special handbills. And, in fact, the short appeared to be responsible for a substantial part in the good results during the days of this extra's running. There was no question of the interest of patrons, particularly of the youngsters who comprise a large part of the Ashland audiences.

The "three" to be served, the picture discloses, are the producing element, the public and the retailer, a lesson built up by a story of young people who started a project, got into difficulties, sought advice from a man who showed them that all the factors had to be carefully served or none of the three would benefit ultimately.

Praise for the "Less Showy" Services of the Academy

OMAHA—Columnist Jake Rachman commenting in the local newspaper pays tribute to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' many activities.

"The ballots have been counted, the Oscars awarded, proper praise bestowed and the customary fanfare and drum beating concluded, but the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences continues its work," writes Mr. Rachman.

The services which the academy renders day in and day out are more important though less showy than the Oscars awards, he points out. For example, he said, there is the research council which consists of technicians and scientists in the industry whose work is to improve the quality of technical apparatus.

"They are at it continually," he reports, "and that's why pictures do not flicker any more; that's why color is smooth and natural, and why the sound no longer resembles a dishpan falling off a shelf."

Rachman also mentions the Player's Directory, a quarterly publication of importance to the industry; a war documentary collection, a library of film subjects given the academy by the United Nations; and the Academy's library, including scripts, books and all the trade and technical journals.

"The academy library is especially proud of its reputation in the nation for the saying goes, 'ask the academy library . . . if they don't know they will in ten minutes,'" the columnist concludes.

The Omaha Brandeis Now Is the RKO-Brandeis

OMAHA—Official name of the Brandeis Theatre here is now "RKO-Brandeis," reflecting that the house is now in complete possession of RKO Radio Pictures Corp. According to film industry veterans, it is the first hyphenated theatre name in Omaha since the late 90s. First there was the Creighton, then the Creighton-Orpheum, and finally, just plain Orpheum as the theatre is named today.

Engaged, He Offers to Pay Losses

KANSAS CITY—Landon Laird, in his About Town column in the Times, comes up with this story about a Filmrow bachelor:

"Long nominated as the most eligible unmarried man—and there are many unmarried men—on Kansas City's Filmrow, that heart of Kansas City motion picture industry centering at 18th and Wyandotte Sts., Sam Abend, who lives at 6704 Locust St. and is president of the Exhibitors' Film Delivery Service, has been the subject of many wagers as to whether he would wed.

"Arthur Cole, often termed the dean of Filmrow, reports that many wagers have been laid at odds of ten to one, or greater than that, that Abend would not tread the marriage aisle. Now Sam announces his engagement to Mrs. Dorothy E. Goldstandt, 4746 Roanoke Pkwy.—the wedding to take place in midsummer—and the men who have bet ten to one that he would remain single are figuring their prospective losses and announcing that they will not pay their bets until the day of the ceremony.

"There probably is not a more popular man on Filmrow than Sam Abend, he being a living legend to young movie men in the matter of conduct and deportment. He came to this country some time ago from Poland, and each year saved money to provide the wherewithal to bring one of his relatives to these shores.

"Abend always has been among the first to offer his services and contribute for the charity balls, the milk drives and other benevolent measures sponsored by the Variety Club. He volunteers to pay the losses of those persons who wagered he would remain single—although they surely would not take that sort of a settlement."

To

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Our heartiest best wishes

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during the

20th ANNIVERSARY

CAMPAIGN



H. J. GRIFFITH THEATRES

Kansas City, Mo.

MINNEAPOLIS

St. Paul Pioneer Press in its Sunday rotogravure section published a page of photographs of Twin City folks now connected with motion pictures in Hollywood. They were taken by Edward Hoffman, owner of WMIN, on a recent vacation trip to the film capital. Among those snapped by Hoffman were Nanette Parks, daughter of a St. Paul judge, the Twin City's newest addition to the Hollywood film colony, whose first picture will be "Over 21"; Richard Dix, who was at one time flunked out of a dramatic arts class in St. Paul; "Bud" Bohnen, Bill Demarest, Walter Abel and Joan Davis, all actors, and Violet Peterson, Jackson Parks, LeRoy Johnston, Arthur Janisch, Jack Pierce, George Nichols, Conrad Krebs and Gene S. Fox of other branches of the industry.

John J. Friedl, WAC chairman, asked Twin City exhibitors to run trailers plugging the appearances of the "Production Urgency Caravan," a service men's free two-hour show given at the auditoriums in Minneapolis and St. Paul . . . Harry Hirsch has closed his Alvin Theatre for the summer. It started with burlesque roadshows and finished with stock burlesque this season. Harry himself will keep plenty busy throughout the summer as an associate of Tony Stecher in the operation of wrestling and boxing shows and the annual roller derby.

Bill Mussman, Paramount northern Minnesota and Wisconsin salesman, has recovered from a serious illness and soon will be able to return to his duties, Ben Blotcky, manager, reports . . . Ben Marcus, Columbia district manager, was in from Kansas City.

W. A. Steffes, theatre owner and former independent exhibitor leader, is looking fit as a fiddle after a winter in Florida. He'll stick around town for a while before departing for his summer estate in northern Minnesota . . . Jack Cohan, 20th-Fox manager, has lost his pretty blonde secretary. She was married during a vacation last week and hence forth will devote herself to domestic duties.

The 20th-Fox branch, hardest hit of any on Filmrow because of losses of salesmen and other male employes to the armed services and essential industries, also finds itself with two other feminine members of its office staff quitting. Georgiana Arlt is leaving prior to a visit of the stork and Ruth Silverstein departs to be with her service man husband before he leaves for overseas.

Universal's action in paying a bonus to employes now in the armed services affects three from the Minneapolis branch. They're Pat Halloran, salesman; Harold Saltz, booker, and Charles Bliss, poster clerk. They will receive a sum equivalent to 25 per cent of their former salaries.

Park Agnew, M-G-M master booker from the home office, was a visitor . . . Hank Kaufman, Columbia manager in charge of exchange operations, was in town . . . Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included Mrs. Lyle Farrow, Parkers Prairie; Joe Schroeder, Mountain Lake; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls; Verne Sesller, Roseville, and Jack Heywood, New Richmond.

Charlie Winchell of the Minnesota Amusement Co., and Walter Hoffman and Norman Pyle, 20th-Fox and M-G-M exploiteers, respectively, went to Chicago to attend a Seventh War Loan drive meeting. They'll handle the publicity for the industry drive in this territory . . . Charles Fogle of the M-G-M home office maintenance department was a visitor . . . "Hy" Chapman, Columbia manager, was happy because his office was in third place nationally in the current playdate drive . . . Lorine Wakefield replaced Emmy Nyberg as 20th-Fox booker.

Warren Douglas of the Warner stock company, back home in Minneapolis on vacation, visited the exchange here . . . Lorraine Gebhardt, secretary to Jack Cohen, 20th-Fox manager, vacationing at her home at Lamburton, Minn., where she's enjoying a reunion with her service man sweetheart and her brother, an army lieutenant, home on leave.

The Northwest Variety Club's "Red Cross night" was a huge success. The turnout exceeded Chief Barker Art Anderson's fondest expectations and a substantial sum was realized for the Red Cross from the door admissions. The Reel Fellows Club furnished excellent entertainment, including considerable outside talent. There was music for dancing, too, and it all added up to a good time for everybody.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included A. Mullen, Olivia, Minn.; Leo Peterson and R. J. Dean, Rapid City, S. D.; Bernie Larkin, Madelia, Minn.; A. Olson, Grantsburg, Wis.; Don Buckley, Red Falls, Minn., and Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis.

Midnight "Byrneout" All New to Her

Kansas City—An elderly woman patron at the downtown Regent seemed puzzled as midnight approached recently when the picture show ended, the crowd left and the lights went off.

"Why, I thought you stayed open all night," she remarked bewilderedly to the cashier.

"Not since the curfew went on," she was told.

"What curfew?" she asked.

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Omaha Program Set For Day of Victory

OMAHA—William Miskell, Tri-States Theatres district manager and a member of the Victory Day committee here, outlined the theatre's role in the program.

He said an hour-long prayer service at the 3,000-seat Orpheum Theatre would follow the official announcement. If the announcement is made after 9 p. m., the public will be invited to a noon service the following day. If it is after 1 p. m., the service will be held the following noon, but only for the radio broadcast to be carried on a network of all the city's four stations. The program from the stage of the Orpheum will be planned in cooperation with the Omaha Ministers' Ass'n.

Following a request of Mayor Dan Butler and Richard Jepsen, police commissioner, the theatres will remain open following the announcement in an attempt to keep crowds off the street. Only if the crowd becomes unruly will the theatres be closed.

The theatres, radio and local press are beginning a campaign to "convince" Omahans that with European victory the war won't be over and that it should be a day of thankfulness rather than celebration, Miskell said. Manufacture of B29s and other equipment needed for the Pacific battles here should be a big help in putting this idea across, he said.

Unity Service Again Held At Kansas City Plaza

KANSAS CITY—The Plaza, Fox Midwest house in the Country Club district here, again was the scene of an Easter service conducted by the United School of Christianity. Every seat was occupied from 11 a. m. to shortly after noon.

Hugh Siverd, manager, has turned the theatre over to Unity for special services on Easter, Christmas and Thanksgiving for the last two or three years. The Plaza has a fine organ. A Unity organist and a vested choir provided music for the service on Sunday. The foyer and stage were decorated with palms, lilies and other suitable adornments, and the orchestra pit was built up with floral displays almost to the level of the stage floor. The afternoon show began at 2:15.

Friedl Clarifies War Loan Setup in the Northwest

MINNEAPOLIS—John J. Friedl, WAC state chairman, has sent a note to all concerned clarifying the appointments for the industry's Seventh War Loan drive in this area.

In addition to Friedl, the setup has Ben Blotcky, Paramount manager, as distributor chairman; A. W. Anderson, Warner manager, associate chairman, and Charles Winchell of the Minnesota Amusement Co., as public relations chairman.

Mike Cooper, Grand Forks, and Edward Kraus, Fargo, are North Dakota state chairmen, and Byron McElligott, Aberdeen, is at the helm in South Dakota for the section covered by Minneapolis distributors. Ben Blotcky also is distributor chairman and A. W. Anderson associate chairman for North and South Dakota and the parts of Wisconsin served out of Minneapolis. Kraus and Walter Hoffman of 20th-Fox are co-chairmen of public relations for North Dakota.

For South Dakota Cliff Knoll, Mitchell, and Norman Pyle of M-G-M are public relations chairmen.

Specific areas assigned to branch managers of the distribution division are:

Minnesota—Jack Cohan, 20th-Fox, northern; C. J. Dressell, RKO, southeastern; H. J. Chapman, Columbia, southwestern; A. W. Anderson, Warners, central, and William Grant, Republic, Twin Cities.

L. J. Miller of Universal will handle the entire state of North Dakota, while the part of South Dakota served by Minneapolis and Sioux Falls will have W. H. Workman of M-G-M and Sherman Fitch of RKO, Sioux Falls, in charge.

Ralph Cramblet of United Artists has been named for the part of Wisconsin served by Minneapolis.

A WAC meeting will be held shortly.

MIDWEST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



A distinguished citizen of Kansas, the late **J. P. "Prof." Phillips,** Colby, was owner of the Colby Theatre. He became superintendent of Colby's grade schools in 1913 and bought his first motion picture equipment for use in the schools. In 1914 he established his own theatre. He resigned from his educational work in 1918 and bought the Colby Free Press. He was elected to the state legislature in 1937 and always took a great interest in the welfare of his community. Since his death last fall his family has carried on the operation of the theatre.



In 1918 a friend who was going out of town for three weeks asked **John E. Courter** of Gallatin, Mo., to run his theatre for him while he was gone. Courter proved a natural in the business and bought the theatre with the profit made during the three weeks. He owns the Courter theatres in Gallatin and Hamilton and is a member of Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners. He is a Shriner and was one of the founders of the local Rotary. He has been an agent for the Wabash Railroad Co. 34 years, and finds railroading almost as fascinating as pictures.

Showman Brown's Holiday Begins on Filmrow

NEOLA, IOWA—When R. E. Brown, local theatre owner, takes a vacation he believes in leaving no troubles behind. Brown closed his Phoenix Theatre and took a ten-day vacation March 21-31. Like a busman's holiday, he made the Omaha Filmrow his first stop.

Paul Ricketts Purchases Charm at Holyrood, Kas.

WICHITA—Paul Ricketts of this city has purchased the Charm Theatre at Holyrood, Kas.

Carl Pearson, Veteran Illinois Showman, Dies

RUSHVILLE, ILL.—Carl Pearson, veteran motion picture exhibitor, died at his home here recently after a three-week illness. Pearson started in the industry in 1912 with an open air theatre, later roofing the old airdome. In 1916 he opened a new theatre, the Loyd, and continued to operate it until his illness. For a time he operated the Apollo Theatre, Princeton, Ill. In 1932, with his son Loyd, he purchased the Old Lyric at Petersburg, Ill., and operated this as the Menard until 1938, when they built the new Salem house there. The son Loyd had been operating the Salem until his father's illness when he returned to Rushville to take over the theatre here.

W. D. Davisson, Tri-States Accountant, Resigns

DES MOINES—W. D. Davisson, for 16 years associated with Tri-States Theatre Corp., resigned recently to be an accountant for the Shrope Body Co. here. Employes of the accounting department at Tri-States had a farewell luncheon for Davisson at Yonkers' tearoom, and presented him a leather jacket.

Warner Redskins Lose Feathers

DES MOINES—There's a job for a Pinkerton man at Warner Bros. here.

A whole tepee full of Indian headdresses has vanished into thin air. These rather specialized commodities were an integral part of Warners' annual sales promotion drive which began April 1 and lasts through July 28.

Some red-blooded home office promotion man, with a flair for early Americana, chose an Indian motif for the drive. Explicit instructions were given all employes to don headdresses during working hours for the campaign's duration.

By now used to almost anything, patient Warner employes complied. Each eventide, the feathered headgear was doffed and put into a special room for safekeeping.

But the other morning when the staff arrived ready to line up and don feathers, the disappearance was discovered. No one knows where they went. There is an Indian reservation about 100 miles from here, but Warner detectives think it highly improbable the Poweshieks are responsible. They seem to be of the opinion that an Indian would be smarter than that.

The sabotage theory has received some credence in Warner circles. When the headdress order was first issued, there was some muttering concerning the relationship of the feathered gear to the months of June and July.

But of course it would be simply libelous to suggest that a Warner employe had anything to do with the strange disappearance. In all, the situation is an extremely ticklish one. And orders probably will be sent to the home office for a complete new set. Perhaps they will come in time for the hot weather!

O M A H A

One of the first fishermen of the season will be F. A. Husan, head of Western Theatre Supply Co., who was to leave during the week for his favorite angling spots in Michigan . . . Virginia Goodrich of 20th-Fox is vacationing in Florida, the goodby spot for a parting with the hubby.

Lee Coffey, Midwest Popcorn official, is in the hospital as a result of too much work . . . Eleanor Horwich of Columbia spent the week-end in Sioux City. She was back at work in a bright blue spring outfit Monday.

Mrs. Mel Eviden, wife of the Des Moines branch manager, visited her parents here last week . . . Metro's office workers are toiling late on a special job with the May 1 deadline looming nearer . . . Peggy Shalberg, M-G-M inspector, is vacationing in California.

Joe Chantry, owner of the Muse Theatre at Osceola, is putting in new RCA sound this week . . . Charles Fogel, New York, representative of the maintenance department of M-G-M, was in Omaha last week. Word leaked out that it was his birthday, so the office treated him to a birthday celebration of cake and coffee.

Bob Bertram, Columbia office manager, has become "gentleman farmer," having purchased an acreage northwest of town . . . What with the meat shortage, Bob should have a yard full of chickens, etc.

Jake Rachman, local drama critic, contrasts the time when an "advance man" came in, threw down a grip and brief case aggregating 20 pounds, tossed his derby on the desk, took out a big black cigar, offered you one, told a few stories, then got down to the business of selling you a few pictures and stories. The reason was the visit of Helen Stern, 26, youngest press agent in the business, to his desk to sell the two-day stand of Sigmund Romberg at the City Auditorium.

Notorious partners in crime, the "Toothbrush Twins," who were captured and then escaped at the Rialto Theatre, Missouri Valley, Iowa, came to a temporary parting in Boston when one pleaded guilty to several indictments and the other demanded a new trial. George Stubblefield, alias John Giles, and Edgar W. Cook were convicted by a jury of transporting a stolen automobile. Stubblefield then pleaded guilty to five other indictments; Cook demanded a new trial. The new jury convicted Cook of breaking and entering a post office and a theatre and theft from the latter of unsold war bonds and $993.75 receipts of war bond sales.

The Omaha Theatre is out to scare the wits of local citizens. In a special program April 12 they are to feature "The House of Frankenstein," featuring the screen's choicest bogeymen and "The Mummy's Curse," starring Lon Chaney . . . Pinky McIlvaine, RKO-Brandeis Theatre manager, is in Los Angeles on vacation.

Ted Emerson, Orpheum manager, and Mrs. Emerson are on the west coast visiting their son Jimmy, now in the navy . . . Francis Barak, assistant manager, is in charge . . . Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, spent several days here.

Allan Kohan of New York, Warner exploiteer, spent a week in his old home town lining up promotion for "To Have and Have Not" with Tri-States Theatres. He revealed that Tri-States will feature giant pictures of Lauren Bacall at each theatre, then will pass out thousands of small photos of her to patrons the week before the picture is scheduled.

Columbia screened "Counter-Attack" Sunday night here . . . The popcorn vs. gum-chewing controversy in theatres is now going strong in the local press . . . Popcorn processors here express worry that enough acres won't be planted again this year, that the tight situation won't improve next fall.

Visitors along the Row included: Joe Chantry, Osceola; Wayne Manchester, Dow City; Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Goodrich, Stromsburg; Carl Worl, Dunlap, Iowa; Howard Brookings, Oakland, Iowa; Charles Botch, Leigh; Phil March, Wayne; Mrs. Bert Thacker, South Sioux City, and Oky Goodman, Rockwell City, Iowa.

An orchid went to Stella Miller, mother of Fred Miller who runs the Lyric Theatre at Broken Bow, Neb. That was her surprise reward for attending the Breakfast in Hollywood radio program for the benefit of the Red Cross on the stage of the Orpheum Theatre. She had the lucky number and won the extra orchid after the program went off the air. Mrs. Miller was visiting here with Mrs. R. U. Powers, mother of Esther Granville, Monogram office manager.

Phil Mansell, Columbia shipper for 15 years, was honored at a party given by the exchange recently, prior to his departure for the west coast . . . Fred Aliano, former Republic shipper, succeeded Phil at Columbia. Ed Roza is the new Republic shipper.

Virginia Goodrich, 20th-Fox stenographer, took a two-week leave during the presence of her husband, Lieut. Jack Goodrich, who flew here from an army post in Panama . . . Jack Connor, M-G-M exploiteer, was on a four-week tour with salesmen.

Spring fever caught up with Carol Piper, Brandeis student manager, and he left his post here to head for Florida . . . Capt. Bernard Szold, former Community Playhouse director, has been discharged from the army after four years of service and has been signed as dialog director on Columbia's "Rhythm Roundup."

The manager of a neighborhood house here bobbed up with an idea that boomeranged. At the start of a Red Cross collection in his theatre he dropped a $1 bill in the box as a starter. When the box came back there was a few odd pieces of change, but no dollar bill.

Nebraska's state guard will sponsor the appearance of Sigmond Romberg in Omaha at the City Auditorium April 20-21 . . . Mrs. William Miskell, wife of Tri-States district manager, was pictured in the Sunday society section as one of four members of the Duschene alumnae on duty at the Union Station service men's center.

Nat Steinberg, Republic district manager from St. Louis, spent two days here recently . . . Tibbie Wolfson, 20th-Fox assistant cashier, took her two-week vacation early and spent it at home . . . The new Easter bonnet for Marion Wallace of 20th-Fox was a red corduroy hat. She claims it came from the basement of a downtown department store.

Visitors along the Row: Frank Hollingsworth, Beatrice; Claude Craig, Plainview; A. J. Chantry, Osceola; William F. Groth, Charter Oak; Jeannette Shoeneman, Wahoo; Phil March, Wayne; Paul Haeker, Alma; Roy Mundin, Lake Andes, S. D.; Frank Good, Red Oak; Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Evenson, Soldier; W. B. Horstman, Odeboldt; Carl Worl, Dunlap; H. A. Parrott, Milford; F. A. Bryceson, Moorehead; George Monroe, Kearney.

Nat'l Screen Employes Get Saturday Off

DES MOINES—National Screen Service office employes are no longer working on Saturdays. The "front office" is putting in its 40 hours now from Monday through Friday. Formerly a split shift arrangement had prevailed whereby time was divided up to enable work on the sixth day. Announcement of the new plan, which went into effect last week, was made by Lou Patz, manager.

Cross Totals to $142,403

MINNEAPOLIS—With 110 of this territory's theatres still to report in the recent Red Cross drive, collections from 703 theatres reached a total of $142,403.38. Last year's total was $131,000 for 743 theatres. This year 813 out of 825 theatres participated.

Alleman Back From South

DES MOINES—P. D. Alleman, Central States partner in Clinton, recently returned from a winter spent in Florida near the camp where his son John is stationed. Alleman and another son David visited the home offices here last week.

Branton Hosts Newlyweds

DES MOINES—G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., was host at a champagne cocktail party in the Tri-States offices in honor of his daughter Kay and her husband, Lieut. Vincent Fennelly, who were married here recently.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 — Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825



Bernie Shaner Sells; Goes to Odessa

ODESSA, MO.—Bernie Shaner, who has been operating the Pic in Kansas City, has sold that theatre to Herman LaVine, and now is assisting his father, C. R. Shaner, in the operation of the latter's Dixie here. Father and son are busy supervising the sprucing up of the theatre.

Scarcity of Repairs Will Delay State Reopening

HUDSON, S. D.—An explosion in the furnace of the State Theatre here, owned by Marvin Rogness, has forced closing of the house. Repairs haven't been found yet so it is not known when the theatre will reopen.

Girl, 12, Is Cashier, Usher And Sells Pop and Corn

AINSWORTH, NEB.—Patty Syfert, about 12, daughter of Roy Syfert, owner of the Ainsworth Theatre, is the film industry heroine in this small city. She not only serves as cashier at the theatre, but also ushers, pops and sell the popcorn.

A 17-Year-Old "Out" At Garden Theatre

DES MOINES—A 17-year-old boy, found unconscious in a seat at the Garden Theatre here last week, was taken to Broadlawns General Hospital. Hospital physicians said the youth was intoxicated. He was ordered held at the hospital overnight.

Priorities Issued for New Excelsior, Minn., Theatre

MINNEAPOLIS—A priority has been issued by the War Production Board to permit the rebuilding of the theatre at Excelsior, Minn., local suburb, at a cost of $24,150. The structure was destroyed by fire recently.

$78,029.50 in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS—Final figures for the recent March of Dimes drive in Minnesota show total theatre collections of $78,029.50, an all-time new high. The previous record of $72,863.25 was chalked up last year. Bill Sears, Orpheum manager, and W. H. Workman, M-G-M branch manager, again were co-chairmen and engineered the highly successful campaign.

Branch at Omaha Now

OMAHA—D. Roy Glanton has been elected chairman and Louis DeBoer secretary-treasurer of the newly-organized Omaha Chapter of the National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians, an independent union of broadcast recording and television engineers.

Hear Seventh Loan Plea

OMAHA—Sam Epstein, independent exhibitor chairman; Don V. McLucas, WAC chairman, and William Miskell, exhibitor chairman, attended a select Seventh War Loan meeting of 15 officials at the Fontenelle Hotel last Saturday to hear Roosevelt and treasury officials in a closed-circuit bond program.

Reopens Princess at Ochyedan

OCHYEDAN, IOWA—Chet Coyer has reopened the 225-seat Princess Theatre here.

Powwow Arms Vanish, Braves on Warpath!

Kansas City—Braves at Warner Bros. are on the warpath—somebody has put the Indian sign on their powwow campaign by taking the bow and arrow from a symbolic display. The campaign is not exactly stymied, but Chief Flying Squirrel Borg is reported ready to organize a scalping party if smoke signals, promising "no questions asked" for return of the armament, don't get results.

Former Tower Assistant Now Prisoner in Reich

KANSAS CITY—Pvt. William R. Simpson, former house manager of the Tower Theatre, who was reported missing in action December 21 in Germany, is a prisoner of war, according to word that has been received by his wife, who lives with their seven-year-old son Richard at the home, 609 W. 33rd St.

Mrs. Simpson, whose faith in her husband's welfare had caused her never to make public the report he was missing, was called from her war work at the Pratt & Whitney plant to read a post card from him from a German prison camp that said, "Dearest: I'm well and not wounded. Came through by the grace of God."

Private Simpson's mother, Mrs. Merle Simpson, lives at 2840 Forest Ave.

Two Sproule Brothers Fighting in Germany

McPHERSON, KAS.—Pvt. George Sproule, who operated theatres in Fort Scott, Newton, and McPherson for the Sproule circuit, is with the First army in Germany. He has been overseas for about two years. He recently received a Bronze Star.

George's brother, Pvt. Robert Sproule, who formerly managed the Iris Theatre in Hutchinson, now is with the Ninth army in Germany. He has been in the service about two years.

The Avalon at Schuyler Is Fully Modernized

SCHUYLER, NEB.—A complete renovation of the Avalon Theatre by the new owner, E. G. Gannon, makes this 230-seat house here one of the finest small theatres in the state. Gannon, former owner of a chain of theatres in Minnesota, took over January 15. He closed from February 15 to March 21 to do the remodeling job.

Otto Nielsen, Minneapolis decorator, was called in to plan the layout and redecorate. The house is modernistic, has repainting inside and outside, booth and lobby remodeling, new booth equipment including electric changeovers, sidewall lighting, a new concrete floor and many new seats.

Iowa Sales Totals Show Free Spending

DES MOINES—Iowans went on a spending spree during the last three months of 1944 and bought $330,220,150 worth of merchandise. The sales tax division of the state tax commission reported last week that the sales tax for October, November and December of 1944 amounted to $6,604,403. This was an all-time high.

Previous high was for July, August and September of 1944 when $6,086,255 was collected on sales totaling $304,812,781.

The increase for the last three months of 1944, which included the Christmas buying period, was $1,748,633 over the similar period of 1943. Larger individual sales in 1944 over 1943 were indicated by the fact that the number of returns was not much greater—56,041 in 1943 and 56,313 in 1944.

At El-Jon Opening

BRUNSWICK, MO.—A number of out-of-town guests attended the reopening of Elmer Bill's El-Jon Theatre here recently. Among those present were Bill Bradfield, Russel Borg, Harry Gafney, R. C. Copeland, Earl Ogan, John Long, Al Adler, W. G. Shackleford, Ralph Morrow, all film company representatives; Frank Weary, Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Green, La Plata, and Gretchen Brown of the Commonwealth in Kansas City. The El-Jon, rebuilt after a fire a year ago, is complete now, Bills said, except for the outside display frames. Bills operates the Electric at Glasgow, the Lyric in Salisbury, the two Roxys in Huntsville and in Brunswick, and the Madison in Madison, Kas.

Prized Gift From Pacific

OMAHA—In a box bearing $2.64 worth of postage stamps, Joe Jacobs, Columbia manager, this week received a gift from a former employe that he will long prize. The gift is an all-metal ash try, made entirely of used shell containers and scrap metal. T/Sgt. Harold Garber, former accessory manager now in the Pacific area, sent it. The base is a large shell. Dents around the edge hold India coins which fit snugly and will hold four cigarets. Another shell mounted perpendicular on the base serves as a pivot for a replica of a P38, made entirely of shells. On the side is a metal match box.

Confer on 'Sun' Campaign

KANSAS CITY—Lloyd W. Morris, western division manager, and Rex Barrett, southern division manager of Commonwealth, were at headquarters here to confer on preliminary plans for the 1945 Commonwealth "King of the Sun" campaign. Bob Shelton, eastern division manager, was also present. The campaign will be from April 29 to August 11.

Steffes Back — Allied Into Action

MINNEAPOLIS—W. A. Steffes returned from a winter in Florida and looking "fit as a fiddle," and it probably was just a coincidence that with his return North Central Allied suddenly came to life explosively and resumed the militancy that characterized it up to a year or so ago.

As far as can be learned, Steffes wasn't even present at the annual meeting when the boys decided to train their big guns on the producers and distributors. Among other things, as reported elsewhere in this paper, the body was announced as going on record unanimously to fight for the theatre divorcement bill now before the Minnesota state legislature, although a few weeks ago it had informed the trade press its policy would be "hands off."

A couple of years ago, Steffes, always the outstanding independent exhibitor leader in this territory until his illness, was quoted to the effect that theatre divorcement is "a dead issue." However, Bennie Berger, Northwest Allied president-elect, who is "sore" as a festering wound at present industry "injustices," is Steffes' sidekick and partner in several theatrical enterprises.

P-TA Will Eye Friday Night Kid Behavior

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—Theatre behavior was the subject of a forum discussion by the Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland Friday afternoon last week and led by George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland MPEA.

In his address, Erdmann reported that juvenile theatre behavior has deteriorated during the past few years, especially among those in the 15-19-year-old group. Stress was placed on the bad manners of these teenagers, their total lack of consideration and their boldness.

"Brazen" was the word used by Manager Norman Ek of the Shore Theatre, in describing the actions of some of his young patrons. "And I mean girls as well as boys," he said.

Blames Lack of Cooperation

Erdmann made several suggestions for bettering the present conditions, which he blames largely on the lack of cooperation between the board of education and representatives of the juvenile court.

"Better cooperation between these two agencies, better cooperation between the various social agencies, and better cooperation between the social agencies and the juvenile court would help greatly the situation," Erdmann told the women present.

"Psychiatric clinics in the public schools would also be of vital help. Such clinics would early discover defects in adjustment of children and corrective work could be effected in the early stages of development."

Speaking on the child curfew law providing that a child under 18 should not be on the streets unaccompanied by an adult, Erdmann reported that while on the status, this law has never been enforced.

The theatre manager, he said, can eject a youngster for disturbance, but by so doing, he incurs the enmity of the parent, and thereby hurts his business. Agreeing that theatre behavior is a matter for parental cure, Erdmann urged the members of the P-TA to take a hand in this matter that is getting worse instead of better.

Does Not Love All Children

Fred Holzworth, manager of the Hilliard Square Theatre, and himself the father of two children, opened his talk by stating emphatically that after managing a theatre for 16 years he "does not love all children."

To curb the situation Holzworth suggested that a representative of the P-TA attend neighborhood theatres every Friday night, that they get a report from the manager of the children whose actions are objectionable or annoying, and that local P-TAs report such conduct to the parent of the child. He also suggested some plan be devised to post the name of such youngsters in some conspicuous place. "Many children will cause trouble anonymously," Holzworth stated, "but they do not want the light of publicity shed on their misdeeds."

Ray Allison, manager of the Shaker Theatre located in a highly restricted residence section, duplicated the report of Holzworth and said that he gets practically no support from school officials to better the conditions. He said he offered to appear in the schools and tell the students something about theatre operations, cost of replacements, etc., but none of the schools in his area accepted his offer.

Theatre vandalism is spottier than it used to be, according to the managers. Manager Ek stated that during the past year he had reseated between 500 and 600 chairs which had been deliberately slashed. This, he pointed out is approximately one third of his total seating capacity. Holzworth and Allison said that vandalism was not so rampant as it was previously.

Vermillion, Ks., Showman Says Patrons Buffaloed

Wichita — Frank Berglas, National Screen Service representative, reports that Harry Jones, new owner of the New Victory Theatre at Vermillion, Kas., has created a theatre man's Utopia there.

"Jones told me," Berglas said, "that he's got his customers feeling so obliged to come to his show, that if they can't come for some reason or other they bring him the money anyway, taxes and all."

Reports in From 600

MINNEAPOLIS—More than 600 of the approximate 800 theatres in the territory have reported to John J. Friedl, chairman of the War Activities Committee, showing that their Red Cross collections exceed those of a year ago, the previous record high, by about 30 per cent, he announces. Friedl issued a statement congratulating all of the territory's industry members who participated in making the drive such a huge success.

Regional Meet in Chicago

OMAHA—William Miskell, exhibitor chairman; Don V. McLucas, WAC chairman, and Sam Epstein, independent exhibitor chairman, will be in Chicago April 16 for a regional meeting prior to the Seventh War Loan drive.

J. D. King a War Prisoner

BATESVILLE, ARK.—J. D. King, with Commonwealth at Warrensburg and Clinton, Mo., and Lawrence, Kas., before entering the army, is a prisoner of war in Germany, his wife and father were informed.

To Honor McBride in June

OMAHA—The Paramount exchange here will celebrate the week ending June 30 as Jesse McBride week in honor of Branch Manager McBride who on June 28 will complete his 25th year with the company.

Marquette House to Open

MARQUETTE, IOWA—Milo D. Moody has bought the theatre here and will begin operation immediately. The theatre has been closed for several years.

M'Gough's Brother Ill

DES MOINES—A. J. McGough, M-G-M exploiteer, was called to his home near Stillwater, Minn., recently by the serious illness of his brother.

Ballys "I'll Be Seeing You"

DES MOINES—H. M. Scott, UA field representative from St. Louis, was here working on promotion for the picture, "I'll Be Seeing You."

Elmer Dunas Resigns

OMAHA—Elmer Dunas, for eight years a Columbia salesman here, has resigned because of ill health.

Allison on Exchange Trip

DES MOINES—Paul Allison, 20th-Fox ad sales supervisor from New York, was at the local exchange here last week.

Mitchell Added to "Early to Wed"

Grant Mitchell has been added to the cast of Metro's "Early to Wed," starring Van Johnson and Lucille Ball.

The Schultz Bros. Buy Cleveland Almira

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—Nate Schultz, Monogram franchise owner, and his brother Sam, who is branch manager, have purchased the Almira Theatre, 900-seat house at 3236 West 105th St., here, from the owner, George Fullbright, effective May 1. This is the fifth house now in the Schultz chain. The others are the Union and Ambassador, Cleveland; the Strand, Youngstown, and the Lorain, Lorain. The circuit is operated under the name of Selected Pictures Co.

More Theatre Bond Sales Is Goal of State Zoning

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—To assure a more intensive participation in the Showmen's Seventh War Bond drive, the Illinois state committee will zone the Metropolitan Chicago area and the entire state, with an exhibitor and distributor chairman appointed to contact exhibitors in each zone. This setup is aimed to result in a larger number of war bond premieres and greater participation in Free Movie Day.

The decision was made at a meeting of the state committee in Chicago recently.

Ole Olson Opens Portable at Arthur

ARTHUR, IOWA—Ole Olson of Ida Grove has opened a portable theatre here, operating one night each week.

Bill Miskell Is Chairman

OMAHA—William Miskell, Tri-State Theatres Corp. district manager, has been named to the general committee of the Omaha's united national clothing collection. He will be in charge of motion picture participation.

A Transport Co. Theft

OMAHA—Frank Gartner, secretary-treasurer of the Film Transport Co. here, reported the theft of $90 and $275 in war stamps from the firm. He told police the combination was knocked off the steel filing case.

Jack Connor to New York

OMAHA—Jack Connor, M-G-M exploiteer, will leave April 16 for New York for a meeting with W. R. Ferguson, manager of exploitation at the home office.

Making Fire Inspections

DES MOINES—A. Titus, fire prevention and control man from the Hays office, New York, was here last week, making annual inspections in all the exchanges on Filmrow.

Dan Fuller to RKO

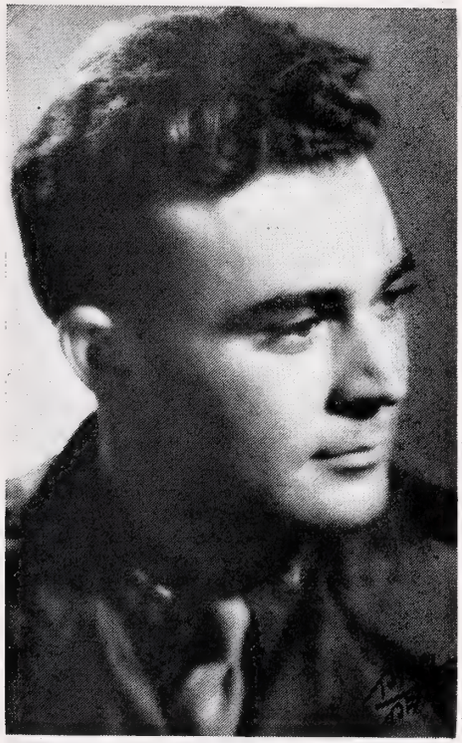
MINNEAPOLIS — Leo Goldsman has resigned as North Dakota salesman for RKO. He will be replaced by Dan Fuller.

The "Secret Agent X-9" Cast Grows

Keye Luke, Victoria Horne, Samuel Hinds, George Lynn, Benson Fong, Jack Overman, Arno Frye, Clarence Lung, Cy Kendall, Edmund Cobb and Jean Stutenroth have been signed to round out the cast of Universal's "Secret Agent X-9."

Capt. Rachiele Wins Esteem and Stars

PITTSBURGH—Capt. Frederick J. Rachiele of the Seventh army medical detachment, and one of the three uniformed sons of the Harry Rachieles, Sharpsburg, Dery and Crafton exhibitors, is a physician who not only can win war medals but also the esteem of his fellow men and patients.



CAPT. FREDERICK J. RACHIELE

Comrade and family doctor to the first battalion infantrymen of the Third infantry division, Rachiele "gives understanding with his pills and spiritual comfort with his surgery, and he will never be forgotten by the soldiers of his battalion," said a headquarters news release last week.

His Greatest Medicine

The public relations department's announcement states: "Doc Rachiele has a personality that is his greatest medicine, his men say. He has talked more men out of being sick than he has dished out with medicated cures. At Le Haute Jacques, where casualties were high and morale hit a new low, the Doc not only treated the wounded at the aid station but went up with litter-bearers to help evacuate and treat wounded, and was a great help to the men still able to fight by laughing and cracking jokes to help them forget their particular corner of hell."

Captain Rachiele has helped civilians in need of medical attention, too. In Les Rouge Faux, for instance, when a direct hit on a house killed the mother of 13 children and wounded several of the children, he treated their wounds and went under concentrated artillery and mortar fire for candles and food for the stricken family. His aide men say there's little work for them to do because everyone wants to see the Doc. For a while Captain Rachiele was assistant regimental surgeon, but he said the life was too tame there and he petitioned to be returned to his boys at the battalion.

Awarded a Bronze Star

He was awarded a Bronze Star in Italy, May 24, 1944. Then a first lieutenant, Rachiele crossed over a mile of terrain interdicted by nebelwarfer and mortar fire to render medical aid to front line troops. Despite shells bursting on the edge of the gulley in which he worked and small arms fire from the enemy about 275 yards away, "Doc" Rachiele exposed himself for about two hours while treating a group of wounded men. Later, en route back to the aid station, he gave emergency treatment to four other men lying wounded out in the open, ignoring shells that hit about 25 yards away.

Later he received another citation. With another medical officer, Captain Rachiele supervised the evacuation from a mine field of at least 70 men of 150 casualties suffered after a crossing of a river in France, Nov. 20, 1944. Although enemy artillery and mortar fire shells burst as close as ten yards to them, on one occasion killing two litter-bearers next to them, the two officers remained exposed over four hours until every casualty was treated and evacuated. The army added an Oak Leak cluster for this.

His brothers are Lieut. Arthur B. Rachiele, with the infantry recently in the Philippines, and Leo Rachiele, first class seaman.

Former Theatre Manager To Clyde Beatty Circus

CANTON—Sterling "Duke" Drukenbrod, former theatre manager who spent the winter months with his mother here, has gone to Rock Hill, S. C., where he has joined the newly-organized Clyde Beatty trained animal circus, which opened there April 7. The circus will reach the upper Ohio valley by early May. Drukenbrod will be Beatty's personal manager and manager of the sideshows.

Mark Goldman Resigns Cleveland PRC Post

CLEVELAND—Mark Goldman has resigned as PRC branch manager, and Fred Rohrs, district manager, has taken over management of the Cleveland office as well as the district. This shifts his headquarters to Cleveland from St. Louis.

C. E. Gable, Uncle of Film Actor, Dies at Age of 85

SHARPSVILLE, PA.—Charles E. Gable, 85, owner and operator of the Ritz Theatre here for a decade, died last week. An uncle of Clark Gable, he formerly operated the Gale Theatre and Gable Hotel at Sharon for many years.

Admission Tax Goes Ahead in Assembly

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania's lawmakers seem to have the motion picture industry on their minds, but not in their hearts.

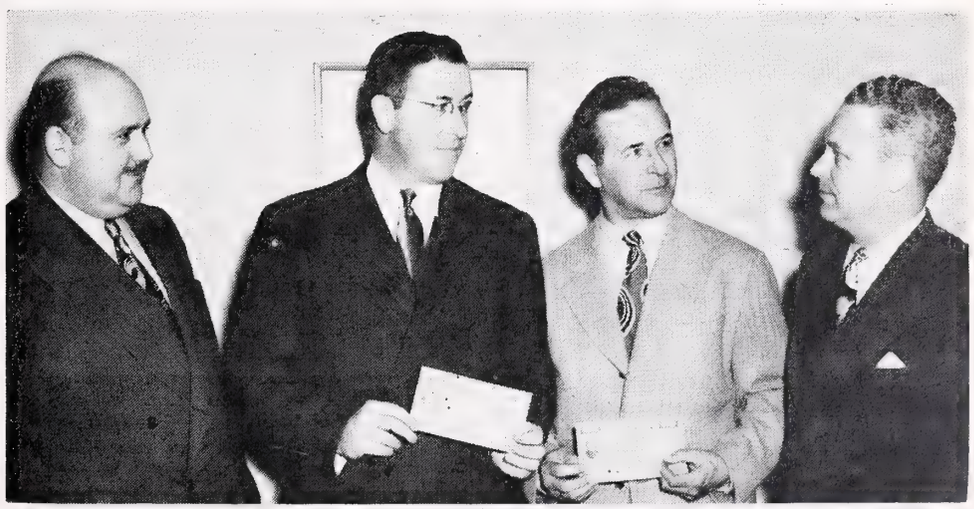
For the second time during this session of the general assembly there has been forwarded proposals for taxes on gross receipts and amusements which would be levied in Pittsburgh to help straighten out Pittsburgh's mixedup tax problem.

Referred to a legislative committee, where members of the film industry hope it will remain, is a bill which would place a five-cents-a-foot tax on every foot of film brought into Pennsylvania. Fred J. Herrington, secretary of Allied independent theatre owners, Pittsburgh, has called attention to the fact that regardless of the wording of the bill, film contract clause places such taxes directly on exhibition and not on the producers or distributors of motion pictures, and interest in the proposal is said to have waned as members of the legislature claim they do not wish to place such a direct discriminatory burden on theatres in their districts or on theatres in districts represented by their fellow lawmakers.

Also before the Pennsylvania general assembly are so-called antidiscrimination measures, which exhibitors oppose; namely, a bill to prohibit children under 16 years of age from amusements after 10 p. m. unless accompanied by an adult; a bill which would approve Sunday bowling; a bill which would require each theatre to exhibit at each performance an auditorium diagram showing exits to be used in case of a fire, etc.; a bill which would license ticket brokers; a bill to fingerprint amusement performers.

Ohioans Will Attend Chicago Bond Rally

CLEVELAND—Dave Miller, WAC district distributor chairman; Joe Krenitz, northern Ohio distributor chairman; Leroy Kendis, representing exhibitor WAC Chairman Meyer Fine who is on vacation in Florida, and Charles C. Deardourff, publicity chairman, will attend a central WAC meeting at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, April 16, to discuss plans for the Seventh Bond Drive.



THEY SOLVED A MYSTERY—Joe W. Busic, in charge of theatre operations for United Detroit Theatres Corp., presents $100, war bonds to John H. Witherspoon, assistant corporation counsel, and Eduard Werner, assistant prosecutor, as Milton Cohen, Detroit branch manager of RKO, looks on. The bonds were awarded to Witherspoon and Werner for their correct solutions to a murder mystery in competition with 15 local crime experts in a preview of "The Woman in the Window." Left to right: Cohen, Witherspoon, Werner, Busic.

CINCINNATI

Twentieth-Fox's anniversary month is getting 100 per cent cooperation from exhibitors in the territory, the exchange announces. Fox features will be presented in every theatre at some time during the month. Lev Bugie, branch manager, and J. J. Grady, district manager, were jubilant over results. They've learned that the exchange, in the process of repairs for many months waiting priorities, is assured of air conditioning.

Mardell Maxey, Schine's short subject booker, spent the weekend in Lexington . . . Montgomery Road Drive-In is set to open on April 20. The word is that all outdoor theatres will be running by that date . . . Warners' drive is off to a flying start, with Chief Smokum-Oakum Abrose and Medicine Man Daumeyer at the helm . . . John Eifert reports enthusiastic response on "God Is My Co-Pilot," Warner release.

Dayton was well represented on the Row. Seen were John Gregory, Far Hills; Roy Wells, Herb Ochs, whose drive-in opens this month, and Fred Krim. From West Virginia came Abe Hyman and Ad Chief Lester, Greater Huntington Theatres; Manny and Louis Shore, Williamson and War, and J. C. Ferguson, and A. A. Abel. Others were D. D. Newbold and E. L. Kessling, Bramwell. Leo Yassenoff was in from Columbus, also Frank Brakefield, Sabina, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Emrich, Germanton, Ohio.

Frank Schreiber, Universal city salesman, is sold 100 per cent in the Bill Scully anniversary drive, now in its last lap. The local office at present writing was in third position . . . Dave Kearney, new office manager for Universal, and Mrs. Kearney are now established in the Kemper Lane . . . Warners' "Torrid Zone" has been reset for early return at the Lyric . . . John Eifert, Warner city salesman, a Victory gardner, saved his fruit crop by using smudge pots in the recent frost . . . Joe Oulahan, Paramount, has returned from Washington.

James Wilson has reopened his Riverside, closed for several weeks by the flood damage . . . Capt. James I. Doyle, formerly with Paramount and now in a medical detachment in France, sent greeting to old buddies . . . Warners' Sol Bragin and Harry Feinstein were visitors . . . Rita Goetz, Filmrow beauty, was maid of honor at the wedding of Dell Goetz, with the following from the industry present: Dorothy Maxfield, Lillian Rust, Betty Dold, Mary Weller and Mildred Seisiger.

Louis Wiethe has added complete charge of the Andulus to his multiple chain interests . . . Mitchell Blackschlaeger, UA representative, reports Mrs. Blackschlaeger is gradually regaining her health at the Hospital where she has been confined for a number of weeks.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Crashes Through Lobby Ceiling to Escape Fire

Cincinnati—Purvis Green, employe of the Pekin, 536 W. Fifth St., suffered shock and possible chest injuries when film he was carrying to the projection room caught fire. Purvis leaped from a window and crashed through the theatre lobby ceiling, landing upon a patron who was hurrying from the building. He was treated at General Hospital.

Columbus Night Spots Under Wartime Curfew

COLUMBUS—Columbus liquor establishments and amusement places must observe the curfew at 12 midnight war time or suffer consequences from the War Manpower Commission and other government agencies. The action was precipitated when Palm Gardens, a North Side night club, closed at midnight by state time, or 1 p. m. war time. Robert Sohngen, state liquor director, said that the state can enforce the curfew only by state time. The WMC had requested the liquor board to withdraw licenses from places violating the local time curfew.

All local theatres are observing the midnight curfew under EWT.

Raze Noble's Opera House, Early Day Ohio Landmark

TIFFIN—Noble's Opera House, famous Tiffin landmark and for many years one of the best known playhouses catering to the legitimates in northern Ohio, will soon pass out of existence. Dark two decades, the building will be torn down to make a place for a department store. Razing the building will be started immediately.

The theatre dates back to the Civil War days. It was built in 1862 by William C. Hedges, son of the city's founder, Josiah Hedges. Opening of the Grand Theatre here in 1906 marked the end of Noble's opera house as a theatre. It struggled a few years as a film house and then was closed.

Cincinnati Cinema Club Postpones Installation

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Cinema Club scheduled its annual dinner and installation April 14 at the Queen City Variety Club, but Pete Niland, secretary, announced the installation will be postponed pending recovery of Rudy Knoepfle, recently returned to the presidency, who was still on the invalid list. Knoepfle recently returned to his home from the hospital.

$18,313 From Columbus

COLUMBUS — Patrons of Columbus and Franklin County theatres contributed $18,313.99 to the Red Cross drive, Lloyd A. Prixley, drive chairman announced. A check for that amount was presented to Pixley by William H. Elder, manager of Loew's Ohio; Jerry Shinbach, manager of RKO Palace and P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.



COLUMBUS

William H. Elder, manager of Loew's Ohio the last year, is slated to enter the armed forces May 9.

Local theatre men are watching with interest several postwar projects which are shaping up, including erection of a giant General Motors plant on West Broad St. near Westgate and a reported new automobile body plant in the southeast section near Groveport pike. The General Motors plant, to be operated by the Ternstedt division of GM, will ultimately employ 8,000 workers. Theatre sites on West Broad and Sullivant Ave. are being inspected by local theatre interests, it's reported. The southeast section, at present having few theatres, also is reported to be under scrutiny by theatre men.

Action is expected soon on the proposal to buy a 1,000-acre site in the northwest section of the county for a new state fairgrounds. The proposed new grounds would have a large auditorium for horse shows, indoor circuses and other sporting and amusement events, plus an outdoor stadium or grandstand for open-air events, such as pageants and races.

Ferne Buergel, former office assistant at the Ohio, was married recently to Lieut. Gilbert Nicholson, Connellsville, Pa., stationed at Lockbourne air base.

Bernard McGraner, Ohio assistant, is back on the job after several weeks' absence due to an operation . . . Bob Morrell, M-G-M booker in the Cincinnati exchange, and Bill Reisinger, manager of Loew's Theatre in Dayton, were in town for preinduction physical examinations at Ft. Hayes. Both drew rejections.

Hunt Carlile, who conducted the Inquiring Reporter radio show daily at the Ohio over WCOL, is on a six-month leave for his health. He's spending the enforced vacation in Arizona. George Ackors is substituting.

Dorothy Marland is the new cashier at Lou Holleb's Majestic. She formerly worked at the Grand and Ohio . . . Mrs. Harrold C. Eckert, wife of the theatre editor of the Ohio State Journal who is assistant city editor of the Journal for the war's duration, is back home recuperating from an operation at Crile Clinic Hospital at Cleveland.

War Fund Check the Top In Theatre Campaigns

CANTON — Representatives of Canton's theatres have presented the Red Cross a check for $8,851.58, which beats last year's figure by $1,200 and represents the largest theatre collection in any Canton campaign. The Canton Repository used a picture of the check presentation. Darwin S. Luntz, received the check as general chairman of the campaign. Participating theatre men were: H. H. Reinhart, owner and operator of the Mozart and State; Lloyd Hayes, manager of the Palace; Irwin H. Solomon, manager of Warners' Ohio and Harry Klotz, manager of Loew's.

Wellman Gives Party To Introduce Buyers

GIRARD, OHIO—Peter Wellman, circuit owner, staged an industry party at his Mahoning County Club recently to introduce to his theatre personnel Bill Twig, former Paramount salesman who has assumed the job of buying and booking for the Wellman houses.

Joins Cast of "The Kissing Bandit"

Dean Stockwell has joined the cast of Metro's "The Kissing Bandit."

Greetings

A. MONTAGUE

Your 20 Years of Sterling Leadership With COLUMBIA Has Earned Our Respect and Esteem

•

E. C. PRINZEN
PALACE AND STATE THEATRES
Youngstown, Ohio

Quarter of a Million In Theatre Project

BRADFORD, PA.—Shea's circuit purchased the garage building on South Ave. adjoining the Shea Theatre and the two structures will be combined in a modern 1,400-seat theatre. The cost of the project will approximate $250,000. An enlarged lobby will be made on the present garage property and the theatre proper and the stage will remain in the same position.

Michael De Angelis, Rochester, N. Y., architect, states that a circular staircase will be near the entrance leading to the managerial offices and the 500-seat balcony. The main floor will seat 900. A direct ramp will lead into the theatre. All poles in the auditorium will be removed.

The present Shea was opened Dec. 21, 1903, and was known as the Bradford, with Mose Reiss, proprietor. On Jan. 1, 1922, John and Tom Melvin, local attorneys who owned the Lyceum, obtained a contract for the operation of the Bradford and the Grand. Shortly thereafter in the summer of 1922 the Shea interests took over the Bradford and later the Grand. The house on South was renamed Shea's, and after renovations were completed the theatre opened with pictures plus four acts of B. F. Keith vaudeville the last three days of each week. The late Robert Horning was manager, and his assistant, George Pierce, succeeded him. Emory Heath, a member of the stage crew at that time is still on the staff.

Talking pictures were first exhibited at this house on May 14, 1928. Pierce, now with the Imperial Theatre in New York, was manager. Later Dan Fenton and Jack Hymes were at the helm. Vincent Choate assumed management in the fall of 1940 when he was promoted from Shea's Orpheum, McKees Rocks, Pa.

PRC Films Top B Now

CLEVELAND—Mark Goldman, PRC branch manager, reports "exhibitors are now waking up" to the fact that the top PRC pictures are comparable to major B product and, as such, there is a place for them on every screen. He cites in particular such pictures as "Crime, Inc." with Leo Carillo, Martha Tilton and Tom Neal; "Strange Illusion" with James Lydon, Sally Eilers, Warren Williams; "Bluebeard" with Jean Parker, Nils Asther and "The Town Went Wild" with Freddie Bartholmew, Edward Everett Horton and James Lydon. All are in the strictly "escapist entertainment" class, Goldman points out.

J. C. Sullivan, 67, Dies

COLUMBUS — J. Clarence Sullivan, 67, pageant director, died Sunday night, March 25, in his home here. He was widely known for patriotic pageants which he produced during the first world war, and for shows at the Ohio state fair. For many years he and his wife sold theatrical costumes.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!



TAMPA, Fla., hasn't seen a Monday matinee lineup like this in many a moon. The State overflowed and "MOM AND DAD" rang up a swell two-weeks gross. The picture was praised from a local church pulpit as a "sermon on film."

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57 Years Drive Honors Pittsburgh UA Trio

PITTSBURGH—United Artists is staging a 57 Years Service Drive, which is dedicated by the office personnel as a play date campaign during May and June. Three salesmen are being honored in the drive.

Harry Rees, "the old original," has been with United Artists for 27 years. He "opened the office" here with Carlos Moore, branch manager, on Ferry St., and he has remained through the years, moving with the company from the original exchange to quarters on Ninth St. and later to Forbes St. and to the film building at 1717 Boulevard of the Allies.

Rees is one of the best known film men in the mideast area and no film salesman ever has had a wider experience here. For a decade prior to joining UA, Rees had been employed here by General Film at both the Calcium and the Duquesne branches. Thirty years ago, too, he was in exhibition here in the Beltzhoover district, being a partner with his brother-in-law, Harry Roney sr.

Rees has covered all points in the film area at one time or another and he is familiar with all situations. Together with George Moore, 20th-Fox salesman, he is the oldest-in-service Filmrow employe. He can name most of the titles of the UA pictures and their stars over the period of years the corporation has been in existence. He entered the film field as a youngster and he has never been associated with any other industry. Rees is quiet and unassuming and appears embarrassed that attention is being paid to him in the May-June play date drive.

The other salesmen being honored are Bill Scott and Jimmy Nash.

Scott has served UA here for 21 years and Nash has been connected with the company branch for nine years. The three salesmen's service years total 57.

The 57 Years Service Drive is being directed by William Shartin, branch manager, who succeeded Mort Magill to this post several months ago when the latter was promoted to Philadelphia. Dave Brown, UA booking head here, states there are many early pledges of cooperation from exhibitors and he urges accounts to give two dates for pictures, due to print shortage.

Jack Nesbitt, Overseas Seven Weeks, Is Missing

PITTSBURGH—The war department has notified the family of Pvt. Jack Nesbitt, 19, that he has been listed as missing in action since March 10. A PRC shipper before being inducted into the army, Jack was a member of the Rainbow division, 28th infantry. A visitor on Filmrow at the Christmas holiday season, he had been overseas only seven weeks prior to the date he was listed as missing. Three brothers are or were film exchange employes here: Bill Nesbitt is PRC office manager; Sgt. Al Nesbitt, former Paramount shipper, is at a California camp; Bob, former Monogram shipper, has been employed by the railroad here since receiving a discharge from the army.

The Nesbitts are sons of the late "Bill" Nesbitt, a 20th-Fox employe here for many years.

Council Head's Son Slain

DETROIT—Marine Pvt. Truman Allen Shattuck was reported killed in action on Iwo Jima March 2, according to word received here. He was the only son of Marquis E. Shattuck, who served a number of terms as president of the Greater Detroit Motion Picture Council. His parents and two sisters survive.

Seven Holdovers Send Detroit Grosses Up

DETROIT—Local houses, finding a nice upward surge of business with Easter week, relied heavily on holdovers again, with seven pictures going into a second or third week. There were no long-time holdovers, characteristic of the early winter season, however, and the situation has been strictly normal. The weather has been good for burgeonning cutdoor show business, but not too favorable for theatres.

(Average is 100)

Adams—**House of Fear** (Univ); **Frisco Sal** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk. for latter....120
Broadway-Capitol—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M), after 2 wks at the UA....125
Downtown—**Fog Island** (PRC), plus Louis Prima orchestra on stage....135
Fox—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox)....130
Michigan—**Three Is a Family** (UA); **And Now Tomorrow** (Para), 2nd wk....140
Palms-State—**One Body Too Many** (Para); **Woman in the Window** (RKO)....130
Paradise—**The Ink Spots** and **Cootie Williams** orchestra on stage....150
United Artists—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Double Exposure** (Para)....120

Pittsburgh's Two New Offerings Both Below Par in Poor Week

PITTSBURGH—The only two new offerings, "Hotel Berlin" and "Frisco Sal," both dipped under average, the former moving over, however, from the Stanley to the Warner, and the latter moving out and off the screen at the Fulton. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" in its fourth downtown week turned in the best showing in receipts over established average for the house, the Harris Senator, and another holdover resulted.

Barry—**Grapes of Wrath** (20th-Fox); **Tobacco Road** (20th-Fox), reissues....80
Fulton—**Frisco Sal** (Univ)....75
Harris—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), regular admissions, 11 days....75
Penn—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 2nd wk....70
Ritz—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 5th d. t. wk....80
Senator—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th d. t. wk....110
Stanley—**Hotel Berlin** (WB)....70
Warner—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk....65

"National Velvet" Best With 120 At the Cincinnati Boxoffices

CINCINNATI — "National Velvet," with Mickey Rooney, took peak grosses and carried over. "It's a Pleasure" was second contender for public favor. Business on the whole was better than average. The weather dropped to a frost level, after warm and sultry days. All features received better than usual praise from the press.

Albee—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), held and shifted....110
Capitol—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), return at popular prices....95
Grand—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), held....105
Keith's—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk....95
Lyric—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk....95
Palace—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), held....120
Shubert—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk....95

Cleveland Grosses Best In Last Four Weeks

CLEVELAND—With a slow start and a big pickup over the Easter weekend, the theatres came through with the best total take in four weeks. "National Velvet" took top honors, scoring 130 per cent in its opening week at the State, where it stayed on for a second week. "Murder, My Sweet" at the RKO Palcame through just over par.

Allen—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk., moveover from the Hippodrome....100
Hippodrome—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO)....85
Lake—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 4th wk., 2nd moveover, from Hippodrome to Allen to Lake....100
Ohio—**Practically Yours** (Para), 3rd wk., 2nd moveover, from State to Stillman to Ohio....110
Palace—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), Johnny Long orchestra on stage....100
State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M)....130
Stillman—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd wk., moved over from State....110

MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Holis Hayes, owner of the Regent, Linesville, Pa., entered theatre business in 1925 after operating a milk plant for a dairy concern. Besides tending to his theatre business, Hayes takes an active interest in civic affairs in his community and operates a star mail route from Linesville to Meadville. His son, Glenn Gordon Hayes, is operator at the Park Theatre in Meadville. Hayes has been a member of the Masons since 1927 and for diversion goes fishing whenever he can find the time. Hayes' numerous friends in Linesville and Meadville refer to him as "Mack."



A year and a half after opening his first theatre in 1912, **A. E. Ptak,** Cleveland, decided to give up his former business, merchant tailoring. He considered motion pictures more profitable and interesting. Apparently 32 years in the business hasn't changed his opinion because he still has the Lyceum, his original location, too. He has one son and two daughters. Ptak is a member of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors and the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, as well as Kiwanis, Al Koran, and the Masons. He enjoys fishing and gardening.



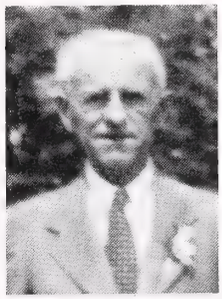
Starting a nickelodeon in a storeroom in Winchester, Ohio, in 1910, was a thrilling experience for **A. H. "Dof" Rosselot,** head of the Russell and Ken theatres, Russell, Ky. Taking advantage of the new field in 1916, he built an all-concrete theatre called the Arcano. Selling his properties in Ohio, Rosselot then moved to Russell where, in 1940, he took over the Russell and Ken theatres. After 34 years in the business, Rosselot sometimes wonders if it isn't time to retire. He is active in church work and lists reading as his hobby.



John Lester Bush, owner of the Strand and Dixie theatres in Grafton, W. Va., has been a showman since 1913 when his wife, then playing a piano in a vaudeville theatre in Grafton, interested him in the theatre business. Bush is a member of numerous civic organizations, among them the Rotary Club, the Moose, the Elks, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He is an active member of the West Virginia Managers association and finds time to raise fine trotting horses which he runs successfully on the grand circuit.



Mrs. Maggie Rihacek began her career as a showman—or is it showwoman? — when she took over the 500-seat Tivoli Theatre, Toledo, in the middle 1920s. She has operated the house ever since, and runs it well, to judge by its steady flow of patrons. She is a member of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio. A widow, Mrs. Rihacek has four sons, two of them married; three daughters, one of whom is married, and eight grandchildren. Cooking is her hobby. She specializes in roasts and soups. No cookies for the grandchildren?



The grocery business held no lasting fascination for **Stanley Oleszkowicz** of Detroit. In 1920 he switched to the picture industry. He has been in the film business ever since and takes pride in the great strides it has made in producing better quality pictures. He owns the Atlas and Stanley in Detroit. A member of the Sportsmen's Club, he loves to hunt, and is also quite an enthusiast over photography. He has two sons, Walter with the infantry, and John in France with a medical unit. Among his friends he is affectionately known as "Stan."



Starting as a rewinder during Bronco Billy days in Ellwood, Pa., **Harry Rachiele,** Pittsburgh, then became a machinist. Tiring of his occupation, in 1921 he purchased the Comfort Theatre in Sharpsburg, later the Main in 1934, and eventually went into partnership with the Walker Bros., acquiring the Strand. He then purchased the Gem, 1925, bought the Maryland in 1937, and continued adding houses until today, head of his own circuit, he operates four houses in Pennsylvania and one in Milwaukee. He is a member of Sharpsburg Chamber of Commerce.



William R. Wheat jr. of the Sewickley Theatre in the Pennsylvania town of that name thought in 1910 that it looked as if motion pictures were here to stay, so he remodeled a store in Sewickley and opened a nickelodeon that seated 152. He built his present theatre in 1915 and added its balcony in 1925. Friends who don't call him "Bill" call him the "Little Colonel." He is a director of AMPTO of western Pennsylvania, of Cooperative Theatre Service and of Film Classics. Hobbies? "No golf these days—even horseback days are over."



CRIME DETECTORS PONDER—Several prominent Detroiters joined in a contest with $100 war bonds as prizes in guessing the correct solution of International's murder mystery, "Woman in the Window." Shown here are: Judge W. McKay Skillman, recorders court; Frank G. Schemanske, chief assistant to the prosecuting attorney; Harry Gaige, homicide bureau; Douglas R. Ginn, police department; James Melton, Patrick S. McDougall, Harry Sams, police reporters; Joseph Aarons, amateur criminologist; S. Kapetansky, station WXYZ; Len Shaw, Charles Gentry, Al Weitschat, John Finlayson, newspaper film critics, and the winners, Eduard Werner, assistant prosecuting attorney, and John H. Witherspoon, assistant corporation counsel.

DETROIT

Nightingale Songs: Two anchor men rolled up near perfect series, Jack Hall of Altec had 186-164-160, total 510; and Gil Light of Lorenzen Flowers had 186-164-161, total 511 . . . Jack Lindenthal rolled a 258 to total 623 in the AFL tournament, and Jack Hall rolled 574, while Roy Thompson, Jack Colwell and Carl Mingoine all hit over 500. Quite a team, those Altec boys . . . Pvt. Edward Waddell of the marines has been reported wounded on Iwo Jima . . . Michael Ureel is getting the razzberry for taking Mary's bowling ball, and a new one at that.

Exchanges: Fred Rohrs, PRC district manager, was expected in for a visit . . . Margaret Studebaker of Republic staff has been promoted to booker . . . Jack Lothamer's new desk at Warners makes him a sultan in a harem . . . Bob Dunbar has his office entrance fitted up like a wigwam for the Warner powwow . . . Burt Dymond, who used to be with RKO, is new booker for Universal, succeeding Harry W. Irons.

Al Dezel, Film Classics chief, was off for a week's tour through the Ohio territory . . . Sol Cohen, manager of Film Classics Chicago office, came over to handle things here in Al's absence . . . Maj. Jack Hurford is back from Alaska on furlough again.

Under the Marquees: Exhibitors heading for the former Great White Way on the Hudson, give BOXOFFICE a ring first. We'll both be glad you did! . . . The Fox had an ad beautifully spotted in the Free Press with plenty of white space above and below despite paper rationing? . . . Alex Zesser, manager of the New Home, is out of gasoline coupons, so he spends his afternoons at the theatre, listening to the radio.

Milton Zimmerman, Universal office manager, reports "U" is building two new film vaults and as a result will be able to stock more older prints here . . . Robert Bram, Universal booker, was the grand prize winner, to his great surprise . . . Herbert Spoon, navy, formerly of M-G-M and National Screen, was back on a visit from the Liberty ship to which he is assigned in a gunnery crew.

Eddie Jacobson, owner of the Davison, became the father of a baby boy named Louis Mark. It's his second boy . . . George W. Craig, electrician at the Lafayette, has received word that his son David, a tank corporal, is a prisoner in Germany . . . Robert Bryson, former booker for PRC, is the new manager of the Circle in Dearborn for Joseph Stoia, replacing Frank Stuart, who joined the Miskinis organization, we hear . . . Harry W. Irons, former booker for Universal, is new manager of the Civic for Joseph Miskinis, replacing Frank Wood . . . Donald Porter, formerly an aviation mechanic in the air force, has been named assistant manager at the Family, following his discharge.

Up in the Booths: Roy C. Thompson of the Oakland in Highland Park had to call the fire department to stop a flaming short circuit in his car; then the next day a lady turned a corner too fast and smashed it up for him . . . Charles Bashor, who came up from Memphis to take over the Myrtle assignment, was pinch-hitting for the gals at Local 199 office Saturday . . . Ray Doyle, who used to be at the Myrtle, is now with Altec.

Short Circuits: Storekeeper Peter Kavel, navy, former manager of the Ace, reports the motion picture field abroad is virgin territory . . . Pvt. Herman "Wonder Boy" Cohen, former manager of the Dexter, is working at the post headquarters dental survey office at Scott Field, Ill. . . . Alex Schreiber of Associated is resting on the desert at Phoenix, recovering from his vacation in California!

Bill London is busy handling the operations of the Associated office . . . The Fred DeLodder circuit has reincorporated the Aloma Theatre Co. of the house of that name in Grosse Pointe, and is changing the Flaming Theatre Co. to the Seven Mile Theatre Co. . . . Fred Parthum, secretary of the circuit, reports all quiet on the Mack Ave. front . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ackerman returned from Florida feeling fine, and that gives son Al Ackerman a few days off to usher in a new baby at his house.

Music Notes: William Finzel will play for the opening ball game for the 43rd year.

Along the Rialto: Sgt. Leon Arozian reports making two trips around the Pacific with Don Fill, former manager of the Cameo . . . Eddie Jacobson of the Davison is trying to give Faye Boyd of Film Classics star billing . . . Jam Handy has been awarded a fifth army-navy E for professional services. Previous awards were for training devices, art, chart and graphic division, and motion pictures . . . Stephanie Bachelor, who played in "Experiment Perilous," is a home town visitor with her mother in the north end suburb of Highland Park.

Wolverines: Les Taylor, manager of the houses at Charlevoix and Petoskey for Mrs. Elizabeth Moon, was a Paramount visitor discussing plans for rebuilding her theatre at Charlevoix, severely damaged by fire . . . Moe Dudelson, UA branch manager, is handling tickets for Variety Club's western state branch installation banquet April 18. Jack Zide of Allied Films is handling the hotel reservations . . . Henry Carley and the Butterfield circuit are installing a new sound system in the Colonial at Holland.

At the Terrace Room: We had a very pleasant lunch with Ray Meurer of UDT, joined intermittently by Maestro Phil Brestoff of the Michigan . . . Earl Hudson, UDT president, and Circuiteer Lew Wisper were over in one corner . . . Met Frank Downey, M-G-M manager, on the way out . . . Jim Sharkey of Co-Op and Milt Cohen, RKO manager, were in one pair, Jack Keegan of UDT and Joe Lee, Fox manager, in another.

Supply Stuff: Hal Burriss, the sign man, has a new studio up at the Scarab Club, where he does his fine art work.

Fox Tales: Freddie Sturgess of Co-Op has been named official correspondent for the boys. So he has named Henry Zapp as official buck passer . . . Dave Newman is a very busy man in his usual quite way.

"A Chance for a Yank": This new stage show at UDT's Broadway-Capitol, broadcast over George Trendle's WXYZ, got off to a good start Monday night . . . Ray Meurer was on deck on the production side, with Phil Brestoff and Del Parker. Larry Page had the band. Dick Osgood was in pitching as emcee. Earl Hudson was a much interested spectator from the mezzanine. Joe Busic handled the house details . . . And we finally met, in person, Lorna Pauls, charming blonde manager of the big house.

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FRANK A. WETSMAN

PITTSBURGH

Eddie Moriarty, M-G-M salesman in naval boot training, writes he has hardly time to breathe. He sends regards to all. You may address him: Edwin J. Moriarty A/S, Co. 4088 4th Regt., Bks. 422L, 20th Bn., USNTC, Bainbridge, Md. . . . Mrs. Ruth G. Hays Yost, wife of Loyal Yost, projectionist at the Wilmer, Wilmerding, died March 30 . . . Steve Santa, proprietor of the Glade, Mount Washington, is recuperating after undergoing an operation in Mercy Hospital.

Fred Solomon states that the American Poster Supply will retain accessory display sales quarters in the basement of the Van Bldg., 425 Van Broom St. . . . With sufficient products available, John Walsh jr., Fulton manager, expects there will be no shutdown this summer at the Sixth St. Theatre . . . The Harry Walkers of Crafton recently vacationed in Atlantic City, and the William Walkers returned from Florida.

Peter James McTighe, stage hand for 45 years and 30 years with Warner Bros., died in the Pittsburgh Hospital following a week's illness. He recently was at the Enright, East Liberty. A member of IATSE, Local No. 3, he had been employed formerly at the Nixon and Alvin.

Pvt. Milton P. Antonoplos, former East Pittsburgh theatre manager and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Antonoplos, who was stationed outside of Calcutta, India, flew to Assam province and, after several weeks, "over the hump" to China, viewing the Ledo and Burma roads en route.

A. E. "Al" Fox, Republic representative, is here for several weeks on business. Within a few hours after starting his work at the local branch exchange he was requested to serve at the USO-Variety Club Canteen.

James H. Alexander, Pennsylvania Enterprises' officer, was out of the city for several days in connection with business for the film buying and booking combine . . . Allied exhibitor directors met last week but they had no reports for publication . . . Lieut. John Jaffurs, former football star and son of the Jim Jaffurs, Wilmerding, Glassport and Millvale exhibitors, is recuperating from wounds sustained in German territory.

Opening night of ZaSu Pitts' "Ramshackle Inn" at the Nixon April 30 has been sold out for a special theatre party, and the public opening will be Tuesday evening, May 1.

The Lew (PRC) Leftons observed their 27th anniversary April 11. Their youngest son, Pvt. Seymour C. Lefton, was a visitor last weekend . . . A PRC visitor was Fred H. Rohrs, new mideast district manager, successor of Sid Kulick, now eastern manager . . . Lieut. Steve Rodnok, former Oakmont theatre manager, who furloughed here last week, is entering B29 training . . . Norman Mervis is now stationed in Boston at the naval receiving station. He is one of the three Mervis brothers of city area exhibition fame in uniform.

Howard Minsky, a Warner salesman here before going into the SeaBees, who has been at the Chelsea Naval Hospital, Boston, was a Filmrow visitor last Saturday with his children, Barry and Marcia. His brother, Lieut. Joseph Minsky, former local Warner exchange office manager and a Cleveland film man, now with the Eighth army air force in England, has been overseas 22 months.

S. A. Peters, Sistersville, W. Va., exhibitor, has appointed Milton "Mickey" Hartz as his egg sales representative. It seems he recently purchased a number of hens and he has been having an over-supply of eggs, so the PRC salesman, being a visitor at his Paramount, was named to sell the hen fruit at ceiling price . . . Marshall W. Peterson, Johnsonburg theatre man, has returned from a vacation spent in the southland.

Sid Zins, Columbia exploitation representative, has been working on "A Song to Remember" in this area . . . Jack Goldhar, UA district manager, was here on business with Bill Shartin, branch manager . . . J. J. Rost of Wilkinsburg, a traveling auditor for Warners, has been checking the books at the local exchange.

"Newt" Williams, National Theatre Supply manager, is laid up with inflammatory rheumatism and he may not be able to return to the office for some weeks . . . New Variety members are Milton B. Hartz, J. Frank Rungo, John E. Reeder, John Leban and William M. Green.

Mike Manos, circuit executive, will vacation several weeks at Hot Springs . . . Joe Feldman, assistant to Moe Silver, was in New York at the Warner circuit office recently . . . Paramount arranged a downtown sneak preview of "Murder, He Says," a "different" screwball hokum comedy starring Fred MacMurray, which was given a tradeshowing April 6.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Newton F. Williams (he's the National Theatre Supply Co. manager) announce the engagement of their daughter Dora Virginia to Lieut. Walter G. Bender of the marines, son of the C. M. Benders of Mount Lebanon. Lieutenant Bender has just returned from duty in the Central Pacific.

Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, was a visitor this week . . . Cpl. Robert Perrin, formerly of the Harris Liberty staff, was killed in action in Europe . . . Many exhibitors are participating in Roy Rogers contests and will invite girl and boy representatives to a luncheon with the King of the Cowboys and to a rodeo performance Saturday afternoon, May 5, at The Gardens. Roy is on tour.



BILL EYTHE COMES HOME—William Eythe, young 20th-Fox star, who is on an exploitation tour in the interest of "A Royal Scandal" and "Colonel Effingham's Raid," in which he enacts leading roles, is pictured in Pittsburgh, where he graduated from the drama school of Carnegie Tech. Top photo shows him surrounded by employes at the 20th-Fox exchange. Bottom: C. C. Kellenberg, the company's Pittsburgh sales manager, with the young star and his parents, the Carl Eythes of Mars, Pa.

Projectionist Saw Photos Made for "The Valley"

PITTSBURGH — Frank Thomas, Pittsburgh Filmrow projectionist, is especially interested in M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision" as he accompanied Charlie Baron and a company photographer, Ed Bagley, when approximately 500 photos were snapped here some months ago for background detail for the Edwin H. Knopf production which is based on the novel by Marcia Davenport. To be trade shown here April 24, the picture co-stars Greer Garson and Gregory Peck and features Lionel Barrymore, Donald Crisp, Preston Foster, Marsha Hunt, Gladys Cooper, Dan Duryea and Reginald Owen. "The Valley of Decision" is a story of the family of a Pittsburgh steel manufacturer, opening in the year 1873.

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MARCH 16 to JUNE 28

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Colonial Theatre — Erie, Pa.

CLEVELAND

The Ohio grade of sunshine is evidently an inducement for the wandering film men to return home. Paul and Mrs. Gusdanovic, who escaped the winter in Florida, and the Abe Schwartzes, who took as much of winter as they could stand before seeking a warmer climate, are returning this week . . . William N. Skirball, head of the Skirball Bros. circuit, has announced he intends to return home April 18 from California where he and his sisters have been staying since the first of the year.

Pfc. Bernie Rubin, formerly with PRC, writes from Culver City where he is assigned to the motion picture unit of the air force, which has just completed a documentary called "Target Tokyo." Take it from Bernie, it's a marvelous picture. He is hobnobbing with such screen celebrities as Capt. Ronald Reagan, Cpl. George Montgomery, Norman Krasna and the like. Another bit of news that Bernie passes on is that he will be a daddy in June. He reports he keeps abreast of the industry news here via BOXOFFICE.

Another popular name has come up out of the past. Marty Friedman, Warner booker who enlisted in the marines more than two years ago and has been stationed on the west coast ever since completing his basic training, has been shipped out to the Japanese war front . . . Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, was here several days visiting Sam P. Gorrel, local manager.

The Metropolitan Theatre soon is to turn the lights on again, according to an announcement by Emmanuel Stutz. Plans were completed to reopen the house April 14 with a foreign picture policy, the first being "Rainbow," Russian. The house has been closed for a month or more after a flyer in presenting colored stage shows. Stutz has always been an advocate of foreign pictures. For several years he managed the Penn Square Theatre, showing foreign films exclusively.

Charlie Gottlob discovered the other day that in his absence the personnel of his Milo Theatre had been increased. Three kittens were born to the house cat and right in the boxoffice, which definitely is the proper place to apply for admission to the theatre . . . Cal C. Leeder has joined Film Classics in Cincinnati and Florence Friedman has been added to the Cleveland office staff as assistant to Elaine Sugar, office manager.

Jim Shrake of the Associated circuit managerial family was home last week from naval duties . . . Milton A. Mooney of Cooperative Theatres of Ohio is back from a business trip to New York . . . Bob Snyder, Film Classics local representative, is releasing a series of new color cartoons called Capt'n Cub cartoons, which tradepapers speak well of. Also being released by Film Classics is the feature "The Stars Look Down," starring Geraldine Fitzgerald, originally distributed by M-G-M.

H. Neale, representing the owners of the Warren Drive-In Theatre, negotiated a deal with Cooperative Theatres to handle the buying and booking this season. Last year the house was operated by the late Dan Stearns . . . Pfc. Gus Davis, a former Co-Op booker, writes from New Dehli, India, that he is back on duty after an illness that hospitalized him several weeks . . . And Pvt. Howard Speiss, also one of the Co-Op bookers before joining the army, reports that he is feeling fine again. He had some trouble with his feet and was at the Corona naval hospital in California several months.

Ed Fisher, Loew Theatres publicity director, was turned down by his induction board . . . Bill Blitz, Warner booker who was inducted into the army last week with all the fanfare of a company party, is back at his booker's desk in civvies. The army doctors decided he'd make a better booker than soldier.

Anne Vickers, one of M-G-M's four bookers, is vacationing out west for at least two weeks . . . The local Universal office is heading the William Scully anniversary drive and Herb Horstmeier, office manager, says that with just a little more exhibitor support, that's where it will stay until the chips are counted at the end of the drive.

RKO District Manager Bernard Kranze's chest expanded several inches last week when his son Don came home on leave wearing his wings and flight officer insignia . . . Max Shenker, the Berlo Vending man, had a letter from his son and former business associate, Sgt. Irwin Shenker, that he is now attending school in France. He didn't say what he is studying . . . Bud Friedman, Warner Theatres booker, weekended in Pittsburgh where he chummed up with the Pittsburgh booking crew.

Tony Stern, president of the Warner Club and booking manager for the theatre department, staged the club's first spring party last Friday night . . . Freda Caplane has been promoted from assistant manager at Keith's East 105th St. Theatre to secretary to Clem Pope, RKO Great Lakes division manager. She succeeds Mae Pollin Katzell, who is now the mother of a baby girl.

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Detroit Monogram Takes Clear Lead in Pin League

DETROIT — Monogram pulled out of a triple tie to a clear lead in the Film Bowling League last week:

	Won	Lost
Monogram Pictures	31	17
General Theatre Service	30	18
United Artists	29	19
Film Truck Service	27	21
Cooperative Theatres	23	25
Theatrical Advertising	19	29
Republic Pictures	17	31
RKO Radio	16	32

High scores were rolled by: Saxe, 209; Sheran, 214, and Metzger, 205.

DETROIT—Brenkert Projectors still hold a three-game lead in the Nightingale Club Bowling League:

	Won	Lost
Brenkert Projectors	44	28
Lorenzen's Flower Shop	41	31
McArthur Theatre Equipment	39	33
National Carbon Co.	38	34
National Theatre Supply	35	37
Altec Sound Service	34	38
McArthur's Motiograph	30	42
Ernie Forbes Theatre Supply	27	45

High scores were rolled by: Roy Thompson, 221; Edgar Douville, 209; Carl Mingoine, 202, and Jack Lindenthal, 201.

Altec Service Wins AFL Bowling City Championship Trophy

DETROIT—Formal presentation of trophy for the championship in the American Federation of Labor bowling tournament was made Friday (6) to the Altec Service team of the Nightingales Club at the Palmer Bowling Club alleys. This was the first time in history that a theatrical team has won this coveted city-wide honor. A special trophy was also presented to the team by Fred C. Dickely, district manager of Altec.

Jack Hall is captain of the team that made bowling history, with Roy Thompson, Jack Colwell, Carl Mingoine and Roy Thompson as his team mates.

MPEA to Aid Clothes Drive

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n, whose membership includes practically all of the independent theatres in Cuyahoga County, have agreed to participate in National Clothing week, to be held the last week in April. George W. Erdmann, secretary, says that trailers will be shown at all member theatres. However, the theatres will not handle the clothing which is to be deposited at schools, fire houses and designated public buildings. Clothing thus collected will be sent to all of the liberated countries.

To Feature in "The Yearling"

Harry Davenport and Margaret Wycherly, Metro, have been given featured parts in "The Yearling."

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CARL W. BUERMELE

I. J. Schmertz With Fox Longest of All

CLEVELAND—It sounds contradictory to say that I. J. Schmertz is celebrating his 37th year with the 20th-Fox Corp. organization when the company of that name is only holding its 30th birthday anniversary, but it is nevertheless true. You see, Schmertz stepped straight from school into the office of William Fox, at that time head of the Greater New York Film Rental Co. As in all American success stories, he started as the office boy. There were plenty of ladders back in 1905 and Izzie soon started to climb the Fox ladder to an executive position, but he always stayed on the same ladder.



I. J. SCHMERTZ

When William Fox sold his Greater New York Film Rental Co. to General Film and formed Boxoffice Attractions, Schmertz was made manager of the office. That was in New York. After Boxoffice Attractions became the Fox Film Corp. Schmertz continued to take on more and more responsibility in the distribution field. He opened and managed the company's branch in Albany for ten years. It was in Albany that the team of Schmertz and Bergman was formed, Schmertz as branch manager, and Edwin R. "Eddie" Bergman as salesman, a team that was transferred 16 years ago from Albany to Cleveland.

So far as is known, Schmertz has been with 20th-Fox and its immediate predecessors longer than any one, including its top men. He has maintained a reputation of integrity, good judgment and loyalty.

Commenting on the fact that his association with the company is older than the company itself, Schmertz said this was the only job he ever had, and although he has nothing to prove it, it is his private opinion that it looks like a permanent connection.

Identification Contest

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland Cinema Club of which Mrs. Ethel Conrad is president is holding a motion picture identification contest in conjunction with the Cleveland Public Library. Stills and advertising material, with identification marks removed, of 50 features produced in the last three years are on display. Contestants are asked to name the picture and the stars. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners.

A Skyway Nightly Show

ERIE, PA.—The Skyway Drive-In will open sometime during the third week of April, but the curfew will limit operations to one show each night. The outdoor theatre is owned by Carl C. Guerrein, brother of Leo Guerrein jr., owner of the Hippodrome here.

Gallant Offer Backfires, Lady Accepts His Pipe!

Louisville—Harry Bloom, in his column in the Times, tells this one about a fellow worker:

His inevitable pipe in a corner of his mouth, Boyd Martin, drama critic, was in a bank lobby when an attractively-garbed woman who may have known him but whom he couldn't place, remarked, "My, but you look so comfortable smoking a pipe."

"Yes, there's a good deal of pleasure in it," he agreed.

"I may try it myself some time," she said.

Taking the pipe from his mouth, he obeyed that impulse.

"Here, would you like to have this one?"

To his amazement she accepted and stuffed it in her purse. The pipe would give him even more pleasure if he could see it put into service by its new owner.

Cleveland Red Cross Total Jumps $50,000

CLEVELAND—With 75 theatres not yet reported, the Red Cross collection to date totals $216,000. This is an increase over last year of more than $50,000. This sum was reported by WAC Distributor Chairman Joe Krenitz and Leroy Kendis, substituting for Exhibitor Chairman Meyer Fine.

George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n, reports the independent Red Cross take to date to be $36,000, or $6,000 better than last year. The circuits have accounted for $126,000 with more reports to come.

Son Born to Joseph Bells

FAYETTE CITY, PA.—Joseph Bell, veteran exhibitor here, is the proud father of a son, born last week in Mercy Hospital. Mother and child are doing very well and the proprietor of the Bell Theatre is turning handsprings!

Fred Brown to Berea

CLEVELAND—Fred Brown, a newcomer, has been appointed manager of the Berea Theatre, Berea. The house has been under the personal management of Charles Deckman, one of the owners.

Remodel Akron Peoples

AKRON—The People's Theatre, E. South and Grant streets, has been darkened for improvements. House is one of the early neighborhood houses, located close in.

New Cincinnati Booker

CINCINNATI—Columbia has a new booker, Bert Rosenbaum, who replaces Bob Hoban, resigned.

Henry Srere, Circuit Operator, Dies at 59

DETROIT—Harry Srere, 59, former Detroiter and owner of a chain of theatres on the Pacific coast, died here on April 1 in Harper Hospital. He had returned to Detroit, his former home, just a month ago to be with his son, who is attending the University of Michigan.

Srere started in the theatre business about 1926 with Gus Metzger as president of the Pacific Amusement Co., taking over the Forum Theatre in Los Angeles. They subsequently added the Roxie and Arcade in Los Angeles, and were also interested at one time in theatres in San Francisco. They also operated the Cabrillo, Tower and other theatres in San Diego.

Srere is survived by his wife and two sons. Interment was in Clover Hill Cemetery here.

Fred Cook Jr. Supervising Trio at Beaver Falls

PITTSBURGH—Fred Cook jr., son of Frederick H. Cook, organizer of the Rialto Corp., which purchased the Rialto and State in Beaver Falls April 1, is supervising the management of these theatres and the Granada, of that city, a property of the firm of Cook & Anderson, theatre owners and operators, general contractors, lumber, coal and sand and gravel dealers. Mark Anderson, son of the deceased cofounder of the firm, looks after the coal and other interests. One of the current projects of Cook and Anderson is the construction of a large hospital annex at Beaver Falls. Sam Hanauer, who retired from the theatre business there after 44 years, with the transfer of the Rialto and State and other real estate to the newly-formed Rialto Corp., continues in his chemical business and is keeping himself busy as president of the First National Bank, Beaver Falls.

Jefferson County Theatres Raise $20,000 for Cross

LOUISVILLE — Approximately $20,000 of the $908,967.61 raised in the 1945 Jefferson County Red Cross campaign was collected in Louisville theatres, Freeman Smith, Beaver Dam, executive director of the Kentucky Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors and state chairman for the Red Cross theatre collections, announced.

The Allen Theatre in Liberty, Ky., operated by Oscar D. Hopper, donated a whole day's proceeds to the campaign, Smith reported, adding that many other Kentucky theatres made contributions.

Other Trade Paper Stories About FC Denied by Dezel

DETROIT—Stories in some trade papers that indicated a radical change of plans in connection with the Film Classics organization were vigorously denied here by Albert Dezel, franchise holder for Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati territories, and chairman of the national executive committee formed by the franchise holders of the FC group.

"The company will go on just as before," Dezel said. "The Casanave interests are not taking over Film Classics, and we will have pictures, just as planned."

Dezel pointed out that the story carried in the March 31 issue of BOXOFFICE was entirely correct.

NTS Head in Cleveland

CLEVELAND — Walter Green, National Theatre Supply president, was in Cleveland visiting Branch Manager L. H. Walters.

Sherman Wins "Golden Deeds" Book

DETROIT—An unusual tribute to a leading film man by a leading civic organization was paid by the Exchange Club of Muskegon to Paul J. Schlossman, veteran exhibitor of that city, and long a leader of Allied Theatres of Michigan.

Schlossman was awarded the club's "Book of Golden Deeds" for 1944. This award is made annually to an outstandingly worthy recipient in the community.

In the citation, it was said that it was given "because of his unswerving devotion to humanitarian causes; on the basis of a long list of charitable acts, both public and private, during the long years he has been Muskegon's leading figure in entertainment field."

He has long been active in the fight against infantile paralysis and served as chairman of the Michigan March of Dimes drive in 1942 and 1944. In being given the award, Schlossman was praised for his outstanding acts of service to his community.

Providence Strand Plans 30-Year Fete

PROVIDENCE—The Strand Theatre has selected Paramount's "The Affairs of Susan" as the attraction for its 30th anniversary week beginning June 4, according to Ed Reed, manager, who conferred with William Erbb, eastern division manager, at the home office.

R. M. Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity director, is consulting with the coast studio to determine whether Don DeFore, one of the leading actors in the film, will be available for personal appearances at the house in conjunction with the anniversary.

Reed, who has been manager of the Strand since it opened 30 years ago, plans one of the biggest theatre celebrations ever held in Rhode Island. Paramount's advertising, publicity and exploitation departments are cooperating in staging the campaign.

Poli-Broadway Staff Goes All-Out for War Effort

NORWICH — At the present rate of progress, the Poli-Broadway Theatre staff will be running the entire town of Norwich!

Manager Joseph Boyle holds down an air warden's post, has been named chairman of the military committee of the Lions' Club, co-chairman of the UNNRA in the current drive for clothes for the occupied nations, and co-chairman of the WAC of the area.

Matilda Pysyk, assistant manager, works as a member of the uniformed Red Cross motor corps. Stage Manager Neil Crowley is chairman of the amusement committee of Norwich, alderman from Norwich and deputy chief air raid warden. Projectionist Norman Soules is active in local defense circles and operates the moving remote control system during practice air raids in that area.

New Haven Site Selected For New Warner Bldg.

NEW HAVEN—Philip Zimmerman, head of the real estate division of Warner Bros. Distributing Corp., has announced that the new Warner exchange building will be constructed on a recently acquired site at the corner of Meadow and Whiting streets here as soon as construction materials are available. The plot, formerly used as a filling station, has a frontage of 64 feet and a depth of 134 feet, and adjoins the 20th-Fox building on Whiting. It will have fireproof facilities for the storage and showing of films.

Task Returns to Helm At Milford's Ideal

HARTFORD — Leon Task, former manager of the Ideal Theatre, Milford, who served as an army lieutenant for more than two years, has been granted a medical discharge. He has returned to the helm of the Ideal.

Not a Nibble for Harry!

BRIDGEPORT — The unseasonably warm, sunny weather gave Manager Harry A. Rose of Loew's Majestic the urge to get a rod and reel in his hand. So on his day off he packed a lunch and rowed out into Long Island sound. He spent the entire day without so much as getting a nibble.

Fight Managing His Hobby

HARTFORD—Manager Dean Barrett, Rialto, has taken up prize-fight managing as a hobby. His usher, Ken Trumbull, is being trained by a local professional, Johnny Duke. Barrett arranged for Trumbull's first bout at the Auditorium this week.

Hartfordites Now Appear In Pacific War Theatre

HARTFORD—Sgts. Bob Shanley, Ed O'Connor and Morty Kahn, three Hartfordites widely known in entertainment circles, now are in the Philippines as members of the all-soldier cast of "This Is the Army." They have been with the show for more than three years now, and have traveled through the British Isles, North Africa, Italy, Australia and New Guinea. They expect to be in the Pacific theatre for some time, they write, adding: "The show is still being enthusiastically received by the GIs and they often sit through a pouring rain, enjoying the show and forgetting, for the time, the grim realities of war."

Emily Kimbrough Cites Accuracy of Films

HARTFORD—Emily Kimbrough, who with Cornelia Otis Skinner wrote the book, "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," which was recently screened by Paramount, was guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Hartford Woman's Club. She told of her trip to Hollywood, where she aided in the supervision of the film. She also discussed the technique of motion picture making in contrast to the legitimate theatre, and expressed respect for the accuracy of detail in films.

Hedlund to Impersonate MacArthur at Rallies

HARTFORD—Guy Hedlund, former director of the Hedlund Players, a leading Little Theatre group which fostered Jerome Cowan, Michael O'Shea and others in this city, now is making his home in Culver City, Calif. He has written local friends that during the Seventh War Loan drive in Hollywood he will impersonate General MacArthur at special rallies. He was given this appointment by William A. Inglis, co-ordinator of the Hollywood war finance committee.

Six Theatre Bills Before Connecticut Legislators

HARTFORD—Some six bills, including revision of the present law to permit children to attend theatres unaccompanied by adults when school is not in session, remain to be heard before the legislature this session. Already heard have been a bill to extend Sunday operating hours to 1 to 11:30, reported favorably in committee, two-men-in-a-booth and licensing of steam boiler attendants.

Most All Films Score Holdovers at Boston

BOSTON—With holdovers in almost every theatre, "Practically Yours" at the Metropolitan and "National Velvet" at the State and Orpheum did the biggest business. Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra packed them in at the Boston. The Fenway and Paramount did good business with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," which broke house records at the Metropolitan a few weeks ago. "Three Caballeros" held for another week at the Majestic.

The weather, mostly favorable, contributed to the boom after the pre-Easter lull.

(Average is 100)

Boston—**House of Fear** (Univ), plus Tommy Dorsey on stage 140
Majestic—**Three Caballeros** (RKO), 6th wk. 120
Memorial—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 125
Metropolitan—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk. 145
Orpheum, State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 145
Paramount, Fenway—**Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 125
Translux—**Crime, Inc.** (PRC); **Rogues' Gallery** (PRC) 120

Only Two New Haven Houses Go Over Average in a Dull Week

NEW HAVEN—"Bring On the Girls" and "House of Fear" at the Paramount and "National Velvet," singling at the Poli, overreached average somewhat, but were not up to expectations. Both hold over for second weeks, the latter moving to the College.

Bijou—**Wuthering Heights** (FC); **I Was Faithful** (FC) 90
College—**Torrid Zone** (WB); **Swing Hostess** (PRC) .. 90
Poli—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 105
Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **House of Fear** (Univ) 105
Roger Sherman—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk. ... 65

"Co-Pilot" Soars to Boxoffice Top In Good Week at Hartford Houses

HARTFORD—"God Is My Co-Pilot" soared into first place at the Strand boxoffice, while "I'll Be Seeing You" remained for a third big week at the Regal. Second week holdovers at Palace and Allyn also did good business.

Allyn—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), 2nd wk. 135
E. M. Loew's—**Let's Go Steady** (Col); **Youth on Trial** (Col) 120
Palace—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 145
Poli—**Dark Waters** (UA) 150
Regal—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 3rd wk. 140
State—**Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), plus Louis Armstrong and band and Tommy Ryan on stage .. 110
Strand—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 190



HIGH SCHOOL TIEUP—Morris Rosenthal, manager of the Poli Theatre, New Haven, created a lot of local goodwill for his house and also drew a crowd by awarding a trophy to the high school basketball team, winners of the New England championship, from the stage. The mayor made the presentation and the sporting editor of the Register was master of ceremonies.

In the photo: Mayor John Murphy presents the Poli trophy to Coach Reilly. Manager Morris Rosenthal of the Poli is on the left.

BOSTON

Loew's Theatres, Inc., will build a large showcase at Norwich, Conn., as soon as the materials can be obtained, according to a report here . . . Arthur Sharby, former owner of the Ally in New Hampshire, is out of the service and preparing to go back into the show business.

John Sullivan, James Sargent and Bob Quealy are newcomers to the staff of the Lynn Paramount . . . Lawrence Burke, formerly of the Olympia staff and now in the army is recovering from pneumonia which he contracted at camp in South Carolina . . . Three bond premieres are planned here for the Seventh War Loan drive.

Nathan Yamins has returned from Palm Springs where he spent several weeks visiting his daughter . . . E. M. Loew drive-ins have announced they will open early in May . . . Ditto the Phil Smith drive-ins . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ted Saunders announce the arrival of a baby girl at their home in Buzzards Bay.

John Fenton of the Boston Herald and former theatre publicist has joined a radio program doing state house commentator sidelights . . . Cpl. Joseph Bean former Fall River Center manager, has received a commendation from his commanding officer which held "the work of Corporal Bean and his associates directly responsible for the success of the B29s in the bombing of Japanese war industries."

Several hundred persons in the Capitol Theatre at Fall River left in an orderly fashion when fire was discovered in a projection booth . . . Sheldon H. Fairbanks, manager of Campbell-Fairbanks Expositions, has returned from a visit in New York . . . John Ringling North has written a song titled "Paris," which had its first airing on the ether waves by Jane Pickens last week.

Ruth Haase, daughter of Sam Haase, theatre broker, spent eight weeks at the Medical Center in Jersey City nursing polio victims. She is a senior at the Bouve School of Physiotherapy . . . Lieut. Leon Task, owner of the Ideal in Milford, Mass., and the Keith in Brockton, has received a medical retirement from the army . . . Ross Frisco, stage booker, has returned from Florida where he underwent an operation.

Geraldine Frank has joined the Monogram staff . . . The Capans Amusement Co. has moved to 100 Boylston St. in the Colonial Bldg. . . . The Lieut. A. Vernon Macaulay Legion theatrical post has dedicated the Maurice J. Tobin canteen in honor of the governor.

Nick Ginabas is going around on crutches with a broken leg . . . Mrs. Jack Eilenberg and Max Lelincoff have given over a dozen pints of blood each to the Red Cross . . . Patrolman Frank B. Callahan, well known on Filmrow, died of bullet wounds received in the line of duty recently. A fund was raised by the Macaulay Legion post and presented to his family.

New members of the legion's theatrical post are Joseph M. Cohan, David L. Schoolman, George R. Spivack and Ruth Holmes. Miss Holmes is an ex-WAVE and the first and only woman member of the post . . . The Lyric Theatre in Fitchburg was damaged by fire recently . . . John Roberts, representative for "I'll Be Seeing You," spent a few days here recently consulting with the radio and newspaper folk.

Morris Pearlstein, proprietor of the Modern in Brockton and the Randolph in Randolph, which have been leased to Interstate recently, is vacationing in Florida . . . "Bucky" Levin has been promoted to a captain, according to a letter received by Abe Barry of Columbia . . . Sam Israel of the Capitol in Lowell has opened the Park in Nashua, N. H. He turned the theatre over to the Red Cross on the opening day, and the entire gross went to the Red Cross fund . . . Inez Weinstein, cashier for Monogram, returned after a two-week vacation in New York.

Ralph Stoughton entered the Chelsea naval hospital to undergo an eye operation. He is the son of the owner of the Fryburg Theatre in Fryburg, Me. . . . Mickey Daytz, brother of Al Daytz of Warners, is jointly the Warner sales staff at Albany . . . Dan Cummings, Paramount stagehand, signed with the Theatre Guild's "Carousal" for a six-week tour. John Grinnold takes his place until he returns.

A party was given for Irving Shapiro head of the Concession Enterprises, at the Latin Quarter. He was presented a set of luggage. Among the 225 present was Johnny Howard, Montreal. Lou Stern was in charge of arrangements . . . Myer Tuttenberg, representative for a premium concern, received a call from his brother Joe, M-G-M photographer on the coast, announcing the birth of a grandson.

Stock Season Opens Soon At the Klein Memorial

BRIDGEPORT — A spring dramatic stock season of six to eight weeks will open at the city-owned Klein Memorial auditorium April 24. Theron Bamberger, New York producer, will supervise the productions and Richard Skinner will be general manager. Don Felix will continue as house manager and also serve as treasurer. Shows will open on Tuesday and play through Sunday, with matinees on Sundays. Among the stars booked are Miriam Hopkins, Ilka Chase, Fred Stone, Edward Everett Horton, Gloria Swanson, Elissa Landi and Ruth Chatterton. The venture will be under municipal auspices.

Since fall the house has been playing to rentals, concerts and weekend films.

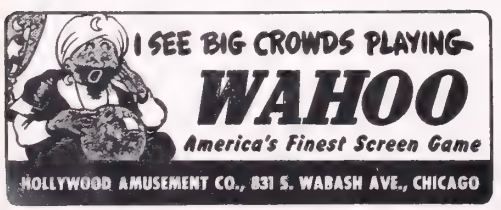
Valentino's Tango Girl Located by Reporter

WORCESTER—Did you ever wonder what had become of the girl who danced that never-to-be-forgotten tango with Rudolph Valentino in "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse"? An enterprising newspaper man has discovered her residing in Shrewsbury, a suburb.

She is Mrs. Bayard Stone, and was known in silent pictures as Waneta Del Real, playing in numerous films when much of the production was within a few miles of Times Square. She has a daughter, Jeanette Stone, at the Pasadena Playhouse.

E. Woodhams Is New Victory Manager

NEW LONDON—Eugene Woodhams, formerly of the Colony Theatre of Detroit, has just taken over the management of the Victory Theatre in New London.



Hampton, N. H., Center Files AAA Complaint

BOSTON — Bernard H. H. Stevens of the Hampton Theatre in Hampton Center, N. H., has filed a clearance complaint with the AAA tribunal here naming 20th-Fox, RKO and Warners. Under the existing clearance, the theatres in Exeter and Portsmouth, N. H., have from seven to 30 days over the Hampton. The complainant claims that all clearances are unreasonable with the exception of the clearance held by the Ioka, Exeter, and asks that they be eliminated.

Tuttle Quits Astor Post

HARTFORD—Ted Tuttle, manager of the Astor for the last year, has resigned. Bernard Stevens, assistant manager, replaces him.

NEW HAVEN

Now that the film industry has acquitted itself creditably in the Red Cross drive, it is again girding its loins for the Seventh War Loan . . . Herman Levy, co-chairman with Henry Needles for Connecticut; Carl Goe, distributor chairman, and Lou Brown, publicity chairman, attended the meeting for state chairmen at the Hotel Astor, New York.

Filmrow was shocked to hear of the serious attack of heart disease suffered by Gus Schaefer of Boston, now recuperating at the Newton Hospital . . . E. X. Callahan, 20th-Fox district manager, was a visitor . . . Johnny Pavone, former Universal manager here, is now salesman for Warners at Albany . . . John J. Rubach is the new office manager and booker at RKO. He has been associated with RKO at Buffalo in a similar capacity for the last 15 years.

Jack Schmitzer, auditor, was still in town and lending a hand at RKO . . . Bess Brownstein of RKO has resigned to move to New York. Phyllis Basilicato succeeds her.

Comings and goings: Bernard Levy of Amalgamated to Boston Friday, while Lou Ginsburg, his sidekick, went to New York . . . Barney Pitkin of RKO also was in New York . . . Milton Mohr, Columbia exploiteer, was in Waterbury and Danbury working on "A Song to Remember" . . . Al Kane, Paramount district manager, was in . . . Sgt. Nat Rubin, former manager of the Lyric, Bridgeport, was here with his bride.

Harry LaVine, manager of Monogram, was off a few days with laryngitis . . . Marion Rosenman and Ruth Abelson of RKO also were ill . . . Gladys Rocks of National Theatre Supply was in the throes of inventory . . . There was big doings at the Tim O'Toole homestead, when the staff celebrated Elvira Tacinelli's birthday as guests of the O'Tooles.

Lou Jacobson, formerly of Warner exchange and recently discharged from the army, is working at a war plant . . . Pvt. Billy Nutile of Paramount writes (before the "crossing") he was planning to take an early bath in the Rhine . . . Maj. Eddie Fitzgerald of the same office is a veteran of Leyte . . . Matt Saunders of the Poli, Bridgeport, was in looking like a Scotchman with his new pipe . . . Dorothy Goldblatt was moved as cashier from the College to the Poli.

The Poli here has been scrubbed and repainted . . . American, Bridgeport, lobby was painted and decorated . . . Morris Rosenthal arranged time on the weekly WNHC Battle of the Baritones program with an Annie Oakley tieup.

WORCESTER

Thieves entered the Plymouth, pried open a steel cabinet and stole $55.81 . . . Robert Rawson has joined the Elm Street . . . A sailor, viewing "The Fighting Lady" at the Poli, recognized himself in it, and Manager Harold H. Maloney made him happy with a couple of frames of film.

The attempts to put Sunday vaudeville into the municipally-owned Auditorium Playhouse flivvered, small crowds turning out the first day, and the series was halted, temporarily, at least . . . Mary Roche, Worcester girl appearing on Broadway in "The Seven Lively Arts," has been tagged "one of the prettiest blondes on the musical stage since Ziegfeld's prime" by George Jean Nathan.

The Better Film Council approved "National Velvet," "The Fighting Lady," "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" and "The Three Caballeros" for the family; "Bride by Mistake," "Ministry of Fear," "Double Exposure," "Practically Yours" and "Something for the Boys" for mature-family audiences, and "Summer Storm" for adults only.

Leo Lajoie, assistant manager of the Capitol, can't understand why so many women's hats always turn up in his lost-and-found department . . . Johnny Cummins of the Warner was a soccer star in his youth . . . Maurice Radin of the Poli has returned from a business trip to New York City.

Charles Curtis sr. and jr. and Leo Chiarco have joined the Olympia's service staff . . . Alec Davis, manager of the Warner, was plagued by a cold that settled in his ear.

Samuel Wasserman booked a road company of "The Student Prince" for the Plymouth May 3 . . . Gale Colburn and John Gough resigned from the Elm Street, and Peter Raulinaitis joined the staff . . . Joe Anstead, formerly of the Elm Street, resigned as theatre manager in Los Angeles and is now night superintendent of a defense factory there.

Frank Duffy booked an ice show for three days at the Auditorium . . . Mrs. Lillian Troy of the Poli has been ill . . . The Red Cross chapter was presented a check for $7,960, collected in the theatres by a staff of 85 girls. The presentation was by Elmer R. Daniels, manager of the Capitol, who directed the campaign.

Ralph Eaton, manager of the Plymouth for a year and a half, resigned to return to private business. No successor was named immediately, but Ed Harrison of Springfield came in to fill in . . . Jerry Wald, the orchestra leader, was in town.

The Strand in Southbridge, the State in Milford and the Park in Spencer were closed all day Good Friday, and the Strand and Five-Star in Palmer were closed during the afternoon . . . Manager Harold W. Hall of the Orpheum and Uptown in Gardner presented a check for $553 to the Red Cross, representing a record amount collected in both houses.

A junior club to review motion pictures to be shown in the city has been organized under auspices of the Better Films Council. Mrs. Howard S. Shepard, president, announces the aim is to help students judge and evaluate films in the same manner they appraise music and literature. The club will comprise students of distinction, the plan being encouraged by school officials.

The staff of the Poli tendered a surprise shower to Miss Mary Foley, an assistant manager, at the home of Roger Kavanaugh sr., with many gags including the arrival of two cops who accused the party of creating a disturbance. Suspicion pointed to Manager Harold Maloney as the perpetrator. Miss Foley was presented a purse of $75.

Free tickets were awarded to all Marietta as exploitation for "Naughty Marietta," presented by Frank Dubinsky . . . The Music Festival has set October 8 to 13 for its annual series.

Fine Arts Going Good On Foreign Films

BOSTON — Jack Markle, co-owner and lessee of the Fine Arts Theatre, reports after three months of operation that the theatre playing foreign films is breaking records. For a dozen years Markle was operator of the Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village theatres and built a regular clientele there probably unsurpassed in greater Boston cinema history.

SPRINGFIELD

Wendell Moore, assistant at the Art for two months, resigned to join the Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., at Greenfield . . . Henry Webb, Capitol electrical chief, tripped into Hartford on his day off . . . Screen trailers are being prepared in this area for the old clothes salvage and the cancer fund drives.

The American Legion circus has been booked into the Auditorium here April 16-21 . . . Leo Diamond's Harmonica Trio, under contract to 20th-Fox, arrived at the Court Square to start an eastern tour and were greeted warmly by Friend Sam Scheckter of the Colonial, Hartford, who was in town visiting his family on his day off. Sam trouped with them in vaudeville days.

Cpl. Fred Cabanna, formerly of Loew's Poli, V-mailed greetings to local theatre friends from India . . . Dr. John Granrud, superintendent of schools, this week authorized letters to be sent to all teachers in the city urging them to see "It Happened in Springfield," filmed here by Warner Bros., and based on the Springfield plan of education for democracy. Granrud attended a preview of the film in New York recently . . . Elizabeth Boudreau, assistant to the director of the Boston Public Library, spoke at the Springfield Motion Picture Council meeting and praised films for arousing interest in historical and background books.

A Northampton plan is under way to invite Bob Hope to be the 1946 commencement speaker at Smith College. Students of the junior class have called themselves the "Hope committee for wide-awake audiences." The class motto is "Hope for 1946!" . . . Riverside Park was set for an official opening on April 14 by Owner-Manager Edward J. Carroll. He has not yet scheduled the opening run of his Park-In Theatre there.

Building Commissioner Gordon Robertson reported that a section of the state building code is being revised and in the near future he expects to be in a position to clamp down on theatre managers who have not conformed with earlier requests to repair deteriorated marquees.

Western Massachusetts Theatres, hosted leading police and civic officials at a screening of "The Woman in the Window" and, when the film was stopped just five minutes before the end, they were asked to guess the real ending of the story. They all missed the correct answer!

NEW BRITAIN

Thomas Grosso, owner of the New Colony Theatre, Soundview, reported that he will manage this spot himself. Grosso formerly was connected with theatre interests in East Hartford . . . Pvt. Pat Vendrillo, formerly of the Circle Theatre, Manchester, now is stationed in Washington with the medics and has become engaged to a southern belle. He reports that the wedding date will not be set until after the war.

Peter Perakos of the Palace tripped into New Haven this week to attend booking deals for his Q&P circuit. He reports that all's well with his five sons in the service . . . Barney Dorbrans, former manager of the M&P Crown, currently known as the Victory, New London, resigned his war plant job and moved out to the coast where he plans to establish his own business.

The new cashier "with the dimples and pretty smile" at the Plainfield is Sivilla Weaver . . . Trailers for the old clothes salvage drive will be screened in this area for two weeks beginning April 16 . . . Amalgamated Theatres added the Black Rock Theatre, Bridgeport, to its buying and booking accounts . . . Mrs. Plumb returned to the helm of the Bristol at Bristol after an absence of two weeks due to a cold.

The J. Carroll Mahan circuit in Waterbury sponsored three benefit performances for the American Relief for Italy, Inc., drive with admission by canned goods. Al Montefalco, formerly manager of the Music Box here, handled a full string of radio tieups for this drive for the circuit.

Ed Fitzpatrick of the Poli, Waterbury, tripped into New Haven this week to attend conferences headed by Jay Eisenberg, New York attorney for the circuit, in connection with Loew's retirement plan . . . Leo Schapiro, Guilford exhibitor, was through the city on furlough . . . Paul Brunelli, Colonial Theatre, Southington, has resigned to establish his own business, and his post has been taken over by Sam Giangrave, former owner of the Music Box here.

Saturday morning cartoon shows are reported being set for Warner theatres in Norwich, New London, Willimantic and Ansonia . . . Walter Murphy, Capitol manager, New London, has been named theatre chairman of the cancer fund drive in that area . . . Jack Galackin of the Arch Street reports that his family is prepared to staff his Strand Theatre, Sound View, themselves if the employment situation proves to be as bad as it was last summer when his youngsters and wife had to take over as ushers and cashier. He plans to open the Sound View spot July 1.

Jimmie Murtagh, Loew's Palace projectionist, Meriden, and Marian Wass, former assistant manager, were patients at the Meriden Hospital with pneumonia.

Walter B. Lloyd Appointed To Hartford Air Board

HARTFORD—Walter B. Lloyd former army captain and current manager of the Allyn, was appointed to the Hartford aviation commission to succeed the late Robert D. Chapin. The appointment was made by Mayor Mortensen.

Lloyd, who served with the coast artillery in North Africa during his two and one half years overseas, was placed on inactive duty the first of this year. A graduate of Fordham University, Lloyd has been active in many civic affairs of the city during his 15 years as manager of the Allyn.

HARTFORD

Henry Needles, WB district manager and state co-chairman of the Seventh War Loan drive, went to a New York bond drive conference . . . Ray Desidero, Jack Fallon, Bob Hendricson and Jim Parker of the Poli usher staff have been named to the executive committee of the newly-formed social club, which is open to all ushers in the city. Its function will consist of sport events such as bowling, skating, golfing, etc., during after-theatre hours, with fees of $1 per month.

Fred Greenway, Palace, reports that the marquee has been repainted . . . Judy O'Toole, four, daughter of Mrs. Estelle O'Toole, had a birthday party on Easter Sunday.

Frank Ramsey, ex-Lenox manager who is recuperating in California after a recent army medical discharge, is expected home within the next few weeks to resume theatre duties . . . Pvt. Art Bergeron, formerly of the Palace, now is in Germany.

Hartford's Katharine Hepburn left for a three-month entertainment tour overseas . . . Harry Shaw, Loew's division manager, and Lou Brown, publicity director, were visitors. Snaw plans to leave for a Florida vacation April 20 . . . Peggy Daly, daughter of Michael Daly, circuit owner, received news that her fiance, Al Yester, has been promoted to "T" sergeant with the army in England.

Angie Corrado, Poli assistant, planned to go into New York for a few days . . . Corrine Glazier, Colonial staff, has been replaced by Eleanor Keefe . . . Peter Perakos, Palace owner, New Britain, was in town . . . Plans regarding the Saturday morning kiddie shows at local theatres are still in the works with Maurice Schulman, Rivoli and Webster, one of its most active supporters, as these programs were big money-makers for his theatres.

Tom Labaree, Rialto, was discharged from St. Francis Hospital after two weeks there due to pneumonia, and now is convalescing at home . . . Ken Trumbull, Rialto, rejoined the theatre staff after a discharge from the merchant marine in which he served for eight months . . . Michael Daly, circuit owner, left for Washington to attend conferences on post-war plans.

Happy Birthday to Henry Wittke, Lenox manager . . . Manager Jim Cotoia, Rivoli, reports that his new dish deal will start about May 1 and run for 85 weeks . . . Manager Tom Grace, Eastwood, still is looking for an apartment for his family in East Hartford and meanwhile continues his commuting to New London . . . Colonial cashier Betty Miller is enjoying her horseback riding so much that she has decided to spend this summer's vacation on a dude ranch.

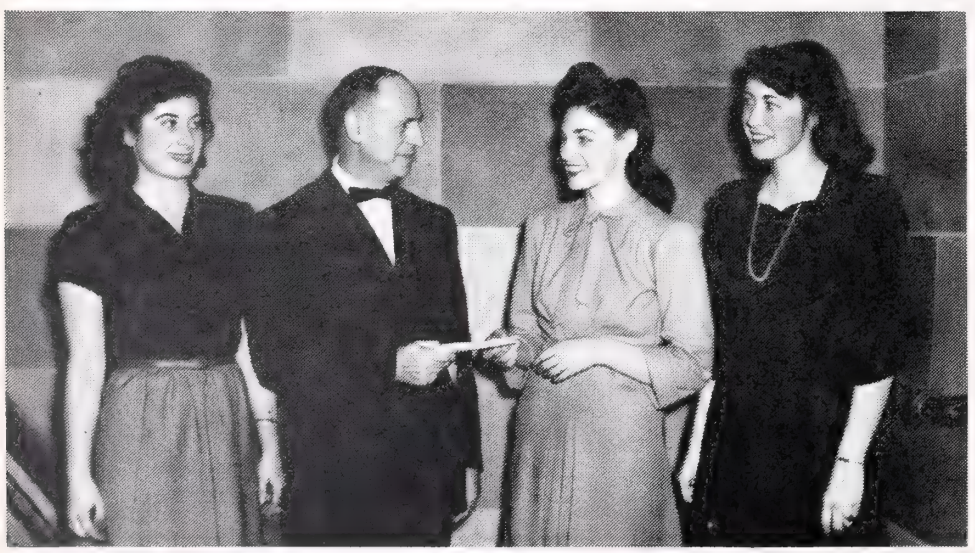
Mona Niemczyk, Poli cashier, has vocal aspirations . . . Bernard Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, Inc., arrived in town on business . . . Jesse Gaw, assistant at the Poli, tripped to New Hampshire . . . Sgt. Oliver Harris returns to the Daly circuit after receiving an army discharge. He served in Italy for one and one-half years . . . Capt. John Mitchell jr., son of the Colonial projectionist, flew from Alabama to visit his folks and friends at the theatre.

America Marino jr., Princess projectionist, has been inducted into the army at Ft. Devens . . . Mrs. Norman Rolfe of the Webb Playhouse reported that she will resign her post on May 1. The Rolfes are expecting a "junior manager" in August! Mrs. Rolfe plans to return home to Braintree, Mass . . . William Dillon, with the Strand for the last year, resigned for naval induction and has been replaced by James Collins.

Pvt. Jim Farrell, former assistant at the Webb Playhouse, has been transferred from Hawaii to the farther western Pacific reports Mrs. Farrell . . . Cieri is new on the Lenox staff, replacing Dan Doran . . . Service men at the Armed Forces Club had a surprise entertainment from Louis Armstrong and band, who tripped over between shows at the State.

McCarthy Helps Publicize Hartford Cancer Drive

HARTFORD—Jim McCarthy, Strand manager, has been appointed a member of the publicity committee for the cancer fund drive in the greater Hartford area, April 16-28. The quota is $25,000. As honorary drive chairman, Governor Baldwin publicly urged generous contributions. Theatres are cooperating fully with trailers, collection boxes, press tieins and display material in lobbies.



STUNT WORKS WELL—Columbia's George Sand memorial talent contest, with a war bond for first prize in connection with "A Song to Remember," turned out to be a huge success in New Haven. They are being staged across the country. Morris Rosenthal, manager of Loew's-Poli, presents a bond to the winner. The girls on the ends are runnersup.

Girls Write Hartford From Tropical Stage

HARTFORD—Presenting a vivid description of theatre life overseas, Babs and Rena White, well-known local entertainers, write home from "somewhere in New Guinea." Other than Frances Langford, the girls were the only feminine entertainers to troupe the series of little islands between the Admiralty Islands and New Guinea, where the men had seen no women for more than a year.

"What a reception we got. They asked a hundred questions about home, took our photos and autographs. They began sitting for our show, which didn't begin until seven at night, around four, in order to get a good seat, whether it was raining, hailing or bright sunshine." The girls have never missed a performance yet.

Services for Universal Publicity Man Held

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. — Services for Harry McDonald, 56, Universal publicity representative in New England, were held at St. Michael's Cathedral. McDonald entered show business in 1917 as manager of Fox Theatres, a position he held 11 years. He subsequently became division manager for RKO Theatres, both in New York and Boston. He joined Universal in January, 1944.

He is survived by his wife, Irene, two brothers, Charles and Irving, and a married sister, Mrs. J. J. McCarthy.

No Cross Total Yet

NEW HAVEN—Carl Goe, distributor chairman of the recent Red Cross drive, reports that theare cooperation was 100 per cent for Connecticut this year. Although the results have not yet been tabulated because of delay in exhibitor reports, in general, Connecticut towns exceeded last year in collections, although the Holy week slump in business also hit in Red Cross contributions.

$9,200 in Bridgeport Area

BRIDGEPORT—A total of $9,200 was collected in theatres in this area during the Red Cross drive, according to Manager Matt L. Saunders of Loew's Poli, chairman of the theatre WAC for this area.

N. HAMPSHIRE

The finals in the series of amateur stage shows held at the Palace in Manchester for the last several weeks were scheduled for April 18 . . . "Thunderhead" was held over at the State in Manchester, and the Crown there brought back by popular request Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy in "Here We Go Again."

Cpl. Norman Avery, widely known former Rochester musician, shares a unit citation recently awarded the 16th Signal Operations Battalion in the Pacific.

The ways and means committee of the state senate has prepared a report on the controversial race track bill, with the majority favoring its passage with two amendments, one of which would give the state a net increase of three-quarters of one per cent in its "take." This would mean about $250,000 a year more in revenue from Rockingham Park in Salem, on the basis of the 1944 mutuel handle of more than $32,000,000.

Showmen to Provide Mobile X-Ray Unit

CHARLOTTE—X-ray examinations for tuberculosis will be made possible for Mecklenburg County's 30,000 school children and many adults as a result of a decision by the Charlotte Variety Club to buy a mobile X-ray unit for the Mecklenburg County Tuberculosis Ass'n.

Benn H. Rosenwald, chief barker, announced that the club's special committee on the purchase of the unit will study bids from several companies this week and will arrange to acquire the unit as soon as possible and have it available for use next fall. It will cost from $12,000 to $15,000. The committee is composed of James Frew, H. F. Kincey, Scott Lett, Lester Sipe and John Vickers. An advisory committee of the tuberculosis association will assist in the selection of the unit.

Rosenwald explained that this modern equipment for making X-ray tuberculosis examinations of school children will be an excellent addition to the Variety Club's eye, ear and throat clinic and provide a well-rounded program for the welfare of the children of the county.

The new unit will be installed in a specially built truck.

Sydney Landers Subbing At Knoxville for Street

KNOXVILLE.—Sidney Landers is being brought here from St. Petersburg, Fla., to replace Eugene W. Street as city manager for the Wilby-Kincey Theatres here for the three months that he will be in New York serving as coordinator for the south in the Seventh War Loan drive.

Street, who has held his local position for the past eight years, will have his headquarters in New York at the Paramount Theatre. He served as exhibitor chairman for eastern Tennessee for the Fifth and Sixth War Loan drives.

Arthur Groom to Manage Victory, Evansville, Ind.

MEMPHIS—Arthur Groom, for the past 15 years an employe at Loew's State Theatre here and manager there the last two years, has been promoted to the managership of Loew's Victory Theatre in Evansville, Ind.

Bill Kemp, Loew's relief manager, will replace Groom here until a new manager is named.

Bull and Hendon Open New Big Spring Theatre

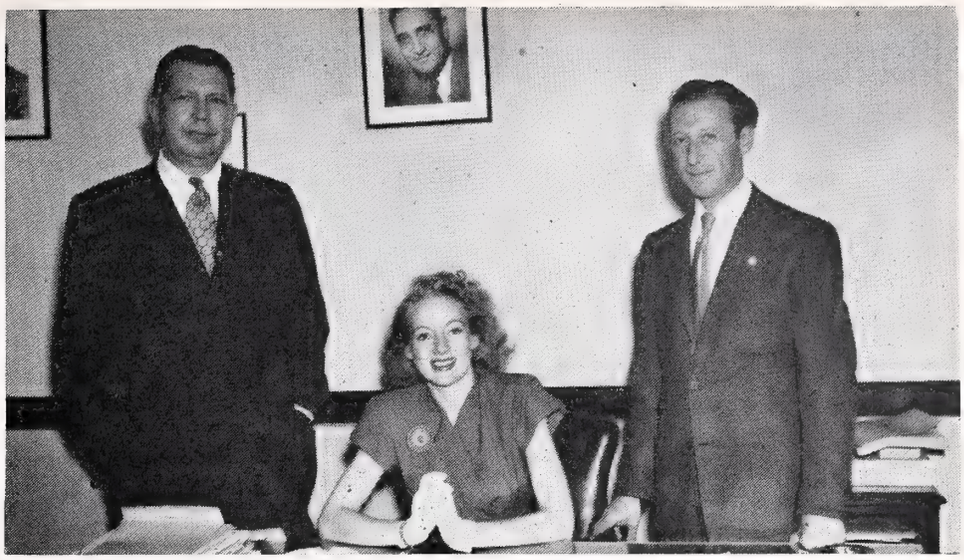
BIG SPRING, TEX.—Richard Bull and Gene Hendon have opened their new Texan Theatre, a de luxe project built entirely under wartime restrictions. The house formerly was the State. C. Russell Lewis of Dallas did the decorating.

Paul Walser, Earl Nidiffer To Open Jonesboro Show

JONESBORO, TENN.—Earl Nidiffer and Paul Walser of Johnson City have leased the former Dobyns-Taylor Hardware Co. Bldg. and will open a theatre in it as soon as remodeling can be completed.

Sloans Buy Tuttle, Okla., Theatre

TUTTLE, OKLA.—The Tuttle Theatre has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Sloan and will be operated under the name of Wynema Theatre.



SHE GREETS THE BOYS—Evelyn Keyes, Columbia star, interrupted her Red Cross tour to drop in on the boys at the Atlanta exchange. She is shown here with R. J. Ingram (left), southern division manager, and Steve Justus (right), Atlanta salesman.



NICE DAY FOR A PHOTOGRAPH—Some of the salesmen happened to be "in," so C. H. "Buck" Weaver, manager of Paramount's Oklahoma City exchange, thought it would be a good time for somebody to snap a daguerreotype of the staff. Resultantly, in the usual order:

Standing: Retta McDonald, Carthol Rogers, Shirley Pitts, S. B. Rucker, Doris Selman, Bruce Williams, Reva Jean Hawk, H. K. Buchanan, Ruth Elms, Billie Richardson, Weaver, Orene Meyers, Sam Brunk, Jane Ann Montgomery, Bobbie Jefferson, Tom McKean, Helen Meyer.

Seated: Reggie Pappas, Hazel Nichols, Della Marie Albers, Ann Claire Ping, Olga Amelung, Thelma Allen, Mary Nadine Dunning, Besse George.



CHARLOTTE COLUMBIANS—Manager George Roscoe and the office force of the Charlotte Columbia branch are shown drinking a toast to the success of the Montague anniversary campaign. Also attending the party were Ernest Stellings of Everett Enterprises, and Byron Nelson and Sam Byrd, golfers who have made short subjects for Columbia and who came by to wish the office success in the campaign.

MEMPHIS

Pfc. Edwin H. Holland, former Malco Theatre projectionist here, was among members of the Tenth Mountain division which recently received a unit citation for the group's part in the Mt. Belvedere action in Italy, their first major operation.

Memphis Agricultural Club members were instructed by a motion picture in the part that chemical defoliation will play in the harvesting of cotton in the future. The film showed an airplane spraying black dust over a cotton field, causing almost complete defoliation of plants and destroying a huge percentage of the cotton bolls open at one time. The picture was presented by John B. Carr, Clarksdale, Miss., representing the manufacturers of the defoliating chemical.

Local theatres are getting back to "normal" with long lines of patrons standing at the boxoffices. Business has been off a little in the past few weeks as a result of the income tax deadline March 15 and Lent . . . At M-G-M, employes were happy to learn that Lieut. Fred Heard, for two years in the navy and former M-G-M office manager, was the father of a baby boy born last week at the naval air station hospital in Jacksonville, Fla., where Heard is stationed.

At 20th-Fox Manager Tom Young was busy tabulating Red Cross collections in theatres in this territory. About two-thirds of the reports are in . . . Joe Simon, manager of Warner Theatre, left last Sunday for New York for a ten-day vacation.

Paramount's former booker, Lieut. Charles Rounsaville, now stationed at Mitchell Field, N. Y., was a visitor on Filmrow . . . Bob Bauer, salesman for Paramount in the Dallas territory, has been working temporarily in this territory . . . Eugene Boggs, Jacksonville, Ark., was on Filmrow booking . . . Other visitors: C. H. and C. J. Collier, exhibitor at Shaw, Drew and Ruleville, Miss., and W. F. Sonneman, Fayetteville, Bentonville and Springdale, Ark.



—Photo by Shelby

BIG CHECK FROM DALLAS—Dallas County Red Cross war funds were swelled by $36,538.68 recently when Karl Hoblitzelle, left, president of Interstate Circuit, Inc., presented that amount to S. J. Hay, county Red Cross chairman, as James O. Cherry, city manager of Interstate Theatres in Dallas, looks on. The money was raised in Dallas County theatres by collections during the week beginning March 15. Cherry is county chairman of the industry's WAC.

Thousands of entries poured in this week in the color contest which is being staged by the Press-Scimitar and Loew's State Theatre in connection with the showing of "The Three Caballeros." Five line drawings were published, one each day, in the Press-Scimitar for children to color and mail in. First prize was a $100 war bond. Other prizes included passes. Fred Ford, southern RKO publicity director, was here to conduct the contest.

John Mohrstadt, operator of the Missouri theatres at Campbell, Palmer and Clarkston, Mo., was a visitor . . . Norman J. Colquhoun, former Republic manager here and now southwestern district manager, was in last week on business. He was kidded about being "international manager" because his territory includes Mexico City.

Lieut. Frances Rich, sculptor-actress daughter of the radio and screen star, Irene Rich, visited the naval establishments here on official business last week. Frances is an assistant to the WAVES director in Washington. It is her job to address navy and civilian groups on the work the WAVES are doing . . . Color films of the Bellingrath Gardens in Mobile were shown the Rotary Club this week by Carroll Cowan. He also will show the film to the Little Rock and Fort Smith, Ark., Rotary clubs soon.

Arthur Groom, manager of Loew's State, reports that Mrs. Sam Jones was a frequent patron of his show last week and no wonder. Mrs. Jones' son, Col. George M. Jones, was shown in the newsreel standing before his men in the Philippines and facing General MacArthur. Colonel Jones was decorated by MacArthur three days after Corregidor was taken by the 503rd paratroop infantry which Jones commands.

Al Schuyler, former manager of National Theatre Supply at Des Moines, is out of the navy and is coming to work at the Memphis office April 16. Another new face at the NTS office here is Mrs. Shirley Hopper, stenographer . . . Katherine Randle, Monogram cashier, spent last weekend on a visit to Winona, Miss.

Dear Folks of Columbia!

• Best wishes for the success of the 20th Anniversary Campaign and to Mr. Montague. We do not know anyone more deserving of this honor. You have always been fair, honest and considerate. We pledge our support.

Greetings and appreciation to J. J. ROGERS, Columbia's Memphis manager.

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New Savannah House For Weis Family

SAVANNAH, GA.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Weis, owners of the Savannah Theatre Co., have announced that preliminary work on construction of a new 1,200-seat motion picture theatre is now under way at 222-24 East Broughton St. To be temporarily designated as the Weis, the theatre's permanent name will be chosen by the public in a citywide contest to be conducted shortly, they stated.

Arrangements for all equipment and furnishings have been completed, the owners said, and no delay is anticipated in the installation.

Architects for the building are Tucker & Howell, Atlanta, who were here a few days ago conferring with the owners and the construction company and clearing up all last-minute details of design.

The building is being constructed by the Spann-Worrell Construction Co. of Savannah, which already has begun tearing down the present building on the site, a bowling alley that was damaged by fire last May.

Actual construction was to begin in mid-April.

The new theatre will be the fourth owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Weis, and their third in Savannah.

One, the Savannah Theatre, built in 1818, and reputed to be the oldest theatre in the U.S. in active use, has been in the Weis family for nearly 60 years. Weis' father, Albert Weis, operated it for many years, and it was taken over by the present Weis about 25 years ago.

The Savannah Theatre Co.'s other motion picture houses are the Roxy here, opened in 1941, and the Bibb in Macon, which Mr. and Mrs. Weis have owned and operated since 1938.

The entrance to the new theatre will be on East Broughton St., and will lead to a long lobby approaching the theatre proper, which will contain a lower floor and balcony.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Weis said they were not able to predict when the theatre would be formally opened, they said that since the WPB and WMC had approved the project, all plans had gone smoothly, and that there should be no delays.

Variety Club Easter Party Given to Polio Ward

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Children in the polio wards at Memorial Hospital were entertained the Saturday before Easter with an Easter program party, sponsored by the polio committee of the Variety Club. Wives of club members took Easter baskets filled with eggs and candy to the 103 white and 13 negro children and served Dixie cups. A musical program was presented.

Mrs. Tom Little was chairman for the party, assisted by Mrs. Gene Dyer, Mrs. Ralph Jackson, Mrs. Jack London, Mrs. John Bachman, Mrs. Walter Griffith, Mrs. Dean House, Mrs. H. H. Everett, Mrs. F. H. Beddingfield, Mrs. Bill Irwin, Mrs. Bob Simril, Mrs. Scott Lett, Mrs. John H. Vickers and Miss Margie Vickers. Variety members present and helping out were Max Bryant, chairman of the Polio committee; Bob Jeffress, co-chairman, and Tom Little. And incidentally, Max Bryant had a grand time—he was kissed by every patient and nurse there—'twas his birthday.

The patients of the polio unit felt that their parents, friends and the members of the Variety Club, who furnish their entertainment, might be interested in the activities of the unit. For this purpose the Variety Polio News has come into being. Every article in the weekly paper was written and edited by the patients and Variety is responsible for the publishing. In the first issue under "Boo-Quets and Bouquets" is the following:

"Boo-Quets to: The parents who haven't come to see their children. The children can't come to see you! Our friends who quit when the going gets tough!

"Bouquets to: Cy Dillon, Max Bryant, Bob Jeffress, Bob Saunders and Roy Bradley, our friends of the Variety Club, who have done so much to keep us smiling, and to T. A. Little for his donation of one of the pianos needed."

"Fire-Eater" to the USO

OKLAHOMA CITY—Dr. F. T. Stackpole, optometrist here who practices magic as a hobby, has signed to tour American hospitals overseas with an USO unit. He has appeared at war bond shows in the leading theatres in recent months. His fire-eating and memory tricks are his best.

New Sparta, Ga., Fox Theatre Going Up

SPARTA, GA.—Construction has started on the new Fox Theatre Bldg. here. Col. Marvin Peck, owner, expects the contractor to have it ready for occupancy by midsummer. Two of the stores in the former Johnson block, now owned by the Peck estate, will be torn out and a portion of the walls used for the theatre.

Huntsville Leases Site

HUNTSVILLE, ALA.—Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville has taken a 25-year lease on a building on the public square, now occupied by the Pizitz store, but later may serve as the site of a new theatre.

Congratulations

to

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as a Leader in Our Industry

•

May you go forward to even greater heights during the years to come. We wish for you every success.

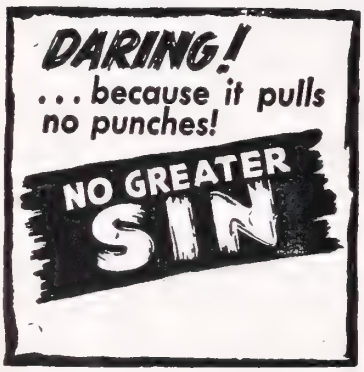
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WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES

DALLAS

Further reports from Germany reveal that Philip B. Schnitzius, former Warner booker, was serving as a corporal gunner on a First army tank when he was killed recently. His home was in Dallas and he leaves a wife and a small son and daughter.

Theo Miller, the systematic Quitman exhibitor, had his routine upset while booking in a Dallas exchange. He walked in to Monogram and set his brief case down and started dating in pictures. Ed Blumenthal was getting ready to leave for southern Texas on a selling trip. As Ed left, he picked up Miller's brief case, thinking it was his. A telegram reached Blumenthal down the line.

The Starlight operetta opens in Fair Park June 18 and will go for the usual ten weeks. Charles Meeker, former Elm St. Theatre manager, is manager of the operetta and the State Fair of Texas is presenting it . . . Gene Hughes of Sanger, W. A. Conner of Dawson and C. W. Niece of Hubbard were among visiting showmen to come in after recent rains and floods had slowed down through traffic from many points . . . B. F. Hamman, projectionist in the Rex at Waco, rode the interurban to Dallas to find out what might be new at equipment dealers. The Rex is owned in the J. A. Lemke family. Hamman is a son-in-law.

News reaches the Row that R. O. Smith, owner of the Uptown in Marble Falls, has been elected mayor, and Tom White of the Burntex at Burnett is a new city commissioner . . . Fred Calvin, RKO exploiteer for Texas and Oklahoma, has left that post.

Louis Charninsky, Rialto manager, ran off a government transportation reel sponsored by ODT and in the audience were men connected with the heavy traffic industry as well as army men from Texas camps. Later Charninsky left for Austin to appear before a legislative committee to oppose a bill to eliminate parking meters from city streets.

John Stewart of the Plaza at Kaufman was highly recommending "Ice-Capades of 1945," which played eight days at the Fair Park ice arena. He took his wife and several friends. Theo Miller of Quitman took his wife to the same show and liked it. Ernest Rockett of Itasca was another exhibitor who bought a ticket.

Roy Howell, who with his brother John leased their theatres in Coleman to J. G. Long, writes that he may be in Dallas soon to see friends and to work on a postwar distribution deal for nontheatrical films and equipment . . . Sgt. Glenn Fannin was here on furlough from Seventh army headquarters in France. He wore four battle stars on his service ribbon. Glenn was a Texas theatre manager of recognized ability and worked here for leading circuits and several independents.

As rumored for several weeks, C. E. Hilgers has joined Film Classics in New Orleans, having made a deal with L. C. Montgomery and Joy Houck, owners of the franchise in that territory. The arrangement is understood to call for opening of a Memphis exchange, with Hilgers managing both. Hilgers' last job in distribution was manager of the 20th-Fox branch here. He more recently operated the Crawford Theatre in El Paso.

P. G. Cameron was on the Row to visit friends after several weeks in Baylor Hospital. He now is at his home on Belmont Ave. continuing recuperation, and planning to leave soon for Los Angeles to look over three theatres he purchased there recently and to see his son Guy and daughter and son-in-law, the Claude Kennells, who are operating the houses. Cameron sold his four theatres here recently.

E. B. Whorton, owner of the Rule Theatre at Rule, was here to book. So were Charley Barker of Frost and N. E. Walker of Carthage.

Wayne Wintin, rodeo performer and owner of an educated horse, was in to ask how he might go about locating a theatre which he could buy and learn to operate. He was a projectionist during the '20s. He has started off by subscribing to BOXOFFICE.

Two theatre men in Dallas County have figured in the late political scene. H. R. Bisby, owner and operator of the Plaza and Garland theatres, was returned to the office of city commissioner in Garland, and A. M. "Buck" Morgan, former owner of two theatres in Grand Prairie, was defeated by the incumbent for the office of mayor there.

Willard V. Young, former SeaBee, now is selling a chemical compound used for cleaning out interiors of heavy machinery, boilers, cooling systems and the like and plans to contact the theatre trade soon . . . J. M. Wilson, free-lance equipment maintenance and repair man, made a trip to St. Louis and New York getting quantities of used theatre chairs ready for shipment by the owners to various parts of the country.

Boy, 13, Runs Machine At Linden, Tex., House

DALLAS—H. P. Donahue, manager of the Ritz Theatre in Linden, Tex., for Tri-State, has a youthful projectionist in which he is justly proud. On reading about juvenile projectionists in the March 17 issue of BOXOFFICE, Donahue writes.



"How about the age of my projectionist, who will be 14 next November, and he is a good one too.

"Billy Logan has been on this job for only two months, but I have no fault to find with him at any time."

Dallas Variety Starts Work on Turtle Derby

DALLAS—Chief Barker J. O. Cherry of Variety Club recently called a special meeting of a committee to prepare plans for the Turtle Derby. The Boys Ranch will again be the special public appeal. Last year Variety activities netted $85,000 for its charity foundation. The derby committee includes R. J. O'Donnell, Cherry, Duke Clark, Charles E. Darden, Fred Hoenscheidt, Torrence Hudgins, Charles Meeker, William Mitchell, Sol Sachs, George Schepps, Frank Starz and J. B. Underwood.

WPB Rule Seen Easing Candy Bar Situation

DALLAS—The War Food Administration announced this week that five-cent candy bars will no longer be reserved for the government, and that orders as needed will be placed direct with the manufacturers. Some quarters believe this will ease the situation as regards theatres getting adequate supplies of candy.

Two First Runs Earn Holdover at Dallas

DALLAS—Elm St. first runs had another uneventful week with grosses not so high, yet two pictures held over. "Bring On the Girls" and "The Woman in the Window" each moved to a different house. There was some rain after unusual cold. "Ice-Capades of 1945" played eight nights in Fair Park ice arena to more than moderate houses.

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Shadows in the Night** (Col); **She's a Sweetheart** (Col), split with **Youth Aflame** (Rep); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep).....125
Majestic—**Bring On the Girls** (Para).....130
Melba—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.....125
Palace—**The Woman in the Window** (RKO).....130
Rialto—**Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M); **Hollywood Canteen** (WB), 2nd run 110
Tower—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk...120

Jim Gillespie Gets Blurb On Paul Whiteman Book

ATLANTA—Florabel Muir, columnist for the Hollywood Citizen-News, had a blurb in her column of March 22 about Jimmy Gillespie, local 20th-Fox publicist, who has just finished his story about Paul Whiteman and the show business. Her piece reads:

"I remember when Jimmy sat in a room at the Roosevelt Hotel in Los Angeles and told a little gathering that he was going to write the story of Paul Whiteman. Arthur Ungar was there, also Bing's (Crosby) brother Everett, and Harry Barris. Over the small talk the title, 'And the Band Played On,' was suggested by whom? I blush. Anyway, now Jimmy's book is announced."

The comradeship of Jimmy and the maestro was famous from coast to coast. In recent years Gillespie has been here as a 20th-Fox exploitation man.

CHARLOTTE

Ben J. Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager; Ralph McCoy, southeastern district manager; Henry Krumm, Atlanta manager, and Herbert Pickman, southeastern publicity director, were here Saturday conferring with Manager John Bachman on the Warner powwow sales drive which started April 1 . . . R. J. Ingram, Columbia district manager, left for Jacksonville, Fla., after a visit at the local office for several days . . . H. H. Everett, head of Everett Enterprises, is confined to his home for a few weeks because of a nervous exhaustion.

Jimmy Greenleaf, Universal salesman, leaves next week for a two-week vacation, which he'll spend at Murphy, N. C.; Birmingham and Atlanta . . . Mrs. George Roscoe, wife of the Columbia manager, and two daughters are visiting in Hollywood, Fla. . . . H. F. Cohen, district manager for Monogram, is touring the Carolinas to familiarize himself with the territory and meet the exhibitors. He has already traveled two weeks with Salesman Al Stout and now is on a two-week trip with J. E. McLeroy.

Visitors on the Row: Cary Caudell, Wallace; Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Anderson and Charles B. Floyd, Anderson circuit, Mullins; Jimmy Earnhardt, Edenton; J. W. Watts, Williamston, R. D. McGowan, Spring Hope; Harry Cooke, Mount Olive; I. T. Cohen, southeastern representative of Ascap, Atlanta; R. J. Ingram, Columbia district manager, Atlanta; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mitchell, Spencer, George W. Parr, Lancaster; Mrs. Runa Curtis, Liberty; Clinton Whitlock, East Rockingham.

A New Contract to Ann Richards

Ann Richards has been given a new contract at RKO Radio.

SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



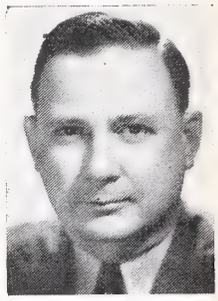
T. A. Wilson, owner of the Bay Theatre, Red Bay, Ala., has had a full and active life, both as theatre man and sportsman. He entered the business in 1921 in an empty storeroom with a hand-operated projector and his own equipment for generating power. "T. A." is city fire chief; vice-president of the Red Bay Civitan Club; a Mason and member of Variety. As a huntsman, Wilson has bagged 10 deer, 15 wild turkeys and many bag limits of quail and squirrels. He is the father of two children, both now in college.



An exhibitor by profession, **Claud Thorp** of Ryan, Okla., owner of the Gem there, is at heart a true cowboy. He has performed in many rodeos throughout the west and has extensive cattle holdings. His first theatre was the Dixie at Mountain Park, Okla., in 1922. He moved to Ryan in 1926, bought the old Folly there and in the same year built and opened the Gem. Among Thorp's theatre memories of the thin depression years is "egg" night; women and children were admitted by eggs only and men paid cash. He is a county commissioner.



When his father and mother opened the Lyre Nickelodeon in 1908 at Hobart, Okla., **Glen D. Thompson** soon became interested in theatre operation. He owns the Thompson theatres at Healdton, Wilson, Atoka, Tishomingo and Walters, Okla., and makes his home at Healdton. Thompson returned from active duty in the army in March 1944. He served as a major. Glen D. jr. is with the Eighth air force, Richard O. is a lieutenant in the signal corps and John N. is at home. The major is a member of Lions and Variety clubs and the American Legion.



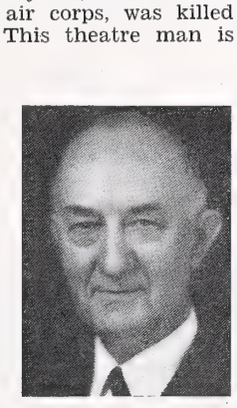
In 1919, **Ed Wilson** went to work for True Thompson, operator of road shows, and learned the entertainment field from the grass roots. He owns the State, Harlem and Century theatres in Dallas and offices in the Melba Bldg. A member of Variety Club and the Masons, Wilson's hobby is his acreage on Preston Road. Phillip Edward jr. is in the navy and his younger sons, Starkey Austin and Charles Warren, attend high school. Being a theatre man has meant a great deal to Wilson because of the many opportunities for making friends.



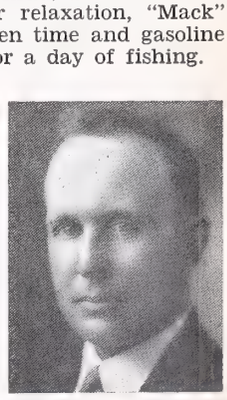
An investment of $300 in Dermott, Ark., launched **C. H. McCroskey** in the theatre game in 1915 and his holdings today are many times the initial investment. He still has a theatre, the Allied, at Dermott and maintains his residence there. "Mack," as he is known to his friends, acquired the Mack at Eudora in 1929 and added the New at Lake Village in 1936, houses which he still operates. McCroskey's only son, Lieut. Comdr. C. H. jr. of the navy air corps, was killed at Norfolk last year. This theatre man is a 32nd degree Mason.



When **Marvin McCuiston** returned from overseas duty in the first world war in 1920 he chose the motion picture business for his profession. His theatre today is the Princess, a 350-seat house located in Booneville, Miss., where "Mack" makes his home. He is a member of the Mississippi exhibitor's association and the American Legion. The McCuiston family includes two sons, Francis Marvin and William Conrad, both of whom are in the service. For relaxation, "Mack" enjoys baseball and, when time and gasoline will allow, setting out for a day of fishing.



Charles W. Picquet of Pinehurst, N. C., began his motion picture exhibiting career "in 1913, quite by accident," he says. Accidental or otherwise, the circumstance proved fortunate for Picquet, now proprietor of two successful houses in the Tar Heel state. They are the Carolina Theatre in Pinehurst and another cinema of the same name in Southern Pines. Picquet is held in considerable esteem by his fellow exhibitors, who have for the past 14 years elected him president of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina. He is a Mason.



A yen for a change of scenery in 1922 catapulted **A. E. Groom,** then a resident of Colorado, into the theatre business in Liberty, S. C. Without any previous experience, he purchased a house there, sight unseen. Despite a few ups and downs he is "damn glad he left the farm." He owns the State and the Carolina at Mooresville and the Victory at Greensboro; his home is in the former town. A town commissioner, a member of Kiwanis, Variety and the North and South Carolina Theatre Ass'n, he claims "resting" is his hobby.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Rex Bartlett, who recently was released from the marines air corps, informs us that his brother Tom, now a lieutenant in the army, just missed being caught in the disastrous Cocoanut Grove fire in Boston. Tom arrived to join his party just a few minutes after the fire department arrived. Rex was a floor captain at the Midwest during his school days.

George LeBlanc, one of Altec's sound engineers in this territory, related recently that prior to his birth his mother missed being in the Iroquois Theatre fire in Chicago through a delay of appointments that canceled her attendance and was fatal to friends who did attend.

All Oklahoma City theatres have pledged to become war bond issuing agencies in the Seventh War Loan drive and it is expected that the bond industry will sell and get credit for more bonds sold than ever before in any of the war bond drives.

Unusually windy and unsettled weather following a severe spring freeze teamed up to give the show business here some more spotty grosses last week . . . With the announcement of a west coast theatres installing television, local theatre men are becoming apprehensive as to what changes are to be expected soon in motion picture exhibition. Many remember what took place when sound revolutionized the business and this and the many postwar ideas that are coming out are causing the alert theatre men to eye the future.

H. L. Gilliam, Ardmore exhibitor, has moved his Roxy Theatre to a larger location there and closed the older house . . . Exhibitors on the Row: Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Miller of Gotebo, Ida Hanes of Wanette, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Raines of Fort Cobb, W. T. Kerr of Davis, D. A. White of Collinsville, Bill Jensen of Wewoka, J. E. Jones of Sand Springs, J. B. Terry of Perry, L. A. White of Weatherford, Roy Ellis of Caddo, Doc Deen of Perry, Bill Allison of the naval air station at Norman.

J. F. Spangler of Beaver, Mrs. F. L. Norton of Shattuck, D. V. Terry of Woodward, C. E. Norcross of Cordell, S. P. Doss of Eufaula, H. T. Burns of Cyril, Claud Thorp of Ryan, Harry Smith of Cement, A. W. Harris of Stratford, Tex.; Chester Fleming of Nowata, Mrs. Elizabeth Tucker of Guthrie, Jack Crooks of Norman, Spencer Lyle of Poteau, John Gray of Chickasha, Mrs. E. Jestes of Pawnee, Elmo Rankin of Custer City, Mrs. Bess Wilkie of Harrah, and J. C. Smock of Hinton.

W. F. Edmonston of Ryan has sold the Garber Theatre there to Claude Thorp, who now owns both of Ryan's theatres . . . Harry Smith, owner of the Harry's Theatre in Cement, has been elected mayor of Cement . . . George Byrd, now in the navy and formerly with 20th-Fox, spent a few days visiting on the Row . . . A. J. Lynn, now in the army and formerly with Paramount, was in several days on leave.

Ed Kidwell, Standard's general manager, accompanied C. B. Akers and Marion Osborne to the Chicago regional WAC meeting April 16-18 on the war bond drive . . . RKO tradeshowings of its new group of five attractions, "Zombies on Broadway," "Those Endearing Young Charms," "The Body Snatcher," "China Sky" and "Tarzan and the Amazons" will start April 16 and will continue through April 18.

Word has been received here that Paratrooper Jimmy Taylor has received injuries on two different occasions on the German front. Taylor, a junior grade warrant officer, was an assistant manager at the Warner Theatre a few years back and coached boxing here prior to his enlistment.

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Texas Collections Total $331,367

DALLAS—Don Douglas of Robb & Rowley Theatres, Texas co-chairman for the industry's Red Cross drive, announced that collections totaled $331,367.90 with 634 theatres reporting, or $70,000 in excess of last year's collections. The figure represents both audience collections and corporate gifts. Of this amount, Interstate's 160 theatres reported $185,267.92, Robb & Rowley's 59 theatres reported $33,939.84, the Jefferson Amusement Co.'s 57 theatres, $26,467.74, and the R. E. Griffith Theatres' 58 houses $18,000.

Tony Sudekum Is Thanked By Tennessee Solons

NASHVILLE—Tony Sudekum, president of the Crescent Amusement Co., has received from the office of Gov. Jim Nance McCord a handsomely inscribed copy of a resolution adopted by the state legislature recently thanking him for his "consistent philanthropy to our state's underprivileged and handicapped wards." For many years Sudekum has furnished both projection equipment and films to be used in state institutions.

ARKANSAS

The funeral of Mrs. N. P. Lawrence, 76, mother of Fred Lawrence, the former booker at PRC in Little Rock who is now in the navy in the South Pacific, was conducted Monday. Besides Fred, she is survived by five other sons: N. Prince Lawrence, Fort Smith; S. Lloyd Lawrence, Harrisburg; Eugene W. Lawrence, Newport; William W. Lawrence, Palo Alto, Calif., and the Rev. Charles E. Lawrence, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Little Rock.

G. W. "Dink" Jones, who has operated several theatres in Arkansas and was a Columbia salesman out of Memphis, was inducted in the navy recently and sent to San Diego for training.

Mrs. Rosemary Smith and two daughters of St. Louis are visiting Mrs. Smith's parents, the B. F. Busbys of PRC.

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52	27 x 29 x 3	1.50 "
53	28 x 57 x 3	2.40 "
54	37 x 51 x 3	2.70 "
56	23 x 49 x 3	1.95 "
57	57 x 52 x 3	1.90 "

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SAN ANTONIO

State Theatre Squibs: Cashier Kitty DuSold hails from Milwaukee, and Candy Girl Helen Hartley claims Washington as her home town . . . Dennis Moore, star in "Raiders of Ghost City," new serial currently featured at this house, is a San Antonio boy known around these parts as Gene Meadows.

Margie Samford, concessioner at the Joy, was in Corpus Christi the latter part of the week to call upon her brother, Pvt. Patrick F. Stamford, marines, who is recuperating in the naval hospital there from a wound received while in the Pacific. He expects to be back home about the middle of the month.

Gordon B. Dunlap, manager of the Clasa-Mohme film office, was flashing some Filipino currency which his son, Lieut. Richard Hill Dunlap, sent back from the islands after they fell into U.S. hands . . . Yours truly was grieved to see in the casualty lists that Pfc. Tommie Spence, marines, was wounded in action in the Pacific battle zone. We worked with Tom out at Ft. Sam Houston here with the engineers before he went into the marine corps.

L. E. Harrington, 20th-Fox salesman, Dallas, was in calling upon accounts along Theatre-row. Lin has one son in service, and is named after his dad, who is a pioneer in the motion picture industry.

Capt. Clarence H. Moss, air force, left for a Florida station from where he will return to the China-Burma-India war area. Moss was a public relations manager for Interstate Theatres here before going into the service . . . News reached here last week that Lynn Krueger was wounded in action overseas and was awarded a Bronze Medal. Lynn managed an Interstate suburban house when he received the call to war.

Doris Daniels, WOAI interviewer, had these Community Players on her Wednesday broadcast: Clare Alice Conner, Miss Lee Langley, and Lieut. Arthur Burkett, Canadian flyer, now stationed here. The subject was on "Accent on Youth" which is presented at the Playhouse April 13-14. Bob Brink has the male lead.

Recent visitors to the Clasa-Mohme exchange here included Jose Carabaza, Mexican film distributor, Laredo; Lew Bray, Interstate, Harlingen; Edward H. Rowley, R&R, Dallas, and Charles V. Jones, San Angelo and Ozona.—Les Ketner.

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ATLANTA

Visitors on Filmrow included T. C. Carter, Garden Theatre, Kingsport, Tenn.; E. F. Ingram, Ashland, Ala.; W. W. Mowbray, Blue Ridge, and Miss Burns of the Mars, Lafayette.

Sgt. Johnny Bandy, nephew of Mrs. Bonnie Sudan of Film Classics, visited her after 31 months in the South Pacific . . . Hank Hearn of the Booking Exchange, Charlotte, visited friends on the Row.

Arthur C. Bromberg Monogram southern president, was in Memphis and also was to visit the New Orleans branch before returning to Atlanta . . . Tom Jones of the infantry, former head booker for M-G-M, was welcomed home by Branch Manager W. B. Zoellner. Tom was wounded in the leg when a mortar shell exploded nearby in Italy. He is now mending in Rome, Ga. . . . Mrs. Leola Delong of Monogram booking department visited her daughter in Wilmington, N. C. . . . Mrs. Helen DeLuga of Monogram returned to Chicago.

C. W. Johnson of Lincolnton, Ga., has purchased the Linco Theatre there from Mrs. Willimgham Wood of Washington, Ga., and Miss Ann Sue Wayne, Lincolnton . . . Sid Reams, formerly with Theatrical Printing Co., is now in the vending machine business . . . The Price Theatre, Brighton, Ala., was destroyed by fire recently.

Mrs. Bessie Wheeler of Republic received word from the war department that her son had been killed in action in the South Pacific . . . Mrs. Madeline Brown of the Republic booking department is a new grandmother . . . Charlie King, booking manager of the Bach circuit, was on the Row selling doughnuts, for the Boy Scouts, of course . . . Sam Harrison of Columbia Pictures is passing out cigars as he is daddy of a baby son.

Word has been received here that Manny Sussman, Fort Myers, Fla., has sold his Lee Theatre . . . Visitors: Frank Rubel, Wometco Theatres, Miami; W. Karr, Dixie, Swainsboro, Ga.; Byron Gosh, Your Theatre, Bulls Gap, Tenn.; Glenn Newton, Newton, Ga.

Jack Kirby, Paramount division manager, is all smiles since he received word from the war department his son Jimmy returned to his base after being missing five days in the South Pacific . . . Jack Kirby and Bud Gray, the latter a Paramount publicist, are in Charlotte.

R. J. Ingram, Columbia southeastern division manager, was visiting in Jacksonville . . . P. C. Bryan, former roadshow man, is now manager of the Peachtree Theatre here . . . Bert Kulick, general sales manager, and Jack H. Adams jr., southern division manager, were at the local PRC office.

Columbia's Auditor Miller and Mrs. Miller dropped in to see Manager McDermott here between trains on the way to Memphis . . . Scott Lett, who was scheduled to start work in the Tennessee territory for Paramount, went to United Artists at Charlotte instead.

T. E. Dillard, former UA manager here, who has been with Martin Theatres in Columbus, Ga., several years in charge of film rental payments, is ill at Bach Hospital there . . . Mrs. B. G. Sanford has purchased from C. L. Price the Price Theatre at Brighton, Ala., and will change the name to the Brighton Theatre . . . A. C. Cowles spent the weekend in Jacksonville visiting his new grandson.

Mrs. Wilhelmina Cook, secretary to Charlie Lester of National Screen Service, is vacationing in Brunswick with her husband who is on furlough.

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Phone Hookup Rallies Texas Bond Workers

DALLAS—Over a closed telephone circuit at noon last Saturday war bond workers in all industries here heard Secretary Morgenthau, Ted Gamble and ranking army and navy men declare more money is needed to carry on the war. The luncheon was a Dutch treat in the Adolphus Hotel.

Local and state war finance committee men were among the audience. From the industry were these WAC leaders: R. J. O'Donnell, state chairman; Phil Longdon, district chairman of distributors; Cecil House, state chairman of distributors, and Ray Beall, state publicity chairman. Heard on the hookup in addition to Morgenthau and Gamble were Gen. George Marshall, Admiral King, Bing Crosby and Edgar Bergen.

O'Donnell and Beall later left for Chicago to attend a regional Seventh War Loan meeting. A press sheet for Texas theatres now is in preparation. It covers war bond premieres, Free Movie Days, child bond shows, Chinese auctions, pay roll deductions of theatre employes, a special kickoff broadcast by Showtime, and special radio transcriptions and screen advertising.

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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Manitoba Thwarts Blow at Kid Shows

WINNIPEG—The Manitoba legislature last week rejected a proposal to amend the amusement act and give any municipality the right to pass bylaws prohibiting admission of children under 15 to motion picture or any other shows. Introduced by Paul Bardal, a Winnipeg member, the bill was defeated, 11 to 24.

Bardal said his bill largely was endorsed by the same group of persons and organizations who for the last two sessions have been trying to get legislation to prohibit admission of children to film houses. He mentioned a number of church organizations, the Kinsmen Club, the Lions Club, the Kiwanis Club and the teaching staffs of 67 city schools. He said all supported the bill.

In the debate M. A. Gray, Winnipeg, said: "I will support the bill but not for any of the reasons the mover has given. The city and municipalities in my opinion already have this power. It will do no harm to give it to them again."

John Lawrie, Norfolk, said he had orders to oppose the bill from a clergyman in his district who also is secretary of a motion picture house cooperative. "There are only three movies in my constituency, and in my view the children are much better in them than running around the streets."

Parents Capable of Judging

N. Bachynsky, Fisher, agreed, saying there was only one film house in his district. "It is one of the few things in my riding to break the monotony and I don't want Winnipeg to tell what my children or my neighbor's childred can't attend. We can be the judges of that ourselves."

The Winnipeg Free Press opposed the bill. In an editorial the paper asserted that parents were the persons charged with bringing up children and should be the judges of the kind of pictures their children should see.

The paper found the new bill "though not so bad as last year's effort," having the same restrictive purpose, giving that power to the individual municipalities and turning loose on them the pressure groups which failed last year to sway the House as a whole.

"Every busybody in Manitoba, who thinks he, or she, knows how to bring up other people's children—there are some of these in every neighborhood—will begin to demand the passage by the municipality of bylaws substituting the judgment of the censors for the judgment of the parents."

In another editorial the Free Press stated: "Mr. Paul Bardal waxed poetic in the legislature in his defense of the indefensible bill he introduced in that body . . . It may be true that certain movies create, in Mr. Bardal's words, 'a false sense of values,' but may we suggest that many other human institutions do the same thing, and that it is at least theoretically possible that Mr. Bardal's speeches do so too. Mr. Bardal may be right about the movies. But his solution is worse. What Mr. Bardal says in effect is this: I believe that parents are unfit to judge as to the movies their children attend. We must therefore remove this right of judgment from their incompetent hands and hand it over to somebody else.

"He does not, however, specify who should get it. It is to be left to the municipalities.

"We believe, being old-fashioned souls, that parenthood, is by and large, a fine and highly competent institution and that those who practice it should assume its responsibilities. These should not be handed over to community busybodies all of whom modestly believe that they are designated by an all-wise Providence to run everybody else's business."

Feature Spot in "Strange Adventure"

John Qualen has been assigned a featured spot in Metro's "This Strange Adventure."

Ottawa Sets Up Limits On Sale of British Film

TORONTO—J. R. Croft, administrator of services in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, has made a special ruling to govern the release in Canada of 15 British features (Eagle Lion and Two Cities) through Empire-Universal Films. His action indicates the government's intention to continue its control over the film business. Included in the British group are "This Happy Breed," "The Way Ahead" and "A Canterbury Trail" and six other pictures in each of group A and group B.

Croft issued important instructions regarding the application of rental contracts for this product and for priority of purchase, one directive being that a contract holder is not required to buy the specials in order to obtain other pictures.

Distributor May Sell Away

Further, the distributor is permitted to sell away if the contract holder refuses to buy, in which case the exhibitor loses his rights in the future under a contract. The exact wording of the special order, which will be highly interesting to all theatre owners and the film trade generally, is as follows:

"These productions first must be offered to each exhibitor holding a basic contract with the distributor. The distributor may, as its option, refuse to sell to a basic contract holder any of the pictures in groups A and B unless he buys all the pictures in these groups. No basic contract holder is required to buy the specials in order to obtain the balance of the product. Specials are to be offered to basic contract holders in conformity with the general policy of the administration in dealing with specials.

Would Lose Contract Rights

"If a basic contract holder refuses to buy, the distributor may sell away, in which case the present basic contract holder loses his basic contract rights to future product of this type.

"The maximum prices that an exhibitor holding a basic contract may be required to pay for this product are the maximum prices that the distributor obtained from him in his basic contract for specials and for the first and second groups, respectively; and where the product is sold away under the conditions outlined above to an exhibitor who has not a basic contract with the distributor, the maximum prices are to be the maximum prices obtained for specials and the first and second groups, respectively, by the distributor in comparable situations."

Rank to Film Short Like March of Time

Vancouver—A monthly featurette similar to the American March of Time will be produced by the J. Arthur Rank organization of Great Britain, it was revealed during the visit here of Paul Nathanson, head of Odeon Theatres of Canada, and several circuit executives. E. McQuail of London, executive of Rank's Cinema Club for boys and girls in England, was here with the Nathanson party.

The featurette will be called "Progress Parade" and will make use of Dominion-wide facilities. An advisory board of officials and experts now is being formed. The short is aimed at world-wide distribution, according to the reports received here.

Winnipeg FPC Managers Receive Promotions

WINNIPEG—A series of promotions among local FPC theatre managers was announced here last week by Larry I. Bearg, Toronto, western division manager, and E. A. Zorn, district manager for the prairie provinces, at a luncheon of all Manitoba managers of the company.

Harold A. Bishop, for many years manager of the Capitol, was promoted to district manager, supervising all Famous Players houses in the province, including Winnipeg, Brandon and Portage la Prairie.

Jack Proudlove of the Gaiety was made manager of the Capitol. Dave Robertson, manager of the Uptown, was promoted to the Gaiety, and Andy Ostrander, Tivoli manager, was moved up to the management of the Uptown.

Announcement of a new manager for the Tivoli will be made shortly.

Frank Meyers, an Industry Pioneer, Dies at Leaside

TORONTO—Frank Meyers, manager of the Exhibitors Booking Ass'n and booking manager of 20th Century Theatres, died at his Leaside home following a long illness. Many film executives and exhibitors attending the requiem mass in St. Anselm's Church which preceded burial in Mount Hope Cemetery. Born in Port Dover, he had been an early exhibitor and branch manager of Warner Bros. and RKO Distributing Corp., and a past president of the Toronto Film Board of Trade.

Surviving are his wife, son Harry, two brothers and a sister, who is Sister Saint Fabian of the St. Joseph's Order.

Two New Theatres Going Up in Western Areas

VANCOUVER—Larry Kurtz is building a theatre in Oak Lake, Man., seating 300, and Nat Fuchs is erecting a theatre at St. Walberg, Sask.

The Kinema Amusements of Calgary also is planning a deluxer in the residential section there. All that is needed is a permit from the war board.

Fred Manning Is Missing; Duncan McGregor Killed

VANCOUVER—Flying Officer Fred Manning, formerly with RKO before joining the air force, was reported missing in air assaults over Germany March 28. He had made 25 bombing trips over Berlin in the fast Mosquito planes.

Flying Officer Duncan McGregor, 20, an employe of the Palace at Calgary, was killed in air activity over England.

Prepare for Convention

TORONTO—Col. John A. Cooper, representing the Canadian film industry, and officials of the Ontario fire marshal's office here are preparing reports to be presented at the annual convention of the Dominion Fire Prevention Ass'n which is scheduled to be held in Quebec City May 14-17.



AT UA CANADA SESSION—Among those who attended the United Artists Canadian sales meeting in Montreal were: (front row) Sam Kunitzky, Montreal; Barry Buchanan, advertising and publicity head; Edward M. Schnitzer, who presided, and Herb Berg. Back row—Charles S. Chaplin, Montreal; Doug Rosen, Toronto; Abe Feinstein, Winnipeg; Jack Reid, Calgary; Harry Woolfe, Vancouver; George Heiber, St. John, and Al Iscove, Toronto.

Bill to Tighten Penalties Prepared in Quebec

MONTREAL—Provision for stricter penalties for all Quebec theatre owners violating provincial laws is contained in a new provincial government bill which is understood to be in the process of preparation. The main object of the pending legislation is better observance of the Sabbath in the province and closer observance of the law barring children under 16 from theatres and cinemas.

CALGARY

Opening of the landship here at the end of the month will be attended by Dominion and provincial officialdom. The H.M.C.S. Tesumseh is one of the largest and finest equipped of the navy, and should attract some newsreel cameramen. Opening ceremony will be attended by Angus Macdonald, minister for the navy; Premier Manning of Alberta, Commodore Kelly and aide from the U.S. naval training station at Farragut, Vice-Admiral Jones, chief of Canadian naval staff, and officers of the air forces.

Jack Reid of United Artists has been broadcasting that his company has obtained the distribution of the English Technicolor picture, "Colonel Blimp," since his return from the regional convention at Montreal.

Max Phillet of Edmonton and Dawson Creek was in, buying film . . . Al Kipnes settling down to his new duties as shipper at United Artists. Al formerly was at Monogram.

A total of $2,117.74 was collected by the Red Cross in a special two-day appeal at Calgary's 11 theatres. The Calgary Theatre Ass'n, under the direction of the president, P. D. Egan of the Palace, cooperated. Theatre usherettes, assisted by the Calgary Red Cross corps, collected the money. In the big downtown houses, collections were made within three minutes. Among the dollar bills, silver and coppers, there was one American ration token.

Buys Rights to "The Sun Field"

Paramount has purchased screen rights to "The Sun Field," novel by the late Heywood Broun.

Toronto Manager Shifts Made by 20th Century

TORONTO—Several managerial changes have been made among Toronto units of 20th Century Theatres following the acquisition by that circuit of the Circle, Belsize and Bedford in North Toronto.

D. Baecher, formerly at the Cinema, has succeeded H. M. Yudin at the Circle, while Dave Mandel has been assigned temporarily to the Bedford, replacing W. G. Hunt, retired.

Other managers in new posts: R. J. Kraemer at the Cinema; R. Wilson at the Community, and N. Tolling, formerly assistant manager of the Midtown, promoted to manage the Avalon.

Baecher was an exhibitor before coming to Toronto. Yudin is the son-in-law of Hy Freedman, whose investment in the Circle was taken over by 20th Century Theatres April 2. Freedman is the owner of the Centre at St. Catharines and is reported to be interested in the building of a new theatre in the Avenue Road section in northwest Toronto.

Film Houses Pass Hats First Time for the Cross

Toronto—In the recent Red Cross drive theatre owners permitted canvassers to go through audiences two evenings to take up collections. This was the first time that such procedure had been permitted in moving picture houses, although back in variety days there used to be an annual collection for broken-down actors and actresses in vaudeville houses.

The public response was substantial. In the Toronto district collections totaled approximately $15,000 with several theatres yet to make returns, the average per theatre of around $165.

The Belsize, a key neighborhood theatre, collected $101 the first night and $102 the second night, making a total of $203. Announcements regarding results were made from the stage after each collection.

Griesdorf Resigns Odeon Post in West

VANCOUVER—Reorganization of the managerial setup of Odeon theatres in British Columbia was announced here last week by Paul Nathanson, Odeon president. A surprise was the resignation of the provincial manager, Dave Griesdorf, who leaves for Toronto where he will enter the moving picture distribution field on his own account. The trade here regrets his departure. He came here three years ago and aided in building the company's operations from 21 to 28 theatres in British Columbia.

Howard Boothe, a pioneer in show business who was a district supervisor, was chosen to succeed Griesdorf.

Earl Hayter, district booker and theatre manager here, was promoted to supervisor of Odeon Vancouver suburban theatres.

Frank Soltice, manager of the Circle, moves up to the head office as district booker. The changes were announced by Nathanson at a dinner here attended by all the Vancouver and district managers. He related Odeon Theatres of Canada plans to acquire or build 100 new film houses across Canada after the war. Other projects include erection of a studio to film children's pictures and formation of a club for children.

Three theatre sites are owned by Odeon in greater Vancouver, he said. Fifty of the new Canadian theatres will be built within two years at cost of $7,500,000. The Odeon building program, Nathanson said, would include the latest technological developments in use in English theatres. Close association with the British film magnate, J. Arthur Rank, who purchased a half interest in Odeon of Canada, will bring not only British product but the best films of other countries to Canada, he related.

E. McQuail of London, executive of the Odeon National Cinema Clubs for boys and girls in Britain, was here with Nathanson. He said the theatre clubs in the old country have 200,000 members, and this plan will be put into effect in Canada.

George Peters, secretary-treasurer of Odeon of Canada, also was here with Nathanson.

'WAVES' Sets Three Marks At Shea's in Toronto

TORONTO—Manager Fred Trebilcock of Shea's is almost gloating over the lineup of bookings to follow the currently extended run of "Here Come the WAVES." The string includes "A Song to Remember," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "The Song of Bernadette," the last named only having been made available in the Dominion.

Paramount Film Service reports that "Here Come the WAVES" established three new records at Shea's, all in one day. On the opening day, the picture broke the all-time house record, the opening day record and the record for any holiday. This is interesting in view of the fact that the day was Good Friday, which is not generally regarded as a good theatre date.

The previous record-holder for the house was another Paramount, "Let's Face It."

British Pathe Debut Set At Toronto Hollywood

TORONTO—The new issue of the British Pathe Pictorial will have its debut in Canada at the Hollywood, local ace house of the Allen circuit, according to announcement by I. H. Allen, general manager of Esquire Films. This magazine film will be released periodically.

"Thunderhead" Sets Orpheum Record

VANCOUVER—Business was tops in all theatres over Good Friday arnd Easter week, a nice line of pictures and swell weather helping to make the period a happy one for exhibitors. "Thunderhead" banged out the top gross of the week at the 2,800-seat FPC Orpheum. It proved its worth well by breaking a 14-year Orpheum record. It held. "Here Come the WAVES" was nice at the Capitol and also held for a second week. The Paradise also had a nice week with a PRC first run, "Bluebeard."

Beacon—**Utah** (Rep); **A Song for Miss Julie** (Rep), plus vaudeville ..... Excellent
Capitol—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para)..... Excellent
Dominion—**Casanova Brown** (RKO); **Doughgirls** (WB), moveovers, 2nd wk..... Good
Orpheum—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox) ..... Exceptional, record week
Plaza—**She Gets Her Man** (Univ); **Grissly's Millions** (Rep), ... Good
Strand—**National Barn Dance** (Para); **And Now Tomorrow** (Para), moveover..... Excellent
Vogue—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ)..... Excellent

British Duo Led by "Mr. Handel" Brings Throngs at Montreal

MONTREAL—Little publicized in the local press, but loudly and widely praised by enthusiastic patrons, a double bill at the Kent, a leading theatre in Montreal, kept the house filled over Eastertide. It was a British offering led by the timely Easter film, "The Great Mr. Handel," and strongly supported by one of the finest comedy pictures yet seen here, hidden under the very ordinary title "Jeannie." In both films orchestral music was a feature. Along St. Catherine St., good houses greeted "Meet Me in St. Louis" at Loew's, "Here Come the WAVES" at the Palace, "Sudan" at the Capitol, "The Fighting Lady" at the Princess, and "L'Engrenage," French version of "The Hard Way" at the Orpheum.

Capitol—**Sudan** (Univ); **Night Club Girl** (Univ) ..... Popular
Kent—**The Great Mr. Handel** (Br); **Jeannie** (Br) ..... Tremendous
Loew's—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M)..... Very good
Orpheum—**L'Engrenage** (WB) ..... Good
Palace—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para)..... Attractive
Princess—**The Fighting Lady** (20th-Fox); **Sunday Dinner for a Soldier** (20th-Fox)..... Pretty fair

Holdovers at All Toronto First Runs, First Time in Local History

TORONTO—For the first time in local history, every first run house held over a program for a second week, a result of heavy business everywhere during Easter week. In each case the second week's patronage was equal or close to average, a cold spell keeping the people from their gardens and other outdoor activities. Highest grosses went to "Here Come the WAVES" at Shea's and "The Princess and the Pirate" at the Imperial.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**The Sign of the Cross** (Para), 2nd wk..... 90
Imperial—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), 2nd wk. 95
Loew's—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100
Shea's—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 2nd wk...100
Tivoli—**The Sign of the Cross** (Para), 2nd wk..... 90
Uptown—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd wk... 95

All First Run Grosses Up at Calgary And Revival Scores a Cleanup, Too

CALGARY—Soft spring snow and holidays proved helpful to show business here with all boxoffice receipts up above normal. First run attractions all had pulling power, bringing peak business, while the downtown second run Isis made a cleanup with revival of "Snow White." Closing down of some air force schools here has made but a slight dent in show business.

Capitol—**And Now Tomorrow** (Para)..... Good
Grand—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ)..... Good
Palace—**Tall in the Saddle** (RKO)..... Fair
Palace—**My Pal Wolf** (RKO); **Sing, Neighbor, Sing** (Rep) ..... Good

Television "Will Make Fairy Tales Of Today Realities of Tomorrow"

Radio, which in 25 years has made it possible to see (through television) and hear around the world, has a future in which "the fairy tales of today will be the realities of tomorrow," according to the report of its first quarter of a century of existence by the Radio Corp. of America.

Listing its scientific achievements in the field of radio during the past 25 years, RCA prophesies an even more spectacular future for the next quarter century. "RCA has spun a world-wide communication system around the earth linking more than 50 countries; it has led the way in development of electron tubes. It mastered the shortwaves, electronized the phonograph and created the electronic system of television. RCA pioneered in broadcasting and gave to America its first nationwide radio networks. It helped to carry the voice of the President of the United States within earshot of every person on earth."

Radio Feats Into Background

But, the report continues, "all these achievements will be surpassed in the postwar world of radio." For the more or less immediate future, RCA promises "electronics that will give the mariner and the aviator all-seeing eyes . . . pocket radio-telephones . . . an electron telescope that may reveal the farthest star . . . scientists dream of inter-stellar communication and the transmission of electrical energy by radio for power, light and heat . . ."

Radio "which has its roots deeply embedded in the history of radio communications as a science, an art and an industry," began simply enough. From Marconi's first faint signal in 1895 to 1918, while progress was made, wireless was still confined to dots and dashes. But during the last war radio "found an electric tongue"; it learned to talk and to sing.

In 1919 RCA was organized to send and receive messages. In 1920 broadcasting was born from the defect that radio conversations were too public. The U.S. presidential election returns of that year were broadcast to a limited number of nearby amateur receivers, an achievement that was quickly understood. Almost "overnight radio became a national pastime."

Envisaged by David Sarnoff

All this and more had been envisaged in 1916 by David Sarnoff, now president of RCA. He had conceived the idea of the "radio music box" and saw its economic and social implications. He anticipated that within three years of beginning the sale of such "music boxes" at an average price of $75, at least a million of them could be sold. Actual sales were $85,500,000.

The whole history of radio—which is the quarter century story of RCA—is retold in the report. From crystal detectors to vacuum tubes to the superheterodyne circuit to frequency modulation with all the steps before television, the present and immediate future of radio; all these remarkable developments are rehearsed in proper order. The broadcasting of the Dempsey-Carpentier championship fight in 1921, the first commercial program in 1922, November 22 of that year when the New York Philharmonic was first heard on the air—those were the days when radio history was being made daily. As a result, in 1923, Americans spent $175,000,000 for radio instruments.

Landmarks abound in RCA's record. The first U.S. presidential hookup, the first time the opening of Congress was broadcast (1923), the political conventions, the first international broadcast from England in 1924, advertising on the air, and finally the foundation of the National Broadcasting Co., a subsidiary of RCA, "to provide the best programs available for broadcasting in the United States." The growth of the network broadcasting, the development of radiomarine, the advent of television, all these improvements culminated in the radio celebration of Marconi's 61st birthday, at which salutes were received from ships at sea, from Admiral Byrd in the Antarctic and from the Graf Zeppelin flying over the south Atlantic.

With the present war, radio became even more important. It not only broadcasts events, it became the "voice of freedom" bringing encouragement and direction to those in occupied countries. Improved communications to the South Pacific and to the most friendly countries of the globe has been but one aspect of the work done. Meantime great scientific improvements have been made in radio communications at the RCA laboratories.

Les Kerr a Big Man, Both In Bulk and Know-How

ST. JOHN—Les Kerr, who is in charge of the 30th anniversary sales drive for 20th-Fox for the maritime-Newfoundland territory has been in distribution here about a quarter century. Kerr has long been with 20th-Fox as shipper and booker. His father, Syd Kerr, was a pioneer in film theatre operations in Nova Scotia. A brother, Ron, was in distribution for many years at St. John, and is now in the electrical supply field here.

Les is the heaviest of the maritime exchange men, and was an athlete for many years, having been a pitcher in amateur baseball, a first baseman in softball, and a guard in basketball. He also played football and swam. When the Movie Men represented the exchanges in a local softball league, Kerr was the first sacker. To the players and fans, he was "Fat" Kerr. He provided a sharp contrast to his sports associate and mentor, Walter Golding II, lessee and manager of the Community Theatre, West St. John, and formerly in film distribution. Walter managed the baseball, basketball and football teams of which Les was a member, all titled the Trojans. Golding was very short and slender, and Kerr tall and very bulky. A difference between them of about eight inches in altitude and about 100 pounds in avoirdupois.

Syd Kerr was owner and principal of a business school in St. John for many years, and it was while operating the school that he broadened out into the exhibiting field. For years, the Kerr base was in old Odd Fellows Hall, used down through the years as offices for film distributors and exhibitors. The 20th-Fox branch is now next door to this building.

Carson and "Cactus" to Vets and USO

Sunset Carson plans to make personal appearances in veteran's hospitals and USO shows upon completion of his "Union Pacific Scouts" film. His trick horse, "Cactus," goes along.



VANCOUVER

Basil Horsfall, old-timer in the show business, has gone home after a spell in the hospital feeling better, but he intends to rest up a while before going back to business . . . The RKO Canadian branches will conduct a special two-week drive this month to be called "Leo Devaney appreciation weeks," to honor the Canadian division head.

The new Bayview Theatre has been opened at Boundry Bay, B. C., by the air force canteen fund at the air field there. It seats 550. The Boundry Bay field is 30 miles from here and has been without amusements since it opened in 1940 . . . Warner Bros is conducting its "heap big powwow" drive. All branch managers are named after Indian chiefs. Ralph Clark, Canadian general manager, is Little Chief Big Moose; Dalgleish, Vancouver, is Chief Silver Fish; Pearlman, Calgary, Chief Totem Pole; Matthews, Winnipeg, Chief Yellow Bird.

J. J. Baldwin of Carberry, Man., has bought the Grand at Melford, Sask., from Mrs. A. Assaly. S. T. Baldwin is operating the house for his brother. Alterations and improvements are planned when materials become available . . . Louis Feinstein, who had the Roxy Theatre Bldg. here under lease, bought the building recently for $20,800. It seats 450.

Glenn Ireton, director of public relations for Warners, was here working with Ivan Ackery, manager of the Orpheum, on the campaign for "Hotel Berlin" which opened here this week in the Canadian premiere of the film. Ireton revealed that he wrote the script and directed a two-reel Canadian subject in color titled "The Forest Commandos." It now is awaiting release by WB . . . From here Ireton went to Victoria, then started east to work the other western Canadian key towns showings to "Hotel Berlin."

The Canadian Gazette revealed that there is no rise in fees of the Canadian Performing Rights Society for the current year. Fees per seat per annum was given as: 1,600 and over, 15 cents; 801 to 1,599 seats, 12; 800 and under, 10; 800 and under operating three days a week or less, 5 cents; minimum fee, $10.

Don Menzies, who was treasurer at the Capitol in Calgary before joining the air force three years ago, is now assistant manager of the Capitol, Winnipeg, following his discharge from the air force . . . An employe of the Palace at Calgary for more than a year prior to his enlistment, Flying Officer Duncan McGregor, 20, has been killed in air operations over England.

Downtown business here has not been quite so good as before the transportation tieup. It seems the folks are getting used to seeing films in their own zones and don't come downtown as much as before. The suburbans are all doing increased business, the circuits report.

Larry Bearg, western FPC division manager, left for the east . . . Frank Gow newly appointed British Columbia manager for FPC, made an inspection trip to Trail . . . Frank Kershaw of General Theatre Supply, who was in from Toronto, reports that GTS, a Famous Players subsidiary, will open at Vancouver and Winnipeg soon.

Eddie Zorn, prairie FPC district manager, was laid up at Calgary on his way east from Vancouver by a severe attack of the flu. He reached home okay.

Harry Wolfe, UA local manager, flew to Montreal to attend a sales meeting . . . Jimmy Patterson, 20th-Fox head here, reports grosses have been down in Victoria . . . Publicity offices of the Canadian section of the J. Arthur Rank British setup will be opened soon in line with the setup now organized in the U.S.A.

Theatres Probably Will Open V-E Day

VANCOUVER—Liquor stores and beer gardens throughout British Columbia probably will close when Victory day is celebrated, it was reported by the provisional government. Theatres will operate, as the general feeling is that theatre owners can do a good public service by providing shows on the day where the streets may be jammed with demonstrations.

Theatre owners all over the Dominion have given a lot of thought to V-E day plans, said Frank Gow, FPC head here, and the feeling is that showmen can do a good public service by providing open house on that day. Odeon circuit has not yet decided, but it is expected that circuit, too, will remain open.

Northern Electric Co. Net Up Slightly Last Year

MONTREAL—Northern Electric Co., which controls Dominion Sound Equipments, reports net profit of $1,212,069 in the year ended Dec. 31, 1944, equal to $1.40 a share on 810,000 shares outstanding. This compares with net of $1,068,683, or $1.32 per share in the previous year. These profits are exclusive of the refundable portion of the excess profits taxes, equal to six cents per share in 1944 against 23 cents in 1943.

Tax provision, including the refundable portion, was $1,041,000 in 1944 compared with $1,550,000. The refundable portion totaled $47,000 against $188,000.

The report states that in 1944 provision for income and excess profits taxes, including the refundable portion, represented 46 per cent of the company's net profits before taxes, or $1.29 per share, as compared with 59 per cent of net in 1943 or $1.91 per share.

The report adds that actual provision for income and excess profits taxes since 1940 "was established on a conservative basis," pending a decision of the board of referees on the appeal for a revision of standard profits to be used as a base for computing taxes. Revised standard profits have now been determined, it adds, which resulted, with other adjustments, in crediting to surplus account in 1944 an amount of $700,000 representing the excess provision set up in previous years.

The report, over the signature of P. F. Sise, president, states that in order to provide for various contingencies, provision for which cannot be definitely reflected in the accounts of the company, "your directors have deemed it advisable to change the title of the Plant Readjustment Reserve, heretofore established, to Plant Readjustment and Contingencies Reserve, increasing the amount of such reserve to $1,500,000.

Earned surplus as at Dec. 31, 1944, stood at $4,658,766, an increase of $322,069 over the previous year.

Continued demand during the year for essential war materials has resulted in a high rate of output, Mr. Sise continues. The sales of war materials and to essential industries constituted 95 per cent of the total.

Goddard to Play Celestine for RKO

Paulette Goddard's first picture for RKO will be "The Diary of a Chambermaid," based on Octave Mirbeau's celebrated novel. Celestine, its heroine, is as famous on the continent as are Camille and Madame Bovary.

MONTREAL

Praise for March of Time's "Tolerance" was voiced in a local newspaper. The reason it attracted particular attention here is the aggravated political and racial situation in Canada, particularly in the province of Quebec, where extremists plot to set English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians against each other. "If we in Canada are to rid ourselves of this plague of racial hatred, we would do well to follow some of the examples in this documentary film," writes a critic who quotes the film's commentator as stressing that "No child is born with race hatred." In Quebec province where French-Canadians form the majority of the patrons of theatres showing English language films, exhibition of "Tolerance" is considered timely and appropriate, quite as much so for the English-speaking and even more so in other English-speaking provinces of Canada.

"Do you think motion picture are a good or a bad influence on young people" was a question put by a Gallup poll to Canadian adults who expressed themselves fairly evenly, 40 per cent voting "good," and 38 per cent "bad" while 22 per cent were undecided. The same poll found that 70 per cent of Canadians thought the radio a good influence on the whole, while 12 per cent thought it bad, and 18 per cent were undecided.

Edward M. Schnitzer, home office executive, presided at the UA sales conference in the Mount Royal Hotel when a complete sales analysis and merchandising plan on the current product was discussed. Barry Buchanan, director of advertising, outlined the sales plans. Herb Berg, trade press contact, was also present.

Motion pictures are being used as political aids by Canadian parties in anticipation of the coming general election. The CCF (Socialist) party showed to a Notre Dame de Grace audience a documentary called "The City," which depicts the growth and progress of a community.

A Russian war film, "The Rainbow," brought capacity audiences to the Victory. The film was held . . . Sir Thomas Beecham, British conductor, is scheduled to present "The Messiah" at Notre Dame Cathedral April 24. A good preliminary to attendance there was viewing "The Great Mr. Handel" at the Kent.

An expert on sea photography, Capt. J. Strachan Thompson, who originated the Ship Adoption of Schools Society, told a local audience of the part played by films in creating "a friendly feeling of participation in adventures." He revealed the sinking of his ship by an enemy submarine cost him 40,000 feet of color film.

John Levitt, Columbia salesman, and well-known figure on Filmrow, has a daughter Shirley preparing for a journalistic career. A student at the University of Wisconsin School of Journalism, she recently was given an assignment which brought her into the company of Britain's ambassador to Washington, the Earl of Halifax, and his wife. A resultant interview appeared in the Milwaukee Journal. Miss Levitt sent her father a snapshot which reveals that she is thoroughly photogenic, so much so that film people he contacted on a recent sales trip inquired as to the identity of the film actress. Naturally this did nothing to diminish Levitt's pride in his clever daughter.

Irving Sourkes, Montreal manager of Monogram Pictures, has recovered from an accident which hospitalized him recently and is making a sales trip in Quebec province.

Quebec Director Lauds Films as School Boon

MONTREAL—Films worth more than $50,000 are listed in the new catalog of the Quebec provincial department of education film library. Types of films range from juvenile stories to meteorology.

In the preface of the catalog, Dr. W. P. Percival, director of Protestant education, urges teachers to take more advantage of films as classroom aids. "I look forward," he says, "to a great improvement in the work of the pupils if the schools will make full use of our film library. I am confident that, though the printed page will ever retain its appeal, the advent of the film will in the future be regarded as having made an advance in classroom practice comparable with that made when the printed page displaced the handwritten manuscript."

WINNIPEG

The recent strike of IATSE projectionists which tied up 18 Famous Players and Western Theatres, Ltd., houses in this area may have further repercussions. The Free Press carried a news report that quoted R. B. Russell, organizer for the One Big Union, as saying that efforts of the IATSE to force OBU operators into their union had failed. The strikers have made application for certification to the regional wartime labor relations board and, according to Russell, the OBU is taking steps for intervention. On the other hand, the paper reported the IATSE men as saying that they had not received four days pay promised them when they returned to work.

Mrs. Francine Swartz, wife of Sam Swartz, Rio manager, recently returned from Hollywood, where she was entertained by a number of old friends, including some prominent figures of the film colony. Among them were Vince Barnett, the screen comic and his wife; Perc Westmore and Max Factor, makeup experts, and Bert Scott, secretary to Jack Benny. Mrs. Swartz spent considerable time serving as a volunteer USO hostess.

Therese Lamay, cashier at the Paris Theatre in St. Boniface, was the victim of a swindle when she failed to notice that a Brazilian bank note was handed in to her in place of a Canadian five-dollar bill. The trick worked and bought a ticket to the show and more than $4 in change. Like the Canadian bill, the Brazilian note is blue and has similar markings and about the same size, but it is worth only about 30 cents.

Blackstone the Magician and a troupe of more than 30 entertainers played here for more than a week to good houses. The company was attractively dressed and the shows were of the highest calibre. Word of mouth and press reports were practically rave notices. Blackstone's tricks are performed right out in the opening and baffle disclosure . . . One of the girl assistants, Lois Powell, was recently screen tested.

Sparked by the holiday season business at first run houses was good enough to warrant three holdovers in the downtown section. Harold Bishop held over for a second week at the Capitol the Bing Crosby musical, "Here Come the WAVES," while Bill Novak found "Thunderhead" for extra days at the Metropolitan. Sim Rost played Deanna Durbin's "Can't Help Singing" to big houses and held it for an extra week.

Comedian Lamb and Troupe on Tour

Gil Lamb, comedian, is on a personal appearance tour with his vaudeville troupe.

'Indignant Movie Fan' Rips At Stunt on 'Window'

MONTREAL—While critics have lavished praise on the publicity stunt by which police and detective inspectors witnessed and were unable to solve the mystery in "The Woman in the Window," the promoters of the publicity were severely taken to task by "Indignant Movie Fan" in a Letter to the Editor communication. It follows in part:

"Last week several daily newspapers in Montreal published accounts in their theatre pages of a special screening of the film, 'The Woman in the Window,' which was attended by a representative group of police inspectors, criminologists and newspaper reporters. The notices all emphasized the fact that no one in this special audience was able to solve the crime committed in the film.

"After seeing this picture it is obvious that the invitations to the crime experts were extended with no greater purpose than to give the film sensational publicity. The theatre executives who organized this special screening certainly ran no chances of having anyone solve the fictional crime for the reason that the solution was a trick—a trick of plot that was a trick before films were invented—and a solution that was impossible to solve by logical reasoning.

"Those theatre patrons, like myself, who went to see 'The Woman in the Window,' expecting to be confronted with a mystery story extraordinary, discovered that they had been victims of a publicity stunt which involved, without a doubt unwittingly, a responsible group of civic authorities.

Took Police From Duty

"Apart from the fact that the notices were misleading, intimating that a solution was possible by something more tangible than a guess, several police experts were taken from their duties at a time when their services were needed in solving the Benson murder case and the several dozen armed robberies which lay unsolved in the police files.

"It is at such times that the public should be incensed at the irresponsibility of the motion picture industry and its distributors, who would perpetrate such a stunt to stimulate boxoffice sales and involve responsible officials.

"For the past few years the industry has spent thousands of dollars in goodwill advertising in an attempt to convince the public that the business of making films has reached maturity and is carried out with the responsibility of a banking house. Such a stunt only proves that the industry, or at least certain persons who hold authoritative positions are of the belief that ethics and good taste should not be associated with publicity.

"The only solution toward the prevention of a recurrence of such types of publicity is for newspapers to examine closely all material organizing from the film industry until a time when a board, similar to the Hays office, is founded to lay down a set of rules governing advertising and publicity. Today censors veto all portions of films that are considered disagreeable to a great section of the theatregoing public. But much film publicity is more disagreeable than the situations and subjects which are not permitted to be exploited in films. Part of the blame, popularizing these stunts, should also be placed on the editors who permit these accounts to be carried into theatre pages as news."

H. Black to Prince Rupert

VANCOUVER—Harry Black of the Capitol, Penticton, passed through with his family recently on the way to Prince Rupert to take charge of the FPC Capitol there.

A. W. Perry Chosen As E-U President

TORONTO—A further consolidation of Paul Nathanson's organizations in Canada in preparation for postwar developments has been effected with the naming of A. W. Perry as president of Empire-Universal Films, Canadian distributor of Universal, Republic and British product. Perry, who has been with the company since its establishment more than 12 years ago, continues to be general manager, according to the formal announcement of Paul Nathanson, managing director of the firm. Perry also is vice-president of Sovereign Film Distributors, distributor of 16mm product. W. J. Kennedy is general manager of Sovereign.

The change in the Universal presidency follows the recent resignation of Haskell M. Masters who also stepped out of the position of general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada to take up residence in the United States.

H. C. D. Main and Ralph Dale, who resigned April 2 from Canadian Odeon to take over direction of the Fingold Ontario circuit of ten theatres, are now located in office of S. Fingold Theatres, 684 Church St., Toronto.

Following his recent stay in Hollywood, Nathanson announced the signing of a long-term contract for the Canadian franchise of Universal Pictures.

British Producer Offers To Film Navy Show

MONTREAL—This city may have a new crop of screen stars to its credit if plans for a motion picture version of the Canadian navy show, "Meet the Navy," come off. Much of the show's top talent was picked from Montreal, including John Pratt, Bob Goodier, Lionel Murton and Cameron Grant. Grant has, of course, already been spoken for by Hollywood.

Sydney Box, head of British Box Productions, has announced that he would like to make a screen version of the navy show, and has offered 50 per cent of the receipts to any Canadian service charity which naval authorities care to nominate.

"Meet the Navy" is drawing to the end of its eight-week run at the Hippodrome, with record houses in attendance and a most favorable press. It is not known whether the navy show officials will be able to accept the film producers' offer, for Gen. P. T. Montague, Canadian chief of staff in London, personally asked that the review go to the western front to play for the troops before the film man spoke.

Hollywood producers previously were reported interested in the show's film possibilities. Much of its original equipment was donated by leading American film studios.

Film Killings Too Vivid, Sing Sing Doctor Says

MONTREAL—Motion picture directors and producers give too little value to human life on the screen and newspapers publicize crime details too much for the good of the general public, Dr. Amos O. Squire, consultant doctor at Sing Sing penitentiary and chief medical examiner of Westchester County, New York, asserted in a talk at a meeting of the Youth Bureau of Montreal in the Ritz Carlton Hotel. When people who are often on "the ragged edge" see killing re-enacted so realistically on the screen or read in their papers about crimes committed, it is sometimes the final step needed in their own desire to kill, explained Squire.

ST. JOHN

Among the veterans of exhibition are Pete Leger of the Bathurst Opera House, J. S. Liscombe, Dominion Royal, and C. A. Nelson, Parrsboro Community. All three have owned and operated theatres in these towns more than a quarter century, and all are members of the Pioneers.

It is business as usual at the Regent here while the interior is being redecorated. The start was made on the seats on the lower floor. Quick drying paint is being used and the work is being done between 11 p. m. and resumption of operations at 1 p. m. the next day. The walls and ceiling are to be treated in a general cleanup.

Acquisition of a centrally located theatre site in Charlottetown for Odeon has created considerable excitement in the island capital where all the eggs have been in one basket for many years, the Capitol and Prince Edward and the Empire all being owned or leased by Spencer circuit. A similar situation prevails in Amherst, where the Capitol and Strand long have been the only theatres functioning, both in the Spencer loop. Odeon recently took a site in Amherst.

Amadeo Foggia, son and former assistant to Mike Foggia at the Opera House, Woodland, is in an English hospital. While in action with the army a shrapnel fragment hit him in the right leg and broke it a little under the knee. Another son of the Woodland exhibitor, Louis, is in the fighting on the western front. Still another, Frank, is town manager at Woodland. All of Mike's children have been aides to their father in his theatre at some time or other.

Manager Eddie Haskins of the Calais State went all-out for the Red Cross, using plenty of advertising and stage talks and slides and trailers to point out that $75 pays the daily overhead of a Red Cross clubmobile overseas . . . The Dundas at Dartmouth was used for a Sunday afternoon show of fish, game and wildlife films by cooperation with the Halifax County Fish and Game Protective Ass'n . . . Bill O'Neill was elected to the town council at St. Andrews. He's a partner of Ed Finigan in the Marina there.

Glimmed eating together in a Halifax foodery; Paul Gearin, Morley Callaghan of the adult educational branch of the government film and radio activities; John Fisher, a CBC commentator at Halifax, and Jack Lloyd, mayor of Halifax and accountant and auditor for Nova Scotian theatre firms . . . Pat Dwyer, manager of the Halifax Family, saved a woman from going over the side of the ferry into the harbor water recently. Dwyer lives in Dartmouth and uses the ferry aplenty . . . Manager Walter Golding of the St. John Capitol has been resting in his apartment in the Capitol since being seized with a stroke on the left side. He is one of the exhibiting veterans of the maritimes and a vet, too, of newspaper writing and advertising here.

Eight Loan Trailers Shown To Reviewers at Toronto

TORONTO—Press reviewers attended a special screening of "All-Star Bond Rally," the official picture for the Eighth Canadian Victory Loan campaign, in the head office of Famous Players Canadian Corp., as guests of President J. J. Fitzgibbons, who is national chairman of the Canadian motion pictures war services committee.

The 20-minute film was donated by the Hollywood film industry for the Canadian bond drive which opens April 23. Many screen stars contributed their talent and time for the production.

Odeon Acquires Site For Regina Theatre

TORONTO—The Odeon head office here has revealed that a central site has been purchased in Regina, capital city of Saskatchewan, for construction of a theatre as soon as materials are available. The project will cost an estimated $250,000, indicating that a larger type of cinema has been planned.

It has also been stated that war industrial conditions have already eased to the extent that structural steel is available for civilian building purposes, which suggests that theatre building operations may get under way shortly in the Dominion. In this connection, it is said that an early start is expected on the erection of the big Odeon showhouse here.

There is a possibility that J. Arthur Rank of England, in partnership with Paul L. Nathanson in Canadian Odeon, may turn the first shovel of earth at the Toronto theatre site when he visits the city in May.

FPC Starts Preparations For Filming of Shorts

TORONTO—Following a lengthy business stay in Hollywood of President J. J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players Canadian Corp. is reported to be preparing for the producing of 15 short subjects in Canada for general theatre release. This subject was broached by Adolph Zukor of New York when he addressed the 25th FPC anniversary dinner here January 23, who stated that the making of pictures in the Dominion, suitable for world-wide distribution and commencing with short subjects, was in prospect. Zukor was a director of the Canadian chain company for many years.

It is recalled that the Nathanson-Rank interests in Canada have organized a company for the making of a wide range of 16mm films for use in schools and by industrial companies, patriotic societies and governments. Frank O'Byrne, for many years with Associated Screen News, is now manager of the new Nathanson company which is arranging for a studio in the Toronto district.

OTTAWA

In addition to audience collections for the Canadian Red Cross, the Centre made a company presentation of $200, while the Roxy, a suburban house, contributed $50. Both are Odeon houses . . . Larry Ritza of Renfrew, supervisor of the Ottawa Valley Amusement Co., was in Toronto recently booking. His theatres are located at Renfrew, Pembroke, Arnprior and Almonte.

Manager G. W. Martin of the Trent at Trenton, Ont., reports that more than nine tons of scrap paper were collected by the juveniles attending one paper matinee at the theatre. The total is among the largest for any small town theatre in the Dominion . . . The Capitol suspended its filmshow Wednesday night (11) for one performance of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. Seats were sold out in advance. The ballet company played the Palace in Hamilton for two nights before making the jump to the Canadian capital.

The National Film Board is to be the locale for one of a series of programs over the Dominion net of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. to be broadcast weekly under the title of Dominion Scenes and directed by Hartley McVicar. The program comprises a microphone visit to the various departments of the film board to tell what's going on.

TORONTO

A report was received April 6 of the death of Murray Mitchell of Toronto in an airplane crash, but a checkup revealed that the victim was not the Murray Mitchell, formerly with the Toronto branch of Empire-Universal, who is now overseas as an officer in the Canadian navy.

Harry J. Allen, president and general manager of the Producers Releasing Corp. of Canada has recovered after an operation in the Western Hospital. Following his return to duties he will announce the appointment of a PRC sales manager.

Jules Bernstein, managing director of Loew's Toronto, is reported to be making good progress following a serious illness, while Morris Milligan, former Paramount general manager and now owner of four theatres, has returned to his Toronto home after a long stay in hospital.

Manager Bob Brown of the Vanity, Windsor, has received special mention for his work in arranging 17 to 19 Sunday night programs, including musicales, under organization auspices each year since the start of the war in 1939. Manager Fred Jackson of Loew's at London has been responsible for many show units which have made appearances at military camps throughout western Ontario practically weekly.

Upset of Drew's Regime Spotlights Theatre Tax

TORONTO—The defeat of the Ontario provincial government headed by Col. George Drew on a confidence vote in the legislature has aroused special attention in theatre circles because of the recent rumored intention of the Drew administration to revive the 10 per cent tax on admissions to amusement places. The exhibitors launched a campaign of protest against the levy in view of the existence of the federal government's 20 per cent impost on gross revenue of theatres and finally it was announced there would be no Ontario tax or any taxation increases.

At the time the tax spark was set off, Mitchell Hepburn, house leader of the Liberal party, made it known he would oppose the revival of the amusement levy, while E. B. Jolliffe, leader of the Opposition, was reported to have taken a similar stand in behalf of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation forces. It was Hepburn who abolished the amusement tax eight years ago on the ground that it was a nuisance tax although it brought $2,000,000 annually to the provincial treasury.

Either Hepburn or Jolliffe will head the new Ontario government under a reformation plan, it is believed, unless it is found necessary to hold a general election to clear the legislative situation.

"Four Feathers" Reissue Given Special Premiere

TORONTO—The reissue of "Four Feathers," handled in Canada by Esquire Films, was given its latest Dominion roadshow premiere at the Royal Alexandra, Toronto's only legitimate theatre, April 9. The experiment of according a reissue a special opening engagement after it had played regular runs at many film houses some years back was watched with interest by film trade executives. Entirely new advertising accessories were printed for the new life of the feature, and a special screening was held for the press and representatives of various organizations including the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire.

Winnipeg Editor Slams Lack of British Films

WINNIPEG—Charging that British pictures were being deliberately held back from public showing, Frank Morriss, film editor of the Free Press here, recently urged filmgoers to demand that these films be shown here.

Asking why aren't British films "getting a chance in Winnipeg?" Morriss added that "pictures that have been given the stamp of approval in London and New York have not, and most likely will not, be shown in this city."

Morriss cited "The Great Mr. Handel" which, he said, has been in this country for some time. "The only excuse for not showing a film like that is because the theatre men say it's not boxoffice. I think it is. Why don't you ask next time you go to a movie theatre, why they're not showing the Handel picture?

"You might also ask about a film called 'San Demetrio, London' . . . which has been in a local film vault for six months and nobody will book it into a theatre."

Points to Coward Picture

Morriss then referred to the Noel Coward picture, "This Happy Breed," which he said had been without a Winnipeg showing although he believed there were signs that this would be remedied.

"These three films are just examples of British films that Winnipegers never see," he continued. "One of the reasons is that Hollywood does a much better job of advertising its stars and stories than British films.

"But I do feel that British films deserve a wider showing in Winnipeg. But they won't be shown unless you keep asking for them—and then patronizing them when they get here.

"I speak to many people who complain about the quality of the present film product. When you ask them if they've seen such a movie (naming a particularly good one that hasn't fared well at the boxoffice) they say that they haven't had the time to see it.

"You'll never get better films that way."

Article Follows Radio Talk

Morriss' newspaper piece followed a radio talk in behalf of the University of Manitoba extension service in which he made an identical appeal.

"San Demetrio, London" was screened for the press a number of months ago, and has never been booked. The reason is not known. Neither "The Great Mr. Handel" nor "This Happy Breed," which had very successful runs in Toronto, have been booked for Winnipeg showings.

IPMPI Now Has More Than 700 in 3 Locals

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—W. H. Stratford, business agent for the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry Local 666, says more than 700 members are now included in the three active IATSE locals of the group—666 of Chicago, 659 of Hollywood and 644 of New York.

The Chicago local authority covers more than half the country. At present it has some four members working with M-G-M in Florida on "They Were Expendable," and some 20 members are at the old Essanay studios, now operated here by the Wilding Co.

There will be no requests for wage increases, Stratford says, when old contracts run out. The basic pay now for a 40-hour week is $200 for what is called the "Hollywood" scale and $150 for industrial films. The great majority in the latter classification being made now are for government uses.

Shortages at Boxoffices Just Slip of the Ink

Halifax—A series of boxoffice shortages which has had veteran Nova Scotia cashiers and exhibitors alike tearing their hair has been solved. It was just a slip of the printer's ink.

Innocent cashiers were suspected. Attention also focused on the censor board's head office here, where ticket rolls are kept and released gradually to individual theatres. One cashier had to make good the $30 she was behind in her checkup for a single night. After ten years in the booth, another experienced her first shortage beyond a few cents.

The situation was tense, when investigation at last revealed that the fault rested in the printing plants. In one case a skip of 100 tickets had been made in a roll. And the cashier who had to make good the $30 got her money back.

Girl Ushers Under 18 Now Lawful in Utah

From Western Edition

SALT LAKE CITY—Theatre owners of Utah thanked the 26th legislature, which closed March 11, for one act. The legislators amended the state child labor law to allow girls under 18 to usher in theatres.

Previously, the code forbade girls under 18 from working in hotels, restaurants or theatres. Since the manpower situation became tight, local theatre owners have been employing younger girls, for the law has not been strictly enforced. The amendment to the state code was introduced by Sen. Ward C. Holbrook of Bountiful and signed by Gov. Herbert B. Maw. It is a "duration" law only, and at the end of the war restrictions against girls under 18 are expected to be applied again.

With other Utah businesses, theatre operators and owners, however, face a higher school tax on their real property because of one bill passed by the legislature. The new tax law increases the ceilings on taxes which may be levied by school districts. Introduced by Sen. Stanley Child and others, the act allows an increase in ceilings by four mills, from 12 to 16, in Salt Lake City; by six mills in second class cities such as Provo, Ogden and Logan, and by from two to four mills in country districts.

Major Circuses to Skip Connecticut Showings

From New England Edition

BRIDGEPORT — Present indications are that no major circus will exhibit in Connecticut during the coming summer. With the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey show definitely known to be skipping the state, word comes from Cole Bros. circus that no Connecticut dates are contemplated.

Montreal Group Seeks Easing of Sunday Ban

MONTREAL—A delegation of city councillors and promoters of concerts, shows and entertainments of various types visited the executive committee at City Hall, urging that the city authorities reverse their decision regarding the renting of city-owned halls for amusement purposes Sunday evenings.

The Quebec government last year issued orders that the Lord's Day Act must be strictly observed, and that no shows except motion pictures, which are not covered by that act, were to be given on Sundays. In conformity with this order the city administration gave instructions that its halls should no longer be rented for entertainments on Sunday evenings.

The delegation pointed out that many working men had no other chance of seeing such shows, except on Sunday evening. The chairman of the executive committee Councillor J. O. Asselin, said that the provincial government's order was formal and that question of easing up on Sunday shows rested with the Quebec authority.

Film Vital to Success Of War, Editor Says

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—In a lengthy editorial, printed March 14 in the Chicago Daily News, the paper, which is published by Jack Knight who has other dailies in Florida, Detroit and elsewhere, stressed the importance of motion pictures for the fighting men, heading the article with: "Both the public and the U.S. army will approve if the latter has to take over Hollywood studios in order to keep movies coming."

The editorial went on to say that everyone is well aware of how important it is that men overseas continue on their diet of the latest films, for every day on the fighting fronts an average of 1,150,000 men and women in American uniforms see free films that have been shipped in 16mm form, with a third of the shows projected from trucks and jeeps often with bombardment going on all through the programs.

After further stressing the importance of continuing this entertainment, the editorial stated that behind the lines among foreign civilians, Hollywood productions are being used by the OWI to spread goodwill for the U.S.

The writer winds up with: "The immediate entertainment of our overseas men and the eventual propaganda spread abroad by films are factors that the strikers in Hollywood must weigh. The war has taken on such proportions, physical and spiritual, that no man can say any more, with assurance, 'This industry is essential and that is not.'"

Role in "Our Hearts" to Pat Phelan

Pat Phelan has been assigned a role in Paramount's "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

Bar "Deadheads" at Screenings

From Eastern Edition

Philadelphia—Exhibitors who have made a practice of giving their tickets to trade screenings to their friends, then crashed in at showings, were given a stern warning this week. The warning is: "No ticket, no show." And the exchange men insist they mean business.

The exchange men complain that whenever they're giving a top-notch screening, the screening rooms have been filled with friends and relatives of the exhibitors. They point to recent screenings of "I'll Be Seeing You" and "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" as two that were particularly packed with what they term "deadhead relatives and friends."

Mort Magill, UA branch manager, said that hereafter all tickets will be numbered and checked against the list of persons they were sent to. Only bona fide exhibitors will be admitted.

"And the old alibi about leaving their tickets at home won't work," said Magill.

Award to Showman for Civic Service

A. H. Blank Chosen Winner Of Des Moines Tribune Community Award

From Midwest Edition

DES MOINES—A. H. Blank, president of Tri-States Theatre Corp. and Central States Theatre Corp., has been named winner of the Des Moines Tribune's Community award "for outstanding service to the city of Des Moines during 1944." Blank is the first member of the motion picture industry to receive the award, highest civic recognition accorded a resident of Des Moines.

Blank, 64, was in Florida with Mrs. Blank, who is in ill health, when the honor was conferred upon him by a jury of nine former award winners.

Hospital Only His Latest Gift

The selection was based upon the motion picture executive's "many outstanding services to the community," among which was the recent donation to the city by him and Mrs. Blank of the $300,000 Raymond Blank Memorial Hospital for Children. However, members of the jury in arriving at their decision to make the award to Blank, said it was based upon a number of services given by Blank over a period of years, particularly since 1940.

It was pointed out that although Blank had given the city the new hospital, the gift was only one on the list of unselfish acts performed by him for the benefit of the city and state.

The fact that Blank, as chairman of the War Activities Committee of the Iowa-Nebraska motion picture industry, has headed that group's work in publicizing every one of the six war loan campaigns during the present war, was taken into consideration. Blank has headed the activities of the midwest film industry in the various Iowa Red Cross campaigns, the USO drives and the annual March of Dimes. He was state chairman also for the Russian war relief campaign, it was added.

Chairman for 1945 Drives

Blank was appointed Iowa chairman of the motion picture industry for the 1945 Red Cross drive and the 1945 March of Dimes. In December he attended a conference of nationally known motion picture leaders called by the President to discuss publicity for the coming March of Dimes.

"These activities in behalf of the war effort," the jury said, "have been almost continuous since Blank first was named coordinator between the midwest motion picture industry and the government in 1940 for the distribution and exhibition of films designed to prepare the American people for the war which government officials saw in the offing."

The jury emphasized the fact that Blank has given not only most of his time but also has financed virtually all of his personal expenses connected with obtaining complete cooperation of Iowa and Nebraska motion picture exhibitors in the numerous drives.

Active Outside Industry

Entirely outside the motion picture field, Blank's contribution to the community and state has been notable. As chairman of the Iowa chapter of B'nai B'rith he headed a campaign which raised approximately $10,000 for the purchase and installation of recreational facilities at Shick Hospital for World War II veterans at Clinton. This included pool rooms, game rooms, and loudspeakers on each floor, as well as earphones for bed patients which enable them to hear all programs in the main auditorium besides the usual radio broadcasts.



HONORED CITIZEN—A. H. Blank (above), winner of the Des Moines Tribune Community award for outstanding service to the city during 1944.

Blank was instrumental in aiding the Des Moines public schools to obtain equipment for visual education. He is one of the major supporters and contributors to the Jewish Home for the Aged and the Jewish welfare fund.

In 1940 he and Mrs. Blank donated money for the purchase and equipment of a Red Cross ambulance for service in England. He is also on the board of trustees of the motion picture charities fund.

He long has been a supporter of the Boy Scouts. His son Raymond, who died Mar. 8, 1943, was one of the youngest Eagle Scouts to win that honor here. Blank is a member of the executive board of Tall Corn council of the scouts. He is a member also of the board of Iowa Methodist Hospital.

Notified by Telegram

Notified by telegram of the award, the theatre executive replied:

"I feel very grateful and honored for having been awarded the Tribune Community service cup. Any service I have rendered has been accomplished through the support of my fine and loyal organization and the motion picture exhibitors of the state. Without their aid I could not have served or accomplished as much as we did.

"I hope to continue to serve my community which I love so much, as I have tried to do in the past. I am sorry because of Mrs. Blank's illness I am not in Des Moines personally to express my thanks to the jury."

Presentation of the award, a silver loving cup, was made here when Mr. and Mrs. Blank returned to Des Moines in February by Judge Joseph E. Meyer, chairman of the jury, at an appropriate ceremony.

Blank was born July 25, 1880, in Galatz, Romania, and came with other members of the family to Council Bluffs when he was eight to join the father who had preceded them.

One of his first business ventures came with the opening of the Trans-Mississippi exposition in Omaha in 1898. There the ambitious youth began as a seller of balloons and other novelties. However, it was as a barker for the "Giant Seesaw" on the Midway that he got his first idea of the possibilities of amusing the public.

Contribution of Time to War Efforts Emphasized by Jury in Decision

Opened First Theatre in 1912

It was not until several years later that his abilities in the entertainment field gained an outlet. In 1912 he opened the Casino Theatre in partnership here with the late Abe Frankle. With the idea of giving Des Moines something new in motion picture houses, Blank sold out his Casino interest in 1914 to Frankle, and opened the Garden Theatre in its present location. At that time it was considered the last word in theatre architecture and construction.

Quick to see the possibilities of the motion picture industry, Blank began an expansion program with new theatres in Davenport, Cedar Rapids, Omaha and many smaller cities of Iowa and Nebraska. He became a member of the executive committee of First National Pictures, and soon was considered one of the major exhibitors of the midwest.

In 1926 he sold a half interest in his 22 theatres to Famous Players Theatre Corp., and three years later he disposed of his remaining interest to Paramount Famous Lasky Corp. and announced his retirement from the business.

Organized Independent Group

Blank discovered about that time that retirement failed to satisfy him, and he organized Tri-States Theatre Corp., composed of a group of independent theatres. It has since grown to become one of the largest motion picture theatre groups in the west, and now numbers 48 theatres in Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois.

In 1929 Blank was named receiver of his original theatre holdings when the Paramount-Publix Corp. when into bankruptcy. Meanwhile Central States Theatre Corp. was growing steadily after its organization in 1928. It numbers 42 houses today.

The year 1937 was an important one for Blank. At that time he went into a permanent partnership with Paramount Pictures, Inc., retaining 50 per cent ownership in both Tri-States and Central States circuits. That year marked also one of the high spots in his life, celebration of his 25th anniversary in the motion picture business.

On the evening of Dec. 9, 1937, more than 400 of his friends, both in and out of the industry, met at Hotel Fort Des Moines to pay him tribute. Among the speakers and special guests were film executives from New York and Hollywood, and exhibitors and distributors from all sections of the country, in addition to the governors of Iowa and Nebraska.

Blank was married to Miss Anna Levy of South Omaha, Neb., Sept. 20, 1905. She is the daughter of Jacob Levy who occupied the bench there for 26 years. Their son, Lieut. (j.g.) Myron N. Blank, was treasurer of Tri-States and secretary of Central States Theatres Corp. when he enlisted in the navy in October 1943.

Blank is a Mason, a member of the Des Moines and Hyperion clubs and a member of the Picture Pioneers Club composed of veterans who have been associated with the film industry for 25 years or more. He is a member also of B'nai Jeshurun Temple.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Wac Fashion Show Aids "Powder Dry"

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.—An eight-point exploitation campaign on behalf of "Keep Your Powder Dry" was used successfully by Lou S. Hart at Schine's Glove Theatre. The campaign consisted of:

1. Advance newspaper story, ten days ahead of the opening.
2. Twenty-five three-sheets posted a week in advance.
3. Regular screen trailer one week in advance.
4. Tieup with the Albany recruiting office of the Wacs in which an official honor roll was presented to the City of Gloversville. Announcement of the award broke in the dailies five days ahead of the opening; contact was made with the families of Gloversville Wacs, and tieup was mentioned in all newspaper ads. The ads played up the "woman's" angle.
5. The Wacs cooperated on a fashion show presented on opening night. This was carried in all ads.
6. Newspaper publicity planted daily alluded to the Wac Fashion Review.
7. Presented on opening night were the fashion show and honor roll from the stage of the theatre. Sixteen Wacs took part, showing ten different changes of uniforms. The honor roll was presented to an official city representative for display in the Gloversville Chamber of Commerce window.

Merle R. Blair Runs Ads For Farmyard Lanterns

The curfew hit Cedar Falls, small Iowa college town which really gets dark when the sign lights go out, but Merle R. Blair of the Regent Theatre turned the restriction into some good advertising for the house.

Blair went a bit further than hanging up lanterns, showing himself to be a real showman. He hung up a polished, cleaned lantern from the marquee. This was carried in the local newspaper in the form of a two-column photo showing Lyle Young, a Regent employe, hanging the kerosene lamp. At the same time Blair ran several ads for "farmyard" type of lanterns. He received many answers to the ads and a nice collection of kerosene lanterns.

Now he uses four under the marquee, plus the legal 60-watt bulb.

Rounded Tulsa Campaign

TULSA—A well-rounded campaign that covered department stores, radio, newspapers, the local library and the high schools was put on by Robert Dykes, manager, and Tom Herrick, publicity manager of the Ritz Theatre here, for "A Song to Remember."

Uses Contest on "WAVES"

FRANKFORT, IND.—Joseph Goldberg, manager of the Roxy Theatre, used to advantage the four-day newspaper contest suggested in Paramount's press book for "Here Come the WAVES." The contest, running in the Frankfort Morning Times, started five days in advance. Headed "Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive for Bing," the contest called for readers to guess the titles of four hit songs. Tickets were awarded for the first 15 correct solutions. Winners were announced in a story and art layout on opening day.

Van Visits Pirates Den—

Here's A Stunt That Will Click With Juveniles



The seven-foot blowup of Van Johnson shown in the photo seen at the left created no little excitement when shown to a group of girl students of Paseo High School at Kansas City in the soft drink night club at the school called the Pirates Den, which is sponsored by the city welfare department.

The stunt might even make the newspapers in some cities. It was put on by Russell Bovim, manager of the Kansas City Midland, and Bernie Evens, M-G-M exploiteer, for "Between Two Women."

All the girls shown in the photo were informed they would receive free tickets to see their idol, Johnson, in the film at the Midland the following week if they would identify themselves in a blowup of the photo, which was set up in the Midland lobby.

This attracted quite a crowd. In addition to all the girls in the blowup, there were all their friends and relatives.

Help Wanted Ad to Spend A Million Gets Attention

SAN FRANCISCO—The United Artists Theatre ran newspaper ads on "Brewster's Millions" stating: "Help Wanted . . . To spend $1,000,000. I will buy phony oil stocks, glass diamond rings. I will give presents to blondes, brunettes or redheads. I am not crazy, I am Monty Brewster."

Pep Put Into Valance With Fine Results

Putting pep into a valance is a bit out of the ordinary. The Esquire at San Francisco tried it out for the showing of "Frisco Sal" and reported results were excellent.

One of two marquee valances read: "Hot Spot! Shock Spot! . . . The Shameless Barbary Coast." The other: "The West at its Wildest! . . . Ruled by Searing Lead and Silken Legs"

WB and Army Cooperate On "Burma!" Campaign

CHICAGO—The regional labor office of the U.S. signal corps is cooperating with Warners on special showings of "Objective, Burma!" in the midwest. The advance campaign on the picture has been dovetailed into the army's recruiting drive for war workers.

The army's campaign has included the assigning of overseas veterans to demonstrate field combat radios in theatre lobbies and on the streets during local engagements of the picture. This equipment plays an important part in "Burma." Capt. Robert D. Morgan, in charge of the signal corps local labor office, said that the tieup attracted many new workers.

In St. Louis, a tieup on the picture at the Fox Theatre was effected with the National Carbon Co. and Motorola. Both of these companies, makers of storage batteries and the radio equipment itself, ran large newspaper ads featuring Errol Flynn, seen using the Handie-Talkie in the film.

Complete "Dangerous Partners"

Metro has completed production on "Dangerous Partners," a mystery melodrama starring Signe Hasso and James Craig. The picture is based on the novel "Paper Chase," by Oliver Weld Bayer.

Mind Reader, Unique Heralds Mark Premiere of "Illusion" at Atlanta

ATLANTA—A mind reader and a unique herald were highlights of the campaign arranged for the world premiere of PRC's "Strange Illusion" at the Rialto Theatre by Manager-Owner Bill Murray.

The mind reader interpreted dreams and answered questions for the audience at each show. The stunt was appropriately conceived for the picture which traces a murderer through a dream. Murray designed a special herald which embodied a trick illusion. On top was the legend: "To See a Strange Illusion . . . Hold This Paper Flat . . . Even With Your Eyes . . . STRANGE ILLUSION . . ."

On the Sunday before the opening the motion picture sections of the Atlanta Constitution and the Atlanta Journal carried copious publicity material. Special stories with art resulted from a luncheon he sponsored at the Variety Club for dramatic critics, newspaper editors and their wives and the mayor of Atlanta. The mind reader also made an appearance here.

Ike and Harry Katz, local PRC franchise holders, and Bert Kulick, general sales manager for PRC, were guests.

Davis-Paxton, leading department store, used a quarter page cooperative ad on "Illusion" and a 15-minute broadcast. Murray inserted the following ad in the classified sections of the dailies:

"Thousands of 'sitters' wanted to stay with the baby while the rest of the family goes to the Rialto Theatre to see the world premiere of 'Strange Illusion' . . . Apply any Atlanta home."

This Atlanta showman also used a special front playing up the woman's angle and the dream sequence. An effective lobby display, special trailers and window promotion rounded out the campaign.



WHAT DO YOU SEE?—Bill Murray, owner-manager of the Rialto, Atlanta, prepared this unique herald shown above on "Strange Illusion."

CAMPAIGNS IN BRIEF

* * *

SHARON, PA.—"Be Kind to Animals" week was proclaimed here by the mayor in connection with the showing of "National Velvet" at the Columbia. Chuck Shannon, manager, arranged radio transcriptions and announcements, set horse and dog essay contests at local schools, issued 1,500 bookmarks and as throwaways 3,000 numbered "sweepstakes" tickets were distributed.

* * *

ELWOOD CITY, PA.—Victory garden tie-ups were employed by Andy Biordi of the Majestic as a spring season exploitation with "Music for Millions." Special 10x18 window cards were displayed, store candy bags were imprinted and Margaret O'Brien fan photos were used as giveaways prior to the picture's opening.

* * *

MEADVILLE, PA.—Army trucks delivered heralds for "Keep Your Powder Dry," army A boards were posted at the post office, station and market, and Wac officers cooperated by furnishing 100 special advertising cards in exploiting the showing at the academy. Ed Claffey, manager, tied up with Movie Story magazine to help sell the picture which tells a story of today's women in uniform.

* * *

PITTSBURGH—An attractive lobby display, including a model of an original clipper ship, was furnished the Harris Newsreel by the maritime service to attract attention to "Uncle Sam, Mariner."

Mona MacGill to "For Better" Cast

Mona MacGill, Metro actress, has been aded to the cast of "For Better, for Worse."

"Woman in Window" Gets A Strong Advance Plug

DETROIT—A special screening of International Pictures' "The Woman in the Window" was held a week prior to the opening of the RKO release at the Palms State Theatre. Charles Kinney, RKO field exploitation man, cooperated with William O'Brien, manager, in arranging the stunt.

Present at the showing were civic officials and newspaper men. A $100 war bond was offered for those coming closest to guessing the correct ending of the picture. Edward Werner, assistant prosecuting attorney, and John H. Witherspoon, assistant corporation counsel, shared the award.

Stress Juvenile Appeals In Caballeros Campaign

MEMPHIS—Juvenile appeal was stressed in a campaign conducted by Manager Arthur Groom of the State Theatre, with the cooperation of Fred Ford, RKO field representative, for "The Three Caballeros." A coloring contest which ran in a local newspaper for 11 days in advance with three-column cuts of the characters was a highlight of the campaign. War bonds and passes were given as prizes.

"Perilous" Contests on Air

WASHINGTON—Sol Sorkin arranged an "Experiment Perilous" contest in connection with the film of the same name at Keith's Theatre. WWDC broadcast the contest on its Band of the Day program at 5 p. m. every evening. Listeners were invited to send in letters describing their most perilous experiences.

Broad "Song" Buildup For Syracuse Loew's

SYRACUSE—Two and a half weeks on-the-spot work by Harald Danziger of Columbia's exploitation department, New York, helped Harold Martin, manager, produce a preopening barrage of promotion for "A Song to Remember," which opened at Loew's Thursday, April 5.

All parochial and public high school music classes were furnished with recordings of Sigmund Spaeth's tracing of the source of popular melodies in the music of Frederick Chopin. Local Victor dealers tied in with advertisements of the "Music to Remember" albums as played by Jose Iturbi, the unseen pianist of the film.

Record Player in Lobby

A record-player sent the strains of Chopin compositions throughout Loew's lounges and lobby. Clark Music Co., leading music dealer here, has a smash window display and its clerks, like those in all other stores selling sheet and recorded music, wore lapel emblems asking "Have you heard the Chopin music from 'Song to Remember'?"

The public library devoted its main display to literature on Chopin. Peg Kimball, Loew's organist, featured Chopin's original music, followed by popular tunes based on his melodies, on her weekly radio program. The Post-Standard, daily paper, used a color photo of Merle Oberon for the cover of its magazine section the Sunday after the picture opened. Johnson's Supermarkets, leading independent grocers, distributed a shopper's check-list tagged "Things to Remember" with prominent reference to "Song to Remember" as one item on the wise shopper's list.

15 Drug Store Windows

McKesson & Robbins, distributors of Max Factor makeup preparations, arranged for window displays in 15 neighborhood drug stores featuring color blowups of Miss Oberon. E. W. Edwards & Co., top department store, not only built a window display around the film but used Revlon counter cards throughout the store with Miss Oberon's portrait, testimonial and reference to the film.

The president of local Polish society discussed the picture and Chopin's contribution to Poland's national unity on his Sunday broadcast from a local station. Five service men escorted USO hostesses on "A Date to Remember" on a round of festivities that included attendance at Loew's as house guests.

The picture was reviewed by local music critics as well as by film writers.

Senoritas Dance in Lobby For "Caballeros" Debut

KANSAS CITY—Senoritas from the local Guadalupe Church and Joe Garcia and his Mexican orchestra entertained in the lobby of the Orpheum Theatre here on the opening night of "The Three Caballeros" there. Dressed in native costumes, the Mexicans sang and danced. An impromptu offering was a rendition of the samba by a Chilean girl student at the University of Kansas City. G. Canfield, RKO publicist, arranged the promotion.

Pigtail Contest Staged

RICHMOND, VA.—Stewart Tucker of the Neighborhood Theatre arranged a pigtail contest and obtained the cooperation of the Times-Dispatch. Bonds and stamps were awarded to the cutest entries under 12 years of age. The contest was staged in connection with the showing of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Byrd and State theatres.

Talent Show Grows Big at the Ashland

KANSAS CITY—A Friday night amateur talent show started several months ago by Eddie Mansfield at the neighborhood Ashland Theatre as an experiment, mostly to give the neighborhood youngsters something to do to "blow off their steam," has become a popular feature at the Commonwealth house.

The show has outgrown its purely local interest, although that remains an important part, and now amateurs from all over the city and even far corners of the county request to be placed on the weekly stage event.

Mansfield, now Commonwealth city manager, comments that the show has developed into a real service for all with stage ambitions, amateur or otherwise, giving tyro performers the chance to do their stuff before an audience.

Mansfield and "Watty" Watkins interview all applicants and seek only to build programs with variety and of interest to the Ashland patrons. Ages range from four-year-old tap dancers to adults with specialty acts, such as a recent hillbilly singer. On one Friday pupils of a local dancing school provided the entire program.

The showmen judge the acts entirely in terms of audience reaction. If they think the patrons are interested, the act goes.

Paramount Tieups Useful On Birmingham Dates

BIRMINGHAM—In advance of "Practically Yours" at the Alabama Theatre, Bud Gray, Paramount district advertising representative, made tieups with local representatives of two nationally advertised products: Royal Crown Cola and Overglo.

Some 1,000 window cards on the film were distributed to vendors of the soda pop throughout the city and surrounding areas. The cards tied in with the half-page ad in the Saturday Evening Post, February 10. Woolworth's devoted a full window display, five days in advance and through the engagement. Located in the busiest corner of the downtown shopping center, the display was seen by multitudes. National advertising of Overglo broke in publications just about the time of the engagement.



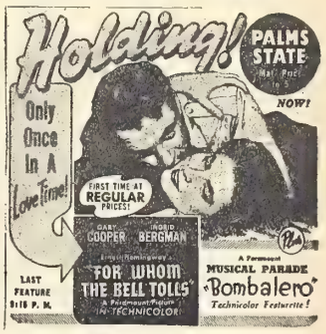
ANYBODY CAN KICK—For the run of "Betrayal in the East" (RKO) the Hawaii Theatre, Hollywood, erected this plaster head around the boxoffice and included in the newspaper ads this invitation: "Go over to the Hawaii Theatre and kick Hirohito in the teeth!" The teeth are on hinges.





ADS ON HOLDOVERS—Three of the ads shown herewith illustrate current methods of announcing holdovers, which have become common during the wartimes. They are from Kansas City, Detroit and Chicago. The other ad on "Roughly Speaking" is from Philadelphia.





Free Ad Obtained For Price of a Mat

For the few cents that the 2x5½ press book mat cost, Sam Shubouf, manager of the College at New Haven, obtained an ad on "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Sam gave the mat to Kresge's department store and the store used it to imprint 3,000 candy bags, plus theatre mention. Other details of the promotion:

Obtained book window display in Shartenberg's downtown department store consisting of a 30x40 blowup of James Dunn, stills, standees and copies of the book.

Got Judd's book store window for a display with a large silk bannerette, special standees, and stills.

Book covers made up and distributed by leading lending libraries around town. They were imprinted "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" mat ad and the caption: "Read the book then see the picture that they are all raving about! Now—second big week, etc."

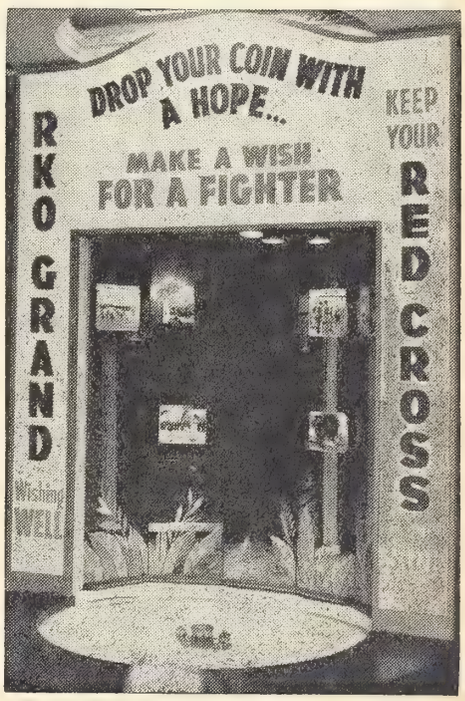
Special spot announcements made over station WNHC.

Book analysis with a special plug for the picture and theatre in the Sunday Register book of the month review.

Life-size "book" walked through the city made so that the person inside could not be seen.

"Victory" Lipstick Tieup

HALIFAX, N. S.—For "Winged Victory," Bob Roddick, manager, and Marty Simpson, assistant manager of the Capitol, hooked up with a local women's wear and supply store. The store named a lipstick the same as the film and ran a two-thirds page advertisement in each of the four local dailies with film scenes and credits. The store also set in a display window on the lipstick and the picture.



RED CROSS "WISHING WELL"—Red and blue copy on a white frame credited both the Red Cross and RKO Grand Theatre in a special display around a "wishing well" in the theatre foyer. The slogan, "Drop your coin with a hope . . . Make a wish for a fighter," was used overhead. Photographs from the various war theatres were used against the mirrored background of the well. A large red cross was suspended from the center of the overhead display, directly above the well. Ten small turtles, their shells painted white with a red cross occupied the well. The display was arranged by William Briscoe, manager of the Grand, and Peggy Egbers, a staff member.

Elaborate "Caballeros" Layout, Other Selected Displays



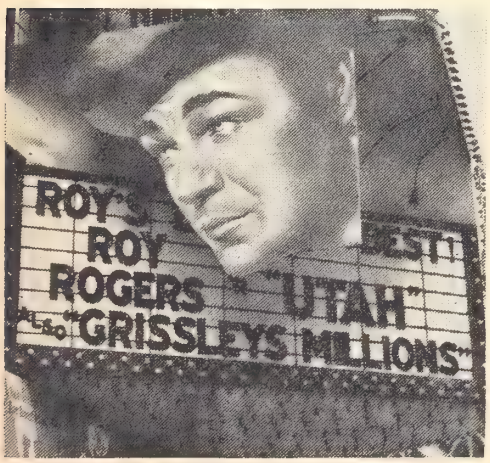
GRAND'S "MOST BEAUTIFUL"—According to Nate Wise, publicity director of the Cincinnati RKO theatres, the front and inside panels for "Three Caballeros" were one of the most beautiful and effective displays ever used for the RKO Grand where the feature played. A special screening for the board of education helped word-of-mouth plugs for the Disney masterpiece.



NORTHWEST DISPLAYS—Theatres in the northwest are putting some high pressure campaigns behind "I'll Be Seeing You." Top: Front display arranged by Leroy V. Johnson, manager of the Liberty in Seattle. Bottom: Unusual use for a 24-sheet set up by Jack Matlack, manager of the Broadway, Portland.



"JUNGLE GREEN" DISPLAY—This is a reproduction of a huge display set up by M. D. "Babe" Cohen, manager of the Newman, Kansas City, in the lobby more than a month in advance of the opening of "Objective, Burma!" A "jungle green" was used as the basic paint for the display, and it really loomed up as one entered the theatre.



MARQUEE BUILD-UP—Here's a simple and effective way of attracting attention to a marquee in these days of dimmed lights. The Roy Rogers cut-out is made from a 24-sheet and mounted on wall board. Ben Cohen used it at the Strand Theatre, Cincinnati.

ELABORATE ART WORK—To help exploit the showing of "The Affairs of Susan" at the Rivoli, Robert M. Weitman erected this striking stand in the lobby of the Paramount where thousands wait in line daily. The city is New York.



Pigtail Derby Breaks Wartime Space Ban

SALT LAKE CITY—One of the first contests conducted by a local newspaper in conjunction with a theatre or studio since paper rationing put the squeeze on newsprint was a pigtail derby to publicize "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

The contest, sponsored by the Deseret News and the Centre Theatre, where the picture opened March 31, attracted 500 entrants,



THREE LITTLE GIRLS TAKE THEIR QUEUES—From top to bottom, Jennene, Myra and Barbara Coates, sisters who entered the pigtail contest of the Deseret News and Centre Theatre to publicize "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

squealing, giggling, freckle-faced girls between the ages of five and 12. Some families had three little pigtailed hopefuls in the affair.

The News printed daily stories on the contest for a week prior to the finals. Preliminary judging took place March 31 at a special matinee, with Wilby Durham, circulation manager for the paper, and Helen Garrity of Intermountain Theatres whittling the entries down to 12. The even dozen appeared at the Centre April 2 and winners were selected on the basis of audience applause during an intermission. War bonds were awarded to the girls with the longest pigtails, the thickest braids and also the most colorful.

"Mr. Emmanuel" at Hotel Uncovered as a Publicist

BUFFALO—While here working on the "Mr. Emmanuel" campaign, Phil Engel, UA district publicist from Boston, registered at a local hotel under the name of Mr. Emmanuel and arranged to have himself paged at regular intervals every day. However, the curiosity of the hotels guests and staff became so aroused after a few days that the hotel manager, who has known Engel for years, asked him to register under his correct name.

Big Comic Section Plug For "Bring On Girls"

NEW YORK—Paramount made use of the Sunday comic sections of 36 leading newspapers in the nation as part of its campaign on "Bring On the Girls." This was one of the widest uses of comic sections in the exploitation of a picture, and was under the supervision of Robert Gillham, advertising and publicity director for the company.

Cupid's Wheel in Lobby Helps Bring In Customers for "The Vanities"

DENVER—A comprehensive campaign on "Earl Carroll Vanities" by Ralph R. Batschelet, manager of the Paramount, was to a large degree responsible for the increased attendance and income enjoyed by the theatre during the run of the musical. A special front, excellent window display tieups and newspaper publicity emphasizing Denver-born Tommy Ivo and Woody Herman, both featured in the picture, highlighted the campaign.

The front, "one of the most attractive in the Paramount Theatre's history," according to Batschelet, was done in pastel colors using corrugated paper, corrugated tubes and lots of flitter and relief letters. Special blowups were made of the local pride, Tommy Ivo, and the dancing girls. The film's six song hits were listed at the boxoffice and Woody Herman was played up big.

Special 40x60 in Lobby, Then Store

A special 40x60 in cutout letters in flitter was used in the lobby in advance of the opening and later moved to the Knight-Campbell Music Co. for a window display. Fourteen other windows were secured, all of them utilizing 11x14 stills, with playdate and theatre credit.

A lobby display utilizing a Cupid's Wheel machine attracted attention to the film, with receipts (in pennies) going to the Red Cross. Patrons were invited to "Test Your Love Life Here," the display including cutouts of a "Vanities" beauty and Tommy Ivo. In addition, an overhead display in the lobby tied in the picture and the Red Cross. The catchline used throughout the campaign was "Every Girl a Beauty, Every Song a Hit, Every Minute a Pleasure."

Dance School Tieup Profitable

An effective display was set up in the Jimmy Gallagher School of Dancing where Ivo received his hoofing instruction. More than 2,000 extra tickets were sold through this tieup. The Ivo local angle was played up in advance stories and display ads, with excellent placement.

Special five-minute transcriptions were used on four local stations, and these radio previews were heralded by newspaper ads featuring Herman and his band. Other radio coverage included spot announcements, special plugs on KMYR in connection with Ivo, and a promotion stunt over KOA. The latter station announced various names taken from the phone book at random and read over the air. If a response was received within five minutes, the caller received complimentary admissions to the Paramount.

Postal-Cards-for-Soldiers Clicks on "Seeing You"

Gertrude Bunchez of Loew's Baltimore Theatres had postals printed with pictures of Joseph Cotten, Ginger Rogers and Shirley Temple and the picture title at the top, "I'll Be Seeing You." These were passed out by members of the women's auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, so the recipients could send messages to service men. The stunt was a hit.

Uses "Pinup" Folders

NORWICH, CONN.—Manager Joseph Boyle, Broadway manager, decided to arrange advance publicity on M-G-M starlets in forthcoming attractions. He obtained "M-G-M Pinup Girls," souvenir folders. Local newspapers reproduced several and suggests that these folders would be a welcome addition to mail going to service men.

Cartoons for Adults, Too, Pack Theatre Twice

Grand Island, Neb.—When the Capitol Theatre advertised an all-cartoon matinee for grownups and children, the results left Tri-States City Manager Wally Kemp temporarily dazed. By 9:30 a. m., the line extended several blocks outside the theatre. Before show time the house was packed. Kemp then decided to open the Grand Theatre for another showing of the films. It was filled to capacity, too.

Local Boys in "Lady" Made Talk of Town

Merle R. Blair, president of the Cedar Amusements Co. at Cedar Falls, Iowa, which operates the Regent Theatre in that state teachers college site, made "Fighting Lady"



the talk of the town by some well-chosen promotion, the major part of which was costless.

Well in advance Blair planted a few announcements in the local newspaper on the naval story of an airplane carrier and as a result four local families notified Blair they had relatives on the carrier. These made separate news stories and created keen interest in the film.

Secondly Blair talked with the local school and college officials and arranged a special afternoon showing, for which the high school and Iowa State Teachers College dismissed classes at noon.

And Blair did not neglect the more routine promotions. He used a street bally, window displays and placarded his pickup truck, as shown in the accompanying photo.

New Small Ad Setup

DALLAS—New lines have appeared in Interstate circuit's one-column week-day newspaper ads on A runs. The one-inch ads previously carried only the title and cast. Under the new arrangement a line of copy appears at the top. When the picture is set for only one week these words appear at the bottom on the sixth day, "Will Not Be Held," thus informing patrons to see it on the last day and not take a chance it will be held over.

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

Surprise in the Night

CAST: Chester Morris, Steve Cochran, Nina Foch, Philip Van Zandt, John Tyrell, Clarence Muse, Frank Sully. PRODUCER: Alexis Thurn-Taxis. DIRECTOR: Arthur Dreifuss. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Steve Cochran, homicidal maniac, escapes from a sanitarium and tries to contact Nina Foch, dance hall hostess. Upon learning she is out of town for the night, he strikes up an acquaintance with another hostess, whom he strangles after a ride in the country. Meantime, Steve's uncle, finding Nina's address which his nephew had dropped, contacts Chester Morris. Fearful for Nina's safety, Morris goes to the dance hall and subsequently finds the murdered girl, but is arrested for the crime by an inspector who discovers him at the scene. After convincing the officer of his innocence, Morris reaches Nina's hotel just as Cochran has strangled a chambermaid, and is again apprehended. Luring Nina to his room pretending to be Morris, Steve is about to strangle her as Chester and the police arrive.

Monogram

Divorce

CAST: Kay Francis, Bruce Cabot, Helen Mack, Craig Reynolds, Jean Fenwick, Larry Olson, Johnny Calkins. PRODUCER: Kay Francis and Jeffrey Bernerd. DIRECTOR: William Nigh. ORIGINAL: Sidney Sutherland. SCREENPLAY: Sidney Sutherland and Harvey H. Gates.

Kay Francis, sophisticated divorcee, returns to her home town after many years and meets her childhood sweetheart, Bruce Cabot, happily married to Helen Mack and father of two children. Kay decides she wants Bruce for herself and by the time Helen realizes that fact, the divorcee has entrenched herself by backing a real estate project for Bruce. Despite the judge's efforts to avert divorce, Helen leaves Bruce and refuses alimony, humiliating him by working as a clerk. Subsequently Bruce is caught in a gambling raid with Kay and fears the scandal will affect the real estate deal, whereupon Kay tells him she's selling out for profit. Realizing that she was trying to buy him, Bruce confesses to his children he'd deserted them foolishly, and Kay, overhearing this admission, departs from town and Bruce's life.

PRC Pictures

The Enchanted Forest

CAST: Edmund Lowe, Brenda Joyce, Billy Severn, Harry Davenport, John Litel, Clancy Cooper, "Jim" the Crow. PRODUCER: Jack Schwarz. DIRECTOR: Lew Landers. ORIGINAL: John Lebar. SCREENPLAY: Robert Lee Johnson, John Lebar and Lou Brock.

Several people's lives are strangely enmeshed in the enchanted forest. Harry Davenport finds peace there in communion with nature and the companionship of a tamed crow. John Litel, who bought the forest intending to cut it down, lost his year-old grandson to it, but could not know the child had been rescued by Harry and reared with his animal friends. The child's mother, Brenda Joyce, is also drawn to it and to Edmund Lowe, a doctor, who, after recuperating from an illness, tells her he dreams of building a sanitarium within its precincts. Brenda catches a glimpse of her long-lost son, but when a search fails to reveal his existence, she is thought to be deranged. As the principals of the story become involved in complications, the day is saved by the crow.

The Phantom of 42nd Street

CAST: Dave O'Brien, Kay Aldridge, Alan Mowbray, Frank Jenks, Edythe Elliott, Jack Mulhall, Vera Marshe. PRODUCERS: Martin Mooney and Albert Herman. DIRECTOR: Albert Herman. ORIGINAL: Jack Harvey and Milton Raison. SCREENPLAY: Milton Raison.

When the brother of Cecil Moore (Alan Mowbray), Shakespearean actor, is murdered in New York, Dave O'Brien, dramatic critic, is scooped on the story. Talking with Kay Aldridge, daughter of Alan, he learns she is worried about her father's safety. Two more murders follow, both victims having been connected with the Moore Repertory Co. of 25 years ago. In an effort to solve the mystery Dave arranges for a performance of Julius Caesar, using Alan as bait for the killer. As Brutus stabs Caesar a knife flies through the air, but is stopped by the steel vest Mowbray is wearing. The assailant turns out to be an ex-husband of Kay's twice-divorced mother. Mowbray's brother had shanghaied him years before and the murderer lived only for revenge.

Republic

Bells of Rosarita

CAST: Roy Rogers and "Trigger," George "Gabby" Hayes, Dale Evans, Adele Mara, Grant Withers, Addison Richards, Roy Barcroft. PRODUCER: Eddy White. DIRECTOR: Frank McDonald. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Jack Townley.

Dale Evans inherits a small circus and ranch which her neighbor, Grant Withers, falsely claims as payment of a debt Dale's deceased father once owed his father. During a barbecue at the ranch, Addison Richards, former partner of Dale's father, who knows the debt had been paid, is kidnaped. Roy Rogers, movie star, is on location at the ranch working on a picture, which, so far, parallels Dale's circumstances; and to help her raise money with which to pay off Withers, arranges with Republic studio to send out their western stars with whom he plans to stage a show. While the townspeople are at the show, Withers and his henchman blow open a vault containing the receipt for the debt. Roy and the cowboys leave in pursuit of Withers and, after a violent battle, obtain the stolen receipt. Returning, the stars finish the show.

RKO Radio

First Man Into Tokyo

CAST: Tom Neal, Barbara Hale, Marc Cramer, Michael St. Angel, Richard Loo, Keye Luke, Clarence Lung. PRODUCER: J. Robert Bren. DIRECTOR: Gordon Douglas. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: J. Robert Bren and Gladys Atwater.

Because Tom Neal, American ace, was born in Japan and speaks the language, he is chosen by Washington to get information from Inventor Marc Cramer being held prisoner in a Jap hospital. Neal undergoes plastic surgery and after arduous training is smuggled into Tokyo and thence to the prison hospital. The camp's commander, Richard Loo, is suspicious, but Nurse Barbara Hale, whom Tom had loved and thought dead, doesn't know him. With the aid of Keye Luke, Korean agent, Neal meets Kramer and gets the information, but in an attempt to rescue Barbara from Loo's amorous pawing, Tom's identity is revealed. Breathtaking escape is made during commotion raised when a munitions dump explodes and Luke and Neal rush Barbara to a waiting British submarine, while they stay behind; Neal, who surrendered his identify for his country, also surrenders his life.

The Most Dangerous Game

CAST: John Loder, Edgar Barrier, Audrey Long, Russell Wade, Gene Stutenroth, Noble Johnson, Bruce Edwards. PRODUCER: Herman Schlom. DIRECTOR: Robert Wise. ORIGINAL: Richard Connell. SCREENPLAY: Norman Houston.

Shipwrecked off Bankara, John Loder is sole survivor to reach an island on which a magnificent castle is occupied by Edgar Barrier, his servants, and guarded by a pack of dogs. At dinner, Loder meets two other shipwreck victims, Audrey Long and Russell Wade. They warn him there is something sinister about Barrier, who goes on mysterious hunting trips each night. That evening while Edgar is away, the three discover a morgue-like trophy room lined with human heads. Together they plot a trap for Egar, who overhears them. Next evening Loder finds his room guarded by a ferocious dog and, powerless, sees Wade chased to his death. Taunted into giving Loder a sporting chance, Barrier apparently chases him over a cliff. This is a trick, however, and John returns in the morning, knocks Barrier out, and escapes with Audrey.

20th Century-Fox

A Bell for Adano

CAST: Gene Tierney, John Hodiak, William Bendix, Monte Banks, Glenn Langan, Richard Conte, Stanley Prager. PRODUCER: Louis Lighton. DIRECTOR: Henry King. ORIGINAL: John Hersey. SCREENPLAY: Lamarr Trotti.

Maj. John Hodiak arrives at the City Hall of Adano, a still-smoking Sicilian port town, to become administrator under AMG regulations. When he asks the people what they need most, among shouts for food and water, the most insistent is the seemingly-ridiculous cry for a new bell to replace the one of ancient and revered origin by which the people lived their daily lives. In devious ways John spurs the populace to cooperate with him, winning their humble esteem and the love of Gene Tierney, daughter of the head fisherman. When he countermands an order, so that desperately needed water may be brought into the town, Hodiak is relieved of his post. He has succeeded, however, in getting the bell—a monastery bell, fished out of African waters and inscribed in Arabic—and rides away content.

Universal

Strange Confession

CAST: Lon Chaney, J. Carrol Naish, Brenda Joyce, Lloyd Bridges, Milburn Stone, Gregory Muradian, Wilton Graff. DIRECTOR: John Hoffman. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Lon Chaney, once brilliant scientist, brings a bag containing the head of his former employer, J. Carrol Naish, to his attorney. Chaney then relates a strange story of a chemist, happily married and father of a son, who had pledged to relieve human suffering. Naish, a profit-mad medicine tycoon, had sent Chaney to South America to perfect a cure for influenza. Naish, eager for acclaim, marketed Lon's half-completed formula, only to have an epidemic sweep the country taking Chaney's son as one of the victims. And during the young chemist's absence, his cold-blooded employer had completely destroyed the man's happiness by wooing his wife (Brenda Joyce). The story returns to the present with Chaney's confession completed. His attorney, strangely affected by the story, promises legal aid.

Warner Bros.

Three Strangers

CAST: Sydney Greenstreet, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Peter Lorre, Joan Lorring, Robert Shayne, Marjorie Riordan, Arthur Shields. PRODUCER: Wolfgang Reinhardt. DIRECTOR: Jean Negulesco. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: John Huston and Howard Koch.

Geraldine Fitzgerald, believer in the Chinese Goddess of Destinies, brings two strangers—London Barrister Sydney Greenstreet, and Peter Lorre, alcoholic—to her apartment. Each holding an interest in a sweepstakes ticket, they wish on the Goddess for money. It's later revealed that Sydney has embezzled funds and Lorre is involved in a murder but is subsequently cleared of the charges. On the day of the Grand National Race, the trio meet again in Geraldine's apartment. Greenstreet, desperate for money, begs her to buy his interest in the ticket, but superstitious about breaking the pact, she refuses, and in an insane rage, Sydney kills her just as the radio announces their ticket as the winner. Murder has made the ticket useless; Sydney is arrested trying to escape and Lorre finds solace with his Cockney girl friend.

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parentheses is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ⓑ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama ⓒA SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon R—Feb. 3—PG-599	MARCH RELEASES:	2 (..) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver R—Mar. 10—PG-612	BLOCK 3—1944-45:		GROUP 3—1944-45	28 (55) Western 454 SHERIFF OF CIMARRON Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill	MARCH RELEASES:		2 (76) Drama 9006 ⓒSUDAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	9 (..) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611	(99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591	16 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley	(78) Drama 518 ⓒTHUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599				
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale		(62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591	15 (..) M'drama SWAMP MAN	(82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610		(67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603		16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen R—Mar. 3—PG-609	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604	22 (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown	(158) Drama 4413 ⓒFOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454		(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans R-Mar. 17—PG-613	APRIL RELEASES:			
MAR. 31			30 (..) Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS Harry Carey Paul Kelly Ducky Louie		31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes Dan Duryea	(156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592		(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN Richard Arlen Cheryl Walker Roger Pryor R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(..) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614	13 (64) Musical I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant Milburn Stone	7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dana Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611								(..) Mys.-Drama SPELLBOUND Ingrid Bergman Gregory Peck		
APR. 21	17 (67) Western ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES 19 (66) Mystery THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER 19 (..) Western RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID		20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore		15 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	GROUP 4—1944-45			21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan	
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619			(92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⓒBRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	(68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys		(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613	(..) 2,000 WOMEN Phyllis Calvert Stewart Granger	27 (..) ⓒSALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	5 (..) Rom.-Com. YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT LOVE Vera Lynn Donald Stewart			(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henary Daniell		MAY RELEASES:	4 (147) Comedy ⓒCOLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	4 (89) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook	
MAY 12	10 (..) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick			(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(78) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield		(104 Musical 524 DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont	(..) Comedy BEDSIDE MANNER John Carroll Ruth Hussey	11 (..) Musical HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper	
MAY 19				(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607		(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew		(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello	18 (..) Drama IT'S SPRING AGAIN Zachary Scott Betty Field	18 (60) Musical SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher	
MAY 26						(..) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding			25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (..) Comedy SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ## Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, − Poor, = Very Poor. ◎ Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6401	Gents Without Cents (19)	9-22		....
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		....
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6422	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23		....
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17		....
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)			....
6411	Wife Decoy (..)	5-18		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (..)	6- 1		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		....
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	5-18		....
6503	Fiesta Time (7½)	6- 1		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6652	No. 2 (Baker) Ikky, Tikky Tambo (9)	10-12	+	11-18
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		....
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27		....
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (..)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed)			....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	5-11		....
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		....
6752	The Egg Yegg (7½)	5- 4		....
6753	Kukunuts (..)	5-25		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		....
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18		....
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		....
6703	Goofy News Views (7)	4-27		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6852	No. 2 (The Mike Goes to War) (10)	9-22		....
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		....
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		....
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		....
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	##	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2		....
6807	The Iron Masters (..)	4-27		....
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	5-25		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		....
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	##	2-12
T-517	Along the Cactus Trail (9)	4-15	##	4-22
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	##	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	##	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	##	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	##	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	##	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3		....
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	##	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	##	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	##	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13		....
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17		....
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	##	3-24
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	##	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (..)	4-14		....
A-503	The Last Installment (..)	5- 5		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-497	Little Miss Pinkerton (11)	9-18	±	10-16
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	##	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	##	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	##	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		....
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		##	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	##	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-470	Scrap Happy (9)	9- 4	##	9-18
S-471	Fixin' Tricks (10)	9-18	+	10-16
S-472	Football Thrills of 1942 (10)	9-25	##	10-16
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		....
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	##	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	##	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	##	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	##	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	##	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	##	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (..)	4-14		....

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	##	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	##	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	##	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)			....
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3- 9	Catch 'Em and Eat 'Em (10)	7- 7	##	8-12
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	##	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	##	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (..)			....
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	##	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	+	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	+	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magic-Lulu (..)	3- 2		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	##	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	##	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15		....
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (..)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (..)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	##	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26		....
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better of Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	##	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	##	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6		....
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1		....
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-5	In a Harem (9)	7-14	+	7-29
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	##	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	##	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18		....
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	##	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (..)	5-11		....

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	##	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	##	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	##	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	##	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	+	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	±	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
43,406	The Kitchen Cynic (18)	7-23	+	9-16
53,401	Feather Your Nest (18)	10-23	##	11-18
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	##	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,203	No. 3 (9)	10-29	+	10-30
44,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	11-27
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	##	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21		....
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	##	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	##	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	##	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,311	Boot and Spur (8)	6-16	##	7- 8
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	##	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	##	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	##	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	##	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	##	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
33,113	Children of Mars (20)	10-22	##	10-30
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	##	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	##	2-12
43,107	Viva Mexico (17)	5- 5	+	5-13
43,108	Hot Money (17)	6- 2	+	6-10
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	##	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	##	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	##	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	##	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	##	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	##	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	##	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	##	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9		....

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (15). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.

Battle Stations. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.

The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.

It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.

Liberation of Rome. (21). Dist. by M-G-M. Excellent. Rev. July 29.

Memo for Joe. (10). Dist. by RKO.

Movies at War. (10). Dist. by Univ.

No Substitutes. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Report to Judy. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Reward Unlimited. (10). Dist. by UA and M-G-M.

Road to Victory. (10). Dist. by WB.

Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.

Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.

The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.

The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.

V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.

Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox.

What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE			
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29		....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6		....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS			
4352	⊙Ski Slopes (9)	7-21		....
5351	⊙Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15		....
5352	⊙Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15		....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1-19		....
5353	⊙Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+	1-27
5354	⊙ Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1		....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)			
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4		....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10		....
	MARCH OF TIME			
	Vol. 10, No. 12 Americans All (18)	7-14	‡	7-29
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡	8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+	9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+	10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡	11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1		....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡	12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26		....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡	3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23		....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..)	4-20		....
	Vol. 11, No. 10 (..)	5-18		....
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15		....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13		....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)			
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡	4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4		....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25		....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29		....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10		....
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8)	1- 5	‡	2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2		....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+	1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	4-27	‡	2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8)	5-11		....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	6-22		....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	7- 6		....
5261	Glimpses of New York (8)	7-27		....
	SPECIAL			
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8		....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)			
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7		....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28		....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7)	8-18		....
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1		....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22		....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13		....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27		....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17		....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7)	12- 8		....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7)	12-22	±	2-10
5509	Might Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+	2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2		....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16		....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7)	3- 9		....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23		....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	3-30		....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-13		....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5- 4		....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	4-25		....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8		....
5519	Aesops Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29		....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20		....

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)			
8239	Fish Fry (7)	6-19	+	8-12
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	+	11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+	12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡	1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡	2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (..)	5-14		....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS			
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17		....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±	8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15) Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+	9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15) Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+	10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15) Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±	12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15) Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡	12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17		....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14		....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28		....
	PERSON—ODDITIES			
8377	Aviation Expert Donald Douglas (9)	3-20	+	5-27
8378	Foster's Canary College (9)	4-24	+	4-29
8379	The Fantastic Castle (9)	5-22	+	5-20
8380	The Honest Forger (9)	6-19	+	8-26
8381	Spinning a Yarn (9)	8- 7	+	8-12
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡	10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+	1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15		....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22		....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)			
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+	1-22
8233	Jungle Jive (7)	5-15	+	4-29
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+	10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15		....
9237	Sliphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19		....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)			
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17		....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13		....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	VARIETY VIEWS			
8358	Hobo News (9)	3-27	‡	5-20
8359	Fraud by Mail (9)	4-24	‡	5-20
8360	Mr. Chimp Goes South (9)	5-29	+	7-29
8361	Bear Mountain Game (9)	8-14	‡	7-29
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡	10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+	12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+	12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29		....

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)			
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16		....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30		....
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+	11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±	1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±	2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±	3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±	4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (..)	3-17		....
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11)	4-21		....
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)			
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+	10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡	11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡	4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡	3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (..)	4-21		....
	FEATURETTE			
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡	10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17)	10-14	‡	11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20)	12- 2	+	1-13
1101	I Am an American (20)	12-23	+	12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡	11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡	3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (..)	3- 3		....
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28		....
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+	3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (..)	4-1		....
	MELODY MASTERS			
9609	Junior Jive Bombers (10)	7- 1	+	9-16
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+	10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+	11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡	1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡	12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡	1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24		....
1608	Circus Band (..)	5-19		....
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)			
9714	From Hand to Mouse (8)	8- 5	+	9-16
9713	Birdy and the Beast (7)	8-19	+	9-16
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+	10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±	10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±	11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡	11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡	2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡	1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡	2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+	2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (..)	2-24		....
1703	Life With Feathers (..)	3-24		....
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7		....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (..)	5- 5		....
1706	Gruesome Twosome (..)	5-19		....
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)			
9513	Bluenose Schooner (10)	8- 5	‡	9-16
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡	11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡	2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (..)	12-30		....
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡	2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡	3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10		....
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7		....
1507	Water Babies (..)	5- 5		....
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (..)	5-26		....
	TECHNICOLOR			
9006	Musical Movieland (20)	9- 9	‡	10- 7
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡	12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡	12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡	1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (..)			....
	VITAPHONE VARIETY			
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+	9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7		....
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (..)	3-17		....
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (..)	5-26		....

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists			
	THE WORLD IN ACTION			
....	The Labor Front (21)	11-19	±	12- 4
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21)		+	3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡	5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+	10-21
....	Fortress Japan (17)	8-10	‡	8-12
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡	10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±	11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+	12-16
	Serials			
	COLUMBIA			
5140	The Desert Hawk (15 Chapters.)	7- 7	+	7-29
6120	Black Arrow (15 Chapters.)	10-20		....
5120	The Batman (15 Chapters.)	7-16		....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter (13 Chapters.)	1-26		....
	REPUBLIC			
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa (15 Chapters.)	7-10		....
381	The Masked Marvel (12 Chapters.)	11- 6		....
382	Captain America (15 Chapters.)	1-29		....
383	The Tiger Woman (12 Chapters.)			....
	UNIVERSAL			
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+	5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City (13 Chapters.)		+	8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat (13 Chapters.)		+	11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+	12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 62: Western front; Allies capture Godesberg; Goebbel's home; Remagen bridge collapses; Saar; rocket tank; RAF over Himalaya hump; Easter; Ryukyu Islands.

News of the Day, No. 260: Attack on Okinawa; Germany crumbling; Remagen bridge falls; Gasogenio.

Paramount News, No. 63: Germany; skyscraper sweepstakes; Yanks invade Ryukyus.

Pathe News, No. 65: Rhine breakthrough; Okinawa.

Universal News, No. 386: German death knell; Easter; Okinawa invaded.

●

Movietone News, No. 63: Eisenhower hails Bastogne heroes; beginning of end of Nazis; Allied offensive across Rhine.

News of the Day, No. 261: Rhine; tanks in Coblenz; Eisenhower salutes heroes.

Paramount, No. 64: France reveals planes; White House; drive beyond Rhine.

Pathe, No. 66: Rhine crossing; Bastogne heroes win citation.

Universal News, No. 387: Air army invades Germany; Coblenz captured; French sky giant; airborne division decorated.

●

All American News, Vol. 3, No. 129: Negro tank crew advances in Germany; man, 102, tells how he cast his first vote; OPA fights inflation which could bring on panic; grandest ladies in Easter parade; train bombers at Freeman Field, Ind.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	A											
549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)	UA		7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
526	Address Unknown (72)	Col		4-22-44	+	±	±	+	∓	+		6+ 3—
606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)	Mono.		2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
530	Adventures of Mark Twain (130)	WB		5- 6-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)	Para		4- 7-45	ǂ			+	+			4+
573	Alaska (76)	Mono		10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
529	Allergic to Love (65)	Univ		5- 6-44	∓	±	±	+	+	±		6+ 4—
345	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)	PRC		7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
546	American Romance, An (122)	MGM		7- 1-44	±	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	+	+	9+ 1—
575	And Now Tomorrow (85)	Para		10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
527	And the Angels Sing (96)	Para		4-29-44	+	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
521	Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble (107)	MGM		4- 8-44	+	∓	±	±	+	ǂ	±	8+ 4—
544	Are These Our Parents? (73)	Mono		6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	ǂ	+	—	+	7+ 4—
524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)	Mono		4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
589	Army Wives (68)	Mono		12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)	WB		8- 2-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		10+
555	Atlantic City (85)	Rep		8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
542	Attack (80)	RKO		6-17-44	+		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	9+
	B											
572	Babes on Swing Street (70)	Univ		9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)	MGM		8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
528	Bathing Beauty (101)	MGM		6- 3-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
586	Belle of the Yukon (84)	RKO		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
540	Beneath Western Skies (56)	Rep		6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
527	Bermuda Mystery (65)	20-Fox		4-29-44	—	±	±	—	+	∓	±	5+ 6—
610	Betrayal From the East (85)	RKO		3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+		6+ 5—
596	Between Two Women (83)	MGM		1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
531	Between Two Worlds (112)	WB		5-13-44	ǂ	±	ǂ		+	ǂ	+	9+ 1—
596	Big Bonanza, The (60)	Rep		1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
568	Big Noise, The (74)	20-Fox		9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
597	Big Show-Off, The (69)	Rep		1-20-45	+	∓		±	∓	=		4+ 5—
565	Black Magic (64)	Mono		9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
523	Blazing Frontier (59)	PRC		4-15-44	+		±				±	3+ 2—
557	Block Busters (60)	Mono		8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
586	Blonde Fever (69)	MGM		12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
578	Bluebeard (73)	PRC		10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
610	Body Snatcher, The (78)	RKO		3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 2—
	Bordertown Trail (56)	Rep								±		1+ 1—
569	Boss of Rawhide (59)	PRC		9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
	Bowery Champs (62)	Mono				±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
578	Bowery to Broadway (94)	Univ		10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
	Brand of the Devil (61)	PRC							∓			1+ 1—
577	Brazil (91)	Rep		10-28-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
614	Brewster's Millions 79)	UA		3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+	+		6+
552	Bride by Mistake (81)	RKO		7-29-44	±	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2—
603	Bring On the Girls (91)	Para		2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
	C											
364	Call of the Jungle (60)	Mono		9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 8—
	Call of the Rockies (56)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1—
	Call of the South Seas (59)	Rep				∓	∓		∓	∓	—	4+ 5—
538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)	20-Fox		6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3
589	Can't Help Singing (89)	Univ		12-16-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	10+
538	Canterville Ghost, The (95)	MGM		6- 3-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
571	Carolina Blues (81)	Col		9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
554	Casanova Brown (92)	RKO		8- 5-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	12+
	Castle of Crimes (60)	PRC				±	±				∓	3+ 3—
523	Charlie Chan and the Chinese Cat (64½)	Mono		4-15-44	+	±		+	±	±	∓	6+ 4—
	Cheyenne Wildcat (56)	Rep							∓	±		2+ 2—
604	Chicago Kid (68)	Rep		2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
	China's Little Devils (..)	Mono				∓						1+ 1—
542	Christmas Holiday (93)	Univ		6-17-44	+	±	+	ǂ		ǂ	+	8+ 1—
603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)	20-Fox		2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
	Cisco Kid Returns (..)	Mono					±	±				2+ 2—
571	Climax, The (86)	Univ		9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3—
616	Clock, The (92)	MGM		3-24-45	∓	+	ǂ	±	∓	ǂ		8+ 3—
527	Coastal Command (60)	RKO		4-29-44	±	±	ǂ	+		ǂ		7+ 2—
530	Cobra Woman (70)	Univ		5- 6-44	±	—	+	+	+	∓	∓	6+ 4—
	Code of the Prairie (50)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1—
620	Colonel Blimp (148)	UA		4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 1—
574	Conspirators, The (101)	WB		10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
531	Contender, The (66)	PRC		5-13-44	±	±	∓	±	—	∓	∓	6+ 7—
619	Corn Is Green, The (114)	WB		4- 7-45	+			+			+	3+
619	Counter-Attack (89)	Col		4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+			4+ 4—
522	Cowboy and the Senorita (78)	Rep		4- 8-44	+		±	+	∓	+	∓	6+ 3—
	Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)	Col							±			1+ 1—
	Crazy Knights (63)	Mono				∓					∓	2+ 2—
553	Crime by Night (72)	WB		8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)	Col		2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓		±	±	6+ 4—
601	Crime,Inc. (74½)	PRC		2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)	Col		8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)	Col		11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
	D											
594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)	Col		12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
557	Dangerous Journey (73)	20-Fox		8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
591	Dangerous Passage (62)	Para		12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 6—
566	Dark Mountain (56)	Para		9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
583	Dark Waters (89)	UA		11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1—
526	Days of Glory (86)	RKO		4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)	Univ		9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)	UA		3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±		5+ 7—
547	Delinquent Daughters (72)	PRC		7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3
587	Destiny (65)	Univ		12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
	Dillinger (..)	Mono				+	∓		+	+		4+ 1—
548	Dixie Jamboree (72)	PRC		7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5—
611	Docks of New York (62)	Mono		3-10-45	±	±	+	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
592	Double Exposure (64)	Para		12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—		5+ 2—
528	Double Indemnity (106)	Para		4-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
561	Doughgirls, The (102)	WB		9- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	±	±	10+ 2—
550	Dragon Seed (145)	MGM		7-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
540	Drifter, The (60)	PRC		6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
	E											
602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)	Col		2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)	Rep		3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)	RKO		2-17-45	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		9+
	End of the Road (51)	Rep				±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
561	Enemy of Women (86)	Mono		9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)	Univ		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
609	Escape in the Fog (62)	Col		3- 3-45	±	∓				∓		3+ 3—
611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)	Col		3-10-45	±							1+ 1—
534	Eve of St. Mark, The (96)	20-Fox		5-20-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ		7+
567	Ever Since Venus (74)	Col		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
587	Experiment Perilous (91)	RKO		12- 9-44	ǂ	±	+	+	+	+	ǂ	9+ 1—
	F											
578	Faces in the Fog (71)	Rep		10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)	RKO		12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
554	Falcon in Mexico (70)	RKO		8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
	Fashion Model (..)	Mono				∓	+			∓	∓	4+ 3—
595	Fighting Lady, The (61)	20-Fox		1-13-45	+		ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	Firebrands of Arizona (55)	Rep							∓			1+ 1—
606	Fog Island (67)	PRC		2-17-45	=	±		±	±	=		3+ 7—
544	Follow the Leader (65)	Mono		6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±		6+ 6—
549	Forty Thieves (60)	UA		7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
568	Frenchman's Creek (113)	Para		9-23-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1—
606	Frisco Sal (94)	Univ		2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
564	Frontier Outlaws (58)	PRC		9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
	Fuzzy Settles Down (60)	PRC							±	∓		2+ 2—
	G											
528	Gambler's Choice (66)	Para		4-29-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)	PRC		9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3—
532	Gaslight (114)	MGM		5-13-44	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+
591	Gentle Annie (80)	MGM		12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+		6+ 5—
540	Ghost Catchers (65)	Univ		6-10-44	±	±	+	—	ǂ	±		6+ 4—
	Ghost Guns (60)	Mono							+			1+
612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)	Mono		3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)	RKO		6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
	Girl in the Case, The (64)	Col				∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
	Girl Who Dared, The (56)	Rep				∓		∓	±	∓		4+ 4—
577	Girl Rush (65)	RKO		10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
608	God Is My Co-Pilot (88)	WB		2-24-45	+	±	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+ 1—
571	Goin' to Town (69)	RKO		9-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6—
539	Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)	Rep		6-10-44	—	±	∓	±	—	±	±	5+ 7—
536	Goyescas (110)	RKO		5-27-44	∓		±	±				3+ 3—
	Great Flamarion, The (..)	Rep				±	±	∓		—	±	4+ 5—

Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor. **In the summary # is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.**

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
566	Great Mike, The	(73)	PRC	9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
541	Great Moment, The	(83)	Para	6-17-44	±	#	#	+	+	+	#	10+ 1−
	Great Stagecoach Robbery	(..)	Rep						±			1+ 1−
555	Greenwich Village	(82)	20-Fox	8-12-44	+	±	±	+	#	+	+	8+ 2−
597	Grissly's Millions	(71)	Rep	1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589	Guest in the House	(120)	UA	12-16-44	+	±	#	+	∓	#	+	9+ 2−
	Gunsmoke	(..)	Mono						±	±		2+ 2−
547	Gunsmoke Mesa	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601	Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A	(63)	Col	2-10-45	+				±	±		3+ 2−
556	Gypsy Wildcat	(86)	Univ	8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	H											
541	Hail the Conquering Hero	(101)	Para	6-17-44	+	#	#	#	#	#	#	13+
533	Hairy Ape, The	(91)	UA	5-20-44	+	+	#	+	+	+		7+
598	Hangover Square	(77)	20-Fox	1-20-45	+	+	#	+	#	#	+	10+
604	Having Wonderful Crime	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551	Heavenly Days	(72)	RKO	7-29-44	−	±	±	+	#	+	+	7+ 3−
527	Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid	(65)	Para	4-29-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
542	Henry Aldrich's Little Secret	(74)	Para	6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601	Her Lucky Night	(63)	Univ	2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600	Here Come the Co-Eds	(88)	Univ	2- 3-45	+	±	#	+	#	+	+	9+ 1−
591	Here Come the WAVES	(99)	Para	12-23-44	+	±	#	#	#	+	+	10+ 1−
594	Hi Beautiful	(64)	Univ	12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607	High Powered	(..)	Para	2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±		6+ 5−
525	Hitler Gang, The	(100)	Para	4-22-44	±	±	+	#	+	+		7+ 2−
588	Hollywood Canteen	(124)	WB	12- 9-44	#	+	#	#	#	+	+	11+
	Hollywood and Vine	(..)	PRC			±				±		2+ 2−
536	Home in Indiana	(103)	20-Fox	5-27-44	+	+	+	#	#	#	+	10+
620	Horn Blows at Midnight, The	(80)	WB		+	+	±	+	∓			5+ 2−
612	Hotel Berlin	(98)	WB	3-10-45	+	±	#	+	±	±	#	9+ 2−
	House of Fear, The	(..)	Univ			∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593	House of Frankenstein	(71)	Univ	12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	I											
577	I Accuse My Parents	(68)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601	I Love a Mystery	(69)	Col	2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539	I Love a Soldier	(104)	Para	6-10-44	#	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
	Identity Unknown	(..)	Rep			+	#	+				4+
592	I'll Be Seeing You	(86)	UA	12-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	#		8+
579	I'm From Arkansas	(70)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
559	Impatient Years, The	(91)	Col	8-26-44	+	±	+	+	#	+	#	9+ 1−
558	In Society	(74)	Univ	8-19-44	+	+	+	#	#	+	±	9+ 1−
567	In the Meantime, Darling	(72)	20-Fox	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
537	Invisible Man's Revenge, The	(78)	Univ	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
573	Irish Eyes Are Smiling	(90)	20-Fox	10-14-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
610	It's a Pleasure	(90)	RKO	3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	#		7+ 2−
605	It's in the Bag	(90)	UA	2-17-45	±	+	±	+	#	+		7+ 2−
	J											
	Jade Mask, The	(66)	Mono			±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
522	Jamboree	(71)	Rep	4- 8-44	±	±	±	±	∓	±	+	7+ 6−
551	Janie	(102)	WB	7-29-44	+	±	#	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
533	Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More	(79)	Mono	5-20-44	+	±	+	+	+	+		6+ 1−
535	Jungle Woman	(67)	Univ	5-27-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	K											
	Kansas City Kitty	(72)	Col			±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604	Keep Your Powder Dry	(93)	MGM	2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592	Keys of the Kingdom	(137)	20-Fox	12-30-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	#	12+
	Kid Sister, The	(..)	PRC			±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560	Kismet	(100)	MGM	8-26-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	+	11+
	L											
533	Ladies of Washington	(61)	20-Fox	5-20-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6−
	Lady Confesses, The	(..)	PRC			±		±	±			3+ 3−
520	Lady in Death House	(58)	PRC	4- 1-44	+		∓	±		±	−	4+ 4−
593	Lake Placid Serenade	(85)	Rep	12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	#	+	8+ 2−
	Land of the Outlaws	(56)	Mono					±	=	∓		2+ 4−
	Last Horseman, The	(54)	Col				±	∓	−	±	∓	4+ 5−
567	Last Ride, The	(56)	WB	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576	Laura	(88)	20-Fox	10-21-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	#	12+
546	Law Men	(55)	Mono	7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548	Law of the Saddle	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ −
	Law of the Valley	(59)	Mono					±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605	Leave It to Blondie	(69)	Col	2-17-45	±	+				+	∓	4+ 2−
569	Leave It to the Irish	(61)	Mono	9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598	Let's Go Steady	(60)	Col	1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581	Lights of Old Santa Fe	(78)	Rep	11-11-44	+		#	+	±	+		6+ 1−
561	Lost in a Harem	(89)	MGM	9- 2-44	+	+	+	#	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549	Louisiana Hayride	(67)	Col	7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
521	Lumberjack	(64)	UA	4- 8-44	+		±	+	+	+	±	6+ 2−
	M											
558	Machine Gun Mama	(67)	PRC	8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551	Mademoiselle Fifi	(69)	RKO	7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585	Main Street After Dark	(56)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555	Maisie Goes to Reno	(90)	MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
534	Make Your Own Bed	(82)	WB	5-20-44	+	−	+	−	±	∓	±	5+ 5−
532	Man From Frisco	(91)	Rep	5-13-44	+	±	±	±	+	#	+	8+ 3−
578	Man in Half Moon Street, The	(92)	Para	10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599	Man Who Walked Alone, The	(60)	PRC	2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543	Marine Raiders	(91)	RKO	6-24-44	∓	±	#		+	#	+	8+ 2−
574	Mark of the Whistler, The	(61)	Col	10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
	Marked for Murder	(..)	PRC							∓		1+ 1−
580	Marked Trails	(59)	Mono	10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556	Marriage Is a Private Affair	(117)	MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	#	8+ 3−
	Marshal of Reno	(56)	Rep						∓	±		2+ 2−
540	Mask of Dimitrios, The	(95)	WB	6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567	Master Race, The	(96)	RKO	9-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	#	+	9+
619	Medal for Benny, A	(80)	Para	4- 7-45	+							1+
582	Meet Me in St. Louis	(113)	MGM	11-11-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
575	Meet Miss Bobby Socks	(68)	Col	10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
522	Meet the People	(100)	MGM	4- 8-44	±	±	±	±	#	±	±	8+ 6−
559	Merry Monahans, The	(90)	Univ	8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	#	8+
543	Minstrel Man	(69)	PRC	6-24-44	#	+	+	+	#	+		8+
576	Ministry of Fear	(84)	Para	10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
584	Missing Juror, The	(66)	Col	11-18-44	+	±	+	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3−
613	Molly and Me	(76)	20-Fox	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559	Moonlight and Cactus	(60)	Univ	8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
596	Mr. Emmanuel	(92)	UA	1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	#	#	8+ 3−
536	Mr. Skeffington	(127)	WB	5-27-44	+	#	#	#	+	+		9+
547	Mr. Winkle Goes to War	(80)	Col	7-15-44	+	±	+	+	#	+	±	8+ 2−
568	Mrs. Parkington	(124)	MGM	9-23-44	+	#	#	#	#	#	+	12+
598	Mummy's Curse, The	(60)	Univ	1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
531	Mummy's Ghost, The	(65)	Univ	5-13-44	+	∓	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
619	Murder, He Says	(93)	Para	4- 7-45	±							1+ 1−
583	Murder in the Blue Room	(61)	Univ	11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588	Murder, My Sweet	(95)	RKO	12- 9-44	+	±	#	±	+	+	#	9+ 2−
590	Music for Millions	(117)	MGM	12-16-44	+	±	#	±	+	#	#	10+ 2−
552	Music in Manhattan	(81)	RKO	7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576	My Buddy	(69)	Rep	10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586	My Gal Loves Music	(63)	Univ	12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
568	My Pal Wolf	(75)	RKO	9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	#	+	8+ 3−
543	Mystery Man	(58)	UA	6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
	N											
565	National Barn Dance	(76)	Para	9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 3−
590	National Velvet	(124)	MGM	12-16-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
590	Nevada	(62)	RKO	12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594	Night Club Girl	(60)	Univ	12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538	Night of Adventure, A	(65)	RKO	6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
572	None But the Lonely Heart	(113)	RKO	9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	#	#	9+ 3−
585	Nothing But Trouble	(69)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
	O											
600	Objective, Burma!	(142)	WB	2- 3-45	+	+	#	+	+	#	#	10+
558	Oh, What a Night	(71)	Mono	8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
	Old Chisholm Trail	(60)	Univ				±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
525	Once Upon a Time	(89)	Col	4-22-44	+	+	#	+	+	#	+	9+
577	One Body Too Many	(76)	Para	10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
	One Mysterious Night	(61)	Col			±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562	Our Hearts Were Young and Gay	(81)	Para	9- 2-44	+	±	#	+	#	#	#	11+ 1−
537	Outlaw Trail	(53)	Mono	6- 3-44	±		∓		∓		∓	4+ 4−
555	Outlaws of Santa Fe	(56)	Rep	8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
	P											
604	Pan Americana	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	+	±	±	+	#	∓	±	8+ 4−
530	Pardon My Rhythm	(62)	Univ	5- 6-44	−	±	±	∓	+	∓		5+ 5−
531	Partners of the Trail	(55)	Mono	5-13-44	∓		±		±	±	∓	5+ 5−
509	Passage to Marseille	(109)	WB	2-19-44	+	+	#	+	+	+	#	9+
505	Passport to Destiny	(64)	RKO	2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
561	Pearl of Death, The	(69)	Univ	9- 2-44	∓	±	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
	Phantom of 42nd Street	(..)	PRC			±						1+ 1−
607	Picture of Dorian Gray	(110)	MGM	2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	#	#	#	10+ 2−
525	Pin-Up Girl	(83)	20-Fox	4-22-44	+	±	+	+	#	+	+	8+ 1−
545	Port of Forty Thieves	(58)	Rep	7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	±	7+ 6−
612	Power of the Whistler, The	(72)	Col	3-10-45	∓	∓	±				±	4+ 4−
592	Practically Yours	(90)	Para	12-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	+	#	9+

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	576	Princess and the Pirate, The (94)		RKO	10-21-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		R											
	532	Raiders of Red Gap (59)		PRC	5-13-44	±		∓				∓	3+ 3−
	565	Rainbow Island (97)		Para	9- 9-44	±	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	+	8+ 4−
	563	Range Law (57)		Mono	9- 2-44	±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
	566	Reckless Age (63)		Univ	9- 9-44	±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
	548	Return of the Ape Man (60)		Mono	7-15-44	−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
		Riders of Santa Fe (63)		Univ							±		1+ 1−
	579	Riding West (58)		Col	10-28-44	+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
	535	Roger Touhy, Gangster (65)	20-Fox		5-27-44	±	±	+	∓	+	+		6+ 3−
	605	Rogues' Gallery (60)		PRC	2-17-45	±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
	606	Rough Riding Justice (58)		Col	2-17-45	∓				∓	±		3+ 3−
	609	Rough, Tough and Ready (66)		Col	3- 3-45	±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
	600	Roughly Speaking (128)		WB	2- 3-45	+	±	±	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
	615	Royal Scandal, A (94)		20-Fox	3-24-45	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+		8+ 1−
	581	Rustler's Hideout (62)		PRC	11-11-44	±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
		S											
	593	Saddle Leather Law (55)		Col	12-30-44	±				−			1+ 2−
	598	Sagebrush Heroes (54)		Col	1-20-45	±					∓		2+ 2−
	608	Salty O'Rourke (100)		Para	2-24-45	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2−
		San Antonio Kid, The (56)		Rep						±	±		2+ 2−
	566	San Diego, I Love You (83)		Univ	9- 9-44	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 1−
	562	San Fernando Valley (74)		Rep	9- 2-44	+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
		Saratoga Trunk (..)		WB							ǂ		2+
	620	Scared Stiff (64)		Para	4- 7-45	∓							1+ 1−
	529	Scarlet Claw, The (74)		Univ	5- 6-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4−
		Scarlet Clue, The (..)		Mono			±						1+ 1−
	537	Secret Command (82)		Col	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2−
	543	Secrets of Scotland Yard (68)		Rep	6-24-44	±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	602	See My Lawyer (69)		Univ	2-10-45	±	±			∓	±		4+ 4−
	544	Sensations of 1945 (86)		UA	6-24-44	±	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	584	Sergeant Mike (60)		Col	11-18-44	±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
	525	Seven Days Ashore (74)		RKO	4-22-44	+	∓	+	+	+	−	±	6+ 3−
	557	Seven Doors to Death (62)		PRC	8-19-44	±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
	552	Seventh Cross, The (112)		MGM	7-29-44	±	+	ǂ	+	−	+	ǂ	8+ 2−
	575	Shadow of Suspicion (68)		Mono	10-21-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	575	Shadows in the Night (67)		Col	10-21-44	±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6−
	596	She Gets Her Man (74)		Univ	1-13-45	±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
	551	She's a Soldier Too (67)		Col	7-29-44	±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
	587	She's a Sweetheart (69)		Col	12- 9-44	±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
		Sheriff of Cimarron (..)		Rep						+			1+
		Sheriff of Las Vegas (55)		Rep						+			1+
		Sheriff of Sundown (56)		Rep						+	±		2+ 1−
	526	Show Business (92)		RKO	4-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	10+
	560	Sign of the Cross (118)		Para	8-26-44	+			ǂ		±		4+ 1−
		Silent Partner (55)		Rep			±	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
		Silver City Kid (55)		Rep						∓	∓		2+ 2−
		Silver Fleet, The (..)		PRC			+		+				2+
	552	Since You Went Away (174)		UA	7-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	595	Sing Me a Song of Texas (66)		Col	1-13-45	+					±		2+ 1−
	558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing (70)		Rep	8-19-44	±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	570	Singing Sheriff, The (63)		Univ	9-23-44	−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
	528	Slightly Terrific (58)		Univ	4-29-44	∓	∓	±	∓	∓	∓		6+ 6−
	582	Something for the Boys (87)	20-Fox		11-11-44	∓	±	±	ǂ	+	±	+	8+ 4−
	607	Song for Miss Julie (69)		Rep	2-24-45		−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
	542	Song of Nevada (75)		Rep	6-17-44	+		+	+	+	+		5+
	529	Song of the Open Road (93)		UA	5- 6-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 1−
	599	Song to Remember, A (112)		Col	2- 3-45	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	564	Sonora Stagecoach (51)		Mono	9- 2-44	+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
	559	Soul of a Monster, The (61)		Col	8-26-44	∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
	556	South of Dixie (61)		Univ	5-27-44	∓	±	±	±	±	±	−	6+ 7−
	610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The (60)		PRC	3- 3-45	±	∓				±		3+ 3−
		Stagecoach to Monterey (55)		Rep						+	±		2+ 1−
	545	Step Lively (88)		RKO	7- 1-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ		+	7+ 2−
	562	Storm Over Lisbon (86)		Rep	9- 2-44	∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
	526	Story of Dr. Wassell (136)		Para	4-22-44	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+ 1−
	573	Strange Affair (78)		Col	10-14-44	±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
	603	Strange Illusion (87)		PRC	2-17-45	+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
		Strangers in the Night (56)		Rep			+		+	±			3+ 1−
	612	Sudan (76)		Univ	3-10-45	±	±	+	∓	+	+		6+ 3−
	535	Summer Storm (106)		UA	5-27-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1−
	588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (86)		20-Fox	12- 9-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	553	Sundown Valley (55)		Col	8- 5-44	±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
	594	Suspect, The (85)		Univ	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	10+
	554	Sweet and Lowdown (75)	20-Fox		8- 5-44	+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
	582	Swing Hostess (76)		PRC	11-11-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
		Swing in the Saddle (..)		Col						∓			1+ 1−
		T											
	593	Tahiti Nights (63)		Col	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
	539	Take It Big (76)		Para	6-10-44	∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	548	Take It or Leave It (70)		20-Fox	7-15-44	±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
	572	Tall in the Saddle (87)		RKO	9-30-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	616	Tarzan and the Amazons (75)		RKO	3-24-45	±	∓		±	±	+		5+ 4−
	569	That's My Baby (68)		Rep	9-23-44	=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
		There Goes Kelly (..)		Mono			∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
		They Live in Fear (65)		Col			∓		±	−	±		3+ 4−
	589	They Shall Have Faith (83)		Mono	12-16-44	±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
	587	Thin Man Goes Home (101)		MGM	12- 9-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (138)		MGM	11-18-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	530	This Is the Life (87)		Univ	5- 6-44	+	±	+	±	±		ǂ	7+ 3−
	595	This Man's Navy (100)		MGM	1-13-45	+	±	±	+	+	+		6+ 2−
		Thoroughbreds (55)		Rep			±	±			±	∓	4+ 4−
	590	Three Caballeros, The (71)		RKO	12-16-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+		ǂ		8+
	585	Three Is a Family (81)		UA	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	554	Three Little Sisters (69)		Rep	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
	529	Three Men in White (85)		MGM	5- 6-44	+	+	±	±	+			5+ 2−
	563	Three of a Kind (67)		Mono	9- 2-44	±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
	599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (78)		20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
	572	Thundering Gun Slingers (60)		PRC	9-30-44	∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
	565	Till We Meet Again (88)		Para	9- 9-44	∓	±	+	+	±	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	581	Together Again (100)		Col	11-11-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	574	To Have and Have Not (100)		WB	10-14-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
	591	Tomorrow the World (87)		UA	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	600	Tonight and Every Night (92)		Col	2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
		Topeka Terror, The (55)		Rep						±			1+ 1−
	581	Town Went Wild, The (79)		PRC	11-11-44	±	ǂ		+	+	+	=	6+ 3−
	520	Trail of Terror (63)		PRC	4- 1-44	±		±	+			±	4+ 3−
	599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (128) 20-Fox			2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		Trigger Law (54)		Mono						∓			1+ 1−
	522	Trocadero (74)		Rep	4- 8-44	±	±	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	538	Tucson Raiders (55)		Rep	6- 3-44	+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
	539	Twilight on the Prairie (62)		Univ	6-10-44	∓	±		±	−	±		4+ 5−
	528	Two Girls and a Sailor (124)		MGM	4-29-44	+	ǂ	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+ 1−
		Two O'Clock Courage (..)		RKO			±			±			2+ 2−
		U											
	549	U-Boat Prisoner (65)		Col	7-22-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	597	Under Western Skies (57)		Univ	1-20-45	−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
	556	Underground Guerrillas (82)		Col	8-12-44	∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
	608	Unseen, The (80)		Para	2-24-45	∓	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	582	Unwritten Code, The (61)		Col	11-11-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
		Utah (..)		Rep				+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
		Utah Kid, The (57)		Mono						±			1+ 1−
		V											
	563	Valley of Vengeance (56)		PRC	9- 2-44	±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
	573	Very Thought of You, The (99)		WB	10-14-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	±	+	8+ 3−
		Vigilantes of Dodge City (55)		Rep						±	±		2+ 2−
		W											
	534	Waterfront (66)		PRC	5-20-44	±	±	±	±	+		±	6+ 5−
	553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A (70)	Mono		8- 5-44	±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
	521	Weird Woman (64)		Univ	4- 8-44	±	∓	±		+	±	+	6+ 4−
	580	West of Rio Grande (57)		Mono	10-28-44	±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
	557	When Strangers Marry (67)		Mono	8-19-44	+	ǂ	+	+	+	+		7+
	570	When the Lights Go On Again (74)		PRC	9-23-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
	602	What a Blonde (71)		RKO	2-10-45	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
	550	Whistler, The (59)		Col	7-22-44	±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
	556	Wilson (158)		20-Fox	8-12-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	550	Wing and a Prayer (97)		20-Fox	7-22-44	±	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
	586	Winged Victory (130)		20-Fox	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
		Wild Horse Phantom (..)		PRC						±			1+ 1−
	616	Without Love (111)		MGM	3-24-45	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	10+ 1−
	574	Woman in the Window, The (99)		RKO	10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	11+
		Y											
	524	Yellow Canary (83)		RKO	4-15-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
	534	Yellow Rose of Texas (69)		Rep	5-20-44	+		+	+	+	+	±	6+ 1−
	595	Youth on Trial (59)		Col	1-13-45	±	±	±					3+ 3−
	546	Youth Runs Wild (67)		RKO	7- 1-44	−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−

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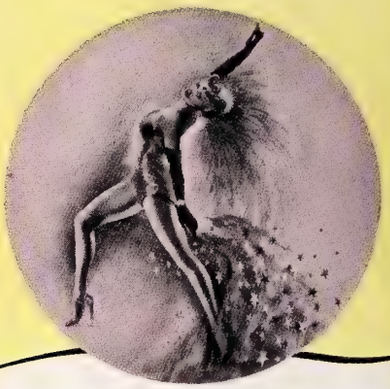
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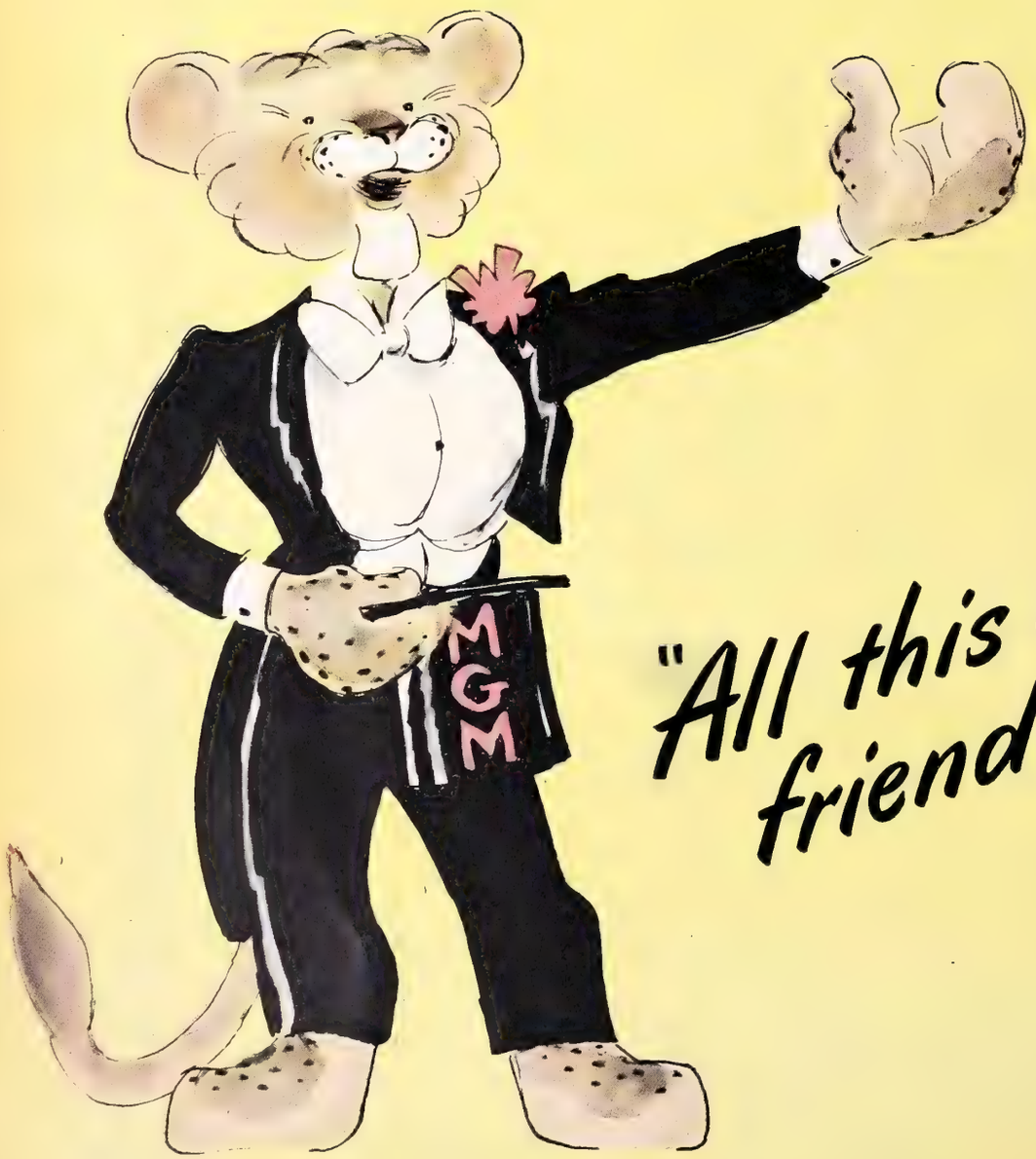
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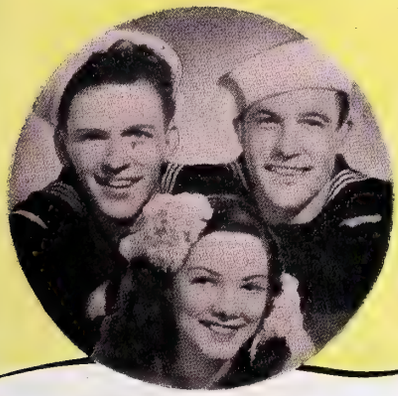
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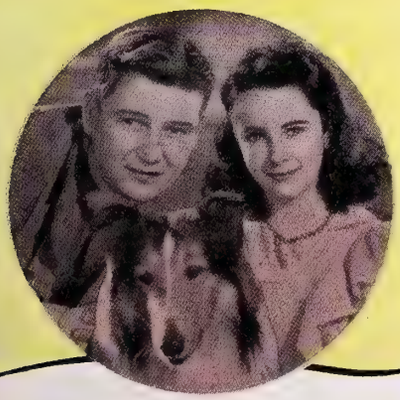
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NEW HAVEN—42 Church St., Suite 915. Gertrude Pearson, 6-4149.
NEW ORLEANS—214 S. Liberty St., John F. Elzey.
NEW YORK CITY—9 Rockefeller Plaza. Paul Perez, News Editor.
OKLAHOMA CITY—Robert Busch, Uptown Theatre.
OMAHA—Lou Gerdes, Omaha World-Herald Bldg.
PHILADELPHIA—Philadelphia Record Bldg., Broad and Wood Sts., E. J. Hunter.
PITTSBURGH—1701 Blvd. of the Allies, R. F. Klingensmith, ATlantic 4858
PORTLAND, ORE.—925 N. W. 19th St., Harold Donner.
ST. LOUIS—5149 Rosa Ave., David F. Barrett, Flanders 3727.
SALT LAKE CITY—The Deseret News, Howard Pearson.
SAN ANTONIO—531 North St., L. J. B. Kelner.
SAN FRANCISCO—25 Taylor St., Gail Lipman, ORdway 4812-4813.
SEATTLE—2418 2nd Ave., Joe Cooper, Seneca 2460
WASHINGTON—2812 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Al Sherman, EMerson 2652. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

CALGARY—The Albertan, Wm. Campbell.
HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.
MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

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APRIL 21, 1945

BOXOFFICE

STORMY WEATHER

THE SPRING "cleaning" season is on. Up in Minnesota the motion picture industry's dirty linen is to be washed and aired before the public; over in Washington it is to be ironed out by a senatorial committee, probably later to be displayed in the halls of Congress. Meanwhile preparations are under way for another going over by the Department of Justice in New York this coming fall.

While this is a current summary, it is really old stuff, for it has been symptomatic of this business for more years than many people in it care to remember. It is not only a sign of spring but also a sign that the "postwar," about which there has been a lot of talk, is in the offing. From that standpoint it is a good sign—for it augurs the cessation of hostilities in Europe—but otherwise it forecasts a continuance of the "stormy weather" that has lashed this business altogether too long.

The newly reorganized group of independent exhibitors in Minnesota is seeking OPA aid in reducing film rentals through abolishment of percentage bookings. Failing in that North Central Allied threatens to take the exhibitors' plaints to the public via newspaper space and radio time to arouse public sympathy. But, apparently there is some misgiving of such a move, for the organization's president has stated, "While the independent exhibitors have at all times stayed shy from presenting their problems before the public, they now feel they have nothing to lose by asking for the public's cooperation and help."

"Nothing to lose" . . . that's what some other so-called leaders thought when they aroused public pressure groups to back antiblock booking measures. All they lost was the privilege to buy pictures for their theatres on a basis that assured them sufficient product for their needs and that permitted freer operation of their enterprises. They exchanged this for "the right to buy" under governmental supervision, as it were, under a method that consumed greater buying time, stiffer buying competition, more percentage pictures and all-around higher costs.

The attempts to legislate regulatory measures for the internal ills of this business have been perennial for the last two decades. Efforts at enforcement of the antitrust laws have been extended for just about as long. These indirect approaches have gotten exactly nowhere. And they will continue to get nowhere, until the exhibitors get somewhere among themselves. Meaning until they are strongly welded into one unified body and functioning along sound business lines.

The distributors have been "organized" for nearly a quarter of a century; the exhibitors have been "disorganized" for about the same length of time. The distributors, while strongly competitive, work together on matters in which there is a common interest; they have made great progress through the

years as a result. The exhibitors, on the other hand, were well organized twenty-odd years ago, but that organization has disintegrated. They do not work together even on tax matters, in which, surely, there is great common cause. So long as this sort of condition obtains, so long will be problems arising out of exhibitor-distributor relations go unsolved.

Those "little fellows" whose business existence is at stake can expect no relief from state or federal legislation or litigation for many years, if at all. This has been proved over and over again. But there seems to be some magnetic attraction in following "there-ought-to-be-a-law" kind of leadership. All the money that has been spent by exhibitors in going up such blind alleys could have financed the strongest kind of exhibitor organization, in which the money would have proved a solid investment returning real dividends.

There never was a greater need for such an organization; nor a better time than now for alert and genuine leadership to start the ball rolling in this right direction.

Better still would be an organization that would be thoroughly representative of all branches of the industry. Such an organization would make possible a program of self-regulation designed to rid this business of its internal problems—from within—and succeed. It's a big order. But, if such a plan can be contemplated by nations, why not by a handful of factions within a single industry?

THE TIME IS NOW!

* *

A Fine Record

Columbia Pictures Corp. is observing the twentieth anniversary of Mr. Abe Montague's association with the company by honoring the occasion with a sales campaign. Exhibitors throughout the nation are giving their hearty approval with playdates and in printed testimony expressing their esteem for Mr. Montague and for Columbia. This is noteworthy.

No better summation of Columbia's growth from a very small beginning to an organization of considerable size can be made than Mr. Montague's own:

"In 20 years I have seen Columbia grow from a modest, humble position in the industry to one of distinction and importance. Twenty years ago our product reflected our smallness; today it is a true reflection of our development into a far-flung enterprise. Twenty years ago we were a handful of people; now we Columbians are numbered in the thousands. We began with a few exhibitor accounts; today our many thousands of exhibitor friends are a source of pride. Ours is a typical story of American industry; and this, too, is a source of great pride."

Mr. Montague and his associates in Columbia have good reason to be proud. Their 20-year record is an excellent one to look back upon; and a solid foundation on which continuing growth seems well assured.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Theatre Television Possible Through Film Projectors

DuMont invention is radical-departure instrument for postwar era, enabling exhibitors to flash news shots on screen almost simultaneously with enactment.

• • • ——

An Early Lifting of Curfew And Brownout Visualized

Despite President Truman's statement restrictions won't be abolished entirely until VE-Day, WPB and WMC say urgency is lessening; both bans may be removed shortly.

• • • ——

WMC Freezes Strikers' Jobs; Union Calls It a "Victory"

Government agency denies availability certificates to replacement workers and to those in walkout seeking employment elsewhere; producers silent on decision.

• • • ——

Hollywood Strike May Halt Photography in Technicolor

Machinists ordered by their union head to stop servicing tint cameras that go into major studios where fellow unionites are on walkout.

• • • ——

Air Conditioning Unit Rein Still Being Tightly Held

WPB says freon will be available for existing installed systems; restrictions on production and distribution of new equipment remain; emergency maintenance unaffected.

• • • ——

Puerto Rico Bill Makes 40% Top on Film Sales

Senate compromise accepted by house; same measure outlaws blind booking and block selling and classifies theatres for preference purposes on sales; goes to governor.

• • • ——

Demands for Raw Stock Gaining Despite Curbs

Navy wants 600 more prints; Cuba asks allotments to aid production; British export restrictions complicate Dominion print problems; next Washington meeting June 7.

• • • ——

New Antitrust Hearing Called By Judge Goddard for May 2

Jurist will hear arguments on cross-interrogatories for purpose of reaching decision on which are relevant, so that details of autumn trial procedure can be settled.

• • • ——

Pyle's Death Won't Affect Release of His Picture

"The Story of GI Joe," Lester Cowan's production for United Artists, will be distributed in July as originally planned; armed forces to see it earlier.

WAR TRAINING FILMS DECLARED GREAT VISUAL EDUCATION AID

Backlog of Subjects Seen As Nucleus of Peacetime Programs in Schools

By FLOYDE E. BROOKER

WASHINGTON—Few aspects of the war training programs have received more attention than the use of sound motion pictures for training. The army, navy and U.S. office of education have produced literally thousands of motion pictures and filmstrips to assist in the training of men and women for the armed forces and for the war industries. Undoubtedly the greatest single educational development of the war training programs has been the successful development of the training programs built around training films.

The films produced for this training have been "motion pictures in overalls," with such prosaic titles as "Rough Turning Between Centers" (operations on an engine lathe); "Drilling, Boring, Reaming, and Chamfering With the Use of Two Heads" (operations on a vertical boring mill); "Doping Techniques" and "Aerology: Thunderstorms."

Magnitude of Program

A general idea of the magnitude of these film production programs may be gained from some statistics of the U.S. office of education production program. Between June 1941 and June 1945 the division of visual aids for war training produced 460 visual units. Each of these units consisted of a sound motion picture averaging one and one-half to two reels, a silent filmstrip of approximately 40 frames and an accompanying instructor's manual of 12 to 16 pages. Put another way, in four years the division produced aproximately 750 reels of sound motion pictures and 1,700 filmstrip frames. These have been produced under the direct supervision of staff members of the division by 35 nontheatrical film producers scattered from Massachusetts to California.

The resulting films are sold. To date there are more than 40,000 prints in use. This program is the smallest of the training film production programs of wartime Washington. From the success of this program there has followed a general upsurge of interest in the possibilities of films in education. This interest ranges from the casual concern of the average citizen who wonders if the schools can teach the way the army has taught, to the interest of the business man with capital to invest.

Separate From Regular Exhibition

There remains, as a result of this wartime development, much that is likely to prove important in any further development of educational motion pictures. Briefly, these may be enumerated:

1. The wartime use, with its resultant publicity, may do much to sell the general idea of the educational use of films so that parents will not regard the school superintendent using films as confusing himself with a theatre manager.

2. Some 10 to 15 millions of the armed forces have been introduced to films as a tool of instruction and when they return, they too, as leaders of their communities, are likely to accept the use of films in instruction.

3. The management of our industrial organizations in many instances have discovered the values of instructional films and they too may expect the schools of tomorrow to use films in the education of their children.

4. Many companies and many individuals have had some practice in the production of educational films—these skills and this experience will remain.

5. There has been produced a body of films, 500 to 700, possibly more, that will remain useful in peacetime and which will enable schools to start off with a rather complete library of films in some restricted areas of the curriculum.

It will be noted that the first four items deal with factors that may tend to provide a basis for popular support of the expenditure of tax funds for the purchase of educational films and equipment.

F. E. Brooker Authority On Educational Films

Recent rapid developments in the use of instructional and educational films, plus the persistent speculation within the industry as to the place of these films in the postwar future, caused BOXOFFICE to request Floyde E. Brooker, director of the division of visual aids for war training in the U.S. office of education, and a recognized authority in the field, to bring developments up to date.

In a series of three articles, of which the accompanying is the first, the author will consider the following broad questions: "How much of the present interest in educational films is likely to be translated into greater production and use of educational films in the days to come; how large and profitable is this new type of film production and use likely to be, and what will this mean to the entertainment film industry?"

The first article is devoted to a discussion of the impetus given the use of educational films by military and industrial needs, and a survey of the prewar status of educational films in the nation's schools.



FLOYDE E. BROOKER
Director of the Division of Visual Aids for Army Training, U.S. Office of Education.

View Tremendous Impetus In Use by Institutions During Postwar Era

It should not be expected that the accepted use of films in public education will come as quickly as it did in wartime training, or that the use of films in schools will have the ready success they had in wartime training. They were accepted almost overnight in war training and they were a success, but several factors contributed to this—factors which will not hold in the case of public education —such as:

1. The need of trained fighters and war workers was urgent, to meet the most serious national emergency this nation ever faced. Anything that could help at all was put into practice immediately and generally.

2. The incentive to learning—the motivation of the student was the most powerful of all motives, the desire to live, for it was drilled into him "if he learned his lessons well he stood a chance of survival."

Prewar Educational Film Status

3. The instructors using the films could be trained en masse in effective utilization.

4. Generous budgets were available for production of instructional films.

From the inception of motion pictures, certain leaders, such as Thomas A. Edison, were convinced that motion pictures had an important place to fill in education. Edison is credited with the statement that they would eventually replace textbooks. Following this belief, many starts have been made in the use of films in education. One of these took place during the period between 1922 and 1928, when a number of 35mm films were produced primarily for education. These were bought by many school systems, and there are today some city schools' film libraries that still list as many as 5,000 35mm reels of these silent nitrate films on educational subjects. Fire hazards, the limitations of auditorium use and the cost of film and equipment were all factors in making this interest premature.

Steady Production Advancement

Since the development of 16mm safety films there has been a slow and steady advancement in the production and in the use of 16mm films for instruction in the public schools. Some indication of this advance in the case of sound motion pictures may be had by noting that the audio-visual survey made by the American Council of Education as of 1936 showed that the schools owned 458 16mm sound projectors. A survey four years later, in 1940, made under the direction of Nathan D. Golden of the department of commerce, showed more than 10,000 16mm sound projectors in the schools. This is an increase of some 20-fold in a period of four years. It is estimated that today there are approximately 20,000 16mm sound motion picture projectors in the schools. Furthermore, it is estimated that this number will double in the first year after the war when such projectors can again be freely purchased.

Up to 1940 there were approximately 1,500 titles of 16mm sound motion pictures available through purchase or rental for use on these projectors. Most of these films were available from companies specializing in the production of instructional films and which, in the main, were incorporated as parts of

(Continued on page 26)

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
1501 Broadway, New York 18, N.Y.
In cooperation with the War Finance Committee of the United States Treasury Department



Hats Off . . .

TO 3,327 GREAT SHOWMEN!

WE of your War Activities Committee would like personally to thank every one of you who did such outstanding work in the Sixth War Loan Fan Magazine Contest. We realize the time and effort you put in on your campaigns. Your entries showed that! Yet time and the start of the even bigger Seventh deprive us of that pleasure.

But we can tell you this.

Not only is the Treasury Department highly grateful for your effort. Not only do they look again to you for leadership in helping make the Seventh War Loan an even mightier triumph. But . . . and this is something we know you'll be truly proud of . . .

The motion picture industry's campaign for the Seventh War Loan will be completely and precisely patterned on your expert showmanship in the Sixth!

In other words, the Seventh War Loan will be

THE SHOWMEN'S SEVENTH!

A real theatre man's campaign!

30-STATE AREA THROWS MIGHT BEHIND "SHOWMEN'S SEVENTH"

Pinanski Conducts Rousing Session for South and Midwest at Chicago

CHICAGO—Industry representatives from 19 midwest and southern states threw their might behind "The Showmen's Seventh" at a rousing all-day session Monday at Hotel Blackstone. Enthusiasm ran high; National Chairman Samuel Pinanski said the session was one of the best ever held by the War Activities Committee.

Attending were exhibitor state, distributor and publicity chairmen from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Tennessee, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin.

Large E Bond Quota Stressed

Ted R. Gamble, national director, War Finance Division, treasury department, one of the principal speakers, emphasized that this is the most vital war loan drive to date, because of the four billion dollar E bond quota. He said the industry could reach the E bond purchaser, and that sales of this series greatly will aid in checking inflation and rising prices.

Pinanski stressed the grassroots character of "The Showmen's Seventh," and said that the success or failure of the drive rests on the individual workers, the men and women in the field. He pleaded for everyone to go after the smaller purchaser, the prospect for the E series.

John Hertz jr., national director of publicity, elaborated on the many ways the slogan—"Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre — Always Open for Bond Sales"—can spearhead the drive. The slogan will be broadcast over the nation, in the largest industry campaign in history, using every conceivable channel of publicity.

Hertz revealed that nine different youth organizations will cooperate with local exhibitors; he discussed the elaborate plans for "Major Glenn Miller Day," June 5, which will serve not only as a nationwide salute to the band leader missing in action, but also for national Free Movie Day, June 6.

Iwo Jima Photographer a Guest

Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press war photographer who made the famous Iwo Jima flag-raising photo, special guest of honor at the luncheon, expressed the hope that the picture would help the war loan. Francis S. Harmon, master of ceremonies, read expressions pledging cooperation and urging all-out efforts, from Leonard Goldenson, chairman of the advisory committee, and from former executives of industry drives, including L. C. Griffith, R. J. O'Donnell, Harry Brandt and Charles Skouras.

John Balaban was introduced as war activities leader in this area. Ray Beall and Hertz took a bow as having served two industry war loan drives as national publicity directors.

A general open forum session in the afternoon, conducted by Pinanski, heard suggestions and ideas from a number of state drive leaders. J. Edward Shugrue, director of the motion pictures and special events section of the War Finance Division, urged closer cooperation between the Seventh War Loan state chairmen and state War Finance Committees. He declared that the War Finance Committees rely on the industry's showmanship to spearhead the glamor and promotion of the drive.



IWO JIMA MOTIF — Midwestern and southern showmen meeting in Chicago made plans for an all-out effort in the Seventh War Loan drive. A total of 250 attended the luncheon at which the above picture was snapped in front of an enlargement of the famous photograph of the marines planting Old Glory atop Iwo Jima. Left to right: J. Harold Stevens and Walter Immerman, Chicago area chairmen; Dave Wallerstein, coordinator; Joe Rosenthal, the AP news service man who made the famous photo; Larry Stein, publicity chairman.

The St. Louis group was headed by Fred Wehrenberg and Louis Ansell. Kansas City was represented by E. C. Rhoden, R. R. Biechele, William Truog, M. D. "Babe" Cohn, Senn Lawler and T. R. Thompson.

Advisory Committeemen Attend

Among members of the advisory committee and others present in addition to the committee state chairmen were: James R. Coston, Edwin Silverman, Arthur Schoenstadt, John Balaban, Chicago; Leo F. Wolcott, Iowa; Marc J. Wolf, Indiana; Kermit Stengel of Nashville, representing Tony Sudekum; Martin Smith and Pete J. Wood, Ohio; J. J. Rubens, Illinois; Jack Kirsch, head of Allied of Illinois; Jack Keegan, representing Earl Hudson of Detroit; Leroy Kendis, Ohio; Ben Blotcky, Minneapolis; Dave Balaban, Nate Platt, W. K. Hollander, B&K; M. M. Rubens and all Illinois zone chairmen local publicity men and circuit heads.

Walter Immerman, B&K executive and upstate Illinois state chairman, was host to B&K executives, and Zone Chairman J. H. Stevens, distribution chairman, was host to all Chicago district and branch managers, while Larry Stein, state publicity co-chairman, was host to local publicity men and trade press representatives.

David Walterstein, midwest coordinator, handled general arrangements for the highly successful meeting, and Larry Stein was in charge of publicity arrangements.

Billion Dollars in E Bonds Goal Set by Skouras in Western Division

DENVER—One billion dollars in E bonds is the Seven War Loan goal of the 11 western states which constitute the western regional division of the motion picture industry's drive, and it was set by Charles P. Skouras, area chairman, in an address Monday before 100 exhibitors and distributor representatives who came from all parts of the west to attend the regional session at the Brown Palace Hotel.

This sum represents one-fourth of the total amount of E bonds, or four billion dollars, which the U.S. treasury aims to sell in the campaign. It is the largest goal ever set by a division of the motion picture industry.

Skouras Praises Pinanski

Skouras gave great praise to National Chairman Pinanski and pledged him 100 per cent support from the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. This area comprises one-fourth of the nation's motion picture houses, a total of 4,500, of which 2,243 are already pledged to bond premieres and other special events. Skouras asked representatives to double the number of pledged theatres, and increase by 100 per cent the number of special events. In closing, he paid a tribute to Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The speaker said that the short subject, "All-Star Bond Rally," is worth millions in publicity to the bond drive and the industry.

Rick Ricketson, Colorado state exhibitor chairman, urged an all-out campaign, exhorting his hearers "not to relax one iota to make the drive even more successful than its predecessors."

Other speakers included Ted R. Gamble, chairman, War Finance Division, U.S. treasurer; David Bershon, five-time bond chairman for southern California, under whose single leadership, the southern California division established a record of having sold more bonds than any other division; William Srere, present co-chairman, southern California, and who additionally represented R. H. Poole, president of the PCCITO and independent exhibitors of southern California, New Mexico and Arizona. Srere outlined the highlights of southern California committees' plans; Charles Thall, western regional coordinator of the national committee, representing Sam Pinanski, national chairman, gave an over-all account of the national committee's operating plans; Herman Wobber, western regional distributor chairman, outlined the distributor plans of the drive; Mort Goodman, western regional publicity chairman, spoke on promotional activities and Sam Shain, intra-industry chairman, outlined the national committee's advertising and publicity plans as prepared under the direction of John Hertz jr., national publicity chairman.

Principals in Attendance

Among the principals in attendance were Harry Nace, Charles P. Skouras, George Bowser, Herb MacIntyre, Seymour Peiser, Dave Bershon, Bill Srere, Harry Cohen, Morty Goodman, Charles M. Thall, Herman Wobber, George Mann, Roy Cooper, N. P. Jacobs, Fay Reeder, F. H. Ricketson jr.

Also Ted Halmi, Arthur Abeles, Walter Lee Casey, J. A. English, Homer LeBallister, George L. Tucker, O. J. Miller, Jack Matlack, Mark Corey, Herb Cass, Charles L. Walker, Hall Baetz, Frank L. Newman sr., T. E. Knight, Sam Shain.

11,000 Sold by M-G-M On Phone in 8 Days

NEW YORK—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has just performed the unprecedented feat of selling a group of pictures by telephone to more than 11,000 accounts in less than eight days.

Comment from William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager:

"We regard this as a vindication of the company's slogan, 'The Friendly Company.'"

Raw stock shortages made it impossible for the company to set April releases in advance, but when word came that prints were available on "Without Love," "The Clock" and "Gentle Annie," Rodgers went into conference with division sales managers and gave instructions to attempt selling by telephone. Ordinarily the sale of the block would take months.

"This does not mean the adoption of a new policy," Rodgers said, "merely that it was an emergency. It proves the confidence of exhibitors in our willingness to adjust complaints. At the same time, it gives the salesmen time to make new contacts with exhibitors when they have nothing to ask from them and can sit down and discuss each other's problems.

"Last June, for the first time in the history of our company, we sold every theatre in the United States. We want to continue to do this. Not as a regular thing, of course, but at intervals during each year.

"I may be an idealist, but I am not seeking Utopia. I can say emphatically that over a period of several months fewer than ten complaints have come to me from exhibitors. Whatever others there may have been were settled in the field by exchange managers."

Rodgers disclosed that he plans to increase Leo's district managers from nine to 12, thus making for closer relations with the exhibitor, he added. The first promotion is that of Rudolph Berger of Washington, as sales manager with headquarters in New Orleans. Others are to be announced shortly, with a total of five being given the title of sales managers.

Para't to Prepay on May 1

NEW YORK—Paramount Pictures, Inc., at last week's meeting of its board of directors, authorized the prepayment on May 1, 1945, of $1,000,000 principal amount of its note obligations not due until July 1, 1946.

Distributors Will Seek Increase in Premieres

CHICAGO — The distributors' division of the "Showmen's Seventh" will seek a 25 per cent increase in bond premieres, children's premieres and Free Movie Day pledges, Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman, stated at the midwest regional Seventh War Loan conference.

He said the increase will be sought over Sixth War Loan totals. In the Sixth there were 4,575 bond premieres, 1,000 children's premieres and 9,700 Free Movie Days. Connors added that the division has an intensive campaign under way to enlist support of exhibitors to make the Seventh the most successful drive. He said more effort is needed in this drive because of the four billion dollar E bond quota and seven-week period of drive, the longest to date.

Tribute Paid to Pinanski

He announced that the distributors' division setup on the same area organizational basis as the exhibitors, with three area chairmen. In addition to Herman Wobber of San Francisco as western area chairman, he said John E. Flynn, Metro's western general sales manager, will be midwest area distributor chairman, while E. K. "Ted" O'Shea, Metro eastern general sales manager, will serve as eastern area distributor chairman.

Connors paid tribute to National Chairman Pinanski for the manner in which he is conducting the campaign and lauded the national organizational setup. He thanked the distributors for their successful work on Red Cross and March of Dimes drives.

"If this grassroots campaign is to be successful, if we are to reap the four billion dollar E bond harvest, we must start immediately to plow the field and plant the seeds," he said.

He read an agreement whereby all distributors will provide funds for bond premieres, children's premieres and Free Movie Days and urged that each territory be zoned with each salesman and branch manager made responsible for contacting a certain number of theatres for Seventh War Loan pledges.

He asked for a report from distributor chairmen by April 18 on the number of theatres pledged and said every theatre should be contacted by May 1 if possible. He stressed the urgency of an immediate start.

Calling on the distributor chairmen and field workers to make every effort to get exhibitors to become issuing or subissuing agents, Connors pointed out that very often banks, if asked, will assist exhibitors in handling the physical issuance of bonds. At bond booths at theatres, the American Legion, Gold Star Mothers and wounded veterans will cooperate if requested in manning the booths.

"The important thing is that every theatre sell bonds," he said. "It will be very embarrassing to exhibitors if they don't, because of the tremendous penetration of the drive slogan, 'Buy bonds at your favorite theatre.'"

Three Trailers Available

Explaining the method of distributing "The All-Star Bond Rally," 19-minute drive subject, he urged everyone to make sure that this film is shown at every performance because of its importance to the drive. Although 1,200 prints are being ordered, if in some territories there is a shortage of prints, arrangements are being made to bicycle them, so every theatre in the country will be able to show the film.

Connors also discussed three trailers which will be available from National Screen Service, with the distributors arranging that no theatre will be without a trailer for the entire period of the drive, May 14 to June 30.

He recommended that a master booking plan be set up in each territory for booking and dating pictures for bond premieres, children's premieres and Free Movie Day. Such a booking plan has worked successfully in a limited number of territories before. Every salesman contacting exhibitors should urge close study of our promotion kit, he said.

Connors concluded: "This is a job to speed total victory and get our boys back home speedily, and no effort is too great on our part, nothing is impossible for us to do to bring that about.



WESTERNERS EAGER FOR SEVENTH LOAN CAMPAIGN—Ranking showmen of the 12 western states met in Denver to launch a smashing campaign for the Seventh War Loan. Greeted by an unseasonal snowstorm, the group at Denver's Union Station included, left to right: John Thomas, Denver; Harold E. Rice, Denver; Harry Cohen, Los Angeles; Mort Goodman, Los Angeles; Albert J. Gould, Denver; Dave Bershon, Los Angeles; Seymour Peiser, Los Angeles; George Bowser, Los Angeles; William Srere, Los Angeles; Harry Green, Denver; Charles P. Skouras, Los Angeles; John Bertero, Los Angeles; Milton Hossfeld, Denver; Harry Cox, Los Angeles; Edward Zabel, Los Angeles; Herman Tieman, Denver; Bernie Hynes, Denver; Isaac Weiner, Denver; Ralph J. Batschelet, Denver; Frank H. "Rick" Ricketson jr., Denver; Mel Glatz, Denver; Tom Page, Los Angeles; Sam Shain, New York; Robert J. Garland, Denver; Robert W. Selig, Denver.



A Salute
to Mr. Exhibitor
HE DESERVES IT!

Has Mr. Exhibitor done

Sure, but he's just begun

THE GENIAL GENTLEMAN on your right is the greatest salesman in America!

He's sold billions of dollars in War Bonds during six gigantic drives . . .

He's collected millions of dollars for the Red Cross and poured billions of dimes into the Infantile Paralysis Fund . . .

And given support by hard work to every other effort that will bring total Victory sooner.

Someday he's going back to just selling motion pictures, but now he's preparing to



WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTE
1501 Broadwa

In cooperation with the War Finance Co



enough?

to fight!

devote his efforts 100% to the Seventh War Loan...giving his best with the smash campaign that he and his fellow Showmen have created from practical ideas submitted by Showmen all over the nation.

. . .

This grass roots planning has every indication of being the most powerful bond selling campaign ever set in motion by the EXHIBITORS OF AMERICA—DESIGNED TO HELP SPEED *TOTAL* VICTORY.

IOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
ew York 18, N. Y.
of the United States Treasury Department

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Solemn Farewell

IT WAS as though the heart of a great city had missed a beat. Thursday evening the hurrying masses came out of stores and offices and made for buses and subways as usual, but they were silent—incredibly silent. Those few who could speak did so in awed whispers.

Friday morning all along Fifth Avenue and Broadway and the downtown canyons flags hung limply at half-staff.

Before noon many of the leading film men convened at the WAC offices in the Paramount Bldg. While they were meeting H. M. Warner announced all his company's theatres would be closed Saturday. A half hour later a brief statement said WAC had recommended that all theatres in the United States should remain closed Saturday until 6 p. m. local time.

Leaders in all other lines of industry and commerce everywhere were holding similar meetings at the same time.

As the afternoon shadows lengthened the silence of the evening before again settled over the city, deepened this time by evidences of reverent tribute. No merchandise was visible in any store window. Sak's had black wreaths in every window; in some there were draped portraits; one store had its glass covered completely with black paper; a few had lilies or floral wreaths; all had signs saying they would be closed Saturday.

Knots of silent people stood before these displays—some with quivering lips and moistened eyes. All churches and synagogues were open.

It was a tremendous stirring of mass emotion. Sham and vanity and selfishness melted away for the time being. Everyone was humble in the presence of a great tragedy. The symbol of hope for the downtrodden and unhappy and frustrated was gone; the great figure beckoning toward a secure peace was not there any longer; an American era had come to an end; a chapter of history had been closed.

For those who could remember that inspiring day when he first took office with all the banks closed the words of his inaugural address kept coming back with the lingering freshness of a refrain—"There is nothing to fear, but fear itself."

He knew; he had courage.

* * *

ONE more proof of the industry's willingness to make sacrifices for patriotic purposes is the ordering of 1,200 prints for "All-Star Bond Rally." This is about twice the number ordinarily used for WAC-produced specials.

* * *

From Laughter to Tears

A LIFE photographer was taking pictures of audience reaction to RKO's "The Princess and the Pirate" at the Victoria Theatre, New York. Near the end of the picture, when Bing Crosby makes an appearance, the photographer snapped his lens on a laughing audience.

While he was doing this Managing Director Maurice Maurer received word of the President's death. He went on stage as the feature ended. The photographer snapped again. The audience was in tears. This is believed to be the first time such a picture has ever been made.

* * *

International Tact

PRINCIPAL reason for showing films to international visitors in a single theatre at the San Francisco conference was a desire on the part of the state department and some of the more thoughtful industry leaders to avoid any spectacular ballyhoo that might give the impression to strangers that American film leaders were trying to influence the conference. There was no question of censorship involved. Distributors of this country and other countries were free to select any film they thought desirable, but it was hoped these would be presented merely as diversion for the delegates and not as a peg for a big advertising campaign. A special newsreel about 1,000 feet in length will be made up for showing in these programs. To date all but one company has agreed to fall in with the plan.

* * *

SIGNAL CORPS men stationed at the old Paramount Astoria Studio have started issuing a paper called Close-Up. In a column called Short Ends is this paragraph: "Civilian press agents have succeeded in selling their services to a couple of film names now in the armed services. Comes under the heading of postwar planning."

* * *

SOME of the so-called insiders who confidently predicted President Truman would announce an early end of the curfew were shocked by his emphatic statement at his first press conference.

* * *

ANOTHER first! Warners' "Le Ciel, et Toi" (French version of "All This and Heaven Too") was the first second run ever to get a holdover in the province of Quebec. This picture introduced French-dubbed product at the Capitol Theatre, Quebec, about a year ago.

* * *

TELEPHONE operators at the M-G-M home office nearly became hysterical Friday, April 13. Shortly after 10 o'clock excited inquirers began to ask if it were true that Van Johnson was dead. These calls increased steadily and ran into the thousands. In the middle of the afternoon callers also began to inquire about the deaths of Robert Taylor, Lana Turner and Susan Peters.

* * *

NEW JERSEY reports a 10.5 per cent drop in employment for 1944. Theatre receipts reflect it, but Newark and Jersey City are listed as critical employment areas. Another war mystery!

Harry Thomas Made PRC's Sales Head

NEW YORK—Harry H. Thomas, eastern sales manager for Monogram and one of the founders of the original company, has been appointed vice-president and general sales manager for Producers Releasing Corp. He assumes his duties at the home office on April 23.

Thomas succeeds Bert Kulick, resigned, who became sales chief about six weeks ago. Kulick, former owner of PRC's New York franchise, sold this property to the company shortly after he became sales head.

Frances Kulick, manager of PRC's New York exchange, has resigned. Her successor has not yet been named. Miss Kulick succeeded her brother Larry when he entered the armed forces three years ago.

Thomas started his career in the industry in 1907 as an exhibitor in Brooklyn. Six years later he became associated with the



HARRY H. THOMAS

Greater New York Film Co.; then with General Film Co., and later with Fox Film Corp. as a special representative.

Organizing the Alexander Film Co. in 1921, he became an independent distributor. He subsequently became associated with I. E. Chadwick in the Merit Film Exchange as general manager and vice-president. Merit Film was absorbed into First Division Pictures in 1926 when Thomas merged the two companies and the Commonwealth exchange.

Resigning in April, 1936, as president of First Division exchanges and March of Time Distributors, Inc., at that time distributing the March of Time releases, he formed the Mutual M. P. Distributors, Inc., and Thomfilms, Inc., releasing exploitation films. Then, in 1938, he formed the Merit Pictures Corp. to acquire roadshow pictures.

He joined Monogram as general manager of the New York, Philadelphia and Washington branches in December, 1939, and was appointed eastern sales manager in 1942.

George Archibald Returns To Post in Great Britain

LONDON—George Archibald, controller of the British ministry of information, has returned by plane from a three-week stay in New York and Washington, where he had gone in connection with a film on the Burma campaign. Formerly director of the film division of the British information services, Archibald was succeeded in January 1944 by Thomas Baird, the present director.

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

FDR's Death Starts Nation's Soothsayers to Guessing

Since the passing of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the entire capital has joined with the nation in mourning the death of the greatest President of the United States since Lincoln. At no time in history has a man been so universally mourned—and at no time in history has the death of one individual so profoundly affected the lives of so many.

In Washington, as may be true of other world capitals, speculation as to the future course of events, both political and economic, has brought forth the usual round of guesses on the part of those allegedly "in the know." Predictions ranging from presidential cabinet upheavals (pretty much of a safe guess) to changes in governmental procedure involving war-created bureaus are thicker on Pennsylvania Ave. than the starlings that make a walk down the avenue hazardous for the unwary.

Just how these changes, if any, may affect the motion picture industry is still a matter of anyone's guess. It is quite certain that many of the WPB dicta will remain in force until, of course, the present emergency is lessened. Insofar as the department of commerce is concerned, there is little reason to doubt that Henry Wallace will remain as secretary. President Truman, as an astute politician, will not wish to antagonize labor and agriculture by removing Wallace. A new secretary of labor is a certainty, but who will take Madame Perkins' place remains to be seen. That replacement will be a poser for the new president, who must find someone agreeable to both the AFL and the CIO, as well as to industry.

In President Truman the amusement industry has an individual who is sympathetic and understanding. During his days as senator from Missouri, President Truman would find considerable relaxation in attendance at the movies. At a recent Variety Club luncheon, Mr. Truman reiterated his liking for show business, even to confessing to frequent visits to vaudeville shows in his home town.

One thing is certain: There is a wholehearted feeling here in Washington that President Truman's affirmation of President Roosevelt's policies warrants the support of every American. That support will be given to him.

USES Urges Film Cooperation With the Job Counsel Program

The motion picture industry is being urged to cooperate with the United States Employment Service in discussing the possibilities of work in various phases of the industry for returning veterans. A USES representative stated that the cooperation of technical experts would be most welcome in aiding USES job counselors to advise discharged veterans on what jobs are available in the motion picture industry.

Inasmuch as returning veterans are not subject to WMC controls, they are available, if needed, for work in motion picture theatres.

AFL to Push "Royalties" Plan in Labor Contracts

The American Federation of Labor is determined to give the so-called "royalties" provision, now the basis of the American Federation of Musicians' contract with recording companies, further study, with a view toward making it a mandatory clause in future labor agreements. If this contractual provision is decided upon, it will have a definite effect upon labor negotiations with motion picture producers and, consequently, upon distributors and exhibitors.

In a recent article by Joseph Padway in The American Federationist, the AFL general counsel marshalled his arguments on behalf of such a royalty measure by pointing up the loss in employment faced by musicians when film sound came into being. Padway wrote that 18,000 out of 22,000 musicians in theatres lost their employment because of sound projection—and that it was members of the Musicians' Union who, working in studios, caused this loss of employment to their fellow union members.

The Padway article, which also gives its benediction to John L. Lewis' demands for a ten cent royalty on coal mining, is reported here as the first step on the part of the AFL top directorship to urge royalty payments in future contracts. Just how this royalty demand will affect the motion picture industry is a matter of conjecture. It is stated here unofficially that further technological improvements in film production and exhibition will prompt the AFL to tackle movies as a second guinea pig in such proposed contractual discussions, now that the ice was broken in the amusement field when the recording companies acquiesced to royalty payments.

It also was learned that a focal point of attack upon which the AFL would base its demands for royalty payments would come from any possible unemployment engendered by technological improvements revolving around television. In this case both radio and films stand to face demands from amusement unions for royalty provisions similar to those now part of the Musicians' Union contract with the recording companies.

Building Materials Demands Still High, Declares WPB

Demands for construction materials still remain high, with April estimates on needed building supplies running in excess of March, according to the WPB. Because most of the materials needed are intended for the armed forces, there is every belief that there wi not be any slackening in restrictions on construction needs for civilian use for some time to come.

Building boards, sewer pipe, cement, copper, lumber, asphalt, structural tile are among the items on which there is the greatest demand. There is a lesser need for building blocks, brick, cast iron, gypsum board, lead, roofing materials, steel, steel plate and zinc.

Film Report on San Francisco Conference Will Go Overseas

The war department has made elaborate plans to assure full coverage of the San Francisco Security Conference, scheduled to get under way Wednesday so that American troops overseas will be kept fully abreast of events as they happen in the Golden Gate city. The state department has approved a group of soldiers who will attend the conference and cover the events for the armed forces, not only from a news standpoint, but for film and radio coverage as well.

Civilian newsreels will be culled each week for representative footage to be sent overseas as part of the weekly film package known as the "GI Movie Weekly," which has been going to troops for some time. Following the San Francisco conference, a documentary hitting the salient points of the meeting will be included in the Army-Navy Screen Magazine.

Answering YOUR Question:

Practically every major business can get hints on how to do this, that or the other thing from the government. Why doesn't the government turn out pamphlets advising us on how to take better care of essential materials, such as projection machines, screens, carpetc, etc? And why not some pamphlets on how to fill out tax forms, even on running a theatre?—B. W.

I think you have something there. Farmers may count on getting pamphlets on how to raise crops. Other industries can always get complete information that goes a long way to advising their employes on how to do a better job. Perhaps if you wrote to the department of commerce you might be able to get some needed information and, too, if enough requests came in, the commerce department might print such pamphlets.

Treasury Lifts All Trade Restrictions Against France

Now that the treasury department has lifted all freezing restrictions on trade with France, American film producers are enabled to negotiate full deals with their representatives in Paris without obtaining specific foreign funds control licenses. Shipping, title and other documents incidental to trade with France may be freely transmitted. The general license provides, however, that payment for goods exported from France may be made only by depositing the dollar amount in an American banking institution to the credit of the consignor or a bank in France or by the purchase of francs from a licensed exchange dealer.

Dollars accruing in French accounts maintained with domestic banks from French exports may in turn be used to finance payments in the United States or to effect remittances from France to the U.S.

I've Heard:

That Maxey Morrison, new director of information for the WPB, is going to make it easier to get news out of that government agency;

That some of the larger unions, notably CIO, are keeping their members posted on what to see and where in the film theatres;

That the United States office of education will drop its educational films program after June 30;

That Frank Boucher, one of the ablest theatre men in town, is master-minding some big doings scheduled to take place soon for the Variety Club;

That the Municipal Theatre has booked the Watergate for all of August and it's really going to do things in a big way, theatrically speaking;

That Maurice Green, the WPB theatre advisor, is doing a tough job ably and effectively;

That Sol Sorkin, the RKO-Keith's generalissimo, deserves any awards he can get because he really knows exploitation, inside and out;

That newsreel men and newspaper photographers who expect a Roman holiday with President Truman may find themselves sadly disappointed.

WORLD PREMIERE ENGAGEMENT, ROXY, N. Y., IS FULFILLING ALL THESE BOX-OFFICE PREDICTIONS!

"Hilarious! Will click everywhere!"—*Variety*

"Plentiful grosses!"—*The Exhibitor*

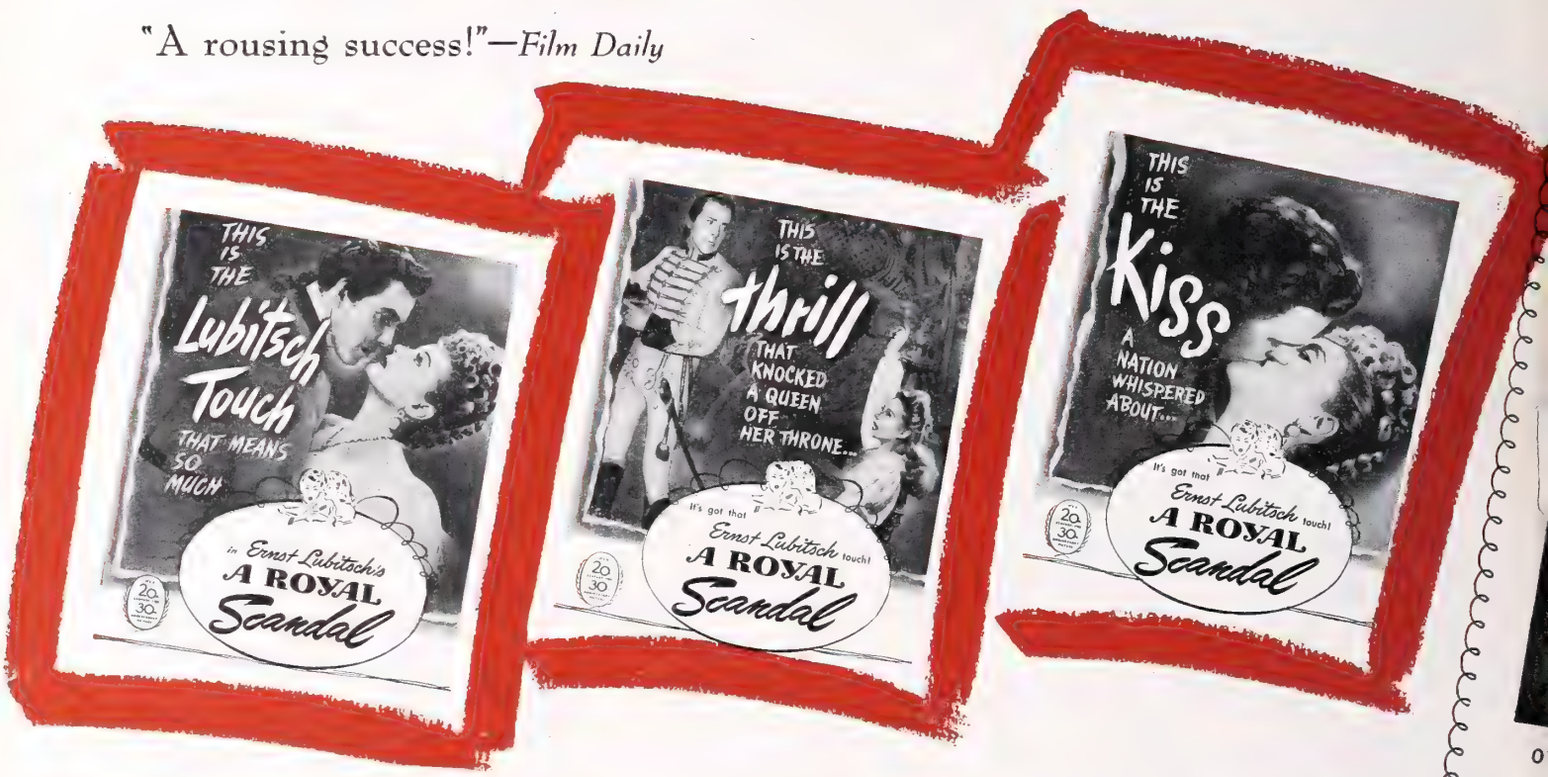
"Carries high box-office promise!"—*Daily Variety*

"One of the outstanding comedies of the year!"—*Motion Picture Daily*

"They'll talk about Tallulah for an Academy award!"—*Motion Picture Herald*

"First rate box-office attraction!"—*Hollywood Reporter*

"A rousing success!"—*Film Daily*



TALLULAH CHARLES ANNE WILLIAM

BANKHEAD · COBURN · BAXTER · EYTHE

Ernst Lubitsch's

A ROYAL S

Vincent Price · Mischa Auer · Sig Ruman · Vladimir Sokoloff · Mikhail Rasumny

Screen Play by Edwin Justus Mayer · Adapted by Bruno Frank · From a Play by Lajos Biro and Melchior Lengyel



She gave the world something to whisper about...And Lubitsch gives you something to remember!



Tallulah **BANKHEAD**
Charles **COBURN**
Anne **BAXTER**
William **EYTHE**
in

Ernst Lubitsch's A ROYAL Scandal

It's a 20th CENTURY-FOX 30th ANNIVERSARY PICTURE

with **Vincent Price**
MISCHA AUER
SIG RUMAN
VLADIMIR SOKOLOFF
MIKHAIL RASUMNY

Directed by PREMINGER
Produced by LUBITSCH
by Edwin Justus Mayer
ino Frank • From a Play
and Melchior Lengyel

OPEN 9:00 A.M.

ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

Last Feature Showing 10:20 P. M.

Part of the Roxy Ad Campaign!



Scandal

DIRECTED BY
OTTO PREMINGER · ERNST LUBITSCH
PRODUCED BY

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

20th 30th ANNIVERSARY CENTURY-FOX

with love
from *Lubitsch!*



with a love-loaded
selling campaign
from . . .

20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY



and.....**"The Affairs Of SUSAN"** are the talk of the industry because..

"The Affairs Of *Susan*"

is

A HAL WALLIS PRODUCTION

"'The Affairs of Susan' starts Hal Wallis off as an independent producer in grand style . . . Nothing has been overlooked by him to make this production a 'sure thing' that excels in every department and offers unstinted entertainment of a superior quality."
—*Film Daily*

"Hal Wallis' first production for Paramount release is a whale of a comedy." —*Variety*

"The Hal Wallis company makes its bow with a crackling good show."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*





STARS JOAN FONTAINE IN HER

"Joan Fontaine as the Susan of the title is a revelation."
—*Hollywood Reporter*

"Miss Fontaine's role calls upon her to negotiate three complete changes in personality and her skill in accomplishing this is something for the fans to talk about with gross-building enthusiasm."
—*Motion Picture Herald*

It Co-stars





"Hal Wallis' first production for Paramount release is a whale of a comedy and boff boxoffice... looks destined for holdovers and extended runs. It's the sort of laugh vehicle that has a chance to snowball into limitless b.o...." —*Variety*

IRST COMEDY ROLE

EORGE BRENT, features Dennis O'Keefe, Don DeFore, Walter Abel

"George Brent turns in what is probably the best comedy performance of his long career."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Dennis O'Keefe comes near copping male laurels as the bouncy author." —*Variety*

"Don DeFore, a newcomer, turns in a particularly promising performance." —*Daily Variety*

"Walter Abel acquits himself superbly." —*Film Daily*

It is directed by William A. Seiter

"It's one of his smoothest contrived pictures." —*Variety*

"The direction is aces."
—*Film Daily*

"The direction is top drawer stuff."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

IF YOU KNEW SUSIE . . . LIKE WE KNOW SUSIE

You'd know why the first week at the N. Y. RIVOLI was so terrific . . . topped first weeks business on "FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS" . . . despite curfew, brown-out and Holy Week!

OH-OH-OH WHAT A GIRL!



Joan Fontaine
George Brent

in

HAL WALLIS'
PRODUCTION

"The Affairs of SUSAN"

with

DENNIS O'KEEFE

Don DeFore · Rita Johnson · Walter Abel

Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER

A Paramount Picture

Paramount

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Time for Rededication, Says Myers' Statement

WASHINGTON—A statement from Abram F. Myers:

That we here firmly resolve—

The perfect tribute to a fallen leader is increased devotion to the cause for which he stood.

Panegyrics are comforting and have their place—but they are not enough.

This is the time for all Americans to rededicate themselves to the tasks allotted to them in carrying the war to total victory.

To those in the motion picture industry it means that they should this day firmly resolve to devote every ounce of their resources and energy to the Seventh War Loan campaign.

To those who may be concerned about the future of their country, let me remind them that in 1865 this nation, emerging from a bloody war, was suddenly deprived of its revered and trusted president. That leader left as a heritage these words that should be pondered by every American in this solemn hour:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

Nation's Theatres Dark As Tribute to Roosevelt

NEW YORK—The War Activities Committee appeal to theatres throughout the country to observe the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt met with unanimous response. Every theatre in the United States closed, some for half a day, others for the entire day. In Canada all houses observed a two-minute silence.

First to honor the memory of the nation's President were the Warner theatres. Even before the WAC request was formulated, Warners' home office had instructed each theatre manager to close his house all day Saturday. Every other circuit and independent theatre followed Warners' lead, although to a lesser degree, remaining closed throughout the day, but reopening for evening performances. The only exceptions were Loew, RKO and independent houses in Washington, D. C., which remained closed all day.

Chicago houses reopened at 5 o'clock.

In all metropolitan areas and many smaller communities amusement advertising sections of local dailies carried black-bordered notices of theatre closings.

Newsreel on FDR Death

NEW YORK—The motion picture bureau of the overseas branch of OWI prepared a special edition of the United Newsreel on the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt and President Truman's succession to office for distribution throughout the world. The reel ran around 800 feet and was made in 20 languages.

Bond Leaders Honor Roosevelt

CHICAGO — Midwest and southern bond drive leaders stood in a minute of silent prayer as a tribute to the late President Roosevelt at the "Showmen's Seventh" luncheon here Monday. Francis Harmon, toastmaster, called for the tribute before getting the business program under way.

A few minutes before the close, the 200 present assembled in the hotel lounge to hear President Truman's address to the joint session of Congress.

O'Connor Appoints Mayer Assistant to Chairman

NEW YORK—Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross, has appointed Arthur L. Mayer as his assistant. Mayer recently served as ARC deputy commissioner in the Pacific ocean areas but returned here



ARTHUR L. MAYER

at the request of N. Peter Rathvon to aid in the organization's fund-raising campaign.

He will leave shortly to cover the European war theatres as the first step in his new duties. While overseas he will help formulate plans for additional ARC services to the armed forces after VE-Day.

NT's R. C. Collections Impressive

LOS ANGELES—Collections in houses operated by National Theatres on behalf of the recent Red Cross War Fund drive topped last year's figures by an impressive 28 per cent, figures just released by Victor Adams, NT executive, reveal. This year's total reached $568,375, as compared with $445,500.40 for 1944.

Hays Pledges Industry Support for Victory

New York—Will H. Hays has pledged the industry to continue its full efforts in behalf of the war and "the purposes closest to his heart"—meaning President Roosevelt.

His statement follows:

"Hollywood, and with it the motion picture industry, in every branch and activity from coast to coast, salutes the memory of President Roosevelt—a man great in spirit, great in mind, and great in heart. His sympathy embraced all peoples, everywhere, and his purposes encompassed the welfare of countless generations to come.

"The industry honors his memory by rededicating its all for the winning of the war and for the creation of the institutions of enduring peace—the purposes closest to his heart.

"And now to President Harry S. Truman, carrying forward these great tasks, the motion picture industry pledges its loyalty and the full support of its energies, and, in the gallant words of Mrs. Roosevelt, says to him, 'Tell us what we can do to help.'"

"Everybody Winning" In Hollywood Strike

BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD—Materially discounting the producers' brave statement that 95 per cent of the studios' normal complement of employes are at work, was the midweek action of David O. Selznick in suspending production of his "Duel in the Sun."

Indications that the picture was in trouble through lack of manpower came earlier in the week when Selznick was reported huddling with Herbert Sorrell, strike leader, in an effort to reach some sort of agreement. That such conference came to naught was established when Daniel T. O'Shea, president of DOS' Vanguard Films, issued the following statement:

"We have been endeavoring to the best of our ability to continue production despite strike conditions. However, it is no longer possible for us to continue and accordingly we are suspending production on 'Duel in the Sun' temporarily."

"Duel in the Sun," widely-touted as a super-western in Technicolor, was in its 39th day of shooting, much of which had been done on Arizona location, when the halt in production was ordered. It represented the first case where a picture admittedly was sidetracked because of the strike.

HOLLYWOOD—Phlegmatically staggering into its seventh week, the Hollywood studio strike outwardly seems to have attained that paradoxical postion where everybody is winning.

On several previous occasions, Herbert Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions and strike commander-in-chief, has emphatically and publicly declared that the strike is 93 per cent won.

Such analysis fails to square, however, with the producers' most recent statement which claimed that "close to 95 per cent of the studios' normal complement of employes in all classifications are at work."

As a result of such variance, observers find unavoidable the opinion that both sides are engaging in a bit of bluffing.

Strikers' Position Weakened

There can be little doubt that the strikers' position has been and is being weakened by the efforts of Richard Walsh to fulfill his promise to the producers. Walsh, president of the IATSE and opposed to Sorrell in the jurisdictional disputes from which the strike stemmed, has assured the producers that he will fill from his own IA unions the ranks vacated by the strikers. He has succeeded in so doing in many classifications. But he is still finding a sizable stumbling block in carpenters and painters, which two groups of technicians are the strongest trumps in Sorrell's hands.

Walsh has appealed to all strikers to return to work and, as the mechanics to make such return possible, is attempting to organize IA groups for painters, carpenters and machinists. Upon his success in that move probably depends the fate of the strike and the future of production. Without carpenters and painters, and even though substitute workers are supplied in every other classification, continued production must be hampered. This will be especially true when the studios are confronted with the necessity of constructing new sets for forthcoming features.

N. Y. Projectionists Ask Wage Hike

NEW YORK—A wage increase of 25 per cent for its 2,300 members will be one of the features of a new contract to be demanded of 500 New York theatres by IATSE projectionists Local 306. The present ten-year contract expires August 31.



Be
fro

SENSATIONAL HANDLING WILL GET THE MONEY,

LEE TRACY • NANCY KELLY

in

BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST

with RICHARD LOO
REGIS TOOMEY

Produced by HERMAN SCHLOM
Directed by WILLIAM BERKE
Screen Play by Kenneth Gamet and Aubrey Wisberg

RKO's NEW *EXPLOITATION SPECIAL*
—bringing to the screen
DREW PEARSON
that famous and fearless radio commentator
and newspaper columnist!



TRADE CRITICS AGREE!

"Powerful, well-paced drama of Jap treachery . . . Will hold its own . . . Forceful, suspenseful and believable."
—Motion Picture Daily

"This potent melodrama of Jap espionage in U. S. will jar fans out of complacency. Authenticity is imparted by Drew Pearson."
—Film Daily

"A rugged and hard-hitting espionage picture. Easily takes rank as a topline production in its field."
—Hollywood Reporter

"Swift, turbulent and exciting melodrama of Jap espionage. Calculated to fire audiences against the race which planned war against the U. S."
—Hollywood Variety

"Drew Pearson's introduction . . . gives a sobering air of authenticity. Good melodrama with satisfactory suspense."
—Motion Picture Herald

"Moving at a neat pace, and with good performances, it is a good entry for the top half or as a single where exploitation can pull it through."
—The Exhibitor

"Exploitable . . . timely and intensely melodramatic . . . Should do good business generally and clean up in action spots!"
—Film Bulletin

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Masters to New Post

TORONTO—Haskell M. Masters, veteran film man of the U.S. and Canada, returned here last week from several months' sunning in Florida to assume sales management for Warner Bros. of Canada, succeeding Ralph H. Clark, who held the position a year.

Masters resigned three months ago as general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, the exhibition section of the Paul Nathanson-J. Arthur Rank organization.

"About-Face" in Suit

PITTSBURGH — U.S. Judge Nelson McVicar, who last week gave cause for rejoicing among distributor defendants in the legal battle growing out of distributor efforts to check theatre books on percentage pictures, did an about-face this week when he granted an exhibitor motion for a supersedeas, which blocks further proceedings in the case until certain points are decided by the appeals court at Philadelphia, if the distributors elect to appeal.

Judge McVicar, presiding in the Roth vs. Paramount case, last week ruled distributors had the right to go into defendant exhibitors' books for evidence pertinent to the case.

Another Chance

MINNEAPOLIS—Asserting that percentage must be abolished for subsequent run and small town exhibitors, Bennie Berger, president-elect of North Central Allied, announced that the film companies would receive "another chance," and if a failure, North Central then will carry its fight to the OPA, Congress and the public, as it has threatened to do.

He said the distributor general sales managers would be invited to participate in a round-table discussion of "unreasonable rental demands," and of their own free will agree to "necessary reductions."

If the discussion is a failure, he said Allied would launch a newspaper and radio advertising campaign, among other things, to enlist public support and cooperation in the fight.

Matinee Lull in Halifax

HALIFAX—Exhibitors, alarmed by a pronounced decline in afternoon patronage, took steps to boost the matinees, utilizing price cuts, shifts to double bills and special ad campaigns.

Ned Edris Dies at Tacoma

TACOMA—A ten-day illness ended in the death of Ned Edris, veteran Pacific northwest theatre operator. Edris was connected with John Hamrick and handled the Roxy, Music Box, Temple and Music Hall. He had been with the Tacoma theatres 21 years.

Britons See Better Films

HOLLYWOOD — Postwar British films, with lower technical costs and emphasis on the creative rather than the technical, will give Hollywood stronger competition than ever before, in the opinions of Emeric Pressburger and Michael Powell, who produced and directed "Colonial Blimp." The Britons are here for a studio look-see and on other business. They do business in England under the trade name of the Archers.

Children's Clubs Spread

WINNIPEG—E. McQuaid, controller of the Odeon Cinema Club for boys and girls of Great Britain, paused here to discuss plans for similar clubs in Canada with school teachers, social workers and others. Showings are held Saturday mornings. Theatre managers supervise. Children begin with a sing-song, sing the national anthem, and there's a ceremony in which children take a pledge promising to obey their parents and be good citizens. Films include special shorts about health, safety and similar matters, a feature film and a serial.

Olson, Indiana Pioneer, Dies

INDIANAPOLIS—Charles M. Olson, who began his career in 1908 and attracted national attention with a long run of stage shows in the '30s when they had been all but abandoned throughout the nation, died at his home in Carmel, Ind., after a long illness. He opened the Lyric here in 1914 and in the late '20s it remained an oasis, almost as famous as the Palace in New York, as a stopping place of the acting fraternity.

Five Million G.I. Passes

CHICAGO—Service men centers here have distributed 5,000,000 free tickets to members of the armed forces since the centers were opened in 1941, A. J. Gallas, executive secretary of the amusement and recreation division of the OCD, announced. Distribution has increased from 3,500 to 35,000 a week.

Deluxer for New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—The Fox, a new locally-owned theatre located in the center of the largest war housing development in this area, is scheduled for opening May 1. The $105,000 house, seating 850, will offer single bills only in de luxe operation, A. Baia Monte, the exhibitor, announced.

Tunefilms Back at RKO

HOLLYWOOD—Tunefilms again are back in favor at RKO, which at one time was prominent in the field of filmusical production because of the popular Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers starrers. Ten tune pictures, including "George White's Scandals" and "Sing Your Way Home," now in the cutting room, are on the agendum.

GE Earnings Increase

SCHENECTADY — General Electric Co. earned in the first quarter of this year a net profit of $11,762,662, after deduction of federal income tax, excess profits tax, provision for postwar and other contingencies. This is equal to 41 cents a share, compared with a profit of $10,384,405, or 36 cents a share, for the first quarter of 1944.

RMLC Upholds Ruling Against Loop Theatre

Cleveland—The Regional Management Labor Committee, meeting here Tuesday, unanimously ruled that the findings of the Toledo area director to the effect that the Loop Theatre, Toledo, was in willful violation of the midnight curfew request should be upheld. The committee recognized, however, that this finding is made solely to establish the principle involved, since the Loop is now in compliance and that therefore the imposition of sanctions provided for by WMC regulations and policy need not be applied at this time.

This finding of the RMLC was signed by John L. Thurston, assistant regional director.

War Training Films Visual Education Aid

(Continued from page 8)

much larger corporations interested in developing the instructional field; corporations such as General Motors, Ford Motor Co., and General Electric, which produced institutional films useful in instruction; the U.S. government, through such agencies as the bureau of mines and the department of agriculture; the major film companies in the form of films released through Teaching Films Custodians, and scattered philanthropic organizations and foreign governments. It may come as a surprise to many that prior to the war a very common source of instructional films used in the schools of the country were the travel films put out by the Japanese, German and Italian governments.

In 1940 there were approximately 75 educational film libraries and some ten national commercial film libraries that did the bulk of the instructional film rental. Very few school systems had their own libraries. Most instructional film use was on a day-by-day rental basis. Comparatively few prints of instructional subjects were purchased since the market consisted almost entirely of these relatively few film libraries.

In 1940 it is probable that less than $3,000,000 was spent by the schools of the U.S. on visual education. This total would include everything spent for equipment, film prints and for salaries of the full time staff members. This is a small amount in terms of the total of better than two billions spent annually by the citizens of this country for public education.

Perhaps an even better illustration of what can happen is to be found in the state of Virginia, where the schools expect to spend a major portion of a $1,112,000 budget recently appropriated for teaching materials during the ensuing school year, for film equipment. At the same rate of expenditure now in force in Virginia, the national annual budget would become better than $30,000,000.

In outline, the foregoing paragraphs present the facts of the status of educational films in 1940 and provide an estimate of the impetus the war training film programs may have given to the peacetime use of educational films. The next step is to weigh the unique characteristics that films possess that will cause them to be more widely used and the conditions likely to promote wider use of educational films.

New City Tax Brings A Closing of Theatre

PELL CITY, ALA.—R. H. "Slim" Higginbottom, owner of a circuit, announces that he is closing his Lyric Theatre here due to a recent order placed on him by the city council for 10 per cent of his gross. This would have caused Higginbottom to pay a total of 32 per cent of his gross, which includes 20 per cent federal tax, 2 per cent state tax and the 10 per cent city tax.

A 10 per cent tax also was put on recently by city councils in Gadsden and Anniston.

Higginbottom said he would fight the levy in every way possible. The population of Pell City is said to be supporting Higginbottom.

Seattle Noses Out L. A. In Ned Depinet Drive

NEW YORK—RKO's Seattle exchange nosed out Los Angeles for first place in the Ned Depinet sales drive last week. Detroit continues in third position and San Francisco moves from sixth to fourth. With Portland following, the western division leads the eastern, with Canada third.

Ancient Films Studied For Television 'Don'ts'

NEW YORK—Is the motion picture sire to the infant industry, television? Apparently the Museum of Modern Art thinks so and further believes baby is reaching the stage where papa should tell him the facts of life.

At its regular meeting the American Television Society showed, through the courtesy of the museum's film library, a cavalcade of production techniques—exemplified by slide films, animations and motion pictures, some dating back to 1879. Film Library Curator Iris Barry, commenting on the program, said she hoped its presentation might help in solving future television production problems. The video technicians found many examples worth following—and plenty to avoid.

The first part of the program included a series of five or six Lumiere subjects, 50 feet in length, made in 1895; some German films and early Stockholm primitives; three or four Sklandowsky animations; an early version of the "Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots"; Tolstoy's "Resurrection," and "Musketeers of Pig Alley," both produced by D. W. Griffith. These films, Miss Barry explained, showed the problem faced by film makers years ago and by video producers today: "the choice between imagination and reality."

The second part of the program consisted of "The Pacific Problem," an animated diagram made, somewhat prophetically, in 1934 by the French; a fine art film, "The Mystic Lamb," produced by the Belgian government for the New York World Fair; a Len Lye short, "Color Box," advertising in futurist manner British parcel post, and an OWI documentary, "The Town."

Many persons in the audience seemed to find it funny, during the presentation of the early vintage picture, to hiss the villain and accompany love scenes with kissing noises.

Video "Must Improve," Gilbert Seldes Says

NEW YORK—The video picture now deliverable to the home is inadequate for long-sustaining programming, according to Gilbert Seldes. Television, started off on a prewar basis, may go down for the third time—the two previous occasions being in 1939 and 1941, the CBS video program director says in his article, "The Future of Television," in the May issue of Esquire.

"Destined to play a great part in the future, television must be equipped to compete with the smoothness of the moving picture product, it must be as easy to look at as radio is to hear, and it must deliver a picture of the sponsor's product as bright and colorful as the color pages of a magazine," he concludes.

Test Shows Video Betters Radio on 10-to-1 Basis

NEW YORK—Psychological tests conducted even in television's earliest years have shown video to be at least ten times as effective as radio in conveying information, according to Sam Cuff, general manager of tele station WABD.

"There can be no doubt about the efficacy of television as a means of influencing public opinion," Cuff said, in describing the potency of video before the Publicity Club of New York at its regular meeting this week.

To Telecast WB Short

NEW YORK—Warner short, "It Happened in Springfield" will be telecast from NBC video station WNBT tomorrow, April 22.



DOUBLE WINNER—Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th-Fox, receives from J. M. Jerauld, BOXOFFICE editor, two Blue Ribbon Awards—the February Award for "The Keys of the Kingdom" and the March Award for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

RKO Opens New Exchange With Exhibitor Party

SIOUX FALLS, S. D.—RKO Radio signalized the opening of its new exchange here with a house-warming and reception. Many exhibitors in the area attended. Acting as hosts were Sherman W. Fitch, branch manager; Allen Moe and Steven Hollander, salesmen, and Ella Hansen, office manager. Also on hand to greet the guests were H. H. Greenblatt, Chicago district manager; Bob Hickey, midwest field supervisor, and Gene Gaudette, field representative.

Among the exhibitors present were Mr. and Mrs. H. Johnson, Hendricks, Minn.; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Roggeman, Elkton, S. D.; P. R. King, Adrian, Minn.; William Amacher, Castlewood, S. D.; Guy Abbott, Arlington, S. D.; Nelson Logan, Mitchell, S. D.; W. Weverstad, Centerville, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Johnson, Colton, S. D.; H. J. Lankhorst, Hawarden, Iowa; A. P. Wuebben, Parkston, S. D.

H. H. Wagner, Ellsworth, Minn.; Fred Larkin, Sioux Falls, S. D.; A. Davidson, Marion, S. D.; Ethel McAllister, Sioux Falls, S. D.; Art Johnson, Sioux Falls, S. D.; Tom Hayter, vice-president of the First National Bank & Trust Co., Sioux Falls, S. D.; W. Perrenoud, cashier of the bank, and George Hahn, manager of station KSOO, Sioux Falls, S. D.

C. Gordon Jones Is Named Wheeler's Chief Engineer

NEW YORK—W. H. Wheeler, Inc., announces appointment of C. Gordon Jones as chief engineer of its organization, to enlarge its technical staff and present new developments in its air-conditioning field. The Wheeler organization is the general distributor of Airkem, an air freshener, used industrially in hospitals, schools, hotels, theatres and many other places.

Jones for 15 years was with the Bell System, first as design and development engineer; operating and service engineer with AT&T, and consulting engineer with Electrical Research Products, Inc. He was later director of operations of the Yankee Network and has served in engineering capacities with John F. Marshall Co., Wesley Block Co., and the E. B. Mathewson Co.

Raw Stock Situation Blocks UA Releases

NEW YORK—Due to the raw stock shortage, United Artists has had to hold up announcing release dates on 13 completed prints, according to Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager. Contractually, the pictures must be released in the order in which the negatives are delivered ready for shipping, he told trade press representatives on his return from Hollywood.

The shortage is responsible for UA's losing a Fred MacMurray picture to Columbia. "The raw stock situation has been more of a problem," he continued, "than even the first run theatre bottleneck.

"There has been an increase in independent production on the west coast—more than ever before," he said. "Washington's allotment of footage to UA producers will be sufficient. No qualified producers have had any trouble in getting negative."

Regarding his company's plans, Leserman said UA producers had no low budget pictures scheduled, nor would UA release any shorts. No deal has been made with Harry Sherman for Hopalong Cassidy features, he added.

Asked whether UA was connected with J. Arthur Rank activities, Leserman denied there was any affiliation other than that his company's contract to distribute the British film magnate's pictures here and its financial interest in Odeon Theatres. Five pictures produced by Rank and awaiting release are "Blithe Spirit," "Caesar and Cleopatra," "Henry V," "This Happy Breed" and "2,000 Women."

Other features completed for UA release are "The Southerner," "The Great John L," "Bedside Manner," "Blood on the Sun," "Spellbound," "Story of G. I. Joe," "The Outlaw" and "Guest Wife." Two others, "Captain Kidd" and "Paris Underground," are in the process of being edited.

Video for Paramount

HOLLYWOOD—A video receiving set will be permanently installed in the Paramount Theatre shortly, according to Klaus Lundsberg, director of Television Productions station.

CAPACITY BUSINE

AT THE GOTHAM, NEW YORK, is

Among the all-time best movies!—*N.Y. Post* **Impressive and**

Excellent!—*N.Y. Journal-American* **Magnificent, spectacula**

Stunning production!—*Showmen's Trade Review* **One o**

Top-notch entertainment!—*N.Y. Daily News* **A film**



COLONEL

Capacity

G.C.F. presents COLONEL BLIMP Starring ANTON WALBROOK • DEBORAH KERR • ROGER LIVESEY

A Production of the Archers • Written, Directed and Produced by MICHAEL POWELL and EMERIC PRESSBURGER

ss the proof!

magnificent!—*The Independent*

and always entertaining!—*M.P. Herald*

he season's delights!—*N.Y. Sun*

not to be missed!—*N.Y. PM*



ROGER LIVESEY
as Colonel Blimp

MICHAEL POWELL
Co-producer

EMERIC PRESSBURGER
Co-producer

So, Gentlemen, Take a Bow!

BLIMP IN TECHNICOLOR

Business!

...ANOTHER U.A. HIT!

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Goldwyn Has Hired Eugene Murphy As Director of Eastern Publicity

Samuel Goldwyn has hired Eugene Murphy as eastern publicity director, with headquarters in New York, succeeding Leo Katcher. Murphy, who worked in Hollywood for the last five years with Universal and Columbia and most recently with Bing Crosby Productions, left to assume his duties in New York where he was formerly associated with Loew's . . . Richard Wallace was contracted to direct two pictures for Columbia during the next year.

Universal Latest to Join Trend To Films on Tunesmiths' Lives

Just to make very sure that the world's screens shall not want for material based on the lives and works of composers—modern and immortal—Universal has joined the long list of studios planning on making features about tunesmiths.

A top budget Technicolor musical based on the lives of Ludwig von Beethoven and Franz Schubert is now in preparation on that lot and scheduled for mid-summer production. George Waggner will be the producer-director and Joseph Gershenson the production executive.

Donald Barry Is Likely to Become Screen's "Public Enemy No. One"

If Donald Barry doesn't become this year's cinematic Public Enemy No. 1, it won't be because Republic didn't try. The studio has announced plans to star the actor in three gangster films based on the lives of a trio of America's most notorious gangster-killers. Barry will also collaborate with the writers on them, according to William O'Sullivan, who will produce the group. First will be "Baby Face Nelson," the story of that infamous gunman. Next will be "Gangs of Kansas City," based on the respective exploits of Ma Barker and the Karpis Gang. Last of the trio will be "Pretty Boy Floyd," the story of that mobster and his pal-in-crime, Red Hamilton, who together with their titian-haired sweetheart, Bonnie Parker, terrorized Texas.

Other production news from the Valley studio concerns James FitzPatrick, who produced "Song of Mexico," and now is preparing to film a picture in Ireland of similar nature. It is his intention to present the beauties of Eire in a fictional romance with music, as he did in the recent feature for Mexico.

Korda Deal to Buy Pressburger's Interest in Denham Completed

Previously announced as pending, the deal between Arnold Pressburger and Sir Alexander Korda for latter's purchase of Pressburger's interests in Denham Laboratories in Denham, Eng., has been closed.

"For Love or Money" to Star A&C, On "U" Producer Grant's Slate

"For Love or Money," to star Abbott and Costello, has been added to the production slate of Universal Producer John Grant. Elwood Ullman has been assigned to write the screenplay. This is the second A&C comedy being prepared by Grant and the fourth being readied by Universal for the comics . . . At the same studio Roy Chanslor was signed by Producer Islin Auster to write the screenplay of "The Black Angel," and Oscar Brodney was assigned to work on the second Joan Davis starring comedy for Producer Warren Wilson.

A newcomer to the United Artists lineup of forthcoming product is "The Romantic Life of Charles Dickens," which Producer Benedict Bogeaus is lining up for fall production . . . Earl Felton has been inked by Leslie Fenton to write the screenplay for Mutual Productions' "Pardon My Past," which Columbia will distribute . . . Production chore on Metro's important "Lucrezia Borgia" has been handed to Joseph Pasternak. To be directed by Henry Koster, the biographical subject will be filmed in Technicolor . . . William Berke has been signed by RKO to direct "Ding Dong Williams," first in a new series of features in which central character is a young orchestra leader. Glenn Vernon, in the title role, and Marcy McGuire head the cast.

At the same studio, Bess Taffel was signed by Executive Producer Jack Gross to the script of "Tomorrow Is Here" . . . Anita Loos was retained by 20th-Fox to script "The Gay Illiterate," based on Louella O. Parsons' autobiography.

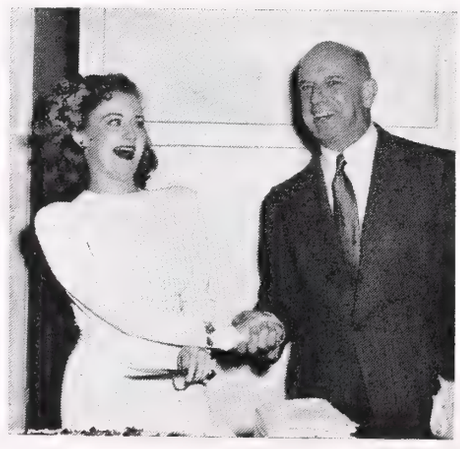
Story Market Continues to Boom; Metro Purchases "We Got Back"

Hollywood's story mart continued to boom.

Screen rights to the Ladies Home Journal novelette, "We Got Back," by Dorothy Thomas, were purchased by Metro. The story deals with the readjustment problems of returning soldiers. Robert Sisk has been assigned as producer and Cyril Hume is to do the screenplay . . . Paramount bought the screen rights to a forthcoming untitled novel by George Millburn, to be published by Doubleday, Doran. It is described as a dramatic story of life in a small farm town in America.

Allen Wilson, vice-president of Republic, disclosed that the studio has purchased an original story, "Canteen Hostess," by Martin Van Laas, for a picture to star Adele Mara . . . "Any Number Can Play," a novel still in manuscript form by Edward Harris Heth, went to 20th-Fox . . . United Artists Producer Arnold Pressburger purchased a current French language novel, "A Paris Tous Les Deux," and has assigned Author Maurice DeKobra to write an English outline. Story deals with adventures of a World War I Yank who returned to France and married the girl he left behind. Entire action is set in Paris between end of World War I and beginning of the current war. English translation of title is "Together in Paris."

"Stallion Road," novel by Stephen Longstreet, was acquired by Warners. Purchased from galley proofs, the novel will be published by Random House on April 27. The story is of a horsebreeder who runs a large ranch in Montana. The property has been assigned to Alex Gottlieb for production.



ANNE'S JUST 18—Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, congratulates Anne Gillis on her 18th birthday as the young actress prepares to cut the cake presented to her on the set of "The Magnificent Rogue," in which she plays the juvenile lead.

Latest Film "Used as a Football" Is Rogers' "My Wild Irish Rose"

This season has witnessed several films that were used as footballs in that ever-popular Hollywood game, which easily could be called "Who's Going to Produce Me?" Possibly the most prominent among them was "Ten Little Indians," which after much tossing about finally wound up as a 20th Century-Fox release and an initial production by the newly-organized Popular Films. Then, there was the screen version of W. H. Hudson's perennial "Green Mansions," now in Leo's lair as a forthcoming production, after two independent producers had battled over the right to make it.

Latest addition to the list is "My Wild Irish Rose," which was originally announced as a future effort of United Artists Producer Charles R. Rogers. He was to make it, the announcement declared, in association with Joseph Tushinsky. Recently when Tushinsky terminated his connection with the Rogers stable, he announced that he was taking with him the screen rights to "Rose" and would hang out his own shingle to produce it. Rogers, however, seems to have other ideas. He has declared that he still will make the film in Technicolor and with a slightly-astronomical budget.

So "Rose" apparently is as unsure of a home as were, for a long time, the ten diminutive redskins who ultimately found haven in 20th-Fox's wigwam.

Pat O'Brien to a Showman's Role In RKO's "Mike Duffy Presents"

In a newcomer at RKO Radio, Pat O'Brien will portray a fabulous showman in "Mike Duffy Presents," an original screen story by Nathaniel Curtis, which the studio purchased for immediate production . . . Another casting at the Gower street lot places Maureen O'Hara to star in "The Fabulous Invalid," screen version of the Broadway play by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Richard Berger is producing with Stephen Ames as executive producer. Stanley Roberts and DeWitt Boden are writing the screenplay . . . Leslie Brooks goes into the top feminine role in Columbia's "I Love a Bandleader," musical which will feature Phil Harris and Rochester.

Charles Starrett started his 11th year at Columbia when his contract was renewed for another 12 months. He is now making "Outlaws of the Rockies," another in the Durango Kid series . . . William Demarest joined the cast of Mutual Productions' "Pardon My Past," which Columbia will release . . . Chill Wills was assigned a featured spot in Metro's "The Yearling," which stars Gregory Peck, with Clarence Brown directing and Sidney Franklin producing . . . At the same studio, Tom Tully was signed for a role in the forthcoming Clark Gable-Greer Garson starrer, "This Strange Adventure," and John Carroll was set as one of the two romantic leading men in "The Kissing Bandit," which Joe Pasternak will produce.

Cecil Kellaway, Paramount character actor, was borrowed by Metro for a part in the picturization of James M. Cain's "The Postman Rings Twice" . . . Olivia de Havilland has been signed to star in Charles Brackett's original story, "To Each His Own," which Mitchell Leisen will direct, for Paramount . . . Mikhail Rasumny draws a comedy role in B. G. DeSylva's "The Stork Club," musical for Paramount release.

Will Change the Name Of Cardinal Pictures

DALLAS—Twenty independent distributors who are sponsoring a new national distributing company previously reported as Cardinal Pictures Corp. will convene in Chicago April 29-30 on call by John W. Mangham, chairman, to complete organization and to select another name for the company; Cardinal already is in use by other parties.

John L. Franconi, secretary of the executive committee of the distributors, announces that franchises have been closed for Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland, Ore., and Seattle. These are in addition to film centers represented at a meeting of the same group in Chicago in March. This group of centers has been taken by Harry C. Arthur jr., St. Louis, and Robert L. Lippert, San Francisco, and their respective associates. Franconi further states that definite announcements will be made at Chicago of the closing of deals now pending for other centers. Jack Kirsch, the Chicago independent leader, is associated with John J. Jones in the franchise there.

Further business will be the acceptance of charter, obtained by Arthur Lockwood, and name of the new company; the canvassing of proposals received from producers on new product, and adjustment of some minor points.

Futter Suing Paramount For $50,000 Damages

NEW YORK—Damages of $50,000 are asked from Paramount in a suit filed in New York supreme court by William A. Futter and Odd Jobs, Inc. Futter, a producer of film shorts, claims to have conceived an idea in 1927 for one-reelers depicting persons engaged in unusual occupations, and charges Paramount with breaching an oral contract to distribute a series of the films.

The deal was made in 1935, Futter says, with the late Lou Diamond, then Paramount short subjects manager. After he had delivered his first film, Futter alleges, the company cancelled the deal and infringed on his idea by producing a series of one-reelers called Unusual Occupations.

Goldman Back in U. S.; Was Prisoner of Japs

LOS ANGELES—Edmund Goldman, district manager for Columbia in the Philippines, has arrived here after spending three years and three months in the Los Banos internment camp. Goldman was rescued by troops of the 11th airborne division and Philippine guerrillas.

After resting a few weeks with his wife and five-and-a-half-year-old son, who reside in Beverly Hills, Goldman is expected to join the Columbia home office staff in New York.

Rogers' Nationwide Tour Starts in Washington

WASHINGTON—Roy Rogers made the first of a series of public appearances throughout the country here when he performed last week at the Uline Arena rodeo. His tour is to be highlighted by participation in Seventh War Loan drive activities and visits to army and navy hospitals. His next stop is Cleveland where more than 40 theatres have booked Rogers' films for showing during his stay there.

CBS Course Set at NYU

NEW YORK—Robert J. Landry, CBS director of program writing, will serve for the third time as director of NYU's summer radio workshop. His course is titled "The American System of Broadcasting." Course starts July 2.

Truman Looks to Films To Relieve Tension

Washington—It has been said that much can be told about a man's character by his ways of relaxation. In that case the industry can feel comfortable and even smug about President Truman.

According to Drew Pearson, although Truman had promised Roosevelt he would accept, he did not want the nomination for vice-president. He was under a strain at Chicago while events were shaping up, nervous and worried.

"Why don't you go to a night club and have a drink?" advised a friend.

"No, I don't think I will," said Truman, "I think I'll just duck in and see a movie."

And, according to the report, that is exactly what he did.

Industry Top Ad Men Aid 'Benny' Campaign

NEW YORK—Results of a national advertising campaign evolved by remote control have been embodied in plans for selling Paramount's "A Medal for Benny." Ideas for the campaign were submitted by a dozen leading theatre advertising executives at the request of Robert M. Gillham, Paramount's advertising and publicity director.

Participants in the novel effort screened the film in their respective communities, then prepared complete ad campaigns including art work. The results of the labors were sent to the company's home office here together with an analysis of the picture's selling points. Their ideas form the basis of the national advertising campaign.

Those who contributed plans were: Seymour Harris, Schine circuit; William Hollander, Balaban & Katz; Maurice Rubens, Great Lakes circuit; Howard Pettingill, Florida Theatres; David Cockerill, Denham Theatre, Denver; Helen Garrity, Inter-Mountain circuit; Russell Fraser, Tri-States Theatres; Paul Levi and Hy Fine, M&P circuit, and Frank Starz, Interstate circuit.

"A Medal for Benny" starring Dorothy Lamour and Arturo de Cordova follows "The Affairs of Susan" into the Rivoli.

East Indian Firm Opens Headquarters in N. Y.

NEW YORK—Allan E. Currimbhoy has been appointed local representative of Fazalbhoy, Ltd., with headquarters in the RCA Bldg. The office was organized by Mahomet Akbar Abdulla Fazalbhoy, Indian delegate to recent International Business Conference, prior to his return to India.

Purpose of local headquarters, its manager said, is to develop closer contacts between home office of firm in India and American manufacturers of motion picture equipment whom Fazalbhoy, Ltd., represents. These include Simplex projectors and Peerless Magnarc lamps.

MOT "Veteran" Campaign Will Assist Managers

NEW YORK—Approximately 18,000,000 additional persons may be reached by the exploitation campaign arranged for "The Returning Veteran," according to Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer.

MOT has enlisted the active support of numerous veteran organizations, including the American Legion; 450 branches of the Travelers' Aid Society; 150 centers of the U.S. Veterans' Service; 2,300 local YMCA chapters; the Council for Democracy; 1,500 B'nai B'rith lodges, and 1,500 bookstores.

Loew Pay Roll Has 96 On Job Since 1915!

NEW YORK—In its current issue Lo!, Loew's home office house organ lists 96 employes who have been affiliated with the company for more than 30 years.

The group includes President Nicholas M. Schenck, 21 projectionists, 15 theatre managers, 10 executives, 10 electricians, two doormen, two porters, a brace of musicians, two cleaners, two secretaries, a couple of accountants, a matron, a cashier, a stage manager, an engineer and a messenger.

Dean of the oldsters is Isaac Seldner, relief manager at the Mayfair Theatre, who joined the organization in 1905 as assistant manager of a penny arcade. Oldest Loew's projectionist is Irving Burchardt, with the company since 1906. Other old-timers are David Bernstein, treasurer, and Samuel H. Meinhold, dean of the district managerial staff, both of whom came to the organization in 1905.

Loew's is proud of the fact that the 30-year veterans have 40 sons in uniform, to say nothing of nephews and grandsons fighting for their country, and are enthusiastic war bond buyers, all of them working hard to put over the Seventh War Loan this month.

Many of the careers read like Horatio Alger stories: veteran employes who started as lowly ushers and reel boys at $3 per week and later worked their way to well-paying positions of trust and responsibility. Eleven members of the Poli division, under the Loew banner since 1934, have been on the job 30 years or more.

"Blood on Sun" Premiere Definitely Set for S. F.

NEW YORK—"Blood on the Sun," the William Cagney production to be released by UA, will have its premiere at the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco the week of May 1, regardless of reports in the press that the premiere was to be called off, according to Edward C. Raftery, UA president.

Raftery declared, "Several weeks ago an arrangement was made to hold the world premiere of 'Blood on the Sun,' starring James Cagney, at the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco the week of May 1. It has been reported in the press that this premiere was to be called off. There is absolutely no truth in this report and the picture will open as scheduled under the auspices of the San Francisco Press Club."

It was learned that a suggestion was made to several other companies with showings scheduled in San Francisco during the period of the United Nations conference not to use the conference as the occasion for exploiting their pictures. Several companies followed the suggestion and revised their premiere dates. It was emphasized that no coercion of any kind was used to enforce the suggestion.

35mm Showings for Troops In Europe Are Planned

NEW YORK—The establishment of regular motion picture theatres in rear areas in Europe for showing 35mm entertainment films to American troops has already begun and further progress is being made all the time.

Joseph H. Seidelman, president of Universal International Films and consultant to the secretary of war on motion pictures overseas, is leaving for Europe to survey the army's film needs and to assist in the fastest possible changeover from 16mm to 35mm showings.

The army is negotiating individually with various distributors for 35mm films on the basis of a fee determined by attendance, although no admission charge will be made to the troops.


The Year's Must-
EPOCHAL! FANTASTIC!
THRILLING! SPECTACULAR!
THE
EXCITING! SENSATIONAL!
KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Go-See-rial!

AMAZING! STARTLING!

MONSTER AND THE APE



A COLUMBIA CHAPTER PLAY

with

ROBERT LOWERY · GEORGE MACREADY

RALPH MORGAN · CAROLE MATHEWS

Original Screen Play by Sherman Lowe and Royal K. Cole

Produced by RUDOLPH C. FLOTHOW

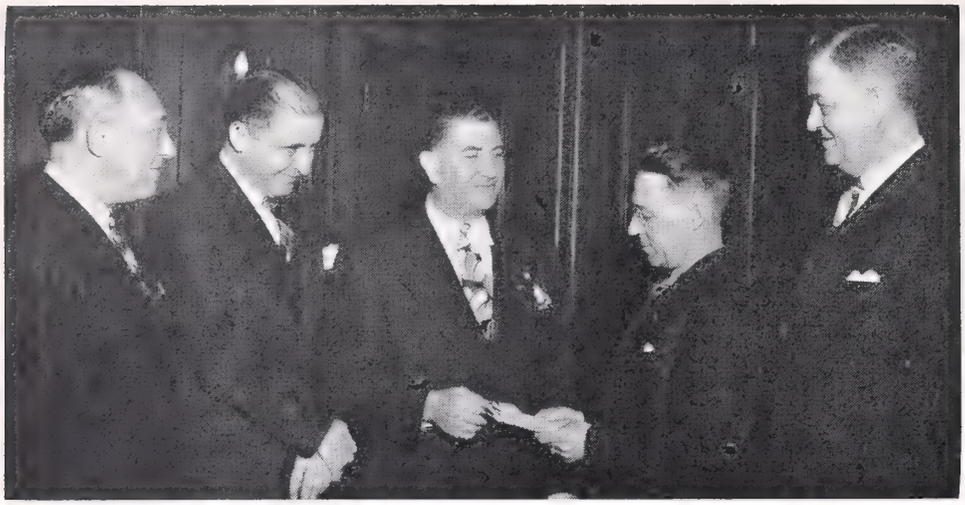
Directed by HOWARD BRETHERTON

SUSPENSEFUL! DIFFERENT!

DARING! UNUSUAL!

EXPLOITATION CONTEST!

$1,000 IN BONDS! SEE PRESS BOOK



LOAN CONTEST WINNERS—Three Loew men were among the ten showmen who won the fan magazines' prizes for the best exploitation campaigns during the Sixth War Loan. Stuart Little, chairman of the judges' committee, presents $500 bonds to Al Weiss, Loew's Pitkin and Ben Serkowich, Capitol, New York. William Phillips, Loew's State, Newark, was unable to be present. Left to right: Joseph R. Vogel, Loew vice-president; Serkowich; Weiss; Little, and Herman Landwehr, managing director of the Capitol.

Customers "Our Partners," Rogers Declares in Explaining Philosophy

By CHARLES BECKER

NEW YORK—William F. Rodgers' friendly grin, known to exhibitors from coast to coast, is not only characteristic of himself, but of "The Friendly Company," of which he is vice-president and general sales manager, as well. It is symbolic, too, of his personal credo, a cardinal tenet of which is: A friendly interest in the exhibitor and the problems which beset him.

This interest isn't so much "eyewash" to be repeated willy-nilly at exhibitor functions and then immediately laid aside for subsequent use. It is in a sense the modus operandi of his and the company's exhibitor relationships.

Exhibitors have come to accept at face value any pledge made either by Rodgers or any of his executives, who have been indoctrinated with his brand of business philosophy. Rodgers modestly says that he is merely carrying on the policies inaugurated by the late Marcus Loew, founder of the company, and perpetuated by the present head of Loew's, Nicholas M. Schenck. But those who know him say he has added some of his own personal touches.

A flashback to the beginnings of his career may give some indication of how he arrived at his present attitude toward customers whom he refers to frequently as "our partners."

Started Out as Clerk

Starting as a clerk in 1910 with General Film Co., he was advanced by easy stages up until he became assistant to the general manager, then branch manager. After three years with Triangle Film Corp. as assistant to the general manager, he returned to his former bailiwick as sales manager. Some going for a youngster just out of his teens!

Then he became assistant to Alfred Weiss, vice-president of Goldwyn Pictures, following which he spent a year as short subjects sales manager for Paramount.

Returning to Goldwyn just after World War I, Rodgers began to show signs of the ability and personal charm which was to be so marked in his maturer years. After a time he was advanced to western sales manager, remaining in this post until the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer merger in 1924.

Then he became assistant to James R. Grainger, now president and general sales manager of Republic, who was then M-G-M sales manager. Rodgers was made eastern division sales manager about 1925 and head of the sales department in 1936. A vice-presidency came several years ago.

Despite the demands upon his time, Rodgers



WILLIAM F. RODGERS

feels that the maintenance of close relations with the trade and with local conditions is one of his most important tasks. He is widely traveled and probably knows as many if not more exhibitors than any other ranking sales executive in the business.

"Once you know an exhibitor personally and are familiar with local conditions," he says, "it is much easier to establish fair and equitable business relations."

The trade is familiar with Rodgers' efforts to bring unity to the industry which, through no fault of his, came to naught. Rodgers had to make great personal sacrifices during this campaign but he felt that the objective was important enough to justify any expenditure of time or effort.

Having clear-cut ideas about a sales manager's duties, he says that primarily his place "is in the field where he must learn of local conditions at first hand if he is to be capable of formulating broad policies." He visits the coast four times a year, attends countless regional meetings with exhibitors and his executives. "I never fail to confer with exhibitors personally or en masse whenever I go out of town."

Goodwill Pays Dividends

The goodwill built up so laboriously through the years by Loew's paid off handsomely last year . . . the 20-Year Anniversary. Rodgers is proud of the fact that the company serviced every theatre in the country during the anniversary week.

This achievement had never been equalled in this industry and so pleased was Rodgers that he asked his sales staff to continue this pleasant relationship whether or not a particular theatre used Metro product. "Don't lose this personal contact," he urged. As a result, only 325 theatres that booked some Metro subject during the anniversary week last June, are absent from the company's books now.

Rodgers does not believe in drives or quotas. "We're in business all year 'round. We want our business to continue on an even level as much as possible from month to month."

Rodgers believes that exhibitors will play the game fair, if they are given a fair shake. To illustrate: "We designated 'Lassie Come Home,' during the 1943-194 season at a bracket below where we thought it belonged, just to give the exhibitors a break.

"After the picture played a few houses we began to receive checks from exhibitors voluntarily because the picture fared so well and the rental was so moderate. In the final checkup we found that we had received more additional rental checks from exhibitors than we had received in the entire history of the company."

Thinks Exhibitors Play Fair

Rodgers alluded to this experience to show that exhibitors, or anyone else for that matter, would play fair if others play fair with them. The many evidences of exhibitor goodwill toward the company make Rodgers feel that his life's work is not in vain.

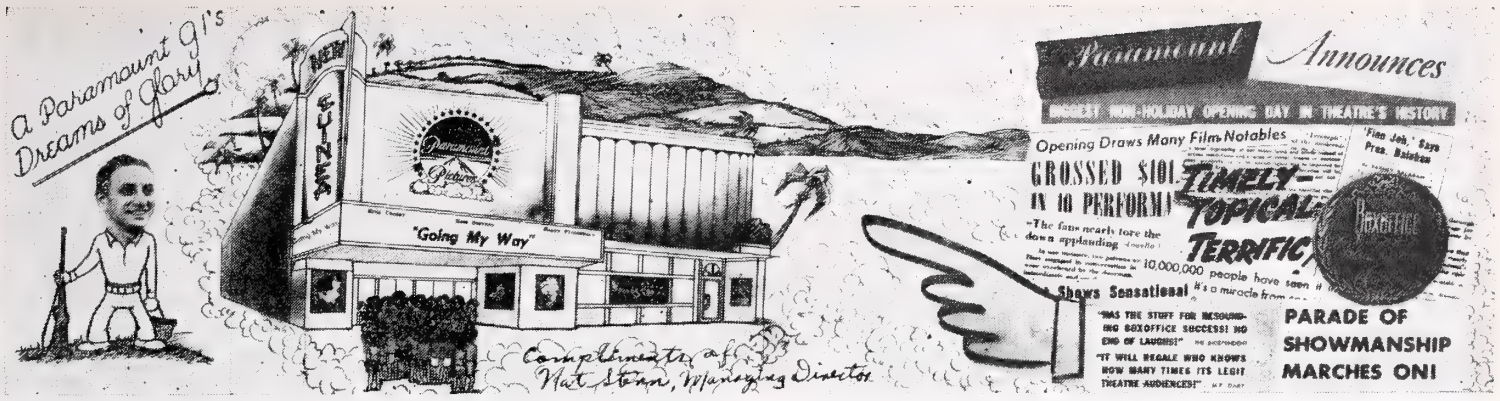
He is a firm believer in the "open door" policy, and exhibitors do not have to explain their mission when they come to see him. His door is always open. When he is in town, he is never too busy to see an exhibitor who wants to talk things over.

Golf is an occasional hobby, but he spends most of leisure time at his Westchester home when he isn't traveling. His wife is the former Edna Farrell, formerly of show business. The Rodgers have two sons, William F., 19, and Thomas A., 18, and a daughter, Myrtle Ann. William is in the army, and Tom joins the marine corps June 1 upon graduation from the New York Military Academy. Miss Rodgers is a student at Marymount College.

Dietz Attends SF Parley; Will Advise on Plans

NEW YORK—Howard Dietz, vice-president of M-G-M in charge of publicity and advertising, leaves New York Thursday to attend the San Francisco Security Conference in his capacity as chairman of the planning committee of the motion picture industry with Claude Lee and Fay Reeder.

Dietz will advise on the operations of the United Nations Theatre, which will screen selected American pictures and features produced by the Allied nations exclusively for the delegates and those with credentials.



IF HE HAD WISH—Nat Stern, former Paramount booker in New York, hasn't forgotten his peacetime calling. Taking time off from the war against the Japs in New Guinea, Stern drew the layout above, titling it: "A Paramount G.I.'s Dream of Glory." Note the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award seal on the right. Figure on the left is that of Stern.

Monogram Realigning Its Sales Personnel

HOLLYWOOD—Realignment of his sales department has been announced by Steve Broidy, general sales manager for Monogram pictures.

Edward Morey, former supervisor of exchanges, becomes assistant sales manager, with headquarters in New York.

Lloyd L. Lind, formerly head of the sales statistical department, becomes district manager, also with headquarters in New York and supervision of exchanges there and in Boston, New Haven, Albany, Buffalo and Philadelphia.

Sol Francis, former midwest district manager, continues in his previous position, but adds supervision of the Chicago, Milwaukee and Denver offices to his previous list of Des Moines, Omaha, Minneapolis, Oklahoma City, Kansas City and Dallas. His headquarters will be in Chicago.

Arthur Greenblatt, special representative, continues working out of New York, and his previous list of exchanges in St. Louis, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati will be augmented by the addition of Washington and Detroit.

Westinghouse, Renamed, Splits Stock, 4-for-1

PITTSBURGH—Westinghouse stockholders have voted a split of the company's stock on a four-for-one basis and have authorized a change in the firm's name from Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. to Westinghouse Electric Corp.

Purpose of the stock split is to broaden the base of Westinghouse ownership by making the stock available at a lower price, Chairman A. W. Robertson explained. There are about 48,000 Westinghouse stockholders, with none owing more than 1½ per cent of the stock. The name change, he said, was for "simplicity and brevity."

The Griffith Brothers Buy Colorado Resort Hotel

DENVER—H. J. and L. C. Griffith, brothers, who head the theatre circuits bearing their names, have purchased the Troutdale Hotel-in-the-Pines, at Evergreen, Colo., near here. This resort spot, closed for the last two seasons, will be reopened May 25 for a season to last until Labor Day. A new cocktail lounge has been added, also a place for dinner-dancing.

H. J. Griffith owns the Last Frontier, swanky hostlery at Las Vegas, Nev., but this is the first time his brother has been actively interested in hotel operation.

Odeon Theatres to Expand Greatly; Rank Stimulates Canada Projects

TORONTO—According to a statement from Canadian Odeon headquarters, a start is expected to be made on the construction of new theatres of the chain in the Dominion in July, marking the opening of the company's extensive expansion program. It was brought out that Canadian Odeon has forsaken any policy of purchasing old theatres for rebuilding purposes, the inference being that additional units will be new from the ground up to conform with an ultra-modern style of architecture, equipment and embellishments. Previously it had been stated by President Paul L. Nathanson that the construction schedule called for the erection of 50 new theatres within the next two years at a building cost of $7,500,000, the design of which would incorporate the latest developments in British theatre practice.

Rank May Turn First Sod

A letter was received at Canadian Odeon headoffice from John Davis, co-managing director of British Odeon now back in London from Africa, which conveyed the information that J. Arthur Rank, equal partner with Nathanson, planned to be in Toronto in six weeks time, which would be about the middle of May. There is the prospect that Rank will turn the first sod at that time for the symbolical start of Odeon's new showcase in Toronto, and to mark the formal opening of the building program which will eventually bring 100 new theatres in the Dominion. Canadian Odeon executives spoke confidently of the early start in construction operations and the attitude has been taken as assurance that arrangements already have been made with Canadian government authorities for sanction of the key building projects under present wartime regulations.

A spokesman for Canadian Odeon confirmed reports that expansion activities will be confined to the erection of entirely new theatres, rather than the making over of old cinemas, to provide the proper setting for the best screen attractions and to insure the comfort of patrons, which would be the keynote of theatre design and layout. There is the definite prospect that Canadian Odeon will discard a number of small existing theatres in the evolution so that, it was explained, the name of "Odeon" would be associated with the finest possible structures everywhere in Canada. "It will always be a pleasure to attend an Odeon theatre," according to the Nathanson aim.

A current development in organization processes for Canadian Odeon is the first tour of President Nathanson to the Maritime Provinces, where he recently entered into a partnership-ownership arrangement with A. I. Garson of St. John, N. B. On this trip Nathanson is accompanied by George Beaston of Toronto, comptroller of the company and a director of several theatre and distributing organizations.

The trip to the east coast to inspect theatres and sites follows the recent visit of Paul Nathanson to the Pacific coast, prior to which he was in Hollywood, Calif., on business. In other words, the son of the late N. L. Nathanson, acknowledged leader of Canada's film world for many years, is actively and personally engaged in laying the foundations for an extensive sphere of operations.

Nathanson-Beaverbrook Association

The mention of the name of N. L. Nathanson recalls that, some years ago, he was reported to be closely associated with Lord Beaverbrook of England, a former Canadian, in a worldwide film and theatre plan which, however, never reached physical form. It is now stated that Beaverbrook has nothing in common with either Paul Nathanson or Arthur Rank. There is a comprehensive expansion program in process of actual development nevertheless. A decade ago, Canadian film trade executives frequently spoke of Beaverbrook as a prospective power in the film-producing field in the British Empire but the scene obviously now has changed.

Arthur Rank is assured of an enthusiastic reception when he makes his first visit to Canada largely because he represents a new era in motion pictures and not merely a business contender of comparative newness in the highly-competitive film field of the Dominion. The Nathanson-Rank combination can be expected to add something to the industry in Canada which both rival organizations and the general public will find beneficial for the business and the screen art in the long run.

British Plan to Release 14 Studio Sound Stages

London—In addition to the 30 unrequisitioned sound stages now in use in this country, covering 243,600 square feet and spread over nine studios, the board of trade plans to release by autumn 200,000 square feet more comprising 14 stages in seven studios.

The repair and re-equipment of additional buildings is being given high priority because the board of trade wants peak film production to be reached as soon as possible. It is unlikely that this goal will be arrived at, however, before the end of next year.

8

THE GREATEST OF ALL BY POPULAR REQUEST

REPUBLIC BOX OFFICE



"MELODY RANCH"

featuring JIMMY DURANTE with ANN MILLER and
BARTON MacLANE • VERA VAGUE • GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
JEROME COWAN • MARY LEE

JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director • Original Screen Play by Jack Moffitt — F. Hugh Herbert
Special Comedy Sequences by Sid Kuller — Ray Golden



"SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and POLLY ROWLES
Directed by JOSEPH KANE
Original Screen Play by Gilbert Wright — Betty Burbridge



"The SAGEBRUSH TROUBADOUR"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and BARBARA PEPPER
Directed by JOSEPH KANE — Story by Oliver Drake
Adaptation and Screen Play by Oliver Drake and Joseph Poland



"THE SINGING VAGABOND"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and
ANN RUTHERFORD • BARBARA PEPPER
Directed by CARL PIERSON — Story by Oliver Drak
Adaptation and Screen Play by Oliver Drake and Betty Burbridge

REPUBLIC PICTURES ★ BU

GENE AUTRY HITS . . . REISSUED

FROM PUBLIC AND EXHIBITORS ALIKE

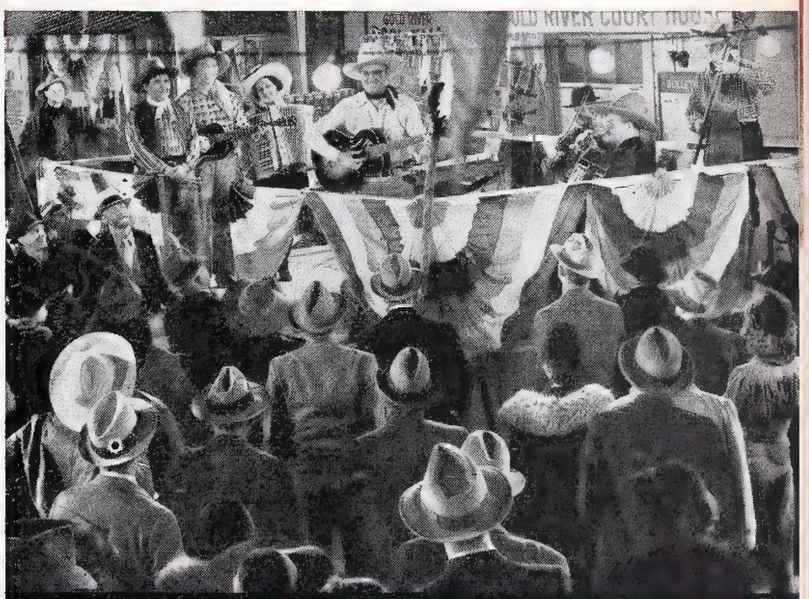
"NATURALS" HEADED FOR BIG MONEY!



"RANCHO GRANDE"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and JUNE STOREY, MARY LEE
and PALS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

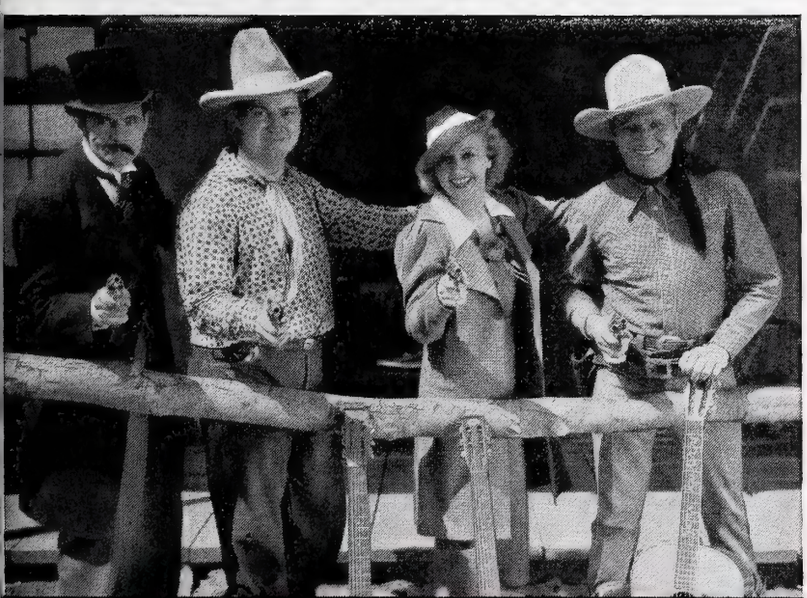
Directed by FRANK McDONALD — Original Story by Peter Milne — Connie Lee
Screen Play by Bradford Ropes — Betty Burbridge — Peter Milne



"MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and CAROL HUGHES
and POLLY JENKINS And Her Plowboys

Directed by JOSEPH KANE — Screen Play by Betty Burbridge and Luci Ward
Original Story by Bernard McConville



"GUNS AND GUITARS"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and DOROTHY DIX • EARLE HODGINS

Directed by JOSEPH KANE
Original Story and Screen Play by Dorrell and Stuart McGowan



"THE OLD CORRAL"

with SMILEY BURNETTE and HOPE MANNING
and BOB NOLAN and THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS

Directed by JOSEPH KANE — Original Story by Bernard McConville
Screen Play by Sherman Lowe and Joseph Poland

U. S WAR SAVINGS BONDS

OWI Sees Early Opening Of South Europe Marts

WASHINGTON—Major film distributors in Greece, Belgium and liberated Italy have been alerted by the OWI overseas motion picture bureau and the psychological warfare division of the army to stand ready to take over the physical distribution of motion pictures in those countries, according to Robert Riskin, chief of the bureau.

Riskin said OWI and PWD were following the pattern regarding the return of film distribution established in France. Certain difficulties in liberated Italy and the two Balkan countries have precluded turning over film operations to the companies up to now, but Riskin said those difficulties have been clearing up rapidly, making the return of operations to the companies imminent.

Riskin said OWI had no definite policy as yet for the showing of films inside Germany after VE-Day, although programs have been prepared. It was difficult because of many factors, he said, to set such a policy at the present time and make plans to carry out the details. What might apply in one city or town might be totally unsuited in another. He said the entire function of films and entertainment for the Germans was under the stewardship of the PWD of the army, and directly responsible to Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF).

No Films Showing in Germany

In areas already taken from the Germans, Riskin stated there was no entertainment of any type being offered to civilians at present. He said Billy Wilder, writer-producer, would go to Germany to work on all phases of entertainment aside from radio.

The OWI will make a two to four-reel film based on the over-all picture of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, Riskin declared. This film will be made on the 20th-Fox lot, and he will go to the coast to take part in the production. The film is to be released shortly after the conclusion of the conference.

The OWI will also work closely with the newsreel companies, OIAA and the state department, all of whose activities have been coordinated for covering the conference, so that needless duplication might be avoided. Each organization will select material for its own needs from the total footage. Subject matter for the OWI's United Nations Newsreel will be taken from this pool.

Enthuses Over New Company

Riskin was enthusiastic about the reception accorded to his plan by executives on the coast concerning the establishment in Hollywood of a new and separate company, subsidized by the film companies, for the production and distribution abroad of documentary and informational pictures, designed to promote America and the American way of life. This company would carry on the work of OWI after the agency had disbanded.

Riskin believes the production of such films is inevitable in the postwar period, and is urging industry executives in the east and on the coast to grasp the reins firmly in their hands and get away as the leader in the project. He said the plan had the support of the guilds and unions in Hollywood, as well as all the creative groups, who would be willing to contribute their talents gratis to the nonprofit undertaking.

Riskin revised his estimate of $1,000,000, which he originally thought would be needed to get the project under way, to $500,000. He is continuing conversations relating to the plan with home office executives.

Garson, Bergman, Boyer Draw Below the Border

Miami—In Latin America the most popular motion picture stars are Greer Garson, Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer, reported Aura Rodriguez, Colombian columnist of Hollywood, upon arrival here from Bogota on the Colombia Clipper of Pan-American World Airways.

"Hollywood stars have a tremendous following in South America. Many of the Spanish magazines feature the stars and their new pictures just as do United States newspapers and magazines," she said.

"The fan mail received from Latin America by these stars is tremendous. My articles appear in a number of magazines in Mexico and Colombia and feature more or less the Spanish trend or influence in pictures," continued the writer.

Miss Rodriguez has been in Colombia for the past two months. She is en route to New York before returning to her work in Hollywood.

'Some Run' Complaint Seeks Film in Block

NEW YORK—Alleging that RKO has refused to license "It's a Pleasure," except on a separate deal, Atlantic Amusement Co., Inc., operating the first run Empire, Fall River, Mass., has filed a "some run" complaint in the Boston tribunal, according to AAA. By inference, the complaint asks that "It's a Pleasure" be included in a block.

John Uston filed a clearance complaint in the Boston tribunal against Loew's, Paramount and RKO on behalf of his Lake Theatre, Monponsett, requesting seven days' clearance after Plymouth first runs. Currently he is playing Loew's product 30 days after Brockton and Plymouth; Paramount's one day after Whitman, Mass., and RKO, as available.

In another complaint filed by the same exhibitor, this time on behalf of his Easton Theatre, North Easton, Mass., he asks that protection of the Brockton first runs be reduced from 30 to 14 days. Loew's, 20th-Fox and Paramount are named as defendants.

NBC Ad Campaign Boosts Airing of "Springfield"

NEW YORK—The second major network to get behind "It Happened in Springfield" is NBC. It has scheduled 2,640 lines of newspaper space in metropolitan dailies to call attention to its television broadcast of the Warners subject dealing with the teaching of democratic ideals in public schools. The film story will be carried on April 22 at 8 p. m. over the network's television station here, WNBT.

In addition the television broadcast is being promoted in spot announcements, while the network's publicity department is issuing special copy on the event.

The other network to back the Warner film is CBS which is planning a campaign of tribute to the film and its producer, Harry M. Warner.

Don Pepe Impressed By "Monje Blanco"

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—This week our visit was to Clasa Studio. A real super-production is in the making, "El Monje Blanco" ("The White Monk"), produced by Jose Luis Bueno, who has already given us very good pictures, like "Cielito Lindo," "El Prisionero 13" and several others. The cast is headed by the beautiful star, Maria Felix, and aristocratic Tomas Perrin, supported by Julio Villarreal and other outstanding artists. The direction is also in good hands, namely, Julio Bracho, just returned from Hollywood, ably assisted by Cameraman Alex Phillips.

Great Progress Attained

A few rushes were shown and as we actually saw the sets in the studio a few minutes before, we could better judge that they really and truly prove the progress attained by local production managers and their staffs.

Anent our natural backgrounds, Lyndley Parsons, production manager of Monogram, with his cameraman, William Sicker, are touring the country to take back shots to Hollywood of our natural unsurpassed scenery of Acapulco, Fortin de las Flores, Taxco, Mexico City and other places, to be used as backgrounds in their next three pictures.

Jose Guerrero, co-owner of the Hispano and Latino theatres in New York, is in town on business. Raul Ancona, franchise holder in the United States of some of the good Argentine pictures, was with him. Guerrero has several postwar plans of which we will hear in due course.

Lana Turner and James Craig are talking Spanish in "El Matrimonio Es Asunto Privado" ("Marriage Is a Private Affair"), which starts this week at the Metropolitan.

"Los Tres Caballeros" is on its fifth week at the Orfeon—quite a record after ten weeks at the Alameda.

Arturo de Cordova of Hollywood and Mexico fame, is in town for the premiere of his Mexican picture, "Crepusculo." His presence will also help Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls," in its second week at the Rex.

Actors Lose Out on Accents

Office space at the new Chapultepec Bldg., next to the beautiful Chapultepec Theatre, is being rapidly taken by representatives of the film industry. Latest tenants are the Moving Picture Chamber of Commerce, the Ass'n of Mexican Producers and Ass'n of Theatre Owners.

The Spanish dialogs or rather the voices in "Tener o No Tener" and "El Fantasma de Canterville," can be improved quite a lot. American actors certainly are losing ground due to this fact. No doubt Metro and other producers will correct this fault and try to match their voices with some better adapted for the Spanish dialog. So far only "Gaslight" has been a real success in this direction.

The outstanding theatre news of the week is the presentation at the Iris Theatre of our good friend, Paco Miller, with a wonderful company, which includes the famous Carmen Amaya and other good artistes. It is really the best show in town and tickets are hard to get unless reserved in advance. Paco and his Don Roque were welcomed and applauded by the large crowds at the Iris.

And, although outside of our line, we might mention that the bullring was the scene on Wednesday of an important event in boxing—nothing less than the lightweight championship of the world, for the first time held in Mexico, between our own champion, Juan Zurita, and Ike Williams of the United States.

And, hasta luego!

Ann Blyth Plays in "Danger Signal"

Ann Blyth has been pacted for Universal's "Danger Signal."

"WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE, GENTLEMEN?"

Whether it's fightin' or funnin', gamblin' or lovin'... you'll find what your AUDIENCES want in Monogram's biggest, lustiest outdoor SPECIAL!

It's the rip-roarin' story of a reckless dancehall queen and a gun-packin' medico who meet in the worst sin town of the west!

PRODUCED BY
SCOTT R. DUNLAP



MADE FOR YOUR BEST PLAYING TIME!

MONOGRAM'S

FLAME OF THE WEST



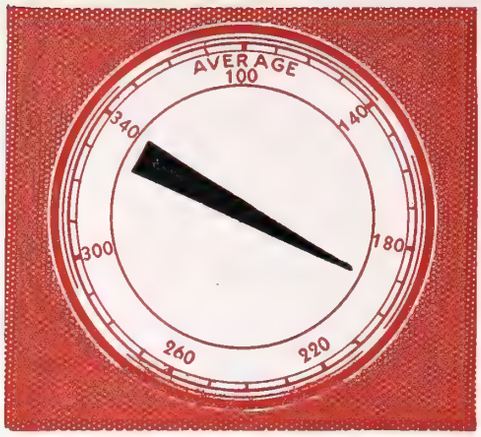
JOHNNY MACK BROWN • RAYMOND HATTON
JOAN WOODBURY • DOUGLASS DUMBRILLE
PEE WEE KING and His Golden West Cowboys

Directed by LAMBERT HILLYER

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Roughly Speaking—

Buffalo 190

Denver 155

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Babes on Swing Street (Univ)	100	100				135	100	95	100	95	100	100	80	100	100		95			100		110	**101**
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115			140	138		100		125	150			145	165	150	**129**
Between Two Women (MGM)					90					100				165	103	145		200					**134**
Big Bonanza (Rep)	110					120	100		120	100	100				93		110				120		**108**
Dangerous Passage (Para)	100	100				100			100	100		100		100			100	125				100	**103**
Dark Waters (UA)	130	131	110	100	200	120	165		160		90		85				130	190	75	150	175	180	**137**
Double Exposure (Para)	100	100				115	100		100	100	105	100	100		100		95				100		**101**
Experiment Perilous (RKO)	100	200	115	120	70	120	140	115		100	130		100	100	93	165	130	150		160	155	125	**126**
For Whom the Bell Tolls (Para)	125	130		110		130	175	95	125	110	105	120	100	100	105		105	165		175	140	250	**131**
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110		95	75		175		125							150			75		150		**118**
Guest in the House (UA)	130		115	90							115		100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	**118**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125		90	105		110	150		100		105	127	90	115	103	175		190			110		**121**
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115		95	90			100			120			125		105	125						**108**
Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)	110	105	115	110	65		148		110		97		100	140	120	170			90		125	140	**116**
Hotel Berlin (WB)	115	104	120	110	90	130	150	100		100	125	200	110		95	180	100	205	70		170	150	**128**
House of Frankenstein (Univ)	115	102	110	105	120	140	190	100	100	120			100	150		205	125	195		175	150		**135**
I Love a Mystery (Col)	100							100				100	100	100	100		95		80		100		**97**
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)	120	170		115	135		213	100	125		125	150	115	200	110	185	130	195			180	150	**148**
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110			165	130						110			130				150		**127**
Jade Mask (Mono)	110	100	110			125		100	100	100	100			100	93		100		100	100	100		**103**
Main Street After Dark (MGM)			82	95		100	100	100	100		100		100	120	100	125	100	125	100		100	100	**103**
Ministry of Fear (Para)	125	135	110	90	140	130	90		100	100		128	100	115	100	160	90	175	60	175	110	120	**118**
Mummy's Curse, The (Univ)	100	100	135	100		100	100	100	100	100			100		100	105	100	160	70	100			**104**
Murder in the Blue Room (Univ)	100	100	100			100	180		100		100		100	100	70		105		80	150			**107**
Music for Millions (MGM)		119		110	130		130		120	140	170	150		150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	**139**
National Velvet (MGM)	130			130	130			105	130	125	200	147			105	160		210	115	250	160		**149**
Objective, Burma! (WB)	120	128	120	115	115	125	170	100		150	115	175	100		100	225	105	195	90		135	170	**134**
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100		105								100					135					**110**
Practically Yours (Para)	125			130	100	130	190	100	125	125		173		160	105	190	140		75				**133**
Roughly Speaking (WB)		190		110			155	110			110	140		100	110	175	95	200					**136**
Shadows in the Night (Col)		112	110	100		125	100	100	100	100	100	100	85	100	75	110	100	125	80	100	90		**101**
She Gets Her Man (Univ)	110	125	100	95	90	120	100	90	100		120	100		100			110	175				100	**109**
Sing Me a Song of Texas (Col)						115	100			90	100			100			105		100		100	140	**106**
Song of Bernadette, The (20-Fox)				95			165	90	130	85				125			95		75		135		**111**
Song to Remember (Col)	135	212		110	125	140	175	110	125			195			108	170	120	180			225		**152**
Suspect, The (Univ)	130	128	110	90		120	185	90	120		87	100		100	85	180			115		160	175	**123**
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115	85		160	120				150	100	140			110			150	170	200	**141**
Three Is a Family (UA)	100	86	125	95	70		160	85	130		90	100	100	150	90		150	125		100	110	160	**113**
Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130			115			195	105		140	123	150	100	175		150	135	150	150		140	180	**143**
Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20-Fox)	160	218	120	120			188			130	140	200	120	175	125	180	130	220	185		200	180	**164**
What a Blonde (RKO)	125	100	100				100	100	125			100	100		100		100						**105**

ABE MONTAGUE



We proudly pay tribute to ABE MONTAGUE, Vice President and General Sales Manager for Columbia Pictures. His twenty years of service and achievement for his company have earned from the entire Motion Picture Industry the highest respect for his integrity of business ethics, his keen and resourceful mind and his admirable personal traits of character. May his achievements multiply with the coming years.



20th ★ ANNIVERSARY

WITH COLUMBIA PICTURES

Congratulations FROM THE Prize Baby

"KEEP SELLING BONDS!"

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Cover Girl (Col)—Rita Hayworth, Gene Kelly, Phil Silvers, Jinx Falkenburg. We needed a picture for a best change and went back to pick up this one. It is a good picture. The print was in good shape and the price was just right, for once. If you haven't run it, the picture will still do better than a lot of the new clucks. Played Tues., Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Cowboy Canteen (Col)—Charles Starrett. Nice little western. Played to nice crowds. Built up program with shorts and it went over very well. Nice show for a weekend. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Cold—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. Dak. Rural and small town patronage.

Together Again (Col)—Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, Mona Freeman. You would have thought Boyer would have brought extra business in a French town, but it didn't work out that way—in fact, it kept many out. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

FILM CLASSICS

Dead End (FC) — First released in '37. Sylvia Sydney, Joel McCrea, Humphrey Bogart, Claire Trevor. Film Classics is a company you small town exhibitors should get acquainted with. They sell reissues at a reasonable price—but what reissues! Everyone has two or three famous stars, the prints are tops in condition, and the advertising is new. This one did well for the one day played and was liked by all.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

PARAMOUNT

The Great Moment (Para)—Joel McCrea, Betty Field, Harry Carey, William Demarest. Not up to Paramount's usual standard. This was a poor show and as a result the attendance fell. Would be all right on a double bill, otherwise pass it up. Demarest gets a laugh out of them every time. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Cold.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. Dak. Rural and small town patronage.

Rainbow Island (Para) — Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken, Gil Lamb, Barry Sullivan. This picture did above average first-of-the-week business. Dorothy was good and coloring very beautiful. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

RKO RADIO

Goin' to Town (RKO)—Chester Lauck, Norris Goff, Barbara Hale, Florence Lake. About like the rest of the Lum & Abner pictures and did that kind of business. If you can sell corn, this is it, and in bushel baskets full. They have a following and draw them out. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Red River Robinhood (RKO)—Tim Holt, Cliff Edwards. Traded this for a punk we didn't want to run and it is an average western, with good print and did all right for weekend double bill. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Stage to Chino (RKO) — Reissue. George O'Brien, Virginia Dale. Here is one of O'Brien's best. All of his westerns have just what the fans want and a little more.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

REPUBLIC

Atlantic City (Rep)—Constance Moore, Bradford Taylor, Jerry Colonna, Charles Grapewin. This one failed to click, as reflected by derogatory comments. It would be okay for midweek. The story weak and a sort of hodge-podge of everything and not much of anything. Weather: Very good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

End of the Road (Rep)—Edward Norris, John Abbott, June Storey. A fair picture that failed to do any business. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Heart of the Golden West (Rep)—Roy Rogers, Smiley Burnette, George "Gabby" Hayes, Bob Nolan. A nice western. The people in this section go for these musical westerns. Rogers very popular here. An old show but it played to good crowds. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Yellow Rose of Texas (Rep)—Roy Rogers, Trigger, Dale Evans. This was a nice weekend program that did nice business in spite of rain and snow. Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

The Big Noise (20th-Fox)—Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy, Doris Merrick, Arthur Space. Laurel and Hardy are certainly at their best in this picture, for it is really a howling scream all the way through. This type of picture goes over well here and is especially liked by the younger crowd. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Big Noise, The (20th-Fox)—Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy, Doris Merrick, Arthur Space. With "Mojave Firebrand" (Rep), this made a good double bill that showed big business on our weekend program. Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20th-Fox)—Dorothy McGuire, James Dunn, Joan Blondell, Peggy Ann Garner. A tremendous picture. Appeals to everyone and one that an exhibitor can be proud of when his patrons come out and express their opinions. Capacity house. Played Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. Weather: Mostly fair.—Ken Gorham, Town Hall, Middlebury, Vt. General and college patronage.

Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20th-Fox)—Dorothy McGuire, James Dunn, Joan Blondell, Peggy Ann Garner. Due to extensive reading of the book, this picture has exceptional drawing power. The public is either very enthusiastic or decidedly bored—no in-betweens. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Martha O'Driscoll, Lon Chaney jr. One of Abbott and Costello's best. We think the all-girl orchestra helped the draw considerably, but A&C always go over big here. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Reasonably good.—Ken Gorham, Town Hall, Middlebury, Vt. General and college patronage.

House of Frankenstein (Univ)—Boris Karloff, Lon Chaney, John Carradine, Anne Gwynne. Some people like the horror type picture but most come just to see the other feature. We had a few good comments on this one, however, and it was exceptionally good for those who enjoy a few scares. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Trigger Trail (Univ)—Rod Cameron. A good western. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Crime by Night (WB)—Jane Wyman, Jerome Cowan, Faye Emerson, Charles Lang. A pretty good programmer on the Thin Man order and one that fit very well on a double bill for our weekend. Comments were all favorable and there was quite a little comedy and action in the picture. Worth a date at a fair price. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas Small town patronage.

Middlebury Town Hall A Community Show

Indirectly, the Graphic circuit was responsible for Ken Gorham's getting into show business. The circuit moved into the town of Middlebury, Vt., and the manager of the Town Hall Theatre there decided to close up. Trustees of the town sold Gorham the idea of opening up, so he leased the house. That was in 1937 and he is still operating.

When asked if any member of his family helps him run the theatre, Gorham answered, "Not as a paid employe." So it would seem from this that members of the family are only drafted for emergency occasions and paid off in new bonnets or similar domestic bartering exchange.

Sports and fishing are this exhibitor's hobbies, along with music which he enjoys with the drum corps of the Shrine and the American Legion. He thinks the exhibitor's major problem today is getting the product deserved from the major companies, because it is all tied up.

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Russia Good Market For U.S. Equipment

By POLLY SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—Soviet Russia offers the most promising postwar market for United States motion picture equipment, according to a survey recently completed by the motion picture unit, bureau of foreign and domestic commerce of the commerce department. Compiled by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the unit, from reports received by foreign service officers, the report analyzes in detail the postwar market potentialities for equipment in Gibraltar, Spain, Turkey and Russia.

Government Controls Industry

In Soviet Russia the government controls the entire motion picture industry. So far as known, almost all projectors in use there are of German manufacture, chiefly Zeiss, Ikon, now from three to ten years old, and it is not possible to obtain replacement parts. The All-Union Film Committee has indicated that its postwar plans include large scale replacements of equipment and hopes a substantial amount of it can be obtained in the U.S.

Sound equipment used in the Soviet Union also is of German manufacture, therefore is old and lacks replacement parts and in the Moscow theatres at least in such poor condition that it is impossible to understand the sound. Prospects for postwar replacement with U.S. material are favorable. Practically everything else also is in need of replacement.

There are 16 studios in the Soviet Union, one in each of the federated republics. Most of them operate only on a limited scale. The film committee has extensive plans to replace all present equipment and to expand quantity after the war. Indications are that they plan to buy almost entirely from the U.S. The expectation is that the Soviet Union likewise will be interested in acquiring very considerable quantities of raw film stock.

Gibraltar offers little possibilities as a postwar market, according to the report, with only five theatres in active operation and the possibility that this number may be reduced to the peace-time three which sufficed before the war.

Selling to Spain Is Risky

Spain's present governmental setup makes it a risk as a postwar sales possibility, and the report states that dealers selling new equipment in Spain make sure that importers can obtain dollar credits. This note of warning is conveyed throughout the entire report with respect to all types of equipment which may be offered to Spanish purchasers.

Turkey offers a good market with some theatres wired for sound and with the country now geared toward acceptance of the U.S. as a trade source where Germany, prior to the war, had predominated. In sound equipment and projection equipment, Turkey ranks as a possible market but for accessories such as screens, ticket-selling machines, etc., there is little possibility of sale in that country due to the fact that most of this type of equipment is made domestically or is not in demand.

P. A. Williams Visits Kaycee

KANSAS CITY—P. A. Williams, advertising director of the March of Time, was a visitor here this week. He paid his respects to a number of circuit heads, and was on Filmrow for a while, in addition to visiting BOXOFFICE headquarters. He was accompanied by Don Muldoon, with the advertising and sales department of MOT.



FAREWELLS—All members of the advertising and publicity departments of 20th-Fox were holding a farewell dinner for Jonas Rosenfield jr. (left), who was about to leave to join the army, when Spyros P. Skouras dropped in. He left that night by plane for England. Charles Schlaifer, emcee for the evening, is on the right.

Air Conditioning Unit Reins Still Tight

WASHINGTON — The War Production Board announces that the recent order releasing freon was for the sole purpose of permitting the operation of existing installed refrigeration and air conditioning systems. Restrictions on production and distribution of air conditioning equipment have not changed.

The WPB wishes to correct an erroneous impression that the release of freon meant that new air conditioning equipment also would be released. In fact, WPB has tightened up on restrictions on the sale and supply of parts and materials for emergency maintenance and repair of industrial and commercial refrigerating and air conditioning systems. This was done to combat abuses in the use of automatic ratings provided by Order P-126. All such automatic ratings have been revoked.

The WPB announced, however, this order does not affect the use of P-126 ratings for the procurement of repair parts for emergency maintenance and repair.

Freed from Jap Prison, Art Doyle Back Home

NEW YORK—Arthur Doyle, 20th-Fox far east representative, has returned home following his liberation from a Japanese prison camp in Manila by Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur's forces. Press reporters besieged Doyle and his former prison mates on their arrival in San Francisco but, under war department orders, they had little to give out for publication.

He was apprehended by the Japs while he was en route to this country from Singapore, where he had made his headquarters for several years. Doyle had been in Asia for about four years when he started on what was to have been a vacation in the United States, at the end of which he was to have been given a new assignment.

When Singapore fell, Doyle was taken prisoner with other American citizens by the Japs. More than a year passed before his relatives learned, through the Red Cross, of his being held in a concentration camp at Manila. Several times his voice was heard over special shortwave broadcasts by American prisoners sponsored by the enemy.

Brownout and Curfew Lifting Soon Is Seen

WASHINGTON—Although President Truman at a press conference here asserted that the brownout would not be lifted in entirety until VE-Day, it was stated at the WPB and at the WMC that the urgency of fuel conservation gradually is being lessened and that there is every indication that this restriction may be dropped soon. It also was reported that the curfew may also be lifted if and when the brownout is called off.

President Truman had stated that he would wholeheartedly support any measure taken by the former WMB director, Byrnes, as necessary toward expediting the war effort. However, the present WMB director, Fred Vinson, is reported giving these measures full study and it is likely that they will be lifted soon.

Leonard Reinsch, managing director of the Cox radio stations, and radio and public relations adviser to President Truman since the last presidential campaign, was named to help the President with press and radio affairs. Matthew J. Connelly was appointed the President's confidential secretary.

Frisco Conference Films Are Now Being Selected

NEW YORK—While no definite selections have as yet been made on films to be shown at the United Nations Security Conference in San Francisco beginning April 25, several pictures are high on the list for consideration by the industry's scheduling committee. Among these are "Gaslight," "Going My Way," the British-made "Silver Fleet" and two French productions, "The Baker's Wife" and "Harvest."

Plans have also been discussed for showing a Spanish version of "The Song of Bernadette" at the conference. As previously reported, "Blood on the Sun," the William Cagney production, will be shown separately at the United Artists theatre in San Francisco. The committee will select other films from time to time.

Howard Dietz, M-G-M vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, who is serving as chairman of the industry's planning committee, left for the coast early in the week to attend the conference. Claude Lee, Paramount public relations director, and Fay Reeder will take an active part in the operation of the United Nations Theatre, where entertainment films will be shown, and the Conference Theatre, reserved for documentary pictures.

Laboratory Dispute May Go to U.S. Conciliators

NEW YORK—The U.S. Conciliation Service may get the contract dispute between the IATSE Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians Union, Local 702, and the 20 film processing laboratories in the east, before the strike vote sought by the union members is ordered.

There is a likelihood that the dispute may eventually come before the WLB. The local discontinued all negotiations with company representatives recently, and categorically rejected all their counter-proposals. Talks had been in progress for several months, based on the union's demands for a new contract for their 1,800 workers.

Warner Kin Honeymoons

NEW YORK—Lieut. William Orr, USAAF, and his bride, the former Joy Ann Page, stepdaughter of Jack Warner, return to Hollywood this week after a two-week honeymoon.

BROADWAY

Tommy Dorsey, orchestra leader, and his wife, Pat Dane, have arrived from Beverly Hills, and are guests at the Waldorf-Astoria . . . Irving Rapper, Warner director, who came east for the world premiere of "The Corn Is Green," returned to the coast.

Dick Stephens, Warner field exploiteer, visited Toledo for advance campaigns on "Roughly Speaking" and "Hotel Berlin."

W. Stewart McDonald, Warner Theatres executives, spent several days in Chicago and Milwaukee . . . Haskell M. Masters, new Canadian sales manager for Warners, left for Toronto to assume his new duties.

Carter Blake, eastern casting director for Columbia, and Mrs. Drake are the parents of a baby boy born at the Nassau Hospital, Mineola. The little fellow weighed in at seven pounds.

Lewis Allen, director of RKO's picturization of the stage play, "Those Endearing Young Charms," arrived from the coast to view the new stage productions.

Edward L. Walton, Republic assistant general sales manager, left for a Chicago WAC meeting in conjunction with the forthcoming drive, where he will represent president and general sales manager, James R. Grainger. Walton will return to the home office following visits to the company's Milwaukee and Detroit branches.

Walter L. Titus jr., head of Republic branch operations, scheduled stops at the Memphis and Indianapolis branches prior to his return to the home office.

J. M. Franklin, president of Franklin & Herschorn theatre circuit, with headquarters in St. John, N. B., Canada, is spending about ten days here before returning home with his wife and daughter from a winter's stay in Florida.

Irving Berlin arrived in Hollywood to discuss plans for the production of "Blue Skies" with Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head.

Sam Katz, Lawrence Weingarten, Nat Wolff and Harriett Frank were M-G-M arrivals from the coast studio . . . Robert Florey, Warner director, celebrated his 20th year in the industry.

F. W. Huss jr., independent exhibitor, accompanied by Mrs. Huss, arrived from Cincinnati for a vacation. They are stopping at Hotel Astor.

Henri Michaud, assistant general manager for Paramount's Continental Europe, North Africa and Near East divisions, left for his Paris headquarters from an embarkation point. Robert Schless, general manager for the division, who left for Europe April 11, will join Michaud from London.

L. M. Devany, RKO Radio Canadian division sales manager, came in from Toronto to confer with Robert Mochrie, sales manager, on new product.

George Weltner, vice-president of Paramount International Films, Inc., left for Hollywood with Harry Danziger, president of Eastern Sound Studios, to confer with studio officials on the company's program of Spanish redialogued product. Weltner brought with him the first print of the Spanish version of "Practically Yours," to show to studio executives.



BALTIMORE WELCOME—Fred Allen was guest at a luncheon attended by exhibitors and civic dignitaries in Baltimore prior to the opening of UA's "It's in the Bag" at Loew's Century Theatre. Standing: William K. Saxton, manager of Loew's Century. Seated (l-r): Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin; Allen, and Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, commander of the Third service command.

Pat O'Brien, RKO star, will spend a week here before heading for Canada to participate in its Eighth War Loan Drive. Upon completion of his Canadian stint, O'Brien is scheduled to return to Hollywood for a role in "Mike Duffy Presents."

Leda Bauer, RKO story editor, has returned from a vacation south of the border.

Morris Goodman, president of Republic Pictures International Corp., has arrived in London for conferences with British Lion Film executives and for European market survey.

Al O. Bondy, film distributor for General Electric, left for a tour through New England with principal stopovers in New Haven, Providence and Boston.

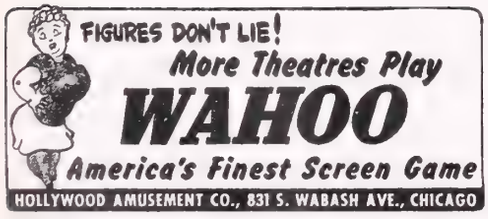
Hal B. Wallis and his general production aide, Jack Saper, have left Hollywood for a two week stay here.

Richard Condon, president of Richard Condon, Inc., and Mrs. Condon, the former Evelyn Hunt, Powers model, announced the birth of a daughter, Wendy, at the Harkness Pavilion on April 15.

J. D. Woodard, former Lucas & Jenkins circuit exploitation man, now with the Warner field staff under Herb Pickman in Atlanta, arrived to confer with Mort Blumenstock . . . Irene Rich, motion picture and radio actress, is stopping at the Waldorf-Astoria.

John LeRoy Johnston, publicity director for International Pictures, arrived from the coast studio . . . Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, arrived in London.

Jules Fields, publicity manager for 20th-Fox, and Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, left for Chicago conferences with theatre executives on company product, accompanied by Chester Fietel of the exploitation department.



Fabian Plans to Build "The Finest Drive-In"

ALBANY—Purchase by Fabian Theatres of the Welden estate property at Stop 27 on the Albany-Schenectady road for erection of "the world's finest drive-in," has been announced by Saul J. Ullman, general manager of the circuit's upstate houses. Work will start immediately, he said. Plans call for accommodation of 1,000 cars and for dining facilities in a novel amusement center. Ultra modern in scope, the Center will cost $250,000. The opening date will be some time in early summer, Ullman said.

Reports that Si Fabian would build a drive-in somewhere between Albany and Schenectady had recurrently been heard on Filmrow for four years. Lou Golding, former Fabian division manager here and now general manager for Fabian in the Wilmer & Vincent circuit, and W. W. Farley, builder of several picture exchanges here and of one or more Schenectady theatres, were seen April 7 on a scouting trip for a drive-in site. Action by Fabian Theatres was believed speeded by Neil Hellman's announcement of plans for the second Hellman Theatre drive-in, this on the Albany-Schenectady road at Karners.

Now Operate Three Houses

Fabian now operates three Albany houses, Palace, Grand and Leland, and five Schenectady theatres, Proctor's, Plaza, State, Strand and Erie. The new automobile theatre, midway between the two cities, will protect Fabian investments in Albany and Schenectady. The first Hellman open-air house, at Lathams Corners on the Albany-Saratoga road, took business from the regular theatres in Albany, Troy and Schenectady, Filmrow believes.

Fabian circuit postponed announcement of drive-in plans until VE-Day neared. It is the first chain to announce erection of such a theatre in the Albany exchange district, although Kallet Theatres of Oneida started to construct one near Syracuse in 1942. This is expected to be completed later.

The Drive-In Theatre, operated by the Hellman family on the Albany-Saratoga road at Lathams Corners, opened for the fifth season Thursday (19) with "Home in Indiana" and "South of Santa Fe." The drive-in, operated by Neil Hellman, is most successful of its kind in this district. It started two weeks earlier than usual this year. The manager was Cliff Swick, now on an LST in the Pacific area.

New Distributor Group Will Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO—At the request of John Mangham, chairman of the executive committee, 20 independent film distributors forming a new distributing company will meet April 28-29. The company has been tentatively named Cardinal Pictures Corp.

Franchises for Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Seattle and Portland will be among the matters to be acted upon at the meeting. Jack Kirsch, president of Illinois Allied, will be associated with John J. Jones in the Chicago franchise.

Other franchise deals are expected to be approved at the meeting. Arthur Lockwood of Boston is expected to recommend a different name for the organization. A deal with Action Pictures Corp. for four outdoor films in color will be acted upon.

The War Production Board informed the franchise holders that it allocated raw stock for "Wildfire," Action's first film.

A full attendance is expected at the Chicago meeting.

Saturday Closings Hit Broadway Take

NEW YORK—The nation's mourning over the death of President Roosevelt was reflected in the Broadway first runs, virtually all of them sustaining considerable inroads in their grosses. General half-day closings on Saturday and the all-day closings of the Strand and Hollywood on the same day were added factors.

New attractions were affected along with the holdovers. Business began to perk up at midweek, however.

"I'll Be Seeing You," Selznick-International's UA release, was leading the field in its second week at the Capitol.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), 10th wk. 95
Capitol—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 160
Criterion—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 120
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 3rd wk. 135
Palace—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO) 105
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 125
Radio City Music Hall—**Without Love** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 4th wk. 140
Rialto—**Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO) 80
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk. 110
Roxy—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), plus stage show 130
Strand—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), plus stage show, 7th wk. 140
Criterion—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 120
5th wk. 90

Spike Jones Shares Heavy Gross At Philadelphia With "Destiny"

PHILADELPHIA—Show business grosses were hard hit here due to the shut down on Saturday by the industry and a general slackening in business because of the death of President Roosevelt. Spike Jones' initial appearance here, coupled with "Destiny," grabbd a heavy slice of the take in the central city area with "Murder, My Sweet" and "Tomorrow the World" both doing well.

Aldine—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 3rd wk. 135
Arcadia—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 145
Boyd—**Tomorrow the World** (UA) 155
Earle—**Destiny** (Univ), plus **Spike Jones** orchestra on stage 175
Fox—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 170
Karlton—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 135
Keith's—**Dark Waters** (UA), 3rd d. t. wk. 130
Mastbaum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk. 130
Stanley—**Woman in the Window** (RKO), 3rd wk. 120
Stanton—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO) 175

"Roughly Speaking" Scores 190 In Smashing Week at Buffalo

BUFFALO—"Roughly Speaking" hit nearly twice average in a swell seven days at the 20th Century. "Bring On the Girls" held up well at the Great Lakes in a holdover. "Objective, Burma!" was assured of a moveover after a strong first week at the Buffalo. "Music for Millions" was a fair bet in a second downtown week at the Hippodrome. The Lafayette, with two from Universal, was disappointing.

Buffalo—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 128
Great Lakes—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para), 2nd wk. 158
Hippodrome—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover 122
20th Century—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 190
Lafayette—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **Babes on Swing Street** (Univ) 110

Music Hall Stage Shows Set for Troops Abroad

NEW YORK—The Radio City Music Hall will be represented on the "foxhole circuit" by a replica of its stage shows, according to USO-Camp Shows, Inc. Under the supervision of Harry Krivit, a reproduction of the song and dance spectacles displayed on the Music Hall stage will be prepared for the entertainment of our troops abroad.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

When Edmund C. Grainger graduated from the Boston Law School he had no idea that some day he would engage in three different branches of the industry: distribution, exhibition and for a short time the trade paper field. Now he is president and general manager of Shea Enterprises.



E. C. GRAINGER

Shortly after receiving his law school sheepskin, he gravitated to Chicago, believing that greater opportunity lay there. Another reason was probably the fact that his older brother, James R. Grainger, was operating an independent exchange and had asked him to come.

One of the first important films that the younger Grainger was assigned to sell was Thomas Ince's "Civilization," patterned after D. W. Griffith's "The Birth of a Nation."

Energetic and confident, Grainger called on his first exhibitor client, the late Bill Cadoret, then operating a theatre in Kankakee, Ill. Terms of the deal quoted by the younger salesman were not quite satisfactory to Cadoret, and Grainger went away empty-handed. Cadoret has recalled this incident many times during the intervening years.

After serving in France during World War I, Grainger satisfied an ambition to settle in New York. Securing a job with the Exhibitor's Herald, a trade publication, he became an advertisng salesman and jack of all trades.

Learning all he could about the trade paper field, Grainger then secured a position in the home office contract department of First National and then with Goldwyn Film Co. After brushing up on his sales technique, later, with Fox Film Corp., he successively became circuit sales manager, then eastern division sales chief.

Then in 1936, Mort A. Shea asked him to become general manager of M. A. Shea Enterprises. He had struck up an enduring friendship with Shea during his term as circuit sales manager for Fox. When Shea died in November 1940, Grainger was elected president.

Shea Enterprises, formerly known as Feiber & Shea, operates some 50 houses in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New England and New York state. Its operation is unique in that it does not have division or district managers.

About one-third of his waking hours are spent by Grainger in visiting the circuit's various houses. The chief also spends a good deal of time personally telephoning his managers, managing to communicate with each on an average of once a week. This system works out satisfactorily, Grainger says.

"We like to feel," says Grainger, "that each of our managers is a showman able to handle his own situation. We subscribe to the principle that the manager should be bothered as little as possible. Naturally, if a special problem arises in a particular theatre we discuss the matter either in person or over the telephone. Our experience proves that this system is practical."

Furthermore, Grainger says, the managers cooperate closely with Jack Shea, circuit booker, in lining up the various attractions. If a manager feels that a certain film should be given a particular spot at variance with the balance of the circuit, his request is granted. Managers book their own short subjects.

Every month or so Shea holds booking sessions with the circuit's managers in the different exchange zones. Every season the circuit invites personnel of the various distributors to meet with their own managers and executives at luncheon. Matters of mutual interest are mulled and Grainger feels that much good is accomplished.

FREAK COINCIDENCE: That truth is sometimes stranger than fiction was proven again recently in Germany when Joe Gallagher, former National Screen Service employe, was wounded in battle. The army medical corpsman who came to his aid was also a former NSS employe, Larry Regalhaupt.

Cpl. Tony Agoglia, former UA booker, now fighting in Germany with the U.S. forces, writes of "tough fighting" in that war zone and thanks Chief Booker Ben Levine for the trade publications and other reading matter that the latter sent . . . Al Greene, manager of the Austin, and Erwin Breuer, comptroller of the R&B circuit, are spending a ten-day fishing trip in Roscoe, N. Y.

Lieut. Ira Rifkin, son of UA Salesman Sam Rifkin, has received his wings at the Macon, Ga., flying field . . . Exhibitor Dave Rosenbaum, of the Capitol, Elizabethtown, N. Y., was a visitor to Filmrow . . . Twin sister of Gertrude Dembroff, of the UA booking department, was a bride . . . David A. Levy, Universal's metropolitan district manager, has returned from a Florida vacation.

Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors held a luncheon-meeting at the Capitol Hotel with Jesse L. Stern presiding . . . Larry Morris, booker and film buyer for B. S. Moss, is convalescing from a minor operation at his home . . . Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lager have a new addition in the family . . . Cy Seymour, National Screen Service salesman, has been named an honorary citizen of Boys Town, Father Flaniagan's haven for homeless boys and orphans in Omaha, Neb.

Tom Farrell, former M-G-M salesman, is now with OWI . . . Selma Harris, secretary to John J. Bowen, Metro district manager, is vacationing . . . Selma Levine of the cashier's department at the same exchange, has returned from her annual respite.

44TH STREET CLUB: During lunchtime, exhibitors and exchange personnel may be found relaxing in Nathan Eimer's cigar store on West 44th Street, near the Film Center Bldg. Eimer has installed a bulletin board on which is attached a list of exchange employes now serving with the armed forces. Occasionally a service man writes a note to the "boys" which is posted on the wall.

Ben Levine, UA's chief booker, attended the funeral of his uncle at the Park West Memorial Chapel . . . Ira E. Epstein, former theatre manager, who served as an officer in the U.S. maritime service for some time, has been appointed a field exploiteer for Warners. Assigned to the Cincinnati-Cleveland-Indianapolis territory he will make his headquarters in the first-named city.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer



DISCUSS NEW YORK BOND PLANS—Irving Lesser, chairman for the Seventh War Loan in the metropolitan area, goes over the campaign with his aides. Seated (l-r): Sam Rinzler, Randforce; Harry Brandt, Brandt Theatres; Irving Lesser, Roxy; Morris Kinzler, Kayton-Spiero. Standing: Eddie Rugoff, Rugoff and Becker circuit; Willie White, Skouras Theatres, and Fred Schwartz, Century.

Iwo Jima Statue to Be Constructed In Times Square for Bond Drive

NEW YORK—The now famous photograph of the raising of the Stars and Stripes by the marines on Iwo Jima, taken by Joe Rosenthal, AP photographer, will be reproduced in a life-size statue and will be erected some 40 feet in front of the replica of the Statue of Liberty on the island in the Times Square area. The two statues will serve as a potent stimulus to the purchase of bonds during the Seventh War Loan, according to the expectations of the executive committee of the New York area Seventh War Loan.

Irving Lesser, managing director of the Roxy and chairman of the Seventh War Loan in the New York area, told a meeting of the entire executive committee of the plans to erect the Iwo Jima statue, and discussed the over-all phases of the campaign at a meeting at the Roxy Tuesday. More than 75 representatives of metropolitan theatres, film companies and industry executives were present.

Lesser declared much hard work awaited the volunteer workers on his committee to attain the goal set for the Seventh War Loan. He said he was confident of the outcome, for it was a "people's and workers' drive, with few big name personalities connected with the work."

Selling the Man on the Street

"The treasury department looks to us," Lesser declared, "because it knows no other way to reach the man on the street and sell him the all-important E bond. We accept the challenge, secure in the belief that this will be the most successful of all previous industry war loan campaigns."

Morris Kinzler, campaign chairman, discussed many of the stunts and special events planned for the 700 theatres in the New York area.

Among others who spoke briefly were Frederick Gehle, state chairman of the war finance committee for the treasury department; Sam Rinzler, WAC co-chairman of the metropolitan theatres division; Jules Fields, public relations chairman; James Sauter, talent coordinator; Robert M. Weitman of the executive committee, and Montague Salmon, Broadway chairman.

Those present at the meeting included Fred Schwartz, C. C. Moskowitz, James Brennan, W. C. Michel, A. W. Smith, Mike Rosen, Major L. E. Thompson, Edward Rugoff, Henry Randell, Joel Swensen, Sam Rauch, Ferdinand Reinlieb, Daphne Skouras, Annette Downes Kent, Homer Harman, Lou Gerard, Harry Keller, Joe Ehrlich, Eugene Schrott, George A. Generalis, Leonard Gaynor, John A. Cassidy, Fred Norman, Robert Kaufmann, Lloyd Seidman, Blanche Livingston, Jeanette Sawyer, Al Rylander and Morris Leftoff.

Borough committees and members present included George C. Ritch, Al Zimbalist, Jay Burton and William E. Cotter, Manhattan; Eugene Meyers, Sam Coolick and Vincent Liguori, Bronx; Helen Beckerman, Myron Siegel, Arthur Price and Clifford E. Paige, Brooklyn; Fred W. Brunelle and Paul Linoti, Queens, and Louis Goldberg, Milton Schosberg and Richard H. Crowe, Richmond.

County committees and members attending were Russell Emde, Ira Morais and Andrew Wilson jr., Westchester; John Endres and Leone D. Howell, Nassau; Walter F. Higgins, Alfred McRae and Myron H. Lee, Suffolk; Harry L. Royster and Arthur S. Knudson, Dutchess; Fred Lichtman and Dr. Samuel Berg, Lower Orange; Robert W. Case, Mrs. Blanche Tenbroeck and William Edelmuth, Ulster; Max Cohen, Miss Sadie Cohen, Joseph Fersch and Harold B. Spriggs, Sullivan.

Manhattan Holds First 7th Loan Bond Confab

NEW YORK—Plans for the Seventh War Loan were discussed at the first borough of Manhattan meeting at the Beacon Hotel. Presiding was George Ritch of the Riviera Theatre.

Among the topics discussed at the session was the need for redoubling previous efforts in past war loan campaigns. Also outlined were plans for holding regular Kiddie Premieres, with the cooperation of the Manhattan public schools, and staging an increased number of bond rallies at the opening and closing of the drive.

Gross to Aid Salmon

NEW YORK — Monty Salmon, Broadway chairman for WAC New York area, will make his headquarters at the Rivoli Theatre. Syd Gross, publicity and advertising director of the house, will act as Salmon's aide during the Seventh War Loan Bond drive.

Trade Press Pledges Support to Seventh

NEW YORK—Full support to the forthcoming Seventh War Loan was pledged by the trade press of the industry at a meeting of the trade press division of WAC at the Hotel Astor.

Presiding at the session was Jack Alicoate, chairman of the division and publisher of Film Daily. Accepting the pledge was Sam Pinanski, national chairman, who lauded the trade press for its "splendid cooperation" in getting the publicity campaign launched.

"From my experience in war activity work in New England, I know full well that the trade press is vital in drives such as these," Pinanski declared. "The trade press is the most important channel we have through which to provide information for the state chairmen and committees and to the many workers in the field, on whom this drive depends more than ever before."

Hertz Discusses Campaign

John Hertz jr., national publicity director, discussed some of the features of the promotion campaign. He expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the trade press in the Sixth War Loan, and for what the publications plan to do in the forthcoming campaign.

S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of WAC, also lauded the trade press for its efforts in all industry war drives. The members of the national committee, including Pinanski, Hertz, Jerry Zigmond, coordinator of advertising, publicity and exploitation, and Al Finestone, assistant director of publicity, exchanged ideas.

General consensus of opinion was that while the Seventh may be "tougher" than any preceding campaign, the industry is geared up now to turn in a fine performance, falling back on its experience during the preceding six drives.

Those present included: Charles M. "Chick" Lewis, vice-chairman of the division and publisher of Showmen's Trade Review; James M. Jerauld and Ray Levy, BOXOFFICE; Chester Bahn and Al Steen, Film Daily; Abel Green and Mori Krushen, Variety; Colvin Brown and Red Kann, Quigley Publications; Sherwin Kane, Motion Picture Daily; Paul J. Greenhalgh, Exhibitor; Tom Kennedy, Showmen's Trade Review; R. W. Baremore, The Independent; Jack Harrison, Hollywood Reporter, and Frank Leyendecker, Film Bulletin.

MPA to Honor Schaefer For Outstanding Service

NEW YORK—George J. Schaefer, national chairman of the War Activities Committee and board chairman of Lester Cowan Productions, will receive a plaque for "distinguished service in motion pictures" at the 26th annual dinner-dance of the Motion Picture Associates. The event, proceeds of which will be donated to the welfare work of the organization, will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria, June 6.

Presentation of the plaque to Schaefer will be the first of a series to be given annually to outstanding figures in the industry, Schaefer is actively associated with many philanthropic and service groups and has given much of his time and efforts to patriotic and fund-raising campaigns since the start of the war.

Jack Ellis, first vice-president, is again serving as chairman of the entertainment committee, assisted by Bert Sanford. A 100-page journal is planned for distribution to the anticipated 1,200 guests.

A meeting of committee chairmen and workers was held April 19 at the Hotel Astor at which final details for the event were outlined.

UIE Favors Pressing Action Against Majors

NEW YORK—A resolution similar to the one passed recently by the PCCITO, Pacific coast exhibitor group supporting the government's plan to prosecute the antitrust suit against the major distributors, was adopted by the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors Ass'n, meeting at the Hotel Capitol. A copy of the resolution will be sent to the department of justice.

Another resolution passed by the group scored alleged discrimination against independent exhibitors on reissues and percentage films. Members of the UIE's film committee will endeavor to arrange conferences with sales executives of the various distributors to lay the matter before them.

Committeemen include President Jesse L. Stern, Julius Charnow, Max Wallach, Max Cohen, Jack Leff and George Reisner.

Last year, members of the same committee conferred with various sales executives on pending problems, announcing later that they had reached substantial agreement. Present grievances are said to stem from films in current release.

Another resolution mourned the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Jesse L. Stern; first vice-president, Julius Charnow; second vice-president, Max Cohen; treasurer, Max Wallach; secretary, Bernard Leventhal; directors, Manny Meyers, Louis Goidel, Max Schwartz, William Smith, George Reisner, Leo Storch, Abraham Rotner, Abraham Levy and Samuel Goldberg. Jack Leff was reappointed as general counsel.

N. Y. 7th Loan Groups Completed by Lesser

NEW YORK—Irving Lesser, general chairman for the New York area in the Seventh War Loan, has completed naming the personnel of his executive committees for the campaign.

The following new committee members were named: Mike Rosen, Loew's Theatres, and Maj. L. E. Thompson, RKO, labor relations; Ferdinand Reinlieb, Roxy purchasing agent, accounting chairmen; Leo Gerard, 20th-Fox; Al Zimbalist, RKO Theatres; Harry Keller, Universal, and Joe Ehrlich, 20th-Fox, special events; Blanche Livingston, RKO Theatres, in charge of printing and decorations:

George A. Generalis, 20th-Fox, in charge of foreign language press; Eugene Schrott, 20th-Fox, and Al Rylander, Columbia, special publicity; Dave Bader, 20th-Fox, and John A. Cassidy, RKO, trade paper liaison; Fred Norman, RKO, and Bob Kaufman of Donahue and Coe, radio contact.

Three Loew's Theatres Have New Managers

NEW YORK—J. R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew's, has made the following managerial shifts:

Jack Mercer, formerly of Loew's Victory, Evansville, has been transferred to Loew's Orpheum, Boston, replacing George Kraska, who has been made Boston publicity director.

Arthur Groom, erstwhile skipper of Loew's State, Memphis, is the new manager of Loew's Victory, Evansville.

William Kemp, former relief manager, replaces Groom in Memphis.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

AT&T Intends Spending One Billion After War

NEW YORK—The Bell System plans to spend approximately $1,000,000,000 in the postwar period for new plant and equipment to meet the demand for civilian service, President Walter S. Gifford of the American Telephone & Telepgraph Co. told stockholders at their annual meeting.

While the system's products go for war purposes, "we get further and further behind in facilities for civilians," Gifford said. "Our most serious shortage is central office equipment, and that cannot be made and installed quickly."

Alter 20th's Shorts Releasing Schedule

NEW YORK—The raw stock situation and delay in finishing prints at color laboratories have made it necessary to revise releasing schedules of Movietone short subjects and Terrytoons. The matter has been straightened out, however, and all subjects slated for release through July have been completed.

Among subjects to be released from now until July 27 are the following:

Movietone: "Sikhs of Patiala," "Isle of Romance," "Down the Fairways," "Do You Remember?," "Modeling for Money," and "The Empire State;" Terrytoons: "Fisherman's Luck," "Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats," "Mother Goose Nightmare," "Smoky Joe," "The Silver Streak," "The Mosquito" and "The Empire State."

Only two Movietone subjects listed for release between April 1 and the first of August will be in black and white. The balance will be either in Technicolor or Cinecolor. The two exceptions are: "Do You Remember?," and "Modeling for Money."

All of the Terrytoons will be Technicolor. The revised spring-summer releasing schedule includes three Mighty Mouse and three Gandy Goose subjects.

MOT Films at White House

NEW YORK—"The West Coast Question" and "Memo From Britain" are among the latest MOT films to be shown at the White House during the company's tenth anniversary year.

Major Bowes Retires From Radio Program

NEW YORK—Major Edward Bowes, veteran showman, retired this week from active participation in his CBS program, Shower of Stars.



MAJ. EDWARD BOWES

Bowes has been a familiar figure in broadcasting circles since the early days of radio when his first program, The Family Hour, went on the air. He achieved his greatest radio fame with the Amateur Hour, which brought opportunity to many of the show world's young hopefuls. The broadcasts were aired over CBS starting in 1935. The show was at one time the highest paid in radio, receiving $25,000 a week.

Theatre men will remember that Bowes was for many years vice-president of M-G-M. He resigned this post in 1935.

In 1919 he and his associates built the Capitol Theatre in New York where he was managing director until 10 years ago at which time he resigned so he could devote more time to his Amateur Hour.

His efforts to help young people have brought him civic recognition in scores of communities. He holds more honorary offices throughout the country than any other man in the industry.

His retirement from the show world comes as the result of his doctor's orders to take it easy for a while.

Para't Files Damage Suit On Percentage Films

MIAMI—Paramount has filed suit in the U.S. district court against Mrs. Fernanda Carbonell and John Carbonell jr., operating the Strand and Monroe, Key West, Fla., to recover monies allegedly due the company and for damages resulting from the alleged fraudulent reporting of gross receipts on percentage pictures shown at the two theatres.

Paramount also seeks permission to audit the exhibitors' books and records.



EDUCATORS SEE FILM—Some of New York state's leading education executives at Albany were invited to attend a private screening of the tolerance film, "It Happened in Springfield." Church officials and civic leaders also attended. At the close an informal discussion was led by Dr. LeRoy Bowman of the N. Y. state department of education.

20th-Fox Sales Drive Strikes Swift Pace

NEW YORK—The first two weeks of 20th-Fox's 30th anniversary sales drive marked the setting of all-time records, 28 of the company's 31 domestic branches exceeding their quotas. The campaign was a "drive within a drive" because the first two weeks of this month's anniversary celebration were the concluding ones for the regular 17-week incentive drive starting last January.

The order in which the branches finished were: Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, New York, New Haven, St. John's, Salt Lake City, Denver, San Francisco, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Winnipeg, Boston, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Omaha, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Toronto, Calgary, Montreal, Des Moines, Memphis, Buffalo, Cincinnati and Albany.

The branches named finished in the above-quota category, which means that every employe from the porter to the branch manager receives a bonus of three weeks' salary. Sales personnel and bookers receive an added bonus based on the proportion of increase shown in the sales volume.

Chicago finished in the two-week salary class, while Vancouver was in the one-week salary category.

Since April 1, approximately 90 per cent of the nation's theatres have contracted for or played at least one 20th-Fox subject during the month.

To date, New York, Albany, Buffalo, New Haven and Boston branches have reached the 100 per cent mark by selling all their accounts. More than 400 theatres in the metropolitan exchange area are using one of the company's subjects every day in the month, while 1,200 theatres in the zone are using one 20th-Fox subject during the course of the month.

The 17-week incentive drive for the second quarter opened April 15. The first two weeks of this drive will wind up 20th-Fox's anniversary month.

20th-Fox Red Cross Fund Jumps 304% Over 1944

NEW YORK—Collections among 20th-Fox home office executives and employes for the recent Red Cross War Fund represented exactly 304 per cent of the 1944 drive's total donation. This figure exceeds that set by Chairman Jack H. Lang a year ago, when he predicted a collection equal to 300 per cent of last year's total.

Red Cross donations from 20th-Fox exchanges were more than double those made in 1944. Many offices boosted their totals more than three times last year's collections. Several branches did four times better.

Final statistics from the company's studio have not been received, but advance reports indicate collections will show a big increase over donations tendered by Hollywood employes last year.

Loew Picture Retitled; Now "The Southerner"

NEW YORK—"Hold Autumn in Your Hand," UA release produced by David Loew, has been renamed "The Southerner." Directed by Jean Renoir and based on George Sessons Perry's popular novel, picture stars Zachary Scott and Betty Field.

Cast includes J. Carrol Naish, Beulah Bondi, Blanche Yurka, Percy Kilbride and Estelle Taylor.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



MAKING SUMMER PLANS—Fred J. Schwartz, general manager of Century circuit, held a luncheon for members of his Timberdoodle Club and outlined plans for forthcoming events. He is shown here explaining them to Ruth Beckerman and Jack Weinstein. Timberdoodle is the Schwartz lodge in the Adirondacks where Schwartz frequently entertains Century workers.

Equity Asking Action On Video Work Plan

NEW YORK—Confident that the not-too-distant future will bring an upsurge in television activities, Actors Equity Ass'n is bestirring itself to protect its members against possible undesirable working conditions.

More than a year ago Equity, Chorus Equity, the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Radio Artists set up a joint committee on television. At the quarterly meeting of AEA a month ago, Stephen Chase pointed out that in the intervening time no report had been handed down and no action taken.

Because of the considerable revival of television activity and the number of persons currently working in it without protection, Chase suggested the meeting recommend to the council that it take the matter up with the joint television committee and urge the latter body to consider without further delay the instituting of minimum pay and working conditions for the new industry.

When the council met, on the day following, it asked its own television committee to study the information it had gathered in the past year, and talk to certain members who had been working in television, after which it was to report back to the council.

Warners' Democracy Film Will Be Backed by NEA

NEW YORK—For the first time in its history the National Education Ass'n will cooperate in promoting a motion picture in connection with Warners' "It Happened in Springfield," which deals with the Springfield plan for teaching democracy and good citizenship in public schools.

Willard E. Givens, executive secretary of the association, has sent a letter to superintendents of schools throughout the country instructing them to contact local theatre managers and work with them to obtain widest possible audiences for the picture.

PRC Ups Production Budget by 40 Pct.

NEW YORK—Negative costs of PRC's 26 features and 16 westerns for 1944-45 will be approximately 40 per cent more than was originally planned. The total cost, according to Leon Fromkess, PRC president, will be $4,000,000, or $1,500,000 more than was anticipated.

Fromkess added that, circumstances permitting, the company hopes to double that figure for the 1945-46 product lineup. Costs of the most expensive PRC film to date may be trebled before the end of the current selling season. The company will not make any musicals next season, he said, unless it can compete with the major producers in this field.

Following a board meeting soon, announcement will be made of the acquisition by the company of two additional exchanges. Fromkess is concluding negotiations for new players, directors and producers. He hopes to announce shortly formation of a new television unit.

Although all plans are subject to the raw stock situation, the PRC prexy says that several of the company's films next season will be in the high-budget category. Final decisions on next year's product will be made following the board meeting and conferences with Harry H. Thomas, newly-appointed general sales manager and other executives.

Expansion of the studio is dependent on how soon materials can be obtained.

Ampa's Nominating Group Is Headed by Neilson

NEW YORK—Rutgers Neilson, RKO publicity manager, was elected chairman of the nominating committee of Ampa at a luncheon meeting at the Pallas Athene restaurant. The committee's selections will be made known at next month's meeting after which officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

Other members of the committee are William MacKee, Vincent Trotta, Blanche Livingston, Columbia Sileo, Grace Rosenfeld, David O'Malley. Evelyn Koleman and David A. Bader were nominated as alternates.

Jacques Kopfstein and James Zabin were empowered to arrange a theatre benefit, proceeds of which will be donated to Ampa's welfare fund. Under consideration are a theatre party for a legitimate show or a special premiere of an unreleased film.

Martin Starr presided. Secretary David A. Bader was teller for the balloting.

NBC Ready for Complete VE-Day Video Stint

NEW YORK—Using station WNBT, NBC will give 'round-the-clock television coverage on VE-Day, featuring pickups from the Times Square area, reports from network newsmen and commentators from the studio and televised film shots recounting the history of the European war.

All of NBC's television engineering, production and film editing facilities will be put behind the project to keep the public abreast of current events. Direct pickups of the crowds in the Broadway district will be featured. The network's portable field equipment will be installed atop the marquee of the Hotel Astor.

News tickers will be installed in television studio 3H, so that viewers may see up-to-the-minute flashes of the latest reports. The entire project was planned by John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television.

PHILADELPHIA

Virtually every film theatre in Philadelphia shut down all day Saturday as the industry paid its respects to President Roosevelt. The Warner Bros. chain closed in line with a policy established nationally by the company. Independents followed the lead set by the AITO of eastern Pennsylvania.

City officials praised Philadelphia radio stations for their programs during the three-day mourning period following the death of the President. Each station canceled all regular broadcasts, confining programs to sacred music and news.

Philadelphia's last burlesque house, the old Trocadero, operated by Izzy Hirst, was closed by Director of Public Safety James H. Malone after a minister had complained about "strippers, lewdness and obscenity." The Trocadero has been a burley house since 1903.

Bucky Harris, RKO exploiter, screened "The Woman in the Window" recently for police in Wilkes-Barre. The film was stopped before the ending and none of the cops were able to solve the film mystery.

Joseph Iobine, formerly in the shipping department at Paramount, was killed in action on Iwo Jima on March 1.

Several girls at National Screen Service were locked in the building one night last week and firemen had to be called to get them out . . . Florence Weiner, Ulrik Smith's secretary at Paramount, had a slight operation a couple of weeks ago, but is now okay.

Capt. Everett C. Callow, formerly of Stanley-Warner, is back in Philadelphia after a quick trip from the Pacific and is undergoing treatment in the naval hospital.

WFIL is planning a round-table quiz on the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. The radio station has a tieup in the program with the board of education and the questions will be fired at school kids.

The Bellevue-Stratford ballroom may be taken over by Powers Gouraud, WCAU gossiper and dramatic critic. Gouraud, who once played bit parts in Bucks County productions, is reported to be prepared to present summer stock, the shows to be backed by several wealthy business men.

Metropolitan Opera Co. stars signed for appearances at Robin Hood Dell which opens June 18 include: Kerstin Therborg, contralto; Charles Kullman, tenor; Zinka Milanov, dramatic soprano; Nicola Moscona, bass, all to appear in "Requiem" by Verdi; and Alexander Kipnis, basso; Astrid Varnay, soprano, and Emery Darey, tenor, all to appear in "Die Walkuere."

Regional Meetings to Set Philadelphia Bond Plans

PHILADELPHIA—A series of four territory meetings, in which plans will be made for the complete organization of the area for the Seventh War Loan, was decided on at a meeting of campaign leaders, including former drive heads, exhibitor and distributor representatives and members of the trade press, at the Warwick Hotel.

Sidney Samuelson, area campaign chief, made the keynote talk, while others who spoke included Jay Emanuel, Robert Lynch, Ted Schlanger, Lester Krieger, I. Epstein, George Schwartz, Salem E. Applegate, Ben Fertel, Lewen Pizor.

The four regional meetings will be preceded by a salesmen's session in Philadelphia April 23. The schedule for the area confabs includes Allentown, May 1; Wilkes-Barre, May 2; Pottsville, May 3; Harrisburg, May 4, and Philadelphia, May 7.



GOOD OLD SCHOOL DAYS—Betty Smith, right, author of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," goes back to P.S. 23 in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, for an interview over WOR with Shirley Eder. Standing in the background is Dr. Herman Natelson, who was one of Miss Smith's teachers and is now principal of the school.

Washington Is Mum On Film Scrapping

WASHINGTON—War department officials refused to comment on London reports that the British military authorities had scrapped Frank Capra's screen report on the Burma campaign. At the same time, state department officials also insisted that this incident had not been reported to them.

The London report stated that Lord Louis Mountbatten, supreme Allied commander in the southeast, had ordered the film scrapped after British military authorities complained that "it suggests most of the Burma fighting had been done by United States troops." Meantime, the Washington office of the British Ministry of Information at this writing, was awaiting cable word from London on the matter.

The British war office report stated that George Archibald, director of the films division of the British Information Service, and Maj. Frank Owen, editor in India of the British publication S.E.A.C., had seen the film in New York and had objected to scenes emphasizing American participation in the Burma campaign. Lieut. Col. Alexander Bryce of British army film unit worked with Capra in preparing the film.

The principal objection on the part of Archibald and Owen to the film is based on the fact that British troops outnumbered the Americans 20 to one and that the bulk of the fighting had been done by British soldiers. The film is expected to be re-edited and the filming of the second stage of the campaign has been given to Lieut. Col. David MacDonald, who directed "Desert Victory."

Reiskind Appointed Head RCA Record Engineer

NEW YORK—H. I. Reiskind has been appointed chief engineer of the record department of RCA Victor. He was formerly record research and advance development engineer at the company's Indianapolis plant.

Since joining RCA in 1936, Reiskind has engaged in engineering work in connection with recording and sound reproducing equipment in the company's Camden, New York City, Hollywood and Indianapolis plants and studios. He supervised the installation of RCA equipment in Warners' Brooklyn and 20th-Fox's New York City studios in 1936.

ALBANY

Brother Flynn, who books pictures for Franwell Boys School at Lennox, Mass., visited Filmrow Monday for the first time in several years. He is a great friend of Abe Van Deusen, head booker at RKO . . . Harry Savett, who operates at Faust; Mrs. Inez Ferguson, Copake, and George Thornton, Orpheum, Saugerties, also were Filmrow visitors.

George Thornton, who operates the Orpheum at Saugerties, will open the Orpheum at Tannersville, Catskill Mountain situation, May 1, on a part-time policy until the summer vacation season gets into full swing . . . Harvey Newland, who recently opened the Windham in Windham, also a Catskill Mountain town, is operating on one change, two days a week for the present. He will add changes until on a full-week basis.

Frank Shay's Cameo in Schenectady and Scotia there were among theatres donated to the Protestant Council of Churches for special performances of "The King of Kings." The silent masterpiece, screened in Albany at Warners' Strand, Madison and Delaware, played to 14,000 in this exchange territory.

Cyril "Cy" Boyer and Jack Lanzley, projectionists union, have been ill. Boyer, who is at the Ritz, for years has been one of the men sent to the executive mansion on Eagle Street to screen pictures for governors. He worked in this capacity many times while Franklin D. Roosevelt was governor.

Jane Breen, for 15 years with the Metro office staff, is assistant to Manager Herman Jacobs in the new Albany headquarters of Confidential Reports at 80-82 State St. Miss Breen was cashier and later was assistant booker for Leo the Lion. She resigned some months ago to undergo a serious operation.

Twentieth-Fox is receiving 100 per cent cooperation from exhibitors in playing one or more of its pictures during the 30th anniversary campaign. About 220 theatres signed up. Dan Houlihan, salesman, is Albany head of the drive. Others participating are: Harry Alexander, manager; Fred Sliter, salesman; Tom Barry, head booker; Mrs. Jean Fredericks, assistant booker, and the office staff . . . E. X. Callahan, 20th-Fox district manager, was in Albany from Boston for a day.

Oscar J. Perrin, manager of Warners' Madison, now has a three-star service flag in his home. Keyes Perrin, who had been announcing the Alleghany Steel Co. and other programs on the mutual system, was inducted into the army recently. Keyes started in radio at WABY, Albany. Capt. Oscar Perrin jr., former star first baseman, now is with one of the armies in Germany, while the youngest Perrin son, Jack, is in the navy. Oscar Perrin is a walking encyclopedia of the theatre and of show business here, having managed all types of houses in some 40 years.

Buffalo Houses Present Stettinius's Peace Appeal

BUFFALO—Cooperating with the state department, all downtown theatres last weekend presented a short subject film, "Watchtower Over Tomorrow," in which Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius makes a public appeal for an effective international security organization to maintain the peace.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

B'nai B'rith Auxiliary Plans Theatre Party

NEW YORK—Cinema Auxiliary of B'nai B'rith will sponsor a theatre party at the Broadway Theatre Friday evening, May 18, to raise funds for its war service activities. "Memphis Bound," starring tap-dancing Bill Robinson, is the play they will see.

Max B. Blackman, Cinema lodge treasurer, and Miss Irma Flanders of Warners are distributing the tickets.

President A. A. Senft disclosed that the next meeting of the lodge has been deferred until May 1. It will be held at the Hotel Astor.

Wallis Here for Talks With Hazen, Reagan

NEW YORK—Hal Wallis and Jack Saper, his production assistant, are here from Hollywood to confer with Joseph H. Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions and Charles M. Reagan, Paramount sales chief, on plans for releasing "You Came Along" and "Love Letters." "Along" is Wallis' third production for Paramount release.

While here Wallis will also confer with Lillian Hellman who is preparing the screenplay of "The Searching Wind," based on her Broadway play which he will produce. Other films in preparation are:

"The Crying Sisters," which Ayn Rand is scripting; "Whenever I Remember"; "The Perfect Marriage," from the play by Samuel Raphaelson; "Dishonorable Discharge," being developed by Vladimir Pozner from an original idea by John Farrow, and "The Life of Tschaikovsky" being written by Miss Rand.

Ascap President Taylor Weds Costume Designer

ARLINGTON, VA.—Deems Taylor, Ascap president, and Lucille Watson-Little, costume designer, were married this week. The couple met several months ago at Sarasota, Fla., winter quarters of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus, for which the bride designs costumes. Taylor's music is prominently featured in the circus this year.

The nuptials marked Taylor's second trip to the altar, he having been divorced from Mrs. Mary Kennedy Taylor in 1934. His present bride, daughter of George Watson-Little, veterinarian and dog specialist, is the youngest of three children, one of whom, Joseph Watson-Little, is a magazine illustrator.

Bader Buys Mystery Yarn For B'way Presentation

NEW YORK—David A. Bader of 20th-Fox's trade relations department has purchased an option on Emmet Lavery's dramatization of "Murder in a Nunnery," Eric Shepherd novel. In stage production the company will have no financial interest in the production, Bader says.

Fall presentation is planned. Bader is now negotiating for the services of a well known Broadway director.

Century to New Offices

NEW YORK—Century Circuit, Inc., operators of 36 theatres in Brooklyn and Long Island, has transferred its offices from the AP Bldg. in Radio City to its own building at 132 West 43rd St.

Allan Jackson in Holles' Berth

NEW YORK—Allan Jackson, CBS network newscaster, has taken over the WCBW news and analysis telecast formerly conducted by Ev Holles. Holles is now stationed in Chicago.



HE'LL ATTEND PREMIERE—Lieut. Gov. Joe R. Hanley, with his grandchildren, J. Clayton Wilcox, nine, and Jeffrey H. Wilcox, five, look over Warners' pressbook on "God Is My Co-Pilot," which is scheduled to open at Shea's Great Lakes Theatre, Buffalo, April 26, as a tribute to Curtiss-Wright employes. C. J. Latta, Warners' zone manager, is looking on.

Meyers Is Pilot in Bronx For Seventh War Loan

NEW YORK — Eugene Meyers, division supervisor of Loew's Theatres in The Bronx, has been named chairman of The Bronx theatres for the Seventh War Loan, making the sixth time he has served in this post.

Meyers has appointed Joseph DeLorenzo, RKO Theatres district manager, as co-chairman. Sam Coolick of Loew's and Vincent Liguori of RKO will handle publicity and special events.

The Bronx has been divided into eight districts with theatre managers acting as captains in charge of each district. The following managers will serve as captains: Ben Friedman, Skouras Crotona; Jerry DeRosa, Loew's Paradise; Paul Laube, Skouras Park Plaza; Gilbert Marbe, Loew's American; Herman Axelrod, Skouras Ward; Harry Rosenbaum, Loew's National; Joe Epstein, Loew's Spooner; George Ruggles, Loew's Burland, and Laurence Robiczek, J&J Earl Theatre.

Two WB Stars at Strand

NEW YORK—Helmut Dantine and Andrea King have ben engaged for personal appearances at the Strand next month during the engagement of "Escape in the Desert." Dantine has a leading role in the Warners feature. Miss King appeared in "God Is My Co-Pilot," a recent attraction at the Strand.

Safier in N. Y. for Talks

NEW YORK—Morris Safier, PRC western sales manager, was here last week from Los Angeles for conferences with Leon Fromkess and to meet Harry H. Thomas, new vice-president in charge of distribution and general sales manager.

Hicks in Hospital

NEW YORK—Condition of John W. Hicks jr., president of Paramount International, who recently observed his 25th anniversary in the industry was reported as "good" following an operation at the Memorial Hospital. Hicks is expected to leave the hospital soon.

Plenty of New Jobs As Television Grows

NEW YORK—Herbert E. Taylor jr., director of transmitter equipment sales for DuMont Laboratories, Inc., speaking at a meeting of the International Ass'n of Public Employment Services last week, said that television can provide directly productive employment for more than 700,000 people.

Television will create new jobs in the production, distribution and servicing of transmitting and receiving equipment, he said. It will affect virtually every other industry through its stimulation of consumer demand. He predicted that television will more than double the employment in radio production and distribution fields which had a 1941 peak of 308,000.

Shares of Bell and Howell On Sale by Underwriters

NEW YORK—Headed by Harriman Ripley & Co., Inc., an underwriting group this week offered 30,000 shares of Bell & Howell Co.'s 4¼ per cent cumulative preferred stock of $100 par value, and 150,000 shares of $10 par value common stock. The preferred was priced at $103.50 a share and the common at $15 a share.

Net proceeds from the sale of the preferred stock are to be added to the company's general funds. The common stock offered is outstanding and was sold to the underwriters by certain stockholders, including J. H. McNabb, president. None of the proceeds from the common shares is to be received by the company.

Network Elects Searle As a Vice-President

NEW YORK—General Manager Don Searle of the western division of the American Broadcasting Co. (Blue network), has been elected a vice-president of the organization. He will continue his present duties, operating from network headquarters in Hollywood.

A radio veteran of more than 20 years' experience, he became associated with the Blue network two years ago as manager of KGO, San Francisco. Prior to entering radio, Searle was a flier in World War I and subsequently an executive in the petroleum industry.

Purchase Bell Cinema

BROOKLYN—The ABB Holding Corp. has bought the building at 709-805 Washington Ave., containing stores and the Bell Cinema, from the General Council of Congregational Churches of the U.S. The property is assessed at $90,000.

Band Instruments Needed

NEW YORK—The army quartermaster corps will set up headquarters in the Macy's music department from April 16-21 for the purpose of purchasing band instruments for cash from the public in order to supply urgent needs of army bands.

"Dorian" Test Runs Set

NEW YORK—Five additional test engagements have been set for M-G-M's "The Picture of Dorian Gray," beginning April 26. The film is slated to open on that date at the Poli, Bridgeport; Poli, New Haven; Poli, Hartford; State, St. Louis and Loew's, Dayton.

"Back to Bataan" the Final Title

"Back to Bataan" is RKO's final title for the John Wayne-starring story of guerrilla warfare, hitherto called "The Invisible Army."

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Britons Say Postwar Films Will Be Better

Postwar British produced pictures will be sufficiently meritorious to compete favorably with Hollywood's product, in the opinion of Emeric Pressburger and Michael Powell, who produced and directed England's most pretentious picture since the beginning of hostilities, "Colonel Blimp." Pressburger and Powell are here for a look-see at the studios and on other business matters.

Despite the fact that British studios are operating at only about 50 per cent of capacity, because of destruction through bombings and the commandeering by the government of much studio space for storage purposes, they produced approximately 35 feature-length films in the past year.

British Technical Costs Lower

The visiting pair pointed out at a press conference, which was staged for them by United Artists' local publicity department, that the cost of making pictures in England, although it has increased about 50 per cent, is still considerably less than in Hollywood. They explained that ranking performers can demand comparable salaries, but that technical costs are considerably less. Upon these lower costs and a belief, which they say is shared by all British independent producers, that emphasis on the creative rather than the technical will result in better product, they predicated their opinion that England will give Hollywood stronger competition than ever before during the peace years to come.

Making it clear that they were not in a position officially to speak for J. Arthur Rank, they offered the opinion that it is his plan and ambition to do everything possible to dominate the world film market.

Powell and Pressburger also are producers of "The Silver Fleet," British-made drama being released by PRC in the U.S. While here, they were to discuss national exploitation campaign with Don McElwaine, PRC publicity and advertising director.

The Britons do business in England under the trade name of the Archers.

Tom Baily Returns East After Loan Sessions

After a four-day series of meetings in connection with industry participation in the coming bond drive, Tom Baily, member of the national Seventh War Loan committee, returned east. Baily is coordinator of the Hollywood division of WAC, on loan from the California Theatre Council as industry representative with the war finance division of the treasury department.

C. L. Lootens to Paramount

Charles L. Lootens, who has been production manager and executive at Republic several years, resigned and has taken a construction assignment at Paramount.

Pine and Thomas Hunting "Swamp Fire" Location

A three-week business trip has taken Bill Pine and Bill Thomas, Paramount producers, to New Orleans, Chicago and New York.

Location spots for their "Swamp Fire" will be the object of their New Orleans jaunt. In New York, they plan to view Broadway plays.

Production on their already scheduled "Shasta Dam" will begin upon their return to Hollywood.

Beethoven and Schubert Musicals Set by Universal

Plans for a musical in Technicolor and backgrounded against the lives of Ludwig von Beethoven and Franz Schubert are being made by Universal for midsummer shooting. Joseph Gershenson, executive producer, has set George Waggner to produce and direct.

Billy Kilder to Germany On a Propaganda Job

Having completed his work on "The Lost Weekend," Billy Wilder, Paramount director, left on OWI assignment in Germany.

Visger Back in Industry

PASCO, WASH.—Don Visger, Liberty manager before enlisting in the navy, is back in show business, this time as city manager of the Pasco and Liberty theatres. His assistant is Herbert Brindamour, who also is house manager of the Liberty.

Says Sweden Eager For American Film

American-made pictures are eagerly awaited in Sweden, according to Olle Nordemar, part owner of the Svenska Forenade, a theatre chain, and chief cameraman of A. B. Europa Film, who is in Hollywood to study government film making and to write a series of articles for Swedish film magazines. Nordemar conferred at the Warner studio with Arthur Edeson, whose camera work for "Casablanca" is used as a model by cameramen in Swedish studios, he says.

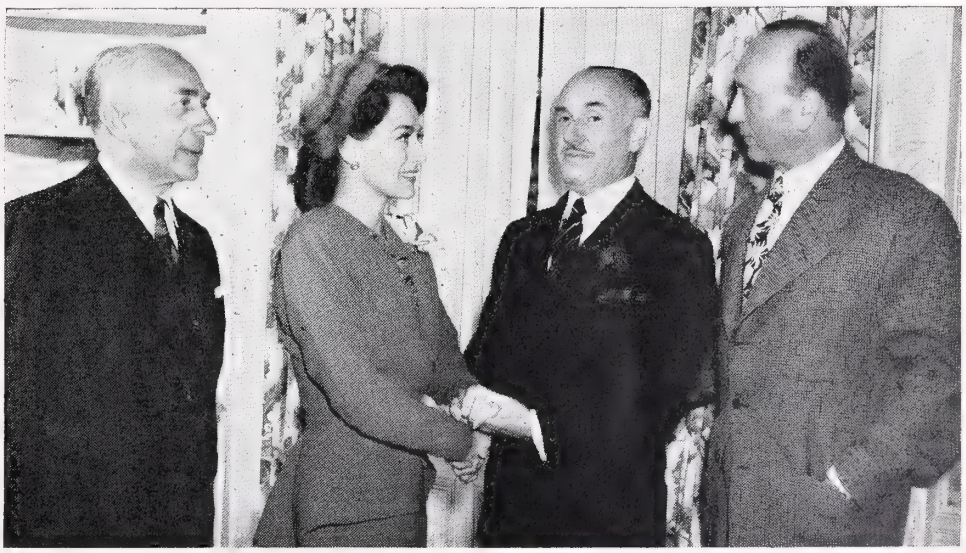
Dennison to the Rescue On Raw Stock Problems

United Artists' foreign film department chief, Earl Dennison, has been sent to the Hollywood studio on a temporary assignment to assist producers in ironing out their raw stock difficulties.

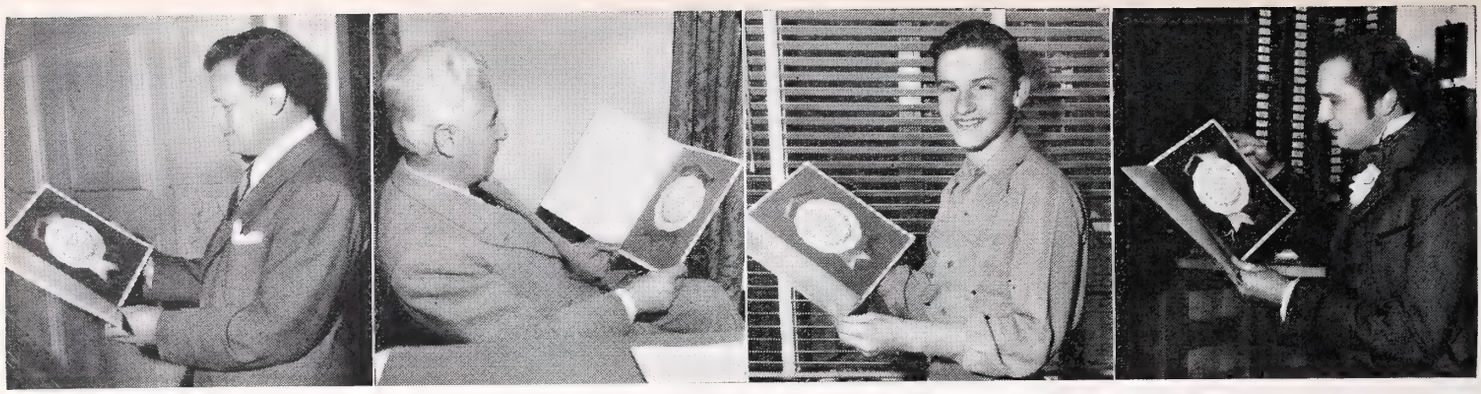
Dennison will remain here in an advisory capacity until the producers have made an accurate inventory and filed their bids correctly with WPB.

Discuss "Blue Skies"

Irving Berlin was back in Hollywood from the east for discussions with Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, regarding "Blue Skies," for which a producer and a director soon are to be designated. The film, co-starring Bing Crosby and Paul Draper, was to have been produced and directed by the late Mark Sandrich.



HER FIRST FOR WARNERS—Joan Crawford is congratulated by Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer, upon the completion of her first picture for Warners, "Mildred Pierce." On the left is Harry M. Warner, and on the right Michael Curtiz, director.



20th-FOX CASHES IN ON PARLEY — When 20th-Fox studio starts garnering this publication's monthly Blue Ribbon Awards, apparently there's no stopping the Westwood Wonders. Just when news arrived that the National Screen Council had selected "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" as the most outstanding picture released during March, a group of Foxites were posing proudly with the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon plaques which were awarded them because "The Keys of the Kingdom" was voted "the winnah" for February. They are, left to right: Joseph L. Mankiewicz, who produced and wrote the screenplay for "Kingdom," the latter chore in collaboration with Nunnally Johnson; John M. Stahl, who directed; Roddy McDowall; Vincent Price, members of the cast.

SAG's Depleted Board Gets 7 New Members

Leon Ames, Marsha Hunt, Harpo Marx, Agnes Moorehead, Ralph Morgan, Robert Shayne and Robert Young have consented to fill the unexpired terms of members of the Screen Actors Guild board of directors who, because of pressure of other work or commitments which take them away from Hollywood, have resigned since the last annual election.

Present officers of the SAG are: George Murphy, president; Paul Harvey, first vice-president; Walter Abel, second vice-president; Lucile Gleason, recording secretary; Russell Hicks, treasurer, and John Dales jr., executive secretary.

The complete new board of director is composed of:

Leon Ames
Edward Arnold
Anne Baxter
James Cagney
Joseph Cotten
John Garfield
Alan Hale
Porter Hall
Lena Horne
Marsha Hunt
Rex Ingram
Boris Karloff
Roscoe Karns
Harpo Marx
Robert Montgomery
Agnes Moorehead
Ralph Morgan
Dennis O'Keefe
Walter Pidgeon
Dick Powell
John Qualen
Anne Revere
Franchot Tone
Regis Toomey
Dorothy Tree
Robert Shayne
Richard Whorf
Jane Wyman
Robert Young

Board members who resigned are: Charles Boyer, Laraine Day, Philip Merivale, Lloyd Nolan, Charles Trowbridge, John Wayne and Morgan Wallace.

Preview at Warner Studio Of "Springfield" for P-TA

Officials of local and state Parent-Teachers associations attended a special studio screening of Warners' "It Happened in Springfield." The committee included Mrs. Edward Race, president, and Mrs. Harold Worth, vice-president of the Los Angeles district P-TA; Mrs. Alpha Wilson, motion picture chairman of the local group; Mrs. Leo B. Hodges, state motion picture chairman; Mrs. J. W. Parvis, state preview chairman, and Mrs. Grace Soderland, assistant audio-visual director of the Los Angeles city schools.

Later a special screening of the film was held at the Wiltern Theatre for Los Angeles clergy, news commentators and trade press men. Representatives of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish churches were present.

Sign Three for Cast of "The Web"

Ruth Ford, Harry Tyler and Almira Sessions have been signed by Walter Colmes for "The Web," Republic production.

SAG Rededicates Actors To Continue Polio Drive

A special board meeting called by George Murphy, president of the Screen Actors Guild, a resolution concerning the death of President Roosevelt was adopted unanimously. The actors rededicated themselves to the annual infantile paralysis campaign in these words:

"Resolved, that in honor of his memory we dedicate ourselves to continued service in the annual March of Dimes campaign for the victims of infantile paralysis."

The resolution forwarded to Mrs. Roosevelt and to President Truman, also pledged the continued cooperation of Hollywood screen actors in the war effort. In expressing sympathy to the late President's family, the resolution stated that "the influence of his lifelong endeaver to bring about a better social order will never die."

Hollywood At War

Illustrating the extent to which Hollywood personalities are devoting their time and their talent to the war effort is the fact that on one mid-April day nearly 50 Hollywood Victory Committee volunteers were on the USO-Camp Shows schedule for California camp and hospital appearances to entertain GI audiences.

Burns and Allen, Harpo Marx, Muriel Goodspeed, Connie Haines, Vera Ellen, Robert Armstrong, Virginia Carroll and Valentine and Evelyn were scheduled for the Pasadena regional hospital.

A second troupe wound up a three-day tour of naval installations in the San Diego area. In the cast were James Burke, Charles Judels, the Nilsson Twins, Barto and Stan, Jeannie Dorrell, Darlene Garner, Joan Arnold and June Alpina.

Play at Ft. MacArthur

Marilyn Maxwell, John Conte, Carol Hughes, Frank Faylen, Fuzzy Knight, Linda Scott, Jean Aloise, the Todds and Gloria Elwood played at Ft. MacArthur.

A troupe including Vivian Blaine, Joe de Rita, Marion Bell, Roy Benson, Mickey Gagner, Shirley Cornell, Isobel Johnson, Paul Garrets, Betty Yeaton, Gloria Faye, Francis Lustgarden and Christy and Gould spent two days at Fairfield, Beale and Mather air force bases in the Sacramento area.

Nor was that intensive pace the exception as is revealed by the following recapitulation of the remainder of the week's activities:

Gary Cooper, Kay Kyser, Jerry Colonna, Edward G. Robinson and Ken Carpenter waxed the Command Performance overseas platter. Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Carmen Cavallero, the Merry Macs and Don Wilson were set to record a Mail Call transcription. Monty Woolley, Michele Morgan, William Bendix, Connie Haines, Mel Blanc and Harry Mitchell were assigned by HVC to make a two-way appearance at Hollywood Canteen. In addition to playing to GI audience, stars recorded a GI Journal transcription for overseas. Rita Hayworth waxed a platter for the coordinator of inter-American affairs.

Rains in First Bond Tour

First of the precampaign tours set by HVC on behalf of the Seventh War Loan opened with Claude Rains starting a series of war plant appearances in Philadelphia. Rains, interrupting a vacation on his Pennsylvania farm, spearheaded a drive in the Philadelphia area to increase pay roll deduction bond purchases before official opening of the bond drive May 14.

Approval was given for the appearances of screen stars in the Eighth Canadian Victory Loan drive. Pat O'Brien was set as the first of several personalities who will highlight Dominion rallies. O'Brien was to feature the kickoff event at Toronto April 18. Joel McCrea and Frances Dee are scheduled to appear at Montreal April 25 and, following a series of rallies in Ontario, will go to Ottawa for a rally with government leaders on April 30. Edgar Bergen and Dick Powell, with George Murphy and Claire Trevor will feature a Vancouver rally May 2, with the other two players staying over for a week of appearances in Alberta. Claude Rains will go to Montreal May 9.

Back From 30,000 Mile Tour

Sonja Henie left for a tour of naval hospitals in the San Francisco Bay area. On a two-day assignment she visited installations at Treasure Island, Oak Knoll and Mare Island.

Martha O'Driscoll returned to Hollywood from an 11-week Pacific tour. Martha, with Beryl Cuffe, dancer; Francine Fay, accordionist, and Comedian Sid Marion, flew 30,000 miles to cover island areas including Hawaii, New Caledonia, the New Hebrides, Guadalcanal, Tulagi and the Russells. They played to audiences as large as 18,000 men, visited hospitals wherever they went and the girls literally wore out their shoes dancing at enlisted men's parties. The troupe played more than 150 shows, most of them in theatres where GIs ordinarily gather nightly to watch Hollywood pictures.

RKO List Contains Ten Filmusicals

RKO which at one time was prominent in the field of filmusical production because of the popular Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers starrers, again is showing a preference for tune films and has a greater number of such pictures on its agendum than at any time during the last six years.

Now being edited is "George White's Scandals," starring Joan Davis and Jack Haley, with Martha Holliday and Phillip Terry in the romantic leads. George White produced it, Jack Gross and Nat Holt as executive producers, and Felix Feist directed, with Ernst Matray staging the musical numbers.

Also in the cutting room is "Sing Your Way Home," starring Jack Haley, Anne Jeffreys, Marcy McGuire and Glenn Vernon. Bert Granet produced, Anthony Mann directed.

"Radio Stars" Before Cameras

Currently before the cameras is "Radio Stars on Parade," novelty comedy musical starring Wally Brown, Alan Carney and Frances Langford, with Ralph Edwards and his Truth or Consequences troupe. Ben Stoloff is producing; Leslie Goodwins, directing.

Mexico's comedian, Cantinflas, and George Murphy will star in "The Magnificent Tramp," which John Auer will produce and direct, with Charles O'Curran staging the musical numbers. Another Auer musical will be "Sweet Georgia Brown," featuring Lena Horne and an all-negro cast.

Eddie Cantor is readying his new musical, with a western background, in which he will costar with Joan Davis. Felix Feist will direct and Ernst Matray stage the musical numbers.

Sinatra to Croon in "Bar"

Frank Sinatra will croon again for RKO in "Bar of Music," which Robert Fellows will produce, with Warren Duff as associate producer.

Marcy McGuire and Glenn Vernon will star in "Ding Dong Williams," a musical based upon the Richard English magazine stories. Herman Schlom will produce.

Completing the list of ten musicals are "Riverboat Rhythm," which Nat Holt will produce, and a picturization of George Abbott's Broadway hit, "Beat the Band," also on the John Auer slate.

SOEG Drums Out Sextet, All Metro Studio Clerks

Six members of the Screen Office Employes Guild Local 1391 have been expelled by a majority vote of the members present at the regular April meeting of the union.

Margaret Youngworth Calihan, Margaret Selsor, Eric G. Warner, Florence E. Warner, Virginia Woodbury and a Norma Jean Wright, all clerical employes at Metro studios, were drummed out when the membership voted concurrence in the recommended decision and penalties of the trial board which heard charges against the sextet, all of whom were "found guilty of violating eight sections in the constitution of the International Brotherhood of Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators, with which the SOEG is affiliated."

Dmytryk Scans Argentine For "Cornered" Spots

RKO Director Edward Dmytryk flew to Buenos Aires in search for film location sites and backgrounds. The trip is to find locations, make arrangements for their use, and ascertain costs of filming a large part of "Cornered," next Dick Powell vehicle in which most of the action takes place in that locale.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

FOR THE motion picture industry to win an occasional round in its continuous bout with public relations is noteworthy. When two such frames are snatched within one week, loud and long huzzas are indicated.

First of the victories lies in perfected plans for the operation of a San Francisco theatre for the exclusive attendance of official delegates, press secretaries and others holding credentials to the Peace Conference which opens in the Bay City on April 25. The Alcazar, a National Theatres showcase, has been donated for the purpose by Charles P. Skouras, NT president, and has been renamed the United Nations Theatre. Pictures will be exhibited daily for the conferees with announcement of the programs being a part of official convention bulletins.

Programs will be in charge of an industry committee, composed of Claude Lee, Fay Reeder, who will be in San Francisco during the conference; Jason Joy and Charles Einfeld in Hollywood and Howard Dietz, Arthur DeBra and Glen Allvine in New York. Operation of the theatre will be a contribution of the industry. Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, is the executive chairman of the committee cooperating with the government.

Here is a gesture, comparatively simple and inexpensive, which will build more international good will for motion pictures than many a more pretentious venture. A deep bow to Messrs. Balaban, Skouras, Einfeld, Dietz, et al., for its conception and execution.

And at the same time that the above-described undertaking was announced, appeared on the nation's bookstands a book titled "Movie Lot to Beachhead," which graphically and impressively narrates the story of how "The Motion Picture Goes to War and Prepares for the Future." Published by Doubleday, Doran and prepared by the editors of Look magazine, the tome crowds into 300 interest-commanding, stirring pages of vivid pictures and well-written text the highlights of "how movieland changed golden slippers for GI boots, make believe for reality . . . what the industry contributed—what it learned—how it is using its new knowledge for postwar plans."

If widely distributed and read—and in its own selfish interests the industry should make sure the volume receives such attention—the book can render a truly great service in acquainting the public with the thoroughly magnificent and praiseworthy contribution Hollywood and its people have made, are making and will continue to make to the win-the-war effort.

➡

In fairness, it must be reported that Francis S. Harmon of the War Activities Committee was instrumental in bringing to culmination both of the salubrious public relations undertakings. He headed an all-industry committee that went to Washington and presented the San Francisco United Nations theatre idea to the state department, which was quick to accept the offer. He worked closely with the editors of Look in the compilation of the material that went into "Movie Lot to Beachhead."

But, while rendering unto WAC's Harmon the plethora of credit which is his just due, one criticism of the book can be voiced. It touches but lightly upon the work of the Hollywood Victory Committee, chairmanned by Kenneth Thomson. Without the splendid organizational efforts, the constant and sometimes gruelling activities of HVC, much of the material which went into the volume never would have been created, most especially that sizable part which treats with Hollywood personalities' entertainment of service men and women, at home and abroad.

This unfortunate oversight may or may not have stemmed from a bit of widely-known interindustry pique and politics. If so, the slight, which will mean nothing to the public but is very obvious to those in Hollywood familiar with HVC's sterling performance, is all the more regrettable.

➡

"Yearly designation on 'George White's Scandals of 1945' has been dropped by RKO with result that the filmusical will be known from now on as 'George White's Scandals.'"

Time—and the master mind title-changers—march on.

➡

The same studio recently previewed its current horror epic, "Zombia on Broadway," one sequence of which has a man-bites-dog intonation, inasmuch as press agents are turned into Zombies.

Praise Pundit Perry Lieber's department is testimony to the fact that the reverse is the usual order.

➡

Should Metro's "Weekend at the Waldorf" be dual-billed with RKO's proposed "The Diary of a Chambermaid," a very revealing program should result.

➡

"RKO BANS SPORTS"
—Tradepaper headline.

There should be an appreciable improvement in Nat James' financial position, assuming the ban includes that pastime to which he laughingly refers as his gin rummy game.

➡

Whitney Bolton, Columbia's chief campanologist, continues to keep the Purple Heart department working overtime with his harrowing tales of war's rigors on the Hollywood front. Latest tidbit:

"Larry Parks, who escaped without a scratch while on hazardous location work in the upper reaches of the San Gabriels . . . suffered a fractured toe when he tripped on a stairway at Actors' Lab."

➡

Anita Loos has been signed by 20th-Fox to do the screenplay for the picture version of Louella Parson's book, "The Gay Illiterate." Resultantly, when the main title appears, complete with writing credits, spectators may have to guess as to who supplied the gayety. There will be no doubt as concerns the illiteracy.

➡

In the unusually attractive, multi-colored advertisements which are directed at the trade on behalf of the RKO Radio-International Pictures "It's a Pleasure," appears the catchline: "Sonja Henie Skates, Dances, Romances."

It is verbatim the line used by Monogram's Lou Lifton in exploiting "Lady, Let's Dance," in which Belita "Skates, Dances, Romances."

Probably a mere coincidence but certainly testimony to the fact that the obvious and unoriginal are still the dominant facets of motion picture advertising.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

JOHNNY MACK BROWN will open a personal appearance tour of southern theatres on May 5, in his home state, Alabama, at the Grand Theatre in Huntsville.

Blurbers

Columbia

A Screen Snapshots subject on the Argentine motion picture industry will be filmed by RALPH STAUB who will fly there soon after VE-Day.

Paramount

Resigning from David O. Selznick's staff, FRANK DAUGHERTY will handle publicity for the Cecil B. DeMille unit.

United Artists

An international staff to publicize and exploit Sol Lesser's production, "Paris Canteen" is being organized by JERRY HOFFMAN, publicity director for Lesser. A Paris office already has been opened with two writers and one photographer. Hoffman also will appoint press representatives in New York, London and Paris.

Briefies

Metro

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK's latest Technicolor Traveltalk, "The King's Highway," will have for its subject various missions from San Diego to San Luis Rey.

Paramount

GEORGE PAL has set "A Likely Story" as his next Puppetoon, which will feature his two puppets, "Punchy" and "Judy."

RKO Radio

"It's Your Move," is title of next Edgar Kennedy two-reel comedy, to be directed by HAL YATES with GEORGE R. BILSON producing.

Warners

JACK SCHOLL has been assigned to meg "Turkey in the Straw," one-reel hillbilly band short.

"Rubber River," two-reel Technicolor short subject based on rubber industry in South America, set for immediate production by GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD.

Cleffers

Columbia

WERNER R. HEYMANN assigned background score for "Kiss and Tell."

Metro

Score for "No Leave, No Love" handed to SAMMY FAIN and RALPH FREED.

Signed to a term pact as arranger and orchestrator, ROBERT FRANKLYN will work with George Stoll on composition for "Her Highness and the Bellboy."

Monogram

EDWARD KAY set as musical director for "Sunbonnet Sue."

RKO Radio

ROBERT EMMETT DOLAN signed as musical director on "The Bells of St. Mary's," Rainbow production.

Universal

MILTON ROSEN named musical director of "Shady Lady."

Loanouts

Paramount

MIKHAIL RASUMNY borrowed for comedy part in B. G. DeSylva's "The Stork Club."

Meggers

Columbia

RICHARD WALLACE signed to meg two pictures during next year.

"The Stroke of Twelve," an original, being developed by Martin Field, will be the next in the Boston Blackie series of Chester Morris starrers. ALEXIS THURN-TAXIS will produce.

Metro

"Lucrezia Borgia" set for production by JOE PASTERNAK with HENRY KOSTER directing.

Monogram

RALPH MURPHY will meg "Sunbonnet Sue."

PRC Pictures

JACK GRANT assigned by Leon Fromkess as associate producer of "End of Night." Story is an original mystery melodrama by Sheldon Leonard who is set for top male role. Scripting by Arthur St. Claire.

RKO Radio

Megging of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn" slated for NORMAN McLEOD.

WILLIAM BERKE has been ticketed to pilot "Ding Dong Williams," first of the series which will feature a band leader. It's a Herman Schlom production.

Universal

Added to the production slate of JOHN GRANT is another Abbott and Costello starrer, "For Love or Money." ELWOOD ULLMAN has been set to write the screenplay.

Warners

JEAN NEGULESCO assigned directing chore on "Humoresque."

Options

Columbia

Option of LOREN TINDALL lifted.

CHARLES STARRETT began his 11th year at the studio when his contract was renewed for another 12 months.

ANITA LOUISE's option picked up.

ADELE JERGENS' option picked up for another year.

Top femme role in "I Love a Bandleader" returns LESLIE BROOKS to screen after a leave of absence of several months.

Metro

Key role in "This Strange Adventure" to TOM TULLY.

CHILL WILLS gets featured spot in "The Yearling."

"The Postman Always Rings Twice" cast adds CECIL KELLAWAY.

Role in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood" set for BUNNY WATERS.

Romantic lead in "Two Sisters From Boston" slated for PETER LAWFORD.

One of the two romantic lead roles in "The Kissing Bandit" set for JOHN CARROLL.

Monogram

Added to the cast of "Main Street Girl" are: VINCE BARNETT, JACK KENNY and JOSEPH FORTE.

Paramount

OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND ticketed for star role in "To Each His Own."

Four comedians, BILLY BLETCHER, BILLY BENEDICT, FRANK MITCHELL and EDDIE KANE, engaged for Pine-Thomas production, "People Are Funny."

Options have been exercised for six months on MAE BUSCH, JANE STARR, MARJORIE RAYMOND, AUDREY KORN and RENE RANDALL.

Republic

CAL SHRUM has been set for a featured role in "Dakota."

RKO Radio

THOMAS LOWDIN and LANE CHANDLER join cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever," International production.

A featured role in "Ding Dong Williams" ticketed for ANNE JEFFREYS.

"The Fabulous Invalid" to star MAUREEN O'HARA.

EVE ARDEN gets femme lead in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

ANN RICHARDS signed to new pact.

20th Century-Fox

FRED MacMURRAY assigned title role in "American Guerilla in the Philippines."

Universal

Cast of "On Stage Everybody" adds JACK OAKIE.

MOYYNA McGILL and SARAH ALLGOOD signed for "Uncle Harry."

Option of THOMAS GOMEZ exercized for another year.

Warners

ERUCE BENNETT joins cast of "Danger Signal."

FLORENCE BATES cast in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

"Danger Signal" cast adds JOYCE COMPTON and ROSEMARY DE CAMP.

Assignment given to DONALD WOODS in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

Cast of "Danger Signal" adds JOYCE HORNE and EUGENE ALDEN.

ESTHER DALE inked for role in "A Stolen Life."

Scripters

Columbia

OSCAR SAUL's contract has been renewed for another year.

EARL FENTON engaged for screenplay chore on "Pardon My Past," Mutual production.

Republic

Scrivening chore for "Rainbow Over Texas" handed to JERRY SACKHEIM.

RKO Radio

"Tomorrow Is Here" scripting chore assigned to BESS TAFFEL.

NORMAN HOUSTON has been assigned to script "Sunset Pass," fourth in the series of Zane Grey westerns. Herman Schlom set to produce, with Sid Rogell as executive producer.

20th Century-Fox

ANITA LOOS inked to script "The Gay Illiterate."

Universal

Scripting of "The Black Angel" slated for ROY CHANSLOR.

OSCAR BRODNEY has been reassigned to work on second Joan Davis starring comedy for Warren Wilson, producer.

Story Buys

Columbia

Rights to "Millie's Daughter," novel by Donald Henderson Clark, have been purchased and added to Michel Kraike's production slate. First screen treatment is being written by Guy Andros.

Metro

Sinclair Lewis' "Cass Timberlane" has been acquired and scheduled for an all-star cast. Yarn is the love tale of a middle-aged judge in a small Minnesota town and his young, restless wife who, bored with life, goes to New York and indulges in a romance with her husband's best friend. To be published in October by Random House, the story was purchased from galley proofs.

Paramount

Screenrights to a novel by George Millburn have been purchased. As yet unnamed, story concerns life in a small American farm town.

RKO Radio

An original for the screen by Nathanial Curtis, "Mike Duffy Presents," has been acquired as a starring vehicle for Pat O'Brien, who will portray a fast-talking showman. Curtis will do the screenplay.

United Artists

"A Paris Tous Les Deux" ("Together in Paris"), French novel by Maurice DeKobra, has been purchased by Arnold Pressburger. Author DeKobra will do the English outline.

Warners

Purchased from the galley proofs was "Stallion Road," a novel by Stephen Longstreet. Alex Gottlieb will produce the story which deals with a Montana rancher and horsebreeder.

Technically

Columbia

After seven years as an operative cameraman, GEORGE KELLY has been promoted to first cameraman and handed, as his initial assignment, "Outlaws of the Rockies."

RUSSELL METTY engaged to lens "Pardon My Past" for Mutual Productions.

MILTON STIEFEL named as dialog director on "Rusty."

Metro

Art director duties on "The Kissing Bandit" handed to RANDALL DUELL.

Film editing on "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood" set for BEN LEWIS.

Monogram

Production crew for "Sunbonnet Sue" includes WILLIAM STROHBACK, production manager; BOBBY RAY, assistant director; HARRY NEUMANN, cameraman; IRA HOKE, still man, and RICHARD CURRIER, film editor.

Universal

JEAN BANKS assigned to handle dialog on "Hear That Trumpet Talk."

PAUL IVANO appointed cameraman on "Uncle Harry."

Title Changes

PRC Pictures

THE DANGEROUS INTRUDER is new tag for "The Intruder."

United Artists

New tag for David L. Loew's "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" is THE SOUTHERNER.

Stromberg Moving 'Widow' To General Service Studio

To coordinate operations, Hunt Stromberg Productions will move from the California studio to General Service where "The Young Widow" is scheduled to be filmed. Ida Lupino, who was to star in the picture, has checked out, reportedly because of unsatisfactory script. Her successor has not yet been named.

Writer-Producer Leaves

At his own request, Fred Finklehoffe, writer-producer at Metro, was released from his contract, to take effect immediately.

Paramounteers Lead Week of Little Travel

Paramounteers were prominent in what small travel news the week produced.

Director Mitchell Leisen trained in from New York where he spent two weeks seeing Broadway shows in search for possible new screen material. Lewis Allen, another Paramount pilot who has just completed a directing chore on loanout to RKO, left for Gotham where he will spend two weeks gathering plays and attending the New York opening of his Paramount picture, "The Unseen," at the Globe Theatre. Jerry Fairbanks piloted his own plane to Manhattan for talks with Russell Holman, Paramount eastern production head, and Oscar Morgan, general short subjects sales manager, regarding the new season's product and deal.

Sam Katz and Nat Wolff, Metro executives, left for New York for a short business trip. Irene, executive designer for Metro, was another New York visitor.

After three weeks in Hollywood looking at new product and conferring with United Artists producers, Carl Leserman, general sales manager, took off for his home office headquarters. UA Producer Lester Cowan was readying a trip to New York to powwow with his distribution head, George Schaefer.

Also returning to New York after studio huddles was James Mulvey, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions. John LeRoy Johnston, director of publicity and advertising for International Pictures, flew to New York to discuss promotional campaigns with Sales Manager A. W. Schwalberg and RKO distribution executives. He will return April 27, stopping off at Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis. Director Mervyn LeRoy was back at his desk at RKO studio after a talent hunt through the east.

Maria Puts Thumbs Down On Univ's "Frontier Gal"

Finding it not to her liking, Maria Montez has turned thumbs down on the Universal Technicolor western, "Frontier Gal." The picture, with Rod Cameron in the male lead, was scheduled for shooting this month.

Studio spokesmen insist that Miss Montez will either accept her role or face suspension. A replacement will be made, if necessary, so that film can be shot on schedule.

Miss Montez returned recently from New York with her husband, Lieut. Pierre Aumont of the French army.

Industry to Participate In Roosevelt Memorial

Full support of the Hollywood motion picture industry was guaranteed by producer, in answer to a request by Mayor Bowron and his committee for industry participation in a civic memorial program honoring the late President Roosevelt. The memorial is planned for April 23 in the Hollywood Bowl.

Representing the mayor were Edmund Cook, George Herbert, Jean Hersholt and Willard Keith.

UA Claims Priority Right On Borgia's Life Story

United Artists Producer Edward Small has issued a statement claiming priority right to a biographical feature predicated upon t life of Lucrezia Borgia and to the use of the famous poisoner's name as the picture's title. Small's alleged right to the material was declared immediately following an announcement by Metro that it had assigned Joe Pasternak to make a color film on the same subject and with the same tag.



HE SETS A GOOD TABLE—In submitting the above "art," Lynn Farnol, chief publicist for Samuel Goldwyn, undertakes to establish two facts: That Samuel Goldwyn "sets a good table"—as they say in the middle west—and that publicity and advertising men are as appreciative—almost—of free victuals as is Hollywood's hungry press.

Top: Although their expressions belie both of the above premises, Farnol contends that the people in the group were really very happy when the picture was taken. Left to right they are Buck Singer of the Buchanan Advertising Agency; Terry Turner, RKO exploiteer from the home office; Actress Vera-Ellen; Farnol, himself; Arthur Menken, manager of Buchanan's recently-opened Hollywood office; Virginia Mayo, more glamor; and Barret McCormick, RKO Radio's director of advertising and publicity. Hidden from the lens are Roma Burton and Eugene Murphy.

Center: McCormick (the one without the sweater) has just vouchsafed an opinion, using his 1945 double-action vouchsafer, to Virginia Mayo. According to Farnol, the vouchsafing concerns Miss Mayo's work in the forthcoming Goldwyn-RKO release, "Wonder Man."

Bottom: Terry Turner and Vera-Ellen apparently have just been engaging in a bit of "have you heard this one?"

Two Monogram Deals

Two circuit deals for Monogram's 1944-45 product have been signed by the Philadelphia exchange, according to word received by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. These are the Affiliated circuit, with 13 theatres in Pennsylvania and Delaware, and the H. Chertcoff circuit, with seven houses in Pennsylvania.

Exploiteer to OWI Assignment

Bob Joseph, a Hunt Stromberg exploiteer, has resigned to join the OWI. He reports at San Francisco this month for a European assignment.

Angeleno Grosses Sag; 'Yours' Alone at Top

LOS ANGELES—In sharp contrast to last week's high grosses, first run houses suffered a drop in each instance, with seven theatres reporting an even 100. In its second week, Paramount's "Practically Yours" at the Hollywood Paramount stood out at 150, while Warners' "Roughly Speaking" in its third week continued on an even keel of 125.

(Average is 100)

Chinese and Uptown—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M).....115
Downtown Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Double Exposure** (Para), 2nd wk.....113
Egyptian and Ritz—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 100
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), 3rd wk. 100
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col), 2nd wk.....100
Hollywood Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk. 150
Los Angeles—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 85
State—Same as Chinese and Uptown.....125
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd wk. 125

"Thunderhead" Easily Takes Honors At the Aladdin Theatre, Denver

DENVER—"Thunderhead" with "Circumstantial Evidence" at the Aladdin easily took the percentage honors on a moveover. "It's a Pleasure" with "The Great Mike" was good enough to get one of the infrequent holdovers at the Orpheum, largest house here.

Aladdin—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 200
Denham—**Practically Yours** (Para), 3rd wk.; **Double Exposure** (Para) 130
Denver—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 160
Esquire—Same as Denver 150
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Great Mike** (PRC) 165
Paramount—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....165
Rialto—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk.....150

"Caballeros" Gets Big Welcome In Good Week at Seattle

SEATTLE—With the school Easter vacation in this city, theatre business was at its peak. After the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt all theatres in this area remained closed until 6 p. m. last Saturday.

Blue Mouse—**Song of the Islands** (Para); **Skylark** (Para), reissues 140
Fifth Avenue—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO), 2nd wk. 175
Liberty—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Let's Go Steady** (Col) 140
Music Box—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....140
Music Hall—**Three Is a Family** (UA); **Dangerous Passage** (Para) 160
Orpheum—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO); **House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd wk. 150
Palomar—**Docks of New York** (Mono), plus **Huntz Hall** in person on stage.....170
Paramount—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 160

"Velvet" the Favorite Contender at Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO—A popular magazine said, "It's foolish and wonderful," and the bay area eliminated the foolish by chalking up a barometer reading of 160 for the first week of "National Velvet" at the Warfield Theatre. Competition was keen the opening week for the film with the Golden Gate in its second week of a bang-up show, "It's a Pleasure," plus Alan Jones and Jean Parker on the stage and the United Artists Theatre opening of "Brewster's Millions."

Esquire—**Sudan** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ)..115
Fox—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **The Jade Mask** (Mono) 110
Golden Gate—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk., plus **Alan Jones, Jean Parker** on stage.....150
Paramount—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **The Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono).....130
State—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....130
St. Francis—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), **Fashion Model** (Mono), 2nd wk. 130
Tivoli—Same as Esquire 115
United Artists—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **I Love a Mystery** (Col).....150
Warfield—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Isle of Tabu** (Para) 160

LOS ANGELES

Dave Cockrill, operator of Denver's Denham Theatre, made a brief business visit to Los Angeles and viewed a number of completed Paramount pictures . . . George Carrington, president, and Harry Bessey, vice-president, of the Altec-Lansing Corp., are back from New York.

Jess W. Bace of the Bace Theatre, Ford City, died April 12 . . . Ezra Stern, Filmrow lawyer, was back from New York where he went on business for one of his clients . . . Booking on the Row were Frank Ullman of the Broadway Theatre, El Centro, and George Fink, Coronet, San Diego.

Harry Raskin, president of the Exhibitors Service Co., has returned from a business trip to Tucson and Phoenix . . . Vincent Murphy, Paramount salesman, is the father of twin boys . . . Rubin Snadow of the Central Theatre Corp., has a baby daughter, born April 11 at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

SEATTLE

Filmrow was shocked by the unexpected death of Emma Peterson, the former Emma Morse, in her 20th year with the film exchanges. She was head inspector at Metro at the time of her death and for many years was with J. T. Sheffield.

Milt Overmire, field engineer for Altec Corp., has resigned to accept a position in Hollywood in electronic engineering. Milt is succeeded by Bruce Mewborn, Norfolk, Va. . . . Lieut. Bill Thompson, welfare and recreation officer for the 17th naval district, has been transferred to Washington, D. C.

A large gathering from Filmrow went to Spokane to attend the dinner given to George Mitchell, salesman east of the mountains, for United Artists. George has donned an army uniform . . . Guy Navarre, ill for some time, now is convalescing at home . . . Pat and Mrs. Higgins left for New York, and while east will attend the graduation at Annapolis of their son Bill.

Hal and Mrs. Murphy of Olympia report their son Dick is with the Patton army in Germany and Jack is stationed in California . . . Al and Mrs. O'Camp left for Los Angeles where Al will exploit for RKO . . . Sgt. Tony Filigno, former booker for 20th-Fox, later salesman for PRC, was on the Row and just back from Germany.

Jack Sampson received a letter from Joe Roberts, now a major in military intelligence in Italy, which enclosed the billing of a former Ringling Bros. act now doing its stuff in Italy . . . Claud Morris, exploitation manager from the New York offices of Samuel Goldwyn, was here in the interest of the forthcoming Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man," to be released this summer.

Doc Singelow went to Portland . . . Mickey De Leo was in from Port Townsend . . . Girls in the National Screen office gave a party at the home of Georgina Angeles for Norma Hansen, who is to be married soon . . . John Howay has arrived from San Francisco where he was discharged from the navy . . . Chief Ellis, navy at Whitby Island, was in booking . . . Grover and Elsie Kirkley were back from the Spokane trip . . . Lieut. Bob Estil of the naval welfare division sends greetings from the Philippines. Bob was former salesman for Paramount in this area.



SNOW FAILS TO DAMPEN ARDOR OF SEVENTH LOAN CHAIRMEN—Winter in Denver featured two feet of snow, but the "unusual" fall failed to place any damper upon the spirits and enthusiasm of conferees of a dozen western states meeting to launch the Seventh War Loan. From left to right in the strip: Rick Ricketson, Colorado exhibitor chairman, welcomes Charles P. Skouras, honorary national chairman, to the Denver meeting. Next: Skouras again, extending a greeting to O. N. "Bill" Srere, co-chairman of the theatres' WFC for southern California; Mort Goodman, co-chairman of publicity, and others. Next: Seymour Peiser, publicity co-chairman, southern California; George Bowser, president of FWC Theatres, and exhibitor co-chairman for southern California; booted Sam Shain, intra-industry chairman for the campaign; Robert W. Selig, Fox district manager and member of the Colorado committee.

Thanks for your fine response!

Wayne Ball

in behalf of the entire personnel of the Los Angeles branch, Columbia Pictures

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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Showmen Start a Bond Queen Contest in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY—The Utah motion picture committee for the state's Seventh War Loan is first to start activities in Utah's bond drive. A statewide contest has been announced, jointly sponsored by the committee and the Salt Lake Tribune, to crown a war bond queen for the state.

The contest will begin May 7 and conclude with the coronation of a queen on July 4. All bonds bought after April 9 count in the contest, however. The contest works this way:

Communities throughout the state have received instructions to issue contest blanks with every bond purchased by cash or on the pay roll savings plan. The purchaser gets one vote with each $18.75 spent on war bonds. To be considered a nominee in the contest, a girl must represent $5,000 in bond purchases at the close of the nominating period, May 27. Any girl may have her name entered in the nominating race by informing her local war bond drive contest committee chairman, who in turn will inform local civic, church and patriotic groups of her desire. They may then support her by casting their ballots when they buy bonds. These organizations are being encouraged to work for their candidate by pooling their war bond purchase ballots.

The nominating period ends May 27, when all girls between the ages of 18 and 26 who desire to be entered in the contest must have the required number of war bond purchases representing their names. The community contest ends June 20 and the county contest June 26. County war bond committees will conduct the countywide contests. Candidates will be judged on the basis of 75 per cent for their war bond sales achievements and 25 per cent on their queenlike qualities.

Tracy Barham, vice-president of Intermountain Theatres and state motion picture drive chairman, and Ray Hendry, general manager of Intermountain and co-chairman for the campaign, are working with Tom Evans, Tribune queen contest chairman, on the drive.

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SAN FRANCISCO

Row Ramblings: Faye Reader, publicity chief for Fox West Coast, returned from a three-week business trip to New York . . . George Mann, newly-appointed chairman of the Seventh War Loan drive, returned from Palm Springs.

Current Cinema Comments: The sneak preview at the Fox Theatre of the Ernst Lubitsch production, "A Royal Scandal," starring Tallulah Bankhead, received many comments and whistles, all good, and audience reaction sets it up as a boxoffice hit . . . Now in the sixth week at the Clay is the one and only Beatrice Lillie in "On Approval." Reaction on this film has been mixed, but those who like it go all out in their cheers . . . The Background music of "Sudan," now at the Esquire, has been receiving national attention and recently was played on the air by the Standard Hour orchestra.

Vacation-Time Sprees: Taking an early vacation was Leah Zimmerman, secretary to Abe Blumenfeld, who light-footed it down to Richardson Springs for two weeks . . . Joe Blumenfeld turned to Palm Springs for a vacation. The rest of Filmrow and the industry still were just dreaming of vacations.

Draft a New Appeal For Exchange Hike

SALT LAKE CITY — Representatives of seven film distributing companies and IATSE are preparing a new application seeking ten per cent wage increases for all employes of the film distributing firms. A previous application was turned down last week by the ninth regional WLB.

In denying application for the pay increase, Chairman J. Glenn Donaldson said it was WLB's conviction that available data did not justify the increase for all companies. Three, Warners, Universal and RKO, had exhausted raises allowable under the Little Steel formula, he said, and amounts allowable to United Artists, 20th-Fox and Paramount, varied from 1 to 8 per cent. Labor members dissented in the WLB ruling.

The companies made their original appeal, urging approval on an intercompany basis, so that "all employes may be uniformly treated at this time and unrest avoided."

The board decided that upon submission of adequate information it will consider a new application to be applied on an intercompany basis, and it is this information which the representatves of the companies and union are now working.

Ned Edris, Tacoma Veteran, Is Dead

TACOMA — Ned Edris, veteran Pacific northwest theatre operator, died after a ten-day illness here, headquarters of his theatre operations. Ned was connected with John Hamrick and the theatres he handled were the Roxy, Music Box, Temple and Music Hall. Edris is a brother of the Seattle capitalist, William Edris. He had been with the Tacoma theatres for 21 years. Previously he had been a lawyer and a film salesman.

SALT LAKE CITY

Harold Chesler, manager of the Princess Theatre at Bingham, has been accepted for duty in the maritime service. No successor has been chosen.

Mrs. James Mooney, whose husband is office manager at Universal, has been in a hospital since April 12 when she was stricken with pneumonia. She is reported to be making good progress toward recovery.

Utah theatres joined those of the nation in paying final respects to Roosevelt. All theatres interrupted films to announce the President's death. On the day of the funeral, Intermountain Theatres flashed slides on the screen and halted the show with patrons joining in two minutes of silence. Joseph Lawrence Theatres followed the same procedure, as did the Lyric, an independent.

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Stagehands Receive $710 Each in Back Pay

ST. LOUIS—The 15 per cent increase in their $75 a week base pay recently granted by the regional War Labor Board at Kansas City to the 66 members of stagehands local No. 6 who will remain on the pay rolls of the local motion picture theatres is retroactive to Jan. 15, 1944. This means that each of the men will receive about $710 in back pay.

The board in issuing its directive denied a claim by the union that Jules E. Kohn, arbitrator, had exceeded his authority when he ruled that one stagehand should be dropped in each of six theatres. Under the directive the men will also receive vacations with pay, one week after a year's employment and two weeks after five years.

Dave Dewey Becomes Supply Co. President

CHICAGO—Transfer of the control of the Chicago Theatre Supply Co. from Joe Goldberg to a new organization to be headed by Dave Dewey as president was announced last week.

The former owner, Goldberg, who has been an equipment dealer for 30 years, plans an indefinite vacation after which he will announce new plans.

Dewey until recently was sales manager for the International Seat Corp., Union City, Ind. Previously he was assistant general manager of the Tri-States Theatre circuit, Des Moines, in charge of purchasing, maintenance and construction. He entered the theatre business in 1922 and served in Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, and was associated with Publix and Universal theatres. The Chicago Theatre Supply Co. will distribute a complete line of theatre equipment, supplies and will maintain a service and repair department.

Tom Gilliam Promises Fox Films on All 775 Screens

CHICAGO—All of the 775 theatres in the Chicago exchange area will play 20th-Fox product during the company's 30th anniversary celebration, it was promised by Tom Gilliam, district manager here, to Herman Wobber, west coast division manager and drive leader, who visited here recently.

Ninety-five per cent of theatres in the territory have been booked, it was indicated by Gilliam and he was confident that the remaining five per cent would be registered for the celebration before the termination on April 28.

Annual Meet This Week

CHICAGO—The annual meeting of the Better Films Council of Chicagoland takes place April 20 at Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs headquarters. A business session in the morning was to be followed by luncheon at the Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co. tea room and the afternoon was to feature a talk by J. Kay White, principal of General Pershng School in Berwyn. A number of pupils of the school who have been seeing previews of films to aid them in music appreciation were to take part in a roundtable discussion of what motion pictures have meant to them in their musical endeavors. The president of the council, Nina Y. Holton, presided.

Library Shows Disney's Travels

MILWAUKEE — Milwaukee Public Library exhibited "South of the Border With Disney," a color film about Walt Disney's trip through Latin America, during Pan-American week.

Appeal in Jackson Park Case Is Set for May 7

CHICAGO—Hearing has been set for May 7 in the circuit court of appeals on the petition of major distributors, Balaban & Katz and Warner Bros. Theatres for release from a $360,000 judgment against them awarded last year by a federal jury to the Jackson Park Theatre as damages for violation of the federal antitrust law.

Thomas C. McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park, repeated in a brief the charges that he originally aired in the federal court trial. His brief contends that the defendants are in an "all-embracing conspiracy to create a system of release with fixed prices by means of clearance contracts negotiated ahead of independent theatres."

Price-Fixing Combine Charged

"The Chicago clearance system on feature photoplays constitutes a price-fixing combination which is in violation of the anti-trust laws," according to the interpretation by McConnell.

The brief filed by defense lawyers denies the conspiracy and seeks to set aside the jury award of damages.

The plaintiffs, owners of the Jackson Park, are Mrs. Florence Bigelow, Mrs. Marion Kerber, John E. and William E. Bloom and the children of Edward Bloom.

The defendant distributors are Paramount, 20th-Fox, Loew's and Warner Bros.

McConnell further argued in a seven-point brief that the facts that injury to theatre's business was admitted by distributor witnesses is further proof that a new trial is not justified.

Priority to B&K, Warner Circuit

Prior to the inauguration of the clearance system, the Jackson Park Theatre, it was stated, could buy any product ahead of competitive theatres. Of late years, however, no distributor would negotiate with the theatre before concluding its deals with Balaban & Katz and the Warner Bros. Theatre Management Corp.

Mrs. Bigelow attracted the attention of the lay public in Chicago by exclaiming during the previous trial in Judge Michael Igoe's court that as a co-owner of the Jackson Park Theatre she would like to buy feature films just like she buys a new hat.

Burglars Steal a Money Bag—Full of Stubs

Chicago—Amateur burglars broke into the boxoffice of the Essaness Biograph Theatre and stole a money bag, only to discover that it was filled with ticket stubs. Manager William H. Brown reported to police that he heard the crash of glass and saw the thieves escape in an automobile.

Lawyer Buys Fine Arts Building for $650,000

CHICAGO—The ten-story Fine Arts Bldg. at 410 South Michigan Ave. was purchased recently by Abraham Teitelbaum, a lawyer. This building houses the World Playhouse, operated by A. Teitel, and the Studebaker, a legitimate theatre. Teitel announced that he would continue his policy of feature motion pictures and that there would be no change under the new landlord. The building sale price was reported to have been $650,000.

Charles Ellman, 33 Years A Showman, Dies at 49

MILWAUKEE — Charles Ellman, 49, an amusement operator, died at his home here. Starting in the amusement business at 16, for the last 25 years he operated the Ellman United Shows, playing fairs and carnivals all over the middle west, and the south. Surviving are five sisters and one brother of Milwaukee.



MERCY MONEY—A. J. "Al" Kopulos, manager of the Warner Bros. Venetian Theatre, Racine, Wis., gives Mrs. Matilda Brooks, Racine secretary of the Red Cross, a check for $2,767.65 from Warners' Venetian, Rialto and Badger theatres for the 1945 Red Cross war fund. Total contributions to date are $10,617.15 for Racine County. The drive was continued for one month in order to reach the quota of $135,000.

Pictures of Mexico Shown At Green Bay Museum

GREEN BAY, WIS.—A motion picture of Mexico, with its many races, its geographic and economic differences and its stormy political history, was given at Neville Public Museum. Antonio Cruz Uribe, native of Mexico, who is with the extension division of the University of Wisconsin, presented the picture.

Boost in Bond Premieres Aim of Illinois Scheme

CHICAGO—To insure more intensive participation in the Seventh War Loan, the Illinois state committee will divide into zones the metropolitan Chicago area as well as the entire state. This increased coverage is expected to result in a larger number of bond premieres and Free Movie Days.

The decision to create new subdivisions was reached at a meeting of the Illinois state committee here. Among those attending the meeting were: Walter Immerman, exhibitor state chairman; J. Harold Stevens, Chicago area distributor chairman, and Larry Stein and Bill Bishop, state publicity chairmen.

CHICAGO

Henri Elman denied the report, printed elsewhere, that PRC is going to purchase his exchange here. He said that the visit of PRC's president, Leon Fromkess, had nothing to do with such a deal . . . Sgt. John Agar, 24, who intends to wed Shirley Temple in a few years, is from Lake Forest . . . Fred Joyce, who resigned from the UA press department to go with Lester Cowan Productions, working out of Chicago, was to return from the east this week to whoop it up for "Tomorrow the World" in key spots.

Maria Montez made the dailies in a big way with stories and pictures because she was fortunate enough to lose one of her many hats when she and her hubby, Lieut. Jean Pierre Aumont, arrived here. Well, she said she lost it, anyway . . . Dean Murphy, at the B&K Chicago for the third week, was among those closely touched by the President's death. Dean has a photo of Roosevelt inscribed with "To Dean Murphy who looks and sounds more like President Roosevelt than I do," and signed by the late President.

Charlie Ryan, assistant zone manager for the Warner circuit, says that Larry Stein's place (he resigned to go into business for himself) will be filled by Al Weinberg and Arline Callies, both of whom assisted Larry in the publicity department . . . Harry Turrel, Warner district manager, now will supervise the Paramount, Partheon and Orpheum, Hammond, making ten under his eye. The Shore here, formerly supervised by Turrel, has been added to Herb Wheeler's realm, who now also has ten under his care.

Sam Horowitz, central and southern sales manager for Vanguard Films, went to New York on business . . . Hank Porter is relaxing after having gone through the rigors of moving National Screen to the entire second floor of the Warner Bldg. . . . The stag luncheon Variety Club was to give last Friday when Jack Barnett, overseas newsreel man for 20th-Fox was going to speak, was postponed due to the national mourning.

Al Simon is going nutz about the nuts he sent Hank Porter, Ted Webber, Madeline Woods and a lot of his other friends on the Row, for the gang had assumed the sack of nuts had come from Herb Elisburg, since he's the Miami kid, every year. Seems the shipper mailed the nuts minus Al's card. Now he's back, covered with suntan and swamped with thanks from the hard-shells who got soft-shells from him.

Ed Wolk, equipment mogul, is back from a Cuban vacation . . . Alan Usher, Paramount district manager, is back after a tussle with a cold . . . Della Galla, who helps Van Nomikos do the CVN circuit's booking, is wearing a sparkler—and four carats! It's from Brazil, but who dun it is a military secret, she says.

Art Fiella, CVN accountant who hasn't had a vacation for years and years, is going to relax in Miami . . . Comdr. John Ford, Lieut. Comdr. Bob Montgomery and John Wayne, who have just finished "They Were Expendable" for M-G-M in Florida, were in, towed by Bill Bishop, and paused at the Pump room to meet reporters, then to Hollywood . . . Lenny Kent, who opened at the Rio Cabana last Friday night, is a dead ringer for Danny Kaye and acts like the comic, too.

Jean Aumont, film actor who was a lieutenant in the French army, said at the Pump room where he and Mme. Maria Montez were dined and interviewed, that he would be at the Frisco conference, having been assigned by the French military . . . Betty Barrett, radio space buyer for film accounts handled by Donahue & Coe, New York, is here making arrangements for spots on the ether for Republic's "Flame of the Barbary Coast" which is due at the Essaness Woods April 23.

Mary Raye of the team Raye and Naldi is sporting the first bustle to be seen in these parts, and when the team opened at the Rio Cabana, Naldi fractured a rib when he lifted the lady into the air. The excess baggage, no doubt . . . Tom Delaney, the premium man who was hospitalized for some time, is back to work and looking great.

Mrs. Joseph Mack, wife of Pfc. Joie, who has been pinch-hitting for hubby at Filmack, has joined the Gray Ladies. Her husband is in the Philippines . . . Don Wilson has been named city manager for Alliance Theatres in Ottawa, Ill. . . . B&K stockholders will meet April 16 and hear the company's annual report.

Les Silverman, Sheridan Theatre projectionist, received a letter from Paul Dunlap, former manager of the West End, thanking Les for BOXOFFICE which comes to Paul at New Guinea . . . Harry Strong, head of Strong Electric Co., Toledo; Carl Wamser of Everbright Electric Co., Milwaukee, and Harold Wendt of Wendt Adv. Co., Toledo, were on the Row to cut things up with Bill Dassow, manager at National Theatre Supply.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Odenthal (he manages the Telenews) are awaiting the stork . . . Max Dreifuss will never forget Friday the 13th. First, some goofy driver collided with Fussy's car and tore off the fender. Then a few blocks later Max discovered a puncture. Finally he got to the theatre he was to visit. When he returned to his car he found a ticket for a parking violation. In a state which cannot be recorded here, he drove to another theatre, concluded his visit and returned to find his car gone!

Warners' exchange has gone Indian in a big way, what with its product drive being publicized in heap big powwow language. Letters to paleface exhibitors have gone out from Roaring Bull Benson, Fast Talk Cohen, Doe-Eyed Nicholson, Tom-Tom Friedman and Head-in Cloud Blaney.

Mike Fish, former photo editor of the Times and now with Warner Bros. on the coast, was in town . . . The Essaness circuit held over "Princess and the Pirate," soloing in the Crawford and Sheridan, for a second week, first time for this in over a year . . . "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" is being single-featured in 60 neighborhood spots, April 15-21 . . . Carole Landis, screen star, will be on the Oriental stage the week of April 20.

Irving Mack, responding instantly to requests from local exhibitors for a tribute trailer to Roosevelt, came up with one which was widely used . . . Milton Weisman, general manager of the Telenews circuit, was in from New York for a confab with Sylvan Goldfinger, district manager . . . Ditto Norman Wheaton, Detroit manager.

Lieut. James Grady of the Orpheum Theatre, Springfield, was awarded an Air Medal with three Oak Leaves . . . W. K. Kruse, manager of the films division of Bell & Howell, spoke to patients at Hines Hospital on the future of the photographic industry.

Irene Hospodsky has been made assistant to Manager Paul Grunnery at the LaGrange in LaGrange, Ill. . . . P. Hallahan, assistant manager at the B&K Central Park, is the daddy of a little girl born last week.

Toughest Loan Drive Seen by Pinanski

CHICAGO—Showmen of this area went into action for the Seventh War Loan drive at a luncheon meeting in the Blackstone Hotel, attended by more than 250 representatives of the amusement field, largely exhibitors and exchange executives. The group listened first to President Truman's radio address, according it thunderous applause.

Samuel Pinanski, national chairman, made the chief address. He stressed the fact that the forthcoming drive will mean even harder work and greater efforts than those that have gone before. "With VE-Day in the offing," he declared, "there will be a tendency on the part of the public to let down, assuming that the worst is over. It will be up to us to make our patriots see that the worst isn't over—it's far from over. The war in the Pacific will, as our late President Roosevelt told us, be a long, bloody and soul-trying one."

40 Million Sales Needed

Ted Gamble, national director of the U.S. men for their past performances in bond drives and expressed the assurance he felt about their continued all-out support.

Both speakers emphasized the importance of pushing E bonds in the new drive, adding that approximately 40,000,000 must be encouraged to purchase bonds of this denomination in the Seventh drive.

Joe Rosenthal, the Associated Press photographer who took the historic picture of marines raising the American flag on Iwo, also spoke briefly.

Campaign Film Exhibited

After the meeting, the 19-minute drive film, "All-Star Bond Rally," was shown. The short will be exhibited in theatres during the drive. Plans were discussed for premieres, free days and other stunts designed to stimulate bond sales. John Hertz jr., national director of publicity, held a general discussion of exploitation plans in the morning with Larry Stein and Bill Bishop, who are publicity co-chairmen for this area.

Among those attending were Walter Immerman, B&K official who heads the amusement division for this area in the drive; J. Harold Stevens, Paramount, area distributor chairman; Dave Wallerstein, B&K, area coordinator; John Balaban, Jack Kirsch, Jules Rubens, M. M. Rubens, Henry Stickelmaier, Arthur Schoenstadt, Jack Rose, Edwin Silverman, Allen Usher, Tom Gilliam, Jack Flynn, Charles Ryan, James Coston, Harris Silverberg, Irving Mack, and the following from out of town: Ed Zorn of Pontiac, co-chairman of the downstate Illinois division; Don Rossiter, Indianapolis; James Sharkey, Detroit; John Friedl, Minneapolis; Ralph Lawlor, Peoria, and Harry Arthur, St. Louis.

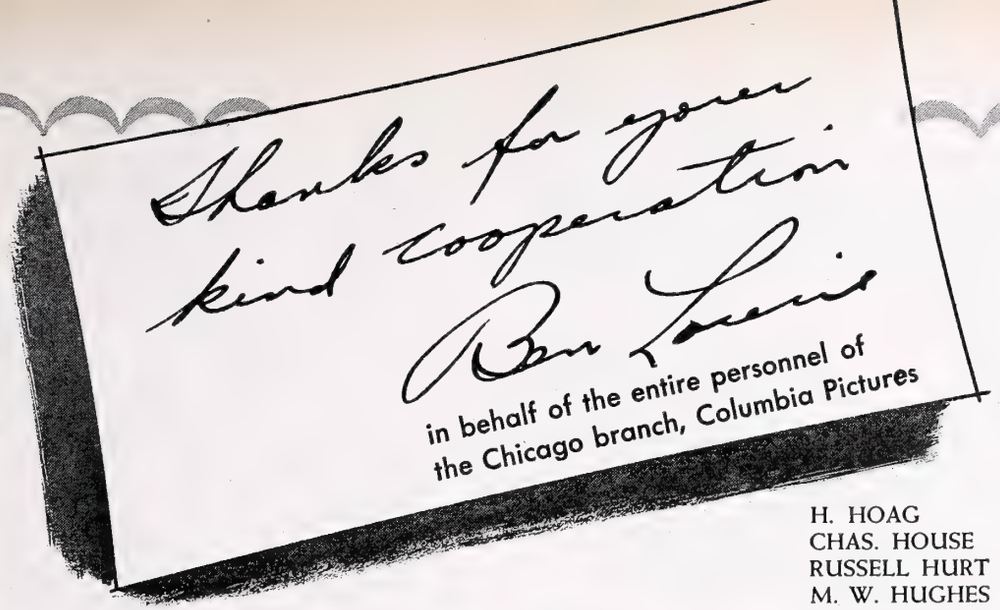
Death of Sgt. Petersen Ends Promising Career

MILWAUKEE — Death of Sgt. Gordon Petersen, 27, in action in France, wrote finis to a promising stage career.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Petersen here, Sergeant Petersen won local prominence as a playwright, stage producer, actor, director and designer of costumes and stage settings. His one-man productions, all resulting from leisure hours he devoted to the theatre, were put on by the Seven Arts Society, of which he was a member. He also was affiliated with the Children's Theatre.

Petersen won several prizes in the annual state playwriting contests at Madison. Two of the prize-winning manuscripts were "Lancelot of the Lake" and "Bellerophon Fallen."

Formerly employed at the First Wisconsin National Bank, he entered service two years ago. Parents and two sisters survive.



HARRY ABBOTT
SAM ABRAHAMS
FRED ANDERSON
GEORGE ANDERSON
ALEX ASSIM
CHAS. AUERBACH
P. R. AUSTERLADE
HARRY BALABAN
JOHN BALABAN
WM. BALES
BEN BANOWITZ
R. BARRICKLOW
BEN BARTELSTEIN
DICK BECK
C. BENDSEN
LEO BENNIS
JACK BERGLIN
NAT BERNSTEIN
SOL BEST
NICK BIKOS
JIM BIKOS
PHIL BILLETT
HERMAN BLAND
M. F. BODWELL
FRED BORN
H. R. BOUTON
MILTON BROTMAN
OSCAR BROTMAN
G. H. BROWN
EDDIE BRUNELL
R. D. BUCKLES
CHARLES BUGG
JOE BURKE
J. BUTCHER
JACK BUTLER
LORETTA BYRNES
D. CALLAHAN
WRIGHT CATLOW
SAM CHERNOFF
GEORGE CHIALTIS
C. CHRISTOS
WM. CHAROUKAS
WM. CLIFFORD
L. COCHOVETY
E. D. CODO
GUST CONSTAN
WM. COOK
BEN COONEY
H. L. COOPER
HAROLD COSTELLO
JAMES COSTON
ANDREW CUSER
R. H. CUTLER
J. DAUNTLER
FRANCIS DAVID
ARTHUR DAVIDSON
NICK DE LUIA
P. DIENER
J. DI GIACOMO
MRS. J. W. EDWARDS
BEN EISENBERG
FRANCIS ERNAT
J. L. ETHERIDGE
ROMA EWING
N. FADIN
ABE FADER
L. FENSTERMAKER
FRANK FORD
RALPH FRENCH
JOHN FRIEBURG
NELS FRYE
J. FUSHEANES
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MIKE GERRIB
HENRY GOLDSON
A. GOLDSTEIN
CHAS. GOLIN
HAROLD GOLLOS
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ED GROSSMAN
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NATE GUMBINER
C. F. GURY
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E. HART
LOGAN HEDRICK
CHAS. HELIG
H. A. HEYER
H. HOAG
CHAS. HOUSE
RUSSELL HURT
M. W. HUGHES
HYBICIA-HOLLUB
RAY JEANOTTE
H. W. JOHNSON
A. J. JOHNSON
O. C. JOHNSON
NATE JOSEPH
JOHNNY JONES
FRANK KAISER
L. G. KELLEN
JOHN KENDALL
GEORGE KERASOTES
MIKE KIRKHART
JACK KIRSCH
JOE KOPPEL
JOHN KRAFISIN
GEORGE KRUGER
CHAS. KUCHAN
RUSSELL LAMB
MOE LANG
VERNE LANGDON
GENE LATO
STANLEY LEAY
JOE LEARNER
HARRY LEVY
CHAS. LINDAU
E. LINDENEAU
HARRY LORCH
BOB LUCAS
HARRY LUBLINER
MRS. A. MACHEK
GUS MARCHESI
JERRY MARKS
GUS MARLOS
GUY MARTIN
A. B. McCOLLUM
ARON MELCHER
SAM MEYERS
LOUIS MILLER
R. J. MILLER
E. MITTERLING
JOHN MITCHELL
JOE MOZCO
MUELLER-SASS
CHAS. NELSON
HARRY NEPO
G. NICOL
VAN NOMIKOS
TRACY ORR
E. PACINO
JOHN PAKIS
JOE PASTOR
T. M. PATTON
G. PAUL
PAUL PAULSON
WM. PEARL
MRS. L. G. PEARCE
A. PODGORNY
E. F. POPE
PETER POULOS
HARRY PRAVAT
PRUISECKI BROS.
V. QUARTA
TED REISCH
LOU REINHEIMER
MORRIS RHINEGOLD
JOHN RICE
SINUEL ROBERTS
L. RORER
JACK ROSE
A. ROZANEK
J. J. RUBENS
C. RUDE
JAY RUEBEN
T. H. SMITH
LEO SOLOMON
J. STEININGER
CHAS. STERN
EMIL STERN
JOSEPH STERN
I. STERN
BILLY STONE
LUDWIG SUSSMAN
HELEN SZAMECKI
A. SZOLD
K. TATHAM
R. D. TODD
GEORGE TOPPER
S. TOTH
SAM TRAYNOR
ALBERT TRILLING
E. K. UPTON
RUS USWETSKY
GEORGE VALLOS
R. H. VAN HORN
JOSEPH VOGEL
L. D. WALTZ
J. A. WEECE
M. O. WELLS
A. WERBNER
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES





MILWAUKEE KICKOFF—These two photos were taken at the kickoff in Milwaukee for the Warner Bros. "heap big powwow" drive April 1-July 28. Left to right, seated in front of display boards: Leon Dizon, salesman; Jake Kaiser, Durgan Beemer, Ben Schwenke, bookers. Standing: Andy Kenny, WB circuit booker; Norman Bieringer, salesman; Tom Cornell, WB circuit booker; Jim Brennan, manager of the Bay Theatre, Green Bay, Wis.; Roy Pierce, Standard Theatres; Don Woods, Warner branch manager; Al Kvool, regional head of the WB circuit; Mark Brazee, head of Wisconsin WB circuit.

In the photo at left: Sonny MacDonald, manager of the Warner Theatre; Manager Woods, and Eddie Weisfeld, manager of the Riverside.

Woods reported pictures available for booking during the drive are: "Hollywood Canteen," "To Have and Have Not," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective, Burma!" "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Horn Blows at Midnight," "Pillow to Post," "Conflict" and "Corn Is Green."

ST. LOUIS

Kid Regan, Star-Times columnist, says that those straight-backed chairs in the office of Harry Crawford, manager of Fanchon & Marco's Missouri Theatre, were designed to discourage too lengthy visits. Of course they are so modern and in such good taste the guests are sort of disarmed. They replaced those old comfortable lounges formerly in the office.

Permits to wreck the old Globe-Democrat Bldg. at the southwest corner of Sixth and Pine Sts., and the three buildings between it and the Capitol Theatre at Sixth and Chestnut, have been granted to the Atlas Wrecking & Lumber Co. The property has been acquired by the May Department Stores Co. as the site for a projected 600-car garage for the use of patrons of the Famous-Barr Co. department store on Olive between Sixth and Seventh to Locust St. to be erected in the postwar period. When the site is cleared it will be converted into a parking lot pending the construction work.

Mixups as a result of the brownout are somewhat frequent and often funny to those not the victims. The other night a man and his wife attended a Grand Blvd. show near Olive. After the show hubby quickly changed his plans from going to the theatre's wash room to attempting to catch a streetcar but the wife didn't catch the switch in his arrangements. So she waited in vain until the theatre closed for the night. Both were about to report the other's "disappearance" to the police when the wife finally reached home late that night.

The recent war films, "Gateway to Germany," "Iwo Jima" and "Fortress Japan," were shown at a recent luncheon meeting of the St. Louis Electrical Board of Trade by the Navy League.

Morrison, Ill., Manager Takes Rail Ticket Job

MORRISON, ILL.—J. Milton Holland, Capitol Theatre manager, who has been night policeman, has accepted the position as night ticket clerk at the Northwestern passenger station here.

Special Film Showings

CHICAGO—"America's North Cape," a color film, was shown at North Park College auditorium last week. It depicts the life and geography of Labrador, New Foundland and French Canada. At the Chicago Academy of Science, Friday night, "Everyday Wildlife," also in color, was shown; and this week (17) at International Relations Center there was to be shown "The Peace Builders," a film tracing the international conferences of the United Nations.

Two Cases Continued In St. Louis Tribunal

ST. LOUIS—The two pending unreasonable clearance complaints against the members of the Big Five on the docket of the local arbitration tribunal have been continued indefinitely by agreement of counsel, because one of the attorneys for 20th-Fox could not be here on either April 18 or 19, the dates on which the case had been set.

The first case, that of Adolph Rosecan of the Princess Theatre at 2841 Pestalozzi St., had been set for hearing before AAA Arbiter Harry G. Erbs on the morning of April 18. This is the case that named all of the St. Louis first run and second run houses and a number of subsequent run theatres as interested parties. It led to the $285,000 antitrust damage suit of St. Louis Amusement Co. et al against Paramount Distributing Corp. et al now pending before U.S. District Judge Richard M. Duncan.

The second case brought by the owner of the Stadium Theatre in Caruthersville, Mo., had tentatively been set for hearing on April 19 but is to follow the Princess case on the docket. In that case Loew's, Inc., has been charged with failing to furnish the Stadium some run for M-G-M pictures, while RKO, Paramount, Warners and 20th-Fox are accused of granting unreasonable clearance to the Gem and Rodgers theatres, owned and operated by the I. W. Rodgers circuit with headquarters in Cairo, Ill. Joseph T. Davis is the arbiter in this case.

Screen Snaps' 410 Leads Milwaukee Girl Keglers

MILWAUKEE—In the gals' Filmrow League weekly event, high single game honors were snared by Screen Snaps with 410; Aristo Cats were second with 372; Tin Pan Alleys were third, with 372.

High for three games was captured by Screen Snaps, with 1,140; Tin Pan Alley was second with 1,083, and Aristo Cats third with 1,042.

Individual game leaders: Lee Pfeffer, 176; Mary Sanfelippo, 160; Jo Tomaski, 156; Marion Fiss, 151; Eva Johnson, with 149.

High individual three games: Lee Pfeffer, 451; Jo Tomaski, 417; Eva Johnson, 403; Mary Sanfelippo, 391; Marion Fiss, 390.

Team—	Won	Lost
Sport Chumpions	60	27
Four Lassies	56	31
Screen Snapshots	45	42
Tin Pan Alley	41	46
Aristo Cats	41	46
Alley Kats	40	47
Angel Pusses	37	50
Gay Sisters	31	56

Marion Fiss holds an average of 131 for 66 games; Lee Pfeffer holds 128 for 66 games; Anne Gapinski holds 124 for 66 games; Eva Johnson holds 124 for 63 games; Mary Sanfelippo holds 123 for 66 games; Josephine Tomaski holds 120 for 69 games, and Mary Lohre holds 117 for 66 games.

Others in the upper bracket are Vivian Fried, Elaine Skinner, Adeline Swessel, Wilma La Barbera and Hilda Albrecht.

Shreveport House Wants Clearance Eliminated

NEW YORK—Naming Loew's as defendant, Joy Theatres, Inc., operating the Joy Theatre, Shreveport, La., filed a complaint in the New Orleans tribunal claiming as unreasonable the 35-day clearance granted to the Glenwood, same city, according to the AAA. Complainant asks elimination of the clearance or its reduction to not over five days after national release date.

Tragedy of Roosevelt Nips Big Week in Loop

CHICAGO—What started off as a big week in all theatres slumped with the spirits of Chicagoans as they learned of the death of President Roosevelt. Sobered, grim, the public hurried home. Places of amusement were all but empty both Thursday and Friday nights, while Saturday all theatres, along with other businesses, closed throughout the afternoon, some for the entire day. Results, therefore, are based only upon the first half of the week, plus the good preceding weekend.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 7th d. t. wk. 100
Chicago—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 2nd wk., Dean Murphy and Hal LeRoy on stage 130
Garrick—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), return 120
Grand—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ), 3rd loop wk. 110
Monroe—**Behind the Enemy Lines** (Globe); **Nevada** (RKO) 110
Oriental—**Tomorrow the World** (UA), 2nd wk.; Chico Marx heading stage show 125
Palace—**What a Blonde** (RKO); **Experiment Perilous** (RKO) 115
Roosevelt—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) 120
State-Lake—**To Have and Have Not** (WB), 6th wk. 105
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 15th wk. 105
United Artists—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 110
Woods—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 3rd wk. 105
World Playhouse—**Thunder Rock** (Br.), 2nd wk. 110

Holdovers Run Average in Slow Week At the Boxoffices in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE — Holdovers at most first runs resulted in average business. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," in its second week at the Wisconsin, was average. "For Whom the Bell Tolls," in the fourth week downtown at the Strand, collected average also.

Alhambra—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); 3rd wk; **Moonlight and Cactus** (Univ) 100
Palace—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); **One Body Too Many** (Para), 2nd wk. 110
Riverside—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 3rd wk.; **The House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd wk. 100
Strand—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 4th wk. 100
Warner—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk. 100
Wisconsin—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.; **Double Exposure** (Para) 100

Indianapolis Business Nothing To Brag About; Two Shows at Par

INDIANAPOLIS—Business about held its own last week with boxoffice grosses nothing to brag about. The inclement weather had much to do with the light attendance at the local theatres.

Alamo—**Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col); **End of the Road** (Rep) 90
Circle—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) 85
Indiana—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Girl Rush** (Univ) 100
Lyric—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Dangerous Passage** (Para) 100

Chicago Metro in Line For the Season's Title

CHICAGO—With just one week to go in the Chicago Motion Picture Bowling League series it looks like Metro will cop the championship, for that team of pin-pushers has a lead of two games, having taken a trio from Warners in the last session. Universal copped a pair from Monogram and held second place, leading Film Chauffeurs by two games. The latter took two from Republic to get a firm hold on third place.

Republic now leads the three-game totals with 2,803; Universal, 2,746. Individual leaders for three-game totals are F. Hanzelin with 684 and Jack Kirsch, 675. Republic is high for a single game with 960; Universal, 956, and V. Swanson is now high for a single game with 279; E. Klass following with 249.

After the current week's session, which closes the 1945 season, the league members will adjourn to Variety Club where they will have a buffet supper, the trophy will be awarded to the winning team and other prizes will be awarded for outstanding marksmanship, etc.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Metro	50	37
Universal	48	39
Film Chauffeurs	46	41
Monogram	44	43
Republic	43	44
Warners	30	57

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

	Avg.
Jack Kirsch (Rep)	182
F. Hanzelin (Univ)	178
V. Swanson (FC)	177
P. Shoemaker (M-G-M)	176
C. Stocketh (Univ)	176
E. Klass (FC)	175
C. Keim (M-G-M)	174
M. Canavan (Univ)	171
A. Fischer (M-G-M)	171
E. Friedman (Univ)	171

Team No. 1 Scores 2,637 For High at Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE — In the IATSE Bowling League's weekly roll-off, team No. 1 rolled 2,637; team No. 2 scored 2,634, and team No. 5 totaled 2,615 for high three games.

High single game team honors went to team No. 1, with 983. Team No. 5 had 974 and team No. 7 had 963.

High three-game individual honors were won by Elmer Klase, with 662; Harry Eifert was second with 656, and George Brader third with 646.

High single game was rolled by George Brader, with 267; Brader also held second with 267, and Charles Burns was third with 257.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
No. 8	61	35
No. 5	57	39
No. 3	53	43
No. 7	51	45
No. 2	44	52
No. 4	42	54
No. 6	40	56
No. 1	36	60

On 3-Days-a-Week Plan

ELGIN, ILL.—A new policy whereby the Grove Theatre operates three days a week—Friday, Saturday and Sunday—has been instituted by the Publix-Great Lakes Theatres.

John Wayne Plays Next in "Rawhide"

John Wayne, RKO, has been set to star in "Rawhide," story of the rehabilitation of a cowboy with the pioneer west as its background. Robert Fellows will produce and Edward Dmytryk, who supplied the original idea, will direct. Paul Fix and Ben Barzman have been assigned the screenplay.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



At the age of 14, **Thede Coleman** of Mt. Carmel, Ill., started with the Joy Theatre. This was back in 1916. In 1920 the enterprising now 18-year-old built the American, which was destroyed by fire in 1939 and the new American built that same year. He had also built the Uptown in 1937 and continues to run both houses. Coleman is married and has a son, Keith, in the navy. He is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce and of the Elks. His hobbies are totally unrelated: One is raising chickens and the other is playing pinochle.



Chris E. Efthim of St. Louis entered the motion picture business in 1918. His first house was a nickelodeon. Today his Star Theatre, which has a seating capacity of over 400, is a first run house. He devotes all of his energies to the successful management of his theatre and enjoys doing this so much that he considers running the theatre his hobby. He is married and has two children. A son, Lieut. Alexander Efthim, is with the air corps in the Pacific. His daughter, Victoria, is in the personal service division of the municipal court.



John F. Rees, Regal Theatre, Wellsville, Mo., since 1914, started his career as a projectionist in 1906, when the projection light was created by directing an oxygen flame against a pastil. Electricity could not be depended upon and pictures had an up-and-down motion in proportion to the vibration of the hand-operated projector. Rees helped organize the MPTO of Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, and has served in the state legislature. His clubs are: Masonic, Kiwanis and Commercial. Hobbies? Wielding hammer, saw and paint brush.

Chas. M. Olson, Indiana Early Exhibitor, Dies

INDIANAPOLIS—Charles M. Olson, pioneer exhibitor who founded the Lyric here and at one time was world's light heavyweight wrestling champion, died at his home in Carmel, Ind., after a long illness.

An outstanding figure in the theatrical world for more than a quarter century, Olson began his career in 1908 when he went into partnership with B. V. Barton and built the old Crystal Theatre which formerly was located at 113 North Illinois St.

Olson also operated a nickelodeon at the present location of the Lyric for many years. On Oct. 12, 1914, he opened the Lyric. When vaudeville began to die in the late '20s the Lyric remained an oasis, almost as famous as the Palace in New York, as a stopping place of the acting fraternity.

He became sole owner of the house in 1927, later retired and made a world trip. He returned to the Lyric in 1933 and soon attracted national attention with a long run of stage shows at a time when the procedure had been all but abandoned throughout the nation. In 1941, the Olson interest in the Lyric was leased to the Greater Indianapolis Amusement Co., operators of the Indiana and Circle theatres.

He also operated a number of downtown theatres, including the old Alhambra, the Apollo and the Idle Hour.

He was a member of the Variety Club. Survivors include the wife, four sisters, four brothers. The funeral was held last Saturday.

MILWAUKEE

That pretty secretary to Johnny Mednikow, National Screen Service Co. branch manager at Milwaukee, Beverly Kurth, recently took advantage of one of the first sunny days for a trip to the lake front. She got someone to snap the camera, and the picture seen herewith resulted . . . Edith Sosoff, Metro office, was vacationing in Harrisburg, Pa. . . . Frank Daugherty, motion picture operator, went to St. Mary's Hospital for a checkup . . . La Verne Le Breck has moved up to biller at Metro, and Mrs. Betty Paperno, a new addition to the staff, takes over as mail and file clerk.



BEVERLY KURTH

Hortense Dricken, Metro office, did some short vacationing . . . Same for Gibby Courshon, Universal salesman . . . Helen Bursteen, UA, broke those "moderne" glasses and the gang talked with her until repairs were made . . . Jean Goodkind, also of the UA office, was worried about passing her Gray Ladies exam.

A lieutenant colonel in the air corps at 25, Norman Herro formerly ushered for Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside Theatre manager. Herro also worked for B&K in Chicago. His mother called on Eddie the other day with photos taken in Egypt showing Norman riding a camel. He has been in service for four years . . . Mr. and Mrs. William Ainsworth returned from the west coast, and Bill was in Milwaukee for the ITO meeting . . . All Warner first runs now have doormen and ticket receptacles located at the immediate entrance to the inner lobby.

Marlowe Conner, Capitol manager, Madison, made the front cover of the Warner house organ with a cartoon titled: "Extra Treat! A Beauty Finds Your Seat!" Marlowe gets credit for being a master magician, mind reader, and general swell guy in the sheet . . . Harold Beecroft, 20th-Fox manager, celebrated a birthday . . . Lou Orlove, Metro publicist, was working the Hancock, Mich., territory.

Duane Grodthausen, former Warner Granada assistant manager, is in the armed forces . . . Sgt. Rollie Krause, who functioned as assistant manager at the Oriental, is overseas . . . WLS Barn Dance was booked for the Venetian in Racine April 26.

Those attending the meeting of the ITO of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan in Milwaukee were: J. P. Adler, president, Marshfield; Charles Trampe, vice-president, Milwaukee; William L. Ainsworth, Fond du Lac; Jack Yeo, Burlington; George Langheinrich, treasurer, Milwaukee; L. V. Bergtold, Westby; Raynold Black, Edgerton; Russ Leddy, Green Bay; George Panka, Prairie du Chein, and George Fischer, West Allis.

Former Warner Theatres circuit employe, Maj. Wally Starck, has been heard from. A short wave broadcast: "Everyhing is fine. Had a little misfortune, but not due to enemy action. Notify my officers, and tell them to chalk up three more for me. Arrived here in time for Christmas. Wishing you the best, from Stalag Luft! My home!" All this from a German short wave broadcast. Mrs. Starck has received messages and cards from all over the nation.

The Badger, Racine, rented the entire theatre for one night to a firm active in war production. The renter, Massey-Harris Co., using their own films, presented a show for employes showing war products made by the firm, chiefly tanks . . . Harold Wirthwein, Paramount branch manager, heads distribution in the state on the Seventh War Loan.

Home for 30 days, Capt. Raleigh Woolf, son of Mrs. Jessie Woolf, 20th-Fox booker's secretary, visited the Row . . . Woolf, in the quartermaster corps, had been overseas 32 months, and saw action in the African and French invasions. Also hit Italy, England and Scotland.

Leo Terzes and Jim Brown, who ushered at the Warner before entering the service, met in the Marshall Islands. Leo wrote the Warner circuit: "Been getting some of Warners' top pictures of the year—'To Have and Have Not,' 'What a Woman!'"

Booking on the Row: George Panka, Metro, Prairie du Chein; Raynold Black, Rialto, Edgerton; Sanford Vincient, Nicollet and De Pere of De Pere, and Lyric, Denmark and Lake, Winneconne; W. C. Fischer, Campo, Campbellsport; Sam Miller, State, Rhinelander; Augie Geyer, Troy, East Troy; Ray Lenz, Pastime, Horicon; Fred Brown, Plymouth and Majestic, Plymouth; Tommy Lees, Lake, Lake Mills, and Dan Kelliher, Sprague, Elkhorn.

At K. P. Hall, the entire UA staff partied. Started with bowling, though no pin boys were on hand. Ken Seim and Johnny Bartelt of the booking department functioned as pin boys, assisted by Helen Bursteen. Then dinner later, with a bit of cheer. Bob Allen, UA manager, used some Chicago tactics . . . Betty Luedke and Wilma La Barbera came into the office. But somehow their camel hair coats had become switched—the shorter of the two was wearing the longer coat. What happened?

New manager of Warners' Sheboygan Theatre at Sheboygan is Waldon Ryan. Marjorie Leick now is assistant manager at the same house . . . Don Woods, Warner branch manger, and Leon Dizon, salesman, were out in the territory . . . Charles Trampe, Monogram manager, ditto . . . Sheldon Shumow, son of Harry Shumow, Metro manager, has been upped to second lieutenant in chemical warfare in France.

Albert E. Schoenleber, Violet Theatre owner, requires that patrons make their purchases of popcorn, candy, etc., before entering theatre. No smoking, either. Even the manager, who enjoys his cigars, has to step outside to smoke. No vending in the theatre. No pass out tickets. If patrons go out, they have to purchase another ducat to enter.

Ray Arnold is now manager of the Rex in Sheboygan, and Sylvia Urbancic is assistant . . . Nellie Luksis is now managing the Majestic there.

"Articles of War" was shown at Warner screen room for the local MP contingent. Same for "The Wearing of the Uniform." Both army pictures. The 16mm and army equipment was used and operated by MP

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personnel. Officer in charge said very few cases of disciplinary action have been necessary among personnel, and that much of the credit goes to these educational motion pictures.

Varsity Theatre canopy: "Meet Me in St. Louis" . . . "Till We Meet Again" . . . When George Devine, operator of the George Devine ballroom, won a tango contest in the earlier days at a nearby lake, the gal said, "You dance divine George!" and George, always dynamite on the uptake, returned, "George is my first name." Well, don't blame the writer.

Cpl. Walter B. Schoenleber, son of Albert E. Schoenleber, Violet Theatre owner, who has been in the armed forces two years and in the Mariannas for some time, writes he'd like to see the old theatre . . . Arnold Kovitz, head bookkeeper at National Screen, says the Muni Hike Club is looking for new members. Recently, 32 members engaged in a 12½-mile hike, taking in Waukesha, Springdale, etc., and two-thirds of the hikers were gals. There are more than 100 in the club, and hiking and dancing are the enticements.

Vic Tresidder, Warner sound engineer, was on the surgeon's operating room list . . . Larry Schulz, manager of the National, cigared the gang. Baby's name is Gregory Wesley . . . James Coston, Warner zone manager, was in huddling with Al Kvool and Mark Brazee.

Don Ameche, Kenosha boy who made good, opens his Palm Springs home to the young Franciscan priests for a time each year . . . When Johnny Mednikow, National Screen manager, was working the territory around Rhineland, he was snowbound for three days . . . Joan Martin is now a part-time Warners' billing department auditor.

Five Million Passes Given Service Men

CHICAGO—Chicago service men centers, of which there are three operating the year around and an additional one in summer, announced through A. J. Gallas, executive secretary of the amusement and recreation division of the OCD, that 5,000,000 free tickets have been distributed to members of the armed forces since the centers were opened by Mayor Edward J. Kelly and his OCD committee in 1941. Of this number the majority were for motion picture theatres.

In 1941 3,500 tickets a week were given out and now 35,000 are distributed every week, Gallas said. In addition to motion pictures the men and women in uniform see ball games, athletic meets of all kinds, circuses and everything else in the amusement field that is staged in this area. Legitimate shows come to the centers and stage performances.

The free ticket setup is just one of the many enterprises sponsored by the amusement division of the center. The executive committee in charge of these amusement activities for the centers is made up of John Balaban, James Coston, Edwin Silverman, Jack Kirsch and Max Halperin.

Maude Schuman, Cooking Chicken, Breaks Ribs

From New England Edition

BRIDGEPORT — Maude Schuman of the Black Rock Theatre was in bed a week as the result of two broken ribs. A chicken dinner was the cause. Maude was doing a bit of yard cleaning while a chicken was cooking in the kitchen. The water boiled away and chicken began to burn. Maude glanced toward the house and saw smoke issuing from a window. Thinking her home afire she dashed for the door, but the garbage pail got in her way. Result, broken ribs. Husband Schuman is vacationing in Florida.

INDIANAPOLIS

The Pixy Theatre, destroyed by fire about a year ago, was reopened at Edinburg last week. It is a Sconce circuit house. National Theatre Supply equipped the new Pixy with factory rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, new Bausch & Lomb Super-Cinephor lenses, Walker plastic screen, Crestwood carpet and stage drapes and traveler system.

Ted Richard Childers, who formerly was associated with Fanchon & Marco at St. Louis as assistant manager and treasurer, is the new assistant to Boyd Sparrow, manager at Loew's. He succeeds Rush Williams, resigned . . . William "Bill" Eberhardt of the Variety Club steward staff is confined to the City Hospital by illness.

The Variety Club donated two leg constrictors to the city hospital here . . . The Drive-In Theatre on Highway 67 near Maywood will open May 11 under the direction of Melvin E. Cox . . . Smiling Andrew Anderson, president of the Kentucky Exhibitors Ass'n, was a visitor on Filmrow . . . Guy Hancock of the UA sales staff is suffering from an attack of asthma at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Sgt. Charles Spragur jr., former assistant shipper at 20th-Fox, has been reported missing over Austria since March 22. He was a tail gunner on an Italy-based bomber . . . The film shortage is retarding enforcement of the Indiana law to prevent the spread of tuberculosis in the schools. Each three years teachers, school bus drivers and custodians are required to take an X-ray tuberculosis test. Since film is not available at all times, Dr. C. T. Malan, state superintendent of public instruction, has informed superintendents that the health department concurs in his proposal that X-ray tests be made only "when films are available."

Local theatres remained closed Saturday until 6 o'clock in conformance with Roosevelt mourning formalities . . . Claude McKean, Warner manager, orchardist and agriculturist, was happily telling Filmrow of his experience with smudge pots. It happens to be his first, but he says not last. Mac reports his smudge pots succeeded in saving his fruit crop on his acres in Brown County. Mac is the proud possessor of first prize ribbons for excellent fruit.

Every employe of 20th-Fox will receive three weeks' pay as a bonus for leading the 30th anniversary drive . . . Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sanders, who operate the Alhambra in Campbellsville, Ky., have opened another house there, known as the Cozy.

Joe Brokaw, operator of the Brokaw in Angola, is recovering from a long and severe illness . . . Joseph Bohn, PRC franchise holder, and Morris Safire, western division manager for the company, were in Chicago last week conferring with John Dorr of the Alliance Theatres Corp.

Sgt. Paul G. Shaughnessy, a former employe at RCA plant here, is reported recovering from wounds received February 7 on Luzon. He was with the 38th division and has been overseas since December, 1943 . . . Pvt. Robert C. Dooley, also a former employe at RCA, is reported a prisoner in Germany . . . Seen on Filmrow: Bob Hudson, Richmond; Harry VanNoyes, Anderson; Alex Kalafat, Garrett, and Douglas Haney, Albion.

Balaban Realty Co.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—The Balaban Realty Co., 11 South La Salle St., Chicago, has been incorporated with 200 shares of $100 par value common stock. Incorporators were H. L. Balaban, S. Bovingdon and E. E. Gloom.

Warner Houses Dark Entire Mourning Day

CHICAGO—Even before President Harry Truman declared Saturday as a period of national mourning, and before Gov. Dwight Green made the same personal declaration for the state as did Mayor Edward J. Kelly for the city, local motion picture theatres announced their intention of closing Saturday afternoon.

The Warner Bros. circuit closed its theatres for the entire day and evening.

Balaban & Katz, Essaness, RKO, Allied as well as all other motion picture houses in the city, closed until 5 p. m.

It was significant that the motion picture theatres were the first to announce their closing, since the entire industry has always felt particularly close to Mr. Roosevelt.

Perhaps for the first time since film houses have had their inception here there were no motion picture ads in several dailies, merely the announcement, bounded by a turned column rule depicting mourning, that the theatres would be closed. The Times, the Sun and the News took no paid amusement advertising on Saturday except announcements that certain places of business would be closed in respect for the memory of the President.

State Dimes Total Reaches Grand Total of $136,607

ST. LOUIS—Matt Schulter, Missouri co-chairman for the 1945 March of Dimes theatre collections, in the absence of Harry C. Arthur jr., state chairman, recently presented a check for $33,734.94 to Col. John J. Griffin, St. Louis County National Foundation chairman, as its share of the 1945 campaign receipts. The collections for eastern Missouri totaled $84,581.88, an increase of $12,447.98, or 17.3 per cent over 1944. Western Missouri contributed an additional $52,026 to swell the state's total to $136,607.88.

Benton, Ill., Star Gets New Sound Equipment

BENTON, ILL.—Delighted patrons have been complimenting the Fox Star Theatre on installation of new sound equipment. It is an RCA Photophone system.



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THAN

ALL OTHER

MOTION PICTURE

TRADE PAPERS

COMBINED

Northwest Allied Plans Last Appeal

MINNEAPOLIS — Percentage must be abolished not only for Twin City neighborhood and suburban and other subsequent run exhibitors, but also for the small-town theatre owner, according to North Central Allied's latest edict. Such notice will be served on distributors, it was announced by President-Elect Bennie Berger of the Twin City independent organization.

At the same time, Berger also announced, following another special meeting, that the film companies would receive "another chance" before the body carries its fight to the OPA, Congress and the public, as it has threatened to do.

Before the drastic steps are taken, Berger said, the film companies general sales managers will be invited to participate in a round-table discussion regarding present "unreasonable film rental demands" and, of their own free will, agree to "necessary reductions." The organization has authorized him to contact the company executives in an effort to achieve harmony and settle differences within the industry.

If, however, this move proves unavailing, Berger declared, the organization then will go ahead with its previous program to request the OPA and Congress to act to compel the film companies to lower their film prices and eliminate percentage and to launch a newspaper and radio advertising campaign to enlist public support and cooperation in the fight.

The body is starting a drive to bring in out-of-town exhibitors as members, Berger also said, and a meeting to which these theatre owners will be invited is scheduled to be held here in the near future.

Des Moines, Cedar Rapids Leads Retail Sales List

DES MOINES — Des Moines and Cedar Rapids, each with 21 per cent gain, top the state's cities in retail sales in unit stores for the first two months of 1945, as compared with the same period in 1944.

This was announced by the University of Iowa business research bureau. Twenty-two firms reported in Cedar Rapids and 20 reported in Des Moines.

Third place went to Waterloo, with 16 per cent gain, while Dubuque was fourth with 13, according to the report of the university bureau.

In the comparison of February 1945, with February 1944, the ranking by cities was Des Moines, 20 per cent; Cedar Rapids, 19; Waterloo, 17, and Dubuque, 13.

Name Lawler a Chairman In Cancer Fund Drive

KANSAS CITY—Senn Lawler, assistant to Elmer Rhoden of Fox Midwest, has been named chairman of the special gifts committee for the American Cancer Society's April campaign here. The national drive goal is $5,000,000 and for Kansas City, $20,000.

Violinist a Film Salesman

MINNEAPOLIS—Twentieth-Fox has added to its sales staff Eli Barnett, well-known local violinist. A former Minneapolis Symphony orchestra member and music teacher, Barnett is taking his first whirl at film selling. He will cover northern North Dakota and the extreme northern part of Minnesota.

20 Reports Lacking

KANSAS CITY—The absence of just 20 reports from a total of 493 theatres which participated in the Red Cross drive is holding up the final report.



UNDER THE PALMS—Frank C. Hensler, M-G-M Kansas City branch manager, does a little fishing in Miami waters on his vacation.

Theatre Lease Considered By St. Paul Jurist

ST. PAUL—Whether there was an oral agreement extending the 15-year lease of S. J. Zuckman on the Mounds, local de luxe neighborhood house, for five years will be decided by Judge A. S. Pearson in district court here following a trial of the suit brought by Zuckman to restrain the property's owners from ejecting him. Judge Pearson has the case under advisement.

Acting on the alleged assurance that he would receive the five-year extension at the conclusion of his 15-year lease, Zuckman testified that he made improvements costing thousands of dollars. When the owners leased the theatre to another St. Paul group of circuit owners, Zuckman brought the injunction action and still is operating the house.

The owners also testified and denied they had made the verbal promise of which Zuckman said he relied. After hearing the conflicting testimony, Judge Pearson called the case "a difficult one" and said it may be some time before he makes his decision.

Nebraska Bill to Abolish War Time Buried Deep

LINCOLN—The bill which would set Nebraska clocks apart from those in the rest of the nation by abolishing war time in the state was pushed to the bottom of the general file in the legislature last week on motion of the introducer, Sen. Edwin Schultz of Elgin.

This means the bill will be considered after all other business is ended. Senator Schultz made no comment on his motion. A recent poll showed opposition to the bill because of the time confusion it would cause.

Kaufman Visits Exchange

DES MOINES—H. C. Kaufman, Columbia's manager of exchange operations, visited at the exchange here recently.

Edwards Says Industry Lost a Friend in FDR

Eldon, Mo.—Text of a telegram to Ben Shlyen, editor-in-chief of BOXOFFICE, from Tom Edwards, president of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Ass'n:

"Our industry has lost a friend in the passing of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was certainly a war casualty. I hope we all get behind the Seventh War Loan drive to carry out his two hopes: to win the war and then the peace."

Start Bond Selling Preparations Soon

MINNEAPOLIS — Prepared to make the industry's Seventh War Loan drive the most successful of any of the campaigns in this territory, a group at the helm here returned from the regional meeting in Chicago this week inspired to put forth their greatest efforts to achieve the goal that has been set for. They will start next week to acquaint northwest members of the trade with the work to be done and to enlist their support and cooperation.

The group was headed by John J. Friedl, WAC chairman, and included Ben Blotcky, Charles Winchell, Walter Hoffman, Norman Pyle, Art Anderson, Mike Cooper and Byron McElligott.

Blotcky is distributor chairman and Anderson his assistant. Winchell, Hoffman and Pyle are in charge of publicity while Cooper is North Dakota co-chairman and McElligott South Dakota chairman.

Frank-Steffes "Webster" Ad Dispute on Trial

MINNEAPOLIS—The suit of Minneapolis newspapers against W. A. Steffes, owner of the World, loop first run house, and W. R. Frank, independent circuit owner here and Hollywood producer, to collect for unpaid advertising used during the run of Frank's picture "The Devil and Daniel Webster" at the World, went to trial in district court this week.

Steffes testified that he had played the picture several seasons ago as "All That Money Can Buy" and that Frank induced him to rebook it under the "Devil and Daniel Webster" title as a reissue test run. He said Frank mapped out the advertising campaign and agreed to pay for the substantial newspaper ads.

Denying the alleged agreement, Frank said that, although the reissue engagement chalked up a large gross and netted Steffes a sizeable profit, he received an infinitesimal amount for rental. He contends that Steffes is liable for the newspaper ads.

The deal made personally between Frank and Steffes caused complications at the time because RKO, the picture's distributor, refused to approve the terms. But Frank, on his own initiative, went ahead just the same and turned the film over to the World.

H. E. Portas Reopen Gem Theatre, Richland, Mo.

RICHLAND, MO.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porta have reopened the Gem Theatre here. It was completely destroyed by fire on Jan. 13, 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Joe McCallister, who manage the Gem for the Portas, took a trip to Portland, Ore., while the theatre was being rebuilt. The Portas live at Humansville where they own and manage another theatre, the Community.

Birthday Screening

OMAHA—The 20th-Fox screening room was the high point of a birthday celebration here. Mary Leith, small daughter of William Miskell, Tri-States district manager, celebrated her birthday by bringing 25 of her school pals to the little theatre for a special screening.

D. Conley Quits Columbia

MINNEAPOLIS—Don Conley, veteran Columbia salesman covering northern Minnesota, has resigned. His territory will be taken over by Bill Evidon, transferred from North Dakota. The vacancy on the sales staff hasn't been filled yet.

DES MOINES

Ruth Cook, Mel Evidon's secretary at Columbia, received a package from her husband from Hawaii last week. It contained a grass skirt with all the accouterments, and a pair of silk hose—the envy of all who saw them! . . . Just before Bert Thomas, Columbia booker, left on his 30-day vacation, he bade a fond adieu to Mary Benjamin.

Two weddings are in the offing at NSS. Clifford "Simms" Bayles, shipper, is to be married on April 26, and Lou Benny, maintenance man, is to be married on the 24th. Reports have it that this is Benny's third trip to the altar . . . Twyla Wells, Universal, visited in Montezuma over the weekend . . . Esther Hueston entertained her sister from Gilman for two days.

Thelma Washburn, RKO booker, is vacationing in Florida where she attended the wedding of her daughter . . . Roberta Thomas of Paramount's contract department, has left that exchange after six weeks there . . . Betty Johns, Paramount inspectress, appeared at Hoyt Sherman Place in a voice recital last week. Betty also sang at Younkers tearoom Saturday.

Kenny Weldon, M-G-M booker, has a new son, Michael James, born last Monday morning . . . Margaret Rawson, Jack Kennedy's secretary at M-G-M, was ill last week . . . Marie Butcher, assistant contract clerk at M-G-M, celebrated her fourth wedding anniversary this month.

Kay Kidwell, Central States stenographer, was in Chicago last week attending her husband's grandfather's funeral . . . Ruth Aliber, secretary to M. E. Lee, Central States booking department, has resigned her position. Ruth has been with Central States for about seven years, and is now going to be a housewife . . . Horky Smith has redecorated his cafe, making more room for Filmrowers along the rail.

Visitors along the Row last week included: Wayne Dutton, Manchester; Stuart Peake, Maquoketa; Sam Shlael, Moline; Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; Art Sunde, Elma; P. O. Roby, Truro, and Mrs. J. C. Lewis, State Center.



Theatres Hold Memorials For Late President

DES MOINES—In many towns throughout the territory, services in honor of Franklin D. Roosevelt were held Saturday, April 14, in local theatres simultaneously with the services held at the White House in Washington, D. C.

In Des Moines, a memorial service was held at the Des Moines Theatre with the Rev. Gordon V. Smith, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church conducting. The St. John's boys choir provided music. The theatre was filled with persons wishing to pay respect to their late president.

Ted Bolnick Enters Ben Berger Circuit

MINNEAPOLIS—Returning after a residence of several months on the west coast, Ted Bolnick, former city manager for the Eddie Ruben circuit at LaCrosse, Wis., and one-time booker for the Paramount theatre chain in this territory, has purchased an interest in the Bennie Berger circuit, one of the territory's largest chains, and will become its general manager. Berger announces that Bolnick will be in charge of all operations.

Bolnick succeeds Gilbert Nathanson who resigned to devote more time to his own theatre interests. He and Bill Elson, owner of the Palace here, own and operate houses in Detroit Lakes and Cloquet, Minn.

Nathanson had become Berger circuit general manager after Merle Potter, one-time Journal and Tribune film editor here, resigned from the post to join the army in which he now is a captain stationed in Germany.

Loan Drive Kickoff Meet Held by Exchange Men

DES MOINES—A kick-off meeting was held Saturday morning at the 20th-Fox screening room in preparation for the Seventh War Loan drive.

A. H. Blank, chairman of the Iowa-Nebraska WAC; Jack Kennedy, distributors chairman, and Russ Fraser, publicity chairman, told of the meeting in Chicago on April 16, and outlined a general program.

The war activities short entitled "All Star Bond Rally," starring Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Betty Grable and a host of other stars, was screened.

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Ben L. Walker, the Paseo's manager, happened to drop in at the booth when this photo was snapped. He's giving a whirl to one of the powerful Brenkert projectors, with RCA heads, one of two such instruments, which, with other equipment, gives the Paseo that "master" touch in projection and sound.



PASEO THEATRE

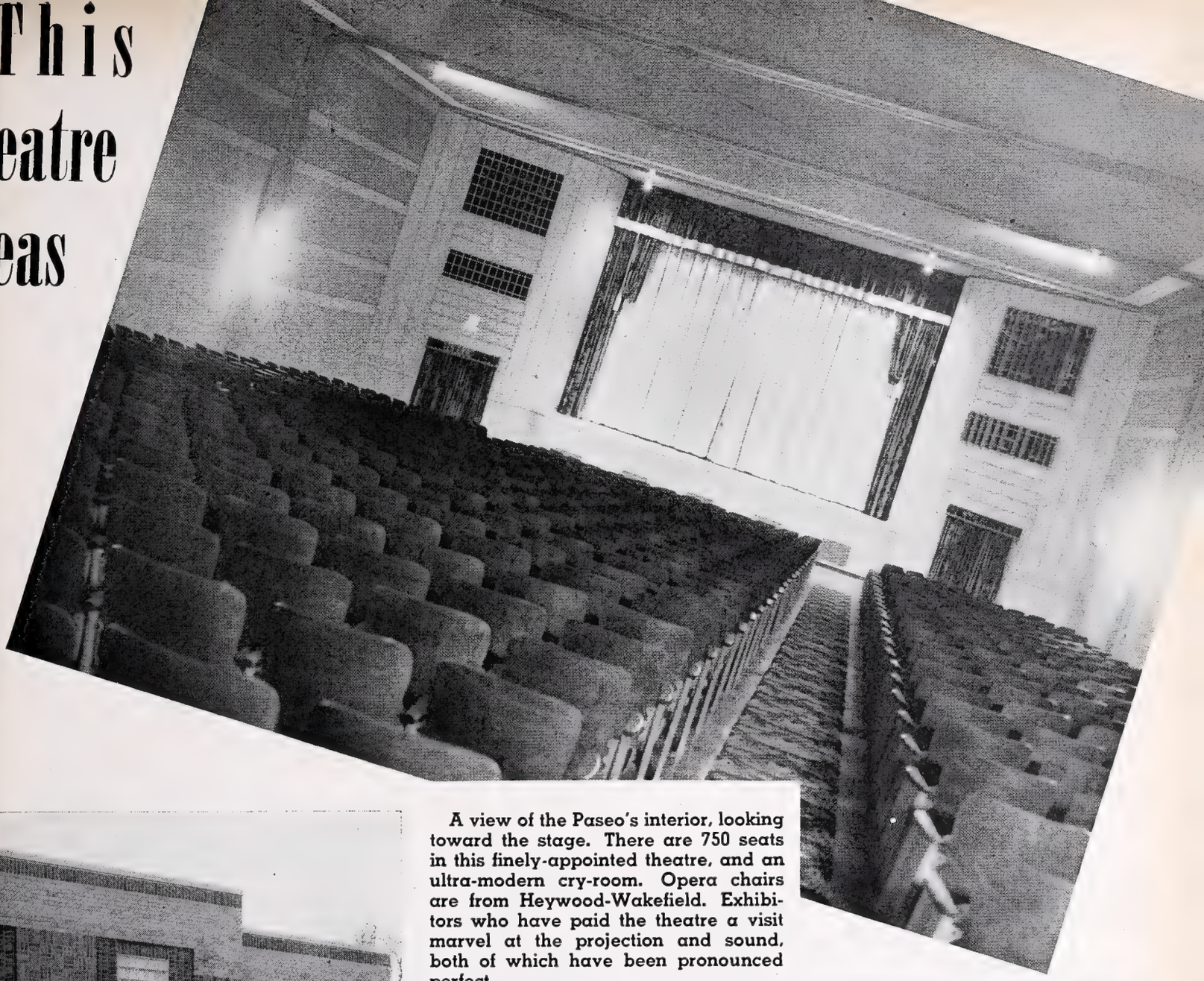
Now Completed!

Rube Finkelstein and associates have just cause to be proud of their new and ultra-modern Paseo Theatre at 81st and Woodland. This theatre runs the best in pictures, and advertises heavily when a "name" star is playing. Missouri Theatre Supply Co., which furnished the beautiful house throughout, is also proud of its equipment. For example: RCA and Brenkert in sound and projection; Heywood-Wakefield in opera seats; Thos. L. Leedom in carpeting. We have all these "names," and more, including U. S. Air-Conditioning. See this beautiful theatre, and be sure to drop in on Missouri when you're on Filmrow.

MISSOURI THEATRE

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A view of the Paseo's interior, looking toward the stage. There are 750 seats in this finely-appointed theatre, and an ultra-modern cry-room. Opera chairs are from Heywood-Wakefield. Exhibitors who have paid the theatre a visit marvel at the projection and sound, both of which have been pronounced perfect.



•

We're going "all-out" on the Seventh War Loan, and urge everyone in the Midwest to do likewise.

•



KIMBRIEL SEEMS PLEASED!—The happy gentleman above is L. J. Kimbriel, Missouri Theatre Supply manager in Kansas City. He's smiling over completion of that fine street-to-sheet job at the Paseo Theatre. He says he wants every midwestern exhibitor to drop in and see him. Kimbriel promises a trip out to the Paseo, and says he'll open your ears to one of the finest sound jobs in the midwest, and to some new ideas in theatre equipment that will be a revelation!

SUPPLY CO.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

KANSAS CITY

R. C. Davison, Binney, Pattonsburg, Mo., was accompanied to Filmrow on his trip this week by his mother, Mrs. Stella Davison, whose home is in Savannah, Mo. She has visited the exchange before, likes to see the booking, and favors musicals and comedies . . . Howard Wilson, Majestic, Jetmore, Kas., calls his new baby, Martha Ann.

"Crime, Inc.," PRC production banned recently in Chicago, was screened here. It was recalled that "Scarface," which was banned by Chicago some time ago, has been received very well elsewhere . . . Warren McCoy, whose wife Hope is with PRC, is expected home on furlough shortly, before reporting at Norfolk for a new assignment . . . Dorothy Murphy is the new secretary to Beverly Miller, PRC franchise holder.

Mrs. Brutus Bishop jr. and son Burtus III, wife and son of the M-G-M district manager, were marooned at Tulsa, Okla., because of flood conditions on the way to Dallas . . . National Screen office received lithographs of Van Johnson for the bobby-socks trade and the "Van Clubs."

There was a mild run on the stock of Roosevelt portraits, in the "war chiefs" series of 40x60s, at National Screen, by exhibitors wishing to display the picture in lobbies or windows. Many exhibitors already had this and others of the series, and used it . . . Ed Hartman, managing the Ritz, had a slide made of a Roosevelt portrait, put it on the screen at the theatre at 8:30 Friday and Saturday nights for two-minute silent periods.

Salesmen report that Jess DeLong is happy with the new front he had installed on the Ute at Mankato, Kas. A glass brick wall produced a lobby where patrons could stand waiting to buy tickets or to enter the show. With the recent bad weather, the lobby has become a shelter and a meeting place for friends as well. DeLong encourages the practice, says it makes friends for the theatre and, anyway, they read his billings while waiting.

Bob Shelton, Commonwealth division manager, left on a tour of the Kansas territory, which is not in his district. He, however, is film buyer for the entire circuit . . . June Medcalf was back at her Filmrow tasks after a visit with her son, Lieut. John R. Medcalf, and his wife, at the army air field, Pampa, Tex.

Robert E. Hickey, RKO midwest field staff supervisor, was here on a tour of the exchanges to check on campaigns for "The Enchanted Cottage." He and Gil Canfield, local publicist, went over the plans for the opening of the picture at the Orpheum May 3, one of the first runs in the country . . . Ray Nolan of St. Louis, RKO district manager, was plane-riding toward Los Angeles to see a St. Louis man, Harry Arthur, and bumped off here. He proceeded by train.

Virginia Smith is the new biller at RKO and Mrs. Ida May Logan is the new booker's stenographer . . . D. L. Danford of the Strand, Lancaster, Mo., was on Filmrow, accompanied by a friend connected with the rural electrification administration.

Sue LaRue, utility clerk at Columbia, was subbing on the reception desk for Lois Lee Bender, who was away with the Kansas City Theatre Guild putting on "Death Takes a Holiday" in Wichita . . . Ronnetta Goodman, Warners' representation in the Resident Theatre group, contributes to and shares the success of the performance of "Over Twenty-One." She plays the ingenue lead.

Among the adjectives (expletives not recorded) used by those powwowing Indians at WB over the disappearance of the bow and arrow, are "perturbed," "dismayed," to say nothing of "mad" and "shocked" . . . Claims are being made now that "everybody" knows all about the miscreant who made away with the weapons, except his name; a trifling matter, in view of the fact that they are going to "put the Indian sign on him."

Donald Duck Inspires Poet By Unintelligibility

KANSAS CITY—Frank Sinatra may have fans of bobby-socks age swooning over him but it remains for Donald Duck to inspire feminine poets. One of his admirers goes all-out for his "line" in this verse taken from a recent Kansas City Star:

DONALD DUCK

Such peerless invective,
Such quips unselective,
Such fierce improvising,
Anathematizing—
His syllables slither
From whence into whither
Indignant and raucous—
They tease and they mock us,
Amuse us, or frighten—
But never enlighten!
If all those who "fanned" him
Could just understand him!
So all who admire it
Might hope to acquire it—
This rich education
In vituperation—
This fury, resounding,
Exploding, rebounding—
Could all the commotion
Be geared to slow motion?

DOROTHY BROWN THOMPSON.

Onaga, Kas., House Gets Novel New Mezzanine

ONAGA, KAS.—This town of fewer than 1,000 population is delighted by the improved and enlarged Onaga Theatre, with a new mezzanine floor. Glenn Dulac, exhibitor, utilized unusual means to provide additional seating accommodations.

The old theatre seated about 300 people. Dulac, owning the storeroom next door, tore out part of the dividing wall and used part of the opened space for additional seating. He raised the floor of this added space four feet, slanted it downward toward the screen and installed seats on a diagonal.

People using this mezzanine, which seats 75, can easily see over the heads of patrons on the lower level. The mezzanine has an oak floor. New lighting equipment also has been installed. A women's rest room was added.

Omaha Service Honors Memory of Roosevelt

OMAHA—This city officially paid tribute to the memory of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt Sunday (14) at City Auditorium with a special program arranged by William Miskell, district manager of Tri-States Theatres Corp.

The program, staged in cooperation with the Seventh service command officials and other representatives of the armed forces and various community organizations, was carried over the Mutual's 123 radio stations.

All theatres and business houses were closed Saturday afternoon.

Richland, Mo., Reopening

RICHLAND, MO.—The Gem Theatre, damaged by fire some time ago, has been remodeled and reopened. A packed house attended the reopening.



THEY KNOW IT'S BETTER!

They—your patrons—don't have to be told when you have MOTIOGRAPH-MIRROPHONIC Sound in your theatre. Its life-like sound and unexcelled qualities of reproduction are readily recognized—and readily appreciated.

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Minneapolis Trade Good All Along Line

MINNEAPOLIS — Business was good all along the line the past week. Sunday was one of the biggest days in months. "It's a Pleasure," "Hotel Berlin" and "Song of Bernadette," all came across very well. Holdovers were "Keys of the Kingdom," "Music for Millions" and "Roughly Speaking," the first named in its third week and the others in their second, and they all continued to click.

(Average is 100)

Aster—**Murder in the Blue Room** (Univ); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col) 100
Century—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 125
Gopher—**Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) 90
Lyric—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Orpheum—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) 140
Radio City—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO) 110
State—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) 125
World—**Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 100

Kansas City Trade Snaps Back After Mourning; "Pilot" Still Heavy

KANSAS CITY—All theatres were closed on Saturday till evening in formal tribute to President Roosevelt but business went quickly back to normal and week's totals were well above average everywhere. The Midland with "Till We Meet Again" had played to good crowds. The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway with "A Royal Scandal" had excellent response, and the lines were satisfyingly long at all ticket windows. "Objective, Burma!" at the Newman had better than average business, for Errol Flynn satisfies something that responds to the daring and romantic whenever he appears. At the Orpheum "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "The Jade Mask" continued to play to good houses in their second week. "Wee Bonnie Baker" at the Tower enhanced an excellent stage show, and on the screen, "Double Exposure" and "The Town Went Wild" served to bring up the score to a high level for the week.

Esquire—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox) 100
Fairway and Uptown—Same as Esquire 95
Midland—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 125
Newman—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 115
Orpheum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **The Jade Mask** (Mono), 2nd wk. 135
Tower—**Double Exposure** (Para); **The Town Went Wild** (PRC), plus stage show 115

"Tree Grows" Heads a Fast Week Among Omaha First Runs

OMAHA—"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Paramount Theatre headed a fast week among Omaha's downtown houses. Close behind were "A Song to Remember" and "What a Blonde" at the Brandeis Theatre and "House of Frankenstein" and "The Mummy's Curse" at the Omaha.

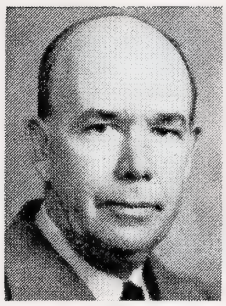
Brandeis—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **What a Blonde** (RKO) 120
Omaha—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **The Mummy's Curse** (Univ 125
Orpheum—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 3rd wk., moveover from Omaha; **Double Exposure** (Para) 95
Paramount—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) 130
State—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 125
Town—**Bowery to Broadway** (Univ); **Sheriff of Cimarron** (Rep); **The Merry Monahans** (Univ); split with **Tahiti Nights** (Col); **The Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col) 105

"Song" Draws Above-Par Crowds In Slow Week at Des Moines

DES MOINES—In spite of a general falling off late last week, due to President Roosevelt's death, all three downtown houses held fairly good attendance records. Two of the theatres will hold over their features. Leading the others were the two films at the Orpheum Theatre—"A Song to Remember" and "What a Blonde." Officials said the program would be held over, at least for a few days.

Des Moines—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 100
Orpheum—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **What a Blonde** (RKO) 110
Paramount—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para) 95

MIDWEST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



In 1917 **William H. Hardman** of Frankfort, Kas., took over an airdome theatre which he intended to run for the summer. He liked the business and found it profitable so he decided to operate a regular motion picture house. He manages the Royal Theatre in Frankfort and likes the business so well "nothing could come up now to get him out of it." Hardman is a member of KMTOA, Rotary and the Masons. He is married and has two children, Marjorie and Bill jr., who is New York manager of RCA service. Hobby: Raising chickens.



Mrs. Rolla J. Booth of Rich Hill, Mo., the widow of W. M. Booth who died in 1935, has many years of experience in the picture business. In 1910 the Booths built the Happy Theatre, later took over two other houses and in 1920 rebuilt the Booth which she operates today. At one time interested in harness racing, she was the owner of the famous trotter, Concilio. Mrs. Booth has three children and is active in politics. She was a delegate to the national Democratic convention and is a member of the Royal Neighbors of America.



Harvey C. Buchanan of Superior, Wis., has been in the business since the roadshow days of 1904. He now owns the 1,100-seat Palace and the 500-seat Peoples theatres, and a great deal of his time is devoted to civic affairs and organization work. He is chairman of the Wisconsin athletic association, the association of commerce and is a member of Rotary, Elks, Masons, the Shrine Temple at Duluth, Minn. Boxing, baseball and football are his favorite diversions. Buchanan is married, has no children and lives at 1401 North 21st in Superior.



Carl S. Horn, owner of the Star Theatre, Hay Springs, Neb., entered show business back in 1920 when Horn and his partner, Paul C. Morgan, decided to open the present theatre. Three sons are in the armed forces and a daughter is attending Nebraska University. Maj. Max Horn is with the Ninth army in France. Maj. Thomas Horn, air corps, served 20 months overseas, participating in the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns, while Dean Horn, a lieutenant in the navy, is now on submarine duty. Horn, a Mason, is not a member of an exhibitor organization.

Divorcement Bill Dies In Minnesota Assembly

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota state legislature was to adjourn its present session this week without enacting any legislation affecting the film industry.

A proposed theatre divorcement bill, which would have required the Minnesota Amusement Co., Paramount subsidiary, to relinquish its theatres, died in committee in both the house and senate. It had the approval of the North Central Allied, which, however, was not active in its behalf because it conceded that there was no chance for passage.

Mayors of the state had approved a proposed enabling act to permit municipalities to tax theatre admissions to augment their revenues, but no bill was introduced in the legislature. Theatre interests opposed the proposal not only because it would necessitate a boost in theatre admissions, but also because it would make boxoffice figures public property.

Ex-Showmen Has His War Letters Mimeographed

MINNEAPOLIS—Merle Potter, former film critic and editor and Bennie Berger, circuit general manager who now is an army captain in Germany, has sent extremely interesting mimeographed letters to his friends back home, telling of his work and relating some of his experiences. The master copy of the letters go to a printer here who prepares and mails out the copies.

In his most recent letter, Potter tells of rigging up a 500-seat theatre in a Belgian warehouse formerly occupied by the Germans. Some of the seats, he says, were taken from German installations 50 and 60 feet underground. In the theatre Merle presented motion pictures, stage shows, a GI production, an orchestra recruited from a nearby town and "home talent" assembled by a French countess "with an Irish accent as thick as a London fog."

Over Third More for Cross

GRAND ISLAND, NEB.—This city's three theatres collected $3,150.39 for the Red Cross this year as compared with $2,343.09 in 1944.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE

1202 High St. DES MOINES



MINNEAPOLIS

Bob Murphy, Sunday Tribune film editor, devoted his entire column last Sunday to the 20th-Fox one-reel short, "Land of 10,000 Lakes," one of the Edmund Reek Movietone Adventures series shot in the state of Minnesota. Murphy calls the picture a great boost for Minnesota, pointing out that it will be shown in 12,000 to 13,000 theatres in the U.S. besides the 550-odd Minneapolis territory houses. It has been booked into Radio City here April 27 and will be available at that time to the trade generally. M-G-M had one of the FitzPatrick Traveltalks devoted to Minnesota, too.

John J. Friedl, WAC chairman, has sent a letter to exhibitors in the territory requesting them to display prominently in their theatres a card telling of the campaign of the American Cancer Society. The State and Paramount theatres in Minneapolis and St. Paul, respectively, also are running trailers in connection with the drive, but because of the pressure of government film and the extreme danger of precedent, no other theatres were committed to run trailers, Friedl informed exhibitors. Friedl also is assisting in the distribution of the booklet, "Movies at War," describing the manner in which the film industry is supporting the war effort. It was published by the WAC . . . Rud Lohrenz, UA district manager, was a visitor.

Nanette Parks, Columbia starlet, has been visiting her parents in St. Paul. Her father is a district court judge there. Newspapers here ran considerable art on her . . . Al Stern, RKO office manager, became a member of the Red Cross "Gallon Club" after donating his eighth pint of the fluid for the armed forces . . . Ben Marcus, Columbia district manager, was in from Kansas City.

Orlean Anderson of the 20th-Fox office staff is the latest of the pretties there to grab herself a husband . . . Ruth Hoffman, former secretary to Jack Cohen, 20th-Fox manager, returned from Tacoma, Wash., where she has been visiting her service man husband . . . Dorothy Kay, another cutie at the 20th-Fox branch, too, has resigned to go to the west coast. There she'll decide which of the majors and colonels who have paid suit to her will be her husband.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Blackmore, Duluth; Mr. and Mrs. Glen Turner, Pine City, Minn.; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Carter, Plainview, Minn.; John Piller, Valley City, N. D.; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls, Minn., and Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis.

Herb Greenblatt, RKO district manager, was a visitor . . . Morrie Steinman remains on the Republic sales staff and Bill Grant, his boss, is happy. Steinman was rejected for the army on physical grounds.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attorney Towle Wins Ascap Lobby Fight

LINCOLN—In a new legislative wrinkle which involves Ascap activities, Max Towle, Lancaster County attorney and king of lobbyists at the legislature, won his biggest battle of the session.

Towle's lobbying activities long have been a subject of discussion in Lincoln. He is registered as a lobbyist for Safeway Stores, but he lobbies for miscellaneous subjects, the hottest of which has been Ascap this session. He is the only lobbyist who has a lobbyist's lobbyist. James Reed, Lincoln, former legislator, is registered as a lobbyist for Max Towle.

Towle maintains a suite of rooms at the Cornhusker Hotel. Legislators can and often do drop in for a bottle of beer, a cheese sandwich and a sociable game of cards.

Ten Vote Margin

All this came to a head Monday when Sen. John Mekota, Crete, sought to introduce a bill to prevent any public official from lobbying for a private interest. The legislature, by a ten-vote margin, refused to permit introduction of the bill aimed pointblank at Towle.

Senator Mekota was explicit. He said he was prompted by the fight over the bill to permit Ascap to resume doing business in Nebraska. A man, Senator Mekota charged, was "threatened with ruination of his business" if he did not urge his senator to support the bill. The man, a music user, came to him, Senator Mekota said.

"That man," the senator said, "should have been able to go to the Lancaster County attorney, in confidence, and ask for protection. But he couldn't do that. Because the Lancaster county attorney was lobbying for the Ascap bill."

Senators John Doyle, Greeley; Joseph C. Reavis, Falls City; Sam Klaver and Harry Foster, Omaha, without mentioning Towle's name, inferentially defended him.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825

Ball Returns to Court With Antitrust Suit

PITTSBURGH—Playing a return engagement here, but not at popular demand, is the Harry Norman Ball litigation wherein first run film product is sought for the Penn, Ambridge, Pa. A year ago Ball filed for an injunction in federal court in an effort to restrain four distributors from allegedly conspiring to prevent the theatre from exhibiting first run films. The Penn had been operated under lease for a decade by the A. N. Notopoulos circuit, which headquarters in Altoona, Pa., and although approximately double the rent was offered for a new lease, Ball, one of the new owners of the theatre property, refused to renew with Notopoulos, so the latter erected a new theatre at Ambridge and he continued to negotiate for the same product he had been playing for a number of years. The new State opened a year ago, playing the product formerly consumed by the Penn when under the management of Notopoulos. The Penn was remodeled but was never reopened, Ball and his brother-in-law, Henry Friedman, manager, refusing to operate a "third run" theatre. Product other than that used by Notopoulos is licensed for two Warner circuit houses at Ambridge. Injunction sought by the plaintiff was denied. Ball, a Philadelphia attorney and theatre owner, is now bringing his antitrust suit. Proceedings in the injunction hearings brought a dozen attorneys into federal court and the trial is bringing them back again.

Drive-In, Under Fire, Sets Opening at Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—The Drive-In near the entrance to South Park will open May 1, Norbert Stern, owner, announced. The outdoor theatre will be managed by his son Ernest.

Property owners in the district went into court for the second or third time late last summer in an endeavor to close the Drive-In as a public nuisance, due to "noise" from sound amplification. On another complaint several years ago, the owner had removed giant loud speakers and had installed underground cable systems with individual speakers. A presiding judge will visit the outdoor theatre at an early date to investigate the nuisance charge.

Mrs. Max Williams Heads Greater Detroit Council

DETROIT—Mrs. Max M. Williams of Royal Oak was elected president of the Greater Detroit Motion Picture Council, succeeding Mrs. Arthur D. Kerwin.

Other officers elected are: Mrs. Wayne Mohr, first vice-president; Mrs. Roy R. Riddle, second vice-president; Mrs. Grace Kent, recording secretary; Mrs. F. E. Western, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. L. W. Forrester, treasurer.

Mrs. Kerwin becomes an advisory director. Committee heads will be appointed within the next few weeks by Mrs. Williams.

Independents Get Rights To Five Productions

PITTSBURGH — Independent distributors here have acquired releasing rights for the film area as follows:

Max Shulgold, Crown Film Co. manager, will distribute three former RKO releases, "Tom Brown's School Days," "Little Men" and "Swiss Family Robinson."

Louis "Uncle Lou" Krieger recently closed a deal with J. D. Kendis for distribution of Kendis productions, "Youth Aflame" and "Paroled From the Big House."

Stay Sends Pittsburgh Case to Appeals Court

PITTSBURGH — Distributor defendants were stopped cold here in the Roth vs. Paramount civil case when U.S. Judge Nelson McVicar granted a supersedeas to exhibitor plaintiffs. The court stayed proceedings in the litigation which involves whether or not exhibitors must produce books and records regarding grosses on percentage picture engagements for inspection of film distributors.

Several weeks ago Judge McVicar had granted a motion by the distributors for the right to inspect, copy or photograph documents, books, accounts and receipts of exhibitors.

Distributors staged a legal battle here to prevent the new action, but the court granted the supersedeas.

Suspending the former motion, the issuing of the stop order was just as surprising as was the rendering of the former opinion on March 22. No further step may be taken by distributor defendants until they file an appeal. Such action would remove the case for a number of months from the district court here to the Philadelphia court of appeals.

"Diamond Horseshoe" Gag Delights at Screenings

PITTSBURGH — Biggest screening room roar of the season is a running gag in 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," which explains the traditional idea that "the show must go on."

"Why?" inquires Phil Silvers, who is seen as backstage director at Billy Rose's de luxe establishment, and just before the finale in the Technicolor production, the answer is revealed to theatregoers who see the film. A full-house trade audience in the local 20th-Fox projection room, appreciated the answer keenly and cut loose with a screaming laugh which must have been heard all over Filmrow.

P. S.—The explanation is: The show must go on because there is real cash in the till and the management doesn't want to make refunds!

Pete Niland's Wife Dies After a Long Illness

CINCINNATI—Mrs. Mary Josephine Niland, wife of Pete Niland, Columbia representative and secretary of the Cincinnati Cinema Club, died at her home in Kemper Lane Hotel after a long illness. Burial was April 14.

Mrs. Niland was a sister of Bill LaSance, Metro salesman, and an aunt of Bob LaSance, 20th-Fox booker. A niece, Joan LaSance, also is employed at Metro.

Niland also operates the Fairmount, suburban house.

Another Girl for Richardsons

CLEVELAND — Bob Richardson, RKO salesman, announces the arrival of a second daughter.



"SALLY OF CINCY"—The name of a combat bomber brought such good luck in battle that the crew gave their second ship the same name. Pilot Bernard Frisch chose the name in honor of the daughter of Harris Dudelson, United Artist Cincinnati manager. Frisch, Dudelson's son-in-law, explained: "We had so much good luck with the first bomber, we named the second one 'Sally of Cincy,' too."

Northern Ohio Red Cross Collections Up $50,000

CLEVELAND—With complete reports not yet in, Joe Krenitz, WAC distributor chairman, and Leroy Kendis, pinch-hitting for Exhibitor Chairman Meyer Fine who is vacationing in Florida, the Red Cross collection for the northern Ohio area was in excess of $216,000. This is $50,000 better than last year's collection of $162,000.

George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland MPEA, reports that his group of Cuyahoga County independent theatre owners were responsible for the collection of $39,000 of the total amount. This exceeds last year's collection for the same area by $9,000.

Lorain, Ohio, Tivoli Gets New 65-130 Generator

CLEVELAND—H. M. Frietchle, manager of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co., has completed installation of a new 65-130 generator at the Tivoli Theatre, Lorain. The theatre is under the management of Miss Tender while her brother John is serving in the air force. Frietchle also announced installation of a pair of Strong utility maps and rectifier at the Rialto Theatre, Akron.

Mrs. Trowbridge Dies; Husband in Hospital

CINCINNATI—Mrs. Ida Boehme Trowbridge, wife of Nelson Trowbridge, manager of Shubert Enterprises in the Queen City, died of a heart attack at the Good Samaritan Hospital. Mrs. Trowbridge was 62. Her husband, connected with Cox's Theatre for 20 years, was recovering from a serious illness at the General Hospital, and was not told of his wife's death.

Sam Gerace Now Prisoner Of War in Germany

CLEVELAND—Salvatore "Sam" Gerace, former manager of the Rialto Theatre, an Associated circuit house, is a German war prisoner. His wife and small daughter live here.

Detroit Trade Hovers On Middle Brackets

DETROIT—Business was generally in the middle brackets this last week, with some holdovers petering out quicker than anticipated. Trend was downward after the preceding Easter weekend had helped business upward. End of the week was given a moderate slump when news of the President's death came on Thursday evening, but the genuinely serious drop did not occur until the next day.

(Average is 100)

Adams—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), after wk. at the Fox 120
Broadway-Capitol—**Three Is a Family** (UA); **And Now Tomorrow** (Para), after 2 wks. at Michigan.. 115
Downtown—**Strang Illusion** (PRC), plus Mills Bros. on stage 125
Fox—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **Under Western Skies** (Univ) 130
Michigan—**Practically Yours** (Para); **The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para)..... 125
Palms-State—**One Body Too Many** (Para); **The Woman in the Window** (RKO), 2nd wk..... 105
Paradise—**The Big Bonanza** (Rep), plus Lucky Millinder orchestra on stage 130
United Artists—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Double Exposure** (Para), 2nd wk..... 115

"Dillinger" and "Practically Yours" Draw High in Cincinnati Grosses

CINCINNATI—Business generally was affected a bit by the death of the President. At the Albee, "Practically Yours," Paramount feature, took good grosses and held over. "Dillinger," premiered here at the Strand, did outstanding business and held. All theatres closed till 6 p. m. Saturday, as did all commercial business houses.

Capitol—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk..... 100
Grand—**Suspect** (Univ) 90
Keith's—**Ministry of Fear** (Para)..... 90
Lyric—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk... 80
Palace—**Guest in the House** (UA)..... 90
RKO Albee—**Practically Yours** (Para)..... 130
Shubert—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk... 120
Strand—**Dillinger** (Mono) 180

"Song to Remember" Easily Leads For Cleveland's Hippodrome

CLEVELAND — "A Song to Remember," playing its premiere engagement here at the Hippodrome, had no heavy rival at the first string houses. The picture topped the house average by 25 per cent, winning both popular and critical approval. It moved over to the Allen for a continued run. Another topper was "The Unseen" playing a first run at the Stillman. "National Velvet" held strong in its second week at the State, while "Hotel Berlin" recorded average in its third week—one at the Hippodrome, one at the Allen, the third at the Lake.

Allen—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk... 70
Hippodrome—**A Song to Remember** (Col)..... 125
Lake—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk..... 100
Ohio—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 100
Palace—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), plus Sons O' Fun revue on stage..... 90
State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk..... 90
Stillman—**The Unseen** (Para) 120

"Velvet" and "Thunderhead" Stand Out in Front at Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH — "National Velvet" and "Thunderhead" were outstanding here, at Loew's Penn and the Fulton, respectively, with the former hitting 15 per cent over average and the latter 50, but with the former actually doubling the gross taken by the latter. "Bernadette" made a good showing in the J. P. Harris at regular admissions after being handled twice before on Sixth St. and once on Liberty Ave. (at the Senator) at road-show prices. In all "Bernadette" played about eight weeks downtown. "Music for Millions" was okayed at the Stanley and Warner circuit moved it down the line to the Warner-Ritz route.

Barry—**Docks of New York** (Mono); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col) 110
Fulton—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox)..... 150
Harris—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 11 days, regular admissions 85
Penn—**National Velvet** (M-G-M)..... 115
Ritz—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 110
Senator—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 5th d. t. wk. 110
Stanley—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M)..... 85
Warner—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk..... 70

CINCINNATI

News was received of the death in action of Lou Snitzer jr., son of Lou Snitzer, former accessory and film salesman in this territory . . . Ben Cohen, manager of the Strand for the last two years, was promoted to head the Telenews, Dallas, effective April 21. Cohen's successor here is E. J. Meininger, from B&K, Chicago. Meininger at one time managed the Capitol here.

Joe Candrea was host to Dayton Variety Club at one of its recent stag luncheons . . . Irene Segal, secretary to J. J. Grady, was planning a Florida rest . . . William Thalheimer and Milt Levine, West Virginia exhibitors, were here and announced the acquisition of the Strand, Kenova, W. Va., under a joint partnership . . . Harry McHaffie also was here, as were Dave Brown, Cabin Creek, and Jim Shanklin, Charleston and Lewisberg. Shanklin was to return to Florida to oversee the harvesting of his spring crops for marketing.

Lester Rosenfeld, Dunbar, W. Va., exhibitor, recently defeated for mayor, left for a rest in the Southland. On his return, he will not spend much time in his summer camp, according to present plans. However, Rosenfeld has reconditioned his outboard speed boat for his annual race on the Kenawha River with Gene Custer, owner of the Custer and State theatres. Honors have been tied the last two years. No trophy is to be awarded this year, but the honor of winning has aroused the contestants and friends to a high enthusiasm.

Gene Custer, Charleston, also was in and Charles Rich, Warners' district manager, was here from Cleveland . . . Warners' gals are donning the spurs and jodhpurs for a season at the Clearview riding academy. Betty Speicer is in charge and 20 have signed up. Trails will be followed every Friday night . . . Fred Helwig rejoined Paramount sales staff after medical discharge from the armed forces . . . Betty Copeland is confined to her home by an abscessed arm.

Nathan Halperin, Universal janitor, is convalescing after an appendectomy . . . 20th-Fox personnel were rejoicing over the success of their 30th anniversary month results . . . Isme Broun, former head inspector and wife of Jules Broun, 20th-Fox booker, was a visitor with their new baby . . . Virginia Philpot, contract clerk, weekended in Ashland.

Loew's Ohio, Cleveland, Gets New Sound Heads

DETROIT—Altec Service Corp. installed Simplex four-star sound heads at Loew's Ohio Theatre, Cleveland, Ohio, during March. Another installation was a type A-30 sound system at the Colonial Theatre, Holland, Mich.

Files for Television Station

COLUMBUS — United Broadcasting Co. operator of WHKC here, has filed application with the FCC for a television station on a channel ranging from 78,000 to 84,000 kilocycles and for a television and an FM station in Akron. The company also operates WHK and WCLE in Cleveland.

Alter "Magnificent Mr. M" Tag

Republic's "The Magnificent Mr. M" is now "The Magnificent Rogue."

"River Route" Men Hail "Bill" Twig

GIRARD, OHIO—Those who attended the recent party in honor of Bill Twig, newly-appointed booking manager for the Wellman circuit, at Mahoning Country Club were:

Peter Wellman, owner of the chain of houses in Girard, Youngstown and Hubbard, who staged the party which was sponsored by a group of Cleveland film salesmen: Peter Patti, manager of the Boardman Theatre, Newport; John Gran of the Schenley Theatre, Youngstown; Joe Shagrin, Foster Theatre, Youngstown; Jack Steinberg, Wilson Theatre, Youngstown; Henry Rolnik, Youngstown representative for Berlo Vending Co.; George Manos, owner of the Manos circuit with headquarters in Toronto, and Mrs. Manos; Louis Karneras, manager of the Mahoning and Uptown theatres and the following film men whose trail is known as the "river route": Lou Marks and Phil Harrington, M-G-M; Ray Schmertz and Tom Alley, 20th-Fox; Aaron Wayne, Paramount; Dave Kaufman, Warners; Lon Geiger, United Artists; Bob Richardson, RKO; Manny Glick, Columbia; Leo Gottlieb, Universal; Al Sunshine, Republic; Carl Scheuch, Monogram; Bill Lissner, PRC; Max Jacobs, Imperial; Fred Witte, Film Classics, and Howard Savage, National Screen Service.

The film men presented Twig with a fine traveling bag.

New Owners Take Over Abington at Detroit

DETROIT — The Abington Theatre, west side house long operated as a legitimate theatre under the name of Littman's People's Theatre, is being taken over by a new ownership under a ten-year lease. New owners are George C. Lowry and Tony J. Stankiewicz, both of whom are newcomers in the motion picture business.

Sol J. Krim, who has been running the house for several months, will continue to own the property, and will also maintain his other theatrical interests, but will not operate this house.

Krim said that he plans to remodel the house and install a new front as soon as wartime restrictions permit. A new 30-foot neon sign has been installed, but has not been placed in service, because of the brownout.

Bad Axe Opera House Rebuilt, Re-Equipped

DETROIT — The Bad Axe Opera House, operated by the William Schulte circuit, which was destroyed by fire several months ago, has been rebuilt, and is being re-equipped by National Theatre Supply Co., following WPB approval. The theatre was the only one in this county seat town.

New equipment being installed, according to Manager Clarence Williamson of the supply company includes Simplex projectors, PM screen, Crestwood carpeting, and Mork-Green drapes.

Fairmont Hotel to Be Used as WB House

FAIRMONT, W. VA.—Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel is being converted and will be used as a theatre auditorium by Warner Bros., opening April 21. The special arrangements were made by circuit officials to temporarily substitute the hotel auditorium for the Fairmont Theatre, which was destroyed by fire February 9. A new modern theatre will replace the building which went up in flames, causing more than a half-million dollars damage.

Thanks, folks, for your cooperation!

Allan D. Lamitt.

in behalf of the entire personnel of the Cincinnatti branch, Columbia Pictures

A. AARON
A. A. ABEL
C. G. ACKERMAN
FRANK ALLARA
F. P. ALIRED
B. C. ALMOND
S. ANDERSON
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L. E. ATKINSON
A. H. BALES
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JOHN BAYES
CHAS. BEHLEN
WM. BEIN
J. E. BELCHER
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CLELL BENJAMIN
EV. BENNETT
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M. E. THALHEIMER
H. THOMAS
MRS. P. M. THOMAS
GEO. TURLUKIS
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MILES VANCE
MRS. DAVE VENARD
JOHN VLACHOS
SAM WALDMAN
ROY WALLER
ANNABELLE WARD
W. J. WARD
MRS. JOHN WALTERS
LOU WIETHE
ROY WELLS
HORACE WERSEL
MRS. FRANCES WESSEL
LOUIS WETZEL
FRED. WHEELER
MAURICE WHITE
CHESTER WHITT
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA

PITTSBURGH

M A. Rosenberg, Allied exhibitor leader, and Mrs. Rosenberg are vacationing in Atlantic City . . . T. F. McCleary, RCA's Cleveland regional Photophone sales representative, was a recent Filmrow visitor with Frank Hamre, Pittsburgh manager . . . Milton Bailey, veteran projectionist, suffered a stroke while at his Kenyon post.

A second son was born April 10 at Johnstown to Mr. and Mrs. K. A. "Gus" Vaveris . . . David Davis, Regent projectionist, checked into the Columbia Hospital with pneumonia . . . Both Mort England and Fred Solomon have renewed leases and will continue to do business at their Van Braam St. headquarters . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rachiele, local exhibitors, will attend La Scala Opera festival events at Syria Mosque May 3-9.

William Rowland "Bill" Lebarton, former veteran film salesman here, died April 6. Lebarton, well remembered by the old-timers, had been employed here by Universal for a quarter of a century . . . E. M. DeWalt, arbitration tribunal clerk here, is seriously ill at a local hospital, and Frank Anderson, insurance broker, is substituting for him. A recent visitor, Anderson reports, was Charles S. Wall of the New York tribunal . . . Cpl. Sidney Soltz, son of Jake (Rhumba circuit) Soltz, who is with the Ninth infantry division in Germany, has been overseas for 28 months.

Harry Rachiele, local exhibitor, has sold his home on Windsor Road, Fox Chappel, and has purchased a new home in Aspinwall . . . Sgt. Henry Miller, former manager of the Harris Family, East Liberty, has been furloughing on the French Riviera . . . Frank J. Harris, president of the pioneer amusement company, served as toastmaster at the recent dinner of the Fifty-Year Club of Duquesne University.

Mrs. Chris Fourgis, wife of the Mount Pleasant exhibitor, has received news from Greece that her father was killed in the Nazi invasion. Chris's brother Nick, former local area exhibitor, also was killed in Greece by the Germans . . . M. A. Silver and Jim Totman went to New York to attend a WAC meeting on the Seventh War Loan . . . Meeting recently in Belgium were Maj. Jerome "Jerry" Roth and Lieut. Ben N. "Buddy" Rosenberg, sons of the Israel Roths and the M. A. Rosenbergs.

Sgt. Richard Battiston, son of Andy Battiston, is with the Hell on Wheels heavy armored division in Germany . . . Jay Williams, Ligonier showman and Somerset merchant, has remodeled the second floor of the Ligonier Theatre for a woman's clothing shop. He installed a six-foot display case in the lobby for the store . . . Pfc. Jim Kalos, former manager of the Perry, is recuperating from wounds sustained in Italy.

Bill Walker, Crafton exhibitor, was laid up last week with a rheumatic knee . . . Mannie Feldman, former Tarentum manager for Warners, received a medical discharge from the army and has rejoined the circuit here . . . The Tom Packs Thrill circus, which appeared here last year, will return to Forbes Field, June 18-23 again in a benefit for the widows' pension fund of the police department.

Max and Martha Shulgold of Crown Film Co. are preparing to move into their newly-purchased home on Beeler St. . . . John H. Harris and James G. Balmer were in Grand Rapids installing a new tent of the Variety Club . . . Capt. Francis H. McKnight of the allied military government, is hospitalized in France with pneumonia. A former representative of a bank operating the Roxian, McKees Rocks, and builder and owner of the Regent Square, Edgewood, McKnight, has been in uniform since June 1942, first serving in the army's ordnance department at Seattle before preparing for service with the allied military government. His wife is living at Charlottesville.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Dattola are expected to return from Florida to their home in Springdale within a month. Their son, Lieut. Louis Dattola, was killed in action February 25. They have another son, Elmer jr., in service, and Joseph, youngest son, expects to enroll soon in the merchant marine . . . The opening night of ZaSu Pitts' "Ramshackle Inn" at the Nixon April 30 has been taken over by the Westinghouse Clerks' Ass'n, but tickets for the remainder of the week are now on sale to the public.

Pfc. Manny Greenwald, former manager of the Barry, is now a member of the army's special service unit in Paris which is headed by Capt. M. J. "Mike" Cullen, former manager of Loew's Penn, which is just around the corner from the Barry . . . Newt Williams, National Theatre Supply manager, is very ill with spinal meningitis at St. Joseph's Hospital . . . Mark Goldman, former local Monogram manager who recently resigned as PRC manager at Cleveland, was here last weekend. Fred H. Rohrs, PRC's new mideast district manager, is temporarily filling in at Cleveland.

Filmrow heard that Dave Leff, former proprietor of the Metropolitan in the Bloomfield district, is associated with United Artists as a salesman at Buffalo . . . The 20th-Fox staff forwarded flowers to Alice Stenger, an employe, who has been ill for two months . . . Jimmy Alexander, the cowboy Curly, in "Oklahoma," was a visitor at Republic. Jimmy appears briefly in "Earl Carroll Vanities" and sings the finale number, "You Beautiful Thing You," which screening room audiences here are applauding.

Twentieth-Fox has created a new post, city sales representative, and Martin Seed, special salesman here and local 30th anniversary month drive leader, has been named to the position. He is the son of Harry Seed, Warner midwestern manager and former Warner branch manager of this city . . . Mrs. May Weir, Warner booker, is recuperating after an operation . . . Sympathy to Marie Kozman, 20th-Fox inspector, whose brother died last Friday.

National Screen Service here is now handling all accounts at Parkersburg, W. Va., the situation having been switched from Cincinnati . . . A. John Mayer, M-G-M office manager, was hospitalized last week with a knee infection and was recuperating at his home at midweek, with expectation that he would return to his desk April 23.

William P. "Bill" Spang, projectionist here 30 years until recently employed at the Harris Newsreel, is very ill, according to his brother, Harry Spang, another veteran motion picture machine operator who is service manager for National Theatre Supply. Their father, Robert E. Spang, 83, is doorman at the Kenyon . . . Lieut. David Hadburg of a chemical warfare unit at Edgewood, Md., was a Filmrow visitor. A former manager of the Hazelwood, he is the son-in-law of the M. N. Shapiros of the Shapiro & Fineman circuit.

Substituting for Fred LaBelle, Warner circuit personnel manager who is on a leave, is Harry A. Toffer . . . Charles and Dale Warner, central West Virginia exhibitors, will bring five guests here May 4 to attend "Ramshackle Inn" at the Nixon and the Roy Rogers rodeo at the Gardens . . . Cpl. Allen Tolley, formerly of the M-G-M shipping department, is an athletic director at Camp Butner, N. C.

Alice Ingram's husband, Cpl. W. A. Ingram, is a cook with an engineers maintenance company in Wales. Alice is the assistant ad sales manager at the 20th-Fox exchange . . . S. A. Peters, Sisterville, W. Va., exhibitor, will go to a Texas army air field soon to see his son receive his wings . . . Ed Hinchey, who heads Warners' playdate department, was a visitor at the local branch . . . Francis Guehl, local WAC distributor chairman, presided at the first of the Seventh War Loan drive meetings Monday morning in the Paramount exchange.

National Screen takes over Columbia Pictures accessories May 1 and Lena Caruso, who has handled the Columbia paper for some time, has been moved into the exchange office from the back room accessory department . . . West View Park will reopen on April 29, marking its 40th consecutive season . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sid Jacobs (Warner circuit's West Virginia district manager) and their children, Doris and Leonard, were in Springfield, Ill., attending the marriage of their son, Capt. Robert Jacobs of the air force and Louise Tice, Red Cross supervisor at Sedalia, Mo.

Now in China, the address of the young East Pittsburgh theatre manager is: Pfc. Milton P. Antonoplos, 33693419; Base Censor's Office, APO 210, N. Y. . . . Lew (PRC) Lefton's son, Dave, has arrived in France . . . Ed Shaffer, former local Casino manager, is now holding a similar post at the Rialto, Chicago . . . The army show, "Here's Your Infantry," now in rehearsal at Ft. Benning, Ga., will be a special attraction here during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Mark your calendar now: Wednesday, June 6, will be Free Movie Day.

Ross Filson Takes Charge Of His Alpine Theatre

POINT PLEASANT, W. VA.—Ross Filson, owner, has assumed management of the Alpine here, the lease having been transferred from the Community Theatre Corp., managed by Bernard Potts. Filson, a veteran showman here, also owns a second theatre property at Point Pleasant.

TRADE DIRECTORY
A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING





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Regent Theatre **New Castle, Pa.**

CLEVELAND

Clem Pope, RKO Great Lakes division manager, was in the throes of moving his offices from the Keith Bldg. to space on the mezzanine floor of the Palace Theatre. The move was made to save wear and tear on theatre personnel traveling between the two places . . . Lieut. Don Kranze, son of RKO District Manager Bernard Kranze, ended his two-week furlough and reported back to his base at San Angelo, Calif. . . . Frank Gross, independent theatre owner, is back from a Florida vacation trip wearing one of the heaviest coats of tan seen here in a long time.

E. P. Mott of the Wooster Theatre, Wooster, has erected a special showcase in his lobby for the display of photographs of the six sons of Wooster's Dr. Smith, all of whom are in the armed service. Five served at the Wooster in various capacities . . . Charles Rich, Warner district manager, and Mrs. Rich returned from Florida just in time for Charlie to make the rounds of exchanges in his district. Mrs. Rich returned in much better health . . . Bill Gross, Columbia head booker, was out all last week nursing a quinsy sore throat.

Herman L. Spachner, manager of the newly-opened Confidential Reports office, was called to New York last week by the serious illness and death of his father . . . Ed Fisher, Loew Theatre publicity and advertising director, can pick the winners off the screen as well as on. His assistant, Laura Sloan, was selected as the cover girl of the current M-G-M Lo! She is shown modeling a well-known maker's Easter hat.

E. Stutz has reopened the Metropolitan with a foreign film policy. "Rainbow," a Russian picture showing the destruction of a Russian village by invading Germans, was the opening attraction. It received an excellent review by the Plain Dealer's W. Ward Marsh . . . Samuel Simon, father of F. Arthur Simon, Universal city salesman, died last week, following his mother by less than a month. He had been in poor health a long time.

Nat Wolf, Dick Wright, J. Knox Strachan and others of the Warner theatre department, took a print of "It Happened in Springfield" down to Columbus to show to Mrs. Jane Lausche, wife of Gov. Frank J. Lausche and members of the social workers' group with whom she is actively associated.

J. T. "Butch" Woodruff, former Georgia showman, has joined Hygienic Productions, distributors of "Mom and Dad." He is handling a unit of the show on a westward route. His first engagement was in Peoria, Ill. . . . Paul Gusdanovic and Abe Schwartz, theatre owners, are back from a winter in Florida . . . Leroy Langford, president of Oliver Theatre Supply Co., paid his office a short visit, his first appearance on Filmrow in several months due to an illness from which he is slowly recuperating.

NTS President Walter Green was in Cleveland to participate in the awarding of the navy E to Hertner Electric Co. . . . Jack Sogg, M-G-M branch manager, spent the week in Detroit in consultation with J. P. Byrne, district manager . . . Joe Krenitz, Universal manager, kept right on going from the Chicago WAC round-table conference with National Chairman Sam Pinanski, Ted Gamble of the U.S. treasury department, John D. Hertz, national publicity chairman, and other WAC chairmen to a vacation in Michigan.

Charles Deckman, one of the owners of the Berea Theatre, Berea, who has been doubling as house manager, turned the keys over to Fred Brown, a newcomer to the industry . . . Aaron Wayne is back with the Paramount sales force. He takes the territory left open by the resignation of Bill Twigg . . . Mark Goldman's resignation as PRC branch manager has put Fred Rohrs in the managerial as well as the district managerial chair . . . Peter Wellman will take over the Wilson Theatre, Youngstown, from Jack Steinberg, May 1, it was authoritatively reported.

George Davis, Wellsville theatre owner, is back from Florida carrying some extra weight and a darker-than-natural complexion . . . Mrs. Gwen Righter of the Warner publicity department was in New York . . . Harry Reinhart of Canton, who used to visit the exchanges every Monday as regular as clockwork and who seldom comes to town any more, was around the exchanges for a day.

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COLUMBUS

Gil Shepherd, former salesman in the West Virginia territory for 20th-Fox, has been assigned to the Columbus area for TC-F. He succeeds Bob McNabb, who is being transferred to the West Virginia area . . . Franklin County night club operators outside the city limits have refused to close at midnight, eastern war time and Columbus city time, complaining that "bootlegging generally" would result if they did. They now close at 1 a. m., EWT, which is midnight by official state time.

A bill to appropriate $500,000 for purchase of a 1,000-acre site northwest of Ohio State University for a new state fairgrounds has been killed by the Ohio senate agriculture committee.

The ninth annual attempt to contact the spirit of the late magician, Howard Thurston, was made here last week by Claude D. Noble, Detroit cement dealer. Like all of the others, this latest attempt was a failure. Noble tried to establish contact at the magician's crypt in Greenlawn Abbey.

All Columbus theatres, neighborhood and downtown, closed their doors last Saturday until 6 p. m. in memory of the late President . . . Bernard McGraner, assistant manager of the Ohio, is back at home recuperating after an operation. He tried working a few hours a day but further rest is required before he assumes full time duties.

Doris Vacca, Ohio relief cashier, is back in town looking in good health and spirits after a Texas vacation.

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CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

Jackie Nesbitt Discovered In a Nazi Prison Hospital

PITTSBURGH—Reported missing in action March 10, Pfc. Jack Nesbitt, 19, former PRC shipper, was one of 250 wounded U.S. prisoners liberated from the prison camp at Limburg, Germany. An International News photo, that appeared in the April 9 Sun-Telegraph, pictured young Jackie and three other prisoners after the Yanks found them in the ward of the German prison hospital. The troops were from the Seventh army which had just entered Heppenheim. Until the picture was published and identified here, the young infantryman, member of the Rainbow division, had been listed as missing in action. The photo does not disclose Nesbitt's wound, but he is elevated on his hospital cot, both arms showing, indicating lower body or back wounds.

His brother Bill is PRC office manager here; another brother, Sergeant Al, former Paramount shipper, is at an army camp in California, and a fourth brother Bob, former Monogram shipper, has been connected with a railroad here since being discharged from the army.

G. J. Easter Sells Alameda; Quits 35mm for All Time

MOUNT MORRIS, PA.—Glenn J. Easter, who remodeled and reopened the old Alameda here last fall, has transferred the house to Richard F. Clark jr., a newcomer to exhibition.

Easter, who has been identified in the 16mm film field in this area for a number of years, will continue his "circuit operations." He states that his first and last experience in 35mm exhibitions were here at the Alameda.

In the 16mm film field he claims to be the first exhibitor to open a theatre property designed for exclusive showing of "the small films." This house is at Royal, Pa.

Joseph Robins, a Veteran Musician, Dies in Detroit

DETROIT—Joseph W. Robins, 87, a Detroit musician for over 30 years, died April 8 at Highland Park General Hospital. He was the oldest member of the Detroit Federation of Musicians. For many years during the winter he played with symphony orchestras in Florida and was with the orchestra at the Majestic here for a number of years after it opened as the first de luxe outside the downtown district. Later he was with the Michigan Theatre orchestra and played frequently in the Masonic Auditorium. He is survived by four sons and one daughter.

Bingo Gets a Final "No" In Harrisburg Assembly

HARRISBURG — Proposed bingo legalization finally died for this session of the Pennsylvania general assembly. A house bill was defeated several weeks ago and then later a motion to reconsider the bill was defeated on the floor. The measure would have licensed bingo games with permission of the courts of quarter sessions. Then the senate law and order committee disapproved bingo after considerable discussion.

Preston Carr, Operator, Dies of a Heart Attack

DETROIT—Preston Carr, projectionist at the Roxy Theatre, died March 27, suddenly, following a heart attack. He was an operator in Detroit and a member of Local 199, IATSE, for about 25 years, and was at the Hollywood for many years after its opening. His wife and daughter survive.

MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Since 1912 several generations of neighbors of the Avondale Theatre at Columbus, Ohio, have depended upon that friendly showcase owned by **Frank J. Ferguson** for a large portion of their motion picture pleasure. Ferguson built the Avondale in that year, after spending two years at the old Barthman in Columbus' south end. "Fergie" has a daughter, Miss Jean Ferguson, assisting in booking and buying, and a son, Dr. George B. Ferguson of Duke University. He is a member of the Variety Club and Ohio Independent Exhibitors. His hobby: A Canada summer home.



A. B. Hyman, operator of the Keith-Albee, Orpheum and State theatres at Huntington, W. Va., has been a prominent figure in theatre business since he entered the field in 1911 as an investment. He is a charter member of the Huntington Chamber of Commerce and much interested in the development and progress of his city. He is active in the West Virginia Managers Ass'n and the B'nai B'rith. Hyman has two sons, Jack Surrel and Edwin David. He spends at least a month each year at his cottage in Canada resting and fishing. Friends call him "Abe."



Since the death of her husband, the late J. C. McCoy of Moorefield, W. Va., **Mrs. Eunice D. McCoy** has been managing the Grand Theatre which he built in 1927. McCoy had been a typesetter and entered the motion picture business as a side line in October of 1913. From the very first Mrs. McCoy helped him in the theatre management. He died on September 29 of last year, but in addition to managing the show she still finds time to carry on two hobbies: Indoors she collects antiques, and out-of-doors she raises beautiful roses.



Wade E. Allen, Arcade and Fine Arts theatres, Detroit, believes he has done just about everything that one can do around an exchange or a theatre. He started with Vitagraph in 1918 as a shipping clerk, was a booker and office manager for Universal in 1923, office manager for M-G-M in 1927, and in 1929 started his first theatre. Something of a joiner, he is a member of several Masonic orders, the Variety Club, Elks and Odd Fellows. Allen is vice-president of the Cooperative Theatres of Michigan. Baseball and boating are his chief recreations.



William A. "Bill" London purchased his first Michigan motion picture theatre in 1921, the Ritz, Detroit. Today, his circuit, Associated Theatres, Inc., runs 19 theatres in the state, nine in Detroit and one or more in Flint, Highland Park, Farmington, River Rouge, Trenton and Wyandotte. Associated's offices are in the Dime Bldg. in Detroit and London's home is in Santa Monica, Calif. The London's three sons have served in the war. Two, Theodore Lee and Saemi, both pharmacist's mates, have received an honorable discharge. Sgt. Arnold is across.



Now running two theatres, the Star at Brooklyn, Mich., and the Manchester at Manchester, **Glenn H. Bulow** owes his first success to another exhibitor's failure. That was at East Jordan in 1924 and Bulow, who was in the cigar store next door, took over the theatre and succeeded. While a lot of work, he believes theatre business is the finest in the world. He is married and has two daughters, both married, and he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce in both cities. His hobby specialties are trout fishing and billiards. He lives in Brooklyn.



In 1912 **Charles Dittson Crawford,** who now has the Palace and the Beckley theatres at Beckley, W. Va., entered the business. This was at Glen Jean. "C.D.," as he is known to his friends, has a son in the navy and one in the army and is a member of the Raleigh County war price and ration board. His two clubs are the Black Knight Country Club and Rotary. He also holds membership in the West Virginia Theatre Managers Ass'n. When he has time from these varied activities, he enjoys bird hunting. It's a great business, he thinks, and never loses interest.



All **Louis Knostman** of Minster, Ohio, needed to be convinced that show business "was for him" was a catalog of film projectors which he received in 1909. He rented a store room, ordered one of the projectors and away he went. He built his present house, the Crescent, in 1912 and opened with a stage show. Knostman owns a lodge on nearby Lake Laramie where he follows his hobby of fishing. He is active in the Eagles, likes to see a good baseball game and is a member of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.

DETROIT

Under the Marquees: Eddie Jacobson of the Davies declares his infant son doesn't resemble him—no mustache . . . George C. Lowry is the active manager of the Abington in the new partnership of Lowry and Stankiewicz . . . Joseph Johann, who has had a half interest in the Midway in Dearborn for six years, has taken over ownership of the house from Joseph Stoia, in partnership with Victor Retty, former owner of the Fordson in Dearborn . . . Frank Nott has left the Midway as manager . . . Frank Stuart, former manager of the Circle, is vacationing at Lake Orion.

Nightingale Songs: Fred Dickely's Altec team rolled 2,860 to win the AFL tournament. Doubles winners in the tournament were Gil Light and Jack Lindenthal, 1,135, and William Fouchey and Roy Light, 1,132. Lindenthal won the squad prize with 258. Singles winners were Walter Rosmys, 650; Jack Hill, 632; Hans Larsen, 619; Michael Ureel, 592; Carroll Kemp, 576, and Roy Light, 570. John Signorelli rated special thanks for his job as tournament secretary.

Theatrical Post Notes: Ed Douville was the lone 200 bowler in the big theatrical post tournament; Bob Seeley was the star in the splits; Gil Light was unanimously elected balloon chieftain. Max Kolin with 103 managed to top Owen Blough's neat 99. Edna Blough's good wishes must have had something to do with it. Bill Fouchey was too much worried over balancing his books as treasurer to bowl in the right alley . . . Cy Harris has returned to the hospital with a recurrence of foot trouble.

K&G Theatres Notes: Lieut. Adolph Komer, reported in December in a prison camp in Germany and now in territory captured by the Soviets, has been presented an Air Medal with clusters and citations, his father, Charles Komer, reports. Cpl. Myron Komer, the other son, is now in the Kalu Islands, South Pacific, as an oxygen specialist with the air force . . . Lieut. Irving Goldberg, stationed in England, sends regards to the Row . . . Charles Beiber, former relief manager for the circuit, has been named manager of the Royal Oak Theatre in the suburb of Royal Oak, succeeding the late Jack Moule.

Musical Notes: Buddy Fields advises the Michigan Ass'n of musicians will have their state convention April 12-13 at the Hotel Statler. Oscar Hild, president of the Cincinnati local, and an international executive board member, will be a visitor, with Bob Sidel, also of Cincinnati. George Clancy, secretary of the Detroit local, is super-busy doubling as president of the state meet, a post he's held for several years.

Exchanges: Herbert Spoon, navy, formerly of M-G-M and National Screen, will have enough BOXOFFICES to read for his next few voyages . . . Scotty Summerville has been the victim of a cold . . . The United Artists gang goes for peanuts in a big way . . . Milt Zimmerman, Universal office manager, busy collecting towels . . . Ed Young, poster clerk with UA for 16 years, is going on sick leave for a year . . . Stuart Graff, newcomer to the industry, replaces him.

Cliff Perry, M-G-M state salesman, had his physical exam for the army Friday of last week . . . Walter Goryl, head booker for RKO, goes into the army April 18 . . . Fred Rohrs, district manager for PRC, is moving his headquarters from St. Louis to Cleveland, he announced on his visit here.

Along the Rialto: Ralph Raskin of Price Premiums is commuting between Detroit and the Chicago office . . . Mrs. Raskin is maintaining the Detroit office in his absence . . . John L. Loell, clerk of the arbitration tribunal, has solved his secretarial worries.

SeaBee Joseph W. O'Connell reports a new kind of "opposition" in South Pacific theatres; it's from bats, startled into vociferous eerie cries when they hear any loud cries in the pictures shown in the jungle at night to service men.

Margaret Studebaker, Irene Nowlin and Harold Morrison were among the group cheering Cliff Perry upon his scheduled induction . . . Bill Pasanen reports the Film Bowling League banquet will be held April 30 at Variety Club rooms.

Supply Stuff: Capt. Karl Bromel, son of Karl Bromel, now a censor on the western front, made an inspection trip to the front lines with a UP correspondent and received shrapnel wound in the left shoulder. Carl Bromel and Sons, theatrical scenery firm, is changing name to Technical Service, Inc. . . . Jack Bell of United Billposting has put up a huge billboard, running about 300 sheets on the store front windows at Olympia for the coming circus.

Tablecloth Notes: At Michigan Theatrical Agents meet, in the Hotel Detroiter: Norman Birnkrant, national counsel, was toastmaster and Herry Lee was chairman of the entertainment committee. Red Ace, now T/5 Meyer Herman, was a guest on a 45-day furlough. Alex Agreenoff celebrated his birthday. Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Iodice were our table neighbors, with Betty Bryden across the table. Among the guests were Mickey Chiado, Lee Johnson, Harry V. Betts, Billy Grubbs, and a host of theatrical celebrities. Jack Davis back from Miami much sunburned.

Up in the Booths: John Kinsora, brother of Local 199's prexy, has returned to the Roxy, where he was stationed before the curfew closed the all-night shows, replacing the late Preston Carr.

Pvt. Edward Waddell, of the marines, formerly of the Hoover and Stanley, last reported in a hospital at Guam, was wounded March 13 on Iwo Jima by a machine gun bullet entering the chest and coming out the left side of the back. He also lost his pack . . . Ray Schreiber has reopened the Forest for Saturdays and Sundays only.

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Detroit Labor Paper Wants Curfew Eased

DETROIT—A move to secure modification of the curfew to give proper recreational scope to war workers on evening and night shifts has been launched by the Detroit Wayne County Federation of Labor, through its official organ, the Detroit Labor News. The editorial pays tribute to the war service of the industry, and points to what it terms the apparent lack of consideration apparently given to war workers' needs in the sudden imposition of the order.

"Our brain-trusters inflict a curfew regulation, presumably in the interest of the war effort," the editorial states. "The authority at Washington that decreed the curfew is the same authority that designated these places of amusement as essential to the war effort because of their contribution to morale.

"In an industrial community such as ours, the execution of the defense program is on an around-the-clock production basis. Consequently, the shop hours of a great number of industrial workers are of such a nature that the only time they can get any amusement or relaxation is after midnight.

"Theatres, cafes and dance halls have been used extensively by the various governmental agencies in promoting campaigns to reach the American people. In the various war bond drives, the Red Cross, the war chest, and all other war sustaining efforts where the mass public must be reached, the places of amusement have been called upon to make a large contribution. The motion picture industry has been outstanding in its cooperation with these various efforts . . .

"Experience has now demonstrated the fallacy of the curfew regulations. They should be lifted in such a manner as to guarantee opportunities of recreation and amusement to the portion of the public which must seek its outlet after 12 o'clock."

Brenkert Keeps Top Spot In Nightingale Pin Loop

DETROIT—Brenkert Projectors still are the high winners in the Nightingale Bowling League, with a score of 47 games won, and 28 lost.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Brenkert Projectors	47	28
Lorenzen's Flower Shop	44	31
McArthur Theatre Equipment	39	36
National Carbon Co.	38	37
Altec Sound Service	36	39
National Theatre Supply	35	40
McArthur's Motiograph	31	44
Ernie Forbes Theatre Supply	30	45

Jack Lindenthal is leading with a high score of 212, with William Swistak following close behind with 207.

Assign Jody in "The Yearling"

Claude Jarman jr., ten-year-old from Nashville, Tenn., has been given the role of Jody in "The Yearling," a Metro production.

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Junior Club Formed To Discuss Films

WORCESTER—Lively discussions for and against current motion pictures took place at the first meeting last week of the newly-formed Junior Reviewers Club, sponsored by the Better Films Council.

The club, comprising five pupils of the best scholastic standing from each of the junior high and preparatory schools, assigns members to attend pictures chosen by an advisory committee. The club is believed to be without precedent in this section.

Of "The Three Caballeros," Renee Michelson of the Sever Street prep school said, "I thought the picture was good, but several of my friends told me they thought it was too babyish. It seems to me this picture was enjoyed by adults and children who have a vivid imagination."

Elizabeth Ginsberg commented, "The coloring in the movie was beautiful and had eye appeal."

Herbert Lubowitz of the Grafton Street Junior High School saw "National Velvet," and observed, "I learned a lot about racing, how dangerous racing could be in a Grand National race and of the wonderful scenery."

Rhoda Savage of the same school was of the opinion the picture really was for children.

Two Get Stiff Penalties For Breaking in Theatres

BOSTON—Edgar Cook and John Stubblefield were found guilty of breaking and entering M&P theatre buildings, and each was sentenced by Judge J. A. Baker to 12 to 15 years in the state prison to take effect after whatever federal prison terms the pair might receive. They were convicted of attempted larceny in two suburban theatres and breaking into the Franklin Park Theatre and stealing $2,500 and $35,000 worth of United States bonds. Both men were from Lincoln, Neb.

Jerry Finnegan Moved To Worcester Plymouth

WORCESTER—Jerry Finnegan, who has been with the Court Square in Springfield for seven years, the last few as house manager, has been transferred to the Plymouth here as manager. Max Finn, general manager of the E. M. Loew circuit, announced the change. He succeeds Ralph Eaton, who is now with the Samuel Wasserman Enterprises. Ed Harrison, who has been substituting here, returns to the Court Square.

Lake Compounce, Bristol, Opens Its 100th Season

HARTFORD—Lake Compounce, a leading entertainment zone located at Bristol, opened April 15 for its 100th season. It will open every weekend until May 30 and then will go into daily operation. It is rated as one of the oldest institutions of its kind in America and features an entire amusement area, roller skating, speed boats, and a scenic railroad.

Homer A. Graves, Rialto, Lancaster, Dies at 82

LANCASTER, N. H.—Homer A. Graves, who built the Rialto Theatre here several years ago and operated it until recently, is dead at the age of 82. He was a native of Claremont and operated the Globe Theatre in St. Johnsbury, Vt., before coming to Lancaster. Graves was a past master of White Mountain Masonic lodge.

20th-Fox to Use Sound Film for Its Telecasts

BOSTON—The television station owned by the General Television Corp., formerly operated as WIXG, has been leased to the 20th-Fox Film Corp., according to an announcement by Thompson L. Guernsey, founder of WLBZ and General Television president, and by 20th-Fox.

Electrical engineers are now working on the television transmitter in the Sears Roebuck tower. Twentieth-Fox announced it will apply for an experimental license immediately and conduct experimental programming with the use of sound films as the first phase of its telecast activities.

WIXG was the first station in New England to maintain a regular telecast program. Following the advances made in television research during 1940 and 1941 the station was able to supplement its purely experimental work with a regular schedule of 15 hours of telecast entertainment each week.

Guernsey has predicted that combination of motion pictures with a studio commentary will constitute the ideal news coverage of the future. Local news cameramen probably will be equipped with motion picture cameras so that news events can be portrayed on home television screens just as newsreels depict national and world events on theatre screens, Gurnsey forecast.

"Combination of television broadcasting facilities with motion picture production technique is logical," he continued, "because radio broadcasting has means of distribution to the home which motion picture companies desire and the film producers, in turn have had them in production work which will improve the quality of television broadcasting."

Guernsey also emphasized his belief in the great public service and commercial possibilities of television. Eventually television sets will be as common as radios, he said.

During the early part of the winter of 1940 and through 1941 the broadcasts of the General Television Corp. were transmitted from the Brookline Ave. studios. Then the corporation obtained permission to set up transmitting facilities in the Sears Roebuck tower at 210 Brookline Ave. and the higher location gave added range to the television broadcasts. At that time there were only 12 television sets here, one in the cocktail lounge at the Hotel Manger where crowds were attracted to see the novelty during the nightly programs.

With the war, experimental broadcasting was suspended, but the studio continued to be a center of activity for development of improved programming techniques. Leland Powers and Academie Moderne continued to use the studio facilities to train their students in radio and television and advertising agencies and other business organizations were invited to use the studios and learn more about the medium of television.

Manchester Marine Seen In Flag-Raising Shots

MANCHESTER, N. H.—There was a very good reason for "The Capture of Iwo Jima," including the famous Mt. Suribachi flag-raising scene, to be brought back by popular request to the State.

Pvt. Rene A. Gagnon, 20, of Manchester, who was one of two marines in the flag-raising group to survive the Iwo Jima battles, was being acclaimed throughout the state and nation.

Before his arrival back in the U.S., the marine had written to his mother, and had added the P. S.:

"When you see the newsreel in the movies of the marines putting up the flag on top of the mountain, well, that's where I was!"

New Boston Magazine

BOSTON — Esplanade, a new amusement weekly, made its appearance last week. Barbara Pearson is the editor of the smart-looking magazine which will feature news about motion pictures, theatres, night clubs and hotels. It carried 20 pages at the start.



LOEW-POLI SHOWMEN—Meet the managers of the Loew-Poli New England theatres. Left to right, front row: George Freeman, Poli, Springfield; Morris Rosenthal, Poli, New Haven; Harry Rose, Majestic, Bridgeport; Joe Boyle, Broadway, Norwich; Mollie Stickles, Palace, Meriden; Lou Brown, director of advertising and publicity for the circuit; Harry F. Shaw, division manager of the circuit and Bert McKenzie, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer exploitation representative for New England.

Back row: Matt Saunders, Poli, Bridgeport; Bob Carney, Lyric Bridgeport; Al Domian, Globe, Bridgeport; H. H. Maloney, Poli, Worcester; Lou Cohen, Poli, Hartford; Bill Brown, Bijou, New Haven; Bob Portle, Elm St., Worcester; Fred Greenway, Palace, Hartford; Sam Shuboff, acting manager, College, New Haven, and Paul Klingler, Strand, Waterbury. The only manager missing is Ed Fitzpatrick of the Poli, Waterbury.

NEW HAVEN

Big meeting at the Hotel Garde, called by Amalgamated, brought more exhibitors into town than Meadow St. has seen in many a week. In addition to regular members of the Amalgamated "family," others exhibitors were invited to help in the discussion of "future policies and problems of theatre operation." Lou Ginsberg of Amalgamated who presided said that Amalgamated meetings would be held periodically for exchange of views. Nick DelRosso was in from Watertown for the meeting for the first time in months. Also in attendance were Jack Schwartz, West End, Bridgeport; Joseph Reed, Washington Depot and Bantam; Harold Tabackman, Bostwick, Bridgeport; Samuel Hadelman, Capitol and Colonial, Bridgeport; A. E. Birchman, State, New Haven; Joseph and Theodore Markoff, of Moodus, Colchester, and East Hampton; Philip Schwartz, Parkway, Bridgeport; Robert Schwartz, Park Playhouse, Thomaston; Michael Sirica, Lido, Waterbury; Joe DiFrancesco Cheshire, Anthony Terrazano, Fairmont, New Haven; Rocco Longo, Community, Oakville, and Ralph Civitello, Devon.

A managers meeting was called by Harry Shaw in exploitation plans for "Picture of Dorian Gray," opening April 26. Warners will be through with subsequent run operation in the five Al Schuman theatres in Hartford June 30, and report is the circuit intends building two theatres in Hartford immediately after the war.

Mileage: E. K. Callahan, Boston district manager, was in to see the 20th-Fox boys . . . Roger Mahan, Waterbury exhibitor, was seen in Meadow St. after a flying trip to New York. Mahan was showing future theatre blueprints around . . . Nick Mascoli of Waterbury, also was sporting blueprints and a permit . . . Ben Simon of 20th-Fox was in to Boston and back in a hurry . . . Ben Rogers was in from Boston on his Astor picture, "Rain," and booked several engagements through the state following the week at the Shubert here . . . I. J. Hoffman, Warner theatre zone head, was in Saratoga for a short rest . . . Black Rock, Bridgeport, officially subscribed to the Amalgamated booking and buying service as of April 15 . . . Max Hirshman of Cinemacraft studios was in from New York on a business trip . . . The Harry Shaws' destination was Miami Beach April 20 . . . Sam Horwitz of the Poli, Springfield, was in to see his fiancee, Estelle Calegman, Bijou assistant . . . Irwin Wheeler was an infrequent visitor on Meadow St. . . . Jeanette Berliner, former booker at Republic, was due in town for a visit from Washington.

National Theatre Supply sold new mechanisms and new pedestals to the Branford Theatre, Branford . . . Ralph Pasho will have his new Naugatuck theatre completed in midsummer, according to present indications . . . At the Russell Hesses' of Groton, it's a baby boy, eight pounds, and first addition to the family . . . Dan Finn of Warners was working hard on the state cancer drive, with John Hesse lending assistance . . . Successful results of the Warners Saturday morning children's talent show reported for South Norwalk . . . Jack Schield, manager of the Capitol, Ansonia, was at Griffin Hospital after an operation, while Jack Matthews of the Empress, Danbury, relieved him, and Jack Harvey of the Palace, Danbury, kept an eye on the Empress.

Beautiful Sundays are luring film men in droves to Racebrook and Meadowbrook Country clubs . . . Percentage of women to men in the audience at "Between Two Women" at the Poli, New Haven, was 30 to one, says Morris Rosenthal . . . Charles McBride, Paramount stage manager, was ill in Meriden with a heart attack, and John Grinold, formerly at the Shubert, has moved over to the Paramount . . . Mrs. Russell Barrett of the Capitol, Willimantic, went home in Massachusetts, recuperating from an illness . . . Shirley Cleveland Green has resigned from the Loew Poli division office, and the "voice" is now Mrs. Charlotte Murray . . . Capitol, Ansonia, was having a lobby job and general face lifting . . . Jack Harvey of the Palace, Danbury, is developing "green" fingers around his new grounds and home in Danbury . . . John Pavone, former manager of Universal here, was still enjoying a vacation, despite previous reports that he was employed in Albany.

Arthur Smith will be completing his ninth term as mayor of Newtown and manager of Edmund Town Hall in May . . . Bob Schwartz of the Paramount, Thomaston, finds new joys in fishing . . . The Fairmont was host to the Republic staff recently . . . Adolph Johnson has sold the Shelton Theatre a 74-week dish deal, beginning May 15, for two-day giveaway . . . Friends of Bill Scully were pleased at the news that his son, Lieut. John J. Scully jr., a German prisoner since January, 1943, had arrived at Camp Miles Standish on an exchange ship.



Editorial Sums Up Industry Roosevelt Sentiments

HARTFORD—The following local editorial on President Roosevelt expresses the sentiments of the motion picture industry generally:

"Closing of the theatres today out of deference to the late President Roosevelt was a foregone conclusion. He was the staunchest presidential friend the motion picture industry ever had. He was cognizant of many of its problems, and bent his every effort to ease the impact of war as much as possible. He recognized the value of the cinema as a morale builder, and thoroughly enjoyed screenings of films at the White House, seemingly with emphasis on comedy.

"The motion pictures served him well, too, particularly in the days of the New Deal. The documentary film, 'The River,' issued through the resettlement administration, is regarded by many as the finest example of motion picture technique in the history of Hollywood.

"Produced in the interests of soil erosion control along the Mississippi, it gave millions of moviegoers a more comprehensive picture of America than they ever before had seen so compactly presented. It was under the Roosevelt administration that the government, for the first time in history, became itself a theatrical producer. The hundreds of WPA federal theatres that dotted the nation did more for the art of acting and playwrighting than many people thought at the time and they developed new, noncommercial techniques which have since been adopted by other producers. Hartford had the first FERA entertainment venture which offered free dramatic comedies in the school auditoriums. Then came the Hartford Civic Repertory at the State and then at the Palace. Theatres pay homage to FDR as a friend."

Sectional Meetings For Seventh Drive

BOSTON — In a letter addressed to all Massachusetts theatres, M. J. Mullin, state chairman for the Seventh War Loan, explains that because of the decision of the national committee to eliminate flying visits to key cities throughout the nation, made necessary by ODT restrictions, there will be no exhibitor-distributor meetings here to discuss the campaign.

Mullin says theatre men in each area will meet with the regional director, at which a distributor representative from the state committee will be present. Also detailed in the letter was the four-point program set up for the Seventh War Loan. They are as follows:

Four Main Objectives

To obtain more issuing agencies, more bond premieres than in any previous drive, more kiddie bond premieres and 100 per cent Free Movie Day participation.

Mullin said the national and state publicity committee would be in constant touch with the theatres. "Nothing less than 100 per cent cooperation on the part of all of us will enable the industry to meet with the success that must be ours in the Seventh," he declared.

Included in the letter was a complete list of the Massachusetts state chairmen, with the names of the regional directors. They are:

The Area Directors

Regional directors: Nathan E. Goldstein, Western Massachusetts Theatres; Elmer Daniels, Capitol Theatre, Worcester; Jack Melincoff, Warner Theatre, Lawrence; E. A. Cuddy, M&P Theatres, Boston; Horace Beals, Brockton Theatre, Brockton; Mrs. Natalie Kunze, Centre, Hyannis; Harry Zeitz, State, New Bedford; Edward B. Haley, Fitchburg, Fitchburg.

Exchange distributor representatives: George W. Horan, chairman, Warners, 131 Arlington St., Boston; trailer representative, Harry Kirchgessner, National Screen, 95 Broadway, Boston; labor representative, Thad Barrows, chairman, IATSE Local 182, 260 Tremont St., Boston; Free Movie Day chairman, Charles Kurtzman, Loew's State, 205 Massachusetts Ave., Boston; premiere committee chairman, George W. Horan, Warners, and special events chairman, Robert Sternburg, Metropolitan Theatre, 268 Tremont St., Boston.

Civic at Portland, Me., Puts On a Quest for Talent

PORTLAND, ME. — The Civic Theatre is running a talent quest every Monday night for 12 weeks, skipping the week of April 16. The program goes on at 8 p. m. and lasts half an hour. Three prizes, $10, $5 and $3 are given. At the end of the 12 weeks, the winner for each contest will compete in the finals, and the best out of the 12 will receive a professional engagement with the vaudeville agency, which has been putting on the contest, because of lack of talent. Winners are judged by applause.

Cartoon Show Overflows, Palace Stages a Second

NORWICH—Due to the tremendous response to his cartoon show Saturday (7) and to accommodate the hundreds turned away, Manager Joe Miklos of the Palace scheduled an all-different, two-hour cartoon show for Saturday (14) at 10 a. m. He set prices at 18 cents for children and 35 cents for adults. Kiddie shows are increasing in favor in Connecticut cities.

Congratulations

and

Sincere Best Wishes

to

Abe Montague

On His 20th Anniversary

With Columbia Pictures

—EDDIE PESKAY

HAMILTON THEATRE

•

Waterbury, Conn.

WHITE WAY VICTORY THEATRE

•

New Haven, Conn.

•

MIKE TOMASINO

TOWN HALL

•

Newtown, Conn.

•

ART SMITH
Mgr.

HARTFORD

Industryites have canceled all vacation plans until the finish of the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Sam Horwitz, assistant manager, Loew's Poli, Springfield, visited theatre friends here on his day off and reported that he was coming up for reclassification at his local draft board . . . Louis Ginsburg, Amalgamated Theatres, was a Hartford visitor.

Flight Officer Bernard Byrnes, formerly of Loew's Poli, arrived from Texas on an eight-day furlough prior to shipping overseas and visited the local trade . . . Happy birthday wishes to Henry Wittke, Lenox manager, April 15 . . . Eugene Duby is new at Bernard Stevens' Astor. Stevens' brother, Private Eugene, has arrived in England with the air corps.

A new candy stockroom has been built into Daly Theatre . . . A new chinaware dish deal is set to open at the Princess April 16-17 . . . The Princess staff held a birthday party for Viola DeMarco, chief usherette for five years . . . Seaman Larry Landry, formerly of the Astor, is with the navy at Pearl Harbor . . . Sal Adorno, former Astor manager, now is working at Colt's defense plant.

A sign of summer: Roses budding at Mrs. Norman Rolfe's Webb Playhouse in Wethersfield . . . Betty Miller, Colonial cashier, had her first professional singing engagement on her night off at the YMCA with Ivan White's orchestra at a big USO dance . . . Margaret Morgan, formerly of the Lenox, arrived home from Washington, where she is stationed with the WAVES . . . Sam Scheckter, Colonial, entertained the Leo Diamond Harmonica trio at his home in Springfield on his day off and all had a grand session on old-times. The trio was at the Court Square, Springfield . . . Joseph Quittner, co-owner of the Q&P circuit in Connecticut, tripped into town from New York to helm the Eastwood while Manager Tom Grace went to New London to visit his folks.

Norma Helen Moray, daughter of the New England short subjects sales manager for Warners, Charles Moray, was married to Sgt. Harvey Du Paul in New York . . . Jack Gordon, owner of Gordon's Theatrical Talent Bureau here, returned from South Carolina after a visit with daughter Connie at Camp LeJeune with the marines. He reports that camp theatricals were "terrific" . . . Hartfordite Leonard Tanner returned to town as a member of Raymond Scott's band at the State.

Henry Needles, WB district manager and state co-chairman of the Showman's Seventh War Loan drive, attended a state conference with other trade leaders in New Haven. Herman Levy of MPTOA is state chairman . . . Frank Ramsey, former Lenox manager recently discharged from the army, was to return from California, where he has been convalescing, to Hartford and the Warner film business.

Charles Obert, Allyn, was seen at the public library looking over yacht models . . . No closing of Hartford theatres is planned on VE-Day unless, of course, crowds become more boisterous than expected. Arrangements have been completed to announce the European victory over radio stage setups and this will be followed by prayers conducted from special screen trailers. For six months, lobby signs announcing plans and assuring patrons that they would be fully informed of the event should it occur during show time, have been on display at the Poli and Palace.

Harry DePathy, with the Palace for 20 years, is working at the Biscayne Key in Floridea these days for M-G-M. He currently is serving with the crew in "They Were Expendable," starring Robert Montgomery, and sends regards to Hartford friends . . . Rialto's Ken Trumbull entered the professional boxing ring recently at the Hartford Auditorium . . . Manager Hugh Campbell, Central, reports that his son Lieutenant Arthur, is with the navy in the South Pacific.

Manager Lou Cohen of the Poli went to New Haven to attend the special publicity meeting conducted by Lou Brown, publicity director for Loew's Theatres.

Anthony DiLorenzo, formerly of the Daly, has been upped to private first class, he writes the folks from France.

Officer Tripp, Astor Theatre, is rightfully proud of his son, Melvin, who was among the first contingent of soldiers over the Remagen Bridge and who recently was awarded a Purple Heart for wounds. Melvin has been overseas seven months . . . Florence Cambria, chief Daly circuit bookkeeper, was well-remembered on her birthday.

When "Winged Victory," the army air force show closes, the entire cast of 225 service men, many of whom are former Hartford industryites, will get overseas assignments.

Dorsey Big at Boston

BOSTON—The Tommy Dorsey band played at the RKO Boston last week and got a reception that amounted to almost an ovation. The theatre was packed to the rafters and filled with an electric excitement which broke loose into cheers, whistles and applause at the end of every number. It was a spontaneous tribute to an idol, such as has greeted Frank Sinatra. The band has 39 stars in its service flag, but it remains tops in swing. Dorsey's trombone solos were called "gems" by local newspaper reviewers, along with Dave Rose's arrangement of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes."

Roy Barcroft Gets a Serial Lead

Roy Barcroft, veteran of menace roles, will get his first opportunity as leading man in Republic's 15-minute serial, "The Purple Shadow Strikes."



IN NEW PUBLICITY JOB—George Kraska is shown at his desk, where he directs publicity for Loew's State and Orpheum theatres in Boston. The appointment was made recently by Charles E. Kurtzman, division manager.

New Checking Group Names Branch Aides

NEW YORK—Confidential Reports, Inc., new checking group, has appointed the following branch managers:

Francisco S. Ingres, St. Louis; Clarence E. Richmond, Chicago; Joseph H. Birmingham, Kansas City; Botille E. Smith, Minneapolis; Maurice G. Butler, Indianapolis; Harry H. Daniels, Cincinnati; Harold E. Lombard, Omaha; Thomas Holland, San Francisco; Barry Halpert, Los Angeles; Louis Soffer, Milwaukee; Edgar Wolf, Salt Lake City; William L. Gettings, Denver; Cecil N. Johnson, Charlotte; Malcolm H. Ritchie, Atlanta.

Joseph F. Landy, Memphis; William Dunn, Dallas; Arthur W. Davis, Washington; George Schwartz, New York; Herman Jacobs, Albany; Leo Weiss, Buffalo; Oliver Bradley, New Haven; Harvey Shelley, Philadelphia; William J. Ahern, Seattle, and Herman Spachner, Cleveland.

The following will be assigned to their territories later: O. Stradley, R. Konigsberg, R. Gordon, J. Donnelly, P. Buechler, B. Rose and F. Weilandt. The cities to which they will be assigned include Portland, Oklahoma City, Boston, Detroit, Des Moines, Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

Regional meetings of the newly-appointed personnel were held in New York, Memphis, St. Louis and Los Angeles.

Greek Canteen Opening Books Hartford Artists

HARTFORD—Val Arms, former Hartford theatrical caricaturist and lobby display artist, has been announced on the program for the opening night in New York of the first canteen to be set up anywhere in the country for Greek-American service men exclusively. The program is headed by Katina Paxinou of "For Whom the Bell Tolls," who was recently in Hartford on a personal appearance tour.

Tallulah and Whorf Given Press Club Citations

BOSTON—Tallulah Bankhead and Richard Whorf were awarded citations of merit by the Cambridge Press Club as being the motion picture players who presented the best portrayals of newspaper people on the screen during 1944.

N. HAMPSHIRE

Francis J. Cahalan and Ernest Simoneau have been named in charge of theatre advertising in Claremont's participation in the Seventh War Loan drive.

After a debate lasting nearly three hours, the state senate, by a two-to-one margin, approved the bill extending pari-mutuel racetrack betting to the end of 1950, in the same form as it was approved by the house several weeks ago.

"Mr. and Mrs. America," dramatic sound film, was shown at several war bond rallies in New Hampshire, as a prelude to the Seventh War Loan drive, under the direction of A. H. Rice of Hollis, 16mm motion picture chairman for the state.

"How time does fly!" said a Manchester Union editorial, "Just Think!," based on Shirley Temple's marriage engagement. "But even juvenile movie stars grow up—to the distress of parents and producers. Some lose their boxoffice appeal, but Shirley hasn't and we don't believe she ever will."

Congratulations

To

Abe Montague

STRAND AMUSEMENT CO.

American, Bridgeport, Conn.

Hippodrome, Bridgeport, Conn.

Park City, Bridgeport, Conn.

Rialto, Bridgeport, Conn.

Mayfair, Bridgeport, Conn.

Strand, Bridgeport, Conn.

State Theatre, Torrington, Conn.

CHARLES LEVINE, Pres.

MORRIS JACOBSON, General Manager

FLORA COHN

THEATRE BUYING AND BOOKING OFFICE

154 Meadow St.

New Haven, Conn.

Playhouse, New Canaan, Conn.

Playhouse, Ridgefield, Conn.

Pequot, New Haven

Distributor for

AIRKEM — CHLOROPHYLL AIR FRESHNESS

STRAND THEATRE

•

SEYMOUR, CONN.

•

HAROLD DONOVAN
Mgr.

CAPITOL THEATRE

•

MILFORD, CONN.

WORCESTER

Roger Kavanaugh of the Poli backstage staff received word that his son, Lieut. Roger Kavanaugh, formerly of the Loew-Poli organization, has been awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Luxembourg . . . Ross Frisco, Boston booker, was at the Plymouth for the first time since he was operated on in a southern hospital.

George Heeley, manager of the Marlboro in that city, has resigned after six years and has been inducted into the army with a group from Watertown. Associates at the theatre gave him a farewell party at the Wildwood Inn and a going-away purse . . . The Hollis in Framingham has turned in $260 as its collections for the Red Cross fund.

The Better Films Council announces approval of "National Velvet," "Nothing But Trouble" and "Sergeant Mike" for the family (from eight years of age); "Destiny," "The Falcon in Hollywood," "Frenchman's Creek," "It's a Pleasure," "Practically Yours" and "This Man's Navy" for mature-family audiences (from 12 years of age), and "The Woman in the Window" for adults only.

Michael Bartlett of Oxford, former Columbia film actor, will sing some operas and concerts in Mexico City in June . . . The Capitol scheduled a revival of "Going My Way," but couldn't get a print . . . Joe Meade and George Dumas, formerly on the backtage staff of the Plymouth, are with legitimate plays in Chicago.

"Naughty Marietta," playing a one-nighter at the Auditorium, drew an excellent audience of 2,800 . . . The Clyde Jordan Girls of this city have been booked into the Court Square, Springfield; Modern, Brockton; Park, Woonsocket, and Metropolitan, Providence.

Phil Loew, manager of the Family, is a ringer for his brother, E. M. Loew, the circuit owner . . . A Sunday Telegram columnist criticized motion pictures for their commercial advertising within feature pictures, pointing out that he had seen blatant plugs for a national weekly magazine, a brand of cigarets, a soft drink and a make of automobile. "The radio does this," he commented, "but at least the radio is free."

Johnny Ryan, formerly of the Warner, is now stationed in France . . . Speakers were heard from the stages of the Poli, Warner and Capitol in the campaign for more Wac nurses aides . . . Spike Jones, the band leader, was in town.

Ralph Eaton, recently resigned as manager of the Plymouth, returned to the house for one time when he came in to help promote Ruth Gordon's one night stand in "Over 21" . . . The Five-Star in Palmer was closed Monday through Friday to permit installation of insulation.

The "Hollywood Ice Revels" missed their first night at the Auditorium because trucks did not arrive with their equipment, but they drew well the following two days . . . Mrs. Max H. Rubinstein was named chairman of the Better Films Council's annual luncheon May 1 at the Sheraton. At a recent meeting, "The Motion Picture as an Instrument of Education" was discussed by Mrs. Benjamin Levenson.

Kay Rafter of the Elm Street cashier staff made her eighth donation to the Framingham Red Cross blood bank . . . Max Finn of Boston was in town to confer with the E. M. Loew district boss, Ed Harrison.

Miss Mary M. Foley, an assistant manager of the Poli, was married last week in the Church of the Ascension to Lieut. Russell S. Moriarty of Ft. Benning, Ga., former assistant manager of the Plaza. They were attended by Eileen M. Foley and Petty Officer Gerard Foley. After a wedding trip, the bride will return here and resume her theatre duties.

Linoleum in Booths

BRIDGEPORT—The floors of the projection booths of the four Loew's theatres here, the Poli, Majestic, Globe and Lyric, have been covered with linoleum. Areste Tomassetti, Poli projectionist, says it is not only easier on the feet than the cement but makes the booth much easier to keep clean.

SPRINGFIELD

Friends were anticipating wedding invitations shortly from Sam Horowitz, assistant manager of the Poli, and his bride-to-be, Esther Calegman of New Haven . . . Theatre folk throughout the territory extended condolences to Manager Arthur Desautels, Majestic, Holyoke, on the recent death of his father . . . Ed Harrison, district manager for E. M. Loew's, is handling managerial duties at the Court Square since the promotion of Jerry Finnegan to the Plymouth in Worcester, replacing Ralph Eaton. Finnegan has been executive secretary of the Playgoers of Springfield, Inc., for the last four years and in charge of the Court Square Theatre for the same period. He will continue at his post for the Playgoers, returning here when necessary, probably one day a week, to supervise business details.

Theatre men met to plan for participation in the "I Am an American" day celebration May 20 in conjunction with the local civic committee . . . Manager Ed Smith, Paramount, reported that the return of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" did top business . . . The clothing salvage drive backed by theatre men of this area has achieved real success . . . Vacation schedules in this area have been postponed until completion of the industry's Seventh War Loan drive in June.

A tribute will be paid April 28 to Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., in recognition of his efforts in producing "It Happened in Springfield," a special short dealing with the famed "Springfield plan." Ceremonies will include an address by Mayor Anderson of Springfield, speaking from Boston, where the program will originate under the direction of Dolph Martin. Warner also is expected to take part in the broadcast, speaking from the coast. Warner visited Springfield last summer and observed the program in the works.

Painters have started work on the Capitol, reports Manager Andy Sette, and a complete redecoration job is in the works . . . Bill Cozak, well known in the trade as "J. W.," assistant manager at the Capitol, tripped into New York and visited Manager Zeb Epstein, Strand . . . Allan Parnett is the new assistant manager at the Art. Former assistant Wendell Moore is now assistant manager of the Garden, Greenfield, Mass. . . . Also, it is reported that Wendell is passing out cigars! The occasion is the birth of a baby boy to Mrs. Moore at Springfield Hospital, April 9. The baby, their first, is named Lawrence Joseph Moore . . . Circuit Owner Herman Rifkin announced that Francis X. Beaupre is the new manager of the Jefferson. Beaupre was formerly manager of the Garden, Greenfield.

Paul Lukas to Costar in "Deadline"

Paul Lukas will costar with the ex-swimming champ Bill Williams in RKO's "Deadline at Dawn."

"Tonight" Is at Top In Hartford Grosses

HARTFORD—After the death of President Roosevelt theatres remained closed Saturday. During the week, however, the top boxoffice receipts were garnered by Rita Hayworth in "Tonight and Every Night." The fourth week of "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Regal and the third week on "National Velvet" at the Palace continued to draw good business. "God Is My Co-Pilot" clicked at the Strand boxoffice for the second week.

(Average is 100)

Allyn—**The Unseen** (Para); **Utah** (Rep) 110
E. M. Loew's—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **Missing Juror** (Col) 180
Palace—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 130
Poli—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 140
Regal—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 4th wk. 130
State—**Hollywood and Vine** (PRC), plus Gipsy Rose Lee, Raymond Scott and orchestra on stage 110
Strand—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 2nd wk. 130

"Co-Pilot," With "Miss Julie," Climbs To Top at New Haven Boxoffices

NEW HAVEN—"God Is My Co-Pilot," dualled at the Roger Sherman with "A Song for Miss Julie," topped the downtown business and was held for a second try. "Between Two Women" and "Main Street After Dark" were transferred from the Poli to the College for a second week. The report is for the week ended April 13.

Bijou—**Guest in the House** (UA); **The Great Mike** (PRC) 90
College—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 100
Loew's-Poli—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M) 103
Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd wk. 86
Roger Sherman—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **A Song for Miss Julie** (Rep) 110

Business at Boston at Lowest Ebb in Weeks; Two Hit 120

BOSTON—The theatre business was off last week, and attendance was not at such a low in a long time. All theatres were closed Saturday until 6 p. m. in memory of Mr. Roosevelt.

Boston—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), plus stage show 100
Fenway and Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 110
Majestic—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) 115
Memorial—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 3rd wk. 100
Metropolitan—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 120
State and Orpheum—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 120

Park-In Theatre Opened Weekends at Riverside

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. — Owner-Manager Edward J. Carroll opened his Riverside Park-In Theatre and amusement area with 50 fun features for weekend operation this month with daily operation due to start on May 5. Tommy Dorsey and his band have been booked for the opening dance at the Riverside Park ballroom on April 28. The opening screen booking was "Follow the Boys" with George Raft.

Braidley Field Service Men Feted at Hartford, Conn.

HARTFORD—A group of service men from Braidley Field, Conn., were hosted by theatre editors, State stage headliners and the management of the Round Table Restaurant at the Round Table after attending a performance of Ruth Gordon in "Over 21" at the Bushnell Memorial. Entertainers often have expressed the pleasure they receive in performing for service men in this area because of their wholehearted response.

CONGRATULATIONS

To

ABE MONTAGUE

On the 20th Anniversary with Columbia Pictures

MIDDLETOWN ENTERPRISES, INC.

MIDDLESEX and CAPITOL THEATRES,
Middletown, Conn.

VICTORY THEATRE,
New London, Conn.

COLONIAL THEATRE

Canaan, Conn.

A. Boscardino

J. Casey

NEWINGTON THEATRE

Newington, Conn,

N. Kournaris

A. Tolis

J. Walsh

AMALGAMATED THEATRES, INC.

Buying and Booking, 128 Meadow St., New Haven

West End, Bridgeport
Parkway, Bridgeport
Bostwick, Bridgeport
Black Rock, Bridgeport
Dreamland, New Haven
Guilford, Guilford
Community, Oakville
Moodus, Moodus
Astor, E. Hartford
State, Springdale
Cameo, Watertown
Park, Thomaston
Bryant Memorial Hall, Washington
Bantam, Bantam
Colchester, Colchester
Easthampton, Easthampton
Strand, Willimantic
Music Box, New Britain
New Colony, Sound View

STRATFORD THEATRE

STRATFORD, CONN.

AL PICKUS

JOSEPH QUITTNER

EASTWOOD THEATRE — East Hartford, Conn.

PALACE THEATRE — New Britain, Conn.

STRAND THEATRE — Thompsonville, Conn.

STATE THEATRE — Jewett City, Conn.

PETE PERAKOS

BOSTON

Myron Shapiro, son of Dave Shapiro of the Wholesome Film Co., has returned to Norfolk, Va., where he is a naval aviation ordnance man . . . Elsie Marshall of the Wacs and her brother, Lieut. David L. Marshall of the army, both returned home on furlough the same day. They are stationed at camps within a few miles of each other in Maryland. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jim Marshall of the Film Transfer Co.

Sgt. David Mendelson, brother of Irving Mendelson, office manager of United Artists, was reported wounded on the German front for the second time within six months . . . Francis Driscoll, M-G-M booker who has been seriously ill with pneumonia, is expecting to return to work soon . . . Jack Davis of Republic has received word that his son Melvin, a bombardier lieutenant, has landed in Iceland.

Gil Norton has received a discharge from the marines and will be back at Paramount soon . . . A surprise birthday party was given Manager Tom Donaldson of M-G-M by the office force . . . Bill Doherty of PRC has been spending these fine spring days at a local riding stable . . . According to reports, Joe Longo has been assigned to the San Francisco RKO office.

E. M. Loew recently visited his newly-purchased Crosby Theatre in Brooklyn . . . Paul Denton, former assistant manager of the Paramount Theatre, has been reported missing on the western front . . . Proceeds from the Macaulay Legion post show held at New England Mutual Hall went to a fund for service men's parties. The performance was attended by many film folk, including Herb Philbrick, Barbara Copeland and Evelyn Sentance.

Irving Shapiro, Concessions Enterprises, Inc., and his bride, the former Ruth Snider, daughter of Ralph Snider, head of the Snider circuit and the Hotel Bradford, left for a honeymoon at Mexico City following a wedding ceremony at the Kenmore Hotel . . . Natalie Thebodeau and Lillian Domiano of the Capitol in Worcester were on Filmrow.

Alfred J. Padden, who succeeded Paul Denton as assistant manager at the Paramount, and later was taken into the army, is now hospitalized at Rutland Sanitarium, Rutland, Mass. . . . Harry Zeitz, New Bedford theatre owner, was on Filmrow . . . Ann Harrington, M-G-M receptionist and telephone operator, was home ill. She has been at the job 16 years, and Bert McKenzie says she knows at least 5,000 telephone numbers by heart and can provide general information on almost any subject at a moment's notice.

Al Wheeler was back at the M-G-M office with a healthy sun tan from a vacation at Miami Beach . . . Ruth Cummings, booker at Metro, is the creator of several cartoons which grace the front of her desk . . . Larry Nugent, UA assistant film shipper, has been entered in the annual marathon race set for April 19 here. He is spending considerable time training.

Nate Oberman, head M-G-M booker, is back at the office after a trip to New York and to Taunton, Mass., for the Strand opening . . . Harry L. Gold, UA eastern division sales manager, was expected here for a few days . . . Phil Engel, UA publicist, left for Newport, R. I., and Pittsfield, Mass., in connection with openings of "I'll Be Seeing You."

Herb Schaefer was reported very ill . . . Screenings of "Brewster's Millions" and "Colonel Blimp" were given at UA for salesmen and bookers led by James Winn and John Dervin . . . The lease and construction contracts on the new UA offices have been signed and construction will begin within a month.

Lieut. John J. Scully jr., son of the Universal district manager, is now at Camp Miles Standish, Ga. He was a prisoner of war in Germany for many months before he escaped into Russia, from where he was sent back to the U.S. . . . Murial Cohen is the new booker secretary at Universal . . . Mildred LaRusso has joined Universal as receptionist and telephone operator.

Universal is sporting some new glass doors now which really give their newly-decorated office class . . . "Dinner for Three," Tim Whelan's mystery comedy, closed here last week after a very short run . . . Kate Smith came here to head the stars at the Archbishop Cushing fund benefit. She was presented a key to the city by Mayor Kerrigan.

Janet Kopelman, secretary to Bert McKenzie, was visiting in New York . . . Fred Husson, owner of the Empire Theatre in Whitman and the Wilmington in Wilmington, returned recently from Germany on an emergency furlough due to the illness of his father.

George W. Horan, WB manager, has been appointed distributor chairman and war bond premiere chairman for Massachusetts during the Seventh War Loan campaign . . . "Moscow Skies," at the Fine Arts Theatre, has been receiving very heavy publicity . . . James Winn, UA district manager, left for Buffalo to confer with Matt Sullivan, Buffalo manager.

The opera season opened with all the pomp and glitter usually displayed at a Metropolitan Opera Co. opening. The Boston Opera House was sold out long in advance and every performance has been packed to capacity with an enthusiastic audience . . . Mail orders are now being filled for the engagement of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo which will follow the opera at the Boston Opera House.

Hartford, Conn., Schedules Safety Cleanup Drive

HARTFORD—The week of April 22-29 has been designated for the cleanup fire prevention campaign here, John Ashmead, chairman of a Hartford Chamber of Commerce committee, announced.

Cooperation was pledged by the motion picture theatres, radio stations, municipal departments, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and numerous civic organizations. Coverage of surrounding towns, which formerly held independent campaigns, will be coordinated with greater Hartford. Ashmead stressed the need of the campaign through press and radio releases. Special trailers, posters, and lobby displays were set for theatres.

Norwich Theatres Help Cross Quota of $56,576

NORWICH, CONN.—Theatres of this area cooperated fully with the civic committee to pass the Red Cross quota of $56,576. Manager Joseph Boyle of the Poli-Broadway was chairman of the theatre committee for the drive. Funds recorded include the following: Palace, $789.23; Poli-Broadway, $686.78, and the Taftville Hillcrest, $66.07.

Circus to Hub May 22-June 2

BOSTON—The Garden announced booking of the Ringling Bros. circus here May 22 through June 2.

NEW BRITAIN

Ralph Pasho, Gem, Naugatuck, reports that his new theatre there is nearing completion and he will soon be making booking plans . . . Mrs. Ann Allen, formerly cashier at the Garde, New London, has joined the Capitol staff there while Helen Chamberlain returns to the trade at the Garde now that her naval officer hubby has left for overseas.

Stanley Backus, formerly of the Circle, Manchester, and the Gordon Entertainment Bureau, Hartford, arrived home on furlough after a trip to England on a destroyer. He made trade rounds . . . "A pig-tail contest" was featured by Manager Mollie Stickles, Palace, Meriden, to boost "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" . . . Happy birthday to Manager Joe Miklos's baby daughter on her first candle.

Pat McMahon, State, visited relatives in Providence . . . With spring here, Manager Bill Pilot, Princess, Rockville, is making good use of his hobby of bicycle repairing. He reports that many friends have been bringing their vehicles to him for "doctoring."

Walter Murphy, Capitol manager, New London, is Seventh War Loan chairman in that area . . . Doorman Clancy of the Embassy, New Britain, also is a printer by trade and presented Mrs. O'Toole, executive secretary to WB district manager, Henry Needles, with a miniature telephone pad and refills that are stopping traffic!

Manager Tom Grogan, Strand, Thompsonville, is beginning to wonder what it is all about! The attempted breakin at his Strand by burglars was reported several weeks ago in the press and recently burglars attempted to break into his home, which is located just off the main highway. It was very late at night when he heard prowlers and got up to investigate. "It was like a scene from a movie when I peeked out under our venetian blinds and saw a face looking right up at me!" Grogan explained, "After that, things happened fast. We notified the police and they came at once with sirens and spotlights. No, they didn't catch the burglars. I guess all the ballyhoo frightened them off!"

Theatres are cooperating with civic committees in a city-wide spring cleanup campaign . . . A revival of "Wuthering Heights" clicked at the State . . . Frank L. Conlon, chairman of the local salvage committee, reported that the tin can collection yielded 45 tons. He extended thanks of the civic committee to the theatre managers for their cooperation . . . Charles Quigley, son of former Mayor George Quigley, brought out the trade when he appeared here in "National Barn Dance" . . . Marshall Stauffer, former manager of the Avon, Stamford, has resigned.

The clothing salvage drive in Manchester, Conn., where Manager Jack Sanson, State, was chairman, reached its quota before any other city, it was officially reported, and has gone more than 75,000 tons above it . . . Victor Morrelli, manager of the Bristol, Bristol, returned to the helm April 13. He was stricken with pneumonia in January and underwent a long period of hospitalization. Mrs. Plumb, who has been serving as relief manager, has returned to her former post of cashier at the Cameo, Bristol.

Manager Jack Sanson, State, Manchester, set up an especially beautiful lobby display on "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and numerous patrons stopped to compliment him . . . Russell Newton, assistant manager to Walter Murphy at the Capitol, New London, for three years, resigned for army induction. He is married and has two children.

Suburban Deluxer For New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—The Fox, a new locally owned suburban theatre, is scheduled to open May 1. A. Baia Monte, the exhibitor, plans de luxe operation, single bills only. The cost of the house is estimated at $105,000; the seating capacity at 850. Located at Elysian Fields and Gentilly Road, the Fox is near Delta Shipbuilding, Consolidated Vultee Aircraft, and three Higgins Industries, Inc., plants and in the center of the largest war housing development in this area.

W. L. Mosely has opened a new 600-seat theatre in Hammond, La. He also operates theatres in Bogalusa, La., and Picayune, Miss. The three theatres comprising the Mosely circuit are each named the Ritz. First run M-G-M and Universal pictures are featured by Mosely in his theatres.

Don George is remodeling the old Venus Theatre in Shreveport to be reopened soon under the name of the Lake.

James Cook has reopened Cook's Theatre in Scotlandville, a suburb of Baton Rouge. The house was destroyed by fire in 1944.

G. B. Summers recently reopened the Liberty in Walnut Grove, Miss. It had been closed for about a year.

New Theatre Announced For Jonesboro, Tenn.

JONESBORO, TENN. — A theatre will be opened here as soon as a remodeling priority is granted by the WPB, it was revealed recently at a Kiwanis Club luncheon meeting. The new industry will be housed in the building now used by Dobyns-Taylor Hardware Co., which will move to other quarters. Earl Nidiffer and Paul Walser of Johnson City will operate and manage the project. They said equipment has been obtained.

New Checking Service Opens Dallas Office

DALLAS—Confidential Reports, Inc., the new checking service set up for getting the distributor's share on percentage deals, has opened a Dallas office temporarily at 1708½ Commerce St. William Dunn is manager. His home is in San Antonio, but he comes here from the east.

Anderson Purchases Site For Marion, S. C., House

MARION, S. C.—B. B. Anderson of the Anderson chain has purchased a 110-foot lot on North Main St. as a site for a modern theatre to be constructed as soon as building conditions permit. L. B. Blackburn, real estate dealer here who handled the transaction, said the lot sold for $16,434.

Drive-In Managers Visit

DALLAS—Gene Lacy, manager of the Texas and Boulevard Drive-In theatres in Corpus Christi, and E. L. Pack, manager of the Valley Drive-In at Harlingen, were in early in the week booking. All three outdoor shows are owned by C. A. "Doc" Richter, Corpus Christi.

"Wedding Bells" Soon

MEMPHIS—Little Theatre's next play will be "Wedding Bells," opening at the Pink Palace April 23.

Enterprise Inaugurates New Radio Program

Dallas—Enterprise Theatres, which operates three Negro houses here, the State, Harlem and Century, have inaugurated a semiweekly radio program for a half hour over KRLD. The initial program dedicated to the Century Theatre was scheduled at 11:30 last Saturday night but was canceled because of the President's death, and held this Tuesday instead.

News and topics of current interest to 60,000 negro citizens in the Dallas area, made up the bulk of the program, plus music and narration on present and coming attractions. Subsequent programs will be dedicated to the other two houses. As far as known this is the first radio show sponsored entirely by colored houses. The leaders in Enterprise Theatres are True and Paul Thompson, Ed Wilson and William Lloyd.

Bond Invasion Due Via Higgins Boats

NEW ORLEANS—Gar F. Moore, press representative of the Orpheum here, has been named publicity director for the Seventh War Loan in Louisiana. He officiated in a similar capacity during the last bond drive. Moore and members of a board of strategy are now mapping a bond-selling invasion of Louisiana which will move via a flotilla of Higgins boats up the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Baton Rouge and Shreveport and into the Red River area of the northwest part of the state. Secretary of the Navy Forrestal may fire the opening gun of the bond-selling invasion in New Orleans.

Porter Turns Kettle Manufacturer

HOUSTON—Clifford Porter, who left Jefferson Amusement Co. recently, is now owner of the OK Products Co., making and selling an aluminum popcorn kettle.

Gets Femme Lead in "Durango Kid"

Carole Mathews has been named for the feminine lead in Columbia's "Durango Kid."

H. A. Daniels Reported In Talley Chain Deal

DALLAS—An unconfirmed though reliable report here is that H. A. Daniels of Seguin and Crystal City has acquired an interest in the Gidney Talley circuit with headquarters at Pleasanton. The Talley towns in addition to Pleasanton are Devine, Pearsall, Mathis and Orange Grove.

Daniels, a veteran film salesman of silent and early sound days, owns the Crystal City situation outright and has W. G. Underwood as a partner in Seguin, where the theatres are booked by Jefferson Amusement Co.

Talley, long a follower of aviation, was a civilian instructor at a government air school at Terrell and trained many British cadets. During this time his wife looked after the shows. He is back home now, and with the new arrangement the Talley circuit is expected to expand.

Astor Buys Two Colored Films; Release May 15

DALLAS—John Jenkins and O. K. Bourgeois of Astor Pictures Co. have purchased from E. M. Glucksman, producer, southern rights to two new all-colored features which will be ready for distribution about May 15. Glucksman, producer of the All American Newsreel, an all-colored subject, was here last Friday and Saturday to close the Jenkins-Bourgeois deal. The new titles are "Romance on the Beat" and "It Happened in Harlem." They are to be known under the trade name of Streamlined Features. Complete accessories, including a full length trailer, are to be carried on each.

"It Happened in Harlem" was screened last week in the Paramount screening room to a representative group of exhibitors dealing in that type of product. Consensus was the picture represented a marked improvement in that field.

Centerville, Miss., Theatre Is Dark Following Fire

CENTERVILLE, MISS.—The Center Theatre has suspended operation following a fire April 12. A. M. Randall is owner.



MAP TEXAS SALIENT FOR NEW LOAN DRIVE—The Texas WAC was host at a special Seventh War Loan meeting in Dallas recently at which Ned Shugrue, director of the motion picture division of the treasury department, discussed tentative plans for the drive. Shown above as they looked at the insignia for the seventh campaign are, left to right: John Q. Adams, Texas vice-chairman for the new drive; Shugrue; Turner Shelton, assistant to Shugrue, and Phil Longdon, district distributor chairman for the WAC. R. J. O'Donnell, southwestern chairman for all WAC projects, is serving as Texas chairman for the Seventh War Loan.

ATLANTA

Charles E. Kessnich, M-G-M district manager, and William Zoellner, branch manager, returned from New York after three days of conferences with home office executives . . . Meyer Coleman, formerly with National Screen Service here and now with the same company in Washington, passed through en route to Miami for a three-week vacation.

United Artists had a sales meeting attended by Fred Jack, division manager; T. J. Laird, assistant to Jack, and Ben Hill, southern exploitation director, and the following salesmen: Edward Hayes, Clyde Houston, Paul Harrison, Francis Randolph and Mike Hogan.

Georgia Theatres out-of-town personnel who were in the city visiting: Dan Hill, city manager of Athens; Floyd Holten, city manager, Barnesville; T. O. Tarbor, district manager with headquarters in Augusta, and John Cunningham, Savannah . . . R. L. McCoy, Warner division manager, Henry Krumm, branch manager, and Ben Kalmanson, home office representative, visited the Charlotte branch . . . Mrs. Louise Wooley, formerly with Columbia, is the mother of a baby girl . . . Clyde Sample, city manager of Duncan Theatres in Carrollton, was a visitor on the Row.

It is good news that E. E. Whitaker is on his way home on leave from the Pacific. "Whit" enlisted as a private and he returns a captain . . . Bill and Mrs. Griffin, Lyric Theatre, Cullman, Ala., were visitors on Filmrow . . . Mrs. Clarence E. Strauss of New Orleans, sister of Chief Barker Jack Dumestre, was a visitor . . . Ching Allen, United Artists manager, surprised the gang at the Variety Club with a visit, having been sick for 16 weeks. Ching's back in the pink now.

Ernie Rogers, Atlanta Journal, and by the way a swell guy to the film folk, has been sick. The Variety Club misses him . . . Carol Weld, RKO publicist, is back from Florida . . . Frank Henson, manager of Loew's Grand Theatre, after living in a hotel for two months, considers himself one of the luckiest men in Atlanta—he has found a house!

Roy Brauer, manager of Universal, was traveling Alabama with Salesman Davis . . . Harry Graham, southern manager of Universal, was in New Orleans.

Gus King, chairman of the golf and barbecue tournament, an annual event of the Variety Club, announces it will be held some time the latter part of May. Each member of Variety intends to invite one patient from Lawson General Hospital as a guest. Further details will come later . . . King, who is president of Capitol City Supply Co., recently returned from a business trip through Georgia and Florida. He advises that he spent a few days with George Parr from Lancaster, S. C., at his summer home at Fort Walton, Fla.

Capitol City Supply has an order for one of the most modern theatres to be built in Georgia just as soon as the "go" is approved by WPB . . . Visitors on Filmrow included O. C. Lam, Rome, Ga., and Mrs. Ethel Blanton, Zebulon and Syrup City Theatres, Cairo.

William K. Jenkins, president of Georgia Theatres and state chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive; Charles E. Kessnich, Bill Zoellner and Emery Austin of M-G-M, and Herb Pickman of Warners were in New York for the campaign conference.

The Hollywood Miracle mind reader was the guest at a luncheon given at Variety Club by Ike and Harry Katz of PRC and William T. Murray, owner of the Rialto Theatre.

Paramount news from Atlanta and Charlotte: Paramounteers were happy to learn that Cpl. James F. Kirby, 20, tail gunner of a bomber crew, who was missing in action, has been reported safe in the Malacca island group in the Pacific. Word came to District Manager John F. Kirby from the war department Easter Sunday morning. Jack Kirby has another son, Lieut. J. W. Kirby, 23, serving in the ATS Fireball squadron at Miami.

Mildred McWaters, chief accountant, was surprised by a visit from her brother, Louis Lamar, now in transit to Bingalore, India, as an airplane inspector . . . Gloria Fine, branch manager's Girl Friday, now is addressed as Mrs. Philip Woodford . . . Louis McCall just become engaged to Cpl. Joe Ianniello, returned to duty as aerial gunner overseas . . . Sally Ledwell did standin as head booker.

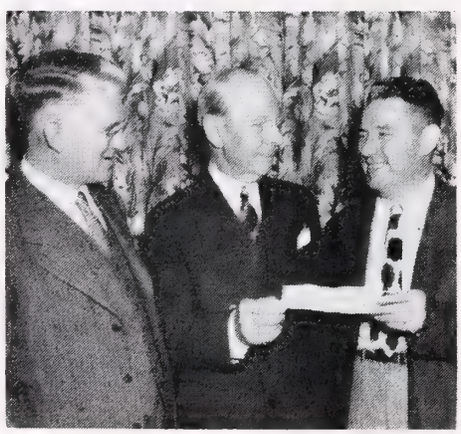
Eva Thomas is back in the booking department since her hubby left for overseas . . . Welcome to Nell Oxner, now cashiering for Paramount, formerly in the same capacity at Hotel Charlotte . . . "Toppy" Jarrell, former cashier, now is a private in the medical branch.

Bill Sharpe, salesman, departed for St. Louis where he joins United Artists in his home town. As a farewell gift, the office and sales personnel presented Bill with a set of operatic records, his favorite hobby . . . Jack Kirby was a visitor . . . Paul Cockrill joined the Paramount family as a salesman . . . Joe Cutell, booker, has taken charge of the Jacksonville depot for the next few months.

Harry Dashiell now is on the Charlotte sales roster, transferred from Atlanta, where he covered Tennessee territory. Harry replaces Charlie Floyd, now affiliated with the Anderson Theatre circuit in Mullins, S. C.

No Flood Interruptions

NEW ORLEANS—Theatre operation has been uninterrupted in flood-menaced areas of Louisiana, according to film salesmen. H. W. Suddath managed to keep the Amuse You in Natchitoches going after the town was isolated by swollen waters of the Cane and Red rivers.



$106,661 TRANSFER—Willis J. Davis (left), representing William K. Jenkins, state campaign director, and Robert F. Maddox, state chairman, receive from J. H. Thompson (right), state exhibitor chairman, covering collections in the theatres of Georgia, $106,661.70 for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

W. K. Jenkins Reports Grand Polio Total

ATLANTA—Final collections in Georgia for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis reached the grand total of $418,602.62. This result has just been announced by William K. Jenkins, state campaign director.

Jenkins said this year's total was 50 per cent in excess of what had ever been collected before. A breakdown of the figures follows:

From the ten congressional districts	$261,669.70
Moving picture theatre collections	106,661.70
Fourth service command from Georgia	42,771.19
Birthday contributions direct to the White House (estimated)	7,500.00

"I desire," said Jenkins, "to make it very clear that the great results obtained in this campaign could not have been accomplished but for the fine cooperation of Gov. Ellis Arnall, honorary state chairman; Robert F. Maddox, state chairman; these ten district directors—Roy Freeman, Savannah; Fred Scott, Thomasville; Jack Key, Columbus; Tom Glover, Newnan; Rutherford L. Ellis, Atlanta; Will Overstreet, Wadley; Jack J. McDonough, Rome; George Bazemore, Waycross; Joe McCutchen, Ellijay; W. R. Ringson, Augusta; J. H. Thompson, motion picture theatre chairman for Georgia, and the splendid efforts of General Uhl and his staff."

Thompson said it is interesting to note that the motion picture collections in the state increased this year $25,353.10 over 1944, and that this entire increase came from the theatres in Georgia under the personal direction of the Georgia Theatre Co. of which Jenkins is president.

Georgia Paralysis Gifts Now Total $418,602.62

ATLANTA—Georgia's response to the 1945 appeal for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has reached a grand total of $418,602.62, it was announced by William K. Jenkins, state director of the drive.

Jenkins, president of the Georgia Theatres, gave out the figure after J. H. Thompson of Hawkinsville, president of the TOA of Georgia, presented a check for $106,661.70 representing collections made in the theatres. The check was accepted by Willis Davis, assistant to Jenkins, and Robert F. Maddox, state chairman.

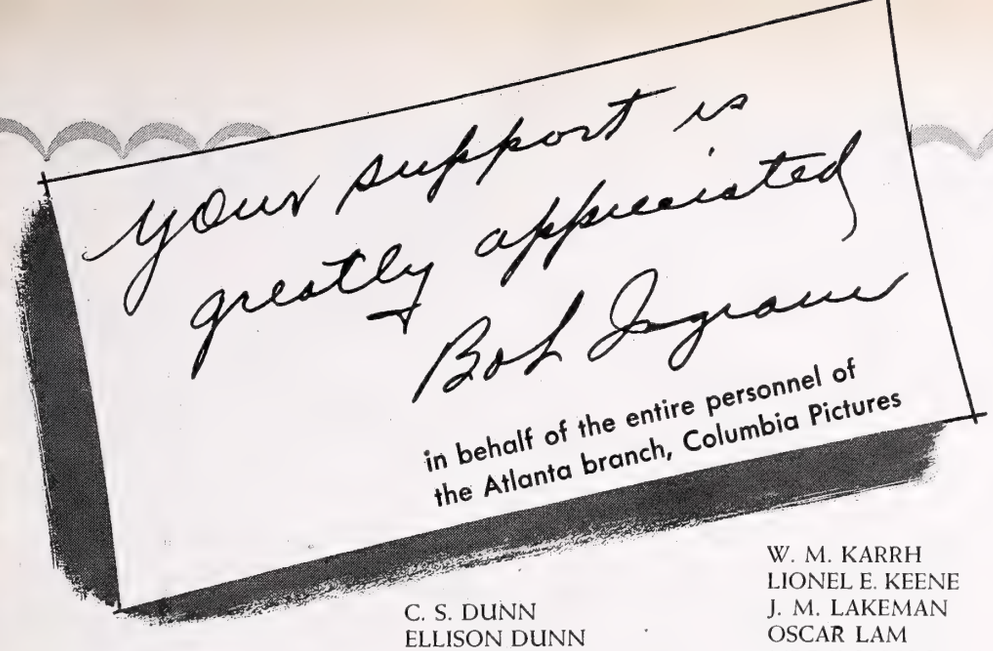
Both Maddox and Gov. Ellis Arnall, who was honorary state chairman, praised Jenkins for his leadership, pointing out that the amount raised was approximately 50 per cent more than last year's.

Radio Gossip Branded

ATLANTA—Business men and hotel officials here branded as "utterly false" a statement made recently over the air by Walter Winchell, New York columnist, accusing Atlantans of protesting against military personnel of the "Winged Victory" show, which is scheduled to play at the Erlanger Theatre April 24-28, taking over the hotels. The gossip columnist said the performance might have to be canceled as a result. Steven Styron, secretary of the Atlanta Hotel Men's Ass'n, said the hotel men had set aside approximately 120 rooms to take care of the more than 200 service men, an arrangement approved by Col. Walter M. Bumham, in charge of the show.

R. W. Barron Is Recovering

SAN ANTONIO—R. W. Barron, manager and owner of the Independent Film Exchange, was hospitalized for about ten days to undergo a major operation. He is now on the mend.



H. ABRAMS
T. J. ALLEN
MRS. PEARL BACH
R. L. BAILEY
TOM BAILEY
R. J. BARNES
C. E. BEACH
NELSE BENNETT
MRS. ETHEL BLANTON
ABE BORISKY
DAVID BOWERS
W. J. BRACKIN
R. H. BRANNON
BRICHETTO BROTHERS
MISS MARY BROCKETT
L. J. BROWN
MRS. MIKE BROWN
F. A. BRYAN
GEORGE W. BRYANT
T. L. BURNHAM
H. T. BUTLER, JR.
H. E. CASE
JOHN CARTER
E. P. CLAY
J. E. CLAY
E. N. CLAUGHTON
MRS. LUCILLE COBB
FRED COLEMAN
JULIAN COLLINS
CARLES COLVILLE
PAUL COOKE
W. E. COOPER
C. R. COWART
E. A. CRANE
MRS. C. R. CROWN
CECIL D. CRUMMEY
D. A. DARWIN
G. C. DAVIDSON
RUFUS DAVIS
L. R. DEAN
GEORGE DENTON
C. A. DRAKE
W. E. DRUMBAR
E. F. DUBOSE
J. E. DUNCAN
L. J. DUNCAN
C. S. DUNN
ELLISON DUNN
R. W. EDWARDS
MRS. VIOLET EDWARDS
JOE EGGLESTON
PAUL ENGLER
W. P. ENLOE
MRS. C. C. FAIN
EARL FAIN
CARL FLOYD
A. N. FORTUNAS
E. J. FOSTER
ALPHA FOWLER
W. P. GAMMON
B. B. GARNER
B. M. GARRETT
GEORGE GASTON
A. C. GORTATOWSKY
B. T. GREENE
WILLIAM GREENE
W. E. GRIFFIN
O. G. GRYDER
J. HACKEL
NAT HANCOCK
GEORGE HARDY
FRANK HARRIS
EARL E. HENDREN
M. E. HENSLER
R. P. HIGGINBOTHAM
H. C. HORTMAN
MRS. O. E. HUCK
CLARK HUDGINS
J. L. HUTCHINSON
C. K. HUTTON
E. F. INGRAM
FRED FABOLEY
MACK JACKSON
BRANSON JAMES
JAMES JARRELL
W. K. JENKINS
C. M. JOHNSON
J. P. JONES
M. O. JONES
T. K. JONES
C. A. JOHNSON
RALPH JOHNSON
W. M. KARRH
LIONEL E. KEENE
J. M. LAKEMAN
OSCAR LAM
MRS. F. L. LIGGETT
CARTER LOW
MRS. BESSIE D. LOYLESS
O. J. McCRAVEY
GENE McILWIN
J. M. McKINNEY
FRED T. McLENDON
MISS CLEO MANRY
W. F. MANTIA
HUGH MARTIN
ROY MARTIN
H. H. MAYFIELD
EDDIE MELLON
FRANK MERRITT
SIDNEY MEYER
J. M. MILLER
SAMUEL MILLER
CHARLES MION
R. W. MITCHELL
JOHN MOFFITT
R. T. MOODY
W. S. MOORE
WALTER MORRIS
W. M. MOWBRAY
W. T. MURRAY
T. J. NASH
H. W. NEAL
LESTER NEELY
CHARLES NELSON
H. H. NEWMAN
COWAN OLDHAM
MRS. M. M. OSMAN
COL. THOMAS E. ORR
G. S. OWEN
R. D. PAGE
J. R. PATE
W. D. PATE
J. W. PECK, JR.
J. C. PETERS
C. S. PITTMAN
JOE PORTERA
HILL POWELL
LLOYD PRESON
L. C. PRICE
H. B. RAM
J. H. RAMEY
D. R. REGAN
REYNOLDS & BOSWELL
FRANK ROGERS
FOREMAN ROGERS
CHARLES T. ROOK
LOUIS ROSENBAUM
STANLEY ROSENBAUM
W. F. ROTH
L. T. SHEFFIELD
A. L. SHEPPARD
F. S. SHINGLER
J. P. SMITH
TIM SMITH
MRS. W. B. SMITH
J. G. SNELLGROVE
J. HARRY SPANN
H. T. SPEARS
EVANS SPROTT
R. V. STANSBURY
ALFRED STARR
LUKE STEIN
KERMIT STENGEL
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MRS. MARGARET STORY
E. D. STRANGE
TONY SUDEKUM
TANKERSLEY & HAMPTON
MALCOLM TAYLOR
MRS. W. S. THORNTON
M. TIDWELL
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S. G. TOS
MELL TURNER
S. H. THORNHILL
H. K. TIMBERLAKE
R. C. VANTREASE
J. G. VARNELL
H. E. VARNER
C. M. WADE
N. H. WATERS
J. B. WATERS
R. E. WATSON
E. J. WEAVER
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FRED WEIS
WENDELL WELCH
M. D. WILLIAMS
NAT WILLIAMS
MRS. WILLINGHAM WOOD
E. S. WINBURN
GROVER WISE
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

Groom to Evansville; Kemp Takes His Post

MEMPHIS—William Kemp, relief manager for Loew's, Inc., for the last year, has been transferred to Memphis to become permanent manager of Loew's State Theatre. He succeeds Arthur Groom, transferred to Evansville, Ind.



WILLIAM KEMP

Kemp for the last 12 months has worked the entire southern territory for Loew's, filling in as theatre manager wherever and whenever needed. He is well known in Memphis, having subbed for theatre managers who were on vacation. He is unmarried, making his home at Hotel Gayoso.

Groom has been with Loew's State in Memphis for 15 years. For the last two years he has been manager.



ARTHUR GROOM

Groom has already reported for his new job as manager of the Victory Theatre, Evansville, Ind. There he will also have supervision over considerable real estate, including one of the city's leading hotel buildings, which is owned by the Loew interests.

Ex-Shipping Clerk Relates Aerial Battle Over Pacific

MEMPHIS—Lieut. Douglas H. Johnson, 28, shipping clerk at M-G-M before entering the air force, is home for a visit with friends on Filmrow and his family.

An aerial battle in which six huge bombers fought 14 Jap fighters was recalled by the 28-year-old navigator in the South Pacific as his narrowest escape. He received an Air Medal and two Clusters.

The battle occurred on a photo reconnaissance trip deep into the enemy's island empire to photograph air fields. On this trip only six Liberators participated. As the formation came across one of the airdromes, it encountered a heavy flak barrage. At the same time 12 fighters arose from the field for battle.

In that running battle, which lasted for an hour and a half over the open sea, he said three enemy planes were slugged out of the sky by the heavy bombers, all of which were damaged and one had to make a crash landing at sea.

Johnson enlisted in 1940.

MEMPHIS

Thomas B. Kirk has been appointed Republic manager here, and will take over Monday (23). Kirk succeeds Lew Andrews, who resigned last week. He has been office manager and salesman at M-G-M for some time.

Mrs. L. W. McClintock, mother of Manager L. W. McClintock of Paramount, died last week in California. McClintock visited her just before Christmas last year when she became seriously ill . . . Tom Taniguichi, who operates the theatre at the Jap relocation center at McGee, Ark., was in booking . . . Horace Stanley, Radio Theatre, Beebe, Ark., also was a visitor.

At National Screen Service, Mrs. Otto Upton, biller, was packing to leave for Abilene, Tex., to be with her husband who is at a navy station there . . . Paramount reported that Bob Bauer, Dallas salesman who has been working in the Memphis territory several weeks, has returned home . . . R. L. Moretta, New York, Paramount auditor, was in Memphis on business.

Arthur C. Bromberg, Atlanta, president of Monogram Southern, was in. When he left he took Bailey Pritchard, Memphis manager, and two Monogram salesmen, Henry Hammond and H. J. Kaiser, with him on a business trip to New Orleans . . . Dorothy Sandlin, George Britton, Donald Gage and A. J. Herbert have been added to the list of stars and players who will appear in the Memphis Open Air Theatre's six-week show season next summer.

"It Happened in Springfield," one of the most expensive shorts ever filmed by Warner Bros., will be shown next weekend to Memphis educators and later at Warner Theatre. The Springfield plan, which is explained in the short, is a method used in schools to develop better human relations between races and creeds.

All theatres closed here last Saturday until 6 p. m. in memory of Roosevelt . . . Joe Simon, manager of the Warner Theatre, was in New York this week on vacation.

Memphis Bars "Millions" On Big Rochester Role

MEMPHIS—"Brewster's Millions" has been banned here because it "presents too much social equality between the races," Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis board of censors chairman, announced this week.

"The film has Rochester (Eddie Anderson), Negro comedian, in an important role," Binford said. "He has too familiar a way about him and the picture presents too much racial mixture. We don't have any trouble with racial problems down here and we hope we won't have any."

He said the film "was inimical to the public welfare."

Prewitt Associated Opens New Theatre

JACKSON, MISS.—The Gay Theatre, 215 West Capitol St., opened April 2, bringing the number of units in the Associated Thetres group to 14. The circuit, owned by W. A. Prewitt jr., has headquarters at 223 South Liberty St. The Gay, located in the business district in Jackson, was formerly known as the Buck Theatre. First run Metro and Universal pictures will be shown during the week and westerns on Fridays and Saturdays.

Variety Invites Public Aid For Mothers' Milk Bank

MEMPHIS—The Variety Club committee in charge of financing the mothers milk bank at John Gaston Hospital voted this week to inaugurate a plan whereby the public may make memorial donations to the fund, Herbert Kohn, chairman, and Paul Glisson, secretary, announced following the meeting.

The mothers milk bank, established to provide mothers' milk for babies whose mothers are unable to provide them with it, operates each year at a deficit, which the Variety Club makes up. The milk is sold when patients are able to pay for it and given free when they are not able to pay.

Last year one baby used $1,500 worth of milk and its parents were able to pay only $20. Last year the bank collected 28,000 ounces of mothers' milk and dispensed 26,000 ounces. Two thousand ounces were kept in reserve, frozen.

Three new members were elected to the committee, Henry Slavick, general manager of WMC; Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager, and Thomas M. O'Ryan, National Transitads, Inc.

Howard McLeod, Film Star, Visits in Memphis

MEMPHIS—Memphis' latest contribution to the film industry, Tim Murdock, was here last week visiting his sister. His schoolmates will remember him as Howard McLeod. Others will recall him as Van Johnson's pilot partner in "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

He stopped off on his way back to Hollywood from Florida where he had been making some scenes in "They Were Expendable," in which he was a PT boat commander.

Tim, who is 25, was born in Greenwood, Miss. He was discharged from the marines last June after overseas duty of two years.

Tom Young at Chicago

MEMPHIS—Tom W. Young, 20th-Fox manager, was in Chicago this week attending a regional meeting of motion picture executives on the Seventh War Loan drive. Young is WAC distributor chairman in this district. M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, Inc., holds a similar job for the exhibitors. Lightman was in New York on business and unable to attend the Chicago meeting.

Concert Season Booked

MEMPHIS—Mrs. Martha Angier has announced her course of 1945-46 concerts, which will be highlighted by the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo January 9. The season opens October 25 with Verdi's "Rigoletto." November 22, Meliza Korjus, coloratura star, will appear in concert. The season will close March 7 with Rossini's "The Barber of Seville." All will be at Ellis Auditorium.

Parts in "The Bandit of Sherwood"

Henry Daniell and Miles Mander have been assigned parts in "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest," a Columbia production.

People Vote Sunday Shows in Vain

Lebanon, Tenn.—After voting in favor of Sunday shows, people here still must spend "blue law" Sabbaths because of the city council which incorporated trick clauses in an enabling ordinance.

The ordinance forbids theatre operation from 12:01 a. m. to 1 p. m. and 6 p. m. to 8:30 p. m. As a result the Princess, the only film house here, refused to open at all.

"The ordinance as passed is not the same proposal that the people voted for in the referendum," John Hatcher, manager, declared. "The Princess will not open under these conditions."

The theatre owners offered to close the boxoffice between 7 and 8:30 p. m. on Sunday nights, but allowing those who already were in the theatre to remain.

Sincerest Best Wishes and Congratulations,

ABE MONTAGUE

★

We are indeed happy to join your
legion of friends in greetings on
the proud occasion of your
two decades with
Columbia

★

Crescent Amusement Co.

Tony Sudekum

DALLAS

V E. Hamm, former exhibitor in Wichita Falls, came here from Chicago where he has been working for two years in the shipyards. He planned to return there and give up the work for an early return to Texas. He said he didn't have plans but "the chances are it will be theatres." Hamm sold his three Wichita houses to Bob Montgomery. Here with him was a brother, C. C. Hamm, who has owned and operated the Majestic in Vernon many years.

Mack Riley, owner of the Castle in Logansport, La., stopped on the Row on one of his periodical projection business trips. He brought along a sergeant to make connections north. Mack said his town was an island during the recent floods, but except for the slack business there was little damage.

Capt. Walter Jenkins, brother of John Jenkins of Astor Pictures, is here on leave after duty on Corsica off the coast of Italy . . . Commemorating a three-way affair, John Jenkins and wife entertained at their home in Highland Park one evening last week. The party was in honor of Captain Jenkins, the partnership of Jenkins & Bourgeois and the first wedding anniversary of the hosts. Brothers, a sister and mother of the Jenkins had places of honor. O. K. Bourgeois and his wife were among the guests.

LeRoy Bickel, M-G-M manager and the only industry member to sit on the rationing board here, has been awarded a ribbon for his two years of service along with 12 other citizens . . . Ben Cohen has arrived from Cincinnati to be manager of the Telenews Theatre here. He was manager of the Strand there for the last two years. Neil Fletcher, who has been temporarily in charge at the Telenews, is back at the Palace as assistant to Manager Dick Foy.

Fred Lowrey, noted blind whistling artist, starts May 10 for a four-week engagement at the Palace. He will have a vocal assistant. Lowrey started his career at radio station WFAA here and has been a regular with big name bands, the latest being Horace Heidt. He was on the Hall of Fame program recently.

Mrs. Sara Douglass of the Buckaroo in Breckenridge, was on the Row. She and her rancher husband, John Ed, opened the house late in February, making the third house in the town. Interstate has the other two . . . S. G. Fry of the Joy and Palace in Tyler was here on his regular two-day booking trip which he has been making every two or three weeks since the war started.

Paramount is having all outside trim painted white . . . S. L. Oakley, vice-president of Jefferson Amusement Co., was here from the Beaumont home office for a few days. Sam Landrum, who will succeed Oakley in the circuit's Filmrow booking office, was to arrive on the job in the next few days.

Mrs. J. B. Roberts, owner and operator of the Ritz in Richardson, returned recently from a vacation trip with friends to Monterrey, Mexico. She was impressed with the flowers, particularly bougainvillia and poinsettias, and by the beauty of the Spanish architecture of homes and buildings all surrounded by high mountains. The party visited quaint old towns near Monterrey. Returning home they saw the magic of the Rio Grande Valley between McAllen and Brownsville. Mrs. Roberts was in booking on the Row as usual after her trip.

The Variety Club's monthly meeting, postponed because of the death of President Roosevelt, was to be held the evening of April 20. Plans for the Turtle Derby was to be the principal business . . . Louis Long, head of a circuit in Arizona which bears his name, was a visitor. He is affiliated with the Griffith interests and his brother, J. G. Long, in the Arizona houses. Both Longs were at the Variety Club hobnobbing with friends.

Harvey Leuthstrom, district representative of American Seating Co., was a Filmrow visitor. He will continue to handle the sale of chairs to circuits but announced sales to independent houses will be handled by National Theatres Supply Co. He said his son Worth, who was with the Robb & Rowley circuit for several years, is still working at the North American Aviation plant at Grand Prairie.

C. N. Cooper of the Queen at Mart drove up to book, buy a few equipment supplies and take care of popcorn requirements . . . A. V. Wade of the State and other theatres in Gainesville was on the Row Tuesday. Although his affiliation with the Griffith circuit relieves him of buying and booking problems, he calls regularly, taking care of equipment and other needs.

The mother of J. O. "Buddy" Harris, owner of several small Texas theatres, died last week at the family home in Teague. E. H. Rowley, C. V. Jones and Don Douglas of the Robb & Rowley circuit, close friends of Buddy, drove to Teague to attend the funeral.

Claire E. Hilgers of Film Classics of New Orleans who has been appointed FC manager at Memphis, called at the R. E. Griffith circuit office here for business in towns which either exchange can serve . . . For the first time in more than two years O. A. Englebrecht of the Palace in Georgetown walked along the Row and into equipment houses to see what is cooking. With him was Furman Wolfe of the Avalon in Clarksville. These well-known exhibitors were affiliated many years ago, then ten years ago they joined the R. E. Griffith circuit. Englebrecht is really an old-timer. In earlier years he operated in Temple. He has been in Georgetown nearly 20 years. He was an active worker in exhibitor organizations up until he made his circuit affiliation. Wolfe is likewise an old-timer. He said he was far away from any of the eastern Texas and Louisiana flood but there was a twister a few miles out of Clarksville which luckily did not hit the city.



ON SOUTHERN VISIT — William Eythe, 20th-Fox star, paid a visit to Atlanta for a preview of "The Royal Scandal." He was entertained in a big way. He is shown here with Harry G. Ballance, southern division manager, and Mrs. Ballance.

Weekly Averages Slowly Being Cut

DALLAS—With half of the week rainy, first run theatres on Elm Street enjoyed a fair round of slightly overaverage business. Weekly averages here continued to shave off as time passes and indications are that war boom patronage will be a thing of the past before long. "Hotel Berlin" was the top picture and the only one to hold over, it going from the Majestic to the Melba for its second week. There were no outstanding grosses in the other houses.

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Man From Texas** (Mono), reissue; **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col), split with **Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono); **There Goes Kelly** (Mono) 120
Majestic—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) 130
Melba—**Bring on the Girls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 110
Palace—**Dark Waters** (UA) 120
Rialto—**Mrs. Parkington** (M-G-M), split with **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 115
Tower—**Woman in the Window** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 110

Roosevelt Words on Film Censorship Are Recalled

DALLAS—Joining the formal mourning for President Roosevelt all Dallas theatres remained closed Saturday until 6 p. m. All exchanges were sealed up against even emergency service during those hours.

The Interstate Sunday afternoon broadcast was devoted to a special program in tribute to the departed President.

The Variety Club canceled its monthly business meeting on Friday night.

The Palace Theatre started almost immediately to show a Paramount special newsreel made up of highlights of Roosevelt's life.

Jefferson Amusement Co., R. E. Griffith, Interstate and Robb & Rowley closed their entire circuits.

These words President Roosevelt said in 1942 were recalled by theatre men:

"The American motion picture is one of our most effective media in informing and entertaining our citizens. The motion picture must remain free insofar as our national security will permit. I want no censorship of the motion picture; I want no restrictions placed thereon which will impair the usefulness of the film other than those very necessary restrictions which the dictates of safety make imperative."

He said this when he appointed Lowell Mellett coordinator of government films.

Monogram Now Offers Spanish-Dubbed Product

DALLAS—Monogram is getting under way its sales in Texas of the company's new Spanish dubbed features. There will be five regular features and one western in the first group offered. "Lady, Let's Dance," the first feature, was screened last week at J. J. Rodriguez's Teatro Panamericano and was received favorably by all of the Mexicans and operators of Mexican theatres who saw it.

Lloyd Rust said the exchange has closed a deal on these subjects with Stout Jackson's tent theatres in southern Texas and with the Interstate circuit theatres which cater to Mexican patronage; namely, in Austin, San Antonio and in the Valley.

Ed Blumenthal now is on a trip through the Rio Grande Valley selling the dubbed product.

Thank you all most sincerely

Jack Underwood

in behalf of the entire personnel of the Dallas branch, Columbia Pictures

JACK ADAMS
C M. ANDING
W. V. ADWELL
JACK ARTHUR
ASHBURN & MARTIN
C. R. BAILEY
CHARLES BARKER
HARRY BARNHILL
W. M. BARNES
V. A. BARRACO
MRS. C. BARROW
L. C. BAXLEY
W. O. BEARDEN
H. L. BEAR
J. R. BELL
LEE BELL
M. BENITEZ
H. R. BISBY
L. G. BISSINGER
WALLACE BLANKENSHIP
MRS EFFIE BLANKENSHIP
PETE BLACKSHEAR
J. W. BLEVINS
JOHN BLOCKER
PERCY BOND
MRS WILEY BOOTH, JR.
HOLLIS BOREN
BOB BOURLAND
H. E. BOX
C. E. BOYETT
MILDRED BRACKEN
HARRY BRITTEN
C. G. BROWN
L. B. BROWN
NATHAN BROWN
ROGER BROWN
JOE H. BRYANT
LILLIAN BULLARD
C. C. CALDWELL
P. C. CAMERON
FRED CANNATA
H L. CAPERS
E. M. CAPPS
J. V. CARTER, JR.
C. V. CAVER
VAN CHAMBERLAIN
GEORGE CHATMAS
J. C. CHATMAS
G. W. CHESHER
W. J. CHESHER
BOB CLEMMONS
P. W. CLOUD
W. L. COFFEY
H. M. COHEN
H. S. COLE
MART COLE
ANNIE COLEMAN
C. C. COLEMAN
R. Q. COLEMAN
E. N. COLLINS
O D CONNER
W. A. CONNER
RAYMOND CORNES
J. E. COSTEPHENS
CHARLES COOPER
R. J. COOPER
AUDREY COX
C. H. COX
HERSCHEL CRAWFORD
P. D. CRAWFORD
W. E. CRIST
L. B CROW
MRS. J. W. CURLEY
SHIRLEY DANIEL
H. A. DANIELS
C. G. DARDEN
W. C. DEBUSK
L. C. DENNIS
ROY DEVINEY
DON DICKSON
O. L. DIXON
LESTER DOLLISON
C. O. DONALDSON
H. F. DONALDSON
ED DORBANDT
WILL DORBANDT
J. E. DOUGLAS
MRS. THOMAS DONNELL
M. L. DUBOSE
L. L. DUNBAR
H. P. DUNCAN
MAURICE EASTERLING
W. A. EDMONDSON
C. D. EDWARDS
RAYMOND EMITE
BOB EULER
CLAUDE EZELL
JOHNNIE FADAL
J. WOOD FAIN
A. FARB
A. R. FARIAS
M. M. FARR
BEN FERGUSON
J. A. FLYNN
B. F. FORDTRAN
RUBIN FRELS
S. G. FRY
H. E. FULGHAM
MRS. B. I. GALITZSKI
M. F. GARCIA
CARL GARNER
PAUL GARZA
R. Z. GLASS
JULIUS GORDON
ED GREEN
R. A. GREEN
R. A. GREENWADE
J. L. GREENWOOD
H. J. GRIFFITH
IMOGENE GRIFFIS
J. S. GROVES
CLAUDE GUILMINO
EMIL GRUMVALD
JACK HACKNEY
SIDNEY HALE
HENRY HALL
G. H HALL
BUDDY HARRIS
HARRY HARRIS
ED M. HART
T. M. HASTY
GENE HENDON
W H HENDRICKS
J. J. HEGMAN
EMIL HEINEN
RAY RIGDON
JACK HOLDEN
J. R. HOLLOMON
R. T. HOOKS
H. C HOUSTON
BERT HOWARD
GENE HUGHES
MRS. J C. HURST
W. S. HURST
PHIL ISLEY
J. T. JACKSON
STOUT JACKSON
RAY JENNINGS
CARL JOHNSON
C. W. H. JOHNSTON
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C. V. JONES
H. T. JONES
W. F. JONES
H. N. JORGENSEN
EDDIE JOSEPHS
JACK KAUFMAN
FORT KEITH
V. C. KINCHEN
A. L. KING
T. C. KIRKSCEY
WALTER KNOCHE
OSKAR KORN
F. J. KRAMPITZ
M. W. LARMOUR
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G. F. LEE
LONNIE LEGG
C. D. LEON
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L. L. MAKER
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L. O. McCORMICK
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B. R. McLENDON
F. W. McMANUS
W. W. McNATT
MARTHE McSPADDEN
M MENDEL
A R. MILENTZ
CARL MILENTZ
J. R. MILLER
W. E MILLER
DOLORES MITCHELL
M. MITCHELL
THEO MILLER
MRS. ANNA MOELLER
A C. MOORE
E B MOREMON
DR L J MONTAGUE
R B MONTGOMERY
H S. MULDROW
D L. MURRAY
F D NANCE
ROY NEAL
L. W NELMS
J A NELSON
ED NEWMAN
NEWMAN & RICHTER
C W. NIECE
S L OAKLEY
A W O'DELL
R. J O'DONNELL
H B. O'NEAL
C. J. OTTS
HIRAM PARKS
BILLIE PATTON
HORACE PAYNE
R. I. PAYNE
A R. PENA
WILL PENCE
DAVID PERDUE
F. L. PONICK
SALLAS PORRAS
V. H. POST
J. B PRATHER
ROY PRINGLE
IRMA RAGSDALE
REED & GRIFFITH
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FRED RICH
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THEO ROUTT
ED ROWLEY
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E. J. RUSCHE
HARRY SACHS
H. L. SAMPLE
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WILTON SMITH
HENRY SPARKS
I. SPECKELS
ALFRED STARR
JOHN STEWART
M. D. STEWART
JOHN STILES
H. H. STROUD
GIDNEY TALLEY
G. PRESTON TATE
HOLLIS TATUM
H. FORD TAYLOR
JOE THOMPSON
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TRUE THOMPSON
L. C. TIDBALL
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MARY H. TURNER
W. G. UNDERWOOD
H. S. USRY
ARTHUR VON MINDEN
W. M. WADE
N E. WALKER
F F. WALLACE
J. A. WALTON
DONNA E. WATSON
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HARROLD WERNER
W. M. WHALEY
R. B. WHITAKER
MILDRED WHITCHER
FORREST WHITE
TOMMY WHITE
E. B. WHORTON
IRENE WILDER
F. D. WILKE
P. V. WILLIAMS
DALE WILLSON
ED WILSON
J. C. WILSON
CHARLEY WISE
VICTOR WOJTEK
WOMBLE BROTHERS
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES



OKLAHOMA FILMROW BUDDIES REUNITED—The same war that separated these five buddies on Oklahoma City's Filmrow brought them together again on an island far out in the Pacific as this picture shows. Left to right, are: Hi Martin from Universal, Ed Greggs from Republic, Everett Mahaney from 20th-Fox, Robert Smith from Independent Posters and Jack Whelihan from 20th-Fox. Bob Smith wrote that a sixth Filmrow friend, George Freidel from 20th-Fox, also attended the get-together.

OKLAHOMA CITY

B. "Pop" Coleman, Metro district exploiteer from Dallas, was in a few days . . . Ed Gardiner, local M-G-M exploiteer, has been very ill following a recent operation at the St. Anthony's Hospital . . . Dewey Gibbs, Columbia manager, arranged a screening for exhibitors of "A Song to Remember" after numerous requests.

Jim Hudgens, Columbia office manager, has been on a two-week vacation. Jim Donley is filling both booking positions during Hudgen's absence . . . Lieut. Harold Wortham, son of Howard Wortham at the National Theatre, writes of some interesting happenings with the 15th air force in Italy. Now a pilot on a B24, he was a projectionist before entering the army.

The cyclone, which struck the edge of Oklahoma City and partially destroyed Antlers, did no harm to the two Jess Cooper theatres, but injured both Jess and his wife, and they have been in the hospital recovering. Jess jr., at home on furlough, had taken both of the smaller children fishing and for this reason they were away from their home which was destroyed by the storm.

Pat Stephens of National Theatres, who is a member of the Red Cross motor corps, drove Red Cross Manager Wallace Hughes and a Washington Red Cross representative on a tour of the storm area in and around here.

Evelyn Tefertiller of National Screen is spending a two-week vacation in California . . . The Guthrie Theatre at Guthrie opened Friday (20). It has been dark for about six years. Seating 600 with a balcony for colored, the Guthrie should do good business from the beginning.

The Criterion Theatre here has booked Dr. I. Q., the NBC radio mentalist, for seven successive Mondays. Of course, there is a tieup with WKY, the NBC outlet for this city . . . "I'll Be Seeing You," which opened last Wednesday at the State Theatre, started off with better business than any picture opening there in some time . . . RKO's screening of "Those Endearing Charms" and "China Sky" was well received by the screening room attendance.

Exhibitors on the Row: H. L. Gilliam of Ardmore, Don Abernathy of Fairview, J. B. Denny of Jay, L. G. Bumpers of Vian, A. Labarthe of Pond Creek, Percy Miller of Apache, Crawford Spearman of Edmond, W. T. Kerr of Davis, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Duncan of Weleetka, J. S. Morley of Shamrock, Earl Rains of Fort Cobb, V. A. Wilkinson of Comanche, H. L. Mullins of Fletcher, Harry Waldron of Sentinel, Percy Miller of Carnegie, Floyd Strate of Carman, A. R. Walker of Broken Arrow, Oda Terry of Konawa, L. E. Brewer of Pauls Valley, Mr. and Mrs. Melville Danner of Granite.

"My Baby" at San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO—A preview of "My Baby" was held for the 200 baby health workers in the local campaign against baby diarrhea at the Nacional Theatre last week under the sponsorship of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce, represented by O. L. Trippe, "H. W." Kier, the local producer, featured a group of Mexican actors in the film. Presiding at the meeting preceding the showing was the Rev. S. O. Capers, general chairman of the Baby Diarrhea Council here. This picture was produced by and for the San Antonio health department.

Hendon & Bull Run Two

A story carried last week on the opening by Richard Bull and Gene Hendon of their new theatre at Big Spring, Tex., was incomplete and is corrected as follows: Bull and Hendon have operated the State Theatre there for a year. They built a new house and took the name State from the older house and gave it to the newly-opened one. They changed the name of the older place to the Texan.

Buy Even Lard at Stores For the Corn Poppers

Dallas—The popcorn seasoning situation is continuing so critical that Charles E. Darden is advising his exhibitor customers to buy it anywhere and in any quantity they can locate the product. He said he saw no definite relief in the near future. He emphasized that in an emergency corn could be popped with lard or any kind of cooking or salad oil and that it would be a good idea if exhibitors would buy it in even the smallest pail from local stores.

Shots for "21" Taken At Alamo Air Field

SAN ANTONIO—Hollywood came to the Alamo City Saturday when Columbia cinematographers filmed a scene on the main parade ground at the San Antonio aviation cadet center for the forthcoming production of the New York stage play, "Over Twenty-One." Shots were taken of a staged graduation of the army air forces candidate school and of a formal review and parade by the entire cadet and student complement of the air force training command school.

"Spectators" at the review included some 500 local men, women and children supplied by the Alamo area camp and hospital council of the Red Cross.

A full crew of cameramen and other technicians headed by Ralph Black, location manager, and Lawrence Butler, special effects director of Columbia Pictures, arrived in the city last week for the filming.

"Over Twenty-One," starring Alexander Knox, Irene Dunne and Charles Coburn, is concerned with the trials and tribulations of a rookie in successfully completing training at a candidate school to become an army air force officer.

Jimmy Paisley, an erstwhile San Antonian, is assistant director for this unit from Hollywood.

"Buck" Morgan Acquires Leon's Del Rio Victory

DALLAS—A. M. "Buck" Morgan, former theatre owner at Grand Prairie, has purchased the Victory in Del Rio which was formerly operated by the Leon circuit. The deal was made just before the death recently of H. Sewer Leon. No other theatre properties will be disposed of, said C. D. Leon, now general manager of the circuit.

Morgan has been an exhibitor in Texas for many years. In his earlier experiences he operated what is known as the shotgun type of house. He went a few notches above that at Grand Prairie, selling out there for considerable money. Probabilities are Morgan will have other theatres before long.

Roy M. Fuller, Cleburne, Tex., Showman, Is Dead

CLEBURNE, TEX.—Roy M. Fuller, 48, owner of the Texas Theatre here for 12 years, died at his home and was buried this weekend. He had been in the show business 30 years, operating houses in Hillsboro, Forney, Wolfe City, Sulphur Springs, Lone Oak, Greenville and Grandview. He leaves a wife, two daughters, his father and one brother, John, manager of the Lisbon Theatre in Dallas. The latter said the Cleburne house will continue to be operated as in the past.

W. V. Adwell Remodels Roxy at San Angelo

SAN ANGELO, TEX.—W. V. Adwell, owner and operator of the Roxy, has remodeled and reopened that house. He was a salesman for RKO before opening the Roxy about four years ago.

H. F. Donaldson is building a new Mexican theatre here to be known as the El Rio. He owns and operates the Palace in Sterling City.

Cast Roles for "The Intruder"

Charles Arnt, Veda Ann Borg, Fay Helm, Richard Powers, John Rogers, Jo Ann Marlowe, Helena Phillips Evans and Roberta Smith have been set for the cast of PRC's "The Intruder."

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Roy Rowe Retains Place On State Air Group

RALEIGH—Gov. Gregg Cherry this week announced the appointment of a new state aeronautics commission of five members, replacing one which was authorized by the 1943 general assembly. Members who will serve four years are:

Roy Rowe of Burgaw, William Olsen of Raleigh, Thomas H. Davis of Winston-Salem, Herbert Baxter of Charlotte and Paul McMurray of Fletcher. Rome served as chairman of the present commission, appointed by Governor Broughton. He is a licensed pilot and long has been identified with aviation in the state. Rowe is owner of the Pender Theatre in Burgaw, the Bladen in Elizabethtown, and was president of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina and at present is a director of the association. He's a farmer, too.

Matinee Fitted to School Hours

NASHVILLE, GA.—Matinee hour of the Majestic Theatre has been moved up from 4 p. m. to 3:30 p. m. Mrs. Eddie McLeod, manager, said the advance was due to adoption of one-session days by the schools, bringing earlier dismissal of classes.

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CHARLOTTE

Ben Fish, Goldwyn representative, is here for a three-day conference with Rovy Branon, RKO manager, and Salesmen Gene Dyer, Bob Masterman, Roger Mitchell and Bill Sims . . . Elmer Sedin, RKO home office representative, is at the Charlotte office on his regular visit . . . New employe at RKO is Miss Dolly Wade . . . Jules Williamson, former RKO office manager, writes Manager Rovy Branon from Camp Blanding, Fla., that "after five weeks I'm still in the ball game."

R. D. Craver jr. has succeeded John D. Taft as manager of the Paris, Greenville, S. C. . . . Cy Dillon, manager of Republic, is proudly displaying to one and all the beautiful belt with gold and sterling silver buckle sent him by Bill Elliott.

Piedmont Junior High's gallery of glamour queens have been sent to Bing Crosby, who will decide which ten of the 30 ninth grade beauties merit space in the annual, the Periscope. The editor of the annual said he received a wire from "Der Bingle" stating that he would be glad to make the decisions.

The Variety Club's annual golf tournament is being held Monday, April 23, at the Myers Park Club. It will be stag and the committee in charge: John Bachman, chairman; Ray Erwin, George Roscoe, Ernest Stellings, Cy Dillon and Sut Alexander. It looks as though it will be another successful affair this year due to friends of Variety who donated war bonds for prizes.

Among those on the Row this week were H. P. Howall, Smithfield, N. C.; R. Glenn Davis, Louisburg, Louisburg, N. C., and W. J. Allen, Allen, North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Femme Role in "Main Street Girl"

Doris Merrick has been given the leading feminine role in Monogram's "Main Street Girl."

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Bijou to Construct Two De Luxe Negro Houses

NASHVILLE—Plans for immediate construction of two new de luxe theatres, one at Chattanooga, Tenn., the other at Charleston, S. C., were announced by Evans Sprott of Bijou Amusement Co.

A contract has been let to John Martin Co. for demolition of buildings at E. Ninth and Foster Sts., Chattanooga, where the new Ace Theatre will be constructed. It will be one of the finest Negro theatres in the south, completely fireproof, air conditioned, and will contain 850 seats.

Approval has been received for another new Negro house, the Thomas, to be located at 635-37 King St., Charleston, and construction will begin at once. This will be built by D. Ireland Thomas in association with Bijou Amusement, operators of the Lincoln at Charleston. The new Thomas theatre also will be fireproof throughout, air conditioned, and will contain 1,050 seats and the latest projection and sound equipment. Cost is estimated at $100,000.

Carolinas' WAC Sets Stage For 7th War Loan Drive

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—In preparation for a Carolinas-wide participation in the Seventh War Loan drive, which opens May 14, the War Activities Committee held an organizational meeting Monday of last week in the Variety Club at the Hotel Charlotte.

Benn Rosenwald, WAC distributor chairman, appointed the following sets of chairmen, with others to be announced in the near future: Cy Dillon and Rovy Branon, personal solicitations for industry workers, and Al Burks and Leonard Allen, special events. Plans are under way, it was announced, to enlist the aid of the school children and the American Legion in the sale of bonds. Warren Irvin, South Carolina exhibitor chairman, pointed out at the meeting the success this plan met in South Carolina during the last war loan drive.

Theatre Marquees *and* **Changeable Letters**

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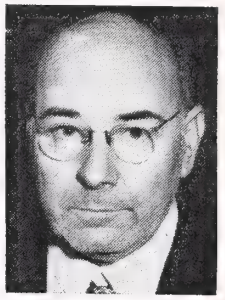
Mrs. Jake Abraham started in the motion picture business in 1920 when, with her late husband, she opened their theatre, the Trace, in Pt. Gibson, Miss. Since his death three years ago Mrs. Abraham has continued the management of the 700-seat house. She says she enjoys the operation of a theatre and feels the type of pictures being made now should make any exhibitor proud. She has three sons, all in military service, and is a member of the D.A.R. She now is engaged in rebuilding her theatre, recently destroyed by fire.



In 1921 **Jefferson J. Rebstock** of Golden Meadows, La., decided to operate a theatre as a hobby. He became so interested he has since made show business his career. Today he has the Rebstock in Golden Meadows and the Istrouma, Tivoli and Avenue theatres in Baton Rouge. Rebstock is active in local affairs, serving as chairman of his rationing board and as vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce. He belongs to Rotary International and Knights of Columbus. He is married and has a married daughter and four sons, one of them a marine.



In 1919 **M. A. Lightman,** engineering contractor, went to Sheffield, Ala., on some construction work. While there he saw a small theatre "standing 'em out" so he leased a storeroom and had a theatre in operation within 30 days. He now owns Malco Theatres, Inc., Memphis, is vice-president and a past president of MPTOA, chairman of the board of MPTO of Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi, president of the Memphis Little Theatre, director of the Horse Show Ass'n, Rotarian, Shriner and chief barker of Variety, and 30 years a vegetarian.



Frank Sharbrough of Rollingfork, Miss., has been in the motion picture business since 1914. Known to friends as Uncle Frank, he started in his home town and is still doing business at the same stand. He owns both the Royal and Joy there. He is a public-spirited citizen and is in fact chief of the local fire department. Sharbrough is a member of the local Masonic lodge. In his spare time he likes to work with machines, making models. He is married and has a daughter, Georgie Frances, in school. Theatre growth in recent years he considers unbelievable.



Before purchasing a theatre at Independence, La., **Mrs. Sam Cittadino** sold general merchandise to the townspeople of the Louisiana town of Addis. She closed her store in 1919 and moved to Independence, bought a theatre and began selling pictures. The change was a happy one and she still lives in Independence and operates the Liberty Theatre, a 250-seat house. Her life has been exceedingly full. In addition to the job of being a successful business woman, she has reared ten children. Seven are boys, four of whom are in the army.



W. C. Pringle began his motion picture career over 30 years ago as owner of a theatre in Glenmora, La. He has operated that house, the Pringle, ever since. His building was destroyed by fire in 1944 but he built a new 450-seat theatre on that location. He says it has been a wonderful experience to have been in the business more than three decades and to watch the changes and developments taking place both in theatre equipment and in features. When time permits, he likes to go on hunting and fishing trips.



E. W. Illing of Ocean Springs, Miss., entered show business in 1906, back in the pioneer days of motion pictures. He remembers when water rheostats were used in operating theatre equipment. The first picture that he showed in his house, the Illings Theatre, was "Trip to the Moon." He takes an active interest in the civic affairs of Ocean Springs; friends call him "Judge" since he served as justice of the peace. During vacations he likes to go on hunting and fishing trips. He is married and has four children, three sons and a daughter.



James P. Thompson of Tahlequah, Okla., hadn't thought of entering the motion picture business until 1914. He owned a theatre building in Tahlequah and when the operator of the motion picture house failed Thompson felt he had to take over the management. He liked the business so much he has since acquired another house. He manages the Thompson and the Sequoyah theatres today. He is active in community affairs, is chairman of the utilities board, was mayor for eight years, and county treasurer for four years. He is a Kiwanis member.

NEW ORLEANS

Mrs. Irma Rogers, booking manager at Paramount, was on her vacation . . . Ray Scully, husband of Mrs. Lydia Scully, Paramount booker, was inducted in the army . . . C. J. Briant, Metro manager, was in New York on business.

Recent visitors on Filmrow included: Harold Graham, Atlanta, Universal district manager; Fred Jack, United Artists district manager; Joe Barcelona, Regina Theatre in Baton Rouge; Milton Guidry, who controls theatres in Erath, Abbeville and Lafayette; George Chadwick, Fox, in Carthage, Miss.; Claude Darge, Opera House in Morgan City; Fred Ford, RKO exploiteer, Atlanta, and Henry Morris of the Columbia exploitation department out of Dallas.

Donald "Red" Barry, Republic star, began a week's personal appearance engagement at the Star Theatre Friday (20). Prior to arriving here Monday he visited his family in Lafayette, La. He called at the Republic exchange, 1307 Tulane, where Leo V. Seicshnaydre is manager . . . The Miriam at Pleasant Hill will open April 25. It is a new house owned by C. V. Litton. W. Aubrey Lee will be manager.

Patsy Toca, boxoffice clerk at 20th-Fox, left April 14 for a two-week vacation in Mexico City . . . Visitors on Filmrow included: G. J. Broussard, Youngville, La., theatre manager; Lewis W. Watts, who has theatres in Oil City, Leesville, Rodessa and Mansfield, La., and in Waldo, Ark.; L. E. "Jack" Downing of the Haven Theatre in Brookhaven, Miss.; Jeff Rebstock of the Rebstock in Golden Meadows, La.; Roy Malta of the Rex in Brookhaven, Miss., whose entry in the armed forces is scheduled soon.

Harold F. Cohen, Monogram district sales manager, was to return Sunday from a business trip to Charlotte. Arthur C. Bromberg of Atlanta and Bailey Prichard of Memphis, Monogram executives, met here recently for business discussions . . . Charlie Touchon of New York, UA auditor, was at the local branch. Fred Jack, Dallas UA district manager, recently conducted a sales meeting here.

Walter L. Titus jr. of the Republic New York office, left here last Sunday for Memphis. He stopped here on a two-week tour of the Atlanta, New Orleans, Memphis and Indianapolis branches and was to return to New York around April 22.

Capt. Milton Aufdemorte, army, sends a running account of his outfit's progress in Germany to friends on New Orleans Filmrow. He was formerly a booker for Paramount here. He rose from buck private to his captaincy.

Slow Period in Atlanta

ATLANTA—Night spots here closed their doors after the death of President Roosevelt and did not reopen until after the funeral. Downtown theatres experienced one of the poorest two nights' business in Atlanta show history. Frank Henson, manager of the Grand, reported that "only a trickle of customers" flowed in the Grand Thursday night. Tommy Read, city manager of Georgia Theatres, said that business was way below normal.

A Role in "The Gay Senorita"

Marguerita Sylva has been signed for a character role in Columbia's "The Gay Senorita."

Wilfred Gillenwater New Johnson City Manager

JOHNSON CITY, TENN.—Wilfred Gillenwater, former manager for a theatre chain at Birmingham, has been named city manager of the local Liberty, Tennessee and Majestic theatres with headquarters at the latter, succeeding Fred Barton, recently inducted into the navy and sent to Great Lakes, Ill. Barton had held the position for the past five years.

Ritz to Rebuild After Fire

CENTREVILLE, ALA. — The Ritz Theatre, recently destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt. Lester Neely, owner, has applied to WPB for priority assistance. A modernistic building is planned. Garnett Stancil, manager, said they hope to open the new theatre some time in May.

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Vancouver Fetes PRC Sales Leader

VANCOUVER—David Griesdorf, former British Columbia district manager of Odeon Theatres who resigned to become general sales manager of PRC, with offices at Toronto, left here last Saturday (14) for Toronto to take over his new post. At a dinner in his honor given at Hotel Vancouver, prominent British Columbia civic and theatre officials bade him farewell. Among those attending were Attorney General R. L. Maitland, Howard Boothe, new Odeon district manager for British Columbia, Frank Gow, British Columbia head of Famous Players Canadian Corp., Mayor Cornett and Earl Hayter, supervisor of suburban theatres for Odeon. Griesdorf was presented a silver tray and service; also a photograph of himself signed by amusement business men, theatre managers and exchange heads who were present.

Griesdorf has had wide experience in the motion picture industry. Prior to joining Odeon, he held important positions with United States and was a representative in New York for the James Roosevelt company, Globe Productions.

Griesdorf has acquired an interest in PRC, which distributes all PRC and Film Classics films in Canada.

Further managerial shifts have been made here by Boothe, made necessary by the resignation of Griesdorf and as a result of the promotions at the head office. E. Seuer was moved from the Olympia to the Circle Theatre, succeeding Frank Soltice who is now district booker. Jack Bernard followed Seuer and moved from the Kingsway to the Olympia. Grace Bowden, assistant manager of the Circle, took over as manager of the Kingsway, and Dorothy Clark, who has managed several Odeon houses, was appointed assistant booker at the head office.

Film Board Salary Issue Again Before Commons

OTTAWA—Questions regarding the salaries paid officials and employes of the National Film Board, headed by John Grierson as film commissioner, were again raised in the house of commons, this time by Stanley Knowles, a member for Winnipeg.

Answering the queries about salary control for board personnel, L. R. LaFleche, minister of national war services, said that salaries were paid on the basis of "the job performed." In further explanation LaFleche said that pay was determined ordinarily under authority of the film board act by John Grierson and the civil service commission. Film board salaries were reviewed periodically to determine what increases were to to be given, but LaFleche did not amplify this statement as to who made these surveys.

Morris Stein, Clare J. Appel To Ontario MPTA Posts

TORONTO—Following the resignation of Haskell M. Masters from Canadian Odeon he relinquished the position of vice-president of Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Ontario and his place on the board of directors of the organization. The executive board has appointed Morris Stein of Famous Players Canadian Corp. as vice-president while Clare J. Appel, eastern division general manager of Odeon, has been named to the directorate.

McCarthy Dies at 78

BELLEVILLE, ONT.—John C. McCarthy, 78, proprietor of the McCarthy here, which he constructed in 1938 after building several theatres in other towns of the province, died after a two-week illness.

Masters New Canadian Manager for Warners

TORONTO—Haskell M. Masters, who resigned as manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada three months ago following rumored differences with President Paul Nathanson, Monday became Canadian manager of Warner Bros., replacing Ralph H. Clark, who was appointed directing head of Warners of Canada last year. The official announcement of his appointment was made at New York April 14.



HASKELL M. MASTERS

For some weeks Masters had been taking a rest in Florida, from where he returned here several days ago.

A special meeting of all branch managers in Canada is to be held at Toronto May 4-5 with home office officials in attendance from New York when Masters will be formally installed as district manager and a discussion will be held on plans and policy for the coming season.

Prior to Clark's tenure of office, Canadian Warner Bros. had been directed by Wolfe Cohen for many years until his appointment as vice-president and sales manager of Warner Bros. International. He is now in the Far East on a business survey trip with emphasis on redevelopment for the postwar period.

Starting his film career in 1915 with the Boston Photoplay Co., he became a 20th-Fox salesman the following year and for Select in 1917 until he went into the navy in World War I. He rejoined Select in 1919, and shortly thereafter joined United Artists in Toronto. After 22 years with UA, he resigned as western United States and Canadian sales manager to become vice-president and general manager of Odeon Theatres and president of Empire Universal Films.

VE-Day Policy Will Depend On Local Public Feeling

TORONTO—Exhibitors in Canada are literally anxiously waiting for the official word of declared peace in Europe because of perplexity with regard to what will happen in the community. Method of procedure has been left largely to the individual managers because no one can foretell what will take place locally, but it is generally believe that it will be possible to continue with screen programs if a performance is in progress when the news breaks.

Whether a theatre will open for shows after the news has been flashed will depend on the attitude of the public in the locality, it has been stated. There has been no report of arrangements for any stage ceremonial at the time of declaration of European peace because of the possibility that an audience would demonstrate on its own account and the continuance of screen programs would better hold the attention of patrons.

Carl Egan New Manager Of the Tivoli, Winnipeg

CALGARY—Carl Egan, assistant manager at the Palace here, has returned to his native city of Winnipeg as manager of the Tivoli there, a FPC house.

Carl's entire theatrical experience has been gained under the guidance of his father, Pete Egan, veteran showman of the west and manager of the Palace here under whom the son has worked for six years. Carl was appointed assistant manager of the Palace three years ago and was placed in charge of publicity for which he has revealed an aptness. Carl's wife will follow him to Winnipeg as soon as housing arrangements can be made.

To Play Lead in "Pardon My Past"

Marguerite Chapman, borrowed from Columbia, will play the feminine lead in Mutual's "Pardon My Past."

Canadian Screens Darken for FDR

Toronto—For the first time in moving picture history in Canada, theatre performances were interrupted for a tribute to a foreign leader when screens were darkened at 4 p. m. last Saturday simultaneously with the opening of the funeral service at Washington for President Roosevelt. Brief announcements were made referring to the passing of a great war leader who had been a true friend and neighbor to Canada, a stalwart warrior in the Allied cause and a champion of democracy, and the audiences were requested to pay their respects with two minutes of silence, after which the show was resumed.

All Canadian theatres were closed an entire day when King George V died in 1936. President Roosevelt was so near and dear to Canadians that their grief was personal and sincere.

From the head office of Famous Players here word was telegraphed to all managers to arrange for the simultaneous tribute during the matinee but there was no published reference to the death of the American president in theatre newspaper advertising as it was felt this would be inappropriate.

Rank Aide Starting Cinema Clubs For the Boys and Girls of Canada

WINNIPEG—E. McQuaid, controller of the Odeon Cinema Club for boys and girls of Great Britain, presented an outline of a plan to establish similar clubs in Canada. He appeared at a meeting of school teachers, social workers and other interested parties.

McQuaid arrived from Vancouver, where he had initiated a Cinema Club, and was on his way to Toronto where he plans to start other clubs in Ontario districts where Odeon has houses.

He told the Tribune that he was particularly interested in Winnipeg, since there was a recent fuss here over the question of films suitable for children. However, the fact that his company did not own any houses outright in this area presented certain problems.

To Build Winnipeg House

He did stress that with the end of the war Odeon would do considerable building in Canada, and that at least one new house would be erected here. He intimated that when that happened, a club for children along the lines of the British model would be established in the city.

Outlining the area of the club, he said it had been begun by J. Arthur Rank, the British film magnate, as an attempt to bring suitable films to British youngsters. McQuaid read a lengthy list of distinguished names who served on an advisory committee, aiding in the presentation of the juvenile films. Included were representatives of the home office, the BBC, school and children's organizations, and many others.

He stressed the difficulties in producing suitable films, particularly at present, with most studio space taken over for war purposes.

Part of this difficulty has been solved, he said, by having Odeon's scenario department draw up the scripts and farming the films out to independent producers. In this way, the dangers of falling into routine presentations have been overcome.

Shows Every Saturday Morning

The showings are held every Saturday morning. Theatre managers supervise the clubs. The children begin with a sing-song, sing the national anthem, and there is a ceremony in which new members take a pledge promising to obey their parents and be good citizens. The films include special shorts about health, safety and similar matters, a feature film and a serial. The kids like the serials, and the club believes they do no harm.

McQuaid also discussed his plan in an interview with the Tribune's film editor, Ben Lepkin.

Eastern Theatres Files '44 Financial Report

TORONTO—Eastern Theatres, Ltd., a subsidiary of Famous Players Canadian Corp. operating the Imperial here, Canada's largest theatre, showed a net profit of $49,417 for the fiscal year of 1944, compared with $48,966 in 1943. It is noted that dividends totaling $16,000 were paid in 1943 on the 32,000 shares of common stock but no dividend was declared in 1944, net profit being about equal in the two periods as a result.

Earned surplus increased from $130,387 at the close of 1943 to $180,462 at Dec. 31, 1944; total assets advanced from $379,250 to $417,288 and working capital from $45,787 to $79,277.



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Plans Made to Boost Matinee Patronage

HALIFAX—There has been a marked trend at all Halifax theatres toward decreased patronage in the afternoons, it is reported; compared to the tremendous business in 1941 and 1942, and continuing on a slightly lesser scale during 1943. The drop began to be noticeable in 1944 and has become more pronounced in recent months. So much so, that theatre staffs have been attempting to check the decline.

Particularly active in this movement is Abe Garson, operating the Oxford, in which he owns the majority interest and which is affiliated with Odeon. Since taking over the Oxford from Famous Players about two months ago, Garson has introduced a grind policy, cut the afternoon price for adults to 25 cents, shifted from single to double bills, added a Saturday morning show and sponsored a daily noon broadcast.

At the Orpheus, Freeman Skinner, manager, and his assistant, Herbert Pitts, have been active in trying to rebuild the afternoon trade. Special advertising in newspapers and on billboards is carried to boost the matinee customer total. At the Family, Pat Dwyer, manager, is also stressing the matinees. The downward tendency in the afternoons is reported to have affected the Capitol, Community, Gaiety, Garrick and Empire also.

Night business continues heavy but queues are not as long as two years ago. Of course, it is hardly possible that the abnormal matinee patronage of 1941 and 1942 could be restored. During those years, there were lineups in front of all the theatres for the afternoon as well as the night shows.

16mm on Bowen Island

VANCOUVER—Victor Brewer, local projectionist, is operating a theatre at Bowen Island up the coast Saturday nights. It is a 16mm situation. Business not so good, Brewer reports, but he expects to do better when the summer visitors from Vancouver arrive in May. After the war he expects to build an up-to-date theatre.

VANCOUVER

All local theatres have been showing "The All-Star Bond Rally" short to aid the Eighth Victory Loan drive. Through arrangements with the Canadian government, the short also will be used for the U.S. Seventh War Loan drive. More than 16,000 theatres in the U.S. and 1,000 in Canada have pledged showings over a ten-week period of the 20th-Fox short.

A National Film Board release for the screen, "Universities at War," is attracting wide attention here. Of particular interest locally are the shots of the University of British Columbia . . . Frank Gow, FPC district manager, reported that the circuit now has 28,000 seats in 32 theatres in the British Columbia district.

Twentieth-Fox will film outdoor scenes for its color remake of "Smoky" in British Columbia. The shooting company is expected here in May . . . Len Gooderich, who sold his Gem Theatre, Edmonton, recently, is here on a vacation . . . Andy Wilson, owner of the Unique in Rosetown, Sask.,will call Vancouver his home from now on. The theatre is managed by his son-in-law, Al Flach.

New releases are piling up here due to the many holdovers. The first run situation has become a bottleneck and a headache to distributors and suburban houses, who have to use reissues and oldies to keep their theatres operating. A checkup shows around 40 pictures awaiting release here now.

MONTREAL

Canadians mourned the death of President Roosevelt as if he had been their own president and public sentiment, reflected by half-masted flags on theatres and other buildings, was given further expression on Saturday and Sunday afternoons when all theatres of the Consolidated Theatres chain of first run houses observed two minutes' silence. A similar period of silence was observed Saturday by the United Amusement Corp. theatres. Many dances and other entertainments were canceled.

Belmont Park, summer amusement center, will give a preview Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6, and will open officially May 12 . . . First of two national radio broadcasts on behalf of the Eighth Victory Loan will take place from the stage of His Majesty's April 25. Joan Fontaine is expected to participate . . . Katia Orloff, Montreal girl, is being considered for the film role of Salome in "The Robe."

Quebec pioneers living in the northern fastnesses of the province are learning something of the outside world through the medium of motion pictures brought to them by the provincial cinephotographic department. Seven members of the staff last year covered 40,000 miles and showed films measuring 16,000,000 feet. They are Gilbert Fournier, manager of the Montreal office; Theo Verville, film librarian; Louis Soccio, technician and repairman; Claude Decarie, photographer in charge of the motion picture laboratory, a secretary and two projectionists.

J. G. Gardiner, minister of agriculture, finds the motion picture theatres afford a good indication of public sentiment regarding national, international and political affairs. He told the Dominion house of commons: "I shall never forget an experience I had in one of the theatres in an eastern city, when I sat and watched the pictures of persons connected with certain of our Allies appearing on the screen. Listening to the applause I joined in it. Then immediately afterward there was shown a picture of Major Triquet, immediately after he had won the Victoria Cross. When this picture appeared on the screen, they did not applaud. That is the best answer I know of to certain people who congregate in theatres in some parts of Canada. There is no place for the showing of that kind of feeling in a country such as Canada, or in any other country," said the minister.

Lloyd Pearson, sales manager of Dominion Sound Equipments, addressed the Montreal Illuminating Engineering Society on "Relations of Acoustic Treatment to Good Lighting" . . . Local theatres have not decided whether to close on Victory day.

Sunday Shows Arouse

TORONTO—Considerable interest has been aroused in theatre circles here over the presentation of stage shows, with admissions charged, on Sunday evenings at the Royal Alexandra under the direction of an organization known as the Tri-Bell Club. Previously a series of stage performances for war charities had been conducted at the Casino on Sunday nights without objections from religious bodies.

"Bernadette" to Windsor

TORONTO—Because of accumulated bookings in first run theatre here, it fell to the lot of the Capitol at Windsor to have the premiere in Canada of "The Song of Bernadette" which opened for the week of April 16. The Toronto engagement at Shea's has been held off for some time because of extended runs of other pictures.

Montreal's Holdovers Keep Up Good Pace

MONTREAL—Most first run theatres showed pictures a second week and all did well. Loew's held over "Meet Me in St. Louis" a third week and it continued to draw lovers of catchy melodies. Good attendances marked the repetition of "Sudan" at the Capitol, "L'Engrenage" ("The Hard Way") at the Orpheum, and "Here Come the WAVES" at the Palace. A big weekend crowd welcomed "House of Frankenstein" at the Princess.

Capitol—**Sudan** (Univ); **Night Club Girl** (Univ), 2nd wk. ..... Good
Loew's—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. ..... Very good
Orpheum—**L'Engrenage** (WB), 2nd wk. ..... Big
Palace—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 2nd wk. ..... Popular
Princess—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **The Mummy's Curse** (Univ) ..... Weekend feature

Vancouver Theatres Sing the Blues In Dull Week, But Outlook Is Good

VANCOUVER—All theatres were singing the blues. Too many holdovers was one reason. Second stanza of "Thunderhead" was the best of a mild week. But better business was anticipated with the current first showing of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Capitol and "Hotel Berlin" at the Orpheum. Second week of "Thunderhead" was the best of a mild week.

Beacon—**Fashion Model** (Mono); **Follies Girl** (PRC), plus vaudeville ..... Fair
Capitol—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 2nd wk. ..... Not too good
Dominion—**Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), moveover; **Nevada** (RKO) ..... Average
Orpheum—**Thunderhead** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. ..... Fair
Plaza—**Flemish Farm** (Br.); **Murder in the Blue Room** (Univ) ..... Moderate
Strand—**Hail the Conquering Hero** (Para); **Our Hearts Were Young and Gay** (Para), moveover ..... Below average
Vogue—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd wk. ..... Fair

"Thunderhead" Holds Top Place At Toronto; "Music" Still Strong

TORONTO—In company with the rest of the Allied world, Toronto experienced a serious note following the death of President Roosevelt but the show business returned to normal after a brief lull. "Thunderhead" held top place in popular favor with its run at the Imperial while patronage continued quite strong in the third week of "Music for Millions" at Loew's and "Here come the WAVES" at Shea's. At the Uptown there were lineups for the reissue of "Maytime."

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**George in the Home Guard** (Col) 90
Imperial—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox) 115
Loew's—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 90
Shea's—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 3rd wk. 90
Tivoli—**And Now Tomorrow** (Para); **Dark Mountain** (Para) 95
Uptown—**Maytime** (M-G-M), reissue 105

Calgary Business on Normal Level; "Winged Victory" Goes Whole Week

CALGARY—Theatrical business was steady and normal last week with lineups only occurring on the Saturdays. The split-week Palace held "Winged Victory" for one week.

Capitol—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) ..... Good
Grand—**Can't Help Singing** (Univ) ..... Good
Palace—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox) ..... Good

Free Calgary Kid Shows On Celebration Day

CALGARY—At the suggestion of the Parent-Teachers Ass'n here, the Calgary Theatre Ass'n agreed to open member houses on the morning of Celebration day, the day after victory, and supply free film entertainment to school children from 6 to 12 years of age. The association will print admission tickets which will be distributed in their districts by members of the P-TA as the eventful day approaches.

ST. JOHN

It's a sharp contrast between directing a staff in Canada and one in the British West Indies, according to Babe Coval, chief of distribution for Warners in the BWI. Babe writes to friends in the Dominion that he has negroes, Chinese and Hindus working under him . . . Bill Cuzner, owner-manager of the Sydney Mines Strand, is doing considerable public and semipublic speaking. His latest appearance was with the subject "What Makes a Big Man." Wonder if it could be avoirdupois?

Off the grapevine is the word that Haskell Masters gets plenty for his stock-holding in Odeon-Rank . . . Yarmouth Theatre & Amusement Co., operating the Capitol in Yarmouth, has sold its Dartmouth lot and the old wooden building on the ground is being converted into an eating place. This was originally announced as the site for a theatre to compete with the Mayfair and Dundas in Dartmouth, in a tit-for-tat action.

If Odeon builds on Gottingen St., in the Halifax north end, it will make the fourth theatre on that street. Already located there are the Casino, Community and Empire. Casino has been leased and operated by Odeon the last two years . . . The health of Myer Herschorn, Halifax, is reported as showing no improvement, but his only child, Peter, has been feeling better since undergoing medical treatment in Toronto.

The Red Cross collections from theatre audiences met favorable response in most instances. Red Cross girls went through the audiences with the lights on for the cash donations . . . It took an act of New Brunswick assembly to turn a leasehold property into a freehold in St. John. One of the five properties bought recently by Odeon-Rank as the site of a new King Square theatre, the lease had been for 1,000 years, the stipulation was that "one barleycorn" accompany the yearly rental.

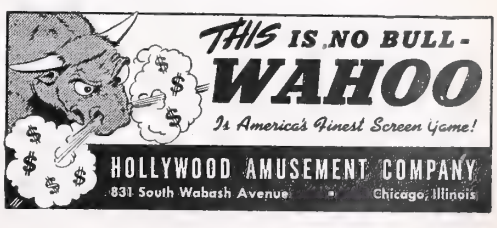
On the premise that the show must go on, all Famous Players theatres in the maritimes will function on VE-Day, by order of Bob Roddick, regional manager, who has also launched a grind policy at the Sydney Vogue, business from 1 p. m. to 11 p. m. each weekday. This house is owned by Dan MacDonald and operated, as is the Sydney Capitol, on a hookup with FPC.

Henry Deveau, assistant manager of the Halifax Capitol, participated in a birthday but it wasn't his. His mother was 60, and in a presentation at the Halifax Orpheus, she received silk stockings . . . Freeman Skinner, Orpheus manager, and Marty Simpson, Capitol assistant manager, are in the new Lions Club, Halifax.

It was agreed a at meeting of the safety committee of Halifax that an opportunity should be given to clear up the trouble at Sunday midnight shows in the Gaiety. This, after Alderman Bert Batson complained of allegedly "disgraceful exhibitions." Batson had asked that the Sunday midnight shows be banned at that theatre.

To Play Role in "The Blue Dahlia"

Hugh Beaumont, Paramount, has won a role in "The Blue Dahlia."



TORONTO

Mayor Floyd Rumford, veteran proprietor of Kineto at Forest, Ont., received high compliment for the manner in which he supervised the town's Red Cross drive in which contributions reached $4,567.28, or $1,300 more than the goal. Rumford is secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Toronto.

C. H. Boothe, who succeeded Dave Griesdorf as British Columbia district manager of Odeon at Vancouver, has been appointed provincial chairman of the motion picture war services committee of which the national president is J. J. Fitzgibbons, Toronto.

Harry Kaufman, general manager of Monogram Pictures of Canada, spent several days in Rochester, N. Y., for a visit with his relatives. Kaufman announced the appointment to the sales staff at Winnipeg of Irvin Willams, who had been with the air force more than three years . . . Harold Kay, Toronto manager, and I. H. Allen, general manager of Esquire Films, spent a week on a business tour of western Ontario theatres.

Al Ritchie, recently returned to business duties after recovery from a heart ailment, has been transferred from the management of the Alhambra to the Bloor, where the manager's office is on the ground floor, Jack Laver going from the Bloor to the Alhambra . . . Bruce McLeod, proprietor of the Fox, Kitchener, put on a special matinee three days for juveniles with the feature, "Ride, Tenderfoot, Ride."

Ben Geldsaler, manager of the head office booking department of Famous Players, has found it necessary to take a rest because of his health . . . Gordon Brooks, manager of the Rio in downtown Toronto, chased a robber who had stolen furs from a nearby store. The thief outsprinted the theatre manager but dropped the loot. "That guy could run," said Brooks.

The quarters of the Toronto Press Club became a private theatre when Associated Screen News presented a group of its films for the entertainment of the news gatherers . . . Jack Arthur, entertainment chairman of the citizens' committee for troops in training, has been busy in the organization of 20 units for appearances in military hospitals and convalescent centers of the Toronto district and this type of cooperation is expected to continue for many years after the cessation of hostilities.

Odeon Buys Mission House, Making 29 Total in B. C.

VANCOUVER — Odeon Theatres has acquired the Victory Theatre, Mission, B. C., from Sam Bannister, according to Earle Hayter, district supervisor. In addition to Mission Odeon now operates the Haney and Abbotsford theatres in the Fraser Valley.

The Victory is a modern concert fireproof building, seating approximately 625 and while well equipped, it will undergo further alterations and many improvements. This theatre, which is an outright buy, gives Odeon 29 theatres in British Columbia. The manager had not been appointed at this writing. Mission is 35 miles from Vancouver in the heart of the Fraser Valley fruit belt.

Change in Local 348

VANCOUVER—Hank Leslie, for six years secretary of the projectionists Local 348, last week resigned and was succeeded by George Thrift of the Kerrisdale Theatre.

FPC Promotes Bishop To District Manager

TORONTO—A further reorganization of personnel in preparation for postwar theatre activity, affecting its circuit in Canada's middle west, has been announced from the head office of Famous Players Canadian Corp. in the promotion of Harold Bishop, manager of the Capitol, Winnipeg, to be district manager for theatres at Winnipeg, Brandon and Portage la Prairie in Manitoba. Bishop has been with the company for more than 20 years. L. I. Bearg continues as western division manager and E. A. Zorn remains as supervisor for the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Theatre changes at Winnipeg include: Jack Proudlove, manager of the Gaiety, succeeded Bishop at the Capitol; Dave Robertson moved from the Uptown to the Gaiety, and Andrew Ostrander was transferred from the Tivoli to the Uptown.

CALGARY

The Calgary Theatre Ass'n has donated a billiard table and accessories to furnish a play room in the new landship of the naval service at Tecumseh, which is opened at the end of this month. The cost was $500.

Glenn Ireton of Toronto, Warner publicity man, spent three days here last week arranging publicity for "Hotel Berlin." He interviewed the newspapers, planted some stories and pictures, gave a broadcast over CJCJ one morning and assisted Pete Egan of the Palace in arranging a promotional campaign. He left here for Regina and Winnipeg.

Handling the distribution of educational and Victory Loan film, a new distributing service opened here this month. The Booth Film Service is under the direction of John H. L. Booth, for many years handling 16mm film and later with the Sharp Film organization. Booking to country theatres of 16mm will be continued by the new film service, also the handling of advertising film, repairs to film and extension of the educational field.

Quebec Tightens Reins On Amusement Taxes

MONTREAL—In a statement to the press, Georges Shink, comptroller of revenue of the Quebec government, warned that the number of exemptions from amusement taxes had multiplied to a point where they became an abuse. The government had decided to reduce them to those provided for in the law.

The following exemptions were defined:

1—Organizers and amateurs residing in the province, who are not paid for their services.

2—Presentations in churches or parochial halls where no charge is made and no remuneration is paid those participating. The charge for lighting, heating and cleaning the hall is not counted as remuneration, provided it is not above from $10 to $20, according to the population.

3—When the fees collected are paid to charitable, religious or agricultural organizations.

4—When the amusements do not include motion pictures, provided permission has been granted by the comptroller.

Shink explained that the amusement tax receipts, as part of the funds of the public assistance department, are essential to the maintenance and construction of hospitals.

Femme Roles in "Main Street Girl"

Isabel Jewel and Constance Worth have been given roles in "Main Street Girl," a Monogram production.

OTTAWA

After a lengthy stay, in the hospital, where he was gravely ill with a heart disease, James T. Moxley has regained strength and is once more at the helm of the Westboro in suburban Westboro . . . The vending machine in the Somerset of which M. Berlin is manager was smashed by robbers who gained entry to the theatre through an exit door. A quantity of candy and an estimated $10 was taken from the machine.

The Elgin went into a second big week with "A Song to Remember" while the Capitol put on a special campaign for the opening of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" . . . Two cameramen of the army film unit who have been with the overseas forces for a considerable period returned the other day on rotation leave. They are Sgt. Ken White and Sgt. Al Grayston. The former secured many shots which have been incorporated into the government short, "You Can't Kill a City."

Another plea for a state-operated theatre here has been made, this time by John Coulter, author, who said that the government was actively interested in the production of films and in radio presentation but had not encouraged the stage by the establishment of a national theatre . . . Mrs. Gurston Allen, whose husband is identified with the department of national defense, was in Toronto to visit Captain Allen's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Allen.

Allan S. Kennard of the Canadian General Electric Co. presented a film, "Sightseeing at Home," which deals with developments in television, at a meeting of the Lions Club in Hull. The club also recently had its annual theatre night at the Cartier, a Famous Players theatre in Hull.

Obtained by Stuart Legg of the National Film Board on a recent trip to the United Kingdom, "John Bull's Own Island" was given a special screening in the projection room of the board before a gathering of invited guests prior to its theatre release.

Meyer Axler of 20th Century Theatres, who spent some time here with the air force, is engaged to be married shortly to Miss Mildred Caplan of Toronto. He now is with the head office of the circuit.

WINNIPEG

John Grierson, National Film Board commissioner, was a visitor but he gave out no press stories. He intimated the board was preparing a comprehensive series of films on various aspects of the contemporary social and economic scene. He was accompanied by Graham MacInnis, the board's director of public relations.

Donald Buchanan of the NFB also was a visitor. He arrived here in connection with a display of photographs illustrating the board's activities arranged in the Hudson Bay Co. store in conjunction with the Victory Loan drive.

Appointment of Carl Egan, assistant manager of the Palace at Calgary, to manager of the Tivoli here was reported by the Calgary Herald. Egan has been assistant of the Palace three years.

Dave Rosemond, Beacon Theatre manager, privately screened the new Russian film, "Wait For Me," which he will soon show at his house. The picture has English dialog dubbed in.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by **HUGH E. FRAZE**

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Child and Dog Pals Contest Goes Big

ALBANY—Joe Saperstein, veteran manager of Fabian's Grand here, reports a highly successful promotion of an "American child and dog pals" contest in connection with "Mollie and Me." A tieup was made with the Knickerbocker News, evening paper which "spread" on stories and art. The finals of the contest were held on the stage of the Grand Wednesday night. Semifinals were held at four city playgrounds, where hundreds of boys presented their dog pals to the judges. The latter picked 12 pair as "the most typical American boys and dog pals."

The audience chose by applause the winners. The three top prizes were $25 war bonds, presented by Fox. Other awards were war stamps and dog food to the four-footed winners.

Columnist Writes a Parable Based on "A Tree Grows"

CLEVELAND—When Dilworth Lupon devoted his entire column on the editorial page of the Press April 5 to a parable based on "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," this picture, which opened April 12 at the Hippodrome, got the kind of plug that all exploiteers dream about.

Plugging both the book and the picture, Lupon drew a parallel between Katie's philosophy of life to the effect that character grows strong through struggle, and thousands of men and women in the wartorn world who have struggled beyond the breaking point. Lupton pleaded for a chance for all these people to get a start in a decent world.

The column then mentioned the picture's opening at the Hippodrome, which brought joy to Harry Weiss, 20th-Fox publicist.

Macy Tieup to Help Sell Fox Film in 7 Cities

NEW YORK—R. H. Macy & Co., one of the country's largest department stores, helped sell tickets to "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka" recently, thanks to a merchandising tieup between the 20th-Fox home office exploitation department and the studio publicists. Tieup gave picture two large windows fronting on crowded 34th St., and a 40x20 interior display simulating a miniature corral; both featured boys' and youths' ranch styles as worn by Roddy McDowall.

Store gave tieup additional impetus by taking large display ads in newspapers. All six of Macy's Affiliated Stores in New Jersey, Georgia and Ohio are following the lead of the parent store on the tieup.

Harks Back to Vaudeville

HARTFORD—Dow's Theatre, a fifth run house, was famous as the Cameo about ten years ago when it was a vaudeville house. So when "Man From Frisco" came to the screen recently Dow's plugged the fact that the star of the film, Michael O'Shea, a native of Hartford, started his career in the entertainment business as a band singer at this theatre.

Civic Activity in Climax on Stage—

Salvage King and Queen Crowned at San Antonio



The Majestic Theatre at San Antonio and the Evening News and Express there cooperated in a recent wastepaper drive, which was climaxed by a free show and coronation of the boy and girl who turned in the most paper as salvage king and queen in ceremonies on the Majestic stage.

The winners were Marilyn Jones, who turned 184,953 pounds and acclaimed as national salvage queen. She is shown on the throne above. Beside her is the winning boy, who turned in 73,736 pounds and was crowned Texas salvage king. Their "Court," kids from their schools, are standing at the right and left of the thrones.

The inset shows Jack Mitchell, who acted as proficient master of ceremonies, awarding official WPB citations to winners.

20th-Fox Sells Itself With Huge Displays

PORTLAND, ORE.—Twentieth-Fox, proceeding on the theory that what is good for the public is good for its own sales organization, posted huge displays in exchanges for the 30th anniversary drive. A gigantic banner headed, "From Our Own Pacific Coast," built around a picture of Herman Wobber, was set up at the Portland exchange.

Strong RKO Ad Campaign On "Enchanted Cottage"

NEW YORK—A series of full-page ads stressing the postwar theme of "The Enchanted Cottage" has been prepared by RKO under the supervision of S. Barrett McCormick, national director of advertising and publicity.

A broadside, reproducing these ads and giving a breakdown of circulation on the magazines scheduled, has been prepared and is being distributed.

New Lobby Stunts and Displays



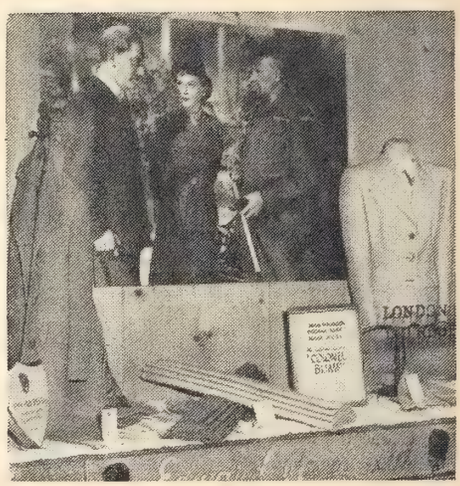
HONORING NATION'S LEADERS—Manager Charles Pincus mounted large portraits of President Roosevelt and the nation's military leaders on a large card to make a striking display on the mezzanine railing in the Utah Theatre lobby.



BUSY DAY AHEAD—Marine Sgt. Edward J. Nelson receives 50 new $10 bills from Cliff Geissman, city manager of the Blumenfeld Theatres, San Francisco, with the understanding they will be spent for entertainment purposes in 12 hours as a part of the campaign on "Brewster's Millions."



GOOD NEIGHBOR DISPLAY — United Artists is going to town in a big way on "Colonel Blimp," first of the British releases contracted for some time ago. Probably the biggest display Broadway has ever seen on an imported film was erected on the front and side of the Gotham Theatre Bldg. Above is shown the Gotham front displays.



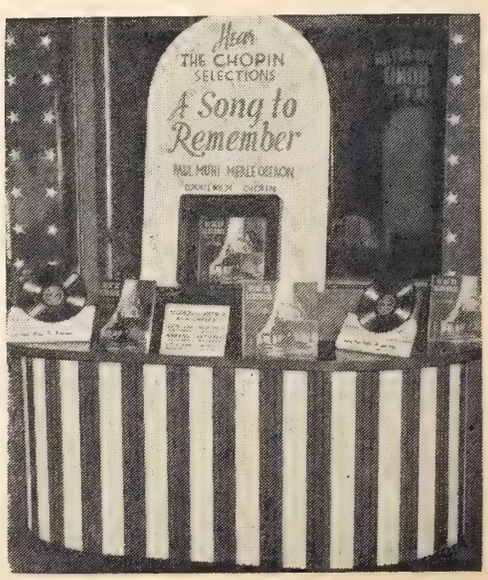
SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE—One colored 40x60 and a card made up the principal features of this "Colonel Blimp" window display in the Edward Reed store, New York, during the showing of the picture at the Gotham Theatre. Harry Goldstein, manager, designed it.



THEY LIKED IT—This device attracted general attention in the lobby of the Patio Theatre, Century house in New York. It was constructed by Mike Nicholas, manager.



COLORING CONTEST—John Douglas manager of the Empire at Birmingham, staged a coloring contest which attracted considerable attention, and then tied it up directly with the theatre by means of this 40x60-inch.



NEAT LOBBY DISPLAY—Harold Mortin, manager of the State, Syracuse, decided he would do something more than play records from his forthcoming attraction in the lobby. He surrounded the player with a display identifying the music.

Whistling Contest Staged by Radio

SIOUX CITY, IOWA—A highlight of the advance campaign for "To Have and Have Not" at the Capitol here was a "Bacall of the wild whistling contest" put on over station KTRI. The stunt is based on Lauren Bacall's remark to Humphrey Bogart in the picture, "If you want something just whistle." Warners have been supplying exhibitors with a "whistle transcription" which has been proving very effective as a "call to the boxoffice," but the staging of a live whistling contest goes several steps beyond this.

Two local USO clubs cooperated in the preliminaries, with their hostesses serving as judges, and eight finalists were elected to compete for the championship, with a $25 war bond as first prize.

The station's topnotch announcer was assigned to emcee the contest. He introduced each whistler with "If you want something, just whistle the Bacall of the wild."

Fred Trebilcock Covers Canada With Campaign

TORONTO—Fred Trebilcock, manager of Shea's Theatre, started out to put on a first class local campaign for Columbia's "A Song to Remember" and wound up by covering the Dominion from coast to coast.

First, he took advantage of the Max Factor tieup and sold the idea to the Dominion Stores, which has 79 outlets, and another chain equivalent to the A&P in the United States used the material on 3,000 shoppers' lists and in newspaper ads.

Then he arranged a "hat to remember" display with Eaton Stores, another organization with outlets across the Dominion.

His radio breaks included two programs by Simpson's department stores, with Chopin music and the Spaeth tune-testing records with mentions of the picture, and a series of plugs on other local programs. For one coast-to-coast air program Claire Wallace, radio personality, had an interview with Merle Oberon.

More than 500 music teachers were holding a convention in Toronto. Trebilcock arranged a program of recorded music for them. He picked out the Toronto girl who most closely resembled Miss Oberon and had a hairdresser to the girl's hair the way Miss Oberon wears it in the picture. This received considerable newspaper space.

This was in addition to a number of window displays and other purely local angles.

"Together Again" Hosts Service Men and Girls

LONDON—Exceptional success was achieved in exploitation of the "Together Again" premiere here when Columbia, the Evening News and Gaumont British theatres combined on a special "together again" matinee for service men and their sweethearts or wives. More than 2,000 were entertained. Names of Charles Boyer and Irene Dunne and the picture title were spotted in giant letters high above the Tivoli in a striking display.

Posters on "El" Platforms

CHICAGO—A series of posters illustrating Columbia's "A Song to Remember" greeted public transportation riders at elevated station platforms in Chicago. The picture's showing at the Apollo in the loop was launched by 350 three-sheets and 350 one-sheets. Since the "El" carries a large portion of the patrons to the downtown houses, this represented logical advertising.

"It Happened in Springfield" Slated For Wide Organizational Buildup



GIRLS LIKED IT—H. Spencer Bregoff, manager of Fabian's Palace Theatre, Staten Island, had V-mail valentine greetings printed for the opening of "None But the Lonely Heart." Girl patrons went for them in a big way and sent them out by the thousands. The idea can be adopted for other pictures regardless of the holiday.

The Columbia Broadcasting System will join with Warners and a dozen national organizations of all types to stimulate public interest in the short subject, "It Happened in Springfield."

Groups participating include the YMCA, YWCA, Hi-Y clubs, Junior American Red Cross, National Federation of Settlements, Jewish welfare board, United Christian Youth Movement, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys' clubs of America, Campfire Girls and 4-H clubs. More than 30,000,000 people are represented.

Members of the organizations attended a screening in New York of the short during the week and immediately endorsed it. Plans were launched for sending promotional material to their regional directors, urging cooperation with local exhibitors and other activities designed to secure the widest possible attendance for the picture.

CBS will carry a special coast-to-coast broadcast on the short April 28 on Dolphe Martin's Youth on Parade program. A citation to Harry L. Warner will be a feature of the broadcast, and arrangements have been made for Warner to participate in the program.

Lobby announcements, posters for club bulletin boards and other promotional material are being sent out by Warners and the 12 organizations to exploit both the picture and the broadcast.

Distinguished Group at Albany Preview; a Discussion Afterward

ALBANY—One of the most distinguished groups ever to attend a preview here saw "It Happened in Springfield" at the Warner Theatres screening room. The preview, and informal discussion afterward, preceded the national release date of the two-reeler, a short devoted to furthering true democracy among the races.

Inasmuch as the film doubtlessly will be the subject of much exploitation all over the country, of which the local preview was a starter, the affiliations of those at the affair are of interest to showmen. They are:

Officials of the state education department, Albany public schools, the College of St. Rose (Catholic), the state council of Protestant churches, the Albany Federation of Churches, the Jewish Community Council, the Albany International group, the state and district Parent-Teachers Ass'n, the Albany Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club.

The preview was to be followed by others to which interested organizations will be asked to send representatives.

Dr. Leroy E. Bowman, whose work with the state education department is chiefly concerned with promoting better relations between racial and cultural groups, said the short represented a significant contribution to a vital question in American life. Father William F. Cahill, professor of philosophy at St. Rose College, said the theme should be made into a feature.

The short presents in dramatic form the plans evolved at Springfield, Mass., schools promoting better understanding among racial, cultural and religious groups, adults as well as children.

Two Tips for Kiting Sales of Popcorn

OKLAHOMA CITY—Jake Watkins, local National Theatre Supply manager, tells of an exhibitor in a neighboring state who is using top showmanship in his merchandising of popcorn to his patrons. He has a young lady standing directly in front of the doorway through which patrons enter from the boxoffice with a bag of popcorn extended toward each incoming patron.

His sales of popcorn of course are of the highest percentage possible in his size theatre, Watkins says.

Another example of good popcorn merchandising is reported from a small Oklahoma town. This enterprising theatre man follows the old circus example and has 300 bags of popcorn ready for the break between shows, at which time he arranged an intermission and announces that he has just 300 bags of popcorn left and then has solicitors go through the theatre and sell the 300 bags. One of several special inducements is to have several lucky packages inserted with complimentary tickets, which is announced.

Thirty Windows on "A Song"

For the Milwaukee showing of "A Song to Remember" at the Palace Theatre, H. G. Bossel, manager, and Carol Campbell, publicity manager, arranged with the local Victor record distributor to make up window displays for use in 30 windows in the city.

Gets a "Lady" Story in Paper

GENEVA, N. Y.—When "Fighting Lady" played at the Geneva Theatre, Jerry Fowler was quick to take advantage of the fact that a local marine took part in several of the battle scenes. Jerry got a nice story in his local paper on this.



WORTH REMEMBERING—Here's a tested promotion stunt that is worth filing for use during a fund raising drive. It netted $855 for the last Red Cross drive at the Austin Theatre, Kew Gardens, L. I. It was arranged by Al Green, manager. Ten Adam hats and ten beauty kits were promoted as prizes.

A Lobby Beauty Shop On Wichita "Powder"

WICHITA—The Orpheum here arranged a lobby demonstration for "Keep Your Powder Dry" which showed patrons the correct beauty treatments for the three different beauty types—blondes, brunettes and redheads. Beauty shops provided models representing the demonstration, held throughout the opening day. The models were made up to enhance the "color type beauty" of blonde Lana Turner, brunette Susan Peters and red-head Laraine Day of the picture.

The tieup was arranged by Mike Lehman, Orpheum manager, Ralph Bartlett, city manager at Wichita for Fox Midwest, and Bernie Evens, M-G-M exploiteer.

The beauty shops used displays in their windows on the three types of beauty with announcements on the film.

Geo. Freeman Photo With Author Makes Papers

SPRINGFIELD—A photograph of Betty Smith, author of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," James Dunn, a star of the film version, and George Freeman, manager of the Poli here, taken at a New Haven reception for Miss Smith, was run in the local dailies in advance of the film's showing.

Members of local radio stations and newspapers were invited to a special reception in New Haven for the author and actor.

Freeman and his assistant, Sam Horwitz, evolved an extensive selling campaign which included display in the window of the leading bookstore, a 15-minute plug (gratis) on station WMAS, a co-op newspaper ad with an exclusive women's shop, a picture and advance stories of James Dunn in the Springfield Union, Republican and Daily News, and a 40x60 photo enlargement of Ted Donaldson, Joan Blondell and Peggy Ann Garner displayed in the lobby two weeks prior to the opening.

Letter Writers Ask Better Pictures Saturday p. m.

MINNEAPOLIS—Star-Journal here is running letters from readers protesting against the sort of films that are being shown in local film houses on Saturday afternoons when the audiences run largely to children. Writers charge that most of the pictures are unsuitable for juveniles and that many are actually harmful and might contribute to juvenile delinquency. "Better pictures" are demanded.

Radio Competition Helps "Experiment Perilous"

POCATELLO, IDA.—Manager Bob Anderson of the Chief Theatre augmented the receipts of "Experiment Perilous" by an effective radio contest. Listeners on KSEI were invited to submit essays on their "Most Perilous Experiment or Adventure."

Prizes offered were a $25 war bond for first place, passes for second and third. Compositions were limited to 200 words. Members of the radio station's staff served as judges.

Air Quiz on "Tomorrow"

Tied up with "Tomorrow the World," which showed at Loew's State at White Plains, N. Y., radio station WFAS posed this question to listeners: "Tomorrow the world will be asking what to do with the German people, particularly the German children, after the war. Why not tell us today—then review 'Tomorrow the World' at Loew's." The first and best ten answers received guest tickets. Manager Michael Strange also distributed 5,000 heralds.

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 64: U.S. invasion of Ryukyus; British capture storied city of Mandalay; MacLeish explains San Francisco peace program; riding surf in Australia.

News of the Day, No. 262: First films Okinawa invasion; U.S. rockets blast Germany; British capture famed Mandalay; big four confer on world security; golf lessons for wounded GIs.

Paramount News, No. 65: Army reveals new rocket; prelude to San Francisco; beginning of the end.

Pathe News, No. 67: Prepare for Frisco meeting; British win Mandalay; invasion of Okinawa.

Universal News, No. 388: Landings on Okinawa; Mandalay recaptured; Allied net tightens on Germany; final plans for security conference; golfers entertain wounded.

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Movietone News, No. 65: Roosevelt is dead; swearing in of Truman.

News of the Day, No. 263: Mourn for Roosevelt.

Paramount News, No. 66: President Roosevelt dies.

Pathe News, No. 68: Franklin D. Roosevelt dead.

Universal News, No. 389: Roosevelt is dead.

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All American News, Vol. 3, No. 130: Nation plants victory gardens; Washington, D. C., enjoys outdoor carnival; health education specialist and surgeon general speak, outline plans for negro health week; heroes of the 92nd are decorated by General Almond; negro troops in France, on the firing line in Germany.

School-Radio Hookup On Cleveland "Song"

CLEVELAND—Sid Zins for Columbia and J. Knox Strachan and Jane Simon for Warner Bros. certainly conducted a strong campaign for "A Song to Remember" at Warners' Hippodrome. The campaign, which started two weeks in advance of the opening included radio, newspaper contests, library and public school tieups, music store window displays and specialized group screenings.

Sponsored by RCA Victor, WJW ran a music guessing contest five days prior to the opening. Passes were given to those identifying correctly the Chopin pieces played. WGAR participated in the nationwide Cinderella contest to find a girl with dramatic ability. A 40x60 in the Hippodrome lobby urged girl patrons to try for the prizes which will lead the winner straight to Hollywood.

The Stern Co., one of the leading downtown department stores, showed in a display a dress which was to be given to the local Cinderella talent contest winner.

The Press, daily newspaper, devoted its entire women's page of the April 4 edition to photos of new style dresses under the heading of "A Dress to Remember."

One of the most outstanding items of the campaign was a tieup effected by Jane Simon with the visual education department of the public schools. A 15-minute musical recording and explanatory talk by Sigmund Spaeth, the tune detector, was broadcast to every junior and senior high school in the city over the school system's private radio station WBOE. This took place a week prior to the opening.

Ten Victor window display on Iturbi records were effected, featuring his all-Chopin numbers.

Aldine Uses the Talent Hunt In Its Campaign for "Song"

PHILADELPHIA—A campaign which involved tieups with a department store, a radio station and the public library, featured the exploitation campaign for "A Song to Remember" by the Aldine Theatre.

The Blum department store ran an 800-line ad featuring the Jo Copelan suits, original of which is worn by Merle Oberon in the film. Three of the store's Chestnut St. windows were devoted to the film.

Radio station WCAU sponsored a "George Sand memorial talent search contest" to discover the best amateur dramatic actress in the Philadelphia area. The winner was to make a transcription of one of Miss Oberon's speeches from the film which will be forwarded to judges of the national contest in New York.

The public library distributed 10,000 bookmarks; displayed 50 special photo offset one-sheet cards showing scenes from "Remember" and listed books suggested by th picture and available at the library.

The distributor of RCA-Victor records covered the city with displays, 40x60 blowups for downtown windows and 50 11x14 photos. The company also supplied 400 one-sheets and 11x14 cards.

"Hotel Berlin" Ad Spotted In Nat'l AAU Program

DENVER—With the AAU national basketball championship taking place in the Municipal Auditorium throughout the week that "Hotel Berlin" showed at the Denver and Esquire theatres, some very timely and extensive advertising coverage was obtained by those theatres in managing to spot a "Hotel Berlin" ad right in the center spread of the official program, which sold at ten cents a copy and had a circulation running into the tens of thousands.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING 1944 JUNE 10

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

JUNE 17

COLUMBIA

15 (65) Drama 5043
THEY LIVE IN FEAR
Otto Kruger
Pat Parrish
Clifford Severn

22 (54) Western 5208
THE LAST HORSEMAN
Russell Hayden
Bob Wills & Texas Playboys

29 (67) Comedy 5040
SHE'S A SOLDIER TOO
Beulah Bondi
Nina Foch
Bess Barker
R—July 29—PG-551

M-G-M

JUNE RELEASES:

(85) Drama 427
THREE MEN IN WHITE
Lionel Barrymore
Van Johnson
Marilyn Maxwell
R—May 6—PG-529

(124) Comedy 428
TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR
June Allyson
Gloria DeHaven
Van Johnson
R—Apr. 29—PG-528

SPECIAL:
(126) Drama 491
◎ **THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER**
Irene Dunne
Alan Marshal
R—Mar. 18—PG-516

MONOGRAM

10 (51) Western 365
SONORA STAGECOACH
Hoot Gibson
Bob Steele
Betty Miles
R—Sept. 2—PG-564

24 (60) Horror 319
THE RETURN OF THE APE MAN
Bela Lugosi
R—July 15—PG-548

24 (57) Western 355
RANGE LAW
Johnny Mack Brown
Raymond Hatton
Sarah Padden
R—Sept. 2—PG-563

PARAMOUNT

GROUP 4—1943-44:

(75) Melodrama 4317
THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN
Franchot Tone
Veronica Lake
Binnie Barnes
John Sutton
R—Mar. 4—PG-511

(79) Com.-Mus. 4318
YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE
Betty Rhodes
Johnnie Johnston
Marjorie Weaver
Johnnie "Scat" Davis
R—Mar. 4—PG-512

(75) Drama 4316
THE NAVY WAY
Robert Lowery
Jean Parker
Bill Henry
Roscoe Karns
R—Mar. 4—PG-512

P-R-C

10 (66) Melo. 415
WATERFRONT
John Carradine
J. Carrol Naish
Maris Wrixon
R—May 20—PG-534

RKO RADIO

GROUP 5—1943-44:

(64) Mystery 421
THE FALCON OUT WEST
Tom Conway
Barbara Hale
Don Douglass
R—Mar. 11—PG-514

(86) Drama 422
DAYS OF GLORY
Tamara Toumanova
Gregory Peck
Maria Palmer
Lowell Gilmore
R—Apr. 22—PG-526

(83) Adventure 423
THE YELLOW CANARY
Anna Neagle
Richard Greene
Nova Pilbeam
R—Apr. 15—PG-524

(92) Mus. Drama 425
SHOW BUSINESS
Eddie Cantor
Joan Davis
George Murphy
Constance Moore
R—Apr. 22—PG-526

(74) Comedy 424
SEVEN DAYS ASHORE
Wally Brown
Alan Carney
Marcy McGuire
Gordon Oliver
R—Apr. 22—PG-525

REPUBLIC

9 (55) Melodrama 317
SILENT PARTNER
Beverly Loyd
William Henry
Grant Withers

17 (67) Com. Mus. 320
GOODNIGHT, SWEETHEART
Robert Livingston
Ruth Terry
R—June 10—PG-539

24 (69) O'd'r Mus. 342
YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS
Roy Rogers
Dale Evans
R—May 20—PG-534

1 (91) Melodrama 318
MAN FROM FRISCO
Michael O'Shea
R—May 13—PG-532

2 (56) Western 3312
MARSHAL OF RENO

7 (59) Melodrama 319
CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS
Janet Martin
Allan Lane
William Lane

14 (56) Outdoor 356
CALL OF THE ROCKIES
Smiley Burnette
Rerelease:
15 (56) Western 3305
COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN
Gene Autry

20TH-FOX

GROUP 2:

JUNE RELEASES:

(96) Drama 429
EVE OF ST. MARK
Anne Baxter
William Eythe
Michael O'Shea
R—May 20—PG-534

(61) Dr.-Rom. 430
LADIES OF WASHINGTON
Sheila Ryan
Trudy Marshall
Doris Merrick
R—May 20—PG-533

UNITED ARTISTS

16 (91) Drama 493
THE HAIRY APE
William Bendix
Susan Hayward
Roman Bohnen
R—May 20—PG-533

23 (60) Western 494
FORTY THIEVES
William Boyd
Andy Clyde
Jimmy Rogers
R—July 22—PG-549

30 (86) Musical 495
SENSATIONS OF 1945
Eleanor Powell
W. C. Fields
Sophie Tucker
R—June 24—PG-544

UNIVERSAL

9 (78) Horror 8008
THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE
Jon Hall
Evelyn Ankers
R—June 3—PG-537

16 (68) Comedy 8015
GHOST CATCHERS
Olsen and Johnson
Gloria Jean
Martha O'Driscoll
R—June 10—PG-540

23 (61) Drama 8043
SOUTH OF DIXIE
Anne Gwynne
David Bruce
Samuel S. Hinds
R—May 27—PG-536

WARNER-F. N.

10 (82) Comedy 317
MAKE YOUR OWN BED
Jack Carson
Jane Wyman
R—May 20—PG-534

Rerelease:
24 (115) Musical 224
◎ **THIS IS THE ARMY**
Men of Armed Forces
George Murphy
R—Aug. 7—PG-458

21 (95) Melodrama 318
MASK OF DIMITRIOS
Sydney Greenstreet
Faye Emerson
Zachary Scott
R—June 10—PG-540

JULY 1

COLUMBIA

13 (67) Musical 5019
LOUISIANA HAYRIDE
Judy Canova
Ross Hunter
Richard Lane
R—July 22—PG-549

20 (82) Drama 5008
SECRET COMMAND
Pat O'Brien
Carole Landis
Chester Morris
R—June 3—PG-537

25 (65) M'drama 5037
U-BOAT PRISONER
Bruce Bennett
Erik Rolf
John Abbott
R—July 22—PG-549

M-G-M

GROUP 8:

JULY RELEASES:

(95) Com.-Dr. 430
THE CANTERVILLE GHOST
Charles Laughton
Margaret O'Brien
Robert Young
R—June 3—PG-538

(101) Musical 429
◎ **BATHING BEAUTY**
Red Skelton
Esther Williams
Basil Rathbone
R—June 3—PG-537

MONOGRAM

8 (79) Comedy 304
JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE
Simone Simon
R—May 20—PG-533

15 (73) Melodrama 305
ARE THESE OUR PARENTS?
Helen Vinson
Lyle Talbot
R—June 24—PG-544

22 (67) Comedy 323
THREE OF A KIND
Billy Gilbert
Shemp Howard
Maxie Rosenbloom
R—Sept. 2—PG-563

PARAMOUNT

SPECIAL: (Adv. price)

(157) Drama 4338
◎◎ **FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS**
Gary Cooper
Ingrid Bergman
Akim Tamiroff
Katina Paxinou
R—July 24—PG-454

P-R-C

25 (60) Western 465
FUZZY SETTLES DOWN
Buster Crabbe
Al St. John
Patti McCarty

30 (61) Western 458
BRAND OF THE DEVIL
James Newill
Tex O'Brien

1 (69) Musical 404
MINSTREL MAN
Benny Fields
R—June 24—PG-543

5 (62) Mystery 417
SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH
R—Aug. 19—PG-557

10 (72) Drama 416
DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS
June Carlson
Fifi D'Orsay
R—July 15—PG-547

16 (72) Musical 505
DIXIE JAMBOREE
Frances Langford
R—July 15—PG-548

18 (67) Melodrama 421
MACHINE GUN MAMA
R—Aug. 19—PG-558

RKO RADIO

(110) Mus. Drama 46
GOYESCAS
Imperio Argentina
Rafael Rivelles
Armanda Calvo
R—May 27—PG-536

GROUP 6—1943-44:

(63) Comedy 42
GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST
Harold Peary
Marion Martin
Richard LeGrand
R—June 24—PG-544

(65) Adventure 42
A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE
Tom Conway
Audrey Long
Edward Brophy
R—June 3—PG-538

(88) Musical 42
STEP LIVELY
Frank Sinatra
George Murphy
Adolphe Menjou
Gloria DeHaven
Walter Slezak
Eugene Pallette
R—July 1—PG-545

(67) Drama 436
YOUTH RUNS WILD
Bonita Granville
Kent Smith
Jean Brooks
Glenn Vernon
Tessa Brind
R—July 1—PG-546

(91) Drama 42
MARINE RAIDERS
Pat O'Brien
Ruth Hussey
Robert Ryan
R—June 24—PG-543

REPUBLIC

(96) Drama 429
EVE OF ST. MARK
Anne Baxter
William Eythe
Michael O'Shea
R—May 20—PG-534

(61) Dr.-Rom. 430
LADIES OF WASHINGTON
Sheila Ryan
Trudy Marshall
Doris Merrick
R—May 20—PG-533

20TH-FOX

JULY RELEASES:

(65) Melodrama 431
ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER
Preston Foster
Victor McLaglen
Lois Andrews
R—May 27—PG-535

(85) Melodrama 432
CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA
James Mason
Carla Lehmann
Raymond Lovell
R—June 3—PG-538

(103) Romance 433
◎ **HOME IN INDIANA**
Walter Brennan
Jeanne Crain
June Haver
Lon McCallister
R—May 27—PG-536

UNITED ARTISTS

14 (106) Drama 496
SUMMER STORM
George Sanders
Linda Darnell
Anna Lee
R—May 27—PG-535

20 (174) Drama
SINCE YOU WENT AWAY
Claudette Colbert
Jennifer Jones
Joseph Cotten
R—July 29—PG-552

4 (80) Comedy 497
ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS
William Bendix
Dennis O'Keefe
Helen Walker
R—July 22—PG-549

UNIVERSAL

30 (93) Drama 8002
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Deanna Durbin
R—June 17—PG-542

7 (67) M'drama 8018
JUNGLE WOMAN
R—May 27—PG-535

7 (65) Horror 8039
THE MUMMY'S GHOST
R—May 13—PG-531

7 (58) Western 8086
TRIGGER TRAIL

14 (62) Musical 8045
TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE
R—June 10—PG-539

18 (57) Western 8087
TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT

21 (65) Comedy 8040
ALLERGIC TO LOVE
Noah Beery jr.
Martha O'Driscoll
R—May 6—PG-529

WARNER-F. N.

15 Reissues:
(103) M'drama 341
MANPOWER
Edward G. Robinson
(79) M'drama 345
TIGER SHARK
Edward G. Robinson
(92) M'drama 347
THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL
John Garfield
(66) Horror 344
THE WALKING DEAD
Boris Karloff
(89) Comedy 342
BROTHER RAT
Ronald Reagan
(65) Comedy 346
POLO JOE
Joe E. Brown

JULY 8

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

JULY 15

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

JULY 22

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

JULY 29

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

AUG. 5

COLUMBIA

3 (80) Com. Dr. 5007
MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR
Edward G. Robinson
Ruth Warrick
Ted Donaldson
R—July 15—PG-547

M-G-M

AUGUST RELEASE:

SPECIAL:
(145) Drama 500
DRAGON SEED
Katharine Hepburn
Walter Huston
Aline MacMahon
R—July 22—PG-550

MONOGRAM

5 (57) Western 356
WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE
Johnny Mack Brown
Raymond Hatton
R—Oct. 28—PG-580

15 (59) Western 366
MARKED TRAILS
Hoot Gibson
Bob Steele
R—Oct. 28—PG-580

19 (60) Melodrama 333
CALL OF THE JUNGLE
Ann Corio
James Bush
John Davidson
R—Sept. 2—PG-564

26 (61) Comedy 325
LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH
James Dunn
Wanda McKay
R—Sept. 23—PG-569

PARAMOUNT

SPECIAL:
(136) Drama 4337
◎◎ **THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL**
Gary Cooper
Laraine Day
Signe Hasso
Dennis O'Keefe
Carol Thurston
R—Apr. 22—PG-526

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

AUG. 12

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

AUGUST RELEASES:

(70) Musical 501
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT
Phil Baker
Marjorie Massow
Edward Ryan
Stanley Prager
R—July 15—PG-548

(97) War Drama 502
WING AND A PRAYER
Don Ameche
Dana Andrews
William Eythe
Charles Bickford
R—July 22—PG-550

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

12 (127) Drama 319
MR. SKEFFINGTON
Bette Davis
Claude Rains
Walter Abel
R—May 27—PG-536

AUG. 19

COLUMBIA

17 (63) Horror 5027
CRY OF THE WEREWOLF
R—Aug. 26—PG-560

17 (61) Horror 5026
SOUL OF A MONSTER
R—Aug. 26—PG-559

24 (72) Musical 5012
KANSAS CITY KITTY
Joan Davis
Bob Crosby
Jane Frazee

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

13 (58) Melodrama 324
PORT OF 40 THIEVES
Stephanie Bachelor
R—July 1—PG-545

16 (56) Western 3313
SAN ANTONIO KID
Wild Bill Elliott

Reissue:
1 (60) Mus. Wst. 3306
RIDE, RANGER, RIDE
Gene Autry
Smiley Burnette
Kay Hughes

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

18 (74) Comedy 8001
IN SOCIETY
Bud Abbott
Lou Costello
Arthur Treacher
R—Aug. 19—PG-558

WARNER-F. N.

AUG. 26

COLUMBIA

24 (72) Musical 5012
KANSAS CITY KITTY
Joan Davis
Bob Crosby
Jane Frazee

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Guinn Williams		2 (71) Mystery 306 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558	GROUP 5—1943-44:	2 (62) Western 466 RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT			1 (86) Drama 9005 GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556	2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES: (112) M'drama 501 THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552	9 (64) Mystery 317 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565 16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUTLAWS	(96) Mus.-Com. 4321 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527	8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582	(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552	15 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 15 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562			8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559 15 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch. R—Sept. 23—PG-567	(87) Comedy 502 BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-553 (90) Comedy 504 MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 503 WATERLOO BRIDGE Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor	30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele	(65) Comedy 4322 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527	21 (56) Western 551 GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570	(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake	SEPTEMBER RELEASES: (75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554 (73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557		22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	23 (118) Mys-Farce 403 ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 6201 COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER			(100) Drama 4323 THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-526		(72) Comedy 435 HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly Barbara Hale Gordon Oliver R—July 29—PG-551				29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
SEPT. 30	26 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571			(66) Melodrama 4324 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528	4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577	SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES: (74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568		6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573										
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575			GROUP 6—1943-44:		GROUP 1—1944-45:	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576			13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575	OCTOBER RELEASES: (117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556		(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	(113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry			20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582	(100) Rom.-Fan. 506 KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-566		(106) M'drama 4325 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528			16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562				
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574		3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY	(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch. R—June 10—PG-539	31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579	(87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572	6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567			3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583		10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561	(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	(96) Drama 502 THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567	7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN 10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES: (88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576	10 (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583		10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569	11 (99) Rom.-Dr. 406 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584	NOVEMBER RELEASES: (122) Drama 510 AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-540 (124) Drama 507 MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568	17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton 24 (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557	(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539	15 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer R—Sept. 9—PG-566	(75) Drama 505 MY PAL WOLF Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568	15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott 30 (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577	(88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576 (87) Musical 510 SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582	23 (81) Drama THREE IS A FAMILY Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566 24 (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585 1 (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 1	25 (102) Comedy 407 THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
NOV. 25		Reissue: (104) Musical 508 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald Nelson Eddy	1 (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White	(83) Drama 4330 THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field Harry Carey William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541		(69) Comedy 504 GOIN' TO TOWN Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake R—Sept. 30—PG-571	30 (71) M'drama 404 FACES IN THE FOG R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA				
DEC. 2											

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. B.
DEC. 9	7 (69) M'drama 6032 **SHE'S A SWEETHEART** Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587		8 (..) Comedy **CRAZY KNIGHTS** Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	**SPECIAL:** (125) Com.-Dr. 4535 **GOING MY WAY** Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511	6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 **ROGUES' GALLERY** Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605	**SPECIAL:** (99) Suspense 582 **THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW** Edward G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey R—Oct. 14—PG-574	Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 **RED RIVER VALLEY** Gene Autry	**BLOCK 5:** **DECEMBER RELEASES:** (130) Drama 512 **WINGED VICTORY** Sgt. Mark Daniels Cpl. Don Taylor Pvt. Lon McCallister Sgt. Edmond O'Brien Cpl. Lee J. Cobb Cpl. Alan Baxter Jo-Carroll Dennison Jeanne Crain Jane Ball Judy Holliday R—Dec. 2—PG-586	8 (120) Drama **GUEST IN THE HOUSE** Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	8 (64) Comedy 9031 **HI BEAUTIFUL** Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
DEC. 16	14 (60) Musical 6038 **DANCING IN MANHATTAN** Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594	**DECEMBER RELEASE:**	15 (68) Mys-Com. 416 **SHADOW OF SUSPICION** Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct. 21—PG-575	GROUP 1—1944-45: (97) Comedy 4401 **RAINBOW ISLAND** Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565	9 (60) Western 556 **OATH OF VENGEANCE** Buster Crabbe 15 (79) Comedy 501 **THE TOWN WENT WILD** R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(94) Comedy 551 **THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE** Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576	23 (85) Musical 406 **LAKE PLACID SERENADE** Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593	(86) Rom.-Dr. 513 **SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER** Anne Baxter John Hodiak Bobby Driscoll Charles Winninger Jane Darwell R—Dec. 9—PG-588		15 (63) Musical 9037 **MY GAL LOVES MUSIC** Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586	
DEC. 23	21 (55) Western 6203 **SADDLE LEATHER LAW** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 **TOGETHER AGAIN** R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(89) Comedy 509 **LOST IN A HAREM** Abbott & Costello Marilyn Maxwell John Conte R—Sept. 2—PG-561	22 (76) Melodrama **ALASKA** Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(88) Drama 4402 **TILL WE MEET AGAIN** Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565	15 (79) Comedy 501 **THE TOWN WENT WILD** R—Nov. 11—PG-581 22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 **CASTLE OF CRIMES** Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall	GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 **GIRL RUSH** Frances Langford Wally Brown R—Oct. 28—PG-577	23 (55) Melodrama 408 **THOROUGHBREDS** Tom Neal Adele Mara Roger Pryor		29 (87) Drama **TOMORROW THE WORLD** Fredric March Betty Field R—Dec. 23—PG-591	22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 **DESTINY** Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587	
DEC. 30	28 (63) Romance 6205 **TAHITI NIGHTS** Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593		5 (..) Western **NAVAJO TRAIL** Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(76) Com-Mus. 4403 **THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE** Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-565	29 (55) Western 553 **THE WHISPERING SKULL** Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(67) Mystery 507 **FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD** Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588	30 (60) Melodrama 407 **THE BIG BONANZA** R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 **SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS**		5 (86) Drama **I'LL BE SEEING YOU** Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592	29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 **CAN'T HELP SINGING** Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589	30 (124) Musical 409 **HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN** Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
1945											
JAN. 6	4 (60) Comedy 6039 **LET'S GO STEADY** Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598	**JANUARY RELEASE:** **SPECIAL:** (138) Drama 511 **THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO** Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	12 (68) Comedy **ARMY WIVES** Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589	81) Comedy 4404 **OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY** Gail Russell Diana Lynn Charles Ruggles Dorothy Gish R—Sept. 2—PG-562		(95) Mystery 508 **MURDER, MY SWEET** Dick Powell Anne Shirley Claire Trevor R—Dec. 9—PG-588	16 (71) M'drama 409 **GRISSLY'S MILLIONS** Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597	**JANUARY** **SPECIAL RELEASE:** (137) Drama 514 **THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM** Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592		5 (60) Musical 9035 **NIGHT CLUB GIRL** Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
JAN. 13	11 (59) M'drama 6041 **YOUTH ON TRIAL** Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595	**JANUARY RELEASES:** (101) Com.-Dr. 513 **THE THIN MAN GOES HOME** William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587	19 (63) Mys.-Com. **ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY** Jean Parker Peter Cookson							12 (74) Comedy 9020 **SHE GETS HER MAN** Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596	
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 **EADIE WAS A LADY** Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	(56) Drama 514 **MAIN STREET AFTER DARK** Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	26 (83) Drama **FOREVER YOURS.** Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589							19 (57) Western 9039 **UNDER WESTERN SKIES** Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597	20 (100) Drama 410 **TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT** Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 **I LOVE A MYSTERY** Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601	**SPECIAL:** (113) Dr./Mus. 512 **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS** Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor R—Nov. 11—PG-582	2 (66) Mystery **THE JADE MASK** Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland							26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 **THE SUSPECT** Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 **SAGEBRUSH HEROES** Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor				3 (54) Western 557 **HIS BROTHER'S GHOST** Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King					2 (88) Mus-Com. 9002 **HERE COME THE CO-EDS** Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 **SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS** Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams 22 (72) Comedy 6019 **LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE**	**FEBRUARY RELEASES:** (117) Musical 515 **MUSIC FOR MILLIONS** Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590	9 (..) Melodrama **CISCO KID RETURNS** Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga		6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 **KID SISTER** 8 (58) Western 554 **MARKED FOR MURDER** Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien					9 (63) Musical 9021 **HER LUCKY NIGHT** Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 17	22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 **TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT** Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	(69) Drama 516 **BLONDE FEVER** Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	16 (..) Western **GUNSMOKE** Johnny Mack Brown 16 (..) Com-Mys. **THERE GOES KELLY** Jackie Moran		10 (63) Mdr.-Mys. 523 **THE SPELL OF AMY NUGENT** R—Mar. 3—PG-610 15 (72) Drama 516 **FOG ISLAND** Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606	(84) Musical 583 **BELLE OF THE YUKON** Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586	15 (56) Western 3317 **GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY** Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming	**FEBRUARY** **SPECIAL RELEASE:** (128) Drama 517 **A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN** Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599	19 (92) Drama **MR. EMMANUEL** Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	16 (71) Mystery 9013 **HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 **THE MUMMY'S CURSE** R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 411 **OBJECTIVE, BURMA!** Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 **THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE** R—Feb. 10—PG-602					**SPECIAL:** (71) Disney 591 **THE THREE CABALLEROS** Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590	19 (69) Musical 411 **A SONG FOR MISS JULIE** Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607	(77) Drama 516 **HANGOVER SQUARE** Laird Cregar George Sanders Linda Darnell R—Jan. 20—PG-598		23 (94) Musical 9012 **FRISCO SAL** Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama **A SONG TO REMEMBER** Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(100) Drama 517 **THIS MAN'S NAVY** Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595	2 (..) Com.-Mys. **FASHION MODEL** Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver R—Mar. 10—PG-612	84) Mys.-Dr. 4410 **MINISTRY OF FEAR** Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds Carl Esmond R—Oct. 21—PG-567			28 (55) Western 454 **SHERIFF OF CIMARRON** Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill			2 (76) Drama 9006 **SUDAN** Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 **ROUGHLY SPEAKING** Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ⓑ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAR. 10	[8] (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601 [15] (58) Western ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606 [22] (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen R—Mar. 3—PG-609	MARCH RELEASES: [9] (81) Drama 516 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven [16] (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale [30] (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604 APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	[9] (..) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611 [22] (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 [23] (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown [30] (..) Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS Harry Carey Paul Kelly Ducky Louie [6] (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta [7] (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612 [20] (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	BLOCK 3—1944-45: (99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591 (62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591 (158) Drama 4413 ⓒFOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454 (90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592 (64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592 BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⓒBRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603 (81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608 (100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608 (62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	[15] (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599 [15] (..) M'drama SWAMP MAN [31] (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603 [15] (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 [19] (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe [25] (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog [2] (..) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray [7] (..) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson [16] (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley (82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610 (84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604 (70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604 (92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603 SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 ⓒIT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610 GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys (78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell (76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616 (78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew (..) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding	[12] (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans R-Mar. 17—PG-613 [30] (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes Dan Duryea [2] (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 [5] (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe [23] (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 ⓒTHUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599 (67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603 APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen (..) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615 (76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613 MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont (61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello	[31] (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610 [7] (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614 (..) Mys.-Drama SPELLBOUND Ingrid Bergman Gregory Peck [21] (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley (..) 2,000 WOMEN Phyllis Calvert Stewart Granger [4] (147) Comedy ⓒCOLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620 (..) Comedy BEDSIDE MANNER John Carroll Ruth Hussey [18] (..) Drama IT'S SPRING AGAIN Zachary Scott Betty Field [25] (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	[16] (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615 [13] (64) Musical I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant Milburn Stone [20] (65) SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan [27] (..) ⓒSALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce [4] (89) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook [11] (..) Musical HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper [18] (60) Musical SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher [25] (..) Comedy SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis [1] (..) BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	[17] (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612 [7] (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dana Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale [28] (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
APR. 7	[5] (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609										
APR. 14	[12] (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611										
APR. 21	[17] (67) Western ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES [19] (66) Mystery THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER [19] (58) Western RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID										
APR. 28	[26] (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619										
MAY 5	[5] (..) Rom.-Com. YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT LOVE Vera Lynn Donald Stewart										
MAY 12	[10] (..) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick [19] (..) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor Pat Parrish										
MAY 19											
MAY 26											
JUNE 2											

Diamond Horseshoe

F — Musical

20th-Fox (524) — **104 Minutes** — **Rel. May, '45**

In tune with the times, this lavishly produced musical is so loaded with entertainment values that it is top spot in any situation. Betty Grable is big name; Dick Haymes' romantic interest and his song numbers; fine orchestration and a talented cast capably directed by George Seaton, who also wrote the screen story, all tot up to a till-tinkling smash. The magic name of Billy Rose and his supper spot also means a lot. But the Rose pulchritude emporium doesn't furnish all the background; the production moves into some other night clubs, goes up the Hudson by boat, includes a picnic; all in Technicolorful splendor. All in all, a spicy potpourri that should be as lucky to an exhibitor as its name indicates. William Perlberg produced, while Mack Gordon and Harry Warren did the spine-tingling lyrics.

Betty Grable, Dick Haymes, Phil Silvers, William Gaxton, Beatrice Kay, Carmen Cavallaro, Willie Solar.

China Sky

F — Drama

RKO Radio (519) — **78 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Pearl S. Buck's widely-read novel of wartime China is herein brought to the screen with unusual fidelity as concerns atmosphere. The picture is impressively mounted, skillfully directed and sincerely performed by a sterling cast. Action, suspense and romance so completely dominate the proceedings that the war background, which otherwise might have proven a handicap, is submerged. Which fact, combined with the popularity of the author and the magnetism of the topliners, should insure the film's right to substantial grosses and general popularity. Top acting honors easily are the right of Ruth Warrick, who portrays a femme doctor in love with her medico associate, who brings to their bomb-torn hospital a frivolous, jealous, trouble-making new wife. Her machinations bring on the Jap raid which climaxes the picture. Directed by Ray Enright.

Randolph Scott, Ruth Warrick, Ellen Drew, Anthony Quinn, Carol Thurston, Richard Leo, "Ducky" Louie.

Son of Lassie

F — Drama

M-G-M (——) — **102 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 20, '45**

Despite this picture's faults—and they are legion—it has more on the credit side than in the debit column. S. Sylvan Simon, the director, resorts to unwarranted slapstick in the opening sequence and thus gives the picture an appearance of cheapness; the story lapses into such incredible melodrama as to tax audience credulity; the picture contains many technical anachronisms, is overlong and concludes with several loose ends. In the picture's favor are delightful scenes of the star's puppyhood—for the player in the title role steals the picture from the cast's excellent human performers; endless panoramas of magnificent scenery, supposedly Norwegian, superbly photographed in Technicolor; a story into which an extraneous love interest is wisely kept within minimum footage; a crashing climax that leaves the audience breathless. Lassie's son is a champion stock, a sure winner.

Peter Lawford, Donald Crisp, June Lockhart, Nigel Bruce, Leon Ames, Nils Asther, Robert Lewis.

The Bullfighters

F — Comedy

20th-Fox (525) — **61 Minutes** — **Rel. May '45**

Low in cost and entertainment, this latest Laurel and Hardy effort may get by on a dual if the counterattraction is outstanding. Too slow-moving for the average comedy fan, the picture proceeds at a pedestrian pace through gags long since discarded by modern comedians, milking each situation and bit of business bone-dry before stumbling on to the next. Current release shows them entering Mexico as a couple of moronic detectives, hot on the trail of a curvaceous blonde crook. To escape the wrath of a former convict whom they had sent to prison, Laurel, mistaken for a famous toreador, finds himself forced to face a ferocious bull. Laurel, playing dual role, gives cameraman opportunity for good trick photography, best example of which is tag scene showing detectives skinned alive. Mal St. Clair's direction below usual high standard.

Laurel & Hardy, Margo Woods, Carol Andrews, Ed Gargan, Diosa Costello, Richard Lane, Max Wagner.

The Valley of Decision

F — Drama

M-G-M (——) — **120 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Truly a triumph in every department is the screen version of Marcia Davenport's best-selling novel, and its wide appeal to every class of audience, with the possible exception of the bobby-sockers, should be so powerful as to establish it as one of 1945's record grossers. The film is produced and directed with consummate skill and understanding from a screenplay which expertly catches the atmosphere and situations of the original. But what contributes most to elevating the offering to its far-above-par position are the performances. Virtually every member of a shrewdly-selected cast contributes tellingly, while Greer Garson's standout delineation of the Irish servant girl whose charm, wit and nobility shapes the lives of her employer's entire family again establishes her as first lady of the screen. Tay Garnett directed.

Greer Garson, Gregory Peck, Donald Crisp, Lionel Barrymore, Preston Foster, Marsha Hunt, Gladys Cooper.

Those Endearing Young Charms

F — Comedy

RKO Radio (520) — **81 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

The lighter and romantic side of soldiering on the home front is brightly projected in this boy-meets-girl yarn, probably the best picture to roll off of RKO's assembly line in many months. As such, its just due is plenty of popularity and profits. Given benefit of a closely-knit, believable screenplay, excellent direction and shining dialog, the competent cast breezes through its chore happily and tellingly. While topliners Young and Day deliver characteristically fine performances, noteworthy is the work of a refreshing promising newcomer, Bill Williams, who should prove a delight to femme fans of all ages. The film is expensively mounted and in every department reflects the money and care which went into its making. The story is about a wolf in uniform who knew all the answers but ultimately overplays his hand. Lewis Allen directed.

Robert Young, Laraine Day, Ann Harding, Bill Williams, Marc Cramer, Larry Tierney, Glenn Vernon.

Salome—Where She Danced

F — Drama

Universal (——) — **90 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 27, '45**

Despite its being shot from a script as aimless as a buzz bomb—and one which broke up into as many pieces—this very unusual picture boasts sufficient proven exhibition assets to assure its commercial success, especially if showmen will take full advantage of its high exploitability content. Among its most salable elements: Technicolor photography of breath-takingly beautiful scenic backgrounds; spectacle; glamour; plenty of action, romance and adventure; and Yvonne De Carlo, Producer Walter Wanger's discovery, who displays plenty of talent, sultry pulchritude and chassis in this, her first starring vehicle. The less said about the story the better. It is reminiscent of the "Perils of Pauline" with a touch of modern adventure comic strips, stretching credibility to a point that will have logicians in the audience tearing their hair. Directed by Charles Lamont.

Yvonne De Carlo, Rod Cameron, David Bruce, Walter Slezak, Albert Dekker, Marjorie Rambeau, J. Edward Bromberg.

Patrick the Great

F — Comedy With Music

Universal (——) — **89 Minutes** — **Rel. May 4, '45**

That versatile young man, Donald O'Connor, once again demonstrates he knows the score about working in front of cameras from top to bottom, with conspicuously pleasing results awaiting exhibitors. For this time, Donald has a vehicle in which he can concentrate upon his own considerable talents without carrying the burden of the entire film on his shoulders. Ably assisted by his side-kick, Peggy Ryan, the two sing and dance their way through this thoroughly entertaining picture with all the ease and poise of accomplished veterans. The story is a lightweight yarn about a father and son competing unknowingly for the lead in a musical show. Complications arise in the person of lovely Frances Dee, who appears to be intermittently smitten by first father and then son. Donald Cook plays the elder Donahue amiably, while Eve Arden is charmingly sarcastic.

Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Frances Dee, Donald Cook, Eve Arden, Thomas Gomez, Gavin Muir.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Valley of Decision"**

Get book stores to make window displays with copies of Marcia Davenport's book, arranging books in a huge "V" for central motif. Place stills at vantage points. Sponsor contest for best answers to "Was Mary Rafferty justified in her self-imposed penance?" In lobby play up Greer Garson with poster from each of her pictures, starting with a small one for her earliest appearance and graduating them until the current poster is life-size.

CATCHLINES:

A Best Seller First—Now, a Great Picture . . . The Lives of a Whole Family Swayed by a Humble Servant Girl . . . Steel Men Become Men of Steel . . . It Will Live in Your Memory as the Book Lives in Your Heart.

Powerful Pathos! Dramatic Decision! . . . It's Human! It's Warm! It Tugs at Your Heart Strings! . . . Love Foresworn by a Beautiful Girl . . . Dynamic! Emotional! Superb!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Those Endearing Young Charms"**

Use music store tieups to feature the sheet music of "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms" together with still of the picture. In cooperation with local stores advertise at cosmetic and perfume counters, "Accentuate 'Those Endearing Young Charms' with—perfume," etc. For a lobby display exhibit miniatures or pictures of all the various types of Allied aircraft, because the hero is an army pilot.

CATCHLINES:

A Romantic Comedy of a Flyer, His Pal and Their Gal . . . Robert Young as a Modern Wolf in Pilot's Clothing . . . He Left a Trail of Broken Hearts All Over the World.

A Charming Scoundrel Meets His Waterloo in the Eyes of a Beautiful Girl . . . Mixed With Love and Romance! Spiced With Sparkling Dialog and a Dash of Sophisticated Gayety!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Salome—Where She Danced"**

Organize beauty contest, final contestants to be judged on opening night, tieing in with merchants, newspapers, American Legion, and other organizations for suitable awards. For lobby, blow up four different stills and mount on separate bases, each base carrying one word, and reading: Salome-Will-Dance-Here. Free record of radio announcements may be obtained from the company for adding punch to advertising.

CATCHLINES:

The World's Most Captivating Woman in the West's Most Incredible Tale . . . Alluring Yvonne De Carlo, Selected From 20,000 As Most Beautiful Girl in the World . . . She Made Guns Grow Cold and Hearts Burn Hot.

She's Delightful, She's De-Luscious, She's De Carlo! Woman of Fire and Fame . . . Into the West She Came . . . To Tame Its Boldest Hearts . . . To Challenge Its Wildest Excitements.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Patrick the Great"**

Donald O'Connor, his name, singing and dancing ability, and general all-around personality are a potent asset for exhibitors playing this picture. Concentrate on plugging him, and the battle is more than won. Also good for exploitation is Peggy Ryan, the other half of the popular team. Tieins with record shops and music stores are obligatory. Take advantage of the hep jive talk now in vogue with the youngsters by cooperating with the local newspaper in an essay contest written entirely in jive. Offer prizes for the best essay and the most accurate translation into everyday English.

CATCHLINES:

A Laughing, Dancing, Singing Treat That Will Set Your Feet Tapping and the Rhythm Rocking!

Father and Son, Competing for the Lead in a Musical Comedy . . . And Also for the Love of a Beautiful Girl . . . Complications Enough to Provide Laughs That Will Keep You Chuckling for Days!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Diamond Horseshoe"**

It's the front stage and back stage doings at Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe, plus Betty Grable, plus Dick Haymes, plus a swell orchestra, plus seven musical numbers, several specialty acts—and Betty Grable in Technicolor, back after an extended absence. That's about all the selling angles any exhibitor needs.

CATCHLINES:

Hold Everything—Betty's Back!

Ooomph! Music! Heart Throbs, With Snappy Lyrics on Hit Tunes!

Eyefillingest, Earfillingest, Gorgeously-Technicolored Musical to Hit the Screen This Year!

Something to Hear, Something to See—And How!

Dad Brought Him Up to Be a Doctor—Betty Brought Him Up to the Marriage License Bureau—Then She Read a Book on Psychiatry—and?

SELLING ANGLES: **"China Sky"**

Tie up with book stores for a display of Pearl Buck's "China Sky" with stills from the picture. Interest the public library in putting on a display of books and pictures on China and her struggle. For a lobby display decorate with Chinese flags, emblems, etc., and set up an exhibit of Chinese native dress, military uniforms, coins, etc.

CATCHLINES:

A Moving Love Story Set Deep in the Heart of China . . . Pearl Buck's Famous Novel Brought Dramatically to the Screen . . . A Warm Human Document of Love Amid the Terrors of War.

Doctors Healing the Wounded in a Shower of Bombs . . . Love and Hatred Playing for Keeps! . . . Powerful! Tense! Emotional! Dynamic! Furious Action! Tender Drama!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Son of Lassie"**

Enlist cooperation of local humane society of SPCA in staging a kids' dog show on your stage, offering admission prizes for most obedient, healthiest (cleanest) looking, best-trained (most tricks) dog, and cutest puppy, respectively; be sure to have a local veterinarian and newspaper editor as members of your judging board; tieup window displays will be forthcoming from feed stores, pet shops, etc. Stress Norwegian "underground" angle in lobby display.

CATCHLINES:

He Led a Dog's Life . . . And Liked It . . . For He Was a Dog . . . Rejected by the Army for Inaptness . . . Yet Smart Enough to Outwit the Entire Gestapo . . . Don't Miss "Son of Lassie," the Story of a 4F K9.

Remember "Lassie Comes Home"? If You Liked "Lassie," You'll Love Laddie, "Son of Lassie" . . . The Wonder War-Dog Who Led the Gestapo to his Fugitive Master . . . And Then Helped Him Elude His Captors.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Bullfighters"**

As advance stunt offer free tickets to persons submitting best "bull yarn" each week preceding opening. Designate some local Baron Munchausen as judge and have local paper publish winning entries, enlarging for lobby.

Outstanding comedy scene shows Laurel and Hardy walking "around in their bones." Offer tickets for best explanation how trick shot was made. For lobby display hang skeleton cutouts, topped by faces of Laurel and Hardy.

CATCHLINES:

See Laurel and Hardy Throw the Bull—and Vice Versa . . . In the Foolishest Fun Fest Ever Filmed.

Forget the Meat Shortage . . . You'll Have Plenty of Beefs If You Miss "The Bullfighters," Laurel and Hardy.

You'll Shake With Laughter as They Shake With Terror. Who? "The Bullfighters," Laurel and Hardy.

Stan Laurel Plays a Dual Role . . . He's Twice as Funny in "The Bullfighters."

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

I'll Remember April

F — Drama With Music

Universal (9027) — **64 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 13, '45**

Next to the last of Universal's features toplining Gloria Jean, who is no longer on the studio's contract list, this is a pleasant parcel of supporting entertainment which materially can add to the enjoyment of any program. A fast-moving screenplay mainly dealing with the rivalry between two air gossipers and resorting to a murder to add zest to the closing sequences it is so constructed as to ideally showcase the musical moments supplied by the sweet-voiced Gloria. Hers and other performances register quite satisfactorily under the able direction of Harold Young. An impromptu appearance on an amateur radio show catapults Gloria Jean to sudden fame but her success is marred when her father is charged with a murder of which he is innocent. The gossipers solve the crime through a trick broadcast.

Gloria Jean, Kirby Grant, Milburn Stone, Edward S. Brophy, Samuel S. Hinds, Jacqueline de Wit, Hobart Cavanaugh.

Two O'Clock Courage

F — Comedy Drama

RKO Radio (——) — **66 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Tom Conway, in this light-vein murder mystery, steps out of his customary role as the Falcon, super and suave sleuth, but he is divorced from neither his propensity toward snooping nor suavity. Herein he contrives to be both the suspect and the amateur hawkshaw, a neat trick, particularly inasmuch as he is a victim of amnesia during its performance. The film probably was designed to serve as nothing more than the second feature on routine dual programs and in such niche it will satisfy the average customer, and do slightly better by those fans who like their murders laced with laughs. Costarring and sharing acting honors with Conway is Ann Rutherford, who, as a girl taxi-driver, helps him identify himself and solve the crime, at the same time snatching his heart. Directed by Anthony Mann.

Tom Conway, Ann Rutherford, Richard Lane, Emory Parnell, Jean Brooks, Bettejane Greer, Carl Kent.

The Great Flamarion

F — Melodrama

Republic (412) — **80 Minutes** — **Rel. Mar. 30, '45**

A murder melodrama with an "a-fool-there-was" motive, this offering, designed as a programmer, can be a credit to any theatre's program. As supporting material in the deluxers it should be a standout and can steal the glory from many average top-of-the-bill features. For subsequent bookings, the picture has sufficient length and merit to warrant topside position. The accomplishment is the more noteworthy because it is the initial try for newcomer Producer William Wilder. Erich Von Stroheim in the title role scores one of the best performances of his career, contriving to be his usual sinister self in a part which is thoroughly sympathetic. He is the murderer and, although the slaying occurs in the opening scene and the story is told through flashback technique, suspense never wavers. Directed by Anthony Mann.

Erich Von Stroheim, Mary Beth Hughes, Dan Duryea, Stephen Barclay, Lester Allen, Esther Howard.

Zoya

F — Drama

Artkino (——) — **90 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 14, '45**

This picture will take selling, but once patrons have seen it, they may like it. The acting by the entire cast is excellent, top honors going to a pair of youngsters new to the screen. The technique of "Zoya," half-documentary and half-theatrical, is always interesting, sometimes gripping. Colorful Moscow forms the background of much of the story, only later footage is played against a locale of war-torn Russia. Plot is a simple narrative of how a Russian girl, born the day of Lenin's funeral, lives through the events of Soviet history, joins the youth organization, eventually becomes a Partisan fighting behind the German lines, meets a heroine's death. Narration by Howard Fast, author of several best-selling novels, is punchful; photography and camera-effects effective; direction by Lev Arnshtam excellent; music by the great Shostakovich inspiring.

Galina Vodianitskaya, Katie Skvortsova, Xenia Tarasova, Boris Poslavsky, Alexander Kuznetsov, Victor Volchek.

Flame of the Barbary Coast

F — Drama

Republic (415) — **91 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

A solid name cast packing plenty of marquee drawing power, performances of uniformly high calibre and production values abundantly in evidence in almost every scene mark this as a film exhibitors will play secure in the belief that they are affording popular entertainment to their patrons. The boxoffice will confirm this conviction. Filmed against an authentic backdrop of San Francisco at the turn of the century, the picture captures the color and romance of that raucous era. Plot recounts the saga of John Wayne, a Montana cowboy, who goes to the wicked city to collect a debt, remains long enough to become enamored of the glamorous queen of the Barbary coast and get involved in a battle for love and power with the suave and silken Joseph Schildkraut. There are songs, dances and a humdinger reproduction of the Frisco earthquake. Joseph Kane directed.

John Wayne, Ann Dvorak, Joseph Schildkraut, William Frawley, Virginia Grey, Russell Hicks.

Rockin' in the Rockies

F — Western With Music

Columbia (6222) — **67 Minutes** — **Rel. Apr. 17, '45**

The hybrid film product which has resulted from the marriage of the old action western and the musical is not always better than the parent stock. Undoubtedly this picture has the kind of slapstick comedy that children and certain adult audiences enjoy, and which the Three Stooges supply. The corny music of the Hoosier Hot Shots is enjoyed by many as much as the horse opera technique of riding hell-bent-for-leather over such rugged scenery as only a western brings to the screen. But for devotees of the old-style, cattle-rustling, smile-when-you-call-me-that opus of the plains, this story of two show gals and a Hoosier band maneuvering to get auditions with an eastern show "biggie" will seems a little too synthetic to arouse much interest. Slanted for rural and low-priced houses. Vernon Keays directed.

The Three Stooges, Mary Beth Hughes, Hoosier Hot Shots, Jay Kirby, Cappy Barra Boys, Gladys Blake, Tim Ryan.

Zombies on Broadway

F — Horror Comedy

RKO Radio (——) — **68 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

A heavy-handed blend of horror, humor and hokum, this morsel of supporting material obviously was not designed to assert an appeal to discriminating film tastes. For the juveniles and those adults who relish their chuckles and their chills served in their broadest interpretations the feature can prove to be a lot of fun. There is something of originality in the story premise, but its unfolding resorts to the standard devices of countless preceding horror plays. Performances and direction remain on the levels established by such material. Resultantly the comedy team of Wally Brown and Alan Carney, which looked promising in its earlier appearances, is thrown for considerable of a loss in this try. They portray a pair of press agents who must produce a real Zombie to make good on a publicity stunt. Directed by Gordon Douglas.

Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Bela Lugosi, Anne Jeffreys, Sheldon Leonard, Frank Jenks, Russell Hopton.

La Virgen Que Forjo Una Patria

F — Drama

Clasa-Mohme — **104 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

This is a deeply religious picture showing how the early Spanish monks and priests in Mexico stood between the native Aztecs and their harsh Spanish conquerors. The story concerns the legend of the poor Indian who had visions of the Virgin and who gathered roses which blossomed where she stood, taking them to a local padre. When he opens his robe, instead of the flowers, there is a likeness of the Virgin on the coarse homespun. The original, called "The Virgin of Guadalupe," is preserved at the altar of the cathedral in Mexico City. This is a serious film and a little formal in its presentation. Like "The Song of Bernadette," it will have its greatest appeal to Catholic audiences. Sacred musical numbers would have helped; but the miracle is impressively handled. Julio Bracho directed.

Ramon Novarro, Gloria Marin, Domingo Soler, Julio Villarreal, Paco Fuentes.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Flame of the Barbary Coast"**

The cast of this film is good for plenty of marquee play. Try to give it all it is worth, and concentrate on John Wayne, who is well known for his cowboy roles. Plug the earthquake scenes in the film by covering your locality with tack-cards heralding the coming of the picture and the sensational shots of the calamity. Tie in with the local radio stations for recordings of songs played in the picture. Good promotions can result from cooperation with music stores in plugging the songs, and with local department stores in arranging for a fashion display of costumes worn in the film.

CATCHLINES:

It's Lusty, Tempestuous . . . It's a Sizzling Romantic Hit That Will Set Your Heart Ablaze With the Fiery and Thrilling Love It Unfolds!

He Came to Pay a Debt . . . But Stayed to Fight for the Love of the Most Beautiful Woman on the Barbary Coast.

The Most Sensational Scenes Ever Filmed . . . As the Wickedness and Fury of the Gold Coast of San Francisco Go Up in the Roaring Inferno of the Earthquake.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Rockin' in the Rockies"**

There are seven songs that have attained more or less popularity in this picture, including the always popular "Wah-Hoo." Make your tieups with music stores featuring these and then you can have girls in cowgirl outfits parade the downtown streets advertising the show. Get local restaurants to feature a "chuck-wagon plate special" while the picture is playing. Work up a roping contest for local boys up to 15.

CATCHLINES:

Everybody's Flockin' to "Rockin' in the Rockies" . . . Even a Hose Can't Quench the Enthusiasm of the Hoosier Hot Shots and Their Music . . . What a Prospect to See the Three Stooges as Prospectors.

You'll Rock, You'll Roar, You'll Ask for More . . . Out Where the West Begins to Swing and Sing to Cowboy Rhythms . . . The Chap Who Offered His Kingdom for a Horse Should See This Horse Opera.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Zombies on Broadway"**

Tie up with local night clubs and soda fountains to feature "Zombie" cocktails and sodas. Have an employe walk around dressed as a Zombie with appropriate sign. Set up a hut in the lobby to represent "The Zombie Hut" night club. Station a huge dummy at the entrance dressed as a Zombie with a beckoning hand. Use weird blinking lighting effects.

CATCHLINES:

A Riotous Comedy Thriller . . . It Will Leave You Limp With Laughter and Chilled With Horror . . . A Mad Scientist on the Loose . . . Zombies Produced Through Voodoo Magic . . . Press Agents Imperiled in Search of a Zombie.

Blood-Curdling Suspense! Rib-Tickling Comedy! Thrilling Adventure! A Fast-Paced Screamingly Funny Scare-a-roo! It's Howl-arious!

SELLING ANGLES: **"La Virgen Que Forjo Una Patria"**

Frankly, the usual entertaining features of Mexican pictures are lacking in this—such as gay, festive scenes, arresting costumes, plus musical and dance numbers. The lack of English captions also makes it a picture, then, which can only be understood and really enjoyed by those with a sufficient knowledge of Spanish to appreciate the drama of the dialog. It is much more suitable for church showing in strongly Catholic situations than for commercial houses. Of interest, also, to students of Mexican history and to Spanish language students.

CATCHLINES:

His Devotion and Faith Rewarded by a Miracle . . . The Cruel Inhumanity Shown by the Conquerors to the Very People to Whom They Brought Christianity . . . How the Church Fought the Greed of Spanish Conquistadores.

United for Mexico by the Banner Carrying the Picture of the Virgin . . . An Inspiring Story of the People's Faith in the "Mother of Mexico."

SELLING ANGLES: **"I'll Remember April"**

Tie up advertising with local merchants ala "He'll Remember You" in—millinery, dresses, etc. In cooperation with local radio station and press arrange for a voice audition of community's girls. Have winner sing from stage. Give war bond as a prize. For a lobby display set up a recording booth for patrons to send records to their boys at camp.

CATCHLINES:

You'll "Remember April" . . . She's a Girl You Can't Forget . . . A Beautiful Singer Kidnaped . . . A Murderer on the Prowl . . . A Crooked Financier Ruining His Victims.

Radio Broadcasters Turned Sleuths . . . Microphones That Catch a Killer . . . Love That Laughs at Danger . . . Exciting Entertainment! Steeped in Suspense! . . . A Gal, Two Guys and Murder!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Two O'Clock Courage"**

Have a series of clocks in lobby showing time contrast between London, Berlin, Moscow, Tokyo, etc., having one clock set at 2:00 with title tieup. Blast news over public address system each day at that hour. Get library and book stores to cooperate with a special exhibit of detective thrillers, furnishing them stills to be used in their display. Have a quantity of bookmarks printed to be distributed to customers.

CATCHLINES:

Chills Run Rampant . . . Bullets Ping Through the Air on a Deserted, Fog-Laden Street . . . Mystery! Terror! Murder! . . . An Up-to-the-Minute Thriller-Diller . . . Murder on the Double.

An Amnesia Victim Suspected of Murder . . . A Beautiful Woman "Cabbie" Aids a Murder Suspect . . . A Mixup of Romance and Mystery . . . A Crime Puzzle to Keep You Guessing.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Great Flamarion"**

Install small shooting gallery or booth in lobby, offering free round of shots with each ticket; prizes for perfect scores. Promote an "amateur night" consisting of vaudeville acts, enlisting the cooperation of merchants who will tiein with advertising and offer suitable awards. Newsboys may also be used as miniature "sandwich men," carrying ballyhoo in half-sheet insert frames. Passes will take care of the newsies

CATCHLINES:

World's Greatest Sharp-Shooting Act . . . Murder on the Stage . . . Crime Plays a Lethal Game of Chess, With Human Lives for Pawns . . . A Cold-Blooded Killer Ruthlessly Stalking His Next Victim.

Blazing Gunplay . . . Daring Action . . . Beguiled by the Woman He Loved . . . A Man—Killer, Lover, Liar! . . . A Woman—Betrayer, Cheater, Murderess! . . . Charged With Emotion.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Zoya"**

Music shops and bookstores suggest themselves for window and counter displays tying in on Shostakovich's score and Howard Fast's English narration and dialog, respectively; the former is acknowledged as Russia's greatest living composer, the latter's "Freedom Road" and "Citizen Tom Paine" are best-selling novels. For lobby, play up Nazi vs. Partisan angle: swastika-marked shackles, whips, torture instruments, etc., hammer-and-sickle-marked wire cutters, hand grenades, sub-machine guns, white uniform covers for snow camouflage, etc.

CATCHLINES:

At School She Learned to Shoot a Rifle . . . But She Couldn't Handle Cupid's Darts . . . See How a Beautiful Girl Became a Red Partisan . . . How She Lived . . . Fought . . . Loved . . . and Died. Don't Miss "Zoya" at ..... Theatre.

The Inspiring Story of the Life and Times of Russia's Greatest Woman Heroine . . . A Mighty Nation Forged Her Strength and Courage . . . Love Made Her Gallant Name Resound Throughout the World . . . Meet "Zoya" at ..... Theatre.

CLEARING HOUSE

The Industry's Market Place for Purchase or Sale of Equipment, Theatres, Service

• **Classified Ads 10c Per Word, Payable in Advance.** **Minimum $1.00. Display Rates on Request** •

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—NEW

PRE-WAR built new 40x60 glass size stainless steel poster cases, equipped with 2-36" long fluorescent lighting. Catalog upon request. BEN B. POBLOCKI & SONS CO., 2159 So. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 7, Wis.

IF YOU DON'T WRITE, YOU'RE WRONG! We have anything and everything you want, reasonably priced. A COMPLETE stock of 35mm sound portables, Simplex and Holmes, 2,000 ft. magazines, with Baby Arcs or Mazda lamps. Unlimited quantities of Powers 6B mechanisms with roller pin type movements; Motiograph mechanisms, Peerless low intensity arc lamps; Weber, RCA and Ultraphone soundheads, also complete Ultraphone sound systems; new and used fireproof enclosed automatic rewinds; new and used 30 amp rectifiers. Liberal tradein allowances. Dealer inquiries invited; export shipments a specialty. WESTERN FEATURE FILMS, the house of a million bargains, 845 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—USED

FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2,000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

FOR SALE—Extra heavy Buffalo Blower, 22,500 CFM. Cash only. PALACE THEATRE, Whitewright, Texas.

ALL YOU NEED TO OPEN—COMPLETE SIMPLEX BOOTH OUTFITS consisting of projectors, lamphouses, lens, soundheads, motors, amplifier, speakers and soundscreen. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

ASHCRAFT SUPREX ARCLAMP, $195; Forest Twin 65 amp rectifier, as is, $95; useable reflectors, 50% off; Rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, $250; Footlights, 5 ft. sections, $17.50; 7-Compartment candy machine, $79.50; Commercial Vacuum Cleaner, $119.50; Brandt coin changers, from $75; Water Cooler, DC only, $77.50; Low intensity arclamps, $75. Spring Bulletin now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

FOR SALE—Two Powers 6 machines, complete—$300. HERMAN HAPPY, Traverse City, Mich.

FOR SALE—1/6 to 3 hp. motors, Hydraulic variable speed pulleys. Exhaust fans for booth and theatre. Boxoffice fans, 2 speed. SOUTHERNAIRE, P. O. Box 838, Atlanta 1, Ga.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

WANT CUSHION CHAIRS for theatre. LOYAL LARSON, Kennedy, Minn.

BURCH, MANLEY, CRETORS, ADVANCE poppers. All electric machines. French fry type. KRISPY KIST KORN MACHINE CO., 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6.

WANTED—To buy a pair of 35mm portable projectors for cash. Must be in first-class condition. B-2182, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

POWERS PROJECTORS, 16mm and 35mm SOUND PORTABLES. UNLOAD NOW. HIGHEST PRICES PAID. B-2183, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRE SEATING

THEATRE CHAIR PARTS — Standards, hinges, clamps, seats, backs, bolts, screws, cup washers, for all makes of chairs. Leatherette—send samples of your required replacements. CHICAGO USED CHAIR MART, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

MORE THAN 12,000 CHAIRS AVAILABLE—LOOK! 600 AMERICAN FULLY UPHOLSTERED VELOUR BACK, SQUAB SPRINGLESS CUSHION CHAIRS, good as is, $5.50; 575 HEYWOOD WAKEFIELD HEAVY PANEL BACK, SQUAB CUSHION CHAIRS, steel tubular standards, excellent condition, as is, $4.35; 500 HEYWOOD WAKEFIELD HEAVY PANEL BACK, BOX SPRING CUSHION CHAIRS, excellent condition, $5.95; 786 Irwin Rebuilt newly upholstered fully padded back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, like new, $8.95; 300 solid oak auditorium chairs, refinished, $3.95. Wire now for stock list. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP, NEW YORK 18.

FOR SALE—500 SPRING Cushion theatre seats in good condition. $3.50 ea. Write FISHMAN THEATRES, 134 Meadow St., New Haven 10, Conn.

THEATRES FOR SALE

350-SEAT THEATRE — Equipment good condition. Middle Georgia town, approximately 1,000 population. Good agricultural and pulp wood section. Ideal for couple who want small theatre where they will not be worried about competition. B-2170, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRES WANTED

SMALL TOWN—EXCLUSIVE. Prefer Kansas or southwest. Give details first letter. B-2175, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WILL BUY paying theatre in middle west, preferably small enterprising town. Charles Means, 1130 Belmont, South Bend, Ind.

WANTED—TO LEASE OR RENT THEATRE 100 mile radius of Dallas, Tex. Address BOX 475, Stephenville, Texas.

SOUND EQUIPMENT

VICTOR 16mm HIGH INTENSITY ARC PROJECTOR, $1,050; Automatic Record changers, $39.95; Permanent Phonograph needles, $1.50; Army surplus RCA Sound, send for list. SOUNDMAN'S TESTING OUTFITS NOW AVAILABLE on AA2 MRO (Theatres may issue this priority), $28.40; Sound Opticals, $15.95; Tubes, exciters, photocells, ceiling prices. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT

CONTINUOUS CONTACT 16mm PRINTERS, PICTURE, TRACK OR BOTH, $1,375; Miles 16mm recorder reproducer, $195; BERNDT MAURER 16mm RECORDING SYSTEMS, latest improvements, $1,995; Modernized Akeley Newsreel Sound Camera, amplifier; magazines; 3 lenses, matched finders; tripod; $13,000 value, reduced to $6,995. Send for Spring Bulletin. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

AIR COOLING EQUIPMENT

ACTUALLY DROP YOUR TEMPERATURE WITH NEW AIR WASHERS, ROTARY SPRAY, MAT TYPE, WORK WITH ANY BLOWER—EASILY INSTALLED. 5,000 cfm., $115; 7,000 cfm., $140; 10,000 cfm., $170, 15,000 cfm., $200; 20,000 cfm., $230. New prewar blowers, starting at $106.50 for 5,500 cfm.; also Diffuser Grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Catalog. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

DRUG STORE FOR SALE—Located in mining district. Ideal spot for couple, 6 rooms upstairs, dance hall below. Fountain just started in town, no other drug store near. If interested, write and more description given. REDA'S FOUNTAIN, Vicco, Ky.

POPCORN MACHINES

POPCORN MACHINES FOR SALE. Manleys, Burch, Cretors, Advance and Stars. CONSOLIDATED CONFECTIONS, 1116 South Michigan, Chicago 5, Ill.

BURCH — MANLEY — CRETORS — ADVANCES—All electric french fry types. KARMELKORN EQUIPMENT, 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6, Ill.

FOR SALE—Brand new Page Commercial wet poppers; will pop 2 lbs. at a time; $500. Can deliver at once. MAURICE A. SALKIN, 1116 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FOR SALE—Ten 5c serve-yourself popcorn machines, made by Sentinel Co., $35 each. MAURICE A. SALKIN, 1116 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

HELP WANTED

WANTED—MANAGER for Modern theatre in coal mining camp. Also two operators for other towns. These positions permanent with excellent opportunity for advancement. State age, draft and family status, experience, references, salary expected. Boozers, drifters, and chasers need not apply. CHEROKEE AMUSEMENTS, INC., Erwin, Tenn.

PROJECTIONIST and managers needed for permanent position with circuit. Good possibilities for the right man. BOX 1431, Bay City, Texas.

POSITIONS WANTED

THEATRE MANAGER DESIRES CHANGE—Real showman, community builder, expert buyer, booker, publicist. Will consider any good offer anywhere. Address ATHA, 1812 Elsmere Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

GENERAL MANAGER, booker, buyer. Experienced in small circuit booking and buying. Discharged from service. Now employed, want to make change for permanent postwar employment. B-2164 BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGER or PROJECTIONIST—Fifteen years experience in all phases of theatre operation. Married, draft exempt. WILLIS ROBERTS, 114 S. Orange, Sturgis, Mich.

PROJECTIONIST, draft exempt, sober, dependable, will take position in northern Illinois or Indiana. B-2178, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGER—8 years experience circuit operation; age 27, married, sober, wants permanent position for postwar. South preferred. References. B-2179, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

BUSINESS STIMULATORS

THEATRE GAMES WITH GREATER AUDIENCE INTEREST. MORE THRILLS and MORE SUSPENSE. BINGO—$1.50 per thousand cards, No. 1-75 die-cut. Buy direct from LOUIS KESSLER, NOVELTY GAMES CO., 1434 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn 16, N.Y. Manufacturer and printer, servicing exhibitors exclusively for over 12 years. Various other games available.

BINGO CARDS—Die-cut, 75 or 100 numbers, $20 lots of 10,000. Smaller quanaities, $2.25 per thousand. S. KLOUS, c/o BOXOFFICE, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

POPCORN SUPPLIES

POPCORN SEASONING—Bags—Boxes—Salt—popcorn machines. What do you need? POPCORN TRADING POST, 1116 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FOR SALE—Processed popcorn. S. A. yellow, $11.30 cwt, FOB. IMPERIAL POPCORN CO., P. O. Box 1314, Des Moines, Iowa.

PRIME QUALITY Iowa popcorn for immediate delivery, $11.40 per hundred, F.O.B. Milwaukee or Omaha. Minimum order 10 bags, C.O.D. CROWN DISTRUBUTING CO., 1920 E. Kenilworth, Milwaukee, Wis.

POPCORN BOXES—$6.00 per thousand—10c boxes. F.O.B. Chicago. No order under 50,000 accepted. Send check with order. Immediate delivery. HARRY PHILLIPS, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

SIGN PAINTING

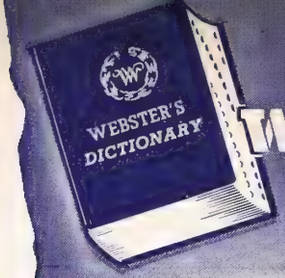
EASY WAY TO PAINT SIGNS. Use letter patterns. Avoid sloppy work and wasted time. No experience needed for expert work. Write for free samples. JOHN RAHN, B-1329 Central Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.

FILMS WANTED

WILL BUY OR LEASE exploitation features, shorts for southern states. Write B-2184, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

BUY VICTORY BONDS

• Address copy to BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo Forms close Monday noon preceding publication date.



Webster Says:

"Assist

the onward surge

of the complete

overpowering

of all enemies'

The Showman Says:

Help Speed Total Victory

No one compares with the American Showman for delivering slogans that "Sock and Sell." He uses language that is clear and direct and carries tremendous popular appeal. That is why, since this is Total War and America has *one* enemy... whether he fights in Europe or Asia...the Nation's Showmen have adopted the ringing slogan that will best urge the movie-going public to buy more bonds than ever before in the Mighty Seventh War Loan.

HELP SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

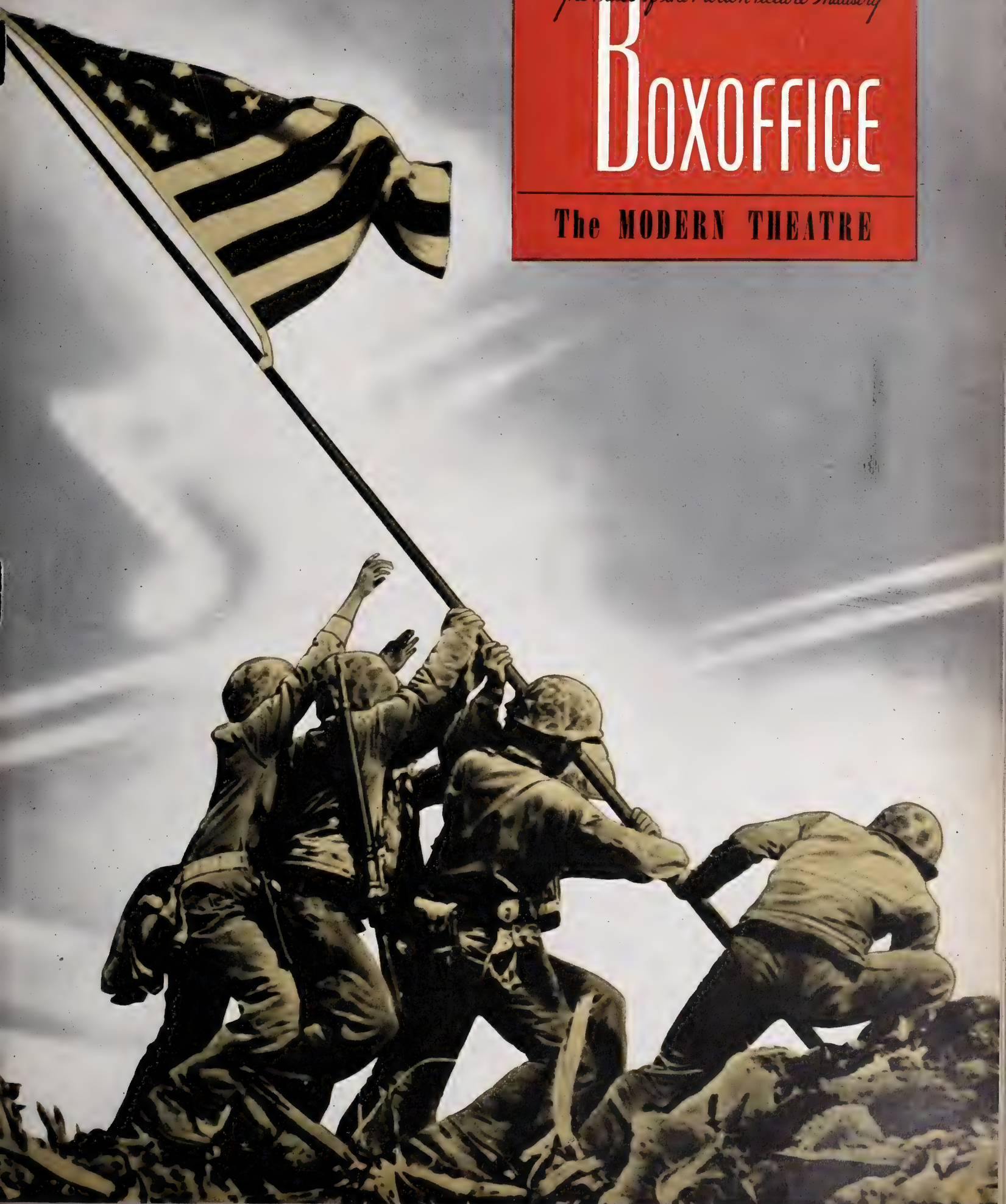
WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE • MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.
In cooperation with the War Finance Committee of the United States Treasury Department

APRIL 28, 1945 NATIONAL EDITION

The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

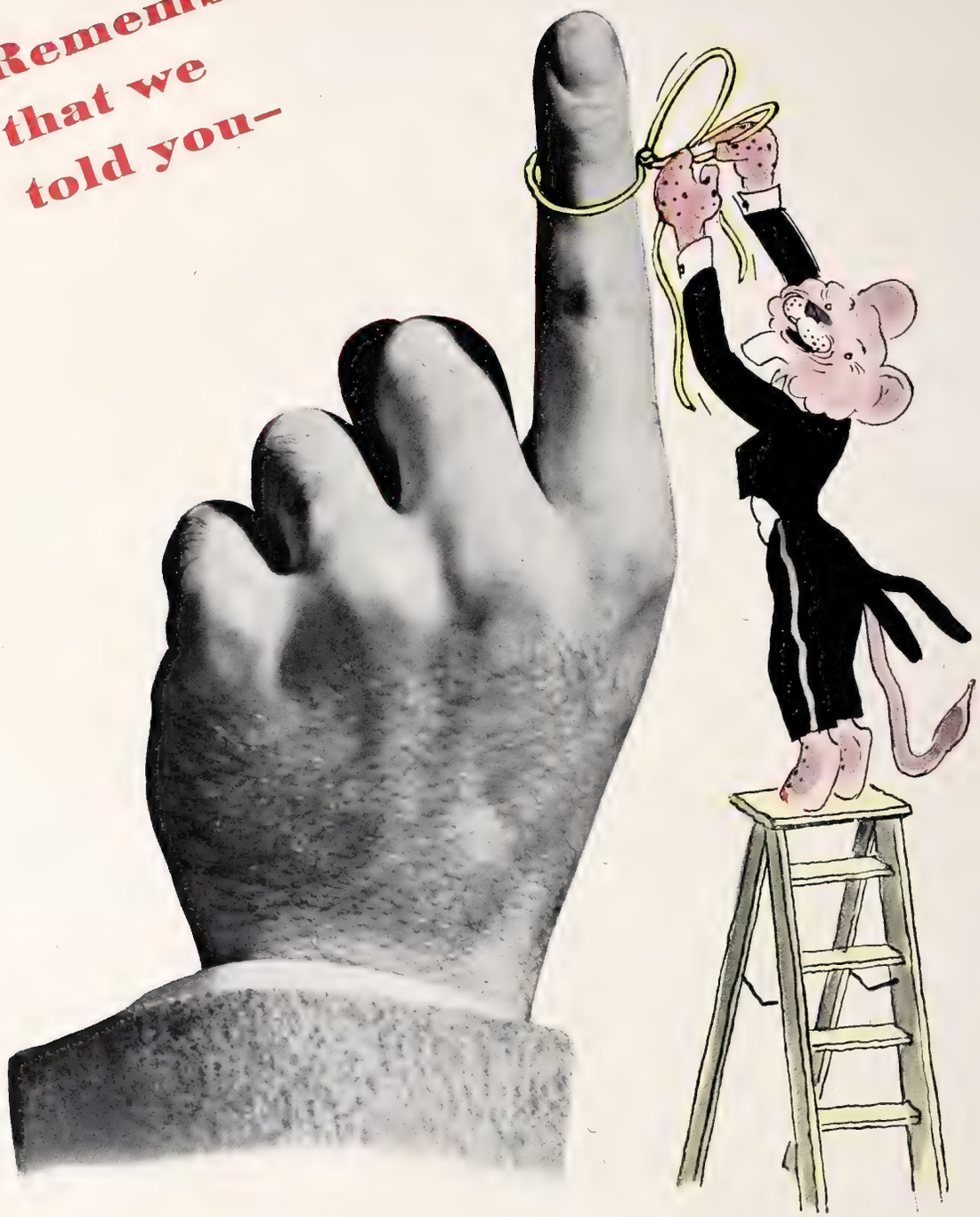
BOXOFFICE

The MODERN THEATRE



Now . . All Together! The Mighty Seventh!

Remember that we told you–



M-G-M's

ZIEGFELD FOLLIES

IS THE GREATEST MONEY SHOW THAT HAS EVER BEEN SEEN ANYWHERE ON EARTH!

Keep Selling Bonds!

21st YEAR OF LEADERSHIP MGM

This advertisement, 20th of a series appearing in national magazines, points out to 35,000,000 readers (of Time, Life, Newsweek, Liberty, Redbook, Fortune, etc.) that Warner Bros. productions and Warner Bros. policy are equally distinguished!



Room Service

As you might suspect, our latest picture, HOTEL BERLIN, is about a hotel in Berlin today, and the revolting shenanigans of its more unsavory guests as their vultures come home to roost.

As you might *not* suspect, HOTEL BERLIN was planned as a Warner Bros. picture more than two years ago, when war-clouds loomed blackest . . . for we shared the faith of millions that freedom *must* triumph.

* * *

There's a further reason why, from where we sit, HOTEL BERLIN is a very special entertainment.

For it's the sequel, in a sense, to a picture we made *more than six years ago.* That picture, "Confessions of a Nazi Spy", caused a lot of talk . . . some of it to the effect that we were seeing things under democracy's bed. (As we recall, some folks even said, "Pooh, pooh!").

* * *

HOTEL BERLIN shows, in unforgettably dramatic scenes, what finally happens to a nation that sets out to degrade and destroy mankind . . . by lies or Luftwaffe, by poison-propaganda or panzers.

HOTEL BERLIN shows, too, that Warner Bros. intend to maintain the leadership established by "Nazi Spy" and so many other splendid motion pictures . . . leadership in what The New York Times called *"combining good picture-making with good citizenship".*

VICKI BAUM's Bestseller

Hotel Berlin

starring

FAYE EMERSON • HELMUT DANTINE
RAYMOND MASSEY • ANDREA KING
PETER LORRE • ALAN HALE
GEORGE COULOURIS

Directed by PETER GODFREY

Produced by LOUIS F. EDELMAN

Screen Play by Jo Pagano & Alvah Bessie • Music by Franz Waxman

WARNER BROS.
JACK L. WARNER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Other current Warner Bros. productions.
GOD IS MY CO-PILOT • THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT • OBJECTIVE BURMA • ROUGHLY SPEAKING • TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

It's over

YORK ☆ STRAND, ALBANY ☆ COLONIAL, ALLENTOWN ☆ WARNER, ATLA
STATE, JOHNSTOWN ☆ WARNER, BRIDGEPORT ☆ MERRITT, BRIDGEPORT ☆ KENTUCKY,
VIRGINIA, ATLANTIC CITY ☆ SHEA'S O. H., JAMESTOWN ☆ MASTBAUM, PHILADELPHIA
MONTANA, BUTTE ☆ WARNER, MORGANTOWN ☆ GARDE, NEW LONDON ☆ LATONIA
EARLE, PHILADELPHIA ☆ STANLEY, PITTSBURGH ☆ COLUMBIA, SHARON ☆ PALACE, S
CAPITOL, SPRINGFIELD ☆ ORPHEUM, KANSAS CITY ☆ WARNER, MEMPHIS ☆ TRO
CAPITOL, MERIDEN ☆ REGENT, SPRINGFIELD ☆ KEENEY, ELMIRA
STANLEY, JERSEY CITY ☆ STATE, EASTON ☆ OHIO,
OHIO, MARION ☆ FOX, ATLANTA
☆ FABIAN, PATERSON ☆
STAMFORD, STAMFORD
ORPHEUM, PHOENIX
MONTAUK, PASSAIC
PALMS, PHOENIX ☆ VICTOR, NEW CASTLE
LINCOLN, CHEYENNE ☆ FAMILY, BATAVIA
STEUBEN, HORNELL ☆ OHIO, CANTON
CAPITOL,
MADISON

GOD

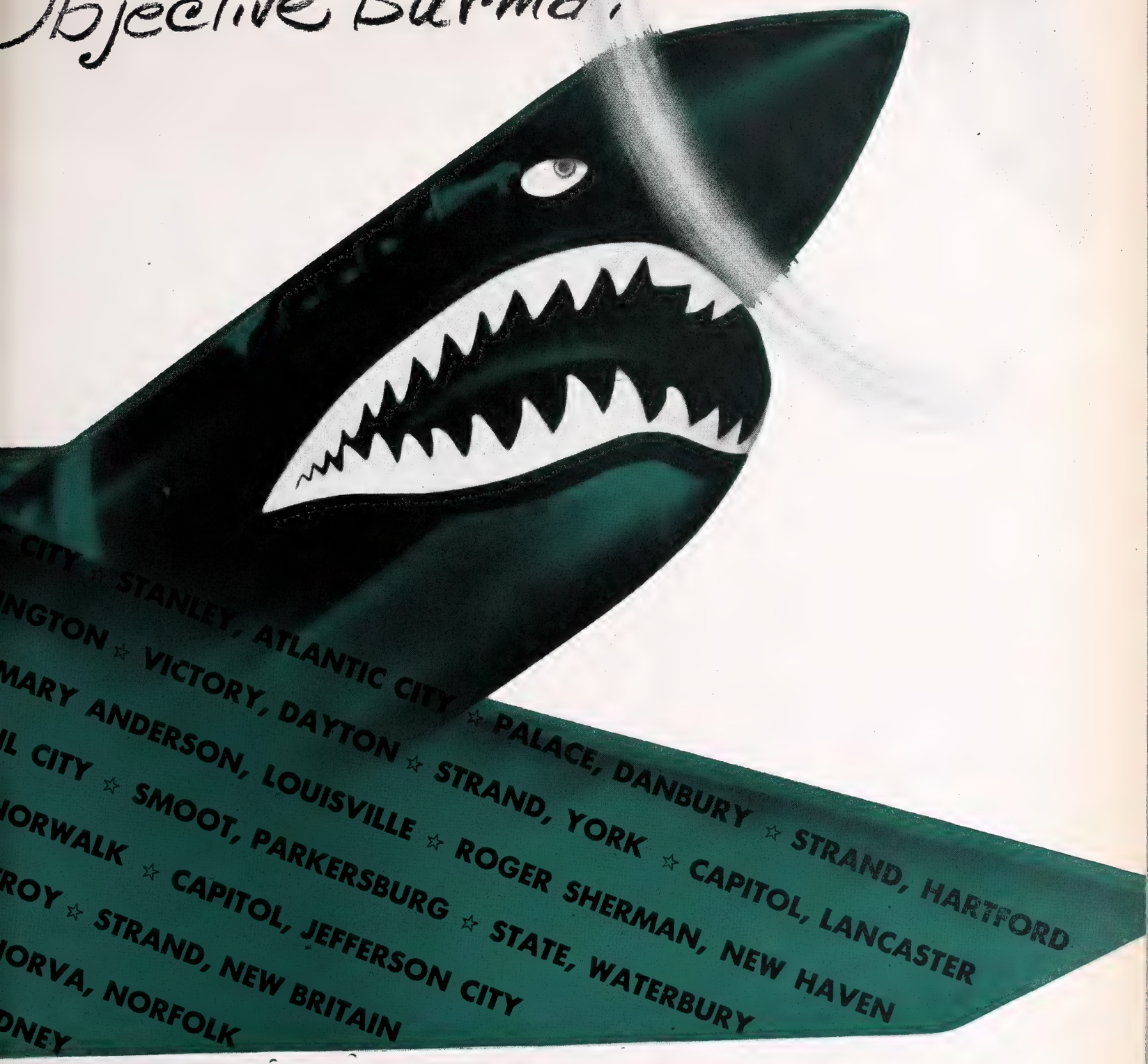
IS A V

Starring

DENNIS MORGAN · DANE CL

Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER • From the Best Seller by that Ace Flying

Objective Burma!



IS MY CO-PILOT

ARNER SMASH EVERYWHERE!

RK · RAYMOND MASSEY · ALAN HALE · ANDREA KING · JOHN RIDGELY

or COL. ROBERT LEE SCOTT, Jr. • Screen Play by Peter Milne and Abem Finkel • Music by Franz Waxman • Directed by ROBERT FLORE

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
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Western Offices: 6404 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif. Ivan Spear, Manager. Telephone Gladstone 1186.

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Other Associated Publications: BOXOFFICE BAROMETER, BOXOFFICE PICTURE GUIDE, published annually. THE MODERN THEATRE, published monthly as a section of BOXOFFICE.

ALBANY—21-23 Walter Ave., M. Berrigan.
ATLANTA—163 Walton, N. W., P. H. Savin.
BOSTON—Hotel Statler, Room 417, Floyd L. Bell, Hancock 2000, extension 244.
BUFFALO—20 St. Margaret's Court, Jim Schrader.
CHARLOTTE—216 W. 4th, Pauline Griffith.
CHICAGO—332 S. Michigan Blvd., Jonas Perlberg, WABash 4575.
CINCINNATI—127 Tremont St., Ft. Thomas, Ky., Clara Hyde, Highland 1657.
CLEVELAND — 2568 Overlook Road, Cleveland Heights, Elsie Loeb, Fairmount 0046.
DALLAS—408 S. Harwood, V. W. Crisp, Southwestern editor. Telephone Riverside 3553.
DENVER—1645 Lafayette, J. A. Rose, TA 8517.
DES MOINES—Register & Tribune Bldg., Russ Schoch.
DETROIT—700 Film Exchange Bldg., H. F. Reves Telephones Randolph 1100; Night, Townsend 8-9424.
HOLLYWOOD—6404 Hollywood Blvd., Ivan Spear, Western editor, Gladstone 1186.
INDIANAPOLIS—Howard M. Rudeaux, Rt. 8, Box 770.
KANSAS CITY—825 Van Brunt Blvd. Jesse Shlyen, Midwest editor (on leave to the army). A. Jules Benedic, acting Midwest editor, CHestnut 7777.
MEMPHIS—707 Spring St., Null Adams, Tel. 48-5462.
MILWAUKEE—Bradley Bldg., 633 North Water St. James R. Gahagan, BRoadway 2362.
MINNEAPOLIS—Essex Bldg., Maurice Wolff.
NEW HAVEN—42 Church St., Suite 915. Gertrude Pearson, 6-4149.
NEW ORLEANS—214 S. Liberty St., John F. Elzey.
NEW YORK CITY—9 Rockefeller Plaza. Paul Perez, News Editor.
OKLAHOMA CITY—Robert Busch, Uptown Theatre.
OMAHA—Lou Gerdes, Omaha World-Herald Bldg.
PHILADELPHIA—Philadelphia Record Bldg., Broad and Wood Sts., E. J. Hunter.
PITTSBURGH—1701 Blvd. of the Allies, R. F. Klingensmith, ATlantic 4858.
PORTLAND, ORE.—925 N. W. 19th St., Harold Donner.
ST. LOUIS—5149 Rosa Ave., David F. Barrett, Flanders 3727.
SALT LAKE CITY—The Deseret News, Howard Pearson.
SAN ANTONIO—531 North St., L. J. B. Ketner.
SAN FRANCISCO—25 Taylor St., Gail Lipman, ORdway 4812-4813.
SEATTLE—2418 2nd Ave., Joe Cooper, Seneca 2460.
WASHINGTON—2812 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Al Sherman, EMerson 2652. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

CALGARY—The Albertan, Wm. Campbell.
HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.
MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 46 No. 25
APRIL 28, 1945

BOXOFFICE

BIGGEST JOB OF ALL

SIX DOWN and one to go.

Now it's the seventh—The Showmen's Seventh.

It won't be the last; it is not the biggest; but it is the most important and it may be the toughest.

It is the most important, because there has been no failure up to now; because the war's needs have not yet been fully supplied; because there must be no slackening of effort, no shortage of the necessary tools, munitions, guns or supplies with which to see our fighting men through to the final victory. It may be the toughest, because on the eve of victory, the urgency may not appear so great to the general public; because all who have worked so hard in past campaigns are tired. Too, the quota of E bonds has been greatly increased; it is harder to sell to the small buyer than to the larger one.

The Treasury Department and the industry leaders have made no bones about declaring that the four billion dollar E bond quota is designed as an aid to check inflation and rising prices. Every person in this industry—throughout the nation—has a stake in that. And the reasons are all too well known to require repeating. This is a protective measure against the ills of unemployment; a hedge against breadlines that can have catastrophic results.

National Chairman Samuel Pinanski and National Distributor Chairman Tom J. Connors have stressed what they term the "grassroots" character of this campaign. They have made it clear that the need is for more E bonds to be sold in the smaller communities throughout the nation. That puts it squarely up to the little fellow—the independent exhibitor—in every town and hamlet in the country. These men have demonstrated their abilities to do "the impossible" in the six previous drives. We recall the praise bestowed upon them by state chairmen, particularly for their accomplishments in the Smashing Sixth drive. "The little fellows came through with flying colors," said one after the other of each state's leaders. And the record proudly attests to that.

America's showmen have so well demonstrated their abilities in showmanly salesmanship that the Treasury Department has made this industry the keystone around which the whole Seventh War Loan is built. A measure of distinction attaches itself to the fact that the industry's quota is one-fourth the entire national goal. That's a big assignment; and it must be carried out. Not only must the industry make its quota—

it must also provide that otherwise unobtainable spark and help to all other industries engaged in this big campaign.

Accent is being put on what needs to be done in the grassroots country; but what each and every other branch of this business must also do is not being overlooked. The teamwork that has meant so much to past campaigns is again called upon—big and little exhibitors, the distributors, the producers, the stars, the salesmen, the exploitation men and the front office and backroom staffs of each and every company —and the tradepress.

Six great victories have been scored up to now. Let's show 'em with The Showmen's Seventh by making it the biggest of them all!

* *

"For Lasting Security"

In his address to the opening gathering of the United Nations Conference, President Truman made the following remarks:

"Man has learned long ago, that it is impossible to live unto himself. This same basic principle applies today to nations. We are not isolated during the war, we dare not become isolated in peace.

"All will concede that in order to have good neighbors we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.

"For lasting security, men of good will must unite and organize. Moreover, if our friendly policies should ever be considered by belligerent leaders as merely evidence of weakness, the organization we establish must be adequately prepared to meet any challenge.

"Differences between men, and between nations, will always remain. In fact, if held within reasonable limits, such disagreements are actually wholesome. All progress begins with differences of opinion and moves onward as the differences are adjusted through reason and mutual understanding . . .

"The essence of our problem here is to provide sensible machinery for the settlement of disputes among nations. Without this, peace cannot exist."

There is a significance in these remarks that may well be applied to the motion picture industry. Verily, there is an interdependence among the factors of this business just as there is among nations of the world. None can live alone. Just as the industry has achieved unity of purpose and action on behalf of the war effort "during the war," so does it need to continue "for lasting security" after the war to work together in its own best interests.

Again to paraphrase, "The essence of our problem here is to provide sensible machinery (under capable stewardship) for the settlement of disputes among (individuals) . . ."

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Newsreels Exceed Quotas To Play Up Nazi Horrors

News of world-wide importance cut to stress German prison camp atrocities; first time in history of reels so much footage is given subject of brutality.

• • • ——

Ohio Municipal Ticket Tax Bill Dies in Committee

Exhibitors had opposed move to drop three per cent sales tax on admissions for a new law authorizing municipalities to impose their own levies on admissions.

• • • ——

Claude Ezell Becomes Head Of OCR Recreation Section

Dallas man and partner of Circuit Owner W. G. Underwood goes into Washington post, succeeding Maurice Green, who returns to direction of Green Theatres in The Hub.

• • • ——

Warners' MPPDA Resignation Will Become Effective May 1

Efforts to induce H. M. Warner to reconsider failing, company to proceed on its own plans, with separate labor relations department; continue to observe Production Code.

• • • ——

Dick Dickson Rejoins FWC; Becomes Maintenance Head

Veteran showman takes over duties as chief of purchasing and construction departments of National Theatres' circuit in the western area.

• • • ——

British-U.S. Tax Treaty Relief to Film Figures

If passed by senate, it will eliminate double income taxes on executives and make it easier to induce American talent to appear in English productions.

• • • ——

Independents May Enter The Foreign Association

Report they seek inclusion in plan now under discussion for joint moves on sales policies in some markets where unfair restrictions are imposed.

• • • ——

Wallis's British Pictures For Paramount Delayed

Studio facilities and raw stock scarce, start scheduled for May or early June has been set back pending improvement in situation; three already completed.

• • • ——

Rank Will Erect Theatres In Africa and Palestine

Completes plans for houses in Johannesburg, Capetown, Durban, Cairo, Tel-Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem; won't affect South African distribution of Rank films by 20th-Fox.

ASK EXHIBITORS FOR GREATEST BOND-SALES EFFORT THUS FAR

Four Billion E Series Goal Is Higher Figure Than In Previous Drives

NEW YORK—The showmen of the nation have been called upon for their mightiest effort in the Seventh War Loan, May 14 to June 30. A recital of the requirements of the campaign will serve as a sober reminder to all the motion picture industry of the gigantic job that waits them, while exhibitors particularly stand ready to accept the challenge.

The over-all quota, individual and corporate, for the Seventh War Loan is $14,000,000,000. The individual quota, the largest to date, is $7,000,000,000, of which $4,000,000,000 is in the vital E bond category.

Public Needs Extra Urging

It is to the achievement of this individual quota, and most particularly in the sale of E bonds, that the treasury department depends on the film industry. One needs only a look at the record of past war loan campaigns to discover why treasury officials lean so heavily on the industry for it has been conclusively proven that no other instrument has reached the man on the street so effectively and caused him to put his money into war bonds.

The showman has the know-how and "savvy" born of long experience in a fundamentally emotional business with which to reach the average wage earner, and to convince him that now, more than any other time, is when he must buy war bonds—and extra war bonds—to finance the war effort.

Treasury officials say that in this period of the nation's history, when Nazi Germany is disintegrating before the armies of the United Nations; when our forces in the Pacific are slicing through the outer perimeter of Japan's defenses and girding themselves for the final knockdown and dragout assault on the mainland of the Japanese empire, that the public may need extra urging, special showmanship to furnish the funds for total victory.

Say Exhibitors Must Lead

Exhibitors, small and large alike, must take the lead in bringing to the public the full story of why their dollars are needed today, the treasury says. Everybody must be told of the new tasks and the new needs imposed by the war, particularly the war which is just beginning with Japan, government heads say. To crush Japan will take time, heroic and backbreaking effort and overpowering equipment. The campaign aims to tell of the many ways in which the money is needed to bring military strength to its full power, so that we may crush our foes quicker, and bring our men back home.



AN INSPIRATION—One of the 40x60s being shipped by National Screen for delivery to all theatres that want it.

This year there will be only two war loan drives, not three. In these two drives, the government will have to borrow almost as much money from individuals as in the three last year. This means extra purchases of bonds in the Seventh War Loan.

The sick, wounded and disabled will require medical attention and care. Many millions of dollars will be needed for mustering out pay and benefits voted by Congress to help veterans get started again in civilian life.

Exhibitors also have the task of convincing the American people that by investing in the Seventh War Loan, they are securing their own futures and that of their country. Theodore F. Gamble, assistant to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, said that with 150 billions of wage earners savings put into war bonds, the U.S. can anticipate a 20-year period of prosperity after the war.

Theatre men also are expected to convince the people of the disastrous inflation that might arise if their expanded incomes begin to compete with each other for a steadily diminishing supply of commodities, made scare by a wartime production program. Buying bonds will put a lid on the cost of living, and maintain the purchasing power of the dollar.

Showmen Can Help Put Lid On Cost of Living and Stabilize the Dollar

Pinanski a Practical Showman

That Sam Pinanski, national chairman for the industry, is fully aware of the responsibility the industry must face is reflected in his statement, "This is the toughest assignment the industry has ever been given. It will call for the utmost in showmanship and effort by everyone. The Showmen's Seventh will be an overwhelming success if every individual gives his best to this mightiest of all industry drives. It is up to the field more than ever before."

Pinanski is a practical showman, an exhibitor himself, well versed in the problems and methods used by other exhibitors in reaching the public for the sale of bonds. In this drive, he is relying heavily on the efforts of the field, since it is there that the success of the Seventh War Loan will be achieved. For that reason he has stated that the campaign has been planned on a "grass roots basis," with the organization decentralized, and the responsibility placed on the field chairmen and the committees.

Tried and True Ideas to Fore

"We cannot improve on the fine job that has been done in the field in past drives," he said. "We intend to use tried and true ideas in combination with many new ones. The Seventh War Loan will be only as big as the workers in the field make it, with the national committee in New York serving merely as a service organization."

Exhibitors will have the advantage of the most elaborate and comprehensive promotional campaign ever assembled for any previous war loan campaign. Under the direction of John Hertz jr., the campaign will contain many features developed in the field, and proven successful there.

The public will be bombarded with the slogan, "Buy war bonds at your favorite motion picture theatre."

Exhibitors will also be aided by ads in large-circulation general and fan magazines; distributors' ads with a corollary slogan urging bond purchases at theatres Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, when other issuing agencies are closed; tag lines at the end of



SAMUEL PINANSKI
National Chairman



HARRY BROWNING
Ass't Chairman



S. H. FABIAN
Theatres Div. Chm.



TOM CONNORS
Distribution Chm.



TED R. GAMBLE
Nat'l WFC Dir.



JOHN HERTZ Jr.
Publicity Director

film reviews; end lines in radio transcriptions; radio network shows and top radio artists plugging the slogan; every newsreel will contain the theatre slogan, and it will be featured in newspaper and merchandising tieups.

The distributors are solidly behind the drive, and have already pledged, by their agreement concerning films for such events as bond premieres, children's premieres and Free Movie Day, to assist the exhibitors in every possible way. Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman, put it this way:

"If the industry is to perform its assignment toward achieving the $4,000,000,000 in E bond sales, we must have the greatest teamwork. Distribution is proud of the job it has done to date in industry drives, but because of government travel restrictions, distribution's task in this drive is unprecedented. We must refresh and review what has proved successful before so we can do a better job than ever before."

One note of caution has been injected into the industry's general policy during the performance of its chores during the Seventh War Loan. It comes from C. B. "Brownie" Akers, special events director of the war finance committee for Oklahoma, and exhibitor state chairman. He says in past drives, some theatre men have been carried away with their enthusiasm, and have mistakenly created the impression that they were running the whole bond show in their communities. He asks all exhibitors to remember that the film industry's part in the campaign, while of great importance, is nevertheless part of the over-all activities of the treasury department. Exhibitors should work as part of their communities, and cooperate fully with the war finance committee.

Increased Use of 16mm In Seventh Loan Urged

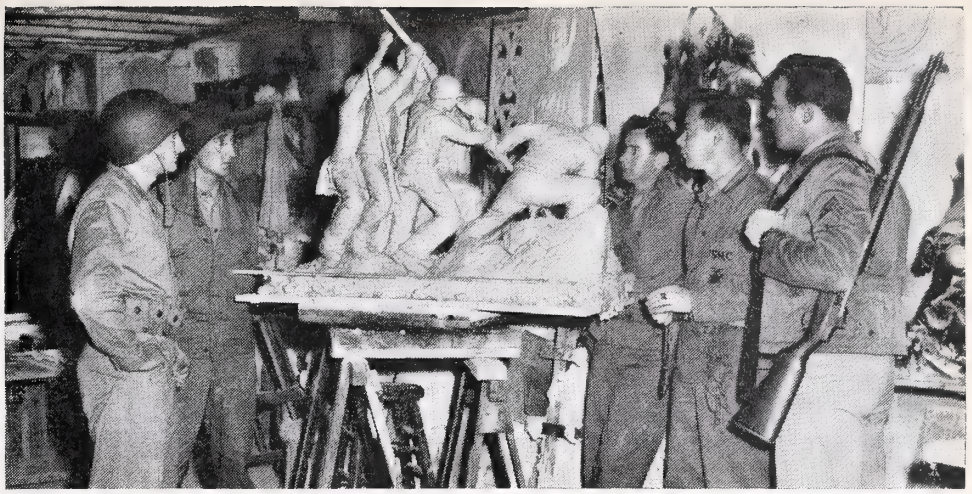
NEW YORK—Because of the success of the use of 16mm films in previous bond drives, 16mm is now recognized by the treasury department as an essential media on the same basis as 35mm films.

Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division, has appealed to the 16mm industry, both educational and commercial, to make even greater use of their material in promoting bond sales during the Seventh War Loan drive. They are urged to acquire as many projectors as possible for use in showing war loan films in new areas and among new groups, including rural isolated areas.

To assure adequate film supply it is suggested that they use the Fifth and Sixth War Loan films with appropriate Seventh War Loan trailers attached.

Pludo to Bond Drive Post

NEW YORK—William A. Pludo has been named national publicity consultant for the Seventh War Loan. He is vice-president and advertising manager for Adam Hats.



STATUE IN MAKING—Marines returned from Iwo Jima study a small model of the statue being made from the famous Joe Rosenthal photo. It is to be erected in Times Square as part of the Seventh War Loan activities.

Sam Pinanski Appeals to Showmen For Full Cooperation in Drive

NEW YORK—That the success of the Seventh War Loan, particularly in the attainment of the quota for individual sales, will depend largely on the efforts of the nation's showmen was made clear by Sam Pinanski, national chairman, in a letter to exhibitors.

Pinanski urged all exhibitors to work from the very start as a member of the local community team. He asked that they work closely with the exhibitor, distributor and publicity chairmen, and, most important of all, the local war finance committee chairman.

"Once again, America's showmen are mobilizing for action," Pinanski declared. "The job confronting us is the biggest we have ever been asked to tackle—a job that calls for all the manpower of our great motion picture industry.

"The Seventh War Loan drive opens officially May 14—a drive for $14,000,000,000, twice the quota for individual bond sales in any previous war loan effort. And because the success of this drive is tied so vitally to the continued full-scale prosecution of the war and the prospects of early victory, and because no nation has ever undertaken a bond drive of such magnitude, the nation's greatest bond salesmen—the motion picture industry—have been honored by being asked to shoulder a very heavy share of the load.

"The showmen's division of the Seventh War Loan will be outstandingly successful because this campaign represents the combined thinking and planning of our entire industry. It is a "grass roots" campaign—created by you and your fellow exhibitors.

"Your national directors appealed to you for suggestions. Your response was tremendously enthusiastic and meritorious. The specific requirements and peculiar problems of each locality have been weighed. Your proposals and your previously tested selling ideas have been carefully studied and have been coordinated with the grand scale plans of the treasury department. Now, we present our combined thinking and planning in a large portfolio for your use.

"The patriotism and sales ability of America's showmen have been so ably demonstrated in previous bond drives that it was inevitable your government should rely on you for your utmost cooperation in this biggest of all bond drives. It was inevitable, too, that we, your national directors, should turn to you—the fellows who know how to get results—for grass roots advice and sales ideas.

"The objective is clear: it is double that of any previous drive. We are ready; our portfolio is an arsenal of sales ammunition . . . war bond premieres, Free Movie Days, children's days, Glenn Miller Day, workable exploitation ideas, VE-Day suggestions, articles, editorials, posters, radio announcements and newspaper ads. Make the success of the Seventh War Loan your personal responsibility and we cannot fail."

Navy's War Plant Films

WASHINGTON—Three navy films containing clips of combat action and shedding new light on the job that remains to be done in the Pacific are available for showing to war plant and labor union audiences. The pictures were made by the navy's industrial incentive division.



LEONARD GOLDENSON
Advisory Comm. Chm.



FRANCIS S. HARMON
WAC Exec. Vice-Chm.



CHARLES P. SKOURAS
West. Area Gen'l Chm.



JERRY ZIGMOND
Publicity Coordinator



JOSEPH KINSKY
Coordinating Comm. Chm.



HERMAN ROBBINS
Special Consultant

Three Studio Groups Join in Bond Drive

HOLLYWOOD—Three key studio organizations represent the bond activities of the world's film production headquarters, and will be at the forefront during the Seventh War Loan. They are the Hollywood Victory Committee, which sends the stars out to participate in bond tours; the motion picture war finance committee, which sells bonds to studio workers, and the Hollywood division of WAC, which plans film subjects for war loans.

The work of the Hollywood division of WAC for the Seventh War Loan embraces the production of the two-reeler, "The All-Star Bond Rally," and three other trailers. Director John Cromwell is chairman of the division.

400 Volunteers Always Ready

Chairman of the motion picture war finance committee is Henry Ginsberg. The committee has sold $93,688,271 in war bonds exclusively to studio employes during the three-odd years of its existence. This has been accomplished through an able organization within the studios and allied industries, in which 400 volunteers serve during every drive and in interim periods to keep pay roll deductions at a high level.

The executive committee serving under Ginsberg includes John McCormick, vice-chairman; David Butler, Dorothy Lamour, Ralph Byrd, Jane Murfin, Frank Carothers, Carl C. Cooper, Herbert Sorrell, Fred Beetson, Perry Lieber, J. H. Rosenberg, Teet Carle and Don Rowland. Individual chairmen are W. K. Craig, E. L. Depatie, Wilson R. Stone, B. B. Kahane, A. H. McCausland, Fred Metzler, William Meikeljohn, Hy Glick, Sol Lesser, Trem Carr and I. E. Chadwick. Heading the allied industries committee are Tom Baily, chairman, and Albert Ruben, associate.

The Hollywood Victory Committee has a record of 233 stars sent out on national bond-selling tours in the six previous campaigns. A total of 242 have made individual appearances and 307 have appeared over the radio or made transcriptions. Kenneth Thompson, chairman, and Frances Inglis, assistant, are ready for the Seventh War Loan.

New England Seeks 100% Participation in Seventh

NEW YORK—A campaign has been launched by the New England advisory committee of the Seventh War Loan to secure 100 per cent participation in Free Movie Day in all New England theatres. A four point program also includes an increase in theatres as issuing agents, more bond premieres and more children's bond premieres. All theatres in the area are being contacted with this program as the objective. Committee chairman Mullen has also called for suggestions on how the drive may be made more effective.



Samples of two 40x60 posters.

Many Bond Accessories For Free Distribution

NEW YORK—A varied assortment of accessories has been shipped to National Screen exchanges, most of it for free distribution and some of it at a nominal charge. Most of these are listed in the portfolio sent out by WAC and exhibitors are being urged to place their orders as early as possible.

All 40x60's and one sheets have been sent to local WAC chairmen for office display purposes.

The display kit to be mailed direct to every theatre about May 1 consists of two 40x60s (pictorial posters in different styles); two one-sheet pictorial posters in different styles, and one campaign portfolio.

Collated press material in a portfolio, with mats for gratis distribution, also will be supplied.

Three-Sheets Direct to Theatre

Quantities of special three-sheets prepared by the treasury department, and with tail-pieces "Buy Bonds at Your Theatre," are being shipped direct to theatres from Washington. Shipments are made, postpaid without charge, to all who request them.

Early shipments also are scheduled by National Screen of one-sheets and window cards for Free Movie Day, bond premieres, children's bond matinees and Glenn Miller Day. These are free to theatres holding these events.

Samples of valance and burgee streamers and a small supply of badges has been sent by National Screen to all exchanges for display at WAC regional meetings. The valance is eight feet long and sells for $3.50; the burgee streamer is 20 feet long. It contains four burgees, 12 in. x 18 in.; a center burgee, 18 in. x 24 in., printed in red and blue on white cloth. It sells for $2.85. Badges sell for 14 cents each.

Army Books RKO Subject

WASHINGTON—The U.S. army motion picture service has selected, and already started to exhibit nationally, the latest of RKO's This Is America series. Title of subject is "Guam—Salvaged Island."

Bond Films Include Short, 3 Trailers

NEW YORK—The film program for the Seventh War Loan includes "The All-Star Bond Rally," a two-reel subject, and three trailers.

Each of the subjects carries an appeal urging the public to buy bonds in their favorite theatre. This is the policy adopted by Sam Pinanski, national chairman; Walter Ament, newsreel chairman; John Hertz jr., advertising and publicity chairman, and Tom Baily, Hollywood coordinator.

"All-Star Bond Rally" Will Help

"The All-Star Bond Rally" is a 19-minute film, produced for the industry by 20th-Fox, in which stars from many studios appear. The 13 stars appearing in the subject include Vivian Blaine, Jeanne Crain, Bing Crosby, Linda Darnell, Betty Grable, June Haver, Bob Hope, Harry James and orchestra, Faye Marlowe, Harpo Marx, Fibber McGee and Molly, Carmen Miranda and Frank Sinatra.

The short was created by the Hollywood division of WAC. Miss Fanchon produced, and Michael Andley directed. Don Quinn, writer of the Fibber McGee and Molly radio shows, did the script, and Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson wrote "Buy a Bond," a special song sung by Crosby.

"Mr. and Mrs. America Speak" is a 150-foot trailer starring Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, narrated by Edward Arnold and produced by Art Silver through the cooperation of Warners.

"Straight Talk" is another 150-foot trailer starring Lieut. Comdr. Robert Montgomery, USNR, produced by Jerry Bressler at M-G-M.

A third subject will star Bing Crosby in "Anybody's Kids," with Leo McCarey directing. RKO Radio and Rainbow Productions will produce, with Earl Rettig supervising.

All trailers will carry either titles or dialog informing the public that the theatres are open daily, Sundays and holidays, to sell bonds. Through arrangements made with Walter Ament, newsreels will carry special bond titles and narrators of war scenes will urge bond purchases.

Soldiers Make Patrons Watch Atrocity Reels

LONDON—Moviegoers, unable to stomach newsreels showing Nazi atrocities, tried to leave a Leicester Square theatre but were turned back by British and American soldiers who told them to return and see what other people had to endure.

People walked out from cinemas all over the country, a London daily reported, and in many places there were soldiers to tell them to go back and face it.

"It's the only way to break the namby-pamby attitude toward Germans," the paper quoted a soldier as saying. "Many people don't believe such things could be. These films are proof. It is everybody's duty to know."



TOM W. BAILY
Consultant to Treasury



HERMAN GLUCKMAN
WAC Consultant



GEORGE J. SCHAEFER
WAC Chairman



CHARLES M. THALL
W. Coast Coordinator



DAVE WALLERSTEIN
Midwest Coordinator



NEIL F. AGNEW
East. Industry Sales

THIS IS THE

Showmen's Seventh

WAR LOAN DRIVE

100% Showmanship
equals 1% Inspiration
plus 99% Perspiration



MIGHTY

7th

War Loan

HERE IT IS!



THE *Showmen's Seventh* WAR LOAN PORTFOLIO

MAY 14th TO JUNE 30th

The Showmen's Seventh War Loan Portfolio was created in the knowledge that the Showman's job in the Seventh is a tremendous one . . . The Portfolio replaces the Press Book and embodies these all-important factors:

1. The items contained in the Portfolio are "hot off the press." They have not been printed months in advance, but on the very eve of the Drive itself. In this way, any important change in information will be mailed out to the Showman immediately.

2. The Portfolio is loaded with at least 77 Showmen's ideas—all of which can be adapted to any situation. Space will not allow enumeration, but you will be armed to the teeth with workable material.

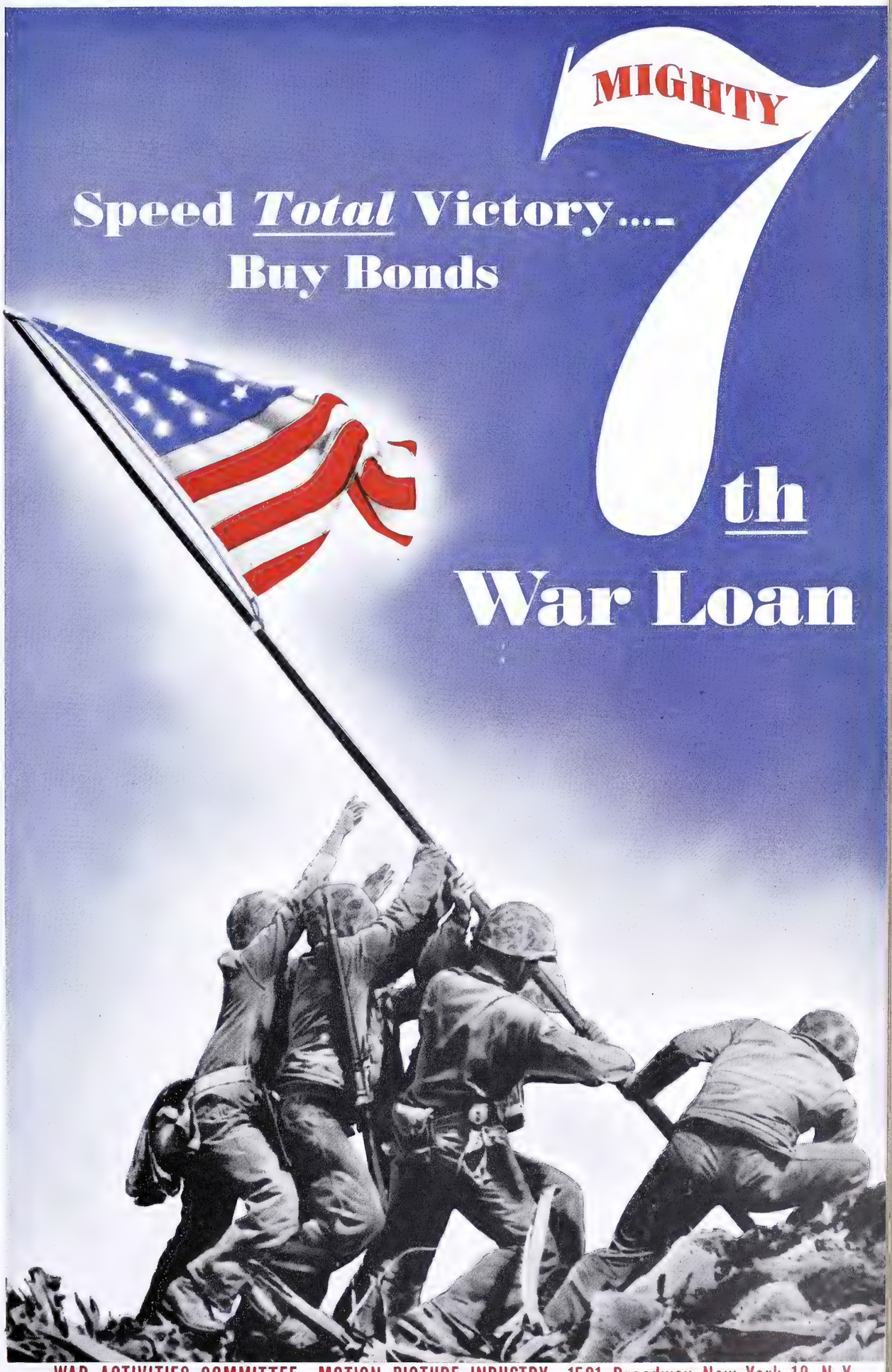
3. Any new ideas conceived by Showmen can be included in a special compartment of this Portfolio. It is a positive example that 100% Showmanship equals 1% Inspiration and 99% Perspiration . . . and will help the Showman HELP SPEED TOTAL VICTORY.

...and here is the HEROIC POSTER that will make the "Showmen's Seventh" a Smashing Success in your Theatre!

What could serve for the greatest War Loan in history but the greatest battle scene ever recorded? What photograph but the flag raising at Iwo Jima has received such dynamic and overnight acclaim from an entire nation?

What scene but this has stirred a people so deeply... and what could serve better to *compel* them to buy more War Bonds than ever before? The reason the Showmen of America have adopted this poster for the Seventh War Loan Drive lies in the answers to these questions.

HELP SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!





WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE · MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY · 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.

In cooperation with the War Finance Committee of the United States Treasury Department

. . . and this is the Poster that will line them up at your Bond Booth for the smaller Bonds!
This Poster will sell Bonds after V-E Day . . . little Bonds must beat the Japs as well!

ORDER NOW!
$3.00 per 1000



BUTTON

Up Your Campaign For The Showmen's 7th War Loan Drive!

SHOW *YOUR* SHOWMANSHIP—give every one who buys a bond at your theatre this lapel button—exclusive symbol of participation in the 7th through the motion picture theatres of America! It's a symbol the public will be proud to wear—and a public symbol of your own bond-selling efforts.



FREE!
Dramatic One-Sheet Display for your lobby

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE—MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.
IN COOPERATION WITH THE WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT

TEAR OFF...MAIL NOW!

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
Dept. B, 1501 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Order ( ) lapel buttons at $3.00 per 1000—total $

NAME_____ ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ THEATRE_____

They will be sent to you from your local National Screen Service Exchange

THESE ARE THE POSTERS that *Sock and Sell*

All Posters are FREE to Exhibitors. There are 11 altogether, 7 mailed direct to you, 4 will be available at National Screen Service for your asking.











These are the Tools that will help YOU to HELP SPEED TOTAL VICTORY

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

READ THIS IMPORTANT TELEGRAM!

WESTERN UNION

NAT466 57/56 GOVT 2 EXTRA--WASHINGTON DC 31 725P
SAM PINANSKI. CHAIRMAN SEVENTH WAR LOAN COMMITTEE--
WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE 1501 BROADWAY--
HAVE JUST SEEN ALL STAR BOND RALLY GREATEST BOND-SELLING
PICTURE THE INDUSTRY HAS EVER TURNED OUT, ONE THAT SHOULD
BE RUN IN EVERY THEATRE IN THE NATION. URGE SEVENTH WAR LOAN
COMMITTEE TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO REACH THIS GOAL AS
SUBJECT WILL DO TREMENDOUS GOOD BOTH TO THE INDUSTRY AND
TO THE TREASURY--
TED R GAMBLE NATIONAL DIRECTOR WAR FINANCE DIVISION.

BOB HOPE says: "Your theatre manager has gone from show business into the grim business of war. Here, he helps the War Fund...the Red Cross...March of Dimes. Here, he sells War Bonds any time . . . Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays. Your theatre manager has a Red, White and Blue Streak up his back." Need any more be said!

"ALL-STAR BOND RALLY"

19 Minutes of Big-Time Entertainment

STARRING

VIVIAN BLAINE · JEANNE CRAIN
BING CROSBY · LINDA DARNELL
BETTY GRABLE · JUNE HAVER
BOB HOPE · HARRY JAMES AND HIS ORCHESTRA
FAYE MARLOW · HARPO MARX
FIBBER McGEE and MOLLY
CARMEN MIRANDA · FRANK SINATRA

Produced by 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. under the auspices of the Hollywood Division, War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry.

"On behalf of the War Activities Committee, I wish to thank FANCHON—MICHAEL AUDLEY—DON QUINN—JAMES VAN TREES—AL NEWMAN—FRED SERSEN—EMIL NEWMAN—STANLEY RABJOHN—JIMMY McHUGH & HAROLD ADAMSON—TOM W. BAILY—and all the Stars and Musicians from the whole industry who so generously helped make this film possible . . . and the unions and guilds."

DARRYL F. ZANUCK

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

Field Group Is Set Up To Aid Bond Workers

NEW YORK—A field coordinating committee as part of the national campaign executive personnel in New York has been established by Sam Pinanski, national chairman for the Seventh War Loan.

The committee includes four area coordinators who act as liaison between campaign headquarters and the state chairmen and committees. Their job is to render service to the committees and workers in the field. The coordinators and their territories are as follows:

Joseph Kinsky of New York, chairman of the coordinators, and in direct charge of the east, supervising Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

E. W. "Gene" Street of Knoxville, coordinator for the south, supervising Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.

David Wallerstein of Chicago, midwest coordinator, supervising Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Charles M. Thall of San Francisco, western area coordinator, supervising Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, N. Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Western "Honored 100" Asked for Their Help

LOS ANGELES—Preparatory to opening of the "Showmen's Seventh" in the 11 western states, Charles P. Skouras, national honorary chairman and western regional chairman, on Tuesday wrote to all Honored Hundred members in this region, urging their fullest support in the forthcoming drive. There are 26 of these campaign veterans in the area, all of them among the nation's top bondsellers.

Skouras also stressed importance of the campaign in the west, in which region, at San Francisco, important leaders of the Allied countries will be congregated for several weeks during the course of the drive.

"Let's lead our nation in the sale of bonds," said Skouras to the Honored Hundred veterans, "for our country and our service men and women who are giving their all that we may enjoy the peace which all of us pray will soon be realized."

Loew's Army of Privates Mobilized for 7th Loan

NEW YORK—Loew's in a plan to afford due recognition to their employes and mobilizing an army or "privates" made up of ushers, cashiers, projectionists, film salesmen and hundreds of others who actually do much of the bond selling during war loan drives. A series of special citations have been set up to go to those who enlist in Loew's 7th Bond Army. Special citations will be awarded to those employes who sell great numbers of bonds.

Set for May 3 Release

NEW YORK—"Battle of San Pietro," a three-reel documentary film produced by Maj. John Huston for the war department, will be made available for showing in theatres on May 3 by WAC. The film treats of the battle in the Italian campaign and is reported to be one of the best factual pictures produced to date.

Tested Stunts Outlined In WAC Bond Material

NEW YORK—The enterprising showman will find many time-tested exploitation ideas in the promotion dossier prepared for the Seventh War Loan. While many of the ideas have been used before they bear repetition. An outline of the exploitation nuggets follows:

I AM AN AMERICAN DAY: Many cities will observe this day Saturday, May 19. Tie in your bond sales with huge patriotic rallies. All Hearst newspapers help promote these observances.

VICTORY BARREL: Names and addresses of all patrons buying bonds are placed in a drum in the lobby. On a selected night, the barrel should be brought on the stage and a drawing held. Prizes can range from passes to promoted merchandise or a war bond.

GI WEDDING: The idea is to promote as much home furnishings and decorations as possible for the bride and groom. On the wedding day, the theatre should be filled with bond-buyers. This stunt has been used before by exhibitors in peace times but it can be adapted to present-day needs.

ARMY SHOWS: Cities or towns near camps can stage a show using army talent. Admission would be by bond only. This has been used with success in many parts of the country.

DECORATION DAY: Turn this event into a Dedication Day instead of the routine celebration. Use slogan such as: "Speed Total Victory—dedicate this day to buying an extra bond."

BOTTLE COLLARS: Tie up with your local milk companies by having them place collars on milk bottles promoting the Seventh War Loan.

JUNIOR BOND BRIGADE: Line up the school children in your neighborhood in the selling campaign. Kid selling the largest amount of bonds would get either passes or a prize.

AUCTION SALE: This stunt has been used many times before, but it still gets a terrific audience reaction. Secure items of merchandise from local merchants and celebrities and auction them off to the highest bidder in bonds.

BUY A BOND SPIN WHEEL: Purchaser of a bond has the privilege of spinning a wheel for which prizes are given. Prizes can be marked with a corresponding number on the wheel. (It is pointed out that this gag is not a lottery because every bond purchaser wins a prize.)

JUNIOR RANGERS: Children are very good bond salesmen. Appoint their local leaders Chief Rangers and give them buttons, tags and credentials to show their rank. Lay out the town in sectors, giving each Chief Ranger and his crew a sector to "invade." The team that achieves its objective first receives a suitable reward.

COMBINED OPERATIONS: Use your theatre as headquarters in coordinating the bond sales of such groups as Rotary, Kiwanis, Elks, Owls, Chamber of Commerce, etc. These groups are an invaluable aid in contacting business men.

RUBBER STAMPS: This isn't exactly a stunt. It consists simply of making a rubber stamp with a message such as "Buy Your Bonds at ..... Theatre." Try to get the permission of super market managers to stamp your message on their paper bags.

Other stunts suggested by the Seventh War Loan committee, some old, some new, include: "Baby" sale, the baby in this case would be a kitten or puppy, but this is not revealed until the event itself is held; giant candle, which is placed in lobby, and the bond buyer who guesses closest to the time when the candle burns out is given a bond.

In addition to these, many other stunts are suggested which the experienced showman has tried in the past or with which he is personally familiar.

Manhattan Bond Caravan Set for Seventh Loan

NEW YORK—More than 75 Manhattan theatres will be visited during the Seventh War Loan by the "Flying Caravan," a group composed of members of the Manhattan committee, in an effort to stimulate bond sales.

George Ritch, Manhattan chairman, after meeting with his committee members, including Michael Edelstein, William A. Downs, Al Zimbalist and Jay Burton, reported that the additional plans formulated should bring about a better record than last year's.

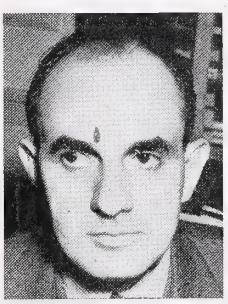
The caravan will be completely equipped to visit all the schools, labor unions and organizations of all kinds in a direct appeal to create immediate bond sales.

Milland, Goodman Sextet War Bond Rally Guests

NEW YORK—Paramount launched its own Seventh War Loan drive for the metropolitan area recently with a meeting that overflowed the capacity of the huge recreation hall in the Paramount Bldg. Chairman C. J. Scollard presided.

Guests of honor included Ray Milland and Benny Goodman and his famous sextette. Talks were made by James Sternberg, representing the WFC of the U.S. treasury; Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board for Paramount; Milland and Goodman.

Have You Set Up a Bond Booth in Your Lobby?



HENRY GINSBERG
West. Industry Sales



HERMAN WOBBER
West. Area Dist. Chm.



E. K. "TED" O'SHEA
East. Area Dist. Chm.



JOHN E. FLYNN
Midwest Area Dist. Chm.

Exhibitor Chairmen All Set

New York—Members of the industry's national committee say that the success or failure of the Seventh War Loan depends in a large degree upon the efforts of the exhibitor state chairmen. To obtain maximum results, particularly in some of the more populous states, or those with large areas, two or more co-chairmanships are the rule. Latest listing of the exhibitor state chairmen:

Alabama—R. M. Kennedy, Alabama Theatre, Birmingham.

Arizona—Harry Nace, Orpheum Theatre, Phoenix.

Arkansas (co-chairmen) — Claude C. Mundo, Rex Theatre, Little Rock; M. J. Pruniski, Little Rock.

California (co-chairmen)—Gus Metzger, Arcade Theatre, Los Angeles, southern; George Mann, 988 Market St., San Francisco, and Rotus Harvey, 291 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, northern.

Colorado—Rick Ricketson, Fox Intermountain Theatres, Denver.

Connecticut (co-chairmen)—Henry Needles, WB Theatres, Hartford; Herman Levy, MPTO of Conn., New Haven.

Delaware—A. Joseph De Fiore, Park Theatre, Wilmington.

District of Columbia—Fred F. Kogod, Apex Theatre, Washington.

Florida—J. L. Cartwright, Florida State Theatres, Jacksonville.

Georgia—W. K. Jenkins, Georgia Theatres, Atlanta.

Idaho—Walter Lee Casey, Bonners Ferry.

Illinois (co-chairmen)—Ed Zorn, Crescent Theatre, Pontiac; Ralph Lawlor, Madison Theatre Bldg., Peoria; Walter Immerman, B&K Theatres, Chicago.

Indiana—Don Rossiter, 444 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis.

Iowa—A. H. Blank, Paramount Bldg., Des Moines.

Kansas—Howard Jameyson, FMW Theatres, Wichita.

Kentucky—Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington.

Louisiana—E. V. Richards, 608 Canal St., New Orleans.

Maine—C. J. Russell, Bijou Theatre, Bangor.

Maryland (co-chairmen)—Frank Durkee and Elmer Nolte jr., Arcade Theatre, Baltimore.

Massachusetts—M. J. Mullin, M&P Theatres, Boston.

Michigan (co-chairmen)—Martin Thomas, Iron Mountain, for peninsula section; Ray Branch, Strand Theatre, Hastings, and James F. Sharkey, Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, Detroit, for balance of state

Minnesota—John Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis.

Missouri (co-chairmen) — Harry Arthur, St. Louis Amusement Co., St. Louis, eastern half; E. C. Rhoden, FMW Theatres, Kansas City, western half.

Mississippi (co-chairmen)—Burgess Waltmon, Princess Theatre, Columbus; Arthur Lehmann, Booker T Theatre, Jackson.

Montana—J. A. English, Washoe Theatre, Anaconda.

Nebraska (co-chairmen)—William Miskell, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Omaha; Sam Epstein, Epstein Amusement Co., Omaha.

Nevada—Homer Le Ballister, Majestic Theatre, Reno.

New Hampshire — Mel Morrison, Strand Theatre, Dover.

New Jersey (co-chairmen)—Harry Lowenstein, 24 Walnut St., Newark, and Frank Damis, Warner Bros., Newark, northern half; Isadore Epstein, Atlantic Theatres, Philadelphia, Pa., southern half.

New Mexico—George Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque.

New York (co-chairmen)—Irving Lesser, Roxy Theatre, New York City, metropolitan area; C. J. Latta, Warner Bros., Albany, for Albany area; Max Yellen, 16 E. Mohawk St., Buffalo, for Buffalo area.

North Carolina—H. F. Kincey, Wilby-Kincey Service Corp., Charlotte.

North Dakota (co-chairmen)—M. Cooper, Forx Theatre, Grand Forks; Ed Kraus, Fargo Theatre, Fargo.

Ohio (co-chairmen)—Meyer Fine, Associated Theatres, Cleveland, for Cleveland area; Maurice White, Keith Bldg., Cincinnati, for Cincinnati area.

Oklahoma—C. B. "Brownie" Akers, Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City.

Oregon—O. J. Miller, 1931 N. Kearney St., Portland.

Pennsylvania (co-chairmen)—Sidney Samuelson, 218 N. Broadway, Philadelphia, eastern; M. A. Silver, Warner Bros., Pittsburgh, and Morris Finkel, Hilltop Theatre, Pittsburgh, western.

Rhode Island (co-chairmen)—Martin Toohey, LeRoy Theatre, Pawtucket; Ed Fay, Fay's Theatre, Providence.

South Carolina—Warren Irwin, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.

South Dakota—Byron McElligott, Capitol Theatre, Aberdeen.

Tennessee (co-chairmen)—Kermit Stengel, Crescent Amusement Co., Nashville, eastern; M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatres, Memphis, western.

Texas—R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate Theatres, Dallas.

Utah—Tracy Barham, Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City.

Vermont—Frank Vennett, Paramount Theatre, Rutland.

Virginia (co-chairmen) — Hunter Perry, Dominion Theatres, Charlottesville; Frank O'Brien, Colonial Theatre, Richmond; Tom Baldridge, WFC, Richmond.

Washington—Frank Newman sr., Evergreen Theatres, Seattle.

West Virginia—S. J. Hyman, Hyman Theatres, Huntington.

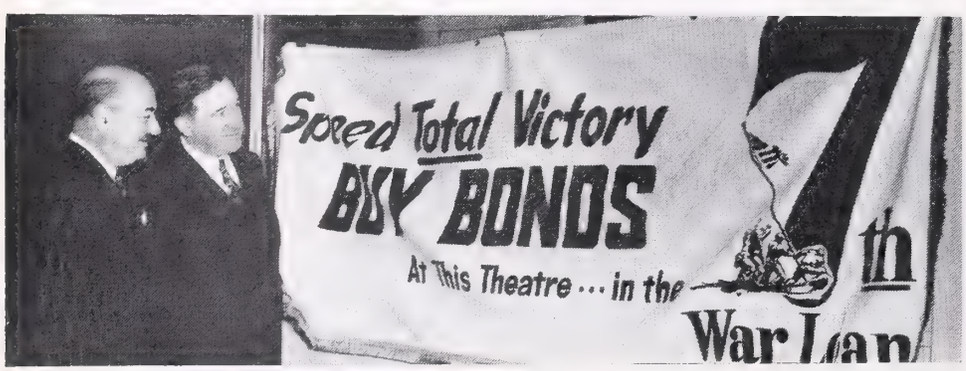
Wisconsin—Harold Fitzgerald, FW Theatres, Milwaukee.

Wyoming—T. E. Knight, Acme Theatre, Riverton.

'Top Priority' Is Given Drive by Distributors

NEW YORK—"The Seventh War Loan is receiving top priority in the order of business by all distributors and a start has already been made that points to a campaign of tremendous enthusiasm," said Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman.

"Sales representatives of all companies are out in the field with pledge cards, and many exhibitors have been contacted; many bookings for premiere shows, Children's Matinees and Free Movie Day showings have already been set up. The recent regional meetings, and correspondence that has been received, disclose a determination and enthusiasm that will assure the goal of a 25 per cent increase in all drive activities. Exhibitors and distributors are working as a team, each supplementing and supporting the efforts of the other."



OFFICIAL INSPECTION—Sam Pinanski, chairman of the Seventh War Loan campaign, and J. J. Fitzgibbons, chairman of the motion picture section of the National War Finance Committee in Canada, now in its eighth campaign, inspect one of the important theatre accessories.

There's Still a Big War Ahead-Gamble

WASHINGTON — Cautioning against a tendency to let up the aggressive prosecution of the Seventh War Loan, should Nazi Germany collapse during the period of the drive, Ted R. Gamble, national war finance director of the war finance division in the treasury department, said the advent of VE-Day would be a case of "two down and one to go."

"We still will have another war to wage; another costly war that has just started," Gamble declared, referring to Japan. "Men must be given new equipment and moved halfway around the globe. More ships, faster planes, more guns must be built. Therefore, more aggressive effort is needed to check the tendency to let down in bond purchasing.

"Our primary concern in the Seventh is the $7,000,000,000 goal for individuals, with $4,000,000,000 in E bonds—the highest figure for any war loan to date. The success of this drive will be measured by our ability to increase the results of the last drive. That does not mean merely making quotas, but the absorption into federal securities of funds in the hands of individuals that constitute a direct threat to economic stabilization.

"Industry Well Mobilized"

"The motion picture industry is well mobilized. The Seventh War Loan committee, headed by Sam Pinanski, Tom Connors, John Hertz jr., and all of the other industry leaders, is going to do a job and do it well. Of that I am certain, and I am just as certain those men will be backed by every exhibitor, every distributor and every producer in the business. But the Seventh War Loan is one not any of us can take lightly.

"The Seventh is for $4,000,000,000 in E bonds. The Seventh will run for a month and a half, which means 45 days and nights of hard work. The Seventh is for the highest quota for individuals of any drive to date. The Seventh is the 'Mighty Seventh,' in word and deed.

"The industry has established an enviable record in all war bond drives. Without the help of every man and woman in the industry, we would never have climbed from 20 million bonds in the First War Loan to 72 million in the Fifth.

"Remember, every bond premiere counts, every children's show counts. Every theatre staging a Free Movie Day is making a real contribution. To reduce it to a more simple statement: remember, every extra $25 bond counts to complete victory. It's the greatest challenge we on the home front have been asked to meet, so far in this war. It can only be met if everyone does his part."

RKO Issues Handy Guide For 7th War Loan Drive

NEW YORK—RKO Theatres' house organ, The RKO-Man, has devoted an entire issue to the Seventh War Loan drive. Distributed to RKO managers all over the country, the issue contains a comprehensive and compact analysis of tested ideas for a successful campaign. Each page is illustrated with pictures of available accessories, such as posters, valances, ad slugs, stickers and special buttons.

Highlighting things to do in advance and during the campaign Peggy Foldes, editor, offers 16 suggestions. These include staff meetings, war finance cooperation, special displays, accessories, press relations with co-op page tieups, editorials and releases, radio contacts, kick-off ceremonies, street parades, stage rallies, special events, kid premieres, mailing list reminders, auction nights, proclamations from civic leaders.



KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Rodgers' Feat Sensational

WILLIAM F. RODGERS' feat in selling more than 11,000 accounts by telephone in eight days has caused a sensation among sales executives. It was an emergency move caused by print shortages. Some executives say if the proposal had been put up to them, they wouldn't have considered it possible.

Rodgers is proud of the accomplishment, because he considers it a yardstick for measuring the results of his policy of cultivating friendly relations with exhibitors. Anybody who has read the elaborate legal verbiage of sales contracts developed over a period of years feels they show mutual distrust between parties to a sale. Doing business by verbal agreement is something entirely new in this business.

* * *

State Dep't a Worry

AMONG some of the top executives of the industry there is some worry about the recurring reports in syndicated columns that Secretary of State Stettinius will be replaced.

Great hopes have been pinned on his attitude toward postwar trade. It has been felt that he is a business man who looks upon international relations as a means of promoting business on a sound reciprocal basis, with plain talking when necessary, rather than through the traditional exchange of rhetorical notes and courtesy calls. Restrictions hitting the film business have increased in a number of countries during the war. Stettinius has shown a sympathetic interest in these problems.

A new personality at the head of the state department, with the resulting reorganization, could mean much in the next two or three years, insiders agree.

* * *

Hotels Fascinate Showmen

HOTEL business seems to have developed a fascination for theatre men during the past year or two. Nathan Yamins of Fall River took over the big hotel at Bretton Woods; Louis Schine acquired hotels in Florida and recently obtained the Ten Eyck in Albany, and the latest is word that Harry, William and Louis Brandt have taken over the sumptuous Sagamore Hotel at Bolton Landing, N. Y., in connection with a syndicate. Nor is this all. The Griffith of the circuits bearing their name, particularly the late R. E. Griffith, have long been interested in hotel business out west. Now comes news that H. J. and L. C. Griffith have purchased the Troutdale Hotel-in-the-Pines at Evergreen, Colo., a swanky resort spot near Denver.

* * *

Production Cutbacks

UNLESS local areas can absorb the war workers who are now being released there will soon be a test of the conflicting theories about whether they will move back to their original home areas. Two shifts employing 5,500 at the Kaiser shipyard at Portland, Ore., are to be eliminated as a result of cancellation of an order for nine tankers. Similar cutbacks are to be made at other west coast ports and up and down the Atlantic.

It is quite likely less and less will be heard about manpower shortages from now on. Even in the Detroit motor area pressure is easing off, with plans afoot for closing the huge Ford Willow Run plant.

* * *

IF a faint rumble sounding like three cheers spreads across the country, it will be from exhibitors whose orders for freon are filled shortly.

* * *

122 Years a Long Time

ON MONDAY of this week industry folk in the Buffalo area flocked to Variety Club in that city and presented their respects to a trio of real veterans. "Patriarch" of the three was Al Becker of the theatre supply house bearing his name, with 44 years of industry service to his credit. The "middle man" was Al Teschemacher of National Screen Service, who bore a tag of four decades. Then there was Andrew Geitner, Silver Creek showman, a mere youngster with only 38 years' experience. Oh, yes, the event was tagged "Old-Timers' Night."

* * *

WARNERS had a lucky break when they released "Casablanca" at the time of the Churchill-Roosevelt conference there. Their latest, "Hotel Berlin," is no mere coincidence. It was planned.



INTO MONOGRAM POST — Morey Goldstein, above, who has been appointed eastern sales manager for Monogram, effective May 7, succeeding Harry H. Thomas, who has joined PRC. Goldstein leaves M-G-M after more than 20 years' association, resigning as manager of Leo's New Haven branch, which post he has held since 1941. He started with the latter company as a shipping clerk, being rapidly advanced to important assignments for the company.



Gaston Madru, Paris Cameraman, Killed

PARIS—Gaston Madru, News of the Day cameraman, who remained in hiding during the German occupation of France, then came out of hiding to film the U.S. troops' triumphal entry into Paris, has been killed by a Nazi sniper's bullet in Leipzig.

Ignoring his mortal wounds, Madru quietly urged his companion to make every effort to get his negatives to London as quickly as possible. Death came 39 minutes after he was shot.

Millions will remember the scenes from News of the Day showing Madru atop his car shooting films of the occupation of Paris by U.S. forces. His spectacular films of the fighting in the streets of Paris before the arrival of Allied troops are among the best action shots of the war.

Madru was fatally wounded while attempting to reach Napoleon's monument in the southern part of Leipzig. Accompanied by two French correspondents, he was riding toward the monument in a jeep when he was halted by American soldiers who had taken cover behind wrecked enemy tanks.

As the correspondents scurried to cover, Madru managed to take his camera along. Five minutes later, when he raised his head from cover to take an action shot, a German sniper only 10 yards away shot him.

Two and one-half hours after Madru's death advancing Yanks liberated the city and the cameraman's last films were sent to London.

Top of the column photo depicts the intrepid Madru working a few months ago on Paris streets. The sign reads: "Please don't kill the French cameramen."

Robert Riskin Resigns Top Film Post in OWI

NEW YORK—Robert Riskin, for the last three years chief of the motion picture bureau of the overseas branch of OWI, has resigned, and will leave his post May 1. He will continue to act as consultant to the bureau on all film matters.

Louis Lober, who has been assistant to Riskin, will remain, acting as chief in his place. The motion picture bureau has had the complete cooperation of the industry. The entire output of American feature films is made available to OWI and, in association with the five newsreel companies, a special newsreel for showing abroad is produced weekly and dubbed into 17 languages.

Counter-Attack

"NO ONE WILL CROSS THIS LINE . . . AND LIVE!"



Adapted from the BROADWAY STAGE SUCCESS!

The timeliest drama of all time!



COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

Counter-attack

starring

PAUL MUNI

with

MARGUERITE CHAPMAN · LARRY PARKS

Adapted from the BROADWAY STAGE SUCCESS

Screen Play by John Howard Lawson

Directed by

ZOLTAN KORDA





Plan more playing time!

EXPANSION OF LATIN FILM MART COMES FROM DUBBING PROCESS

Spanish Dialog Attracts Audiences Never Before Interested in Films

By CHARLES BECKER

NEW YORK—American films dubbed in Spanish are expected to tap hitherto untouched Latin American outlets, according to leading foreign managers. They may even throw all past notions about sales potentialities into the discard. As a result, long standing opposition to dubbing is fading rapidly.

Many reasons are responsible for the industry's change in attitude. The present trend is a reversion back to something that was tried when sound first came in. It failed then.

Shortly after sound was introduced attempts were made to dub pictures with Spanish dialog. Some of this was done in Spain; much of it on the coast with imported players. It was crude and dialog often continued after the players' lips had ceased to move. In addition, producers, acting on the theory that Castilian Spanish was understood and accepted in all Spanish-speaking countries, used it. Objections came from a number of Central and South American countries.

Native Product Changes Outlook

As one foreign manager phrased it: "It was like trying to popularize an Oxford English accent in an American theatre." Spanish dialog was dropped and opposition to its revival has lingered.

Since the start of the war, however, films made in Mexico and Argentina have gone into circulation and have rolled up big grosses, not only in the urban centers where super-imposed titles have been acceptable, but in rural areas where many of the patrons cannot read titles.

In addition to the entertainment films in Spanish a steady flow of educational films distributed by the coordinator of inter-American affairs was introduced by means of mobile units into areas where films had never been seen. They were tremendously popular. The possibilities of circulating pictures everywhere in Latin America, instead of simply in population centers, impressed American distributors.

RKO was quick to see the possible advantages of owning a studio in Mexico City. M-G-M moved rapidly and announced that all future pictures intended for circulation in Spanish-speaking areas would have Spanish dialog. Sentiment was divided among the other companies at first, but they all decided to experiment with dubbing and to make close studies of boxoffice receipts of both the U.S. and native product.

20th-Fox to Build Theatres

The recent appointment of B. V. Sturdivant, former northern California district manager for Fox West Coast Theatres, as Mexico representative, was another straw in the wind. Twentieth-Fox not only intends to circulate its Spanish language films, but it intends to have places to show them where no theatres exist at present. To do this Charles P. Skouras, head of National Theatres, has an elaborate plan for building prefabricated theatres. Sturdivant will have charge of this, beginning in Mexico.

The first of a series of Metro's Spanish-dialog films, "Gaslight," opened recently to rousing success in several Latin-American situations, turning in grosses beyond any previous American picture. In several engagements thus far, "Gaslight" has exceeded the previous records held by "Gone With the Wind." As in the U.S., this film is pre-eminent at the South American boxoffices.

Warners' "To Have and Have Not" in its engagement in Mexico City also turned in attractive grosses. This is the company's first Spanish-dubbed film.

But even before "Gaslight" and "To Have and Have Not" were exhibited successfully south of the Rio Grande other companies had launched plans to jump on the bandwagon.

Arthur M. Loew, foreign distribution chief of Loew's, is credited with being one of the first to realize the sales possibilties of Spanish-dialog films.

Cities Accepted English Dialog

American-made films with super-imposed titles in Spanish, but with the dialog in English were acceptable in urban centers where many persons speak English and where the vast majority can read Spanish. In the smaller communities, however, there were many who either could not read at all or could not read fast enough to keep up with the story. It was in the small towns where the Argentine and Mexican product made the greatest impression and demonstrated the possibilities of wider markets.

When some of these Spanish-language films, produced on small budgets, began to out-gross American pictures both in the large cities and the small communities it was obvious something had to be done to meet the competition. Now it is pretty generally agreed that with the widened market there will be room for both the American and the native product, with a possibility that the demand will grow.

Some market statisticians have estimated that about 85 per cent of the Spanish-speaking populations on this hemisphere which has not previously been numbered among picture patrons will be potential customers.

"Gaslight" and "To Have and Have Not" have already given evidence of their drawing power in the larger cities and distributors are waiting to see how they fare in the smaller situations so they can estimate on the potentialities of succeeding films.

Some time ago M-G-M purchased the laboratories of Soundfilm Enterprises, Inc., 723 Seventh Ave. It is operating these studios with Ilya Lopert and Vladimir Pozner, experienced sound technicians, in charge. Here, dubbing of the company's product is done, together with work farmed out by other distributors.

Following "Gaslight" M-G-M dubbed into Spanish the following pictures: "White Cliffs of Dover," "Seventh Cross," "Dragon Seed," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Kismet," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Music for Millions," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "National Velvet."

Soundfilm has completed or is working on the following films for 20th-Fox and others:

Twentieth-Fox—"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," "The Keys of the Kingdom" and "Czarina"; for UA-Hunt Stromberg—"Guest in the House"; for UA-David Loew—"The Southerner"; for RKO—"Experiment Perilous," "Enchanted Cottage" and "Tarzan and the Amazons." RKO plans to do its own dubbing later.

Warners plans to follow up its initial Spanish-dialog picture, "To Have and Have Not," with others. The company's regular domestic releases will be so treated with the exception of those films considered unsuitable for the Latin market. Dubbing is being done at the company's studios on the coast.

Other Warner films to be dubbed in the near future include: "Objective, Burma!," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "The Corn Is Green."

Paramount recently completed dubbing of the first two of a series, namely: "And Now Tomorrow" and "Man in Half Moon Street." Because the term "redialog" makes a better translation into Spanish, the company has adopted it instead of the customary "dubbing." Paramount's work is being done at the Eastern Studios.

PRC and Monogram are among other companies announcing plans to cultivate the South American market.

Planes to Buenos Aires On RKO Location Hunt

Buenos Aires—RKO Director Edward Dmytryk has arrived by plane to seek locations and ascertain the cost of filming a large part of "Cornered," next Dick Powell vehicle, in and near the Argentine capital. June 4 has been set as starting date.

After a three-week stay Dmytryk will return to Hollywood, probably via Rio de Janeiro.

U. S. Learns Its Lesson As Native Productions Roll Up Big Grosses

"Hitler Gang" Smash Hit In Argentine Theatre

NEW YORK — Paramount's "The Hitler Gang" was the first anti-Nazi film to be shown in Argentina following her declaration of war against Germany, according to a wire received by John W. Hicks jr., Paramount International president, from John B. Nathan, managing director in Argentina.

The film broke all records for the first three days at the Ocean Theatre in Buenos Aires, as well as the all-time three-day record of any Paramount picture in Argentina.

Para's Spanish-Dubbed Product Is Discussed

HOLLYWOOD — Vice-President George Weltner of Paramount International Films is here from New York, discussing with studio officials the company's program of Spanish-dubbed product. Accompanying him is Harry Danziger, president of Eastern Sound Studios, whose company has dubbed in Spanish dialog on four Paramount features, most recent being "Practically Yours."

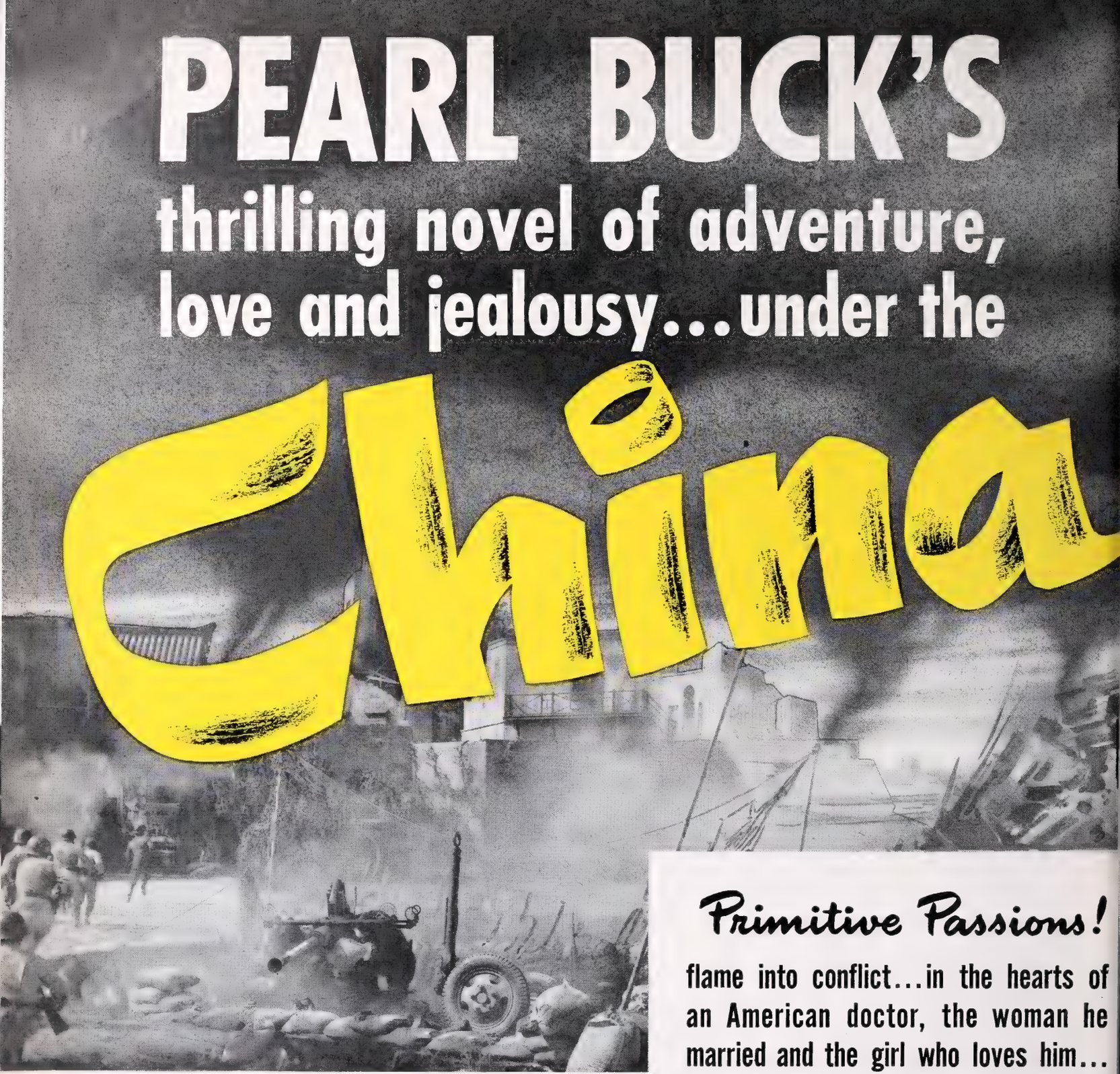
Film of National Interest

NEW YORK—RKO's "All That Money Can Buy," recently premiered at the Cine Avenida Theatre, Madrid, has been declared "A Film of National Interest" by Spanish authorities. This is the first time such title has been awarded to a foreign picture.

PEARL BUCK'S

thrilling novel of adventure, love and jealousy...under the

China



Primitive Passions!

flame into conflict...in the hearts of an American doctor, the woman he married and the girl who loves him... amid the devastation of daily bombings!

RKO puts this one in top budget for national magazine advertising . . . to

28,645,284
CIRCULATION

—including full pages in LIFE—WOMAN'S HOMECOMPANION—McCALL'S—RED BOOK—LOOK—LIBERTY — TRUE STORY — WOMAN'S DAY — PIC and the entire FAN LIST.



KEEP SELLING BONDS!



STARRING

RANDOLPH SCOTT · RUTH WARRICK
ELLEN DREW

with ANTHONY QUINN • CAROL THURSTON • RICHARD LOO

Produced by MAURICE GERAGHTY • Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

Screen Play by Brenda Weisberg and Joseph Hoffman

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Future of World Rests On Parley, Says Hays

NEW YORK—Will H. Hays, president of MPPDA, has returned from Indianapolis where he spoke on the subject "World Peace and the San Francisco Conference." "The conference is," he said, "truly the focus of the hopes of all civilized mankind . . . a golden opportunity to redeem the terrifying fact of two world wars by taking steps to prevent another.

"We have met magnificently the challenge of total war. We must and will measure up to the challenge of total victory," he continued.

"Franklin Delano Roosevelt died on the field of battle—not merely battle for victory but battle for peace—as surely as any soldier on Iwo Jima or on the Rhine. To every American, his death symbolizes the terrible sacrifices of war. It underlines our determination that these sacrifices shall not prove vain."

Harking back to the days when he was Republican national chairman, Hays said: "A generation ago I was in the center of crucial events in some respects parallel to those of our own day. I am deeply concerned that history shall not repeat itself . . . that the mistakes of that period shall be avoided and that this time we find a formula for true unity.



WILL H. HAYS

Errors to Other Generations

"In the lives of nations, as of individuals, the errors of one generation are inevitably visited upon another. Men and countries today are haunted by the disturbing feeling that but for the mistakes made after the first victory there might have been no need to win a second. Let us make sure that another generation, looking back to 1945, shall have no cause for a similar rebuke. Fortunately we have a good start. This time there is a conscious, systematic and determined attempt to preserve for the purposes of peace the unity among nations—and within our own nation—forged under the pressure of war.

"As Americans we are proud of the fact that President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull, representing the party in power, made every effort to cultivate a nonpartisan approach to the tasks of peace-making; and that President Truman and Secretary Stettinius are proceeding in the same broad spirit," Hays continued.

"The San Francisco meeting is not a peace conference. It is free from the burden of drafting specific and detailed peace terms between victors and vanquished. Its concern is exclusively to set up the machinery for building a world of cooperative action in the maintenance of a secure peace and in the promotion of development and progress," he pointed out. "This conference at San Francisco is not a final conference like that in the mirrored halls of Versailles. It is, however, the most important single step to date, since its objective is to draft the actual charter for a United Nations organization, to be submitted to the member countries."

Quoting from Secretary Stettinius' prologue to "Watchtower Over Tomorrow," the MPPDA head made his only reference to motion pictures. " 'Never since 1787, when our Constitution was drafted, have we as a people faced a greater opportunity, a greater challenge, a greater test,' " Hays cited Stettinius as saying. " 'What you and I do in year of 1945 will decide whether all the sacrifice and sorrow of this war have been in vain, or whether we shall be able at last to live together in a world free from war.'

"Destiny Gives Us a Chance"

"Destiny," Hays concluded, "has vouchsafed us a chance to redeem the failure of a previous generation. It is a chance that is being bought and paid for dearly in world-wide destruction and precious lives. The price is brutal no matter how we figure it. It will be exorbitant beyond human calculation if we are forced to fight a third world war a few decades hence."

The address, sponsored by the Indiana council of foreign relations and the foreign policy association of Indiana, was cosponsored by more than a dozen other state and civic organizations. Hays was introduced by Gov. Ralph F. Gates of Indiana.

Ticket Levy Doubles; At $30,645,244 Mark

NEW YORK—Since the new federal tax on theatre admissions (including motion pictures, legitimates, concerts and cabarets) went into effect on Apr. 1, 1944, tax receipts have doubled, as is evidenced by figures of the bureau of internal revenue.

Taking the month of March as an example, in 1944 tax receipts for the period were $14,893,007, while for the same month of 1945 receipts totalled $30,645,244. This is an increase of $15,752,236. In other words, the figure was considerably more than doubled.

In the over-all picture the effects are just as tremendous. From the beginning of the fiscal year 1943 until the end of March, 1944, $135,523,832 in taxes were collected. For the same period one year later over $268,000,000 or almost twice as much was taken in. Bearing in mind that the tax took effect Apr. 1, 1944, it is evident that the increased tax brought about the much higher receipts.

Reasons for Higher Tax

The new tax amounts to, in effect, 21 per cent of admissions instead of the previous 10 per cent. One great factor other than the higher tax per se is the different set-up of the new law. Whereas formerly one cent on each 10 cents above 20 cents was taken, with 10, 15 and 20-cent tickets not coming under the tax at all, under the 1944 tax law the figure becomes one cent on each five cents starting from the first nickel.

That last clause brings out another important factor in the reasons for the very high tax receipts. A previously untapped source of revenue is brought into the tax fold. All admissions instead of only those above 20 cents includes a great number of dollars which had been exempt. This point alone could account for a quite sizable increase.

As further proof of the immediate and sweeping effects of the new federal tax law, treasury department figures for March, 1944, show taxes on admission totalling $14,893,007. In the same year a few months after enactment of the law the figures jumped to more than twice the earlier figure. September's tax receipts on admissions were $29,042,668.

WMC Ruling Applies Only To Film Production Jobs

WASHINGTON — The War Manpower Commission has clarified its ruling of separability issued last January by explaining that only film company home office employes engaged in duties dealing with picture production are to be considered essential. There is no intention of blanketing all home office employes as essential.

Thus, where employes, both male and female, are engaged in administrative duties connected with production, they must secure releases from their companies before the U.S. employment service will permit them to accept employment elsewhere. Other home office employes need not obtain releases.

Referral certificates must be obtained by men between 18 and 45 before they can obtain employment at film companies. Other employes are not required to procure such certificates.

Rosen Suit Set for May

NEW YORK—Al Rosen's suit against Loew's, Frank Borzage and others has been set for trial in the New York federal court in May. Rosen seeks an injunction, accounting for profits and damages for the alleged infringement of his story, "The Mad Dog of Europe," assertedly in M-G-M's 1940 release, "The Mortal Storm."

Mead "U" Newsreel Chief

NEW YORK—Thomas Mead has been appointed editor-in-chief of Universal Newsreel, following the recent death of Joseph O'Brien, with whom he shared the position for the last seven years. In addition to his newsreel post, Mead will continue to produce short subjects for Universal.

Plan New Film Magazine

HOLLYWOOD — A new publication, The Hollywood Quarterly, sponsored by the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, will make its appearance on July 1. It will be devoted to motion pictures, radio and television.

Wolfe Cohen Will Spend A Month in Australia

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA — Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International Corp., arrived from the U.S. for his first survey of the territory recently placed under his jurisdiction. He is expected to remain about a month.

In addition to conferring with exchange and circuit heads on new releases, including "The Corn Is Green" and "The Horn Blows at Midnight," Cohen will survey theatre conditions in general. He will go to New Zealand and Manila following his stay here.

Mexico Closes Down In Respect to FDR

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—May we be allowed to start our column this week with our humble and sincere respect to the memory of a really Grand Old Man, President Roosevelt, whose loss certainly has not been exclusive for the United States but to the whole world. All activities of the motion picture industry of Mexico, studios, distributing companies, theatres, etc., were suspended for a day as a sign of deepest sympathy. The Mexican government declared three days of mourning.

His good neighbor policy is showing results, our own Pedro Armendariz, now in Hollywood filming, was appointed representative for United Artists at the Pan-American Day in Washington.

"Charlie Chan in Mexico" is the title for a new Republic picture to be filmed in Hollywood soon, for which backgrounds have already been photographed here, as well as for Republic's other picture, "Casa Manana." Perhaps this will show some of our "manana" habits.

Production at both Clasa and Azteca studios keeps going at full speed. Four pictures are being made at Clasa and six at Azteca. Production pace is also lively at the other two new studios.

News of Antonio Moreno

Antonio Moreno, our old acquaintance (and this does not mean anything about his age) one of the pioneers of the Mexican cinema industry, for it will be remembered he made our first talking picture, the initial version of "Santa," is now here to make another picture, about which we will report later.

Two more artists left for Hollywood, Antonio Badu and Tito Junco. They will probably make personal appearances at Frank Fouce's theatres. Frank Fouce himself left for Hollywood on one of his periodical trips.

RKO's next Spanish dialog production will be "Luz en el Alma," from their English picture, "Experiment Perilous."

Word comes from Brazil that Mexican pictures will be made with Portuguese dialog for their better enjoyment by their public.

Cantinflas continues to be quite popular in everything. He will act as godfather, together with vivacious Adriana Lamar, to the first young man and young lady born this year. The christening will be quite a gala affair at the famous Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe.

The latest picture arrived from the mother country Spain, is "Boda de Quinita Flores." The dialog is fine as coming from the famous Alvarez Quintero Bros., but the photography and sound leaves much to be desired. This will undoubtedly be corrected in future productions as conditions improve there.

Several Argentine films are being shown at local houses, with great success.

Jose Guerrero returned to New York to join his partner in the Hispano and Latin theatres there. While here he signed contracts for the best productions, both Mexican and Argentine.

And "Hasta luego."

Coe Gets NBC Tele Post

NEW YORK—Frederick Coe, stage director and manager, has been appointed a production assistant in the NBC television department. Following a course at the Yale dramatic school, Coe directed the Civic Theatre, Columbia, S. C., for four years. He later became production manager for Harry Green's "The Day Will Come" and director of Albert Johnson's "Bonanza." He has also done dramatic work at station WSM.



GREET NEW SALES HEAD—Leon Fromkess, president of PRC Pictures, was host at a home office reception in honor of Harry H. Thomas, new vice-president in charge of distribution and sales manager. Left to right: Max Fellerman of Paramount Theatre; Sylvan Goldfinger of Chicago, division manager of Telenews; Charles Borris, in charge of Cleveland Telenews; Alfred Berger, president of Telenews; Fromkess, and Thomas.

DuMont Invention Enables Theatres To Televise with Film Projectors

PASSAIC, N. J.—DuMont Laboratories has been assigned protective patents on a radical departure in television. The invention will permit theatres to project television subjects onto 30-foot screens by means of standard motion picture equipment.

The new process has been perfected by Dr. Thomas T. Goldsmith jr., head of the research department at DuMont. Its use should enable picture houses to present outstanding news events almost simultaneously with their actual enactment. Thus, audiences will be watching televised news shots of a huge conflagration even while the fire itself is still raging, miles distant.

Despite the almost revolutionary importance of the new system, DuMont officials say it will be some time before the invention can be adapted to commercial developments. As a matter of fact, it is their opinion the television industry will not get into full swing until at least six months after the war's end.

Under Goldsmith's system incoming negative television signals are photographed on positive film by a motion picture camera. The film is then routed immediately through a rapid developer, a process lasting about a minute, after which it may be projected instantly in theatres. Use of the intermediate film permits editing of a program before showings and makes possible repeat programs of telecasts.

Another radical advance on which DuMont has protective patents is a color receiver. Color television is as yet unknown and, according to a laboratory spokesman, the new receiver will not be used in theatres for the next ten years.

Four of M-G-M Sales Heads in New Posts

NEW YORK—One new division manager and three new district managers have been named by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution for M-G-M, in a further move to establish closer contacts with exhibitor customers.

Rudolph Berger is the new division manager. He has been promoted from district manager of Charlotte and Washington to southern sales manager with headquarters in New Orleans. He will have supervision of seven exchange territories—Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans, Dallas, Memphis, Oklahoma City and Kansas City. Heretofore, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, eastern sales manager, has had supervision over Atlanta, Memphis and New Orleans, and John E. Flynn, western sales manager, has had Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Dallas in his group of exchanges.

Berger started in the film business in 1911 at Philadelphia. Later, he opened Associated Producers at Washington. This was after World War I. He joined Goldwyn Pictures Feb. 9, 1924, as Charlotte branch manager. On April 15, 1924, he was promoted to Washington branch manager for M-G-M. He became district manager for Charlotte and Washington Jan. 6, 1944.

Henry A. Friedel, manager of the Denver branch, has been made district manager for Denver, Salt Lake City and Omaha, with headquarters at Minneapolis.

Herman Ripps, Albany branch manager, takes over supervision of Albany, Buffalo and New Haven and retains Albany as his headquarters.

Ralph Maw, Buffalo manager, will have Minneapolis, Des Moines and Milwaukee in his new district, with headquarters in Minneapolis. He is a native of Buffalo. He entered the film business as an usher at the Park Theatre and later became manager. For a short time he was in the advertising business. Later he went into the Paramount Buffalo exchange in the accessories department. He joined Metro as a salesman in 1926, and later was made branch manager.

GE Demonstrates Postwar Tele Receiver for Home

SCHENECTADY—The first public showing of General Electric's large screen postwar television receiver took place this week. The instrument, designed for home use, produced a picture 18 by 24 inches.

The Blue network program, Ladies Be Seated, was viewed during the demonstration. The audience included local notables, company officials and press representatives.

Opening

ASTOR T



DOROTHY McGUIRE • ROBERT YOUNG
HERBERT MARSHALL

in

The Enchanted Cottage

with

MILDRED NATWICK • SPRING BYINGTON
HILLARY BROOKE • RICHARD GAINES

Produced by HARRIET PARSONS • Directed by JOHN CROMWELL

Screen Play by DeWITT BODEEN and HERMAN J. MANKIEWICZ
Based on the Play by SIR ARTHUR WING PINERO

THE ENCHAN

HEATRE

April 27

RKO's *great love story, hailed by critics as one of Hollywood's all-time finest productions, will play the theatre that has been the home of more of the screen's biggest attractions than any other theatre on Broadway!*

TED COTTAGE

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Commerce Department Plans Additional Market Surveys

The motion picture unit of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce of the commerce department, which recently completed a survey of postwar potentialities for motion picture equipment insofar as the Soviet Union, Spain, Turkey and Gibraltar are concerned, now is readying similiar surveys on other countries throughout the world. These surveys, compiled from reports turned in by foreign service officers, are being put into shape by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the commerce department's motion picture unit. When completed, they should form one of the most comprehensive market analyses ever turned out by any government agency.

It is well to point out that the industry often has accepted other surveys completed by Golden's department and seldom has accorded the commerce department or Golden full credit for such painstaking and effective work.

In the report on the Soviet Union, Spain, Turkey and Gibraltar went weeks of intensive preparation. There wasn't a single phase of equipment needed that was not reported upon and the potentialities to the American manufacturer of the markets surveyed become apparent at a moment's reading. It is significant that the survey on the Soviet Union, for example, goes into complete detail on the equipment now in use in that country; on theatres in active operation; and on the possibilities of that vast country as a source of revenue for American manufacturers as well as American producers.

It will be interesting to see the reports on such countries as China, Australia, the Scandinavian nations and Africa. We have a feeling that the report on the various African countries will reveal another great source of future income for American companies.

Further Limits Are Placed On Photographic Paper

The WPB has issued further limitations on sensitized photographic paper to assure fulfilling military requirements. This further limitation order, L-233-a, will have a consequent effect upon the quantities used by the film industry in the printing of stills. Expressly limited by the WPB order are such types of photographic paper as contact and enlarging paper; waterproof paper; paper used for V-mail letters and photocopy or reflex copy paper used for line reproduction. No further controls, other than those already operative, have been placed on the distribution of blueprint, white print, brown print, ozalid, van dyke sensitized reproduction paper, stripping film or X-ray paper.

The new order established control over manufacturers' deliveries in the second and third quarters of 1945 and no such paper will be delivered unless approval in writing is obtained from the WPB. The sweeping restrictions of the order will reduce drastically the amount of paper available for civilian use and for use in motion picture stills.

Roosevelt Newsreel Biog Has Won High Praise

The recent filming of biographical highlights of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, when screened before President Truman and his official family, won high praise for Robert Denton of Paramount, and George Dorsey of RKO-Pathe. The film was shown at the White House to President Truman his official family, and to War Mobilization Director Fred Vinson, Judge Samuel Rosenman, Admiral William D. Leahy, Steve Early, Matthew Connelly and Grace Tully. Later, it was shown to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and her family. Everyone was unanimous in praise for one of the finest tributes ever accorded a public figure and both Denton and Dorsey deserve applause for an industry move that is public relations at its best.

San Francisco Conference Discusses Films, Radio

While the eyes of the world are focused on the San Francisco security conference, the film industry finds itself a subject of discussion, along with radio and other means of communication. As previously reported in these columns, the San Francisco meet has decided that a major factor in setting up a strong international body is the control of all means of communication and propaganda. Inasmuch as motion pictures have been proven vitally important as a propagandizing medium, current sessions at the San Francisco meeting are giving films a thorough going-over.

Claude Lee and other film industry executives are on hand as advisors, but many of the meetings devoted to this problem will be held behind closed doors. It is possible, according to official sources here, that some trade barriers on imports and exports of motion pictures may be lifted; that radio—especially shortwave—will embody international programs of what might be called "goodwill" material; and that standard rates on international telephone and telegraph messages may be fixed to eliminate possible future rate cuts, especially in relationship to subsidized news reports sent rate-free, as was the custom among some countries, to interested newspapers.

Murray Committee Probe Still Seeks Evidence

Senator James Murray's small business committee is being kept so busy with other matters that the investigation of the motion picture industry is just going along on a quest for new evidence without showing too much action. It is reported that many complaints are reaching Dewey Anderson, counsel of the committee, but most of these, it is said, are "gripes" that have little foundation in fact. However, the committee counsel still is determined to carry on the probe and is expected to assign investigators to his staff as soon as sufficient material is on hand to warrant additional personnel.

Business Men Warn Against Renewing Wartime Controls

Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, who is slated to take an important position with the Hays organization in the near future, is among the members of the research committee of the Committee on Economic Development which warns against removing wartime controls at a time when such removal "would jeopardize any phase of the war effort or a successful transition to a healthy peacetime economy." The committee's report also urged prompt removal of wartime controls, however, as soon as emergency needs have ended.

The CED, a nationwide organization of business men working for high-level postwar employment, issued its research committee's statement after more than a year's study devoted to all phases of the problem.

The statement emphasizes that no control "should be allowed to persist just because it is there, or because it worked well during the war." However, it urged that legislative authority to reimpose inflation controls, if experience proves they are needed, should remain in the hands of the executive branch of the government until the transition to high level peacetime employment is safely made.

The recommendations of the CED, which will be submitted to the proper governmental authorities, would have their consequent effect upon motion picture production, distribution and exhibition, if accepted in toto by the government. Such provisions governing the release of needed materials, now declared military essentials; matters affecting manpower and salaries; rent controls—all have their meaning to the film industry.

Raw Stock Meeting Stirs Usual Rumors Traveling

Just what will happen when the film industry advisory committee meets on June 7 to discuss the film raw stock situation is anyone's guess—and guessing on that seems to be the current pastime among filmites in this town. The WPB evidently has decided that it won't let the manufacturers allocate film to the companies after military needs are met, despite the fact that WPB went to a lot of trouble writing to the movie companies to give their views on that idea. The WPB also has decided that it might be a good idea to get a little tough, if necessary, and issue orders instead of just making suggestions. What these orders may be still is a guess, but it is safe to say that if military demands make it imperative to cut film raw stock requirements down for the third quarter, the cut will be put into effect—and there will be little argument about it.

There seems to be a feeling that with VE-Day practically assured, military requirements may be lessened and the film industry will be assured of additional raw stock for the third quarter. Despite this feeling of optimism, WPB statistical experts claim the need for raw film still will remain high where the armed forces are concerned.

Regardless of rumors, don't look for any lessening of restrictions on needed war materiel—whether it is film raw stock or gasoline—for several months yet.

Films on Airplanes to Lure Traveler of Postwar Era

It isn't set as yet—but one of the larger airlines is planning to show motion pictures to its passengers as soon as the war ends and such luxury travel may be resumed—without priorities. An airline company executive was in town last week to discuss the possibility of using 16mm films on its transcontinental planes. The idea should prompt some exhibitor to negotiate a circuit of planes.

I've Heard:

That Joe Kinsky, WAC coordinator, has set some exciting events for the Seventh War Loan drive with Fred Kogod, Frank LaFalce, John Allen, Carter Barron and Tom Baldridge handling the local details;

That Norway's plans for its theatres after the war should prove interesting to all American film exporters;

That one of the biggest names in Hollywood may star at the Watergate for the Municipal Theatre;

That Warners' Metropolitan got off to a swell start with its new first run policy begun by "God Is My Co-Pilot."


GRABLE'S
GORGEOUS.....
IN THE
MUSICAL THAT
OUTSTRIPS.....
THEM ALL!

IT'S A DAZZLER.....

BETTY GRABLE



DICK HAYMES

BILLY ROSE'S

DIAMOND HORSESHOE

IN TECHNICOLOR

with PHIL SILVERS · WILLIAM GAXTON · BEATRICE KAY

CARMEN CAVALLARO · WILLIE SOLAR · MARGARET DUMONT

Directed and Written for the Screen by

GEORGE SEATON

Produced by

WILLIAM PERLBERG

Suggested by a Play Produced by Charles L. Wagner and Written by John Kenyon Nicholson · Dances Staged by Hermes Pan

These Hits Will Make The Box-Office Sing!—"THE MORE I SEE YOU"
"I WISH I KNEW" "ACAPULCO" by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren

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Gleaming with girls!
Glistening with melody!
Glittering with Grable!
Aglow with Dick Haymes!

20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY


Betty Smith's
A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN
20th CENTURY-FOX
30th ANNIVERSARY
Ernst Lubitsch's
A ROYAL SCANDAL
Franz Werfel's
THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
Moss Hart's
WINGED VICTORY
A. J. Cronin's
THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM
MOLLY AND ME
HANGOVER SQUARE
THE FIGHTING LADY
in Technicolor

Veteran Projectionists Look Back 30 Years

NEW YORK—Twenty-one projectionists who joined Loew's 30 years ago are still in active service. This is probably the largest number of booth veterans in harness of any circuit in the U.S.

In the period from 1905-1914 film audiences were not as well behaved as they are today. It frequently became the duty of an "operator" (as he was called then) to give the manager a hand in calming obstreperous patrons.

One of Loew's projectionists, Berthold Edelmuth, was a boxer before he began working for the company. His skill with his "dukes" frequently came in handy when an incipient riot broke out. Now 70, he is recuperating from an operation at the N. Y. Hospital for Joint Diseases.

Paul Seigman, Capitol projectionist, is another who recalls the boisterous days of the past. The projectors were hand-cranked then, says Seigman, adding: "But it developed muscles that came in handy."

Contrasts Different Times

A good projectionist three decades ago made a hit with the manager by arriving in the nick of time to help quell the hoodlums, according to Seigman.

Seigman likes to contrast the hazards of 30 years ago, with the comparative absence of excitement in the life of the present-day projectionist.

Then the highly inflammable film ran off the projector into a burlap bag on the floor. The calcium light burned with a searing hot flame, and operating a projector in those days was about as safe as launching a jet propelled plane today.

Charles Moschetto observes that projectionists in these days of modern equipment can watch the show without missing a trick. Now assigned to the Metropolitan, Brooklyn, he was watching News of the Day on the screen recently when he recognized his cousin fighting the Japs in a Pacific isle.

Russell M. Stout, operator of Loew's Palace, is a veteran of the first world war who joined the company three decades ago. He started working for Loew's at the Circle.

Do you remember the old days when projectionists were assisted by reel boys? Well, Howard Middleton, a former reel boy, is one of the younger veterans. He started as a reel boy at the Circle, later became an operator at the same theatre. Middleton is credited with installing new lighting to improve projection.

Alfred Coco, projectionist at Loew's 175th Street, is proof of the adage: Like father, like son. His son, Joe is chief projectionist at Langley Field, Va.



IT'S A DEAL!—Eddie Golden (left) and Sam Dembow jr. (right), chairman of the board and president of Golden Pictures watch Edward C. Raftery, UA president, sign the contract that makes Golden a member of the UA family with "Breakfast in Hollywood" set for his first picture.



SALES BOSS IN CANADA—Haskell M. Masters, who recently was appointed Canadian sales manager for Warner Bros. Pictures.

Pay Boosts for 300 Okayed by the WLB

NEW YORK—More than 300 workers in 24 film exchanges in Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh will receive a 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to December 1, 1943, according to a system of job classifications and wage scales approved by the Philadelphia regional war labor board.

Similar increases have been requested from the regional WLB in Chicago for office workers in the Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis exchanges. Other boards, petitioned for corresponding wage tilts and yet to be heard from, include San Francisco, with jurisdiction over San Francisco and Seattle; and Kansas City, with jurisdiction over the Kansas City, Des Moines, St. Louis and Omaha exchanges.

Fromkess Concludes Deals For PRC During NY Stay

NEW YORK—During his recently ended stay here Leon Fromkess, PRC president, made a number of personnel changes and business arrangements for the company. He purchased an original story, "International Police," which will be filmed as one of PRC's top budget films. The story features a post-war approach to the field of aviation and deals with an international police air espionage system.

Also during his stay he bought from Herbert W. Given the Philadelphia exchange, to be added to the company's other exchanges. Among personnel changes is the appointment of Lloyd Lind as assistant general sales manager.

Fromkess is expected to return to this city in about a month to conclude other arrangements for the company.

Multiple-Relay Net Heralds Video Chain

NEW YORK—The Washington-Philadelphia multiple-relay television network, the first ever to link two major cities, has proved practical and may result in those two cities and New York becoming parts of a video chain within the next few months, according to engineers at the Philco Corp. Multiple-relay, the Washington-Philadelphia demonstration indicated, may be the forerunner of a future nationwide tele network.

The demonstration indicated the practicability of connecting distant cities for television by a series of micro-wave tele relay transmitters. In the Washington-Philadelphia setup, Philco engineers used six tele transmitters to carry the pictures from the company's studios in the capital to the final tele station, WPTZ. En route the signals were relayed at four intermediate points: Arlington, Va., Odenton, Md., Havre de Grace, Md., and Honeybrook, Pa. At WPTZ the program was transmitted to television audiences in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

Steel Blowers Offered In Limited Quantities

NEW YORK—Arrangements have been made by one of the country's largest manufacturers of air conditioning and ventilating equipment to provide a limited number of new, prewar heavy gauge steel blowers to exhibitors. These are better known as the "squirrel cage" type employed in air conditioning systems.

Theatres may issue their AA-5 MRO priority for maintenance, repair or operation to replace wornout, obsolete or broken down fans or blowers, the priority form being known to most theatre owners. The prices, according to the distributors, SOS Cinema Supply Corp. of New York, are at 1942 ceiling levels. These new blowers are available complete with drives for those who want to provide their own motors, or may be bought complete with motors.

The factory is in a position at present to make direct shipments, as a stated amount of material is available for civilian requirements.

Cassirer on Full Time at WCBW

NEW YORK—Henry Cassirer has taken over full-time news and picture editorship of CBS television station WCBW. He has been serving in the same capacity on a part-time basis for the past year.



HONOR FOR SELZNICK—E. P. Willcox of Parents' Magazine presents a scroll to Neil Agnew, vice-president of Vanguard, makers of Selznick pictures, in honor of the 10th anniversary of Selznick's independent production and four pictures.

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Much Ado Over That Lethal Lass; Who'll Film the Biog of Borgia?

Celluloid biography of the infamous Lucrezia Borgia has joined the long list of proposed features over which controversies arise anent rights to the subject and title. Following Metro's announcement that it would make a picture based on the life of the medieval dispenser of knockout drops—and using her John Hancock as a title—United Artists Producer Edward Small reminded one and sundry that he had previously filed intentions to do exactly the same thing and had no intention of backing away from such announced plans.

At this writing, not answered was the resultant question as to who, if anyone, will serve the public with a picture about the lethal lass.

Finklehoffe Seeks New Connection After Ankling From Metro Lot

Seeking a new studio connection after asking and receiving release from his writer-producer deal at Metro was Fred Finkelhoffe . . . Organization of the executive staff for the making of "Bel Ami" for United Artists was started by David L. Loew and Albert Lewin with the signing of Gordon Wiles as associate producer . . . Wallace Fox has been signed to a term deal by Universal as a director-producer of westerns. Fox will have charge of the program of gallopers of which the studio makes seven a year. The first two will be "Rodeo Cyclone" and "Man From Powder River" . . . The same studio picked up the options of Producer-Director Roy William Neill and signed to a term deal Lucien Hubbard, veteran writer and producer, who is scheduled to write and produce two pictures yearly. Hubbard was formerly with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount and Fox.

Frank Tarloff, author of the play, "They Should Have Stood in Bed," was signed by Paramount to a long term writing contract. Tarloff recently has been writing at RKO studio . . . Seymour Nebensal, producer and guiding head of Nero Films, signed John Zinn as general manager of his Nero Productions. Zinn's most recent affiliation was with David O. Selznick.

Executive Committee Named For Republic's Anniversary

Allen Wilson, vice-president of Republic, has appointed an executive committee to assume charge of the studio's tenth anniversary celebration, May 27 to July 27. Robert V. Newman, Wilson's assistant; Les Kaufman, director of publicity; Hy J. Glick, comptroller, and T. W. Yates jr., chief of the purchasing department, form the committee. A feature of the celebration will be the publication of a comprehensive history of the studio, since 1935, when H. J. Yates founded the company.

"Invitation to Dance" Is Added To Producer Pasternak's Slate

To Metro Producer Joe Pasternak's crowded calendar has been added another newcomer on the studio's slate, a musical titled "Invitation to the Dance," which, according to the announcement, will feature both classical and popular music . . . A switch in directors was made on "The Stork Club," Producer Buddy G. De Sylva's initial share-cropping effort for Paramount. Hal Walker was set to pick up the megaphone that Noel Madison dropped when the latter ankled the film, following a difference of opinion anent procedure.

Announcement of an addition to its 1945 schedule, "Palace on Main Street," was made by RKO as first production vehicle for Stephen Laird, war correspondent and author. Story is an original by Laird, based on his father's experiences in Emmaus, Pa., the author's birthplace . . . "Time Out of Mind," the Rachel Field novel, has been selected by Jane Murfin as the first story she will make for Universal under her new writer-producer deal. Walter Bullock has been signed to work with her on the adaptation and screenplay.

Hollywood Story Mart Prospers; Yarns of Unusual Nature Bought

Not only did Hollywood's story market prosper but it was noteworthy because of the unusual nature of some of the material which the filmmakers acquired to be made into future features.

James S. Burkett purchased Jack DeWitt's "101 Ranch" for Burkett-Rosen productions. The picture of the Miller Bros. Wild West Show will be made independently for major release. Story centers around Col. Zack Miller, who gave Will Rogers, William S. Hart, Buck Jones and others their start in show business. Producers plan to shoot backgrounds in Oklahoma, where the Wild West outfit owned 115,000 acres.

Screen rights to "Millie's Daughter," novel by Donald Henderson Clark, went to Columbia. The film adaptation will be produced by Michel Kraike. First screen treatment is being written by Guy Andros . . . Purchase of the new novel by Sinclair Lewis, "Cass Timberlane," was announced by Metro. The story, which will be published in October by Random House, was purchased from galley proofs and is the dramatic love tale of a middle-aged judge in a small Minnesota town and his young, restless wife, Jinny. Bored with life, she goes to New York and indulges in a romance with her husband's best friend before learning the true meaning of love . . . Metro also acquired the film rights to "Liberty Street—U.S.A." The I. V. Morris novel was a recent Literary Guild selection. Pandro S. Berman will produce. The story deals with the experiences of a woman refugee and her companions who are seeking passage to the U.S.A.

As a starring vehicle for Barbara Stanwyck, Warners unlimbered the bankroll to purchase "Cry Wolf," a psychological murder mystery of small town locale, penned by Marjorie Carleton . . . A series of articles which appeared in the Louisville Courier-Journal under the title "Frontier Nurse" were bought by Republic to form the basis of a feature to be produced by Armand Schaefer.



GET EARLY START—At Warners' studio players on the sets began buying bonds before the campaign began. Left to right, Dennis Morgan, Janis Paige, Angela Greene and Jack Carson. They were working in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

Columbia Announces Next Films In Each of Two of Its Series

Columbia has announced the next one in each of two of its series. "The Stroke of Twelve," an original story being developed by Martin Field, will be the next film in the Boston Blackie circuit starring Chester Morris. It will be produced by Alexis Thurn-Taxis. "Massacre Mesa" is the title of an original story being written by Ed Earl Repp for a western which will costar Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette, to be produced by Colbert Clark under Jack Fier's supervision.

Tay Garnett was named to direct Metro's "The Postman Always Rings Twice," to costar Lana Turner and John Garfield . . . Vladmir Pozner has been assigned by Hal Wallis Productions to develop a treatment from an original story idea by John Farrow called "Dishonorable Discharge." Wallis releases through Paramount . . . Jack Grant has been set by Leon Fromkess at PRC as associate producer of "End of Night," an original mystery melodrama by Sheldon Leonard, who also will have the top male role in the picture. Arthur St. Claire is doing the script.

Norman Houston has been assigned to script "Sunset Pass," fourth in the series of Zane Grey westerns at RKO. Herman Schlom produces, with Sid Rogell as executive producer . . . At the same studio, John Faxton was signed to write the final script of "Cornered" . . . At 20th Century-Fox, Henry King was picked to direct "American Guerilla in the Philippines," which Lamarr Trotti will script and produce . . . Universal's Associate Producer-Director Charles Barton put two new writers to work on his forthcoming pictures: William Bowers to write the final screenplay of "Way for a Lady" and Charles Marion for a similar chore on "Idea Girl."

Also at Universal, Michael Simmons was signed by Associate Producer Gene Lewis to write the final screenplay of "Flame of the Yukon" . . . Jack L. Warner has assigned the Broadway play, "The Wallflower," to Alex Gottlieb, producer . . . Another Warner chore: Jean Negulesco to direct "Humoresque," filmization of the famous Fanny Hurst novel. Jerry Wald is producing.

Tamiroff and Davenport Signed For Roles in "Pardon My Past"

Akim Tamiroff and Harry Davenport have been signed by Leslie Fenton for leading roles with Fred MacMurray in Mutual Productions' "Pardon My Past," which Columbia will release . . . Johnny Johnston, youthful male song bird, was signed to a term contract by Metro studio and assigned one of the leading roles in "You Are Beautiful," forthcoming musical which Joe Pasternak will produce . . . "Arson Squad," starring Frank Albertson and Robert Armstrong, with Grace Gillern in the feminine lead, has gone before the cameras at PRC studios. The picture, which is being made with the cooperation of the Los Angeles fire department, is an Alexander-Stern production with Lew Landers directing.

Maureen O'Hara was handed the femme lead in RKO Radio's "Fabulous Invalid," screen version of the Broadway success by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. It will be filmed in Technicolor. Richard Berger is producing with Stephen Ames as executive producer. Stanley Roberts and DeWitt Bodeen are writing the screenplay.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW OF "THRILL OF A ROMANCE"



M-G-M's TECHNICOLORFUL ROMANTIC COMEDY!

VAN JOHNSON · ESTHER WILLIAMS
IN
"THRILL OF A ROMANCE"
WITH
FRANCES GIFFORD • HENRY TRAVERS • SPRING BYINGTON
And Introducing the Metropolitan Opera Star
LAURITZ MELCHIOR
AND
TOMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PHOTOGRAPHED IN TECHNICOLOR
Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman
DIRECTED BY RICHARD THORPE • PRODUCED BY JOE PASTERNAK

ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	TUES. 5/22	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.	TUES. 5/22	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	TUES. 5/22	10:30 A.M. Also 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	TUES. 5/22	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	TUES. 5/22	8 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	TUES. 5/22	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	TUES. 5/22	3 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street	TUES. 5/22	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	TUES. 5/22	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	TUES. 5/22	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK NEW JERSEY	M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue	TUES. 5/22	10:30 A.M. Also 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	TUES. 5/22	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	TUES. 5/22	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	TUES. 5/22	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	TUES. 5/22	1 P.M.

Dedicate Small Volume To Life of President

NEW YORK—A memorial to the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt has been published by Pocket Books, Inc. The pocket-size edition was edited by Donald Porter Geddes, and is a record of the President's death from the moment it was flashed over the airwaves at 5:49 p. m., Thursday, April 12, by CBS.

Also contained in the volume are reprints of editorials and columns; a brief biography and President Truman's proclamation of mourning; excerpts of President Roosevelt's speeches and writings; an appraisal of the past 12 years; some selected poetry, and the last undelivered address the President had intended to make the day following his death.

More Key-City Openings Set for Republic Film

NEW YORK—Republic's 10th anniversary film, "Flame of Barbary Coast," is scheduled to open in a day-and-date engagement at the Fox Theatre in San Francisco and the Paramount Theatre in Oakland on May 16.

Big advertising and publicity campaigns are backing these openings. The film is booked at the State in Omaha and Loew's in Providence, May 3; Loew's State, Cleveland, May 10; Stanton in Philadelphia, May 12; the Mayfair in Baltimore, May 16; the Majestic in Houston, May 17; the Strand in Cincinnati and the Circle in Indianapolis, May 18; and the Majestic in Dallas, May 31.

"Bernadette" Best of '44, Critics in India Assert

CALCUTTA—The Bengal Film Journalists Ass'n has selected "The Song of Bernadette" as the best picture of 1944, following a poll taken among the motion picture critics of India. They chose Jennifer Jones, star of the production, as the best actress of the year.

Among the 10 outstanding films of the year selected by the critics were two other 20th-Fox productions: "Heaven Can Wait" and "Jane Eyre."

"Harbor Goes to France" To Be Released May 8

NEW YORK—"A Harbor Goes to France," a British ministry of information two-reel short subject, will be released here by Columbia on May 8. The film deals with the building and installation of artificial harbors used in the invasion of Europe.

Angle Heads Directorate

NEW YORK—Wesley M. Angle, Stromberg-Carlson Co. president since 1934, was elected chairman of the board, coincident with the announcement by the organization of a personnel expansion program. Dr. Ray H. Manson, former executive vice-president and general manager, succeeds Angle as president.

Brass Hats See RKO Film

WASHINGTON — Representatives of the army, navy and other government agencies were given an opportunity to see "Back to Bataan" this week. Particularly interested in the special prerelease screening arranged by William Gordon, special studio representative for RKO, was Gen. Carlos Romulo, resident commissioner of the Philippines in the United States.



EAST MEETS WEST — BOXOFFICE proves the common denominator that brings the east and west together in Hawaii. At the left is Kwon Hou Young, Chinese owner of the American Theatre in Honolulu. Right is Al Teitelman, (Hal Tate), former central editor of BOXOFFICE, who is in Hawaii for a brief period, before heading "down under" as a SeaBee combat correspondent.

In 1943 Young purchased an eight-year subscription to BOXOFFICE. In addition to his theatre business, he is one of the philanthropic leaders among the Chinese in Hawaii. In the background can be seen part of Young's new home. A lua (Hawaiian party) is scheduled in the near future, when Young has his official housewarming.

Veteran Film Official, Harry Buxbaum, Is Dead

LAWRENCE, N. Y.—Services were held here for Harry H. Buxbaum, 67, who died at his home of a heart ailment after an illness of two years. He was New York district sales manager for 20th-Fox for the past 25 years. Born in Boston, he was a veteran of the Spanish-American war and served a term in the Massachusetts legislature.

Early in his motion picture career Buxbaum worked for Paramount and General Film. He was a Mason, an Elk, and belonged to the Motion Picture Pioneers. His wife survives him, also two sons, Lieut. (j.g.) Harry S. Buxbaum and John M. Buxbaum; a daughter, Betty M. Buxbaum; two sisters, Mrs. Rose Feuerlicht of Brookline, Mass., and Julie B. Buxbaum, and four brothers, Maurice, Jack, Isidore and William Buxbaum.

Comedy Circuit Is Formed By Velaise and Alison

NEW YORK—A circuit of theatres which will show only comedies has been incorporated by Robert Weil Velaise and Joan Alison. Number one house of the group which is to be called Merrie Movies will be located in this city. Velaise was formerly distribution head for M-G-M Paris. Miss Alison is co-author of the films "Casablanca" and "Cabbages and Kings." Walter Gettinger of the Vogue Theatre in Baltimore may be named manager of the enterprise.

Republic Files N. Y. Notice

ALBANY—Republic Pictures International Corp., a Delaware corporation, has filed notice here of change of location for the conduct of business in New York state.

LETTERS

"BIOGS" BRING BACK MEMORIES

To BOXOFFICE:

Your column of Midwest 20-Year Showmen has been of considerable interest to me. Several of those men were my friends many years ago when I was traveling for film companies.

During the last 22 years I have been an exhibitor here at Cedar Falls, and have not had the pleasure of seeing several of these old-timers. So many changes of ownership have taken place in the last few years that I suspect this section of your magazine brings back memories to many of the older showmen.

My days of film selling date back to the time before the boys traveled in cars, and for the past 22 years I have been here as a retailer of entertainment for the folks hereabouts.

Your BOXOFFICE is read from cover to cover here at our theatre.

MERLE R. BLAIR

Regent Theatre,
Cedar Falls, Iowa

HIS CASHIER SENDS IT ON

To BOXOFFICE:

I'm just another one of those small town exhibitors on leave of absence from show business while serving a hitch in the navy. My home is Glen Rose, Tex., where I own the Palace Theatre; also have partnership in the Capitol at Meridian.

As each week rolls around I receive BOXOFFICE, as I have been doing for all of the several years that I have been in the business; and I might add it is more appreciated now (if that be possible) than when I was at home. It still goes to the theatre at Glen Rose, but the cashier sends it on to me.

I have been at the naval air station, Corpus Christi, ever since I was inducted in December, 1943, and am still in show business. For the first three months I was here I worked in the booth as operator and since that time have been bookkeeper and treasurer of the station theatre. I am very fortunate in being able to have my family here with me.

Keep up the good work in BOXOFFICE. It is, I think, the finest tradepaper of the industry and I would really be lost without it, it also comes in quite handy in connection with my work here on the base.

R. T. SUMMERS.

Chaplain's Office,
Waldron Field,
Corpus Christi, Tex.

MISSES BOXOFFICE IN PACIFIC

To BOXOFFICE:

Before coming into the service I was in the theatre business, operating a house in Aguilar, Colo., which is now run by my sister Edna. I am in my fourth year in the navy. For the past 28 months I have been operating movies aboard ship. I am in charge of an exchange handling films from all the film companies and repairing motion picture equipment.

What I miss out here in the Pacific is the BOXOFFICE, so I am inclosing a money order for a subscription. Please start them rolling my way now.

MITCHELL KELLOFF, F.M.3/c

Division 4
%Fleet Post Office
San Francisco.

Cowan Will Air Views

WASHINGTON—Lester Cowan will participate in the American Forum of the Air broadcast, May 8. While here, the film producer may discuss with U.S. government officials OWI's reported ban in liberated areas of his "Tomorrow the World."

Everything



in
"SALOME,
Where She
Danced"

THAT SPELLS B-O-X-O-F-F-I-C-E

WALTER WANGER'S TECHNICOLOR PRODUCTION,



Yvonne DeCarlo and David Bruce in one of the many romantic moments.



Rod Cameron and Walter Slezak vie for the attention of Yvonne DeCarlo, who has just been presented to San Francisco society.



The pursued outlaw, David Bruce, ready to shoot his way to freedom, races across the Western plains.



SALOME, Where She Danced



One of the seven veils.



Yvonne DeCarlo does the Salome dance for the wildest, toughest audience ever assembled.





Bruce and Albert Dekker clash wills and swords for love of DeCarlo.

YES, "SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED" HAS EVERYTHING . . . everything that adds up to a box-office smash hit. An unusual, romantic story spiked with adventure, suspense and hard-hitting action; an unusual star, chosen for her great beauty and talent; a fine supporting cast—all expertly assembled in a production of outstanding quality.

In other words, Walter Wanger's Technicolor production, "Salome, Where She Danced" is true to the Universal formula, combining the best elements of motion picture entertainment for the greatest pleasure of the greatest number of movie-goers.



WALTER WANGER *presents*

SALOME, Where She Danced

in TECHNICOLOR

with

YVONNE DeCARLO

ROD CAMERON • DAVID BRUCE • WALTER SLEZAK

ALBERT DEKKER • Marjorie Rambeau • J. Edward Bromberg

Screenplay by Laurence Stallings • From an original story by Michael J. Phillips

Directed by CHARLES LAMONT • Associate Producer, ALEXANDER GOLITZEN • Produced by WALTER WANGER

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Industry Group Arrives At Peace Conference

SAN FRANCISCO—The committee representing the motion picture industry, which has placed itself at the service of the U.S. state department, had assembled here by midweek to coordinate various activities in connection with the United Nations Conference.

Arriving from the east were Howard Dietz, Claude F. Lee and Claude R. Collins, the latter newsreel coordinator for the industry's War Activities Committee. From Hollywood came Allyn Butterfield of Metro. They joined Glen Allvine, secretary of the eastern division of the Public Information Committee, motion picture industry, who for a week had been making preliminary arrangements here, and Fay Reeder of FWC Theatres.

Quarters have been taken at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, where the all-industry group will equip a projection room for the use of conference members. Documentary and other informational films brought by delegates will be shown. Mary Lozey, of the Canadian Film Board, has been designated by the U.S. state department to be in charge.

Butterfield, former motion picture editor for the war department bureau of public relations, will be in charge of the special supplementary newsreel coverage which is to be shown regularly at the United Nations Theatre. The film will be flown to Hollywood for processing.

The Alcazar Theatre has received its new United Nations marquee in preparation for its opening the showing of selected American and foreign features and other subjects. The bill will be changed nightly and admission is exclusively for those attending the conference.



TELLS OF LEO'S GREAT FEAT—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M sales head, tells of his feat in selling 11,000 accounts by telephone in eight days.

Seated l. to r. are William R. Ferguson, exploitation director; E. W. Aaron, western sales and circuit sales manager; Alan Cummings, in charge of exchange operations; Chester B. Bahn, editor of Film Daily; Henderson M. Richey, director of exhibitor relations; Al Steen, associate editor, Film Daily; Rodgers; Sherwin Kane, editor of M. P. Daily; Roy Chartier, Variety; John E. Flynn, sales manager, Chicago; E. K. "Ted" O'Shea, eastern sales manager; James Ivers, M. P. Herald; Red Kann, Quigley Publications; John J. Maloney, central sales manager, Pittsburgh; Edward M. Saunders, assistant sales manager; Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising, publicity and exploitation; Bill Ornstein, tradepaper contact; R. W. Baremore, The Independent; Herbert Crooker, publicity manager; Tom Kennedy, Showmen's Trade Review; Mel Konecoff, The Exhibitor; James M. Jerauld, editor of BOXOFFICE; Mo Wax, Film Bulletin; Jack Harrison, Hollywood Reporter.

Paramount Now Dickering For "Oh, Brother" Farce

NEW YORK—Paramount's reported deal for the film rights to "Oh, Brother," Jacques Deval farce with a Miami background, is still being negotiated and, contrary to accounts in the daily press, no contract has as yet been signed.

Belief is the film company intends to put up $10,000 for a 25 per cent share of the production, plus a deposit of $75,000 toward the picture rights. Paramount is said to have offered to contribute weekly payments representing 10 and 15 per cent of the gross receipts while the play is on the road and during its local run, respectively. Payments are to continue until $125,000 (the difference between the deposit, $75,000, and the ceiling price, $200,000) has been reached.

Bretaigne Windust is expected to stage the play. Rehearsals are scheduled to start shortly.

RKO in Two WABC Shows

NEW YORK—RKO purchased three participations in WABC's Phil Cook program and three in that station's Off the Record series for the Astor Theatre run of "The Enchanted Cottage." Participations occurred during week prior to the picture's opening, final show synchronizing with film's premiere, April 27.

MOT Man a War Victim

NEW YORK—First Lieut. Elmore Bostwick jr., formerly on the staff of the March of Time, was killed in action, according to word received by his wife, Mrs. Josephine Adams Bostwick. He was 27 years old and graduated from Harvard in 1939.

20th-Fox's Service Flag Now Bears 3,000 Stars

NEW YORK—More than 3,000 employes of 20th-Fox and its subsidiaries are in the armed forces, according to the latest compilation. Thirty-two former employes have been killed in action. Eleven, believed to be prisoners of war, are missing. Of the 32 killed, 27 were in the army.

These figures do not include casualties in the various armies of the United Nations from the ranks of the foreign department of 20th-Fox.

Circuit Chiefs Approve Films 90 Minutes Long

NEW YORK—Approximately 90 minutes is the ideal running time for an "A" feature, according to 50 executives of U.S. and Canadian circuits, operating 2,500 theatres. Two operators recommended 70 minutes, while a few suggested more than 100 minutes.

The recommendations came in reply to an inquiry made to the circuits by Leslie Fenton, president of Mutual Productions.

CBS Augments Tele Time

NEW YORK—Effective May 1, CBS television station WCBW will have a three-day weekly operating schedule of Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, instead of current Wednesday and Thursday arrangement.

Continue March of Dimes As a Memorial to FDR

New York—Observance of the late President Roosevelt's birthday, January 30, will continue to be observed with the March of Dimes campaign, Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, said Tuesday.

O'Connor added that the observance would be a memorial to the late Chief Executive.

The motion picture industry only recently turned in a record-breaking sum to the foundation, made up of collections from the nation's theatres.

Majors Win Trial in Fraud Charge Suit

NEW YORK—Justice Ernest E. L. Hammer of the New York County supreme court has rendered an opinion in favor of four major distributors in their action against the Endicott circuit. Charged by Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox and Loew's with having "fraudulently altered and falsified" their books on percentage pictures and also having "bribed plaintiff's checkers" to make fraudulent reports, Irving Renner, Louis Nelson, William Namenson and others connected with the circuit moved to dismiss the complaint.

Judge Hammer denied all motions with costs and decided in favor of each of the distributors. Louis Nizer, attorney for the film companies, hopes to bring the case to trial shortly.

The action marks the first test in this state of a "false boxoffice receipts" charge.

Brandt Is Renominated To Presidency of ITOA

NEW YORK—Harry Brandt was renominated to the presidency of the ITOA at a meeting in Hotel Astor. Other officers renominated without opposition included: David Weinstock, first vice-president; Max A. Cohen, second vice-president; Leon Rosenblatt, treasurer; Joshua Goldberg, secretary, succeeding Abe Leff, and John C. Bolte, sergeant-at-arms.

The officers and the following were nominated to the board of directors: Leo Brecher, A. H. Eisenstadt, Norman Elson, Samuel Freedman, Isidore Gottlieb, Leff, Emanuel Hertzig, Gilbert Josephson, Martin Levine, Irving Renner, Ray Rhonheimer, Rudolph Sanders, Abraham Shenk, Henry Siegel, Charles Steiner and Bernard Zimetbaum. Weinstock will serve as chairman of the board.

Hyman Rachmil was unanimously elected an honorary life member.



A

TRIBUTE...

LESTER COWAN PRODUCTIONS • UNITED ARTISTS CORPORATION

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

John Grierson to Washington?

TORONTO—No confirmation could be obtained here to reports from Washington that John Grierson, the British-reared chief of Canada's National Film, famed among United Nations government for the success of its message-type films, is slated to head a film unit of the U.S. state department under Archibald MacLeish, assistant secretary of state.

The only supporting evidence was the revelation that Grierson had been in Washington for several weeks.

Deluxer for Detroit Suburb

DETROIT—Plans for a neighborhood deluxer, probably a 1,500-seater, have been started by Thomas Ealand, owner of a 400-seat house in Ferndale. The new theatre would be a block from his present house on Woodward Ave.

Arbitration "Too Highfalutin' "

PITTSBURGH—Voluminous has been the discussion about the faults and merits of the consent decree and the arbitration system with the whole dispute heading for some sort of an official decision in the highest courts of the land.

Here the exhibitors have their say on occasion, but they leave the arbitration setup strictly alone. The third and final case ever brought before the tribunal here, which still occupies a suite of rooms and a clerk and secretary, was filed Apr. 25, 1941.

The exhibitor consensus is primarily that the setup is "too highfalutin' " with "fancy" attorneys and costly procedure borrowed from the established courts of law.

Picture Course Opens

CHICAGO—Indicative of the growing prestige of the motion picture industry with the recent opening at the Abraham Lincoln School here of a special course on motion pictures. A feature will be shown at each session, followed by analysis and discussion of films as an artistic medium for education and social expression.

Close Cleveland Stage Season

CLEVELAND—The RKO Palace, long-time stage show house here, announced suspension of flesh for the season on May 10, weeks earlier than it normally discontinues. It will switch to motion pictures. The reason, states Sol Schwartz, is the inability to obtain suitable stage shows.

Paul Short to Radio?

NEW ORLEANS — John Lester in his "Lagniappe" column this week in the Item say that Lieut. Comdr. Paul Short, ex-NSS executive, "may not return to the picture industry after the war; is even now mulling over a lush contract with an internationally famed aircraft manufacturer calling for, among other services, a weekly radio or television show starring his pal, Lieut. Bob Taylor."

Gets Back Voice in Union

PHILADELPHIA—The Motion Picture Operators Union 516 here was found guilty of "economic coercion" and robbing a citizen of his constitutional rights by the common pleas court which ordered voting and speaking privileges restored to Philip L. Trainer, former president of the local.

Trainer was drummed out of the union, his attorney said, after he suggested at a national convention that the salaries of union leaders be reduced from $20,000 to $10,000 a year. To regain his union card, and a job, Trainer testified he was compelled to sign an agreement depriving him of any voice in the union.

First Quebec Film

MONTREAL — World-premiered here last week was "Le Pere Chopin," the first full-length picture produced in Quebec province featuring French-Canadian entertainers and artists. The film was produced by Charles Phillips, former European film maker; directed by Feodor Ozep, with Madeline Ozeray, French actress, as the star. The scenario deals with the adventures of a musically inclined French family.

S&M Prepares for Postwar

MILWAUKEE—Postwar plans already have been started by Ben Marcus, operator of the S&M circuit of Wisconsin. Announced last week were a strengthening of the managerial setup; shift of the headquarters from Ripon to Oshkosh; completion of arrangements to start construction of a new theatre at Tomah in 90 days.

Joe Strother, buyer and booker, has been promoted to assistant general manager in charge of booking and exchange activities, and Hank Tollette to assistant in charge of theatre operations.

Strike Slows Production

HOLLYWOOD—The May flowers on the production picture for next month will not bloom profusely if the strike of the studio workers does not end soon. It appears that only 33 films will go before the cameras in May, a less than normal number for the month. The strike is in its seventh week.

Brunswick Pioneer Dies

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Walter H. Golding, who entered the show business here in 1907 as manager of the Nickel Theatre for Keith-Albee, died at the age of 68. He was the manager of the Famous Players Canadian Capitol.

Oklahoma City Proud

OKLAHOMA CITY—Local theatres are proud of their record in the Red Cross drive. They exceeded their quota by 20 per cent. The total audience collections was $11,269.62. In addition $11,585.90 was raised by the company and employe contributions, making a grand total of $22,855.52 raised from all sources by the industry.

Honor Trio in Industry A Total of 122 Years!

Buffalo—Al Becker, Becker Theatres Supply; Al Teschemacher, National Screen Service, and Andrew Geitner, Geitner Theatres, Silver Creek, were awarded war bonds Monday during an "Old-Timers' Night" party at Variety Club.

They have been in the motion picture business for 44, 40, and 38 years respectively.

The event was attended by more than 100. Robert T. Murphy was chairman, assisted by George Ferguson and Jack Bellman.

Hollywood Prominents Forming a New Firm

HOLLYWOOD—Just about ready for announcement is the formation of still another richly-endowed independent production company, organized and owned by Hollywood prominents.

Cinemactress Ginger Rogers, Producer-Director Sam Wood and Robert Hakim are the most recent trio to get together and decide to hang out their own shingle.

The new combination, BOXOFFICE is reliably informed, has completed its organization details and is currently working on a major releasing deal. Best guess is that its product will be distributed by either United Artists or Columbia.

The venture is Miss Rogers' first in the field of production. Wood, however, has produced one picture for Columbia under his own banner. When his deal with the Gower St. studio was originally announced, it was declared that he would make several share-cropping pictures, foremost among which was "Jubal Troop." Then came a later announcement that he had acquired sole rights to all of the story properties which had been listed on his program and in which the studio had some interest. This action was the tipoff that his original deal with Columbia had been sidetracked. It is now assumed that those story properties will be taken by Wood to the new company.

The other partner, Hakim, while a newcomer to the field, has been associated with David L. Loew in the production of the just-completed "The Southerner" for United Artists distribution.

Columbia Managers Thank Showmen for Drive Aid

NEW YORK—Ads in which Columbia branch managers thanked exhibitors for their cooperation in the Montague twentieth anniversary drive made their appearance in the trade magazines.

The copy consisted of a personal message from each branch manager to exhibitors on behalf of himself and personnel. A facsimile of the manager's signature appeared at the top. Names of the cooperating showmen appeared below.

Call Monogram Meet

HOLLYWOOD — The semiannual meeting of the board of directors of Monogram Pictures Corp. will be held at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, May 22, at 10 a. m. W. Ray Johnston, president, will preside, and plans for the 1945-46 season and European expansion will be discussed.

New PRC Western Series

HOLLYWOOD—Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, has announced a new western series, the first to be made in color by that company, to star Eddie Dean. Set for 1945-46 release, program will have as its initialer "In Old Wyoming," to be directed and produced by Robert Emmett, and featuring Sara Podlin and Jennifer Holt.

PRC Plans Documentary

NEW YORK—Producers Releasing Corp. has bought the moving picture rights to the July issue of See magazine. The film company plans to adapt its contents, releasing the finished product as a documentary on what should be done to Germany.

Young to "Abbott and Costello"

Carleton Young has been cast in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood," a Metro production.

To Date

586

engagements...

each with the same

phenomenal story of

record-breaking

boxoffice

performance!

• • • • • • • • •



and this is only **The Beginning!**

$6.85 Bally Ups Drive 280 Per Cent!

LINCOLN—When the next fund campaign comes up, exhibitors will do well to consider the amazing March of Dimes drive conducted this year by the Nebraska Theatre.

The entire project cost only $6.85; contributions were increased 280 per cent over last year, from $230.88 to $648.13, and the promotion could be duplicated in any town on any campaign.

"The cooperation we received from Miss Katherine Faulkner at the University of Nebraska art department and the scoutmasters of Boy Scouts made this increase possible," says John W. Schafluetzel, Nebraska manager.

"The foyer at the Nebraska is constructed with a mirror ceiling and three large mirrors on the back wall," Schafluetzel continued. "We felt that if we could design a display so appealing and story telling that it would be remembered when the March of Dimes trailer ran, we could not only make the 'touch' easier, but our patrons would dig a little deeper.

Art Students Do Their Stuff

"Miss Faulkner was contacted and consented to send 15 art students to paint murals on our mirrors. The students also made displays from two old wall board displays we had on hand.

"Three girls were assigned to each display and were graded for their year's work at the university on these displays.

"The theme of the displays was the sick and crippled child, heartbroken and sad, watching the other children playing ball, making snow man, swimming and playing at the playgrounds. 'We love our children' was the story we tried to put across . . . 'Let's give to the March of Dimes and keep them playing.'

"The containers for the collection were given to us by Earl Woods of the local dairy. Collections at each performance were made by eight to ten Boy Scouts in full scout uniform. This not only solved the problem of making the collection with a shortage of ushers but also made the children a part of the campaign.

"With the exception of the trailer we ran after the campaign the entire cost to the Nebraska Theatre was $6.85, which covered the cost of the water colors used.

"Here is the trailer which ran for two weeks after the close of the campaign:

Hats off to you Nebraska theatregoers!
Please take a bow.
Usually it's you who applaud when you come to the show.

But now we wish to applaud you, and you, and you.
And deservedly so, because your remarkable and generous response to the March of Dimes.

Last year you contributed $230.88 at this theatre. This year, $648.13.
On behalf of our entire staff and the children of Lincoln we thank you again and again.

"Thank you letters were written to each one connected with the campaign which we feel built a lot of goodwill for the theatre."

The student lobby murals really put a professional touch to the fund pleas, and at a trifling cost. Shown above in this column is the Nebraska's "Wishing Well." Below: juvenile motifs predominate in these excellently executed panels.





62 Paramount Shorts In '45-'46 Schedule

NEW YORK—During 1945-46 Paramount will release 62 shorts embodying nine different series in addition to 104 issues of Paramount News. Included in the former are eight George Pal Puppetoons, six Musical Parade Featurettes, eight Popeyes, six Little Lulus and six Noveltoons, all in Technicolor. There will also be six each of Speaking of Animals, Popular Science and Unusual Occupations, as well as ten Grantland Rice Sportlights.

Details of improvements in distribution and advertising policies will be discussed at a series of 10 regional conferences attended by home office executives, district and branch managers. First meeting will be held here on April 30. Other conference dates are: Boston, May 2 and 3; Philadelphia, May 4 and 5; Atlanta, May 7 and 8; Dallas, May 10 and 11; Los Angeles, May 13 to 19; Denver, May 21 and 22; Kansas City, May 23 and 24; Chicago, May 25 and 26; Cleveland, May 27 and 28.

Half Year '44 Columbia Net Profit Reported

NEW YORK—A net profit of $950,000 for the 26-week period ending Dec. 30, 1944, has been reported by Columbia. This compares with a net of $955,000 for the corresponding period in the previous year. The current net amounts to $2.21 per share on the common stock, as compared with a $2.33 dividend in 1943.

The gross operating profit for the current period came to $2,125,000 compared with $3,065,000 in 1943. The estimated provision for federal taxes, including excess profit tax in 1944, was $1,175,000, compared with $2,110,000 for the previous year.

The estimated provision for federal taxes for the period ending Dec. 30, 1944, includes provision for income taxes of Columbia Pictures International Corp., which distributes films to all foreign countries except Canada. This subsidiary, in the opinion of counsel, is not subject to federal excess profits tax.

Board of Review Selects Six Features for Week

NEW YORK—The National Board of Review has chosen as the selected features of the week "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" (20th-Fox), "The Brighton Strangler" (RKO), "The Horn Blows at Midnight" (WB), "A Medal for Benny" (Para), "On Approval" (English Films) and "The Randolph Family" (English Films).

Short subjects selected are "Brenda Star, Reporter" (Col serial), "Community Sing No. 7" (Col), "It Happened in Springfield" (WB), "Magica-Lulu" (Para), "The Master Key" (Univ), "Unusual Occupations L 4-4" (Para), "When G.I. Johnny Comes Home" (Para) and "White Rhapsody" (Para).

Advance Campaign Helps "Tree" Smash Records

PITTSBURGH—In its recent run at the J. P. Harris Theatre, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" broke all-time boxoffice records for that house, thanks in part to comprehensive advance exploitation arranged by Ken Hoel, publicity and advertising director of the Harris Theatre circuit.

Capitalizing James Dunn's visit, Hoel arranged newspaper interviews, pictures, radio appearances, Red Cross drive tieups and many window displays, which included six in book stores.

HAPPINESS HANGOVER!

RADIO'S ROLLICKING ROAR IN THE FLESH

AL PEARCE

in

Hitchhike to Happiness

featuring

Dale EVANS · Brad TAYLOR

William FRAWLEY · Willy TRENK

Jerome COWAN · Arlene HARRIS

Joseph SANTLEY, *Director*

Screen Play by Jack Townley

Based on Original Story by Manny Seff and Jerry Horwin



A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Multiple Day-and-Date 'Springfield' Showings

NEW YORK—Multiple day-and-date bookings on a scale unprecedented for a short subject have started on "It Happened in Springfield," Warners' two-reeler dealing with the teaching of democracy and racial equality in schools.

The National Conference of Christians and Jews, after a preview of the subject, instructed all regional offices to "push it to the limit."

Other evidence of the advance interest aroused in the screen version of the Springfield plan is the flood of inquiries being received from educational, religious and civic groups willing to extend their cooperation in promoting the film.

In Philadelphia, where 13 screenings for special groups had already been held, an additional showing was given for 250 editors and school groups including University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, Rosemont College, Beaver College, junior high schools, parochial schools, and other institutions of learning. The screening took place in the auditorium of station WCAU, local CBS outlet.

More than a score of advance screenings of the two-reeler have taken place both in New York and Hollywood.

Deals on "Good Old Days" Being Closed by Equity

NEW YORK—Bernie H. Mills, general sales manager of Equity Film Exchanges, Inc., has announced a number of distribution deals on the production "The Good Old Days."

Julian King of Film Classics Exchange in Des Moines will distribute the feature throughout Iowa and Nebraska, while the Capitol Film Exchange at St. Louis has the rights for Missouri and Kansas.

Joe Wolfe of Film Classics in Minneapolis will handle the production for Minnesota, North and South Dakota and upper Wisconsin, while Jack Zide of Allied Film Exchange, Detroit, has the state of Michigan.

Mills is closing other deals in the Chicago, Milwaukee, Indianapolis and Denver territories, as well as exchange centers in the south.

Lou Ramm, Equity's midwestern division sales manager, is in the field at present, and last week visited the St. Louis area.

MPA Makes Red Cross Gift In Memory of Roosevelt

NEW YORK—Motion Picture Associates will donate a station wagon to cost not more than $2,500 to the American Red Cross in memory of the late President Roosevelt.

At the recent luncheon of MPA at the Hotel Astor at which action was taken, more than 300 members bowed their heads in observing one minute's silent prayer in memory of the late President.

Tribute also was paid to Ernie Pyle, slain by the Japs on Ie Jima. The meeting opened with a prayer for early victory.

Ten new members were inducted after which President Morris Sanders outlined plans for the 26th annual dinner-dance at the Waldorf-Astoria June 6.

Negro Film for May Release

NEW YORK—"Harlem on Parade," latest all-Negro feature to be made by Jack and Bert Goldberg for the state rights market, is scheduled for release in May. The film is now in the final cutting and editing stage. After release of this picture Bert Goldberg will leave for the coast to begin work on "Negro Boys Town."

In this issue

The MODERN THEATRE

immediately following the LOCAL NEWS PAGES

A Multiple Enterprise Project and Postwar City Planning
by THE EDITOR

★

Antidote to Absenteeism . . . or What About the Stayaways
by ANSEL M. MOORE

★

"Just Off the Boards"

★

Tradewinds

★

A Form of Spring Renovation That Revives Patronage
by HANNS R. TEICHERT

★

Spring Renovation Should Start at the Street Line

★

A Simple Wartime Lesson in Theatre Maintenance

★

About People and Product

★

The Mysterious Criminology of the Cue-Markers
by A. CONAN CONDUCTOR

★

The Quiz Pot

TOPICS of interest to Every Showman.

Child Labor Measures' Simplification Sought

NEW YORK—State Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi, speaking at a meeting with theatre representatives here last week, estimated that 6,000 children under 18 are employed in theatres in this state, with two out of every three boy and girl workers 16 and 17 years old, and four of every five in the 14-15 age group, illegally employed.

He indicated that he will attempt to work out an easier way with the department of education for children to secure working papers to accept employment in theatres and other businesses after school.

Another meeting will be held at the Riverside Theatre on May 1 at which time Corsi will explain to the theatre men how they are affected by new child labor laws in hiring theatre personnel.

20th-Fox Abolishes Post Left Vacant by Willkie

NEW YORK—The post of chairman of the board of 20th-Fox has been abolished. The berth has remained vacant since the death of its last occupant, Wendell L. Willkie, in 1944.

Despite the fact that Willkie presided at directorate meetings, he performed no executive duties as such, and received no compensation.

Ambridge Trust Suit Deferred to Apr. 26

PITTSBURGH—The "Ambridge case," an antitrust action in federal court here, was postponed from April 19 to April 26 when attorneys couldn't be ready on the original date.

Complainant is Harry Norman Ball, Philadelphia, trustee, representing the Penn Theatre, Ambridge, Pa., and defendants are Paramount Pictures, Inc.; Paramount Film Distributing Corp.; Pennware Theatre Corp.; A. N. Notopoulos; RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc.; Loew's, Inc.; and 20th-Fox. Ball claims that first run product belongs to the theatre which has exhibited this particular product for a number of years and which he says has been denied the Penn at Ambridge.

A. N. Notopoulos, veteran circuit exhibitor, could not obtain a lease extension for the theatre in question, so he erected a new modern theatre at Ambridge and continued to license the product in question for the new State. Ball and his brother-in-law, Henry Friedman, Lawndale-Philadelphia exhibitor, remodeled, redecorated and re-equipped the Penn, but they decided not to reopen the house as a third run theatre and the Penn has been dark for more than a year.

Product licensed first run other than to Notopoulos at Ambridge goes to two Warner circuit theatres. Ball et al endeavored to obtain an injunction which would prevent product formerly exhibited at the Penn from going into the State, but the attempt failed in long drawnout proceedings in federal court last year.

Films Will Make Germans Aware of Own Atrocities

LONDON—Motion pictures, as well as broadcasts and billboards, will bring to every German the inhumanities practiced on the prisoners at the Buchenwald, Belsen and other Nazi torture camps, according to plans being formulated by British and American information services in cooperation with Allied supreme headquarters.

These services are assembling scenes at both Buchenwald and Belsen together with pictures of men and women wardens captured at the camps. These will be reproduced for display in every community in conquered Germany where inhabitants will be compelled to view them.

Editorials from newspapers throughout the world showing the revulsion with which the Germans are viewed because of their treatment of prisoners will be "required reading" for all citizens of the conquered Reich. Translations of these editorials, giving the reaction of free nations to the barbarism countenanced by the Germans and the determination that the Germans must be made to assume responsibility for their government's acts, will appear on radio programs and centrally located billboards.

Monogram Branch Change

NEW YORK—Mike Comer, former manager of Monogram's Omaha office, has been transferred to the managership of the Oklahoma City office. Jerry Callahan, former salesman working out of the Philadelphia exchange, will succeed him as manager of the Omaha branch.

Dialog "Lease of Life"

NEW YORK—Emerson Yorke has completed dialog production on "Lease of Life," National Tuberculosis Ass'n featurette. The picture was photographed at Filmcraft Studios.

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Here Come the WAVES—

Seattle 200

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Adventures of Kitty O'Day (Mono)	100					100	100		90	90			100	100			100		100		100	140	102
Alaska (Mono)			110			135	150	100	100		105			100			145		95	175	130	120	122
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115		95	140	138	95	100		125	150			145	165	150	125
Big Show-Off, The (Rep)	100					125			100		100	100	95		94		95				100	130	104
Bluebeard (PRC)	100		100			100			115			100			90								101
Bring On the Girls (Para)		159		120	90	130	195	90			150			150	105	155	130						134
Crime Doctor's Courage, The (Col)	100		90		90		100	100				100	90	100	93	70	100		65		100		92
Dancing in Manhattan (Col)	100	100				100	100		100			100	100	100	97		100					100	100
Dark Waters (UA)	130	131	110	100	200	120	165		160		90		85		90		130	190	75	150	175	180	134
Destiny (Univ)	115	100	115			100			100	95	100		100		100	125	100	165			100	100	108
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)							180				160		100		110	205		215	110				154
Guest in the House (UA)	130		115	90			160		90		115		100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	119
Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (Col)								100	105			110	90				100						101
Her Lucky Night (Univ)	125		100				100				100	100			85		90		65				96
Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)	110	105	115	110	65		148	90	110		97		100	140	120	170	90		90		125	140	113
Here Come the WAVES (Para)	145	167	120	125	140	135	235	105	130	125	210	219	115	175	108	200	155	240	125	160	160	200	159
House of Fear, The (Univ)	130	105	100	100	100				120				110	100	100	95					100	100	105
House of Frankenstein (Univ)	115	102	110	105	120	140	190	100	100	120			100	150		205	125	195		175	150	140	136
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)	120	170		115	135		213	100	125	160	125	150	115	200	110	185	130	195			180	150	149
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110			165	130	90		120	125		110			130				150		123
Leave It to Blondie (Col)			110			100	100	100	100			100			100		100		65				97
Mummy's Curse, The (Univ)	100	100	135	100		100	100	100	100	100			100	100	100	105	100	160	70	100		100	104
Murder, My Sweet (RKO)	100	209	115	115	100			95		90	120	130	100	80		140		175	100		175		123
My Gal Loves Music (Univ)	100		100			115	100		100		100	67		100	100		110				100		99
National Velvet (MGM)	130	149	115	120	130			105	130	125	200	147			105	160		210	115	250	160	150	147
Night Club Girl (Univ)	100	100	100				100				100		100	110			100					100	101
Nothing But Trouble (MGM)		82				110	100	85	100			100	100	90		80	100	135					98
Objective, Burma! (WB)	120	128	120	115	115	125	170	100		150	115	175	100		100	225	105	195	90		135	170	134
Practically Yours (Para)	125			130	100	130	190	100	125	125		173		160	105	190	140		75		150		135
Roughly Speaking (WB)		190		110			155	110		95	110	140		100	110	175	95	200					133
Shadow of Suspicion (Mono)	100						100								95		95		100				98
She's a Sweetheart (Col)	100	100	115			100	100						75	110	93		100		85		100		98
Song of Bernadette, The (20-Fox)				95			165	90	130	85			90	125			95		75		135		109
Song to Remember (Col)	135	212	110	110	125	140	175	110	125			195			108	170	120	180			225		149
Sudan (Univ)			110	80							102	108									115		103
Suspect, The (Univ)	130	128	110	90		120	185	90	120		87	100		100	85	180	100		115		160	175	122
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115	85		160	120	90			150	100	140			110			150	170	200	138
Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130			115			195	105		140	123	150	100	175		150	135	150	150		140	180	143
Tomorrow the World (UA)			120	110														155			110	140	127
Town Went Wild, The (PRC)		82	115			125	100		100		100												104
Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20-Fox)	160	218	120	120	115		188		100	130	140	200	120	175	125	180	130	220	185		200	180	158

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Meet Miss Bobby Socks (Col)—Bob Crosby, Lynn Merrick, Louise Erickson, Lim Loo Sisters. Doubled with "In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox). Two strictly program pictures we played during the week. Business only normal. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Sergeant Mike (Col)—A swell little picture that everyone seemed to enjoy. Several came back the second night. It seemed perfectly suited for our situation, and crammed to the brim with action. Played on a double bill.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porta, Community, Humansville, Mo. Small town patronage.

Together Again (Col)—Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, Mona Freeman. This is one of the finest pictures ever to play my theatre. Business was just fair the first day but it brought them out the second day. Charles Boyer never has been liked here until this picture. It is tops for any theatre and should be given the best dates. The love scene between Irene Dunne and the juvenile is a wow.—W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan, Ind. Small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Barbary Coast Gent (M-G-M)—Wallace Beery, Binnie Barnes, John Carradine, Bruce Kellogg. This was far from Beery's best, but drew better than average business. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Fair.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Billy, the Kid (M-G-M) (Reissue)—Robert Taylor, Brian Donlevy, Mary Howard. An old picture that drew well on a double feature bill. Used "Reckless Age" (Univ) with it. Played Fri., Sat.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porta, Community, Humansville, Mo. Small town patronage.

Mrs. Parkington (M-G-M)—Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Edward Arnold, Agnes Moorehead. An excellent picture but too long. This could have been cut 25 minutes to make room for good shorts. This would have made a better all-around program.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Seventh Cross, The (M-G-M)—Spencer Tracy, Signe Hasso, Hume Cronyn. Spencer Tracy is the whole show in this flicker study of Spencer Tracy. A good fingernail-biter, with plenty of suspense, but a rather unpleasant story of Nazi concentration camps. It will do business where Tracy is popular. —Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

Exhibitor Says Trailers Best to Sell Pictures

"This may be a bit unusual, as I have never seen an exhibitor report on a trailer, but I have just had the pleasure of running the trailer on 'Wilson' (20th-Fox) and it is an example of art. From the beginning to the end it is one punch line after another and if it does not sell seats, then salesmanship is all a mistake.

"There has been a growing tendency among us smaller exhibitors to discontinue previews, substituting trailerettes and utilizing the saving in direct mail advertising for new business. The difference will buy quite a few postcards for a personal message, as most of us pay more for previews than we pay for our news. Give us more trailers like this and word-of-mouth advertising will fill our seats to overflowing. A few scattered scenes and the title is only wasting our advertising budget."—Johnnie Hynes, Community Theatre, Conde, S. D.

PARAMOUNT

Gambler's Choice (Para)—Nancy Kelly, Chester Morris, Russell Hayden. This was not a bad little picture. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Hail the Conquering Hero (Para)—Eddie Bracken, Ella Raines, Raymond Walburn, William Demarest. Preston Sturges can't rest on his laurels with this one. In fact, this one and his "The Great Moment" (Para) just about puts him at the bottom of the ladder on my list. No business on either one.—Played Sun., Mon.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

Hail the Conquering Hero (Para)—Eddie Bracken, Ella Raines, Raymond Walburn, William Demarest. A nice comedy show but not as good as I expected. Bracken and Demarest make a great comedy team. Play it if possible. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Very cold.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. Dak. Rural and small town patronage.

Sign of the Cross (Para)—Reissue. Fredric March, Elissa Landi, Claudette Colbert, Charles Laughton. Here is a picture they insisted I buy, "doing big business everywhere," but not with us. It didn't go across. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

RKO RADIO

North Star, The (RKO)—Anne Baxter, Dana Andrews, Walter Huston, Walter Brennan. This was well liked and business was fair.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (RKO)—Disney cartoon reissue. This drew good crowds but we had a severe storm that "blacked out" our second night.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porta, Community, Humansville, Mo. Small town patronage.

West Point (RKO)—A This Is America short. Interesting, but just "so-so" as a seat selling proposition. Why do I buy these things? Played Sat., Sun.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

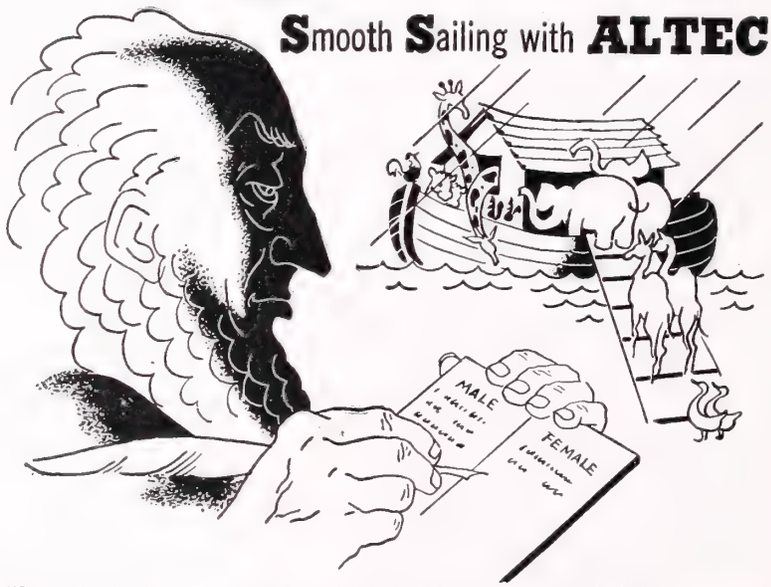
REPUBLIC

Joan of Ozark (Rep)—Judy Canova, Joe E. Brown, Eddie Foy jr., Jerome Cowan. An old one but it has plenty of comedy. The people around here eat this stuff up. Business was above average. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Lake Placid Serenade (Rep)—Vera Hruba Ralston, Eugene Pallette, Vera Vague, Robert Livingston. This is the best yet—can't be beat. It has plenty of everything.—Jack Herkel, Baxter, Cincinnati, Ohio. Rural patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Irish Eyes Are Smiling (20th-Fox)—June Haver, Dick Haymes, Monty Woolley, Anthony Quinn. What a picture! We Irish enjoyed this and so did everyone else, because they really



"Better be shoving off", warned the Admiral, "it's getting mighty slushy". So old man Noah wasted no time. He loaded his LST with a "he" and "she" of every living thing on earth. Picture where we'd be today if Noah had not heeded the warning. Yes, warning signals can be life-savers. Why let your equipment sink beneath the weather, when our periodic check-up service can be your barometer for equipment problems? We repair weak spots in your booth before they spring the leaks. Let the rains come, and the hurricane roar—rely on Altec for smooth sailing.

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

ATLANTA • BOSTON • CHICAGO • CINCINNATI • DALLAS
DETROIT • LOS ANGELES • NEW YORK • PHILADELPHIA • SEATTLE

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

turned out. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Something for the Boys (20th-Fox)—Carmen Miranda, Michael O'Shea, Vivian Blaine, Phil Silvers. Another Technicolor with Carmen Miranda, who has just about worn out her welcome. The picture is just another Fox percenter which doesn't make the small town manager a dime. The salesman tells me that it packed them in in New York, but New Yorkers don't come to the sticks. So we have to give the natives what they want or they will stay at home—and Carmen makes them stay home. There isn't any question about Fox making good pictures, but they have the wrong idea about the small towns where the natives still drink corn "likker," play guitars, fiddles and ride horses. A one-sheet of Roy Rogers, Charles Starrett or Bill Elliott out in front will pack the house for two days. We have a few people that like the high-toned pictures but not enough to play them on percentage. I am looking for the salesman any day to ask for 50 per cent of the popcorn business.—W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan, Ind. Small town patronage.

Take It or Leave It (20th-Fox)—Phil Baker, Marjorie Massow, Edward Ryan, Stanley Prager. Here is a picture of unusual possibilities containing all the brightest numbers in all of Zanuck's magnificent musicals since he went with Fox. All nicely blended into the plot of the picture, yet several exhibitors have panned it. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

Take It or Leave It (20th-Fox)—Phil Baker, Marjorie Masson, Edward Ryan, Stanley Prager. I looked for big business on this picture as the radio program is tops, I think. We had a big storm, so we took it and got left. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Sensations of 1945 (UA)—Eleanor Powell, W. C. Fields, Sophie Tucker, Mimi Forsythe. This is an excellent musical and business was good.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Since You Went Away (UA)—Claudette Colbert, Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Shirley Temple. A very good picture that drew better than average business against bad roads and rainy weather. Terms plenty tough but the picture is a prestige builder and while none of them are worth 50 per cent, you can take a flier on this one and maybe do all right. Played Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Stage Door Canteen (UA)—Cheryl Walker, William Terry, Marjorie Riordan, Lon McCallister. We waited a year for this to find it pretty well milked out, but it still had entertainment value. We gave it extra playing time and business was average. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Chew Chew Baby (Univ)—These Universal cartoons are improving and will now stand up with any on the market—"Woody Woodpeckers" are exceptional.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Martha O'Driscoll, Lon Chaney jr. We had a nice business on this feature and it gave the audience the best laughs we have had in months. Played Sun., Mon.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porta, Community, Humansville, Mo. Small town patronage.

Mummy's Ghost (Univ)—Lon Chaney. Here is a wonderful horror show that did fair business. This type of show always does better with us than the mysteries. Universal is always tops when it comes to making horror shows and the public never seems to tire of the characters that they have created. Played Fri., Sat.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

WARNER BROS.

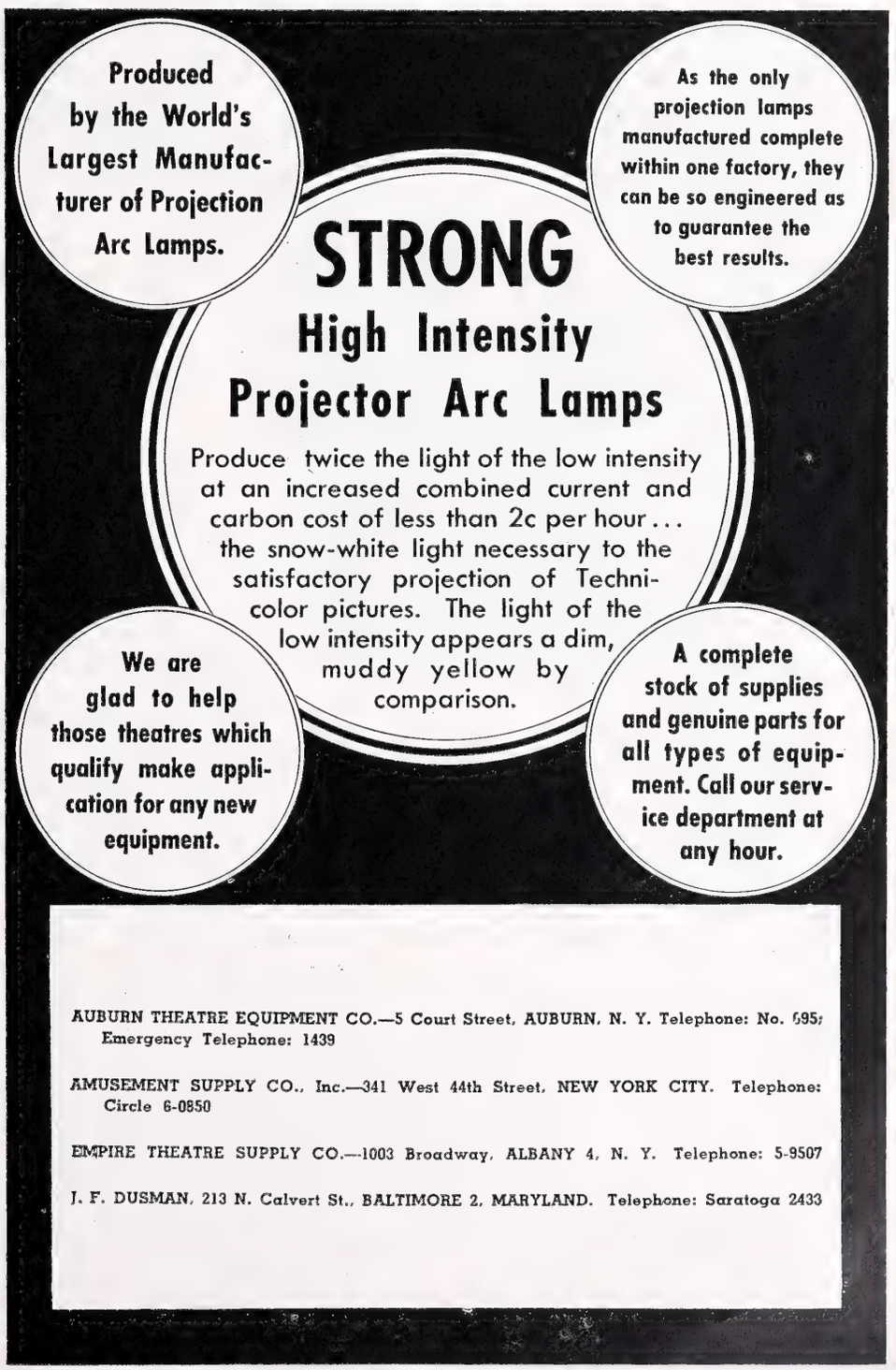
Arsenic and Old Lace (WB)—Cary Grant, Raymond Massey, Priscilla Lane. This drew extra business, but what a clunk. When they saw it was a Capra production, they were looking for big things, but we were all fooled. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Arsenic and Old Lace (WB)—Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane, Raymond Massey, Jack Carson. Not for the sticks. So many people walked out on it that I went home and got drunk.—W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan, Ind. Small town patronage.

Desert Song, The (WB)—Dennis Morgan, Irene Manning, Bruce Cabot. Quite old but did business and pleased.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Destination Tokyo (WB)—Cary Grant, John Garfield. Concentrated suspense that had the audience hanging to their seats and caused the operator to "mess" a changeover on the first showing. The war title gave me the poorest first night business in seven months, but word-of-mouth advertising from satisfied customers brought the second day above average, totaling a normal weekend. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Not too good.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Make Your Own Bed (WB)—Jack Carson, Jane Wyman, Irene Manning. Jack Carson is really funny. Played on cash night to top business and everybody was satisfied.—W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan, Ind. Small town patronage.



The Passing Fad that refuses to pass!



WHEN sound pictures were first made possible by Western Electric, a lot of people thought this new development was just an interesting novelty — too imperfect and too expensive to last. A passing fad.

It took real vision to see what that early sound might one day become.

Vision on the part of scientists who knew how much better sound could and *must* be made.

Vision on the part of producers and exhibitors who realized that sound meant greater realism which was bound to build greater than ever box office.

Continuation of that same brand of vision and incentive will be needed after the war. The scientist and the engineer have learned much in these last few years of accelerated war research. They possess the knowledge and the desire to have sound contribute even more to making the motion picture one of the world's greatest forms of entertainment.

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Killing of Double Tax Will Spur Reciprocity

By POLLY SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—American investments in the British film industry and reciprocal investments by British financiers and motion picture executives in U.S. motion picture films will be accelerated, with the approval by the senate, of the conventions signed between the United States and Great Britain which will tend to eliminate double taxation on income. Irving Perlmeter of the bureau of internal revenue public relations department stated that the American and British investing publics will look with favor upon such international investments now that they are assured of relief from the double taxation problem that has been a burden to many individuals earning incomes in both countries.

An analysis of the statement from the state department reveals that the conventions signed by Edward Stettinius, secretary of state for the U.S., and Lord Halifax, British ambassador, for Great Britain, would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1945, with respect to incomes taxable in both countries. In effect, this would mean that any income tax paid, for example, in monies earned in Great Britain would be a deductible item on taxes paid in the United States. The reverse would apply with respect to income taxes paid in the U.S.

Savings for U.S. Industry

In connection with estate taxes, the international agreement provides that estates of persons dying before April 1 and after Dec. 31, 1944, will benefit from this convention as soon as it is ratified.

Insofar as the motion picture industry is concerned, it was stated here that the lifting of double taxation will result in considerable savings to the industry in the U.S. It also will have a definite effect upon working arrangements for film personalities who, in the past, had turned down extravagant offers from British producers because payment of double taxes meant financial losses to the individuals concerned.

It also is felt here that this agreement may have a definite effect upon the operations of the various international corporations recently set up by American film companies. Just how this would affect the incomes of these corporations still is a matter of study. Meantime, the signing of the agreement with its possible approval by the senate marks the end of many years of intensive effort by members of the state department and tax experts of the treasury department.

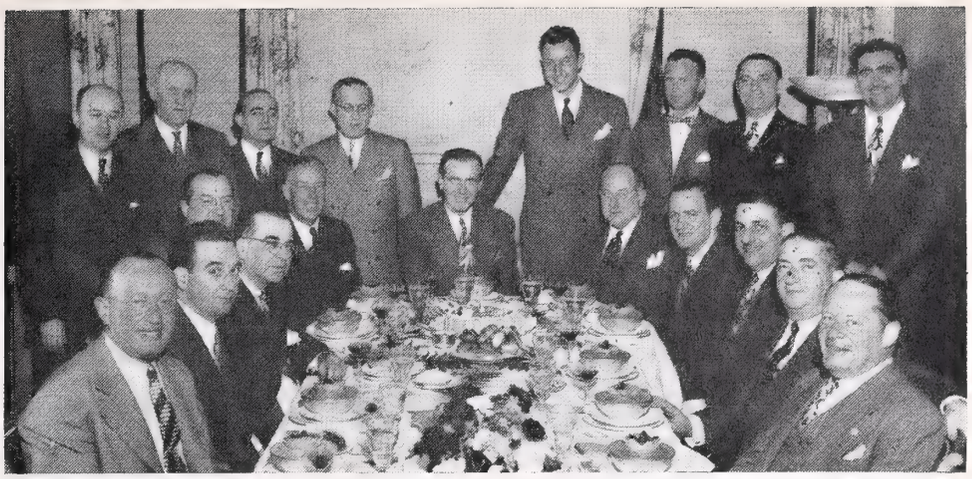
The double taxation agreement is similar to existing conventions with Canada, France and Sweden. The agreement also provides for machinery for an exchange of information with a view to the prevention of fiscal evasion.

Rank Will Build Theatres In Africa, Middle East

LONDON—J. Arthur Rank has completed plans to build theatres in Johannesburg, Capetown, Durban, Cairo, Tel-Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem. The decision was reached following a trip to Africa and the Middle East by John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres.

All British equipment will be used. Construction will not begin until present inflationary costs have returned to prewar level.

Building of show windows for Rank's films will not affect agreement made last May with Spyros Skouras whereby 20th-Fox distributes the Rank product in South Africa and guarantees showings in its franchise theatres.



—Metropolitan Photos

BIRTHDAY FETE—Ray Moon, manager of the New York 20th-Fox exchange, was given a surprise birthday party at Rumplemayer's by members of his staff. It was the start of his third year at the branch. Moon is at the head of the table. Among others present are General Sales Manager W. J. Kupper, Eastern Sales Manager A. W. Smith jr., Clarence Hill and Roger Ferri. Tom Connors delivered a short talk.

New York State Survey Shows Many Theatres Break Child Labor Laws

NEW YORK — State Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi will address a mass meeting of theatre men on May 1 when he will try to explain and clarify the state child labor laws. He has found through a survey made last spring by the state division of women, child labor and minimum wage that four out of every 10 employes in theatres under the age of 18, or 288 of the 735 included in the survey, were illegally employed.

New York laws specify that all children under 18 employed in theatres must have working papers. No child under 14 may be employed. Minors between 14 and 16 may be employed in a theatre no more than six days, or 44 hours a week, or more than eight hours a day and not at all between 6 p. m. and 8 a. m. There are penalties imposed by law in the form of fines and imprisonment for violations.

However, the state survey showed that of the 288 illegally employed minors interviewed, 225 had no working papers, 43 were working illegal hours and 20 were illegally working on both counts. By far the greatest number of violations were in the 16-17 age group with only 61 in the 14-15 year group. Many were putting in long hours, working well into the night, sometimes until 3 a. m., in addition to attending school during the daytime. Quite a number of those in the 14-15 year group had no working papers because they had failed to pass the necessary physical examination.

Several Weak Points in Law

There are several weak points in the child labor law which add to the confusion of theatre men. The working hours of children in the 16-18 age group employed in theatres are not limited. Therefore theatre employes in this group who work overly long hours are not counted as illegal.

Also in the case of children who were found to be working seven days a week there is confusion because in doing this theatre men are breaking no laws. The state day-of-rest law which applies to all employes in factories, mercantile establishments, hotels, restaurants and certain other places affects only projectionists, engineers and foremen in places where motion pictures are shown.

Many employers aware of these facts have believed that they were exempt from any child labor regulation. In addition to working long hours the survey disclosed that a good many children were being employed at wages far below the minimum wage levels. Two 17-year-old boys at a small Brooklyn theatre were close to the low point in hourly wages. When their weekly earnings of $15 and $17.50 were divided by 77 and 84 hours, respectively, their hourly rates came to 19 and 20 cents. The average weekly earnings were $9.68.

Corsi says that, in spite of so many violations, he found theatre men perfectly willing to give their fullest cooperation in obeying the laws. The great problem is not ignorance or willful avoidance, but a general lack of understanding of the meaning and scope of the state child labor laws.

Governor Dewey Signs Coudert Bill; Curtails Employment of Juveniles

ALBANY—Employment of school-enrolled children 14 to 17 years of age in motion picture houses and other types of establishments will be sharply curtailed after January 1 as the result of Governor Dewey's signing the Coudert bill.

This act, vigorously supported by the state labor department and an impressive group of organizations, limits the number of daily and weekly hours a youngster can work while attending school. For the 14-15 class, the limit is three hours a day and 23 hours a week. Boys and girls in this group may not work later than 6 p. m. in theatres under a long-existent law.

Youths in the 16-17 bracket may not work more than four hours daily, or more than 28 hours a week, and all must be when school is not in session. Their work week, as with the 14-15 class, is limited to six days. At present the 16-17 age group may work 48 hours a week; the 14-15, 44.

In the older age limit, the present law places no limitation upon night hours for theatre employment.

The greatest effect of the Coudert act on employment as ushers, candy sellers, etc., will be in the 16-17 division. When school is not in session, under terms of the new law, the older children can work eight hours a day.

BROADWAY

W C. Gehring, 20th-Fox western sales manager, left on a tour of the company's exchanges under his supervision in Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines, Minneapolis, Omaha, Denver and Salt Lake City. He is expected back about the middle of May.

Beno Slesin, district manager for Warners in eastern and southern Europe before the war, left for Paris to establish his future headquarters as assistant to Joseph S. Hummel, vice-president of Warner International Corp. in charge of continental Europe and adjacent territory.

Max Westebbe, RKO Radio exchange manager in Albany, arrived to confer with Robert Mochrie, sales manager.

Gordon Knox, executive director of the Princeton Film Center, Princeton, N. J., is on the coast in connection with the Center's production of several special-purpose films in Hollywood. While in Los Angeles, Knox will arrange for the expansion of the west coast production and distribution facilities and will line up additional production personnel.

John J. Fitzgibbons, head of the film industry's war activities in Canada and chairman of the Canadian Eighth Victory Loan, visited Seventh War Loan headquarters to confer with Sam Pinanski.

J. Harry Toler, editor of the Modern Theatre Section of BOXOFFICE, arrived from his Chicago headquarters to confer with A. J. Stocker, eastern advertising manager.

Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, British producers of UA's "Colonel Blimp," returned from the coast to begin a talent hunt for the typical American girl for their next film, "A Matter of Life and Death."

John Krimski, advertising executive and former film and stage producer, has returned from his overseas assignment with SHAEF's Psychological Warfare Division, and has joined Buchanan & Co. as account executive.

The screen and stage star, Margaret Sullavan, and her husband, Leland Hayward, arrived from Hollywood for a week's stay at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Jules Fields, Sid Blumenstock and Chester Feitel, of 20th-Fox publicity and exploitation departments, and Christy Walsh, syndicate executive, have returned from Chicago, following a week of conferences on "Diamond Horseshoe" and "A Royal Scandal."

Gene Kelly, M-G-M star now in the service, proudly wearing his navy blues, caused a flurry at the home office when he visited Herb Crooker, publicity manager.

Harriet Parsons, producer of RKO Radio's "The Enchanted Cottage," arrived from the coast to attend the premiere at the Astor Theatre. The picture marks Miss Parsons' debut as producer for the company. She formerly produced Screen Snapshots for Columbia.

Harry M. Botwick, manager of the M&P State Theatre, Portland, Me., arrived for a two-day visit.

E. Z. Walters, comptroller of Altec Service Corp., left on a business trip to the company's west coast general offices in Hollywood . . . Marion Ryan, Buffalo office manager for M-G-M, arrived preliminary to starting on a tour of a number of southern exchanges.

Pfc. Stanley Schleier, son of Herman Schleier, was wounded in the European theatre of operations and is now recuperating at Camp Kilmer, N. J. . . . H. M. Bessey, Altec vice-president, arrived at the west coast offices after his stops at Dallas and New Orleans.

Harry Michalson, RKO Radio short subject sales manager, has planned a tour of several of the company's branches, including Pittsburgh, Washington and Philadelphia.

Don Hartman, former associate producer for Sam Goldwyn, arrived from Hollywood . . . Al Boasberg, RKO Radio metropolitan district manager, is the father of a son, Peter David.



—Metropolitan Photos

'TWAS A SURPRISE—Paramount executives gave a surprise luncheon at the Hotel Astor in honor of G. B. J. Frawley's 25th anniversary with the company. Front row (l-r)—Oscar Morgan, sales manager for short subjects; Frawley, sales department executive; Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales; rear—Robert A. Gillham, director of publicity and advertising; C. J. Scollard, executive assistant to Reagan; James J. Donohue, central division sales manager; George A. Smith, western division sales manager; Hugh Owen, New York and southern division sales manager, and Claude Lee, director of public relations.



NEW UNIVERSAL EDITOR—Thomas Mead, who has been named editor-in-chief of the Universal reel by N. J. Blumberg, president. He has been with company since 1932, and succeeds the late Joseph O'Brien, with whom he shared editorship for seven years.

Para't to Hold Sales Confabs on Shorts

NEW YORK—Oscar Morgan, sales manager for Paramount shorts and News, will open the new 1945-46 season in a series of ten regional conferences with district and branch managers from coast to coast.

The first meeting will be held in New York April 30. Other sessions are slated for Boston, May 2-3; Philadelphia, May 4-5; Atlanta, May 7-8; Dallas, May 10-11; Los Angeles, May 13-19; Denver, May 21-22; Kansas City, May 23-24; Chicago, May 25-26, and Cleveland, May 27-28.

While on the coast, Morgan will confer with Henry Ginsberg and Y. Frank Freeman, studio heads, and George Templeton, newly appointed producer of the Musical Parade Featurettes. He will also talk with Jerry Fairbanks and George Pal on their respective product.

Morgan declared the lineup for 1945-46 product is essentially the same as last year, with a few changes. Instead of six George Pal Puppetoons, there will be eight. There will be six Musical Parade Featurettes, 20 Technicolor cartoons, including eight Popeyes, six Little Lulus and six Noveltoons. Jerry Fairbanks will contribute six Speaking of Animals, six Popular Science and six Unusual Occupations. Jack Eaton will produce ten Grantland Rice Sportlights. This is a total of 62 subjects, embodying nine different series.

Paramount News, edited by A. J. Richard, will continue to release two issues weekly for the total of 104 issues for the year.



"Horn" and "Sudan" Score on Broadway

NEW YORK—Recovering from the reaction to President Roosevelt's death, first run grosses took an upward surge.

Warners' "The Horn Blows at Midnight" and Universal's "Sudan" at the Strand and Criterion, respectively, finished their first weeks in a breeze. M-G-M's "Without Love" was in the van at the Music Hall among the older tenants.

Four RKO films opened during the week at the following theatres: "Enchanted Cottage," Astor; "Tarzan and the Amazons," Globe; "Betrayal From the East," Palace, and "Zombies on Broadway," Rialto. Twentieth-Fox's "A Royal Scandal" began its third and final week at the Roxy.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Princess and the Pirate** (RKO), 11th wk. 85
Capitol—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 140
Criterion—**Sudan** (Univ) 185
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 4th wk. 145
Palace—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), 2nd wk. 115
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), plus stage show, 4th wk. 125
Radio City Music Hall—**Without Love** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 5th wk. 145
Rialto—**Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 75
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 4th wk. 115
Roxy—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 125
Strand—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB), plus stage show 195
Victoria—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 6th wk. 85

"Counter Attack" Premiere at Top, With "Horn" Also Up in Buffalo

BUFFALO—"Counter Attack," in its world premiere at the Lafayette, recorded nearly twice average. Theatregoers seemed pleased with the return of Paul Muni to a local screen. "The Horn Blows at Midnight" proved the popularity of Jack Benny as an actor when the Warner film recorded one and a half times average at the Twentieth Century. "National Velvet" was good at the Great Lakes, while "Hangover Square" and "Objective, Burma!" were off at the Buffalo and Hippodrome, respectively. The weather has turned cold again after some record-breaking hot spells for early April.

Buffalo—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **The Town Went Wild** (PRC) 82
Great Lakes—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 149
Hippodrome—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover 92
Twentieth Century—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 165
Lafayette—**Counter Attack** (Col); **She's a Sweetheart** (Col) 187

"Bring On the Girls" Turns in Best Business at Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA—Business in the downtown deluxers was on the upgrade here last week despite the number of holdovers. The best business of the week was turned in by the Stanley with only major opening in "Bring On the Girls." "The Song of Bernadette" making a return engagement at the Fox is not doing so well.

Aldine—**Song to Remember** (Col), 4th wk. 165
Arcadia—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd run 175
Boyd—**Tomorrow the World** (UA), 2nd wk. 145
Earle—**Earl Carroll's Vanities** (Rep), with Chico Marx and Milt Britton on stage 140
Fox—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) 140
Karlton—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO), 2nd run 170
Keith's—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M), 2nd run 110
Mastbaum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd wk. 145
Stanley—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 190
Stanton—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), 2nd wk. 165

ACE REEL END ALARM

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630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

Frederic Ullman jr., president of RKO-Pathe News, producer of This Is America and president of RKO Television Corp., sometimes thinks that his film career was destined from the cradle.



FREDERIC ULLMAN Jr.

Just before he was born in Buffalo on Easter Sunday, 1903, a prominent attorney who happened to be his father acquired stock in several nickelodeons. This was in lieu of a fee from a group of exhibitors. At first it did not seem to be very valuable, but later it gave a considerable boost to the family fortunes.

These theatres, as a matter of fact, were to be partly responsible for young Ullman's popularity in high school. Frederic would grab a handful of passes and hand them out generously to his fellow students. Another reason for his popularity was that he edited the school newspaper and literary magazine. For the latter he wrote articles on the virtue of hard work.

He Wrote of Love in the West

One of his 'teen-age literary efforts was a love story of the west. Of this he jocularly remarks: "The less said about it, the better." Young Ullman found time, also, to manage the high school swimming team. But all these extra-curricular activities did not prevent him from graduating at 15, a rare feat, indeed!

He wanted to go to Yale; his father wanted him to try Cornell. By way of compromise, Ullman started at Colgate and wound up at Yale, graduating in 1925.

Just as his father was intent upon his going to Cornell just so did he want junior to enter the real estate business. A dutiful son, Frederic said he would try.

Dad deeded him ten acres of land outside of Buffalo saying: "The land is yours, son. Why don't you start a real estate development on it?" Frederic tried to make a go of it, but customers in those days were not buying the ornate Colonial houses which it pleased him to build.

His next venture was as general manager and film buyer for an independent circuit. He quit to build his own theatres in Youngstown, Syracuse and Buffalo. For a while these operations were profitable, but the advent of sound made deep inroads into his business. When a large circuit made an offer for his holdings he accepted.

Looks for Job in Production

After opening the first art theatre outside of New York and expanding his theatre holdings a bit too fast Ullman, still in his twenties, decided to bid farewell to exhibition. He then came to New York to look for a job in production.

Having known Lee Marcus, Pathe News executive in Buffalo, Ullman went to see him first. Marcus sent him to Courtland Smith, his superior. The latter, after observing Ullman's youth and lack of production experience, but impressed withal said: "Suppose we start you at $25 a week?"

"Nothing doing!" countered Ullman. "Don't put me on the pay roll at all," he explained to the astonished Smith. "I'll work for nothing for one month and then you can tell me how much I'm worth." During his apprenticeship Ullman played nursemaid for a time to a chimpanzee. He survived this and other menial assignments. Eventually he won out, getting four times his first offer or $100 a week.

Ullman scooped the world on the Lindbergh kidnaping. A friend of the flier, Ullman knew that Lindbergh had taken some 16mm films of the missing baby. Rushing to Hopewell he gained admittance to the Lindbergh estate. He emerged with a roll of the priceless film by persuading the family that showing them would aid in tracing the kidnapers.

The scoop meant much to Pathe. The company showed its gratitude by permitting Ullman to make commercial films. Starting without an office, secretary or appropriation, Ullman's department was soon making more money than the Pathe Newsreel was losing at that time.

It Has Thrived Ever Since

Later Ullman asked for and received a six-month leave of absence to embark on a project which had been close to his heart for a long time. His plan was to make a full-length documentary feature presenting a contemporary history of the U.S. Although Gilbert Seldes wrote the commentary and Hugo Riesenfeld the music, the picture did not meet with success. (In later years, however, this early dream came to fruition in the eminently successful This Is America series).

His life's savings gone and having a wife and family to support, Ullman returned to Pathe, resuming where he left off. Pretty soon he was asked a momentous question by the RKO president: "Can you make money with Pathe News?"

Ullman replied with a counter offer: "I would like to buy the company. What is your price?" RKO refused to sell but invited him to run the company. He accepted and during the first year of his tenure, Pathe showed a substantial profit. Like a healthy baby it's been thriving ever since.

RINZLER'S NEWEST GAG: Sam Rinzler is telling fellow exhibitors his latest jest about a theatre cashier who told her boss: "I want a holiday. I'm beginning to look terrible.

"Nonsense," quipped the exhibitor. "No, it isn't nonsense," retorted the cashier. "I'm sure because the male customers are beginning to count their change!" was the crusher.

The late Harry H. Buxbaum, veteran industry branch manager whose last post was metropolitan district manager for 20th-Fox in New York, was one of the most popular film men in this territory. He had a host of friends who were grieved to learn of his passing. His many kindnesses, say those who knew him best, reached into every strata of the industry.

E. C. Grainger, president of the Shea circuit, caught a 51-pound tarpon during his recent sojourn in Boca Grande, Fla. . . . Leon Bamberger, RKO promotion manager, postcards from Florida that he is enjoying a complete and much-needed rest.

The Colony, Rockaway Point, operated by Joseph De Meo, is opening for the summer season Decoration Day . . . Sam Steifel of the booking office that bears his name is convalescing from a broken hip and arm he sustained recently in a fall down a flight of stairs. He is temporarily working in his suite at the Hotel Lincoln.

This "Showmen's Seventh" Is Expected to Be the Last Bond Drive Before VE-Day. Let's Make It the Best to Date.

Newsreels Covering Frisco in Big Way

SAN FRANCISCO—For the first time since the start of the war the five newsreels are covering a major event—the United Nations Conference—without the usual pooling arrangements.

While each of the newsreels is privileged to use any portion of the material gathered by the other companies, each is working independently, though cooperatively.

All of the companies are using augmented camera crews, which compares favorably with the coverage of a "big story" such as a presidential inauguration or perhaps the death of a president in office. In addition to the resident cameramen and sound men representing each of the newsreel companies on the west coast, the companies assigned their Washington representatives and camera crews from other parts of the country.

Theatre men will receive the material photographed at the conference in their regular releases. Rpresentatives of the various newsreel companies said that as far as they know at this time there will be no special reels. This arrangement, of course, is subject to change. There is a possibility that a special reel devoted to the confab may be issued after its close.

First negatives of the opening sessions of the parley on Wednesday were flown east to the headquarters of the newsreel companies for Thursday makeup. It was expected that these shots would be shown in first run houses immediately.

The state department is understood to have been instrumental in securing high priority ratings for the newsreel negatives permitting their transmission by air from San Francisco to the east. This priority rating, however, does not cover shipment of the newsreels to the nation's theatres once they are made up.

Movietone News probably had the largest contingent of camera crews and supervisory personnel of all five companies. Five camera crews are working under the supervision of Anthony Muto, Washington representative, and Al Brick, west coast supervisor. Cameramen assigned include Charles E. Lehmann, Irby Koverman, Eric Mayell, Chalmer Sinkey, Leroy Orr, Fernando Delgado and Eduardo Fernandez. Soundmen are Paul Heise and Jim Foreman.

News of the Day sent a camera crew from the east, consisting of Charles Mack, their Washington man, and George Jordan, soundman. This crew augmented the camera crews summoned from various west coast cities. All were under the supervision of Joe Hubbell, News of the Day west coast manager.

Paramount, Pathe and Universal assigned their west coast men to the conference and had additional coverage by sending other camera men into San Francisco.

Newsreel spokesmen said plans for an all-industry reel describing the work of the parley were being discussed, although they weren't in possession of details at this time.

Leon Herman Appointed FC Manager at Buffalo

BUFFALO—Leon Herman, former United Artists salesman, has been appointed manager of Film Classics here.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



BUSY ON A BIG JOB—Sam Shain, above, assistant to Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox is devoting much of his time these days to the Seventh War Loan campaign, in his capacity of intra-industry chairman of the public relations committee of the industry, a group headed by John Hertz jr.

Cinema Lodge Benefit For Wounded Soldiers

NEW YORK—An all-star benefit show, "B'nai B'rith Will Not Forget," will be staged at Carnegie Hall, May 24, under the auspices of Cinema Lodge. Objective is to raise $35,000 to finance the construction of 75 hospital solaria at the U.S. army convalescent hospital, Camp Upton, L. I.

S. Arthur Glixon, director of B'nai B'rith's war service, said that in addition to building the solaria the organization would serve thousands of wounded men who pass through the hospital.

Screen, stage, radio and night club stars will entertain. The Paramount, Strand and Capitol stage shows will also be presented.

Harry Brandt is general chairman. Alan Corelli, executive chairman of the theatre authority, is entertainment chairman. Assisting him are Robert M. Weitman, Robert K. Shapiro, Zeb Epstin, Jessie Kaye, George Brandt and Martin Levine. Glixon is ticket chairman; Milton Livingston, publicity chairman.

Janet Wood Now Columbia Eastern Scenario Editor

NEW YORK—Janet Wood has been appointed eastern story editor of Columbia, succeeding Eve Ettinger. Miss Ettinger remains with the company and her new duties will be announced shortly.

Miss Wood has been assistant to Olin Clark, M-G-M story head for several years, prior to which she was associated with the story department of Universal.

Lifting U.S.-France Visa Ban Aids Trade

WASHINGTON—The United States and France have entered into an agreement whereby citizens of both countries will be granted visas immediately upon application if they can show proof that their intentions for visits to either country are based upon a desire to resume economic relations disrupted by the war.

Lifting the ban on visas will mark increased activity on the part of American motion picture executives in setting up and renewing business associations that were suspended by the war.

Despite the fact that both governments had approved travel between the countries since Nov. 10, 1944, American citizens frequently encountered considerable delay in obtaining visas from French diplomatic or consular representatives in the United States, due to the necessity in most cases of referring applications for visas to the French authorities in Paris.

Travel Will Be Increased

The simplification of the visa problem will result in a consequent increase in travel between the two nations and a further resumption of business activity. The agreement between the U.S. and France will remain in effect in both countries until its denunciation by one or the other.

Under the terms of the agreement, American citizens who could establish that their presence in France would contribute directly or indirectly to the war effort; who would serve the national interests of the U.S. and/or France by the resumption of economic or other activities disrupted by the war; or materially aid France in meeting its essential requirements for civilian consumption and reconstruction, would be permitted visas.

In such cases, persons with regular passports could obtain letters issued by the state department assuring the holder of his conformance to the provisions laid down in the agreement.

White Collar Exchange Workers Pay Is Hiked

PHILADELPHIA—The Regional War Labor Board has authorized a new system of job classifications, with minimum and maximum wage scales with increases retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943, affecting over 300 office workers in 24 film exchanges in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington.

The ruling authorizes new job ranges and general increase of $1.80 per week for office workers in exchanges in the Philadelphia and Washington areas, and $2 per week for workers in the Pittsburgh area. Also authorized are granting of certain correctional increases based on new ranges, but such raises cannot be determined until pay rolls of each of companies concerned can be compared with the new ranges.

Have You Signed Your Pledge Card? Be Sure to Send it in.

Newsreels Play Up Atrocities

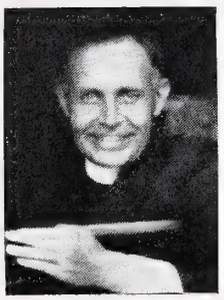
New York—All five of next Tuesday's newsreels except Movietone are exceeding their weekly stock quota to play up the German atrocities. Paramount's 1,100-reel limits the San Francisco parley and Truman broadcast to 140 feet, devoting the remainder to the horrors of the prison camps.

News of the Day's 800 feet gives the Nazi expose 520 feet and 280 feet to the conference. Pathe's 825 is divided 606 and 219, with atrocity footage uppermost. Universal's 814 gives the conference 202 and the remainder to the camps. Movietone's 690 allots 498 to the atrocities. This is the first time in newsreel history that so much footage has been given to horror subjects.

THE EASTERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



A successful mother-and-daughter business combination is that of **Mrs. George M. Schwartz** and her daughter, **Muriel,** who live just outside Dover, Del. Together they operate the Capitol and Temple theatres in Dover, the Roxy and Strand in Smyrna, and the Everett in Middletown, Del. Mrs. Schwartz aided her husband in the management of the theatres until his death several years ago at which time she took over complete control. She is a member of MPTO of Delaware. Both Schwartzes are active in war activities such as bond drives, etc.



The **Rev. Fr. Stanley C. Musuras,** New Philadelphia, Pa., entered the motion picture industry in the silent picture days. In addition to the demanding duties of a clergyman, he finds time to run the Sacred Heart Auditorium which seats 500. A student of engineering fundamentals in Russia, he attended St. Vincent's College, Latrobe; St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1919 in the Philadelphia archdiocese. Last summer he celebrated his silver jubilee as a priest. He enjoys music and is a capable musician.



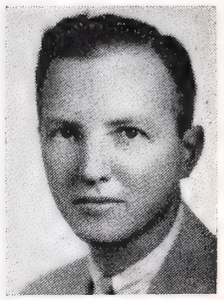
A glassblower by trade, **A. W. Hill,** Woodbury, N. J., opened his first theatre in 1907. Today he operates the modern 950-seat Hill Theatre, Paulsboro, N. J. In the interim, in addition to managing a half-dozen houses, he has engaged in such sidelines as trucking, glassblowing, bus lines, refrigeration and oil burners, dairy farming, and a 48-unit apartment house. He is a director of the First National Bank of Woodbury, past-president of the Paulsboro Chamber of Commerce, and president of the Gloucester County Title Co. He is a Rotarian.



Samuel Varbalow of Camden felt his community needed another theatre so in answer to this need he built his first house. Today he manages the Varbalow Circuit, which includes the Savar Theatre. He is a member of the Variety Club of Philadelphia. Although he does not hold any public office at present he has in the past held several positions of public trust. He is a member of the Masons. His time is devoted entirely to the management of his theatres and to his home. A daughter is married to an army captain.



Robert Levine of the Colony and State theatres, Portsmouth, Va., and the Elton, Plaza, Rosele and Rosna theatres in Norfolk, began his motion picture career in 1921. He started as an usher, did his own bill posting, and ticket selling and when the porter didn't show up he did the cleaning, too. He has been serving with the marine corps for more than two years. He is a member of MPTO of Virginia. "Bobbie," as his friends call him, is not married but adds he has been trying to marry for the last ten years. He is eager to return to the industry.



J. Ellison Loth of Waynesboro, Va., has been a showman since 1926. In that year he became a partner in the firm of Patterson & Loth which operates the Wayne and Cavalier theatres. He has been active in the war activities of his community, having served both as vice-chairman of the Red Cross war fund last year and as a member of the local rationing board. Loth is one of the directors of MPTO of Virginia. He is married and has two young sons, Ellison, age four, and Calder, one year old.



Henry "Heinie" Scholz, treasurer of National Theatre Corp., has been selling entertainment most of his life. At the time of his father's death in 1924 he owned a cigar company and gave up that career to enter the exhibition field in Roanoke, Va. From the American Theatre Bldg. his firm runs the American, Park, Rialto and Roanoke there. He is married and the father of a son, Henry jr., who is a pilot with Pan-American Airways in Brazil. Scholz's hobbies are fishing and stamp collecting and he is a member of the Roanoke country club.



Probably a large measure of the success which has been attained by **Philip Kalikman,** owner of the King Theatre, in Gloucester, N. J., during his 22-year career as a showman may be ascribed to the single mindedness with which he has devoted himself to the careful running of his theatre business. Kalikman, whose many friends refer to him as "Phil," is a member of Rotary and thus contributes his share to the business and civic life of Gloucester. Kalikman is married and has a son who is a lieutenant in the navy and has been overseas two years.



After about 35 years in the motion picture game, **James Powell** is not quite sure whether he started in the last days of 1910 or the first part of 1911. At any rate he and his son, Robert W. B., now a lieutenant in the coast guard, own the Powells Theatre at Chincoteague Island, Va. Powell is a member of the town council, the Accomak Lodge of the Masons, Royal Arch, Malta, and the Eastern Shore Shriners. He is fond of fishing and hunting, sports for which Virginia is famous. Powell is looking forward to the day when Robert can join him again.



Peter Sidari, owner since 1917 of the Palace Theatre in McAdoo, Pa., started in show business in 1914. In that year he built the Savoy Theatre in Hazelton, Pa. Although he has since disposed of the Hazelton house, he still resides in that community and owns much real estate there. The Sidari family includes four daughters and a son. One of his daughters is a school teacher in Altoona, another is a dietician. Sidari is a member of Columbus and Lions clubs, Sons of Italy and MPTOA. When business affairs are not too pressing, he likes to fish.



Showman **Hunter Perry,** president of Dominion Theatres, Inc., has been in the motion picture business well over 20 years. His company, Dominion Theatres, Inc., with its home offices at 603 E. Jefferson St., Charlottesville, operates a circuit of 15 houses in cities scattered over the entire state of Virginia. Perry is interested in civic affairs. The greater part of his time is devoted to his business activities; however, he recently has been appointed by the WAC Seventh War Loan committee to serve as the Exhibitor Chairman for the state of Virginia.



William C. Smalley of Cooperstown, N. Y., entered the motion picture industry in 1912 at the Danbury Opera House in Danbury. Motion pictures were his first and only business interest. In 1914 at Mt. Upton he acquired his first theatre and has developed his business interests until today he manages a circuit of theatres. He is a member of National Allied and various local civic organizations; is active in bond sales and other war activities. He belongs to Rotary, Masons and Elks. Smalley likes to play golf and "keep film men up all night."

700 New York Theatres Make Elaborate Plans

NEW YORK—Prime objective of some 700 metropolitan theatres in the "Showmen's Seventh" is to surpass the Sixth's record of 439,532 E bond sales. Breaking this mark should be comparatively easy since the New York area has been augmented by the addition of Long Island and Westchester. Total seating capacity of all theatres in the New York area taking part in the Seventh is 750,000.

Every week during the course of the drive 11 million patrons who frequent these theatres will observe the displayed slogan: For Total Victory—Buy Your Bonds at This Theatre.

Iwo Jima Statue a Feature

The Iwo Jima Statue and Victory Arch, both in Times Square, will comprise the major displays of the New York committee. The statue will be about 60 feet high and will be erected 40 feet north of the present Statue of Liberty reproduction. It will be an exact replica of Joe Rosenthal's famous photograph of the marines raising the American flag under a hail of bullets on Mt. Suribachi.

The Victory Arch will extend from the east side of Broadway in front of the Schrafft Bldg., at 43rd St., to the Statue of Liberty and thence across the thoroughfare to the Paramount Bldg.

A postcard reproduction of the Iwo Jima flag-raising photograph will be available to all theatres. Distribution of these cards, it is felt, will stimulate the sale of bonds.

While the Iwo Jima Statue and Victory Arch located at the crossroads of the world will symbolize the Seventh, they are not the only methods to be used to create interest. Each borough and county will have its own campaign.

"An event a day for the duration of the drive" is the goal set by the executive committee. Complete accessories will be in the hands of exhibitors before the drives' opening.

Overlooking no possible angle, the committee has made arrangements through the speakers' bureau of the war finance committee to furnish speakers for special bond rallies. Various women's organizations, such as the CDVO and AWVS, will supply volunteers to staff bond booths.

Morris Kinzler, campaign director, has prepared a memorandum containing 75 tried-and-true selling hints for managers. Helpful suggestions for special events and stimulating bond sales are explained in workaday language that theatre men can understand.

Theatre men have been asked to set up special bond-selling days in observance of various holidays such as: Mothers' Day, May 13; Decoration Day, May 30; Major Glenn Miller Day, June 5; D-Day, June 6 (also designated 'Free Movie Day'); Flag Day, June 14; Fathers' Day, June 17, and Independence Day, July 4.

Statue Events Open to All

General Chairman Irving Lesser has issued an invitation to any of the 700 theatres taking part in the forthcoming drive to man the bond booth at the Times Square Statue of Liberty. All bonds sold on the day the booth is manned by a particular theatre will be credited to it.

Theatres, other than Broadway houses, that wish to handle bond sales at the statue are invited to communicate with Monty Salmon at the Rivoli Theatre.

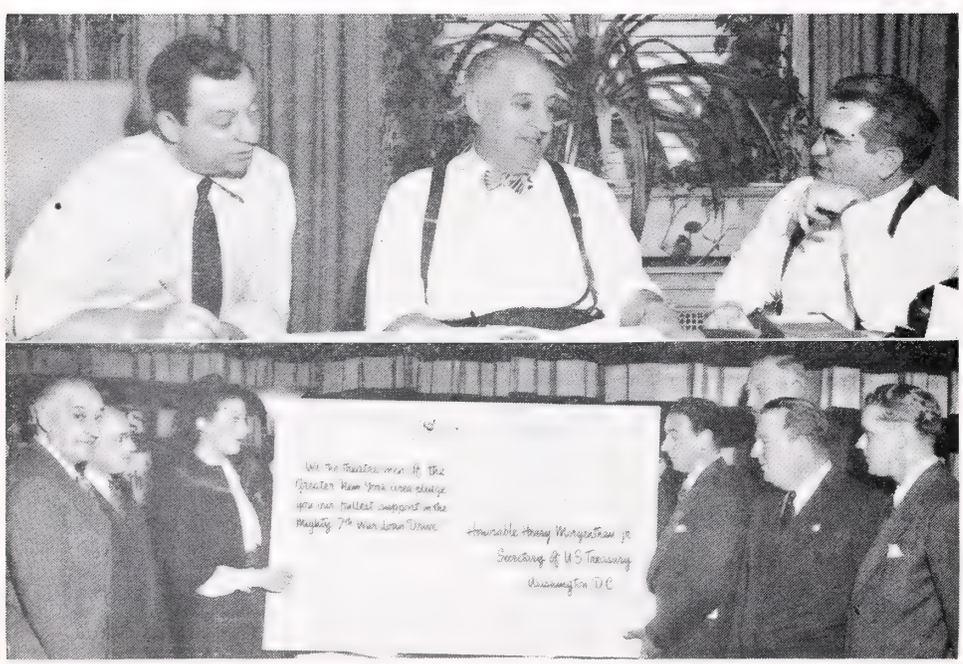
A giant pledge card has been signed by campaign executives and mailed to Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau jr. Those who signed it include Samuel Rinzler, William A. White, Irving Lesser, Morris Kinzler, Joel Swensen, Monty Salmon, Henry Randel, Mike Rosen, Major L. E. Thompson, Edward Rugoff, George Ritch, Eugene Meyers, Miss Helen Beckerman, Fred Brunelle, Louis Goldberg, Russell Emde, John Endres, Walter Higgins, Harry Royster, Mrs. Bess Fisher, Fred Lichtman, Robert Case and Max Cohen.

Once a week different foreign-language groups will stage big rallies at the Times Square statues. Name personalities will address the groups who will be garbed in their native costumes. George Generalis, foreign language newspaper representative at 20th-Fox, is directing this program.

Twenty-six experienced publicity men and women are engaged in ballyhooing the Seventh—the largest staff ever assembled for a New York drive. Jules Fields, public relations chairman, says: "The publicity men will do everything possible to help individual theatre men."

Lesser, however, sounded the keynote when he said: "The men on the firing line in the theatres are the main cogs in our machinery. We want every manager to know that he is as much a part of the New York committee as the men listed on the executive committee. It is these willing and efficient workers in the field who will sell the record number of E bonds that the treasury department expects us to sell."

Campaign Chairman Kinzler says that the executive committee wants to be of utmost service to the men in the field adding: "We want the theatre men to call on us for any help they need. We will see that they get it."



READY TO GO—New Yorkers have lined up complete details of their Seventh War Loan campaign. Here are three of the men who did it—(l-r) Morris Kinzler, campaign director; Irving Lesser, general chairman, and Jules Fields, public relations chairman. Below—Giant postcard sent to Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau. Those who signed it were: (l-r) Irving Lesser, Fred Litchtman, Helen Beckerman, Michael Nicholas, Russell Emde, George Ritch and John Endres.

Morgenthau and Stilwell To Open Drive at Buffalo

BUFFALO—Plans for the national opening of the Seventh War Loan here May 14 are rapidly taking shape. Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau jr. and Gen. Joseph W. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell will arrive the opening day morning. Milton A. Milman of treasury department's press, radio and advertising division, announced while here to arrange for their visit. Opening ceremonies will be held on the evening of the 14th.

A veterans' exhibition will be held at Civic Stadium on opening day. Chairman Daniel W. Streeter of the Erie County WFC revealed that the committee is attempting to bring Fred Allen here for the national network broadcast which will originate at Hotel Statler.

All the radio, stage and screen stars coming here have not been named, but Streeter said Danny Kaye will be master of ceremonies and Guy Lombardo and his orchestra will be on hand. The committee hoped to present one of the two survivors of the marines who placed the flag atop Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima and also is negotiating to bring Champion Joe Louis here.

Murphy Is Named Eastern Publicist for Goldwyn

NEW YORK—Eugene Murphy, former studio executive for Universal and Columbia and more recently publicity director of Bing Crosby Productions, has been appointed eastern publicity and advertising manager for Samuel Goldwyn. He succeeds Leo Katcher, resigned.

Murphy is a former publicity representative for Loew's State and was associated with Loew's for five years until he left for the coast in 1940.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

Foreign Groups Will Participate in Seventh

NEW YORK—All of the foreign language groups in the New York area, representative of the United Nations, will participate in a series of rallies during the Seventh War Loan. More than a million persons are in those groups.

The events will take place in Times Square in front of the Statue of Liberty, and will be sponsored by WAC. The programs will be dedicated to a different nationality each afternoon and evening. In addition to folk dances and authentic music of the countries involved, the programs will also feature personal appearances of film and radio stars of each nationality.

The New York area Seventh War Loan committee, headed by Irving Lesser, chairman, and Morris Kinzler, campaign director, is making arrangements for the attendance of diplomatic representatives as well as United Nations war heroes.

More than 100 representatives of the foreign language press of the United Nations attended an organization meeting at the Hotel St. Moritz recently to enlist the various foreign groups and set the date for each individual program during the drive in May and June. Full cooperation was pledged. Chairman of foreign language activities is George A. Generalis.

Plans Set to Dub Five RKO Films in Spanish

NEW YORK—RKO Radio has begun to dub several of its films into Spanish. First one is "Experiment Perilous," to be shown in Latin America with the title "Noche En El Alma." A special campaign has been prepared, including a complete two-color press book.

Other films to be dubbed include International's "It's a Pleasure" and "Belle of the Yukon"; Sam Goldwyn's "Princess and the Pirate" and Sol Lesser's "Tarzan and the Amazons."

To Reopen Folks Theatre As East Side Film House

NEW YORK—The Folks Theatre, 181 Second Ave., has been leased to Maxwell Wallach and David Frankel, operators of the Orpheum and St. Marks nearby, who will convert it into a motion picture house. The theatre seats 1,200 and is adjacent to Stuyvesant Town, the proposed postwar development. As soon as conditions permit the theatre will be completely renovated and its name changed to the Stuyvesant Theatre. Berk & Krumgold were the brokers.

Subways Elect "Cottage" Month's "Go See" Film

NEW YORK—"The Enchanted Cottage" has been selected as the "Go See" picture of the month by the New York subways whose car card campaign embraces more than 3,500 cars. Two cards appear in each of approximately half of the cars operated by Interborough Rapid Transit, the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit, Independent lines and affiliated elevator services.

The cards will be displayed for one month.

Three From M-G-M in May

NEW YORK—M-G-M will release three films in May. "Without Love" will be released the first week, "Gentle Annie" the third and "The Clock" the fourth. "National Velvet," which is being sold as a special, is an April release.



READY FOR BROWNOUT—Danny Kaye gets into town with a lantern after completing "Wonder Man" for Samuel Goldwyn's RKO release. Sylvia Fine, his wife, is with him.

First 7th Loan Trailer In Work at M-G-M Lot

HOLLYWOOD—"Straight Talk," starring Lieut. Comdr. Robert Montgomery, USNR, went before the cameras at the M-G-M studios as one of the three trailers for the Seventh War Loan. Jerry Bressler is the producer, under the auspices of the Hollywood division of WAC. John C. Flinn is serving as coordinator of the trailer program.

"Straight Talk" is a man-to-man discussion with the theatre audience of the reasons for the Seventh War Loan and why more money is urgently needed. The second trailer, "Mr. and Mrs. America Speak," narrated by Edward Arnold, is reported by Warners to be in the process of shipping. Scripts for the trailers were written by Harold Mager and Tom Baily.

Silvers Won't Honeymoon At "Diamond Horseshoe"

NEW YORK—Comedian Phil Silvers of "Diamond Horseshoe" and his actress-bride, Jo-Carroll Dennison, arrived from Hollywood to spend a belated honeymoon. The couple was married several weeks ago but the actor's picture assignments necessitated his presence at the studios until now.

Silvers indicated honeymoon plans did not include attending more than one showing of his picture.

Joseph Wathey Dies

NEW YORK—Joseph Wathey, 58, receptionist at the 20th-Fox home office for ten years, died at his Brooklyn home. Funeral services were held Thursday night at the Fourth Avenue Methodist Church, Brooklyn. Interment was in Nassau Knolls cemetery, Port Washington, L. I. His wife, Grace; two daughters and three sons survive.

Schine Renews With Altec

NEW YORK—Altec Service Corp. has renewed agreements with the Schine circuit for 129 theatres throughout the Atlantic seaboard and middle western states for service and parts, according to Bert Sanford jr., New York district manager.

Building Code Okay, Film Committee Says

NEW YORK—There is little need to change the wording of the present building code as it affects existing structures, according to the film industry's committee advising the New York state labor department on the drafting of a new code for theatres in the Empire State, excluding New York City. The committee will meet here again April 27 and will, it is believed, complete its study of the code provisions in two or three more meetings.

Theatres above or below street level should be required to have fire retarding stairways within two years after the effective date of the code, the committee agrees, but this requirement would not apply to balconies. As a result of complaints that some existing projection booths are too small, the committee will study requirements for existing booths with a view to altering the new code in order to relieve the situation.

Requirements for theatre curtains and the question of whether open fire escapes should be permitted are, a committee spokesman said, the major controversial issues still to be settled.

Albany Strand Takes 2nd Prize in Bond Contest

NEW YORK—Warners' Strand Theatre, Albany, has received a $500 war bond as second prize winner in the U.S. treasury department's national contest for best results in the Sixth War Loan drive. Ten prizes were awarded.

As a result of the "proxy premiere" staged by the Strand for "Hollywood Canteen," the theatre sold approximately $25,000,000 in war bonds.

Press Raves Put "Fleet" Across at World, N. Y.

NEW YORK—"The Silver Fleet" has started on its fifth week at World Theatre. Business has been building steadily, according to Manager George Schwartz.

PRC, distributor of the British-made hit, attributes its success in large measure to effective advertising campaign waged by Schwartz. Particularly telling was placement in subway stations of one-sheets composed entirely of press raves on the film.

National Board Selections

NEW YORK—This week's selections by the National Board of Review include "The Corn Is Green" (WB) and "Valley of Decision" (M-G-M) as the starred selected pictures. Other selected films are "Counter-Attack" (Col) and "Gentle Annie" (M-G-M).

Jacobson Back at 20th-Fox

NEW YORK—Leon Jacobson, who left 20th-Fox two years ago to enter the army, has been returned to his former post as a member of the press book department. Sergeant Jacobson was recently discharged from the army air forces. He replaces Roger Lewis, also a discharged veteran, who has been promoted to the publicity department.

CBS Releases Circulation Maps

NEW YORK—CBS will distribute individual station listening area and circulation maps to each affiliate in the U.S., Canada, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. These maps are the first data to be released from Columbia's new listening area study, which has been in the field, and in tabulation for the last ten months.

Filipinos Need U.S. Films—Col. Cowan

NEW YORK — Discussing the important roles of films in the education of Filipinos for democracy, Lieut. Col. Lynn F. Cowan, U.S.A., said that the industry "has a job to do and will do it." He was addressing the international department of MPPDA at the Harvard Club. Colonel Cowan recently returned to the U.S. after spending three years in the Pacific attached to General MacArthur's headquarters.

"We are under obligation to the Filipinos to re-establish ourselves and all that we stand for," he said, adding: "It is not only our idealistic debt to spread Americanism through the Philippines on the screen . . . Let us believe in the truism that propagandizing on our part will be propagandizing for liberty, equality and democracy.

". . . Motion pictures can do the job in a bigger and more powerful way than by any means at the disposal of our government."

He quoted Colonel McMicking, morale officer, as saying: "I believe that every effort should be made to re-establish the motion picture circuits in the Philippines at the earliest possible date. Such a move would satisfy the great thirst the Filipinos have for Hollywood pictures and would materially sell the thought to all people who see these pictures what the war is all about."

While paying tribute to Majors John W. Hubbell and Orton Hicks and Capt. Seymour Mayer, Colonel Cowan declared that the problem of distributing films to the overseas forces has been solved.

"In spite of the lack of personnel all forward areas released the greatest percentage of our programs day and date with New York and, in a great many cases, before."

Santo Tomas Internees Enjoy "This Is Army"

NEW YORK—Irving Berlin, producer of "This Is the Army," told the press how the show was given for troops in the jungles exactly as it appeared on Broadway. Most memorable performance, he said, was played for 1,500 remaining internees at Santo Tomas, Luzon.

In addition to playing 49 shows plus hospital and informal appearances, Berlin made 80 personal appearances in mess and recreation hall, hospital ships and small craft. He told how a chorus of 130 Filipino high school students at the show's Manila premiere sang "Heaven Watch the Philippines," a number he had especially composed for and presented to the Commonwealth.

WB Welcomes Westmore On Arrival in New York

NEW YORK—More than 300 representatives of the motion picture and theatrical world attended a reception tendered to Perc Westmore, leading Hollywood makeup artist, by Warners at the Sherry-Netherland. Mort Blumenstock and Larry Golob acted as informal hosts.

Among those present were Oscar Alexander, Joan McCracken, Ann Sheridan, Peggy Diggins, Adrienne Ames, Paula Stone, Steve Hannagan, Lieut. (jg) Julius J. Epstein, USNR, Nancy Walker, John Dall, Mitchell Rawson, Gwen Anderson, Lydia Westman and Ethel Clayton.

Michalson Making Trip

NEW YORK—Harry Michalson, RKO short subjects sales chief, is making the rounds of his company's Pittsburgh, Washington and Philadelphia offices.



THEY LIKE IT! — James Cagney, Spencer Tracy and Joe Rosenthal, AP photographer who made the famous Iwo Jima flag-raising picture, inspect one of the posters for the Seventh War Loan campaign.

U.S. Navy Film Officer Honored at Luncheon

NEW YORK—Upon his retirement from the service after 27 years of active duty, Lieut. Comdr. Ralph W. Smith, in charge of the navy's film exchange, was guest of honor at a luncheon at the Astor, given by film industry executives in charge of supplying pictures to the armed forces.

The committee in charge of the luncheon included A. C. Brauninger of Warners, chairman; H. M. Richey, M-G-M; C. J. (Pat) Scollard, Paramount; M. J. Weisfeldt, Columbia, and Harry Reinhardt, 20th-Fox.

Others attending the luncheon were W. D. Kelly, M-G-M; William G. Brennan, Columbia; I. F. Dolid, Warners; G. Knox Haddow and Sara Lyons, Paramount; Herman Stern, Budd Rogers and Sam Machnovitch, Universal; Sid Kramer, Lew Wolfe, Charles Boasberg, Harry Michalson, Phil Hodes and Ann Levy, RKO; Bob Hilton, UA; Norton V. Ritchey, Monogram; Ralph Poucher, Consolidated Film Industries; George Barnett, Modern Films; Thomas Martell, army motion picture service, and Lieut. Ralph Clark, USN.

DuMont Executive Speaks To Public Service Group

NEW YORK—Prospects of television as an employment medium were explained before the International Ass'n of Public Employment Services by Herbert E. Taylor, director of transmitter equipment sales for DuMont.

Long a student of the potentialities of video as a manpower-absorbing industry, Taylor described how both television and the related industries could serve as a means of combatting unemployment problems arising from displaced war workers, returning service men and war production stoppages.

"Wicked Lady" Shooting

NEW YORK—"The Wicked Lady," the first 1945 production to come from Maurice Ostrer, Gainsborough's executive producer, is now in active work at the Shepherd's Bush studio, according to word received from London. Shooting is expected to be finished in a month's time.

Brandts Purchase Hotel

LAKE GEORGE, N. Y.—The Hotel Sagamore-Lake George, Inc., of which Charles Morton is president and Harry, William and Louis Brandt are directors, has purchased the Sagamore Hotel. The hotel was built at a cost of $2,000,000.

Picture Players Busy On All War Fronts

HOLLYWOOD—Hollywood actors and actresses entertaining the armed forces and aiding war effort agencies made 4,377 free patriotic appearance in the first quarter of 1945. Celebrities took part in 563 events, touring battle areas, visiting hospitals, making discs to be shipped overseas and selling war bonds. An average of 368 performers contributed services in each of the three months.

Film personalities entertaining overseas in USO-Camp Show units included Brian Aherne, Don Barclay, Mary Brian, Charles Butterworth, June Clyde, Marlene Dietrich, Charlotte Greer, Merrial Harvout, Amparo Iturbi, Boris Karloff, Herbert Locke, Ella Logan, Irene Manning, Frank McHugh, Martha O'Driscoll and a seven-player unit of "Three Men on a Horse," headed by Sam Levene. Hospital tours were made by 23 players while 128 troupes played individual shows at hospitals, embarkation points and redistribution centers.

Sir Ambrose Fleming, 95, Radio Pioneer, Succumbs

LONDON—Sir Ambrose Fleming, distinguished inventor, engineer and electrical physicist, has died at Sidmouth, Devon, at the age of 95. He was associated with the introduction to Britian of the telephone, electric lighting and radio. Sir Ambrose designed the wireless (radio) signal apparatus of the Marconi station in Cornwall from which the first transatlantic message was transmitted in 1901.

A classic figure of English radio-electrical affairs, he was perhaps the last of the school of Maxwell, Marconi and Sir Oliver Lodge, the pioneers of radio. Sir Ambrose was the inventor of the widely known and extensively used Fleming Valve, one of the forerunners of the world's now great and complex family of vacuum tubes.

Signal Corps Publishes Fortnightly Newspaper

LONG ISLAND CITY—Initial issue of Close-Up, published fortnightly by the U.S. army signal corps photographic center, reprints in part BOXOFFICE's review of "The Enemy Strikes." The four-page publication is pleasingly printed, well illustrated and a credit to its editorial board, many of whom are former members of the film industry.

Among its regular features will be a column, Producer's Corner, writter by Col. Emanuel Cohen, nationally known newsreel executive.

Hold Gin Rummy Tourney

NEW YORK—The third annual gin rummy tournament of the 20th-Fox Family Club will be held at the Park Central Hotel May 8. Prizes will consist of war bonds and stamps. Arrangements committee consists of President William C. Gehring, Lew Lehr, Leo H. Israel, Edward Hollander and George Gomperts.

Century's Free Shows

NEW YORK—The Century circuit in cooperation with the coordinating council of the Police Athletic League held free kiddie shows at the Mayfair and Midwood theatres on April 28.

Brandt Circuit Collects

NEW YORK—Approximately $51,000 is reported to have been collected by Brandt Theatres during the recent Red Cross drive.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

'Salty O'Rourke' Bow In New York on May 4

"Salty O'Rourke," Paramount race track drama starring Alan Ladd and Gil Russell, will have its world premiere showing at the New York Paramount Theatre on May 4. The feature is booked to open a run at the local Paramount theatres after "Bring On the Girls" ends its local showing.

Simultaneous world premieres of Warners' "The Horn Blows at Midnight," Jack Benny-Alexis Smith starrer, took place in New York and locally at Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern theatres.

"Main Street" Assigned As Steve Laird's First

Announcement of an addition to its 1945 production schedule, "Palace on Main Street," was made by RKO as the first producer vehicle for Stephen Laird, war correspondent and author. The story is an original by Laird, based on his father's experiences in Emaus, Pa., the author's birthplace.

The plot deals with a war casualty of World War I, a dentist whose eyesight is impaired, preventing him from following his prewar profession. The production is tentatively scheduled for midsummer.

Parsons Brings Home Trio Of Mexican Backgrounds

Lindsley Parsons, Monogram producer, has returned to Hollywood from Mexico City, bringing with him background shots and plates for three forthcoming productions: "Casa Manana," "Charlie Chan in Mexico" and "The Cisco Kid Rides Again." Shots were made in and around the capitol and at Cuernevaca, Acapulco and Taxco.

Parsons will begin immediate preparations for filming "Casa Manana," only one of the trio which he will produce.

L. Hubbard to Universal As a Writer-Producer

Lucien Hubbard, writer and producer, was signed a term deal with Universal to write and produce two pictures yearly. He just completed a report to the war department, following a special writing assignment in the South Pacific from which he returned in December. Prior to his overseas chore he had been associated with Metro, Paramount and 20th-Fox.

Pasternak Adds Musical

Joe Pasternak, Metro producer, has added a musical, "Invitation to the Dance," to his schedule. The film, it was announced, will feature classical and popular numbers.

May Lineup Totals 33, More If Strike Ends

Veronica Lake Will Retire Year for Birth of Child

Veronica Lake has announced her retirement from the screen for a full year due to the impending birth of her child, expected in November.

Miss Lake's current picture, "The Blue Dahlia," in which she stars with Alan Ladd and William Bendix, will be her last before the layoff.

In private life the star is the wife of Director Andre de Toth.

Mardovan Process To Joyce Selznick

The local Joyce Selznick Agency has obtained exclusive sales rights to the new Mardovan process of exposing film stock. The process, named for its inventor, Nicholas Mardovan, prints and/or photographs two images in the space of one 35mm frame. The images are inverted to each other and appearing in the upright position on the film would be reels one, three, five, etc., while the inverted images represent reels, two, four, six, etc. Thus 2,000 feet of picture appears on 1,000 feet of film.

On each side of the picture frame is a standard sound track running at the standard 90 feet per minute, each track corresponding to its picture sequence.

Mardovan is a motion picture engineer and designer and has been associated with Brainard Co., Cinematone, Pacific Sound and Mitchell Camera.

The Joyce Selznick agency has arranged for several major studios to run tests in their own labs. Rights to process with the Mardovan patented method will be on a lease basis.

Swedes Applaud First Anti-Nazi Film of War

HOLLYWOOD — According to a report cabled Producer Arnold Pressburger, the first straight antitrust picture to be shown in Sweden since the start of the war was his "Hangmen Also Die." It opened in three key spots with Swedish audiences that accorded the anti-Nazi message tremendous receptions at every showing, the report stated. The picture was released in this country early in 1943 by United Artists.

Because of the strike-posed uncertainties concerning future production, prognosticating a month's activities in Hollywood's film foundries continues to be a hit or miss proposition. April's activities were definitely and obviously curtailed by the walkouts.

At month's end, according to announcement by the producers, there were 28 pictures actually before the cameras, a gain of three over the week immediately preceding. That number was possibly 30 to 35 per cent below what might have been shooting had peace been restored to the labor front. It follows, then, that more than a normal number of features are awaiting the starting gun. Just how many of them will get under way during May is, of course, dependent upon how much the strike continues to curtail the availability of manpower.

Assuming that conditions remain as they are, a survey of the lineup indicates that 33 features may get under way. If the strike should be terminated during the early days of the new month, that number can increase considerably. By the same logic, should manpower grow more scarce, the number of starters may be cut materially.

These Ready to Go

For whatever the prediction may be worth, the following, by studios, are ready to go:

COLUMBIA—"I Love a Bandleader," starring Phil Harris, Leslie Brooks and Rochester, for production by Michel Kraike with Del Lord directing.

"Some Call It Love," Al Hall directing for Producer Virginia Van Upp with Rosalind Russell toplining and featuring Lee Bowman and Adele Jergens.

"Tars and Spars," coast guard musical with Alfred Drake, Janet Blair and Marc Platt, under supervising officer, Comdr. Milton Bren.

"Texas Panhandle," another Colbert Clark production, starring Charles Starrett with Ray Nazarro megging.

METRO—"The Yearling," a Gregory Peck starrer, with Clarence Brown directing for Producer Sidney Franklin.

"Two Sisters From Boston," set for Joe Pasternak's production slate, with Henry Koster directing and starring Kathryn Grayson with June Allyson, Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior and Peter Lawford.

"The Postman Always Rings Twice," costarring Lana Turner and John Garfield, under the directorship of Tay Garnett, with Cary Wilson producing.

"The Strange Adventure," a Sam Zimbalist production, starring Clark Gable and Greer Garson, with Joan Blondell and Thomas Mitchell, under direction of Victor Fleming.

MONOGRAM—"The Cobra Strikes," Charlie Chan series, starring Sidney Toler, set for Sam Burkett's production slate.

"Gregory the Great," slated for production by Louis Berkoff; an untitled film in the Cisco Kid series, starring Duncan Renaldo, to be produced by Lindsley Parsons.

PARAMOUNT—"Too Good to Be True," Sidney Lanfield megging for Producer Harry Tugend and starring Teresa Wright, Ray Milland and Brian Donlevy.

PRC—"The Wife of Monte Cristo," associate producer, Jack Grant.

(Continued on next page)

Studio Strike Closes Quiet Seventh Week

The stalemate in the Hollywood strike became more certain as the studio walkout uneventfully slid into its seventh week. While there was a continuance of the brave and occasionally belligerent words from both camps, the changes in the status of the battle were of little importance.

A producer, for the second time, took advantage of the standard strike clause in all Hollywood contracts to lay off his employes, including Thespic, creative and technical workers. David O. Selznick was the film maker. He last week had halted production on his picture, "Duel in the Sun," openly admitting that he found it impossible to carry on because of the strike. This week it became known he had started serving notice on his contract list that he found it necessary to invoke the strike clause. Just how many workers would be affected had not been determined.

Effect on Technicolor Eyed

Up until midweek, the strikers had made no further steps to bet the ace in the hole which they flashed last week when union machinists were ordered to stop servicing Technicolor cameras which were being or would be employed in strike-bound studios. A drastic application of this order, railbirds opined, ultimately might result in a cessation of all Technicolor photography.

The producers continued to display optimism in their periodical statements anent the walkouts. Whether such confidence was real or for propaganda purposes was a matter of conjecture. In any event, their most recent manifesto regarding the status of production, declared:

"Production at the major studios again shows an increase at the end of the sixth week of the strike. Twenty-eight pictures were before the cameras on Saturday—three more than were in work at the end of the previous week. Three pictures also were completed during the week just ended, and four new features will go into production Monday and Tuesday.

Producers Exude Confidence

"It is now possible to plan ahead with reasonable certainty. While the nuisance value of the strike continues, sets are being built, production is uninterrupted and working conditions are approaching more closely to normal daily.

"The producers regard the situation with added confidence, and they renew their pledge to keep the studios operative at the highest possible level."

A threatening note crept into a later blast from the filmmakers' trenches. Purportedly it came because the producers were "aroused by a series of acts of violence culminating in the serious beating of a studio employe, Harlan Nelson, who is an honorably discharged navy veteran of World War II with 13 medals, including Purple Heart."

Say Vets Volunteer as Guards

Said the later statement: "Physical violence and intimidation must cease. The producers are determined to adopt every possible measure to that end. We have appealed to both the city and the county for additional protection for our workers and this is being provided. We have augmented our own studio police forces and will increase them further. Discharged service men, incensed by the attack on a returned hero, have volunteered at many studios for this work if needed. We also will take every legal step open to us in halting goon squad tactics, and in assuring our workers the complete protection to which they are entitled."

May Lineup Lists 33; More If Strike Ends

(Continued from preceding page)

"Corky"; an untitled Buster Crabbe feature. Another in the Texas Ranger series.

"Queen of Burlesque," an Alexander-Stern production.

"Flying Serpent," to be produced by Sigmund Newfield.

RKO—"The Falcon in Reno," to be produced by Ralph Dietrich with Tom Conway starring.

"Deadline at Dawn," starring Susan Hayward, Bill Williams and Paul Lukas, under the direction of Harold Clurman with Adrian Scott producing.

"The Magnificent Tramp," toplining Cantinflas with John Auer as producer-director.

"Countess of Monte Crisco," an International Pictures production, with William Seiter directing for Associate Producer Walter Thompson and starring Sonja Henie with Dennis O'Keefe and Frank Veloz.

REPUBLIC—"Love, Honor and Goodbye," which Al Rogell will direct for Associate Producer Harry Grey with Virginia Bruce, John Loder and Nils Asther heading the cast.

"Mexicana," a musical to star Tito Guizar and Constance Moore, with Adele Mara, under the direction of Al Santell.

"A Guy Could Change," to be megged by William K. Howard with Allen Lane as star; an untitled, unassigned Al Pearce starrer.

TWENTIETH-FOX—"Fallen Angel," an Alice Faye, Dana Andrews and Linda Darnell starrer for Producer-Director Otto Preminger.

UNITED ARTISTS—"Vidoq," an Arnold Pressburger production starring George Sanders with Douglas Sirk handling the megaphone.

"Whistle Stop," to be produced by Nero Films.

UNIVERSAL—"Frontier Gal," Producers Mike Fessier's and Ernest Pagno's Technicolor western to star Yvonne DeCarlo and Rod Cameron under the direction of Charles Lamont.

"Alibi in Ermine," in which George Waggner, producer-director, has cast Susanna Foster, Robert Paige and Charles Coburn.

"Uncle Harry," to be directed by Robert Siodmak for Producer Joan Harrison, starring George Sanders, Ella Rains and Geraldine Fitzgerald.

"On Stage Everybody," which Jean Yarbrough will meg, Warren Wilson produce and in which Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan and Johnny Coy are cast.

Pare Cross-Country Treks To a Bare Minimum

"Home, Sweet Home" continued as the theme song for studio and home office executives as restrictions on travel and suitable accommodations continued to hold cross-country treks to a bare minimum.

Si Seadler, assistant to Howard Dietz, head of Metro publicity and advertising, arrived in town to spend a week at the studio looking at new product. Another Metro executive, Ben Goetz, took off for New York en route to London and huddles with Sir Alexander Korda, Leo's No. 1 production man in England.

Paramount's share-cropping producers, Pine and Thomas, both Bills, left on a three-week jaunt which was to take them to New Orleans, where they will gander possible location sites, and then on to Gotham. Another Paramounteer, Hal B. Wallis, accompanied by his general production aide, Jack Saper, trained to New York. Conferences were scheduled at the home office with Joseph Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, Charles Reagan and other Paramount sales executives. George Weltner, vice-president of Paramount International Films, Inc., arrived in Hollywood from New York. He conferred with studio officials, chiefly on the subject of the company's program of Spanish re-dialoged product. Accompanying Weltner was Harry Danziger, president of Eastern Sound studios, whose company has done Spanish re-dialoging on four completed pictures for Paramount.

S. Barret McCormick, director of publicity and advertising for RKO, returned to his New York office after spending two weeks at the studio looking at new pictures and mapping out publicity and advertising campaigns with Perry Leiber, studio publicity director. Terry Turner, exploitation director, remained in Hollywood a week longer for additional studio huddles.

Stars Aid Bond Drives Of Two Countries

Hollywoodians contributed a man's size week of work to the entertainment of service men and women and to devoting time and talent to other wartime activities.

Gale Sondergaard was set by Hollywood Victory Committee for a three-week USO-Camp Shows tour on the hospital circuit. She was to open at Fitzsimmons General Hospital at Denver April 24, and visit hospitals in Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana before returning May 20.

A special HVC-Camp Shows performance was given at Pasadena regional hospital, with Robert Young, Harpo Marx, Connie Haines, Virginia Carroll, Muriel Goodspeed, Valentine and Evelyn and Vera-Ellen in the cast.

Scheduled to aid bond drives of two nations, Anne Baxter was set for appearances in Canada and this country. On May 9 she will participate with Claude Rains in a rally and broadcast in behalf of the Canadian Eighth Victory Loan at Montreal and the following day will appear with Jean Pierre Aumont in a French language program. On May 12 she will take part in a ship launching ceremony and bond rally for the Seventh War Loan at Superior, Wis. Groucho Marx and a troupe of girls played two USO-Camp Shows appearances, at Arrowhead Springs naval hospital and at San Bernardino army air base. With Marx were Kay Gorsey, Teddi Sherman, Virginia Carroll, the Nilsson Twins, Sherry Cameron, Shirley Dinsdale and Mary Lee.

Star appearances, including Bing Crosby, Helen Forrest, Jack Carson and the Andrews Sisters, at a benefit held for the Long Beach Ferrying Command were approved by HVC. A show given in Long Beach Auditorium raised $15,000 to be used for recreational and hospital equipment.

Danny Kaye, Darlene Garner, the Todds, Fuzzy Knight, Marion Kerrigan and the Six Cover Girls entertained at Santa Monica AAF redistribution center.

A cast of stars appeared on a dramatic program based on the international security issues formulated at the Breton Woods conference. On the broadcast, over the Blue network, were Olivia de Havilland, Edward G. Robinson, Rex Ingram, Charles Bickford and Ray Collins.

Los Angeles News Notes

Oscar Johnson, former owner of the Arlington Theatre in Los Angeles, is building a new 700-seat showcase at Seal Beach. Construction was started April 24 . . . Mickey Gross, formerly an RKO salesman in Denver and recently discharged from the army, is visiting his brother Jack, producer for RKO, and friends along Filmrow.

Back in Los Angeles are Ralph Mitchell, district manager of the Alexander Film Co., from a business trek to San Francisco and Seattle; P. G. Cameron, owner of the Campus, Vista and Hunley theatres, from Dallas after a long illness; Mike Newman, exploiteer for Columbia, from San Francisco.

Doc Barsky, theatre broker, is vacationing in Palm Springs, and Bob Whittson, partner with Arnold Shaak of the Romona and Holly theatres, went to San Diego on business . . . National Screen Service was scheduled to take over all advertising and accessories of Columbia exchange on April 30.

Dave Cantor, field supervisor for RKO, reported that Al O'Camp, exploiteer, was transferred from Seattle to Los Angeles; Earl Keats will go to Seattle from the east to fill O'Camp's place; and Joe Longo will leave the Boston office for San Francisco.

No Sag in War Work Pledged by Actors

To assure that there will be no letdown in Hollywood's contribution to the war effort, leading members of the Screen Actors Guild held a mass meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel to rededicate the services of Hollywood's actors and actresses, especially to visit the convalescent soldiers in the 90 army and naval hospitals in this country and to entertain the armed forces overseas.

The meeting was called by a SAG emergency committee composed of President George Murphy, Edward Arnold, Jane Wyman, Harpo Marx, Walter Pidgeon, James Cagney and Anne Revere. Murphy stressed the fact that the actor's obligation to cooperate in the war effort would become greater as the war drew to a close.

Kenneth Thompson, former executive secretary of the SAG, and present chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee with which SAG is cooperating, outlined the growing need for well-known figures in the entertainment business to visit the army and navy hospitals, and to entertain those who after VE-Day will be left overseas to staff the army of occupation. Other speakers were Walter Pidgeon, Hilary Brooke, Lynn Bari, Spencer Tracy, James Cagney, Ingrid Bergman, Jim Burke and Robert Montgomery.

Following the announcement that a signed agreement had been obtained from the major producers which would effectively guarantee the availability of contract players, pledge cards calling for specific commitments for hospital tours were circulated.

One hundred and twenty-five SAG members pledged cards for at least a four-week of the mililtary hospitals in the next 12 months.

Bombay Producer Sets Up Release of Indian Film

In Hollywood to confer with Finley McDermid, head of Warners' studio story department, was Hiten Chaudbury of Bombay Talkies, one of India's film studios. Chaudbury has just arranged for the release in the United States of "Bhood" (Hunger), which stars Rabindranath Tagore's granddaughter, Devikarani, one of India's top film stars.

The release about January 1 is being sponsored by the East and West Ass'n, and was arranged by Pearl Buck as part of the association's interest in having America see present day rural India on the screen, as a setting for a modern drama. "Bhood" will have sound track in Hindustani and titles in English.

Nero Films Signs Zinn As General Manager

Seymour Nebenzal, producer and guiding head of Nero Films, signed John Zinn as general manager in a step designed to build a stronger organization. Zinn has held executive posts with several majors and most recently was affiliated with David O. Selznick.

Since his return in 1940 from Europe where he was a producer Nebenzal has made three films, the last being "Summer Storm." In addition to "Whistle Stop," currently on his schedule, he is preparing a remake of "Mayerling," to be produced as soon as Technicolor is available.

Spokane Theatre Begun

SPOKANE—Roy L. Blair Co. has started construction of a two-story concrete, brick and tile building at W. 920-26 Garland Ave. to house a theatre, stores and living quarters. The contract calls for $125,000.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

A DEEP bow in the direction of United Artists Producer Lester Cowan for his graceful decision concerning the release of his current production, Ernie Pyle's "Story of G.I. Joe."

Immediately upon receiving news of the unfortunate death of the beloved war correspondent, Cowan announced that there would be no change in his releasing plans as originally announced.

The picture, based on Pyle's columns, will be offered to the general public sometime in July, after the armed forces in the various theatres of operations have seen the film first. This was the plan worked out between Pyle and Cowan when the noted reporter was in Hollywood prior to leaving for his Pacific assignment.

"We were also going to send the first finished print to Ernie wherever he was," Cowan said. "We still plan to do that. That print will go to Okinawa to be seen by the service men who last saw him."

Cowan also declared that he was not considering changing the title of the picture. It had been suggested that the producer alter the tag to "The Story of Ernie Pyle."

"That would only be misleading. Ernie wouldn't like it because it's really the story of G.I. Joe as interpreted by Pyle and Ernie is just a character in it," Cowan explained.

How the commercial value of the feature could have been enhanced by rushing it into immediate release and, possibly, with the suggested title change, certainly did not escape Cowan's attention. And understandable it would be if there was some slight temptation from that direction.

Which makes his good-taste policy all the more admirable, adds materially to his stature as a producer and renders something more than lip service to the industry's over-all public relations.

→

On the other side of the goodwill ledger must be entered a mistake in judgment on the part of Don King, David O. Selznick's publicity chief, who seldom makes such errors.

King broadcast a release under a Washington dateline which concerned remarks anent "Shirley Temple's decision to marry Sergeant John George Agar," made by Congressman Gordon L. McDonough of California from the floor of the house of representatives.

The release quotes Congressman McDonough as having said:

"We may rest assured that democracy is vigorously alive . . . when we read the announcement recently made by Shirley Temple, the sweetheart of the world, that she is engaged to marry an ordinary American soldier, 'G.I.' John George Agar of Beverly Hills, California . . . All members of the house of representatives rejoice in her democratic decision to marry an ordinary 'GI Joe' when it was hers to choose from the world's great."

For all the congressman's brave words about "democracy in action," his observations, in this opinion, are anything but democratic. Inescapable are their intimations of condescension, their intonations of royalty-weds-commoner. Legion are the Americans who will opine that any "ordinary GI Joe" is more deserving of a democratic world's admiration and gratitude than the most glamorous, exalted stars ever to shine on the Hollywood horizon; that he is very definitely of "the world's great."

Congressman McDonough's words were unwisely chosen and they are rendered the more unfortunate because their patronizing tone in no way reflects the attitude of Shirley and her parents. That is a foregone conclusion among those who have had the opportunity to witness how carefully and thoughtfully her democratic and admirable parents have safeguarded the young star against becoming spoiled.

It is not known—and really makes little difference—whether the congressman's dissertation was voluntary or was planted by the Selznick praisery. The blunder lies in seeking space therefor.

The more such space the release commanded, the more harm to Shirley Temple—and to Hollywood.

→

Paramount goes a bit overboard in the current trend toward retaining head waiters from Cinemania's gold-plated eateries to do bits or serve as technical advisers. The Marathon Street film foundry has retained Pierre, captain at Chasens, and his only chore will be to supervise the preparation and serving of "cherries jubilee" in a production, now shooting.

Even under crowded, lush-spending wartime conditions, there should be an easier way for producers to assure themselves a priority on a choice table and thick steak.

→

RKO Radio changes the tag of "The Amorous Ghost" to "The Passionate Ghost."

Dreams of the title-thinker-uppers are getting better all the time.

→

It easily could have been the influence of Spring and its over-touted fancies which caused the following two headlines to appear in one day's publicity releases from mighty Metro's magnifiers: "MINNELLI TAKES 'YOLANDA' TO PARK" and "SIDNEY BEGINS PICNIC REHEARSALS FOR 'HARVEY GIRLS.'"

→

Sarrette Neidlinger, secretary to Nat James of the RKO studio publicity department, has resigned her post to go into the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera Co.

Probably she got that way listening to Pigeon James sing after being clipped in a gin rummy game.

→

During recent weeks Hollywood has observed a bumper crop of controversies stemming from two or more producers' alleged priority to film a certain subject.

Latest to join the long list of who's-going-to-produce-it? pictures is a biographical feature about "Lucrezia Borgia," the medieval Mickey Finn girl.

No sooner had Metro announced assignment of Producer Joe Pasternak to make a Technicolor picture about the fatal fizz femme, than Edward Small, whose product is for the United Artists fold, rushed into print with a statement that Lethal Lucrezia is his cinematic baby and no one else's, that some months ago he had registered intentions of making the film and proposed following through.

No matter how the priority struggle is settled, the Borgia babe is still going to be poison for someone.

→

And, speaking of claims to babes, Charlie Chaplin received a very definite answer from a local jury to his current theme song—"Is You Is Or Is You Ain't . . . ?"

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Republic

GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES, western comedian, is scheduled for a one-week personal appearance engagement at the Orpheum Theatre in San Diego, beginning May 8, to be followed by a week at the Orpheum in Los Angeles.

Briefies

Paramount

"Homecoming Queen," a musical featurette in Technicolor, from an original by Franz Rosenwald, is scheduled for immediate production by GEORGE TEMPLETON. Johnny Coy and Noel Neill head the cast.

Warners

Director JACK SCHOLL assigned chore on "Movieland Magic," two-reel Technicolor short.

Meggers

Metro

TAY GARNETT named megger of "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

Paramount

NOEL MADISON withdrew from the megging chore on B. G. De Sylva's "The Stork Club." HAL WALKER has taken over the job.

Republic

An original, "The Old, Old Story," written by FRANK McDONALD, director-writer, in collaboration with WALTER SAMUELS, has been submitted to the studio.

20th Century-Fox

Megging on "American Guerilla in the Philippines" assigned to HENRY KING with LAMAR TROTTI producing and writing.

United Artists

David L. Loew and Albert Lewin signed GORDON WILES as associate producer on "Bel Ami."

Universal

Option on ROY WILLIAM NEILL, producer-director, picked up.

JANE MURFIN's initial production will be "Time Out of Mind," novel by Rachael Field. Walter Bullock has been signed to collaborate with her on the adaptation and screenplay. Locale of yarn is Bangor, Maine, during the clipper ship days.

Warners

"The Wallflower" added to Producer ALEX GOTTLIEB's schedule.

Options

Columbia

Long-termer signed by LUDWIG DONATH.

Options on JIM BANNON and LYNN MERRICK picked up.

WILLIAM DEMAREST joins cast of "Pardon My Past," Mutual production.

DOUG DUMBRILLE signed for featured spot in "Pardon My Past," Mutual production.

NANNETTE PARKS' option picked up for another term.

AKIM TAMIROFF inked for a leading role in Mutual's "Pardon My Past."

HARRY DAVENPORT ticketed for Mutual's "Pardon My Past."

Metro

LOUIS JEAN HEYDT signed for a top characterization in "They Were Expendable."

JOHNNY JOHNSTON signed to contract and ticketed for a lead role in "You Are Beautiful."

Added to the cast of "Cowboy Serenade" are NANCY BRINCKMAN, replacing Sybil Merritt because of illness, ALAN FOSTER, PAT GLEASON, CLAIRE JAMES, JACK HENDRICKS, DEE COOPER, FRANK McCARROLL, JACK SPARKS and ROY BUTLER.

Paramount

VIRGINIA WELLES cast for important spot in "To Each His Own."

Signed for another six months is CAROL DEERE.

"The Blue Dahlia" cast adds FRANK FAYLEN.

GEORGE RENAVENT assigned role in "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

CHARLES LIND has been signed to a long-term pact to become effective after he leaves the service.

"Arson Squad" to star FRANK ALBERTSON and ROBERT ARMSTRONG.

Universal

Top roles in "Frontier Gal" slated for ANDY DEVINE and FUZZY KNIGHT.

Republic

Options were lifted on PEGGY STEWART and HELEN TALBOT.

VIRGINIA BRUCE and VICTOR MacLAGLEN set to costar in "Love, Honor and Goodbye."

RKO Radio

Cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever" adds JOYCE MACKENZIE and TOM WIRICK.

Samuel Goldwyn has engaged CLARENCE KOLB for "The Kid From Brooklyn."

FELIX BRESSART inked for "Ding Dong Williams."

Ticketed for "Ding Dong Williams" are RICHARD KORBEL, 11-year-old pianist, and JAMES WARREN, recently signed to a long-term pact.

20th Century-Fox

AUDREY CHRISTIE, Broadway actress, has been signed to a termer and set to feature in "Centennial Summer."

DANA ANDREWS inked for romantic lead in "Fallen Angel."

United Artists

CORA WITHERSPOON ticketed by Hunt Stromberg for role in "Young Widow."

BETTY CALDWELL set for role in "Young Widow" by Hunt Stromberg.

Universal

Option of ROBERT PAIGE picked up.

Ticketed for "On Stage, Everybody" are WALLACE FORD and OTTO KRUGER.

ROBERT PAIGE set for romantic lead in "Shady Lady," costarring with Susanna Foster and Charles Coburn.

Replacing Maria Montez, who has been put on suspension, YVONNE DE CARLO has been slated to costar with ROD CAMERON in "Frontier Gal."

Warners

JOAN LORRING's contract extended for another year.

PEGGY KNUDSON joins cast of "A Stolen Life."

MEL TORME, crooner and song writer, signed to a term pact.

OSCAR LEVANT signed to a term contract.

Newcomer EDWARD THOMAS KELLY jr. signed to a long termer.

MONA FREEMAN selected to replace Ann Blyth in "Danger Signal." Miss Blyth was forced out of cast because of a broken back.

ISOBEL ELSON inked for "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

Scripters

Columbia

EARL REPP is writing an original western, "Massacre Mesa," which will costar Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette. Film set for production by Colbert Clark under supervision of Jack Fier.

Paramount

Six-month options have been exercised on RICHARD SALE and ANNE FROELICK.

VLADIMIR POZNER assigned by Hal Wallis Productions to develop a treatment from an original story idea by John Farrow entitled "Dishonorable Discharge."

FRANK TARLOFF signed to long term writing pact.

PRC Pictures

Screenplay stint on "Miss Seventeen" handed to DICK HYLAND.

RKO Radio

JOHN PAXTON signed to do final scripting on "Cornered."

Universal

WILLIAM BOWERS inked for final screenplay chore of "Way for a Lady" and CHARLES MARION handed similar stint on "Idea Girl."

Final scripting of "Flame of the Yukon" set for MICHAEL SIMMONS.

Story Buys

Independents

Jack DeWitt's "101 Ranch" has been purchased by James Burkett. Story is centered around Col. Zack Miller, who gave Will Rogers, William S. Hart, Buck Jones and others their start in show business. Plans are to shoot backgrounds in Oklahoma, where the Wild West outfit owned 115,000 acres.

Metro

Rights to W. V. Morris' novel, "Liberty Street—U.S.A." have been purchased and slated for production by Pandro S. Berman. Yarn concerns a woman refugee and her friends seeking passage to the U.S.

Dorthy Thomas' magazine novelette, "We Got Back," dealing with the problems of returning veterans, was purchased for screening.

Republic

Donald Barry, actor, has purchased "I Hope You'll Understand," by an unknown writer, Michael Acosta, long-time friend of his. Barry hopes to interest the studio in the story which concerns a soldier who returns home to find his sweetheart married to a civilian.

"Frontier Nurse," story based on factual items from the Louisville Courier-Journal, has been purchased and set for production by Armand Schaefer. Roles have been slated for Peggy Stewart, Helen Talbot and Linda Sterling.

Warners

"Cry Wolf," by Marjorie Carleton, has been recently acquired. Tale is a psychological murder mystery in which Barbara Stanwyck is set to star.

Technically

Columbia

OTHO LOVERING signed as film editor of Mutual's "Pardon My Past."

Film editing on "The Gay Senorita" assigned to AL CLARK.

Metro

RANDALL DUELL named art director for "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

RKO Radio

BERNARD "BABE" PEARCE named dance director for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

Title Changes

Metro

"Alter Ego" switched to BEWITCHED.

Monogram

SHANGHAI COBRA new title for "The Cobra's Fangs."

TROUBLE CHASERS new tag for "Here Comes Trouble."

Republic

THE LAST CROOKED MILE replaces "The Crooked Mile."

RKO Radio

THE PASSIONATE GHOST new title of "The Amorous Ghost."

Universal

New tag for "Shady Lady" in ALIBI IN ERMINE.

Free World Ass'n Honors A. MacLeish at a Dinner

A dinner honoring Archibald MacLeish, assistant secretary of state, was given at the Beverly Hills Hotel, with Arthur Hornblow jr., president of the Free World Association of Hollywood, presiding. The sponsoring committee comprised Charles Boyer, John Cromwell, Olivia de Havilland, William Goetz, Sol Lesser, Dudley Nichols, Rosalind Russell, Allen Rivkin, Walter Wanger and Arthur Hornblow jr.

In addition to MacLeish's address, brief talks were made by Mayor Fletcher Bowron, Dudley Nichols, David Selznick and Darryl Zanuck. Bette Davis introduced MacLeish.

Among those who attended were:

Daniele Amfitheatrof
Nicholas Bela
Robert Benchley
Edwin Blum
Charles Boyer
Irving Brecher
Virginia Bruce
James Cagney
James Cain
Harry Cohn
John Cromwell
Andre David
William Dieterle
John Dunkel
Kenneth Englund
Lynn Farnol
Rudi Fehr
Milton Feld
Harry Flannery
Oliver Garrett
James Gleason
William Goetz
Robert Golden
Alex Gottlieb
Raymond Griffith
Sidney Harmon
Arthur Hornblow jr.
Lee Horton
John Houseman
Joan Fontaine
Sam Jaffee
Harry Kurnitz
Stephen Laird
Emmett Lavery
Sol Lesser
Al Lichtman
Kenneth MacGowan
Douglas MacLean
Harry Maizlish
Joseph Mankiewicz
Edward Mannix
Howard Mayer
Oscar Moss
Robert Nathan
Maria Ouspenskaya
Frank Partos
Ernest Pascal
Irving Pichel
William Pomerance
Harry Rapf
Watterson Rothacker
Charles Russell
Rosalind Russell
Dore Schary
Joseph Cotten
Mendel Silberberg
Robert Stevenson
Harold Sugarman
David Tannenbaum
Kenneth Thomson
Harry Tugend
Lana Turner
Robert Vogel
Jack Warner
W. G. Wilkerson

Bufano Signed to Create "Yolanda" Marionettes

Rimo Bufano, New York puppeteer and actor, has been signed by Metro to create a marionette show to be used as the opening sequence for "Yolanda and the Thief." Show will be used to establish the fact that the picture is a fantasy, foretelling the plot and establishing the theme that everyone has a guardian angel.

Engineers to Unveil New Tricks of Trade

According to William C. Kunzman, convention vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, the organization will convene for its 57th semiannual technical conference May 14-18 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

Among the various topics slated for discussion are motion picture photography, production, sound recording and reproduction; progress in the use of motion pictures by military and naval authorities; theatre television; television programming, and relation between television and motion picture practices.

Pidgeon SAG Vice-Pres.; Pryor a Board Member

Walter Pidgeon, who has been a member of the board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild four years, was elected third vice-president at the last board meeting. Pidgeon, who recently returned from a four-week tour on which he visited convalescent soldiers in military hospitals in the east, fills a vacancy resulting from the resignation of Laraine Day.

At the same meeting, Roger Pryor was elected to the SAG board to fill an unexpired term.

LOS ANGELES

Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, returned to Los Angeles after a trek to the circuit's division offices. With him were Tom Page, aide; John Bertero, counsel; Harry Cox, treaurer; and Eddie Zabel, film buyer. While in Denver, Skouras presided at the Pacific coast regional Seventh War Loan meeting.

Howard Stubbins, Monogram franchise owner, has become a Shriner . . . Pat Patterson of the Washington Theatre, was off to San Francisco on a business jaunt.

Back on the job were Larry Pulis, Paramount booker, after a seige of illness; Mel Anderson, 20th-Fox booker, from a two-week vacation, and Carl Smith, Fox Principal theatre booker, after a short business jaunt to San Francisco . . . On the Row booking was Ralph Whitting of the Arcadia, St. Johns, Ariz. . . . George Hickey, M-G-M western division supervisor, and Howard Herty, exploiteer, were off to Tucson and Phoenix on business.

Mirriam Marion, Universal clerk, took leave of absence to spend some time with her mother in San Francisco . . . Loring Willard, El Rancho, Moorepark, huddled with J. L. Stevens of Exhibitors' Service on the coming year's new productions.

Earl Streebe has acquired the Grizzly Theatre at Big Bear from Charles Stillwell . . . Shuttered for the past six months, the Placentia Theatre, Placentia, has been opened by Walter R. Stoike.

Col. Fred Levy, owner of a chain of theatres, returned to his home in Louisville, Ky., after a four-month vacation in Hollywood. While here, Levy met with Sol Lesser to discuss business matters . . . Len Brown, exhibitor of Racine, Wis., was a recent visitor at Monogram studio.

A New RKO Pact for Ann Richards

Ann Richards of RKO has signed a new pact.

Western Art to Feature Hollywood Quarterly

Details have been perfected for the publication of a new quarterly magazine to be sponsored by the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization. To be published by the University of California Press, it will be called the Hollywood Quarterly and will be devoted largely to the arts and sciences of the west, with special emphasis to achievements and developments in the motion picture, radio and television fields. It will also include book and music departments.

On the editorial board of the new publication will be Dr. Franklin Fearing of the department of psychology and Dr. Franklin Rolfe of the department of English at the University of California in Los Angeles; Samuel T. Farquhar, editor of the University of California Press; and John Howard Lawson, screen writer, and Kenneth MacGowan, motion picture producer, both of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization.

$24,000 Bowser Inaugural Prizes Distributed by FWC

LOS ANGELES—With districts one, two and three finishing in that order, executives and others of Fox West Coast's southern California division shared in the $24,000 bonus money prizes in the George Bowser inaugural drive. Recipients of the top bonus checks in the three winning districts were Spencer Leve and David Ross, district one; James Runte, two; Stanley Brown, three.

In addition to distributing the Bowser awards, the meeting devoted its attention to plans for the Seventh War Loan drive and to energizing the current National Theatres' Charles P. Skouras Showmanship campaign. Bowser chairmanned the meeting. Elwood Robinson and Gus Metzger addressed the gathering on the bond drive and Andrew Krappman, FWC southern California division supervisor, spoke on the Skouras campaign.

OWI Making Picture Of Frisco Powwow

SAN FRANCISCO—Delegates and dignitaries to the world security conference were welcomed here all last and this week.

People in Allied and occupied countries will see and hear the story of the San Francisco conference in a full length documentary film being made by a special OWI motion picture unit sent from New York. The film will cover the day-to-day developments, important speeches by delegates and closeups of diplomatic bigwigs in action. The conference film will be a companion piece to a series now under way dealing with "Life in America." Members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce here are assisting the OWI in shooting and documenting scenes that will comprise a release in this series dealing exclusively with San Francisco. Both films will be distributed overseas by the army's bureau of psychological warfare, with titles translated into 22 languages.

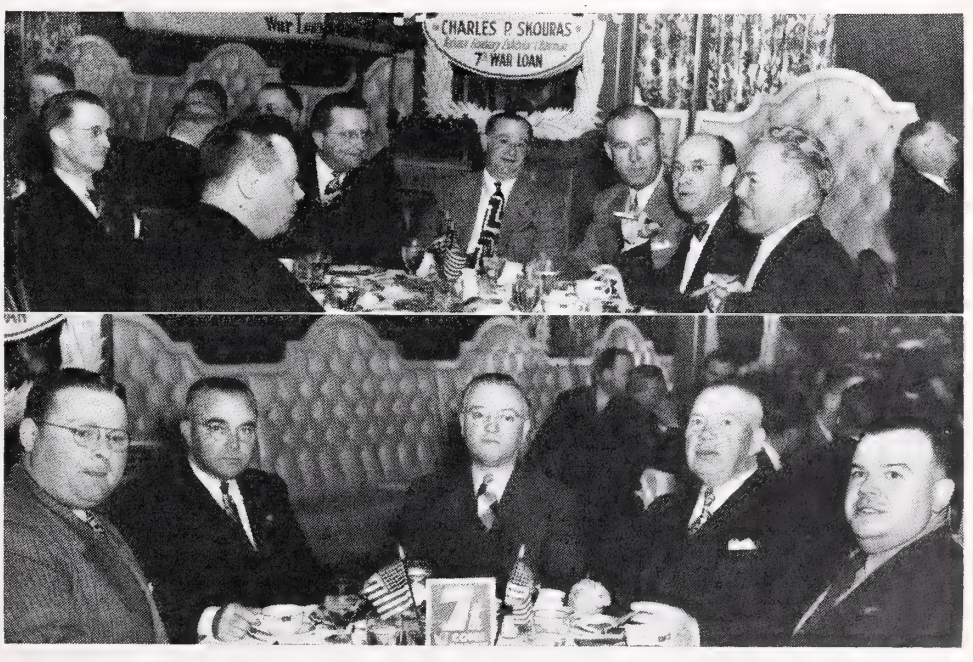
United Nations Theatre Established At Frisco for Peace Delegates

SAN FRANCISCO—The city by the Golden Gate is anxiously awaiting the start of the peace conference April 25, with many theatres adding touches of new paint here and there.

Charles Skouras, FWC, has donated to the motion picture industry the use of the Alcazar, which has been renamed the United Nations Theatre. The industry will use this theatre to show feature films of all nations for the exclusive pleasure of credited delegates and representatives to the conference. There will be no charge and the public will not be allowed entrance.

In addition, a small theatre will be established in one of the large downtown hotels and named the Conference Theatre for the showing of documentary films of all countries.

The Press Club announced it will invite 200 delegates to be guests at the world premiere of a motion picture, "Blood on the Sun," at the United Artists Theatre, May 2.



COLORADO SHOWMEN START—Leading exhibitors of Colorado got the Seventh War Loan campaign off to a flying start at a meeting in the Brown Palace Hotel at which Charles P. Skouras was honor guest. Shown here, top, l-r: A. De Bemandi, Jack Rose, I. W. Weiner, Gus Cohen, Hugh Braly, Lon Fidler and Chet Bell; (bottom) Jack Matlack, Banjo Miller, Herb Cass, Mark Cory and Walter Lee Casey jr.



THEY LISTEN TO SKOURAS—Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, was in San Francisco recently, and took time out to have his photo snapped with some officials of National, Fox West Coast and others. From left to right: Skouras; Harry Seipel, East Bay district manager; George Bowser, general manager, FWC Agency Corp.; B. V. Sturdivant; Richard Spier, northern California division manager; Herman Kersken, San Francisco district manager; Fay S. Reeder, director of advertising and publicity, north California; Fred Glass, Valley district manager.

SAN FRANCISCO

M J. Carney of army motion picture service announced Richard O. Schmidt, Western district manager, would be here to confer with Carney and H. Crist, district manager for the southwestern territory who is coming in from Dallas . . . The navy motion picture service office has moved from 1095 Market to 255 Hyde St.

Hannah Oppie after eight years in the motion picture industry has resigned to confine all her activities at home. For the last year she has been secretary and righthand girl to Rotus Harvey of the Westland Theatres. Prior to that she was associated for seven years with M-G-M here. Taking Hannah's place at Westland is Mrs. Betty Kern, formerly employed at M-G-M.

Row Ramblings: In town recently were Lou Marks from Sacramento, Frank Enea in from Pittsburgh, Williard Wagner from Antioch, Jack Hillman from Morgan Hill and Andy Goblish from Visalia . . . Sonja Henie was in to help the war clothes drive the same time her film played at the Golden Gate Theatre.

George Mann was down in Palm Springs prior to the Denver war loan meet. On his way via plane to Dallas, Mann was put off in Amarillo where, he states, the snow was on the ground and he didn't have a topcoat to his name. Everyone got quite a laugh about it, but Mann maintains that from Palm Springs to Texas who's to expect snow? While in Dallas Mann called on a few of the boys, among them John Franconi, Ed Reilly and LeRoy Bickel, the latter M-G-M manager in Dallas.

The Seventh War Loan is getting off to a good start. Chairman George Mann, Co-chairman Rotus Harvey, coordinator for the western states Charles Thall, and Roy Cooper, WAC chairman, all attended the conference at Denver recently.

Harry Thomas is new general sales manager for PRC . . . PRC's latest, "Hollywood Vine" and "Kid Sister," were given the nod at tradeshowings . . . The Torch Club is rapidly becoming quite the spot for Filmrow notables.

The new manager out at the new Fillmore Theatre is Gene Dunn . . . Norman Lubich has been appointed manager at the Roosevelt here . . . Archie Clark was in from Seattle. Clark expects to remain here . . . Congratulations to one of the nicest gals on Filmrow, Min Levy, on the celebration of a birthday recently.

The billposters hit an off-day when posting the 24-sheets on the Paramount Theatre Bldg. In sniping the name of the theatres on the 24-sheets, the State was advertised as featuring "A Royal Scandal," which actually was playing at the Warfield, and the Warfield film was given as "National Velvet" which was featured at the State. Confusing but amusing.

Everyone is working hard to make the world proud of San Francisco in being chosen the city for the security conference, and the theatre men are no exceptions. Many top executives are working night and day in assisting and individual theatre owners are painting and cleaning house.

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Navy Girl Film Off To 200 Seattle Bow

SEATTLE—Theatres here will remain open and under control on Victory day. All stores are asked to stay open, but liquor stores will close the instant any announcement is made. Theatre business has been very good in this area. "Here Come the WAVES" got off to a fine start with a big navy stage show on opening night.

(Average is 100)

Blue Mouse—**Three Caballeros** (RKO), 3rd wk. moveover 160
Fifth Avenue—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 150
Liberty—**Tomorrow the World** (UA), 2nd wk. 130
Music Box—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. moveover 130
Music Hall—**Topper** (UA); **Made for Each Other** (UA) 120
Orpheum—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **Mummy's Curse** (Univ) 140
Palomar—**Alaska** (Mono), plus vaudeville 150
Paramount—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para) 200

"Bring On the Girls" Brings on Top Grosses at Denver Denham

DENVER—Percentage honors for the week go to the Denham with "Bring On the Girls," which held over.

Aladdin—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 165
Denham—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 195
Denver—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 185
Esquire—Same as Denver 175
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Great Mike** (PRC), 2nd wk. 85
Paramount—**Guest in the House** (UA); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 160
Rialto—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 160

Los Angelenos Favor "Yours" In a Week of Declines

LOS ANGELES—Holdovers in seven theatres suffered a normal percentage drop. The Hollywood Paramount again led the list with the third week's showing of "Practically Yours." RKO's "It's a Pleasure" bowed in second at both the Hillstreet and Pantages.

Chinese—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 110
Downtown Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Double Exposure** (Para), 3rd wk. 82
Egyptian Ritz—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (Metro), 3rd wk. 100
Guild-United Artists-Wilshire—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 100
Hillstreet—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 125
Hollywood Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para), 3rd wk. 137
Los Angeles—Same as Egyptian 72
Pantages—Same as Hillstreet 125
State—Same as Chinese 115
Uptown—Same as Chinese 100
Warners' Downtown-Hollywood-Wiltern—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 3rd wk. 100

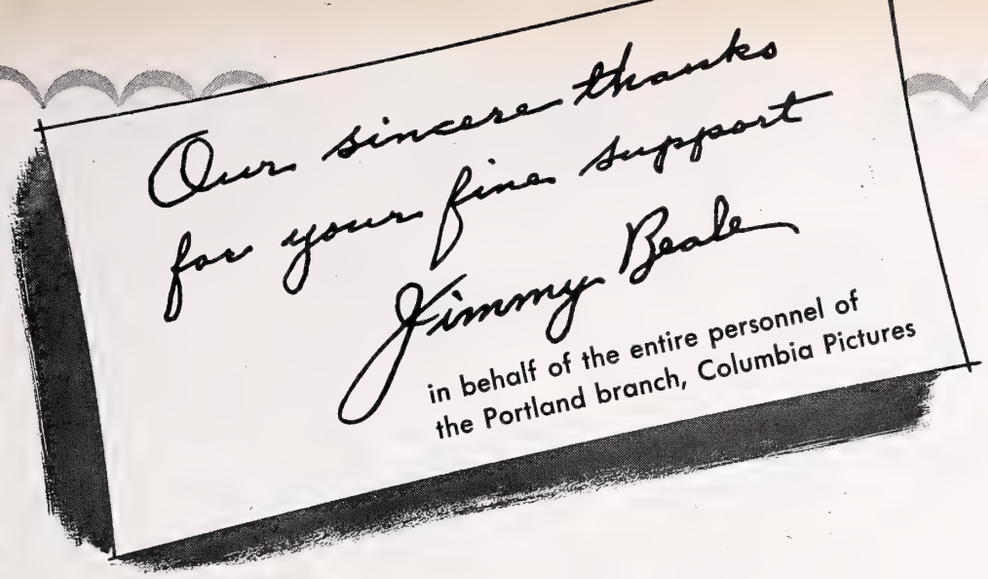
"It's in the Bag" for Fred Allen With 160 at Frisco Orpheum

SAN FRANCISCO—Fred Allen and his laugh riot, "It's in the Bag," at the Orpheum heads the barometer readings with a 160. The mighty Allen apparently did not strike out on his second film. Runner-up was "Practically Yours" at the Fox Theatre with 130.

Esquire—**Sudan** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ), 2nd wk. 110
Fox—**Practically Yours** (Para); **High Powered** (Para) 130
Golden Gate—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 3rd wk. 115
Orpheum—**It's in the Bag** (UA); **House of Fear** (Univ) 160
Paramount—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), 2nd wk. 120
St. Francis—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 3rd wk. 120
United Artists—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 2nd wk. 125
Warfield—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 110

A Lead for Johnston in "Beautiful"

Johnny Johnston has been signed to a contract by Metro and given a lead role in "You Are Beautiful."



MRS. IRENE ADAM
A. W. ADAMSON
J. C. ALLMON
CHARLES AMES
K. AMES
C. G. ANDERSON
J. ARCHBOLD
FRANCIS BAKKE
J. L. BARBER
BASIL BASHOR
M. C. BENNETT
JOE BRADT
CLEO BRENNER
FRANK BUCKMILLER
W. A. CALLOWAY
F. R. CARPENTER
LLOYD CLAVER
AVERY COMBS
JOHN DANZ
GEORGE DICKINSON
AUSTIN G. DODGE
C. B. DUGGER
MERLE DUNLOP
GEORGE DUSSLER
LOUIS EBERT
H. A. FARROS
AL FINKE
DICK FISK
SAM FLEISHMAN
AL FORMAN
BILL FORMAN
TED FRANCIS
TED GAMBLE
WILLARD GAMBLE
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EINO HEMMILA
W. H. HIBBERT
KEN HODKINSON
DENNIS M. HULL
A. WEST JOHNSON
JESSIE JONES
ROLLIN KUHN
HAROLD LAKE
W. H. LEVERETTE
W. A. LONG
J. G. LOVETT
ROBERT MARSDEN, JR.
MRS. A. E. MASSMAN
HOWARD MATHEWS
HARVEY MATLOCK
M. W. MATTECHECK
W. R. McDONALD
T. C. McELROY
C. R. McFADDEN
MRS. W. A. McKEVITT
C. McNEIL
F. C. MELLIN
MOSE MESHER
LOU METZELAAR
CHESTER MITCHELL
MRS. L. A. MOORE
WILLIAM C. MORELOCK
HARRY MOYER
M. D. MURPHY
AL MYERS
D. MYERS
W. F. MYRICK
ROSS NELSON
CLARENCE PALLAY
LEO PALLAY
MRS. J. J. PARKER
H. L. PERCY
OSCAR PHELPS
DENZEL PIERCY
MRS. GOLDIE RACINE
MRS. GEORGE ROSE
MISS VERNE ROSS
LEE RYAN
E. SCHWAB
FRANCIS SLOAT
C. H. SMITH
MRS. A. B. STOCKDALE
B. A. STOVER
FRANK TALBERT
E. A. TEDROW
W. D. THRALL
S. D. WALLING
W. A. WATROUS
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MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Paul Catalana Rejoins Industry at San Jose

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—Paul Catalana, recently given a medical discharge from the army, has been appointed manager of the Willow Glen Theatre and will direct publicity for the San Jose Amusement Co. Before entering service, he had held various managerial posts in San Jose and Palo Alto.

SEATTLE

Danny Matin has received a discharge from the navy and will return to Portland Filmrow as a salesman . . . M. F. Merrick of the Reo Theatre in Portland was here for a few days' visit with Vete Stewart of Warners . . . Henry Heise returned from Long Beach. He was to leave next for Arizona.

J. and Gene von Herberg returned from a Yakima trip . . . Bill Roush, wounded in service, is now mended and back in civilian clothes . . . Alan Kohan of Warners' exploitation department has been transferred to the middle west.

Claude and Hilda Jensen and daughter Joanne of Portland were hosted here on Joanne's birthday by her dad's partner, John von Herberg . . . Lieut. Red Doff dropped backstage at the Palomar to say "hello" to his friend, Huntz Hall, of the "Dead End Kids" . . . Betty Mariotti of the Sterling Theatres press department has set June 9 for her wedding with Henry Ford of Enumclaw.

W. H. Suder has arrived from New Orleans to take up his post as assistant to Dick Schmidt, general manager of army bookings in this territory . . . Jack Sampson celebrated a birthday . . . Ollie Hartman, Coulee Dam, was in reporting his youngest son Rod is awaiting induction. Ollie has lost one boy in action.

El Keys, Walla Walla, booker for Midstate Theatres, was on the Row . . . Francis Bateman, western district manager for Republic, was here . . . Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, conferred here with theatre heads. He was accompanied by Tom Page, his assistant; Eddie Zabel, film buyer; Harry Fox, treasurer, and John Bertero, attorney.

Capt. George Groves, army engineers, is here on furlough from the Aleutians.

Wineholt Takes Over At Seattle's Liberty

SEATTLE—Cliff Wineholt, who for several years has managed the Bagdad Theatre, has moved over to the Liberty. Keister Adams has taken over at the Bagdad. The changes were announced by Le Roy Johnson, general manager for Jensen & von Herberg Co., who also disclosed that Raymond Bashor has been appointed manager of the Rainier Theatre in Renton. Bashor re-enters the show business after service in the marine corps.

Donald Woods to "The Time" Cast

Donald Woods, Warner Bros., has been assigned a part in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

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WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Mrs. Lee Mote of Riverton, Wyo., went to Kokomo, Ind., for Christmas in 1911. That was the beginning of her interest in films. A friend there was operating a "theatre" in a storeroom. The business seemed so interesting Mrs. Mote returned to Riverton. She bought some equipment and started her first theatre operating on a twice-weekly basis. Since then her business has grown so she has had to enlarge her theatre twice until today the Acme has a seating capacity of 600. She is a charter member of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club.



William H. Pike retired from business in the east in 1912, ten years after graduating from Cornell, and went first to California, then Las Vegas, Nev., and after several years went into the picture business. "Loafing had been," he says, "too much of a chore." He became co-owner of the Airdome with E. W. Cragin in 1916. They took over the Majestic a year later. They built El Portal Theatre in 1928 and have managed it since. Pike is a member of ITO of Southern California, Arizona and Southern Nevada, Rotary and Chamber of Commerce.



Starting as an organist in a theatre in the 20s, **Ivan W. Rowley** of Pismo Beach, Calif., has spent quite a few years in show business. He leased his theatre, the Ward, in that very year and has continued to operate it ever since. "I would rather have one theatre run the way I like than 20 theatres on the string," Rowley says. His hobby is making 16mm films of his own and trout fishing. Rowley is city treasurer and was clerk of the school board from 1935 to 1942. He has one daughter, Diane, nine. The Ward is the only theatre at Pismo Beach.



Nearly a quarter-century ago **Dan E. Kostopulos** was given a job as handy man in Salt Lake City's even-then historic Broadway Theatre. Evidently he proved superlatively handy, for Danny—that's what his friends and scores of patrons call him—now is the proud owner of the same house. He says his special hobby is "just good old hard work." Danny is a member of the Motion Picture Club. He is married to the former Helene Pappas. His residence is 254 South Third St., Salt Lake City, and his business address is 65 East Broadway.



W. C. Bevard of Fowler, Colo., took up motion pictures as a hobby in 1915. In order to learn a little about the business he bought a theatre, intending to sell it later. He liked motion pictures so well that instead of selling out he built a new theatre, the Star, two years later. He continues to operate this house. After making show business his career he took up color photography as a hobby. He enjoys hunting and fishing and is a member of the National Rifle Ass'n. Bevard has two married daughters whose husbands are in service.



Samuel H. Levin, president of San Francisco Theatres, a circuit of five city houses, started in the picture business in 1908 when he purchased an interest in a nickelodeon enterprise. Three of his four children have followed his career in show business and are theatre managers themselves. Irving is division manager of San Francisco Theatres, Robert manages the Harding and a daughter, Mrs. Scheeline, manages the Balboa. A fourth child, Richard, is an engineering student with the navy. Levin belongs to the Shriners and the Elks.



James T. 'Irish' O'Neill of Spearfish, S. D., bought his theatre, the Vita, in 1914 and has run it continuously ever since. He enjoys show business so much he considers managing the theatre his hobby. A good deal of his time is devoted to the affairs of the town. President of the Chamber of Commerce, member of various civic bodies including the school board, he is mayor of Spearfish. He is married and has two sons. Wally, a lieutenant in the air forces, holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, and has accomplished 167 missions.



Edwin A. Halberg of Port Angeles, Wash., has been in show business since 1915 when he bought the old Dream Theatre from E. G. Abbott. Since then he has acquired three houses in Port Angeles, the Olympian, Elwha and Lincoln. He is a director of the ITO of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska, is vice-president of C. E. D. and a member of the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Rotary Club. Fishing and hunting are his pastimes. He is married and has three sons and a daughter, ranging from eight to 13 years.

Both Sides Ask Change In Stagehand Rulings

ST. LOUIS—Both the St. Louis exhibitors and the stagehands' local have appealed to the national WLB from parts of the recent directive of the regional board at Kansas City reducing the number of workers by six, changing work schedules and increasing base pay 15 per cent retroactive to Jan. 15, 1944, with paid vacations.

Theatre owners want the reduction of workers also retroactive to Jan. 15, 1944, while the union says the decision should have been confined to the matter of wages and vacations, contending that Arbitrator Jules Kohn exceeded his authority by reducing the number of workers and changing hours of work. The union contends he raised the work day from seven to eight hours. Theatre owners assert that the union agreed in writing that these matters should be decided by Kohn and that the contract with local No. 6 always provided for an eight-hour day even though the hands have not been working that long. The stagehands have made it their practice to leave the job when the houses closed for business at night.

To Hold Educational Film Meet in Waukegan May 4

WAUKEGAN—The annual visual educational film conference will be held here May 4. Orlin Trapp, film director for local schools, and W. F. Krause of Bell & Howell, will speak. Among exhibitors will be RCA, Bausch & Lomb, Ampro Corp., DeVry Corp., SME Co., Spencer Lens and Jam Handy.

George L. Moore Dead

MILWAUKEE—George Leon Moore, possessor of a voice that once thrilled Americans from coast to coast, has been silenced by death at his home here recently. Moore starred on Broadway and in roadshow productions of light opera for many years. Victor Herbert created his "Rose of Algeria" and "The Madcap Duchess" especially for him nearly 40 years ago. Moore taught voice here until Pearl Harbor, then went into a war plant, but had to stop this work because of ill health. His wife and three brothers survive.

Postpone Balaban Suit

CHICAGO—Suit for an accounting of receipts for the LaMar and Lake theatres operated by West Suburban Amusement Corp. and Oak Park Amusement Corp., subsidiaries of Essaness, brought by Balaban & Katz, will not be heard before fall, according to Morton Lane, attorney for the plaintiff, because of necessary reports which require much time to make out and because of a crowded court calendar. Balaban & Katz has a financial interest in both theatres.

20th-Fox Appeals Suit

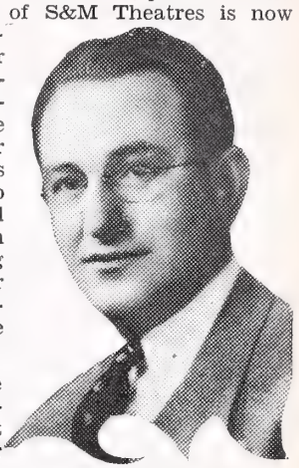
ST. LOUIS—Twentieth-Fox has filed a notice of appeal from the decision of U.S. Judge George Moore in favor of Marie Cooper Oehler Dieckhaus, now Swanston, who contended that "Alexander's Ragtime Band" was based on her unpublished novel, "The Love Girl."

Arthur Flies to Coast

ST. LOUIS—Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. circuits, flew to Los Angeles recently. He plans to return about the middle of May.

Ben Marcus Announces Promotions And Postwar Expansion Projects

MILWAUKEE—Ben Marcus, president and general manager of S&M Theatres is now preparing his organization for postwar expansion, and has announced that Joe Strother, buyer and booker, has been promoted to assistant general manager in charge of booking and buying for the circuit's theatres and exchange operations.



BEN MARCUS

Hank Tollette has been promoted to assistant general manager in charge of the operations.

Marcus has moved the S&M headquarters from Ripon to the First National Bank Bldg. in Oshkosh. He has purchased a home in Oshkosh into which he has moved.

Strother will continue to maintain offices in Milwaukee, and Tollette will have his offices at Neenah.

Marcus also announced that construction on a new theatre at Tomah will begin within the next 90 days. The Varsity Theatre at Appleton has been added to the S&M circuit, with active operation to begin May 1. This gives the circuit 12 houses.

At a meeting of the managerial, and office staffs in Oshkosh, plans were laid for the Ben Marcus spring drive of 1945. In attendance were: Strother, Tollette, Don Harrington, who recently was upped from Neenah manager to manager of the circuit's two houss in Clintonville; Dorothy Carson recently upped from assistant manager of the Brin to house manager; Charles Lowe, Clarence Holtze, Ollie Lenz, Hy Cohen, Don Jones, Aileen Steeps, Erna Hicks, Lorraine Reif, Helen Nigel and Helen Witte.

Numerous cash prizes were set up for the winners of the drive that started April 22 and runs to July 21.

Little Maria Asks Guide On How to Be a Star

Milwaukee—Metro here received this letter:

"Dear Sir or Madam:

"I would like to know how to become a movie star. Please send me a little booklet or a letter. My name is Maria Carmen Craig. I want to carry on the name of the well known movie actor and actress like: Maria Montez, Carmen Miranda, and James Craig. My address is on top this letter you notice. I want to become a movie star when I am 14 years old. Please answer this note for me. You may send for me at this address.

"Maria Craig."

Pvt. Floerke, Projectionist, At Walla Walla Hospital

WALLA WALLA, WASH.—Pvt. William Floerke, former projectionist in Vincennes, Ind., has been transferred from the war department theatres in Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., to the McCaw General Hospital in Walla Walla. He is showing films in the hospital for the patients and at night operates the hospital theatre for the Red Cross. Floerke has served four years as a projectionist in the army.

In civilian life he ran roadshow attractions throughout Indiana and free movie show circuits for small town merchants.

Draw Up Plans to Enlarge West Bend Gem Theatre

WEST BEND, WIS.—Blue prints to enlarge the Gem Theatre here to a 700-seat capacity are being drawn, according to A. C. Berkholtz, owner.

The bakery building next to the theatre will be added to the present house. Work on the two top floors and the bakery is expected to start this summer. The theatre will continue to operate during remodeling, Berkholtz said.



AT CHICAGO BOND RALLY—Second big meeting of the preliminary Seventh War Loan campaign was at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. In the picture, center, Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th-Fox, greets Joe Rosenthal, AP photographer who made the famous Iwo Jima flag-raising pictures; front row (l-r)—Cecil E. House, Don McKiernan, W. G. Craig, Tommie Thompson, M. W. Osborne, Ben Blotch, Harold Wirthwein, Jack Kennedy, Carl Shalit and Allan S. Moritz; back row—Harold Stevens, Phil Longdon, Tom Young, B. J. McCarthy, Joe Geis, Dave Miller and Joe Kravitz.

Town in Flames on His Opening Night Fails to Faze Exhibitor Now Veteran

ST. LOUIS—They called out the firefighters the night Walter A. Thimmig started his career as a motion picture exhibitor at the Gem in Marissa, Ill. October 12, 1910, is a memorable date in the history of this Illinois town since it was the night a considerable portion of the town square was destroyed.



W. A. THIMMIG

When the first cry of "fire" electrified the town, Thimmig was stationed up in his wooden projection booth grinding out film at his first show held in the back room of a bank building. It was, in fact, a preview, a showing in advance of the contemplated schedule. A group of clerks who worked in the stores on the square had begged Walter to give them a chance to see the pictures and he complied. Fate had placed his opening and the worst conflagration in the history of Marissa on the same night.

In the small theatre the cry of "fire" came from Bial Brantler, today a Marissa policeman, who had rushed into the audience of some 200 people, a goodly portion of the town's population, for volunteer firefighters to fight the blaze sweeping the opposite street.

Thinking that a smart-aleck was attempting to break up his show, Thimmig hurried down from the booth. The patrons quickly left the theatre and one woman in her haste fell down an open stairway. Fortunately she was not injured.

Was "Took" for $85 Machine

Incidentally, Thimmig purchased his first projection machine from Barney Rosenthal of the Swanson-Crawford Co., today manager for Monogram Pictures. The price—$85—sort of "took" the new exhibitor, he feels today. The modern projection machine today costs approximately $3,500, plus screen sound equipment.

His first admission price was five cents for the ten-minute show, which consisted of a one-reeler. Shows averaged three an hour.

Following the fire store space was at a premium in Marissa and Thimmig was induced to give up the little back room he was using for his showhouse. He made a deal for the use of the Temperance Temple, a meeting hall that was controlled by a number of men and women strongly opposed to liquor. Complications were encountered since Thimmig had previously operated a tavern. When he finally convinced the temperance folk that he was interested wholly in operating a picture show they played him with a lease several yards long and containing enough whys, wherefores and whereases to make the best Philadelphia lawyer dizzy.

So the Gem moved into the Temperance hall and it was operated by Thimmig for five years. He then moved to Sparta, Ill., where he operated a theatre for the following five years. In that period he also had houses in Lenzberg, Marissa, New Athens and Sparta and furnished film to theatres in Coulterville and Tilden. It was the first circuit in that section and probably one of the first in the U.S. outside of the big cities.

Later in his career Thimmig operated the Strand in Salina, Kas., and he also had a house in DuQuoin, Ill. He had a brief experience in the state rights film distribution business and for a while he had the Universal Sound & Service Co., furnishing sound equipment to theatres in the St. Louis territory.

Along about 1920, with his brother, the late Charles Thimmig, south St. Louis real estate and insurance man, he took over the New Grand Duchess Theatre, located in an old church building on the site of the 5,000-seat Fox Theatre of the Fanchon & Marco circuit. Later the name of the house was changed to the Mid-Way, since it was almost the exact center of St. Louis. After five or six years he sold his interest in that house to his brother and a business associate.

Prior to the erection of the Fox, Charles Thimmig had a deal just about set with the Selznick, Klaw & Erlanger and old International Life for a pretentious motion picture theatre and office building on Grand Blvd. and a vaudeville house and large apartment project on Washington Blvd. After months of negotiations and just before a 99-year lease was to be signed the owner of the ground, the late Col. Moses Sheenberg, had a stroke and before he recovered sufficiently to consider again the proposition some of the major parties had met with financial complications that caused them to back away.

Offered Free Saturday Eve Shows

One of the interesting experiences in Thimmig's early operations in Marissa was the free Saturday night shows he gave in cooperation with the business men of the community. He stretched a large sheet across the main street of the town. The business men paid well for brief advertising slides shown during the show which brought some 3,000 to 3,500 persons to town. Naturally while in town they visited the business houses. It was a profitable arrangement for all.

Thimmig, 65 years old on February 26 last, took over the McNair Theatre here on Oct. 12, 1930, just 20 years after starting at Marissa. He is happy in this comparably small 583-seat house. When he took over there he spent several thousand dollars in modernization, including a new structural glass front. He resides at 5037 Milentz Ave. in southwest St. Louis.

As a young man Thimmig was a coal miner and later operated a tavern in the "wet" section of the Marissa. However, he looks on the day of Marissa's great fire when he ran his first reel as a lucky day in his life.



Assigned to New Positions In the Bell & Howell Co.

CHICAGO—Bell & Howell Co. has named the D. T. Davis Co. of Lexington, Ky., as district representatives for the educational division. Wilfred Naylor will handle the department for the Birmingham district, while Gordon S. Cook will take charge of the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., area.

Jack Taubensee has been named manager of the subcontracting department in Chicago and Ernest Pfaff has become foreman of the glass molding department.

Columbia Borrows Shirley Temple

Columbia will borrow Shirley Temple from David O. Selznick to play in its "Kiss and Tell."

'Velvet' Modest Winner In Chicago Box Sweeps

CHICAGO—Business in downtown theatres was so-so, the only big grosses being achieved by new attractions and then figures were not staggering. "National Velvet" got off to a nice start at the State-Lake; ditto "Song to Remember" at the Apollo, which got rave notices. The Oriental did nicely with Woody Herman and band, plus "Leave It to Blondie." The Chicago had a fair third week with "Here Come the WAVES" and Dean Murphy heading a fine stage show. Telenews and Today newsreel theatre did fine with reels of Mr. Roosevelt.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col) 110
Chicago—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 3rd wk., plus Dean Murphy on stage 115
Garrick—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 105
Grand—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk.; **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 105
Oriental—**Leave It to Blondie** (Col); Woody Herman and band on stage 120
Monroe—**Behind the Enemy Lines** (Globe); **Nevada** (RKO), 4th wk. 100
Palace—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 110
Roosevelt—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk. 110
State-Lake—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 16th wk. 105
United Artists—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 5th wk. 105
Woods—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 4th wk. 95
World Playhouse—**Thunder Rock** (English Film), 3rd wk. 100

First Place Honors to "Thunderhead" In Average Week at Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE—"Here Come the Co-Eds," in the third week downtown, collected average business; "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka," coupled with "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the fourth week, went slightly over average.

Alhambra—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ), 3rd d. t. wk. 100
Palace—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col) 90
Riverside—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep) 95
Strand—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 4th d. t. wk. 110
Warner—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 100
Wisconsin—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) 100

Fans Flock to "I'll Be Seeing You" Despite Slow Indianapolis Week

INDIANAPOLIS — Boxoffice receipts took another nose-dive last week partly due to inclement weather. Loew's topped the score with "I'll Be Seeing You." Subsequent houses did little to boast about.

Alamo—**Whispering Skull** (PRC); **Shadows in the Night** (Col) 90
Circle—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 95
Indiana—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO); **Destiny** (Univ) 95
Loew's—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 160
Lyric—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Double Exposure** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 110

United Film Opens Office Under W. P. Van Altena

MILWAUKEE—United Film Service of Kansas City, has established an office here under the direction of William P. Van Altena. The firm handles an ad library service, local and national picture advertising and special films for advertising known as "Screen Broadcasts."

Each "Screen Broadcast" is a complete playlet, with a title, musical background and copyright, the same as a regular film production.

Van Altena who has full charge of the office, was formerly with Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp., and managed the Strand and Varsity theatres.

TO HAL HALPERIN'S FRIENDS:

Simply . . . without any pretense to fine writing . . . we who loved and admired HAL, address this message to his friends throughout the country.

To the "little fellow" and the "big fellow" . . . to all of those for whom he "did favors" . . . to those whom he guided towards security. Yes! and towards affluence and position.

We, his friends in Chicago, know HAL was a "War Casualty." When his health failed him, he ignored the advice of physicians and friends, and drove himself day after day with all the verve and dynamic energy for a worthy cause or to help a pal . . . that was HAL.

There was something distinctly heroic about the last years of his life. He spearheaded War Bond Drives; helped Chicago Service Men's Centers; led Red Cross Drives, hospital shows, and other patriotic and charitable causes.

HE DIED IN ACTION!

There can be no posthumous medal or ribbon for HAL . . . the only honor we of show business can and wish to bestow is a Memorial . . . an appropriate charity to perpetuate his name.

The Variety Club of Illinois has chosen the La Rabida Sanitarium, which it sponsors. It is a children's sanitarium devoted to the cure of rheumatics of the heart, without regard to race, creed or color. The Memorial will be in the nature of a completely equipped and maintained HAL HALPERIN ROOM.

Being a sufferer of the heart himself, HAL had a deep affection for La Rabida and a high regard for the excellent results this sanitarium achieved for children.

We are planning a HAL HALPERIN MEMORIAL SHOW at the Chicago Civic Opera House on May 6th. In all probability you will not be able to attend it . . . but, being one of HAL's friends, we are sure you will want to send us a check as a donation toward this cause. How much? What do you owe his memory? An ancient book asks, "Who shall command the heart?"

We know you will be as generous as possible.

We are most eager, most anxious to make this Memorial a living reality. We are working hard to do so for we are certain that HAL would wish it.

So . . . just as if it were he, asking for some cause near to his heart, we ask you to send us your contribution promptly as a tribute to his memory.

THE VARIETY CLUB MEMORIAL FOR HAL HALPERIN

Hon. Chairman,
MAYOR EDWARD J. KELLY

Chairman Civic Committee,
CHARLES F. GLORE

Variety Club Special Committee
John Balaban
James Coston
Tom Flannery
Johnny Jones
Jack Kirsch
Arthur Schoenstadt
Edwin Silverman
J. C. Thompson

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO:
JACK ROSE, Treasurer, Variety Club, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

This space contributed by **BOXOFFICE**

(A reprint of this advertisement, without any further comment, is being sent to many of the late HAL HALPERIN's friends throughout the country. If you are forgotten . . . please forgive . . . but do not fail us!)

CHICAGO

Jack Kirsch, barker, presided at a meeting of Variety executives last Saturday to discuss final plans for the Hal Halperin memorial show, to be held in the Civic Opera house May 6. It's a sellout already, according to advance reports . . . Erwin R. Fensin succeeds his late father as president of the Fensin Seating Co., with Morton L., another son, as vice-president. L. C. Simansky is secretary-treasurer of the organization which is remodeling its headquarters and developing an elaborate postwar program.

The RKO Palace is making a lot of rapid changes in programs these days, having apparently abandoned the two-to-three-week run plan. "Sudan" is remaining only ten days, to be followed by "Pan-Americana" and then "The Enchanted Cottage," using plenty of radio plugs for the last named . . . Alex Assim, veteran showman and manager of the Mayfair at Clearing, was on the Row clearing things with Hank Porter.

Bob Hickey, RKO praise agent who has been out of town for three weeks, came back on the big wind, reporting he has been hip-booting it through floods in Missouri and Iowa. He attended the opening of a new RKO branch in Sioux Falls . . . Larry Stein was to be given a farewell party by Warner Employes Club Saturday (27), with Charlie Ryan the toastmaster. Larry has been with Warners 14 years and is going into publicity.

National Screen will now handle accessories for Columbia . . . Phil Solomon, manager of the B&K Drake, is vacationing at the scene of the first rationing—Starved Rock . . . Ted Grant, for many years a manager of the Essaness circuit, is now with B&K.

Walter Immerman, state chairman for exhibitors in the Seventh War Loan drive, has divided the city into 15 zones, each headed by a chairman and co-chairman, to facilitate the campaign . . . Ten B&K managers are zone chairmen: Jack Sampson, Leslie Walrath, Ted Grant, Harry Odenthal, Ken Edgerly, Jerry Winsberg, Leonard Schiff, David Charlton, George Romine and Milton Officer . . . Leonard Utecht leaves as assistant manager of the B&K Senate to go into the mail order business . . . Abe Platt, B&K district manager, is back from a Florida vacation.

Bill Pine and Bill Thomas, Paramount producers, were here from the coast for the weekend en route to New Orleans . . . Edith Head, Paramount costume designer, was also in on her way east . . . It's Maj. Frank "Mickey" Furey now. The former RKO Palace usher who entered service as a private has seen three big invasions.

Ted Dariotis, manager of the B&K Northtown, is vacationing in Wisconsin and it is said he will come back a bridegroom . . . John Hendricks, Intermountain Theatres executive of Denver, was a visitor at the Variety Club . . . Clarence Brown, M-G-M director, ditto, on his way to Florida for filming "The Yearling."

Sol Schwartz, RKO Theatres biggie, has gone back to New York after an inspection tour of the northwest . . . Sam Levinsohn, head of Chicago Used Chair Mart, has installed 500 Victory model seats in the ordnance camp theatre, Sidney, Neb. and 500 for Dick Beck at the St. Cloud Theatre, St. Cloud, Fla. . . . The Chester Theatre at Chester, operated by the O. L. Turner circuit, will reopen May 1, having been dolled up.

Jules Fields and Sid Blumenstock of 20th-Fox exploitation staff were here for a confab with local publicists . . . John Dromey, chief booker for Great States circuit, has been re-elected mayor of North Chicago for a fourth term . . . Virginia Seguin of 20th-Fox's publicity department is back from visiting her hubby, Sgt. Eddie Seguin, former B&K press agent who's stationed in Dallas.

Bob Winters, navy submarine service, formerly of Bell & Howell's service department, was married last weekend at New London, Conn. . . . Lieut. Chuck Percy, formerly of Bell & Howell general offices, announces the birth of twin girls, born at his new home near Alameda, Calif., naval base . . . M. Sandine has been named maintenance engineer for the H&E Balaban circuit.

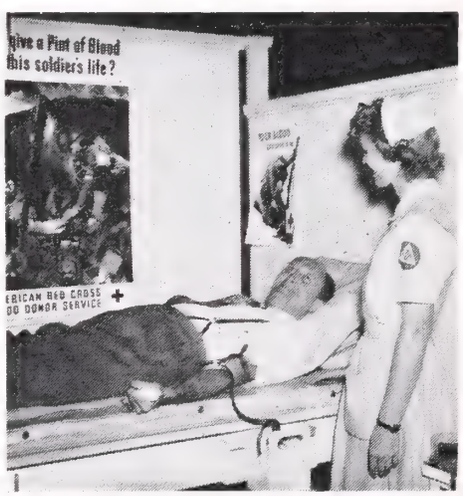
Dick Powell and his NBC Bandwagon show took part in the Roosevelt memorial programs aired locally, as Dick was coming through from the east, headed for Hollywood . . . Pat O'Brien and his wife arrived here 17 hours late last week, and left almost at once for Toronto, but took time out to visit House of the Good Shepherd, where Sister Vincent DePaul, Mrs. O'Brien's godmother is stationed.

Irving Mandel, Monogram president here, is back from a trip to the Indianapolis area . . . Chico Marx, at the Oriental recently, said he and his brothers were going back into flickers and would make an announcement shortly from Hollywood.

Warren Slee, M-G-M's transportation expert, is proudly displaying a treasury citation signed by Morgenthau, presented to Warren for his nifty job transporting stars hither and yon in bond drive campaigns . . . Jack Belasco says he and his gal saw a cow and two ducks marching down a country road and he was reminded he was hungry for it made him think of milk and quackers.

Irving Mack was in Grand Rapids for installation of officers of the new Variety Tent 27 there. On his way back, he lost his cane, made from an airplane propeller and sent him by his son overseas . . . Ed Kidwell, former B&K Senate manager, was in town for the war loan meeting. He's manager now in Oklahoma City.

The Alma Theatre, operated by Dan Goldman, has been added to Allied's booking and buying circuit . . . John Campion, manager of Warners' Cosmo is hospitalized at St. Bernard's. He crashed his car into a safety island trying to dodge a pedestrian and wound up with a fractured ankle and ribs.



TAKES A TURN FOR THE NURSE—Abe Platt, Balaban & Katz executive, now wears the white ribbon of the Red Cross for having donated two gallons of blood—which is the more notable since Abe does not exactly have the sort of physique commonly associated with weight-lifting or professional wrestling.

Helen Hill, booker's assistant at 20th-Fox, is displaying a sparkler. She's engaged to W. F. W. Livingston of the marines, stationed at Great Lakes station . . . Hal Tate, former BOXOFFICE reporter and now a SeaBee reports from Hawaii that Lieut. Art Jarrett is among those present in the Honolulu area and that Art's hair is pure white. Moss Hart has been out that way, too, Hal says, also Boris Karloff.

Arm Chair Travelers started weekly film showings last Friday at their club rooms, starting with "Mexico." This was the first on a program of weekly showings, others to be announced later . . . Annual spring series of Saturday morning showings of science pictures for young people began last week at the Chicago Academy of Science, in Lincoln Park. The first film presented was "The Amazon Awakens," with a cartoon.

"Why We Fight the Battle of China," a picture produced by the navy was shown to advertising men's post of the American Legion, at the Hotel Sherman . . . Films showing how to fight garden bugs, were shown to the local garden club . . . The College Club was shown a film titled "Glimpses of the Far East." The Natural History Museum screened for children "Jaunt for Juniors" and a color film, "Life in the Far East."

George and Harold Gollos, operators of the South Side circuit (seven theatres), say the 63rd St. Theatre, formerly the Langley, will reopen, showing imported motion picture classics, first of which is "The Great Mr. Handel." The house has been all remodeled . . . Dean Murphy, who finished a three-week engagement at the B&K Chicago, halted his impersonation of President Roosevelt in his act the last week, but put it back and while he spoke the band played Ave Maria. It was serious and spellbinding and got a big ovation from the audience.

Danny Newman, former publicist here for the Oriental and World Playhouse who was wounded in Belgium, reports that he is out of the hospital and his leg injuries are all healed up and his arm is much better. He was in London recently and made some broadcasts telling of his experiences. He wants to thank the boys on the Row for their many letters; also Herb Elisburg and Abe Teitel for the tins of fish. He sends regards and many thanks for the tear sheets from BOXOFFICE that someone sends him every now and then.

Allied Caravan Committee Holds Three-Day Session

CHICAGO—Allied's Caravan committee met here briefly, to discuss routine business at a 3-day session at the Blackstone Hotel April 18-20.

Martin Smith of Toledo, president of Allied, and A. F. Meyers, general counsel of Washington; H. A. Cole, Dallas; S. E. Samuelson, Philadelphia, chairman of the Caravan, and W. H. Ainsworth of Fond Du Lac, Wis., attended.

Allied of Illinois, now a member of the Caravan, was not represented. Problems faced by independents in various areas in the Allied organization were discussed, with special emphasis on postwar plans by independents. President Meyers declared that the closed meeting was of a purely business nature.

Metro Pair Cinches Chicago Pin Trophy

CHICAGO—The Motion Picture Bowling League closed its season with Metro, alias the Garsonites, making sure of first place by grabbing a pair from Film Chauffeurs, while Universal dropped three to Warners and finished in the second slot. Republic wound up the year as leaders in the three-game totals with 2,803, and Universal was next with 2,746. Republic also had high for single game totals with 960. Universal had 955. F. Hanzelin led for three games with 684, and Jack Kirsch, 675. V. Swanson shot high for single game with 279; E. Klass, 249.

After the final bout, the boys went to Variety Club for a gab-and-grub fest. Trophies were presented to Metro and to Jack Kirsch on Republic's team for outstanding marksmanship. Cash awards were also made to Republic and Universal teams and to players who were outstanding, including F. Hanzelin of Universal and Kirsch, V. Swanson and E. Klass of Film Chauffeurs. Hank Porter and Fussy Dreifuss were named No. 1 Pinup Boys of the year.

FINAL TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Metro	52	38
Universal	48	42
Film Chauffeurs	47	43
Monogram	46	44
Republic	44	46
Warners	43	57

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

	Avg.
Jack Kirsch (Rep)	182
F. Hanzelin (Univ)	178
V. Swanson (FC)	177
P. Shoemaker (M-G-M)	176
C. Keim (M-G-M)	174
C. Stocketh (Univ)	173
E. Klass (FC)	173
B. Bishop (M-G-M)	170
A. Fischer (M-G-M)	170
M. Canavan (Univ)	170

No. 5, No.8 Tied for Lead As Season Nears End

MILWAUKEE—In the IATSE Bowling League weekly roll, next to the last for the season, three-game honors went to No. 1 with 2,637; No. 2 second, with 2,634, and No. 5, 2,615. Single game honors went to No. 1 with 983; No. 5, 974; No. 7, 963. Elmer Klase rolled 662, Harry Eifert, 656; George Brader, 646. High single game was rolled by George Brader, 267; George Brader, 267; Charles Burns, 257.

TEAM STANDING

Team—	Won	Lost
No. 5	62	40
No. 8	62	40
No. 3	56	46
No. 7	53	49
No. 4	48	54
No. 2	47	55
No. 6	42	49
No. 1	38	64

Full Speed Ahead for Tele Station WBKB in Chicago

CHICAGO—Chicago's television station, WBKB, Friday (27) offered an original drama, "The Fire Dance," written especially for the see-hear medium by Herb Lyons, publicist for B&K's television studio.

The station broadcast a program of news, concerning the death of Mr. Roosevelt, then went off the air as a gesture of respect, postponing its programs on April 12 and 13.

Marshall Field's store is strongly boosting television, broadcasting shows from the State St. store. A recent program showed what Chicago service men centers do for visiting GIs. Hal LeRoy, currently at the Chicago, was on video program last week and on the same day, Connie Russel did a show over the television route for the Seventh War Loan drive.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Joseph Lyman began his career as a motion picture operator back in 1914. Since that time he has continued to manage his Princess Theatre in Whitehall, Ill. During his leisure hours Lyman likes best to play golf. He is a member of the local Lions Club, where his friends call him Joe. Lyman is married and has two daughters of whom he is justly proud. One of them, June, is on the radio dramatic council at Ohio State University. The other, Jo Ann, is a teacher of history and English at the Hillview High School. Joe thinks he picked a great business.



For many years **Mrs. Josie Lawson** of Mt. Olive, Ill., aided her husband, the late James Lawson sr., in the operation of his Grand Theatre which he, in partnership with John Rammes, established in 1919. In 1922 they built the present theatre, the New Grand. Rammes died in 1929 and when Lawson died in 1941, his wife took over complete management of the house. Since that time she has continued to run the theatre herself. In addition, she is active in Red Cross and American Legion Auxiliary work. She has a daughter and a son.



Jafet J. Rytkonen's purchase of the Bijou, Chicago, from D. E. Rice, brought him into the industry. In 1911 he constructed the Star Theatre, Negaunee, Mich., and in 1926 opened the Vista in the same city. He purchased the Ishpeming and the Butler, Ishpeming in 1943. He belongs to the Francis M. Moore Consistory, Ahmed Temple Shrine, Elks and Knights of Kaleva. Fond of hunting and fishing, he is a great traveler. He has four daughters; his son, William, is in business with him. To his friends he is either "J. J." or Jeff. He lives at Negaunee.

Stagehands to Study New City Building Code

ST. LOUIS—Le Roy Upton, president of stagehands Local 6, has revealed that the union will make a careful study of the theatre safety provisions contained in the new city building code which became effective April 1. The stagehands will be required to take a course of instructions.

Upton said that many of the changes in the code were urged by the union. He added that members will be told to insist upon strict enforcement of the code and also of a state law, which he said, forbids the sale of tickets to more persons than there are seats in a theatre.

Motion picture men who studied the code and those who had a part in its preparation during the last several years stated it has made no material changes relative to theatres, except a new section which relates to cooling systems not in general use when the old code was prepared.

Chicago School Starts Motion Picture Course

CHICAGO—A special course on motion pictures opened April 20 and will continue through May 18 at the Abraham Lincoln School.

A full-length film will be shown at each session, followed by analysis and discussion of motion pictures as an artistic medium for education and social expression. The course is under the leadership of Marie Seton.

Films to be shown include: G. B. Pabst's "Kamerad Schaft"; Joris Iven's "Rain," "New Earth" and "Spanish Earth"; Jean Renoir's "La Marseillaise"; Mervyn LeRoy's "I Was a Fugitive From a Chain Gang" and Vasiliev Bros.' "Chapayev."

Balaban & Katz Reports On Finances for '44

CHICAGO—Balaban & Katz Corp. and consolidated subsidiaries had a net profit of $1,744,130 after all taxes for the year ended Dec. 30, 1944, it was disclosed at the annual meeting of stockholders. This was equal to $6.63 a share on the outstanding stock and compared with a net of $1,883,060, or $7.16 a share for the preceding year.

During the year the company reduced its fixed obligations by $1,570,128. As of Dec. 30, 1944, current assets were $2,811,982, compared with current liabilities of $2,113,353.

Chicago 'Under Stars' Spot To Reopen on May Day

CHICAGO—Famous throughout the country as one of Chicago's most beautiful landmarks, the Drive-In Theatre, operated by N. S. Barger, will open its summer season May 1. At that time the acres of landscaped grounds will be in full bloom.

At the end of last season many improvements were added. A "holdout" lot capable of accommodating 400 cars was established to speed service and increase car capacity, providing good vantage points for over 1,500 automobiles. Barger stated last season's policy of two changes a week will continue with new shows every Thursday and Sunday The method of picking the productions on a point rating, based upon opinions of 160 newspaper critics throughout the country, will continue so that every production screened will have an advance guarantee of quality and entertainment value.

The opening production will be "Since You Went Away."

Holly Features Formed

CHICAGO—Holly Features, Inc., 203 North Wabash Ave., has received a certificate of incorporation from the secretary of state's office in Springfield. It will have 2,000 shares of $10 par value stock and is authorized to carry on the business of producing, creating and developing theatrical productions of all kinds. Incorporators were J. E. Daniels, J. P. Mulvihill and Helen Krzyminski.

Maureen O'Hara to Star in "Invalid"

Maureen O'Hara will star in RKO's "The Fabulous Invalid."

MILWAUKEE

Local theatre patrons are in accord with the National Screen Council rating of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" as good entertainment for the entire family. The film collected the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award for March. It is in its fourth downtown week.

Sun-tanned Bernie Malits, brother of Joe Malits, Metro booker, came in fresh from the west coast, made the trade shows, did the town, and all went well until he met Barney Sherman, manager of the Regal in the colored belt. Barney and Bernie had quite a time with two sepia lads that attempted crashing the boxoffice, but Bernie applied some tricks well known to all service men, and Barney buried the remains.

Hank Tollette, assistant general manager in charge of theatre operations of the S&M circuit, huddled with Joe Strother . . . Walter Bennin, Metro office manager, knocked himself out searching for hidden cigarets on his birthday. The gang handled the hiding. Then Walter reciprocated with cookies and ice cream and there were a few fast moments of fun.

Ray Smith, head of Ray Smith Co., announces that in addition to theatre supplies, he will be pleased to receive inquiries about the following new lines: nylon hosiery, gasoline coupons, pullman tickets, cigarets, popcorn, butter, Prestone, sugar, cigars, golf balls, steak, hotel reservations, chewing gum, pillow cases, whiskey and for those joining the select few in the inner circle, he will furnish, and rent living quarters in the basement.

N. Provincher, UA salesman, planed to Lewiston, Me., to attend a relative's funeral . . . Dave Ross, Metro salesman, dealed with Bob Guiterman of the Capitol, Manitowoc, on "The Valley of Decision." Of course, gin-rummy was not even discussed. And you can ask Bob why.

Jack Frackman, Republic manager, while in Chicago for the kickoff on the Seventh War Loan, huddled with E. H. Walton, assistant general sales manager of New York, and Bill Baker, district manager, on "A Picture a Week in Each Theatre for Nine Weeks" . . . L. T. Rogers, 20th-Fox executive out of New York, and Harold Beecroft, local manager talked things over here . . . Bill Parker, Universal manager told Beloit about his product.

Johnny Mednikow, National Screen branch manager, disposed of those huge pictures of Franklin D. Roosevelt in the rush following his death . . . This Saturday (28) NSS inaugurates all day Saturday closings.

Rumblings on the revival of the Variety Club here continue to grow . . . Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, still carries a watch presented by the club when he was chief barker in 1936 . . . Charley Fox of the Empress, "flesh" house staged a "Royal Tease Contest" . . . Ray Luedke, Betty Luedke's husband, entered the armed forces. Betty is with UA.

Warner circuit's Appleton Theatre has been redecorated. The Badger, Racine, and the Majestic, Madison, will get similar treatment shortly, Mark Brazee, Warner state executive, reports . . . When John Milton, operator of the Northern Lakes Theatre, Phelps, was in booking, Lou Orlove, Metro publicist, turned a $1 bill over to John, but the bill, in payment of a promised dinner, was torn in half in the process. John grabbed so fast the eagle on the bill yelled, "I'm going back to Lou!"

Sgt. Stan Goodman, formerly in show business here, writes: "I am sure happy to be getting BOXOFFICE. It will help me while away some time." Stan received his first issue at an army station on the African Gold Coast continued: "Everything is going well . . . work not too hard . . . plenty time for the beach . . . Manage to see all the movies on the post, and am in general enjoying overseas duty."

Booking on the Row: John Milton, Northern Lakes Theatre, Phelps; Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Wettstein, Coleman, Coleman; Lorenz A. Droes, Badger Theatre, Reedsburg; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Vogel, Empire, Manitowoc; Irving Vincient, Grand, Oconto Falls; M. Erickson, Loyal, Loyal; Don Deakin, Dells, Wisconsin Dells. Don reported most of the excursion boat operators at Wisconsin Dells won't run this year due to help shortage.

Mrs. O. V. Kelly, owner of the Badger at Reedsburg, has returned from Florida where she visited her son in the air corps . . . Jake Kaiser, Warner booker, was returning home about 12:00 p. m. recently when he was approached by the unidentified (guess who) operator of the Ritz, North Milwaukee. "Certainly looks like that story in BOXOFFICE about your never bein' at home nights was right. Where were you this time? Bowling, again?" asked the (guess who). Jake mumbled something, and rushed into the house leaving his car standing on the driveway.

Contributors note: Specifically falling into our raised eyebrows department is the query from a certain National Screen booker with a charming telephone voice, to wit: "Who's that brunet that Milwaukee BOXOFFICE columnist is seen with 'after hours'?"



MISSOURI COLLECTIONS JUMP—Matt Schulter (left), Missouri co-chairman for the 1945 March of Dimes motion picture industry collections, in the absence of Harry C. Arthur jr., state chairman, presents a check for $33,734.94 to Col. John J. Griffin, St. Louis County National Foundation chairman, as its share of the 1945 campaign. Collections in eastern Missouri totaled $84,581.88, an increase of $12,447.98 or 17.3 per cent over 1944. Western Missouri contributed an additional $52,026.00 to swell the total state collection to $136,607.88. Greatest increase among the individual theatres was accomplished by Fanchon and Marco's Fox Theatre, with collections totaling $10,364.34, an increase of $3,518.21 over the 1944 figure.

Henry King, noted 88er and leader of his band that played a recent one-nighter at George Devine's ballroom, uses a baton that's the size of a miniature baseball bat. He of the dulcet toned piano when queried, commented: "I use it as a threat. My sidemen fear getting their noggins bashed for clinkers and fluffed passages."

Helen Ramthum, that delightful secretary to Otto Trampe, business agent of the IATSE, returned to her home the other night and discovered the loss of a wrist watch. To date, all queries have failed to turn up the errant timepiece. Watch for it.

The Pearl Theatre features Tuesday and Wednesday bargain nights—12 cents admission, children 10 cents always . . . And the Park still uses dish giveaways three nights a week . . . The Modjeska beats the brownout by spotlighting with three spots the posters above the boxoffice . . . Juneau Theatre angles patrons with free dishes.

Helen Gahagan (Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas, wife of Melvyn Douglas, and a somewhat distant cousin of this scribbler) was in town. She is the congresswoman from the 14th California district.

Sgt. Randall Laing, former Fox Wisconsin auditor, is back from a long session as an internee in Switzerland. He reports he became engaged to a Swiss lass, and with the war's end they'll marry and live in U.S. . . . Don Woods, Bob Allen and Gordon Hewitt played some early season golf at Tuckaway. Allen reported the course in great shape for this early. Listen, you lads, that's Ben Poblocki's home course.

Judy Seim, young daughter of Ken Seim, UA booker, while visiting in Chicago fell and broke her shoulder . . . Attending the kickoff for the Seventh War Loan in Chicago were William Ainsworth, Fond du Lac; Harry Perlewitz, Milwaukee; Harold J. Fitzgerald, WAC state chairman; William V. Geehan, WAC publicist; Gene Kilburg and Jack Frackman, all Milwaukee showmen . . . Lou Orlove, Metro exploiteer, is smoking a pipe for first time in his life.

Otto Trampe, IATSE business agent, announces that within a month Milwaukee Vocational School will have a course in television ready for projectionists. Registration now is in progress.

A free-lance "Rembrandt" was driving Eddie Weisfeldt wacky with demands for art work, even the full-time job left when Roy Staub, Riverside artist, entered the armed forces. Entering Eddie's office the beret (yes he was wearing one) said: "I've come for your decision, Mr. Weisfeldt." "Well," Eddie replied, "I want the word Riverside in this ad for 'It's a Pleasure' to be in script, but we haven't much script. The Warner has plenty. We may have to move the picture over there, and use their script." And the Rembrandt barely breathing at the thought that he had an IN, waited for further instructions . . . What can you do in cases like that? Cremation?

"What happened to the Milwaukee column last issue? . . . Was your material late? . . . Paper shortage? . . . Is this a hick town?" Phone calls! Phone calls! Phone calls! (Editor's note: Columnist Gahagan knows but he evidently was not telling.)

Add Eight to "Main Street Girl"

Maurice Murphy, Dewey Robinson, Hella Crossley, Milton Kibbee, Dewey Nelson, John Hamilton, Lee "Lasses" White and Bobby Barber have been added to the cast of "Main Street Girl," a Monogram production.

Variety's Delegates Elected for August

CHICAGO—At the regular meeting of Variety, Tent 26, Lou Goldberg of Paramount and Eddie Brunell, owner of the Metropole Theatre, were elected delegates to the national Variety convention to be held in New York some time in August.

Ben Bartelstein, Bartelstein circuit, and William Baker, Republic, were elected alternates. Others elected from Chicago tent to attend the convention were Jack Kirsch, national canvasman, and Irving Mack, national representative.

Grieve for "Laddie," Dead In Service of His Country

MILWAUKEE—Laddie is dead. Marilyn and Marjorie Doctor, daughters of James Doctor of the IATSE, No. 164, enlisted their dog, a white collie, in Dogs for Defense.

Recently they were notified by the army of his death, "while on active duty with the armed forces." Both girls were heartbroken.

The letter they received read: "Knowledge that your dog died in the service of his country will, in some measure, mitigate the regret occasioned by the news of his death. His conduct was such as to bring credit to both himself, and to you as his owners. Military regulations prevent the release of any details on how he died."

Laddie had left Milwaukee with the first contingent of Dogs for Defense in October, 1942.

Prizes Go on the Block

ST. LOUIS—Barney Rosenthal, manager of Monogram, and Maurice Davis, manager of the Will Rogers Theatre, were sponsors for "kings for a day" at the recent meeting of the Variety Club. As prizes in various contests they provided cigarets, boxes of candy and a huge beefsteak. When the winners refused to accept the prizes they were auctioned off. After some hysterical bidding all wound up as the property of Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco. Harry then pulled a real surprise by giving the merchandise to members of the Club.

ST. LOUIS

Miss Jane Feld, daughter of Joseph A. Feld, 20th-Fox city salesman, was married recently at the Church of the Nativity to Lieut. Michael J. Hart, U.S. naval reserve.

An official army film, "Introduction to the Army," was shown at the YMHA . . . The Burch Theatre, a 246-seater at Rives, Mo., was forced to close recently because the town was isolated by high water and Film Transit's trucks could not get through.

Lieut. James Grady, recently awarded an Air Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters for his work with the air force overseas, was with the Orpheum Theatre, Springfield, Ill., prior to donning a uniform.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, in an editorial titled "Memphis Bans a Film," gave the City of Memphis a spanking for barring the motion picture, "Brewster's Millions" because that excellent Negro comedian, Rochester, has "too familiar" a role in the film. The paper said: "Probably the film would be all right with Memphis censorship if Rochester, or any other Negro in it, were treated as a villain, lackey or clown, to be hounded or kicked around. In Memphis it seems a film presenting a humane treatment of Negroes threatens public welfare, but the doctrine of racial superiority does not."

Roosevelt Family See Highlights Of Life on White House Screen

CHICAGO—The following article in the Chicago Daily Times by Irving "Kup" Kupcinet, columnist, gives an interesting account of how a film was received in the White House after the President's death. The account follows:

Washington, April 21—The last get-together of the Roosevelt family in the White House was due partly to the efforts of Ted Tod, the former Chicago newspaper man. Tod, until he was shifted here a week ago, was in charge of Warner Bros. publicity in the Chicago district. He now holds a similar position in Washington.

He visited with Faye Emerson Roosevelt, a Warner Bros. star, and her husband, Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt, two days ago and casually mentioned his studio had prepared a newsreel short on the late President Roosevelt, which included the highlights of his 12-year career in the White House and shots of the funeral.

General Roosevelt immediately requested Tod to bring the film to the White House so the entire family might view it. After conferring with his mother, he set the date for Friday noon. Gathered in the White House screening room were Mrs. Roosevelt, Elliott and his wife, Anna and her husband, Lieut. Col. John Boettiger, and the wives of James, John and Franklin jr.

For the first time since the President's death, Mrs. Roosevelt weakened visibly during the films and wept openly as scenes of the President's cheery smile and familiar wave of his hand flashed before her.

Mrs. Roosevelt left the White House for New York and Hyde Park soon after the film had been shown.

It was necessary for Tod to identify himself when he entered the White House grounds, Kupcinet wrote elsewhere.

"Tod looked through his wallet and took out his draft card on which the full name (given to him by his father, who had been one of Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders) was printed. And his full name is "Theodore Roosevelt Tod," which caused the guard to remark: "Nearly all members of the Roosevelt family have visited here during the last 12 years, but I never met you before."

INDIANAPOLIS

Harry Gorman of the Boys Club Ass'n spoke at the Variety Club April meeting, giving a complete outline of the boys' club activities and work . . . Marc Wolf, national doughguy of Variety, attended the installation of officers at the newly established tent at Grand Rapids, Mich.

V. U. Young, head of the Y&W circuit, was a visitor at the company office here, accompanied by Mr. Silep, tax executive for the circuit . . . Mrs. Gladys Newman of the Universal booking department returned from her vacation in Fort Worth . . . Rex Carr, general manager of Marcus Enterprises, visited company theates in Cincinnati and Dayton, Ohio . . . Mannie Marcus, who heads Marcus Enterprises, was a Chicago visitor last week.

Variety Club is much elated at its membership, now increasing under Russell Brentlinger, membership chairman . . . Mrs. Anna E. Core has been selling war bonds almost three years for a total of 3,035 hours and $50,000 worth of bonds and stamps. She works five nights a week dividing her time between the Lyric and Circle theatres . . . Fred F. Johnson, 29, died Sunday at the Robert Long Hospital. He was manager of the Cinema Theatre.

Gil Lamb, film comedian, entertained patients at Billings General Hospital, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Wednesday through Saturday last week under the sponsorship of USO-Camp Shows. He plays harmonica and is an expert dancer and pantomimist. Lamb was assisted by Robert Coffee and Martha Green . . . Oscar Fine of the Fine circuit, Evansville, left for a business trip east, including New York City.

Jules Lapidus, eastern division manager of Warner Bros., and Charles Rich, district manager, spent Wednesday last week at the local exchange . . . Harvey Cocks, general manager of Quimby Enterprises, has started east seeking talent for his stage shows.

Guy Craig, WAC distributor chairman; Boyd Sparrow, manager of Loew's, and Marc Wolf of the Y&W circuit, attended a meeting of the Seventh War Loan drive in Chicago . . . Carl Shalit, Columbia district manager, was a visitor last week.

Paul Leatherby, RKO office manager and head booker, will appear before his draft board April 28 . . . Walter Titus, Republic branch operations manager, was a visitor at the local exchange last week . . . Mrs. Virginia Roempke, cashier at Republic, has resigned to accept another position . . . Republic is having a playdate drive, first in its history, in honor of J. R. Grainger, general sales manager.

Ward E. Scott, 20th-Fox manager, and William Gehring, western division manager, were in the city. Scott and Joe Nager, office manager, went to Fort Wayne one day and Gehring conducted sales sessions on Friday.

Exhibitors seen on Filmrow: Ernest Smith, Francesville; William Studebaker, Logansport; Louis Weithe, Louisville; Harry Van Noy, Anderson, and Joe Schilling, Connersville.

After waiting one year James Griffis, who operates the Boswell Theatre, Boswell, received his popcorn machine. He says it was worth waiting for.

Mrs. David Ross was re-elected president of the Indianapolis Indorsers of Photoplays at its annual luncheon meeting in the Washington Hotel. Other officers elected: Mrs. Walter Geisel, Allice P. Ellison and Mrs. J. P. Cochrane, vice-presidents; Mrs. A. J. Hueber, treasurer; Mrs. Claude Franklin, secretary; Mrs. Lee Waddell, recording secretary; Mrs. Fred R. Duckwall, membership secretary. A. J. McGinley, Universal manager, was the principal speaker.

Spends Night in Theatre

CHICAGO—She wasn't afraid, "just terribly embarrassed," Miss Flore Lackos, owner of a florist shop, said when she woke up early today in the Cinema Theatre to find it dark and empty. She called the police, who helped her get out of the closed theatre.

A Rolling Ball Gathers Plenty Of Enthusiasm in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE—Ten years ago Elmer Klase, one of the officers of the Motion Picture Operators Union No. 164 started the idea of organizing a bowling league for members. A six-team league was formed, composed of three-man teams, sponsored by the local, with Elmer Klase heading the league.

Later the league increased to four-man, and then to five-man teams, and from six to eight-man teams, with nearly one-third of the union's membership now participating in the weekly events at Marino Recreation.

Operating on the handicap basis, this has been a very close race all season. In age the league is one of the oldest in town.

The league has some old-timers in bowling on the roster, chiefly Frank Paradis, who is close to 70 years old and holds an average of 149. Another veteran is Art Weaver, who holds about a 169 average. And still another is Johnny Black, once business agent for the union, and who, though down at the bottom of the scoring list, is a regular, and never misses a weekly event.

VE-Day Policy Will Depend On Local Public Feeling

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Exhibitors in Canada are literally anxiously waiting for the official word of declared peace in Europe because of perplexity with regard to what will happen in the community. Method of procedure has been left largely to the individual managers because no one can foretell what will take place locally, but it is generally believed that it will be possible to continue with screen programs if a performance is in progress when the news breaks.

Whether a theatre will open for shows after the news has been flashed will depend on the attitude of the public in the locality, it has been stated. There has been no report of arrangements for any stage ceremonial at the time of declaration of European peace because of the possibility that an audience would demonstrate on its own account and the continuance of screen programs would better hold the attention of patrons.



PROJECTIONISTS GIFT—Local 110 of the Motion Pictures Machine Operators Union, Chicago, gives Red Cross $15,000 toward its 1945 goal. Above, left to right, are: Martin H. Kennelly, general chairman; Eugene J. Atkinson, business manager of Local 110; James M. Gorman, president of the Chicago MPMOU.

Variety Club Show to Aid Hal Halperin Memorial

CHICAGO—To obtain funds for a Hal Halperin room at La Rabida sanitarium, which it sponsors, Variety Club is planning a memorial show at the Chicago Civic Opera House May 6. In charge of Variety's local office, Halperin was active in war bond drives, service men's centers, Red Cross campaigns and other charitable and patriotic ventures almost to the day of his death from a heart condition recently.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly is honorary chairman of the special committee formed by Variety Club to handle the memorial. Charles F. Glore has been appointed chairman of the civic committee. Other members of the special committee are John Balaban, James Coston, Tom Flannery, Max Halperin, Bill Hunt, Johnny Jones, Jack Kirsch, Arthur Schoenstadt, Edwin Silverman and J. C. Thompson.

Baruch Sees 5-7 Year Boom Following War

From Canadian Edition

NEW YORK—That the U.S. will see a period of prosperity of from five to seven years following the conclusion of the war, "no matter what is done or not done," was the assertion of Bernard Baruch, 75-year-old financier and close adviser to President Roosevelt, in an interview published in Stars and Stripes, army newspaper.

The interview was given to the Stars and Stripes reporter in London, and probably took place on a park bench outside the house of commons. Baruch was in London for conferences with Prime Minister Churchill, but would not discuss his mission. He did, however, talk freely about the postwar future, and said, "What happens after those five or seven years depends on the peace the big boys are preparing for us now."

Baruch's prediction for economic prosperity takes the opposite view to that expressed in some circles that the rapidly-approaching end of the war in Europe will bring with it cutbacks on army contracts and widespread reconversion with attendant unemployment and general diminishing of the business boom.

Baruch also spoke for the need of strengthening the "GI Bill of Rights" so as to assure the returning service men his rights, "which are not charity dispensed by a beneficent community but rights which he earned." Speaking of employment for returning veterans, Baruch declared that the jobs "must be the kind of work to give a man a decent standard of living, and that means good food, clothing, housing, education, medical care and a certain amount of amusement and leisure."

Bingo Gets a Final "No" In Harrisburg Assembly

From Mideast Edition

HARRISBURG — Proposed bingo legalization finally died for this session of the Pennsylvania general assembly. A house bill was defeated several weeks ago and then later a motion to reconsider the bill was defeated on the floor. The measure would have licensed bingo games with permission of the courts of quarter sessions. Then the senate law and order committee disapproved bingo after considerable discussion.

20,000 Schools Now Equipped for Films

From Midwest Edition

DES MOINES—The extent to which motion pictures are being used in the classroom was stressed here last week at a conference directed by the bureau of visual instruction at the University of Iowa.

Speakers included A. J. McClelland of Chicago, district manager of Encyclopedia Britannica Films, Inc., who said that of 300,000 schools in the nation, 20,000 now are equipped to show motion pictures.

All Des Moines secondary schools and 10 of the 44 elementary schools have permanent equipment necessary to show educational films as a classroom aid, according to Clifton F. Schropp, director of audiovisual education in the city schools. Other schools may borrow similiar equipment from the board of education, which also maintains a film library for use of all schools.

Schropp said the ten junior and senior high schools here have provided their own projection equipment. Purchases in the elementary schools generally have been financed by the school Parent-Teacher Ass'ns. Sale of wastepaper in the current salvage campaigns have increased the visual aid education fund, Schropp added, but it is easier to order equipment today than to get delivery.

At least 20 elementary schools would have their own film equipment if it were being manufactured he said.

One hundred teaching films, ranging from Peter Rabbit for a kindergarten class to geographical, social, and historical films for senior high school students, are distributed to the schools by the board of education.

Film strips and glass slides also are available through this library. Along with the pictures, projection machines for sound and silent motion pictures, and projectors for the strips and slides are available.



INDIAN MAIDENS—These four Musketeers of Warners exchange in Milwaukee were snapped by the BOXOFFICE inquiring photographer as they retired into their tepee. The gals of the front office, all hepped up for Warners' Heap Big Powwow drive, are: Top, Dorothy Gruber; below her, on left, Mary Jane Lohre; upper right, Mardy O'Hearn; below her, Dorothy Sodolski.

Salesmen Organize For Theatre Signup

By BABE COHN

District Publicity Director for the Seventh War Loan Drive.

KANSAS CITY—Branch managers of various exchanges, with Bill Truog, area distributor chairman of the Seventh War Loan presiding, met and organized the territory for bond premieres. Free Movie Days and like events. Salesmen from each exchange were assigned to carry out the contact with the exhibitors.

As all of the circuits represented have been signed up for 100 per cent cooperation, the salesmen will contact only independent exhibitors, to obtain their cooperation to the same extent. Salesman will report to branch managers on the five points that every exhibitor is being asked to carry through the Seventh War Loan. These pledges: (1) To hold a bond premiere; (2) to have a Free Movie Day; (3) to have a children's premiere or show; (4) to be an issuing agent, or arrange to sell bonds through existing theatre agents; (5) to carry this bond slogan in all ads from May 14 to June 30—"Buy Bonds at This Theatre."

Weekly Report to Tom Connors

A weekly report, according to Truog, will be made to Tom Connors, national distributor chairman, on the work of each salesman, and names he was able to obtain on this pledge in each situation in his territory. In this way, there will be both a local and national checkup to see that every exhibitor has the fullest cooperation, in order that he may participate 100 per cent in the drive.

It has been announced that the same condition on the availability of product on bond premieres will exist as was true in the last bond drive.

A kit is being sent to each exhibitor from the headquarters of the WAC in New York. This kit will contain both information and material to assist the exhibitor in putting on his premere and other bond actvities.

"The All-Star Bond Rally," a two-reeler, was screened and drew enthusiastic approval. Twentieth-Fox produced it as its contribution to the campaign. It's a boxoffice subject which can be advertised. Heading an all-star cast are Vivian Blaine, Jeanne Crain, Bing Crosby, Linda Darnell, Betty Grable, June Haver, Bob Hope, Harry James and his orchestra, Fay Marlow, Harpo Marx, Fibber McGee and Molly, Carmen Miranda and Frank Sinatra. Songs like "Saturday Night," "We'll Be Marching to a Love Song" and the new Seventh War Loan tune, "Buy a Bond," by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson, are featured. A billion-dollar cast in a 14 billion-dollar bond campaign show!

New Schedule Explained

The new schedule for personnel and company buying at exchanges, circuit offices and theatres was explained at a recent meeting at which Finton Jones presided. The quotas have been set on a different and, it is believed, a fairer basis, considering the salaries received rather than merely the number of persons employed. Purchases on the pay roll deduction plan will first be taken care of, then the effort will be directed to company and theatre owner purchases and the cash purchases of employes. The change will involve a distinction in the accounting so that the records will show cash purchases by corporations, owners and employes separate from the salary savings purchases. One purpose is to emphasize E bonds.

Steinberg Stops at Branch

DES MOINES—Nat E. Steinberg, Republic district manager from St. Louis, was a visitor here last week.

W. J. Gerbracht Leaving The Estherville Grand

DES MOINES—W. J. Gerbracht, manager of the Grand Theatre in Estherville, for the last three and one-half years, is leaving Iowa to become an inspector at the Boeing Aircraft Co. in Seattle, Wash. Gerbracht will be succeeded by Don Loftus of Charles City, who has been manager of the Gem.

During his residence in Estherville, Gerbracht took part in scores of civic activities, including the war bond drive, clothing and infantile paralysis collections.

Gerbracht has been a member of the Estherville Rotary Club, the American Legion and was liaison officer for the Civil Air Patrol in Estherville.

Gerbracht, his wife and four children, were to leave for Seattle by car.

Truly Wildman Dies Suddenly in Kaycee

KANSAS CITY—Truman B. Wildman, who throughout some three decades in the motion picture industry was known as "Truly" to a host of friends, and who always signed his letters "Yours Truly, B. Wildman," died unexpectedly at his residence here last weekend. He was 56, and at the time of his death was city salesman for M-G-M, a concern with which he had been connected for the last 13 years.

Wildman was a veteran of the industry, with sales experience dating back to several years before World War I. His first film job was in Dallas. He entered that war as a private, emerging with a lieutenancy. Shortly afterward he was with Goldwyn Pictures, and later with Mutual Films in Dallas. For a short period he came to Kansas City to become connected with the old Triangle company, thence back to Dallas as assistant to the southern division manager of Producers Distributing Corp.

When sound came in Wildman was branch manager at Dallas for Warner Bros. Later he served this company at Indianapolis. He came to Kansas City 15 years ago to become connected in a sales capacity with Universal. After two years he resigned and aligned himself with Metro here, carrying a portfolio on the road, later being promoted to salesman for Kansas City and environs.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon (21) at Lawton, Okla., with burial in the family plot there. Wildman is survived by his wife Kate, and two daughters, Cynthia and Gloria.

Twin City Area Is Out To Uphold Bond Name

MINNEAPOLIS — Following a meeting of all distributor representatives here this week, the all-out drive to put over the industry's Seventh War Loan drive is under way. Efforts are being put forth with the utmost vigor to sign up every one of the territory's exhibitors to cooperate in all possible ways in the campaign, using trailers and other advertising matter and holding bond and free shows.

Ben Blotcky, chairman for the distributors, presided at the meeting and he and Art Anderson, his assistant, emphasized the necessity of working to the utmost of one's ability to make the campaign as successful as its predecessors.

"We have made a name for ourselves in this territory," Blotcky pointed out. "We have a lot to uphold. We must come through again, as we always have come through before, so that our reputation, if anything, will be enchanced."

The meeting was attended by all branch managers, sales and office managers, salesmen and bookers. Enthusiasm reached a height which indicated that this territory once more will rise to the occasion, Blotcky pointed out.

Back from Chicago where the regional rally was held, John J. Friedl, WAC chairman, and his aides, lost no time in setting the machinery for the campaign in motion. They hope and believe it will be "the biggest and best" of all the drives.

DES MOINES—Russell C. Fraser, manager of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Tri-States Theatre Corp. here, has been named director of publicity for the Iowa Seventh War Loan theatre drive.

Business Men Launch New Blanchard House

BLANCHARD, IOWA—The Business Men's Ass'n here has opened a new theatre with J. C. Irwin serving as manager. Western Theatre Supply Co. provided the equipment.

Hamberg, Field Confer

DES MOINES—Harry Hamberg, Paramount manager, spent a week in Minneapolis conferring with Harold Field of the Pioneer circuit.



MR. RHODEN MEETS MR. ROSENTHAL—In fact, all three of the Kansas City delegation to the Chicago Seventh Loan meeting met Joe Rosenthal, AP war photographer, who snapped the famous picture of the marines raising the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima. In the photo, usual order: E. C. Rhoden, Betty Lawton, star of the stage play, "Voice of the Turtle"; Senn Lawler, Rosenthal, M. D. "Babe" Cohn.



KANSAS CITY "GOES TO TOWN" ON "OBJECTIVE, BURMA!"—And no wonder, for the Heart of America metropolis houses two concerns that manufacture the parts that go into the handi-talkie that plays such a prominent part in the picture. The lady in the photograph is Velma West Sykes of the BOXOFFICE staff, and the civilian at the extreme right is "Babe" Cohn, manager of the Newman. Mrs. Sykes is being given the lowdown on the two-way operation of the instrument, assisted by four camouflaged combat members of the U.S. signal corps.

Like "Old Home Week" When "Burma" Came to the Newman in Kansas City

By VELMA WEST SYKES

KANSAS CITY—Arousing the public interest in a war picture these days takes a bit of planning. However, it can be done in dramatic fashion, as "Babe" Cohn of the Newman Theatre has just demonstrated in his exploitation of "Objective, Burma!" He focused attention on the handi-talkie, intriguing weapon of the U.S. signal corps for communication between outfits.

One of the important parts of this communication equipment is made in Kansas City, the battery, by the War Battery Co., 6300 St. John, while the Motor Radio Co., 2440 Charlotte, is the distributor for its radio. Thus a three-way tieup was made with the plants and the theatre, under the close supervision of Lieut. Col. John M. Niehaus of the U.S. signal corps. Colonel Neihaus is in charge of the corps' incentive work in connection with the plants.

"That means he puts the cocklebur under the saddle-blanket to get things started," quipped Cohn in explanation. "It was through him we were able to have four veterans from the signal corps at Camp Crowder in the lobby to demonstrate the handi-talkie to patrons of the show."

The four men were Cpl. Chester Di Cicco of Brooklyn, Pvt. Ronald D. Capper from Kansas City, Sgt. Frank Schrader, St. Louis, and Sgt. Clifford Twilla, Dyersburg, Tenn. Sergeant Twilla had been in the Burma zone where the story of the picture is laid and was impressed by its accuracy of detail.

Several small boys were fascinated by the handi-talkie and became so excited while using it that they would forget to answer. One, however, wanted to tell how he had a brother in the signal corps—and that the father who accompanied him to the show worked in the battery plant. A short trailer had been run saluting the workers of these companies, and in turn the management bought blocks of tickets to the show so the workers could see the concrete use to which their product was put.

The Kansas City Star gave prominent stories and used pictures of the handi-talkie demonstrations. Several of the department stores used window displays tied up with the picture. Thus the documentary elements of the picture were stressed to the point that it became, not just another war picture, but a matter of keen interest to a public already looking ahead to making use of wartime inventions for peace purposes.

"What do you think they will use the handi-talkie for in civilian life?" Corporal Di Cicco was asked. "So wives can keep in touch with their husbands wherever they are?"

"Lady," he answered, "that wouldn't be what you'd call a peacetime use of it, would it?"

KANSAS CITY

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bills were on Filmrow reporting they finally have completed the endless list of "finishing touches" on their new El-Jon at Brunswick, Mo. . . . Mrs. Ken Minkemeyer has left Gene Boehm, assistant, in charge of the Casino at Boonville while she journeys to Washington to visit her husband, a lieutenant.

Pete Clark, booker at PRC, has been transferred back to the PRC office in Dallas. Norris Cresswell, PRC salesman the last few months, takes over the PRC booking desk here . . . Beverly Miller, local PRC franchise holder, flew a print to Eldorado, Kas., Sunday and got as far as Ottawa on the way back when darkness forced him to land to check up on the navigation and landing lights. He discovered one of the navigation and both of the landing lights were out of commission and that Ottawa would be a nice place to spend the night. He and a companion found no restaurants were open there on Sunday! The two shared a single hamburger that night.

Ben Marcus, Columbia midwest division manager, expressed pride over independent support in the Montague tribute drive. Marcus has been a midwesterner in distribution for 20 years, 17 of them with Columbia in Minneapolis, Omaha, Des Moines and Kansas City. The midwest division at last report ranked first in the drive.

Oliver Ewens is the new assistant shipper at Republic, replacing Philip Ozbolt jr. who resigned.

J. D. Mooney, UA auditor, was here on a routine check. He is "one of the Mooney boys" in the picture industry. A brother, Paul Mooney, is division manager for National Screen Service; another brother, M. A. Mooney, is head of the Cooperative Theatres of Ohio.

Don Davis, midwest Photophone salesman for RCA, returned from an extended assignment in Colorado only to go on to Chicago for an RCA meeting. He came back here Wednesday and prepared to flit westward again . . . Paul Connet, local manager of the RCA Service division, also attended the Chicago meeting.

Maurice Jencks, secretary of the Kansas State Fair Ass'n and owner of leases on some Topeka theatres, dates his theatre experience back to the first world war, Norris Cresswell, PRC salesman who visited with Jencks the other day, reports. Jencks was owner of the Orpheum at Army City near Camp Funston in World War I times, and Cresswell was his stage manager.

R. F. Fite, Eldorado, Kas., planning to leave on a trip to Houston, Tex., this week . . . Jack Adams, PRC southern division manager, ran into trouble with floods on the way to Kansas City and turned back to take in Oklahoma City until after the waters subside.

"Enchanted Cottage," whch has had the biggest magazine campaign of any RKO picture, will open at the Orpheum May 3 . . . Claude Morris, here with Metro and Fox Midwest a number of years and now a Samuel Goldwyn publicity representative, was here last week in the interest of the Danny Kaye picture, "The Wonder Man." He conferred with Jack Renfro, RKO manager, and Gil Canfield, RKO publicity man, on a local campaign. The picture will be tradescreened at 2:30 p. m. May 28. It is not yet dated for first run here.

Virgil Morey, Royal, Tonganoxie, Kas., in addition to his exhibition and his teaching duties, is enlarging his fur-raising activities, adding mink.

The Republic anniversary drive has been extended to end July 27 from June 29 . . . Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Howard (she is the Metro switchboard operator and receptionist), took a week off to visit their son Weldon at Dallas where he is with the United Air Lines.

Visitors on Filmrow included Eddie Henderson, Star, Clay Center, Kas., who doesn't come in often; Sam Blair, Osborn and Smith Center, Kas.; Ward Speilman, Gem, Baldwin, Kas. . . . Dan Payton, Cozy, Girard, Kas., was on Filmrow expressing gratitude that the flood did not hit his town. He related that the Cozy is now "servicing film deliveries," the Exhibitors Film Delivery Service dropping prints at the Cozy for theatres at nearby towns cut off from their usual railroad delivery service. The exhibitors at Walnut, for example, have been driving to Girard for their prints during the floods.

Edison L. Watson, manager of the Byam at Fairmount, suburban near Independence, has this on his letters now: "Independence, Mo., the Home of the President." He and President Truman have been neighbors in Independence for years.

Thanks for your cooperation!
L. L. Balduria

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MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Frank Setting Up Own Distribution on "Dog"

MINNEAPOLIS—W. R. Frank is setting up his own national sales force to distribute a single film, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," his second and latest Hollywood production. After its fine boxoffice showing in test runs, the local circuit owner and Hollywood producer says he "can't understand" why he was unable to make a distributor deal with any of the major companies.

It's not uncommon to distribute independent pictures by disposing of them on a state right basis, but this may be the first time when a sales organization has been established for a single picture. Sales representatives will be appointed in every exchange center and arrangements will be made for physical distribution through established outlets, Frank announces.

George R. Jermain, well known in local film centers and manager of Metro Premium Co. sales for the past eight years, has been appointed as representative for this territory and also has been delegated to obtain representatives in the Milwaukee and Omaha centers. He already has started on the job.

After several test runs which resulted in sensational grosses, the Minnesota Amusement Co. bought "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" for its entire circuit. Indorsing the picture enthusiastically, John J. Friedl, president of the big chain, says he will give it preferred playing time.

Frank also was unable to get his first independently personally-produced picture, "Enemy of Women," set with any major company for distribution. However, this hasn't discouraged him as far as his producing activities are concerned. He says he already has plans for his third picture and will announce them and start shooting within the next few months.

A City-Rural Squabble on Clocks

MINNEAPOLIS—It isn't likely that Twin City exhibitors will benefit from state legislature action in returning the state to standard time because Minneapolis and St. Paul city officials, along with those of some of the other larger towns are setting wheels in motion to remain on war time.

Exhibitors here didn't sponsor or support the time measure, but they felt a return to standard time would help the boxoffice, particularly in the summer when, under war time, daylight, remaining until the late hours, keep many prospective patrons outdoors or at home and away from the theatre.

Mayors of both Twin Cities and their city councils declare they will take whatever action is necessary to continue to go along with the rest of the nation on war time, even to the extent of passing ordinances. There's a state law providing that no city or other community can operate on any time other than stipulated by the legislature. "Well, they can't arrest the whole city," the mayor of St. Paul commented.

Mayor M. L. Kline of Minneapolis claimed that return to standard time would lead to confusion, what with radio stations, etc., on war time.

Floods in Many Spots In Kansas City Area

KANSAS CITY—Many towns in Kansas and Missouri were threatened and some were isolated this week by floods as the Missouri, Kaw and other rivers overflowed.

Railroad notices received on Filmrow Monday said shipments to Kansas and southern Missouri would be received subject to delay and as late as Wednesday morning it was announced at the Union Station that three train runs were called off.

At midweek relatively few theatres were dark through nondelivery of prints but strenuous work was necessary to make deliveries where trains could not make it. Exhibitors Film Delivery reported Wednesday noon that though late to many places—one truck was seven hours late—all prints handled had reached exhibitors in time for shows.

Exhibitors Delivery Service reported its trucks on regular routes frequently made detours to reach destinations, and were carrying prints ordinarily taken by trains to points within reaching distance of exhibitors. The exhibitors drove anywhere from two to a dozen miles to pick up the prints.

Flood waters entered Emporia and Strong City, Kas., on Monday, but theatres there stayed open.

At the Fort Wood in Waynesville, Mo., water rose over the seats April 13-14 and the floor of the Gillioz, Monett, Mo., was flooded April 12, stopping the show.

Swanson at Auditorium

RED WING, MINN.—Eddie Swanson is the new manager of the Auditorium here. He formerly was manager of the Metro in Red Wing.

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A HINT TO THE WISE

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OMAHA

Mr. and Mrs. Kehrberg of Sheldon paid their first visit to Filmrow in three years . . . Sid McArdle, United Artists office manager, was to take his draft physical at Fort Leavenworth . . . Dorothy Nelson, former secretary to Branch Manager Joe Scott at 20th-Fox, who now lives at Boone, visited her old office here . . . Walter Hagedon, Cozad exhibitor, brought his son into the doctor's office here . . . Sara Muisell, Universal inspector, is on vacation.

Harold Levy, former Universal office manager, writes he at last has found a place to live in Washington after six months there . . . Doris Gross, Warner booker, was vacationing . . . Lieut. J. R. Hoff of the navy, son-in-law of Robert Ballantyne, spent several days here prior to taking Mrs. Hoff and their small son back to Virginia where the lieutenant is stationed.

Joe Jacobs, Columbia manager, tried to move a street car off its track. Joe was backing out of a parking space. Joe's only comment to friends after caving in the back end of his automobile was that "I honked but it wouldn't move."

Lieut. H. B. Johnson of the navy, son of H. B. Johnson, Universal manager, was in Omaha en route to San Francisco for reassignment.

Oscar Neu of the Neumade Mfg. Co., New York, flew into town for a visit with F. A. Van Husen, Western Theatre Supply chief . . . Mrs. Fred Schuler, Humboldt exhibitor, left for Los Angeles to visit her son in the navy . . . Ted Emerson, Orpheum Theatre manager, arrived back from California . . . The Brandeis has installed a new Walker plastic screen . . . 20th-Fox employes received a three-week salary bonus.

Dorothy Weaver, 20th-Fox second booker, took her vacation wielding a dust pan and broom in her home . . . Clyde Cooley will leave May 1 for Gulfport, Miss., to see his son, Raymond, seaman in the navy's quartermaster school there . . . Dorothy Biesendorf, M-G-M telephone girl, will enter the WAVES May 12. Her successor is Pauline Hawley.

Metro's Vila Colburn and Peggy Shalberg, both inspectors, are back from vacations . . . M-G-M replaced its lion sign out in front with a new one . . . H. C. Kauffman, Columbia exchange operations manager, spent several days here . . . After six months, Bob Bertram, Columbia office manager, says an order for a tube for his radio has come through.

Humorist Bob Benchley showed up at the Fontenelle Hotel the other night . . . Tommy Oleson, youthful Omahan, was introduced to Dimitri Mitropoulos of the Minneapolis Symphony at the Western Union office here. He told the conductor he was nervous because he had to give a piano recital. "Don't be nervous over it," advised the conductor. "Be a good artist."

Lauren Bacall, the new screen sensation, modeled women's apparel in Omaha during a market week exhibition at the Paxton Hotel three years ago . . . Mrs. Isabelle Burkley, mother of Dorothy McGuire, says that when she goes to see a picture here featuring her daughter she likes to go alone, at least for the first performance.

When the final contest for talent sponsored by Columbia took place at the Brandeis Theatre, one of the five finalists was Jean Stocking, who recently appeared in a Community Playhouse play . . . Constance Moore, star of the filmed Earl Carroll Vanities, comes from Sioux City . . . Beverly Weichel Warren of Omaha had a break over KFI, Los Angeles, when she appeared with Lawrence Tierney . . . She also is a former Community Playhouse product.



NEW SIOUX FALLS EXCHANGE—RKO has just opened a new exchange at Sioux Falls, S. D., with Branch Manager Sherman W. Fitch and his aides acting as hosts. Shown here are: W. Perrenoud, cashier, and T. Hayter, vice-president, First National Bank & Trust Co.; Fitch; H. H. Greenblatt, district manager; Robert Hickey, publicity, and George Hahn, Station KSOO.

Visitors along the Row included: Slim Fraser, Havelock; A. J. Chantry, Osceola; John Van Gronigen, Alton, Iowa; Guy Griffith, Plattsmouth; J. Kramer, Stanton; Wes Manfield, Tama, Iowa; Carl Knudson, State Theatre, Hastings; Lou H. Ireland, Logan, Iowa; F. E. Pace, Malvern, Iowa; Jack Riggs, Central City; W. M. Miller, Esquire Theatre, Sioux City; Ed Kugel, Holstein; E. G. Gannon, Schuyler; Mrs. F. E. White, Wahoo, and Peter Facas, Elm Creek; Ralph Brown, Neola, Iowa; Wallace Depruis, Woodbine, and H. E. Brookings, Oakland, Iowa.

Paramount's office force were in a jubilant mood Monday with their wage raises coming through . . . Joe Jacobs, Columbia manager, left Tuesday for Des Moines . . . Marie Hassett, chief inspector at Paramount, is back at work following a week's illness.

F. C. Largen sr. and F. C. Largen jr. of Creighton were in Omaha for physical checkups last week. The younger Largen underwent a minor operation early this month. F. C. Largen was operated on last November . . . Russell Fraser of Des Moines, Tri-States Theatres publicist, spent several days here working on exploitation . . . Ed Cohen, Universal salesman, begins his vacation next week . . . Sol Francis of Monogram is back in the city after an Oklahoma City trip.

Doris Gross, Warner booker and a princess in the Council Bluffs Mardi Grass, won't be in the running this year. She's moved across the river to Omaha . . . Goldie Clements, booker's stenographer at Paramount, is vacationing in New York with her husband, a merchant marine . . . Branch managers and salesmen attended a Seventh War Loan meeting Saturday (21) and made plans for lining up exhibitors for the drive.

Ed Lurie, publicity man from Monogram's home office, arrived in town with Emile Wanatka in tow. They are here to exploit "Dillinger," opening at the Brandeis. Wanatka is the man who housed the Dillinger gang. He was the subject of local press and radio interviews.

Hugh Braly, Paramount district manager, arrived from the west coast . . . Ralph Hall, who lost his father, Alfred Hall, last week, will return to his booking job at Paramount Monday . . . The Universal office is elated over a second-place standing in a national drive. They finished second last time.

The Tivoli Theatre on the south side featured a Russian picture with English words, "The Rainbow," Tuesday through Thursday . . . According to Jake Rachman, drama critic, in Omaha, Washington, Columbus, New York, Detroit and Toledo are vieing for the premiere of "Captain Eddie." He contends the honor should go to Omaha because Rickenbacker first worked as a mechanic here.

Pink McIlvaine, Brandeis manager, arrived in Omaha last week from a California visit . . . Film deliveries operating out of Omaha have been able to obtain tire certificates from local ration boards, but have had little luck finding the tires to buy.

Visitors along Filmrow: Mrs. Ann Schreiber, Wisner; Frank Simek, Ashland; J. L. Irwin, Elgin; Arnold Johnson, Onawa; Walter Hagedon, Cozad; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kugel, Holstein; R. V. Fletcher, Hartington; P. A. Haeker, Alma; Carl Johnson, Red Oak; Ray Brown, Harlan; Frank Hollingsworth, Beatrice; Harold Klingman, Primghar, Iowa.

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Commonwealth Officials To Flood Areas in Car

KANSAS CITY—C. A. Schultz, president of Commonwealth, and Lloyd Lenhart and Richard Orear, assistants, made a hurried motor car trip southward last week into flooded areas to deliver prints to isolated circuit houses. They reached Monett, Mo., and Mountain Home and Harrison, Ark., but could not get to Waynesville, Mo., where flooded highways and washed-out bridges blocked their progress.

The men report much property damage by the flood, aggravated in one area by a tornado.

The Plaza at Harrison was damaged by the high water; Mountain Home was surrounded but not flooded, while the Wood at Waynesville at one time had part of the auditorium under water.

Redecorate the Violet

RED WING, MINN.—A. E. Schoenloler, owner and manager of the Violet, has redecorated his house throughout and added a new foyer and new advertising frames. The theatre will be a gift to Schoenloler's son Walter when he returns from the army.

"A Tree" Exceeds Par In 2nd Omaha Week

OMAHA—"Earl Carroll's Vanities" on the stage and "The Suspect" on the screen gave the Orpheum a slight edge over par in a generally slow week. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" moved to the Omaha and dualed with "Night Club Girl" for a pretty good second week.

Brandeis—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd wk..... 95
Omaha—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. moveover from Paramount; **Night Club Girl** (Univ) 110
Orpheum—**The Suspect** (Univ); Early Carroll's Vanities on stage 110
Paramount—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ)..... 90
State—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 2nd run; **Adventures of Chico** (Mono), reissue.....110
Town—**The Great Stage Coach Robbery** (Rep); **Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **The Missing Juror** (Col); split with **Come on Danger** (RKO); **Hillbilly Blitzkrieg** (Mono); **All That Money Can Buy** (RKO).....100

All Des Moines a Bit Under Par, Even "A Song" and "The Co-Eds"

DES MOINES—All three downtown A houses here did slightly below par last week. "A Song to Remember," on a double bill with "What a Blonde" at the Orpheum Theatre, was in its second week.

Abbott and Costello in "Here Come the Co-Eds" at the Des Moines Theatre, failed to draw large crowds, and the holdover at the Paramount, "I'll Be Seeing You," showed a slight decline in its second week.

Des Moines—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ)..... 90
Orpheum—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd wk..... 90
Paramount—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd d. t. wk. 90

"Enchanted Cottage" Sets the Pace At Minneapolis Boxoffices

MINNEAPOLIS—"Enchanted Cottage" set the boxoffice pace the past week. Despite unfavorable reviews, "Keep Your Powder Dry" did moderately well. The second week of "Hotel Berlin" at the Orpheum was interrupted for two days by Sigmund Romberg and his orchestra. Other holdovers were "Music for Millions" in its third week and "It's a Pleasure" and "The Song of Bernadette" in their second.

Aster—**Mummy's Curse** (Univ); **My Girl Loves Music** (Univ) 100
Century—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk..... 90
Gopher—**House of Fear** (Univ).....100
Lyric—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk...100
Orpheum—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk..... 90
Radio City—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M).....100
State—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO).....150
World—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk.....110

Kansas City's Grosses Indicate Steady, Average Trade Flow

KANSAS CITY—All theatres reported business more than satisfactory. Two holdovers perhaps thinned the crowds a little, but both the Midland with "I'll Be Seeing You" and the Newman with "Objective, Burma!" reported good, steady business with above average totals. The Orpheum, with Sonja Henie in "It's a Pleasure," had excellent response. Esquire, Uptown and Fairway, offering "Sudan," enjoyed appreciative audiences and the totals were average. At the Tower, "The Big Show-Off" and "Her Lucky Night," with the Andrews sisters and a lively stage review, boxed well, with busy weekend hours at the ticket window. The weather was generally uncertain or wet all week.

Esquire—**Sudan** (Univ) 110
Fairway—**Same as Esquire**..... 95
Midland—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk.....115
Newman—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 2nd wk.....110
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO).....120
Tower—**The Big Show Off** (Rep); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ), plus stage show.....100
Uptown—Same as Esquire.....100

Navy Recounts Work of Son Of the Nathan Sandlers

DES MOINES—The navy has sent Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Sandler a press release citing the feats of their son, Lieut. Norman W. Sandler, prior to his being shot down while leading an air attack near Tokyo. Norman, 25, was listed as missing February 26 by the navy department. He was pilot of a navy fighter plane. His father is a widely-known Iowa theatre man, operating houses in Fairfield, Missouri Valley and Northwood.

The navy report is as follows:

"A veteran airman, the Des Moines pilot hit the Japanese capital exactly a year from the date that he participated in the historic attack on Truk. He made the most of the anniversary by knocking out a Jap plane on the ground, hammering a hangar with rockets, and helping to smash an enemy vessel off the coast.

"In helping to pave the way for our advancing land troops in the Pacific, Lieutenant Sandler has flown in air blows against Marcus, Wake, Rabaul, Tarawa, Kwajelein, the Marshalls, Truk and Saipan.

"The carrier on which he was based distinguished itself by taking part in the Tokyo strike only six weeks after its shake-down cruise, a feat that broke all previous records. In addition to the many military and industrial targets smashed during the two-day campaign, the air group's pilots shot down 44 planes and destroyed 46 others on the ground."

At the time he was listed as missing, Sandler held an Air Medal and two gold stars.

Olivia to Star in "To Each His Own"

Olivia de Havilland has been assigned the starring role in "To Each His Own," a Paramount production.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

DES MOINES

After living out-of-doors for almost a year, Ole Olson, former salesman at Universal, writes that he is now "back to civilization." Ole is somewhere in France and is enjoying sleeping on a bed and eating at a table.

Marjorie Hearn, booking clerk at Warners, was on vacation, and traveled to Texas to see her army air corps boy friend, stationed there . . . Emmett Stedman, assistant shipper at Warners, has resigned to go into the carpentering business for himself.

Ruth Ankrom was ill a couple of days . . . Ruby Dyer Zelcher underwent some dental work . . . Warner friends and all Filmrowers offer congratulations to Elmer Tilton and his bride, the former Mildred Johnson.

It was a surprise to see Bert Thomas still at his desk when we had bade him a fond adieu last week. But Bert still is planning on that 30-day leave, beginning in a couple of weeks . . . Columbia is doing its spring housecleaning, and looks quite nifty with its new coat of paint.

Renovation also is in progress at 20th-Fox, where a new salesmen's office is being constructed . . . New RKO inspector is Lucille Davis, new to the film business. Florence Paschall, RKO inspector, is on vacation.

Paramount has news that Chuck Elder, second booker, has a new promotion, and now is a chief petty officer. Proud of Chuck is his wife Josephine, inspector at M-G-M.

Paramount has a new part-time stenographer, Ila May Klunker, a high school student. The salesmen, manager, secretaries and bookers along the Row look distinguished with their Sixth War Loan honor buttons.

Visitors along the Row included: V. J. Shipright, Osceola; J. B. Fairchild, Allison; R. A. Neitzke, Story City; Lawrence Kuhl, Corning, and Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville.

Des Moines Business Shows Heavy Gain Over Last Year

DES MOINES—Business transactions in Des Moines have increased 22 per cent in the first quarter of this year as compared with the same three months last year.

The increase was shown in bank reports from 11 Iowa cities in the Seventh Federal Reserve district based on debits to deposit accounts, except interbank accounts.

Over-all gain for the 11 cities was a total of four per cent for the quarter. In addition to Des Moines, other cities showing business gains were: Burlington, Clinton, Davenport, Dubuque and Muscatine.

Des Moines total this quarter was $624,035,000 as compared with $510,408,000 at the same time last year.

Omaha Red Cross Gifts Pass '44's by $10,800

OMAHA—With 37 towns still not reporting on the Red Cross drive, total receipts for the Omaha area to date are $58,906. This compares with the final report of $48,106 for last year.



TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 — Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825

Nebraska, Last Anti-Ascap State, Repeals Law Banning the Society

LINCOLN—Ascap was almost back in business in Nebraska as the legislature passed a bill which repeals the anti-Ascap law enacted in 1937. The vote was 27-11. The bill was signed by the governor and becomes effective in 90 days. Some other states used to have anti-Ascap laws, but Nebraska was the last state to hold out against the society.

Before the new bill was passed, Senator John Mekota of Crete, a strong opponent, moved that the enacting clause be stricken. His attempt to kill the bill failed, 7 to 27. Senator Mekota had charged that Ascap, which he termed a "vicious monopoly," was conducting a "campaign of fear" to "coerce" music users to support it and the legislature to pass it.

Joe Malec, operator of Omaha's Peony Park, which, with Radio Station WOW, are the state's largest music users, commented, as follows, after the bill was passed:

"In seeking truth and justice in defense of free enterprise under the laws of our Constitution I bow to the organized power of the music Ascap cartel which knows no justice and does not recognize the laws of our Constitution. While our sons fight all over the world to bring freedom to other nations we are losing their freedom here at home to monopolies and cartels. We are heading the wrong way."

The majority of the state's music users, including the theatres led by Robert Livingston of Lincoln, had written letters to the senators supporting the bill and asserting that they must have some agency to deal with for public performance of music or be subject to numerous and costly copyright infringement suits.

Form Civic Theatre Guild After Playhouse Split

OMAHA—A split in Omaha Community Playhouse ranks following the resignation of Director Berne Enslin may result in the first major competition for that organization in its 20-year history. Articles of incorporation were filed Saturday (21) in Lincoln for the nonprofit Civic Theatre Guild of Omaha. Incorporators include several Omaha amateurs, most of whom were newcomers to Community Playhouse productions this season.

This summer the group plans three plays at the Sokol Auditorium at prices lower than those of the Playhouse, according to Max Hill, president. Incorporators include Arthur Bailey, Phylis Overman, Mel Caldwell and Blen Dorer.

Enslin, who will direct the guild productions, left the Playhouse after casting tryouts had begun for "Over 21." That comedy, originally scheduled for April 17, had to be delayed a week. "Over 21," last of the season, was directed by board members. Clarence Teal, Playhouse president, hopes that Kendrick A. Wilson, former director who was wounded in action, will be back to take over next year.

Teal said Enslin left "by mutual agreement" due to a difference as to whether the Playhouse should be an amateur or semi-professional organization.

Enslin contended that when patrons pay $1.50 for seats, talent alone should determine lead roles, not "social aspects." He said he was ordered to cast two specific persons in leading roles for "Over 21." He added that he had received orders that two persons were not to be given any parts.

Helping to bring differences to a head was Enslin's request that the Playhouse institute summer stock and set up a supplementary drama school. Refused this, he offered to finance both himself, renting the Playhouse for the summer, but was turned down.

Enslin said the new guild will have a "democratic basis." Persons buying $3.50 memberships, he added, will be entitled to vote for directors and shape policies.



Crosby, "Going My Way" Recruit Choir Boys

Omaha—Bing Crosby and the picture "Going My Way" have made their influence felt here.

At St. John's Church, Father Farrell, an assistant priest, was having a tough time rounding up enough boys for a church choir.

Then came "Going My Way" and Crosby. Each Sunday now, the church rings with the sound of enthusiastic young voices.

Film Scarcity to Increase, Twin City Showmen Fear

MINNEAPOLIS—Bigger demand for reissues and independent product looms here as major companies continue to curtail production and releases. The situation has Twin City independent exhibitors plenty worried. They fear they'll be hard put for product at frequent periods throughout the balance of the year.

The situation is aggravated, of course, because of the large number of loop extended first runs. With a still further decrease in number of releases in forthcoming weeks, holdovers are expected to be even more numerous. It will be almost essential for the downtown first run houses to stretch out engagements to the limit, according to present indications.

Announcement by M-G-M that it will release only four pictures during May and June aggravated the headache from which the independent exhibitors already are suffering.

The independent exhibitors have been complaining, too, that the long loop first runs "milk" the pictures. Any way you look at it, they declare, they're up against it and "in a bad way."

Major Hummell on Leave Redecorates the Pine

PINE ISLAND, WIS.—Maj. L. A. Hummell, owner of the Pine Theatre, home on a 45-day leave, has redecorated and remodeled the entire theatre. New seats and lighting effects were added and a new foyer and new front were installed by a Minneapolis firm.

Apartments above the theatre were also remodeled and an ice cream parlor was added to the building.

Mrs. Hummell has been managing the house in the absence of her husband.

MINNEAPOLIS

Northwest Variety Club's "Gay Nineties" party, with many of the members and their friends in costume, drew a banner crowd and provided a good time for all.

Dorothy Kaye, will remain at 20th-Fox after all, instead of departing for the west coast. She has been elevated to assistant contract clerk, replacing Evelyn Matson, promoted to the head of the contract department. Donna Skinner, erstwhile contract department head, has become secretary to Jack Cohan, manager. Additions to the office staff are the Misses Kline, Lidstrom and Osterbower.

Ray Wylie, Republic shipping clerk, became a bridegroom . . . M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, went to Des Moines to join W. C. Gehring, division manager. After a sales meeting there they will come here for a similar gathering . . . Sigmund Romberg's third concert engagement at the Orpheum again drew fine houses for two days, making Manager Bill Sears happy.

The Star-Journal is sponsoring a contest for Radio City's "Salty O'Rourke." Writers of the six best questions for such an interview get the chance to interview Alan Ladd, star of the picture, over the telephone. They also receive personally autographed photographs of Ladd and with the ten runnersup in the contest will be guests at a special screening of "Salty O'Rourke."

"Keys of the Kingdom," moved from the State to the World for a second loop week, and did sufficient business at the latter house to warrant its retention for a third week in which it turned in a bangup gross. However, it had to make way for "Song of Bernadette" even though there was every indication that it could have chalked up a long run.

Doris Jensen, whose screen name is Coleen Gray and who has a prominent part in "State Fair," is a Hutchinson, Minn., young woman who was working her way through Hamline University, St. Paul, two years ago. After graduating, she went to Hollywood.

Davidson Making Good At House Long Closed

MARION, S. D.—When Arden Davidson observed his first anniversary of operation of the Marion Theatre recently, he looked back on a year's work well done. To his patrons, Davidson said:

"I would like to thank each and every one here for their attendance and helping me make it their theatre. Because the theatre had been closed so long it was often hard to get good pictures at first, but with your continued support I can bring you better pictures during the coming year. With your help I will make the Marion Theatre the best place for entertainment and fun."

Des Moines 20th-Fox Branch Wins Three-Week Bonus

DES MOINES—In a drive ending April 14, the 20th-Fox exchange finished in a three-week salary plus classification, winning for each employe the equivalent of three weeks' salary. The western division, of which W. C. Gehring is sales manager, won first place.

New Owner of Princess

WABASHA, MINN.—Mrs. E. W. Malone is the new owner of the Princess Theatre here. She formerly was at Alma, Wis.

Sam Zuckman Wins To Extend Lease

MINNEAPOLIS—Sam Zuckman has emerged victorious in his fight to retain his Mounds, St. Paul de luxe neighborhood house, for five more years. The district court has held that the owners made him a verbal promise to extend his original ten-year lease for that period in return for a $4,000 expenditure on his part, defraying the cost of a deep well and cooling system. The system was installed two years after his first lease started.

Owners of the theatre wished to lease it to other St. Paul interests. They denied that they had made a verbal agreement with Zuckman for a five-year extension.

Zuckman brought suit to prevent his eviction. The court sustained the contention that a verbal lease or agreement is binding when one of the parties, in this case the exhibitor, completes his part.

Former 20th-Fox Salesman Gains Captaincy Aboard

DES MOINES—Larry C. Paulson, former 20th-Fox salesman, has earned his captaincy. The promotion came some time ago but the fact was not generally known until Paulson returned home on a furlough, after seeing action in the China-Burma theatre war area.

The CBI theatre of operations was familiar to Paulson, he having been the company's manager in that area, with headquarters at Shanghai. He traveled for business reasons practically all of the territory he has recently been working militarily. Paulson is one of four former salesmen who were trained or worked in the domestic organization to have been subsequently ordered to the far east on military duty.

Chief Young Buffalo Leads Warners' Omaha Tribe

OMAHA—Warner Bros. office, now the Arapahoe tribe, is decked out with new feathers and new names for its staff members as part of the tub-thumping surrounding its current sales drive.

The new monikers include:

Frank Hennon, branch manager, Chief Young Buffalo; Salesman Leon Mendelson, Wantum Wampum; Salesman Herb Fletcher, Squaw Man; Salesman William Wink, Tall Tales; Office Manager Alice Neal, Princess Laughing Water; Booker Doris Gross, Red Flower, and Booker Cliff Norene, Heavy Hawk.

In first standings the Arapahoes stood ninth among the tribes nationally.

March of Time Luncheon Hosts Iowa Buyers

DES MOINES—P. A. Williams and Don Muldoon of the March of Time Co. visited here recently. They entertained circuit buyers at a luncheon at the Gotham Club. Attending were G. Ralph Branton, Dale McFarland, Harry Warren and Don West of the Tri and Central States Theatre Corp.

Rogers Quits Omaha PRC To Join RKO in Atlanta

OMAHA—Harry Rogers, PRC branch manager who came here from Charlotte, N. C., has left to become an RKO salesman at Atlanta. Sol Reif was in temporary charge of the Omaha office.

Comer Visits Des Moines

DES MOINES—Mike Comer, manager of Monogram at Omaha, visited here last week.

Kansas City Drive-In Open; Harold Eyestone Manager

KANSAS CITY—Arnold Berger, general manager, and William Sobel, district manager of the Midwest Drive-In Theatre Co., were here preparing for the reopening this week (20) of the Kansas City Drive-In on Highway 40 which is operated under the name of the Kansas City Outdoor Theatre Corp. Harold Eyestone has been installed as manager. He was with Fox Midwest as manager of the Esquire and others.

The Kansas City Drive-In will run single features, at least for the present, with two programs each evening, on three changes a week—Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.

Admission will be a flat 50 cents a person, including tax.

Twin City Booth Union Pay Dispute to State Board

MINNEAPOLIS—The wage dispute between independent exhibitors and the local booth operators union will go to the state labor conciliation board for arbitration. The parties have been unable to reach an agreement on a new contract. The union is demanding a five per cent pay boost to be retroactive plus half-hour preparatory time with pay. Exhibitors are resisting this demand.

On their part, the exhibitors claim that present and prospective operating conditions do not warrant the demanded boost. North Central Allied has been conducting the negotiations for the exhibitors.

Bert Thomas on Vacation, First in Several Years

DES MOINES—Bert Thomas, booker for Columbia exchange here, is taking a 30-day vacation, his first in several years. During Thomas' absence, Douglas Pratt, former auditor, will do the booking at Columbia. Pratt, now retired, lives in Omaha, Neb. He arrived in Des Moines last week. Thomas plans to spend most of his vacation at home.

Edding Soon Will Open New Aurelia, Ia., House

AURELIA, IOWA—John Edding will open a new theatre here next month replacing his Community Theatre. Western Theatre Supply Co. will supply sound, screen, sound reproducers and projectors for the new house.

Rosenberg Out of Navy, Stops for Omaha Visit

OMAHA—Milton Rosenberg, former booker with Universal here, has received an honorable discharge from the navy. He visted here en route back to his home in Los Angeles.

Four Keeps Him Busy

MERRILL, WIS.—Clyde Forbes, manager of the Bonham, Prairie du Sac, and the Spring at Spring Green, has been supervising the Cosmo here and the Chilton at Chilton in the absence of his sister, Miss Lucile M. Forbes, owner of the four houses. Miss Forbes recently returned from Florida.

Copeland Buys a Home

KANSAS CITY—R. M. Copeland, branch manager of Paramount Pictures here, has purchased a house at 1112 W. 77th St. Terrace, where he will make his home.

Gehring, Levy on Tour

DES MOINES—W. C. Gehring, 20th-Fox division manager, and M. A. Levy, district manager, visited here last week.

Latin Trade Upswing Seen by McConville

From Eastern Edition

NEW YORK—Thanks to a recent Argentinian government decree that all motion pictures be sold on a percentage basis, American films are now receiving earnings commensurate with their merit, said Joseph A. McConville, president of Columbia Pictures International Corp., on his return from an extensive tour of South and Central America.

"Now that selling pictures on a fixed-price basis is a thing of the past, a good feature will make more money," he said, "and a poor one less."

Many U.S. films have been in the censor's hands for months, he declared and this bottleneck may still be in effect, although recent political developments should release most of the films to an eager public in the Argentine. Nazi pictures were subject to the same delays. These German pictures play only a few theatres subsidized by the Reich.

No theatres in the Argentine are controlled by American distributing companies. Some houses play Spanish-language films only, others present foreign pictures exclusively. The houses are, in many instances, every bit as modern as the most up-to-date American theatre, and presentations and exploitation campaigns are on a par with our best.

There are four or five studios in Buenos Aires producing pictures regularly. The films are not as perfect as ours technically, but have the advantage of presenting native stars, backgrounds and stories. A topnotch Argentinian picture will outdraw an equally-good American film, McConville said.

Picture business all over South America is improving, and is away up over last year's, he declared. He looks for an even greater upswing all over Latin America, particularly in Brazil and Colombia.

Elmer Tilton, Warners' Des Moines, Marries

DES MOINES—Elmer Tilton, Warner manager, and Mildred Johnson, former owner of Mildred's Flower Shop, were married early this month.

Mrs. Tilton has sold her shop to Lucille Robinson Mann, the golf star, and the Tiltons have taken a house on Harwood Drive.

Pleas Spur Des Moines Used Clothing Campaign

DES MOINES—G. Ralph Branton, general chairman of the united clothing collection, made several pleas for citywide cooperation in the drive. A pickup of clothing was made and a central collection depot was maintained the entire week at the Coliseum.

Donald Madsen Reported Captured by Germans

OMAHA—Pvt. Donald L. Madsen, son of S. A. Madsen, booker-office manager at Republic, has been reported a captive in a German prison camp.

Study Postwar Exports

OMAHA—R. B. Hassler of the export office of the Ballantyne Co. in San Francisco spent several days here going over postwar plans with Bob Ballantyne, head of the theatre equipment company bearing his name.

Open Harris as a Co-Op

DES MOINES—The Harris Theatre, Harris, Iowa, has been reopened. It is a cooperative venture, run by the business men of the town.

Heroes Pageant Leads Cleveland Loan Drive

CLEVELAND—First announcement of plans for the Seventh War Loan drive came from Howard Burkhardt, manager of Loew's State and the only theatre man who has been invited to serve as a member of the special events committee for the campaign which will open on May 14 with an outdoor pageant on the Mall on which is ample space for 200,000 to gather.

The pageant, Burkhardt revealed, will be dedicated to 150 war veterans of Cuyahoga County, selected by the draft boards. Forty by sixty blowups of these men will form a background for the pageant, which will feature 1,000 voices and a 1,000-piece band. High military officials will speak from a huge rostrum, as will Gov. Frank J. Lausche and Mayor Thomas A. Burke.

It has already been agreed that for the duration of the drive, Cleveland's Public Square will be called Heroes Square.

Frank Hunt is Promoted At Cleveland 20th-Fox

CLEVELAND—Promotion of Frank Hunt, member of the 20th-Fox exchange for 24 years, to the dual position of assistant to the manager and office manager, was announced by Manager I. J. Schmertz. Hunt leaves the head booker's desk, a place he has occupied many years.

Frank Hunt is quiet and has minded his booking business so well that those whom he has served so long may not know that he joined the Fox organization back in 1921 as poster clerk under Sam Dembow, acting branch manager at the time. The exchange was located in the Finance Bldg. on Prospect Ave. When Hunt was promoted from the poster department to the booking department he learned the facts of booking from Carl Hohage, then head booker. Hohage has been out of the picture business for some years.

Hunt was married 15 years ago, just one year after Schmertz was appointed branch manager. He has no children, claims no hobbies. He does admit, however, that he tends to the spade work in the garden, but after that the responsibility is up to Mrs. Hunt.

Wheeling Investor Buys McKees Rocks Roxian

PITTSBURGH—The Roxian Theatre, McKees Rocks, has been purchased by Morris Naft from the Peoples Pittsburgh Trust Co. Details of the transfer were not announced. Naft is an investor and a newspaper agency operator of Wheeling, W. Va. Sam Fleishman, who has managed the Roxian for a number of years, is remaining at his post.

Belle Vernon, Pa., Owner Hurls Hat Back in Ring

BELLE VERNON, PA.—John Perry, Ritz proprietor, is a candidate for burgess here. Out of politics for several years, Perry formerly served as constable and high constable for a long period.

A Fall in Her Home Fatal To Mrs. Jeff Williams

DETROIT—Mrs. Jeff Williams died Saturday (14), as the result of injuries received in a fall in her home while housecleaning. Her husband is well-known on Filmrow as the owner for years of the East Detroit and Roseville theatres in the twin suburbs of those names. She was 55.

Arbitration Setup "Too Highfalutin'," Costly

Hasley Purchases Second East Pittsburgh House

PITTSBURGH—F. E. Hasley, East Pittsburgh exhibitor, has purchased the Main from F. J. Kimmerle. The Main, which was known as the Bessemer for many years, at one time was operated by Hasley under lease from Kimmerle. Later, Hasley erected his own theatre, the Terrace, one block from the Main, and Kimmerle had operated the latter house from that time. Both theatres, now managed by Hasley, are located on Bessemer Terrace above East Pittsburgh. Kimmerle is retiring from exhibition.

Elect Morrell President Of the Metro Pep Club

CINCINNATI—Robert Morrell has been elected president of the M-G-M Pep Club. Mildred Beneking was named vice-president; Ruth Yuengling, treasurer; Dorothy Lang, secretary; Florence Herrmann, welfare chairman, and Eleanor Buehren, chairman of entertainment.

A special meeting will be held May 7 to arrange plans for a picnic.

Bourbon at Paris, Ky., Reopens on Weekends

PARIS, KY.—The renovated Bourbon Theatre reopened recently by the Schine group, showing on Saturdays and Sundays only. The Paris Theatre is open daily. Melvin Gaitskill is manager of Schine interests here.

Greenwald Returns

CLEVELAND—Frank Greenwald, who deserted theatre management in favor of managing a bowling alley, has returned to his first love. He has been appointed manager of the Ezella, a Scoville, Essick & Reif house.



CLEVELANDERS HAPPY—Ernest Schwartz, 12-time president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n, presents a check for $39,000 to Charles Kellstadt, local Red Cross chairman, with George W. Erdmann, secretary of the CMPEA, looking on. The sum was collected at independent theatres located in Cuyahoga County, and the trio is smiling because the sum represents $9,000 more than was collected last year.

PITTSBURGH—Members of the motion picture industry in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia do not seem to be among the proponents of arbitration.

Here, "they leave it alone."

Four years have passed since a complaint was registered at the American Arbitration Ass'n office here. The office in the Investment Bldg. has remained open each business day with a clerk or secretary in charge. Nothing has happened in four years; the Pittsburgh branch of the AAA has had no business.

When the arbitration board opened five years or so ago, three cases were filed and numerous proposed complaints were "to be filed." The third and final case registered here was dated April 25, 1941.

The AAA office here includes a reception room, a secretary's office and a large board room. Few members of the industry have ever seen the setup.

When the new arbitration system under the consent decree was announced exhibitors generally were gratified, as they were exasperated with what some termed "kangaroo court" arbitration under the old system for many years. Independents here stated that at last they had a "chance," that bonafide arbitration would end many grievances within the industry. Later, to their dismay, they discovered that arbitration under the new plan was not too desirable, that what they called "fancy" attorneys had to be employed and that exhibitors and distributors were expected to be extremely decorous. The setup was just too highfalutin'. Then there were transcription costs at so much per page of testimony. Finally exhibitor leaders declared that arbitration "rules and regulations" were "no damn good."

And so-called arbitration died.

A Barker Sendoff Party For Ben Cohen, Strand

CINCINNATI—Queen City barkers turned out en masse at the farewell party for Ben Cohen, for two years manager of the Strand. Cohen took over management of the Telenews, Dallas, effective April 24. He was presented a pen and pencil set by Variety members. Messages of congratulation from Harry Thomas, general sales manager for PRC, and from Steve Broidy, Monogram sales manager, were read.

Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, midwest division manager for RKO Theatres, served as toastmaster. Speakers were Ralph Kinsler, chief barker; William Onie, Monogram manager; Harry Bugie, PRC manager; George Kirby, Republic manager, and Sylvan Goldfinger, Chicago Telenews executive. Irving Sochin, 20th-Fox sales manager, was in charge of arrangements.

D. P. Meininger, Chicago, is Cohen's successor.

Air Ace Emcees Premiere 'Wingmen of Tomorrow'

MIDDLETOWN—Capt. Don Gentile, Piqua air ace, was master of ceremonies recently at the premiere of the short, "Wingmen of Tomorrow," a production starring nine Middletown youngsters up to 12 years old, who were taught to fly by the Aeronca Aviation Corp. here.

CLEVELAND

Meyer Fine, vice-president of Associated circuit, and Mrs. Fine have returned from a vacation in Miami. But they did not bring back their associate and circuit president, John Kalafat . . . Billy Banks, manager of the Detroit Theatre, has taken his bicycle out of moth balls and has started his regular Thursday bicycle trips to the country. The trips are marred by one thing, however. Billy can't pedal and smoke his habitual pipe. So, on Thursdays, he is forced to smoke cigarets. His quota is three an afternoon.

Clocks take a jump on Sunday, April 29, when daylight time goes into effect. Time was when the exhibitors voiced a protest against the long, bright evenings occasioned by the change. But as the protests never accomplished their purpose, the theatre owners this year are taking it as it comes and saying nothing.

Ted Teschner, manager of Loew's Valentine Theatre, Toledo, got a month's reprieve from his draft board . . . Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, presided over a northern Ohio district managers meeting here. Present were: Dick Wright, assistant zone manager; J. Knox Strachan, publicity manager; Jane Simon, assistant publicity director; Tony Stern, Bud Friedman and Bill Friedman, bookers; Lou Ratener, contact manager; D. Leonard Halper, building engineer; Robert Giles, sound engineer; Frank Harpster, district manager, and the following managers: Millard Ochs, Strand, Akron; Frank Savage, Youngstown; Irwin Solomon, Ohio, Canton; Ben Schwartz, Palace, Lorain; Glenn Nelson, Lincoln, Massilon, and Anne Bachner, Eddie Miller, Max Marx, Julius Lamm, Lou Milder and Frank Wheatley, managers of Warner houses in Cleveland.

Abe Schwartz is back from a winter in Florida. His Cleveland and Painesville theatre interests were in the hands of his partner, Jack Shulman, during his absence.

Friday night and Saturday will be Laff-movie night at both the East Side and the West Side Drive-Ins this summer. Policy will cater to the youngest generation with programs consisting of comedies and cartoons exclusively on those two nights . . . Milton Smith has joined PRC as sales representative in the Toledo territory. Smith formerly was with 20th-Fox.

Pvt. Warren Felder, son of the Associated circuit manager, M. G. Felder, writes home of the luxury of sleeping on feather beds in Germany. He is connected with a headquarters company . . . Edward Graves, 20th-Fox bookkeeper for many years, has been given a new set of books to work on. He was promoted to booker, where he joins Joe Davidson, Joe Crosley and Sarah Altschule in service to exhibitors. The change came about when Frank Hunt turned over his booking duties to manage the office and become assistant to Manager I. J. Schmertz.

Leroy Langford, president of Oliver Theatre Supply, now spends a part of each day in his office, having recovered sufficiently from an illness to be able to resume some of the responsibilities . . . J. S. Jossey of Hygienic Productions has gone to Georgia to try to shake off a cold that has been with him all winter . . . L. H. Walters is getting ready to attend the SMPE convention on the west coast, and, while he's out there, to enjoy a vacation . . . Peter Bathory, RKO exploiteer, was discussing the draft situation with his board . . . M-G-M had quite a turnout for its trade screening of "Son of Lassie," voted a worthy successor of "Lassie Come Home."

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Drive-In Houses Reopen North of Akron April 20

AKRON—Both the East Side and West Side drive-in theatres here have reopened, each with a policy of three program changes weekly. They will feature "laugh bells," made up of comedies, every Friday and Saturday nights.

Ben Hershberg manages the East Side Drive-In on Route 8, opposite the race tracks. The West Side house on Riverside Drive opposite the airport is managed by Seymour Weiss.

Thanks by Barber Holtz

CLEVELAND—Sam Holtz is celebrating his 15th year as proprietor of the Film Bldg. barber shop. He expresses to the members of the film industry his appreciation of their support and patronage during all these years. The shop is the gathering place of film men from district managers to bookers. Among his long-time customers, Holtz lists Meyer Fine, M. B. Horwitz, Nat Barach, Joe Krenitz, Jack Jossey, Jack Sogg and many others. Thelma Couture, manicurist, has been there almost as long as the shop. If she were a talker, she no doubt could have predicted many changes in the career of her customers, but whatever she knows of palm reading is strictly confidential.

Turner and Garfield to Costar

Lana Turner and John Garfield, Metro stars, are set to costar in the picturization of the James M. Cain novel, "The Postman Always Rings Twice," to be produced by Carey Wilson.

GEORGE A. EBELING
Architect
MODERN THEATRES
1783 E. 11th St. Phone: MAin 0992
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

Morton of Technifilms Dies of Heart Attack

CLEVELAND—Clifford Morton, one of the most widely known men in the field of industrial films, died unexpectedly at his home of a heart attack. Morton, who was 58 years old, was born in Leroy, Ohio, and worked for many years in publicity and sales promotion. He saw the growing importance of industrial films and became affiliated with Escar Motion Picture Service here.

At the time of his death Morton was associated with Ernest Reynolds in Technifilms and has been active in the development and distribution of training films for the armed forces. He was chairman of the 16mm motion picture division of the last Red Cross campaign.

Surviving are his wife, Jane; his mother, Mrs. Sarah Morton of Ashland, Ohio, and two children, Audry, a cadet nurse at Western Reserve Academy, and a son, Sgt. John O. Morton, with the army in the Pacific.

Palace Will Discontinue Stage Shows Six Weeks

CLEVELAND—The big news of the week was announcement that the RKO Palace will eliminate its stage shows for a six-week period starting May 10. At that time the theatre will join the other first run downtown houses in presenting big screen attractions on a single feature policy. Admission prices, now ranging from 50 cents to 95 cents, will conform to the other first run prices of 65 cents top.

This is the first season that the stage shows are to be discontinued so early. The reason, according to Sol Schwartz, manager of RKO theatres outside New York, is that suitable stage shows are not available. Many of them are playing the hospitals and army camps both at home and overseas.

Stage shows will be resumed at the Palace on June 29 with Andy Russell. Other attractions scheduled for subsequent dates include Guy Lombardo, Rochester, Sammy Kaye's band and Frankie Carle's orchestra.

Bandit Escapes With $340 In Boxoffice Holdup

CINCINNATI — Two downtown theatres suffered losses to bandits last week. A gunman held up Margaret Ranker, cashier at the RKO Family, by pressing a gun at her back through the space left by the safety latch in the boxoffice door. Miss Ranker gave the bandit a handful of bills, but he threatened her until she released the catch, after which he scooped up $340 in receipts and ran.

The Avenue, 122 W. Fifth St., operated by Morris Fishman, lost $68 when a burglar riffled the office after show hours.

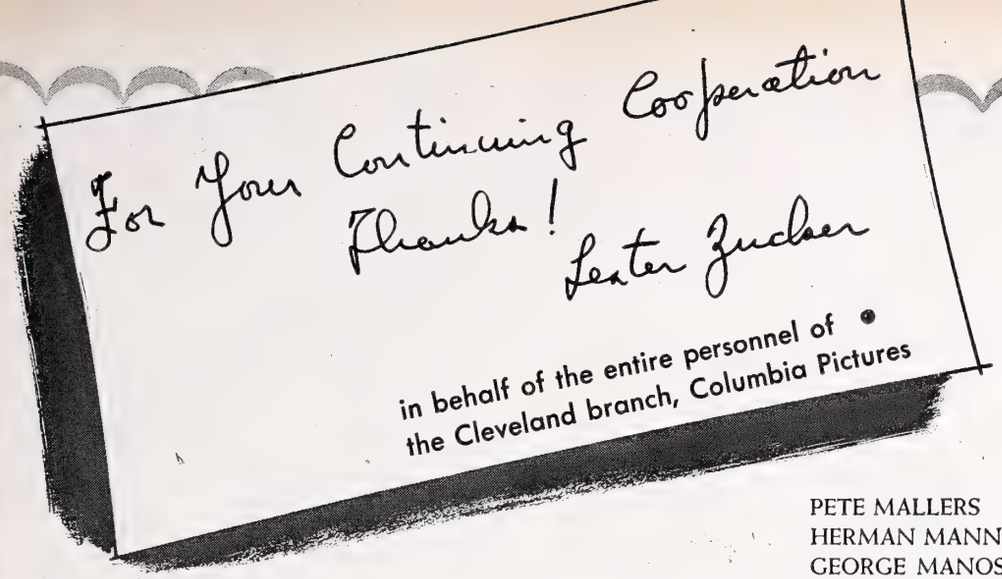
$473,400 in Sales Wins Top Bond Spot

CLEVELAND—Howard Burkhardt, manager of Loew's State, was the Loew circuit top bond salesman during the Sixth War Bond drive, according to final tabulation just released. Burkhardt sold $473,400 worth of bonds.

Burkhardt's nearest competitor was Gene Ford, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Washington, who rang up $422,150. Burkhardt was manager of the Capitol in Washington before being transferred to Cleveland.

Alterations for State

YOUNGSTOWN — A building permit has been issued to the State Theatre for alterations.



JIM ALLOGIA
EARLE AMES
P. ANDERSON
JACK ARMSTRONG
ERNIE AUSTGEN
PAUL BADER
MAURICE BARCK
SAM BARCK
H. BARDEN
PETER BELDEN
JIM BEIDLER, SR.
JIM BEIDLER, JR.
RALPH BEVINGTON
ED BIGGIO
WILLIAM BIGGIO
LARRY BLACK
MIKE BLAETTNER
ED BLEIER
LOU BLUMENFELD
WM. BOKAR
WM. BORACK
ROBERT BOYD
ANTHONY BUZZELLI
JOE CALLA
GEORGE CARMACK
NATE CHARNAS
LARRY CIRCOSTA
ESTHER CLARK
CARL COFFEY
ABE COHEN
JOE COLLINS
RUTH COLTON
WM. B. CREWSON, JR.
HARRY CRIM
JOE CROMLEY
HARRY DAVID
GEORGE DAVIS
WM. DAY
MILO DEHAVEN
GEORGE DELIS
DOMINIC DEMILO
H. DUNCAN
DUARD DUTY

GEORGE EBECK
PAUL ELLIS
PERC ESSICK
MAX FEDERHAR
HOWARD FEIGLEY
JACK FINE
MEYER FINE
CARL FLEISCHMAN
FLOYD FOCHT
D. FOLLETT
BUD FRIEDMAN
LOUIS FRISCH
M. GAUT
WM. GILLAM
E. C. GRAINGER
HENRY GREENBERGER
LEO GREENBERGER
DOMINIC GRILLO
FRANK GROSS
ROY GROSS
JOHN GUTHRIE
J. GUTILLA
M. HAUSER
VICTOR HAYES
SID HOLLAND
MOE HORWITZ
PAUL HUETER
H. JONES
LEO JONES
JOHN KALAFAT
HY KAPLAN
WALTER KATOWICZ
HARRY KATZ
MIKE KENDRACH
LOUISE KNOPP
ABE KRAMER
MAX LEFKOWICH
MIKE LEVIN
JOE LISSAUER
FRANK LOMBARDY
H. E. McMANUS

PETE MALLERS
HERMAN MANN
GEORGE MANOS
A. MARTIN
MIKE MASTANDREA
JOHN MATTEY
H. MENDELSON
JOHN MIHALY
J. MILLANO
ED MODIE
MILT MOONEY
CARL MOORE
JACK O'CONNELL
ED OLSZESKI
LINDA PAGOT
R. E. PAULUS
AL PLOENES
C. POINT
PAUL PONTIUS
CLEM POPE
BERNIE POTTS
M. POWERS
F. PRICE
ED PRINSEN
MARTIN PRINTZ
JIM RAMICONE
ED RAMSEY
H. H. REINHART
JOE REMBRANDT
HOWARD RIEF
M. RIHACEK
GEORGE RITZLER
DAN ROBINS
JOE ROBINS
JOHN ROMWEBER
J. ROSE
EUGENE ROSENBLEETH
PETE RUFFO
BOB RUSSELL
EDNA RUSSELL
JOHN RUNDELL
FRANK SCARCEY
GEORGE SCHENKER
BERT SCHOONMAKER

ERNEST SCHWARTZ
F. SCHUERMAN
T. SCOTT
CARL SETTOS
JOE SHAGRIN
JACK SHERMAN
WM. SKIRBALL
CARL SMELTZLEY
M. SMITH
VERA B. SMITH
W. A. SMITH
L. SOLETHER
N. SPAYNE
E. STAUP
PAUL STAUP
JERRY STEELE
J. F. STEIN
JACK STEINBERG
TONY STERN
LOUISE STEWART
LOUISE STOLL
ROBERT STONE
OSCAR STOTTER
WALTER STUEVE
R. M. SWANSON
B. SWEET
F. TAFELSKI
JOHN TENDER
PAUL THOMAS
ALEX TOTH
JOHN URBANSKY
C. VARGOSICK, JR.
KEN VEACH
CHRIS VELAS
LEON VELAS
MARK VILLANI
ANNE WAGGONER
JOHN WAKELEY
NAT WALKEN
RAY WALLACE
E. WALTERS
R. WANAMAKER
CATHERINE WARD
W. WARD
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

CINCINNATI

James H. "Jimmy" Haynes, engineer for Allied Service in the Kentucky tristate area, will soon be back on the job following several weeks' serious illness . . . W. T. "Bill" Cuir jr., Paintsville, Ky., was in booking and buying for his Louisa, Saylersville and Paintsville houses . . . Mrs. Louisa Rich, manager of the Kentucky, Saylersville, Ky., is installing new seats and reconditioning the house.

Visitors: Paul McKay, Montgomery, W. Va.; Bernie Kranze, RKO district manager from Cleveland; Rex Carr, Manny Marcus circuit, Indianapolis; Frank Mandros, Charleston; Frank H. Ferguson, Columbus; George Revellis, Washington; Orville Wood, Camden, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Candrea, Dayton.

Ross Williams, RKO, spent the weekend in Bramwell, W. Va., closing circuit deals . . . Universal is rejoicing over first place in the last lap of the Bill Scully drive, which winds up May 5. Peter Rosian, district manager, has returned from a territorial trip.

David Kearney, Universal branch manager, suffered painful injuries necessitating hospital treatment when he fell over a loading platform. While badly bruised, he remained at his desk following medical attention . . . Howard Roudebush, former Universal booker, is in Germany with the army . . . Lee Goldberg, Popular Pictures, reports his son Jay is in the 45th tank battalion in Germany.

Goldberg announces extended bookings at RKO Family for Popular Picture releases . . . Popular Pictures is distributing gratis to exhibitors, four excellently produced and synchronized four-reelers, sponsored by Bell Telephone to assist the war effort, namely, "The Call That Cures," "Long Distance," "Victory of Vignettes" and "Getting Together." They carry no advertisements.

Ross Spencer, former booker for RKO, was reported wounded in Germany with shrapnel wounds and shots in the hands . . . Jack Ruth, RKO booker, has passed his physical and is putting affairs in order, waiting call.

Cincinnati Cinema Club sponsored the Variety Saturday night social (14). A super array of talent included Andy Rice jr., Norman Revelle, Mildred Stanley and Reed and Spellman. Irving Sochin, activities chairman, states the stag socials on Monday night are proving popular. He is also planning the first bingo event, date of which will be announced soon.

Twentieth-Fox's Seventh War Loan trailer, distributed free to exhibitors, features renowned stars and is definitely good, according to exhibitors who have seen it . . . "A Royal Scandal" was sneak previewed at Albee.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Labor Cutoff Chills Detroit Business

DETROIT—General business here was down by figures apparently averaging around 25 per cent, the result of a combination of events. The weekend business was far down following announcement of the death of President Roosevelt, and houses lost most of the Saturday revenue through closing. On top of that the local trade was stunned by the report that some 50,000 were being thrown out of work with the projected closing of Willow Run. Subsequent stories modifying this original scare had little alleviating effect, and the results are seen in general grosses reported.

(Average is 100)

Adams—**Here Come the Coeds** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk.; **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 90
Broadway-Capitol—**Man in Half Moon Street** (Para); **Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk... 85
Downtown—**Identity Unknown** (Rep), Jerks Berserk on the stage 85
Fox—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) 100
Michigan—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **High Powered** (Para) 90
Palms-State—**Guest in the House** (UA); **Adventures of Kitty O'Day** (Mono) 90
Paradise—**Special Agent K-7** with Billy Eckstine on stage 100
United Artists—**Three Caballeros** (RKO); **Crazy Knights** (Mono) 90

"Utah," "Thunderhead," "Co-Pilot" Head Slow Week at Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—"Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," one of four downtown holdovers, at the Fulton, and "God Is My Co-Pilot," first run at the Stanley, were attendance leaders here. Roy Rogers in "Utah" scored a high percentage at the Barry. "Molly and Me" was withdrawn after four days at the J. P. Harris. Neighborhood and out-of-town exhibitors report that grosses have been more depressed since Easter Sunday than during the Lenten season.

Barry—**Utah** (Rep); **The Great Stagecoach Robbery** (Rep) 125
Fulton—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 100
Harris—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox), 4 days 60
Penn—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 80
Ritz—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk. 70
Senator—**Leave It to Blondie** (Col); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ) 65
Stanley—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 110
Warner—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 75

"A Tree Grows" Only Five Above Par at Cleveland Hippodrome

CLEVELAND—The big money rolled in at the Palace last week where the Ink Spots performed and "House of Fear" was on the screen. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," surrounded by a tremendous publicity campaign, registered only five per cent above par at the Hippodrome.

Allen—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Hippodrome—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) 105
Lake—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 55
Ohio—**The Unseen** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 80
Palace—**The House of Fear** (Univ), with Ink Spots in person 110
State—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 90
Stillman—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 90

Paramount Films Carry Off Peak Grosses of Cincinnati Week

CINCINNATI—Paramount pictures carried off peak grosses at downtown houses. Most of the fare consisted of holdovers. Universal's "Susan" was carried over for three extra days at the Palace.

Albee—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 120
Capitol—**The Unseen** (Para) 100
Grand—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Keith's—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 80
Lyric—**Torrid Zone** (WB); **Nine Lives Are Not Enough** (WB), reissue 90
Palace—**Sudan** (Univ), held for 3 extra days 80
Shubert—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 100

COLUMBUS

War bonds and money of an undetermined amount were taken from the Columbia, neighborhood theatre here, by thieves who forced the front door, Manager Norbert Mulligan told police.

Cpl. Donald E. Stewart, former manager of the Chakeres in Wellston, visited his cousin, Mrs. Marjorie Stouder, here last week. Stewart, who also was a traveling trouble shooter for the Chakeres Theatres, was wounded in the aerial invasion of Holland and is recovering at Crile General Hospital, Parma. He was attached to the 82nd airborne division, 325th glider infantry and has seen action in five major aerial invasions. He has been overseas nearly three years.

Interested spectator at the newsreels of President Roosevelt's career at the Ohio was Ernest E. Fendt II, Columbus, who was a next door neighbor of the late President at Warm Springs from 1927-29, when the late chief executive was governor of New York. Fendt saw himself in the newsreel showing FDR in the Warm Springs pool.

Lieut. Carl Lortz, former Ohio usher, was in on leave from Luke Field, Ariz. . . . Seaman Dick Barlow, former Loew's Broad usher, was home on leave from Great Lakes on the way to San Diego.

Franklin County, Ohio, Poli Collections Total $21,252

COLUMBUS — Franklin County's infantile paralysis fund will receive half of the $21,252.13 collected by county motion picture theatres during the 1945 March of Dimes drive. Theatre collections throughout the state totaled $316,246.28. The amount, representing collections in 670 theatres, is an increase of 35 per cent over the 1944 collections in 509 theatres.

Theatre collections in central Ohio counties follow: Allen, $4,573.15; Athens, $1,229.13; Belmont, $2,782.71; Champaign, $507.12; Clark, $5,163.04; Clinton, $766.33; Coshocton, $1,061.07; Crawford, $1,325.68; Delaware, $849.83; Fairfield, $703.05; Fayette, $212.02; Greene, $1,102.25, and Guernsey, $1,316.17.

Judge to Try Own Ears On "Noise" at Drive-In

PITTSBURGH — Judge William H. McNaughter of common pleas court is expected to be present at the opening of the South Park Drive-In Theatre May 1. Residents on Route 88 brought noise-nuisance charges in his court against the outdoor theatre and he will determine whether their claims are justified. Norbert Stern, owner of the drive-in, has been involved in litigations with the nearby residents, some as far as two miles away, on several occasions during summer seasons.

Ohio ITO Polling Members On Distributor Dealing

COLUMBUS — The Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, in common with all National Allied units, is asking members for information on film company deals; asking which companies give the most favorable deals, which are the toughest and whether the exhibitor receives good, fair or tough treatment in adjustment of unfair deals.

P. J. Wood, secretary of ITOO, said a summary of replies would be sent to members within two weeks.

Isobel Elsom in "Two Mrs. Carrolls"

Isobel Elsom has been inked for "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," Warner Bros. production.

★

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20th Anniversary Campaign

We Salute Your Enviable Record

and

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For 15 Years We Have Marched
Forward With Columbia

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Huntington, W. Va.
Palace Theatre,

DETROIT

Under the Marquees: Herbert Spoon, navy, who was with Loew's and National Screen Service before the war, plans to build a theatre after he returns . . . Seaman Peter Kavel, formerly on destroyer duty, has been assigned to Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va., as storekeeper . . . Thomas Ealand of the Ferndale Theatre in Ferndale reminisces of his old days as a manager of legitimate road companies.

William Richmond of the Lincoln Park says that the recent story in BOXOFFICE on the recognition of the veterans' honorable discharge button has resulted in a double-page national magazine spread and preparation of a trailer for national distribution . . . Marjorie Drake, candy girl at the Harper, and the industry's No. 1 Van Johnson fan, has resigned to head for Hollywood to see her idol in person.

Al and Dorothy Ackerman of the East Side became the parents of Anita Carol, weight eight pounds, on April 14 . . . Alex Schreiber was back from the west coast and Arizona after many weeks . . . Capacity business reported at the drive-ins on opening night.

Oscar Adelman of the Paradise was seen out at supper Saturday . . . Nicholas George of the Allen Park Theatre in Allen Park reports litigation coming up on his picture situation . . . Sol Krim has gone into the old clothes business, patriotically giving free admission Saturday to all kids who brought used clothing for United National relief . . . Arthur Leazenby, Cinema manager, has some nice plans for the house . . . Doris Gamble, former cashier at the Regent, is new assistant at the Cinema, replacing Christina "Vena" Fesik.

Up in the Booths: Gil Lubin of the Highland Park Theatre in Highland Park has left for a month in Florida with his son. Fred Warendorp is back at his old stand replacing Lubin . . . Jim Roy of the Riviera, Barney Kobel of the Broadway-Capitol, and John Warendorp of the Palms-State, who made it a threesome at Miami, have returned . . . L. A. Boulet of the Oakdale in Hazel Park is an avid reader of all available technical magazines.

J. M. Claypool of the Ferndale Theatre in Ferndale has shifted to the Bloomfield in Birmingham, where he comes under the Pontiac local . . . Charles MacFarlane, son of Thomas J. MacFarlane of the Downtown, has taken on the Ferndale as his first regular assignment . . . Sympathy to Van Wagner of the Great Lakes upon the loss of his father.

Pvt. Ralph Ruben back from overseas and is undergoing treatment at Percy James Hospital . . . Harry Owen and Max Siler are back at the West Side Drive-In, and Frank Oldham and Bill Napier at the East Side, which just reopened . . . Marty Shore is negotiating with Roger M. Kennedy for five acres of his farm to raise his favorite fruit holupche (Ukrainian for stuffed cabbage).

Rog Kennedy is raising plenty of fish on his farm . . . Mr. and Mrs. Marty Shore and daughter, Ann Holoyad, Aileen Davis and Roxey were out there to visit Sunday . . . Pop Stolz and Sol Conn of the Norwood Telenews have a new booth phone . . . Dave Cohane of the East Side is in the hospital for a minor operation.

Along the Rialto: Bessie Barriscale has a brother, Dick Barriscale, who is advertising director at Kern's, Tony Weitzel informs . . . Harold "Hal" Peary, known professionally as the Great Gildersleeve, became a godfather by proxy at Saint Andrews Church here Sunday for Rollon Parker jr., whose dad works for WJR; now he's showing her certificate as a proxy around the coast studios where he was detained by work in progress.

Harry Lush was in from Plymouth to visit the Latin quarter . . . A. J. "Happy" Meininger, who used to manager the Temple is its last days as a picture house, has left B&K in Chicago to become manager of the Strand Telenews in Cincinnati . . . Alen Saylor, UAW educational director, has gone to the coast to arrange for educational film production.

Emil Wanatka, who was host to Dillinger at his Wisconsin hideout, made a Detroit appearance prior to opening of the Monogram film at the Broadway-Capitol . . . Charles Roth, home on army furlough, was a visitor at a morning session of Daylight Masonic Lodge . . . Mac Krim is following the home town doings through the columns of BOXOFFICE 'way off in Madrid, Spain.

Supply Stuff: Harold Bromel of the firm of Technical Service, Inc., is now in service in the South Pacific. He used to be with Carl Bromel & Sons . . . Larry C. Becker, American Seating manager, is resuming active calls on the trade, planning for postwar installations . . . C. E. Runkle, formerly a film salesman now in the brokerage field, is specializing in theatre financing operations . . . David C. Brown has moved his headquarters formerly on Edmund Place to Wisconsin Ave. . . . Chester Woodward is varying his theatrical decorating by some hand-painted panties and brassieres for the luxury trade. He was seen at lunch with Ray Raupp, his associate.

Exchanges: A. J. Donohue, division manager, and Harry Goldstein, district manager, were Paramount visitors of the week . . . Pete Simon, the trailer man, isn't worrying—he's got his allotment of raw film for the next three months . . . Mayer Coleman of the Washington office of National Screen Service, who was a well-known figure on the Row here 20 years ago, stopped by for a visit on his way to Miami . . . Lloyd Hammond is readying for the Edgewater opening.

Lieut. Lloyd Johnson, Hammond's nephew, who used to work for him and is now a bombardier in England, was reassigned to another group just before his old crew went out on the mission from which they did not return.

Edward L. Walton, Republic assistant sales manager, due for a visit . . . Walter Goryl, head booker for RKO, has been inducted into the navy . . . Henry Mayer, navy, who was head booker at Warners until his induction a month ago, was back on a visit . . . Roy Haines, Warner division manager, is a brief Detroit visitor.

Pete Simon jr. thinks his press agent at home is okay, while he's in Germany . . . Cliff Perry, M-G-M state salesman, has gone into the army, leaving for Ft. Sheridan, Ill. . . . There will be no replacement . . . Stanton Kramer of Warners' Chicago field staff was a local visitor.

Music Notes: Jack Ferentz, musicians union president, off in a rush to New York. George Clancy, secretary, drove him to the station . . . T/5 Thomas J. Spencer jr., Detroit musician, was killed in action in the Biak Islands March 25.

Macomb Roundup: John Baker of the Mariner at Marine City was presented a pen and pencil set by Local 735 on his 64th birthday . . . Earl Natzel has had a redecorating job in the booth at the Hills in Rochester that's a knockout . . . Glen Pemberton, who hails from 'way upstate at the Cadillac local, has replaced Bill Linnington in the Capitol at Utica.

Ralph Brough of the Macomb in Mount Clemens has been named to the fire marshal's committee to revise the laws for projection booths . . . Ted Bauman is doubling in a defense plant in Pontiac . . . Bert Penzien points out these notes cover the whole county of Macomb, not just the Bath City as we used to head them.

Short Circuits: Lon Johnson, manager of the Highland Park for Associated, is doing nice business with the house, recently reopened after a year. Mrs. Vera Willis, his assistant, is busy doubling as doorman . . . Frank Forest, manager of the Oakdale in Hazel Park for Bill Schulte, is looking forward to postwar improvements planned for the house . . . Phil Beller, manager of the Harper, has resigned to go to California, where he will become district manager for an undisclosed circuit.

Theatrical Post Notes: Five new theatricalites, all veterans of World War II, were initiated at the last midnight session: Bert Bossenberry, musician; Adrian Slaten, showman; Joseph Uhle, showman; Chester Starkey of Jam Handy's projection department, and Robert Thomas, at present a student . . . Sam Cinquemani and Nat Goldstaff turned out for the old-timers' committee . . . Carl Rush reported missing from too many recent sessions.

Sgt. Cecil G. Cox, who was with the Seventh army, has been sent to Percy Jones Hospital at Battle Creek. He's a nephew of Gil Light of the Michigan . . . Lieut. Robert Goldstaff, Nate Goldstaff's son, is at Camp Swift Hospital recuperating from another operation. Also, he has a date with the stork in June . . . Robert Kinsora, son of Frank Kinsora, union president, has completed 15 missions, and been awarded three Silver Stars and a Presidential citation . . . Harry Carson says there'll be nomination of officers next meeting.

Nightingale Songs: Frank McDonald says he's going to have his name on that big trophy, along with Percy Huebner and Carl Mingoine . . . Secretary F. H. Akins is reserving a long last laugh for the boys who claimed Brenkert Projectors wouldn't be on the top when the whistle blew . . . The Nightingales are busy the next ten days in the city bowling tournament.

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Buys Site in Ferndale For a New Deluxer

DETROIT—Plans for construction of a de luxe theatre for Ferndale, immediate north end suburb, are being made by Thomas Ealand, owner of the present 400-seat house, for early postwar construction. The site has been acquired in the block north of the theatre on the east side of Woodward Ave. Ealand indicated he probably will plan a 1,500-seat house.

This would give Ferndale a total of three theatres within two blocks, with the present Ferndale and the Radio City, operated by the Schulte circuit, with 1,000 seats, across the street.

PITTSBURGH

Ben Kalmenson, Warners' general sales manager, was here to visit an older brother Carl, East Liberty wallpaper distributor, who has been at West Penn Hospital because of internal hemorrhages. Brother Jack Kalmenson, local area Warner salesman, whose blood is typed the same as Carl's, gave the latter blood in a transfusion last week . . . Other Warner visitors were Jules Lapidus, eastern division manager, and Charles Rich, district manager, former Pittsburgh film men who have many friends here.

Peggy Martin of Paramount has been promoted to the booking department and the new office girl is Lenore Middleman . . . Exhibitors H. E. Hammond, Erie, and A. P. Way, DuBois, were sick . . . Ernest Erdeky, New Wilmington exhibitor, has been kept busy in the barn. His mare gave birth to a colt and he reports that everything's okay, except that he expected a palomino.

Mrs. Patricia Hooley, wife of the Harris circuit veteran manager, John O. Hooley, has returned to Honolulu as a Red Cross supervising nurse . . . The 20th-Fox gang tossed a little party for Ross Gibson, night inspector, who had passed his preliminary test for Uncle Sam. On a final checkup the day he was scheduled to shuffle off to camp, a heart condition was discovered and he was rejected.

Walter E. Green, president of National Theatre Supply, was expected here at press time . . . Harry Bernstein, a recent assistant at the Stanley, now is managing Warners' State, Wilkinsburg . . . Stage shows at the Stanley, absent for six months, will return May 4 when an all-Negro presentation will be offered.

Capt. Richard T. Jennings jr., former Irwin, Pa., exhibitor, who has been in service since October, 1942, has returned to Irwin after 18 months in Newfoundland. On May 1 he will report for reassignment . . . Dr. A. L. Koontz, New Martinsville, W. Va., exhibitor, is back on the job following a vacation . . . Pvt. Millard B. Green, son of David Green, Beacon proprietor, who is now in Germany with the army's 101st airborne division, was awarded a Bronze Star.

John R. Osborne, Wheeling theatre executive and associate of the Dipson theatrical enterprises, is back at his desk after vacationing in Florida . . . Charles Eagle, Stanley manager, is on duty again following a vacation in Kentucky . . . William R. Wheat jr., Sewickley exhibitor, visited his mother, sister and other members of the family in and near Baltimore.

George and Clarence McBride have enrolled the McBride Theatre, Trafford City, with Pennsylvania Enterprises. They "have

(Continued on next page)

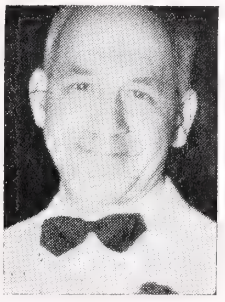
MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Ray Branch, Hastings, Mich., started at the Academy of Music in 1904 at Kalamazoo. He worked for film companies in Detroit the next few years, and was manager of Universal Film 1914-16. His first taste of theatre managing was in 1912 when he opened the Crystal in Detroit. After serving in World War I, he went back to film distribution for a time, but opened a theatre in Hastings in 1925. He operates the Strand and Barry and was president of Allied of Michigan 12 years. He is an associate member of Motion Picture Engineers.



Newton B. Carskadon of Keyser, W. Va., has found time in his career as a showman to become prominent in state politics and civic affairs. The office of Democratic committeeman climaxed his active interest in the political field. He is chairman of the Red Cross and the Boy Scout council and is a leader in the WAC. Carskadon is vice-president of the West Virginia Managers Ass'n, a Rotarian and a trustee in the Methodist Church. He also has a successful situation in Piedmont, W. Va., in addition to his theatre in Keyser. He is married.



Owner of two good-sized houses, **Julius D. London** of Detroit got his start in 1924 at the old Gladium, which now bears the historically famous show name, the Booth. In addition to this 940-seater, he owns the 860-seat Midtown Theatre. The Londons have four children: Milton, in service, Fay, and two younger boys, Bert and Edmond Lee, attending school. The family residence is at 18105 Parkside. This Detroit showman has chosen as his hobby the almost impossible task of keeping posted on political and world affairs. He likes to read.



Her many years in the motion picture business has taught **Mrs. Mary M. Hauer** that a woman may combine successfully and happily a career with raising a family of three children. The 500-seat American Theatre, 512 West 18th St., Erie, Pa., has been providing excellent entertainment for the citizens of Erie since the building was erected in 1915 and opened under Mrs. Hauer's management. Her son, John Robert, and a daughter, Pauline, live at home and another daughter, Betty, is married. Mrs. Hauer also has two grandchildren, of whom she is very proud.



Not many exhibitors start by building their own first theatres, but that is what **T. G. Perrine** did in 1924. He has been at Sandy Lake, Pa., ever since, serving the motion picture public with his Penn Lake Theatre there, which seats 300. Freddy, his only child, is ten and should be able soon to help with the show. It takes up all of Perrine's time now except when he gets a chance to indulge in his favorite diversion, which is fishing—as might be expected from one so fortunately located for that sport. His friends usually call him Ted.



Charles L. Sterns has two theatres in Rochester, Mich.—the Hills and the Avon. He started in the motion picture business back in 1923, after hardware experience in Richmond. Married in 1907, he now has three grown children, a son and two daughters; Carl, the eldest, Gloria, married, and Marilyn in college. Sterns enjoys membership in the Kiwanis Club and with the Masons outside the industry, and his industry affiliation is with the Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan. His friends call him Charlie and help him follow his two hobbies—hunting and fishing.

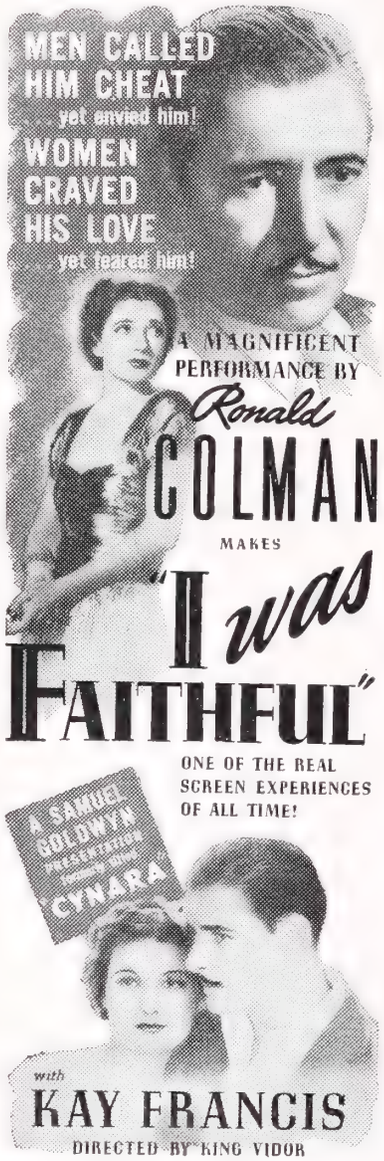


Although he has been in the motion picture business 30 years, **W. T. Cain jr.** of Louisa, Ky., spent two of those years in the first world war. Now the owner of the Garden at Louisa, Sipp & Arcade, Paintsville, the Kentucky, Salyersville, Cain started in 1915 as a soloist while the illustrated slides were shown. He has one daughter, Frances Cain Riggs, who manages the Garden for him. He holds membership in the Kentucky Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors, the Elks, the Presbyterian Church and a golf club. Bowling and fishing are his hobbies.



C. H. "Schuck" Schuckert of Caro, Mich, is a showman who will tell you at the drop of a reel of film that the "motion picture industry is the most fascinating business in the world." He owns five Michigan theatres, the Cass, Cass City; Reed, Reed City; Orr, Fowlerville; Capital, Millington and Maxine, Croswell. He has two sons, both in the army air corps, and is a member of the Elks and of the American Legion. Schuckert entered show business in 1919 as a salesman for Select Pictures. His chief diversions are hunting and fishing.

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WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES

PITTSBURGH

(Continued from preceding page)

been worked nearly to death" at their store and theatre and expect to have "a free moment" now that they are relieved of film buying and booking duties . . . Sgt. Alvin Katz, formerly of National Screen here, is furloughing from action in the South Pacific.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Hiehle, Parkersburg, W. Va., exhibitors for ages and ages, are coming here to greet Roy Rogers at the rodeo . . . Republic and Co-op switch headquarters within a few days and both offices are being remodeled . . . Mrs. Minnie Nixon, Paramount cashier, is vacationing with her husband Bill of the army medical corps, who is now stationed at Washington after more than two years in Africa, Italy and the Mediterranean area.

Maintenance fund campaign for the Salvation Army will be held here May 7 to 18 with Col. Robert C. Downie, chief of the army's Pittsburgh ordnance district, serving as general chairman . . . Ken Hoel, Harris director of publicity, was called to Dayton, Ohio, by the illness of his brother . . . All four Beaver Falls theatres are now members of Co-op. F. H. Cook's Granada had been enrolled for some months. Rialto and State, recently purchased by Cook and Anderson's Rialto Theatre Corp., and the Regent, operated under lease by Hymie Goldberg and owned by Cook and Anderson, are new Co-op members.

F. D. "Dinty" Moore, Warner manager, was hospitalized for a week or so undergoing treatment for ulcers, but he had returned to his home this week and was "taking it easy" . . . A number of the Filmrow boys will miss Mrs. Mary Lutz, restaurant operator at 114 Van Braam St., who died last week . . . Joseph P. Josack, Manos circuit manager at Vandergrift, Pa., and Margaret Kathryn Dolan of Scottdale were married here in Trinity Cathedral. Bridegroom is a brother of George, Vince and Emil Josack, all connected with the industry.

Moe Silver, Warner circuit zone manager, held a WAC meeting at his office with local film distributors . . . James G. Balmer, Harris executive, returned here after touring for two months with "Ice-Capades," which is now playing in Los Angeles.

Tommy Andrews has joined Pennsylvania Enterprises, having enrolled the Emporium, Emporium, Pa., with this film buying and booking combine . . . Bill Satori, who stands fourth among Universal's sales representatives in the United States, and "who is going places," was in New York recently to confer with company executives regarding a new assignment . . . Richard F. Clark jr., who is a newcomer to exhibition, is a resident of Waynesburg. Recently he acquired the Alameda, Mount Morris, from Glenn J. Easter.

Sgt. Henry Burger, former assistant to Jim Totman, Warner circuit's publicity manager, furloughed at his home from Fort McClellan, Ala. . . . Another month or so and Sam Nixon, Nixon manager, will be heading for the west coast to visit his mother . . . Mrs. Forrest Jarvis, Everettesville, W. Va., theatre manager, contemplates closing the Jarvis, due to business conditions since the coal mine was shut down after a fire. Her husband is in the army, being a magician-entertainer in special service.

Carolyn Lee, child star of pictures and radio, will be here May 5 to attend the Roy Rogers rodeo matinee at The Gardens, and to visit ZaSu Pitts, who will close her week's engagement at the Nixon in "Ramshackle Inn" that evening. Many exhibitors are coming into Pittsburgh for visits at the sports arena and the theatre; another attraction, opening May 3 at Syria Mosque, is the La Scala opera festival.

Sam Steinberg, theatre supply dealer, who was ill during the several months he was in Florida, has returned and now is hospitalized. He flew here with his nephew, Jerry Valdenzer. Before entering the hospital, Steinberg stopped briefly at his office where he greeted a few friends who happened to be on Filmrow.

Helen Mysliwiec of National Screen Service reports that her brothers, Cpl. Joe, who has been overseas for two years, and Flight Officer Henry of the Eighth air force, recently met somewhere in England and celebrated Joe's birthday anniversary . . . A Filmrow visitor was Max Stahl, former veteran film man, who is successfully operating the Farrell (Pa.) News Agency.

Glenn Floyd, Follansbee, W. Va., and Monaca, Pa., exhibitor, was at the North Wheeling Hospital with pneumonia, and his partner, Joe Huszar, was looking after the theatres . . . Harry Michalson, RKO short subjects manager, was a visitor, conferring with Morris E. Lefko, branch manager. Michalson was local RKO manager a number of years ago . . . Pamela Marguerite, year-old daughter of Marge (Nelson) and Nat Nazarro jr., AGVA secretary, died last week.

John E. Currie, former National Theatre Supply manager here, was back for several days looking after the branch office in the absence of Newt Williams, hospitalized with spinal meningitis. Currie, who was scheduled for induction a year ago and who was reclassified by his draft board, has just been returned to the 1A ranks. Williams has been very seriously ill. Ed Kelley, NTS clerk, has been actively in charge of the theatre supply store business.

Max Shulgold, manager of Crown Film Co., was scheduled to depart for New York where he had business appointments for a week . . . George Jaffe has extended the Casino season for three weeks beyond regular closing date . . . WAC's Movies at War, Vol. 3 was distributed here at the initial Seventh War Loan Drive meeting in the Paramount recreation room; the 44-page book is loaded with photos and information.

"All-Star Bond Rally," 19-minute gratis subject, is great entertainment, WAC distributors here agreed after a recent screening. A dozen stars at their very best are featured in the Seventh War Loan two-reeler and it is the industry's all-time best war bond picture . . . Francis Guehl, WAC's distributor assistant chairman, drew praise for a swell job he did presiding at a recent meeting. He is keeping himself very busy on the May 14-June 30 drive.

Mrs. Dora Smith, mother of Sam Fineberg, Monogram manager, has been very ill. Sam's brother, Pfc. Joseph Fineberg, who was wounded in Germany early in January and who is now at the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Hospital, was here on hospital leave . . . Capt. David F. Parry, former UA publicity representative and son of Mrs. Florence Fisher Parry, Press columnist, has been assigned as public relations officer at Wichita, Kas. He is a former B17 pilot with 25 missions over Europe to his credit and he has many medals and clusters.



Connecticut Leaders For War Loan Named

NEW HAVEN—Following a first meeting of county chairmen in connection with the coming Seventh War Loan campaign, Co-Chairmen Herman M. Levy and Henry Needles, Publicity Chairman Lou Brown, and Distributor Chairman Carl Goe announce the following new key committees for Connecticut:

Chairman of IATSE projectionists: Thomas Shea, Middlesex, Middletown.

Special events: Harry F. Shaw, Loew Poli division manager.

Fairfield County: Matt Saunders, the Poli, Bridgeport; Jacob Schwartz, West End, Bridgeport, and Alexander Hamilton, Empress, South Norwalk.

Hartford County: Jim McCarthy, Strand, and Maurice Shulman, Webster.

New London County: Walter Murphy, Capitol, New London, and Joseph Boyle, Broadway, Norwich.

Litchfield County: J. J. Scanlon, Warner, Torrington; George Harvey, Palace, Danbury, and Joseph Reed, Bryan Memorial, Washington.

New Haven County—Harry F. Shaw, Loew Poli division manager, and James Darby, Paramount, New Haven.

City of Waterbury—Julia Smith, State, and Philip Sherman, Hamilton.

Publicity has been broken down into counties and cities as follows: Fairfield County, Harry Rose; New Haven County, Morris Rosenthal; South Norwalk, Alexander Hamilton; Waterbury, Paul Klingler; Bristol, Dennis Rich; Meriden, Sherman Padowitz; Norwich, Joe Miklos; Manchester, Jack Sanson; Danbury, E. J. Harvey; New Britain, Randolph Maller; Stamford, Irving Cooper; Greenwich, Neil Welty; New London, Walter Murphy; Torrington, J. J. Scanlon; Putnam, Irwin Neuman, and Danielson, Henry Johnson.

These key men, the chairmen report, will in turn appoint assistants where necessary to obtain the fullest possible cooperation in attempting to surpass the record of film participation in previous war loans in this state.

A Fairfield County luncheon meeting was held at the Hotel Barnum April 24 on plans for the drive. Hartford County activities were launched with a similar meeting at the Hotel Bond April 25. A special speaker was State Police Commissioner Edward Hickey. A New London meeting also was arranged.

Detailed Plans for Seventh Drive Are Ready at Norwich Broadway

NORWICH—Manager Joseph Boyle of the Broadway here reports a proclamation by the mayor and the first selectman will open the bond drive May 14.

A display, in addition to the war bond booth, suggesting that patrons buy a bond in memory of the late Franklin Roosevelt will be erected tastefully with possibly a photo of him draped in black. It has been suggested, also, that it might be possible for the committee nationally to get out an inexpensive booklet of the highlights of his life to be presented to such buyers.

Special attention will be paid to Memorial Day, with newspapers to stress the sale of bonds for that day in memory of departed heroes. Mothers' Day is May 12 and Manager Boyle plans to utilize the same idea in urging patrons to make Mothers' Day gift this year a war bond.

A screen trailer will be used at every performance announcing the sale of bonds and stamps and stressing the day-night-Sunday-and-holiday angle. In all daily display ads, bus cards and theatre publicity material of all kinds, bond copy will be incorporated.

Boyle again plans to hold "war mothers' nights" to honor the mothers of sons in service. He has suggested that other agencies display cards pointing out the fact that the theatres will issue after other agencies are closed.

New Haven Dish Night Sustains Bad Break

New Haven—Dish night sustained a bad break here. A $5,000 damage suit by Bertha Packtor against Whalley Theatre Co., on the current jury trial list in court of common pleas, states that when the patron resumed her seat after standing for "The Star-Spangled Banner," she sat on a long-stemmed thin glass goblet, given as a premium and left there by another patron. The glass broke, the plaintiff avers, and she sustained cuts.

The complaint, which was filed June 11, 1943, charges that the theatre management "failed and neglected to exercise reasonable care in the management of said theatre having regard to the character of the enterprise undertaken and customary conduct of business attending said theatre."

Theatre Men at Hartford Advance Program for the Bond Drive

HARTFORD—Local theatre men attended a meeting and luncheon at Hotel Bond Wednesday noon (25) with Herman Levy and Henry Needles, state chairmen of the Seventh War Loan, presiding. Sam Pinanski, national chairman, had planned to be on hand if possible. Leading civic and state officials, including Governor Baldwin, Mayor William Mortenson and State Police Commissioner Edward Hickey were there.

James McCarthy, Strand has been named county chairman and Maurice Schulman, Rivoli and Webster circuit, is county co-chairman.

Boy, 18, Dies on Front; An Ex-Colonial Aide

HARTFORD—Pvt. Edward T. Roche jr., 18, a former member of the Colonial staff who was in the army only seven months and overseas only three weeks, was killed in action in Germany April 2, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Roche, were informed.

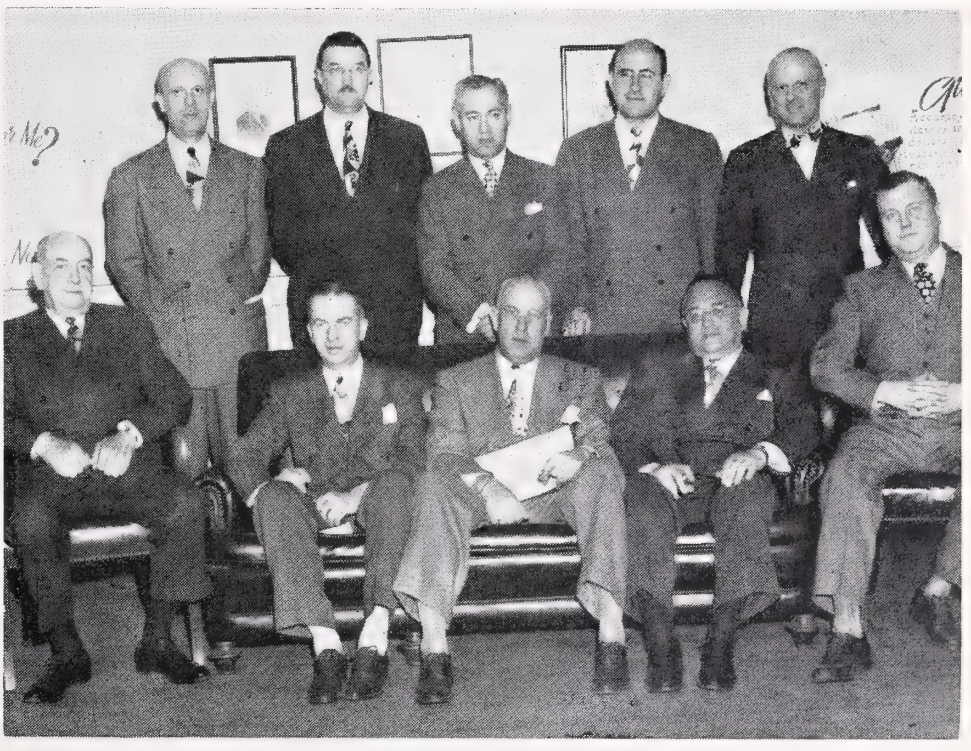
Mrs. Roche said that she had received three letters from her son since he left this country, the last of which was written two days before he was killed and stated that he had crossed the Rhine River. Earlier letters, dated March 29 and 30, stated that Roche had experienced his first combat. "He didn't have a chance," his mother said.

Roche was inducted at Ft. Devens, Mass., August, 1944, and after attending technical and clerical school at Ft. Belvoir, Va., he was transferred to infantry at Camp Howze, Tex. He was home on a brief furlough less than two months ago.

Connolly Made Navy Film Distribution Executive

WASHINGTON — Lieut. J. M. Connolly, USNR, formerly sales manager of the 20th-Fox Boston exchange, has been promoted to the post of film distribution coordinator in the navy photographic services. One of the youngest men to hold such an important post in the navy department here, Connolly operates under the supervision of Capt. Gene Markey, USNR, of the office of the secretary of the navy.

Before joining the service several years ago, Connolly distinguished himself as sales manager at Boston, where he had been trained by Edward X. Callahan, district manager. Connolly started in films on the staff of Sam Berk, booker, and was later promoted to salesman.



HUB DISTRIBUTORS COMPLETE PLANS—Boston's exchange representatives have completed plans for distributor participation in the Seventh War Loan campaign. Seated, left to right: Ross C. Cropper, RKO; T. J. Donaldson, M-G-M; George W. Horan, Warner Bros., chairman; Edward W. Ruff, Paramount; John Feloney, 20th-Fox. Standing: Ben Abrams, Monogram; John J. Dervin, UA; Abe Weiner, Republic; Joseph Wolf, Columbia; Ernest Warren, Universal.

BOSTON

A cocktail party was given at the Copley Plaza Hotel here for Yvonne De Carlo, here in connection with the opening here soon of her picture, "Salome—Where She Danced." Newspaper critics and members of the film and theatre districts attended . . . "Those Endearing Young Charms" was screened at RKO for exhibitors, RKO salesmen, bookers and publicists.

Edgar I. Eaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shep Epstein of the Exhibitor, has been transferred to Carlisle, Pa., for officers training . . . Harry L. Gold, UA eastern division sales manager, was expected here for conferences with Jim Winn and John Dervin.

John Scully jr., son of the district manager of Universal was home following his return from Russia. He was freed from a German prison camp overrun by the Russians. He went from here to Washington to assist in a governmental investigation of German treatment of war prisoners.

F. L. Murry, Universal manager of branch operations, was a visitor . . . Alice Donahue, UA booker, left on a Washington, D. C., visit . . . Fred Allen will be here May 6 for a dinner to be given for him by the alumni of the Boston High School of Commerce. Governor Tobin, Herb Schaefer and many others will be present. Allen is in "It's in the Bag," which opens here soon.

Francis Driscol, booker for M-G-M who has been ill with pneumonia several weeks, is back at the office . . . Nate Oberman has returned after a vacation in New York . . . Walter Dyer, Universal booker, promoted to salesman for the Maine territory. Florence Slater is the new head booker, while Mrs. Emma Corbit and Joe Kelly have also been moved up.

Arthur Sharby, former New Hampshire and Vermont exhibitor, was on Filmrow. He has been on sea duty in the navy the last 27 months, visiting ports in Russia, England, France, Belgium, India and Persia. He took part in the bombardment of the Normandy beaches . . . George Heeley, manager of the M&P theatre in Marlboro, has been inducted into the armed services.

Billy Hutchinson of RKO won $2,500 in a charitable drawing . . . Harry Blanchette, owner of the Lafayette in Central Falls, R. I., is at a local hospital . . . Gus Schaefer, RKO district manager, is in a hospital in Newton.

Francis X. Beupre, former manager of the Garden in Greenfield, will take over the managership at the Jefferson in Springfield . . . The Maurice J. Tobin Canteen, which was dedicated to the governor several weeks ago, is considered one of the finest projects accomplished by the Macauley Legion post. The post home which is now completely furnished, represents an investment of more than $50,000.

Gus Schaefer is reported slightly improved . . . Ellen Logue, RKO booker who has been off a week because of the illness of her mother, has returned to her desk . . . Billy Hutch, RKO shipper, spent the weekend in Newport.

The Cinema Club will give a dinner and dance the first week in June. Tommie Fermoyle of M&P, Phil Berler of Loew's and Cyrl McGarigle will be in charge of arrangements . . . Prior to the opening of "Mr. Emmanuel" at the Majestic here, a screening was held for the film critics, and social and civic leaders of Boston.

"Powder" Scores High On Hartford Rialto

HARTFORD—"Keep Your Powder Dry" at the Poli scored the highest mark last week, while "Tonight and Every Night" at E. M. Loew's, drew big for a second week. Second week business on "Thunderhead" was average.

Allyn—**Earl Carroll's Vanities** (Rep); **High Powered** (Para) 135
E. M. Loew's—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **Missing Juror** (Col), 2nd wk 170
Palace—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk 120
Poli—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 180
Regal—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 3rd wk 125
State—**Docks of New York** (Mono), plus Spike Jones orchestra on stage 110
Strand—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **Enter Arsene Lupin** (Univ) 140

Favorable Weather Fails to Bolster Slumping Grosses at New Haven

NEW HAVEN—Business was not spectacular anywhere along the main stem. Second week of "Between Two Women" and "Main Street After Dark" edged up over average at the College, while at the Roger Sherman the second week of "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "Song for Miss Julie" slumped. Weather was favorable. "Dark Waters" and "Eadie Was a Lady" went over to the College for a second week after a first at Loew's Poli.

Bijou—**Alaska** (Mono); **Shadow of Suspicion** (Mono) 95
College—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk 102
Loew's Poli—**Dark Waters** (UA); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col) 90
Paramount—**Unseen** (Para); **High Powered** (Para) 90
Roger Sherman—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk. 60

N. HAMPSHIRE

Doc Snow and the Box-X Cowboys, formerly of WMUR, Manchester, and now featured over WKNE, Keene, were booked for an appearance at the Rochester City Opera House . . . Sgt. Harold A. Stillings of Milton is an army signal corps cameraman and helped photograph the American crossing of the Rhine.

"Flight Lieutenant," featuring Pat O'Brien and Glenn Ford, rated a return showing by popular request at the Crown in Manchester . . . The Portsmouth Theatre Co. has announced that the Portsmouth Theatre on Chestnut St., Portsmouth, including all the property and equipment, will be sold at public auction May 3. The theatre, equipped for film or stage shows, has a seating capacity of 1,140.

The Empire in Manchester has started a giveaway of Ambassador silverware to lady patrons every Wednesday and Thursday . . . The Rev. Robert G. Friend, Methodist pastor in Contoocook, at one time employed by an Albion, Mich., film company which distributes films to religious schools, has recently received wide publicity by smoking and teaching young people to dance . . . Frances Carson, London and New York actress, presented her dramatization of "The Theatre in Personal Closeups," at Colby Junior College in New London.

Although its season does not open officially until May 30, Hampton Beach has already attracted thousands of visitors during the last few weeks. An elaborate entertainment program is planned for this summer at the famous resort . . . Harry E. Thayer, former film exhibitor, and Mrs. Velzora Nutter Mathews, formerly of Lynn, Mass., were married recently at the bridegroom's home in Farmington.

HARTFORD

Spike Jones' orchestra, State Theatre headliners last weekend, were guests on the Hi-Jinks program at WTHT . . . Sgt. Stanley Mitz, ex-Strand doorman, was home on furlough from Ft. Jackson, S. C., where he is a gunnery instructor . . . Sam Scheckter, Colonial, is spring cleaning.

Harry Moskowitz of Loew's maintenance headquarters in New York; Harry F. Shaw, division manager, and Lou Brown, publicity director, were visitors here one day . . . Eleanor Keefe replaces Corrine Glazier on the Colonial staff.

Jim Cotoia, Rivoli, presented "Top Hat," a reissue, with good boxoffice returns, last week . . . A local insurance man, George Malcolm Smith, has sold play rights of his book, "Slightly Perfect," to Broadway agents.

A Dumbarton Oaks rally will be held at the Bushnell Memorial April 29. Gov. Raymond Baldwin of Connecticut, leading state and city officials and a program by Broadway stage and screen stars will be presented. The guest of honor will be Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas of California, wife of Actor Melvyn Douglas.

Manager Dean Barrett, Rialto, reported his boxing protege, Ken Trumbull, a Rialto usher, was in perfect trim for his first professional bout at the Auditorium this week (24) . . . Lenox Manager Henry Wittke, hosted John Nacykowski and Ray Stansfield, formerly with the Warner circuit and now ensigns . . . Louis Kula, Allyn aide, has resigned after one year to enter a local war plant.

Cpl. Norman Rolfe, former Connecticut district manager for Lockwood Gordon, is expected home early in May from his army post in Orlando, Fla., where he is manager of the Signal Hill Theatre and army theatre district auditor. His wife is manager of the Webb Playhouse, Wethersfield.

Manley Hitcheon has resigned from the Lenox maintenance staff . . . Walter Lloyd, Allyn, was off sick last week. Stanley Redmond came in from Norwalk to handle the relief stint . . . Max Birnbaum of Warners, George Walsh of Paramount and Max Salsburg of RKO were in on selling rounds.

Joe DiLorenzo, Plainfield, arrived at Daly headquarters last week with one of the flashiest ties seen in many a day and the gang promptly donned sun glasses! . . . Pvt. Americo Marion jr., ex-Princess projectionist, is now in the army in North Carolina . . . Salvatore Geano is new on the Regal Theatre staff . . . Pfc. Merrill Katz, ex-Strand, is now with the army in Germany.

Mrs. Claffey, Warner relief cashier, subbed at the Regal for Nora Grimes who was ill . . . Pvt. Anthony DiLorenzo, ex-Daly circuit, is with the Ninth air force in Germany . . . Happy birthday to Frank Morin, Regal.

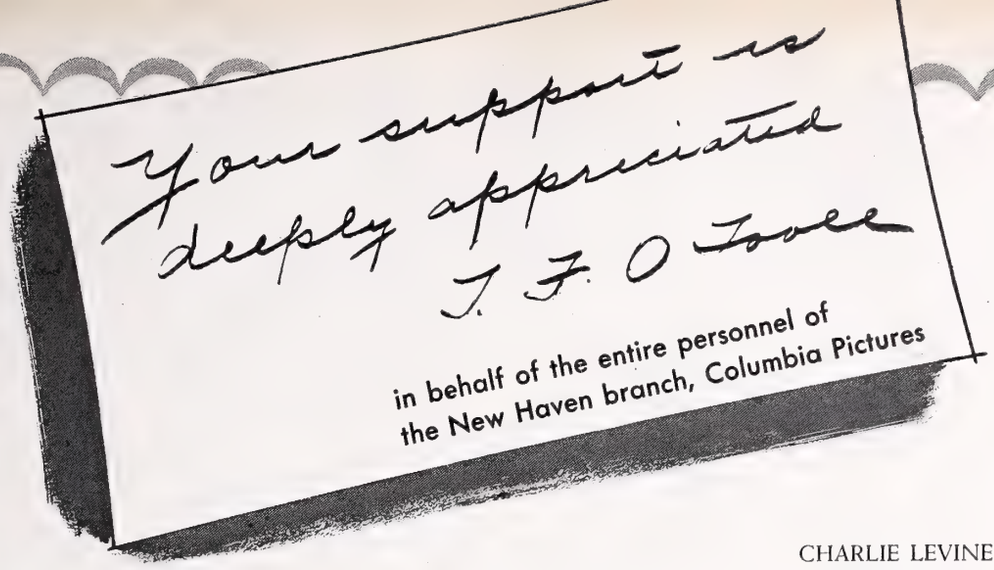
I. J. Hoffman, Warner zone manager, is vacationing in Saratoga, N. Y. . . . Florence Allen is the new cashier at the Palace.

Rudy Frank Ballys WELI

HARTFORD — Rudy Frank, former publicity director of the State, now is connected in a similar capacity with radio station WELI at New Haven. Since leaving the State, Frank has toured coast to coast with band attractions, and currently also represents Frankie Carle, Stan Kenton and Vaughn Munroe.

Demarest Cast in "Pardon My Past"

William Demarest has joined the cast of "Pardon My Past," a Mutual production.



ANNETTE B. ALEXANDER
MICKEY ALPERIN
LOU ANGER
MAURICE BAILEY
SAM BAILEY
PHIL BERLER
ARTHUR BIRCHMAN
HARRY BLUME
LEO BONOFF
TONY BOSCARDINI
BILL BROWN
MIKE CASCIOLI
JOHN CANNON
JIM CASEY
FLORA COHN
GEORGE CONDEN
JOHN CONTARAS
JOE CORWEL
MIKE DALY
JIMMY DELUCIA
JOE DIFRANCESCO
HAROLD DONOVAN
ERNIE DORAU
BOB ELLIANO
JOE FAITH
W. FERGUSON
JACK FINDLAY
DAN FINN
MAX FINN
JACK FISHMAN
SELIG FISHMAN
ED FITZPATRICK
TED FLEISHER
LARRY GERMAINE
LOU GINSBERG
JACK GLACKIN
MILTON GOLDBERG
MORRIS HADELMAN
SAM HADELMAN
MARTIN HARRIS
TED HARRIS
CLYDE HESS
MIRIAM HESS
RUSSELL HESS
JOHN HESSE
I. J. HOFFMAN
MAX HOFFMAN
ARTHUR HOWARD
MORRIS JACOBSON
ABEL JACOCKS
TED JACOCKS
ADOLPH JOHNSON
MORRIS KEPPNER
NICK KOURNARIS
GEORGE LANDERS
AL LAMBERT
HARRY LAVIETES
ALBERT LAURION
CHARLIE LEVINE
BERNIE LEVY
GEORGE LEWITT
ARTHUR LOCKWOOD
E. M. LOEW
ROCCO LONGO
CARL LUPONE
FRANK LYDON
JIM MAHONEY
JOE MARKOFF
TED MARKOFF
LEE MALCARNE
ROGER MAHAN
FRANK MANN
PAT McMAHON
TOMMY MARTELL
CHARLEY MORSE
JOHN PANORA
STEVE PANORA
RALPH PASHO
PETE PEROKAS
ED PESKAY
AL PICKUS
WILLIAM PILOT
WILLIAM PINE
JACK POST
DAN POUZZNER
MORRIS POUZZNER
ANTON PRAKAS
FRED QUATRANO
JOE QUITTNER
GEORGE RABBOTT
JOE REED
CHARLIE REPASS
LEO RICCI
JOHNNY RICCIUTTI
SAM ROSEN
MORRIS ROSENTHAL
MATT SAUNDERS
BOB SCHWARTZ
HYMAN SCHWARTZ
JACK SCHWARTZ
PHIL SCHWARTZ
HARRY SHAW
PHIL SHERMAN
PAT SILVERIO
MIKE SIRICA
ARTHUR SMITH
BURT SMITH
EVELINA SMITH
GEORGE SMITH
JULIA SMITH
MOLLIE STICKLES
CHESTER STODDARD
HAROLD STONEMAN
AL TELEVIET
TONY TERRAZANO
HAROLD TOBACKMAN
MIKE TOMASINO
MARY VUONO
JOE WALSH
J. WELLS
NEIL WELTY
IRWIN WHEELER
GEORGE WILKINSON

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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

NEW HAVEN

Not a moment too soon to be starting your Seventh War Loan ideas and resolves to put into effect May 14 to June 30. Advance reports have it that the Loew's Poli here will have an evening bond show and the Paramount a kiddie show . . . Sam Rosen of Rosen Film Deliveries was back on Meadow St. after an extended vacation in Mexico, and looking fine . . . Arthur Lockwood came in from Boston on a rare visit to the district.

Harry Moskowitz of Loew's construction department, New York, was in Hartford with Harry Shaw and Lou Brown on some unrevealed construction plans . . . Harry Shaw took off with Mrs. Shaw for a three-week Miami vacation . . . Al Montefalco of the Carroll, Waterbury, in to visit the New Haven theatre boys on his day off . . . Lillian Hellman, Bennett A. Cerf, James Warner Bellah and Carl Van Doren are the literary figures who will aid the war loan drive here June 4.

Marion Gollander of Metro was on the sick list . . . Rosalie Comiskey, secretary to Ray Wiley, UA manager, announced her engagement to Sgt. Edward DeMott of the army air force. It will be wedding bells in October . . . Olga Ciarelo is the new cashier at the College . . . Mrs. George Landers of E. M. Loew's, Hartford, was ill in a New Britain hospital . . . Warnerites are hoping to be able to build the new exchange sooner than anticipated since Dallas, Pittsburgh and other spots were able to obtain similar priorities.

Alice Freedman, secretary to Cy O'Toole of Warner Theatres, will be a-marrying soon . . . Congratulations to Harry Fishman of Fishman Theatres on having a new granddaughter, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Aaron Roffman. Baby was born with a tooth!

Charles McBride, Paramount stage manager, still was recuperating from a heart attack at his sister's home . . . Max Birnbaum, Warner salesman, issued a plea for contributions of electric razors to Old Farms Convalescent Hospital for blind vets. Send your razor to Lieut. Jameson.

John Scully of Universal was a visitor on Meadow St. . . . Also Jack Davis of Republic . . . Gene DuBarry has been taking it easy after resigning at the State, Torrington, where A. Tonelli now is manager . . . Carl Halprin advertised early opening at Drive-In, Milford, as against usual Decoration Day opener . . . 20th-Foxites received their three weeks' pay prize money Friday, and each forthwith bought a war bond.

B&Q Sign With Altec

NEW YORK—L. J. Hacking, Altec New England district manager reports B&Q Associates have signed agreements with Altec Service Corp. for booth replacement parts for their theatres in Brookline, Quincy and Rockland, Mass.

Columbia Shifts to NS

NEW HAVEN — National Screen starts shipping "paper" for Columbia exchange here as of May 1.



"Springfield" Bows In Namesake City

SPRINGFIELD—The special Warner Bros. two-reeler, "It Happened in Springfield," which depicts the local plan for furtherance of democracy by education, was given its world premiere at the Capitol Theatre Wednesday.

National promotion of the short by national radio hookups and cooperation of 12 national organizations has been arranged by Warner Bros. (Described elsewhere in the April 21 and this issue of BOXOFFICE.)

I. J. Hoffman, John Hesse and Dan Finn were in earlier in the week from New Haven Warner circuit headquarters to complete arrangements with Andy Sette of the Capitol for the premiere.

The Capitol was repainted and redecorated for the event.

WORCESTER

Lieut. Ijor Poletaev, who served in the defense of Moscow, was brought here to deliver several public talks in connection with "Counter-Attack" at the Warner . . . An ice show opened at Ye Olde Tavern . . . The favorite hobby of Phyllis Meservey of the Capitol is fishing.

Nate Goldberg, manager of the Olympia, did a little reminiscing in the Sunday Telegram on the days when Bob Hope played in vaudeville at the Elm Street, where Nate was the orchestra leader . . . Charlie Spivak, the maestro, was in town.

Mrs. Howard Shepard, president of the Better Films Council, announces it has approved "Can't Help Singing" for the family; "Alaska," "Counter-Attack," "Eadie Was a Lady," "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal," "My Gal Loves Music" and "This Man's Navy" for mature-family audiences, and "Between Two Women," "The Impostor" and "Frisco Sal."

Bob Robison, former manager of the Plymouth, lately doing indoor circus work, was stricken ill in New Bedford, and removed to St. Luke's Hospital there . . . There was interest here in the banning by the city of Memphis of "Brewster's Millions" as Helen Walker of this city is one of the featured players.

Ray Tonelli, singing a la Frank Sinatra, won first prize in the finals of the 21-week talent contest at the Plymouth, a packed house watching the eliminations . . . Says the Worcester Gazette: "There should be music in the air at the Olympia. Fred Joseph, well-known musician, is serving as assistant manager. The manager, of course, is Nate Goldberg, the band leader."

George Roy, formerly of the Plymouth, has entered the merchant marine in New London, Conn. . . . William Loomis, formerly of the Plaza, is playing in the Ringling circus band . . . Margaret Bloom of the Olympia has been out on account of illness.

Samuel Wasserman announced the season's final legitimate show at the Plymouth probably would be "A Doll's House," with a Hollywood cast . . . William Savage of the Park has been vacationing in the Berkshires. Louis Cartier has been substituting.

Worcester will be the setting for a Broadway musical comedy next season. Richard Kollmer is planning to present an adaptation of George Malcolm-Smith's novel, "Slightly Perfect," with possibly Ray Bolger as the young stuffed shirt who joins a traveling carnival and works up to be a barker.

NEW BRITAIN

While Stanley Redmond of the Norwalk takes over at the M&P Allyn, Hartford, during the illness of Manager Walter Lloyd, Cashier Margaret Frederici is holding the fort at the Norwalk Theatre . . . Ensigns John Nacykowski and Ray Stansfield, formerly of the Circle, Manchester, were home on leave . . . Wac Pvt. Julia Ridzon, former chief usherette at the State, Manchester, arrived home on a seven-day leave from Texas, scheduled to return to Washington for reassignment.

It is reported the Strand, Norwich, closed last fall after State Commissioner Ed Hickey's special inspection tour, is not expected to be remodeled for reopening due to the extreme expense it would entail . . . Adolph Johnson, Strand, Hamden, is mighty proud of his son Bob, a naval lieutenant now at San Diego.

Following the unexpected hospitalization of Jack Shield of the Capitol, Ansonia, Manager John Mathews of the Empress in Danbury moved in to handle relief while George Harvey doubles up on his Palace, Danbury, and the Empress . . . Ann Adamy, relief cashier at the Circle and State, Manchester, was on sick leave . . . Jack Sanson, Manchester, has painted his car blue for spring.

Pvt. Greg Vince received a hearty welcome home in New Britain and Manchester after serving in Italy and France for two years and being wounded in action.

Manager Pat McMahon, State, reports his "U.S. Service Cavalcade" is still playing to SRO on Thursdays. Fifty different local men and women in the service are presented on the State screen each week in a hookup with merchants . . . Redecoration of the lobby and addition of a modernistic, neon-sided, standee rail at the Garde, New London, was almost completed . . . Manager Jack O'Sullivan of the Garde, has been named a director of the Sea Scouts.

Pvt. Video Schevalo, ex-Palace assistant, is now in Italy.

Darthmouth to Open

SPRINGFIELD—Herbert Gifford of Westport will open the Darthmouth Auto Theatre on Grand Army highway, between Fall River and New Bedford on April 29, it was announced by Ray Allard, general manager, who also manages the Interstate Center Theatre.

Old Clothes Matinee

HARTFORD—Manager Hugh Campbell, Central, assisted the old clothes drive by presenting "Fighting Lady" Friday morning to school students who collected ten pounds or more of usable clothing.

SPRINGFIELD

Nate Yamins, Springfield and Holyoke exhibitor, returned from a three-week vacation at Palm Springs, Fla., with his family . . . Cpl. Fred Cabana, ex-Poli here, writes about a recent visit to Calcutta . . . E. M. Loew's drive-ins in this area are set for an early May opening.

The Majestic, West Springfield, is up for sale, it is authoritatively reported . . . Manager Al Anders, Bijou, and Mrs. Anders were weekend visitors at Boston . . . Lou Brown, Loew's publicity director, was in to confer with George Freeman, Poli, on redecorating.

Texas Loan Backers Briefed at Breakfast

DALLAS—Under supervision of R. J. O'Donnell, southwestern chairman of WAC; John Q. Adams, state chairman; Phil Longdon, Cecil House and other committee officials, plans for the Seventh War Loan were to be set forth at a 9:30 breakfast April 28 in the Variety Club.

O'Donnell was scheduled to outline the proposed campaign in which Texas exhibitors are to participate. Others were to make brief points on their ideas for the drive and Ray Beall, state publicity chairman, was to give the highlights from this standpoint.

Exhibitors, independents and circuit men were invited. Among them were J. G. Long, Theodore Routt, Glenn McClain, Frank Weatherford, L. C. Tidball, Harry Fulgham, S. L. Oakley, Sam Landrum, R. N. Smith, Al Pickens, W. J. Wooten, Henry Reeve, Henry Hall, Mart Cole, B. R. McLendon, W. J. Wooten, Col. H. A. Cole, R. I. Payne, Fred Hoenscheidt, Lynn Stocker, Ray Higdon, H. A. Daniels, Leon Lewis, Jack Pickens, Harley Sadler, Cranfill Cox, W. G. Underwood, John Paxton, Interstate circuit managers, representative of their territories, managers from the Robb & Rowley, Jefferson and Griffith circuits.

D. A. Dixon, owner of the Haskell Theatre, was delegated to invite independent exhibitors of the area. Others to be on hand were Ray Beall, J. A. Cherry, William O'Donnell and others.

Harold Minsky of Orleans Off to Book Stage Acts

NEW ORLEANS—Harold Minsky, who operates the St. Charles Theatre here with his father, A. B. Minsky, left for New York via Chicago at the conclusion Thursday (26) of his final stage show for the current season. He will spend a month in New York and go from there to the west coast for another month or six weeks, he said. While away he expects to line up name stars and other attractions for vaudeville bills to be resumed at the St. Charles the first week in September. During the summer, second run M-G-M pictures will be shown. The Minskys changed from a policy of featuring name bands to name stars during the past season, bringing such personalities as Peter Lorre, Carole Landis, Gypsy Rose Lee, June Havoc, Gil Lamb, June Preisser and others to New Orleans for initial and highly successful appearances. Minsky said the same policy, of building stage shows around a name star, will be continued next season.

Gillenwater Heads Three Johnson City Theatres

JOHNSON CITY, TENN.—Wilfred Gillenwater has taken over the post of resident manager of three Johnson City theatres made vacant by the recent induction of Fred Barton into the navy. Mrs. Erma Nelms and E. G. Thompson are house managers for the Liberty and Tennessee theatres. Gillenwater holds the position as house manager of the Majestic in addition to his city managership.

Roy C. Lee to 20th-Fox

DALLAS—Roy C. Lee, lighting display technician, has joined the engineering production staff of 20th-Fox in Hollywood after serving two years with M-G-M and later with the army signal corps. His first assignments will be on "State Fair" and "The Dolly Sisters." Lee maintained a studio and factory here a number of years.

Fox Photo Provides a Bit Of Peachtree St. in France

Atlanta—Move over, you pinup girls and make room for the Fox Theatre. The famous Emory Hospital Unit in France wants a picture of the Fox to hang in the new officers hut there.

Writing to William K. Jenkins, president of Georgia Theatres, Maj. Julius Hughes, former Atlanta physician, explained that the lads and lassies of the outfit are hungry for scenes of Peachtree St. They wanted a nice big photo of the Fox, a familiar landmark to all, for the spot of honor on the wall of their prefabricated clubhouse.

Jenkins ordered a new photograph made of the theatre and sent a 24x18-inch print to the unit.

Dallas Variety Winds Up For Turtle Derby Pitch

DALLAS—Variety Club, at its recent general meeting, set machinery in motion for this year's turtle derby, to be run in October. Ticket sales were ordered to begin immediately.

The main beneficiary of the big event will be the Boys Ranch in Coryel County. Mrs. R. E. Dawson, who with her husband, founded the ranch, made the principal talk, telling of the benefit to delinquent boys, and saying that more good work was assured now that Variety was behind the project.

James O. Cherry, chief barker, presided. Bill O'Donnell, general chairman of the derby, made the chief pep talk. Three hundred attended. Turtle derby books were distributed to all team captains, who in turn handed them out to designated film and theatre men who were to proceed with sales. The team captains are: William O'Donnell, Louis Charninsky, Duke Clark, Charles E. Darden, Fred Hoenscheidt, Charles Meeker, W. E. Mitchell, Sol Sachs, George Schepps, Frank Starz, J. B. Underwood and J. O. Cherry.

Rankin, Ill., Gets Theatre

RANKIN, ILL.—Workmen have been remodeling the brick building just north of Sloan's Cafe into a 150-seat fireproof theatre. Owners of the new enterprise are Sgt. and Mrs. A. J. Sindt of Rantoul. Films will be shown nightly, except Thursdays.

Meiselman Circuit To Add Four Houses

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Plans for the construction of two new theatres here are being drawn up by the Meiselman circuit, according to H. B. Meiselman.

Plans for two new Charlotte houses already have been completed and are out on bids, he said.

One of the Asheville houses, a 800-seater, will be known as the Strand, Meiselman disclosed, and the name of the other house, to seat 1,450, has not been selected. The Charlotte houses will be named the Radio City and the Manor.

Theatres in three other towns are projected by the rapidly expanding circuit, Meiselman said, which will make a total of 12 towns in North Carolina.

Woodville, Tex., Rotary Elects J. Wood Fain

WOODVILLE, TEX.—J. Wood Fain, owner of the Fain Theatre for 13 years, has been elected president of the Rotary Club. Fain and Mrs. Fain both are active in civic and church work. He is Sunday School superintendent, member of the board of stewards, director of the Chamber of Commerce and secretary-treasurer of the Athletic Council. Mrs. Fain is president of the Federated Women's Club, president of the Missionary Society and head of the district society work.

Their only child, John Hayes, 13, is president of the Citizenship Class and has been president or vice-president of every class since entering school. He now is in the eighth grade.

In addition to his theatre operations, Fain is in the real estate, oil, tourist court and several lesser businesses. A brother owns the Fain and Texas at Livingston, and a sister owns the Fain at Newton.

Rabbi Reviews a Film

MEMPHIS—Rabbi H. W. Ettelson reviewed "Tomorrow the World" at his services last Sunday.

F. LeMieux Takes Drake

GREENSBURG, LA.—F. LeMieux has taken over the Drake Theatre here and changed the name to the State.



OKLAHOMANS READY FOR "SHOWMEN'S SEVENTH"—Oklahoma City industry leaders, planning a big Seventh War Loan campaign, used this "get-together" as an occasion to present Red Cross collection checks to county chairmen and R. C. officials. Left to right: Jack Swiger, Standard Theatres; C. B. "Brownie" Akers, WAC chairman; Paul Townsend, Standard; Ed Kidwell, Standard; M. K. Boldman, Penn Theatre; Judge Clarence Mills, Red Cross county chairman, receiving the checks from Kidwell; Wallace Hughes, Red Cross official; C. B. Hudson, Rodeo Theatre; R. G. Sykes, Villa Theatre; Charles Trego, Reno and Gayety manager; Morris Loewenstein, president, Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, Inc.; Fred Jackson, Griffith; Marlin Butler, Log Cabin Theatre; Sol Starr, Aldrige Theatre, and Robert Busch, Uptown Theatre.

DALLAS

E P. Herber has been getting an opportunity to prove his assertions that his chief hobby is the culinary art. He is chairman of the Knights Templar entertainment committee and dons an apron and takes charge in the Masonic Temple kitchen on eat night. The temple is just across Harwood St. and a block down from Herber Bros. . . . B. R. Hughes, former owner of the Strand, Rogers, Tex., was here from his home in Waco attempting to get a lead on the purchase of another house. He is in the insurance business, but thinks enough of the theatre industry to return to it as soon as possible . . . W. N. Jones, employe in the post office at Pontiac, Mich., is the new owner of the Victory, Malakoff, having made the purchase recently from Bob Story.



"CHEF" HERBER

J. N. Stewart, Palace at Kaufman, said recent rains ruined all profits for a number of good pictures he ran in quick succession during the last two weeks. Other exhibitors in eastern Texas and in some other parts of the state are saying about the same thing . . . Joe Bryant, owner and operator of the Midway, Lubbock, was in town two days booking.

Business houses at Garland closed one hour Wednesday morning for special prayer services for success of the San Francisco conference. On invitation from H. R. Bisby the service was held in the Plaza Theatre. American Legion was sponsor.

Bob Yancey, owner and operator of the Yancey, Normangee, was on the Row to buy and book and to complete purchase of materials for a cooling system. He bought a blower from Herber Bros. . . . Bob Hope has chosen the ten most beautiful girls on the University of Texas campus from a field of 400. They will be featured in the annual university musical comedy, "Time Staggers On," May 10-12.

Charles E. Darden left for Chicago where he will attend the Popcorn Processors Ass'n meeting and to visit with C. Cretors, whose popcorn machines and other products Darden will distribute in six southern states. He expected to see new models of postwar machines.

Harry Bailey, branch and district manager of Vitagraph in silent days when that company had an exchange on Commerce St., passed through here the other day and talked to several old friends. Bailey now is in the citrus fruit business in California. Before that, since leaving Vitagraph, he was with Goodyear.

Ned McGuire, head Paramount shipper, has been called by the armed service. He expected to take his final examination shortly . . . Bob Hooks of the Select and Leroy theatres in Mineola, was on the Row and said his draft board had told him to be ready April 27. Bob is married and has one child. His mother, Mrs. R. L. Hooks, still sells tickets some of the time at the theatre and otherwise looks after the house.

Duke Clark, Paramount district manager, was down Houston way, and was taken for a ride by Jack Groves in his bay-going motor boat. Clark had a rib caved in as he struck the top of the side of the craft. Groves is owner of the Queen Theatre and is an expert boatman.

The RKO Studio School to Showboat

The RKO studio school has been moved to a showboat currently in use by the troupe filming "The Amorous Ghost." The two students are 16-year-old Donna Lee, the lyric soprano, and Alfalfa Switzer, former freckled-face kid of "Our Gang."

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JUST ARRIVED — A number of 8, 10, 12 section Film Cabinets. Order now.

TICKETS

Order early! Check your tickets on hand now! Do not wait until you are out. There is both a paper and a color shortage.

HERBER BROTHERS

"Fair Treatment and Adequate Service Always"

408 S. HARWOOD DALLAS, TEXAS

Jackson, Union Head At Dallas, Dies at 59

DALLAS—A veteran film man, C. D. Jackson, president of Film Exchange Employes Union B53 and Monogram shipper for eight years, died unexpectedly at his home after a brief illness. With his gray hair and erect posture he was a familiar figure on Filmrow. Strong in his union affiliation, he was an ardent promoter of AFL principles and usually was a delegate at national meetings.

In early years Jackson owned and operated theatres in Oklahoma. His experiences there in selling pictures on the spot led to exploitation and publicity jobs with the distributors. The big depression of the early '30s brought slack in his line of work so he took jobs checking pictures. With further slackening, Jackson put on his overalls and went to work for Monogram as shipper and was promoted several times in this capacity.

Jackson would have been 59 years old this Saturday. He leaves his wife and one daughter, Margaret, who has been overseas with the Wac for two years.

MEMPHIS

Strolling on Filmrow . . . It's a bright, sunny afternoon. Spring fever is rampant . . . At Universal, Carl Miller, New York auditor, was busy as a bee. Vacations were being discussed, dates being fixed, plans made . . . Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager, was just back from the Seventh War Loan meeting in Chicago and taking off for a business trip in the territory. New face: Shirley Uth, stenographer.

Variety Club, nice and cool, was ready for this weekend party Saturday night, sponsored by 20th-Fox . . . At Republic, Tom Kirk, old-timer with M-G-M, was taking over as branch manager. Just getting his teeth into things . . . RKO: Vacation dates being worked out, starting May 1.

C. E. Kessnich, Atlanta, district manager, was a visitor . . . Paramount: Thinking about vacations. None have dates fixed . . . Columbia: No news. Just a few exhibitors visiting. No vacation plans . . . National Theatre Supply Co. employes were welcoming Al Schuyler, former NTS manager at Des Moines, just out of navy. He started working here April 16.

Warner Theatre: Joe Simon, manager, was back from New York where he saw several good shows. New cashier: Elsie Shaw . . . Visiting on Filmrow, booking were: R. B. Cox, Batesville, Miss., and O. W. McCutchen, Blytheville, Ark.

B. L. Turner, Back From War, Is on the Job Again

DALLAS—Sgt. Bryan L. Turner has returned from the Italian front with a medical discharge, and is on the job again as manager of his Park in Iowa Park. During his three-year absence the house has been operated by his mother, Mrs. Mary Turner, and a sister, Alice May, the latter a projectionist.

NBC Program at Memphis

MEMPHIS—The famous NBC program, America United, originated last Sunday in Memphis. It was recorded and repeated by WMC Monday night.

Get Top Roles in "Frontier Gal"

Andy Devine and Fuzzy Knight have been assigned top roles in "Frontier Gal," Universal production.

Thanks for helping to make this campaign a success

George Rascoe

in behalf of the entire personnel of the Charlotte branch, Columbia Pictures

MRS. NEIL G. ABLE
MORRIS ABRAMS
W. J. ALLEN
W. C. ALLRED
B. B. ANDERSON
J. H. ANDERSON
H. H. ANDERSON
C. B. ANDREWS
HAROLD ARMISTEAD
C. H. ARRINGTON
A. S. AUSTIN, JR.
CARL BAMFORD
B. L. BAUCOM
BUCK BAUGHAM
ROBERT BAUM
F. H. BEDDINGFIELD
B. B. BENFIELD
W. B. BENNER
J. B. BENTON
H. R. BERRY
ELLIS BLUMENTHAL
J. J. BOOTH
C. M. BOWDEN
SAM BOZO
C. T. BRIDGERS
SHEP BRINKLEY
W. M. BROADWELL
M. V. BROCKMAN
BOYD BROWN
R. E. BRYANT
GEORGE CARPENTER
E. L. CARROLL
C. E. CASH
D. E. CASH
T. G. CASTLES
C. H. CAUDELL
P. J. CAUDELL
W. M. CHANCE
H. T. CHAPMAN
J. O. CHILDERS
WILLIAM CONN
FRANK A. COOK
H. B. COOK
H. C. COOK
D. L. CRADDOCK
S. W. CRAVER
H. A. CREEF
E. G. CREWS
CARL CROSLAND
G. CROTTS
MRS. D. A. CROWLEY
A. Z. CULLER
CAPT. BILLIE CULPEPPER
ED CURDTS
MRS. RUNA CURTIS
G. S. CUTHBERT, JR.
W. A. DANIEL
FIN DAVIS
GLENN DAVIS
V. W. DAVIS
BOB DEMOREST
MRS. E. L. DERRICK
W. O. DICKENS
H. E. DICKEY
J. P. DINEEN
L. L. DRAKE
JIMMY EARNHARDT
J. B. EDWARDS
J. H. ELWELL
H. H. EVERETT
TOM FLEMING
FRANK FOWLER
WILLIAM FRIDDELL
B. F. FURPLESS
W. G. FUSSELL
C. W. GARDNER
MRS. J. T. GIBSON
MRS. R. A. GOODMAN
J. W. GORDON
W. A. GRAY
MRS. H. T. GREEN
F. A. GREENE
J. C. GREENE
J. T. GREENE
G. W. GREGORY
J. W. GRIFFIN
A. E. GROOM
DALE GROOM
E. J. HALEY
LEM HALL
H. V. HAMMONT
LYMAN HAMRICK
TOM HARMON
O. A. HARRILL
E. S. HARRISS
H. C. HARTZ
J. B. HARVEY
C. B. HAYWORTH
H. D. HEARN
W. H. HENDRIX
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MRS. DORA HIGGINS
J. M. HIGHSMITH
A. O. HILL
A. P. HINNANT
I. W. HOLIDIA
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P. B. HOLTZENDORF
B. B. HORTON
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J. P. LASSITER
H. F. LEE
T. K. LEE
L. A. LINDER
PAUL LINIGAR
TOM LITTLE
T. L. LITTLE
MORRIS LITTMAN
G. F. LUNDY
W. C. MACON
MRS. KATE C. MAKELY
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J. E. MASSIE
ASHTON MATTHEWS
H. B. MEISELMAN
ALF MILLER
A. E. MILLER
MRS. A. B. MILLS
J. W. MITCHELL
C. H. MITCHUM
E. M. MOBLEY
E. W. MOONEY
J. E. MOORE
CHAS. E. MYERS
J. B. McINTYRE
J. D. McINTYRE
R. D. McGOWAN
J. W. McMILLAN
HENRY NELSON
MORRIS NUGER
MRS. J. M. O'NEAL
P. C. OSTEEN
L. L. OVERTON
J. C. OXENDINE
J. W. PARKER
W. L. PARKER
GEO. W. PARR
J. R. PATTERSON
W. L. PAUL
C. A. PAYNE
J. C. PEED
A. C. PHILLIPS
R. H. PHILLIPS
CHAS. W. PICQUET
J. R. POPE
E. G. POPHAL
A. F. POWELL, JR.
MRS. LILLIAN PRICE
L. L. PROPST
C. PROSSER
E. C. QUALLS
BERT RAM
JUSTIN RANKOFF
BEN G. REEVES
W. B. REEVES
SAM E. REEVIN
KENNETH RICHARDSON
L. B. RICHARDSON
S. P. ROBINSON
R. S. ROGERS, JR.
S. G. ROGERS
R. P. ROSSER
MRS. NINA ROWE
ROY ROWE
BERT RUSSELL
A. F. SAMS, JR.
R. C. SAUNDERS
MR. J. F. SCHLEZ
I. M. SCOTT
W. D. SEARS
J. E. SHEW
MRS. J. EARLE SHUTE
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L. F. THOMPSON
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C. A. TURNAGE
ROY TURNER
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J. W. WACTER
D. B. WADE
E. E. WADE
FRANCIS WADE
LOUIS M. WADE
W. S. WALKER
GEORGE WARD
JOHN WARNER
J. W. WATTS
J. H. WEBSTER
J. H. WEBSTER
GUY WEBB
PETE WEBB
H. E. WESSINGER
W. F. WELLS
MRS. EMMA WEST
FRANCIS WHITE
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA

SAN ANTONIO

Rollie Moore, former treasurer at the Majestic, has been promoted to house manager of the Empire, succeeding Weldon "Donnie" Donaho, resigned . . . Alfred Nathan Sack, head of Sackamuse Enterprises, Dallas, was in town recently calling on accounts and looking in perfect health with his extra weight.

Frank O. Starz, chief of publicity for the Interstate circuit, Dallas, was in on routine business matters . . . Callers along North Soledad St. at the Clasa-Mohme Mexican film exchange were Jose Suarez, Juarez, Poteet; Matilde Chapa, Mirando City, Mirando; Alfredo Pena, Cole's, New Braunfels; Francisco "Ponchito" Trevino, Ideal, Pearsall, who left an order for a year's subscription to BOXOFFICE; William James Kunetka, Rita, Benavides, and George Likins, Grand, Abilene.

Pvt. Edward Edwards, former Clasa-Mohme office booker, is now in the Philippines . . . Joe Allison, who was a lieutenant in the army until recently, is doing a bangup job as emcee on the Red River Dave Barn Dance stage show. Joe is also an announcer at KMAC and is a professional of ten years' standing, having joined a circus as his first fling at acting when 13 years old.

A check for $1,500 has been presented to the camp and hospital service council by Columbia Pictures, according to Carl Stromberg, chairman of the local council. The money was in payment for the services of 500 people who acted as extras at the filming of "Over Twenty-One" at San Antonio aviation cadet center here recently. Stromberg said part of the money will be used to defray transportation expenses for convalescent men at Brooke General Hospital on tours of the city. The rest will be used to buy radios, magazines, phonographs and games for recuperating soldiers. Councilors from 14 counties meet once every month to fill requests sent to the camp and hospital council.

Frances Viola Masters, 20, former Majestic cashier, died here last week in a local hospital from spinal meningitis . . . "Chino" Rodriguez of the Prince staff has bought himself a "wolf license" so all the girls had better beware . . . Lindy Coons, former local orchestra leader and stageband director, was a recent visitor from Corpus Christi.

Gunner's Mate Richard "Dick" Lowe, navy, was here on leave visiting Palace and other Interstate employes with whom he formerly worked before entering the war. Dick has seen action in the Atlantic and has several medals.

Capt. Benjamin Feldman, former Balaban & Katz manager in Chicago, is now assignment officer at the army ground station at Ft. Sam Houston here . . . Lady, prized horse belonging to State Theatre Cashier Kitty DuSold, has foaled a colt named Flicker.

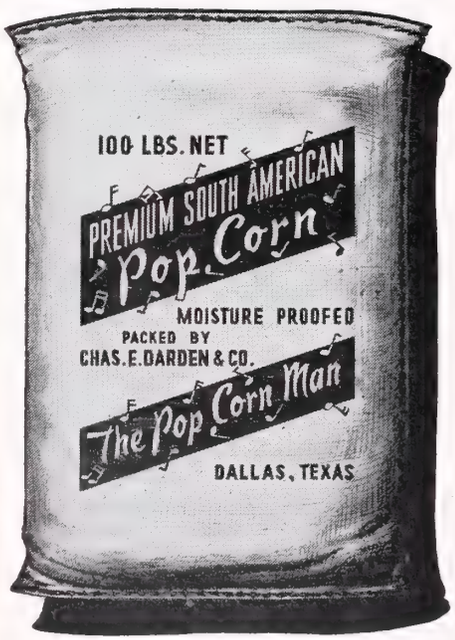
Lieut. Eugene Wildenstein jr., son of the manager of the Auditorium, was here on a pass from Camp Hood. He was wounded three times in the Pacific, has a Purple Heart and several other medals. While overseas two years, Gene contracted jungle fever . . . According to tradepress notices, H. A. "Windy" Daniels, Seguin and Crystal City showman, recently acquired an interest in the Gidney Talley circuit of Pleasanton. It is understood that the new partners will be on the lookout for opportunities to expand.

Sgt. Arlington Rand Brooks, film star, who played the part of Scarlett O'Hara's first husband in "GWTW," spent his honeymoon in the Alamo City (19) following his marriage to Miss Clover Barrick whose mother resides in Rockford, Ill. The nuptials were performed in the Travis Park Methodist Church. Brooks has been stationed at the San Antonio aviation cadet center, and has just received orders to be transferred to Kearns Field, Utah.

Ann (Empire cashier) and Verdis McCarver announce the adoption of a baby girl named Joy Ann . . . Henry Sorenson, manager and owner of the Modern Theatre Supply Co., Dallas, was here recently calling upon the local theatrical trade . . . Pfc. Billy Sharp, former theatrical producer who has been stationed at a Kentucky field, is now a cook at Randolph Field. Billy has been in the army air force several years . . . Jo Henson, Texas cashier, carried off the honors again in the San Antonio Womens' Golf Ass'n's weekly tourney at Brackenridge Park, her 81-6—75 winning both low net and low gross honors.

Shift to NSS April 30

DALLAS—Starting April 30, all paper and advertising accessories on Columbia pictures will be handled by National Screen Service, it was announced by J. B. Underwood, Columbia southwestern division manager, who said the new arrangement would improve service to the exhibitors. All orders from April 30 on should be mailed to NSS, which is now distributing advertising for RKO, M-G-M, Universal and United Artists pictures.



PREMIUM
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will soon be available again with all its prewar quality and high popping volume.

Chas. E. Darden & Co.

The Pop Corn Man

FILM EXCHANGE BLDG.
308 S. Harwood St.
DALLAS 1, TEXAS

Five New Theatres In Memphis Region

MEMPHIS—The biggest news of the week on Filmrow was the opening, or plans to open, of five new theatres in the Memphis trade territory during the next few weeks. Here's how the picture unfolds:

J. E. Clement is building a new theatre at Belmont, Miss., known as the Belmont Theatre. It will open very soon.

H. W. Bruister has opened the Tutwiler in Tutwiler, Miss., for Negroes.

The Harlem, West Memphis, Ark., a new structure, is under way. It is for colored.

A. J. Cole, owner and operator, has opened the Cassidy, Webb, Miss.

The Cruger, a new one, has opened at Cruger, Miss.

Sgt. Brown Missing Abroad, Wife at Dallas Is Informed

DALLAS—Sgt. Russell Brown, former Republic manager in Oklahoma City, was missing in action somewhere in Germany, the war department notified his wife, Mary. She has been making her home in Dallas since her husband joined the armed forces.

Brown went to work for Republic a number of years ago just out of school. After a few months in the accessories department, he was made salesman in western Texas. Within a short time there was an opening at the Oklahoma City branch and Brown was chosen to manage that office. His stay there, however, was relatively short, as the army called him within a few months. He is a son of R. I. Brown, former film man of the silent era, and a nephew of L. D. Brown, operator of three theatres in Brownwood.

J. D. Woodard Appointed District Advertising Head

ATLANTA—Appointment of J. D. Woodard, former advertising and exploitation director of Georgia Theatres, Inc., to the district publicity staff of Warner Bros., was announced by R. L. McCoy, WB southern district manager.

Woodard was to leave this week for New York to confer with Mort Blumenstock, Warner exploitation chief, on releases for the next six months.

Connected with Georgia Theatres for four years, Woodard was manager of the Roxy Theatre before going into the armed service for a year. After his discharge he took over the circuit's advertising and exploitation.

R. N. Smith Constructing Falfurrias, Tex., House

FALFURRIAS, TEX.—R. N. Smith of Mission, owner of a string of a dozen theatres in southern Texas and the Valley, is building a new theatre here on which wall construction is under way. He has started making inquiries for available furnishings and decorative schemes for the house, indicating that the opening will come during the summer or early fall.

Paramount Meet Soon

DALLAS—Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects sales manager, will hold a two-day district meeting here May 10-11 when promotion plans for the new season's product will be arranged. Managers C. H. Weaver of Oklahoma City and L. W. McClintock of Memphis will attend. Morgan will leave May 12 for Los Angeles.

SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



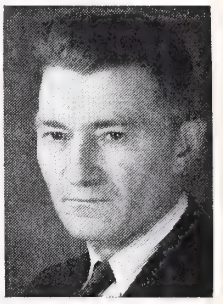
Mrs. F. L. Liggett of Mt. Vernon, Ga., is a veteran showman of many years' standing. She opened her first theatre, the National, in McRae, Ga., in 1918. Six years later she acquired the Eastman Theatre in the Georgia town of that name, the Community at Hawkinsville, and the Prince at Cochran. In 1936 she started the Metro in Mt. Vernon, the theatre she operates today. Mrs. Liggett has been active in the war activities of her community. She is a widow with three sons and seven grandchildren. Hobbies: her dog Asta and raising chickens.



Before his entry in the army in May 1941 **George "Bo" Goodwin,** Bastrop, La., was carrying on the traditions of the Rose and Swan theatres, owned by his father, by acting as manager. Today he is with the fighting forces somewhere in Europe, serving as a lieutenant colonel. He is eager to return to the show business after the war. "Bo" has a daughter, Carolyn Jo, ten. A police juror of Morehouse Parish at the time of entering the army, "Bo" is a member of Kiwanis, Morehouse Country Club and Phi Delta Theta.



J. Glenn Caldwell, Aurora, Mo., went into partnership 23 years ago with D. E. Fittin there, and continued operation of a theatre with him until 1934 when he bought out his partner's interest. Owner of the Princess, Caldwell is a member of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Ass'n, and is president of the Chamber of Commerce. Though he is kept pretty busy, he holds membership in the Masons and Variety Club. A Rotary member, he at one time headed the town's chapter. He claims fishing as his favorite hobby. He is not married.



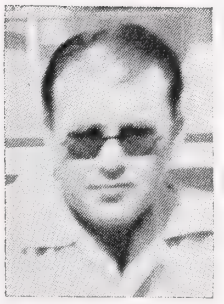
A. R. "Hy" Bender of the Melba Theatre, Cleveland, Okla., has been in the business since 1914. He has shown motion pictures continuously in Cleveland, Kansas City and Ponca City, except during the first world war when he served with the air corps. Today one of his sons is with the air service in India. Bender has also a daughter and twin boys. He has been on the city council, was secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and is now president of that organization, as well as head of Rotary and Cleveland War Dads. Hunting and fishing are his favorite sports.



S. B. Ford of the Star Theatre in Lexington, Miss., started in show business in 1912. His theatre had benches for seats and his shows were made up of three single-reels a day giving a one-hour performance. With this start he went on to operate several theatres in different parts of the state. Ford used to enjoy hunting and fishing but has given up both because he doesn't think fish and game supplies are what they once were in his section. Ford remarked recently he "started on nothing and still has all of it." But he does enjoy theatre exhibition.



Ethel E. Lobdell has been interested in motion picture exhibition since 1917 when her father bought the Talisman Theatre in Rosedale, Miss., her home town. The 500-seat house was first operated by Miss Lobdell's sisters for whom it was purchased and later by Miss Lobdell herself. Before entering picture business she was graduated from Mississippi State College for Women; later received her M. A. from Louisiana State University and she has studied short-story writing at Columbia University, New York. She is an outdoor woman and enjoys golf.



Orris F. Collins of the Capitol and Majestic Theatres in Paragould, Ark., was virtually reared in showmanship, his father having been in the theatre "way back when." Until a year ago when he entered the army, he hadn't been out of it a single day. Writing from the Pacific, he says: "People back home will never realize what pictures are doing for the fellows out here." His clubs are Kiwanis, Variety and the Young Men's Civic. Before donning uniform Collins spent his spare time on his ranch raising Hereford cattle and blue ribbon horses.



"Movie" is the nickname of this showman. A quirk of fate brought **W. O. Kemp** of Poteau, Okla., into the industry. To offset a loan in 1911 he acquired his first interest in a theatre. Since then he has stayed with the business, operating today the Victory and Kemp theatres in Poteau. He is a member of MPTOA. Civic affairs hold great interest for him. He has held just about every civic office there is in his community and is president both of Kiwanis and Rotary. He likes the outdoor life, especially golf, hunting, and fishing.







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163 Walton St., N. W. (3rd Floor)
Phone MAin 9845

DALLAS (1) TEXAS
Jenkins & Bourgeois
ASTOR PICTURES CO.
Harwood & Jackson Sts.
Phone Riverside 1884

WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES

I. B. Clark, Ex-Army Officer, Gets Dallas Show Okay

DALLAS—I. B. Clark, former army lieutenant, has obtained a city permit to erect a $17,000 concrete and tile theatre for Negro patronage at 300-10 N. Moore in the Oak Cliff section. There is no record here that a War Production Board priority has been granted for the job. Clark lives at 1131 Forrester but could not be located for a statement.

From WPB headquarters here it was learned that Clark had made an application in December, 1944 to build a $15,000 theatre. The application was returned to Dallas in February, 1945 and the case informally closed because the labor market was designated to be too tight for such projects. Clark then withdrew the application.

Contract Let for Erecting New Port Gibson Trace

PORT GIBSON, MISS.—The contract to rebuild the Trace Theatre here has been let to M. J. Landrum of Clinton, Miss. The house was destroyed by fire last October. Michael Ellis owns the lot on which the theatre is to be erected, and will lease the building to Mrs. Jake Abraham, operator of the Trace. Work on the new structure is to begin as soon as material can be obtained.



THE QUEEN FEATURE SERVICE, Inc.
Quality Theatre Equipment & Supplies
1912½ Morris Ave. Phone 3-8665
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

ATLANTA

Ching Allen, UA manager, left for Florida following a long siege of illness . . . Capt. E. E. Whitaker is due home after 16 months in the South Pacific . . . Paul Wilson, district manager of 20th-Fox, returned from a Charlotte powwow.

Harry Ballance, southern division manager for 20th-Fox, is adding to his mansion on Peachtree Road.

Fred Dodson of the "Little Foxes" has been soaking up the sun in Miami . . . The Variety Club is planning it's annual golf tournament . . . Paul Jones, film editor of the Constitution, was home with a severe case of flu . . . Get Jimmie Gillespie, 20th-Fox, to tell you the story related to him by Jimmy Durante in New York. It will take you backstage in a hurry.

Tom Jones, Lucas & Jenkins purveyor of goodwill, has now joined the colors . . . George Biggers, general manager of the Journal, was host to exchange heads at luncheon at the Biltmore Hotel. The topic of interest was the new Journal magazine with a pitch to the film moguls for support . . . "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" packed 'em in at the Fox. For the first time in many moons, it was necessary to stop selling tickets. The Fox seats 5,000.

George Knight, former manager of the Palace, West Palm Beach, and director of advertising for the Palm Beach area, has joined Columbia sales force to take over the Florida territory. Knight, formerly of the navy, will work under the direction of Bob Ingram, district manager.

Local B49 of backroom employes union dance this Saturday (28) at the Casanova Club . . . Visitors on the Row: Jimmy Biddle, Fay Theatre, Jasper, Fla.; Jimmy Jarrell, Roxy, Commerce, Ga.

Gene McElwain of the Eureka Theatre, Hartsville, Tenn., has taken over the Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., theatre . . . Col. T. E. Orr, Albertsville, Ala.; Oscar Lam, Rome, Ga.; Roy E. Martin, Columbus, Ga., and Hugh Manning, Marietta, Ga., have left on their

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The Best

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All Sizes, Glassine or Plain.
Glassine Cones, 5 Colors

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Small, 5c Large, 5c
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POPCORN MACHINES We Buy, Sell or Trade. We can repair your old machines.

Atlanta Popcorn Machine & Supply Co.
145 WALTON JAckson 2644 ATLANTA, GA.

annual trip to Hot Springs, Ark., to enjoy the baths and golf . . . Jim Finney of the Disney organization was at RKO here.

Ruth Roberts, assistant treasurer at Monogram, left for Chicago and Mishawaka, Ind., on her vacation . . . Cecil Cohen, Lake City, Fla., was on Film Row . . . Mrs. Ula Denman of Republic reports the birth of a grandson in England.

Harry Paul, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply, journeyed to the Charlotte branch . . . Mrs. Martha Sherod is on vacation. Her husband recently entered the service . . . Anne Hartman has returned from a vacation in Albany, Ga., where her parents live.

Visitors: J. D. Kendis of Continental Pictures, Hollywood, here to see John W. Mangham, president of Film Classics; B. B. Garner, vice-president of Florida State Theatres, Jacksonville; Howard Laird, Republic manager at Tampa, here to confer with Merritt Davis, southern division manager; C. M. Biggers, Garden Theatre, Winter Garden, Fla., who had not been seen on Filmrow in several years; Nelson Towler, a Paramount salesman for the Florida territory, to check in at the Atlanta branch, and A. E. Chadick and H. E. Hollon of MPA, here to see Guy Brown.

William Richardson, president of Astor Pictures, returned from Florida.

Due to a copyreading error, this column recorded (April 14) that "Columbia Auditor and Mrs. Miller dropped in to see Manager McDermott between trains on their way to Memphis." Pardon us, everybody. It should have read "Universal," not "Columbia."

Harry Papadopulous of the Rex, Carrabelle, Fla., and Mr. Laughoun, the new Rex manager; W. E. Kaster, new owner of the Lee, Fort Myers, Fla.; Mrs. J. L. Brown, Dixie, Jackson, Ga.; Joe Hackel, Ritz, Jacksonville, Fla., and Walter Brackin, Ozark, Ala., were on Filmrow.

Republic notes: Mrs. Claudine Ricks has been added to the booking department and Mrs. Iva West to the inspection department . . . Mrs. Lucille Spruill is back at work after an illness of several months . . . Walter Titus, supervisor of branch operations, was in conferring with salesmen and bookers on sales drive which starts May 25 and was through July 25.

Dorothy M. Brown is new secretary to Herbert Pickman, WB publicist . . . The Warner Bros. Bldg. is undergoing a spring renovation and employes claim the noise is so great they cannot work, but we wonder if this isn't just an excuse to loaf during the lovely spring days . . . Bill Hood, formerly with Universal and Republic here, is now in the Columbia shipping department.

Confidential Reports has opened an office at 1206-22 Marietta St. . . . Mrs. Juanita Lynch has resigned as contract clerk at Columbia to move to Boston . . . R. L. Joiner, WB booker, is spending his vacation on a plantation belonging to a friend at Orrville, Ala. The plantation has an airport, and Rube said he hoped to get in some flying while there.

Irene Brown, Paramount accounting department, another vacationer, just returned looking "tops" after a session with her garden and a visit with her mother in the southern Georgia sun . . . Eunice Patton, booker, galavanted around Miami for a well-earned vacation . . . Velma "Darling" Darley of the booking crew is home on her vacation . . . The Paramount gals have been turning out in spring finery to match the peach blossoms and dogwood blooms . . . Bert Turgeon, office manager and chief booker, was back from a swing to Jacksonville.

CHARLOTTE

Bob McClure has joined the sales force at Film Classics, announced Manager Walter Freudenberger following his return from a two-week trip in eastern Carolina. McClure formerly was with Astor Pictures and PRC . . . Arnold Coffey, former manager of the J. F. Miller theatres in Hickory, is now associated with J. Francis White jr. in Asheboro and with Film Classics in an exploitation capacity. Coffey was in Orangeburg this week working on "Barbary Coast."

H. P. Jenkins has taken over the closed Burgin Theatre in Robbinsville and has renamed it the Robbins . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ben L. Strozier of the Stevenson, Rock Hill, are spending a week with S. S. Stevenson in Henderson . . . J. B. McIntyre of the Raeford at Raeford spent a few days last week at Myrtle Beach.

Ken Benson, owner of the Shallotte in Shallotte, is building a new theatre there . . . W. D. Joyner is rebuilding the Gay in Gibsonville. The theatre was destroyed by fire several months ago . . . B. B. Anderson, head of the Anderson circuit which headquarters in Mullins, is building a new theatre at Ocean Drive.

Cy Dillon, manager of Republic, reports his former salesman, Marsh Funderburke, is in the South Pacific in the navy . . . Martin Street, manager of the Wilby-Kincey Broadway Theatre here, has been transferred by that company to manage the Ambassador in Raleigh . . . Republic Salesman Barney Slaughter reports his mother and father of Philadelphia are visiting him.

Ed Haley is redecorating his Booker T Theatre in Rocky Mount . . . Bill Holliday, Paramount salesman, reported for army service at Ft. Bragg this week. His family has moved from Rocky Mount to Atlanta where they will live with Mrs. Holliday's relatives . . . Welcome is being extended to the new manager and salesmen at the local Paramount office. They are Harry Haas, former manager at Denver, and Salesmen Paul Cockrill of Memphis and Harry Deshiell, transferred from Atlanta.

H. F. Kincey, general manager of North Carolina Theatres, has been appointed chairman of the Seventh War Loan campaign in Mechlenburg County, it was announced this week by R. E. Kerr, county chairman. Kincey was head of the annual campaign of the Charlotte Community Chest last fall, a drive which made a remarkable record. Kincey is also North Carolina WAC exhibitor chairman for the Seventh War Loan.

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King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
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NEW ORLEANS

Lieut. Robert Taylor, an instructor at the naval air station here, went to visit his wife, Barbara Stanwyck, on the west coast on a ten-day leave . . . Columnist John Lester reports in the Item that John Carroll is due here presently for a visit with relatives, after which he will return to Hollywood for work on "The Kissing Bandit."

Lester also reports hearsay that big eastern offices are looking for times and places for the appearance here of the National Barn Dance radio outfit, Mark Warnow and his crew, Milton Berle, Jack Haley and others. A native of Hollywood, Lester formerly was in show business before he became amusement editor and daily chitchat columnist for the New Orleans Item. His desk is a magnet for persons connected with the entertainment world.

"Bumped off" airplanes twice in Texas while en route from California to Florida, Olivia de Havilland made an unplanned stopover in New Orleans Saturday (21). She came here from Dallas by train, reporting that she learned how to sleep sitting up on the overnight trip. "It was all a great adventure. There were lots of babies and milk bottles, air corps men and a fellow named 'Tex' who sang and played his guitar all night," she said. She was said to be going to Miami and New York to consult physicians about her health.

A syndicate of business men purchased the Strand Theatre Bldg. here for $350.000, according to a report from the Leo Fellman & Co., real estate office. The purchase was made as an investment. A two-story structure, the building has a 158-foot frontage on Baronne St., with 109 feet on Gravier. A theatre operated by Joy's Shows, Inc., and several stores occupy the ground floor. The floor is divided into office space. The building was erected in 1916 and for many years housed the Strand Theatre, formerly operated by the Saenger Amusement Co.

Irma Carmichael of Utica, Miss., has taken over management of W. A. Prewitt's and Joy N. Houck's Joy Theatre in Jackson, Miss. Prewitt has accepted the position of regional chairman under Arthur Lehmann for the Seventh War Loan drive in Mississippi.

Visitors on Filmrow last week included: W. J. Salles of the Star, Covington; Gordon Ogden of the Ogden, Baton Rouge; W. G. Kirkscey of the Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs; Russell Callen, formerly of Joy Theatres, now of Gulfport, and Charles Waterall, circuit operator of Pritchard, Ala.

Ed Frankel, Mobile; Roy Pfeiffer, Istrouma and Tivoli, Baton Rouge; L. W. Watts of the Watts circuit, which has theatres in Rodessa, Oil City, and Mansfield, La., and Waldo, Ark., and C. T. Withers of the East End, Baton Rouge.

Flood waters which have hampered transportation of films to many towns in Louisiana during recent weeks were receding, film salesmen reported . . . E. A. MacKenna, former head of the Ross Federal Service, now is connected with Astor Pictures . . . R. E. Moreland, former booker for Theatre Service, has rejoined United Artists as office manager . . . Floyd Murphy is reported to have resigned from PRC.

Filmrow visitors during the past fortnight have included: Fred LeMieux, who recently purchased the State in Greensburg from Paul Drake; Don George, who has opened a new theatre, the Lake, in Shreveport; Jeff Rebstock of Golden Meadows, who has been recuperating in a New Orleans hospital from a slight illness; W. L. Moseley of Bogalusa, who announced the opening of a new theatre in Hammond, and reported that Little "Pic" Moseley now is stationed in West Virginia with the armed forces.

R. E. Carrolla of the Arcade in Slidell; Sidney Harp, Grand, Donaldsonville; Tanos Joseph, Teche, Franklin; O. J. Broussard, Broussard, Youngsville; R. M. Enlowe, Wahoo, Dubach; Brad Suddath, Richton, Miss.; Tracy Barnette, DeKalb, Miss.; Joe Barcelona, Baton Rouge; Sam Pasqua, Gonzales; E. I. Hawkins, Flora, Miss.; Henry Moog, district service manager for Altec Service; Claude Darce and Louis Hebert, Morgan City; W. L. Paternostro, Lake Charles; Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Royal, Meridian, Miss.; Bob Sigler, Royal, and R. B. Dossett, Star, Hattiesburg; Gus Herr and Bob Manzelle, Southern Amusement Co., Lake Charles.

OKLA. CITY

John Gray, independent exhibitor in Chickasha, has taken up flying enthusiastically. John also is an angler and reports that on a recent fishing trip to Tishimingo he learned from the one who caught the fish while the others waited that small crawfish were the bait for bass. Thus he and his party caught their limit.

A letter from Lieut. Spence Wyatt, formerly with Metro and the Uptown Theatre, revealed that he had been seriously ill with septic poisoning . . . Martin Butler, owner of the Log Cabin Theatre who recently returned from California, reported that he almost purchased a theatre with Mexican patrons, but product trouble upset the deal . . . Theatre grosses took another of those seasonal drops.

Roosevelt Junior High School has added a full-length feature to one of their regular weekly theatre shows. In the past cartoons, shorts and comedies have been their regular presentation.

Standard's new 15-minute radio program over WKY is proving popular . . . Marion Osborne, WAC state distributor chairman, returned from the Chicago meeting and plunged into work on the Seventh War Loan campaign in this area.

Orleans MPCA Column Meets Saturday, May 5

NEW ORLEANS—The local column of the Motion Picture Colosseum of America will meet at 2 p. m. May 5 at the Jung Hotel. Composed of film salesmen, the column's officers are: E. E. Shinn, Paramount, president; William Shiells, RKO, vice-president; Charlie Lamantia, United Artists, secretary-treasurer, and S. M. Otis, Paramount, board chairman. The column meets the first Saturdays of each month.

Lamar Swift of L&J Heads Macon, Ga., Junior CofC

MACON, GA.—Lamar Swift, city manager for the Lucas & Jenkins circuit here, has been elected president of the Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce and appointed chairman of the public relations committee of the Macon Chamber of Commerce.

Swift has been in executive charge of the five L&J theatres here for two years, coming here from a managerial post in Waycross, Ga.

Soprano to Overseas

MEMPHIS—Evelyn Fineberg, Open Air Theatre soprano, has signed up with an overseas USO show and left to entertain fighting men abroad.

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Orpheus Doubles Goal Before Drive Starts

HALIFAX—Before the formal opening of the Eighth Victory Loan, employes of the FPC Orpheus here subscribed for $3,300 in bonds. The quota was only $1,500. The employes signed up at the monthly dinner meeting of the Orpheus Famous Family Club, organized recently.

A motion picture camera took the outstanding activities of the meeting for screening at the next meeting. Speakers were Pat Dwyer, manager of the Family of the F&H circuit, and A. M. Crowell, past president of the Halifax local projectionist union, and Freeman Skinner, manager of the Orpheus.

The employes: E. Gannon, J. Hobson, M. LeBlanc, F. Skinner, M. Whynott, G. O'Brien, A. J. Pottie, H. Pitts, R. LeBlanc, H. Sweeney, G. Kettie, L. Wass, D. Martell, L. Supples, D. Lloy, M. Nowe, R. Gannon, Mrs. E. Gannon, Mrs. Williams and Miss M. Slaunwhite. Guests were: Mrs. F. Skinner, Mrs. A. J. Pottie, Miss B. Rule, P. Dwyer and A. Crowell.

Stage Shows by Film Stars Kick Off Victory Loan Drive at Toronto

TORONTO—Canada's Eighth Victory Loan drive got under way at Massey Hall with a special stage program featuring Pat O'Brien, Yvonne De Carlo, formerly of Vancouver, Victor Borge and Marjorie Lawrence. A feature of Pat O'Brien's stay was a visit to the DeHavilland Aircraft plant where he officiated at the dedication of a special new plane. Making personal appearances for a Victory Loan presentation here April 22 were Beatrice Lillie, English comedienne up from New York, Fredric March from Hollywood and Florence Eldridge. For the loan drive show April 25 the stars included Percy Faith, former Toronto orchestra director; Joan Edwards, Jackie Kelk, who is the "Homer" of the Aldrich group; Joel McCrea and Frances Dee, his actress wife.

Prior to the campaign, President J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players visited Hollywood making presents of desk weights, bearing the Dominion's coat of arms in gold, to those who had produced the previous bond-campaign film. Among the recipients were Louis B. Mayer, Spencer Tracy, Carey Wilson, Harry Beaumont, Jerry Bresler, Edward Mannix, Phyllis Thaxter, John C. Flynn, Tom Baily and Francis C. Harmon, the latter of New York. Fitzgibbons is chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture war services committee.

Calgary Prospects Are Good In Eighth Victory Loan

CALGARY—The Eighth Victory Loan rally for theatre and exchange staffs and their families at the Strand Theatre drew the largest turnout of any such meetings and augured well for the success of the drive generally.

P. D. Egan, chairman of the Calgary WFC, opened with thanks for past support in previous war loans and requested even stronger support of the forthcoming loan. K. M. Leach, provincial WFC chairman, pointed to the industry's splendid part in postwar effort. The necessity for even greater support, with details of why a larger loan was been raised, were presented by J. B. Barron, principal speaker. A minute of silence was then observed for members of the industry who had died in the war.

Several film exchanges and theatres reported they had already reached their quotas, this before the campaign opened, and all promised early results. The chairman then thanked the projectionists and 20th-Fox for donating film and services in screening of "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka" at the meeting.

John Grierson of NFB Is Slated for U. S. Post

OTTAWA—The sensation of the week here was the rumor which spread like fire that John Grierson, commissioner of the National Film Board, had gone to Washington to take charge of a new film branch for the U.S. state department and had forsaken the Ottawa position which he had organized back in 1939. It was reported he would create a propaganda film unit under the supervision of Archibald MacLeish, assistant secretary of state, and be in full charge of production. The U.S. move follows the success of the first screen appearance of State Secretary Stettinius in a picture called "Watchtower Over Tomorrow," a short made to explain the Dumbarton Oaks conference.

At this writing Grierson was absent from his Ottawa headquarters on a leave of absence granted at his own request. Other significant facts are Grierson's immediate superior in the Canadian government has been changed and that Canadian general elections are to be held Monday, June 11, with the possibility further government changes may result.

Sponsored by State Department

As stated in a Washington report published in the April 14 issue of BOXOFFICE Grierson "is slated to take over active operation of a film unit sponsored by the state department" and "was selected for the task" because of his experience in Canada and England.

The U.S. embassy here and the U.S. consulate at Toronto both stated that Grierson has been in Washington "for several weeks." In official Ottawa it was said, however, there was "no knowledge of his appointment to any U.S. post."

Grierson has been the target of several attacks in succeeding sessions of the house of commons as a result of differences in respect to his jurisdiction, his appointments to the National Film Board, nationality of some NFB employes, the army service qualifications of members of the staff, the salaries paid to officials and employes and the nature of some of the pictures turned out by the Grierson organization. On no occasion has Grierson back-pedaled in his policy or attitude despite heavy criticism in parliament and from the press.

Some time ago Grierson went to Australia where, according to reports at the time, he discussed the formation of a film unit similar to Canada's NFB. While he was gone Col. John A. Cooper of Toronto, then chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Ass'n, was made acting commissioner of the board. Cooper declined to accept salary, and after three months Grierson returned from the Antipodes and resumed charge of the board.

There has been no word of any reorganization of the National Film Board. Ross MacLean is assistant commissioner and Graham MacInnes is information editor. Both would be in line for promotion if Grierson stepped out permanently. It is known that Colonel Cooper would decline permanent appointment to the commissionership under the present government.

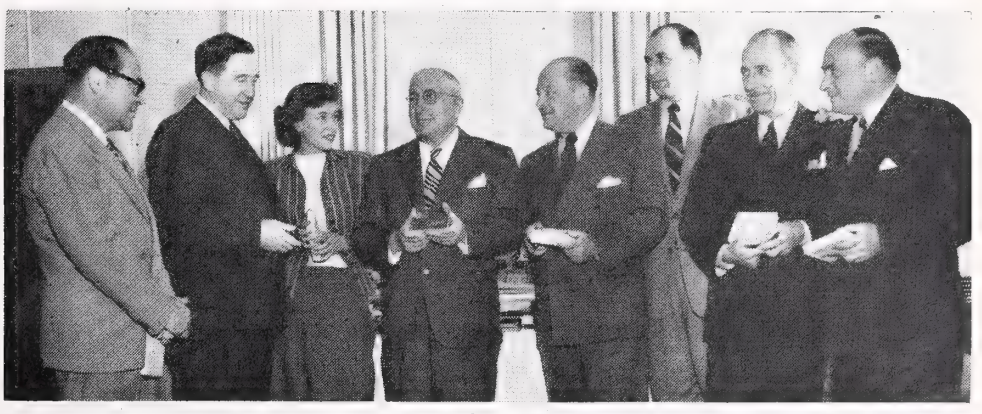
M. J. Coldwell, leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, one of the opposition parties, quite often expressed praise for the National Film Board but the Conservative members of the house have been most critical.

Charles Givan, 76, Dies; Pioneered at Sussex

ST. JOHN—Charles F. Givan, 76, who died recently at St. George, N. B., aftr a brief illness, was a pioneer exhibitor. Starting as a projectionist here, where he was born and reared, he established film shows at the Opera House in Sussex, 44 miles east. He retired from business a few years ago. He died at the home of a daughter. Surviving are two sons, three daughters, and six grandchildren. Burial was at St. John.

Famous Players Plans Production of Shorts

VANCOUVER—Famous Players has under consideration a plan to enter production, first with a program of 15 short subjects on Dominion documentary themes. Company executives are not in a position to issue an official announcement as yet, because a number of details remain to be worked out. The shorts will be released through Paramount, which owns a substantial interest in Famous Players Canadian Corp.



CANADIANS HONOR MAYER—To show the appreciation of the Canadian government for M-G-M's service in producing "Tomorrow John Jones" for the War Services committee, John Fitzgibbons, committee chairman, presented a trophy to Louis B. Mayer at the M-G-M studios. The picture starred Spencer Tracy, Phyllis Thaxter, Fay Holden and Han Daniels. Left to right: E. J. Mannix, Fitzgibbons, Phyllis Thaxter, Mayer, Harry Beaumont, Jerry Bresler, Carey Wilson and Al Lichtman.

ST. JOHN

Sneak thieves snatched a handbag containing about $40 from the boxoffice in the Gaiety in Halifax. The bag, owned by Miss W. Granger, secretary-treasurer, was found, but not the cash . . . Herb Pitts, assistant manager of the Halifax Orpheus, received a letter from Cpl. E. Cummings, in Germany with the Canadian army. Cummings was manager of the Roseland and Academy in New Glasgow before the war. He revealed that he had been married recently over there and that the bride was due soon at Halifax to await his arrival. Cummings asked to be remembered to Bob Roddick, district manager for FPC, and Tom Courtney, manager of Casino.

Bill Calder, caretaker of the Community at Sydney Mines, participated in the 86th birthday party of his mother, Mrs. Mary Cuzner. She baked her own anniversary cake. There are three sons and one daughter. Ten grandchildren were at the party . . . The Ideal Theatre at Canso was used recently for a meeting of taxpayers to discuss and vote on repairing the town electric power plant . . . In the cast of "Ten Little Indians," stage play at the Plymouth, Manhattan, is Lillian Foster, a former stock lead at the Opera House here.

Harvey Dawson, a special copy of Mickey Rooney, located at Halifax, claims to have interested Rooney in hiring him as a stand-in and double. Dawson has been coppering at the club for merchant mariners in Halifax, and once was a seaman himself.

Bill Calder, caretaker of the Commumnity at Yarmouth, found a cash register behind that theatre. Thieves who broke into a service men's canteen found the register too heavy and dropped it back of the Community, after removing the contents.

Jules Wolfe, maintenance super for FPC, had a looksee at the Capitol and Orpheus in Halifax, Capitol in St. John, Capitol and Vogue in Sydney, Majestic in New Waterford and Savoy in Glace Bay. He will prescribe the equipment for the new FPC Orpheus . . . Frank Sobey, owner of the Jubilee and Roxy, and part owner of the Academy, at Stellarton-Westville-New Glasgow, huddled with Gerry Hoyt, district manager for Empire-Universal, in looking over the Sobey properties.

Gets Lead in "Hear That Trumpet"

Lois Collier has been given the feminine lead in "Hear That Trumpet Talk," a Universal production.

Ruggles to Make U.S. Like British Films

London—"I am not going to try to revolutionize the British film industry; I'm here to make pictures that will sell in America," Wesley Ruggles, an American film director, told the press here recently.

"The British market," he said, "can take care of itself. The industry has done wonders during the war, and extremely competent British directors have turned out some very fine films. British films deserve and should have a bigger share of the American market. It's my job to put that over.

"I intend to tell America about Britain in my films, and make them like it. I intend showing them that there are some very fine artists over here."

Two Paramount Specials Get Price Board Okay

TORONTO—The distribution of two features, "Affairs of Susan" and "You Came Along," as specials by Paramount Film Service, has been authorized in a special ruling of J. R. Croft, administrator of services in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Conditions outlined in the directive are: "That these pictures will be first offered to exhibitors holding basic contracts with Paramount Film Service; that the holders of such basic contracts shall not be required to purchase both features in order to obtain one; that the top price that any exhibitor holding a basic contract with Paramount Film Service will be required to pay will be the price that he paid under his basic contract for specials released by Paramount."

"This latter condition does not preclude the distributor and an exhibitor from entering into a contract by mutual agreement for the rental of these pictures at a higher price," the directive states.

Film Board Sponsoring New Story in Russian

VANCOUVER—Following the success of Canadian films translated into Chinese, the National Film Board now is engaged in making for distribution in Russia an expositional story entitled "What Is Canada?" Films also have been done in Spanish and Portuguese for distribution to 16 Latin-American countries, and in French and English for Canada and other members of the British Commonwealth. Graham C. McInnes, information editor, here from Ottawa, made the announcement.

OTTAWA

A camera squad of seven from the National Film Board, headed by Ross MacLean, assistant commissioner, is at San Francisco to cover Canadian angles of the United Nations security conference. In addition to shooting scenes for theatrical release, clips are to be placed in the Canadian Archives for future use. At team of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. also is on the scene for special broadcasts to Canadian listeners.

For four mornings the Capitol was turned over to the war finance committee for special meetings of the civil service, which were addressed by government leaders, accompanied by entertainment features and talks by returned combat veterans of the present war.

Announcement has been made that the all-time house record for one week's grosses at the Elgin was beaten by almost $400 in the first six days of the current engagement of "A Song to Remember" which has just concluded its third week there. Manager Ernie Warren expects the picture to stay for some time yet.

Murray Berg, former manager of the Roxy at Cornwall, Ont., and recently designated for transfer to a theatre in western Ontario, has resigned from Sam Fingold Theatres and has not yet announced his future affiliation.

Ray Tubman, district manager of Famous Players, took a flying trip to Toronto to attend a conference of the Canadian motion picture war services committee. George Degnon, RKO field man in Canada, was here briefly to arrange preliminary details for the run of "The Princess and the Pirate" at the Capitol.

A new Disney film, "The Amazon Awakens," was one of a group of films which formed the program for a performance at the National Museum, April 25, the second of a spring series of semieducational screen shows under government auspices. Australian films were listed for the third weekly presentation April 30.

Toronto Screening Hosts Mayor of Chinatown

TORONTO—The unofficial mayor of Toronto's Chinatown and various other Chinese notables attended a special screening in the Monogram Little Theatre of "China's Little Devils," the gathering being arranged by Miss Bea Shapiro, company promoter.

Another interesting private presentation was that of "They Came to a City," British feature which is having its Canadian premiere at the Toronto Hollywood commencing April 30. For this screening the guests were Commissioner Arthur LeMay and other officials of the Toronto Town Planning Commission interested in communities of the future.

Mexican Sound Services Makes Canadian Series

MONTREAL—Sound Effects and Technical Services, Mexico City, is producing a series of films for distribution in Canada, under approval of the National Film Board, Ottawa, according to Hoard E. Randall, president of the company, who is in Montreal. Randall, who has had 11 years' association with the industry in Mexico, called at the offices of Ernesto Martinez Trejo, consul-general of Mexico for Canada.

Store Shows Seen as First Telecasts

MONTREAL—Some practical applications of television most likely to be seen by the public soon after the war were described by Robert Jouglet at a St. Lawrence Kiwanis luncheon in the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Jouglet is news commentator of radio station CKAC.

Jouglet said first telecasts would be the presentation of fashion parades in the display windows of the larger department stores here. He explained that this type of telecasting was the least costly and that it probably would be a vogue.

Jouglet said he doubted that firms will put on large shows for telecasting because of the cost. The purchasing price of any receiving television set will be expensive at first, Jouglet added, and it would appear foolish for sponsors to spend largely to reach only a limited audience.

Jouglet said that the type of program most likely to be sponsored would be sporting events and spot news, because the only cost involved would be the transmission of the event. He emphasized that television studios would need augmented staffs, including special engineers, designers, stage managers, etc.

He said television had a potential in America of some 130,000,000 customers on the receiving end, but that it would take a great many years before the receiving sets would be cheap enough to be bought by these millions.



Walter H. Golding, 68, Of St. John, Is Dead

ST. JOHN—Walter H. Golding, 68, veteran manager of Famous Players' Capitol here, died April 18. He suffered a stroke about three weeks ago and had been bedfast at his apartment in the Capitol since then.

Surviving are the wife, two sons and two daughters. A son Eris is booker for Regal Films here and a daughter Olive is the wife of Gerald M. Hoyt, manager of Empire-Universal here. A nephew is Walter Golding, lessee and manager of the Community Theatre, West St. John.

Golding was born in St. John. After working as a reporter on four local dailies and then as advertising manager for a local department store, he became manager of the Nickel Theatre for Keith-Albee. That was in 1907. Since then he had been manager of the Nickel and then of the new Imperial, built by the late Paul Keith and E. F. Albee, which was renamed the Capitol when taken over by Famous Players in 1929.

In Many Civic Activities

From 1940 to 1944, he was a member of the city council and deputy mayor. He was a member of the commission governing the Municipal Home, a promoter of speed skating, a Pythian and Mason and a member of the board of the Central Baptist Church, and a Sunday school teacher and superintendent there. This church is near the Capitol.

He also had been a director of the YMCA and the New Brunswick Protestant Orphans Home; a member of the Kiwanis Club, Board of Trade, Red Cross and past secretary of the Tourist Ass'n.

In 1944, he spent several weeks in the West Indies and Florida for his health and came back into harness. He was a small man physically, but had tremendous energy. In newspaper work, he had been one of the brightest in the annals of this game in St. John, and continued to keep his hand in news writing down through the years. Often his by-line was seen in local papers as a contributor and part-timer. A brother, the late John N. Golding, had worked with Walter at the Capitol about 20 years and was assistant manager for some years. Making what is believed to have been the only case of two brothers being manager and assistant at a Canadian theatre. Walter Golding's 38 years constitute one of the longest managerial stretches in one center in Canada.

Tom Daley, Fellow Pioneer, Recalls Golding's School Lunch-Hour Show

TORONTO—A theatre man who was particularly grieved to learn of the death of Walter H. Golding, manager of the Capitol at St. John, was Tom Daley, manager of the big Imperial here, who made his start in the film exhibition field as a projectionist at St. John back in 1907.

Daley recalled many incidents of the early days and of the rise to prominence of Golding whom he last saw at the Famous Players convention at Niagara Falls, Ont., last summer. Tom said that Golding was particularly proud of the fact one of his two sons was the first to send out stories of the Normandy invasion on D-Day in his capacity as a press relations officer with the Canadian forces.

Daley said that when Golding became manager of the Nickel at St. John in 1907, this house's programs ran little more than half an hour, starting at noon to catch the high school students during their lunch period.

Both Daley and Golding had been news reporters, although Walter worked at Worcester, Mass., for a time, the only part of his business life which he spent outside of St. John. Eventually both became managers of Famous Players and later qualified for membership in the Canadian Picture Pioneers.

"Song," "Seeing You" Click at Toronto

TORONTO—Two features made a marked bid for public favor during the week with "A Song to Remember" attracting great crowds to Shea's and "I'll Be Seeing You" drawing lines of patrons at Loew's Yonge Street. "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka" did very nicely for its second week at the Imperial and, likewise, "Maytime" had a nice time at Loew's Uptown for the holdover week, "Hollywood Canteen" enlivening the scene at the Tivoli on a rerun basis.

(Average is 100)

Imperial—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 95
Loew's—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 140
Shea's—**A Song to Remember** (Col) 145
Tivoli—**Hollywood Canteen** (WB) 95
Uptown—**Maytime** (M-G-M), reissue, 2nd wk. 90

Montreal's High Grosses Continue; "St. Louis" Completes Third Week

MONTREAL—Crowded houses continue to greet first run offerings. "Meet Me in St. Louis" completed three weeks at Loew's, and "The House of Frankenstein" ended two weeks at the Princess with immense weekend patronage. "Winged Victory" drew well at the Palace, and there were no vacant seats at the Capitol, where "Between Two Women" led the double bill. Orpheum started another French language picture, "Tu M'Appartiens," Warners' dubbed-in version of "You Belong to Me."

Capitol—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), held over ..... Good
Loew's—**Meet Me in St. Louis** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. ..... Good
Orpheum—**Tu M'Appartiens (You Belong to Me)** (WB) ..... Good start
Palace—**Winged Victory** (20th-Fox) ..... Drawing well
Princess—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **The Mummy's Curse** (Univ) ..... Nice 2nd week

Calgary Grosses Hold to Average; "Seeing You" Grows Stronger

CALGARY—Business was normal, holding up to average for the week. Warner Bros.' "Hotel Berlin" was held over at the split-week Palace. Simple romance with the small cast, "I'll Be Seeing You" proving surprisingly popular, building up from opening day.

Capitol—**The Keys of the Kingdom** (20th-Fox) ..... Good
Grand—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) ..... Very good
Palace—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) ..... Good

Pileup of Product Sends "Berlin" On After Good Week at Vancouver

VANCOUVER—Business was spotty. The top grosser was "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Capitol. Also potent was "Hotel Berlin" at the Orpheum, but one week was all it stayed, on account of the pileup of product waiting for first run dates. More than 40 films were on the shelf waiting for an outlet. The rest of downtowners were just so-so. The Marcus show, LaVie Paree Revue, on the Beacon stage did a nice week's business.

Beacon—**Babes on Swing Street** (Univ), plus Marcus stage show ..... Very good
Capitol—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para) ..... Excellent
Dominion—**To Have and Have Not** (WB) moveover; **She's a Sweetheart** (Col) ..... Average
Orpheum—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) ..... Very good
Plaza—**Leave It to Blondie** (Col); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) ..... Moderate
Strand—**Marine Raiders** (RKO); **Music in Manhattan** (RKO) ..... Fair
Vogue—**Sudan** (Univ) ..... Not too strong

Toronto Plan Calls for Parking Space For One Car to Each Six Patrons

TORONTO—Exhibitors in Toronto are concerned over a proposal of the town planning commission which under a postwar building code specifies that theatres should be required to provide a parking place for one automobile to each six seats in a theatre. The move is intended primarily to remove parked cars from the streets in the vicinity of a cinema both in daylight and night hours.

The plan has been formulated for consideration of city council in conjunction with a sweeping civic improvement program which includes slum clearance, construction of trunk thoroughfares, establishment of a park system and erection of civic buildings, one of which is to be built on the block which now includes Shea's, prominent downtown unit of Famous Players.

Theatre companies are disturbed over the parking proposal because it involves extensive land investment apart from actual theatre property and, in some locations, the securing of a large vacant area would entail the removal of existing buildings which could not be acquired at small cost. It has been pointed out that a parking lot to take the equipment of one car for every six seats of theatre capacity would require a space much larger than the actual cinema. The ratio of one car for each six seats drew objections because it implies that almost all patrons ride autos to the theatre.

Observers believed that the council would eventually accept the argument of exhibitors that the commission is incorrect in its theatre-parking principle.

Even Political Foe Lauds SPC Director's Speech

TORONTO—A director of Famous Players Canadian Corp., Sen. J. W. deB. Farris of British Columbia, has received praise for his speech in the senate at Ottawa on Canada's position within the British Empire in relation to world security and postwar activities.

According to Sen. A. D. McRae, incidentally a representative of a rival political party, the speech was "the ablest presentation" on the subject by any Canadian leader and the recommendation was made that the address be printed in pamphlet form in both English and French languages for distribution among delegates and officials at the security conference in San Francisco.

Senator Farris was elected to the Famous Players directorate following the resignation of his brother who was appointed a justice of the supreme court of British Columbia. Senator Farris was among those who attended the 25th Anniversary dinner of Famous Players in Vancouver and has taken an active interest in the chain.

B. M. Garfield, Long-Time Montreal Manager, Dies

MONTREAL—B. M. Garfield, a theatre manager here for 25 years, died recently at his home in Frewsburg, N. Y., where he had lived for eight years since leaving Montreal. He was 76.

Born in Frewsburg, Garfield was connected with the Gayety, System and Rialto here. He was a secretary-treasurer of the Montreal Theatres Managers Ass'n 18 years, and a president of the Business Men's Ass'n of the North End. He also was active in charitable work.

He is survived by his wife, the former Emma Zallette, and one daughter, Therese, of Frewsburg. Funeral service was in Frewsburg.

MONTREAL

Children under 16 cannot attend film performances in cinemas in the province of Quebec, but they are allowed into motion picture theatres to see special stage shows, which seems an anomaly. The Empress of Confederation chain staged a children's show, "What Happened to Father," under direction of Moira Sheehy.

Kent Theatre, whose manager, A. P. Bain, is an air force veteran of the present war, gave a reception for Gaston Lapierre and Norman Binney, RCAF officers, released after long service in France who have opened a gasoline service station as partners. They met for the first time in a maquis hideout in France after being shot down . . . Yousuf Karsh, Canadian photographer, has made a spirited portrait study of George Bernard Shaw.

"Himlaspelet," Swedish film, was the final showing for the season before the Film Society, whose programs are selected by Jean Carreau. "Himlaspelet" means "The Heavenly Play" and is an adaptation from a stage play by Rune Lindstrom.

Columbia has moved from 5975 to 5971 Monkland Ave., where it now occupies two floors formerly occupied by the Pictures Releasing Corp. and Astor Films.

Theatre Equipment Sale Good News in Canada

OTTAWA — The beginning of transition from a state of war to peace is noted in Canada in the announcement of the offered sale by tender of motion picture equipment which had been used in the High River Flying Training School of the air force, Calgary, Alta.

The equipment, on which a reserve of $1,250 had been placed, comprised two RCA Photophone projection machines with Peerless arc lamps, rheostats and amplifier, RCA sound equipment and a rewinder.

This is the first of such equipment to be publicly offered in Canada for civilian purchasers and may indicate the availability of more machines for theatres soon. Mechanical devices for cinemas are known to be reaching the end of durability and many exhibitors have been worried about the continued life of projectors after years of constant use.

"V-1" Exploits Loan Drive In Vancouver War Plants

VANCOUVER—The picture "V-1," which deals with the robot bombs, is being shown at war plants in aid of the Eighth Victory Loan drive.

Hollywood stars are as usual giving their support to the drive. On the list to visit here are Claire Trevor, Charlie McCarthy, Edgar Bergen, Dick Powell and George Murphy, who will be here in May. Murphy and Trevor also will tour Alberta. Announcement of the tour was made in Hollywood by the film industry's victory committee. The loan drive started April 23 and runs for three weeks.

Shafer Back at Calgary As Aide to First Boss

CALGARY—George Shafer has come from the Capitol at Lethbridge to act as assistant manager of the Palace here. He again will be under Pete Egan, who has trained many young assistants for the Famous Players and who started Shafer on his theatrical career some years ago. George quickly settled down to his duties, handling publicity and renewing acquaintances with the house staff in which he noted many changes.

John Coulter Points Need For a National Theatre

TORONTO—Establishment of a Canadian national theatre, subsidized by the state and stimulating Canadian playwrights and actors to portray the national life and character, was urged before the Women's Art Ass'n by John Coulter, playwright and author.

"Each of the arts in Canada should go on from the collective beginning made in the artists' brief presented to the government last June," he said. "Artists in the theatre should rally under the conviction that there should be evolved a Canadian stage on which to see contemporary Canadian life, and they should claim that it is the state's responsibility. Film and radio already have state support, and it is indefensible that the art of the theatre has not similar backing.

"The stage properly used enriches living, and is an instrument for social criticism and individual improvement," he added, "Canada must build a nucleus of professional theatre people with suitable premises in every province, and a school for playwrights. We must revitalize the theatre so that we can have plays and players to send to other countries to give them a picture of a maturing Canada."

VANCOUVER

Ernest Doctor, formerly of the Dominion Theatre, was home on leave after three years in the navy. He is a son of Charlie Doctor, manager of the Capitol, Famous Players ace house . . . David Edward, manager of the Victoria Road, is helping out in the manpower shortage by working as assistant manager of the Capitol . . . Jimmy McAllister of the Abbotsford also is doing a dual job and is in charge of Odeon's Mission until a permanent manager is appointed.

Famous Players was the victim of two robberies. The Hollywood lost $187 from a safe, and the Grandview lost $100 in merchandise . . . Mike Goodman, old-timer in western Canada theatre business and last with FPC, now is advance man for Crescent shows, a carnival outfit which covers western Canada . . . Tom Cooke is making the Lux Theatre look prettier with a complete paint job, both interior and exterior. Cooke just returned to the Lux after four months at the Rio in Victoria, where he was in charge of alterations, reseating, etc.

Among companies incorporated in British Columbia was Mission Theatres, Ltd., $10,000, head office Vancouver. This is the latest addition to Odeon . . . Dave Griesdorf, newly appointed general sales manager for PRC in the Dominion, left here for Toronto, where he will make his headquarters.

Devitt Now Acting Head Of Nathanson Employes

TORONTO—William Devitt of Associated Theatres has been appointed acting chairman of the Nathanson Employes Ass'n here following the resignation of H. C. D. Main from the position of supervisor of Odeon Theatres of Canada. Main also was chairman of the war services and recreation organization. Main joined Fingold Theatres as partner and theatre operation director a month ago.

The association closed its bowling season with the annual dinner-dance in the Royal York Hotel attended by 74 men and women from Empire-Universal Films, Canadian Odeon, Sovereign Films, General Theatres and Associated Theatres. Bill Devitt's team carried off the major bowling honors.

Mayfair at St. John Loses Three of Staff

ST. JOHN—Staff changes hit the Mayfair, in one collective punch with exits of a cashier, doorman and an usher, simultaneously, and the impending farewell of the bookkeeper-stenographer. Mary Hogan, after ten years in the box, gave up to concentrate on operating a rooming house, almost directly opposite the Mayfair. Louis Phillips, after eight years at the Mayfair, aisles and door, now is driving for a nearby bakery. Skip Cooper, an usher about six months is also out.

Replacements are: Kitty Kennedy, transferred from ushering to cashier; Harry McDonald, doorman; Dougie Hebert, usher. Both McDonald and Hebert are new to theatre work Frank McPeake, also new to theatre has been added to the Mayfair staff for general work, including painting and repairing. He will also work at the Regent.

Sylvia Brownberg, the past seven years, in the Mayfair office, has signed up for Red Cross service overseas, and has been awaiting a replacement at her job before going into war activity. Since the start of the war she had been a part time Red Cross worker and also in civilian defense.

Quebec Produces First French-Canadian Film

MONTREAL—The first full-length motion picture produced in the province of Quebec featuring French-Canadian radio and screen actors as well as French artists now residing in Canada has just had its world premiere here.

The picture entitled "Le Pere Chopin" and produced by Renaissance Films featured a Victory Loan show. It was shot in typically French-Canadian settings and improvised studios at suburban Ville St. Laurent.

Charles Phillips, who produced pictures in Europe, was the producer, and Madeleine Ozeray, French actress now engaged in stage work in South America, the star. The director was Fedor Ozep, who has scored several hits in his screen ventures.

The scenario deals with the adventures of a musically inclined French family living in imaginary St. Valentin. They find a long-lost relative, now a leading industrialist in Montreal. The family, the Duponts, become affluent overnight but they soon realize that money does not mean happiness. Everything ends well.

TORONTO

Warner Bros. features dubbed with the French language still are going strong in French-Canadian sections of Canada, according to Glenn Ireton, who said that second run of "Le Ceil et Toi" (All This and Heaven Too) at the Cambrai, Quebec City, resulted in a holdover, as had been the case when it was first shown at the Quebec Capitol a year ago. Ireton commented this was the first occasion in the province that a second run had ever been held over.

The Lyric at Kitchener, Ont., scored distinction by having the Canadian premiere of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," because of the congested booking situation among Toronto first runs . . . Lou Ross, manager of the Lansdowne, has been elected president of the Bloom & Fine Theatre Managers Ass'n, succeeding Tom Waterfield, manager of the Eastwood. The secretary is Ted Smith, manager of the York, the treasurer is Leo Bloom, Century, and directors are Art Grover, Carlton; Ron Hall, Gerrard, and Jack Hutt, LaPlaza.

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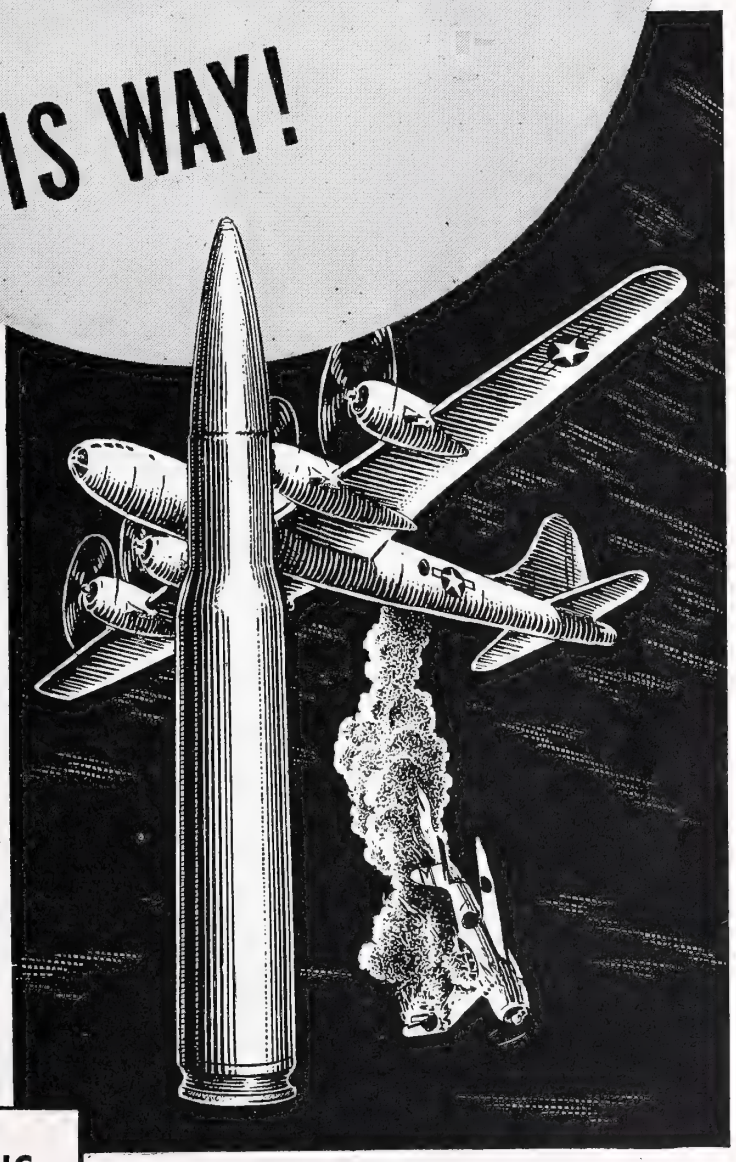
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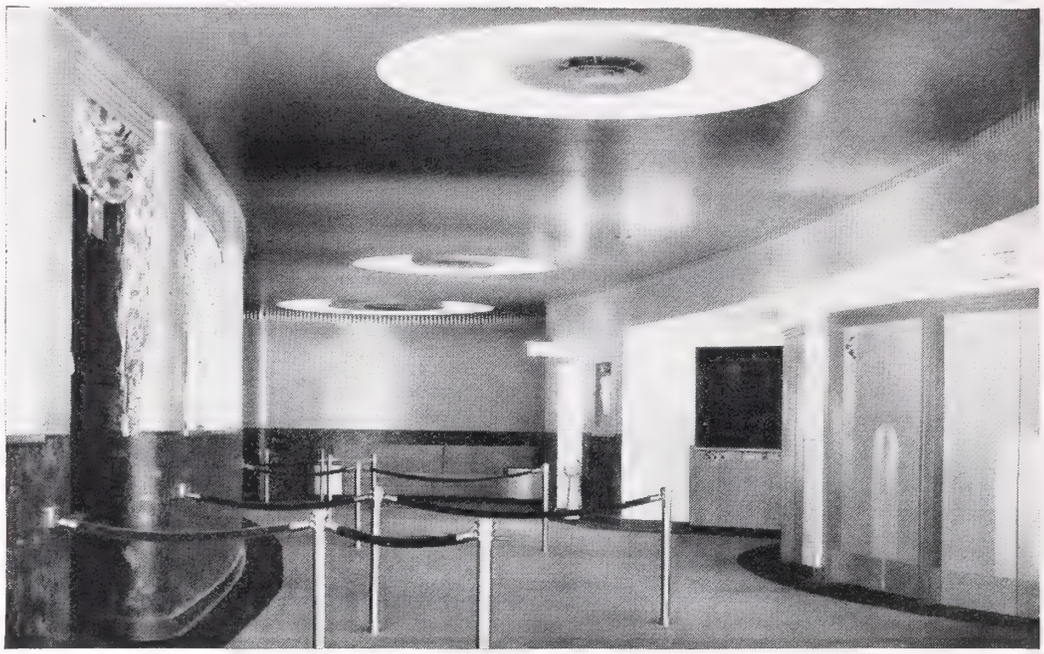
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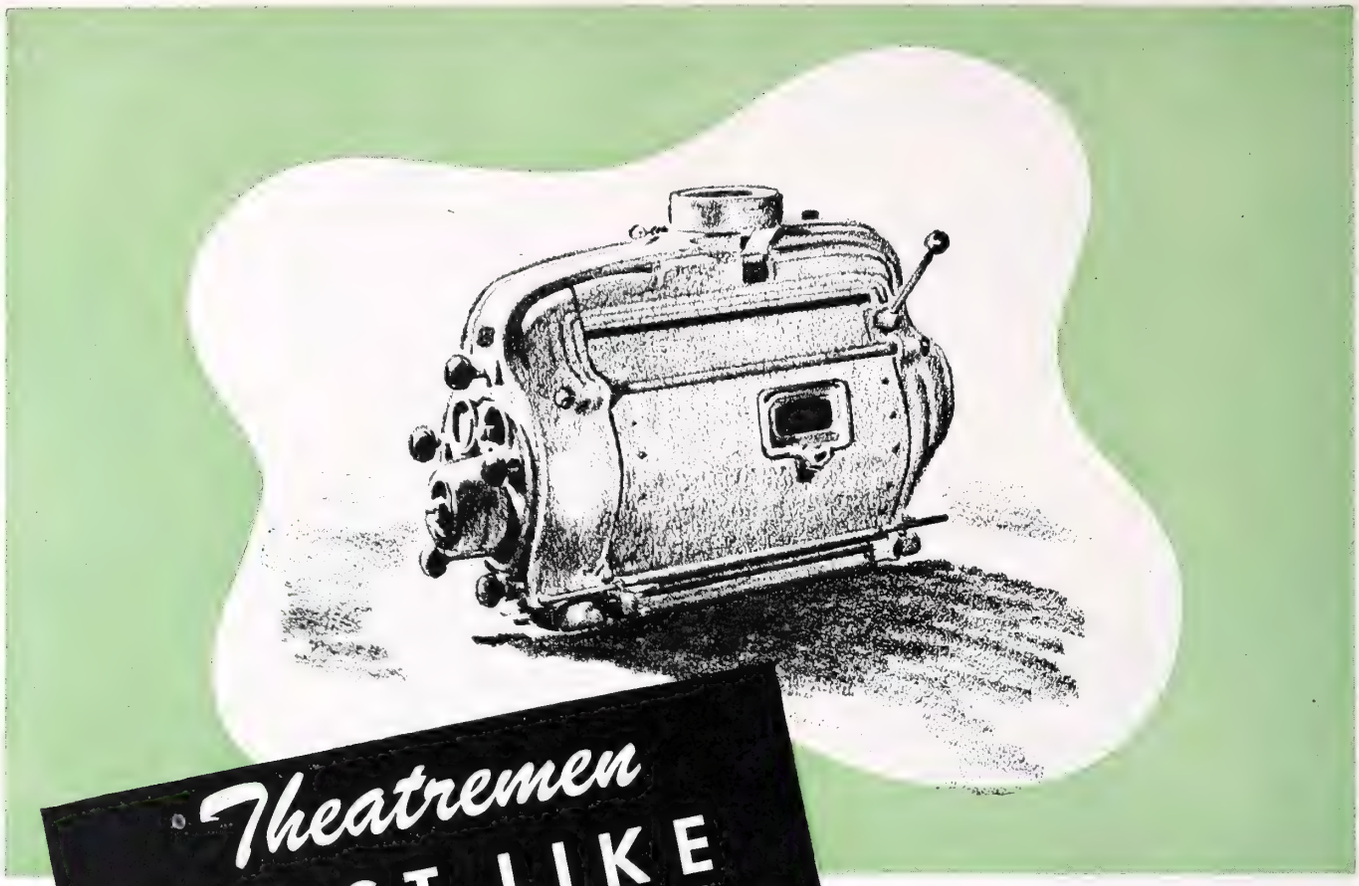


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Much More Than Casual Renovation Will Be Required

At about this time each year we sound the clarion call for Spring Renovation—a general clean-up, fix-up and feather-preening of theatre properties, in preparation for the months to follow, when Summer will bring forth anew many competitive attractions that have lain dormant during Winter.

Everything possible should be done and immediately to beautify our houses and by all means to change their appearance. The pent-up atmosphere of Winter must give way immediately to signs of Spring when movie patrons, young and old, become allergic to outdoor pastimes and pleasures.

Perhaps no major changes or improvements can yet be made. War's restrictions are still with us. But alert and ingenious theatre owners and managers will find ways to freshen up their premises and make them reasonably immune to seasonal competition.

In a three-star article on page 18 of this issue, one of the simplest and oldest methods of maintenance and renovation is discussed in relation to theatre furnishings and fixtures. The material specified is still plentiful and surprisingly low in cost.

While measures of structural improvement at the moment must necessarily be half-way or entirely impossible, because of material and manpower shortages, this is the time for PLANNING. Much more than casual renovation will be required to keep our patronage at present or even prewar level when the war ends.

After four years of starvation maintenance, eighty-five per cent of our theatres will require complete modernization; the remaining fifteen per cent must either rebuild or face a futile fight for their lives. New theatres now planned and ready for construction will readily supplant them in the public favor.

The present owner who has not blue-printed his postwar improvements or restricted his requirements for earliest possible action A. V., is taking the great gamble. Those who have planned and made known their intentions are playing it safe. And, incidentally, many of those with prepared plans and specifications have already secured priority on the delivery of materials and equipment for which there will be an enormous and urgent demand when production is resumed.

Showmen with exercised foresight will not be found waiting far back in line. They are prepared, architecturally and financially, to proceed from up-front position in a line they have already formed.

So while we consider Spring Renovation this year, shall we look ahead to the time when the house can be completely overhauled, or rebuilt or relocated for greater public service? Perhaps your theatre of tomorrow, well planned now, might form the keystone attraction element of a community center development. It's time to check on all possibilities.

Toler

A Multiple Enterprise project

AND POSTWAR CITY PLANNING

by **THE EDITOR**

AN EVER-INCREASING number of general inquiries and urgent requests from our readers for further and more specific information concerning the Multiple Enterprise project have been received since we originally introduced the subject for discussion early last year. The wide and favorable interest evinced by present theatre owners and operators is convincing evidence to us that the idea has caught on —and exactly where we had hoped it would —*with the present owners and operators of theatre properties.*

The Multiple Enterprise idea was originally conceived as a result of studies we had made, and are continuing to make, of prevalent postwar city planning, housing development and proposed re-zoning and regulation of continuous commercial areas throughout the United States. The Multiple Enterprise amusement building project is therefore "a pattern within the over-all pattern" for postwar city and community center planning.

Economic Advantages

While it is not reasonable to suppose that the one-purpose moving picture theatre will immediately succumb to the progress being mapped out for those who plan for sixty million postwar jobs; it can be definitely concluded that a theatre showing motion pictures only will face plenty of competition in the predictable near future.

The economic advantages of the Multiple Enterprise type of amusement plant construction are so recognizable that their appearance will be inevitable in the early postwar era. It is our hope that they will be built with theatre capital and operated by experienced motion picture showmen. Otherwise they are liable to provide serious competition for present exhibitors in many situations throughout the country.

The Multiple Enterprise project as we have tried to visualize it for our readers is merely a grouping together of those public attraction enterprises which have already become highly competitive to theatre operation in many locations. Some of these amusement ventures, aping the theatrical technique in both house appeal and exploitation, have already become more profitable than theatre operation in many instances.

On the good old American theory, long practiced with success in the motion picture industry, that "the best way to outwit a competitor is beat him to the draw" we have advocated the entrance of theatre owners into certain kindred branches of public amusement and diversionary entertainment which can be profitably combined with motion picture business under theatre management. Generally the group may comprise in addition to motion picture presentation, popular participation sports such as bowling, billiards, skating, dancing, swimming, shuffle board, card playing, and numerous other American and Continental pastime diversions. To these may be added the elementary public requirements for eating and refreshments. And on the social or civic side, the provision of meeting rooms, circulating library rooms, orchestral and "little theatre" auditoria for both amateur and professional use in the community.

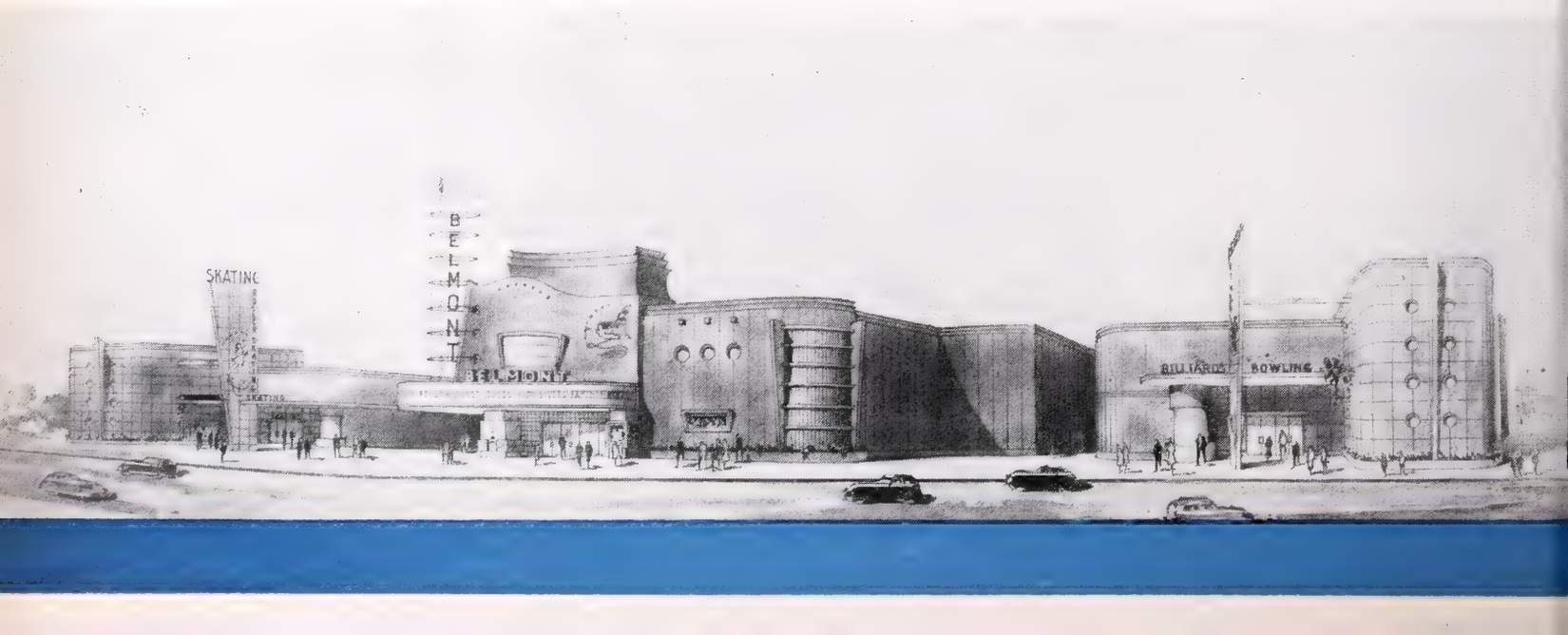
Helps Theatre Business

In other words the Multiple Enterprise project contemplates that the motion picture theatre of tomorrow will profit from the inclusion and companionship of what otherwise will be counter-attractions which are inevitably drawn to the vicinity of good theatre locations like moths to the flame. However, let us not be misunderstood on one point. There is no stock or ready-cut multiple enterprise plan that will fit into every situation. Certain of the added attraction elements mentioned may be desirable in one location and definitely less desirable in others. Metropolitan downtown, suburban and small-town locations all provide a wide variation in the number and nature of enterprises that may be profitably combined with the cinema.

Therefore, careful survey and close architectural study of all conditions are essential in the selection of sites as well as the design and arrangement of the various elements to be incorporated into a Multiple Enterprise project, in which each enterprise to be included should be directly supportive to the other elements of the group to provide a variety of entertainment to suit the fancy of every member of every family in the entire community as well as communities widely adjacent thereto.

In all city planning now prevalent the door is being left open wide for the development of modern facilities for integrated entertainment, recreation, social welfare and visual education. But more important than this to theatre men, our industry may well provide Multiple Enterprise developments as the nuclei or keystones around which new commercial and residential developments may be laid. If this is not done, and promptly, the theatre industry may be bypassed in favor of other provisions for the playtime entertainment of the American public.

Wholesome all-family entertainment is the business of our industry. But unfortunately motion pictures alone do not fully meet the growing demand for diversified entertainment to be found in every community. In fact in every family within the community there are to be found potential bowlers, billiardists, skaters, dancers and swimmers who will pay well for the privilege of participating in their own entertainment. Yet the exercise of this privilege



Street line front elevation perspective of a postwar Multiple Enterprise Theatre project designed by Architect Michael J. DeAngelis for an undisclosed client. This all-amusement group provides the nucleus for further commercial-residential development in the surrounding area.



Architectural rendering by Joseph A. Parks of the principal elements of the Kogod Community Enterprise group for the southwest suburban section of Washington, D. C., which will provide recreation and shopping facilities for a new community of forty thousand persons. John J. Zink is the architect for the theatre portion of the project.

A CENTER OF GRAVITY FOR THE NEW SETTLEMENTS of TOMORROW!

in no way prohibits, but most definitely encourages their more frequent patronage of the theatre portion of the project.

Lowers Building Cost

The ever-rising costs required to construct and equip the kind of theatres the public now demands, makes the one-purpose building a dubious investment in most situations. Limited to film presentations alone the motion picture theatre will need every possible supporting attraction and extended playing time to make its investment pay a satisfactory return.

The Multiple Enterprise building project answers this problem in a number of ways. Not only are its net earning possibilities immensely increased by added attractions; its initial cost for construction and equipping is far less per cubic foot than that required to build a theatre alone. Air conditioning, heating, lighting, electrical supply and control, cleaning, water supply and so forth may be centralized in one plant serving the entire group. Operating costs are reduced through extended business hours and reduced overhead for each operating element of the enterprise. All in all the Multiple Enterprise perspective makes up into a rather interesting proposal for the bankers and financial backers who are known to shy away from one-purpose theatre financing.

The important function of the Multiple Enterprise theatre project in City Planning is most succinctly demonstrated in the following "Just Off the Boards" news release by Al Sherman, the Boxoffice Washington correspondent.

Significantly one of the most ambitious Multiple Enterprise theatre projects yet announced stems from the Nation's Capitol, where a new million-dollar community center is now well advanced in its planning stages for location in the southwest section of the City of Washington.

The project, in which a 1,000-seat modern motion picture theatre will be the core attraction, is announced by Fred S. Kogod, partner in the K-B Amusement Company of Washington, D. C., operators of the present Apex, Atlas, Princess and Senator theatres. Frank M. Boucher, general manager for Kogod-Burka is supervising the new development.

Covering an entire block on South Capitol Street from Atlantic to Chesapeake streets the new amusement-shopping-civic center will include practically every type of store and service shop needed in this new neighborhood. Because of the great influx of war workers and many new housing projects completed during the past year the District of Columbia Commissioners rezoned the area as commercial in order to provide adequate shopping and recreational facilities for some forty thousand persons now living in the community.

Many of the large downtown stores in Washington have been seeking neighborhood locations, so with their requirements in mind Theatre-Owner Kogod purchased the entire block in which his new theatre, now tentatively named the "Southern," will provide the center of gravity for the commercial development around which the downtown stores will establish branches.

Tenancies Being Taken

There will be ten or twelve such stores in the entire development. At present leases have been secured by Peoples Drugstore for one of the finest in the city, an A. & N. Restaurant, a Kresge 5 and 10 store and a modern Food Fair. Other store rooms will be rented to a laundry, a dry cleaning shop, a beauty shop, ladies specialty shop, probably a delicatessen, and a small department store.

There will be ample parking space in the rear for all store patrons and special parking areas for the theatre and restaurant patrons at the side near a new defense highway out of Washington. Along this highway there is a completed development of fine homes and apartments as well as the Navy Experimental Station at Bellevue. It is practically an all-new addition to the city, where some forty thousands persons are living at present with practically no shopping or recreational facilities. This Multiple Enterprise project, construction of which will get under way immediately when manpower and material restrictions are removed, will fill a definite and highly social need.

In planning the group, Mr. Kogod consulted leading architects and builders of the country, determined to make this project an outstanding keystone for further development. In fact there is plenty of room still available for further expansion of the community center development as the neighborhood grows and business potentialities for additional or enlarged enterprises are warranted.

Plans for the theatre portion of the project are now being completed by Theatre Architect John J. Zink of Baltimore, Maryland. It will be atmospheric in design and will provide every known facility for comfort and convenience of its patrons. Provision will be made for the adaptation to

(Continued on page 17)

Frontispiece

Spring Renovation *means more than the mere removal of the winter's accumulation of dust, soil and soot from the structure and furnishings of a theatre. It covers, besides all this, a complete change of atmosphere and color effect in keeping with the spirit of the season, thus to dispel monotony and provide new interest in and impetus to movie-going . . . We illustrate the recent notable wartime transformation of the interior of an old theatre, or perhaps better said, a theatre grown prematurely old through drabness of original interior decorative effects. The sectional auditorium view is that of the renovated Academy Theatre (1,250 seats), Waukegan, Illinois, a Publix-Great States theatre. The remarkable side-wall and ceiling treatment is entirely an illusion of spaciousness created with the artistic application of paint and improved lighting effect. No structural alterations, now prohibited, were needed to effect a complete renovation. (Photo courtesy Hanns R. Teichert Studios.)*

Antidote to Absenteeism . . . or

WHAT ABOUT THE STAYAWAYS

by **ANSEL M. MOORE**

EXCLUDING babes in arms, confirmed invalids and all others in the non-ambulatory classification including conscientious objectors to our particular brand of amusement, it is estimated that 10% of the total remaining population take in the movies so infrequently as to be classed as chronic stayaways.

Let us then, with the above exclusions in mind, take that 10% and round into a figure of somewhere near 12 million perfectly potential theatre patrons who have never acquired, or have once had and lost, their tastes for motion pictures and/or motion picture theatres. Actually this withheld patronage roughly represents a total of one day's receipts out of every week for every theatre in the business. Or, if you want to dollarize it, at 27.5 cents per head (the 1943 averaged normal admission price), $3,300,000 is our industry's weekly pecuniary loss to absenteeism.

Figures and estimates are facile things and may be used to an excess of confusion without proving much of anything. However, the foregoing estimate appears conservative enough and might be confirmed by a house-to-house canvass in most any community, due allowance being made for the fact that some communities are more move-minded than others—perhaps for good and sufficient reasons.

Regardless of what facts or figures may show, it is hardly reasonable to suppose that with pictures alone we can even make a dent in this absentee problem; let alone solve it. But there are practical antidotes to absenteeism that can be used effectively to prevent further fallaways and at the same time restore the movie-going habit to many of the 12 million present stayaways who have lost it. These antidotes may be classed as *plus attractions,* which act as Spring Tonics to theatre patronage particularly at this time of year; but which are no less effective if applied when needed the whole year round.

Suppose in discussing these antidotes to absenteeism we start with the simple things —and one of the simplest is *common courtesy* as a house policy. Thousands of our absentee patrons have perhaps been alienated and driven away from nearby movie theatres to seek their diversion elsewhere, or in some different form, by some inadvertent breach of courtesy at some time on the part of management or staff. Antidote No. 1 would therefore be *Courtesy,* the least costly and most essential item in the whole bag of bring-'em-back-again tricks. Service with a smile sets up a come-back contagion.

Comfort! There's a word to conjure with in creating and holding theatre patrons. Ninety percent of our stayaways persist in their absenteeism because they refuse to endure physical discomfort. To them few pictures are good enough to offset the bad effects of body aches, bad odors, stuffy atmosphere, faulty sound reception and other conditions characteristic in many of our houses—conditions that give marked offense to one or more of the five cardinal senses. Ask the average "stranger" to the movies why he's that way and ten-to-one he'll cite one or more of the aforementioned offenses, perhaps adding a few pet peeves of his own to emphasize his disfavor. Give a patron all-round physical comfort and you've created a better frame of mind for his reception of your program, and hence acquired a much better chance to reclaim him (or her) as a steady customer.

Then we have *Convenience* to cope with. The "drive-in" or motorcade movie sponsors claim they've solved the family-group attendance problem by making it easy for all members of the household to patronize the pictures *en masse*—papa direct from work in his dungarees, mama in her kitchen kimono and the kids as is. Here's convenience with a capital "C" of course. But we register a strong doubt as to the ability of the "drive-in" to attract our present stayaways or to resurrect the family movie-going habit along the lines specified. People who want to attend the movies in soiled clothes and dirty faces are already doing it. They are in need of no greater inspiration and inducement than is now provided in many of our indoor theatres. Most of our confirmed stayaways wear white collars and clean clothes at work and at play.

RUG PROFITS MAGAZINE, representing the Floor Coverings industries, joins with us JUNE 23rd to present the latest product and pattern design developments in floor coverings for our postwar theatres. Watch for further joint editorial projects on other vital subjects soon to be announced.

However, the acute parking problem does have much to do with the inconvenience of movie-going at present. Ample parking facilities and car protection for patrons is an essential antidote to absenteeism. But convenience comprises other things, too, including well-ordered restrooms for both sexes, fully equipped with all modern toilet facilities, lounges, smoking rooms, drinking fountains conveniently located, nursery rooms for infants, check room service for wearing apparel and shopper's parcels, telephone booths, confectionery and soft drink counters or vending machines. Every conceivable public convenience for "paying guests" should be provided and many of them can be money-making accessories in their own right.

Public Interest Aroused is perhaps the most effective antidote to absenteeism in every community. Anything done, or to be done, that may arouse the interest and curiosity of the citizenry is good boxoffice if properly exploited. It is all well to provide the other antidotes—comfort, convenience, public service, House Appeal and so forth; BUT without exploitation, the effect on stayaways is practically nil. That postwar modernizing job you now plan (or do you?) would arouse plenty of interest among both regulars and rare attendants, were you to announce it in detail now. It would be a COMING EVENT of extraordinary importance to practically every member of the community.

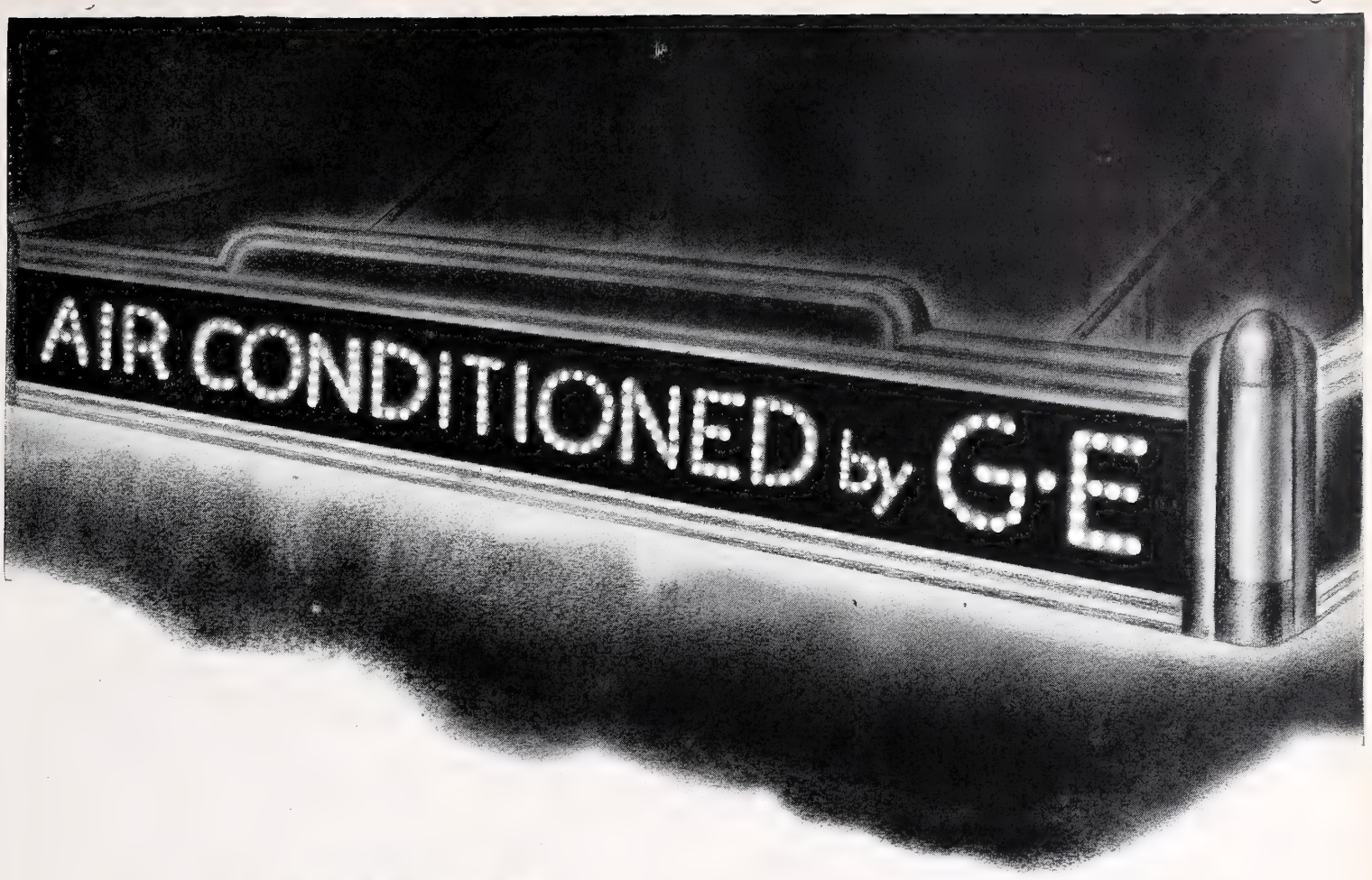
We may as well face it. The stayaways are not stay-at-homers. People who are not patronizing our picture shows with the proper degree of frequency are simply bored with our selling and service methods. It's not necessarily because they don't care for motion picture entertainment. The regular movie fans are more rabid today than ever before. The stayaways and infrequent frequenters only need something more physical and tangible than picture exploitation to stir them out of their lethargy and start them coming back again.

In conclusion may we suggest *Diversion,* another antidote to absentia. All pictures and no play makes Jack Public a dull boy. Give him pictures *plus* bowling, skating, dancing and other popular forms of amusement, at which he can play too, and he'll go for the whole ball of wax in a big way. A diversified entertainment plant where each member of the American family can find a sort of play to suit his fancy of the moment would do more to accelerate the movie-going habit than anything we or anyone else could prescribe. As a matter of fact, that elusive 10% of the population we've been discussing may multiply rapidly after the war unless something is done to surround motion picture exhibition with *supporting attractions.*

The only essential difference between a *counter* attraction and a *supporting* attraction is ownership. Keep that point well in mind as you plan your new postwar entertainment plant.

Television Theatrewise

The probable effect of television (when it arrives) on theatre operation and attendance will be the theme of Moore's next article for May 26th. It's the SEATING SERVICE number.



. . . a name you and your public know!

NOT just air conditioned, but *air conditioned by G-E*...that's one of the coming box office attractions you'll be wanting soon, and should be planning *now*.

For when "comfort" air conditioning installations are again permitted, there simply won't be enough hours in the day to plan, engineer, and build to meet the demand. Perhaps your job is simple. Perhaps it's tough. Either way it's time to get it on paper.

What will it cost? That can't be figured too closely today, but... *less than you think.* Before the war we used to figure that complete amortization of *first cost and all operating costs* could be made in ten years if the air conditioning drew but one extra customer per show for every hundred seats in the house!

Why not call in your G-E Distributor and start planning? He'll figure your needs and design your layout . . . we'll help as needed . . . and you'll be among the early ones to cash in at your box office.

* * *

General Electric Company, Air Conditioning Department, Section 5584, Bloomfield, N. J.

BUY . . . and hold . . . WAR BONDS

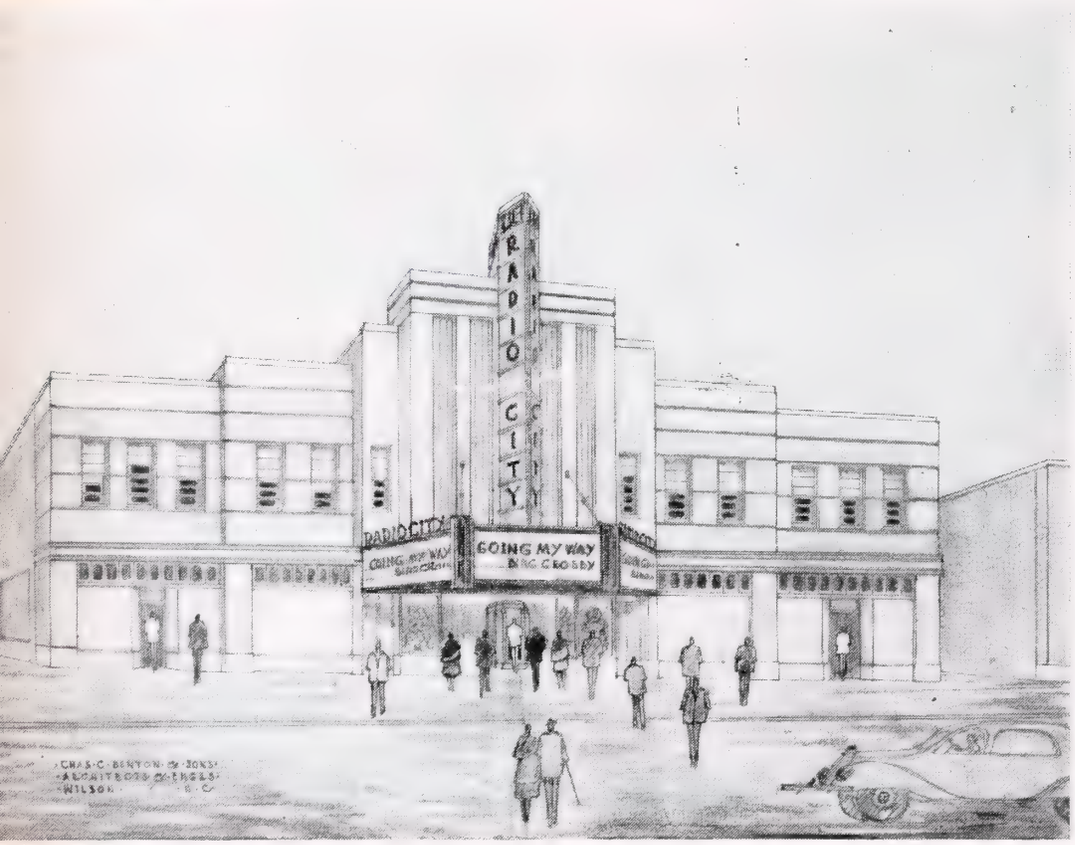
GENERAL ELECTRIC

Air Conditioning

Tune in: The "G-E HOUSE PARTY," every afternoon, Monday through Friday, 4 p. m., EWT, CBS . . .The "G-E ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA," Sundays, 10 p. m., EWT, NBC . . ."THE WORLD TODAY" News, Monday through Friday, 6:45 p. m., EWT, CBS

Just Off the Boards

Architectural perspectives and early stage visualizations of postwar theatre building projects, the erection of which will proceed promptly with the relaxation of material priorities. The completed projects will be featured in forthcoming issues of The MODERN THEATRE section.



AMUSEMENT CENTER FOR CHARLOTTE

ABOVE is shown front elevation perspective of a new amusement center for Charlotte, North Carolina, prepared by Chas. C. Benton & Sons, Architects and Engineers of Wilson, N. C., for H. B. Meiselman Theatres of Charlotte, operators of the Strand Theatres in Fayetteville, Lenoir and Rockingham, N. C., the Manor in Wilmington and the Ritz in Fayetteville, N. C.

Planned for location in the 500 block on South Tryon street, purchased some time ago by H. B. Meiselman, work on remodeling the second floor of the buildings into modern office rooms and erection of the theatre front entrance has already started. Construction of the remainder of the theatre portion at the rear of present buildings will proceed as soon as conditions permit.

The new amusement center will be named Radio City and will comprise the latest and finest in public entertainment facilities. In addition to the new Radio City Theatre, Mr. Meiselman has also planned and ready for construction, a new neighborhood house for Charlotte to be called the Manor Theatre, thus increasing to seven the number of H. B. Meiselman houses.

TO BE CONTINUED

TRADEWINDS

THE EDITOR'S MONTHLY WEATHERVANE ON CURRENT EVENTS IN THIS AND OTHER INDUSTRIES AFFECTING THE INTERESTS OF THEATRE OPERATION

C.E.D. Acts to Sustain Postwar Employment

Over 600 publishers and editors of business publications in America have aligned themselves with the Committee for Economic Development in a nation-wide cooperative movement to encourage prompt postwar reconversion of industries to civilian production.

The C.E.D. membership comprises outstanding business leaders and industrialists representing practically all branches of American business. The prime objective is to stimulate planning now for high-level, productive postwar employment in every field of commerce.

The MODERN THEATRE section considers it a definite privilege to be among the progressive business publications who have agreed to work with the Committee for Economic Development toward narrowing the employment gap between V-day and Pay-day.

As has been pointed out in our columns frequently, as a prime reason for postwar theatre planning which we have encouraged consistently since the outbreak of the war, no other industry is more vitally dependent on employment than ours. Theatre patronage and the public payroll are so inseparably linked that they must travel up and down the scale of business fluctuation practically as one.

Consequently we have urged upon our readers the necessity of setting the good example in every community by planning all postwar building improvements well in advance of the time when actual construction can be started. Other local institutions and industries, inspired by such initiative, will then take similar steps to insure postwar jobs and uninterrupted payrolls—upon which all future business is dependent.

Day-dreaming is not planning! Until someone is actually put to work planning your theatre of tomorrow it remains just a castle in the air and of no possible aid to the economic development we shall all surely need if another postwar depression is to be avoided.

Plan your property improvements and expansion projects at once and bring them to public notice. Publicity is the best possible stimulant to postwar employment and it should be administered now.

Get the jump on competition - with a new "MACHINE FOR SELLING"



The end of the war will usher in a new era of entertainment in America. This era will be marked by intense competition. New competition. Smart competition.

First there will be a rush to satisfy pent-up demand. Then a terrific battle for profits and survival.

The planning you do now will determine your position, five years—ten years from now. Kawneer can help you—for Kawneer has specialized for many years in making "Machines For Selling" out of theatres just like yours. New ideas, new products and new services are in the offing. Get the jump on competition! Plan with Kawneer today!

Kawneer

THEATRE FRONTS

MACHINES FOR SELLING!

Pull Them In To Buy!

THE KAWNEER COMPANY, 2904 Front St., Niles, Michigan
Please rush new, 16-page, illustrated booklet on Kawneer "Machines For Selling".

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

DECORATING

THE ARTISTIC SIDE OF ARCHITECTURE
AS APPLIED TO THEATRE DECORATION

A Form of Spring Renovation That Revives Patronage

by **HANNS R. TEICHERT***



ONE of the most satisfying sensations in the world is that "all-set-to-go" feeling attained only after hard and long preparation. You may remember your elation back in the days when, after long planning, hoping, and last-minute fears, you packed your car to the top and finally slammed the doors to get rolling on that fishing trip. Or maybe it was a long season of hard practice for you and the rest of the team before you found yourselves facing your opposition for the big game and thinking with real satisfaction, "Well . . . this is it!"

To these examples can be added the often detailed processes of thinking about, consultations for, actual turmoil of execution, and the final emergence of a theatre interior new in atmosphere and effect and "all set to go"! It is solid satisfaction to look around, after the final touches, and see that not only has beauty and stimulation been brought in to renew the atmosphere of your house, but that added protection and sanitation are important backgrounds of the picture. And your satisfaction is further heightened when you discover that your patrons respond to the improvement with real appreciation. There is something about new surroundings that exude sparkling color and fresh cleanliness in the spring that are as instinctively looked for and delighted in as the first spring flowers and greenery. The whole process is always new and exhiliarating.

A Typical Instance

One theatre to make the most of this is the Jeffery, of Chicago, owned by Warner Brothers. This medium-sized neighborhood house had some problems typical of many others if its type so that a brief survey might prove helpful to all.

In the first place, the lobby of the Jeffery was large to the point of being cold and somewhat barn-like in atmosphere. It also seemed to lack focus and interest because of its walls which were monotonously textured in varitoned blocks of neutral beige. Inasmuch as no reconstruction of appreciable scale is possible at this time, the problem had to be solved by the use of paint alone.

So the thing to be done here was to provide the incoming patron with a warm, vibrant, and stimulating welcome. Toward this end, the very high ceiling was given a lower and warmer effect with a coat of glowing coral, while off-white beams added contrast and interest. The reflected light from this source alone was enough to take the "chill" off the interior but the effect was further enlivened by painting the walls below the blocked section an emerald green, with ornamental plaster decorations in a smart off-white. This brisk treatment was carried further through the off-white lighting fixtures and balustrades, giving the lobby a clean-cut modern feeling through the very simplicity of the handling of color in large, carefully organized areas. This much was satisfying since it subordinated the less desirable features of the room; but it also served to subdue the unnecessary decorative moldings that were used in over-abundance and fade them into the unity of the whole.

A Dual Accomplishment

Inasmuch as most of what had served as decorative detail was now painted into the vibrant background color, a new interest had to be provided to carry forward the modern feeling being developed. This was the place for the killing of two birds with the proverbial one stone, so a large design of tropical stylized leaves was loosely painted over the top portions of the walls that had been of monotonous neutral blocks. These flowing designs were done in various tones of green shading down into off-white, and serve to fill the room with further sparkle and interest as well as taking the last remnant of drabness away. The patron cannot help but feel the difference in welcome, stimulation, and greater comfort the moment he steps in.

The passage leading off to the foyer was painted a soft vermilion to key in with the ceiling of the lobby and provide a note of contrast to the greens and whites of the larger room as well as the smaller one which is done in light green walls. To enliven this, panels already inset are painted in off-white and feature small baroque scrolls both adding a very pleasing decorative touch that fits in with the curvings of the woodwork and keeping in the spirit of the adjoining lobby.

A Logical Question

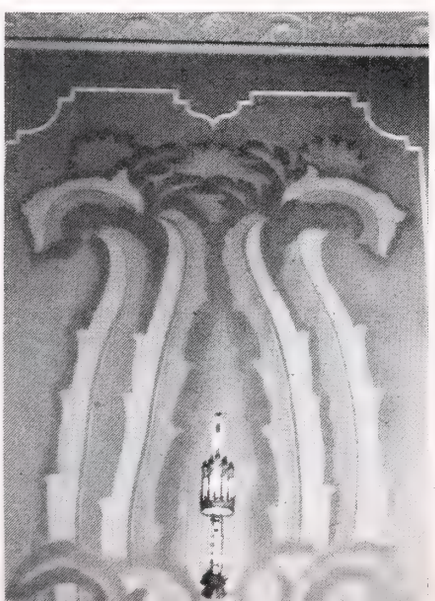
If this color scheme has been followed carefully, one question may have arisen: "Why such a contrasting use of reds and greens? Why not something less definite such as tans, soft browns, and more intermediate tones?"

It's a very good question and deserves a careful answer. Experience and research

(Continued on page 22)

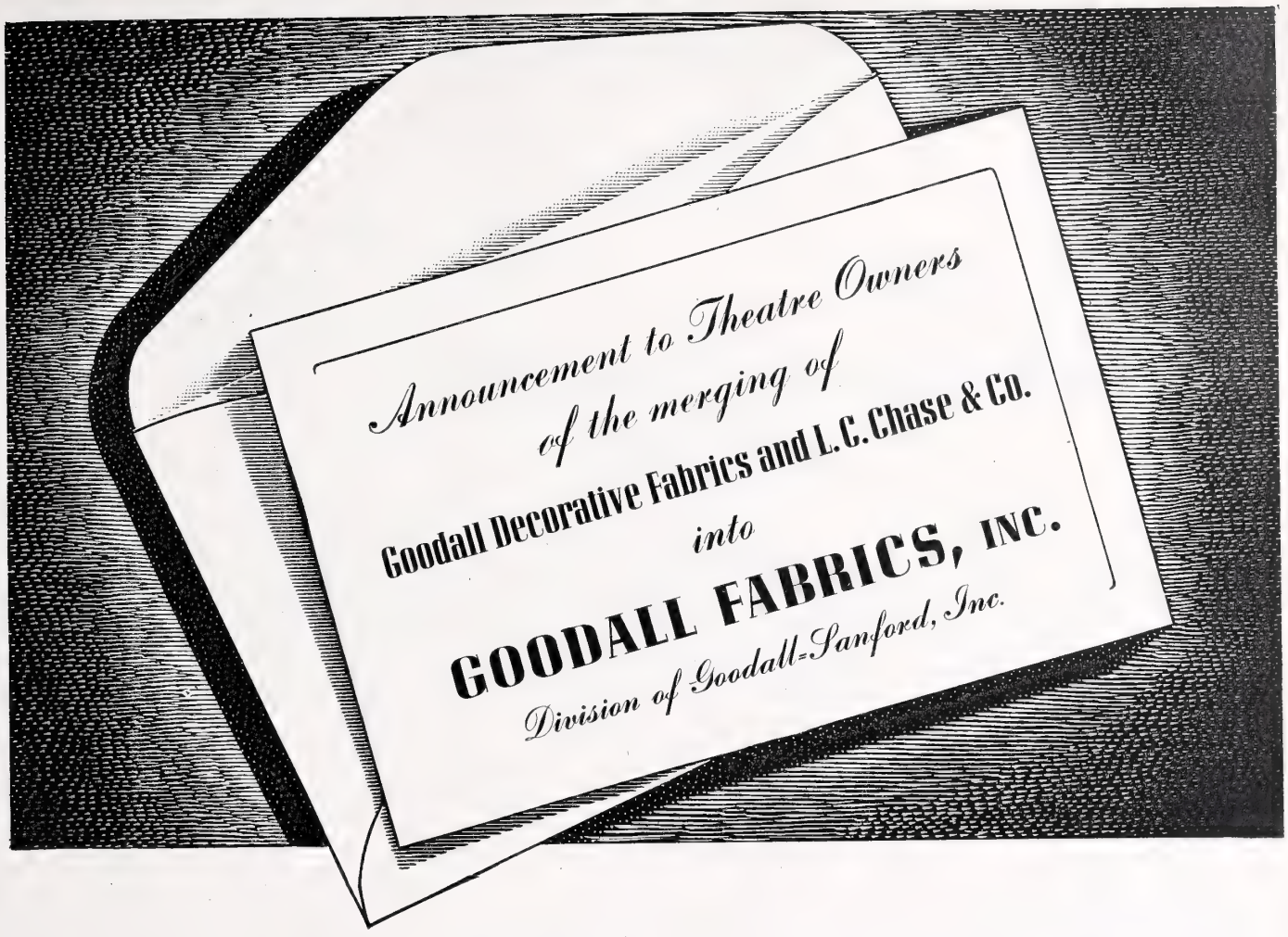






Stylized leaves and graceful scrolls loosely painted over top portions of walls that were once characterized only by monotonous neutral blocks. Designs done in varitoned shadings of definite colors shading down to off-white. The Jeffery Theatre thus assumes the Spirit of Spring, 1945.

*Theatre Decorating Specialist; Decorative Consultant to The Modern Theatre Planning Institute.



Now performing within its own establishment the functions of several organizations at only ONE profit!

In the interest of a lower distributional cost, postwar, announcement is made of the formation of Goodall Fabrics, Inc., division of Goodall-Sanford, Inc. With a vertical integration of this nature, products will be manufactured from raw fiber to finished fabric under one roof, within one organization—AT ONE PROFIT! This will assure maximum value at any given price—plus an absolute quality control and maintenance of standards.

Until further notice the New York sales and display offices will remain at 61 East 53rd Street and 295 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

GOODALL FABRICS, INC.

Division of Goodall-Sanford, Inc.

NEW YORK • BOSTON • CHICAGO • DETROIT • LOS ANGELES

LIGHTING

ILLUMINATION FOR ADVERTISING DISPLAY, ATMOSPHERE AND BETTER VISION

Spring Renovation Should Start at the Street Line

UNDER the logical premise that first things should come first, a few smart theatre owners have already started their postwar improvements and without prejudice to the war effort. In fact, we cite here a couple instances whereby an important measure of needed renovation was accomplished concurrently with a substantial saving of electrical energy under the recent "brownout" order.

Two well-known Chicago suburban theatres, the Balaban & Katz Will Rogers on the West Side and Warners' Beverly on the South Side recently added remarkable new brilliance and advertising effectiveness to their marquee program displays, for both night and daytime effects, with the simple change to modern silhouette letters of the "third dimensional" type. The marked improvement in replacing the former "cut-out" type letters is evident from a glance at the before-and-after views of both theatre fronts here shown.

The transformation, accomplished in both instances without necessity of priority application customarily involved in such outstanding improvements, provides an excellent example of what may be done, even now, to make our prewar theatres more attractive to the public. Such action need not wait, according to our source of information.

New Letters Save Light

In both cases illustrated conservation and improvement were the attained objective. The resultant brilliance of the large glass openings at once spotlights the entire display and draws the attention of the passersby to well-lettered and more easily read messages on the marquee. Yet no more wattage (in fact less) is required because all the light shines "around" the letters instead of being funneled "through" them as before, with a resultant waste of lighting intensity and electrical energy which is now the object of the "brownout" order. In fact, the "after" pictures shown were taken under brownout regulations while the "before" pictures were taken before the war when there were no such restraints involved.

Besides brilliancy and saving of light, the new bold, black silhouette letters on the bright opal glass background provide sharper contrast between letters and light and thus afford much greater readability and legibility of the marquee message at longer distance, day or night.

Improvement Priority-Free

Here then, in the "first-come-first" procedure referred to in our opening paragraph, is an opportunity to renovate and improve our theatres at the point of sale, even before the war ends and priorities are modified. And this smart improvement may begin at the street-line where logically all postwar theatre improvements should start.

In submitting photographs and particulars concerning these two noteworthy instances of pre-postwar improvement, a spokesman for Adler Silhouette Letter Company further informs us that the advantages outlined are now immediately available to other theatre owners and that no priorities whatever are required in the purchase of the new letters or their patented removable panel frames and glass equipment. The letters are made of cast aluminum and the supporting frames of stainless steel; all are said to be of prewar quality.



Inset, compared with former display (below) shows a remarkable transformation in advertising values brought about by throwing the light "around" letters instead of squeezing it "through" them. The silhouette letters (above) stand out. Those below are subdued. (Photos courtesy Adler Silhouette Letter Co.)

Controls Should Be Inspected Frequently

Switches for starting and stopping the equipment and electric devices that control air conditioning and refrigerating machines have "electrical contact" that may deteriorate. The electrical contact is the point where the circuit is opened or closed according to control demands. When electrical circuits are broken, a spark occurs and this may cause pitting of the terminal. Excess sparking is an indication that the contact should be cleaned. Oftentimes the pitted surfaces and dust are not visible. Clean with care by using a fine sandpaper on the two terminals that form the contact. As all types of controls are delicate and many are precision instruments, call a manufacturer's representative when controls are not operating satisfactorily.

In planning of postwar theatres, the importance of a satisfactory relation with the public will not be overlooked. Everything to please the patrons will be a rule.



Compare upper sectional view of the Beverly's present program display with that shown below. A simple change from "cut-out" to "silhouette" letters with large letters for headline emphasis effected a wonderful improvement at no increase in electrical consumption. (Photos courtesy Adler Silhouette Letter Co.)

The Multiple Enterprise Project and Postwar City Planning

(Continued from page 9)

television, as with all other K-B theatres, and there will be a large stage for added attractions, including local talent show and community-sponsored affairs. There will be a nursery room and a special party room for neighborhood use. Provisions have also been made for the erection of bowling alleys on the southwestern end of the plot. Thus participation sports are also a part of the amusement center plan.

Thus again, our theatre industry has come to the fore with a practical solution to one of the most pressing problems of postwar city planning and community rearrangement. The center of gravity is thus being established.

Motiograph's War Work Continues to Expand

Motiograph's three plants are still working at full capacity on the manufacture of war items and a limited amount of sound and projection equipment. The extent of the company's manufacturing activities is shown by the fact that 1944 sales were more than six times those of 1941.

A back-log of orders in excess of $4,500,000, not including substantial orders for sound and projection equipment for postwar delivery is reported by the Motiograph management. Activities include, among many varied items, the manufacture of submarine sound detection devices, various forms of radar equipment, inter-communication equipment and fire control apparatus.

Motiograph's postwar projector model is reported going through rigid tests under actual theatre conditions. Claims are made that the new projector will have more innovations of design than has ever appeared on a projector mechanism, yet its design and construction is said to be extremely simple. So different is the Motiograph postwar projector that but two parts of it are interchangeable with the present Model K.

Restrictions on Freon-12 Eased by Recent Ruling

Retailers and wholesalers will now be able to obtain Freon-12 gas for air conditioning and certain types of refrigerating systems.

A sweeping relaxation of the freon restriction is provided by an amendment to Conservation Order M-28 which provides, however, that precedence would be given to orders for F-12 gas for installation in systems of more essential users who are not on List A of the order. This will probably include theatres.

Adequate supplies of F-12 gas should continue to be available if cylinders are returned promptly, say officials of WPB's General Industrial Equipment Division. If this is not done, they said, it may become necessary to reimpose restrictions.

Air Infiltration Should Be Eliminated

Large quantities of air leak into buildings from outdoors. Leakage occurs around windows and doors and even through walls that are not tightly built. As all the air that is brought in from outdoors must be conditioned, the leakage should be kept at a minimum.

Keep windows and doors tightly closed so that leakage of air from outdoors will be kept as small as possible.



SANITATION

EMPHASIZING THE ESSENTIALS OF HOUSE HYGIENE IN THEATRE MAINTENANCE

A Simple Wartime Lesson in Theatre Maintenance

★ ★ ★

THERE is every evidence that before we win this war civilian restrictions will become more severe and that certain maintenance materials will become scarcer. In this respect, however, current conditions have had one salutary effect. They have tought us to differentiate between the essential and the non-essential; to eliminate waste, to heighten efficiency, and to place greater reliance upon standard materials which have proved their worth under the most adverse conditions. One of these materials is *soap,* and one of the lessons of these trying times is that this familiar cleaner can be made to do many jobs formerly considered the function of a variety of special products.

The very fact that soap is such a standard aid in theatre maintenance may cause one to overlook its vital role in any postwar plan. Those who hope to make improvements and alterations would do well to start with sanitation and cleanliness.

Surface Cleanability

Prior to the war, we saw a definite trend toward greater simplification of line and arrangement in theatre lobbies and foyers. One of the signs was a gradual elimination of dust-catching display cases and similar decoration. Glass, ceramic and other composition materials found greater use as wall-facings, not only in the new theatres but in the renovation of old ones. Such materials have the outstanding advantage of being easily cleaned by the simple application of soap and water—a highly important advantage in these days of reduced manpower.

In addition to easily cleaned wall-surfacing materials obtainable before the war, the easing of priorities probably will bring other streamlined materials. Newer plastics will compete with older products, and there are indications that lighter metals, many available in attractive colors, will find increased utilization. Such products will have to meet certain specifications, and one of the prime requisites will be ready cleanability.

Paint, of course, still remains one of the most effective decorative helps. Walls and other surfaces take on new life and character when they are given a fresh coat of paint. Here is one field where war-born developments have resulted in a variety of tough, durable and beautiful finishes that are readily amenable to the regular and beneficial action of soap and water. Improved resin bases and more efficient solvents provide paints that dry faster and harder than those previously supplied.

If the renovation plan calls for a product that will dry within a day, will be practically odor-free and minus fire hazards, the new "water base" or emulsion paints may be employed. Available in a wide range of pleasing colors, these paints may be applied over even fresh plaster, as well as over wallpaper and other wall-covering materials. They dry hard to the touch within a few hours; but it takes about a week or ten days before the resin emulsion completely resolves itself to a hard film that can be washed with soap and water. The ease of application, cleaning and cost factors make these new type paints well worthy of consideration, especially where a quick refreshing job is contemplated.

Floor Coverings

The selection of flooring materials for foyers and lobbies warrants careful consideration from the viewpoints of utility, appearance and ready cleanability. Carpeting, now so hard to get, will undoubtedly retain a large measure of its popularity in renovation plans. However, it may be some time before this type of floor covering will be available in quantity and even longer before specially designed products can be obtained. The use of carpeting presupposes that shampooing equipment will be available for sale or for hire.

Linoleum, whether inlaid or tile, has much to recommend it from the standpoint of durability, sound absorption and easy maintenance. When properly cared for, such flooring lasts many years. Experts point out that the most important rules in cleaning linoleum are to avoid using abrasives which cut the top surfaces and strongly alkaline cleaners which attack the linoleum and soften it. Mild soaps are best for such floors and excessive amounts of water should be avoided. If these precautions are borne in mind and a regular cleaning and wax-polishing schedule is contemplated, linoleum flooring is well worthy of consideration in any future re-flooring plans. Cork tile, somewhat more resistant to abrasion, is also a flooring material of interesting possibilities. The same precautions are required for cleaning cork; but it is somewhat more susceptible to the absorption of moisture.

More expensive initially, terrazzo and similar flooring materials are both long-lasting and easily cleaned with soap and water. In passing, it might be mentioned that such floors have lost some of their popularity because of lack of proper care. Many of these floors have deteriorated rapidly because harsh alkali cleaners and abrasives have been used on them.

Ideas on illumination have undergone rather radical changes during the last few years, and the selection of proper lighting equipment can result not only in better illumination but in considerable reduction in costs. Manufacturers of lighting equipment have gone out of their way to stress the importance of regular cleaning. Hence, it should be obvious that lighting fixtures of simple design are best from the standpoint of maintenance and cleanability.

Upholstery Upkeep

We have been hearing a good deal about the new upholstery fabrics that will be available after the war. In some cases they are made of entirely new types of synthetic fibers, or based on the use of recently developed plastics and resins. Manufacturers point pridefully to the beauty, adaptability and durability of these fabrics, but stress especially how they respond to simple cleansing with soap suds. If the claims made for these textiles stand up under further tests and comparisons with standard fabrics, they should be of definite interest to those who may be considering the re-upholstering of auditorium seats or the furniture in lobbies or rest rooms.

Since wartime priorities have been particularly hard on auditorium seat replacements, practically every post-bellum plan contemplates many replacements or extensive repairs here. It might therefore be a good plan to obtain sample swatches of fabrics and put them to actual washing tests under conditions approximating those encountered during use. This will serve the double purpose of testing the durability of the fabrics and suggest most advantageous methods of cleaning. Manufacturers' literature should be carefully consulted with regard to proper cleaning methods. Some fabrics are cleaned most efficiently by shampoo methods; others require different procedures. The type of material selected may have an important bearing on the cleaning equipment required.

Cleanliness Can't Wait

Getting closer to the fundamental problem of the theatre washrooms, we find that in a large proportion of cases, many improvements are possible in both layout and equipment. Many a theatre washroom that might have got by a few years ago will no longer stand up under newer and higher sanitation standards. People who are willing to put up with many inconveniences to further the war effort, rebel at poorly kept and badly maintained washrooms, and the impression left by such conditions lingers longer than most managers realize. After all, the lavatory is basis upon which most patrons judge a theatre's sanitary set-up. In the keen competition period bound to come with the end of hostilities, the condi-

(Continued on page 21)

MOTIOGRAPH

has really grown up with the movies

BORN in 1896, the year motion pictures were first shown in a regular theatre, Motiograph made its bow with the Optigraph projector. Motiograph always has been first with new developments.

In 1908, the year the Motion Picture Patents Company was formed, Motiograph offered its high grade Model "1-A" projector, attaching importance to exclusive developments.

In 1916, Griffith produced "Intolerance"; Charles Chaplin starred in "The Floor Walker," and Motiograph introduced its improved Model "E." The Model "E," and some of the preceding Motiograph models, were the first completely motor-driven equipment produced, making possible for the first time a steady rate of projection and releasing the projectionist from the tiresome grind of cranking.

The year 1921 marked two great achievements; Motiograph's Model "F" which set new standards for steady projection, and Rudolph Valentino's "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," which did a steady and phenomenal business for years.

When sound came in, so did Motiograph's Model "H" . . . in time to project that great epic "The Covered Wagon." This was the Motiograph which introduced the first rear shutter and first double shutter, making for greatly increased brilliancy of the picture.

In 1935 Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, precision steppers, were a sensation on the screen and Motiograph's Model "HU" was the sensation of precision in booth equipment.

In 1936, fame was first bestowed on Motiograph's Model "K," and such productions as "San Francisco" and "Mutiny on the Bounty." Here was even finer craftsmanship—a projector completely silent in operation.

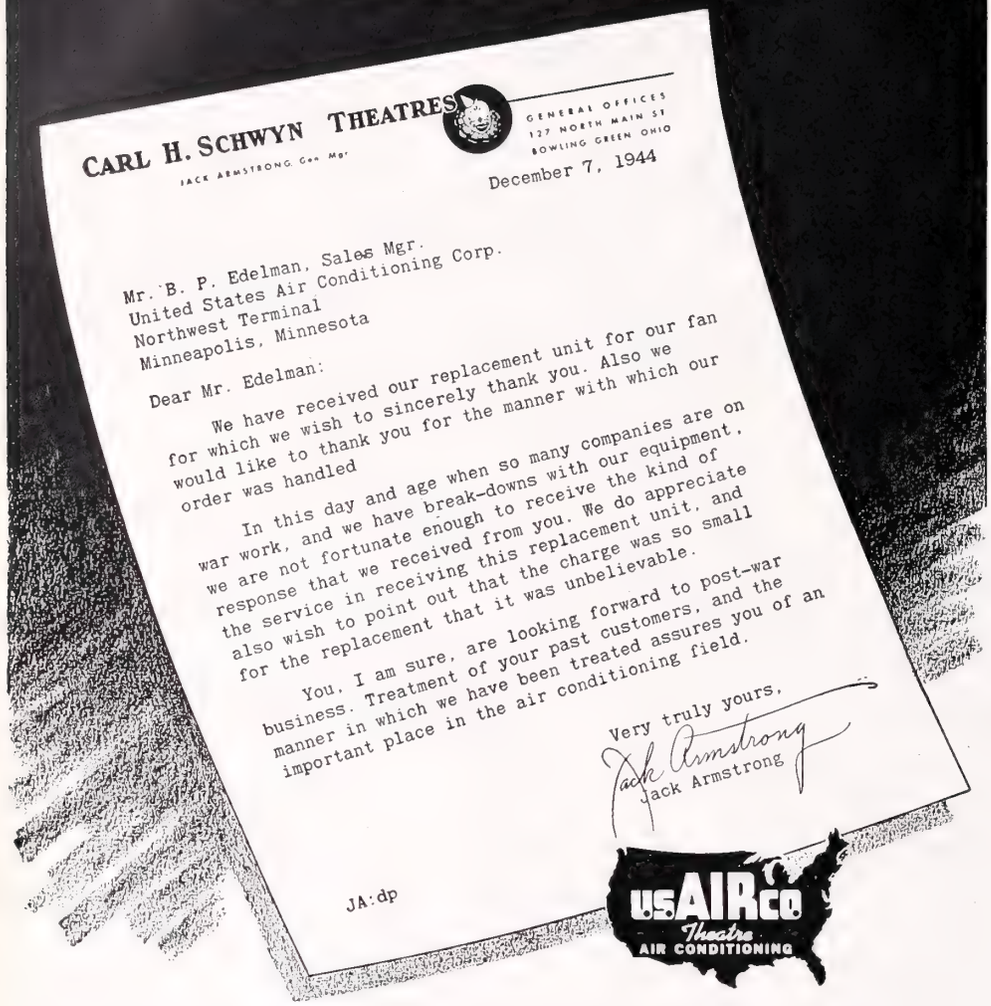
Today Motiograph continues as America's favorite projector.

Your Motiograph Dealer will be glad to tell you all about this superb equipment, or you may obtain literature describing the famous Motiograph Projector and circular L72 on Motiograph-Mirrophonic Sound Systems by writing

MOTIOGRAPH

"Since 1896"
4431 West Lake Street
Chicago 24, Ill.

It's living with a Product and Service that proves its worth . . .



CARL H. SCHWYN THEATRES
JACK ARMSTRONG, Gen. Mgr.
GENERAL OFFICES
127 NORTH MAIN ST
BOWLING GREEN OHIO

December 7, 1944

Mr. B. P. Edelman, Sales Mgr.
United States Air Conditioning Corp.
Northwest Terminal
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Edelman:

We have received our replacement unit for our fan for which we wish to sincerely thank you. Also we would like to thank you for the manner with which our order was handled

In this day and age when so many companies are on war work, and we have break-downs with our equipment, we are not fortunate enough to receive the kind of response that we received from you. We do appreciate the service in receiving this replacement unit, and also wish to point out that the charge was so small for the replacement that it was unbelievable.

You, I am sure, are looking forward to post-war business. Treatment of your past customers, and the manner in which we have been treated assures you of an important place in the air conditioning field.

Very truly yours,
Jack Armstrong
Jack Armstrong

JA:dp

USAIRCO Theatre AIR CONDITIONING

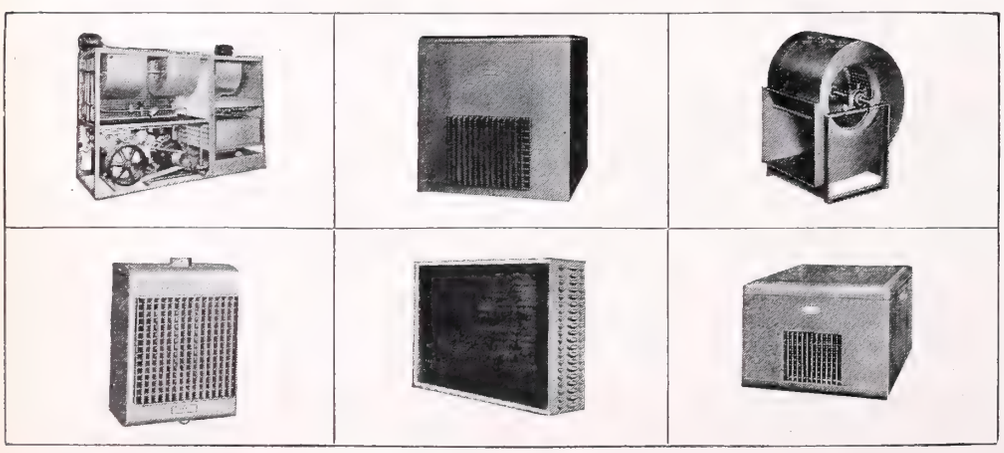
For 20 years USAIRCO has served the American theater, large houses and small ones, with the finest cooling systems and air conditioning equipment.

During that time it has worked at the job of meriting the exhibitor's business through good design and manufacture, and a service that means pleasant and profitable ownership for USAIRCO users. USAIRCO stands ready to serve you on any essential parts or item permissable under today's conditions.

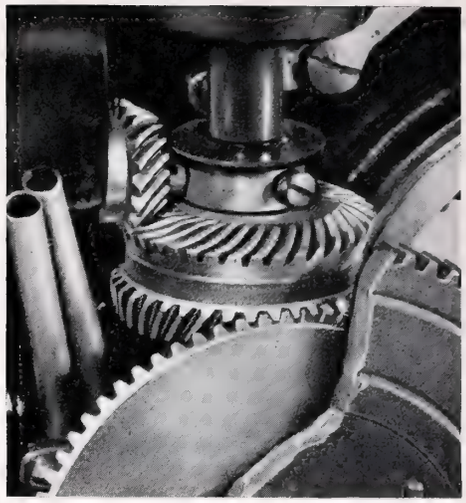
UNITED STATES AIR CONDITIONING CORPORATION

NORTHWESTERN TERMINAL, MINNEAPOLIS 13, MINNESOTA

MAIN OFFICE AND FACTORY: MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA • OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES



Spiral Bevel Gears for Projectors Mechanisms



Showing Formica intermediate gear cut away to illustrate the new spiral bevel gear.

The LaVezzi Machine Works of Chicago, manufacturers of projector parts, intermittent and assemblies, announce the addition of a new series of products to their extensive line. The new LaVezzi products are precision-made spiral bevel gears which are said to make possible truly quiet operation and materially longer life for the parts.

The new spiral bevel gears differ in appearance from standard bevel gears in two respects, i. e., the teeth of spirals are oblique and they are curved. It is claimed that the oblique curved teeth make them stronger, smoother and more quiet than standard bevel gears under all operating conditions. They have continuous pitch-line contact. The teeth engage gradually, smoothly and quietly, instead of coming into full contact at once like straight bevel gears. Stronger because there is always more than one pair of teeth in contact to share the load.

It is further claimed for the new LaVezzi spiral bevel gears that they run themselves in with oil, eliminating need for grinding or lapping compounds and attendant time loss and trouble caused by need for cleaning out destructive emery from gears and bearings. The new LaVezzi products are available through independent theatre equipment dealers.

Wagner Installs Glass Bending Equipment

A completed installation of new glass-bending furnaces and equipment has just been announced by Wagner Sign Service, Inc., Chicago manufacturers of marquee frames and changeable letters.

The addition of this new department is part of a general program of expansion which will greatly enlarge the scope of products and services which are being made available to theatres and commercial enterprises. The new installations will save considerable time on the delivery of curved-glass jobs, since heretofore there have been no sources of such service within or near Chicago.

Several important new product announcements are also to be made in the near future, according to Erwin Wagner, president of the company.

Our Wartime Lessons in Theatre Maintenance

(Continued from page 18)

tion of the washrooms may well determine the success or failure of an entire project.

Perhaps the manpower shortage may have something to do with it, but in some theatre washrooms improvements cannot wait until after the war. It seems a very short-sighted policy to concentrate on other areas to the detriment of the washrooms.

Improvements in washrooms should not be limited to the plumbing fixtures, but should include methods for increasing general efficiency from the angle of both the customer and management. Sometimes minor changes in the arrangement of washroom facilities will work seeming miracles in appearance and convenience. Before the war, manufacturers of sanitary supplies and equipment offered helpful services in this connection. While these services may not be available at present, a study of the manufacturers' catalogues will offer many valuable hints.

Rules for Renovation

In checking over the changes that may have to be made, attention should be given to every detail and should include a consideration of the flooring, the walls, lighting fixtures, ventilation, washbowls, soap dispensers, mirrors, drying facilities, toilet booths and seats, paper dispensers, and all the rest. Floors should be impervious to water and so constructed as to permit frequent washing. Walls should be covered with materials that can be cleaned regularly and completely. A good paint job may serve, but tile three-quarters of the way to the ceiling is much more satisfactory.

Washbowls must function properly and soap dispensers should fulfill their purpose. In planning any necessary replacements, it is advisable to avoid complicated devices which so often impede rather than encourage the flow of soap. Indeed it might be a good plan to avoid all "gadgety" equipment and rely upon time-tested products. Drying facilities, whether cloth, paper or hot air, will often depend on labor conditions, such as laundry service, electrical rates or the like. Booth walls may need replacement but often a good scraping and painting job will suffice, especially for metallic compartments. However, it might be well to remember that marble and similar stone materials can be painted if thoroughly washed with soap and water beforehand.

While many contemplated changes may have to wait until the complete cessation of hostilities, any plan worthy of execution deserves careful consideration from the basic standpoint of sanitation and cleanliness.



REQUIRED READING

WAGNER
Translucent Plastic
CHANGEABLE LETTERS
make your billing required reading.

•

At your theatre supply dealers. Literature and name of nearest dealer will be sent by writing



They make a beautiful, vivid display—impossible with any other letters—which attracts attention, pulls in business.

Gorgeous, colorful copy, with the brilliance of neon is attained when your regular marquee display light shines through them. By day they afford sharply silhouetted letters which assume third dimensional effect. That's why great numbers of theatres are replacing their old style opaque letters with these modern box-office magnets.

4" and 10" sizes, in fonts of assorted non-fading colors (red, green, blue, amber and opaque black) from 76 letters up. Colors are permanent, go all the way through the letters. No surface color to chip or scale off. Painting is never required. Strong. Durable.

WAGNER LOBBY DISPLAY UNITS

Easy to install in any length. Quality steel construction. Attractive white enamel finish. Letters are mounted on the bars or firmly held by clips.

ALUMINUM LETTERS

available for replacement purposes with those not insisting on 100% advertising value.

Wagner Sign Service, Inc.
218 S. Hoyne Avenue
CHICAGO 12, ILL.

MATTING

AMERITRED SOLID PLASTIC FRICTION MATTING
For entrances. Non-slip. Lies flat. Good scrapeage. Easily handled and cleaned. Black in color. Comes in sheets 29"x63"x3/4" Can be trimmed for smaller or odd shaped areas.

FLEXIBLE WOOD LINK MATTING

RUBBER MATTING FOR USE IN FRONT OF EXPOSED SWITCHES

America's Largest Matting Specialists

Also Offering Matting Repair Service

See your supply dealer or write for prices and literature on matting for safety, sanitation and comfort. Give details of your problems, location, prevailing conditions, size of the area, etc

AMERICAN MAT CORPORATION • 1719 Adams Street, Toledo 2, Ohio

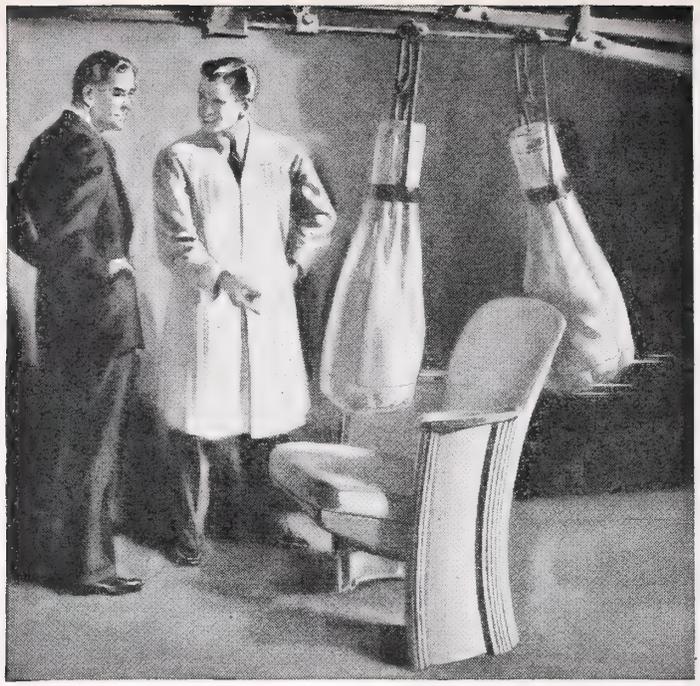
A Form of Spring Renovation That Revives Patronage

(Continued from page 14)

have shown that tans, grays, and similar neutrals, if used in solid blocks of medium shades or in substantial areas, have a tendency to look more dull and soiled than they really are, once they have lost their freshness. This is true, in a lesser degree, of warm colors in medium shades covering large plain surfaces. And, in reverse, it has been found that the cooler colors, in medium shades, hold their vibrancy longer even though they are equally soiled. Therefore the predominant use of green where large solid blocks of color were needed in the Jeffery lobby, as one the walls; and therefore, also, the more broken-up area of the ceiling painted in the warm coral, where it also served the dual function of appearing to lower the high ceiling.

Similarly, there is a difference in the reaction of cool and warm colors to the semi-darkness of auditoriums. Most shades of red are lost to the degree that they cannot even be sensed as color in the usual auditorium lighting. But the same intensity of light will disclose an equal shade of blue or green to the point where it can definitely be perceived. And even though the intensity of the color may not be apparent to the patron, he has the comfortable feeling that he is surrounded by the richness of color.

Yes, the Jeffery Theatre can fling wide its doors with great satisfaction. It's Spring . . . and a new world of vibrant color and fresh stimulation . . . and the Jeffery's right in step with it, ready to go places, boxoffice-wise.



"Swinging impact" tests promise *the world's finest postwar chairs*

AMONG the many exacting tests which American Bodiform theatre chairs must withstand is the "swinging horizontal impact test" shown above. It assures lasting durability for the chair-backs, back fastenings to standards, and floor anchorage—under conditions more severe than actual use. Each American Bodiform chair tested receives 30,000 impacts, front and back, from the 40-pound sand bags set at 4 inches—then 20,000 at 6 inches, and finally 10,000 at 8 inches. Patron usage will never surpass that!

Place your order NOW for American Bodiform Chairs and make sure of securing the most prompt delivery possible when war restrictions are lifted.

AMERICAN Bodiform RESTFUL CHAIRS

Buy and Keep U.S War Bonds



American Seating Company
GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN
WORLD'S LEADER IN PUBLIC SEATING
Manufacturers of Theatre, Auditorium, School, Church, Transportation and Stadium Seating
Branch Offices and Distributors in Principal Cities

CHAIRFAST
Securely FASTENS
LOOSE CHAIRS TO FLOOR
$2.50 Package
JOE HORNSTEIN, INC.
630 NINTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY
Or Your Supply Dealer



TRUCK
Immediate Delivery
Rubber Tired Wheels
NOW! "Handee Andy" all purpose tube steel 600 lb. cap. Full size, first quality, not a wartime makeshift. Light wt. very easy to handle. Ht. 44" .14" wide at nose. Curved cross pieces. The only truck we sell. Specializing permits a better truck, and more of them! By mail only at present time. Fully guaranteed. F.O.B. 1%, 10 days. Unrated firms cash with order. AA5 will assist immediate delivery. Clip this.
9.95 Lots of 12
Lots 3, $11.95
Single, $12.95
The HANDEES CO., Dept. 13A7 Bloomington, Ill.

STRONG ENOUGH
FOR THE MAJORITY OF INSTALLATIONS
BESTEEL
MEDIUM DUTY
CURTAIN TRACK



- ECONOMICAL
- SMOOTH
- DEPENDABLE
- CONSERVES VITAL MATERIAL

AUTOMATIC DEVICES CO.
1035 Linden St. Allentown, Pa.
Export Office 220 W. 42nd St., N. Y. C.
Also Mfrs. of AUTODRAPE Curtain Machines

about PEOPLE and PRODUCT

Julius Haber, longwhile head of the RCA press department, has been named assistant ad director of RCA Victor. Harold O. Desfor takes over the press duties.

* * *

The maiden issue of Westinghouse "Newsfront" appeared this month. A neat four-pager printed in two colors and carrying drawings and photographs, it outlines concisely the latest Westinghouse achievements in research, engineering and production. If you want to be on the mailing list, we'll gladly pass the word to the "Newsfront" editor.

* * *

President William C. DeVry passes the word that E. W. D'Arcy has been given the post of chief engineer for DeVry Corporation. Numerous electrical and electronic innovations are credited to Mr. D'Arcy.

* * *

The "Order of Merit," highest honorary award bestowed by Westinghouse Company, has been presented to seven of its key men of the lamp division. Recipients of the awards were Robert F. Tucker, assistant manager of the division; Wm. J. Massey, manager of general lamp sales; James W. Greenbowe, patent department manager; Samuel G. Hibben, director of applied lighting; Drs. Charles M. Slack and John W. Marden, assistant research directors, and Wm. G. Moran, superintendent of electronic tube manufacture.

* * *

National Theatre Supply makes "Box-office Supplies" the starting gun of its 1945 merchandise advertising program. During April a sale of many items used in the theatre front office will be featured through the 28 National stores from coast to coast.

* * *

Two new members were added to The Modern Theatre Planning Institute's architectural advisory staff last month, S. Charles Lee and Paul W. Williams, both of Los Angeles.

* * *

Bert Sanford jr., Altec New York district manager, tells us of the renewal of Altec service and parts agreements with the Schine Circuit, Inc., for 129 theatres through the Atlantic seaboard and middle western states.

* * *

Chicago Theatre Supply Co. is the name of a new RCA theatre supply dealer for the Chicago film trade area. Dave Dewey, formerly sales manager of International Seat Corporation, heads the new company which has taken over the business of Joe Goldberg, Inc., and the RCA dealer franchise. Prior to his connection with the seating company, Mr. Dewey was assistant general manager of Tri-States Theatre corporation.

TALK ABOUT ECONOMY and RELIABILITY

STRONG
COPPER OXIDE AND TUBE TYPE RECTIFIERS

The modern means of converting A.C. to D.C. as a stable power supply for projection arc lamps.

Low original, operating and maintenance costs. Quiet operation.



Distributed through leading independent theatre supply dealers.

THE STRONG ELECTRIC CORP.
87 City Park Avenue
TOLEDO 2, OHIO

The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps





New theater beauty over old walls

● Exciting new beauty and smartness can come to your theater—quickly and at surprisingly low cost—with Nu-Wood!

Nu-Wood's rich, fadeproof colors, velvety texture and varied patterns make interiors sparkle—invite! What is more, Nu-Wood improves faulty acoustics—makes sound behave. Because Nu-Wood insulates, it helps keep theaters warm in wintertime—cool in the summertime—adding to patron comfort.

Nu-Wood is available now . . . is easily and quickly applied over all types of old walls and ceilings. Let us show you how Nu-Wood can restyle your theater for increased patron appeal—more business. Just mail the coupon.

Nu-Wood INSULATING INTERIOR FINISH

BALSAM-WOOL • Products of Weyerhaeuser • NU-WOOD

WOOD CONVERSION COMPANY
Dept. 134-4, First National Bank Building, St. Paul 1, Minnesota

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Gentlemen: Send me complete information about Nu-Wood for: ☐ New Construction ☐ Remodeling.

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CINE' CLINIC

PRACTICAL DISCUSSIONS ON MODERN PROJECTION AND SOUND PRACTICES

The Mysterious Criminology of the Cue-Makers

by **A. CONAN CONDUCTOR**

BEFORE taking up the next instalment in the baffling case of "Who done it?" may we print a little message from one of our boys overseas. It comes from Cpl. TOM J. MALONEY (remember our "Overseas Edition" recently), is postmarked "Germany, 3-11-45" and reads as follows:

"Just to acknowledge with thanks the airmailed tear sheets on my printed letter of request for information pertinent to post-war planning. You can rest assured that not only myself, but other individuals are waiting to see what sort of response it will arouse. We are very content with your handling and presentation of the subject and want to thank you and staff for your assistance and interest in our problem. To know that we have staunch supporters and men in our field still interested in us and our problems is a wonderful morale booster. Many thanks for the help. Such treatment makes BOXOFFICE and staff our lifetime friends."

You're most welcome, Tom!

* * *

Now my dear Dr. Watson, pass us the needle and we'll go back to work on the master thriller, "The Mysterious Case of the Cue-Markers" or "Who Punched a Hole in the Henhouse Door?" Admit one Proj. GENE Ross of Trinidad, Colorado, who contributes testimony as follows:

"I've just finished reading the mighty fine letters by Herb James and Ritz Miller in your March 3rd issue. Since the subjects involved were of general interest and seem to be matters of perennial argument, I'd like to submit a few observations I've made in the past years.

"In the matter of film damage, the exchanges blame the theatres, the theatres the exchanges, and sometimes both of them accuse the film carriers. I'm not sufficiently familiar with exchange practice to know just how they handle film, but it's logical to assume they do their share of the damage. It is only human to become careless at times, and then is when things get torn up. I've visited exchanges on several occasions and what I've seen leads me to believe that they are not nearly so careful as are most projectionists. Then, there are the film delivery companies, whose drivers sometimes are most considerate of the more or less fragile shipments they handle—but more often than not they are inclined to be just a little bit too rough.

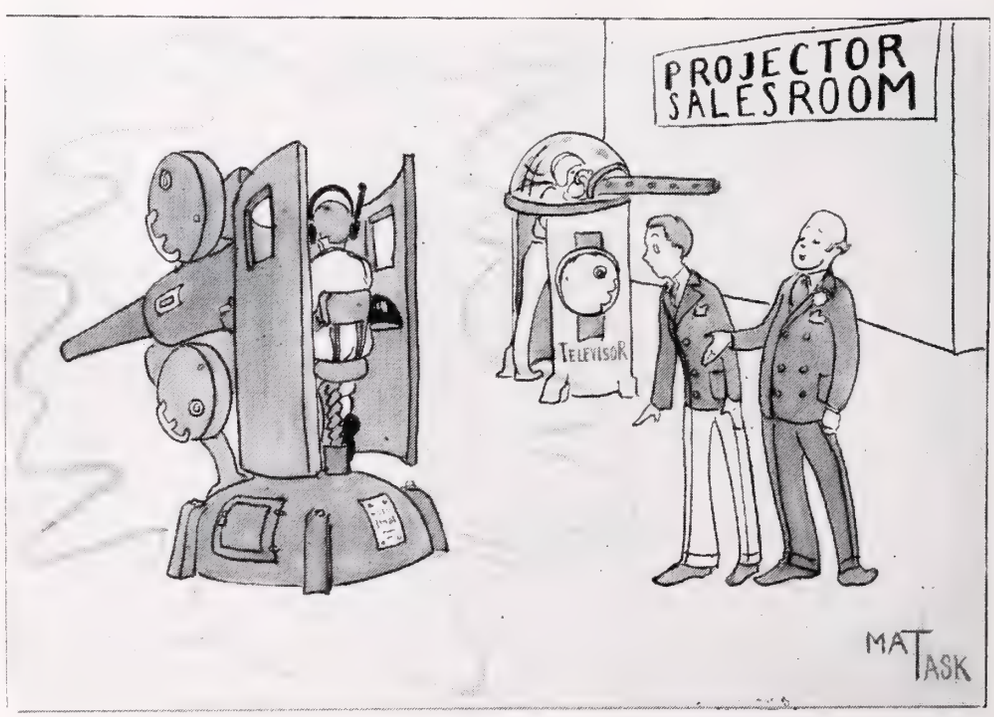
"The natural wear and tear on film in projection and handling in the projection room puts the projectionist in a position where he must shoulder his share of blame. So it seems to me that film damage can be pretty well shared three ways. But when it comes to film *mutilation*, a thing quite apart from 'damage,' there is one place and only one place to criticize—the projection rooms in charge of those careless, shoddy operators Herb James describes.

"We have in this territory someone (I wish I knew who) who punched every changeover with a punch about the diameter of a good-sized lead pencil. Naturally, when a print like this is received, the only thing to do is remove those marks and substitute cues of our own. Then there is another one who puts frame size 'V' marks starting about thirty or forty feet back from the standard cues—and worst of all it's done with a black grease pencil, which is just next to impossible to detect without actually screening the reel. But on the screen, oh, brother! it really shows up. Another guy scratches *his* cues on the left side, but not being content with obliterating the picture, does likewise with the sound track. Acts like these either reflect a lack of training, or selfish carelessness.

"Something should be done to put a stop to this wilful film mutilation; but a National License law won't do it. The exchanges could, though, by replacing film mutilated intentionally (and it's usually pretty obvious when it is intentional), and then charging the offending operator for the replacement and labor involved. Likewise, any print on circuit should be inspected and if such mutilation is found, reported at once to the exchange; repaired as best possible, and charged for. If some of these boys with the punches had to pay for their pranks in hard cash, we could soon see the end of it.

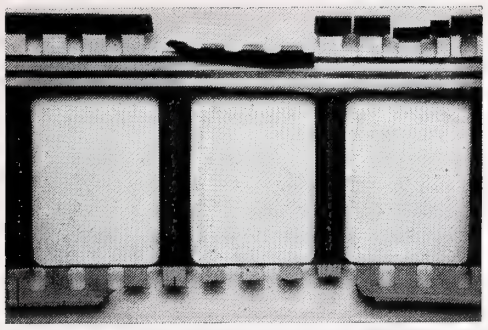
"A great deal of criticism has been leveled at managers paying wages below the level of common decency; but isn't it really the operators themselves at fault in most instances? If they are willing to accept

POSTWAR PROBABILITIES



EQUIPMENT DEALER TO PROSPECT: *"Now that you've seen the Skinflex Television Projector (with the translucent plastic blister turret top) I'd like to show you the new model Bazooka-Brengut Sound Projector, also designed especially for operation by projectionists who have returned from overseas. You see our factory really wants to make the boys feel at ease when they get back on the job again."*

WHO DOOD IT?



The corpus delicti, or remains, of a once presentable piece of picture film that has been foully dealt with in the course of its short career. Who's the culprit?

these wages, then the condition will continue. But there are mighty few theatres that will close up rather than pay a projectionist's salary. When the condition gets to where it will either be a good salary or a dark house, it will be a better salary. The primary purpose of the IATSE is to better the working conditions, of which an adequate salary is one, of all its members; but how can any labor organization be expected to do anything to help those who are not members, when they are really the ones who need it most; who persist in accepting low wages and generally poor conditions?

Within the jurisdiction of every IA local there exists, somewhere, just such a thing —and where no local has jurisdiction, conditions are deplorable. This is not intended to be a case for the IA, but is merely to point out that those who need help most do the least to get it. Then there is the small-town theatre—I mean a *real* small town, whose weekly gross is down around $150 or $200. How are they going to pay a living wage for an experienced projectionist? They aren't! They can't! And neither can they be driven out of business by some act of legislature. The best suggestion I've heard regarding situations like this, is to have the exchanges allocate prints to be shown in houses of this type only, and as the projectionist who suggested it said, give the good prints to those theatres getting a better admission price and paying for competent projectionists.

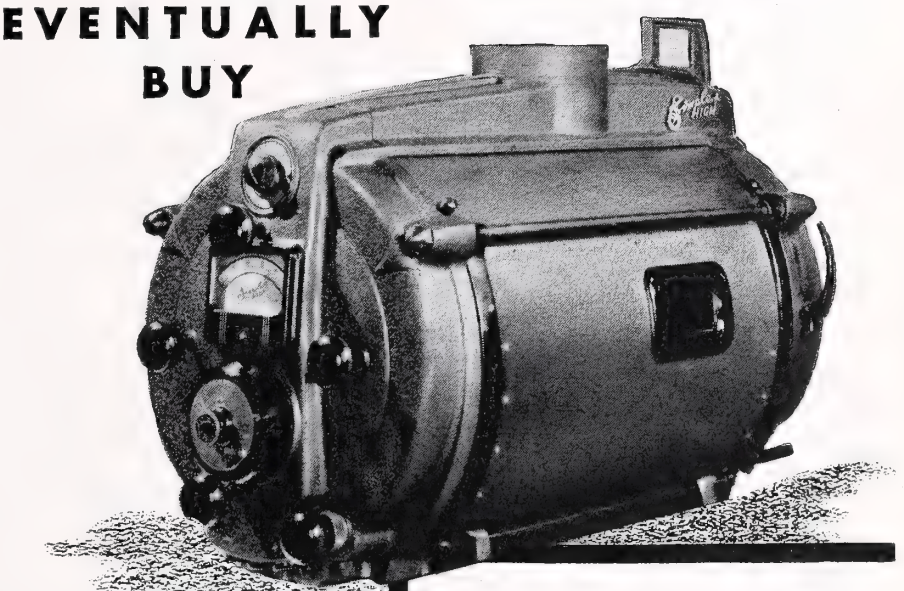
"The usual story of film mutilation as heard from the old-timers is that the 'kids' do it all. Here is a fallacy that should be exploded. It isn't necessarily the 'kids.' Some of the school boys are really careful, conscientious workmen, and some of the old-timers are the worst. One angle, which seems to be generally overlooked, is the projectionist's aptitude. If he is mentally receptive to the various technical details regarding projection he will be O. K. regardless of his years. Age alone cannot be a criterion of ability, as may be witnessed in a good many booths using 'old-timers.' As an example to the contrary, if we can judge Ritz Miller by his letter, here is a young fellow who would be a credit to almost any theatre. When something isn't right, he wants to know *'Why'*—a very important item, else how could these wrongs be corrected.

In my position, I handle quite a few applications for jobs, and quite a few requests for projectionists, and the one important thing I've noticed is that a man either is or isn't a qualified projectionist, regardless of age. If he is young, he is more likely to develop into one, because it is plain his greatest drawback is lack of practical experience. We can't, in fairness to ourselves, bar entirely the high school and college age boys from the booth, for if we did, where would we get the replacements we will inevitably need? Certainly we can't call upon older men who are established in other trades, and who we can offer little inducement other than vague promises. These men have families to support; they have their own ways of earning a living, and they most definitely will not sacrifice what they have on someone's off-the-record promise that *maybe* they can get a job—sometime!

"There are too many apprentices; there always have been, and not one in twenty stick it out. Here again we, the operators, are to blame by being indiscriminate in our choice of apprentices; in not choosing those who are qualified to go through with the necessary training and by placing too low value on our own work. Projection is more than a 'job'—it's a trade, closely bordering on a profession and should be treated as such. Any normal person should be able to 'run a show' in a couple of weeks' time, but it takes a lot longer than that to really be able to take charge of a projection room.

(Continued on following page)

THE LAMPS YOU'LL EVENTUALLY BUY



Simplex HIGH

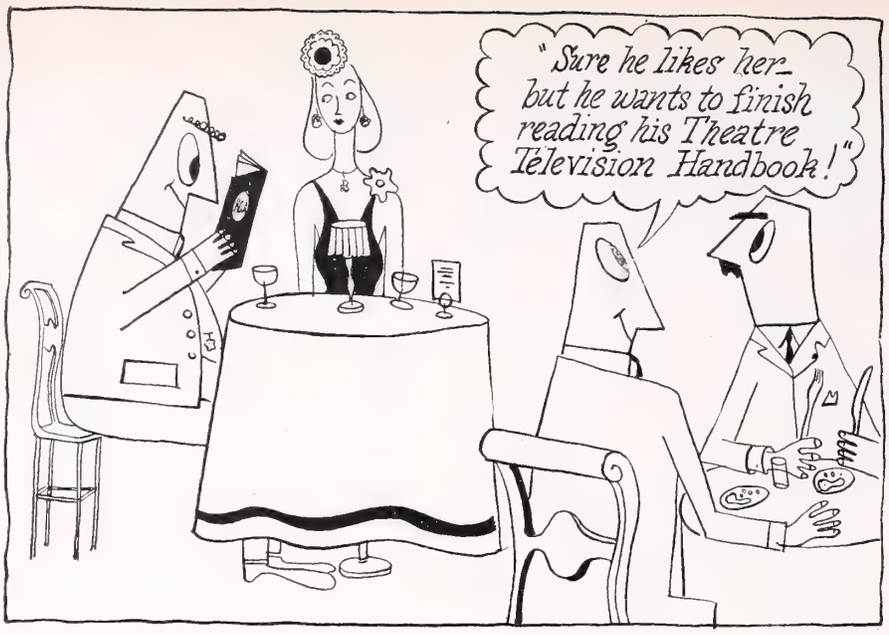
PROJECTION ARC LAMPS

Deliver the snow-white light essential to satisfactory projection of Technicolor pictures—double the light of the low intensity, at only slight increase in operating cost.

If you can qualify, we will help you apply for new equipment now.

"There's a Branch Near You"

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY
Division of National • Simplex • Bladworth, Inc.



THOUGH you may not neglect your best girl to read your copy of the RCA Theatre Television Handbook—you will be vitally interested in learning the what, how and why of theatre television from the booklet's timely articles and discussions.

The Handbook was designed for projectionists, but also contains news of television developments of interest to exhibitors and theatre managers—such as television reception and large-screen projection. There are chapters dealing with the commercial possibilities of television, handling of programs, audience response.

RCA'S television experience is backed by a quarter century in the field of electronics and includes television installations at the New York World's Fair in 1939, and demonstration large-screen television projection at the New Yorker Theatre in 1941. This new book is offered by the RCA Service Company as an aid to projectionists and exhibitors in preparing for the advent of theatre television.

Send for your free copy, today! Address: RCA Service Company, Inc., Box 70-177H, Camden, New Jersey.

RCA

RCA SERVICE COMPANY, INC.

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FREE! NEW BOOK ON THEATRE TELEVISION

Don't wait—get your copy of this informative book on Theatre Television right away. No obligation.

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Name.....

Theatre.....

Are you: Manager?.....Projectionist?.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

70-6436-177

The Mysterious Criminology of the Cue-Markers

(Continued from preceding page)

So we teach someone to 'run a show,' he goes out and gets a job somewhere, with all of a month or two training to back him up, and from then on it's up to him to try to learn more, the hard way, or to become one of the multitude of misfits.

"Since the motion picture industry is so vast, and consequently involves so many different personalities, there can be no one way to cure our ailments. Where something as widespread as film damage, mutilation and poor projection of movies is involved, we can not expect an easy road to success in effecting a remedy.

"About the only thing that can be done is to try to spread the principles of good projection; be more careful in our selection of apprentices; try to better wherever possible the salaries and working conditions in order to attract a higher type of man; and complain, complain, complain to the film companies about bad prints. The excuse that prints are bad because of the war and resulting shortage of help doesn't hold water. Prints are no worse, generally, now, than they were five years ago, or ten years ago, or any worse than they will be ten years in the future. We have always had bad prints, and film butchers and always will, until we get men in the booth who are 100% pschycologically suited and mentally fit for the work. It's a tough problem, isn't it? Yours for continued Cine' Clinic success—and why can't you have it weekly instead of only once a month?"

An excellent appraisal of the situation, Gene, with which we believe all members of the Clinic will generally agree.

* * *

Next, we hear from Proj. GRAY BARKER of the Pictureland Theatre in Glenville, West Virginia, whose remarks may throw further light on the guilt or innocence of all accused. Says he:

"I thought you might like to hear from one of the 'forgotten men' of the great field of motion picture projection, an operator in a town too small to afford new Motiographs, or a flash-bulb camera to take my picture with, in the booth. And a patronage too small to support more than one show per night throughout the week.

"I am one of those mythical operators who run shows just for the fun he gets out of trying to put on a 'classy' show in spite of insurmountable odds encountered in 'Gay Nineties' Power's projectors and prints that give one a nervous breakdown when

WALKER -PM- SCREENS

Quality

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY

Division of National • Simplex • Blumenthal, Inc.



COMING

WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS

one hears the splices go banging through the machines. I attend college in this small college town; am an assistant operator, as I said before, mainly for the fun I get out of it.

"Others have invoked 'nightmare' projectors; so I'd like to pass on an idea for such a contraption. Why not do away with an intermittent movement entirely, letting the film move in a steady stream from top bent reel to bottom bent reel? At the aperture why not have some kind of system of revolving prisms (someone else can figure out how to make them) that would synchronize with the movement of the film, throwing a steady picture on the screen. Then you could place a shutter in some handy position to take care of any momentary blur that might have to take place and allow for all the other unexplainable things we learn in physics classes.

"But if, after this discourse, manufacturers still persist in making conventional projectors, perhaps they can incorporate my spectacular invention No. 2, the 'Barker Automatic Framer.' Of course before we build one, all the distributors will have to agree to make all of one side of their film black with one little white area at a certain place. A tiny light shines through this white area onto a photoelectric cell, and while activated, the cell would cause a little gadget (someone can figure how to make this one, too) to hold the film in frame. The moment a Frankenstein splice throws the thing out of frame the photoelectric cell will miss its supply of light from the white area on each frame and start moving the film until the equilibrium is restored. Of course the system would have to be located somewhere in the area of the intermittent so that the white spot would remain steady, and the cell would have to have a sort of 'persistency in vision' while one spot moved on to the next one.

"I will also opine that the most film damage is caused by incompetent opera-

(Continued on following page)

LEADER IN THE PROJECTION FIELD!

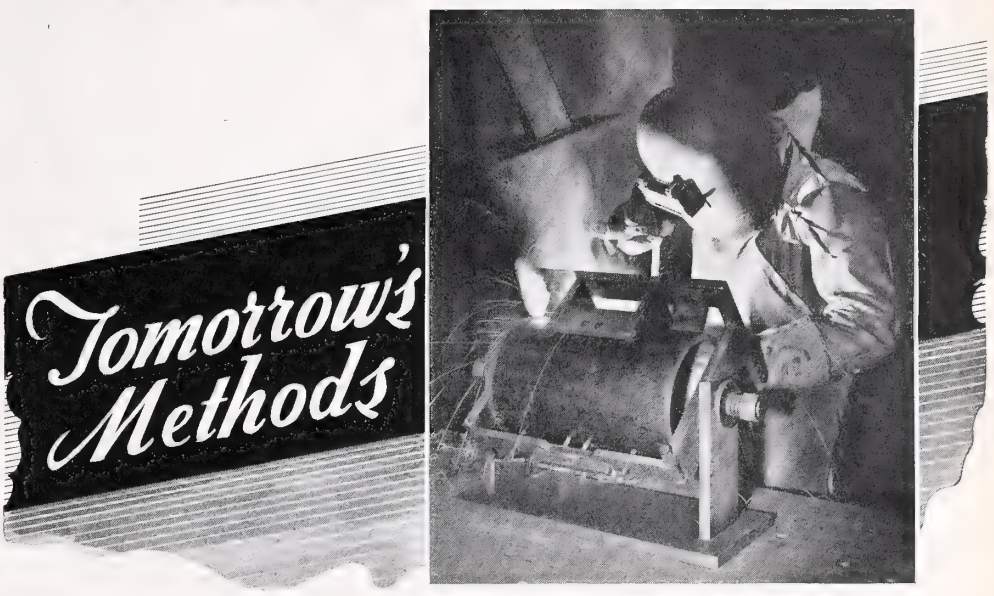


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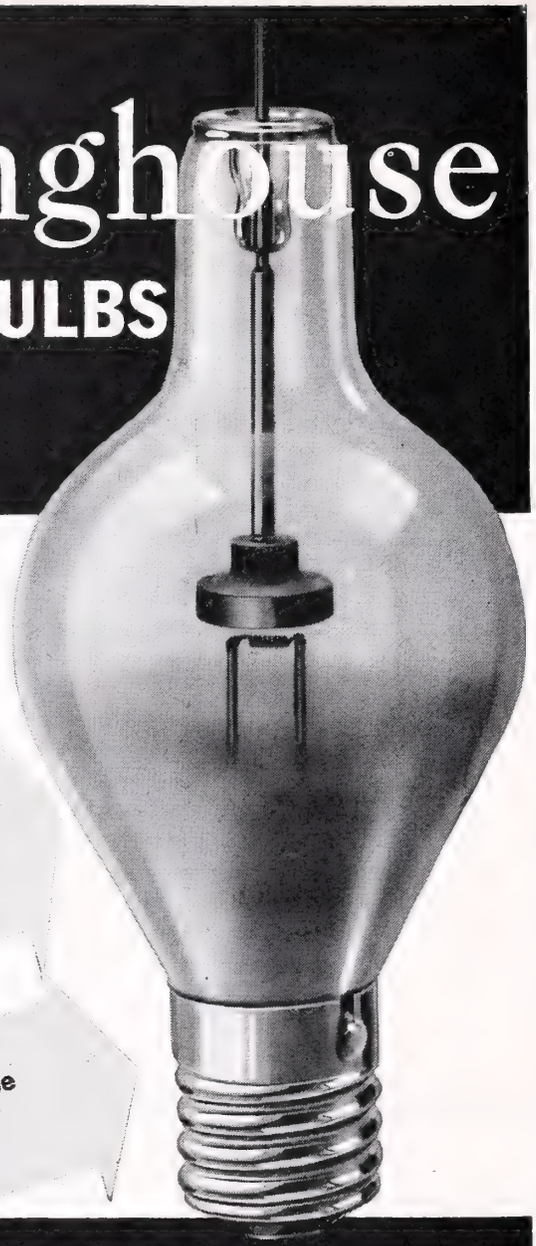
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The Mysterious Criminology of the Cue-Markers

(Continued from preceding page)

tors. Even the worst machine can be made safer for film if the operator knows something about his equipment. I have heard operators say they didn't know what the shutter was for; some of them I know don't know there is any such thing as an intermittent movement in their machines. One told me he could make the screen picture bigger or smaller by focusing the machine. Many of them don't know how to focus the picture for a clearer image. What makes my blood boil is to sit in an audience and watch 'The End' cut-off after the first note from the sound track, trademarks switched to after they fade-in, deafening volume or the opposite.

"I think what's wrong with most operators is that they were never really interested in running pictures. Of course I am not interested in taking it up as a trade (I do want to get into the movie business, however) but there was always an indefinable urge that made me morbidly 'crazy' to run a picture show. I learned more about running shows from watching them in the audience before I had ever been in a booth, than some operators know after six months' experience. I learned how to make splices, for example, by watching them on the screen.

"I am only nineteen, and although I admit I don't know enough about general mechanics of projectors to make a really competent operator and maintenance man, I don't think I am guilty of the sins quoted in your issues of former months, such as wilful film damage. However, by the time prints get to our theatre they are in such bad condition and cue-marked so atrociously that one is inclined to think, 'What the heck, I can't damage the film any more by putting on an extra warning cue mark. What does it matter if we do tear up an extra foot of film?'

"Leaders are so bad by the time even new pictures arrive here, that I am afraid to trust them to run through before a switchover. So I very carefully run each reel down to a certain position above the aperture and count after I see the first cue mark, then start motor and switch. Some of you operators will hurl brickbats this way instantly; but this system works fine for me. I hardly ever miss a cue, which is sure to happen if your leader is short and you use the regular system. Fade-outs and fade-ins I get perfectly this way. Of course I could take two hours and remake the leaders; but it is worth the time when a film is to be run only twice?

"I hope the faculty adviser of the College paper, of which I am editor, doesn't see



COMING

WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS

this mayhem of the King's English published, but I would get a big kick out of seeing it in The Modern Theatre section of my favorite magazine; the name of which starts with 'B'."

Good Gracious Gray! You're an editor all right. That concluding compliment did the business. How could we refuse?

* * *

Now comes Proj. JOHN F. FORD of the Shafer Theatre, Henry, Ill., (one of the Henry Fords) who intercepts with this:

"I have kept still just as long as possible. I must give my opinion on 'Who Done It?'

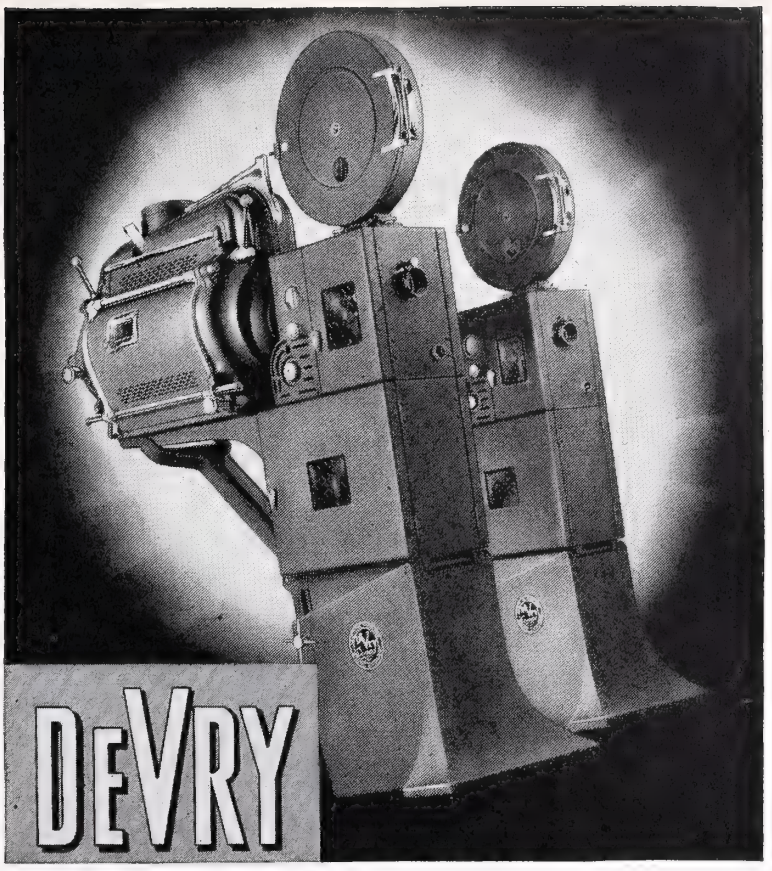
"All these operators of fifteen to thirty years' experience can say is, 'These young kids in the booth are doing it!' Well, I am nineteen years old and have been running picture machines since I was sixteen. Don't you guys remember that 28 years ago you too had only two or three years' experience? Don't forget, you haven't been running for 25 or 30 years since you first went into the booth for nothing. Sure you got all that experience; but don't forget you don't know it all either.

"To Proj. Herbert James, I would like to say this, 'How do you expect anyone to be skilled if they are not allowed to step a foot in the booth?' Come now, talk sense Herb, and how do you know those names in the can are not Chief Projectionists. It's really too bad you fellows think you're the only ones who can run a projector efficiently.

"As I've said above, I am not a projectionist of 25 or 30 years' standing, but I want to learn and am learning—and without damage to films. Maybe I can't stand up to Herbert James but I'll 'rassel' with him as to who puts on the best picture, an unskilled (as he calls it) or a skilled projectionist. And two-to-one it will be the unskilled.

"These kids are not doing all the damage. I'll bet if the truth were known, you fellows who are so 'sure' of yourselves are scratching and damaging more film than

(Continued on following page)



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BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU READ ABOUT IT IN The MODERN THEATRE section of BOXOFFICE

The Mysterious Criminology of the Cue-Markers

(Continued from preceding page)

anyone. I have been a few places myself, and find that these 'kids' take more pains and greater care in threading (making sure) than the fellows with 25 or 30 years behind them; who are so cock-sure.

"Well teen-agers, pay no attention to the 'big shots.' Just remember, 'Don't worry if you fall; a worm is the only living thing that can't take a tumble.' "

Attaboy, Jack! You got the gray-beards told a thing or two.

And further anent "cockeyed cueing" comes an epistle from Proj. W. R. NUSSBAUM of the Royal Theatre, Chillicothe, Ohio. Says he:

"I've never expressed by views on projection before, so here goes. My chief complaint is ruined cues on changeovers. Red marks, gummed paper, holes of all shapes, scratches abound. There is no valid reason for all this, when perfect cues are provided. When this array of signals shows up the audience is aware of it, and a perfect changeover without their knoweldge is impossible. Can't something be done about this situation?

"Then a certain film company sends out prints with the sound track on leader starting on opposite sides of film. Very disconcerting, I assure you. I do my best to handle film properly and our equipment, Brenkert Lamps, Simplex E-7s with Simplex Sound, are carefully maintained. Won't some of you brother projectionists exercise a little more care in handling prints in the cause of better projection? Comments from other projectionists are invited.

"Another complaint I wish to gripe about is exchange reels. The reel band says 'no rewinding after showing.' I shall continue to rewind on *last* showing as long as I get crooked, bent and broken reels. I'm for no rewinding; but I'll not take a chance on crooked reels in lower magazines. It could cause a stoppage of reel, ruin film, sound head or even cause a fire. So until I receive decent reels from the exchanges I'll rewind every reel, so help me; and anyway, the reason the exchange makes no rewind request is to save inspection from rewinding to inspect and repair film. This is not all, but is all for this writing."

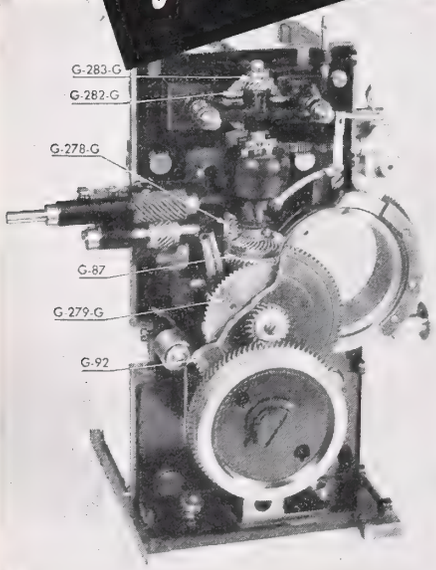
Nice writing as far as you went, W. R. Maybe you'll be back with more later, we hope. Be seein' youall again next issue. But remember—

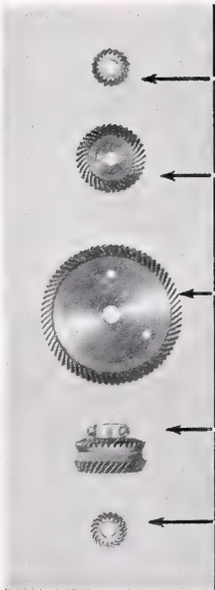
PROJECTIONISTS: The Cine Clinic Department is wide open to you for discussion of your present problems. Thru these columns you can either ASK advice or GIVE it. We'll gladly answer your questions or publish your suggestions for the good of all concerned and with comment and complimentary credit to you. Should you desire private information or advice, enclose stamps for reply. Address The MODERN THEATRE, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4, Ill.

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THE *Quiz* POT

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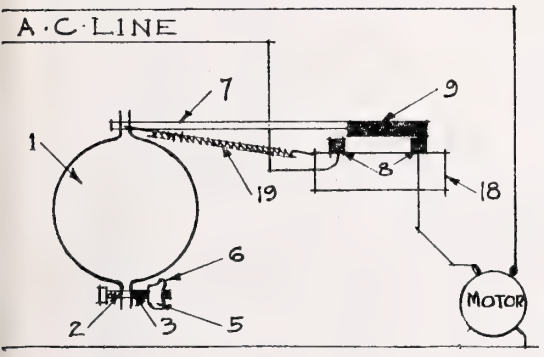
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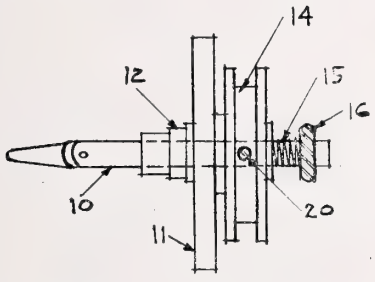
What Would You Do About It?

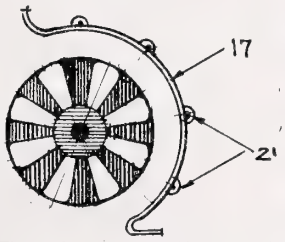
The irrepressible BILLY MOORE (no relation to Ansel) is with us again. A "billy doo" from him reads as follows:

"Here is another Kink that my pal, Proj. ROY H. CONNOR, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, sent me. It helped me and I know he won't mind if we put it in the Old Quiz Pot. Maybe it'll help other projectionists."

A schematic drawing of Proj. Connor's gadget and description of it in his own words is shown below.







Symbols: 1—Flat heavy tin that fits in groove of wooden wheel; 2—Spring; 3—Bolt; 4—Wing nut; 5—Adjustment screw; 6—Slide rod; 7—Contact points; 8—Carbon bar slide contact; 9—Spindle; 10—Rewind case; 11—Rewind hub; 12—Washer; 13—Wooden wheel grooved on face; 14—Spring; 15—Tap; 16—Tin strip acts as film guard; top end curled upward so film won't hit end; 17—Contact box; 18—Spring; 19—Set screw; 20—Ears on tin.

FILM END PROTECTION

"No 1 shows heavy tin that acts as a clutch around wooden wheel No. 14. At the bottom is a wing nut (No. 5) to set the amount of tension on the film. Now at the top of the heavy tin is a contact rod (No. 7) that goes into the slide contact box (No. 18) and the carbon contact bar (No. 19) moves over and contacts No. 8 to make and break the circuit to the motor. Spring No. 19 will put clutch back and contact rod will slide back off of contact and stop the motor.

"The wooden wheel (No. 14) should be turned out of hard material, 1½ inches thick, 8 inches in diameter with a groove ½ inch deep. The tin around the wheel (No. 17) will keep the end of the film from flopping flat on the rewind table. All of this is easy to make and won't cost over $2.00. But it will be worth a thousand to you in saving of steps as well as taking care of your leaders."

★ ★ ★

And here we have Proj. GUY G. BLACK, Plaza Theatre Bldg., Lyons, Nebraska, who says in connection with problems and solutions previously presented:

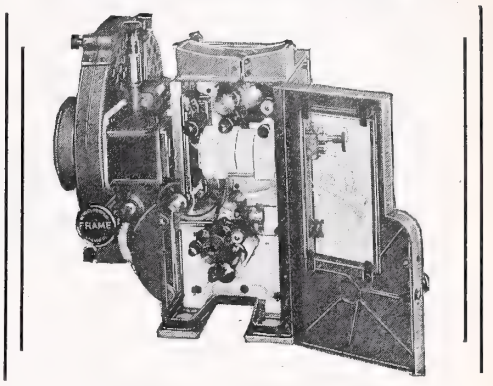
"After reading last edition of The Quiz Pot, am sure I can help a few of the fellows out on their suggestions. In the first place, I am sure Proj. R. H. CONNOR will find his split sprocket very unsatisfactory. If he has the idea in mind to build a sprocket to be removed by anyone, the most practical way would be to have the projector manufacturers mill all sprocket shafts square with a square hole in sprocket, and the shaft drilled in the end for thumbscrew tightening opposite the turning sprocket. By this means, any sprocket in the projector or sound head could be removed by simply removing thumbscrew and pulling off sprocket.

"For Proj. T. L. LAPPE: The Clint Phare Products Company of Cleveland, Ohio, have the only authorized film cue marker that will not damage film. Costs just a few dollars and was introduced in this section of Nebraska by myself. Most theatres have

(Continued on following page)

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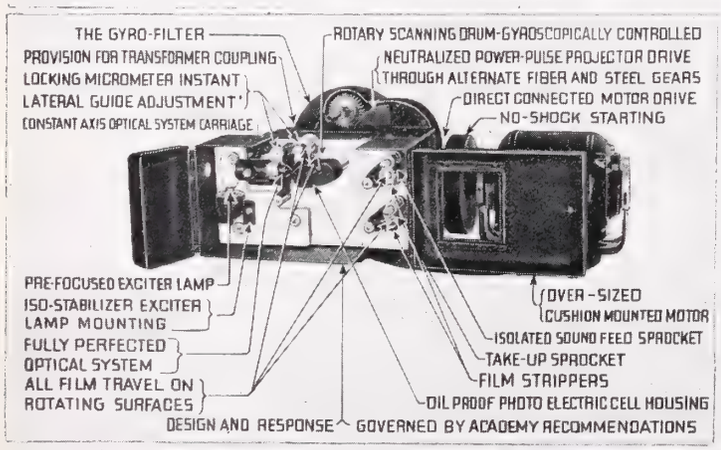
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ROYAL SOUND MASTER

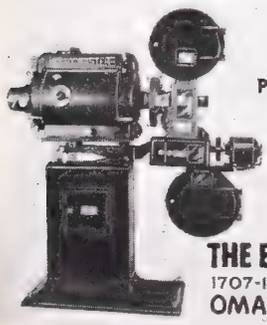
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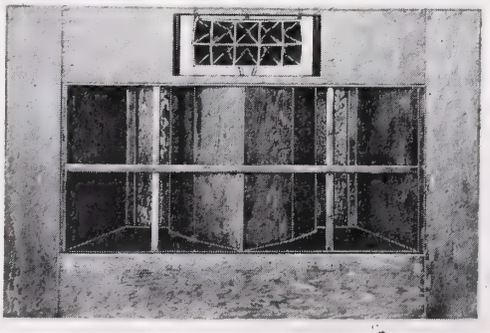


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What Would You Do About It?

(Continuation of The Quiz Pot)

now adapted it for use here. It is simple in construction, sturdy and very practical. In fact no homemade devices have ever compared with it.

"Mgr. MELVILLE DONNER: A device to automatically cut light and motor of projector was invented several years ago by a projectionist, I believe, in Denver. And if I recall it correctly, it was known as the Johnson Safety Valve. It has a small lever that rides the lower loop in projector. If film breaks it makes contact to switch box on front wall, which is equipped with an automatic device that throws the master switch to arc light and supplies to the motors.

"I have had the privilege of seeing, running and working with new Simplex, Motiographs and Brenkert projectors while in the armed forces. There is no need for the P-38 or "no-stoop" projector. These present projectors far surpass anything in the past and will be the most amazing, streamlined, practical machine ever known in the postwar era.

"One of the biggest factors we projectionists could hope for and may get after the war, is the elimination of the take-up belt, replaced by a flexible cable and gear housing. A little more costly, but by far more dependable.

One thought for the present. *Let's buy more of those bonds, fellows!* That's the best suggestion I can offer. I am a veteran of War No. 2, and my only wish is that I could have stayed in there with my company, in the Signal Corps."

Nice going, Guy! We know the rest of the gang will be glad to hear from you—and again more often.

* * *

Proj. BOBBY G. STEWART, Route No. 2, Center, Texas, sweetens The Pot with the following:

"I am a schoolboy, fifteen years of age; operator at the Rio Theatre in Center, Texas. While I was reading your issue of March 3rd, I found that I have an interesting answer to Mgr. Melville Donner's question about a device to cut off a projector and lamp the instant the film breaks. Here is my idea:

"Somewhere between the intermittent sprocket and the bottom magazine, not interfering with the sound system, place a clutch. An extra sprocket rider on the film, tho I am afraid, would have to be built in with the other equipment, such as is used on an automatic rewinder. Connect the clutch to the switch of your machine



COMING

WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS

and lamp. When the film breaks, the clutch trips and cuts the machine *and lamp* off.

"The one about heatless light is not possible. Heat comes with light; that is nature. In other words light cannot be made without heat. Mr. L. N. Stabbarger, the fellow who taught me to operate, once had an idea to place a pipe from the upper magazine to the lamp stack to release the pressure and fumes from the magazine when a fire occurs.

"Here's an answer that I want: Can't someone invent something to tell the projectionist when the lamp has gone out? Once in a while it catches him off guard. I enjoy reading The Quiz Pot, and I hope these few words will be of value to you."

Attaboy, Bobby! We welcome you as a new member of the Quiz Kids.

* * *

Proj. SID COFFEY of Winnipegosis, Manitoba (Can.), seasons the pottage with this:

"I like your Quiz Pot Kinks. Here is my latest discovery: After having a tough time for twenty-five years trying to write dates on slides with India ink, I tried writing with pen nib wrong side up and now the job is a pleasure. Try it."

Thanks, Sid. Anyone who can top yours for a simple kink is invited to come in and tell us—

What Would You Do About It?

Power Conservation Applies to Motors

The motor is a power user, hence it should be kept in good condition if power is to be conserved and costs are to be kept at a minimum. Equipment such as a fan for circulating conditioned air, a compressor supplying the refrigeration, oil burner or a water pump includes a motor for driving the unit. Air conditioning, therefore, may be as effective a place to conserve current as lighting.

To start and stop motors, follow operating instructions supplied at the time installation of the equipment was made. Keep motors well lubricated, oiling at regular intervals. Using a few drops each month is better than profuse oiling. Set up and follow an oiling schedule, oiling at least once a month. The schedule is advisable and is comparable to the thousand miles servicing required for automobiles.

Use a good grade of light mineral oil. For oiling pump motors and motors used under extreme temperature conditions, use the oil recommended by the factory according to instructions given at time of installation. And keep motors clean. Keep brushes adjusted so that sparking will not occur to cause undue wear and deterioration.

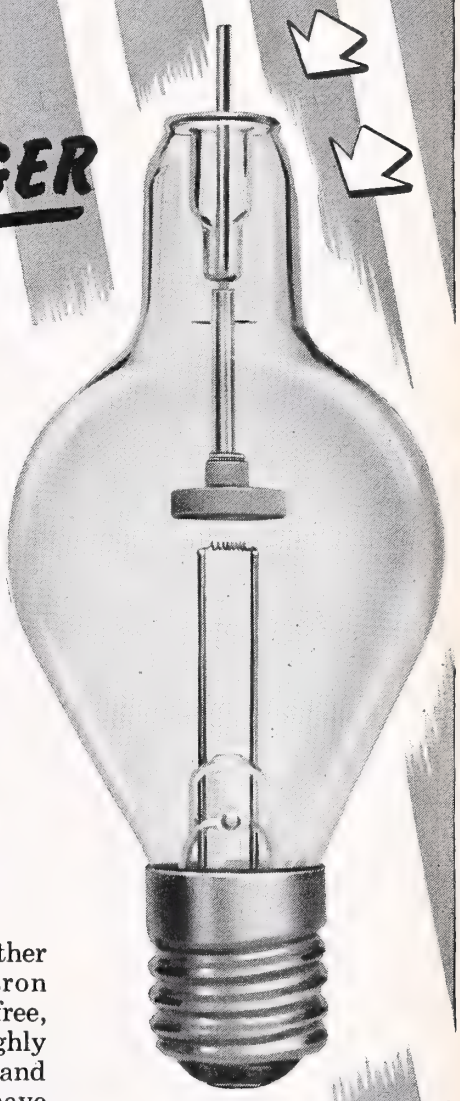
If the motor fails to run when turned on or makes unusual sounds in operation, call an expert service engineer. If motors need removing for repairs, do not clip the wires. Unsolder them, as the cut leads may increase the repair cost. When a motor has rubber mountings to lessen vibrations, these mountings must be kept clean. Oil weakens and destroys rubber, and due to the scarcity of rubber, extra precautions to preserve it should be taken.

NOW!

GET BETTER - LONGER SERVICE

from your RECTIFIER BULBS by using this improved

Long-Life CETRON RECTIFIER BULB



• With the shortage of help . . . with other troubles galore to annoy you, Cetron Rectifier bulbs will give you care-free, dependable service you will thoroughly appreciate. Late scientific research and improved manufacturing methods have enabled us to improve the quality of Cetron Rectifiers . . . a fact you can demonstrate to your complete satisfaction by putting this new product into service.

• We invite you to write today for free literature describing this new bulb . . . giving you the technical information that will explain its superiority.

CONTINENTAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
GENEVA, ILL.

CHICAGO OFFICE: 903 Merchandise Mart • NEW YORK OFFICE: 265 W. 14th St.

New Single Test Unit for Sound Systems

A new Audio Chanalyst, which in a single unit is capable of checking theatre sound equipment for operational breakdowns at any point from photo-cell to speaker, has been announced by the RCA Victor Division of R.C.A. Though designed primarily to simplify and speed up trouble-shooting inspection of theatre systems, it is said to provide a compact, multiple-duty testing unit that can be used on all types of sound systems.

Composed of several self-contained testing sections or channels, the new Audio Chanalyst can also serve in emergencies as a bridging unit to substitute for the defective section of an inoperative amplifier. It includes a calibrated high gain amplifier for signal tracing, tube checking and gain measurements. It also supplies its own test signal from a built-in beat frequency oscillator for checking multiple speaker operations. The famous VoltOhmyst is included as a channel and modified for flat, linear measurement of audio frequencies. An impedence tester and a high-speed electronic indicator add to the unique testing facilities of the Audio Chanalyst.

The equipment combines in one instrument those facilities for testing operational faults previously available only from three or more separate quipments.

* * * * FINAL

For the fourth time in less than two years, the Heywood-Wakefield Company's Gardner, Mass., plant has been awarded the Army-Navy "E" production award, according to a letter received by President Richard N. Greenwood last month. The official notification signed by Robert P. Patterson, Under-Secretary of War, lauded the company's willingness to devote almost its entire productive effort to the home front battle for production.

This newest honor permits the company to add a third star to the Army-Navy "E" burgee. "This third White Star," the Under-Secretary went on to say, "carries with it the thanks and congrautlations of our armed forces. By maintaining the distinguished record which previously brought you distinction, you are once again proving your leadership on the production front."

The Gardner H-W plant is engaged in the production of dummy cartridges, ship fenders, 20-mm shells, and ready-room chairs for the navy; 75-mm shell containers, shell fuses, bomb-nose fuses, truck bodies and confidential radar equipment for the army; and wave guides and bomb-sight control boxes for the B-17, B-24, and B-29 (Superfortresses) under Army Air Forces contract.



For Longer Projection Distances
Another GoldE advancement in stereopticon design! This modern, trouble-free Stereopton withstands constant operation—heat absorption filter gives slides added protection from heat damage. Precision optical system uses the finest ground and polished lens (choice of 3) . . . assures perfect clarity of image. Shows standard 3¼" x 4" slides. Compact—conveniently portable.

Available on proper priority ratings through Theatre Supply Dealers

GoldE Manufacturing Co.
Dept. A., 1220 West Madison St., Chicago 7

Your Patrons' Comfort Means More Business to You!

BRAND NEW BLOWERS

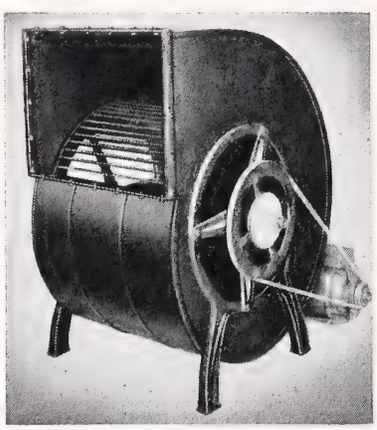
ORDER NOW in time for summer's cooling.
Direct from Factory — 6 to 8 weeks delivery.

AT 1942 CEILING PRICES—Brand new blowers. Replace your wornout, obsolete or broken-down equipment. Pre-war heavy gauge steel. Complete with drives. Cool and ventilate your theatre with 100% fresh air every 2½ to 3 minutes, when proper size is installed.

CFM output	with rebuilt *motor	apprx. shpg. weight
5,500	$106.50	300
8,500	143.50	375
11,000	190.75	425
13,500	230.00	500
22,500	290.00	575
27,500	342.00	700

*All motors in perfect working condition, guaranteed 1 year.

Ceiling price allowed if no motor wanted.



Standard discharge is bottom horizontal

Write for Special Air Conditioning Folder.

MAT TYPE AIR WASHERS, also available from $115.00
To avoid unnecessary delay, mark your order "AA5 MRO CMP 5" and send it NOW. Theatres may issue this priority for maintenance, repair or operation. 50% deposit required. Specify freight or express.

S. O. S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP.
449 WEST 42nd STREET LOngacre 3-4040 NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

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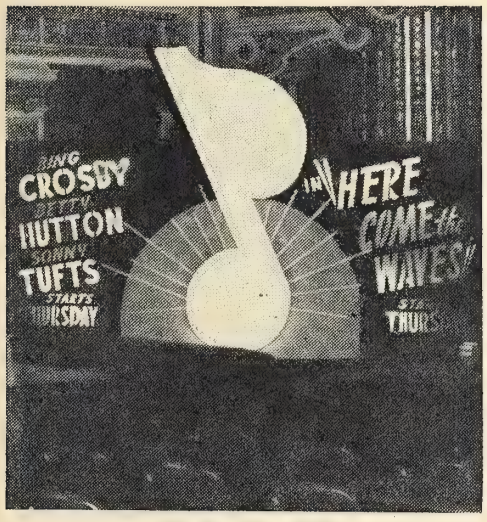
SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING



IN THE BOX—Charles Pincus of the Utah in Salt Lake City took advantage of the boxes, mostly a useless ornament, for display purposes in the fashion seen above.

Eddie Rabb Quiets His Jiving Juniors

When Edward J. "Eddie" Rabb acquired the Highland and Liberty theatres in Akron, Ohio, last January 1, he found the youngsters, having no other place to go, had been whooping it up in the theatres to the annoyance of many older patrons and the grief of the managers.

Rabb was a newcomer to the theatre business, so perhaps was not too much affected by the notion that exhibitors always will have kid troublemakers with them. At any rate he has taken steps correcting the situation. As the Akron Beacon Journal recently related in its own Crier column:

"The jiving juniors of Highland Square are going to get a place, at long last, where they can make youthful noises and have fun without disturbing the elder gentry. This place is to be a junior Jayteen, sponsored by Edward J. Rabb . . . It will be located in the basement of the Allen dry cleaners shop on the square.

"If all goes well the jiving juniors will have a soda bar, a game room, dancing, ping-pong and all like that. Manager Dan Gooding of the Highland says it will open as quickly as they nail the thing together.

"The juniors have been whooping it up in the theatre. Now they're rushing to join the club—proving that all they needed, or wanted, was a break."

Since then Rabb reports to Selling Seats, the Jayteen Club has gotten off to a good start. Starting out with approximately 21 boys, it now numbers 58. He is sponsoring two baseball teams, which have entered the city YMCA league, having outfitted them with uniforms and equipment.

Meetings are held at the theatre.

New Film Poses Promotional Problem—

Maryland "Gray" Selling Stresses Weird, Occult

Closely watching the boxoffice percentages during the showing of "A Picture of Dorian Gray" at the Maryland Theatre in Cumberland, Md., next week will be showmen in the mid-Atlantic coast area, particularly circuit executives and exchange exploiteers.

The Oscar Wilde story itself is a fascinating psychological drama, and reviewers have agreed the film does a good job of presenting the story, despite the narrower limits prescribed for the screen as compared to the novel in relating things unmoral, but it presents unusual exploitation problems.

Opens on May 3

The picture was to open at the Maryland Thursday (3) following a campaign conducted by Carl B. Sherred, manager, and Tom Baldridge, M-G-M exploiteer out of Washington "as a feeler," as Sherred says in a report to Selling Seats.

All advertising, displays and ballies were designed to accentuate the sensational and the occult content of the story, with, of course, full publicity on the Wilde book to catch the "class" trade.

The campaign started three weeks in advance with a 24-sheet cutout in the lobby, to be moved to a downtown billboard for current.

The principal lobby display, one week in advance, consists of a black cat in a gilded cage on which is a shipping tag with this copy: "Hold Until Arrival of Dorian Gray." A card at the base of the cage reads: "THE BLACK CAT . . . Whose Sinister Spell Caused the Unbelievable Love of This Romantic Pair, etc."

In addition two six-foot black cat cutouts were prepared for inside lobby two weeks in advance and on marquee current.

Besides there were two 40x60s, three 30x40s, five 22x28s and two NSS standees in the lobby.

Advertise for Gray Picture

In the Lost and Found section of the want ad pages, this was run: "LOST—'The Picture of Dorian Gray'! . . . Liberal reward offered. Communicate to PO Box 873." Small teaser ads also were used reading, "LOST—'The Picture of Dorian Gray.' Double reward. Return at once to 37 N. Mechanic St. Phone 26."

Regular display ads in the newspaper were of the sensational type.

Circulars emphasizing the sensational were mailed to 1,570 rural boxholders.

An eight-foot book replica was used in the lobby in advance and on the street current.

Fifty Dorian Gray film books were distributed at newsstands, doctors' offices and beauty parlors.

Art Groups Form Main Objective In "Gray" Campaign at Hartford

HARTFORD—A horse-drawn cab with bannered copy reading, "I'm on My Way to Loew's Poli to See Dorian Gray," was driven down the main stem to publicize "A Picture of Dorian Gray" at the Poli. Especially prepared pamphlets on the film were distributed in offices, beauty parlors, and different insurance clubs, of which Hartford has many.

Manager Lou Cohen placed an accent on the art angle of the picture, has tied up with art galleries, art stores, and local art schools on the works and copy of the Albright twins. For lobby display he made up a 40x60 from copies of Life magazine (3/27/45) which carried an art section on the work of the Albright twins. Counter and window displays in all main stem book stores and department stores were arranged.

Chopin's 24th prelude, which takes a notable part in the film, was the basis of extra exploitation in music and department stores.

All magazine stands and news trucks in this area were bannered: "Now It Comes to the Screen! . . . The Long Awaited Dorian Gray! Loew's Poli Theatre (playdate, etc.)" Book reviewers in the two local newspapers made special mention of the book and picture in their columns and feature angles on Oscar Wilde's books were played up.

Eight-Column Page 1 Banner on Film

Related in a previous issue of Selling Seats was the excellent success of Johnnie Hynes, manager of the Community Theatre in Conde, S. D., in obtaining cooperation from his local newspaper.

On our desk here is a high point, an acme of theatre-newspaper cooperation, kindly forwarded by Hynes. It is a copy of the Conde News in which a roadshow opening of "Wilson" at the Community is given an eight-column banner with a three-column drop on page 1.

Hynes reports the banner story was the climax of a six-week campaign on the picture, which broke "all-time records" at the Community.

55,000 School Children Hear Spaeth Recordings in Advance of "Song"

Playing of the Sigmund Spaeth recordings of Chopin music to some 55,000 children in the public schools, personal solicitation by letter to all members of the Kansas City Music Clubs and one of the most attractive theatre displays ever to be seen in the local Sunday Star distinguished the campaign put on for "A Song to Remember" by Russ Bovim, manager of the Kansas City Midland, and Henry G. Morris, southwestern exploitation manager for Columbia.

The film opened Thursday (26).

Ten sets of 15-minute Spaeth recordings were supplied to the schools through Dr. Mabelle Glenn, director of music. Her following letter to Morris describes the success of this:

> It is a great pleasure to have the records which Dr. Sigmund Spaeth made in connection with the Chopin picture. My music teachers have given full endorsement of this as a stimulant to Chopin music and your fine cooperation in helping us in getting acquainted with the musical background of the picture, "A Song to Remember" is very much appreciated. I wish this type of work could be given us for more pictures because the background of music means much to our students.
>
> It is hard to tell how many students will hear these records this week but they are being played in every high school this morning and the high school teachers are instructed to pass them on to the grade schools in their districts, so, before the week is over thousands of children will hear these records.

Doc Hartley, amusement editor of the Star, was so impressed at a screening of the film that he ran a half-page layout on the Sunday theatre page with art of Cornel Wilde and Merle Oberon in the fancy pants of Chopin's era and of Paul Muni and his bifocals. The copy listed the Chopin melodies played by Iturbi in the film.

A tieup with RCA-Victor resulted in 15 record shop window displays using material from the picture and the Iturbi Record Album consisting of the Chopin music played in the film. Ten thousand postal cards were distributed to Victor dealers for mailing to their own mailing lists of record buyers.

Letters calling attention to the fine music in the film were mailed by Bovim to all members of the Music clubs when Carl Ferris, president, turned over a complete membership list.

The city's leading women's wear store devoted seven windows to "Dress to Remember," "Hat to Remember," etc., displays and arranged ads devoted to the film and fashions.

Newsweek Brochure Plugs Warners' "Springfield"

Newsweek has issued a four-page brochure promoting Warners' "It Happened in Springfield," two-reel special devoted to describing the Springfield Plan for fostering the highest democratic ideals. The cover of the folder contains a miniature reproduction of Newsweek's front page. A scene from the film is shown.

This is the first time a short subject has received such extensive promotion by Newsweek. The stunt was arranged by the publication's education bureau aided by Warners' educational bureau.

Several thousand copies of the brochure measuring 3¾ in. by 5¼ in. will be sent by Newsweek and Warners to their respective mailing lists. Included in these lists are schools, colleges, libraries, educational, religious and civic groups and leading citizens. The film company's theatre and sales executives in the field will also receive copies.





LATIN BEAUTY IN THE LOBBY—Above: The padre of our Lady of Guadelupe Church in Kansas City helped provide this array of Latin beauty and music in the lobby of the Orpheum Theatre there on the opening night of "The Three Caballeros."

Left: The photo shows a group cutting a special transcription used in the "Caballeros" campaign. Walt Disney is a Kansas City boy who started his cartoon work there. In the photo, left to right, are Senor Gonzalo Obregon, Mexican consul; A. V. Cauger, who gave Disney his first job in a film plant; Alma Nash, aunt of Clarence Nash, the voice of Donald Duck; Daisy Beck, Walt's teacher; Gil Canfield, RKO field man, and George Stump, the announcer. Another disc was cut in Hollywood to follow the Kansas City transcription.

Singing Society Aids "Marietta" Return

WATERBURY, CONN.—Motion picture preference polls are unanimous in showing theatregoers prefer a good old picture to a new mediocre one hot out of the film cans.

Paul O. Klinger of the Strand here booked the reissue, "Naughty Marietta," and made it a happy event for local theatregoers and his boxoffice.

His promotion was thorough, but not exceptional. He arranged for the Mattatuck Musical Society to announce the musical in its monthly bulletin and later (just a few days before the opening) at its monthly meeting.

Dramatizing the appearance in local minds more than anything else, perhaps, was an appearance of the chorus and orchestra of the Singing Society of Waterbury on the stage for a 20-minute prologue to the film on opening night. The society featured Victor Herbert Melodies.

Klinger also borrowed a 60x80 shadow box display prepared for a prior run of the film at the Poli in nearby Hartford and erected it one week in advance.

Other details:

Muslin banner strips carrying lines on the title, cast, catchline copy and play dates were attached to the risers on the steps leading from the lobby to the mezzanine.

Two hundred jumbo window cards were set up in choice locations and on bulletin boards of music study clubs and musical societies.

Special menus were supplied to eating places with this copy: "The perfect answer to 'What Shall We Do Tonight?' . . . Thrill again to Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy singing beautiful melodies of Victor Herbert's 'Naughty Marietta' at the Strand . . . (starting times)."

Jeanette MacDonald cut used in plug planted in a local beauty salon 45-inch Co-Op ad that appears weekly in the Waterbury Democrat.

Riding Schools Postered In "Velvet" Campaign

Spring weather and horseback riding was getting under way when Sam Shubouf of the College at New Haven prepared for the run of "National Velvet." So Shubouf obtained some large posters on "Velvet," a horse film, and tacked them on barns, posts and advantageous spots on the grounds of riding academies in and around New Haven.

In addition, he enlivened the recreation period horseshoe pitching at one of the war plants at New Haven by arranging a contest and giving passes to the winners.

Three thousand menu sheets were fittingly imprinted and distributed to selected restaurants. Book displays were arranged in Kresge's and a department store. The Mickey Rooney sundae idea was used to good advantage at Kresge's lunch counter.

Gong on Radio, Lobby Bells Aid "Bell" in Des Moines

DES MOINES—A Mutual advertising stunt between Tri-States and the KSO radio station here was arranged for the showing of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Paramount Theatre.

A week in advance, and during the run of the film, KSO sounded a gong at several times during the day and then gave the correct time, with the slogan "for whom the bell tolls."

A lobby display in the Paramount exhibited the bells used for time signals at the radio station, and carried an ad for KSO.

Ads on Recent Releases



THEATRE OFFICE PRODUCT—We don't know whether E. R. Brennan of the Bay, Green Bay, Wis., is an amateur artist, but if he is his above 4x11 local appeal ad represented only a minimum cost. The Sherlock Holmes figure is a stock mat available in most all newspaper offices and the lettering is the only art work necessary. Cuts of local men probably came from the daily's file.



STRESSES ACTION—Bill Hoyle of Lichtman's Theatres, Washington, drafted this original ad in which action is sold and the romance angle is soft-pedaled. It was 5x17.



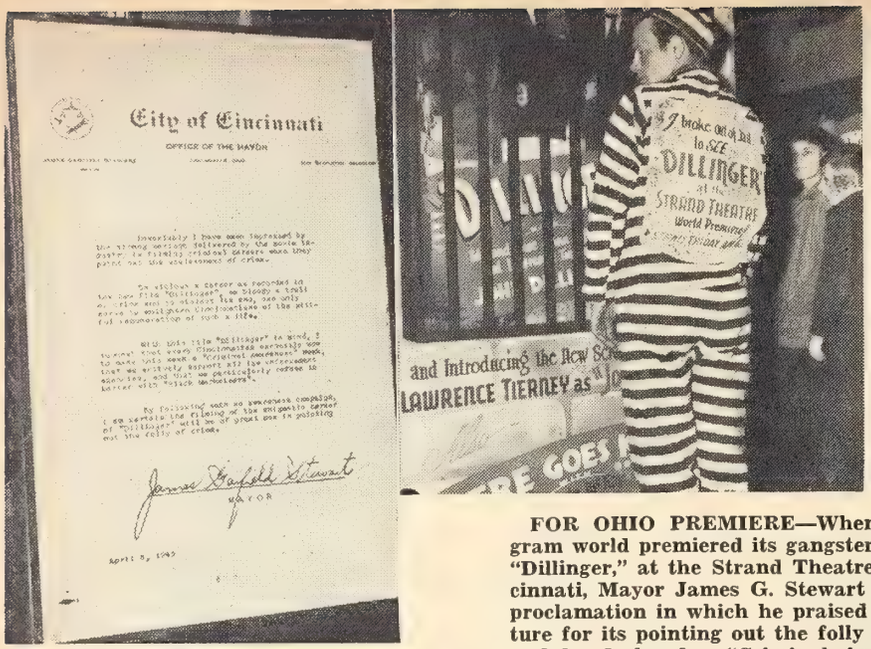
GROUP AD ARRANGEMENT—Interstate Theatres ran this quarter page layout as a Sunday splurge for its 11 theatres in San Antonio. Note the excellent emphasis given the first runs, but all names stand out.



BRITISH PRODUCT—The upper part of this 2x5½ ad used at Vancouver, B. C., is an example of advertising that can be expected on the British product which is coming out in greater numbers.



DETROIT STYLE—Strong illustration plus strong captioning mark this 3x10 from Detroit and is typical of the theatre advertising there.



FOR OHIO PREMIERE—When Monogram world premiered its gangster picture, "Dillinger," at the Strand Theatre in Cincinnati, Mayor James G. Stewart issued a proclamation in which he praised the picture for its pointing out the folly of crime and he declared a "Criminal Awareness" week. A blowup of the proclamation was used on a lobby easel. Above: A man wearing prison clothes walked the streets of the city with a sign on his back reading, "I broke out of jail to see 'Dillinger.'"

Inexpensive Buildup For College 'Tonight'

Sam Shubouf, manager of the College at New Haven, carried out a series of well-chosen activities to spread the word around that college town of his showing of "Tonight and Every Night." None were expensive and in the main were those found tried and true the year around.

On the streets he placed a young man in high silk hat and formal clothes carrying a beautifully dressed mannequin. A card hung on his back reading, "We have a date 'Tonight and Every Night' to see Rita Hayworth in her latest Technicolor picture now, etc."

"You Got a Date 'Tonight and Every Night,' etc." read cards inserted under the windshield wipers of parked cars.

Song hits from the picture were broadcast over the theatre public address system to the front of the boxoffice where a special sign and still was prepared, and the songs also were broadcast over WHNC with picture plugs.

An "extra special" was a 30x40 mounted with pinups of Rita and erected at the telephone exchange downtown, reading, "Tonight and Every Night . . . Limit Your Calls to Five Minutes . . . And Then Go, etc."

Max Factor windows were obtained in two stores, and Jergens lotion displays in one.

Red Cross Poster Contest Launches Fund Drive

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.—A Red Cross poster contest sponsored by Michael Stranger, manager of Loew's State paid off in quickened public interest in the drive and good coverage in the local papers. From the stage Mayor Chauncey Fish launched an appeal for Red Cross funds and introduced the three poster winners of the contest, conducted through the White Plains schools. The three winners were presented with full books of war stamps promoted from merchants.

A picture of the mayor and the winners taken in front of the lobby display appeared in the White Plains paper.

Through a telephone campaign eight Red Cross delegates brought about 8,000 extra-word-of-mouth plugs for "Meet Me in St. Louis," Stranger estimated. Interest shown by Red Cross workers in Margaret O'Brien, academy award winner, through their phone calls to him, prompted the State manager to enlist their help in promotion.

Civic Organizations Aid "Caballeros" Campaign

HOUSTON, TEX.—Jack Jackson of the Interstate circuit put on an elaborate exploitation campaign for the Metropolitan Theatre's presentation of "The Three Caballeros" that invoked valuable assistance from civic bodies.

A special screening at the Crippled Children's Hospital was arranged under the sponsorship of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, with newspaper coverage handled by that body. A color contest for children with war bond prizes was also a feature.

Through Mabel Cassell, director of curricular activities, a general announcement and endorsement of the picture in all public schools was arranged. This included bulletin board posters as well.

Foley Bros. and Pillot bookstores gave large counter and window displays. Leading orchestras were induced to plug song hits from the picture, including "You Belong to My Heart" and "The Three Caballeros." Two of the foremost dance studios, the Abel School of Dancing and the Laura Dorman Studio, gave the picture added publicity by sponsoring the social version of the "Samba Jonga," featured in the film.

In addition to wide newspaper coverage, comprising pictures and stories, ten 24-sheet posters were spotted. Station KTHT of the Mutual network put on the air gratis both the 5- and 15-minute transcribed shows, together with gratis plugs over KPRC, NBC outlet.

Crime Quiz Transcript Helps Sell "Window"

MANITOWOC, WIS.—A 20-minute courtesy broadcast promoted by Manager Bob Guiterman of the Capitol Theatre helped further to increase business of "The Woman in the Window." Guiterman arranged a preview screening for local police and civic officials, then stopped picture for ten minutes before its surprise climax, and made a transcription of the crime expert's remarks.

Transcription was played on leading station four times daily before opening of the RKO thriller, creating considerable interest in the film. None of the experts, incidentally, guessed the solution.

M-G-M Launches New Promotion Service

NEW YORK—"M-G-M's Photos of the Month," a new exhibitor promotion service featuring photographs of outstanding exploitation stunts of the month will be inaugurated by the company's exploitation department May 1. This new promotional service will be issued only to exhibitors, circuit executives and theatre advertising, publicity and exploitation directors.

"Photos of the Month" will feature the ten best "shots" of exploitation stunts, displays, lobbies, theatre fronts, street ballyhoos and other promotional tieups received each month by Metro's home office exploitation department.

In selecting winners special consideration will be given to small town exhibitors who have limited exploitation resources. The individual who secures the highest number of citations in one year will receive a special annual award. Exhibitors whose stunts are selected each month for inclusion in the brochure will get a parchment honor certificate.

The new service, conceived by Exploitation Director William R. Ferguson, is intended to call attention to successful promotions which can be adapted by other exhibitors. Other exhibitor services provided by Metro's exploitation department include the bi-weekly Exploitation News, M-G-M Honor Roll award campaigns, small town exploitation section in the press books and the Showbuilder.

Ray Monzingo Is Named Liberal 'Man of the Year'

LIBERAL, KANS.—Ray Monzingo, manager of the Fox Midwest Tucker and Plaza theatres here, has been presented the Distinguished Service award by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in recognition of outstanding community service during the past year.

In the presentation of the award it was cited that Monzingo, in the five years he has resided in Liberal, has been identified with every move for the improvement of his town, as well as being in the forefront of all war activities such as the Red Cross, the polio campaign and the scrap, bond and paper drives.

Monzingo is now serving as state vice-president of the Kansas Junior Chamber of Commerce. He is past president of the local junior chamber, a member of the Lions Club and a first lieutenant in the volunteer fire department, an auxiliary which was formed to support the regular fire department in wartimes.

Wounded Boys Feted, And See "Seeing You"

BOSTON—A two-day reunion here with their wives or mothers, all expenses paid, was arranged for six service men, one from each of the New England states, who are patients at the naval hospital at Chelsea.

The climax of their stay was attendance at the opening of "I'll Be Seeing You" at Loew's State and Orpheum. Charles Kurtzman, Loew's Theatres division manager; Joe DiPesa and George Kraska, Loew's, and Phil Engel, United Artists publicist, arranged and carried out the activity.

The governor and mayor welcomed the boys and their "sweethearts," they were interviewed on the radio and by columnists, all of which, of course, obtained a steady stream of copy in the newspapers. Hearst papers assigned a reporter to the story and carried a story and photo daily for five days.

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ❶ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⊛ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606 22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-609	MARCH RELEASES: 9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven 16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale 30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604	22 (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown 30 (..) Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS Harry Carey Paul Kelly Ducky Louie 6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612 20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	BLOCK 3—1944-45: (99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591 (62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591 (158) Drama 4413 ⊛FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454 (90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592 (64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592 BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⊛BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603 (81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608 (100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608 (62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599 15 (..) M'drama SWAMP MAN 31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603 15 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe 25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog 2 (..) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray 7 (..) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson 16 (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley (82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610 (84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604 (70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604 (92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603 SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 ❶IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610 GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623 (78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell (76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616 (78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622 (81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding R—Apr. 21—PG-621	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans R-Mar. 17—PG-613 30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624 2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe 20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom London 23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 ⊛THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599 (67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603 APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen (94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615 (76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613 MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ⊛DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622 (61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610 7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614 (..) Mys.-Drama SPELLBOUND Ingrid Bergman Gregory Peck 21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley (..) 2,000 WOMEN Phyllis Calvert Stewart Granger 4 (147) Comedy ⊛COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620 (..) Comedy BEDSIDE MANNER John Carroll Ruth Hussey 18 (..) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field 25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615 13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624 20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan 27 (90) ⊛SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621 4 (89) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621 11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper 18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher 25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis 1 (..) BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook 8 (..) I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce	17 (98) Drama 41 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612 7 (89) Drama 41 GOD IS MY CO-PILO Dennis Morgan Dana Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale 28 (78) Comedy 41 THE HORN BLOWS A MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620 19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning Helmut Dantine
MAR. 24											
MAR. 31											
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609										
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611										
APR. 21	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623 19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER 19 (58) Western 6206 RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ⊛NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor									
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619										
MAY 5		MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn									
MAY 12	10 (..) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick										
MAY 19	17 (67) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor Pat Parrish	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main									
MAY 26	24 (..) Melodrama THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker									
JUNE 2											
JUNE 9											

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

A Thousand and One Nights

CAST: Evelyn Keyes, Phil Silvers, Adele Jergens, Cornel Wilde, Dusty Anderson, Dennis Hoey, Philip Van Zandt. PRODUCER: Samuel Bischoff. DIRECTOR: Alfred E. Green. ORIGINAL: Wilfrid H. Pettitt. SCREENPLAY: Wilfrid H. Pettitt, Richard England and Jack Henley.

In Bagdad, Cornel Wilde (Aladdin) slips into the palanquin of Adele Jergens (Princess Marjianna), the Sultan's daughter, and woos her. Discovered that night in her garden, Wilde is jailed, but with Adele's aid, he and his friend, Phil Silvers (Abdullah, a thief and also in jail), escape. In the desert, the pair meet a hermit who tells them of a magic lamp which will grant their every wish. The quest takes them through many dangers, but is finally successful. Wilde rubs the lamp and a genie (Evelyn Keyes) appears, begging to do his bidding. Transformed into a Prince of Hindustan, Wilde returns to find the Sultan's villainous twin brother has usurped the throne and promised Adele to his accomplice. Through the perfidity of Evelyn, who wants Cornel for herself, the pendulum of Wilde's fortune swings precariously. Eventually the Sultan is freed and Wilde gets the princess.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Abbott and Costello in Hollywood

CAST: Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Frances Rafferty, Bob Stanton, Warner Anderson, Jean Porter, Carleton Young. PRODUCER: Martin Gosch. DIRECTOR: S. Sylvan Simon. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Nat Perrin and Lou Breslow.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, barber and porter, respectively, are called to the office of Warner Anderson, agent for Hollywood actors. The two are impressed by Bob Stanton's singing when he auditions there and arrange to be his agent, deciding to cast the singer in Producer Donald McBride's current picture. On the way to confer with him, the pair crash into McBride's new car at the studio gate. To evade the police, who have been warned by the irate producer that they will be fired if the two men get inside the gates, Bud and Lou enter in disguise; thereby getting themselves into trouble. After many complications the contract between Stanton, Anderson and the two agents is settled and the picture filmed. The now-prosperous Abbott and Costello open their own tonsorial parlor. They have arrived!

Paramount

People Are Funny

CAST: Jack Haley, Helen Walker, Rudy Vallee, Ozzie Nelson, Philip Reed, Bob Graham, Barbara Roche. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: Sam White. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Maxwell Shane and David Lang. Based on the radio show "People Are Funny."

Philip Reed, radio executive, is put on the spot when the producer of his show, Rudy Vallee, requests that it be taken off the air immediately and a new show readied within a week. Reed contacts his fiancee and ace writer, Helen Walker, and begs her to return to Hollywood from Nevada to write a new show for him. Ozzie Nelson is pursuing Helen in an effort to get her to write a show for him. While Helen and Ozzie are driving back to Hollywood their car breaks down in a small Nevada town. They can't find anyone to fix it as the whole town is attending the local radio show. Helen and Ozzie discover it is a hilarious audience-participation stunt show produced and conducted by naive Jack Haley. From then on a series of gay incidents occur back and forth between Hollywood and Clearwater, Nevada. The trio, Reed, Walker and Nelson, do everything they can to get the show away from Haley.

Our Hearts Were Growing Up

CAST: Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, Brian Donlevy, William Demarest, James Brown, Bill Edwards, Billy DeWolfe. PRODUCER: Danny Dare. DIRECTOR: William Russell. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Norman Panama and Melvin Frank.

Gail Russell and Diana Lynn, as Cornelia Otis Skinner and Emily Kimbrough, respectively, manage to get themselves involved in a series of adventures while they are attending a fashionable finishing school. In attempting to use Brian Donlevy, a bootlegger, as a fake uncle to help them go unchaperoned to a football game, they unwittingly aid him in smuggling contraband liquor aboard a train. Donlevy loses them in the crowd at the railroad station and they unknowingly take the liquor with their baggage. He follows them to the game and to the swank party afterward where he was to have provided the liquor. Through a number of gay mix-ups, during and after the party, Donlevy assumes the role of their protector and aids them in straightening out their social as well as their romantic difficulties.

Republic

Man From Oklahoma

CAST: Roy Rogers, Trigger, George "Gabby" Hayes, Dale Evans, Roger Pryor, Arthur Loft, Maude Eburne. PRODUCER: Louis Gray. DIRECTOR: Frank McDonald. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: John K. Butler.

Roy Rogers and his Pioneers, a group of strumming musicians from Oklahoma, are in New York auditioning for a radio contract. They later discover that they have been bilked out of $900 in a make-believe audition. A telegram summons the group home. Roy, broke, remembers that Dale Evans sings in a night club and goes to her for money to get them home. Dale, too, has received a wire to return home. Upon their arrival they find that the feud between Dale's family and "Gabby" Hayes' family is on again. A celebration of the annual Oklahoma Land Rush is about to take place. The winner of the "land grab race" will become the owner of property. The feuding families each deed a plot of land. An exciting race ensues filled with thrills, spills and plenty of sabotage. Roy wins the race and the feud is brought to an end.

RKO Radio

The Falcon in San Francisco

CAST: Tom Conway, Rita Corday, Edward Brophy, Sharyn Moffet, Fay Helm, Robert Strong, John Mylong. PRODUCER: Maurice Geraghty. DIRECTOR: Joseph H. Lewis. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Robert Kent and Ben Markson. Based on character created by Michael Arlen.

En route to San Francisco, Tom Conway (The Falcon) takes charge of Sharyn Moffet whose nurse has been murdered. While taking Sharyn home, Tom is mysteriously framed on a kidnaping charge and arrested, but subsequently bailed out by a stranger. From there on, Tom becomes involved with a gang of silk thieves. His first clue is found at Sharyn's home, where, during his search, the butler is murdered and Conway escapes the police with Rita Corday, Sharyn's sister. He visits the office of Robert Armstrong, president of a freight line concerned with the theft of cargoes of silk. Armstrong seemingly works with Tom, but aboard the freighter with Rita, Tom learns the identity of the killer and narrowly escapes death with the girl as the ship explodes, killing Armstrong, the murderer, and his gang.

United Artists

Story of G.I. Joe

CAST: Burgess Meredith, Robert Mitchum, Freddie Steele, Jimmy Lloyd, Jack Reilly, Bill Murphy. PRODUCER: Lester Cowan. DIRECTOR: William A. Wellman. ORIGINAL: Ernie Pyle. SCREENPLAY: Leopold Atlas, Guy Endore and Philip Stevenson.

Based on Ernie Pyle's dispatches from the front, story deals with the day-to-day lives of a group of infantrymen in Africa and Italy, and highlights human interest incidents. Burgess Meredith as Pyle, lives side by side with the men, becomes their confidant. Robert Mitchum as Captain Walker portrays the "Death of Captain Waskow"; Wally Cassell, Dondaro, has a momentary romance with Yolanda Lacca; Freddie Steele, as Sergeant Warnicki, finds his greatest thrill in the recorded voice of his baby, and Jack Reilly weds a Red Cross nurse, Dorothy Coonan, honeymoons in an ambulance. Also, there is the voice of Axis Sally coming over the ether giving out her German propaganda. Story ends with Meredith trudging along the road with his GI companions—now one of them—and as battle-scarred.

Universal

Hear That Trumpet Talk

CAST: Noah Beery jr., Danny Morton, Lois Collier, John Litel, Arthur Space, Steven Geray, Jimmy Ames. ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Henry Blankfort. DIRECTOR: John Hoffman. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Noah Beery jr., a trumpeter, and four of his World War II buddies have a hot jam band at a small cafe in downtown Los Angeles. Claudia Drake, singer at the club, makes advances to Noah which he repulses violently. Danny Morton, drummer, in love with Claudia, asks her to marry him and she refuses. Claudia is found murdered. Suspicion points to Danny and to protect him the band skips town. Noah contacts his fiancee, Lois Collier, and through her obtains a job with the boys in an obscure club. There, he switches from trumpet to the piano to avoid suspicion. The police track them down and Danny feeling responsible for all their difficulties, surrenders. In the meantime, Lois goes to Los Angeles and through a former roommate of Claudia's uncovers clues which lead to the conviction of the real killer.

Warner Bros.

Mildred Pierce

CAST: Joan Crawford, Jack Carson, Zachary Scott, Eve Arden, Ann Blyth, Bruce Bennett, George Tobias. PRODUCER: Jerry Wald. DIRECTOR: Michael Curtiz. ORIGINAL: James M. Caine. SCREENPLAY: Ranold MacDougall.

Taken into custody when her second husband, Zachary Scott, is found murdered, Joan Crawford reveals her story: After divorcing Bruce Bennett, she works as a waitress and later, with the help of her friend, Jack Carson, becomes a successful restaurant owner. Ann Blyth, oldest of two daughters, grows troublesome along with the family's good fortune, despite which, Joan is lavish with gifts and helps her out of difficulties. Shortly after marrying Scott, Joan discovers him and Ann together in a beachhouse where they admit to secret meetings in the past. Stunned, Joan leaves the house as Ann shoots Scott because he refuses to marry her. Joan's efforts to protect her wayward daughter this time are futile; Ann is apprehended and taken to police headquarters where she reveals her guilt.

Too Young to Know

CAST: Joan Leslie, Robert Hutton, Dolores Moran, Harry Davenport, Rosemary DeCamp, Barbara Brown, Robert Lowell. PRODUCER: William Jacobs. DIRECTOR: Frederick de Cordova. SCREENPLAY: Jo Pagano. ORIGINAL: Harlan Ware.

Joan Leslie (Sally) and Robert Hutton are two youngsters caught in the web of a hasty marriage. Joan is filled with a desire to become a motion picture actress. Robert is satisfied to earn his living as an automobile mechanic. Their adjustment is threatened by Sally's friends, a group of girls primarily interested in picture careers and their actions cause a divorce. Three years elapse, and Robert, an officer in the air corps, is told that not long after he left, Sally gave birth to a child, which she gave away for adoption. Robert, furious, gets a furlough home. Through the intervention of a judge, they are reconciled.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

Iron Masters

Col (Sport Reels) 10 Mins.

Good. Byron Nelson and "Jug" McSpadden demonstrate the proper use of irons on the golf course. This reel will be favorably received by all interested in improving their game—and that takes in a good many people. The commentary is not too technical and can be enjoyed by everyone even if they don't know one golf club from another.

Men to Remember

Col (Screen Snapshots) 9 Mins.

Excellent. This is a stirring tribute to two of America's great showmen, Tom Mix and Will Rogers. The narrator traces their early careers while shots are shown of these men with various other celebrities, including such people as Ted Lewis, Ruth Roland, Roger's children, Charles Farrell, Johnny Mack Brown, Mix's and Rogers' favorite saddle horses, Tony and Soapsuds, respectively.

Pistol Packin' Nit-Wits

Col (All-Star Comedies) 17 Mins.

Amusing. El Brendel and Harry Langdon go through their paces in a real old-fashioned western complete with villain, mortgage, frightened heroine and handsome hero who arrives in time to save the day. The two comedians are bartenders in a smoke-and-gunshot filled saloon of the early west. Lots of down-to-earth horseplay in this.

Little White Lie

M-G-M (Miniature) 10 Mins.

Tear-jerker. Overly-sentimental story of an orphan infant, adopted with her baby brother by a pretty lady and her husband, who felt her place is back at the orphanage. Later she changes her mind, rejoins the foster parents. Well acted.

Screwy Truant

M-G-M (Technicolor Cartoon) 7 Mins.

Hilarious. Speedily paced and gagged to the limit, this short-reel comedy will delight patrons of either sex and all ages. In it Screwy Squirrel not only plays hooky from school but manages to bedevil the pursuing truant officer into a state of near frenzy. A novelty ending brings in Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf for a sequence of additional laughs.

The Unwelcome Guest

M-G-M (Technicolor Cartoon) 7 Mins.

Excellent. One of the most delightful cartoon characters, a wistful baby skunk, makes its debut in this mirth-provoking short. Gagged to the limit, novel and fast, this speedy little mirthquake narrates the difficulties encountered by Barney Bear on a berry-picking jaunt. The finale of this comedy is quite the most rapid-moving tag screened in many a day.

Magica-Lulu

Para (Little Lulu) 8 Mins.

Very good. By her own devious methods Lulu "eases" into a magic show. After disturbing everyone in the theatre to secure a seat first row center, the ingenious imp is invited to participate in the performance by the unwitting master of magic. Clutching her lollypop, Lulu proceeds to delight the audience by exposing the magician's every trick. The confusion on-stage involving magic-boxes, traditional rabbits emerging from hats and Lulu's refusal to disappear results in one frustrated magician, with Lulu blandly viewing the havoc she created.

Popular Science

Para (J4-4) 10 Mins.

Interesting. Housewives will longingly contemplate the modern household gadgets demonstrated in the opening sequence. New chemical solutions featured in the following sequence render fabrics rainproof and wrinkleproof and milady's stockings runproof. The closing scenes evidence the remarkable progress of the Army's Chemical Warfare Service. Planes bearing cloud or smoke filled cylinders lay a protective mist over large areas, and recently perfected phosphorus bombs, blazing with intolerable intensity, are grim reminders that this is total, all-out war.

African Diary

RKO (Disney) 7 Mins.

Hilarious. The audience will howl at Goofy as the leader of an African safari. Excerpts from his diary are shown as the narrator gives a running account of the expedition all in a tone of complete seriousness. At the same time Goofy's ridiculous antics are flashed on the screen. The trek into Africa comes to an end when Goofy tangles with a fierce black rhinoceros which goes after him and chases the safari back to the shores of the Ivory Coast. All in all this is a sure-fire laugh getter.

Flicker Flashbacks

RKO (No. 5—2nd Series) 8½ Mins.

Hilarious. These shorts improve all the time, and the standard for the series has always been superior. The combination of old-time films, rigged out with the sophisticated narrative of today's conversation pattern, will bring loud guffaws from all audiences. Shots of some of the stars of yesterday are shown, including Lon Chaney, Lillian Gish, Bobby Harron, Rudolph Valentino and Theda Bara.

Ski Gulls

RKO (Pathe Sportscope) 7½ Mins.

Thrilling. Containing some of the most exciting shots of expert skiers seen in many a reel, this short is bound to satisfy all patrons. It begins with young fledglings just about old enough to stand up on a pair of skis, and shows them making their first jumps. Then the camera swings over to the experts, and in some breathtaking photography, man is shown in birdlike flight in perfectly controlled leaps of hundreds of feet.

The Returning Veteran

20th-Fox (March of Time) 18½ Mins.

Very good. Timely, provocative and entertaining is this latest March of Time release. It treats of a subject which is receiving more and more attention as victory comes closer. Not only the problems of the wounded veteran but also that of the unwounded, demobilized service man is depicted in a sensible and enlightened fashion. A typical case of a discharged veteran whose battle experience proved too great a mental strain and who is nursed back to health, provides a dramatic windup to an unusual subject.

Watchtower Over Tomorrow

WAC (State Department-OWI) 15 Mins.

Fair. This two-reeler, produced by the industry at the request of the department of state, attempts to explain to the laymen the Dumbarton Oaks plan for an international security organization to keep the peace, and features Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius jr. The picture has little of interest to offer, other than its timeliness—it is being released a month before the United Nations conference in San Francisco. There is need for a short documentary telling clearly and concisely the purpose of Dumbarton Oaks, Chapultepec, San Francisco and similar conferences—unfortunately this 15-minute WAC release isn't it.

It Happened in Springfield

WB (Featurette) 20 Mins.

Excellent. A wounded soldier returns to his home town accompanied by his buddy, to find his father, the victim of vicious Nazi propaganda, hospitalized. The vile seeds of racial intolerance sprouted by a bigoted Nazi sympathizer germinated into acts of violence against the alleged foreigners in the community. Heartsick, Bill Knudson seeks the ideals he believed were America, and with Ann Carter, a Springfield, Mass., school teacher, he tours the public schools and sees young America living democracy, rather than reading of it. The merits of the Springfield system of child education in democratic principles as well as the education of foreign-born adults indicate that universal adoption of this plan would eliminate all prejudice, all discrimination and democracy would emerge free from all subversive elements. This film should be shown as a public service in all communities. It will do much to obliterate undercurrents of racial bias wherever democracy must thrive.

Swimcapades

WB (Sports Parade) 10 Mins.

Very good. This is a well-knit reel, filmed at Florida's famed Silver Springs, where the water is crystal clear. It features the remarkable performance of seven talented girls in a swim ballet. Perfect Technicolor photography enhances the beauty of their intricate geometric patterns, done above and below the surface of the water. Also featured in the reel are two high-diving experts, who do their stuff with the ease of the man on the flying trapeze.

Water Babies

WB (Sports Parade) 10 Minutes

Very good. Amazing feats in water sports, including water skiing, aquaplaning and water tobogganing, photographed in beautiful Technicolor, are performed by young Dick Pope midst the lush scenery of Florida's famed cypress gardens. Dick proves an excellent instructor for his eager little playmates, who are anxious to master the intricacies of this thrilling sport.

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 66: Franklin D. Roosevelt; Truman's first address.
News of the Day, No. 264: Final tribute to Roosevelt; Truman's first talk.
Paramount News, No. 67: Farewell.
Pathe News, No. 69: Roosevelt last rites; Truman's first message.
Universal News, No. 390: U.S. mourns Roosevelt; Truman takes reins.

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Movietone News, No. 67: President Truman begins heavy task as chief executive; Yanks mop up in Philippines; Ernie Pyle killed in Ryukyus; ancient transport in China for modern war; Allied armies push to junction in Germany.
News of the Day, No. 265: Allies close on Berlin; front line pony express; day with our new President; Ernie Pyle meets death; needy ask your help; China's chain gangs help war; movieland fashion surprises.
Paramount News, No. 68: Truman rallies nation; in memoriam—Ernie Pyle voice of GI Joe; United Nations conference on international organization your hope for peace.
Pathe News, No. 70: Sweep through Germany; President Truman takes up reins of office; Yanks clean up Japs on northern Luzon; coolies pull supplies to front China; Holland greets Queen Wilhelmina.
Universal News, No. 391: Truman faces new job with confidence; coolie transport in China; Ernie Pyle killed by Jap sniper; Dutch hail queen; Allies sweep through Reich.

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All American News, Vol. 3, No. 131: New York patrol corps wins decorations; Boys' Club of Washington, D. C., stages show; Dr. Pickens and T. Gamble, treasury, speak; Todd Duncan off to South America; 92nd division advances in Italy.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.
In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	A											
549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)		UA	7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
526	Address Unknown (72)		Col	4-22-44	+	±	±	+	∓	+		6+ 3—
606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)		Mono.	2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
530	Adventures of Mark Twain (130)		WB	5- 6-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)		Para.	4- 7-45	ǂ			+	+			4+
573	Alaska (76)		Mono.	10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
529	Allergic to Love (65)		Univ.	5- 6-44	∓	±	±	+	+	±		6+ 4—
545	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)		PRC	7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
546	American Romance, An (122)		MGM.	7- 1-44	±	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	+	+	9+ 1—
575	And Now Tomorrow (85)		Para.	10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
527	And the Angels Sing (96)		Para.	4-29-44	+	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
544	Are These Our Parents? (73)		Mono	6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	ǂ	+	—	+	7+ 4—
524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)		Mono.	4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
589	Army Wives (68)		Mono.	12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)		WB.	8- 2-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		10+
555	Atlantic City (85)		Rep.	8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
542	Attack (80)		RKO	6-17-44	+		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	9+
	B											
572	Babes on Swing Street (70)		Univ.	9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)		MGM.	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
528	Bathing Beauty (101)		MGM.	6- 3-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
586	Belle of the Yukon (84)		RKO.	12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
540	Beneath Western Skies (56)		Rep.	6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
527	Bermuda Mystery (65)		20-Fox.	4-29-44	—	±	±	—	+	∓	±	5+ 6—
610	Betrayal From the East (85)		RKO.	3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+		6+ 5—
596	Between Two Women (83)		MGM.	1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
531	Between Two Worlds (112)		WB .	5-13-44	ǂ	±	ǂ		+	ǂ	+	9+ 1—
596	Big Bonanza, The (60)		Rep.	1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
568	Big Noise, The (74)		20-Fox.	9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
597	Big Show-Off, The (69)		Rep.	1-20-45	+	∓		±	∓	=		4+ 5—
565	Black Magic (64)		Mono.	9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
557	Block Busters (60)		Mono.	8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
586	Blonde Fever (69)		MGM.	12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
578	Blueheard (73)		PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
610	Body Snatcher, The (78)		RKO.	3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 2—
	Bordertown Trail (56)		Rep.							±		1+ 1—
569	Boss of Rawhide (59)		PRC.	9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
	Bowery Champs (62)		Mono.			±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
578	Bowery to Broadway (94)		Univ.	10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
	Brand of the Devil (61)		PRC.						∓			1+ 1—
577	Brazil (91)		Rep.	10-28-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
614	Brewster's Millions 79)		UA.	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+			6+
552	Bride by Mistake (81)		RKO.	7-29-44	±	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2—
603	Bring On the Girls (91)		Para.	2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
622	Bullfighters, The (61)			4-21-45	—		±	±	±			3+ 4—
	C											
564	Call of the Jungle (60)		Mono.	9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 5—
	Call of the Rockies (56)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1—
	Call of the South Seas (59)		Rep.			∓	∓		∓	∓	—	4+ 5—
538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)		20-Fox.	6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3—
589	Can't Help Singing (89)		Univ.	12-16-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	10+
538	Canterville Ghost, The (95)		MGM.	6- 3-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
571	Carolina Blues (81)		Col.	9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
554	Casanova Brown (92)		RKO.	8- 5-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	12+
	Castle of Crimes (60)		PRC.			±	±	∓			∓	4+ 4—
	Cheyenne Wildcat (56)		Rep.						∓	±		2+ 2—
604	Chicago Kid (68)		Rep.	2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
622	China Sky (78)			4-21-45	+	±						2+ 1—
	China's Little Devils (..)		Mono.			∓						1+ 1—
542	Christmas Holiday (93)		Univ.	6-17-44	+	±	+	ǂ		ǂ	+	8+ 1—
603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)		20-Fox	2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±			6+ 6—
	Cisco Kid Returns (..)		Mono.				±	±				2+ 2—
571	Climax, The (86)		Univ.	9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3—
616	Clock, The (92)		MGM	3-24-45	∓	+	ǂ	±	∓	ǂ		8+ 3—
527	Coastal Command (60)		RKO.	4-29-44	±	±	ǂ	+		ǂ		7+ 2—
530	Cobra Woman (70)		Univ.	5- 6-44	±	—	+	+	+	∓	∓	6+ 4—
	Code of the Prairie (50)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1—
620	Colonel Blimp (148)		UA.	4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 1—
574	Conspirators, The (101)		WB.	10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
531	Contender, The (66)		PRC.	5-13-44	±	±	∓	±	—	∓	∓	6+ 7—
619	Corn Is Green, The (114)		WB.	4- 7-45	+			+	+		+	4+
619	Counter-Attack (89)		Col.	4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+			4+ 4—
	Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)		Col.						±			1+ 1—
	Crazy Knights (63)		Mono.				∓				∓	2+ 2—
553	Crime by Night (72)		WB.	8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)		Col.	2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	7+ 6—
601	Crime, Inc. (74½)		PRC.	2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)		Col.	8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)		Col.	11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
	D											
594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)		Col.	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
557	Dangerous Journey (73)		20-Fox.	8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
591	Dangerous Passage (62)		Para.	12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 6—
566	Dark Mountain (56)		Para.	9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
583	Dark Waters (89)		UA.	11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1—
526	Days of Glory (86)		RKO.	4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)		Univ.	9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)		UA.	3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±		5+ 7—
547	Delinquent Daughters (72)		PRC.	7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3—
587	Destiny (65)		Univ.	12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
622	Diamond Horseshoe (104)			4-21-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ			8+
	Dillinger (..)		Mono			+	∓		+	+		4+ 1—
548	Dixie Jamboree (72)		PRC.	7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5—
611	Docks of New York (62)		Mono.	3-10-45	±	±	+	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
592	Double Exposure (64)		Para.	12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—		5+ 2—
528	Double Indemnity (106)		Para.	4-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
561	Doughgirls, The (102)		WB.	9- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	±	±	10+ 2—
550	Dragon Seed (145)		MGM.	7-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
540	Drifter, The (60)		PRC.	6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
	E											
602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)		Col.	2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)		Rep.	3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)		RKO.	2-17-45	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		9+
	End of the Road (51)		Rep.			±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
561	Enemy of Women (86)		Mono.	9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)		Univ.	12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
609	Escape in the Fog (62)		Col.	3- 3-45	±	∓				∓		3+ 3—
611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)		Col.	3-10-45	±							1+ 1—
534	Eve of St. Mark, The (96)		20-Fox	5-20-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ		7+
567	Ever Since Venus (74)		Col.	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
587	Experiment Perilous (91)		RKO.	12- 9-44	ǂ	±	+	+	+	+	ǂ	9+ 1—
	F											
578	Faces in the Fog (71)		Rep.	10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)		RKO.	12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
554	Falcon in Mexico (70)		RKO.	8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
	Fashion Model (..)		Mono.			∓	+			∓	∓	4+ 3—
595	Fighting Lady, The (61)		20-Fox.	1-13-45	+		ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	Firebrands of Arizona (55)		Rep.						∓			1+ 1—
623	Flame of the Barbary Coast (91)			4-21-45	+	+	±	+	±			5+ 2—
606	Fog Island (67)		PRC.	2-17-45	=	±	±	±	±	=	±	5+ 9—
544	Follow the Leader (65)		Mono.	6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±		6+ 6—
549	Forty Thieves (60)		UA.	7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
568	Frenchman's Creek (113)		Para.	9-23-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1—
606	Frisco Sal (94)		Univ.	2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
564	Frontier Outlaws (58)		PRC.	9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
	Fuzzy Settles Down (60)		PRC.						±	∓		2+ 2—
	G											
528	Gambler's Choice (66)		Para.	4-29-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)		PRC.	9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3—
532	Gaslight (114)		MGM	5-13-44	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+
591	Gentle Annie (80)		MGM.	12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+		6+ 5—
540	Ghost Catchers (68)		Univ.	6-10-44	±	±	+	—	ǂ	±		6+ 4—
	Ghost Guns (60)		Mono.						+			1+
612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)		Mono.	3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)		RKO.	6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
	Girl in the Case, The (64)		Col.			∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
	Girl Who Dared, The (56)		Rep.			∓		∓	±	∓		4+ 4—
577	Girl Rush (65)		RKO.	10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
608	God Is My Co-Pilot (88)		WB.	2-24-45	+	±	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+ 1—
571	Goin' to Town (69)		RKO.	9-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6—
539	Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)		Rep.	6-10-44	—	±	∓	±	—	±	±	5+ 7—
536	Goyescas (110)		RKO.	5-27-44	∓		±	±				3+ 3—
624	Great Flamarion, The (..)		Rep.	4-21-44	+	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	6+ 6—

P. & Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
566	Great Mike, The	(73)	PRC	9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
541	Great Moment, The	(83)	Para	6-17-44	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	10+ 1-
	Great Stagecoach Robbery	(..)	Rep						±			1+ 1−
555	Greenwich Village	(82)	20-Fox	8-12-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ	+	+	8+ 2-
597	Grissly's Millions	(71)	Rep	1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589	Guest in the House	(120)	UA	12-16-44	+	±	ǂ	+	∓	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	Gunsmoke	(..)	Mono						±	±		2+ 2−
547	Gunsmoke Mesa	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601	Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A	(63)	Col	2-10-45	+				±	±		3+ 2−
556	Gypsy Wildcat	(86)	Univ	8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	H											
541	Hail the Conquering Hero	(101)	Para	6-17-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
533	Hairy Ape, The	(91)	UA	5-20-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+		7+
598	Hangover Square	(77)	20-Fox	1-20-45	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	10+
604	Having Wonderful Crime	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551	Heavenly Days	(72)	RKO	7-29-44	−	±	±	+	ǂ	+	+	7+ 3−
527	Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid	(65)	Para	4-29-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
542	Henry Aldrich's Little Secret	(74)	Para	6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601	Her Lucky Night	(63)	Univ	2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600	Here Come the Co-Eds	(88)	Univ	2- 3-45	+	±	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	9+ 1−
591	Here Come the WAVES	(99)	Para	12-23-44	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	10+ 1−
594	Hi Beautiful	(64)	Univ	12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607	High Powered	(..)	Para	2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±		6+ 5−
588	Hollywood Canteen	(124)	WB	12- 9-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	11+
	Hollywood and Vine	(..)	PRC			±	+			±	±	4+ 3−
536	Home in Indiana	(103)	20-Fox	5-27-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	10+
620	Horn Blows at Midnight, The	(80)	WB		+	+	±	+	∓			5+ 2−
612	Hotel Berlin	(98)	WB	3-10-45	+	±	ǂ	+	±	±	ǂ	9+ 2−
	House of Fear, The	(..)	Univ			∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593	House of Frankenstein	(71)	Univ	12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	I											
577	I Accuse My Parents	(68)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601	I Love a Mystery	(69)	Col	2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539	I Love a Soldier	(104)	Para	6-10-44	ǂ	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
	Identity Unknown	(..)	Rep			+	ǂ	+			±	5+ 1−
592	I'll Be Seeing You	(86)	UA	12-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ		8+
624	I'll Remember April	(64)		4-21-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
579	I'm From Arkansas	(70)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
559	Impatient Years, The	(91)	Col	8-26-44	+	±	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	9+ 1−
558	In Society	(74)	Univ	8-19-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1−
567	In the Meantime, Darling	(72)	20-Fox	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
537	Invisible Man's Revenge, The	(78)	Univ	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
573	Irish Eyes Are Smiling	(90)	20-Fox	10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
610	It's a Pleasure	(90)	RKO	3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	ǂ		7+ 2−
605	It's in the Bag	(90)	UA	2-17-45	±	+	±	+	ǂ	+		7+ 2−
	J											
	Jade Mask, The	(66)	Mono			±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
551	Janie	(102)	WB	7-29-44	+	±	ǂ	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
533	Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More	(79)	Mono	5-20-44	+	±	+	+	+	+		6+ 1−
535	Jungle Woman	(67)	Univ	5-27-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	K											
	Kansas City Kitty	(72)	Col			±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604	Keep Your Powder Dry	(93)	MGM	2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592	Keys of the Kingdom	(137)	20-Fox	12-30-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	Kid Sister, The	(..)	PRC			±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560	Kismet	(100)	MGM	8-26-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	L											
533	Ladies of Washington	(61)	20-Fox	5-20-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6−
	Lady Confesses, The	(..)	PRC			±		±	±			3+ 3−
593	Lake Placid Serenade	(85)	Rep	12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+ 2−
	Land of the Outlaws	(56)	Mono					±	=	∓		2+ 4−
	Last Horseman, The	(54)	Col				±	∓	−	±	∓	4+ 5−
567	Last Ride, The	(56)	WB	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576	Laura	(88)	20-Fox	10-21-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
546	Law Men	(55)	Mono	7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548	Law of the Saddle	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ −
	Law of the Valley	(59)	Mono					±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605	Leave It to Blondie	(69)	Col	2-17-45	±	+	±			+	∓	5+ 3−
569	Leave It to the Irish	(61)	Mono	9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598	Let's Go Steady	(60)	Col	1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581	Lights of Old Santa Fe	(78)	Rep	11-11-44	+		ǂ	+	±	+		6+ 1−
561	Lost in a Harem	(89)	MGM	9- 2-44	+	+	+	ǂ	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549	Louisiana Hayride	(67)	Col	7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
	M											
558	Machine Gun Mama	(67)	PRC	8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551	Mademoiselle Fifi	(69)	RKO	7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585	Main Street After Dark	(56)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555	Maisie Goes to Reno	(90)	MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
534	Make Your Own Bed	(82)	WB	5-20-44	+	−	+	−	±	∓	±	5+ 5−
532	Man From Frisco	(91)	Rep	5-13-44	+	±	±	±	+	ǂ	+	8+ 3−
578	Man in Half Moon Street, The	(92)	Para	10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599	Man Who Walked Alone, The	(60)	PRC	2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543	Marine Raiders	(91)	RKO	6-24-44	∓	±	ǂ		+	ǂ	+	8+ 2-
574	Mark of the Whistler, The	(61)	Col	10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
	Marked for Murder	(..)	PRC							∓		1+ 1−
580	Marked Trails	(59)	Mono	10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556	Marriage Is a Private Affair	(117) MGM		8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	Marshal of Reno	(56)	Rep						∓	±		2+ 2−
540	Mask of Dimitrios, The	(95)	WB	6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567	Master Race, The	(96)	RKO	9-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
619	Medal for Benny, A	(80)	Para	4- 7-45	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ			7+
582	Meet Me in St. Louis	(113)	MGM	11-11-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
575	Meet Miss Bobby Socks	(68)	Col	10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
559	Merry Monahans, The	(90)	Univ	8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
543	Minstrel Man	(69)	PRC	6-24-44	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	+		8+
576	Ministry of Fear	(84)	Para	10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
584	Missing Juror, The	(66)	Col	11-18-44	+	±	+	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3−
613	Molly and Me	(76)	20-Fox	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559	Moonlight and Cactus	(60)	Univ	8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
596	Mr. Emmanuel	(92)	UA	1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 3−
536	Mr. Skeffington	(127)	WB	5-27-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+		9+
547	Mr. Winkle Goes to War	(80)	Col	7-15-44	+	±	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 2−
568	Mrs. Parkington	(124)	MGM	9-23-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	12+
598	Mummy's Curse, The	(60)	Univ	1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
531	Mummy's Ghost, The	(65)	Univ	5-13-44	+	∓	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
619	Murder, He Says	(93)	Para	4- 7-45	±	+	+	+	+			5+ 1−
583	Murder in the Blue Room	(61)	Univ	11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588	Murder, My Sweet	(95)	RKO	12- 9-44	+	±	ǂ	±	+	+	ǂ	9+ 2−
590	Music for Millions	(117)	MGM	12-16-44	+	±	ǂ	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 2−
552	Music in Manhattan	(81)	RKO	7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576	My Buddy	(69)	Rep	10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586	My Gal Loves Music	(63)	Univ	12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
568	My Pal Wolf	(75)	RKO	9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	ǂ	+	8+ 3
543	Mystery Man	(58)	UA	6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
	N											
565	National Barn Dance	(76)	Para	9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 3−
590	National Velvet	(124)	MGM	12-16-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
590	Nevada	(62)	RKO	12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594	Night Club Girl	(60)	Univ	12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538	Night of Adventure, A	(65)	RKO	6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
572	None But the Lonely Heart	(113)	RKO	9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
585	Nothing But Trouble	(69)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
	O											
600	Objective, Burma!	(142)	WB	2- 3-45	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	10+
558	Oh, What a Night	(71)	Mono	8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
	Old Chisholm Trail	(60)	Univ				±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
577	One Body Too Many	(76)	Para	10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
	One Mysterious Night	(61)	Col			±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562	Our Hearts Were Young and Gay	(81)	Para	9- 2-44	+	±	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
537	Outlaw Trail	(53)	Mono	6- 3-44	±		∓		∓		∓	4+ 4−
555	Outlaws of Santa Fe	(56)	Rep	8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
	P											
604	Pan Americana	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	+	±	±	+	ǂ	∓	±	8+ 4−
530	Pardon My Rhythm	(62)	Univ	5- 6-44	−	±	±	∓	+	∓		5+ 5−
531	Partners of the Trail	(55)	Mono	5-13-44	∓		±		±	±	∓	5+ 5−
509	Passage to Marseille	(109)	WB	2-19-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	9+
505	Passport to Destiny	(64)	RKO	2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
621	Patrick the Great	(89)		4-21-45	±	+	+	+	+		ǂ	7+ 1−
561	Pearl of Death, The	(69)	Univ	9- 2-44	∓	±	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
	Phantom of 42nd Street	(..)	PRC			±						1+ 1−
	Phantom Speaks, The	(69)				±		±	±			3+ 3−
607	Picture of Dorian Gray	(110)	MGM	2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 2−
545	Port of Forty Thieves	(58)	Rep	7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	±	7+ 6−
612	Power of the Whistler, The	(72)	Col	3-10-45	∓	∓	±				±	4+ 4−
592	Practically Yours	(90)	Para	12-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	9+
576	Princess and the Pirate, The	(94)	RKO	10-21-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		R											
	532	Raiders of Red Gap (59)		PRC	5-13-44	±		∓				∓	3+ 3−
	565	Rainbow Island (97)		Para	9- 9-44	±	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	+	8+ 4−
	563	Range Law (57)		Mono	9- 2-44	±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
	566	Reckless Age (63)		Univ	9- 9-44	±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
	548	Return of the Ape Man (60)		Mono	7-15-44	−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
		Riders of Santa Fe (63)		Univ							±		1+ 1−
	579	Riding West (58)		Col	10-28-44	+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
	623	Rockin' in the Rockies (67)			4-21-45	−							1−
	535	Roger Touhy, Gangster (65)		20-Fox	5-27-44	±	∓	+	∓	+	+		6+ 3−
	605	Rogues' Gallery (60)		PRC	2-17-45	±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
	606	Rough Riding Justice (58)		Col	2-17-45	∓				∓	±		3+ 3−
	609	Rough, Tough and Ready (66)		Col	3- 3-45	±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
	600	Roughly Speaking (128)		WB	2- 3-45	+	±	±	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
	615	Royal Scandal, A (94)		20-Fox	3-24-45	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	+	9+ 1−
	581	Rustler's Hideout (62)		PRC	11-11-44	±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
		S											
	593	Saddle Leather Law (55)		Col	12-30-44	±				−			1+ 2−
	598	Sagebrush Heroes (54)		Col	1-20-45	±					∓		2+ 2−
	621	Salome, Where She Danced (90)			4-21-45	+	±	+	+	+			5+ 1−
	608	Salty O'Rourke (100)		Para	2-24-45	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2−
		San Antonio Kid, The (56)		Rep						±	±		2+ 2−
	566	San Diego, I Love You (83)		Univ	9- 9-44	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 1−
	562	San Fernando Valley (74)		Rep	9- 2-44	+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
		Saratoga Trunk (..)		WB							ǂ		2+
	620	Scared Stiff (64)		Para	4- 7-45	∓	=	±	±	∓			4+ 6−
	529	Scarlet Claw, The (74)		Univ	5- 6-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4−
		Scarlet Clue, The (..)		Mono			±						1+ 1−
	537	Secret Command (82)		Col	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2−
	543	Secrets of Scotland Yard (68)		Rep	6-24-44	±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	602	See My Lawyer (69)		Univ	2-10-45	±	±			∓	±		4+ 4−
	544	Sensations of 1945 (86)		UA	6-24-44	±	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	584	Sergeant Mike (60)		Col	11-18-44	±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
	557	Seven Doors to Death (62)		PRC	8-19-44	±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
	552	Seventh Cross, The (112)		MGM	7-29-44	±	+	ǂ	+	−	+	ǂ	8+ 2−
	575	Shadow of Suspicion (68)		Mono	10-21-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	575	Shadows in the Night (67)		Col	10-21-44	±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6−
	596	She Gets Her Man (74)		Univ	1-13-45	±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
	551	She's a Soldier Too (67)		Col	7-29-44	±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
	587	She's a Sweetheart (69)		Col	12- 9-44	±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
		Sheriff of Cimarron (..)		Rep						+			1+
		Sheriff of Las Vegas (55)		Rep						+			1+
		Sheriff of Sundown (56)		Rep						+	±		2+ 1−
	526	Show Business (92)		RKO	4-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	10+
	560	Sign of the Cross (118)		Para	8-26-44	+			ǂ		±		4+ 1−
		Silent Partner (55)		Rep			±	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4
		Silver City Kid (55)		Rep						∓	∓		2+ 2−
		Silver Fleet, The (..)		PRC			+		+				2+
	552	Since You Went Away (174)		UA	7-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	595	Sing Me a Song of Texas (66)		Col	1-13-45	+					±		2+ 1−
	558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing (70)		Rep	8-19-44	±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	570	Singing Sheriff, The (63)		Univ	9-23-44	−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
	528	Slightly Terrific (58)		Univ	4-29-44	∓	∓	±	∓	∓	∓		6+ 6−
	582	Something for the Boys (87)		20-Fox	11-11-44	∓	±	±	ǂ	+	±	+	8+ 4−
	622	Son of Lassie (102)			4-21-45	±	ǂ						3+ 1−
	607	Song for Miss Julie (69)		Rep	2-24-45		−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
	542	Song of Nevada (75)		Rep	6-17-44	+		+	+	+	+		5+
	529	Song of the Open Road (93)		UA	5- 6-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 1−
		Song of the Sarong					−						1−
	599	Song to Remember, A (112)		Col	2- 3-45	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	564	Sonora Stagecoach (51)		Mono	9- 2-44	+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
	559	Soul of a Monster, The (61)		Col	8-26-44	∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
	556	South of Dixie (61)		Univ	5-27-44	∓	±	±	±	±	±	−	6+ 7−
	610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The (60)		PRC	3- 3-45	±	∓				±		3+ 3−
		Stagecoach to Monterey (55)		Rep						+	±		2+ 1−
	545	Step Lively (88)		RKO	7- 1-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ		+	7+ 2−
	562	Storm Over Lisbon (86)		Rep	9- 2-44	∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
	526	Story of Dr. Wassell (136)		Para	4-22-44	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+ 1−
	573	Strange Affair (78)		Col	10-14-44	±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
	603	Strange Illusion (87)		PRC	2-17-45	+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
		Strangers in the Night (56)		Rep			+		+	±			3+ 1−
	612	Sudan (76)		Univ	3-10-45	±	±	+	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
	535	Summer Storm (106)		UA	5-27-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1−
	588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (86)		20-Fox	12- 9-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	553	Sundown Valley (55)		Col	8- 5-44	±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
	594	Suspect, The (85)		Univ	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	10+
	554	Sweet and Lowdown (75)		20-Fox	8- 5-44	+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
	582	Swing Hostess (76)		PRC	11-11-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
		Swing in the Saddle (..)		Col						∓			1+ 1−
		T											
	593	Tahiti Nights (63)		Col	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
	539	Take It Big (76)		Para	6-10-44	∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	548	Take It or Leave It (70)		20-Fox	7-15-44	±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
	572	Tall in the Saddle (87)		RKO	9-30-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	616	Tarzan and the Amazons (75)		RKO	3-24-45	±	∓		±	±	+		5+ 4−
	569	That's My Baby (68)		Rep	9-23-44	=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
		There Goes Kelly (..)		Mono			∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
		They Live in Fear (65)		Col			∓		±	−	±		3+ 4−
	589	They Shall Have Faith (83)		Mono	12-16-44	±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
	587	Thin Man Goes Home (101)		MGM	12- 9-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (138)		MGM	11-18-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	530	This Is the Life (87)		Univ	5- 6-44	+	±	+	±	±		ǂ	7+ 3−
	595	This Man's Navy (100)		MGM	1-13-45	+	±	±	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Thoroughbreds (55)		Rep			±	±			±	∓	4+ 4−
	621	Those Endearing Young Charms (81)			4-21-45	+	∓		±	+			4+ 2−
	590	Three Caballeros, The (71)		RKO	12-16-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+		ǂ		8+
	585	Three Is a Family (81)		UA	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	554	Three Little Sisters (69)		Rep	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
	529	Three Men in White (85)		MGM	5- 6-44	+	+	±	±	+			5+ 2−
	563	Three of a Kind (67)		Mono	9- 2-44	±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
	599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (78)		20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
	572	Thundering Gun Slingers (60)		PRC	9-30-44	∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
	565	Till We Meet Again (88)		Para	9- 9-44	∓	±	+	+	±	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	581	Together Again (100)		Col	11-11-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	574	To Have and Have Not (100)		WB	10-14-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
	591	Tomorrow the World (87)		UA	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	600	Tonight and Every Night (92)		Col	2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
		Topeka Terror, The (55)		Rep						±			1+ 1−
	581	Town Went Wild, The (79)		PRC	11-11-44	±	ǂ	∓	+	+	+	=	7+ 4−
	599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (128)		20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		Trigger Law (54)		Mono						∓			1+ 1−
	538	Tucson Raiders (55)		Rep	6- 3-44	+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
	539	Twilight on the Prairie (62)		Univ	6-10-44	∓	±		±	−	±		4+ 5−
	528	Two Girls and a Sailor (124)		MGM	4-29-44	+	ǂ	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+ 1−
	624	Two O'Clock Courage (..)		RKO	4-21-45	±	±	∓	=	±		±	5+ 7−
		U											
	549	U-Boat Prisoner (65)		Col	7-22-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	597	Under Western Skies (57)		Univ	1-20-45	−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
	556	Underground Guerrillas (82)		Col	8-12-44	∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
	608	Unseen, The (80)		Para	2-24-45	∓	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	582	Unwritten Code, The (61)		Col	11-11-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
		Utah (..)		Rep				+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
		Utah Kid, The (57)		Mono						±			1+ 1−
		V											
	621	Valley of Decision, The (102)			4-21-45	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+			9+
	563	Valley of Vengeance (56)		PRC	9- 2-44	±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
		Vampire's Ghost, The (59)					−		±	−			1+ 3−
	573	Very Thought of You, The (99)		WB	10-14-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	±	+	8+ 3−
		Vigilantes of Dodge City (55)		Rep						±	±		2+ 2−
		W											
	534	Waterfront (66)		PRC	5-20-44	±	±	±	±	+		±	6+ 5−
	553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A (70)		Mono	8- 5-44	±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
	580	West of Rio Grande (57)		Mono	10-28-44	±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
	557	When Strangers Marry (67)		Mono	8-19-44	+	ǂ	+	+	+	+		7+
	570	When the Lights Go On Again (74)		PRC	9-23-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
	602	What a Blonde (71)		RKO	2-10-45	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
	550	Whistler, The (59)		Col	7-22-44	±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
	556	Wilson (158)		20-Fox	8-12-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	550	Wing and a Prayer (97)		20-Fox	7-22-44	±	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
	586	Winged Victory (130)		20-Fox	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
		Wild Horse Phantom (..)		PRC						±			1+ 1−
	616	Without Love (111)		MGM	3-24-45	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	10+ 1−
	574	Woman in the Window, The (99)		RKO	10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	11+
		Y											
	534	Yellow Rose of Texas (69)		Rep	5-20-44	+		+	+	+	+	±	6+ 1−
	595	Youth on Trial (59)		Col	1-13-45	±	±	±					3+ 3−
	546	Youth Runs Wild (67)		RKO	7- 1-44	−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−
		Z											
	623	Zombies on Broadway (68)			4-21-45	∓	−			±			2+ 3−

The Wonder Man

F — Musical Comedy

RKO Radio (——) 96 Minutes Rel. ——

Handsomely mounted with the glitter and glamor characteristic of Samuel Goldwyn musical productions, Danny Kaye's second starring vehicle is a screamingly funny picture which should play to capacity-straining business in any theatre where the customers like unadulterated escapist entertainment. The hilarious proceedings are as full of screwball situations as a dozen nut houses. While they are strung together to give the story a semblance of continuity, they are primarily designed to permit the carrot-topped comic an opportunity to display his brimming bag of tricks which he does with typical gusto and versatility. The picture has many other assets—girls, songs, dances, production numbers. They are tops but Kaye's performance in a dual role dominates the fun-making, but no one will be disappointed because of that. Bruce Humberstone directed.

Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo, Vera-Ellen, Donald Woods, S. Z. Sakall, Allen Jenkins, Edward Brophy.

The Scarlet Clue

F — Mystery

Monogram (418) 65 Minutes Rel. ——

Charlie Chan goes a bit Buck Rogerish in this, his most recent tussle with crime. The murders, of which there is no paucity, are committed in connection with an attempt on the part of foreign agents (just whom they are working for is never clearly established) to steal Uncle Sam's radar secrets. Consequently, most of the story unfolds in laboratories, complete with weird, spark-throwing apparatus. While the picture doesn't move with as much speed as many previous Chan chapters, it is sufficiently in the established groove to satisfy the followers of the oriental super-sleuth, and qualify the offering as satisfactory supporting fare for the minors. Frequent interpolation of comedy sequences, most of which fail to jell, serves only as a further drag on the tempo. Sidney Toler, of course, is Chan and characteristically inscrutable. Directed by Phil Rosen.

Sidney Toler, Mantan Moreland, Ben Carter, Benson Fong, Virginia Brissac, Robert Homans, Jack Norton.

The Phantom Speaks

F — Horror Play

Republic (——) 68 Minutes Rel. ——

For those who like their whodunits sprinkled with a dash of the occult, "The Phantom Speaks" should prove a satisfactory supporting picture. At the outset, the audience is informed that a scientist will attempt to return the spirit of an electrocuted murderer to the world in an effort to prove his theory that the dead can return. This he is able to do with disastrous results, since the strong mind of the murderer enters his body and forces him to commit murder upon murder. The finale, wherein the scientist is judged guilty of the crimes, leaves unanswered the question of whether he is actually guilty or innocent. Richard Arlen, as a newspaper reporter, turns in a disinterested performance. Stanley Ridges does the best job as the harried scientist. Good direction by John English.

Richard Arlen, Stanley Ridges, Lynne Roberts, Tom Powers, Charlotte Wynters, Jonathan Hale, Pierre Watkin.

Song of the Sarong

F — Drama

Universal (9040) 65 Minutes Rel. Apr. 20, '45

If a bit of corn may be permitted—and certainly the subject at hand invites the use thereof—it might be stated that everything 'swrong with "Song of the Sarong." A South Sea idyl to forever end South Sea idyls, it is an unbelievably bad jumble of cliches, fantastic scripting, ludicrous situations, and ridiculous delineations. On the last count, the cast is not to be indicted. Its members, proven troupers that many of them be, were utterly impotent against the weird material with which they were made to cope. The picture, of course, will never transcend the supporting spot on nonconsequential double bills—and even there, its value will be limited to the amusement it may afford the customers who occasionally enjoy a picture that they can hoot at. Directed in kind by Harold Young.

Nancy Kelly, William Gargan, Eddie Quillan, Fuzzy Knight, George Dolenz, George Cleveland, Mariska Aldrich.

Escape in the Desert

F — Melodrama

Warner Bros. (416) 81 Minutes Rel. May 19, '45

A rip-snortin' western in modern dress and cooked (sic) with sauerkraut, it will be a treat for the juveniles and the incurable action addicts. The fact that its melodramatics and heroics, and they grow as lushly as cacti, often veer toward the farcical and extreme may prove a stumbling block in trying to please more discriminating film tastes. Thus, the picture assays as a better bet for the subsequents than the first-run showcases. Technically, the film presents little to criticize, being substantially produced and ably portrayed by a cast boasting enough established names to attract attention. The action takes place in an isolated desert motel which is commandeered and terrorized by a group of Nazi war prisoners who escaped from a nearby prison camp. Their killing by a posse is an exciting climax. Directed by Edward A. Blatt.

Jean Sullivan, Philip Dorn, Irene Manning, Helmut Dantine, Alan Hale, Samuel S. Hinds, Bill Kennedy.

Hitchhike to Happiness

F — Musical

Republic (——) 70 Minutes Rel. ——

Songs and gags dominate the proceedings. While none of the former seems destined for top rating on the Hit Parade and many of the latter are a bit on the hoary side, the film nonetheless is pleasant and diverting and can serve with distinction as a second feature on any program. Thespically, the offering earns nods on two counts: Al Pearce, although he is toplined, is restrained to a part and to dialog which employs his peculiar talents to their best advantage, which permits winning and versatile Dale Evans, whose work contributes most to the offering's worth, to carry the ball most of the way. The yarn, which follows the formula for previous filmusicals, concerns a topflight radio star who, incognito, helps a struggling composer to attain fame and fortune along with the usual entree to romance. Directed by Joseph Santley.

Al Pearce, Dale Evans, Brad Taylor, William Frawley, Jerome Cowan, Willy Trenk, Arlene Harris.

The Missing Corpse

F — Comedy

PRC (524) 62 Minutes Rel. June 1, '45

Because the spectators know from scratch who killed whom, they being eye witnesses to the homicide, this cannot be classified as a mystery. Because it is very unfunny it should not be designated as a comedy, which category it essays to attain. So, in kindness, let it be called a harmless morsel of supporting footage for the neighborhood double-heeders which, at best, will not offend the customers. The mummers aren't too bad and do everything possible with their trite lines and hackneyed situations, and production values are adequate. A newspaper publisher threatens to kill a racketeering competitor when the latter's sheet scandalizes his family. A henchman kills the grafting newspaper man, plants the body in the publisher's car. Attempts to dispose of the cadaver and circumstantial evidence supplies the plot. Albert Herman directed.

J. Edward Bromberg, Isabel Randolph, Frank Jenks, Eric Sinclair, Paul Guilfoyle, Ben Welden, Charles Coleman.

The Vampire's Ghost

F — Horror Play

Republic (——) 59 Minutes Rel. ——

Even the most rabid of horror film addicts will fail to be greatly impressed by this conglomeration of chiller cliches. In story, situations and technique the film is so archaic that it cannot hope to be greeted with anything but derision when it appears on the nether side of unimportant dualers, which spot is the only bookings the picture can expect. The plot is based upon the ancient legend of the blood-sucking Vampire, the "undead," who wander the earth committing atrocities. Scenes are laid in an African village where a Vampire murders one after another of the inhabitants. John Abbott, the Vampire, lives unsuspected in the white community. While on the verge of adding Peggy Stewart to his list of victims, he is unmasked and after a hectic chase through the jungles is destroyed forever. Directed by Lesley Selander.

John Abbott, Peggy Stewart, Grant Withers, Charles Gordon, Adele Mara, Emmett Vogan, Roy Barcroft.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Escape in the Desert"**

Make lobby display showing photos of local sons and daughters now in the armed forces with caption: "They Will See to It There Is No 'Escape in the Desert.'" . . . Have four men dressed in outfits similar to prisoner-of-war uniforms wander around town, carrying placards reading, "I Did Not Escape in the Desert." Swastika flag could be painted on cardboard and glued to lobby floor where patrons may grind the Nazi flag under foot.

CATCHLINES:

Death Valley Destiny . . . A Man at the Mercy of Four Desperadoes . . . German Prisoners of War on the Loose . . . Desert Death . . . Psychic Study of Nazi Prisoners . . . Hijackers at Their Worst.

Grim, Ruthless Killers! . . . Deadly Schemes of Terror and Torture! . . . Gun-Mad! . . . Kill-Crazy! . . . Thugs Running Amuck in Barren Wastes . . . Daring! . . . Timely . . . Powerful! . . . Breath-Taking in Scope.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Hitchhike to Happiness"**

In cooperation with local transit companies display signs on the outside of street cars and buses reading, "Why Hitchhike—Take This Car (Bus) to the ..... Theatre," etc. Issue free passes to all waiters since Al Pearce plays such a role. Have an employe hitchhike to the theatre during rush hours wearing a sign "I'm 'Hitchhiking to Happiness' at the ..... Theatre."

CATCHLINES:

From Waiter to Playwright . . . Love Blooms as Boy Meets Girl in Restaurant . . . Hollywood Songstress Incognito Brings Fame and Fortune to Unknown Songwriter . . . A Great Double-Cross Becomes a Great Romance.

A Gay Musical Comedy of the Show World . . . It's Tender! It's Charming! It's Romantic! . . . You'll Hum Its Songs and Relish Its Humor . . . Sparkling! Heart-Warming! Whimsical!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Missing Corpse"**

Print one-sheet tabloid "Extras" ballyhooing "The Missing Corpse." Papers should be stacked on newsstands and given away Place empty, open coffin in lobby, with finger sign pointing to it and reading, "This Corpse Is Missing. Did You Take It?" Paid ads may be inserted throughout the classified section of your daily paper: "Lost, one corpse, missing from the ..... Theatre."

CATCHLINES:

A Disappearing Corpse . . . Three People Want It, the Killer, and Two Innocent Bystanders . . . Strange Confession of a Son to Save His Father . . . Here Again, Gone Again; In Again, Out Again.

Fun on the Run as the Chase for an Elusive Corpse Grows Wilder and Wilder . . . Mad! Hectic! Hilarious! You'll Laugh! You'll Scream! You'll Howl!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Vampire's Ghost"**

Dress an employe in a costume made to resemble that of a huge bat, have him walk around with suitable advertisements. Sponsor a letter-writing contest among the teenagers on "The Myth of the Vampire—Fact or Fiction?" For a lobby display construct huge Vampire bats and have them suspended from the ceiling giving an illusion of flight through the lobby.

CATCHLINES:

Weird and Amazing Adventure in Darkest Africa . . . A Fiendish Murderer at Large . . . Bullets That Whizz Through Human Flesh Leaving No Mark . . . The Only Man Who Knows His Secret Hypnotized Into Silence . . . Booming Tom-Toms Warning the Approach of a Vampire.

Fascinating in Its Horror . . . Hypnotic in Its Revelation . . . Ghoulish! Haunting! Morbidly Exciting!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Wonder Man"**

In line with the Kaye characterization of a grown-up quiz kid, tie up with schools to hold a quiz kid contest. Have finalists from each school appear on the stage with local business men acting as judges. Award war bonds. Tie in with music stores to display Danny Kaye records. For a lobby display use a huge blowup of Kaye, with mouth open, wire to a recording machine and play his most popular records.

CATCHLINES:

One Danny Kaye Is Hilarious . . . But When You Get Two at Once—Anything Can Happen—And Does! . . . Kaye as Twins—A Grown-Up Quiz Kid and a Brash Night Club Comic . . . The Spirit of Comic Kaye Enters the Body of Bookworm Kaye . . . And Wow!

Double Fun! Double Confusion! Double Laughter! Double Danny Kaye! . . . It's Kaye's Kay-raziest Komedy! Fast! Furious! Funny . . . Filmdom's Funniest Funnyman at His Funniest!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Scarlet Clue"**

Display in outer lobby a huge blowup of "Chan's" face, minus mustache and goatee. Distribute to schools "scarlet clues" made of red paper with various types of mustaches imprinted upon them. Print some of them with the correct mustache and goatee. Advertise a prize to the first two or three presenting the correct ones at the boxoffice. Tie in with local merchants to use "'the clue' to good taste is a ..... dress, suit, etc."

CATCHLINES:

The Screen's Most Daring Sleuth in the Screen's Most Daring Story . . . Chan Uncovers a Plot to Steal the Government's Radar Plans . . . Murder by Poison Gas! Murder by Secret Trap Doors! Murder in a Radar Laboratory! Murder During a Broadcast! Death Machines Hidden in Microphones!

You'll Sit on the Edge of Your Seat as Chan Solves This One . . . Electrifying in Its Impact! . . . Startling in Its Development!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Phantom Speaks"**

Use loud-speaker attachment to street intoning in a muffled voice periodic advertisements of picture. Sponsor a letter-writing contest on "Who Was the Actual Killer—Renwick or Bogardus?" For a lobby display set up a replica of an electric chair with lighting effects simulating electric currents. Use banners a la "This Is How He Died—How Did He Return?," etc.

CATCHLINES:

An Executed Murderer Returns in Spirit to Commit More Crimes . . . A Phantom Invades the Body of a Scientist . . . A Slayer Beyond the Reach of Human Justice.

A Spine-Tingling Drama . . . Replete With Chills . . . A Dead Man Returns as a Killer . . . Crimes That Defy Detection . . . Baffling Mystery . . . Terrific! Horror-ific! A Phantom Speaks and Men Die! . . . Eerie!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Song of the Sarong"**

Tie up with jewelry stores to display various types of pearls in their windows—with stills from the picture showing the "island of pearls." Advertise for townspeople to bring in South Pacific souvenirs for an exhibit. Award bond as a prize for the most unusual souvenir. Decorate the lobby in a South Sea manner and build a replica of an island temple.

CATCHLINES:

He Went in Search of an Island of Pearls—He Found a Beautiful Princess . . . Hostile Natives Light Altar Fires for a White Man's Execution . . . A Native Girl Offers Her Life for Her Lover's.

Exotically Beautiful . . . Terrifyingly Lovely! . . . Strange Adventures on a Strange Island . . . Love and Romance vs. Hatred and Jealousy . . . South Sea Magic and Madness in an Exciting and Fantastic Tale.

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FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2,000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

ALL YOU NEED TO OPEN—COMPLETE SIMPLEX BOOTH OUTFITS consisting of projectors, lamphouses, lens, soundheads, motors, amplifier, speakers and soundscreen. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., NEW YORK 18.

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NEW AND USED CARPETS—Buy now before priority. Harry Phillips, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

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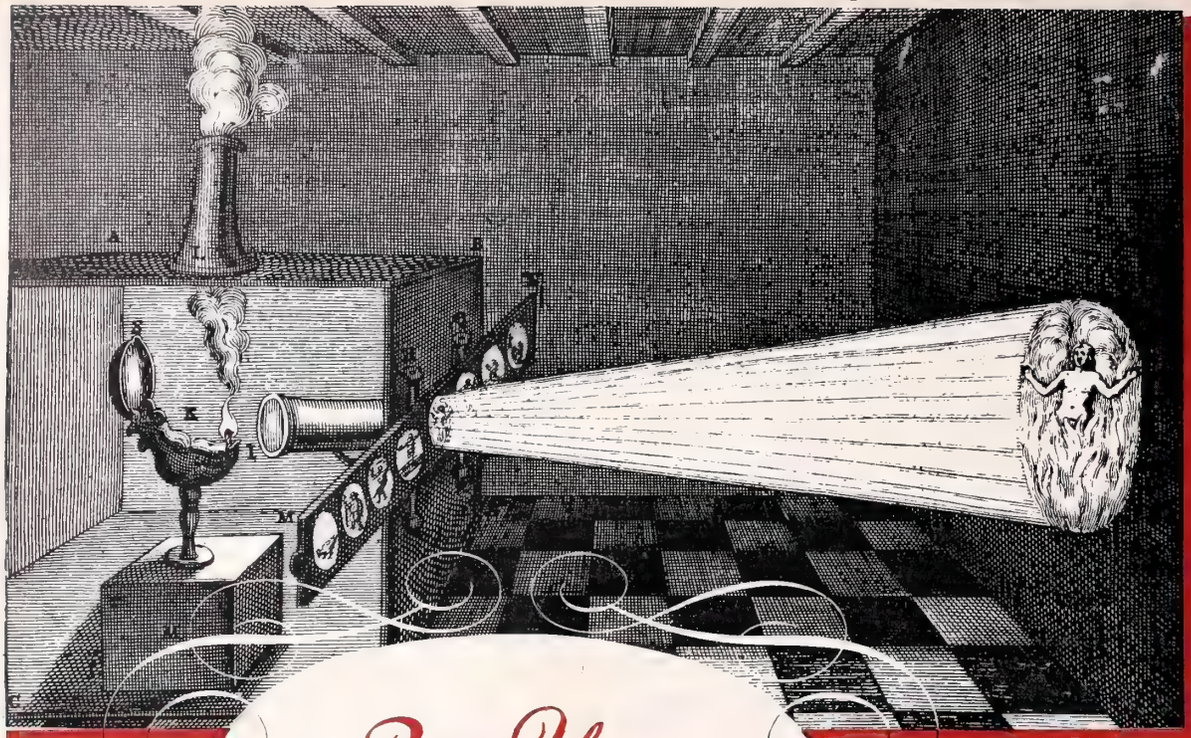
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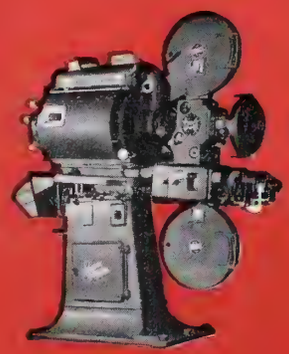
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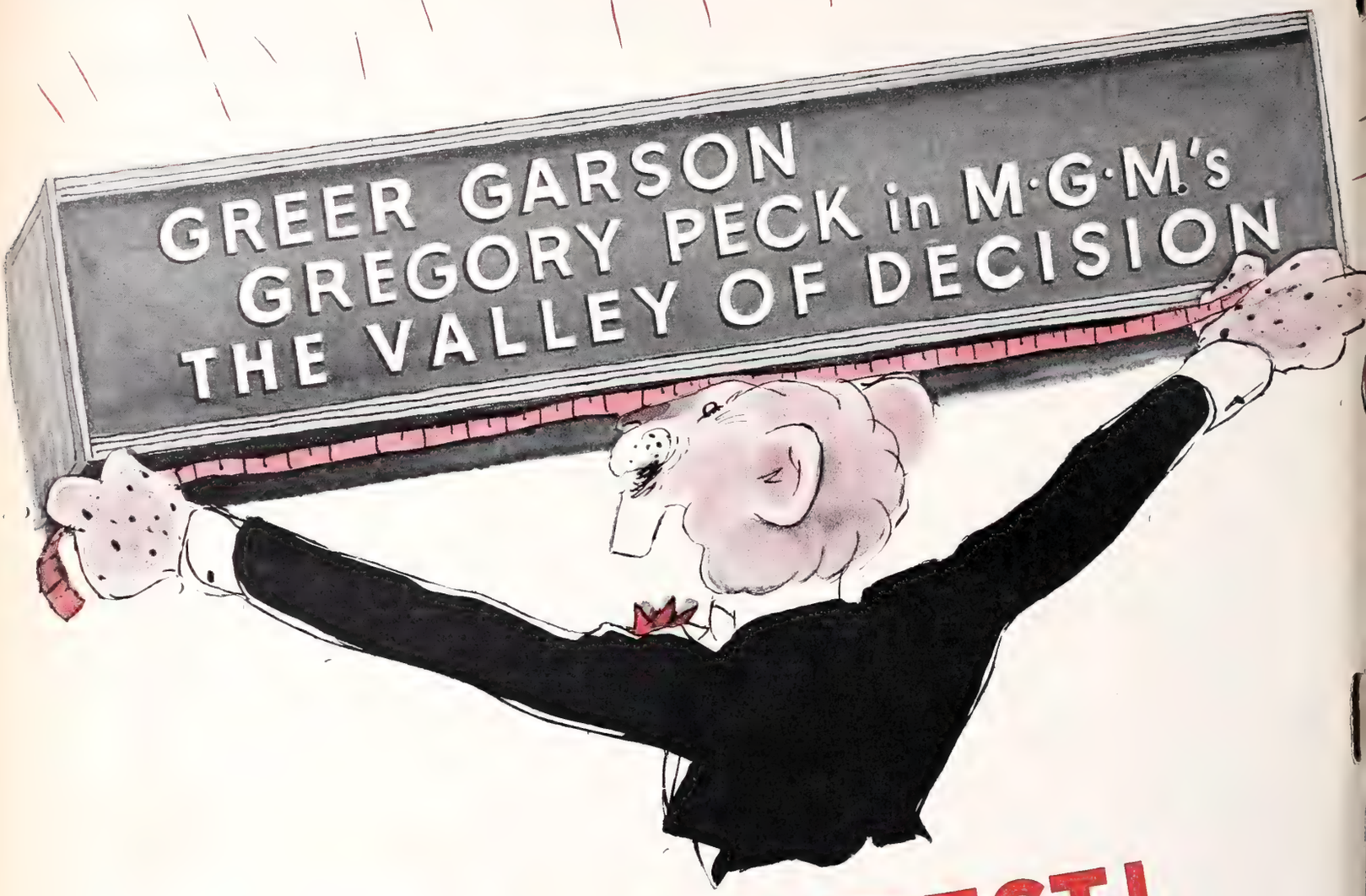


The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

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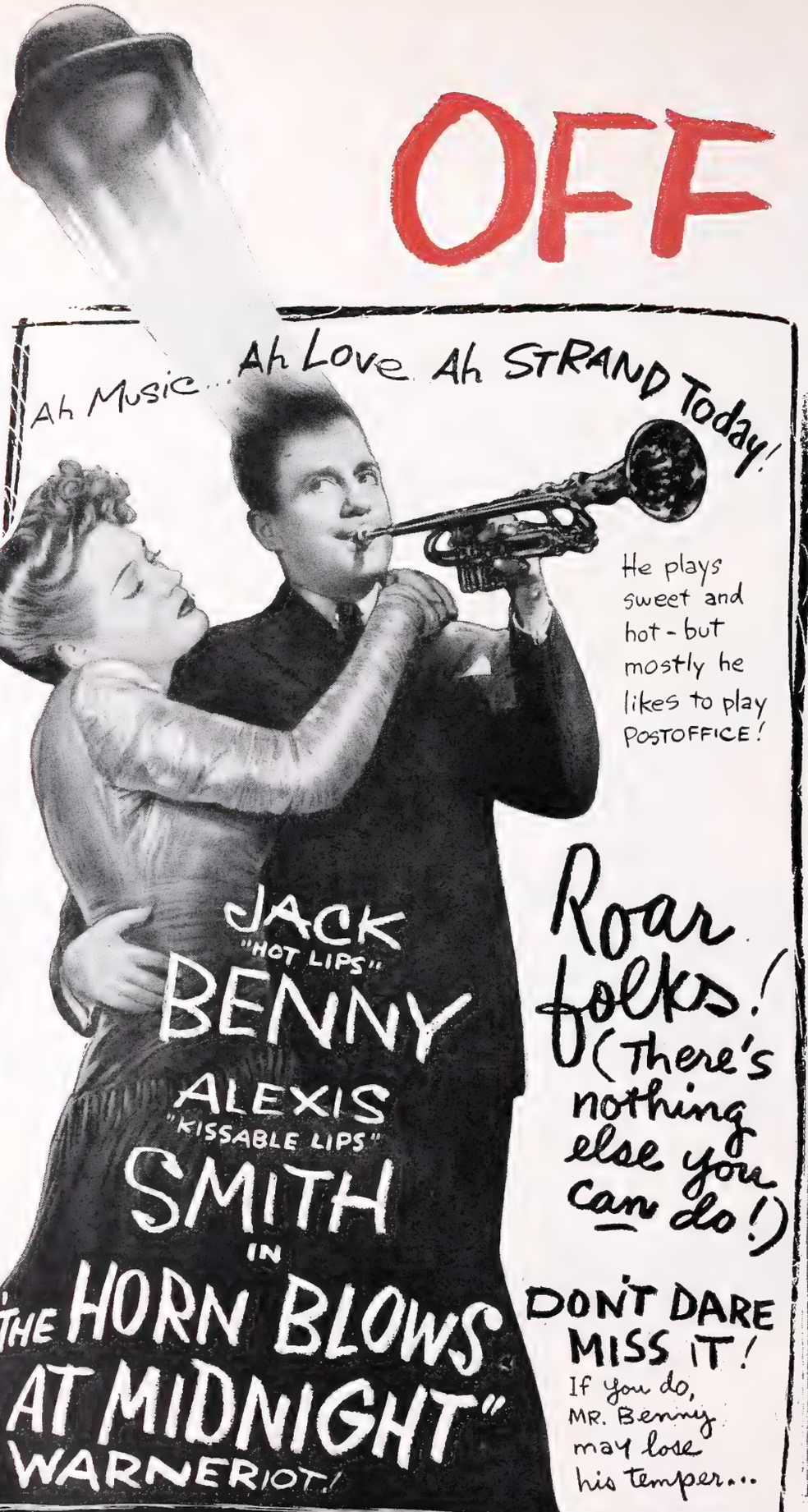
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DOLORES MORAN · ALLYN JOSLYN · REGINALD GARDINER
GUY KIBBEE · JOHN ALEXANDER · Directed by RAOUL WALSH

Screen Play by Sam Hellman and James V. Kern · Produced by **MARK HELLINGER** · Based on an Idea by Aubrey Wisberg · Music by Franz Waxman

A GREAT START!

the riot's on!

AT THE N.Y. STRAND
AND A DOZEN OTHER
PACKED HOUSES.

There's JACK in this one
and BIG! BIG! BIG!

Brother, get going and HURRY!

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
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ST. LOUIS—5149 Rosa Ave., David F. Barrett, Flanders 3727.
SALT LAKE CITY—The Deseret News, Howard Pearson.
SAN ANTONIO—531 North St., L. J. B. Ketner.
SAN FRANCISCO—25 Taylor St., Gail Lipman, ORdway 4812-4813.
SEATTLE—2418 2nd Ave., Joe Cooper, Seneca 2460.
WASHINGTON—2812 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Al Sherman, EMerson 2652. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

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MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

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BOXOFFICE

IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

ABOUT three weeks ago the Senate Special Committee on Small Business made the front pages with the launching of its investigation into the charges that alleged monopolistic practices by "the big fellows" were forcing "the little fellows" out of business. Senator James E. Murray, chairman of the committee, made the following significant statement in connection with the announcement of his probe:

"The vital importance of motion pictures as a medium for the communication of thoughts and ideas gives the public a real stake in them. Any practices which result in restraint of trade, or prevent the exhibition of films in any area in the country would infringe on the public interest in that territory."

On that basis we would suggest to Senator Murray that he would be rendering a real public service by advancing legislation that will reduce, if not entirely eliminate, the burdensome admission tax, which has worked a great hardship on many small town theatres, causing loss of patronage and thereby "infringing on the public interest."

And, perhaps, Senator Murray will give further help to the little fellow who has been greatly handicapped by the drain on his manpower, by expediting proper recognition—long overdue—of the motion picture theatre's essentiality to the war effort and "in the public interest."

In the meanwhile the little fellow—and the big fellow, too—can do a great deal for himself by writing to his senators and representatives in Congress to support Hon. Gordon L. McDonough's advocacy of essential rating for motion picture theatres. In his remarks which were read into the Congressional Record, Congressman McDonough said in part:

"Although not recognized as an essential industry, the motion picture theatre is the channel which carries the story of the war to 88,000,000 people in this nation each week, thus keeping up the morale of the folks at home and the men at the front.

"I urge the members of the house to give more serious attention to the motion picture theatre as an essential industry in winning the war.

"Its service to the public cannot be overlooked."

That is of moment. And important, not only to the present but to the immediate and, perhaps, distant future. It is something that affects all theatres alike; and will affect those returning service men about whom Senator Murray has expressed concern, should they desire "to open and successfully operate motion picture theatres."

Essential rating will be of great help to theatre men in the operations of their businesses. It will enable them to obtain some materials and supplies now denied them and to have at

least a fair shake in getting sufficient manpower for their needs, in the interest of public service and public safety.

And, too, they will be enabled to continue their efforts in the various war activities—a work which they have done exceedingly well and which has meant so much, locally, nationally and internationally.

Again we urge every exhibitor to write at once to his senator and congressman to give him the support he has so well earned and which the industry so much deserves—by giving essential rating to the motion picture theatre.

★ ★

Artistic and Profitable

In the news release covering Will H. Hays' annual report, the following statement is made:

"Hays said that the industry could view with pride the steady trend toward wider and wider public approval and enjoyment of films which have greater artistic merit. This year, as in the past, he said, a larger number of films rated by competent critics as the year's best have also been the pictures which won the blue ribbon of boxoffice success. 'There could be no more rewarding response to our efforts to raise the level of public appreciation of film artistry,' he stated."

Perhaps Mr. Hays was not directly referring to BOXOFFICE's Blue Ribbon Awards made to pictures of outstanding merit, which are at the same time suitable for whole family entertainment. Nevertheless it is the fact that these selections, made each month while the pictures are current, have been financial successes. For example we cite the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon winners of the last 12 months:

In 1944: "See Here, Private Hargrove," April; "For Whom the Bell Tolls," May; "The White Cliffs of Dover," June; "The Story of Dr. Wassell," July; "Going My Way," August; "The Seventh Cross," September; "Arsenic and Old Lace," October; "Since You Went Away," November; "Mrs. Parkington," December. In 1945: "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," January; "The Keys of the Kingdom," February; "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," March.

The business done by each of these pictures was well above the average mark.

★ ★

Common Ties Bind

General Jan Christiaan Smuts, en route to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, is quoted as saying that peace depends in essence upon the common ties between peoples and nations, even though they differ in customs and ideologies.

Yes, and between exhibitors—both independent and affiliated—and producers and distributors.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

No Admission Tax Slashes Until After the War Ends

Senate-House committee studying interim and postwar relief on levies indicates experts think corporation and nuisance imposts will continue until Japan's defeat.

• • • ——

Hollywood Strike Heads Move to Boycott Films

Union labor leaders Thursday take steps they say are designed to place ban on all pictures completed or started since controversy with producers began March 12.

• • • ——

Vision Curfew End Shortly After VE-Day Announced

Film men discussing problem with War Mobilization Director Vinson, encouraged by Speaker Rayburn's announcement Capitol floodlights go on after German capitulation.

• • • ——

Frank C. Walker Resigns As Postmaster General

Expected to resume active direction of Comerford circuit within next 60 days; was close associate of President Roosevelt over long period of years.

• • • ——

Televised Stage Shows Is Latest GE Project

Paul L. Chamberlain tells Bostonians central plant can send out programs by wire to subscribing theatres for use on screen; 20th-Fox telecasting starts late in summer.

• • • ——

Good Business After War Is Predicted by Balaban

Executive says in report to stockholders that backed-up purchasing power will carry beyond reconversion era; is hopeful of cuts in taxes.

• • • ——

No VE-Day Celebration For Hollywood Studios

Complying with President's request, producers' association decides all major lots will continue operations when big day comes; independents adopt same policy.

• • • ——

Trade Board Says British Films Not Shown in U.S.

Protests made to American industry that English pictures haven't sufficient market here; being shown "merely in a few especially-rented theatres."

• • • ——

British Raw Stock Move Hits U.S. Firms There

Board of Trade, after allotting film for Rank's pictures here, won't supply stock for U.S. prints in England unless America digs up stock for Rank's releases here.

HORROR PICTURES GET VARIED RECEPTION OVER THE COUNTRY

Few Protests Among First Runs, But Subsequents Worry About Families

NEW YORK—For the first time in the history of the film business hundreds of feet of stark horror films were presented on the first run screens last Tuesday in every newsreel. It was done at the reported request of General Eisenhower to shock the American public into a realization of the atrocious treatment of prisoners in some German camps.

All newsreel editors included the footage because they felt it was a patriotic duty.

Audience reactions in New York and in the key centers across the country where the reels were shown Tuesday in downtown first runs were difficult to gauge. It was agreed by all observers that the pictures were received in complete silence, with practically no complaints voiced at the close of shows.

Music Hall Refuses Booking

This also is what happened in projection rooms where this observer saw the uncensored and uncut footage filmed by the signal corps. Some women observers admitted they felt sick. Men were utterly shocked.

The reels showed piles of bodies, masses of them being carried by Germans to large graves, half-starved men still alive, both in closeup and long shots.

The New York Music Hall refused to show the pictures on the ground that the house was a "family theatre." Gus S. Eyssell, managing director, said he did not wish to take a chance on "shocking or sickening any squeamish persons." Oscar Doob, publicity and advertising director for Loew's Theatres, said no complaints had been received from any point on the circuit.

All circuit heads began an immediate study Wednesday to find out what had happened, because they were curious to know whether parents intended to keep their children away as the word of mouth advertising spread. They also wanted to have some way of gauging possible reactions as the reels filter out into neighborhoods patronized principally by families.

In New York all newspapers sent reporters out to mingle with audiences to study reactions. The New York Times commented that "they were probably the most frightful pictures of death and woe ever exhibited in American newsreels," but agreed that there were no protests reported.

Some managers warned their audiences not to look, if they were squeamish. Many didn't.

Russian Atrocity Film Banned by Hays Office

New York—Two contrasting developments attracted wide attention locally—the showing of the Nazi horror newsreels and the announcement on the same day that the Hays office had refused to approve showing of "We Accuse," documentary film based on the Kharkov trials.

The Hays office said a seal was refused because the word "damn" was used and because the horror scenes were repetitious.

PM carried an editorial box on the same page with the Berlin battle and the newsreel picture story which was headlined: "Damned by Small Minds."

The opening paragraph read: "The Hays office is guilty of one of the most stupid things it has ever done in a long history of stupidities."

Telephone calls to leading circuits Wednesday morning revealed the shockers were met for the most part by silence. Some admitted frankly they intended to get more detailed comments from individual managers before deciding how much further circulation to give the reels.

Harry M. Warner insisted the showing of the films as a public duty. He issued a memorandum to employes to see the films in projection rooms and instructed all theatres to show them. Norman S. Elson, vice-president of Trans-Lux, said some women walked out of three of the company's theatres. All 20th-Fox first runs across the country played the Fox Movietone reel.

Brandt Theatres, operating 120 houses in the New York area, reported it had not received any formal complaints. Century circuit's 36 theatres said there had been no disorder or complaint on the part of the audience, although one manager phoned in to say "the people didn't feel so good," but added he had not eliminated any scenes from the reel.

Loew's 72 theatres in the metropolitan area showed the reel without receiving any complaint. A survey by division managers indicated no patrons had fainted, nor had there been disorder of any sort. Paramount officials declared there had been no complaints up to Wednesday.

Hits Between the Eyes

Fabian Theatres had its staff check on a cross section of the circuit's 30 first run houses. RKO Theatres reported no protests.

At Minneapolis the attitude of managers was that the pictures should be shown. John Friedl said the reels were "strong and shocking," but there had been no complaint or adverse criticism.

Two Omaha managers, William Miskell, Tri-States, and Pinky McIlvaine, RKO Brandeis, said there were marked signs of relief when scenes shifted to San Francisco conference. Some inquiries were received as to time of showings. Ted Emerson, Orpheum manager, said, "It hits them right between the eyes."

Milwaukee managers reported no advance advertising and no outward show of emotion on part of audiences, although it was noted many turned away from the screen.

A. J. Stolte, Tri-State district manager at Des Moines, said patrons obviously thought the pictures gruesome, but he felt they should be shown. He will send them out to the subsequents.

At Oklahoma City women fainted and others insisted the films should not be shown. Some said they thought the showing desirable in order to prevent soft peace.

Women were horrified and became ill at the first showings in Charlotte, N. C.

PM, New York tabloid, devoted a half page to the showing of the reels with comments from spectators accompanied by their pictures.

Referring to the pictures the paper said: "They produced mixed reactions—a mixture of horror, of grief, of anger, of hate. Audiences did not cry out, did not demonstrate. Few people wept, even women whose sons are missing in action in Germany; it is not the kind of thing you can wash out of your eyes with tears."

Shocked Patrons Witness Awful Scenes in Silence; Some Women Faint

No Protests in Buffalo

BUFFALO — The horror newsreel on the screens of all downtown theatres brought varied reactions from audiences. A spokesman for the three Shea houses said no one voiced objection to the film, but most all said, "It was pretty bad to look at."

The Lafayette management said there was no excitement or exclamations during the showings, but that members of the audience said things to one another under their breath.

The Twentieth Century, on the other hand, reported "complete silence" on the part of the audience as the film was shown. A BOXOFFICE representative saw the film and heard the following remarks:

"If I had not seen it, I wouldn't believe it. Even then it seemed almost unreal . . . There is something they won't be able to say was hopped-up . . . They will never be able to contradict evidence like that . . . It just makes me feel no punishment could be too harsh for humans who would do anything like that."

Albany Audiences Indignant

ALBANY—The reaction of audiences at Fabian's Palace to the showing of the Nazi horror film Tuesday was one of great indignation that such cruelties could be perpetuated. Audiences seemed to be relieved when the newsreels ended.

Alex Sayles, manager, said: "The scenes should offset any tendency for the American

Solons Witness Scenes Of German Brutality

Washington—Members of both the senate and the house saw the Pathe News shots on German internment and prisoner of war camps at special screenings last Monday. Announcement that the showings would be held were made by Sen. Lister Hill (Dem.) Alabama, in the senate and by Rep. John McCormack (Dem.) Massachusetts, in the house. This is said to be unprecedented.

Arrangements for the showings were made by George Dorsey, Pathe Washington bureau head.

Evidence Against Nazis, Is View of Canadians

Toronto — Horror newsreels depicting ugly characteristics of German warfare with actual scenes of death at concentration, slave labor and war camps appeared on the screens of Canadian theatres without advance notice. While audiences were obviously moved by the terrible scenes, the news films were accepted as direct evidence of Nazi capabilities.

The appearance of the films at theatres was followed by newspaper comment which accompanied cables from Europe regarding discovery of more war crimes.

people to accept a soft peace, and should promote the Seventh War Loan. The scenes were the most realistic ever shown in local theatres; they were not advertised."

Memphis Sees Films Calmly

MEMPHIS—Memphis moviegoers took the first showing of the German prison camp atrocity pictures calmly. There was no hissing, no booing, no talking it over in the lobby. The films were shown Tuesday at the Malco. They opened at the Strand Thursday and ran through Saturday.

Atlanta Gives Approval

ATLANTA—Audience reactions here on the horror newsreels was favorable, scattered comments indicated. Many said they thought more of this type should be shown.

Detroit Managers Worried

DETROIT — All downtown houses showed the prison camp newsreels. Neighborhood theatre managers made it a point to see them in order to be in a position to decide whether they felt their family audiences could stand them. Some indicated they would make cuts or not play them.

First run managers reported no walkouts and no complaints. A check of lobby comment indicated the reels had caused more furore than anything shown locally in a long time.

Toronto Audiences Moved

TORONTO — The horror newsreels were shown here without advance notice. While audiences were obviously moved the newsreels were accepted as direct evidence of Nazi depravity and audiences made no move to leave seats during the showing. There was some newspaper comment.

Service Folk Like Them

BOSTON — This city's downtown section has thousands of sailors, merchant seamen and soldiers on the streets every afternoon and evening. They definitely liked the Nazi prison camp horror films.

Civilian reactions were mixed, all being startled and shocked, but not opposed to their exhibition.

"Old stuff! We knew it and we're going to get even," was the trend of the service men's comment.

Some civilians, women, were said to have fainted and managers admitted this.

Managers of three de luxe houses in the downtown area said the films caused more visible reaction than any films within their memory. One manager reported a number of patrons walked out.

"Should Be More of Same"

ATLANTA—All managers say they believe more films of the same type should be shown.

Horrified in Seattle

SEATTLE—Downtown theatre audiences were horrified. Some women became sick and left. Indignation against Nazis was general and loudly expressed, but no protest was made against the exhibition of the pictures.

Capital's Interest General

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Trans-Lux Newsreel Theatre is the only one showing Nazi horror newsreels. Roland Robbins, manager, reports interest general, with audiences visibly affected. He feels the pictures should be seen by everyone.

St. Louis Audiences Calm

ST. LOUIS—No outstanding reactions were in evidence during and following the first showings of the Nazi prison camp films at the Fox Missouri and St. Louis. There were some gasps, but no loud outcries. Some turned their heads but nobody left theatres. As a result, they will be put on in the subsequent runs.

To Be Shown Widely in Texas

DALLAS—Horror newsreels were shown generally in Texas starting Thursday, two days after release in east and north. Circuits and independents were informed about them in advance and expressed willingness to put them on screens.

R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate circuit vice-president, said, "We are deeply mindful that these types of pictures are anything but acceptable entertainment, but the government wants all to see them. Therefore, we are going to show them over the circuit as a duty in cooperation with the war effort."

Chicago Press Approves

CHICAGO—Display by local theatres of newsreels showing German concentration, slave labor and some prisoner of war camps has the approval of the press and a large section of the public, according to a survey made by the Chicago Times, which devoted two columns to the subject.

For the first time theatre screens have featured pictures of this kind, the censors and the comparatively undeveloped state of the newsreel industry having prevented such exhibitions during the last world war.

Questioning persons leaving theatres, Times reporters learned that parents of service men were in tears and said they wished they had not seen the gruesome pictures, but almost everyone else questioned declared that it was fitting and proper that the public see for itself the kind of enemy our boys are dealing with and with whom a peace and a postwar program is going to be developed.

But like it or not, the public is going to be shown the pictures if they attend a theatre.

Goddard Orders Pre-Trial Details in Trust Action



HUGE BOND STATUE—This artist's drawing gives an idea of the proportions of the Iwo Jima flag-raising statue to be erected in Times Square for the Seventh War Loan. It will be unveiled May 11. It is to be 50 feet high.

NEW YORK—Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard has directed the government to reply to 46 interrogatories propounded by the distributor-defendants in the antitrust suit. The government was asked to furnish as much information as it possessed by June 1 and to complete the balance of the interrogatories by July 1. This would give the distributors adequate time to prepare for the scheduled trial October 8.

Judge Goddard made it clear that he inclined to the belief that the government's pretrial data should be as complete as it was in 1940 prior to the entry of the New York consent decree.

Arguing the motion for the distributor-defendants, Whitney North Seymour declared that his clients were compelled to ask a formal order for the information because of the government's refusal to furnish it. Seventeen of the interrogatories, he said, related to the government's allegations in the amended complaint of November 1940, and 29 were concerned with allegations in the original complaint.

Allege 400 Cities Involved

The government's new allegations, he added, related to alleged illegal trade practices in some 400 cities whereas the original number was 100. Furthermore, the department of justice's plan to furnish the names of witnesses and the general outline of their testimony 30 days prior to the scheduled trial in the New York federal court October 8 was insufficient to enable the defendants to prepare their case properly.

In objecting to furnishing more complete data, John R. Niesley, special assistant to the attorney general, said it might tend to impede the government's orderly presentation of the case. He appeared in the absence of Robert L. Wright, assistant U.S. attorney general, who is in Oklahoma City representing the government in the Griffith case.

Harold Lasser, of the New York office of the antitrust division of the DofJ, disclosed following the hearing that investigators are interviewing prospective witnesses throughout the country who may be called at the New York trial.

Murray Committee Slow On Probe of Industry

WASHINGTON—Senator James Murray, chairman of the senate small business committee, is determined to proceed with caution in his probe of the motion picture industry if the committee's present movements are any criterion.

Although several weeks have elapsed since it was announced that the Murray committee would investigate alleged abuses in film distribution and exhibition, the committee's first meeting with department of justice officials still is to be held. It is possible that this meeting will take place early next week.

Dewey Anderson, committee counsel, has been busy with other committee activities but in the meantime he has gathered together most of the complaints received and will submit them to the justice department for study and for a report as to whether, in the light of the government's antitrust action, these complaints justify a full probe by the Murray body.

Meantime, it was stated that many complaints, "enough to keep us busy," have been received.

Profit for 20th-Fox Shows an Increase

NEW YORK — Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp. reported a consolidated net profit of $12,480,491 for the 53 weeks ending Dec. 30, 1944. This was an increase of $1,578,723 over the preceding year.

Gross income for 1944 was $172,624,529, an increase over last year's gross of $18,278,580. The consolidated net profit before federal taxes and other deductions was $40,244,585 compared to $38,153,905 for last year. Federal income and excess profits taxes on this year's earnings amounted to $25,100,000, an increase of $1,300.000 over 1943.

Regular quarterly dividends were paid on the prior preferred stocks amounting to $1,776,742, while dividends on common stock were paid at $2.00 a share and totalled $3,487,435.

Inventories increased during the year by $4,908,137. The principal causes of this rise were increased costs and larger investment in important pictures.

During the year 20th-Fox's English distributing subsidiary invested $1,200,000 in stock of Metropolis and Bradford Trust Co., Ltd. 20th-Fox now owns approximately a half interest in that company, which in turn owns about 57 per cent of the voting control of Gaumont British Picture Corp., Ltd.

Preferred stock retirement funds of $187,125 and $478,808 for prior preferred and convertible preferred stock were appropriated in April of last year out of the paid-in surplus account on the basis of 1943 earnings. They were applied to the redemption of 1,867 shares of the prior preferred stock at $100 per share, plus dividends accrued, and to the purchase and retirement of 14,619 shares of convertible preferred stock at an average price of $32.75 a share.

Myers Hits Withdrawal Of "Call of the Wild"

NEW YORK—Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, has sent out a bulletin to members sharply critical of the withdrawal by 20th-Fox of the Clark Gable reissue, "Call of the Wild," from a recent block of pictures. He says it has been omitted from approved contracts.

"One exhibitor leader recently wired Tom Connors," says Myers, "charging that prints of the picture are resting on the shelves of the exchanges, adding: 'In view of the critical raw stock situation . . . we think an explanation is due not only to those who bought this picture in good faith, but also to the War Production Board.'"

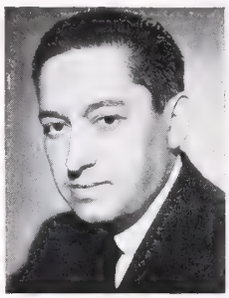
Later in his bulletin Myers says: "But more is involved than a possible waste of raw stock. A Clark Gable picture—even a reissue—would be manna to many picture-starved exhibitors . . . It has been suggested that the president of Metro prevailed on the executive production head of 20th-Fox to suppress the reissue for fear its release at this time might interfere with the killing which Metro expects to make with the new Gable offering."

Approval of Pension Plan Awaits 20th's Meeting

NEW YORK—Final details of the 20th-Fox pension plan have not yet been determined. Consequently, the plan will not be presented at the annual stockholders' meeting on May 15 as was previously expected. The board of directors has not yet approved the basic plan and it is doubtful if their approval can be secured before the annual meeting. A special meeting will probably be called to vote final approval.

Bergman Named to Head WAC Public Relations

NEW YORK—Maurice Bergman, eastern advertising and publicity director for Universal, has been named chairman of the WAC public relations division by Francis S. Harmon, vice-chairman and coordinator. Former heads of the division include Major Monroe Greenthal of UA; Oscar Doob of Loew's and Harry Goldberg of Warner Theatres.



Bergman has been with Universal three years. Previously he was 20th-Fox advertising manager, advertising and publicity director of Columbia and advertising executive with Publix Theatres, now part of Paramount. He is a graduate of Ohio State University, where he majored in journalism, and the University of Cincinnati law school. He was admitted to the bar in Ohio.

Will Increase Rank's Raw Stock Supply

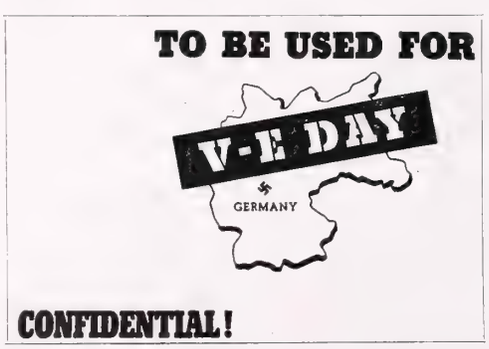
LONDON—The determination of the British Board of Trade and J. Arthur Rank to release British films in the United States as quickly as possible despite the raw stock shortage was seen in proposals to increase Rank's allotment by some 20 to 25 million feet.

In denying that discriminatory action against U.S. film distributors is contemplated, British trade officials made it clear that American companies would not be deprived of an equal amount of raw stock to compensate for that given to Rank. It was said that the film would be accumulated in smaller lots from noncommercial channels.

The British film and government officials are said to feel that the raw stock shortage both in England and the U.S. should not be permitted to stand in the way of early release of British product in America.

A special allotment of about 300,000 feet of raw stock has already been made to Rank for the release of his "This Way Ahead," scheduled for distribution in the U.S.A. Rank is reported to have pointed out the difficulty of obtaining additional raw stock in this country, whereupon the British Board of Trade took steps to increase his allotment.

According to a recent War Production Board ruling, Rank would be estopped from further acquisition of raw stock in this country inasmuch as he used up this season's quota on "Mr. Emmanuel" and "Colonel Blimp." These films are in current release.



SECRET INSTRUCTIONS — Imprint on envelope sent out by the Seventh War Loan national committee to all exhibitors. In the envelope are instructions for selling bonds on VE-Day.

Paramount's Profits And Capital Are Up

NEW YORK—Earnings of Paramount Pictures, Inc., for the 52 weeks ending Dec. 30, 1944, were reported at $16,488,106 after all deductions, including interest, taxes and depreciation, and $1,500,000 addition reserve for contingencies. These earnings include $1,745,000 representing the company's interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed net earnings for the year of partially owned affiliated companies.

Earnings for 1943 on this same basis were $16,140,821, including $1,556,000 of undistributed earnings of partially owned nonconsolidated companies. This was $347,285 less than was earned in 1944.

The amount earned per common share for 1944 was $4.39, as compared with $4.30 for the preceding year.

Cash on Dec. 30, 1944, amounted to $19,787,633, of which $1,827,059 was in foreign countries other than Canada, principally in Great Britain. Total current assets were $64,958,537 and current liabilities $16,112,057, leaving a net working capital of $48,846,480, an increase of $6,540,877 during the year.

Ready Now for Television

The accounts of the company's wholly owned subsidiary, Paramount Broadway Corp. (owner of the Paramount Theatre and office building, Times Square, New York) now known as Paramount Pictures Theatres Corp., are included in the consolidated financial accounts for 1944 for the first time since reorganization of the company. This company had outstanding at the beginning of the year $5,940,500 principal amount of first mortgage sinking fund loan certificates bearing minimum interest of 3 per cent per annum. The company was a limited guarantor of this obligation. The mortgage on the Paramount Bldg. was paid off in full at face amount and accrued interest during 1944. Funds for this purpose were advanced out of the proceeds of an unsecured borrowing at interest rates of two per cent and 2¼ per cent per annum, of which $5,000,000 remained outstanding at the close of the year.

Barney Balaban, president of the company, states in the report that Paramount is ready to take advantage of television when it comes into widespread use through its interests in Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., and Scophony Corp. of America and through television transmitters now operated by consolidated subsidiaries in Chicago and Hollywood.

He believes that postwar reconversion will offer no problems to the company that will not be offset by the large available purchasing power of the nation, by the return of service men and by increasing revenues from countries whose markets were closed because of the war and from a large backlog of feature productions which have not been shown in such countries since 1940.

Farewell Dinner Planned In Honor of Goldstein

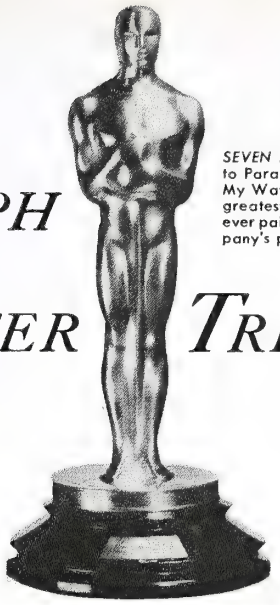
NEW HAVEN—A farewell dinner in honor of Morey "Razz" Goldstein, recently appointed eastern sales manager for Monogram, will be given Monday night, May 14, by his friends and associates here prior to the departure of the former New Haven M-G-M exchange manager for his new headquarters in New York.

WB to Release Two in June

NEW YORK — Warner Bros. will release two features in June. "Pillow to Post" goes into general release June 9. "Conflict," with Humphrey Bogart, is set for June 30.

TRIUMPH

AFTER TRIUMPH



SEVEN Academy Awards to Paramount for "Going My Way"—climax of the greatest flood of tributes ever paid to a single company's pictures and stars!

PARAMOUNT

now presents

the



Vth

Block of Four for 1944-45

Paramount

proudly presents a picture that brilliantly enhances the Paramount reputation for leadership in the field of comedy-romance... A fun-filled love story that has clocked record laughs from its first Hollywood sneak preview to its sensational Broadway premiere . . . Bringing to today's fun-seeking audiences the first great comedy performance of one of the screen's brightest stars.

Joan Fontaine

and

George Brent

in

HAL WALLIS'

Production

Joan kicks up her heels in her first gay, romantic comedy.



"The Affairs Of Susan"

with

DENNIS O'KEEFE

DON DEFORE · RITA JOHNSON · WALTER ABEL

Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER

Screen Play by Thomas Monroe, Laszlo Gorog and Richard Flournoy • Original Story by Thomas Monroe and Laszlo Gorog





She's the Girl with Four Kinds of Love—





And Four Fiancés to Match 'Em!



PROMOTED
by record magazine cover coverage, like this special painting by nationally-famous Bradshaw Crandall.



PUBLICIZED
with tremendous breaks like this four-page splash in March 20th LOOK Magazine.



ADVERTISED
with stunning art like the above in 25 big national magazines (including full pages in *Life* and *Look*) reaching more than 50 million readers.



SUSIE'S GOT 'EM ON THE RUN

. . . AND WHAT A RUN AT N. Y. RIVOLI WORLD PREMIERE!

Now in 6th week after 1st week topped "Bell Tolls" and 4th week topped the 3rd!



THESE 18 WORDS ARE OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANC
TO YOUR BOX-OFFICE. PLEASE READ THEM:

"SHOWMEN-CAN-SELL-TH
1 2 3

TICKETS-TO-THIS-SHOW-WITH
6 7 8 9 10

FIDENCE-THEY-SELL-THEM-W
13 14 15 16







Why SO MANY PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT "A MEDAL FOR BENNY" CAN BE ANOTHER "GOING MY WAY"—

BECAUSE it has an equally unusual and daring theme.

BECAUSE its story is just as tender, just as true, and just as deeply moving.

BECAUSE again a famous star, formerly identified with lighter roles, rises to great dramatic heights. See reviews at right for a few of the unanimous tributes to **DOROTHY LAMOUR.**

BECAUSE in **J. CARROL NAISH**'s role it introduces a surprise supporting performance just as sensational as was Barry Fitzgerald's. "If ever a supporting player was entitled to an Academy Award, surely Naish is that person," says Variety Daily. And see reviews at right for other great tributes.

BECAUSE **FRANK BUTLER,** co-author of the "Going My Way" screenplay, has put into this new script the same warm, human and touching qualities.

BECAUSE the story is by the famous best-selling novelist who is admittedly today's greatest portrayer of the pathos and comedy of the common man—**JOHN STEINBECK,** in collaboration with Jack Wagner.



EIR-CUSTOMERS

4 5

-THE-SAME-CON-

11 12

AR-BONDS!" MOTION PICTURE HERALD

17 18

THIS UNPRECEDENTED STATEMENT IS TYPICAL OF A THUNDERING CHORUS OF ALL-OUT TRADE REVIEWS THAT WARN YOU THAT ANOTHER GREAT SURPRISE ATTRACTION IS ON THE WAY FROM

Paramount

"One of the finest pieces of entertainment in many a moon . . . One of those pictures that rise above budgets and stand out above many of the more costly productions . . . Will bring back a return far, far above its cost." —*Variety Daily*

* * *

"Human, heart-warming . . . it should prove a joy to any spectator. Virtually every performance is a standout . . . J. Carrol Naish's delineation should win him Academy nomination." —*Boxoffice*

* * *

"Paramount has a real sleeper . . . Lifts Dorothy Lamour and J. Carrol Naish to new histrionic heights." —*Variety*

* * *

"Amusing, charming and moving . . . deserving of lots of screen time . . . A fine and an eminently appropriate attraction for all theatres." —*Motion Picture Daily*

* * *

"It's money in the bank . . . packs a wallop for any and all comers . . . To Frank Butler, Paul Jones and Irving Pichel it is a credit that will stand long and high on their lists . . . J. Carrol Naish and Mikhail Rasumny should be showing up on next year's list of Academy nominations." —*Motion Picture Herald*

* * *

"A honey of a show, with credit to all concerned . . . Director Irving Pichel deserves a medal." —*Exhibitor*

WATCH WORLD PREMIERE AT N. Y. RIVOLI, BROADWAY'S TOP HOUSE OF HITS!



DOROTHY

LAMOUR

ARTURO

DeCORDOVA

in

"A *Medal* FOR *Benny*"

with

J. CARROL NAISH

Who "sure pinned a medal on himself with this performance," says Hedda Hopper

MIKHAIL RASUMNY · FERNANDO ALVARADO
FRANK McHUGH

From the Story by

JOHN STEINBECK

and JACK WAGNER

Directed by

IRVING PICHEL

Screenplay by

FRANK BUTLER



IT'S FUN TO BE FLEAGLED

A New Word in the Laugh Dictionary
Combining the Sensationally Popular Appeal of Hillbilly
In the Maddest, Most Unique

FRED MacMURRAY



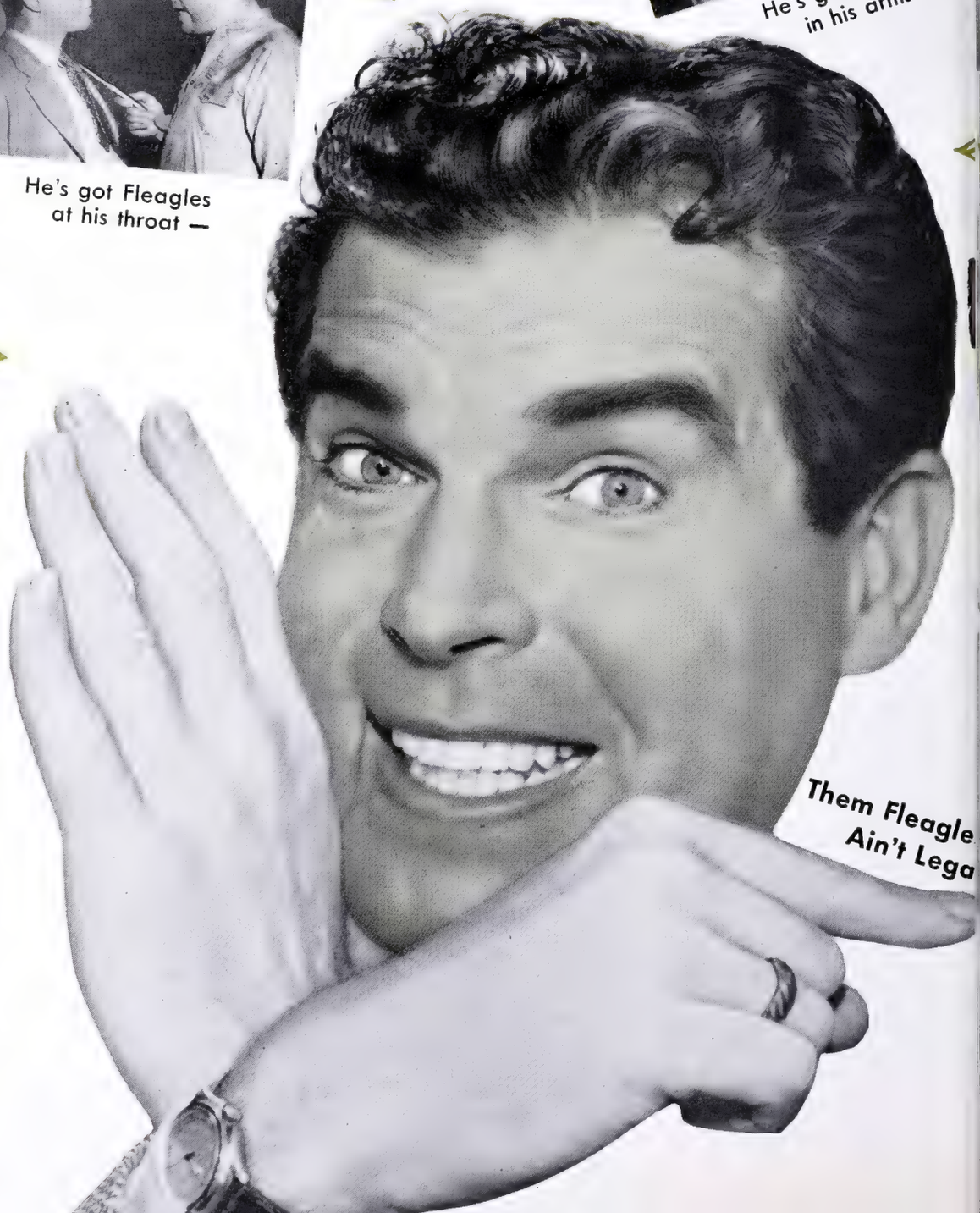
He's got Fleagles in his arms —



He's got Fleagles at his throat —

He's got Fleagles in his hair —





Them Fleagle Ain't Lega

"UNLIKE ANY OTHER FILM EVER MADE!"

—Says M. P. Daily

"Laughs clock heavily and pace moves swiftly...Will play hilariously as top material in all situations...Vigorous direction by George Marshall punches the many gags and comedy."
—VARIETY

"Original idea . . . unusual . . . unique comedy."—*M. P. HERALD*

"Far off the beaten path."
—BOXOFFICE

"Fast-moving comedy . . . will carry wide appeal."
—DAILY VARIETY

Fleag-le, *v: Trans.* **1.** To g winged, badgered, beaten or buried by a member of the wacky Fleagle family. **2.** To glow like a fire-fly from the famous Fleagle phosphorus diet.

A New Kind of Laugh-and-Chill Hit for Your Screen—
Humor with a Big-Star Draw—
Comedy Thriller ever Screened by **Paramount**



He gets all tied up with Fleagles when he tries to take a Trotter Poll of these hill-billy killer-dillers —and it's...

"MURDER, he says"



with

Helen Walker

The two-gun pin-up gal of every post office in America

Marjorie Main • Jean Heather • Porter Hall



"Don't shoot him here . . . take 'im outside."



"I love 'im, maw. Don't mess his purty face."



"Shall I start fixin' up another coffin?"

and Peter Whitney · Mabel Paige · Barbara Pepper

A GEORGE MARSHALL PRODUCTION

Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL

Screen Play by Lou Breslow

And Pine-Thomas Deliver Double the Comedy Thrills of "Double Exposure"



The WATCHword of the Industry

"WATCH Paramount

continue their sensational success string with the

5th Block Of Four"

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Horror Films Accepted

ONLY a few years back newspapers would not print pictures of bodies. Even so recently as the early days of the present war the war department would not release films of the slaughter of Japanese at Guadalcanal, and the newsreels didn't care, because they feared too much horror would cause protest among theatre patrons. Every theatre manager knows parents call up by the dozens and object to westerns with too much shooting and oppose the so-called horror films.

It was with some curiosity, therefore, that all the reels included extensive footage on the horrors of German prison camps showing corpses by the hundreds, bodies being loaded onto trucks and carried on pieces of lumber, and with views of half-starved men still alive.

Theatre managers accepted them in the belief the pictures should be shown to present to the world the true picture of German persecution of the helpless. Some patrons closed their eyes; others said they were sorry their children had seen them, but there has been no general public protest to date.

* * *

EXHIBITORS' interest in the start of the invasion of Borneo is something more then academic. That's where huge quantities of vegetable oils come from—the stuff the popcorn is heated with. It's also the place where enormous quantities of rubber originate, raising possibilities of relief of tire shortages; and it's an oil center. If the army doesn't have to supply the Far East fronts with oil from this country and rubber reappears here, some of the film delivery problems might not be so acute a few months hence.

* * *

ONE result of the rapid advance of American and British troops northward in Italy is a decision by the OWI to make early arrangements to turn back to the industry distribution of films there.

* * *

That Saturday Closing

MANY rumors have been in circulation about a disagreement among exhibitors over the closing of theatres the day of President Roosevelt's funeral in Washington. In fairness to major company and independent exhibitors who met the day before in WAC headquarters it should be stated that it wasn't a disagreement; it was uncertainty as to what the proper move should be.

Hours before the conferees went into session Warners had sent out word to all theatres to close all day Saturday. Before action was taken at the meeting several telephone calls were made to Washington—to the White House, to Elmer Davis and the war and navy departments. The general opinion in Washington seemed to be that closing until 6 p. m. would be a suitable tribute after it had been pointed out by Washington that thousands of sailors and soldiers in large cities looking for evening entertainment probably would be better off if they should go to theatres. After this information had been obtained an effort was made to induce Warners to change the original closing instructions in order to make the industry action uniform, but Warners pointed out this would only cause confusion. Word was then sent out to all theatres suggesting closing until 6 p. m.

Persons outside the industry in New York have criticized the industry for failure to withdraw theatre ads from newspapers as department stores did. This has been explained as an oversight.

Observance of the WAC request was general, it has been reported, but the hour of opening was not uniform in some cities.

* * *

"Sweeping" Gesture

LICENSE Commissioner Paul Moss of New York likes to move with sweeping gestures. One of his agents found a boy in the Strand who looked younger than 16 and closed the theatre for two days until mid-afternoon. The boy admitted to a truant officer he was 15. This makes life complicated for busy cashiers who can't be expected to argue with every customer in a line who looks young. Warner theatre executives are plenty disturbed about it.

* * *

WHEN J. Arthur Rank wants raw stock for his American releases he gets it from the British Board of Trade—which is the government. The British know the value of export trade and do something about it. Some of the film is coming out of previous army allotments.



BACK TO WORK—Ned E. Depinet, vice-president of RKO Radio Pictures, returns to New York with Mrs. Depinet after a seven-week stay in Arizona.

Depinet "In the Pink"; On Job After a Rest

By J. M. JERAULD

NEW YORK—Looking fit and rarin' to go after seven weeks of rest at Phoenix, Ned E. Depinet returned to the RKO offices early in the week and caught the tradepaper boys by surprise by asking them: "What's going on?"

Some of them admitted there was a raw stock shortage.

"Is it worse?" asked Depinet.

More questions followed and the boys were a bit nonplussed. Those who had pencils poised over notepaper forgot to make notes. Being on the interviewee end of an interview was something so new they couldn't very well make notes about their own comments on the state of the industry.

Just a Postman's Holiday

Between questions Depinet admitted the Arizona sun was great.

"Resting was great; it's easy to take," he said, "but after a while it gets boring, so I saw a picture every night—old pictures at that."

"See any RKO pictures again?" somebody asked.

"Yes, I did that, too—and I liked them."

The final two weeks of his stay included some work. Charles Koerner, studio head, journeyed down to Arizona and talked over forthcoming product and brought along a lot of cans of film of finished and unfinished product.

"Good stuff; we have some fine product coming up," he commented. "And, by the way," he added, " 'The Enchanted Cottage' is going to surprise a lot of people. It's doing a fine business—better even than some of us expected."

While discussing forthcoming product, Depinet admitted frankly RKO was making "B" pictures.

"We're making them better than they have ever been," he said, "and there is a demand for them. I know some companies deny there is any such thing—and maybe there isn't with their companies—but we admit it. Our customers have to have them. What's more, we are looking ahead. We have a fine backlog and we are ready for emergencies."

One thing that had impressed him during his Arizona stay, he said, was the movement of business toward the west. Grosses went up everywhere during the early days of the war, he said, but they went up more in proportion in the west than elsewhere.

Development in the West

"Even around Phoenix," he said, "new industries have developed and a new theatre has been opened by Paramount. It has been a long range tendency, dating back to the time when the national guard was sent to the border. Many of the guardsmen returned. They liked the open spaces and the climate. There may be some recession as some of the big war industries are cut down, but the west—and I mean all the way up the Pacific coast—has become industrialized. It probably will stay that way. The population gains will be held and more and more of our total income will come from that area.

"All of our sales drives in recent years have shown new quotas have to be set for our western exchanges after each drive."

"When are you going back to work?" asked one of the tradepaper boys.

"Right now, as soon as you guys get out of here," he responded, fingering a pile of documents. "While I was away Bob Mochrie and all the boys in the sales organization did a fine job. I can tell that even though I lost touch with the details."

The boys could take a hint, and did.

"Monopoly," Says Myers Of the Fall River Case

NEW YORK — Abram F. Myers, Allied board chairman and general counsel, in a special bulletin to members of the organization, predicts that the broad question of "whether the exhibitors or the distributors will operate the independent theatres in the future" will be decided by the result of the arbitration case filed by the Atlantic Amusement Co., operator of the Empire Theatre in Fall River, Mass., complaining that RKO refuses to license its picture, "It's a Pleasure," for exhibition in the Empire.

"On its face," Myers writes, "the proceeding is a typical Sec. VI (some run) case. The underlying facts, however, reveal it to be of unusual interest to exhibitors who operate two or more theatres, to circuits, and to co-operative buying combines."

Stating that in his opinion the case should be resolved in favor of the complainant, Myers gives some of the background leading up to the filing of the complaint with the arbitration tribunal. He says:

"In Fall River, there are three first run theatres: the Durfee, the largest, operated by the Rialto Amusement Co.; Empire, the next largest, operated by the complainant Atlantic Amusement Co., and the Center, the smallest, operated by the Interstate Fall River, Inc.

"These corporations are separate legal entities but are under common stock ownership. Rialto and Atlantic are wholly owned by a certain individual and his family. Interstate is owned 50 per cent by the Interstate group of Boston and 50 per cent by Rialto.

How the Dispute Arose

"The dispute arises from the insistence of distributors on playing pictures first run in the Durfee to the exclusion of the Empire and the Center. In the case of 'It's a Pleasure' —which is a test case—there is no dispute over terms, which are the same in all key situations. But because of its larger seating capacity, RKO insists that the picture be shown in the Durfee and refuses to license it in the Empire.

"From a practical standpoint, the case should go far toward deciding whether the distributors or the exhibitors are going to operate the independent motion picture theatres."

Myers says the proceedings in the settlement of the case will be closely followed by all exhibitors, "who at some time or other have sought pictures for one of several theatres and have been told they must buy for all, as well as those who have been denied the right to say in which of several theatres a particular picture shall be shown."

Concluding with the observation that it is a "pity" that more exhibitors have not availed themselves of the arbitration system, and "tragic" that some exhibitor leaders have actually discouraged the ultilization of the system, Myers pays tribute to Nathan Yamins, the exhibitor involved in the proceedings. "Win, lose or draw," Myers writes, "he will have made a public record of vicious monopolistic practice."

Goodman in London

LONDON—President Morris Goodman of Republic Pictures International Corp. has arrived for conferences with the company's distributor, British Lion Film Corp., Ltd., and for a survey of the European market.

He expects to remain here and on the continent for about three months.

Will Whitmore Appointed WE Advertising Manager

NEW YORK—Will Whitmore, former advertising supervisor for Western Electric Co., has been named advertising manager to succeed the late H. W. Forster.



WILL WHITMORE

Whitmore has been with the company since 1929 and his work in the public relations department has covered all phases of publicity, advertising and magazine editing. His articles, especially in the field of popular science, have appeared widely in business, trade and photographic magazines.

During the early days of motion pictures he specialized in the development of sound films. For nine years he served as chairman of the publicity committee of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. Through his efforts many of the industry's more than 50,000 technicians gained their first insight into the complexities of recording and reproducng circulated by Western Electric to engineers sound on discs and film.

Early in the 1930s Whitmore originated and later edited Pickups magazine, widely circulated by Western Electric to engineers of the communications and broadcasting industries.

60 Films as Import Limit Suggested by Frenchman

NEW YORK—A suggestion was made recently in Paris by a member of the film division of the French Ministry of Information that the future importation of films into the country be restricted to 60 pictures each from the U.S., Russia and Great Britain.

This proposal was made informally at a meeting between the French minister of commerce and heads of the Franco-American Syndicate, and has no official sanction thus far. In the year before the war, 188 films were imported into France. Of these, 150 were American. 10 British and the remainder from other nations. The 80 per cent total in favor of U.S. pictures can be taken as a fair reflection of the public tastes in film entertainment.

Plane Saves Exhibitor Both Time and Money

Omaha — Trend of the times: Roy Syfert, Ainsworth, Neb., exhibitor, left his home after breakfast Monday morning, did his booking in Omaha and was home for the evening meal.

Usually the trip of more than 300 miles by train takes two days and includes two nights in a Pullman.

Monday, Syfert chartered an airplane to take him to and from Omaha. It took only the first lap of the trip to Omaha to convince him that booking by plane is practical. He reported a savings of both time and money.

Strike in Hollywood Enters Eighth Week

HOLLYWOOD—Wearily the pickets plod their prescribed ways to and fro before the gates of Hollywood's film foundries; bravely the producers continue to issue their "we've-got-you-licked" statements; persistently the generalissimos of the factional union groups jockey for position and jurisdiction; and the studio strike, as it entered its eighth week, sank further into its uneventful rut.

In fact the only signs of action were expected from Washington in the form of a decision from the War Labor Relations Board, resulting from its recent hearings on the jurisdictional dispute over the set decorators. Those who can remember eight weeks back, will recall it was this jurisdictional dispute, long since lost in the shuffle of more weighty issues, which precipitated the strike in the first place.

Some More Fireworks

A bit of local fireworks was supplied by the CIO, which issued a statement denying persistent reports that it was interested in the walkouts and was attempting to use them as a means of getting its toe in the door of studio union affairs. Signed by ranking officers of the Los Angeles CIO council, the statement urged that the strike be terminated immediately through resort to established government agencies and declared, in part:

"Several times recently the name of the CIO has been used without authorization in disputes between unions and producers in the motion picture industry.

"Invariably this has been a device of one contending faction or another for gaining an advantage in the particular dispute. Such unauthorized use of CIO's name has been most unfair to the CIO, which has no interest whatsoever in the Hollywood labor field.

"The latest misuse of CIO's name in connection with the current unfortunate strike in Hollywood is most unfair and unwarranted. At this crucial time in our country's history when labor-management cooperation is so vitally needed in order that the war may be finally won and the fruitful and constructive peace achieved, the dispute in Hollywood should be ended at once. The prolongation is detrimental to all labor and to the country.

"Solution of the strike is complicated by the obstinate attitude of the producers and by the unfortunate jurisdictional difficulties between the unions."

"No Longer a Real Threat

The regular weekly statement by the producers said:

"Production is progressing satisfactorily at all major studios. With the strike at the end of its seventh week, pictures are being started and completed on schedule. A survey shows that as of Saturday, 26 features were in work, with seven others having been finished earlier in the week. Three new features go before the cameras Monday, and three more will get under way on May 1, 2 and 4.

"On one major lot in midweek, eight production companies were at work, and one of the largest and most costly features was one and three-quarters days ahead of schedule.

"With production and employment still increasing, the producers regard the strike as no longer a real threat to the industry.

Mary Pickford Is Sued By La Cava on "Venus"

LOS ANGELES — Suit has been brought here against Mary Pickford for $1,653,750 by Gregory La Cava, director, who charged Miss Pickford had broken a contract with him in regard to his producing, writing and directing a proposed screen version of "One Touch of Venus," Broadway musical.

Screen rights to the play are owned by Miss Pickford and La Cava said through his attorney, Thomas D. Mercola, that the former star had agreed to pay him a percentage of the net profits of the picture in addition to $100,000. Under the contract alleged, he was guaranteed $153,750, and contends that the picture would have paid him $1,400,000 more by grossing ten million dollars.

Urge Showmen to Be Bond-Selling Agents

NEW YORK—The War Finance Division of the treasury department has issued a practical guide to exhibitors, urging them to become issuing agents during the Seventh War Loan, and detailing the procedure involved.

The method to be used in applying to become an issuing agent is as follows:

1. Apply to your state exhibitor chairman informing him of your desire to become an issuing agent.
2. He will then recommend you to the Federal Reserve Bank in your district.
3. The Federal Reserve Bank, upon the exhibitor chairman's recommendation, will:
   (a) Issue you an official dating stamp with the name of your company thereon.
   (b) Furnish you the treasury department instructions as to how to issue bonds and make your monthly report and remittance to the Federal Reserve Bank.
   (c) Issue you in accordance with your requisition a supply of bonds of various denominations.

When you have become an issuing agent, you may, if you so desire, advise your local War Finance Committee chairman of this fact. If further information is desired, contact your local War Finance Committee chairman, exhibitor chairman or the national committee.

Harry Ballance Takes Southern Bond Post

NEW YORK—Harry Ballance, 20th-Fox southern division manager, will serve as southern area distributor chairman for the Seventh War Loan. This appointment completes the territorial organization of the distributors division, with the country divided into four sections, and a chairman appointed for each.

Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman, declared the new setup permits more efficient coordination and greater service to the distributor groups in the field.

The nation's 31 exchanges are now zoned by areas, as follows: West coast, Herman Wobber, chairman; Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, Denver, Salt Lake City and Seattle.

Midwest, John E. Flynn, chairman; Chicago, Des Moines, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Omaha, Kansas City, Detroit, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Minneapolis.

Southern, H. G. Ballance, chairman; Atlanta, Memphis, New Orleans, Dallas, Oklahoma City and Charlotte.

Eastern, E. K. O'Shea, chairman; New Haven, Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., Boston, Albany, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and New York.

Seventh Campaign Kits Mailed to Exhibitors

NEW YORK—Showmen's Seventh campaign kits are on their way to every theatre in the country from the national committee. The kit contains everything exhibitors will need to put on an all-out advertising, publicity and exploitation bond-selling campaign.

The kits, in the form of expendable loose-leaf portfolios, are being used in place of press sheets so that material may be kept up to date and in a practical form.

In the kit are 55 separate items which can be used locally by theatre men during this drive. On May 4 an additional mailing of about 15 items was sent out. Other material will be sent to exhibitors during the drive, thus keeping the sales ammunition up to the minute.



WASHINGTON STATE IS READY!—Enthusiasm marked the meeting in Seattle last week presided over by Frank Newman sr., Washington state chairman, which was held preparatory to the Seventh War Loan campaign. Charles P. Skouras, honorary national chairman and western regional chairman responsible for the 11 western states, was the principal speaker.

In the picture, seated, l. to r.: A. H. Ahlskog, H. C. Cox, Newman, Skouras, Al Rosenberg, Al Finke, E. F. Zabel; standing: Frank Newman jr., F. Craigar, H. Sobottka, C. Innis, T. E. Page, J. B. Bertero, V. Gauntlett, E. Hunt, A. Metzlar, R. Brown, D. Forbes, M. Mesher.

Akers Warns Against Failure to Fit Bond Sales Into Community Effort

OKLAHOMA CITY—No showman should be a prima donna and act as though he were running the whole bond show in a community, says C. B. "Brownie" Akers. The exhibitor should remember that he is part of a general effort, Akers declares, and seek to blend his efforts with others.

Credit will take care of itself, Akers points out, and good public relations will be developed. Only antagonism follows any other course, he states.

"Because of my past experience in bond drives as representative of both the war finance committee and the exhibitors of Oklahoma," Akers writes, "I feel I can speak of the cooperation which should exist between the two in the Seventh War Loan.

"The greatest weakness of the industry in the bond drives to date has been the tendency, unintentionally of course, to create the impression that the theatres were trying to 'steal the show' in some communities. Sometimes our enthusiasm as showmen has tended to run roughshod and create resentment on the part of conservative elements. As one of the stars of the local show, we create goodwill, but as the prima donna we bring only ill feeling.

Industry One of Spearheads

"Before an exhibitor starts to work on the seventh it is vitally important, from my experiences, that he remember and keep constantly in mind that the bond drive is a treasury department activity and promotion to sell bonds and help finance the war, and that the motion picture industry is not putting it on, but is only one of the many spearheads for the drive. The over-all conduct of the drive is in the hands of the war finance committees as representatives of the treasury department. After all, the local bankers, retail merchants, women's clubs and similar civic organizations have the same interest in bond drives as we exhibitors. And, considering the facilities at hand, in some instances they do an entirely better job than the exhibitor by comparison. There is a considerable difference between taking all the credit and being given it.

"An exhibitor is, or should be, primarily interested in accomplishing two things; first, sell bonds; second, create goodwill not only in his community for his business but for the industry nationally. Forget the glory. That will take care of itself if the first two are accomplished.

"The first two can be accomplished by the exhibitor's first approaching his local war finance chairman and pledging the theatre's cooperation with no strings attached, instead of the attitude, 'I'll put on MY show alone.' The war finance people are delighted to have showmanship flair and promotional ability of the exhibitors not only for the theatres' special events as part of the drive, such as bond premieres, Free Movie Day and the like, but to help with other special events which come to our communities under the sponsorship of the war finance committee, such as army shows and war department exhibits. In other words, the exhibitor can get in on more events by cooperating than by trying to run the show on his own.

Calls Bond Shows Civic Events

"Bond premieres are not a sole theatre event. It is a CIVIC EVENT in which you expect from 350 to 3,500 local citizens to participate in buying a bond. Then have them participate further by helping you put it on. For this reason abide by the wishes of the war finance committee in your respective communities. If they wish the bond premiere held late in the drive to serve as a 'clean up' feature, then hold it late. Coordinate your plans with the war finance committee and in the end you will sell more bonds and the community will sell more bonds because of the spirit of cooperation existing—you help me and I'll help you!

"The job is too big to be done alone. Many theatres which haven't held bond premieres or other special events because of the shortage of personnel can hold them by working with the war finance chairman, thereby securing the aid of the community as a whole and making all the civic groups feel it is part of their job too. The local chairman will help you or obtain for you the support of women's organizations, civic groups and individuals to sell bonds, man your booths and contribute to the success of your effort in a thousand and one ways.

"No prima donnas are needed in the 'Showmen's Seventh.' Just let's do a fine job—be one of the outstanding stars in your community—BUT BE MODEST ABOUT IT. The rest will take care of itself."

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Every Cloud, Etc.—

SAN ANTONIO—Because of the strike of Hollywood craftsmen, Earl Crawford, Cinemaland bit actor, who formerly raised polo ponies here, has been given an opportunity to visit his old home town. He is hobnobbing with his brother, Todd Crawford, who still raises ponies, and then will continue on to Hutto, Tex., to see his mother, Mrs. Walter Farley, who is ill.

B&K's Thoughtfulness

CHICAGO—When it comes to employes in the service and returning veterans, the Balaban & Katz circuit here doesn't follow the letter of the law, or its promises—the circuit follows the spirit of helpfulness that is behind them.

Executives have been putting into effect a policy of giving the discharged war veterans bigger and better jobs than they had when they left, and already plans and readjustments are being put into effect in anticipation of the return of many of the 750 B&K men from the service after VE-Day.

B&K gave each employe called to the service a cash gift on leaving; birthday and holiday checks while absent and has been maintaining correspondence with them through a special service set up through the B&K Employes Club.

Honoring Ernie Pyle

MILWAUKEE—Free Movie Day in all theatres in Wisconsin and upper Michigan has been dedicated to Ernie Pyle, the columnist killed on Okinawa. Harold J. Fitzgerald, area WAC chairman, handled the suggestion.

"Wholly Speculative"

TORONTO — John Grierson, the British-reared commissioner of Canada's National Film Board, described reports that he would take over direction of a new film office in the U.S. department of state at Washington as 'wholly speculative," and added that he did not desire to leave the Dominion. Grierson returned from several days in the American capital.

Canada and the U.S. have much in common in connection with the motion picture production, he commented.

Hits "Price Discriminations"

LOS ANGELES — Paul Williams, general manager of the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n, new exhibitor organization in this west coast area, pointed the principal threat to the freedom of the motion picture industry from public control lies in "unjustified price discrimination in film rentals."

Failure to correct "film rental price injustices and unreasonable restraints" will keep the agitators for regulation of motion pictures as a public utility supplied with arguments, he commented, in telling members the purposes of the new organization.

He told members the primary aim of the new organization is to "provide a method within the industry itself for the adjustment of disputes among its members."

Flareup of Vandalism

INDIANAPOLIS—The costly paintings and expensive furniture has been removed from the mezzanine of the richly furnished and decorated Indiana Theatre here for safekeeping from destructive patrons. The action followed a new flareup of vandalism, mostly by youths, but not infrequently by grownups.

One youth was taken to the police station after he had been caught trying to cut the screen at a local theatre. At another two unidentified boys "cleared the house" when they tossed torpedoes into the auditorium.

Purple Hearts Aid the 7th

BOSTON—A "Parade of the Purple Hearts," leading through downtown streets to the motion picture industry bond booth on Boston Common, will launch theatre participation in the Seventh War Loan drive here May 13.

The bond booth, which chalked up some of the highest spot bond sales in the country in previous drives, will hold forth daily on the Common with daily stints featuring stars of the stage, screen and radio, plus special activities on dates such as Mothers Day, the first anniversary of D-Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, etc.

Pay Dear for "Luxuries"

MONTREAL — Sharply hitting film distributors and exhibitors in common with nearly every other industry in Quebec province, was the new luxury tax levying a flat six per cent tax on hundreds of items ranging from films to furs, jewelry to motor cars, records, electric signs and apparatus. Even carpets and floor rugs of a value of $150 or more are affected. The tax became effective April 27. It comes on top of an already existing 25 per cent federal tax on "luxuries."

Appeal Hearing Set

CHICAGO — Appeal by Balaban & Katz, Warner Theatres and various distributors of the decision awarding $360,000 damages to the Jackson Park Theatres on antitrust law violations will be heard May 8 by the three-judge appellate bench.

Play for Kid Audiences

TORONTO—J. Arthur Rank, the British film magnate, will help inaugurate the Odeon National Cinema Club for boys and girls of Canada at a ceremony here early in June.

E. McQuaid, controller of the British Cinema Club, announced the inaugural following a transcontinental tour of the Dominion. At the same time it was announced that Motion Picture Instructional Films, an affiliate of the Paul Nathanson-Arthur Rank setup, will produce special films for the Cinema Club and other juvenile shows at its Toronto studio.

Frank O'Byrne, former general manager of Associated Screen News, recently was appointed to head the MPIF.

Encyclopedia Britannica Highly Praises Industry

Chicago—The Encyclopedia Britannica, now an American enterprise, salutes the motion picture industry in its new edition in a big way. Listed not only is the boxoffice gross for last year, an all-time peak, but also entensive details of the industry's contributions to the war effort, from bond selling in the lobbies, free films for GIs on the worldwide fronts to the star tours to entertain service folk and sell bonds.

This winds up with a tribute to the contribution made to propagating the American way of life through motion pictures "as films followed the American flag into every conquered land."

Reissues, Single Bills In Wake of Shortages

NEW YORK—A survey based on theatre newspaper advertising in six major cities shows that for the week of April 29, nearly 32 per cent of the houses, exclusive of first runs, were playing single features with newsreels and short subjects. The numerical breakdown reveals 231 houses playing single bills, and 501 playing double features. The total number of theatres checked was 732.

Cities included in the survey were New York, Washington, D. C., Pittsburgh, Boston, St. Louis and Philadelphia, and the results may be taken as representative of conditions throughout the nation.

The product shortage, brought on by the sustained scarcity of raw stock, continues to hamper seriously the operations of the subsequent runs, necessitating the use of reissues on many double bills. The high percentage of single features noted in the survey can be traced in part to different policies on the part of management in the handling of features of above average running time. Some theatres played films like "Meet Me in St. Louis," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "The Keys of the Kingdom" as single features, propped by a two-reel short subject and cartoons and newsreels. Others dropped the supplemental material in favor of a second feature.

St. Louis Favors Duals

St. Louis favored the double bill program. A total of 91 houses played two features, while only five were devoted to single pictures. There were 14 reissues, including such films as "Naughty Marietta," "Lady in a Jam," "Charlie's Aunt," "Iceland," "Cowboy and the Lady," "This Above All" and "Wuthering Heights."

Boston showed a total of 51 situations playing double bills, and 15 with single features. Fourteen reissues were played during the week, including "In Old Chicago," "Sign of the Cross," with new prologue; "Made for Each Other" and "Charlie's Aunt."

In Pittsburgh, there were 30 theatres playing double features, and 31 playing single features. Seven reissues, including "Ball of Fire," "Take a Letter, Darling," "Cowboy and the Lady" and "Naughty Marietta," were played.

A total of 11 theatres played double feature programs in Washington during the week of the survey, while 38 played single bills. Of the five reissues, "Naughty Marietta" is the best known.

In Philadelphia, 88 houses played double bills, and 92 single features. A total of 20 reissues were played, including "Sundown," "The Young in Heart," "The Night of January 16," "Top Hat," "Wuthering Heights," "The Return of Frank James," "Sign of the Cross," "Rhythm on the Range" and "Barbary Coast."

In the New York metropolitan area, 220 theatres played double bills, and 60 ran single features. Notable among the 27 reissues were "The Crystal Ball," "Torrid Zone," "Song of the Islands," "The Informer," "A Yank in the RAF," "My Gal Sal," "Waterloo Bridge," "Stage Door," "Take a Letter, Darling," "Wuthering Heights" and "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town."

N. Mexico Bank Night Bill Is Vetoed by Governor

SANTA FE, N. M.—A bill authorizing motion picture theatres in New Mexico to hold bank nights was one of 16 passed by the recent state legislature which Gov. John J. Dempsey pocket-vetoed.

WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

"PILLOW TO POST"

Starring

IDA LUPINO · SYDNEY GREENSTREET
WILLIAM PRINCE

MONDAY, MAY 14th, 1945

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	2:00 P.M
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin St.	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	8:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	Paramount Sc. Room	412 S. Harwood St.	2:00 P.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	Paramount Sc. Room	362 S. Second St.	2:30 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Room	70 College St.	11:00 A.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Room	1220 Vine St.	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Room	221 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT! THE MIGHTY 7TH WAR LOAN

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Capra-Briskin Incorporate Firm As Liberty Films Inc. for Million

Officially launching one of Hollywood's newest production companies, Col. Frank Capra and Samuel J. Briskin have filed $1,000,000 articles of incorporation for Liberty Films, Inc., with the corporation commissioner in Sacramento. Attorney David Tannenbaum of the firm of Swarts and Tannenbaum organized the corporation setup. Liberty Films, the name under which Capra and Briskin plan to produce, has a capital stock of $1,000,000, represented by $750,000 preferred and $250,000 common, with a par value of $100 per share for each block of stock.

Katzman to Make New Series For Release Through Monogram

Announcement from Monogram that Producer Sam Katzman will make for its release a series to be known as the "High School Kids" raises a question as to what is going to happen to that studio's well-established "East Side Kids." The latter series has been produced by Banner Productions in which Katzman and Jack Dietz are partners. It has long been known by film capital railbirds that the two film-makers were approaching a parting of the ways. The announcement of Katzman's new "High School" series carefully avoids any mention of Banner or Dietz, limiting its information to the fact that there will be four of the pictures a year and they will be "jitterbug musicals" of modern youth. Best guess: Dietz will take over the East Siders as a single-O-venture.

PRC to Have Series of Outdoor Action Pictures Made in Color

Its first series of outdoor action pictures to be made in color has been announced by Leon Fromkess, president of PRC. The series, which will be released on the 1945-46 PRC program, will star Eddie Dean, national network singer and screen player. "In Old Wyoming," the initial picture of the series will feature Sara Padden and Jennifer Holt, daughter of Jack Holt, as costars, and Robert Emmett will direct and produce . . . Other news of that photography concerns 20th Century-Fox's "The Enchanted Voyage," which will be given Technicolor treatment after originally being announced as a black-and-white feature.

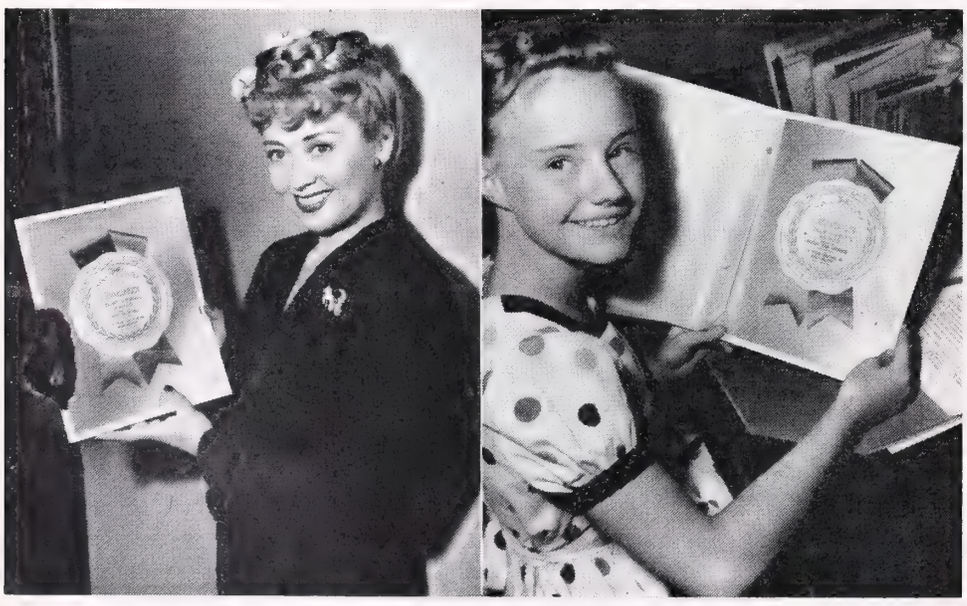
Orson Welles Slated to Produce "My Friend Bonito" for RKO

Orson Welles, the quadruple-threat producer-director-writer-actor, whose "Citizen Kane" was the controversial film of the century, is going to have another fling at picture making. He has inked a deal to produce and star in "My Friend Bonito" which RKO Radio will distribute. Norman Foster will direct and associated with Welles in the production venture will be Jackson Leighter, who is now in Mexico setting up machinery for the filming of some sequences in the southern republic.

WB Signs Boyer for Male Lead In Coming "Confidential Agent"

Charles Boyer has been signed by Warners for the male lead in "Confidential Agent," novel by Graham Greene . . . Teresa Wright has been borrowed by Paramount from Samuel Goldwyn and will costar with Ray Milland and Brian Donlevy in "Too Good to Be True" . . . Team of Wallace Beery and Marjorie Main will be reunited again in Metro's forthcoming "Bad Bascomb." The two stars have appeared together in five films.

Menifee I. Johnstone has been signed as casting director at Monogram studios, according to announcement by Trem Carr, executive producer . . . David O. Selznick and Ben Schulberg, who joined DOS some months ago as an executive assistant, have terminated their deal.



FOR THEIR WORK IN "TREE"—Two young ladies whose performances contributed much to the success of 20th Century-Fox's "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" proudly and smilingly display their BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Plaques which were awarded them when the National Screen Council voted the picturization of Betty Smith's best selling novel to be the best feature released during March, 1945. Left, Joan Blondell; right, Peggy Ann Garner.

Paramount's Ten Films Editing Augurs Well for Product Supply

Indicating that, regardless of which turn may be taken by the production-slowing studio strike, there will be plenty of new pictures for a time at least is the fact that Paramount, which is typical of most of the film foundries, now has ten productions in the process of being edited.

They are "The Lost Weekend," "The Virginian," "Hold That Blonde!" "Cross My Heart," "Masquerade in Mexico," "The Well Groomed Bride," "Our Hearts Were Growing Up" and "The Blue Dahlia," all Paramount productions, the Hal Wallis Production "You Came Along," and the Pine-Thomas musical, "People Are Funny."

Metro Magi of Production Busy; Many Assignments Handed Out

Metro's magi of production were busier than the proverbial one-armed paperhanger, handing out assignments on pictures previously announced and cooking up plans for newcomers to the Culver City agendum.

Based on her autobiography, "Silly Girl," the life story of Angna Enters, writer-painter-dancer, was handed for production to Joe Pasternak. The story tells of Miss Enters' successful campaign for recognition of her cultural talents. She currently is under writing contract to the studio.

"High Barbaree" has been completed by Charles Nordhoff and James Hall and will be filmed as one of the studio's major pictures of 1945. The novel is another in the series of books that have been written expressly for the screen, a series that already includes "Image of Josephine" by Booth Tarkington, "Bridgit" by Robert Nathan, "American Cavalcade" by Carl Sandburg, and "Colorado" by Louis Bromfield . . . "She Went to the Races," described as a modern comedy, was announced for early production, with Willis Goldbeck assigned as director and Frederick Stephani as producer. Heading the cast will be James Craig and Frances Gifford. Craig will be seen as a wealthy sportsman, who meets and falls for Frances, a lady professor. Edmund Gwenn and Reginald Owen will appear in comedy roles. Yarn is about a group of college professors who need $20,000 for their research institute and devise a plan for winning the money at the race tracks. Through scientific calculations, they are enabled to pick the winning horses.

DeVallon Scott and Alan Friedman have been assigned to the script of "Letter For Evie," adapted from a story by Blanche Brace . . . Lemuel Ayres has been named to direct "Till the Clouds Roll By," life story of famed Jerome Kern. Ayres, who designed the sets for several New York plays, will make his directorial debut on the feature . . . Arch Whitehouse was signed to write the screenplay of Daisy Neumann's novel, "Now That April's There" . . . "Cass Timberlane," Sinclair Lewis' new novel, has been assigned to Arthur Hornblow jr. for production.

Ray Nazarro Picked to Direct Columbia's "Texas Panhandle"

Assignments of creative and executive personnel at other studios included:

Ray Nazarro was picked as director on Columbia's "Texas Panhandle," last of the 1944-45 series of eight Durango Kid westerns starring Charles Starrett . . . At the same studio, Del Lord was handed the megging chore on "I Love a Band Leader"; Elpha Ellington was assigned to do a treatment on "Threesome," romantic yarn by Laura Hobson, and Wilfred Pettitt was set to script the screenplay of "Voice of the Whistler," fifth in the mystery series starring Richard Dix which is based on The Whistler radio program.

U.S. Exhibitors Given R. C. Drive Citations

NEW YORK—The more than 16,000 exhibitors who took part in the recent 1945 Red Cross Fund week, representing the U.S., Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, have received citations for their efforts during the drive, according to N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman.

Distribution of the awards was made by mail through the 40 exchange area exhibitor chairmen who led the campaign under the direction of the national committee.

The citation is a red, black and gold certificate, suitable for framing and inscribed with the name of the recipient and the legend, "awarded in grateful appreciation of distinguished services rendered during the motion picture industry 1945 Red Cross War Fund week." It carries the signatures of Rathvon, S. H. Fabian, chairman of the WAC theatres division, and the exchange area exhibitor chairman.

Similar citations, bearing the signatures of Rathvon, Fabian and Grad Sears, chairman of the WAC distributors division, have been awarded to every exchange area distributor chairman, and every district and branch manager who cooperated in the campaign.

Chicago Murrays Appeal Conspiracy Case Verdict

CHICAGO—Following an adverse ruling by Federal Judge Holly in the case of the Murray family vs. virtually every large exhibitor and distributor in this area, the Murrays have decided to appeal. They are carrying the litigation to the circuit court of appeals through Lester A. Murray, attorney, son of the plaintiff, Thomas A. Murray. The hearing will come up in about 40 days.

Murray is asking damages of $3,000,000 on a charge of conspiracy against his Thalia Theatre, alleging that product is being withheld from that house. Judge Holly ruled that the charge of conspiracy had not been proved.

Ascap Officers Elected At Directors' Meeting

NEW YORK — Officers were elected to serve for the coming year at the recent meeting of the Ascap board of directors. They are Deems Taylor, president; Gustave Schirmer, vice-president; Oscar Hammerstein II, vice-president; George W. Meyer, secretary; J. J. Bregman, treasurer; Donald Gray, assistant secretary, and Irving Caesar, assistant treasurer.

J. J. Gregman replaces Max Dreyfus as treasurer, and Donald Gray takes over Bregman's post as assistant secretary. These were the only changes among the officers.

"Blimp" Producers Leaving Canada for London Studio

MONTREAL—Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, producers of "Colonel Blimp" and "The Silver Fleet," arrived by plane from Toronto and Ottawa, where they have been arranging campaigns for Canadian openings of "Colonel Blimp." They will return to England next week.

Asked what success they'd had in finding a "typical American girl" for a leading role in their next film, "A Matter of Life and Death," Powell and Pressburger said they would announce their selection after their return to the Denham Studios, London.

Promotions, Realignments Completed by M-G-M

NEW YORK—As a result of the increase in district managers from nine to 12 by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of sales for M-G-M, several shifts in branch managers' duties and promotions have been made. All advancements have been from the ranks.

Gerald E. McGlynn, salesman at the Des Moines branch, has been named branch manager at Omaha. Jack B. Mundstuk, sales manager at the Cleveland exchange, has been made Buffalo branch manager. Harry Rosenblatt, Boston salesman, has been promoted to New Haven branch manager, J. G. Kemptgen, Omaha branch manager, has been named Milwaukee head.

McGlynn succeeds Kemptgen in Omaha, while Kemptgen, in turn, succeeds Harry Shumow, who is now on leave of absence due to illness. Mundstuk succeeds Ralph W. Maw, who recently was made district manager, and Rosenblatt takes over the post to be vacated soon by Maury Goldstein, resigned.

McGlynn Started in 1928

McGlynn joined the company as a poster clerk at Des Moines in 1928. Mundstuk became a booker in Detroit in 1930. Rosenblatt joined the company in 1936. Kemptgen became a bookkeeper with the old Goldwyn company shortly after World War I.

John S. Allen, Washington branch manager, has been made one of the new district managers. In addition to supervising Washington, where he will continue to make his headquarters, he will supervise the Pittsburgh and Cincinnati exchanges. Allen has been with the company since 1927.

Under the new divisional and 12-district setup, Allen's territory and that of John P. Byrne, whose district includes Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis and St. Louis, are under the supervision of John J. Maloney, central sales manager, with headquarters in Pittsburgh.

Maurice N. Wolf's Boston district; John J. Bowen's district, consisting of New York and New Jersey; Herman Ripps' district, comprising Albany, Buffalo and New Haven, and Robert Lynch's Philadelphia district, are under the supervision of Edward K. O'Shea, eastern sales manager, with headquarters at the home office. Ripps will continue to manage the Albany exchange in addition to his district supervision over Buffalo and New Haven.

Friedel in Double Harness

Sam A. Shirley's Chicago district; Ralph W. Maw's district, comprising Des Moines, Milwaukee and Minneapolis, and Henry A. Friedel's district, made up of Denver, Omaha and Salt Lake City, are under the supervision of John E. Flynn, western sales manager, with headquarters in Chicago. In addition to Friedel's district supervision over the three exchanges, he will also continue as manager of the Denver exchange where he makes his headquarters.

Charles E. Kessnich's district, which includes Atlanta, Charlotte and New Orleans, with headquarters in Atlanta, and the district of Burtus Bishop jr., which embraces Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Dallas and Memphis, with headquarters at Dallas, are under the supervision of Rudolph Berger, southern sales manager, with headquarters in New Orleans.

George A. Hickey, west coast district supervisor, will in the future, as in the past, have direction of the company's business activities in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle, and will continue to make his headquarters in Los Angeles.

Edwin A. Aaron, circuit sales manager, makes his headquarters at the home office.



JOHN S. ALLEN



HERMAN RIPPS



H. A. FRIEDEL



RALPH W. MAW



HARRY ROSENBLATT



JACK B. MUNDSTUK



GERALD E. McGLYNN



J. G. KEMPTGEN

"Decision" Gets Award

NEW YORK—The editors of Scholastic magazine have awarded to "The Valley of Decision" its Blue Ribbon award for May. In addition, the M-G-M feature was given three checks, signifying "tops, don't miss."

"TREMENDOUS BOX-OFFICE APPEAL!" —The Independent

ALL THE BOX-OFFICE

"EVERYTHING FOR THE BOX-OFFICE!" —Variety

THE SENSATIONAL

BETTY GRABLE AND

IN BILLY ROSE'S "DIAMOND

IN TECHNICOLOR!

"ONE OF BEST BOX-OFFICE TOPPERS!" —The Exhibitor

BOX-OFFICE CROWDS ARE TERRIFI

with PHIL SILVERS · WILLIAM GAXTON · BEATRICE KA

Directed and Written for the Screen by GEORG

Lyrics and Music by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren

"BOX-OFFICE SLANT... ONE FOR THE MONEY!" —Showmen's Trade Review

TALK IS ABOUT

20th CENTURY-FOX 30th ANNIVERSARY

SMASH . . .

DICK HAYMES

"A BOX-OFFICE EVENT!" —Motion Picture Daily

HORSESHOE"



WORLD-PREMIERE ENGAGEMENT ROXY, N. Y. C.

CARMEN CAVALLARO · WILLIE SOLAR · MARGARET DUMONT

SEATON · Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Film Shortage Won't Better Until Long After VE-Day

Optimistic Nice Nellies, who have been predicting, at various times, that the WPB is going to let up on film raw stock restrictions, may hold off their predictions for several months at the very least. When the Film Industry Advisory Committee meets with WPB officials on June 7, they will be informed, in most definite terms, that the raw stock situation still is tough and that restrictions now set will continue. They also will be informed that unless the war in the Pacific shows a tendency to ease up, restrictions will get worse.

As this column has reported with some regularity, the shortage of film raw stock still is most serious. What is emphasizing that shortage right now is the need for X-ray film and the fact that a possible available supply for such film may be diverted from raw stock film manufacture for motion picture use. The army recently announced that "because of the serious shortage of X-ray film for both military and civilian purposes, the army medical department is making every effort, consistent with the maintenance of high medical standards, to conserve the film."

This announcement is only one indication of the pressing need by military and naval authorities for film raw stock. The situation also has not been helped, according to some WPB officials, by the inability of the industry itself to formulate concrete proposals that would alleviate the shortages now existing. For example, in previous FIAC meetings, the industry members failed to reach a full understanding with WPB officials on just how raw stock should be allocated. It is also true that WPB officials, not too well acquainted with the motion picture industry, set figures on raw stock without taking into full consideration the many ramifications of movie-making that make it one of the most complex businesses in the country. That is why Stanley Adams, chief of the consumers durable goods division of the WPB, decided to go to Hollywood. It was a trip that should have been made months before.

Meantime, necessary military demands find the army, for one, going into a well-planned campaign designed to emphasize its needs for raw stock. The recent announcement about the importance (and it is important!) of X-ray film is an indication of what the army proposes to do, publicity-wise, to assure an adequate supply of film raw stock for its particular needs. The navy may follow suit. Other government agencies also will chime in. If that should happen—and there is every likelihood that it will—the June 7 meeting is going to find film industry representatives forced to battle harder than ever to maintain present quotas. At the same time, the WPB is going to ask for explanations (with figures) on why film companies are in need of the film they're desirous of getting. It looks like a tough session—and just the spot for some astute public relations work on behalf of the film industry.

Reconversion Committee Head Becomes WPB Chief of Staff

Theatre operators, motion picture producers and others might find it expedient to become better acquainted with John D. Small, recently appointed chairman of the powerful committee on period one, which is rounding into shape the WPB's reconversion program. Small, in addition to his chairmanship of CPO, now is the newly-appointed chief of staff of WPB under Chairman J. A. Krug. As chief of staff and head of CPO, Small will be an important individual factor in reconversion plans as they affect all industry.

ODT Is Still Gloomy Over Transportation Shortages

The Office of Defense Transportation still persists in being quite gloomy over the transportation problem, despite the imminence of VE-Day. Col. J. Monroe Johnston, director of the ODT, has no hesitancy in insisting that, VE-Day or no VE-Day, it just is going to be plain tough for all of us who plan to use the highways. Colonel Johnston has turned down a suggestion that agricultural fairs be permitted and his attitude toward any amusement requiring the use of transportation is that of a man who knows things are tough but is having a difficult time of it trying to convince others about it. There is little likelihood, according to ODT, that replacement parts will be available in large enough quantities. It is unlikely, also, that the transportation crisis will ease before the summer, it was stated. Just how this will affect outdoor amusements, such as drive-in theatres, is a question that tends to be answered, at least for this summer, in a negative manner.

Experienced Man Replaces A Ditto in Post at OCR

The departure of Maurice Green as chief of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements means the loss of an able theatre executive whose sympathetic understanding of exhibitor problems has made him one of the most efficient personalities in government service. However, his replacement by Claude Ezell, who will take over the assignment on a temporary basis, assures motion picture theatre operators that their needs will continue to be handled by an individual who is well aware of the problems affecting the individual exhibitor.

In accepting Green's resignation, W. Y. Elliott, vice-chairman of the OCR, stated that the theatre executive, who is returning to active operation of his circuit in Boston, had "creditably carried out one of the most difficult assignments under OCR jurisdiction."

Anglo-American Income Tax Conventions Affect Films

Producers, stars and others whose income is derived from sources in Great Britain, as well as in the United States, stand to benefit most by the agreements recently signed which tend to do away with double income taxation. Just how the conventions, signed by Secretary of State Stettinius, for the United States, and Lord Halifax, British ambassador, for Great Britain, will affect international motion picture corporations which recently have sprung into existence, remains to be seen. That the effect upon these corporations will be extremely beneficial is taken for granted by tax experts here who, in a study of the conventions, agree that it is a measure of far-reaching importance to everyone who has an interest or a stake in financial affairs in the British Isles.

One of the interesting by-products of the conventions, slated for approval by the senate, will be proposals made to American film producers, directors, writers and actors, as well as technical experts, to work in England. It was reported here that the Rank interests had wielded influence in London to bring about the acceptance of the conventions which, for several years, had been the subject of study by the governments concerned. With London as an assured competitive factor and with the possibility that American film personalities will be actively engaged in motion picture work in England, the consequent rivalry will have its ultimate beneficial effect upon the exhibitor, according to the long-range viewpoint of one student of economic affairs here.

In previous years, American film stars had hesitated about accepting work abroad because of the double taxation. The same was true, to a degree, of British film personalities. Several years ago, when British film production was at its height, George Arliss was reported to have insisted that under the terms of an agreement with Gaumont-British, that company was to assume the burden of taxation before he would accept an agreement to leave the United States for work in his native country.

Freon Gas Controls Removed Without Any Restrictions

The WPB finally has decided that all controls on the production and distribution of Freon 12 and Freon 22, used for air conditioning and refrigerating systems, should be removed. The WPB warned dealers, distributors and owners of air conditioning and refrigerating systems, however, that they should do everything in their power to assure the prompt return of empty cylinders. If such containers are not returned speedily, WPB said, there is a possibility that a shortage may develop that will seriously affect shipments.

Export Trade Association To Seek Government Okay

Acting upon the suggestion first advanced in BOXOFFICE, the film industry's proposal to set up an export trade association similar to that now functioning for book publishers, will be submitted to state department officials for approval, it was learned here. Plans for creating a foreign trade body to function as an advisory body for American producing and distributing companies with offices abroad have been under discussion for the past three weeks. Major film producers have evinced interest in the proposal, while independent companies also are, according to a coast report, acting upon the need for affiliation with such a body.

I've Heard:

That the well-coordinated activities of the newsreel companies at the San Francisco conference are making a great impression upon the visiting delegates;

That the state department still has plans to go into motion picture documentary production, no matter what you may hear to the contrary;

That much interest prevails in BOXOFFICE's proposal that the WMC grant essential industry status to motion picture theatres;

That some magazine editor will find interesting material in Abe Lichtman's life and business activities as one of the ablest operators of Negro theatres in the world;

That present crop reports and other business reports on Argentina, as compiled by the commerce department, make that country a "bearish" proposition as a source of revenue for film exporters.

Bogeaus Will Produce FDR Memorial Film

HOLLYWOOD—United Artists Producer Benedict Bogeaus is first under the wire with an announcement of intentions to make a feature "as a memorial to our late President." The picture will be titled "The Four Freedoms" and will embody "the ideologies of Franklin Delano Roosevelt," the Bogeaus announcement revealed, and will be based upon FDR's oft-expressed "Freedom of Speech," "Freedom from Fear, "Freedom of Religion" and "Freedom from Want."

Preceding the revelation by the UA film maker, the trade and lay press had indulged in considerable conjecture as to which company would make a biographic feature with FDR as its subject. Reportedly, both David O. Selznick and Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox production chief, were toying with the idea.

Whether the Bogeaus announcement will effect such mulling, assuming it is existent, seems unlikely, inasmuch as Bogeaus made it clear that his proposed film will not be a biography. He declared, "Although President Roosevelt will not be pictured in any form in the production, efforts will be made to film the production in cooperation with the President's close associates who would act in an advisory capacity."

Bogeaus promised that the picture, "presented as sheer entertainment, will be filmed with an all-star cast and produced on a lavish scale. In aspect the film will be international, portraying to the world a story of the principles for which Roosevelt stood."

Set "Flame" Key Dates

NEW YORK—Republic has set key-city bookings on "Flame of Barbary Coast" at the Criterion, Oklahoma City, May 23; the Riverside, Milwaukee, May 25; the Uptown, Esquire and Fairway theatres, Kansas City, day-and-date, June 7; the Saenger, New Orleans, June 9; the Malco, Memphis, June 14, and the Palace, Jacksonville, June 16.

RKO Goodwill Down Under

SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA—While in New Zealand Ralph Doyle, managing director of RKO, presented to the National Patriotic Fund Board a check for 3,000 pounds, part of the proceeds of the showings in the Dominion of "Forever and a Day."

"Guest Wife" New Title

NEW YORK—Name of the current Skirball-Manning production starring Claudette Colbert and Don Ameche has been changed back from "What Every Woman Wants" to "Guest Wife," original title of the film. Film was directed by Sam Wood for UA release.

WB "Escape" Out May 19

NEW YORK—Warners has set May 19 for general release date of "Escape in the Desert." Picture is a melodrama dealing with flight of captive Nazi soldiers from an Arizona prison camp.

Monogram Signs Two Circuits

NEW YORK—Monogram's Philadelphia exchange has signed two more deals for that company's 1944-45 product, according to Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. Customers are Affiliated circuit, with 13 theatres in Pennsylvania and Delaware, and H. Chertcoff circuit, with seven situations in Pennsylvania.

Colbert to Star in "Thank God for That"

Claudette Colbert, Columbia, has been assigned the starring role in the Jesse Lasky production of "Thank God for That."

B&K Stresses Courtesy; Says "Politeness Pays"

By JONAS PERLBERG



THEY SHAKE ON IT—A B&K usherette and a young member of the armed forces shake hands across an easel that outlines the Chicago circuit's desire to impress upon patrons that "courtesy is not a war casualty."

CHICAGO—John Balaban of B&K jumped the gun on Chicago's Courtesy week, April 29 to May 5, with a personally inspired screen, lobby and newspaper campaign designed around a pointed counterattack against the "don't-cha'-know-there's-a-war on?" type of business operation.

A full month before the local Junior Ass'n of Commerce announced its courtesy drive, William K. Hollander and his publicity squad had peppered B&K employes with messages in trailer and poster form containing terse statements of company service policy.

Starting off with a screen screamer-head: "The War Is a Bad Excuse for Bad Manners," the trailer continued: "For 30 years we have built upon a foundation of courtesy, comfort and consideration for four patrons. Today we earnestly strive to maintain in both fact and spirit this same high standard of service."

The message, which was duplicated on a 40x60 lobby easel, concluded with: "Courtesy and Service—You're Entitled to It: Balaban & Katz."

A new trailer and a new poster design was planned for each succeeding week, which with but the exception of the leading paragraph, contained essentially the same body copy. Among the attention-attracters were: "Courtesy Is Not a War Casualty at Balaban & Katz Theatres." And again: "There's No Curfew for Courtesy in Balaban & Katz Theatres" . . . "Our most treasured possession Is Chicago's Goodwill, Built on Service and Courtesy."

Dubious about how the campaign might be received by patrons who may have from time to time encountered acts of discourtesy or inefficiency from new or part-time service employes, B&K were gratified to find audience reaction good and to receive unsolicited comments from patrons praising the intent and purpose of the messages.

Balaban has stressed a desire to his operational and field men to continue the "Balaban & Katz service" policy that revolutionized theatregoing. The present campaign is finding many followers in Chicago and elsewhere and has evoked inquiries from other circuits.

"Co-Pilot" Over Average In First 700 Bookings

NEW YORK—Warners' "God Is My Co-Pilot" has averaged 45 per cent better than normal for the combined theatres where it has played in its first 700 bookings. Throughout the south the film has been doing 40 to 95 per cent better than average business.

In Macon, Ga., where the Col. Robert Scott story was given its world premiere, it more than tripled the former top record. Business has been strong in other sections with holdover or extended playing time being given the picture in 98 per cent of the theatres booked.

Du Pont de Nemours Co. Becomes TRA Affiliate

NEW YORK—The board of directors of the Television Broadcasters Ass'n has unanimously approved an application for affiliate membership by E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. The company is the first film manufacturing organization to join TBA. Motion picture producing concerns already allied with TBA include 20th-Fox, RKO, Paramount and Cecil B. DeMille Productions.

The directors also approved an application for educational membership from the New School for Social Research.

"Destry" Released Again

NEW YORK—Universal will reissue "Destry Rides Again" in June. Limited number of top budget westerns which they have ready now is reason for the move.

Astor Acquires Musical

NEW YORK—Astor Pictures Corp. has acquired distribution rights on "Caldonia." The film, a Louis Jordan musical, will be released immediately.

Bausch and Lomb Booklet Tells Accomplishments

ROCHESTER — Wartime accomplishments of an American industrial organization are told in a booklet issued recently by Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. of this city. Profusely illustrated, the booklet is entitled "Seeing It Through," and reports on the production of optical instruments of war and their successful use on every front.

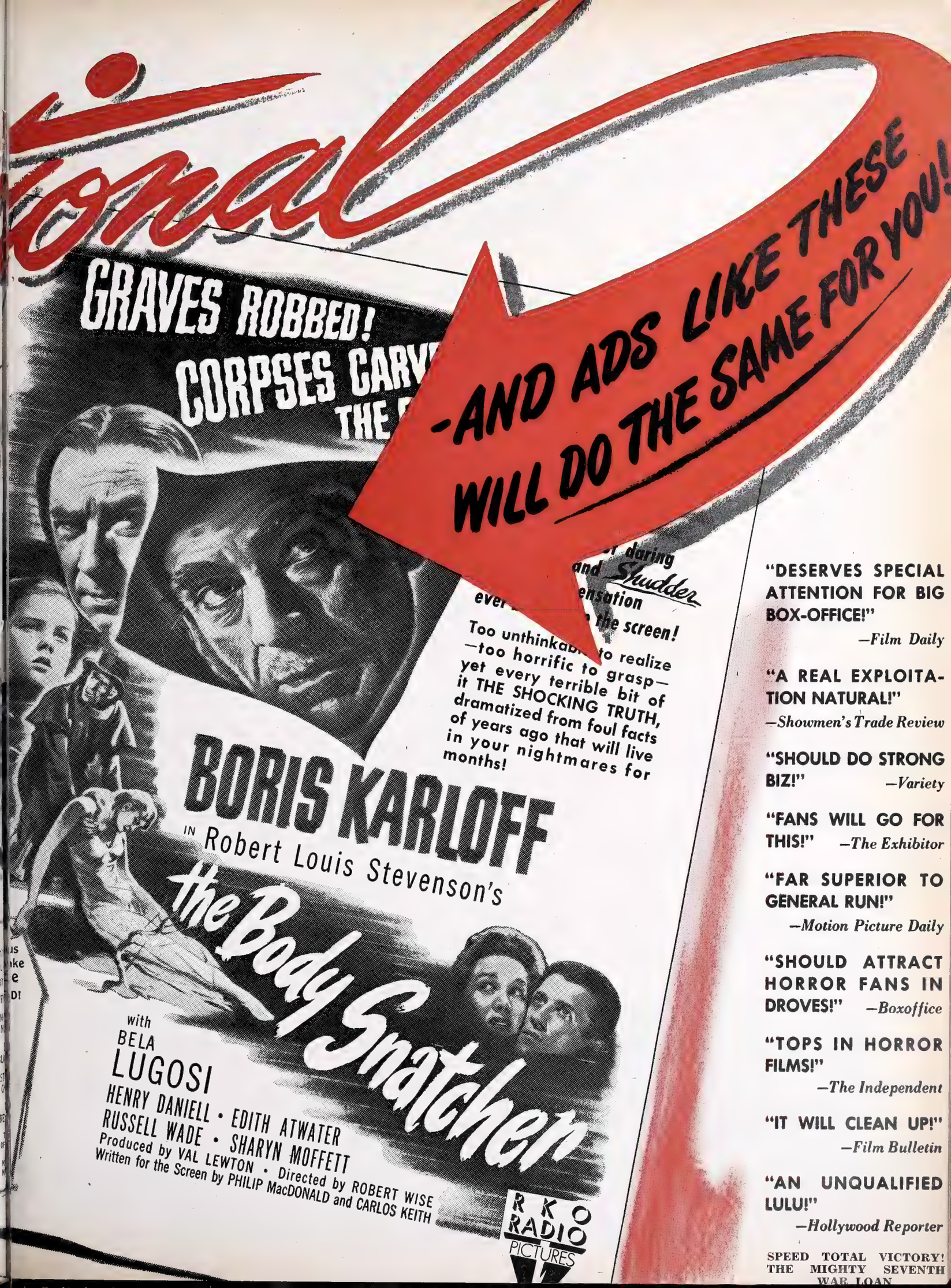
Outlining the potential danger of a nation at war without adequate means to supply optical glass and optical instruments, the book shows the measures taken by the company to provide these essentials, undertaken long before Pearl Harbor.

That the performance of the company has been high is indicated by the many awards and citations received from government agencies and the fighting forces themselves, the booklet says. One of the first 14 organizations to be awarded the Navy E, the company has continuously merited renewal, and at present flies the Army-Navy E with five stars.

ST. LOUIS TEST RUN *Sensati*

FIRST-RUN MISSOURI THEATRE HITS WITHIN FEW DOLLARS OF ALL-TIME HOUSE RECORD!




final
GRAVES ROBBED!
CORPSES CARV
THE
-AND ADS LIKE THESE WILL DO THE SAME FOR YOU!
daring
and Shudder
ensation
the screen!
Too unthinkab to realize
—too horrific to grasp—
yet every terrible bit of
it THE SHOCKING TRUTH,
dramatized from foul facts
of years ago that will live
in your nightmares for
months!
BORIS KARLOFF
IN Robert Louis Stevenson's
the Body Snatcher
with
BELA
LUGOSI
HENRY DANIELL • EDITH ATWATER
RUSSELL WADE • SHARYN MOFFETT
Produced by VAL LEWTON • Directed by ROBERT WISE
Written for the Screen by PHILIP MacDONALD and CARLOS KEITH
RKO
RADIO
PICTURES
"DESERVES SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR BIG BOX-OFFICE!"
—Film Daily
"A REAL EXPLOITATION NATURAL!"
—Showmen's Trade Review
"SHOULD DO STRONG BIZ!" —Variety
"FANS WILL GO FOR THIS!" —The Exhibitor
"FAR SUPERIOR TO GENERAL RUN!"
—Motion Picture Daily
"SHOULD ATTRACT HORROR FANS IN DROVES!" —Boxoffice
"TOPS IN HORROR FILMS!"
—The Independent
"IT WILL CLEAN UP!"
—Film Bulletin
"AN UNQUALIFIED LULU!"
—Hollywood Reporter
SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY SEVENTH
WAR LOAN

Nine Holidays to Help Theatres' Bond Sales

NEW YORK—Nine holidays will fall during the period of the Seventh War Loan. All banks, stores and other issuing agencies will be closed on these days. Bonds sold through July 6 will be credited to the drive, making July 4, Independence Day, an outstanding bond-selling opportunity.

The holidays are Sunday, May 13, Mothers' Day (although a day before the official launching of the campaign, it will be credited); Tuesday, May 22, National Maritime Day; Wednesday, May 30, Decoration Day; Tuesday, June 5, Major Glenn Miller Day (although not a national holiday, it has been designated a special event by the industry, and will be used as a prelude to Free Movie Day); Wednesday, June 6, D-Day, the first anniversary of the Normandy invasion, which will be the Free Movie Day observance; Thursday, June 14, Flag Day; Sunday, June 17, Fathers' Day; Tuesday, July 3, the third anniversary of the organization of the WAVES, and Wednesday, July 4, Independence Day.

Seek Return of Jap-Nazi Films to Washington

HOLLYWOOD—Vitalis L. Chalif, of Washington, chief of the film unit of the copyright section of the Office of the Alien Property Custodian, is in Hollywood to continue negotiations started in New York and Washington on the sale of story and film properties held by the OOAPC.

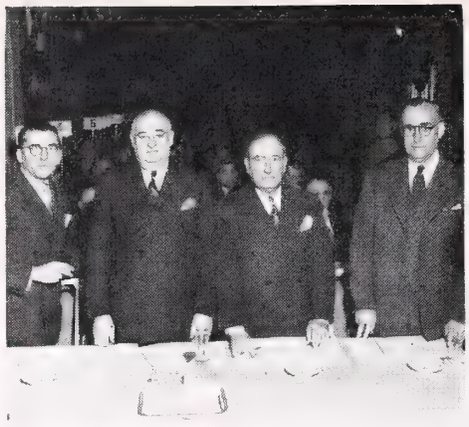
Also he is arranging for the return to Washington of 4,000,000 feet of German and Japanese film now in this area. Most of that film is in the vaults of the army signal corps. He is the brother of Selmer Chalif, assistant to Mary Pickford.

Warners Set 13 Shorts For May-June Release

NEW YORK—Warners' short subject release schedule for May and June will include 13 pictures, nine of them in Technicolor.

In the May list are "Circus Band," "Plantation Melodies," the second issue of "Overseas Roundup," "Water Babies" and three color cartoons, "Hare Trigger," "Ain't That Ducky" and "Gruesome Twosome."

June schedule includes "Coney Island Honeymoon," a Technicolor Special; three Sports Parades in color, "Bands Across the Sea" and "Tale of Two Mice."



20th-FOX WINNERS—They went out front in the Opportunity drive held during the company's 30th anniversary celebration. Left to right: Charles Powers, Portland; Frank Drew, Seattle; Clyde Eckhardt, Los Angeles, and George M. Ballentine, district manager of the wining exchanges.

'Springfield' Is Backed By U.S. Youth Groups

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. — Approximately 30,000,000 young Americans are backing the Springfield Plan and "It Happened in Springfield," Warner Bros. short dealing with race tolerance, according to Mayor J. Albin Anderson jr. Speaking on the "Youth on Parade" program over the nationwide CBS hookup, he commended Harry M. Warner and his studio for the film, assuring him all national youth organizations are behind both plan and picture 100 per cent.

Aligned with the "Youth on Parade" program are the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Boys' Club, Camp Fire Girls, Junior Red Cross, 4-H Club, Jewish Welfare Board, National Federation of Settlements, United Christian Youth Movement of Protestantism, National Council of YMCA and National Board of YWCA.

In reply, Warner said: "We regard the making of this picture as the performance of a civic responsibility . . . part of our investment in America. We feel this picture can do immeasurable good for civilization, and we're proud so many church, school and civic groups, as well as 11 great youth organizations, have so readily endorsed it."



RED CROSS REPORT—N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman for the industry's 1945 Red Cross War Fund week, presents his report to Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American National Red Cross. Left to right: Arthur M. Brilant, Harry Mandel, Maj. L. E. Thompson, Rathvon, O'Connor, Howard Bonham and Joe Weil.

Most British Houses Will Open on VE-Day

LONDON—Pending a directive from the Ministry of Security to the contrary, picture theatres throughout the United Kingdom—save those in the West End of London—will probably adhere to a "business as usual" policy and remain open on VE-Day.

West End theatre owners, believing crowds would be so dense as to render access of patrons and staff into picture houses impossible, have decided to close. In addition, they feel it would be dfficult to obtain material and labor to repair possible damages wrought by excited patrons.

In most outlying districts of the country, constabulary and police authorities have unofficially urged theatres to remain open in order to help relieve congestion on the streets. A sole dissenting voice comes from the Midlands where members of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Ass'n were of the general opinion their houses should close.

Soundest comment emanated from members of CEA's Scottish branch. Remembering the spontaneous mass celebrations of Armistice Day, 1918, they say the decision probably would be taken out of their hands by the staffs leaving in a body to join the crowds in the streets.

British Plan to Release 14 Studio Sound Stages

LONDON—In addition to the 30 unrequisitioned sound stages now in use in this country, covering 243,000 square feet and spread over nine studios, the board of trade plans to release by autumn 200,000 square feet more comprising 14 stages in seven studios.

The repair and re-equipment of additional buildings is being given high priority because the board of trade wants peak film production to be reached as soon as possible. It is unlikely that this goal will be arrived at, however, before the end of next year.

Seven studios now requisitioned include Sir Alexander Korda's Amalgamated, Nettleford, one stage at Denham, one at Pinewood, Sound City, M. P. and Worton Hall. Others scheduled for requisitioning are Associated British Picture Corp., British Lion, Twickenham and Wembley.

Equipment Import Licenses To Be Withheld by British

LONDON—The board of trade will withhold licenses for the import of equipment needed by the industry here wherever it is possible for British manufacturers to supply the materials. The board is prepared however to grant import licenses for urgently needed equipment since it is assumed that it will require at least a year after the war is over for British manufacturers to get into full production. Therefore studio managements have been urged to furnish the government details of their equipment requirements immediately.

Call Monopoly Parley

LONDON—The president of the Board of Trade, Hugh Dalton, has invited those sections of the British film industry furnishing observations on the monopoly report of the film council's special committee to attend a round-table discussion of the various points raised.

Columbia Declares Dividend

NEW YORK—Columbia Pictures Corp. this week declared a quarterly dividend of $.68¾ per share on the $2.75 convertible preferred stock of the company, payable May 15, 1945, to stockholders of record May 1, 1945.

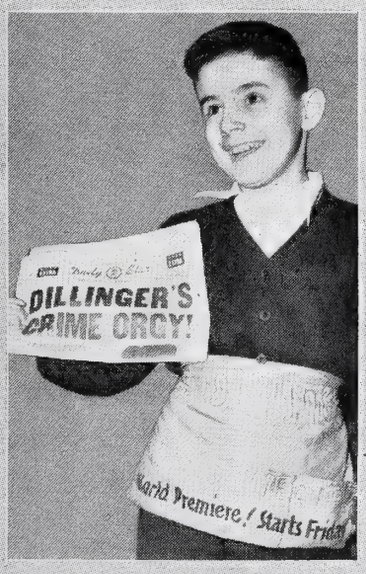
DILLINGER RAIDS CINCINNATI!

ALL EXISTING HOUSE RECORDS SMASHED!

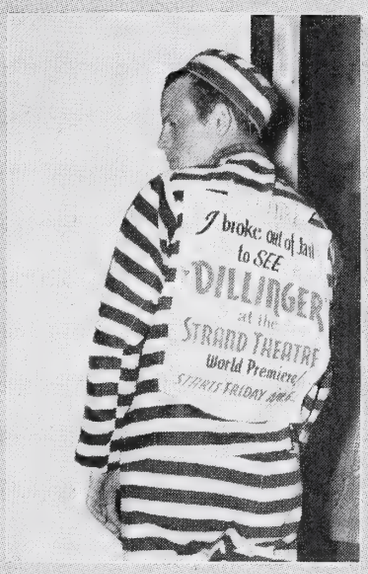
AFTER FIRST THREE DAYS FORCED TO OPEN BOXOFFICE 2 HOURS EARLIER!

TERRIFIC SECOND WEEK CALLS FOR HOLDOVER TO THIRD SOCK SESSION!

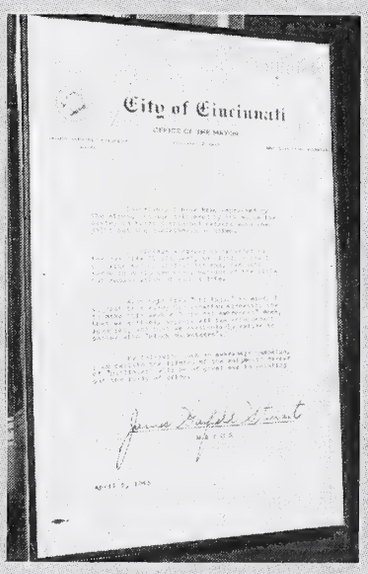
HERE'S HOW CINCY SOCKED IT OVER!



15,000 TABLOIDS!
Shouting newsboys hawk these red-hot heralds on Cincy streets!



STREET BALLYHOO!
Prisoner's sign says he broke jail to see 'Dilllinger'!



MAYOR ISSUES PROCLAMATION!
Boosts film with anti-crime week!

THIS NEWSPAPER AD TELLS THE WHOLE STORY!

WE APOLOGIZE
To the thousands of Greater Cincinnati movie-goers who could not gain admittance to the STRAND THEATRE during the first three days of the world premiere showing of "DILLINGER."

TO ACCOMMODATE
the crowds who desire to see this greatest of all gangster pictures, the STRAND will open daily at 9:30 a. m. for the balance of its engagement.

"DILLINGER" will be shown at 10:31, 12:53, 3:15, 5:37, 7:59, 10:27.

Make way for MONOGRAM!

"DILLINGER" A KING BROTHERS PRODUCTION

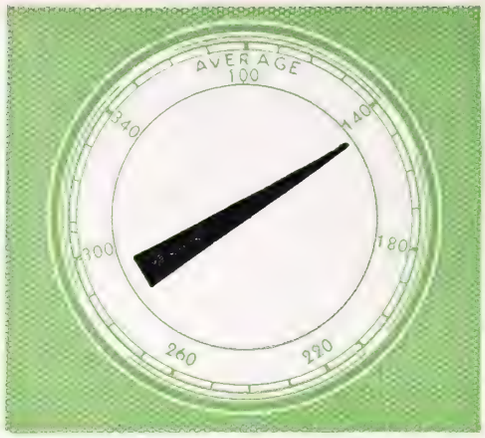
featuring **Edmund LOWE • Anne JEFFREYS •** and introducing **LAWRENCE TIERNEY** as John Dillinger

with EDUARDO CIANNELLI · MARC LAWRENCE · ELISHA COOK, Jr. · Directed by MAX NOSSECK · Screenplay by PHILIP YORDAN

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hits of the Week

Guest in the House—
Buffalo **150**

Here Come the Co-Eds—
Indianapolis **150**

Pan-Americana—
Minneapolis **150**

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Big Bonanza (Rep)	110					120	100		120	100	100				93		110	100			120		**107**
Bring On the Girls (Para)	135	159		120	90	130	195	90			150		130	150	105	155	130	190					**138**
Circumstantial Evidence (20-Fox)	125	100		90			100		95	100		100	100	150			100				100		**105**
Dangerous Passage (Para)	100	100				100			100	100	100	100		100			100	125				100	**102**
Destiny (Univ)	115	100	115			100			100	95	100		100	100	100	125	100	165			100	100	**108**
Docks of New York (Mono)		100	100						100										110			160	**114**
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120						200								93		125	130					**134**
For Whom the Bell Tolls (Para)	125	130		110		130	175	95	125	110	105	120	100	100	105		105	165		175	140	250	**131**
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110		95	75		175	95	125					100		150			75		150		**115**
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)				140			180				160		100		110	205		215	110				**153**
Guest in the House (UA)	130	150	115	90			160		90		115		100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	**121**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125	82	90	105		110	150		100	115	105	127	90	115	103	175		190			110		**118**
Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)	110	105	115	110	65		148	90	110	150	97		100	140	120	170	90		90		125	140	**115**
Hotel Berlin (WB)	115	104	120	110	90	130	150	100		100	125	200	110	140	95	180	100	205	70		170	150	**128**
House of Fear, The (Univ)	130	105	100	100	100				120	100			110	100	100	95					100	100	**105**
House of Frankenstein (Univ)	115	102	110	105	120	140	190	100	100	120			100	150		205	125	195	80	175	150	140	**133**
I'll Remember April (Univ)	100		100		115		100	95	90				100										**100**
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110			165	130	90		120	125	100	110			130				150		**121**
Keep Your Powder Dry (MGM)				105					125				100	100		170					130		**122**
Keys of the Kingdom (20-Fox)	135	105	130	113	90	120	165	85	175		168	175	125	140	90	285	110	155	150	145	160	150	**141**
Leave It to Blondie (Col)	110		110			100	100	100	100			100			100		100		65				**99**
Meet Me in St. Louis (MGM)	125	260	125	125	185	135	230	105	145	180	185	187	135	170	130	210	150	170	170		180	200	**167**
Molly and Me (20-Fox)							100		95				100						60		100		**91**
Mr. Emmanuel (UA)	115	118			120									125	78				45		110		**102**
Music for Millions (MGM)		119		110	130		130		120	140	170	150		150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	**139**
My Gal Loves Music (Univ)	100	100	100			115	100		100		100	67	100	100	100		110				100		**99**
Night Club Girl (Univ)	100	100	100				100				100		100	110	100		100					100	**101**
Nothing But Trouble (MGM)		82		90		110	100	85	100			100	100	90		80	100	135					**98**
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100		105								100	150	85			135					**112**
Practically Yours (Para)	125			130	100	130	190	100	125	125	145	173		160	105	190	140		75		150		**135**
Roughly Speaking (WB)	130	190		110			155	110		95	110	140		100	110	175	95	200	80		120		**128**
She Gets Her Man (Univ)	110	125	100	95	90	120	100	90	100	100	120	100		100			110	175			100	100	**108**
Singing Sheriff, The (Univ)	100		100			125	100		110		100	100		100	60		80				100	100	**98**
Song of Bernadette, The (20-Fox)				95			165	90	130	85	115		90	125			95	140	75		135		**112**
Song to Remember (Col)	135	212	110	110	125	140	175	110	125		120	195			108	170	120	180	140		225		**147**
Suspect, The (Univ)	130	128	110	90		120	185	90	120	100	87	100		100	85	180	100		115		160	175	**121**
Thin Man Goes Home, The (MGM)	125	93	110	115	100	135	160	100	115		135		100		97	165	95	170	90	120	140	150	**122**
This Man's Navy (MGM)	125	108		105	80					120	87		100	125				175					**114**
Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130	106		115	80		195	105		140	123	150	100	175	105	150	135	150	150		140	180	**135**
To Have and Have Not (WB)	155	193	120	115	125	130	190	95	160	115	175	200	100	170	125	235		255	130		220	200	**160**
Tomorrow the World (UA)			120	110					110						109			155			110	140	**122**



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THE GREAT FLAMARION

"GREAT WITH A GUN"

with DAN DURYEA • STEPHEN BARCLAY

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Story by ANNE WIGTON • *Based on a character "BIG SHOT" by* VICKI BAUM *from Collier's Magazine*
Producer — WILLIAM WILDER

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



Independ't Distributors Name Jones President

CHICAGO—Screen Guild Productions, Inc., is the new name of the group of independent distributors recently banded together under the name of Cardinal Pictures, discarding the latter title due to its prior usage. Meeting here in an enthusiastic session at Hotel Blackstone extending over the last four days in April, the distributors elected John J. Jones of Chicago as their president, at the same time announcing that 75 per cent of the country now is covered by franchises, with the remaining area under negotiation.

Three vice-presidents were named: John W. Mangham of Atlanta, Arthur Lockwood of Boston and Robert L. Lippert of San Francisco. Matt Schulter of St. Louis is treasurer and John L. Franconi of Dallas is secretary. In addition to the officers, the executive committee includes Jack Engel of Philadelphia and Bert Stearn of Pittsburgh.

Jones stated that the new company would be operated as a national organization rather than an association of independent exchanges, and that there is no intention of entering the production field.

Will Build Up Manpower

"We are content," added Jones, "to build up manpower as a distributing organization, against the time when wartime restrictions are removed. Virtually all of our franchise holders have additional distribution interests, apart from Screen Guild. Coupled with the fact that the new organization is paying no fancy salaries, we can afford to coast along for a while without profit if needs be."

Jones said that every franchise owner holds stock in the parent organization, and that there is no outside stock available. Initial contract has been made with Lippert and associates through their Action Pictures Corp. for a series of all-color outdoor pictures, the first of which is "Wildfire." Jones said that deals with other producers are pending.

Partial listing of franchise holders and their territories follows:

John W. Mangham, Atlanta, New Orleans and Memphis; Ted Levy, Milwaukee; Harry C. Arthur, Los Angeles; Matt Schulter and Andy Deitz, St. Louis; Carr Scott, Oklahoma City; John L. Franconi, Dallas; Julian King, Omaha and Des Moines; R. L. Lippert and Al Grubstick, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Also, John J. Jones, Chicago; Arthur Lockwood, Boston and New Haven; Jack Engel and associates, Saul Krugman and Jack H. Greenberg, Philadelphia; H. J. Allen, Toronto; Bert Stearn, Pittsburgh; Al Dezel, Detroit; J. Francis White, Charlotte; Joseph Wolf, Minneapolis; Sam Wheeler, Washington, D. C.

Nazis Hide Theatres Up Alleys, Too!

Somewhere in Germany—"We've really been slamming hell out of these guys and the end now is pretty close, even if we have to go right into Adolf's cellar and root him out."

So writes Ernest W. Fair, former BOXOFFICE staff man at Kansas City, now with the 89th Division of General Patton's Third army. He adds, "Side note: the average German small and middle-sized town really needs to be shown something about how to exploit a theatre. Most of their houses are up alleys! Imagine that back in the states! We haven't hit any of the really big cities, so I dunno how it is in them, but you'd have one helluva job finding the motion picture theatre in the average town."

Columbia Executives Convene in Chicago

CHICAGO—To discuss distribution methods on 1945-46 product, the redistribution of prints on all future films to meet the raw stock shortage, and the furtherance of the Montague 20th anniversary campaign Columbia's district managers and the managers of the branches without district supervision assembled Tuesday for a three-day conference with home office executives at the Drake Hotel.

Division Managers Present

Among those present at the meetings were the following division managers: Nat Cohn, New York; Sam Galanty, mideast; Jerome Safron, western; Carl Shalit, central; B. C. Marcus, midwest; R. J. Ingram, southwest, and J. Underwood, midwest. Branch managers included H. E. Weiner, Philadelphia; I. H. Rogovin, Boston; B. J. Lourie, Chicago, and Oscar Ruby, Milwaukee.

Home office executives, department heads and sales personnel present included A. Montague, general sales manager; Rube Jackter, assistant general sales manager; Louis Astor and Louis Weinberg, circuit sales executives; M. J. Weisfeldt, sales executive; Maurice Grad, director of sales promotion; H. C. Kaufman, manager of exchange operations; George Joseph, manager of sales accounting; Vincent Borelli, assistant to circuit sales executives; Irving Sherman, assistant to manager of exchange operations; Seth Raisler, sales contract department; Joseph Freiberg, assistant to manager of sales accounting, and William Brennan, manager of the print department.



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THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Together Again (Col)—Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, Mona Freeman. Another of Columbia's supers that just didn't click for us. We are not having much luck with Columbia's supers. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—J. K. Burgess, Iris, Velva, N. D. Small town and rural patronage.

FILM CLASSICS

Star Is Born, A (FC)—Janet Gaynor, Fredric March. A very good show in Technicolor. The print was in bad shape and there was no advertisement, and besides that, it was storming which caused us to have very low attendance.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Above Suspicion (M-G-M)—Joan Crawford, Fred MacMurray, Conrad Veidt, Basil Rathbone. This is rather hard to follow but a fair suspense picture. It didn't follow the book very closely. Some liked it but not enough to make it pay its way. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—S. C. Onerheim, Community, Luseland, Sask., Canada. Rural and small town patronage.

Canterville Ghost (M-G-M)—Charles Laughton, Margaret O'Brien, Robert Young. I can't say much for this one. Some said it was good, and others thought it not so good. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Dragon Seed (M-G-M)—Katharine Hepburn, Walter Huston, Aline McMahon. Not liked by our audience. This picture is too long. Business only fair.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Shooting of Dan McGoo, The (M-G-M)—Cartoon. The showing of this in the war department theatre here proved popular enough to attract many patrons back for the second time during its two-day run with the M-G-M feature, "The Clock," which, by popular opinion, rated second to this latest episode of Red, the Fox.—Pfc. Edwin Nall, Sgt. Elmer Sinclair, Theatre No. 1, Ardmore Air Field, Ardmore, Okla. Service men patronage.

MONOGRAM

Gun Smoke (Mono)—Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Jennifer Holt. Okay for a double feature or Saturday business.—Ben Harris, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More (Mono)—Simone Simon, James Ellison, William Terry. Wherever Johnny lived, he brought them in—no foolin'. I put it with a William Boyd western and did above average. Played Tues,. Wed.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

PARAMOUNT

And the Angels Sing (Para)—Fred MacMurray, Dorothy Lamour, Betty Hutton, Diana Lynn. Just a nice little musical that is full of funny situations and light—very light. However, it pleased most of them except "carriage class," but they don't keep the wheels turning. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—S. C. Onerheim, Community, Luseland, Sask., Canada. Rural and small town patronage.

Dark Mountain (Para)—Robert Lowery, Ellen Drew, Regis Toomey, Eddie Quillan. Double billed this on weekend to average business. Fair program picture. Weather: Rain.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town and rural patronage.

I Love a Soldier (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. A nice program show from Paramount. The people like Sonny Tufts very well. Business was well above average. Play it by all means. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Till We Meet Again (Para)—Ray Milland, Barbara Britton. This did good midweek business for us. Everybody liked it. The title alone meant a lot.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Till We Meet Again (Para)—Ray Milland, Barbara Britton, Walter Slezak, Lucile Watson. This picture was well taken and gave very good satisfaction. This rates good playing time. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

PRC PICTURES

Dead or Alive (PRC)—Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Guy Wilkerson. Business okay and needed it after a young flood. They always go for a PRC "shoot-em up" in my spot.—Barney & Holt, State, Porter, Okla. Small town and rural patronage.

Miracle of Morgan's Creek (M-G-M)—Eddie Bracken, Betty Hutton, Diana Lynn, William Demarest. Rather a clever comedy. It was pretty adult in parts and didn't please very many. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Bad.—S. C. Onerheim, Community, Luseland, Sask., Canada. Rural and small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

Falcon Out West, The (RKO)—Tom Conway, Barbara Hale. A very good mystery show taking place out west. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Gildersleeve's Ghost (RKO)—Harold Peary, Marion Martin, Richard Le Grand, Amelita Ward. This had everyone laughing their heads off. Mix up a couple of ghosts, a gorilla, a disappearing lady, a frightened Negro and Gildersleeve together in one show and anything is bound to happen—and it does. It should do right well for the small town theatres. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

C. W. Rodebaugh Rests After Active 35 Years

After "35 years in the business, just resting now," C. W. Rodebaugh of Stockton, Calif., writes in: "I must not let my subscription to BOXOFFICE expire for really, no kidding, it is a great magazine and I feel like I am on old Filmrow in Omaha, St. Louis and Kansas City when I read it, even though the names of the old-timers are fast disappearing from the line-up. We old-time exhibitors and 'film cooties' look to BOXOFFICE to keep us informed on what's going on within our industry."

Rodebaugh, like many another Californian, is a former midwesterner. At one time he owned the Colonial, the Pastime and the Highland theatres in Kansas City. Then he worked as salesman for these companies at various times: United Artists, Warner Bros., Metro, Universal. He also sold franchises for Tiffney-Stahl in Nebraska.

REPUBLIC

Comin' Round the Mountain (Rep)—Rerelease. Gene Autry, Ann Rutherford, Smiley Burnette. These Autrys are getting worse. Surely he has made better ones than this one.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

That's My Baby (Rep)—Richard Arlen, Ellen Drew, Leonid Kinsky, Minor Watson. If you want corn, on the cob and shelled, this is it and in big amounts. It does all right as the other half of a weekend double. Quite a conglomeration of acts, some good, some not so good. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Cat Came Back, The (20th-Fox)—Terrytoon color cartoon. I think the Terrytoons are just as good as any of the so-called specials that Walt Disney prints.—Ben Harris, Lake Theatre, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

Laura (20th-Fox)—Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews, Clifton Webb, Vincent Price. This picture didn't go over very well with us. I thought it might on account of the radio tieup, but it didn't.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town and rural patronage.

Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (20th-Fox)—Anne Baxter, John Hodiak, Charles Winninger, Anne Revere. Doubled with "Fighting Lady" (20th-Fox) and it made a terrific dual bill. Well liked by all. Some came to see it twice. "Fighting Lady" was considered excellent, by the audience reaction. Folks really enjoyed both and business showed it more than ordinary in receipts. Played Tues., Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair-cool.—Arnold J. Schneeberger, Ritz, Tipton, Ind. Rural and small town patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Up in Mabel's Room (UA)—Gail Patrick, John Hubbard, Mischa Auer, Charlotte Greenwood. A comedy that really has it. It didn't do any outstanding business but gave 100 per cent satisfaction. The company sells it right and an exhibitor can't go wrong on it. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—J. K. Burgess, Iris, Velva, N. D. Small town and rural patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Bowery to Broadway (Univ)—Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey. Hardly strong enough for three days but is okay for Sunday, if you can't find anything else. Didn't do average for us with good weather and Easter Sunday, so advise playing it on one of the weaker changes. Not worth top money. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Good.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Raiders of Ghost City (Univ)—This is a serial and the first chapter is full of action—just what my fans want. Play it if you play serials.—Ben Harris, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Janie (WB)—Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, Robert Benchley, Joyce Reynolds. This was a good picture and everyone said it was good. Let's have more of this type from Warners. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Old Grey Hare (WB)—Short. Bugs Bunny proves old age has not got him down. No first in this series—they're all tops and get the audience in a receptive mood for almost anything you offer. Played Sat., Sun.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Eastern Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



EASTERNERS EAGER—Keyed up to a high expectancy, exhibitor state chairmen in the nation's eastern territory have pledged their 100 per cent efforts for the Seventh War Loan campaign which opens soon. They are especially determined to raise or exceed quotas on the E bond series.

In the top panel, left to right: Deleware, A. De Fiore, Wilmington; District of Columbia, Fred S. Kogod, Washington; Maryland, Co-Chairmen Frank Durkee and C. Elmer Nolte jr., both of Baltimore; New Jersey, Co-Chairmen Frank J. Damis of Newark, Isadore Epstein of Philadelphia and Harry Lowenstein of Newark.

Lower panel: New York, Co-Chairmen C. J. Latta of Albany, Irving Lesser of New York City and Max Yellen of Buffalo; Pennsylvania (eastern), Sidney Samuelson of Philadelphia; Virginia, Frank O'Brien of Richmond and Hunter Perry of Charlottesville.

N.Y. Theatres Ready For 7th Loan Gun

NEW YORK—Showmen in the New York area have opened the throttle wide in their planning for the opening of the Seventh War Loan, and are prepared for a fast start when the starter's flag drops on May 14.

A large reproduction in bas-relief of the famous Iwo Jima flag-raising picture was unveiled in the lobby of Loew's State as a symbol of Loew's theatres participation in the campaign. The replica stands nine feet high and ten feet wide. Acting as master of ceremonies at the unveiling was Edward C. Dowden. Among the guests were a group of veterans who saw action at Iwo, and Nicholas M. Schenck, David Bernstein, C. C. Moskowitz, Joseph R. Vogel, Oscar A. Doob, Marvin Schenck, Sam Pinanski, Martin Mullin, Si Fabian, Irving Lesser, Francis Harmon, Frederick Gehle and John Fitzgerald.

The Strand will stage celebrity auction nights throughout the drive. Each evening during the last stage show, stars of the stage, screen and radio will auction off scarce articles, such as nylons, cigarets, steaks and perfumes, to bond purchasers.

Hotels and Factories Aid

Louise Leonard of the Mayfair has completed arrangements with Schrafft's at Broadway and 43rd St., whereby they will purchase their bonds through the theatre. Similar arrangements have also been concluded with many hotels and factories in the garment center who have designated Mrs. Leonard and her staff as their official issuing agents.

The Rivoli reports that all bonds purchased by the students and faculty of Junior High School 64 and Evening School 64 of Manhattan will be issued by the theatre. Cooperation by the school officials was pledged to Monty Salmon, managing director of the theatre and Broadway chairman for the drive.

The Century circuit is the latest to prepare a special Seventh War Loan bulletin. The last issue has a complete breakdown of forthcoming bond campaign activities, including holiday and special events. Mike Siegel, Brooklyn public relations chairman, edits the bulletin.

Among the individuals who will serve in various executive and special posts during the campaign are Harry Keller, Universal radio coordinator, named to serve as campaign coordinator; Ben Grauer, Blue Network commentator, who has accepted the post of associated chairman of special events in Manhattan; Charles Burns, manager of Loew's Yonker Theatre, who is taking a leading part in the bond selling activities on the Yonkers war finance committee, and Joseph T. Sharkey, vice-chairman of the City Council of New York, who will serve on the executive committee.

Industry Sets N. Y. Goal Of $250,000 for UJA

NEW YORK—An industry goal of $250,000 has been suggested by Co-Chairman Barney Balaban of the amusements division executive committee of the 1945 United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. Last year the committee raised $149,000.

The quarter million is part of the city-wide goal of $20,000,000 for the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal, National Refuge Service and the National Jewish Welfare Board, sharers in UJA drives.

Chairman of this year's drive, Monroe Goldwater has emphasized the urgency to bring relief to the remaining 2,200,000 Jews in Europe, many of whom cannot be aided within the structure of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

Westchester's Quota In the 7th Is Upped

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.—While theatres in Westchester County sold 15,000 war bonds with a maturity value of over $1,000,000 during the Sixth War Loan, the goal set for showmen during the forthcoming Seventh War Loan will be $1,400,000, or 40 per cent greater than in the Sixth.

This was decided at a meeting of the Westchester WAC at the Roger Smith Hotel. Edward P. Hanyen of the county war finance committee paid tribute to the theatres' contributions in past drives. Leading Westchester theatre men attended the meeting.

Figures for the Sixth War Loan showed Loew's in Yonkers, which sold 1,725 bonds valued at $157,000, and the Capitol in Portchester, with 2,565 bonds valued at $107,000, as the leaders in the county's theatres bond sales. John Ianiri, Capitol manager, urged that an effort be made to sell a bond to every theatre patron. The figures were given by Joseph DiLorenzo, assistant to J. Russell Emde, chairman of the theatre group.

Included in the WFC speakers' group were William H. Evans, White Plains chairman; Joseph E. Muson, Mount Vernon, vice-chairman; Mrs. Aranya Smart, Yonkers; Frederick Ingalls, New Rochelle; G. Clifford Jones, Port Chester; Kenneth Henry, Skouras Theatres and Charles Gaa, Prudential Theatres.

65 N. Y. Exchange Salesmen To Aid Showmen on Drive

NEW YORK—To obtain greater activity on the part of independent theatre personnel and the smaller circuits and exhibitors, WAC New York Area Chairman Henry Randell met recently with 65 salesmen from all the metropolitan film exchanges. These salesmen will work closely with Randell as members of a special committee in contacting the small exhibitor and will help him to play a more active part in the Seventh War Loan drive.

In addition to Randell, Irving Lesser and Morris Kinzler as well as Sam Rinzler addressed the meeting. Speakers stressed the importance of bond rallies and children's premieres.

BROADWAY

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International Corp., has arrived in England, accompanied by Arthur Silverstone, home office representative in Great Britain.

Hector Dods, head of 20th-Fox's studio cutting department, arrived from Hollywood.

C. V. Jones, vice-president and general manager of Robb & Rowley-United Theatres, Dallas, and head of North Texas Air Conditioning Co., stopped at the St. Regis upon his arrival from Dallas.

Ginny Simms has arrived from Beverly Hills and is a guest at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Stanley W. Hand, advertising and publicity manager of Altec Service Corp., and Mrs. Hand are the proud parents of Owen Kenneth, born at the Park West Hospital.

Edward Schnitzer, UA home office executive, left for a visit to the company's Montreal and Toronto exchanges. He will attend the Canadian premiere of "Colonel Blimp" at the Elgin Theatre in Ottawa May 10.

James E. Coston, zone manager for Warner Theatres in the Chicago territory, was here for a short stay.

Lester Cowan, producer of UA's "Tomorrow the World," left Hollywood for Washington to participate in the American Forum of the Air broadcast over the Mutual Network on May 8. "How Shall We Re-Educate Nazi Youth?" will be the theme.

Al O. Bondy, film distributor for General Electric, is back at his headquarters after a New England business trip.

George Weltner, Paramount International vice-president, and Harry Danziger, Eastern Sound Studios head, returned from the coast.

Alan F. Cummings, in charge of M-G-M exchange operations, visited Milwaukee and Chicago.

Hugh Herbert, screen comedian, left the coast to begin rehearsals for a Broadway role in Jacques Deval's "Oh, Brother."

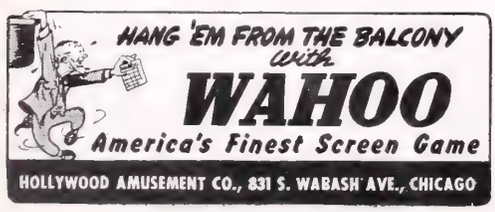
Cpl. Barry Nelson, former screen actor, will return to the coast to join in a training film production unit following a brief furlough.

S/Sgt. Herbert Richek, formerly office manager for the local UA exchange, is enjoying a 20-day furlough from his army station in Florida.

Jack Swaab left Hollywood on a tour of key cities to arrange commercial tieups in connection with Universal's Walter Lantz Cartunes, with St. Joseph, Mo., scheduled as his first stop.

Ada Siegel, editor-in-chief of This Month magazine, was in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto on a business trip . . . Leonard Goldstein, Mike Todd's west coast representative, arrived for a week's stay to confer with Todd on his production plans for Edna Ferber's "Great Son."

Evelyn Gerstein Associates have closed their publicity offices at 9 Rockefeller Plaza. Miss Gerstein will continue as U.S. representative for the National Film Board of Canada on its World in Action films distributed by UA.





HIZZONER COOPERATES—Yvonne De Carlo, star in Universal's "Salome—Where She Danced," presents the first ticket for the Maj. Glenn Miller show and soldier pageant to Mayor La Guardia. Julie Gibson and Benny Goodman are looking on. The show will be at the Paramount Theatre June 5 as one of the Seventh War Loan special events.

Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, much rested after his sojourn in Florida, is back at the home office.

Dore Schary, Selznick International producer, and Allen Rivkin, writer, conferred in Washington with Lieut. Gen. Alexander Vandergrift, marine commandant, on the film version of Niven Busch's novel, "They Dream of Home."

James E. Finey, Walt Disney sales executive, returned from a three-week trip to RKO branches in the south and southwest.

Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects general sales manager, is scheduled to arrive in Dallas on May 10, for a two-day district meeting.

Carl Hollenstein, traveling auditor for Warners, left for the company's Continental European headquarters in Paris.

Helmut Dantine, Warner star, arrived from Hollywood for personal appearance at the Strand Theatre with his latest picture, "Escape in the Desert." Andrea King, who will appear in person with him, stopped off in Chicago en route from the coast, accompanied by her husband, Lieut. Nathaniel Willis of the coast guard.

Irving Rapper, Warner director, planed to Mexico from the coast.

Jules Levey, Warner Theatres executive, made a trip to Memphis and Oklahoma City.

Roy Haines, southern and western division sales manager for Warners, returned from Atlanta and other southern exchanges.

Capt. Frank Liberman, former member of Mort Blumenstock's field staff at Warners, who is stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo., returned to the rigors of army life after a visit here.

Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger left by plane for a brief Canadian tour with stops in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, prior to their return to England.

Strand Boxoffice Closed 11 Hours by Moss Order

NEW YORK—License Commissioner Paul Moss closed the Strand Theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday until 3:05 p. m. The order followed a complaint the house had violated the penal code by selling tickets to four youths under 16 years of age.

Warner Bros. characterized Moss' action as "unwarranted," particularly in view of their 25-year record of law observance. Since the Strand normally opens at 9:30 a. m., the edict imposed virtually an 11-hour penalty for what the management termed an "accidental and technical violation."

Recalling Commissioner Moss' recent "high-handed" closing of a Broadway play several radio commentators in narrating the incident commented on how difficult it is for even the most conscientious treasurer or ticket-taker to determine the exact age of many younger patrons. Paula Stone devoted her program to an appeal to teen-agers to cooperate with theatre managements in observing the law.

Dorothy Kilgallen and Richard Kollmar, on their Mutual network broadcast, pointed to the recent closing of all Warner Bros. theatres for an entire day in tribute to President Roosevelt as evidence that the accidental sale of tickets to a minor was not money-motivated.

Adrienne Ames, Maggi McNellis, Josephine McQuillan and Arthur Godfrey, CBS broadcasters, on their respective programs, sided with the Strand management.

SMPE Semiannual Meeting Will Show Advances Made

HOLLYWOOD—The Society of Motion Picture Engineers will hold its 57th semiannual technical conference at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel, May 14 to 18, inclusive.

Marked strides attained by films used in military and naval wartime activities will be discussed at the nine sessions of the five-day meeting, according to William C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president of the SMPE. Advances in theatre television, motion picture photography and projection, as well as sound recording and reproduction, will be some of the subjects under discussion.

Thus far, approximately 50 papers have been listed with Dr. C. R. Daily and Barton Kreuzer, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the technical papers committee. Two of these addresses are said to deal with photographing audience reaction in motion picture theatres.

Committee heads for the convention include the following: papers, C. R. Daily and Barton Kreuzer; publicity, E. O. Blackburn and Julius Haber; registration and information, William C. Kunzmann; reception and local arrangements, Emery Huse; luncheon and dinner-dance, L. L. Ryder; hotel and transportation, C. W. Handley; projection programs, R. H. McCullough and H. W. Hemerscheid.

Field Sales Executives M-G-M Luncheon Guests

NEW YORK—A quartet of newly-promoted M-G-M field sales executives were guests of honor at a luncheon tendered them by William F. Rodgers, Loew vice-president and general sales manager, and home office distribution officials.

The four field executives, here for home office conferences, were Rudolph Berger, southern sales manager, and Henry A. Friedel, Herman Ripps and Ralph Maw, newly appointed district heads. Also present were John S. Allen, M-G-M's branch manager at Washington, D. C.

New Films Bolster Broadway Grosses

NEW YORK—Arrival of three new attractions bolstered first run grosses. Topper of them all was Monogram's "Dillinger" which set an all-time record at the 700-seat Victoria, besting the previous mark held by "The Fighting Lady."

Other new films that scored in their first weeks were "Salty O'Rourke" at the Paramount and "The Enchanted Cottage" at the Astor.

The Strand's weekly gross was affected somewhat by an enforced closing on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons ordered by License Commissioner Paul Moss because a minor was admitted to the house.

Three M-G-M films opened on Broadway as follows: "The Valley of Decision," Radio City Music Hall; "The Clock," Capitol, and "Gentle Annie," Rialto.

Twentieth - Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe" opened Wednesday at the Roxy. UA's "Colonel Blimp" was held over for a sixth week at the Gotham.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO) 195
Capitol—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), plus stage show, 4th wk. 125
Criterion—**Sudan** (Univ), 2nd wk. 140
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 5th wk. 115
Palace—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO) 130
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show 205
Radio City Music Hall—**Without Love** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 6th wk. 135
Rialto—**Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 75
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 5th wk. 110
Roxy—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 120
Strand—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 145
Victoria—**Dillinger** (Mono) 290

Buffalo Audiences Flock to See "Enchanted Cottage" at 20th Century

BUFFALO—"The Enchanted Cottage" and "Oh, What a Night" were good for almost twice average at the 20th Century here. "National Velvet" continued good in a second week at the Great Lakes. "Guest in the House," with another at the Hippodrome, was a surprise hit. "Sudan" was successful at the Lafayette, but "Thunderhead" was disappointing at the Buffalo. The weather has been cold and rainy.

Buffalo—**Thunderhead—Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 106
Great Lakes—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 122
Hippodrome—**Guest in the House** (UA); **The Man Who Walked Alone** (PRC) 150
20th Century—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Oh, What a Night** (Mono) 189
Lafayette—**Sudan** (Univ); **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ) 145

Philadelphia Boxoffice Story Brings Smiles to All Exhibitors

PHILADELPHIA—"It's a Pleasure," making its debut at the Mastbaum, was a pleasure at the boxoffice. Other newcomers last week, "Here Come the Co-Eds," "Royal Scandal" and "The Suspect," also did well. The surprise of the week was the reissue of "Sign of the Cross," playing at Keith's for the first time in its modernized version.

Aldine—**Song to Remember** (Col), 5th wk. 150
Arcadia—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 4th d. t. wk. 175
Boyd—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox) 180
Earle—**Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), with Henry Busse orchestra and Minevitch Rascals on stage 135
Fox—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ) 165
Karlton—**Woman in the Window** (RKO), 4th d. t. wk. 165
Keith's—**Sign of the Cross** (Para) 185
Mastbaum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO) 190
Stanley—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk. 130
Stanton—**The Suspect** (Univ) 180

Mel Torme, Crooner, Signs Pact

Mel Torme, crooner and song writer, has signed a term pact with Warners.

Exhibitors Hear Outline Of Child Labor Codes

NEW YORK—Hundreds of exhibitors and managers attended a mass meeting at the Riverside Theatre here convened by the state department of labor to obtain the cooperation of theatre men in eliminating alleged infractions of child labor laws.

Speakers included Edward Corsi, state industrial commissioner; Walter O'Leary, chief of the attendance bureau of the board of education; Arthur Gagnon, Corsi's legal aide, and Louis M. Weber of Skouras Theatres legal department who presided. The meeting was the first in a series designed to familiarize employers with the child labor statutes.

Placing theatres "in the middle of the list" among those who allegedly violate the child labor laws, Commissioner Corsi said it was necessary for the industry to comply with the law if it is to continue to justify the public's goodwill.

He pointed out that a survey of New York theatres disclosed that 76 were found to be violating the law and that 103 children were allegedly working in violation of that statute. Eighty additional children between 16 and 17 years of age could have been legally employed if they had obtained working papers. In some cases, Corsi added, children 14 to 15 years old were employed minus credentials and working late into the night.

There were isolated cases of children under 14 working also, he said. The preponderance of cases, however, concerned children under 16 working after the 6 p. m. deadline permitted by law, he said.

Industry Trying to Comply

The problem has been complicated by the fact that, whereas 70,000 children were employed throughout the state prior to the war, now there are approximately half a million. Commissioner Corsi made it clear that a vast majority of these minors are legally employed, however.

"The theatre industry as a whole," he said, "is not trying to violate the law, but there are individuals who feel that they can flout the law with impunity." Corsi declared that among circuits, RKO, Fabian and Randforce have been cooperating completely with his department and implied that others should follow their example.

O'Leary said that every manager is obliged to see to it that no boy or girl under 18 is permitted to work in his theatre unless he or she has the proper employment certificate. He explained the process by which these are obtained, and added that his bureau would do everything to facilitate issuance of credentials to those qualified. He also warned theatre men not to permit any school boy or girl to enter their theatres as a patron while schools are in session.

In outlining the child labor law, Gagnon pointed out that minors under 14 years of age under no circumstances are permitted to work in a theatre. Those between 14 and 16 may work in a theatre, he said, provided they possess a vacation work permit or a standard employment certificate. Minors in this category, however, may not work (a) more than six days, or 44 hours in any week; (b) more than eight hours in any day; (c) between the hours of 6 p. m. and 8 a. m.

All Need Working Papers

While there are no regulations covering the hours of employment of those in the 16 to 18 group, they too must have working papers.

Penalties for infractions of the child labor laws follow: Maximum fine of $50 for the first offense; a fine of between $50 and $250, or imprisonment for not more than 30 days or both, for the second offense; and a fine of not less than $250 or imprisonment for a maximum of 60 days or both for a third offense.

In answer to a question asked by a manager, O'Leary asserted that the new child labor law recently signed by Governor Dewey would limit the number of hours a student over 16 years of age can be employed after school hours. This would close a loophole in the existing law which places no limit on hours of employment, according to O'Leary.

The meeting closed after the officials were thanked for bringing the matter to the attention of the theatre men in such a friendly and thorough fashion.



—Photo by Cosmo-Sileo

HONOR NAVY FILM MAN—Lieut. Comdr. R. H. Smith, who has been in charge of distribution of films to the fleet and is planning to retire after 27 years of service, was guest of honor at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor. In the group are: Lieut. Comdr. Smith, A. C. Brauninger, WB; M. J. Weisfeldt, Col.; Sara Lyons, Para.; G. Knox Haddow, Para.; I. F. Dolid, WB; Bob Hilton, UA; Herman Stern, Sam Machnovitch, Budd Rogers and Ed Moyse, Univ.; Norton Ritchey, Mono.; Bert Kulick, PRC; Robert Fannon, Rep.; William G. Brennan, Col.; Sid Kramer, Lew Wolfe, Ann Levy, Charles Boasberg and Phil Hodes, RKO; George Barnett, Modern Films; Jack Sichelman, George Roberts, 20th-Fox; Martin Moskowitz, 20th-Fox; W. D. Kelly, M-G-M; Marry Reinhardt, 20th-Fox.



—Photo by Reni Newsfoto Service

VIRGINIA AREA CHAIRMAN—Charles V. Grimes of Staunton and Washington, Warner Bros. Theatres Virginia district manager, recently was named as Region 3 chairman for the Virginia theatres participating in the Seventh War Loan drive by State Co-Chairmen Hunter Perry and Frank O'Brien.

Grimes will have as his co-chairmen in Region 3 Wade Pearson, Neighborhood Theatres, Arlington, and T. I. Martin, Pitts Theatres, Culpepper, Frank Shaffer, Dixie Theatre, Staunton, has been appointed regional publicity director.

State Campaigns Planned After Regional Meets

NEW YORK—State committees are following the plans laid down at the three industry regional conferences for the Seventh War Loan in New York, Chicago and Denver, and are busy organizing their campaigns, Sam Pinanski, national chairman, declared.

"The national committee is highly gratified by the assurances given by the state exhibitor, distributor and publicity chairmen at the regional meetings," Pinanski declared. "With the assurances that the state chairmen will do their utmost to organize aggressive campaigns to make the Seventh the most successful war loan drive, every indication points to the mightiest effort in the industry's history."

State and local meetings to organize showmen for the drive, in cooperation with the war finance committees, are now in progress.

Connors Names Levathes WAC Distributor Aide

NEW YORK—Tom J. Connors, WAC national distributor chairman, has named as his assistant, Peter G. Levathes of the 20th-Fox distribution department. Levathes will assist Connors in contacting the drive distribution organization in the field.

At one time Levathes was assistant for several years to Spyros Skouras when the latter was president of National Theatres. Following three years in the government wartime intelligence service, he joined 20th-Fox.

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Virginia's Bond Drive Campaign Is All Set

RICHMOND—Exhibitors from all sections of Virginia were here for the first regional meeting to map plans for the Seventh War Loan drive. Hunter Perry, co-chairman, presided, ably assisted by Frank O'Brien.

Perry related details of the New York meeting which he and O'Brien attended. The keynote of the meeting was the necessity of every exhibitor to become an issuing or subissuing agent.

At the speakers table were William F. Crockett, president of MPTO of Virginia, and Tom Baldridge, drive director. The publicity chairman, Brock Whitlock, and John Allen, distributor representative, were also present.

Loew's Home Office 7th War Loan Drive Begun

NEW YORK—The Loew's home office has begun a concentrated drive to increase its pay roll deduction record. David Bernstein, treasurer, has appointed H. J. Cleary, Max Wolff and Leonard Pollack as co-chairmen of the campaign, which has as its goal a 95 per cent pay roll record by May 14, the day the Seventh War Loan opens.

It is hoped to add at least 300 names to the pay roll deduction plan. As in previous drives the company has volunteered to help employes finance their war bond purchases. Charts showing how each of the departments of the company stand in the drive will be displayed on every floor of the building.

Among the captains of the drive are Lillian Barash, Lydia Bauer, George Berry, Mimi Brown, Cele Cohen, Matthew Eisenstadt, Anna Ellmer, Lee Haber, Josephine Hertzog, Albert Hoffman, Harry Kleindienst, Arthur Lacks, Harry Lance, Bernice Levy, Mildred Lewis, Ruth Meier, Rose Morgan, Axel Nelson, John Podester, Herman Potsdam, Mary Ryan, Jack Schanhous, Dorothy Schiffman, Irving Scholasberg, Minerva Shopenn, Solly Sommer, James Southworth, Veronica Stock, Arthur Weill, Robert West, Albert Wolff, Sylvia Zuckerbrot and Adele Zysman.

Plan Army, Navy Nights For Staten Island Area

NEW YORK — Special Army, Navy and Coast Guard Nights will be featured as part of a continual series of rallies for the WAC drive in the Staten Island area. Every theatre in that borough will have an opening day rally with a concentration of effort in the schools for children premieres, it was decided at a meeting held at the St. George Theatre.

June 15 was set for special children's school bond premieres in six theatres. To prevent overlapping, children will be allocated to theatres according to school districts for their bond premieres, the meeting agreed.

In attendance were Chairman Louis Goldberg, Milton Schosberg, Henry Suchman, Louis Moses, George Kemp, George Darensoll, Jack Trachtenberg, Elise Fink, Frank Rosanno, Spencer Bregoff and Josephine Lomas. Also present were Robert Conway, Richard Crowe and Mrs. Cowling, local AWVS chapter head.

Loew's Ready With Bonds

NEW YORK—Loew's Theatres have a stock of $6,000,000,000 of series E war bonds on hand in preparation for the Seventh War Loan, according to Harold J. Cleary, the company's chief auditor. After the drive opens, an additional four to five millions in bonds will augment the stock.



BIG BOND BUY—Robert M. Weitman (left), chairman of special events section in WAC's metropolitan bond drive, receives check for $100,000 from Herman Gelber, president of Local 306, IATSE operators' union. The union members will receive seats at the Glenn Miller Day bond show at the Paramount Theatre.

Coyne Hails Theatre Men For War Loan Efforts

NEW YORK—R. W. Coyne, field director of the war finance division of the treasury department, has advised all war finance committees to take advantage of the motion picture industry's cooperation in the Seven War Loan.

Coyne said in a bulletin that the industry had been one of the major factors in exceeding goals in E bond sales during past loan drives. He commended the methods used by theatre men in the last several drives to help put over local campaigns.

"The theatres have demonstrated great strength as sellers of E bonds. In one state (Arkansas) the theatres sold 22 per cent of the state's E bond quota in the Sixth War Loan and have undertaken a similar responsibility in the Seventh," said Coyne in his message to war finance committees.

Huge Breakfast Will Open "Showmen's 7th" in N.Y.

NEW YORK—The 1,200 showmen who operate 700 theatres in the New York area will be guests at a "Showmen's Seventh" breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Tuesday, May 8. Workers who actually sell the bonds will be given last-minute information on the various highlights of the campaign.

Speakers will include: Sam Pinanski, national chairman; Ted Gamble, war finance director of the treasury department; Frederick W. Gehle, state war finance chairman, and Irving Lesser, metropolitan chairman. Screen stars will be guests as will representatives of the army, navy and marines. David Weinstock is chairman of the breakfast committee. Tickets can be secured from him at 1514 Broadway.

NSS to Handle Bond Records

NEW YORK—"Buy a Bond," the bond-selling tune recorded by Bing Crosby and Harry James and his orchestra, is being shipped by the treasury department to National Screen exchanges, and will be made available free to exhibitors on a first-come, first-served basis. More than 5,000 of the records are ready for shipment.

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Exhibitors in Russia Face Many Problems

By PAULINE B. SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—Exhibitors in the Soviet Union have the same problems that keep American theatre operators up nights, according to Nila Magidoff, Russian-born wife of Robert Magidoff, NBC's correspondent in Moscow. For instance, the Soviet exhibitor suffers from print shortages; worries about bookings; is harried by a constant desire to show results from a boxoffice standpoint. The one major difference is that the Soviet theatre operator not only is his own boss he has, paradoxically, as many bosses as there are residents in his community.

Mme. Magidoff, interviewed in Washington, where she had lectured on behalf of Russian War Relief, explained in some detail how cinemas fare under the Soviet system. According to Mme. Magidoff, who considers herself just an average movie fan, the Soviet citizen who goes to the pictures is very much like his American counterpart. That goes, too, for the Soviet exhibitor who, in line with other industry executives in the Soviet Union, finds much that is admirable in American theatre operation methods. In fact, stated Mme. Magidoff, Soviet exhibitors vie for opportunities to indulge in the same sort of ballyhoo at premieres of outstanding Soviet films as do our more publicity-conscious theatre operators in this country.

Motion picture theatres, of which there were approximately 32,000 in the Soviet Union before the war, are owned and operated by the separate municipal governments. In addition, there are approximately 168 children's cinemas, devoted entirely to the presentation of film programs for youngsters.

In all the larger cities of Russia, the first run houses have a price policy approximating that of comparable American theatres, averaging 80 cents in admissions. Second run and so-called neighborhood theatres get about the same prices exacted by similar houses in this country. The theatre manager finds it necessary to maintain high standards of cleanliness and operation, inasmuch as he may be called to account by everyone of his patrons. In that respect, perhaps, he also does not differ from his American counterpart whose life often is a series of gripes. The difference, it seems, lies in the fact that the Soviet exhibitor may be demoted to scrubbing floors if he falls down on his job.

Insofar as Russian likes and dislikes are concerned, the average moviegoer in that country, according to Mme. Magidoff, rates American films high in esteem.

They Weep Over Chaplin

"Only in Russia, we do not laugh at Chaplin—we weep," said Mme. Magidoff.

The Russians hope that there will be many American films shown in their country. For years, their standards of production have been aimed at American examples not only in industrial factories where, according to Mme. Magidoff, there are signs reading: "We must pass and surpass American factories," but also in film studios. American films are studied and technical methods copied whenever possible.

Russian actors are trained on the Russian stage first and then, on the basis of their ability as mimes, they are sent to work in the film studios. There is no such thing as a "star system" in the Soviet Union and an actor finds himself important in ratio to his personal popularity and following among audiences. But no intensive publicity "build-ups," such as is the custom here, are employed to enhance a performer's popularity. He's got to be good as an actor and, according to Mme. Magidoff, "that's being better than the best."

Fishman Fund Honors Hero's Memory

NEW HAVEN—Announcement has been made by Yale University of the establishment of a Stanley Fishman scholarship fund by the Fishman family here, operators of the Fishman circuit, in memory of the late Sgt. Stanley Fishman, only son of Selig Fishman, who was killed in action in Luxembourg last January 4.

The income from $10,000 is to be used at the discretion of the undergraduate scholarship committee of Yale to provide assistance in the freshman year to a needy and deserving graduate of a high school in New Haven, West Haven or Hamden. Of the $10,000 fund, $5,000 already has been donated, and the remainder will be completed in January 1946.

Sergeant Fishman was graduated from Hillhouse High here in 1943 and had planned to enter Yale. He entered the army in August 1943 and was sent overseas in the summer of 1944 after a short period of infantry training when the ASTP program, for which he had been chosen, was curtailed. The 19-year-old youth was awarded a Silver Star for saving the life of his company commander while under fire in France in October. In March of this year his parents were sent the posthumous award of a Purple Heart for their son.

Honors to Ann Sheridan For USO Entertainments

PHILADELPHIA—Ann Sheridan, Hollywood motion picture star, who has traveled 60,000 air miles to entertain soldiers overseas, this week received the Northeast High School senate award for her "patriotic contribution to USO entertainment, especially in the China-Burma-India field of war."

To the accompaniment of applause of 5,000 students and a large representation of alumni in uniforms, she told the high school boys that before her discovery by a talent scout she was training to be a "school mar'm."

Miss Sheridan will go to Washington soon to take part in a Red Cross show and will continue her USO appearances in the east for several weeks.

Altec Gets 10 Contracts; Nine Renewals Signed

NEW YORK—New contracts for Altec Service include the Texan, Big Springs and Victory theatres in Del Rio, Tex.; the Ausable, in the New York town of that name; the Gay, Jackson, Miss.; Virginia, Paden City, W. Va.; Congress, Palouse, Wash.; York, Redboiling Springs, Tenn.; Premier, Littleton, N. H.; and Plaza, Waterbury, Conn.

Renewals signed by the company include the Gene McIlwain theatres in Lafayette and Hartsville, Tenn.; State and Grand, Elizabethtown, Ky.; the Lionel Delacroix theatres, Plaquemine, La.; Niagara Drive-In Theatre, Tonawanda, N. Y.; Central, Yonkers, N. Y., and Globe, Republic and Terrace, New York City.

Surplus Setup to Remain, Secretary Wallace Says

WASHINGTON—There will be no changes in the regional and field organization of the office of surplus property, which has been assumed by the commerce department. The secretary of commerce, Henry Wallace, has announced that the surplus property board will function as before with the same personnel and no changes are contemplated.

Granet Leaves for Coast

NEW YORK—Bert Granet, producer of "Those Endearing Young Charms," returned to Hollywood following a two-week stay here.



REPRESENTS CROSBY—Dick Gibson (left), general manager of Bing Crosby Pictures, Inc., and David E. "Skip" Weshner, who has been named production representative on "The Great John L," UA release.

Circuits to Distribute New Book on Pictures

NEW YORK—Theatre circuits and other film organizations throughout the country have ordered more than 6,000 copies of "Movie Lot to Beachhead," the Doubleday-Doran book which tells the story of the industry at war.

The circuits are using these copies as part of their public information program, distributing them to the legislators, city officials, civic leaders, women's club leaders and veterans' organizations. Foreign sales managers have also ordered a number of copies for distribution by their representatives in other countries, and the domestic sales managers have ordered copies for their field forces.

Variety Donates Funds To Curb Delinquency

PHILADELPHIA—The Variety Club, Tent 13, has voted $7,500 for use in correcting juvenile delinquency in this city. The money will be used to buy sports equipment and to maintain teachers in the Mahlon Lewis Community House located in the center of the colored residential district. The tent is working with a group headed by Judge Nochem Winnet to wipe out juvenile delinquency.

Chairmanship of WAC In N. Y. to Moskowitz

NEW YORK—Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president of Loew's, Inc., will serve as New York area WAC chairman. He replaces Fred Schwartz, who resigned to join OWI.

Yanaikos Prenuptial Fete

ALBANY—John Yanaikos, buying executive for the James and Alec Papayanakos string of North County theatres, was feted by local film men and Potsdam friends at a party given prior to his marriage.

UA Men Coastward

NEW YORK—Carl Leserman and Barry Buchanan of United Artists will go to the coast soon for conferences with producers.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

. . . "The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it—so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it. **How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more patience would have achieved success.**

"As the tide goes clear out so it comes clear in. In business, sometimes prospects may seem darkest when really they are on the turn. **A little more persistence, a little more effort and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success.** There is no defeat except from within, no really insurmountable barrier save our own inherent weakness of purpose."—Marden.

The above quotation just about sums up the personal and business philosophy of Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution. Reagan, one of the newest appointees among major sales chiefs (he was appointed to the post a year ago) keeps it available for handy reference in the top drawer of his desk. The portions in bold type are the ones that particularly impress him.

The sentiments expressed in this bit of homespun philosophy are important to him for they seem to epitomize the difficulties that one meets along life's highway and the successful methods that may be used to hurdle these difficulties.

Drifts Into the Hotel Business

It was natural for Reagan to go into the hotel business after his graduation from Notre Dame. His father had been in the same business before him.

While working in the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, located about 20 miles from his birthplace, Lawrenceburg, Ind., Reagan first met Fred Streif, Paramount's Cincinnati branch manager.

Streif liked the lad from the start. Holding out a bright future for him, Streif asked one day: "Why don't you come to work for us?" Reagan thought the idea was fine and when Streif repeated the offer several weeks later he took him up on it.

The upshot of the conversation was that he was appointed an apprentice salesman, assigned to cover the mining areas adjacent to Cincinnati. "I knew nothing whatever about pictures," says Reagan of this period. "In making my first call on an exhibitor in Wheelwright, Ky., I thought it best to admit it.

"This exhibitor was mighty patient with me, perhaps because I was so openhanded with him. He asked me how much I wanted for my pictures and I replied: 'Here's what I am supposed to get for them.' When I admitted that I didn't know how to make out a contract he said he would have his secretary do this for me.

Travels on Muleback and Tricycles

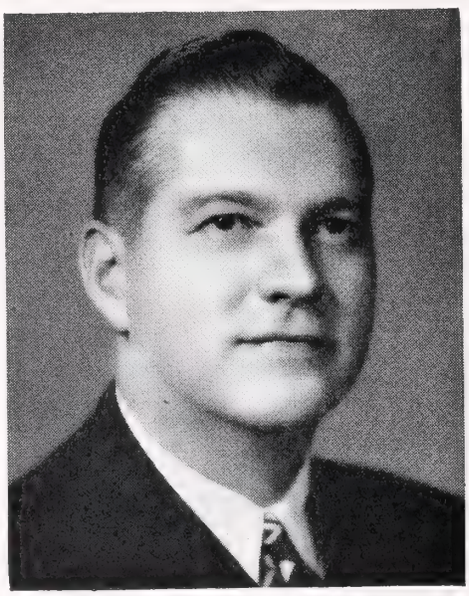
"In those days I found it necessary to travel from one mining town to another on muleback, there being no other form of transportation. At times I had to travel on a sort of tricycle on rails . . . there wasn't even the customary handrail to be had.

"Violence was a common sight. I remember seeing a man shot on the courthouse steps during one labor disturbance. At another time when I stepped off the train I was stopped dead in my tracks and prevented from entering the town to call on an exhibitor. It seems that a particularly bloody strike was in progress and I was warned that I might get hurt."

After a year of hazardous experience, Reagan was transferred to new territory which included the Kentucky blue grass country as well as a portion of the mining district. His first prospect in his new territory was the late John Elliott, a dour individual who operated a circuit of theatres in and around Lexington.

Reagan recalls Elliott as a somewhat eccentric man who would give you anything you asked for if he liked you, but if he didn't . . .!!! In asking Reagan to call on Elliott, Branch Manager Streif said: "You won't be able to sell him, but see him any way and show him the lineup of pictures and prices. I'll talk to him later." Reagan did as he was instructed.

Reagan said, in recalling his first visit to Elliott: "I went to see him not expecting to sell him anything. We exchanged pleasantries and later recalled that my father like him-



CHARLES M. REAGAN

self was interested in thoroughbred horses. This struck a responsive chord and we chatted for nearly an hour.

"Then Elliott volunteered: 'I suppose you want to talk business?' to which I replied that I did. When I showed him the list of pictures and quotations he didn't even scrutinize them, saying that he would buy them all at the prices quoted.

"He not only helped me to make out the contracts, but signed them immediately. When I returned to Cincinnati, Streif asked me how I made out. When I told him that I had closed the deal he just couldn't believe it. The signed contracts finally convinced him, however."

He Becomes Sales Manager

After 18 months as a salesman he was made sales manager of the same branch. Then in 1923 he was appointed Indianapolis branch manager and in 1927 district manager for Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Louisville. Reagan set an unprecedented record during his five years' service there. There were no "skipped" bookings, exhibitors playing all of the pictures for which they contracted. This accomplishment was so unusual at the time that an observant friend declared: "This fellow (Reagan) is certainly going places!"

Then came another promotion in 1932 when he was appointed district manager for Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit. Two years later he was named western division manager with headquarters in the home office. After seven years he was made assistant sales manager in 1941.

Reagan's career is unique in that he started with Paramount and in 25 years advanced to the top spot in the sales department. May 31 marks his silver anniversary with the company.

Recognizing the necessity for close relationship between the sales force and the nation's exhibitors, Reagan has increased the number of division managers from two to four since becoming sales manager. He believes implicitly that the sales executives and staff should spend as much time as possible in the field and that personal contact with exhibitors makes for the most satisfactory relationship with the company's customers.

A business man of high principles, his friends say that his unquestioned integrity has much to do with his personal success. But they are quick to add that his personal magnetism and capacity for friendship has contributed greatly.

"The fellow who puts forth just a little more effort will get ahead," he told a friend recently. "The line of demarcation between success and failure is so fine that it is almost impossible to distinguish between the two."

A student manager of Notre Dame's football team during his undergraduate days, he is still an active alumnus of his alma mater.

N.Y. Athletic Club Fetes Frawley, Retiring Head

NEW YORK—The New York Athletic Club tendered a testimonial dinner to Gilbert B. J. Frawley, Paramount executive, who has retired as president after serving two terms.

Frawley was presented by the toastmaster, Justice James B. M. McNally, with an order for the first television set to be manufactured by the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories after the lifting of government restrictions.

Justice McNally also presented, on behalf of the metropolitan association of the AAU, a sportsmanship award for his services in the "advancement of sports and friendship" during 1943 and 1944. The award was the first one given to anyone other than an athletic champion.

Federal Judge Murray Hulbert, representing the AAU, handed Frawley a life membership in that organization.

Cinema Lodge Changes Benefit Show Title

NEW YORK—The name of the all-star show which Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith will stage at Carnegie Hall, May 24, has been changed to "All for the Wounded." It was previously known as "B'nai B'rith Will Not Forget." Proceeds will be used to install and equip 75 solaria at the U.S. army convalescent hospital at Camp Upton, L. I.

Noel Meadow has been appointed publicity coordinator by Milton Livingston, chairman of a committee which consists of Philip Laufer, Robert Wile, Harold L. Danson, Herbert Berg, Arthur Jeffrey, Joseph L. Roberts, Leo Katcher, Sid Kain, Jerry Sager, William Slater, Sam Kantor, Mel Konecoff, Charles Becker, Nat Goldstein and Morris Leftoff.

Kulicks to Open Exchange

NEW YORK—Frances Kulick, recently resigned as manager of the local PRC exchange, will open an exchange in association with her brother, Bert, some time this month. Bert recently sold his PRC franchise for New York to PRC Pictures.

Peter Coe Role in "Frontier Gal"

Peter Coe has been assigned a featured role in "Frontier Gal," a Universal production.

20th-Fox Sets Dates Through March, 1946

NEW YORK—Tentative release dates through March 1946 have been set by 20th-Fox for its specials. Of the 22 pictures listed, at least nine will be in Technicolor, most of them musicals.

The list includes screen versions of eight best-selling novels. They are "Leave Her to Heaven," "Cluny Brown," "American Guerrilla in the Philippines," "Dragonwyck," "Fallen Angel," "State Fair," "A Bell for Adano" and "Colonel Effingham's Raid."

Among the stars and feature players scheduled to appear in the releases are Fred MacMurray, Betty Grable, Alice Faye, Gene Tierney, George Raft, June Haver, Maureen O'Hara, Harry James and his band, Dick Haymes, Dana Andrews, Jeanne Crain, Vivian Blaine, Jennifer Jones, Lynn Bari, Alexander Knox, Joan Blondell, Joan Bennett, William Eythe, Charles Coburn, Peggy Ann Garner, Walter Huston, Vincent Price, John Hodiak, Lloyd Nolan, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Thomas Mitchell, Cornel Wilde, William Bendix, John Payne and Phil Silvers.

"Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" and "The Bullfighters" are scheduled for this month; "Where Do We Go From Here?" and "Don Juan Quilligan" in June; "Nob Hill" and "Within These Walls" in July; "A Bell for Adano" and "Junior Miss" in August; "Captain Eddie" and "Colonel Effingham's Raid" in September; "State Fair" and "Now It Can Be Told" in October; "The Dolly Sisters" and "Caribbean Mystery" in November, with "Dragonwyck" and "Fallen Angel" reaching the country's screens in December.

January 1946 marks the tentative release of "Kitten on the Keys" and "American Guerrilla"; "Enchanted Voyage" and "Cluny Brown" are set for February, while "Leave Her to Heaven" and "The Spider" are to be shown nationally in March.

RCA's First Quarter Net Shows Increase Over '44

NEW YORK—RCA Corp. reported its net income for the first quarter of this year at $2,987,000. This is an increase of $586,000 over the same quarter a year ago. The net profit for the first three months of this year was equal to 15.8 cents a share on common stock compared with 11.6 cents a share in the corresponding period of last year.

Endicott, Altec Renew

NEW YORK—The Endicott circuit of eight theatres in Brooklyn has renewed its arrangements with Altec for service and parts for sound equipment.



MEN OF THE BRONX GET STARTED—Up in the northern borough of the metropolis theatre men have again rallied the bond-selling organization that helped put the Sixth Loan across and now they're busy on the Seventh. Seated, left to right: Lou Klein, J&J Theatres district manager; Mike Edelstein, RKO district manager; Joe DeLorenzo, RKO division manager and co-chairman; Robert Schwartz, deputy administrator, The Bronx War Finance Committee; Eugene Meyers, Loew's, chairman; Russell Emde, RKO division manager, and James Grady, Loew's division manager. Standing, middle row: Ben Friedman, Harry Rosenbaum, Paul Laube, Gilbert Marbe, Jerry DeRosa, Edward Brunner and Joseph Epstein; top row—Sam Coolick, Laurence Robizcek, Herman Axelrod, Vincent Ligouri, George Ruggles and Joe Murphy.

Pres. Truman Urges Cut Of 80 Million in Budget

NEW YORK—President Truman has asked Congress to cut more than $80,000,000 from 1945 budget estimates of eight war agencies, many of those functions are being curtailed or terminated completely.

The reason given for the proposed cut was the favorable status of the war in Europe, with VE-Day imminent, and progress being made by our armed forces in the war with Japan. The President also declared that "as the war goes on, the activities of all agencies will be continually reviewed to achieve economies where they will not interfere with the prosecution of the war."

Among the reductions recommended was $12,000,000 from the proposed 1946 budget of $54,000,000 for the Office of War Information. War developments look to a decrease in pyschological warfare as well as a decrease in the domestic branch.

"Illusion" Will Be PRC's 1st Spanish Dialog Film

NEW YORK—"Strange Illusion" will be the first PRC film to have Spanish dialog. H. Alban-Mestanza, Latin-American supervisor, will be in charge of the synchronization which will be produced at the Reeves Sound Studios here.

Guest List Crowded For Goldstein Fete

NEW HAVEN—A large representation from the Connecticut film territory, as well as New York and Boston film notables, have made reservations for the farewell dinner to Morey "Razz" Goldstein, who recently resigned as Metro manager here to accept the post of eastern division sales manager for Monogram.

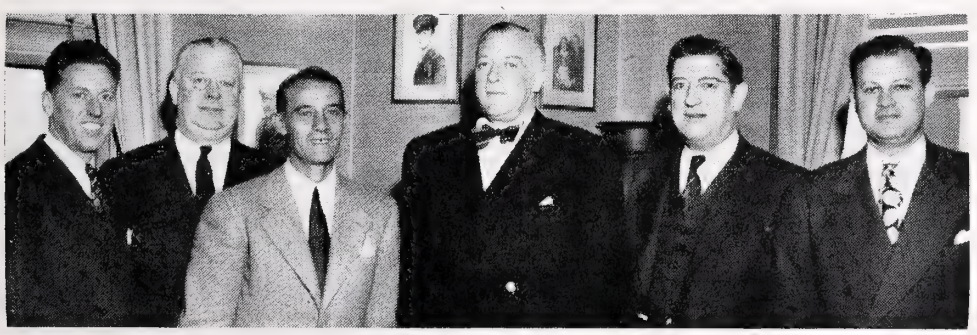
Barney Pitkin, chairman of the dinner, and Ben Simon, treasurer, report arrangements completed for the dinner at 6:30 p. m. Monday, May 14, at the Hotel Taft. At the same time it is planned to welcome Harry Rosenblatt, who becomes the new Metro manager here May 7 after serving Metro in Boston for 15 years. Goldstein will be presented with a gift from film friends he has made here since arrival from Boston in 1941.

Assisting Pitkin and Simon on the committee are: Carl Goe, Warner manager; Thomas Moore, Paramount; Harry Martin, Universal; Tim O'Toole, Columbia; Ray Wiley, UA; Jerry Lewis, Republic; Harry LaVine, Monogram; B. E. Hoffman and Maxwell Hoffman of Warner Theatres, Dr. J. B. Fishman, Maurice Bailey, Albert Pickus, Harry L. Lavietes, Michael Tomasino, Morton Katz, Milton Hyams, George Weber, Herman Levy, Daniel Pouzzner, Harry Shaw, Samuel Rosen, Lou Brown, Philip Sherman, Frank Klugman, Morris Nunes, Henry Germaine, John Pavone, Morris Rosenblatt, Samuel Weber, Max Salzburg.

Lab Tiff Still Unsettled As Groups Resume Parley

NEW YORK — Laboratory technicians of IATSE local 702 and representatives of 20 film processing laboratories are reported to be making progress in negotiating a new contract. Approximately 1,800 laboratory workers are involved.

The two groups resumed negotiations at the Warner Bros. home office when U.S. Conciliation Service Commissioner Jerry Doherty instructed them to try to resolve their differences. Prior to this the case had been sent to the USCS as a dispute when negotiations broke down and local 702 asked for authorization to poll a strike vote.



GLAD TO SEE HIM—George Kallman (wearing light suit), was warmly received at the RKO home office upon his return from the Philippines, where he was a Jap prisoner for three years. With him are, left to right: R. W. Hawkinson, assistant export manager; Jack Kennedy, export sales; Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; Mike Hoffay, director of foreign publicity, and Joseph Bellfort, export sales.

THE EASTERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Harry Gross, a resident of The Bronx, has been a motion picture exhibitor for the past 25 or 30 years. He liked the industry from the start and has steadily advanced his position in the business world until today he is connected with the Rosenzweig and Gulkis circuit. This group includes the Allerton, Alpine, Beach, Craft, Melba and Park theatres in New York City. He is a member of Motion Picture Associates. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the Masons. Gross is married. His favorite hobby is listening to and enjoying good music.



Leon Rosenblatt, head of the Rosenblatt-Welt Theatres circuit of 1560 Broadway, New York, literally grew up with the industry and today is one of the most prominent and successful theatre men in the east. He is a former president of Allied of New Jersey and treasurer of the Independent Theatre Owners of New Jersey. Rosenblatt, who makes his home at 275 Central Park West, is a graduate of Vasili Alexandri College in Galatz, Romania, and is married but has no children. A scholarly person, Rosenblatt's avocation is his book collection.



C. J. Latta of Albany has been connected with theatres since he was a mere boy. While he was still in school he worked as an usher, cashier and operator. He started as an independent exhibitor in the Omaha territory 25 years ago. In 1929 he joined Warners in New Haven, Conn. In 1941 he became zone manager for that company's upstate New York theatres. He is a member both of Variety and Rotary, is active in the U.S.O. and is a WAC chairman. The Lattas have two daughters. His hobbies are hunting and fishing.



Louis G. Gullen of Lawrenceville, Va., has been a motion picture exhibitor since 1923 when he opened his first theatre, a 200-seat house in Lawrenceville. In 1926 he moved to the present location of the Capitol Theatre, a 539-seat house in the same town. He is a member of MPTO of Virginia. Active in civic affairs, Gullen is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is an active sportsman and especially likes baseball and football. He is married and has a daughter, Elizabeth, who is studying at college in Gainesville, Ga.



Entering the motion picture business was a sideline for **Louis Handloff** of Newark, Del. He operates a chain of five and ten-cent stores in several towns and established his 700-seat State Theatre because he felt that his community needed another modern, up-to-date picture house. He is a member of the Lions and Elks. His favorite sport is fishing. He is married and has three children, a daughter and two sons. Both boys are now serving in the armed forces, one in the army, the other as a naval lieutenant.



The Little Pickwick Theatre in Baltimore was **Jack Levin's** first motion picture venture. He started in the 142-seat house back in 1918 in the center of Baltimore. Some time later he acquired the Irvington, a theatre which he operates today. It has a seating capacity of 400. Levin is on the board of directors of MPTO of Maryland and belongs to the Variety Club. There is nothing he would rather do in his free time than get out rod and reel and go off on a fishing trip. Jack is a bachelor and a showman who has great faith in the industry.



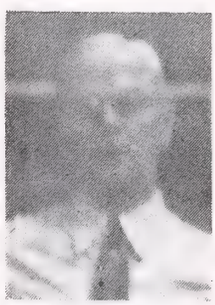
Lee Newbury of Interlaken, N. J., has been associated since 1919 with his present group of theatres, the Newbury circuit. This group includes the Lorraine in Bayhead; Rialto and Rivoli in Belmar; Palace in Bradley Beach; Lavalette in Lavalette; Algonquin in Manasquan; Arnold and Grove in Point Pleasant and Colonial and Strand in Seaside Park. Newbury is president of Allied of New Jersey and is a member of Motion Picture Associates, as well as being head of a booking combine formed recently. He is an Elk, a Mason, and member of Kiwanis.



Harry Dembow of 5217 Rexford Road, Philadelphia, has made a success as a showman largely by devoting the full measure of his time and ability to his five theatres which are operated out of the Media Theatre Bldg., Media, Pa. Besides that 1,000-seat house, Dembow owns the State and Alto theatres, Columbia, and the Congress and Globe, Marcus Hook. He entered the business as a salesman for Fox Distributing Corp. in 1916 and began building his circuit in 1920. Dembow is married and has two daughters, one of whom is married and the other in college.



David "Skip" Snaper, treasurer of the Allied Theatre Owners of N. J., has theatres in several New Jersey cities; the Strand in New Brunswick, the Capitol in South River, the Strand in Keyport, and the Empire in South Amboy. The largest of these, the Capitol, has a seating capacity of 1,300. He got his start in the business in 1910 at the Royal Theatre in Perth Amboy. Snaper is a resident of New Brunswick, has his office in New York City. He has two children. His son, Wilbur, is a second lieutenant, AAC, serving overseas.



William Lawrence "Bill" Woodin of Towanda, Pa., has been in show business 42 years, starting in 1903 at Orwigsburg, Pa. He has been with theatres in many Pennsylvania cities and traveled on the road with the old states right pictures. In 1918 he went in partnership with the late M. E. Comerford and in 1929 sold the Keystone Towanda to Paramount Publix. Woodin is still active in business, is past president of the Towanda Rotary Club, and has been chairman of various civic drives. He now owns the Arcadia Theatre in Wellsboro, Pa.



Chris Marx of Utica has been a motion picture operator since 1918 when he started his business in partnership with Peter Karl. In 1921 he acquired the Rialto Theatre in Utica and in the following year opened the Highland in the same city. Since the death of his partner Marx has continued to operate their theatres alone. When he takes a vacation from operating the two houses, Marx likes to go on fishing trips. His business interests keep him too busy to have much time to devote to the civic affairs of his community.



Jack Hattem, buyer and booker for Interboro circuit, New York, and owner of the Williamsburg, Marcy and Variety theatres, was born in the Dardanelles, Turkey. He attended school in Tunisia, Africa, majoring in agriculture and farming in college there. In 1906 he migrated to the United States and in 1914 he entered the motion picture business in New York as an exhibitor. Later he became buyer and booker for Small & Straussburg. At one time he owned the Fox Metropolitan Playhouse. He is a member of the Turkish Social Society; is a Liberal.

Council for Democracy Praises "Springfield"

NEW YORK—The Council for Democracy is the latest national organization to endorse "It Happened in Springfield," short subject dealing with the teaching of democratic ideals in public schools. In a letter to Warners, Ernest Angell, president, said the council "highly recommends this film because of the urgent need for expansion of this wholesome type of education at this particular time."

Council Chairman Raymond Gram Swing and the executive committee also voiced their approval of the Warners two-reeler. Members of the committee include Carl Carmer, Ordway Tead, George N. Shuster, Evans Clark and Thomas K. Finletter.

Warner Bros. Executives To Canada for Meeting

NEW YORK—Ben Kalmenson, Warner Bros. general sales manager; Mort Blumenstock, eastern advertising and publicity head; Norman H. Moray, short subjects sales manager, and I. F. Dolid, supervisor of exchanges, attended a meeting of the company's Canadian sales forces last week in Toronto. Haskell M. Masters, Canadian manager, headed the Dominion delegation at the two-day session.

Bamberger Back in N.Y.

NEW YORK—Leon Bamberger, RKO sales promotion manager, has returned from a brief sojourn in Florida.

Messinger to Go to Europe

NEW YORK—M-G-M is sending Lillie Messinger to London and the continent as soon as possible to look for literary material for the company. She has represented the company in various play producing activities and one of their European representatives in 1934.



BOARD OF STRATEGY—Up in Buffalo a typewriting speed contest calls for a conference. They had one at the 20th Century Theatre for the showing of Warners' "Roughly Speaking," and here are the men who arranged it: Standing (l-r): R. T. Murphy, managing director; S. Yellen, vice-president, 20th Century Theatre; Fred E. Peters, president, Chown School of Business; seated: W. J. Chown, vice-president, Chown School; W. Smith, regional manager, Underwood Typewriter Co.; George L. Hossfield of New Jersey, ten times world's professional champion typist.



HARRIET ARRIVES—The daughter of Louella Parsons, one of the few women production executives, who produced RKO's "The Enchanted Cottage," arrives in New York. She was tendered a reception at the Plaza Hotel.

RKO Tenders Reception To "Cottage" Producer

NEW YORK—Harriet Parsons, RKO producer, was guest of honor at a press reception given by the home office executives in the Hotel Plaza. Miss Parsons came from the coast to attend the Broadway premiere of her production, "The Enchanted Cottage," at the Astor Theatre.

Among those at the reception were N. Peter Rathvon, Malcolm Kingsberg, Robert Mochrie, James Mulvey, Lieut. Comdr. Richard Barthelmess, USNR, Pat O'Brien, Richard Martin, John Whitaker, James Brennan, Sol Schwartz, Nancy Carroll, Gene and Katherine Lockhart, Bert Granet and representatives of the press.

Yates Returns From Stay At Republic's Studios

NEW YORK—Herbert J. Yates sr., president of Republic Productions, Inc., has returned from a two-month visit at the company's North Hollywood studio. During his stay on the coast he formulated plans for forthcoming pictures, including the scheduling of Republic's first Technicolor film, "Concerto." Yates was accompanied by his executive assistant, William Saal.

E. W. Kay Named for Post In Burbank Story Dept.

NEW YORK—Ellingwood W. Kay, who has worked with Jacob Wilk in the Warner Bros. home office for the past two years, will leave for the coast shortly to assume a new post in the story department at the Burbank studio. Kay was a magazine editor for ten years before joining Warner Bros.

Albert S. Howson Emcee

NEW YORK—Albert S. Howson, scenario editor and director of censor activities for Warner Bros., will emcee the annual luncheon of the Milk and Egg League at the Hotel Astor May 8. Mrs. Harry L. Charnas is one of the honorary presidents.

Hibler Leaves for Coast

NEW YORK—Winston Hibler, story director for Walt Disney Productions, has left for California.

New York's "Finest" Supported by ITOA

NEW YORK—In its effort to help Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine and his department obtain 500,000 adult members for the Police Athletic League, the ITOA at its regular meeting promised full cooperation. The following committee was appointed to assist PAL in curbing an increase of hoodlumism:

Chairman Harry Brandt; Martin Levine, Manhattan; Rudolph Sanders, Brooklyn; Abe Leff, Bronx; Leon Rosenblatt, Richmond; Ray Rhonheimer, Queens. Ex-officio members: Si Fabian, Harry Goldberg, Leonard Goldenson, Julius Joelson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Charles Moskowitz, Samuel Rinzler, Fred Schwartz, Samuel Strausberg, David Weinstock and William White.

ITOA also pledged cooperation of its theatres to Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia in publicizing I Am an American Day, May 20. Each theatre lobby will display one or more posters and the program will include a specially-photographed newsreel shot of the mayor explaining the significance and value to the community of I Am an American Day.

Gould Leaves for Europe To Survey UA Exchanges

NEW YORK—Walter Gould, UA foreign manager, has left for London on the first leg of an extended visit to the company's offices in Great Britain, France and other continental European countries. He will make a comprehensive survey of UA exchanges, personnel and equipment, looking to a prompt reopening of the continental market and return of many European operations to company management after VE-Day.

Gould is accompanied by Emanuel Silverstone, special home office foreign representative.

Ullman Back From Europe

NEW YORK—Frederic Ullman jr., president of Pathe News and RKO Television Corp., has returned from a four-week trip to the European theatre of operations. During his absence from this country he served as an accredited war correspondent.



VISITS RKO OFFICE—Robert Mochrie, RKO general sales manager, acts as host to Alec Englander, 10-year-old actor featured in "The Enchanted Cottage." They are holding the New York subways' "Go-See" card.

Harry M. Warner Adds To His WB Holdings

PHILADELPHIA—The largest transaction in the period from March 11 to April 10, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission report, was the acquisition of 22 shares of Warner Bros. $5 par common by Harry M. Warner, company president. It brought his total holdings to 146,260 shares.

Henry Ginsberg, Hollywood, reported selling 100 shares of Paramount common, dropping his holdings to 900 shares. His wife reported she has 100 shares.

Loew's, Inc., of New York, added 64 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres $25 par common stock, making its total holdings 121,405. Charles C. Moskowitz, New York, sold 500 shares of Loew's, Inc., and now has 500.

Isaac D. Levy, WCAU vice-president and director of the Columbia Broadcasting System, reported selling 800 shares of CBS class A common stock, leaving him with 35,876 shares. He also reported holding 21,380 shares of Class B common CBS securities.

W. E. Hutton & Co. reported purchase of 800 shares of CBS Class A, and Joseph A. W. Iglehart, New York, reported his holdings of that security at 2,600 shares.

Wallis Working on Three For Production in Fall

NEW YORK—Because of lack of studio space and travel problems in connection with British production Hal B. Wallis will concentrate on three pictures to be produced at the Paramount coast studios at a possible cost of about $4,500,000. Application has already been made for raw stock allotments.

Wallis arrived from the coast late in the week and he and Joseph Hazen, his partner, went into conference with Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, on production and distribution plans. He will be here three weeks. Jack Saper, his production assistant, is with him.

Three films already completed under the releasing arrangement with Paramount are "The Affairs of Susan," now being shown at the Rivoli, and "Love Letters" and "You Came Along."

"The Crying Sisters" and "The Searching Wind" are at the top of his present schedule for fall production. "The Searching Wind" is a stage play by Lillian Hellman. Wallis intends to confer with her while here. He will also negotiate with Vladimir Horowitz, pianist, to play a concerto in a film which he has in mind based on the life of Tchaikowsky. Wallis also has a story in work called "Dishonorable Discharge," an original by John Farrow and Vladimir Pozner.

Shifts in M-G-M Sales Posts Effective May 7

NEW YORK—The promotions of Rudolph Berger from M-G-M district manager to southern sales manager with headquarters in New Orleans, and Branch Managers Herman Fipps, Ralph Maw, Henry A. Friedel and John S. Allen to district managers, became effective May 7.

The promotions of Gerald E. McGlynn to Omaha branch manager, Jack B. Mundstuk to Buffalo manager, Harry Rosenblatt to New Haven manager, and John G. Kemptgen to Milwaukee manager also became effective on that date.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



MOTHER AND SON—In case you haven't guessed it, the white-haired lady is Mary Carr, well remembered for her role in "Over the Hill." She returned to the screen recently to appear in the first directorial effort of her son, Tom Carr, at the Republic studios. It is called "Union Pacific Scouts." Peggy Stewart is standing on the left.

Two New 1st Runs for Hub, Tremont and Normandie

BOSTON—The Hub will gain two first run houses May 16 when the Tremont and the Laffmovie, formerly the Normandie, are added to this city's top run theatres.

The Normandie has been operated as the Laffmovie by James J. Mage, principal owner, associated with Harold Weisenthal and others. It is understood both Mage and Weisenthal will continue to operate as before, the latter as general manager of the property.

The Tremont at one time was one of the city's best known legitimate theatres. It then passed to Irving Isaacs, who operated it as a feature picture house until he sold to Leiberman Bros., who converted it into a Proven Pictures house.

Mage and his associates also have leased the Old South Newsreel Theatre and will continue that as a newsreeler.

"Tomorrow the World" will be the inaugural picture at both Tremont and Normandie. First run pictures only will be booked for the Tremont and the Normandie, which will resume its old name. Don Martin continues as manager at the Normandie, with John Boomer in similar capacity at the Tremont. It is also understood that United Artists will find a ready outlet for their first run pictures in both these theatres. The Tremont will be remodeled.

SOPEG Signs Contract on Exchange Office Staffs

NEW YORK—The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 1, CIO, has signed its first contract with Loew's, 20th-Fox and UA, covering the front office employes in the New York exchanges.

The signing of the contract ends a three-year controversy between SOPEG and the companies. Also involved in the dispute was the IATSE-AFL, which had attempted to secure jurisdiction over the employes.

The terms of the contract, which expires Aug. 1, 1945, include arbitration of discharges, a defined seniority procedure and other benefits. Although the contract was signed only a week ago, by order of the WLB, the terms are retroactive to August, 1944.

SYRACUSE

Spencer Steinhurst is the new manager of the Strand, replacing Mrs. Ruth Bolton, whose new Loew's assignment has not yet been announced. Steinhurst has been assistant manager of the State here. His transfer, and the resignation of John Shelley, junior assistant manager, because of illness, leaves Harold Morton as the sole managerial executive on the State staff.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Bessey. He is chief operator at the Empire. This theatre has a new assistant manager, Mrs. Jane Collier, promoted from chief of service. Mrs. Collier's army husband, recently home on furlough, is now back on active duty in Germany.

The following Schine and RKO officials were in town last week: J. S. Yeransian of RKO's home office auditing department; Mrs. Lucille Olean, RKO traveling auditor; Alex Henry, RKO service department; Pete Coldvin, RKO real estate department; Gus Lampe, Schine home office; Charles Hurwitz, Schine personnel division.

Miss Eleanor Range, day cashier at Loew's, has returned from a week's trip to Minneapolis, where she visited her fiance, an AAF lieutenant, in a hospital there. Miss Betty Bardwill, new chief relief cashier, assumed Miss Range's duties during her absence.

As an experiment, the State is bringing new shows in on Wednesday. The Paramount is the only other first run house with Wednesday openings.

Three of the seven downtown houses here showed revivals last week: "Naughty Marietta," Strand; "Torrid Zone," Empire; and "Snow White," Civic.

Keith's has had three of its staff on the sick list at home or hospital. Projectionist Floyd Lewis has returned from a hospital siege; Mrs. Margaret Gulatto, assistant manager, is now recuperating at home, following a hospital stay; and Clarence Gaige, doorman, is ready to return to work after release from Crouse-Irving Hospital.

Miss Rita Connelly has returned to the local RKO-Schine fold as relief cashier at Keith's.

Howard Cady is Keith's new relief stagehand, filling the position of the late Joseph Flaherty.

A touring company will play "Life With Father" at the Empire May 18-19.

Local plans for meeting quotas as the "Mighty Seventh" were laid at the weekly exhibitors' luncheon May 3 at Hotel Syracuse. Robert T. Murphy, Buffalo chairman of the WAC; Charles B. Taylor of Buffalo, state publicity chairman; and Max M. Yellen, state exhibitor chairman, conducted the planning rally.

The Paramount held a special morning show in mid-April to benefit the United Nations Clothing Relief drive. Admission was by bundle of donated clothing.

Attendance at "I'll Be Seeing You" at the State received a substantial boost from the local YMCA's distribution of 5,000 direct-mail promotion pieces pointing out that film's chief male character, psychoneurotic veteran played by Joseph Cotten, benefited from staying at Y and participating in its activities.

Joel A. Levy of New York City, head of Loew's out-of-town booking department, spent two days here last week.

ALBANY

Twentieth-Fox employes held a rally last Saturday morning in preparation for the Seventh War Loan drive. Manager Harry Alexander and his secretary, Helen Wisper, spoke . . . 20th-Fox employes won a three-week salary bonus for finishing beyond their quota in the 17-week opportunity drive. A new drive started April 17. Two 17-week and one 18-week drive are conducted annually in 20th-Fox exchanges throughout the country. The 30th anniversary drive this year is a separate affair . . . Sgt. Elmer "Bud" Dale, former 20th-Fox shipper, is home on furlough after more than two years in Iceland.

The Fabian division office announced that President S. H. Fabian had come here to inspect the site purchased on the Albany-Schenectady Road for construction of a large drive-in and amusement center. It also was said that Fabian had looked over other possible sites for additional drive-ins. The amusement center is to cost $250,000.

Neil Hellman of Hellman Theatres, which has been conducting a drive-in on the Albany-Saratoga Road since 1941, recently announced his organization would construct a 750-car drive-in between Stop 24 and 25 on the Albany-Schenectady Road.

Ralph Pielow, M-G-M manager at New York, was a visitor here where he was salesman and then manager many years . . . Several former independent exchange men are negotiating for the local franchise covering the product of a new independent producing company which will be named within a few weeks.

George Goldberg, ill, has taken a leave and gone to Atlantic City for a month. He is a Warner salesman . . . Ben Smith reports his son, a warrant officer in the Canadian air force five years, is home on a visit.

Joe Weinstein, when not busy on product conferences, has been reseeding his lawn. He is a WB booker . . . Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Wilson of the Lake at Indian Lake announces the birth of a baby girl . . . Another cigar passer on the Row was Floyd Fitzsimmons of Loew's Theatres who became the father of a baby boy . . . Sylvia Closson, secretary to C. J. Latta, reports her parents have acquired a home at Grafton.

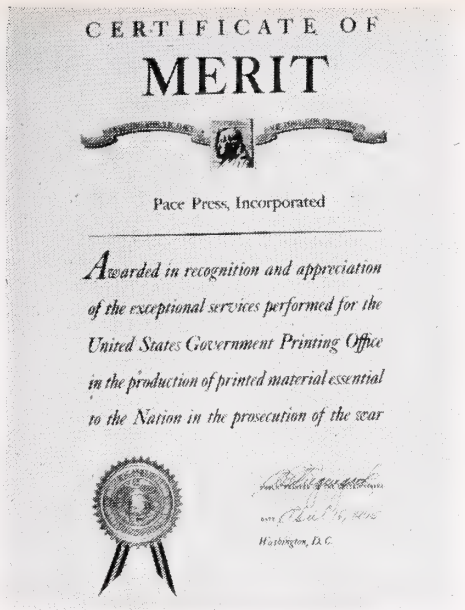
Fabian's Erie at Schenectady has reopened on a policy of first run action pictures.

Fabianite Dick Murphy, former manager of the Proctor in Schenectady, writes that he is safe on Iwo Jima and has been promoted to sergeant . . . Louis Rosenfeld, former manager of the Strand at Schenectady, is in the South Pacific and has received a Purple Heart.

Barbara Young is back at her desk in the Schine home offices after an absence of three months, and Eleanor Green, who had been filling her post, has been appointed secretary to Frank Barter of the insurance department . . . The Row gave G. Schuyler Beattle a farewell party at the Madison Tavern on the eve of his departure for service in the navy. "Skillie" was a field representative for Paramount.

A sellout is expected for the concert to be given by Oscar Levant, pianist-wit, under the auspices of the Variety Club at the Palace Theatre the night of May 16 at $1.20 to $3.60.

Visitors on Filmrow: Harry Berinstein of Syracuse, who operates the Colonial here as one of his string; Mrs. Inez Ferguson, Copake; Sam Davis, Phoenicia; Charles Gordon, Olympic, Utica; Jim Papayanakos, who with his family now operates six theatres in northern New York; Charles Wilson of the Lake, Indian Lake.


CERTIFICATE OF

MERIT

Pace Press, Incorporated

Awarded in recognition and appreciation of the exceptional services performed for the United States Government Printing Office in the production of printed material essential to the Nation in the prosecution of the war

Washington, D. C.

PRINTERS WIN HONOR—Pace Press, Inc., New York printers who handle a large volume of film work, has been cited by the public printer of the United States, A. E. Giegengack, for exceptional services in connection with the war effort. Each of the 175 employes received an individual certificate.

Bookers met in the 20th-Fox screening room to discuss with Smith-Howell Film Service representative plans for resumption of the "southern route," suspended on January 1, due to machine and manpower shortages . . . Saul J. Ullman, general manager of Fabian Theatres upstate, has directed all managers to participate in the current cancer drive being conducted by the American Cancer society.

One hundred were expected to participate in the annual golf tournament of Tent 9 of Variety at Colonie Club links May 5. A day of sport, climaxed by a dinner, has been arranged by Artie Newman and Dr. Sam Kalinson. There will be prizes. Gene Vogel, one of the crack golfers in film circles, won the city championship for left-handers several years ago.

Among those expected in Albany for the tournament were: S. H. Fabian, Sam Rosen, Lou Golding and Bernie Brooks of Fabian circuit; Louis W. Schine and George Lynch, the Schine circuit; Bill Smalley, Smalley Theatres, Cooperstown, and Henry Frieder, Hudson. Warner, Fabian and Schine circuits each have given $25 prizes.

Max Daytz is new salesman at Warners. He was transferred from the Boston to succeed Sam Ligett, resigned . . . The short plugging the Seventh War Loan campaign will be released in this territory May 10.

Roy Rosser, one-time NTS manager here is an army major in Germany. Rosser, who entered the ranks as a private three years ago, participated with airborne troops in the battle of the Belgian bulge last December. Recently he has been serving as assistant to the chief of staff of civilian affairs for an airborne division in Germany. Major Rosser, a graduate of North Carolina University, was the youngest NTS manager when stationed here and is believed to hold the highest army rank of any motion picture man from this district.

To Star in PRC's "Arson Squad"

Frank Albertson and Robert Armstrong have been given starring parts in PRC's "Arson Squad."

RICHMOND

Edgar Goth, recently appointed advertising manager of the Fabian-Wilmer & Vincent circuit, has moved his family from Staten Island to a home on West Grace here . . . Lee Septembre, Columbia exploiteer, was in town working on "Song to Remember," booked for the Byrd and State . . . The fronts of the Booker T and Walker were given a new coating by Dave Brodsky of Philadelphia.

"Winged Victory" closed here last week and most of the scenery props and costumes were sold locally, with the revolving stages the only equipment sent back to New York . . . Abner Long, Westhampton operator, visited his relatives in North Carolina.

Charlie Hulbert, Colonial manager, put on a good campaign for "Bring On the Girls." A blind date broadcast from the theatre lobby was a feature of the campaign. Other broadcast tieups included juke box recordings of hit tunes and a number of spot announcements . . . Reba Wilburg, Brookland manager, visited her husband in Portsmouth. He is on shore patrol.

Among the film salesmen here were: Eddie Martin, Republic; George Nathan, National Screen; Jerry Murphy, 20th-Fox; Fred Sandy, United Artists, and Barney Frank, Universal.

Allen Brown, former Brookland manager, is stationed in Hawaii . . . Joe Fields, formerly at the Byrd and now in the marines, was among the first to land on Iwo Jima . . . Charlie Hann, Byrd operator, returned from a Florida vacation . . . Geneva Smith, veteran Byrd employe, celebrated her 50th birthday . . . Fred Beiersdorf, Warner Washington manager, was in to see Frank O'Brien . . . Ober Boyd, Highway Express employe, was inducted into the army at Ft. Blanding, Fla.

Home Television Will Be Clear as 16mm Films!

BUFFALO—Television sets can be made shortly after the war to give 18x24 pictures as clear as 16mm home movies, Lee McCanne, Rochester, vice-president and general manager of the Stromberg-Carlson Co., said at a meeting of the Greater Buffalo Advertising Club at Hotel Statler. Many film men heard the talk.

"We believe in making that kind of a television set, if only to give the broadcasting companies experience to find out just what the people want along this line," said McCanne. "But we think that the people who buy these sets should do so with the full knowledge that the first sets will be outmoded in about five years because of the tremendous strides which will have been made in the meantime.

"Meanwhile, there are two things which can go faster in development. These are frequency modulation, or FM as it is popularly known, and wire recording (use of wire to replace conventional phonograph records.) Only the other day, we conducted a recording-on-wire experiment. This was the first time that the fidelity and tone possibilities of a wire recorder had been completely demonstrated. It was found to be better than the commercial phonograph for the home."

Carole Mathews to "Bandleader"

Carole Mathews has joined the cast of "I Love a Bandleader," a Columbia production.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

WILKES-BARRE & SCRANTON

Jack Mahon, Comerford booking department, left for Sampson to commence naval boot training . . . Abe Feinberg, Feinberg Agency, New York, was a recent visitor . . . Joseph Byrnes, formerly of the Granada, Olyphant, now a naval training student at Northwestern University, is listed among the upper ten in the class of 1,400. He is slated for an ensign's commission in May.

Paul Tigue, manager of the Capitol, has been inducted into the navy . . . Pvt. James Morell, Granada, Olyphant, who had been in Germany for four months, was killed in action early in March, a war department notice received by his family revealed . . . Pvt. Robert Murrin, formerly of the Strand, now is serving with the 17th air borne division in England.

Bill Hendler, formerly of the Strand, now in service in the Pacific, in a heavily censored letter, says he hasn't seen a white girl in more than eight months and that he is eager to see "American cities again" . . . Sgt. Bill McAndrew, Comerford art department, now is attending tower control school at the army air base at Scott Field.

Harold Bell, former Roosevelt manager, and also former editor of the Comerford Salute, recently spent a 71-hour pass at home from New York, where he is stationed . . . Leslie Davis, formerly of the Penn, Wilkes-Barre, now serving as a gunner on a merchant marine ship in the Pacific, was on the Atlantic for nearly three years. He was wounded by enemy fire in the English Channel, which hospitalized him two months.

Reece Francis, former aide at the Capitol, Wilkes-Barre, is presently stationed with the navy in Portland, England . . . Sgt. Benjamin Bogdan, Comerford, Wilkes-Barre, has been transferred from the air corps to infantry training in Georgia for overseas duty . . . Cpl. Louis Slavinski, former assistant manager of the Capitol, Wilkes-Barre, landed on D-Day in the Philippines. He is learning to cook and recently presented his buddies with a masterful meal.

Sgt. John Eckenrode, formerly of the Capitol, Wilkes-Barre, in service three years, is stationed at the Hammond General Hospital at Modiste, Calif., where he is in charge of a theatre. Eckenrode puts on four shows daily for more than three thousand soldiers in addition to giving a hand when needed in the hospital . . . John Marshall of the Sterling, Wilkes-Barre, who has been in Hawaii for several months, is aboard an LST somewhere in the Pacific.

Pvt. George Hanis, Capitol, Hazleton, recently was home on a furlough from Camp Meade, Md., and told the district manager of Comerford Theatres, Sam Freidman, that he is eager to return to theatre work . . . William A. Boyle, formerly of the Feeley, Hazleton, has been in the navy for three years, two of which were spent on an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific, where he engaged in several major engagements. He recently was home on furlough and has returned to navy airfield, Watsonville, Calif., to await assignment.

The marriage of Sgt. Ernest Chebalko, former employe of the Capitol, Hazleton, to Miss Alyce Gallagher, also of that city, was announced recently. Sergeant Chebalko is stationed at Camp Beale, Calif. . . . Sgt. Joseph Clifford, formerly of the Ritz, Hawley, now is managing a theatre somewhere in Corsica. He has been overseas for 25 months.

Pvt. Joseph Kelly, Ritz, Hawley, has been transferred from the medical corps at Camp Grant, Ill., to the infantry at Camp Maxey, Tex. . . . John Mullaney, Hippodrome, Pottsville, a navy fireman, now is in the South Pacific with a submarine relief crew.

John Morris, a former employe of the Granada Olyphant, has been promoted to captain at the 93rd General Hospital in England, according to word received by his wife. Capt. Morris entered service in May, 1942, and was commissioned second lieutenant at Camp Barkeley, Tex., in 1943 and went overseas in February, 1944.

Paul Shollock, former employe of the Freedman, Forest City, is in China, where he has been stationed for 11 months. He writes of meeting several men from Scranton and its environs . . . S/Sgt. Joseph Salamas, from the Freedman, Forest City, after spending a furlough at home, was transferred from Bolling Field, Washington, to Romulus, Mich.

Pvt. Robert Webster of the Capitol, Bloomsburg, has been in almost continuous combat for five months on the European front . . . John Lavelle, advertising department of Comerford Theatres, has been inducted into the army . . . Willard Hodge, former employe of the Capitol left for the navy.

Billy Comerford, Rialto, has been accepted by the navy . . . Lieut. Henry Henkler, former employe of the accounting department of Comerford Theatres, is serving in France

George Morris, former employe of the Strand, currently is serving in England . . . Jerry Walsh, Granada, Olyphant, a seaman in the navy, is stationed in the personnel office in Corpus Christi, Tex.

Ensign James Gallagher, Granada, Olyphant, is on an LST, whereabouts secret . . . Pvt. Patrick Walker, former assistant manager of the Strand, now is with the 107th Hospital in England in a clerical capacity . . . Pfc. Gene Coleman of the Capitol has arrived in France . . . Angleo Grecco, Holland, Old Forge, recently was promoted to electrician's mate third class and now is on duty aboard the USS Guadalcanal.



MARYLANDERS READY — Here are the men who have perfected plans for the Maryland Seventh War Loan campaign. They are, left to right: John S. Allen of M-G-M, Washington, distributor chairman; Frank H. Durkee, exhibitor state chairman; Joe Kinsey, coordinator; Charles S. Garland, WFC chairman. Back row: Louis E. Shecter, publicity chairman; Walter N. Ruth, executive vice-president War Finance Committee, and Frank A. Hornig, president, Maryland MPTO.

Newspaper Flies Ocean To Deliver Greeting

Scranton—Printed in the trans-Atlantic edition of the London Daily Mail, a message from S/Sgt. James Boland, formerly of the Comerford circuit, recently was received by his mother, Mrs. William P. Boland, Elmhurst. The message was printed on a page entitled "Greetings From Britain" containing messages from American service men to their families.

The edition was printed in New York from copy prepared in London and photographed on film flown across the Atlantic to the Daily Mail New York office. The message read: "Dear Mom: Everything fine on leave in England. All my love to you and the children."

BUFFALO

Hamel Fields, manager of Basil's Victoria here will become manager of a WB house in Philadelphia. Ham is scheduled to leave Monday (7) for "Philly," his home town. He has been here five years . . . George McKenna, also with Basil, has moved to Buffalo from Niagara Falls. The kids must be tougher here than they are at the Falls. Mac's ten-year-old son got mixed up in some kind of a fracas and suffered a fractured leg.

Frank Wyckoff of National Screen is reported tying up with Confidential Reports, Inc., as office manager here . . . Ken Cooley, chairman of community exhibitors in the Seventh War Loan, is being assisted by Spencer Balser, George Hanny jr., and George Gammel.

Bob Hope will come to Buffalo May 21 with his entire radio troupe to stage a two-hour show in Memorial Auditorium for the Buffalo Evening News Smokes fund. Proceeds will go to furnish cigarets for wounded soldiers, sailors and marines who are convalescing in hospitals in this country. It will be the first time Buffalonians have been able to see Hope in person.

The Erlanger Theatre stepped out of its role as a legitimate playhouse last week by showing two screen offerings, "Wuthering Heights" and "Pardon Us." The two revivals ran through Thursday (3), continuous from 1:30 p. m. daily at 20 to 60 cents. The house will open its summer season May 8.

Charley Taylor has rigged up a neat arrangement with his pals at the Courier-Express. As soon as VE-Day is declared, Charley is to get a hurryup flash from the newspaper. Then the Shea theatres are to shoot a special VE-Day film on their screens.

Columbia's poster department has gone over to National Screen . . . By the way, that exchange is having another epidemic of birthdays. Manager Ira Cohn's was no sooner celebrated than along came those of Billy Abrams, assistant shipper, and Ruth Martin of the switchboard. Columbia is deep in its special short subjects drive, aim of which is to have at least one Columbia short on every exhibitor's screen during May.

Overseas veterans attending the Courier-Express Welcome Home luncheon at Hotel Statler received two tickets to Shea's Buffalo to see "Practically Yours" . . . Max M. Yellen, state exhibitor chairman, and Robert T. Murphy, Buffalo area exhibitor chairman of the WAC, returned from Rochester and Syracuse in time to attend a meeting of community exhibitors at Variety, where their roles in the Seventh War Loan campaign were discussed. Kenneth G. Cooley was chairman.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER

(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Hollywood to Seventh With High Average

More than $93,000,000 worth of war bonds have been sold exclusively to Hollywood film employes and companies by the Hollywood war finance committee in the three years of its existence, according to figures revealed by Chairman Henry Ginsberg.

The record, representing an over-all average of more than two-and-a-half million dollars worth of bond investments a month, was made as the bond committee wound up its third year of selling and prepared to participate in the forthcoming Seventh War Loan campaign.

The committee, organized by Ginsberg in April, 1942, when scattered activities were resulting in only $25,000 worth of bond-selling a week, is the only industry-wide war bond effort which has continued uninterrupted since its inception. By enlisting representatives of every branch of the industry, the committee now has more than 18,000 workers enrolled on the pay roll savings plan and has sold many million dollars worth of extra bonds in each of the six preceding national drives.

Currently the committee is making elaborate plans for conducting the Seventh War Loan drive. More than 500 volunteer workers will endeavor to sell extra bonds to every worker in the industry between May 14 and June 30, the dates for the intensified drive.

Enters' Life in "Silly Girl"

Metro will film "Silly Girl," an autobiography of Angna Enters, writer-painter-dancer. Joe Pasternak has been assigned to produce. The story tells of Miss Enters' successful campaign for recognition of her cultural talents. She is currently under writing contract to M-G-M.

Kay Shifts to West Coast

Ellingwood Kay, formerly of Good Housekeeping magazine and more recently assistant to Jacob Wilk, eastern story editor for Warner Bros., has been shifted from the New York office to a post in the story department at the Burbank studio.

Wallace Fox Signed

Wallace Fox has been signed to a term deal as director-producer of westerns for Universal. Fox will have charge of the program which makes seven such pictures a year. "Rodeo Cyclone" and "Man From Powder River" are scheduled as the first two.

Schulberg Quits Selznick

David O. Selznick's executive assistant, Ben Schulberg, has turned in his resignation and is leaving the organization. His future plans have not been disclosed.

Visiting Bigwigs Are Scarce As Business Trips Wane

If coast-to-coast travel by home office and studio bigwigs continues to fall off at the same rate, a visiting fireman in either Hollywood or New York will be a curiosity. The week's treks fell off to a new low.

Here for one of his periodical visits to confer with United Artists producers and for a looksee at their newly-finished product was Edward Raftery, UA president.

Everett Riskin, Metro producer, returned from a New York business trip. William Fadiman, head of Metro's scenario department and member of the studio editorial board, planned to leave on May 11 for a two weeks' business trip in the east. Incidentally, the studio has just exercised its option on his further services and also made arrangements for service beyond the expiration of his present contract.

Jack Gelman, executive of Posa Films of Mexico, was here for final conferences with Santiago Reachi, president of Posa; Charles W. Koerner, executive vice-president in charge of production at RKO, and John H. Auer, producer-director, regarding a forthcoming production. Bert Granet, RKO producer, trained in from New York, where he has been questing for new talent, taking in stage plays, and huddling with writers on as-yet-unannounced production.

Walter Wanger returned from a three-week Gotham trip. He was accompanied by his wife, Joan Bennett, and his two children. While in New York, Wanger worked with Fritz Lang getting background shots for the first picture they will produce together for Universal. Jack Swaab, in charge of commercial tieups in connection with Walter Lantz's Cartunes, left Hollywood on a tour of key cities to promote several new lines of novelties designed to plug the short subjects released by Universal.

Jerry Fairbanks returned from Manhattan where he conferred with Paramount New York executives on his new season product. George Weltner, vice-president of Paramount International, has returned to New York following a week of studio conferences.

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, left for the company's New York office. One matter to receive his attention will be the appointment of a successor to Lloyd L. Lind, who resigned recently as head of the sales statistical department. Broidy will attend semiannual meeting of the Monogram board of directors at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, May 22, and June 7 will be in Washington for a WPB meeting on the raw stock situation.

Fred Kohlmar to 20th-Fox

Fred Kohlmar, formerly with Paramount, has been signed to a producer contract by 20th-Fox. His first two productions will be "The Dark Corner" and "When Leo Comes Marching Home."

Strike Causes Sharp Employment Cut

Figures revealed in a report by the California Labor Statistics Bulletin reflected an acute decrease in industry employment caused by the strike. Employment for March, lowest since 1940, registered at 76 per cent as compared with 105.1 in February, while pay rolls fell from 179.9 in February to 119.3 for March.

Weekly earnings, $76 in February, slumped more than $6 to $69.69 while average hourly earnings showed a slight increase—$1.67 for March, $1.64 for February. Average weekly hours went down to 41.7 from 45.9 in February.

A Bow for Pres. Roosevelt; A Pledge to Truman

Joining the community's political and administrative great, Hollywood celebrities played a prominent part in the memorial program to the memory of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt which was impressively staged in the Hollywood Bowl.

Highlighting the film capital's part in the program were:

Reading of the late president's favorite prayer by Ingrid Bergman.

The motion picture industry's presentation of three sketches, narrated by Walter Huston, Edward G. Robinson and Jean Hersholt: "Mr. Roosevelt Was a Good Man," emphasizing his humanism, through the recitation of personal experiences by Irving Bacon, Eddie Cantor, James Gleason, Walter Huston, Frank Sinatra and Tom Tully; "For the Record," a reiteration of Roosevelt's accomplishments in office, by Harry Bartel, Howard McNeer, Paul McVey, Selena Royle, Ann Stone and William Tracy; "The United Nations," a reaffirmation of unity among nations, by Charles Boyer, Ronald Colman, Philip Dorn, Alexander Knox and Dame May Whitty.

James Cagney brought the meeting to a close by leading the audience in a pledge of support to President Harry S. Truman.

Writers who contributed material included Maxwell Anderson, Alvah Bessie, Helen Deutsch, Milton Geiger, Ring Lardner jr., Emmet Lavery, Mary McCall, Leon Meadows, Dudley Nichols, Vladimir Pozner, Maurice Rapf, Allen Rivkin and Barry Trivers.

"Voyage" Change

Plans for the filming in black-and-white of 20th-Fox's "The Enchanted Voyage" have been abandoned by Producer Walter Morosco in favor of Technicolor. Director Lloyd Bacon will take a cast and crew on location for three weeks to the Bayou country near New Orleans. Additional outdoor shots will be made at the Rancho Santa Anita.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

JIMMY WAKELY, star of "Springtime in Texas," made a personal appearance at the Fort Worth New Liberty Theatre in connection with the opening of the film. Period from May 5 to 20 will be devoted to personal appearances and service hospital visits and from then until end of the month to campaigning on behalf of the Seventh War Loan.

Blurbers

Free-Lancers

ERMAN PESSIS of Pessis & Ettinger is in New York and is trying to establish an eastern office.

Briefies

Universal

DICK LUNDY will meg "An Idle Roomer," a Woody Woodpecker Cartune, for WALTER LANTZ, producer, from a script by Ben Hardaway and Milt Schafer.

Cleffers

Columbia

MARLIN SKILES assigned to be musical advisor on "I Love a Bandleader."

RKO Radio

JULE STYNE and SAMMY CAHN, songwriting team, have been engaged for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid from Brooklyn."

Meggers

Columbia

Megging chore on "Texas Panhandle" ticketed for RAY NAZARRO.

DEL LORD slated to direct "I Love a Bandleader."

Metro

Directorial assignment on "Till the Clouds Roll By" scheduled for LEMUEL AYRES, his first megging chore.

"Cass Timberlane" set for production by ARTHUR HORNBLOW Jr.

"She Went to the Races," a modern comedy, is slated for production by FREDERICK STEPHANI with WILLIS GOLDBECK at the megaphone. JAMES CRAIG and FRANCES GIFFORD head the cast which includes EDMUND GWENN and REGINALD OWEN.

Monogram

PHIL KARLSTEIN has been signed to direct "The Shanghai Cobra," next in Monogram's Charlie Chan series.

Paramount

PAUL JONES will produce "Break-Up," an original by Richard Fluornoy.

Universal

"Bull by the Horns," a novel by Charles Bonner, will be the second production of JANE MURFIN, writer-producer. Kenneth Earle has been set to do the scripting.

STUART HEISLER has been borrowed from International to direct "Canyon Passage," sequel to "Stagecoach," to be produced by Walter Wanger.

Options

Columbia

NANETTE PARKS wins femme lead in "Texas Panhandle."

DEWEY ROBINSON cast in "Pardon My Past," Mutual production.

CAROLE MATHEWS joins cast of "I Love a Bandleader."

CLAUDETTE COLBERT is slated to star in the Jesse Lasky production of "Thank God for That."

Metro

WALLACE BEERY and MARJORIE MAIN will be reunited in the forthcoming "Bad Bascomb" which O. O. Dull will produce.

TRINA LOWE will make her screen debut in "They Were Expendable."

JUDY GARLAND set to portray Marilyn Miller in "Till the Clouds Roll By."

MARIE BLAKE assigned spot in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

AUDREY TOTTER given new term pact.

Monogram

MINNA GOMBELL signed for role in "Sunbonnet Sue."

GEORGE CLEVELAND, RAYMOND HATTON, CHARLES JUDELS, BILLY GREEN and EDDIE COBB join roster of "Sunbonnet Sue."

"Sunbonnet Sue" cast adds ALAN MOWBRAY and CHARLES D. BROWN.

Paramount

TERESA WRIGHT has been borrowed from Samuel Goldwyn to costar with Ray Milland and Brian Donlevy in "Too Good to Be True," an original screen story by Ruth McKinney and Richard Branson. Picture is scheduled for Harry Tugend's production slate with Sidney Lanfield megging. Arthur Sheekman wrote the screenplay.

RKO Radio

JAMES WARREN, recently signed to a long-term contract, will make his bow as a western star in "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

RUTH LEE added to "Ding Dong Williams" cast.

United Artists

LOUISE BEAVERS ticketed for Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

Universal

PETER COE assigned feature role in "Frontier Gal."

MANTAN MORELAND set for role in "Lady on a Train."

"On Stage, Everybody" cast adds ESTHER DALE.

MILBURN STONE set for featured spot in "On Stage, Everybody."

Warners

PATRICIA FARREL signed for "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

Cast of "The Adventures of Don Juan" adds DOLORES MORAN.

HELEN PENDER slated for spot in "The Adventures of Don Juan."

A top femme role in "The Adventures of Don Juan" assigned to LYNNE BAGGETT.

NIGEL BRUCE ticketed for important part in "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

CHARLES BOYER has been signed for the male lead in "Confidential Agent," novel by Graham Greene. The story takes place in England with Boyer cast in the role of an underground agent. Herman Shumlin will direct with Robert Buckner producing.

Scripters

Columbia

WILFRED PETTITT assigned scripting chore on "Voice of the Whistler," fifth in the mystery series starring Richard Dix which is based on "The Whistler" radio program. New film will be adapted from "So Dark the Night," an original by Aubrey Wisberg. RUDOLPH FLOTHOW will produce under the supervision of LEONARD PICKER.

Treatment on "Threesome" assigned to ELPHA ELLINGTON.

Metro

DEVALLON SCOTT and ALAN FRIEDMAN assigned to write screenplay of "A Letter for Evie."

ARCH WHITEHOUSE inked to script screenplay of "Now That April's There," Daisy Neumann's novel.

Monogram

GEORGE PLYMPTON and ANDE LAMB are working on an original screenplay for "High School Kids," first of a series to be grouped under the same title.

Paramount

Hal Wallis Productions has signed WALTER ABBOTT, playwright-journalist, to collaborate with AYN RAND on the treatment of "The Life of Tschaikovsky."

IRVING STONE, the author, and JACQUES THERY will cooperate on the scripting of "Immortal Wife."

Republic

BERNIE KAMINS is on leave of absence from Charles R. Rogers Productions publicity department to write the screenplay of his original story "The Copy Rider."

OLETA RHINEHART and BILL HAGENS have been assigned to "Underground Woman," comedy-mystery, scheduled for Walter Goetz, associate producer.

RKO Radio

GLADYS ATWATER signed to collaborate with J. ROBERT BREN on the screenplay of "First Man into Tokyo."

Writing chore on "Palace on Main Street" assigned to ROBERT STEPHEN BRODE.

ROWLAND LEIGH signed by Sol Lesser Productions for polishing chore on "Tarzan and the Leopard Woman."

Universal

Final scripting on "Way For a Lady" scheduled for MEL RONSON.

"Knave of Diamonds" screenplay slated for STEPHEN LONGSTREET.

STEVE FISHER assigned to scripting of "The Don Returns."



"THE SHERIFF" AND "MIN"—George A. Hickey, Metro's western division manager, plays host to Marion M. Ryan, M-G-M Buffalo office manager, on her first visit to California. "Sheriff" Hickey gave "Min" her first job when she was 16, and he was manager of Leo's Buffalo exchange.

Story Buys

Independents

King Bros. have purchased "I Wouldn't Be in Your Shoes," psychological novel by William Irish. The production will be made for major company release, it is claimed. Past King Bros. product has been distributed by Monogram.

Metro

Stephen Longstreet's next novel, "The Crystal Girl," as yet completed only in outline form, has been purchased.

Paramount

Byron Haskin, contract director for Hal Wallis Productions, has purchased the motion picture rights to "The Sea Witch," a historical novel by Alexander Laing, based on the building of the original Clipper Ship and the New York to China Sea races of the middle 19th century. Haskin will prepare a screenplay from the novel, but production plans have not been set.

Screen rights of "Oh, Brother," a play by Jacques Deval, have been purchased by the studio.

PRC Pictures

"International Police," an original by Adley Louise Arnold, has been purchased for immediate production. Yarn, suggested by the San Francisco peace conference, will feature jet-propelled planes and other aviation innovations which in the past have been military secrets.

RKO Radio

"Lend Lease for Penny" has been bought as a starring vehicle for Sharyn Moffett. An original by Harry Gondell, story has a small-town background and is set for production by Ralph Dietrich under executive supervision of Sid Rogell. Gondell has been signed to write the screenplay.

Technically

Columbia

"Texas Panhandle" lensing chore handed to GEORGE KELLY with RAY NAZARRO megging.

Assignment as assistant megger on "Texas Panhandle" goes to CARTER DE HAVEN Jr.

FRANZ PLANER slated to lens "I Love a Bandleader."

Dialog direction on "I Love a Bandleader" assigned to EDWARD PHILIPS.

CHARLIE HUNT named unit manager on "She Went to the Races."

AL RABOCH named assistant director on "She Went to the Races."

RKO Radio

FRANK REDMAN set as chief cinematographer on "Ding Dong Williams."

United Artists

NICOLAI REMISOFF handed a new term contract as production designer on all Hunt Stromberg productions, and will start his new deal with "Dishonored Lady."

Universal

MONTE COLLINS set as dialog director in "Alibi in Ermine."

EUGENE LOURIE has been engaged as art director for "Uncle Harry."

Title Changes

Monogram

"The Cobra Strikes" now THE SHANGHAI COBRA.

"Saddle Serenade" new tag for "Cowboy Serenade."

Alexander-Stern's "Law of Lead" changed to "Three in the Saddle."

Republic

"The Purple Shadow Strikes," serial, changed to THE PURPLE MONSTER STRIKES.

SAG and Producers Talk New Terms

As the studio strike crawled into its eighth week and while still unsettled was the three-cornered jurisdictional battle over Hollywood's extras, the Screen Actors Guild tossed still another labor problem into the laps of the film makers.

At request of SAG, negotiations regarding amendments to the producer-SAG basic minimum contract were undertaken at a meeting in the offices of the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

The contract runs to May, 1947, and provides for annual discussion of modifications suggested by either party, which, if concurred in by the guild and the producers, becomes part of the contract; otherwise either party may demand arbitration on the subjects of minimum wages and hours.

A negotiating committee representing SAG was composed of President George Murphy, Robert Montgomery, Walter Abel, Tudor Williams, Cliff Lyons, Larry Steers, Harry Cording, John Dales jr., executive secretary, Pat Sommerset, Murray Kinnell, guild executives, and William Berger, guild counsel.

The producers were represented by their regular labor relations committee composed of E. J. Mannix, Y. Frank Freeman, B. B. Kahane, Cliff Work, Fred Pelton, labor negotiator, and legal counsel.

Clothes Drive Still Too Slow, Ginger Rogers Asserts

Used clothing at the rate of 1,000 pounds a day was being turned in to the industry's collection for allied relief, according to the latest report made by studio colonels to Chairman Ginger Rogers. A total of 19,447 pounds had been picked up at studios to be processed and turned over to the national drive.

"We still are not getting anywhere near the number of individual responses needed," Miss Rogers said.

The collection originally was slated to end May 3, but John B. Elliott, general chairman for Los Angeles, has extended the city-wide drive until May 12. The industry effort therefore will end with the regular Friday report of May 11.

Tons of clothing from studio wardrobes are joining the stream of private contributions to the United National Clothing Collection being conducted at the studios.

Second-highest studio poundage was 1,377, from RKO. Columbia ranged third, with 1,250, and Universal contributed 1,143. Warners and Paramount were in the 800 bracket, closely tailed by Disney. M-G-Mers had dug up only 450 pounds of unwanted clothes from their attics.

Sam Hersh Buys Reissue Rights on Range Busters

Samuel Hersh, general manager of the newly-formed Royal Pictures, has announced purchase of reissue rights from Monogram of eight Range Busters series westerns, starring Ray Corrigan, John King and Max Terhune. He plans to distribute them on a state rights basis.

Hersh left for New York, on the first leg of a trip around the country during which he expects to set franchise deals. On his return, he will start production activities of Royal Pictures, first of which will be "Hollywood High School."

The original name of Hersh's new company was Mutual Pictures, but he changed it because of conflict with Mutual Productions, company of Fred MacMurray and Leslie Fenton.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

ALWAYS a rock-strewn route, the path of censorship which the motion picture screen has been forced to follow for several decades was recently the recipient of a new boulder—a particularly annoying boulder.

The Memphis, Tenn., Board of Motion Picture Censors voted to ban the United Artists feature, "Brewster's Millions," produced by Edward Small, from that city's theatres. Reasons: Eddie (Rochester) Anderson "has an important role and has too familiar a way about him . . . presents too much social equality and racial mixture."

Volumes could be written in consideration of the general biogtry and intolerance of the ruling; of the inconsistency of such dogmatism in a world fighting history's most tragic and costly war to preserve democracy and its four freedoms. The south's viewpoint concerning its race problem is something the northern mind always has had difficulty in understanding; apparently it is too ticklish an issue for even the master minds of federal government. Further, the over-all ramifications of the situation, in the name of discretion, if nothing else, can be skirted by an industry tradepaper; can safely be left to the wider fields of the lay press.

Inescapable, however, is the very obvious prejudicial aspect toward motion pictures alone. The same Rochester, who, parenthetically, is well liked and widely respected in the entertainment world, appears regularly on the Jack Benny radio show. In his regular role on that popular air program he fills a part virtually identical to that he occupied in the cast of "Brewster's Millions." His ether appearances are equally subject to the indictments, unfair as they may be, on which the film was barred from showing in Memphis. It may not be too illogical to conjecture why the Tennessee guardians against "too much social equality and racial mixture" do not try to block the Benny show from the free air of their state, or to ban the product it promotes from the shelves of its merchants. Further, consider the countless scores of previous pictures which have chronicled the "familiar way" of the traditional southern "mammy." Maybe those offerings escaped the wrath of Memphis censorship because that particular "familiar way" is a southern legend and institution.

In any event and from an industrywide perspective, the proscription against the Small picture is an unfortunate quirk in the zealousness to safeguard "white supremacy." It worked an unjust hardship on one feature, but more important is the danger that lies in the precedent the biased ruling established.

Yea, the motion picture industry seems still to be badly in need of a Moses to lead it out of the wilderness in which it has been a whipping boy for too many people, too many interests and too many prejudices for too long a time. Maybe Eric Johnston can be that Moses.

→

"THREE BRITISH DEER IMPORTED FOR FILM 'SHERWOOD FOREST'"
—Columbia publicity headline.

The meat shortage being what it is, their film career will be shortlived.

→

According to Les Kaufman, "Frank McDonald, Republic director and writer, pokes fun at critics in an original which he submitted to the studio, called "The Old, Old Story," written in collaboration with Walter Samuels."

It seems only fair. After all the critics have been poking fun at McDonald for lo! these many years.

→

Many things are explained by the release from Warners' Alex Evelove which reveals that Dennis Morgan raises turkeys on his La Canada ranch, too.

→

Some weeks ago, Hollywood news outlets received from Chester Morris' personal press agent copies of a communication Morris had reportedly sent to Time magazine, in which he "took issue" with an item the publication had printed about the Duke of Windsor and for its "flip and curt dismissal of a man who is one of the colorful figures of our time." Morris declared that "as spokesman for a group of actors, writers and directors, I have today cabled the Duke of Windsor offering to form an independent producing company to star him in a picturization of his own life story . . ."

While most recipients thereof chose to ignore the alleged offer as just another bit of press agentry in its lower registers, Time elected to print the letter, footnoting it with the following comment by the editor:

"Hollywood has seen some strange sights. But Time is willing to bet a small Balkan kingdom against the head of Actor Morris' press agent that Hollywood will never see Britain's ex-King Edward VIII as a cinemactor."

Although the magazine is laying tremendous odds, this department would like half of its bet, provided the aforementioned head will be delivered with an apple in its mouth.

The press agent? Behemoth of Blurb Russell Birdwell, none else.

→

From Whitney Bolton and staff came the card which bore a message built around the titles of three current Columbia pictures: "Since we are all Over 21, we thought this Counter-Attack to the tobacco problem would give you cigarets for A Thousand and One Nights."

Attached thereto was a book of cigaret papers and a packet of White Burley tobacco seed.

Now, if the tobacco will grow as lushly as does the corn in Bolton's blurbery, the problem indeed will be solved.

→

RELATIVITY EXHIBIT
AT UNIVERSAL.
—Pete Dailey headline.

And just when it was thought that the studio was getting away from the reputation for nepotism under which it long suffered.

Orson Welles to Produce And Star in "Bonito"

Orson Welles has closed a deal with RKO whereby he will produce "My Friend Bonito," which that company will release. Welles, who will also star in the film, has signed Norman Foster to direct. Arrangements are being made to shoot some of the sequences in Mexico City.

Hollywood at War

Approach of VE-Day had a tendency to increase rather than diminish activities on Hollywood's most important wartime front—the entertainment of men and women wearing the uniform of their country.

Intensified efforts of the Hollywood Victory Committee to increase the flow of celebrities into army and navy hospitals resulted in setting tour routes for 20 players within one week, and brought pledges from more than 100 personalities to make future tours, according to a report made to Chairman Kenneth Thomson.

The report followed a joint meeting of special committees representing the Screen Actors Guild, the Artists Managers Guild and the major studios.

Only a Beginning, Says Thomson

"This is a good report," Thomson said, "but we must recognize that it is only a beginning. To do this job adequately, we need to keep this many personalities on hospital tours all the time. And in addition we have a great need for players overseas."

The stepped-up HVC program followed appeals from the war and navy departments, which pointed out that with 150 hospitals receiving war casualties, the number has tripled in the past year and is still growing. Aid of the SAG was volunteered, with Guild President George Murphy heading an emergency committee set up to obtain pledges from guild members for hospital tours. Action by the Artists Managers Guild followed, with AMG President Bert Allenberg naming Charles K. Feldman, Jules Stein and Frank Vincent as a special committee to work with the actors' emergency committee.

The 20 players who went on tour in the one week or have been set for routes are: Ruthe Brady and Margie Stewart, June Carlson and Patti McCarty, Ellen Drew, Nancy Gates and Gail Russell, Marjorie Henshaw and Fay Marlow, Diana Lynn, Wanda McKay and Carol Thurston, the Ritz Bros. and Jane Wyman, Gale Sondergaard, Sonny Tufts, Raymond Walburn, Billy de Wolfe.

Other activities during the same week:

Robert Young and Marilyn Maxwell headed a company which entertained at Birmingham General Hospital, with Hugh Rumsey, Lee Donn, Britt Wood, Dorothy Bruce, Eileen Blood, Shirley Ballard and Barbara Perry.

A navy audience at Inyokern saw Paul Lukas, Teddi Sherman, Tommy Riley, Mary Lee, Betty Yeaton, Christy and Miller and Herb Bruce.

Al Pearce took a troupe to Ft. MacArthur, with Whitez and Manning, Gloria Faye, Marian Kerrigan, Monty and Fulton, Vivian Faye and Romenta Cayse.

Betty Hutton, Frank Sinatra, Vivian Blaine, the King sisters, B. S. Pully and Don Wilson recorded a mail call transcription.

On a Command Performance platter were Bing Crosby, Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior, the Andrews sisters and Ken Carpenter.

G. I. Journal was recorded at the Hollywood Canteen, with Rita Hayworth, Kay Kyser, Jerry Colonna, Connie Haines, the Mel Torme group, Mel Blanc and Harry Mitchell.

Ella Logan guest-starred on the Jubilee jive program, with Charlie Barnett and orchestra, the Eddie Heywood Sextette, Eddie Green, Ernie Whitman and Verne Smith.

Sonny Tufts, Ray Walburn, Margie Stewart and Ruthe Brady were set by HVC for USO-Camp Shows tours of army and navy hospitals.

Walburn joined a Camp Shows unit at Camp Crowder, Mo. He was to tour Missouri hospitals through May 5, returning to Los Angeles May 7.

The two girls left to open the same day at Barnes General Hospital at Vancouver, Wash. They were to visit hospitals in Washington and Oregon through May 9.

Tufts, who will be making personal appearances in New York next month, is scheduled for three weeks of hospital visits en route back to Hollywood. Starting May 22 at Danville, Ky., he will stop at Nashville, Memphis, Hot Springs and Norman and El Reno, Okla., covering eight army, navy and air force hospitals and redistribution centers.

On assignments to aid the current Canadian war loan drive, Claire Trevor, George Murphy, Edgar Bergen and Dick Powell left to open a series of appearances.

Miss Trevor and Murphy went to Calgary to open a week's tour of Alberta, while Powell went to Victoria for three appearances. Miss Trevor and Murphy are to wind up their tour with an appearance for the U.S. Seventh War Loan drive at Portland, Ore., May 10.

Frances Dee and Joel McCrea shared with Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King, the Bank of Canada governor, Graham Towers, and Minister of Finance J. L. Ilsley at a rally in Ottawa.

Other stars scheduled for Canadian bond appearances are Anne Baxter and Claude Rains, due for a Montreal rally and broadcast May 9, and Jean Pierre Aumont, who with Miss Baxter will feature a French-language rally and broadcast on May 10.

Grave Dangers Seen In Price Unfairness

LOS ANGELES—If unjustified price discrimination in film rentals is not voluntarily corrected by the industry itself, it may furnish one of the principal causes for eventually bringing the industry under public control and regulation as a public utility, in the opinion of Paul Williams, general counsel and general manager of the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n.

The danger of price discriminations was stressed in an address by Williams to his association's directors and members at a luncheon at the Variety Club called to give the general membership and the press an opportunity to meet the association's new executive.

Short addresses also were made by Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, and Harry C. Arthur jr., St. Louis circuit operator. Those of the SCTOA directorate present took bows.

"It will be one of the primary aims of the association to provide a method within the industry itself for the adjustment of disputes between its members," Williams said. "These disputes in many instances involve distributors. It is believed that through conference and conciliation many can be settled, thus relieving the disputants of long and costly arbitration or litigation. In this work, it will be the objective of the association to eliminate all forms of restraint and discrimination which give rise to questions of law violation.

"The organization of this association was made possible and its future existence will necessarily depend upon the willingness of its members to pursue, in the conduct of their respective businesses, a policy of live and let live.

Fair and Open Field Necessary

"The association accepts and its work must necessarily proceed upon a recognition of the present structure of the industry. Our national economy is based upon a system of free enterprise which presupposes a fair and open field in which every man shall have the right and opportunity to compete to the limit of his capacity without being subjected to illegal or unreasonable restraints from any source. The Congress of the United States in enacting the antitrust laws, sought to preserve and protect that system of free enterprise. Mere size constitutes no violation of the antitrust laws. It is only the abuse of the power arising from size which is condemned by these laws. In its work, the association, recognizing these principles, will seek to correct and to eliminate such unreasonable and undue restraints as may arise in the dealings of its members with each other and with the distributors, at all times being cognizant of and seeking to understand fully the many difficulties which confront the distributors in the conduct of their business.

"It is not and will not be a function of the association to buy film for any of its members. That is a part of the bargaining process which must be carried on by each individual member. However, this does not mean that after the bargaining process has been served and contracts have been set that the association will not seek to correct and eliminate such unreasonable restraints or discriminations as may result from those contracts."

Fund for Overseas Relief Aim of Jewish Welfare

William Goetz, president of International Pictures, has been appointed chairman of the motion picture division for the "Year of Liberation" campaign of the local United Jewish Welfare Fund.

Goetz, in calling attention to the May 1 dinner, which will officially launch the drive, declared:

"The drive's major purpose will be to obtain money for overseas rescue, relief and resettlement.

"When the war in Europe ends thousands of stateless people will be unable to return to their homes. Many who fled to Switzerland and Spain to escape Nazi tyranny will have to be resettled. The cost and need will be greater than ever before."

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer will be guest speaker at the initial drive dinner.

Kaye's 'Wonder Man' Bows In New York June 5

Samuel Goldwyn's new Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man," which RKO distributes, goes into national release June 5 with a world premiere at New York's Astor Theatre.

World premiere of Monogram's "China's Little Devils" has been set for day-and-date openings at Esquire and Tivoli theatres, San Francisco, May 10.

Author Team Ends Work On 'High Barbaree' Novel

"High Barbaree" has been completed by Charles Nordhoff and James Hall for production by Metro as one of its high-budgeters of 1945. The novel is another in the series of books which have been written expressly for the screen, a series that already includes "Image of Josephine" by Booth Tarkington, "Bridgit" by Robert Nathan, "American Cavalcade" by Carl Sandburg and "Colorado" by Louis Bromfield.

"High Barbaree" will be published in October.

New Post With Monogram For Menifee I. Johnstone

Menifee I. Johnstone, for 18 years head of her own organization as a Hollywood artists representative, has been signed as casting director at Monogram studios, according to announcement by Trem Carr, executive producer. Miss Johnstone, who was assistant to Cecil B. DeMille on the production of "The Ten Commandments" and later assistant casting director at Fox and Famous Players-Lasky, was scheduled to take up her new duties April 30.

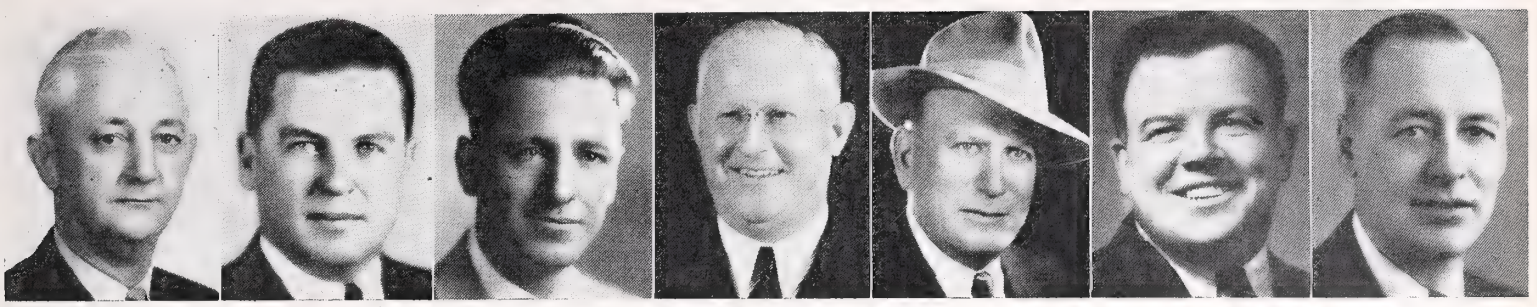
Peggy Knudsen to "Stolen Life" Cast

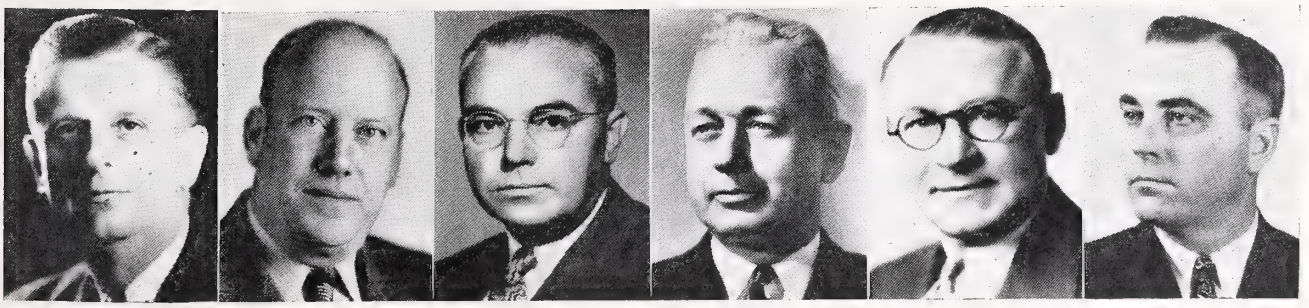
Peggy Knudsen has joined the cast of "Stolen Life," a Warner production.

Glen Cook New Monogram Manager of Production

Glen Cook was appointed general production manager at Monogram studios, effective April 30. For several years with the old Monogram organization, Cook has been most recently unit production manager with Harry Sherman and David O. Selznick.

Western Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen





WESTERNERS CONFIDENT—Exhibitor state chairmen of the Seventh War Loan in the 11 western states are quite confident their area will turn in some fine scores during the campaign.

In the top panel, l. to r.: Arizona, Harry Nace, Phoenix; Colorado, Rick Ricketson, Denver; Co-Chairmen Rotus Harvey and George Mann of San Francisco and Gus Metzger of Los Angeles; Idaho, Walter Lee Casey, Bonners Ferry; Montana, J. A. English, Anaconda.

Lower panel: Nevada, Homer LeBallister, Reno; New Mexico, George L. Tucker, Albuquerque; Oregon, O. J. Miller, Portland; Utah, Tracy Barham, Salt Lake City; Washington, Frank L. Newman, Seattle; Wyoming, T. E. Knight, Riverton.

Northern Californians Build Up Drive Power

SAN FRANCISCO—Two groups of leaders will meet with theatre men in all key cities of northern California preparatory to the launching of the Seventh War Loan drive of the motion picture industry in this region, it was revealed by Charles P. Skouras, national honorary chairman. San Francisco exhibitors Monday held the first of this series of precampaign meetings. A second general meeting of exhibitors was to be held in Oakland Wednesday and next week other key cities in northern California will be progressively covered.

George Mann, northern California exhibitor chairman, presided at Monday's meeting. Speakers included Rotus Harvey, co-chairman, Charles Thall, western regional coordinator; Roy Cooper, local WAC chairman; Herman Wobber, western regional distributor chairman; N. P. Jacobs, northern California distributor chairman; Fay Reeder, publicity chairman.

Skouras called upon the exhibitors to have every theatre in the area pledged to the drive and to achieve 100 per cent in bond premieres and Free Movie Days, and urged them strongly to increase issuing and subissuing agents throughout their territory.

Mann, in calling upon the exhibitors of northern California to equal their records of previous drives, said, "Everything will be done to reach the quota set and I know that exhibitors here are ready to maintain the high standard of the past."

Jack O'Laughlin, distributor co-chairman, Cooper and Reeder will comprise the group holding subsequent meetings in Vallejo, Sacramento, Marysville and Redding. Another group with Joe Longo, publicity co-chairman, Harvey and Jacobs will conduct sessions in Stockton, Fresno, Tulare, Merced and Salinas.

Los Angeles Bond Kickoff Rally Draws 500 California Exhibitors

LOS ANGELES—More than 500 southern California exhibitors attended the local kickoff luncheon for the Seventh War Loan campaign. Gus Metzger, state chairman, called the meeting.

Charles P. Skouras, honorary national chairman and regional director for the 11 western states, served as toastmaster. Skouras has set a goal of one billion dollars in E bond sales for the area under his command.

Special guests included R. H. Moulton, chairman of the war savings staff of southern California, and Ted Gamble was heard by radio recording from Washington. Speakers included Dave Bershon, Harry Cohen, O. N. "Bill" Srere, Mort Goodman and Sherrill Corwin.

The two-reeler "All-Star Bond Rally" was shown.

Meanwhile the southern California theatre war finance committee, representing some 600 area theatres and functioning under Skouras, has been announced as follows:

Gus Metzger, state chairman; O. N. Srere, vice-chairman; Sherrill Corwin, vice-chairman.

Executive committee: Dave Bershon, O. N. Srere, Hugh Bruen, Sherrill Corwin, Ben Wallerstein, George Bowser, Gus Metzger, Fred Greenberg, Rodney Pantages, Seymour Peiser, Mort Goodman.

Advisory committee: George J. Shaffer, Marco Wolf, Hugh Bruen, Harry Popkin, Sherrill Corwin, Rodney Pantages, Lou Rosenberg, Al Hanson, Oscar Oldknow, Mike Rosenberg, Robert Poole, Milton Arthur, Al Galston, Harry Vinnicof, Wayne Ball, Henry Herbel, Charles Feldman, Chet Bell, Harry Cohen, Paul Williams, J. K. Wallace.

Publicity and advertising committee: Seymour Peiser, chairman; Mort Goodman, co-chairman; Bernie Wolf, Willis Kinnear, Eddie Meck.

Statistical committee: John Lavery and Ida Schreiber, co-chairman.

Finance committee: Marco Wolf, chairman; Sherrill Corwin, George Bowser, Hugh Bruen, Rodney Pantages, Mike Rosenberg.

Special events and bond shows: Ben Wallerstein, Bruce Fowler, co-chairmen; Jay Sutton, M. A. Anderson, Rube Wolf, Hugh Bruen.

Film distributors committee: Harry Cohen, Foster Blake, Wayne Ball, Clyde Eckhardt.

County chairmen: Lou Rosenberg, Mrs. Jennie Dodge, Homer Gill, Earle Johnson, Harry Denny, Roy Hunt, Dick Smith, Mike Lustig, Bob Smith, John Echols, Willard Osborne, O. N. Srere.

Mobile unit committee, Los Angeles: Spencer Leve and Dave Ross, co-chairmen; Allan Marten.

Chairmen for Los Angeles: Joe Kennedy, Wendell Smith, Milton Arthur, Lew Clark, Ray Wagnon, Harry Schlinker, Dudley Winscott, Ernest Strum, Earl Barry, Victor J. Rosen, Allan Marten, Carl Meeker, Grover Smith, John Klee, J. G. McManus, Ned Calvi, James Edwards, James Walker, Jack Goldberg, Henry Pines, James Bradley, Bill Jenner, Hugh Bruen, Harry LeSeff, O. N. Srere.

Republic Employes Get Pay Increase

LOS ANGELES—A 10 per cent increase for six member of the Screen Office Employes Guild Local 1391, employed at Republic, has been approved by the War Labor Board.

Retroactive to Oct. 19, 1943, the increase will represent approximately $2,100 in checks to the six SOEG workers involved, as well as improvements in working conditions, since the contract just approved provides for preferential hiring, time and one-half after eight hours, and added vacation benefits.

Meanwhile, the dispute case involving the SOEG and all the Los Angeles film exchanges was to be heard by a three-man panel of the War Labor Board on May 4, 1945.

Negotiations on a new contract between the union and the exchanges were deadlocked January 31, 1945, and the union applied to the U.S. conciliation service. Items in dispute included vacations, sick leave and temporary employment.

Gigantic $25,000,000 E Bond Show May 18 at Hollywood

LOS ANGELES—A gigantic $25,000,000 E bond show in Hollywood Bowl Friday night, May 18, will be the kickoff event of the drive in southern California, it was revealed by Charles P. Skouras, national honorary chairman at a meeting here Thursday.

Stars to appear include Bing Crosby, Ginger Rogers, Abbott & Costello, Rise Stevens, Andrews sisters, Rochester, Carl Hoff and orchestra. Discussions are now being held with army officials for the Santa Ana army band, which is the best known musical organization of its kind. A bond show admission scale will be set to realize at least $25,000,000 sales in E bonds.

Denver Theatre Duals Score 200 Per Cent

DENVER—Business was good to strong in first runs in Denver. The Paramount, with a three-day holdover and a four-day start on another double bill, was tied with the Aladdin for 200 per cent. The Paramount copped the most money. "National Velvet" and "Hollywood and Vine" were strong enough to get a second week at the Orpheum.

(Average is 100)

Aladdin—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), after a wk. at each the Denver and Esquire 200
Denham—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk. 120
Denver—**Sudan** (Univ); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), day-date with the Esquire 150
Esquire—**Sudan** (Univ); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), day-date with the Denver 150
Orpheum—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Hollywood and Vine** (PRC) 170
Paramount—**Guest in the House** (UA); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 3-day holdover, and **Murder, My Sweet** (RKO) **and Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), 4 days 200
Rialto—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), after a wk. at each the Denver, Esquire and Aladdin 150

"Wonderful Crime" and "Powder" Leaders in Conference City

SAN FRANCISCO—"Having a Wonderful Crime" with a stage show had a wonderful time at the Golden Gate Theatre in its first week with a barometer reading of 135, tops for the week.

Fox—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Faces in the Fog** (Rep) 130
Golden Gate—**Having a Wonderful Crime** (RKO), stage 135
Orpheum—**It's in the Bag** (UA); **House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd wk. 110
Paramount—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Utah** (Rep) 120
State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 130
St. Francis—**Practically Yours** (Para); **High Powered** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 130
United Artists—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 3rd wk. 100
Warfield—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox) 130

Al Rosenberg, Circuit Executive, Marries

SEATTLE—Al Rosenberg, vice-president of Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres, and widely known Seattle sportsman, and Mrs. Sue Pascal Buffano were married here recently and left on a honeymoon in Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. The wedding took place at the Marlborough apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Goldsmith.

Bedgisoff Sells Theatre After 18 Years' Operation

SEATTLE—William "Bill" Bedgisoff, after 18 years of ownership of the Green Parrot Theatre, has sold his holdings to William Forman, and retired from the show business. This is the first theatre deal in downtown Seattle in many years. Forman owns theatres in Oregon and is a partner with Warner Bros. Theatres in Salem, Ore.

Buffet for New Counsel

LOS ANGELES—For the purpose of introducing its new general counsel, Paul Williams, to the trade press and to showmen, the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n, has scheduled a buffet luncheon at the local Variety Club headquarters.

SAN FRANCISCO

Mrs. Gladys Dudley Linder, wife of Clarence R. Linder, publisher of the San Francisco Examiner, died from heart attack at her home April 25. Author of "Marcel Proust: Reviews and Estimates in English," Mrs. Lindner was widely known as a student of French history and literature. She was also vice-chairman of Stage Door Canteen and as head of the entertainment committee was instrumental in bringing stars of the theatre and screen to the service men.

Walter R. Preddey installed RCA sound for the Neptune Theatre, Alameda, and will soon install Century projectors and RCA sound in the new naval hospital at Mare Island. The building is a modern steel and concrete structure and will be a permanent institution.

Film folk visiting here included Miriam Hopkins, Charles Boyer, Orsen Welles, Edward G. Robinson, James Cagney, Sylvia Sydney, Bob Hope, Fred Astaire and Hedda Hopper, columnist.

This season the Hillburn summer theatre is under the direction of Robert Brauns and will feature French, English and American dramas. San Francisco College for Women presented "The Song of Bernadette" in its first stage appearance on the Pacific coast.

W. Harold Wilson's advertising agency has moved its offices to 391 Sutter St. from the Golden Gate Theatre Bldg. . . . H. Silverstone and Robert Folkoff, theatre accountants, are expanding their offices there as are the Petersen theatre circuit, and the Aaron Goldberg theatres.

Dan Toochini, El Rey Theatre in Sebastopol, was in town for a few days. Ned Steele of the Colusa Theatre, Colusa, has been ill for the past few weeks but now is on the road to recovery . . . Cliff Giesseman celebrated his birthday recently. He has accepted an invitation to join a club sponsored by Helen Wabbe, publicity representative for the Golden Gate Theatre.

PRC's "Town Went Wild" has been booked by the Blumenfeld circuit to run in San Francisco, Oakland, Stockton and Sacramento . . . Warner Bros. exchange here is a showplace in itself with gal-orious posters on the walls worth a peek. Jerry Lubin was in town for a few days from the Warner home office. Doris King is the new switchboard operator at the exchange. Ernie Gibson is the new Warner northern California salesman, having been transferred from the Salt Lake branch. Thad Sheridan, released from the marines, is back on his job as salesman.

The Arabian delegates to the conference were guests of the Nob Hill Theatre at the Fairmont Hotel and spectators found the guests, with their flowing robes and unique headdress of more interest than Hollywood's land of make-believe.

Bruce and McLaglen to Costar

Virginia Bruce and Victor McLaglen are set to costar in "Love, Honor and Goodbye," a Republic production.

Frisco Stage Canteen Celebrates 2nd Year

SAN FRANCISCO—Celebrating the second anniversary of the Stage Door Canteen, a half-hour broadcast headlined by Yehudi Menuhin, famed violinist, and other noted artists was heard over KGO and the Pacific Blue network. Invitations to Helen Hayes, Sylvia Sydney and Congressman Sol Bloom had been issued with James Cagney serving as emcee for the evening.

Brock Pemberton of the American Theatre Wing, in town for the celebration, said the wing probably will set up canteens in Berlin and Tokyo. The London and the new Paris canteens are brilliant successes.

Those taking an active part in the anniversary program here include:

George Heinz, stage manager, who has arranged a series of skits; Helen Marcus of the Blumenfeld circuit, who books all the acts for the canteen; Harry Ettling, chairman of entertainment, from the Golden Gate Theatre; Min Levy, PRC; Melda Major, FWC; J. Leslie Jacobs; Helen Wabbe, publicity head from the Golden Gate Theatre; Neal East, Paramount; Ruth Langley, booker at Monogram; Dick Eckles, associated with the Vogue Painting & Decorating Co.; Rose Golik, Western Theatrical Equipment Co.; and Elmer Langmaid with FWC.

Security Parley Envoys Have Exclusive Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO—The United Nations Theatre, turned over exclusively for those holding official credentials to the security conference, is showing twice daily, at 5:30 and 8:30 p. m., each performance running approximately two and one-half hours.

The programs consist of important feature films and short subjects selected from the best available productions of world motion picture studios as well as United Nations theatre conference newsreels.

Featured on the opening bill, were PRC's "The Silver Fleet," "The Rainbow," a Soviet feature production, was shown the following day. Other daily features include the Bing Crosby academy award picture "Going My Way," the French production "La Marseilles" and "Wilson."

McCleary, Wash., House Sold by Jim McCleary

McCLEARY, WASH.—Jim McArdle, who reopened the McCleary Theatre ten years ago, recently sold the house to Earl J. Stierwalt of Portland, operator of a suburban situation there. Mr. and Mrs. Stierwalt have purchased a residence here.

C. M. Thall at WAC Rally

SAN FRANCISCO—Western Coordinator Charles M. Thall presided at the WAC regional meeting held here. The rally was attended by state exhibitor, distributor and publicity chairmen as well as a large turnout of exhibitors and distribution representatives.



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ED BARON
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H. E. BEARSDEN
H. BLUECHEL
ABE BLUMENFELD
JOE BLUMENFELD
DAVE BOLTON
LAWRENCE BORG
A. R. BOWEN
F. C. BRITTON
A L. BROWN
JAS. CHAPMAN
C. S. CHESTNUTT
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M. E. GLASCOCK
CHAS. GRAY
E. M. GRAYVILL
CY GRAVES
OLIVER GROVER
IKE HABLES
GERALD HARDY
HERB HARRIS
LOU HARRIS
MARK HARRISON
ROTUS HARVEY
ALVIN HATCH
FRED HATCHER
HENRY HEBER
MRS. BYRD HEITZ
WM. HELM
HENRY C. HERIMAN
JOHN HILLMAN
CHAS. HOLTZ
JOE HUFF
CHAS. IDE
DOM ISABELLA
SID KLEIN
RAY KNIGHT
EDW. G. KUSTER
AL LARICE
M. W. LATHROP
CLARENCE LAWS
J. C. LEE
ARTHUR LEINO
JAMES LEMOS
BEN LEVIN
D. B. LEVIN
JESS LEVIN
SAMUEL C. LEVIN
SAMUEL H. LEVIN
ELLIS LEVY
ROBERT LIPPERT
JAMES LIMA
ROLAND LLOYD
MIKE LUFT
R. A. McNEIL
D. J. McNERNEY
G. McPHERSON
CHAS. MAESTRI
TOM MALLOY
GEO. MANN
LOUIS MARKS
RALPH MARKS
RALPH MARTIN
JOE MEYER
M. MICHEL
GEO. MILNER
JOHN MOHR
MRS. EMMA MOORE
G. R. MOORE
MRS. J. MUCHOW
CHAS. MUEHLMAN
L. S. MURPHY
W. G. NABHAN
E. NAHARRO
FRED NAIFY
MIKE NAIFY
NASSER BROS.
CAROL NATHAN
H. OLMSTEAD
ROY PALMER
LESLIE PANCAKE
ROBERT PATTON
A. R. PECK
J. J. PERRY
PETER PERRY
WM. PETERS
CHAS. PETERSON
H. PRECIADO
BEN RANDALL
ODILLO RESTANO
MRS. F. W. RODGERS
E. L. ROSE
EDGAR SALAZAAR
WILLIAM SALE
MILTON SAMIS
HARRY SEIPLE
EDWARD SKOLAK
MRS. R. B. SMITH
DICK SPEIR
F. STAMM
NED C. STEELE
RAY SYUFY
W. P. TAM
VERNE TAYLOR
HOMER TEGTMEIER
CHAS. THALL
R. W. THOMAS
DAN TOCCHINI
EARL WAGNON
WM. WAGNER
HARRY WEST
MRS. B. F. WHITE
ALFRED WILKINS
BUCKIE WILLIAMS
FRED WILLIAMS
ERIC WILSON
O. WOOLRIDGE
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

DENVER

Henry Friedel now is district manager for Metro as well as manager of the Denver exchange. He will have charge of the Omaha, Salt Lake City and Denver exchanges. Friedel has been with Metro since 1916, starting in Omaha as a booker . . . Buzz Briggs, State manager, is recuperating from an operation.

Fox Intermountain Theatres are redecorating the Webber, and after May 15 the house will become a first run, showing films day and date with the downtown Denver and the neighborhood Esquire, or with the downtown Paramount. This gives south Denver its initial first run.

Fred P. Brown, United Artist salesman, will act as advance and liaison man for the war bond show which will tour Colorado the last of this month and the first of June. Brown spent several days at the Ft. Benning, Ga., base, acquainting himself with the details of the show, which will include the taking of a Jap pill box with all the implements of war, including flame throwers, machine guns, bazookas, etc.

Albert DeBernardi jr., motion picture and drama editor for the Denver Post, died at his home in Denver following a heart attack. The last picture taken of DeBernardi appeared in BOXOFFICE April 28. It was taken at the Denver bond rally. Funeral and burial were in Denver . . . John L. Steele, rancher, has bought the Cactus Theatre, Limon, Colo., from E. W. G. Weiselmann, who plans to take a lengthy vacation before returning to the theatre business.

W. H. Ostenberg, owner of the Egyptian, Scottsbluff, Neb., which was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago, says he will rebuild and hopes to start by early summer to have the house ready before the first of the year. He is now busy with architects and contractors . . . Betty Long, Columbia booker, is on vacation.

Fox Intermountain Theatre Notes: Jack Henry, Aladdin, Denver, assistant, is promoted to manager at Montrose, Colo., succeeding C. W. "Stub" O'Brien, who has gone into the armed forces. A. C. Stalcup leaves the city managership at North Platte, Neb., to go to a similar job at Sheridan, Wyo. Russell Berry moves from Rawlins, Wyo., to take the North Platte job. Margaret Lansing, Rawlins city manager, takes the house managership of the Paramount, Cheyenne, Wyo., and Charles Wallace goes from the Paramount job to Rawlins.

Two Weiser, Ida., Theatres Leased by Salt Lake Men

WEISER, IDAHO—Mrs. Velma Gordon has announced the leasing of the Star and Mayfair theatres here to Joseph L. Lawrence and D. K. Edwards of Salt Lake City, who now are operating the properties under the firm name of Four Star Theatre Corp. R. G. W. Frisbey, former Salt Lake City newspaper man, is Weiser manager for the corporation. The Mayfair, which has been closed since 1943, will reopen as soon as necessary help is available, Frisbey said.

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Clyde Blasius Heads 20th-Fox at Salt Lake

SALT LAKE CITY—Clyde A. Blasius, Midvale, an employe of 20th-Fox for 13 years, has been appointed manager of the exchange here, which serves Montana, Idaho and Utah. Blasius succeeds Charles L. Walker, who has been promoted to district manager of the Salt Lake and Denver territory, with headquarters here.

Film Executive Is Named To Colorado School Post

COLORADO SPRINGS—J. Don Alexander, president of the Alexander Film Co., recently was appointed a member of the board of trustees of the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind by Gov. John C. Vivian.

"Blue Law" Up for Repeal

PALO ALTO, CALIF.—An ordinance repealing the "blue law" relating to the closing of places of amusement on Sundays has been placed on the ballot for the general municipal election May 8.

LOS ANGELES

Seymour J. Fischer, former Columbia salesman and recently discharged from the marine corps, visited friends on the Row . . . James Garfield Schiller left for San Francisco, where he will take charge of the exploitation campaign on "Dillinger," Monogram feature. The picture has a day-date opening May 10 at the Esquire and Tivoli theatres.

Lee Ruden, clerk at National Screen Service, has resigned, effective June 8. She does not contemplate taking another position in the near future . . . Twenty-five girls from the M-G-M Club visited Birmingham General Hospital, hostessing 200 of the boys there . . . Sam Gerson, former owner of the Royal Theatre in Cleveland, has sold out and is making his home in Los Angeles.

Francis Bateman, Republic's west coast division manager, left for a two-week business trip to Seattle and Portland. He was to visit exchanges and exhibitors in that territory and conduct meetings, settling up advance preparation for Republic's forthcoming tenth anniversary, which is scheduled to start May 27 and continue for nine weeks.

Joe Horwitz, former National Screen Service salesman, visited friends on the Row . . . Charles Alden, Fox West Coast partner at Globe, Ariz., spent a few days in Los Angeles.

Leon Glasser is renovating his local Dixie Theatre . . . Al and Ruth Snadow have taken over the Melvan . . . Jerry Galligher's El Cajon, El Cajon, burned down April 27 . . . R. E. Archibald of the Coronado Theatre, was on the Row booking and buying . . . Allen Kars, formerly manager of the Wiltern, trained in from Kansas City to visit friends.

PRC's "Crime, Inc." a Leon Fromkess production, was booked into the Million Dollar, Vogue and Pan-Pacific theatres for a simultaneous run which started April 27 . . . Charles Skouras was back at his desk after a two-week trek through division centers of National Theatres.

Mrs. Spyroula Bowser, 73, mother of George Bowser, general manager of Fox West Coast Theatres, died April 26 after an illness of two years. The funeral was held at the Greek Orthodox Church.

SALT LAKE CITY

Charles Pincus, manager of the Utah Theatre, has welcomed back his former assistant, Clyde Willard, who resumes his post as assistant manager after an absence of several months . . . Dave Thomas, Centre theatre manager, has received the honor roll button from M-G-M for his exploitation of "National Velvet."

Claude Morris, connected with Sam Goldwyn publicity staff, was in Salt Lake in connection with the Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man." Murray Lafayette, field representative for 20th-Fox, also was in Salt Lake . . . Joseph L. Lawrence and D. K. Edwards, operators of the Lawrence chain of theatres in Utah and Idaho, have leased Star and Mayfair theatres in Weiser, Ida., from Mrs Velma Gordon.

Final reports on the statewide theatre Red Cross drive show $38,000 collected in theatres and contributed by motion picture exhibitors, owners and employes, according to P. A. Spechart, chairman. This was an increase of $8,000 over last year.

The Capitol has booked "Ten Little Indians," a Shubert production, for three nights and a matinee, beginning May 28 . . . In one of several changes that have been taking place recently at the Lyric, Art Siegrist, former assistant manager for the Post St. Theatre, Spokane, Wash., has been named assistant to Manager Warren D. Butler. He replaces Paul Strout.

Utah memorial rites for Roosevelt, held in the Capitol, were made into a film by the army pictorial service branch, 15 members of which were in Salt Lake City to make a film on Utah's contribution to the war effort. The pictures will be shown to members of the armed services and "stills" included in the army-navy screen magazine, distributed to service men and women throughout the world. Capt. Leo Trover and Lieut. Louis Lindsay directed the film.

High Court Decides City Theatre Lease Legal

HELENA—The Montana supreme court has found the city of Great Falls "not guilty" of illegally leasing the auditorium of the Civic Center to E. E. Harris to operate as a private commercial motion picture theatre. A Great Falls resident brought suit against the city contending that city property could not legally be leased for commercial enterprises. He lost in the lower court, and appealed. The high court ruled that Great Falls had acted for the best interests of the taxpayers.

George Mann Heads Loan In Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO—The Seventh War Loan drive in northern California will be headed by George Mann, Redwood Theatres, with Rotus Harvey, Harvey Amusements, as co-chairman. Harvey was chairman for northern California in the Sixth drive. Phil Baker of the Take It or Leave It program will originate his program from San Francisco to help send the drive off in full force.

Whitten Goes to Woodland

WOODLAND, CALIF.—George Whitten, veteran theatre man from Modesto, now is manager of the State and Porter theatres here. Whitten succeeded C. "Red" Granoski, who was inducted into the navy last month.

Central Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



POISED FOR ACTION — Throughout the central area, exhibitor state chairmen are ready and willing to enter the Seventh War Loan drive, in fact, they're quite busy on it already.

In the panel, left to right: Illinois Co-Chairmen Walter Immerman of Chicago, Ralph Lawler of Peoria, and Edward G. Zorn of Pontiac; Indiana, Don R. Rossiter, Indianapolis; eastern Missouri, Harry C. Arthur; Wisconsin, Harold J. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee.

Nearly 200 at St. Louis Rally Led by Al Stetson

ST. LOUIS—Some 200 attended a luncheon meeting at the Coronado Hotel here Monday noon to hear details of the plans to make the Seventh War Loan drive a success. In the absence of Harry C. Arthur jr., local WAC chairman, Al Stetson of Fanchon & Marco presided. At the head table were numerous military representatives. Entertainment was provided by Eddie Peabody, the Four Guardsmen and a coast guard vocalist.

Pep talks were given by Charles Riley, director of public safety who represented Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann, and Walter W. Head, president of the General American Life Insurance Co. He said he is not worried about the over-all quota, since the corporations will take care of that, but he warned there is a real job ahead to make the individual sales quota, which is 27.3 per cent greater than the mark of the last drive, while the E bond quota for Missouri has been increased 60 3/10 per cent.

Other speakers were J. F. Tegeler of Dempsey-Tegeler & Co., investments; Lou Ansell, head of Ansell Bros. circuit, and the secretary-treasurer of the MPTO here; Fred Wehrenberg of the Wehrenberg circuit and president of the MPTO; Fred Sutter, Fox Midwest; Tommy James, local circuit owner whose houses cater to the Negro trade; M. L. Plessner of F&M, is chairman of the publicity committee for the drive; Bernard McCarthy, UA manager and WAC distributor co-chairman; Herb Washburn, NSS manager, and H. M. Richey, assistant to W. F. Rodgers of M-G-M, and a local marine who was wounded on Iwo. The latter's bride also was presented at the meeting. John Boles, star of "One Touch of Venus," appearing at the American Theatre, and Chico Marx, at the 400 Club, attended.

McCarthy said that during the Sixth War Loan drive the St. Louis territory had 75 war bond premieres, nine children's bond premieres and 854 Free Movie Days. It is proposed to increase each of these at least 25 per cent during the Seventh.

Suit for $107,100 Damages Filed by Ex-Stagehands

ST. LOUIS — Henry H. Klaverkamp and Ralph W. Baur have filed new suits in the St. Louis circuit court in their efforts to obtain a total of $107,100 in damages from the officers and trustees of Local 6, on the grounds that the union had illegally assessed 10 per cent of their salaries in excess of the dues charged to other members and that they also had been blacklisted by the union.

The former stagehands filed similar suits in February 1944, which were dismissed in December when the court sustained a demurrer that no cause of action had been shown. It was stated their petitions failed to cite the sections of the union's bylaws in proof of the contention that legal assessment for dues was only 5 per cent of salary.

Klaverkamp and Baur said they were members of Local B2, an auxiliary union of No. 6, and that they were assessed 15 per cent of their salaries between Jan. 4, 1935, and Aug. 5, 1943, when they allege they were blacklisted and subsequently were unable to obtain employment as stagehands. Klaverkamp asks $52,250 in actual and punitive damages and $2,575 for money due from overpayments in dues, while Baur seeks $50,000 actual and punitive damages and $2,575 in overpaid assessments.

Encyclopedia in a Tribute To Motion Picture Industry

CHICAGO—The motion picture industry got into the big Encyclopedia Britannica in a large way. The industry is saluted for having achieved the biggest year of boxoffice receipts in its history, approximating two billion dollars, and also is applauded for its contribution to the war effort in terms of actual aid to the armed forces, in the form of films shipped to all camps and fighting zones, its stars who entertained here and abroad for the GIs, and its part in all the bond drives and other patriotic endeavors.

Figures show the industry sent without cost 24,356 prints of films to the armed services including features and newsreels, as well as 27,000 prints of shorts. The encyclopedia wound up with a tribute to the contribution made to propagating the American way of life through motion pictures as "films followed the American flag into every conquered strip of enemy land."

B&K Doing More Than Pledged for Service Boys

Chicago—Balaban & Katz circuit is doing more than the law allows or the WMC expects, or even better than its employes now in the armed services had ever dared to hope for. Instead of merely assuring veterans their old jobs, upon their return to civilian pursuits, the circuit is giving them bigger and better jobs. This policy is now being put into effect, and many plans and adjustments are being perfected with the expected arrival of VE-Day which the executives believe should return a lot of lads to civilian life.

The 750 employes of B&K who entered the various branches of the armed forces all got a fine sendoff in the form of hard cash; all receive as birthday gifts checks for two weeks' pay and also holiday gifts. Correspondence with the men and women in the military is maintained by a special service which the B&K Employes Club set up and religiously maintained. All this and the Balabanner, house organ, too.

Springfield Film Viewed By Chicago Civic Leaders

CHICAGO—Chicago civic and educational leaders viewed the unique plan of the public schools of Springfield, Mass., when "It Happened in Springfield," a Warner featurette, was presented for them in the screening room atop the B&K Chicago Theatre.

The Springfield Plan, which was photographed there by a camera crew sent from Hollywood, starts with education in the kindergarten. The absence of race, color and creed in American philosophy and the necessity of making brotherhood a reality in this country is stressed.

Healy, Censor Board Head, Dies of a Heart Attack

CHICAGO—Sgt. Joseph F. Healy of the police department, head of the motion picture censor board since 1940, died April 27 of a heart attack. He was due for retirement June 6, when he would have reached 63. Sergeant Healy was born in Ireland and joined the Chicago police department in 1912. He became a sergeant in 1934 and was head of the crime prevention bureau. Burial took place in All Saints Cemetery. He is survived by two daughters.

Wisconsin Free Film Day Dedicated to Ernie Pyle

MILWAUKEE—Harold J. Fitzgerald, state WAC chairman, has set the Free Movie Day in the Seventh War Loan drive as a dedication to Ernie Pyle, war correspondent who was killed in action. June 6 is the date. This holds for each theatre in Wisconsin and upper Michigan. Those buying war bonds on that day at any theatre gain free admission, and are recorded as having paid a tribute to the war reporter.

CHICAGO

John Balaban, Jack Kirsch, Tom Flannery and some other good Variety Clubbers are expecting to get contracts for radio, now that they have made their air debut. The biggies, along with Carole Landis, who was appearing at the Oriental; Georgia Price, who appeared in the Chicago stage show, and Willie Short of the Chez Paree did a program in the interest of the Variety Club benefit show arranged by Bill Hunt, and each of the biggies revealed he had hidden talents!

Glorya Holtman of the Manta & Rose circuit got out another swell edition of the I&I Contact, house organ which she edits and with which the staff helps . . . Al Weinberg and Arline Callies worked overtime getting out their War-Ner-Gram, the house organ of the Warner circuit which goes to the employes here and overseas.

Irving Mandel, Monogram president here, was in Gotham on business but will be back for the company's board meeting, scheduled at the Blackstone for May 22 . . . Jack (Woods Theatre) Belasco saw a sign in a store reading, "Ladies to Wear Clothes" and cracked, "It's about time" . . . Herb Lyons and Pauline Bobrow of the B&K television station publicity staff are getting lots of bouquets for "The Fire Dance," drama which they authored for WBKB.

Alex Manta of Rose & Manta circuit gave the Red Cross a check for $12,621.63 the other day, the total collections in the circuit's 21 theatres of Illinois and Indiana, plus employe contribution of $446 . . . Leon Fromkess, PRC head, was in from the east going west . . . Instead of sending flowers upon the death of a member, the Variety Club now sends a "spiritual bouquet" in the form of $25 in cash to the club's charity, LaRabida sanitarium. The first two such memorial donations were sent recently for Morris Fensin and Julius Goodman, departed members.

Lieut. James Ascher, son of the late Nate Ascher who headed the one-time large and prominent Ascher circuit here, has received a discharge after three years in the army overseas and is now assistant to Chick Evens, head of UA's local publicity department. Ascher was with Warners for three years before going into the service . . . Madeline Woods celebrated her birthday last week, which was noted in the dailies, minus figures which were suppressed. She told Al Simons she had just arrived at 25 and Simons asked, "What detained you?"

Pete Shayne, former president of Local 110, who has been ill several months, is better and will be back at work very soon . . . Jack Hess has moved his press offices from the Woods Bldg. to 203 N. Wabash Ave. . . . E. G. Fitzgibbon, Paramount publicist, was in Wisconsin, tub-thumping . . . Pfc. Bernie Malits, who has been in General Hospital at Auburn, Calif., four months, is well again and was in town for a visit with his folks and former pals around the theatres.

Many film folk attended the opening of Harry Upton's new Polo Theatre at Polo, Ill. Among them Herman Marx of Monogram, Bill Dassow of National Theatre Supply Co., Ben Elrod of Warners and Louis Ariello, Paramount . . . Chick Rautis of the Whiteway Sign Co. theatre department, who was seriously injured in a fall from a ladder while working on a marquee, is in Southside Hospital.

Mort Van Praag, sales manager for PRC, announced "Strange Illusions" was to be premiered at the Oriental May 4 . . . J. N. Jarman of the J&N Popcorn Co., has returned from a swing around the Iowa corn belt and reports he bought several carloads of popcorn for his customers. He added farmers have quite a lot of the product stored . . . Theodore Boyd, formerly of the B&K Regal staff who received his medical discharge from the army April 15, was in visiting at the B&K office. He served ten months in the South Pacific after he entered the service in June 1943. He was wounded.

Terry Turner, RKO exploitation chief, planed in from Hollywood to wise up local publicists on coming product . . . Harriet Parsons, RKO producer, came through on her way east to the premiere of her picture, "Enchanted Cottage." It was to open here at the RKO Palace Thursday (3) . . . Walter Branson, RKO western division sales manager, was in for a confab.

The fame of Charlie Ryan, Warner assistant zone manager, has reached South Africa. A letter reached his office from the Lyric, Johannesburg, complimenting Charlie on his article which appeared in BOXOFFICE July 15, 1944, and had to do with showmanship . . . Hank Porter is taking a rest on his farm in Kankakee and working on his Victory garden . . . J. D. Kendis, head of Continental Pictures, was in town booking his flicker "Youth of Flame." He returns to Hollywood from here.

Mayor Kelly and Cpl. Counsel Barnet Hodes are readying a "Chicago United for the President Day" at the Stadium this month—first city to stage a demonstration showing unity behind President Truman. Madeline Woods is handling the details and theatre folks will cooperate . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joel McCrea (Frances Dee) changed trains here last weekend en route to Canada where they will help in the Dominion's Eighth War Loan drive. Mrs. McCrea is a former Chicago U. coed and used to work in the ad-taking department of the Chicago Tribune. She's very active in the Red Cross activities now.

Jimmy Savage was home with a cold and is so patriotic he even brought his left-over Kleenex back to work with him for the waste-paper drive. Now he's got his nose in the new Balabanner which comes off the press shortly.

Warners Employes Club is saying "Happy Birthday" to Bob Bush, Jeffrey manager . . . With carpets worn out in the lobbies and no way to replace, some theatres are using asphalt tile, putting it in after hours (as the managers can attest because they help wield the trowel) so as not to interrupt business. Among theatres installing the new pavement are the Studio, Monroe and several houses of the Warner and Gollos circuits. It looks very pretty and is easy to clean.

Edna Zazadil is getting to be a veteran on the job as secretary to Alex Manta. She recently replaced Gladys Lax, now a New Yorker and liking it, she writes . . . Charlie Wright, one-time manager of the Ritz in Michigan City, now is with the Ninth army in Germany, his mother reports. She's cashier at the Lido in Maywood . . . Cliff Farmer, former manager of the Symphony and now in the army, is able to sit up and take grub at Will Rogers Hospital, Saranac Lake, N. Y., where he has been confined for some time.

Emil Stern, Essaness president, was back from a visit with son Arthur, a lieutenant, hospitalized at Springfield, Mo., due to overseas injuries . . . When Carole Landis finished her stint at the Oriental here she went to the coast to be in a picture, the first one in nearly a year. She has been in legitimate shows and making personal appearances.

Eddie Morgan, the B&K Maryland ration-size usher, is still trying to dope out how on a recent Saturday night he seated 1,525 people in a 1,499-seat theatre and still had six seats vacant. He has decided that some of the sailors and their girls sat double-deck fashion.

E. C. Benjamin, RKO president, was in from New York to talk things over with Bob Hickey, then left with Stan Kramer for Detroit where Benjamin takes over as publicist for that area . . . The sad news reached Warner office that Patrick Zarek, formerly of the Avalon staff, was killed in action aboard the U.S. Dickerson, transport destroyer in the Pacific. Patrick was a gunner, 22 years old.



CHICAGOANS GET READY—Salesmen and branch and district managers of the Windy City turned out in force for the Seventh War Loan meeting there. Among those kneeling: Walter Immerman, Illinois exhibitor chairman; Harold Stevens, Illinois distributor chairman, and Allen Usher, district distributor chairman.

Phil Klein Quiets Crowd When Smoke Enters 400

CHICAGO—Panic which threatened in the Essaness 400 Theatre on Sheridan Road when smoke from a drug store fire in the same building began seeping into the auditorium was averted Monday night by the quick action of Phil Klein, manager.

Going to the stage, he assured the patrons there was no danger, and asked them to leave in an orderly fashion and he would have tickets for the next day's show given out at the door. The crowd walked out calmly after seeing "The Thin Man Goes Home."

De Carlo to Cast of "Frontier Gal"

Yvonne De Carlo will costar with Rod Cameron in "Frontier Gal," on the Universal lot. She is replacing Maria Montez who has been placed on suspension.

Rain Foils Banner Week at Chicago

CHICAGO—If there had not been two days of chilling, blowing rain last week would have been a banner one for the picture houses. It started off with a bang, bogged in the wet but came up in the last-minute flourish. With youngsters out of school for Cleanup week, and finding time to see shows between their odd jobs at gathering waste paper and raking yards, and with some outstanding attractions as enticements, business wasn't bad.

The B&K Chicago was outstanding with "Tonight and Every Night," which got good notices, plus a stage show headed by ex-clown comedian Jerry Lester, a local favorite, and Tommy Wonder, the dancer. The Oriental had a swell week with Carole Landis heading a stage show, plus "Forever Yours" on the screen. "Flame of Barbary Coast" got off fine at the Woods after a strong ad campaign. Both "National Velvet" and "Song to Remember," highly recommended by the critics (the latter received a big window and newspaper campaign), did exceptionally well.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk.....115
Chicago—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col), plus Jerry Lester heading stage show.....125
Garrick—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....95
Grand—**Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 2nd run.....105
Oriental—**Forever Yours** (Mono), plus Carole Landis heading stage show.....120
Palace—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 2nd wk.....105
Roosevelt—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 3rd wk.....110
State-Lake—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 17th wk.....105
United Artists—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 6th wk.....100
Woods—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep).....115
World Playhouse—**Thunder Rock** (Br.), 4th wk.....100

Milwaukee First Runs Perk Up With "Tree" Leading Climb

MILWAUKEE—First runs have started to perk up. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," in the 4th d. t. week, was "bull of the woods."

Alhambra—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA); **The Jade Mask** (Mono), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Palace—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Power of the Whistler** (Col).....100
Riverside—**My Gal Loves Music** (Univ); **It's a Pleasure** (RKO).....100
Strand—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox); **Double Exposure** (Para), 4th d. t. wk.....110
Warner—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 2nd wk.....100
Wisconsin—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox).....105

"Here Come the Co-Eds" Collects Best Indianapolis Boxoffice

INDIANAPOLIS—Boxoffice receipts were better last week and exhibitors as a whole had little to complain about. "Here Come the Co-Eds," at the Indiana got the dough. "I'll Be Seeing You," in its second week at Loew's settled for a mild gross, disappointing to say the least.

Alamo—**Sagebrush Heroes** (Col); **Port of 40 Thieves** (Rep).....85
Circle—**The Suspect** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ).....100
Indiana—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **House of Fear** (Univ).....150
Loew's—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk.....105
Lyric—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox).....115

Cards on "Barbary Coast" Carried by El Trains

CHICAGO—The world premiere of "Flame of Barbary Coast" at the Woods Theatre here was ballyhooed with cards on the front and rear of all El trains equipped to handle posters. Norman Kassel, Essaness circuit publicist, made the tieup. The cards remained during the entire run of the picture.

A Union Electric Strike Is Averted in Missouri

ST. LOUIS—A strike that would have shut down all of the power plants of the Union Electric Co. in Missouri and Illinois was averted when officials of the company and of the operating engineers local came to an agreement over the status of Barney Walton, a foreman in the Venice, Ill., power plant. Walton was dismissed by the company a month ago.

The company, while still refusing to reemploy Walton as a foreman, has agreed to give him work as an electric mechanic at its Cahokia, Ill., power plant. He will receive his seniority, his insurance old age benefits and his membership in a company association for employes of 15 years or more. Floyd S. Edwards, financial secretary of Local 148, stated that Walton in addition will receive foreman's pay for the time he was out of employment. Walton was not a member of the union, being a foreman, but the organization acted as his counsel.

Censors Pink "Zombies" And Reject "Body"

CHICAGO—The police motion picture censor board looked at 281,000 feet of film, representing 82 releases, last month, and made 15 cuts. They pinked RKO's "Zombies on Broadway" and rejected RKO's "The Body Snatchers." Monogram's "Dillinger" is still on the rejected list.

Jackson Park Case To Be Heard May 8

CHICAGO—Attorneys for Balaban & Katz, Warner Theatres and various exchanges involved in the Jackson Park Theatre damage suit, will have to speak their pieces in two and one-half hours when they appeal, entered by the defendants, comes up May 8 before the usual three judges in the appellate court.

The three-judge decision will be handed down, it is expected, within 30 days.

In March 1944 a federal jury awarded the Jackson Park owners $360,000 damages on three counts of conspiracy to violate the antitrust laws. The exhibitors and circuits involved appealed on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence for such findings.

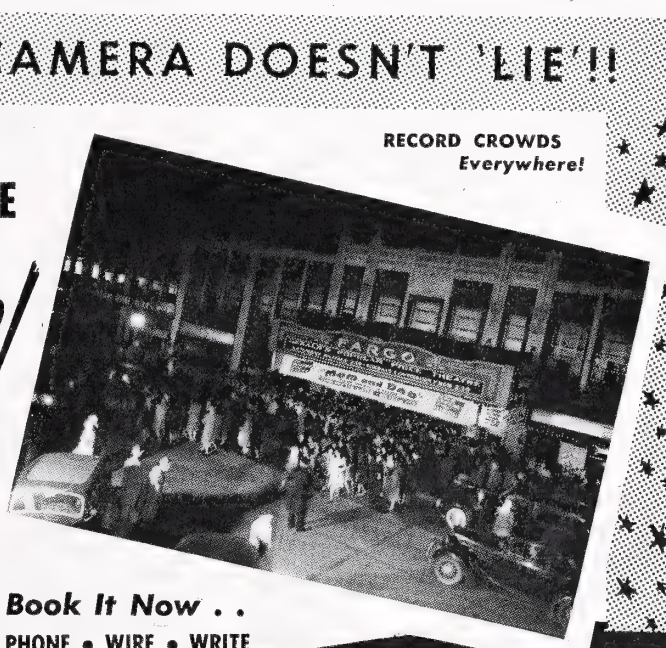
First Telequiz at WBKB

CHICAGO—Television here is rapidly acquiring all the features and novelties of radio shows. Last week WBKB, atop the State-Lake Bldg., presented "Telequizcalls," the first television quiz show, and "The Fire Dance" with a cast of radio stars was staged, the play having been written by Herb Lyons, B&K press agent for their station. A treasury hour show was put on with comedians Willie Shore and Al Kelly the main attractions, while navy bands, war heroes and others appeared on various shows.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



AS A RULE Tuesdays are quiet in DeKalb, Ill. But not with "MOM AND DAD" in town. Manager Smith writes it broke a three-day record. Cameraman Dun sent along a picture to prove it. Better get your play-date set now so you can "order some police help."

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

HYGIENIC PRODUCTIONS
Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MILWAUKEE

Off to Memphis for a quickie visit with a WAVE were Lee Pfeffer and Margaret Craigo of PRC . . . Olga Singer of Metro had a birthday . . . Helen Martz, Standard Theatres purchasing agent, was married to an officer in the armed forces. It is said a certain lad was surprised! . . . Gladys Strong of National Screen doubles in brass as Strand Theatre cashier and is doing okay.

Manning Silverman of the Ogden informed: "I bought the building that houses my Fern Theatre. Now when I get mad at myself, I'll give myself a three-day notice" . . . Gibby Courshon, Universal salesman, returned from vacation, while Don McFadzen did some vacationing of his own . . . John Lenahan, Paramount booker, attended his mother's funeral in Indianapolis . . . Bob Allen, UA manager, talked things over on product with Delft circuit executives.

At the public library conference room a sound film of historic events leading up to the San Francisco conference was shown. There were scenes from the Atlantic meeting of Roosevelt and Churchill, conferences at Casablanca, Quebec, Teheran, Yalta, Dumbarton Oaks and Bretton Woods . . . June Tack, National Screen, goes for soft, low, male telephone voices and was she surprised at the possessor of the most recent soft, low, male voice.

Gladys Strong, National Screen, is looking for a new hat. Any suggestions? . . . Manning Silverman of the Fern and Ogden has reached an all-time low. Both Lou Orlove and Eddie Lurie bested him at gin rummy.

Joe Malits, Metro booker, offers a reward for leads on vacant apartments. Since coming from Chicago and unable to find living quarters Joe has been living at Metro, but now Harry Shumow is using the army cot at night, so Joe has to have new quarters. Don't forget the reward—two cartons of Camels.

Nick Coston, Riverside Theatre assistant, is functioning as circuit relief man during vacations and is seeing a bit of the state and country . . . Joyce Dunn, former Metro girl who now is Mrs. Don P. Ringler, writes that married life is great . . . That Wac cousin of Mae Dalton, 20th-Fox ad sales manager, was in town. Incidently, Mae, in addition to her many duties locally, has been working the territory and doin' aw'right.

Robert Kujawa is the new Alhambra assistant . . . Thomas Goss is new doorman at same house . . . Janet Uibel, bookers secretary at Metro, rapidly recovered from a tonsillectomy . . . Johnny Mednikow, National Screen manager, worked the territory . . . Favorite luncheon spot currently for the Row, especially Metroites, is the Snake Pit.

June Tack, NSS, has a starry look in her eyes these days . . . Mrs. Jessie Woolf, 20th-Fox bookers secretary, was vacationing . . . Columbia again reports "Nothing ever happens around here" . . . That goes for Independent Theatres, too . . . Irene Preston reports the independents so busy on the bond drive that they fall into the "nothing ever happens" bracket.

Edith Sosoff, former "girl Friday" to Lou Orlove, Metro publicist, has been upped to bookers secretary. Lou is slowly going wild as a result. He can't find all that data on his museum project.

At the Wisconsin roof dance palace Gene Krupa and his bulky groove boys jam-packed the bandstand to overflow into the crowd. There were so many musicians on the stand that Krupa had to stand on a raised dais. The climax reached on "Drum Boogie" with "The Stick" using 12 hides supplemented by two sidemen on drums, and a darkened ballroom with two spots blasting at Krupa and one each for his assistants. Anything after that was milk and honey.

Arnold Kovitz, National Screen head bookkeeper, was seen at the Devine ballroom dancing to the silky tunes of Clyde Lucas . . . Charles Day of the Town Theatre, Darlington, was in winding things up for the Eskin circuit to take the house over . . . George Edgerton, 20th-Fox salesman, gave the territory the works as only Edgerton can. He was around Chippewa Falls.

A short breath from the Row on the seventh floor of the courthouse, the Milwaukee Historical Museum under the able supervision of Theodore Mueller offers plenty of interest to showmen . . . Although no obsolete film equipment is displayed copies of rare motion picture and legitimate theatre programs can be viewed. A charming spot for spending a rainy day lunch period. Try it.

Irving Beck, former Metro booker, was the recipient of a "progressive" letter from the gang, and herewith, he extends myriad thankyous.

Inez Gore, secretary to Harold Beecroft, 20th-Fox manager, is quite a bowler. Out Shorewood way (ask Joe Malits where that is) Inez bowled with a team setting a high for the season of 933, and placing second in finals. In the Central A league, the team Inez rolled with, Zimmerman Florists, also finished second high . . . Have you seen those shirts Jack Frackman, Republic branch manager wears?

Tuffy, that grand dog left at Monogram when Ray Trampe, son of Charley Trampe, Monogram manager, entered the armed forces, keeps things humming around that spot. The trouble is that Tuffy is constantly hungry and keeps the gang extra busy providing dog biscuits. Ray holds a rating of storekeeper 2/c in the navy and writes he certainly misses Tuffy.

Booking on the Row: Ray Lenz, Pastime, Horicon; Charles Goulsen, Badger, Stoughton; Frank McWilliams, owner, and Bob Hutchings, manager of Home and Portage, Portage; Charles Perrizo, Badger, Onconto; Mrs. Walter Krusienski, Douglas, Racine; H. Franke, Brookfield. (It looks like the drive-in there is due for an early opening).

Rose Granof, 20th-Fox, visited her husband, Sgt. Jack C. Granof at Scott Field near St. Louis. He has been in the service four and one-half years, functioning as an MP recently . . . Philip Akwa, chief of service at the Alhambra, was in the hospital with a trick knee . . . Becky Hoffman's sister Frieda became engaged to William Ruben of Madison. You know Becky, she's secretary to Walter Bennin, Metro office manager.

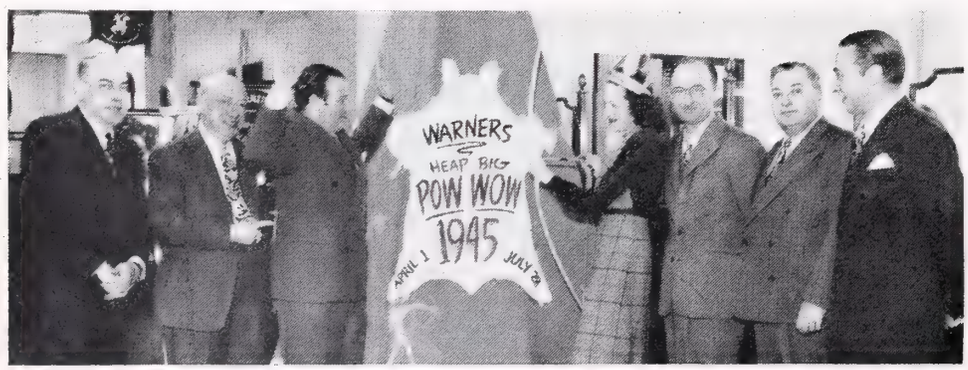
Gladys Strong, National Screen ledger clerk, was seen dancing at Devine's ballroom . . . Harry Shumow, Metro manager, was in Chicago.

When Frank Sutter, now at National Screen, was managing a local theatre here years back. He painted the stairway and railing leading to the balcony in gold. Then Frank stood below and chanted: "Climb the golden stairway to the balcony!" . . . James Coston, Warner zone manager, was in huddling with Al Kvool and Mark Brazee, Warner circuit executives . . . Jack Kaplan, new Miller Theatre manager with many years of "advanceman" activity backgrounding, plans to hep things up at this Fox Wisconsin Theatre.

Back from Florida and Cuba, sun-tanned and rested, Hugo Vogel, that dynamic equipment supply man, picked a bad week for his Cuban trip, Holy week. Then, on returning here to cold weather, Hugo was ready for another southern trip.

There's a new Pep Club at Metro. Joe Malits is president; Emily De Bolt, vice-president; Janet Uibel, secretary; Viola Rasch, treasurer; Nick Meuren, sergeant-at-arms. With monthly meetings, social activities such as picnics and parties, will be featured.

Arnold Kovitz, NSS head bookkeeper, reports that the Muni Hike Club of Milwaukee journey to Racine, met with the Racine Hikers and Bikers and danced afterward.



"IT'S A HOLD-UP"—Jack Kirsch, head of Illinois Allied Theatres, is being "given the works" as heap big chiefs of Warners' exchange in Chicago dragged him to their wigwam where he was held for ransom—the purchase of Warner product to help make the April to July drive a Heap Big Powwow. Pictured, left to right: George Lefko, sales manager; George Weinberg, city sales manager; Kirsch; Florence "Minnehaha" Cohen, booker; Irving Joseph, country sales; Harry Charnass, country sales; Jack Shumow, branch manager.

"Meanest" Thief Steals Veteran's Phone Money

INDIANAPOLIS—At Loew's Theatre here, one of the "meanest" thieves stole a receptacle containing about $200 donated by patrons to defray the cost of telephone calls to their homes of hospitalized returned soldiers at Billings General Hospital and the government hospital at Camp Atterbury.

Beery-Main Team in "Bad Bascomb"

Wallace Beery and Marjorie Main will be reunited in the forthcoming "Bad Bascomb" which O. O. Dull will produce on the Metro lot.

Chris Otto Elected Head Of Chicago League

MILWAUKEE—The Chicago Motion Picture Bowling League has elected the following officers: Chris Otto, president; Mund Delano, vice-president; Fred Hanzelin, secretary; Max Dreifuss, treasurer. It was announced that next year there will be eight teams in the league with National Screen and United Artists as added starters.

Big Benefit for LaRabida At Opera House Sunday

CHICAGO—Variety Club is set to stage its biggest and best benefit, the Hal Halperin memorial show, at the Civic Opera House this Sunday (6). At a business meeting of the executive committee last Saturday it was announced that ticket sales exceeded expectations a development attributed largely to the excellent publicity campaign in which every columnist in the city, including the heretofore exclusive ones who never mention the show business, devoted whole shafts of space to the event.

Bill Hunt, the Variety magazine representative here and one of the chief motivating forces in the coming event show, put on a radio broadcast, aired throughout Chicago and tuned in to the Saturday meeting, which was the highlight of the strong advertising campaign.

Every big name in show business will be on the program, just as every big name in the film-exhibitor end of the business is working night and day on the money-raising end of the project. It is expected that results will far eclipse those of the first annual benefit show the club staged last year, Jack Kirsch, barker, said. The entire proceeds go to the club's pet charity, the LaRabida Jackson Park Sanitarium for child heart cases. An extra added feature will be the world premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's comedy, "Wonder Man," starring Danny Kaye. It will have its local run at the Essaness Woods Theatre at a future date.

Women's Pin League Dines Winners at Season's End

MILWAUKEE — The Filmrow Bowling League finished the season with a dinner at the China Cupboard in the Cudahy Tower. Trophies and prizes were presented to the season winners.

Marion Fiss won the trophy for the season's high; Mary Sanfelippo the high-game prize, and Helen Bursteen for showing the greatest score improvement.

The committee in charge of the dinner included Anne Gapinski, Dorothy Gruber, Esther Ohm, Hilda Albrecht and Elaine Skinner, with Hilda Albrecht acting as toastmistress.

Standings for the year:

Ten High Single Game		Ten High Three Games	
Mary Sanfelippo	188	Jo Tomaski	469
Lee Peffer	186	Lee Peffer	467
Mary Sanfelippo	182	Esther Ohm	455
Anne Gapinski	181	Lee Peffer	453
Jo Tomaski	182	Anne Gapinski	452
Esther Ohm	179	Eva Johnson	452
Marion Fiss	179	Lee Peffer	451
Eva Johnson	177	Marion Fiss	447
Lee Peffer	176	Eva Johnson	443
Marion Fiss	176	Vivian Fried	443

Operators of Milwaukee Local to Tele School

MILWAUKEE — Projectionists of IATSE Local 164 will attend a television school established at Milwaukee Vocational School. Karl Miller, vice-president of the IATSE Credit Union, who has been the sparkplug in the establishment of this course, expects the course will be in operation soon.

There will be four sections of five weeks each running from 8:30 to 12 noon, totaling 120 hours. Each class will run six hours a week. Fees will amount to about $25, including text and material. The four sections consist of: Section 1, fundamentals of radio; Section 2, tubes, receivers, amplifiers; Section 3, radio reception and transmission; Section 4, fundamentals of television.

This course, exclusively for projectionists, will be taught by a regular instructor who has been well grounded in television. The army "washout" system will be used and any projectionist not up to par at the end of each session will be dismissed from the course. Classes will be held to 15 men each.

Fifty per cent of the projectionists have signed for the course, and a heavier enrollment is expected by the time the course gets under way.

Karl Miller believes when the projectionists have completed this course they will be prepared for the advent of television in the theatre, when that time arrives. Every phase of television will be covered and when the boys have completed the course they will know what it's all about.

6,000 Prints in Navy Vault

CHICAGO—Lieut. Myron Blank, Iowa theatre circuit executive now in charge of the navy's training aids and film department in the Ninth district, says that more than 6,000 different film subjects are carried in the navy film library. Shortage of 16mm prints of "Fighting Lady" has given offices here only one print, which must be shown to all naval establishments here.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



D. J. "Jim" Chrissis of Chicago started as an operator in 1910. He later became associated in business with James Coston, a fellow showman. Today he heads Indiana-Illinois Theatres, Inc., a circuit operating the Owl and Rex theatres. He is a member of Allied Theatres. The Chrissis family includes three children, two sons and a daughter. Pierre, the eldest, is now a lieutenant in the army; Irene is a junior at St. Mary's College, and Byron, the youngest, is still in grade school. Chrissis, an active sportsman, is especially fond of riding and golf.



The first Rodgers theatre was opened in Jonesboro, Ark., in 1912 by I. W. Rodgers. Others were added until the circuit totaled 13 theatres. In 1921 **Mrs. Grace Rodgers** became the head of the circuit, with headquarters in Cairo, Ill. In addition to managing her theatres Mrs. Rodgers is a member of the Cairo Ass'n of Commerce. She is also active in the Business and Professional Women's Club. Her greatest hobby is playing bridge and she holds several records in the Miami Beach Bridge Club. There is one son, Carson Rogers.



E. F. Clarke of Mattoon, Ill., entered show business in 1923. Of his 22 years as a theatre man, 17 have been spent as manager and partner of the Mattoon Theatre Co., which operates the Mattoon, Time and Clarke theatres. These houses have a combined seating capacity of 2,450 persons. However, Clarke does find time from his managerial duties to devote to civic affairs, and is serving a second term on the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a 32nd degree Mason, American Legion member and Rotarian for 16 years.



Dean W. Davis of West Plains, Mo., decided he wanted to be a newspaper man. So he went to the University of Missouri and studied journalism. Prior to the first world war he was a reporter in Cleveland. However, when released from the army at the end of hostilities he turned to the motion picture business. Today he owns these theatres in Missouri: Davis and Avenue at West Plains, Cameo, Mountain Grove; Mansfield, Mansfield. He is chairman of the county war finance committee and is both a Mason and a Shriner. Diversions? Fishing and hunting.

New Star to Bow in Western

James Warren, recently signed to a long-term contract at RKO, will make his bow as a western star in "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

It Costs Less to
SEASON with SAVOROL

POPCORN SEASONING

Savorol saves 20% to 40% of your oil, popping shortening, or grease and GREATLY IMPROVES YOUR POPPED CORN.

TRIAL OFFER:

100 Pounds $17.50

FOB Nashville

No Ration Points

BESTER PRODUCTS CO.

Box 278

Nashville 2, Tenn.

INDIANAPOLIS

"Duke" Hickey of the MPPDA was in Indianapolis over last weekend with Will Hays who addressed a Sunday night audience at Cadle Tabernacle on the San Francisco conference . . . Guy Hancock of the United Artists sales group, a recent patient at St. Vincent's Hospital, has departed for Tucson, Ariz., seeking relief from asthmatic fever.

William "Bill" Eberhardt of the Variety Club's steward staff has been discharged from the hospital and is now recuperating at his home . . . Ned Feigert, steward at the Elks Club, Connersville, suffered facial cuts and bruises in an auto accident while in Indianapolis.

The Oliver experienced a booth fire Saturday (28). Nothing serious, however . . . When first told that Carl Harthill, Monogram manager, hooked a large number of four-pound bass on a fishing expedition with Bill Coons, Filmrow druggist, your narrator shrugged his shoulders and dismissed it as another fish story. However, Kenneth Dotterer, head booker at 20th-Fox, springs a new one. He says he caught so many five-pound bass at Lake Webster that Joe Nager of 20th-Fox was called upon to help devour them. I wonder?

Gordon Schuman, head RKO booker, left his native Indiana heath for Detroit to replace Walter Goryl of that exchange who was inducted into the army. He is succeeded by Allen Berkowitz, assistant booker, who has no assistant. When asked who is to be the new assistant, Allen shrugs . . . Louis Rogers, advertising sales supervisor at 20th-Fox, spent the week here checking and inspecting the local department . . . Frank Clark, exploiteer for 20th-Fox, Indianapolis area, has returned from a vacation in Denver.

Filmrow callers, booking and buying: J. B. Stein, Terre Haute; John Micu, Fort Wayne; Mrs. Ethel Walsh, Scottsburg; Al Borkenstein, Fort Wayne, and Morris Reinking, Terre Haute . . . Harry Mandell, Film Classics franchise holder, spent the week in New York City on business.

The Lyric Theatre booked "Barbary Coast" and "The Cowboy and the Lady," Film Classics, to be presented the week of May 1 . . . Two films in Technicolor on South America were shown at the Central Public Library for the benefit of high school pupils.

Pvt. Morris E. Butler, formerly employed at the RCA plant here, has been reported missing in action since April 4. He was serving with the First army in Germany . . . Pvt. John H. Bryan, former employe at RCA here, was killed in Germany March 22 while serving with the 142nd Infantry of the Seventh army. He is survived by his wife and three children.

Training Films Total 3,902

CHICAGO—Thirty-one industrial motion picture companies have produced 3,902 war training films for the military services and war production plants since Pearl Harbor, O. H. Coelin jr., secretary of the National Ass'n of Film Producers, said. He said 1,535 reels had been produced for the navy; 195 for the army, army air forces, coast guard and marine corps combined; 630 for war agencies, and 1,542 for war industries.

Loop Doesn't Fall for False News

CHICAGO—False peace reports found Chicago showmen skeptical. In fact the city as a whole was not taken in as were many parts of the country. Exhibitors did not even interrupt performances to flash the reports that were clack-clacking out of radios to the effect that VE-Day had arrived. Instead, showmen had outside displays taken in as a precaution, and stood by ready to announce the flash as soon as it was proved authentic. Meanwhile they listened and waited.

Cafes, taverns, cocktail lounges and other amusement places, alert to radio announcements as usual, flashed the news or it was picked up otherwise by guests and at once throngs poured into the streets and milled about, not sure whether to celebrate or not. Enthusiasm soon died, however, and there were no demonstrations. Whether the feeling of skepticism prevented exuberant displays or whether VE-Day hilarity has already been polled by the gradual march of victory, is hard to say right now.

At the Variety Club a gala evening was in progress. When the flash came in Chief Barker Jack Kirsch shouted above the rumblings of questions and answers that there was no proof, so the party progressed as usual.

The entire reaction was far different from that of 27 years ago when the phony armistice was flashed and the populace went wild. It was possibly the remembrance of that which had left Chicagoans, on the whole, with that "I'm from Missouri" attitude.

Police Chief Alman had all his reserves on the job, calling them in, but there were no riot calls. The whole situation served as a sort of rehearsal for what theatres will do when the great day finally arrives. A trailer will be flashed on the screen, crowds asked to leave orderly and quietly, and displays will be put under cover, as will lobby trappings.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING





Vandalism on Upswing In Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS — Theatres here are experiencing outbreak of vandalism. While some officials believe it is mostly juveniles that indulge in destroying property, there have been cases of grownups indulging in the sport, as they call it.

The Indiana, beautifully decorated and rich in furnishings, has removed all furniture and costly paintings from the mezzanine floor for safe-keeping. Young hoodlums cut telephone wires and tear up curtains in the restrooms. At Loew's, vandals marked up walls with lipstick, and scribbled on the walls of the men's rest rooms.

One youth was apprehended last week by police and taken to the juvenile aid division after trying to cut the screen at a local theatre and shooting paper wads at the screen. Several hundred patrons at another neighborhood theatre were startled and left their seats when two unidentified boys tossed torpedoes into the auditorium and almost caused a stampede.

Other reports tell of damage to plumbing, electric lighting fixtures, seats and furnishings in general. Youthful patrons at the Park carved several seats with knives. The situation is far from being under control. Other vandalism reported over the weekend included the breaking of windows in homes and the damaging of parked automobiles.

Globe Suggests Full Probe Of U.S. Film Industry

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, local morning newspaper, in an editorial, came out in favor of a complete investigation by the senate small business committee into charges that "a great film producer-exhibitor monopoly is forcing independent motion picture theatres out of business by giving producer-owned theatres unfair preference in the choice of films, playing time, rental charges and so forth.

The editorial stated in part:

"By means of a relentless squeeze, it is asserted, private owners are being compelled to close or sell to the combination.

"The committee (senate small business) has obtained figures from the Hays office indicating that between 1933 and 1941 motion picture houses in this country increased from 13,416 to 16,591. Independent theatres, which comprised 68 per cent of the total in 1933, dropped to 56 per cent in 1941. The committee wonders if this means a lucrative field is being closed to war veterans and other small postwar entrepreneurs.

"In today's price boom the movies are more important than ever as the poor man's recreation. In recent years numerous accusations have been made against the industry, including the much litigated 'block-booking' system. For both reasons it is to the industry's as well as the public's interest that a thorough inquiry be carried out. It is perhaps unfortunate that Congress so quickly brushed off without a hearing Chester Bowles' recent plea for a ceiling on theatre prices. It left the question still unsettled. Possibly the senate group will find it advisable to go into any admission increases which, though trifling taken alone, might add up to a considerable annual dent in the purse of a large family.

"In brief, the fabulous movie giant deserves a full hearing. It should be definitely and finally convicted or acquitted on all counts."

Nanette Parks to Lead in "Panhandle"

Nanette Parks won the feminine lead in "Texas Panhandle," a Columbia production.

1925 1945

Our Congratulations

To

Mr. Abe Montague

on your

20th Anniversary

with

Columbia Pictures

AFFILIATED THEATRES, INC.

Indianapolis

ST. LOUIS

Ted Lending, manager of the suburban Kirkwood, during a recent "standing room only" period at his house, noted a patron munching a dry sandwich as he waited patiently in line for a seat. "You ought to have something to wash that down with, mister," Ted observed. Then he disappeared upstairs to his living quarters. He soon reappeared with a bottle of cool beer which he gave to the surprised standee. It was "on the house."

Ethan A. H. Shepley, local lawyer and member of the local arbitration panel, recently had two new tasks thrust upon him. He was the chairman of the Missouri constitutional convention's taxation and revenue committee, and now he has been selected by Speaker Howard Elliott of the Missouri house to help draft legislation revising the tax laws of the state to bring them into line with the new constitution voted in February.

Manager Harry Crawford, manager of the Missouri Theatre, apparently has been confused with Wahoo Sam Crawford of the Detroit Tigers of the early 1900s, for he has been invited to serve as an instructor in the local baseball schools for juveniles. He does know a bat from a ball.

Union representatives at the war bond rally at the Coronado Hotel included LeRoy Upton, president, and Elmer Moran, business manager of the stagehands union, and Harvard O'Loughlin, president, and Harry Barco, business manager of the projectionists union . . . Les Bona, Warner manager, said his company has allotted $30,000 in bonds to the St. Louis drive.

Chico Marx, pianist of the Marx brothers, with a troupe of 20 performers, appeared at the 400 Club for a opening last Saturday . . . Tom Terry, former organist at the Fox, Loew's State and other local houses in yesteryears, is setting something of a record at the Tune Town ballroom. He hasn't missed a performance in three years. In between times he performs at various local churches.

Charles L. Kurtzman, New England manager for Loew's, was in town with his wife and their six-year-old son, visiting with relatives. Charley, prior to going east, successfully managed theatres here. He planned to stop off in Toronto prior to returning to his desk.

LeRoy Upton, president of Local 6 of the stagehands union, said that the cooperation of theatre owners will be sought in the observance of a state law prohibiting standees in theatres as a safety measure. He said that the union will make the request in view of the recent ruling by the WLB arbitrator, Jules Kohn of Kansas City, who made the stagehands responsible for maintenance and control of fire extinguishers. Upton said that the union will start a class soon to familiarize members with safety regulations under the recently enacted city building code.

Milton Burnett, city manager for Loew's Theatres, is vacationing in Ohio . . . Milton Kaufman, manager of the Orpheum who was hit by a bus and tossed against a parked automobile six weeks ago, recently has been released from the hospital. He isn't breaking any records for foot-racing these days but he is coming along nicely. A broken leg was among his injuries.

The Drive-In on Manchester Road opened Friday . . . The recent tornado at Quincy injured 16 persons and did $500,000 damage. None of the six theatres there was seriously damaged.

Catherine may have been great but some of the local newspaper critics have ventured the opinion that Mae West isn't so great in "Catherine Was Great," which played at the American here April 23. Mae appeared in all but two of the 13 scenes of the three acts . . . Forest Park Highlands, local amusement park, will open its 49th consecutive season on Sunday, May 6, Adrian W. Ketchum, manager, announced.

A Japanese regimental flag captured in the Philippine Islands by Pvt. Dimitrios James, 20, son of Tommy James, owner of the Comet, Douglass and Strand theatres, was forwarded to his parents with a certificate authorizing him to keep the battle trophy. Private James, who prior to entering the army, assisted his father in the management of his theatres, recently was awarded a Bronze Star for action on Luzon with the medical corps. He wrote about a chance meeting on Luzon with one of his schoolmates. Young James was walking along a road. A jeep stopped to give him a lift and when James boarded the vehicle he was surprised to meet his pal, Sgt. Nick Bouras.

Robert C. Cluster of Salem, who operates theatres in several southern Illinois towns, has returned to his home after spending several days in St. John's Hospital, Richmond Heights . . . Frances E. Barrett, a daughter of David F. Barrett, St. Louis correspondent for BOXOFFICE, underwent an emergency appendectomy.

Pfc. Will Zotos, 23, son of Chris Zotos, owner of the Roosevelt here and nephew of Andrew Zotos, owner of the Melven, recently won an army medal in Germany. He is in an antiaircraft unit.

Seen along Filmrow: John Rees, Wellsville, Mo.; George Barber, Tuscola and Villa Grove, Ill.; Leon Jarodsky, Paris, Ill; M. Chamness, Chamness circuit, Carrier Mills and Eldorado, Ill.; Robert Marchbank, Washington, Mo.; Messrs. Leber and Hirth, Royal Theatre, Pacific, Mo.; Lee Norton, Sullivan, Ill., and Jimmy Frisina and R. Pedrucci, Frisina Amusement Co., Springfield, Ill.

Announcing — The formation of the

CHICAGO THEATRE SUPPLY CO.

as RCA Theatre Supply Dealer for Chicago Film Territory
succeeding Joe Goldberg, Inc.

We will distribute a complete line of Theatre Equipment including

RCA Sound Systems — Brenkert Projection Equipment
International Seats — Baldor Rectifiers
Century Actodetector

We will also carry a full line of supplies and maintain a complete repair and service department.

Tel: Harrison 5720

David H. Dewey, President
Chicago Theatre Supply Co.
1255 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Morale Builders Suspected In Release of Horror Films

ST. LOUIS—St. Louisians showed little excitement when the false rumors of the German surrender was received. Having been through such affairs before, residents simply decided to wait until the affair was official. The fact that the junction of the American and Russian soldiers was held from the public for three days took the edge off of VE-Day in these parts. The general reaction in theatres and other places was: "Oh, they'll hold it back until May Day or later."

Likewise St. Louisians haven't gotten excited about the closeups of the death pills in German camps, appearing in all newsreels. Of course, the pictures had a profound effect on the customers but there was none of the excitement as was reported in New York, London and other spots. A few women did let out a few suppressed gasps and others averted their eyes, but the great majority simply sat through the short, remembering that the Seventh War Loan drive is about to open and that some folks in Washington think that Americans don't realize acutely enough there is a war on, although there is scarcely a family which has not sons, nephews, grandsons and the like at the war fronts. The newsreels incorporated the army signal corps pictures.

Theatre owners and their staffs have been alerted and are ready when the surrender of Germany is really made official.

Street Lights Inadequate, Brownout Demonstrates

ST. LOUIS—Street lighting in more than 90 per cent of American communities is so dim it fails to meet minimum requirements for safety, John J. Kilpatrick, engineer for the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., Bloomfield, N. J., declared in an address to the Electrical Board of Trade and the Illuminating Engineers Society, following a joint luncheon at Hotel Statler.

"The brownout is demonstrating dramatically the street lighting deficiencies in our commercial areas," he said. "The present average illumination of business streets of most cities should be stepped up 20 times, both as a safety precaution and to heighten 'eye appeal' for commercial establishments."

Union Electric officials have estimated that the brownout is saving only 28,000 tons annually in the St. Louis area. Savings in electricity were estimated by the company officials at 28,000,000 kilowatt hours annually. The brownout has also failed to cut down absenteeism or to increase the efficiency of workers in the war plants and other industries here, it was indicated.

Milwaukee IATSE Local Re-Elects All Officers

MILWAUKEE—Local 164 of the IATSE recently re-elected these officers: President, Elmer Klase; business manager, Otto Trampe; vice-president, Walter Behr; treasurer, George Wittmann; secretary, Robert Lucht.

All of the above serve on the board of directors. Others elected were: Frank De Lorenzo, George Brader, Roy Bernier and John Black.

Bandit Gets Only $8

CHICAGO—A robber who threatened Miss Aurora Wetzdorff, cashier at the Studio Theatre in the south end of the loop, was being sought by police here. The man, armed with a blue steel revolver, obtained only $8. The Studio was held up three weeks ago when the robbers secured $80.

Midwest Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



Kaycee District Active On Premiere Pledges

By BABE COHN

KANSAS CITY—According to Bill Truog, distributor chairman of the Seventh War Loan, first reports from the field on the number of bond premieres and Free Movie Days already pledged are quite encouraging.

Salesmen making their first report show that up to this date there are about 150 bond premieres and about 200 Free Movie Days already arranged, with still more coming in daily.

"General reaction of the exhibitors in the field is excellent," says Truog. "The same exhibitors that we depend on each time are again coming through in great shape, and I know the territory will end up with a very fine record."

A meeting was held to arrange a feature booking plan to handle the bookings of premiere features. Exhibitors are urged to immediately contact the exchange handling the feature picture that they want for their premiere, or contact Ward Scott, district manager of 20th Century-Fox. If for any reason, a salesman has failed to contact a situation, the exhibitor can write, telegraph or call for his own premiere booking.

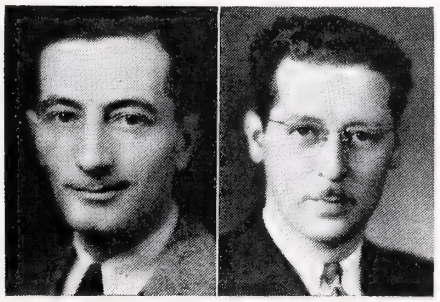
The Seventh War Loan accessories are arriving daily at National Screen Service. George Ross, manager, stated that orders would be filled just as quickly as possible from the stock on hand, with additional material to come. Exhibitors are urged to place their orders for buttons, special 40x60s, trailers, etc., as soon as possible to avoid delay.

WAC Told of Tentative Plans For Showing of VE-Day Reel

KANSAS CITY — The regular monthly meeting of the War Activities Committee was held at the Hotel Muehlebach on Monday of last week, with Rhoden presiding. A new member, Jack Truitt, representing Kansas City, Kas., city exhibitors, was introduced. Frank C. Hensler outlined tentative plans for the showing of the VE-Day reel, now being held for release until instructions from the war department are received as to its showing.

The publicity chairman was authorized to insert ads in key city papers within the area; plugging the availability of bonds for those who wish to purchase them at theatres. A special city committee was set up to handle the matter of a city premiere and Free Movie Day, with instructions to coordinate their plans with those of the local War Finance Committee. Russell Bovim, Midland Theatre manager, was appointed chairman.

Reports were made on the total Red Cross collections; collections showing an increase in audience collections in the territory of about $19,000 over last year. Arthur Cole and Bob Withers said new assessments are coming in nicely. Exhibitors were urged to send in these assessments as the WAC needs finances to carry on its many enterprises.



MIDWEST ON TOES—Exhibitor state chairmen from the midwestern states are poised for the "Mighty Seventh," spurred on by the several recent regional meetings. In the panel above, l. to r.: Iowa, A. H. Blank, Des Moines; Kansas, Howard Jameyson, Wichita; Minnesota, John J. Friedl, Minneapolis; western Missouri, E. C. Rhoden, Kansas City; Nebraska, Co-Chairmen Sam Epstein and William Miskell of Omaha; North Dakota, Co-Chairman Mike Cooper Grand Forks. Lower panel: North Dakota, Co-Chairman Ed Kraus of Fargo; South Dakota, Byron McElligott, Aberdeen.

Kaycee Area Red Cross Collections at New High

KANSAS CITY — Audience collections in the Kansas City exchange area territory during the Red Cross campaign amounted to $106,680.23, or an increase of nearly 20 percent over 1944, according to E. C. Rhoden, campaign chairman. Miscellaneous collections, including those from the industry itself, more than doubled in 1945, the mark being $21,318 as compared with $8,199 last year.

Rhoden said the grand total, $127,998.29, as compared with $95,835.63 in 1944, giving an over-all increase of $32,162.66, takes in all of the 491 theatres pledged to the drive with the exception of 15 small situations.

New Booker at Twin City

MINNEAPOLIS—Clifford Mantle, transferred from St. Louis, is a new booker at Columbia. He replaces Paul Weiss who was promoted to the sales staff.

New Projectors at Richmond, Mo.

RICHMOND, MO.—New projectors, with rear view shutters which afford 25 per cent more light, have been installed at the Farris Theatre, Myron Clevenger, assistant manager, announced.

Double Features Gain In Twin City Theatres

MINNEAPOLIS—Double featuring is increasing among Twin City independents to such an extent that many neighborhood and suburban houses even are using the twin bills on Sundays. So far, however, the Minnesota Amusement Co. has steered clear of the double features in its outlying theatres.

Last Sunday even the St. Louis Park, the Twin Cities' largest and most beautiful suburban house, advertised double features, the pictures being "Circumstantial Evidence" and "Nothing But Trouble."

Important theatres which double featured last Saturday included the Robin, playing "Bachelor Mother" and "Fighting Lady" (the latter also was double featured by the Minnesota Amusement Co. at its "A" houses, the State and Century, downtown), the LaSalle, Northtown, Alhambra, Ritz, East Lake, etc.

Twin City independent exhibitors always have been foes of double featuring and it wasn't so long ago that they confined their double featuring to Saturday midnight shows. Gradually they started to twin bill on Fridays and later on Wednesdays.

Many of the independents who now are double featuring assert they have been driven to it by product shortage. Unavailability of "A" pictures on many changes compels the use of "B" and lower classification releases and it's necessary to double feature these latter, they claim. Also, the exhibitors are fighting percentage by passing up percentage pictures in favor of dual "B" bills, it's pointed out.

Theatre Owner Loses $1,000 Left in Parked Automobile

MINNEAPOLIS—Police here still are trying to solve the mystery of the disappearance of $1,000 from a glove compartment in the car of Samuel Zuckman, lessee of the Mounds, St. Paul neighborhood theatre. The stolen money represented the week's theatre receipts, Zuckman said.

Zuckman locked the money and a $9.90 check in the car's compartment Monday, intending to take it to the bank the next day. Before going to his home in Minneapolis, he stopped at the Hotel Nicollet, leaving the car in the hotel parking lot while there. The money wasn't missed until next day when he went to the bank. The glove compartment's lock apparently had not been tampered with, but the money was gone.

Zuckman was victor a few weeks ago in a suit to retain possession of the Mounds Theatre. At the expiration of his ten-year lease the owners wished to eject him and turn the house over to others, but the court recognized a verbal promise by the owners for a five-year extension of the lease in return for improvements made by Zuckman at his own cost.

KANSAS CITY

Four young ladies, eye-catchers all, stopped at PRC windows Monday morning, looked in on the booking desk, then turned away sadly, their emotions expressed by one who said, "Gee, that's not him." Pete Clark had left for Texas Sunday evening. Norris Cresswell, now occupying the booking post, candidly reported the incident.

Salesmen returned here with the good news from Joe Vocasek, theatre manager at Wilson, Kas., that Joe jr. had been rescued from the Germans. He had been reported missing in action last December. A V-mail letter explained that he had been captured by the Germans during the battle of the Belgian bulge, and recently was retaken by American tank forces.

George F. Sommers, Royal, Unionville, Mo., who retired a year ago and is living in California, will take a "vacation from vacation" in May. He and Mrs. Sommers are coming back for a visit. Son Dowd Sommers now runs the theatre.

Mrs. and Mrs. Elmer Bills celebrated their wedding anniversary Thursday (3) with a party in the dance hall basement of the new El-Jon at Brunswick, Mo. Several film men planned to attend.

A son named Robert Anthony Bovim was born Sunday night to Mr. and Mrs. Russ Bovim. Bovim is manager of the Midland here . . . Lieut. Tom Edwards jr., son of the president of KMTA, Eldon, Mo., exhibitor, has finished 35 missions in Europe and now is on a "weather and relay" assignment in England. Young Edwards in a cable indicated he will remain overseas a few months yet before coming home.

Harry Till, Courter, Hamilton, Mo., and Mrs. Till, alternate visiting Filmrow on Fridays. They can look back on some 30 years of exhibiting in Braymer, Brunswick and Hamilton.

Rube Melcher, Poppers Supply Co., was awakened at 2:30 Tuesday morning by a phone call from San Francisco from his son, Lieut. Robert D. Melcher, who announced he had flown in from the South Pacific and would be home in ten days.

Eddie Golden, Metro salesman, was caught in the Neosho River flood when his car stalled on the water-covered highway out of Oswego. A state highway truck pulled his car a couple of miles, and when it dried out he drove on to Columbus . . . Ken Gilmore, formerly with Metro here, has come back from New York, expecting to stay here for a while but with future plans not definite.

Sidney Lax, office manager at Columbia, left on a ten-day visit with his parents at New Haven.

Allen Russell, former employe of National Screen Service who has been in China 39 months with Colonel Scott's squadron as a ground crew sergeant, is home for a new assignment. He told friends among the few commodities flown in to them were a few cigarets, but no cokes or candy. He's trying now to make up for lost practice.

C. S. Schafer of the Regent, Blue Rapids, Kas., was in town on one of his now infrequent visits to Filmrow, carrying his BOXOFFICE and saying he couldn't get along without it.

Louis Griefe of the Windsor, Windsor, Mo., had some real news on this trip to Filmrow. His operator was incapacitated, having tipped a bowl of soup over himself, and Griefe had to pinch-hit. He got along all right, he said, in reverting to his old-time tasks. "And, amazing to relate, the picture wasn't upside down!" he added.

On Filmrow this week were Jim Presley, Lyric, Plattsburg, Mo.; Lloyd Morris, western division manager of Commonwealth, from Great Bend, Kas.; Lawrence Galbreath, Iris, Lucas, Kas., and Jess DeLong, Ute, Mankato, Kas.

M. J. McInaney, K. N. Rice and Kathryn Keogh, Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs, attended a meeting of screen advertising companies in Kansas City to discuss the handling of national cooperative deals . . . Bob Shelton, Commonwealth Theatres, visited the studios of the Alexander Film Co. in Colorado Springs last week.

Griffith Circuit Notes: The spring flood waters flooded out the power plant at Fredonia, Kas., and the theatres were dark all week. Power was restored Wednesday but in order not to overload auxiliary power plants the theatres remained closed so that essential industries could operate at full wartime output. Service has now been resumed . . . Films for Osawatomie last week had to be shipped to Paola and transported by motor boat over the Marais de Cygne overflow. Flood waters now have receded and regular transportation restored . . . Plans for the Seventh War Loan campaign are well under way, and the Griffith circuit is devoting every available hour of time to bond sales throughout the circuit.

Mrs. Harry Carey, RKO stenographer, is back at work after a leave to visit her husband at a Mobile, Ala., naval station. He has gone to sea again . . . "For Jack Renfro" is the RKO slogan for the last two weeks of the Ned Depinet drive . . . Exhibitors on Filmrow: George Hayob, Mary Lou, Marshall, Mo.; Lloyd Mahon, Ritz, Burlingame, Kas.; C. Sherman, Uptown, St. Joseph, Mo.; Virgil Harbison, Tarkio, Mo.

Mrs. Thelma Richardson, Strand, Mount Vernon, reports she has a new manager for the theatre after four months of carrying the entire load herself. He is Paul Rogers, former manager of a theatre at Rogers, Ark.

H. M. Richey, exhibitor relations director for M-G-M, visited with Frank Hensler at the exchange Monday and Tuesday. Richey is on the way to the M-G-M studios.

Do You Want to Open an Exchange in Kansas City

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Write or Call on
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PICTURES CORPORATION
130 W. 46 St., New York City
Exchanges in Every Territory
Except Kansas City

Minneapolis Prefers 'Americana' and Band

MINNEAPOLIS—Radio City and the Orpheum were out in front for the week. The former had "Salty O'Rourke" and the latter Woody Herman's band on the stage and the film "Pan-Americana." Holdovers were "Song of Bernadette" and "It's a Pleasure" in their third week and "The Enchanted Cottage" and "Keep Your Powder Dry" in their second.

(Average is 100)

Aster—**Singing Sheriff** (Univ); **Destiny** (Univ).....100
Century—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk.....90
Gopher—**Frisco Sal** (Univ).....100
Lyric—**It's a Pleasure** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....90
Orpheum—**Pan-Americana** (RKO), stage show.....160
Radio City—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para).....150
State—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk.....100
World—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....100

"Practically Yours" Opens Strong In Good Week at Kansas City

KANSAS CITY—Spring, which has been doing a here-again-gone-again performance this year, was here again at the weekend, and everybody felt better about everything.

Lighthearted entertainment in "Practically Yours" found favor with the patrons at the Newman, which did a whale of a business. "The Song of Bernadette" received strong response at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway. The second week of "It's a Pleasure" dropped below its first week's boxoffice at the Midland.

At the Tower, Roy Rogers in "Utah" and "Dangerous Passage" on the screen enhanced by a stage show spurred that theatre's take to above average.

Esquire—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....105
Fairway—Same as Esquire.....120
Midland—**A Song to Remember** (Col).....120
Newman—**Practically Yours** (Para).....145
Orpheum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Last Ride** (WB), 2nd wk.....100
Tower—**Utah** (Rep); **Dangerous Passage** (Para).....120
Uptown—Same as Esquire.....120

"The Enchanted Cottage" Attracts Discerning Des Moines Fans

DES MOINES—"The Enchanted Cottage," starring Dorothy McGuire and Robert Young, was by far the biggest drawing card here last week. On a single bill at the Orpheum, the film was held for a second week. "To Have and Have Not," showing at the Des Moines, and "Frisco Sal" at the Paramount, failed to draw average crowds. The latter film was on a double bill with "I'll Remember April."

Des Moines—**To Have and Have Not** (WB).....95
Orpheum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO).....135
Paramount—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ).....95

Omaha Audiences Give Top Laurels To Warners' "Have and Have Not"

OMAHA—"To Have and Have Not" at the Paramount had a slight edge for the week's top laurels here. Close behind was "The Enchanted Cottage" and "Eve Knew Her Apples" at the Brandeis, and "Frisco Sal" on the screen and Jean Parker and Clyde Lucas in person at the Orpheum. Weather was uncertain through the week.

Brandeis—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col).....120
Omaha—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk.; **Night Club Girl** (Univ).....80
Orpheum—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); Jean Parker and Clyde Lucas on stage.....115
Paramount—**To Have and Have Not** (WB).....125
State—**Laura** (20th-Fox); **Harvest Melody** (PRC), 2nd runs.....110
Town—**Last of Duanes** (20th-Fox); **The Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), split with **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk.; **The Topeka Terror** (Rep); **Riding High** (Para).....100

Paramount Buys "Oh, Brother" Rights

Paramount has purchased the screen rights to "Oh, Brother," a play by Jacques Deval.

Lifting U.S.-France Visa Ban Aids Trade

From Eastern Edition

WASHINGTON—The United States and France have entered into an agreement whereby citizens of both countries will be granted visas immediately upon application if they can show proof that their intentions for visits to either country are based upon a desire to resume economic relations disrupted by the war.

Lifting the ban on visas will mark increased activity on the part of American motion picture executives in setting up and renewing business associations that were suspended by the war.

Despite the fact that both governments had approved travel between the countries since Nov. 10, 1944, American citizens frequently encountered considerable delay in obtaining visas from French diplomatic or consular representatives in the United States, due to the necessity in most cases of referring applications for visas to the French authorities in Paris.

Travel Will Be Increased

The simplification of the visa problem will result in a consequent increase in travel between the two nations and a further resumption of business activity. The agreement between the U.S. and France will remain in effect in both countries until its denunciation by one or the other.

Under the terms of the agreement, American citizens who could establish that their presence in France would contribute directly or indirectly to the war effort; who would serve the national interests of the U.S. and/or France by the resumption of economic or other activities disrupted by the war; or materially aid France in meeting its essential requirements for civilian consumption and reconstruction, would be permitted visas.

In such cases, persons with regular passports could obtain letters issued by the state department assuring the holder of his conformance to the provisions laid down in the agreement.

Strowig Heads Abilene 1,000 Club Third Time

KANSAS CITY—Homer Strowig, Abilene, on Filmrow recently, is president of the One Thousand Club of his county for the third time. Membership goes to persons buying at least $1,000 in war bonds. The officers concentrate on prospects in all bond drives who can buy the larger amounts.

Strowig has for this campaign not only the prospect of working for maintenance of his county's record through sales of larger amounts, but the special effort as an exhibitor to promote purchases of E bonds in the smaller than $1,000 bracket.

Abilene has no war plants.

The Lights Go On Again In Two Darkened Houses

MINNEAPOLIS—Two dark theatres in the territory, the O'Brien, Tracy, Minn., and the Zap, Zap, N. D., have reopened. The former is owned by Jack O'Brien and the latter by Jake Burkhardt.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

DES MOINES

Vacation days are here and several Filmrowers are already getting their yearly rest. Ruth Cook, Mel Evidon's secretary at Columbia, spent a week at her home in Hampton, Iowa . . . Kenneth Bishard, Universal salesman, was on a two-week vacation . . . Bert Thomas began his 30-day leave. Bert says he is scheduled to don overalls and wield a paint brush the first few days!

At Universal Mel Newman, booker, spent a weekend in Omaha; Doris Wolf in Payton; Twylla Wells in Montezuma, and Maxine Kaltenhauser visited in Elkhart.

Two birthday celebrations were held at Universal, honoring Wilma Frace and Alpha Rayner . . . The RKO booker, Thelma Washburn, has returned from her vacation in Florida.

Ellowene Jensen of Monogram spent the weekend in Washington, Iowa . . . Milton Feinberg, 20th-Fox salesman, is the papa of a baby daughter named Linda Rae, born last week . . . G. Ralph Branton's daughter Nancy has been cast in one of the leading roles of "Kiss and Tell" at Kendall Community Playhouse here.

Visitors along the Row: Clarence Hendrickson, Bancroft; Don Tweet, Manley; Leo Gilligan, Kanawha; Charles Peterson, Hampton; Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; Roy Lepovitz, Madrid.

Buy Longstreet's Next in Outline

Stephen Longstreet's next novel, "The Crystal Girl," as yet completed only in outline form, has been purchased by Metro.

Britons Say Postwar Films Will Be Better

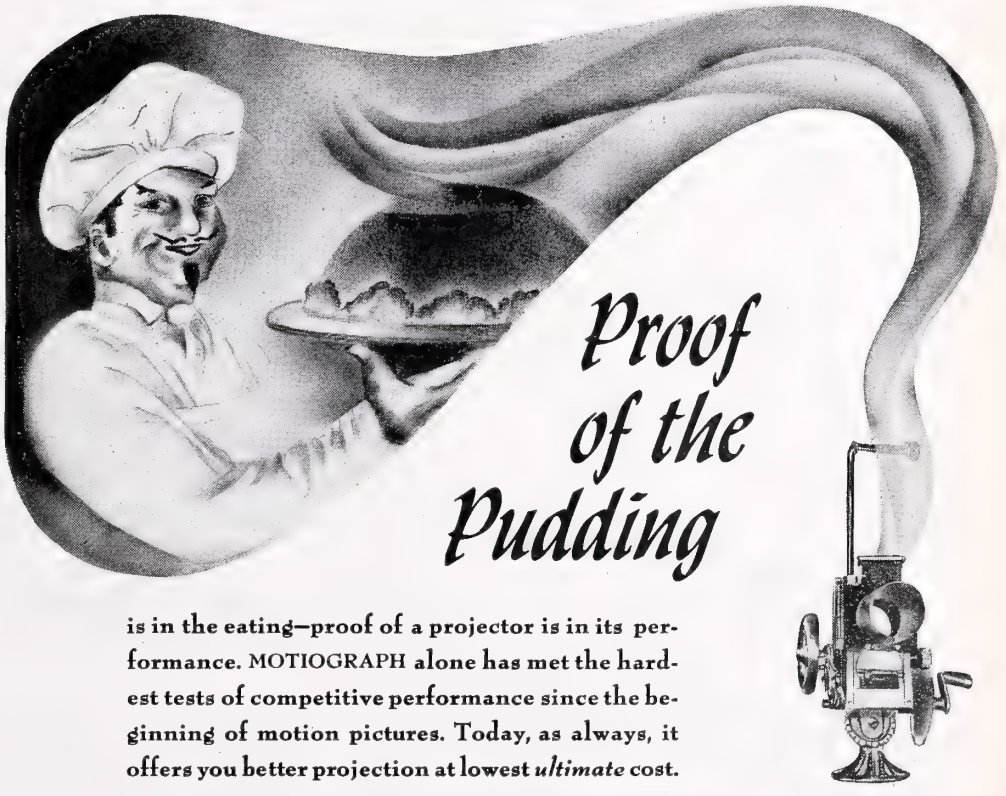
From Western Edition

Postwar British produced pictures will be sufficiently meritorious to compete favorably with Hollywood's product, in the opinion of Emeric Pressburger and Michael Powell, who produced and directed England's most pretentious picture since the beginning of hostilities, "Colonel Blimp." Pressburger and Powell are here for a look-see at the studios and on other business matters.

Despite the fact that British studios are operating at only about 50 per cent of capacity, because of destruction through bombings and the commandeering by the government of much studio space for storage purposes, they produced approximately 35 feature length films in the past year.

The visiting pair pointed out at a press conference, which was staged for them by United Artists' local publicity department, that the cost of making pictures in England, although it has increased about 50 per cent, is still considerably less than in Hollywood. They explained that ranking performers can demand comparable salaries, but that technical costs are considerably less. Upon these lower costs and a belief, which they say is shared by all British independent producers, that emphasis on the creative rather than the technical will result in better product, they predicated their opinion that England will give Hollywood stronger competition than ever before during the peace years to come.

Making it clear that they were not in a position officially to speak for J. Arthur Rank, they offered the opinion that it is his plan and ambition to do everything possible to dominate the world film market.



is in the eating—proof of a projector is in its performance. MOTIOGRAPH alone has met the hardest tests of competitive performance since the beginning of motion pictures. Today, as always, it offers you better projection at lowest *ultimate* cost.

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MINNEAPOLIS

W. A. Steffes has gone to his northern Minnesota estate for the summer . . . Morris Safier, PRC western sales manager, was a recent visitor . . . First visit of the Metropolitan Grand Opera Co. here in more than 25 years brought out capacity houses for three nights and one matinee at $7.20 top in the 4,000-seat Northrop Auditorium on the University of Minnesota campus . . . W. R. Frank, local circuit owner and Hollywood producer, is getting ready to push off for the film capital to start wheels in motion for his third independently produced picture. The first two were "Enemy of Women" and "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog."

Miliza Korjus, star of "The Great Waltz," will make her first concert appearance here next week . . . Joe Wolf, Film Classics' branch manager, was in Chicago to attend a meeting of Cardinal Pictures group of independent state rights distributors, of which he is a member . . . Mrs. Merle Potter, wife of the former local film editor and critic and manager of the Berger circuit and now a captain in the army in Germany, was official hostess for the "Search for Talent" conducted by the St. Paul Women's Institute to find a top-flight singer. She had her picture on the St. Paul Pioneer Press front page with two of the contestants.

After three days here with M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, W. C. Gehring, western division manager, departed for Seattle . . . Universal here was in third place nationally in the Bill Scully sales drive, which ended after 20 weeks. Le Roy J. Miller, branch manager, thinks there is a chance the final standings may show the local branch at the top.

Ralph Maw, newly named M-G-M district manager for this city, Milwaukee and Des Moines, is here to establish headquarters. He formerly was branch manager in Buffalo . . . Dorothy Kay of the 20th-Fox office staff, is vacationing. Rumor has it she may return from her St. Cloud, Minn., home with an officer hubby . . . William Cameron remains as president of the Reel Fellows' Club, comprising all local film salesmen and sales managers.

"Sunny" Carlin, nee Anderson, is back from her honeymoon and on the job again at 20th-Fox . . . Dr. George Young, radio pioneer, owner of station WDGY here and a member of the Northwest Variety club, died at the age of 58.

To Top Femme Role in "Adventures"

Lynne Baggett has been cast in the top feminine role in Warners' "The Adventures of Don Juan."

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



AS A RULE Tuesdays are quiet in DeKalb, Ill. But not with "MOM AND DAD" in town. Manager Smith writes it broke a three-day record. Cameraman Dun sent along a picture to prove it. Better get your play-date set now so you can "order some police help."

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

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Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Newspapers Win Suit For "Webster" Bills

MINNEAPOLIS—A district court jury has decided W. A. Frank, owner of "The Devil and Daniel Webster," must pay $1,000 newspaper display advertising bills incurred during the film's showing at the World Theatre here. The newspapers had sued Frank, owner of a theatre circuit in the territory; Frank Productions, a Hollywood film producer; W. A. Steffes, World owner, and the RKO exchange to recover the amount of the unpaid advertising. The Frank Productions and RKO were dismissed as defendants.

Both Steffes and Frank claimed verbal agreements by the other to pay for the advertising. Frank alleged that Steffes had promised to do so verbally when the deal was made. However, Steffes testified that he previously had played the picture at his theatre under a former title, "All That Money Could Buy," and when Frank came to make a deal for a return engagement under the "Webster" title, he consented to play it as a reissue under the same terms that other reissues at his house command.

The picture grossed an exceptionally large amount at the World, more than $7,000 during its two-week engagement, and a $300 rental was paid to Frank, it was brought out.

Unanimously upholding Steffes the jury decided that Frank was liable for the full amount of the advertising bills.

Big Play on "Dillinger" For Orpheum Opening

DES MOINES — Much publicity is being given to Monogram's new picture, "Dillinger," which opens at the Orpheum May 10. Last week Ed Lurie, Monogram publicity director from Hollywood, and Emil Wanatka were in Des Moines to aid in the campaign.

Wanatka is the owner and operator of Little Bohemia Lodge, the resort in the Wisconsin woods where the Dillinger gang hid out, and was an interested spectator during production on the studio set. For three days, Wanatka and his family were virtual prisoners of the gangsters. When the FBI traced the gangsters to the lodge, the Wanatka family, the hotel employes, and the gun molls, took refuge in the basement and listened to the all-night firing.

Wanatka was interviewed by a local radio announcer, and transcriptions of the interview will be used for publicity purposes in the week preceding the picture's opening.

Peace Rumor Causes Drop In Theatre Attendance

KANSAS CITY—The premature report of German surrender last Saturday caused a rush home to the radios, causing a slump in attendance at theatres, particularly the neighborhood houses. When the rumor finally was scotched it was too late, or too much trouble, to go to the shows.

At nearby Independence the most significant reaction at theatres was that many people evidently wanted to spend the evening of VE-Day in theatres. J. A. Becker, president of the Associated Theatres, had the first report announced over the loud speakers in the several theatres there, but not more than half a dozen people left. On the contrary, shortly after the news spread through the streets, people came to the theatres, asking if tickets were being sold, said they preferred to be in the theatre under the circumstances.

"Don't close!" several said. "We've no place else to go."

IT'S DEFINITELY DIFFERENT!

THE MOST "UNIQUE" SCREEN SHOW

A SMASH BOXOFFICE HIT



BOOKED AND PLAYED BY ALL THE LEADING MAJOR and INDEPENDENT CIRCUITS - - -

BACK

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"Enchanted Cottage" Stirs Fond Omaha Memories

OMAHA—Louise Cotter, Brandeis Theatre publicist, has a memory that's hard to beat. She came up with this coincidence and interesting story this week:

While Omaha's Community Playhouse is celebrating its twentieth year as a successful enterprise, the play with which it took its first timid step two decades ago returned to the Brandeis Theatre as a motion picture—"The Enchanted Cottage."

An Omahan and former Community Playhouse star, Dorothy McGuire, plays the lead role in the film story.

It was shortly after World War I that the British government induced Arthur Wing Pinero to write "The Enchanted Cottage" to build morale. When the Playhouse opened April 13-14, 1925, under direction of Gregory Foley, the Pinero play was selected as the opener. The following night the cast went to Fremont for a presentation at Midland College.

Mrs. Marlon Brando played the role of Laura; L. C. Hawley that of Oliver. When a sneak preview of "The Enchanted Cottage" was held here recently there were in the audience several who knew Dorothy in her pre-star days, including Alan McDonald, one of the organizers of the Playhouse; Mrs. McDonald, Miss Lucy Updike, who was in the first production and now director, and members of the original orchestra, including the West Sisters' quartet. Others attending included: Mrs. Frances McChesney Key, Mrs. Alfred Brown, Mrs. A. V. Kinsler, Milton Darlin and Miss McGuire's mother, Mrs. Isabelle Burkley.

Another drama history sidelight is that Miss McGuire played the Maude Adams role in "A Kiss for Cinderella" opposite Henry Fonda at the Playhouse when she was only 13. She did it so well that Stage Star Violet Heming, who was playing at the Brandeis at the time and who saw her, took word of a "remarkable youngster" back to Broadway. Miss McGuire recently made a name for herself in "Claudia" on Broadway.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

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EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825



BLANK MEETS ROSENTHAL—Joe Rosenthal (right), AP photographer who took the famous flag-raising picture on Iwo Jima, is greeted by A. H. Blank, Iowa-Nebraska WAC chairman, at a meeting in Chicago of the industry's WAC in connection with the Seventh War Loan. Looking on is Betty Lawford, co-star of the Broadway stage play, "Voice of the Turtle" and Russell C. Fraser, publicity director for the drive.

Nazi Doom Stimulates Minny Bond Sales

MINNEAPOLIS—The apparent approach of peace in Europe isn't dampening the enthusiasm with which the territory's industry members are lining up to put over the Seventh War Loan, according to John J. Friedl, war activities committee and state bond drive chairman. If anything, he says, the recent favorable developments seem to be stimulating the boys to greater effort and determination. The idea, it's pointed out, is to go all-out now to help bring the war with Japan, too, to the speediest possible conclusion.

Exhibitors are signing their pledges as fast as they're approached by film salesmen, it's reported. Sid Heath, Wells, Minn., claims the distinction of being the first to sign.

Two of the Weaver Bros. At Springfield Theatre

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Leon "Abner" Weaver of the acting Weaver Bros., is the new manager of the Mullikin, Dickinson Theatre here. He began his duties April 28 and by playing one of his own pictures, Republic's "Tuxedo Junction," which was released in 1941. His brother, John Max Weaver, is the operator at the same theatre. John is one brother who has never been in pictures.

National Screen Gets Columbia Ads

DES MOINES—National Screen Service has taken over the advertising and handling of the poster department for Columbia pictures here. Cora Price, Columbia's poster clerk, has joined the NSS staff.



OMAHA

Jean Parker, currently appearing at the Orpheum Theatre, was the guest of Ak-Sar-Ben workers at their first general membership report Wednesday at the Paxton Hotel . . . Ralph Hall, Paramount booker, has resigned his position to return to Iowa and take over his father's machine shop. An accident in the shop cost the life of his father two weeks ago.

Dale McFarland, new booker and buyer for Tri-States at Des Moines, paid his first visit to Omaha last week since holding his new job . . . Jim McCann, salesman for M-G-M, has been transferred to the Des Moines Metro office . . . Marie Hassett, Paramount inspector, is under a specialist's care following an accident in which a piece of film flew up and hit her in the eye. She returned to work after a two-day absence.

Virginia Goodrich of 20th-Fox and her husband Jack are back from Florida after a vacation . . . F. A. VanHusen, head of the Western Theatre Supply Co., was back from the first fishing trip of the year in Michigan Monday and he reported fine catches of walleyed, pike, bass, etc. . . . With a week to go Universal moved up to first place in the company's current sales drive.

Norma Nelson is the new first booker's stenographer at M-G-M . . . Sigmund Romberg drew 3,500 both nights at the City Auditorium here. Omaha was one of the few two-night stops of his tour . . . Baritone Lawrence Tibbett reserved quarters at a local hotel Tuesday night, but had no performance scheduled here . . . An Omahan, Milton Darling, walked out of the Brandeis Theatre here after seeing "The Enchanted Cottage" and revealed that he was a first-nighter in London when the play was originally produced in 1922.

Omaha's Walter Cassel will be starred in Edwin Lester's revival of the "Desert Song" in September . . . Lee R. Aitchison, who plays Publisher Robert Gow in the Community Playhouse's "Over 21," is the son of R. J. Aitchison, former drama critic on the old Chicago Herald.

Morris Snead, popular Council Bluffs exhibitor, arrived in the Paramount office Monday at 5:10, eight minutes late for the first time within memory. To show there was no hard feelings he was presented Tom Kenyon's collection of stub pencils for use in his theatre.

Many Omahans felt a little older this week when a Benson High youth wrote Drama Critic Jake Rachman saying the youths had liked his description of Lauren Bacall in "To Have and Have Not." He referred to her as a blend of Mae West, Marlene Dietrich and Garbo. But who, the youth wanted to know, is this Theda Bara girl also mentioned?

Visitors along the Row: Francis Pace, Malvern; Mrs. Jennie Wickman, Tekamah; Arnold Johnson, Onawa; Arnold Miererdierks, Pender; Carl Mansfield, Colfax Theatre, Schuyler; E. G. Gannon, Schuyler; Edith Brandenburg, Ewing; Mrs. J. W. Wise, Valley; Frank Simek, Ashland.



No Brownout Harm To Theatre Grosses

MINNEAPOLIS—Exhibitors here don't believe that elimination of front lighting has affected business adversely. At the same time it has cut down the "nut" considerably. In the loop, where the brownout was expected to hurt the worst, grosses have held up in normal fashion, exhibitors report. However, when the brownout is lifted it is anticipated that the showhouses again will light up.

Griffith Circuit Observes May Appreciation Month

KANSAS CITY—May is the sixth annual H. J. Griffith "Appreciation Month." Every employe of the circuit has dedicated his extra effort to this annual event. However, this will not interfere with the concentration of all energies to the Seventh War Loan drive. Instructions have been issued that this comes first, and the employes are pledging more bond sales than ever before.

Omaha Beacon Owner Buys the North Star

OMAHA—Walter Creal, owner of the Beacon Theatre, has purchased the 700-seat North Star from the North Star Theatre Corp.

Edith Brandenburg Buys Ewing, Neb., Eldorado

EWING, NEB.—Edith Brandenburg has purchased the Eldorado Theatre here from J. E. Sutherland, effective May 17.

Preview Bond Show Film

OMAHA—Allan Hupp, Douglas County war bond chairman, and other county and state bond officials were guests of William Miskell, state exhibitor chairman, at a screening of "The Affairs of Susan" Monday night in the Paramount screening room. It will be the big bond premiere picture for Omaha's Seventh War Loan drive.

Mrs. Mabel Dietz Resigns

MINNEAPOLIS—Mrs. Mabel Dietz, connected with the film industry here for 18 years, has resigned as manager of the Granada, Minnesota Amusement Co. neighborhood house, to move to Los Angeles. She was for many years secretary of the local film board of trade and code authority.

Sedalia Reopening May 11

SEDALIA, MO.—Friday, May 11, has been set for the reopening of the Liberty, Fox Midwest theatre here. It has been closed for the last few years. Aaron Gardner, manager of the Fox here, will also supervise the Liberty.

Fox Staff to "Catherine"

DES MOINES—The 20th-Fox manager and sales force attended the Mae West show, "Catherine Was Great," at the Shrine Auditorium here. The new 20th-Fox film, "Royal Scandal," starring Tallulah Bankhead, is based on the Mae West stage show.

Monogram Advances Two

MINNEAPOLIS—Tom Burke, Monogram manager, has elevated Birger Ronning from salesman to office manager. John O'Rourke replaces him as salesman. Lee Goldsman has joined PRC as a salesman.



THE GOVERNOR "GIVES"—Gov. Robert Blue (left) and G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., officially open Polk County's campaign to aid the United Nations clothing drive. The governor is handing a bundle of his old clothes to Branton, who is chairman of collection for Polk County.

Daylight Time Retained By Minneapolis Council

MINNEAPOLIS—The city council has rejected a law just passed by the state legislature returning the state to standard time. The vote was 22 to 1.

While many Twin City independent exhibitors felt that the return to standard time would have helped the boxoffice, especially during the summer when it now remains light until a comparatively late hour, they had no part in getting the law enacted and made no effort to induce city officials to abide by it. They realized that sentiment here and in other cities was opposed to abandonment of war time.

In the cities it is pointed out that the change in time would cause great confusion with respect to radio and train schedules.

Grafton, S. D., Strand Burns to the Ground

GRAFTON, S. D.—The Grafton Theatre burned to the ground recently. Fire started in the rear and had burned out the interior by the time firemen were called. When the first hose was trained on the building the roof and sidewalls collapsed, leaving only the brick front standing.

The New Palace Theatre Open in Muscatine, Iowa

KANSAS CITY—James J. Long, district manager for the Fox Midwest organization, has announced the opening of the new Palace Theatre at Muscatine, Iowa, will be May 8. It replaces a former theatre of the same name which burned a year ago.

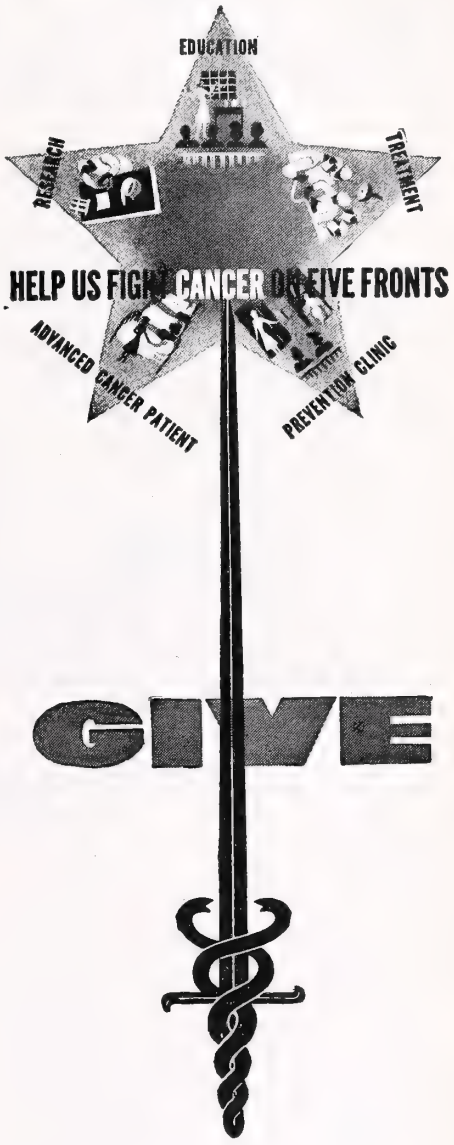
Little Des Moines Uproar

DES MOINES—Des Moines theatres, Saturday night, reflected little of the excitement which swept the nation on receipt of the false surrender report. For the most part, theatre patrons kept their seats after the story broke. The news was not flashed on screens here as it was in some cities. A few bars closed their doors and did not reopen, but most establishments did business as usual. Newspapers did not publish extras.

Boyer Lead in "Confidential Agent"

Charles Boyer, Warner star, has been signed for the male lead in "Confidential Agent," a novel by Graham Greene. The story takes place in England with Boyer cast in the role of an underground agent. Herman Shumlin will direct with Robert Buckner producing.

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All material made of paper and paperboard still must be cut to the bone. Eliminate whatever you can until complete and final victory ends the paper pinch.

The baling of wastepaper and sending it to the reprocessing plant is still of prime importance.

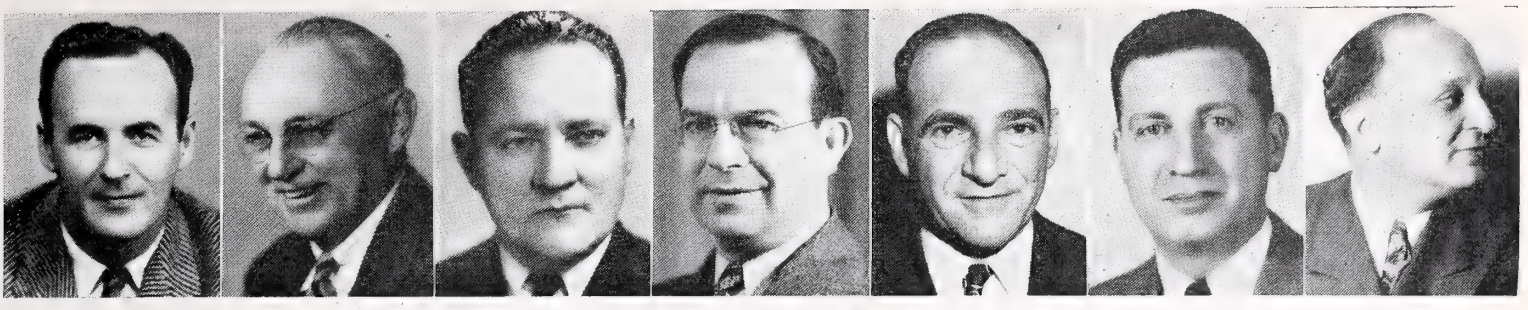
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This advertisement contributed by this publication and prepared by the War Advertising Council in cooperation with the War Production Board and the Office of War Information.

Mideast Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



Ohio Kills Local Tax For Amusements

COLUMBUS—A bill to repeal the Ohio three per cent admissions tax and to permit Ohio cities to levy their own amusement taxes was killed in a legislative committee session last week. Exhibitor interests over the state vigorously opposed the bill. Opposition was led by P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio. It was feared that if admission taxes were given to municipalities, the tax might mount to as much as ten per cent in some cities. The bill's fate was watched with interest by industry leaders throughout the country, since if it had been passed the action might have been followed in other states.

Veteran Exhibitor Dead In Greece, Friends Hear

WHEELING, W. VA.—Word has been received here that the veteran Wheeling exhibitor, James Velas, died in Greece under Nazi occupation. Friends say he died of starvation.

An old-timer in exhibition, he was an original First National Pictures franchise holder. Ill for some years, he returned to his native Greece seven or eight years ago. Recuperating, he later was married there. When he departed for the old country, he turned over his State Theatre here to his nephew, Chris Velas, who has continued operations.

New Post for H. L. Ratner

PITTSBURGH—Confidential Reports, Inc., has named H. L. Ratner of this city as branch manager, succeeding Paul Buechler, who returned to New York for a new assignment. The new national theatre checking service office is in the Clark Bldg. Harold L. Groves, field director, was a local visitor following a tour of the midwest. Groves had been connected with the Copyright Protection Bureau for 15 years prior to joining Confidential Reports, Inc.

Christys Buy New Theatre

CONNEAUTVILLE, PA.—Mr. and Mrs. James B. Christy have acquired the Palace here from Nick Kategianes. The Christys, Jim and Hazel, well known in the local motion picture trade industry, own and operate the Tidioute, Tidioute. They took possession of the Conneautville house last Saturday.

May Relax Sunday Laws

HARRISBURG—A bill to permit Pennsylvania municipalities to pass on the playing of ice hockey on Sundays advanced through the senate, 29-15, and was sent to the house.



AWAITING THE GONG—Mideastern showmen promise some lively competition in the Seventh War Loan campaign that will open soon. Chairmen in the various states in the area have their aides placed strategically, and are on the qui vive for the coming drive.

Above, l. to r.: Kentucky, Lew Hensler, Lexington; Michigan Co-Chairmen Ray Branch of Hastings and James F. Sharkey of Detroit; (a picture of Co-Chairman Martin Thomas of Iron Mountain was not available for this issue); Ohio, Co-Chairmen Meyer Fine of Cleveland and Maurice White of Cincinnati; Pennsylvania, Co-Chairmen Morris M. Finkel and M. A. Silver of Pittsburgh; below: West Virginia, S. J. Hyman, Huntington.

M-G-M Promotes Ripps To District Manager

ALBANY—Herman Ripps, local manager of M-G-M, has been promoted to a district managership of territory including the Buffalo, New Haven and Albany exchanges. Ripps will make his headquarters here.

Another shift by the Metro organization involves Ralph Maw, Metro Buffalo manager, who has been elevated to district manager covering several midwestern exchanges. Maw's post as Buffalo manager has been taken over by Jack Mundstuk, who has been with Metro at Cleveland. Old-timers in the business will be interested to know that Jack Mundstuk is the son of Dave Mundstuk, who was one of the earliest pioneers in independent exchange operation, having for many years owned and operated one of Detroit's first independent distribution outlets.

Jack Mundstuk has been in the M-G-M organization 15 years in Detroit, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

After being graduated from the University of Michigan in 1926, Mundstuk took a short flyer in the lumber business, but in 1930 he joined M-G-M at Detroit as booker. A native there, Jack married a home town girl, Retta Tannenholz. They have one child, a five-year-old boy named Jay. The family left Cleveland over last weekend to look for a home in Buffalo.

Federal Court Permits Percentage Appeal

PITTSBURGH—An order allowing an appeal by film distributor defendants on the supersedeas previously granted in the Roth vs. Paramount litigation was executed in U.S. District Court by Judge Nelson McVicar.

This appeal, in the "percentage pictures" case, is against a court "stop" order, or supersedeas, obtained by exhibitor plaintiffs which halted an earlier directive by the court that distributors be allowed to inspect and copy, books, records and various papers of the exhibitors and that the exhibitors be enjoined and restrained from destroying such documents.

Few members of the industry here are informed regarding the legal technicalities of the case, but spokesmen from the two dozen exhibitors say that the case has "gone to sleep" and that several months may elapse before further action takes place.

Milt Brauman Quits M-G-M For Film Classics Office

PITTSBURGH—Milton Brauman, M-G-M sales manager here, resigned last Saturday to accept the management here of Film Classics.

The resignation came as a real Filmrow surprise. "Milt" had been connected with the exchange for 16 years, as booker and booking sales representative and finally as sales manager.

Married and the father of two children, Brauman succeeds James Hendel at Film Classics. Hendel, a nephew of Harry Hendel, Centre Ave. exhibitor, was Film Classics' first manager. He resigned, and Milton "Mickey" Hartz was appointed. Hartz withdrew after a few weeks to join PRC here as West Virginia representative, Hendel returning to his former post.

Cpl. Jack Stebbins Struck By Shrapnel in Germany

DETROIT—Cpl. Jack Stebbins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stebbins, owner-managers of the Film Exchange Bldg., has received hip injuries in Germany. He escaped serious chest and groin injuries when shrapnel struck a silver dollar, letters from his fiancee, and his eye-glasses, breaking the latter, in his pockets. He formerly was with M-G-M here.

Corporal Stebbins has been awarded a Purple Heart.

United Applies for Akron Tele and FM Station

AKRON—The United Broadcasting Co., operating WHKK, has filed application with the FCC for television and FM stations here.

DETROIT

Supply Stuff—Chester Woodward is leaving for Los Angeles to visit his mother, 92, and his old studio friends. He formerly worked at Warners there . . . David C. Brown Co., makers of protective mats for theatres, have moved to 17532 Wisconsin Ave. . . . George Washington Craig, veteran electrician at the Lafayette, was the hero of a story last week in George Washington Stark's Town Talk column.

Up in the Booths—Fred Warendorp had a severe headache last Sunday while at work in his old camping ground, the Highland Park Theatre . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jim Roy (Riviera) fed the fish instead of vice versa on a little sea expedition at Miami . . . John Warendorp of the Palms-State and Barney Kobel of the Broadway-Capitol were also in the party.

L. A. Boulet of the Oakdale in Hazel Park is a close follower of photographic developments . . . J. M. Claypool of the Bloomfield in Birmingham, who still lives in Highland Park, is a frequent visitor to his old rendezvous, the Ferndale Theatre in Ferndale, his successor, Charles MacFarlane, reports . . . Robert Wetherell was home from Macon, Ga., on furlough.

Joseph Gabel's son was reported missing in action over Germany . . . Johnny O'Toole has left town to go out with a carnival for the summer . . . Stanley Bouchey of the Colony was in the hospital for a checkup . . . Jack Barrett is back from a trip to California.

Mrs. Bud Cusick is out of the hospital after an operation . . . Pfc. S. J. Lambly jr., formerly at the Ferndale, is back at a home base after going through the Iwo Jima campaign with the marines.

Short Circuits: Lou Johnson, manager of the Highland Park, is hoping for an early okay for completion of a rebuilding job on the house, now operating under a wartime rebuilding approval after the fire . . . Phil Zeller, moving from the Harper to California, will make it a leisurely three-week drive to the coast . . . Bill Hendricks, former UDT exploiteer, became sick, possibly with appendicitis.

Lew Wisper was reminiscing of the time he removed the concrete boxes from the Tuxedo with his own little sledge hammer . . . Alex Schreiber returned from California and plunged right into the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Harold Smilay was home with a cold . . . It is rumored that Frieda Brooks of Associated has matrimonial objectives, based on her Florida conquests . . . Sara Milligan, Associated switchboard girl, still gets about 20 letters a day from England.

Rickey Shaw, son of Asher, had his first haircut last week . . . Roger Secrest, formerly with W&W, is temporary manager of the Center and will do vacation relief work for Associated . . . James A. Jeffress, manager of the Grande, will leave June 1 on another trip to see his brother in South America . . . Fred Strief, former owner of the Beecher in Cincinnati, is new manager of the Palmer Park in Highland Park, replacing Roger Secrest.

Exchanges—J. D. Kendis, president of Continental Pictures, was in town screening his "Youth Aflame," a film dealing with boys clubs, for Miss Eleanor Hutzel, head of the police women's department, and other juvenile authorities . . . Joe Gins, Columbia manager, was quietly practicing up on his bowling for that crucial last night . . . Harriet Leibovitz, ledger clerk, and Ann Lawson and Phyllis Silverman, typists, are the new lovelies gracing Universal.

Ed Benjamin joined the Warner publicity staff . . . Al Dezel was in Cleveland for the weekend . . . Walter Goryl, lately RKO head booker, is now a seaman first class . . . Charlie Garner, chairman of the honor board committee on Filmrow, is having the board raised to take additional names . . . Dorothy Nolan wants us to be sure she gets due credit for the sendoff to Cliff Perry.

Lieut. William Hanmen, former 20th-Fox shipper and a former financial secretary and business agent of IATSE Local B25, has been seriously wounded in Europe after three years in service . . . John Steva, former WB shipper, is confined to hospital in the Philippines with malaria . . . Richard Lehr, son of Red and Betty, home on leave from Belgium, has been promoted to a gunners mate, 3/c. Betty Lehr is losing weight . . . C. H. Letzring of Howell plans to buy a small town theatre.

Strikes and Spares—Milt Cohen's RKO and Dave Kaplan's theatrical team were the only squads to get the same positions for both the season and last half scores; bottom and next-to-bottom, respectively . . . Max Blumenthal, after having his vertebra carefully restored to place, used it to roll up some sweet scoring for Monogram, the winners.

Musical Notes—Jack Ferentz back from a conference with Boss Petrillo in New York.

Along the Rialto—Raleigh Lee "Pink" Pinkerton, veteran billposter, died April 21 in Herman Kiefer Hospital after a long illness . . . Capt. Cullen Landis, formerly with Jam Handy, is home on furlough after directing filming of the Leyte invasion. He will return to Astoria, L. I., for reassignment . . . Max Blumenthal, boss of the Filmrow studio, is getting beautifully razzed after screening "Salome—Where She Danced." There is a character the film introduced as "Herr Professor Max Blumenthal," which our Max didn't know till his best friends told him.

Visitors Register—Rudy Schroeder, manager of the Trenton Theatre, Trenton, was in to see Ralph Raskin.

Under the Marquees—Thomas Ealand of the Ferndale Theatre likes to talk of his days as general manager of the Miles circuit back in World War I, when Detroit show history was being made . . . Dolores Kane, former cashier of the Cinema, has been promoted to chief of service. Patricia Journeau is the new cashier. Lois Roy is the new usher at the Cinema.

Sam Baker, head of the Cinema organization, was in from New York on a brief visit . . . Manager Arthur Leazenby is arranging a lot of tieups with universities, music stores and others on his various pictures . . . Harry McKee's big 3,000-pound sign at the Cass is being removed. It was considered unsafe after 19 years . . . Frank E. Stuart has been named manager of the Midway in Dearborn for Joseph Johann and Victor Retty . . . His son, Walter J. Stuart, now in France, has been promoted to a T/5 rating.

John Golden, who recently disposed of his Irving, has gone to Alexandria, Va. . . . Milton Jacobson is working out a novel exploitation stunt for the Stone . . . Edward J. Papineau sr., veteran outdoor showman, is planning the construction of an outdoor theatre at Walled Lake.

Cooperative Thoughts—William A. London of Associated circuit has left by car for his home at Santa Monica, Calif. His nephews and partners in the President, Admiral Leonard and Bernard Brooks, both of whom have received navy discharges, left with him, as did their sister, Fruma Brooks, manager of the Center, for a vacation at his home . . . Mrs. George Bremen, manager with her husband of the Wyandotte Theatre, went to a hospital for an operation . . . John Dembeck is mighty pleased over the face-lifting the Co-Op offices are getting.

Leaves from Oak Gardens—Cliff Perry, M-G-M salesman, was a frequent visitor until his recent induction into the army . . . Russell Ruben in uniform was a guest on the way home from overseas to the hospital at Battle Creek . . . Allen Dowzer of Co-Op is among the few old-timers still left in civvies . . . Manager Walter Morgan, formerly of the Palmer Park, proved his well-earned prowess on the skeeball alley.

Four Monogram Pictures At Detroit First Runs

DETROIT—A record booking deal was set just recently by Harlan Starr, Monogram manager, which probably marks an all-time high for smaller distributors, four pictures playing first run day and date, all in houses of one circuit—United Detroit Theatres. Thursday (12), "Crazy Knights" opened at the United Artists, while the next day, the double bill of "Dillinger" and "GI Honeymoon" moved into the Broadway-Capitol, while "Adventures of Kitty O'Day" went into the Palms-State.

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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Theatres in Detroit Face A Heavier Tax Burden

DETROIT—Heavier taxes are in prospect for local theatres as a result of action by the city council hiking assessments on the Michigan and the Fox, largest local theatres. A general increase in assessments in many parts of the city is being carried out this year, with specially determined protest from downtown property owners.

The council approved an increase of $363,200 for the 6,000-seat Fox, boosting it to a $2,064,800 valuation, while the Michigan, with 4,100 seats, was boosted $35,740 to $1,332,370.

Other boosts were made on various neighborhood theatre assessments, with little possibility that any substantial reductions would be made as the council went over the protested parts of the tax rolls, item by item.

It was the contention of the Kern Realty Co., part owners of the Fox property, that the neighborhood of the theatre has become a blighted area, although it is located right on Woodward Ave., in the heart of the upper downtown section. Further, the Kern spokesman said, the "type of patron" had declined as a result of similar conditions, justifying a lower tax rate.

Michigan Catholic Attacks Cheesecake Using Cross

DETROIT—Recently-published pictures of scantily-clad film stars who also used a cross as an ornament were attacked here by the Michigan Catholic, organ of the Detroit archdiocese:

"Pictures in newspapers and magazines sometimes show movie actresses wearing a cross on a neck chain, and a very scanty bathing suit. The reader concludes that they are Catholics or at least Christians.

"As such, they are expected to exemplify more respect for the cross. Among the virtues it signifies, is a sense of decency. The cross is no substitute for clothing."

PRC Open House to Usher In Manager Bergman

CLEVELAND—Open house will be held in the PRC exchange starting noon on Monday (14) to introduce Edwin R. Bergman, the new Cleveland branch manager. District Manager Fred Rohrs will be host. All exhibitors, distributors and friends of Bergman are invited.

Enthusiasm Is High At Cleveland Meet

CLEVELAND—Enthusiasm was high at the Seventh War Loan meeting here Monday. Every member of the distributing end of the industry was present. Joe Krenitz, WAC distributor chairman, presided.

"This drive comes first in the eyes of your company," Dave Miller, district chairman, told the men. "As between bond business and company business, you are to devote your time and effort, for the period of the drive, to bond business."

Krenitz Explains Drive Details

Krenitz explained at length the drive details as outlined by the national leaders, Tom O'Connor and Sam Pinanski. He urged premieres, Free Movie Days, children's bond matinees, auctions and other participation campaigns as "musts." Every theatre in the territory will be urged to hold Free Movie Day on June 6 and Glenn Miller Day on June 5.

Distributors will stamp all mail with the Seventh bond drive slogan during the period of the drive. Exhibitors will be asked to display the slogan prominently in their theatres.

Charles C. Deardourff, publicity chairman and his aides, it was announced, will offer his service without charge to any exhibitor in this area in staging a special campaign. This is an innovation in bond drives.

Asks Prompt Return of Trailers

Nat Barach, NSS manager, reviewed the kit which every exhibitor will receive. Barach announced that the three special bond trailers will be rotated throughout the territory because of the limited number of available prints. He urged that every exhibitor be impressed with the importance of returning trailers as soon as they have finished with them in order to fulfill commitments to other theatres. Records of the bond rally song that Bing Crosby introduces in the "All-Star Bond Trailer" are also available.

George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n, announced an exhibitor bond meeting was to be held later this week.

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Abe Montague

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EDDIE JOHNSON

Washington, Tivoli, Woodside Theatres

Bay City, Mich.

Harry Schreiber to District Manager Post

CLEVELAND—C. Harry Schreiber has been promoted from RKO theatre city manager in Columbus to theatre district manager covering this area. He succeeds Clem Pope, whose health demanded his resignation. Pope has been with the RKO theatre division for many years, serving as manager of Keith's East 105th St. and Palace before becoming district manager, a post he assumed when his predecessor, Nat Holt, moved out of exhibition into the production end of the industry on the west coast.

"Range Busters" to Dezel

DETROIT—A deal for distribution of the entire series of "Range Busters" westerns for the Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati territories was concluded here by Albert Dezel, Film Classics franchise holder and well known roadshow distributor, with Royal Pictures Co. The latter company was represented by Sam Hersh and Louis Goldman who came on from the west coast. The series was originally released by Monogram, and includes the pictures produced by George W. Weeks.

Cap'n Club Series to FC

DETROIT—Distribution of a new series of ten-minute color cartoons, Cap'n Club, has been taken over for Michigan and Ohio territory by Film Classics, Albert Dezel, manager, announced. The shorts were produced by the Ted Eshbaugh studios in New York.

Oscar Levant Signs Warner Contract

Oscar Levant has signed a term contract at Warners.

Two "Great" Ideas for Bond Drive

By H. F. REEVES

DETROIT—Two ideas of great potential practicality in the management of the Seventh War Loan have been advanced by a Detroit showman, William Richmond, manager of the Lincoln Park. Because they can be effective they deserve serious consideration and adoption where possible now while the details are being worked out.

First is the designation of one night during the campaign as Roosevelt Victory night. It would be operated on the order of the familiar bond premieres, but with a new timeliness. The premieres have done their part in past drives, but today there is a necessity to use the public consciousness of the seriousness of these days, epitomized in the loss of the late President, to back the war effort to the utmost. This time there can be no question that a Roosevelt Victory night is conducted in a spirit far above mundane politics.

No Memorial in Title

Admission to theatres would be, of course, strictly by bond purchase on this night, with each local exhibitor or manager using his own tested ways of making the most effective appeal to his public. The cooperation of the distributors, already promised with their characteristic generosity in such causes, could be taken for granted.

The word "memorial" is missing from the title, and significantly, because there is a certain formality of connotation, a certain sense of sadness, that would deter some from partcipating. Better to call it by the key word of "victory," and use the full value of association in the public mind of the loss of the President as victory approached.

The second of Richmond's ideas is the preparation of a small duplicate of a war bond in the shape of V-mail, marked: "I (we) have bought this bond to back up the job you are doing." It would be given to bond purchasers at all theatres, so that they might send it to a service man, close relative, sweetheart or friend.

This would give the public a sense of recognition by the service man of what they are doing tangibly on the home front.

Says It Would Be Morale Builder

It would serve as a morale builder for the service man to see concrete proof that his own folks at home are doing all they can to bring him back home quickly and victoriously.

It would measurably stimulate bond sales, if adequately publicized nationally through the resources of the industry, so that the public would realize that the service men were going to see plenty of these bonds coming to their companions in the service, and that their own favorite service man must not be let down because his people failed to buy and send him, too, this proof.

The duplicates would, of course, be marked in such a way that they could not be cashed as bonds, to prevent any possible fraud.

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GOOD LUCK!

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Under Direction of

ALEXANDER SCHREIBER • HAROLD SMILAY • WILLIAM LONDON

ASHER B. SHAW, Gen. Mgr.

Pacific Exchange GI Booker Handles About 100 Theatres Thrice Weekly

DETROIT—That service men and women are getting the finest in motion picture service is indicated in information received here from Sgt. Don Fill, who has been booking pictures in the central exchange in New Guinea for a vast area of the Pacific war area, embracing a territory many times the spread of the continental United States.

Fill formerly was manager of the Cameo and Varsity theatres here, and also a booker for Republic. He now is awaiting a transfer to the Philippines.

Charges of old pictures and repetition of shows in the combat areas are unfounded, Fill's statement indicates, as exceptional care is taken to give the latest pictures and every possible service, including phone, amusement guides, and radio, is used to inform the men and women in the services, of available pictures. Fill writes:

Ahead of Detroit First Runs

"New Guinea and the adjacent islands today are showing films ahead of such show places as the Michigan, Fox and United Artists, the top theatres in Detroit. The army, navy and marines in this theatre of war are getting the latest films produced in Hollywood.

"Each week 12 copies of three new films are sent out of New York to the overseas motion picture service exchange in New Guinea. From this spot the films are redistributed in a manner that would do justice to the big film distributors in the states.

"A print of each of the three new pictures is shipped immediately to 12 subexchanges, which are located strategically throughout this theatre. This means that in 12 spots three new films start on a lengthy circuit each week. The men in distant and newly recaptured places receive first consideration, such as Hollandia, Biak, Morotai, Leyte and Manila. The circuits are arranged so that these bases head the circuits, and the prints work back to towns and bases that a few months ago were in the headlines—Oro Bay, Lae, Milne Bay, Finschafen and Port Moresby. By supplying the new films to the most distant places, men moving up are always sure of seeing new films, and the chances of repeating shows are very slim.



TALENT HUNT GOES BIG — Eddie Miller (center), manager of the Cleveland Hippodrome, reports great success with the George Sand Memorial Contest on Columbia's "A Song to Remember." He had this sign up three weeks in advance. On the left is Dave Baylor of WGAR, which cooperated.

Air Force Transports Film

The air force supplies the transportation and makes it possible to maintain tightly booked circuits. The priority given to the 16mm prints equals that of food and bullets. In the commercial exchange, any day a picture is left on the racks, means so much lost revenue, while in the army, a picture on the shelf means the loss of valuable entertainment to the men.

"Many features have had their premiere overseas. Weeks before 'Going My Way' was released nationally in the states, the boys in New Guinea had seen it. 'Rhapsody in Blue' had its world premiere the last week in November 1944 while 'Saratoga Trunk' was shown for the first time last December 1.

" 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' which is just now enjoying success in the States, was played in this area the early part of 1943.

"Other films of outstanding nature which are now giving hours of pleasure to our fighting men are 'Here Come the WAVES,' 'My Reputation,' 'Together Again,' 'And Now Tomorrow,' 'Woman in the Window,' 'Wilson,' 'Princess and the Pirate,' 'Experiment Perilous' and 'Meet Me in St. Louis.'

"To be around one of the overseas film exchanges, one is transplanted in thought back to the hustle and bustle of an American film exchange. All day, GIs, officers, nurses,

Greetings

ABE MONTAGUE

On Your 20 Years With

Columbia

ADAMS THEATRE

CHARLES PERRY, Managing Director

Wacs and sailors, pour in to arrange for the coming week's shows, or to advise the exchange they have moved into the area, and would like to be placed on the film circuit.

Must Have Capable Operators

"Here it is not a question of price or preference. Rather, the only qualification is that they have a capable operator. The operator is brought into the exchange, where he is given a test, because a damaged print means a great loss of entertainment.

"All the offices are with phones supplied by the signal corp, and all day and into the evening, the men in the office are busy giving out information of playing units and show times. Most of the calls are from Allies, while a few are from our own boys, who hadn't been able to secure one of several GI newspapers which supply a weekly schedule in advance in the same manner as found in the 'movie guides' back home. Even the radio is utilized in giving out this information, with spot announcements of the entertainment guide.

"Each film exchange is doing a marvelous job, and when one stops to consider that most of these exchanges have to book films for 60 upward to 110 theatres, it really represents a lot of work. Most of the film bookers have had civilian experience in booking which speeds the work, and assures everyone of efficient service. Inasmuch as every unit on a base receives three changes a week, it resembles the handling of civilian theatres very closely. There is only one film booker at each base, and he handles as many, and some times more, than a circuit as large as the Butterfield does, with several bookers.

"I am quite proud of the work I am now doing, because I feel that I am doing something what I am qualified to do. It always makes me feel good to know that the movies have done a remarkable job in giving the men a little escape from the realities of this war, which are not always pleasant. I am happy to have been and always will be a part of the motion picture industry."

COLUMBUS

Storekeeper Robert Lee Byers, former assistant manager of Loew's Broad, was killed in action at Iwo Jima, the navy department has announced. He previously had been reported missing following torpedoing of his carrier, the Bismarck Sea, by a Jap submarine. Byers served 18 months on convoy duty in the North Atlantic before being transferred to the Pacific more than a year ago. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Byers; his daughter, Virginia; a sister, Mrs. David J. Davia, and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lee Foreman, all of Columbus.

Friends of John McNulty, former theatre editor of the Columbus Citizen, are interested in the report that he is working on an original script for Barry Fitzgerald's first starring picture, "Third Avenue." McNulty recently was a contributor to New Yorker magazine and was on the news staff of the New York Daily News covering the Broadway sector . . . Work is progressing on drilling a well for the cooling system of the RKO Grand. The well is being drilled directly in the rear of the theatre. It is expected to be completed by summer.

Aviation Ordnanceman Richard Shipman, formerly of the service staff of the Ohio, is back in town renewing old theatre friendships. He is stationed at Jacksonville, Fla. He's been in the navy two years . . . Eddie Booth, manager of the Cincinnati Metro exchange, has been in town for confabs with local exhibitors.

Lieut. Col. Virgil Jackson of the Jackson-Murphy Theatres, writes City Councilman Jimmy Hale, his attorney and brother member of the Variety Club, that he has really polished his poker technique. Jackson is military attache to the American legation at Beirut, Lebanon. He warns his chums of the Variety Club's poker table to be ready when he returns . . . John Gardner, son of Bernie Gardner, veteran Paramount salesman, donned navy blue last week at Great Lakes.

Sgt. D. John Phillips, former UA exploiteer in the mideast territory, and Mrs. Phillips are the parents of a daughter Lynn, born Easter Sunday in New York. Phillips is editor of the official publication of the army air base at Ontario, Calif. . . . Lieut. Tom Paskell, former chief of service of the Ohio, writes from "a pinpoint in the Pacific" that cigarets are five cents a pack, "coke" and beer are plentiful and there are movies every night. Paskell is a pilot in the Sixth emergency rescue squadron.

Carnivals Bow to Dimout After Exhibitors Complain

COLUMBUS—Three carnivals operated by the Floyd E. Gooding Amusement Co. in the Columbus area are now complying with the dimout regulations. The carnival operators have reduced their illumination more than 50 per cent, to an amount certified by city officials as necessary for public safety, said the WPB.

Officials said that all border and outlining lights had been prohibited except where the lighting serves the purpose of illuminating the machinery, grounds and entrances.

Checkup on carnival lighting was instituted following protest by the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio that carnivals were using excess lighting when theatres were allowed only one 60-watt bulb for exterior illumination.

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THE SURPRISE SLEEPER HIT OF THE YEAR!



FLAMING LOVE

burned fiercely in their hearts and no man or law could dim its brightness or stem its fury.

Fredric MARCH

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in SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S Presentation of

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Formerly titled "WE LIVE AGAIN"

A ROUBEN MAMOULIAN PRODUCTION

From the Novel by LEO TOLSTOY

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8 RANGE BUSTERS 8 WESTERNS

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RAY CORRIGAN — JOHN KING
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ALBERT DEZEL'S FILM CLASSICS EXCHANGES

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1635 Central Parkway, Cincinnati (14)

WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES

CLEVELAND

Sgt. Marvin Samuelson, streamlined to standard marine measurements, was in from the west coast on a short leave . . . Lieut. Arnold Nathanson was in from Bair Field, to which he has only recently been assigned. His job, these days, is piloting a plane. Before that he was a member of the Warner organization.

Another visitor was Kenneth Means. Time was when Means was manager of the Palace. He left that job right after Pearl Harbor to join the merchant marines and has been seeing the world for four years . . . A. J. Lindsley, National Theatre Supply advertising manager, was in for a one-day visit with NTS Manager Lou Walters. They were in a huddle on the subject of Drive-Ins.

Kenton theatres were well represented along Filmrow. W. D. Ward of the Ohio and Carl Coffey of the Kenton both were looking over the booking situation . . . Margaret Macsay, Republic head booker, really means it when she wears the smile-that-won't-come-off. Reason is the return of her husband, a sergeant, home from overseas on a 30-day rotation leave. He is attached to the ground corps of the army air force and has been overseas 16 months.

Bob Snyder, Film Classics representative, closed a deal with the Palace Theatre, Akron, for the showing of "Wuthering Heights" and "Barbary Coast," which is quite a feat, as the Palace seldom has played a reissue.

Jack Shea of the Shea circuit was in town with his territorial managers for their regular monthly meeting. Reporting present were William Gillam, New Philadelphia; Durwald Duty, Dover; Jack Hines, Youngstown; Bob Rhodes, Akron, and Bob Russell, Ashtabula. They made the rounds of the exchanges and later held a conference on product and sales policies.

The sunshine brought out several prominent exhibitors who have been in hiding all winter, including Nat Walken of Salem and Harry Reinhart of Canton . . . M. M. Jacobs, who operates the independent Imperial Film Exchange, has acquired the feature, "One Romantic Night," for northern Ohio distribution. This picture, starring Ilona Massey and Alan Curtis, which portrays the life of Shubert, was originally released by United Artists under the title, "New Wine."

Tony Stern, Warner Theatres booking manager, and his assistant, Bud Friedman, worked the Cincinnati territory . . . Dick Wright, Warner assistant zone manager, was in New York for a few days conference with Frank Phelps . . . The Warner Club party, originally scheduled for April 14 and postponed on account of the death of President Roosevelt,

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another

BOX OFFICE RECORD *SMASHED!*

RECORD CROWDS *Everywhere!*



AS A RULE Tuesdays are quiet in DeKalb, Ill. But not with "MOM AND DAD" in town. Manager Smith writes it broke a three-day record. Cameraman Dun sent along a picture to prove it. Better get your play-date set now so you can "order some police help."

Book It Now . .

PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD

WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release with ELLIOT FORBES In Person

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Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine

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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES

CLEVELAND, OHIO

finally was staged last Friday. A good time was had by all, according to the club president, Tony Stern.

Mrs. W. A. Smith of Akron was in town booking. Mrs. Smith has taken over the operation of the Majestic Theatre since the recent death of her husband . . . Harry Lande, at one time one of the largest independent distributors in this area as well as in the Pittsburgh territory, has moved to San Antonio. He has not been in the picture business for several years. His daughter, Henrietta, resigned from the M-G-M office force, to go with the family.

Lou Walters announced that National Theatre Supply has taken over the exclusive distribution of the Lakewood automatic rewind switch, manufactured in Cleveland and approved by the Underwriters Laboratories

Howard Spiess, former Cooperative Theatres booker, has changed his address from Corona, Calif. to Seagate, N. Y. Spiess contracted a skin ailment while serving in the Pacific area and was returned to a government hospital at Corona, for treatment. He has just succeeded in being transferred to the Seagate Hospital.

P. E. Essick of the Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit received word that his two sons, Ensign Jack and Ensign Ray, met somewhere in the Pacific . . . Joe Krenitz, Universal manager, returned from a two-week vacation just in time to take over his duties as WAC distributor chairman, spearheading the Seventh War Loan drive.

Forums on "Springfield" Follow Group Previews

CLEVELAND—The local Warner Theatre publicity department has gone all-out in its campaign for "It Happened in Springfield," two-reel featurette that is getting the acclaim usually reserved for feature production.

Under the direction of J. Knox Strachan and Jane Simon, the film was screened for eight different groups. An open forum discussion followed each group screening. And one member of each group was delegated to write up the result of the discussion. This paper, submitted to the local Warner office, will be included in a brochure to be sent to Harry M. Warner.

The following groups participated in the screenings discussions: Newspaper officials and critics, national conference of Christian and Jews, foreign newspaper representatives, Catholic P-TA, Catholic Federated Women's Clubs, members of the Cleveland board of education, members of the visual education department of the Cleveland public schools, and the motion picture council of greater Cleveland.

Exploiteers Turn to Bonds

PITTSBURGH—Motion picture exploiteers here have been assigned to particular areas and they are off to a running start on special promotions in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive. A major effort is one being directed to tieups with merchant sponsors for theatre awards of war bonds. Field representatives and their areas are Charles Baron, M-G-M, directly north of Pittsburgh; Jim Levine, Paramount, main line; Wally Allen, 20th-Fox, Erie area and Doug Beck, RKO, West Virginia.

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Architect
MODERN THEATRES
1783 E. 11th St. Phone: MAin 0992
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



The motion picture business is an old story to **Samuel Ackerman,** owner of the East Side Theatre, Detroit, for it was in 1911 that he entered the industry. Building the present East Side Theatre in that year, he has been successfully operating the house since. His son, Alfred, is associated with him. Ackerman is associated with Allied Theatres of Michigan, and has been a member since its inception. He is also a 32nd degree Mason, Shriner, and a member of the Variety Club. He has two daughters, both married, and likes to travel.



When **Bruce Hall,** owner of Hall's Theatre and the Gate City Theatre at Catlettsburg, Ky., went into show business he featured "Flame of the Yukon" with Dorothy Dalton and the old serial, "Elmo, the Mighty," which gives an indication of the length of years spanned in his theatrical career. A sportsman, Hall spends many a pleasant hour hunting and fishing in the fields and streams in his vicinity. He is the father of three sons of whom Capt. Collier Hall is overseas, Robert works in an ordnance plant and George Lee is at home.



One of the long-familiar figures on Detroit's Filmrow is **William "Bill" Kimmel,** who has been buying and booking pictures there ever since he opened the 996-seat West End Theatre in 1927. Kimmel entered the theatre business in 1921 with opening of the Main Theatre in Royal Oak. He built his present showcase in 1927 and has found success and pleasure in his theatre operations. He has two daughters, Ann and Shirley, both of them married. He is a golfer and a member of the Odd Fellows, of which he is a Past Grand.



A. E. Andrews of Emporium, Pa., entered picture business in its infancy, having acquired the Emporium when it was a legitimate theatre. He is proud of receiving a plaque from Adolph Zukor for having used the motion picture "Queen Elizabeth" and being in the business from 1912-1937. Andrews likes to hunt and fish at his lodge and is an expert marksman. He has two daughters and two sons. In keeping with his long-time record in business, he is a charter member of Emporium Rotary and has been a Mason for 47 years.



William C. Pullin, owner of the Linden Theatre, Columbus, came to the theatre world in 1925 after spending 12 years in the army. He built the 600-seat theatre which he now operates and makes his home in Columbus. Pullin is a member of the Ohio Independent Exhibitors and the Columbus tent of the Variety Club. Mrs. Pullin is dead, but he has a son, Capt. Robert Pullin of the army and another son, William jr., who works for Curtiss-Wright in Columbus. Pullin spends spare time fishing, and his friends call him "Bill."



Abe Schwartz started his theatre career with his father and brother in 1914 at New York. After serving in the navy during the first world war, he settled in Cleveland and opened several theatres in the area. His houses today include the Lexington in Cleveland, the Lyric at Fairport Harbor and the Lake and Park at Painesville. A member of ITO of Ohio, the Cleveland Exhibitors' League and Variety, Schwartz is married, has no children. His residence in Cleveland is 16300 South Moreland. He has a penchant for buying fancy ties.



Max Matz, Colonial, Bluefield, W. Va., went directly into theatre business upon graduation from school in 1919. He learned showmanship from Russell Wehrle and was first manager of the Colonial. Matz is a member of the Variety Club, West Virginia Managers Ass'n, B'nai B'rith, Elks, American Legion, Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce and is a leader in numerous charitable and civic projects. He is vice-chairman of the national war fund, board member of the Red Cross and a director of the Community Chest and Bluefield United Jewish Charities.



Leo T. Jones of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, now has four theatres, the New Star in Upper Sandusky, Grafton at Grafton, Forest at Forest and Carey at Carey. In 1921 he started as a poster clerk with M-G-M. From that modest beginning he became manager of the Orpheum at Cleveland, and later branched out for himself. His family consists of his wife and two small sons. Jones is a board member of ITOO, and affiliated with the following: Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, BPOE and Knights of Columbus. He likes golf, amateur photography, and hunting.

PITTSBURGH

F. E. "Bud" Halsey jr. has been promoted to first lieutenant with the Ninth army, he has informed his parents, the East Pittsburgh theatre owners. The Halseys now are operating both the Terrace and the Main, having recently purchased the latter from F. J. Kimmerle.

A spry young grandfather is Edgar E. Shaffer, Slippery Rock exhibitor. A daughter, Sandra Bobbette, was born recently to Shaffer's son and daughter-in-law, Cpl. and Mrs. Robert E. Shaffer. Corporal Shaffer is stationed in Idaho with the 20th AAF.

Sympathy to the David Broudy family on the death of Stanley Lewis Broudy, 16. The deceased's brother, Lieutenant Milton, formerly was a Filmrowite and his father, Dave, is the veteran Stanley Theatre orchestra director who is now managing Warners' Shadyside Theatre. Also surviving are his mother, a sister and brothers Captain Harold and Sgt. Leonard Broudy.

George Stone, motorcycle policeman on the Blvd. of the Allies (and Filmrow) is a grandfather and he'll accept your cigars . . . Morty Henderson, veteran Harris circuit manager, who had been in the army and in defense work and who had a serious illness some months ago, has returned to the Harris organization.

A welcome return visitor was Charlie Rich, Warners' district manager and formerly the company's branch manager. He had been here just a week ago in company with Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, and Jules Lapidus, eastern division manager, and he returned the other day for additional conferences with F. D. "Dinty" Moore, local manager, who is back on the job after being hospitalized.

Lieut. Bob Bloom, who used to be Warner circuit's local sound engineer, now is a radar operator at the Brooklyn naval yard . . . Martin Rothenstein, former Cambridge Springs theatre manager, who joined the Warner circuit here following his discharge from the army, and who had been assistant manager at the Sheridan Square, now is managing the Centre, Bellefield district, succeeding George Rathmell, resigned.

A great day for the "Irish" (?) was in the cards at the Variety Club when a birthday party was to honor Ida Mae and Danny "Dee" Davis, the PRC film man. . The announcement didn't state whose birthday was being observed, but it could have been PRC's fifth anniversary celebration . . . Nixon will be dark until the week of May 21 when Elizabeth Bergner's "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" opens there.

Sgt. Gabe Rubin, owner of the Art Cinema, was to furlough here soon from MacDill Field, Fla., according to his brother, Morris "Doc" Rubin, manager of the Liberty Ave. house . . . Thieves broke open a lockbox at the Metropolitan, Bloomfield district, and stole $140 . . . Carpenters and plasterers were busy remodeling the old Republic office which is the new home of Cooperative Theatre Service and Film Classics; Republic's new office is the former Co-Op headquarters.

Frank Panoplos, Clairton Theatre owner, reports that his nephew, Maj. Jack Brobeck of Allentown, attached to the Ninth army, was killed in action . . . United Artists has received word that its former shipper has arrived overseas.

Carl Regal, projectionist for M. A. Rosenberg at McKees Rocks, is an expert radio repairman. He fixed Fred Solomon's radio, and news and baseball broadcasts again are heard at American Poster Supply . . . The 40 and 8 society of the American Legion launched a campaign to obtain playing cards for service men overseas at a luncheon in Variety Club. Judge Ben Lencher was the main speaker.

Winner of the Cinderella talent contest, sponsored by Columbia and the J. P. Harris in connection with "A Song to Remember," is Phyllis Andrachick of Bentleyville . . . John J. Maloney, M-G-M central division manager, who headquarters here, returned from a week's home office conference in time to preview "The Valley of Decision" . . . The Jim Levines (he's Paramount's area exploiteer) were called to Boston recently because of a death in the family.

Local RKO salesmen have shared in awards for sales and playdates on the This Is America series of short subjects . . . Newt Williams, National Theatre Supply manager, is improving rapidly at St. Joseph's Hospital and receiving visitors. He was stricken with spinal meningitis some weeks ago . . . Flight Lieut. C. L. Dortic jr., son of the Warner salesman, who was heard from in Mexico only a few weeks ago, now is in France, connected with the Allied military government.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Rosenberg have returned from vacationing in Atlantic City and the Allied exhibitor leader is showing several snapshots of his son, Lieut. Ben N. "Bud" Rosenberg, which were taken in Belgium recently by Maj. Jerome Roth, son of the Israel Roths of the Penn here . . . The international department of 20th-Fox has placed A. A. Mavrides, formerly of Greece, at the local branch as a student of operations and sales. He is going out into the territory with local area sales representatives.

Spotted at the grand opening of the new Sykes, Sykesville, the other evening were Syd Lehman and Lou Hanna, Republic; Bob Lynch and Charlie Dortic, Warners; Dave Kimelman and Bob Caskey, Paramount; Gene Coen and Milt Brauman, M-G-M; Bill Scott, UA; Dave Silverman, RKO; Bill Mack, NSS; Charlie Kosco, 20th-Fox; Charlie Conrad, Monogram; Bob Wolheim, Columbia; Gordon Gibson and Ben Stahl, Steinberg Theatre Supply, and Frank Hamre and H. W. Prosser, RCA. Kosco made the dedication speech. The all-new Sykesville house is a unit of Midstate circuit, operated by Howard J. Thompson, Clearfield. Local film representatives were very much impressed with the beautiful new theatre.

Bryan D. "Buck" Stoner of Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., was in Buffalo for several days to celebrate his father's birthday . . . F. D. "Dinty" Moore, Warner manager, is much improved following an illness and got in a little fishing this week up around Robertsdale . . . Max Cransfield's birthday was celebrated last Friday evening at the Variety Club's family party . . . Warner circuit has promoted George Josack to Wilkinsburg . . . C. C. Kellenberg, 20th-Fox executive and American Legion county commander, is prominent in the effort of the 40 and 8 to send playing cards to our service men overseas.

Henry Friedman, partner-owner of the Penn, Ambridge, reports that his 17-year-old son Stanton, is on a destroyer in the Pacific . . . A new WJAS radio program, Sho-Biz-Quiz, wherein listeners compete with drama critics, Kap Monahan, Press; Harold V. Cohen, Post-Gazette, and Karl Krug, Sun-Telegraph, was introduced Tuesday at 10:30 p. m. The new half-hour program is a question-and-answer program with music, Monahan positively not singing . . . Mrs. Mary Louise Littell, wife of Bill Littell, Arcade projectionist, is ill at the Columbia Hospital.

Alexander A. Notopoulos of the 101st airborne division who recently was promoted to second lieutenant, has been reassigned to the military government setup in Belgium. A brother, Sgt. Nick Notopoulos, is with the signal corps in Italy . . . Clay V. Hake, former 20th-Fox manager here who is now Paramount general manager for Africa, writes from Johannesburg that he has pleasant memories of Pittsburgh, the loyal 20th-Fox gang and the exhibitors of the area.

Mike Manos, circuit exhibitor, is vacationing at Hot Springs . . . New Venetian blinds have been installed at the United Artists exchange . . . Point of clearance for the WAC's Seventh War Loan drive here is Margaret Garrett of the Warner circuit publicity department, 2205 Clark Bldg. . . . Morris E. Lefko, RKO manager, was in Philadelphia for several days this week for district conferences.

Sgt. Harrold Weinberger, formerly with M-G-M here a number of years ago and later an assistant director at the company studio, sustained slight wounds at Iwo Jima, and has returned to his marine ranks . . . Fred J. Herrington, AMPTO secretary, still is having trouble with his back. He suffered with a cold in his back much of last winter . . . Variety Club's gin rummy tournament got under way April 23 and continues on successive Monday evenings. Joe Misrach is chairman and Art Morrone is assistant chairman.

Pittsburgh Variety Seeks Dollars for Heart Fund

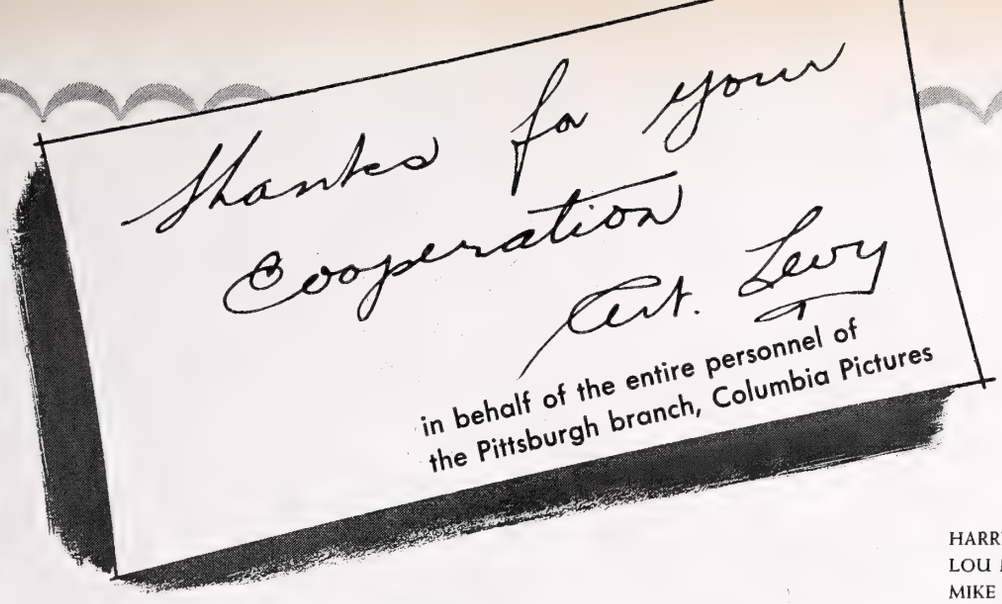
PITTSBURGH—The Variety Club Tent 1 here is making $1 solicitations for its Heart committee fund. The club has the obligation of entertaining the service men and women at the USO-Variety Club Canteen without cost to them, of course. Likewise, the Variety Club operates a camp for the needy children of this city, taking care of more than 1,000 kiddies without charge each summer.

John H. Harris, chairman of the Heart committee, announced that the tent hopes to be able to build in the near future to take care of additional children at Camp O'Connell. He urged that checks be made payable to the Heart of Variety Club of Pittsburgh, and mailed to the Washington Trust Co., Fifth Ave. and Washington St., Pittsburgh 19.

Harris, general manager of the Harris-directed theatres and owner of the Gardens, for the first time has used the mailing list of the sports arena for a purpose other than notifying patrons of an attraction in urging support of the Heart fund.

Suggest Outdoor Theatre As a War Memorial

PITTSBURGH — Councilman A. L. Wolk has proposed an outdoor 10,000-seat amphitheatre on Flagstaff Hill, Schenley Park, as Pittsburgh's memorial to World War II. A year or two ago he had suggested the need for such a project. Wolk states that "an open air theatre with good shows and concerts every night and with 5,000 of the 10,000 seats free would be a wonderful way to immortalize our fighting men." A prize-winning plan for the proposed amphitheatre was drawn by Charles M. Stotz of Ben Avon. Estimated cost of such a project would be $500,000, which Wolk states would be raised by public subscription.



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BENNY AMDUR
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WALLY ANDERSON
PETE ANTONOPOULOS
MAX ARNOLD
HARRY BALDENSPERGER
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GENE BASLE
MARIO BATTISTON
FRED BEEDLE
JOE BELL
TOM BELLO
J. P. BENEDEK
S. BIANCO
FRANK & ANDY BIORDI
JOHN BIXLER
KEN BLAKELY
BILL BLATT
PAUL BRONDER
HARRY BROWARSKY
IKE BROWARSKY
CLIFF BROWN
PHIL BROZIER
LES BUSH
GEORGE CAPPS
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JOHN LaMANTIA
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TONY LATELLA
BILL LEIBOVITZ
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MORRIS MARKLEY
SPEER MAROUSIS
CHARLIE MARSH
ANDY MASTERS
JOE MERCER
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LOU MICHAELS
MIKE MIKALOWSKY
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JIMMY NASH
SAM NAVARRI
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NICK NOTOPOULOS
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DICK PALMER
FRANK PANOPOLOS
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ALVIN SEILER
BILL SERRAO
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NORBERT STERN
BUCK STONER
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CHARLIE SZEWCZYK
BILL THOMAS
MIKE THOMAS
CHARLIE TRURAN
JOHN URSE
GUS VAVERIS
CHRIS VELAS
JAMES VODEKING
BILL WALKER
HARRY WALKER
JOS. WEISS
VIC WESCHLER
GARLAND WEST
BILL WHEAT
BOB WILLIAMS
JAY WILLIAMS
MIKE WINOGRAD
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Second "Tree" Week Best in Cleveland

CLEVELAND—"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," playing its second week on a moveover, was the biggest draw of the week, hitting at 65 per cent above average at the Allen, where it stayed for another week. At the Palace, where "I'll Remember April" on the screen shared honors with Tommy Dorsey on the stage, the score was a big 125 per cent. The third week and second move of "Song to Remember" kept this picture among the top numbers at the Lake while "National Velvet" went strong in its fourth week and second move at the Ohio. Other first runs reported good weekends but a drop during the midweek.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 165
Hippodrome—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox) 80
Lake—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 3rd wk. 150
Ohio—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 4th wk. 120
Palace—**I'll Remember April** (Univ), plus Tommy Dorsey band on stage 125
State—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M) 80
Stillman—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk. 90

Detroit Grosses Up a Bit in Face Of Labor Uncertainty, Warmth

DETROIT—Business showed a slight pick-up, but was still considerably below the high levels long accepted as normal in this territory. Multiple holdovers have helped to keep first run patronage on an even keel, but stage show attractions were generally off last week, a result of the great uncertainty in local industry and employment, and highly variable weather which encouraged patrons to seek outdoor amusements.

Adams—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 95
Broadway-Capitol—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **High Powered** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Downtown—**Crime, Inc.** (PRC), plus Patsy Kelly, Barry Wood and Bernie Cummins orchestra on stage 95
Fox—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 120
Michigan—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 125
Palms-State—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **There Goes Kelly** (Mono) 110
Paradise—**Sagebrush Heroes** (Col), plus Lena Horne in person on stage 120
United Artists—**The Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M) 115

"Enchanted Cottage" Runs Up 160 Score Queen City High in Some Time

CINCINNATI—"Enchanted Cottage" ran 160, a new high for some time. "God Is My Co-Pilot," Warner's war opus, was second choice. Other holdovers and duals were only fair.

Albee—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO) 160
Capitol—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Grand—**Practically Yours** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 90
Keith's—**Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M); **Circumstantial Evidence** (RKO) 90
Lyric—**Crime Inc.** (PRC); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 80
Palace—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 140
Shubert—**Sudan** (Univ), 3 extra days 70

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"A Song" Far Outpaces Competition After Big Pittsburgh Campaign

PITTSBURGH — Columbia's "A Song to Remember" ran far ahead of any other screen offering and was continued at the J. P. Harris. The beautiful drama cashed in on an advertising campaign which equalled or topped any prior exploitation by Columbia. Grosses in the Golden Triangle were under par for the period.

Barry—**The Big Bonanza** (Rep); **Mutiny in the Big House** (Mono), reissue 100
Fulton—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 4 days in 3rd wk. 75
Harris—**A Song to Remember** (Col) 140
Penn—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 80
Ritz—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 70
Senator—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ) 80
Stanley—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk. 70
Warner—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 70

Columbia Booth Staffs Ask Sunday Overtime

COLUMBUS—John B. Fitzgerald of Cleveland, IATSE representative, was here last week hearing both sides of a wage-and-hour dispute between the projectionists and representatives of 26 neighborhood theatres. Fitzgerald may recommend a strike vote to the international union.

Operators have been negotiating for a new contract since January, said Robert W. Greer, local president. He charged the theatres have refused to discuss new terms. The theatres involved include the Rowlands chain, the Miles circuit and the Academy theatres, plus four or five independents, according to Greer.

Fred H. Rowlands is spokesman for the theatre owners.

The disputed points of the proposed new contract, according to Greer, include time and a half for Sundays, an added half-hour on change days and a standard 6:30 p. m. to 12 midnight schedule with overtime beyond those hours.

Mode-Art Head Discusses Uses of Training Films

PITTSBURGH—James L. Baker, president of Mode-Art Pictures, Inc., here, discussed application of motion pictures to sales and GI training at a luncheon meeting of Pittsburgh manufacturers' representatives in the Fort Pitt Hotel. He exhibited two of Mode-Art's new industrial film productions. The local studio has a three-channel RCA scoring and rerecording system and is equipped for complete film service. "Jim," a young old-timer in this field here, who had been associated with the late Charlie Stanton, has produced a number of two-reel subjects for government agencies.

Gift Matches at Drive-In

CINCINNATI—Boxes of book matches were presented to each car as souvenirs at the opening of the Montgomery Road Drive-In by Jack Hauer, manager, recently. Hauer announced a "laffmovie" policy for Fridays and Saturdays, consisting of a comedy feature, shorts and cartoons "designed strictly for laughs."



CINCINNATI

Woody" Woodruff, Schine booker, reports receipt of a letter from Sgt. Ben Padwa, former short subject booker now in France, sending a hello to friends here. Also a telephone call from the former Athen's theatre manager, Lieut. Francis Lattin, en route to Syracuse and hungry for news from home. Lattin, a flight instructor, was at one time in the New York office.

Lev Bugie, 20th-Fox manager, addressed a war loan rally of all employes at the exchange at which the 20th-Fox war bond two-reeler was shown . . . Alice Porter, 20th-Fox, returned from a visit with her deceased sweetheart's family in Missouri. The youth died of wounds suffered on Iwo Jima.

Bill Poppe of an air force ground crew in England, formerly with 20th-Fox, sends greetings . . . Mail also was received from Capt. Tony Knohlman, former booker, now in Germany . . . Jack Goldman, owner of the Goldman chain, is in a hospital following a heart attack, his second.

Bert Rosenbaum is the new Columbia booker . . . Bob Lahman, Columbia, was here on furlough, after which he returned to Trinidad . . . Letters were received from Louis Grossman and Lee Heidingsfeld, ex-Columbians in the service . . . Mrs. Jack Frisch, wife of Jack Frisch, operator of Findlay and Sharonville theatres, is recovering from an operation.

Jim McClay, Warner booker, is vacationing . . . Ditto Roy Duesing, shipper . . . Walter McClay, son of Jim, was home from a Colorado station where he is assigned after 30 months in Panama in an air corps ground crew . . . The Warner girls riding club is gamely carrying on although report has it the class has dwindled from nine to two.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Keefe, 20th-Fox exploiteer, were hosts at a cocktail party for newspaper critics and their wives following a preview of "A Royal Scandal" . . . An invitational screening of "It Happened in Springfield" at the RKO Palace Theatre Bldg. screening room, brought a selected attendance of clergy, civic officials, police, social workers and educators.

Tony Stern and Bud Friedman, Warner Theatres, were here . . . Also Lloyd Rogers, Welch, W. Va.; Mrs. Mae Taylor, Columbus, and Ray Frisz and Bill Luibel, Chakeres circuit, Springfield . . . The recent bride at Universal, Amy Barker, was presented a chime clock by the Universal Club.

Honored with birthday cakes by the 20th-Fox First Club were Fumi Yoshida and Irene Meek . . . Peter Rosian returned back to his desk with the local Columbia exchange in second place in the final spurt of the Bill Scully drive . . . Nathan Halperin is at a local hospital following an appendectomy.

Rudy Knoepfle, Republic, is reported improved although still home abed. Pete Niland was a recent caller at the Knoepfle home.

Reopens at Ridgeway, Pa.

RIDGEWAY, PA.—Warners' Strand, extensively remodeled and newly decorated, reopens April 27 with "The Horn Blows at Midnight."

PRC to Film "International Police"

PRC has purchased "International Police," an original by Adley Louise Arnold, for immediate production. The story, suggested by the San Francisco peace conference, will feature jet-propelled planes and other aviation innovations which in the past have been military secrets.

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Phil Chakeres, Pres. *Springfield, Ohio*

Six War Casualties From Single Freeport, Pa., Projection Booth

FREEPORT, PA.—Among former projectionists at the Ritz here who answered the call to arms, four are dead and two are prisoners of war. John H. Wiseman, theatre owner, said that three of his former projectionists were killed in action and one was killed in an airplane accident in this country.

Cpl. Harry S. Crane jr., infantryman, and a former FBI member, was the most recent of the group to meet death. He was killed in Europe. Killed in action in the South Pacific was Pfc. Sammy Dattola. He was a nephew of Elmer Dattola, Springdale exhibitor, whose son, Lieut. Louis Dattola, was killed in action with the Seventh army two months ago.

Sgt. Frankie Gueirner, AAF observer, was killed in Europe. Lieut. Eddie Minges, air force, was killed in a plane accident in the United States.

Prisoners of war are Cpl. Joe DeBlasio of the signal corps, who was captured by the Germans in Italy, and his brother, Sgt. Larry P. DeBlasio, infantryman, who formerly had been reported as missing in action.

Other former Wiseman employes who are in service are Cpl. Elmo Dattola, a brother of Sammy, who is with an army railroad battalion in Italy; Sgt. Paul Rassau, medical detachment, overseas; Pvt. James B. Huith; E. E. Sobolenski, navy; and two other DeBlasio brothers, Pvt. Louis J. and Cpl. J. A. DeBlasio.

For Business as Usual On Victory in Europe

PITTSBURGH — Both stores and schools here will remain open on Victory day to prevent serious traffic jams or formation of huge crowds. In a proclamation, Mayor Scully called for the blowing of fire sirens to herald Germany's capitulation. He also suggested that Pittsburghers refrain from boisterous celebrations, give thanks and pray for a speedy victory over Japan. He urged tavern operators to close on VE-Day.

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Line Forms on the Right! NTS Takes Chair Orders

CLEVELAND—Theatre owners who are in the market for new theatre chairs may form a line on the right and register their wants with L. H. Walters, local National Theatre Supply Co. manager. Walters has announced that he now is taking orders for American chairs for postwar delivery. Delivery will be made in the order of contracts received.

This is the first break in the equipment field and from this Walters forsees a gradually loosening of the reins. Walters has also been given a clear WPB signal for delivery of new equipment to the following theatres: Thornton, Akron, a pair of Peerless Magnarc lamps; Idol, Lodi, new Simplex lamp houses and rectifier; Community, Cadiz, new Simplex high intensity lamps and rectifier; State, Salem, new Simplex high intensity lamps and rectifier; Mall, Cleveland, new Peerless Magnarc lamps; Strand, Youngstown, Simplex high intensity lamps and rectifiers; Lorain Fulton, Cleveland, new E7 Simplex mechanism, and People's, Akron, new booth equipment to replace that damaged by fire, including new Simplex projectors and redecoration for auditorium.

The Antibingo Forces Win Opening Round in Ohio

COLUMBUS—An antibingo bill, recommended for passage by the judiciary committee of the Ohio senate, is now up for consideration by that body. The bill, sponsored by Sen. George G. Shurtz, Republican of Newcomerstown, won a six-to-two approval in the nine-member committee on its hearing last week.

Backed by Ohio Protestant church federations and opposed by fraternal organizations and other groups the bill is sure to cause fireworks in both branches of the legislature.

Shurtz challenged opponents of his bill to test the constitutionality of the law under which bingo is now being permitted. He produced a decision of last July by Common Pleas Judge David Jenkins of the Mahoning County common pleas court in holding that the bingo section is unconstitutional.

"That becomes the supreme court of Ohio until it is actually appealed to the supreme court," Shurtz said.

Pittsburgh Seeks Surety Against Tent Holocausts

PITTSBURGH—A stringent new ordinance to protect Pittsburghers from a disaster such as that of the circus-tent fire in Hartford, Conn., last July, has been prepared by Safety Director George E. A. Fairley. It requires flame-proofing of equipment of circuses, carnivals, rodeos, fairs, sports events and other attractions, requires liability insurance ranging from $10,000 to $500,000, and tightens regulations concerning exits, aisles and seating arrangements.

The ordinance would require licenses approved by Fairley, Health Director I. Hope Alexander, the chief engineer of the bureau of fire, and Inspection Superintendents George McK. Boileau and Howard C. Patton. Violations would be punished by $100 fine or 30 days in jail. Fire Chief William H. Davis has approved the ordinance as has a council committee.

Warner Rates Sought In Pennsylvania Suit

PITTSBURGH — Harry Norman Ball and Henry Friedman, owners of the Penn, Ambridge, this week endeavored to obtain "for the record" Warner Bros. film rental schedules as proceedings in the antitrust case continued in the U.S. district court.

The plaintiffs seek first run product for their theatre and want to know terms for buying films for the Penn and other theatres, and conditions under which they can buy product from other distributors.

Warner Bros. is not a defendant in the case.

Opened April 26, after a postponement, counsel argued around the table last Thursday and Friday before Judge F. P. Schoonmaker.

Joseph W. Henderson of Philadelphia, past president of the American Bar Ass'n and chief counsel for the exhibitors, told the court that the Warner Bros. "relationship" was necessary to the presentation of his case.

Bernard G. Segal, defense chief, protested, stating that Warners was not made defendants in the action. He cited other producer-distributors who are not defendants and referred to the record in the original action when Ball had pleaded for an injunction which would have prevented defendants Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox and M-G-M from discontinuing the licensing of their product to the Penn. The injunction was denied by Judge Schoonmaker last year.

John Buchanan, representing M-G-M, also protested Henderson's plea, stating that the Warner relationship was not relevant.

Entered into the record during proceedings last week were depositions of New York film executives. No distributors were in court.

The distributors had these lawyers: William Zimmerman, RKO; Louis Phillips, Paramount; Stanley Thompson, M-G-M, and James H. Beal, Pennware Corp. Pennware and A. N. Notopoulos, president of the corporation and head of a circuit of theatres, are defendants with the four film distributing companies.

A Former Notopoulos House

Notopoulos leased the Penn, Ambridge, for a decade. Ballana Friedman purchased the property and Notopoulos, unable to renew his lease, erected a new theatre there, the State. He continued to exhibit the same product he formerly used at the Penn. Ball claims the product in question belongs to the Penn, and not to the new State. Other products in release at Ambridge is used by two Warner circuit theatres.

Ball and Friedman, brothers-in-law, came here from Philadelphia for the prosecution of their case. Also in court were Notopoulos and his sons, George and John.

Ball, an attorney and investor, and Friedman, did not reopen the house when they took possession and the property has been dark for more than a year. They seek to recover first run films and treble damages, plus costs and attorney's fees.

Pvt. "Bill" Jackson Died In Cologne Invasion

CLEARFIELD, PA.—Pvt. William K. "Bill" Jackson, 39, "Timberwolf" infantryman, was killed February 23 in the Cologne invasion, a war department dispatch revealed. He was with the first army division entering there.

Former general supervisor of Midstate Theatres, Inc., "Bill" Jackson was the son-in-law of Howard J. Thompson, head of the circuit. He entered the service in April 1944 and went overseas last October. Prior to the summer of 1940, he had been connected with the American Rolling Mill Co. Surviving are his wife and son Billy.

Detroit Film Truck Wins Season Title

DETROIT—Monogram, winner of the second half of the season in the Film Bowling League by five games, lost the season's title to Film Truck Service by two games on the grand total. Season's standings are:

	Won	Lost
Film Truck Service	70	50
Monogram	68	52
Cooperative Theatres	63	57
Republic	62	58
United Artists	60	60
General Theatre Service	60	60
Theatrical Advertising	56	64
RKO Radio Pictures	41	79

In the final rolloff, Monogram scored 2,449 pins, against Film Truck Service, winner of the first half, with 2,365 pins. Record scores of the season:

High single—RKO, 920; General Theatre Service, 928; Monogram, 915.

High Three—Theatrical Advertising, 2,546; Monogram, 2,546; General Theatre Service, 2,516.

High single, individuals—Walter Goryl, 244; Harry Small, 243; Barney Adair, 234.

High three, individuals—Barney Adair, 617; Harry Small, 610; Lou Metzger, 609.

Final individual averages for the season are:

Division A

Barney Adair	180	Irwin Pollard	171
Harry Small	178	Walter Goryl	170
Bill Sheran	172	Roy McDougall	164
Lou Metzger	171	Harry Aranow	160

Division B

Joe Smith	166	Earl England	161
Al Boyer	164	Stanley Malinowski	160
Ben Zimner	163	Moe Dudelson	158
Jack Saxe	161	Art Trombley	157

Division C

Carl Buermele	161	Eddie Loye	157
Bill Pasanen	158	Sam Merson	156
Dave Kaplan	158	Sid Bowman	158
Clark Baker	158	Jack Zide	153

Division D

Joe Gins	158	Dave Lippitt	150
Wade Allen	154	Ed Graff	149
Emil Beck	153	Clair Townsend	148
Bill Clarry	151	Cliff White	147

Division E

Cliff Perry	145	William Scharun	137
Max Blumenthal	144	Al Champagne	136
Bob Dunbar	143	Robert Buermele	136
Fred Sturgess	141		

Substitutes

Clyde Demerest	158	Joe Lenox	128
Bob Haskins	146	Henry Mayer	123
Clarence Berthiaume	133	Leonard Soskin	106

Brenkert Projectors Take Crown In the Nightingale League

DETROIT—Brenkert Projectors clinched the championship in the Nightingales Club bowling league by a slender one-game lead. Final standings for the season in all classifications follow:

Team Standings

	Won	Lost
Brenkert Projectors	50	34
Lorenzen's Flower Shop	49	35
McArthur Theatre Equipment	44	40
Altec Sound Service	42	42
National Carbon Co.	41	43
National Theatre Supply	41	43
McArthur's Motiograph	36	48
Ernie Forbes Theatre Supply	33	51

Winners of six divisional individual high single games: Roy Thompson, 246; Carl Mingione, 246; Matt Haskins, 245; Jack Colwell, 239; Michael Ureel, 237; Calvin Day, 214; Ray Gagnon, 214.

Winners of six divisional high three games: Roy Thompson, 635; John Goossen, 612; Loren Loy, 585; Floyd Akins, 599; Michael Ureel, 565, and Calvin Day, 546.

Season high single game was won by Lorenzen's with 763, which also won the season high three games with 2,102.

The Jack Hall trophy was awarded to Calvin Day.

Final Individual Averages

Roy Thompson	179	Gilbert Light	166
Jack Hall	174	William Fouchey	161
Jack Lindenthal	173	Jack Colwell	161
Carl Mingione	169	Cliff Williams	160
Edgar Douville	159	Michael Ureel	148
Matt Haskins	159	Garrol Kemp	147
Floyd H. Akins	158	Michael Badarak	144
Loren C. Loy	155	Calvin Day	141
Percy Huebner	155	George Haskins	140
Roy Light	153	Frank MacDonald	139
Clarence Moroney	152	Ray Gagnon	138
John Goossen	159	William Warendorp	138
William Swistak	152	Robert Seely	135
Romulus Albu	150	Robert Armstrong	133
Walter Rosmys	150	Charlie Ross	129
Hans Larsen	149	Melvin Donlon	124

Willoughby Residents Buy Site for 2,000-Seat Theatre

WILLOUGHBY, OHIO—Plans for the construction and operation of an ultra-modern 2,000-seat motion picture theatre by Willoughby interests as soon as building materials become available were announced recently. A nine-acre site on Euclid Ave., directly west of the village limits, was purchased outright in the names of C. B. Todd, Edward M. Weyls and J. B. Robinson, as trustees for the newly-formed investors' group.

The trustees revealed that contacts already had been made whereby the best and latest motion picture releases can be obtained for first showing here when released for nationwide distribution. Parking space will be available for 3,000 autos.

The investors include property owners and business and professional leaders who are vitally interested in Lake County, maintaining their homes and rearing their families here, and their chief objective in operating the new enterprise will be to make it an asset to the community, both as a business and residential center.

WB "Springfield" Short Set for Preview Dates

PITTSBURGH—The Warners short, "It Happened in Springfield," has been set for nine preview showings to educational groups, editors, teachers and other interested organizations.

Two screenings will be held in Pittsburgh, one for the National Conference of Christians and Jews, members of the intercultural society and city and county school heads. The other is for 2,200 editors of newspapers, foreign language papers, school principals and teachers. Following the screening in the Warner Theatre, Edwin O. Tabor, chairman of the Pittsburgh council on intercultural education, will speak.

Other situations where showings are scheduled include Erie, Johnstown, Morgantown, Charleston, Sharon, State College and Clarksburg.

Long Hours for Women Legal for War, Not Theatres

COLUMBUS—Ohio's longer wartime work hours for women and children are back on a legally established basis following approval of the Cory-Reiners emergency amendment by a vote of 113-17. The bill was immediately signed by presiding officers of both houses and rushed to Governor Lausche for his signature. It became operative at once.

The new law means that women in war industries legally may work an unlimited week if permission is obtained by their employers from the state director of industrial relations to exceed 50 hours a week.

In other establishments, including theatres, the limit for women remains at a ten-hour day, a 50-hour week.

C. Gable's Manager Stays On Five Years After Death

SHARPSVILLE, PA.—Prior to the death of Charles E. Gable, 85-year-old exhibitor, two weeks ago, he had provided that Andy Seaman, manager of his Ritz here for a number of years, operate the theatre for five years after his death. For many years prior to a decade ago, he owned and operated the Gable Theatre and Gable Hotel, Sharon, Pa. He suffered financial reverses and at the age of 75 he started "all over again." He is survived by three sons, residing in Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Detroit, and by his brother William, who is the father of Clark Gable.

Ohioan Receives Medal For Aid to Polio Fund

COLUMBUS—From eight-year-old Carolyn Brollier, victim of last summer's infantile paralysis epidemic, P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, last week received a bronze medal in recognition of his work as state chairman of the motion picture division of the 1945 March of Dimes. Presentation of the medal, inscribed to Wood by Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman, was made in the offices of Gov. Frank J. Lausche. Carolyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Graham W. Brollier, 162 Garden Road, Columbus.

Daniel W. DeHayes, Ohio field representative for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, also was present at the ceremony. Ohio theatregoers contributed $316,246.28 in the 1945 campaign.

Ackerman Killed in Action In Germany April 2

ALTOONA—Pvt. Walter "Jesse" Ackerman, an A. N. Notopoulos circuit manager for many years, was killed in action in Germany April 2. He started with the Notopoulos theatres at the age of 12.

In the army for a year and a half and overseas for six months, he had served in the ordnance department before being transferred to the infantry. The nickname "Jesse" became attached to him through the exhibition of an old-time "Jesse James" picture. Unmarried, he is survived by his mother and two sisters.

Ackerman had managed several Notopoulos theatres, including the Olympic, Altoona; Temple, Aliquippa; Grand, Huntington; Capitol, Altoona, and the Penn, Ambridge.

Urges Combat Films for Classroom

PITTSBURGH—Kaspar Monahan, Press show shops editor, writes that "Fury in the Pacific," two-reel OWI-WAC subject, furnished gratis and distributed by Warner Bros., "is tremendous. Its closeup scenes of Japs falling—and our own men, too—the burning and blasting of Jap dugouts, landing on the beaches, plane-strafing at low levels, mortar, bazooka and machine gun fire—these are scenes to sear the brain. Appalling? Yes. But it's imperative for all of us to know what modern war is like. After the war 'Fury in the Pacific,' 'The Fighting Lady' and other outstanding documentaries should supplant—or, at least, supplement the history books in classrooms.

20th-Fox to Use Sound Film for Its Telecasts

From New England Edition

BOSTON—The television station owned by the General Television Corp., formerly operated as WIXG, has been leased to the 20th-Fox Film Corp., according to an announcement by Thompson L. Guernsey, founder of WLBZ and General Television president, and by 20th-Fox.

Electrical engineers are now working on the television transmitter in the Sears Roebuck tower. Twentieth-Fox announced it will apply for an experimental license immediately and conduct experimental programming with the use of sound films as the first phase of its telecast activities.

WIXG was the first station in New England to maintain a regular telecast program. Following the advances made in television research during 1940 and 1941 the station was able to supplement its purely experimental work with a regular schedule of 15 hours of telecast entertainment each week.

Guernsey has predicted that combination of motion pictures with a studio commentary will constitute the ideal news coverage of the future. Local news cameramen probably will be equipped with motion picture cameras so that news events can be portrayed on home television screens just as newsreels depict national and world events on theatre screens, Guernsey forecast.

"Combination of television broadcasting facilities with motion picture production technique is logical," he continued, "because radio broadcasting has means of distribution to the home which motion picture companies desire and the film producers, in turn have had them in production work which will improve the quality of television broadcasting."

Guernsey also emphasized his belief in the great public service and commercial possibilities of television. Eventually television sets will be as common as radios, he said.

During the early part of the winter of 1940 and through 1941 the broadcasts of the General Television Corp. were transmitted from the Brookline Ave. studios. Then the corporation obtained permission to set up transmitting facilities in the Sears Roebuck tower at 210 Brookline Ave. and the higher location gave added range to the television broadcasts. At that time there were only 12 television sets here, one in the cocktail lounge at the Hotel Manger where crowds were attracted to see the novelty during the nightly programs.

With the war, experimental broadcasting was suspended, but the studio continued to be a center of activity for development of improved programming techniques. Leland Powers and Academie Moderne continued to use the studio facilities to train their students in radio and television and advertising agencies and other business organizations were invited to use the studios and learn more about the medium of television.

Actress Aids Bond Drive

PITTSBURGH — Lois Andrews, screen actress, spent several days here in an effort to stimulate war bond sales through the pay roll deduction plan. She appeared at rallies in district war plants.

R. I. Darrah Dies at 50

KENT, OHIO — Raymond I. Darrah, 50, well-known theatre orchestra musician, died at his home here. He had played in pit bands for years.

U.S. Calls Ross Gibson

PITTSBURGH — Ross Gibson, 20th-Fox night shipper, has been called into service by Uncle Sam.

Columbus Parley Studies Warners' New Product

CLEVELAND — Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, held a meeting in Columbus of theatre managers in Ray Brown's southern district to discuss forthcoming product and selling methods. Those from the Cleveland headquarters who attended were Nat Wolf, zone manager; Dick Wright, assistant zone manager; Lou Ratener, contact manager; Tony Stern, booking manager; Bill Wasserman, booker; Bob Giles, sound engineer; D. Leonard Halper, building engineer, and J. Knox Strachan, Warner zone publicity and advertising director.

Warner managers from Portsmouth, Lima, Chillicothe, Findlay, Sidney, Mansfield and Coshocton attended.

Midstate Spruces Up Sykesville, Pa., House

SYKESVILLE, PA.—The Sykes, completely remodeled and modernized, reopened quietly April 26. The property is new, except the walls and roof. One of Midstate Theatres' houses, the Sykes, formerly the Ideal, has new restrooms, floor, marquee, seats, screen, sound and projection systems, decorating, house fixtures and various modern equipments. Miss M. E. Shively, veteran employe with Howard J. Thompson's Midstate, with general office at Clearfield, Pa., is booker for the Sykes.

Antidiscrimination Bill In Pennsylvania Loses

HARRISBURG—When the house of representatives defeated a motion to force a record vote on the Brown bill to set up a commission to combat employment discrimination, the so-called "race" bill legislation was formally ruled out of the 1945 session of the Pennsylvania legislature. Now doomed, this and other so-called fair employment practices legislation measures, stirred up much political dispute and bitterness in the assembly.

The State at Kalamazoo Loses $1,800 to Bandit

KALAMAZOO—Pat Hevavey, manager of Butterfield's State here, was held up by two armed thugs who drove him outside the city and took about $1,800 from the safe.

Don Kranze Wins Wings

CLEVELAND—Don Kranze, son of Bernard G. Kranze, RKO eastern central district manager, arrived home on furlough sporting his newly-acquired wings. Young Kranze is a flight officer attached to the bomber squadron at San Angelo, Texas.

Cleveland Reports Office

CLEVELAND—Confidential Reports, the new distributor-sponsored checking system, has opened offices in 620 Keith Bldg. with Herman Spachner as manager and Betty Graff as assistant.

Cincinnati Exhibitors Will Meet Monday at Variety Club

CINCINNATI — Allan Moritz and Maurice White, co-chairman of the Seventh War Loan, will conduct a meeting at noon Monday (7) at the Variety Club of exhibitors. Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, co-chairman in the last bond drive, will assist.

Nigel Bruce to "Two Mrs. Carrolls"

Nigel Bruce, Warner star, has been given an important part in "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," a Warner production.

ITOO Asks Papers In Use Tax Dispute

COLUMBUS—All Ohio theatres which receive "notices of assessment" from the Ohio department of taxation in connection with the "use tax" on coming attraction trailers supplied by National Screen Service, Metro and Warner Bros. are urged by P. J. Wood, secretary of the ITOO, to send all papers to his office so that proper action can be taken by ITOO attorneys.

"As these trailers are leased in substantially the same manner as feature pictures, short subjects and newsreels," said Wood, "we have always assumed that neither the Ohio sales tax or the use tax applied thereto."

"In view of the fact that there is a pending taxpayer's suit calling for the collection by the state of Ohio of sales or use tax on all film rentals paid by Ohio theatre owners since Jan. 1, 1935, we urge all members to send their 'notices of assessment to the ITOO office," said Wood.

He declared the tax in dispute now amounts to more than three million dollars. Failure to send in the notices of assessment might jeopardize theatre interests in the suit, which is pending in the Franklin County court of appeals.

Racing Bill Given Boost By Keystone State Salons

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania house of representatives law and order committee late last week reported favorably for floor action on a bill to legalize horse racing with pari-mutuel betting. The plan would call for the establishment of three privately-owned tracks in Pennsylvania, with 4 per cent to be levied against the track receipts, such money to be diverted to help pay school teachers' salaries. There is considerable support and sentiment for the measure, but theatre owners generally oppose the bill which Frank A. Costa, sponsor, says would produce more than $15,000,000 in taxes annually.

New Test Looms in Ohio Candy Sale Tax Dispute

COLUMBUS—May 15 is the deadline for applications by Ohio exhibitors who have been paying a three per cent sales tax on five cent candy sales from vending machines for refunds of such taxes.

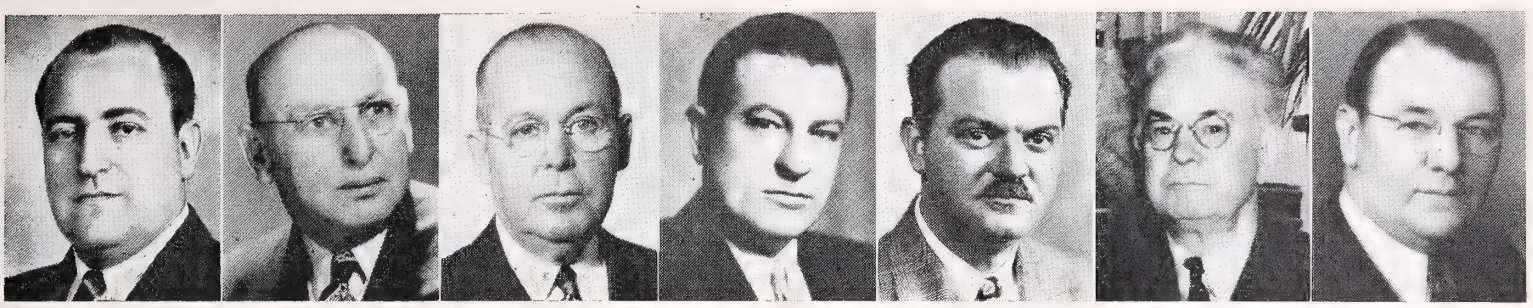
The Ohio supreme court, in a decision handed down February 21, decided there should be no sales tax on five-cent sales made by vending machines if the sales were separate and apart from other sales which amounted to nine cents or more. It is reported, however, that the state tax department intends to have a test case made on the general question of refunding taxes.

Civic Endorsement Helps "Three Caballeros" Run

PITTSBURGH — A special screening of "The Three Caballeros" for the better film division of the American Federation of Women's Clubs was the springboard for the Penn Theatre's exploitation campaign. As a result of the showing, an endorsement was obtained and mailed on the better film division's letterhead to a selected list of 30,000 persons.

A coloring contest, sponsored by the public schools, also helped advertise the Disney feature. Cooperative ads and window displays were employed, the theatre reports, with gratifying results.

New England's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



Hartford Bond Chiefs Book Special Shows

HARTFORD — Theatre men in this area have accepted a major part of the job in raising Connecticut's $39,000,000 E bond quota in the Seventh War Loan drive which opens May 14.

State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, member of the Connecticut WFC, opened the meeting at the Hotel Bond, April 25, at which representatives of more than 40 theatres discussed plans for special bond shows and other campaign events.

Chairmen of Connecticut who conducted the main business after the luncheon were: Herman Levy, New Haven, state chairman; Henry Needles, state co-chairman; Carl Goe, New Haven, distributor chairman; Lou Brown, Hartford, state publicity chairman; James F. McCarthy, county chairman; Maurice Schulman, county co-chairman, and Frank F. McCarthy, county chairman; Maurice Schulman, county co-chairman, and Frank L. Cashman, executive manager of the state WFC.

Plans were set in motion for a war bond premiere to be held at the Bushnell Memorial. A kiddie war bond premiere was scheduled at the Allyn Theatre Saturday morning June 23 to feature an all-cartoon film show plus a vaudeville array of local talent gathered by Chairman Fred Greenway of the Palace.

In addition, plans were made for the distribution of numbers, on the basis of bond value denominations, to all war bond purchasers by theatres. These numbers will be placed in a centrally located "fish bowl" and managers will promote prizes such as automobiles and jewelry for awards to lucky numbers at the close of the drive. The insurance company clubs of this city and school students have pledged to continue to aid theatre managers and their staffs by selling war bonds in the lobbies.

New Haven County Rally Will Be Conducted on May 7

NEW HAVEN—After successful launchings in Hartford, Bridgeport and New London, Chairmen Herman M. Levy and Henry Needles of the Seventh War Loan campaign, set the New Haven County open meeting for May 7. In addition to the co-chairmen, and Lou Brown, publicity chief for the state, Harry F. Shaw and James Darby, as county chairmen, will assist.

Meantime the Loew Poli and Warner circuits already have scheduled bond premieres for their theatres.

Loew Poli—Evening bond shows, June 13, Poli, Bridgeport and New Haven, and Palace, Meriden; children's bond show, morning, June 9, Broadway, Norwich.

Warner—Cartoon morning shows, June 2, Warner and Merrit, Bridgeport; Roger Sherman, New Haven, and Strand, Hartford; evening shows, June 6, Capitol, Milford; May 22, Capitol, Ansonia, Cameo, Bristol, and Capitol, Willimantic; June 5, Palace, Danbury, State, South Manchester, and Strand, New Britain; June 12, Palace, Norwich, and Warner, Torrington.

More shows are to be arranged.

At the Bridgeport meeting April 24 Mayor Jasper McLevy lauded the work of the theatres in former campaigns, as a "magnificent job." Also present were Rufus P. Cushman, chairman of the Bridgeport WFC; Matt Saunders, county chairman, who presided; Al Hamilton, Jack Schwartz, Al Domian, Frank Geiger, Edwin A. Ribo, Hans A. Molander, Phil Oliver, Joseph P. Plavacky, Robert Carney, Harry Rose, E. J. Harvey, S. J. Redmond, Ralph J. Mauro of Altec, George Weber, George Comden, Al Pickus, Bruff J. Olin of WNAB, Florence B. Robinson of WICC, Jerri Connors, representing Howard I. Comstock, and Ralph Stitt, 20th-Fox exploiteer. The short, "All-Star Bond Rally," was shown.

Glenn Miller Day, June 5, and Free Movie Day, June 6, were pledged the film men's support.

State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey was guest of honor with Frank L. Cashman, executive manager of the WFC at the Hartford meeting on April 25. Maurice Shulman, Hartford County chairman, presided. Walter Murphy presided at the New London meeting May 1.



ALL SET FOR BIG DRIVE—Success or failure of the Seventh War Loan depends in a large measure, national committeemen say, on the efforts of the exhibitor state chairmen. In New England loins have been girded for the fray, and the executives depicted above are crying "Ready!"

Top, left to right: Connecticut Co-Chairmen Herman Levy of New Haven and Henry L. Needles of Hartford; Maine, C. J. Russell, Bangor; Massachusetts, M. J. Mullin, Boston; New Hampshire, Mel Morrison, Dover; Rhode Island Co-Chairmen Edward Fay of Providence and Martin R. Toohey of Pawtucket; below: Vermont, Frank A. Vennett, Rutland.

Purple Hearts March To Open Hub Drive

BOSTON — Motion picture theatres here again will operate a bond stand on the Boston Common, at Tremont St. just opposite West, for the Seventh War Loan drive.

The bond stand will go into action Sunday May 13 directly after the Purple Hearts parade with a three-hour all-star show featuring Hollywood stars and a group of war veterans.

Gov. Maurice J. Tobin and Mayor John E. Kerrigan will appear on the bond stand with the stars, army and navy officials and treasury department representatives. On every day thereafter, from Monday through Friday, 12 noon to 2 p. m., stars of the stage, screen and radio plus dance bands and orchestras from local night clubs will volunteer their time and talents for the drive.

In addition to the daily stint, the local drive publicity committee is planning special activities to take place on special dates, such as Mothers' Day, Memorial Day, first anniversary of D-Day, Flag Day, Bunker Hill Day, and so on.

In former drives the Boston theatres bond stand chalked up some of the highest of the spot bond sales in the country.

Campaign activities were completed at a meeting at the WAC Seventh War Loan headquarters of local distributors, army and navy officials, city and state officials and treasury department representatives and the exhibitor publicity committee.

The Parade of Purple Hearts will end at the bond stand at the common. Simultaneously with the parade, every Sunday newspaper May 13 will substitute in place of the usual theatre articles 100 per cent publicity for the drive with photographs, cartoons, etc. All theatre ads will carry lines stating that bonds will be sold day and night, every day of the week at all theatres. Drama and critic columnists, Sunday columnists and feature writers will devote his or her column to bond-buying.

A special screening of the "All-Star Bond Rally" trailer will be held for local dramatic critics, editorial writers and special feature writers.

One of the first of many special activities will be a bond auction in which the highest bidder is to be given a four-day cruise aboard a naval training ship, sailing from Baltimore to Boston. The ship will remain in Boston for another four days, and free tickets for a specially conducted tour of the ship will be awarded to all bond buyers purchasing their bonds at downtown theatres.

George W. Horan, distributor chairman, has informed all exhibitors in New England they will be requested to sign pledge cards stating their activities in the forthcoming campaign.

Roosevelt Family See Highlights Of Life on White House Screen

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—The following article in the Chicago Daily Times by Irving "Kup" Kupcinet, columnist, gives an interesting account of how a film was received in the White House after the President's death. The account follows:

Washington, April 21—The last get-together of the Roosevelt family in the White House was due partly to the efforts of Ted Tod, the former Chicago newspaper man. Tod, until he was shifted here a week ago, was in charge of Warner Bros. publicity in the Chicago district. He now holds a similar position in Washington.

He visited with Faye Emerson Roosevelt, a Warner Bros. star, and her husband, Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt, two days ago and casually mentioned his studio had prepared a newsreel short on the late President Roosevelt, which included the highlights of his 12-year career in the White House and shots of the funeral.

General Roosevelt immediately requested Tod to bring the film to the White House so the entire family might view it. After conferring with his mother, he set the date for Friday noon. Gathered in the White House screening room were Mrs. Roosevelt, Elliott and his wife, Anna and her husband, Lieut. Col. John Boettiger, and the wives of James, John and Franklin jr.

For the first time since the President's death, Mrs. Roosevelt weakened visibly during the films and wept openly as scenes of the President's cheery smile and familiar wave of his hand flashed before her.

Mrs. Roosevelt left the White House for New York and Hyde Park soon after the film had been shown.

It was necessary for Tod to identify himself when he entered the White House grounds, Kupcinet wrote elsewhere.

"Tod looked through his wallet and took out his draft card on which the full name (given to him by his father, who had been one of Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders) was printed. And his full name is "Theodore Roosevelt Tod," which caused the guard to remark: "Nearly all members of the Roosevelt family have visited here during the last 12 years, but I never met you before."

MAINE

Lieut. Paul C. Wiley, former assistant manager of the Maine Theatre, was resting at home in South Portland, following release from a German prison camp . . . Mrs. Eleanor Stratton, cashier, is ill in General Hospital with rheumatic fever. Miss Thelma Scott is substituting for her . . . Archie Lomac, also a former assistant manager, passed his test in code and cryptography and is attending school in Illinois. New addition to the Maine pay roll is Tiger—you guessed, a cat!

Ira Loew, manager for Loew's Theatres in New England, was a recent visitor in Portland . . . The roof of the Capitol lobby caved in from the weight of the snow and the entire front is undergoing a face lifting. A new type of neon lighting will be installed. Manager Frank Clements reports a satisfactory showing on the midweek programs, where he is using repeat pictures. Katherine Griffin is the new relief cashier. Clements was in Boston recently on a booking trip.

Roy Rogers Photos to Aid War Savings Stamp Sales

PROVIDENCE—Through the cooperation of the war savings department, 50,000 photos of Roy Rogers are being distributed here to stimulate sales of war stamps in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive. Rogers will appear at the Auditorium with the rodeo, May 15 to 20, inclusive.

While here the Republic film star will entertain wounded service men in the army hospital at Camp Miles Standish and the naval hospital at Newport.

Park Board Dismantles Hartford Music Shell

HARTFORD—The music shell in the east section of Bushnell Park, which was constructed ten years ago for $14,000, is being dismantled by vote of the park board because "it is not in good shape and doesn't fit in with the board's plans for reconstruction of the park," Newton C. Brainard, board president, announced. The shell has been used for Hartford Symphony Orchestra programs and Little Theatre group presentations.

Sigh of Relief by Race Fans When Governor Signs Bill

CONCORD—Just one hour before the expiration period for signing the measure, Gov. Charles M. Dale put his signature on the bill which extends the pari-mutuel horse racing franchise of Rockingham Park in Salem until the end of 1950.

The chief executive's delay in signing the measure is reported to have given many racing supporters a tough case of the jitters.

Introduce Mother of Star To "Roughly" Audience

WATERBURY—The mother of Rosalind Russell was introduced to the audience of the Tower at the showing of "Roughly Speaking," which starred Miss Russell. Al Montefalco of the Roger Mahan Theatres here made the introduction.

Harry Shaw to Florida

HARTFORD—Harry F. Shaw, division manager of Loew's Theatres, left on a three-week vacation in Florida.

Buy Even Lard at Stores For the Corn Poppers

From Southern Edition

Dallas—The popcorn seasoning situation is continuing so critical that Charles E. Darden is advising his exhibitor customers to buy it anywhere and in any quantity they can locate the product. He said he saw no definite relief in the near future. He emphasized that in an emergency corn could be popped with lard or any kind of cooking or salad oil and that it would be a good idea if exhibitors would buy it in even the smallest pail from local stores.

Erford Gage, Actor, Dies in Luzon War

WORCESTER—The death of Sgt. Erford Gage, former film actor, while fighting with the army on Luzon, was reported to his mother, Mrs. Pearl Gage, in nearby Brookfield. Tributes appeared in the newspapers. He was 31.

Gage had made a number of pictures for RKO, his last being "Rookies in Burma" before he entered the service in October 1943. He had just signed a contract to return to RKO after the war. One of his best known films was "Hitler's Children," in which he played a Nazi group leader.

He was a native of Brookfield, and broke into the theatre there in 1932 as a member of a stock company at the Town Hall, directed by Louise Galloway, former Broadway actress. He was the juvenile, and the ingenue was Rita Johnson, now also of films.

Later he played in stock in Worcester, Fitchburg, Boston and Westboro, then going to New York, where he appeared in several successful Broadway plays, leading to the contract with RKO.

Surviving are his mother; his wife, Nell King Gage, former actress, now a film editor at the Paramount studios in Hollywood, and a brother, Beverly Gage in Braintree.

Good Riverside Opening

SPRINGFIELD—Owner-Manager Ed Carroll of the Riverside Park-In Theatre and Amusement Park reports that his opening recently was the best in the six years he has been building up the organization.

N. HAMPSHIRE

The Colonial in Nashua was the scene of the 81st annual convocation of New Hampshire Masons. During the session the 32nd Masonic degree was conferred on several.

Dr. Robinson W. Smith of Laconia, secretary of the New Hampshire Fairs Ass'n, has stated that his organization is uncertain whether fairs will be held this fall in view of entertainment bans and transportation restrictions.

The Village Theatre in Whitefield, seat-360, has been opened in the new Astle block, built on the foundations of the Stoughton, destroyed by fire some time ago . . . A large crowd attended the opening of Pine Island Park in Manchester. The amusement center will be in operation every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Rex in Manchester is offering free Astor dinnerware to the women patrons every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday . . . The Plaza in Derry made a donation toward the newly opened Derry Canteen.

James J. Dineen, for 18 years a member of the Hampton Beach Casino Associates, operators of the Casino at the summer resort, died in Lawrence, Mass. . . . The life of Chopin, as portrayed in the motion picture, "A Song to Remember," was discussed at a recent meeting of the Berlin Women's Club.

The biggest thrill of the war, as far as Cpl. Charles Knox of Sandwich is concerned, was when he saw the film, "This Is Tomorrow," in Germany. The film included a shot of the Sandwich Baptist Church. The soldier wrote his parents that he was so excited he jumped up, knocked over his chair and shouted "That's where I live."

Films Not Pedagogic, Newspaper Agrees

MANCHESTER, N. H.—In an editorial, "Movie Fare," commenting upon Will Hays' 23rd annual report to the MPPDA, in which it was pointed out that mystery plots still rank high in the theatregoers' favor, the Manchester Union and Leader declared "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. We need the movies."

Pointing out that 33 murder mystery feature-length films, as well as seven detective mysteries, were sanctioned by the film czar during 1944, with little emphasis on war stories and no movies dealing with prisons or depicting crime as it relates to social problems, the editorial concluded:

"Regarding reasons for the preferences noted, it isn't necessary to consult psychologists, psychiatrists, etc. Fundamentally, the cinema is entertainment. The public, by and large, doesn't pay at the boxoffice to be instructed or to be taught moral lessons. The movies provide a form of escape from life's realities. Most people 'don't go to the show to cry.'

"As one of the agencies equipped to provide entertainment, motion picture producers have a very real responsibility. Mr. Hays puts it this way:

> "In the dynamic relationship between work and leisure, entertainment is useful because without recreation—the re-creation of our energies—our vitality would soon be depleted, less of the world's work would get done, and even less would be well done. Without the relaxing and re-creating ministry of entertainment the strains and stresses of work carry over into leisure hours, leisure is not enjoyed, and, on the contrary, becomes a burden, heavy with boredom and ennui, as enervating as work itself is depleting.

"That is a solemn parade of words. But its basic truth isn't obscured:

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. We need the movies."

Hartford Soldier Home, Greets Talent Winner

HARTFORD—Cpl. Paul W. Amadeo, former assistant to Manager George Landers at E. M. Loew's Theatre, arrived in Hartford on a 30-day furlough after serving for two years with the army in Italy.

In local interviews, Corporal Amadeo reported that, "When I was in Hartford working for George Landers, I never dreamed I'd see the places I've seen. When I got a chance to come home to visit my folks, I never thought I'd have a chance to have supper with a talent winner." Corporal Amadeo congratulated Jean Ericson, 18, Hartford winner of the George Sand talent contest at E. M. Loew's, and posed for press photographers. Corporal Amadeo reported, "It feels wonderful to be back in the swing of theatre business, even if only for a short while." He is expecting another overseas assignment.

Radio Station Changes

HARTFORD — Several important staff changes have been made at radio stations which are of interest to local theatre men. Larry Coulton, former program director at WCOU, Lewiston, Me., and announcer on WDRC here for the last year, has been promoted to chief announcer, succeeding Harvey Olsen who has been promoted to program manager. Dick Bronson, program director for WHTD for three years, has resigned to join WHNC, Henderson, N. C., as program director.

BOSTON

The Cinema Club will hold its annual party the latter part of May in the Latin Quarter. Tom Fermoyle, Cyril McGerrigle and Phil Berla have been appointed in charge of arrangements with Nate Oberman, president . . . Paul Denton has been killed in action. He was assistant manager of the Fenway Theatre before entering the service.

Mrs. James Winn, wife of the UA district manager, and her daughter have returned from a month's vacation in Omaha . . . The Republic booking drive has been postponed because of the shortage of prints. The new starting date will begin May 27 . . . Saul Edwards of Allied management, booker and buyer service, has purchased the area distribution rights to "Youth Aflame."

Capt. Carl Zeitz, son of Harry Zeitz of the State and New Bedford, is a member of a war plane fighter group recently awarded a Presidential Citation. Young Zeitz is a graduate of MIT and was an industrial engineer before going into the service.

Lawrence Nugent, assistant UA film shipper, who trained for the Boston 26-mile marathon, became ill and was unable to enter the race . . . William Hurlburt, Monogram franchise holder from Detroit, visited Filmrow last week to confer with Herman Rifkin, vice-president of Monogram . . . Jack McCarthy, Warner salesman, suffered a severe attack of the mumps.

Max Selette, formerly at the Latin Quarter, is the new manager at the Metropolitan in Providence, owned by Ralph Snider . . . Dan Seletsky, booker for M&P, was ill with an intestinal infection at the Beth Israel Hospital.

Sam Paul is the new head PRC shipper, replacing George Jefferson who moved to the Old Colony Transfer Co. He formerly was with NSS . . . Jerry Wechsler, WB sales manager, and Mrs. Wechsler celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary. They have one son in the navy at Duke University and one with the army in Germany.

J. R. Granger of Republic was in confer with Jack Davis, district manager, and Abe Weiner, sales manager . . . The Strand in Taunton, following its renovation, gave a preopening showing of "A Song to Remember" for the mayor, city officials and newspaper people . . . A screening and luncheon was to be held at the Variety Club of New England here this week . . . Herman Rifkin has returned from Portsmouth, Va., where he visited his son, Capt. Julian Rifkin of the army.

A rumor has it that M&P Theatres has purchased a plot of land in the center of the Quincy business district on which to build a large theatre as soon as possible . . . Irving Shapiro and his bride returned from a honeymoon trip.

UA's "Brewster's Millions" was screened at M-G-M. It will go into the Majestic soon . . . Tieups have been made with department and furniture stores on "Enchanted Cottage," soon to open at the Keith Memorial. Window displays of the interior of a cottage with pictures of the film's stars are attracting much attention.

Joe Levine, head of Embassy Films, enters the producing field with "Gaslight Follies" which will be ready for release early in the fall. Milton Cross has been engaged to do the narration and a big exploitation campaign is planned. Joe Cohen, booker for the Snider circuit, and Louis Stern, a storekeeper in the navy, are associated with Levine in the venture. Stern operates the Kenmore in Boston and the Uptown in West Lynn. He recently left for duty in the Pacific.

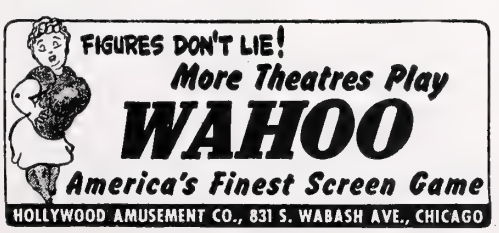
Lieut. John Fecke, son of Al Fecke of Republic, was mentioned in an Ernie Pyle column for shooting down a total of seven Jap planes and rescuing a drowning comrade in Tokyo Bay.

Fishman Would Reopen Cameo at West Haven

WEST HAVEN, CONN.—Fishman Theatres, operators of the Fishman chain in New Haven, West Haven and Fairfield, has applied to the WPB for permission to reopen the 700-seat Cameo, West Haven, closed for the past three years. Plans already have been drawn by Jack Abramowitz, architect, reports Dr. J. B. Fishman, general manager, for alteration of the lobby, correction of exits, and a new booth. In addition the house would be redecorated. The Cameo is across the street from the presently-operated Rivoli, also a Fishman house.

Tamiroff Plays a Lead in "Pardon"

Akim Tamiroff has been assigned a role in Mutual's "Pardon My Past."



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Laffmovie Originator Laughs, Too, As Patrons Flock Into Theatre

By FLOYD L. BELL

BOSTON—As the Boston dowager said, raising her ocean blue framed lorgnette and sniffing a bit disdainfully—for dowagers do sniff at times even as you and I.

"Humph, in Boston we spell it 'laugh.' What outrageous outlanders have spelled it 'laff'?"

But spell it, sneeze it, pronounce it any way you like there's a new idea come to Boston town and it's Laffmovie.

A clever Frenchman named James J. Mage (and it's pronounced Maje), who owned 14 theatres in France before Hitler marched in one day and burned most of them and closed the others, came to America with an idea and a reputation for being one of the best showmen and one of the most reliable in the business. He landed in New York and they do say that he gave one look at Times Square and said, "Why, everyone is looking so mournful, are there no comedy pictures to be seen here?" Assured there were none he got on a train and came to Boston and found people here even more lugubrious at the moment and the theatre marquees all ballyhooing pictures with the title of "war" somewhere.

Not a Tear in Ten Reels

"This will never do," said wise Mr. Mage, "New York and then Boston . . . we must give them a new type of theatre and call it Laffmovie. We'll give people nothing but comedy pictures, not a drop of tears in ten reels—no war, no murder, no gruesome events at all, just funny pictures . . . and people will laugh and their hearts will be young and gay and they will go forth better equipped to fight the battles of democracy."

And Mage hurried back to New York and engaged a personable young man named Harold Weisenthal, who had been born in a theatre and fed upon a bottle containing liquid grease paint. And Mage made Weisenthal his general manager of a company which from that moment existed.

Then he leased, for 30 years, showing his faith and his optimism, a theatre on 42nd St., near Broadway, remodeled it and named it Laffmovie. Then he scurried back to Boston and leased the former Normandie Theatre opposite the big R. H. White store and renamed that one also Laffmovie, and then he went to Chicago and to Detroit. And he will go to other cities and repeat this stunt.

Start Laughing in Lobby

But to Boston he returns every week or so to rub his hands with glee and note with satisfaction that his idea has taken fruit in a big way and to listen to the loud roars of laughter coming forth from Laffmovie, for the laughs can be heard many times for blocks and people line up in front of the theatre to enter that strangely fascinating new lobby where all the mirrors are odd ones and where laughter begins even before one enters the theatre to view the comedy pictures shown there.

There's a handsome young chap named Don Martin, who is resident manager, and his smile is wide and intriguing as he greets patrons of Laffmovie.

And over in one corner usually may be seen this tall, broad shouldered, stalwart Frenchman and the slender Weisenthal standing beside him, and they are chuckling, too, because their idea has clicked.

Laffmovie displays never a serious picture. From the time it opens until it closes one hears naught but laughter by people who want to forget their worries and their cares and to forget above all the blood and the desolation shown on many a screen.

Mage has been in the thick of the fighting in Europe; he has seen friends and relatives killed, his home desolated, his theatres torn from him, but he knows that people must not weep always lest they lose their strength, their valor and their keen perception of things which really mean something in life.

Mage had an idea. It has blossomed forth with a full bouquet of laughter. Yes, spell it any way you like, it all adds up to the fact that the world still is able to laugh if one will but now and then provide the vehicle.

The Voice Fails Teen-Age Fans for a Second Time

BOSTON—A crowd of more than 3,000 young people waiting at Hotel Statler here and at the First Corps armory across the street, wailed disappointment when Frank Sinatra failed to appear some time ago as scheduled.

Early in the afternoon Sinatra's manager and press agent, George Evans, arrived at the Statler. By 5:30 photographers had arrived in droves, under assignment to "stay with Sinatra wherever he goes." Scores of bobby-sockers, who gathered outside the two main entrances to the Statler and peered anxiously into each arriving taxicab, let out a squeal of delight when an inoffensive, thin young man who later proved to be a 4F salesman, came to the door.

Meantime word came to Evans that Sinatra had boarded a train at New York but at New Haven had decided to detrain "because of a sore throat." Reporters and photographers continued to gather in the Statler lobby. Two bearded Evans in his suite and were told that he was as bewildered as were they over the turn things had taken, "but Frank certainly will be here in time for his 9:30 appearance at the armory."

Nine-thirty came and went. Evans went to the armory and explained things. Some 3,000 bobby-sockers booed and even cried in their grief. But when Evans told them that their idol had a sore throat, was very ill aboard the train and forced to leave at New Haven, intending to take another and later train to Boston, they stilled their protests and expressed deep sympathy.

Then the next day came the newspaper reports that Sinatra had left the train at New Haven all right, but took another train back to New York and went to the Madison Square Garden where he occupied a ringside seat at a prize fight.

This is the second time The Voice has done a fadeout here. Last fall he was booked at Symphony Hall, which was sold out in advance. Came the time for his appearance, but no Sinatra; the boxoffice returned several thousands of dollars. Frank had a sore throat then, too.

Bronze Star to Parkhurst

SOMEWHERE IN INDIA — Lieut. Pearce Parkhurst, U.S. army air corps and former manager of Graphic and E. M. Loew's theatres in Boston, now stationed in India, has been awarded the bronze star for his campaign ribbon for participation in the India-Burma campaign.

Parkhurst completed three years in the service this month and in the past has been awarded a sharpshooter's medal for the 45 automatic, a marksman's medal for the carbine, and while an enlisted man (corporal) was awarded the good conduct medal.

"Roughly" and "Girls" Pleases at Hub City

BOSTON—"Roughly Speaking" opened at the Paramount and Fenway while "Bring On the Girls" at the Metropolitan and "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Orpheum held for another big week. "This Man's Navy" went into the Loew's State and "Brewster's Millions" opened at the Majestic after a big publicity campaign. The Exeter Theatre in Back Bay had a terrific boxoffice with "Hangover Square" and "Thunderhead." "On Approval" was also held over at the Fine Arts and "Sudan" was at the Keith Memorial for another week. Cab Calloway packed them in at the Boston but "Bring On the Girls" was still the biggest thing in Boston. Although the weather has been cold and rainy, theatre business has been good.

(Average is 100)

Boston—**Zombies on Broadway** (RKO), plus stage show 125
Fenway and Paramount—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) .. 130
Majestic—**Brewster's Millions** (UA) 130
Memorial—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 2nd wk. 120
Metropolitan—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 130
Orpheum—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 120
State—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M) 125

"Tomorrow" and "G.I. Honeymoon" Team Draws New Haven Patrons

NEW HAVEN—"Tomorrow the World" and "GI Honeymoon" at the Roger Sherman did the best downtown business. "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka" and "Circumstantial Evidence" moved from the Loew Poli to the College for a second week.

Bijou—**Pan-Americana** (RKO); **Grissly's Millions** (Rep) 85
College—**Dark Waters** (UA); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 85
Loew's Poli—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) 105
Paramount—**Sudan** (Univ); **Night Club Girl** (Univ) 100
Roger Sherman—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 109

"Dorian Gray" Heads Hartford Grosses; "Every Night" Does SRO in Third Week

HARTFORD—The electrifying rumors of Germany's defeat overshadowed everything else on the main stem. "Dorian Gray" took top boxoffice honors while Rita Hayworth in "Tonight and Every Night" did SRO business for a third week at E. M. Loew's. Second week holdovers at Loew's Palace and the Regal also clicked.

Allyn—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Lady in Death House** (PRC) 120
E. M. Loew's—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col); **The Missing Juror** (Col), 3rd wk. 160
Palace—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep), 2nd wk. 140
Poli—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **What a Blonde** (RKO) 175
Regal—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **Enter Arsene Lupin** (Univ), 2nd wk. 120
State—**Silver Fleet** (PRC), plus Martha Tilton and Victor Borge on stage 100
Strand—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col) 150

Active on "Dorian Gray"

HARTFORD—Manager Lou Cohen, Poli, planted a contest with the Times and Courant offering a $25 war bond to the best 200-word criticism on "A Picture of Dorian Gray." Another highlight of the campaign, was the appearance of Vaudevillian Eugene Wade, attired in a dress suit, top hat and black cape worn like Dorian Gray in the film, at cabarets, etc., distributing pamphlets on the film. In addition, Cohen placed ads in the local newspapers requesting all patrons who own black cats to bring them to the Poli lobby on a Wednesday morning for photos. Each one who brought a cat received a ticket and all cats were taken home immediately afterward. "It was quite a session," said Cohen, "but the publicity breaks and business on the film were well worth it."

HARTFORD

Owners of 16mm sound projectors are being asked by the war finance committee to volunteer equipment and services for showing films during the Seventh War Loan drive . . . The Mark Twain Masquers, leading Little Theatre organization in this area, will present "George Washington Slept Here" at the Avery Memorial on May 8-12 . . . Film stars H. B. Warner, Jane Darwell and Lyle Talbot will be at the Bushnell Memorial in a one-night stand of "A Doll's House" May 8 at a $3 top.

Hartfordite Kenneth Spencer has arrived home on a brief leave in between USO overseas shows. A featured player in such films as "Bataan" and "Cabin in the Sky," Spencer toured the South Pacific for the last five months and reports: "Those of us who made up the cast of our USO unit felt like postmen delivering mail from home. When we sang or played songs like "Old Man River" or "St. Louis Blues," the GIs said it was like getting a letter from the States. Some of the boys hadn't heard those songs in three years. Everywhere we went we got a wonderful reception.

Louis Ginsburg, Amalgamated Theatres, and Mrs. Ginsburg observed their fifth wedding anniversary . . . A beverage set deal has been completed at the Astor. No replacement has been set yet . . . The Crown marquee has been repainted in red.

Dean Barrett, spare time prize fight manager, reports his protege, Ken Trumbull, Rialto usher, lost his first professional bout at the Auditorium last week. Trumbull was to be in the ring again at the Auditorium this week . . . Eleanor Keefe, cashier at the Colonial, is engaged to be married next January when the fiance gets his commission.

Sgt. Ben Cohen, who has been hospitalized for a month in the Marshall Islands, has recuperated . . . Manager Fred Greenway, Palace, is in charge of recruiting local kiddie talent for the bond show to be sponsored by local theatres for the war loan at the Allyn June 23 . . . Allyn Cashier "Doty" Fritzson has been sick . . . Congratulations to Elizabeth Roulston, Allyn, on her 19th wedding anniversary . . . Harry Harrington, formerly at Dow's, has joined the Allyn staff as doorman.

Frank Ramsey, former Lenox manager who recently was granted an army discharge at Greensboro, S. C., arrived home last week after a seven-week stay in California. He rejoined the Warner circuit and resumed his post as manager of the Lenox. Henry Wittke, relief manager, returned to his former post as assistant manager of the State, Manchester.

Cashier Betty Miller sings for the USO at the YMCA each Thursday night after the Colonial Theatre boxoffice closes . . . Theatre managers in this area stood out in front to take up collections on behalf of the blind soldiers fund. Frank Morin, Regal, collected $300.31 April 23. By April 26, there was $469.87 collected at Walter Lloyd's Allyn.

Pvt. Louis Turner, ex-Princess projectionist, was home on furlough from North Carolina . . . Mrs. Norman Rolfe, Webb Playhouse manager, resigns this Saturday (5) to return to Braintree, Mass., to await the arrival of a baby. A new manager of the Webb was not announced . . . Earl Wright of Republic was in town.

Catherine Keevers replaces Elizabeth Charbonneau on the usherette staff at the Princess . . . Bernard Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, toured the area this week . . . Bernard Stevens, Astor, reports the opening this week of a Saturday matinee serial, "Masked Marvel" on a 12-week basis. It is the first time that a continuous serial has been used for Saturday matinee trade in this area for three years.



CONNECTICUT ACTIVE — Theatre men in the Connecticut area are shown above as they shouldered the major part of raising Connecticut's E bond quota in the Seventh War Loan which opens May 14. Representatives of upward of 40 theatres attended and, in the picture, seated, l. to r.: Herman Levy, New Haven, state exhibitor chairman; James F. McCarthy, Hartford County chairman; Henry Needles, state exhibitor co-chairman. Standing: Carl Goe, New Haven, distributor chairman; Lou Brown, Hartford, state theatre publicity chairman; Maurice Schulman, Hartford County co-chairman; Frank L. Cashman, executive manager of the Connecticut WFC.

Battle Star to Sirica

WATERBURY—Sgt. William A. Sirica, former manager of the Lido, Waterbury, and credited as the first theatre manager in New England to be inducted into the armed forces, has received his second battle star for participation in reconnaissance work with the Seventh photo group in the Normandy campaign. He is with the Eighth air force aerial reconnaissance in England as a radio mechanic for a photo squadron.

Teresa Wright to Paramount Picture

Teresa Wright has been borrowed from Samuel Goldwyn to costar with Ray Milland and Brian Donlevy in "Too Good to Be True," and original screen story by Ruth McKinney and Richard Branson.

From Hand Bill Peddler To Manager in 9 Years

Hartford—From a peddler of theatre hand bills to the manager of the house is the case history of Manager Bernard Stevens, who made the grade in nine years. Yes, his first job at the Astor Theatre was to distribute programs of coming film attractions along the main stem. He persisted until he got a job as usher there and in time was promoted to doorman and office helper. For four years he served as assistant manager under Sal Adorno and, later, Ted Tuttle. Then, upon the latter's recent resignation, Bernard Stevens was appointed manager.

Stevens' plans for the future are to definitely remain with the industry. He is alert, persistent and hard working. Friends predict he'll go places in the trade.

NEW HAVEN

I. J. Hoffman, Warner Theatres zone head, was back after a two-week vacation at Saratoga Springs . . . Neal Coogan, Warner home office supervisor, was in for a visit of several weeks . . . Ben Simon, Sam Rosen, Abe Rosen and Sam's eldest left on a bachelor fishing party at Rangeley Lakes.

Edward Roche, usher at the Colonial, Hartford, was killed in action in Germany April 2. He entered the service in August 1944 . . . Jack Shields, manager of the Capitol, Ansonia, is recuperating at home for several weeks after an operation at Griffin Hospital. Meantime, John Matthews of the Empress, Danbury, carries on at Ansonia.

Lou Anger, operator of the Barnum, Bridgeport, suffered a stroke recently . . . Victor Morelli, manager of the Bristol Theatre, seriously ill for the past three months, returned to his post.

Cpl. Dominick Somma, in the service four years, and stationed at Ascension Island two and a half years, is back at 20th-Fox in the booking department after a discharge . . . Pvt. Francis Flood of Warner Theatres writes he is in the provost marshal's office at a hospital in England, and that his foot injury is "coming along."

Donald C. Hawthorne of East Haven, returned veteran, has joined the staff of the Connecticut war council as assistant to David Strom, chief of the film section, with headquarters at Hartford. He will represent the council in furnishing 16mm service to local councils and other groups in support of the war effort.

Frank Ramsey, a Warner manager in the civvies and manager of the Lenox, Hartford . . . Richard Schaefer, son of Louis A. Schaefer, former manager of the Paramount here, has been promoted to captain of the marines. He now is serving with the Third marine amphibious corps at Okinawa.

Mrs. Viola Plumb, relieving at the Bristol for several months, is back at her cashier's window at the Cameo, Bristol . . . Cpl. James Bracken, former contact manager at Warner theatre department, is serving in England . . . "Buster," son of Leo Bonoff of Madison and Saybrook, is somewhere in the Pacific as pilot of a Billy Mitchell bomber.

Sympathy to the family of Charles McBride, veteran stage manager of the Paramount, New Haven, who died here after a heart attack . . . Mrs. Margaret Shubouf, wife of Sam Shubouf, College manager, volunteered as makeup expert for the East Haven High School big stage show . . . Joe DeFrancesco of the Cheshire Theatre, has been having trouble getting around these days with foot trouble.

Betty Smith of "Tree Grows in Brooklyn" fame, was in New Haven for the Yale drama department presentation of her one-act, "The Little Immortal" . . . Connie, daughter of Earl Wright, 20th-Fox salesman, was in the extras cast for "Abie's Irish Rose" at the Shubert here.

It's "Sally Ann" at Levys

NEW HAVEN—A recent arrival at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman M. Levy, Connecticut MPTO executive secretary, is Sally Ann.

Virginia Welles Spot in "To Each"

Virginia Welles has been cast for an important spot in "To Each His Own," a Paramount production.

Boston Tub Thumpers Receive State Charter

BOSTON — Tub Thumpers of America, Inc., has received its charter from the commonwealth of Massachusetts. Names of the board of directors, Harry Browning, Marjorie L. Springs, Albert E. Fowler, Daniel S. Hickey, George C. Carens, Eliot Norton and Joseph A. DePesa, appear on the papers.

The organization has a membership of 101 men and women engaged in publicity work in theatre, motion picture, newspaper and business circles, the charter relates, and was organized for the purpose of fostering a social, patriotic and historic corporation to promote goodwill and interest in any public emergency need or undertaking. Since its formation, the Tub Thumpers have assisted in the recent March of Dimes, Community Chest, Red Cross and Sixth War Loan drives and have pledged their efforts to the coming Seventh War Loan drive.

In Drive to Cover U.S.

Dan S. Hickey, "hi thumper," has prepared a bulletin on "How to Form a Tub" in an effort to help in the formation of "tubs" in cities everywhere such an organization would be beneficial.

"It is my aim to have 300 additional tubs organized this year," he said. "The Tub Thumpers of America under its constitution and bylaws, is forming affiliates of tubs in practically every city and town of consequence in this country, the objective being to make available the talents of the greatest group in the world: Press agents, newspaper writers, columnists, commentators, theatre and radio publicity men and women, radio and theatrical, and all people engaged in public relations of any kind in publicizing any public need such as Red Cross, March of Dimes, bond drives, hospital drives, etc., and at the same time to supply a definite need in the development of a camaraderie along the lines of the Gridiron and Cheese clubs."

"Inasmuch as everybody in this field has a big heart, it is a simple matter for you to call 15 or 20 of them together and request a charter for a tub in your city. Each member of the tub agrees, of course, to make his or her talents available in publicizing of any public need either by word of mouth, personal activity or publicity of any kind.

"Limit your invitations to membership to those engaged in professional work as listed above. In the Boston Tub 1, we have closed our membership at 101 and at the end of each year we will screen out those that have not been of assistance. This does not make the tub exclusive . . ."

The release was signed by Harry Browning, chief tub thumper.

Play Center "Adopted" By Philadelphia Tent

From Eastern Edition

PHILADELPHIA—Variety Club last week "adopted" a recreation center in the heart of a congested negro district in its program to combat juvenile delinquency in this city.

The club voted an appropriation of $1,500 to buy equipment for the gymnasium, workshops and outdoor games. In addition, Variety Club will pay for personnel to handle the boys and girls in the district. Pay roll for the year will be about $7,500.

Film men are working with the Crime Prevention Ass'n in trying to curb juvenile delinquency. Many neighborhood theatres have been the first to feel the outbreaks of hoodlumism when the youngsters get out of hand. Displays have been smashed, chairs and windows broken and other facilities have been put out of commission by rampaging boys and girls.

WORCESTER

The marriage of Phyllis Meservey of the Capitol to Peter DeFeudis will take place June 23 in St. Margaret Mary's Church . . . In her new autobiography, Sophie Tucker tells of singing in a Worcester theatre in 1907, her first year on the stage, but oldest theatre men here can't figure where she might have played.

Alec Davis, manager of the Warner, never misses a vaudeville show, and Bob Portle, manager of the Elm Street, never missed a boxing card . . . Manager Harold H. Maloney of the Poli was host to Rita Johnson's parents when her newest film, "Thunderhead," opened here.

The Better Films Council, through its president, Mrs. Howard S. Shepard, announces approval of "Bring On the Girls," "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "Thunderhead" for the family; "Ministry of Fear," "Circumstantial Evidence," "I Accuse My Parents," "A Song for Miss Julie" and "What a Blonde" for mature-family audiences, and "Dangerous Passage" and "Laura" for adults.

Bob Robison, former manager of the Plymouth, has recovered from an illness with which he was stricken in New Bedford. In preparation for the summer circus season, he has purchased a trailer . . . Tommy Dorsey's band was booked for a dance at the Auditorium May 5, his first appearance here in four years due to legal difficulties in this state.

Managers of all the city's theatres have agreed on May 24 as the date for a bond premiere at the Capitol, with "Salty O'Rourke" as the attraction, Elmer R. Daniels, chairman, announced . . . The Hamid-Morton circus drew poorly in its week stand at the Auditorium.

Charlie Spivak, the band leader, told Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, that he has an idea he's jinxed in coming to Worcester. The first time here he followed Pearl Harbor and recently he came in on the heels of President Roosevelt's death . . . Manager Alec Davis of the Warner reported a holdover on "God Is My Co-Pilot."

Morton L. Stevens, formerly of the Playhouse, is in New York rehearsing for the new comedy, "Round Trip" . . . Manager James H. Taylor of the Greendale reported to police that thieves entered the house through a side window and stole $215 in cash and $50 in war stamps.

The annual meeting of the Better Films Council was held at the Sheraton, with Miss Katherine V. Lyford of the Massachusetts Civic League speaking . . . Bob Rawson of the Elm Street resigned to join the Hamid-Morton circus staff . . . Mrs. Mary Foley Moriarty has returned to the Poli, where she is an assistant manager, after her honeymoon trip.

In preparation for production of the "Worcester Follies," Manager Jerry Finnegan of the Plymouth is advertising for 100 girls to comprise the chorus . . . Manager Harold Maloney's office at the Poli has undergone renovation, with new linoleum, redecorating and even a picket fence. A new publicity room also has been arranged.

Resigned from the Elm Street are Jack McGrail, chief of service; Nishian Hagopian and Grace Niddrie . . . Harry Cool, radio headliner, and Suzanne Fisher, opera star, were in town.

'King of Kings' Smitten By Crosby's Crooning

Warner, N. H.—Add another laurel for Bing Crosby: Haile Selassie likes him!

Col. Alfred E. McKenney of Warner served as emperor escort for the Ethiopian "King of Kings" during President Roosevelt's Suez conferences and showed the emperor several American films.

Colonel McKenney reported that "Going My Way" made a big hit with the royal visitor. So much so, in fact, that the emperor signified an eagerness to pick up orchestrations of songs featured in the film.

Legislature in Albany Passes on Film Bills

From Eastern Edition

ALBANY—The 1945 legislature, before closing its regular session, passed several bills that affect motion picture theatres and killed two or three which would have affected the industry. On the positive side, the solons okayed a measure by Senator William F. Condon of Yonkers and Assemblyman Frederick H. Washburn of Hudson, which amends the labor law in relation to places of public assembly and the enforcement of the laws respecting such places.

This latter bill was prepared by the state labor department and an advisory committee appointed months ago by Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi, to modernize the standard building code adopted in 1925. The act was promoted by disastrous fires, such as the Cocoanut Grove holocaust in Boston and the Ringling Brothers circus tent in Hartford, Conn. Circuses are not covered under the present definition of "place of public assembly" in New York state.

The Condon-Washburn bill writes a new and broader definition of "place of public assembly." Theatres and motion picture houses are included, as at present. The industrial commissioner is directed to authorize provisions of the article and rules adopted thereunder, except in cities "having a population of one hundred thousand or more" where there is a building department. Outside of cities and "incorporated villages," the provisions and rules shall be enforced by the state police (present procedure). Several other changes are made. The act shall take effect regarding newly defined places of public assembly, July 1, 1946. Regarding existing places of public assembly, it shall take effect immediately. The act, which is expected to be signed by Governor Dewey, does not apply to New York City. The metropolis has a special building code.

The Coudert-Brooks bill, limiting the total number of school and working hours for minors between 16 and 17 enrolled in day schools, was passed. Twice amended, it limits the number of hours school youngsters may work daily and weekly. This probably will reduce the number of hours boys and girls can work in theatres.

$300,000 Reputedly Paid For Chicago Majestic

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—The reputed price paid for the Majestic Theatre property, purchased by the Schuberts through Monroe Properties, Inc., a Schubert-controlled outfit, is $300,000. This makes five theatre Lee and Jake Schubert own in Chicago. The Majestic is to be completely overhauled and will be readied for a June opening if materials are available.

I. J. Schmertz With Fox Longest of All

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—It sounds contradictory to say that I. J. Schmertz is celebrating his 37th year with the 20th-Fox Corp. organization when the company of that name is only holding its 30th birthday anniversary, but it is nevertheless true. You see, Schmertz stepped straight from school into the office of William Fox, at that time head of the Greater New York Film Rental Co. As in all American success stories, he started as the office boy. There were plenty of ladders back in 1905 and Izzie soon started to climb the Fox ladder to an executive position, but he always stayed on the same ladder.



I. J. SCHMERTZ

When William Fox sold his Greater New York Film Rental Co. to General Film and formed Boxoffice Attractions, Schmertz was made manager of the office. That was in New York. After Boxoffice Attractions became the Fox Film Corp. Schmertz continued to take on more and more responsibility in the distribution field. He opened and managed the company's branch in Albany for ten years. It was in Albany that the team of Schmertz and Bergman was formed, Schmertz as branch manager, and Edwin R. "Eddie" Bergman as salesman, a team that was transferred 16 years ago from Albany to Cleveland.

So far as is known, Schmertz has been with 20th-Fox and its immediate predecessors longer than any one, including its top men. He has maintained a reputation of integrity, good judgment and loyalty.

Commenting on the fact that his association with the company is older than the company itself, Schmertz said this was the only job he ever had, and although he has nothing to prove it, it is his private opinion that it looks like a permanent connection.

FPC Starts Preparations For Filming of Shorts

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Following a lengthy business stay in Hollywood of President J. J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players Canadian Corp. is reported to be preparing for the producing of 15 short subjects in Canada for general theatre release. This subject was broached by Adolph Zukor of New York when he addressed the 25th FPC anniversary dinner here January 23, who stated that the making of pictures in the Dominion, suitable for world-wide distribution and commencing with short subjects, was in prospect. Zukor was a director of the Canadian chain company for many years.

It is recalled that the Nathanson-Rank interests in Canada have organized a company for the making of a wide range of 16mm films for use in schools and by industrial companies, patriotic societies and governments. Frank O'Byrne, for many years with Associated Screen News, is now manager of the new Nathanson company which is arranging for a studio in the Toronto district.

"Gabby" Hayes on Appearance Tour

George "Gabby" Hayes, western comedian, is scheduled for a one-week personal appearance engagement at the Orpheum in San Diego, beginning May 8, to be followed by a week at the Orpheum in Los Angeles.

SPRINGFIELD

Herman Rifkin, circuit owner, has been named to the New England advisory committee of the war loan drive headed by Martin J. Mullin, Boston . . . Nathan E. Goldstein, president of the WMT circuit, was appointed a regional director of the drive.

Cpl. Harry Storin jr., whose dad is publicity director for Ed Carroll's Riverside Park-In Theatre, is editor of a daily army newspaper in Manila which he gets out in a Chinese plant. He reports that everything is handset by Chinese who do not know a word of English. Harry is 20 and has been overseas nearly two years.

Local trade members tripped up to Marlboro to attend the farewell party for George Heeley, Marlboro Theatre manager, who resigned after six years at the helm for army induction at Ft. Devens.

Jerry Finnegan, former manager of the Court Square, reports Ralph Eaton, former Plymouth manager, has joined Samuel Wasserman Enterprises. Ed Harrison, E. M. Loew's district manager, is holding the fort at the Court Square.

Lieut. Carroll Lawler, former owner of the Lawler in Greenfield, is in charge of a naval district recreation department . . . Dan Fagerquist, Plymouth, Worcester, was here for a preinduction physical exam.

Flags, banners, posters and ticket tape decorated the streets of Springfield last week in honor of the premiere of WB's "It Happened in Springfield" at the Capitol April 24. Warner executives from New Haven, including John Hesse and Dan Finn, plus civic, state and school department officials were entertained at a dinner at the Hotel Sheraton, prior to the screening. Newspaper and radio officials throughout the New England area were on hand for the ceremonies. The film, based on the celebrated Springfield plan for democracy through education, opened at all other downtown houses for week-long runs the following day here and in Hartford and New Haven.

Allen Parnett, new assistant manager at the Art, recently was granted a discharge from the army. Al continues to commute from Holyoke until he finds an appartment in Springfield.

Charlie Patch, Art manager, moved into a new apartment with his family and his baby grand piano. He reports he needed the apartment to fit the piano! . . . Lou Brown, publicity chairman for the war loan drive in New England, was here for conferences with theatre committee men, on the drive.

Counterfeiters Tripped By Alert Show Cashier

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—Etta Hegborn, cashier, and George Topper, manager of the Haymarket Theatre on the near west side, were responsible for the arrest of two men who were passing counterfeit money, but only after one of them leaped from a second story window of a hotel near the theatre.

When the two entered the theatre, the cashier noticed that a bill offered to pay admission was marked $1 on one side and $10 on the other.

She notified Topper who saw the men flee through a side exit. Police were called, took up the chase which led into a hotel, upstairs and thence to the window.

Theatres Liberally Raise $6,000 for Pool

HARTFORD—When local civic and state officials under the leadership of Gov. Raymond Baldwin and Francis S. Murphy, publisher of the Times, asked for the 100 per cent cooperation by theatres in the collection of funds to build a swimming pool for blind service men at the Avon Old Farms Hospital, Avon, Conn., a theatre quota was set at $1,000 for April 22-29. Henry Needles, Warner district manager, was theatre chairman. The theatres met their quota in two days, April 22-23, and continued strongly throughout the week. The Travelers Girls Club members served as lobby aides to supplement theatre staffs. Screen trailers, posters, and banners were utilized and special theatre page plugs were landed in the local newspapers. By April 28, theatres here scored $6,000 for the fund and had not finished yet!

Film Killings Too Vivid, Sing Sing Doctor Says

From Canadian Edition

MONTREAL—Motion picture directors and producers give too little value to human life on the screen and newspapers publicize crime details too much for the good of the general public, Dr. Amos O. Squire, consultant doctor at Sing Sing penitentiary and chief medical examiner of Westchester County, New York, asserted in a talk at a meeting of the Youth Bureau of Montreal in the Ritz Carlton Hotel. When people who are often on "the ragged edge" see killing re-enacted so realistically on the screen or read in their papers about crimes committed, it is sometimes the final step needed in their own desire to kill, explained Squire.

NEW BRITAIN

Nick Mascoli, the Waterbury exhibitor, has received his go-ahead permit on plans to build a theatre there soon . . . Also building, Ralph Pasho, Naugatuck, expects to have his boxoffice open for business in July . . . Manager Jack Shields, Capitol, Ansonia, was at Griffin Hospital . . . A reissue, "Torrid Zone," clicked at the Strand here, reports Randy Maller.

Bob Schwartz, Paramount, Thomaston, is fishing while Jack Harvey, Palace, Danbury, is working on the garden and lawns around his new home during their off times . . . Manager and Mrs. Rus Hesse down Groton way announce the birth of a baby boy, their first arrival.

John Borenstein, Embassy, theatre publicity chairman for the New Britain cancer fund drive, reports that returns are coming in satisfactorily . . . Murray Howard, Palace, South Norwalk, is using Saturday morning kiddie talent shows for a drawing card . . . Joseph Spivak, proud dad manager of the Music Box, reports his baby son Burton took his first steps last week.

Ted Markoff, owner of the Colchester Theatre, is working on a deal for a 23-foot yacht and says that if he doesn't land it he'll still be in the market for a good fishing boat . . . Manager and Mrs. Walter Murphy, Capitol, New London, tripped into New York for a few days last week. They report their son Jim is serving with the paratroopers in France as a lieutenant . . . No replacement has yet been made for Russ Newton, former assistant manager recently inducted into the army after eight years with the Capitol.

Detroit Labor Paper Wants Curfew Eased

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—A move to secure modification of the curfew to give proper recreational scope to war workers on evening and night shifts has been launched by the Detroit Wayne County Federation of Labor, through its official organ, the Detroit Labor News. The editorial pays tribute to the war service of the industry, and points to what it terms the apparent lack of consideration apparently given to war workers' needs in the sudden imposition of the order.

"Our brain-trusters inflict a curfew regulation, presumably in the interest of the war effort," the editorial states. "The authority at Washington that decreed the curfew is the same authority that designated these places of amusement as essential to the war effort because of their contribution to morale.

"In an industrial community such as ours, the execution of the defense program is on an around-the-clock production basis. Consequently, the shop hours of a great number of industrial workers are of such a nature that the only time they can get any amusement or relaxation is after midnight.

"Theatres, cafes and dance halls have been used extensively by the various governmental agencies in promoting campaigns to reach the American people. In the various war bond drives, the Red Cross, the war chest, and all other war sustaining efforts where the mass public must be reached, the places of amusement have been called upon to make a large contribution. The motion picture industry has been outstanding in its cooperation with these various efforts . . .

"Experience has now demonstrated the fallacy of the curfew regulations. They should be lifted in such a manner as to guarantee opportunities of recreation and amusement to the portion of the public which must seek its outlet after 12 o'clock."

Donald Duck Inspires Poet By Unintelligibility

From Mideast Edition

KANSAS CITY—Frank Sinatra may have fans of bobby-socks age swooning over him but it remains for Donald Duck to inspire feminine poets. One of his admirers goes all-out for his "line" in this verse taken from a recent Kansas City Star:

DONALD DUCK

Such peerless invective,
Such quips unselective,
Such fierce improvising,
Anathematizing—
His syllables slither
From whence into whither
Indignant and raucous—
They tease and they mock us,
Amuse us, or frighten—
But never enlighten!
If all those who "fanned" him
Could just understand him!
So all who admire it
Might hope to acquire it—
This rich education
In vituperation—
This fury, resounding,
Exploding, rebounding—
Could all the commotion
Be geared to slow motion?

DOROTHY BROWN THOMPSON.

Charles Ellman, 33 Years A Showman, Dies at 49

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE — Charles Ellman, 49, an amusement operator, died at his home here. Starting in the amusement business at 16, for the last 25 years he operated the Ellman United Shows, playing fairs and carnivals all over the middle west, and the south. Surviving are five sisters and one brother.

"Diamond Horseshoe" Gag Delights at Screenings

From Mideast Edition

PITTSBURGH — Biggest screening room roar of the season is a running gag in 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," which explains the traditional idea that "the show must go on."

"Why?" inquires Phil Silvers, who is seen as backstage director at Billy Rose's de luxe establishment, and just before the finale in the Technicolor production, the answer is revealed to theatregoers who see the film. A full-house trade audience in the local 20th-Fox projection room, appreciated the answer keenly and cut loose with a screaming laugh which must have been heard all over Filmrow.

P. S.—The explanation is: The show must go on because there is real cash in the till and the management doesn't want to make refunds!

Death of Sgt. Petersen Ends Promising Career

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE — Death of Sgt. Gordon Petersen, 27, in action in France, wrote finis to a promising stage career.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Petersen here, Sergeant Petersen won local prominence as a playwright, stage producer, actor, director and designer of costumes and stage settings. His one-man productions, all resulting from leisure hours he devoted to the theatre, were put on by the Seven Arts Society, of which he was a member.

Petersen won several prizes in the annual state playwriting contests at Madison. Two of the prize-winning manuscripts were "Lancelot of the Lake" and "Bellerophon Fallen."

Formerly employed at the First Wisconsin National Bank, he was in service two years.

Brother, can you spare some time?

Others like to know what you are doing — what changes you are making at your theatre, etc. Send in the news and we'll relay it to the industry.



Buying? Installing? Remodeling? Redecorating? Rebuilding? Transferring? Exploiting? Hiring? Promoting?

GIVE US THE FACTS. WE WILL DO THE REST.

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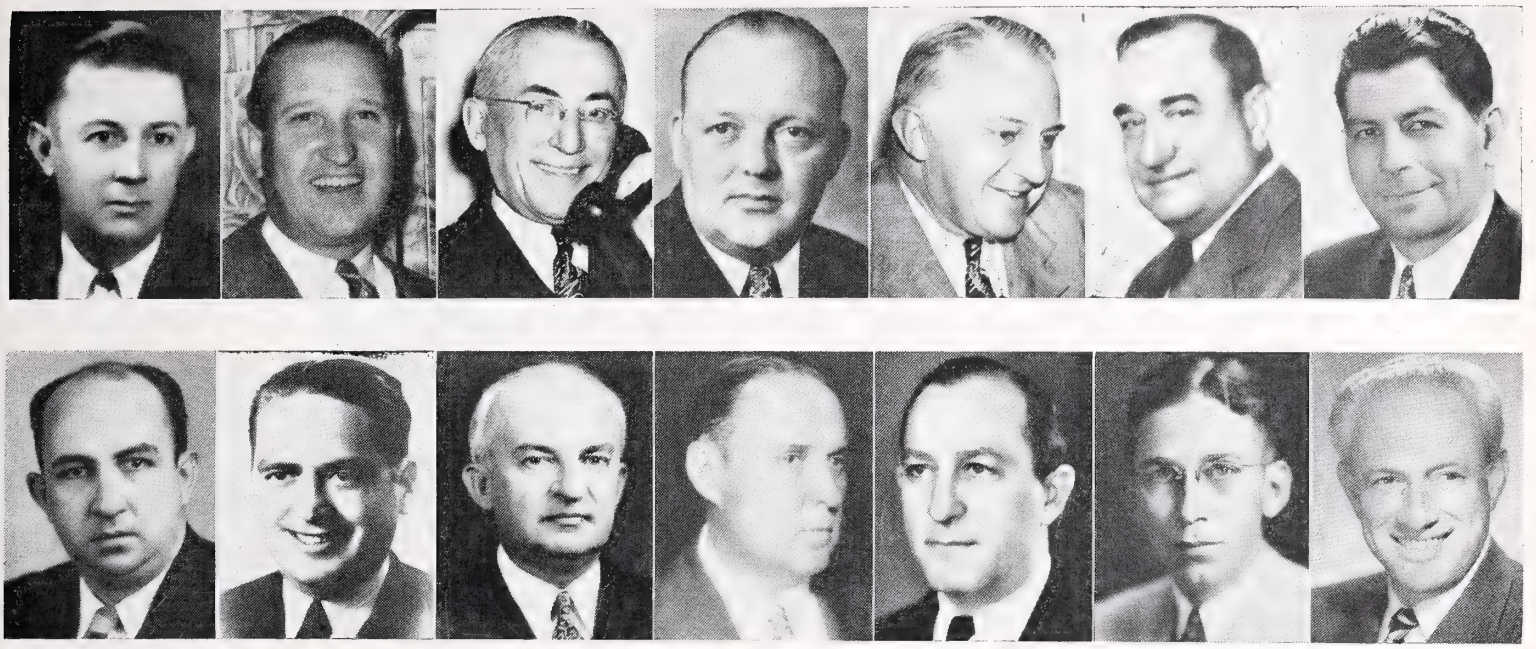
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Theatre .....

Location .....

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Southern Area's "Mighty Seventh" Exhibitor Chairmen



SOUTH SAYS "READY!"—Exhibitor state chairmen from the "solid south" are waiting for the starter's pistol in the "Mighty Seventh" drive. Virtually every theatre in the Southland has been broadsided, and the bond-selling campaign is expected to get under way in whirlwind fashion.

Top panel, l. to r.: Alabama, R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham; Arkansas, Co-Chairmen Claude C. Mundo of Little Rock and M. J. Pruniski of North Little Rock; Florida, J. L. Cartwright, Jacksonville; Georgia, William K. Jenkins, Atlanta; Louisiana, E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Mississippi, Co-Chairman Arthur Lehmann, Jackson.

Lower panel: Mississippi, Co-Chairman Burgess Waltmon, Columbus; Oklahoma, C. B. "Brownie" Akers, Oklahoma City; North Carolina, H. F. Kincey, Charlotte; South Carolina, Warren Irvin, Columbia; Tennessee, Co-Chairmen M. A. Lightman of Memphis and Kermit Stengel of Nashville; Texas, R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas.

Dallas Dinner Party Honors S. L. Oakley

DALLAS—An elaborate cocktail and dinner party was given in Athletic Club honoring S. L. Oakley, vice-president of Jefferson Amusement Co. who is moving with his family to Beaumont as general manager of that circuit.

Charles E. Darden and John Franconi suggested the party which quickly expanded into a large affair with all film companies and their home offices taking a part. The originators turned the idea over to Variety Club which in turn sponsored the affair.

In the club's Victory room were seated some 150 film and theatre executives. There was no dais, only a head table at which sat Oakley, Sam Landrum, who succeeds him in Dallas; R. J. O'Donnell and James O. Cherry. There were no formal speeches. Cherry introduced O'Donnell who in his distinctive way as an emcee read General Patton's instructions to his soldiers on D-Day. O'Donnell called on Oakley who responded briefly. Landrum spoke next, voicing his pleasure in the opportunity of coming to Dallas and taking charge of Jefferson's booking offices here. O'Donnell gave Oakley 12 golf balls and a handsome desk clock, presents from his many industry friends.

Committee members for the party were Franconi, Darden, Cherry, R. I. Payne, Don Douglas, J. B. Underwood, Duke Clark, Ben Cammack, Fred Larned, Sol Sachs, Heywood Simmons, F. W. Allen, Lloyd Rust, Phil Longdon, Jack Zern, Cecil House, John Jenkins, Fred Hansen, Alfred Sack, Henry Sorenson, E. S. Olsmith, Doak Roberts, Winston Loewe, Ed Blumenthal, Roy Litsey, LeRoy Bickel, Burtis Bishop, Wallace Walthall, Jack Adams, J. B. Underwood and Harold Schwartz.

Carolina Red Cross Total Passes the $134,000 Mark

CHARLOTTE—Theatre patrons and film exchange employes in the Carolinas contributed a total of $134,739.30 in the Red Cross campaign, H. F. Kincey, exhibitor chairman, announced in his final report. The 1945 total was about 33 per cent more than the 1944 campaign collections.

J. G. Long Opens 55th House at Pasadena

HOUSTON—The J. G. Long circuit has opened its second theatre, named Long's Theatre, in Pasadena near here, making the 55th house for the chain. The other house is the Pasadena. A number of nearby theatre owners and film men from Dallas were present for the opening and entertainment that followed.

Murray Knolton Named Assistant at Medina

MEDINA, TENN.—Murray Knolton has been named assistant office manager of the Medina Theatre. Knolton has been projectionist and formerly was assistant manager of the theatre under its former owner.

Louise Beavers to "Young Widow"

Louise Beavers has been assigned to the cast of "Young Widow," United Artists production.

Seven New Theatres Planned in Southland

NEW ORLEANS—Seven new theatres soon will be in operation in Mississippi and Alabama, according to reports current this week on the New Orleans filmrow.

One, the Gala, already has opened its doors in Butler, Ala., and the others are expected to be in operation within 60 or 90 days.

The projected new houses include two by Fred T. McLenden, of Union Springs, Ala., one to be located in Wesson, Miss., and the other in Loxley, Ala. A. L. Royal of Meridan, Miss., operator of the Ritz theatres in Meridan and Jackson, Miss., plans a new house in Waynesboro, Miss.

Claude McCreary soon will open a theatre in Crichton, Ala., and Charlie King expects to open a new suburban mobile theatre, the Booker T., within the next five or six weeks. He already has the Pike, Lincoln, Harlem and Ace theatres there.

Leonard Pederson Rests At Biloxi After Surgery

BILOXI, MISS.—Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Pedersen of Chicago, who formerly manufactured motion picture repair parts, have been at the Edgewater Beach Hotel here while recuperating from a recent surgical operation.

Pedersen has been engaged in manufacturing repair parts for navy planes during the war and contemplates returning to producing motion picture repair parts at the cessation of hostilities.

William Kaster Acquires Fort Myers, Fla., Lee

FORT MYERS, FLA.—William Kaster of New York, having disposed of a playhouse there, came to Fort Myers for a vacation. He decided to purchase the Lee Theatre here, did so, and has taken over its operation. Manny Sussman, who had been running the house, purchased the business from Herb Copelan in 1942, when Copelan entered armed service.

NEW ORLEANS

Thomas Dunn, formerly of Texas, has joined Universal here as salesman for the Mississippi territory, succeeding Ed L. O'Neill, now Universal branch manager.

Ben Hill, UA exploiteer, was here working on promotion for "I'll Be Seeing You," at the State . . . Charles Shaw, RKO exploiteer, arrived Tuesday (1) to work on "The Enchanted Cottage," due May 10 at the Orpheum.

An all-day picnic at the state park in Covington, La., was slated May 6 by the Columbia Employes Club. Margaret Kaiser, president, Gene Wright and Dorothy Caruso were named to plan entertainment. The Columbia clubbers meet monthly for discussion and a screening. John Winberry, salesman, was the cynosure of the most recent meeting—being father of his first son John jr.

Albert Reidel, former Columbia shipping clerk, has been jumped from staff sergeant to second lieutenant in the European battle area . . . Historians hereabouts claim that popcorn, that indispensable aid to the enjoyment of movies, originated with Creoles in old New Orleans.

Roger Filiberto, who advertises that he taught Dorothy Lamour tenor guitar lessons for two years, opened a downtown music studio here . . . Ed Frankel, owner of the Century in Mobile, retired as active manager of the theatre May 1. He plans to catch up on some hunting and fishing during his retirement . . . Bill Straub changed the name of the Palace in Wiggins, Miss., to the Straub following a complete renovation of the front of the building.

A. Harry Conrad of the Broussard Theatre recently was appointed manager of the Little food dehydrating plant in Lafayette, La. His new work will not interrupt his theatre operation . . . Mrs. Larry Roselle, formerly Miss Edith Reynolds, a clerk at Metro, has a new baby girl born at Hotel Dieu.

Mrs. Marie Saucier of Metro's inspection department reported the wedding of her brother, John Bivona . . . The following names are on a distinctive "Serving Our Country" plaque at the entrance of the Metro exchange: Lawson B. Arrington, Thomas L. Mitchell, Harry C. Reid, Thomas T. McNabb, Thomas W. Philbin and Samuel A. Wright jr.

W. A. Prewitt of Associated Theatres and Max Connett, Newton, Miss., recently returned from a flying trip to Temple, Tex. Prewitt's family will move soon to Bay St. Louis on the Mississippi gulf coast, a town that annually attracts many New Orleanians for the summer season.

Filmrow visitors: John Kirby, Atlanta, Paramount manager; W. B. Robb of the Harlem Theatre, Canton, Miss.; Paul Lee, Lee, Cut Off, La.; Carl Wethers, East End, Baton Rouge; Gordon Ogden, Ogden, Baton Rouge; W. R. Irwin of the Rosso, Plaquemine, La., and the following New Orleans exhibitors: Rene Brunet of the Imperial, Henry Waguespack of the Garden, Maurice Joseph of the Center, and C. Mortimore of the Bell and Town theatres.

Film exchange executives and salesmen meet regularly now at 11 a. m. on Mondays with WAC leaders of the Seventh War Loan campaign. Monday's session was conducted in the 20th-Fox screening room.

New sound equipment recently was installed in the Delhi Theatre at Delhi by Delta Theatre Supply . . . Otto Gaden plans to reopen his theatre in Heidelberg, Miss., at an early date. The house was destroyed by fire . . . The Pringle Theatre, Glenmora, which burned last year, has been reopened by the owner, W. C. Pringle, after having been closed for many months.

George Pabst, 20th-Fox salesman, is the father of a baby boy born April 22 at the Mercy Hospital. He has two other children.

See Bright Season Ahead For Little Theatre Group

NEW ORLEANS—The Little Theatre now is completely in the clear, financially, which means that all of next season's revenues may be devoted to obtaining guest stars and directors and to staging more elaborate productions, according to an official spokesman.

B. Iden Payne, former director of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon and at present staff director of the New York Theatre Guild, is here presently as guest director of "Much Ado About Nothing," scheduled for presentation this month. The first production of the new season will be "Over 21," slated for June.

Under Bernard Szold, now of Hollywood, the Little Theatre inaugurated a policy of featuring movie starlets whose companies approved footlight experience for them.



HOME ON FURLOUGH—Seaman 1/c Linford Pitts, Oklahoma salesman for M-G-M, who recently returned from overseas and is now stationed in Brooklyn, visits Charles F. Deesen, assistant to the central division sales manager, John J. Maloney, at the M-G-M home office.

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Orleans Parish Head Backs School Films

NEW ORLEANS—Educators generally are aware of the teaching values of motion pictures, according to Mrs. Camilla Best, director of the audio-visual aids department of Orleans Parish public schools and prized contact of many local and visiting movie exploiteers, exhibitors and distributors.



CAMILLA BEST

Despite the eagerness of educators to utilize movies, however, they must be acquainted with the particular values of individual productions. In this connection Mrs. Best says nothing takes the place of personal contact. Bulletins sent through the mail are often buried in the mass of material on a busy principal's (or teacher's or supervisor's) desk. Mrs. Best recommends previews and complimentary tickets to representative school and parent-teacher groups, personal visits in schools by exploiteers as often as possible, and publicity supplies to school publications.

Works Out Many Tieups

She supplies mailing lists to exploiteers and personally plugs worthy films on her incessant rounds in school circles. Working with Dick Owens of 20th-Fox on "Wilson," she contacted school principals, history and social teachers with the result that reports were assigned en masse in two of New Orlean's largest public schools. Ken Prickett of M-G-M and Mrs. Best worked out numerous tieups with history, economics, civics, and industrial geography teachers on "An American Romance" and with art and speech teachers on "The Picture of Dorian Gray." With Henry Morris, Columbia exploiteer, she contacted music and music appreciation teachers on "A Song to Remember." Art and Spanish language teachers saw "The Three Caballeros" at previews arranged by Fred Ford of RKO and Mrs. Best, resulting in extensive lesson plans based on the film.

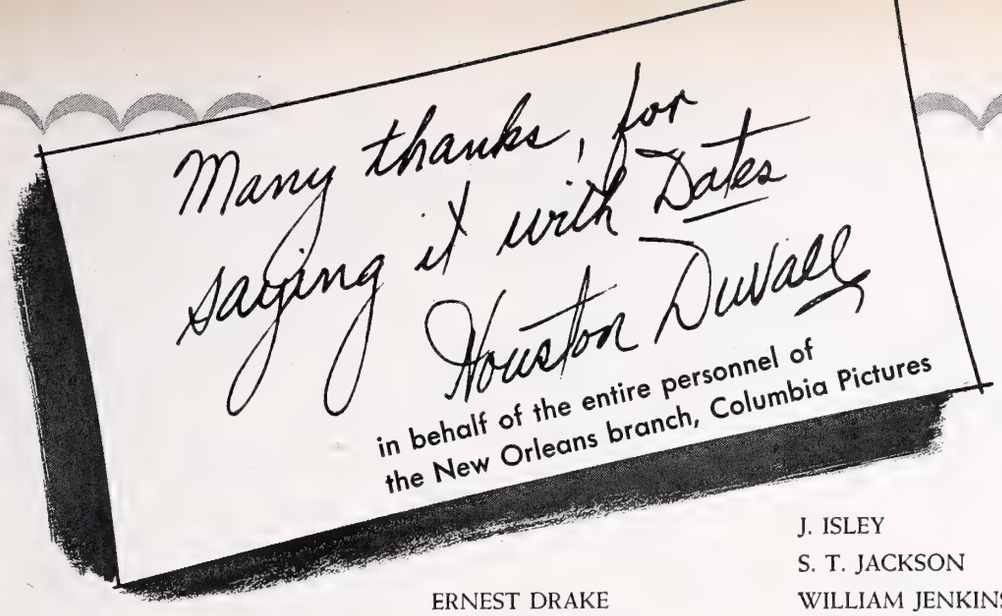
"Louisiana Springtime" Filmed by Fox Movietone

NEW ORLEANS—A Fox Movietone News crew recently completed a Technicolor short, "Louisiana Springtime," to be released nationally. The film shows scenic highlights of Avery Island, famous for salt mines, bird sanctuary, and flora; New Iberia, St. Martinsville, and Lafayette in the Evangeline-Teche country; St. Francisville, noted for its antebellum homes and gardens; Baton Rouge, the state capital; Buras, center of the orange growing section, and New Orleans.

Lloyd Bacon, the director, and a Fox camera crew, here earlier this month, planned to return here around May 1 for location work on "The Enchanted Voyage."

Cameraman Earl Crotchett of Universal News is reported by Columnist Maude O'Brien of the Times-Picayune and New Orleans States to be due here soon to make a "Stranger Than Fiction" short.

William Pine and William Thomas have been at the Roosevelt Hotel here, planning a film starring Johnny Weissmuller with a New Orleans and Mississippi River angle. They leave here Thursday for New York and plan to return here around June 1.



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MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES



THOSE TERRIFIC TEXANS—Showmen of the Lone Star State are ready for the Seventh War Loan; more than 200 pledging support at the meeting at Variety Club headquarters last weekend. In the photo, l. to r.: Cecil House, state distributor chairman for Texas; R. J. O'Donnell, Texas WAC chairman; Judson James, chairman, WFC for Texas; James O. Cherry, city manager of Interstate Theatres in Dallas and chief barker of the Variety Club of Texas.

DALLAS

Paul Campbell, new owner of the Palace at Hico, was in early in the week. He is a Californian with a knowledge of horticulture and formerly owned and operated the theatre at Grand Prairie a year. He sold out and went back to California because his draft board wanted him, but he didn't make the grade, so he came back to Texas and bought the Palace.

R. N. Smith of Mission, owner of a dozen theatres in the Rio Grande Valley section, was here buying and booking. He attended the war bond meeting and did some Variety Club golfing . . . Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen passed through by plane on the way from Hollywood to New York. Because of priorities they were delayed here a few hours. Bergen and some local friends went to a local restaurant for steaks. The enterprising restaurant owner had photographers on hand and got himself and Bergen in a two-column photo all over the front page of the second section.

Pvt. John B. Long jr., former manager of the East Grand Theatre who was a war prisoner in Germany since January, has been freed by American forces. He was attached to the 103rd division when captured in France.

Jack Groves, chief barker of the Variety Club at Houston and owner of the Queen Theatre, was here several days. Jack was a Dallas film man for many years, several with M-G-M. He expressed pride in his nephew, Guy, who won two big races at a collegiate track meet on Rice Field in Houston a few days previous. Guy has lived with Jack the past seven years. He will be graduated at Rice soon and leave on a navy assignment.

Don Douglas of the R&R organization was out getting a little sun along the Row Tuesday morning. He had a blue corn flower in his coat lapel. On questioning it developed he is a fancier of flowers and cultivates many varieties at his home in the White Rock Lake area. He said the corn flowers were not so beautiful this year because of excessive rain, but that the rose crop was fine. Any other busy exhibitor interested in flower culture might form a valuable exchange of information here.

Truman Hendrix, Paramount northern Texas and Dallas salesman, was without his car a few hours over the weekend. The machine was stolen at a late hour from a parking lot in the rear of the Paramount Bldg., but was recovered promptly by police. All tires were intact but the engine was abused badly and had to be overhauled.

Henry Reeve, president of the Texas Theatre Owners and owner and operator of the Mission at Menard, was here for the Seventh War Loan meeting and the Variety golf tournament. Reeve was a co-chairman of the Sixth War Loan drive, but he is spending his time at home and getting acquainted again with his own theatre during this campaign . . . Lance Davis and wife of Rotan stopped in at the R&R office for a visit. Lance is a circuit partner.

Raymond Cornes of the Cornes in Farmersville was working fast here Monday getting things in shape to leave his home Friday on a fishing jaunt to Lake Devernia between Longview and Gladewater. He is taking his son and two dogs.

Don C. Douglas and his wife Polly celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary. Several film folk recalled the ceremony performed in the apartment of LeRoy Bickel and wife. Don holds the public relations post for Robb & Rowley-United Theatres and edits the 24 Sheeter, popular circuit organ . . . Ted Reid, who recently received a discharge from the army, has been employed as shipper for Monogram, succeeding the late C. D. Jackson. Ted held down ad sales and shipping jobs at exchanges before joining the service.

Ray Jennings, owner and operator of the Raye and Park theatres in Hondo, was on the Row on a buying and booking trip which he makes about every three months. He left here with a friend on a fishing trip to Lake Dallas. Ray was wearing the first panama seen here this season.

H. A. Daniels of the Palace at Seguin and Eph Charninsky, zone manager for Neighborhood Theatres in San Antonio, both associated with Underwood & Ezell, came in for the Seventh War Loan meeting and to take in entertainment activities in connection with the Variety golf tournament . . . Lew Groves who runs a theatre in the small Oklahoma town of Ringling and feeds a few red cattle on the side, was here recently on the Row after an absence of several months. He was looking for a blower to help in cooling his house.

Walter B. King
King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
Ambassador Hotel Dallas, Tex.

Fred Larned, LeRoy Bickel High in Dallas Tourney

DALLAS—Two exchange managers won capital prizes in the Variety Club spring golf tournament held Monday at the Glenn Lakes Country Club. Fred Larned of Paramount was first with a net 57. LeRoy Bickel was a close second with a net 63. First prize was a watch and the second a poker table.

The next four players tied with 65 and drew for prizes. They were Morgan Williams and Charles Jorday, local radio men; Torrence Hudgins, secretary to Raymond Willie, and Dan Gould jr., Fort Worth manager. One hundred and ten, the largest number of players in the history of Variety tournaments, participated.

The prizes were awarded Monday night at Glenn Lakes by Chief Barker J. O. Cherry, assisted by Charles Meeker, former Elm Street sport manager. Duke H. Evans was general chairman of golfing activities. Dinner was served to 250 guests. A cast of local talent laid them in the aisles with a performance of "The Drunkard's Daughter."

The tournament began with open house at the Variety Club rooms downtown Saturday afternoon. The Calcutta was held Sunday afternoon and night in the same location.

Shipman Bullard to Open Pope in Durant, Okla.

DURANT, OKLA.—Shipman Bullard and wife of the Savage Theatre here have leased the old Pope Theatre in McKinney, Tex. After rehabilitation they will open the house on May 22. The Bullards have been successful in subsequent run operation. It is understood they have some second runs in McKinney.

DALLAS—W. G. Underwood and Roy Brockman own the Texas and Ritz in McKinney, where the latter long has been the resident manager with Robb & Rowley acting as buyer and booker.

New R&R Affiliate

DALLAS—The new North Texas Air Conditioning Co. has opened offices here at 2015 Young St. The incorporators include C. V. Jones, Deacon Bell, Frank Dowd and others of the Robb & Rowley organization. Last year before the death of H. B. Robb the building at 2015 Young St. was purchased by R&R interests, and most of it now is being used as a warehouse for maintenance supplies. The air conditioning company has offices in the front of the building.

Barn Dance Benefit Show

MEMPHIS—The National Barn Dance radio program gave two performances in Memphis at Ellis Auditorium last weekend for the Shrine's crippled children's fund.

Judy Garland to 'Till the Clouds Roll By'

Judy Garland, Metro star, was signed to portray Marilyn Miller in "Till the Clouds Roll By."

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Texas Meeting Spurs The 'Mighty Seventh'

DALLAS—At a 9:30 a. m. breakfast Saturday in Variety Club, followed by a meeting lasting until noon, the "Mighty Seventh" drive got under way with some 200 film men, theatre managers and owners participating.

John Q. Adams, state chairman for WAC, gave a history of previous drives. Theatres did not participate in the first two but began to register with the third and fourth. The Famous Fifth War Loan and its results in theatres is known throughout the land, he said.

Southwestern Chairman R. J. O'Donnell paid tribute to Sam Pinanski, the national chairman. Merchants, radio stations and newspapers are active in bond selling, equally strong with theatres, which makes for a solid front and best possible results, O'Donnell said, adding that theatres have never sold bonds under pressure, but have shown the finest spirit in doing the job in the past and he feels they will come through equally as well in the Seventh.

Must Combat Complacency

Outlining the showman's "Mighty Seventh," O'Donnell cited the Iwo Jima photo as the official shot for the campaign in which the goal is 14 billion dollars. He recalled that bond selling was easy after Pearl Harbor, but a few days after the European invasion there was a complacency and people said, "It won't be long now," but it has been longer than they thought.

O'Donnell asked showmen to do their best in getting the 10 per cent pay roll deduction plan in work for the Seventh and through to actual victory. He admitted a decided lag in this department, but asked that renewed efforts be made to change this situation.

A little showmanship about the theatre will help, the speaker said, suggesting that bond booths be remodelled and repainted.

The 19-minute short, "All-Star Bond Rally," was run on special equipment. It made a noticeable impression. This subject is available to all theatres.

Free Movie Days in 500 out of an eligible 900 theatres in Texas are not enough, O'Donnell said. Experience has shown that cash receipts do not fall on that day but are up above average and sometimes higher, he said.

Good Work by Distributors

June 19 celebrations are big bond selling days in Texas and he asked theatres catering to Negro business not to overlook the opportunity. Most important is for more theatres to become issuing agents, he said. Once an issuing agent always one, but those owners who wish to become one will be started on the way by writing to O'Donnell or John Q. Adams, Majestic Theatre, Dallas.

O'Donnell doffed his hat to the many film salesmen present. These salesmen left for their territories to work with exhibitors in planning their theatre war bond campaigns. Bond-selling would not be a success without the work of distributors, he said. Ned Depinet organized the distributors for WAC, he said, and help from the film men has been vital and resourceful.

Lastly, O'Donnell pointed to the eight-page press book on the Seventh War Loan which will be sent to all exhibitors. He asked exhibitors to send in the results of their bond sales to WAC headquarters.

Col. H. A. Cole and Henry Reeve, exhibitor organization presidents, made short talks pledging efforts of their groups. Trailers in which the Cass County Kids played for the "Mighty Seventh," and which will be furnished all theatres, were shown.

The motion picture industry's machinery in Texas for the Seventh War Loan will move into high gear on Sunday, May 13, one day in advance of official opening of the drive, when a statewide network radio show will emanate from the stage of the Palace Theatre in Dallas.

Showtime regular weekly air feature of Interstate Circuit, Inc., and the south's largest network broadcast, will serve as the kick-off to the drive as it is aired over the Texas Quality Network from 3:30 to 4:00 p. m. The network is comprised of WFAA, Dallas; WBAP, Fort Worth; KPRC, Houston; and WOAI, San Antonio.

Sounding the keynote of the Seventh War Loan, the program will be designed in its entirety to stimulate the purchase of war bonds from motion picture theatres. R. J. O'Donnell, the industry's Texas state chairman for the Seventh, will appear on the broadcast with a special war bond message.

In addition to the regular Showtime galaxy of talent, including the 24-piece orchestra and 8-voice male chorus, the program will welcome as special guests two alumni of the famous Horace Heidt musical aggregation. They are Fred Lowry, the Texas whistler who has been featured with Heidt on all the national networks, and Dorothy Rae, lovely and charming song stylist.

Imposing Group Assembled

From Dallas were present E. Cowden Henry, Sergeant Newberry, Judson James, WFC for Texas; O'Donnell, Adams, Ray Beall, Bob Kelly, Conrad Brady, William O'Donnell, Raymond Willie, Torrence Hudgins, James O. Cherry, Richard Foy, Hack Riff, Louis Charninsky, J. E. Luckett and Paul Scott.

Also Jimmy Cain, Joe Jackson, Corky Webb, Crawford Eagle, Cole, Ray Higdon, Fred Hoenscheidt, W. G. Underwood, C. D. Leon, Theodore Routt, Glenn McClain, P. E. Wilson, J. O. Harris, Forrest White, C. V. Caver, Donald Dickson, Nathan Brown, Cecil House, Phil Longdon, H. Jorgenson, Lou Bissinger, Ted Lewis, V. W. Crisp, S. G. Howell, Harvey Hill, Andy Sisk, Frank Shelby, Al Pickens, S. L. Oakley, Sam Landrim, R. I. Payne, Don Douglas, Reeve.

From Fort Worth came Frank Weatherford, Interstate manager and several of his managers; Harry Fulgham, Leon Lewis; Mart Cole, Rosenberg; H. A. Daniels, Seguin; J. G. Long, Bay City; Harley Sadler, Sweetwater; R. N. Smith, Mission; Mrs. J. B. Roberts, Richardson.

Eleven district and city managers of Interstate circuit were asked by O'Donnell to stand, after which they were given a hand. These men came to get the word and then to spread the messages over their respective territories in advance of additional war bond meetings in McAllen on May 3, Amarillo on May 10 and Wichita Falls on May 17. This group consisted of Lew Bray, Harlingen; Jimmy Unger, Wichita Falls; Jimmy Allard, Vernon; B. E. Garner, Ranger; J. T. Hughes, Brownwood; Pat Hudgins, Denison; Paul Hudgins, Corsicana; Jimmy McNeill, Breckenridge; C. H. Stewart, Waco; John Paxton, El Paso; J. P. Harrison, Denton.

Frank Nordeau Has Proof Of His 12-Pound Catch

No microscope or yardstick is needed to prove that Frank Nordeau's black bass is a well-fed and well set-up piece of fish flesh. The 12-pound fish was caught by Nordeau, manager of the Arcadia Theatre, Maud, Okla., at Scotty Rutherford's private fishing grounds in Bowling Green, Fla. He was a recent visitor of Rutherford, who owns the Ritz in Bowling Green.



In order to discourage any unbelief on the part of his theatre friends, Nordeau has graphic proof of this fish tale, reproduced herewith and thoughtfully provided for him by the Rutherfords.

R&R Men to New York

DALLAS—C. V. Jones, vice-president and general manager of the Robb & Rowley-United Theatres; Bruce Collins, circuit partner in Corpus Christi; Dave Callahan, manager at Waxahachie, and Harry Hardgrave, manager at Sherman, left Tuesday for New York.

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MEMPHIS

Lena Ruth Hartz, assistant manager of Warner Theatre, has been informed that her brother, Sgt. Fred Hartz, long a prisoner of war in Germany, had been freed by the Allied forces and was on his way home.

Columbia announced that its ad sales department was moved, effective May 1, to National Screen Service . . . Paramount had a visitor this week, L. J. Lenhart, Kansas City, of Commonwealth circuit . . . Filmrow visitors for the week included the following exhibitors: Lyle Richmond, Senath, Mo.; John Shannon, Portageville, Mo.; R. X. Williams, Oxford, Miss.; F. R. Watson, Rutherford, Tenn.; H. E. Ruh, Berryville, Ark.; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dozier, Charleston, Ark.; J. C. Mohrstadt, Hayti, Mo., and Leon Rountree, Water Valley, Miss.

John Osborn, formerly of M-G-M, is now a salesman for Warner Bros. in Arkansas . . . Barney Wooler this week opened his drive-in theatres for the summer season in Memphis and Little Rock . . . Army signal corps pictures of the victims of German concentration camps opened at Malco Theatre in Memphis last Saturday for one week. They then go to the Strand Theatre.

M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, returned last week after an extensive visit in New York where much war activity and motion picture business was transacted . . . "It Happened in Springfield," a short subject dealing with better relations between all races and creeds, showed simultaneously all this week at Malco and Warner theatres in cooperation with the Memphis Round Table, an organization of citizens promoting better relations.

Joe Simon, manager of Warner Theatre, back from a New York vacation, announces two new cashiers, Alice Show and Joyce Mann, have been added to the staff. Alice Show is the wife of Charles Shaw, who is connected with RKO . . . Little Theatre's "Wedding Bells," after a successful run in Memphis last week, was taken before the various army and navy hospitals in the Memphis area this week.

Ezra Rachlin, Philadelphia Opera Co., comes to Memphis this week for the musical direction of the Memphis Open Air Theatre's six-week season . . . Grace Moore will be guest artist at the Memphis Symphony's concert June 27. A "pop" concert by the orchestra will be presented May 15 in Overton Park's outdoor shell.

Variety Activities Keeping "Youngest Pioneer" Busy

ASHLAND, ALA.—E. F. Ingram, owner of theatres in Ashland and Lineville, is considered the "youngest pioneer" exhibitor in Alabama. He entered the show business in 1914 as an operator.



E. F. INGRAM

Ingram is county chairman of the Infantile Paralysis Foundation, publicity chairman of the Red Cross, a Boy Scout official, member of the ration board and is active in church and civic affairs. He spends his spare time on Filmrow in Atlanta.

The exhibitor has one daughter and three sons, the eldest of whom has been in the armed forces for the last two years.

Fire Damaged Theatre At Centerville, Miss.

CENTERVILLE, MISS.—Fire destroyed all sound and projection equipment, destroyed the equipment room and badly damaged some seats at the Centre Theatre. A. M. Randall of Woodville is the owner.

Dimout Has Little Effect

MEMPHIS—The downtown dimout has not materially hurt theatre attendance in Memphis, a survey shows. All shows report a rush business has been maintained almost since the beginning of the dimout.



VISITS MEMPHIS EXCHANGE—Tom Connors, 20th-Fox's vice-president in charge of sales, visited the 20th-Fox Memphis exchange during the recent Opportunity drive in connection with the company's 30th anniversary. With Connors in the center are A. W. Smith jr., eastern sales manager; Harry G. Ballance, southern division manager; Phil Longdon, southwestern district manager, and Branch Manager Tom Young. Others in the photograph constitute the Memphis exchange personnel.

City Amusement Tax Doubles at Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—Official figures show that amusement taxes paid to the city here have just jumped from $292,488.53 in 1941 to $447,731.59 in 1944. Totals for the intervening years were: $338,461.52 for 1942 and $426,813.58 for 1943.

The grand total for the four years, $1,505,-495.22, after cost of collecting was deducted, went directly to the city's department of welfare for use in aiding needy individuals. None of this money was earmarked for any of the city's public charities.

The occasion for announcing the amusement tax collection totals was an inquiry by the newspaper into how the money has been used since war industries relieved unemployment here. The inquiry is as yet incomplete.

City tax department officials declined to release a breakdown on the figures as to how much came from each of the various sources —theatres, night clubs, sports and other public entertainment functions.

K. Lee Williams to Build New De Queen House

DE QUEEN, ARK.—The construction of a modern motion picture theatre will start soon here, K. Lee Williams, head of a circuit which includes the Gem and the Queen, announced. The new house will supercede the Queen, damaged by fire last December, and will be named the Sevier.

Blueprints drawn by Jack Corgan, theatre designer of Dallas, are in the circuit headquarters here. The house, which will occupy a 50-foot lot, will seat 650 people on the ground floor and 100 in the mezzanine. It will have a modernistic front and the newest air-cooling system possible.

Williams entered the exhibitor field in 1939 with the purchase of the Grand and Gem here, after 30 years as the operator of a film exchange. Today he owns 20-odd theatres in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

Two Theatres Planned For Jonesboro, Tenn.

JONESBORO, TENN.—Two new motion picture houses are being planned here. The recent disclosure of a Kiwanis Club-sponsored project to install film facilities in a remodeled building was followed closely by announcement of plans by Ralph Taylor of Kingsport to construct a new theatre.

Taylor, who with his brothers, Malcolm and Bascom, operates several theatres in East Tennessee and Virginia, said he had blueprints drawn for a $25,000 house seating 600. It will be located on a vacant lot facing Main St. and, Taylor said, work will start immediately.

The Kiwanis project would be operated and managed by Earl Nidiffer and Paul Walser of Johnson City. The building has been obtained and remodeling awaits a WPB priority.

Contractors Start Work On New Sparta, Ga., Pex

SPARTA, GA.—Workmen have started tearing out fixtures and roof of the double store building in the former Johnson block as first step in creating the new Pex Theatre. Col. Marvin H. Peck, owner, plans a modern house, with latest in equipment. The present theatre is inadequate for the patronage and it is impossible to enlarge it.

Extend Joan Loring's Contract a Year

Joan Loring's contract has been extended for another year at Warners.

Variety at Houston Tackles Kid Woes

DALLAS—The Houston Variety Club soon will start working to improve the juvenile delinquency problem in that area, said Chief Barker Jack Groves, who was here to attend the Seventh War Loan meeting and to take part in the Variety golf tournament. An expert in this field has been retained to guide the club and set the machinery in motion, Groves said, adding that this work is apparently going to be the prime objective of the Houston tent.

DALLAS—A Variety Club meeting featuring affairs of the Boys Ranch in Coryl County will be staged with the Houston tent May 9. Chief Barker James O. Cherry and William O'Donnell, first assistant, will go to the Bayou City to conduct the meeting. Mrs. R. E. Dawson, founder of the Boys Ranch, will address the Houston showmen.

C. W. Johnson Buys Houses In Two Georgia Towns

LINCOLNTON, GA.—C. W. Johnson has announced the purchase of the Hollywood Theatre at McCormick and the repurchase here of the Linco Theatre, which he had sold several months ago to Mrs. Willingham Wood and Miss Susie Wood of Washington.

Projection Room Fire

NEW ORLEANS—Fire which broke out in the Cortez Theatre recently was confined to the projection room, with damage of $500. The house is owned by Albert E. Grosz.

One-Armed Paperhanger Has Little on Tom!

Memphis—Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager and WAC chairman, rivals the proverbial cranberry merchant.

Returning from Chicago after attending the Seventh War Loan meeting he caught his breath long enough here to tabulate the March of Dimes return for the Memphis trade territory, which he found 100 per cent from all theatres which joined this movement; then he turned his attention to Red Cross reports.

Finding the Red Cross returns pouring in satisfactorily, somewhat ahead of last year, he then took off for a series of regional meetings of the industry in Arkansas in connection with the Seventh War Loan. Meetings Young was attempting to attend included Newport, May 1; Jonesboro, May 2; Pine Bluff, May 3; Little Rock, May 8; Fort Smith, May 9, and Fayetteville, May 10.

If unable to make them all, Young was to send a representative.

"Berlin" Inaugurates New Policy at Tampa Houses

TAMPA—A. W. Corbett's State and Cinema theatres inaugurated a change of policy this week, playing day-and-date first runs. "Hotel Berlin" was the first picture to be shown under this arrangement.

Cinema Theatre, formerly known as the Rialto, and the State were recently taken over by Corbett. His State Theatre, Inc. also operates the Norton, Howard and Roxy theatres.

Choose Outdoor Theatre Leads

MEMPHIS—Handsome and talented might well be the description of three leading men chosen for Memphis Open Air Theatre's six-weeks of shows in Overton Park's shell, beginning July 2. They are Charles Yearsley, Donald Gage and Edward Roeker, all favorites with Memphis audiences.

It Costs Less to
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will soon be available again with all its prewar quality and high popping volume.

Chas. E. Darden & Co.

The Pop Corn Man

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DALLAS 1, TEXAS

SAN ANTONIO

Interstate city offices visitors included Dan J. O'Keefe with National Screen Service, Dallas; Robert "Bob" Kelley, ad-press agent, Interstate, Dallas, and Red River Dave McEnery, Hollywood-Santone western film star, and singing guitarist.

The Texas Tumbleweeds, a hillbilly musical organization heard regularly over WOAI, have made a series of recordings which soon will be released nationally. It is understood that these music masters and singing players are slated to go to Hollywood and appear in a musical western.

Sammy Elizando, 96, Empire projectionist for ten years, died here April 26. His wife and four sons survive . . . "Private Pete" Ramirez, widely known night club man and veteran of the first world war, is now the new doorman at the Rockin' M dude ranch. His wife Marie is chief cashier at the same night spot.

Little Jerry Ray, billed as the Sweetheart of the Range, was in north Texas recently to be with her mother who has been very sick. While in Dallas and Fort Worth, Jerry was swamped by autograph seekers.

The Texas again had a double first run program. Titles of the two 20th-Fox pictures were "Circumstantial Evidence" and "The Fighting Lady" . . . Red River Dave, Columbia star, campaigned for C. L. "Sgt." Dobbs for commissioner of fire and police in the city election May 8.

Pvt. Johnny Trevino, who has ben overseas for several months, was home on furlough with decorations and medals for bravery in action. Juan is a former cabaret employe . . . Francisco "Ponchito" Trevino, Ideal theatre man, Pearsall, was in town en route to Dallas. While in the Alamo City, Frank stopped by Clasa-Mohme to do some booking and also dropped in at the O.K. Grocery & Market to visit his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Paiz, formerly of Robstown.

Lawrence "Pic" Pico has returned from a visit to his old home town New Orleans. While there he called on Mel Washburn, Al Durning, and many other of his old cronies. His sister there is quite ill, Larry said.

William Bugie, Republic, Dallas, was in our city the other day singing the praises of Republic's eight big boxoffice naturals . . . Bill McMillian expects to be in the navy any day now.

The Clasa-Mohme exchange, as usual, has been the busiest place of its kind in town. Just to mention some of the booking visitors who were here recently would read like this: Apolonio Balli sr., Balli Teatro, La Villa; Jack Blackwell, Azteca, Midland; Juan Santos, Casino, Hondo; B. M. Silvas, Mexico, Carrizo Springs; Carl Johnson, Gem, Floresville; Mike Delgado, Nacional, Crystal City; T. J. "Stout" Jackson, Robstown; Jose Garcia jr., National, Asherton; J. E. Chamoun, Casino, Ybor City, Fla.; W. F. Armstrong, Interstate booker, Dallas; Jose Luna, Ideal, Crystal City; J. A. Card of Cotulla, who has a house under construction; R. S. Junco, former operator of the Junco (Cotulla) now closed; Gustavo Lavenant, Anahuac, Dilley; A. R. Pena, Alamo, Alamo, and Lew Brady, Interstate district manager, Harlingen.

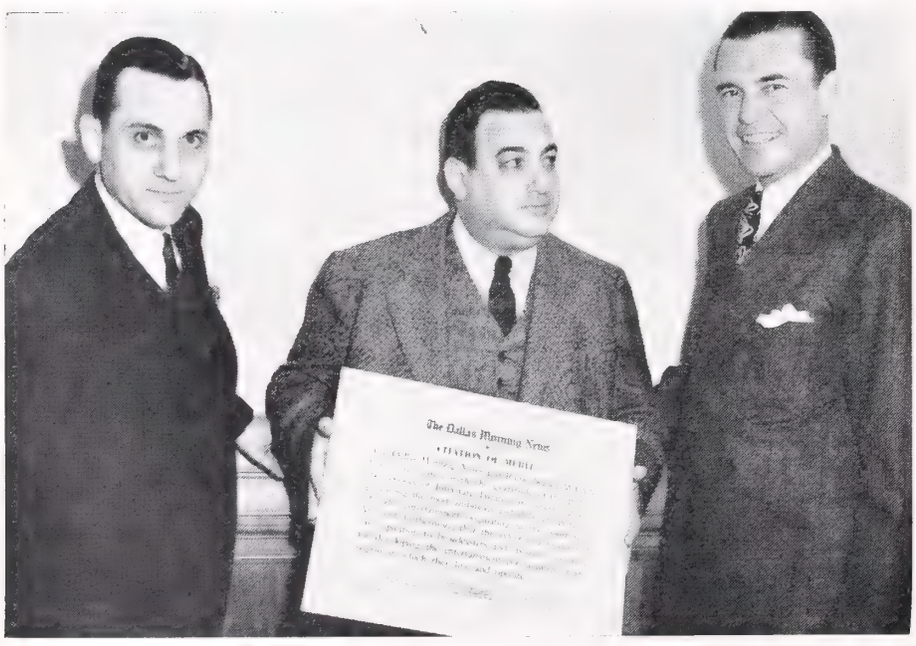
Jerry O'Donnell, former Interstate theatre man here before entering the service four years ago, was home on furlough from overseas combat duty. The sergeant visited his mother, Mrs. Ethel O'Donnell of the Prince.

The Mexico, Brownsville, was reopened by D. J. Young after extensive remodeling. It is now fully air-conditioned and has first class equipment throughout . . . Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dunlap spent the weekend in Brownsville, inspecting the new house and doing the border sights.

Manager G. B. Dunlap, Clasa-Mohme, Inc., was welcomed into Rotary as a member. He was a member of Rotary International in Mexico City for five years and in Mazaltan, Mexico, four years . . . Recent changes in the floor staff at the State finds Mrs. Doris Woods as the new door lady and Miss Margie Samford, formerly of the Joy, has taken over as the new concession girl.

Other recent visitors along Theatrerow included James Herman Sollock, Bobby O'Donnell and William O'Donnell . . . Helen Jones, Texas ticketseller, spent a wartime vacation at home . . . Seaman Jack Dodge, an erstwhile Auditorium and theatre employe, was in town on leave.

Again Miss Joe Henson, dark-eyed Texas theatres cashier, carded a 79-6—73 and Mrs. Lee Christopher shot 81-8—73 to tie for top honors in medal handicap play, Jo taking the nod when their cards were on a hole-by-hole basis in the San Antonio Women's Golf Ass'n's weekly tournament here last week at Brackenridge Park. Miss Henson's 79 won low gross honors.



FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE—The Dallas Morning News and its subsidiary, Radio Station WFAA, presented a citation of merit to Interstate Theatres for its sponsorship of the radio program, Showtime, which the document described as "the most ambitious and elaborate program of radio entertainment originating in the southwest." The citation was signed by the venerable board chairman of the News, G. B. Dealey, by the managing director of WFAA, and by John Rosenfield, the News amusement editor. Major film companies participate in the cost of Showtime. Interstate sponsors three other programs weekly on its own and the comment considered all of them.

Left to right: Conrad Brady, head of radio production for Interstate; Rosenfield, who made the presentation, and Raymond Willie, assistant general manager of Interstate, who accepted the citation.

Predict Television Will Strengthen World Peace

NEW ORLEANS—That television will be one of the greatest forces for strengthening world understanding and peace was predicted here by Dr. J. Marino Inchaustegui, consul of the Dominican republic and professor of Spanish at Loyola University. He returned here from the international educational assembly held in New York to draft measures for presentation at the United Nations conference in San Francisco.

"We realize," Inchaustegui said, "that through the use of television the hundreds of millions of illiterate throughout the world can hear and see what they can not read. We know that human beings learn faster through their eyes and ears than any other way. Children can begin their education two years earlier because the teaching of a child through pictures and sounds will be far less strenuous.

"The entire world will be a vast school room for we are led to believe that development of television has come through experiments for war," the professor said.

Forest City, N. C., Theatre Reopens Following Fire

FOREST CITY, N. C.—A completely remodeled and newly equipped theatre greeted patrons of the Grace at its recent reopening. The theatre, formerly the Pastime, suffered considerable damage from fire a short time ago and its owners, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Griffin, decided upon a complete modernization and renovation of the house instead of emergency repairs.

Pontchartrain to Open

NEW ORLEANS—Pontchartrain Beach, the largest outdoor amusement center here, opens April 29 for the season. Harry Batt, co-owner and manager, will inaugurate a weekly newspaper, Breezy Brevities, featuring news and pictures of beach patrons and will add a freak house to his already extensive plant, which includes practically all of the usual amusement park rides and concessions. Gar F. Moore, beach press agent, will edit the newspaper and King Brady will have charge of the freak house.

Kickoff at Little Rock Takes Big Bond Quota

LITTLE ROCK—Seven district chairmen of the Arkansas WAC gathered here April 25 at a luncheon in Hotel Marion with representatives of circuits and regional WAC leaders to discuss plans for the Seventh War Loan drive. M. S. McCord, exhibitor state chairman, presided.

M. J. Pruniski of Malco Theatres, state drive chairman, outlined plans for Arkansas theatres to sell a minimum of 20 per cent of the state's E bond quota of $28,000,000, or $5,600,000 for the theatres. Pruniski warned against complacency and urged more theatres to become issuing agents, to stage more war bond shows, kiddie shows and to go all-out on Free Movie Day.

Claude C. Mundo of Little Rock, the co-chairman, related in detail the discussions at the Chicago drive meeting. He promised that every exhibitor in the state would get all the help they needed from the state committee, distributors, exploiteers and the Arkansas war finance committee. If the $5,600,000 goal is to be reached, Mundo pointed out that each of the 254 theatres in the state must sell an average of $22,047.25 in E bonds. If the same number of theatres that took part in the last drive, 175, have to do the job alone again, it will mean that each must sell at least $32,000 worth.

Must Attract 60% More

Sam B. Kirby, Malco Theatres advertising director and state publicity drive chairman, emphasized that theatres must attract 60 per cent more bond buyers in this drive than last. He said theatre men should not try to do this job alone, but should contact their county war finance chairman and get his cooperation and the necessary help to put the war bond shows over. He said exhibitors should just play on the team of the war finance setup, to run interference with cooperation and loan publicity, and then to carry the ball on 20 per cent of the quota.

T. W. Young, 20th-Fox branch manager, promised the cooperation of every branch manager, salesman and exploiteer in the Memphis exchange area.

Ted Morley, director for the Arkansas war finance committee, guaranteed that this organization would cooperate with the theatres in every way possible.

Two war veterans were introduced. They were Capt. James E. March, an infantry officer with the Fifth army who was wounded in the Italian campaign, and Pfc. Theo. Chafin, Malco employe of Fort Smith, home on furlough after being freed from a German camp by the Russians. He was captured near Metz, France.

Regional meetings were set up in each of the seven congressional districts of the state. These meetings will be conducted by Mundo and Kirby with a representative of the war finance committee.

These regional meetings: Newport, May 1; Jonesboro, May 2; Pine Bluff, May 3; El Dorado, May 4; Little Rock, May 8; Fort Smith, May 9; Fayetteville, May 10.

Attending the Monday meeting here: Mrs. Emma Cox and Walter, Osceola; Mrs. Edith Evans, Newport; Harry E. Ruh, Berryville; Ollie Brownlee, Fort Smith; M. J. Pruniski, North Little Rock; Paul Jones, Pine Bluff; Remmel Young, Hope; and Cecil Cupp, Arkadelphia; B. F. Busby, Little Rock, Jones-Busby Theatres; M. S. McCord, Clayton Tunstill and George T. Overton, Malco Theatres; O. G. Wren, the Wren circuit.

Georgia Theatre Leaders Put Final Touches on Bond Drive Plans

ATLANTA—The theatres' state advisory board for the Seventh War Loan drive met at the Atlanta Athletic Club last week for final instructions. Brief talks were made by Willis J. Davis, R. B. Wilby, Charles E. Kessnich, W. B. Zoellner, Herbert Pickman, Emery Austin and William K. Jenkins.

It is planned to increase the number of bond issuing agents at the theatres and to hold more war bond premieres than in any of the previous drives, Jenkins said.

Members of the advisory board are Roy M. Avey, Atlanta; M. F. Brice, Vidalia; Fred Coleman, Atlanta; W. J. Collins, Atlanta; John A. Cunningham, Savannah; Willis J. Davis, Atlanta; Ebb Ducan, Carrollton; W. A. Finney, Atlanta; Adolph Gortatowsky, Albany; Frank Henson, Atlanta; Paul Janes, Atlanta; W. M. Karrh, Swainsboro; O. C. Lam, Rome; Hal H. Macon, Statesboro; Roy E. Martin, Columbus; Fred D. Moon, Atlanta; W. T. Murray, Atlanta; T. H. Read, Atlanta; T. O. Tabor, Augusta; J. H. Thompson, Hawkinsville; Nat Williams, Thomasville; J. H. Harrison, Atlanta; Alpha Fowler, Atlanta, and I. L. Shields, Atlanta.

Mae West Show Booked In Memphis for May 12

MEMPHIS—Mae West, who returned to the stage with her own "Catherine Was Great" after prolonged absence in the movies, has been booked for Ellis Auditorium May 12 for matinee and night performances, Charles A. McElravy, manager, announced this week.

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Quality Theatre Equipment & Supplies
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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

When Uncle Sam

gives the green light for manufacture of new theatre chairs (which we all hope and feel will not be too far off), Exhibitors of the South may be sure that AMERICAN DESK MANUFACTURING COMPANY will be among the first to deliver.

•

OPA will set the price of new theatre chairs for some time to come. But regardless of this the record of AMERICAN DESK is that we have always saved money for southern Exhibitors in their chair dealings with us.

We invite your correspondence now on future chair requirements.

American Desk Mfg. Co.

FACTORY — TEMPLE, TEXAS

Sales offices in DALLAS and NEW ORLEANS. Others to be reopened soon.

OKLA. CITY

Mrs. Mona Childs has sold the Ritz in Eldorado to M. D. Gilley . . . Moman Pruiett Johnson is the new salesman for National Theatre Supply and was recently with Paramount. He replaces Willard Price . . . Fred Jackson of Griffiths has his hands full working out details for handling bond sales at most Oklahoma City theatres as well as bond agencies at theatres throughout the state.

Evelyn Tefertiller of National Screen has returned to work after a two-week vacation in California . . . Margaret Snell of Monogram is going back to RKO as cashier. Claire Benjamin resigned from the job after having been with RKO more than 16 years. She was with Pathe when RKO was formed here.

Grover McDonnell, formerly with Monogram, may remain in Oklahoma City. Mike Comer is expected here shortly to fill the manager's position.

Visitors on the Row were: H. T. Burns of Apache, Frank Fiets of Garber, Claud Thorp of Ryan, J. B. Terry of Perry, H. L. Boehm of Watonga, Mrs. Izah Adams of Sulphur, C. L. Lance of Skellytown, Mrs. Mona Childs of Eldorado, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rains of Fort Cobb, Wesley Hodges of Anadarko, A. G. Carlile of Hinton, Mrs. Beatty Chronister of Harmon, William Copeland of Geary, H. C. Jones of Alva and John Gray of Chickasha.



NEW MEMPHIS MANAGER—Thomas Burton Kirk, who has been named by N. J. Colquhoun, Republic's southwestern district manager, as manager of the Memphis office.

Laura Kenny to M-G-M Post

ATLANTA—Mrs. Laura Kenny takes over duties as office manager here for M-G-M, relieving Arthur Sterling, who has been substituting for the last few months.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

AS A RULE Tuesdays are quiet in DeKalb, Ill. But not with "MOM AND DAD" in town. Manager Smith writes it broke a three-day record. Cameraman Dun sent along a picture to prove it. Better get your play-date set now so you can "order some police help."

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

HYGIENIC PRODUCTIONS
Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

CHARLOTTE

Funeral services for Thomas D. Kemp sr., 77, father of T. D. Kemp jr. of Southern Attractions, were held Sunday (29). Another son was Hal Kemp, the orchestra leader who was fatally injured several years ago in an automobile accident in California . . . Charles H. Arrington, Cameo, Rocky Mount, N. C., is a grandfather. Charles Hammond Arrington III was born April 24 in Ottawa, Ill. Charles Hammond II is a lieutenant in the navy stationed at Ottawa.

J. Bryant Craver and H. G. Arenson have bought distribution rights of Continental's "Youth Aflame" for North and South Carolina and Washington territories. They have announced completion of a contract for 32 engagements with Wilby-Kincey in the Carolinas . . . Harry Pickett, booker and buyer for S. W. Craver Theatres, has returned from a three-day trip in Washington . . . George Read has resigned as steward of the Variety Club, leaving to assume management of the Worthington Hotel at Venice, Fla.

Cadet Capt. Jack Griffith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Griffith here, was elected president of the senior class of Oak Ridge Military Institute, and Cadet Cpl. Leo Derrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Derrick, Chadbourn Theatre, in Chadbourn, was elected vice-president. Both are helping Oak Ridge continue its winning streak in tennis and baseball . . . Eleanor Porter has resigned as secretary to Manager James Frew of Universal and has joined Confidential Reports, Inc. Miss Ruth Knox is new secretary to Frew.

Ralph L. McCoy, Warner southeastern division manager, and R. H. Haines, vice-president and southern and western division manager, held a conference here last Saturday with Manager John Bachman and Salesmen Dean House, Hal Jeeter and Ralph Iannuzzi . . . The committee in charge of the Variety Club dinner dance at the Hotel Charlotte Monday (30) were Ernest Stellings, chairman; Leonard Allen, Ralph Iannuzzi and Roy Bradley.

Visitors on the Row: Robert J. Ingram, district manager of Columbia, Atlanta; Guy Webb, Roxy, Swannanoa, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Fin Lee, Duplin, Warsaw, N. C.; Fin Davis, Mimosa, Morganton, N. C.; Mrs. Pearl Green, Hollywood, Manning, S. C.; Mrs. Runa Curtis, Curtis, Liberty, N. C.; W. D. McGowan, Joyce, Spring Hope, N. C.; John M. Kime, State, Roseboro, N. C.; Julian Thompson, Star, Cornelius, N. C.

The annual Charlotte Variety Club golf tournament last week was, according to reports, enjoyed mostly by Arthur C. Bromberg. He won a major prize and visited with many friends.

Row Visitors Last Week: Ed Haley, Lincoln, Raleigh; B. B. Benfield, Gloria, Myrtle Beach; Harry Cooke, Center, Mount Olive; Mrs. J. T. Gibson and Tom Gibson, Gibson, Laurinburg; Fin Lee, Duplin, Warsaw; W. C. Allred, State, Mooresville; Jeff B. Wilson, Biscoe; J. B. McIntyre, Raeford; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Anderson, Ritz, Tabor City; R. C. Whitehurst, Pastime, Murfreesboro; Glenn Davis, Louisburg; H. P. Howell, Howell, Smithfield; O. T. Kirby, Palace, Roxboro; E. L. Swinson, Paramount, LaGrange; Charles E. Myers, Myers, Rich Square; A. P. Lassiter, Conway; J. B. Harvey, Carolina, Clover; J. Francis White jr., Sunset, Asheboro.

New Sound System In

ROCKMART, GA.—A new postwar type sound system recently was installed at the Rockmart Theatre by Manager Frank L. Jackson.

Atlanta Variety Club Outing Set for May 21

ATLANTA—The eighth annual golf tournament and outing of the Variety Club will be Monday, May 21, at the North Fulton golf course.

Members of the golf and outing committee are Gus King, chairman; Hubert Lyons, Roy Brauer, H. G. Johnson, Ed Melniker, John Lomex, George Sandore, John Cunningham, W. J. Collins, Jack Troy, Johnnie Harrell, and C. W. Allen.

Golfers' tickets will be $5 each, and barbecue tickets $1.50. Families and friends are invited.

A highlight of the outing will be the entertainment of some 200 war veterans from Lawson General Hospital as guests of the club.

Twenty-Five Houses to Sell Bonds at Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY—Twenty-five theatres here will sell bonds as bond-issuing agencies for the Seventh War Loan. This is ten times the number of theatres that have ever qualified to sell bonds.

Through a tieup with one of the local sororities the problem of staffing the booths has been solved.

Tickets are being given to purchaser of bonds to one of the three big bond premieres to be given at the Uptown, Criterion and Redskin, the shows to be held in order listed.

C. B. Akers, WAC chairman for the state, believes that the number of bonds sold will be larger and the total sales will be something for the industry to be proud of.



The PROOF is in the POPPING

Before you sign any popcorn contract send for a free sample of BLEVINS BEE HIVE BRAND HYBRID POPCORN. If it does not pop better than any corn you have ever popped, we don't expect your business.

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SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Sheffield, owners of the Strand Theatre, Poplarville, Miss., represent a hard-working husband and wife team so characteristic of successful small town theatre operation. "Shef," as his friends call him, entered show business at Vinton, La., in 1919. He later opened the Dixie at Baton Rouge, moved to Slidell, La., to operate the Arcade Theatre and acquired his present theatre in 1934. Sheffield is a Rotarian and a Mason. His hobbies are hunting and fishing. The Sheffields have two daughters.



In the days of silent pictures, **Mrs. Edith Wilder** of Tullos, La., sold tickets and ushered in an early-day theatre. Being able to play the organ, she graduated to sound effects man and musician for the silent films. In 1932 she fell heir to the Princess Theatre and had to learn all the other details of being a theatre manager. She is interested in civic affairs and does Parent-Teachers Ass'n work in Tullos. She belongs to the Matinee Music Club and as organist for the local Church of Christian Scientists, is active in community life.



Homer J. Williams of Grenada, Miss., purchased the Grenada in 1922 and operates it with the Pix there today. At present a colonel on the staff of Gov. Tom Bailey of Mississippi, he served in the Mississippi legislature from 1936 to 1940. He is a past-president of the Grenada Rotary Club and now director of a Grenada bank. Williams is a director of the Mississippi theatre owners organization, as well as a member of the Masons. His hobbies were bird and fox hunting while health permitted; now he entertains his two grandchildren.



With the Whartons of Warren, Ark., motion picture exhibition started as a family investment or a pleasant variant of the college-via-magazines idea. **Sidney Wharton's** father bought theatres in 1912 to finance two brothers in their education. Today he operates two houses, the Pastime, 550 seats, and the Avalon, 350 seats. He is a member of ITO of Arkansas and Tri-State Exhibitors and is a treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce, first president of Rotary Club and on the board of directors of YMCA. He is married and a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.



Jack Pierce of Stigler, Okla., became a theatre manager in 1912. He was at that time in Rochester, Minn., but in 1920 he came to Antlers, Okla., and settled in Stigler in 1925. He operates two houses in that city, the Time and the Cabin, and long has been a member of MPTOA. Pierce is active in community affairs and is serving now as county chairman of the War Activities Committee. He is married and has two children. His daughter, now married, is living at home. A son, William, is with the army in Europe.



The careers of **Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Jourdan** began almost as early as did that of their Majestic Theatre, Iuka, Miss. Built in 1910, the house was bought by Jourdan in 1914, turned over to his wife in 1920. They built a new theatre in 1922 and, except for an interval when the house was dark during a changeover to sound, have operated it continuously ever since. Jourdan affiliations include MPTO, local aldermanic board, Masons, is chairman of both War Loan and Red Cross drives, charter member of Rotary and Iuka Guaranty Bank director.



The humble but important chore which has launched many a boy on a way of life and given him his first taste of the glamor of the theatre business started **Joseph A. Barcelona,** owner of the Regina, Baton Rouge, La., on his career. At the age of 14 he broke into the business as a film rewind boy and Barcelona, whose friends call him "Joe," has been fairly consistently pursuing patrons and profits ever since. Barcelona has four daughters, Marie Therese, Jo Ann, Monaca and Regina. Joe's favorite diversion is hunting. The Regina seats 660.



R. J. Cooper is a first citizen of Kirbyville, Texas. In the early 1900s he saw a poster on a Pathe news showing at the first picture house in Beaumont. After taking in the picture, he and L. P. Lewis decided "flickers" had a future. With a worn-out Edison projector and a bed sheet for a screen, they opened the first theatre, the Palace, at Kirbyville. Cooper also opened the first bank and the first short-order cafe at Kirbyville. His daughter is the Palace's manager; three sons are in service. Friends call him "Lord."

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WELL-KNOWN BOXOFFICE NATURAL

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A Story Written in Blood

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RITA HAYWORTH

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RANGLE RIVER
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DALLAS 1 "Riverside 1884" TEXAS

President of Dallas B53 Union Is Dead

DALLAS—The funeral of C. D. Jackson, president of the Film Exchange Employes Union B53 and a shipper, who died last week, was held in St. Edward's Catholic Church. Pallbearers included union projectionists and film exchange bookers and shippers, among which were Harvey Hill, J. J. Schafer, L. W. Nelson, Clifford L. Wood, Ralph Scherzer, Leroy Whittington. Honorary pallbearers were all of Film Exchange Employes Union B53, of which Jackson was president.

ATLANTA

George M. Jones, MRA representative in Alabama, was a visitor . . . Jim Savage, owner of the Rex Theatre, Lakeland, Fla., was in a hospital following a collapse on the street . . . Roy Brauer, Universal manager here, and Harry Graham, southern division manager, returned from Jacksonville, Fla. . . . Charlie Durmeyer of the Southern Automatic Candy Co., is on a gin rummy rampage. He has knocked everybody in lately.

Universal entertained all employes at a fried chicken dinner at North Fulton Park . . . Cliff Wilson, former Monogram booker, at Memphis, has been inducted into the armed forces at Fort McPherson, Ga. . . . Buddy King, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus King, has left for the merchant marine cadet corps, Pass Christian, Miss. Buddy was 18 May 2.

Oscar Howell and Gus King of Capitol City Supply Co. were in Tennessee on business . . . Joseph Dunninger, the "master mentalist" who for years has mystified millions with his mental feats on the stage and radio, will be presented at the Municipal Auditorium May 10 by the Atlanta Lions Club . . . In booking pictures were H. Glenn Newton, Newton, Ga., and Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Leonard, Gainesville, Ga. . . . Oscar Morgan, general manager of shorts for Paramount, was due here for a sales meeting.

Jack Kirby, district manager for Paramount, is making a swing through Florida and also visiting his son, Lieut. J. W. Kirby, at Miami. His second son, Cpl. James F. Kirby, tail gunner on a Liberator, who was reported lost in action in the Pacific, turned up five days later in the Malacca Island group.

J. A. Leers and James Roberts have joined Toddy Pictures . . . Randolph Elliot, former film salesman and later manager of the Grand Theatre, Fitzgerald, Ga., was on Filmrow visiting friends . . . Harry Rogers, formerly of Omaha, has been added to the sales force of RKO to cover Tennessee.

Frank Salley, RKO salesman was off ill . . . Abe Borisky, Independent Theatres, Chattanooga, and Johnny Long, Dixie, East Gadsden, Ala., were on Filmrow booking . . . Mrs. Lucile Spruiel, Republic, was back at work after a serious illness . . . Richard Howell has been added to the Republic shipping department.

Mrs. Stella Poulnot, secretary to Bill Talley of Republic, is proudly wearing a new hat from Paris and a pair of shoes from Holland which her army husband sent her . . . Butler Gore, former owner of the Gore Theatres in Tampa, was visiting on Filmrow . . . Mrs. Grace Hammond has been added to the booking department of Monogram.

Effective April 30, all accessories handled by the Columbia Pictures were taken over by National Screen Service . . . Merritt Davis, southern division manager of Republic, was at Tampa where Howard Laird is manager.

John W. Mangham, president of Film Classics, was in Florida on business . . . Mrs. Doris Thurmond, secretary to Charles Leonard of Columbia, is enjoying a vacation . . . All Atlanta is talking of the Johnny Morris band, now playing at the Ansley Hotel. Morris formerly was drummer for Paul Specht, Vincent Lopez and Tony Pastor. Bookings following the Atlanta run at the Frolic, Palm Beach, Fla., and Frank Daley's Meadowbrook.

The seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lakeman, Princess Theatre, Haleyville, Ala., was killed in an accident.

Paramount news notes: Mrs. Clyde Goodson, the wife of Sales Manager Goodson, was in St. Joseph's Hospital recovering from a major operation . . . Cassie Pettitt's hubby, Sgt. Don W. Pettitt, with Pistol-Packin' Patton's Third army, reports having crossed the Rhine Easter Sunday . . . "Tiny" Smith is readying for a vacation soon to Charlotte to visit Mildred McWaters . . . Becky "Feets" Howard expects to join her hubby in New Orleans soon . . . All were glad to greet Carl "Bud" Charlman, former Atlanta salesman, here for a brief look in while on army leave.

Newest member of the Paramount family is pretty Eunice Christine Findley, spotted in Jack Kirby's district office as assistant to Mrs. Frankie English . . . Velma "Darling" Darley looking prettier than ever after her vacation . . . Senator McJackson was on Filmrow for a booking session . . . John Baldwin, booker, is all smiles since his engagement . . . Nelson Towler, Florida salesman is recuperated from an illness.

Vivian Rencher's hubby Dan, is awaiting the call to service. When Papa Rencher phoned home from his barracks to tell his 3½-year-old daughter he'd not be home for a while she asked: "Who's going to turn out the light at night, daddy?" . . . LeRoy Haney, new Paramounteer is now assisting Paul Morgan . . . Ernie Rogers, Atlanta Journal writer and former amusement editor, was honored at a buffet supper at the Variety Club as a sendoff to Hollywood, where he will visit the studios for special material to be published in the Journal's Sunday magazine section. Practically all of Filmdom turned out to wish him well.

B. R. McLendon Sells Trio in Two Towns

DALLAS—B. R. McLendon, head of the Tri-State circuit, has sold the Ritz in Linden to T. L. Richey of Atlanta, Tex.

Louis Watts of the W&K circuit purchased the State and Fox theatres in Vivian, La., the latter dark for some time.

Richey formerly owned the Texas at St. Jo. The W&K headquarters are in Oil City, La. Lumberman Frank Keasler is partner of Watts.

McLendon, who opened the new Beverly Hills Theatre here and is about to open a second house on Garland Road, purchased a Dallas home recently and later sold his mansion home in Atlanta. The general office of Tri-State will be moved from Atlanta to Dallas as soon as suitable quarters can be found.

Theatre Building Sold

ATLANTA—Ward Wight & Co., real estate agents, have announced the sale by the L. P. Lewis estate of ten stores and a theatre building at the corner of Peachtree and Rumford Rds. to Mrs. Sylvia Gudel.

Film Board Stresses Loan Drive on 16mm

WINNIPEG—The local office of the National Film Board, George LeBeau, regional supervisor, announced, is aiding the Eighth Victory Loan drive through wide distribution of special 16mm films through its rural and industrial circuits.

Chosen in consultation with the national war finance committee the programs include films produced by the British Ministry of Information and the United States war office, as well as a special short produced by Paramount.

Among the films available in this territory are: "A Harbor Goes to France," showing how the problem of landing supplies for D-Day was solved; "Left of the Line," tracing the advance of the Canadian troops after D-Day; "You Can't Kill a City," dealing with restoration of French towns behind the Allied forces, and "V-1," showing Britain under attack of the robot bombs, with commentary by Fletcher Markle, well-known Canadian radio actor.

Other films are: "Skirmish on the Home Front," the Paramount picture which stars Alan Ladd, Susan Hayward, Betty Hutton and William Bendix, "A Report on German Morale," "48-Hour Leave," "Corvette Port Arthur," "Tomorrow," "John Jones," "Attack," "Let's All Sing Together" and "The Shining Future."

Motion picture houses all have been playing the Hollywood-produced "All-Star Bond Rally."

Odeon Buys Out Palace Partner in St. Catharines

TORONTO—Odeon Theatres of Canada has announced the purchase of 100 per cent ownership of the Palace, a 1,000-seat theatre at St. Catharines, Ont. There formerly was a partnership arrangement with Douglas Fairley.

A surprise developed in connection with the announcement that Al Sedgwick of Toronto had been appointed manager, effective May 7. Sedgwick resigned from Famous Players Canadian, with which he had been identified for 18 years.

Sedgwick was president of the Mount Pleasant Business Men's Ass'n, an officer of the North Toronto Kiwanis Club and also of the Famous Players Toronto Theatre Managers Ass'n. He was prominent in many community activities.

Recently the Belsize and the Bedford, in North Toronto, were acquired by 20th Century Theatres from Famous Players. W. G. Hunt, manager of the Bedford for many years, has announced his retirement.

W. Covert Joins Canadian Political Action Committee

TORONTO—William E. Covert, international vice-president of the IATSE and an official of the MPOU Local 173, has been appointed to the IATSE political action committee in the Dominion.

This committee does not sponsor candidates in elections but designates party aspirants to parliament who are in support of the platform of organized labor. The desire, according to an official statement, is to keep organized labor out of actual politics, although the committee will advise union men to vote against those whose sympathies are hostile. The committee has only six members across the Dominion.

New Quebec Luxury Tax Strikes Industry Hard

MONTREAL—Film distributors and exhibitors are sharply hit by a new luxury tax, affective April 27, passed by the Quebec provincial government, which imposes a tax of six per cent on hundreds of designated "luxury" items, ranging from furs to films, from jewelry to motor cars and liquor and from cosmetics to radios, musical instruments and records, electric signs and apparatus.

Affecting the industry and its personnel most closely are the following items:

Cinematographic, television and photographic instruments and apparatus, and films of all kinds and the rental of such films.

Motor vehicles, including all vehicles for air, water or land transportation, except railway trains; trailers and semi-trailers; devices, machines and instruments operated by motor or engine; motors and engines operated by gas, gasoline, oil, steam or compressed air; accessories and parts of motor vehicles, as well as oils and greases used for vehicles, and tires and inner tube.

Electrical appliances, including lighting, heating, refrigerating and mechanical appliances, machines, instruments, systems and installations operated by means of electricity or gas; electric signs; accessories of electrical appliances, except electric bulbs.

Radio broadcasting and receiving apparatus.

Phonographs and other apparatus for recording and reproducing sounds, as well as records, cylinders and other devices used for such purposes.

Telegrams, cablegrams, radiograms, telephone service and long-distance telephone calls.

Moveable property.

Pianos, organs and other musical instruments.

All accessories of the apparatus, instruments, devices and articles enumerated above.

Thermometers, barometers and compasses; telescopes, binoculars and operaglasses.

Automatic selling machines, automatic distributors, automatic devices in the form of games, operated by means of counters or coins, the rental or remuneration for the use of deposit or operation of such machines, distributors and devices and counters used in the operation.

Sporting goods, canoes, boats, arms and ammunition.

Adding machines, accounting machines, multigraphing machines, addressing machines (addressographs), typewriters, dictaphones, safes and their accessories and repair parts.

Fountain pens and mechanical pencils.

Works of art and reproductions thereof, and antiques.

Carpets and floor rugs of a value of $150 or more.

The bill sets forth that "companies and manufacturers" and "every purchaser other than a company or a manufacturer" will be subject to the new six per cent tax.

The "luxury" tax replaces the existing two per cent sales tax, which, however, will be continued on gas and electric lighting.

There is already in existence a 25 per cent federal tax on luxuries.

Patrons Watch Thriller; Gunman Slain Outside

Vancouver—Under the glare of theatre marquee lights, a lone gunman was thwarted in a holdup of the Dominion Theatre, and died on the pavement, the victim of his own gun. While theatre patrons watched a mystery thriller, "Ministry of Fear," at the Dominion, a real life drama was enacted on the main street as three civilians and two city police officers trapped the bandit a few minutes after he had robbed the theatre doorman of a money bag containing $360.

Hundreds of spectators watched the bandit reach for his gun as the pursuers closed in. Just as his fumbling fingers reached the trigger, he slipped and sent a 32 calibre bullet into his heart. Ronald Sheppard, formerly of the Plaza Theatre, was one of those who chased the robber.

Fitzgibbons Again Heads Canadian Famous Players

TORONTO—The annual general meeting of Famous Players Canadian Corp. resulted in the re-election of the directors and the formal adoption of reports.

The officers and directors are J. J. Fitzgibbons, president; R. W. Bolstad, vice-president and treasurer; Barney Balaban, New York; J. W. de B. Farris, Vancouver; Austin Keough, New York; N. S. Robertson, Toronto; John W. Hickey jr., New York; N. G. Barrow and Angus MacCunn, Toronto, and H. P. Robinson, St. John.

N. G. Barrow is secretary. Other officers are assistant secretaries, L. G. Geering and J. A. Troyer and assistant treasurers, W. E. Kerr and Angus MacCunn.

President Fitzgibbons delivered his annual report for 1944 earlier in April.

FPC and Odeon Acquire Four More Situations

TORONTO—Famous Players head office announced that the company had taken over operation of the Northland in Flin Flon, northern Manitoba, through the signing of a partnership agreement effective April 30 with C. C. Plummer of Flin Flon. Hugh Summers, assistant manager of the Strand at Brandon, Man., was promoted to be manager of the Northland.

From Odeon headquarters came word that three more theatres had been acquired in the maritime provinces after the visit to the east coast by President Paul Nathanson. The theatres were not immediately identified but they have been placed under the supervision of A. I. Garson, St. John, district manager for the three eastern provinces.

First Canadian Cross Drive to Pass $75,000

TORONTO—The first collections ever held in Canada's motion picture theatres for any cause are expected to realize more than $75,000 for the Canadian Red Cross Fund, with Toronto theatres raising more than $15,000 of that amount through the passing of contribution boxes on two nights.

VANCOUVER

Betty Thomson has joined the 20th-Fox staff . . . Mary Lucas succeeds Dorothy Scott, resigned, at Empire-Universal . . . Earl Dalgleish, Warner manager, left for Toronto to attend a sales meeting held by the new Canadian general manager, Haskell Masters.

Fred Stone, manager, announced that Sovereign Films is releasing in feature length "The Story of the Vatican" made by March of Time on 16mm . . . Nat Levant, Columbia manager, reports that his office is doing record business on the Montague drive which runs until the end of May.

Canadian newspapers are lightening their restrictions on advertising and space for amusements with the end of the European war in sight. Both the Capitol and Orpheum here used big ads last week for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and for "National Velvet." Both are doing a smashing business with SRO signs in use.

Al Davidson, manager of the Rialto Theatre at Ladysmith, an Odeon spot, was here on a delayed vacation and looked up many friends . . . British Columbia's population, for statistical purposes, now is estimated at 932,000, an increase of 115,000 since the 1941 census . . . Vancouver is awaiting the showing here of "Salome, Where She Danced" with a lot of interest. Yvonne DeCarlo is a Vancouver girl who made good in Hollywood.

An eight-pound daughter, their first child, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Cornie Frieson at Abbotsford Hospital. Frieson was a partner in the Abbotsford Theatre, sold to Odeon recently, and now is projectionist there . . . A marriage of interest to local amusement business took place when Ernest Doctor, formerly of the Dominion Theatre and now in the navy, was married to Dede Delmarque, cashier at the Plaza. Charlie Doctor, manager of the Capitol, is the father of the bridegroom. The newlyweds will live in the east.

A. C. Blain, president of Cranbrook Theatres and owner of the Orpheum, Kimberly, and the Star, Cranbrook, will enlarge the Star in the near future, havinb purchased adjoining property.

The postwar outlook in Canada is good for British equipment manufacturers. Gaumont-British Kalee, equipment subsidiary of the Rank British interests, will not have to start from scratch but can look for certain business from the Odeon-Rank setup aside from other circuits and independents in the Dominion.

W. T. Straight, member from Victoria in the legislature, has requested the trade minister to use his influence in establishment of a motion picture studio in British Columbia as a means of publicizing the province.

Costar in Universal Technicolor

Rod Cameron and Maria Montez will costar in an original story being written for them by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. The picture, as yet untitled, is scheduled for production in Technicolor on the Universal set.



Wintry Weather Lifts Toronto's Grosses

TORONTO—With an unseasonal return of wintry weather, local people were forced to abandon outdoor spring activities and theatre managers reported an upswing in business. Crowds still flocked to "A Song to Remember" at Shea's for its second week and also to "I'll Be Seeing You" in its second week at Loew's Yonge Street. There was real business at both the Tivoli and Eglinton for the dual comprising "Murder, My Sweet" and "Pan-Americana" while the Imperial had the timely benefit of "Hotel Berlin." The Uptown had good average with the twin bill headed by "Frisco Sal."

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 110
Imperial—**Hotel Berlin** (WB) 105
Loew's—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk. 110
Shea's—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. 110
Tivoli—Same as Eglinton 110
Uptown—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **The Pearl of Death** (Univ) 100

Montreal Grosses Up for "Have Not," Laughs With "Come the Co-Eds"

MONTREAL—Crowds continued to patronize first run shows on St. Catherine St. Led by "To Have and Have Not" at Loew's, which had a record queue nightly, all the new films did big business. "Here Come the Co-Eds" drew the laugh seekers to the Palace. The Capitol gave a second week to "Between Two Women" and at the Orpheum the French version of "You Belong to Me" ("Tu m'Appartiens") had a satisfying second week.

Capitol—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 2nd wk. ..... Good
Loew's—**To Have and Have Not** (WB) ..... Stupendous
Orpheum—**Tu M'Appartiens** (You Belong to Me) (WB), 2nd wk. ..... Satisfactory
Palace—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ) ..... Draws crowd
Princess—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **The Power of the Whistler** (Col) ..... Average

Vancouver Business Sags Below Par With Lineups on Saturday Only

VANCOUVER—Business was a little below average last week. Only lineups occurred Saturday night with nothing really outstanding. The second and final week of "For When the Bell Tolls" was not up to expectations. A revival of "Four Feathers" at the Plaza proved satisfactory and holds for a second week.

Beacon—**There Goes Kelly** (Mono); **Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), plus stage show ..... Below average
Capitol—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk. ..... Not too good
Dominion—**Cowboy and the Lady** (PRC reissue); **Ministry of Fear** (Para), moveover ..... Fair
Orpheum—**Till We Meet Again** (Para) ..... Below average
Plaza—**Four Feathers** (Mono), reissue ..... Good
Paradise—**Wait for Me** (Russian); **The Town Went Wild** (PRC) ..... Average
Strand—**Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox); **Keys to the Kingdom** (20th-Fox), moveover ..... Moderate
Vogue—**Sudan** (Univ), 2nd wk. ..... Not too bad

"I'll Be Seeing You" the Highlight Of Calgary Attractions

CALGARY—Business held to average last week with occasional high spots. "I'll Be Seeing You," in a second week, had started with a record-breaking pace but slackened off after ten days. "None But the Lonely Heart" held only three days at the Capitol. Subsequent houses reported steady business.

Capitol—**None But the Lonely Heart** (RKO) ..... Fair
Capitol—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) ..... Good
Grand—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk. ..... Very good
Palace—**Ministry of Fear** (Para); **Song for Miss Julie** (Rep) ..... Good

Add to "People Are Funny" Cast

Four comedians, Billy Bletcher, Billy Benedict, Frank Mitchell and Eddie Kane, have been assigned roles in the Pine-Thomas production, "People Are Funny."

MONTREAL

Victory loan programs with film stars dominating have been so attractive that they have kept many people at home listening to the radio . . . Joel McCrea made a personal appearance at His Majesty's and with Gail Russell was starred at the Princess in the Paramount mystery film, "The Unseen." It is believed that many who saw McCrea or heard him over the radio, went to see his film at the Princess.

Information Please was broadcast from His Majesty's in connection with the loan campaign and drew a large attendance, but there was some criticism over the failure to include a Montreal expert . . . Fairyland, a downtown theatre, did well with a British comedy film, "George in the Home Guard," starring George Formby.

Lester Cowan has suggested that Montreal newspaper men be given a preview of the Ernie Pyle film, "G. I. Joe."

John Grierson, national film commissioner, talked to Montreal purchasing agents about postwar private enterprise. "Private enterprise will be with us a long time, but on condition that it retain the confidence of the public," he said . . . Music, radio, university and theatre representatives were among mourners at the funeral of Prof. Herschell E. Reilly, expert on acoustics, who died recently. Reilly superintended the acoustics of many large Montreal buildings, including several theatres.

Britain found a new film star in Canadian-born Robert Beatty, native of Hamilton, Ont., who is starred in "It Happened One Sunday." At present he is in Paris with an ENSA company entertaining Canadian and American troops.

Montreal aspires to be a fashion center, "the Paris of the western hemisphere" and the Dress Manufacturers Guild has been promised that the National Film Board will make a picture of its effort to capture style leadership.

PRC Issues Statement On Finances for '44

TORONTO—In its financial statement for 1944 Famous Players Canadian Corp. revealed net profit, after payment of taxes, of $1,371,625 which stemmed from earnings of slightly more than $5,000,000. After taking care of interest, depreciation and amortization, $3,800,000 was available for taxes totaling $2,500,000, dividends of $645,786 and surplus which increased $700,000 to $6,800,000 at Dec. 31, 1944. Net profit of $1,371,625 compared with $1,348,450 in 1943 out of which the same dividends were paid each year on 430,524 outstanding shares of non-par stock.

Reflecting preparations for postwar theatre expansion was the increase in value of land by more than $400,000 during the year to $6,200,000 and an increase in buildings by $561,000 while there was an increase in mortgage account. At the same time, the report indicated consolidation through a reduction by $200,000 to $4,900,000 in the company's funded indebtedness. Total assets were raised by $743,000 to $17,700,000.

Current assets were recorded at $2,900,000, a decrease of $113,000, while current liabilities totaled $666,561, a reduction of $34,000.

Taxes in both 1944 and 1943 were similar at approximately $2,500,000, while earnings were similar for both years at better than $5,000,000.

Pick up Option on Robert Paige

Option on Robert Paige has been picked up by Universal.

False Reports Provide VE-Day Alert Test

TORONTO—Canadian exhibitors were provided with an excellent test for VE-Day when the false report of Germany's capitulation emanated from San Francisco early in the evening of April 28. The net result, nothing happened.

As soon as local theatre managers received telephoned word of the capitulation report all employes were put on the alert and were cautioned not to mention to any patron in the house that Germany was reported to have surrendered. In some cases projectionists were warned to have the recording of the national anthem ready for instant use in the event that some person shouted to the audience that an armistice had been signed.

Meanwhile lobbies were cleared of advertising frames, while supplies of prepared announcement signs flags, bunting and other decorative material were made ready for the theatre front. Such decorations were kept from the view of the public, however.

Some later patrons told the cashier or doorman that European peace had come but were asked to refrain from telling the audience. Incidentally, business was excellent, as usual on a Saturday night, and performances were continued without disturbance. In fact, there seemed to be a distinct calm.

Developments were such that one manager was led to remark: "I don't think there will be any celebrating when the real news comes."

TORONTO

Al Sedgwick, popular and hard working member of the Famous Players Theatre Managers Ass'n here, was honored at a meeting of the association recently following his resignation as manager of the Belsize to become manager of the Palace, a unit of the Odeon circuit at St. Catharines. Congratulations and well wishes were extended by Honorary President Charles L. Querrie, manager of the Palace.

The FPC Bowling League is winding up its season with a dinner-dance May 11, a feature to be a tribute to the winning trundlers and teams . . . The Toronto Variety Club has taken over the Green room of the downtown Victoria for permanent quarters. This FPC theatre is used only occasionally by roadshows.

Sam Fingold Theatres, in which H. C. D. Main and Ralph Dale, formerly of Odeon, recently became partners, has taken over the Simcoe at Sutton. William Noble continues as manager . . . Arthur, Ont., now boasts its first theatre with the opening of the Cozy by M. Carlton, who announced the house will operate six days weekly. A building at Lucknow, Ont., is being remodeled for theatre purposes by Rexford Ostrander . . . Miss Helen Goldstein, who has long been at Empire-Universal here, has accepted a position at Alliance Films from Ray Lewis, president.

Donald Campbell, recently discharged from the armed forces, has been made manager of the Hume at Burlington. It was acquired by the Fingold circuit not long ago . . . Art Arthur, former Toronto newspaper man and now a member of a photo unit of the U.S. army air corps, was back in town for a brief stay. Before entering the army he was in Hollywood as a screen writer . . . Manager L. E. "Pop" Osier of the Biltmore at Oshawa put on a big campaign for the theatre's fifth anniversary. The screen feature was "Going My Way."

OTTAWA

The Capitol was the scene of a Gold Star Victory Loan show featuring Joel McCrea, Frances Dee, Victor Borge, Stella Andrews and other screen and stage personalities, including Jimmy Shields of the Canadian "Army Show," back from overseas. The program was presented twice during the evening . . . "A Song to Remember" continued for a fourth week at the Elgin with no sign of a lapse in patronage, according to Manager Eddie Warren.

Graham McInnes, information editor of the National Film Board, is back in the capital after a tour to the Pacific coast, during which he made preliminary arrangements for the making of a government picture on the life of Emily Carr, Canadian painter, who died recently in her Vancouver Island home. Ralph Foster of the film board has left Ottawa for Australia where he expects to remain for two years.

Ernest Borneman, a native of Germany and resident of England until the outbreak of war when he was interned and sent to Canada, presented two German-made films before a gathering of the National Film Society in the Dominion's museum building. The pictures were "Uberfall and Emil" and "Und die Detektive." Incidentally, Borneman was granted his release by the Canadian authorities to be employed by the film board because of his technical experience.

Alice Faye Cast in "Fallen Angel"

After a retirement of nearly two years, Alice Faye will star in "Fallen Angel," to be produced and directed by Otto Preminger at 20th-Fox. The second feminine lead will go to Linda Darnell.

Grierson Ends Rumor Of Change to U.S. Job

OTTAWA—Back in Ottawa from Washington, John Grierson, commissioner of Canada's National Film Board, said a report he would direct a new film office in the U.S. state department was "wholly speculative," adding he did not desire to leave the Dominion.

His statement followed varied and numerout reports that he was to be appointed to a Washington post and the story apparently originated in the United States capital. It was said at the time that Grierson had asked for leave of absence from the National Film Board, but it was stated later his presence in the American capital was for the purpose of discussing developments of interest to both countries. Grierson said Canada and the United States had much in common in connection with moving picture production activities.

CALGARY

Business was routine along Filmrow with shippers busy and majority of salesmen out on long trips in this vast territory. A few callers in the exchanges included: Mark Jenkins, securing summer bookings for his Rex at Claresholm; R. F. Ellis of the Star, Unity, Sask., and J. Lieberman, Odeon supervisor at Edmonton.

S. Pearlman, WB manager here, went to join other key city managers to meet the new WB general manager in Canada, Haskell Masters.



Odeon's Club for Boys and Girls Sets Toronto Premiere for June

TORONTO—Completing a transcontinental tour of Canadian theatre situations, E. McQuaid of London, controller of the Odeon National Cinema Club for Boys and Girls, spent several days at the Odeon head office here to discuss plans for launching the Odeon Movie Club in early in June.

The opening ceremony will be attended by J. Arthur Rank, it was stated, and prints for the initial screen program were being flown across the Atlantic, these being productions of Rank's children's film department in London.

Coincident with the visit of McQuaid, announcement was made that special pictures for the movie club and other juvenile shows were to be produced in Toronto by Motion Picture Instructional Films, of which Frank O'Byrne recently was appointed general manager after serving as Ontario manager of Associated Screen News, a CPR subsidiary, for many years.

In this connection, it was recalled that Mary Field, London producer of educational and children's films, had visited Montreal, Ottawa and New York not very long ago to get a line on the juvenile film prospects in Canada and the States. It is understood that the Toronto production drive will be opened early in the summer, the equipment already having been obtained.

Bowyer to Direct Clubs

The Odeon Movie Club movement will be under the direction of Thomas Bowyer, who recently joined Canadian Odeon head office after resigning from the Canadian National Railways promotion department.

The initial club performance will be held at the Colony, a smart Odeon house in northwest Toronto, either on June 2 or June 9, depending upon the personal program of Arthur Rank. This first show will be attended by Paul Nathanson of Canadian Odeon who has shown a deep interest in the project.

Telling of his observations in the Dominion, McQuaid said he encountered enthusiastic response in all but one of the provinces, the interest in Manitoba being particularly marked because of the attention that is devoted there to the development of talents among promising juveniles. British Columbia, other western provinces and the eastern maritime provinces appeared to be ready to support the movement.

Movement Sidesteps Quebec

No organization work had been done in the province of Quebec, where all juveniles under 16 years of age are banned from all motion picture theatres except on rare occasions when official provincial permission is granted to children to see a film in a cinema. One example was the film dealing with the royal tour in 1939. The only films which Quebec juveniles are privileged to see are those which are presented in parish halls or schools, unless the children travel to another province.

In his press interview here McQuaid traced the development of the Odeon clubs in Great Britain and also dealt with organization features which have made the clubs popular. The only setback had been due to the war. Saturday morning club shows had to be cancelled in some districts of London because of menace of German V-bombs. This danger had now been removed. The British clubs were attended by more than 200,000 boys and girls from 6 to 14 years every week, the shows being a permanent feature in some 200 theatres.

Club literature includes a colorful letterhead, membership application card, membership card which bears the club pledge, and a birthday greeting card which entitles the bearer and a friend to one free performance.

Pledge Truth and Obedience

The membership pledge is: "I promise to tell the truth, to help others and to obey my parents; I promise to be thoughtful of old folks, to be kind to animals and always to play the game; I promise to try and make this great country of ours a better place to live in."

McQuaid said one immediate effect of this pledge had been that juvenile patrons had turned in various small articles which had been lost in theatres or on nearby streets, while thanks had come from parents because of the cooperative attitude of their children after joining a movie club. At the same time, there was nothing "sissy" about the organization or its screen programs, although the picture themes invariably pointed to a moral.

WINNIPEG

Gudrun Bjerring, Ottawa, National Film Board producer, was to visit here to complete filming of the Manitoba Music Festival. A former Winnipeg newspaper woman, Miss Bjerring, shot the festival about a year ago, but when the film was about to be released for theatrical showings it raised the ire of the Musicians' Ass'n and was withdrawn from circulation. It was understood here that Miss Bjerring would complete the film for release as a 16mm showing to schools, music groups and other organizations.

Graham MacInnis, publicity head for the Film Board, visited here briefly on his way to Ottawa from the Pacific coast . . . Walter Pyle, operator of the Elks, at Assiniboina, and houses at Rockglen and Coronach, Sask., was another visitor to Filmrow.

"Song of Bernadette," booked for early showing here, was screened by Famous Players for a large and representative group of Catholics . . . The latest Russian picture to be shown here is "Wait for Me," currently being played by Dave Rosemond at the Beacon. Rosemond worked hard plugging the film through advance showings to special groups and other means.

Hughie Simmons, former assistant manager of the Strand at Brandon, Man., has taken over the management of the North End, at Flin Flon, Man.

With the suspension of the University of Manitoba's adult education at the end of April, it was announced that the department's extensive film library will be moved to the quarters of the Film Board. Service of the library will be continued as before.

The Burnside Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Co. played a solid week here to only fair houses in the face of vigorous opposition from the Manitoba Music Festival, an institution which draws thousands daily through its two-week session . . . A roller-skating show produced by the Winnipeg Roller Rink drew capacity houses through five successive nights.

Christie to "Centennial Summer"

Audrey Christie, Broadway actress, has been signed to a long-term contract and will have a feature role in "Centennial Summer," a 20th-Fox production.

F. H. Howe Succeeds Golding at Capitol

ST. JOHN—F. Harrison Howe, assistant manager of the Capitol, has been appointed manager to succeed the late Walter H. Golding. Howe has been on the Capitol staff 13 years, starting as an usher after coming here from Chatham, N. B. He is president of the Kinsmen Club.

Mrs. Gertrude Johnstone, treasurer at the Capitol, has been promoted to assistant manager. The appointments were made by Bob Roddick, maritime provinces manager for Famous Players, who was on hand to install new appointees. Howe had been acting manager during the illness of his predecessor.

All St. John Theatres Close to Honor Memory of Late Showman

ST. JOHN—All St. John theatres were closed until 6 p. m. on the afternoon the funeral for Golding was held. Central Baptist Church, scene of the public service, was crowded. One of the pallbearers was Frank Fitzgerald, a coworker with Golding at the Nickel (York) and Imperial-Capitol, and still active on the Capitol staff.

Among the floral tokens were sets and wreaths from: President Fitzgibbons and officers of Famous Players; officers and directors of Odeon; Paramount Film Service; Louis B. Mayer, Howard Strickling and Walter Pidgeon, M-G-M, Hollywood; Empire-Universal Films; Maritime Film Board; RKO Distributing Corp.; Local 440, IATSE and MPO; Franklin & Herschorn; Manager Pat Hogan and staff, Paramount exchange; Manager Abe Smith and staff, Regal Films; Capitol Theatre staff; Sprague Bros.; B&L Theatres; Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers; Morris Stein; Allied Exhibitors of Nova Scotia, and John Fitzpatrick. The flowers filled two rooms at the funeral nome.

ST. JOHN

The Sports Review of Nova Scotia, produced by 20th-Fox for the publicity department of the Nova Scotian government, was premiered at the Halifax Capitol . . . Abe Garson, maritime manager for Odeon-Rank, has been traveling considerably looking over and buying sites for new theatres. The Halifax First Baptist Church location was purchased before Garson hooked up with Odeon recently, but a Gottingen St. site may also be taken over by Odeon . . . The Yarmouth Community is credited with developing mercantile popularity of Cliff St. in recent years. When that theatre was opened on that street, few stores were located there.

Two veteran maritime exhibitors who started out as stage workers in Massachusetts are Norman Mason of New Glasgow, as a call boy at a Boston theatre, and Johnny Farr of North Sydney, as a property boy at a near Boston stage show house. Singularly, both have been involved recently in sales of their theatre holdings and at about the same time. Both to Odeon-Rank, too.

Bill O'Neill has a three-way stake in St. Andrews, for he is half owner of the Marina Theatre, operates a restaurant and is a member of the town council of this border center . . . Aubie Sprague who, with his brother Les runs the Fairville Gaiety, is active in the volunteer fire department of Fairville.

A complete repainting job has been started at the Mayfair, St. John. After finishing the projection room, office, halls, entrance, marquee, lobby, comfort rooms, etc., the main auditorium will be started. Work will be done between 11 p. m. and noon.

Record-Breakers Get 20th-Fox Plaques

WINNIPEG—Bill Novak, manager of the Metropolitan, and Charlie Bahrynowski, manager of the Metropolitan, Regina, were guests at a ceremony in the mayor's office when Mayor Coulter presented them with plaques in behalf of 20th-Fox for breaking all house records while playing the company's picture, "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka," during its anniversary month, April.

Over the signature of S. Samson, Toronto, general manager of the company, the plaques were given for the managers' superior showmanship, able management of record-breaking crowds and the excellence of publicity campaigns. J. H. Huber, Winnipeg branch manager, presented copies of "My Friend Flicka" and "Thunderhead" to Mayor Coulter with the compliments of the company.

Present in addition to the honored guests and Huber, were E. A. Zorn, district manager for the prairie provinces; H. A. Bishop, supervisor of Manitoba theatres; George Dowbiggin, district booker, all of Famous Players; Charley Krupp, chief salesman, and A. Smith, booker of 20th-Fox.

Following the presentations, Novak and Bahrynowski were again honored at a luncheon given by the company, when Huber presented them with pens as a special mark of appreciation.

Ben Lepkin, BOXOFFICE representative, also was a guest.

Trouper Recovers Costume; Quebec Show Goes on

QUEBEC—The ten-day run of the popular French - Canadian revue, "Fridolinons '45," opened here with tragedy barely averted.

Late the previous afternoon, Pacifique Plante, Montreal lawyer and manager of the show, received a series of frantic phone calls from Gratien Gelinas, star of "Fridolinons" who had arrived several days in advance of his troupe. "My costume—it hasn't come," Gelinas moaned over the wires. "Find it. Look everywhere. Ask everybody. Pay anything, but find it."

Fridolin's costume is undoubtedly the most important piece of equipment in his entire production. It consists of worn sneakers, ragged short pants, a faded Canadian hockey team sweater, peak cap, and the slingshot of a typical Montreal street gamins. It is the only costume of its kind he possesses and is impossible to duplicate at a moment's notice. It had been carefully packed and directed to the freight car together with a carload of stage sets and other costumes. Of the vast amount of equipment everything but Fridolin's costume arrived according to schedule.

However, the day was saved when "Pax" Plante, after several hours' inquiry, discovered the missing costume in the equipment of another troupe show. He rushed it off by the next train, arriving here himself for the first matinee, and was relieved to see Fridolin clothed in the familiar garb of his seven previous annual revues. He wowed Quebec audiences.

Polish Festival in Toronto

TORONTO—Famous Players' Tivoli here was the scene of a "Polish Film Festival" Sunday, held under the auspices of the Polish branch of the Red Cross Society. A collection was taken for humanitarian work. The films comprised scenic, topical and patriotic pictures of Poland.

Odeon-Rank Plans More North Sydney Expansion

ST. JOHN—The operations of Odeon-Rank in North Sydney will not be limited to the Rivoli, recently purchased by that circuit, through Abe Garson, maritime chief for the merger. Current plans are for postwar construction of a new theatre in North Sydney to seat about 1,200. The Rivoli seats 500, and there had been intention to enlarge this by about 100. Indications are that the Rivoli will be continued, either with or without enlargements.

Johnny Farr, who owned and managed this house for many years, is remaining as manager. Farr started in entertainment in Massachusetts 38 years ago. It was as a prop boy in a Keith-Albee theatre. In subsequent years, he moved around considerably and was employed with touring stage shows and film theatres in numerous states and provinces, until settling down at North Sydney for his longest single stop. And he has developed into a community figure.

Vancouver Employes Go Over Top in Loan Drive

VANCOUVER—Theatre managers and employes alike are utilizing every means at their disposal in furthering the Eighth Victory Loan campaign in British Columbia. Vancouver theatre employes subscribed for bond purchases 100 per cent and outside points also have shown gratifying returns to date. Howard Boothe, Odeon district manager, is in charge of the drive.

Theatre Patrons Give Red Cross $84,236.65

TORONTO—A final report on Canadian Red Cross collections, prepared by J. J. Fitzgibbons, national chairman of the Canadian motion picture war services committee, showed $84,236.65 had been turned over to the fund by theatres of the Dominion. Of this total, $29,642.20 was donated by patrons of theatres in Ontario on the two nights of the drive and $14,312.72 was collected from audiences in Quebec theatres. British Columbia was third with $10,298.85.

"It is significant," said Fitzgibbons, "that the theatre collecting the largest sum, the Capitol, Halifax, is patronized by an audience that fully appreciates what the Red Cross is doing. The audience is largely made up of service men, many of whom have had an opportunity of seeing the Red Cross in action overseas.

"On behalf of the executive of the motion picture war services committee, I wish to thank all Canadian exhibitors who contributed to the success of the worthy campaign."

It was pointed out that the collections, the first to be conducted in theatres for any cause, were not held in a few theatres because local Red Cross organizations did not have sufficient volunteers to supervise the passing of the contribution boxes, or decided not to go through with a theatre collection after having already exceeded their quotas.

Prince Edward Island was the only Canadian province in which no theatre collection was held for the Red Cross.

"Salome" Sings for Victory Loan

MONTREAL — Launching of the Eighth Victory Loan has again brought film stars to Canada to participate in "personal appearances" and radio broadcasts. In the performance at His Majesty's here Joan Edwards, Hit Parade star, had as Canadian ally the Nova Scotian contralto, Portia White; Jackie Kelk, "Homer" of the Aldrich Family, and Joel McCrea and his actress wife, Frances Dee.

A French language broadcast for the Victory Loan was given at the St. Denis when Yvonne De Carlo, Vancouver girl chosen by Walter Wanger to play the stellar role in "Salome," sang and spoke in French. Miss De Carlo, picked by members of an RCAF squadron as "the most beautiful girl in the world," owes her success partly to the airmen sending her photograph to Wanger. After the show she flew back to Hollywood to replace Maria Montez in the title role of "Frontier Gal."



Yvonne De Carlo as "Salome"

Alteration Ceilings Reduced to $500

OTTAWA—The amount which can be expended for theatre alterations or improvements without the requirement of a federal government wartime permit has been reduced from $1,500 to $500 in order to reduce construction work of nonessential nature, it has been announced by J. P. Mackenzie, controller of construction, department of munitions and supply, Ottawa.

It was said building materials and supplies were low, and the manpower situation had become even more critical in view of the program to erect low-priced homes and military hospitals.

There was no official word regarding the policy covering the erection of new theatres but it was understood the department would not lift the restriction for many months.

Col. L. R. LaFleche Resigns In Pre-Election Shakeup

OTTAWA—In a pre-election cabinet shakeup, Col. L. R. LaFleche resigned as minister of national war services to be succeeded by Dr. J. J. McCann, federal member for the riding of Renfrew in Ontario, it was announced by Premier Mackenzie King, prior to the latter's departure for the United Nations security conference at San Francisco. Within the jurisdiction of this post are both the National Film Board and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., Ottawa.

Among the cabinet changes was the appointment of Paul Martin of Windsor, Ont., who will have charge of the copyright appeal board as the new secretary of state. This board deals with the schedule of royalty fees to be collected on a seat basis by the Canadian Performing Right Society.

Alberta Editor Deplores Soft Drink Ad in Film

ALBERTA—In his weekly column of the Albertan, the editor of Spotlight took a blast at a soft drink advertisement in the army air force picture, "Winged Victory."

After "hoping that the insidious attempt at advertising was to be a lone effort of the motion picture industry introduced in a picture of trainees whose conduct was too good to be true," the writer, who did not mention the soft drink name, summed up:

"Understand the deal was made with the soft drink dispenser in return for one week of radio boosting of 'Winged Victory' last December. In return that branded cooler has flashed upon thousands of screens for months, has been seen by millions.

"A poor bargain for the air force."

"Chuck Wagon" Set Up At Screening by ASN

TORONTO—Something unusual in screening parties was conducted by Jack Chisholm, Ontario manager of Associated Screen News. His guests viewed a complete picture of the "Calgary Stampede" and an industrial three-reeler called "Quaker Oats' Pasturelands" in which were shown many of Canada's finest herds, horses, hogs and poultry in entertaining manner.

Chisholm arranged a "chuck wagon" for the refreshment angle—in effect a miniature barbecue, to the delight of the film scribes. Incidentally, it was Jack Chisholm's first party since promotion to Ontario manager.

From Canada's Snow to Miami's Sun; Rankin Takes a "Postman's Holiday"

TILBURY, ONT.—Harland Rankin, proprietor of the local Plaza Theatre, which he calls "The House of Hits," recently returned from a trip to Florida. From his own account it must have been something of a "postman's holiday" because he talks about Florida theatres and theatre men rather than the sun, the climate and the beauties of the beach. In his own words, it was like this:



HARLAND RANKIN

"It was snowing here in Canada; cars were getting stuck repeatedly, the children suffered from bronchitis; so I decided to take my family to Florida with the idea of forgetting shows and getting all the fruit and sun we could. But after two weeks of just resting and going downtown in Miami, seeing those marquees, I



ALFRED WEISS

couldn't resist going into the Olympia. With my son and daughter, I got past the doorman and into the manager's office—a swell chap if ever there was one, Alfred Weiss. Busy as he was with his stage shows and dozens of interruptions, he got out the cigars (they are as hard to get in Canada as cigarets in the United States) and we became fast friends. He met Bobby and Nancy and made us all stay for a good monkey act, which clicked with the kids.

"Alf still uses his organ before his stage show and we enjoyed it. He seems to be the father of Miami show business, for I saw his picture several times in the daily paper while I was there. (I also saw a picture of the home one of the Warner brothers bought.) On a later visit Alf had a little more time and we really went over show business. Over his head on the wall was a picture of the certificate issued him by the army and navy for entertainment provided—the one you see here.

"The main headaches he spoke of were those having to do with keeping ushers and cashiers from quitting for better paying jobs, the cleaners from losing uniforms and getting them to deliver shirt fronts on time. That last is serious too, and being a theatre man myself, it didn't strike me a bit funny the day I came in and found the boys all standing around in their uniforms with no shirt fronts—their bare hides showing, waiting for the laundry.

"Yes, Alf says he sure knows there is a war on, but when I asked him if he would like another job, I could see he had theatre business in his blood. One of the funniest things he said to me, though, was when I bragged on how tourists flocked there and how it ought to be a perfect show town. He smiled, looked out the window and said, 'See that sunshine? That's what they come to Florida for—and that's our opposition.'

"One thing, he had no vandalism and it was a pleasure to sit and enjoy a picture undisturbed. It's a serious problem up our way. Alf has spent most of his life in theatre business. He knew and worked with J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Theatre, Canada."

After meeting one of his fellow exhibitors. Rankin was like the man who thinks he will take only one drink and then can't resist more. In uptown Miami he introduced himself to Harry Brown of the Paramount. Brown he found to be more conservative, strictly the big town manager type, but combining his business ability with a sense of humor, from Rankin's account of the meeting:

"I said to Harry, what about showmen today, and he said, 'There aren't any.' 'What do you mean?' I said. He said, 'Just that you don't need showmanship. All you do now is open the doors and run like hell for fear the crowd tramples you getting in.' I guess he had something there, as they did crowd in his situation.

"His assistant came from Toronto and wished to be remembered to the boys."

Even on the return trip, Rankin could not resist stopping and talking to other exhibitors, many of whom knew him through his contributions to the "Exhibitor Has His Say" page in BOXOFFICE. Which only goes to show, paraphrasing that old saying about the boy and the country—you can take a theatre man out of his theatre but you can't take his interest in theatre business out of him—not even on a vacation.

"Hellzapoppin" on Screen And Outside in Tripoli

MONTREAL—While one of the heaviest flak barrages in the entire Mediterranean was pounding German bombers attempting to attack shipping in Tripoli harbor, a Canadian flight lieutenant was watching a film just outside the town—and the feature was "Hellzapoppin."

"There was a perfect view of all the fireworks through the open window. Whenever we got bored with 'Hellzapoppin' on the screen, we watched it through the window. They were both good shows," revealed Lieut. T. H. W. Reed, who recently returned to his home at Rockcliffe, Ont., after more than three years overseas as a radar technical specialist.

Confer on 16mm Sound

TORONTO—With news of the establishment in the U.S. of the 16mm Producers Ass'n of America for the maintenance of a proper tone in narrow-width films, there have been several conferences here between William Redpath, president of the Canadian 16mm Distributors Ass'n, and Col. John A. Cooper, secretary. The latter was head of the Canadian MPDA for many years and was regarded as the Will Hays of the Dominion. Redpath is eastern general manager of General Films, Ltd. Cooperative action in 16mm distribution has been in effect in Canada for more than two years.

Fox Wisconsin Service Men Spurn New Fields; Want Old Jobs Back

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE—Many World War II veterans may be looking for new fields to conquer in postwar civilian life, but former Fox Wisconsin employes now in service want to remain in the theatre business.

This fact stands out in letters from former employes to Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, and co-workers as printed in the Service Men's Letter. The men in uniform also indicate what a lift they get in news from the home front and the knowledge that their old associates are behind them.

Radio Mate Walter Luebke writes: "I want to thank you and the Fox Wisconsin organization for all that they have done for me while I have been in the service. I know that it is a swell thing for a gob, soldier or marine to have that kind of people behind him back home. It gives you a sense of self-satisfaction, I know."

From the Pacific, Cpl. Kenneth W. Yeko writes: "It certainly makes a fellow feel good to know that even though he is in the armed forces, he still is remembered by his former employer . . . I'm enclosing the card pertaining to postwar plans. I certainly would like to be back with Fox."

"Swell to Be Remembered"

From the Philippines T/5 William A. Pearson writes: "Received your latest letter, and also the Christmas check . . . It sure is a swell feeling to know that Fox Wisconsin still remembers all of us, and is right in there pitching for us. The last time I wrote I was in Dutch New Guinea . . . But this Pacific theatre has gone in for offensive in a big way, and is really leading the schedule. Things are pretty quiet now. Tojo's air force pays a night visit, when they can find one or two planes to do it with.

"The movie situation is much better than it ever was in New Guinea . . . Some of our recent showings were 'Rhapsody in Blue,' 'Hail the Conquering Hero,' 'Saratoga Trunk' and 'Lost in a Harem' . . . I really ran about the most interrupted version of 'Rhapsody in Blue' ever shown. Started at 6:45; was interrupted by four raid alerts, and also rained out for a half hour. Finally finished at 12:15. Boy, what a show!

"Am enclosing the postwar plans questionnaire that you sent. I really want to come back to work for the company . . . I had almost four years with Fox Wisconsin when I entered the service, and I get darn lonesome for the old projection booth, and some decent equipment . . . especially after running a show which depends on bailing wire . . . I've made a lot of emergency repairs that would make a civilian operator freeze with horror."

From the Netherlands East Indies, Pvt. Robert Klein writes: "Air raids keep me pretty busy . . . Since I last wrote, I have made a few moves. I was at the Admiralty Islands for several months, and have been here for a couple of months already . . . The trouble with the air raids is that they usually come over during the show at night, and I have missed the ending of a lot of good pictures . . . I saw Bob Hope and his troupe back at the Admiralties. It really was great."

From Santa Ana, Calif., Capt. Joe M. Baisch writes: "We have lectures, interviews and physical examinations a couple of hours a day. The rest of the time we are free to roll, with plenty of beer around to while away the time."

From the South Pacific, Seaman Wallace Aho writes: "Your Thanksgiving booklet brought back many pleasant memories of the past, when I worked for Fox."

From Fort Knox, Ky., Pvt. Joseph Jeknavarian writes: "I received your postcard today. I intend to re-enter theatre business . . . I'd like to be an assistant manager to Dan Psiropoulous at the Miller Theatre if he is still there."

Ottawa Plans Gala Event For "Col. Blimp" Opening

OTTAWA — "Colonel Blimp," the British film which already has aroused considerable discussion in the United States, will be introduced in Canada at a gala performance here May 10 under the patronage of the governor-general of Canada, Lord Athlone, and Princess Alice. Formal invitations have been issued to high ranking officials of the diplomatic corps, officers of patriotic organizations, military chiefs and representatives of the Dominion government.

The occasion has been made a war charity affair for society leaders of the Canadian capital and the proceeds are to be turned over to various funds.

Confederation Directors Make Financial Report

MONTREAL—Net profit of $106,510.86 in 1944 was shown in the annual report of Confederation Amusements, Ltd., to its stockholders; this, after payment of operating expenses, including amusement and general taxes and licenses of $213,002.75, bond interest and discount and depreciation. Provision for income and excess profits taxes of $46,774.63, estimated subject to determination of standards profits, reduced the net for the year to $59,736.23.

Two dividends of $3 per share each, amounting to $32.184 were paid on preferred shares during the year. The report was submitted on behalf of the directors by F. A. Tabah, president.

Tallulah and Whorf Given Press Club Citations

From New England Edition

BOSTON—Tallulah Bankhead and Richard Whorf were awarded citations of merit by the Cambridge Press Club as being the motion picture players who presented the best portrayals of newspaper people on the screen during 1944.

Kind Censor Supplies Missing Dollar Bill

From Southern Edition

Atlanta—The censors who edit the mail from the boys overseas can be pretty tough sometimes but attractive Mrs. Margaret Walker, who is with Warner Bros. here thinks there's one censor in particular who's "pretty darned nice."

She received a letter from her brother-in-law, Seaman Arthur Walker, from the South Pacific recently in which the brother-in-law wrote that he was enclosing $3 for the baby boy, Johnny. At the end of the letter he added a P. S., "Please put another dollar with this. I haven't got but $2 with me."

Mrs. Walker examined the money attached and found there were three one-dollar bills. She looked back at the letter again and noted a second postcript. It read, "Here's the other dollar." Signed "The Censor."

Growth of Famous Players In 25th Annual Report

TORONTO—In submitting the 25th annual report to the shareholders of Famous Players Canadian Corp., J. J. Fitzgibbons, president, made special reference to the establishment of the circuit a quarter of a century ago, the growth of the chain since that time and the observance of its 25th anniversary. Fitzgibbons pointed out the company and its associates operate more than 300 theatres in every province and in Newfoundland, entertain more than 2,000,000 people weekly, provide an annual pay roll of more than $6,000,000 to about 4,000 Canadians, paid out more than $10,000,000 in all forms of taxes last year and had total expenditures of around $30,000,000 in 1944.

Employes Should Share Civic Duties

Saying that "it has been a guiding principle that all employes should be good citizens sharing in the civic responsibilities of the communities," Fitzgibbons outlined the many activities of managers and other employes in community projects, patriotic campaigns, service club work, election to public offices and enrollment in the armed services, with practically 1,000 names on the company's roll of honor. In addition the company's theatres have been placed at the disposal of public bodies, while free morning shows have been staged for many purposes in support of the war effort.

With respect to the future, Fitzgibbons said:

"Every company is devoting some attention to postwar plans. Like many other Canadian businesses, your company has formulated plans for extensive theatre construction and renovation when present government controls are removed. During the war, these restrictions have permitted only limited repairs with the result that there will be, in the postwar period, considerable repairs and renewals to existing equipment and properties, as well as new theatre building.

"As time goes, the motion picture industry is still a new business . . . What the future will bring, no one definitely knows. Your executives are watching with interest and keeping abreast of any ideas that may be developed during the postwar period and your company will be prepared to take fullest advantage of them." He concluded by referring to the prospect of a reasonably early victory and the return of men and women to the company's employment as a matter of great satisfaction.

Benefit Fund Established As Memorial to Hague

TORONTO—Canadian Picture Pioneers, as a tribute to the memory of Clair Hague, late president of the organization, announced establishment of the Clair Hague memorial benefit fund, proceeds of which are to be devoted to those of the film industry who fall upon dark days. J. J. Fitzgibbons of FPC and Paul L. Nathanson of Odeon have provided a number of annual theatre passes for different localities which are to be prizes in raffles for the fund, which already has reached a substantial figure through private donations.

In charge of arrangements are Oscar R. Hanson, Clare Appel, Jack Arthur and Ben Cronk, all of whom were closely associated with Clair Hague for many years in trade and philanthropic meaures.

Nona Freeman Replaces Ann Blyth

Nona Freeman has been selected to replace Ann Blyth in "Danger Signal," a Warner production. Miss Blyth was forced out of the cast because of a broken back.

BOXOFFICE

CARRIES

MORE

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TRADE PAPERS

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SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Blimp Models Direct Lobby Eyes to "Navy"

Charles Raymond, Loew Theatres Great Lakes division manager, effected a tieup with the Goodyear Rubber Co., Akron, for a display of lighter than air models in the lobby of the State, Cleveland, before and during "This Man's Navy." The models were enclosed in glass elevated cases (shown herewith) and each was properly marked to give a complete description of size, capacity, range and purpose. A large model hung free from the ceiling, as did also a full size and completely equipped blimp basket.



In the foreground of the lobby was a rubber lifeboat, full size, with all the equipment used in actual service.

This display attracted large crowds and a lot of comment and word-of-mouth promotion of the picture.

Ed Fisher, Loew Theatres publicity director, and Howard Burkhardt, State manager, arranged an unusually large and attractive window display in the Euclid Ave. office of Pennsylvania Airlines, located on the public square, the busiest spot in town.

Start of Show on "Tolls" Announced by Recording

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The tolling of a bell recorded on a disc and played through amplifiers was the method used by Russell Simpson, manager of the Capitol, in announcing the start of each performance of Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Simpson planted newspaper items explaining the purpose of the stunt thereby enabling patrons to ascertain the starting time of each feature to a matter of seconds.

First Editions of "Gray" Asked by Rodney Toups

Rodney Toups of the State Theatre in New Orleans had citizens in that area rummaging in book cases, attics and old book shops in search of a first edition of Oscar Wilde's "Picture of Dorian Gray" in response to advertisements inserted as a promotion for the showing of the film adaptation here.

Don't Pass By the Children! —

Kids, Adults Too, Seem Cartoon-Show Hungry

Many managers of theatres, which in the last few years have had good crowds keeping the ticket takers busy and the profits up to a comfortable level with the routine run of bookings, have grown complacent with the easy flow of their business, diverted, perhaps, by the added toils and preoccupations of wartime, and have waved aside projects for special activities with, "Oh, what's the use?"

Many particularly have been guilty of completely passing by the kids as far as their individual theatre is concerned. Evidence of this fact is the exceptional success reported to Selling Seats in the last few months of all-cartoon shows, the reports coming from widely separated parts of the country.

Kids, and significantly, adults, too, have jammed these cartoon shows as if following a hunger that has had all too little feeding.

Among showmen ready to plead guilty of negligence to the young folk is Merle R. Blair of the Regent Theatre at Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Blair reports a comedy cartoon matinee he held on a recent Saturday morning lined up young folk down the block. On our desk are photos, tearsheets and a brief description forwarded by Blair.

"I've held many kid shows—Christmas parties, birthday celebrations, airplane contests, pooch dog parades—but never have I had one catch on like this," Blair relates.

"We had them lined up for a block and the favorable reports from the parents alone were worth the efforts put forth."

The kid matinee was announced in a simple 2x6 ad captioned:

"ALL-COMEDY CARTOON SHOW . . . Mother! Dad! D'Your Kidlets Ever See Enough Cartoon Comedies? . . . Then Get Them to Our Big All-Comedy Cartoon Show . . . One Performance Only, Saturday Morning (dates) . . . Doors open 9:30 . . . Two Hours of Cartoons, Comedies, Songs, Sports . . . All Children 20c. Adults 35c.

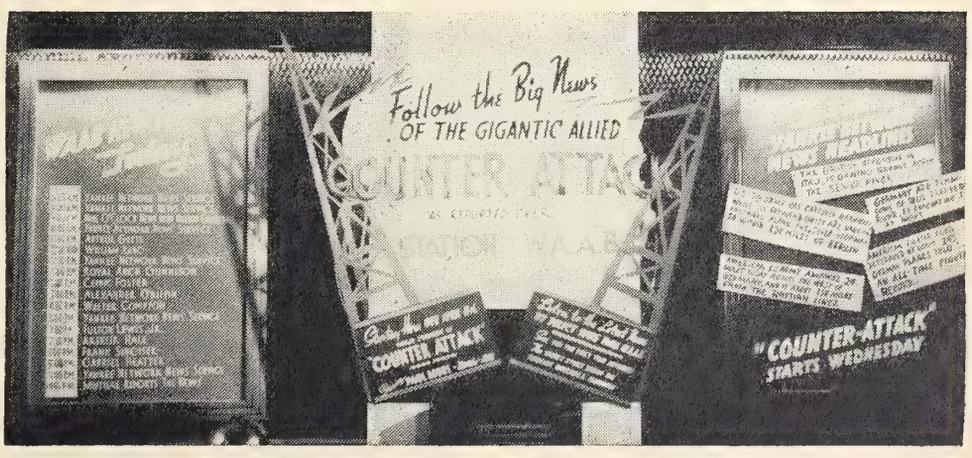
In each corner of the ad were cartoon cuts of Donald Duck, Pluto, Porky Pig and Bugs Bunny.

The newspaper reported that day that about 300 youngsters were disappointed because they arrived too late. "All of the youngsters were planning to get up before breakfast the next time so that they would be sure of getting seats," the Record reported.

John Paxton Advertises Shorts Daily at El Paso

John Paxton is city manager at El Paso for the Interstate circuit. Recently he wrote Besa Short, head of Interstate's shorts department at Dallas:

"You might not know it, but El Paso is one of the few towns on the circuit that still maintains an art department. We use large standees on practically all outstanding shorts; we carry copy in our lobbies on all shorts. We advertise March of Time and certain shorts a week in advance in the lobbies. We have very little newspaper space, but we still manage to let the public know about our little features, I mean every day."



BY DIRECT WIRE—Alec Davis, manager of the Warner Theatre, Worcester, Mass., made a deal with Station WAAB for a telegram from the studio for hourly news flashes in the lobby.

Fifth Avenue to Dime Stores Aids "I'll Be Seeing You"



"SEEING YOU" ON FIFTH AVE. (ARNOLD CONSTABLE)



BOUQUET OF BEAUTY AT MANNING'S.



A SHIRLEY TEMPLE LETTER DISPLAY AT WOOLWORTH'S.

Great Penetration Obtained by Adroit Use Of All Tieups in the Text Books

The exploitation campaign given "I'll Be Seeing You" for its Capitol Theatre engagement in New York was one of the most extensive drives executed there in many a month.

The campaign attained great penetration through adroit showmanship. Co-op ad lineage passed 6,300 lines, a tieup with Arnold Constable alone scoring 3,300 lines of space with full picture credits, plus two full window displays in top Fifth Ave. locations.

A Harmon watch tieup put one-minute spot Shirley Temple transcriptions on local radio stations 40 times a day for three weeks. A 600-line Harmon co-op ad appeared in the drama section of the New York Times. Another highlight was distribution of 300 display cards to authorized dealers plus five special window displays arranged with dealers located in strategic places.

The big stores which gave the picture window displays were: G. Schirmer, Lewis & Conger, Spear & Co. (5), Manning Florist, F. W. Woolworth's (3), Phil Cooper Cleaning establishments (8), Ritz Cleaning Chain of 11 stores and Wise Shoes (15). The latter also placed 1,800 lines of co-op ads.

Childs restaurants used IBSY star heads on 10,000 tent cards giving full picture credits. These were placed on tables of their 34 stores in Manhattan. Numerous hotels and restaurants played up IBSY on menus with a war bond slogan.

Thirty YMCA branches posted 100 cards, 14x22, and gave plugs in all branch house organs; a special tieup with Musak on the song "I'll Be Seeing You" did excellently for the picture as did radio disc jockeys on seven stations who played recordings of the song giving in most cases picture mention. Included in the accomplishments was the "I'll Be Seeing You" party broadcast held over WNEW, a 15-minute event.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs, American Legion, Lions and Partridge Clubs, etc., cooperated in bringing IBSY to the attention of their members.

A special contest on "What are you going to do for your returning service man?" was sponsored by Sachs Quality Furniture, which gave this space and promotion over their radio programs on WMCA.

"Son of Lassie" the Prize In School Safety Contest

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland Board of Education is cooperating with Manager Howard Burkhardt and Ed Fisher, publicity director, in a campaign to promote the work of the National Safety Council.

Through their efforts the winners of the Intercity Safety Council awards, open to children of all public and parochial schools, were invited to see "Son of Lassie" at a special free performance in the Music Hall. The board of education utilized the school system's bulletin boards to spread the news throughout the city and the county. The Press broke the story on the front page and followed this with daily stories for one week.

A Schenectady Page Ad Booms "Objective, Burma!"

SCHENECTADY—Guy Graves, Fabian city manager here, promoted a full page newspaper advertisement as part of the exploitation for "Objective, Burma!" at the State. His tag line for the ad was: "Schenectady Boy Leads Crane Street to Burma—See Crane Street Merchants for Spectacular Values." Phil Rapp, manager of the State, advanced the idea when he discovered that one of the characters in the picture spoke of Schenectady as his home town and mentioned Crane Street as his home town thoroughfare.

Here's a Song to Use During Bond Drive

With the eighth successive bond campaign under way in Canada and the seventh in the U. S., some good use may be found for the following promotional song written by Johnny Farr, the bard-manager of the Rivoli in St. John, N. B. Farr has been leading his audience in singing the song to the tune of "Oh, My Darling Clementine."

We are buying, bonds for victory
Seven times we bought before
No denying, we'll keep buying
Till our armies win the war.

Chorus: Bonds for victory, bonds for victory,
Put our dollars in the fight,
We will back our fighting forces
As they battle for the right.

Little Adolf thought us softies,
Sacrifice we'd never stand
Seven times we showed old Adolf
Maybe eight he'll understand.

Chorus: Bonds for victory, bonds for victory,
O'er the top we'll go you bet
Lend for victory, for our fighters
We have never failed them yet.

Slacker dollars should be fighting,
When we lend, we cannot lose.
Is it bonds or is it bondage?
Hitler knows which one we choose.

Chorus: Bonds for victory, bonds for victory,
Bonds to have when peace is here
To keep wheels of plenty turning
In our Canada so dear.

Ad Blowup in Lobby

KANSAS CITY—A blowup of the Curtiss-Wright ad in Life magazine on "God Is My Co-Pilot" was among the lobby material the Orpheum here used on the picture. Two posters, one a large reproduction of the portrait of a P40 Warhawk, terrifying with its shark nose, formed the background of a window display in the Methodist book store.

Art Students Sketch In Theatre Lobby

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—The campaign staged by Lester Pollock, manager of Loew's Rochester here, for "The Picture of Dorian Gray" made full use of all regular publicity media and several original stunts. The long campaign culminated in capacity audiences for the film's week-long run.

An outstanding advance teaser was a record made locally and played after the newsreel. Lights were blacked out and a green spot circulated around the audience and proscenium while a sinister voice intoned such things as "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, etc. . . .," ending with an announcement of the coming attraction.

40 Art Students Sketch Stars

For a week before opening date, 40 art students from the Rochester Institute of Technology sketched leading characters of the film from enlarged stills in the lobby as patrons tarried to watch. Two winners were awarded $25 war bonds for the best sketches. Art critics of local newspapers served as judges.

Edward's department store named a casual jacket for "Dorian Gray" and ran a 3x15-inch ad featuring it. A picture of the jacket was captioned, "A man is as young as he looks," referring to Dorian's continuing youthful appearance. Edwards also devoted their largest center display window on Main St. to the film. At hourly intervals live models appeared in a setting from one of the film's scenes, wearing original costumes used in the picture and sent here by M-G-M. The original painting of Dorian Gray was part of the background. The window drew large crowds who heard public address announcements on the film. The painting by Henrique Medina was earlier on display in the lobby of Loew's.

A Thorough Press Campaign

A walking book 8x5 feet was constructed, and a man walked the book around busy corners in downtown areas, advertising the film as well as the famous Oscar Wilde novel.

A thorough press campaign included special stories about George Bernard Shaw's postcard reply to M-G-M's request that he do a broadcast about the film, a visit Oscar Wilde paid to the city in 1882, the original painting of Dorian Gray, the sketching contest, Wilde's eccentricities and a John B. Kennedy broadcast about Dorian Gray.

Among other promotion stunts were printed shopping bags using Neisner's 5 and 10, signs bearing the legend, "Sorry, No Cigarets Today—But You Will Get Keen Enjoyment Seeing 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' at Loew's," and spot announcements on all local radio stations.

The Life magazine selection of the film as "The Movie of the Week" was featured in a lobby easel. Pollock was assisted by Louise Wilson, assistant manager, and Jack Gilmore, M-G-M representative.

"Waterfront" Card Almost Too True for Comfort

Winfield, Kas.—The Winfield Daily Courier gave a front page story to Warren Weber's display for "Waterfront." The Walnut River was at flood crest and in consequence the Nile Theatre was securely and conspicuously protected by sandbags. On the largest heap of bags Weber placed an immense poster, made for the occasion, carrying "Waterfront" in large letters and a text about the feature and its stars, John Carradine and J. Carrol Naish.

Personal Recommendations From Stage and in Ad Succeed on "Pal"



The 2x7-inch ad shown herewith was credited with major help in the breaking of "all house records" at the Carroll Theatre in Waterbury, Conn., by "My Pal Wolf."

The Roger Mahan offices at Waterbury forwards to Selling Seats the information that Al Montefalco, Carroll manager, and the circuit's publicist, made up the ad and also spoke from the Carroll stage a week in advance at every performance thus:

"It is very seldom that a theatre manager will appear in person to tell his patrons that there is a picture coming that he is sure they will like. Well today I am doing just that. Next Sunday we have a picture coming called 'My Pal Wolf' . . . (the rest of the talk was the same as in the ad)."

Special lobby displays were made up from six-sheets and stills.

Two radio spots were arranged each day one week in advance announcing, "the surprise picture of the year."

Community singing reels have hit a peak at the Carroll and are being billed in radio and newspaper ads and on the marquee. Manager Montefalco has adopted an intimate style of introduction, stepping on the stage, as the reel starts (sound brought down very low) and announcing: "C'm on everybody. It's a community sing. The words will appear on the screen. Let's all sing and have a good time here." He remains on the stage leading the singing.

"Co-Pilot" Patrons Like Poem Alan Hale Repeats

KANSAS CITY—So many persons who had seen "God Is My Co-Pilot" in the first day or two at the Orpheum wrote and telephoned Doc Hartly, motion picture editor of the Star, about the poem Alan Hale reads in the film that he searched out the original and published it in time for many second-week patrons to clip and take with them to the theatre.

Don Walker, Warner district field man, sent in requests to several sources, including the WB home office, and finally obtained a copy for the paper. It follows:

THE FAITH OF FLYERS

"They who had scorned the thought of any strength
Except their own to lean on, learned at length
How fear can sabotage the bravest heart . . ."
". . . And human weakness answering to the prod
Of terror calls, 'Help us, Oh God.'
Then silence lets the Silent Voice be heard
Bringing its message like a spoken word,
'Believe. Believe in Me. Cast out your fear . . .' "
. . . " 'I am not up there beyond the sky, but here . . .
Here in your heart. I am the Strength you seek.
Believe . . .' "
". . . And they believed."
Up, up the long delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew;
And while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

A Miniature Newsweek Is Issued on "Springfield"

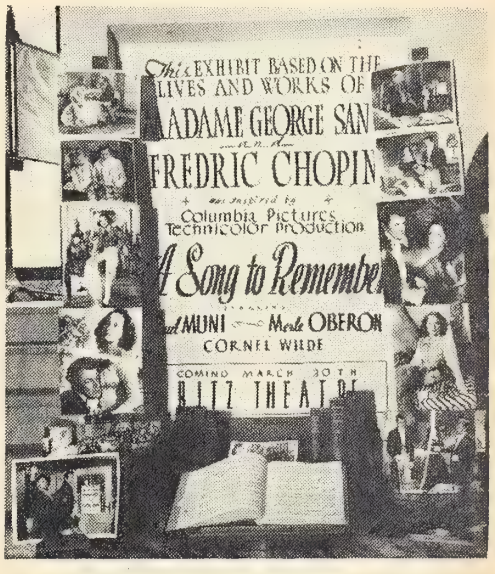
NEW YORK—A four-page miniature replica of Newsweek, the first of its kind to be issued for use in publicizing a motion picture short, has just been put out by the educational bureau of Newsweek in cooperation with the Warner Bros. educational bureau in promoting "It Happened in Springfield," two-reel special dealing with the teaching of democracy and good citizenship in public schools.

The prominent weekly publication has reproduced its regular front cover and format on a vest-pocket brochure devoted entirely to the short subject.

Drive-In at Indianapolis Offers a Laffmovie Policy

INDIANAPOLIS—The Drive-In Theatre, which opened recently under management of Porter B. Myers, featured a "Laffmovie" policy on weekends. The Friday-Saturday show consists of an outstanding comedy feature plus a supporting bill of shorts and cartoons. "The shows are designed strictly for laughs, just as the title indicates," Myers related.

All night shows on Saturdays will be resumed as soon as the curfew is lifted.

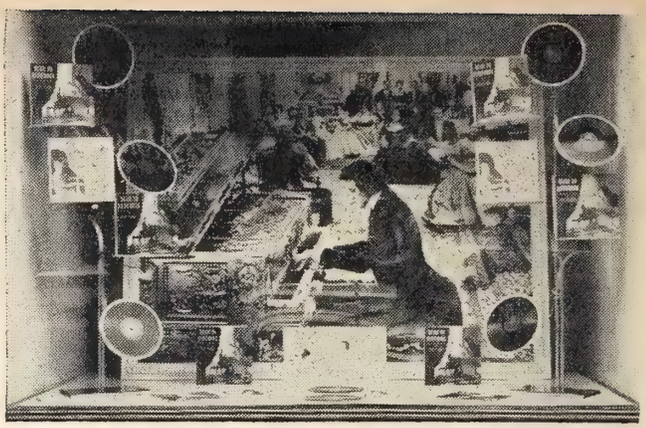


TULSA GETS EYEFUL—By using an inexpensive, painted sign as central piece Robert Dykes of the Ritz, Tulsa, worked out a display that attracted general attention in the main branch of the public library.

Samples of Display Art



NEW ERA—Illustrative of the new era in international relations, Al Mitchell of the Paradise Theatre, Vancouver, B. C., recently presented a Soviet Film Festival and played to capacity houses. Al is seen standing in front above.



A PIANO WINDOW—Every effort was made to promote "A Song to Remember" at the Apollo, Chicago, Ed De Louy, manager; Dave Arlen, publicity director, and Jules Serkowich and Max Sacks, exploiteers. The Chopin concert scene was used in several of the many windows. Above shows a large blowup of that scene in the Kimball piano store.



NEWSPAPER AD BLOWUP—The Roxy Theatre management, New York, thought so highly of a newspaper ad from a 20th-Fox press book that it had a blowup (above) made for one of its bronze lobby frames. The ad was prepared under the direction of Charles Schlaifer, assistant to Hal Horne.



COMPLETE SIMPLICITY—A white background, a piece of decorative fabric, a mounted still and a light bag with a belt is all there is to it, but the results are striking.



EASILY DONE—This is an example of how to make an effective window display with a simple foundation—an aviator's suit, 12 stills and a small painted sign. It was one of five used at West Palm Beach, Fla.



←

CUTOUTS DO TRICK — A plain background and simple cutouts on wallboard made very effective panels for the front of the Princess Theatre, Bloomington, Ind. Vic Sicilia, city manager, developed the idea.



→

VIVID EFFECT—Sharp color contrasts and irregular lettering make this front a standout. It was used at the Roosevelt Theatre, Chicago.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING 1944	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
JUNE 24	22 (54) Western 5208 THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills & Texas Playboys 29 (67) Comedy 5040 SHE'S A SOLDIER TOO Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Bess Barker R—July 29—PG-551	JUNE RELEASES: (85) Drama 427 THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson Marilyn Maxwell R—May 6—PG-529 (124) Comedy 428 TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR June Allyson Gloria DeHaven Van Johnson R—Apr. 29—PG-528	24 (57) Western 355 RANGE LAW Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Sarah Padden R—Sept. 2—PG-563 8 (79) Comedy 304 JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE Simone Simon R—May 20—PG-533	GROUP 4—1943-44: (75) Melodrama 4317 THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN Franchot Tone Veronica Lake Binnie Barnes John Sutton R—Mar. 4—PG-511 (79) Com.-Mus. 4318 YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE Betty Rhodes Johnnie Johnston Marjorie Weaver Johnnie "Scat" Davis R—Mar. 4—PG-512 (75) Drama 4316 THE NAVY WAY Robert Lowery Jean Parker Bill Henry Roscoe Karns R—Mar. 4—PG-512		GROUP 5—1943-44: (64) Mystery 421 THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale Don Douglass R—Mar. 11—PG-514 (86) Drama 422 DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck Maria Palmer Lowell Gilmore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (83) Adventure 423 THE YELLOW CANARY Anna Neagle Richard Greene Nova Pilbeam R—Apr. 15—PG-524	24 (69) O'd'r Mus. 342 YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS Roy Rogers Dale Evans R—May 20—PG-534 1 (91) Melodrama 318 MAN FROM FRISCO Michael O'Shea R—May 13—PG-532 2 (56) Western 3312 MARSHAL OF RENO 7 (59) Melodrama 319 CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS Janet Martin Allan Lane William Lane 14 (56) Outdoor 356 CALL OF THE ROCKIES Smiley Burnette Rerelease: 15 (56) Western 3305 COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN Gene Autry 20 (55) Western 461 SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane Peggy Stewart Wally Vernon 26 (68) Mystery 321 SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD R—June 24—PG-543 31 (69) Mus. Com. 325 THREE LITTLE SISTERS R—Aug. 5—PG-554 5 (56) Melodrama 322 GIRL WHO DARED 5 (75) O'd'r Mus. 344 SONG OF NEVADA R—June 17—PG-542 11 (56) Western 451 BORDERTOWN TRAIL 12 (70) Musical 401 SING, NEIGHBOR, SING R—Aug. 19—PG-558 13 (58) Melodrama 324 PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 16 (56) Western 3313 SAN ANTONIO KID Wild Bill Elliott Reissue: 1 (60) Mus. Wst. 3306 RIDE, RANGER, RIDE Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes 12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT 14 (68) Com.-Mus. 328 THAT'S MY BABY R—Sept. 23—PG-569 16 (55) Western 462 STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY	JULY RELEASES: (65) Melodrama 431 ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen Lois Andrews R—May 27—PG-535 (85) Melodrama 432 CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA James Mason Carla Lehmann Raymond Lovell R—June 3—PG-538 (103) Romance 433 ◎HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain June Haver Lon McCallister R—May 27—PG-536 AUGUST RELEASES: (70) Musical 501 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548 (97) War Drama 502 WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550	30 (86) Musical 495 SENSATIONS OF 1945 Eleanor Powell W. C. Fields Sophie Tucker R—June 24—PG-544 14 (106) Drama 496 SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell Anna Lee R—May 27—PG-535 20 (174) Drama SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotten R—July 29—PG-552 4 (80) Comedy 497 ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—July 22—PG-549	23 (61) Drama 8043 SOUTH OF DIXIE Anne Gwynne David Bruce Samuel S. Hinds R—May 27—PG-536 30 (93) Drama 8002 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Deanna Durbin R—June 17—PG-542 7 (67) M'drama 8018 JUNGLE WOMAN R—May 27—PG-535 7 (65) Horror 8039 THE MUMMY'S GHOST R—May 13—PG-531 7 (58) Western 8086 TRIGGER TRAIL 14 (62) Musical 8045 TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE R—June 10—PG-539 18 (57) Western 8087 TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT 21 (65) Comedy 8040 ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery jr. Martha O'Driscoll R—May 6—PG-529 18 (74) Comedy 8001 IN SOCIETY Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558 1 (86) Drama 8005 ◎GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556 8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559	21 (95) Melodrama 318 MASK OF DIMITRIOS Sydney Greenstreet Faye Emerson Zachary Scott R—June 10—PG-540 15 Reissues: (103) M'drama 341 MANPOWER Edward G. Robinson (79) M'drama 345 TIGER SHARK Edward G. Robinson (92) M'drama 347 THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL John Garfield (66) Horror 344 THE WALKING DEAD Boris Karloff (89) Comedy 343 BROTHER RAT Ronald Reagan (65) Comedy 346 POLO JOE Joe E. Brown 22 (130) Biog. 315 THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March R—May 6—PG-530 12 (127) Drama 319 MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains Walter Abel R—May 27—PG-536 2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551 9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
JULY 1	13 (67) Musical 5019 LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter Richard Lane R—July 22—PG-549										
JULY 8	20 (82) Drama 5008 SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Carole Landis Chester Morris R—June 3—PG-537	SPECIAL: (126) Drama 491 ◎THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshal R—Mar. 18—PG-516	15 (73) Melodrama 305 ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot R—June 24—PG-544	SPECIAL: (Adv. price) (157) Drama 4338 ◎◎FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Katina Paxinou R—July 24—PG-454							
JULY 15	25 (65) M'drama 5037 U-BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett Erik Rolf John Abbott R—July 22—PG-549		22 (67) Comedy 323 THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom R—Sept. 2—PG-563	SPECIAL: (136) Drama 4337 ◎◎THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL Gary Cooper Laraine Day Signe Hasso Dennis O'Keefe Carol Thurston R—Apr. 22—PG-526	25 (60) Western 465 FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty						
JULY 22		GROUP 8: JULY RELEASES: (95) Com.-Dr. 430 THE CANTERVILLE GHOST Charles Laughton Margaret O'Brien Robert Young R—June 3—PG-538 (101) Musical 429 ◎BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams Basil Rathbone R—June 3—PG-537	5 (57) Western 356 WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580 15 (59) Western 366 MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580 19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564 26 (61) Comedy 325 LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569	GROUP 5—1943-44 (96) Mus.-Com. 4323 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (65) Comedy 4327 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (100) Drama 4323 THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (66) Melodrama 4324 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528 (106) M'drama 4325 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528	30 (61) Western 458 BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Tex O'Brien 1 (69) Musical 404 MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields R—June 24—PG-543 5 (62) Mystery 417 SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH R—Aug. 19—PG-557 10 (72) Drama 416 DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay R—July 15—PG-547 16 (72) Musical 505 DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford R—July 15—PG-548 18 (67) Melodrama 421 MACHINE GUN MAMA R—Aug. 19—PG-558	GROUP 6—1943-44. (63) Comedy 42 GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST Harold Peary Marion Martin Richard LeGrand R—June 24—PG-544 (65) Adventure 42 A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538 (88) Musical 429 STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545 (67) Drama 430 YOUTH RUNS WILD Bonita Granville Kent Smith Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon Tessa Brind R—July 1—PG-546 (91) Drama 427 MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey Robert Ryan R—June 24—PG-549				
AUG. 5	3 (80) Com. Dr. 5007 MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR Edward G. Robinson Ruth Warrick Ted Donaldson R—July 15—PG-547		5 (57) Western 356 WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580								
AUG. 12			15 (59) Western 366 MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580								
AUG. 19	17 (63) Horror 5027 CRY OF THE WEREWOLF R—Aug. 26—PG-560 17 (61) Horror 5026 SOUL OF A MONSTER R—Aug. 26—PG-559		19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564								
AUG. 26	24 (72) Musical 5012 KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee	AUGUST RELEASE: SPECIAL: (145) Drama 500 DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	26 (61) Comedy 325 LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569								
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Quinn Williams		2 (71) Mystery 30 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-55		2 (62) Western 466 RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581						
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559		9 (64) Mystery 31 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-563		8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582						

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch. R—Sept. 23—PG-567		16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUT-LAWS	GROUP 6—1943-44:		(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	15 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 15 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562			15 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONA-HANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 6201 COWBOY FROM LONE-SOME RIVER	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES:		(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUER-ING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	21 (56) Western 551 GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570	(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552			22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	23 (118) Mys-Farce 403 ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
SEPT. 30	26 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571	(112) M'drama 501 THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552		(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch R—June 10—PG-539		(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake			29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(87) Comedy 502 BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-553	30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele		4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577		6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson	SEPTEMBER RELEASES:		6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(90) Comedy 504 MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 503 WATERLOO BRIDGE Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor		(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539		(81) Comedy 434 BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshal Marsha Hunt R—July 29—PG-552	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576	(75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554		13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575						15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry	(73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557		20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582	OCTOBER RELEASES:	3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY	SPECIAL: (125) Com.-Dr. 4335 GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-570 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES:		3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROAD-WAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574	(117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556 (100) Rom.-Fan. 506 KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-560	10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561	GROUP 1—1944-45:	31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579	GROUP 1—1944-45:	6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568			11 (99) Rom.-Dr. 406 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583		17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(97) Comedy 4401 RAINBOW ISLAND Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	(113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONE-LY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN 10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD 15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567	10 (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583	10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569	
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584		24 (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557	(88) Drama 4402 TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565	16 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer R—Sept. 9—PG-566	(87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572	30 (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES:	23 (81) Drama THREE IS A FAMILY Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
NOV. 25				(76) Com-Mus. 4403 THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-565		(96) Drama 502 THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567	30 (71) M'drama 404 FACES IN THE FOG R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 RED RIVER VALLEY Gene Autry	(88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576	8 (120) Drama GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	24 (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585	26 (102) Comedy 407 THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
DEC. 2		NOVEMBER RELEASES: (122) Drama 510 AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-548	1 (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White	(81) Comedy 4404 OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Gail Russell Diana Lynn Charles Ruggles Dorothy Gish R—Sept. 2—PG-562		(75) Drama 505 MY PAL WOLF Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568		(87) Musical 510 SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine		1 (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	
DEC. 9	7 (69) M'drama 6032 SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587	(124) Drama 507 MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568 Reissue: (104) Musical 508 NAUGHTY MARIETTA	8 (..) Comedy CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	(56) Drama 4405 DARK MOUNTAIN Robert Lowery Ellen Drew	6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 ROGUES' GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605	(69) Comedy 504 GOIN' TO TOWN Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake			8 (64) Comedy 9031 HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
DEC. 16	14 (60) Musical 6038 DANCING IN MAN-HATTAN Fred Brady		15 (68) Mys-Com. 416 SHADOW OF SUS-PICION Marjorie Weaver		9 (60) Western 556 OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe					15 (63) Musical 9037 MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Bob Crosby	

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
DEC. 23	21 (55) Western 6203 **SADDLE LEATHER LAW** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 **TOGETHER AGAIN** R—Nov. 11—PG-581		22 (76) Melodrama **ALASKA** Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573 29 (62) Com.-Dr. **BOWERY CHAMPS** East Side Kids	**GROUP 2—1944-45:** (85) Drama 4406 **AND NOW TOMORROW** Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575 (92) Drama 4407 **THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET** Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578	22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 **CASTLE OF CRIMES** Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall 29 (55) Western 553 **THE WHISPERING SKULL** Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	**SPECIAL:** (99) Suspense 582 **THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW** Edward G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey R—Oct. 14—PG-574	23 (85) Musical 406 **LAKE PLACID SERENADE** Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593 23 (55) Melodrama 408 **THOROUGHBREDS** Tom Neal Adele Mara Roger Pryor	**BLOCK 5:** **DECEMBER RELEASES:** (130) Drama 512 **WINGED VICTORY** Sgt. Mark Daniels Cpl. Don Taylor Pvt. Lon McCallister Sgt. Edmond O'Brien Cpl. Lee J. Cobb Cpl. Alan Baxter Jo-Carroll Dennison Jeanne Crain Jane Ball Judy Holliday R—Dec. 2—PG-586	29 (87) Drama **TOMORROW THE WORLD** Fredric March Betty Field R—Dec. 23—PG-591 5 (86) Drama **I'LL BE SEEING YOU** Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592	22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 **DESTINY** Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587 29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 **CAN'T HELP SINGING** Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589	30 (124) Musical 409 **HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN** Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
DEC. 30	28 (63) Romance 6205 **TAHITI NIGHTS** Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593	**DECEMBER RELEASE:** (89) Comedy 509 **LOST IN A HAREM** Abbott & Costello Marilyn Maxwell John Conte R—Sept. 2—PG-561	5 (..) Western **NAVAJO TRAIL** Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(92) Drama 4407 **THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET** Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578		(94) Comedy 551 **THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE** Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576	30 (60) Melodrama 407 **THE BIG BONANZA** R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 **SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS**	(86) Rom.-Dr. 513 **SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER** Anne Baxter John Hodiak Bobby Driscoll Charles Winninger Jane Darwell R—Dec. 9—PG-588		5 (60) Musical 9035 **NIGHT CLUB GIRL** Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594 12 (74) Comedy 9020 **SHE GETS HER MAN** Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596	
1945											
JAN. 6	4 (60) Comedy 6039 **LET'S GO STEADY** Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598		12 (68) Comedy **ARMY WIVES** Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589								
JAN. 13	11 (59) M'drama 6041 **YOUTH ON TRIAL** Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595	**JANUARY RELEASE:** **SPECIAL:** (138) Drama 511 **THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO** Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	19 (63) Mys.-Com. **ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY** Jean Parker Peter Cookson	(76) Mys.-Com. 4409 **ONE BODY TOO MANY** Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577				**GROUP 2—1944-45:** (65) Musical 506 **GIRL RUSH** Frances Langford Wally Brown R—Oct. 28—PG-577			
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 **EADIE WAS A LADY** Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602		26 (83) Drama **FOREVER YOURS** Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(84) Mys.-Dr. 4410 **MINISTRY OF FEAR** Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds Carl Esmond R—Oct. 21—PG-567				16 (71) M'drama 409 **GRISSLY'S MILLIONS** Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597 22 (69) Comedy 410 **THE BIG SHOW-OFF** R—Jan. 20—PG-597			
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 **I LOVE A MYSTERY** Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601	**JANUARY RELEASES:** (101) Com.-Dr. 513 **THE THIN MAN GOES HOME** William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587 (56) Drama 514 **MAIN STREET AFTER DARK** Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	2 (66) Mystery **THE JADE MASK** Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland	**BLOCK 3—1944-45:** (99) Mus.-Com. 4411 **HERE COME THE WAVES** Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591	3 (54) Western 557 **HIS BROTHER'S GHOST** Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King	(62) Western 509 **NEVADA** Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys R—Dec. 16—PG-590	26 (55) Western 464 **THE TOPEKA TERROR** Allan Lane Linda Stirling	**JANUARY** **SPECIAL RELEASE:** (137) Drama 514 **THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM** Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592	19 (92) Drama **MR. EMMANUEL** Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 **THE SUSPECT** Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	20 (100) Drama 410 **TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT** Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 **SAGEBRUSH HEROES** Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor		9 (..) Melodrama **CISCO KID RETURNS** Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga	(62) Drama 4412 **DANGEROUS PASSAGE** Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591	6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 **KID SISTER** 8 (58) Western 554 **MARKED FOR MURDER** Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien			(61) Doc.-Dr. 515 **THE FIGHTING LADY** U.S. Navy Carrier Ship R—Jan. 13—PG-595		2 (88) Mus-Com. 9002 **HERE COME THE CO-EDS** Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 **SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS** Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams		16 (..) Western **GUNSMOKE** Johnny Mack Brown 16 (..) Com-Mys. **THERE GOES KELLY** Jackie Moran		10 (63) Mdr.-Mys. 523 **THE SPELL OF AMY NUGENT** R—Mar. 3—PG-610 15 (72) Drama 516 **FOG ISLAND** Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606	(91) Drama 510 **EXPERIMENT PERILOUS** Hedy Lamarr George Brent Paul Lukas R—Dec. 9—PG-587	15 (56) Western 3317 **GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY** Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming		9 (63) Musical 9021 **HER LUCKY NIGHT** Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 17	22 (72) Comedy 6019 **LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE** 22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 **TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT** Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	**SPECIAL:** (113) Dr./Mus. 512 **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS** Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor R—Nov. 11—PG-582		(158) Drama 4413 **FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS** Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454		(84) Musical 583 **BELLE OF THE YUKON** Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586	19 (69) Musical 411 **A SONG FOR MISS JULIE** Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607	**FEBRUARY** **SPECIAL RELEASE:** (128) Drama 517 **A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN** Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599		16 (71) Mystery 9013 **HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN** R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 **THE MUMMY'S CURSE** R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 411 **OBJECTIVE, BURMA!** Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 **THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE** R—Feb. 10—PG-602	**FEBRUARY RELEASES:** (117) Musical 515 **MUSIC FOR MILLIONS** Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590	2 (..) Com.-Mys. **FASHION MODEL** Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 **PRACTICALLY YOURS** Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592	16 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 **THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE** Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599 15 (..) M'drama **SWAMP MAN**		28 (55) Western 454 **SHERIFF OF CIMARRON** Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill			23 (94) Musical 9012 **FRISCO SAL** Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama **A SONG TO REMEMBER** Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(69) Drama 516 **BLONDE FEVER** Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	9 (..) Com.-Mys. **DOCKS OF NEW YORK** East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611			**SPECIAL:** (71) Disney 591 **THE THREE CABALLEROS** Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590				2 (76) Drama 9006 **SUDAN** Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 **ROUGHLY SPEAKING** Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 **A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL** Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	(100) Drama 517 **THIS MAN'S NAVY** Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595		(64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 **DOUBLE EXPOSURE** Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592			12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 **UTAH** George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans Roy Rogers R-Mar. 17—PG-613	(77) Drama 516 **HANGOVER SQUARE** Laird Cregar George Sanders Linda Darnell R—Jan. 20—PG-598		16 (69) Mystery 9025 **THE HOUSE OF FEAR** Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 **HOTEL BERLIN** Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 **ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE** Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606										

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time (as listed by home office of distributor) checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ⓑ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-609		22 (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown	BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⓑBRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603		GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley		MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 ⓑTHUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599			
MAR. 31		MARCH RELEASES: 9 (81) Drama 516 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	30 (..) Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS Harry Carey Paul Kelly Ducky Louie	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608	31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	(82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale	6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe		7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614	
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604		(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604	Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry		(..) Mys.-Drama SPELLBOUND Ingrid Bergman Gregory Peck	13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 21	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623 19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER		20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	16 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603	20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ⓑNATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor		BLOCK 5—1944-45: (110) Rom.-Com. THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 ⓑIT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610		(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	4 (147) Comedy ⓑCOLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) ⓑSALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621	
MAY 5					2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray						
MAY 12	10 (67) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn		(96) Mys.-Com. MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	SPECIAL: (98) Comedy ⓑWONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen		(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613	(..) Comedy BEDSIDE MANNER John Carroll Ruth Hussey	11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper	
MAY 19	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor Pat Parrish	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main		(65) Mys.-Drama SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	16 (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623			18 (..) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field	18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 26	24 (..) Melodrama THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder					(78) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon		25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
JUNE 2		(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616				(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622		MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ⓑDIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622		1 (..) BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	
JUNE 9				(80) Rom.-Drama A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619		(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding R—Apr 21—PG-621		(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622		8 (..) I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce	
JUNE 16										15 (..) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan	

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ## Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, — Poor, = Very Poor. © Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6401	Gents Without Cents (19)	9-22		....
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		....
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6422	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23		....
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17		....
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)	5- 4		....
6411	Wife Decoy (..)	5-18		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (..)	6- 1		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		....
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	5-18		....
6503	Fiesta Time (7½)	6- 1		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6652	No. 2 (Baker) Ikky, Tikky Tambo (9)	10-12	+	11-18
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		....
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27		....
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (..)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed) VE-Day			....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	2- 2	+	4- 7
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		...
6752	The Egg Yegg (7½)	5- 4		....
6753	Kukunuts (..)	5-25		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		...
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18		....
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		...
6703	Goofy News Views (7)..	4-27		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6852	No. 2 (The Mike Goes to War) (10)	9-22		...
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		....
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		....
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		...
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	##	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2		....
6807	The Iron Masters (9½)	4-27		....
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	5-25		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		....
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	##	2-12
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	##	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	##	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	##	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	##	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	##	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3		....
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	##	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	##	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	##	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13		....
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17		....
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	##	3-24
W-546	Jerky Turkey (..)	4- 7		....
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	##	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (20)	4-14		....
A-503	The Last Installment (19)	5- 5		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-497	Little Miss Pinkerton (11)	9-18	±	10-16
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	##	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	##	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	##	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		....
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		##	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	##	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-470	Scrap Happy (9)	9- 4	##	9-18
S-471	Fixin' Tricks (10)	9-18	+	10-16
S-472	Football Thrills of 1942 (10)	9-25	##	10-16
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		....
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	##	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	##	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	##	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	##	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	##	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	##	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (..)	4-14		....

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	##	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	##	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	##	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)			....
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3- 9	Catch 'Em and Eat 'Em (10)	7- 7	##	8-12
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	##	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	##	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (..)			....
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	##	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	+	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	##	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magica-Lulu (8)	3- 2		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	##	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	##	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15		....
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (..)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (..)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	+	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26		....
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better or Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	##	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	##	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6		....
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1		....
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-5	In a Harem (9)	7-14	+	7-29
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	##	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	##	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18		....
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	##	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (..)	5-11		....

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	##	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	##	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	##	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	##	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	+	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	+	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
43,406	The Kitchen Cynic (18)	7-23	+	9-16
53,401	Feather Your Nest (18)	10-23	##	11-18
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	##	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,203	No. 3 (9)	10-29	+	10-30
44,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	11-27
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	##	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21		....
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	##	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	##	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	##	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,311	Boot and Spur (8)	6-16	##	7- 8
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	##	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	##	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	##	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	##	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	##	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
33,113	Children of Mars (20)	10-22	##	10-30
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	##	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	##	2-12
43,107	Viva Mexico (17)	5- 5	+	5-13
43,108	Hot Money (17)	6- 2	+	6-10
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	##	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	##	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	##	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	##	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	##	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	##	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	##	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	##	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9		....

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (15). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.

Battle Stations. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.

The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.

It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.

Liberation of Rome. (21). Dist. by M-G-M. Excellent. Rev. July 29.

Memo for Joe. (10). Dist. by RKO.

Movies at War. (10). Dist. by Univ.

No Substitutes. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Report to Judy. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Reward Unlimited. (10). Dist. by UA and M-G-M.

Road to Victory. (10). Dist. by WB.

Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.

Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.

The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.

The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.

V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.

Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox.

What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE			
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29		....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6		....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS			
4352	⊙Ski Slopes (9)	7-21		....
5351	⊙Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15		....
5352	⊙Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15		....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1-19		....
5353	⊙Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+	1-27
5354	⊙ Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1		....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)			
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4		....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10		....
	MARCH OF TIME			
	Vol. 10, No. 12 Americans All (18)	7-14	‡‡	7-29
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡‡	8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+	9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+	10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡‡	11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1		....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡‡	12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26		....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡‡	3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23		....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..) The Returning Veteran	4-20		....
	Vol. 11, No. 10 (..)	5-18		....
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15		....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13		....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)			
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡‡	4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4		....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25		....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29		....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10		....
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8)	1- 5	‡‡	2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2		....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+	1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	3-30	‡‡	2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8)	7- 6		....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	5- 4		....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	4-13		....
5261	The Empire State (8)	7-27		....
	SPECIAL			
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8		....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)			
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7		....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28		....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7)	8-18		....
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1		....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22		....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13		....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27		....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17		....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7)	12- 8		....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7)	12-22	±	2-10
5509	Mighty Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+	2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2		....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16		....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7)	3- 9		....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23		....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	4- 6		....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-27		....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5-11		....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	5-25		....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8		....
5519	Aesops Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29		....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20		..

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)			
8239	Fish Fry (7)	6-19	+	8-12
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	+	11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+	12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡‡	1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡‡	2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (7)	5-14		....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS			
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17		....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±	8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15) Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+	9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15) Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+	10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15) Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±	12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15) Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡‡	12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17		....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14		....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28		....
9127	Rockabye Rhythm (..) Frankie Masters & Orch., Phyllis Hules, Eddie Williams, Frank Cook, Marty, Kay, Pat and Jo.			....
	PERSON—ODDITIES			
8380	The Honest Forger (9)	6-19	+	8-26
8381	Spinning a Yarn (9)	8- 7	+	8-12
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡‡	10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+	1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15		....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22		....
9375	Author in Babyland (..)	5-14		....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)			
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+	1-22
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+	10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15		....
9237	Sliphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19		....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)			
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17		....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13		....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	VARIETY VIEWS			
8360	Mr. Chimp Goes South (9)	5-29	+	7-29
8361	Bear Mountain Game (9)	8-14	‡‡	7-29
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡‡	10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+	12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+	12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29		....
9355	Your National Gallery (..)	4-23		....

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)			
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16		....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30		...
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+	11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±	1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±	2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±	3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±	4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (..)	3-17		....
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11)	4-21		....
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)			
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+	10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡‡	11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡‡	4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (7)	5- 5		....
	FEATURETTE			
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡‡	10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17)	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20)	12- 2	+	1-13
1101	I Am an American (20)	12-23	+	12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡‡	11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡‡	3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (..)	3- 3		....
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28		....
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+	3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (..)	4-1		....
1111	Plantation Melodies (..)	5-12		....
	MELODY MASTERS			
9609	Junior Jive Bombers (10)	7- 1	+	9-16
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+	10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+	11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡‡	1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡‡	12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡‡	1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24		....
1608	Circus Band (..)	5- 5		....
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)			
9713	Birdy and the Beast (7)	8-19	+	9-16
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+	10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±	10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±	11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡‡	2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡‡	1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡‡	2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+	2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (..)	2-24		....
1703	Life With Feathers (..)	3-24		....
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7		....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (..)	5-19		....
1706	Gruesome Twosome (..)	5-26		....
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)			
9513	Bluenose Schooner (10)	8- 5	‡‡	9-16
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡‡	11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡‡	2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (..)	12-30		....
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡‡	2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10		....
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7		....
1507	Water Babies (10)	5-19		....
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (..)	5-26		...
	TECHNICOLOR			
9006	Musical Movieland (20)	9- 9	‡‡	10- 7
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡‡	12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡‡	12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡‡	1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (..)			...
	VITAPHONE VARIETY			
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+	9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7		...
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (..)	3-17		...
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (..)	5-26		....

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists			
	THE WORLD IN ACTION			
....	The Labor Front (21)	11-19	±	12- 4
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21)		+	3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡‡	5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+	10-21
....	Fortress Japan (17)	8-10	‡‡	8-12
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡‡	10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±	11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+	12-16
	Serials			
	COLUMBIA			
5140	The Desert Hawk 15 Chapters.	7- 7	+	7-29
6120	Black Arrow 15 Chapters.	10-20		....
5120	The Batman 15 Chapters.	7-16		....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter 13 Chapters.	1-26		....
	REPUBLIC			
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa 15 Chapters.	7-10		....
381	The Masked Marvel 12 Chapters.	11- 6		....
382	Captain America 15 Chapters.	1-29		....
383	The Tiger Woman 12 Chapters.			....
	UNIVERSAL			
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+	5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City 13 Chapters.		+	8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat 13 Chapters.		+	11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+	12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 68: Last days of war in Germany; French army marches again; heroes; royalty; war industry; San Francisco world conference; Washington; San Francisco.

News of the Day, No. 266: Doom over Germany; Reich aflame; San Francisco; two Iwo heroes; future queen in uniform; newsreel ace killed.

Paramount News, No. 69: Royal birthday, Elizabeth; conference highlights; last days of Reich.

Pathe News, No. 71: Germany crumbles; Nazi-held prisoners liberated; delegates for Frisco parley.

Universal News, No. 392: Molotov; aviation in news; tire test; last B17; war in Germany.

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Movietone News, No. 69: Nazi atrocities; opening of world peace conference.

News of the Day, No. 267: German murder camps; Truman opens conference.

Paramount News, No. 70: World hails conference; German atrocities.

Pathe News, No. 72: German atrocities; San Francisco conference.

Universal News, No. 393: Nazi murder mill; map world security plan.

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All-American News, Vol. 3; No. 132: Mrs. Bethune to Frisco conference; Harlem Boys' Club picks most popular; air hero laid to rest in St. Louis; Chicago pupils join broom brigade; "best built man"; Negro clergyman made bishop by Episcopal Church.

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

Blood on the Sun

F — Melodrama

United Artists (——) **94 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

On many occasions the screen has undertaken to tell the story of Jap perfidy, intrigue, and pre-Pearl Harbor lust for world empire. Never before, however, has the yarn been spun in celluloid as effectively and excitingly. The picture, second to be made by the company owned by himself and his brother, William, affords James Cagney the type of slugging, fearless, tough-guy-with-heart-of-gold role which first endeared him to the public—and he gives it the works. There is a climactic rough-and-tumble fight which alone is worth the price of admission and will have the juves and action fans goose-pimply with delight. Brother Bill produced the film and spared no necessary expense to mount it impressively. The supporting cast is splendid. In short, it looks like an important money picture. Directed by Frank Lloyd.

James Cagney, Sylvia Sidney, Porter Hall, John Emery, Robert Armstrong, Wallace Ford, Rosemary deCamp.

The Southerner

F — Drama

United Artists (——) **91 Minutes** **Rel. May 18, '45**

Here is an outstanding picture. It has an inept title and a cast of questionable drawing power. However, if the exhibitor will accept the challenge and give this film everything he's got, it should prove profitable. The story is dramatic, sometimes grim, frequently hilarious, but from beginning to end inspiring. It has pace. The spectator is left almost breathless as punch follows punch. Minimum use of dialog, intelligent photography, brilliant music and sound, and splendid performances by a workmanlike cast give this feature great possibilities. The story is that of a young and handsome farmer's battle against circumstance. Nature and human beings conspire to deprive him of his livelihood and loved ones, but he fights bravely, finally wins through. The film has purpose, suspense and tremendous uplift. Jean Renoir's direction leaves nothing to be desired.

Zachary Scott, Betty Field, Beulah Bondi, Blanche Yurka, J. Carrol Naish, Jack Norworth, Estelle Taylor.

Return of the Durango Kid

F — Western

Columbia (6206) **58 Minutes** **Rel. Apr. 19, '45**

Nothing is left out of this action horse opera for lovers of the great-open-space thrillers. The picture opens with a stage holdup in which we first meet Charles Starrett in the heroic role of returning to a rough, frontier town to clear his dead father's name. To do this he poses later as the Durango Kid. Jean Stevens, one of the other stage passengers, proves to have been in cahoots with the crooks who are staging the holdups. However, she becomes sentimentally interested in Starrett and helps him escape from jail when the crooks frame him and intimidate the sheriff. There are fist fights, gun battles, hard riding episodes, plots and counterplots before the hero finds that paper which clears his father and the crooks still alive are hauled off to prison. In spite of the good turn the girl did him, the hero remains romantically aloof. Derwin Abrahams directed.

Charles Starrett, Tex Harding, Jean Stevens, John Calvert, Betty Roadman, Hal Price, Dick Botiller.

China's Little Devils

F — War Drama

Monogram (405) **70 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

A little-publicized phase of China's heroic struggle against the invading Jap marauders is accurately projected in this substantially-produced action drama which deals with the behind-the-lines fighting and sabotage carried on by teen-age Chinese youths. Because of the nature of the story, it was necessary to use a number of amateur adolescents in the cast and resultantly the film does not measure up to its other standards as concerns performances. Nonetheless, it is sufficiently meaty to satisfy average audiences and it cannot miss being a great hit with juvenile ticket-buyers. Commentary during the opening sequences and adroit use of stock shorts add material to the picture's air of opulence. Its commercial possibilities should be further enhanced because the toplines are filled by two established names. Directed by Monta Bell.

Harry Carey, Paul Kelly, "Ducky" Louie, Hayward Soo Hoo, Gloria Ann Chew, Fred Mah jr., Ralph Lewis.

Pillow to Post

F — Comedy

Warner Bros. (417) **94 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Except for a brief period at mid-footage when the story bogs down and indulges itself in an overlong sequence of slapstick, this is a highly-geared, brightly-dialoged, cleverly-contrived farce predicated upon the housing shortage and the ancient situation in which unwed boy and girl pose as husband and wife to circumvent it. Despite the hoary aspects of such basic motif, however, the results are breezy, highly satisfactory and should more than please the large audiences the film is equipped to attract. Ida Lupino, in spark plugging the Thespic lineup, shows a flare for comedy which demands she be given more parts in lighter vein. In fact, the entire troupe, barring the possible miscasting of Sydney Greenstreet, is unusually adept and succeeds in handling situations which come but slightly within the limitations of the production code. Vincent Sherman directed.

Ida Lupino, Sydney Greenstreet, William Prince, Stuart Erwin, Johnny Mitchell, Ruth Donnelly, Barbara Brown.

The Brighton Strangler

F — Murder Drama

RKO (——) **67 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Undertaking to be veddy, veddy British in background and atmosphere, this horror picture misses on the first count—it fails to be horrifying. Further, it lacks the other elements—most especially suspense and movement—usually found in successful offerings of its ilk. John Loder, in the title role, is about as menacing as a bowl of mush. He portrays a London stage star who for 300 consecutive performances has delineated a maniacal strangler. Injured in a bombing of the theatre, he suffers a lapse of memory and goes on a murder rampage, believing he is, in truth, the killer he has delineated on the stage. After two slayings, via the garrote, he is mercifully killed in an accident. Picture's best assets are its production values and the exploitability of the story's unusual twist. Directed by Max Nosseck.

John Loder, June Duprez, Michael St. Angel, Miles Mander, Rose Hobart, Gilbert Emery, Rex Evans.

Honeymoon Ahead

F — Comedy With Music

Universal (9028) **59 Minutes** **Rel. May 11, '45**

Finished some months ago, this entry in Universal's endless musical marathon has been gathering dust on the studio's shelves. A gander at the picture explains why. It is probably the weakest of the long line of modestly-budgeted tune films in which the company has been specializing. Because the cast includes sufficient proven talent to have done a better job had the material been available, the shortcomings are magnified. Principally they spring from the fact that the story is slow, uninteresting and humorless. An occasional musical interlude gives the dull routine a brief lift, but it quickly sinks back into the doldrums. Yarn is about a convict who organizes a prison choir while serving a term on a bum rap. Upon being pardoned, he and his talents join a traveling show troupe where he becomes the big shot, romantically and thespically. Directed by Reginald Le Borg.

Allan Jones, Grace McDonald, Raymond Walburn, Vivian Austin, Jack Overman, Murray Alper, Eddie Acuff.

Toros, Amor y Gloria

F — Melodrama

Clasa-Mohme **102 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

What more does it take to make a colorful picture than "bulls, love and glory?" In this Mexican picture the son of a servant in a great house, who has become a nationally known toreador, falls in love with the daughter. He wears a small mustache to hide his identity—admittedly an inadequate disguise, but the audience will go along with the players in pretending to be deceived. The action, especially during the bullfight, is entertaining and not too bloodthirsty even for patrons north of the border. In fact, the bull will not seem to be fierce enough to suit many—the action with it is graceful rather than thrilling. Of course it all ends happily (for everyone but the bull) and there is considerable comedy throughout. All Spanish dialog and no English captions—but easily followed for the most part. Raul de Anda directed.

Lorenzo Garza, Sara Garcia, Ma. Antonieta Pons, Carlos L. Moctezuma, Miguel Arenas, Jorge Reyes, Paco Jambrina.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Pillow to Post"**

In cooperation with the local press, run front page box ads daily, ala "If You Are Being Shunted From 'Pillow to Post' Check Our Classified Ads for a Place to Live," etc. As an additional press tiein, blow up "Room For Rent" page of local papers for display in outer lobby. Change daily. Have employe walk around with sign—"Do You Have a Housing Problem?—'Pillow to Post' at the..... Theatre Will Give You One Solution."

CATCHLINES:

A Merry Mix-Up Over the Housing Shortage . . . Lovely Ida Lupino Finds a "Temporary" Husband in Order to Rent a Room . . . They Fall in Love But They Are Afraid to Admit It . . . Alleged Newlyweds Battle the Housing Problem.

The Sunny Side of a Sorry Situation . . . As Modern as Tomorrow's Kitchen! . . . Sparkling Comedy! Packed With Laughs! Brimming Over With Humor!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Brighton Strangler"**

Run a series of ads in the local press—"WANTED—'The Brighton Strangler' at the ..... Theatre." Tie in with these ads by placing a huge "WANTED" sign in front of the theatre with a picture and description of John Loder, the strangler. In the lobby exhibit various types of murder weapons, featuring the "cord" used by the "Brighton Strangler."

CATCHLINES:

A Stage Star Becomes a Maniacal Murderer . . . Innocent People Strangled! . . . More Terrifying to Britishers Than the Blitz Is the Strangler at Large in Brighton's Streets! . . . A Bombing Makes an Actor an Assassinator . . . A Victim of Amnesia Becomes a Hunted and Feared Killer.

A Horror Drama With an Entirely New Twist . . . Exciting! Different! Chilling! Unusual!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Honeymoon Ahead"**

Tie up with jewelry stores, etc., advertising "For the 'Honeymoon Ahead' Buy the Wedding Ring From ....." Use a horse-drawn carriage or an automobile with the usual tin cans, streamers, etc. attached, and a sign at the rear: "Honeymoon Ahead at the ..... Theatre." Have young couple drive around town. As a lobby display use large cut-outs of Allan Jones and Grace McDonald riding up a simulated roadway with "Honeymoon Ahead" sign as their destination.

CATCHLINES:

A Singing Ex-Convict Thumbs a Ride and Winds Up on the Rocky Road to Romance . . . He Sang Like a Bird But Needed the Wings of an Angel to Keep Out of Prison . . . Allan Jones' Lyric Tenor Sings Its Way Into Your Heart.

Out of Jail and Out of Money He Hitched a Ride and Found a Honey! . . . Love! Lyrics! Larceny! . . . A Gay Musical Thriller! Rollicking Rhythm! Light-Fingered Lootin'!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Toros, Amor y Gloria"**

This should have a special appeal for Mexican and South American segments of the population. Advertise the bullfight in the picture for them. For patrons from high school and college Spanish classes, stress the Spanish dialog and the authentic Mexican settings and fiesta brava scenes in the picture. The romantic angle will appeal to the younger set as in English-speaking pictures.

CATCHLINES:

A National Hero Acting as Her Chauffeur . . . He Could Fight a Mad Bull But Was Afraid of a Senorita . . . Even His Mother Did Not Know of His Double Life.

All the Ingredients of Entertainment, Action, Romance and Glory . . . See How Timid the Brave Bullfighter Is When He Makes Love . . . Her Heart Overcame Her Pride.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Blood on the Sun"**

Display collection of Jap war trophies, flags, documents, news pictures, etc., in window on busy street. On left, place copy of Tanaka Memorial (borrowed from library), with early Nip propaganda; on right, the latest news of Japanese losses; the former to be labeled, "Then"; and the latter, "Now." If possible, borrow war equipment for lobby exhibition in connection with a bond-selling booth, captioned, "Your Bonds Will Set the Rising Sun."

CATCHLINES:

Rioting Mobs in the Streets of Tokyo . . . A Stirring Saga of Courage and Sacrifice . . . A Newspaper Editor Foils the Nippon Beasts . . . The Rising Sun Is Setting . . . Astounding Plot Uncovered.

Japanese Duplicity at Its Worst . . . Infamy! Intrigue! Murder! Panorama of Hara-Kiri, Judo, and Spies . . . Timely! . . . Charged With Suspense . . . High-Speed Action in a High-Tension Plot.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Southerner"**

Obtain bookstore tieups on George Session Perry's novel, "Hold Autumn in Your Hand," from which the picture was adapted. Get cooperation of 4H Clubs, Grange and similar organizations in endorsing and publicizing the film. Window hookups with farm supply stores, feed shops—with live exhibits if possible, such as baby chicks, suckling pigs, etc.—should prove advantageous. Play up angling angle: offer ticket prizes for largest fish caught, or biggest whopper told.

CATCHLINES:

There Were Two Loves in His Life—Family and Farm . . . Things Went From Bad to Pieces . . . Until Fisherman's Luck Changed an Enemy Into a Friend . . . Don't Miss "The Southerner"—One of the Most Surprising Films of the Year!

He'll Have You Cheering . . . He'll Have You in Tears . . . You'll Laugh and Love With Him . . . He's the Bravest Hero Outside a Foxhole You've Ever Seen . . . Who? "The Southerner" at ..... Theatre. Don't Miss It!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Return of the Durango Kid"**

Selling a western in certain locations is like the old bromide about shooting fish in a barrel. For the average exhibitor the only question is when to play a western to the best advantage in his situation—and in most cases, this means on Friday and Saturday nights, with the helpful Saturday matinee audience of youngsters. There is an amusing hillbilly type of song in the show that could be used to advertise it on local radio tieups and by street singers: "He holds the lantern while his mamma chops the wood."

CATCHLINES:

They Held Up the Stage and Overplayed Their Hands . . . He Didn't Like Crooks and He Wasn't Afraid of Them, Either . . . He Could Shoot the Gun Out of a Killer's Hand.

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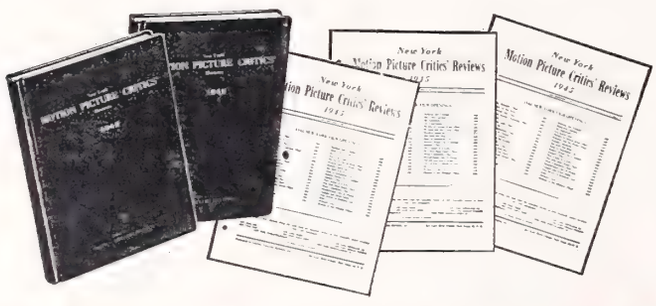
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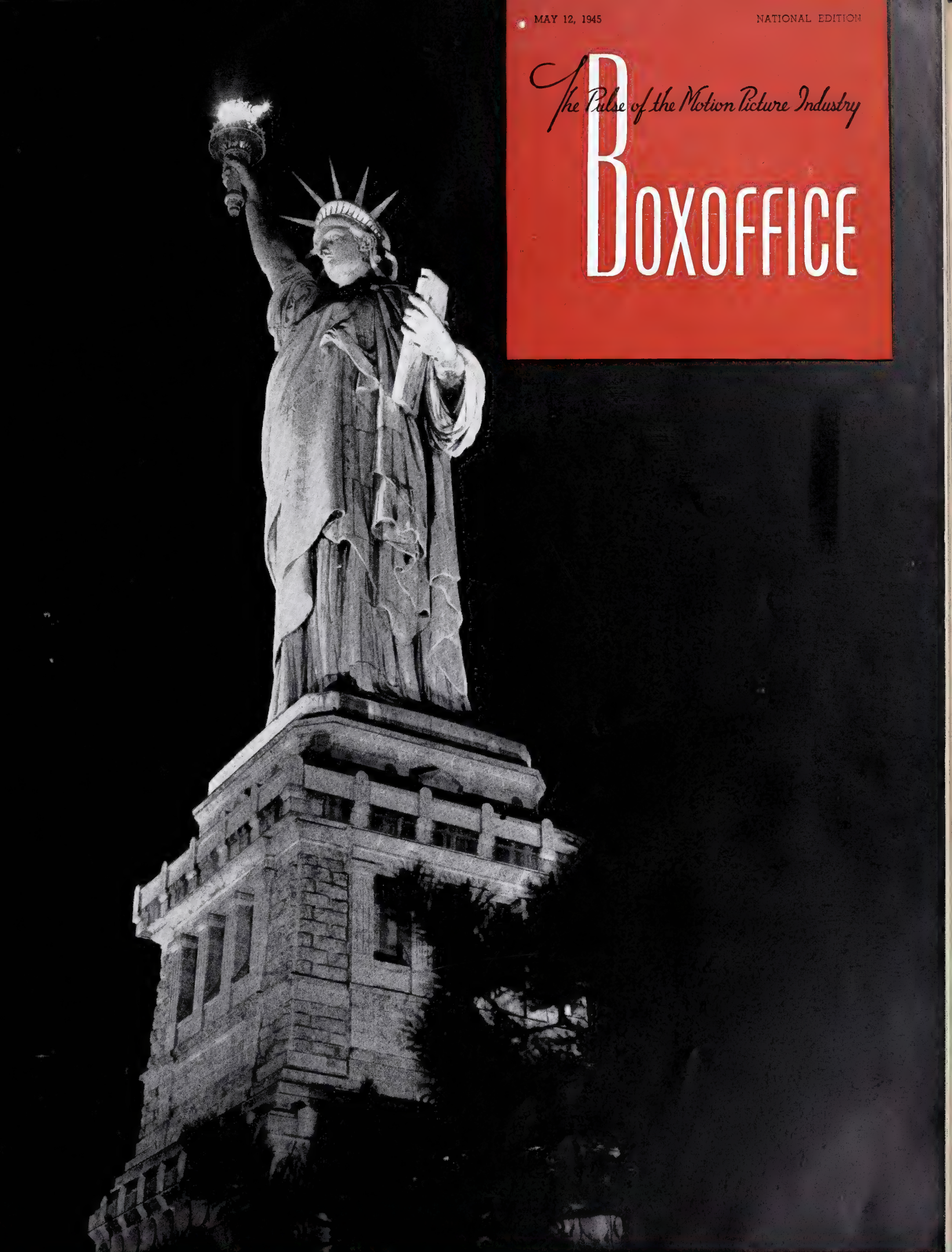
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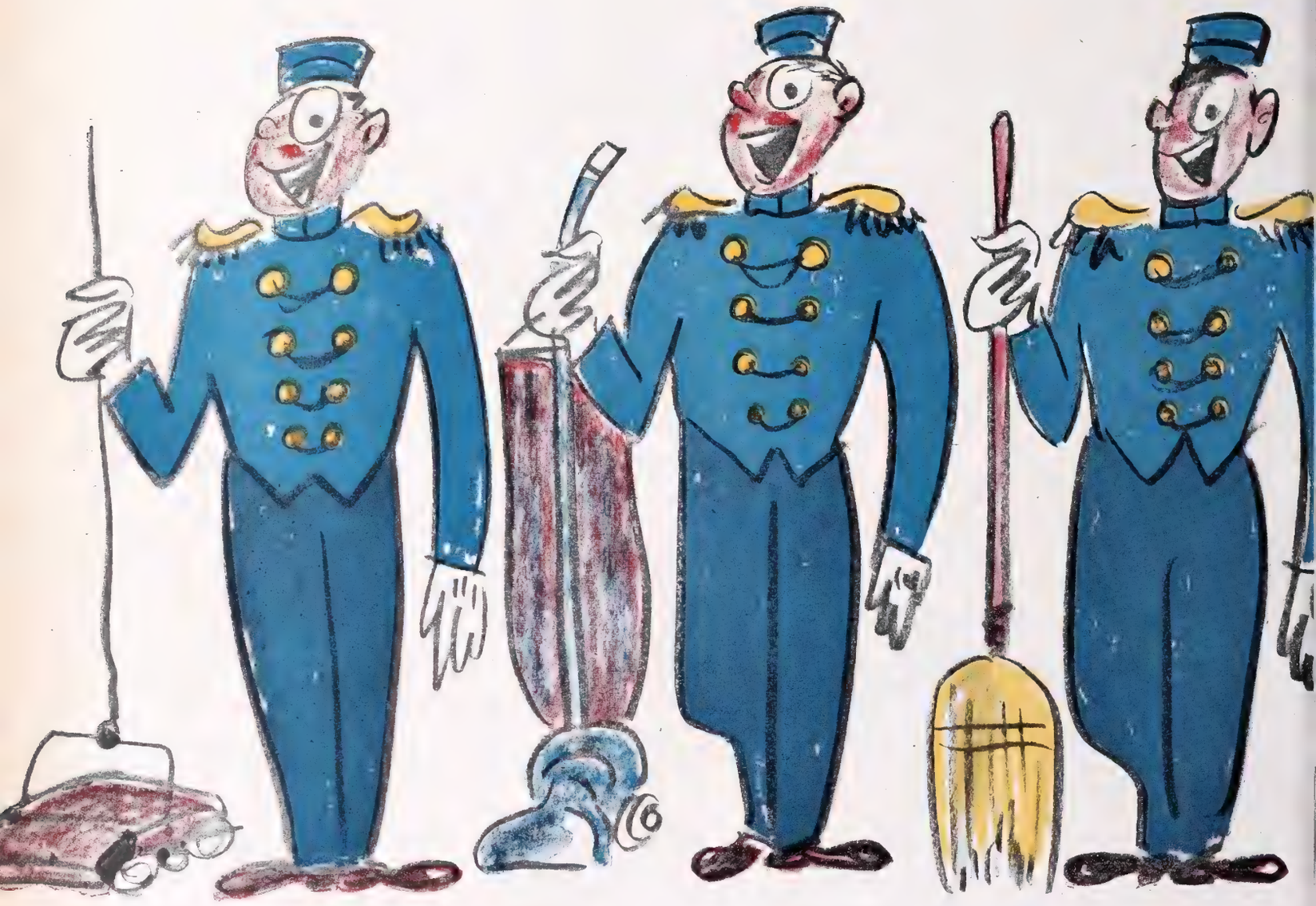
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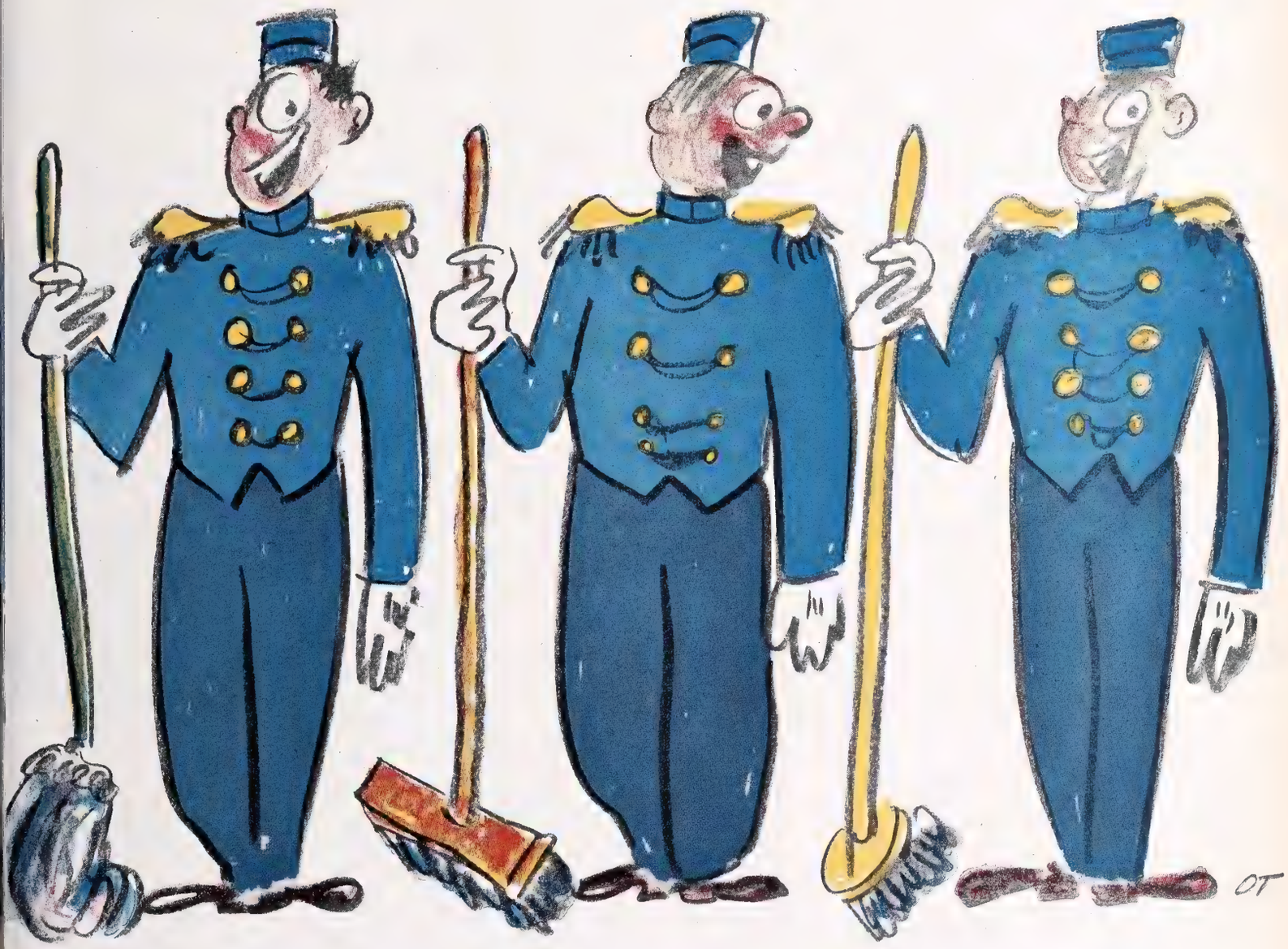


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Vol. 47 No. 1
MAY 12, 1945

BOXOFFICE

THE LIGHTS A

TUESDAY night the great white Statue of Liberty shone in a flood of light and its torch blazoned forth for the first time since Pearl Harbor. The dome of the Capitol in Washington again was floodlighted. Broadway, once more, was the Great White Way. And Main Streets the country over glistened in all their glory. In London, in Paris, in Moscow and throughout the liberated capitals of Europe, public buildings, thoroughfares and homes emerged from the darkness into light. For them it had been dark much longer than for their fellowmen in America.

In America the lights in themselves gave off a sort of silent jubilation. For, while there was happiness that people felt within, it did not give way to external expression. The grim reality was plain: While, today, the lights are on on one side of the world, on the other side there still is darkness that must be lifted.

There is realization of the high price in human life that was paid for the victory over a ruthless foe in Europe. There is realization that there lies ahead a Pacific war with its desperate conflicts. We must win that war as definitely and as finally as we have won in Europe, so the world may be free of threats to its peace for generations to come.

All Americans thank God for the triumph of justice and for the fine young men and women in our armed forces whose immeasurable courage and amazing fortitude have made the European victory possible.

To all those who have offered their lives and their services that liberty might triumph, we shall forever be indebted. No mere words can repay or replace. No amount of praise can be adequate. But we can all make a small payment on our great debt by pledging continued support and loyalty to their interests—in the buying and selling of more war bonds and in doing the necessary double duty to maintain our home industries for future well-being.

We have gone two thirds of the distance to the goal of world peace. We are now on the homestretch. A rough, hard road lies ahead. But we can make it by continuing the team work through which the motion picture industry helped to achieve so much on the home front; in so thoroughly backing up the efforts of our fighting forces on the battle fronts.

RE ON AGAIN

Let's fight on with supreme confidence and keep on working together to hasten the day of an early and final triumph. A day when the light of liberty will shine again—all over the world.

★ ★

Barnum Was Wrong

E. B. Buffington, who manages three theatres in Weatherford, Texas, for the Long Theatres Co., has submitted for our opinion an editorial bearing the above title, which he wrote for his organization's house organ. Our opinion is that it is timely and good advice which all exhibitors may follow profitably. We, therefore, publish it in full, with the capitals as Mr. Buffington wrote them.

"Many, many times we have all heard the expression, 'Barnum was right' which was simply an expression of agreement that the statement that great showman is supposed to have made about 'A sucker being born every minute' still holds true. But the showman who practices such a theory today is liable to wake up and find that he is the one who is the sucker.

"In Barnum's time and on road shows that were here today and gone tomorrow that theory might have worked, but in this modern time with radio publicity, fan magazines, newspaper advertising and other media reaching out to the theatregoers all the time, there are no suckers as far as first class entertainment goes. Most of the theatregoing public is as well or better informed on pictures, stars, producers and stories as the theatre manager.

"You might use some gags, tricks or stunts to pull in the cash customers on a poor picture and they might work a few times, but in the long run your public will react against your house and you will be consistently below the line unless you are in a town where the population is largely temporary and is deliberately seeking places to spend their surplus cash.

"The best policy in this business today is to 'Keep your HOUSE IN ORDER and keep ORDER IN YOUR HOUSE and let the public KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE and WHEN YOU HAVE IT.' And when you go 'All-Out' on a show be sure that it is one you can back up, if you want to have the confidence of your public and thereby stay above the line consistently, because Barnum was wrong."

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

RKO Radio Will Release Jesse Lasky Productions

Distribution deal signed in Hollywood with Walter McEwen as an associate; initialer will be "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," starring Claudette Colbert.

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Hollywood Sees Strike's End In Edict From Washington

National Labor Relations Board orders early election to settle jurisdictional dispute over screen set designers, which started the walkouts.

• • • ——

Defendants Win a Point In Griffith Trust Suit

Judge Edgar S. Vaught at Oklahoma City rules conversations, letters, etc., relating to former distributor defendants are not admissible as evidence.

• • • ——

Truckers, Salesmen Await New Rules on Gasoline

War Mobilization Director Vinson's prophecy of 16 per cent increase "soon" points way to more travel by portfolio-carriers; truckers still need parts, tires, etc.

• • • ——

Theatres Move Swiftly As Curfew Is Lifted

Most mid-Manhattan showplaces return to 2 a. m. closing; schedule midnight shows Saturday; Chicago and other key spots follow example.

• • • ——

European Travel Bans Off For Those on Business

As a result, film men waiting to get into offices at Paris, Brussels, Rome and other cities are expected to leave shortly.

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United Artists Has Acquired Another Production Unit

Loma Vista Films organized by the Marx Brothers and Producer David L. Loew; first film starring the Marxes to be "A Night in Casablanca."

• • • ——

Universal Holds a Series Of District Gatherings

William A. Scully explaining postwar problems as well as current product at small meetings in key centers, attended by district and exchange managers.

• • • ——

Unveil 50-Foot Iwo Jima Statue in Times Square

Sam Pinanski and other industry leaders, with Mayor LaGuardia, Gen. A. A. Vandergrift and 50 wounded marine veterans, attend ceremonies to boost bond sales.

GLORIOUS VE-DAY BELLS TOLL END OF BROWNOUT, CURFEW

Other Bans Are Lifted as Lights Go On Again All Over Western World

WASHINGTON—America's Great White Ways blazed anew with startling brilliance last Tuesday night, when the lights came on again all over the western world following the unconditional capitulation of the German armies and the lifting of the brownout regulations. Just 24 hours on the heels of this announcement, Wednesday saw the midnight curfew abolished, and the ban on horse and dog racing in the discard.

The casting aside of the brownout regulations which had shrouded the nation's theatrical and entertainment districts for weeks was the first in a series of dramatic developments which followed closely upon the heels of President Truman's proclamation Tuesday morning giving official news that the European phase of the war had been ended.

Times Square Again Glows

Tuesday night New York's famous Times Square again was bathed in the brilliant glow of thousands of high candlepower electrical displays and advertising signs, while thousands of jubilant celebrators milled about in the crowded streets in an enthusiastic but surprisingly orderly demonstration.

In Washington the floodlighting of Washington Monument and the Capitol dome told those at the nerve center of the nation's government that the brownout had ended, but there was little in the way of celebrations such as that which marked the signing of the armistice 27 years ago.

Elsewhere in the nation the story was largely the same, with the elation over the European victory and the loosening of governmental regulatory reins tempered by the realization there yet remained a tremendous task in the Pacific to be accomplished before the dawn of a final peace.

Following closely the brownout into discard were the ban on horse and dog racing and the midnight curfew imposed on places of entertainment. Lifting of these regulations was forecast at the time of the brownout action, but official announcement did not come from Fred M. Vinson, director of war mobilization and reconversion, until Wednesday. It was effective immediately.

Easing Controls to Be Gradual

Vinson said the lifting of the ban on race meetings did not change restrictions of the ODT on the transportation of racehorses. Any change in these regulations, he said, would have to be made by that agency.

Governmental officials also were quick to warn against optimistic hopes that the relaxation of relatively minor regulatory controls presaged a quick return to peacetime ways of life. J. A. Krug, WPB chairman, made it clear the easing of industrial and manpower controls would be gradual and deliberate.

"In this hour of victory in Europe," he said, "American workers will not forget the bitter war ahead in the Pacific. War production must continue in tremendous volume and on schedule to meet military needs."

A sober undertone was evident in the electrifying announcements of a cataclysmic week. That undertone was: "Remember, we still have Japan to lick."

Over-All Picture Given Of U.S. "Home Front"

Washington—Affecting the motion picture business as well as every other industry, here is an over-all view of the "home front" of the immediate postwar-VE period, as painted by War Mobilization Director Fred M. Vinson:

Midnight curfew—abolished; horse and dog racing—resumed; food—10 per cent less than last year as rationing continues; gasoline—a little more for A-card drivers; travel—still tight, conventions restricted.

Reconversion—some starts immediately, with full reconversion awaiting the Japs' defeat; household goods—"moderate" manufacture immediately, with more to come; taxes—no change; unemployment—some 1½ millions may lose jobs in next year, in most cases temporarily.

Manpower—controls continue; 48-hour week—continues in war plants, dropping gradually elsewhere; draft—calls will continue large; women's services—recruiting continues; war production—six months hence, rate will still equal that of 1943; small businesses—first chance to reconvert; war bonds—undiminished purchases must continue.

Clothing—low cost items more plentiful soon, general scarcity continues; building between 250,000 and 400,000 new homes in next year; wages—controls continue, including Little Steel formula; salvage—fats, paper and tin can saving must continue.

'Two Down, One to Go,' V-E Film, Is Released

NEW YORK—What will be a world's record for quick circulation of a film will be set in a few days by "Two Down and One to Go," if the plans of the army and navy and WAC go off without a hitch. Theatre release throughout the country was set for 12 noon Thursday, May 10.

Showings were started Tuesday in every operations area of the army and navy in all parts of the world.

The picture—32 minutes long in Technicolor with animations by Walt Disney—explains how the armed forces are to be demobilized when it is found they are not needed in Asia, a subject of universal interest to theatregoers.

The system to be used will allow points for length of service, for army decorations, for combat service and for dependents. In each branch of the army the credits will be multiplied by some number to be determined by the commanding general of that department. Speed of the release of those selected will depend on transportation facilities.

Work on the film was begun a year ago, following a poll in the armed services to see how the men felt about it. Forty-eight per cent voted in favor of quick release for men with dependents.

Speakers are Gen. George C. Marshall, Lieut. Gen. H. H. Arnold, the late Lieut. Gen. Lesley McNair and an unnamed commentator. Because strategy is frankly discussed, it was necessary to keep the picture secret. It is being released for theatres by M-G-M.

Manufacture of Equipment By Reconversion Process In Near Future Seen

WASHINGTON—With the appointment at midweek of Allen G. Smith as reconversion administrator for the amusement industries, comes word that there apparently will be no major problems affecting the reconversion of plants presently engaged in manufacturing war materiel, back to the making of sound, projection and other theatre equipment.

Smith, who is chief of the entertainments division of the WPB, will devote his major activities to working out plans for the reconversion of plants now concentrating on war work. He is one of 72 such reconversion administrators.

Order L-325 May Be Lifted

According to Smith there are definite possibilities that Order L-325, affecting the production of theatre equipment, will be lifted shortly. He said that present inventories on projection and sound instruments indicate there will be sufficient to take care of a large part of industry needs.

Manufacturers of sound and projection equipment have been permitted to produce for inventory since Order L-325, which went into effect in 1943, first was made operative by the WPB. According to Smith, "There is a comfortable inventory for all types of sound and projection equipment."

It is interesting to note that for the last 18 months sound and projection machine manufacturers actually have been producing for military needs about three-fourths of such equipment as was normally produced in peacetime. The other one-fourth of production by such manufacturers was devoted to the manufacture of warfare instruments.

Seats and Carpets Still "Fight"

Milton Starr, recently appointed assistant vice-chairman of the Office of Civilian Requirements, said there would be no immediate lessening of restrictions on the production of theatre seats and carpets for the amusement industry, as there was little hope for a letup in the military requirements for lumber and textiles until the war with Japan is ended.

According to Starr, the lumber shortage remains acutely precarious and the needs of the military require all available lumber which might otherwise be diverted for the manufacture of theatre seats. The textile industry is concentrating on priority orders for the armed forces, he said, with the result that many needed items for the amusement industry probably will not be available for many months.

See Tremendous Market Abroad For Replacement of Equipment

NEW YORK—With VE-Day a reality, and reconversion in many industry items right at hand, there is a tremendous market abroad for equipment replacements, says Karl Streuber, manager of the sound equipment department of the RCA international division. Most motion picture houses overseas have been unimproved over six years of war, and require new equipment, both for modernizing existing theatres and building new ones.

Streuber adds that motion pictures during the war demonstrated their remarkable versatility on the home front, in the battle zones and in training areas. Alert managers in foreign areas are preparing to keep for the theatre its new level of community regard.

Yes, Mr. Exhibitor

V-E DAY IS HERE!

- Germany has collapsed but there's still a big Jap war ahead. Our soldiers haven't stopped fighting we can't stop selling bonds!

- It will take more lives and more money. The Treasury Department needs and asks for your help more than ever.

- So get on with your 7th War Loan plans stronger than ever.

- Make your Bond Premiere, Children's Matinees, Free Movie Days count up to bigger bond sales.

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

It's Up To Every Showman . . .

Speed TOTAL Victory!

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE • MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY • 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.

'TWAS UNOFFICIAL, BUT IT WAS GOTHAM'S VE-DAY, NO FOOLIN'

"Genuine" Celebration on Tuesday Nothing Like The Curtain-Raiser

By J. M. JERAULD

NEW YORK—It was all unofficial—completely and spontaneously unofficial, and the New York street cleaning department last Monday collected more waste paper than it ever suspected existed before.

That first VE-Day celebration the week before on a Saturday night was just a flurry in comparison.

Of course, there was a celebration on Tuesday, the genuine VE-Day. However, nothing like that of Monday. In effect, New York City held a two-day celebration, just like England did.

About 9:30 o'clock Monday morning practically all of the office windows on Manhattan opened unexpectedly and paper showered out—torn telephone books, bits of this and that, rolls of bathroom paper and ticker tape. It was a blizzard. There were no sirens or whistles. Mayor LaGuardia had ruled against that.

Police on Scene Early

An hour later practically all the film offices were either closed or so empty executives felt lonesome. Fences in front of store windows were rushed into place. Below 42nd St. on Seventh Ave. the tens of thousands of men and women in the cloak and suit area scrambled into the street. All the cross streets from 34th Street north were solid masses of humanity.

Police appeared in hundreds of emergency cars. Newsreel men came out. Ambulances were stationed near the Times Building. A WNYC truck with loud speakers took position nearby.

The top bulletin on the board of the New York Times until 2 o'clock said the supreme court had granted portal-to-portal pay to the bituminous coal miners. Before 3 p. m. another bulletin appeared saying the victory news had been announced officially in London. A half hour later the WYNC truck said President Truman had stated the news was unofficial and everybody should go back to work.

Nobody did.

"Unofficial" Brownout End

Theatre men seem to have decided unanimously the brownout was over. Under every marquee ushers and maintenance men were screwing bulbs into place, or trying to prevent the crowds from knocking men off their ladders. On the Rivoli marquee nearly a dozen spotlights were put into place and trained on the big sign. Across Broadway employes of a music firm tossed copies of sheet music out of windows by the armful and a screaming mass of young and old people tried to catch copies as they fell.

Traffic was blocked off Broadway from 10 a. m. on. Some early arrivals who had cars parked on Broadway and Seventh Ave. began to feel sorry for themselves. Tired women sat on the running boards and mudguards. Others climbed on top to get better views. It was tough on the paint and tires, to say nothing of the springs.

The Brass Rail bar closed early. Others followed. At Lindy's a headwaiter stood outside and pleaded with the crowds not to try to squeeze in. At the Astor anybody who could get within ten feet of the bar thought he or she was having a good time.

By 4 o'clock thousands were already so weary they joined the Roxy and Music Hall lines. The latter ran around the building. Some unfolded newspapers, sat down on the curbs and looked bored. Getting into any restaurant required sharp elbows and ambition. Getting out again—without food—required sheer brute pushing power.

No Theatre Disturbance

With it all, it was an orderly crowd. Most sailors and soldiers walked around with red mouths. Some tried to wipe off the lip rouge, but gave up in despair, once the girls really decided to do some kissing. For some reason or other, thousands of girls decided to twist buttons off uniforms. Even the policemen were not immune.

In the theatres there was no disturbance. Audiences seemed to be in there to rest. All houses in the metropolitan area reported their audiences peaceful.

Bored street sweepers pushed paper into piles, watched it scatter, and then pushed it into piles again. An ingenious supervisor sent flushing machines up and down Sixth Ave. and turned the piles into pulpy masses that felt like cold mud to the women with exposed toes and heels.

Confetti sellers with huge burlap bags sold it for 10 cents a handful—no OPA ceiling on that stuff, apparently. Peddlers appeared with thousands of pasteboard horns, but they were ersatz. After a few weak toots these joined the scrap paper piles. A few celebrants found prewar noisemakers. VE cards sold for a nickel.

Some of the early newspaper trucks delivered extras to the stands, but these disappeared quickly. After the traffic ban the newsstands were idle. Nobody was interested in magazines.

The Trans-Lux at Broadway and 49th St. piped radio news through the public address system to the marquee. This drew an early crowd, but it couldn't stand still in the crush.

Some of the stores had signs reading: "Closed to attend Hitler's funeral." Others just closed.

Most of the department stores closed, adding thousands of shoppers to the masses.

Many Go to the Churches

It was not all riotous celebration. Only two blocks from Times Square, Fifth Avenue was almost deserted by 5:30 o'clock. As the shadows lengthened, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Thomas' Church and many others disgorged enormous crowds. In front of St. Thomas' at dusk, while the chimes played "Nearer My God to Thee," a group of British sailors sang the words. The departing worshippers paused.

Even in the side streets within a few hundred feet of the milling Times Square crowds services were in progress in churches. The contrasts were startling.

Night brought more thousands from outlying boroughs and nearby cities. Vast numbers of celebrators had gone home, but their places were filled by the new arrivals.

Display signs and theatre fronts were brilliantly lighted for the first time since the early days of the war.

Tuesday, the official VE-Day, was an anticlimax. Most of the manufacturing plants had announced they would be closed on official VE-Day. This included department stores. Saks Fifth Avenue and some other large stores in mid-Manhattan had their windows completely boarded up. Tiffany's let nothing disturb its dignified display of expensive nicknacks. It was just another day there.

By 9:30 a. m., however, Broadway and the Times Square area had filled again with a seething mass. More paper appeared from

(Continued on page 27)

Seething Thousands Block Traffic, But Many Go To Church Instead

Highlights on "Preview" Of Broadway's VE-Day

New York—Seen along the Gay Brownout Way during the false-alarm, (or AP exclusive), VE-Day:

Jitterbugs dancing on the sidewalk outside a cafe, their glasses parked on the curb . . . Remark of a zoot-suiter to his partner who says she'd rather not dance in public: "C'mon, ain't nobody lookin' at you, gal; they're all lookin' at me!" . . . Comment of a spectator on seeing a girl faint after encountering an amorous soldier: "He must be a tough kisser—kiss a girl and she faints!" . . . Intoxicated song-plugger in Times Square plugging, "America, Here's My Boy," song hit from World War I . . . Husky girl crossing Broadway, carrying a sailor pick-a-back.

Two attractive women marines giving civilians a break, kissing men not in uniform . . . Theatre manager praying for rain to come and drive people off the street and into his house . . . Peddler griping because "business not so hot—people ain't buying flags like they did in 1918!" . . . Broadwaywise theatre man wondering if the confetti-dealer who says he'll "fill your pocket for a dime" ever heard of OPA ceilings—or antipickpocket ordinances . . . Teen-age youth in Hitler getup, with rope around neck being held overhead by another lad—Der Fuehrer hanged in living effigy!

Music Hall Line Kneels For N. Y. Street "Shot"

New York—Monday morning, just before the opening of the Music Hall, there was a line extending from the corner of Sixth Ave. almost to Rockefeller Plaza.

News photographers arrived suddenly and ran along the line asking everybody to get down on their knees. They all did, not knowing why.

Clever Marquee Copy Ties in with News

Los Angeles—As Berlin's realty values were being reduced by the Russians, the Arlington Theatre hit on a bright angle for selling the current attraction. On the house's marquee appeared:

"For Sale Cheap—'HOTEL BERLIN.'"

Those folks who didn't go inside at least got a laugh.

NOW IT CAN BE SHOWN!

The Secret Film released at last

The Secretary of War presents

"TWO DOWN AND ONE TO GO"

IN TECHNICOLOR

PRODUCED BY THE ARMY PICTORIAL SERVICE
FOR GENERAL STAFF, U. S. ARMY



This most interesting film of the day is guaranteed for attendance. It reveals what every one of us wants to know about the future personnel plan for winning the war.

Released through the Office of War Information and distributed by M-G-M for the War Activities Committee—Motion Picture Industry

Collier's Magazine gives Yvonne De Carlo,* beautiful star of "Salome, Where She Danced," a big hand in its May 5th issue; thus adding more prestige to the ever mounting box-office power of the year's best publicized girl.

*She's "an eyeful," says Walter Winchell

Salome on Rye

By Michael Sheridan

Her studio and the press agents had quite a few ideas about Yvonne de Carlo. All of them, apparently, were quite wrong



I GOT the idea one afternoon that I would like to have dinner with the most beautiful girl in the world. I pictured us in an intimate banquette, with pink-shaded lights and practically nothing showing above the tabletop but the most beautiful girl in the world.

She would order ortolan tongues, and the waiter would say, "We ain't got none." He would ask her if she didn't know there was a war on.

Then I would punch his nose for him and call for the captain, the maître d'hôtel, the manager and a guy named Gus who owned the joint. "Look," I would say, "do you realize that you have refused to gratify the wish of the most beautiful girl in the world?"

Then they would all go away and come back shortly with a mound of ortolan tongues, smothered in mushrooms. The captain would pour a bottle of Napoleon brandy over it and set it afire.

The most beautiful girl in the world would say, "Isn't it pretty? I'll have some ham and eggs," and the evening would go on from there, and long before the third highball (mine) and the third orange juice (hers), I would be able to find out just what it took to make this Yvonne de Carlo the most beautiful girl in the world. That, I fondly imagined, would be a cinch.

As long as the ortolan tongues held out, I would also find out just what else it was that enabled her to star in Universal's $2,000,000 technicolor tidbit titled, Salome, Where She Danced! But of course it didn't happen that way at all. In one minute flat, ortolan tongues were out, the maître d'hôtel, a personable and prosaic gent, spoke the King's English, and the most beautiful girl in the world revealed that she had a mind of her own.

The Lady Knows Her Eats

Given a list of six places to dine, she picked instead a spot in Beverly Hills, where the palm trees sway in the wind, the braziers stand well-lit, warm and inviting, and the acacia trees shed their tiny leaves. There one of Yvonne's long, pale hands summoned the waiter. "*We'll* have steak *minute*, with *pommes Parisienne*, and lots of broccoli."

"Sauce Hollandaise," said the waiter automatically.

She shook her head. "Polonaise," she said firmly.

I was looking at the wine list, and Yvonne de Carlo stared wistfully over at it, too. "I love *Liebfraumilch*," she said. "A still wine goes so well with the *diable* sauce. But I'm only twenty, so I can't have any. What's more, I shall be twenty for the next three years, so by the time I can drink it the vintage will be *épuisé*." Miss de Carlo, as you will gather, speaks French.

Three minutes went by. A very full and satisfying three minutes in which this writer was taking in a profusion of luxuriant brown-black hair dotted with red camellias; a vivid, rich, very red mouth, and the pink lobe of an ear like a shell nestling against the translucent skin.

Time enough, also, to wonder at the appetite of the most beautiful girl in the world tackling a man's dish, and to ponder everything that had gone before: How one night she had staked out on the studio back lot an effective and quite effortless bid for movie fame and fortune.

Producer Walter Wanger it was, who had scoured the country for a girl to fulfill all the requirements of (a) the most beautiful damsel in the world, and (b) an actress who could act, sing and dance, to boot. The photographs poured in, 21,348 of them—and one stood out. This was a picture submitted by twenty-one young bombardiers of the Royal Canadian Air Force in Saskatchewan. They had written in for her portrait when she was a bit player at Paramount. They sent it back, two years later, when Mr. Wagner started his search. To her surprise, she got the part.

All Press Agentry Recoils

That should have made everybody happy, but it didn't. There was a snag somewhere. And what a snag! Strong, not so silent studio praise agents came, saw and wondered. And having done all three, legend has it that many quietly folded their portable typewriters and stole silently away. What they had discovered was that this Miss de Carlo was not running true to Hollywood form in three respects: as the most beautiful girl in the world, as a French-Canadian girl of unquestionable upbringing, and as an actress in good standing. At least that was the story.

For one thing, they had said, she didn't know how to handle the press. She was shy almost to the point of reticence. Miss de Carlo just couldn't manage to turn on either her smile, her voice, or her charm at the mere drop of a newspaperman's hat.

But so far, Miss de Carlo showed no outward evidence of that—not now, as she unpinned her solitary white gardenia from one side of the pitch-black velvet of her rather revealing bodice. "They smell heavenly, gardenias, but overpoweringly, I'm afraid." She smiled, and you could tell why that kind of a smile couldn't be turned on at the mere will of a press agent. It was that real.

Blame it on the atmosphere, blame it on a gullible guy dining alone with the most beautiful girl in the world; blame it, if you like, on the girl herself—but all this didn't fit in with what they said had gone before. Things like twisting her paper napkin at the end of a luncheon interview and planking it in her plate of unfinished food. Hardly the gesture of the M.B.G.I.T.W.

On another occasion the large and limpid eyes of Miss de Carlo gazed unfalteringly at another newspaperman all through his long spiel about Italian food in general, and the merits of chicken *cacciatore* in particular. At the end of five minutes, feeling she should say something, and greatly encouraged by a kick on the shins from the studio press contact, Yvonne murmured enthusiastically, "If you like Italian food so much, you must have tried my favorite dish, chicken *cacciatore*."

Things have been happening like that ever since. One day Miss de Carlo, not informed as to the name of her fiancé of the week, broke an engagement that wasn't due to start till the following Monday's column.

Yvonne has a small, very pretty face, with the largest and occasionally the saddest pair

(Continued on page 60)

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

and another star from Universal

WOLCOTT CALLS FOR INDUSTRY COMMITTEES IN POSTWAR ERA

Iowan Says 'Plain Stupidity' Is Reason for Showmen's Lack of Organization

ELDORA, IOWA—What this industry needs now, says Leo F. Wolcott, president of Iowa-Nebraska Theatre Owners, is an all-industry postwar planning committee and an all-industry tax committee.



LEO F. WOLCOTT

What Wolcott has to say on this subject is impressive, because his organization is an independent unit representing the thought of exhibitors in two states widely separated from the centers of industry turmoil in the east and on the coast. His organization is one of the closest-knit among exhibitor groups over the United States.

"I believe in the need of such planning," he says, "and very few in the industry, aside from those whose present soft jobs might be affected, will disagree with their necessity. We are one of the few, if not the only big American industry, which does not have these safeguards against the uncertain future."

He admits there are hurdles and no unity of outlook, but goes on to say:

"Whether we are big enough to ever have an 'all-industry' anything is beyond me. Because in many respects we are the damnedest group of unpredictable juveniles imaginable. We set up a War Activities Committee and do a series of simply terrific jobs in the name of our industry for the war effort. It began to look like we had grown up into a mature, man-sized industry, proud of our rightful place in the sun. Then, bang! A couple of bureaucrats slap us back into our place, and quick! We're classed with saloons, beer joints, gambling dens. Taxes, brownouts, curfew, threats of price ceilings, film cuts while increasing allotments to other countries. And what do we do about it?

"Take It Lying Down"

"Why, we take it lying down as usual, of course, fawning on our tormentors! Why? Because we are so weak and disorganized, so shot with greed, selfishness, grasping license, monopoly, bitter internal strife and law suits, we would rather join those who seek to tear us down than stand shoulder to shoulder against them.

"But, why all this disunity?

"First, plain stupidity; because we are not yet smart enough nor big enough men to look forward and admit there is ample room here for all of us to live and let live in prosperity and peace.

"Witness the ultimate results of the sincere efforts of certain far-sighted leaders to bring unity out of this chaos, notably the UMPI! Second, and doubtless greatest of all, are our super salesmen, those wolves who take the shirts off their customers' backs with unfair deals, block after block, year after year, thus pouring the flaming acid of disunity into the festering sores of dissatisfaction. Few indeed are those who seem to realize greater reward over the years ahead comes from fair deals. These 'super salesmen,' which no other industry could afford, and the lawyers who follow them like jackals, have reaped and are reaping a rich harvest from this industry. New sales records and more law suits are set every new period.

"Follows then, the natural question, 'Can such an industry long endure?' Common sense answers 'No!' But the record says, 'Yes, 50 years so far.' Frankly, I don't know. But this I do know, as this industry is now set up, you have to fight to stay in it! Can't something be done about it before it's too late?

Says Grosses Are Dropping

"Movie business is off. There has been a definite trend away from the movies since last Thanksgiving, not only in the rural areas but also in the large industrial centers. And while you'd never guess it from film company profit reports, which continue to attain astronomical heights, boxoffice intake has dropped 15 to 35 per cent. No longer do you see great lines two blocks long waiting to get into big city theatres (except in process photographs to advertise the latest 'recordbreaker') and we little fellows have 'enjoyed' the drop so long now it has become normal. I think we can lay a big share of the boxoffice shrinkage to the definitely higher cost of living, taxes, lousy pictures (result of small blocks, no cancellation, and shortage of pictures), as well as to the constant drain by the services on our young movie patrons. No longer will the Susie Glutz programmer fill 'em up; no sir! These people we have left are mighty choosy about their pictures; only the barrage of publicity the super-must-percentage pics get stir them to a point where they will come out and spend that 35 cents. And, of course, the brownout and curfew haven't helped any.

"The point of this, which I didn't have to tell you anyway, if you've watched your comparative receipts, is to emphasize the fact that business did NOT come back this spring, in spite of exceptionally fine March weather, like we all expected it to do. And to point out again, as Ed Kuykendall so ably did in a recent MPTOA bulletin, that the exhibitor who cannot reduce his film rentals in direct proportion to his boxoffice drop; who cannot resist the terrific percentage deals demanded by many distributors today, that exhibitor is a dead duck!

"Further drop in receipts is certain as the war boom collapses and other entertainments come back into the field. Reduction of film rentals must be kept in step. Of course exhibitors are allowed no 'get well' pictures if it can be helped.

"Know your overhead, then buy your film so you will also retain a profit! No better advice could be given exhibitors. So they won't sell you that way? So you leave them alone awhile! Note that the Wall Street Journal states there'll be more pictures in 1945-46; among them, more musicals and comedies, so be guided accordingly."

Industry's Coordination Kills Two Bills in Iowa

Eldora, Iowa—"Iowa will have another year free from added state regulation and taxes," says Leo F. Wolcott, president of the Iowa-Nebraska Theatre Owners Ass'n, "and I maintain that it was the coordinated and active opposition of theatre men that kept bills inimical to the industry from being passed."

Wolcott referred to two bills, one on theatre fire regulations, the other a sales tax on film rentals. The first was tabled half way through the legislative session; the tax bill died in committee after Ted Sloane of Des Moines withdrew his name as co-sponsor with Harvey Long of Clinton as author.

In the Nebraska legislature a proposal for a state sales tax was defeated. Nebraska also repealed the anti-Ascap law, thereby making it possible for the organization to do business in the state. This eliminates the piecemeal attempts at collection of the music tax by individual publishers.

He Pleads for Safeguards Against Uncertain Future By Means of Planning

Seeking a Reclassification Of the Popcorn Industry

DALLAS—Charles E. Darden returned last Monday after a week's trip to Chicago, where he attended a meeting of the National Popcorn Ass'n. The OPA had asked that an advisory committee on popcorn matters be named and this in substance was the purpose of the meeting. The association made recommendations to OPA and named probable committeemen which will be definitely selected later.

OPA's popcorn order classifies the commodity under "specialty foods" and the advisory committee will recommend that the class be changed to "grain and seed." Under the latter classification the popcorn business will be more workable, the committee believes. The committee also went on record to suggest that a good crop solved many ills but at the same time it expressed its desire to cooperate fully with OPA.

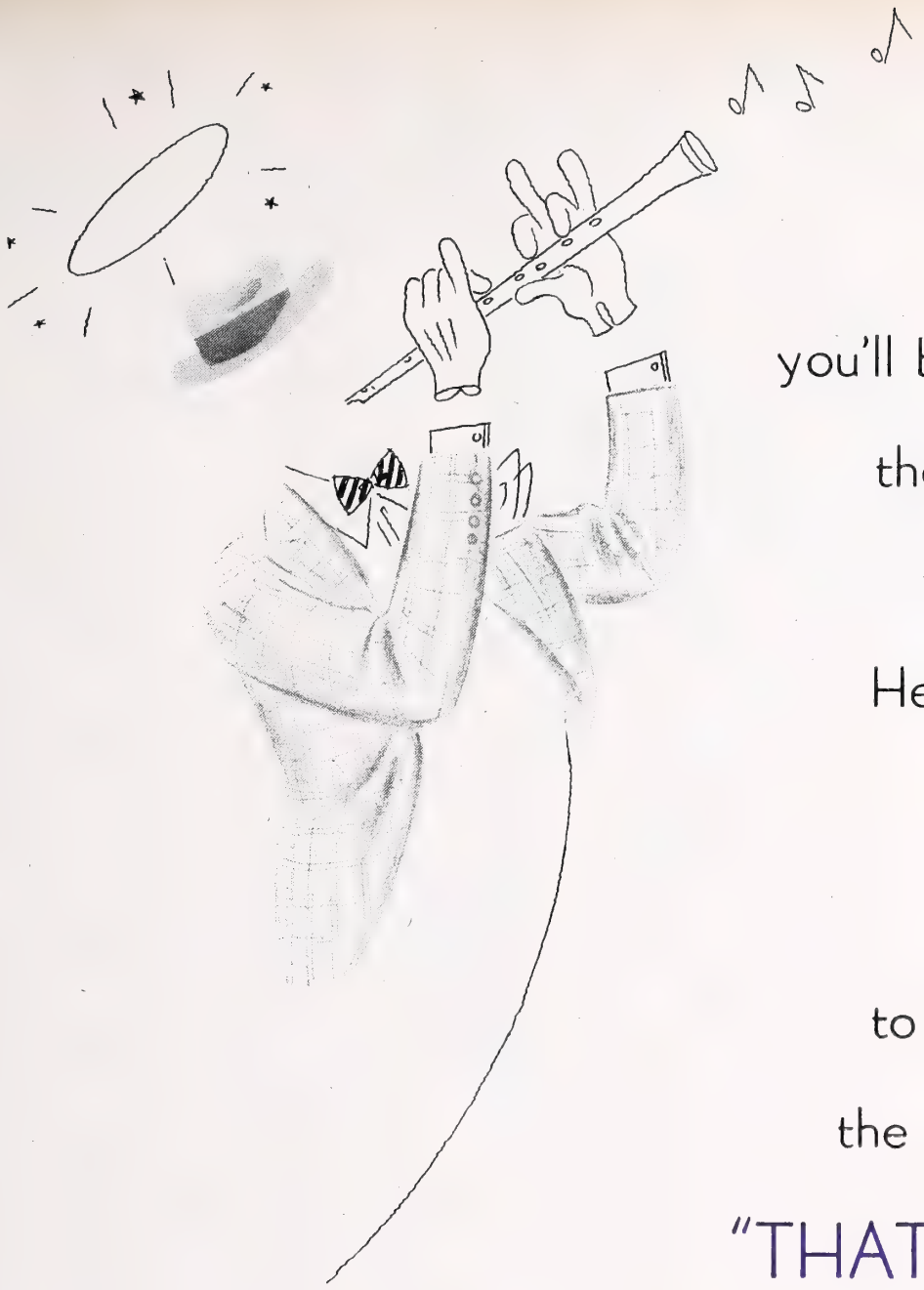
Darden visited the Cretors Manufacturing Co. and saw and ate corn popped by one of the new streamlined models which that company will manufacture and have ready for distribution. Darden will handle these new models in six southwestern states.

Industry Collections Up In '45 Red Cross Drive

NEW YORK—Collections for the industry's 1945 Red Cross War Fund week will greatly exceed last year's figure on the basis of partial reports now in.

A total of $5,414,580.06 has already been accounted for as against a final figure of $5,501,450.97 collected in 1944. Until now final figures have been obtained from only six of the 40 areas covered.

The six reports now in are Albany, with a total of $82,916.43 compared to $67,705.60 in 1944; Chicago, with $347,687.54 against $256,509.01 last year; Omaha, with $61,515.72 topping the 1944 figure of $48,106.75 and in Philadelphia the total of $316,058.78 is only slightly less than the 1944 figure of $363,281.37. Puerto Rico reported $9,964.03 and the Virgin Islands $204.09 with no figures available for last year.



Soon

you'll be INVITED to meet

the most lovable ghost

this side of Heaven.

He'll jauntily haunt you

and you'll love it.

Be sure

to take time off to see

the Universal preview of

"THAT'S THE SPIRIT"*

in your territory during

the week of May 14th.

Check your local exchange

for details.

*It's in the Universal spirit

—good, clean fun.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

1,000 SHOWMEN DISCUSS BOND DRIVE ON MOMENTOUS VE-DAY

Solemn Group Hears Scope Of 7th Loan Detailed by Industry's Leaders

NEW YORK—In an atmosphere of oddly mixed emotions nearly 1,000 distributor representatives and exhibitors from all parts of the New York exchange area gathered Tuesday morning to hear a breakfast discussion of the Seventh War Loan at the Waldorf-Astoria.

It was totally unlike any of its predecessors. It was VE-Day, a momentous occasion in world history. Whether it was sheer weariness from having contended with celebrating audiences the day before, worry about what was happening to their theatres as a second VE-Day outburst was getting under way, or a solemn resolve to rededicate themselves to a monumental task cannot be said, but it was obvious that this gathering had an air of restraint and seriousness.

Some of the men came in from Suffolk County out on the eastern end of Long Island; some were from Orange and Rockland counties, 50 to 75 miles northward; many were from New Jersey. Few of them had finished the previous day's extraordinary activities before midnight. All had to hurry back to face problems which they could not foresee.

Ted Gamble Explains Problem

Stores and schools were closed. Crowds were milling about downtown streets in cities and villages alike. Would bond selling be easier from now on, or harder? With the quota twice as high as before, all could see the need of enormous effort. Some of the speakers raised this point.

Ted R. Gamble, treasury representative, put the problem bluntly. He has an amazing talent for summing up the intricate details of government financing and making them understandable to the layman. He speaks without notes, and with a clarity and emphasis that fascinates his listeners.

The government is paying 48 per cent of the cost of the war out of current taxation, he said. It has already spent 180 billions in this way. About 236 billions have been raised through bonds and other securities.

"Even if the war against the Japanese should end within the next 30 days," he said, "the government would still have serious money-raising problems. Nobody has any idea how much will be needed if the American people are to fulfill their obligations to assist liberated peoples and to get business back on a peacetime basis. We must rally the public to the task ahead."

About two billions per month are being spent for pay and maintenance of the men and women in the armed services alone, he said. More than 11 billions per year are going out for lend-lease. Fifty per cent of America's productive capacity is going into war goods, he pointed out.

Plans in the Making, He Says

"There was no plan at the start of the war," he said; "there could be none; we had to meet our problems as they arose. We will have to do the same as the problems of ending the war and shifting to peace unfold. This is no time to relax."

Two of the Seventh War Loan trailers were shown. The one with Robert Montgomery was received with applause.



DONE IN BAS-RELIEF—A striking lobby display unveiled ceremoniously at Loew's State, New York, by eight-year-old Joan Patricia Manghisi, sister of Peter Manghisi, navy quartermaster, third class, who died on Iwo Jima. Oscar A. Doob and Charles C. Moskowitz of Loew's are at the right, and Francis Harmon of WAC is at left. Edward C. Dowden acted as emcee.

Irving Lesser, Manhattan borough chairman, was the first master of ceremonies, followed in turn by Morris Kinzler, Ken Roberts, the radio announcer; Sam Rinzler and Sam Pinanski.

Rinzler was in his usual rare form during most of his address. He had the audience roaring in a few moments when he pointed out that it was his bad luck to follow a polished speaker like Roberts. Why couldn't he follow Kinzler or, possibly, Spyros Skouras some time or other?

"They asked me to read my speech fast," he said. "And it's in my own handwriting. That would be all right for you fellows who went to school."

Later he remarked: "I could do better if I didn't have a little rheumatism in my right arm."

Gehle Explains Quotas

Other speakers were: Frederick Gehle, WFC chairman, and Sam Pinanski.

Gehle said the New York quota was $3,909,000,000, with a goal of $1,134,000,000 set for E bonds—the savings of the people.

Those on the dais were: Tom Baily, Barney Balaban, Joseph H. Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Max Cohen, Jack Cohn, Candler Cobb, Tom Connors, Oscar Doob, Si Fabian, Frederick W. Gehle, Herman Gluckman, Leonard Goldenson, James R. Grainger, Francis Harmon, Will H. Hays, John Hertz jr., Malcolm Kingsberg, Morris Kinzler, Irving Lesser, Harry Mandel, Lucy Monroe, Olivia de Havilland, C. C. Moskowitz, Sam Pinanski, Maj. Chaplain E. P. Herbert, Henry Randel, N. Peter Rathvon, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Ken Roberts, William F. Rodgers, Edward Rugoff, James Sauter, E. K. "Ted" O'Shea, Fred Schwartz, William A. Scully, Councilman Joseph T. Sharkey, J. Edward Shugrue, Jacob Starr, Maj. L. E. Thompson, Dave Weinstock, William White, Robert M. Weitman, Adolph Zukor.

Among others present were: William Adler, Helen Beckerman, Harry Browning, Fred W. Brunelle, Robert W. Case, Bertha Dreyfort, Joseph Ehrlick, Russell Emde, John Endres, Al Finestone, Mrs. Beth Fisher, Leonard Gaylor, George Generalis, Lou Gerard, Louis Goldberg, Abel Green, Homer Harman, Walter F. Higgins, James M. Jerauld, Bernie Kamber, Harry Keller, Mrs. Annette Downes Kent, Arthur Knorr, Peter Levathes, Raymond Levy, Charles E. Lewis, Fred Lichtman, Don Mersereau, Eugene Meyers, Michael Nicholas, Fred Norman, Charles L. O'Reilly, Sam Rauch, Ferdinand Reinlieb, George C. Ritch, Monty Salmon, Herman Schleier, Lloyd Seidman, Benjamin Sherman, Daphne Skouras, E. W. Street, Joel Swensen, Charles Thall, Dave Walterstein, Earl W. Wingart, Jerry Zigmond.

Post-VE-Day Events Planned for Stars

HOLLYWOOD—When the huge post-VE-Day program ordered by General Eisenhower is staged, Hollywood will be well represented if expected returns are realized from the rush campaign launched by the Hollywood Victory Committee undertaking an industry-wide drive to send a flock of entertainers to the battle fields, rest centers and hospitals of Europe to take part in the VE celebration for GI Joes. Request for such entertainment came officially from the war department through USO-Camp Shows.

Calls for volunteers to go overseas went out immediately to celebrities of screen, radio and stage. Telegrams signed by Kenneth Thomson, HVC chairman, called on both dramatic stars and entertainers "to meet a crucial need in Europe during the three-to-six month period of inactivity which will come immediately after organized resistance ends."

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount studio head, was named chairman of a special VE committee, with Charles K. Feldman, Olivia de Havilland, Bob Hope, E. J. Mannix, George Murphy and Sidney Strotz appointed to aid in pushing Hollywood's program.

Vital Program for Morale

With fighting ended, the committee pointed out, departure of players for Europe can be scheduled much faster than for visits to combat areas. Representatives of USO-Camp Shows will be sent to volunteers' homes or studios to fill out war department questionnaires. Stars can be used for shorter periods than the two or three months previously required for an overseas trip. They will be transported by both boat and plane.

"This is one of the most vital morale programs in which Hollywood has been asked to share," HVC officials said. "Personalities will be needed to visit the wounded in hospitals. Shows will be needed for the many rest centers where men will be sent before transfer to the Pacific. We want every available player ready to go when General Eisenhower gives the word, or as soon as possible.

"This is Hollywood's chance to pay a little of the debt we all owe the men who have fought for us, or are still fighting."

The committee program is part of an elaborate plan first set in motion last summer, when entertainment leaders, educators, sports figures and others were called to confer with Maj. Gen. Joseph Byron, chief of army special services. Under the plan as developed, numerous dramatic and musical comedy companies will be sent overseas by USO-Camp Shows, entertainment experts will be recruited to organize GI shows, every possible opportunity for vocational and avocational instruction will be given, and huge programs of sports events will be set up.

WAC Preparing Snipes For N. Y. Distribution

NEW YORK—Special snipes with appropriate Seventh War Loan copy are being printed by the New York area headquarters. These snipes for all 24-sheets, six-sheets, three-sheets and one-sheets will be available to independent theatre managers and circuit operations in this area.



THAT'S THE SPIRIT

In the Universal spirit of good, clean fun.
You're going to be jauntily haunted when you meet*
the most lovable ghost this side of Heaven.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

*Be sure to see the trade preview of "That's the Spirit" in your territory during the week of May 14th. Check your local Universal exchange for details.

"Couldn't Get Any Film," Texas Rancher Testifies

OKLAHOMA CITY—After a delay of several years, the case of the government against the Griffith circuits in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico opened before Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught on Monday of this week. Defendant companies in addition to the Griffith Amusement Co. are Wes-Tex Theatres and R. E. Griffith Theatres of Dallas, and Consolidated Theatres, with headquarters in Oklahoma City. The case in its original form also involved eight leading motion picture distributors, but, since signing the New York consent decree, they were dismissed.

Virtually the entire history of the motion picture business, from 1917 to the present, was reviewed in federal court this week as the antitrust case was opened.

Robert L. Wright, of the department of justice, who, with two aides, Posey T. Kime and Milton A. Kallis, are representing the government, made the opening statement. He charged that the Griffith companies "are operating monopolistically in restraint of trade," and added that they should be dissolved as theatre chains.

Dennis Scaling, former independent theatre operator in Plainview, Tex., testified Tuesday that he sold out to Griffith interests in 1936 "because I couldn't get any film to show." Scaling is one of the government's principal witnesses in its antitrust suit against the theatre circuits operated by L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma City, and H. J. Griffith, Kansas City and Dallas.

Universal Declined to Renew

Prosecutor Wright, special assistant to the attorney general in the antitrust division of the department of justice, brought out on direct examination Scaling's testimony that he had a contract with Universal in 1935 which he could not get renewed.

The government will try to prove to Judge Vaught that the Griffith circuit allegedly forced independent operators out of business and used illegal methods to monopolize available films. The suit, filed in 1938, involves operation of more than 100 theatres in the southwest between 1933 and 1938.

Scaling, now a rancher in Hale Center, testified that he was employed by Griffith interests before he bought a theatre.

Evidence regarding the theatre situation in Plainview was continued Wednesday morning. Scaling told of the difficulty of obtaining motion picture contracts in competition with Griffith theatres there. Judge Vaught held to his ruling of Tuesday that conversations between complaining witnesses and the distributor companies would not be admitted as testimony in this case. He applied the ruling on correspondence, too.

Tells of Griffith Leasing

Mark Q. Silverthorne, Plainview real estate dealer and the second government witness, testified concerning leasing of Scaling's theatre to the Griffith chain, and the building of another theatre by Griffith when notice of termination of lease was given.

The six-year-old suit seeks to dissolve the Griffith Amusement Co., and Consolidated Theatres, Inc., both with headquarters in Oklahoma City, and R. E. Griffith Theatres, Inc., and Westex Theatres, Inc., both with headquarters in Dallas, on the charge they violated the antitrust act.

Before the trial started, it was indicated by attorneys for the Griffiths that negotiations for a pretrial settlement of the case had broken down. In fact, said Henry Griffing, chief counsel for the Griffiths, the consent decree proposal of the government would in effect be a "complete breakdown" on the part of his clients, and that they would not entertain the proposal.

Assisting Griffing in the defense are L. M. Rice of Dallas and C. B. Cochrane and J. B. Dudley of Oklahoma City.

Named individually in the suit, which was filed six years ago and is just now coming to trial after numerous pretrial conferences and cross-petitions, are R. E. Griffith of Dallas (now deceased); H. J. Griffith of Kansas City, and L. C. Griffith of Oklahoma City.

In his opening statement for the defense, Cochrane traced the development of the Griffith Theatre Enterprises from the time the three Griffith brothers started exhibiting motion pictures in Texas in 1917, through the organization of Griffith Amusement Co., about 1926, and the subsequent additions of theatres and changes in operating companies.

He argued that the operations followed the development of an everchanging industry and that their booking practices have been "dictated by the film producers and distributors in bargaining for the rights to show films in their theatres throughout Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico."

Presentation of the prosecution of the case is expected to take up the remainder of this month and the defense, an additional month.

Arguments and other legal moves may take another month. However, Judge Vaught has requested that the trial not be carried consecutively, but broken up into a number of episodes.

Chicago Theatre Installs Cap Pistol Checkroom

Chicago—The kids who ride the range around the Uptown district here must check their artillery before they enter the Argmore Theatre, Essaness circuit.

Young enthusiasm for "Zorro's Whip," a wild west serial that began three weeks ago, reached such a pitch that the kids began bringing their cap pistols to join with the screen sound effects. Manager Harvey Cahn now frisks them, making them leave their shooting irons at the check room. He says he'll keep it up, too, until the serial ends nine weeks hence.

Shorts Schedule Cut

HOLLYWOOD—Due to the raw film shortage, M-G-M has announced the temporary curtailment of short subject production following completion of its current schedule. Metro's News of the Day will be released twice weekly, as usual.

Great Heart of Industry Takes Care of a Cripple

Memphis — A. B. Morrison, assistant manager in Memphis for Warner Bros. three years ago, when he became hopelessly crippled in an accident, has discovered that Memphis has a heart.

A benefit show raised $3,000 to pay off a mortgage on his home and Jack Warner is giving him a pension of $30 per month.

Columbia Is Figuring A Redistribution Plan

CHICAGO—Columbia Pictures' three-day meeting here last week was given over largely to a redistribution plan for future releases which will meet the raw stock problem. Delegates also "whooped it up" for the Abe Montague 20th Anniversary campaign, which, incidentally, was extended to August 30.

Montague, the company's general sales manager, told delegates that "A Song to Remember" will be the largest grosser in the history of the company. Delegates were enthused also over other present and forthcoming product, including "The Fighting Guardsman," "Over 21," and "A Thousand and One Nights."

Home office representatives on hand, in addition to Montague, included H. C. Kaufman, manager of exchange operations, and his assistant, Irving Sherman; Rube Jackter, M. J. Weisfeldt and Louis Astor. Chicago representatives were headed by Ben Lourie, branch manager. From the field came Sam Galanty, Jerome Safron, Carl B. Shalit, Ben C. Marcus, R. J. Ingram, Jack Underwood, H. E. Weiner, Harry Rogovin and Oscar Ruby.

Soviet Films Election, Coronation of Alexei

MOSCOW — Government authorities last week released, for the first time in Soviet history, a film showing all the details of a church ritual. The 30-minute release showed the election and coronation of Metropolitan Alexei as Patriarch of Moscow and All the Russias.

The film, first ever to show the election of a patriarch, was released on the eve of the Russian Easter, last Sunday.

WB Crew to S. America To Shoot Rubber Scenes

NEW YORK—A Warner Bros. camera crew will leave shortly for South America to shoot scenes of the rubber industry for a two-reeler, "Rubber River," which Gordon Hollingshead will produce.

Hollingshead has also assigned Carl Dudley to shoot Technicolor footage of Washington, D. C., for an untitled two-reeler.

National Board Selections

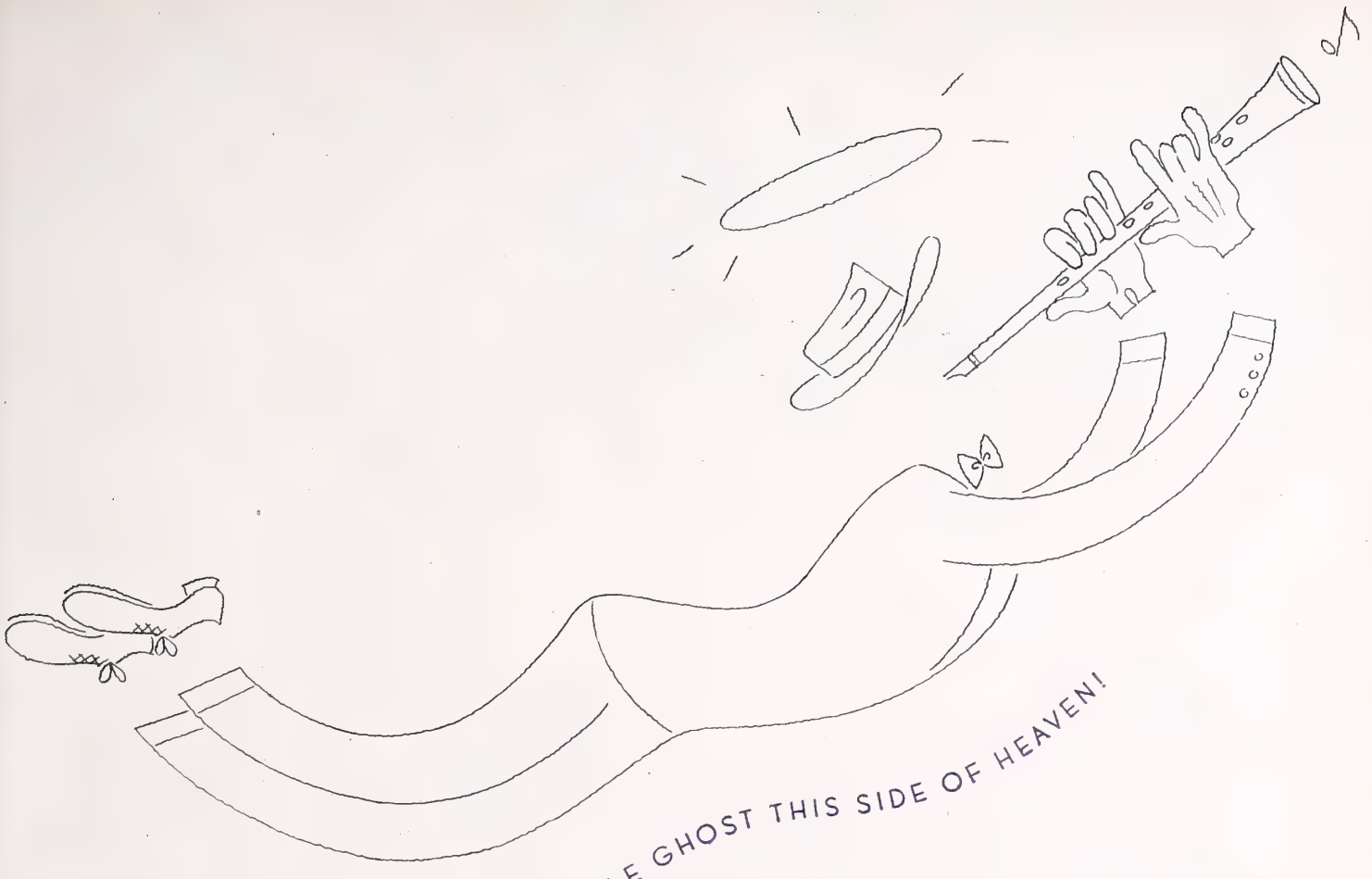
NEW YORK—The National Board of Review chose as its selected features for last week, "China Sky" (RKO), "The Clock" (M-G-M) and "It's in the Bag" (UA). Short subjects selected were "Brenda Star, Reporter" (Col), "Circus Band" (Vitaphone), "Dress Parade" (RKO), "Guam Salvaged Island" (RKO) and "Hare Trigger" (Vitaphone).

Legion Buys NSC Trailers

NEW YORK—The American Legion has bought 1,000 special trailers from National Screen Service for distribution among theatres throughout the country by Legion department adjutants. The trailers will inform returning service men the Legion is ready to help them in their rehabilitation to civilian life. Running time is approximately one minute and 50 seconds.

Normal in the Capital

WASHINGTON—VE-Day in the nation's capital was spent in quiet and orderly fashion. Every theatre and downtown business establishment was ablaze with lights. Theatres reported average business on both Monday and Tuesday evenings.



Jauntily he'll haunt you . . . Everyone will go for the gho-getting ghost in "THAT'S THE SPIRIT." See the trade preview of this Universal picture during the week of May 14th. Check your local exchange for details.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES



THE WINNAHS!—Staff of the Seattle 20th-Fox exchange has received word that it was the winner in the 30th Anniversary Opportunity drive. They're thinking about the losers! Left to right (standing): Leonard Raatz, Ray Ackles, Celia Estill, C. L. Theuerkauf and James Booker. Seated is Branch Manager Frank Drew.

Only Scattered Objections Develop As Subsequents Get Horror Reels

NEW YORK—Further reports from widely scattered sections of the country show no protest was made on the showing of the Nazi prison camp horror newsreels, but that parents in a number of spots refused to let their children attend as the pictures reached neighborhood houses. In a few places the reels were withdrawn because women fainted, or portions of the audience went to the rest rooms.

In some cities general approval of the showings was voiced, on the theory that the pictures were something the public should see in order to prevent the start of a movement for a soft peace for Germany and to combat any tendency to dismiss the atrocity stories as fakes, as was done after World War I.

In Detroit, Artkino's "Maidenak Death Factory" was cut by the censor because it showed the violent deaths of human beings. The IATSE, the American Civil Liberties Union and newspapers immediately attacked this ruling.

Indianapolis was one of the places where the pictures were warmly received. Pittsburgh reviewers devoted considerable space to respectful reviews. In Dallas the reels were received calmly, and nothing was heard about parents' objections in neighborhoods. Audiences were grim and silent in Portland, Ore. In Cincinnati the films were held over at the RKO Palace, and public reactions were favorable.

Bond Sales Jump at Boston

Boston reported an increase in sales of bonds. Women walked out in some of the Chicago loop houses.

Opinions were mixed at New Orleans and the films were withdrawn from one first run house after women became hysterical. There was some audible protest in five Memphis downtown houses. At the Malco Theatre some patrons left, but there was no protest from any outside sources.

No advertising of the films was used in Albany. Audiences accepted them quietly.

At Salt Lake City an unidentified woman collapsed at the Centre Theatre, but no untoward incidents other than this were recorded. Consensus there was: "They're something every American should see."

In St. Louis the audiences greeted the horror pictures without visible emotion, and this applies to the neighborhood showings as well as those downtown.

May 27 to July 27 Set For Republic's Drive

NEW YORK—The period between May 27 and July 27 has been set in the Republic 10th Anniversary drive, according to James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager. He hopes the double-month campaign will produce the greatest concentration of playdates in the company's history.

During June and July more than 2,500 theatres throughout the country will be playing "Flame of the Barbary Coast," designated as the Republic 10th Anniversary film. Comprehensive campaigns in such situations, covering newspaper advertising, radio spot announcements and five-minute shows, as well as posting and special promotion are backing these runs.

National advertising in fan and general magazines, with full-page insertions in June issues, has been arranged. Display ads in such newspaper supplements as This Week, Parade, American Weekly, etc., will also highlight Republic's 10th Anniversary.

Republic branches throughout the country will display banners, distribute blotters and use special stationery advertising the drive.

West Leads in Final Week Of Ned Depinet Drive

NEW YORK—As RKO's Ned Depinet sales drive went into its final week the western division was leading. Seattle was in first place with Los Angeles and San Francisco close behind in second and third places, respectively. The western district took top spot with metropolitan New York in second and midwestern in third places.

Montreal led in the Canadian division with St. John in second and Winnipeg in third place.

"Tarzan" 26 Years Old

NEW YORK—For 26 years and in 21 full-length features Tarzan has been conquering all foes on the screen. In his latest, "Tarzan and the Amazons," he finds himself in the kingdom of women warriors.

Atrocity Films Show A New "Weaker Sex"

NEW YORK—Apparently six years of war has conditioned audiences to accept scenes which, seen on the screen prior to World War II, would have caused revulsion in patrons of both sexes. Even more surprisingly, women have become inured to viewing scenes of horror. Such at least are the findings of Augustin W. Rudd, vice-president of Embassy Newsreel Theatres, whose houses are currently showing not one but two atrocity reels, the Russian films of the "Maidenak Death Factory" with subsequent scenes showing the execution of Nazi SS guards, and the U.S. signal corps release depicting atrocities in three German prison camps.

"The public at large has taken war films in its stride and is asking for more," Rudd says. "Films that only a short decade ago would have been considered too shocking for screen entertainment are now readily accepted, and the more sensational the picture the greater seems to be the public demand.

The "Weaker" Sex—Since When?

"As to the reaction of women, those who have regarded them as the weaker sex are in for a jolt. At the Embassy newsreel theatres a periodic check is made of the percentage of women to the total boxoffice count. Sensing that the showing of the so-called atrocity reels should furnish some significant figures in this regard, an actual count of women was made at all Embassy houses. Believe it or not, the figures show that during the week we presented the reels the percentage of women at our theatres was greater than ever!

"For instance, our theatre at 46th St. and Broadway, generally known as a 'man's house,' showed a surprising increase in the percentage of women patrons. The last count prior to the war was the week of Sept. 6, 1941, when the percentage of women was 16.2 of the total. Last week with atrocity films featured, the percentage was 37.3, an increase of more than 100 per cent! The count in our other houses shows a similar trend, as follows:

"From the week of Sept. 6, 1941, to the week of May 3, 1945, when we presented the 'double atrocity bill,' the percentage of women at our Rockefeller Plaza house increased from 24.8 to 38.4 per cent; at our Park Ave. and 42nd St. house, from 24.1 to 27.2; at our Broadway and 72nd St. theatre, a 'family house,' from 30.0 to 36.4, and in our Newark house, from 15.6 to 22.1 per cent.

"In short," Rudd concluded, "the war films have not only failed to keep the fair sex away from newsreel theatres, but women have actually shown more interest than the men. Some of our managers were reluctant to use the Russian footage showing the execution of the Nazis, but their fear was soon dispelled when these scenes actually drew applause at many showings. Many patrons found the pictures hard to take but felt it their duty to see them. Only one fainting was reported—and that was a man."

DuMont Produces Video Images Three by Four Feet

NEW YORK—Projection television equipment producing images three by four feet was demonstrated to the press by DuMont Laboratories at station WABD. A direct viewing tube, producing an image 18 by 12½ inches, was also shown.

A short studio program, followed by a screening of the film "Gunga Din," comprised the entertainment offered.

That's the Spirit*



*In the Universal spirit of good, clean fun. You're going to be jauntily haunted when you meet the most lovable ghost this side of Heaven. Be sure to see the preview in your territory during the week of May 14th. Check your local Universal exchange for details.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Report Johnston to Accept Proposal to Join MPPDA

Now that Eric Johnston has been re-elected president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for a fourth term (which incidentally sets a 33-year-old precedent for length of service as head of that organization) there is every indication that he will accept the long-standing proposal to join the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. As first reported in this column, the only hitch to Johnston's acceptance of the Hays office proposal depended upon whether he would continue as U.S. CofC head and whether, in that case, the Hays organization would permit Johnston to hold that position and at the same time become in effect acting head of the film industry group.

Johnston still remains reticent about discussing the Hays office proposal, but it is learned that as an MPPDA executive, he would maintain his headquarters in Washington, serving as liaison for the film industry with the government while, at the same time, assuming full control of those phases of the MPPDA activities that are concerned with a direct approach to the public. In that case, he will assume many of the duties now carried by Hays who, either as chairman of the board or as president, still will guide MPPDA policies.

Coast Theatres Facing a Boom As War Shifts to the Pacific

Theatres on the west coast stand to attain maximum grosses as VE-Day makes it necessary for full attention to be turned toward the Pacific war. The ODT has appointed Earle E. McCarty as assistant director of the railway transport department and the appointment becomes significant in the light of events to come. McCarty is on loan from the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, where he was general manager of the system's coast lines. His appointment is a recognition of the necessity for concentrating attention on the greatly increased activity on the west coast.

This coast stimulus, with the consequent concentration of war production, as well as an influx of soldier personnel, is bound to have a definite effect upon boxoffice grosses in most of the cities along the Pacific coast.

M. P. Service Chief Now Dead Wins an Award Posthumously

It is only correct and fitting that the war department grant recognition to the able services performed by Raymond B. Murray, former chief of the U.S. Army Motion Picture Service, who died January 3 after 25 years of association with that military organization. Murray was awarded the Emblem for Exceptional Services, which was presented to his wife by Maj. Gen. Joe N. Dalton.

Perhaps the most significant of Murray's achievements for the war department was his operation of motion picture theatres in posts, camps and stations throughout the world, expanding its services from 90 theatres in September, 1940, to 1,188 theatres at its peak, catering to 240 million soldiers a year.

It would be a fitting addition to the army's recognition of Murray's ability if the film industry also would pay tribute to a man who, almost single-handedly, has made it possible for the films to become the greatest single entertainment factor to win GI approval.

FTC to Probe Air-Conditioning Practices at Session in N. Y.

The Federal Trade Commission will hold a meeting in the Harvard Club, 27 W. 44th St., New York, on May 25, to discuss the business practices of the low pressure refrigerant gas industry, which is responsible for the manufacture of most air-conditioning and refrigeration plants. The FTC is a little upset about some allegedly unethical trade practices such as reports of commercial bribery, fixed prices and unlawful price discriminations. It should be an interesting session for those who have plans for buying air-conditioning units.

Ex-Theatre Executive Gets A Key WPB Assignment

J. A. Krug, chairman of the War Production Board, has appointed Milton Starr, southern theatre operator, to a key spot as assistant vice-chairman of the Office of Civilian Requirements. Starr has been special assistant to William Y. Elliott, WPB vice-chairman for OCR, since early in 1943.

Starr will have supervision of various divisions of the OCR, including consumer fuels division. Meantime Claude Ezell will continue as chief of the entertainments division of the OCR.

Senate Small Business Group May Call Off Industry Probe

The senate small business committee now is so immersed in activities involving other industries that it is very likely to call off its planned investigation of the motion picture industry, it was learned here. Dewey Anderson's meeting with justice department officials may have a definite bearing upon the Murray committee's plans to investigate alleged abuses in motion picture distribution and exhibition. It is reported here that the justice department will welcome any advice or suggestions given by the Murray committee. However, the justice department feels that its present antitrust action will in many respects cover the abuses in the complaints now in Anderson's files.

Army Signal Corps Proves That It's a Small World

This has nothing to do with motion pictures, I suppose, but it just proves that it's a small world, after all. The signal corps established a new round-the-world radio transmission record by sending a nine-word radio-teletypewrite message completely around the earth in nine and one-half seconds. It shows that if you have something to say, it won't be long before the other fellow hears about it.

Auto Registrations Show Steady Downward Trend

Recent figures compiled by the public roads administration of the Federal Works Agency reveal a steady downward trend in automobile registrations, indicating that lessened highway travel is taking its toll upon those enterprises that look to motorists for business. Registrations for 1944, in 48 states and the District of Columbia, were 25,466,331, as compared with 25,912,730 in 1943, a decrease of 446,339, or less than two per cent. However, these figures represent a decline from the all-time high of 1941, when registration showed 29,524,101 cars—with 1944's statistics showing a drop of 4,057,770, or nearly 14 per cent. Truck registrations have shown a slight increase over 1943, from 4,480,176 registered in 1943 to 4,513,340 for 1944.

Pacific War to Put Greater Strain on Transportation

In a war department announcement giving the public full details on the army's plans relating to the armed forces it will need to carry on the Pacific war, stress was laid upon the transportation problems to be faced. In emphasizing the tremendous distances to be covered to convoy troops from the European front to the Pacific, it was stated that the transportation problems involved would cause even greater hardships on the home front. More and more carriers would be needed to bring men and material quickly and effectively to the Pacific front with the result that the government may find it necessary to impose greater restrictions upon travel than have heretofore existed.

Surplus Property Control Gives Wallace an Added Importance

The transfer of the Office of Surplus Property to the department of commerce will give Secretary Henry A. Wallace even greater importance in the postwar era to all of the nation's many industries. Filmdom's interest in surplus property is heightened by the fact that as the war progresses to a successful conclusion, more and more equipment needed by theatres will become available. The proper handling of the disposition of this material will spell the difference between theatres operating on usable equipment or stumbling along on makeshifts until reconversion will make it possible for manufacturers to fulfill every civilian request.

Wallace's previous record as secretary of agriculture leads to the belief that his interest in the disposal of war surpluses will be centered upon helping the little fellow, rather than the diversion of such supplies to the large consumer.

While there will be no significant changes in the personnel of the regional and field offices of the surplus property division, the appointment of William S. Bradley of Dallas, Tex., as "assistant to the secretary" in charge of surplus property, indicates that the disposal of such material will be expedited in every way. A. U. Fox remains as director of the OSP, but it is expected that Bradley's duties will be designed to bring about a closer coordination between Fox and Secretary Wallace.

At Last, a Break for Stars! Sun Glasses Now Available

Those Hollywood personalities who deem it a part of living to shroud their orbs behind darkened glasses may breathe a sigh of relief. The WPB has decided that sunglass manufacturers may use some critical materials in the manufacture of these eyeblinders. Thus, the starry-eyed beauty of film stars may continue to be shielded from the gaze of the mere public who might thus be overcome by the sight of a screen luminary's naked eyes.

I've Heard:

The raw film shortage is making itself felt among the little guys who have been catering to the "art theatre" business;

That steel shortages are getting worse, instead of better, and a lot of major industries, including motion pictures, are going to be hit hard;

That some government officials are thinking it would be a good idea if film theatres showed the recent horror newsreels regularly every Pearl Harbor Day as a reminder to the public that fascism is the world's greatest curse.



SPENCER TRACY
He walked in his sleep



KATHARINE HEPBURN
She was a bashful bride


WITHOUT
LOVE
A PLAY BY


CLOSE-UP OF YOUR AUDIENCE
WHEN YOU PLAY
SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
M·G·M's "Without Love"
Coming to your theatre from its long and happy
World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall, New York.
LUCILLE BALL · KEENAN WYNN · CARL ESMOND
PATRICIA MORISON · FELIX BRESSART
Screen Play by Donald Ogden Stewart · Based on the Play by Philip Barry
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture · Directed by HAROLD S. BUCQUET
Produced by LAWRENCE A. WEINGARTEN
21st YEAR OF LEADERSHIP
MGM
With All
Your Might!
MIGHTY
7TH WAR LOAN!

'Twas Unofficial, But It Was V-E, No Foolin'

(Continued from page 10)

windows. Then the weather man stepped in. A cold east wind loaded with rain swept in from the ocean at 12:30. The crowds began to disappear.

Theatres became jammed to capacity. Traffic was barred from Seventh Ave. and Broadway again. The weary police, military police and shore patrols stood around disconsolately in doorways, but traffic was still rerouted, because they knew that a sudden break in the weather would bring on another avalanche of humans.

The break came shortly before 3 o'clock. From then on everybody tried to go some place. Gus Eyssell, managing director of the Music Hall, will long remember the day. He had squads of police ranging from captains down trying to control his quadruple line all the way around the building. At the Broadway houses there was no space for lines. Theatres all over the metropolitan area reported they were bulging at the seams.

Some bars in the midtown area ran out of refreshments—also able bodied bartenders. The side street cafes took in the overflow. Curiously, 52nd Street, where every other building is a night club, was completely quiet. This is an expensive area, and the free-spenders seem to have had other places to go.

Few people can stand two New Year's celebrations in 48 hours, and it seemed to be the same with VE observances.

Columbia had sealed Community Sing reels in many theatres and ready for quick shipment from exchanges. The WAC VE-Day sealed instruction kit was in all houses, but most houses continued with their regular programs and waited for the promised special newsreels.

All home offices of film companies and all exchanges were open Tuesday with few absentees reported.

Utah Celebration Calm

SALT LAKE CITY—In Salt Lake and throughout the state, theatres generally remained open on VE-Day, Tuesday, and also on the "unofficial" day preceding it, Monday. There were no disturbances.

Sell Bonds Over Texas

DALLAS—Theatres in Dallas and generally over Texas were well prepared for VE-Day. The big circuits offered the choice of any seat in the house for the purchase of an E bond. Theatre owners dreaded the advent of VE-Day. They were agreeably surprised, as everyone was noticeably calm.

Quiet at Hartford

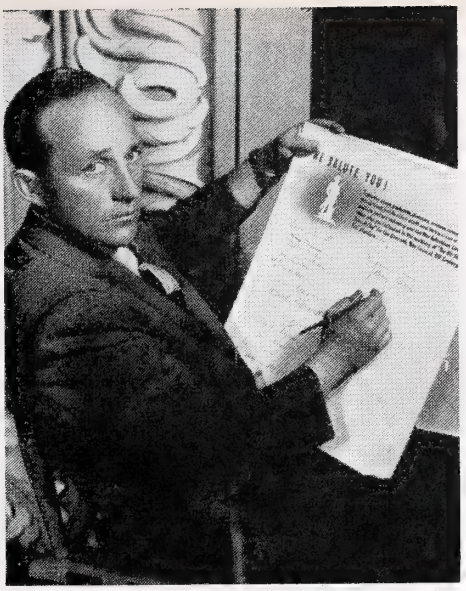
HARTFORD — The "official" VE-Day brought little of the tumultuous celebration that had been expected. There was hardly a ripple of excitement. Liquor places were closed, but there was no rowdyism.

St. Louis Boxoffices Decline

ST. LOUIS—Many thousands here went to church instead of the pictures. There was a dignified calmness. Theatre grosses Tuesday did not equal those of an average Sunday. In fact, the edge was taken off the celebration by the premature Victory report of April 28.

Kansas City Quiet

KANSAS CITY—Kaycee's downtown houses throughout VE-Day on Tuesday reported business only a little better than normal. Stores were closed; saloons and taverns generally stayed open. Over the territory, practices varied. At Salina, Kas., the mayor proclaimed Monday as VE-Day; however, this was unusual. The Griffith circuit over their various towns offered all facilities for VE-Day, and in some instances the screen programs were set aside in favor of community celebrations.



SALUTE TO AUDIENCES — Bing Crosby, one of the all-star cast of "All-Star Bond Rally," the 19-minute Seventh War Loan film, signs a certificate in which the cast and makers of the film salute America's audiences.

Orderly at Columbus

COLUMBUS, OHIO—Theatre owners, expected riotous celebrations on VE-Day, instead found orderly, sober crowds. Schools and stores were closed, but war plants went on as usual.

No Disorder at Boston

BOSTON—Beginning Monday and lasting through Tuesday, a few desultory attempts at boisterous celebrations were made, but in the main the theatres did a capacity business with little or no disorder. Mayor Kerrigan called a midday prayer meeting on Monday for historic Boston Common. War plants and the navy yard stayed open as usual.

Heavy Business at Detroit

DETROIT — Theatre business picked up heavily over greater Detroit on Tuesday, and some houses went to regular holiday prices. The brownout's ending helped to draw thousands into the theatres, but downtown crowds were not particularly heavy. All bars were closed for 24 hours. There was no disorder.

Up Only Slightly at Denver

DENVER—Theatre business was up only slightly on Monday and Tuesday. The edge was taken off the celebrations by the larger stores closing Monday and the smaller establishments on Tuesday.

Atlanta: "Just Another Day"

ATLANTA—Victory in Europe meant just another day in Georgia's chief city. Theatres and stores remained open. Governor Arnall said there will be no celebration "until the Japs are licked."

Cleveland's Just Waiting

CLEVELAND—Tuesday was a quiet day in Cleveland. All downtown theatres played to capacity business. Department stores were closed. This city is awaiting VJ-Day before staging any real celebrations.

Some Hope for Upping Raw Stock Allocations

WASHINGTON—VE-Day will bring about no increase in raw film stock allocations, although the WPB is "keeping its fingers crossed" and hopes for a lessening of restrictions, according to Stanley B. Adams, chief, consumers durable goods division, in an exclusive interview with BOXOFFICE. Adams stated he has been holding a series of regular discussions with George Schaefer, WAC liaison for the film industry, with respect to raw stock allocations for the third quarter and that an industry committee meeting, now set for June 7, will have complete figures ready then.

In discussing the status of a reported British board of trade request to the Hays office that the British companies be allocated 20,000,000 feet of film for American print distribution of London-made films, Adams insisted that he has not been advised of this request by Schaefer. When it was stated that this report was designed to aid J. Arthur Rank obtain extra stock for the American distribution of Rank's productions, Adams stated that the WPB has no intention of permitting any company to increase its activities 400 to 500 per cent during wartime."

Rank Seeks Additional Footage

It was revealed that on the basis of previous distribution, the Rank Enterprises can secure raw stock allowing for the American showing of only two films a year. It was stated that Rank seeks sufficient footage for prints to cover the American distribution of five or six features this year.

Questioned as to the possibility that Rank might confer with him on the raw stock situation, Adams insisted that that "hardly would be likely." It was reported here, however, that Rank is expected in Washington where he would discuss the raw stock situation in an effort to "force the WPB's hand" by diverting some 15,000,000 feet of film away from American distributors in England who now need this raw stock for prints intended for European distribution. Questioned about this report, Adams refused to comment.

Insofar as rumors concerning third quarter allocations are concerned, Adams stated that he cannot discuss definite figures as yet. He did admit that he has hopes for an increase in raw stock, but insisted that this increase would not be possible for several months.

Newsreels Rush Special Material on VE-Day

NEW YORK — Newsreel companies were prepared for the VE-Day announcement when it came officially at 9 a. m. on Tuesday.

Paramount, Pathe, Universal, News of the Day and Fox Movietone had library material ready for VE reels. All said they were using a general background history of the European war.

Universal planned to use shots of the crowds of celebrants which thronged Times Square on Monday when first news of victory was received.

All of the newsreel companies held up the distribution of the special VE reels until films of President Truman's speech were ready. The films were sent out late Tuesday night. Movietone had its reel out by midafternoon for Manhattan release.

Bond Trees to Grow in Brooklyn

NEW YORK—Barometers with the slogan "The Bond Tree Grows in Brooklyn" will be attached to trees in ten central Brooklyn points, and theatre patrons will be asked to buy bonds, to keep them growing.


All-embracing records in spot after spot - first 20 engagement
That Lubitsch Touch
is a Wonderful Box-Office Sensation!
Watch

the comedy that's scandalous as a peek thru a key-hole!

TALLULAH
BANKHEAD · CHARLES COBURN · ANNE BAXTER · WILLIAM EYTHE

ERNST LUBITSCH'S

A ROYAL Scandal

with VINCENT PRICE

Mischa Auer • Sig Ruman • Vladimir Sokoloff • Mikhail Rasumny

Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Produced by ERNST LUBITSCH

Screen Play by Edwin Justus Mayer • Adapted by Bruno Frank • From a Play by Lajos Biro and Melchior Lengyel



ures from "Billy Rose's DIAMOND HORSESHOE" in Technicolor — from hit-topping



Century-Fox

PICTURES HAVE SPECIAL VALUE IN EDUCATION, SAYS BROOKER

Will Enable Them to Get Wide Acceptance, If Fully Understood

By FLOYDE E. BROOKER

NEW YORK — Publicity alone will not cause any acceleration in the acceptance by American education of films after the war. Films have something very definite and very unique to contribute to education to make it richer, more effective and more efficient. If films did not possess this potential contribution they would not have been as widely or as successfully as they have been in wartime training.

It is this unique contribution that films can make to education which in time will enable them to achive a wider acceptance as instruments of instruction. This contribution is the potential that in terms of the problems facing public education will support the publicity that has and will undoubtedly be given them in the future. Certainly an understanding of this contribution is essential to anyone hoping to assay future developments.

Potential Value to Education

Briefly, this potential contribution may be summarized as follows:

1. The ability of films to expand the scope of the senses, bringing events and happenings from the "there and then" into the "here and now" and providing a new mastery over time and space; showing developments that happen too fast or too slow for human discernment, and finally, through animation, depicting things that otherwise could not be seen.

2. The ability of films to establish patterns of relationships, and better than printed material, to explain the intricate relationships that constitute the framework of life in our modern world.

3. To provide an "experience" so real as to serve as the raw material for learning and yet so controlled as to constitute a better and more effective learning tool than the usual experience that can be provided individuals.

In terms of the instructor, assuming a greater abundance of titles than now exists, films make it possible to take students beyond the classroom to all parts of the world, over all history, in order to find the experiences that will most effectively and most efficiently produce the results desired. For the student, education becomes a more interesting, objective and stimulating affair. One of the greatest weaknesses of our contemporary schools is that before he enters school, the child learns all he knows through all his senses and through living life in his world. As soon as he enters school, almost all of his learning is supposed to take place through words. Most adults will stop and watch a steamshovel at work on an excavation; education should be more interesting. With films it can be.

Will Revolutionize Education

In the long run the full utilization of motion pictures in education will bring about a revolution in education. It is no more possible to predict the details of that revolution than it would have been possible in 1908 to predict the ways in which the automobile would eventually change our lives. Certainly the changes that films will make in education will be just as revolutionary and just as far reaching if not as dramatic. Some of the main features of the change possible through the wider use of films can only be indicated here.

First, it will be possible to shift many subjects down lower in the grades, since many subjects difficult verbally are not nearly so difficult pictorially. This may make it possible to shift many fact and informational subjects into the lower grades, leaving the time of the older and so more mature student available for a better development in the judgmental and appreciational aspects of life.

Second, films are without equal in their ability to develop attitudes. So far as public education has gone, the emotional objectives of education have been largely untouched simply because the school possessed no method for providing education of the emotions.

Third, the greater efficiency of film instruction should make it possible for the mass of people to possess a broader base of education than is now possible. It should be possible for the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker to know more of health, of engineering and of foreign relations in order that our democracy can grow as a democracy.

Current Problems in Education

All of these potential contributions take on new importance when we consider the problems that face public education today. The most important of these problems is the necessity for teaching more. The adult today simply needs to know more than the adult 50 years ago. For one thing, the war has developed new needs of technical information to keep abreast of technical advancements, and who is not amazed at the geography we are driven to learn as a result of the war communiques? Educators with each new advance of information cannot go on forever lengthening the school life of children. Some more efficient way of educating must be found, and it is suggested here that the motion picture eventually will provide a most important solution to that problem.

Let's put it another way. As a direct result of the war, most adults are behind the times of their education. Konshu, radar, robomb—each stimulates us to seek new knowledge. Our soldiers are to be found fighting on every continent of the globe and "where they ain't they're fightin' to git." They and we who read of their activities find ourselves poorly prepared to understand the Persians, the Chinese and other peoples.

Militarily, technically, economically, the "one world" of the peace conference is already here. Educationally we are not prepared to act as citizens of that "one world." We know too much about the ancient Greeks, too little about the present Chinese. Perhaps motion pictures may constitute the first real international media of communication since the loss of Latin as an international language. Common necessity may put the Chinese soldier shoulder-to-shoulder with the doughboy, but can peacetime keep them there unless we know more about each other? It may well be that the greatest test of the motion picture and of us will be our ability and willingness to use it to develop this international understanding in time.

Anyone who has watched the rising curves of mental illness will see here that if modern man needs trained muscles and nerves he also needs trained emotions. How much longer can we as a civilization survive with this side of human nature "just growing up?" If the boy needs the multiplication table in order to be a business man, he needs other training in order to withstand the nervous wear and tear of business as well. Here again films can do much, if they are given the chance.

Factors in Use Important

The factors governing the educational use of motion pictures are important but they do not constitute the entire story. The increased use of films by education is but one phase of a much larger picture.

In the broadest possible sense, pictures are coming of age as a language, a media of communication. Anyone who has anything to say to others, will in the future far more than in the past have two media of communication to select from, pictures or words, or some combination. In a world that has tried to make words convey adequately all aspects of existence, that has seen radio stations capable of sending words around the world only to have the flow of words stopped by language differences, that has seen the meaning of words so warped by nationalistic propagandists that the meaning of some words is bankrupt, in that world the advantages of pictures as a way of saying things are obvious and dramatic.

Implications for the Future

The large audiences of today are picture audiences. From the cartoon books of childhood, through the large circulation picture magazines, to the motion picture shown in all the countries of the world, the trend is toward pictures. This trend is constantly increasing the use of pictures and as their use increases, the differentation of kinds of pictures is taking place. New techniques of depicting maps, new kind of charts—are but a couple of these differentations and developments. Television is but another step to

Second in Series of 3 Articles on Subject

New York—In the first of a series of three articles, Floyde E. Brooker, director of the division of visual aids for army training, U.S. Office of Education, discussed the tremendous growth in the use of educational films since the war began, occasioned by the immediate needs of the great war production program and the equally immediate needs of training our armed forces. He also made a broad survey of the prewar status of educational films in the nation's schools.

In the accompanying article, Brooker discusses the potential contributions of films to education, exploring the possibility that "the full utilization of motion pictures (in education) will bring about a revolution in education." The author treats some of the factors most likely to promote the wider acceptance of films for educational use, and then considers some of the implications for the future.

Films' Ability to Expand Scope of the Senses Figure in Success

permit the complete mastery of time and space by pictorial communication.

All of these trends in general mean that the use and the scope of pictures in all forms will be expanded and increased. As this happens, more sharply defined differentations in the kinds and types of pictures may be expected to develop. Because motion pictures are the most complete as well as the most complex form of communication through pictures, all the trends indicated here will apply to motion pictures with added force. The differentiations into types and kinds of pictures may or may not extend to all phases of production, distribution, exhibition and use of these pictures. Whether or not these differentiations do or do not extend will depend upon the policies of present day established and experienced producing companies and exhibitors and upon the essential character of motion pictures. This last is not yet wholly clear.

We may gain some clues from noting the development that communication through words has undergone. In words we have prose and poetry and these differentiations are further broken down into narration, exposition, description and argumentation. There are further refinements into ballads, epics, odes, sonnets and drama. Pictures may be expected to have a somewhat similar development.

Work of the Printer Differs

In communication through words the work of the printer was early differentiated from the work of the writer, and although we may expect the same printer to print both love novels and chemistry texts, we do not expect the same of authors. Whether or not the same production crew can make successful entertainment, documentary, educational, propaganda and advertising pictures remains to be seen. Already, however, there are pressures at work for the development of specialization in production and exhibition paralleling roughly the variation in types of motion pictures.

Whether or not the specialization in production takes place, the more complete development of different types of pictures will have important implications. Thus far the term "motion pictures" has been synonymous with "entertainment" and the theatre. We may expect the name of the media of expression to become divorced from the purpose which the message carried by that media serves. Never again will the sentence, "I saw a movie last evening" have the completeness of meaning it now possesses.

What are the implications for all these trends for educational films? In the general trend towards a greater and more complete use of pictures and the development of different types of pictures, the more complete development of educational motion pictures is likely to become one of the first general differentations. They are likely to lead the field in the more complete development of motion picture as a media of expression.

Now, as to the relative position of the growing educational film industry and the entertainment film industry, it is apparent that that subject is one for extensive comment, so we will take this matter up in a forthcoming article.

Hopes Films Will Be Used In Enemy Areas After War

WASHINGTON—Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., called on President Truman and offered him "any help the industry can give."

Afterward he reported President Truman believes motion pictures can "assist in developing human beings out of barbarians." Warner expressed the hope motion pictures would be used in enemy countries after the war.



LIKE HISTORY REPEATING—George K. Spoor, retired, pioneer motion picture producer and former head of the Essanay Studios, receives one of the first bond pledges in the industry's Seventh War Loan drive from Curley Bradley, who portrays the role of Tom Mix over a coast-to-coast radio program. It was a little over 27 years ago that Spoor played the same role as a bondseller in signing the real Tom Mix in one of the Liberty Loan campaigns.

Ascap Gets a Decision Over BMI and Marks

NEW YORK—The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is the sole owner of public performance rights of songs written by its members, N. Y. Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora has ruled. This decision was made in a suit brought by Broadcast Music, Inc., and the Edward B. Marks Music Corp. against Deems Taylor, as president of Ascap, and Bud Green, Jesse Greer, J. Rosamond Johnson, Lew Pollock and Tot Seymour, songwriters.

The litigation sought a judgment to declare the plaintiffs owners of the performing rights over radio and other media of three songs written by Ascap members. The Marks firm, publisher of the numbers, transferred the performing rights to BMI. Ascap contended the performing rights of songs penned by its members were vested in it and could not be transferred.

Justice Pecora in his decision declared a joint venture existed, into which the composers placed their songs and the publishers their copyrights, with Ascap having sole power to issue performing rights.

BMI and the Marks organization declared they would appeal from Justice Pecora's decision, but added that the ruling would not deprive broadcasters or other users of performing rights in works now being licensed by BMI.

Philco Will Bring Together All Telecasting Activities

NEW YORK—Formation of the television broadcasting division of the Philco Radio and Television Corp., to bring together all Philco telecasting activities, was reported by John Ballantyne, president. Ernest B. Loveman has been named vice-president in charge of the division.

"Television has now advanced to the point where it is ready to go ahead on a commercial basis at the end of the war," Ballantyne told company stockholders at the annual meeting.

Mexico Is Promised Some New Equipment

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—Two well-known stars of filmdom had slight accidents this week, which fortunately were not serious. Beautiful Esther Fernandez was walking down town, after the earthquake we had last week, and a canopy happened to fall down just when she was passing. Slight scratches resulted, but nothing serious except from the terrible fright the star of "Santa" had. Hugo del Carril, the Argentine visitor, was supposed to make a personal appearance in the City of Guadalajara, but the car in which he was riding was in an accident and he could not make it.

Cantinflas Off to Hollywood

The great Cantinflas after several weeks finally finished "Six Days With the Devil," the title of the next Poza production, "Seis Dias Con el Diablo," and is packing up to make "The Magnificent Tramp" in Hollywood. This picture is sure to be dubbed in Spanish since the studio would have the advantage of Cantinflas' own inimitable voice to work on. Among Cantinflas' activities his preferred sport is bullfighting, which he does in his own special comic way, but quite effective, if the dead bulls could testify, so, to celebrate next Labor Day, which in Mexico is always May 1, he played in a big bullfight with other artists and newspaper men

Sound Engineer Randall left in a flagship for New York, promising to have soon a real surprise for the Mexican industry. It is rumored that this will consist of up-to-date equipment, which is badly needed in several items.

Rodriguez Bros. started production of their new picture, "Los Padres de la Criatura," comedy starring cute little Evita Munoz, la Chachita. It has a modest cast, with good artists with good story and music. Amelia Wilhelmy, well-known comedienne, will sing "Chibiribibi" in burlesque fashion. Ismael, the younger of the Rodriguez clan, is directing.

Paco Miller, with the well-known Don Roque (the Mexican Charlie McCarthy), is closing his show at the Iris Theatre. Among the members of his company, besides the great Carmen Amaya and her troupe, we had the pleasure of hearing again Elizabeth Waldo, who also played her wonderful violin in Fitzpatrick's Cancion de Mexico at that time on the beautiful stage of the Palacio de Bellas Artes. The great madame of the stage, our beloved Esperanza Iris, with her husband, Baritone Paco Sierra, told us goodby as they are leaving for a South American tour. They will be the best goodwill ambassadors we could have. Perhaps on her return she will again appear in pictures. Her two productions, "Mater Nostra" and "Noches de Gloria," were two real hits.

Mexican Films at the A Houses

Mexican-made pictures are again appearing at local A houses, with a bigger percentage than other makes. At Class A houses, only the Metropolitan is showing M-G-M's latest Spanish-dubbed "El Regreso de Aquel Hombre" with Myrna Loy and William Powell. The Palacio Chino will show RKO's "Noche en Alma," with Hedy Lamarr, George Brent and Paul Lukas, as already recorded here. The Teresa will show Republic's "Brazil," with Tito Guizar starring. On the other hand, "Los Tres Caballeros" is in its eighth week at the Orfeon, a B house. Argentine pictures are running a close second to Mexican pictures at local houses.

Olimpia will show a 100 per cent English dialog, Universal's "Persecucion," "The Suspect" to you, starring Charles Laughton and Ella Raines.



SPEED TOTAL VICTORY! THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

E 'Ritin' ABOUT BOXOFFICE 'Rithmetic!

—AND IT ADDS UP TO A

Terrific Performance Story

SMASH!

BILLY ROSE'S **DIAMOND HORSESHOE** IN TECHNICOLOR

LUSTY!

ERNST LUBITSCH'S **A ROYAL SCANDAL**

SOCKO!

BETTY SMITH'S **A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN**

HELD OVER!

MARY O'HARA'S **THUNDERHEAD** **SON OF FLICKA** IN TECHNICOLOR

STURDY!

FRANZ WERFEL'S **THE SONG OF BERNADETTE**

EADLINERS

ARE ALWAYS FROM 20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Show Business "Father" Dies

MINNEAPOLIS—Death came to "the father of the show business of the northwest" the other day. Theodore L. Hays, who managed two theatres in nearby St. Paul when he was only 19 and in his later years was director of labor relations and real estate departments of the Minnesota Amusement Co., died at his home here at the age of 78.

Tycoon Rank Due at Toronto

TORONTO—Scheduled to arrive here late next week (18) is British Tycoon J. Arthur Rank, whose postwar program (already well under way) is, in the words of various associates, to dominate the world film trade. Tycoon Rank tied in with Paul Nathanson—Odeon Theatres of Canada and Empire-Universal Films—last year and his second visit has to do with expansion of the Odeon circuit and wider distribution of his British films in the Dominion.

While here Rank will attend the ceremonies formally inaugurating the Odeon Cinema Clubs of Canada, an organization of boys and girls similar to his pet British project which now numbers some 200,000 young Britons.

18 Years in Theatres, She Weds

KANSAS CITY—Nellie Doyle Young, assistant manager and treasurer of the Newman here, will retire from the theatre business after 18 continuous years in positions ranging from cashier upward and change to housewife duties. But she will not sever her theatrical connections entirely, for recently she married John H. Morgan, projectionist at the Midland, a short way down the street from the Newman.

Majority Favor the Curfew

MINNEAPOLIS — Citizens of the Gopher State wholeheartedly approve of the midnight curfew regulation from Washington. A poll conducted by the Star Journal-Tribune, the leading local dailies, reported the young people, the class least in favor of the ban, still approved the practice by 74 per cent. Rural communities favored midnight closing more than city folk.

Saddle Mare to Patrons

QUINTER, KAS.—Wes Bolen, operator of the Goveland Theatre here, arranged to permit his patrons to participate in his annual horse sale. Of course, he managed it so their participation would tie in with his showing of "Heavenly Days."

Bolen selected one of the American Saddle breed of horses as a prize for one of the persons attending the show. The winner was announced at the final performance of "Heavenly Days." The prize was a mare sired by Chimes of Indian Hill, one of the best American Saddlers in the country, horsemen say.

His Secretary Now Manager

New Haven—Ruth Bolton, who started in the show business at Loew's State in Syracuse, N. Y., as secretary to Harry F. Shaw, is the new manager of the Loew Poli College Theatre here. Her appointment came from her old office boss, Shaw, who is the Loew Poli New England division manager.

Tom Norman's Long Memories

PALATINE, ILL.—When old-timers get together and start reminiscing, Tom Norman, owner of the Pal here, can extend his memories about as far back as any. Tom's memories go back to 1903-04 when he was the operator of a storeroom nickelodeon at Lincoln and Wainwright avenues in Chicago. Among other events he can recall a vacation he spent in Miami nearly 25 years ago with I. Lesserman and Joe Laemmle.

Cliff Miller Killed in Car

TOPEKA—Clifford L. Miller, owner of the Eskridge Theatre in a nearby town by that name, was driving to his home here the other night when his car hurtled a bridge and rolled into a creek. Exhibitor Miller was fatally injured.

Father of Bob Shelton Dies

KANSAS CITY—The Rev. R. M. Shelton, father of Bob Shelton, division manager for the Commonwealth circuit, was killed when struck by a motor car in suburban Independence. He was a retired minister.

SMPE Parley at Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—Topics such as television vs. motion picture practices, prefabricated theatres and 16mm production will be discussed at the 57th semiannual technical conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers next week. Meetings will be at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel and Disney studio.

More Shows for Soldier Boys

HOLLYWOOD — Schedules for European tours by filmdom's actors and actresses were stepped up following requests from the war department for increased entertainment to maintain the soldier boys' morale following the cessation of hostilities. Renewed calls have gone out for celebrities of the screen, state and radio to sign up with USO-Camp Shows.

"Horizontal" Salesman Scores

OMAHA—Confined to his home by an operation that will keep him inactive for a month or more, E. I. Rubin, Paramount salesman who also is chief barker of the Variety Club here, did not drop his road duties.

He sent letters to a number of exhibitors in the territory, telling them he was "horizontal" and that he would appreciate it if they would send back the enclosed contract signed. Out of the first ten letters Rubin got back eight signed contracts.

His district manager quipped: "Better keep him horizontal."

Women vs. Men Managers

DETROIT—United Detroit Theatres has arranged a war bond selling contest among managers, but the "best man" may not win it. The contest will be between the women managers of the circuit and the male dittoes.

Sees First Film at 45, A Steady Patron Now

Bloomsburg, Pa.—Charles Parrish, manager of the Columbia, welcomed Ray Greasy, 45, to his first appearance at a motion picture theatre when Lum and Abner played the house. Asked why he never had indulged in the relaxation of the cinema, Greasy replied that he just felt he wouldn't like them. His attitude has changed. Greasy now is an enthusiastic, follower of every and all films shown at the Columbia.

RKO May Produce Two Plays, Dozier Declares

NEW YORK—RKO is currently dickering with several Broadway producers, all of whom are eager to put on a stage version of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," a forthcoming musical starring Ray Bolger. Waldo Salt, Hollywood scenarist whose script for M-G-M's "Shopworn Angel" brought him forward as an Academy award contender, has done a screenplay on the Washington Irving original. He may possibly adapt it to the stage, according to William Dozier, executive assistant to Charles Koerner, vice-president in charge of production, and head of RKO studios.

The company's decision to produce a stage version of the song-and-dance vehicle for Bolger is a result of RKO's success with a similar enterprise recently, Dozier told a BOXOFFICE reporter on his arrival from the coast this week. Prior to filming "Mama's Bank Account," a property in which it had great faith, RKO heeded the request of Rodgers and Hammerstein to let them produce it on Broadway. As a result of the success of the stage version, RKO abandoned its original budget, scrapped its production plans and now looks forward to having a picture of increased drawing power.

While here Dozier will wind up another Broadway deal, a stage version of "Anything Can Happen," nonfiction best-seller by George and Helen Papashvily, purchased by RKO several months ago. As with "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," several well-known theatrical producers are eager to make a stage version of "Anything Can Happen" and are now negotiating with RKO.

Luncheon for Gershwin

NEW YORK — Paul Whiteman, Walter Damrosch, Richard Rodgers, Morton Gould, Benny Goodman and other outstanding figures in the music world will attend a luncheon for George Gershwin next Tuesday. Big doings are planned in connection with the premiere of "Rhapsody in Blue" next month.

Off for the Coast

NEW YORK—Ben Kalmenson and Mort Blumenstock left Thursday for a series of conferences at the west coast studio with Jack L. Warner and Charles Einfeld on releases for the remainder of the season, stopping off in Chicago to discuss local sales problems.

To Reopen Burma Office

NEW YORK—S. Ganguili, Paramount general sales manager in India, Burma and Ceylon, is on the way here, principally to discuss reopening of the Burma office as a result of the freeing of Rangoon.

Award to Jack Warner

NEW YORK—On behalf of the Chinese people, Mme. Chiang Kai-shek presented a citation to Jack L. Warner for his humanitarian activities in her country, with "God Is My Co-Pilot" specifically mentioned.

Moore Is Wilk's Aide

NEW YORK—Don Moore, former associate editor of Cosmopolitan, has been named assistant to Jacob Wilk, eastern story editor and talent head of Warners.

M-G-M Sets Tradeshow

NEW YORK—"Twice Blessed," M-G-M production with Preston Foster, Gail Patrick and the Wilde Twins, will be tradeshown in all exchanges May 29.



"THE FLAME"

JOHN WAYNE

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Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

VE-Day Was Just Normal Stanza At Hollywood's Film Foundries

VE-Day was just another work day in the life of the film foundries. Operations were as close to normal as was permitted by the studio strike and the news that hostilities in Europe has finally been declared officially ended.

In compliance with President Harry S. Truman's request that there be no celebrations nor let-up in work on VE-Day, the Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers announced that all major studios would continue operation without regard to Germany's collapse. Independent companies adopted the same policy.

"As a war-essential industry, it is our plain duty to go ahead without interruption now that the news of victory in Europe is confirmed," said the producers' announcement. "If we pause a moment for thanksgiving, it will be only to go back to our jobs with the realization that there still is a long and costly war to be won."

Leo McCarthy Appointed by Fromkess As Associate Producer on PRC Lot

Leo J. McCarthy, former general sales manager of PRC and recently transferred to the studio, has been appointed an associate producer by Leon Fromkess, president, and will head a unit which will produce a series of pictures for the 1945-46 schedule. First three stories, "The Devil Bat's Daughter," "Strangler of Paris," and "The Lost Atlantis," now are in preparation.

Bob Hope Signed by Paramount On Exclusive 7-Year Contract

Bob Hope's screen clowning will be under the aegis of Paramount for the next seven years. Before taking off for New York, Henry Ginsberg, chief of the Marathon Street lot, signed the comedian to an exclusive contract for that period of time. Hope's first under the new deal will be "The Road to Utopia," in which again he will appear with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour, the other two members of the trio which has starred in the well-known "Road" series.

Hedy Lamarr Signed to Star In "Strange Woman" for UA

Answered is the question as to what will be Hedy Lamarr's initial appearance following her ankling the Metro lot where she had been under contract for many years. The sultry star has been signed to star in "Strange Woman," screen version of the Ben Ames Williams novel, which Hunt Stromberg will produce for United Artists, with Jack Chertok, recently resigned from a producership at Warners, as co-producer. Plans are to photograph the picture in Technicolor with a starting date tentatively set for October.

Musical Extravaganza to Be Produced Annually by PRC

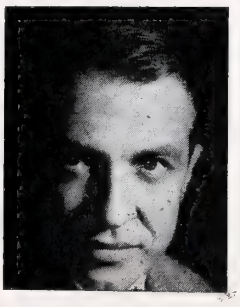
PRC has announced plans for the production of an outstanding extravaganza to feature name entertainers and outstanding musical organizations, following the purchase of an original libretto from Arthur Sávage. The initial production of the series, titled "Music Hall Varieties of 1946," is planned as one of the company's top productions for the 1945-46 season.

Republic Is Planning to Pursue The Horror Package Deal Idea

Republic plans to pursue the horror package deal idea. Currently the company has in release a dual chiller program, "The Phantom Speaks" and "The Vampire's Ghost." As another double dose of goose pimples and to be released together, William O. Sullivan has been assigned to supervise the production of "Valley of the Zombies" and "Catmen of Paris."

Unprecedented 15-Year Pact Signed by WB With Blanke

Following widely-printed rumors that Henry Blanke was to leave the Warner producer roster at the termination of his contract, Jack Warner has announced that Blanke, a veteran at the Burbank studio, has been signed to a precedent-establishing new pact. Blanke has gone on the dotted line to stay on the job 15 more years, which would bring the total length of his service with the Frere Warner to 37 years, an all-time record for producer-studio relationship.



HENRY BLANKE

Blanke, according to Warner, already has the following productions in preparation for the cameras: "The Fountainhead," "Ethan Frome," "Cry Wolf," "Escape Me Never," "Autumn Crocus," "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" and "Monsieur Lamberthier."

Ellingwood Kay, formerly of Good Housekeeping magazine and more recently assistant to Jacob Wilk, eastern story editor for Warners, has been shifted from the New York office to a post in the story department at the Burbank studio, following the resignation of James Geller as story editor. Geller has rejoined the talent agency with which he was affiliated before becoming associated with Warner . . . Jonie Taps has been hired to head a new department of Columbia as executive director of sales and exploitation of music.

Action Pictures Latest In Independent Field

Hollywood—Action Pictures is the name under which will operate the latest independent production company to debut on the Hollywood horizon. Heading Action is Max King, independent producer whose previous offerings were distributed by PRC, in which venture he was teamed with Martin Mooney as Mooney-King Productions.

Associated with King in the new company is William B. David, vice-president and general manager of the Redwood Theatres, San Francisco circuit. During its first year, four outdoor actioners will be made. They are not to be westerns in the orthodox sense. The first will deal with the Northwest Mounted Police. It will star Bob Steele, who is to be toplined in all of the quartet, and is being written by Harvey Gates.

Action will distribute through a new franchise-exchange setup, details of which are now being perfected in the east. David and his theatre associates also will be active in the distribution setup. King will function as producer on the initial four pictures.

"Johnnie Anselmo" Is Hubbard's First "New Deal" Picture at "U"

"Johnnie Anselmo," one of his own original stories, will be Lucien Hubbard's first picture for Universal under his new writer-producer deal. Story concerns a returning honorably discharged Congressional Medal of Honor winner, against a political background. Hubbard is currently writing the screenplay . . . At the same studio, Henry Blankfort was assigned to write the final screenplay of a super western, "The Daltons Ride Again" by Director-Associate Producer Ford Beebe.

Joseph Michele has been signed by Columbia to do the screenplay of "Frisco Fury," Barbary Coast yarn by Paul Burnford and Hilda Gordon that will be produced by Ted Richmond . . . Charles Martin, who is under contract to Metro has been assigned to direct his own original story, "No Leave, No Love," which Joe Pasternak will produce. It will mark Martin's debut as a director . . . Jeffrey Bernerd has been assigned as producer of Monogram's "Black Market Babies," and George Wallace Sayre has started preparation of the screenplay.

Armand L. Schaefer, Republic producer, assigned Don Brown to be associate producer on "Don't Fence Me In," the Cole Porter number which will reach the screen as a musical western. Republic purchased the title rights to "Don't Fence Me In," when it was introduced by Roy Rogers in Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" . . . Andre De Toth has taken over direction of "Young Widow," Hunt Stromberg production for United Artists, replacing William Dieterle.

Joseph Sistrom will be the producer of Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," Paramount production which originally had been assigned to the late Mark Sandrich.

Bull Movement On in Story Mart; RKO, Paramount Best Customers

RKO Radio and Paramount were the best customers of the story peddlers as Hollywood's literary property market continued the bull movement that has characterized it for the past several weeks.

The Gower St. lot acquired:

An original psychological murder story, "If This Be Known," as a forthcoming vehicle for Dick Powell. Written by Lilo Damert and Henri Aisner, film sets Jack Gross as executive producer.

"Step by Step," an unpublished mystery melodrama by George Callahan. Newcomer Lawrence Tierney will have the topline. Sid Rogell will produce.

Paramount dug into the herring barrel to purchase screen rights to a collection of 16 stories on whimiscal New York Irish characters written by John McNulty and shortly to be published by Little, Brown under the title "Third Avenue, New York." The studio already is using one of them as the basis for a Barry Fitzgerald starring picture to be called "Third Avenue." Anne Froelich is collaborating with the author on the new Fitzgerald starrer.

Other story buys included: "Checkmate for Murder," script of a Whistler air show which was purchased by Columbia and will be used as the basis of one of its series of Whistler pictures starring Richard Dix. Screen adaptation will be produced by Rudolph Flothow under the supervision of Leonard Picker . . . Twentieth Century-Fox bought "High Window," a whodunit by Jackpot-Cutting Raymond Chandler.

An idea which appears in Morton Thompson's "Joe, the Wounded Tennis Player," was purchased by Metro. In addition, the services of Thompson were secured, and he will write its adaptation for the screen. Sam Marx has been named producer of the picture, which will deal with a boy named Louis who is able to talk to horses.

PEARL

China

STARRING

RANDOLPH SCOTT
RUTH WARRICK · ELLEN DREW

WITH ANTHONY QUINN · CAROL THURSTON
RICHARD LOO



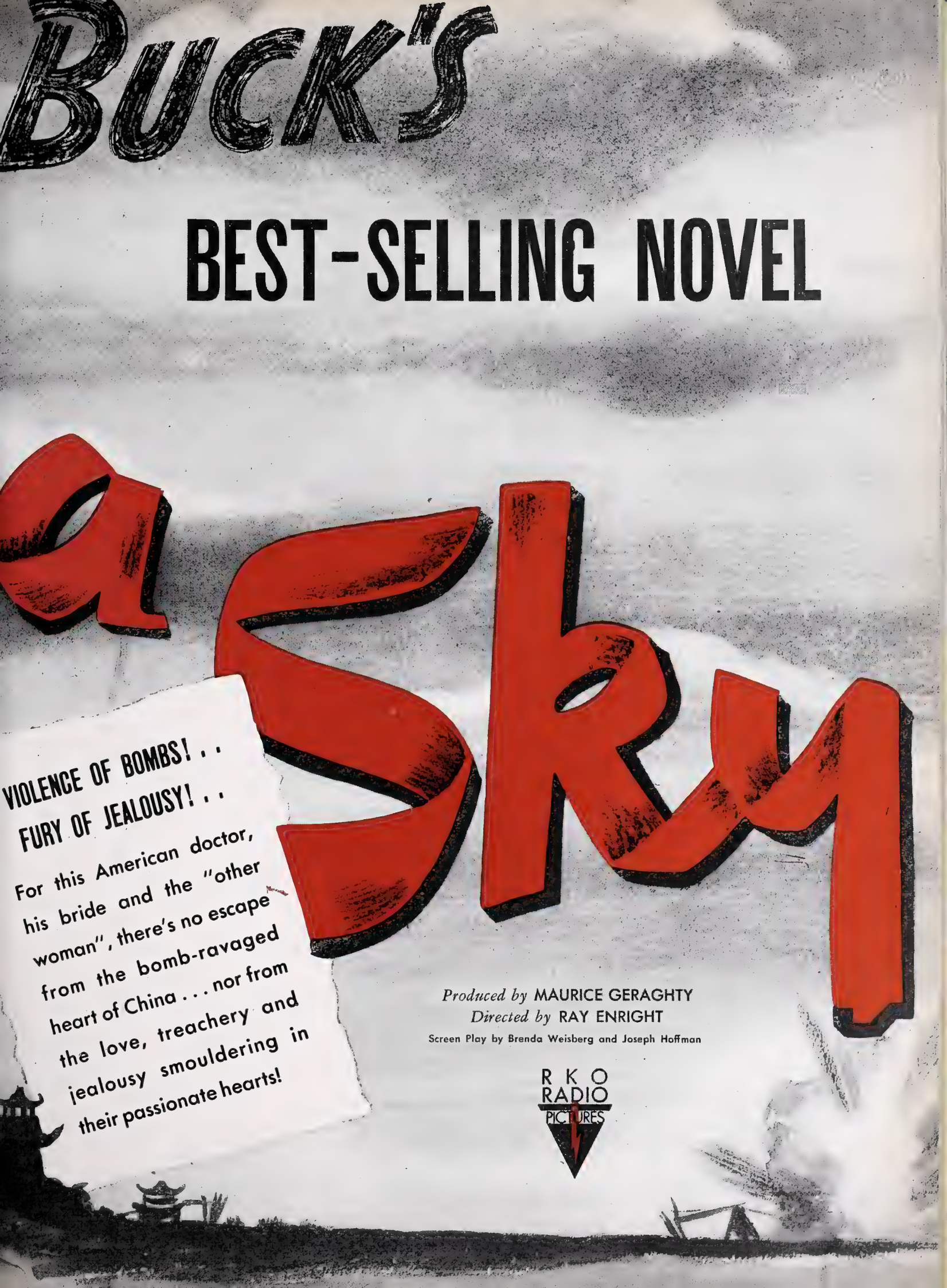
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LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN


PEARL S. BUCK'S
BEST-SELLING NOVEL
a SONG
a SKY
VIOLENCE OF BOMBS! . .
FURY OF JEALOUSY! . .
For this American doctor, his bride and the "other woman", there's no escape from the bomb-ravaged heart of China . . . nor from the love, treachery and jealousy smouldering in their passionate hearts!
Produced by MAURICE GERAGHTY
Directed by RAY ENRIGHT
Screen Play by Brenda Weisberg and Joseph Hoffman
RKO RADIO PICTURES

French Tele Makers Set for Deliveries

NEW YORK—French manufacturers are now in a position to deliver pick-up equipment, transmitters, receivers suitable for black and white high definition television and later on full color television, according to the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. In a cablegram from Guy Rabuteau, French scientist in charge of the laboratories of Le Materiel Telephonique, Paris, IT&T associate which designed and installed the world's most powerful television station in the Eiffel Tower in 1938, are given details of the French administration's plans for video.

French Broadcasting Administrator Robert Buron, speaking on behalf of Broadcasting Director Jean Guigenbert, said at a recent conference that the French government considers the public will insist on a television service having a quality comparable with that of the motion picture, and feels bound to make this available at the earliest possible moment. The broadcasting administration's plans for 1945 are to order from the various manufacturers experimental equipment, so as to be able to choose in about a year's time an up-to-date television standard.

Experiments are being made on both 750 and 1,000 line black and white images, Buron continued. Low power transmitters are being ordered to enable field tests on 1,500, 600 and 150 megacycles. Meanwhile the prewar Eiffel Tower station working on 455 lines with 30 kw. peak power is temporarily resuming operation in order to build up experience in studio technique.

Altec Reveals Retirement Pension Scheme Details

NEW YORK—Altec employes attaining the age of retirement and entitled to the benefits of the company's new pension plan will be provided with an income equal to approximately 25 per cent of their present salaries, President G. L. Carrington has informed the personnel. The plan, recently passed and approved by the board of directors and stockholders, respectively, has met with U.S. treasury department approval.

To protect employes who have devoted many years of service in the sound motion picture field but who might otherwise be unable to complete 20 years of service with Altec, approval has been obtained for the granting of credit for services rendered by those previously employed by Erpi who transferred to Altec upon its formation in December, 1937.

Altec is assuming the entire cost of the plan. Under the plan male employes are eligible for retirement at 60, female employes at 55.

M. P. Pioneers Accept 16 New Applications

NEW YORK—Applications of 16 who qualified for membership in the Motion Picture Pioneers have been approved by the executive committee. All will be formally inducted into the organization this fall. Applicants are:

Walter E. Disney, Henry Greenberger, John T. Doran, A. Julian Brylawski, Harry Lewis, Arthur H. Pelterson, Alex Schreiber, David M. Idzal, Bert L. Mendelson, Martin G. Smith, Edward R. Rowley, Abraham H. Eisenstadt, John C. Bolte, Benjamin David Cockrill, James O. Brooks and David O'Malley.

Approving the applications were the following members of the executive committee: Jack Cohn, William Brandt, Harry Buckley, Harry Brandt, Tom J. Connors, Samuel Rinzler, Hal Hode, Maurice Kann, Terry Ramsaye and Gilbert Josephson.



GOVERNOR PAYS CALL—Gov. Maurice J. Tobin of Massachusetts drops into WAC headquarters to pay his respects to Sam Pinanski, fellow Bostonian. He looked over the big Seventh War Loan poster and pledged full support from the State of Massachusetts for the industry drive.

Hope's Show to Give Bond Drive Impetus

NEW YORK—Bob Hope and a trainload of stars will give the Seventh War Loan a send-off on May 13 with a radio show from Washington. Hope and his regular troupe as well as other celebrities speaking from Hollywood and Washington will put on an hour and a half entertainment over NBC. The broadcast will be part of a three-hour show, admittance to which will be by purchase of war bonds at any theatre in the District of Columbia.

Another device of the treasury department to help the sale of war bonds during this drive is a V-Mail certificate. It is in the form of a V-Mail letter with a space for address of the service men and a drawing of a bond on its face, and space for remarks and signature by the bond purchaser. The text states: "This is another bond between us, from the folks back home." The actual bond is kept at home. All state war finance offices have supplies of this certificate and 9x13 inch posters for display.

Special 16mm prints of "The All-Star Bond Rally" are being sent around the world to be shown to navy men urging them to buy more bonds during the campaign.

103-Foot Carrier Model Is Seventh Loan Stunt

NEW YORK—A miniature aircraft carrier, probably the largest ship model ever built, has been constructed by workers of the Brooklyn Naval Yard in Rockefeller Center. The model, focus of Seventh War Loan activities, is 103 feet long with a flight deck 16 feet wide.

The carrier is to be commissioned May 14, the official opening of New York's drive. It will be known as "The Fighting Lady." Six warplanes line the flight deck—two Helldivers, an Avenger, a Hellcat and two Corsairs. All of these are modeled to precise scale. The display will remain through July 7.

Spectators may inspect the inside of the ship for the price of a war bond. Disposition of the model after the bond drive has not yet been decided.

Gamble, Fabian Urge Unity Be Continued

NEW YORK—The spirit of unity that brought about the downfall of Nazidom should prevail until the utter defeat of the Japs. These sentiments were uttered to the nation's showmen in statements issued on VE-Day by Ted R. Gamble, national director of the treasury's war finance division, and S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres' division of the WAC.

Said Gamble: "That unconditional surrender (of Germany) is a result of unity. A united nation, a world of united peoples brought this about by exerting the tremendous force that only unity can bring. Slowly we are ending the devastation, the terror, the death that the gang leaders of the Axis have brought upon the world.

"That spirit of unity must continue. With all this cheering, with all of this joy that is in our hearts please bear in mind that the defeat of Germany is two down, one to go. We have been preaching from our screens: 'Let's Fight to the Finish and Finish the Fight.' Fellows, that means us too. We must remain unified to wipe out the last enemy. We of the treasury have no doubt that the showmen of America will fight by our side in this mighty Seventh War Loan and in succeeding war loans until the last Jap is dead."

Fabian Praises Showmen

Fabian praised exhibitors for their past war efforts and urged them to rededicate themselves to the final task of victory in the Pacific.

"At this time of rejoicing, let us not forget that a tremendous task faces our country. Until the war in the Pacific ends in victory, we cannot let down in our efforts. I hope that "every exhibitor in the United States will now rededicate himself immediately and repledge his efforts to this end.

"The spirit of unity which has existed in all of our work must continue. Not only do I mean unity among the exhibitors of the United States, but unity with other branches of the industry. In this way we can accomplish the most in helping to finish the fight as quickly as possible. Let us, in all humility, thank God for the victory won and go on strongly and courageously for the final victory to come."

Release V-Day Trailers

NEW YORK—The war department's special VE-Day newsreel trailers which had been under seal in all exchanges for some time have been released to the newsreels by OWI and WAC. The first trailer titled "Don't Make Him Wait" was spliced on the current newsreels. Four other trailers will be added to newsreels later. Their titles: "For Us the Living," "Let's Have a Drink," "All Over But the Shooting" and "City Throngs Celebrate the Fall of Germany."

Moskowitz Will Head WAC; Schwartz Resigns Post

NEW YORK—Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president of Loew's, Inc., will serve as WAC chairman for the New York area. He replaces Fred Schwartz, who has resigned as chairman to take up his duties with the OWI. Schwartz has been assigned to a European post.

Sam Rinzler, who has served as co-chairman with Schwartz for several years, will continue in this capacity. At a meeting last week the committee reaffirmed its determination to function at top speed to final victory.

William White, Skouras Theatres, was chosen to take Schwartz's place on the steering subcommittee.

Republic's Campaign On "Flame" Is Huge

NEW YORK — Republic is advertising "Flame of the Barbary Coast" with full-page spreads in the May and June issues of fan and general magazines and newspapers, the total circulation of which is estimated at more than 43,000,000.

Life, Look and Liberty will carry full-page ads in their issues of May 14, 15 and 26, respectively; while the May 21 issue of Pathfinder and the May issue of Child Life complete magazine representation for this month.

Advertisements will appear in the June issues of Pic, Motion Picture, Movie Story, Screenland, Silver Screen, Movie Show, Movies, Movie Life, Movie Stars Parade, Movieland, Photoplay, Modern Screen, Screen Romances, Screen Guide, Screen Stars, Parents', and True Story.

During July, the Republic feature will be advertised by full pages in the 17 magazines of the Popular Publications Master Group.

Parade, supplement to 15 newspapers with a circulation of 2,057,962, will carry a half-page advertisement in the May 6 issue. The American Weekly, supplement to 19 newspapers with a circulation estimated at 7,500,000, will carry a five-column advertisement on May 13. A five-column ad in the May 27 issue of 21 newspapers served by This Week will reach a total circulation of 6,319,231.

Films, Tele Not Competing, Merryman Informs Institute

NEW YORK—Motion pictures and television will not be in competition for the same audience, NBC Director Philip I. Merryman told the Institute of Radio Engineers recently. "Television must develop its own program format different from Hollywood's and Hollywood will go right on improving and perfecting its products for which television will stimulate greater audiences," he said.

"All media, including sound broadcasting, will be more prosperous than ever after television becomes commonplace. Advertising history shows no new form ever completely displaces the older ones. Instead, the resulting augmented volume of advertising increases distribution of goods and services, and builds up the over-all national wealth, including the older media."

Hollywood Scribe Pilots U.S. Rubber Tele Series

NEW YORK — John Hewlett, Hollywood writer and experienced motion picture technician, has been engaged to manage "Serving Through Science," DuMont's new television series sponsored by U. S. Rubber Co. His initial stint, "Rubber Goes to War," telecast this week from station WABD, showed for the first time on a video screen the operation of a self-inflating life raft of the type on which Eddie Rickenbacker was found and the self-sealing fuel cell permitting a plane to continue in battle long after its tanks have been punctured.

Grainger's Ex-Aide Freed

NEW YORK—Steve Dorsey, reported as missing in action several weeks ago, has been liberated from a German prison camp, according to advices received at Republic home office. Prior to enlistment, Dorsey was special secretary to James R. Grainger, president of Republic.



PLEASANT READING!—Der Bingle is shown reading a story about himself written by Ray LeStrange, author and former Crosby press agent. This is the first meeting of the two, since LeStrange was released from the navy, where he served as lieutenant, being wounded in the Aleutians campaign.

Devotional Services Set for 7th Drive

NEW YORK—Midday devotional services will be held in Times Square during the Seventh War Loan drive, May 14 through June 30. Setting a new precedent in WAC activity, the services will take place under the midtown Statue of Liberty to underscore the fact the war in the Pacific is not yet won.

The five minute devotional period will inaugurate programs at the statue every day except Sunday through the drive, according to Frederick W. Gehle, chairman of the New York state war finance committee of the U.S. treasury department, and Irving Lesser, general chairman of WAC for the New York area. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish clergymen will alternate in conducting services, each taking two days a week.

Rabbi Ahron Opher of the synagogue council of America will be responsible for services on Mondays and Thursdays. Tuesday and Friday services will be conducted by Monsignor James B. O.'Reilly, rector of St. Malachy's, Monsignor Joseph A. McCaffrey, rector of Holy Cross, and Monsignor Aloysius C. Dineen, rector of Holy Innocents. Dr. Walter M. Howlett of the Protestant council of the city of New York will be responsible for services on Wednesday and Saturday.

Impatient for Tele, U.S. May Swarm to FM Radio

NEW YORK—The public will not delay purchases of aural radios in order to wait for television sets, according to Ira A. Hirschmann, vice-president of Metropolitan Television, Inc. He predicted a boom in frequency modulated or FM radio sets in the postwar period, and indicated they will begin to be on the market within a comparatively few months after VE-Day.

Combined FM-AM sets will be available at prices as low as $59.50. At present, Hirschmann said, the question is when manufacturers will be given the green light. The potential replacement and new receiver demand, he indicated, will range into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Broidy Sees Record Gross on "Dillinger"

NEW YORK—Total domestic grosses garnered by "Dillinger" will be the highest of any film in the history of the company, Steve Broidy, Monogram vice-president and general sales manager, predicted on his arrival from the coast.

Broidy said he made his prediction on the basis of record-shattering takes rolled up by the picture in first run engagements at the Victoria, New York, and the Broadway-Capitol, Detroit.

The public's reception to "Dillinger," said Broidy, has made it clear it wants action pictures and the company will therefore place the emphasis upon action films next season. Broidy made it clear that this does not necessarily mean that crime subjects will constitute the bulk of these action films.

Sees Market for Action Pictures

Said Broidy: "The success of 'Dillinger' proves that there is a definite market for action pictures. It does not necessarily follow that these pictures must feature gangster themes as such, but it does mean that the filmgoing public has definitely shown that it wants pictures where the dialog is kept to a minimum and action composes the greatest part of the picture.

"The reception accorded to 'Dillinger' is certainly not a new phase of the business, for the public has always sought action in its film fare as a basic element of entertainment. We at Monogram expect to stress action pictures in our next season's product."

Broidy disclosed that it was an exhibitor, Louis Brandt of the Brandt circuit, who suggested that Monogram make a film based on the life of Dillinger. The company owned the sole rights to the story for several years.

"We are thankful to Lou Brandt for encouraging us to go ahead with the story," said Broidy, adding: "Here's another example of how the advice of an exhibitor taken to heart and well executed can be turned into a boxoffice hit."

Broidy expects to remain in New York for three or four weeks.

Print Flown From Moscow For Conference Preview

SAN FRANCISCO—The pictures constituting the feature program of the United Nations Theatre, for the delegates to the World Security Conference, this week were as follows:

Monday, May 7, "Rhapsody in Blue," WB; Tuesday, May 8, "The Valley of Decision," M-G-M; Wednesday, May 9, "Love Letters," Para; Thursday, May 10, "The Great John L," UA; Friday, May 11, "Wonder Man," UA; Saturday, May 12, "Diamond Horseshoe," 20th-Fox; Sunday, May 13, "Ivan the Terrible," Artkino.

The last-named Soviet picture, directed by Eisenstein, is the only print in this country and was flown here direct from Moscow especially for the World Security Conference.

12 Stars on USO Tours

NEW YORK—At least 12 Hollywood notables will entertain at army and navy hospitals throughout the U.S. in the immediate future, USO reports. Among those now appearing, or soon to do so, are Charles Coburn, Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, Jane Wyman, Ritz Brothers, Sonny Tufts, Ellen Drew, Carol Thurston, Frank Faylen and Virginia Weidler.

Loew's to Buy $10,000,000 in Bonds

NEW YORK—Loew's plans to subscribe to $10,000,000 worth of war bonds during the Seventh Loan.





"National Velvet" Wins April Blue Ribbon Award

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "National Velvet" is the April winner of the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award. This is the second Award of the year for Metro, its "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" winning in January.

The April winner is the screen version of Enid Bagnold's novel of the same name and Elizabeth Taylor stars successfully along with the more experienced Mickey Rooney, Donald Crisp and Anne Revere. The story revolves around a spectacular try for winning the Grand National with a locally-owned-and-ridden horse.

Theodore Reeves and Helen Deutsch did the screenplay and the picture was produced by Pandro S. Berman. Clarence Brown directed it.

This Award is given each month to the film receiving the highest number of votes from members of the National Screen Council, whose selection is governed by the outstanding merit and suitability of the film for whole family entertainment. Members of the Council are selected from the following groups throughout the country: Motion picture editors of newspapers and magazines, radio film commentators, reviewing committees, club women, better films councils, social, civic and educational organizations.

The Cast

Mi Taylor .....MICKEY ROONEY
Mr. Brown .....DONALD CRISP
Velvet Brown ....ELIZABETH TAYLOR
Mrs. Brown .....ANNE REVERE
Edwina Brown....ANGELA LANSBURY
Donald Brown .....JACKIE JENKINS
Malvolia Brown....JUANITA QUIGLEY
Race Patron.....ARTHUR TREACHER
Farmer Ede.....REGINALD OWEN
Miss Sims.....NORMA VARDEN
Ted .....TERRY KILBURN

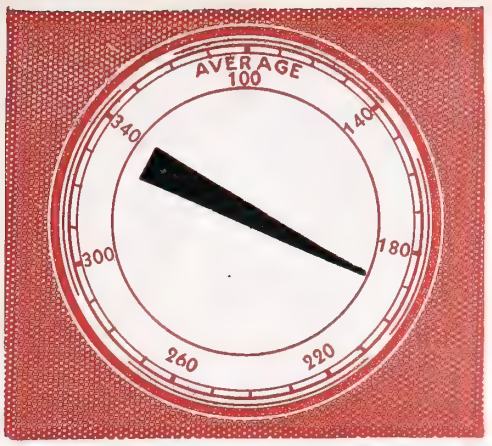
Production Staff

Executive Producer
.....LOUIS B. MAYER
Produced by.....PANDRO S. BERMAN
Directed by.....CLARENCE BROWN
Based on novel by....ENID BAGNOLD
Screenplay by
THEODORE REEVES, HELEN DEUTSCH
Director of Photography
.....LEONARD SMITH, A.S.C.
Technicolor Color Director
.....NATALIE KALMUS
Associate .....HENRI JAFFA
Musical Score....HERBERT STOTHART
Recording Director
.....DOUGLAS SHEARER
Art Direction
CEDRIC GIBBONS, URIE MCCLEARY
Set Decorations....EDWIN B. WILLIS
Associate.....MILDRED GRIFFITHS
Special Effects
..... WARREN NEWCOMBE
Costume Supervision .....IRENE
Associate .....KAY DEAN
Men's Wardrobe .....VALLES
Makeup created by.....JACK DAWN
Film Editor.....ROBERT J. KERN

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

God Is My Co-Pilot—

Buffalo 189
San Francisco 140
Boston 130
Indianapolis 120

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Bring On the Girls (Para)	135	159		120	90	130	195	90			150	123	130	150	105	155	130	190					137
Can't Help Singing (Univ)		200	100	125	100	115	178	85	140	100	145	133	110	160	103	250	100	180	130	165	220		142
Dark Waters (UA)	130	131	110	100	200	120	165		160	95	90	112	85		90		130	190	75	150	175	185	131
Docks of New York (Mono)		100	100						100					90					110			160	110
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120						200							100	93		125	130	85				122
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189		160				135			140			150		195	120						152
Faces in the Fog (Rep)	100	97	120			100	100		120	100	100	100			100		100		90		100		102
For Whom the Bell Tolls (Para)	125	130		110		130	175	95	125	110	105	120	100	100	105		105	165	75	175	140	250	128
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110		95	75		175	95	125	95				100		150	110		75		150		113
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140			180			120	160		100		110	205		215	110		140		150
Grissly's Millions (Rep)	100	100	110			120	110		100	100			100		85		100			165	100		108
Guest in the House (UA)	130	150	115	90	95		160		90		115		100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	120
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115	105	95	90			100			120			125		105	125				125		110
Her Lucky Night (Univ)	125		100				100	95	130		100	100			85		90		65				99
Here Come the Co-Eds (Univ)	110	105	115	110	65		148	90	110	150	97	93	100	140	120	170	90		90		125	140	114
High Powered (Para)		100							90			100			90						100		96
Hotel Berlin (WB)	115	104	120	110	90	130	150	100	120	100	125	200	110	140	95	180	100	205	70		170	150	128
House of Frankenstein (Univ)	115	102	110	105	120	140	190	100	100	120	100		100	150		205	125	195	80	175	150	140	131
I Love a Mystery (Col)	100							100	100			100	100	100	100		95		80		100		98
Identity Unknown (Rep)	100	100	120						85								100						101
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)	120	170		115	135	135	213	100	125	160	125	150	115	200	110	185	130	195	140		180	150	148
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110			165	130	90		120	125	100	110			130	190			150		126
Keep Your Powder Dry (MGM)			120	105	95				125				100	100		170					130		118
Lake Placid Serenade (Rep)	120	88	115			125	175		95	120	98	100	85	100	96		125	100	90	135	120		111
Leave It to Blondie (Col)	110		110			100	100	100	100		100	100	100		100		100		65		100		99
Molly and Me (20-Fox)				90			100		95			100	100						60		100		92
Music for Millions (MGM)	135	119	120	110	130		130		120	140	170	150		150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	137
National Velvet (MGM)	130	149	115	120	130		170	105	130	125	200	147	110		105	160		210	115	250	160	150	146
One Body Too Many (Para)	100	78				100	100	90	130	90	100	90	100	100		100	110	100			100	100	98
Rough, Tough and Ready (Col)	120	106	115			100					100	100				85	100				110		104
Roughly Speaking (WB)	130	190		110	82		155	110		95	110	140	100	100	110	175	95	200	80		120		124
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)				90			160				97	150	105			120		180			130		129
Shadow of Suspicion (Mono)	100		100				100								95		95		100				98
Song to Remember (Col)	135	212	110	110	125	140	175	110	125	110	120	195	100	110	108	170	120	180	140		225		141
Sudan (Univ)	125	145	110	80			150		145		102	108			100	185	95				115		122
Suspect, The (Univ)	130	128	110	90	75	120	185	90	120	100	87	100		100	85	180	100	180	115		160	175	122
Thin Man Goes Home, The (MGM)	125	93	110	115	100	135	160	100	115		135		100	100	97	165	95	170	90	120	140	150	121
To Have and Have Not (WB)	155	193	120	115	125	130	190	95	160	115	175	200	100	170	125	235	125	255	130		220	200	159
Tonight and Every Night (Col)	140	214	115	105	90	125	150	100	130	100	105	133	110	100	103	125	120	195	125		150	175	129
Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (20-Fox)	160	218	120	120	115	150	188	100	100	130	140	200	120	175	125	180	130	220	185		200	180	155
What a Blonde (RKO)	125	100	100				100	100	125			100	100	90	100		100				100		103

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Cover Girl (Col)—Rita Hayworth, Gene Kelly, Phil Silvers, Jinx Falkenburg. Put this one at the top of your list for a top show—especially for your weekend or special occasion shows. The reaction of this picture will keep them coming for weeks. Beautiful Technicolor, acting superb, and music perfect.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

U-Boat Prisoner (Col)—Bruce Bennett, Erik Rolf, John Abbott, John Wengrof. Played Sunday midnight. Business only average. We didn't get the crowd we expected. Weather: Mild.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Dragon Seed (M-G-M)—Katharine Hepburn, Walter Huston, Aline MacMahon, Turhan Bey. A super 'way over my public's head. Walkouts. Too draggy and too much art for my public. I wish I hadn't played it. Still, it's a good show. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—J. K. Burgess, Iris, Velva, N. D. Small town and rural patronage.

Jackass Mail (M-G-M)—Wallace Beery, Marjorie Main. Here is an oldie that I picked up for average Tues., Wed. business. The film was in good shape and should do well in towns where westerns and Beery are liked.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Lost Angel (M-G-M)—Margaret O'Brien, James Craig, Marsha Hunt. Little Margaret seems to click in most instances. She is very clever and dramatic for a child and pleased all my patrons. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—S. C. Onerheim, Community, Luseland, Sask., Canada. Rural and small town patronage.

Lost in a Harem (M-G-M)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Marilyn Maxwell, John Conte. They like 'em funny—not silly. This was a pitiful sight. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Rural and small town patronage.

Meet Me in St. Louis (M-G-M)—Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer. Outstanding, as far as audience reaction. They really enjoyed both and business showed that it was more than ordinary in receipts. Played Tues., Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Arnold J. Schneeberger, Ritz, Tipton, Ind. Rural and small town patronage.

Woman of the Year (M-G-M)—Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Fay Bainter, Reginald Owen. Old but fair program picture we double billed and drew average business.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada Rural and small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Henry Aldrich's Little Secret (Para)—Jimmy Lydon, Charles Smith, John Litel, Olive Blakeney. Here is a nice little show. The best Henry Aldrich picture ever made, to my estimation. Business was above average but would have been better if not for the weather. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Cold and stormy.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. Dak. Rural and small town patronage.

Here Come the Waves (Para)—Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, Ann Doran. A very disappointing engagement after noting national business on this feature. Picture just fair. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Cool.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

Rainbow Island (Para)—Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken, Gil Lamb, Barry Sullivan. Very good—the kind that draws fine here and customers leave 100 per cent satisfied. Beautiful Technicolor, good comedy throughout. Good acting by all. What else do we want? Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Take It Big (Para)—Jack Haley, Harriet Hilliard, Mary Beth Hughes, Ozzie Nelson and orchestra. Strictly for double billing. Just a fair program picture that got by with a western on Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage

PRC PICTURES

Marked for Murder (PRC)—Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien. This is a very good western for the Saturday patrons or a double bill.—Ben Harris, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

Marine Raiders (RKO)—Pat O'Brien, Robert Ryan, Ruth Hussey. The trailer brought them in. It did good business for a war picture and competed against "Going My Way" (Para), too. It has the usual characteristics of a good war picture—a little love (be sure to exploit that angle if you want any woman patronage during your showing), a couple of laughs and plenty of fighting.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Marine Raiders (RKO)—Pat O'Brien, Robert Ryan, Ruth Hussey, Frank McHugh. They still come out for these war pictures in spite of the fact everyone tells you the people are tired of them. It pleased.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Princess and the Pirate, The (RKO)—Bob Hope, Virginia Mayo, Walter Brennan, Walter Slezak. We did an outstanding business on this picture. A tieup with a large manufacturing company proved helpful. Played Mon., Tues. Weather: Cold and rainy.

They Didn't Plan a Show; It Just Happened

Cuthbert Bristow, who has the Rappanna Theatre at Urbanna, Va., entered the motion picture business almost on the spur of the moment. In his own words it was like this: "I was just talking to a bunch of fellows and one said, 'Let's put up a picture show.' The lot was purchased that day and almost before I knew it, the show was on." The house opened October 16, 1931.



CUTHBERT BRISTOW

Bristow has other responsibilities in the town as he is an assistant postmaster. Fraternities, lodges and clubs include Phi Gamma Delta, Masonic and Shrine, Modern Woodmen and the Boosters. He makes his friends a hobby and also enjoys fishing. He has two daughters, one in college and one teaching. Cuthbert jr. is still in prep school.

Commenting on the industry, he says good sound has a lot to do with good shows—and good shows bring good crowds every night.

—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont. Small town patronage.

Show Business (RKO)—Eddie Cantor, Joan Davis, George Murphy, Constance Moore. This definitely clicked here. Good entertainment for all ages and a natural for all over 40 who remember the days of vaudeville. Slightly above normal business despite the busy season. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Saturday, good; Sunday, violent rain.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Girl Who Dared, The (Rep)—Lorna Gray, Peter Cookson, Veda Ann Borg. A very good feature. Comedy and murder usually mix well, especially when Willie Best provides the laughs.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Ride, Tenderfoot, Ride (Rep)—Reissue. Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette. The first Autry that didn't do a good business but we were rained out both nights. Usually we do better than average with these reissues but weather is hard to whip and we lost this time. Played Fri., Sat.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Wilson (20th-Fox)—Alexander Knox, Charles Coburn, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Thomas Mitchell. A gem. Those who paid the increased admission knew what they were coming to see and apparently appreciated it as all remarks were splendid.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Rural and small town patronage.

Wilson (20th-Fox)—Alexander Knox, Charles Coburn, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Thomas Mitchell. Out of this world. There are no other words to describe it. I concentrated on school, resulting in 100 per cent from local and nearly so from surrounding territory. From a dollar standpoint, it broke all records here—the percentage a little steep. As an American you owe it to your customers from an historical viewpoint. Played Wednesday during the busiest season of the year. Weather: Good.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

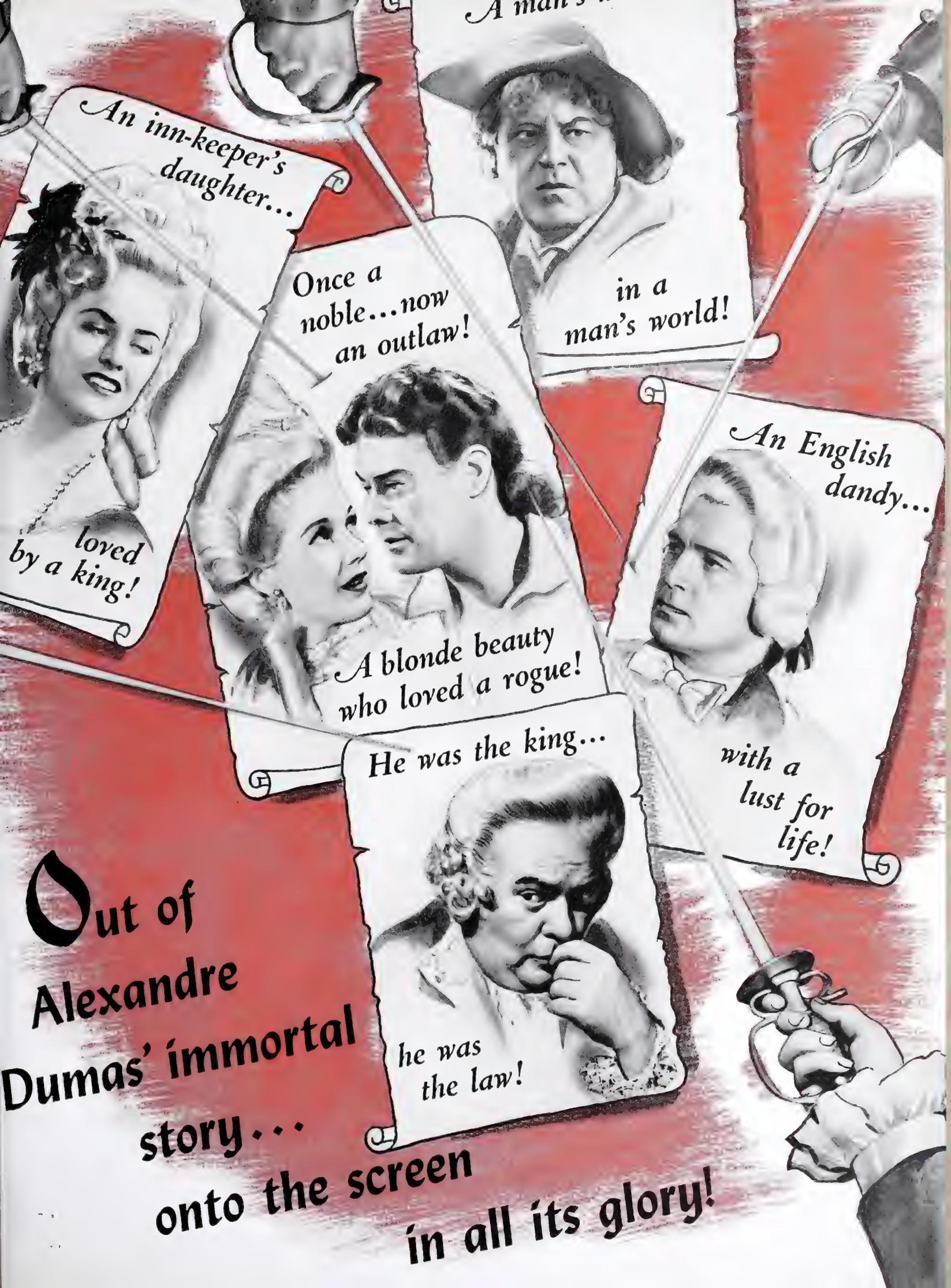
WARNER BROS.

Arsenic and Old Lace (WB)—Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane, Raymond Massey, Jack Carson. A very crazy show that did fair business. It would have done better if it hadn't been for the snow and rain. If your patrons love comedy on the silly side, this will more than satisfy them.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Crime by Night (WB)—Jane Wyman, Jerome Cowan, Faye Emerson, Charles Lang. This was a good picture that seemed to satisfy all that came out. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)—Dennis Morgan, Dane Clark, Raymond Massey, Alan Hale. Although the public seems averse to any picture with a war theme, this pleased very well and did a very fine gross. Production excellent. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

Very Thought of You (WB)—Dennis Morgan, Eleanor Parker, Dane Clark, Faye Emerson. Here's a surprise package, as fresh as a breath of spring. Morgan doesn't sing, but his romancing with Eleanor Parker—boy-oh-boy! Good psychology on the service man's problem, too. Good business. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Okay.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.


An inn-keeper's daughter...
loved by a king!
Once a noble...now an outlaw!
A blonde beauty who loved a rogue!
in a man's world!
An English dandy...
with a lust for life!
He was the king...
he was the law!
Out of Alexandre Dumas' immortal story...
onto the screen in all its glory!

THUNDERING SPECTACLE
OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE!

FLAMING DRAMA
OF INTRIGUE
AND GALLANTRY!

SWASHBUCKLING
ACTION TO THRILL
THE WORLD!



Storming a castle..
to kidnap a king...
and rescue a bride!

COLUMBIA PICTURES *presents*

Alexandre Dumas' "The Fighting Guardsman"

WILLARD PARKER • ANITA LOUISE • JANIS CARTER
JOHN LODER • EDGAR BUCHANAN • GEORGE MACREADY

Screen Play by Franz Spencer and Edward Dein
Based on "The Companions of Jehu" by Alexandre Dumas
Produced by MICHEL KRAIKE • Directed by HENRY LEVIN



COLUMBIA PICTURES

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Flareups Are Frequent In the Griffith Trial

OKLAHOMA CITY — Repeated flareups between the chief prosecuting attorney and Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught characterized the Griffith antitrust trial here this week. They arose over Judge Vaught's ruling that the eight major distributors, having signed the consent decree, are not parties to the suit, and that letters and conversations between exhibitors and distributors are not admissible as evidence.

The government is charging monopoly against the three brothers, R. E. Griffith of Dallas, now deceased; L. C. Griffith of Oklahoma City and H. J. Griffith of Kansas City and Dallas. The six-year-old suit seeks to dissolve as theatre chains the defendants' four exhibition units, Griffith Amusement Co., Wes-Tex Theatres, R. E. Griffith Theatres and Consolidated Theatres, on the charges that they are "operating monopolistically in restraint of trade."

Contracts Held Inadmissible

Robert L. Wright of the department of justice on Thursday morning of this week was attempting to introduce as evidence film contracts signed by Dennis Scaling, former independent exhibitor at Plainview, Tex. Scaling earlier had testified he sold out to the Griffiths in 1936 because he "couldn't get any film to show."

"The distributors are not on trial," Judge Vaught remarked.

Wright said that some of the contracts would show Griffith had exclusive rights to show certain pictures, and that because of this fact Scaling was left without pictures.

"That was due to a combination of circumstances, as I see it," said Judge Vaught.

Wright replied: "All such cases are due to a combination of circumstances. The government never intends to say that the illegal restrictions it intends to cite here, alone caused any exhibitor to go out of business. The government does maintain that the contracts are 'restrictive' because they gave Griffith such favorable terms."

Judge Vaught reminded the prosecutor that he had earlier refused to admit testimony of conversations and letters between exhibitors and the distributors; because, since the latter are not defendants, such evidence would be hearsay.

"Assumed Function of Distributor"

"The Griffith chains had assumed the functions of a distributor," Wright rejoined, "in deciding whether the theatres in these towns got first, second or third run films."

In another instance, Wright called attention to a particular producer's contract, and the judge remarked: "What you say might be true of this one contract, but there are dozens of producers and is there any reason why independents should not get films from other producers?"

In another interchange with the presiding jurist, Wright was attempting to introduce correspondence between Jake Jones, independent theatre operator at Shawnee, Okla., and Paramount. The judge refused to admit the letter as evidence and said:

"The theatre industry isn't a public utility. It isn't like selling gas or light. It is selling something like clothing . . . That letter shows that they consider it good business to sell to Griffith. There isn't a line to indicate that Griffith requested it. Nothing there brings anything against these defendants."

As the week ended, it appeared, from the mass of evidence yet to be introduced, that the trial will not be finished for a number of weeks. Judge Vaught has announced that he may cut up the trial into a sequence, with recesses in between.

(Earlier developments appear on page 18)



NEW YORK GETS STARTED—More than 1,000 film executives and exhibitors from all parts of the metropolitan exchange area attended a breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria to get the Seventh War Loan campaign plans set. Sam Pinanski is shown in the top photo, with Morris Kinzler and Ted Gamble listening. At the bottom are Tom Connors, Pinanski and Sol Lesser, with Kinzler speaking.

Blood Bank Donors Become Guests At Two New York State Theatres

ALBANY—Red Cross blood bank donors in Schenectady and Troy are given passes to Proctor's Theatres in those two cities by Guy Graves and Larry Cowen, managing directors of the two theatres.

Graves originated the policy in Schenectady following a highly successful entertainment given by him in cooperation with Red Cross and blood bank officials there for members of the "Gallon Club," composed of men and women who had given eight or more pints of blood. Cowen adopted the plan for Erie.

More than 1,400 persons wearing the pin denoting they were eight-pint contributors attended the entertainment.

Officials in charge of the affair, the first of its kind in this section and believed to be one of the first in the country on so big a scale, offered apologies and promised the next time the "galloneers" would be invited to a larger auditorium.

The Schenectady Union-Star devoted almost a full page to pictures and stories of the unique event. Two of Phil Spitalny's all-girl orchestra entertained and a wounded veteran spoke. The idea is believed practical for any theatre in a city or town with a large number of "gallon club" members.

The new plan by Graves is to issue a pass to every person donating blood. The Red Cross furnishes names and addresses. A Red Cross mobile unit from the Schenectady regional headquarters visits Albany and other cities in a 70-mile radius. In Troy, where Cowen has adopted a similar policy, a letter is being sent by the management with each pass.

New Law Creates Help Problem for N. Y. Exhibitors

ALBANY—Theatre men in this area are watching closely the efforts of metropolitan theatrical heads to adjust their employment problems to conform with the newly-enacted Brooks-Coudert law regulating working hours for minors.

It has been estimated there are 6,000 children within the restricted age classifications employed by theatres throughout the state. Louis Weber, Skouras Theatres counsel, said he would arrange a mass meeting of theatre executives in an effort to work out a solution.

PRC Buys Philadelphia Branch, Names Manager

PHILADELPHIA—Herbert W. Given last week announced the sale of his PRC exchange to the parent company. The price was not announced. Frank Hamerman, salesman for Republic, was named manager effective Monday.

WPB Lets Down Bars On Theatre Equipment

BULLETIN

Washington—Limitations on production and distribution of motion picture projection and sound equipment have been revoked, the War Production Board announced late Friday, May 11.

BROADWAY

Jack Goldberg, president of Hollywood Pictures Corp., left for Montreal to complete arrangements for the production of a series of six features to be made in Canada by Northwestern Picture Co. From there he went to Toronto.

H. J. Yates sr., Republic board chairman, and William Saal, executive assistant, are back from their coast sojourn . . . Sol Sachs, manager of the RKO Radio exchange in Dallas, has arrived for home office conferences.

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, left Hollywood for the company's home office. Upon his arrival, Broidy turned his attention to the appointment of a successor to Lloyd L. Lind, who resigned recently as head of the sales statistical department. Broidy will attend the semiannual meeting of the board of directors at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, on May 22, and June 7 will be in Washington for the WPB meeting on the raw stock situation.

Arthur Sachson, assistant general sales manager for Warners, is back at his desk, recovered from the serious spinal ailment he contracted in February.

Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity for Warners, arrived in Los Angeles to attend the United Nations conference.

Capt. Everett Callow, USMC, former Warner Theatre advertising and publicity representative in Philadelphia, returned to this country after serving in Guadalcanal and other South Pacific areas.

Cole Porter came in from Hollywood to confer with Arthur Schwartz, producer of the forthcoming Warner film, "Night and Day," a portrayal of the life and music of the composer. Porter has made plans to spend the summer at his Brentwood home.

Hal Roach, independent producer releasing through UA, came in from the coast to confer with Grace Rosenfield, his representative here, and UA home office executives.

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, arrived for ten days of conferences with Barney Balaban, president of the company; Russell Holman, eastern production head, and Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Fanchon, Hollywood production supervisor, arrived to begin work on the production of a series of musical comedies for the entertainment of service men. Following her government work she will resume duties at Republic studios under a recently-signed, long-term contract.

Jack Goldstein, eastern publicity and advertising director for David O. Selznick, returned from a ten-day visit at the coast studio.

Steve Dorsey, formerly secretary to James R. Grainger, Republic president, has been liberated from a German prison camp.

Harry Michalson, RKO short subject sales manager, is back from his visit to the New Haven branch . . . Howard Lang, producer, left to begin coast negotiations for a film version of his Broadway production, "School for Brides" . . . Edward Golden, chairman of the board of Golden Productions, arrived in Hollywood.



NEW YORK ARRIVAL—Hal Roach, independent producer releasing through United Artists, arrives in New York for conferences with UA executives.

Hal Pereira, art director for Paramount, arrived from Hollywood and is a guest at the Waldorf-Astoria . . . Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock, Norman H. Moray and I. F. Dolid of Warners returned from a Toronto sales meeting . . . A. Montague, Rube Jackter, Lou Astor and Irving Shermon of Columbia are back at the home office following the Chicago meeting.

Charles Vidor, Columbia director who has just completed "Over 21," arrived for a few weeks' vacation . . . Signe Hasso is here from the coast to play the femme lead in "Now It Can Be Told," forthcoming 20th-Fox release produced by Louis de Rochemont.

Joe Salmon, Skouras Riverside Theatre manager for the last 16 years, is recuperating from a heart attack suffered recently . . . Robert M. Gillham, Paramount advertising-publicity director, returned from his Florida visit.

Paramount Choral Concert Set for Friday, May 25

NEW YORK—Paramount Pictures Choral Society will hold its spring concert at the Hotel Plaza May 25, under the direction of Mrs. Edith Morgan Savage. The society is the only musical organization of its kind in the picture industry.

Originally a mixed group of men and women employed in Paramount's administrative office, the group lost most of its tenors, baritones and basses to the armed forces. It is now carrying on as an all-girl group until the boys return from their various war jobs.



Campaign of Century Doesn't Miss a Trick

NEW YORK—Century Theatres is putting into action a war bond campaign it has been planning for the last two months, according to J. R. Springer, general manager.

All schools in territories where Century theatres are located will offer a six-month pass to the student selling most bonds, and a three-month pass to the runnerup. The circuit has assigned various schools to each theatre, and they will be staffed continuously.

Anyone purchasing or selling a bond from a Century theatre will receive a special card. After this card has 12 punches, it will entitle the bearer to a pass for two to a Century house. It is believed this will prove an incentive to all bond buyers and sellers.

Set 12 Bond Shows for June

The circuit has set 12 bond premieres for June, as well as two children's bond shows with promises for additional bookings. Theatres planning bond premieres include the Lynbrook, Park, Huntington, Community, Franklin, Grove, Valley Stream, Fantasy, Bliss, Marine, Mayfair and Midwood; children's shows will be held at both the Bliss and Strand.

Myron Siegel, publicity director, has designed a novel accessory in the form of a standee depicting the horrors portrayed in recent atrocity newsreels, and urging the purchase of bonds at the Century theatres, listing the circuit's houses in the various localities. More than 600 of these standees have been distributed among stores, lunchrooms, etc.

A radio tieup with station WNEW calls for five spot announcements daily during the entire drive, urging purchasers of bonds to buy them at their nearest Century theatre. This radio time will be used in advertising special stunts, such as bond shows, children's premieres, etc.

Premature VE-Day Aids Sale of Victory Bonds

NEW YORK—Recognizing the opportunity presenting itself for bond selling on Monday, May 7, during the celebration of "premature VE-Day" on Times Square, alert industry members of WAC jumped the gun and opened the bond booth at the Statue of Liberty replica. Within two hours more than $5,000 worth of "E" bonds were sold.

Gun-jumpers included RKO publicists Ray Malone, Vincent Ligueri, Ruth Newman, Elinor Cohen and Sara Polin, as well as Monty Salmon and Dave Katz, managers of the Rivoli and Roxy, respectively.

Tickets to Broadway Hit As 7th War Loan Prizes

NEW YORK—Al Zimbalist and Jay Burton, heading the WAC public relations committee for this area, have arranged for 150 seats to Olsen and Johnson's "Laffing Room Only" to be distributed through 75 metropolitan neighborhood theatres as prizes for auction nights during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Each of the 75 neighborhood houses, selected by the WAC committee, will receive one pair of seats, scaled at six dollars each, to the Winter Garden show, to be auctioned as the theatre manager deems best.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

VE-Days, New Shows Up B'way Grosses

NEW YORK—Broadway grosses were helped considerably by the two-day holiday which followed news of Germany's surrender. Matinees in particular received boosts as a result of the increased crowds that came to Times Square to celebrate the end of the war. Tuesday's rain drove many people off the streets and into the theatres.

Another factor in the near-record grosses turned in by many of the houses was the advent of new shows that showed evidence of hit potentialities. Among these were:

Metro's "Valley of Decision," at the Music Hall; the same company's "The Clock," Capitol; 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," Roxy; Universal's "Salome, Where She Danced," Criterion and RKO's "It's a Pleasure," Palace. "Horseshoe" started its second week at the Roxy.

Holdovers that did exceptionally well, aided by the unexpected two-day holiday were: RKO's "Enchanted Cottage," Astor; "Salty O'Rourke," Paramount, and Monogram's "Dillinger," Victoria.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk.....180
Capitol—**The Clock** (M-G-M), plus stage show.....195
Criterion—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ).....165
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 6th wk.....115
Palace—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO).....155
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show, 2nd wk.....160
Radio City Music Hall—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show.....175
Rialto—**Gentle Annie** (M-G-M).....95
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 6th wk.....105
Roxy—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), plus stage show.....205
Strand—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB), plus stage show, 3rd wk.....130
Victoria—**Dillinger** (Mono), 2nd wk.....215

"Co-Pilot" Leads Buffalo Houses In Week Hurt by VE-Day Jitters

BUFFALO—VE-Day jitters noticeably affected boxoffice receipts here. "God Is My Co-Pilot," with much ballyhoo, led at the Great Lakes, where it hit nearly twice average. "The Unseen," aided by a stage show, recorded better than one and a half times average at the Buffalo. It was the first stage presentation at a Shea house in several months. "Thunderhead" and "Circumstantial Evidence" were off in a second week at the Hippodrome. "The Enchanted Cottage" was fair in a second week at the Century and two from Columbia were only fair at the Lafayette. The weather continued cold and rainy.

Buffalo—**The Unseen** (Para); **Jimmy Dorsey** and orchestra on stage.....160
Great Lakes—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB).....189
Hippodrome—**Thunderhead** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk..... 93
20th Century—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Oh, What a Night** (RKO), 2nd wk.....118
Lafayette—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col).....106

"Keep Your Powder Dry" Hits 210 Mark To Lead Philadelphia's Attractions

PHILADELPHIA — Downtown business was spotty, although "Keep Your Powder Dry" and "Practically Yours" reported big grosses. Holdover "Song to Remember" continued well, but others are not cashing in as well.

Aldine—**Song to Remember** (Col), 6th wk.....180
Arcadia—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk.....145
Boyd—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.....115
Earle—**Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), plus stage show..120
Fox—**Practically Yours** (Para).....195
Karlton—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th d. t. wk.....180
Keith's—**Sign of the Cross** (Para), reissue, 2nd wk.....155
Mastbaum—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk.....110
Stanley—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M).....210
Stanton—**Suspect** (Univ), 2nd wk.....145

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

NATURALLY, victory in Europe and the formal observance of VE-Day following it, were the main topics on every one's mind along Filmrow and in the local theatres. Film exchanges enjoyed two half holidays: On Monday when news of Germany's defeat became known and on Tuesday when the triumph was officially celebrated.

Newsreel cameramen set up their tripods and sound equipment in the "island" opposite the Paramount Bldg. on Broadway between 43rd and 44th Sts. Here they obtained various shots of the throngs that passed. The crowds seemed to be wise in the ways of the lensmen for, whenever the cameras were focused on them, they would wave their little flags vigorously and shout at the top of their lungs.

Many of the Broadway theatres installed protective wooden slats around their boxoffice windows, while others that customarily have displays in their outer lobbies removed them for safekeeping elsewhere.

Russell Cohen, manager of Century's Town, Flushing, has been hospitalized . . . Maj. Harry Miller, USMC, who in peacetime is an M-G-M salesman, had the unusual duty recently of swearing into the marine auxiliary the daughter of a woman he had sworn into the same organization in 1918 . . . Louis Frisch of Randforce is convalescing from an operation.

Exhibitor Leo Greenfield of the Boro Hall, Brooklyn, was inducted into the navy . . . S/Sgt. Herb Richek, former UA office manager, now on duty with the air transport service at West Palm Beach, was a visitor to the exchange . . . Sgt. Bernard Levine, nephew of UA's chief booker, Ben Levine, was wounded in the fighting at Aachen, Germany. He has arrived at Camp Devens, Mass., for further treatment.

Ben Levine and his wife, Jeanne, celebrated the latter's birthday by attending a performance of "Oklahoma" . . . The Motion Picture Bookers' Club of New York will award $500 in war bonds to the winners of a drawing, proceeds of which will go to the group's service men's fund. The five prize-winners will be announced at the last meeting of the season on June 25.

Employes of the UA exchanges celebrated the ending of the war in Germany by visiting the home of Dave Burkan, salesman, where an impromptu party was held . . . News was so scarce hereabouts that the New York Film Board of Trade's bulletin was not published this week.

Noel Meadow, former operator of the Stanley and tub-thumper extraordinary, is editing a tome containing wacky letters written to newspapers . . . Peter Lewis of the N. Y. Film Board of Trade had his tonsils removed . . . The Majestic, Paterson, is now booking through the newly-formed Independent Theatres Service.

Al Blumberg, former Warner booker, who became a baker in the navy some months ago through an error of mistaking his occupation of "booker" for "baker," renewed old acquaintances at a recent meeting of the Bookers Club. Assigned to a destroyer in the Atlantic, he has seen active service in many of the battles which preceded and followed D-Day.

Seymour Berkowitz, recently mustered out of the service, is the new booker at the Columbia exchange. He succeeds Bill Katz, who transfers to PRC as office manager and chief booker . . . Sally Perle, secretary to Homer H. Harman, Roxy publicity director and chairman of the same for the Seventh War Loan, suggested 17 slogans for use in the campaign, all of which are being used.

Managers who come into the city from various parts of the metropolis to attend industry breakfasts have to make sacrifices to attend but they do this willingly. Some of the men who live in the outlying sections of the city have to arise as early as 6 a. m. to get there on time. A chance to refresh their viewpoint and to gain new inspiration seems to be a magnet that draws them each time.

He Wins in Court, But Stays Behind The Union's 8-Ball, Does Trainer

PHILADELPHIA—He wins—but he loses. Philip L. Trainer, former president of the Chester MPOU local, who won his fight in Delaware County court for the right to speak and vote in the affairs of the union, did not get the "victory" that appeared on the surface, according to his attorney, Clarence Smedley.

The ruling by Judge Henry G. Sweney voided an agreement which Trainer signed six years ago which forestalled his expulsion on the proviso that he refrain from speaking or voting at meetings of the union. The court ruled that the agreement was, in effect, an infringement of Trainer's constitutional rights of free speech. Attorney Smedley pointed out that the court failed to issue an injunction against the union to prevent the local from interfering with Trainer's right to vote.

"This puts Trainer where he was before he signed the original agreement—right behind the eight ball," said Smedley. "Before he signed it, he was in fact expelled from the union, and since all the theatres are organized, it meant he couldn't work any place. Now that the ruling wipes out the agreement, Trainer's status is what it was before he signed away his right to vote and speak—expelled from the union."

So far the union has made no move to oust Trainer from membership or get him fired from the State in Chester, where he is employed. The Civil Liberties Union is expected to take some action soon.

"Oklahoma!" Player Weds

NEW YORK—Ruth Weston, stage and screen actress currently portraying Aunt Ellen in "Oklahoma!," and Alfred Reginald Mead, a manufacturer's representative, were married here.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Bob Hope Show Opens Washington Drive

WASHINGTON — Hollywood, Broadway and the radio will provide Washington with a double-barrelled kickoff on Sunday (13) for the $14,000,000,000 Seventh War Loan campaign when Bob Hope brings a trainload of stars to the capital.

Accompanying the indefatigable Hope will be his regular cast, which includes Frances Langford, Jerry Colonna, Vera Vague, Tony Romano and Skinnay Ennis and his orchestra, as well as a number of other celebrities who will add color and fun to the three-hour entertainment.

The Hollywood Night in Washington show is being staged under the auspices of the WAC Seventh War Loan committee, the treasury's war finance division and the district's WFC.

Honorary chairman for the event is J. Russell Young, with Fred S. Kogod, general chairman. The committee on arrangements, entertainment and reception: Carter Barron and John J. Payette, chairmen; Gene Ford, Harry Anger, M. J. Uline, Clarence Menser, Albert Capstaff, all of Hollywood; Carleton Smith, George Wheeler, Richard Davis, Helen Hamilton, Max Lowe, Paul Young, Sam Galanty, Frank Boucher, W. J. Waller, Hugh Lynch, J. Edward Shugrue, Col. Edward J. Kelly, Tom Bailey, Herb Sachs.

The committee on publicity, radio and press: Frank LaFalce, chairman; Marty Dietz.

Committee on decorations: Major Livingston, chairman; Art Jacobson and E. F. Harloff.

Ticket committee: A. Julian Brylawski, chairman; Barney Reid, Roland Robbins, Sidney Lust.

Seating committee: Harry Lohmeyer, chairman; Clark Davis, Harry Coonin, Charles Hurley, Gus Lynch, Milton Schneiderman, J. O'Leary, Jack Fruchtman, Jake Flax, Joseph Kronman, W. E. Jasper, Walter Davis, George Wheeler, Robert Grace, Harry Brown, Ben Caplon, Jack Foxe, Joel Margolis, Fred McMillan, Sol Sorkin, John Marcon, Charles Grimes, Nat Glasser, Abe Tolkins, Angie Ratto, and showmen members of the Variety Club.



24 YEARS A BOOKER—A well-deserved rest is being taken by Bill Gabriel, who has served as booker in the Philadelphia office of M-G-M for 24 years. Bill is down in Florida, sunning himself on his "estate" there. In the photograph, snapped at the party honoring Gabriel upon his departure, left to right: William F. Rodgers, vice-president of M-G-M; Gabriel; Robert Lynch, head of Leo's Philadelphia exchange.



GREETINGS ON WHEELS — Helmut Dantine, who arrived several days before, went over to Grand Central to meet Andrea King and loaded her on a baggage truck—at the suggestion of the cameraman, of course. They are scheduled to appear at the Strand along with "Escape in the Desert."

Hears of Son's Death As the Nazis Give Up

ALBANY—The 20th-Fox exchange heard Monday morning that Cpl. Harry Alexander jr., 19, son of the 20th-Fox branch manager, had been killed in a plane crash seven miles from Gorham, Kas., last Saturday. The youngster, a bombardier, was one of nine who lost their lives. Four other men parachuted to safety from the four-engine ship. The news came to Filmrow, ironically, when radios were blaring reports that Germany had surrendered unconditionally and that fighting in Europe was about to end.

This was the third time that such news came to Albany exchange men. The first experience was that of Arthur Horn, Metro salesman. His son, a young doctor, was killed in the Pacific in August 1943. The second was Edward J. Wall, Paramount exploiteer for the Albany and Buffalo territories. His son, Sgt. Edward J. Wall jr., 20, died last summer of injuries received in action on the western front.

Three local Filmrow employes, Peter Crill, Larry Henderson and Al McIntyre, have also made the supreme sacrifice.

Quaker City Showmen Will Redouble Bond Work

PHILADELPHIA — Three hundred and fifty exhibitors heard marine Lieut. Courtland Ruh, fresh from the Pacific area, warn, "Remember the Japs," at a film industry meeting in the Ritz Carlton to spark the Seventh War Loan drive in this territory. Meeting on the day that victory was announced in Europe, exhibitors and distributors pledged they would redouble their bond activities.

Presiding at the meeting was Sidney E. Samuelson, business manager of eastern Allied and exhibitor chairman.

Ruh, whose home is at Lindenwold, N. J., was awarded a Congressional Medal for throwing himself on a hand grenade thrown at three companions on a Pacific island. Other service men spoke.

Broadcasts Are Set To Help Sell Bonds

NEW YORK—Among the activities planned to stimulate interest in the Seventh War Loan will be a series of broadcasts over a coast-to-coast Mutual network. The broadcasts will be devoted entirely to increasing the sale of bonds.

Local arrangements include a series of tieups with all units of the AWVS and CDVO completed by Manhattan Chairman George Ritch. Each of these organizations will round up small stores, clubs, fraternities and other similar groups who will make their bond purchases through local theatres.

Branche Shafron and Dick Bosch of the Inwood Theatre and Frances Ponsrock of the Dyckman have pooled their bond drive activities in arranging with the Jewish Memorial Hospital to make their theatres bond issuing agents for patients and staff of the hospital.

Russell Emde, who is chairman for Westchester in this drive, has stated that enthusiasm in his preliminary meetings surpasses the early get-togethers of any previous drives. He should know about this because he is serving now for the seventh time as chairman for either The Bronx or Westchester.

N. Y. Life Typists Aid 7th

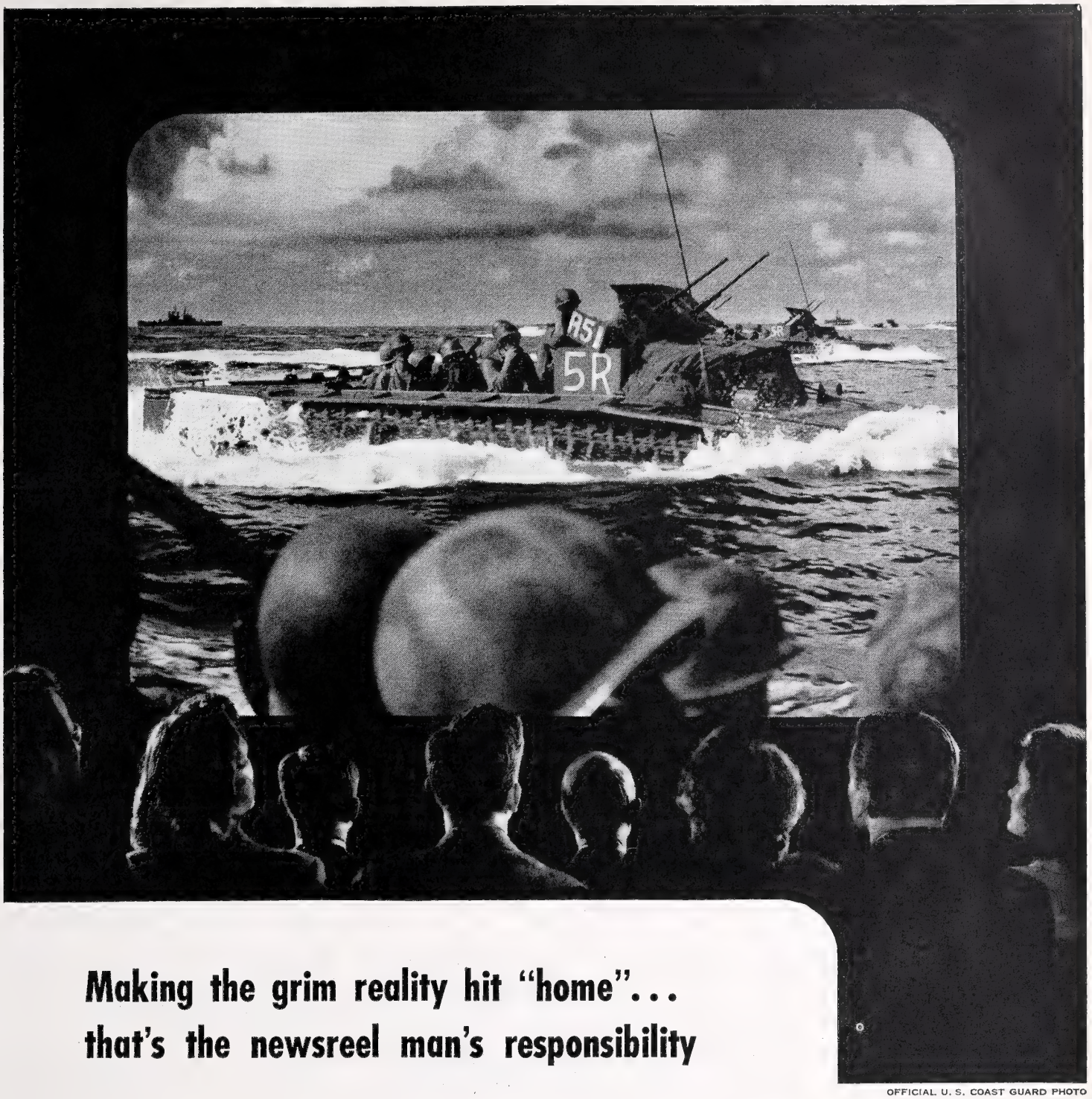
NEW YORK—A complete staff of expert typists has been enlisted for "on the spot" bond issuance when the selling campaign of the war loan gets under way in the metropolitan area on May 14. Through the cooperation of Fred A. Bopp, executive of the N. Y. Life Insurance Co., the services of several hundred of the corporation's stenographers and typists will be available during the bond rallies of the 700 theatres participating in the N. Y. City area.

Bond Show, Dance, May 15

BROOKLYN—Opening gun for this borough on the Seventh War Loan drive will be a show and dance at the Hotel St. George, Tuesday evening, May 15. All theatres are selling bonds for this affair and an estimated total of $3,000,000 is anticipated.



CAFE SOCIETY—Phil Silvers, featured in 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," is both waiter and host at the Stork Club for the winners of the Blind Date radio program winners. Left to right: Cynthia Corley, Bill Long of Charlotte, Elaine Williams, Cpl. Euclid Barberio, San Francisco; Lucille Marsh, and Phil Moscowitz of Brooklyn. A good time was had by all.



OFFICIAL U. S. COAST GUARD PHOTO

Making the grim reality hit "home"... that's the newsreel man's responsibility

MOST vivid "reporting" job in world history, the battlefront pictures sent home by newsreel photographers play a major part in the war effort... give reality to something otherwise remote and far away. Through the newsreels and special government pictures, we at home share in the war, as our fighting men know it.

And the results are measured in terms of increased war production—and successful war bond drives—backed by Americans impelled to action at the movies.

Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war





E. K. "TED" O'SHEA

O'Shea Celebrates 25th Anniversary

NEW YORK—E. K. "Ted" O'Shea, eastern and southern division sales manager for M-G-M, observed his 25th anniversary with the company by harking back to the time he became a booker-salesman in the Buffalo branch. Due to the exigencies of war he celebrated the anniversary quietly with his family.

Joining the Buffalo staff on May 10, 1920, he was made branch manager at Albany five years later; Buffalo manager 12 months after that. He became central district manager with headquarters in New York, serving in that post from July 22, 1937 through October 1937. He was appointed eastern district manager Dec. 3, 1937, and central district manager Jan. 1, 1941. In November of the same year he was named eastern and southern sales manager in which position he is now serving.

He got his first taste of the film business as a high school lad in his home town of Buffalo, working as an usher and treasurer at the late Mike Shea's Court Street Theatre. After a short period as salesman for a tobacco company following his graduation from high school, joined Metro, and has been with the company ever since.

His son, Jim, a fighter pilot with the army air corps who has seen 18 months' active service in the European theatre of operations helped him observe his silver anniversary. Another son, Ted jr., is with the marines on Okinawa.

Four Fabian Managers Win Bonds in R. C. Contest

ALBANY—Four Fabian managers in the Albany area have been presented war bonds for surpassing their established quotas in the recent Red Cross fund drive, Saul J. Ullman, general manager upstate, announced. They are: Charles Fitzgerald, Proctor's Troy; George Seed, Cohoes, Cohoes; Louis Rapp, Plaza, Schenectady, and Bob Lawlor, Community, Catskill.

S. H. Fabian, president of the circuit, offered bond awards to stimulate all Fabian employes to exceed the amounts collected in the Red Cross campaign of 1944.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

ALBANY

Mr. and Mrs. **I. J. Hoffman** of New Haven were in Saratoga visiting friends in the area. Hoffman is Warner Theatres zone manager there . . . Ticket sales point to a sellout for the Variety Club sponsored concert at Fabian's Palace May 16. The concert is an annual event. This year Oscar Levant, concert pianist and Information Please participant, was headlined.

C. J. Latta, Warner Theatres chief, was accompanied on his annual spring tour by Herman Maier of the Warner home office engineering staff . . . Gene Lowe and Bob Adler of the Monogram office were hosts to their boss, Harry Berkson, in from Buffalo for a series of conferences . . . Nate Winig is a new member of the Shaker Ridge Country Club. Nate confided to friends he is out to shake an even 100 pounds from his frame by way of golf . . . Dolores Casey of the 20th-Fox staff was ill.

Sid and Agnes Kallett were guests of Metro's Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Maw at Buffalo prior to Sid's departure for his circuit's headquarters at Oneida. Kallett is the buyer and booker for the Kallett chain . . . L. W. Schine and Seymour Morris returned to the Schine headquarters at Gloversville after an inspection tour in western New York . . . Lou Lazar is back at his desk after a vacation.

Neil Hellman is unavailable for participation in the gin rummy sessions—he's too busy commuting from his house here to his drive-in on the Saratoga road . . . Warners' "Horn Blows at Midnight" made its local debut in a benefit premiere at the Strand. The house was a complete sellout with a $10 top. Proceeds went for the purchase of an ambulance for the Women's Voluntary Services . . . Sid Kallett, back from Florida and points west as far as the Hollywood studios, is back tending to his booking chores for the Kallett group of 16 houses. He proudly exhibits closeups in which he is embracing some of Hollywood's top-flight screen luminaries.

Ted Rosen, son of the Strand's Leo Rosen, has been transferred from a base hospital in Italy to the Rhoads General Hospital at Utica. Mr. and Mrs. Rosen now may visit their boy each weekend.

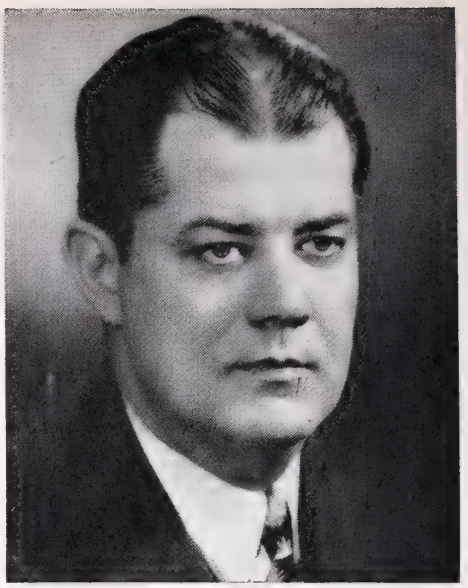
Herman Jacobs has been appointed field director here for Confidential Reports, Inc., with headquarters at 80 State St. The receptionist is Jane Breen who for many years has been cashier and booker at M-G-M . . . Ernie Dodds of Lake Placid, Clarence Dopp of Johnstown, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry LaRocque of Warrensburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davis of Phoenicia, George Thornton of Saugerties and Harry Savett were among visiting exhibitors.

Drive Opens at Rochester

ROCHESTER—Ceremonies in Washington Square Tuesday night marked the opening of a Seventh War Loan bond booth in Loew's to be conducted by Americans of foreign origin. Some 75 members of Clan McNaughton, in full Scottish costume, attended the Washington Square rites, and a pipe and drum band paraded around the square and into the lobby of Loew's. Participating in promotion of bond sales at the lobby booth during the week were Daughters of St. George, Hibernians, British War Relief Society.

Sherburne, N.Y., House Sold

ALBANY—B. H. Simmons has sold the Sherburne Theatre, Sherburne, but continues to operate it on lease. It is open Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.



KARL STREUBER

RCA Pushing Accessories In the Foreign Market

NEW YORK—RCA is pushing its plans for a complete line of equipment for theatres in the foreign market. Its latest move is to get out a 16-page booklet in both English and Spanish.

Karl Streuber, manager of the newly-consolidated theatre and sound equipment department in the international division, predicts a big postwar demand.

Included in the equipment are Brenkert projectors and arc lamps, Baldor rect-o-lite rectifiers, Westinghouse copper oxide rectifiers, Century-Ruth actodectors, International Seat Corp. chairs, and RCA screens and sound equipment.

100 Contestants Receive 101 Golf Match Prizes

ALBANY—Approximately 100 representatives of the picture industry were on hand for the tee-off of Variety Club's golf tournament at the Colonie Country Club.

Thanks to the committee in charge, Arthur Newman, Republic branch manager, and Dr. Samuel Kalison, co-chairman, more than 100 prizes had previously been promoted—an award for every contestant. A cup was awarded to the tournament winner.

Among those present were C. J. Latta, Charles A. Smakwitz, Max Friedman, Joe Weinstein, Jim Faughnan, Jerry Atkin and Woodrow Campbell of Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp.; Saul Ullman, Joe Shurr and Bernie Brooks of Fabian Theatres; Louis Schine, George Lynch, John May and Lou Goldstein of Schine Theatres; Mike and Sid Kallet of Kallet Theatres; William Smalley of Smalley Theatres; William Benton of Benton Theatres; Joe Miller and Ed Hochstim of Columbia Pictures; Herman Ripps, Ralph Ripps, Edward Susse, Arthur Horn and William Williams of Loew's; Eugene Lowe and Bob Adler of Monogram; Clayton Eastman, Dick Hayes and Harold Wyckoff of Paramount; George Tucker, Harold Carlock and Max Westebbe of RKO; Dick Struwe of Republic; Harry Alexander, Harold Sliter and Dan Houlihan of 20th-Fox; Eugene Vogel, Sylvan Leff and William Benson of Universal; Ray Smith and George Goldberg of Warner Bros.; Ben Smith of Pam-O-Film; George Jeffrey of United Artists; A. J. Edman and John Bylancik of National Screen; Harry Lamont of Greenville; Harold E. Smith of radio station WOKO, War Manpower Commissioner Aloysius McGinty and other guests of Variety Club.



BENEFIT PLANNERS—These are the men in charge of plans for the "All for the Wounded" benefit to be held at Carnegie Hall, May 24, by Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, for wounded service men. Left to right: S. Arthur Glixon, Harry Brandt, Albert A. Senft and Alan Corelli.

Radio Ad Men to Talk Over Their Problems

NEW YORK—Members of the radio industry, advertisers and agencies will meet to discuss and exchange information and ideas of interest in their field at a two-day conference sponsored by City College, School of Business and Civic Administration, May 22-23.

The conference will cover discussions of the advancements in commercial television, what the public wants and what the advertiser demands of it, opportunities and obstacles in radio advertising, advanced techniques and the search for new methods of measuring selling effectiveness of radio, and problems of program building.

Speakers will be Archibald M. Crossley, president of Crossley, Inc.; Clarence L. Menser, vice-president in charge of programs for NBC; Robert T. Colwell, vice-president of J. Walter Thompson Co.; C. G. Mortimer jr., vice-president of General Foods Corp.; Frank Stanton, vice-president of CBS; S. E. Gill, president of the Radio Research Council; Earl Bunting, president of O'Sullivan Rubber Co.; Lewis Avery, director of radio advertising for the National Association of Broadcasters; Ira A. Hirschmann, vice-president of Metropolitan Television, Inc., and Lyndon C. Brown, partner in Stewart, Brown and Associates.

The conference sessions will be held at the City College School of Business and Civic Administration.

Marshall Urges Showing VE-Day Film at Once

WASHINGTON—Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the U.S. army, telegraphed 800 first run theatres showing "Two Down and One to Go," urging that the war department's VE-Day three-reeler "be seen by the maximum number of persons in the shortest possible time." The picture is in Technicolor, and is being released by M-G-M.

Characterizing the film as "a most important contribution to our continued war effort," Marshall said its showing "at every performance will aid materially in the task that lies ahead."

Visit Schine Headquarters

ALBANY—Bill Erbb, Paramount division manager from New York, and Al Kane, district manager from Boston, were reported at Schine headquarters in Gloversville.

Single-System Camera Doing a Big War Job

SYRACUSE—Nearly all battle-front films made by combat photographers are taken by a product of this city, the J. M. Wall single system camera, only three of which can be made a month in Mr. Wall's small shop in downtown Syracuse, where highly skilled craftsmen devoted thousands of hours a month to a single camera.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was filmed by one of the Wall cameras in the hands of a Movietone photographer, and it has since become the only apparatus of the kind used by overseas cameramen for the U.S. In addition, it has been shipped to other governments of the Allies through lend-lease. Main purchasers are the navy army signal corps and Movietone, Pathe and March of Time.

When Syracuse work on a camera is finished, it is sent to the Indianapolis factory of RCA, where the sound unit is attached. The filming unit is also manufactured under license by a New York City firm.

Mr. Wall began designing and making movie cameras in the early '20s in a plant at 101 Court St., now the home of the Cine-Simplex Corp., to the parent company of which he sold out after ten years of operation.

His cameras are not only recording battle scenes but will document the peace, too. Several Wall-equipped crews are busy at the San Francisco conference.

Testimony to the high regard his cameras hold around the world in high government places was given Mr. Wall last week when he received a transcontinental call from the Russian delegation. Would he lease one of his cameras for an official Soviet sound record of the conference proceedings?

Mr. Wall was sorry, but none of his products were available for such leasing—those in his shop were for the army, except one being built for shipment to Australia. Mr. Wall asked the Russian inquirer why the Wall camera delivered to the USSR some time ago had not been brought to San Francisco. The flattering reply was that it was "doing great work in Europe and couldn't be spared."

Gus DePauw Is New Schine Rochester City Manager

ROCHESTER—Gus DePauw, former manager of the Capitol at nearby Newark, N. Y., is new supervisor of 11 Schine theatres here following changes in the organization. DePauw works under direction of C. C. Young of Geneva, district manager.

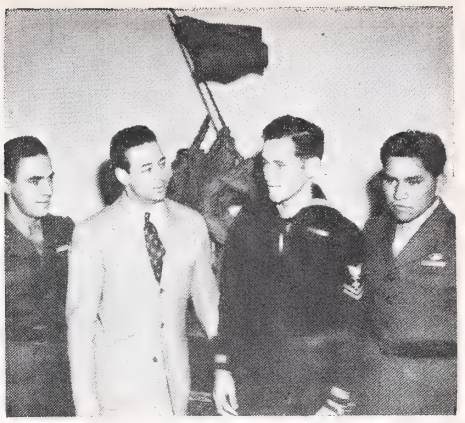
Arthur Castner becomes manager of the Madison, succeeding Charles Holland who resigned. John White takes charge of the Dixie in place of Fred Frost, and Robert Emery, former manager of the Playhouse and Lake at Canandaigua, succeeds Charles Snyder as manager of the Riviera here. Snyder goes to Canandaigua. Castner and White are discharged service men who formerly managed theatres in Corning.

William Selman, Schine city manager the last year, has resigned and plans to take a theatre job in Florida. Young has assumed many of his duties.

Thomas Farnum has become manager of the Lake succeeding Ralph Oatman, who has resigned to enter other work.

Hance Heads Censor Board

LEONARDTOWN, MD.—Benjamin Hance of Prince Frederick has been named chairman of the board of motion picture censors for Maryland.



HISTORY MAKERS — Three of the men who helped raise the American flag over Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima and achieved immortality when they were photographed by Joe Rosenthal of the AP. They are shown with Ted Gamble of the treasury department after inspecting a model of the flag-raising group to be erected in Times Square. They are appearing at Skouras Theatres and on frequent radio shows. Left to right: Marine Pvt. Rene Gagnon, Gamble, Navy Pharmacist's Mate John R. Bradley, and Marine Pvt. Ira Hayes.

Western N. Y. Area Is Ready for Drive

BUFFALO—The motion picture industry of Buffalo and western New York is ready for its role in the Seventh War Loan drive.

To insure a flying start in the six-week drive, every theatre in Buffalo planned to observe Free Movie Day the opening day of the campaign by giving a pair of guest theatre tickets to each war bond buyer.

Charles B. Taylor, state publicity chairman, has appointed the following zone publicity and exploitation chairmen: Lester Pollock, Rochester; Harry Unterfort, Syracuse; Clinton C. Young, Geneva; Ralph Crabill, Elmira; Ned Kornblite, Binghamton; Joseph Schwartzwalder, Auburn; L. M. Levitch, Lockport; Walter League, Olean; Gus Nestle, Jamestown; Richard Walsh, Niagara Falls; Walter Powers, Oswego; William Legerio, Hornell, and Seymour L. Morris, Gloversville.

Kenneth G. Cooley, chairman of the community, announced that every community house here would give two guest tickets to every bond purchaser every day of the campaign.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

WANT TO BUY
USED PRINTS ON
"TARZAN"
and
"GREEN GODDESS"
Write or Wire
DIXIE FILMS. INC.
218 So. Liberty St., New Orleans, La.

Louis Nizer Addresses Workers on the UJA

NEW YORK—Louis Nizer, author of "What to Do With Germany," spoke on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal to a meeting of Paramount home office employes last Tuesday. He pinch-hit for Dr. Frank Kingdon, author and radio commentator, forced to remain at his broadcasting post because of VE-Day activities. Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, presided.

Prior to Nizer's talk U.S. signal corps pictures of atrocities were shown. Nizer emphasized that the horror killings just seen were not merely acts of sadism, but part of Germany's plan to decimate populations of neighboring countries so the Nazis could prepare for a third world war with superior manpower. Continual vigilance would be necessary to fight fifth column activities already taking root throughout the world.

VE-Day was the climax to a great tragedy, Nizer concluded, and in asking for funds for the United Jewish Appeal, he felt the appeal should be considered as an aid to humanity as a whole and not, specifically, to Jewish groups.

Funeral of C. L. Dooley Is Held at Paterson

PATERSON—Funeral services were held last Wednesday for Charles L. Dooley, former district manager for Warner Theatres in Paterson and Passaic and Bergen counties, New Jersey, more recently on the executive staff of the Newark office, who died May 6 at the age of 67.

For more than 25 years Dooley was associated with the building and operation of theatres in northern New Jersey. While he was with the Fabian circuit he was active in the development of theatres in Passaic and Bergen counties. After these theatres were taken over by Warner Bros. he continued in charge of them.

He is survived by his widow and a son, Cameron.

"Crime" to Hoffberg

NEW YORK—J. H. Hoffberg will distribute nationally the French version of "Crime and Punishment." The film, produced by Michael Kargansky, has English titles. Pierre Blanchar and Harry Baur are featured. The film will have a Broadway engagement soon.

INCORPORATIONS

— ALBANY —

Moviepix, Inc.: Formed to conduct a moving picture business in New York; capital stock 200 shares, no par; incorporators are William D. Robinson, 10 Monroe St., and Burnham Levy, 233 W. 99th St., New York; Anna Broder, 377 Montgomery St., Brooklyn.

Fonda Corp.: To conduct a business in radio and television devices in New York; 200 shares, no par; Teresa McGowan, Rose Liebreich, Robert I. Allen, 150 Broadway.

Loew's Managers Submit Bond Drive Suggestions

NEW YORK—Among the suggestions for aiding the Seventh War Loan drive received at WAC headquarters are these two, recommended because of their simplicity and low cost:

Moe Silverstein, assistant at Loew's Victoria, advises having the Seventh War Loan insignia stenciled on all display material used in theatre lobbies and on other display advertising.

E. Stenzel, assistant at Loew's Providence Theatre, Providence, recommends placement in store windows of cards reading: "Sorry, No Cigarets—but Seventh War Loan Bonds are on Sale at Loew's."

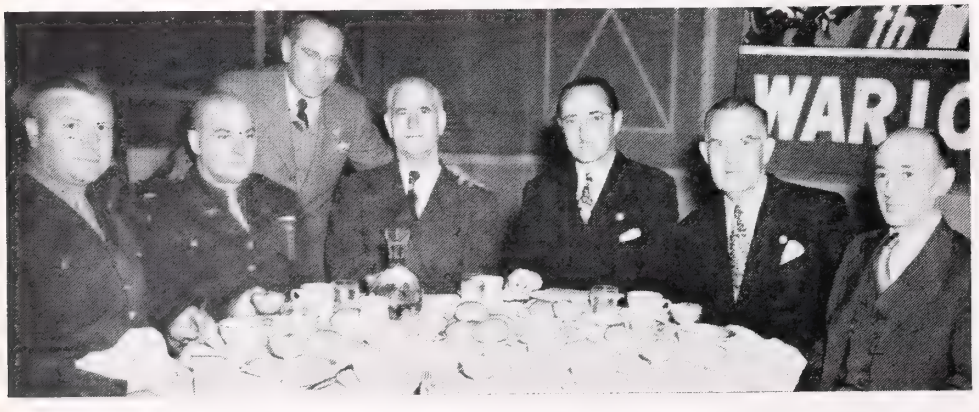
Indiana, New Mexico Ask "G.I." World Premiere

NEW YORK—Gov. John J. Dempsey of New Mexico and Gov. Ralph F. Gates of Indiana have telegraphed Lester Cowan to request he hold the world premiere of Ernie Pyle's "Story of GI Joe" in their respective states. Pyle was born in Indiana and made his home in Albuquerque.

Despite their appeals, as well as one from Mayor Clyde Tingley of Albuquerque asking that the premiere take place in that city, Cowan will adhere to his original plan. The film will be shown first to enlisted men on active duty in the Pacific area.

Arthur J. Kirwan Dies

NEW YORK—Arthur J. Kirwan, RKO purchasing agent, died of a heart attack in White Plains Hospital on May 7. He had been with the company for 18 years, but had been inactive for the last few months because of ill health. He is survived by Mrs. Zaida Kirwan and two daughters, Kathleen Barton and Joan Kirwan.



ALBANY MEN READY—Theatre personnel, exchange men and army and treasury representatives joined in getting the Albany Seventh War Loan plans set. Seen here are Capt. John J. Buyer, Lieut. Col. Mark R. M. Gwilliam, Arthur Horn, Loew salesman; James Papayanakos, Gouverneur, N. Y., exhibitor; C. J. Latta, exhibitor chairman for the area; Ray Smith, distributor chairman; Herbert Kneip, treasury department representative.

Honor Iwo Jima Heroes On Skouras Broadcast

NEW YORK—The six Iwo Jima heroes who raised the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi were honored by the Skouras Theatres war effort department in cooperation with the Journal-American and WOR-Mutual network in the former's weekly broadcast, This Is Our Cause. The program also was a salute to the Seventh War Loan.

Three of the survivors, Pvts. Rene Gagnon and Ira Hayes, USMC, and John H. Bradley, navy pharmacist's mate, appeared on the program. Their voices were picked up from Mutual's Philadelphia station, WIT, where they were making personal appearances for the Seventh War Loan.

A special musical program in keeping with the mood of "National Prayer Day" proclaimed by President Truman was presented by Robert Stanley, director of the 40-piece orchestra.

The broadcast is the first of a series of four donated by the circuit in cooperation with the Journal-American in the interests of the Seventh War Loan, according to Nick John Matsoukas.

Film and Forum Feature ATS Monthly Meeting

NEW YORK—"An Advertiser Looks at Television" was the subject of a round table forum at the monthly meeting of the American Television Society held at the Museum of Modern Art. Participants included Don Widlund of J. Walter Thompson; G. B. Finch; Charles A. Reinbolt of Jam Handy; William Valentin of American Central Mfg. Corp., and others.

"The Queen Was in the Kitchen," a film showing a video program, was projected.

Roxy Reports 2,000 E War Bonds Already Sold

NEW YORK—More than 2,000 E bonds have already been sold for the Seventh War Loan drive at the Roxy Theatre. David Katz, house manager, reports that 80 per cent of these have been of $25 denomination. Maturity value of the 2,000 bonds sold totals $75,000.

Katz believes the Roxy bond counter, more than 35 feet in over-all length, is the largest theatre bond counter in the country. It is manned from opening time each day until theatre closing at night.

T. E. Shea Returns to W.E.

NEW YORK—Timothy E. Shea, formerly chief engineer of the electrical research products division of Western Electric, has returned to the company after four years of service as director for Columbia University division of war research. He has been appointed superintendent in charge of manufacturing engineering at the company's vacuum tube shop. Shea will take over his new assignment this month.

Skouras Manager Better

NEW YORK—Joe Salmon, manager of the Riverside Theatre for the past 16 years, is recovering from a heart attack suffered while on duty several weeks ago. He is now resting at his home. Salmon's service to the Skouras Theatres, in number of years, is said to be the longest of any other manager employe in that organization.

Alan Curtis to Play in "Frontier Gal"

Alan Curtis has been set for a role in "Frontier Gal," a Universal production.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

"Flame" Premiere Starts a Rep. Fete

Republic's flagship picture, "Flame of the Barbary Coast," will start the studio's tenth anniversary celebration with a west coast premiere May 16, playing an engagement, day and date, at the Fox Theatre, San Francisco, and Paramount, Oakland.

Fletcher Bowron, Los Angeles mayor, proclaimed Friday, May 4, "God Is My Co-Pilot" Day in honor of the Warner film which opened at the Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern theatres.

James J. Geller Resigns As Warners' Story Editor

James J. Geller has resigned from his post as story editor at Warners and will return to the William Morris Agency, with whom he had been associated for 12 years prior to joining the studio organization.

Bartlett to Fox in Triple Role After Leaving Army

Sy Bartlett has been signed by 20th-Fox to producer - writer - director contract. Now a lieutenant colonel in the army, Bartlett's pact goes into effect 30 days after his release from service.

Sokolove Quits Columbia Studio Story Editor Job

Richard Sokolove, story editor at Columbia the last two years, has resigned. His resignation reportedly was due to departmental differences.

Tetzlaff RKO Director

Ted Tetzlaff, cinematographer, has been elevated to director by RKO and for his first assignment will meg "Tomorrow Is Here," story of the rehabilitation of returned service men. Tetzlaff's opportunity to direct came as a reward for his camera work on "The Enchanted Cottage" and "Those Endearing Young Charms."

David Lewis Will Resign

Upon completion of "Tomorrow Is Forever," Producer David Lewis will terminate his contract with International Pictures. Although his future plans are indefinite, Lewis indicated that he may go into the independent production field.

UA Executives at Studio

Carl Leserman, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, and Barry Buchanan, advertising and publcity director, are here from New York for a ten-day huddle with UA producers.

Great Boom Is Seen in Philippines If The Islands Remain a Part of U. S.

Paramounteers Lead Cross Country Travels

Paramounteers predominated what little travel was reported for studio and home office executives. Henry Ginsberg, studio head, left for New York for ten days of conferences with Barney Balaban, president; Russell Holman, eastern production head, and Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution. Jack Saper, general production aide to Hal Wallis, returned to his desk at the studios, following two weeks of conferences with home office executives in Gotham. Wallis remained in Manhattan for additional confabs relative to release plans. Director Lewis Allen returned from a two-week visit to New York and is awaiting his next assignment. Jerry Fairbanks flew his own plane to Seattle where he was to film a postwar story of B29 conversion at Boeing Aircraft plant.

Everett Riskin, Metro producer, returned from a New York business trip. Howard Dietz, Metro's vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, was a studio visitor, after several days at the United Nations peace conference in San Francisco, where he was in charge of programs at the United Nations Theatre for official conference visitors.

William Dozier, general production aide to Charles W. Koerner at RKO, trained to New York to look over the new Broadway shows.

Charles Einfeld, Warner director of advertising and publicity, checked back on the Burbank lot following a two-day trip to the conference in San Francisco.

Lester Cowan left for Washington to show Ernie Pyle's "Story of G. I. Joe" to army and state officials. Cowan will then go to New York to confer with George K. Schaefer, chairman of the board, and UA executives regarding the release and possible roadshow of the Pyle production. The producer planned to be gone for a month. Another UA producer, Jules Levey, returned to Hollywood from New York after scouting the story market. Jack Goldstein, David O. Selznick's eastern director of publicity, took off for his Manhattan headquarters after a week's visit at the studio.

Herbert Yates, Republic head man, accompanied by William Saal, left for two weeks of business powwows in New York.

Pete Martin, Universal talent scout and eastern story editor, arrived in Hollywood from New York to confer with studio officials.

Lewis Leaves Universal

Gene Lewis has fulfilled his contract at Universal for production of three pictures on 1944-45 schedule and has checked off the lot.

"Future of motion pictures in the Philippine Islands depends upon the attitude of the Philippine government," in the opinion of Daniel Lederman, just returned to the U.S. after three years in a Japanese internment camp.

Lederman, who was the managing director of 20th-Fox Corp. in the Philippines from 1933 until his capture by the Japanese New Year's night, 1942, returned to his country on the Admiral Eberle, which docked in San Pedro with 2,900 Americans recently rescued from Jap prison camps.

"If the present Philippine government holds a plebiscite and the vote is in favor of remaining a part of the U S., there will be a tremendous business boom on the islands," Lederman stated.

May Seek Independence

"However, if the Filipinos decide to form their own independent government, I am inclined to think that foreign capital will be a little timid."

This, Lederman said, would retard the return to normalcy of Filipino business in motion pictures as well as other fields.

The motion picture industry was among the first confiscated by the Japanese after their entry into Manila, Lederman said. Only a few major theatres were left standing. The others were dismantled and sent back to Japan. Film exchanges were commandeered and Japanese-made pictures rented to the Filipino theatre owners at exorbitant prices.

Strangely enough, Lederman said, the Japs did not ban showings of the few American-made pictures which they found in the exchanges. However, with every showing of an American film, the Japanese insisted on showing two or more shorts depicting the military might of Nippon.

Films Run Again and Again

The popularity of American films is attested to by the fact that they were run time and again until the prints were shredded. On rare occasions, American films were run in some internment camps, accompanied by the inevitable Japanese-made shorts. The Los Bonos internment camp, in which Lederman was a prisoner, had no films during the three years he was there.

Nearly all the motion picture houses not dismantled by the Japs were destroyed during the American campaign to reconquer the islands, Lederman said. In Manila, only three first run houses, the Times, Ideal and Lyric and a few other small theatres, are still open. Before normal motion picture business can be attained, these houses will have to be rebuilt.

Lederman, who lost 60 pounds during his internment, expects to return to the Philippines within the next year. He will remain in the U.S. until he recovers his health.

Many Screen Stars Answer Call For Additional USO Entertainers

VE-Day's most important ramification for Hollywood's soldiers in grease paint was the need for stepping up their activities in response to the Hollywood Victory Committee's drive to fill a war department request for an army of stars and entertainers to tour Europe. The drive has swung into full stride and outstanding personalities are responding to the call.

William Dover, former chief of USO-Camp Shows operations in the European area, was enlisted as special aide by the VE-Day committee.

Among the first celebrities to volunteer their services were Louise Allbritton, Joseph Cotten, William Demarest, Jinx Falkenburg, Jane Frazee, Gabby Hayes, Charles Ruggles and the team of Akim Tamiroff-Leonid Kinskey, Amos and Andy, Joan Blondell, Bette Davis, Joan Fontaine, Victor Francen, Kathleen, June and Gene Lockhart, Rosita Moreno and Paul Muni.

Sponsored by General Eisenhower

Availabilities of all volunteers were being checked and clearances set up immediately with the war department and FBI. The Victory committee program is part of an elaborate plan sponsored by General Eisenhower to provide diversion for his men in the difficult post-VE-Day period.

Dover was set by the VE-Day committee—Y. Frank Freeman, Charles K. Feldman, Olivia de Havilland, Bob Hope, E. J. Mannix, George Murphy, Marco Wolff and Sidney Strotz—to coordinate the efforts of studios, agents and actors in getting players cleared for tours, and to function as liaison with USO-Camp Shows.

"We shall need every name player who can go," committee officials declared. "They can be used for tours of only a few weeks, or for as much as six months. They do not have to be vaudeville or radio entertainers because great need will exist for personalities to visit wounded in hospitals. The war department has asked for all ranks of dramatic and entertainment talent."

On U.S. Hospital Circuit

Meanwhile HVC continued its program for entertainment of men and women in military hospitals and camps in this country. Highlights of the week's activities in this department included:

Jane Wyman and the Ritz brothers left on a three-week tour opening May 10 at Chelsea, Mass., and visiting Ft. Devens, Taunton and Camp Edwards, Mass., and O'Reilly General Hospital at Springfield, Mo.

Another troupe left for three days in the San Francisco-Sacramento area, with Bob Alda, Jess Barker, Ernie Barron, Vivian Blaine, Rene DeMarco, Dick Erdman, Kirby Grant, Darriel Johnson, Dorothy Lamour, Harriet Lee, Jane Powell, Elaine Ramsy, Lina Romay and Walter Ruick. The players were set to visit DeWitt General Hospital and the navy receiving hospital at San Francisco, and also were to be guests at the governor's annual legislative dinner at Sacramento.

Virginia Weidler and Frank Faylen left on hospital tours. Miss Weidler for three weeks in Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina; Faylen for two weeks in Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts.

Margaret O'Brien, Clark Gable and Bob Hope headlined a Mail Call transcription, with Dame May Whitty, the Eddie Heywood Group and Don Wilson.

The voices of Walt Disney characters featured a Command Performance platter, with Pinto Colvig, Clara Cluck, Mel Blanc, Arthur Q. Bryan, Harry von Zell, Eddie Green, Lina Romay, Donald Duck, Panchito, Jose Carioca and the Carmen Miranda group, with Ken Carpenter announcing.

Bob Hope did his second army show of the week when GI Journal was recorded at the Hollywood Canteen. Also set for Journal were Connie Haines, Mel Blanc, Harry Mitchell and Dick Aurandt and orchestra.

Charles Coburn joined the list of hospital troupers, planing out for Ogden, Utah, where he spent two days visiting wounded in the wards at Bushnell General Hospital. He then paid a three-day visit at Fitzsimmons General Hospital at Denver.

Frank Faylen left to join a USO-Camp Shows hospital unit, starting his tour at Deshon General Hospital, Butler, Pa.

Faye Marlowe and Marjorie Henshow open at Winter General Hospital, Topeka, first stop on a ten-day tour winding up at Salt Lake City.



VE-DAY GROUP TO RECRUIT ENTERTAINERS — Theirs is a terrific VE-Day chore. Here, discussing ways and means of filling the war department's order for an army of stars and entertainers to tour Europe to entertain GIs in hospitals and camps, is the special VE-Day committee appointed for the recruiting job. Left to right, they are: Marco Wolff, Y. Frank Freeman, Olivia de Havilland, Charles K. Feldman, Kenneth Thompson, Bob Hope and Sidney Strotz. (Photo by Watson Photo Service).

Apathetic Studio Strike Enters Its Ninth Week

What little interest remained in the studio strike was completely overshadowed by the official declaration of VE-Day. Were it not for the pickets before the gates of the film lots, Hollywood easily could have forgotten the walkouts completely. The strike finished its eighth week and entered the ninth with virtually no new developments.

Missing was even the weekly "the-strike-is-won" statement from the producers, which normally announced production was proceeding at satisfactory levels at all studios. A check revealed that the ninth week of the strike dawned with 37 features before the cameras at all plants, including the independents and those never effected by the strike.

Those keenly interested in the strike and its various union ramifications were watching developments in Washington where Richard Walsh, president of the IATSE and commander-in-chief of one entrenched labor group, was appearing before the executive council of the American Federation of Labor. Walsh's unions, as well as those commanded by Herbert Sorrell, head of the opposing Conference of Studio Unions, all are AFL affiliates. What peace proposals, if any, may come out of Walsh's Washington trek, was about the only point of interest the tired strike afforded.

Musical Extravaganza Slated Annually by PRC

Plans for the production of an annual musical extravaganza to feature name entertainers and outstanding musical organizations were announced by Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, following the purchase of an original libretto from Arthur Savage. The initial production of the series titled "Music Hall Varieties of 1946," is planned as one of the company's top productions for the 1945-46 season.

Bob Hope and Paramount Sign Seven-Year Contract

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, made a new contract for the exclusive services of Bob Hope for seven years. Hope will go overseas on an entertainment tour shortly and will report to the studio about August 1 to start "The Road to Utopia," with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour, his first screen appearance under the new pact.

Jonie Taps to Head New Columbia Department

Jonie Taps is scheduled to arrive here in June to head a new department at Columbia as executive director of sales and exploitation of music. The new department will be entirely separate from that of Morris Stoloff, who is musical director of the studio.

J. M. Brown Adds New Southern Stands

News stands added to the southern personal appearance tour of a company headed by Johnny Mack Brown are Ritz, Columbia; Rivoli, Treenville; Criterion, Anderson; Victory, Charleston, all in South Carolina, and the Noble at Anniston in Alabama.

Surprisingly Quiet VE-Day Observance

It was business as usual for Hollywood on VE-Day.

The producers association's earlier and widely-publicized statement that the film plants would not close in observation of the event brought forth a normal quota of employes and production activities were carried forward without notable interruptions.

In fact the film colony, like the rest of southern California, was surprisingly quiet throughout the day. There were few celebrations. Theatres in greater Los Angeles remained open and reported average audiences and usual behavior by ticketbuyers.

Even the statements—and the celluloid capital dearly loves to issue statements on the drop of any pronouncement—were surprisingly few.

One from E. J. Mannix, president, Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers, declared:

With all other Americans, the people of Hollywood's motion picture industry received the news of final victory in Europe with profound relief and with deep gratitude to our valiant fighting men. Yet we realize that our responsibiliy to them is not fulfilled, nor will it be until the grim task ahead is ended. To every phase of effort in which we can contribute to total victory, with the complete and unconditional surrender of the Japanese, we pledge ourselves as individuals and as an industry.

George Murphy, president of the Screen Actors Guild, also issued a formal declaration, which stated:

All screen actors share America's thankfulness for the conclusion of hostilities in Europe.

To the families whose sons, brothers and sisters have died in battle we wish to express our confidence that they shall not have died in vain.

To the men who still fight for freedom and world peace, we say that we will be with you on every fighting front—many of us in uniform and others in entertainment units bringing you good cheer.

The war is not over.

Thousands of the Americans we have come to know and love during our 4,000,000 miles of travel over the morale circuit through foxholes, camps and hospitals, still must fight on before the world may enjoy the blessings of peace.

VJ-Day still lies ahead.

Final victory must still be won.

We therefore rededicate the Screen Actors Guild to the special duties assigned us by the military—the entertainment of America's armed forces all over the world, and personal visits with the wounded at home and abroad.

Clothing Drive Roundup

Hollywood's collection of clothing for Allied relief entered its final week with a total of 25,282 pounds shown in the third report from studio colonels to Chairman Ginger Rogers. For two weeks, contributions averaged a half-ton daily, but the rate was expected to increase as last-minute donors answered the final call.

The largest contribution according to the number of donors (based on the number of pledges in the recent Red Cross drive) comes from PRC, the last report showed. Individual solicitation at the studio has brought in 3.95 pounds per person, more than twice the rate on any other lot.

Henry Blanke Signed For 15 More Years

Jack L. Warner announced that Henry Blanke has been signed to an unprecedented contract which will continue his Warner Bros. association for the next 15 years and which will bring his total length of service with the studio to 37 years. The announcement ends speculations about Blanke's future status and affiliation. His record of feature motion pictures produced for Warner Bros. now numbers 85, and Blanke has several new productions in preparation.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

THE ice has been broken on a lush, tempting but extremely delicate pool of motion picture material — the life and ideologies of the late, great Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

United Artists Producer Benedict Bogeaus was first among Hollywood filmmakers definitely to announce intentions of making a feature based upon the vast amount of screen substance brought into focus by the President's death.

Prior to Bogeaus' proclamation, the trade and lay press had indulged in considerable conjecture regarding ventures reportedly being mulled for the production of biographical subjects on FDR. Railbirds printed that both David O. Selznick and Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox impresario, were toying with such ideas. Spokesmen for neither would give official status to the reports.

Bogeaus' picture will be called "The Four Freedoms." Further than that, slightly on the ambiguous side, was the press release which revealed the undertaking. It came from Jerry Dale, Bogeaus' publicity head, and is subject to some analysis:

Dale declared, "the picture, presented as sheer entertainment, will be filmed with an all-star cast and produced on a lavish scale." That much is attributable to standard procedure of press agentry—the wisdom and good taste of which, in this instance, might be questioned.

Next! "Although President Roosevelt will not be pictured in any form in the production, efforts will be made to film the production in cooperation with the President's close associates who would act in an advisory capacity." Write that much off to protection and, maybe, a bit of wishful thinking. No one will produce a film in which President Roosevelt is pictured "in any form" without permission of his widow and family. Just how difficult it will be to secure that permission, time will tell.

And, then, the crux of the situation as reflected in two phrases: the picture is to be "a memorial to our late President" and "in aspect the film will be international, portraying to the world a story of the principles for which Roosevelt stood."

With those two ambitious statements, establishing a definite, albeit still vague and unofficial, connection between the proposed feature and the memory and ideologies of the nation's mourned wartime leader, Praiser Dale saddled his employer with an immense responsibility, which if it is not munificently fulfilled makes them both guilty of unforgivable opportunism.

Yes, President Roosevelt's life is indeed a lush and tempting pool of screen material. In the best interests of the industry, the nation and the world, fervently is it to be hoped that no producer, including Bogeaus—and more certainly, no press agent—bites into it for more than he can chew—tastefully, creditably and faithfully.

➡

Pessis and Ettinger, catch-as-catch-can space snatchers, reveal that Louella ("The Gay Illiterate") Parsons will again contribute "the lead article on motion pictures for the Encyclopedia Britannica." It will be the seventh consecutive yearly contribution by Queen Louella to that widely-known symposium.

". . . where angels fear to tread."

➡

"The Picket Line" is a mimeographed publication, copies of which are distributed regularly to the studio strikers. Presumably it is edited by Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions. A recent copy carried the following edifying morsel:

"We have evidently hit the jackpot, as Columbia was not able to fulfill its contract with the navy due to the strike."

Which brought a quick and emphatic denial from Lieut. Comdr. Fanning M. Hearon, officer in charge of the U.S. Naval Photographic Service Depot, who broadcast, "I am informed that the strike people are claiming to have 'hit the jackpot' in stopping Columbia Pictures and the navy. On the other hand, I am assured by Columbia executives and my own officers that production is going according to schedule."

Regardless of what one's sentiments may be as concerns the strike and which of the above claims is correct, "The Picket Line" item reflected extremely bad judgment. For striking unionites to crow, with or without cause, over slowing the war effort, will win few friends to their cause; gives Hollywood still another public relations black eye.

➡

"KNIFE AND BOLO EXPERTS SIGNED"
—Howard Strickling headline.

Isn't it a bit unfair to go off the lot for such talent when so much of it is available in the publicity department?

➡

Never let it be said the Praise Pundit Perry Lieber is not an esthetic soul. Stimulated by his propensity toward broadcasting trivia, he is letting it be known publicly that he seeks a double apartment.

To match his chins, no doubt.

➡

From Bernie Williams: "In order to get around the gasoline shortage, Hunt Stromberg is going in for large farming on a sound stage."

". . . that's where the tall corn grows."

➡

Bernie Kamins, the bashful boy blurber, on loanout from Producer Charles Rogers' publicity department, is doing a writing chore at Republic. According to Les Kaufman he turned in a "novel story" called "Mr. Television," decribed as "a humorous fantasy about a character with X-ray eyes."

Kamins should qualify as an expert on the subject. In working for Rogers, he's probably seen everything.

➡

Director William K. Howard's next two megging chores will be "Adventures of Aphrodite" and "A Guy Could Change."
At least, the progression is logical.

➡

It Had to Happen Dept.:

Republic will make a musical western yclept "Don't Fence Me In."

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

New stands added to the southern personal appearance tour of a company headed by JOHNNY MACK BROWN are Ritz Theatre, Columbia; Rivoli Theatre, Greenville; Criterion, Anderson; Victory, Charleston, all of South Carolina; and the Noble Theatre, Anniston, Alabama.

Briefies

Warners

"Movieland Magic," two-reel Technicolor short slated for direction by JACK SCHOLL, will feature Wandra Hendrix and Mel Torme.

Under supervision of GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD, a two-reeler in Technicolor on the Boy Scouts of America is being prepared. Footage, to be shot in various Scout camps, will include scenes of the Sea Scouts and Cub Scouts and their activities.

Cleffers

Monogram

FRANK SANUCCI named as musical director on next Jimmy Wakely starrer, as yet untitled.

Universal

Option of HANS SALTER, musical director and composer, exercised for another year.

Loanouts

United Artists

KENT TAYLOR has been borrowed from Universal for second male lead in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

Meggers

Columbia

Recently promoted from assistant director, RAY NAZARRO has been signed to a long-term pact as a director.

Independents

King Bros. have signed ALFRED ZEISLER to a three-picture deal, with "Payment Due" set as his initial assignment.

Metro

CHARLES MARTIN will debut as a director on his own original story, "No Leave, No Love," slated for summer production by JOE PASTERNAK.

Monogram

PHIL KARLSTEIN inked to meg "The Shanghai Cobra."

JEFFREY BERNERD slated to produce "Black Market Babies."

LAMBERT HILLYER set to meg next Cisco Kid film, third in the series starring Duncan Renaldo. Victor Hammond has completed the screenplay, and starting date is scheduled for May 14.

Paramount

JOE SISTROM will take over the production reins on "Blue Skies" where the late Mark Sandrich left off.

LEWIS ALLEN signed to another year's contract.

Republic

"Don't Fence Me In," Cole Porter number which will reach the screen as a western musical, slated for production by ARMAND L. SCHAEFER with Don Brown as associate producer. Title rights to the song hit were purchased when it was introduced by Roy Rogers in "Hollywood Canteen" and with the original story now completed, production is set for an early date.

United Artists

ANDRE DE TOTH has taken over direction of "Young Widow," Hunt Stromberg production, replacing WILLIAM DIETERLE who backed away from the chore when he and the producer failed to agree on how certain sequences in the film should be handled. The Stromberg-Dieterle parting was described as amicable.

Universal

WILLIAM A. SEITER was signed to direct the new Michael Fessier-Ernest Pagano musical, "Once Upon a Dream."

Director CHARLES DAVID's option picked up for another jear.

"Johnnie Anselmo," one of his own original stories, will be LUCIEN HUBBARD's first picture under his new writer-producer deal. Yarn concerns a returning Congressional Medal of Honor winner, set against a political backgound. Hubbard is writing the screenplay.

Options

Columbia

LEWIS RUSSELL, Broadway character actor, inked to a term pact, under which his first assignment will be in "Some Call It Love."

WALTER CATLETT has been set for a role in "I Love a Bandleader."

Metro

JACQUELINE WHITE set for a part in "The Yearling."

Monogram

CHARLES KING and ERNIE ADAMS check into "Sunbonnet Sue."

Paramount

CLARKE EGGLESTON has been inked for a role in "The Blue Dahlia."

Radio announcers KEN CARPENTER, CARLETON CORDELL and NORMAN NESBITT have been inked for narration in "Cross My Heart."

Options for six months have been exercised on "MARGARET FIELD and JOHN DEAUVILLE.

Republic

PEGGY STEWART, MICHAEL SLOANE, KENNE DUNCAN, TOM LONDON and WADE CROSBY have been added to the cast of "Rough Riders of Cheyenne."

EDWARD ASHLEY has been signed for the romantic lead opposite Virginia Bruce in "Love, Honor and Goodbye."

RKO Radio

Option lifted on PHILLIP TERRY for another year.

NAN LESLIE's option has been lifted.

JAMES GLEASON has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Kid From Brooklyn."

WILLIAM DAVIDSON ticketed for a role in "Ding Dong Williams."

MILTON KIBBEE has been added to the cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever."

20th Century-Fox

GENE LOCKHART has been signed for a role in "Now It Can Be Told." Also added to the cast were EDWIN JEROME, BEN BURROUGHS and DOUGLAS RUTHERFORD, New York radio actors.

United Artists

Signed by Hunt Stromberg for important spots in "Young Widow" are WILLIAM MOSS and BILL "RED" MURPHY, late of the army and navy, respectively.

PETER GAREY ticketed for important role in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

Universal

ALAN CURTIS has been set for a role in "Frontier Gal."

Scripters

Columbia

MELVIN LEVY named for scrivening chore on "The Kansan."

GLADYS HURLBUT inked for final screenplay and polish stint of "The Ghost Steps Out."

JOSEPH MICHELE signed to do the screenplay of "Frisco Fury."

HARRY ESSEX assigned to collaborate with TED THOMAS on screenplay of "Corpus Delicti."

Paramount

P. J. WOLFSON has been signed to a long term contract.

Republic

GERTRUDE WALKER set to script untitled original for Walter Goetz, associate producer.

RKO Radio

JAMES FRANCIS CROW, editorial assistant to William Dozier, has been given a new contract.

EDDIE DEAN has been signed to script "Albany Night Boat."

Universal

LUDWIG BEMELMANS, who has been working on the screenplay of "Scarlet Street" has asked for a release from Fitz Lang, producer-director, and Walter Wanger so that he can leave immediately for New York to work with Jed Harris in the production of his play, "The Blue Danube." Dudley Nichols will replace Bemelmans.

PATRICIA HARPER and WILLIAM LIVELY inked to write screenplays of next two westerns.

HENRY BLANKFORT handed final screenplay chore of western, "The Daltons Ride Again," by Ford Beebe, director-associate producer. Paul Gangelin, after completing the first draft, ankled the lot.

Hollywood to Sponsor Radio Bond Premieres

Hollywood merchants and theatres are again joining hands in the Seventh War Loan drive to sponsor seven gala radio-screen bond premieres.

First of such coast-to-coast radio war bond premieres for bond buyers was to be the Sherlock Holmes radio show, featuring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce in person, which was set to be broadcast from the stage of the Paramount Theatre Monday, May 14. Six other shows are being lined up through the combined efforts of Hollywood merchants, theatre officials and radio executives.

All war bond premieres will also feature a preview of a feature film from a major studio.

Theatres listed for coast-to-coast radio shows are the Egyptian, Grauman's Chinese, Warners' Hollywood, Pantages, Hawaii and Guild.

Story Buys

Columbia

"Checkmate for Murder," Allan Rader's script of the Whistler air show broadcast last March 25, has been purchased for screen adaptation. The film, to be produced by Rudolph Flothow under the supervision of Leonard Picker, will star Richard Dix.

Metro

An original idea appearing as chapter ten in Morton Thompson's "Joe, the Wounded Tennis Player" has been purchased. As yet untitled as a screenplay, the chapter has been dramatized in radio. Sam Marx has been named producer and the author will do the scripting. Yarn deals with a boy who is able to talk to horses and is background-ed in Baltimore.

Paramount

Screen rights have been acquired to a collection of 16 stories about New York Irish characters by John McNulty, and shortly to be published by Little, Brown and Company under the title "Third Avenue, New York."

A deal has been closed for the film rights to one of the late Sir James M. Barrie's plays, "Alice Sit by the Fire," to be produced by Charles Brackett under the simplified title, "Alice." The deal was closed with the heir to the Barrie estate, Lady Cynthia Asquith, in London. The writing team of Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich are working on the adaptation.

Republic

"Blossoms for Effie," an original story by Lee Loeb and Arthur Straun, was purchased for this season's production by Armand L. Schaefer.

RKO Radio

"Step by Step," an original mystery melodrama by George Callahan, has been purchased with Lawrence Tierney cast in the major role.

"Shall This Be Known," an original murder yarn by Lilo Damert and Henri Aisner, has been purchased by RKO. The film, to be produced by Jack Gross, will star Dick Powell. The contract includes a special clause stating that Aisner, a French director, will direct this or another picture for RKO within the year.

20th Century-Fox

"The High Window," mystery novel, has been purchased from RAYMOND CHANDLER, author of "Double Indemnity." The screenplay is being written by Leonard Praskins. Robert Bassler will produce the film, and Fred MacMurray has been set for the lead.

Technically

Columbia

IVAN VOLKMAN has been signed as assistant director to Del Lord on "I Love a Bandleader."

PRC Pictures

FRANCES KAVANAUGH has been engaged as dialog director on "In Old Wyoming."

BENNY KLINE set to lens "Two Tickets to Heaven."

RKO Radio

International Pictures has loaned Walter Wanger Productions MILTON KRASNER to photograph the forthcoming Fritz Lang production costarring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett.

As his first assignment since being released from the navy, GREGG TOLAND will lens Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

Samuel Goldwyn has engaged JOHN E. BURCH as director on "The Kid From Brooklyn."

Title Changes

Columbia

BOSTON BLACKIE'S RENDEZVOUS is the new title for "Surprise in the Night."

Monogram

GREGORY set as new tag for "Gregory the Great."

20th Century-Fox

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE is the final tag given to the Popular Pictures production, "Ten Little Indians."

United Artists

Arnold Pressburger's "Vidoq" changed to SCANDAL IN PARIS.

Universal

GIRL ON THE SPOT is the new handle for "Serenade for Murder."



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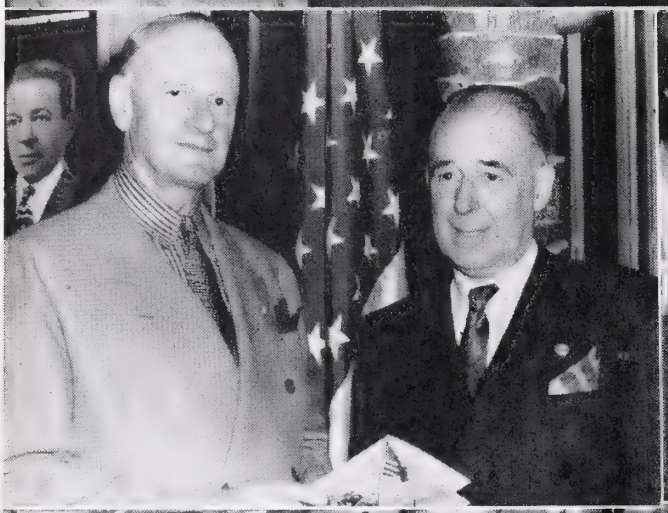
FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



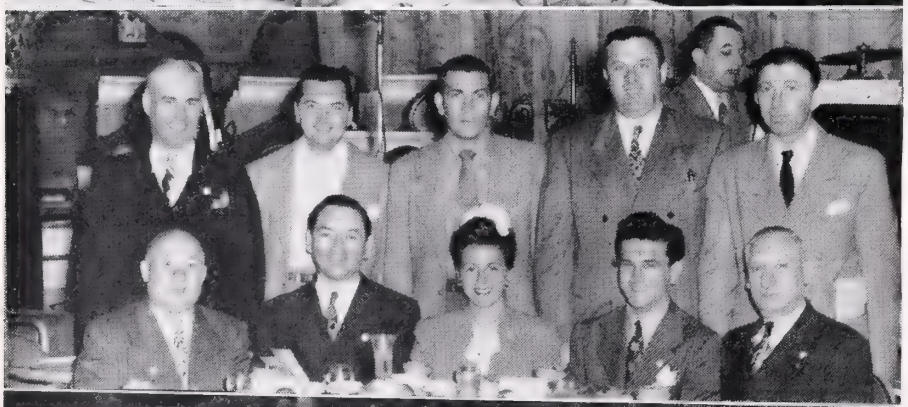


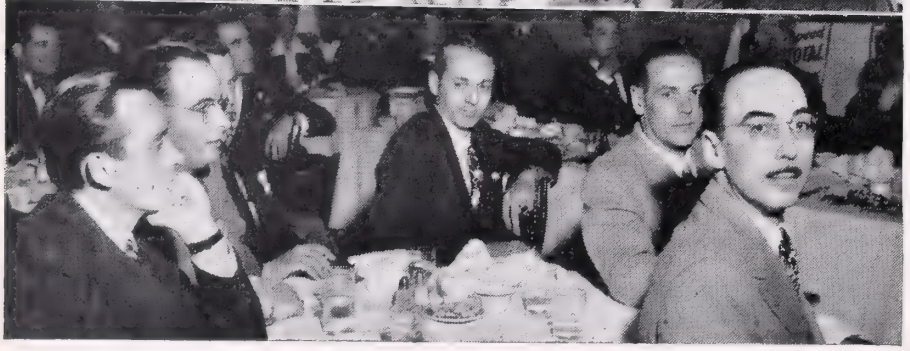












STRATEGY THE KEYNOTE — One quarter of the hundred million dollar E bond quota set for the Seventh War Loan by southern California theatres is expected to be raised at the gigantic rally to be staged in Hollywood Bowl on the evening of May 18.

A few of the 500 attendants were snapped by the cameraman at the pre-campaign kickoff luncheon in Los Angeles, and, left to right, are as follows:

Left top panel: Charles P. Skouras, honorary national chairman and responsible for the 11 western states during the coming campaign; Marco Wolff, Sherrill Corwin, O. N. Srere; next, Roy Cooper, WAC chairman, northern California; George Mann, California state co-chairman.

Second row panel: Hugh Bruen, Whittier, Calif.; Robert Poole, president, ITOA of So. California; next, seated: Homer Gill, FWC, Bakersfield; Bernie Wolf, manager, NSS, Los Angeles; George Bowser, FWC; Jay Sutton, Hawaii Theatre, Los Angeles; Russell Rogers, FWC partner; standing: Bob Week, FWC booker; Everett Sharp, co-manager with Charles Doty, the next man, FWC film booking department, Los Angeles; Bob Carr, FWC booker.

Third panel: Mrs. L. Williard, El Rancho Theatre, Moorepark, Calif.; Mrs. Lynch and mother, Mrs. Jackson, owners, Elsinore Theatre, Elsinore, Calif.; Mrs. Ida Schreiber, secretary to president of the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n.

Fourth panel, seated: M. Stessel, Al Gorrel, B. Sherman, H. Stein and A. Baehr; standing: C. Gettor, J. Maloney, L. Weisner, M. Green and Division Manager Jack Goldberg, all connected with Eastland Theatres of East Los Angeles.

Bottom: A group of Hamrick-Evergreen circuit managers.

"Scandal" Is the Best Los Angeles Earner

LOS ANGELES—"A Royal Scandal" was the best local grosser, bowing in with 150 at the Chinese, State and Uptown theatres. "Without Love," in its second week, was a close runnerup. "A Horn Blows at Midnight" and "Bring On the Girls," both in their second week, did considerable of a nosedive.

(Average is 100)

Chinese, State and Uptown—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox).....150
Downtown Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **High Powered** (Para), 2nd wk.....73
Egyptian and Ritz—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....125
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**Lake Placid Serenade** (Rep); **Faces in the Fog** (Rep).....100
Hillstreet—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ); **The House of Fear** (Univ).....100
Hollywood Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk.....100
Los Angeles—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....90
Pantages—Same as Hillstreet.....85
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB), 2nd wk.....100

Unseasonable Heat Wave in Seattle Causes Big Drop in Theatre Patrons

SEATTLE—A few days of unseasonable warm weather caused crowds to flock to the beaches, especially in the evenings. All records were broken for heat at this time of the year, and theatres felt the pinch. Business went into a heavy dive.

Blue Mouse—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); **Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), 4th d. t. wk.....150
Fifth Avenue—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO).....130
Liberty—**A Song to Remember** (Col).....175
Music Box—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 4th d. t. wk.....120
Music Hall—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M).....175
Orpheum—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Man Who Walked Alone** (WB).....110
Palomar—**G. I. Honeymoon** (Mono); **There Goes Kelly** (Mono), plus vaudeville.....140
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para).....150

War Films and Artie Shaw Act Lead Attractions in San Francisco Houses

SAN FRANCISCO—War films had an inning on Market St. with the Orpheum hitting the high spot with "Counter-Attack," starring Paul Muni, and the Fox chalking up 140 for "God Is My Co-Pilot." The Golden Gate Theatre's stage offering of Artie Shaw coupled with "Pan-Americana" brought the barometer reading for the week up to 175.

Esquire—**It's in the Bag** (UA), 3rd d. t. wk.; **Castle of Crimes** (PRC), 3rd d. t. wk.....110
Fox—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **What a Blonde** (RKO).....140
Golden Gate—**Pan-Americana** (RKO); stage, Artie Shaw.....175
Orpheum—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col).....150
Paramount—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Utah** (Rep), 2nd wk.....100
State—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Faces in the Fog** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk.....110
St. Francis—**Practically Yours** (Para); **High Powered** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.....120
Tivoli—Same as Esquire.....110
United Artists—**Brewsters Millions** (UA); **I Love a Mystery** (Col).....100
Warfield—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 4th wk; **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.....120

"Murder" Plus "Cisco Kid" Cops Top Percentage of Week at Denver

DENVER — "Murder, My Sweet" with "Cisco Kid Returns" on a holdover at the Paramount copped the top percentage, with "Royal Scandal" and "House of Fear" at the Esquire a close second.

Aladdin—**Sudan** (Univ); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), 3rd d. t. wk.....115
Denham—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 3rd wk.....105
Denver—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **House of Fear** (Univ).....150
Esquire—Same as Denver.....170
Orpheum—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Hollywood and Vine** (PRC), 2nd wk.....110
Paramount—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), 2nd wk.....175
Rialto—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 3rd d. t. wk.....165

Stars to Spark Gigantic Bond Rally in the Bowl

LOS ANGELES—A gigantic $25,000,000 E bond show to be staged in the Hollywood Bowl on Friday evening, May 18, will be the launching event of southern California showmen's participation in the Seventh War Loan drive. Announcement of the big show was a highlight of the precampaign kickoff luncheon attended by approximately 500 circuit and independent exhibitors. Charles P. Skouras, national honorary chairman, and active head of the drive in the 11 western states, presided at the gathering. He revealed the plans for the Bowl event and supplied another highlight when he pledged the company which he heads, National Theatres, to a purchase of $7,000,000 worth of Seventh War Loan bonds.

Stars already set to appear at the bond show include Bing Crosby, Ginger Rogers, Abbott and Costello, Andrews sisters, Rochester, Rise Stevens, Carl Hoff and his orchestra.

Geared to break all previous records, $100,000,000 in E bond sales is the quota established for the southern California motion picture theatres during the "Mighty Seventh." Proposed by Skouras and Gus Metzger, southern California theatres chairman, the quota was cited as the greatest theatres bond goal on record, topping both the 49 millions of the Fifth and the 72 millions in E bonds of the Sixth.

For the 11 western states, comprising 4,500 film theatres, Skouras revealed the goal will be one billion dollars in E bonds, representing 25 per cent of the treasury department's national E bond goal.

Metzger pledged the complete cooperation in every phase of the forthcoming bond drive with a schedule of special activities that will include several hundred bond premieres, Free Movie Days, mobile units, special performances of film and live talent shows and joint participation with banks, newspapers, department stores and radio.

Extensive plans and new ideas to be utilized by the film theatres in the impending loan campaign were discussed at the session, and the film men saw a special preview of a war loan film subject, "All-Star Bond Rally," starring Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Betty Grable and numerous other stars, which will be released in all theatres the week of May 14.

In addition to Skouras and Metzger, the speakers included: R. H. Moulton, treasury department official; Dave Bershon, southern California film industry chairman for the first five drives; O. N. Srere and Sherrill Corwin, southern California vice-chairmen; Mort Goodman, publicity co-chairman, and Lieut. John J. Finnegan, army air corps.

Regional Meetings This Week In San Francisco Area

SAN FRANCISCO—The local motion picture industry part in the Seventh War Loan drive is on its way.

Regional meetings are being held throughout the state. The first was held on May 7 in San Jose under the direction of Fred Curtice. Attending were George Mann, chairman; Faye Reader, publicity chairman; Roy Cooper, N. P. Jacobs, J. J. O'Laughlin and Sergeant Clem, a war veteran.

With the exception of Mann whose chairmanship was taken over by Cooper and Jacobs, the same men attended a dinner in Redding held under the sponsorship of Mike Kassis, the same day, and in Chico on Tuesday sponsored by T. Whittemore. A Sacramento meeting was held Wednesday under the direction of Clarence Wasserman at Santa Rosa that evening with Harold Wright as chairman, and at Vallejo Thursday with George Breece as chairman. In the southern territory chairmen were Rotus Harvey and Jacobs with Joe Longo as publicity chairman. They conducted meetings at Salinas, sponsored by Russell Hoff; at Merced, by Van Garrison; at Tulare, by George Olsen; Fresno, Harry Olmstead, and at Stockton by Roy Duddy.

Idaho Couple Celebrates 22 Years as Operators

MONTPELIER, IDAHO—The twenty-second anniversary of the opening of the Rich Theatre here was observed recently by Mr. and Mrs. Standley H. Rich, who built the house and first opened its doors April 15, 1923.

The two operated the theatre together for 17 years. It was then leased to the Harris-Voeller Theatres organization, Mrs. Rich retiring from the business and Rich continuing in his present capacity as manager.

The Rich now is the only theatre in operation here.

LOS ANGELES

Ned Calvi of the Priva Theatre in Hawthorne returned from two weeks in the sun at Palm Springs . . . Another sun worshiper back from a vacation at the desert resort was George Hickey, Metro's western sales supervisor . . . Dud Forey, head booker at Monogram, greeted his old friends and new work after a two-week vacation . . . Also back from a vacation was Beverly Whitney, Universal booker.

The local Universal exchange entertained Thomas Murray, branch maintenance chief, here for one of his periodical visits . . . Two Arizonans seen on the Row: Harry Nace of Phoenix and Nick Diamos, Lyric Amusement Co., Tucson . . . Newly appointed and already on the job as booker for the local Vinnicof Theatres is Gerald Logue, formerly with the Universal branch in Philadelphia.

Al Boadman, Columbia booker, left for Detroit and a vacation . . . Dorothy Braverman is the new billing clerk at Columbia . . . In for huddles with Gene Allen of Metro was Jerry Jonas, checking supervisor from New York . . . Fire destroyed the Gardena Theatre of suburban Gardena on May 4. Of unknown origin, the conflagration did damages estimated at $100,000.

Covered with medals, including a Presidential citation, Lieut. Robert Melcher, son of Rube Melcher of Poppers Supply Co., has returned from the South Pacific . . . Al Gorrel, local film salesman, has been informed of the release from a German prison camp of his son-in-law, Sgt. Irving Tatkin.

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WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



When prohibition went into effect **Bill Stephens** of Scobey, Mont., had to look around for a new business. He had been a saloon keeper and after the country went dry he became a theatre operator. Since 1919 he has continued in this business and still manages his theatre, the Rex. He is a member of the Montana Independent Theatres organization. For 53 years he has lived in the vicinity of Scobey and for 25 years has been a member of the Elks. Stephens is married and has six children, one grandchild. Hobbies: Hunting and fishing.



Mrs. Foster Jackson of Elsinore, Calif., entered pictures with her husband back in 1911, and has been in the industry since. Operating the old Lyric Theatre in Santa Monica, she and her husband made the town their residence until Jackson's death in 1932. It was then Mrs. Jackson moved to Elsinore, building the 500-seat Elsinore Theatre, which, save for the projectionist, is completely staffed by women. A member of the Chamber of Commerce, she also is a member of the Elsinore Woman's Club and Eastern Star. Her daughter helps her at the theatre.



Traveling over the entire world is the desire of **Nick Diamos,** owner of seven theatres in Arizona, but he realizes this depends on postwar conditions. He started 33 years ago, opening the Lyric at Tucson. His Tucson theatre now is the Plaza, but he has two Lyric theatres, one at Douglas and the other at Bisbee. He is interested in public affairs and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Diamos is married and has three children. The son, George M., a sergeant in the army, has been decorated with the Purple Heart. Alexandria is married and Dina lives at home.



E. John Greer of Santa Fe, N. M., entered the business in partnership with his father-in-law over 25 years ago. They operated the Paris Theatre at that time. In 1931 they built the Lensic and in 1940 the Ally was added to the group. Greer's friends call him "Colonel"; he has been appointed colonel-aide-de-camp on the staffs of six consecutive governors. In addition to their theatre holdings, Greer and his father-in-law have large real estate properties in that section. He is treasurer of Gibraltar Enterprises in Denver. Greer has six children, three sons in the service.



James C. Quinn of Los Angeles started in show business in 1906 at the Empire Theatre in Butte. By 1915 he had acquired four more houses, the Bijou, Ideal, Banner and Rialto, all in Los Angeles. At one time in his career, Quinn was a singer on the Keith Albee Orpheum circuit. Today he owns the Unique, the Monterey and the Variety. Active in local affairs, he is a deputy sheriff and executive secretary of Allied. He likes to read biographies and histories. His daughter, Mary, works at a radio station in Los Angeles.



Robert A. McNeil of San Francisco started operating his first theatres back in the days of the nickelodeons. Through his enterprise his interests have grown along with the industry. Today he and his associates control theatres in northern California. He is vice-president and general manager of the Golden State, vice-president both of United California Theatres and T&D jr. Enterprises and a director of California Theatres Ass'n as well. McNeil served on the grand jury a year, enjoys baseball, boxing and horse races. He is a member of Olympic Club.



After his release from the army at the end of the first world war, **W. Harry McDonald** of Torrington, Wyo., went back to the theatre business he and his brother had started in 1915. They had built the Lyric Theatre in that year. In 1927 he built the Wyoming Theatre. Today he owns not only the Wyoming in Torrington but the Nile Theatre in Mitchell, Neb. In addition to his theatre interests McDonald operates a hotel and bar. He is a farmer at heart and likes to raise blooded cattle, hogs and turkeys. He excells in hunting and fishing.



In show business since 1912 when he was 17, **J. M. "Jack" Suckstorff** has managed theatres in North Dakota, Minnesota, Washington, California and, for 14 years Montana where he owns the Princess and Roxy Theatres in Sidney. He is past president and now secretary-treasurer of ITOA of Montana. He is active in local affairs and is past president of the Chamber of Commerce, secretary-manager of Richland County Fair, city alderman, director of Kiwanis, county chairman of China Relief, member of County War Savings Committee.

SMPE Will Confer At Hotel Roosevelt

LOS ANGELES—A tentative program has been arranged for the 57th semiannual technical conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to be held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel May 14-18.

All business and technical sessions, with the exception of the Friday evening meeting, will be held at the hotel. The Friday evening session will be held at the Disney studio in Burbank. The conference chairman has arranged with the management of a San Francisco hotel to provide accommodations for members who will visit that city while on the coast.

Highlights of Monday's program include addresses by James P. Corcoran, 20th-Fox, on "Film Noise Spotter" and by J. B. Lansing and J. K. Hilliard, Altec-Lansing Corp., Hollywood, on "A New Two Way Theatre Loud Speaker System."

Tuesday's program will feature short subjects on "Organizing 16mm Production," by Lloyd Thompson, Calvin Co., Kansas City; "Prefabricated Theatres" (tentative title), by R. H. McCullough, Fox West Coast Theatres; "Television vs. Motion Picture Practices," by Klaus Landsberg, director of television, W6XYZ, Television Productions, Inc., subsidiary of Paramount Pictures.

Highlighting Wednesday's program will be an address by Maj. Robert A. Kissack jr., army signal corps photographic center, Astoria, Long Island, N. Y., on "Army Film Distribution and Exhibition."

Thursday's addresses include "The Work of the Naval Photographic Services Depot," by Lieut. Comdr. Fanning Hearon, officer in charge of the depot, naval photographic services, Hollywood, and "Practical Utilization of Monopack Film," by Charles G. Clarke, ASC, director of photography, 20th-Fox.

Friday's finale will present Barton Thompson, engineering dept., Paramount, with an address on "Flame Retardant Materials for Motion Picture Applications."

Committee chairmen include:

Papers committee: C. R. Daily, chairman; Barton Kreuzer, vice-chairman. Publicity committee: E. O. Blackburn, west coast; Julius Haber, east coast. Registration and information: W. C. Kunzman. Reception and local arrangements: Emery Huse. Luncheon: L. L. Ryder. Hotel and transportation: C. W. Handley. Projection programs, 35mm: R. H. McCullough, chairman, assisted by officers and members of IATSE, Locals 150 and 165; 16mm: H. W. Remershied, chairman.

William Long Will Leaves Theatres to Daughters

OREGON CITY, ORE.—The will of the late William A. Long, theatre owner who died at his home here April 4, bequeathed his Liberty and Star houses to three daughters, Lillie M. Eddy, Etta Ruth Miller and Ruby Pearl Long, all of Oregon City, and expressed the wish that they continue operation of them under the management of Terry Miller, son-in-law who was named executor of the estate.

Woman Named Manager Of Hermosa Theatre

REDONDO BEACH, CALIF.—Miss Wini Webster, employe of Fox West Coast for many years, has been appointed manager of Hermosa Theatre, succeeding Edward Lawrence, who has been transferred to Pomona. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence recently purchased a ranch in the Fontana district and the transfer enables Lawrence to spend more time at his new home.

"Gregory" for "Gregory the Great"

"Gregory" is the new title for "Gregory the Great," a Monogram picture.

Our thanks for your cooperation

S. W. Walton

in behalf of the entire personnel of the Seattle branch, Columbia Pictures

E. L. ADAMS
F. F. AIREY
E. W. BAKER
C. J. BARNEY
A. G. BASIL
M. BAROVIC
WM. BEDGISOFF
JAMES BROOKS
LIONEL BROWN
W. P. BROWN
N. J. BROSSOIT
EUGENE BUNN
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E. W. LANDRY
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MRS. HAZEL LAWSON
JOHN LEE
H. C. LUFT
R. R. LUNDAY
FREDERICK MERCY
H. D. McBRIDE
W. B. McDONALD
MRS. A. P. MITCHELL
D. A. MORGAN
GEORGE MORGAN
EARL D. MIX
MRS. H. T. MOORE
AL MYERS
GUY NAVARRE
J. NEVILLE
FRANK NEWMAN, SR.
HARRY NEWMAN
MRS. SUE NILSSON
E. S. OLSON
JOHN OWSLEY
DON PEARL
A. G. PEECHIO
E. D. POLLOCK
J. R. PORTER
R. R. PRATSCH
W. L. ROE
AL ROSENBERG
JOSEPH ROSENFIELD
W. L. SEALE
R. O. SCHMIDT
C. M. SCHULER
BEN SHEARER
AL ST. JOHN
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In Army Days; Runs Theatre at Night

SAN FRANCISCO—Induction in the army didn't dampen the enthusiasm Robert Apple holds for the theatre industry, or for that matter didn't interfere with his remaining a part of it. Bob started his career in 1937 with Fox West Coast in Richard Spier's east bay district. He worked his way up to assistant manager at the United Artists Theatre in Berkeley and the Paramount in Oakland. In the following years Bob took over management of the Strand in Vallejo, the Tower, Oakland; the California, Berkeley, and the Marval, Vallejo.

In December 1942 while he was managing the Fox News in Oakland he was inducted into the army and eventually became a corporal, stationed at the Presidio, Monterey. During the day he pursued his duties at the post, but at night he was manager of the Fox West Coast's State in nearby Watsonville.

The arrangement worked out admirably until the army transferred Bob to Camp Beale at Marysville. But army or not, Apple's genius found a way and he arranged to manage the Smith Theatre, Yuba City, for the T&D Junior Enterprises.

Staff of Trinidad's Fox Stages Its Own Show

TRINIDAD, COLO. — Fox Theatre staff members and their friends lived up to the billing when they put on their own stage performance one night recently. It was a Fox beauty show, held at 8:30 in the interlude between pictures. Beauty prize winners were Leona Ferri, Lucille Pfalmer and Vera Milosevich. Jane Ann Bell, four, got a special grand prize.



BROWN GETS THE LOWDOWN—Fred P. Brown, UA salesman, is here surrounded by infantrymen who will take part in the show, "Here's Your Infantry," to appear in Colorado during Seventh War Loan drive. Brown, in charge of advance and liaison of the Colorado WFC, is shown hearing details of the heavy machine gun when he visited Ft. Benning, Ga. "Here's Your Infantry" will tour the nation, with more than 1,000 combat veterans participating in 25 units. Eighty-five men are in each unit, which includes a military band. The route in Colorado includes Denver, May 14; Colorado Springs, May 16-17; Canon City, May 18; Salida, May 21-22; Gunnison, May 24; Montrose, May 26; Grand Junction, May 27-28; Glenwood Springs, May 30, and Pueblo, June 2-3, from where the unit will go into Kansas. (Official U.S. Army Photo.)

SEATTLE

There were no celebrations here on VE-Day. Liquor stores and taverns were closed and churches opened. This town will wait until the mess in the Pacific is cleared up before letting its hair down.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fletcher, pioneer exhibitors at Forks, have been notified their son was killed in action in Germany April 15 . . . William Gehring, western district sales manager for 20th-Fox, and Herman Wobber were at the local exchange to confer on the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Gene Matoza, a nephew, was a guest of Les and Cora Theuerkauf while here awaiting assignment to Ft. Lewis.

Oscar Neu, president of Neu-made Products, was here from New York . . . Jim Hone, executive secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners, was drafted for jury duty . . . B. E. Abegglen, manager of the Revilla Theatre in Ketchikan, Alaska, was here on a vacation. The Revilla is in the B. F. Shearer group.

Three stars, Dick Powell, Claire Trevor and George Murphy passed through en route to Canada to help the Canucks kick off their new loan drive. They will then help with the Portland, Ore., opening. We wonder why Seattle cannot get any stars. Even the army, which opens the Seattle drive with a stage show featuring a cast of 250 service men and Wacs, cannot get a single star to emcee the show despite long distance calls and letters from the mayor pleading for one.

Roy Fehner, who recently resigned from Universal as salesman, has left for San Francisco to accept a position with Bob Lippert . . . Paul Hull has left PRC and joined UA as salesman . . . Pete and Mrs. Higgins returned from New York and a visit with their son in the service . . . Tom Foster, service supervisor from the New York office of National Screen Service, was visiting the local exchange.

Lester McEachran denies a report that he has quit 20th-Fox. He is the 20th-Fox salesman east of the mountains . . . Carrie Crowe of Columbia spent a weekend in Canada . . . Vete Stewart is planning for the days when he may become too old to handle a film exchange. He has bought a 25-acre ranch near Edmonds.

John and Mrs. Hamrick were back from a Palm Spring sojourn . . . Hal Jensen of the Desert News in Salt Lake City and Mrs. Jensen were here visiting with their daughter, Mrs. Ray Pierson. Hal is quite a young looking fellow to be a grandfather six times.

Jerry Fairbanks, producer of short subjects for Paramount in Hollywood, was here shooting around the Boeing plant.

Remodeling Completed At Ogden, Utah, House

OGDEN, UTAH—The Ogden Theatre burst forth in a new coat of pastel colors recently after being closed for two weeks for redecoration and remodeling. All seats were modernized and the house recarpeted and rewired. Charles Moorhead is manager.

Reopen in Otis, Colo.

OTIS, COLO.—The Sun Theatre, after a short period of darkness, has been reopened by Owner Frank Young. The house formerly was operated under lease by Mrs. Gladys McFarlane.

G.I. Sees Film in Tent With 'Bees and Prunes'

AUBURN, WASH.—T/Cpl. Jimmy Ewing, owner of the Auburn Avenue Theatre who is with the army in France, retains the professional viewpoint when he goes to the shows with other soldiers.

Corporal Ewing, in a recent letter to his wife, wrote:

"Plenty of room for good theatres over here. First night we were here, another chap and myself walked down to one of our six tent theatres here in camp. It held about 300, and they were sitting around on straw bales and 18-inch sewer pipe. I drew the flange end of one of the pipes, so didn't stick around to see the coming attractions. The power plant for the juice was puffing away outside the door, and the photo cells had spasms making the sound resemble bees at play. The screen resembled a large white prune, it was so wrinkled, and no one knew apparently about hanging weights on it and drawing it smooth."

The French people seem very short of food, Corporal Ewing also reported, although the army is fed well. The soldier added that the army has set up a mess in town so that soldiers on furloughs can eat there and not deprive the civilians of their food supply.

A. C. Stalcup New Manager Of Sheridan, Wyo., Theatre

SHERIDAN, WYO.—A. C. Stalcup of North Platte, Neb., has assumed managerial duties at the Wyo Theatre here, succeeding Miss Margaret Lansing, who was transferred to Cheyenne as manager of the Fox Paramount Theatre there. The new manager is a veteran showman, having been engaged in the theatre business the greater part of the time since 1920.



REJOINS FWC—Dick Dickson, veteran of both exhibition and production, has joined Fox West Coast Theatres as head of the maintenance-purchasing-construction department of the circuit's theatres throughout California. He succeeds R. H. McCullough, recently promoted by Charles P. Skouras to head of the television and prefabricated construction departments of National Theatres, Inc. Dickson was formerly a district manager with Fox-West Coast. He left the organization four years ago to enter production in association with Harry Sherman.

You all have our sincere appreciation

Bill Gelb

in behalf of the entire personnel of
the Salt Lake City branch, Columbia Pictures

ISABLE AGATHA
C. E. ANDERSON
H. C. ANDERSON
VICTOR ANDERSON
WARREN ANGWIN
FRED ARNST
HALL BAETZ
FLOYD BAILEY
TRACY BARHAM
CLIVE BEAL
JULIAN BILLS
J. A. BLOSSOM
E. E. BONEBRIGHT
HERB BONIFAS
BOB BOOMER
SAM BROOKS
HORACE BURKINSHAW
SPENCE BURKINSHAW
CORINNE CARSON
HAROLD CHESLER
JAY CHRISTENSEN
MRS. R. C. CLARK
LEO COSSETTE
MRS. VEIGH CUMMINGS
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SAM GILLETTE
A. J. GILMAN
GEORGE GOBLE
ROBERT GOHN
CLARENCE GOLDER
HOWARD GORDON
DONNA GRADY
NED GROSSMAN
JOSEPH HANCOCK
JENS HANSEN
E. E. HARRIS
IRV HARRIS
LAPHENE HARRIS
VIOLA HARRISON
W. O. HASTINGS
CLAUDE HAWK
CARSON HEALY
FRANK HORRIGAN
ARNOLD HOWLAND
WALT HULL
JOHN HUNTER
NAIDA HYATT
ELMER JACKSON
CAL JEWKES
H. G. JOHNSON
LAWRENCE JONES
HUGO JORGENSEN
TOM KARREN
ELMER KJERGARD
HERB KLUTH
JOE KOEHLER
DAN KOSTOPULOS
ARNOLD LARSON
JOE LAWRENCE
JAMES LEADBETTER
BERT LEE
MILTON LEIGH
FINUS LEWIS
HOWARD MATTHEWS
JESSIE MAXWELL
MAY McBRIDE
EARL McCLURG
R. D. McDANIEL
WILLIAM McFARLANE
P. T. METLER
EDWARD METLER
EDWARD METZGAR
CLIFF MILLER
JOHN MILLER
SCOTT MITCHELL
J. E. MOONEY
LEWIS MOORE
JACK MORAN
STEVE MURGIC
WILLIAM MURRAY
EMIL OSTLUND
PAT PACE
MORRIS PERKINS
B. T. POND
BRUCE PORTER
MRS. M. G. PRICE
JACK RAMSEY
IVIN RASMUSSEN
MERV REBER
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CARL RICHARDSON
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SAN FRANCISCO

Charles E. Shutt, newly appointed assistant to Ellis Levy of the Telenews Theatres and manager of the local Telenews unit, went to town on promotion of "Inside a Nazi Death Factory," army signal corps films of camp horrors. Shutt formerly was manager at the Telenews theatres in Denver and Seattle.

James Cagney, here for the premiere of "Blood on the Sun," took time out to do his dance from "Yankee Doodle Dandy" at the Stage Door Canteen. Also appearing at the Canteen were Yehudi Menuhin, Rise Stevens, Phil Baker, Jack Benny, Dorothy Lamour and Miriam Hopkins . . . Tom Earnfred, publicity man for the Geary Theatre, was wandering around town in a daze. The Geary is a 1,500-seat house and 1,500 visiting newsmen are putting on the pressure for passes to "Harriet," starring Helen Hayes.

Harry Ferris and Pat Patterson are reported to have joined forces as partners at the Kearny Theatre. They will show Spanish language films . . . William David was in Los Angeles for a story conference on a picture to be started by Action Pictures, Inc., June 1 entitled "Northwest Trail." The first film by this company, "Wildfire," is now being distributed.

"The Enchanted Cottage" at the Golden Gate is enchanting the audiences . . . The operation scene in "Between Two Women" at the Fox Theatre caused more gasps and shudders than the Nazi prison camp newsreels . . . The Warfield's "Without Love" keeps patrons waiting but long.

Carol A. Nathan of the Marina and El Presidio theatres and Mrs. Nathan went to Beverly Hills to visit their daughter, Alene Carroll. The Nathans also expect to spend a little time at Corona Del Mar with Harry and Olive Carey at their seaside home there . . : Helen Hayes, star of "Harriet," at the Geary Theatre here, was a guest recently at the local headquarters of the Russian War Relief.

Lieutenant Dawson, head of the navy motion picture service, is expecting his family here shortly . . . Clare Creighton, suffering from a terrific cold, planned to spend her vacation at Hoberg's . . . Wee Bonnie Baker of "Oh, Johnny" fame will guest star on "San Francisco Spotlight," a special conference program originating in KGO Radio City Studios.

Ken Daily of the Bert Levy circuit was making arrangements through the de luxe Jean Merrick Introductory service to have two French girls accompany two French delegates. Said Daily: "I got to have someone to understand them. I don't know what they're talking about" . . . There was calmness with which the bay area took the news of Germany's surrender, knowing we still have the Japs to beat . . . An extra push to the advertising campaign of "Salome—Where She Danced" heralded the opening at the Orpheum.

Alexander Contest Clicks

COLORADO SPRINGS—The annual "April Showers" contest in honor of J. Don Alexander, president of the Alexander Film Co., produced the greatest month in the company's history. This has been an annual contest for 20 years and has always been the outstanding month, but this year exceeded April 1944 by 58½ per cent, and April 1943, by 240 per cent.



WB THEATRE MANAGERS READY—Warner Bros. Pacific Coast theatres girded for action in the forthcoming Seventh War Loan at an initial meeting of all California managers held in the Hollywood home office. The gathering was addressed by Lou Halper, zone manager; J. R. Rodgers, district manager, and Mort Goodman, publicity director and chairman of the Seventh War Loan for Warner coast zone theatres.

In attendance were Managers John McManus, Hollywood; Bill Hendricks, Downtown, Los Angeles; Allan Karf, Wiltern, Los Angeles; Mel Conhaim, Forum, Los Angeles; Harry Schlinker, San Pedro; Jim Brinton, Huntington Park; Vic Rosen, Beverly Hills; Welder Daniel, San Bernardino, and Bill Osborne and Norman Lofthus, Santa Barbara.

Managers in the northwest not present at the meeting were advised of its activity by wire and bond sales quotas for all theatres in the zone were set up.

Photographed after the meeting, left to right: First row, McManus, Conhaim, Hendricks, Brinton; second row, Lofthus, Daniel, Halper, Rosen; third row, Gregg, Karf, Schlinker, Osborne, Rodgers.

Salesman Sues for $63,000 Over NSS Trailer Idea

SEATTLE—George Mitchell, film salesman of Spokane, filed suit recently complaining that National Screen Service adapted and distributed without his permission a motion picture trailer with a season's greeting idea that he originated. The trailer was used last New Year's Eve. He asks damages of $63,000 based on $6 a theatre for the rental charged for the trailer.

Kipp Now Lone Manager Of Moorcroft's Avon

MOORCROFT, WYO.—Wayne West has given up his part in the Avon Theatre and Clinton Kipp now is the lone manager. Clinton's father, Earl Kipp of Sundance, bought the Commercial there and the two will handle the shows on a film exchange method, Clinton managing the house here and his father the show at Sundance.

Fox's Rawlins Manager Moves to North Platte

RAWLINS, WYO.—Transfer of Russell M. Berry, manager of the Fox Strand for 16 months, to North Platte, Neb., was announced recently. Charles Wallace, who has been a Fox house manager in Cheyenne for some time, replaces Berry. The latter takes over two theatres in the Nebraska city.

Grand at Rock Springs Closed to Repair Wall

ROCK SPRINGS, WYO.—The Grand Theatre was closed temporarily while workmen repaired the house's west wall, which had been made unsafe by recent excavations adjacent to the building. Thomas Berta is manager.

Rush on Texas Rangers

As a result of Dave O'Brien having passed his physical examination for military service, Alexander-Stern will make the final two of the Texas Ranger series of westerns for PRC without even a day's rest between the completion of the first and the starting of the second. Shooting has already begun on "Ride Ranger Ride," next to the last in the series.

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Maximum Results, Illinois Bond Goal

PEORIA—Standing and facing an enlarged colored reproduction of the famous Iwo Jima photograph, 212 distributors and exhibitors pledged greater efforts to insure the success of the Seventh War Loan drive in Illinois by striving for maximum results instead of quotas.

Answering the call of Ralph P. Lawlor, state exhibitor co-chairman, those attending heard talks by leaders of the industry and representatives of the war finance committee. Sounding the keynote, Lester O. Schriver, Peoria County WFC chairman, thrilled the audience with a tribute to the fighters and to the efforts of the motion picture industry. Harold Stevens, state distributor chairman, explained plans for cooperation of distributors with exhibitors on bond shows, Free Movie Days and children's matinees. Bill Bishop, state publicity chairman, emphasized the plans of the national committee to publicize the slogan "Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Theatre—Open Evenings, Sundays and Holidays."

Highlight of the meeting was a talk by Gene Oxley, young coast guardsman who has won many medals including the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Prominent members of the industry introduced were J. J. Rubens, state exhibitor chairman for the first five war loans; Harris Silverberg, National Screen Supply, Chicago; Alan Usher, district manager for Paramount and distributor chairman for the midwest district; Don McKiernan of the treasury department, and Fred Landis, general chairman for the Peoria County campaign.

Fred MacMurray to Star In Film of Home Town

MILWAUKEE—Fred MacMurray, the Beaver Dam boy who made good in films, is going to make a flicker with Beaver Dam as a background.

The picture, "Pardon My Past," will have Beaver Dam as its locale, with studio officials expected from Hollywood to be in Beaver Dam to make sketches and gather material.

Although it is not anticipated that actual Beaver Dam scenes will be filmed, portions of the city will be re-created on the studio stages.

It is said MacMurray has played opposite more leading ladies than any other film star. He attended Central High School when a youth, and played in the student band. Later, he enrolled at Carroll College, Waukesha, and played across the country in dance bands before getting his first Hollywood break. "Roberta" was his first picture. After that there was no more sax tooting for him.

New Home Theatre Opens at Oblong, Ill.

OBLONG, ILL.—The new Home Theatre, erected on the site of the theatre which burned here more than a year ago, now is in operation and is attracting pleasing audiences. Patrons agree it is one of the finest smaller theatres in this section of the state.

Indiana Exhibitor Dies

INDIANAPOLIS—The film industry here lost one of its active figures with the death of Fred F. Johnson, manager of the Cinema Theatre. He had been in the theatre business about eight years, formerly being associated with the Speedway Theatre here. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Florine Johnson, and a daughter, Miss Dorothy Johnson, both of Indianapolis.

Wisconsin Will Focus Bond Plea on Pyle

MILWAUKEE—A Free Movie Day dedicated to Ernie Pyle, the war correspondent recently killed in action, will be held June 6 by all theatres in Wisconsin and upper Michigan, according to the plan inaugurated by Harold J. Fitzgerald, state WAC chairman and Seventh War Loan leader. This plan has been adopted as a major part of the drive. Anyone buying war bonds at any theatre on that day receives free admission to the show, and will be recorded as having paid tribute to the war reporter.

At the recent bond kickoff meeting in Hotel Schroeder here Fitzgerald said: "There is only one reason why Wisconsin showmen have continued to top the nation in WAC drives. Though there are differences of opinion, when a WAC effort is in progress, all of you showmen give it everything you have. The exhibitor owes the continued marked success he attains in all WAC drives to the support given by the people of his community . . ."

Two new divisions were added to the executive committee, Frank Fischer, president of the Reel Fellows Club, was added to represent the salesmen, while Gene Kilburg heads the work to be done with women's clubs and organizations.

William V. Geehan, WAC publicity chairman, sounded the keynote when he said: "As we go further in bond drives we learn, of course, to correct our errors, and we learn more—the need of getting away from any prosaic action in any part of the drive. With the gigantic task ahead of us in the Seventh, the conclusion is clear that all activity, whether it be bond shows, kid shows, bond auctions or Free Movie Day, cannot be done exactly as before. Basically, we may use the same machinery, but it must be cloaked in a new dress, a new appearance to the public.

"It was with this thought in mind that your state chairman, Mr. Fitzgerald, conceived the idea of turning Free Movie Day into something of far greater importance.

"Of the many great personalities that have emerged from world war, probably none have more clearly found a path to the heart of the common man, the civilian or GI, as did Ernie Pyle. Ernie Pyle was not just a war reporter—he was the biographer of the foot soldier, of the mass of the army. As such he endeared himself through his writings about these GIs to the great American public, who through Ernie Pyle, more deeply appreciated and understood what their sons were doing. He knew very little of the Brass Hat and the Gold Bar. He knew much of the Gold Heart. And so we are dedicating Free Movie Day into something with far greater importance.

Theatre for Rankin, Ill.

RANKIN, ILL.—Sgt. and Mrs. A. J. Sindt of Rantoul have begun remodeling work on a brick store building here to transform it into a 150-seat fireproof motion picture theatre expected to be in operation by early summer. It will be open every night except Thursday.

Remodel Indiana Theatre

NOBLESVILLE, IND.—Mr. and Mrs. Vonderschmitt, recent purchasers of the Wild Opera House here, have announced remodeling plans to convert the theatre into one of the finest motion picture houses in the state. They plan to continue the operation of the Diana Theatre.



THAT STEIN-WAY OF PARTING!—Larry Stein, for 14 years advertising director of Warner Bros. Theatres in the Chicago zone, was presented with a war bond when he resigned that job to go into the publicity game for himself.

In the photograph are members of the WB Employes Club at the presentation affair; in the inset, left to right: Charles Ryan, assistant Chicago zone manager; Stein; James E. Coston, zone manager; Al Weinberg, publicist.

MILWAUKEE

Manning Silverman and self-effacing Lou Orlove were working on a slightly "wet" gent a la the hot foot with card trick embellishments. Manning and Lou lost both deals to the "wet" gent and that titian-haired gal in that corner drugstore . . . Steve Dorece of the Crown, Racine, ran into tire trouble while booking. Two flats. Steve suspects Joe Imhoff, film salesman, and Walter Blaney, RKO office manager. Both were seen at the scene of the crime with hammers and nails.

Dawn Zengler, local musiker, left with the Junior Buckwalter unit when that combo finished at Lakotas . . . Jack Quirk, RKO publicist, has been upped to tub thumper for the firm in the Detroit territory . . . William V. Geehan, assistant to Harold J. Fitzgerald of Fox Wisconsin, was elected president of the Milwaukee motion picture commission.

Ray Gaulke, former 88er and leader of the Riverside pit band, joined Ted Lewis . . . Elmer Basta, another Riverside house band alumnus previously reported missing in action, now is listed as a German prisoner of war.

Frank Phelps, former assistant manager of the Garfield, currently in the production illustrating activity in a local war plant, finds time to knock out a few displays for the Garfield. Phelps, well known in show business here and in Chicago, is credited with inventing (but not patenting) the first warning to projectionists that the reel of film was nearing completion.

Ben Poblocki of the signs has an outing set for May 18 at Tuckaway Country Club for the Reel Fellows Club and branch managers . . . Oscar Martay, NSS shipping department alumnus, furloughed with the gang on the Row . . . Jack Frackman's son Bernard is in the Hawaiian Islands as radio operator.

Dorothy Sodolski, Warners availability clerk, is set for orange blossoms June 30 to Phil Stawicki, who was overseas for three years . . . Mae Dalton, 20th-Fox ad sales manager, has a time with that Betty Grable jigsaw puzzle conspicuously placed on the front counter. Visiting exhibitors and others, of which we were one, attempt to pick the puzzle up, then spend time rearranging it.

A certain gal at Republic has been saving for ten years for a trip to New York City. This is the year . . . Al Altshuler, Columbia salesman, was mud bathing at Waukesha Moor Baths for his rumatiz! . . . It is reported that Dan Murray, Wisconsin Theatre manager, is leaving . . . Sam Miller. State Theatre, Rhinelander, left for home with shattered nerves! . . . Lucille Forbes, Merrill Theatre operator, visited the Row with her mother.

Oscar Ruby, Columbia manager, has a creaking back due to too much Victory gardening at his new home. How about the mud baths, Oscar? . . . Where does Ben Schwenke, Warner booker, disappear to every noon? Could it be a rendezvous? . . . Recent visitors at the Ray Smith Co.: Russ Leddy, Orpheum, Green Bay; Paul Nowatske, Vista, Mukwonago, who tried to book film during the kickoff bond meeting, and L. T. Burkitt, Grand and Classic, Sparta.

Recent birthdays at Warners included those of Mrs. Lois Lewis, Mrs. Ann Gapinski and that man-about-town, Jake Kaiser, who seems to be getting into plenty of trouble lately . . . Helen Burnsteen of UA wears a bracelet from Panama and dress ornaments made from the parts of the nose of a B29.

Booking on the Row: E. R. Brennan, Green Bay; Don Deakin, Wisconsin Dells; Tommy Lees, Lake Mills; W. C. Fischer, Campbellsport; Raymond Black, Edgerton; Russ Leddy, Green Bay; Sam Miller, Rhinelander.

Charley Trampe, Monogram manager, reports that "Dillinger," that new Monogram picture, is definitely boxoffice in New York and Detroit. It opens a first run shortly here . . . Ervin Zinda, UA shipper, weds Frances Zarse of Paramount this Saturday (12) . . . The Neenah and Brin theatres of Neenah and Menasha, reports Hank Tollete of the S&M circuit, joined the Twin City clothing drives sponsoring free shows . . . Harry Shumow, Metro manager who departs shortly on a vacation, will be replaced by John G. Kemptgen of the Metro Omaha office.

Fred Stein who was with Fox Wisconsin here about 12 years back, has returned to the firm from the west coast . . . F. J. McWilliams, Madison theatre man, was in . . . Hank Tollette and Ben Marcus of the S&M circuit huddled with Joe Strother.

At the Gateway in Kenosha a baby narrowly missed being born in the theatre. The mother was rushed to a hospital just in time . . . Capt. William Langemack and wife, accompanied by the Langemacks of the Colonial Theatre, tripped to Detroit via plane. The captain was in on leave . . . R. H. Zerbel, former Delft manager, Iron Mountain, departed for a permanent stay on the coast.

On the Row for the first time in four years were Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Starkey of the Rex Theatre, Berlin, Wis. He is president of the Farmers & Merchants Bank there. Starting in exhibition in 1910 Starkey spent much time managing theatres in Minnesota. Since 1914 he has owned and operated his own houses in Wisconsin. Mrs. Starkey functions as secretary-treasurer of the Rex. They are donating some obsolete equipment to that museum exhibit, an Edison machine of 1898 vintage, and a Lubin of 1903 make.

L. F. Gran, Standard Theatres biggie, returned from a west coast vacation . . . For those interested Don Deakin has his final decree, and is back in circulation . . . Charley Trampe reports that Larry Kelley has been appointed general manager of Cudahy Theatres and will handle all bookings. First thing Kelley did was to install a new RCA sound system in the Cudahy Theatre. The Majestic is the other theatre in the group.

At the Alhambra where "Forever Yours" was showing, Lou Orlove, Metro publicist, and Eddie Lurie, Monogram publicity man, were standing out front. As a colored guy and gal approached Orlove said: "Boy, that colored lad in 'Forever Yours' sure can dance." And the big, dark-skinned lad stopped, walked up to the boxoffice, and pur-

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



DOWN IN Lake City, Fla., Mrs. Folsom had them "hanging from the chandeliers" in her DeSota theatre during the four-day engagement of "MOM AND DAD." The crowds broke down her frames, doors and cash box, but she's mighty happy.

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
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chased two tickets. Latest reports have it that both Orlove and Lurie are hiding out in northern Wisconsin.

Lieut. Comdr. G. A. Weiss, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Weiss, Madison, appeared in the film, "Fighting Lady." Weiss attended the university before entering service, and is now on duty in the Pacific theatre . . . Confidential Reports, Inc., has opened an office here under the guidance of Lou Soffer, manager.

The greatest problem facing management of film delivery service in this area is manpower. Truck drivers, on a six-day delivery schedule, constantly are working overtime. With 15 trucks in operation and no new trucks since rationing, these trucks are doing a tremendous job and have stood up well under the circumstances.

A 17-year-old youth, who formerly worked at the Astor Theatre and knew the combination of the safe, recently broke into the theatre with a 15-year-old confederate and removed $1,429. The boys were arrested shortly after that. The coin rolls, too heavy for the boys to carry, were cached beneath a nearby porch.

Quinn and Uswetshy Take Over Lake Shore Theatre

CHICAGO—The Lake Shore Theatre, Broadway and Belmont Ave., has been taken over by Dan Quinn and Russ Uswetshy, who for ten years were with the H&E Balaban circuit. The theatre has been presenting Swedish films with an occasional American production. Under the new management, only regular American films will be featured. The theatre operates week nights, and presents matinees on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Quinn and Uswetshy will also operate the Webster, recently leased.

Sister Kenny Uses Films To Fight Medical Group

PEORIA—Sister Elizabeth Kenny, the Australian nurse, showed motion pictures to demonstrate her dermo-neuromuscular treatment for polio in her conference with Gov. Dwight Green, who had invited 1,500 state officials and others to attend. From Illinois she went to Washington where she will show films in her fight against the American Medical Ass'n, which seeks to bar her from raising funds in the U.S. with which to practice her polio cure.

Post to William Thixton

BLOOMINGTON, IND.—William Thixton, Salem, has assumed his duties as manager of the Harris Grand Theatre here.

B&K Follows Army Plan In Bond Sales Awards

Chicago—David Arlen, Seventh War Loan campaign director for B&K, has sent a letter to every employe of the circuit except managers and assistant managers, asking all to enlist in the B&K war drive army. Citations, rank advances and other army model awards are part of the campaign setup. Those selling $1,000 in bonds will receive a citation which, the letter says, will "be suitable for framing in your home."

Those who sell $5,000 in bonds will receive a silver star, and the boys and girls in the $10,000 salesmanship class will be given a gold star and become a "B&K Three-Star General." The managers and their assistants will form other teams for the drive.

The LaRabida Benefit Show Dwarfs Sponsors' Fondest Expectations

CHICAGO—The Hal Halperin memorial show, presented at the Civic Opera House by the Variety Club as its second annual benefit performance, drew a capacity crowd. They came early and stayed late for the super show by Chicago cafe, theatre and radio station stars and the preview of "Wonder Man."

Almost everyone of theatrical importance from Sophie Tucker to the Quiz Kids helped make the show an outstading success. Willie Shore, Mary Raye and Naldi, Lou Holtz, Henny Youngman, Bonita Granville, Jackie Heller, Louis Jordon and others took part in the stage bill arranged by Nate Platt of B&K, assisted by Frank Smith of RKO and Charlie Cottle of State-Lake.

The seat sale, plus contributions from Variety Club members and others swelled the receipts away beyond expectations, greatly exceeding last year's initial benefit. Many leading showmen contributed $1,000 or more and almost everyone sold tickets. With this unified and limitless cooperation, Variety Club's pet charity, LaRabida-Jackson Park sanitarium, stands to receive a large sum. It is planned to build an addition to the hospital named in honor of Halperin. No accurate estimate of profits can be given until all receipts are in.

All agree committee members Jack Kirsch, John Balaban, Eddie Silverman, James Coston, Tom Flannery, Doc Bamford and others can take plenty of bows, along with the publicity men, the performers, the newspapers and radio for the tremendous success of the Hal Halperin memorial. It made history in the benefit field and was one more testimonial to the enterprise, charity and good will of the showmen of this area.

Many Chicago Firms Join In "A Song" Exploitation

CHICAGO—A special eight-week George Sand Memorial radio contest, cooperative window displays by leading Chicago department and music stores and special spot features in commercial radio programs combined in the buildup in Chicago for "A Song to Remember" for a long run at the B&K Apollo Theatre.

Dave Arlen, B&K publicist; Edward DeLouy, Apollo manager, and Jules Serkowich and Max Sacks, Columbia exploiteers, made the most of the opportunities presented for high class exploitation in musical and literary circles and were highly successful in their tieins with commercial institutions.

Among outstanding accomplishments were the inclusion in the Stineway Drug Co. daily radio Symphonic Hour program of Chopin music and announcements for the picture, plugs by the Fair department store on its daily radio programs, special window displays prepared by the RCA Victor Record Co. and distributed to 300 record dealers in Chicago, window displays by Sears-Roebuck, the Hub, the Boston Store, Mandel Bros., the Fair, Saks, Lyon & Healy, Wurlitzer's, the Kimball Piano Co. and the Krochs and Bretino book stores and a display in the main branch of the Chicago Public Library at Randolph St. and Michigan Blvd.

The Sands radio contest was sponsored by the Patricia Stevens school for models in a special half hour weekly broadcast starting April 8 and ending May 6, with the winners to be announced May 13. Six major prizes, contributed by leading merchants, are to be awarded. In addition to its sponsorship of the contest, the Stevens school sent out 3,000 circulars announcing the event and the theatre play dates.

Good Manners Stressed In Promotion by B&K

CHICAGO—Trailers and lobby posters in B&K theatres stress the circuit's obligation of good manners and good form. An example:

The War Is a Bad Excuse for Bad Manners!

We've Always Regarded Courtesy and Service Among Our Most Important Obligations to Our Patrons!

You're Entitled to It . . . Today—Every Day!

BALABAN & KATZ

St. Louis Projectionists Seek a Hike in Pay

ST. LOUIS—Officials of Local 143, MPOU, have been authorized to present theatre owners here demands for substantial changes in wage scale and working conditions when their present contract expires August 31, it has been learned.

Demands of the operators probably will include a 15 per cent increase in wages. Currently union operators are receiving from $45 to $100 a week base pay, depending upon the size of the house and its importance as to run. Only a few smaller houses pay their two operators the minimum. Other demands are for double time for all Sunday work, time and a half for all overtime and one day off per week in addition to the two-week vacation with pay which the theatre owners granted three years ago.

Two years ago the operators in the smaller houses, then receiving $50 a week or less, were given a $5 a week increase, lifting them from $40, $45 and $50 a week to $45, $50 and $55 a week.

A prominent theatre owner said he had not been informed of the proposed demands, but anticipated union officials would soon request a conference on the agreement for the 1945-46 season. The usual practice has been for the first run houses to work out their own agreement with the union, while the neighborhood and suburban houses negotiate separately.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING





ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE—Carl Shalit (seated), Columbia's central division manager, explains to his five branch managers details of plans for keeping the central division in first place in the Montague 20th anniversary campaign. Standing, l. to r.: W. Guy Craig, Indianapolis; Joe Gins, Detroit; R. C. Hill, St. Louis; Joe Miller, Albany; Phil Fox, Buffalo.

Kedzie Annex Ruling Scheduled July 10

CHICAGO—A decision in the Kedzie Annex Theatre case will be announced July 10, it was announced following a hearing last week when Harold Stevens, local Paramount manager; Jack Shumow, Warners, and M. Kahn, sales manager, were called to testify concerning their efforts to supply product to the theatre. Tom Gilliam, 20th-Fox manager here, was another defense witness. Charles Lindau, Kedzie owner, told of his failure to obtain suitable product. Arbitrator Albert McCaleb gave the plaintiff until May 21 to file briefs and the defendants and intervenors until June 5 to submit replies, which schedule will enable McCaleb to give his decision in July.

Fifth Consecutive E Won by DeVry Concern

CHICAGO—DeVry Corp., Chicago, has been awarded its fifth consecutive army-navy E for continued excellence in the production of motion picture sound equipment and secret electronic training devices for the armed forces.

Previously the only manufacturer of motion picture sound equipment to have been awarded four consecutive E citations, DeVry now joins the select few among the nation's producers of vital war goods privileged to fly the five-star banner.

Charles E. Flesh, Veteran St. Louis Tenor, Is Dead

ST. LOUIS—Charles E. Flesh, 71, tenor of the St. Louis overseas quartet which entertained soldiers in France in World War I and who in the early days of the motion picture industry sang in many theatres of the St. Louis metropolitan district, died recently of a heart attack. His wife and two sons survive. One of the sons, Lieut. Charles E. Flesh jr., is with the army in Europe.



FIGURES DON'T LIE!
More Theatres Play
WAHOO
America's Finest Screen Game
HOLLYWOOD AMUSEMENT CO., 831 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO

Army Short on Sewage

CHICAGO—An army educational short on sewage disposal plants has been filmed at Camp McCoy, Wis., it was announced by Lieut. Col. H. E. Fillinger, post engineer. Taking part in the film, designed to teach proper sewage disposal in army camps, were Fillinger, Irene Newton, secretary for the utilities section; Albert Keller, sanitary engineer, and Martin Richgruber, chief of the disposal plant at Camp McCoy.

Jap Newsreels as Bond Drive Aids

CHICAGO—Captured Japanese newsreels will be used by the treasury department in the Seventh War Loan drive. These are available in 16mm size for rallies and school and war plant showings.



"SPRINGFIELD'S" APPEAL — Members of the Wisconsin state legislature recently met in the assembly chamber to view Warners' "It Happened in Springfield," which makes a plea for racial and religious tolerance. Alfred D. Kvool, WB executive in Milwaukee, said this was the first time such a picture had ever been presented before the state legislature. Above, Judge Albert Schmidt of Manitowoc, chairman of the Wisconsin Eagles youth guidance committee, supporting a joint resolution for a legislative committee to study delinquency, is shown addressing the assemblage.

INDIANAPOLIS

Henry Zulauf, former shipper at Universal, was found dead in his room April 30. Death was caused by a heart attack, according to the coroner. Zulauf was scheduled to report for duty at Monogram exchange, and when he failed to report for work his death was discovered . . . June Knight, stage and screen star, is waging a fight in federal court here with her former husband, Arthur Arden Cameron, wealthy Evansville oil magnate.

Joseph Brokaw, who for the last 30 years operated the Brokaw in Angola, Ind., died May 1 at his home after a heart attack . . . L. R. Antos, 20th-Fox auditor, checked the local exchange . . . Pete Mallers, northern Indiana circuit operator, returned from an extensive business visit in Chicago.

Jack Mercer, manager of Loew's, Evansville, was promoted to the managership of Loew's Orpheum at Boston. Arthur Groom was appointed manager of Loew's at Evansville . . . George Heliotes, who operates the Rialto in Fort Wayne, is planning a vacation in Florida . . . Mrs. Hobart Hart, whose husband operates the Auburn in Auburn, was a patient at the Auburn Hospital.

Guy Craig, chairman of the distributor division of the Seventh War Loan drive, held a meeting with branch managers, salesmen and office personnel in the Paramount screening room . . . Harvey Cocks, general manager Quimby Theatres, Fort Wayne, has gone to New York.

The Switow circuit, operator of theatres in Indiana and Kentucky, acquired a lease on the Shawnee, Louisville, formerly operated by the late H. L. Simerman . . . Letters were received by Claude McKean, manager at Warners, from Jack Dowd, former booker now in Germany, and William Wallace, formerly of the sales organization and now in France.

Charles Rich, Warner district manager, and Claude McKean, local manager, went to Louisville on business . . . Betty O'Connor of the billing department at Warners and Robert Skinner were married Saturday (5) in St. Philip Neri Roman Catholic Church . . . After four weeks at the Mary Anderson Theatre in Louisville, "God Is My Co-Pilot" was booked for a return engagement.

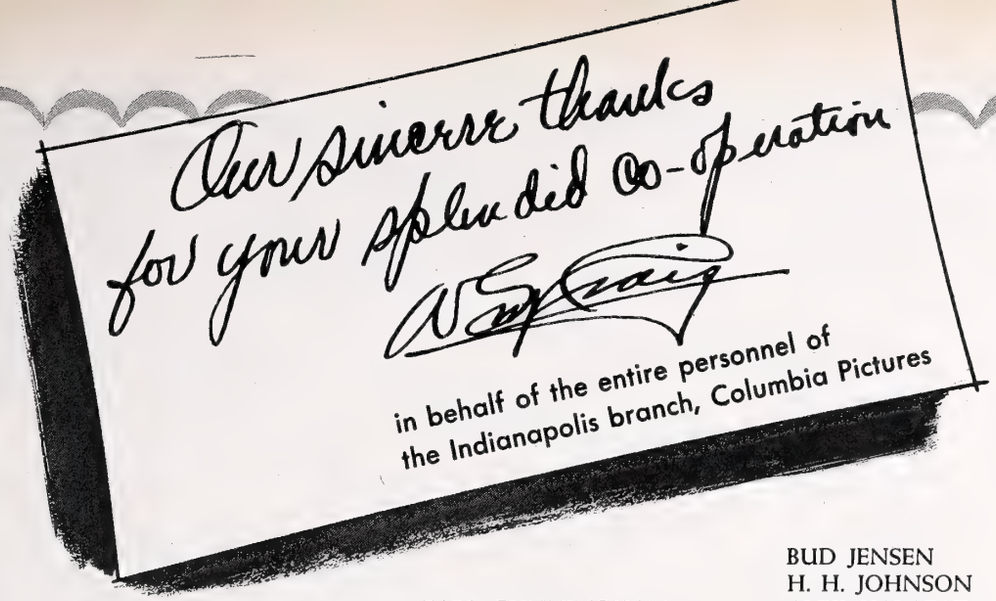
Dorothy Robison, former head booker at Warners and one of the first feminine bookers in Indianapolis, resigned to join Affiliated Theatres. Albert Blankenbaker, formerly head shipper at Warners, will replace Miss Robison. Ora Jolly, formerly head shipper at Universal exchange, resigned to accept the same position at Warners.

Sauntering along the Row were: John R. Boise and his son from Warsaw; Andy Anderson, a Bluegrass state circuit operator; Joseph Schilling, Connersville; George Mallers, Tipton; Abe Kaufman, Terre Haute, and Walter Easley, Greensburg.

When Sigmund Romberg appears in Indianapolis, he'll tour the plant where his latest records are being waxed, RCA, where his "Up in Central Park" albums are being readied for public sale.

Dumbarton Ideas in Film

CHICAGO—A new motion picture treatment of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals entitled "Watchtower Over Tomorrow" was shown to pupils of Scheil School of Social Studies as part of their study of "Our Problems as a People."



D. J. ABBOTT
A. J. ACKERMAN
G. W. ALEXANDER
J. A. ALEXANDER
MARK ALEXANDER
J. N. ALLISON
ANDY ANDERSON
C. D. ARNOLD
T. J. ARRINGTON
MRS. GLADYS ASBURY
BRUCE ASPLEY
TOM BAKER
C. W. BECKER
B. R. BELL
EARL BELL
A. E. BENNETT
H. BERNARD
R. S. BIVENS
M. BLACKER
T. G. BLEWETT
A. R. BLOCHER
MRS. R. R. BOOTS
A. H. BORKENSTEIN
ALLEN BRADLEY
JOS. BRAUER
MARY BROCKETT
JOS. BROKAW
S. J. BROWN
V. E. BURKLE
C. M. CALDWELL
JOS. CANTOR
REX CARR
F. M. CARROLL
DOYLE CARTER
C. E. CHARLET
C. A. CHRISTY
LEO CIACIO
A. B. CLARK
HARVEY COCKS
RAY COLEMAN
W. S. CONWAY
S. A. B. COOPER
E. K. CROUCH

EARL CUNNINGHAM
B. J. CURRY
H. E. CURRY
J. A. DAMM
JOHN DOERR
F. J. DOLLE
HARRY DOUGLAS
J. P. DROMEY
I. B. DYER
W. F. EASLEY
MAX FACTOR
ISADOR FINE
JESSE FINE
JOE FINE
OSCAR FINE
JOS. FINNERAN
R. T. FISHER
C. FLATER
M. FLATER
MRS. ALMA G. FOSTER
L. B. FUQUA
S. W. GOODMAN
L. B. GOULDEN
S. J. GREGORY
THOS. GRADY
H. A. GRIDLEY
S. H. GROVE
WM. HANDLEY
W. J. HANEY
H. L. HARGIS
R. L. HARNED
MRS. EVA HARRIS
ROY HARROLD
H. E. HART
J. W. HAYS
GEO. HELIOTES
EARL HERNDON
E. B. HOESEL
R. H. HOLTRY
W. E. HORSEFIELD
R. L. HUDSON
J. P. HUNDLEY
C. H. JEFFRIES

BUD JENSEN
H. H. JOHNSON
ALEX KALAFAT
WM. KALAFAT
I. A. KALVER
A. H. KAUFMAN
BRUCE KIXMILLER
W. C. KOHLHORST
CHAS. KREBS
C. F. KREIGHBAUM
ANNETTE KUEBLER
G. E. LANCASTER
JOHN LAVELLE
DON LEBRUN
D. D. LEE
JULIAN LONGEST
T. N. LUCKETT
GEORGE MALLERS
PETE MALLERS
M. MARCUS
J. A. MARRIO
C. W. MASSEY
G. M. MAY
A. McCARTY
C. E. McCONAUGHY
P. McGARY
W. T. McGOVERN
W. H. McNABB
J. H. MEADOWS
MRS. ORA MEISSNER
PAUL MELOY
JOHN MICU
BUSS MILLER
A. MITCHELL
H. F. MORIN
I. R. MURPHY
H. NADAL
R. S. NEWMAN
B. L. NICKBARG
CARL NIESSE
E. L. ORNSTEIN
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PETE PANAGOS
NICK PAIKOS
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PFLANZ & GREER
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W. REISS
M. REINKING
TRUEMAN REMBUSCH
R. H. ROBERTSON
P. H. SANDERS
JOS. SCHILLING
GLENN SCHNARR
J. B. SCONCE
JOHN SERVAAS
GEORGE SETTOS
L. L. SHUBNELL
HARRY SIMERMAN
K. H. SINK
J. L. SLUTSKY
JOS. SMITH
MORRIS SMITH
I. T. SOLLERS
R. A. STEILER
KERMIT STENGEL
L. J. STEUERLE
J. B. STINE
J. L. STORY
TONY SUDEKUM
FRED SWITOW
HARRY SWITOW
SAM SWITOW
CHAS. TAMLER
ERNEST TAMLER
NATHAN TAMLER
FRANK TAYLOR
R. C. THOMAS
A. B. THOMPSON
PAUL THRELKEL
DICK VLASTOS
H. P. VONDERSCHMITT
C. F. WALTERS
MRS. ETHEL WALSH
S. D. WEINBERG
C. C. WENTZELL
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Tom Norman's Career Dates Back to 1903

PALATINE, ILL. — This 50-year anniversary of motion picture exhibition has been a great year for reminiscing. Among the old-timers entitled to tilt back his chair and start I-remember-whenning is Tom Norman, owner of the Pal Theatre here, which he remodeled about six years ago.



TOM NORMAN

Norman's theatre career dates back, however, to 1903-'04, when he was the operator in a storeroom show. This was at Lincoln and Wrightwood avenues in Chicago. Then he became a booker for Universal on Lake St. and remained with the company until 1914, and still prizes the letter of regret at losing him from Carl Laemmle, carrying best wishes for his future.

Tom next operated the Rex Theatre at Racine, Wis., and one of the same name at Oshkosh. Other ventures, in their chronological order, included managing the Archer Bros. Portage Park Theatre at Chicago, field manager for Fischers' Paramount Theatres, Milwaukee salesman for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and with Albert Dezel's Road Shows.

Folks in other industries and professions are always looking forward to a day of retirement to a little chicken farm or some such pastoral objective. But in show business, more and more of those active for a long period of time like to get a nice location in a small town and keep right on in the industry.

Tom's still doing all right for himself in the only business he has known for the past 40 years.

Toronto Showmen Worry Over City Parking Plan

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Exhibitors in Toronto are concerned over a proposal of the town planning commission which under a postwar building code specifies that theatres should be required to provide a parking place for one automobile to each six seats in a theatre. The move is intended primarily to remove parked cars from the streets in the vicinity of a cinema both in daylight and night hours.

The plan has been formulated for consideration of city council in conjunction with a sweeping civic improvement program which includes slum clearance, construction of trunk thoroughfares, establishment of a park system and erection of civic buildings, one of which is to be built on the block which now includes Shea's, prominent downtown unit of Famous Players.

Theatre companies are disturbed over the parking proposal because it involves extensive land investment apart from actual theatre property and, in some locations, the securing of a large vacant area would entail the removal of existing buildings which could not be acquired at small cost. It has been pointed out that a parking lot to take the equipment of one car for every six seats of theatre capacity would require a space much larger than the actual cinema. The ratio of one car for each six seats drew objections because it implies that almost all patrons ride autos to the theatre.

Observers believed that the council would eventually accept the argument of exhibitors that the commission is incorrect in its theatre-parking principle.

ST. LOUIS

A trade screening of M-G-M's "Thrill of a Romance" will be given at the S'Renco screening room at 1 p. m., May 22 . . . Sam Pinanski, national chairman of the Seventh War Loan drive sent a telegram to help pep up the war bond meeting at the Coronado Hotel.

St. Louis labor men affiliated with the motion picture industry have read with much interest the announcement that the Springfield (Mo.) Chamber of Commerce had adopted a resolution urging President Truman to name R. T. Wood, former congressman and president of the Missouri AFL, to the post of secretary of labor to succeed Frances Perkins.

The case of Brandriff vs. Ansell Amusement Co. has been dismissed in Federal Judge George H. Moore's court for failure to prosecute and for failure to comply with an order of the court entered April 21, 1943.

M. L. Plessner, Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. director of publicity and advertising who heads the publicity committee for the Seventh Loan drive, will have as his aides in this territory the largest and best qualified staff of publicity and exploitation men ever assembled for a similar campaign. Any exhibitor who wishes aid in a publicity stunt needs only call on Plessner.

Mrs. Johanna Earlin, aerialist billed as the "Sensational Bernice," who fell while performing her "slide for life" at the St. Louis police circus, has been released from the City Hospital and may resume her act soon . . . Circuit Judge William L. Mason has issued a pro forma decree of incorporation to the Theatrical and Stage Entertainers Club. A similar decree has been granted the Taxi Drivers and Recreation Club.

Students Simulate Television

CHICAGO—Television recently was demonstrated in Bradley College through a play, "The Cry of the Windmill." Students used dummy machinery to simulate a real television production and broadcast.



VACATION MEMORIES — Nearly a quarter of a century ago, Tom Norman, Palatine, Ill., exhibitor pioneer, took a vacation in Miami. He had along two of his pals, Joe Laemmle and I. Lesserman. In the photo, left to right: Laemmle, Lesserman, Norman.

Lots of Distraction But Films Do Well

CHICAGO—Cold winds, lots of rain and peace rumors failed, singly or in the aggregate, to stem the tide to boxoffices. The Woods, where John Wayne and other blood-and-guts stars do well, went into a swell second week with "Flame of Barbary Coast." Lena Horne heading the Oriental stage show, with "Identity Unknown" on the screen, made Manager Jack Hunt very happy, while the Chicago had no complaints with "Keep Your Powder Dry," plus the ever popular Georgie Price at the head of the footlight fare. "Music for Millions" opened big at the United Artists and "National Velvet" slipped into a nice third week at the State-Lake, while another holdover, "Song to Remember," was still doing okay at the Apollo.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**Song to Remember** (Col), 3rd wk. 110
Chicago—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), plus Georgie Price heading stage show 130
Garrick—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Grand—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 3rd d. t. wk. 100
Monroe—**Magnificent Confession** (Globe); **Shadow of Suspicion** (Mono) 105
Oriental—**Identity Unknown** (Rep), plus Lena Horne heading stage show 130
Palace—**Having a Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 105
Roosevelt—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 4th wk. 100
State-Lake—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 110
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 18th wk. 105
United Artists—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) 120
Woods—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep), 2nd wk. 120
World Playhouse—**Zoya** (Artkino) 110

Most Milwaukee First Runs Pull Good Despite Historic Week

MILWAUKEE—Though many theatre patrons remained glued to their radios following fast moving world war events, most houses pulled average business, with "National Velvet" at the Wisconsin going over.

Alhambra—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA); **Jade Mask** (Mono), 4th wk. 100
Palace—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 100
Riverside—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ), 2nd wk. 100
Strand—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); **Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 100
Warner—**Roughly Speaking** (WB); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 100
Wisconsin—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 110

Indianapolis Grosses Low: "Song" a Disappointment

INDIANAPOLIS—Grosses were a little off in all houses last week. "A Song to Remember" settled for a mere pittance; in fact, it was a disappointment. "God Is My Co-Pilot" headed the list of grosses and was moved to the Lyric for a second week.

Alamo—**Shadows of Death** (PRC); **Kid Sister** (PRC) 90
Circle—**Dark Waters** (UA); **Three Is a Family** (UA) 95
Indiana—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 120
Loew's—**A Song to Remember** (Col) 110
Lyric—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 95

Hasley Purchases Second East Pittsburgh House

From Mideast Edition

PITTSBURGH—F. E. Hasley, East Pittsburgh exhibitor, has purchased the Main from F. J. Kimmerle. The Main, which was known as the Bessemer for many years, at one time was operated by Hasley under lease from Kimmerle. Later, Hasley erected his own theatre, the Terrace, one block from the Main, and Kimmerle had operated the latter house from that time. Both theatres, now managed by Hasley, are located on Bessemer Terrace above East Pittsburgh. Kimmerle is retiring from exhibition.



OVERFLOW CROWD FOR KICKOFF—The kickoff meeting for the seventh War Loan drive, held at Hotel Schroeder in Milwaukee, brought out an overflow crowd, as is evidenced by the photograph above.

CHICAGO

Sam Horowitz, sales manager here for Vanguard Films, held open house at his new offices, 33 North La Salle St. Peg DuPont, his gal Friday, assisted . . . Jack Sampson, district manager for B&K, is zone chairman of the Evanston sector in the Seventh War Loan drive, assisted by A. Pearson of the Coronet, L. Eastman of the Varsity, and V. Fischer of the Valencia. Sam Myers of Teatro del Lago is co-chairman with Sampson.

James Jovan made a deal with Al Dezel for Jovan's "Behind the Enemy Lines" in Ohio and Michigan. Jovan is now showing his "Power of God" at his Monroe, calling it "The Magnificent Confession" . . . James Coston, Warner circuit head, was in New York for a confab.

The DeVry Corp. won its fifth army-navy E . . . A chap slept through the last show at the Park and wanted his money refunded because he hadn't seen a thing. But topping that was the wee jitterbug who stuck a penny in the weighing machine at the Biltmore and wanted the coin back. She thought she was feeding a juke box!

Guy Costa, assistant at the State-Lake, joined the Mae West cast in St. Louis . . . B&K Paradise assistant manager, Irving Fine, posted his name on the bulletin as "I. M. Fine" . . . Manager Joe Anderson and Assistant Frank Curtain of the Belpark had a race with the stork. Kathleen Ann Anderson arrived April 24 and Margaret Mary Curtain made her debut April 26. Both dads had to take a week's vacation due to the ordeal, and Nate Platt, supervisor, suffered more than either trying to find subs.

Sgt. Eddie Seguin, in town on a furlough from Dallas, goes next to Camp Lee, Va. . . . Jack Irving, secretary of the AGVA in this area, was named a director of the Variety Club, replacing the late Hal Halperin . . . Sgt. Eddie Harris, marine, overseas three years and now discharged, visited his former boss, Irving Mack, thence to his Milwaukee home. He will go to the coast to enter the film industry.

Herb Elisburg, back from a gin rummy conference at Miami Beach, was peeved when he saw the dailies printed that a holdup man who stuck up his Studio boxoffice got only $7.75. Last time robbers took $80. With "Ecstasy" in its 18th week and going strong, Herb felt that the attraction was cheapened by the small take . . . Jack Hunt's two charming daughters will open a candy shop next to their pop's Oriental Theatre. It will be the Twin Sweet Shop. They used to be performers with Ringling Bros.

M. J. Lipp, head of Midwest Poster, has taken over the Independent Poster Exchange, Minneapolis. Kelly Evidon will stay on as manager . . . Sam Stol, key zone salesman for Paramount, visited the Row. A charter BOXOFFICE subscriber he got his start in Kansas City in 1914 . . . Pvt. Bernard Mack, wounded overseas and hospitalized at O'Reilly General, Springfield, Mo., was in for a visit with his parents, the Irving Macks, and feels fine.

Al Winston, 20th-Fox press agent, has captured Berlin! He went to Milwaukee and came back with a bride—Ann Berlin . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cozi are the parents of a boy named Guy. Joe is city salesman for RKO . . . Frank Smith, RKO Palace director, was busy with the forthcoming "Chicago Unites for President Truman" celebration, sponsored by Mayor Edward Kelly at the Stadium May 27. Madeline Woods and Frank are lining up a great show of radio, stage and screen stars.

Edmund Goldman, Columbia exchange head in Manila, recently released from a Jap prison camp, paused long enough to tell of having witnessed the slaying of natives by Japs in the hours before Manila fell. He was en route to the west coast.

Irving Mandel, Monogram head here, said "Dillinger," banned here by the police censor board, is breaking records in New York, from whence he just came . . . Ted Dariotis, manager of the Nortown, is back from his honeymoon. He married Dorothy Thompson (not the commentator), a lovely from Wisconsin.

Vincent Gottschalk was here to help emcee the Variety Club benefit at the Civic Opera House . . . Pat O'Brien and frau were back from Toronto. He is scheduled to be among the many stars in "I Am an American" day program, sponsored by the Herald-American at Soldier Field May 20 . . . Johnnie Neblet, radio star, devoted his WBBM program, So the Story Goes, to the late Hal Halperin by telling the story of the founding of Variety of America.

Warren Slee, M-G-M, ran around in the rain with Spencer Tracy, who had hoped to get out of the rain when he came in from Los Angeles. Hal Roach and Abe Lastfogel, head of the USO-Camp Shows, were with Tracy, en route to New York . . . Al Beaver of the Gale was on the Row talking popcorn with Harry Phillips . . . Emil Stern and his wife were in French Lick for a respite.

Local 110, MPO, sent out a manual on television to all members. The data is the result of fact-finding by RCA engineers . . . Bill Bishop, publicity co-chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive for this area, headed a delegation of press agents who went to Peoria last week. In the group were Jay Frank, 20th-Fox; Lucia Perrigo, Warner; Bob Hickey, RKO; Bill Prager, RKO; Ben Katz, Universal, and E. G. Fitzgibbon, Paramount.

Republic is shouting "A Republic Picture on Every Screen," the slogan for the tenth anniversary drive May 27 to July 27 . . . Jerry Winsberg, manager of the Senate and president of the B&K Employes Club, with Milton Officer, manager of the Will Rogers, will supervise 15 juvenile bond shows to be staged by the circuit June 5, 12 and 19. In addition, B&K will stage nine bond shows for adults.

Edmund Einstein, long-time showman, died May 3, following a heart attack. He managed the Banner, prior to that managed the 4-Star and at one time was in the poster departments of National Screen and Universal . . . Fred Joyce of Lester Cowan Productions is back from an Ohio trip where he whooped it up for "Tomorrow the World." In Akron, Cowan's native city, Fred got out the city solons in a civic celebration.

Sam Lamasky, business agent for the Film Employes Local B45, says approximately $50,000 will be paid to members in retroactive pay, dating to December 1942 by nine Chicago exchanges . . . A Canadian program featuring the U.S. premiere of the film "River in Canada" was presented in International House at the University of Chicago May 5 . . . Ray Van Getson, B&K maintenance director, is at the Masonic Hospital where he underwent surgery. Arch Trebow, purchasing director, is pinch-hitting for Ray.

W. E. Weinshenker, Universal's veteran sales manager, was back from Fort Worth where he got acquainted with his new grandchild, Dorothy Gladys Echt, whose mother was Cecile Weinshenker . . . Alliance circuit signed with Harry Mandel for all Film Classics for the circuit's Indiana theatres . . . M-G-M's "Meet Me in St. Louis" played 16 houses simultaneously last week and did fine as a solo attraction.

Pete Panagos, Alliance promotion manager, says their Roxy, Ottawa, lobby became so packed with clothes contributed to the United Nations drive that trucks had to get on the job to make room for the patrons . . . Lou Price, premium man, says demand for theatre premiums in the form of crockery is greater than the supply.

From Grocer to Showman

PAXTON, IND.—R. V. Calvin, manager of the A&P store here, has resigned to assume the management of the Paxton Theatre. He had been associated with the food marketing firm for many years.

James Colby in Chicago

CHICAGO—Theatre cashiers here have been informed by the FBI that James Colby Harrington, check faker and swindler, is active in Chicago territory. He is reputed to have 59 known aliases.

Not Time Yet

for Paper Capers!



Sure, the news is good — terrific, in fact. But don't let that give you the idea that America's paper shortage is over. More paper than ever is needed now to wrap supplies for our armies as they drive toward their goal. There's still a manpower shortage in the pulp industry.

So, you've still got to watch your company's use of paper with the hawk eye of a paper miser. You've still got to use your ingenuity and that of your staff to find even more ways to *use less paper.*

All material made of paper and paperboard still must be cut to the bone. Eliminate whatever you can until complete and final victory ends the paper pinch.

The baling of wastepaper and sending it to the reprocessing plant is still of prime importance.

Remember—
PAPER IS WAR POWER



USE LESS PAPER — SAVE ALL WASTEPAPER

This advertisement contributed by this publication and prepared by the War Advertising Council in cooperation with the War Production Board and the Office of War Information.

Des Moines "Dead" On Victory Day

DES MOINES—All theatres in Des Moines closed their doors for the 24 hours following President Truman's VE-Day statement. Exchanges and the offices of the Tri-States and Central States Theatres corporations also were closed.

Decision to close the theatres was made at a last-minute meeting of Des Moines theatre officials the night before. Previously, the owners had publicly announced they would remain open on VE-Day. The change in plans was in compliance with a city ordinance which specified places of public entertainment should close on VE-Day.

Fine Provided for Violators

Theatres were specifically mentioned in the ordinance. Also affected were bars, taverns, roller skating rinks, bowling alleys, dance halls and "all public places licensed by city, state or government agencies." The ordinance was passed last September. A fine of $100 or 30 days in jail was specified as penalty for violation. Apparently, theatre men had overlooked the theatre clause in the ordinance when originally announcing they would stay open.

The theatres, however, offered their facilities for public services on VE-Day. Churches and other groups were notified they could have use of the theatres.

Meanwhile, police had orders to see that no theatre boxoffices were open.

Throughout the state, various policies were followed. Some theatres closed for the day, others remaining open. The policy of the theatres in the Tri-States and Central States chains was for their houses outside of Des Moines to be guided by public opinion. Orders were given that if townspeople wanted the theatres closed, they would be closed, and vice versa.

Bank Night Postponed

In Des Moines, Tri-States postponed its regular bank night drawings from Tuesday until Wednesday. Some employes reported for work as usual on the day, and then were told to go home after President Truman's address. Others were told to wait at home until the President had spoken. Then upon getting the VE-Day word from him, they were to take the day off.

Most Filmrow salesmen, however, were already on the road when the VE announcement came. As is customary, they had started out on their weekly runs Monday, before the official word was given.

All retail stores and business houses in Des Moines were closed. Buses were routed so they would not enter the loop on VE-Day. Des Moines city fathers did their best to prevent too boisterous a celebration.

M. J. Litt Is New Owner Of Independent Poster

MINNEAPOLIS—M. J. Litt has purchased Independent Poster exchange from J. L. Stern, owner of the Majestic film exchange and the Mohawk Theatre, St. Paul. The new owner also operates an independent poster exchange in Chicago.

W. E. Huck New Operator Of Arlington Theatre

ARLINGTON, IOWA—W. E. Huck has purchased the theatre here from T. J. Markley.

F. A. Hale New at Eastwood

MADISON—Frank A. Hale is the new manager of the Eastwood Theatre here. Hale was formerly with the Ashley Fox in Madison.

Bond Shows Exceed 200; Award Night At Topeka

By BABE COHN

KANSAS CITY—The latest report from the office of Bill Truog, distributor chairman of the Seventh War Loan, indicates that the number of bond premieres set at this time will exceed 200. Two hundred seventy-five Free Movie Days and 20 children's matinees have been scheduled.

"There are still many exhibitors to be heard from," said Truog, "and again I want to urge that any exhibitor who has not already arranged for a bond premiere to do so right away. If any exhibitor can't get in touch with the salesman handling his territory he should contact the exchange that distributes the picture wanted or, contact Ward Scott at 20th-Fox in Kansas City."

It is estimated that more than one-half of the special bond shows now booked are with independent exhibitors in the territory.

Use Bond Line With All Plugs

In order to tie in with the national publicity now being used in newspapers, magazines and radio, it is urged that every exhibitor who is buying local radio time include the line, "Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre," with his plugs. This line to be used also in his ads and lobby to stimulate bond sales in the theatres.

A 16mm sound print of the "All-Star Bond Rally" is available for special showings in the territory. If 16mm sound equipment can be had locally, and a showing can be arranged for a bond rally group or civic club, contact Babe Cohn, Newman Theatre, Kansas City, to obtain the print. Only one print can be secured so showings will necessarily be limited.

A Stan Schwahn Idea

From the always ingenious Stan Schwahn of the Jayhawker at Lawrence, Kas., comes a new bond-selling idea that has possibilities.

Stan arranged with his local war finance committee to give out a numbered chance ticket for a "bond award night" drawing with each E bond sold in the county. The buyers are to drop these in a box at the theatre where the drawing will be held at the end of the drive. War bonds totaling over $1,000 will be allotted, including $650 contributed by local merchants and $400 by the theatre. The drawing will be handled like bank night with it being possible to win a bond outside the theatre. If the name of a winner is pulled and he is not present, Stan proposes to send him a couple of ducats for consolation.

A very fine goodwill angle has been introduced in the Kansas City theatres by the use of the winners of a local high school oratorical contest as bond speakers in the theatres during the drive. Senn Lawler was responsible for the arrangements which should materially assist in selling bonds. A very detailed speaking schedule has been worked out.

John Adams Will Open Theatre at Naper, Neb.

SPENCER, NEB.—John Adams, theatre owner here, will open a new theatre, the Naper, at Naper, Neb., in three weeks, it was learned.

Cliff Miller, Topeka, Dies in Car Mishap

TOPEKA—Clifford L. Miller, owner of the the Eskridge Theatre, Eskridge, Kas., was killed when his motor car hurtled a bridge and rolled into a creek near Dover. Miller was returning from Eskridge to his home in Topeka and had with him a Universal film which was badly soaked.

Miller is survived by his wife, Mrs. Della Miller; one son, Clifford, home on furlough from the merchant marine; a daughter, Sharon Lee, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Miller, all of Topeka.

Young Weaver at Luebeck

IOLA, KAS.—Pvt. Sterling Weaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Weaver who operate the Pic here, was with the 82nd air borne division, 517th parachute infantry, which aided the British in taking Luebeck, Germany, recently. In the Belgian bulge counteroffensive last winter Sterling was wounded and received a Purple Heart. Mrs. Weaver's brother, C. W. Powell, who formerly was projectionist at the Pic, is also in the European war.



REUNION WITH RICHEY — Henderson M. Richey, right, assistant to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, stopped off at the Kansas City exchange for a short time last week and here greets Lieut. Walter Lambader, chief pilot instructor for the air ferry command at San Pedro, Calif. Lambader, former head booker at Kaycee, was en route to another destination when bad weather grounded him in his home town.

The Father of Bob Shelton Is Killed by Motor Car

KANSAS CITY—The Rev. R. M. Shelton of nearby Independence, father of Bob Shelton, division manager of Commonwealth, was fatally injured Monday when struck by an automobile. The funeral, attended by many from Filmrow and the Commonwealth offices, was held Wednesday at Independence and burial was at Mexico, Mo., his old home. The elder Shelton was a retired Christian minister. He is survived by his wife, and two sons, Robert M. jr. and Paul.

Theodore L. Hays, Father of Show Business in Northwest, Dies at 78

MINNEAPOLIS — Theodore L. Hays, who has been called "the father of the show business in the northwest," died here, his birthplace and home, last Saturday. In respect to him, the offices of the Minnesota Amusement Co., of which he was an executive, were closed all day and all of its theatres remained closed until 1 p. m. Tuesday, the day of the funeral.

Hays was director of real estate and insurance departments and in charge of labor relations with the Minnesota Amusement Co., but had been inactive the past four years on account of ill health. He started in the show business in the northwest 59 years ago when he and his father, Lambert Hays, built the Bijou here.

Managed Two Theatres at 19

Only 19 then, Hays managed that theatre and the old Grand Opera House in St. Paul, offering popular priced legitimate roadshows, until 1916 when he joined the Finkelstein & Ruben Co., predecessor of the Minnesota Amusement Co. When the old Metropolitan here, leading home of legitimate roadshows, was built, he was made manager of that house, too, and held the post for several years.

Among "firsts" credited to Hays are the first public showing of a motion picture in Minnesota, at the Bijou in 1898, and the development here of the stage-motion picture technique, which included an organ or other musical effects to accompany the pictures.

Hays also was known for creating "atmosphere" in the state's first de luxe film house, even to using perfume in the theatre when the picture was rated as calling for particular "class." During his career he has been associated with many of the men now prominent in the show business here in the capacity of an employer, employe or business associate.

To MAC in 1928

In 1928 the Minnesota Amusement Co. acquired the F&R circuit and Hays went with the new owners. He never officially retired and his office was maintained by the company just as he had left it.

Hays was president of the Twin City Scenic Co. and was interested in several theatre properties. He was secretary of the Associated Managers of the Twin Cities and vice-president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners. In 1903 the then governor of Minnesota honored him by appointing him a member of the Minnesota board of managers for the world's fair in St. Louis.

Hays was 78. His wife and a son survive.

MINNEAPOLIS

Gene Meredith, cashier at Warner Bros. here, is back in harness after spending two and a half years overseas as chief yeoman in the navy. He received a Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action . . . In his column last Sunday, Jules L. Steele, St. Paul Pioneer Press film editor and critic, called attention to an article by one Norman Levy in the Stage, a periodical published in New York in 1911, which is a classic for bad prophecy. Levy predicted that vaudeville "will always be with us" and motion pictures would be short-lived. Levy also wrote that Edward Bellamy's prediction in "Looking Backward" by turning a handle people would be able to bring music, lectures and other entertainment into our homes—"is just a pleasing and improbable fantasy of the imaginative author."



GENE MEREDITH

LeRoy J. Miller, Universal manager and his sales staff went to Chicago for a sales meeting . . . Jack Allison, 20th-Fox western division ad sales manager, was a visitor . . . "Hy" Chapman, Columbia manager, was in Kansas City to see Ben Marcus, district manager.

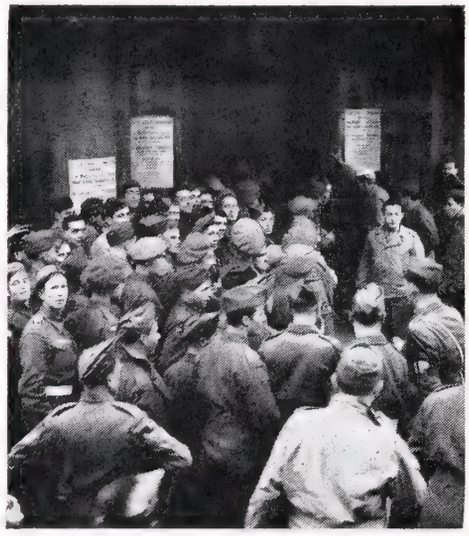
Walter Branson and Herb Greenblatt, RKO western sales and district managers, respectively, were here for sales meeting . . . Verlie Burt of the 20th-Fox office staff flew to California for her vacation.

St. Louis Park Theatre is the first suburban house to show "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at regular admission prices . . . Harry Seed, Warner district manager, was a visitor.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included M. L. Sondegaard, New York Mills, Minn.; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls; James E. Colvert, Milnor; Jack Heywood, New Richmond.

Arnold Carlson, RKO head shipper, was vacationing . . . J D. Kendis, Hollywood independent producer, was here conferring with Abbott Swartz of PRC . . . Jim Ascher, exploiteer, was here from Chicago and got plenty of attention for "Tomorrow the World." Among other things be held an invitational screening for Twin City university and college professors and psychiatrists, followed by an open forum on the problem of what to do with Nazi children after the war.

Harry Dickerman, former independent circuit owner who sold his theatre holdings to move to Hollywood, was back for a visit. He will return to the west after a few weeks. He's plenty enthusiastic about his new home and has a wide circle of former Minneapolis friends who now are Hollywood residents.



STEIN'S "SUPER DE LUXE"—The guy at the right in the picture above, with sleek black hair and no hat, is none other than Bill Stein, formerly of the Tower Theatre in Kansas City. He's standing in front of an army theatre in Italy, and is doing, he says, "typical standout Tower business." Unfortunately, he adds, "the joint will be all paper" when the picture goes on. "Thanks to my training under Barney Joffee," he writes BOXOFFICE, "the SRO sign is always up, with a 30-minute wait for all seats!"

Ralph Maw Introduced At Minneapolis Party

MINNEAPOLIS—M-G-M was host to the territory's exhibitors and members of the trade press at a luncheon at the Hotel Nicollet Tuesday to introduce Ralph Maw, new district manager.

In addition to Maw and office personnel, those present included J. E. Flynn, western sales manager; S. A. Shirley, former district manager in this area and now Chicago area district manager, and W. G. Bishop, western exploitation supervisor out of Chicago.

Maw formerly was M-G-M branch manager in Buffalo. He will make Minneapolis his headquarters. In a brief talk he pledged his best efforts to a continuation of the present friendly relations between the company and the territory's exhibitors and to the utmost in service. There also were brief talks by Flynn, Shirley, Bishop and W. H. Workman, local manager.

M-G-M Officials at Des Moines Hold Luncheon for Maw

DES MOINES—M-G-M officials here honored their new district manager, Ralph W. Maw, at a luncheon at the Kirkwood Hotel last Thursday. Accompanying Maw on his visit to the Des Moines exchange, and also guests at the luncheon, were Jack Flynn, western division manager; Samuel Shirley, Chicago district manager, and Henry Fridel, district manager from Denver.

Among exhibitors invited to the affair were Leo Wolcott, Eldora; Charles Peterson, Hampton, and Mike Roskopf, Marshalltown. Also attending were Gerry McGlynn, new branch manager of M-G-M at Omaha who until recently was a salesman for the exchange here; John Kemptgen, M-G-M branch manager from Milwaukee, and Bill Bishop, western advertising and exploiteer manager for M-G-M.

Tri-States and Central States officials participating in the event were G. Ralph Branton, Dale McFarland, Russ Fraser, Don West and M. E. Lee.

New Film Width Adopted

LEROY, KAS.—Charles P. McNew, manager of the Leroy Theatre, has announced that in the future all films shown there will be 35mm, thus giving a wider choice of presentations.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES



Kansas City Orpheum Fills for "Cottage"

KANSAS CITY—With Mae West in person at the Music Hall in "Catherine Was Great," and the Boy Scout roundup carrying on both Friday and Saturday evenings the theatres had some competition last week, but all reported satisfactory grosses. The Orpheum with "The Enchanted Cottage" had excellent crowds and comments on the picture were all exceedingly gratifying. The Midland with "A Song to Remember" and "Leave It to Blondie" in a holdover scored a good average. The Newman where "Practically Yours" ran its second week kept boxoffice totals only slightly lower than last week's. The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway went in for horror in a big way with two screamers, "House of Frankenstein" and "The Mummy's Curse," and those who like their mysteries with hair-raising effects had a real treat—results being better than usual for a program of this nature. At the Tower the idea was a little on the horror side, too, with "Ministry of Fear" and "One Body Too Many." But a gay stage show "took the curse" off the program.

(Average is 100)

Esquire—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **The Mummy's Curse** (Univ) 105
Fairway—Same as Esquire 95
Midland—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 2nd wk. 110
Newman—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk. 135
Orpheum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col) 140
Tower—**Ministry of Fear** (Para); **One Body Too Many** (Para), plus stage show 100
Uptown—Same as Esquire 100

"Without Love" Leads the Field In Easy Minneapolis Week

MINNEAPOLIS—Considering the fine array of pictures, business last week fell below expectations, probably due to VE-Day developments. "Without Love" led the field. Holdovers were "Salty O'Rourke," "Enchanted Cottage" and "Song of Bernadette" in their second, third and fourth weeks, respectively.

Aster—**What a Blonde** (RKO); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 90
Century—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Gopher—**Earl Carroll's Vanities** (Rep) 100
Lyric—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 90
Orpheum—**Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M) 100
Radio City—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 140
State—**Song to Remember** (Col) 110
World—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 4th d. t. wk. 100

"Music for Millions" Easily Takes Omaha Boxoffice Laurels

OMAHA—"Music for Millions" jangled a merry boxoffice tune here at the Paramount Theatre to capture easily the film laurels. Only other regular first run house over par was the Omaha, which took on "To Have and Have Not" for a second week, dualed with "Song of the Sarong." Weather was mixed.

Brandeis—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), 2nd wk. 90
Omaha—**To Have and Have Not** (WB), 2nd wk., moveover; **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 110
Orpheum—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **The House of Fear** (Univ) 100
Paramount—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 130
State—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep) 125
Town—**A Song for Miss Julie** (Rep); **In Old Monterey** (Rep); **Clancy Street Boys** (Mono), split with **Rough Ridin' Justice** (Col); **Enter Arsene Lupin** (Univ); **Hail the Conquering Hero** (Para) 105

"Tree" Takes High Des Moines Honors; Dual Under Par

DES MOINES—"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" took top honors in drawing audiences to downtown houses last week. It played at the Des Moines. "Ministry of Fear" and "Her Lucky Night," a double feature at the Paramount Theatre, had slightly below average crowds. The holdover at the Orpheum, "Enchanted Cottage," had a slow week. A second feature was added for the last week—Ann Miller in "Eve Knew Her Apples."

Des Moines—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) ..100
Orpheum—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk.; **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 75
Paramount—**Ministry of Fear** (Para); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ) 95

War Only Half Won, WAC Chairman Warns

OMAHA—Along with an encouraging report on the Seventh War Loan campaign, Don V. McLucas, WAC chairman, issued a plea for all exhibitors to follow through on their pledges and stage banner bond premieres, Free Movie Days and children's shows.

McLucas called on Nebraskans and Iowans to remember VE-Day means the real beginning of the war against Japan, that the fight is only half over.

The WAC chairman said that thus far 108 bond premieres have been scheduled as compared with 171 during the Sixth drive. One hundred and sixty-nine Free Movie Days as compared with 160 last time, are lined up. Children's matinees number 18, one-half of the Sixth's 36 total.

McLucas also revealed that an effort is being made to get all neighborhood houses in Omaha to stage children's matinees. Dates of Omaha's bond premieres, which usually bring record results, will be announced soon.

Iowa Actor on USO Show Tour in South Pacific

DES MOINES—Richard Camp, 22, of Perry Iowa, former motion picture actor, is now with a USO group which is entertaining service men in the South Pacific, friends here learned last week.

Camp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Camp of Perry, played the main character in the short, "Honorable Discharge," and also played in "Stage Door Canteen." He is appearing overseas in the comedy, "Three Is a Family." The cast is headed by Charles Butterworth and Luella Guear.

Camp was on the New York stage for three years. In August 1942 he was selected to play the leading part of a 17-year-old boy in "Afton Water," after being in New York for a week. He had parts in other plays and appeared for a year on Broadway in "Junior Miss." While in this play he was called for his preinduction physical examination but was rejected.

Frank Shipley Buys Anita Theatre From C. G. Budd

ANITA, IOWA—The Anita Theatre has been purchased by Frank Shipley from C. G. Budd. Shipley also owns and operates the State Theatre at Lennox.

"Horizontal" Salesman Scores in Mail Deals

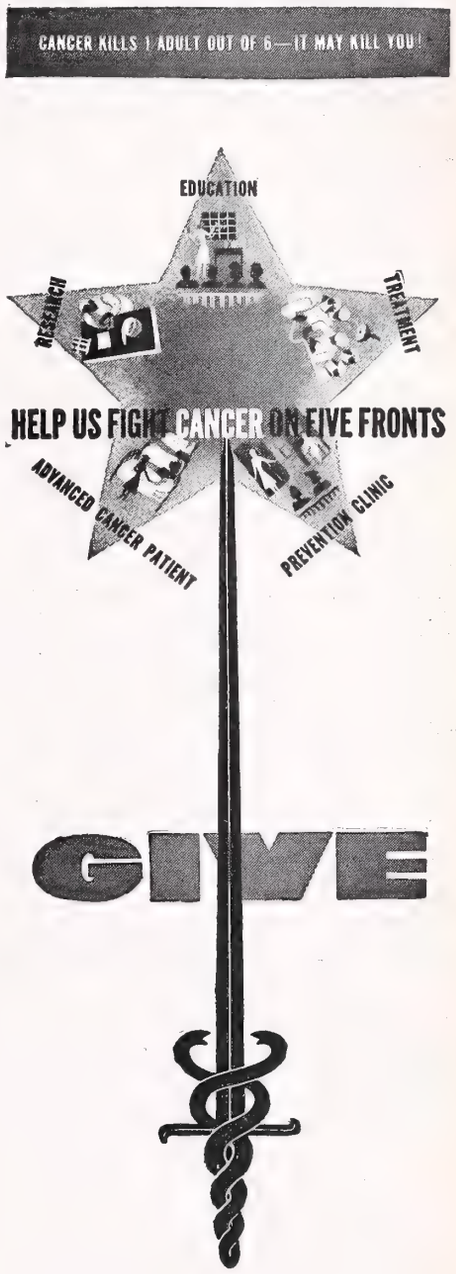
Omaha—E. I. Rubin, chief barker of the Variety Club and Paramount salesman, is trying out something new through force of necessity. Confined to his home following an operation that will keep him off the road for four more weeks, Rubin hit upon this idea:

He sent letters to a number of exhibitors in the territory. He told them he was "horizontal" and that he would appreciate it if they send back the enclosed contract signed. Out of the first ten letters Rubin got back eight okays.

It brought this quip from Hugh Braly of Denver, district manager, who is visiting here with Jesse McBride, Paramount manager: "Better keep him horizontal, Jesse."

M. A. Levy at DM

DES MOINES—M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, visited at the exchange here last week.



TO CONQUER CANCER

YOUR GIFT MAY SAVE YOU OR THE LIFE OF SOMEONE DEAR

•

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
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SEND YOUR CHECK NOW, AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN MAKE IT!

O M A H A

The Paramount exchange can now boast the Filmrow's most traveled member. He is Henry Harris, a former ensign, who left the navy after 22 years of service in which he visited nearly all the world's ports and saw action in every theatre in the war. Henry, new booker replacing Ralph Hall, calls San Francisco his home . . . Final report on the Red Cross gives the Omaha territory $61,515.72 as compared with slightly over $48,000 last year.

Frank Hannon, Warner branch manager; Joe Scott, 20th-Fox boss, and Jesse McBride, Paramount chief, gave a party at the Athletic Club for John G. Kemptgen, M-G-M manager who has been transferred to Milwaukee. Radio Sports Announcer Tom Dailey was a special guest. Kemptgen was presented a cigaret lighter. Gerald E. McGlynn, salesman at the Des Moines branch, will replace Kemptgen.

Ike Rubin, Variety Club chief barker and Paramount salesman, who is recuperating from an operation, entertained Variety Club members at his home in their regular poker session . . . Roy Casey, 20th-Fox cashier, is vacationing at Wilmot, S. D., visiting old friends . . . Announcement of Germany's surrender had girls in most of the exchanges in a dither. To most of them it meant more than the possibility of a day off—it meant the end to the fighting responsible for keeping their husbands and boy friends half way around the world. Radios blared most of the day in several of the exchanges.

Carl Reese, United Artists salesman, is back to the Omaha territory after pinch-hitting at St. Louis for three weeks . . . Joy Parashus, head inspector at 20th-Fox, was on vacation . . . Esther Quaas, Universal inspector, was in the hospital for a minor operation . . . Mr. and Mrs. Iz Weiner enjoyed two weeks near Denver, Colo., at vacation time again this year . . . Ed Cohn, another Universal salesman, also was vacationing, but the exchange reports it has seen more of him when on vacation than it usually does.

Jack Connor's string of tough breaks hardly make news any more. Latest bad report from the Metro exploiteer is a repeat performance of what's happened to him twice previously: His house has been sold out from under him. As usual, Jack has sent the family back to Minneapolis while he tackles the several-month job of finding another home . . . Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom will bring his floor show to the Orpheum Theatre May 18 . . . When Jean Parker, appearing at the Orpheum Theatre, handed Hymie Zorinsky an application for a war bond, Hymie filled it out and paid for it with the largest bill Miss Parker said she had ever seen.

The annual Tangier Temple Shrine circus will be at the City Auditorium May 30 to June 6, Dr. F. F. Whitcomb, chairman, announces . . . Harry Cockrell, who probably sold more legitimate theatre tickets to Omahans in the good old days than any other, is bedfast at the Fontenelle Home . . . Visitors along Filmrow included Al Balkkalb, Bonesteel, S. D.; Frank Good, Red Oak, Ia.; A. J. Chantry, Osceola; Phil March, Wayne; Carl Johnson, Red Oak, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Feldhans, Schaller, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. John Adams, Spencer, Neb.; Lou Ireland, Logan, Ia.; Jennie Wickman, Tekamah, and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Van Wey, Gothemburg.

Several Manager Shifts In Central, Tri-States

DES MOINES—Several changes in management have been announced by Tri and Central States officials here. W. Jerry Gerbacht, manager of the Grand, Estherville, has been replaced by Don Loftus. Loftus, formerly a newspaper man at Fort Dodge, recently was manager of the Gem at Charles City.

Lesley J. Poston has been named manager of the Gem, replacing Loftus.

Gladys Pierce, formerly an exhibitor at Story City, has been appointed manager of the Iowa at Fort Dodge.

NCA Ad to Truman

MINNEAPOLIS—President Truman and all members of Congress have received copies from North Central Allied of a copy of a full-page ad which the organization ran in a film trade paper protesting against film rentals, percentage and the "milking" of pictures in first run distributor-affiliated houses before they are released to the independent neighborhood and suburban theatres. The ad claims independent exhibitor members have been reduced to the status of "candy hawkers."

Saddle Mare Awarded As Quinter, Kas., Prize

Quinter, Kas.—Wes Bolen, who operates the Goveland here, brought his patrons into the enjoyment of his annual horse sale during the engagement of "Heavenly Days" on the Goveland screen.

Bolen selected one of the American Saddle breed of horses as a prize for one of the persons attending, winner announced at the conclusion of the run. The animal was a mare, sired by Chimes of Indian Hill, one of the finest American Saddlers in the country, horsemen say.

Novel Bond Sales Ideas Advanced in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—Lester Kropp, manager of Fred Wehrenberg's Melba Theatre and Fred's right hand man in the operation of his chain of neighborhood and suburban houses, has suggested that on May 20, which is "I Am an American" day, all Americans should prove their Americanism by buying additional war bonds.

The proposal was submitted to the war bond rally at the Coronado Hotel by Wehrenberg, who said that several years ago when "I Am an American" day was established Mrs. Arretus Burt, honorary president and founder of the Better Films Council of Greater St. Louis, suggested that on the day all theatres show at least one partiotic motion picture. This practice has been observed since by houses in St. Louis and St. Louis County.

A second war bond selling idea is being considered by Tommy James, owner of three theatres catering to the Negro trade. James' son, who is with MacArthur's forces, recently sent him a Japanese regimental flag captured in the Philippines. Tommy may place this flag on the theatre lobby floor and permit any purchaser of a $500 or $1,000 war bond during the drive to trample on it.

G. E. McGlynn New Metro Head; McCann on Road

DES MOINES—James McCann has been appointed salesman for M-G-M, replacing Gerald E. McGlynn, recently named Omaha manager. McCann originally was employed as a student booker at Chicago, was drafted into the army and subsequently separated from the service. He was then sent to Omaha as a salesman. McGlynn had been with the M-G-M exchange here for 16 years.

Earl Lee Opening Theatre In Colony, Town of 500

COLONY, KAS.—This town of 500 is to have a motion picture theatre, the 200-seat Lee, which will be opened about May 20 by Earl Lee, former oil operator forced by his health to quit oil drilling. He has remodeled a building which he took over a month ago.

A. H. Blank to "Y" Board

DES MOINES—A. H. Blank, president of Tri-States Theatre Corp., was named to the board of the YMCA last week. Blank said a major project of the new board will be to rehabilitate the present 35-year-old "Y" building at an expense of $100,000. He added that one reason for the improvement is to take care of returning service men, who can obtain a three-month membership free.

Gerry Callahan Visits

DES MOINES—Visiting at the Monogram exchange here last week were Gerry Callahan, new manager at the Omaha exchange; Sol Francis, Monogram district manager, and Mike Comer, former Omaha manager who has been transferred to the Oklahoma City exchange. Callahan, a former salesman for Monogram in Philadelphia, met circuit managers while here.



TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

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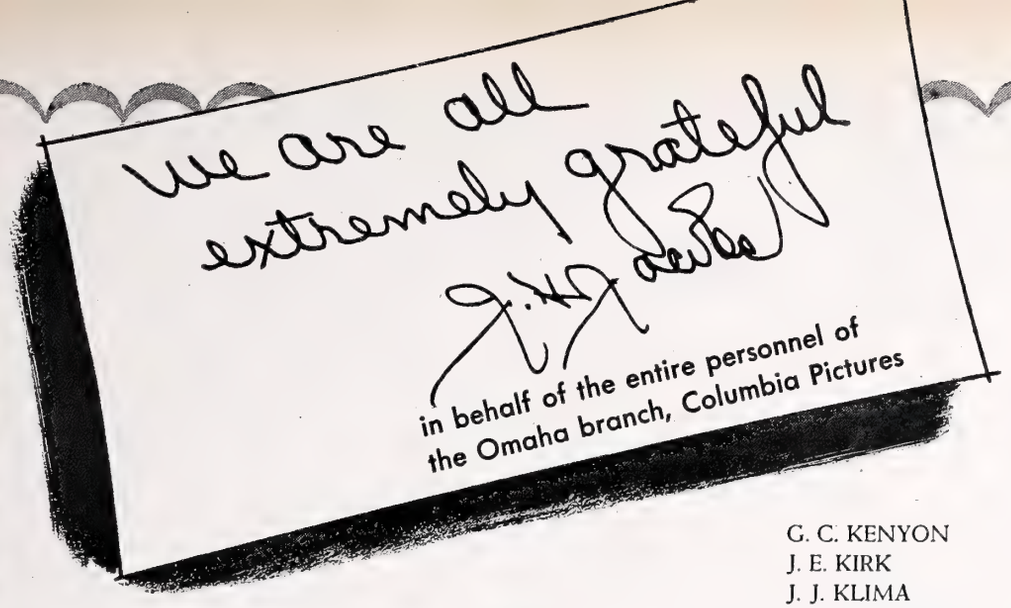
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Nellie Young Leaves Her Post at Newman

By VELMA WEST SYKES

KANSAS CITY—Nellie Doyle Young will be leaving the Newman Theatre here on June 1, after 18 years in theatre work, and 14 of those years at this same theatre. The announcement of her retirement is accompanied by an announcement of her marriage



NELLIE DOYLE YOUNG

some time ago to John H. Morgan, projectionist at the Midland Theatre and one of the real old-timers in this section.

Miss Young, as she is still known in the industry, started with Paramount's Royal first as a cashier back in 1926. It closed and she worked for the Midland in the same capacity when it opened, but came back to the Royal when it reopened. From there she went to the Newman and worked as a cashier until the last four years, when she has been assistant manager and treasurer. In fact, she and Miss Gladys Green, who is house manager at the Newman, were the first women in the U.S. to be placed in executive theatre positions.

"Of course it was the war that made it possible for women to show that they could handle theatre jobs outside the 'cage' and the aisles," Miss Young said. "And since we took over, many other women have been placed in theatre executive work. I do think the theatre is a wonderful field for women and I'm certainly going to find it hard to stay away from it—but my plans for the future only concern rest and relaxation in Minnesota."

Mrs. Dorothy Vandenburg Hughes, secretary at the Newman for the last year and a half, will take over the position of assistant manager. Her industry experience dates back to 1935 when she worked temporarily for Fox Midwest. She was with the Paramount exchange in 1938 and RKO in 1939, coming back to Fox Midwest in 1941 and from it to the Newman.

Babe Cohn is the present manager of the theatre.

Jiving Bobby-Socksers Flock to Hear Iturbi

Kansas City—Jose Iturbi, the great Spanish pianist whose artistry contributed so notably to the success of "A Song to Remember," emerged a rival to Frank Sinatra as a bobby-socks hero during a recent engagement here.

Making a concert appearance in the Music Hall almost simultaneously with the opening of the "Song" at the Midland Theatre, Iturbi profited immensely from the promotional buildup for the film in drawing persons who otherwise might not have been attracted, especially among the younger people.

A large portion of his concert audience was composed of teen-agers who besieged the maestro before and after the concert for autographs and otherwise paid homage in a manner older persons thought was reserved for the bow tie swoon-inspiring radio warbler.

We Rejoice With You!

May FULL Victory Soon Be Enjoyed

VE-DAY marks a great turn of the hands on the face of Destiny's clock. We devoutly thank every brave soul who helped—at home as well as at the front. It's a wonderful, joyous time. As reconversion comes we shall be able to furnish many items you've waited for so long.

MISSOURI THEATRE SUPPLY Company

L. J. KIMBRIEL, MANAGER

TELEPHONE GRAND 2864
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KANSAS CITY

W E. Griggs has acquired the Bird City at Bird City from Gordon Bastian, who is confining his time to his creamery station. Griggs gave up a garage business for the theatre . . . Visitors on Filmrow included Ralph Larned, Paramount, La Crosse, Kas.; Jim Owen, Owen, Branson, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Presley of the Lyric, Plattsburg, Mo., were here for some dental work last week for the wife. It was her first visit at a dentist's office for treatment . . . "Parky" Parkhurst, Republic salesman, and Mrs. Parkhurst made a hurried trip to St. Louis last week to see their daughter Marilyn at a hospital at Alton, Ill., where she was taken following an accident in a basketball game, but the injury turned out to be less serious than feared and the young lady returned to Monticello College Sunday evening.

Sgt. Glenn Neeley, formerly of the Empress, Norman, Kas., has been transferred from Dayton to San Antonio in the army air force.

Metro office girls were glum when Jose Iturbi found it impossible to visit Filmrow . . . Sam Sosna of the Sosna, Manhattan, Kas., had set his plans for VE-Day for the theatre long ago but was in Kansas City when the war ended and didn't know what took place in his college town . . . W. B. Adams, Roxy, Eldorado, Kas., has recovered from a recent operation.

Elmer Dillon, former manager of the Howard, Arkansas City, Kas., is now in Hawaii with the army air forces . . . Frank Plumlee, Griffith, was reminded of his birthday when a flock of friends swooped down on him at the Plumlee home. It was a surprise arranged by Mrs. Plumlee. Guests included Russ Borg, Ralph Morrow, Al Lohman, Arthur de Stefano, Tom Baldwin and Les Durland.

Mrs. Alice Miner Dies

MORAN, KAS.—Mrs. Alice Miner, whose sons Ray and George are exhibitors, died April 30 at the Burke Street Hospital in Fort Scott after an illness of several weeks. She was 78 and is survived also by a daughter, two sisters, two brothers and six grandchildren. Mrs. Miner had lived on the family farm near here many years.

Ray Miner operates the Miner Theatre here. George Miner now lives at Rice Lake, Wis., and has several theatres in that area.

Promoting Two Films

DES MOINES—Jim Castle, Paramount exploiteer, was here working on promotion for two Paramount films soon to be shown here: "Affairs of Susan" and "Salty O'Rourke." A special screening of "Susan" was held Wednesday (2) in the Paramount screening room. Guests were department heads and buyers from Younker Bros. department store, which is cooperating in an advertising campaign in connection with the picture.

Dept. Store Sales Up

KANSAS CITY—The quarterly report on department store sales in the Tenth Federal Reserve district for the week ending April 28 shows substantial increases over the same week a year ago. The Tulsa area gain was 24 per cent, Oklahoma 18, Kansas City 17, Denver and Wichita 16.

Role in "Young Widow" to Peter Carey

Peter Garey has been ticketed for an important role in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow," a United Artist production.

O. F. Shefferd Sells Show House at Edgewood

EDGEWOOD, IOWA—O. F. Shefferd has sold his theatre here to A. Lilly, Chicago, who will take over June 1.

DES MOINES

Last Monday found Filmrowers eagerly awaiting the official announcement of VE-Day, with most exchanges planning to close following President Truman's proclamation . . . Art Leake of Iowa City was a visitor at the Columbia exchange . . . Bert Thomas started his 30-day leave . . . Mel Evidon, Columbia manager, spent last weekend in Kansas City.

Larry Hensler is a proud grandpa. Your correspondent cooed over pictures of Michelle Sabata, who was baptized last Sunday. Michelle is named for her daddy, Michael, who is in Germany . . . Marjorie Hearn of Warners was back from a vacation . . . Bob Boots, shipper at Republic, took his physical for the army last week. Bob was turned down before because of bad eyes.

Norma Ansher has joined Paramount. She is an Iowa U student. Last summer she worked at 20th-Fox . . . At 20th-Fox were Yeoman Veronica McMahon and Yeoman Gwen Welsh, both home on leave from the SPARs. Veronica will report to Brooklyn at the end of her leave and Gwen goes back to Miami.

Auditor Henry Goldberg was working at Paramount this month . . . Elinor Levine, M-G-M, is back from her vacation.

Tri-States has received the change of status card of Harry Holdsburg, former manager of the Des Moines Theatre. Harry received a medical discharge . . . Betty Holden will replace Ruth Alber in the booking department at Central States. Betty is Kay Holden's sister, Kay a receptionist at Central States several months.

Sgt. Bob Fridley, manager of the Sharon at New Sharon, Iowa, was a visitor on the Row. He is stationed at Camp Miles Standish, Mass. . . . Other visitors included: H. A. Schroeder, Lake View; Clyde Pratt, Washington; Wes Mansfield, Tama; Harry Savereid, Waterloo, and Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville.

K. R. Hodges, Burlington, Buys at Morning Sun

BURLINGTON, IOWA—Kenneth R. Hodges, has purchased the theatre at Morning Sun, Iowa, from E. L. Hahn. Hahn also is owner of the theatre at Panora.

Program Schedule Doubled

ELK CITY, KAS.—Two shows a week, on Monday and Thursday nights, will be given at the Elk City Theatre in the future, Manager P. L. Rush has announced. The theatre previously has been open only Wednesday night.

Tews Opens for Summer

DES MOINES—William Tews has opened his theatre at Drakesville, Iowa for the summer.

Add to "Sunbonnet Sue" Roster

George Cleveland, Raymond Hatton, Charles Judels, Billy Green and Eddie Cobb joined the cast of "Sunbonnet Sue," on the slate at Monogram.

Majority Favors Midnight Curfew

MINNEAPOLIS — The Star Journal-Tribune's Minnesota Poll of Public Opinion revealed that four out of every five Minnesotans approve the midnight curfew on entertainment which the government imposed on the nation a few months ago.

In making known the result of the poll, the Sunday Tribune disclosed that one in every five of the state's residents believes each community should follow New York City's example and set its own closing hour, while an average of slightly more than one Minnesotan in 19 disapproves the midnight curfew.

To the question of approval of the Washington midnight closing hour, 83 per cent went on record in the affirmative, 13 per cent disapproved and 4 per cent was undecided. A few more women than men dislike the curfew, while more city dwellers than farmers disapprove, according to the Tribune. Least approval of the measure, 74 per cent, it says, was given by Minnesotans in the 21 to 29 years age group. The approval tabulation rises proportionately with age, until 91 per cent of those over 60 register curfew support.

The percentage in favor of following Washington, instead of having each community set its own curfew time, was 75. There was 18 per cent in favor of having communities set their local closing and 7 per cent was undecided.

The paper says the Minnesotans who most favor locally-established curfews don't live in major cities, but in towns. One-fourth of the state's town-dwellers would like to set their own closing hours. However, 76 per cent of the city-dwellers and 80 per cent of the farm-dwellers think midnight a proper closing hour in wartime, according to the paper.

"It's implied by the poll that the great majority of Minnesotans were in sympathy with those persons who, publicly and privately, protested Mayor Fiorello La Guardia's extension of New York City's curfew to 1 a. m.," says the Tribune.

Three Youths Suspected

MINNEAPOLIS — Three youths suspected of rifling the glove compartment of an automobile owned by Sam Zuckman, owner of the Mounds, St. Paul neighborhood theatre, and stealing the $986 weekend receipts, have been taken into custody by the police. Part of the loot was alleged to have been found in the 17-year-olds' possession.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

DOWN IN Lake City, Fla., Mrs. Folsom had them "hanging from the chandeliers" in her DeSota theatre during the four-day engagement of "MOM AND DAD." The crowds broke down her frames, doors and cash box, but she's mighty happy.

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Five Million Passes Given Service Men

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—Chicago service men centers, of which there are three operating the year around and an additional one in summer, announced through A. J. Gallas, executive secretary of the amusement and recreation division of the OCD, that 5,000,000 free tickets have been distributed to members of the armed forces since the centers were opened by Mayor Edward J. Kelly and his OCD committee in 1941. Of this number the majority were for motion picture theatres.

In 1941 3,500 tickets a week were given out and now 35,000 are distributed every week, Gallas said. In addition to motion pictures the men and women in uniform see ball games, athletic meets of all kinds, circuses and everything else in the amusement field that is staged in this area.

The free ticket setup is just one of the many enterprises sponsored by the amusement division of the center. The executive committee in charge of these amusement activities for the centers is made up of John Balaban, James Coston, Edwin Silverman, Jack Kirsch and Max Halperin.

Shreveport House Wants Clearance Eliminated

From Southern Edition

NEW YORK—Naming Loew's as defendant, Joy Theatres, Inc., operating the Joy Theatre, Shreveport, La., filed a complaint in the New Orleans tribunal claiming as unreasonable the 35-day clearance granted to the Glenwood, same city, according to the AAA. Complainant asks elimination of the clearance or its reduction to not over five days after national release date.

Broadcasters to Omaha

OMAHA—Directors of the National Ass'n of Broadcasters were due to meet in Omaha May 16 and 17. The meeting will be under direction of Pres. John Harold Ryan and will be the first in the history of the organization in a city other than New York, Washington or Chicago.

Ed Trusslow to Army

DES MOINES—Ed Trusslow, booker for Paramount here, left to enter the army last week. Trusslow was given a luncheon by the men at Paramount last Monday at Brown's restaurant and presented a zipper case. His successor had not yet been announced.

Warners Due Home

DES MOINES—Harry M. Warren, manager of Central States Theatres Corp., and Mrs. Warren have been vacationing in California the last few weeks. They were to return home this week.

Steve Hannihan Arrives

MINNEAPOLIS—Steve Hannihan has been transferred by 20th-Fox from Milwaukee to be office manager here. He succeeds Irving Mills who has gone into the armed services.

Back at Downs, Kas., Post

DOWNS, KAS.—Miss Francis Montgomery is back at her cashier post at the Lido Theatre following a recent operation.

Little Damage in Theatre Fire

TRACY, MINN.—Quick action on the part of the Tracy fire department confined a blaze to the projection booth of the O'Brien Theatre here. Damages were slight.

Ex-Stagehands Sue For Over $100,000

From Central Edition

ST. LOUIS—Henry H. Klaverkamp and Ralph W. Baur have filed new suits in the St. Louis circuit court in their efforts to obtain a total of $107,100 in damages from the officers and trustees of Local 6, on the grounds that the union had illegally assessed 10 per cent of their salaries in excess of the dues charged to other members and that they also had been blacklisted by the union.

The former stagehands filed similar suits in February 1944, which were dismissed in December when the court sustained a demurrer that no cause of action had been shown. It was stated their petitions failed to cite the sections of the union's bylaws in proof of the contention that legal assessment for dues was only 5 per cent of salary.

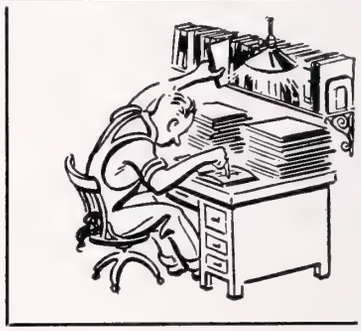
Klaverkamp and Baur said they were members of Local B2, an auxiliary union of No. 6, and that they were assessed 15 per cent of their salaries between Jan. 4, 1935, and Aug. 5, 1943, when they allege they were blacklisted and subsequently were unable to obtain employment as stagehands. Klaverkamp asks $52,250 in actual and punitive damages and $2,575 for money due from overpayments in dues, while Baur seeks $50,000 actual and punitive damages and $2,575 in overpaid assessments.

Central City Adds Seats

CENTRAL CITY, NEB.—One hundred fifty additional seats and new booth equipment will be installed at the State Theatre here, Manager C. Jack Riggs announces.

Brother, can you spare some time?

Others like to know what you are doing — what changes you are making at your theatre, etc. Send in the news and we'll relay it to the industry.



Buying? Installing? Remodeling? Redecorating? Rebuilding? Transferring? Exploiting? Hiring? Promoting?

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Location .....

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Many Visitors Attend Debut at Shelbyville

SHELBYVILLE, KY.—Many officials of the Chakeres Theatre circuit from various parts of Ohio and Kentucky were present for the recent opening here of the Shelby, newest theatre in the chain.

The Shelby, completely remodeled and provided with the most advanced mechanical equipment, is under the management of Meredith Watts, a native of Shelby County who has received an honorable discharge from the navy.

Out of town visitors from Ohio included Ray Frisz, booking representative, and Mrs. Frisz, Springfield; George Bauer, Regent Theatre manager, Springfield, and Mrs. Bauer; Herb Hagle, Chakeres company auditor, and Mrs. Hagle, Springfield; Mr. and Mrs. Pat Collins, Springfield, and Joe Murphy, Murphy Theatre manager, and Mrs. Murphy of Wilmington. From Kentucky cities were Eric Hammel, Leeds Theatre manager, Winchester; K. L. Lutes, Lexington; W. Freeman Smith, Beaver Dam, representing the Kentucky Theatre Exhibitors Ass'n; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Steilberg and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Steilberg, Louisville, and Gene Lutes, Chakeres district manager, and Mrs. Lutes, Frankfort.

Schmertz to Fox City Post; Bergman, PRC Manager

CLEVELAND—I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox manager, announced the promotion of Raymond Schmertz to the post of city salesman. He has covered the river territory the five years since he joined the organization. Last year he was awarded a prize for being the top branch salesman.

Edwin R. Bergman, whom Schmertz succeeds, was appointed local PRC branch manager, Fred Rohrs, PRC district manager, announced, and will assume his new duties May 7. He has a long record in the film industry, having been a member of the Fox Film Co. and its successor, 20th-Fox, more than 20 years. He has been in Cleveland the last 16 years.

J. M. Hobbs Sells Interest In Elizabethtown Theatre

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.—J. M. Hobbs, Elizabethtown, president of the Kentucky Amusement Co., operator of the State and Grand theatres here, has sold his half interest in the corporation to Robert T. Enoch of Anchorage, who now is in charge of the properties.

A new operating corporation, Elizabethtown Amusements, Inc., has been organized by Enoch and Kermit C. Stengel and Tony Sudekum of Nashville, owners of the other half of the old corporation.

Charles Ackerman to Build When Ban Is Lifted

CINCINNATI — Charles G. Ackerman, Ackerman Enterprises, operating the Sunset and the Glenway, Price Hill suburban houses, has announced purchase of a residential property at 4990 Glenway Ave., Price Hill, to erect a modern theatre as soon as building restrictions are lifted.

Renovate the Palace

JOHNSONBURG, PA. — The Palace here has been newly renovated and decorated. Drapes and tapestries will be installed soon, according to John C. Friburg, manager.

Day-Long Program Will Open Pittsburgh Drive

PITTSBURGH—An around-the-clock program, highlighted by a large parade, will open formally the Seventh War Loan drive here May 14. The national motion picture WAC will shoot newsreel pictures of the parade for showing at local theatres.

With the goal for the area at a new high mark of $157,760,000, an increase of 14.8 per cent above the goal for the previous drive, business, industry, civic and military organizations are united in the move to open the drive with an attention-arresting program. Activities will continue from the time of the 9:30 a. m. parade until 8:30 p. m., when the army show, "Here's Your Infantry" with Sgt. Charles E. "Commando" Kelly, is presented at Forbes Field.

Theatre owners and managers throughout the area have planned many events to emphasize war bond sales.

AMPTO of W. Pa., directors, meeting last Friday (4), outlined campaigns and urged full cooperation of all exhibitors in the "greatest effort." War bond premieres, kiddies shows, Free Movie Days and many special events are scheduled at practically all theatres in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

The local Allied exhibitor organization also gave 100 per cent approval to the "I Am an American" day, May 20, as suggested by the department of justice. Theatre owners and managers were urged to participate in this event, Morris M. Finkel, AMPTO president, stated following the meeting.

The Four Akron First Runs Announce Bond Shows

AKRON—Akron's four first run theatres, the Strand, Colonial, Loew's and the Palace, have announced arrangements for the Seventh War Loan shows Tuesday, May 29, and Tuesday, June 26.

Agreement on dates and other arrangements was reached at a recent meeting of the theatre committee of the Summit County war finance committee. Millard Ochs, manager of the Strand, is chairman of the committee. The Strand and Colonial theatres will present their programs on May 29. Loew's and the Palace will stage their bond shows June 26.

Admission to the special performances will be by war bonds only and tickets will be obtained only at the Fox Hole, a downtown retail bond headquarters to be operated by Gaston C. Gross and a staff of volunteer workers.

Between ticket sales, Gross plans to have the Fox Hole open day and night. The tentative opening date is May 10.

Cincinnati Area Lining Up For the Seventh Drive

CINCINNATI—Exhibitors were signing up and sending in pledges on the Seventh War Loan drive with "gratifying promptness," according to Allan Moritz, distributor chairman here.

"All indications are that we shall have 100 per cent cooperation by exhibitors in this area," Moritz stated.

Kessler a Drive Manager

AKRON—Walter Kessler, Loew's manager, again has been named Stark County promotion manager of the Seventh War Loan campaign. Kessler handled promotions for the Sixth drive when he was a Loew's manager in Canton.



MAYBE THE "BEST MAN" WON'T WIN!—United Detroit Theatre men and women are competing in an all-out sales campaign for the "Mighty Seventh." It's the men versus the women managers, with prizes offered by the corporation to the winning team. Chairman of the men is C. E. O'Bryan of the Palms-State Theatre, shown in the picture shaking hands with Mrs. Grace Lubar, manager of the Riviera, chairman of the women's team. Managers are posed in front of the giant UDT set piece.

Left to right, front row, men: Sol Gordon, Royal; Frank Perry, United Artists; Melville Vernon, Mel Theatre. Back row: Howard Holah, Birmingham, William Aherns, Annex, Gil Green, Michigan.

Front row, women: Eleanor Stanton, Fisher; Patricia Clark, Varsity; Edna Boys, Norwest. Second row: Lorna Pauls, Broadway-Capitol; Jennie Jump, Ramona; Jean Schmidt, Madison. Third row: Jean Walsh, Rosedale; Blanche Lesperance, Vogue; Kay Breihan, Cinderella; Marion Yeager, Bloomfield; Dale Young, Regent; Edna Koth, Alger.

PITTSBURGH

Pvt. George R. Herrington, son of the Fred Herringtons, is in France. His brother, Phil, is with the navy in the Philippines, according to the AMPTO secretary . . . Jack Mundstuk, former M-G-M salesman here and until last week Cleveland city sales representative for the company, is now Leo's branch manager at Buffalo . . . Ed Stuve, Paramount veteran salesman, is joining the soup snifflers, having his teeth removed.

V. L. Watkins, formerly addressed as "Doc," is now an army captain. The former manager of the Manos, Uniontown, trained at Camp Meade and he is now believed ready for embarkation . . . Maurice Baker, Barry manager, entered a Steubenville, Ohio, hospital for an operation . . . Joe Ferris, Variety Club steward, received word last week that his brother, Sgt. John Ferris jr., was killed in action in Germany.

Pvt. Charles R. "Dick" Allen, who had been a German prisoner of war for a number of months, has been freed and he is in France enjoying three square meals a day, he has written his wife Bertha of National Screen Service here. Dick is the son-in-law of the Art Morrones and before entering the army had clerked in Morrone's Superior Supply store on Filmrow.

Jack Williams, a Leatherneck now out of service, has been named manager of Warners' Liberty, New Kensington, succeeding Irving Sher, resigned. George Josack, formerly at the Plaza, has succeeded Williams as manager of the Rowland, Wilkinsburg, and the Plaza post has been awarded Mannie Feldman, formerly with the circuit, who was recently discharged from the army.

Maym Gould, former assistant manager of the Stanley, who has been vacationing in Hollywood, expects to return to Pittsburgh at an early date . . . Pvt. John Patrick Pell, formerly assistant to George Notopoulos, Butler, Pa., theatre manager, is with the special service command somewhere in the Philippines . . . A new arrival in the Philippines is Pvt. Jim Lindsay, formerly of the Harris publicity department, who is with one of the army's floating repair units.

Bill Jervis, formerly RCA Photophone sales representative here who had been at the Indianapolis branch for several years, returned to the local industry last week as temporary manager for National Theatre Supply Co. He is substituting for Newt Williams, who is hospitalized. Walter E. Green, president of NTS, was here for several days.

John Walsh, manager of the Fulton, was the guest May 1 on the first Sho Biz Quiz, half-hour Dimling's Candy-WJAS radio program, and John T. McGreevey, Harris circuit executive, was the guest May 8. Listeners participate by submitting questions about the films or stage and receive candy and theatre tickets. A dozen or so questions are popped at local drama critics Harold Cohen, Karl Krug and Kap Monahan and the final quiz, or boxoffice question, is for a war bond. George Heid is quizmaster.

Ministers representing 750 Allegheny County churches took a stand against bills in the Pennsylvania legislature which would legalize horse racing and Sunday ice shows and ice hockey. A resolution urged the defeat of these "demoralizing measures."

Cpl. Joe Stack, former M-G-M shipper who returned recently to this country from the South Pacific with five service bars, was a Filmrow visitor. He obtained special camp leave due to the death of a young brother . . . Mr. and Mrs. Michael Manos have been vacationing at Hot Springs, Ark. . . . Sympathy to Helen Torbich, 20th-Fox's booker's stenographer, whose sister died last week . . . Charles Rich, Warner district manager, returned here for a third successive week, to look after the branch operations in the absence of F. D. "Dinty" Moore, recuperating from an illness.

Staff Sgt. Frank J. "Bud" Thomas, former employe at Republic who has been overseas for 27 months in Africa, Italy and Corsica, returned to Italy some weeks prior to the surrender of the German armies in Italy and Austria. He is the son of Walt Thomas, manager of Acme Distributing Co. here . . . Sgt. Charles R. Taylor, 22, stepson of Fred Solomon, American Poster Supply proprietor, sustained a leg wound April 5 on Okinawa . . . Mrs. Grace Brinkman, Grafton, W. Va., theatre owner, is vacationing near Baltimore . . . Jack Keifer is the Stanley's new student manager . . . Slim Bryant, local NBC star who is very popular with his Georgia Wildcats, is preparing to go overseas with a USO unit.

You have heard something about occupational therapy? Well, the local M-G-M girls are engaged in a very worth-while effort, in collecting "junk" jewelry, which they forward to the Deshon General Hospital, Butler, Pa., for the wounded soldiers to use in making things. Compacts, keys, lipstick tubes, beads, bracelets, pins, etc., are needed, says Miss Meercy Braff of the M-G-M office. The wounded soldiers not only occupy their time in reshaping the jewelry but in fingering the materials they receive muscle exercises, so very necessary to their recuperation. Take or parcel post to the M-G-M girls some of the needed materials which may be discarded at home or office.

Bernard Buchheit, Manos circuit district manager, reports that Charles Cossoulie, former Hollidaysburg manager, who engaged in the African and Italian campaigns, is now in Burma, and his brother Pete, formerly with the Manos circuit at Indiana, has completed his AAF missions over Germany and he is returning to the U.S. . . . Joe Bell, Fayette City exhibitor, states that his son has been named Joseph jr. . . . Mrs. May Weir, Warner exchange booker, who has been ill, is recuperating satisfactorily . . . Harry E. Reiff, pioneer exhibitor and film man now retired, was a visitor at the AMPTO office. His grandson, Pvt. Harry L. Murray, 20, is with the Ninth army in Germany.

John Perry, Belle Vernon exhibitor who seeks to be burgess there, "so that he can fix film prices for the community," is on the ballot as a Republican candidate . . . Sigmund Romberg and orchestra will appear at the Warner, Erie, May 14 . . . Max Terhune, who with Elmer, his dummy, has been seen in numerous Republic and Monogram western films, has been appearing at theatres in this territory . . . Stanley's feature, Spike Jones and his City Slickers, is the last stage show until next fall.

Cpl. George Stern, former manager of the drive-in on Route 88, is in Germany with an evacuation hospital unit of the First army. He is a nephew of Norbert Stern, owner of the outdoor theatre near South Park . . . On leave from the Boston naval yard was Seaman Norm Mervis, of the Mervis Bros. Theatres here. He expects to be sent to the South Pacific at an early date.

Harry "Doc" Day, former local theatre manager, was killed in Germany April 8, his brother, Bill "Doc" Day, veteran projectionist, was notified . . . Frank J. Harris, president of the Harris Amusement Co. was in Mercy Hospital for treatment of an eye ailment . . . Recently awarded the Silver Star and now hospitalized in France is Lieut. H. L. Goodman, son-in-law of the M. A. Rosenbergs . . . Martin Weinman, former 20th-Fox booker here who is now in the jewelry business in New York, was a Filmrow visitor.

Saying hello on the film curb the other day was Sgt. James Sidary, wearing an Air Medal and three clusters, who has returned to this country after nine months in Italy. He is the stepson of John Perry, Belle Vernon exhibitor . . . Harry Grelle, who has managed the Broughton several years, is ill with a strep throat. The theatre has been sold and Jerry Geinzer, proprietor, moves out June 1.

Mrs. Twilah LaRue Nesbitt, mother of Pvt. Jack N. Nesbitt, former PRC shipper who was wounded and taken as a prisoner to a German camp from where he was freed several weeks ago, has been informed that he is making normal improvement. His address: 4208 USA Hospital Plant, APO 589, New York, according to Bill Nesbitt, PRC office manager, a brother . . . Attending "Mother and Father" weekend at the Valley Forge Military Academy at Wayne, Pa., last weekend were Mr. and Mrs. "Bill" Blatt of the Blatt Bros. Theatres, who visited their son, Cadet "Bill" Blatt jr., 14.

Thomas Guinan, PRC home office representative, is on duty at the local exchange . . . A recent visitor at PRC was Harry Thomas, newly-appointed vice-president and general sales manager . . . The wounded soldier who was a Filmrow visitor on crutches the other day was Sgt. George Krevokucha, who had been employed at Mario Battiston's Ritz, Export, prior to going into uniform. His brother, Gregory Krevokucha, also formerly connected with Battiston's theatre, sustained wounds at Bougainville and is back in the civilian ranks.

Mrs. A. E. "Al" Fox, wife of the Republic special representative, joined him here last week . . . M. A. Silver and Harry Feinstein, local Warner circuit executives, were in New York for home office conferences . . . Warners' Kenyon was closed all week for redecorating and a spring housecleaning . . . Sgt. Andrew Garzo, former manager of the Alpine, Punxsutawney, is operating an army theatre in Paris.

Pittsburgh Radio Plans

PITTSBURGH — Two radio buildings, for KQV and KDKA, will be erected after the war in the downtown district. New transmitter sites also will be established for KQV and WWSW. Pittsburgh will be more radio minded in the postwar period too as Westinghouse, after many years, will return to the manufacture of radio reception sets and television outfits. KQV and KDKA will compete in the television field here.

Clem Pope Resigns

NEW YORK—Clem Pope, RKO Theatres division manager covering Cleveland, Columbus and Detroit, resigned recently after an illness of several months. He was on leave of absence when he made his decision to resign. Pope had been with the company for seven years. No decision has as yet been made for a successor.

Racing Bill Defeated

HARRISBURG—The Pennsylvania house defeated the horse racing bill, 98 to 87. The measure proposed to set up a state racing commission with authority to locate three major tracks in communities where local option votes favored the sport, and would have legalized betting.

Frank Faylen to "The Blue Dahlia"

Frank Faylen has been added to the cast of "The Blue Dahlia," a Paramount production.

THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



During the first world war, **Nat B. Charnas** of Toledo, Ohio, built army theatres in Germany between Triers and Coblenz. Back in Currensville, Pa., in the year 1912 he had started at the Strand, a house more substantial than the two-by-four tarpaulin variety the army affected. From the army, he went to Toledo to start his chain which now includes four houses there and one in Swanton. He has two children and is a member of Elks, Masons, Zionist organization, B'nai B'rith and is the director of ITO of Ohio. He usually bowls about 178.



In 1920 **Andrew Bzovi** built the Ecorse Theatre in the Michigan city of the same name which he has operated successfully ever since. At the present time the pleasant and comfortable showcase is managed by his son Daniel who is proving that he is a showman in the fine tradition of his father. Bzovi is a member of the Ecorse Chamber of Commerce, the local Kiwanis Club and the Ecorse Business Men's Ass'n. With his son handling the affairs of the theatre, Bzovi finds ample time to indulge his favorite sports, hunting and fishing.



Ushering at the same theatre of which he is now owner, **Leo Stephany** of the Music Hall in Newport, Ky., can well claim that perseverance is a long step toward success. Opening his house 29 years ago, he remembers when admission was five cents, boxes were used as seats and two-reelers were the great innovation of the day. Looking back over the past years, Stephany is not amazed at the progress of the industry, and being an integral part, realizes its possibilities. His hobbies are hunting and fishing. He has three sons.

Samuel Gould of Pittsburgh dates his theatre start from 1915 when he worked around a theatre as a "flunky." In that year he rented an empty store and after a little remodeling, opened the Gould, one of the six nickelodeons on Ohio St. at the time. He raised the admission to ten cents for adults and discovered that four and five-reel features were profitable. He acquired the Arcadia in 1918 and the Ohio in 1934. He is a member of AMPTOA of Western Pennsylvania and Variety. Golf, baseball and traveling are favorite pastimes.



George E. "Speed" Rappold of Bexley, Ohio, has been making speed in show business since he started with an airdome in Columbus in 1911. He built the Innis in 1921 and the Ideal, which he still operates, in 1939. Rappold, who says he "enjoys his many friends in the south end," is a member of the Ohio Independent Exhibitors and enjoys golf and baseball games. He is married and has a daughter, Catherine, who is a sophomore in Ohio State and a son, Joseph Anthony, who attends St. Catherine's school in Columbus. He lives at 2578 Sherwood Rd.



When a misguided person told **Glenn A. Cross,** Battle Creek, Mich., 25 years ago that motion pictures had seen their best days, he didn't believe it. He had started as a vocalist in a nickelodeon in 1905 and had seen the industry grow from infancy and was sure it would outgrow the problems of the awkward age. He owns the Rex Theatre, a neighborhood house in Battle Creek, and is a member of Allied of Michigan, the Masons and Rotary. He is married, has no children. His favorite sports are horseback riding and taking an interest in picture development.





Ben Almond opened his Kingdom Theatre in Grove City, Ohio, in 1920 and in addition to it has since had several other theatres in Ohio for varying periods of time. While successfully carrying on his showman activities, he has also been 41 years employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Almond is an active member of the Columbus Variety Club and in 1937 was president of the Grove City Business Men's Club, since then serving as vice-president. His home is at 2440 Deming Ave., Columbus. He is unmarried and spends his summer vacations fishing in Michigan.



Michael Mastandrea, Cleveland, owned a department store in the early 1920s, but when the trend toward motion pictures hit the town, he razed his emporium and built the present Mayfield Theatre. He is a well-known figure in social and civic circles, and is president of San Giovanni in Galdo Club. In addition to his film business he devotes a great deal of his time in promoting war bond sales, and participates in numerous charitable affairs. He has four sons, two of whom are attorneys associated with OPA. His one daughter, Santina, is married.



C. L. Sutton, owner of the 550-seat Sutton Theatre, Thomas, W. Va., dates back as a showman to the days when he had to stop every 15 minutes to change reels and still oftener to make audiences quit whistling. He also operates the Davis Theatre, Davis, W. Va., but that theatre has been closed for the duration. Sutton has a son in the navy and another son in the army. He is interested in civic affairs and is a member of the Independent Theatre Owners of West Virginia. Travel and sightseeing were once his hobbies.

Max Allen had his start as doorman and assistant manager at the Monarch, Edmonton, Alberta, in 1912. He later promoted and built the Allen, Edmonton, for Jule and Jay J. Allen. In 1919 he moved to Windsor to manage the Allen, and the Allen Windsor Suburban Theatres. Again, in 1925 he promoted and built the Lincoln Park, Lincoln Park, Mich., enlarged and modernized it in 1938. He projects construction of the Fort, Lincoln Park as soon as priorities permit. Allen is a Mason. His son, Lieut. Lawrence A., is overseas with the RCAF.



Louis Cohen of Ben & Lou Cohen Theatres in Detroit opened his first motion picture theatre in 1911. The Colonial was a store remodeled by Louis and his brother Ben, who died in 1944. The circuit today includes the Roxy, Rio, Hollywood, Paradise, Capitol and the Mayfair theatres. Louis organized the first amateur vaudeville exchange in Detroit. He is a member of Variety, Masons and is a director of Cooperative Theatres. He is married and has two sons. Elliot is in the army overseas and Barry attends military academy. Sports: Fishing and handball.



Harold H. Smilay found theatre business so much more fascinating than law that after representing Alex Schreiber in a legal capacity, he organized with him and William A. London the Associated Theatres, Inc., and gave up his legal practice. Associated Theatres is well known throughout Michigan, operating 19 houses there. Smilay believes the industry has been the greatest morale builder during this war and has "earned its niche as one of the country's leading industries." He is a member of the Detroit and Michigan State Bar Ass'ns and of Variety.



CLEVELAND

Victor Wolcott, prominent in local theatre circles the last 20 years, was appointed manager of the Almira Theatre, newest link in the theatre chain owned by Nate and Sam Schultz. Wolcott formerly operated the Princess when it was the leading lower downtown house. For several years he has been in real estate . . . Ben Wallerstein, who hasn't been in Cleveland for 11 years, was here a week visiting the Warner manager, Nat Wolf, and other local Warnerites. He is on a trip east from the west coast where he is assistant zone manager.

Joe Leavitt, owner of the Independent screen room in the Film Bldg., received word last week that his elder son, Lieut. Morton Leavitt, commander of an LCI, was promoted to a full lieutenant. He participated in action in the Solomons and Okinawa . . . Miss Anne Urbas resigned as secretary to Warner zone manager, Nat Wolf, who is looking for a successor.

Howard Roth, Paramount head booker, returned from a vacation trip to Dallas. While it was a vacation Roth says it was no "pleasure" trip, since he and his wife encountered a washout on the way down. And there was no diner on the train during those extra 24 hours.

Cpl. Charles Kates, a Warner booker in prewar days, left for overseas duty, according to his sister, Frances Kates, Warner booker. He has a New Orleans APO . . . Martin Smith, president of National Allied and of ITOO, was in town for a one-day visit. While here he was playing hide and seek with his partner, Jim Beidler, who looked for him in vain.

Ed Ramsey of the Plymouth in Plymouth was on Filmrow. He reports business as usual in his town and says he isn't crystal-gazing to see what the future holds . . . The Scoville, Essick & Reif circuit has on display a model of its proposed new theatre in Willoughby, plans for which have been completed by Paul Matzinger, architect.

Milton Bryer, a former Cleveland exhibitor who has spent the last ten years in Bucyrus as manager of the Schine, is back in town. He has joined the Associated circuit as manager of the Imperial, where he succeeds I. S. Kay . . . Miss Sarah Shapiro of Monogram journeyed to Chicago over the weekend to visit friends.

John Mahaly reopened his People's Theatre, Akron, last Saturday, after rebuilding the booth and installing new projection equipment. The house was closed several weeks due to fire damage . . . Findlay, Ohio, entertained one of its foremost war heroes last week when Howard Willson, former city manager for the Walter Steuve houses, returned on leave from the Pacific. Willson became nationally famous when he was mentioned in one of Ernie Pyle's Pacific dispatches. As he had been assigned to duty on an aircraft carrier, Manager I. J. Schmertz of 20th-Fox, sent a print of "The Fighting Lady" for him to screen privately.

Nate Schultz, Monogram franchise owner, was delighted over the reported success of the run of "Dillinger" which is allegedly chalking up an all-time record at the Victoria Theatre, New York, where it was in its third week . . . John Kalafat, president of the Associated circuit, was one of the last of the film bigwigs to return from Florida last week.

Fred Witte is no longer with the local Film Classics exchange. He joined Bob Snyder's outfit about four weeks ago but has now moved on to other fields . . . Mrs. Sam Gerace received word that her husband, Sgt. Salvatore "Sam" Gerace, former manager of the Rialto, was freed by the Allies in Germany. He alternately was reported missing and a prisoner. He wrote that he was detained at an Allied hospital for a checkup, but that he is well.

Michael A. Fallen, Republic auditor, was a Republic exchange visitor . . . Roy Rogers pictures were shown in 56 Cleveland theatres during his personal appearance at the Arena. The theatres sent 110 children to the Roy Rogers luncheon at the Hollenden Hotel. After lunch they accompanied him to radio station WTAM where he spoke briefly and to the Arena to see the rodeo as guests of Rogers and Al Sutphin. Rogers also visited Crile General Hospital and Brecksville Veteran Hospital.

Republic's "Barbary Coast" opened its local engagement May 10 at Loew's State where atmosphere was established with an old-fashioned bar and a barmaid in keeping with the setting of the picture. The bar is part of a campaign in cooperation with the Royal Crown Cola Co. And everyone who buys a war stamp at the bar, gets a free drink of Royal Crown . . . Lieut. Richard Miller, former Price Premium representative, was home with his wife and three children, on leave.

Fire Causes Big Loss To Edmore, Mich., House

EDMORE, MICH.—An unwelcome 23rd anniversary visitor in the form of fire caused a $10,000 loss to the Coliseum Theatre here, owned and operated by Elmer Wood.

The fire started when heat from a welding iron caused an explosion in a can of old film in the projection booth. The flames spread rapidly, but damages were confined largely to the roof. Edwin Cunningham, U.S. navy, former projectionist, home on leave, was in the booth helping Peter Morris, present operator, repair the projector when the blaze started.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

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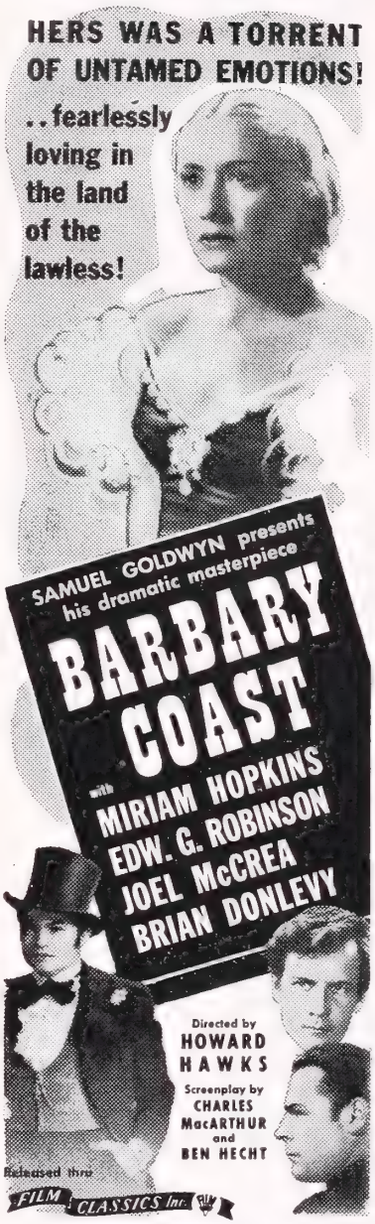
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WRITE FOR LIST OF CURRENT RELEASES

Ambridge Case Maze Of Legal Questions

PITTSBURGH — Continuing in federal court here was the long-drawn-out antitrust suit, known in the trade as the Ambridge case. Slow and technical, with words weighed in the balance, the proceedings, step by step, are highly legalistic and unexciting.

Eight or ten attorneys, mostly representing the defendants, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox, M-G-M, Pennware Theatre Corp., and A. N. Notopoulos, are alert for each statement addressed to the court. They seem to have thousands of pages of documents and exhibits. A number of witnesses are said to be awaiting call, but there have been no spectators or interested parties in the court room in the federal building here. Unlike the injunction proceedings last year in this case, local film distributors have not put in appearances.

Claim New Theatre Is Better

Defense counsel and witnesses claim that the new State in Ambridge, which is playing the product formerly exhibited at the Penn there when the latter house was operated under lease by the Pennware Theatre Corp., is a better theatre and situated in a more desirable location. Many facts or matters in the case have been eliminated from discussion by stipulation.

Following an argument, regarding Warner Bros., not a defendant, as to the percentage of revenue Warners derived from the defendant distributors, the court allowed such evidence. Where there is a stock interest and where Warners have pooling arrangements, the court was informed that there is no such relationship with 20th-Fox; there is one pooled situation with RKO; also one with Loew's, Inc., and three with Paramount.

The defense counsel petitioned for a dismissal of the case, and Judge F. P. Schoonmaker denied such a motion.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount executive, came here to testify last week. Goldenson stated that the Pennware Theatre Corp., which operated the Penn, Ambridge, for a decade under the Notopoulos banner, is 50 per cent owned by Paramount.

Failed to Agree on Lease

A. N. Notopoulos, veteran exhibitor, spent several days in the witness chair, telling of his meetings with Ball and others at the Astor Hotel, New York, and at Ball's office in Philadelphia, in efforts to renew a lease for the Penn. He described offers and counteroffers, stating that Ball, the theatre building's new owner, wanted only a percentage deal, the figure of percentage to be established by arbitration.

Also, Notopoulos stated that there was a "for the duration" arrangement, under Ball's terms, whereby Notopoulos would pay about 20 per cent more during the war period. The tenant rejected Ball's terms and erected his own theatre, the State, Ambridge, and he continued licensing the film product which he had consumed formerly at the Penn.

New Olivet, Mich., Theatre First Since Silent Days

OLIVET, MICH.—Plans for a new theatre with a 400 seating capacity have been announced by Earl London, former operator of the Bellevue Theatre. It will be the first to operate here since the old silent picture days.

A modern, air conditioned building with a stage large enough for the presentation of school and college plays will be constructed, London said. Olivet is the home of Olivet College, officials of which are cooperating in establishing the new amusement house.

CINCINNATI

Florence Kipp, manager of the Lyric, was sick . . . Charlie Palmer, Columbia, was ordered to a hospital for a checkup and rest.

Irene Sagel, 20th-Fox, secretary to J. J. Grady, district manager, left Sunday (6) for a Florida rest . . . Edna Ossege, secretary to E. M. Booth, Metro manager, spent the weekend at Columbus . . . Lilian Ahern, secretary to Joe Oulahan, Paramount manager, took her two-week vacation with her husband, Sgt. John Ahern, home on furlough.

Madeline Ciuccio, Metro receptionist, left for Boston to visit relatives . . . Myrtle Guenther, Metro, was the recipient of many prenuptial showers, including one by the Pep Club. She will marry Louis Babbitt.

John Byrne, Metro district manager, was here from Detroit . . . Other visitors were Manny and Louis Shore, Williamson and War; Dr. Newbold and E. L. Keesling, New bold circuit, Bramwell, W. Va.; Paul Hollen, Alpine circuit . . . RKO's office manager, Lou Siebert, is vacationing, as is Hannah Frisch.

Stanley Jacques, RKO manager, left for New York on a business trip. While there he expected to see his twin sons, one in the armed service and the other with Pathe News . . . Special hoorays went forth for Bob Burns in an exhibitor Bob Burns week. Burns celebrated his tenth anniversary with Warner and had his own powwow drive.

"It Happened in Springfield," is creating as much interest as the signal corp reel. The short is having sensational success, and broke day and date at Loew's and the Victory, Dayton, and at the Palace and Loew's, Columbus . . . Ray Palmer, WB home office, left for Indianapolis accompanied by Bob Arnold . . . The Warner Club gave a dinner party at the Old Dutch Mill.

Moe Boughn, Warner inspector, was sick . . . 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe" opened at the Palace Thursday (10).

Dorothy Doran, Radio Editor, Joins N. Y. Agency

AKRON — Dorothy Doran, radio editor of the Beacon-Journal, resigned to join the New York radio publicity staff of the N. W. Ayer & Son national advertising agency. In point of service she was one of the oldest radio editors, having held the post of Beacon-Journal columnist for 14 years. She joined the staff after graduation from Ohio State University.

King and Adams to "Sunbonnet Sue"

Charles King and Ernie Adams checked into the cast of "Sunbonnet Sue."

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DETROIT

Under the Marquees: Frank E. Stuart, manager of the Midway in Dearborn, spent a three-week vacation at his Lake Orion cottage painting and reading . . . Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson of the Wilson Theatre was named honorary president of the Detroit Federation of Women's Clubs, succeeding the late Mrs. Emma A. Fox . . . Joseph Mellon has a war plant across the street from his Clawson Theatre and operates both . . . Manager Arthur Leazenby is putting air conditioning, new seating, and a new marble tile front on the Cinema . . . Mrs. Mary Remington, wife of Harry Remington, former exploiteer at the Fox, was a Detroit visitor.

Short Circuits: Bernard and Leonard Brooks will resume active theatrical connections with the President and Admiral after their postnaval vacation in California . . . Bill London had a new motor put in his car before starting to drive west; in Illinois the drive shaft plunged through the motor, and the cavalcade had to wait till he got another motor from home.

Milt Herman took his brother Al out to Boesky's . . . Lena Horne missed her last day at the Paradise because of high fever. Louis Jordan, her successor, came in all set for a tonsillectomy.

Warren Carmer had a big B'nai B'rith war bond rally with three bands and acts from leading night clubs, plus a bond auction . . . Mrs. Milton Herman, wife of the Paradise exploiteer, is handling promotion on the show. Earl "Father" Hines and his band, and Charlie Carlisle, famed Detroit master of ceremonies, were among the star attractions.

Supply Stuff: George W. Craig had a letter from his son, Dave, just released from a German prison camp, asking for his mother's chocolate cake.

Theatrical Post Notes: The post spent $600 in the past year for sundry needs for the vets in the Dearborn Hospital . . . Harry Carson reports big plans for Poppy Day in the offing . . . Harry Brewer, vice-commander, just completed a great year as exalted ruler of the Elks. He's on vacation.

Wolverines: Martin Thomas of Iron Mountain was named chairman for the upper peninsula for the Seventh War Loan. Ray Branch of Hastings and James F. Sharkey of Detroit divide the lower peninsula duties . . . Nicholas Zappia was sentenced to three to five years in prison for the attempted holdup of the Majestic at Port Huron.

Up in the Booths: Kenneth Flint is in the booth at the Franklin, replacing James Redman . . . M. W. Cummings of the Biltmore, Miami, formerly at the Rialto here many years, says his weekly BOXOFFICE is like a voice from home.

Exchanges: J. D. Kendis, president of Continental Pictures in to visit Al Dezel, confided that Sonny Kendis, orchestra leader, is a relative . . . Albert Dezel resigned as chairman of the executive committee of Film Classics franchise holders because of the pressure of his distribution interests.

Noted: Joseph Kollar, Monogram salesman, spiritedly discoursing on the Nazi atrocity films . . . Clair Townsend, Columbia, and Herbert Berman, PRC, exchanging the new high sign . . . Max Blumenthal and Kal Bruss figuring out railroad time tables.

Peter Simon is out of the hospital after an operation for varicose veins. Pete Simon jr. visited the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame in Gay Paree . . . Sam Seplowin moved his headquarters into the Republic offices in the Film Bldg. That gives Irwin Pollard, branch manager, a larger office.

Charles Garner, Artkino manager, has 15 prints of "Maidanek Death Factory" coming in, after the first run at the Cinema . . . Dorothy Brown, secretary to M-G-M's Frank Downey, is back from New York where she escorted 12-year-old Joan Elmes of Windsor, winner of a Metro contract. Maurice Golden, the talent scout, picked the little lady.

Gordon Schuman, RKO booker at Indianapolis for three years, takes over Walter Goryl's post here . . . Pvt. Clifford R. Perry, Metro salesman until a couple of weeks ago, is stationed at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Eddie Bergman to PRC As Branch Manager

CLEVELAND—Eddie Bergman, with 20th-Fox for 20 years, joined PRC as Cleveland branch manager. Many friends in the territory were expected to attend the open house to be held May 14 in the PRC exchange.

Bergman has been in Cleveland for the last 16 years as salesman for 20th-Fox. Prior to that he was with the company in Albany and in New York. His entry in the business was as assistant comptroller for Goldwyn Pictures in New York under Eric Shea. He left this position to join the navy and served two years in the first world war. At the end of the war, Eddie returned to the picture business via Tiffany Pictures. In 1925 he joined 20th-Fox to form an association unbroken until last week.

Pete Henneman to New Job

ASHLAND, KY.—Edgar "Pete" Henneman, veteran projectionist who has been with the Capitol Amusement Co. more than 20 years, has resigned to accept a position in Cincinnati.

King Bros. to Screen Novel by Irish

King Bros. have purchased "I Wouldn't Be in Your Shoes," a psychological novel by William Irish. The production will be made for major company release, it is claimed. Past King Bros. products have been distributed by Monogram.

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False Peace Report Jars Week's Gross

CLEVELAND—The Saturday false peace announcement caused havoc to that night's theatre business here. The public apparently stayed close to home radios for news of the end of the war. Continued rain throughout the week didn't help much to recoup the weekend loss. "The Guest in the House," "Keep Your Powder Dry" and "Roughly Speaking" made only fair showings, none of them topping a par score. However, "Thunderhead" in its second week on a moveover made a 110 per cent showing.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 100
Hippodrome—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 82
Lake—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. on moveover from Hippodrome 110
Ohio—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 70
Palace—**Suspect** (Univ), plus Gypsy Rose Lee, Dave Appollon and other acts on stage 75
State—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M) 95
Stillman—**Guest in the House** (UA) 95

Favorable Reaction at Detroit To Pessimism Over Future

DETROIT — Business has shown a tendency to rise from recent lows caused by excitement over the imminence of the war's end and a general fear of what is going to happen to the boomtown aspects of Detroit. The feeling now appears to be that it's best to spend for amusement while there is a chance rather than start saving on small expenditures. Downtown houses with stronger features got some nice breaks accordingly.

Adams—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 125
Broadway-Capitol—**Dillinger** (Mono); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 150
Downtown—**That Uncertain Feeling** (UA), reissue, plus Ray Kinney orchestra on stage 100
Fox—**Sudan** (Univ); **I Love a Mystery** (Col) 145
Michigan—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Docks of New York** (Mono), 2nd wk. 100
Palms-State—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Fashion Model** (Mono) 120
Paradise—**Her Lucky Night** (Univ), plus Louis Jordan on stage 140
United Artists—**Gentle Annie** (M-G-M); **Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 110

Selznick's "I'll Be Seeing You" Ranks Top Attraction in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—On exhibit at Loew's Penn, "I'll Be Seeing You" proved to be one of the season's leaders and was held over for a second week. Columbia's "A Song to Remember" was attractive in its second week at the J. P. Harris and was moved over to the Senator. Formerly seen last season as a roadshow, "For Whom the Bell Tolls," hit an under-average mark at the Stanley.

Barry—**Streets of New York** (Mono), reissue; **The Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), 3rd d. t. wk. 90
Fulton—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep) 85
Harris—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. 100
Penn—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) 140
Ritz—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk. 110
Senator—**Let's Go Steady** (Col); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col) 80
Stanley—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), regular prices 75
Warner—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk. 80

"Salty O'Rourke" Runs Away With Cincinnati Boxoffice Honors

CINCINNATI—"Salty O'Rourke" ran away from the other features downtown. Business on the whole was not spectacular. The weather was variable and cold.

Albee—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox) 90
Grand—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (Univ) 120
Keith's—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox) 90
Lyric—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 80
Palace—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 160
Shubert—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk. 115

Jacqueline White to "The Yearling"

Jacqueline White has been set for a part in "The Yearling," a Metro production.

New England Area Set for Bond Drive

BOSTON—More than 100 distributors and salesmen in the New England area attended a special meeting in Boston to lay plans for reaching the goal set by the national committee for a 25 per cent increase in the number of bond premieres, children's premieres and Free Movie Days during the Showmen's Seventh War Loan drive.

Martin J. Mullin, regional chairman, who presided, paid tribute to the part which the theatres of this area have contributed in the past. "But," he said, "we are now confronted with our biggest undertaking and it will take the complete cooperation of every exhibitor to enable us to meet the quota set for this drive."

Bill Horan, distributor chairman, emphasized that the goal for Free Movie Day participation would be 100 per cent. "There is no reason," he said, "why every single theatre should not participate in Free Movie Day."

Mullin emphasized the "grass roots" character of the Seventh drive and urged increased cooperation between the war finance committee and the theatres.

The state chairman has announced these regional directors for the drive: Nathan E. Goldstein, Western Mass. Theatres, Springfield; Elmer Daniels, Capitol, Worcester; Jack Melincoff, Warner, Lawrence; E. A. Cuddy, M&P, Boston; Horace Beals, Brockton, Brockton; Mrs. Natalie Kunze, Centre, Hyannis; Harry Zeitz, State, New Bedford, and Edward B. Haley, Fitchburg, Fitchburg. George W. Horan is exchange representative, Harry Kirchgessner of the National Screen Service Corp., trailer representative; Thad Barrows, labor representative; Charles Kurtzman of Loew's State, Free Movie Day chairman; George W. Horan, Warner Brothers, premiere committee chairman, and Robert Sternburg of the Metropolitan, special events chairman.

The Seventh state drive will open with the unveiling of a huge painting depicting the flag raising at Iwo Jima. Two participants in the flag-raising will be present.

Perfect Loan Drive Plans For New Haven Territory

NEW HAVEN—A New Haven area organization meeting for the Seventh War Loan drive was held May 7 at the Hotel Taft, with Herman M. Levy, state chairman; Henry Needles, co-chairman; Carl Goe, distributor chairman, and Lou Brown, publicity chief, in charge. Similar meetings were for Hartford and Fairfield counties. Others were scheduled throughout the state to further cooperation of every exhibitor and film man.

Herman M. Levy reminded industry representatives, in a special bulletin: "Everybody is tired, but we should always keep in mind we're not nearly as tired as the men at the front!"

Meantime Carl Goe, distributor chairman, reported the following newly scheduled bond premieres throughout the state, in addition to 17 reported last week:

Bushnell Memorial, Hartford, May 24; Pickwick, Greenwich, May 29; Madison Theatre, May 29; Capitol, Middletown, May 29; Capitol, Milford, June 6; Wilkinson, Wallingford, June 5, and Garde, New London, June 9.

Several others, including the Palace, Meriden, and Fine Arts, Westport, have signified their intention of running a premiere, but have not yet set dates.

Lead in "Radio Stars" to Newcomer

Newcomer Robert Clarke has been signed for the romantic lead in RKO's "Radio Stars on Parade."

VE-Day Not a Holiday In Connecticut

Hartford—Governor Baldwin announced VE-Day would not be a legal holiday in Connecticut and there would be no general closing of business or industrial plants. He urged that the VE-Day proclamation be celebrated "in the spirit of worship and thanksgiving." The state's liquor dealers planned to close. Baldwin announced that churches, synagogues and theatres would remain open for as long as possible to provide places of worship, and specially prepared film programs would be screened.

"Music" Sings Best On Boston Screen

BOSTON—"Music for Millions" at the Loew's State and Orpheum, turned in the best business last week. "God Is My Co-Pilot" at the Metropolitan was close behind. "A Song to Remember" enhanced the appeal of Jose Iturbi and made Boston folk more music minded than ever before. "The Great Mr. Handel" was big business at the Old South Theatre and held for a third week. "Enchanted Cottage" which opened strong Tuesday at the Keith Memorial. Despite very wet and cold weather, theatre attendance was good. "Roughly Speaking" at the Paramount and Fenway held for a second week with high box office receipts. "Brewster's Millions" at the Majestic started to taper off.

(Average is 100)

Boston—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col), plus Guy Lombardo on stage 130
Fenway and Paramount—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd wk.; **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 125
Majestic—**Brewster's Millions** (UA), 2nd wk. 120
Memorial—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 130
Metropolitan—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 130
Orpheum and State—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M) 135

"Dorian Gray" and "Eve" Popular With Audiences at New Haven

NEW HAVEN—"The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "Eve Knew Her Apples" enjoyed a good take at the Loew's Poli and went over to the College for a second week. "Flame of Barbary Coast" with "Hollywood and Vine" also made a good record at the Paramount. The week's school holiday helped matinees.

Bijou—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO); **Adventures of Kitty O'Day** (Mono) 85
College—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 89
Loew's Poli—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 125
Paramount—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Hollywood and Vine** (PRC) 110
Roger Sherman—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Bowery Champs** (Mono) 100

Alan Ladd and Mike O'Shea Vie For Top Hartford Honors

HARTFORD—Alan Ladd gave Hartfordite Michael O'Shea a run for top boxoffice honors last week. The former was in "Salty O'Rourke" at the Allyn and the latter in "It's a Pleasure" at the Strand.

Allyn—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col) 180
E. M. Loew's—**The Suspect** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ) 150
Palace—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd wk. 130
Poli—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox) 150
Regal—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Rough, Tough, and Ready** (Col), 2nd wk. 120
State—**Phantom of 42nd St.** (PRC); plus Sammy Kaye's band on stage 120
Strand—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 170

Brideau to Vermont Drive Post

BURLINGTON, VT.—Edward Brideau, manager of the Flynn Theatre here, has been appointed state publicity chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive.

Infantry Musicians To Play for Bonds

HARTFORD—One of the highlights of the Seventh War Loan drive, the appearance in Hartford and six other Connecticut cities of the infantry concert group, composed exclusively of enlisted men who were instrumentalists with leading symphony orchestras before induction in the army, was announced last week by Henry L. Needles, WB district manager and state campaign leader.

The group of 18 artists will begin its Connecticut tour at the Bushnell Memorial here May 24 and will present an hour and a half of classical and modern music. Needles said a first run picture, "Without Love," starring Hartford's own Katharine Hepburn, will be shown in connection with the concert. Admission will be through war bond purchases.

The concert will be at New Britain, May 25; Bristol, 26; Waterbury, 28; Norwich, 29; Meriden, 31, and Stamford, June 2.

The ensemble, which has elicited praise from such musical exponents as Arturo Toscanini and Kay Kyser, affords its program a different air, Needles said, by using arrangements made by its talented members.

Jack Mercer Named Orpheum Manager

BOSTON—The appointment of Jack Mercer as manager of Loew's Orpheum here was announced by Charles E. Kurtzman, northeastern division manager for Loew's Theatres. He succeeds George Kraska, recently appointed publicity and advertising director for Loew's in Boston.

Mercer began his theatrical career in 1933 at Loew's Capitol in New York, where he was born and educated. He later was assigned to Worcester, and the last seven years has been manager of Loew's at Evansville, Ind. He is a graduate of Furman University, Greenville, S. C., where he distinguished himself in football. He is also an expert swimmer.

D. Gerard Sullivan continues as manager of Loew's State Theatre here.

Robt. Wickwire Is Manager Of the Webb Playhouse

HARTFORD—Robert Wickwire, former manager of Schine's State in Cambridge, Md., who recently received an army discharge after serving with the air corps in California for one year, has been named manager of Lockwood & Gordon circuit's Webb Playhouse, Wethersfield.

Wickwire, whose home is in Syracuse, N. Y., reports the birth of his first child, a son named Kippen, born to Mrs. Wickwire last week at Syracuse Hospital.

Mrs. Norman Rolfe, manager of the Webb Playhouse for the last two years, left May 5 to return to Braintree, Mass., to await the arrival of a baby. Her husband is at Orlando, Fla., as manager of an army post theatre.

VE-Day Film for Troops

HARTFORD—Men and women in the armed forces overseas will see how Hartford observed VE-Day. A detachment of the army signal corps headquarters in Astoria, L. I., photographic center moved here under Capt. Charles E. Skinner with cameras, lights and sound equipment to take pictures on how the home folks reacted. Two-reel VE-Day films will be distributed overseas.

Demarest Joins "Pardon My Past"

William Demarest has joined the cast of Columbia's "Pardon My Past," Mutual production.

WORCESTER

Wellington Cody and Milton Alexander, who head the service staff at the Plymouth, made their stage debut as guardsmen when Charles Wagner presented the opera "Martha" there . . . Miss Edna Brady, cashier and secretary to Manager Phil Loew at the Family, is back on the job after a long layoff due to injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Francis J. Charlton, 54, projectionist at Shea's, Fitchburg, died following a heart attack at his home. A native of Portland, Me., he was one of the first film operators in this section. His wife and seven children survive . . . Harry Cool, the singer, was in town . . . Judie Manners, singing at the Plymouth with Spike Jones' orchestra, told Manager Jerry Finnegan that when she sang there two years ago it was the first time her name adorned a marquee . . . Grandon Rhodes, once of the Poli, has bobbed up in films with a part in "Hollywood and Vine."

The Better Films Council announces approval of "Bring On the Girls," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Keep Your Powder Dry," "Saludos Amigos," "Thunderhead" and "When the Lights Go On Again" for the family; "Frenchman's Creek," for mature-family audiences, and "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "The Power of the Whistler" for adults only . . . Sam Wasserman has booked a return of "Abie's Irish Rose" for the Auditorium Sunday, May 20, two performances . . . Mary B. Lee, formerly of the Elm Street, has joined the Plymouth as secretary to Manager Jerry Finnegan . . . The marquee at the Poli has been redecorated.

The picture of gorgeous model GeGe Willar in Esquire pleased Elmer R. Daniels, manager of the Capitol, for it was through that theatre that she made her first bid for fame, being picked to appear in Paramount's "Search for Beauty" several years ago . . . The opera "Martha" drew a small house at the Plymouth, but "The Student Prince" played to 2,000 . . . Marty Mullins, one of the owners of the M&P circuit, came from Boston to address a war bond meeting at the Sheraton Hotel of theatre managers from Worcester and the county, a large representation being present despite the bad weather . . . Tommy Dorsey was in town . . . Jack Rabinowitz, manager of the Modern in Marlboro, is handling Lou Stern's bookings in greater Boston.

The Selig Employes Ass'n presented a minstrel show in the Rialto, Leominster . . . Mary Sweeney of the Elm Street has returned after an illness . . . Edwin Franko Goldman's band, presenting a concert at the Auditorium under auspices of the Wyman-Gordon Co., drew a capacity house . . . The death on Luzon of S/Sgt. Erford Gage, former RKO film actor, had staffers at the Plymouth recalling when, as a youth, he was a winner in an amateur contest at the house . . . The Drive-In on the Boston Turnpike in Shrewsbury was opened for its eighth season.

Historic House Sold

PORTSMOUTH, N. H. — The Portsmouth Theatre, known as the Music Hall half a century ago, has been sold at public auction to Guy Tott of Kittery, Me., for $10,000. The theatre, in the heart of the downtown section, has a seating capacity of 1,400 and has been closed for some time. Originally it was a legitimate house, but about 40 years ago the late ex-Mayor F. W. Hartford introduced there the first motion pictures in Portsmouth.

Joint Settlement Ends Suit In Theatre Coal Chute Fall

NEW HAVEN—A $15,000 action by Isaac Carmel of Brooklyn against New England Theatres, operator of the Paramount, and the Seaboard Coal Co. of New Haven, has been settled. The theatre management and the coal company reportedly paid Carmel $2,500.

Carmel brought the action after he had fallen into a coal chute in front of the theatre premises Feb. 8, 1944.

NEW HAVEN

Amalgamated has added the Barnum, Bridgeport, as No. 21 in its "family" of theatres. July 1 will mark the first anniversary of Amalgamated here . . . Harry Michalson, RKO shorts subjects sales manager, was a visitor on Meadow St.

Phil Trent, former Boston Universal salesman, is a new United Artists salesman here under Ray Wiley . . . There was a big turnout for the Morey Goldstein dinner at the Taft. The boys presented to him a handsome gift. Steve Broidy and several other out-of-towners were guests. The Metro staff gave a party for Goldstein and presented him a pen and pencil set.

Downtown theatres are shifting openings to get around to a May 30 holiday opener . . . Ruth Bolton, new manager of the College, is the second woman on the Loew Poli managerial list. Molly Steckles of the Palace, Meriden, has been with the organization ten years, starting as cashier. Miss Bolton entered the film business in 1931 as secretary to Harry Shaw in Syracuse . . . Dr. J. B. Fishman, general manager of Fishman Theatres, who also does research in chemistry at Yale, has been elected to the board of directors of the Jewish Community Center and to chairmanship of the finance committee of the independent citizens committee of the arts, sciences and professions.

Donat Blaine, former operator of the Jodoin, Baltic, was in on 30-day furlough after one and a half years in New Guinea. While away his sister Mrs. Alexander manages the theatre for him . . . Ben Simon and Sam Rosen were back from a fishing trip to Maine . . . Sidney Lax, now with Columbia in Kansas City, made a flying trip to see his parents and former associates . . . Hymie Schwartz, operator of the Hillcrest, Taftville, was on the sick list recently . . . Morris Rosenthal, Poli manager, returned to his desk after a bout with a strep throat.

Warner exchange chalked up its fourth over-quota week in the Warner powwow drive . . . Lieut. Angelo Tomasino finally got a look at the girls in Paris after a year and a half in England . . . Walter Silverman, Columbia salesman, will be married June 17 to Helen Rosenthal of Elmhurst, L. I., at a hotel in New York. They plan a honeymoon in Montreal and Quebec before joining the ranks of apartment seekers in New Haven.

Mrs. Ben Lourie, wife of the former Columbia salesman here who now is at the Chicago branch, was back for a visit . . . Bernie's "shiner" was his reward for a heroic stand against a bigger sailor who was annoying some of the Filmrow girls . . . Tim O'Toole still is devoted to his photographic hobby and has the latest equipment almost before it's out.

MacMurray in "American Guerilla"

Fred MacMurray has been assigned the title role in "American Guerilla in the Philippines."

Harry Rosenblatt To New Haven Post

NEW HAVEN—The latest addition to the growing film colony of ex-Bostonians here is Harry Rosenblatt, new exchange manager for Metro. He succeeds Morey Goldstein, another Hub man. Rosenblatt is in his 17th year with Metro. In addition to film experience he brings with him accounting training and business experience in other fields.

Rosenblatt boasts of being true Bostonian. He was born in the Beacon Hill section, and returned to Boston after an interval of only a few years in his early youth in Chicago. After graduating from Brighton High, he took a course in the difficult and complicated study of efficiency cost accounting at the Burdette School. For some years he then engaged in shoe manufacturing, until labor conditions posed difficulties, which caused him to seek other lines of endeavor.

It was in October 1927 that Rosenblatt took his first film post in the Metro sales department under Maurice Wolfe. Since that time he has covered the various territories governed by the Boston exchange and for some years past has been city salesman.

Talk to the new manager for a few minutes and he whips out a snapshot of his only son, Lieut. George Rosenblatt, now in the chemical warfare service at the Edgewood arsenal in Maryland. Not much for golf or gin rummy, popular film hobbies, Rosenblatt finds relaxation in fishing—and a movie. The boys from Connecticut gave him a cordial welcome at the dinner last week at the Hotel Taft, which at the same time was a farewell party for Goldstein.

N. HAMPSHIRE

A show recently staged by Alton High School included "The Spoilers," starring Marlene Dietrich; several shorts and a film of the Alton winter carnival of 1938.

Pfc. George E. Balch, a Keene boy recently freed from a German prison camp, has written his parents that one of his first thrills after liberation was a picture which he attended in an old German roadhouse, where only a few days before Nazi soldiers had been drinking beer. The film was "The Thin Man Comes Home."

At a show in Greenville the other night, during a collection for the Red Cross, a soldier in the audience, Sgt. Joseph A. Vincent, took every cent from his pockets, amounting to about $40, and contributed it. He served 32 months overseas and was seriously wounded in Luxembourg in December.

George A. Wingate has taken over the management of Pine Island Park, amusement center in Manchester, for the coming season.

Ansel N. Sanborn, Carroll County film circuit owner and member of the legislature, spoke at a testimonial to Speaker of the House Cotton in Concord. Sanborn himself formerly served in that capacity.

Lawrence Willey, once an employe of Hollywood studios and now one of the owners of the Colonial Theatre Bldg. in Rochester, wrote a musical comedy, "What Next, Brother?" which was presented by the Rochester Lodge of Elks in the Rochester City Auditorium on May 7-8.

Jack Oakie to "On Stage Everybody"

Jack Oakie has been added to the cast of "On Stage Everybody," a Universal production.

John Uston Seeks Cuts In Clearance Delays

BOSTON—John Uston, operator of the Lake in Monponset, has filed a clearance complaint against Loew's Paramount and RKO. The Lake is subject to 30 days' clearance after Brockton and Plymouth, Mass., on M-G-M product and one day after Whitman, Mass., on Paramount and as available on RKO. Uston charges the clearance is unreasonable and wants clearance in all cases to be reduced to seven days after Plymouth.

Uston also filed a clearance complaint involving his Easton, North Easton, Mass., asking that clearance of this house be reduced to 14 days instead of 30 days after first run Brockton.

BOSTON

Gus Schaefer of RKO, seriously ill the last few weeks, was reported to be improving. Although still confined to the hospital he was no longer in an oxygen mask, and may be able to leave the hospital soon . . . Ed Comi, head of Theatre Service Supply Co., announced that new Century projectors had been installed at the Roxbury Theatre.

Sam Stern has resigned as salesman with Federal Films, local distributors for Film Classics, and returned to New York . . . Mrs. Lou Wechsler, wife of the 20th-Fox salesman, is back home after several months in Arizona . . . Lieut. Pearce Parkhurst of the air corps has been awarded a Bronze Star for participation in the India-Burma campaign.

Lieut. Carroll Lawler, former owner of the Lawler in Greenfield, Mass., is now in charge of the recreation department for the first naval district . . . Evelyn Mullins and Lena Fitzgerald have been added to the Republic staff . . . George Hackett of the Medford Theatre is back from New Orleans, where he spent several weeks.

Sgt. William Mancuso jr., former head shipper at National Screen Service, was married to Peggy Monroe of Manchester, England, while on furlough from his base in Germany. Mancuso is in an antiaircraft unit. Prior to his entry in the army he was best known for his jitterbugging exploits. His father is William Mancuso of the Mancuso Supply Co.

Chief Booker Abe Barry of Columbia is a farmer in his spare time, and very successful. His 30x60-foot plot in Dorchester contains about 3,000 bulbs. He also raises vegetables and fruit, much to the pleasure of friends . . . James Winn, UA district manager, has returned from a trip through upper New York . . . A screening for bookers was held at M-G-M of "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

"Brewster's Millions," which opened at the Majestic after a very successful publicity campaign, was doing great business.

Harry Zeitz of New Bedford, Dominic Turturro of Millbury and Ernie Sharaf of the Rialto Theatre in Worcester were visitors.

Bert McKenzie of M-G-M was busy on campaigns for "Picture of Dorian Gray" in New England . . . Harry Rosenblatt, city salesman for M-G-M, was appointed manager of the New Haven branch.

Eve Arden, "The Kid From Brooklyn"

Eve Arden will have the feminine lead in "The Kid From Brooklyn," an RKO production.

N. ENGLAND 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Mrs. Julia M. Powers of Caribou, Me., built her first theatre in 1912. Last year the Powers Theatre burned down, but that didn't stop this grand old lady of show business. She has rebuilt the house and is once again doing business at her old stand. Mrs. Powers, who is 84 years young and takes an interest in anything pertaining to the betterment of the community, was named one of the first directors of Cary Memorial Hospital. Her family includes two daughters, nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren, three of them with the armed forces.



Raymond M. Joyce manages the Eno Memorial Hall Theatre in Simsbury, Conn. He has been a motion picture exhibitor since the spring of 1919 when he was released from the army. He has found motion picture operation much to his liking and says the operation of his 450-seat house has been most pleasant and profitable. He takes an active interest in civic affairs, serving as vice-president of Morse College and as treasurer of Frozen Food Lockers, Inc. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion. He has three children.



George LeWitt of New Britain, Conn., studied law at both N.Y.U. and Yale. He changed his mind about careers however and entered the motion picture business in 1916. His first theatre was the Lyceum which played stock, vaudeville and pictures. He afterward operated the Liberty in Hartford, the Strand in Plainville, the Arch Street in New Britain and the Strand in Sound View. At present he manages only the Plainville Strand and the Arch Street in New Britain. He is a member of Allied. LeWitt is an amateur photographer and collector of art objects.



Jerry Mascoli of Prospect, Conn., has worked his way up in the business from janitor to theatre owner. It was 35 years ago that he started working as a janitor in the Waterbury Scenic Theatre. Later he rented the Princess Theatre. After that he operated the Washington and Alhambra theatres in Waterbury and the Bantam in the town of that name. For the past 12 years he has operated the Cameo, a 675-seat house in Waterbury. His family includes five children and four grandchildren. Two of his sons are overseas with the navy.

BRIDGEPORT

Manager Edwin Ribo of the Merritt celebrated a wedding anniversary . . . The Fairfield zoning board has denied a petition for a change to build a motion picture theatre in the Grasmere section there . . . James Fensore, senior projectionist at Loew's Poli, is telling folk about the promotion of his daughter Marie to seaman first class in the WAVES. She's stationed at the naval air station, Navaro Beach, Fla. . . . Manager Al Domian of Loew's Globe is a year older.

Louis Perilli, a veteran who saw action in the South Pacific for two and a half years, is back in the projection booth at the Liberty after an illness . . . Pleasure Beach amusement park is due to open May 26 . . . Sympathy to Harold C. "Hank" Kilborn, doorman at the Majestic, whose son Lieut. Bruce Kilborn was killed on a bombing mission over Germany . . . Ralph Mauro, the sound engineer, is back from a trip to Boston.

Cpl. Lawrence A. Pastore jr., former local projectionist now serving overseas with the Seventh army, has been awarded the combat infantry badge. His father is a projectionist at the Warner . . . Hugh Fox has been on the sick list . . . Samuel J. Haddleman, who operates the Capitol and Colonial, celebrated a birthday . . . Michael J. Carroll, former manager of the American and now a carpenter's mate with the SeaBees, has arrived in the Marianas.

Alma Kaeser of Stratford, known professionally as Alma Kaye, has signed with 20th-Fox and is due to report in July. She is currently touring with "Sing Out, Sweet Land" . . . James Vizzo, former American usher and first from that theatre to enter the armed forces, is now in China . . . Evelyn Teto, Warner cashier, is on the sick list and Ann Savo is substituting . . . New in the boxoffice of the Klein Memorial are Mrs. Gladys Malloy and Mrs. Alice Vogel . . . Jerry Lessner is home from England on a furlough. His wife, Marjorie, is assistant manager at Loew's Majestic.

Louis J. Anger, operator of the Barnum, is in the hospital following a shock . . . Gus Schirmer jr. will open a ten-week summer stock at the Strand Theatre in Stamford starting June 4. The house is now playing films . . . Manager James Tobin of the Warner was in Newburyport, Mass., for a four-day visit. He has been granted a three-month deferment by his draft board . . . The six-week spring drama festival at the Klein Memorial Auditorium got off to a healthy start . . . Henry Bradbury, former American usher, is with the army in Germany . . . Motion pictures are now being shown in Academy Hall, New Hartford, Saturday afternoons and Sunday nights . . . The weekly Saturday night movies at the Town Hall in Woodbury had to be omitted because the auditorium was being used as a collection depot in the clothing drive.

Betty Caldwell to "Young Widow" Cast

Betty Caldwell, United Artists, has been assigned a role in "Young Widow" by Hunt Stromberg.

HARTFORD

Cpl. Russ Grant, ex-Poli student assistant, took part in the final roundup in Germany . . . Ed Recor is new at the Eastwood . . . Pfc. Anthony DiLorenzo, ex-Daly circuit, was transferred from air corps to infantry recently and sent to England for further training.

Hugh Campbell, Central, reports seven tons of clothing were collected by his old clothes show.

Frank Ramsey is back on job at the Lenox . . . Charles Repass, Crown, and his family went to Saratoga, N. Y., several days to visit relatives . . . Don Prince, RKO publicity representative from Boston, arrived to assist in the campaign for "It's a Pleasure" at the Strand . . . Dean Barrett, Rialto, reports his usher Ken Trumbull will discontinue fighting bouts at the Auditorium due to illness.

Happy birthday to Tommy Maller, Lyric . . . Doorman Rueback, 75, Rialto, celebrated his 54th wedding anniversary . . . Colonial Usherette Eleanor Keefe is engaged to be married to Ensign Leroy Rolland.

Red Smith, ex-Colonial usher, completed navy boot training in Maryland and was home on furlough last week . . . Mrs. Norman Rolfe left as manager of the Webb Playhouse last weekend for Braintree, Mass., where she will await the arrival of a baby. Her husband is expected home on furlough from Orlando, Fla., at the end of May.

Ralph Stitt, 20th-Fox exploitation representative from New York, was in a few days for publicity conferences with Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli . . . It was said that Eleanor Teeman of the Sammy Kaye ensemble at the State last weekend is a dead ringer for Hartford's Barbara Barrie . . . Guy Palmerton, former Hartfordite, announces the opening of his Playhouse Theatre in Worcester May 27. A 15-week season is planned.

Tommy Williams, formerly with the Hartford Theatre, is home on furlough with six battle stars . . . The Sammy Kaye swing and sway band opened at the State with a broadcast direct from the stage at 10 p. m. Friday (4). A "So You Want to Lead a Band" contest was held on stage at each performance, with cash prizes . . . Actress Martha Scott will be at the Bushnell Memorial May 15-16 in "Soldier's Wife" at a $3 top.

Mack Herbert, Dow's manager, revived four Charlie Chaplin comedies on his weekend film-stage show . . . Local newspapers carrier a photo of Estelle Calegman, assistant manager of the Bijou in New Haven who is engaged to Sam Horwitz, assistant manager of the Poli in Springfield. Prior to going to Springfield, Horwitz was assistant at the Poli here.

Jim McCarthy, Strand, theatre chairman of the cancer drive, met civic officials at the Hartford Chamber of Commerce office to review fund reports and extend the drive to May 15 . . . Happy birthday to Manager Robert Wickwire, Webb Playhouse . . . Manager Tom Grace's Eastwood has shifted from two changes a week to three.





MONEY FOR BREWSTER — Majestic Theatre Manager Eddie Allen and Phil Engel, United Artists publicity representative, are seen presenting Robert Keating (Mr. Brewster) with the sum of $250 to spend within 12 hours.

$5,654 for Swim Pool

HARTFORD—Patrons of local theatres have given $5,654.93 to the fund for a swimming pool for blinded soldiers, Henry Needles, chairman of the theatre campaign, announced. Fifteen theatres participated.

SPRINGFIELD

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., speaking on CBS following the Capitol premiere of "It Happened in Springfield," thanked 11 youth organizations comprising 30,000,000 members for cooperating in connection with the film which deals with teaching of democracy and race tolerance in public schools of this city.

Manager Charles Patch, Art, addressed the senior classes of the Commerce High School on "Movies As Propaganda." He emphasized the use of newsreels and motion pictures as instruments for peace . . . Theatres here have organized to contribute to the blind soldiers fund.

Condolences were extended to Arthur Desautels, manager of the Majestic on the recent death of his father . . . Wilbur Crane, writer and director of the special short, "It Happened in Springfield," was escorted by Manager and Mrs. Charles Patch, Art, to the buffet supper at the Highland Hotel prior to the premiere.

The Majestic, West Springfield, is still up for sale, it is reported . . . Jerry Finnegan, former Court Square manager, was here rounding up 100 girls for his "Worcester Follies," which will be staged soon at his Plymouth in Worcester . . . George Freeman, Poli, obtained the cooperation of Girl Scouts to put over his old clothes drive show.

Jane Darwell, who won the academy award for her performance in "Grapes of Wrath," played at the Court Square in "A Doll's House." In an interview, she revealed that at one of the early performances of the production, an antique stool gave way under Phillip Merivale and he went crashing to the floor. But the real piano playing was being done back stage and so continued for some time after the actor's fall. From then on, the audience, which was made up largely of service men, refused to take the play seriously and laughed at everything.

Ruth Bolton to Helm Of New Haven Poli

NEW HAVEN—The women score again in gaining a new manager at the Loew's Poli College here, Ruth Bolton. Sam Shubouf, here for the last several months, goes back to the Poli, Waterbury, for reassignment.

Miss Bolton started in the show business at the Loew's State in Syracuse as secretary to Harry F. Shaw, widely known in this territory at Loew's Poli division manager.

As old friends in the territory she counts Harry Rose of the Majestic, Bridgeport, and Mrs. Rose, former Syracusans, and Joe Boyle of the Broadway, Norwich, another product of the old home town.

Hearing This Week

HARTFORD—A bill to permit female entertainers over 21 to work in night clubs and cabarets after 10 p. m. has been approved by the Connecticut legislative labor committee, which was to hold a public hearing on the measure this week at the capitol building.

NEW BRITAIN

Mrs. Ralph Doyle, ex-Circle cashier, now works at the P&W war plant . . . Lieut. Steve Perakos, son of the Palace owner, Peter Perakos, is expected home shortly on a 30-day furlough after 28 months in the South Pacific . . . Al Montefalco, publicist for the Roger Mahan circuit in Waterbury, was a visitor . . . A. Tonelli is new manager of the State, Torrington, replacing Gene DuBarry, resigned.

Abe Gelman, former assistant manager at the Garde, New London, who has been working at the Electric Boat submarine plant the last year, is planning to get back into the trade . . . Carl Halprin's drive-in, Milford, will reopen about May 20 . . . Manager Joseph Borenstein, Embassy, entered General Hospital for an operation. Henry Wittke, assistant at the State, Manchester, is handling the relief stint.

The Eno Memorial, Simsbury, featured "The Fighting Lady" on May 2 under the auspices of the Gray Ladies with capacity attendance at $1 per seat . . . Manager Joseph Spivak, Music Box, offered a special kiddie matinee May 5 with two hours of cartoons at 12 cents tax included, and he had to park the SRO sign on the boxoffice till! . . . Early Bird shows are continuing at Pat McMahon's State.

Sgt. Johnny D'Amato, former assistant at the Embassy, wrote the folks that he'll soon be homeward bound from Italy. He has been overseas more than two years . . . Mike Abdulla, manager of the Palace, is observing his 33rd anniversary in theatre business . . . Sgt. John Carenza, former assistant at the Strand here, is in Germany.

Waterbury, New Britain, Lyme and Hamden theatre men have joined in the collection drive for the blind soldiers swimming pool fund at Avon. The goal is $50,000 . . . The Madison and Saybrook exhibitor Bonoff reports that his marine lieutenant son Leo jr. has left for overseas duty.

Manager Jack Shields, Capitol, Ansonia, has returned to work after an operation at Griffin Hospital . . . Manager Mollie Stickles, Palace, reports Projectionist James Mertough died at Meriden Hospital of pneumonia.

Carolina Film Men Ready for Drive

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—North and South Carolina regional chairmen and other WAC officials met at the Hotel Charlotte to complete plans for the industry's participation in the Seventh War Loan campaign.

Roy Smart, North Carolina publicity chairman and coordinator, presided, assisted by Warren Irvin of Columbia, chairman of the South Carolina group, and H. F. Kincey, chairman of the North Carolina committee.

Benn H. Rosenwald, chairman of the distributors, announced that already 297 Free Movie Days had been arranged throughout the Carolinas, and 94 bond premieres had been set. These totals are expected to be doubled before the campaign is concluded.

In addition to Smart, Kincey, Irvin and Rosenwald, those in attendance included A. Fuller Sams jr. of Statesville; W. H. Hendrix of Raidsville and Greensboro; M. F. Schnibben, Florence; J. Francis White jr., Asheboro; Lyle M. Wilson, Roanoke Rapids; Bill Drace, Greer; Worth Stewart, Dunn; Harry Cooke, Mount Olive; Kermit High, Greenwood; J. Bates Harvey, Clover; T. A. Little, North Carolina Free Movie Day chairman; Leonard Allen, South Carolina chairman of special events; Hank Hearn, chairman of bond premieres; Norris Hadaway, North Carolina war finance committee; Mrs. Walter Griffith, secretary of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, and Al Burks, North Carolina chairman of special events.

"Hotel Berlin" Packs 'Em On "Both" the VE-Days

NASHVILLE—Tony Sudekum, president of Crescent Amusement Co., instructed managers of the more than 50 theatres of his circuit in Nashville and middle Tennessee that Tuesday was official VE-Day. The usual schedule was observed. Some of the theatres experienced attendance losses Monday due to the confusion of Monday as to the official VE-Day announcement.

At the Knickerbocker, Manager Dewey Mousson packed them in for matinee and night shows Monday and also had a record crowd Tuesday on "Hotel Berlin." This show struck Nashville at the psychological time for top boxoffice showing.

L. C. Dennis Sells His Rio At Collinsville, Tex.

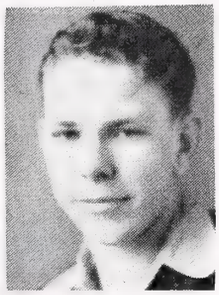
GAINESVILLE, TEX.—L. C. Dennis of the Rio here has sold his theatre of the same name at Collinsville, a few miles southeast, to Mrs. W. S. Graham. Dennis opened the house last fall on the strength of some renewed oil activity in the area and because of the fact that all available housing and some new ones were occupied by families whose members were in nearby army camps or war factories. Mrs. Graham is a newcomer to the industry. Her husband operates a farm near Collinsville.

A. M. Morgan Will Open Theatre in Fort Worth

FORT WORTH—A. M. "Buck" Morgan of Grand Prairie has leased the vacant theatre building at 608 Sylvania Ave., in the Riverside addition and will open a show house there soon. This place was operated for many years as the Texan by J. F. Hightower. Two years ago Interstate circuit and Hightower built the new Tower, a big de luxe house within a few blocks of the Texan, and gave up the Texan lease.

Son of Mrs. L. M. Rube Runs Machines at Carolyn

"Bunks" Rube, projectionist of the Carolyn Theatre in New Hebron, Miss., will be a veteran in the theatre long before he is 20. "Bunks" is the 14-year-old son of Mrs. L. M. Rube, manager of the Carolyn. He has held the "highest" job in the house a year now and his dexterity and experience in the work have made him an expert at a very early age. Mrs. Rube reports that he has been on the job practically every night since he started. "Bunks," for his part, is fond of his work and wouldn't mind working in the projection room for years to come.



"BUNKS" RUBE

Universal Salesmen Talk Over Forthcoming Films

ATLANTA—New films soon to be released were discussed at a regional sales meeting here for the Universal exchanges. J. A. McCarthy, general sales manager for the south and Canada, presided. Talks were made by Harry Graham, southeastern district manager, and Pete Rosian, manager of the southwestern district.

Discussion of new productions centered about "Night in Paradise," "Pillow of Death," "Men in Her Diary," "The Naughty Nineties," "Strange Confession," "Serenade for Murder," "That's the Spirit," "Senorita From the West," "The Beautiful Cheat," "I'll Tell the World," "Easy to Look At" and "Blonde Ransom."

Veteran Theatre Owner Dies in Lakeland, Fla.

LAKELAND, FLA.—James W. Savage, owner of Roxy Theatre, died at Morrell Hospital here April 28 after a short illness. He was 58 years old and had lived in Lakeland for the last 29 years. He formerly was connected in the show business in New York City.

Knoxville Invokes Curfew

KNOXVILLE, TENN.—Police have invoked an old curfew law, not enforced for many years, which forbids any child under 15 to be on the streets after 9 p. m. without parent or guardian in an effort to curb an outbreak of juvenile delinquency. Complaints from theatre managers of misbehavior and petty thefts are among the causes for a decision to enforce the law strictly.

Arkansas Theatres Set High War Bond Goal

NEWPORT, ARK.—Motion picture theatre owners and managers from Arkansas second congressional district met here to lay plans for the Seventh War Loan drive. Claude C. Mundo, Little Rock, co-chairman with M. J. Pruniski, presided.

The Arkansas WAC has pledged $5,600,000 in E bonds, which is 20 per cent of the state's quota. It is the largest goal for theatre participation in any war loan campaign.

Mundo discussed the plans as outlined in Chicago and encouraged theatre men present to run more and bigger war bond shows. All were urged to have children's matinees and Nation Free Movie Day celebrations June 6.

Other speakers were T. W. Young, Memphis, chairman for the distributors in the Memphis area; Sam B. Kirby, state publicity director; Edith Evans, district chairman, and Kneaster Hodges, war finance chairman for Jackson county.

The second district includes theatres in Stone, Sharpe, Randolph, Lawrence, Fulton, Izard, Independence, White, Cleburne, Jackson, Prairie and Monroe counties.

The Theatre Hold Is Strong In John McGinley

WILBURTON, OKLA.—Once a showman always a showman! Such a spirit is typified in the life of John McGinley, veteran theatre man here. Although not physically active in the business since he sold the American Theatre to K. Lee Williams several years back and even though confined to a wheel chair, McGinley is still part of the show business in spirit.

Almost every day, John rolls himself down to the front of the American in order that he may greet his many friends as they pass. The stroke that keeps him in the wheel chair has not prevented him from keeping in touch with film and civic leaders in Wilburton. Film salesmen who call on his town never miss a chat with the veteran showman.

Savannah Council Bars Projected Negro Theatre

SAVANNAH—Through an amendment to the building and zoning code, the Seventh city council has blocked the construction of a new theatre projected by Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Weis for the southeast corner of Waldburg and East Broad Sts. here.

Announcement by Weis recently of plans to erect a theatre for Negroes on the site drew a strong protest from property owners in the neighborhood.



ON REPUBLIC LOT—Harold Laird, Republic's Tampa branch manager, visits the Hollywood studio and has lunch with Wild Bill Elliott and Roy Rogers, who were working on "A Fabulous Texan." At right—Herbert J. Yates, president, exchanges an Arab grip with Abdullah Abbas.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Henry G. Morris, Dallas exploiteer for Columbia, came here to launch one of the biggest campaigns that has opened any picture in a long time for "A Song to Remember," which held over for a second week . . . Boyle Davenport, formerly with the Warner Theatre, was in on leave from the South Pacific. Boyle is with the SeaBees . . . Sgt. Jack Box, formerly with the Criterion, was also in for a visit with old friends at the theatres.

Wallace Walthall of the NSS in Dallas was in for the funeral of an old friend, Tom Reed . . . Robert L. Wright, government prosecutor in the Griffith antitrust case, has 60 witnesses for the government, however, he stated that he will not need all of them. The case is expected to continue for 60 days.

Bruce Williams, Paramount salesman, was so elated over the birth of his son that he called several of his Filmrow friends at 3 a. m. to tell them all about it.

Sam Brunk of Paramount is still one of the best people we know who enjoys a party or get-together and helps the others enjoy a good time, too.

Letroy Peak, former head shipper with 20th-Fox, is back from California and has been helping the entertainers who go out to Will Rogers Field to stage the shows for the personnel. We understand that he sings a little like Sinatra.

The 25 leading theatres saw their bond booths get under way during the last week and the fact that they were ready for operation on VE-Day gave them some more prominent attention in the local daily newspapers for their timeliness in helping to sell bonds now.

Tuesday marked the day on which most Oklahoma City exhibitors waited for early darkness to turn on all attraction signs and neon lighting once again. Many just stood out in front of their theatres and enjoyed the sight.

Exhibitors in last week included Mrs. Maude Baker of Talihina, Mrs. Beaty Chronister of Hammon, D. B. Swabb of Afton, J. B. Denny of Jay, H. L. Boehm of Watonga, Ben Terry of Woodward, A. R. Walker of Broken Arrow, Wesley Hodges of Anadarko, Mrs. Ida Hanes of Wanette, Mrs. Mona Childs of Eldorado, L. B. Warren of Yukon, A. W. Phillips of Grandfield, H. T. Burns of Apache, Don Abernathy of Fairview, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Jones of Lawton, L. A. White of Weatherford.

"Two Down and One to Go," the 33-minute Technicolor film secretly produced by the war department for showing immediately after VE-Day, is the most important film as well as the most timely ever handled by the WAC. It was with this thought as well as the tremendous bond-selling value that this film contained that C. B. "Brownie" Akers, Marion W. Osborne and Robert Busch extended every effort to see that it was immediately booked into local houses.

RKO's "Wonder Man" will be tradeshown to exhibitors at a special screening at the Uptown Theatre on Monday, May 28, at 11 a. m.

Operators Explain Stand Against Training Disabled

ATLANTA—The Atlanta motion picture operators' union, formally answering criticism by East Point American Legion Post 51 that the union was refusing to train wounded veterans as projectionists, has issued a statement that its action is based on the limited number of jobs available.

Contending that "in the whole of metropolitan Atlanta there are less than 75 motion picture projectionists employed," the union said it desired to retain the jobs for former projectionists now in the armed services entitled to their jobs when they return.

The statement was in answer to Fred Coleman, owner of the East Point Amusement Co., reporting the Legion post action in adopting a resolution against the union stand.

We Rejoice With You!

May FULL Victory Soon Be Enjoyed

VE-DAY marks a great turn of the hands on the face of Destiny's clock. We devoutly thank every brave soul who helped—at home as well as at the front. It's a wonderful, joyous time. As reconversion comes we shall be able to furnish many items you've waited for so long.

OKLAHOMA THEATRE SUPPLY Company

J. ELDON PEEK

TELEPHONE 7-8691
708-710 WEST GRAND AVENUE
OKLAHOMA CITY 2, OKLA.

M-G-M Divisional Shift Affects 3 Managers

MEMPHIS—A shakeup in divisions was announced last week by M-G-M. C. E. Kessnich, district manager, is now in charge of Charlotte, Atlanta and New Orleans. He gave up Memphis and took over Charlotte. Rudy Berger is now division manager with headquarters in New Orleans. Burtis Bishop is now district manager of Memphis, Dallas and Oklahoma City. He has given up St. Louis and taken over Memphis.

Tips Most Important Item In French Drinking Places

The following letter from Sgt. William Henderson, now in France, is reprinted from the 24 Sheeter, house organ for the R&R circuit:

As of this writing I have visited two French cities, Marseille and Avignon. Of these two Marseille is by far and wide the better, having more bars, night clubs and beautiful women to its credit . . . The bars: A French bar usually consists of a barmaid, ten different types of poison running from wine and cognac to a mild drug called pastisse, a few chairs and tables, a bar and a conspicuous sign reading "Do not forget to tip, please." This last item is of the utmost importance and the habitual tip-forgetter usually finds himself quite unpopular in the eyes of the barmaid.

The prices vary as to the class of the bar, being moderate in the low class bars and outrageous in the elite bars. Beer, for instance, varies from 20 cents to eight cents. And it's not even good beer at that . . . The night club: A French night club is really a classy joint. The more expensive ones have carpeted floors, plush seats, modern design and some type of floor show. The floor show more than likely will be a five-piece band, a songstress and an emcee who is well versed in dirty jokes.

It is not unusual to see the emcee giving out with a vulgar joke in English while some American girl is turning every color of the rainbow. A rather more than somewhat disgusting sight . . . The songstress' beauty is the primary thing, her voice secondary. Her repertoire will contain two or three American songs which she will sing every night until you are ready to start tossing eggs in her direction . . . As to the prices that prevail in these clip-joints—incredible!

The women: It is a very true statement that French women are very beautiful. Perhaps my memory is fading, but I find them as attractive to the eye as the American girl. It is not an uncommon sight to see a woman with her hair tinted pink, purple, orange or some other odd color. They are experts when it comes to applying makeup and they are usually made up in more than one place.

Library Features Books Made Into Film Dramas

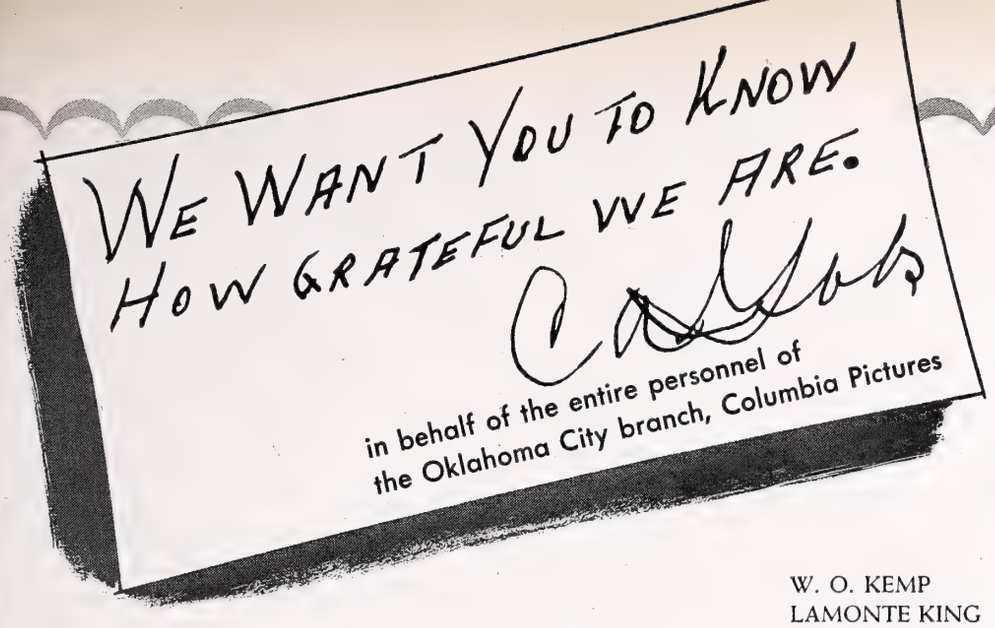
NEW ORLEANS—The New Orleans public library maintains an almost continuous "Books Into Movies" display. A recent bulletin board featured brochures on three Warner pictures, "Roughly Speaking," "Objective, Burma!" and "Hollywood Canteen," along with book covers on "Lassie Come Home," and "Jane Eyre," and stills from "Janie" and "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Books on the shelf include: Steinbeck's "Tortilla Flats," and "Grapes of Wrath"; Maugham's "Human Bondage," "Theater" and "Painted Veil"; Wilder's "Bridge of San Luis Rey"; Hammett's "Maltese Falcon"; Marquand's "H. M. Pulham, Esq."; Knight's "This Above All"; Tarkington's "Alice Adams"; Sabatini's "Sea Hawk," and Hemingway's "Farewell to Arms."

George King Logan, librarian, reports that books popularized by movies have a sustained hold on public interest.

Sgt. Russ Brown Safe

DALLAS—Sgt. Russell Brown, former Republic manager at Oklahoma City, is back with his company on the German front following a period in which he was listed as missing. His wife lives here.



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MRS. IZAH ADAMS
J. F. ALLRED
H. K. ANDREWS
MRS. MAUDE E. BAKER
W. R. BARBEE
R. LEWIS BARTON
MRS. JUANITA BERRY
H. L. BOEHM
M. K. BOLDMAN
L. P. BONNETTE
A. D. BRAWNER
L. E. BREWER
J. R. BROWN
JOHN M. BUFFO
C. D. BULLARD
L. G. BUMPERS
JOHN W. BUTLER
MARLIN BUTLER
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TRUEMAN ELLERD
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SAM ELZO
H. R. FALLS
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L. H. GOERKE
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LAMAR GUTHRIE
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WESLEY HODGES
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RAY HUGHES
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MARY HUNT
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F. J. JAMISON
BILL JENSEN
HOMER C. JONES
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H. B. SKELTON
BILL SLEPKA
B. L. SMITH
EARL SMITH
HARRY F. SMITH
H. G. SMITH
J. RUDOLPH SMITH
J. F. SPANGLER
C. H. SPEARMAN
ALFRED STARR
M. G. STEELE
W. H. STRICKER
H. E. SULLIVAN
C. M. SWABB
D. B. SWABB
R. G. SYKES
RALPH TALBOT
D. V. TERRY
JOHN B. TERRY
JOHN H. THOMAS
C. E. THOMPSON
GLEN D. THOMPSON
C. J. TRAVIS
DUDLEY R. TUCKER
ELIZABETH A. TUCKER
MRS. AVECE T. WALDRON
A. R. WALKER
L. B. WARREN
E. V. WEAVER
B. A. WHITE
L. A. WHITE
BESS WILKIE
V. A. WILKINSON
K. LEE WILLIAMS
J. D. WINELAND
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

"Uncle Lou" Marks 39th Anniversary

DALLAS—L. G. "Uncle Lou" Bissinger, owner and operator of the Queen Theatre, will celebrate his 39th anniversary in show business, mainly by standing on the sidewalk out front, selling some tickets in the booth,



L. G. BISSINGER

greeting numerous friends and probably spending a little time in his upstairs office just reminiscing about old times.

Bissinger started in show business at the Lyric in Houston in 1906. He became associated with E. H. Hulsey and went to Oklahoma City to operate eight houses, then to Galveston to operate the Queen. In time, Bissinger moved to Dallas to manage the Queen, relieving E. V. Richards, who was then managing the house. This was in 1913. When Hulsey retired from show business Bissinger came into ownership of the house, which in its earlier day was one of the three leading houses on Elm St.

"Uncle Lou" does considerable charity work, caters to the wants and needs of newsboys and is a member of Variety Club. Friends hope he has more theatre anniversaries.

Training Film Gives Pilot Thrill In Seeing Brother

MEMPHIS—Lieut. Julian P. Barry got a surprise when he recognized his brother, Lieut. Warren Barry, in a training film being shown to his class of pilots at Morris Field, N. C.

The picture was one made at a briefing session before Warren was taken prisoner in Germany in April. Warren, a B24 pilot, was serving with the Eighth air force when captured.

The officers are sons of Mrs. Church Barry, Memphis, who was told of the chance glimpse of his brother in a message from Julian.

"Enchanted Cottage" Gets Home Planning Tieup

NEW ORLEANS—Fred Ford, RKO exploitation field supervisor, and his assistant, Charles Shaw, arranged here for an extensive advertising tieup with the home planning institute of the New Orleans Ass'n of Commerce for "The Enchanted Cottage" at the Orpheum. "Build your own enchanted cottage" was the slogan used in newspaper ads and various outdoor and window displays.

Lumber Firm Opens Show House in Pineland, Tex.

DALLAS—Walter B. King recently completed remodeling and redecorating of the Temple Lumber Co. People's Theatre, in Pineland, Tex. Joe Sample, a lumber company employe, manages the theatre and supervised the rebuilding.

King, who has operated the King Scenic Co. here many years, executed a design on one wall showing the pioneers as they came to Texas in wagon trains. The wagons seem to be departing no matter from what angle viewed. The other wall depicts a travel scene with airplanes, a streamlined train, cowboys and a campfire typical of western Texas today.

Two other Texas theatre walls have similar treatment, King said. They are R. N. Smith's Border Theatre in Mission and Hendon & Bull's new State in Big Spring.

Holiday Rush for Shows On Surrender Day

NEW ORLEANS—Filmrow business closed here all day Tuesday after the VE proclamation. Asked Monday if a holiday would be declared, union heads said no, as did several branch managers, but Tuesday found all of the exchanges closed by noon.

With almost all places of business in the city closed, there was a holiday rush for downtown theatres. Business in suburban theatres varied, according to attractions, with most reporting a pickup over Monday. The Tuesday crowds were generally orderly.

Junk Paper Youths Feted

DALLAS—Junior and senior high school students were entertained on a recent Saturday at the Tower, Melba and Enterprise by the theatres and War Production Board in appreciation of their waste paper collections. An essay contest on the value of waste paper was conducted with WPB certificates going to the winners. The mayor and a representative of the Eighth service command made the awards.

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SAN ANTONIO

Manager Oliver "Buzzo" Thomas of the State Theatre was expected back on duty soon after an operation . . . The new Alameda will open soon with a stage presentation.

Miss "Jo" Henson, Texas Theatre cashier and new women's city golf champion, headed a visit of San Antonio golfers to Monterrey to compete in the annual Monterrey Country Club golf tourney. Miss Henson won the Mexico title last year . . . Beverly W. Spillman sr., theatre architect, evinces English blood in his daily yearning for a cup of tea . . . One wolf who doesn't need a wolf license is Charley Wolf of the Majestic Theatre office staff.

Lester Lloyd was in from east Texas, representing a publishers syndicate. He formerly was with the Houston Post-Dispatch . . . Ruthie Gallagher, assistant manager of the Aztec, has recovered from a recent illness . . . Manager Eric Brendler of the Laurel still likes that Dutch lunch and English tea . . . Violet Graham has returned to the Texas as candy relief girl . . . Lookalikes are Film Star Veronica Lake and Palace Cashier Norine Smith . . . Texas Service Chief Evelyn Braun has the "sniffles" (hay fever).

New Orleans Takes Steps To Minimize Fire Hazards

NEW ORLEANS—Inspections of fire fighting facilities and equipment in neighborhold theatres here are in progress under supervision of the New Orleans fire prevention board.

Campbell Palfrey, state fire marshal, recently issued a statement citing the need for public education against panic caused by fires. He urged all to familiarize themselves with the nearest exits when they attend theatres and other functions drawing crowded houses.

Booth Fire Destroys Film

KNOXVILLE, TENN.—Considerable valuable equipment and some film were destroyed in a fire at the Gay Theatre. The blaze was confined to the projection room.

NEW ORLEANS

Filmrow here was saddened by news of the death of Charlie Thorman, motion picture operator and member of Local 222. He was buried May 6 in Shreveport . . . Men in uniform have been admitted free at the Garden Theatre here since early in the war. Miss M. E. Hoey, manager, believes the Garden to be the only theatre offering free admission to service men in this area. She says the plan has paid enormously in good will. Service men pay only the tax.

Visitors on Filmrow have included R. E. Carollo of the Arcade, Slidell; Ernest Delahaye, Gwen, Maringouin; O. J. Gaudet, Magic, Port Allen; W. J. Salles, Star, Covington; Paul Drake, Drake, Ponchatoula; R. L. Osborne, Harlem, Belzoni, Miss.; G. H. Mercer, Shreveport; Albert Guilbeau, the Lake, Catahoula; Rosa Hart and Myra Martin of the Southern Amusement Co., Lake Charles; Paul Wilson, 20th-Fox district manager, Atlanta; Eddie Delaney, Pike, Magnolia, Miss.; Al Hodges, formerly of National Theatre Supply, now of the U.S. naval air station, Pensacola, Fla.; J. A. Parker of the Gem and Gordon, Westwegos, and Ed Thomassie of the Royal, Marrero.

John W. Mangham, president of Film Classics of the southeast, was expected in New Orleans from Atlanta . . . E. B. Price, Paramount office manager, attended a meeting in Atlanta. Jeff Davis, affable United Artists manager, is ailing . . . Extensive renovations are now under way at the Delta Theatre Supply Co. owned by John Elzey. Mr. and Mrs. Elzey learned that their son John Patrick, 19, has received the rating of third class electrician at the naval station on Treasure Island, San Francisco.

The local WAC will sponsor a river cruise aboard the American Sailor here May 20 for buyers of $5,000 worth of bonds in the Seventh War Loan drive . . . A VE-Day prayer service was conducted on the main stage of Pontchartrain Beach. Except for closing of the bar, all other operations at the beach were as usual.

Newspaper interviewers and photographers greeted June Haver on her arrival here for location work on the 20th-Fox film, "The Enchanted Voyage." Miss Haver will portray a Louisiana farm girl in the picture, and although a native of Illinois she revealed a southern accent which met with the approval of her interviewers. Lloyd Bacon, the director, and a sizeable crew of technicians are on the location assignment. A boat which plays an important part in the Robert Nathan story was constructed by Higgins Industries here.

SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Showman **T. M. Baggett** entered the industry in 1919 as a sideline because "the motion picture business fascinated him." That fascination held and he has made it his entire career since then, operating the 283-seat Camden Theatre in Camden, Ala. He is aided in his duties by his wife who also takes a hand in the management of the house. Baggett takes an interest in civic affairs in his community and is town counselor there. He is a member of the Masons. The Baggetts have two sons and a daughter, one living in Birmingham.



For 40 years **Walter J. Brackin** of Ozark, Ala., has devoted a major part of his time to the interests of motion pictures. Starting in 1896 as director of the Old Subers Opera House in Bainbridge, Ga., he opened his first personally owned theatre there in 1904. He stayed in Georgia until 1934 when he moved to Alabama. He now owns the Dale and Claire theatres in Ozark. Brackin is a member of the Southeastern Theatre Owners' Ass'n and director of the Ozark Chamber of Commerce. His clubs are the Kiwanis and Mason.



When **L. J. Serrett** started in Hamburg, Ark., in 1912, his theatre was a combination basketball court picture house. When the game was over, they turned the seats around, darkened the house and showed the film. In 1917 he bought out his competitors and in 1930 built his house, the Pastime. He was with the Missouri-Pacific Railroad 53 years and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Of his five sons, Leslie J. and W. A. operate the theatre, Bailey is a merchant and J. F. and K. A. are railroad men. Golf is his hobby.



The manager of the Plaza Theatre, a 400-seat colored house at Helena, Ark., **Gayle Miller** entered the film business when she married the late George B. Miller. Upon his death in 1941 she took over the complete management. She is a member of the War Manpower Committee, the Ladies Art Club and is secretary of the Negro Goodfellows Club. Her son, George B. jr. is four and attends kindergarten. Any time it is possible, Mrs. Miller fishes for bass and crappie in the scenic local streams and lakes. Friends call her "Partner."



James A. West of Memphis, Tenn., first became an exhibitor in Houston, Miss., in 1925. After that he operated the Louisville Theatre in the Mississippi town of that name. Three years after getting the Louisville, he acquired the Philadelphia, in Philadelphia, Miss., in 1930. He operated the two houses concurrently until 1938 when he became owner of the Hollywood in Memphis. He is president of MPTO of Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi. West belongs to the Al Chymia Shrine Temple and to the Civitan Club. His son Jim jr. is in the army air corps.



P. E. "Honey" Morris started as an operator of an Airdome in Marianna, Ark., in 1911. Two years later he moved to Cleveland, Miss., working in the same capacity and in 1915, when his boss sold out, he managed the house for the new owner. Thoroughly convinced that motion picture exhibition was a good field, he went into business for himself in 1917. Today he owns the Honey and Regent at Indianola, Miss. A member of Theatre Owners and MPTOA, he attended the first MPTOA meeting in Cleveland in 1920. He has a daughter, Paula, age 11.



Lionel J. "Lou" Langlois of New Roads, La., helped operate an old Edison machine in the Opera House there in 1924. Motion picture business retained his interest and today he owns the 450-seat Alamo and 200-seat Star theatres in New Roads. He is active in the affairs of his community, is member of Lions, the Kiwanis, the U. T. C. and the Knights of Columbus. Langlois, who likes to hunt, raises flowers in his leisure hours, particularly camellias and roses. He is married and has five children, one son overseas with the marines.



L. B. "Bo" Clark, Eldorado, Ark., took a $50 flier in an Airdome venture in 1915 while a sophomore in college. He was working during spare time in his father's store when approached by two associates with the theatre idea. Each put up $50, went in debt for the balance. In a year "Bo" bought out the others and went indoors for his other theatres. The partnership of Clark and McWilliams was formed during the oil boom; at one time they had nine theatres. Today they own the Rialto and Majestic. Clark is a member of Rotary, ITO and Tri-State.

DALLAS

On **D-Day** when the U.S. landed in France, General Eisenhower asked for a special assignment of men to handle traffic and in his order said, "And be damn sure they're from Texas." One of these was Sgt. Jack Gruben jr., an A&M graduate and son of the veteran east Texas salesman for Columbia. Gruben had two medals pinned on him.

L. C. Baxley, owner of the Plaza in Houston and ex-chief barker of the Variety Club there, spent several days here on the Row buying and booking and visiting club quarters downtown . . . J. B. Underwood, Columbia divisional manager, was back from Chicago where he attended a company meeting of sales executives in the Drake Hotel.

John Franconi returned from Chicago where he was on hand for the organization meeting of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., and the making of an initial contract with Action Pictures for a series of outdoor color pictures . . . The Stevens, Robb & Rowley's big new de luxe neighborhood house on Fort Worth Ave. in the Stevens Park shopping area, will open in July, probably on the Fourth. Exterior work on the theatre is completed and equipment will be installed soon.

L. B. Crow of Leonard drove through on his way to Midlothian to see what equipment was available there for use in reopening a temporary theatre in Leonard to replace the loss by fire of his Victory Theatre. He owns the Dunlap in Midlothian and has auxiliary equipment in an adjoining building.

Downtown theatres and some of the neighborhoods observed Free Movie Day on VE-Day, Tuesday . . . Karl Lybrand, owner of the Majestic at Wills Point, was called to Terrell upon the death of his brother, S. H. Lybrand, retired Dallas real estate man. Services and burial were in Wills Point.

Lifting the brownout will please exhibitors in the small towns, who have been anticipating the move. They have been hurt by the brownout since Saturday night late shows were a vital part of their net profits . . . J. Preston Tate of the Queen at Santa Anna, and his sister, Mrs. J. V. Carter of the Majestic at Comanche, made a joint business trip to the Row and brought along GI Joe, a young Boston terrier which they own together. J. V. has been in the army for two years and his wife is managing the theatre in his absence.

Francis Faris jr., son of the RKO salesman, passed the radar test at the Great Lakes training station. Faris graduated from Woodrow High and completed two years at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Lewis Willeford, projectionist at the Lindsey at Lubbock, has subscribed for BOXOFFICE . . . Theo Miller of the Gem at Quitman was on the Row.

M. S. White, former Dallas and Fort Worth neighborhood exhibitor now in the loan business, was a visitor on the Row twice this week. He says the time is getting about ripe for him to re-enter the business . . . Phil Isley, Texas circuit operator, was back from a visit in Arizona and Hollywood. He saw his film star daughter, Jennifer Jones, on location near Phoenix, and enjoyed his favorite pastime, playing with his two grandsons.

Fred Hanson of National Theatre Supply Co., was joyful over the liberation of his homeland, Denmark. His mother, four sisters and a brother were well there before the Nazis overran the country and Odense, his home city. Fred, who visited Denmark before the war broke out, is trying to establish contact.

John Jenkins of Astor Pictures left on a business trip to San Antonio and may visit other parts of southern Texas on the return trip . . . Arthur Milents of Liberty was on the Row buying and booking. He comes to Dallas about every two months . . . C. J. Otts of the Palace at Royse City and H. S. Usry, Majestic at Decatur, were among the visiting exhibitors.

"Vidoq" Now "Scandal in Paris"

Arnold Pressburger's "Vidoq" has been changed to "Scandal in Paris," according to United Artists.

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Per lens..... **$30**

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"Seeing You" Leads The Dallas Week

DALLAS—A fair week of theatre grosses continued into the hot and dry summertime weather which replaced the recent rainy cool spells. "I'll Be Seeing You" was tops of the week and was held over in a different house. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," which did top business in its first and second weeks, was well above normal at the end of its third.

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Call of the Prairie** (Para); **Pack Up Your Troubles** (20th-Fox), reissues, split with **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col); **The East Side Kids** (Mono)..... 120
Majestic—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA)..... 135
Melba—**The Fighting Lady** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox)..... 130
Palace—**Can't Help Singing** (Univ)..... 115
Rialto—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO), split with **Utah** (Rep)..... 125
Tower—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 120

Bad Luck Follows L. B. Crow With Second Theatre Fire

LEONARD, TEX.—The new Victory Theatre, owned and operated by L. B. Crow, was totally destroyed by fire Monday night (7) as the result of a blaze which originated in a warehouse across a back alley. The flames, fanned by a north wind, were out of control and several adjoining buildings were consumed.

The loss was reported covered by insurance. Crow will open a temporary theatre in a vacant building and already has located a supply of used chairs. The house may be opened in the next few days.

Early last year Crow lost his Aztec Theatre by fire and set up a temporary house then. When the army did not take him, he built the new Victory a little over a year ago. He owns several other theatres in north Texas towns.

A Two-Day Shorts Forum Held by Oscar Morgan

DALLAS — Oscar Morgan, Paramount's short subjects general sales manager, arrived from New York to conduct a two-day session on shorts and news sales policies for 1945-46 at the Baker Hotel. The get-together was purely a family affair. Morgan's assistant, Stanley R. Chase, accompanied him here. Five executives of the territory were present, namely, Duke Clark, southwestern district manager; C. H. Weaver and C. L. McClintock, managers at Oklahoma City and Memphis; Fred Larned and Heywood Simmons, manager and sales manager of the local exchange.

Directs GI Presentation

MEMPHIS—Lieut. Oscar B. Bell of Memphis is a director with Kay Crandall of Dallas of the GI production "Over 21," currently touring the Kumming area in China.

Tony Sudekum a Colonel

NASHVILLE, TENN. — Tony Sudekum, president of Crescent Amusement Co., has been appointed a colonel on the staff of Gov. Jim Nance McCord.

Walter B. King
King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
Ambassador Hotel Dallas, Tex.

Grave Dangers Seen In Price Unfairness

From Western Edition

LOS ANGELES—If unjustified price discrimination in film rentals is not voluntarily corrected by the industry itself, it may furnish one of the principal causes for eventually bringing the industry under public control and regulation as a public utility, in the opinion of Paul Williams, general counsel and general manager of the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n.

The danger of price discriminations was stressed in an address by Williams to his association's directors and members at a luncheon at the Variety Club called to give the general membership and the press an opportunity to meet the new executive.

Short addresses also were made by Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, and Harry C. Arthur jr., St. Louis circuit operator. Those of the SCTOA directorate present took bows.

"It will be one of the primary aims of the association to provide a method within the industry itself for the adjustment of disputes between its members," Williams said. "These disputes in many instances involve distributors. It is believed that through conference and conciliation many can be settled, thus relieving the disputants of long and costly arbitration or litigation. In this work, it will be the objective of the association to eliminate all forms of restraint and discrimination which give rise to questions of law violation.

"The organization of this association was made possible and its future existence will necessarily depend upon the willingness of its members to pursue, in the conduct of their respective businesses, a policy of live and let live.

Fair and Open Field Necessary

"The association accepts and its work must necessarily proceed upon a recognition of the present structure of the industry. Our national economy is based upon a system of free enterprise which presupposes a fair and open field in which every man shall have the right and opportunity to compete to the limit of his capacity without being subjected to illegal or unreasonable restraints from any source. The Congress of the United States in enacting the antitrust laws, sought to preserve and protect that system of free enterprise. Mere size constitutes no violation of the antitrust laws. It is only the abuse of the power arising from size which is condemned by these laws. In its work, the association, recognizing these principles, will seek to correct and to eliminate such unreasonable and undue restraints as may arise in the dealings of its members with each other and with the distributors, at all times being cognizant of and seeking to understand fully the many difficulties which confront the distributors in the conduct of their business.

"It is not and will not be a function of the association to buy film for any of its members. That is a part of the bargaining process which must be carried on by each individual member. However, this does not mean that after the bargaining process has been served and contracts have been set that the association will not seek to correct and eliminate such unreasonable restraints or discriminations as may result from those contracts."

Former Boss Gets 20,000 Marks Worth of Nothing

ATLANTA—Bob Smith, former chief usher at the Fox Theatre, writing to Tommy Read, his old boss, enclosed a crisp new 20,000 reichsmark note.

"I found a big box of these," he wrote, "but I am told they are not worth the paper they are printed on."

Iturbi Season's Top Draw At Orleans Auditorium

NEW ORLEANS—The biggest drawing card on the Municipal Auditorium's slate of more than 40 attractions last season was Jose Iturbi, Irwin Poche, auditorium manager, reported after an official checkup. The Ballet Russe and Broadway shows all drew capacity business. The latter included "Life with Father," "Kiss and Tell," "Blithe Spirit" and "Goodnight Ladies."

Sigmund Romberg, presented in three concerts by Impresario Gar F. Moore, was another who drew standees. The Auditorium ended its season recently with a presentation of "Carmen," in English, by Columbia Concerts, Inc. "Carmen" drew the largest opera audience here of the year, a full house and 190 standees.

Since taking over the reins at the Auditorium in 1938, Mr. Poche has made it one of the livest entertainment centers in the city. He inaugurated the policy of auditorium promotions, offering more attractions and more different types of entertainment each season. He also set up a Playgoers Group which enables patrons to reserve seats for his attractions at a nominal cost, without necessarily attending all of the offerings.

The New Orleans Symphony Orchestra, the New Orleans Opera House Ass'n, and the Philharmonic Society of New Orleans all use the Auditorium for their annual series.

Morrison Benefit Show Nets $3,685.30 Fund

MEMPHIS—The recent benefit dance and floor show at the Fairgrounds Casino for A. B. Morrison, veteran Memphis Theatre manager, netted $3,685.30, Aubrey Clapp, chairman of the committee, reports.

As a result the mortgage on the Morrison home has been purchased by the committee, city, state and county taxes paid and other expenses met, leaving a total of $720.70 in the bank for future use.

Film Man Gives Formula For Evaluating Bands

MEMPHIS—Jimmie Gillespie of 20th Century, who has been here talking of his company's 30th anniversary, has some very definite ideas on bands.

He managed Vincent Lopez for four years and Paul Whiteman for ten.

Speaking at the Variety Club of bands, Gillespie said:

"No band is any good that you can't talk over."

Variety Roster for 1945 Regarded as a Model

Dallas—The Variety Club roster for 1945 just distributed has received the unanimous approval of members for its completeness and compactness. It is pocket size, 4x10 booklet of 50 pages.

The front cover has a picture from the club-sponsored Boys Ranch; the Variety creed and story follows; then a listing of the humanitarian awards, names of officers, directors, life members and committee men of Tent 17, followed by the names of past officers and directors, pictures of the five chief barkers and a brief outline of house rules governing club quarters. On pages 15 to 17 are pictures of resident members. In later pages are listings of associate members, resident and non-resident members of the Houston tent, locations of the 26 tents in the U.S. and Variety members in the armed forces and those who have been killed in the service.

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From Canada's Snow to Miami's Sun; Rankin Takes a "Postman's Holiday"

TILBURY, ONT. — Harland Rankin, proprietor of the local Plaza Theatre, which he calls "The House of Hits," recently returned from a trip to Florida. From his own account it must have been something of a "postman's holiday" because he talks about Florida theatres and theatre men rather than the sun, the climate and the beauties of the beach. In his own words, it was like this:



HARLAND RANKIN

"It was snowing here in Canada; cars were getting stuck repeatedly, the children suffered from bronchitis; so I decided to take my family to Florida with the idea of forgetting shows and getting all the fruit and sun we could. But after two weeks of just resting and going downtown in Miami, seeing those marquees, I couldn't resist going into the Olympia. With my son and daughter, I got past the doorman and into the manager's office—a swell chap if ever there was one, Alfred Weiss. Busy as he was with his stage shows and dozens of interruptions, he got out the cigars (they are as hard to get in Canada as cigarets in the United States) and we became fast friends. He met Bobby and Nancy and made us all stay for a good monkey act, which clicked with the kids.

"Alf still uses his organ before his stage show and we enjoyed it. He seems to be the father of Miami show business, for I saw his picture several times in the daily paper while I was there. (I also saw a picture of the home one of the Warner brothers bought.) On a later visit Alf had a little more time and we really went over show business. Over his head on the wall was a picture of the certificate issued him by the army and navy for entertainment provided—the one you see here.

"The main headaches he spoke of were those having to do with keeping ushers and cashiers from quitting for better paying jobs, the cleaners from losing uniforms and getting them to deliver shirt fronts on time. That last is serious too, and being a theatre man myself, it didn't strike me a bit funny the day I came in and found the boys all standing around in their uniforms with no shirt fronts—their bare hides showing, waiting for the laundry.

"Yes, Alf says he sure knows there is a war on, but when I asked him if he would like another job, I could see he had theatre business in his blood. One of the funniest things he said to me, though, was when I bragged on how tourists flocked there and how it ought to be a perfect show town. He smiled, looked out the window and said, 'See that sunshine? That's what they come to Florida for—and that's our opposition.'

"One thing, he had no vandalism and it was a pleasure to sit and enjoy a picture undisturbed. It's a serious problem up our way. Alf has spent most of his life in theatre business. He knew and worked with J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Theatre, Canada."



ALFRED WEISS

After meeting one of his fellow exhibitors, Rankin was like the man who thinks he will take only one drink and then can't resist more. In uptown Miami he introduced himself to Harry Brown of the Paramount. Brown he found to be more conservative, strictly the big town manager type, but combining his business ability with a sense of humor, from Rankin's account of the meeting:

"I said to Harry, what about showmen today, and he said, 'There aren't any.' 'What do you mean?' I said. He said, 'Just that you don't need showmanship. All you do now is open the doors and run like hell for fear the crowd tramples you getting in.' I guess he had something there, as they did crowd in his situation.

"His assistant came from Toronto and wished to be remembered to the boys."

Even on the return trip, Rankin could not resist stopping and talking to other exhibitors, many of whom knew him through his contributions to the "Exhibitor Has His Say" page in BOXOFFICE. Which only goes to show, paraphrasing that old saying about the boy and the country—you can take a theatre man out of his theatre but you can't take his interest in theatre business out of him—not even on a vacation.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

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DOWN IN Lake City, Fla., Mrs. Folsom had them "hanging from the chandeliers" in her DeSota theatre during the four-day engagement of "MOM AND DAD." The crowds broke down her frames, doors and cash box, but she's mighty happy.

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Wise Baby Kisses Daddy Whose Chin Won't Scratch

New Orleans—S/Sgt. James J. Tringas and Mrs. Tringas of Ft. Walton, Fla., "drew a crowd" on their first visit to Filmrow in more than two years.

Tringas was on furlough after having been overseas. He reported his 21-month-old son, John James, still insists his daddy is a photograph rather than a person. Told to kiss daddy, the baby will lovingly smack the picture while papa stands by with a full fledged problem of getting acquainted on his hands.

Mrs. Tringas operates the Tringas Theatre at Ft. Walton while her husband is in the service.

ATLANTA



BON VOYAGE TO ERNEST—The Marquee Club, composed of Atlanta newspaper men, press agents and theatre managers, turn out to bid bon voyage to Ernest Rogers, columnist of the Atlanta Journal, just prior to his departure for Hollywood. Rogers will spend several weeks in the film capital and will send back daily stories to his paper in conjunction with his column which is widely read throughout the south. (The beret was strictly for the camera).

Nebraska Repeals Law Banning Ascap Society

From Midwest Edition

LINCOLN—Ascap was almost back in business in Nebraska as the legislature passed a bill which repeals the anti-Ascap law enacted in 1937. The vote was 27-11. The bill was signed by the governor and becomes effective in 90 days. Some other states used to have anti-Ascap laws, but Nebraska was the last state to hold out against the society.

Before the new bill was passed, Senator John Mekota of Crete, a strong opponent, moved that the enacting clause be stricken. His attempt to kill the bill failed, 7 to 27. Senator Mekota had charged that Ascap, which he termed a "vicious monopoly," was conducting a "campaign of fear" to "coerce" music users to support it and the legislature to pass it.

Joe Malec, operator of Omaha's Peony Park, which, with Radio Station WOW, are the state's largest music users, commented, as follows, after the bill was passed:

"In seeking truth and justice in defense of free enterprise under the laws of our Constitution I bow to the organized power of the music Ascap cartel which knows no justice and does not recognize the laws of our Constitution. While our sons fight all over the world to bring freedom to other nations we are losing their freedom here at home to monopolies and cartels. We are heading the wrong way."

The majority of the state's music users, including the theatres led by Robert Livingston of Lincoln, had written letters to the senators supporting the bill and asserting that they must have some agency to deal with for public performance of music or be subject to numerous and costly copyright infringement suits.

Milburn Stone to Spot in "On Stage"

Milburn Stone has been assigned a featured spot in "On Stage Everybody," a Universal production.

Fire drill training at National Screen Service paid off when fire broke out on the fifth floor of the building occupied by the company. By the time firemen reached the scene employes had the fire extinguished. Charles P. Lester, district manager, estimated the loss at $500.

Mrs. Elsie Lord has left United Artists for Paramount . . . Mrs. Loneta Holbrook, formerly with Universal, has joined the Distributors Group . . . Visitors included Mrs. Cowan Oldham, McMinnville, Tenn., and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Scheussler and daughter of Lam Amusement Co., Rome, Ga.

Two women employes of Film Classics were injured slightly when an explosion blew out a wall separating the storage and inspection rooms. Mrs. Bonnie Sudan and Mrs. Mildred Ricks, film inspectors, were working near the wall and were bruised by falling debris. Film damage was slight.

Dixie Dunbar, petite Atlanta dancer of stage and films, will return home here as a headliner at the Paradise room floor show at the Henry Grady Hotel . . . R. F. Savelle, assistant manager of the Paramount, is passing out cigars. It was an eight-pound daughter named Fayron June.

Wills J. Davis, genial assistant to the president of Georgia Theatres, Inc., carries in his wallet season passes entitling him to admission to some 350 theatres of his own and other amusement circuits operating in the southeast. Davis never sees a picture! He says his boss, William K. Jenkins, keeps him so busy that he can't even find time to attend a picture at the Fox, where his offices are located.

Perry Spencer, Universal's southern advertising representative, has returned from a trip to Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans and Hattiesburg to handle the southern premiere of "Salome, Where She Danced" at the Fox Theatre. Extensive campaigns are set up by Universal for the new Walter Wanger production, starring Yvonne DeCarlo.

Announcement has been made of the following changes in managers by Martin Theatres: Gilbert N. Goldwire of Washington, Ga., to replace Randolph Elliott in Fitzgerald, Ga., and R. O. Barksdale to Washington.

J. U. McCormick, former owner of Amity Pictures and now with Alexander Film Co. traveling Alabama and Tennessee, was on Filmrow . . . C. A. Matthews of Blumenthal circuit, Charlotte, was a Filmrow visitor . . . C. W. Phillips has joined Theatrical Printing Co. . . . R. H. "Uncle Bob" and Mrs. Robinson, owners of Theatrical Printing Co., passed through the city from Dallas en route to Florida for a vacation.

Charlie Leonard, who has been pinch hitting as Columbia's booker, has returned to Charlotte . . . The Duncans of West Point and Carrollton were on Filmrow . . . Also booking and visiting were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weis of the Roxy and Savannah theatres in Savannah . . . Irving Berg and Leonard Pearlman of the New York office of National Screen Service were local branch visitors.

Mrs. Hazel Jackson of the local Florida State Theatres booking office is all smiles these days. Her husband, who has been in the Pacific for the last three years, is now in California. He has called her and hopes to be home soon.

Foreman Rogers of the Macon Theatre, Tuskegee, was in booking and visiting friends . . . Miss Blanche Bailey of Universal will be married soon to Johnny Goodwin of Fayetteville . . . Mrs. Roma Clay, formerly with M-G-M, now is chief inspector at Universal.

Ike and Harry Katz, PRC franchise-holders, entertained at a luncheon at the Mayfair Club May 2 in honor of the army and navy bookers and the press. Guests were Fred Moon, Atlanta Journal; Lieutenant Trimble, navy; John Fulton, WGST; R. Beaudry and Arthur Dwyer, army motion picture service, and P. H. Savin, BOXOFFICE representative . . . National Screen Service suffered a small fire May 2 in its advertising department. Damage was slight.

Tom Bailey, owner of the Bailey chain, has returned to the city after a business and pleasure trip to New York . . . Adolph Gortatowsky of the Liberty and Albany theatres, Albany, Ga., was on Filmrow for the first time since 1941 . . . Lieut. Horace "Tubby" Davis, formerly with NSS, visited on the Row while home on furlough. Davis spent many months in Europe and is now stationed in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Sherwood are parents of a baby boy born April 25. She formerly was with 20th-Fox . . . A. C. Bromberg, president of Monogram, and Mrs. Bromberg were in New York on a business and pleasure trip.

Columbia Signs Lewis Russell

Lewis Russell, Broadway character actor, has been signed to a term contract at Columbia. His first assignment will be in "Some Call It Love."

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Variety Stages Circus Show for Polio Patients

CHARLOTTE—'Twas the time of their lives polio patients at Charlotte Memorial Hospital experienced on a recent Sunday afternoon when Clyde Beatty and his wild animal circus joined forces with Max Bryant's polio committee of the Variety Club to transport the glamour and action of the sawdust ring to the hospital.

The performance took place under the bright blue sky before a specially erected grandstand in front of the polio section of the hospital where a terrace afforded a fine natural arena. The audience, happy with anticipation, came in wheelchairs and on crutches. Four children who are iron-lung cases came, too, their beds being wheeled onto the platform to give them a ringside view.

Beatty went to the hospital an hour in advance of his show to greet each child personally and tell "all about the animals," and the children loved it.

Elephants Struggle With Bradley

The children and visiting parents and friends, nearly 600 people in all, saw the show and what a show it was! The elephants gently lifted two of the children's nurses high into the air on their trunks. Then the children excitedly yelled for Bryant and Roy Bradley, Variety members, to go forward and be lifted. This they did but it's said the elephant had a little trouble with Roy. There were cages of lions and tigers, a performing dog act, a cowboy act, a contortionist, a balancing team on a rolling globe, a half dozen clowns rolling and tumbling about, and, best of all, a six-week-old lion cub that the children played with, which with a puppy as a fellow performer sent the audience into gales of laughter. Members of the Charlotte police force and fire department moved the children to and from the performance. Variety Club members took the performers from their quarters to the hospital in their cars, and the circus trucks moved all necessary equipment back and forth.



TWO PIANISTS—On left in foreground is Tito Guizar. With him is Harold Laird, Tampa branch manager for Republic. Guizar was getting ready for "Mexicana" at the studio and Laird was visiting.

MEMPHIS

Mrs. Jerry Clifton, for a number of years associated with Paramount here, has resigned as booker to become office and booking manager at Republic . . . Cliff Wilson, booker at Monogram, has left for the army. Miss Katherine Randle, cashier, has been promoted to fill the vacancy. Mrs. Cleme Wood became cashier and Mrs. Hazel Brashier assistant cashier.

Miss Juinata Johnson, ledger clerk at Universal, is back at work after having a tonsillectomy . . . Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, office manager for M-G-M, is back after a severe cold . . . Filmrow's visiting exhibitors for the week included J. C. Mohrstadt, Hayti, Mo.; D. S. Blissard, Okolona, Miss.; John Staples, Piggott, Ark.; S. J. Daugherty, West Helena, Ark., and G. W. Schierbaum, Shelby, Miss.

Miss Alma Bloesch has resigned as secretary at National Screen Service. Miss Virginia May has taken her place.

Cpl. Ray C. Parker, former projectionist at the Strand Theatre, Stuttgart, Ark., now with the U.S. army in China, writes telling how much he appreciates the copies of BOXOFFICE that friends send him from time to time. Ray says he reads every word from cover to cover many times and the other fellows in his company enjoy them also.

Service Vets Get "Young Widow" Roles

William Moss, late of the army, and Bill "Red" Murphy, released from the navy, have been signed by Hunt Stromberg for important spots in "Young Widow," a United Artist production.



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The Pop Corn Man

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DALLAS 1, TEXAS

CHARLOTTE

E L. Carroll of the Roxie and Buddy, Bessemer City, was in New York for a ten-day visit . . . En route to Asheville and Atlanta on a leave, Capt. E. E. Whitaker, back in the states after many months in the Pacific, made a brief visit with Earle M. Holden, resident manager of the North Carolina Theatres. Whitaker, who in civilian life was general manager of the Lucas & Jenkins Theatres in Georgia, is in charge of army theatres in the South Pacific. He expects to return to that area.

Fred Gowan, former manager of the Strand in Mountain City, Tenn., was killed in action in the South Pacific . . . Edwin Pettett has resigned as city manager for Wilby-Kincey in Burlington to manage the Paris in Greenville, his home town. The Paris is owned by T. A. Little, H. V. Wynn and S. W. Craver . . . Miss Ruth Hardin of the Red Cross at Camp Butner and formerly with National Theatre Supply Co., visited her sister, Mrs. Walter Griffith. Also a weekend home visitor was Cadet Capt. Jack Griffith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Griffith.

George D. Carpenter of Colonial Theatres, with headquarters in Valdese, has been inducted in the army. He and his family took a vacation in Florida prior to induction . . . Filmrow visitors included Harry E. Buchanan, Carolina, Hendersonville; S. T. Stoker, Palace, Thomasville; Morris Littman, Sylvan, Rutherfordton; Mr. and Mrs. A. Fuller Sams jr., State, Statesville; W. H. Hendrix, Central, Greensboro; Lyle M. Wilson, People's, Roanoke Rapids; Warren Irvin, Palmetto Theatres, Columbia, and his son, Dr. Warren Irvin jr. of Duke Hospital, Durham; Harry Cooke, Center, Mount Olive; Bill Drace, Grand, Greer; Kermit High, Carolina, Greenwood; M. F. Schnibben, Carolina, Florence; J. B. Harvey, Carolina, Clover; Worth Stewart, Dunn, Dunn; J. Francis White jr., Sunset, Asheboro, and Norris Hadaway, Carolina, Greensboro.



VETERAN ARKANSAS PUBLICIST—Sam B. Kirby, above, public relations manager for Malco North Little Rock Theatres, is director of public relations for the WAC of Arkansas, and has been state publicity director in Arkansas for the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth War Loan drives. Employe of Malco since 1932, he has been in show business since 1925, starting with the old Majestic Theatre in Little Rock, one of the Interstate theatres.

"Silver Dollar" Jake, Retired Exhibitor, Breaks Loose Again Down in Miami



JAKE GIVES PARTY—Metro is filming some Miami scenes for "They Were Expendable." Since Miami is the abode now of dynamic "Silver Dollar" Jake, whose last name is Schreiber, it was only natural that Jake should give a party for the "Expendable" crew. He dived into an old trunk, dug up a lot of photos on Metro pictures, tacked them up at his home, and the boys came over. In the photo, l. to r.: Camerman Eddie Davis, Jake, and Ralph Hurst, set designer.

MIAMI—Jake Schreiber, retired exhibitor who's having plenty of fun in a patriotic way here entertaining the armed forces, who earned his sobriquet by giving away bushels of Uncle Sam cartwheels at his Detroit theatres, has broken loose again. This time it's the Seventh War Loan. Already Jake is hotter than the German retreat over the campaign, and he plans to sell a lot of bonds for the "Mighty Seventh."

Jake is still giving away silver dollars—also by the bushel. He presents the coins at impromptu sketches he stages at local hospitals for the ill and wounded of the war. He brings a lot of cheer into the lives of these soldiers, incidentally.

Some months ago a page of pictures describing Schreiber's antics at these hospital shows, including a flock of Florida bathing beauties he invariably takes with him to the affairs, were published in BOXOFFICE. Now Jake has ordered reprints of this page rushed to him by air express. He plans to use this broadside in his one-man campaign for the "Showmen's Seventh."

"I'm still a showman," Jake said, "and refuse to sit on the sidelines even though I'm not what might be called active in theatre operation. These boys need me, and my country needs me. Whatever I can do to help, is surely little enough."

Leaving for New Job, Kept at Civic Post

JACKSON, TENN.—Hiram Meeks, former resident of Jackson, has been appointed city manager for Malco Theatres here, succeeding J. R. MacEachron who has been moved to Memphis as manager of the Malco Theatre. In spite of the fact that he is leaving Jackson, MacEachron was elected permanent secretary of the Greater Jackson-Madison County Ass'n, of which he was a charter member and first secretary.

To Hear Ethel Taylor

MEMPHIS—Memphis' own Ethel Taylor (Mrs. Early Maxwell) has been signed to sing the lead in "The Vagabond King," closing the Memphis Open Air Theatre's season in the Overton Park Shell this summer.

Earle Fain Is Re-Elected

LEESBURG, FLA.—Earle Fain of the Fain circuit has been elected mayor of Leesburg for a second term. Fain has been in the picture business for the last 20 years, starting in 1912.

Carolina Theatre Reopens

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.—The Gloria Theatre here, closed for several months, was opened recently for the summer season by B. B. Benfield, owner and operator.

Booth Fire Damage Slight

ST. GEORGE, S. C.—Fire in the projection room starting with the ignition of a roll of film at closing time necessitated the installation of new projection equipment at the St. George Theatre recently. Fortunately the blaze was confined to the booth and repairs were completed without loss of playing time.

Milton Starr to New Post

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Milton Starr, who with his brother Alfred own the Bijou Amusement Co. and operate a chain of Negro theatres throughout the south, has been appointed assistant vice-chairman of the office of civilian requirements of the WPB in Washington. Starr has been in Washington since January 1942.

Music Week in Memphis

MEMPHIS—Music week was opened with a public "Victory Sing" in Ellis Auditorium. Mayor Chandler issued a proclamation. The Memphis Symphony orchestra was to close the week with its first annual children's concert.

CBS Sells Station WBT

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Columbia Broadcasting System has sold station WBT to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co., with main offices at Greensboro, for $1,505,000. Sale is subject to the consent of the Federal Communications Commission.

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Laffmovie Originator Laughs, Too, As Patrons Flock Into Theatre

By FLOYD L. BELL

From New England Edition

BOSTON—As the Boston dowager said, raising her ocean blue framed lorgnette and sniffing a bit disdainfully—for dowagers do sniff at times even as you and I.

"Humph, in Boston we spell it 'laugh.' What outrageous outlanders have spelled it 'laff'?"

But spell it, sneeze it, pronounce it any way you like there's a new idea come to Boston town and it's Laffmovie.

A clever Frenchman named James J. Mage (and it's pronounced Maje), who owned 14 theatres in France before Hitler marched in one day and burned most of them and closed the others, came to America with an idea and a reputation for being one of the best showmen and one of the most reliable in the business. He landed in New York and they do say that he gave one look at Times Square and said, "Why, everyone is looking so mournful, are there no comedy pictures to be seen here?" Assured there were none he got on a train and came to Boston and found people here even more lugubrious at the moment and the theatre marquees all ballyhooing pictures with the title of "war" somewhere.

Not a Tear in Ten Reels

"This will never do," said wise Mr. Mage, "New York and then Boston . . . we must give them a new type of theatre and call it Laffmovie. We'll give people nothing but comedy pictures, not a drop of tears in ten reels—no war, no murder, no gruesome events at all, just funny pictures . . . and people will laugh and their hearts will be young and gay and they will go forth better equipped to fight the battles of democracy."

And Mage hurried back to New York and engaged a personable young man named Harold Weisenthal, who had been born in a theatre and fed upon a bottle containing liquid grease paint. And Mage made Weisenthal his general manager of a company which from that moment existed.

Then he leased, for 30 years, showing his faith and his optimism, a theatre on 42nd St., near Broadway, remodeled it and named it Laffmovie. Then he scurried back to Boston and leased the former Normandie Theatre opposite the big R. H. White store and renamed that one also Laffmovie, and then he went to Chicago and to Detroit. And he will go to other cities and repeat this stunt.

Start Laughing in Lobby

But to Boston he returns every week or so to rub his hands with glee and note with satisfaction that his idea has taken fruit in a big way and to listen to the loud roars of laughter coming forth from Laffmovie, for the laughs can be heard many times for blocks and people line up in front of the theatre to enter that strangely fascinating new lobby where all the mirrors are odd ones and where laughter begins even before one enters the theatre to view the comedy pictures shown there.

There's a handsome young chap named Don Martin, who is resident manager, and his smile is wide and intriguing as he greets patrons of Laffmovie.

And over in one corner usually may be seen this tall, broad shouldered, stalwart Frenchman and the slender Weisenthal standing beside him, and they are chuckling, too, because their idea has clicked.

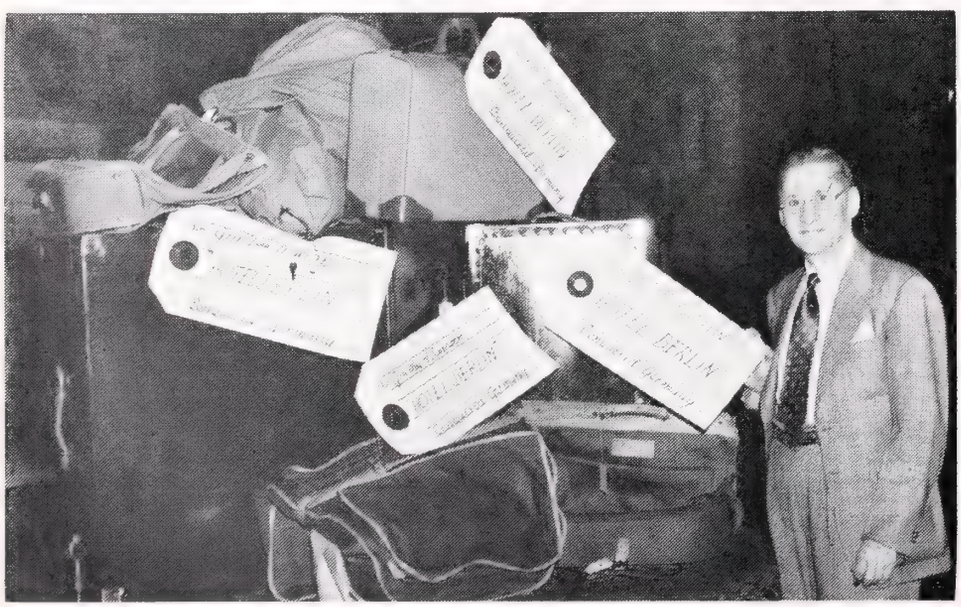
Laffmovie displays never a serious picture. From the time it opens until it closes one hears naught but laughter by people who want to forget their worries and their cares and to forget above all the blood and the desolation shown on many a screen.

Mage has been in the thick of the fighting in Europe; he has seen friends and relatives killed, his home desolated, his theatres torn from him, but he knows that people must not weep always lest they lose their strength, their valor and their keen perception of things which really mean something in life.

Mage had an idea. It has blossomed forth with a full bouquet of laughter. Yes, spell it any way you like, it all adds up to the fact that the world still is able to laugh if one will but now and then provide the vehicle.

Build Cast of "Rough Riders"

Peggy Stewart, Michael Sloane, Kenne Duncan, Tom London and Wade Crosby have been added to the cast of "Rough Riders of Cheyenne," a Republic picture.



HEAP O' BAGGAGE—Henry Bergman of the Aztec in San Antonio took advantage of the timeliness of "Hotel Berlin" and installed this impressive baggage display two weeks in advance of the engagement.

Pacific G.I. Booker Handles 100 Theatres

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—That service men and women are getting the finest in motion picture service is indicated in information received here from Sgt. Don Fill, who has been booking pictures in the central exchange in New Guinea for a vast area of the Pacific war area, embracing a territory many times the spread of the continental United States.

Fill formerly was manager of the Cameo and Varsity theatres here, and also a booker for Republic. He now is awaiting a transfer to the Philippines.

Charges of old pictures and repetition of shows in the combat areas are unfounded, Fill's statement indicates, as exceptional care is taken to give the latest pictures and every possible service, including phone, amusement guides, and radio, is used to inform the men and women in the services, of available pictures. Fill writes:

Ahead of Detroit First Runs

"New Guinea and the adjacent islands today are showing films ahead of such show places as the Michigan, Fox and United Artists, the top theatres in Detroit. The army, navy and marines in this theatre of war are getting the latest films produced in Hollywood.

"Each week 12 copies of three new films are sent out of New York to the overseas motion picture service exchange in New Guinea. From this spot the films are redistributed in a manner that would do justice to the big film distributors in the states.

"A print of each of the three new pictures is shipped immediately to 12 subexchanges, which are located strategically throughout this theatre. This means that in 12 spots three new films start on a lengthy circuit each week. The men in distant and newly recaptured places receive first consideration, such as Hollandia, Biak, Morotai, Leyte and Manila. The circuits are arranged so that these bases head the circuits, and the prints work back to towns and bases that a few months ago were in the headlines—Oro Bay, Lae, Milne Bay, Finschafen and Port Moresby. By supplying the new films to the most distant places, men moving up are always sure of seeing new films, and the chances of repeating shows are very slim.

Air Force Transports Film

The air force supplies the transportation and makes it possible to maintain tightly booked circuits. The priority given to the 16mm prints equals that of food and bullets. In the commercial exchange, any day a picture is left on the racks, means so much lost revenue, while in the army, a picture on the shelf means the loss of valuable entertainment to the men.

"Many features have had their premiere overseas. Weeks before 'Going My Way' was released nationally in the states, the boys in New Guinea had seen it. 'Rhapsody in Blue' had its world premiere the last week in November 1944 while 'Saratoga Trunk' was shown for the first time last December 1.

" 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' which is just now enjoying success in the States, was played in this area the early part of 1943.

"Other films of outstanding nature which are now giving hours of pleasure to our fighting men are 'Here Come the WAVES,' 'My Reputation,' 'Together Again,' 'And Now Tomorrow,' 'Woman in the Window,' 'Wilson,' 'Princess and the Pirate,' 'Experiment Perilous' and 'Meet Me in St. Louis.'

"To be around one of the overseas film exchanges, one is transplanted in thought back to the hustle and bustle of an American film exchange."

NFB May Spread Through Empire

OTTAWA—There is the prospect that John Grierson, commissioner of the National Film Board, Ottawa, will shortly organize an empire of his own within the British empire through the establishment of producing and distributing branches of the Canadian board in principal dominions and colonies as soon as world conditions permit.

A start has already been made in the creation of a branch office of the National Film Board in Australia and Ralph Foster of Ottawa, former chief of the board's graphics department, has already left Canada to take charge of operations in Australia.

According to an announcement, Foster "will supervise the distribution of Film Board releases in Australia and will supply Canada with information suitable for making films about Australia and give Australia material about Canada for film use there."

This is taken to mean that production of films for Australia will be undertaken in both the Ottawa studio and the new branch in Australia.

The arrangement is to be expanded to other parts of the British Empire, probably in the Union of South Africa, India, New Zealand, Egypt and various colonies.

Cousins Again Heads United Amusement Corp.

MONTREAL—At the 20th annual shareholders meeting here of United Amusement Corp., the board of directors elected for the coming year was as follows: Ernest A. Cousins, D. A. Murray, P. G. Demetre, George Ganetakos, Hugh Mackay, S. Godin jr., H. N. Chauvin, J. J. Fitzgibbons, J. G. Ganetakos and R. W. Bolstad.

The executive officers re-elected were Ernest Cousins, president; D. A. Murray, vice-president; P. G. Demetre, second vice-president; George Ganetakos, managing director; W. H. Mannard, secretary-treasurer, and W. Deveault, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Ontario Requires Check On All Electric Wiring

TORONTO — Theatre owners of Ontario have been advised that official inspection of all electric wiring and equipment by inspectors of the Ontario hydro-electric commission will be required before annual theatre licenses of the provincial government will be renewed June 1. The notice follows a recent directive of the theatres inspection branch of the treasury department. The charge for inspection of equipment in average theatres is $2 and that for the large first run houses is $4, this scale having been determined following a conference between the commission and the Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Ontario.

Vancouver Awaits Trial In FPC-Odeon Circuit Suit

VANCOUVER—A lawsuit between Famous Players and the Odeon circuit involving possession of a number of theatres is of great interest to the trade here. Six Vancouver theatres now under lease to Famous Players may go to Odeon in the near future should it win the case. FPC is suing certain officials of Odeon for alleged breach of contract. The date of trial, which will be in Toronto, has not been set.

Rank and His Aides Due At Toronto Next Week

TORONTO—J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate, will arrive here May 18 for a stay of probably more than a week. He was scheduled to leave London May 10. The formal announcement by the Odeon Theatres of Canada office here was that he would be accompanied by John Davis, a managing director of British Odeon, and Woodham Smith, solicitor.

This will be the second visit to the Canadian film capital by Davis, who recently



J. ARTHUR RANK

toured Africa to lay the foundation for Rank's proposed postwar expansion program throughout the world. Davis was here last November to close the deal with Paul L. Nathanson for a partnership interest in the Odeon Theatres of Canada.

Important conferences are scheduled between Rank and directors of Canadian Odeon and with executive officials of the circuit, as well as representatives of Empire-Universal Films, which has a long-term franchise for the distribution of Rank's British film product in the Dominion. It is also believed the Londoner will go to Ottawa to confer with Dominion officials.

The launching of Odeon juvenile clubs in Canada has been brought forward from early June to May 26 so that Rank can be the guest of honor at the opening ceremony, which will take place at the Colony, in northwest Toronto. The official title of the organization is Odeon Movie Clubs for Young Canadians and it will be patterned after the Odeon National Cinema Club for boys and girls which has a membership of more than 200,000 in Britain despite wartime difficulties. Thomas Bowyer of the Canadian Odeon head office has been appointed director of the clubs in Canada, and Willard Conway, manager of the Toronto Colony, will have immediate charge of the first club. Bowyer recently had a lengthy discussion in Toronto with E. McQuaid, director of the club movement in Britain, regarding all phases of the juvenile plan which includes the making of special films in the Dominion.

Reissues Going Over Big In Vancouver Trade Area

Vancouver—An "attendance bottleneck" here has stymied many top films. Extended holdovers of well received films has forced distributors in many instances to delay release dates. In addition the chains control first runs here and some minor companies are having plenty of grief in getting an outlet.

Theatres around Vancouver are doing nice business on old releases and reissues. They claim the old ones are better boxoffice than newer releases which are being milked dry by extended runs in the de luxe first run houses. Distributors find old films so easy to sell nowadays they are reissuing almost everything except Mary Pickford and John Bunny singles.

Settle New Glasgow Suit In Out-of-Court Compact

HALIFAX—An out-of-court settlement has been made in the suit of Norman W. Mason, president and managing director of the New Glasgow Theatres, against his co-directors. He had sought to have set aside a transfer of 5,000 shares in the company to Frank Sobey.

The issuance of the stock placed Mason in the minority holding instead of majority when arrayed against directors who opposed his sale of the Roseland and Academy theatres to the B&L circuit, St. John.

British Fight Sunday Ban

LONDON—The British film industry has begun a legal battle with the Surrey County council over a decision to ban children under 16 from attending cinemas on Sundays. Norman Hart, solicitor to the Cinema Exhibitors' Ass'n, has issued a writ on behalf of J. A. Rank and Odeon Theatres, against the council. A high court declaration is sought on the grounds the ban is unreasonable and ultra vires, and that the condition should not be added to cinema licenses.

Theatrical Writer Dies

MONTREAL—The correspondent here of Variety for a number of years and widely known in amusement and newspaper circles, Cecil W. Lane, 65, a member of the staff of the CPR press bureau, died May 1. He had worked on the editorial staffs of Montreal Herald, Montreal Gazette, Montreal Financial Times and the Canadian Press. At one time he was editor of Beck's Weekly, a Montreal periodical which gave prominence to amusements.

Silverthorne Report In

TORONTO—O. J. Silverthorne, director of the motion picture censorship and theatres inspection department of Ontario, has submitted his annual report for the fiscal year ending March 31 to Leslie Frost, provincial treasurer, May 3. It soon will be released to the public.

OTTAWA

In a reorganization of Famous Players theatre groupings in Ontario subsequent to the transfer of five houses to 20th Century Theatres, the zone under the direction of T. R. Tubman, eastern Ontario district manager and manager of the Ottawa Capitol, has been extended to Kingston and Belleville, formerly covered by Jack Arthur from Toronto. Arthur gets more territory to the west of Toronto as far as Woodstock . . . Myer L. Axler, who was with the RCAF in Ottawa for several years, has married Miss Mildred Caplan at Toronto following his return to 20th Century Theatres in a head-office capacity.

Manager Eddie Warren of the Ottawa Elgin continues to set a pace with "A Song to Remember," now in its fifth week . . . Two Ottawa suburban houses tried special Saturday screen programs for juveniles, the one at the Little getting under way at 10 a. m., and the other at the Somerset, starting at 3 o'clock. The Somerset bill was made up of cartoons exclusively . . . Howard Knevels, former manager of the Ottawa Regent and recently with United Artists Corp., spent some days in Detroit on business.

Among guests from out-of-town for the Canadian premiere of "Colonel Blimp" at the Elgin was Jay Smith, manager of the Avenue, Toronto, and manager of Alliance Films. The showing was under the auspices of the naval headquarters women's auxiliary . . . Lorne Rondeau, former chief usher of the Capitol, has written from the central Mediterranean area that he has met many former theatre ushers from different parts of the Dominion while serving with a Canadian unit on various war fronts.

F. J. Holland, doorman at the Capitol, Kingston, until his enlistment three years ago, died at the Kingston, Ont., general hospital from disabilities suffered while serving in Europe. He was invalided home last August . . . Manager Les Mitchell of the Regent, Brockville, staged an effective contest on "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" in a tieup with local merchants when he invited housewives to submit menus and recipes for an appropriate meal for a warrior. The judges were five soldiers from the nearby barracks. Winners and judges were given theatre tickets and were dinner guests of Mitchell.

Odeon Increases Additions In Maritimes to Four

TORONTO—While the theatres have not been identified for competitive reasons, the number of additional units recently acquired by Odeon Theatres in the maritime provinces has been increased to four houses, following a survey of the eastern territory by President Paul L. Nathanson.

An announcement from Odeon's Toronto headquarters stated the circuit is no longer interested in the purchase of small theatres which would not conform to the ultimate Odeon style of theatre architecture adopted for the Dominion. This announcement is believed to have been made because of offers to sell to Odeon by owners of theatres in several small centers.



Festive WB Debut For H. M. Masters

TORONTO — New York executives and Canadian representatives of Warner Bros. met here in the King Edward Hotel May 3-4 for the installation of Haskell M. Masters as Canadian general manager. A highlight of the program was a reception in Vanity Fair in honor of Masters. Heading the New York party were Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager; Mort Blumenstock, eastern advertising director, and I. F. Dolid, supervisor of exchanges.

A Dominion-wide sales drive was launched with Masters in his new role. Current and postwar plans and policy were discussed.

There was a generous turnout at the reception. Among the film company circuit executives present was Paul L. Nathanson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, with whom Masters broke relations last January.

Others were R. W. Bolstad, vice-president; Ben Geldsaler, James R. Nairn, Harrison Patte, Harvey Hunt and others of Famous Players; Frank Fisher, Harry Law and others of the Nathanson companies; Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Paramount Film Service; Dave Griesdorf, sales manager of Producers Releasing Co. of Canada; Sam Fine, Sam Bloom, Sam Sternberg and W. A. Sumerville of B&F Theatres; Syd Samson, general manager of 20th-Fox Corp.; Louis Rosenfeld, general manager, Columbia of Canada; N. A. Taylor and Raoul Auerbach of 20th Century Theatres.

Warner branch managers present were Joseph Plottel, Toronto; Sam Pearlman, Calgary; Grattan Kiely, Montreal; Lew McKenzie, St. John; Earl Dalgleish, Vancouver, and G. A. Matthews, Winnipeg. Supervising arrangements was Glenn Ireton, Canadian promotion manager who had just returned from a trip through western Canada to arrange exploitation for first runs of "Hotel Berlin."

MARITIMES

Hector MacLeod, traffic policeman at the corner of Barrington and Sackville streets in Halifax for 23 years, has retired on pension. His yearning is to see more picture shows . . . Detailed to canvass Halifax for show window space for the Eighth loan drive are Marty Simpson and Herb Pitts assistant managers at the Capitol and Orpheus. They seek a 100 per cent signup.

Manager Freeman Skinner of the Halifax Orpheus received news a brother-in-law was seriously wounded in Germany . . . Mrs. Gannon, matron at the Orpheus, was informed her brother was seriously wounded in the German fighting . . . Stan O'Brien of Yarmouth is active in politics in Yarmouth County on the Progressive-Conservative side . . . The Yarmouth Capitol recently was the scene of competitions in public speaking and music . . . "The King of Kings" was brought back to the Halifax district for a Baptist church booking in Bedford.

Monte Chase, veteran St. John projectionist, recently played in the orchestra for an amateur production to raise funds for orphans and orphanages . . . "The Song of Bernadette" was beaten into St. John by an amateur stage production of the story which ran for four nights with patronage so heavy an extra performance was staged. The same thing happened to "Arsenic and Old Lace" . . . Fred Spencer is back from Daytona Beach after six weeks' absence.

TORONTO

T M. Alexander, manager of the production department of Associated Screen News, Montreal, was here for discussions with Jack Chisholm, Ontario branch manager . . . Invitations have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Shapiro for the marriage May 20 of their daughter, Beatrice Shapiro, to Dr. Martin Aaron Fischer at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Miss Shapiro is promotion manager for Esquire Films and Monogram of Canada.

Hy Freedman, former owner of the Circle and proprietor of the Centre, St. Catharines, returned to his Toronto home after a lengthy stay in Florida. The Toronto house was recently acquired by 20th Century Theatres. Freedman is understood to be planning to build a theatre in Toronto's Avenue Road district . . . Lou Stancer, formerly of the Toronto Regal, which has become a unit of 20th Century Theatres, is the prime mover in plans for the building of a 1,000-seat house near Pape and Danforth Aves. in northeast Toronto . . . His many Toronto friends were greatly interested in the news Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner Bros. International, had arrived in Sydney, Australia, to organize postwar business. Cohen was Canadian general manager for Warners at Toronto for years.

As a benefit for the Canadian Red Cross, Sam Fingold donated the use of the Royal at Bowmanville, Ont., gross proceeds being turned over to the society's fund . . . Walter N. Moore, former assistant manager of the Capitol, Windsor, Ont., has been reported missing, his RCAF bomber having failed to return from a raid into Germany . . . Cpl. John Kirkbridge, an usher at the Regent, Oshawa, until he enlisted in the Canadian army two years ago, was wounded in Europe and is now a patient in a military hospital in England . . . Kenny Wells, previously in charge of the poster department at General Theatres Supply Co., Toronto, is reported in a hospital in Belgium after taking part in the fighting in France, Belgium and Holland . . . Seaman J. A. Fournier, former head usher of the Capitol, Windsor, prior to enlisting in the Royal Canadian navy in 1941, has been listed as missing after the sinking of the Canadian corvette Trentonian. Fournier participated in the operations off the Normandy coast last June.

Canadian Radio Features More Dominion Programs

MONTREAL—The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in its annual report for the year ended March 31 notes that over 60 per cent of commercial programs carried on CBC networks originated in Canadian production centers.

Outstanding Canadian sponsored productions were Canadian Cavalcade, Command Performance, Town and Country, Soldier's Wife, John and Judy, Singing Stars of Tomorrow, L for Lanky, Jolly Miller, Fighting Navy, Alan Young, Victory Parade and Voice of Victor. Choice commercial features were again selected from the American networks.

The report showed a net income of $5,232,041 against expenditures of $4,925,641. Total income was $261,772 greater than in the previous year.

The report also stated that "presentation of the news continued to be one of the most important wartime responsibilities." The network provides 22 bulletins in English daily except Sundays on different regional networks, and other news programs are carried in French from Montreal stations.

MONTREAL

Latest of the Hollywood stars to broadcast from the stage at His Majesty's were Claude Rains, suave English actor; Anne Baxter, seen recently in a number of pictures at the Imperial, and Alan Young, Canada's radio humorist. With them was Dorothy Kirstein, Metropolitan Opera soprano.

The film community is upset by the Quebec government's six per cent luxury tax, which passed final reading May 3. Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, official organization of all motion picture theatres in the province, protested to the government that the tax on films and film rentals would mean an increase in admission prices. The protest adds that admission taxes on amusements in Quebec province are already the highest in any province or state, adding "The luxury tax on film rentals would impose an additional burden on the theatre patrons of the province of Quebec." The only report of Premier Duplessis is that "the tax will be temporary."

Theatregoers are speculating whether "Colonel Blimp," which is having its Canadian premiere at the Elgin in Ottawa, will be shown at one of the regular first run St. Catherine St. theatres here, or will be allotted to His Majesty's where higher prices could be charged. For the most part theatres made no announcement about their VE-Day plans. No local theatre announced the false news of the German surrender, later contradicted by President Truman.

Restoration of Neon signs on theatres is proceeding but may be given a setback by Quebec's new six per cent luxury tax which applies to such signs and to other electrical devices. Since removal of the sign-lighting prohibition in October, the Neon department of Claude Neon General Advertising, Ltd., has been fully occupied with rehabilitation of signs, but increased revenue from this source has been almost entirely offset by the cost of supplying it. Manufacture of new signs is also restricted by scarcity of skilled labor and restrictions on materials.

Industrial-Entertainment Previewed at ASN Studio

TORONTO—Exemplifying current developments in the field of industrial films which contain a substantial degree of entertainment value were two color pictures privately screened at the local Associated Screen News office for 40 agriculturists, newspaper reviewers and officials of the Quaker Oats Co., which sponsored the production of the subjects under the direction of Jack Chisholm.

One of the films was "Calgary Stampede" which gave a colorful portrayal of the annual rodeo and the other was "Pasture Lands" in which were shown many of the finest herds and poultry in the Dominion and in which animal husbandry was touched upon. It was made in cooperation with agricultural colleges and technicians of the Quaker Oats Co. to assist in insuring a favorable position for Canada in postwar markets of the world. Incidentally, the sponsoring company secured only one credit line in the production.

Following the screening there was a buffet luncheon in western style at which Jack Chisholm presided as host. Considerable color was added through the arrival on the scene of Charlie Mavety, president of the Mavety Film Delivery Service and owner of a ranch, who sported his cowboy regalia for the occasion.

Dana Andrews in "Fallen Angel"

Dana Andrews has been assigned the romantic lead in "Fallen Angel," a 20th-Fox production.

Sports Editor, Swing Fan, Lauds Blues Short in a Busman's Holiday Chore

Partnership Trio Takes Over Fingold Properties

TORONTO — Formal announcement has been made of a partnership by Sam Fingold, Ralph Dale and H. C. D. Main for the operation of the former Fingold Theatres circuit. It will be known as Theatre Amusement Co., with headquarters at 684 Church St., Toronto 5, at the corner of Church and Bloor Streets.

TORONTO—Denial has been made by the Sam Fingold Theatres here that the Ontario circuit of this company is involved in any rumored deal leading to affiliation with a large theatre chain. The Fingold enterprse will continue independent, he asserted.

Shift at Deloraine

DELORAINE, MAN.—J. L. McLachlan has taken over ownership of the Jubilee Theatre here.

VANCOUVER

Irvin Williams has joined Monogram's Winnipeg staff as salesman after three years with the air force. He will cover the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan . . . Earl Hayter, Odeon circuit supervisor, announced Jack Stone, former manager of the Marpole Theatre, will take over at Odeon's newest addition, the Victory at Mission. His former assistant, Al Gaskin, becomes the new Marpole manager.

Comparative grosses for the last six months at the Orpheum, which has been offering both single and twin bill programs, indicate singles are leading at the boxoffice. The result will be fewer double bills there and may also influence the FPC suburban theatres, which of late have been singling the better product.

Lawrence Bradley of Hudson Bay Junction has purchased the Lyric, Moosomin, Sask. Bradley plans extensive alterations . . . Ernest Hayes, operator of the Cosy in Pilot Mound, Man., has purchased a site there for a modern theatre when permits are available.

The Elk's Theatre, Assiniboia, Sask., a modern airconditioned structure built by the Assiniboia Elks lodge to house its clubrooms, opened recently . . . Edward Bickle, old-timer in show business who controls the theatres in the Cumberland-Courtney district of Vancouver Island, celebrated his 75th birthday May 7 at his home in Cumberland. Bickle is a member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers.

Vancouver's Orpheum set an all-time high weekly attendance record when filmgoers packed the house to view "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka." In recognition, Mayor Cornett, in behalf of 20th-Fox, presented Ivan Ackery, manager, a fountain pen and an inscribed vellum outlining the achievement. The latter lauded Ackery's showmanship, able management and the excellence of his publicity campaign.

Thousands of citizens jammed in front of the post office at noon recently to watch a million dollars worth of Hollywood and radio talent stage a Victory Loan show at the bond shell. Dick Powell, Claire Trevor, George Murphy and Edgar Bergen were well applauded but Charlie McCarthy stole the show.

WINNIPEG—It isn't often that a sports editor reviews motion pictures, but Tony Allan, head of the sports department at the Tribune here, took time off to write a glowing plug for "Jamming the Blues," a short subject Manager Bill Novak played at the Metropolitan. The reason for Allan's special interest is that he is a swing fan with an unusual knowledge of the subject.

Under his standing head, "One Man's Opinion," Allan wrote: "The first intelligent treatment of a jazz theme ever to come out of Hollywood, 'Jammin' the Blues,' a one-reeler now showing at the Met, is a notable triumph over trite studio formulae by Norman Granz, who is responsible for the music, and Gjon Mili of Life magazine, responsible for the striking photography.

"Acutely aware of the boxoffice value of such names as Harry James, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman, picture producers for years have been groping unsuccessfully for some means of exploiting the popularity of the juke box kings. As a rule they clutter their products with so much stupid dialog, nauseating girl trios and the inevitable jitterbug dances, that scarcely any music manages to filter through.

"'Jammin' the Blues' is the very antithesis of conventional Hollywood methods and as a result, the emphasis is on well-played, well-recorded and well-presented music. There is a jitterbug dance, to be sure, also a vocal interpolation of 'Sunny Side of the Street' (for those who must have words with their music), but neither detract a great deal from the jam session atmosphere so expertly created by the camera effects.

"Mili, who is well known for his graphic pictures of jazz musicians in Life, shows the players against stark black and white backgrounds and also from unusual angles which are effective without being tricky."

Proceeds of Rodeo Day Go To Paralysis Veterans

TORONTO—Service men who have become disabled through paralysis of the limbs because of war wounds have organized the Canadian Paraplegics Ass'n, which was given a substantial sendoff when the gross proceeds of the Wednesday matinee at the rodeo in Maple Leaf Gardens were turned over for an association fund. The rodeo featured Roy Rogers. The afflicted war veterans belonging to the association are undergoing special treatment at Lyndhurst Lodge, the former palatial home here of the late N. L. Nathanson. Film men generally are taking an interest in the welfare of these veterans.

Hollywood Stars Aid In Victory Loan Drive

CALGARY — Claire Trevor and George Murphy, Hollywood stars who are touring Alberta and Saskatchewan on behalf of Canada's Eighth Victory Loan, got a great reception here last weekend. They appeared as the stars on a two-hour army show of 70 people, staged at the grandstand of the Stampede grounds. More than 20,000 people crowded the grandstand and bleachers to see the two stars.

Miss Trevor and Murphy made an appearance on the Capitol stage the following Monday at a bond sale rally. The two have put forth much effort on this tour and their work has been sincerely appreciated by western Canadians.

Vancouver "Velvet" Topples Records

VANCOUVER—"National Velvet" went at terrific pace at the Capitol. Also scoring were "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Orpheum and "Murder, My Sweet" at the Strand. The last was helped by the personal appearance of Dick Powell and Claire Trevor, here for the Eighth Victory Loan drive. All films held over. The rest of the town was below average; too much opposition.

Beacon—**Tahiti Nights** (Col); **Cheyenne Wildcat** (Rep), plus acts.....Pretty good
Capitol—**National Velvet** (M-G-M).....Record breaker
Dominion—**One Night of Love** (Col); **You Can't Take It With You** (Col)..Away below average
Orpheum—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) .....Very big
Plaza—**Four Feathers** (reissue), 2nd wk.....Fair
Strand—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) .....Very big
Vogue—**Sudan** (Univ), 2nd wk.....Below average

"Song to Remember" Continues Strong In Third Week at Shea's, Toronto

TORONTO—Patronage was steady at all Toronto theatres, including holdovers. Third week of "A Song to Remember" was above the average at Shea's, while "I'll Be Seeing You" hit par for its third week at Loew's Yonge Street. The timely "Hotel Berlin" continued strong at the Imperial for a second week and there were good crowds at the Eglinton for "Adventure in Music."

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**Adventure in Music** (Alliance).....100
Imperial—**Hotel Berlin** (WB), 2nd wk.....100
Loew's—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 3rd wk.....100
Shea's—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 3rd wk.....105
Tivoli—**To Have and Have Not** (WB).....100
Uptown—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M).....105

Warmer Weather Causes Slump In Calgary Midweek Business

CALGARY — With the advance of warm weather, midweek business has slumped a bit, a normal occurrence at this season Weekends, however have been taxing seating capacities wherever attractive programs are shown. "Thunderhead" was the exception, packing 'em in every night at the split-week Palace. With good first run attractions booked for this month, downtown houses look forward hopefully to good business, despite the pending election.

Capitol—**To Have and Have Not** (WB).....Very good
Grand—**Sudan** (Univ) .....Good
Palace—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox) .....Very good

"Have and Have Not" Continues Strong In Montreal; Also "Practically Yours"

MONTREAL—With ample money in their pockets and few places to spend it, film fans nevertheless are discriminating, attendance figures show. Second week of "To Have and Have Not," at Loew's, was the outstanding attraction, but big houses were drawn by "Practically Yours," leader of the Capitol's double bill, which is held over, and the Orpheum's French language Hollywood film, "Le Signe de Torro" (The Mark of Torro). Moderate audiences greeted "Roughly Speaking" at the Palace and "The Unseen" at the Princess. Paramount and Warners divided the offerings.

Capitol—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Dangerous Passage** (Para) .....Very good
Loew's—**To Have and Have Not** (WB)....2nd wk., big
Orpheum—**Le Signe de Torro** (The Mark of Torro) (WB) .....Very good
Palace—**Roughly Speaking** (WB)....'Roughly speaking'
Princess—**The Unseen** (Para); **One Body Too Many** (Para) .....Fair

Montreal Greets British Producers of "Col. Blimp"

MONTREAL—Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, British producers of "Colonel Blimp," here en route to England, were visited at the offices of Consolidated Theatres, Ltd., where the latter mentioned quite casually that while in Hollywood he had picked up his "Oscar," the Academy award statuette he won for the best original screenplay of 1942, "The 49th Parallel."

Powell and Pressburger have completed a new British film, "I Know Where I'm Going" based on an Irish folklore song, and in Hollywood they completed arrangements for a new color film, "A Matter of Life and Death."

CALGARY

The average Calgarian took the false peace rumor emanating from San Francisco so peacefully it must have been reassuring to the city fathers and the provincial authorities. The rumor provided a good preview of the probable conduct when VE-Day actually is proclaimed.

Pete Egan, chairman of the motion picture committee of the war finance board, reported that theatre staffs and film exchanges had not only exceeded their quota of Victory bond sales, as in other years, but had bought $10,000 more bonds than last year.

Albert Wiancko, operating the picture house at Bentley, has bought the theatre at Rimbey from Bird Headley, who also had the Empress at Ponoka . . . Mrs. Hazel Murray of Rocky Mountain House was in buying more film, reporting business good . . . George Farrow, film salesman with Empire-Universal, has gone to the Winnipeg office from which he will sell Universal product.

British Complete U. S. Drama Study

MONTREAL—Ideas of combining the best elements of American education in drama with their own Oxford tradition will be taken back to Britain by a commission of seven Oxford scholars and British stage experts sent to the United States by Sir Alexander Korda, British film producer. Two of their number, Neville Coghill, professor of English literature at Exeter College, Oxford, and Fred Gibberd, London stage architect, were at the Mount Royal Hotel here.

The others, whom they left in New York, were the commission chairman, A. H. Smith, warden of New College, Oxford; Morris Platnauer, an expert in ancient Greek and Latin drama at Brasenose College; T. C. Keeley, a physicist at Wardham College; H. Moore, commission secretary, and Hamish Wilson, stage lighting engineer.

Korda arranged a month tour of various U.S. universities to stimulate interest in British films among men of the university level, with a view of raising film standards. Interested in world dissemination of ideas by means of films, he hopes intellectual people will become concerned in them.

"At Oxford we have no theatre for the undergraduates," Professor Coghill said. "We hope that as the result of our report such a theatre will be built. We would like to produce all kinds of plays in their proper setting. We have also become interested in education by means of films."

The party visited the drama department at Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Swarthmore, Western Reserve, Iowa and Rochester and consulted with Granville Barker and Allardyce Nicholl in New York City and S. Falk in Syracuse.

FPC Switches Five Theatres to 20th

TORONTO—Five more Ontario theatres have been taken over by 20th Century Theatres from Famous Players Canadian Corp. in a continuation of the deal which transferred three local houses to the circuit headed by N. A. Taylor.

The additional units are the Capitol at Guelph, Palace at London, Imperial and Rideau at Ottawa and the Grand at Galt. Twentieth Century Theatres now has three units in Ottawa, the first being the Elgin which was constructed by the company just prior to the war. FPC now has only the Capitol and Regent in Ottawa, while Odeon operates the Centre, Avalon, Rexy and Nola. Both 20th Century and Odeon plan to build houses there after the war but FPC has signified no such move.

Following the transaction personnel changes were made. George Temple, who has been prominent in the Happy Gang radio program, has been made manager of the Bedford in North Toronto in succession to Walter G. Hunt, who retired when the theatre went to 20th Century.

Ed Collins, on the staff of the theatre for the last 18 years, has been promoted to manage the Belsize, replacing Al Sedgwick who resigned to join Odeon. Sedgwick went to the Odeon Palace in St. Catharines.

Following recent discharge from the armed forces, Jack McMillan has become manager of the Toronto Regal. He was on the staff of the big Uptown prior to the war.

R. G. Kraemer, who has been made manager of the Cinema in North Toronto, was previously in charge of the Century at Trenton, Ont.

FPC Bowling League Gives Out the Season's Prizes

TORONTO—There were prizes galore at the fourth annual dinner and dance of Famous Players Bowling League Friday (11) at Malloney's Art Galleries here, with R. G. Darby presiding and approximately 100 employes in attendance. Prizes for the winning team went to the quintet captained by Jim Ziegler of General Theatre Supply who nosed out Darby's Pets, victors in the first half of the winter's schedule. Third in the finals was Fred Morley, while Don Bateman took the consolation award for fourth place.

In the women's division, Mrs. Millie Martin was in a class by herself with a high season's average of 223, followed by Ann Carroll with 194. Pete Brown of General Theatre Supply accounted for the men's high average with 209, and others in this department included Newt Devin, 195; Bert McLean, 192, and R. G. Darby, 190.

An all-time record was hung up by Darby's team with a total score of 2,446 gross for two games. Teams captained by Syl Gunn and Harvey Hunt were tied for high team score for a single game at 1,265.

In the compilation of final figures prior to the dinner, Darby, who is chairman of the league, found himself entitled to four prizes all told but the executive, with Harvey Hunt speaking up, asserted that he could claim possession of only one reward.

Parkdale Site for Theatre

TORONTO—Twentieth Century Theatres has purchased a site in the Parkdale district here for the erection of a 1,000-seat theatre as soon as the federal government permits.

To the "Ding Dong Williams" Cast

Richard Korbel, 11-year-old pianist, and James Warren have been ticketed for "Ding Dong Williams," an RKO production.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING



BIG BOSTON TIEUP—INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR VIEWS OF "THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE" BUILT BY R. H. WHITE DEPARTMENT STORE, BOSTON. THE GROUP PARTICIPATING IN A SPECIAL BROADCAST ALSO IS SHOWN.

Mississippi Exhibitor Passes Up Few Bets

One of the most embracing promotional campaigns anywhere for Van Johnson's "Between Two Women" was conducted by M. E. Ferrera, manager of the Marine Theatre at Pascagoula, Miss.

In addition to advance lobby displays, trailers and regular exchange window cards, all employed from ten days to two weeks in advance, Ferrera arranged for two cooperative store window displays and organized a Van Johnson Club in the community under the sponsorship of ten popular high school girls, each of whom obtained ten charter members for the organization.

Pascagoula's mayor attended the organization meeting and spoke to the girls, all of whom were given a picture of Johnson and a membership card. Special discounts for club members were obtained by Ferrera at several stores and plans for a permanent organization with regular meetings perfected.

In addition, 1,000 numbered cards were distributed at the high school. The numbers on 50 of these cards were identical, with passes provided for those who could match numbers. This was a highly effective bit of "word of mouth" advertising which contributed greatly to the picture's highly successful run.

Spectacular "Enchanted Cottage" Display Arranged in Boston Store

BOSTON—The R. H. White Co. department store turned out a remarkable display for "The Enchanted Cottage." It included a six-room cottage in the furniture department. It was a real cottage with living room, dining room, bedroom, etc., and it had a hostess in attendance.

In addition the store gave three windows on the main street, two of them furnished like the rooms in the picture, with the edges flush up against the windows. Another feature was a contest with R. H. White over the Yankee network with bond prizes of $100, $50 and $25. The contest included a 100-word essay on the theme of "The Enchanted Cottage," with a special broadcast originating from the cottage.

The picture, theatre, playdate, etc., were plugged daily on the network; two-sheets were used in subways three weeks, and there was a teaser ad campaign in newspapers. There also were other department store tieups on bond contests, all arranged by James J. King, publicity director.

War Manpower Commission Tieup Boosts "Cottage" in Buffalo

BUFFALO—In connection with the local engagement of "The Enchanted Cottage," Alan Wieder, RKO exploiteer, obtained the cooperation of the War Manpower Commission in a tieup with a downtown district cottage currently used as headquarters for reprocessing of returning overseas veterans.

All service men visiting the cottage were given tickets to the picture at the Century Theatre, just one block away. By way of reciprocity the Century screened a trailer telling nature of work being done by WMC at cottage headquarters.

Theatre Issues Pamphlet To Aid War Bond Sales

NEW YORK—A smash announcement in the form of a four-page pamphlet was the means employed by Fred and Eddie Beedle of Canonsburg, Pa., to attract attention of their patrons to the Seventh War Loan. The first page contained only a huge "7" with the words "Coming Up" beneath. Inside pages were devoted to film news and pictures and the back cover to advertisements of coming attractions at the Beedle's Alhambra and Continental Theatres there.

A Tired Usher "Lets Down His Hair," Suggests Some Rules for Patrons

DETROIT—That some of the theatre help are seriously thinking about their jobs and making an intelligent approach to handling wartime operating conditions is evident from the appeal of a "Tired Usher" to the editor of the Detroit News. In a letter that, in his own words, allows "a poor usher to let down his hair," he goes on to formulate a set of rules for patrons that should be a classic of showdom:

"1. Please, folks, learn your right from your left.

"2. If you have any complaints take them to the manager. We do only as he tells us to do.

"3. Immediate seating on all floors does not mean that the seats are right in the center of the theatre, so please don't get mad if there is only a poor selection of seats left.

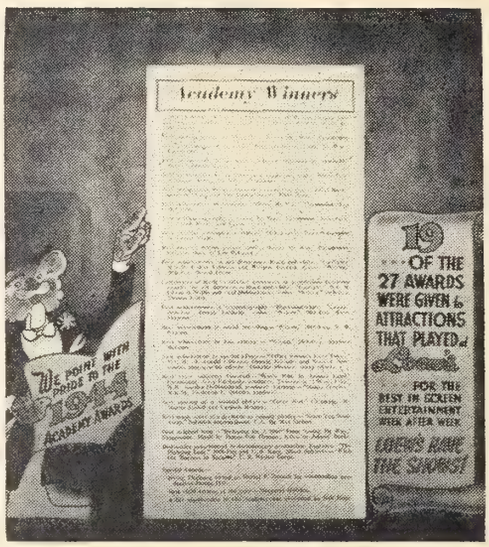
"4. Don't get mad at an usher if he tells you there are no seats on a certain floor, and tells you to kindly use the stairway to the balcony.

"5. Please don't ask if you can look for seats, because if we let you go we have to let everybody. That would cause undue confusion.

"6. Count your change before you leave the boxoffice. Don't forget to give your ticket to the ticket taker.

"7. If you have to wait for seats, kindly take your places behind the tapes, and don't shove.

"8. Smoking is allowed only in the rest room or outside. That is the rule in all theatres."



BOASTING DOES NO HARM—Lobby display arranged by Manager W. H. Elder of Loew's Ohio, Columbus, showing that the Ohio played 19 of the 27 Academy Award winners during 1944. The huge display was made by theatre artist, Frank Tibbitts.

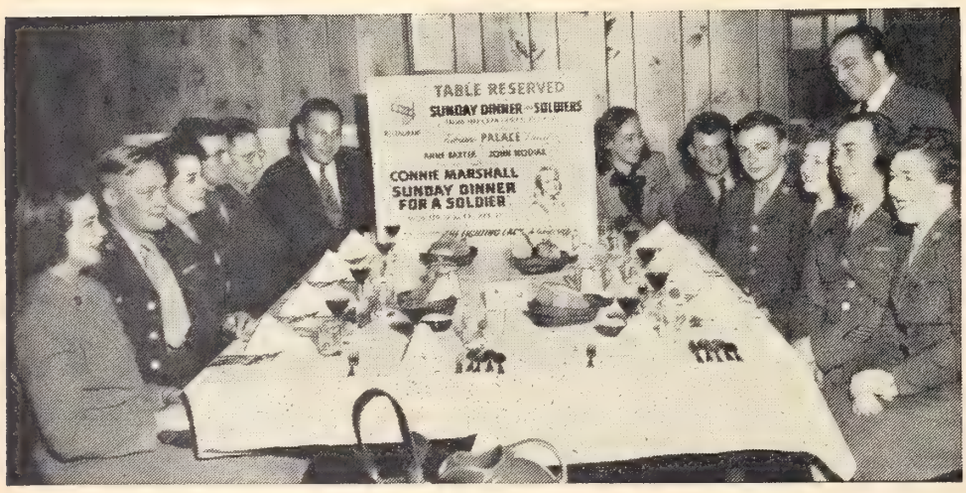
Boy Scout Tiein Aids "Tomorrow the World"

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.—As a tiein with "Tomorrow the World," which has a strong Boy Scout angle, the Loew's State Theatre here sponsored a Boy Scout wastepaper salvage campaign week, with a $25 war bond as prize for the troop collecting the most paper. In addition outstanding Scout participants were given promotions and awards on the theatre stage and a special exhibition on Scout participation in the campaign was formed.

Post Cards Are Effective In Durbin Film Buildup

Much advance interest was aroused in Deanna Durbin's Technicolor "Can't Help Singing" by Mel Jolly, manager of the Marks Theatre in Oshawa, Ont., through the judicious use of post card announcements, a tieup with merchants for a full page ad in the Times-Gazette and a display and public address announcements in the two nights of the Oshawa Kiwanis Carnival at the Arena there.

The post cards advertising the film were mailed to 500 Marks patrons. The Arena display and announcements were seen and heard by an estimated 10,000 persons.



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT—An outstanding feature of a campaign for "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" put on by H. Spencer Bregoff, manager of Fabian's Palace, Staten Island, was a tieup with a local restaurant. Photo shows what happened. Bregoff and Mrs. Bregoff are in the background. Another stunt was the introduction of paragraphs in a local gossip column suggesting that citizens invite soldiers to Sunday dinners. They did.

Warners' Tolerance Campaign a Record

The advance campaign put on by Warner Bros. for the tolerance short, "It Happened in Springfield," up to and including the special world premiere at the Capitol Theatre, Springfield, should qualify as the outstanding campaign of the month even in competition with the feature department.

In the educational field the short obtained the complete support of all organizations and institutions. The National Education Ass'n, the largest professional body in the world, endorsed the film and gave its active cooperation.

Nationwide Educational Brochure

Schools, colleges, libraries, educational associations and civic and religious groups throughout the country received copies of a miniature four-page Newsweek magazine put out by the Warner educational bureau, completely devoted to plugging "It Happened in Springfield." The brochure contained an imposing list of contributors who gave endorsements to the film, led by John W. Studebaker, U.S. commissioner of education.

More than 600 previews of the short were given throughout the nation. These preview groups then joined in general promotion of the picture by published and word-of-mouth endorsements, discussion before large audiences and other exploitation.

Radio was used fully in exploiting the film. The coast-to-coast Youth on Parade CBS show April 28 was given over completely to the short. Harry M. Warner was guest of honor, and received a citation from Mayor J. A. Anderson jr. of Springfield. The radio tieup carried support of 11 youth groups.

On We, the People April 29

Another radio break for the short came through the We, the People program over CBS April 29. John Garfield and several school children from the film cast appeared in a skit telling about the Springfield Plan of school education. A television broadcast was presented by NBC April 15, backed up by newspaper ads running to full page size and also inserted in radio trade papers.

Newspapers all over the country backed the film. The fine support given by the educational field is attributed to the keener interest and cooperation developed by the Warner educational bureau, established 18 months ago by Charles Einfeld, advertising and publicity director, and Mort Blumenstock, eastern head of advertising and publicity. These educational activities are supervised by Charles S. Steinberg.

Shubouf Does It With Kisses and Black Eyes

NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Flowers, kisses and black eyes all helped in a successful campaign for "Between Two Women" conducted by Sam Shubouf of the Loew Poli-College Theatre. Highlights included:

Florist's window display, carded, "If you can't decide between two women, send flowers to both and then go to see . . ."

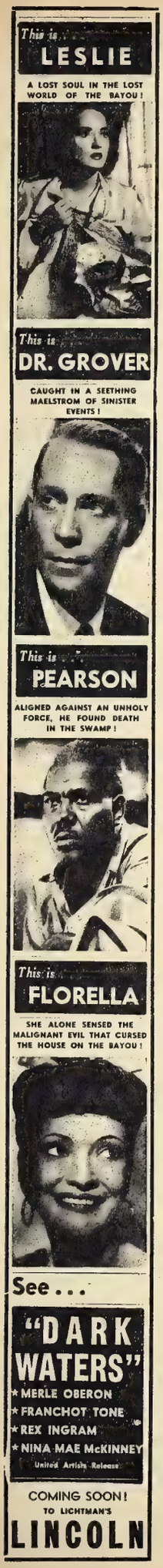
A street ballyhoo consisting of a tall young man parading downtown with a painted black eye, bandaged head, band-aids littering his face, and his clothes in ribbons. A sign on his back read, "Take a FOOL's ADVICE—Don't Get Caught! I was 'Between Two Women.' See the picture now . . ."

A candy shop gave up its window for a display of candy kisses mixed with stills and standees. Eye-catching sign read, "Candy kisses are safer! See 'Between Two Women' . . . and you'll know why."

Blowup of Van Johnson and special stills and standees of the cast in Sak's Fifth Avenue shop.

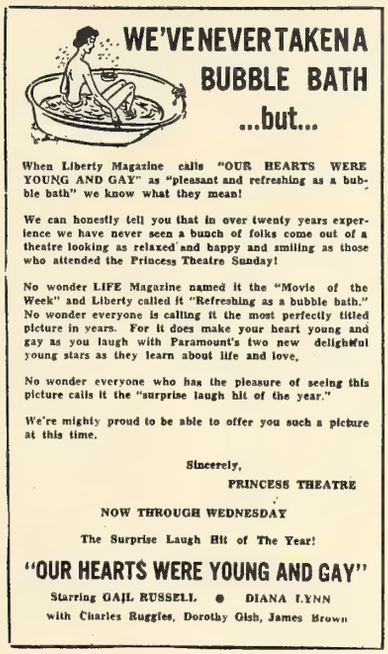
Plus unusual spot radio announcements.

One and Two Column Ads





TIMELY—The Regent at Kansas City, an action and exploitation house, took extra newspaper space when reports of the death of Adolf Hitler coincided with its showing of the Hitler film. The above ad was run during the few days official doubt was published concerning the Berlin stories.



UNUSUAL APPROACH—Vic Sicilia of the Princess Theatre, Bloomington, Ind., stole the amusement page of the local paper by using this personal message on "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."



PAGE-STEALER—On the side of the Winnipeg Free Press amusement page this one-column ad was outstanding. Harry Novak, manager of the Winnipeg Metropolitan, worked it out.



SECOND ROUND—Putting new life into a holdover splurge always is a problem for ad writers. The above two-column layout from Pittsburgh neatly does the trick.

NOVEL AND INEXPENSIVE—All the designs required in this ad can be obtained in any newspaper office that has a mat service. The two-column ad comes from Appleton, Wis.





FULL LENGTH—Here's an original layout by Bill Hoyle of Lichtman's Theatres, Washington, taking full page length, one column space. Note the stars are sold prominently, and action and terror angle, as well as supernatural is accentuated.

AT LEFT—This is a creation of the B&K advertising department at Chicago. It was laid out for three columns, and sells the picture as fun.

Campaign Depicts Showmanship Art

Homer McCallon, Houston, Describes Interesting "Gray" Selling

" 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' presented a challenging selling problem in that it had no boxoffice name in the cast and possessed no immediate meaning to anyone except to the very meager percentage of college students and ex-students who had browsed through a few choice passages of Oscar Wilde," relates Homer McCallon, manager of the State at Houston. Tex.

Thus clearly setting forth his selling problem, the Texas exhbiitor unfolds as thoroughgoing a promotion of which any master showman could be proud. McCallon's description, which details the problems faced and the steps taken to solve them, gives an interesting picture of how a skilled showman's mind works. Parts of his report follow at some length:

* * *

The way was helpfully paved by G. B. Shaw and Life magazine (chosen Life's Movie of the Week) leaving us nothing more to do than to continue with their project of teasing the title until everyone was asking questions and looking feverishly for clues to the answers.

Composing Room Foreman Helps

All newspapers coperated to the fullest extent, one even lifting their war restrictions temporarily in order that our teasers could get ideally placed to do their job. These little ads ran weeks in advance scattered all through the three papers. The aid of all composing room foreman and makeup men was enlisted. They saw to it that these ads were either spotted in very conspicuous places or near the widely read columns of Dorothy Dix, Mrs. Roosevelt, etc. Teaser boxes were set in all ads far in advance.

The film was screened twice and well in advance for select groups of critics, book reviewers, fashion experts and others who might have interest in the campaign. Miss Evie Jo Craven, book reviewer for Sears, largest department store in the southwest, chose the picture as her initial offering for the 1945 reviewing season. She and the store's advertising experts attended the screenings and were so highly impressed that they chose to review the film instead of the book, using the book purely for references and its natural effect on the producing of the screenplay.

As a suitable means of tieing in her review with our opening, Miss Craven awarded the book and theatre tickets as attendance prizes.

Full Page of Co-Op Ads

Sears ran about the equivalent of a full page of cooperative ads featuring the M-G-M production and Miss Craven's review. These ads were clipped and placed in frames in all parts of their store.

Sears also devoted three regularly scheduled radio broadcasts each week to announcements of the film-book review.

This great response caused other reviewers to seek permission to conduct similar reviews in their own community literary societies. The net result was a huge army of women discussing "Dorian Gray" weeks in advance of playdate.

As our portion of Sears' valuable aid, we mailed 1,000 letters to select lists of members of reviewing societies and active club women. This letter explained some of the reasons involved in Miss Craven's selection of our film story and naturally listed our own playdate.

As Easter Sunday was only ten days ahead of our premiere, we decided to enter one of our handsome ushers in Houston's always fashionable Easter parade. The lad selected for the job was carefully fitted out in a fine full dress suit, complete with white gloves, high silk hat, et cetera. He wore a light opera mask to further add to the illusion of elegance and mystery of the stunt.

"Advice to Women" Street Bally

In keeping with his fine clothes, we had printed a beautifully engraved, paneled card of "Advice to Women" which was presented only to women. The card was so effective that after his long day's work passing them out, scarcely a one could be found on the streets.

The boy was such a sensation in the Easter promenade that we decided to let him continue his good work each night giving out "Dorian Gray's Diary of Dark Deeds." This piece of promotion was extremely effective. He handed out 13,000 pieces of promotion copy during the week.

A large stack of M-G-M's illustrated Film Books were placed in reception rooms of the town's most popular doctors, dentists, lawyers and beauty salons.

A huge 10x15-foot set-piece was erected in the lobby three weeks in advance featuring copy from Winchell's column and the praise of other notables.

Special advance teaser trailers were scattered in between each subject on the program two weeks in advance supplementing M-G-M's regular advance trailer. A short trailer by Miss Craven made excellent selling copy and was tacked on one of the short teasers.

Excellent Radio Help

Largely because of M-G-M's elaborate coast-to-coast radio campaign, sponsors of some of our best and long established radio programs were glad to tie in with our efforts on Dorian Gray.

One of these, a program of special interest to women called "What's on Your Mind?" proved most helpful. As the title suggests the idea back of this program is to invite women to write in to the announcer letters outlining exactly what's on their minds at that very moment. Valuable prizes are awarded to those sending in the most interesting letters which are read on subsequent programs.

Instead of following this customary procedure, the announcer asked that the listeners first see "The Picture of Dorian Gray" at Loew's and then write their letters. The announcer explained that she was deviating from her normal routine because she had seen the film and was so impressed with its controversial nature that she simply just had to find out what her many listeners would think about it. She read the best letters about Dorian on her next program, making exceptionally good after-opening material, and keeping alive the stunt for three weeks.

Sakowitz Bros., Houston's largest specialty store catering exclusively to wealthy trade, devoted 40 inches of its preferred location of page one, second section of the Houston Chronicle, to its announcement of the Dorian Gray style show which was inspired by the film. This gorgeous piece of advertising copy featured Donna Reed in a scene from the film, theatre name, etc.

Newspaper Advertising

The ad campaign got under way with bold underline copy in all ads weeks ahead of our opening. This space was gradually increased as the opening date drew near. Our normal ad budget was about doubled for "Dorian Gray" in order to keep pace with M-G-M's space outlay.

Hubert Houssel on the Post broke a rule of long standing, saw the film screened far in advance and then turned press agent in its behalf. He wrote almost two columns poking some good, clean fun at Oscar Doob's avalanche of correspondence and his agitated commotion over the Wilde classic. Another huge spread accompanied with art ran Sunday in advance of opening and was devoted to the weird career of Oscar Wilde, the passing of Lord Douglas, and some brilliant footnotes on the film version of Wilde's best novel.

Paul Hochuli on the Houston Press, the average man's and average woman's reviewer, kept up a good line of teaser buildup in his column until his mail and telephone became a nuisance. He then went about reviewing the film and its several controversial aspects in about the most diplomatic piece of copy as anybody is apt to compose.

The film's lavish settings and its elegantly costumed characters had so much appeal for Sue Bliven, stylist in charge of the Sakowitz Hour of Fashion at the Rice Hotel's swanky Empire room each week that she decided to build one show on the several angles inspired by the film. This elaborate event, which took place on the day prior to our opening was an effective ticket-selling promotion for the picture. It was handled with the utmost of charm and good taste and the equal in splendor of what one could well expect even in Hollywood itself.

A Reviewing Contest Staged

Most of the window trimmers managed to catch considerable of the stardust that fell from our premiere.

In order to stave off some of his mail and telephone bother, Hochuli on the Press staged a reviewing contest in his column, asking his readers to submit their own views rather than asking him for his. He offered a war bond for the best 50 words. He used material from some of these letters in his column as follow-up material for the picture as it went into its second week.

Houssel on the Post was also very anxious to obtain some audience reaction for some of his future columns. At his suggestion we constructed a huge book mounted on n elaborate gold pedestal. We called it "The Book of Sin" and invited all to sow in it their Wilde oats. This turned out much better than we had anticipated. Big crowds were gathered about the book all day. Those who

(Continued on next page)

Reading Habit Shift Jams Sunday Issues

"In nearly every community reading habits have changed," M. M. Rubens of the Publix Great States Theatres, Chicago, points out in a recent interoffice communication to managers.

"This has been brought about by the innovation of early closing by merchants on Saturdays and operating late on Mondays. Friday newspaper issues used to be very heavy with all stores advertising their Saturday sales. Now Sunday issues contain the bulk of mercantile advertising and have become the most important paper of the week.

"Unless good position is obtained and sizeable layouts are used theatre advertising may become buried and lose much effectiveness in the Sunday issues."

Youth in Full Dress Gives Advice to Women In Street Bally

Cartoon Coloring Pulls Thousands

MEMPHIS—A Walt Disney picture is always good for a contest for the children. Take the recent showing of "The Three Caballeros" at Loew's State Theatre. Fred Ford, southern RKO publicity director, came here 12 days in advance of the picture and went into a huddle with Arthur Groom, manager of the State.

They called on the dramatics editor of the Press-Scimitar and presented their plan. The show would present a $100 war bond, a



$25 war bond and a $25 gift certificate at Oak Hall's clothing store for prizes, plus several sets of passes.

The newspaper, as a result, published five three-column cuts of line drawings of characters in the picture. Instructions were published under the pictures for children to color them as they appeared and send them all into the Press-Scimitar at the conclusion of the contest.

Thousands, literally thousands, of children and adults entered the contest. The entries poured in for three days.

Flight Officer Bill O. Campbell of the Columbus, Miss., army air field, was picked as the grand winner. Judges were G. Pillow Lewis, instructor in oil painting, and Mrs. Rogers Parker, water color, of the Academy of Arts. The picture shows them at work. Other winners included: Bonnie Gann, Memphis, second prize; Mary J. Oliver, third prize; Charles Ames Bullard, fourth prize.

The winning pictures were mounted and placed in the State lobby. Many went to see the winners and saw the show at the same time. Of course all the kids who took part had to see the winners, and the show. It was all a grand success.

Peoria Store Co-Op Ad Wins National Award

NEW YORK—The Retail Ad-News, trade publication covering the department store advertising field, has awarded its monthly merchant prize for April to the Block & Kuhl Co. of Peoria for its cooperative ad on "Meet Me in St. Louis," run in connection with the showing of the film at the Madison Theatre there.

The full page advertisement, which space limitations and reproduction difficulties join to prevent reproduction in BOXOFFICE, was built around a central oval scene from the film in which Judy Garland is wearing a $750 costume which was on display at the Peoria store during the time the picture was showing in the Illinois city.

Bond Cards Help "Pleasure"

Los Angeles—Eddie Mack, publicity manager for the Hill Street Theatre persuaded the war loan committee to use the slogan: "It's a Pleasure to Put the Axis on Ice — Buy More War Bonds!" These signs were used on light standards throughout the city, making a fine flash and promoting the theatre's current attraction, "It's a Pleasure." With the assistance of David L. Cantor, RKO exploiteer, he also promoted a cooperative ad with the Thrifty drug store chain and with Hudson Motors agencies.

Street Parade Heralds Opening of "Co-Pilot"

BUFFALO—When "God Is My Co-Pilot" opened at Shea's Theatre here it was heralded by a street parade and other gala ceremonies. Mayor Joseph J. Kelly proclaimed the day as "God Is My Co-Pilot" day, with merchants, civic organizations and leading citizens taking part. The parade included 15,000 students from the schools.

Another group of 1,600 vocation school students were organized in a drawing contest based on the Curtiss-Wright P40 fighter plane, with a $25 war bond as first prize.

More than 40,000 employes of Curtiss-Wright Corp., makers of the P40 planes used by Col. Robert Lee Scott, author of "Co-Pilot," also figured in the elaborate local promotion of the picture.

Scott sent the following message:

"May the Buffalo premiere of 'God Is My Co-Pilot' be a great success and convey in some small manner to the people of Curtiss-Wright the pride we fighter pilots feel in the P40s. I only wish that I could be there on April 26 to publicly salute them and every other citizen of Buffalo, but will be instead on my way back to China."

Campaign Depicts Art Of Fine Showmanship

(Continued from preceding page)

did not wish to write in it were curious to read the various comments of others. One patron wrote a lengthy poem that was quite good.

The art department came up with some unusual easel boards for the lobbies of the larger hotels. Practically every school publication and the better weeklies were contacted for ads on a ticket trade.

Our stage electrician is due some credit for his quick thinking. He had his summer green lights all ready for his interior lighting effects for the summer. He made the switch from reds to green in time for our "Dorian Gray" opening. This was rather effective. Quite a few patrons were of the opinion this was just for our premiere.

Every other member of the theatre staff had a part in making the run a success.

Story on VE-Day Film

NORWICH, CONN.—Manager Joseph Boyle, Broadway, landed stories in the local newspapers to announce that Loew's Theatres will present on and after VE-Day a special film designed to lead theatregoers in a happy, but prayerful thanksgiving for victory. The film entitled, "Victory in Europe," is now locked in the safes of Loew's offices, ready to be unsealed when VE-Day is proclaimed. It was produced by M-G-M and stars Margaret O'Brien.

Imprints Shopping Bags

For "A Song to Remember," C. B. Sherred of the Maryland at Cumberland, Md., imprinted shopping bags with this copy: "To Save Paper Carry This Shopping Bag Every Day . . . For a Great Picture Remember to See 'A Song to Remember.'"

Corrals in Stores For 'Son of Flicka'

The 20th-Fox studio publicity department of Harry Brand in Los Angeles arranged an interesting display that may be duplicated in many situations. A fairly good-sized corral with a swinging gate was constructed on the floor of Macy's in Los Angeles for "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka." Inside were several dummies attired in cowboy clothes like Roddy McDowall in the film, several saddles and lariats, wagon wheels and a poster on the picture. Hanging prominently over the corral Roddy McDowall's name appeared on a decorative board.

Similar displays were set up in six other Macy stores in nearby cities.

"St. Louis" in Music Ads

Tiein newspaper ads with two musical instrument companies were important features of the selling campaign for the musical, "Meet Me in St. Louis," when it played at the White Plains Loew's.



HORROR PLUS—Some managers will argue that it is possible to scare patrons away from a theatre with horror exploitation, but they don't think so at the Hawaii Theatre, Hollywood. The figure shown here was "electrocuted," and then, with phosphorescent makeup and sparks coming from his fingers, he walked down through the audience in advance of the showing of Republic's "The Phantom Speaks."

OOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time for planned by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol (•) indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⊛ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAR. 31		MARCH RELEASES:		BLOCK 4—1944-45:	31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	GROUP 3—1944-45	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624	MARCH RELEASES:	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609	9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta	(92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⊛BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	16 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601	(71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(78) Drama 518 ⊛THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614		7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale	7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608	19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe			13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	
APR. 21	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623 19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER	20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	20 (..) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604	Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry		21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan R—April 28—PG-626	
APR. 28	R—May 5—PG-628 26 (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ⊛NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626	BLOCK 5—1944-45:	2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray	(90) Mus.-Com. 584 •IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610	20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	APRIL RELEASES:	4 (147) Comedy ⊛COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) ⊛SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	10 (67) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Richard Lane	MAY RELEASES:	12 (70) War Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628	(110) Rom.-Com. THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	SPECIAL: (90) Western ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young	10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	4 (89) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621	11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	
MAY 12	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor Pat Parrish	(111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	19 (..) Western IN OLD NEW MEXICO Duncan Renaldo	(96) Mys.-Com. MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	16 (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(90) Comedy ⊛WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626		(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613	18 (..) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 19	24 (84) Melodrama THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main	26 (..) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	(65) Mys.-Drama SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	MAY RELEASES:	25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
JUNE 2				(80) Rom.-Drama A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619	15 (..) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell		(104 Musical 524 ⊛DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622			
JUNE 9	7 (60) Comedy TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee 7 (..) Mus.-West. RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616				(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616				8 (61) I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce	
JUNE 16						(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622		(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622		15 (..) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan	
JUNE 23						(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding				15 (68) BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

Over 21

CAST: Irene Dunne, Alexander Knox, Charles Coburn, Jeff Donnell, Loren Tindall, Phil Brown, Lee Patrick. PRODUCER: Sidney Buchanan. DIRECTOR: Charles Vidor. ORIGINAL: Ruth Gordon. SCREENPLAY: Sidney Buchanan.

Based on the Broadway play, this is a domestic comedy which takes place at an army base in Miami, Florida. Alexander Knox, who has resigned from his post as editor of the New York Bulletin in order to obtain service men's views on shaping the postwar world, is having a rough time in officer's candidate school when his wife, Irene Dunne, a novelist, joins him. Knox is convinced that the army is for guys over 21 but eventually receives his commission. Charles Coburn, publisher of the Bulletin, fears that the paper will fold without Knox's column, but Irene takes it over satisfactorily, with time off for a bundle from heaven.

The Bandit of Sherwood Forest

CAST: Cornel Wilde, Anita Louise, Edgar Buchanan, George Macready, Jill Esmond, Lloyd Corrigan, Russell Hicks. PRODUCERS: Leonard Picker and Clifford Sanforth. DIRECTOR: Henry Levin. ORIGINAL: Paul Castleton. SCREENPLAY: Melvin Levy.

In 1216, tyranny and oppression reign in England, and Robin Hood's (Russell Hicks) bandits again ride in the people's cause. A boy king sits on the throne, but the real power lies in the regent's hands. Jill Esmond, the Queen Mother, fearing for the life of her son, goes with Anita Louise to enlist Russell's aid. In the forest they meet his son, Cornel Wilde, who leads the band against the castle. Cornel kills the regent in a duel, restores the little king to power and wins the hand of Anita.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

For Better, for Worse

CAST: Robert Walker, June Allyson, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Audrey Totter, Reginald Owen, Hume Cronyn, Franklin Pangborn. PRODUCER: Edwin Knopf. DIRECTOR: Richard Whorf. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Chester Erskine.

Naval Petty Officer Robert Walker and June Allyson meet at New York's canteen, fall in love and are married within six hours. Their wedding night is spent in a rented car after which Walker returns to his base. June finds a cheap, run-down apartment just as her groom receives a medical discharge. Many amusing incidents postpone the newlywed's honeymoon, highlighted by June's jealousy of an exotic, flirtatious neighbor, Audrey Totter. Cupid eventually gets them together and they live happily ever after.

Monogram

Come Out Fighting

CAST: Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Billy Benedict, Gabriel Dell, June Carlson, George Meeker, Addison Richards, Johnny Duncan. PRODUCER: Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz. DIRECTOR: William Beaudine. ORIGINAL STORY and SCREENPLAY: Earle Snell.

The Eastside Club is padlocked when three of the Kids cause a riot during a boxing match. The club's president, Leo Gorcey, gets his girl friend, June Carlson, to intercede with Police Commissioner Addison Richards, because her father is the commissioner's right hand man. Richards has the Kids take his sissified son, Johnny Duncan, into the club to make a man of him. Meanwhile Richards' enemy, Gambler George Meeker, arranges for Johnny to be in a gambling house just before a raid, but the Kids, headed by Gorcey, rush to the rescue and Leo is caught instead and disqualified from the boxing tournament. Johnny takes his place, to the delight of his father, and the commissioner, grateful for the change in his son, sees to it that Gorcey is publicly vindicated.

Here Comes Trouble

CAST: Billy Gilbert, Shemp Howard, Maxie Rosenbloom, Gloria Marlen, Carlyle Blackwell jr., Barbara Pepper, I. Stanford Jolley. PRODUCERS: Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz. DIRECTOR: Lew Landers. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: George Plympton and Ande Lamb.

Billy Gilbert writes what he thinks is a fictitious account of a $50,000 jewel theft, based on the experience of Carlyle Blackwell jr., taxi driver, innocently jailed because paste duplicates of the jewels were found in his cab. Gilbert and his friends, Shemp Howard and Maxie Rosenbloom, become involved in underworld tactics on the part of the thieves when the story indicates Gilbert knows who has the jewels. Complications arise when the three friends move into a boarding house run by the aunt of Carlyle's fiancee, Gloria Marlen. By means of a ruse, the loot is turned over to Gilbert, who tries unsuccessfully to get rid of it, fearing he might be killed. As they are about to close in on the trio for the kill, the gang is captured and Blackwell cleared.

Paramount

The Blue Dahlia

CAST: Alan Ladd, Veronica Lake, William Bendix, Howard Da Silva, Doris Dowling, Tom Powers, Hugh Beaumont. PRODUCER: John Houseman. DIRECTOR: George E. Marshall. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Raymond Chandler.

Alan Ladd, William Bendix and Hugh Beaumont return from navy duty overseas, to find Alan's wife, Doris Dowling, running around with Howard Da Silva, owner of the Blue Dahlia night club. Doris is murdered. Dodging police, Alan becomes involved with various racketeers and suspects, among them Veronica Lake, with whom he falls in love before the murder mystery is solved.

The Stork Club

CAST: Betty Hutton, Barry Fitzgerald, Don DeFore, Andy Russell, Robert Benchley, Bill Goodwin, Iris Adrian. PRODUCER: B. G. DeSylva. DIRECTOR: Noel Madison. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: B. G. DeSylva and John McGowan.

Betty Hutton, hat-check girl at New York's famed Stork Club, comes into an unexpected windfall when she saves Barry Fitzgerald, a multimillionaire, from drowning and is rewarded with unlimited charge accounts, opened anonymously. Amusing complications result from Betty's desperate efforts to explain the source of her mysterious good fortune to her boy friend, Don DeFore, with whose band she sings. Miss Hutton and Andy Russell, contributed the tuneful interludes.

Republic

Trail of Kit Carson

CAST: Allan Lane, Helen Talbot, Tom London, Twinkle Watts, Roy Barcroft, Kenne Duncan, Jack Kirk. PRODUCER: Stephen Auer. DIRECTOR: Lesley Selander. ORIGINAL: Jack Natteford. SCREENPLAY: Jack Natteford and Albert Demond.

Shocked at learning his partner in a California gold mine is dead and the mine sold for a strangely low price to Roy Barcroft, local doctor, Lane suspects murder and makes an investigation. He meets Kenne Duncan, gunsmith and the real murderer, who is allied with Roy. During a subsequent gunfight a heavy is killed. When the bullet is removed from the victim's body, the gunsmith falsely accuses Lane. Tom London, Allan's friend, attempts to defend the latter and when wounded in an assault is taken to Roy for surgical treatment who, instead of helping him, intends to kill him. Escaping from jail, Lane interrupts a meeting between the doctor and his henchman, and during a hand-to-hand battle the sheriff arrives. Lane proves Roy has double crossed them all along, whereupon the guilty man is brought to justice.

RKO Radio

Ding Dong Williams

CAST: Glenn Vernon, Marcy McGuire, Anne Jeffreys, Felix Bressart, William Davidson. PRODUCER: Herman Schlom. DIRECTOR: William Berke. ORIGINAL: Richard English. SCREENPLAY: Brenda Weisberg and M. Coates Webster.

Based on the character created by Author Richard English for a series of magazine yarns, this deals with a young swing band leader. His girl friend is secretary to the head of a motion picture studio's music department and she sells her boss the idea of hiring the hot-licks artist to do the music for a picture. When he reports, it is discovered that he can neither read nor write music. How cupid and his natural flare toward jazz overcome the handicap furnishes the comedy plot.

Follow Your Heart

CAST: Jack Haley, Anne Jeffreys, Marcy McGuire, Glenn Vernon, Patty Brill, Nancy Marlow, David Forrest. PRODUCER: Bert Granet. DIRECTOR: Anthony Mann. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: William Bowers.

This is a light comedy with music, dealing with the experiences of an egotistical newspaper correspondent, Jack Haley, who agrees to take charge of a group of young entertainers in order to get aboard the first steamer out of France after its liberation. To send news bulletins over the ship's radio, he uses a code of endearing terms. Marcy McGuire, one of his charges, is jealous of Anne Jeffreys, his fiancee, and leads Anne to believe he is sending love messages to a girl. Furious, Anne sends the latest cable herself, adding a few words, which, decoded, carry an erroneous message. When he lands, Jack is thrown into jail. Later, Marcy learns of Jack's predicament and reveals the true story to Anne, who squares Jack with the authorities.

20th Century-Fox

Don Juan Quilligan

CAST: William Bendix, Joan Blondell, Phil Silver, Anne Revere, John Russell, Ray Roberts, Renee Carson, B. S. Pully. PRODUCER: William Le Baron. DIRECTOR: Frank Tuttle. ORIGINAL: Herbert Clyde Lewis. SCREENPLAY: Arthur Kober.

William Bendix, barge captain, is tricked into marrying two girls, both of whom remind him of his "mom." Claiming to have a twin brother, he is "Pat" to Joan Blondell, and "Mike" to his other wife. To solve his problem, he joins the navy only to have the army draft him the following day. Feeding him a mixture of egg, molasses, tobasco, mustard, banana skin, liquor, etc., a friend conks him on the head and sends the glassy-eyed Bendix for his physical where he is pronounced a perfect specimen. Tangling with the police when a corpse is found on his barge, his hoax is exposed; and after a severe going over on a bigamy charge, is dismissed. Advised to annul their marriages, both wives, however, promise to wait for him. He is still stuck with two girls on his hands—with the army and navy both after him.

Junior Miss

CAST: Peggy Ann Garner, Allyn Joslyn, Sylvia Field, John Alexander, Faye Marlowe, Michael Dunne, Mona Freeman. PRODUCER: William Perlberg. DIRECTOR: George Seaton. ORIGINAL: Jerome Chodorov and Joseph Fields. ADAPTATION: George Seaton.

Peggy Ann Garner, teen-age daughter of Allyn Joslyn and Sylvia Field, discovers her father and his boss's daughter, Faye Marlowe, in what looks to her like an intimate conversation, and sets out to eliminate the "threat" to her otherwise happy home. Making a date with Faye to go skating at Radio City, Peggy arranges for her uncle (about whom there is a mystery—she believes he has a prison record) to meet them there. A romance begins, culminating in marriage at the very time Allyn expects to be made junior partner of his firm. His boss learns from Peggy about the "prison background" and a free-for-all follows, but ends with a peace offering in form of the junior partnership going through, while Sylvia explains that her brother merely was disbarred from superior court for appearing at the bar intoxicated.

State Fair

CAST: Dana Andrews, Jeanne Crain, Dick Haymes, Vivian Blaine, Charles Winninger, Fay Bainter, Donald Meek. PRODUCER: William Perlberg. DIRECTOR: Walter Lang. ORIG-

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from preceding page)

INAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Charles Winninger, preparing for the State Fair, is chiefly concerned with his 880-pound boar, which he hopes will take a prize; while his wife, Fay Bainter, makes mincemeat, into which go a few slugs of brandy behind her back. At the fair, Jeanne Crain, daughter, meets and romances with Dana Andrews, as does her brother, Richard Haymes, with Vivian Blaine. Suddenly listless, the porker refuses to move until a sow is put in the next pen, whereupon he perks up in time to win the grand award. Last night of the fair, the couples get mixed up on their dates but everything gets straightened out.

The Caribbean Mystery

CAST: James Dunn, Sheila Ryan, Edward Ryan, Jackie Paley, Reed Hadley, Roy Roberts, Richard Shaw. PRODUCER: William Girard. DIRECTOR: Robert Webb. ORIGINAL: John W. Vandercook. SCREENPLAY: Jack Andrews and Leonard Praskins. ADAPTATION: W. Scott Darling.

Detective James Dunn is investigating the strange disappearance of several people on an island. Exploring the swamps, he meets an armed man who forces him to a shack where a gunfight occurs and Dunn wounds one of the two pirates he finds there trying to make a getaway. The wounded looter accidentally sets the hut afire and dies in the blaze; the other is shot in a subsequent gunfight en route back to town. Meanwhile, Dunn keeps their deaths secret and, in a ruse to bait the murderer, lets island officials, under suspicion, think the "wounded" pirate will be able to talk. At the hospital, Dunn traps the island doctor trying to stab a dummy which had been placed there in bed. The doctor, it develops, has been shipping out stolen goods in coffins of earlier victims.

Within These Walls

CAST: Thomas Mitchell, Mary Anderson, Eddie Ryan, B. S. Pully, Harry Shannon, Mark Stevens, John L. Russell. PRODUCER: Ben Silvey. DIRECTOR: Bruce Humberstone. ORIGINAL: Coles Trapnel and James Fisher. SCREENPLAY: Eugene Ling.

When Thomas Mitchell, criminal jurist and disciplinarian, becomes warden at a state penitentiary he is greeted with riots. The warden's son, Eddie Ryan, proves an easy victim to the temptations surrounding him, and is sent away to school but in a few months disappears. Later, the boy turns up in the prison lineup, but Mitchell, in his overzealousness, refuses to grant his son an interview. Capitalizing on this relationship, one of the ring leaders involves Eddie in an attempted break, during which, he is killed. The loss of his son mellows Mitchell, who now realizes discipline must be tempered with kindness to mold effectively the characters of young men. One of the inmates, although innocently convicted, serves his term and leaves the prison to start life anew with Mary Anderson, the warden's daughter.

Universal

On Stage, Everybody

CAST: Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie, Otto Kruger, Wally Ford, Milburn Stone, Johnny Coy, Esther Dale. PRODUCER: Warren Wilson. DIRECTOR: Jean Yarborough. ORIGINAL: Blue network radio presentation of the same name. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Radio-hating Jack Oakie, appearing with his daughter, Peggy Ryan, in a small town burlesque, quits his song and dance routine when he learns they are expected to participate in a weekly air program. Back in New York, Oakie retires to an actor's home and Peggy lives with her grandparents. Finally won over to radio when he hears a world series broadcast, Oakie conceives an air show that will present both old and new talent and, with Peggy's help, sells the idea.

Pillow of Death

CAST: Lon Chaney, Brenda Joyce, Clara Blandick, Rosalind Ivan, J. Edward Bromberg, George Cleveland, Bernard Thomas. PRODUCER: Not set. DIRECTOR: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Lon Chaney, in love with his secretary, Brenda Joyce, finds himself under suspicion for the murder of his wife. He is incarcerated and then released due to lack of conclusive evidence. Induced to attend a seance, he is accused of the murder by the voice of his late wife. During the unfolding of the plot, two more murders are committed; that of Clara Blandick, aunt of Brenda; and George Cleveland, Clara's brother. Chaney at the point of despair is taunted by the wraith of his wife reminding him of the minute details of her death and again accusing him of her murder. The wraith lures him to the room of the murdered George Cleveland and forces him to reenact the old man's slaying. Brenda discovers him and realizes that he is a psychopathic murderer. Her own life is saved by the timely arrival of the police.

Serenade for Murder

CAST: Jess Barker, Lois Collier, Ludwig Stoessel, George Dolenz, Fuzzy Knight, Sara Edwards, Walter Sande. ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: George Blake. DIRECTOR: William Beaudine. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Three mobsters, Walter Sande, Ralph Sanford and Edward Brophy murder a night club owner in his office. Before they can escape, Lois Collier arrives for an audition in the new floor show. Since she has never seen the owner, Sande hides the body, impersonates him and sends her away. While looking for clues to the owner's mysterious disappearance, Jess Barker uncovers Lois's name on some sheet music and traces her to the restaurant operated by her father while he and his company await financial backing to return to the stage. A mysterious backer, who proves to be Sande, promises to put the company on the road as a ruse to prevent Lois from suspecting the truth. The ruse fails, but the show goes on. Ricky and Lois fall in love, the mobster's getaway is foiled, the murder solved.

The Naughty Nineties

CAST: Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Alan Curtis, Lois Collier, Rita Johnson, Henry Travers, Joe Sawyer. PRODUCER: John Grant and Edmund L. Hartmann. DIRECTOR: Jean Yarbrough. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Henry Travers, captain of a showboat in 1895, ports at a river town with his leading man, Bud Abbott, chief roustabout, Lou Costello, and Lois Collier, Travers' lovely daughter. Through the captain's gullibility, they become involved with three questionable characters—Gambler Alan Curtis, Rita Johnson and Bodyguard Joe Sawyer. The crooked trio get Travers in an equally crooked poker game during which he loses possession of his boat. The new owners convert the craft into a pleasure barge for gambling and drunken brawls, with Travers an unwilling, dismayed witness of it all. Through stunt-pulling and zany machinations, Abbott and Costello involve the ship and its patrons in such a state of confusion that ultimately the captain gets back his lost property. In the interim, Curtis reforms and so wins his love, Lois.

Warner Bros.

Shadow of a Woman

CAST: Andrea King, Helmut Dantine, William Price, John Alvin, Beckie Brown, Dick Erdman, Peggy Knudsen. PRODUCER: William Jacobs. DIRECTOR: Joseph Santley. ORIGINAL: Virginia Perdue. SCREENPLAY: Whitman Chambers and C. Graham Baker.

Andrea King marries "Dr." Helmut Dantine, knowing little about him. A third attempt is made on the doctor's life after they go to live with his family where a starvation diet is served to all members of the family. Dantine has a son by a former union, who will inherit $1,000,000 when he becomes of age; but should he die before that time, the money will go to his parents. After the death of two of her husband's patients, Andrea starts an investigation, discovering among other things, Helmut is starving his son to a point where he will be unable to resist a malady should one attack him. Realizing his wife is trying to frustrate his scheme, the doctor attempts to force her from a balcony just as his son appears. Stepping back to deliver a knockout blow to the boy, Dantine leans against the rail and falls to his death.

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SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

Kings of the Fairway

Col (Sport Reels) 10 Mins.

Very good. Shorts like these give hope to the eternal duffer, and with the golf season just about to open, it is a natural for theatres. Watching Byron Nelson and Jug McSpaden demonstrate the technique of long wood shots, both off the tee and on the fairway, makes one want to grab a brassie and go out to tear up some divots. If the average golfer gets anything less than a low, singing 250-yard belt smack on the green, he'll have to come back to your theatre for another lesson.

Rough and Tumble

Col (Sport Reels) 9 Mins.

Amusing. Some inside glimpses of the wrestling game are shown with the sport at its phony best. This shows once and for all that wrestling is more showmanship than sport. The four-man "fight" is highlighted by a Bill Stern commentary. The reel will go over great with all of the sport's many fans.

Fall Guy

M-G-M (Crime-Does-Not-Pay) 20 Mins.

Forceful. A bank cashier who has embezzled $75,000 is fearful of discovery upon the arrival of the bank examiner. He throws suspicion for the crime on a young bank clerk, and then to completely vindicate himself, he kills the examiner under circumstances that warrant the conviction of the innocent clerk. However, he has overlooked one detail that unmistakably points to his own guilt, and in a suspenseful climax, he admits his crimes and saves the young man from execution.

Hollywood Scout

M-G-M (Pete Smith Specialty) 8 Mins.

Amusing. A day with an animal talent scout provides some excellent exhibitions by daring doggies, who walk tight ropes and leap to flying trapezes, to Pete Smith's humorous commentary. Back at her office, the star seeker is besieged by a man and his trained bear, clamoring for an audition. Instead of performing as all well-behaved bears should, the hulking brute proceeds to grapple with his master. Completely chagrined, our expert in animal capers dashes for the door, only to be confronted by a cheerfully blubbering chimpanzee and his simian owner.

Jerky Turkey

M-G-M (A Technicolor Cartoon) 8 Mins.

Hilarious. The Pilgrim Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock minus a destroyer escort, gun crew and C card, and the Mayflower was not a Kaiser production. This modernized version of our Thanksgiving legend portrays the unsuccessful attempts of one of the Pilgrims to track down a turkey. The fowl in the case is a Jimmy Durante prototype, and plagues the hunter in a succession of hilarious situations, both are finally lured to Joe's diner, where the proprietor, a burly bear, utilizes them for his own holiday fare.

The Seesaw and the Shoes

M-G-M (John Nesbitt Passing Parade) 10 Mins.

Interesting. Carefree children playing on a seesaw in his yard, provide French doctor, Rene Laennec, with inspiration for his invention of the stethoscope. Heart beats become audible when transmitted through a tube-like instrument, and as a result, heart failings can be discerned, and countless lives saved. The following sequence concerns the heartbreaking research done by Charles Goodyear, beginning with a pair of waterproof shoes, until his discovery of the vulcanization process for rubber. His unfailing faith and perseverance gave us the forerunner of our tremendous rubber industry.

Unusual Occupations

Para (L4-4) 10 Mins.

Good. The first sequence of this engrossing film concerns Ward Kimball of San Gabriel, Calif., who realized a lifelong ambition with the purchase of an 1881 locomotive which runs on narrow-gauge tracks over his own two-acre lot. An abundance of courage and split-second timing enable the daredevil diver of Acapulco, Mexico, to scale a 300-foot cliff and gracefully dive into the churning waters below for the amusement of tourists. Scaling of another type by talented Mrs. Beyers of New Orleans involves fish, and from these scales she fashions exquisite ornaments. Intelligently filmed, the closing shots are of Peruvian peons, deriving their livelihood from the breeding of llamas.

When GI Johnny Comes Home

Para (Noveltoons) 8 Mins.

Entertaining. Humorous treatment of the inevitable problems faced by returning service men in their readjustment to civilian life is cleverly blended with the rollicking rhythm of the popular song, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." The original melody has been embellished with modern lyrics, and audience participation in group singing should be spontaneous. A human preview that can be applied to your own Johnny's homecoming, the film's popularity is guaranteed.

White Rhapsody

Para (Grantland Rice Sportlights) 9 Mins.

Good. With skiing fast becoming a national sport, this film should have universal appeal. The ascent by aerial tramway of New Hampshire's snow covered Cannon Mountain, affords dazzling views of the winter ski scene. Hans Thorner, Swiss-American ski champion provides thrills aplenty as he negotiates hairpin turns and precipitous drops to complete the mile and a half run in less than two minutes.

Flicker Flashbacks

RKO (No. 6) 9 Mins.

Good. Another in this amusing series of old-time pictures. "Professional Jealousy" and "A Cry for Help" dating from the 1908 vintage are the highlights of this film. The latter features the young Lionel Barrymore and, as the leering villain, Harry Carey. Also shown are shots of such all-time screen favorites as Ben Turpin, Marie Dressler and Buster Keaton.

Honorable Discharge

RKO (This Is America) 18 Mins.

Average. Of more interest to those in uniform than to civilian audiences, this two-reeler endeavors to show the application of the GI Bill of Rights to demobilize service men. Much of the footage is devoted to close-ups of an army officer explaining in detail the provisions of the law to a group of soldiers at a separation center. The producers have livened up the lengthy narration by interpolating scenes, both staged and authentic, of veterans returning to civil life.

In the Newsreels

Movietone News, No. 70: San Francisco peace parley goes to work; Benito Mussolini, would-be Caesar, meets his fate; world's mightiest carrier named for Roosevelt; army asks you to save waste fats; fierce battle rages for Okinawa.

News of the Day, No. 268: Last days of war in Europe; battle ordeal for Americans in grim fighting on Okinawa; world security spotlight on Soviet Commissar Molotov; mightiest U.S. aircraft carrier named for Roosevelt; appeal to Mrs. America.

Paramount News, No. 71: Conference tackles first problems; Mussolini—first to go; army calls for more waste fats; new carrier honors Roosevelt.

Pathe News, No. 73: First days of San Francisco conference; marines blast Japs from Okinawa's caves; launch U.S.S. Roosevelt; army asks continued fat salvage.

Universal News, No. 394: Security conference in session; Okinawa advances; Il Duce obit 1945; U.S.S. Roosevelt; fat salvage.

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Movietone News, No. 71: Debate at world peace parley to admit Argentina; world criminal Hitler dead as Berlin falls; dying days of Nazi Germany; Russian offensive that broke Nazi line in east; U.S. fleet defeats Jap air force off Okinawa.

News of the Day, No. 269: Collapse of Germany; naval guns smash Jap air attack.

Paramount News, No. 72: Now get Japs—navy shows how; final Russian drive; Adolf Hitler reported dead.

Pathe News, No. 74: U.S. fleet smashes mass Jap air attack; Red army drives into Germany.

Universal News, No. 395: Argentina admitted to world parley; Russian drive on Berlin; navy smashes Jap air attack off Okinawa.

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All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 133: Clare Booth Luce visits Italian fronts; flying fish help meet meat shortage; girls and boys reverse pursuits in St. Louis school; Joseph Grew discusses highlights of conference; Liberian and Ethiopian delegates welcomed to Frisco; fly gas to supply General Patton's army.

The Eyes Have It

RKO (Disney) 7 Mins.

Riotous. Donald Duck and Pluto are at their best here as Donald tries out his new "E-Z Hypnotism" set on Pluto. Wearing a pair of bulging eyeglasses Donald experiments on his companion convincing him first that he is a mouse, then a turtle and a chicken. Finally and unfortunately for poor Donald, Pluto becomes a lion. He turns on Donald and a wild chase ensues. Pluto at last comes to his senses, but Donald, not realizing this, goes streaking off over the horizon.

San Pietro

WAC (U.S. Army, OWI) 30 Mins.

Moving. Maj. John Huston's previous production, "Report from the Aleutians," marked the first use of color in a combat film. His current production, photographed in Italy, took five months to shoot and marks the first time a complete photographic crew stayed with any one outfit in the line. As the battle progressed, Huston at odd times kept changing the script and writing the narration. He succeeded in giving an accurate and vivid portrayal of battle as experienced by the foot soldier and to a lesser degree, by hapless civilian women and children. The cameramen, actually first to enter San Pietro, were pinned down by enemy fire and almost wiped out during a dive bombing attack on the town. The photography is imaginative, the action stirring, Huston's narration is always moving, never mawkish.

Cuba Calling

WB (Sports Parade) 10 Mins.

Very good. A smooth mixture of fine shots of historical interest in Havana and exciting moments in many sports agents is blended with superb Technicolor to produce a quality short subject. Shown are the racetrack, the "Jai Alai" games, skeet shooting contest, and quail shooting in the athletic classification, and tobacco growing and sugar cultivation in the industry category.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.
In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	A											
549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)		UA	7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)		Mono.	2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)		Para.	4- 7-45	ǂ			+	+			4+
573	Alaska (76)		Mono.	10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
545	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)		PRC	7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
546	American Romance, An (122)		MGM.	7- 1-44	±	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	+	+	9+ 1—
575	And Now Tomorrow (85)		Para.	10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
527	And the Angels Sing (96)		Para.	4-29-44	+	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
544	Are These Our Parents? (73)		Mono	6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	ǂ	+	—	+	7+ 4—
524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)		Mono.	4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
589	Army Wives (68)		Mono.	12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)		WB.	8- 2-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		10+
555	Atlantic City (85)		Rep.	8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
542	Attack (80)		RKO.	6-17-44	+		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	9+
	B											
572	Babes on Swing Street (70)		Univ.	9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)		MGM.	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
528	Bathing Beauty (101)		MGM.	6- 3-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
586	Belle of the Yukon (84)		RKO.	12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
540	Beneath Western Skies (56)		Rep.	6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
610	Betrayal From the East (85)		RKO.	3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+	+	7+ 5—
596	Between Two Women (83)		MGM.	1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
	Beyond the Pecos (..)		Univ.							∓		1+ 1—
596	Big Bonanza, The (60)		Rep.	1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
568	Big Noise, The (74)		20-Fox	9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
597	Big Show-Off, The (69)		Rep.	1-20-45	+	∓		±	∓	=		4+ 5—
565	Black Magic (64)		Mono.	9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
557	Block Busters (60)		Mono.	8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
586	Blonde Fever (69)		MGM.	12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
628	Blood on the Sun (94)		UA.	5- 5-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+			7+
578	Bluebeard (73)		PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
610	Body Snatcher, The (78)		RKO.	3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 2—
	Bordertown Trail (56)		Rep.							±		1+ 1—
569	Boss of Rawhide (59)		PRC.	9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
	Bowery Champs (62)		Mono.			±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
578	Bowery to Broadway (94)		Univ.	10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
	Brand of the Devil (61)		PRC.						∓			1+ 1—
577	Brazil (91)		Rep.	10-28-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
614	Brewster's Millions (79)		UA.	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
552	Bride by Mistake (81)		RKO	7-29-44	±	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2—
627	Brighton Strangler, The (67)		RKO.	5- 5-45	∓	±	+		±	+		5+ 3—
603	Bring On the Girls (91)		Para.	2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
622	Bullfighters, The (61)			4-21-45	—		±	±	±	±		4+ 5—
	C											
564	Call of the Jungle (60)		Mono.	9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 8—
	Call of the Rockies (56)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1—
	Call of the South Seas (59)		Rep.			∓	∓		∓	∓	—	4+ 5—
538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)		20-Fox	6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3
589	Can't Help Singing (89)		Univ.	12-16-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	10+
538	Canterville Ghost, The (95)		MGM.	6- 3-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
571	Carolina Blues (81)		Col.	9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
554	Casanova Brown (92)		RKO.	8- 5-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	12+
	Castle of Crimes (60)		PRC.			±	±	∓			∓	4+ 4—
	Cheyenne Wildcat (56)		Rep.						∓	±		2+ 2—
604	Chicago Kid (68)		Rep.	2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
622	China Sky (78)			4-21-45	+	±			=	±		3+ 4—
628	China's Little Devils (..)		Mono.	4-28-45	±	∓			∓	±		4+ 4—
542	Christmas Holiday (93)		Univ.	6-17-44	+	-	⊥	ǂ		++	⊥	8+ 1
603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)		20-Fox	2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
	Cisco Kid Returns (..)		Mono.				±	±		∓		3+ 3—
571	Climax, The (86)		Univ.	9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3
616	Clock, The (92)		MGM	3-24-45	∓	+	ǂ	±	∓	ǂ		8+ 3—
	Code of the Prairie (50)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1—
620	Colonel Blimp (148)		UA.	4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 1—
574	Conspirators, The (101)		WB.	10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
531	Contender, The (66)		PRC.	5-13-44	±	±	∓	±	—	∓	∓	6+ 7—
619	Corn Is Green, The (114)		WB.	4- 7-45	+			+	+		+	4+
	Corpus Christi Bandits (..)		Rep.							∓		1+ 1—
619	Counter-Attack (89)		Col.	4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+	+		5+ 4—
	Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)		Col.						±			1+ 1
	Crazy Knights (63)		Mono.			∓					∓	2+ 2—
553	Crime by Night (72)		WB.	8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)		Col.	2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	7+ 6—
601	Crime, Inc. (74½)		PRC.	2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)		Col.	8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)		Col.	11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
	D											
594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)		Col.	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
557	Dangerous Journey (73)		20-Fox.	8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
591	Dangerous Passage (62)		Para.	12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 6—
566	Dark Mountain (56)		Para.	9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
583	Dark Waters (89)		UA.	11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1—
526	Days of Glory (86)		RKO.	4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)		Univ.	9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)		UA.	3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±		5+ 7—
547	Delinquent Daughters (72)		PRC.	7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3—
587	Destiny (65)		Univ.	12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
622	Diamond Horseshoe (104)			4-21-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
	Dillinger (..)		Mono.			+	∓		+	+	+	5+ 1—
548	Dixie Jamboree (72)		PRC.	7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5
611	Docks of New York (62)		Mono.	3-10-45	±	±	+	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
592	Double Exposure (64)		Para.	12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—	±	6+ 3—
561	Doughgirls, The (102)		WB.	9- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	±	±	10+ 2
550	Dragon Seed (145)		MGM.	7-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
540	Drifter, The (60)		PRC.	6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
	E											
602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)		Col.	2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)		Rep.	3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)		RKO.	2-17-45	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		9+
	End of the Road (51)		Rep.			±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
561	Enemy of Women (86)		Mono.	9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)		Univ.	12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
625	Escape in the Desert (81)		WB.	4-28-45	±		∓	±	∓			4+ 4—
609	Escape in the Fog (62)		Col.	3- 3-45	±	∓		±		∓		4+ 4—
611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)		Col.	3-10-45	±		±	±	∓	±	∓	6+ 6—
534	Eve of St. Mark, The (96)		20-Fox	5-20-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ		7+
567	Ever Since Venus (74)		Col.	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
587	Experiment Perilous (91)		RKO.	12- 9-44	ǂ	±	+	+	+	+	ǂ	9+ 1—
	F											
578	Faces in the Fog (71)		Rep.	10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)		RKO.	12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
554	Falcon in Mexico (70)		RKO.	8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
	Fashion Model (..)		Mono.			∓	+	—		∓	∓	4+ 4—
	Fighting Guardsman, The (..)		Col.			±						1+ 1—
595	Fighting Lady, The (61)		20-Fox.	1-13-45	+		ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	Firebrands of Arizona (55)		Rep.						∓			1+ 1—
623	Flame of the Barbary Coast (91)			4-21-45	+	+	±	+	±	+		6+ 2—
606	Fog Island (67)		PRC.	2-17-45	=	±	±	±	±	=	±	5+ 9—
544	Follow the Leader (65)		Mono.	6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±		6+ 6—
549	Forty Thieves (60)		UA.	7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
568	Frenchman's Creek (113)		Para.	9-23-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1—
606	Frisco Sal (94)		Univ.	2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
564	Frontier Outlaws (58)		PRC.	9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
	Fuzzy Settles Down (60)		PRC.						±	∓		2+ 2—
	G											
	Gangster's Den (..)		PRC.							∓		1+ 1—
570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)		PRC.	9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3
532	Gaslight (114)		MGM	5-13-44	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+
591	Gentle Annie (80)		MGM.	12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+		6+ 5—
540	Ghost Catchers (68)		Univ.	6-10-44	±	±	+	—	ǂ	±		6+ 4—
	Ghost Guns (60)		Mono.						+			1+
612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)		Mono.	3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)		RKO.	6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
	Girl in the Case, The (64)		Col.			∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
	Girl Who Dared, The (56)		Rep.			∓		∓	±	∓		4+ 4—
577	Girl Rush (65)		RKO.	10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
608	God Is My Co-Pilot (88)		WB.	2-24-45	+	±	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+ 1—
571	Goin' to Town (69)		RKO.	9-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6—
539	Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)		Rep.	6-10-44	—	±	∓	±	—	±	±	5+ 7—
536	Goyescas (110)		RKO.	5-27-44	∓		±	±				3+ 3—
	Great Day (..)		RKO.				∓					1+ 1—
624	Great Flamarion, The (..)		Rep.	4-21-44	+	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	6+ 6—
	Great John L., The (..)		UA.							ǂ		2+
566	Great Mike, The (73)		PRC.	9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2—

Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor. **In the summary # is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.**

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
541	Great Moment, The	(83)	Para	6-17-44	±	#	#	+	+	+	#	10+ 1−
	Great Stagecoach Robbery	(..)	Rep						±			1+ 1−
555	Greenwich Village	(82)	20-Fox	8-12-44	+	±	±	+	#	+	+	8+ 2−
597	Grissly's Millions	(71)	Rep	1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589	Guest in the House	(120)	UA	12-16-44	+	±	#	+	∓	#	+	9+ 2−
	Gunsmoke	(..)	Mono						±	±		2+ 2−
547	Gunsmoke Mesa	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601	Guy, a Girl and a Pal, A	(63)	Col	2-10-45	+		±		±	±	±	5+ 4−
556	Gypsy Wildcat	(86)	Univ	8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	H											
541	Hail the Conquering Hero	(101)	Para	6-17-44	+	#	#	#	#	#	#	13+
533	Hairy Ape, The	(91)	UA	5-20-44	+	+	#	+	+	+		7+
598	Hangover Square	(77)	20-Fox	1-20-45	+	+	#	+	#	#	+	10+
604	Having Wonderful Crime	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551	Heavenly Days	(72)	RKO	7-29-44	−	±	±	+	#	+	+	7+ 3−
542	Henry Aldrich's Little Secret	(74)	Para	6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601	Her Lucky Night	(63)	Univ	2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600	Here Come the Co-Eds	(88)	Univ	2- 3-45	+	±	#	+	#	+	+	9+ 1−
591	Here Come the WAVES	(99)	Para	12-23-44	+	±	#	#	#	+	+	10+ 1−
594	Hi Beautiful	(64)	Univ	12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607	High Powered	(..)	Para	2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±		6+ 5−
625	Hitchhike to Happiness	(70)	Rep	4-28-45	±				+	±		3+ 2−
588	Hollywood Canteen	(124)	WB	12- 9-44	#	+	#	#	#	+	+	11+
	Hollywood and Vine	(..)	PRC			±	+			±	±	4+ 3−
536	Home in Indiana	(103)	20-Fox	5-27-44	+	+	+	#	#	#	+	10+
627	Honeymoon Ahead	(59)	Univ	5- 5-45	±				±			2+ 2−
620	Horn Blows at Midnight, The	(80)	WB		+	+	±	+	∓	+	+	7+ 2−
612	Hotel Berlin	(98)	WB	3-10-45	+	±	#	+	±	±	#	9+ 2−
	House of Fear, The	(..)	Univ			∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593	House of Frankenstein	(71)	Univ	12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	I											
577	I Accuse My Parents	(68)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601	I Love a Mystery	(69)	Col	2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539	I Love a Soldier	(104)	Para	6-10-44	#	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
	Identity Unknown	(..)	Rep			+	#	+		+	±	6+ 1−
592	I'll Be Seeing You	(86)	UA	12-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	#		8+
624	I'll Remember April	(64)		4-21-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
579	I'm From Arkansas	(70)	PRC	10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5
559	Impatient Years, The	(91)	Col	8-26-44	+	±	+	+	#	+	#	9+ 1−
558	In Society	(74)	Univ	8-19-44	+	+	+	#	#	+	±	9+ 1
567	In the Meantime, Darling	(72)	20-Fox	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
537	Invisible Man's Revenge, The	(78)	Univ	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±		6+ 2
573	Irish Eyes Are Smiling	(90)	20-Fox	10-14-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
610	It's a Pleasure	(90)	RKO	3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	#		7+ 2−
605	It's in the Bag	(90)	UA	2-17-45	±	+	±	+	#	+		7+ 2−
	J											
	Jade Mask, The	(66)	Mono			±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
551	Janie	(102)	WB	7-29-44	+	±	#	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
533	Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More	(79)	Mono	5-20-44	+	±	+	+	+	+		6+ 1−
535	Jungle Woman	(67)	Univ	5-27-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	K											
	Kansas City Kitty	(72)	Col			±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604	Keep Your Powder Dry	(93)	MGM	2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592	Keys of the Kingdom	(137)	20-Fox	12-30-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	#	12+
	Kid Sister, The	(..)	PRC			±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560	Kismet	(100)	MGM	8-26-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	+	11+
	L											
533	Ladies of Washington	(61)	20-Fox	5-20-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6−
	Lady Confesses, The	(..)	PRC			±		±	±	±		4+ 4−
593	Lake Placid Serenade	(85)	Rep	12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	#	+	8+ 2−
	Land of the Outlaws	(56)	Mono					±	=	∓		2+ 4−
	Last Horseman, The	(54)	Col				±	∓	−	±	∓	4+ 5−
567	Last Ride, The	(56)	WB	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576	Laura	(88)	20-Fox	10-21-44	+	+	#	#	#	#	#	12+
546	Law Men	(55)	Mono	7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548	Law of the Saddle	(59)	PRC	7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ 4−
	Law of the Valley	(59)	Mono					±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605	Leave It to Blondie	(69)	Col	2-17-45	±	+	±			+	∓	5+ 3−
569	Leave It to the Irish	(61)	Mono	9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598	Let's Go Steady	(60)	Col	1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581	Lights of Old Santa Fe	(78)	Rep	11-11-44	+		#	+	±	+		6+ 1−
561	Lost in a Harem	(89)	MGM	9- 2-44	+	+	+	#	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549	Louisiana Hayride	(67)	Col	7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	M											
558	Machine Gun Mama	(67)	PRC	8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551	Mademoiselle Fifi	(69)	RKO	7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585	Main Street After Dark	(56)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555	Maisie Goes to Reno	(90)	MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
534	Make Your Own Bed	(82)	WB	5-20-44	+	−	+	−	±	∓	±	5+ 5−
532	Man From Frisco	(91)	Rep	5-13-44	+	±	±	±	+	#	+	8+ 3−
578	Man in Half Moon Street, The	(92)	Para	10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599	Man Who Walked Alone, The	(60)	PRC	2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543	Marine Raiders	(91)	RKO	6-24-44	∓	±	#		+	#	+	8+ 3−
574	Mark of the Whistler, The	(61)	Col	10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
	Marked for Murder	(..)	PRC							∓		1+ 1−
580	Marked Trails	(59)	Mono	10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556	Marriage Is a Private Affair	(117)	MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	#	8+ 3−
	Marshal of Reno	(56)	Rep						∓	±		2+ 2−
540	Mask of Dimitrios, The	(95)	WB	6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567	Master Race, The	(96)	RKO	9-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	#	+	9+
619	Medal for Benny, A	(80)	Para	4- 7-45	+	+	#	+	#	#		9+
582	Meet Me in St. Louis	(113)	MGM	11-11-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
575	Meet Miss Bobby Socks	(68)	Col	10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
559	Merry Monahans, The	(90)	Univ	8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	#	8+
543	Minstrel Man	(69)	PRC	6-24-44	#	+	+	+	#	+		8+
576	Ministry of Fear	(84)	Para	10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
625	Missing Corpse, The	(62)	PRC	4-28-45	−	±		±	±			3+ 4−
584	Missing Juror, The	(66)	Col	11-18-44	+	±	±	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3
613	Molly and Me	(76)	20-Fox	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559	Moonlight and Cactus	(60)	Univ	8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4
596	Mr. Emmanuel	(92)	UA	1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	#	#	8+ 3−
536	Mr. Skeffington	(127)	WB	5-27-44	+	#	#	#	+	+		9+
547	Mr. Winkle Goes to War	(80)	Col	7-15-44	+	±	+	+	#	+	±	8+ 2
568	Mrs. Parkington	(124)	MGM	9-23-44	+	#	#	#	#	#	+	12+
	Muggs Rides Again	(..)	Mono			∓						1+ 1−
598	Mummy's Curse, The	(60)	Univ	1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
619	Murder, He Says	(93)	Para	4- 7-45	±	+	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
583	Murder in the Blue Room	(61)	Univ	11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588	Murder, My Sweet	(95)	RKO	12- 9-44	+	±	#	±	+	+	#	9+ 2−
590	Music for Millions	(117)	MGM	12-16-44	+	±	#	±	+	#	#	10+ 2−
552	Music in Manhattan	(81)	RKO	7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576	My Buddy	(69)	Rep	10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586	My Gal Loves Music	(63)	Univ	12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
568	My Pal Wolf	(75)	RKO	9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	#	+	8+ 3−
543	Mystery Man	(58)	UA	6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
	N											
565	National Barn Dance	(76)	Para	9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
590	National Velvet	(124)	MGM	12-16-44	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	14+
590	Nevada	(62)	RKO	12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594	Night Club Girl	(60)	Univ	12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538	Night of Adventure, A	(65)	RKO	6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
572	None But the Lonely Heart	(113)	RKO	9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	#	#	9+ 3−
585	Nothing But Trouble	(69)	MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
	O											
	Oath of Vengeance	(..)	PRC							±		1+ 1−
600	Objective, Burma!	(142)	WB	2- 3-45	+	+	#	+	+	#	#	10+
558	Oh, What a Night	(71)	Mono	8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
	Old Chisholm Trail	(60)	Univ				±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
577	One Body Too Many	(76)	Para	10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
	One Mysterious Night	(61)	Col			±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562	Our Hearts Were Young and Gay	(81)	Para	9- 2-44	+	±	#	+	#	#	#	11+ 1−
537	Outlaw Trail	(53)	Mono	6- 3-44	±		∓		∓		∓	4+ 4−
555	Outlaws of Santa Fe	(56)	Rep	8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
	P											
604	Pan Americana	(70)	RKO	2-17-45	+	±	±	+	#	∓	±	8+ 4−
509	Passage to Marseille	(109)	WB	2-19-44	+	+	#	+	+	+	#	9+
505	Passport to Destiny	(64)	RKO	2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
621	Patrick the Great	(89)		4-21-45	±	+	+	+	+		#	7+ 1−
561	Pearl of Death, The	(69)	Univ	9- 2-44	∓	+	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3
	Phantom of 42nd Street	(..)	PRC			±			∓	∓		3+ 3−
	Phantom Speaks, The	(69)		4-28-45	∓	±		±	±	∓		5+ 5−
607	Picture of Dorian Gray	(110)	MGM	2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	#	#	#	10+ 2−
627	Pillow to Post	(94)	WB	5- 5-45	±							1+ 1−
545	Port of Forty Thieves	(58)	Rep	7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	+	7+
612	Power of the Whistler, The	(72)	Col	3-10-45	∓	∓	∓			−	±	4+ 5−
592	Practically Yours	(90)	Para	12-23-44	+	+	#	+	+	+	#	9+
576	Princess and the Pirate, The	(94)	RKO	10-21-44	#	+	#	+	#	#	#	12+

⧺ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor. In the summary ⧺ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G.	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	R											
532	Raiders of Red Gap (59)	PRC	5-13-44		±		∓				∓	3+ 3−
565	Rainbow Island (97)	Para	9- 9-44		±	∓	±	+	⧺	±	+	8+ 4−
563	Range Law (57)	Mono	9- 2-44		±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
566	Reckless Age (63)	Univ	9- 9-44		±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
548	Return of the Ape Man (60)	Mono	7-15-44		−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
	Riders of Santa Fe (63)	Univ								±		1+ 1−
579	Riding West (58)	Col	10-28-44		+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
623	Rockin' in the Rockies (67)		4-21-45		−							1−
535	Roger Touhy, Gangster (65)	20-Fox	5-27-44		±	±	+	∓	+	+		6+ 3−
605	Rogues' Gallery (60)	PRC	2-17-45		±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
606	Rough Riding Justice (58)	Col	2-17-45		∓			∓	±			3+ 3−
609	Rough, Tough and Ready (66)	Col	3- 3-45		±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
600	Roughly Speaking (128)	WB	2- 3-45		+	±	±	+	±	⧺	⧺	9+ 3−
615	Royal Scandal, A (94)	20-Fox	3-24-45		±	⧺	⧺	+	+	+	+	9+ 1−
581	Rustler's Hideout (62)	PRC	11-11-44		±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
	S											
593	Saddle Leather Law (55)	Col	12-30-44		±				−			1+ 2−
598	Sagebrush Heroes (54)	Col	1-20-45		±					∓		2+ 2−
621	Salome, Where She Danced (90)		4-21-45		+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3−
608	Salty O'Rourke (100)	Para	2-24-45		+	+	±	+	+	±	⧺	8+ 2−
	San Antonio Kid, The (56)	Rep							±	±		2+ 2−
566	San Diego, I Love You (83)	Univ	9- 9-44		+	+	+	+	⧺	+	±	8+ 1−
562	San Fernando Valley (74)	Rep	9- 2-44		+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
	Saratoga Trunk (..)	WB								⧺		2+
620	Scared Stiff (64)	Para	4- 7-45		∓	=	±	±	∓	±		5+ 7−
	Scarlet Clue, The (..)	Mono	4-28-45		±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
537	Secret Command (82)	Col	6- 3-44		+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2−
543	Secrets of Scotland Yard (68)	Rep	6-24-44		±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
602	See My Lawyer (69)	Univ	2-10-45		±	±			∓	±		4+ 4−
544	Sensations of 1945 (86)	UA	6-24-44		±	+	+	⧺	+	+	+	8+ 1−
584	Sergeant Mike (60)	Col	11-18-44		±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
557	Seven Doors to Death (62)	PRC	8-19-44		±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
552	Seventh Cross, The (112)	MGM	7-29-44		±	+	⧺	+	−	+	⧺	8+ 2−
575	Shadow of Suspicion (68)	Mono	10-21-44		±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
575	Shadows in the Night (67)	Col	10-21-44		±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6−
596	She Gets Her Man (74)	Univ	1-13-45		±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
551	She's a Soldier Too (67)	Col	7-29-44		±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
587	She's a Sweetheart (69)	Col	12- 9-44		±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
	Sheriff of Cimarron (..)	Rep							+			1+
	Sheriff of Las Vegas (55)	Rep							+			1+
	Sheriff of Sundown (56)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1−
560	Sign of the Cross (118)	Para	8-26-44		+			⧺		±		4+ 1−
	Silver City Kid (55)	Rep							∓	∓		2+ 2−
	Silver Fleet, The (..)	PRC				+		+				2+
552	Since You Went Away (174)	UA	7-29-44		⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
595	Sing Me a Song of Texas (66)	Col	1-13-45		+					±		2+ 1−
558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing (70)	Rep	8-19-44		±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
570	Singing Sheriff, The (63)	Univ	9-23-44		−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
582	Something for the Boys (87)	20-Fox	11-11-44		∓	±	±	⧺	+	±	+	8+ 4−
622	Son of Lassie (102)		4-21-45		±	⧺	+	+	±	⧺		8+ 2−
607	Song for Miss Julie (69)	Rep	2-24-45			−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
542	Song of Nevada (75)	Rep	6-17-44		+		+	+	+	+		5+
529	Song of the Open Road (93)	UA	5- 6-44		+	+	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 1−
	Song of the Sarong		4-28-45		=	−	±	−	±	±		3+ 7−
599	Song to Remember, A (112)	Col	2- 3-45		⧺	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
564	Sonora Stagecoach (51)	Mono	9- 2-44		+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
559	Soul of a Monster, The (61)	Col	8-26-44		∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
536	South of Dixie (61)	Univ	5-27-44		∓	±	±	±	±	±	−	6+ 7−
628	Southerner, The (91)	UA	5- 5-45		+	+	±		⧺	⧺		7+ 1−
610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The (60)	PRC	3- 3-45		±	∓				±		3+ 3−
	Stagecoach to Monterey (55)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1−
545	Step Lively (88)	RKO	7- 1-44		+	±	±	+	⧺		+	7+ 2−
	Steppin' in Society (..)	Rep								±		1+ 1−
562	Storm Over Lisbon (86)	Rep	9- 2-44		∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
526	Story of Dr. Wassell (136)	Para	4-22-44		+	±	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+ 1−
573	Strange Affair (78)	Col	10-14-44		±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
603	Strange Illusion (87)	PRC	2-17-45		+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
	Stranger From Santa Fe (..)	Mono								∓		1+ 1−
	Strangers in the Night (56)	Rep				+		+	±			3+ 1
612	Sudan (76)	Univ	3-10-45		±	±	+	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
535	Summer Storm (106)	UA	5-27-44		+	+	+	±	+	+	⧺	8+ 1−
588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (86)	20-Fox	12- 9-44		+	+	+	+	+	⧺	⧺	9+
553	Sundown Valley (55)	Col	8- 5-44		±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
594	Suspect, The (85)	Univ	12-30-44		+	⧺	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	10+
554	Sweet and Lowdown (75)	20-Fox	8- 5-44		+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
582	Swing Hostess (76)	PRC	11-11-44		±	±			±	±		4+ 4
	Swing in the Saddle (..)	Col							∓			1+ 1−
	Swing Out, Sister (60)	Univ					±	±				3+ 3−
	T											
593	Tahiti Nights (63)	Col	12-30-44		±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
539	Take It Big (76)	Para	6-10-44		∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
548	Take It or Leave It (70)	20-Fox	7-15-44		±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
572	Tall in the Saddle (87)	RKO	9-30-44		+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	9+
616	Tarzan and the Amazons (75)	RKO	3-24-45		±	∓		±	±	+	±	6+ 5−
569	That's My Baby (68)	Rep	9-23-44		=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
	There Goes Kelly (..)	Mono				∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
589	They Shall Have Faith (83)	Mono	12-16-44		±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
587	Thin Man Goes Home (101)	MGM	12- 9-44		+	+	±	±	⧺	⧺	+	9+ 2−
584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (138)	MGM	11-18-44		+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
595	This Man's Navy (100)	MGM	1-13-45		+	±	±	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
	Thoroughbreds (55)	Rep				±	±			±	∓	4+ 4−
621	Those Endearing Young Charms (81)		4-21-45		+	∓		±	+	±		5+ 3−
590	Three Caballeros, The (71)	RKO	12-16-44		+	⧺	⧺	+		⧺		8+
585	Three Is a Family (81)	UA	12- 2-44		⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	11+
554	Three Little Sisters (69)	Rep	8- 5-44		±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
563	Three of a Kind (67)	Mono	9- 2-44		±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
	Thrill of a Romance (..)	MGM								⧺		2+
599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (78)	20-Fox	2- 3-45		+	+	+	+	+	⧺	+	8+
572	Thundering Gun Slingers (60)	PRC	9-30-44		∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
565	Till We Meet Again (88)	Para	9- 9-44		∓	±	+	+	±	+	⧺	8+ 3−
581	Together Again (100)	Col	11-11-44		⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
574	To Have and Have Not (100)	WB	10-14-44		+	+	+	+	+	+	⧺	8+
591	Tomorrow the World (87)	UA	12-30-44		+	⧺	⧺	+	+	⧺	⧺	12+
600	Tonight and Every Night (92)	Col	2- 3-45		+	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	+	+	10+
	Topeka Terror, The (55)	Rep							±			1+ 1−
581	Town Went Wild, The (79)	PRC	11-11-44		±	⧺	∓	+	+	+	=	7+ 4−
599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (128) 20-Fox		2- 3-45		+	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
	Trigger Law (54)	Mono							∓			1+ 1−
538	Tucson Raiders (55)	Rep	6- 3-44		+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
539	Twilight on the Prairie (62)	Univ	6-10-44		∓	±		±	−	∓		4+ 5−
624	Two O'Clock Courage (..)	RKO	4-21-45		±	±	∓	=	±	±	±	6+ 8−
	U											
549	U-Boat Prisoner (65)	Col	7-22-44		∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
597	Under Western Skies (57)	Univ	1-20-45		−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
556	Underground Guerrillas (82)	Col	8-12-44		∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
608	Unseen, The (80)	Para	2-24-45		∓	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
582	Unwritten Code, The (61)	Col	11-11-44		±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
	Utah (..)	Rep					+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
	Utah Kid, The (57)	Mono							±			1+ 1−
	V											
621	Valley of Decision, The (102)		4-21-45		⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	⧺		11+
563	Valley of Vengeance (56)	PRC	9- 2-44		±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
625	Vampire's Ghost, The (59)		4-28-45		=	−		±	−	∓		2+ 6−
573	Very Thought of You, The (99)	WB	10-14-44		+	+	±	±	⧺	±	+	8+ 3−
	Vigilantes of Dodge City (55)	Rep							±	±		2+ 2−
	W											
534	Waterfront (66)	PRC	5-20-44		±	±	±	±	+		±	6+ 5−
553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A (70) Mono		8- 5-44		±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
580	West of Rio Grande (57)	Mono	10-28-44		±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
557	When Strangers Marry (67)	Mono	8-19-44		+	⧺	+	+	+	+		7+
570	When the Lights Go On Again (74)	PRC	9-23-44		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
602	What a Blonde (71)	RKO	2-10-45		±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
560	Whistler, The (59)	Col	7-22-44		±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
556	Wilson (158)	20-Fox	8-12-44		⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
550	Wing and a Prayer (97)	20-Fox	7-22-44		±	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	11+ 1−
586	Winged Victory (130)	20-Fox	12- 2-44		⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
	Wild Horse Phantom (..)	PRC							±			1+ 1−
616	Without Love (111)	MGM	3-24-45		+	±	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	+	10+ 1−
574	Woman in the Window, The (99)	RKO	10-14-44		⧺	⧺	+	⧺	⧺		⧺	11+
626	Wonder Man, The (96)	RKO	4-28-45		⧺		⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺		10+
	Y											
534	Yellow Rose of Texas (69)	Rep	5-20-44		+		+	+	+	+	±	6+ 1−
595	Youth on Trial (59)	Col	1-13-45		±	±	±					3+ 3−
546	Youth Runs Wild (67)	RKO	7- 1-44		−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−
	Z											
623	Zombies on Broadway (68)		4-21-45		∓	−	±	±	±	−		4+ 6−

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The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

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EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS END; PEACETIME STATUS BACK BY '46

New York—Major attorneys are preparing to seek the "assurance" of the U. S. attorney general's office that in handing out policy will prevail if the industry attempts to contrive a fair trade practice program.

The projected move, Boxoffice learns from unimpeachable sources, is based on the theory that distributor leader meetings with exhibitor bodies—which establishment of the trade practice program would necessitate—might be settled upon by the government to readjust its consent decrees—will define the conditions and practices which the industry is to follow in its relations with exhibitors. This line of reasoning gains weight in light of open expressions in some quarters to the effect that the government's suit was brought with "malice."

Resumption of conferences toward setting up a trade practice is scheduled immediately after Labor Day. If the "assurance" the major attorneys seek is not forthcoming, indefinite postponement may result. It is understood that representations will be made to the attorney general's office in time for the distributor leaders who are mapping the program to resume conferences on schedule.

Just what the reaction of the exhibitor leaders will be to the proposal to hold the belief

(See Page 8)

The Movies:

'Valley' and 'Clock' Both Ring Bell



By LEE MORTIMER

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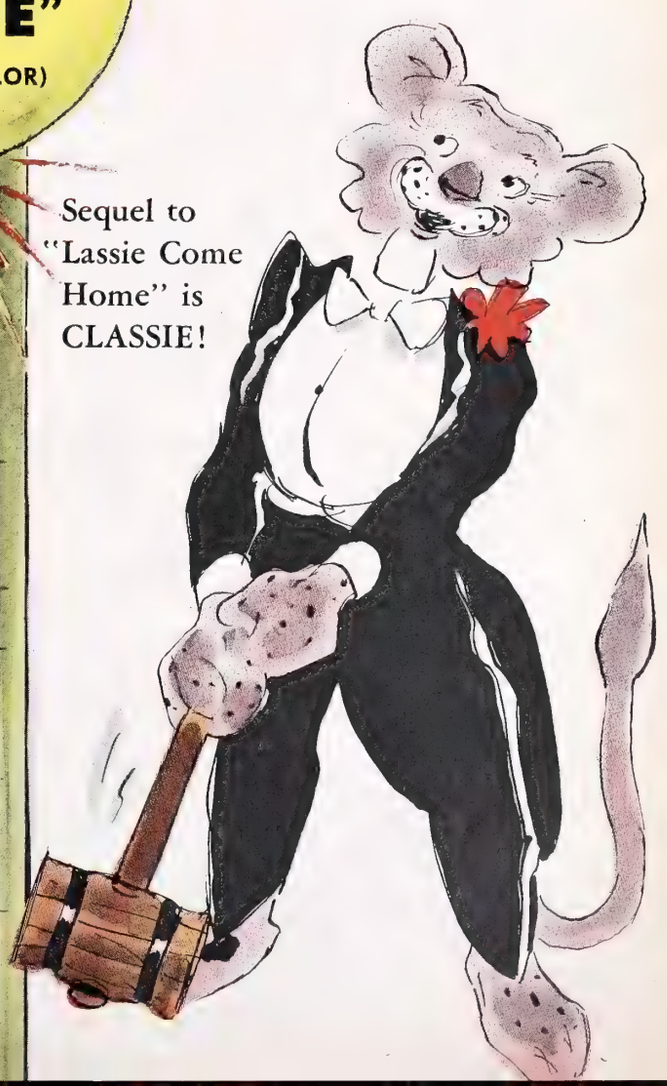
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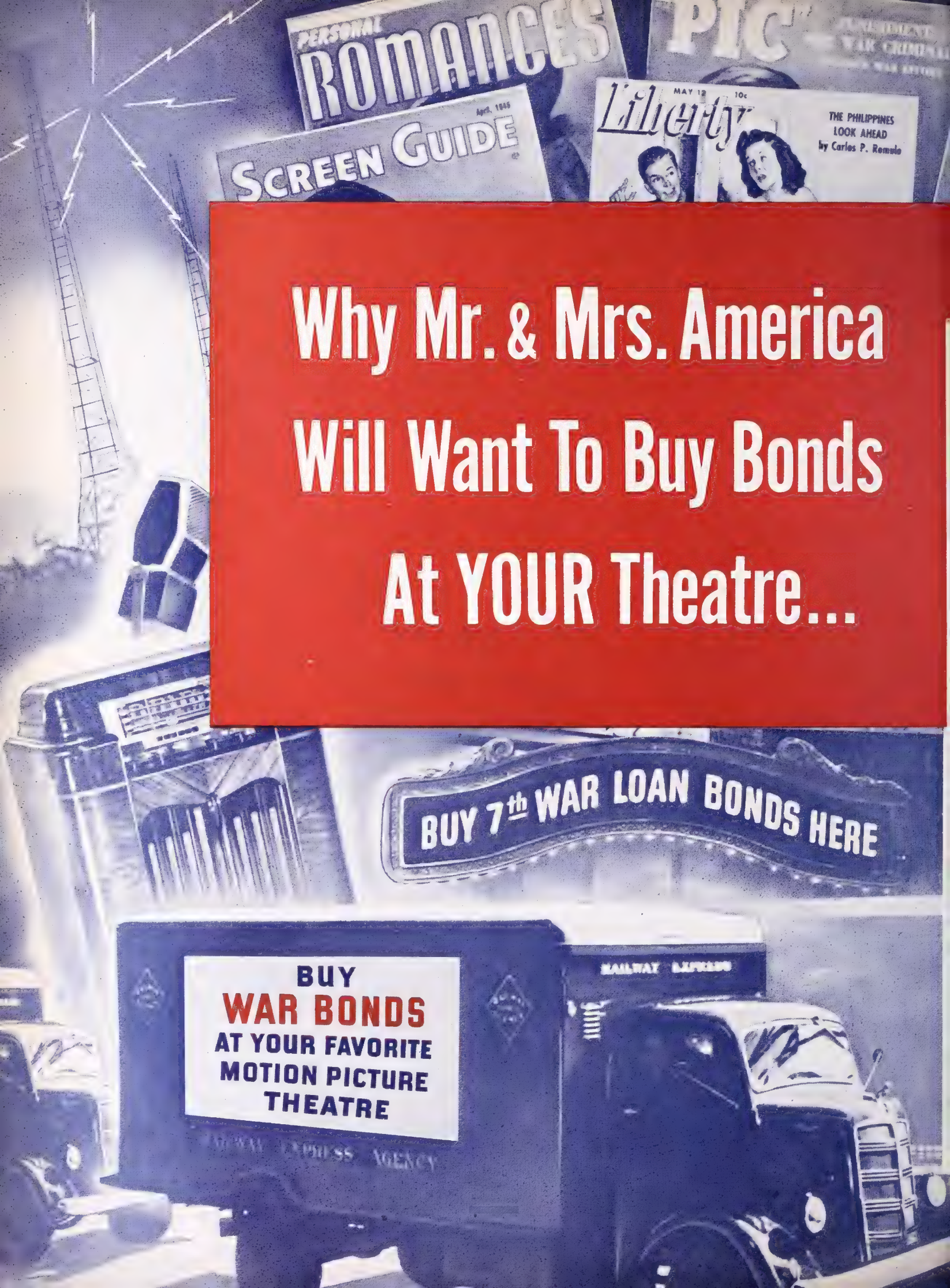
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MIGHTY 7th War Loan

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WASHINGTON—2812 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Al Sherman, EMerson 2652. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

CALGARY—The Albertan, Wm. Campbell.
HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.
MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

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BOXOFFICE

MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

THINGS are moving fast in Washington as regards the lifting of bans that restricted manufacture of various commodities for civilian use, among which are many equipment items of interest to exhibitors. But the movement will not be so rapid when it comes to obtaining the materials with which to start manufacture of the various articles. However, the sights are levelled at the not-too-distant future, thus the outlook is rather encouraging.

It is expected that such vital needs as projectors will be available for delivery in goodly quantities around the first of the year. Much-needed parts will be easier to obtain in the meanwhile. And situations where fires or other accidents have occurred will be more quickly served than in the past.

The prospect for new building is not so good, due not only to materials shortages but to lack of labor for construction work. However, this does not apply in all areas. Yet it is in the places where war production has increased populations, brought new industries, many of which will remain when war work is finished, that additional theatre facilities are needed. The processes of reconversion will not come as quickly as may be desired, which, in the final analysis, may be a good thing. Too rapid expansion and overbuilding has, in the past, been very harmful.

The lifting of restrictions in effect prior to VE-Day has enabled motion picture people to see and plan ahead. Those who started their postwar thinking early have an advantage over those who did not. But better planning and better execution of plans can be effected with the fuller knowledge of what is what. Among things to come there will be many new, and some revolutionary, ideas. The delay in their beginning has allowed for experimentation in the laboratories, which should be helpful and healthful. In this way many of the "bugs" have been eliminated and costly experimentation in the theatre avoided.

As a result of the reconversion there will be temporary shutdowns of huge factories and many smaller ones. But the vast majority will continue to make war materiel while the resumption of civilian goods manufacture is in process. Except for the very large centers wide-scale unemployment is not expected. But there will be temporary layoffs and complete layoffs of some shifts.

It has been felt that downtown theatres, having gained the patronage of war workers on night and swing shifts at early morning and matinee performances, will experience some loss of this patronage. The return to normal workday hours, with

evenings free, should benefit the neighborhood houses, many of which did not benefit by the boom conditions that existed in their cities.

The period of readjustment will be one of gradual process until VJ-Day. After that it may take on sharper aspects. But they need not be severe—and they will not be, if exhibitors move along with the times and plan even just a little ahead. There should be no mad scrambles to do anything. The slow but constant approach will bring the most lasting and best results.

* *

And, Then, There's Television

Speaking of things to come, there is television. A great many things have been predicted for it, among which is its killing effect on the motion picture theatre. A modification of this theory lies in the declaration by Mr. Joseph Gerl, president of Sonora Radio & Television Corp., before the University of Chicago Sociology Club. He predicted that television would bring about the demise of class B and C movies and thereby force the closing of "a good number of small movie houses over the next decade."

But even Mr. Gerl admitted that "television cannot take the place of all movies, because the class A, colossal movie production, would be too expensive for television stations to show." And we would say the same for a great majority of the B and C pictures.

Instead of taking to heart Mr. Gerl's fears for the small theatre, we rather imagine their owners would welcome the day when the Bs and Cs were no more. But, alas, it is our guess that motion pictures made for television will start out, at least, much farther down the alphabet.

Another thing, the gregarious instincts of people, American's especially, will never keep them home enough to see all of the many things promised and predicted for television. Too, people still will want to see and hear things at times convenient to them. The housewife can't look at a televised program and do her kitchen work, too. She'll still want to go "out" when her day's work is done. And the movies still will be the best place for boys to take their girls.

We don't think that television will displace motion pictures as entertainment in theatres—small or large—or newspapers or radio broadcasting. It may, however, have a greater effect on the latter, for it is more a part of radio than anything else. Even so, it will not displace it, for some of radio's best talent would be a visual bust.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Long Existent Battle Over Film Extras Seems Settled

Four A's throw full support to Screen Extras Guild; charter to be issued following election, an action that hamstrings insurgent SPU.

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Report Demobilization Film Is Received Rather Coldly

"Two Down and One to Go," army's explanation of sifting of GIs with no reference to navy, gets bad press and public reception in places on grounds it's outdated.

• • • ——

No Tax Cuts Until Japs Are Given Their Beating

So says President Truman, squelching moves in Congress and elsewhere on ground expenses are to continue high and budget must be protected until war's end.

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Stephen Early Will Become Pullman System Executive

Reports that former Paramount capital representative and secretary to FDR would return to industry set at rest by announcement he'll be car firm's vice-president.

• • • ——

Raw Stock Shortage Cuts Universal's Deliveries

Reported difficulty in making prints reduced releases in first quarter and outlook for remainder of year depends on easing of situation.

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Spyros Skouras Is Due Back From Europe in Short Time

Now revealed his trip included Continental areas and Greece as well as London conference with J. Arthur Rank. He also did some work for UNRRA in his native country.

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Ralph B. Austrian Favoring Films in "Runs" for Tele

Executive tells SMPE coast meet this will solve network problems of video and furnish new source of revenue for film industry producers.

• • • ——

Cowdin and Mayer Leave Hospitals in New York

Universal executive, recovering from operation, to recuperate on coast; Metroite checking on leg injuries sustained some months ago told no operation is necessary.

• • • ——

Say Independent Producers Planning Own Export Group

Coast association said considering organization under Webb Act in spite of fact similar setup mulled by newly organized foreign corporations of distributors.

EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS END; PEACETIME STATUS BACK BY '46

Some Controls Still Remain Over Sound and Projection Machine Manufacture

By AL SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—Exhibitors may breathe a sigh of relief over revocations of erstwhile prohibitory orders put into effect by the War Production Board. Items ranging from portable rug-scrubbing machines to such theatre essentials as motion picture projection and sound equipment, as well as such extra money-makers, such as coin-vending machines, have been released from limitations. However, any dancing in the streets planned by showmen to express their glee over this may be slowed down to a shuffle by the fact that military needs still prevail. While revocation of some WPB orders is in effect, release of needed manufacturing materials to bring such equipment to civilian use still is subject to priority requests from the armed forces and to strict WPB limitation orders still prevailing on those materials.

Some Controls Are Continuing

Order L-325, governing production and distribution of motion picture sound and projection equipment, including sound and amplifying systems, has been revoked, as previously reported in BOXOFFICE. However, other controls over the acquisition and use of materials for production of projection equipment continue in effect, WPB has announced.

This latter paragraph in the WPB statement is the joker that may keep such equipment out of theatres for several months to come. While steel, copper and aluminum may be released July 1 for civilian goods, subject to military requirements, it is important to note that military demands will continue to be high until the Pacific war is brought to a victorious end. However, revocation of L-325 does state that "sale and loan of new projection equipment no longer is subject to specific WPB authorization on Form WPB-1319." That's swell news, if you've had your order in for such equipment many months before.

Current revocation orders apply to the production for civilian use of the following:

Floor sanding, finishing and maintenance machines; portable rug-scrubbing machines; industrial vacuum cleaners; blowers for cleaning purposes; all of which were previously subject to limitation order L-222, prohibiting their production for civilian use.

Ease Up on Coin Machines

Coin - and - token - operated merchandise vending machines (except for sanitary napkin-vending devices); subject to order L-27, one of the first restrictive orders put into effect by the WPB. Production of these machines will be limited to the availability of materials and WMC labor clearance, where additional labor is required. The use of zinc, tin and lead for the manufacture of these machines is restricted by WPB materials conservation orders. Types of machines covered by L-27 are token or coin operated vending machines offering cigarets, candy, chewing gum, nuts, bulk and bottle beverages and foods, photographs, drinking cups and sanitary napkins. The last-named item still is on the restricted list.

Raw Stock Alleviation Is Due in Early 1946

Hollywood—There is every indication that the shortage in film raw stock will be eased in the first part of 1946, according to an outline by Stanley B. Adams, chief of the consumers' durable goods division of the WPB. This analysis was contained in a telegram the official sent to John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers here.

Additional Revocations That Affect Exhibitor

WASHINGTON—The government has revoked several more orders that affect the exhibitor. Latest among WPB's revocation orders are those applying to the following:

L-38, covering production and delivery of industrial and commercial refrigerating and air-conditioning machinery and equipment. WPB emphasizes that revocation of this order must "not be considered an assurance that all the materials required to produce a product will be available."

L-126, which set forth required specifications and schedules for specified items for industrial and commercial refrigeration and air conditioning machinery and equipment (L-89, covering elevators and escalators) L-21, issued Dec. 10, 1941, to halt production of coin or token operated automatic phonographs and amusement and gaming devices until the controlled materials plan is opened. However, WPB pointed out use of steel, copper and aluminum will be limited to the availability of those materials from idle and excess inventories.

L-267, issued Sept. 15, 1943, to control productions and distribution of photographic equipment, has been revoked. WPB pointed out that steel, copper and aluminum will not be available except from idle and excess inventories until July 1, when CMP will be open-ended.

Meantime, manufacturers may place orders without CMP allotments for delivery after July 1. Under the revocation, 35mm reels and cans, darkroom and studio accessories, still cameras, motion picture cameras, amateur cameras and equipment for 8mm and 16mm may be produced for civilian use.

Restrictions on the manufacture of electric pumps and electric cellar drainers were lifted subject to the usual prohibition now prevailing on critical materials.

"Call of the Wild" Release Has Been Set for June 15

NEW YORK—Tom Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, stated Thursday that "Call of the Wild," a Clark Gable reissue, would be released June 15. The picture was withdrawn from release several weeks ago because of legal complications, after having been offered to exhibitors.

Gable's services, he said, had been loaned by Metro when the picture was made and it was claimed that certain restrictive provisions in agreement for the loan had been violated by announcement of the reissue. These difficulties have been ironed out.

Manufacturers' "Policing" Arrangement Necessary On Civilian Sales

WASHINGTON—It will be the end of the year before the full effects of cutbacks and reconversion to civilian manufacturing will make it possible for the industry to get all the equipment it needs for theatre operations on a basis of approximately peacetime usage, it was stated by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the Office of Civilian Requirements.

"While it is true that order L-325, restricting sales on sound and projection equipment without priorities, has been lifted," stated Smith, "it also is true that the manufacturer will not be in a position to fulfill all needed orders for some time to come. I estimate that it will be January 1946 before sound and projection equipment manufacturers will be able to get all the needed materials to place their production for civilian use on a basis approximating peacetime activity.

"At present, manufacturers' allocations of such equipment for civilian use approximates 335 machines each quarter. There is a possibility that the fourth quarter, starting in October, will find this allocation increased, however, it is important to realize that the Pacific war may change the entire setup. Although I doubt if controls will be made operative, inasmuch as priorities on material for military use will compel manufacturers to do their own 'policing' of sales for civilian use."

Exhibitors Planning Construction Of New Theatres Must Be Patient

WASHINGTON—Exhibitors planning new theatre construction are advised to be patient, according to WPB's civilian requirements' office. The WPB has announced flatly that it will not be able to authorize additional motion picture theatre construction in the immediate future due to critical shortages of seating, textiles, projection and sound equipment. The WPB also stated that lack of manpower in tight labor areas and an insufficient supply of certain construction material also are determining factors that will hold up any further authorization of theatre building.

Because of governmental statements that various materials were due to be released from WPB restrictions after VE-Day, the OCR has been swamped with applications for theatre construction. The WPB has decided to clarify its position with respect to an order to stop the present flood of applications.

WPB has stated that no available facilities exist for the picture projection equipment for commercial use. Former manufacturers of chairs and seats now are occupied with war work and although production of projection and sound equipment is at its highest peak since 1941, it is sufficient only to meet requirements of the armed services with partial replacement of civilian theatre equipment damaged or destroyed by fire. No reservoir of production or supply exists from which new civilian theatres can be equipped, OCR officials pointed out.

A total of 263 applications for theatre construction was considered by WPB between January and April 1945, OCR disclosed.

PRIORITY!

GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL KNOWS WHAT IS VITAL TO OUR CONTINUED WAR EFFORT. LISTEN!

TO 16,000 PATRIOTS!

"The showing in your theatre of

'TWO DOWN AND ONE TO GO'

is a most important contribution to our continued war effort, as it is imperative that this message which tells the story of redeployment and partial demobilization be seen by the maximum number of people in the shortest possible time. Your showing of this important film at every performance will aid materially in the task that lies ahead."

—GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL, CHIEF OF STAFF

Produced in TECHNICOLOR by the Army Pictorial Service for General Staff, U. S. Army. Released through the Office of War Information and distributed by M-G-M for the War Activities Committee—Motion Picture Industry.

PROPOSAL FOR FILM FREEDOM COMING UP AT PEACE MEETING

Presentations to Abolish Restraint Get Attention, Stettinius Declares

NEW YORK—Motion pictures together with press, radio and other forms of international communications are receiving "very earnest attention" of this government at the United Nations' Peace Conference, according to a letter sent by Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius to John S. Knight, director of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. The letter was read at a luncheon of the American Civil Liberties Union. It was in reply to a request from the union urging consideration of international freedom of communications at the conference.

Clears Some Uncertainties

When the department of state was reorganized some months ago, films were included in the communications division at the insistence of industry leaders, and there has been widespread hope that as a result the government would attempt to end or to soften many of the restrictions on American films in foreign countries prior to the start of the United Nations gathering. Little was said about communications and there had been some fear in industry circles that these would be overlooked. The Stettinius letter clears away some of these uncertainties.

The luncheon at which the letter was read was for the purpose of discussing world freedom of speech and press and was attended by a number of film men.

The telegram sent to Stettinius read in part: "Speaking for those attending the meeting in New York on world freedom of speech and the press and the screen, may we suggest the desirability of adopting some such resolutions as were agreed to at the Mexico City Conference, directed at censorship and restraints on free communications. The importance of free communications to world peace would appear to justify special reference as a subject for prompt negotiations and action."

James L. Fly, former chairman of the FCC, was one of the speakers.

"Arrangements must be made," he said, "whereby motion pictures can be freely produced, freely distributed and freely exhibited. The government must keep its hands off contents of communications. We insist on the removal of restrictive taxes, quotas and other burdens here and abroad."

Television's Importance Stressed

Arthur DeBra, research director for MPPDA, was another speaker. He said that the world should anticipate the imminent arrival of television and should make room "in our thinking for this new media through which we can exchange ideas." He added:

"Insofar as we can make a common cause for pressing toward world freedom for all peoples to read news, to listen to news, and to see news in pictures, we will be the more effective in that purpose."

DeBra pointed out the growing importance of newsreels. The content of domestic reels originating abroad has shot up since the start of the war. In all five newsreels, he said, international contents were 22.7 and 23.8 per cent, respectively, in 1940 and 1941. In 1944 the proportion shot up to 57 per cent in one newsreel and 85 in another. Reciprocal trade agreements now being arranged by the department of state, DeBra concluded, are of an inestimable value to the industry because they are intended to break down the barriers in foreign countries erected to hamper dissemination of liberal democratic ideals.

Other speakers were Francis DeWolf, of the communications division of the department of state; Avery Newton, speaking for Cranston Williams, general manager of the American Newspaper Publishers Ass'n; Morris L. Ernst, counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and Dr. John Haines Holmes, who presided in a question period following the addresses. Ernst said he envisioned 50,000 portable theatres and he was against limiting film production. Also, he said, he would like to see raw stock rationing revised, just as was done with newspaper stock.

Ernst advocated "eliminating the first thousand dollars of excess profits taxes for purveyors of thought," and he asked:

"Why not encourage disseminators of progressive thoughts, whether on screen or printed page, with an assisting tax?"

As evidence of the state department's attitude toward the film business, DeWolf subsequently revealed that the U.S. government has abolished all Fascist laws affecting the Italian film industry. Italians are now producing anti-Fascist films featuring opera stars, in the hope of obtaining American and British goodwill. These stars recently were denied entry into England and the U.S.

Mayor LaGuardia of New York failed to obtain state department approval on some singers for the New York City Center Opera Co. The department may grant several stars six-month visitor permits to join the Metropolitan for the fall season provided the Allied command in Italy first clears them of having Fascist involvements, DeWolf said.

UA Withdraws From the Hays Office; MPPDA Is Silent After Resignation

NEW YORK—News of the withdrawal of United Artists from the MPPDA startled many film men when it became known on Tuesday of this week. There had been only vague hints some months ago that UA might withdraw.



EDWARD C. RAFTERY

Word was received by Will H. Hays early in the day from Edward C. Raftery, UA president, but he refused to make any comment during the afternoon and early evening, although a meeting was held at the MPPDA office.

The resignation will become effective in six months, as this is in accordance with the association bylaws and was the procedure followed in the case of the recent withdrawal of Warners.

The United Artists statement follows:

"In view of the fact virtually all of the producers using the facilities of United Artists Corp. for distribution have joined the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, the owners of United Artists Corp. have deemed it to the best interests of the company to resign from the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, the resignation becoming effective on or about Sept. 21, 1945.

Affiliate Joins the SIMPP

"They also have authorized United Artists Productions, the producing affiliate of the corporation, to become a member of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers so that its trade association activities will be carried on exclusively through the association to which its producers belong and which its affiliate has joined."

No official word on the point was forthcoming, but it is understood the company will continue to submit its pictures for production code approval and will pay its proportionate share of the costs of this service, as Warner Bros. are doing.

The UA withdrawal leaves Columbia, Loew's, Inc., Paramount, 20th-Fox and Universal as the principal distributors in the MPPDA.

An angle that had some commentators mystified was the fact that so many independent producers, even though they are affiliated with a major distributing organization, continue with the MPPDA, while UA producers do not. Cecil B. DeMille Productions, Inc., Walt Disney Productions, Inc., Educational Films, Hal Roach Studios, Inc., Samuel Goldwyn, Walter Wanger Pictures, Inc., and Lester Cowan Productions are members.

Hays' Hollywood Office Also Silent On Resignation of United Artists

HOLLYWOOD — Although United Artists' local press department confirmed the report that UA is withdrawing from the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, more popularly known as the Hays office, the local office of the MPPDA was characteristically silent on the loss of UA as a member.

Simultaneously with the UA statement, John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, broadcast the information that nine new members have joined SIMPP, bringing its total roster to 24 individual units. Flinn additionally announced that the group "is launching a program of operations to further stabilize independent production."

Newly elected members are: International Pictures, Inc., Jesse L. Lasky, Jules Levey, Arnold Pressburger, David L. Loew, Charles R. Rogers, Harry Sherman, Jack Skirball and Andrew Stone. The complete list includes also George Bagnall of United Artists Productions, Inc.; Benedict Bogeaus, William Cagney, Charles Chaplin, Walt Disney, Edward A. Golden, Samuel Goldwyn, Sol Lesser, Mary Pickford, Rainbow Productions, David O. Selznick, Edward Small, Hunt Stromberg, Walter Wanger and Orson Welles. Loyd Wright is president.

Based upon current production plans, approximately 40 features will be produced by members of SIMPP during the 1945-46 season.

Ex-Operators Testify In the Griffith Trial

OKLAHOMA CITY—Former operators of independent theatres in Oklahoma and Texas continued to be called to testify in the second week of the government's antitrust suit to dissolve the four Griffith theatre circuits in those two states and New Mexico as the prosecution sought vainly to break through barriers created by Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught's ruling against the admission of letters and conversations between the exhibitors and the major distributing corporations.

Taking the stand for the prosecution were Fred Vincent, formerly of Hominy, Okla.; M. L. Geiger, former operator of the Bay Theatre at Blackwell; Wendell Bearden, former Lubbock, Tex., operator; Sgt. Johnny Jones of Shawnee, Okla., and John Gray of Chickasha, Okla.

Tells About Shawnee Situation

Jones is the son of Jake Jones, independent operator whose previous testimony regarding correspondence and contracts with Paramount was ruled out on the ground the distributors were not a party in the suit. He was manager of his father's theatres in Shawnee from 1937 until entering the service. Introducing a complete set of records of all contracts and bookings for the Jones houses, the witness testified they had been compelled to follow Griffith runs in Shawnee at higher admission prices.

The Shawnee manager also testified the Jones theatres obtained only a "short picture" contract with United Artists, obtaining only a part of that company's product. He said he had sat in on business and buying meetings when he was still a school boy and was familiar with all operations from that time until the present.

Bearden testified that while at Lubbock operating the Tech Theatre opposite the grounds of Texas Technological College two Griffith representatives told him that they intended to "control Lubbock" and would install a nearby theatre to operate in opposition to him. In 1938, he said, after the Tech had been in operation two years, Griffith representatives erected a sign across the street from his theatre announcing the opening of a Griffith theatre near the site. Shortly afterward they erected a theatre two blocks from the Tech and began showing second run films, Bearden said. Three years later, he added, he sold his interest in the house to his partner, P. E. Smith.

Geiger testified he became manager of the Bays at Blackwell in 1939, when Griffith operated three first run theatres there. He said he tried to get second runs of films shown by the Griffiths but was told Blackwell was too small to get them. This testimony, however, was ruled out after a defense objection to it as "hearsay evidence."

"Operated With One Theatre"

The witness said the Bays had Universal and RKO films on first run, Monogram and Metro on second run. On cross-examination he said the theatre ran double bills with three changes a week and always had enough product to show.

Vincent's testimony proved little help to the government's case when he related he had sold his theatre at Hominy to Griffith in 1940 "because I wanted to leave the town." He said he had "plenty of product" to show despite Griffith opposition. Vincent operated the Pettit. In 1934 another independent opened the Ritz in competition. Two years later Griffith purchased the Ritz.

On cross-examination, when Vincent was asked if Hominy was "overseated with two theatres," he replied:

"It was overseated with one."

Market Shaping Product Plans, Says Ginsberg

NEW YORK—Whether a company limits itself to big budget pictures—the As and double AAs—or includes lesser product is merely a matter of economics, says Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of studio operations for Paramount.



HENRY GINSBERG

"We can't say we will continue to limit the company's share of the annual output to 16 or 17 big pictures, or that we will increase the total by going to smaller budgets," he said in reply to a question. "It depends upon the market."

Under the conditions that have prevailed since the start of the war, he pointed out, lengthened runs have made it undesirable to produce a large number of pictures, simply because the market could not absorb them.

"I can't say these conditions will continue," he pointed out. "All film men are hopeful that there will be continued prosperity for the next five years, at least. We have to fit our plans to conditions as they develop. All of us have great hopes for further development of the foreign market in unpredictable directions. The company now has a backlog of about 20 pictures representing an investment of approximately $50,000,000. We have to release these as conditions permit.

"Blue Sky" to Go the Limit

"From January 1946, to January 1947, the company will make 16 or 17. Hal Wallis will probably produce two. Cecil B. De Mille is planning a late summer start on one, and Buddy De Sylva is at work on plans for one or more. There are several from the Pine-Thomas unit which produces separately, so that the total may be 30.

"The biggest one in sight at present is 'Blue Sky,' the Irving Berlin picture with Bing Crosby in Technicolor—a very expensive picture which may run to $3,000,000."

Ginsberg said production in Great Britain would be decided after a conference with David Rose, who is expected to return to this country again in June.

"Each company has to be guided by its own experience in deciding upon the type of product," he pointed out. "Some find lesser product very profitable. They know their markets. We are studying conditions as they develop. It may be that postwar themes will come to the fore. They did after the last war."

To date, Ginsberg said, Paramount has been able to solve the difficulties connected with the raw stock shortage.

Bond Drive Opening Features War Games

NEW YORK—Staged presentations of bombings, invasions and battles keynoted the opening of the Seventh War Loan Drive in many cities throughout the country. In Denver an airborne invasion of air fields was demonstrated. In Fremont County, Wyoming, bond literature was dropped as bombs from planes. A large scale "beachhead invasion" was held off San Diego.

Another prominent highlight of the nation's campaign were military parades held in Seattle and Boston as well as other cities.

Bond premieres, children's shows and Free Movie Days have been scheduled for cities in every state. Every Monday will be Free Movie Day in metropolitan St. Louis, with the result that there will be more days on which admissions are restricted to bond purchasers than in any previous drive.

Washington, fittingly enough, had a big opening for the drive. A main feature of the schedule was the Bob Hope broadcast and three-hour show on May 13. He followed this with another show on May 15 also dedicated to the bond drive.

The country's showmen have arranged great numbers of contests and games to aid the bond selling drive. The Strand Theatre in Dover, N. H., has adopted the Victory Bowl Plan, with a prize drawing at the end of the drive. Local merchants have donated $350 in bonds as prizes.

Shugrue Pays Tribute To Industry's Help

NEW YORK—Following his return from a nationwide tour, J. Edward Shugrue, director of motion pictures and special events for the War Finance Divison of the treasury department, paid tribute to the contribution the industry is making to the success of war bond drives.

In a letter to Samuel Pinanski, national chairman of the Seventh War Loan, Shugrue wrote in part:

"There is everywhere throughout the country a growing recognition on the part of all war finance officials of the great contribution being made by the motion picture industry to the success of the war bond drives."

Ohio Senate Passes Bill Clarifying Tax on Film

Columbus, Ohio—The Ohio senate has passed the ITO-sponsored bill which clarifies the Ohio sales tax as applied to film rentals. Now the measure goes to Gov. Frank J. Lausche for his signature.

Previously the three per cent sales tax had been interpreted so as not to include film rentals, but the tax commission of the Lausche administration had moved to apply the tax to film rentals. The house last week ruled that film rentals should not be affected by the tax and the senate voted likewise.

If the bill had failed to pass, Ohio exhibitors would have been liable for the tax retroactive to about 1935. The distributors would have added the tax to film bills.

Graham Tours Caribbean, Bound for Mexico City

NEW YORK—Robert L. Graham, recently appointed assistant to A. L. Pratchett, Paramount International division manager for Latin America, left this week for a tour of the Caribbean offices, en route to Mexico City where he will establish headquarters. His itinerary includes Puerto Rico, Port of Spain, Caracas and Panama.

Formerly Paramount manager for Mexico for three years, Graham was named to his new post last month following a year and a half as special representative for the company in Spain.

DeVry's Trailer Units Will Show Equipment

CHICAGO—Immediate adaption by DeVry Corp., pioneer Chicago manufacturers of motion picture sound equipment, of postwar sales plans built around the use of trailer-housed sales demonstrating units is announced by William C. DeVry.

DeVry trailer units will be equipped to give on-the-ground demonstrations of all types of audio-visual teaching and training equipment in remote country schools, theatres, businesses and other organizations as well as those in major cities. This equipment includes heavy duty professional theatre projectors, semiportable and portable 35mm theatre and auditorium sound-on-film projectors, 16mm portable sound-on-film and silent projectors, stationary and portable sound systems, slide and film strip projectors, stereopticons, microphones, turntables, projection screens and related equipment and accessories. The equipment also includes 35mm and 16mm motion picture cameras, as well as a library of DeVry 16mm educational and entertainment films and DeVry Filmsets.

The use of self-contained automobile and separate trailer units completely equipped with motion picture sound, microphone and related accessories to audio-visual teaching and selling has long been an internationally fostered DeVry project. Among users of this type of equipment built at DeVry's direction are the nation's major political parties, the University of Idaho, the Russian army, the Egyptian and several South American governments.

The first of a proposed fleet of five trailer-housed units will be ready as soon as DeVry's war work is completed. DeVry has been awarded four consecutive army-navy E flags.

Baumfeld to N.Y. Post

HOLLYWOOD—Theodore W. "Teddy" Baumfeld, formerly executive associate to Arnold Pressburger of Arnold Productions, has been appointed as the New York sales representative for that company. Baumfeld will take over offices vacated by Henry Brash.



MARRIED IN MIAMI — Miss Joan Frances Rathvon, daughter of N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO Corp. of New York and Hollywood, was wedded on Sunday, May 13, to Ensign Shaw Mudge of Greenwich, Conn. The bride is a graduate of Vassar and the groom graduated from Yale prior to his entry into the navy.



M-G-M WINS AGAIN—Si Seadler, advertising director for Leo, accepts the April BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award for "National Velvet" from James M. Jerauld, editor of BOXOFFICE.

20th-Fox Directors Are All Re-Elected

NEW YORK — Twentieth-Fox directors were re-elected and approval was granted five executives to purchase stock options at the annual meeting at the home office.

Directors include the following: L. Sherman Adams, Robert L. Clarkson, Thomas J. Connors, John R. Dillon, Wilfred J. Eadie, Daniel O. Hastings, Donald A. Henderson, Felix A. Jenkins, Robert Lehman, William C. Michel, William P. Philips, Seton Porter, Murray Silverstone, Spyros P. Skouras and Darryl F. Zanuck.

Granting of options to the following was approved: Lew Schreiber, executive production assistant, 4,000 shares; William Perlberg, producer, 4,000 shares; Harry Brand, studio publicity head, 2,500; Fred Metzler, assistant treasurer, 2,500; Ray Klune, production manager at the studios, 2,500. The authorization set the purchase price at $25⅞ per share of common stock.

William C. Michel, executive vice-president, was elected chairman of the meeting. Felix A. Jenkins, secretary, served in that capacity for the session.

Later in the afternoon, the directors re-elected the following officers at the annual organization meeting:

Spyros P. Skouras, president; Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production; Thomas J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales; William C. Michel, executive vice-president; Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; Felix A. Jenkins, secretary; Donald A. Henderson, treasurer, and Wilfred J. Eadie, comptroller and assistant treasurer.

A quarterly dividend of $1.12½ per share was declared on the outstanding prior preferred stock, payable June 15. A quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share was declared on the convertible preferred stock, payable June 30. A dividend of 50 cents per share was declared on the common stock, payable June 30.

Wilbert Is Assistant Ad Manager

NEW YORK—Christy Wilbert has been named assistant advertising manager of 20th-Fox by appointment of Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity. Wilbert recently received his honorable discharge from the U.S. navy, and until his promotion was copy chief. He succeeds Jonas Rosenfield jr., who entered the U.S. navy several weeks ago.

Most States Escaping Repressive Measures

WASHINGTON — Out of 11 states with legislative sessions still in force, only three have measures pending that affect the motion picture industry, it was reported by Jack Bryson, legislative representative for the MPPDA. The three states, Massachusetts, Florida and California, are considering admission taxes but there is every likelihood that these proposed repressive meaures will not pass the state legislatures.

It is significent to report that out of 45 states that held legislative sessions this year, 34 have adjourned sine die without acting upon such repressive measures as divorcement bill, admission taxes, real taxes, censorship and inspection bills. Of the remaining 11 states, New Hampshire and Texas are slated to adjourn this month and no measure affecting films is on the docket. California, Connecticut, Illinois, Ohio and Wisconsin will adjourn in June and the remaining four, Alabama, Florida, Missouri and Massachusetts, have not as yet set adjournment dates.

Colorado Repeals Tax Bill

Colorado, which had an admission tax in effect for years, repealed that measure this last session. Mississippi has called a special session to discuss motor vehicle regulations, while Virginia also has set a special session to take up constitutional amendments. Georgia, Michigan, New York, New Jersey, North Dakota and West Virginia also have set special sessions, but in none of these states are measures proposed that will affect the film industry.

In Michigan a measure to permit taxation of amusements by municipalities was defeated.

"In most instances the various state legislatures have treated the film industry fairly," stated Bryson. "In one or two states, notably Florida, proposed admission tax measures were promoted by a loss of income because of the ban on racing. With that ban lifted, it is possible that these measures may be defeated."



ANNIVERSARY TELEGRAMS—James R. Grainger, Republic president, and Herbert J. Yates sr., founder of the company, have been swamped by telegrams since they announced the forthcoming celebration of the tenth anniversary. They're pleased about them. (Photo by Cosmo-Sileo).

M-G-M TRADE SHOW OF "TWICE BLESSED"



ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	TUES. 5/29	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.	TUES. 5/29	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	TUES. 5/29	10:30 A.M. Also 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	TUES. 5/29	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	TUES. 5/29	8 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	TUES. 5/29	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	TUES. 5/29	3 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street	TUES. 5/29	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	TUES. 5/29	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	TUES. 5/29	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK NEW JERSEY	M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue	TUES. 5/29	10:30 A.M. Also 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	TUES. 5/29	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	TUES. 5/29	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	TUES. 5/29	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	TUES. 5/29	1 P.M.

"TWICE BLESSED"

WITH

PRESTON FOSTER · GAIL PATRICK

AND PRESENTING

THE WILDE TWINS

(Lee and Lyn)

RICHARD GAINES • JEAN PORTER • MARSHALL THOMPSON

JIMMY LYDON • GLORIA HOPE

ETHEL SMITH

AT THE ORGAN

PRODUCED BY ARTHUR L. FIELD

Screen Play by Ethel Hill • Directed by HARRY BEAUMONT • An M-G-M Picture

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

No German Film Market

FREDERIC ULLMAN Jr.'s observations on the tremendous damage done to theatres in all parts of Germany plus the OWI announcement that it intends to force atrocity pictures and other kinds of documentary films on German audiences to make them conscious of their war guilt makes it seem certain there will be no market for entertainment films for a long time.

It will be an historic experiment in mass compulsion. Both Hitler and Mussolini decided what kind of pictures they wanted their countrymen to see and the film businesses in their countries died. There is a weak link in the chain, some film men point out; it is difficult to make the masses come out of their homes and pay admissions to see something that doesn't interest them, and, if some way is found to get them into theatres, nobody will be able to tell how many have their eyes closed.

* * *

More Rumors

THE CHICAGO INTER-OCEAN says Harold Young, assistant to Secretary of Commerce Wallace, is the Warner candidate to take a high post with the MPPDA. Then it says: "It is doubted seriously, however, whether Mr. Young would accept. Secretary Wallace has leaned heavily on his assistant for years, and without his chief's nod it is believed Harold Young would refuse the honor."

That makes Young unique.

Then, too, Leonard Lyons in the New York Post says Leon Henderson, former OPA head, is being boomed by a number of Hollywood executives to head the MPPDA.

* * *

Ray of Light

RAYS of light sometimes come from the darkest places. Latest of these is a report that the senate small business committee might seek passage of legislation approving joint efforts for American companies in the export field. Film companies have been feeling their way along these lines for many months, not knowing when some department of justice official would pop up with an assertion the antitrust laws were being broken. This is the committee which announced recently it would conduct an investigation into the film business.

* * *

Workers Start Moving

AN INDICATION of a problem affecting exhibitors which may spread to other war-crowded centers has already developed in the Detroit area. A survey of layoffs made at the Ford Willow Run bomber plant by the Wall Street Journal shows that about 60 per cent of the first to be let out were women. After the first week, 51 per cent were men. About half the women say they don't want any more war plant work. This should improve matinee business.

One-third of the first 21,000 let out intend to leave the Willow Run area and more than 20 per cent will leave Michigan. This has some bearing on general shifts of population and the problem might become particularly important on the Pacific coast. Indications are that many of those who leave the war centers will head back to their original homes.

One interesting angle of the survey is the unwillingness of many workers to go to other war plants where layoffs might come in the near future. Many others refuse to take jobs they don't think they will like. Apparently they intend to rely for the present on unemployment compensation.

Some of these problems have developed in other scattered areas—in heavy machinery plants, shipbuilding towns, etc.

Top industry executives agree with many leading economists that the backlog of wartime savings will tide workers over a temporary period of idleness as reconversion gets under way, and that pentup demand will make general business good for a long time, but they expect extreme boom areas to level off, with a general tendency toward return to neighborhood theatres by women released from war work. Top business all during the war has been in the downtown first runs.

* * *

Action Plus

YOUNGSTERS — and, probably, some of the oldsters—will talk about the fight scene in James Cagney's "Blood on the Sun" for some time. It's a mixture of good old-fashioned wallops to the chin and solar plexus and spectacular jiu jitsu stunts. How they did it without wrecking both Cagney and his big opponent is a mystery. They throw each other over their heads, kick each other in the stomach and face and raise Ned generally. It's a real action picture with a timely background. Sylvia Sidney is more decorative than she has ever been, with some costumes that ought to make the women jealous.

* * *

Man With Ideas

NO DOUBT thousands of men and women immediately visioned the Iwo Jima flag raising group as a statue. Newspaper editors were fascinated by it the minute it arrived. Robert Smock of Buchanan & Co., advertising agency, is one of those who did something about it in a hurry and is credited with some important results. He wrote the bureau of printing and engraving suggesting that it be issued as a postage stamp. He also sent a letter to President Roosevelt saying "painters will paint it, sculptors will mold it, children's textbooks will print it, preachers will preach it, Congress will commend it." He was right.

* * *

EVERY time a new film corporation is formed in Albany a flock of rumors develop. George J. Schaefer incorporated Notion Films and EMCA recently. It seems that some of the independents have a new company for each picture for bookkeeping purposes.



VICTORY CYCLORAMA — Col. E. E. Hildreth, commanding officer at Mitchell Field, New York, unveils a huge display erected in the lobby of the Paramount Theatre in connection with the Seventh War Loan. This is only part of the display. It runs 150 feet around the lobby and has 50 portrait enlargements. The unveiling ceremonies were a tribute to Maj. Glenn Miller, in whose honor the Paramount will present a bond show June 5.

Molotov Twice Patronizes United Nations Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO — The United Nations Theatre reverted this week to the showing of older pictures, foreign productions and documentaries on a 7 p. m. to midnight schedule.

Members of all 49 delegations to the United Nations Conference for International Organization are in regular attendance and, according to Frank Beeler, house manager, Foreign Minister Molotov appeared at the theatre twice before departing for Moscow.

Pictures shown this week were: Monday, "The Human Comedy" (M-G-M); Tuesday, "Can't Help Singing" (Univ); Wednesday, "Maria Candelaria" (Mexico-Classic); Thursday, "It's a Pleasure" (RKO); Friday, "Western Approaches" (Crown Film Unit-BMI); Saturday, "Cover Girl" (Col); Sunday, "They Met in Moscow" (Artkino).

Wired Tele, 500 Stations After War, He Predicts

BOSTON—Wired systems of television are practical for theatres, Paul Chamberlain, Western Electric sales executive, told the Advertising Club. Live talent programs originating at central points, could be sent to a number of theatres for simultaneous projection, he said.

New video stations in Boston, Indianapolis and Jamaica, L. I., might be in operation by fall, he indicated. Chamberlain predicted 500 tele transmitters would be operating in the U.S. within 10 years after the end of the Japanese war.

Coast-to-Coast Facilities by 1950

NEW YORK—At least 2,000 miles of coaxial cable, suitable for television network lines, will have been manufactured by the end of 1945, according to reports from the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. Probably three-fourths of this cable mileage will be underground by the same time, with coast-to-coast facilities in place within a five-year period.

Red Cross Drive Takes In $6,834,753 in 16 Areas

NEW YORK—Final returns from only 16 of the 40 areas covered in the Red Cross War Fund week campaign for 1945 show a total of $6,834,753.43 as opposed to a grand total of $6,054,212 for 1944.

Review >> << Flashes

BELLS OF ROSARITA (Rep)—Literally and figuratively this should be a circus for the devotees of boots and saddles films. More diversified entertainment is crowded into its footage than normally is found in a Roy Rogers starrer. There are his established supporters: Dale Evans, the Sons of Pioneers, Gabby Hayes, etc. Then to further bolster the King of Cowboy's considerable talents, guest appearances are made—and they fit logically into the plot—by everyone of Republic's sagebrush stars. Roy Rogers, Grant Withers, Wild Bill Elliott, Allan Lane, Donald Barry. Frank McDonald directed.

BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION (Col)—Like radio serials and newspaper comic strips, series pictures (not to be confused with serial pictures) develop a following of fans who like to see the same character (or a number of characters) react to continually changing sets of circumstances. Boston Blackie (Chester Morris), has been a lot of things and in this picture he substitutes for a famous and temporarily indisposed bibliopole. Chester Morris, Lynn Merrick, Richard Lane, Frank Sully, Steve Cochran. Directed by Arthur Dreifuss.

FIGHTING GUARDSMAN, THE (Col)—Adventure pleasantly spiced with romance. Made from Alexandre Dumas' novel, "The Companions of Jehu," it gives exhibitors an action drama about a Robin Hood band that helped to bring about the French Revolution. The picture is timely in its arguments for the cause of freedom but far enough away historically to allow families of service men to enjoy it. Not a harrowing type of picture because for the most part the people who get into difficulties are the ones who deserve it, and justice done on the screen has always been popular. Willard Parker, Anita Louise, Janis Carter, John Loder, Edgar Buchanan. Henry Levin directed.

SWING OUT, SISTER (Univ)—Aimed at a supporting niche on a double bill, this film is weak entertainment fare, and reflects somewhat lackadaisical interest on the part of those concerned with its production. Most of the humor hides behind the long, gray beard of age, while generally heavy-handed direction inflicts cruel punishment on so capable a comedian as Arthur Treacher, to name just one. Five musical numbers and two specialty acts interrupt the haphazard wanderings of the script and afford several moments of pleasant interlude. Rod Cameron, Billie Burke, Arthur Treacher, Frances Raeburn, Jacqueline DeWitt. Directed by Edward Lilley.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT (Univ)—Universal's song-and-dance offering gets off to a slow start until Jack Oakie appears, after which things begin moving. Although handicapped by lack of boxoffice names, "That's the Spirit" will please most patrons. The story deals with the return to earth, after 18 years, of a former burlesque comic who died before he could see his just-born daughter. Invisible to his earthbound in-laws, the rotund ghost inadvertently and invariably reveals his presence by his squeaking shoes. Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Gene Lockhart, Andy Devine, Arthur Treacher. Charles Lamont directed.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE.

"Patriotism Personified," Label of Carnie Family

By VELMA WEST SYKES

KANSAS CITY—Among those in the industry who have not only given time and effort during the various war loan drives but have made the greatest personal sacrifices is Bob Carnie, film salesman for Paramount Pictures in this exchange area. He and his family have made a remarkable record of service, climaxed recently by the news that Bob's second son, Lieut. Keith Edwin Carnie of the army air forces, is missing in action in the Burma war zone. His last mission, and from which he has not returned, was on March 1—a flight over the Hump from India to China.

Record of the Carnie family to date is perhaps unprecedented in the industry. Carnie himself is a veteran of World War I, from which he emerged with numerous decorations; two sons have made the supreme sacrifice in World War II. Carnie's wife is a lieutenant in the nurses' corps. To cap the climax of patriotism, Carnie is known to the midwestern industry as "The One-Man Bond Drive."

A few days before the sad message about his second son came, a letter had been received from Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio, adjutant general, notifying the family that the President had awarded posthumously the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters to Carnie's eldest son, Lieut. Robert E. Carnie IV, who had also been a member of the army air forces and was killed in action on July 4 of last year. His death came over Romania, where Lieutenant Carnie participated as escort to bombers attacking fortifications of the enemy.

Holder of King George V Medal

Robert E. Carnie, the father, born in Australia, but now a naturalized American citizen, is the only living former army officer in the United States holding the King George V Medal. He was an Anzac major and a hero of Gallipoli.

His bond-selling record is such as to challenge that of anyone inside or outside the industry, being credited with one and a half million dollars of war bonds as early as July of 1943. Since then he has been on the job as one of the WAC's most forceful and well-informed speakers, giving of his time and energy far "beyond the line of duty."

He even interrupted his honeymoon in August of 1943 with the present Mrs. Carnie to help out the bond sales in the Wichita area. In ten days he toured 29 towns and spoke in each place. That his bride approved his activities is evidenced by her own contribution at the present time. She is Lieut. Mary Carnie, an army nurse now stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo.

The industry may well be proud of the Carnies as a family for the remarkable record and the sacrifices it has made, and continues to make, to help bring about a victorious conclusion to the war.

Monogram Forms New International Firm

HOLLYWOOD—Establishment of Monogram International Corp., incorporated under the laws of the state of New York, has been announced by W. Ray Johnston, chairman of the board of the new company, and president of Monogram Pictures Corp.

The new company was formed to handle distribution of Monogram pictures outside the U.S., with particular attention to re-entry into European countries and further development of the South American market.

In addition to Johnston, elected officers of the new outfit are Norton V. Ritchey, president; J. P. Friedhoff, vice-president; George D. Burrows, treasurer; N. Witting, secretary; D. Horne, assistant treasurer. Board of directors consists of Johnston, Ritchey, Burrows, Friedhoff and William B. Jaffe.

As soon as transportation facilities to Europe are available, Ritchey will make a trip to London, Paris and other European capitals for the purpose of opening branch offices and appointing resident managers. He recently appointed Bernard J. Gates Latin American representative, and the latter is now on a tour of Central and South America.

At the same time Johnston revealed that securities of Monogram Pictures Corp. have just been listed on the Los Angeles Curb Exchange.

Latest Newsreel Depicts Grim End of Mussolini

NEW YORK—The end of a tyrant, Benito Mussolini, was shown in all of the newsreels released for showing Thursday. Only a limited amount of footage was devoted to scenes showing how Milan mobs desecrated the bodies of Il Duce, his mistress and his henchmen who had been previously executed by a band of Italian partisans.

All of the newsreels sandwiched the sequence between other scenes that seemed to enable the onlooker to view it without too much of a shock. Medium and closeup shots of the bodies are gruesome, but this footage was kept to a minimum.

The historic surrender of the Germans at Reims is featured in all of the newsreels as is the opening of the Seventh War Loan.

King, Christopher Get New Astor Franchises

NEW YORK—O. C. Christopher has acquired the Minneapolis franchise of Astor Pictures and has set up a new exchange to be known as Astor Pictures of Minneapolis. Christopher for the past six years has distributed Swedish pictures.

J. H. King has obtained similar franchises for Des Moines and Kansas City territories.

"Decision" Ready in June

NEW YORK—M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision," starring Greer Garson and Gregory Peck, will be sold as a special and on a separate contract. The picture has been scheduled for June release, making a total of three to be released next month. The other two are "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "Son of Lassie."

No WMC Is Needed Now to Get Materials

WASHINGTON—Motion picture theatres are among the small firms (employment rolls not exceeding 100 workers) which may now obtain materials without first seeking assurance from the War Manpower Commission that manpower is available, Paul V. McNutt, WMC chairman, and J. A. Krug, WPB chairman, announced.

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

No Films, No Shows

MINNEAPOLIS—The product shortage is said to be growing so acute here that some neighborhood exhibitors are considering curtailing their operations to weekends this summer.

The independents also blame on the shortage expansion of the double feature policy in the Twin Cities, long a stronghold of the single bill.

Minor Damage to Theatres

HALIFAX, N. S.—Theatre men recalled the wild VE-Day celebration with a bit of consolation. Their houses escaped with minor damages in the wild abandon that resulted in an estimated $5,000,000 worth of destruction here and in nearby Dartmouth as crowds smashed windows, looted stores and raised general havoc.

Theatres closed from Monday through Thursday and reopened under police protection.

Civil authorities blame the military leaders who released some 10,000 army, navy and air force boys when the victory news was issued.

Anyhow, They're Pretty

MINNEAPOLIS—Here as in other cities the lack of light on theatre marquees and canopies during the brownout had no effect on patronage. So showmen said, and box-office figures indicated they were correct, but just the same the circuits and all individual exhibitors lost no time in switching them on to full brilliance when the Washington ban was lifted.

Weekly takes expanded some with the resumption of weekend midnight shows.

It Happened in a Theatre!

OMAHA—Almost anything can happen in a theatre! A woman was chewing candy in a downtown house recently. She took it out of her mouth and tossed it away, only to discover she had left two front teeth in it.

An usherette with a flashlight spent a half hour finding the missing teeth.

Miracle Weapon Sells Bonds

CLEVELAND—What is said to be the first U.S. robot bomb ever to be shown to the public has been set up in the lobby of the State Theatre here to help sell bonds for the duration of the Seventh War Loan drive.

The flying dealer in death and destruction was obtained by Howard Burkhart and Ed Fisher from the army air force, Jack & Heintz and the Willys Corp. of Toledo.

Omaha Bids for Premiere

OMAHA — A concentrated campaign to gain the world premiere of "Captain Eddie" has been inaugurated here with a barrage of letters by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and other interested organizations and individuals to Darryl Zanuck, Tom Connors and Rickenbacker himself.

Tractor Proves Hot Stuff

DUBUQUE, IOWA — Tom McCoy of the Orpheum here solved the problem of providing heat when the theatre furnace went haywire by hooking up a 26-year-old steam tractor with the heating system and forcing steam through the building.

Garson and Crosby Top Poll

DES MOINES — Double bills suffered a sound shellacking in an Iowa motion picture poll conducted by the Des Moines Register and Tribune, 60 per cent of those contacted expressing a preference for single features. Bing Crosby was voted tops among actors, and Greer Garson led all other feminine stars.

New Theatre Recalls Past

WICHITA — The famous old Chisholm Trail, cattle route from Texas to early Kansas railroad points, provided the motif in the decorations for Fox Midwest's new Boulevard Theatre here, opened after long construction delays caused by material shortages. L. B. Douglas, one-time Kansas City Universal exchange manager, is in charge of the new house, which seats 972.

Special Shows for Children

MILWAUKEE—Special features from lists of films recommended for children are selected by the Shorewood-Whitefish Bay civic committee for presentation at its Saturday juvenile programs, presented with the improvement of children's film entertainment as their goal.

Curfew Still On in Canada

TORONTO—The midnight curfew still tolls its tidings here and in other Canadian cities even though the United States has lifted its ban. War considerations had no part in the establishment of bans on owl performances in Dominion centers, the chief cause being reports of unsavory conditions attendant. Midnight shows are permitted here only on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

WB May Buy Cocoanut Grove

BOSTON—Warner Bros. may purchase the Cocoanut Grove property, the blackened walls of which still stand as grim reminders of this city's greatest tragedy. The film company is reported planning to erect an exchange building at the scene of the terrible 1942 conflagration in which 500 persons lost their lives.

He Helps Anticancer Drive

OLNEY, ILL.—A voluntary campaign on the part of Theodore Zwermann, Frisini associate and owner of the Arcadia and Roxy theatres here, netted almost $400 for the American Cancer Society. Zwermann took it on himself to write the society after reading an article in Reader's Digest. He said he was eager to get up a collection in the same manner that the March of Dimes and Red Cross campaigns are conducted. The society sent him a trailer and he had two volunteers in the lobbies with coin boxes, greeting patrons after the show. In three days the voluntary contributions attained the neat sum of $386.10.

Drive-Ins Cancel Shows Due to Heavy Snowfall

Albany—For what is believed to be the first time here in the month of May, a drive-in theatre canceled its program due to heavy snowfall. Four inches of flakes fell, breaking branches on trees; disrupting electric service.

Manager Neil Hellman of Hellman's Drive-In resorted to the radio to advise of the cancellation. He resumed operation the next night.

Dave Willig, who had advertised the opening of the Auto-Vision in East Greenbush for May 11, was forced to postpone his inaugural until the following week.

"Lab" Workers Agree Not to Strike Now

NEW YORK—No strike will be called immediately for the 2,000 members of the Laboratory Technicians' Union, Local 702, in spite of an affirmative strike vote.

Negotiations are continuing with the 16 processing companies involved to see if an "amicable arrangement can't be reached." Union spokesmen explained that the vote was taken so that in case negotiations do not succeed, they won't have to wait another 30 days under the terms of the Smith-Connally Act before taking action.

The filing of notice of the intention to strike resulted from a special roll call membership meeting of the union last month. The decision to the strike vote came despite the no-strike pledge because of the apparent desire of the employers to take advantage of the pledge by submitting counter-proposals which in effect meant cutting the existing wage scales in some categories, denying increases in others, and granting small increases in a few.

The union was aroused also because the laboratory representatives opposed their demands for doubling the number of job classifications, plus vacations, sick leaves, group insurance, a guaranteed work week and other benefits.

Screen Publicists Decide Against UOPWA Merger

NEW YORK—Screen Publicists Guild has voted down by a narrow margin the proposed amalgamation with Local No. 1 of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO. The referendum was conducted by mail among nearly 300 SPG members employed in film company home offices and in the armed forces. A two-thirds majority vote was needed to carry the proposal. As a result of the poll SPG will retain its identity as a UPOWA local.

SPG will shortly embark upon a campaign to organize publicists in radio and kindred fields, it is reported. An organizational drive committee has been formed, and $5,000 voted for the purpose.

Grainger Holds Meeting; Leaves to Tour Offices

NEW YORK—Before leaving for Hollywood James R. Grainger, Republic president, discussed the company's tenth anniversary drive, May 27 through July 27, with sales personnel. Present were Maxwell Gillis, eastern district sales manager; Jake Flax of Washington; Joseph Engel, Philadelphia; Grover C. Schaefer, New York; Jack Davis, New England district sales manager; Arthur Newman, Albany; Abe Weiner, Boston; Jack Bellman, Buffalo, and Jerome Lewis, New Haven.

En route to the studio, Grainger will make stopovers at Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans and Dallas. He will visit the San Francisco branch prior to returning to the home office the middle of June.

Screen Stars to Campaign 60 Cities in Bond Drive

NEW YORK—During the Seventh War Loan ten stars will be chosen to be associate chairmen of the War Finance Division of the treasury department. They will tour 60 cities.

Six tours have been set up through the motion picture and special events section of the War Finance Division under J. Edward Shugrue. These are to cover important rallies and defense plants. Handling of the tours has been placed with Tom Baily, industry consultant to the treasury.


THE
CLOCK


"She only met him a few hours ago and they're already talking marriage."
"That's why it's such a darling story for sweet Judy Garland and Robert Walker."



"... Unusual ... an attraction which exhibitors will exploit to advantage ... delightful ..."
MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"...one of the most entertaining to be shown in a long time... should do well for every theatre privileged to show it..."
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"... special treat for women ... absorbing ... action and suspense ..."
FILM DAILY

"... highly entertaining ... delightful, romantic drama ..."
THE EXHIBITOR

"... charm, sweetness, heart tug and wholesomeness ..."
MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"... one of those pictures about which the romantic will rave..."
BOXOFFICE



"TIME TO SET IT FOR A LONG RUN!"

RINGING THE BELL AT ITS CAPITOL, N. Y. WORLD PREMIERE!



With all your might!
MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

LITHO U

BRANCHES	PLACE OF SHOWING	DAY & DATE	TIME
ALBANY	Delaware Theatre 290 Delaware Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
ATLANTA	Rhodes Theatre 62 S. Rhodes Centre N. W.	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
BOSTON	Uptown Theatre 239 Huntington Avenue	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
BUFFALO	Loew's Shea Niagara 426 Niagara Street	MON. 5/28	3:00 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	Carolina Theatre 226 No. Tyron Street	MON. 5/28	10:30 A.M.
CHICAGO	RKO Projection Room 1300 So. Wabash Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
CINCINNATI	Forest Theatre 671 Forest Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
CLEVELAND	Colony Theatre Shaker Square	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
DALLAS	Palace Theatre 1625 Elm Street	MON. 5/28	10:00 A.M.
DENVER	Broadway Theatre 1756 Broadway	MON. 5/28	10:30 A.M.
DES MOINES	Ingersoll Theatre 37th Street and Ingersoll	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
DETROIT	Fisher Theatre 2nd Blvd. &WestGrand Blvd.	MON. 5/28	10:15 A.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	St. Clair Theatre 800 Fort Wayne Avenue	MON. 5/28	1:30 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	Edison Hall 1330 Baltimore Avenue	MON. 5/28	8:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Hotel Theatre Ambassador Hotel	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	Linden Circle Theatre 311 South Somerville	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Varsity Theatre 1326 W. Wisconsin Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	Granada Theatre 3022 Hennepin Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	Whitney Theatre 1200 Whitney Avenue	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS	Circle Theatre Galvez and St. Bernard Ave.	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	Uptown Theatre 1212 North Hudson Street	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
OMAHA	Dundee Theatre 50th & Dodge Street	MON. 5/28	2:00 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	State Theatre 52nd and Chestnut Street	THURS. 5/24	8:45 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	Rialto Theatre 1600 Fifth Avenue	MON. 5/28	1:00 P.M.
PORTLAND	Oriental Theatre 822 S. E. Grand Avenue	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	St. Louis Theatre 718 North Grand Street	MON. 5/28	11:00 A.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	Rialto Theatre 272 So. Main Street	MON. 5/28	10:00 A.M.
SAN FRANCISCO	Tivoli Theatre 70 Eddy Street	MON. 5/28	2:00 P.M.
SEATTLE	Egyptian Theatre 4543 University Way	MON. 5/28	2:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS	Hollywood Theatre 212 No. Philips Avenue	MON. 5/28	10:30 A.M.
WASHINGTON	Circle Theatre 2105 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.	MON. 5/28	2:15 P.M.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

TRADE SHOWINGS

of SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
presentation of

DANNY KAYE
in

Wonder Man

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

VIRGINIA MAYO
VERA-ELLEN
DONALD WOODS • S. Z. SAKALL
ALLEN JENKINS • EDWARD BROPHY • OTTO KRUGER
STEVE COCHRAN • VIRGINIA GILMORE
and
THE GOLDWYN GIRLS

Directed by BRUCE HUMBERSTONE

Screen Play by DON HARTMAN • MELVILLE SHAVELSON and PHILIP RAPP





FOR AULD LANG SYNE—VE-Day found Robert J. Ellsworth, M-G-M salesman, rummaging among his personal effects when he came upon the above photo. It was taken at a dinner tendered to Jack Bowen, Herbert Kaufman and Ellsworth prior to their induction into the armed forces in May, 1918. How many of the guests do you recognize? Their names in the accustomed order, seated: E. M. Saunders, Charles King, Jack Bowen, Herbert Kaufman, Ellsworth, James Kirby, Harry Bache (deceased), Louis Johnson; standing: Charles Klein, Harry Decker, Tom J. Connors, Jesse Levine (deceased), George Lanigan and Benjamin Greenberg.

Advance of Films in War and Peace Outlined by SMPE at 57th Session

HOLLYWOOD—Dramatic advances in wartime military and naval use of motion pictures and in theatre television, sound recording and reproduction, and photography and projection were the chief topics of discussion at nine technical sessions during the five-day conference of the 57th semiannual session of the SMPE at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel.

The relationship of television and motion picture practices and the use of film in video programming were among the topical subjects discussed. Of equal interest were talks on the use of infra-red light to photograph audience reaction to motion pictures, the utilizing of motion picture techniques in biological research, and a semipopular demonstration lecture on amateur color photography.

Particularly pertinent to theatre operation was a paper by J. B. Lansing and J. K. Hilliard of Altec describing a new two-way theatre loud speaker system. New permanent magnet low frequency and high frequency units having replaceable diaphragms are employed. These units are combined in a horn system having the following advantages: a higher efficiency, extended frequency range, permanent magnet units providing higher air gap flux densities, elimination of backstage radiation from the diaphragms, better transient response, and an improved over-all presence.

New Loudspeaker Described

Another paper by Lansing described the permanent magnet type duplex loudspeaker and its use in theatres for sound re-enforcement. Showing the loudspeaker's efficiency and frequency response, he described also the special types of baffles for the sides of the stage and above the screen. Because of its high efficiency, wide angle of distribution and extreme frequency range along with its small physical size, it provides a two-way horn system with many advantages over those in present use, Lansing claimed.

The effects on a loudspeaker system's sound transmission of such factors as wind, temperature and humidity as observed in outdoors tests were discussed by F. L. Hopper and R. C. Moody of Western Electric. Other data and observations on measured and computed sound pressure distribution characteristics of multiple element radiators were presented by the two WE engineers.

Barton H. Thompson, Paramount engineer, reported on flame retardants—outlining their developments and usages as applicable to the industry. His paper stressed the following factors: the effect of weather, mildew, rot and flame retardant properties for the treatment of various materials used within the industry, both for interior and exterior applications.

The effectiveness of the motion picture in entertainment, advertising or instruction may be improved by research and study by audience behavior, according to Lieut. Herbert R. Jensen, USNR. In his paper, "The Research Problem," Jensen claimed an objective and uninfluenced record for such research could be obtained through the use of infra-red photography. His lecture embodied also a discussion of the uses and results of this record in testing the effect of different types of treatment and other factors in motion picture construction and utilization.

Another representative of the navy department's bureau of aeronautics, Ensign John Milligan, USNR, submitted a paper on "The Photographic Problem and Technique." In it he described a suitable method for photographing audiences during the screening of films, without the audience's awareness, and without interrupting the projection. Like his colleague, Milligan's technique was based on the application of invisible infra-red rays. Particular reference was made to the photographic problems of sources of infra-red radiation, filters, films and cameras.

Films Preferable to Live Talent

In his address, "Film—the Backbone of Television Programming," Ralph B. Austrian, RKO Television Corp. vice-president, presented facts and figures to show why film and film techniques were better suited than live talent for the great majority, perhaps 60 per cent or 70 per cent, of television studio programs. A veteran of several years' experience in producing live talent shows, Austrian showed the tremendous investment in studio equipment and manpower necessary to create and transmit, for one time only, a relatively few hours of live talent programs per day.

Picture production and television broadcasting can be of mutual aid, according to Klaus Landsberg, video director of Television Productions, Inc., a Paramount subsidiary. After discussing new developments in large screen projection for home and theatre, as well as television network plans, he described a brief analysis made of television's technical requirements for film. The analysis, Landsberg declared, also was intended to aid the motion picture industry in its plans to enter the promising postwar television field.

J. K. Hilliard of Altec, co-author with J. B. Lansing of the treatise on a new two-way theatre loudspeaker system, submitted a second paper. In it he described his study of two types of output power tubes used to drive loudspeakers. Since the introduction of beam power tubes several years ago, engineers have not agreed that this type gave comparable results to the low impedance triode type tubes. Comparisons made on 15 and 40 amplifiers, Hilliard said, indicated both types could be made equivalent.

Carl M. Effinger of 20th-Fox described improved methods for cataloging and filing motion picture film. Although extremely compact, his film catalog system permitted rapid location of a single frame of the desired shot. An elaboration of this system, Effinger declared, had recently been put into use by the U.S. war film index library.

Navy Gun Camera Film Lauded

Lieut. Comdr. L. M. Dearing and Lieut. W. D. Hedden, USNR, delivered a progress report on the use of 16mm gun camera film in the navy; C. R. Daily of the Paramount sound department described improved film recording channels; J. L. Forrest of Ansco, in a talk illustrated with slides and a short reel of 16mm film described a new machine his company had lately perfected for processing of 16mm motion picture color film, while Hollis W. Moyse described the characteristics of two new DuPont fine-grain sound films.

Additional addresses were made, as follows: John P. Livadary and S. J. Twining of Columbia Pictures described their method of variable density original and variable area release; A. Badmaieff, RCA engineer, explained a new push-pull frequency modulated circuit; Charles G. Clarke, ASC, director of photography at 20th-Fox studios, spoke on the practical use of Monopack 35mm color film in producing "Thunderhead — Son of Flicka"; Lloyd Thompson of the Calvin Co., Kansas City, discussed organizing 16mm. production; B. F. Ryan and Elmer Smith of Warner Bros. described the advantages of a small microphone boom; John G. Frayne and G. R. Crane discussed Western Electric's modifications of its 1,100-type Densitometer, while Maj. Garland C. Misener, U.S.A., described the signal corps' optical cueing device for disc playback.

Other Speakers Are Heard

Among the other speakers on subjects of industrial interest were Faurest Davis of Ansco; J. R. Alburger of Erpi; M. Rettinger and James Stewart of RCA and RKO, respectively; Frank G. Back of Research & Development Lab.; Willis M. Rees and Robert B. Taylor of Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp.; Emmanuel Berlant of the U.S. signal corps photographic center; L. D. Grignon of 20th-Fox; J. W. McNair of American Standards Ass'n; F. L. Hopper and R. C. Moody of WE; J. P. Corcoran of 20th-Fox; Paul Zeff of Columbia; L. A. Umansky of GE; J. R. Alburger of Hollywood, and William L. Thayer of Paramount.

Dr. C. R. Daily and Barton Kreuzer were chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the technical papers committee. H. W. Moyse was chairman of the Pacific coast section of the SMPE. Committee officials for the convention included the following: E. O. Blackburn and Julius Haber, publicity; William C. Kunzmann, registration and information; Emery Huse, reception and local arrangements; L. L. Ryder, luncheon and dinner-dance; C. W. Handley, hotel and transportation; R. H. McCullough and H. W. Remerscheid, projection programs.

MOST *Thrilling* PICTURE
IN A SEASON OF THRILLS!



MOST
Romantic
FIGURE IN A WORLD
OF ROMANCE!

MOST
Daring
ROGUE IN AN
AGE OF DARING!






ADVENTURE!
GRANDEUR!
SPECTACLE!
INTRIGUE!
Alexandre
The FIGHTING

MOST *Thrilling* PICTURE
IN A SEASON OF THRILLS!



Dumas' GUARDSMAN



Out of Alexandre Dumas' immortal story . . .

onto the screen in all its gallantry and glory!





COLUMBIA PICTURES *presents*

Alexandre Dumas' "The Fighting Guardsman"

WILLARD PARKER • ANITA LOUISE • JANIS CARTER

JOHN LODER • EDGAR BUCHANAN • GEORGE MACREADY

Screen Play by Franz Spencer and Edward Dein

Produced by MICHEL KRAIKE • Directed by HENRY LEVIN

Based on "The Companions of Jehu" by Alexandre Dumas

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

COLUMBIA PICTURES

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

OPA Revises Regulations On Popcorn, Candy Prices

Packaged popcorn and candy are the latest items to attract the attention of the OPA. These favorites with theatregoers will undergo changes in prices to consumers as soon as present changes in OPA regulations are effective. In the instance of popcorn, manufacturers of this delicacy who pack their products in container sizes for which ceiling prices have not been established, must use the ceiling price of the next smaller size package. And candy manufacturers will be advised that existing ceiling prices for candy at all levels of distribution are to be revised and put under one regulation.

Ceiling prices have been established for popcorn products in packages with a net content ranging from one-half pound to 16 ounces, with increases at intervals of each one-quarter ounce. It was found impracticable to provide ceiling prices for a closer range of container sizes. The "sales-in-bulk" definition has been changed to include specifically sales of more than one pound in weight and sales to ultimate consumers of one pound or less when the popcorn product in the package was bought in bulk. Persons who sell in bulk to ultimate consumers are required to display prominently a list of their ceiling prices. Packages must state contents and the retail ceiling price on each package, otherwise the bulk ceiling price will prevail.

As for candy, W. W. Fox of the Curtiss Brach & Sons have been appointed consultants to Jacob B. Emery, chief, grocery Candy Co. and Arthur C. Schrier of E. J. specialties section, OPA, to prepare new regulations covering ceiling prices on these sweets. At present, most candy ceilings are frozen to the highest March 1942 price. It is felt that the new regulation will bring about more effective price control in the candy field, as well as a possible increase in prices for the consumer.

FWA Civic Planning Fund Is of Exhibitor Interest

Designation by the Federal Works Agency of the Bureau of Community Facilities to administer the $17,500,000 fund allocated by Congress to aid states and communities in postwar planning of public works should be of definite interest to far-sighted exhibitors. Designed to enable state and civic agencies to obtain funds for the preparation of plans involving the construction of public buildings, schools, roads, airports, sewers, etc., the BCF's allocation of the funds should prompt exhibitors to confer with state and civic authorities on the building of community improvements in areas near or at theatres now built or proposed.

While private interests are prohibited from submitting plans for proposed community improvements and have such plans paid for by the BCF, exhibitors as community factors should play an important role in discussing such improvements with civic authorities.

McNutt Thanks Amusement Industry for Brownout Aid

The "almost 100 per cent" observance of the brownout order won for the amusement industry the accolades of Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission. "It was another and a powerful demonstration of the unity and the patriotism of the American people," said McNutt. "Even though, in some localities, it was felt that the inauguration of the curfew by order of the office of war mobilization and reconversion was unnecessary, adherence to its provisions was practically unanimous in every section of the country.

"This voluntary manifestation of the unity of America in the struggle to preserve our traditional freedoms is another instance in the overwhelming proof that democracy affords the greatest opportunity to express the aspirations of mankind."

The Raw Stock Situation Still Is Breeding Rumors

Out of the welter of rumors that continue to surround the raw film stock situation, one thing becomes clear: It would be fine if the OWI would make it possible for regular press sessions to be held, especially with the tradepapers, to enable the film industry to be given a clear and correct understanding of what is going on in the WPB with respect to film raw stock allocation discussions.

It is quite certain that the third quarter will see no increase in raw film stock for motion picture industry use. It also is quite definite that Stanley B. Adams, chief of the consumers durable goods divisions, is "keeping his fingers crossed." What that means is your guess. My guess is that there still won't be an increase in raw stock for the third quarter.

It also is quite certain that Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, is slated to return to Eastman Kodak. But that departure from governmental service won't take place for several weeks to come. And when it does, its only effect will be to assure the film industry that it will have to conduct negotiations on raw stock with someone else.

It is definite, according to one report, that J. Arthur Rank sent his emissaries to WPB to discuss the 20,000,000 feet of raw stock asked for by British producers to assure American distribution of English films. On the other hand, Adams most emphatically says that that's not so.

No matter who says it—one thing is certain: Unless the word comes from top governmental circles, there will be no reduction in raw stock for the third quarter—there will be an increase for the fourth quarter. What I really mean is that maybe there will and then maybe there won't be—an increase or something. However, this is positive—Hollywood still will find the wherewithal to make its product. All this may sound screwy, but it's not screwier than the give-and-take that emanates out of WPB these days with respect to raw stock allocations.

Jap War Forces WMC to Keep Its Tight Manpower Controls

Possibilities that there will be a nationwide lifting of manpower controls and thus ease the situation for all business were thrust aside by J. A. Krug's statement that the WMC chairman cannot foresee any general relaxation of such controls until Japan is defeated. However, the one ray of sunshine is an added statement that plans for progressive relaxation of such controls are being put into operation by WMC as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

In those areas where manpower shortages have been least pronounced, WMC area directors may lift controls between now and July 1, after consultation with local management-labor committees. In areas where labor shortages still prevail, area directors will keep a close check on changing labor market conditions and make prompt recommendations for area reclassification if the situation changes in such sections.

McNutt stated that certificates of necessity will apply only to group one areas, where vital manpower shortages prevail, after July 1. In group two areas, where decisions as to shortages are subject to area directors' reports, such certificates will be optional with the area director.

Meantime, the selective service system has clarifed the question of re-employment of returning veterans. It was stated that such veterans have an absolute right to reinstatement in former positions or substantially similar positions.

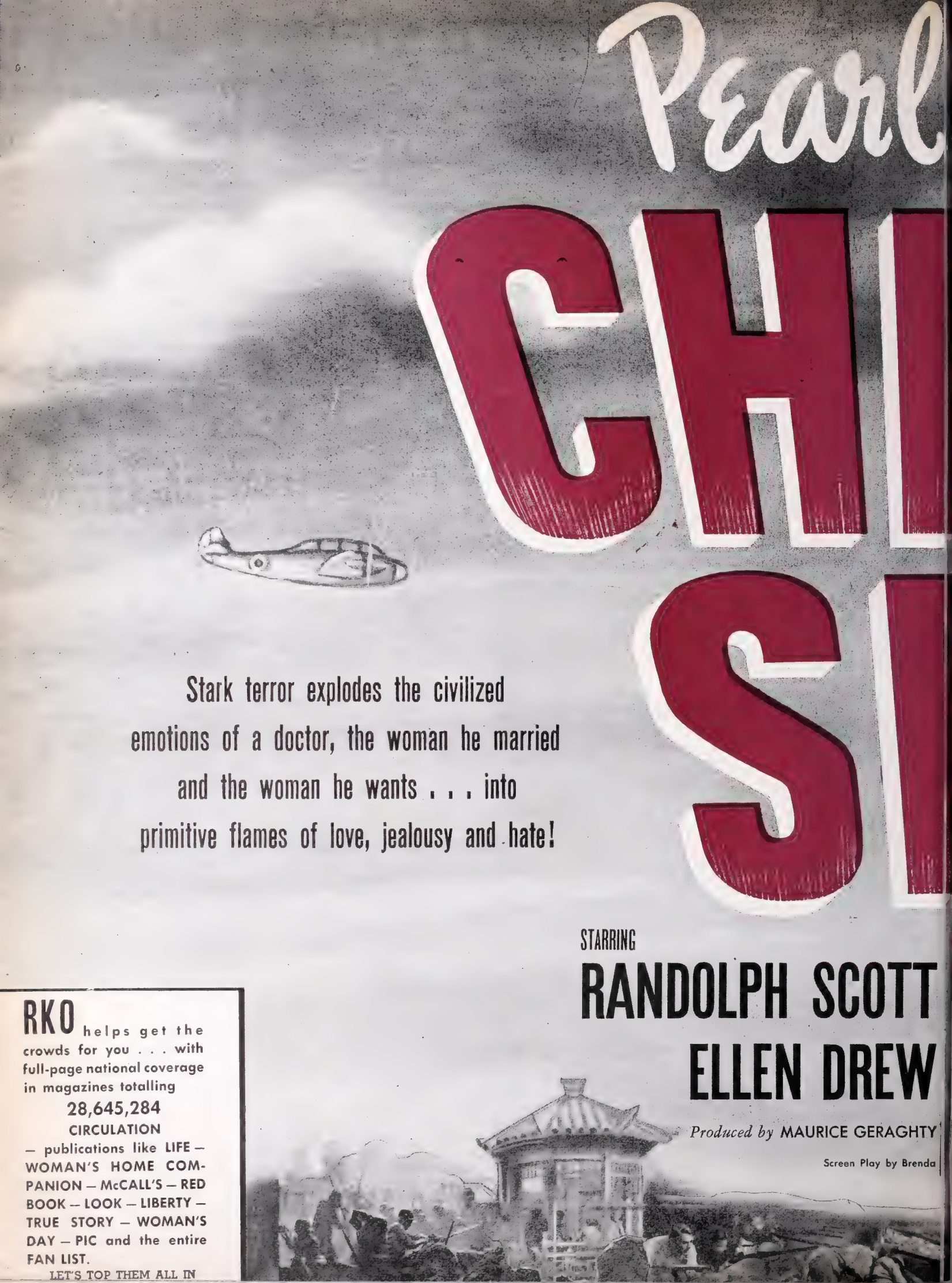


FILMS FROM ALL NATIONS—Above is a front view of the United Nations Theatre, named in honor of the San Francisco Peace Conference, and devoted exclusively to showings for delegates. The house was formerly the Alcazar Theatre, and was remodeled and donated for the use of the Conference by Fox West Coast.

I've Heard:

That Rear Adm. Harold B. Miller, newly-appointed director of public relations for the navy, plans to give more and more attention to newsreels as news-disseminating agencies;

That the Bob Hope war bond rally, sponsored by the local WAC, was one of the biggest events ever staged in Washington.



RKO helps get the crowds for you . . . with full-page national coverage in magazines totalling

28,645,284

CIRCULATION

— publications like LIFE — WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION — McCALL'S — RED BOOK — LOOK — LIBERTY — TRUE STORY — WOMAN'S DAY — PIC and the entire FAN LIST.

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN

Buck's NAVY



RUTH WARRICK

WITH

ANTHONY QUINN · CAROL THURSTON

RICHARD LOO

Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

Weisberg and Joseph Hoffman

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Lasky-RKO Deal, New Marx Bros. Company, Dominate Week's News

Items about two prominent independent film makers dominated the week's production news.

One concerned the releasing outlet for the pictures that will be produced independently by veteran Jesse L. Lasky, who signed a distribution deal with RKO Radio at whose studio he will make "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," in which Claudette Colbert will be starred. It will be her first appearance under the RKO banner. The picture is described as a romantic comedy with a postwar flavor. Authors of the original are Jane Allen and Mae Livingston, the former of whom limned the widely-read "I Lost My Girlish Laughter." Associated with Lasky is Walter McEwen, long-time executive at Warners and most recently a producer at Paramount. When Lasky resigned his producer berth at Warners and declared his intention again to hang out his own shingle, it was reported that he would make films for Columbia. Consequently, his RKO deal came as something of a surprise to Hollywood.

Organization of a new film producing company by the Marx Bros., in partnership with David L. Loew, also was announced. Release will be through United Artists.

Under the aegis of the new company, Loma Vista Films, Inc., the Marxes—Groucho, Harpo and Chico—will be starred in a zany comedy, "A Night in Casablanca." Loew will be the producer. Signed to script the film is Joseph Fields.

Warners Will Make "Task Force," The History of Naval Aviation

Warners has announced plans to make "Task Force," a feature based on the history of naval aviation from the days of the Langley, its first carrier, to its latest, the 45,000,-ton Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The film will have access to the navy department's full complement of files on the subject, and the navy has assigned Capt. Nort Seligman, former executive officer of the Lexington, as a technical advisor. Delmer Daves and Jerry Wald have been assigned respectively to the direction and production of the picture. Ranald MacDougall is preparing the screenplay . . . At the same time the Burbank studio let it be known that it had indefinitely postponed the start of its widely-publicized "The Adventures of Don Juan," which was to be Errol Flynn's next starrer. Scarcity of materials essential to filming the picture on the lavish basis that had been planned was given as reason for the shelving.

Dave Sebastion Has Organized Firm to Make Mystery Dramas

A name well known in production circles of past years is returning to the independent film-making field. Dave Sebastion, son of A. H. Sebastion, once prominent in production, has announced organization of a company, Sebastion Productions, which plans to make a series of three psychological mystery dramas for a release still to be established.

"Scarlet Street" Is Next Picture On Wanger's Agendum for "U"

Walter Wanger, whose offerings are distributed by Universal, revealed the details of the next three pictures on his agendum. First will be the previously-announced "Scarlet Street," which is to be produced and directed by Fritz Lang, Wanger's partner, in newly-incorporated Diana Productions. It will be followed by "Canyon Passage," a Technicolor western by Ernest Haycox. The producer announced purchase of the current Book of the Month selection, "The Ballad and the Source," which was authored by Rosamond Lehman, and which completes the trio.



LASKY AND RKO SIGN—Charles W. Koerner (seated), executive vice-president in charge of production at RKO, and Jesse L. Lasky (left) and Walter MacEwen, sign the papers which call for the Jesse L. Lasky Productions to produce "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here" for RKO distribution. Claudette Colbert will be starred in the romantic comedy with a postwar flavor based upon the soon-to-be published novel by Jane Allen and Mae Livingston. It will present Claudette Colbert under the RKO banner for the first time.

Colonel Keighley Signs Contract With Paramount for Film a Year

Col. William Keighley, veteran megger, who recently completed three years service with the war department, has signed a deal to direct a picture annually for Paramount during the next three years . . . Another newcomer to Paramount fold is Paul Stewart, New York stage producer, director, writer and actor. Stewart most recently has been associated with David O. Selznick . . . John Houseman, producer at Paramount for the past two years, has asked for and received a release from his contract. He expects to go to Europe early this summer for the OWI, with which he was associated for a time before his Paramount deal was made.

Awaiting assignment at RKO Radio studio, which he has just joined as a writer-producer, is Paul Yawitz, for the last four years a screen scrivener at Columbia . . . At RKO, Theron Warth has terminated his connection as an associate producer.

"The Voice" Has a Message; All Profits Go to Charity

The Voice is going to deliver a message.

Frank Sinatra, Mervyn LeRoy and Frank Ross have joined forces to do a picture designed to promote religious and racial tolerance in America by means of entertainment. Ross is producing and Albert Maltz has written the script. Filming has started, with LeRoy directing. Tentatively titled "The House I Live In," the picture will be of featurette length and include two songs by Sinatra. There will also be a group of youngsters in speaking parts. Sinatra, Ross, LeRoy, Maltz and RKO, which will distribute, are contributing their services free and will take no profit from the picture, but will turn all proceeds over to charity active in juvenile work, to be selected by them.

"Home Is the Sailor" Announced As Goetz's Next on IP Schedule

William Goetz, president of International Pictures, whose product is released by RKO, has announced the Nunnally Johnson production of "Home Is the Sailor" as the next picture to enter photography on IP's schedule. Filming will begin in July.

Pair of Cartunes in Technicolor With Humanettes, Lantz's Plan

Manufacture of two Cartunes in Technicolor employing his new Humanettes is planned by Walter Lantz, who distributes through Universal. One subject will be based upon Lantz's Woody Woodpecker character and the other upon his Andy Panda. Lantz has completed an experimental reel using Humanettes, which will soon be shown to the press. Exhibitor and public reaction to the two subjects he plans will determine whether or not he produces an entire series of the subjects.

Story Based on Life of Lew Ayres To Be Filmed by Director Howard

Out at Republic, Director William K. Howard has a story now in preparation titled "The Conscientious Objector," based on the life of Lew Ayres. Howard is writing the story himself and will produce and direct it . . . Paul Gerard Smith was signed by Alexander-Stern to write final script on "Queen of Burlesque," backstage drama, for PRC . . . John Cromwell has been assigned to direct "Cluny Brown," an Ernst Lubitsch production at 20th Century-Fox, as his initial chore under his recently-signed term contract . . . Stuart Heisler was announced by Paramount as the director of Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," which Joseph Sistrom will produce. Heisler had been borrowed from International Pictures by Walter Wanger to direct "Canyon Passage" but the latter relinquished his commitment.

William Dieterle, on loanout from David O. Selznick, will direct Universal's "As It Was Before" . . . Leonide Moguy will direct Nero Production's "Whistle Stop," which is a United Artists release . . . Another UA producer, Arnold Pressburger, signed Ellis St. Joseph to do the screenplay of "Together in Paris."

Paramount Only Customer of Note In Weak Hollywood Story Market

Paramount, from where two purchases were reported, was the only customer of note in a faltering Hollywood story mart.

The studio acquired film rights to one of the late Sir James M. Barrie's plays, "Alice Sit by the Fire," and will produce the film under the simplified title, "Alice." The deal was closed with the heir to the Barrie estate, Lady Cynthia Asquith, in London. Charles Brackett will produce and the writing team of Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich now are at work on the adaptation.

Also completed by the Marathon Street studio was a deal for the screen rights of "The Wayfarers," a soon to be published novel by Dan Wickenden, 32-year-old newspaper man of Grand Rapids, Mich., and July selection of the Literary Guild. The story is about a family in a middle western city, with the central character an ingrate who is taken into a home and who ruins the lives of three women in the family . . . "If You Ever Need Me," a story of a young man's blind devotion to a childhood sweetheart who becomes a murderess, was purchased by Metro. It will mark the return of Irving Starr to M-G-M producing ranks after a year's absence.

Soon the box-office
will hail the sensational
technique of a new
"great lover"! Soon you'll know
why he's called...

"THE THRILL"....



Joan Blondell and all the gals want to marry him - and do.

"THE THRILL"...



Don Juan QUILLIGAN

For dates, call 20th Century-Fox 30th ANNIVERSARY

WILLIAM BENDIX • JOAN BLONDELL • PHIL SILVERS in DON JUAN QUILLIGAN

with Anne Revere • B. S. Pully • Mary Treen • John Russell • Veda Ann Borg

Screen Play by Arthur Kober and Frank Gabrielson • From a Story by Herbert Clyde Lewis

Directed by FRANK TUTTLE • Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY! THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Buy, Hold War Bonds, Roosevelt Urged Us

WASHINGTON—Before his death, President Franklin D. Roosevelt prepared a statement in support of the Seventh War Loan. His message is another reminder of our duties at this time. His statement was as follows:

"I don't need to tell you that we are still locked in a deadly struggle with our enemies—the enemies of our way of life—and the war is still the chief job of each one of us.

"The greatest production of which we are capable, faithful adherence to regulations that make it possible to supply our boys in battle with everything they need, and buying and holding war bonds—these are things we at home must do to speed victory.

"In the past three years more than 85 millions of Americans have invested billions of dollars in bonds. Never before have so many people held such a direct share in a great national effort. To save—to buy and to hold all we can of war bonds—this is a small service to ask of us who do not fight—yet it is one of the biggest things we can do for our fighting men."

Bond Show Plans Soar As Loan Drive Starts

NEW YORK — When the Seventh Loan drive opened last week exhibitors here had already pledged a record number of 61 bond premieres and 47 children's premieres compared to 57 bond and 11 child shows during the Sixth loan.

Committee members James A. Brennan, C. C. Moskowitz and Fred Schwartz are still working to swell the total during this drive.

The over-all picture for the country looked just as promising at the start of the drive. A report from all exchanges shows 2,463 premieres had been arranged as of May 5. During the entire Sixth Loan drive the total of bond premieres was 4,575. In the Sixth Loan drive 1,000 children's shows were given and already 986 have been scheduled for the Seventh. The exchanges reported 9,703 free movies during the Sixth. In the current drive 4,305 were scheduled by May 5.

German Bomber Fuselage Will Aid Bond Drive

BROOKLYN—The army has placed the fuselage of a Nazi 88 night fighter-bomber at the disposal of WAC for the Seventh War Loan drive, according to Helen Beckerman, borough chairman. The plane fuselage, shot down over France, is 46 feet long with a circumference a little less than that of a Flying Fortress. It is slightly damaged by battle action, a fact calculated to add to its interest.

A mobile unit will tour with the war relic throughout the borough, providing further interest for rallies at busy street intersections and serving as a background for speakers. Admission to the interior of the fuselage will be by bond purchase.

Purple Heart Plaque To Frances Langford

Hollywood—For the record she has made entertaining U.S. troops, Frances Langford has been awarded a plaque which is a replica of the purple heart decoration that honors service men. She is not only the first woman but also the first civilian to receive such a plaque.



THOUSANDS VIEW UNVEILING—Seething Times Square quieted down for a while as massed thousands witnessed the unveiling of the Iwo Jima statue. In the top panel, left, a view of the crowd. Right: Sam Pinanski, national chairman of the industry's Seventh War Loan committee, delivers a forceful address. Panel below, at left: Morris Kinzler, Pinanski, Tom Connors, Sol Tesser; right, a closeup of the statue.

Unveiling of Iwo Jima Group Sparks 7th Bond Drive to a Flying Start

NEW YORK—In a moving and efficiently-staged unveiling of its Iwo Jima statue, WAC opened the Seventh War Loan drive before a crowd of several thousand thronging Times Square. Glenn Riggs, broadcasting the event over the Blue network, acted as master of ceremonies.

Following an invocation by Comdr. John F. Hagen, USN, three industry spokesmen briefly expressed the urgency of buying more bonds in order to speed ultimate victory in the Pacific. The trio comprised Irving Lesser, Samuel Pinanski and Tom J. Connors.

Fredric March, reading from an article by the late Ernie Pyle, paid stirring tribute to the men of the marine corps who had wrested Iwo Jima from the Japs. The stage and screen star told how the gallant little war correspondent had gone to his last fatal assignment with a premonition of what was to come. "He could have stayed home, but the job wasn't done; and he went back because he felt he hadn't done enough. I wonder," March paused, "could you tell Ernie Pyle or any man who fights that you have bought enough war bonds?—that you have done enough?"

Leatherneck Sergeant Not So Tough

Riggs next paid tribute to the late Sgt. John Basilone, first U.S. marine to win the Congressional Medal of Honor in this war—he was responsible in large measure for the total annihilation of a Japanese regiment at Guadalcanal—who was killed helping to capture Iwo Jima. Basilone's father and sister, Salvatore and Mary Basilone, respectively, spoke briefly. The elder Basilone's reply, in broken English, was as effective as it was laconic: "Johnny loved our country and wanted to do all he could for her. He did—and we are proud of him."

Technical Sgt. Keys Beech, marine corps combat correspondent, who saw the historic incident at Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima, described how a burly leatherneck sergeant saw the flag against the sky—and jumped into a foxhole. "Until he saw the tears in the eyes of his buddies, he wanted to hide his own," Beech said, then added: "I couldn't have hidden mine."

The crowd tendered an ovation to three participants in the Mt. Suribachi flag-raising as they were introduced. They were Pharmacist's Mate 2/c John H. Bradley, USN, Pfc. Ira Hayes, NSMC, and Pfc. Rene Gagnon. Speaking for the three, lone survivors of the flag-raising at Iwo Jima, Gagnon said he and his two buddies would "say a prayer when the memorial is unveiled—a prayer for Sgt. Henry O. Hansen, Sgt. Michael Strank and Pfc. Franklin R. Sousley who stood with us and who died there under the flag we raised on Iwo Jima."

Robert Merrill, Metropolitan Opera Award winner, then sang the marine hymn. Several score wounded Iwo Jima veterans present stood at attention and joined in the refrain.

"Little Flower" Uses Unflowery Language

State Chairman Frederick W. Gehle of WFC reminded the audience the city's E bond quota of $287,300,000 was the largest ever assigned to it. He then introduced Mayor Fiorello La Guardia. The "Little Flower" expressed confidence the citizens would put New York over the top in the Seventh War Loan drive and would not be so unpatriotic as to redeem their bonds before maturity. In characteristic language La Guardia described those who bought bonds only to redeem them soon afterward as "double-crossing, double-faced, four-flushing welchers."

The crowd roared its approval of the mayor, cheered him again a moment later when he made a pointed reference to the political situation. Introducing Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, La Guardia told the USMC commandant he wanted the marines to take the city over for the day, then added: "It is clean now. But it may need a cleaning in the future."

The sculptured group, created by Rochette and Parzini, and erected by Artcraft Straus as a contribution to the Seventh War Loan drive was then unveiled.

Ask UDT Disaffiliation From Competing House

DETROIT — Probably unprecedented in theatrical litigation, a lawsuit filed here in federal district court by Nicholas George, operating the Allen Park Theatre in the suburb of that name, makes the demand that United Detroit Theatres disaffiliate itself from a specific competing theatre, the Mel in Melvindale. An international flavor is lent to the litigation through the fact that George also raises the question of international affiliation of the Lincoln Park Theatre with Paramount of Canada. The latter named house, the UDT and all eight major distributors are named as defendants.

Charge Violation of Three Acts

The suit charges violation of the Sherman, Clayton, and Robinson-Patman Acts. Exceptional significance is given to it by the raising of the point of international affiliation of the Lincoln Park with Paramount of Canada. George charges that "Lincoln Park through its affiliate, Paramount, in the Dominion of Canada, entered into contracts with distributor defendants" for the same run as that given by them to the Mel when it was taken over by UDT.

All three are the only houses in their respective suburbs, and are each two miles apart. Plaintiff contends the Allen Park is equal in appointments to the Mel, and in some ways superior to the Lincoln Park, which is several years older than the other two houses.

George, in a detailed bill of complaints, asks for an injunction ordering distributors to book pictures to his house on the same run as at the Mel and Lincoln Park, and that UDT be forced to divorce itself of any affiliation in the Mel Theatre. He further asks for damages which he summarized to BOXOFFICE as approximately $3,000 monthly since the house was opened about three years ago.

A summary of the case as stated by George:

"That defendants violated his rights and privileges under the federal antitrust laws, by failing to allow him to secure pictures on the same run as the two defendant theatres.

"That when his theatre was opened, all distributors (except Paramount) refused to give him a run earlier than seven days after the Lincoln Park, then playing on 14 days' clearance after the second run Hollywood Theatre; and that Paramount contracted to grant a run seven days after the Hollywood to him, with proviso that the Wyandotte Theatre at Wyandotte should have seven days' clearance.

"Uses Its Buying Power"

"That UDT has used its buying power to unlawfully restrain free competition in the exhibition of product of distributor defendants.

"That Lincoln Park is a part of a combination, association, or circuit in some manner or form connected with distributor Paramount, either in the United States or Dominion of Canada, and as such an affiliate is a beneficiary of the huge buying power of the largest theatre-owning circuit in North America.

"That when UDT acquired the Mel in August, 1942, the distributors granted that house a new run one day after second run Detroit, with a clearance of seven days over the Allen Park, although previously all distributors except Paramount has had contracts giving the Mel and Allen Park the same run.

"That prior to the taking over by the UDT circuit of the Mel, the former operating company, headed by Louis Schlussel, had tried unsuccessfully to secure pictures for it on the same run as for the Lincoln Park, and that there was 'concerted action' on the part of the Lincoln Park and the distributors.

"That the Lincoln Park then negotiated new contracts with distributors for the same run as that granted by them to the Mel under new management—which run was prior to that formerly given to the Lincoln Park, 'through its affiliate Paramount in the Dominion of Canada.'

"That business at the Allen Park fell off as a result of these changed runs at the Mel and Lincoln Park, and George had to give away dishes three nights a week and present vaudeville two nights, at a weekly cost of $275 and $350, respectively.

"That he is willing to pay a price determined by open competition for the same run as at the Mel and Lincoln Park, and, finally, that innumerable patrons have complained of the delay in pictures reaching their neighborhood theatre, the Allen Park."

Burton Holmes Telecasts

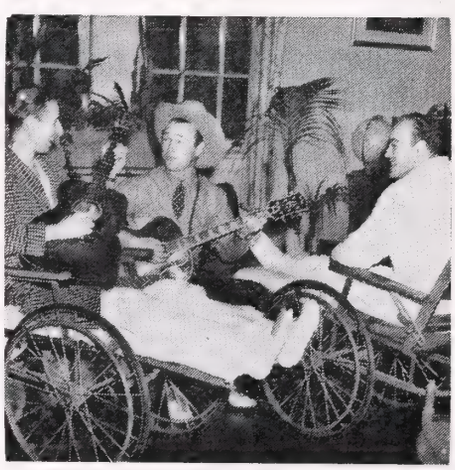
NEW YORK—Burton Holmes, noted world traveler and lecturer, has begun a series of five NBC television broadcasts from station WNBT. First of the telecasts made by the 75-year-old lecturer had as its subject a film made in Norway before the war. In it he depicted the influx of German "tourists," all equipped with cameras.

FCC Bans New Stations

WASHINGTON—Restrictions limiting construction of new radio stations and improvements to existing stations will continue despite victory in Europe, according to FCC Chairman Paul A. Porter. No substantial policy change probably will be forthcoming until after Japan is defeated, he said.

T. F. Farrell Joins OWI

NEW YORK—Thomas F. Farrell, former member of the M-G-M domestic sales force, has joined OWI. He will leave shortly for London for a European motion picture distribution assignment.



THEY HAD FUN—Roy Rogers dropped into the Marine Hospital at Cleveland while appearing at the Arena, and the boys forgot their troubles. Trigger was along, too.

Lawyers Argue Points In Jackson Park Case

CHICAGO—Judges in the circuit court of appeals learned the fine points of film distribution recently when Attorney Miles Seeley, representing RKO, 20th-Fox and M-G-M, took up the defense in the Jackson Park Theatre conspiracy charge case. The counsellor declared that producers cannot supply enough film to give simultaneous runs to all theatres and that distributors seek to serve first the "best theatres," playing to the most people, so as to obtain the largest possible revenue first.

Seeley said the system was not unlike a ladder, with every one using it and that it worked out perfectly, so, he contended, the plaintiffs had no case under the Sherman Act.

Vincent O'Brien, representing Warners, told Judges Will Sparks, Earl Major and Sherman Minton that double feature policies were not set up by agreement and represent no cause for damages and that even if the plaintiff could contend damages had been sustained there was no basis for proof and no way of estimating the amount in dollars and cents. Edward Johnson, representing Paramount and Balaban & Katz, told the court that the Jackson Park Theatre had participated in the Chicago system of distribution and so "could not legally claim damages."

The plaintiffs' counsel, Thomas McConnell, contended that the defendants, by fixing loop runs, were virtually partners in a conspiracy, and stiffened competition in outlying theatres and that the jury originally determined this was conspiracy, having the testimony of witnesses to corroborate the contention. The case is under advisement, with a decision expected after the usual 40-day lapse.

"All-Star Bond Rally" Getting 100% Booking

NEW YORK—Audience as well as managers are becoming increasingly sold on, as well as by "All-Star Bond Rally," according to Tom J. Connors, WAC national distributor chairman. With an all-time industry record of 1,200 prints in work, the Seventh War Loan short subject made itself felt as a potent bond salesman, even before the drive officially started.

Typical of the fast booking of the subject, Burgess Waltmon, exhibitor co-chairman for Mississippi, reports virtually every theatre in the state served out of Memphis has already booked the film. Some 300 houses served out of New Orleans have placed bookings.

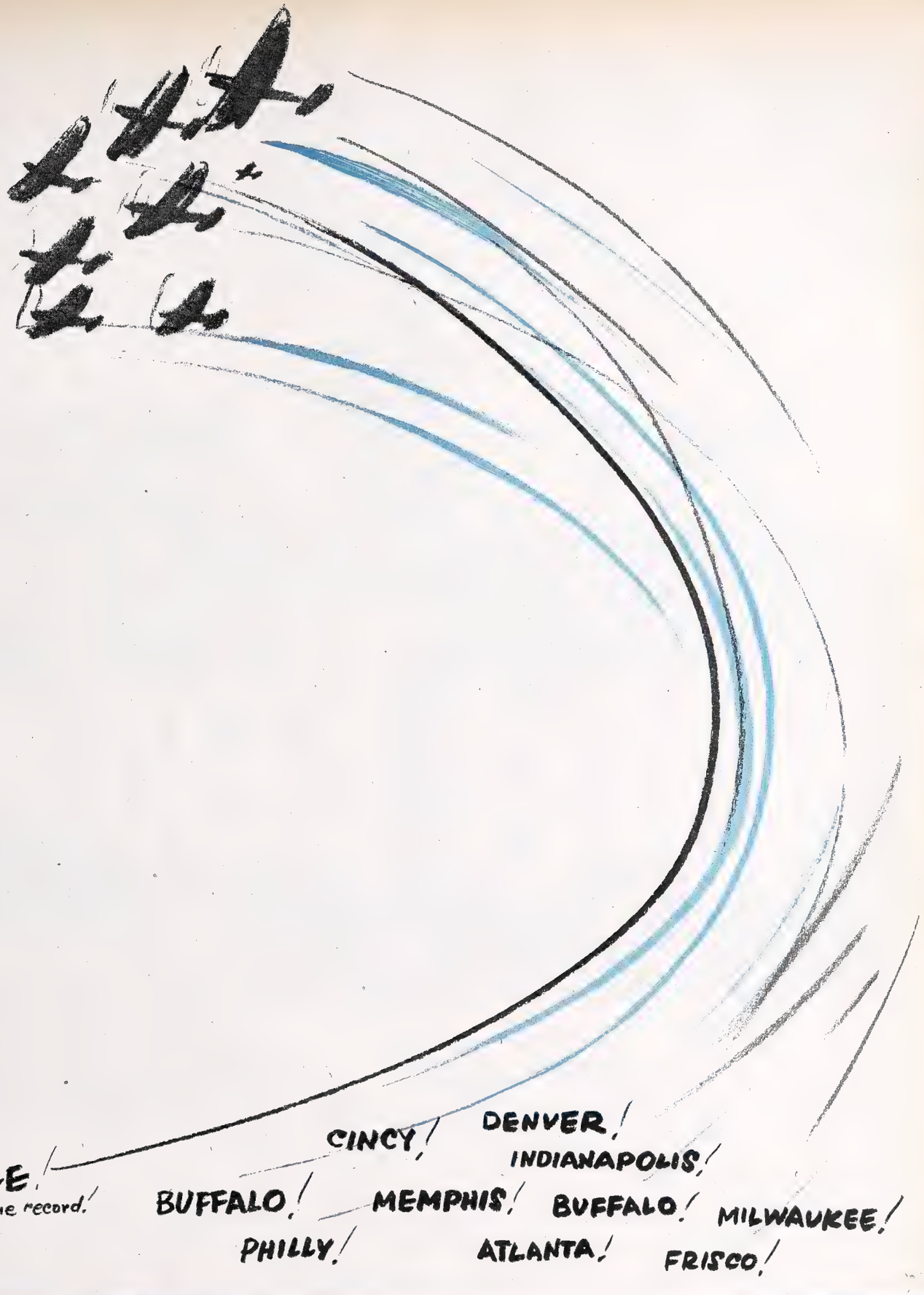
Maurice Saffle, Seattle area distribution chairman, reports the most complete coverage ever obtained for a film in his territory, with bookings marked out for every situation, including a print for Alaska, for the Lathrop and Gross circuits.

Young Giroux Gets Air Medal

HOLLYWOOD — Lieut. George R. Giroux jr., currently stationed in England as pilot of a lead crew B17 Flying Fortress, has just been awarded the Air Medal "for meritorious achievement while participating in heavy bombardment missions in the air offensive against the enemy over continental Europe." Before joining up, Lieutenant Giroux was a cartoonist on the staff of Screen Gems, Columbia's cartoon subsidiary, and is the son of George R. Giroux, Technicolor field representative.

To Debut in "They Were Expendable"

Trina Lowe will make her screen debut in "They Were Expendable," a Metro production.



RECEIPTS ARE SKY HIGH FOR GOD IS MY CO-PILOT!

starring

DENNIS MORGAN · DANE CLARK · RAYMOND MASSEY · ALAN HALE · ANDREA KING · JOHN RIDGELY

oduced by ROBERT BUCKNER • From the Best Seller by that Ace Flying Tiger COL. ROBERT LEE SCOTT, Jr • Directed by ROBERT FLOREY • Screen Play by Peter Milne and Abem Finkel Music by Franz Waxman

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!
THE MIGHTY 7TH WAR LOAN!

Warner Picture - one of the Biggest!



Warners

Scully Well Pleased Over U's Meetings

NEW YORK—Universal's current series of district meetings has proven most helpful in acquainting the sales department with company and industry problems as they relate to future Universal releases, according to William A. Scully, vice-president.

"Presided over by divisional managers, the sessions apprised everyone in the sales forces of the many uncertainties that will confront the entire industry until victory in the Orient is fully achieved," Scully said. "Like all studios that have mapped out their course for the next year, Universal will be subject to risks and limitations as long as our major interest is to continue wholehearted cooperation in doing our part to prosecute the war against Japan to a successful conclusion."

Still to be held are two sessions, presided over by A. J. O'Keefe, western sales manager. They are the Salt Lake City, Seattle, Denver and Portland meeting at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, May 24-25, and the Los Angeles and San Francisco meet at the Hotel Ambassador, Los Angeles, May 28-29. In all ten sessions will have been held. Three, presided over by F. J. A. McCarthy, in Atlanta, New Orleans and Cincinnati, occurred on May 9, 12 and 14, respectively; three, supervised by Fred S. Meyers, in Cleveland, Boston and Philadelphia, took place on May 7, 11 and 14, respectively; while a couple of two-day sessions, presided over by O'Keefe, were held in Chicago and Kansas City on May 12-13 and 18-19, respectively.

Hirliman Firm Launches Amateur Film Contest

NEW YORK—International Theatrical & Television Corp. will launch a national contest offering as the first of 11 prizes $10,000 in cash to the best amateur film production submitted on any subject. The ten secondary awards comprise commercial distribution by IT&T of these subjects, with each of the ten winners receiving cash revenue through a percentage of their pictures' earnings.

Negotiations are now under way to choose a board of ten judges, five of them selected from Hollywood picture authorities and the rest from leading representatives in the 16mm field. The contest will encompass the entire range of substandard production, including entertainment, educational and religious films, etc., George A. Hirliman, IT&T president says, and as such will allow for inclusion of any type of motion picture made by nonprofessionals. The contest is expected to start July 1, 1945, and continue for one year.

No Cutbacks at the War Plants in Rochester

ROCHESTER—Eastman Kodak Co. workers engaged in turning out war materiel for men on the fighting fronts in the Pacific stuck to their jobs this week despite the victory in Europe announcements of Monday and Tuesday.

Carl Hallauer, vice-president of Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., another Rochester firm which in peace time supplies important equipment to the motion picture industry, declared: "Our plant will not have any cutback in war contracts. No slackening of our work is in prospect, and we urge all employes to stay on the job. We still need help . . . and we are prepared to take on 1,200 to 1,500 more workers."



PORTLAND PITCHES IN—The motion picture industry in Portland really put its shoulder to the wheel to help put over the United National Clothing Collection drive. Fourteen Portland theatres, in key locations, held a used-clothing matinee on a Saturday morning, with admission chalked up as five pounds of used clothing. All 14 theatres were accordingly packed with representatives of Young America.

In the photograph, smiling Manager Herbert J. Royster of the Mayfair Theatre, almost hidden by the bundles, is piling up clothing in his lobby prior to the pickup. The other 13 theatres which participated are the Alberta, Bagdad, Egyptian, Oriental, Esquire, Granada, Hollywood, Irvington, Thirtieth Avenue, St. Johns, Roseway, Ames and Twenty-Sixth Avenue.

No Films in Reich for Many Months, Frederic Ullman of Pathe Predicts

NEW YORK—American film distributors had better forego for some time to come any ideas concerning a German market, says Frederic Ullman jr. of RKO Pathe and Pathe News, just returned from a month in Europe. Save for a few by-passed towns, he found most German cities are a mass of ruins, their theatres demolished.

No less important is the fact that German law forbids more than five persons to congregate at any one place other than a church, Ullman pointed out. There is absolutely no gasoline available, hence efficient film transport is an impossibility.

"There are many little hamlets throughout Germany that are unscathed — picturesque, postcard villages, but the entire population of any one of these, together with that of its environs, wouldn't bring in a gross rental of eight dollars per week. We might just as well forget Germany as an outlet for our product," Ullman cautioned, "for quite a while."

Makes Entire Trip by Plane

Ullman left this country April 3, flew via army transport command to Newfoundland, the Azores, Casablanca, Naples and Rome, where his company is making a film for either its This Is America series or WAC release. Photographed in Italy's "West Point" outside of Rome, the two-reeler will show the thousands of American troops being trained as replacements for our forces in the Orient.

After a week at the Italian capital, he flew via Marseille to Paris. In the latter city Ullman set up two issues of his company's This Is America series, subjects best made in Europe. One of these, "Americans in Paris," deals with the tens of thousands of Yanks stationed or on furlough in the French capital. As many as 50,000 American soldiers are frequently in Paris on leave at one time, Ullman said.

The second subject is tentatively called "Military Government." Allied officials in Paris practically gave Ullman carte blanche to film the two-reeler "anywhere in Germany," putting a plane, pilot and 1,000 gallons of gasoline at his disposal so he might inspect the Rhine cities as possible locales. The plane developed motor trouble and was forced down near Cologne.

"Never have I seen such desolation as that of Cologne," Ullman said. "It was like being 'alone in Germany.' I could see a mile in every direction, and there wasn't a single person in view. In the center of Cologne there remain standing only three or four buildings and about three-quarters of the cathedral."

Sprayed with Typhus Preventive

Waiting for his plane to be repaired, he continued his location scouting, accepting a lift offered him by an American coal truck-driver who had to deliver his load at a Displaced Persons Area nearby.

While inspecting the camp Ullman saw a U.S. command car equipped with loud speaker passing up and down the camp streets. To his alarm he heard a warning being broadcast from the car: typhus had been found in the camp—no one was to attempt to leave. He eventually found his way to the U.S. army medical authorities, explained his predicament and, after being thoroughly sprayed with DDT, most powerful of disinfectants, was released from the camp and given transportation back to Cologne.

A second look confirmed his first conviction—Cologne was the ideal locale for the two-reel subject. Already the military government—the U.S. army—had brought electricity into what remained of the city, and had appointed as chief of police a German, Paul Winkler, who had held the same post efficiently during the Weimar Republic days.

Although front line troops were receiving screen fare regularly, none was available for the American soldiers stationed in the cathedral city, Ullman said, for the simple reason every theatre had been almost completely destroyed by bombing raids. He saw what had once been four or five theatres.

"No," Ullman repeated, "the Germans won't get motion pictures of any sort for many, many months. We're not trying to entertain them, nor are we planning to re-educate them, save by force of example."

"Wonder Man" Tradeshows Set

NEW YORK—"Wonder Man" will be tradeshown at all RKO exchanges on May 28, with the exception of Philadelphia and New York. The Philadelphia screening has been set for May 24 at 8:45 p. m. in the State Theatre. The picture has already been shown in New York.

WB's "War" Pictures Attain 15,000 Bookings

NEW YORK—Four Warner Bros. war pictures released in the past season and five more distributed previously have amassed total playdates of more than 15,000 each. The figures represent several thousand repeat bookings.

Last season's leaders were: "Destination Tokyo," "Passage to Marseille," "Watch on the Rhine" and "Northern Pursuit." Previous season's pace-setters include "Casablanca," "Air Force," "Action in the North Atlantic," "Background to Danger" and "Edge of Darkness."

At present, "God Is My Co-Pilot" is hitting a pace that may top all previous booking records. "Objective, Burma!" and "Hotel Berlin" running close behind.

Sound Films Help Build Pan-American Highway

NEW YORK—Sound films have played an important part in maintaining morale among workers building the Pan-American Highway, according to a letter received from H. Montenegro of Nicaragua, by RCA's theatre and sound equipment department.

"Not even once did we fail to show a motion picture owing to the breakdown of the projector, although every day, when transporting equipment, we had to cover great distances on unfinished roads, and under heavy rains making travel most difficult," he wrote. Montenegro represented an American firm engaged on the highway's construction.

Ask Hollywood Director To Stage Equity Play

NEW YORK—Equity Library Theatre has asked Harold Young to defer returning to Hollywood until he can direct another play for the group. So successful was his staging recently of "Animal Kingdom," that so discerning a producer as John Golden urged that "a revival should be done on Broadway immediately with the same cast."

Among films directed by Young are "The Scarlet Pimpernel," "The Three Caballeros," "Song of the Sarong" and "I Remember April."

Triple Pacific Premiere For "Blood on the Sun"

NEW YORK—Col. E. L. Munson, chief of USA pictorial service, says men in our armed forces fighting in the Pacific will see "Blood on the Sun" before the picture is generally released in this country.

Soldiers, sailors and marines on Okinawa, Iwo Jima and in Manila will witness Pacific premieres of the Cagney film simultaneously on May 25. The Okinawa and Iwo Jima premieres will be the first ever held on those islands.

Army Uses Disney Poster

NEW YORK—The U.S. army finance department has printed an initial run of 100,000 three-color offset display posters featuring "The Three Caballeros" for the Seventh War Loan drive in the Caribbean area. The government instituted the tieup because of Donald Duck's great popularity in the armed forces.

Williams to Puerto Rico

NEW YORK—Roger Williams, formerly Paramount special representative in Mexico, has been appointed to a new position in Puerto Rico.

Pathe News Is Waiting Affiliates' Resumption

New York—Neither in France nor in England are newsreels released by separate companies, according to Frederic Ullman jr., president of Pathe News and RKO Pathe, recently returned from a tour of Europe. The French companies turn out a joint reel, Actualities, while the British companies also pool their film. American newsreel companies have access to the pool, he said.

Pathe News will exchange films with its prewar French and English affiliates, Pathe Journal and Pathe Gazette, respectively, as soon as the latter organizations resume functioning.

Ullman said Pathe News will send into Europe as many camera crews as transport and other facilities will permit. The government has been extremely fair in its treatment in allotting travel priorities, he continued, considering the fact that a cameraman's equipment displaces food or materiel for several soldiers.

Dimes Collections Show 30% Increase

NEW YORK—Although fewer than half the states have filed complete reports, the 1945 March of Dimes collections accounted for to date total $2,127,003, according to Treasurer Walter Vincent. This is a 30 per cent increase over the 1944 returns of $1,572,901 from the same states.

Vincent is confident the grand total, when all reports are in, will exceed $5,500,000, more than $1,000,000 over the 1944 collections. He urges exhibitors to hasten their reports to state chairmen so final accountings may be made.

The states so far filing complete returns with checks and percentage increases over 1944 indicated, are: North Carolina, 67 per cent, $90,852; Florida, 42, $111,996; South Carolina, 47, $32,055; Arizona, 92, $20,859; Alabama, 9, $55,723; West Virginia, 81, $40,455; Louisiana, 1, $77,597; Oregon, 34, $68,269; Utah, 21, $26,328; Iowa, 21, $73,380; Nebraska, 18, $43,309; New Mexico, 100, $20,832; Georgia, 30, $316,246; Delaware, 34, $23,387; Vermont, 24, $7,895; North Dakota, 35, $14,594; District of Columbia, 60, $134,699; Indiana, 10, $105,408; Pennsylvania, 19, $444,520; Washington, 44, $131,989; Virginia, 32, $114,276; Hawaii, $63,710; Puerto Rico, $1,245; Canal Zone, $1,081.

Republic Executives Tour Offices in Middle West

NEW YORK—In connection with Republic's 10th anniversary two home office executives are visiting company branches. Edwards L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, left this week to tour the St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Des Moines, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Chicago exchanges.

Walter L. Titus, executive assistant to James R. Grainger, is visiting the branches in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Buffalo.

Morgan Holds Sales Meet

HOLLYWOOD—Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects general sales manager, arrived from Dallas and spent a week conferring with studio executives and producers. He held one of a number of regional sales meetings at the Hotel Ambassador with Del Goodman, district sales manager, and Al Taylor, Neal East, James Clark and Herbert Kaufman, branch managers.

Business in India At an All-Time High

NEW YORK—Film business in India has reached an all-time peak, S. Ganguli, Paramount's general sales manager for India, Burma and Ceylon, reported upon his arrival for his first visit to this country in 15 years of association with the company.

Large numbers of United Nations service men stationed in the country are responsible for the vast increase in business, Ganguli said. Another contributing factor, he added, is the millions of Indian troops who have become film-conscious.

Speaking for Paramount, the executive observed that the release of six top productions there were boxoffice magnets of unusual proportions. These films include "For Whom the Bell Tolls," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "Lady in the Dark," "Rainbow Island," "Frenchman's Creek" and "Going My Way." The last-named picture, he asserted, "is the biggest prestige picture Paramount has ever had in India."

American film companies released more than 200 pictures in India during 1943 and slightly less last year. British films for 1944 totaled 23 and for the current year 24. British Distributors (India) Ltd., a J. Arthur Rank subsidiary, handles distribution of British product.

Forty-five Indian studios are engaged in production. In 1944, the combined output was 183 features. Unusually long engagements, however, have prevented release of many of these films.

Some 200 films have been licensed for production this year by the Indian government.

Quota regulations are identical for British and American films.

Burmese territory is still under military control and will remain so for possibly one or two years. Distribution of film will be under the direction of the Allied government film distributing agencies. Actual distribution is expected to be resumed soon, Ganguli disclosed.

Approximately 200 theatres play American and British films, while 300 others play both foreign and native product. One thousand houses play only native films.

Ganguli plans to return to his post in six weeks after conferences with foreign department executives and a visit to the company's studios.

Third Paramount Aide Has Left for France

NEW YORK—Elias Lapinere, Paramount's public relations, publicity and advertising director in Europe, North Africa and the Near East, left here for Paris. He is the third of the company's executives to leave for the French capital within a short time, the others preceding him including: Robert Schless and Henri Michaud, division chief and assistant division head, respectively.

All three, veterans of the European film market, joined Paramount last November. Since that time they had been familiarizing themselves with company policies at the home office. Schless and Lapinere visited the company's studios before their departure for Europe.

Hungary Resumes

NEW YORK—Paramount International has received advices from Hungary that its Budapest branch has resumed operations. The company's former exchange in the capital has been destroyed and several of its former employes are missing. Business has been resumed under the greatest difficulties, it was reported.

A GREAT Picture Changes Its Name!

David L. Loew presents

"The Southerner"

A Jean Renoir Production

starring

ZACHARY SCOTT
BETTY FIELD

with

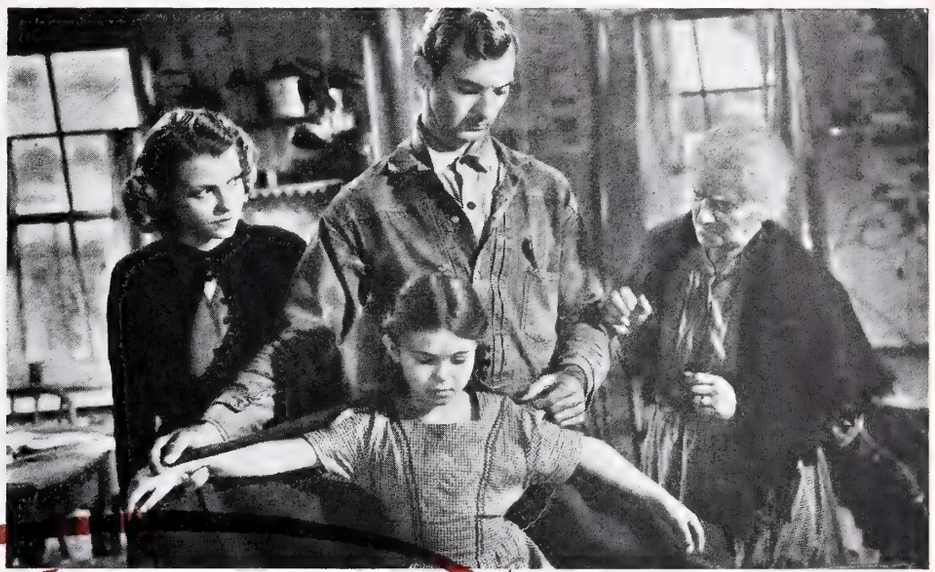
J. Carrol Naish
Beulah Bondi · Percy Kilbride

Directed by Jean Renoir
Produced by DAVID L. LOEW and ROBERT HAKIM

Released Thru U.A.!

LIBERTY GOES TO THE MOVIES

BY EVE STANLEY



Sam decides Granny must spare the extra blanket to make little Daisy a coat for school.

(United Artists)
Zachary Scott, Betty Field, Beulah Bondi

HOLD AUTUMN IN YOUR HAND

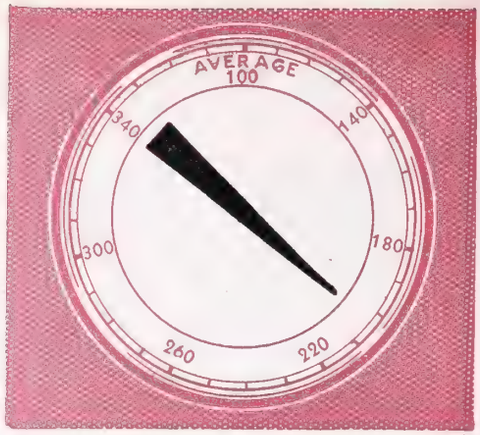
MOVIE fans suffering from an overdose of top-heavy melodrama and tasteless musicals will find refreshment here in a picture of unusual quality and simplicity. Taken from George Sessions Perry's novel about a family of half-starved Texas share croppers, the story brings out the heart-warming values of friendship, neighborliness, family love, and faith—without an iota of external glamor. For the force which carries the meaning here is the fine poetic struggle of human beings wresting a living barehanded from the land.

Facing heavy odds in a [illegible]r-ending gamble with unpredi[illegible] gam[illegible] gling young Sam Tu[illegible] [illegible] neverthel[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Salty O'Rourke—

Denver 200
Los Angeles 175
Cleveland 105

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Betrayal From the East (RKO)	125					125								100	85	130							**113**
Between Two Women (M-G-M)					90					100				165	103	145		200	100		130	175	**134**
Brewster's Millions (UA)	130			125								100					105				150		**122**
Bring On the Girls (Para)	135	159		120	90	130	195	90	120	100	150	123	130	150	105	155	130	190					**170**
Circumstantial Evidence (20-Fox)	125	100		90		100	100		95	100		100	100	150			100				100		**105**
Dillinger (Mono)				180				120	150					175		290	115						**172**
Eadie Was a Lady (Col)		100	115	95	105	120	160	100				100		90	90			100	80		100		**104**
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160			90	135			140			150		195	120					130	**142**
Eve Knew Her Apples (Col)		100		80				75				100			100		100	125					**97**
Fighting Lady (20-Fox)	100	100	115	100	100	130	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	115		95	190	100		100	100	**108**
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110		95	75		175	95	125	95		100		100		150	110		75		150		**142**
GI Honeymoon (Mono)	100							100	100						100		100					130	**105**
Gentle Annie (M-G-M)									110							95		110			100	100	**103**
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180			120	160	150	100		110	205		215	110		140		**147**
Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (Col)								100	105			110	90		100		100						**101**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125	82	90	105	90	110	150		100	115	105	127	90	115	103	175	100	190			110		**116**
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115	105	95	90			100			120	107		125		105	125		75		125		**107**
Horn Blows at Midnight, The (WB)		165		70			90					130			100	185						110	**121**
I'll Be Seeing You (UA)	120	170	120	115	135	135	213	100	125	160	125	150	115	200	110	185	130	195	140		180	150	**146**
Keep Your Powder Dry (M-G-M)			120	105	95				125	100	110		100	100		170		210			130		**124**
Murder, My Sweet (RKO)	100	209	115	115	100		200	95		90	120	130	100	80	100	140		175	100		175		**126**
Music for Millions (M-G-M)	135	119	120	110	130		130	95	120	140	170	150		150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	**135**
National Velvet (M-G-M)	130	149	115	120	130		170	105	130	125	200	147	110		105	160	125	210	115	250	160	150	**145**
Nothing But Trouble (M-G-M)		82		90		110	100	85	100			100	100	90		80	100	135			100		**98**
Objective, Burma! (WB)	120	128	120	115	115	125	170	100		150	115	175	100	110	100	225	105	195	90		135	170	**133**
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100		105								100	150	85			135			165		**119**
Practically Yours (Para)	125		125	130	100	130	190	100	125	125	145	173		160	105	190	140	195	75		150	150	**139**
Rough, Tough and Ready (Col)	120	106	115			100					100	100	100	90		85	100		80		110		**101**
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)				90			160				97	150	105			120		180	125		130		**129**
Salty O'Rourke (Para)				160	103		200					175		150	140	195							**160**
She Gets Her Man (Univ)	110	125	100	95	90	120	100	90	100	100	120	100	100	100			110	175			100	100	**108**
Song of the Sarong (Univ)	100		100				100						100				105						**101**
Sudan (Univ)	125	145	110	80			150		145		102	108			100	185	95		90		115		**119**
This Man's Navy (M-G-M)	125	108	110	105	80					120	87		100	125			120	175			140		**116**
Three Is a Family (UA)	100	86	125	95	70		160	85	130	95	90	100	100	150	90		150	125	75	100	110	160	**110**
Thunderhead, Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130	106		115	80		195	105	140	140	123	150	100	175	105	150	135	150	150		140	180	**135**
Tomorrow the World (UA)			120	110					110					80	109			155			110	140	**117**
Utah (Rep)						100			145		120			100					125		100		**115**
What a Blonde (RKO)	125	100	100				100	100	125	110		100	100	90	100		100				100		**104**
When the Lights Go On Again (PRC)			100			130	90		100	125	100				100						100		**106**
Without Love (M-G-M)				220					120			133		140		150					140		**151**

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(The Picture with the Boxoffice Manner)

Manners

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starring JOHN CARROLL · RUTH HUSSEY

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Directed by Andrew Stone · Screenplay by Frederick Jackson and Malcolm Stuart Boylan

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Beautiful But Broke (Col)—Joan Davis, John Hubbard, Jane Frazee, Bob Haymes. Double-billed with "Cowboy Canteen" (Col), which made a top program. The first is good in any town and especially small towns. The last reel is outstanding comedy. We can all use more like it.—M. Bailey, Strand, Dryden, Ont., Canada.

Carolina Blues (Col)—Kay Kyser and Orchestra, Ann Miller, Victor Moore, Jeff Donnell. This is the usual Kay Kyser picture with a little of this and that combined with pleasing comedy and music. Generally well liked. Business good. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Leave It to Blondie (Col)—Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Larry Simms, Danny Mummert. The Blondie series still has a good following. Doubled with "Singing Sheriff" (Univ) and did a nice weekend business. Weather: Cold. —Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Saddle Leather Law (Col)—Charles Starrett, Dub Taylor, Vi Athens, Lloyd Bridges. Good—as good a western as we need and brings them in, young and old. Book one of these with a "Stooge" comedy and you won't go home wondering why they stayed away. Starrett and Dub Taylor and the hillbilly orchestra is all you need. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Marriage Is a Private Affair (M-G-M)—Lana Turner, James Craig, John Hodiak, Frances Gifford. We did a surprisingly pleasing business with this but Lana Turner never has set the world on fire here. Maybe the show was just good. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good. —J. K. Burgess, Iris, Velva, N. D. Small town and rural patronage.

Music for Millions (M-G-M)—Margaret O'Brien, Jose Iturbi, June Allyson, Jimmy Durante. A very good picture that didn't draw too much business in three days of nice weather and good roads. There are some excellent music, some good comedy, some tears, and your patrons will like it and tell you so. Good for any time, including Sunday. Played Tues., Wed., Thurs.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Our Hearts Were Young and Gay (Para)—Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, Charles Ruggles, Dorothy Gish. We rate this genuinely funny and swell entertainment. However, business was only average as the picture did not draw very well. Many patrons don't know what they missed. Very well liked by everybody who saw it. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good. —M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

RKO RADIO

Night of Adventure, A (RKO)—Tom Conway, Audrey Long, Edward Brophy. Here is a good picture that is very hard to sell to the public.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Up in Arms (RKO)—Danny Kaye, Dinah Shore, Dana Andrews. A very good musical comedy and I am sure that Danny Kaye made a hit with the patrons because of the many compliments received. Some say that he is better than Cantor and Brown. Plenty of leg art, plenty of laughs and plenty of songs. —Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

REPUBLIC

Port of Forty Thieves (Rep)—Stephanie Bachelor, Richard Powers, Lynn Roberts. This one is just fair. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Eve of St. Mark (20th-Fox)—Anne Baxter, William Eythe, Michael O'Shea, Vincent Price. This is supposed to be a tribute but it wasn't, in my poor judgment. Everything end for end. A delightful beginning and it turned sour about the middle, getting worse as it went along. It never ended, just quit. Stars in secondary roles—titles had little or no relation to picture—everyone (including myself) went home in morbid and suicidal mood. The world is going to the dogs but why make pictures of it? Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Cold and windy—it even affected the weather man, I guess.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Keys of the Kingdom, The (20th-Fox)—Gregory Peck, Thomas Mitchell, Vincent Price, Rosa Stradner. Slow starting, but it moved forward nicely and kept the audience interested until the end. Gregory Peck is definitely a star and received much good comment for his outstanding part. Not a top grosser, but pleased the majority. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Rainy.—Arnold J. Schneeberger, Ritz, Tipton, Ind. Rural and small town patronage.

Something for the Boys (20th-Fox)—Carmen Miranda, Michael O'Shea, Vivian Blaine, Phil Silvers. This picture did all right with us. Business excellent and everybody enjoyed it. Played Mon., Tues. Weather: Cold.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Something for the Boys (20th-Fox)—Carmen Miranda, Michael O'Shea, Vivian Blaine, Phil Silvers. A very good musical in Technicolor with some beautiful dance scenes, plus Carmen Miranda. We had our usual good luck with this picture—musical comedies are quite popular here. Business very good. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban, Ill.

Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (20th-Fox)—Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster, Rita Johnson, James Bell. A small town bonanza. Play it to the hilt—it will pay off. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Cool.—Cliff Brown, Temple, Kane, Pa. Small town patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Abroad With Two Yanks (UA)—William Bendix, Dennis O'Keefe, Helen Walker, John Loder. Very good and did excellent business first of the week. Don't tell me people don't know what they want.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Colt Comrades (UA)—William Boyd, Andy Clyde. Excellent—the last I have of Boyd and all did fine. Bill and Andy fill the bill and my foks never tire of them. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Song of the Open Road (UA)—Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Jane Powell, Bonita Granville. No good for us here. It didn't seem to click. The second night's business was awful. Played Thurs., Fri.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Can't Help Singing (Univ)—Deanna Durbin, Robert Paige, Akim Tamiroff, David Bruce. A pretty good picture that drew fair but we have never been able to sell Deanna to our patrons. Nice color and parts of the picture were swell but they broke out like measles with a song on the least provocation. Played on our best time to mediocre business. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fine.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Enter Arsene Lupin (Univ)—Charles Korvin, Ella Raines, J. Carrol Naish, George Dolenz. Not received very well. It has a good musical score but outside of that, the audience couldn't understand the dialog. It should have been double billed or left in the can. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Arnold J. Schneeberger, Ritz, Tipton, Ind. Rural and small town patronage.

Her Lucky Night (Univ)—Andrews Sisters, Martha O'Driscoll, Noah Beery jr., George Barbier. There's plenty of fun in this one from beginning to end and the Andrews Sisters contribute a couple of rhythmic tunes. Generally well liked. Business average. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—M. Ewing, Ewing, Midlothian, Ill. Suburban patronage.

Hollywood Canteen (WB)—Jack Benny, Jack Carson, Bette Davis, Joan Leslie. A good picture that will please on your preferred time but I am positive that it isn't worth half your take. Wait until you can buy it right and make a decent profit, regardless of the USO angle. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Stormy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Empty Holsters (WB)—Reissue. Dick Foran. A very good western. These Foran westerns top any of those of today. I rate Foran singing above that of Autry and Rogers. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

In Our Time (WB)—Ida Lupino, Paul Henreid. We paid top price for this slow-moving drama and had one of the lowest attendances of the season. Paul Henreid is a heart throb but his parts are not good. Every picture he has made to date has failed—and so has every "drama" Warners made this year. Played Sun., Mon.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Janie (WB)—Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, Robert Benchley, Joyce Reynolds. This picture was enjoyed by the younger set and did exceptionally well. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

To Have and Have Not (WB)—Humphrey Bogart, Walter Brennan, Lauren Bacall, Dolores Moran. Bacall is a little more amateurish than I had expected. Lots of giggles in the audience, however, and I think everyone had a good time watching the antics of this tough pair. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair. —Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Rural and small town patronage.

To Have and Have Not (WB)—Humphrey Bogart, Walter Brennan, Lauren Bacall, Dolores Moran. A good picture that pleased on our best time. Lauren Bacall was a prize package and pleased in her first big picture. There is a lot of everything, including talk, in the film and while we didn't do any outstanding business, we weren't ashamed of the picture. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.



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A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Star Autographs To Bond-Buyers

HOLLYWOOD—Genuine autographs of hundreds of screen stars who have shone during the past quarter century will be given to bond buyers throughout the nation as the result of a plan set up for the Seventh War Loan drive by the Paramount studios.

The idea was conceived by the studio's bond committee, under Bernard Luber, to add impetus to the campaign. Any person who sends a bond order to the studio will receive an autograph mounted in an attractive folder.

The autographs are available because the studio has kept canceled studio pay checks for more than 25 years. Signatures will be cut from the backs of these checks and requests for specific autographs will be filled in order of mailing. Many of the signatures are of stars who are now dead and in numerous cases less than a dozen autographs are in possession of the studio.

Added inducement to bond buyers will be a chance to each investor to win, by lot, a grand prize of more than 100 of the rarest autographs mounted in a frame.

Besides current Paramount stars, the list includes: Fatty Arbuckle, Agnes Ayres, Clara Bow, Betty Bronson, Lon Chaney, Lew Cody, Russ Colombo, Betty Compson, Dorothy Dalton, Viola Dana, Bebe Daniels, Billie Dove, Pola Negri, William Farnum, Elinor Glyn, Jean Harlow, Wanda Hawley, Elsie Janis, Leatrice Joy, Doris Kenyon, Carole Lombard, Wallace Reid, Herbert Rawlinson, Theodore Roberts.

Also Will Rogers, Dorothy Mackail, May McAvoy, Thomas Meighan, Mary Miles Minter, Lois Moran, Nita Naldi, Anna Q. Nillson, Warner Oland, Edna May Oliver, Rudolph Valentino, Lupe Velez, Conway Tearle, Ben Turpin, Milton Sills, Fred Stone, Gloria Swanson, Henry B. Walthall, Robert Warwick and Lois Wilson.

20th-Fox-Doubleday, Doran Contest Decision Delayed

NEW YORK—Judges in the new writers' contest sponsored by 20th-Fox and Doubleday, Doran will require several more weeks before announcing their selections. It was originally expected that the winners would be announced about a month following the close of the competition on February 1. However, because so many entries were received more time was needed for the judging. More than 1,400 entries were received.

Named WB Algiers Head

ALGIERS—Serge Goutmann has been appointed manager of the Warner Bros. branch. He succeeds Bernard Kopel, recently promoted to company supervisor for North Africa.

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United Nations Theatre Big Success, Says Dietz

NEW YORK — Howard Dietz, returning from the San Francisco United Nations' conference, reported that the state department "was pleased with the job the film industry has accomplished in furnishing entertainment and relaxation to hundreds of delegates and their staffs."

Dietz, chairman of the industry's committee which planned showings of U.S. films at the United Nations Theatre to the delegates, said all indications pointed to a success of the venture. The average nightly attendance was approximately 750 out of a possible total of 3,000 delegates and staff members.

The industry's planning committee comprised of Dietz, Claude Lee, Glen Allvine, Fay Reeder, Claude Collins and Allyn Butterfield held daily meetings to discuss matters of policy. At the beginning of the conference, the committee experimented to ascertain the best time for screening shows. Originally there were three shows starting at 5:30 p. m. Now there are two shows starting at 7 o'clock.

The United Nations, Dietz continued, would be the permanent name of the former Alcazar. Features and shorts shown at the United Nations Theatre, and the documentaries, are exhibited to smaller audiences at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. Among the films shown at the hotel were special reels photographed of various delegations by industry camera crews.

In selecting programs, entertainment is emphasized. Dietz praised the committee on the good taste and restraint exercised in preparing and publicizing programs. The industry has done a good job of which it may well be proud, Dietz added.

The industry's film program is expected to continue until the conference adjourns. Allvine and the other committeemen are remaining in San Francisco for the present.

Prior to returning here Dietz spent a week at the M-G-M studio in Hollywood conferring with Louis B. Mayer, Howard Strickling and other executives on production matters.

Bader Is Nominated As Ampa President

NEW YORK—David A. Bader, vice-president of Ampa, has been nominated for the presidency by a committee headed by Rutgers Neilson. Other nominees:

David O'Malley, vice-president; Grace Rosenfeld, secretary, and Melvin Gold, treasurer. Nominees for the directorate include Blanche Livingston, Vincent Trotta, Martin Starr, Ray Gallagher and Charles Alicoate. Jacques Kopfstein was selected as a trustee.

Ampa's annual election and installation will be held at Toots Shor's May 24. David A. Bader heads the slate of nominees who are unopposed. Six copies of "Forever Amber" will be given away as prizes.

Newsreels' Swift Feat On Rheims' Surrender

NEW YORK—Another swift feat in newsreel coverage was performed on the films of Germany's surrender at Rheims, with the help of the signal corps. The negatives reached New York and were edited and released in ten days. Paramount cameramen aided the army photographers in making the pictures. Universal handled development of the negatives and distribution.

Paris Offices Reopened

NEW YORK—Ben Miggins, European manager for 20th-Fox, has arrived in Paris and has reopened the company's offices there.

"Asleep at Switch" Says DOS

New York—The U. S. motion picture industry is "asleep at the switch," David O. Selznick declared here Friday following his arrival from Washington. Urging unity in the foreign field, Selznick bluntly declared:

"The international status of the U. S. film industry rests on foresight, now sadly lacking, and skill with which it is represented abroad. We're shortsighted as we always have been and are desperately in need of proper representation abroad.

"The extent to which U. S. films attain distribution abroad depends on the caliber of our representation there. We should have a man of recognized personal ability, possessing an international prestige—an ambassador who knows his way around!

"The whole foreign situation demands serious consideration. Permit the British Empire to close its markets to U. S. film and you'll see the biggest collapse our industry has yet suffered."

Emphasizing the need for reciprocal understanding Selznick declared: "There is no reason why Great Britain, or any country for that matter, shouldn't have a fair share of our screens. Public approval will decide which pictures are worthy."

Varied Functions Visioned For Tele Relay Stations

NEW YORK—Television relay stations will be able to carry numerous television channels simultaneously and at the same time furnish continuous navigation aids to airplanes, Donald De Neuf, assistant manager of the communications division of Ratheon Mfg. Co., said at a meeting of the Television Press Club.

Ratheon holds an experimental license from the FCC for construction of relays between New York and Boston and hopes to get another for a relay between New York and Chicago.

De Neuf also said that "on the fringes" of the wide wave bands required for television it will be possible to include telephone and telegraph messages, telephoto service and other services. More will be learned from actual operation, he forecast. He expressed confidence that with enough power all outside interference from sun spots and other atmospheric factors could be overcome.

Picture Pioneers Name Administrative Group

NEW YORK—A new administrative committee to have over-all charge of the activities of Picture Pioneers, Inc., has been appointed by Jack Cohn. It will be headed by William Brandt and members will include Jack Alicoate, Tom Connors, George Dembow, Hal Horne and Hal Hode.

Committee members met on May 18 to make plans for the annual harvest dinner next fall.

A campaign has been started to acquaint out-of-towners who are eligible for membership in the Picture Pioneers with the fact that place of residence is no bar to membership.

Cut in OWI's Activities See in Budget-Paring

NEW YORK—Curtailment of OWI activities in both foreign and domestic fields is predicted as a result of President Truman's swift action in disavowing Elmer Davis' announced plan to prevent the free circulation of films, magazines and newspapers in Germany.

Shortly after the President's action, it was made known that the Office of Censorship budget has been cut 36 per cent and the OWI budget 20 per cent.

Adler Joins RCA

NEW YORK—Norman A. Adler, special assistant to the U.S. attorney general and assistant chief of the New York office of the antitrust division, has resigned to join the Radio Corp. of America.

Major Company Heads Discuss Export Ass'n

NEW YORK—Presidents of the major companies met Thursday with their foreign managers to discuss arrangements on the formation of an export association under the Webb Act.

At the close of the session N. Peter Rathvon, chairman of an industry committee having the project in charge, said it had been decided to proceed as soon as a few modifications can be incorporated.

Formation of the export corporation, he said, is considered as a protective measure in order that the industry might be ready to function in any territory where legislation has been or may be enacted which makes it impossible or too difficult to do business on a competitive basis.

The association will be set up in a manner to permit all American picture exporters to become members.

Would Legalize Bingo For Charity in N. J.

TRENTON — A proposed constitutional amendment enabling New Jersey lawmakers to legalize bingo and other lotteries for charities and charitable organizations was to have been presented to the legislature.

State Senator John M. Summerill jr., chairman of a special committee drafting the proposed constitutional amendment, said that this action in itself would not legalize games of chance but would pave the way for legislative action. The measure must be approved by the current and 1946 legislatures, then passed by the voters at a special election next year.

WB Seeking Term Loan As An Interest-Saver

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. is negotiating with banks for a new term loan resulting in interest saving to the company. Proceeds of the term loan will be used to retire the company's outstanding four per cent debentures and two and three-quarter per cent bank loans.

According to the latest WB financial statement, the company has $7,000,000 worth of four per cent debentures and $10,000,000 in bank loans outstanding. It is understood that these items are to be refinanced.

Groups, Shops Aid Drive

NEW YORK—The Stoddard Theatre management has promoted more than $10,000 worth of merchandise for a series of war bond auction nights, according to George Ritch, borough chairman.

BROADWAY

A deluge of cigars that descended upon the 20th-Fox home office was from Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to General Sales Manager W. J. Kupper. It marked the VE-Day debut of his son, George, at the Kew Gardens General Hospital.

Ben Goetz, vice-chairman of M-G-M London Films, Ltd., arrived in London after several months in Hollywood and New York. Sir Alexander Korda, who is completing the recording and synchronization of "Perfect Strangers," his first under the company's banner.

Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production head, and Howard Strickling, in charge of the company's studio publicity activities, who arrived from the coast for a brief visit, are stopping at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Al Jolson and his bride arrived from Hollywood to attend the world premiere of Warners' "Rhapsody in Blue," which will open next month at the Hollywood Theatre.

Elia Kazan, state and screen director, is back after completing a special mission in the Pacific zone for the army's special services division . . . Constance Bennett came in from the coast preparatory to the start of her Blue Network broadcast series on May 21. She was hostess to the press at a cocktail reception at the Waldorf.

The winnahs: Ted Shaw, Lou Gerard, David Ornstein and Harry Fenster eliminated all competition at the 20th-Fox Family Club gin rummy tourney held at the Park Central.

Ida Lupino, Warner star, has begun a six-week tour of hospitals in the east. She is making her headquarters here.

R. P. Hagen, manager of Warners' film checking service, scheduled Denver as the first stop on a four-week tour of all western exchanges.

Harriet Parsons, producer of RKO's "The Enchanted Cottage," has returned to the film capital for her next production, the screen version of Nancy Hale's novel, "Prodigal Women" . . . Lester Cowan has arrived from Washington, where he discussed plans for the world premiere of his latest UA release Ernie Pyle's story of "GI Joe."

Jack Farkas, for the last five years city salesman at the Monogram exchange, has been made assistant to Nat Furst, New York branch manager. Farkas has been connected with the industry since 1921.

The birth of a baby girl to his daughter, Mrs. Milton Snitkoff, made Louis Frisch, treasurer of the Randforce Amusement Corp., a grandfather for the fifth time.

Bernard Kopel has been appointed supervisor for Warners in North Africa with headquarters in Paris. Serge Goutmann succeeded Kopel as manager of the Algiers office.

Julien Duvivier, M-G-M director, is in London to begin work on Sir Alexander Korda's second film for the company, "Lottie Dundass," starring Vivien Leigh.

Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for M-G-M, arrived from San Francisco, where he served as chairman of the committee for the motion picture industry at the United Nations conference.



BIG FRONT DISPLAY—Robert W. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount, decided to devote the front which he usually uses for coming attractions to the Seventh War Loan. It is outstanding as a result of the end of the dimout.

Irving Helfont, assistant to Joel Bezahler in the M-G-M home office sales department, is the father of a six-pound, eight-ounce boy, Richard Eugene, born at The Bronx Hospital.

Alan F. Cummings, in charge of M-G-M exchange operations, is back from a trip to Kansas City and St. Louis.

Walton C. Ament, editor of Pathe News, appeared on an overseas broadcast by the OWI in commemoration of May 13 as a day of thanksgiving and prayer. Interviewed by Eugene O'Neill jr., Ament discussed the rapid and comprehensive distribution in the nation's theatres of atrocity newsreel films and audience reaction to them.

W. C. Gehring, 20th-Fox western sales manager, has returned to the home office, following a tour of the company's exchanges under his supervision, on behalf of the 30th anniversary drive. He visited Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines, Minneapolis, Omaha, Denver and Salt Lake City.

Irene Dunne, M-G-M star, accompanied by Dee Lowrance of the home office publicity department, has begun a USO tour of hospitals in Washington, Baltimore and surrounding towns. Upon her arrival from the coast, Miss Dunne registered at the Waldorf with her husband, Dr. Francis Griffin.

LeRoy Prinz, who created the dances for Warner Bros.' "Rhapsody in Blue," arrived from Hollywood for a two-week visit to interview prospective screen talent.

Valdemar Vetluguin, M-G-M executive, is a recent arrival from the coast. He is stopping at the Waldorf.

Bill Brumberg, in charge of Warner Bros.' field exploitation staff, left for Detroit to confer with Earle Hudson of United Detroit Theatres and Ed Beatty of Butterfield circuit on special promotions for "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Roughly Speaking" and "Objective, Burma!"

Charles B. McDonald, RKO Theatre zone manager, has left for three weeks of fishing at the Quarter Deck Club, Miami Beach.

Nat Levy, RKO Radio eastern division sales manager, is back from a tour of the Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Buffalo territories.

Charles Levy, eastern publicity director for Walt Disney Productions, is visiting Atlanta, Nashville and points south in connection with RKO's "The Three Caballeros."

Joseph G. Mullen, 20th-Fox International Corp. district manager of Central America and the Caribbean area, has arrived for conference with home office executives.

Anne Baxter, 20th-Fox star, recent arrival from Hollywood, has scheduled eastern bond-selling appearances. She will return at the end of the month after the American premiere of "The Way Ahead" at the Victoria Theatre.

William Williams, technical engineer for M-G-M London Films, Ltd., is back in London after spending several months at the company's studios and the home office.

William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager for M-G-M, spent four days in Chicago visiting with John E. Flynn, western sales manager.

Requests for Newsreel Clips Continue Heavy

NEW YORK—Requests for clips of newsreels in which relatives appear still pour into the newsreel offices from mothers, wives and sweethearts of service men who spot them on the nation's screens.

Walter Bredin, assignment editor of News of the Day, was happy to oblige the sweetheart of a fighting man in Luzon seen shaking hands with General MacArthur. The request for a clip of the sequence came from Lucille Kloeblen of North Bergen, N. J., who saw the newsreel in her neighborhood theatre.

Miss Kloeblen wrote: "The other night in an M-G-M newsreel I saw a picture of my fiance. It was taken on Luzon, and General MacArthur is seen congratulating some men. He (her fiance) is shaking hands with General MacArthur, and it was a very clear and distinct photo."

This is only one of dozens of requests received and filled every week.

Burrows, M-G-M Director, Puts on One-Man Exhibit

NEW YORK—Newspaper art critics were unanimous in praising the one-man exhibit by Harold Burrows, M-G-M art director, on view at the Grand Central Art Galleries until May 29. The show is his second exhibition of color fantasies on legendary, classic and original themes, many of which have been acquired by private collectors.

Burrows began his art training here under Robert Henri and Mahonri Young, later studying in Paris. He was a member of the art staff of the original Stars and Stripes in France, as well as a regular contributor to many American magazines.



Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

End of Curfew Boon To Gotham Grosses

NEW YORK—Ending of the curfew stimulated Broadway grosses, but the full effect is not expected to be felt until the arrival of new shows. The first week's grosses for "Escape in the Desert" at the Strand and "The Bullfighters" at the 600-seat Rialto showed a considerable improvement over previous boxoffice receipts in recent weeks, however.

Among the holdovers, business held up particularly well at the Music Hall and Victoria where "Valley of Decision" and "Dillinger" are playing.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 3rd wk.....155
Capitol—**The Clock** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 140
Criterion—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd wk. 135
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 7th wk.....110
Palace—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk.....105
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 140
Radio City Music Hall—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 2nd wk.....170
Rialto—**The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox).....115
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 7th wk.....100
Roxy—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 165
Strand—**Escape in the Desert** (WB), plus stage show 185
Victoria—**Dillinger** (Mono), 3rd wk.....215

Mothers' Day Cuts Into Grosses At Philadelphia; "Susan" 185

PHILADELPHIA—Mothers' Day cut into the boxoffice take here last week. Combination of "House of Fear" with the Ink Spots and the Cootie Williams orchestra led the parade. "The Affairs of Susan" is also doing very well.

Aldine—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 7th wk.....140
Arcadia—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd run.....165
Boyd—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para).....185
Earle—**House of Fear** (Univ), plus stage show.....210
Fox—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk.....130
Karlton—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd run.....140
Keith's—**Tomorow the World** (UA), 2nd run.....130
Mastbaum—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB)..... 80
Stanley—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 160
Stanton—**The Unseen** (Para).....180

"Salome" More Than Doubles Par In a Big Lafayette Week

BUFFALO—"Salome, Where She Danced," with a swell buildup from all sides here, recorded better than twice average in one of the Lafayette's biggest weeks in a long time. "The Song of Bernadette" was better than average in a week at the Hippodrome. It was the first Buffalo showing at popular prices. "Betrayal From the East" and another film from RKO kept the 20th Century in good stead while "God Is My Co-Pilot" kept to better than average in a holdover week at the Great Lakes. "Practically Yours" and "Scared Stiff" assured themselves of a move-over week by recording nearly half again average at the Buffalo. The end of VE-Day jitters helped.

Buffalo—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Scared Stiff** (Para) 137
Great Lakes—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk. 133
Hippodrome—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....130
20th Century—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 154
Lafayette—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ) 222

Loew's and Paramount Close Product Deal

NEW YORK—Loew's metropolitan circuit and Paramount have signed a contract providing for the showing of the latter's product for the current season. Closing of the deal followed negotiations which have been in progress for the past few months. Charles Reagan and Hugh Owen represented Paramount and Charles C. Moskowitz and Eugene Picker, Loew's.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

IT TOOK a war to bring out Samuel Rinzler's inherent skill and talent as a humorist and public speaker—a "Will Rogers of exhibitors," as he has been called.



SAMUEL RINZLER

Rinzler's career of speechmaking began unexpectedly enough in the fall of 1940, when he was invited to represent exhibitors at a testimonial luncheon for E. K. "Ted" O'Shea and John J. Bowen.

When Harry Brandt, chairman, first invited him to speak, Rinzler recoiled saying: "But I have never spoken before such a large audience. I wouldn't know where to start." Brandt reassured him, and brushed away every objection.

Success the First Time

Rinzler made his first appearance and he was so riotously successful that guests kept repeating his bon mots for weeks afterward. Jimmy Walker, former mayor, who is something of a wit himself and who appeared on the same program, referred to Rinzler as the "poor man's Jimmy Walker."

One of the gags that practically "laid them in the aisles" was Rinzler's retort to a previous speaker who said he couldn't "understand why exhibitors are always worried. They seem to look fine and most of them have just returned from an extended vacation in Florida."

"Yes, the trouble is," replied Rinzler "that the exhibitors are now wearing their worries in Technicolor." Guests began to perceive that a new humorist was arising in their midst, but what made them doubly certain was Rinzler's next crack.

Paying tribute to the guests of honor, he said:

"Before this luncheon, only one man could be a guest of honor: now we have a double feature."

Another witticism that went over with a bang was:

Question of Who Pays

"Usually, the exhibitor is taken to luncheon by the film salesman. But this time it's different. The exhibitors are paying for a luncheon for two film salesman and when exhibitors do that, these men MUST be good!"

In cold print these gags lack the gestures, intonation of voice and other qualities that make a Rinzler crack something to remember.

With the advent of the war, Rinzler was appointed co-chairman of the metropolitan division of the War Activities Committee. As such, he was in the forefront of every patriotic drive and was much sought after as a public speaker at industry functions. Soon it was common to hear the toastmaster announce: "And now we will hear a few words from Sam Rinzler."

Rinzler obtains most of his effects by just observing people. Before he is called upon, he makes copious notes of remarks made by previous speakers. But most of all he observes the guests.

For example, at the recent breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria for 1,200 managers and film company executives launching the Seventh War Loan, Rinzler said:

"I don't know what it is, but whenever I get up to speak people begin to yawn. My managers seem to be the only ones who can laugh and yawn at the same time."

During another part of his speech, he got a roar by saying: "Yes, I paid the check for this breakfast for all of my managers. I promised to buy them lunch and supper, too, if they do good work for the Seventh War Loan. But there's only one catch. This afternoon I am going out to see if I can get some reductions in film rentals. Then I will be able to tell them who's going to pay."

A little while later, he convulsed the audience by observing: "My speech would have been much better, but I am suffering from a little rheumatism and without my hands I don't speak so well."

For a long time, Rinzler has been attributing to his partner, Louis Frisch, authorship of his speeches, which is so much clowning. At the Seventh War Loan breakfast, in the absence of Frisch, he said:

"I'm sure this speech won't be so good because Louis Frisch didn't write it."

Rinzler admits that he is extremely nervous before he starts each speech. After he delivers his first sentence, however, his nervousness vanishes. At one function some time ago, Rinzler explained:

"Next to Closing" Appellation

"If my dentist only knew how his teeth were skating in my mouth, he would feel very badly about it."

Although Rinzler's speeches are seasoned with humor and wit, he never forgets the primary purpose of his talks.

President of Randforce circuit, operating some 50 theatres in the metropolitan area, Rinzler has been co-chairman of the regional WAC committee since the start of the war. He was chairman of the National War Fund drive in this area in 1943, during which he addressed gatherings ranging in number from a dozen in an exchange to 1,500 persons in the ballroom of the Hotel Astor.

He was Brooklyn and Long Island district manager for Fox Metropolitan Playhouses from 1929 to 1931, prior to which he operated his own circuit in Brownsville, Brooklyn.

Irving Lesser's letter to him, following the Seventh War Loan breakfast, sums up his effectiveness as a speaker who not only entertains but whose ability to put across the serious purposes of the various drives is without parallel.

"I knew you would be good, but I didn't think that you would be that good! If you ever make up your mind to play the Roxy I can promise you a next-to-closing spot."

Personnel of Monogram Tenders Dinner to Lind

NEW YORK—The personnel of Monogram's foreign department and local exchange tendered a farewell dinner to Lloyd Lind, who has left the company after 11 years to join PRC Pictures, Inc. On behalf of the company, Steve Broidy, whose assistant Lind had been, presented him with a gold pen and pencil set.

Others present to wish Lind success in his new post were Nat Furst, M. E. Morey, Harry Goldstein, Meyer Solomon, Jerry Herzog, Jack Farkas, John F. O'Donnell, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Harrington, Norton Ritchey, Nellie Witting, Mary Finnerty, Dave Horne, Madeleine White, Albert A. Cormier, Maurice Maurer, Lieut. Comdr. Ralph Smith, USN, J. J. Felder and Morey Goldstein.

WB Promotes H. Goldberg

NEW YORK—Herman Goldberg has been promoted to purchasing agent for Warner Bros. exchanges and head of the advertising accessories department, posts occupied by the late C. C. Ryan.

Buffalo Houses Join On a Bond Cottage

BUFFALO—Preparing for its part in the Seventh War Loan drive, which opened Monday, the local motion picture industry campaign committee acquired the use of the recruiting booth at Main and Genesee which will be known for the duration of the drive as "Movieland Bond Cottage."

Each of the five first run theatres are cooperating in staffing the cottage with volunteer workers. The first week was allotted to Shea's Buffalo, with volunteer workers on the VFW auxiliary. The second week will be under the direction of Shea's Great Lakes; week of May 28, the 20th Century Theatre; June 4, Basil's Lafayette, and June 11, Shea's Hippodrome.

Special Events Scheduled

The booth is open week days from 11:30 a. m. until 6 p. m., except on Thusdays, shopping night, when the closing is at 9 p. m.

Special events have been scheduled for the Bond Cottage. From noon until 1 p. m. Monday, a 15-piece orchestra under the direction of Harry Slick, formerly of the Shea's Buffalo pit, was featured. Two guest tickets to Shea's Buffalo are given to each bond purchaser on Mondays. An exception will be June 18, bond premiere day.

In addition to sponsoring Free Movie Day at the Cottage, each of the five downtown theatres are giving guest tickets for bonds purchased in the theatres on those days. Plans for bond premiere day June 18 in downtown theatres have not been completed.

Requires Greatest Number

"It's going to take extra war bonds, over and above ordinary bond purchases, to put over the Seventh War Loan," said Exhibitor Chairman Max M. Yellen. The drive will require the greatest number of individual bond sales ever made.

"We must not forget, too, the importance of winning the peace through our investment in the future of our country. Every dollar put into a war bond does double duty. It works for victory and it works for peacetime security. Working together as a community and a nation, we cannot fail to make the Seventh the mightiest of war loan drives."

Doob Gets Out Manual For Loew's 7th Loan

NEW YORK—Oscar A. Doob, Loew's advertising and publicity director, has turned out a special Seventh War Loan manual. The manual, which has been mailed to all Loew's theatres, contains suggestions for bond rallies, city-wide demonstrations and other methods of bond selling which have proved successful in past loan drives. It is made up of 11 mimeographed sheets and 29 photographic reproductions showing stunts used in the previous loan drives.

Request Name of Theatre With 7th Loan Kit Money

NEW YORK—In order to credit exhibitors with the one dollar remittance for their Seventh War Loan promotion kits, the national committee has asked that the name and address of the theatre be enclosed. Where the money is for a circuit a list showing names and addresses of all theatres should be enclosed.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



JOINS BUCHANAN & CO.—David L. Strumpf, well-known art director in the industry, who was with RKO for 24 years and has been with Universal and J. Walter Thompson, has joined Buchanan & Co. as art director in charge of film advertising.

Valley of Shenandoah Active in Campaign

RICHMOND, VA.—Frank K. Shaffer, Seventh War Loan publicity head for Region III of Virginia, reports a flurry of activity on behalf of the campaign in his area, the Shenandoah Valley. According to Shaffer, Bill Dalke, theatre owner of Woodstock, has arranged premieres in Strasburg and Woodstock. In Mt. Jackson, Virgus Nelson has made his Nelson Theatre the hub for all bond sales.

Winchester is also coming through with bond premieres at Herman Hable's Palace and Warners' Capitol. In Harrisonburg, Helen Clark, ace bond salesman of the Valley, is "all set again" to lead the state in the Seventh War Loan. In Waynesboro, the Loth-Wayne and Cavalier theatres have arranged premieres, auctions and Free Movie Days.

Promise Bang-Up Jobs

Bang-up bond sales jobs are promised by Ralph Daves, Warner Bros. manager at Lexington, and William Nichols, Visulite manager at Staunton.

Ed Purcell of the Strand Theatre, Staunton, has arranged a bond auction through the cooperation of the county groups.

The Dixie in Staunton will open the campaign with a big rally, and prominent speakers will be on hand. Also a group of young ladies, members of Beta Sigma Phi, Staunton chapter, will be recruited as bond saleswomen at the theatre during the drive. The Dixie Theatre is also holding a contest, giving away about $300 in bonds. These bonds are awarded through the courtesy of a local merchant, and will be given away each Saturday night of the drive, with a grand drawing of $150 in bonds the final Saturday. There will be a $25 free bond each week, plus a bond premiere. The Warner Bros. Dixie again should have an excellent record during the drive.

"Now Peace" Out May 21

NEW YORK—United Artists will release "Now—the Peace," latest issue of the World in Action series, nationally on Friday, May 21. The film highlights and analyzes major issues of the San Francisco conference.

Showmen Use Unusual Plans to Sell Bonds

NEW YORK—Individual theatre men the country over are devoting much time and a great deal of thought to putting over their local Seventh War Loan campaigns. Many have come up with unusual schemes for promoting the bond selling effort.

J. L. Foxe, manager of Loew's Columbia Theatre in Washington, D. C., is selling bonds by radio and delivering them by army jeep. Through a tieup with a local radio station residents of the district are informed that they may buy a bond merely by phoning the theatre and the bond will be delivered to them. In the first ten days $35,000 in bonds were sold in this manner.

Lester Pollock, manager of Loew's, Rochester, N. Y., has lined up foreign-born groups to staff the bond booth in his lobby on days designated in their honor. The plan includes British, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, Canadian, Polish, Chinese, Greek, German, Spanish and Jewish groups.

Miniature Bond Promotes Sales

A miniature E bond was used by Kermit High, manager of the State Theatre, Greenwood, S. C., to promote a school children's bond premiere. The premiere, staged with the cooperation of all city schools, was conducted as a bond selling contest and resulted in the sale of $66,075 in bonds. The miniature bonds were used as souvenirs.

Maurice F. Barr, Louisiana state coordinator, has launched a campaign to sell one million dollars in bonds for a cruise on the S.S. American Sailor, a Liberty ship, during National Maritime week, May 20 to 27. There will be a five-hour cruise with supper in the officers' mess.

Another typically hard working and public spirited showman, M. D. "Babe" Cohn, western Missouri publicity chairman, is showing a 16mm reel of "All-Star Bond Rally" at rallies of Kansas City organizations and civic groups such as the Kiwanis, Rotary and women's clubs. Starting this activity in advance of the drive opening, Cohn expected it to result in larger total bond sales at Kansas City theatres and increased goodwill for theatre managers.

Home Office Rally Nets $100,000 Bond Sales

NEW YORK—Employes of Loew's, M-G-M and radio station WHN will purchase $100,000 in bonds as a result of a Seventh War Loan drive rally held at the home office. These purchases will be made in addition to the weekly purchases by employes on the pay roll deduction plan.

More than 800 employes attended the rally. Max Wolff, purchasing head and chairman of the home office drive, presided. He declared that $1,000 in bonds will be given as prizes to the employes selling the greatest number of bonds. An additional 32 bonds will be awarded to the holders of lucky numbers purchasing extra bonds.

Also attending the rally were Harry Savoy, Johnny Johnston and other stage and screen personalities, as well as Lieut. Leon Kamern, USMC, former manager of the Astor Theatre. A number of marine heroes, who saw action in the Pacific, were also present, attended by a four-footed marine K-9 veteran.

"Brooklyn Day" June 4

NEW YORK—Monday, June 4, has been designated as Brooklyn Day in the Times Square Seventh War Loan drive area. Miss Helen Beckerman, borough chairman, and Mike Nicholas, co-chairman, with their committees and district captains, are now working on a program for a celebration.

New Film Compresses Long Verbal Messages

WASHINGTON—Recent improvements in sound recording by the army signal corps have made it possible to compress long messages, spoken into a recording device and reproduced on a light thin film belt, into such small compass that they can be carried in capsules harnessed to the backs of homing pigeons. About 20 times as much wordage can be set down in this manner as can be typed on paper of similar surface space.

The film is made of ethyl cellulose, first cousin to ordinary cellophane, and is produced in two forms, a seamless, extruded type, and a type welded with a seam. The color is dark burgundy. The belt is one foot long and three and one-half inches wide, of which three full inches can be used for voice reproduction.

When set in motion on the recording device, the film belt takes 30 minutes to run its full course. Then it can, in case of special necessity, be turned inside out and a similar recording made on the other side. This means one full hour of speech can be recorded on a single thin belt. Average talking has been found to run about 150 words to the minute, but some rapid talkers are able to register 300 words a minute.

It is estimated that approximately 18,000 words can be put on one film belt. It is possible to insert two such film belts into a four-inch capsule such as has been developed for harnessing to a pigeon's back, so that a single bird can carry 36,000 words of spoken message. To get that much written wordage onto a similar surface space would require, in the words of a recording expert, "the services of a Coney Island pin engraver."

An interesting property of this cellulose film is that it is edible. Granting that it is no more palatable or nourishing than cellophane, it has the advantage that in case of sudden emergency, such as the unexpected intrusion of an enemy force, the person holding the message can literally eat his words.

"A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" To Be Distributed by FC

MINNEAPOLIS—The new W. R. Frank picture, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," will be distributed nationally in all territories, except this one, by Film Classics. The deal was made here this week by Frank and L. E. Goldhammer, Film Classics' vice-president in charge of sales. Frank himself will distribute the picture in this area.

Frank is one of the owners of one of this territory's most successful and largest independent theatre circuits as well as being a Hollywood producer. Before "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," he produced on his own "Enemy of Women," now being distributed by Monogram, and previously had been one of a group which produced "All That Money Can Buy," "Syncopation" and "Adventures of Martin Eden."

In test runs, mostly in this territory, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" is reported to have done excellent business. Following several test runs, John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president, bought the picture for his entire circuit.

Frank plans to leave this week for Hollywood again to start shooting a third picture.

Supply Man War Fatality

WASHINGTON—Word has been received that Flight Officer Thomas Melio, formerly with S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., has been killed in action. Melio, a glider pilot who served in France, Holland and Germany, is survived by his wife.

EASTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Benjamin H. Evans is actually a 40-year exhibitor since he tossed his hat in the theatre ring in 1905. He owns the only theatre in Lonaconing, Md., the San Toy, and when he is not occupied with providing films for his patrons he is usually engaged in farming. Son John H. Evans is mayor of the town and Benjamin H. is a lieutenant colonel in the army. Pvt. David M. was a prisoner of the Japanese, taken at Corregidor. Another son, Aleck S., is an engineer for an airplane factory at Baltimore. It is the hope of the Evans family that they may be together again.



In 1922, **John E. Fox,** began as the projectionist at the Lyric in Temperanceville, Va., and in 1925 he acquired ownership of the house. He opened the Mar-Va at Pocomoke City, Md., in 1927 and in 1940 added another theatre in the same city, the Fox. The two theatres are now known to townspeople as the "Pocomoke theatres," since they are the town's only houses. Fox is a member of Elks and is affiliated with MPTO of Maryland. A sports follower, "Johnnie," as he is known to his friends, enjoys actively a number of out-door sports.



His family had been in show business since 1907, so it was only natural that **Harold Lewis** of Utica, N. Y., became a theatre man himself. He grew up around his family's theatre, the Utica, and has been interested in the motion picture business for many years. Several years ago he transferred interest in the family house to the Lincoln Theatre, which he manages today. He is a member of the Managers' Round Table Club. He is married and has two children, Leslie and Carey. Lewis likes to work in his garden during his leisure hours.

Cinema Lodge Has Set Many Acts for Show

NEW YORK—Stage shows from the Roxy, Capitol, Paramount and Strand will augment the entertainment scheduled for the "All for the Wounded" benefit show sponsored by Cinema, Lodge, B'nai B'rith, at Carnegie Hall, May 24.

Alan Corelli, chairman of the entertainment committee, says the following will appear: From the Roxy—Count Basie and his orchestra, and Jerry Lester; Capitol—Willie Howard, Tony Wonder, George Paxton and his orchestra, Jo Stafford, Dean Murphy and Tip Tap Toe; Strand—Helmut Dantine, Andrew King and Lew Parker.

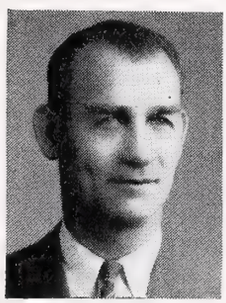
Other personalities include Kate Smith, Kitty Carlisle, Jackie Miles, Benny Fields, Harry Richmond, Milton Berle, Cab Calloway, Georgie Price, Romo Vincent, Barry Wood, Carol Bruce, Carmen Amaya, Tony Conzoneri, Joey Adams.

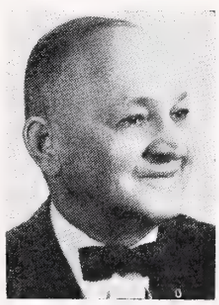
James E. Sauter and Carl Erbe have been added to Corelli's entertainment committee which includes Robert M. Weitman, Robert K. Shapiro, Jesse Kaye, Zeb Epstin, George Brandt and Martin Levine.

Harry Bandt is producer of the show which seeks to raise $30,000 to provide solaria and other recreational facilities for the U.S. Army Convalescent Hospital at Camp Upton, L. I.

"Counter-Attack" Opens

NEW YORK—Columbia's "Counter-Attack" had its premiere at the Criterion Theatre on May 16.





VIRGINIA'S VICE-CHAIRMEN—State Senator Benn Pitts of Fredericksburg, left, has been appointed Virginia state vice-chairman for Regions 3 and 6. At right is Elmore Heins, manager of the American Theatre in Roanoke, who has been named vice-chairman of Regions 4 and 5.

WNBT Crew Telecasts 14 Hours on VE-Day

NEW YORK—Television station WNBT distinguished itself VE-Day by staging a 14-hour uninterrupted program for viewers in the metropolitan area, relayed along the NBC tele network to video receivers in Schenectady and Philadelphia. The coverage included film, talent in the studio and pickups from the field, a three-way combination for bringing the day's celebration into the homes of tele enthusiasts.

Whether any telefans stayed home VE-Day is a matter of conjecture. But WNBT, aware its efforts possibly were not being picked up by a single receiver, doggedly stayed on the air from 8:54 a. m. to 10:56 p. m. in the longest and most elaborate program ever telecast.

From the marquee of the Hotel Astor, NBC cameras recorded crowd scenes from Times Square; in the studios United Nations' military personnel, civilian bigwigs, clergymen and commentators talked against a background of 47 Allied flags waving in the breeze. Among those participating were Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, interviewed by Julien Bryan, world famous cameraman and documentary film producer; Capt. Rosemary Hogan, ANC, imprisoned in Santo Tomas for 33 months; Sumner Blossom, editor of American magazine and proponent of a hard peace for Germany; USN Chaplain Lieut. Carl B. Justice, veteran of several Pacific landings, and Arturo Toscanini, conducting the NBC symphony orchestra in Verdi's "Hymn to the Nations."

ALBANY

Louis Romain, 50, for years projectionist at the Grand, and believed to be the oldest man from this area serving in the war, has been discharged from the navy. Romain, remarkably young and active for one of his half century's existence, enlisted soon after Pearl Harbor. He held a petty officer's rank and saw plenty of service. He also served in the first world war.

Pvt. Robert Mercier, former usher at the Grand, visited Manager Joe Saperstein and the gang while home on a furlough from Rhoads Hospital in Utica. He was wounded in the battle of the Belgian Bulge . . . Johnny Gardner, owner of the American and Colony, Schenectady, passed around cigars on the birth of a son. It's their second boy.

A booth fire in Sam Rosenblatt's Strand, Watervliet, damaged a reel of film. Quick action by the operator prevented more serious trouble . . . The Cameo, operated by Sid Dwore in Schenectady, was recently closed for a time on account of fire. National Theatre Supply furnished some emergency equipment and is making Simplex installations for Dwore.

Filmrow visitors: Mrs. Ana Tarbell, Adirondack, North Creek; Sam Davis, Phoenicia; Sam Rosenblatt, Watervliet; Mrs. Inez Ferguson, Copake; Henry Frieder and Henry Grossman, the Community and Star, Hudson; Grover Woodward, booker for Burt's Theatre, Lake Luzerne.

Phil Baroudi, owner of the Adirondack, North Creek, and the Lake, Indian Lake, visited Filmrow after his discharge from service. Baroudi served in the Pacific. He had not decided whether and when he would resume theatre operations. Mrs. Ana Tarbell is present lessee of the North Creek house, and Charles Wilson of the one at Indian Lake. The Baroudi family has other business interests in North Creek.

John Mohan, veteran of service in Africa Sicily and Italy, is a new booker at Paramount. Mohan, who formerly was with the company in Boston, succeeds Harry Wyckoff, resigned. He recently received his discharge.

Dave Willig, who was forced by a snowstorm to delay the opening of the Auto-Vision at East Greenbush for five days, unshuttered the drive-in May 16. The opening feature was "Going My Way," which smashed all boxoffice records at indoor theatres of the Albany area. It was the first screening of the Paramount film at a drive-in of this section. The Auto-Vision, opened in 1940, is said to have been the first of its kind equipped with an individual loudspeaker for each car. Willig, lessee since 1944, also operates the Rivoli in Schenectady.

Fred Meyers, eastern sales manager for Universal, and John J. Scully, district manager, visited Gene Vogel, local manager, and the trio made a call at Smalley Theatres headquarters in Cooperstown. Scully, former Buffalo boss, is well known here. He is a brother of Bill Scully, Universal's general sales manager.

Local film men who attend the Boston funeral of Cpl. Harry Alexander jr., 19, son of the 20th-Fox manager, included Fred Siiter, 20th-Fox salesman; Joe Miller, Columbia manager; George Jeffreys, United Artists salesman, and Joe Sure, Fabian booker. Alexander met death in the crash of a bomber at Gorham, Kas. His mother and a brother also survive.

No successor to Schuyler Beattie, Paramount salesman who was accepted for military service, had been appointed early this week . . . Tom Barry, recently transferred from New York to Albany as head booker for 20th-Fox, may also don a uniform. He is the father of three children.

"Thunderhead, Son of Flicka" is doing unprecedented business in small towns of the Albany territory. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" is also piling up healthy grosses. "Diamond Horseshoe" broke in several Schine towns over the weekend . . . Morris Schmalzbach, 20th-Fox traveling auditor, has returned to New York after a visit to the local exchange . . . Word here is that Elmer Sichel, once assistant booker for 20th-Fox, later a booker for Schine circuit in Gloversville and then a buyer for a large group of independents in New York City, is serving with a tank destroyer unit. Sichel has a brother in the film business.

John V. "Jack" Smith, 58, for many years a stagehand at the Grand, died May 11 at his home here. He was a lifelong resident of the city and a member of the IATSE. Surviving are his wife, two sons, a daughter and two sisters. Smith lived in the section north of Filmrow.

The Fabian and Warner circuits were among nine local concerns who sponsored as "a public service" a full-page newspaper advertisement for the Salvation Army in its local maintenance appeal for $20,000. This year the Salvation Army is conducting a fund-raising campaign apart from the Community Chest.

Ann Sheridan Assists White Plains Kickoff

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.—On the eve of the opening of the Seventh War Loan drive, Michael Stranger, manager of Loew's State here, announced the theatre staff had enlisted 100 per cent in Loew's Seventh War Loan army.

The bond drive in Westchester County opened Wednesday night with a huge mass meeting at County Center here when Ann Sheridan, popular motion picture star and GI entertainer, was guest star on the Milton Berle Let Yourself Go CBS network program, which was broadcast from the hall.

Showmen of the area had met previously at a luncheon sponsored by the Westchester County WAC, headed by H. Russell Emde, Mt. Vernon, RKO zone manager, and James Grady, New Rochelle, Loew zone manager, drive co-chairman. Exhibitors pledged 40 per cent increase themselves to meet the individual quotas set for the drive. Speakers included John Ianiri of the Capitol, who urged a continuance of the excellent record already achieved by county theatre men; William H. Evans, of the White Plains war finance committee; Kenneth Henry, representing the Skouras circuit; Charles Gaa of the Prudential circuit.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Julian Olney, representing Scarsdale and Bronxville theatres, and Ira Morais, of the RKO publicity department, New York City.

Bond booths were set up at the State and other theatres for the drive and Manager Stranger announced any organization could take over the booths at any time, with all sales credited to the organization on the day or days it had scheduled. At other times the booths were to be manned by the theatre bond staff throughout the period of the drive.

Stranger also mailed 1,150 post cards to patrons calling attention to the booths and informing them the theatre bond staff could handle purchases there at any time, or at the Roger Smith Theatre. Lobby and window displays boosting bond sales also were installed as part of the theatre's campaign.

M-G-M Story Head Names Sullivan, Green Aides

NEW YORK—Lucile Sullivan has been appointed assistant, and Beatrice Green named administrative assistant, to Olin H. Clark, eastern story editor for M-G-M.

Miss Sullivan, successor to Janet Wood who recently left the organization, has been motion picture editor of the Indianapolis News, on the editorial staff of Harper's Bazaar, a theatrical press agent in New York and a member of Paramount's story staff prior to joining M-G-M's scenario department.

Miss Green has been with the editorial department of M-G-M for many years.

Broadway Predrive Sale Tops All Bond Records

NEW YORK—Broadway picture theatres sold 5,867 bonds prior to the official opening of the Seventh War Loan drive. The advance sale reached $567,300, a record total for any precampaign period.

Theatres participating include Roxy, Paramount, Rivoli, Capitol, Criterion, Music Hall, Globe, State, Palace, Strand, Victoria, Hollywood, Astor, Rialto, Republic and Gotham. Of these houses, the Roxy sold, from April 9 through May 13, a total of 3,151 bonds, amounting to $117,550. This represents a 500 per cent increase over last year.

Jivers There—"Voice" Isn't

PHILADELPHIA—Some 15,000 bobby-soxers tried to crash the doors of the Academy of Music when it was reported that Frank Sinatra was attending a juvenile delinquency conference there Monday night.

Sinatra, who was spirited into Philadelphia about two months ago for a "secret press conference" with high school editors, promised then to return and bring some big films stars. Through an unfounded rumor, the kids thought Monday was the night.

So many of them crowded into Broad and Locust streets that traffic was halted and a police riot squad was called out. It took the cops almost two hours to convince the kids that Sinatra was not there.

"U" Booklet Highlights Publicity on De Carlo

NEW YORK—Universal has issued a 32-page, 11x14 booklet on the Yvonne De Carlo campaign in newspapers, magazines and radio during the two or three months immediately preceding the release of "Salome, Where She Danced."

Magazines and newspapers with a total circulation in excess of 16,600,000 gave her space ranging from four-color front-covers and four-page spreads to single-column feature stories and scene and portrait stills. Virtually every news syndicate and some nationwide photo agencies have carried yarns or pictures about her. On the radio she has appeared as guest star for four commentators.

BUFFALO

Jack Mundstuk has taken over as M-G-M manager here. He formerly was sales manager in Cleveland. He replaced Ralph Maw, shifted to the Minneapolis territory as district manager. Harold Zeltner, Metro student salesman here, has been transferred to Pittsburgh for a permanent assignment.

Marjorie McBride, secretary to Ira H. Cohn, 20th-Fox manager, has returned to work. She was ill following the death of her brother last month . . . Lieut. John J. Scully jr., son of the eastern district manager of Universal and former Buffalonian, has returned to this country from a Nazi prison camp.

Cpl. Lucian Charett, veteran of action in the Pacific and a Buffalo boy, has returned home from the naval hospital at Sampson with a film offer from 20th-Fox . . . The WPB's brownout order revoked, Buffalonians came downtown by the thousands to "see the lights."

With the curfew off, the five downtown theatres which have given midnight shows every Saturday night resumed that schedule last weekend. The Great Lakes put on its midnight show last Saturday, but the Buffalo waited until Wednesday to add a midnight swing shift program to its schedule. The Mercury and Palace, both managed by Dewey Michaels, went back on their own owl schedules as did the 20th Century. Telenews added a Saturday midnight showing to its regular schedule. The Lafayette has resumed its Friday midnight shows for swingshift workers.

The manner in which Buffalonians observed VE-Day was commended by Mayor Joseph J. Kelly . . . Telenews held "Inside a Nazi Death Factory" for a second week when boxoffice grosses for the first week recorded better than 400 per cent.

A shortage of film has held up production of Buffalo's motion picture classic, starring Mr. and Mrs. Rat, their children and grandchildren, ad infinitum. John N. Hamlet, visual education specialist from the fish and wildlife service, Washington, who has been in Buffalo for six weeks making the picture, has returned to the capital to await additional film and, in the meanwhile, to edit scenes shot so far. The picture is tantamount to government recognition of this city's high standing in the field of rat control.

Raymond Massey, stage and screen star; Bea Wain and Barry Wood, radio celebrities, were among guests at the national opening of the Seventh War Loan here Monday.

SeaBees Pay Loew's Honor In Naming Pacific Theatre

NEW YORK—The newest theatre of the 111th naval construction battalion (the SeaBees) somewhere in the Philippines has been named Loew's 111th Battalion Theatre by Comdr. Douglas C. Jardin. The suggestion to name the new house after Loew's came from William Wang, who is serving in the SeaBee unit and was a member of M-G-M's publicity department before joining the navy.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Wants Promotion Discs, Willing to Pay, Too!

New York—Columbia exploiteers insist it actually happened and are willing to prove it to any skeptic!

Miss Elizabeth A. Baker, supervisor of music at Roanoke, Va., wrote to the Columbia exploitation department ordering two Sigmund Spaeth recordings. The same recordings, part of the campaign on "A Song to Remember," had previously been given away gratis.

What floored the exploiteers was that Miss Baker wanted to pay for the recordings. The discs were sent, marked: "No charge."

Republic's "Decade" Drive Is Discussed

NEW YORK—Enthusiastic exhibitor support of Republic's 10th anniversary drive was reported by men from the eastern and New England districts at a home office meeting on May 15. They conferred with James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, who informed them of several holdovers on the 10th anniversary film, "Flame of the Barbary Coast."

The film has passed its fourth week at the Woods Theatre in Chicago and its second week at the Uptown Theatre in Salt Lake City. It is now going into the Aladdin Theatre in Denver and the Mayfair in Portland, Ore., for extended runs in both houses.

Those present at the meeting were: Maxwell Gillis, eastern district sales manager; Jake Flax, Washington; Joseph Engel, Philadelphia; Grover C. Schaefer, New York; Jack Davis, New England district manager; Arthur Newman, Albany; Abe Weiner, Boston; Jack Bellman, Buffalo, and Jerome Lewis, New Haven.

John B. Harlow, Western Electric Erpi Head, Dies

NEW YORK—John B. Harlow, contract license manager of the Erpi division of Western Electric Co., died May 15 after a heart attack.

He was 61 years old and had been with the Bell system more than 35 years. He entered the engineering department of Western Electrict in 1910 and by 1923 had advanced to telephone sales engineer. Two years later he took over the duties of commercial engineer.

In 1927 Harlow joined the engineering force of Erpi as development manager. He became contract license manager of that company in 1936, a position which he retained when Erpi became a division of Western Electric in 1942.

His wife and two sons, both in the armed forces, survive. He was a resident of Montclair, N. J.

Achmed Abdullah, Screen Writer-Novelist, Dies

NEW YORK — Achmed Abdullah, short story-writer, novelist, scenarist and playwright, died of a heart attack at the Medical Center, where he had been a patient since January. His death occurred on his 64th birthday.

Author of nearly 30 books, several plays and countless short stories, Abdullah—that wasn't his real name—wrote a number of motion pictures, the best known being "The Thief of Bagdad" and the screen version of "The Lives of a Bengal Lancer."

SCRANTON-WILKES-BARRE

— SCRANTON —

John McLuskie has been named manager of the Capitol, replacing Paul Tigue, who has been inducted into the navy at Sampson, N. Y. . . . Louis Finske, Comerford Theatres, and Mrs. Finske have returned home after a holiday in New York City . . . Joe Lehr of the Comerford home office spent a furlough at home from Sampson, N. Y.

Marine Pvt. Joseph Nealis, former assistant at the Strand who has been in the marines three years, was through en route to a California port of embarkation . . . Bert Allen, former manager of the Hollywood, Pottsville, and assistant at the Strand here, has succeeded Jack Mahon in the Comerford booking office. Mahone has entered the navy.

Seaman Harold Bell, former manager of the Roosevelt who edited the Comerford Salute, spent a furlough at home . . . Ditto Lieut. James Gavin and Cpl. Bob Noone, formerly of the accounting department, and Eddie McGovern, former manager of the Westside, now at Sampson . . . Tom Comerford was expected to return to work soon after an extended illness . . . Vaudeville terminated for the season at the Capitol on May 5.

According to a post card dated December 23, which was received only last week by his wife (Anne Noone), Sgt. John Carroll, a former Comerford employe, was a prisoner of war at that time . . . Louise Jordan, Scranton, became the bride of Thomas J. McDonnell, manager of the Roosevelt, in St. Paul's Church, Greenwich. He recently was discharged from the army after 18 months of service.

Comerford has announced that the new theatre being constructed to replace the Granada destroyed by fire in January, will be opened this month. A naming contest for the new house will be conducted . . . John J. O'Leary, Comerford general manager, who was the Lackawanna County March of Dimes chairman, announced the final report shows $32,273.20 was collected this year compared with $19,000 last year . . . "Life With Father" will be presented to a capacity audience at the Temple on Tuesday evening (22) the advance ticket sellout assures.

— WILKES-BARRE —

Mrs. Helen Comerford Brennan, county woman's division chairman of the Seventh War Loan, has announced that "bonds for babies" will be the main feature of the forthcoming drive . . . Bill Walsh, manager of the Comerford, obtained newspaper cooperation in his campaign on "God Is My Co-Pilot."

"Student Prince" played to a sellout recently at the 2,300-seat Capitol. Al Cox, former manager of the Kingston, handled the showing, assisted by the personnel of the downtown Comerford theatres in handling of the audience . . . Vaudeville was discontinued for the season at the Penn, May 5. Manager Fred Lee announced the theatre would present one show a week for the summer.

Sam Friedman, Comerford district manager at Hazleton, and Mrs. Friedman have returned from Los Angeles where they visited their son Donald . . . Sgt. Steve Demko, marines, a former employe of the Capitol, is in the South Pacific where he is a radio gunner on a marine bomber.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

Bond-Buyers to Cruise On Big Liberty Ships

NEW YORK—Approximately 100,000 tickets, each entitling the bearer to a conducted tour of either of two 10,000-ton Liberty ships, are being distributed to patrons of 700 picture theatres here in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive, according to WAC and U.S. maritime service officials. The tickets are being given to buyers of bonds in each of the 700 metropolitan houses as one of the highlights in the observance of National Maritime week.

A special feature of the WAC-USMS cooperation will be a six-hour sail on Long Island Sound aboard the SS American Mariner, Sunday, May 27. This "bond cruise" will be available to purchasers of $1,000 bonds at the theatres in the five boroughs and Westchester and Nassau counties.

CBS to Telecast Corwin War Drama, "Untitled"

NEW YORK—A television production of Norman Corwin's "Untitled" in support of the Seventh War Loan drive will be presented by CBS station WCBW on Thursday, May 24, from 8:20 to 9:00 p. m. This will mark the first Corwin work to be telecast.

Originally offered as a half-hour nationwide broadcast over CBS on Apr. 14, 1944, and starring Fredric March, "Untitled" was repeated by popular demand the following Decoration Day and has become one of the most widely discussed war-theme radio programs.

Newark Embassy Is Leased For Long Term by Udee

NEWARK—The Embassy Theatre, 850-seat house at 80 Bloomfield Ave., operated for the past ten years by Sidney Seligman and Emil Ulicney, has been leased by the owner, Nicholas Palley, to Joseph and Arthur Reitano for the Udee Holding Co.

The lease, a long term one, was signed by Berk & Krumgold, theatrical realty brokers. The lessees will improve the premises as soon as conditions permit.

Underwriters Okay Switch

NEW YORK—The Underwriters Laboratories' approval has been granted the Lakewood automatic rewind switch, according to National Theatre Supply, exclusive distributors. Since originally made available to projectionists, the device has undergone several improvements. These include a new and sturdier cast aluminum housing as well as a standard Cutler Hammer heavy-duty switch.

House Sole Bond Agent

BROOKLYN—The Pitkin Ave. Merchants Ass'n has named Loew's Pitkin Theatre its issuing agent for the Seventh War Loan drive, according to Al Weiss, managing director. Weiss has led the entire Loew theatre circuit in the past three bond campaigns; he and his staff expect to outdo their previous efforts on the current drive.

Walker Film in N. Y. Houses

NEW YORK—A short subject which began runs in midtown Manhattan theatres last week features former Mayor James J. Walker as spokesman in an appeal on behalf of the Greater New York Fund. The film was made with the cooperation of Fred J. Schwartz, chairman of features and motion pictures for the public relations committee of the fund.

Leo in a New Role— Runs Baseball Nine

New York—Get out the arnica and liniment, boys, we're gonna have a baseball team! This advice should come in handy soon, at least at the Metro home office, because the boys are organizing a baseball team.

Leo's minions haven't had a baseball nine for a number of years. Many of the company's veterans remember when the M-G-M team beat all comers 15 to 20 years ago and won several loving cups.

Mike Simons, managing editor of LO, the company's house organ, is organizing the team.

Disney Educational Films Impress Belgian Writers

NEW YORK—All of liberated Europe, particularly Belgium, will welcome American made educational films in the training of its youth, says Valere d'Archambeau, Liege journalist, returning with a group of Belgian newspaper men from the San Francisco conference. "Our minister of education is a great believer in the cinema as an educational tool. As you know, our children have been badly handicapped in all educational facilities under German occupation.

"We are particularly interested in films depicting manual training, as we have a huge rehabilitation problem," he said. The group were particularly impressed by government health and training films produced by Disney, d'Archambeau added.

Circus Telecast on WABD For Smith Carpet Co.

NEW YORK—The circus came to television on May 16 when DuMont's WABD presented Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey's circus. The program sponsored by the Alexander Smith Carpet Co., was telecast at 10 p. m.

Films of circus spectacles were integrated with live talent. The snakes used in the show had to be brought to the studio in thermostatic containers and innoculated every few hours because the television lights made them so lively.

Three child stars, John Grinnell, Bobby Antoine and Mary Terry were taken on "The Magic Carpet" to circusland.

WABD to Give McNeil Show

NEW YORK—A special Seventh War Loan appearance of Don McNeil's Breakfast Club will be presented over the DuMont Television station, WABD, on May 25. The cast of the show will include Jack Owen, Sam Cowling, Aunt Fanny and Nancy Martin. The regular format of the radio program will be followed.

Iwo Group Transparency

NEW YORK—George Miner, manager of the Mt. Vernon Theatre, has brought his lobby display for the Seventh War Loan drive up to date by placing atop his bond booth a shadow box transparency of the Iwo Jima flag-raising. James Grady, Loew district manager, has asked all other Westchester managers to see the display, with a view to duplicating it in other houses throughout the territory.

Borus Into Lind Berth

NEW YORK—Si Borus, Republic's contract department manager for the last eight years, joins Monogram on May 21. He succeeds Lloyd Lind as head of Monogram's contract department and will make his headquarters at the company's local exchange.

Staten Island Will Have Its Own 'Times Square'

NEW YORK—Stapleton Park in Staten Island will have its own Times Square in miniature during the Seventh War Loan drive, according to Louis Goldberg, WAC borough chairman. In it will be scale replicas of the Statue of Liberty and the Iwo Jima flag-raising group recently erected in the Manhattan entertainment center. These will flank a bond stand in one of the busiest sections of Staten Island.

During peak hours the stand will be manned by a master of ceremonies and entertainers. Local military authorities have given approval for use of military bands, and wounded heroes from Halloran Hospital will appear in order to give added impetus to bond sales.

The project was arranged by George Kemp, manager of the Paramount Theatre, Stapleton, and the Stapleton Board of Trade.

Film Players Continuing To Aid USO-Camp Shows

NEW YORK—Latest film favorites to announce USO tour plans are Ida Lupino and Dinah Shore. Miss Lupino will end her one-month tour of hospitals on June 29, and Miss Shore will entertain wounded service men from June 7 to July 10.

Edgar Kennedy, Charles Coburn, Virginia Weidler and Lynn Merrick are already on tour; Dan Duryea and Frank Faylen are appearing at Veterans Bureau homes on either coast, and Jane Wyman, the three Ritz Brothers and Gail Russell opened their respective tours this week.

New Postage Meter Inks 7th Bond Drive Slogan

NEW YORK—Pitney-Bowes Co. has made up a special postage meter for the Seventh War Loan drive. Copy on the slogan reads: "Buy your bonds at your favorite motion picture theatre today" with a large seven displayed.

Theatres, film companies and executive offices using postage meters are asked to contact Pitney-Bowes for one of the new models and to use it until the completion of the drive.

Big Stadium Bond Show

FOREST HILLS—Grant Stadium will be the location of a huge war bond show, according to Fred Brunelle, WAC borough chairman. Admission will be by bond purchases only. The show is scheduled for the last week of the drive, and tickets will be reserved only for "extra" bond purchasers. Ray Malone, public relations chairman, is preparing trailers, posters and ad inserts for all borough theatres for the show.

Gessner's Book Sells

NEW YORK — Charles Scribner's Sons, publishers of Prof. Robert Gessner's "Youth Is the Time," reports that the novel has received good press notices and is enjoying an encouraging advance sale. Gessner, well known in Hollywood as a scenarist, has been head of New York University department of motion pictures since its inception some years ago.

Bert Six in From Coast

NEW YORK—Bert Six, member of the publicity department at Warner Bros.' Burbank studios, has arrived for a ten-day stay to confer with picture editors on art work.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Raw Stock Alleviation Not Due Until 1946

Indications are that the raw stock film shortage will be alleviated early in 1946, in the opinion of Stanley B. Adams, chief of the consumers' durable goods division of the War Production Board. Adams' outline of the film situation was contained in a telegram sent to John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, as follows:

"Based upon statements accredited to me appearing in the trade press the impression seems to be that there is no shortage of film. The facts are these:

"Based upon current statements of requirements for all claimants the film requirements for all types, while still in excess of productive capacity of the industry, are lower than any time during the past year. If this condition prevails for the balance of this year and the first part of 1946, there is every reason to believe that requirements and production could be in balance by the first of the year, 1946.

"Please understand no definite predictions can be made until the receipt of the fourth quarter film requirements in August. For the present, we can only hope.

"The total requirements for the third quarter are still in excess of productive capacity. I can see no possibility of building up any surpluses of 35mm film during the next few months. All facilities for the production of 35mm film are being used to the fullest extent possible, and we still cannot meet the needs of the military and civilian claimants. There may be some additional 35mm film available for civilian use during the third quarter but it is not expected that it would be enough to bring all sections of the industry back to the fourth quarter 1944 level.

"You have my permission to make this statement public. Please do not quote excerpts from it but give the complete statement."

John Houseman to OWI

John Houseman, producer at Paramount for the past two years, has asked for and received a release from his contract which was scheduled for renewal in June. OWI, with which Houseman was associated for a time before his Paramount deal was made, has asked him to do a special job in Germany which will occupy him for the next six months.

Hutton to DeSylva Film

B. G. DeSylva has arranged with Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, for the services of Betty Hutton for a second feature, which he will produce independently for that company's release. It will be an original by DeSylva, "The Honest Woman," a dramatic story of a Ziegfeld Follies girl, with a musical background.

Hints of a Peace Break In Strike at Studios

From several quarters came indications that an early break might develop in the deadlock which has gripped Hollywood's studio strike for the past several weeks. As the walkout dragged into its tenth stanza, the following developments gave promise of possible peace:

(1) The National Labor Relation Board's local representatives called a meeting of all interested factions to discuss the most amicable and fairest way of staging the forthcoming election ordered earlier by NLRB in Washington. The election will determine the jurisdiction over the small group of set decorators, which jurisdictional dispute precipitated the widespread strike in the first place.

AFL Chief Green Arrives

(2) The presence in the city of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and unconfirmed reports that while here he probed the various ramifications of the walkout with an idea of bringing the warring factions together. All of them are AFL affiliates.

(3) Announcement by Los Angeles' Mayor Fletcher Bowron that he proposed to bring the various strike leaders and other interested groups into a meeting to discuss the controversy and way and means of ending the walkouts.

The election ordered by NLRB is to be held May 25.

Another Producers Statement

Meanwhile the producers, having missed one week, again issued their regular weekly statement contending that the strike is doing little to hamper production. It declared:

"Production continued to increase during the past week, with three new pictures being started and other completed according to schedule. A total of 29 features were before cameras on Saturday, a gain of three over the previous week. Three new pictures are slated to get under way Monday, two others Tuesday and a sixth on the following day. Technicolor photography and print processing have remained at top efficiency."

Late Producer's Son Forms Sebastian Productions

Dave Sebastian, son of the late producer, A. H. Sebastian, has announced the organization of Sebastian Productions and plans for immediate filming of a series of three psychological mystery dramas. It was stated that the project is fully financed and that Sebastian's associates will be announced upon completion of releasing arrangements.

Harry Romm Bows As Producer Soon

Harry Romm, head of the theatres division of General Amusement Corp., is scheduled to arrive in Hollywood June 25 to begin work as producer of "Swing Parade," Monogram musical. The film marks Romm's first effort as a producer, and involves a leave of absence from his present theatre-booking activities.

Del Lord, veteran director on leave from Columbia, will be director and associate producer of the new film, shooting of which is slated to start July 15.

Jean Hersholt Again Heads Film Relief Fund, Inc.

Nominations of officers for the Motion Picture Relief Fund, Inc., for the new term have been approved by the board of trustees following recommendations by the nominating committee.

Up for election at the annual meeting to be held June 26 are: For president, Jean Hersholt; first vice-president, Ralph Morgan; second vice-president, Lucile Gleason; third vice-president, Sol Lesser; fourth vice-president, Irving Pichel; treasurer, George Bagnall; executive secretary, Wilma Bashor.

Renominated to serve new three-year terms on the board of trustees are Charles Bickford, Willard Cooley, Jack Cooper, Y. Frank Freeman, Tay Garnett, Bernard Herzbrun, Dudley Nichols, Ernest Pascal, Joseph Santley and Julia Heron.

All those named are incumbents, except Sol Lesser, who was nominated for the third vice-presidency to replace Walter Wanger. The coming election will start Jean Hersholt's eighth year as president of MPRF.

Morris Saifer Returns After Exchange Tour

Morris Safier, sales manager of the western division for PRC, returned to his Los Angeles office after a tour of all exchanges under his control. Among the branches visited were Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Seattle and San Francisco. Safier also spent a week at the company's New York office for conferences with Harry Thomas, newly appointed vice-president and general sales manager of PRC.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

MANTAN MORELAND and BEN CARTER have been booked for a personal appearance tour. Route includes a week each at Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco; Oriental, Chicago; Paradise, Detroit; Palace, Boston; Howard, Washington; Royal, Baltimore, and two weeks at the Strand, New York.

Blurbers

Free-Lance

WILLIAM BLOECHER, formerly with 20th-Fox, has been signed by George Glass to handle the next two David L. Loew productions for United Artists release, which will be publicized by the Glass firm.

HALE B. STREETER has joined the Lee and Losh staff and will devote full time to the Screen Actors Guild.

Briefies

Paramount

GEORGE TEMPLETON, musical featurette producer, is preparing "College Queen," second in the new season's featurette schedule in Technicolor which will go before the cameras this month. Jacqueline Duffie scripted.

Cleffers

Metro

ALEX HYDE re-signed to continue as assistant to musical director, George Stoll.

United Artists

CARMEN DRAGON and ANNABELLE ROSS signed for musical chores on "Young Widow," Hunt Stromberg production.

Universal

Musical director for "Secret Agent X-9," serial, will be EDGAR "COOKIE" FAIRCHILD.

Meggers

Paramount

STUART HEISLER has been inked as director of Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," which Joseph Sistrom will produce. Heisler had been borrowed by Walter Wanger to direct "Canyon Passage" but the latter relinquished his commitment to enable Heisler to accept direcion of "Blue Skies."

PRC Pictures

LEW LANDERS has been signed to direct "Checkmate," first Jack Grant production.

Republic

MAREK LIBKOV, who will produce "Passkey to Danger," has had his contract renewed.

Director WILLIAM K. HOWARD announced that he is writing a story titled, "The Conscientious Objector," based on the life of Lew Ayres, which he will produce and direct when he completes "A Guy Could Change."

20th Century-Fox

JOHN CROMWELL will direct "Cluny Brown," an Ernst Lubitsch production.

United Artists

LEONIDE MOGUY inked to direct Nero production, "Whistle Stop."

Universal

WILLIAM DIETERLE has been borrowed from David O. Selznick to direct "As It Was Before."

Options

Columbia

Added to roster of "Pardon My Past" is RITA JOHNSON.

PHILIP VAN ZANDT and JIMMY LLOYD inked for featured roles in "I Love a Bandleader."

Metro

WILLIAM POWELL has been set for the title role in "The Hoodlum Saint."

AVA GARDNER assigned second femme lead in "She Went to the Races."

Monogram

Inked for "Song of the Border," Cisco Kid series, are ARMIDA and the GUADALAJARA TRIO.

Paramount

BILLY DE WOLFE cast for comedy lead in "Blue Skies."

OLGA SAN JUAN has been cast for a principal role in Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies."

WALTER SANDE has been set for a featured role in "The Blue Dahlia."

PRC Pictures

TOM NEAL and MARGARET LINDSAY signed to head the cast of "Club Havana."

PAUL CAVANAUGH, MARC LAWRENCE, PAMELA BLAKE and PEDRO DE CORDOVA have been inked for roles in the Leon Fromkess production, "Club Havana."

Republic

Additions to the cast of "Mexicana" include JEAN STEVENS, dancer who was signed for the part, and LEO CARRILLO.

BRUCE CABOT and NANCY KELLY have been inked for featured roles in "The Last Crooked Mile."

RKO Radio

TOM HOLLAND, recent dischargee from the merchant marine, was signed for a role in "The Robe."

WALTER SLEZAK has been signed for one of the top roles in "Cornered."

SONS OF THE PIONEERS, musical sextet, have been inked to appear in "Ding Dong Williams."

LOLA LANE has been set for one of the top character roles in "Deadline at Dawn."

AUDREY LONG has been assigned the featured feminine role in "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

JOAN BENNETT has been signed to star in "None So Blind," psychological thriller from the pen of Mitchell Wilson. The film will be produced by Val Lewton, and Michael Hogan has been inked to write the screenplay.

OSA MASSEN, MARVIN MILLER, JOSEPH CALLEIA and JOE SAWYER have been signed for major roles in "Deadline at Dawn."

LEON ERROL and MARCY McGUIRE have been set for top roles in "Riverboat Rhythm."

United Artists

Signed by Hunt Stromberg for "Young Widow" are the TAILOR MAIDS, singing trio.

MARIE WILSON signed for role in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

JOHNNY SANDS inked to a term pact by Vanguard Films, and will debut in "They Dream of Home."

Universal

Option of GALE SONDERGAARD exercised for another year. She is slated to be starred in a new series, the first of which will be "The Spider Woman Strikes Back."

Featured role in "Frontier Gal" assigned to SHELDON LEONARD.

Warners

Feminine lead opposite CHARLES BOYER in "Confidential Agent," film version of the Graham Greene novel, assigned to LAUREN BACALL. Herman Shumlin will direct, with Robert Buckner producing.

VICTOR FRANCEN's contract has been extended.

JANE HARKER has been signed for a role in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

LYNNE BAGGETT has been added to the cast of "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

S. Z. SAKALL has had his contract extended.

PETER LORRE's contract has been extended for an additional year.



$406,000 FOR THE UJW—Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer (right), former Brooklyn district attorney and now executive director of the War Refugee Board, Washington, D. C., came to Hollywood to help launch the United Jewish Welfare Fund's Year of Liberation campaign. William Goetz (left), head of International Pictures, is chairman of the motion picture campaign in Hollywood. O'Dwyer's first speech at a meeting at Ambassador Hotel resulted in $406,000 of the $700,000 required being raised in an hour. Eddie Cantor was toastmaster at the dinner-meeting attended by 600 film leaders.

Scripters

Monogram

GEORGE WALLACE SAYRE signed to do final polish on "The Cobra Strikes."

PRC Pictures

PAUL GERARD SMITH was signed by Alexander-Stern to write final script on "Queen of Burlesque," based on an original story by Elmer Clifton.

United Artists

Arnold Pressburger signed ELLIS ST. JOSEPH, New York novelist, to do the screenplay of "Together in Paris."

Universal

LEONARD LEE has been signed to do the final screenplay on "As It Was Before," adapted from the Luigi Pirandello story.

Story Buys

Paramount

A deal has been completed for the screen rights of "The Wayfarers," novel by Dan Wickenden.

Metro

"If You Ever Need Me," a first novel by Blair Traynor, has been purchased for production by Irving Starr.

Technically

Columbia

VI LAWRENCE set as film editor on "Some Call It Love."

Metro

HUBERT HOBSON has been inked as art director for "A Letter for Evie."

Monogram

VINCENT FARRAR has been signed by James S. Burkett as cameraman on the forthcoming Charlie Chan mystery, "Shanghai Cobra."

Paramount

ANNE BAUCHENS was assigned to edit "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

Republic

Al Santell has appointed LEONARD ZURIT as dialog director on "Mexicana."

Universal

MILTON KRASNER will do the cinematography on Walter Wanger's "Scarlet Street."

Title Changes

PRC Pictures

"Two Tickets to Heaven" changed to CLUB HAVANA.

Republic

THE CHEATERS is the new tag for "The Magnificent Rogue."

New Duties for Glen Cook

Glen Cook, new production manager at Monogram, has been appointed to the studio operations committee. Headed by Trem Carr, executive director, the committee also includes Lindsley Parsons, producer; E. R. Hickson, technical director, and Fred Steele, studio manager.

Paramount Signs Stewart

Known in New York as a theatre producer, director, writer and actor, Paul Stewart has signed a contract with Paramount and soon will be handed his first assignment. Stewart has been associated with David O. Selznick.

Keighley to Paramount

Col. William Keighley, who recently completed three years of service with the war department, signed a deal to direct one picture annually for Paramount during the next three years.

Warth Leaves RKO

Theron Warth, associate producer at RKO, has terminated his connection and left the lot. Warth, who at one time was a cutter, had been with the studio for several years.

Fred Finkelhoffe to Fox

Fred Finkelhoffe, formerly M-G-M producer-writer, has been signed by 20th-Fox as a writer.

"Blood on Sun" Prints To Pacific Fronts

United Artists' "Blood on the Sun," James Cagney's current starring picture, will have a Pacific war front premiere, according to word just received by William Cagney, producer, from the army pictorial service. The Cagney film will be premiered May 25 at Manila, Okinawa and Iwo Jima, first time an American motion picture will have been shown on the latter-named two islands.

Following is from the office of Col. E. L. Munson, chief of the pictorial service:

"James Cagney's new film, 'Blood on the Sun,' the story of an American newspaper man's discovery of the Tanaka plan, has been shipped to Okinawa and Iwo Jima by the army pictorial service.

"Our forces in Manila will receive the picture simultaneously with Okinawa and Iwo.

"Prints of the Cagney picture in 16mm edition are being donated for free showing to our overseas forces through the WAC and the army pictorial service."

Travel for Studio Biggies Apparently on Upturn

It might have been a coincidence or possibly a sign of reconversion, but coast-to-coast travel by home office and studio biggies showed more signs of life than at any time during recent months.

Metro's transportation department seemed to be the busiest. Louis B. Mayer, studio chief, accompanied by his publicity director, Howard Strickling, left for the New York home office. Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of publicity and advertising for Loew's, Inc., also left for New York after spending a week at the studios looking at new product. Henderson M. Richey, assistant to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager for the company, and director of exhibitor and public relations, checked in at the studios for a week of business conferences. Sam Katz, Metro executive, returned after two weeks of business huddles in New York and Chicago. Producer Arthur Hornblow jr. took off for Gotham to look over the Broadway plays.

Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects general sales manager, arrived from Dallas to spend a week conferring with studio executives and short subjects producers Jerry Fairbanks, George Pal and George Templeton on the new season's short product. While here he was to hold one of a number of regional sales meetings with Del Goodman, tenth district sales manager and his branch managers which include Al Taylor, Los Angeles; Neal East, San Francisco; James Clark, Portland; Herbert Kaufman, Seattle. Hal Wallis completed conferences with Paramount executives in New York and returned to his desk at the studio. Bill Pine and Bill Thomas, Paramount producers, accompanied by writer Maxwell Shane and their production manager, Doc Herman, returned from Manhattan.

Ben Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, and Mort Blumenstock, east coast director of advertising and publicity, arrived for confabs at the Burbank studio.

Dore Schary, one of David O. Selznick's producers, was back from a business trip to Washington and New York.

Another returning traveler was Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president of Technicolor.

M. J. Weisfeldt, Columbia home office sales executive, arrived for vacation of several weeks. He will also confer with studio tops on next season's product.

John LeRoy Johnston, director of publicity and advertising for International Pictures, went to Dallas on publicity campaigns in the south central area.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

WHILE other industries are indulging in post VE-Day thinking, talking and planning for reconversion, Hollywood has just accepted its most important wartime assignment.

It came from General Eisenhower through the war department and calls for a literal army of the screen's top talent and glamour to go to Europe to entertain GIs in hospitals and camps. The crying necessity for the aid to morale, which understandably might be prone to bog down following the cessation of hostilities, is obvious. In comparison to this latest gigantic chore, the previous noble work of the Hollywood Victory Committee is relatively unimportant.

To fulfill the assignment, Kenneth Thomson, effective, hard-working chairman of HVC, has the assistance of a special V-E committee comprising Charles K. Feldman, Olivia de Havilland, Bob Hope, E. J. Mannix, George Murphy, Sidney Strotz and Y. Frank Freeman, chairman.

As a result of the committee's initial efforts, more than two dozen of the film colony's top names already have volunteered their services to meet the crucial needs in Europe during the three-to-six month period of inactivity which is following the end of organized resistance. They include Louise Allbritton, Joseph Cotten, William Demarest, Jinx Falkenburg, Jane Frazee, Gabby Hayes, Charles Ruggles and the team of Akim Tamiroff-Leonid Kinskey, Amos and Andy, Joan Blondell, Bette Davis, Joan Fontaine, Victor Francen, Kathleen, June and Gene Lockhart, Rosita Moreno, Paul Muni, Ella Haines, Walter Abel and Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy.

But such praiseworthy start merely scratches the surface. The need is for every name player that can possibly get away.

It is a challenge that Hollywood must and will meet—in its characterically patriotic and open-hearted manner.

➡

That pornographic palaver so enjoyed by praise pundits while dallying over their noonday provender shows a propensity toward reviving the perennial limerick. Which stimulates the following anent a few of the blurbers. Well, at least it fills space in a dull week:

Twentieth-Fox's congenial H. Brand
A master at wielding the glad-hand
If used to make maps
The backs he has slapped
Would cover three-fourths of the land.

Opposing is serious George Brown
For Paramount he goes to town
But his unbending mein
It may come from his spleen
Has got poor Dale Carnegie down.

Ben Bogeaus has his Jerry Dale
Whose blurb is born midst travail
For the space that it warrants
His superlative torrents
Might just as well be printed in Braille.

And gregarious, garrulous George Glass
To free-lancers is now lending class
But when he starts talking
His wares to be hawking
Reporters are knocked on their face.

➡

Publicity tidbits from Alex Evelove's busy Burbank blurbery often are all Greek to the recipients thereof. Which is literally true of the following: "Visiting Warner Bros. were Aris Angelopolus, managing editor of the Acropolis, Athens, Greece, and Manos Megalokonomos representing all Athenian publications."

➡

LUXURIOUS FUR COAT
TO GET SCREEN TEST
—Whitney Bolton headline.

When it is necessary to offer both a fur coat and a screen test, things are getting a bit tough.

➡

A paper manufacturer has patented cardboard impregnated with volatile flavoring material to be used as the inner lining of packages for bakery products.

Much of Hollywood's output might be considerably improved if a similar lining is perfected for film cans.

➡

Now that hostilities have ended in Europe, casualties on the Hollywood-at-war front may possibly take on more importance. Be that as it may, Alex Evelove furnishes the week's highlight therefor and the boys in the foxholes of Okinawa undoubtedly will be touched by the tale of suffering and stoicism: "Three fingers on Faye Emerson's right hand were burned . . . Burns were received when a cup, into which Zachary Scott was pouring coffee broke. The burns, not serious, were treated at the studio's first aid station and the star resumed work almost immediately."

➡

LIFTING OF RACING BAN MAKES
CHANGES IN UNIVERSAL SCRIPT
—Pete Dailey headline.

Also will it make changes in the working hours of the scripters—and the producers, directors, et al.

In fact as this is written, hectic preparations were under way out Santa Anita way for an early opening of the track. What an upswing in afternoon "story conferences" there will be.

➡

Russell Birdwell submits, "Carole Landis, with Mrs. Chester W. Nimitz, wife of the fleet admiral, will be guest of honor at the Seventh War Loan bond rally in San Francisco."

Nice of the Behemoth of Blurb to give the admiral's wife billing, too, albeit in a supporting role.

Universal Meeting in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY—A western district meeting of Universal representatives will be held May 23-25 in the Hotel Utah here. Attending will be A. J. O'Keefe, western sales manager, and C. J. Feldman, Los Angeles, western division manager.

To Replace Oregon Theatre

ALBANY, ORE.—The Globe Theatre Co., operators of the Venetian and Granada theatres here, has applied for priorities preparatory to the construction of a new theatre here to replace the Venetian at its present site.

25,000 Vote on One Charity Campaign

Ballots have been mailed to more than 25,000 Hollywood studio workers to determine whether or not the majority are in favor of a single, all-inclusive, annual charity campaign. The voting is being conducted by the industry's permanent charities committee.

The plan, which has been recommended by representatives of nearly all unions, guilds, and other groups, calls for a drive to be staged next autumn. Percentage allocations would be made in advance, and the money raised would be distributed to Community Chest, Red Cross, Infantile Paralysis Foundation and a few smaller worthy organizations which in the past have not been aided by the industry.

Edward Arnold Favors It

"We are convinced that the single campaign would be an improvement from every standpoint," said Edward Arnold, executive vice-president of the committee. "To the individual donor, it would mean one pledge, once a year, no overlapping pay roll deductions, and no accumulating debt while he is not working.

"We believe that if this plan is fully understood by everyone, more money can be raised in one campaign than has been collected in the tiring succession of separate drives. If each donor realized that his entire charity obligation for a year would be met by one pledge, he would be better able to budget his giving.

Givers Would Receive Cards

"He would be given a card receipt and a window sticker for his home, both showing that he had contributed to all the agencies represented, so that any further requests made by any charitable organization justly and rightfully should be refused and referred to the committee."

The Motion Picture Relief Fund, Inc., already set up on a pay roll deduction basis, is not included in the new charities plan. Neither are any strictly sectarian appeals such as church funds. Arnold explained that in order to share in the industry collection, each organization would have to make application prior to the campaign.



DISCUSS UTAH'S ACTIVITIES—R. W. Coyne (left) field director for the war finance division, and Tracy Barham, Utah motion picture chairman for the Seventh War Loan and vice-president and general manager of Intermountain Theatres, Inc., confer on Utah's Seventh War Loan.

Pidgeon Opens Star Bond Drive Help

First of a series of screen star bond tours arranged by the Hollywood Victory Committee for the Seventh War Loan was launched when Walter Pidgeon kicked off the Ohio state campaign in a rally at Akron. Pidgeon was scheduled to appear at Cleveland, Canton, Martin's Ferry, Dayton and Columbus. Pidgeon also was to feature rallies at Milwaukee and Chicago after completing the Ohio route.

Five other routes covering principal cities all over the nation were set up by the treasury department for later in the seven-week, $14,000,000,000 campaign. Danny Kaye appeared at a Buffalo rally and Bill Elliott appeared at Delano, Calif., whose citizens were attempting to repeat their Sixth War Loan record of making their town the first in the nation to go over its campaign quota.

Dinah Shore, Jack Haley, Ralph Edwards and Don Wilson recorded a Mail Call transcription for overseas entertainment.

Danny Kaye, William Gargan, Linda Darnell, Mel Blanc, the Mel Torme group, Harry Mitchell and Dick Aurandt and band waxed a GI Journal platter before a Hollywood Canteen audience.

Paulette Goddard, Jack Benny, Hoagy Carmichael, Miguelito Valdes, B. S. Pulley, Jeri Sullivan and Ken Carpenter recorded a Command Performance program.

Hollywood at War

Hollywood's volunteer entertainment army, intensively recruited for the entertainment of GI Joes in Europe during the next three to six months, will start its invasion at an early date.

First of those enrolled to visit America's victorious troops were expected to be en route overseas within a week, according to notice received by the Hollywood Victory Committee. All available stars who have enlisted since VE-Day have been cleared by the war department and departure dates were being set.

Names of other headliners were added to the list of volunteers, with Philip Dorn, Ann Dvorak, Sonja Henie, Walter Huston, Fibber McGee and Molly, Garry Moore, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy signing up.

A list of 24 stars who have responded to the HVC call for recruits to take part in the European program has been forwarded to the war department.

Player-by-Player Canvass

A player-by-player canvass to determine the availability of every outstanding Hollywood personality is under way as part of the program to send stars and entertainers to Europe during the period while the U.S. armies are waiting transfer to the Pacific.

Decision to make a detailed canvass was reached at a meeting of the HVC talent committee, at which was reported results of a preliminary survey.

A report from Kenneth Thomson, HVC chairman, pointed out that in addition to the immediate need for troupers to go to Europe, demands are increasing for the Pacific and for the GI hospital circuit in this country, and that a further call has been received from the treasury department for stars to take part in the Seventh War Loan drive.

Meanwhile activities on the entertainment home front was stepping along as the week's highlights reveal:

Gail Russell and Nancy Gates took off for McKinney, Tex., to open a two-week tour through the southwest and south. They were scheduled to visit service hospitals at San Antonio, McKinney and Longview, Texas; New Orleans and Shreveport in Louisiana, and Jackson, Miss.

Arrive at Pensacola

Dan Duryea and Ben Weldon arrived at Pensacola to open a tour covering Atlanta, Charleston and New Orleans, closing May 19.

Carol Thurston and Wanda McKay returned from a two-week Texas tour and Margie Stewart and Ruthe Brady were back after two weeks in Washington and Idaho.

Allen Jenkins and his overseas unit entertained GI patients at Torrance Hospital, at Arrowhead Springs naval hospital, at Beaumont and Banning naval hospitals and Pasadena army regional hospital. In Jenkins' troupe were Kim Kimberly, Harry Tyler, Ruth Godfrey, Joan Arnold and Phil Arden.

Eddie Bracken headlined a USO-Camp Shows troupe at Ft. MacArthur, with Dale Evans, Gilbert and Lee, Barbara Morrison, Chris King, Chester Gunnels and Judy Clark . . . Edgar Bergen took a company to Long Beach naval hospital, with Danny Thomas, Jeri Sullivan, Virginia Carroll, Marian Kerrigan and Judy Clark.

Edgar Kennedy, with his wife and daughter, left on a four-week GI hospital tour. Their USO-Camp Shows route was to cover hospitals in Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas.

A HVC hospital troupe of six Goldwyn girls left on a month's tour in the southwest. Members of the group are Karen Gaylor, Marguerite Campbell, Mary Meade, Gloria Delfon, Deannie Best and Beverly Haney, and they will visit ten army and naval hospitals in Texas and three in Arkansas.

Raymond Walburn was home from a hospital junket through Missouri.

Claire Trevor and George Murphy returned from a Canadian bond tour and Anne Baxter was home after appearing at Canadian bond rallies and at a ship launching and bond program at Duluth, Minn.

Paramount Writers Corps Now Contains 33 Members

Paramount now has 33 writers working on the scripts of forthcoming features; most of them are under term contracts to the studio. Four, Charles Brackett, Seton I. Miller, Karl Tunberg and Abe Burrows, just signed, are writer-producers.

The others are I. A. Bezzerides, Frank Butler, Raymond Chandler, John Fante, Richard Fluornoy, Melvin Frank, Anne Froelick, Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Robert Lees, Robert F. McGowan, John McNulty, Jeanie Macpherson, Lewis Meltzer, Norman Panama, Frank Partos, Abraham Polonsky, Robert Presnell jr., Norman Reilly Raine, Fred Rinaldo, Richard Sale, Charles Schnee, Allan Scott, Theodore Strauss, Arthur Sheekman, Irving Stone, Frank Tarloff, Jacques Thery and Dwight Mitchell Wiley.

Metro Signs Ballet Star For "Ballerina" Filming

Tamara Toumanova, former star of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, has been signed to a contract with Metro, under which her first assignment will be in "Ballerina." In it she will share stellar honors with Margaret O'Brien. The film will mark Miss Toumanova's first dancing appearance before the motion picture cameras. Production is scheduled to get under way within the next few months.

32,566 Pounds for Allies

Hollywood's collection of used clothing for Allied relief closed with a total amounting to 32,566 pounds. Twentieth-Fox led the studios in contributions with 8,000 pounds, topping Warner Bros.' 5,522 and Universal's 3,008. PRC topped other lots in individual averages, turning in 4.59 pounds per employe. In second and third places were 20th-Fox and Disney.

Marie Wilson Plays in "Young Widow"

Marie Wilson has been signed for a role in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow," a United Artists production.

"Cottage" Receives Honors at Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO—"The Enchanted Cottage" brought the Golden Gate Theatre an enchanted barometer reading of 165 per cent, which topped the week's honors for first run houses here. The premiere of "Blood on the Sun" brought the United Artists a pleasant 150, while the Warfield did an excellent business with "Without Love." Three of the first run houses this week played reissues.

(Average is 100)

Fox—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M) 130
Golden Gate—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), plus stage show 165
Orpheum—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 2nd wk. 120
Paramount—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) 140
State—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 140
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA) 150
Warfield—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 140

"Salty O'Rourke" Leads Offerings In Los Angeles With a 190 Score

LOS ANGELES—"Salty O'Rourke," in its first week at the Hollywood and Downtown Paramount theatres, was a standout best grosser among the first run bills, scoring 190 and 160, respectively. "God Is My Co-Pilot" bowed in with 150 at Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern theatres, while "Frisco Sal," which debuted at the Guild, United Artists and Wilshire theatres, hit average figures.

Chinese, State, Uptown—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.; **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox) 115
Downtown Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep) 160
Egyptian and Ritz—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 100
Guild, United Artist, Wilshire—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ) 100
Hillstreet—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO) 125
Hollywood Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 190
Los Angeles—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 60
Pantages—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO) 90
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood, Wiltern—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 150

"Song to Remember" Hits 200 Gross With "Sudan" Running Close at 180

SEATTLE — Business was very good last week. The weather was warm and folks were packing the streets downtown. Most shows were holdovers.

Blue Mouse—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 120
Fifth Avenue—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Double Exposure** (Para) 160
Liberty and Metropolitan—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. 200
Music Box—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 120
Music Hall—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 140
Orpheum—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 180
Palomar—**Jeanne** (Eng. Films), plus stage show 140
Paramount—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Phantom of 42nd St.** (PRC), 2nd wk. 150
Roosevelt—**Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk. 130

"Salty O'Rourke" Far Out in Front With 200 at Denver Denham

DENVER—"Salty O'Rourke" at the Denham had a big edge in percentage here last week with a gross of 200.

Aladdin—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **House of Fear** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk. 135
Denham—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 200
Denver and Esquire—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **When the Lights Go On Again** (PRC) 90
Orpheum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Fashion Model** (Mono) 90
Paramount—**You Can't Take It With You** (FC); **Ragged Angels** (FC) 160
Rialto—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), 4th d. t. wk. 150

Trio Signed for Cisco Kid Picture

Armida and the Guadalajara Trio has been assigned for "Song of the Border," Monogram's Cisco Kid series.

Utah Bond Queen Contest Unique In Nation's Seventh Loan Drive

SALT LAKE CITY—"No other state has anything like the queen contest of Utah motion picture theatres for the Seventh War Loan," said Ted R. Gamble, Washington, national director of the treasury's war finance division, who was here recently.

"It's a wonderful and patriotic promotion," he said, "and should inspire a strong competitive interest which will give thousands of Utahans additional opportunity to invest in the Seventh War Loan."

Even as he spoke at a meeting of Utah war finance workers in the Hotel Utah, entries were flooding directors of the contest, and officials predicted the motion picture drive alone will almost put Utah over the top. Nominations for the contest opened Monday (May 7) and unleashed a flood of entries that assures a spirited contest. To become a nominee even, a girl must represent at least $5,000 in E bond sales.

Whole State in Competition

Counties of Utah have issued challenges to each other, as have sections of counties, communities and civic and business organizations. Various wards of the Mormon church are sponsoring their favorites.

Helen Garrity, publicity chairman for the motion picture committee, challenged any theatre group in the country to show where any previous drive anywhere in the country has been organized on the statewide basis that features Utah's Seventh War Loan setup.

"During the past month," she said, "we have gone into every large city, community and hamlet in the state and informed the various directors of community drives of angles in this motion picture contest. And they're all sold on it."

Has Dramatic Appeal

At the committee meeting which was addressed by Gamble, R. W. Coyne of Washington, youthful war finance field director, described the Utah promotion as a "sure-fire method" to encourage investment in bonds. "You have an idea here that has a great personal and dramatic appeal to the people. It is certain to stimulate countless thousands to invest in Seventh War Loan E bonds, simply because Americans like competition—and this provides a dignified but spirited method of competing."

The Utah motion picture drive is being directed by Tracy Barham, chairman. The queen of the contest will be crowned July 4.

Entries are pouring into sectional headquarters from almost every hamlet, country town and large city in the state and each girl entered—that is, officially nominated—represents $5,000 in bonds sold. A late report listed more than 200 girls signed up, although all had not been officially nominated. Each entrant, however, has until Monday (21) to sell or have pledged the $5,000 necessary.

The voting continues until June 20, when tabulations will be completed. Regional contests are scheduled for June 21, with county beauties competing June 26. County winners will compete in the state finals July 4 in Salt Lake. The state bond queen will get a trip to Hollywood, screen test consideration, an opportunity to date the screen star of her choice and be the guest of the major studios.

Frisco Theatres' War Bond Premiere Of "The Clock" Opens the Drive

SAN FRANCISCO—San Francisco motion picture theatres' participation in the Seventh War Loan drive began Monday (14) with a special show at the Paramount Theatre, according to an announcement by Herman Kersken of FWC and Clifford Giesseman of Blumenfeld theatres. The two city managers are in charge of arrangements for Market St. theatres' part in the drive. A war bond premiere of "The Clock," starring Judy Garland and Robert Walker, was held at the Paramount.

Western Area's Bond Shows Are Increasing, Says Thall

DENVER—Charles M. Thall, western area loan coordinator, reports a substantial increase in bond premieres, children's shows and Free Movie Day observances in his territory. During a month's stay in this section he attended a regional meeting in this city and sectional meetings in all western states.

Thall also has set a series of meetings for northern California regions. George Mann, chairman for northern California; Jack O'Loughlin, distributor representative; Fay Reeder, publicity chairman, and Roy Cooper, San Francisco area coordinator, attended meetings in San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, Redding and other California cities.



OREGONIANS RALLY AROUND—More than 125 distributor and exhibitor leaders attended the kick-off luncheon for the Seventh War Loan at the Benson Hotel, Portland. At the speakers' table are: Herb Case; Mark Cory, Oregon distributor chairman; Albert J. Finke, state exhibitor co-chairman; Charles Thall, west coast coordinator; Mayor Earl Riley of Portland; Herman Wobber, western area distributor chairman; E. C. Sammons, Oregon war finance committee chairman; Capt. Robert Augur, released from a Philippines prison camp; Wilby Carl, war finance committee, and Jack Matlack, Oregon state publicity chairman.

WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Mr. and **Mrs. R. C. Clark** arrived in Moab, Utah, in 1912 and entered the theatre business there. Since the death of Mr. Clark 14 years ago, Mrs. Clark has continued to operate their theatre. In 1936 she built a new house, the Ides, which she is now operating. The Ides contains 300 seats. Her son is a doctor in the army. A daughter, Neva, is living at home. It is Mrs. Clark's hobby to take care of and entertain two granddaughters who live with her. Her daughter helps her with the theatre's management, the town's only house.



The firm of Hubbard & Murphy has been actively engaged in theatre management since 1924. In that year **Thomas F. Murphy** and his partner opened the Shuler Auditorium in Raton, N. M. Murphy has been in charge of operations since the company was formed. In addition to the Shuler, Hubbard and Murphy now own the El Raton in Raton, the Luna in Clayton and the El Carbon in Koehler. Murphy Theatres, Inc., owns independently the Rialto, Grove and Palm theatres in Alamosa, and the Princess in Del Norte, all in Colorado.

SAN FRANCISCO

As a result of lifting the curfew, the Warfield, Paramount, State, Esquire and St. Francis theatres have announced they will remain open until 5 o'clock each morning . . . Lily Pons, here for a concert, maintains her formula for keeping herself and voice in first class condition was a four-month tour of war fronts from China and India to Paris and the Rhine. She is quite sure her voice was never better.

Local premieres were held at all first run theatres of "Two Down and One to Go" . . . W. L. Fehner is a new salesman here for Film Classics. Fehner hails from Seattle. His family is coming when he finds a place to put them . . . Hulda McGinn, California Theatre Ass'n, was in Sacramento for a few days. Returned from the state capitol were Al Grubstick and W. Fehner.

Claude Lee, representing the motion picture industry at the security conference here, reports the United Nations Theatre, operated for delegates, is packing them in after a rather slow start. Lee expressed his appreciation of the work being done by Claude Collins, in charge of camera crews filming the conference; Mary Lossee, in charge of documentary screening; Glen Allvine, handling the booking, and all others who are taking part in the industry's participation. Lee expects to remain in San Francisco until the end of the conference and then will stop off at Los Angeles to visit his Paramount home studio before returning east.

Margaret O'Brien and Rita Hayworth were among Hollywood stars shining in San Francisco . . . "Earl Carroll Vanities" made the town both on the stage and screen . . . Vera Leishman left RKO exchange for M-G-M . . . King Trimble, salesman for Universal, is a newlywed. The office gang threw a party for him at the 365 Club . . . Helen Risso is the new switchboard operator at Universal . . . Betty Gamble admits, with a shrug of her shoulders, that she is gaining weight . . . Paula Grubstick is hard at work getting reprints of Film Classic favorites.

Fox Theatre resumed its midnight Singtime Jamborees every Saturday night with Edward Norris at the organ . . . Forty-five families were forced to flee two burning Jackson St. rooming houses when a smoldering cigaret in a restroom of the Mandarin Theatre started a fire . . . Eugene Poplack, manager of the Esquire Theatre, and the boys at Monogram and the Blumenfeld offices, are happy because of the terrific business done by Monogram's "Dillinger." The advertising and publicity campaign for the opening was one for the books.

The girls of the Film Colony Club have opened a campaign to obtain funds to provide aid and recreation to returning service men from the film industry, with especial thought for helping handicapped and crippled veterans in getting a new start in civilian life. In a letter to all top men of the film industry headed "A 'BL$$D TRANSFUSION' Is Needed for a Neglected Child of Your Own Family" the Filmrow girl workers plead: "Let's get together, Filmrow, and give the Film Colony Club of San Francisco a real bl$$d transfusion to carry on this postwar work." The letters are signed by Paula Grubstick, secretary-treasurer.

Row Ramblings: Morris Safier, PRC's western sales manager, returned to Los Angeles after a brief stay here. Safier had completed a national tour of PRC exchanges . . . Sidney Cahen, Roxy Theatre, Visalia, was in town for a short visit. While here he took his Shrine degree . . . Cy Graves, Oak Park Theatre, Sacramento, was here for a few days with his family.

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Many Los Angeles Houses To Precurfew Schedule

LOS ANGELES — Like other theatres throughout the country, local houses were quick to take advantage of the midnight curfew's elimination.

Warner Bros. immediately reinstated Saturday night late swing-shift shows at its Hollywood Theatre, and midnight shows at the Downtown and Wiltern theatres. Fox West Coast has 16 midnight show houses in the metropolitan Los Angeles area. Four of these, United Artists, Egyptian, Chinese and Guild, are open all night only on Saturdays.

Approximately 25 theatres were in a position to benefit by cessation of the curfew and others could find general increase in grosses due to scheduling programs that will run past the former midnight deadline.

Delegates Get a Preview Of Big Summer Releases

SAN FRANCISCO—As a special courtesy to accredited delegates to the peace conference, the United Nations Theatre featured for one week previews of Hollywood's most important screen productions to be released during the coming summer and fall.

Among them were "Rhapsody in Blue" (WB), "Valley of Devision" (M-G-M), "Love Letters," a Hal Wallis production for Paramount with Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten.

SEATTLE

Many events have been scheduled for the Seventh War Loan drive. For the opening day the Music Hall presented the army bond show, "Bonds of Freedom." The entire block in front of theatre was filled with army equipment, guns, tanks, land ducks, etc. There was a military parade in the morning. The theatre was closed all day until the stage show opened in the evening. The cast of the show, all members of the port of embarkation, numbered 250. Two bands were on the stage, with a male singing chorus of 100 and a female chorus of 100. Admission was by purchase of $50 bonds or better; loges $1,000 or better. The kickoff bond was figured to bring in five million dollars.

The second bond show will be held May 24 at the Orpheum Theatre, featuring another army stage show, this time from Ft. Lewis, titled "Kapers in Khaki." This is the same cast who staged "Sons o' Bridges" in the Sixth Loan drive and broke some sort of record with the Seattle theatres selling ten million dollars in bonds for that one show in a $2,500-seat house.

Dave Cantor, exploitation supervisor for RKO, is here from Hollywood and visiting with Earl Keate, northwest exploiteer for the same company . . . Elmer Kenyon, advance representative for Helen Hayes, is in town. She will appear at the Metropolitan at the end of May.

Harold and Martha Jensen have returned home to Salt Lake City after a visit with their son-in-law and daughter here . . . Herb Kaufman left for a conference in Los Angeles on Paramount short subjects.

Tom Shearer jr., recently returned from two years in Iceland with the army quartermaster corps, is now at Ft. Lewis but will leave shortly for special training at Santa Barbara.

Milton Kibbee to Cast of "Tomorrow"

Milton Kibbee has been added to the cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever," an RKO production.

SALT LAKE CITY

Jack Zamsky, Universal Utah salesman, has been transferred to San Francisco . . . Carl Mock, Universal salesman for Idaho, was in San Francisco visiting his daughter . . . Coincidental for the second time this year was the joint visit to Salt Lake of Jack Leewood, Warner field exploitation representative, and Bob Blair of Paramount. Both came from Denver.

Jerry Ross, former master of ceremonies and manager of the Lyric here, now holds the same position in the Showbox cabaret in Seattle . . . Leo Pillot, M-G-M exploiteer now in the armed services, is at Camp Kearns, preparing to go overseas . . . Ted Cook, recently discharged from the army, is the new master of ceremonies at the Lyric succeeding Wally Sherwood.

Joe Rosenfield, owner and manager of the Favorite Amusement Co., was in Salt Lake conferring with Warren Butler, Lyric manager.

Francis Bateman of Los Angeles, western division manager for Republic, was in Salt Lake to confer with Harold C. Fuller, local branch manager, on preliminary arrangements for the observance of Republic's tenth anniversary, scheduled for May 27 to July 27 . . . J. T. Sheffield, head of the Sheffield Republic exchange, was a Salt Lake visitor.

Manager Warren Butler of the Lyric disclosed that John Calvert, magician, broke all records for that showhouse in his five-day appearance. Crowds were so large, the theatre was forced to schedule Calvert for five performances each on Saturday and Sunday instead of the regular four shows.

Charles Coburn, who is on tour of army hospitals and camps, reported during a Salt Lake stop last week that the wounded veterans he visits are raising his morale instead of vice versa. "Those boys are marvelous for taking one's mind off his own petty troubles," commented the star following a visit to Bushnell General Hospital at Brigham City, where he entertained for amputees.

A general cleanup of the Motion Picture Club occupied members of the organization over the weekend, according to Frank H. Smith, Paramount, president . . . Hugh Braly of Denver, district manager of Paramount, was in Salt Lake last week en route from a meeting of Montana exhibitors in Great Falls.

In a shift and promotion of personnel by the local 20th-Fox branch, Roy Pickrell, former sound projectionist, becomes booker; Frank Larsen, former booker, becomes salesman, and Andy Sugden becomes sound projectionist.

There apparently are no lighter-than-air personnel in Utah. Through the Deseret News and a local radio station, Ernest van Pelt, exploitation man for M-G-M in this territory, issued an invitation to anyone with experience in lighter-than-air craft to attend a showing of "This Man's Navy" and tell of experiences with dirigibles and balloons during a three-minute intermission of the show at the Utah Theatre. There was no response to the invitation.

Warners Buy in Seattle

SEATTLE—The Warner Bros. Corp. has purchased the southeast corner lot at Second Ave. and Battery St. here for the postwar construction of a modern theatre building.

Million Dollar Goes To Metropolitan

LOS ANGELES—The Harry Popkin Million Dollar Theatre at Third and Broadway has been taken over by the Metropolitan Theatre circuit. It will be renovated and redecorated by the downtown chain on a long-term lease to start July 1. The newly-acquired house will replace the Tower, which Joe Blumenfeld of San Francisco acquires on July 1 in the local outfit's operation.

Markshas Buys House

CARLSBAD, CALIF. — Morris Markshas has taken over the Sylvia Theatre here, purchased from Mr. and Mrs. John Martese.

Albuquerque House Sold To Emmett Warner, Denver

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. — The Coronado Theatre here now is being operated by Emmett Warner of Denver, district representative for Universal films. Warner bought the house recently from Claude Graves, operator of the El Rey Theatre. Warner continues with Universal.

Single Feature Policy Set For New Phoenix Theatre

PHOENIX, ARIZ.—Single feature programs with selected shorts have been established as the policy for the new neighborhood Palms Theatre which opened here recently under the management of Harry L. Nace. It is located at Virginia St. and N. Central Ave.

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DENVER

The Fox Denver theatres are branching out in other forms of amusement than film. They are sponsoring a series of concerts for the fall and winter in the city auditorium, with Harry Huffman, city manager, in charge. The series is being sold on a season basis. Offerings will include Alec Templeton, Lauritz Melchior, Mischa Elman, Marjorie Lawrence, Norman Cordon, Lawrence Tibbett and Salvatore Baccaloni.

The Rocky Mountain Screen Club is scheduling several affairs for this summer, starting with an auction on a Calcutta golf tournament, which will be held in the clubrooms with a buffet dinner June 8 at 6:30. The golf tournament will be held at the Park Hill Country Club June 12. Bill Agren is chairman of the arrangements. Edith Halmi is chairman of the committee for a dinner dance at Eddie Ott's Broadmoor June 22. Joe Dekker and his committee are making plans for horse riding and a barbecue at the Mississippi stables. The annual picnic and golf tournament has been set for August 14 at the Park Hill Country Club. Bob Hill is general chairman for this event.

The Rocky Mountain Screen Club has elected these new members: John Lindhart, Mayan manager; Robert Grossman, Bluebird manager, and E. W. Gwinn, RKO salesman.

Harry Huffman, Fox Intermountain city manager and executive chairman of the Colorado postwar planning commission, represented Gov. John C. Vivian at a regional meeting in Reno, Nevada . . . Mike Cramer, with Metro 14 years, has been named sales manager of the Denver exchange.

Ned Greenslit, manager of the Aladdin, has returned from the army traveling show. Ralph Lee, who has been manager during his absence, will remain as his assistant.

Sgt. Mickey Gross, former manager of the Orpheum, has returned to that job following three years in the navy, 18 months of which was spent in the far Pacific. Mickey was in the marines, and for several months following his enlistment was attached to the Denver recruiting office. He went through several tough campaigns in the Pacific and is glad to be back in civilian life. He succeeds Mark Alling, who has held the manager job during his absence. Alling returns to San Francisco, where he will manage an RKO theatre.

H. S. Coulter, mayor of Meeker, Colo., has sold the Rio there to Glen B. Wittstruck . . . Howard Metzger, 20th-Fox booker and president of the IATSE Local F29, has joined the navy and left for training at San Diego. He is succeeded as union president by Paul Allmeyer, Paramount booker.

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—— THEATRES ——

June 6 'To Tokyo' Day In Southern California

LOS ANGELES—"On to Tokyo" is the slogan adopted by Gus Metzger's southern California theatre war bond committee and June 6 will be "On to Tokyo" day in 650 theatres of the southland.

The June 6 date formerly was Free Movie Day with all theatres set to participate in a campaign whereby patrons buying bonds on that day would be admitted free. The same arrangement will be carried out under the new designation.

Other highlights in this community's activities on behalf of the "Mighty Seventh":

Speakers Bureau Set Up

Establishment of a speakers bureau through which speakers will be booked at club meetings, including Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, to deliver war loan messages. Speeches will emphasize theatres' part in war loan drive and stress the fact that bonds may be bought at theatres night and day, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays when other bond selling agencies are closed. Plans are under way to utilize the same speakers on radio whenever time is available.

Featuring top stars of radio, stage and screen in person, the all-star bond premiere at Warners' Wiltern was the biggest name show so far lined up in conjunction with the campaign. Headed by Bing Crosby, the show presented Abbott and Costello, Paulette Goddard, Rise Stevens, Rochester, the Andrews Sisters, Carl Hoff and his 30-piece orchestra with Don Wilson as master of ceremonies.

Admission for $100 Up

Admission to the theatre was through the purchase of a war bond in any denomination from $100 to $5,000. Tickets were made available at other first run theatres including Warners' Downtown and Wiltern, Carthay Circle, Uptown, Loew's State, United Artists, Wilshire, Four Star, Ritz, Los Angeles, RKO Hillstreet, Paramount Downtown, Orpheum and Million Dollar. Tickets were available at leading retail department stores, also.

Music Corp. of America organized the show under the direction of Harold Hackett, vice-president, and Cecil Weddefield. Sherrill Corwin coordinated the staging of the two and one-half hour extravaganza.

Thomas Farmer to Idaho

KELLOGG, IDA.—Thomas Farmer, formerly of this city, has arrived from Livingston, Mont., to become assistant manager of the Rene-Liberty theatres here.

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LOS ANGELES

Friends are congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cooperman who are the parents of a baby girl named Judith Carol, born May 10 at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital. Papa is booker for Exhibitor Service Co.

On tour of his division exchanges in celebration of the company's tenth anniversary was Francis Bateman, Republic's west coast division manager . . . Off to New York for National Theatres board of directors meeting were Charles Skouras and Ed Zobel, Fox West Coast, and Sam Shain, aide to Spyros Skouras, who has been here in connection with the Seventh War Loan local campaign.

Visiting friends along the Row was Sgt. Jack Chasen of the Roseland Theatre, Los Angeles. Jack was home on a 15-day furlough . . . Word has been received that Lieut. Norman Retchin has been released from a German prison camp. He's the son of Lester Retchin, former owner of the Lux Theatre.

First bond buyer at the RKO exchange was Sam Ozenoff of the Astor Theatre . . . En route to Beaumont, Calif., on temporary sick leave was Joe Rubenstein, RKO salesman . . . In a huddle with W. E. Callaway, western division manager of United Artists, were President Ed Raftery and General Sales Manager Carl Leserman.

On the Row booking and buying were John Manard sr., Norwalk; Henry Dreher, American Theatre, Newhall, and Hugh Bruin of Whittier . . . Newcomers include RKO Salesman Bob Abelson's family from Minnesota and L. E. Goldheimer, general sales manager and vice-president of Film Classics, New York.

Filmrow extended sympathy to Henry Balk, Monogram salesman, who received word that his son Byron M., former paymaster at Columbia, was killed in action over Germany . . . Off on a three-week jaunt to Salt Lake City, Denver, Cheyenne, Colorado Springs and Albuquerque was Francis Bateman, division manager for Republic. In addition to consulting exchange managers, and exhibitors in connection with "Flame of Barbary Coast," Bateman will concentrate on increased booking dates for the picture together with setting up general plans for the tenth anniversary celebrations to be held throughout the territory.

Harry Vinnicof was back on the Row after a three-week illness . . . Rube Kulla sold his La Tosca Theatre to S. Showbin and M. Rochlin, two showmen from Baltimore, Md. . . . On the Row booking were Mr. and Mrs. William Underhill of 29 Palms; Ralph Perkins of the Mesa, Victorville, and Paul Glick of the Canoga, Canoga Park.

Film Supply House Opens

EVERETT, WASH.—Jim Thain of this city is resident manager of the Everett Motion Picture Co., which opened recently as an outlet through which 8mm and 16mm silent and sound films may be booked or purchased and projectors, appliances and other equipment serviced and repaired.

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More Stars to Chicago For "American Day"

CHICAGO—Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Pat O'Brien and other film notables are scheduled to headline the "I Am an American" day celebration, in Soldier Field Sunday (20) sponsored by the Herald-American. This annual event, which always plays to capacity, rain or shine, will have an unusual number of stars this year, among them returned veterans, military officers, the mayor and governor plus the archbishop of the Chicago Catholic archdiocese and many other dignitaries representing other faiths, who will open the program with prayer.

Two hundred Chicagoans who are becoming citizens will be given the oath of allegiance; there will be a "Pageant of Nations" with several thousand representing the melting pot which is Chicago taking part, while veterans of World War I will be represented by commanders of the American Legion and VFW along with contingents of vets in uniform.

A highlight of the program will be the reenactment of the raising of the American flag over Iwo Jima, the picture of which has become famous.

Admission is free.

Lieut. J. McWhorter Slain In Close of German War

CHICAGO—A recent issue of the War-Ner-Gram, published by the Warner Bros. Chicago zone to provide news from home for former zone employes in the armed services, carried the news of the death in Germany March 22 of Lieut. Jerry McWhorter, former manager of the Hamilton Theatre in Chicago, and of the Tower Theatre in Milwaukee.

Mrs. Louise Braun, 76, Dies At Her Milwaukee Home

MILWAUKEE — Mrs. Louise Braun, 76, mother of Charles H. Braun, manager of the Hartford Theatre, Hartford, Wis., and former manager of a theatre in Milwaukee, died at her home here. She was a lifelong Milwaukee resident. Survivors in addition to Charles, are two sisters, Mrs. Norma Heiser and Mrs. Helen La France.

Operator Chosen Manager Of Vevey, Ind., Theatre

VEVEY, IND.—In addition to his duties as chief operator at the Hoosier Theatre here, Charles Thomas now has taken over the management of the house. It is owned by Mrs. Venus Bakes and operated under lease by her son-in-law, Charles Scott.

C. R. Jackson Remodeling Greenfield, Ind., Theatre

GREENFIELD, IND.—C. R. Jackson has announced remodelling of the State Theatre here probably will be completed and the theatre reopened in about 60 days. A larger screen and other new equipment is being added.

Howard Trumbull to Build New Theatre in Michigan

UNION CITY, MICH.—Howard M. Trumbull, owner and manager of the Reading Theatre, has announced the purchase of a site for a new theatre there to be erected when building conditions permit.

VE Hits Orderliness Peak in Chicago And in Loop Show Business, Too

CHICAGO—Just as VE-Day will go down in history as a red-letter occasion, so it will be marked in the annals of theatre business of Chicago as an all-time record-breaker. There was a waiting line in front of every downtown theatre from early morning until late at night Tuesday, an orderly, patient and sober throng, for Chicago took VE solemnly.

Churches were jammed throughout the day and the theatres were packed.

Even a group of bobby-socksers, hitting the loop en masse, did nothing more than utter a few "rah-rahs" and throw confetti. Though the crowds milled through the downtown area all day, every store, office and other places of employment in the loop having closed shop for the day, there were scarcely any arrests, no signs of drunkenness and no other indication of rowdyism.

Crowd Downtown at 8 a. m.

When the Voice of State Street, the loudspeaker system maintained by the State Street Council, blared forth the national anthem at 8 a. m., there was a crowd downtown. It grew as President Truman's voice was heard. His address was followed by prayers, led by clergymen of various faiths. The crowd stood at attention.

Every downtown store and building was decked with flags. Huge stars and stripes covered every window. Many stores hastily put up barricades before their huge plate glass windows, but there was no need, for the appearance of Old Glory behind the glass would deter anyone from breaking windows.

There was a waiting line in front of all theatres—especially at the Telenews and Today where atrocity films were featured. Sylvan Goldfinger, managing director for Telenews circuit, had to stand in front of his theatre to help handle traffic throughout the day.

Jack Belasco, manager of the Woods, had to double as a traffic cop too, for Randolph St. was jammed, but he, too, reported a singular lack of disorder. Jack Hunt, Oriental, and Bill Holden, Chicago manager, said an unusual number of young people were in the crowds that packed their houses, but they had no complaints about the conduct and the same was said for all B&K and RKO houses.

Restaurants Out of Food

Taverns and bottle goods stores were closed, at the mayor's edict, and so were night clubs and other similar spots, so the holiday crowds had nowhere to go but to the theatres. Restaurants remained open but long before dinnertime most of them were completely out of food, nor could they summon "reserves," such as bread, cakes or cans of hash, for every grocery and bakery, wholesale and retail, was shuttered.

It was indeed a day long to be remembered, not for its jollification but for its solemnity. VE-Day was probably the first all-out holiday in the city of Chicago when nobody was drunk or disorderly, nobody was too noisy, nobody was going anywhere in particular—save to the picture shows and church.

Every police reserve was out just in case, but the policemen were bored to tears.

Sidell Theatre Reopens

SIDELL, ILL.—The Sidell Theatre here reopened recently after a fire caused damages necessitating a week of repair work before programs were resumed.



ST. LOUIS ARRANGES PLANS--Eastern Missouri was well represented at a luncheon held in the Coronado Hotel to arrange plans for the Seventh War Loan. Top, left to right: Fred Soutar, Charles Close, H. M. Richey, Eddie Peabody, Yeoman Shirley Barlow, M. L. Plessner, Chico Marx, Yeoman Carolyn Kerr, Louis K. Ansell.

Bottom, left to right: Albert Stetson, Cpl. George J. Briede, Mrs. George J. Briede, Walter Head, B. J. McCarthy, Boatswain's Mate Paul Frees, John Boles, Sgt. Frances Nunnaly, Fred Wehrenberg, Coxswain John McCord, Sgt. James S. McCann, Clarence Clark.

ST. LOUIS

The motion picture theatres of St. Louis and St. Louis County already have their Seventh War Loan bond drive sales in progress, and present indications are they will roll up the greatest volume of sales ever made in any campaign. For instance, the Ambassador Theatre in the downtown area, had some $45,000 in sales the first week in May.

John J. Griffin, vice-president of the Industrial Bank and Trust Co. and a brother of Mike Griffin, head of the shipping room for Republic Pictures, was the subject of a special feature story in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat based on the fact he belongs to more than 30 civic organizations and attends an average of four meetings a day. His explanation is: "I enjoy it. Some play golf."

Warner Bros.' "Pillow to Post" was given trade screening at the S'Renco screening room May 14 . . . The Zurich group of insurance companies recently were presented the annual safety award of the National Safety Council for the best sound film of 1944 devoted to general safety. The presentation was made by Forrest E. Long, executive manager of the safety council, to Neville Pilling, United States manager of the Zurich companies. The prize winning film was titled "Man-Handled" and was produced by MacDonald Productions of Chicago under the direction of C. F. Scheer, head of the Zurich's safety educational activities. The film deals with the handling of materials, which is the leading source of compensation claims in the industrial life of America.

The Wonderland roller skating rink at 5425 Easton Ave. has been purchased by George A. Delf from M. E. Campbell for $37,500. The former garage building contains a floor area of 24,000 square feet . . . St. Louis film folk were grieved to learn of the recent death of Mrs. M. J. Cunningham, 81, mother-in-law of M. E. Berman, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, Springfield, Ill. . . . The St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra closed its 1944-45 season with a concert at the Kiel Auditorium Opera House . . . The "Y" Players of the Downtown YMCA were scheduled to close their eighth season with the comedy "Feathers in a Gale," May 18 through May 21.

The Rooftop Theatre, Union and Enright Ave., will present three comedies in its third open air season opening June 21. Nine performances will be given, three each in June, July and August . . . The Illinois house of representatives has passed and sent to the senate bills to legalize and tax pari-mutuel betting at harness races in the state. Similar bills were approved by the general assembly two years ago but were vetoed by Gov. Dwight H. Green. Other bills in the Illinois legislative hopper included Senator Mondola's measure to prohibit any person, firm, corporation or association other than the original composers from issuing licenses or other agreements for public performance of copyrighted music numbers unless they obtain a license from the Illinois secretary of state and a bill sponsored by Senators Mills and Wimbish which provides for a state fair employment commission, to be modeled closely after the New York law.

James J. Rick, Missouri state chairman of the National China Relief Commission, acting for Madame Chiang Kai-shek, recently presented a plaque of "appreciation" to Jack L. Warner of Warner Bros. at a ceremony in the Hotel Jefferson here. The plaque was accepted for Warner by Hall Walsh, WB district manager. The "appreciation," Rick said, was for "the helpful and sympathetic presentations of China in Warner Bros. films." Among those present at the presentation were Col. Chu Fui-wong and other officers of the Chinese army . . . Club Royal, a night spot two miles west of Belleville, Ill., has literally gone to the dogs. Effective June 1 it will become a hospital for sick and injured canines. Dr. V. J. Novy, Belleville veterinarian, has purchased the building.

Sgt. Edward J. Stevens, former office manager for Universal here under Harry Hynes, has been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in the Philippine sector. The 25-year-old sergeant, a member of the Fifth air force, was cited for his part in the rescue of wounded following a Japanese air attack on the ship which he was aboard. His home is 3226 Lincoln Ave., East St. Louis.

Sgt. Goodman Eisenberg, 22, formerly on the service staff of the Will Rogers Theatre here, was wounded in action in Okinawa, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Eisenberg, 1324 Belt Ave., have been informed.

Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. houses, was back from the Pacific coast . . . Lieut. Jackie Coogan, former child motion picture star, now a veteran glider pilot in the China-Burma-India war theatre, was here to take part in the war bond show at the Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airport.

Film folk of these parts are interested in Bob Cross' orchestra, sponsored and coached by two Risco, Mo., residents—Ray Curran, former booker for United Artists in St. Louis and currently manager and operating lessee of the Algerian Theatre, Risco, and Anthony E. Allgier, owner of the theatre building and the town's principal financial figure. Ray, old-timers will recall, was banjoist for Gene Rodemich's orchestra at the New Grand Central Theatre some 25 years ago, while Allgier is a gifted pianist.

"Fantasia," the feature-length Walt Disney cartoon which recently closed another engagement at Ruby S'Renco's Art Theatre, has a total of 27 weeks to its credit at that house. That is a real record-breaker for St. Louis. The Art Theatre has a very limited seating capacity, but 27 weeks is 27 weeks in any cinema.

Theatre Man Raps Solon For Atrocities Attitude

MOBERLY, MO.—Louis Sosna, theatre owner, takes Congressmen Max Schwabe of the 2nd Missouri district to task for writing a letter to 64 Missouri newspapers in which the representative said that atrocities committed by the Germans against prisoners "has not been the rule, but the exception."

"We are not concerned about the punishment meted out to individuals who are responsible for the horrors in the German and Japanese concentration camps," the congressman added, "but are concerned about the larger picture, the kind of thought that will prevail in the reconstruction of enemy countries."

In replying in a letter published by the Moberly Monitor, Sosna wrote in part:

"To make light of the atrocities and crimes against humanity, to find excuses such as to call them exceptions rather than the rule, is in truth a travesty . . . Your expressions reek with falsehood . . . Must we remind you that you were elected to represent us in Congress and not in the German reichstag?"

Walter Sande to Play in "Dahlia"

Walter Sande has been assigned a role in "The Blue Dahlia," a Paramount production.

Ainsworth New Governor Of Rotary International

MILWAUKEE—William L. Ainsworth, past president of Independent Theatres, and former executive head of the Rotary Club of Fond du Lac, was elected governor of the



WILLIAM L. AINSWORTH

144th Wisconsin district of Rotary International for the ensuing year beginning July 1. He is the first member of the Fond du Lac Rotary to be elected district governor.

Ainsworth, the new district governor of approximately 40 Rotary clubs in the central, southern, eastern and western parts of the state, is a past exalted ruler of the Elks Lodge in Fond du Lac, and a past state district deputy of the Elks; director of the Wisconsin State Chamber of Commerce; former president of the Fond du Lac Ass'n of Commerce, and the National Ass'n of Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors.

Independent Theatres, Inc., of which Ainsworth is past president, owns and operates theatres in Milwaukee, Racine, Oconomowoc, Mauston and Shawano. He is state chairman of the independent motion picture exhibitors in the state for the Seventh War Loan drive.

Cameramen Show Their War Pictures at Exhibit

CHICAGO—Chicago cameramen who went to the front lines showed their war films and gave talks at the opening of the third annual exhibit of the Chicago Press Photographers Ass'n at the Hotel Sherman. The exhibit will continue through May 27. Colored films of the D-Day landings in Normandy were shown by Jack Lieb, News of the Day cameraman; films of Africa, Tunisia and Italy activities by Jack Barnett, 20th-Fox, and Maryin Barnett, Paramount News, showed scenes of early phases of the Pacific war. Local photographers are displaying 308 of the city's best news pictures.

Indianapolis Fetes School Safety Patrol Members

INDIANAPOLIS — Approximately 2,500 school safety patrol boys were honored here as a part of the nationwide observance of National School Patrol safety rally day. The boys, who are chosen each year to guard the lives of their fellow pupils, were guests at a free show at Loew's, arranged by Todd Stoops, secretary-manager of the Hoosier Motor Club, and Boyd Sparrow, Loew's manager.

Your response is deeply appreciated

C. D. Lief

in behalf of the entire personnel of the St. Louis branch, Columbia Pictures

JOE ANSELL
LOU ANSELL
RUSSELL ARMENTROUT
HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR.
ROSALIND ARTHUR
J. H. BACHER
T. J. BANKHEAD
SOL BANKS
GEORGE BARBER
FRANK BARNES
GEORGE BEAVER
EMIL BEBERMEYER
JOHN BECK
BECK & MARCO
C. BECKMEYER
CAESAR BERUTT
RINO BIANCHI
JESSE BIZZELL
TOM BLOOMER
ART BLUM
HARRY BLOUNT
GUS BOEHMLER
TOM BRACKER
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RAY CURRAN
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JOE GOLDFARD
CHARLIE GOLDMAN
BASIL GREEN
MARVIN GRIFFIN
FLOYD GRIFFITH
SAM HALLOWELL
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J. W. HART
JOHN HAYTON
C. K. HEIDBREDER
FLOYD HILL
HENRY HIRTH
MRS. ALPHA HISEY
WILLIAM HOFFMAN
SAM HOPE
PAUL HORN
HARRY HORNING
J. E. HUSTON
OTTO INGWERSON
TOM JAMES
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LEON JARODSKY
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CHARLES MOUNDS
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J. C. MURPHY
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ROBERT NEELEY
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E. H. WIECK
MRS. D. E. WILLIAMS
TOM WILLIAMSON
ROBERT H. WILSON
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BILL ZIMMERMAN
ANDREW ZOTOS
T. ZWERMANN
HOWARD ZULOFF

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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

MILWAUKEE

Fred Stein, back in Milwaukee after an absence of 11 years, functions in an executive spot with Fox Wisconsin. He came here from the coast where he was with National Theatres. He was a coproducer of "Officer's Club," a film on Nazi mistreatment of women, featuring Simone Simon, Nancy Kelly, Eric Von Stroheim and Anna Sten.

"Miss Wisconsin of 1944," Elsie Sutter, heads the "Court of Queens," 24 Milwaukee girls from war plants who will serve as hostesses to the wounded veterans who are to be guests at the Auditorium, at the "Caravan of Stars" show June 16-17. Stage, screen and radio stars will appear.

That pseudo Russian accent gets Johnny Matis, Alhambra manager, into difficulties. The other night Lillian Kupersmith and a friend were passing the theatre while "Stalin" Matis was supervising canopy changes. Lillian's friend commented: "How long has that fellow been in this country? What an odd accent. And no beard."

Ben Marcus, S&M circuit, was seen in conference with Joe Strother . . . Hugo Vogel, theatrical equipment genius, has been imparting extra touches to his mustache lately . . . In town for the board confab of the ITO of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan were John P. Adler, president, Marshfield; Charles Trampe, vice-president, Milwaukee; George Langheinrich, treasurer, Milwaukee; William Smith, Menomonie; William L. Ainsworth, Fond du Lac; George Panka, Prairie du Chein; Raynold Black, Edgerton; George Fischer, West Allis; Russell Leddy, Green Bay.

Edward Harris Heth, Milwaukee novelist, who sold a story to 20th-Fox for plenty, is expected to return to Wisconsin this summer for the purchase of a farm. He'll give a look at some of Ted Mueller's efforts while here. Mueller directs the Milwaukee Historical Museum.

Eddie Lurie, here advancing "Dillinger," reported high grosses in all spots played . . . State Fair Park opened with a new paint job . . . Milwaukee Sentinel carriers are kept happy Friday nights with 16mm productions furnished by Winnie De Lorenzo. The sheet found this a slick method of keeping carriers on the bright side, and on the pay roll.

Pvt. Oscar Martay, who recently graduated from a composite school unit at Camp Ritchie, Md., was in town for a short stay. He visited former buddies at National Screen. His brother, Sgt. Leo Martay, former NSS poster clerk, was one of the first to cross the Rhine via the Remagen bridge into Germany. Leo, who wears two battle stars and a Purple Heart, is credited with the capture of 29 Germans. A belt buckle saved his life by deflecting a missile. His brother Oscar expects his new assignment will be as interpreter and interrogator overseas.

L. F. Gran, Standard Theatres biggie, returned from New York . . . And Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, is turning cartwheels. On June 15, flesh returns to the house with Lionel Hampton's band. Following the "Hamp" in rapid-fire order: Skinnay Ennis, Sammy Kaye, Lawrence Welk, the Ink Spots, Louis Prima, Vaughn Monroe, the Mills Bros., Frankie Carle, Artie Shaw, Duke Ellington.

Beverly Kurth, former secretary to Johnnie Mednikow at National Screen, has been succeeded by Arla June Anderson . . . Sam Riskin, 20th-Fox maintenance man, cigared the boys. It was a son named Allen Lewis . . . Al Kvool shifted his golfing activities from Tuckaway to North Hills. Ben Poblocki, the sign man, will breath easier as a result. Ben knows every blade of grass at Tuckaway.

Orange Blossoms: Frances Zarse, Paramount utility clerk, and Ervin Zinda, United Artist shipper, at St. Gall's Church . . . Universal's "That's the Spirit" premiered at the Warner May 17 . . . Mae Dalton 20th-Fox ad sales manager, had a birthday . . . As reported in this column over a month back, the Rialto at Edgerton left the protective wing of Theatre Service.

Each time Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, attends a bond meeting, photos are taken and Eddie receives one. And each time Eddie does not appear in the picture. At the kickoff for the Seventh War Bond drive Eddie was so close to the camera that Kuli missed him again. For future luncheons Eddie will carry his personal photographer.

Why is it that Norman Ebron and his terrific small combo at Uptown Pink Pig ruin their music with "under the counter lyrics?" . . . Now we understand why our informants failed to mention Ben Poblocki's name relative to that golf game. Ben's side won the sugar and Don Woods hasn't been heard from since. Why don't you fellows get Ben away from Tuckaway?

Booking on the Row: Bob Guiterman, Capitol, Manitowoc; Ray Lenz, Pastime, Horicon; George Panka, Metro, Prairie du Chein; William Ainsworth, Fond du Lac.

Two new ushers at the Oriental are Donald Burbach and Walter Meka . . . A symposium on editing, featuring and screening a film, highlighted the recent Amateur Movie Society of Milwaukee meeting . . . Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, said plans were still under consideration for Milwaukee's place in the 20th-Fox television sun.

Have you heard about the projectionist that sidelines in cooking? . . . Speaking of vandalism, four culprits ripped four seats in the Franklin from their moorings, carted them outside the theatre, smashed the seats and threw the parts through the screen. They paid for the seats and the screen damage.

Lou Orlove, Metro publicist, still scours the state for obsolete theatre equipment for his Orlove museum project. Some rare stuff has been unearthed . . . Howard Schneeweis, former Alhambra assistant, has been handling identical chores at the Oriental . . . Marion Fiss, secretary to Don Woods, Warner manager, got in a bit of her favorite pastime, horseback riding.

Charlie Braun, Hartford Theatre, Hartford, attended the Metro luncheon at Hotel Schroeder. Milt Ellis, Beloit, was on hand with fancy word tossing . . . Your columnist walked into George Edgerton's office and came out with a fat book of ducats to peddle

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!



RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!

THE FAMOUS Playhouse in St. Petersburg, has been host to all the Great Names—but never to crowds like "MOM AND DAD" attracted. Manager Boardman sent in this picture, commenting ". . . and this went on for an entire week!!!" Have you booked it???

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

HYGIENIC PRODUCTIONS
Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

offering chances on war bonds. The proceeds will aid Reel Fellows Club in handling the orphan's picnic. Only ten cents a chance! The phone number is BR 2362; ask for Gahagan.

When "The Belle of the Yukon" played the Riverside, Eddie Weisfeldt noted repairman ripped things up in the street and all but sold city fathers on utilizing "Men Working" signs as 40x60 frames for "Belle."

At Tuckaway Country Club, Ben Poblocki, that "Irish" sign man, hosted branch managers and the Reel Fellows at golf, cards and dinner May 18 . . . George Fischer, president of Reel Fellows, said the organization plans sponsoring charitable needs, both among members and outside charities. The orphan's picnic will be the first event.

Irving Deer of the Hays organization was in town, and attended the Metro luncheon . . . Mike Colla and Little Joe De Georgio were all washed, shaved and polished for Jerry Wald's band at George Devine's dance palace. But comes VE-Day and the palace closes . . . Hy Cohen of the Tosa and Eddie Weisfeldt have bookings on their comedy skit, but everybody wants to get into the act. They'll try things out some amateur night.

"GI Honeymoon" was written by A. J. Rubien, son of William B. Reuben of Milwaukee . . . Sgt. Oliver Trampe, son of Charlie Trampe, Monogram manager, is a busy MP in the armed forces . . . Ben Poblocki has three sons in the armed forces. Jerry just became a navy man. Barney is in the air corps at Chanute Field and Ray is in the air corps in the Philippines.

Wilbur Schwandt, Appleton musician, formerly guitarist and arranger with Dave Miller's Riverside house band, has been making good on the coast . . . At the Empress, "flesh" theatre, Charley Fox featured Annette Allen, as the "Blond Venus" and veteran Jack Lamont who has been in pictures . . . "I Am an American," the film produced by the immigration and naturalization service of the department of justice, was shown at public library, advancing "I Am an American" day.

Double Pay on Roadshows And New Year's Morning

CHICAGO—The War Labor Board handed down a decision, signed by E. B. McNutt, wage stabilization director, declaring that the Warner Bros. circuit must pay projectionists double time for work after midnight on New Year's Eve showing "The Song of Bernadette" in the Capitol, Stratford and Avalon theatres. The projectionists also will receive double pay for roadshowing performances of "Wilson." The rate is $3.57, on this basis.

The decision stated: "This ruling is based on the representations made in the application and supplements thereto that it has been customary practice in the motion picture industry in Chicago prior to Oct. 27, 1942, to increase the rate to $3.57 for New Year's Eve performances and roadshowings such as those involved in the application, in which the top admission price, including federal tax, is $1."

The ruling was made on a specific request presented by Eugene Atkinson, business manager of Local 110, and was not to be construed as a precedent.

Dezel Gets "Busters"

CHICAGO—A deal for distribution of the entire series of Range Busters, westerns, for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin territories was concluded here by Albert Dezel Roadshows with Royal Pictures Co., Sam Kaplan, manager, announced. Royal was represented by Sam Hersh and Louis Goldman, who came on from the west coast. The series originally was released by Monogram.



BON VOYAGE FOR SHUMOW—After being given an indefinite leave of absence by M-G-M, due to ill health, Harry Shumow, Milwaukee branch manager, was feted by the entire Metro personnel, above, at a farewell dinner. Shumow has been with the company for the last two decades. In the inset, Joe Malits, president of the Metro Pep Club, presents a scroll to Shumow that bears the signature of all the employes.

Shumow to Take Rest; 20 Years in Harness

By JAMES GAHAGAN

MILWAUKEE—At Hotel Schroeder here the Metro Pep Club, under the direction of Joe Malits, president, staged a farewell party for Harry Shumow, branch manager who departs shortly on an extended leave of absence due to ill health. On behalf of all Metro employes, Malits presented a scroll to Shumow bearing the signatures of all in the Milwaukee branch.

It's not very often that one can get all local Metro employes together for an event, what with war activities, salesmen working the territory, and other duties, but for this evening every last one of them pushed aside other demands, and paid tribute to their boss.

However, as Malits and several others phrased it: "Mr. Shumow was not a boss. He was always a personal friend. Not only in the matter of business routine, but, during the time he functioned as branch manager in Milwaukee, he was a constant advisor to all of us."

And this same feeling of friendship and understanding existed between Shumow and all of the exhibitors with whom he did business; with all the boys in distribution, and with his many friends, both in and out of the motion picture business.

Shumow, who has been in show business for over 20 years, gained a host of friends, and during his regime at the Milwaukee branch added many more to the list. All hope for a speedy recovery for this human dynamo, whose health has not been up to par during recent years.

John G. Kemptgen, who will take his place, was introduced. Kemptgen formerly was relief manager here when Shumow was on leave of absence previously due to ill health.

Radio Station Sues Club To Protect Program Name

ST. LOUIS—One of the first legal actions in this section based on a radio station's claim to ownership of a program title has been brought in the United States district court for the eastern district of Illinois at East St. Louis by the owners of radio station KWK, against the Johnny Perkins Playdium, East St. Louis night club.

The station endeavored to obtain an injunction to prevent Perkins from further presentation of a program billed as "Coon Creek Boys" or any name "deceptively similar thereto." It contends that it started a radio act by that name in July 1942, and that the air act has been heard continuously over KWK since its radio premiere under the title of "Coon Creek Boys."

When the staff musicians employed in the act refused a staff contract under Form B, as required by the musicians' union, according to the station's petition, it began to build up a new unit to take over the program under the same name. Recently some members of the original "Coon Creek Boys" opened a program at Perkins' nightery, and called themselves "Coon Creek Boys." This resulted in the station's suit. The station contends the defendants are not only injuring the station's reputation and goodwill but will be enriched to the station's damage in an amount believed to be in excess of $25,000. Perkins has been granted 21 days in which to file an answer to the KWK suit.

Stevens and Carrillo to "Mexicana"

Jean Stevens, dancer, and Leo Carrillo have been added to the cast of "Mexicana," a Republic production.

Powell to Play "The Hoodlum Saint"

William Powell has been set for the title role in "The Hoodlum Saint," a Metro production.

CHICAGO

Sylvan Goldfinger, standing beside his lobby teletype, scored a first in getting the news of the lifting of the curfew and the racing ban. Goldie scooped the local radio and newspapers, for he had a bulletin out in front of the theatre in a jiffy via a speedball artist . . . Jack Lieb, Metro newsreel man, was a busy fellow on VE-Day. He and his crew shot pictures and had them on the screens the next morning . . . Louis B. Mayer and Howard Strickling, M-G-M moguls, were stopovers going west to east . . . Joseph Odendthal, manager of the Telenews, and Mrs. Odendthal had a visit from the stork VE-Day. The name is Shirley Ann.

M. M. Rubens, the Great States publicologist, was the guy who thought of using Old Glory in profusion on all show windows for VE-Day. His idea, which he suggested six months ago, was carried out throughout the city and he can take bows. It, briefly, was that if the flag were in the window, celebrators would be careful not to go crashing against it, nor throw any stones in their spirit of jollification.

Ralph Maw and J. S. Kemptgen were in town for a confab with Sam Shirley and Jack Flynn. Kemptgen went on to Milwaukee to take over as branch manager for M-G-M and Maw to Omaha where he is the new district manager. Then Shirley and Flynn, with Bill Bishop, local exploiteer for Leo the Lion, left for a business jaunt through Omaha, Des Moines and Minneapolis . . . Carter Blake, eastern casting director for Columbia, was in town for several days to look over motion picture talent.

George W. Busch, booking manager for RKO, and his wife Gladys were kidnaped in their own car by bandits who forced them to drive from Western and Augusta Blvd. to a quiet spot where the couple was robbed of $110 watch and a billfold containing checks and money. The robbers then added insult to injury by ordering them out and stealing the car.

The Daily News and the Times eliminated theatre and other amusement advertisements to come out with a special VE-Day edition . . . The curfew's lifting put midnight shows back into RKO's Palace and Grand. The Oriental resumed late shows, starting Saturday and B&K got back on the late schedule with their change of program. The Woods once more is open from 6 a. m. until almost the next dawning; the Astor again runs until 5:30 a. m., the Garrick until 3 a. m., and the Clark until 3:30, thus giving a place to roost for swingshift workers and the usual crowd that never wants to go home.

Glen Burt, veteran showman who resigned as steward at Variety Club several weeks ago due to ill health, is back in harness again with the Barnes & Carruthers agency booking and routing acts . . . Van Johnson will be here for the bond drive through the efforts of his pal, Keith Lawrence, Hollywood writer who is on lend-lease here to the local treasury office . . . M. J. Lipp of Midwest Poster returned from a visit to his new Independent exchange in Minneapolis.

Continuing its revival series, the Art Institute showed "Love Finds Andy Hardy," 1938 vintage, for its children's free show last week . . . Jean Hersholt was here to celebrate with locals the liberation of Denmark. He spoke at an American Denmark relief rally.

Max Beck, father of Howard Beck of M-G-M's sales department, has taken over the Tiffin, formerly of the Lynch chain . . . Extra gasoline rations are being doled out to filmoguls who are helping with the war loan drive, but so far no provision has been made for performers who go hither and yon to take part in the bond programs.

The Daily News and the Times eliminated theatre and other amusement ads on VE-Day . . . Grant D. Fitch, from Mills Industries headquarters, has been named office executive for Soundies, Inc., here.

How art is taught in Chicago schools was demonstrated via television on WBKB, B&K station, last week, the performers being kindergarteners from the Lafayette school . . . Film handlers Local B45 is asking a ten per cent raise, since the WLB okayed it, making it retroactive to Dec. 1, 1942. Sam Lamasky, executive secretary, is negotiating new contracts with distributors.

J. J. Kimbriel, Oklahoma Theatre Supply; J. E. Peck, Missouri Theatre Supply, and Will Porter, Stebbins Theatre Supply—the latter two both from Kansas City—were visiting on the Row.

Henrietta Wenzel, pride and joy of the National Screen trailer department for 16 years, is all smiles these days. Her hubby, Sgt. Peter Wenzel, is back in civvies after two years duty with Uncle Sam . . . Jim Booth, Essaness booker, and Mrs. Charles Lindau, wife of Charles Lindau, Kedzie Theatre and Annex owner, celebrated VE-Day in great style in their separate ways. Each won a case of liquor raffled off by Henri Elman as a money-raising gag for his pet charity, North Shore Temple.

W. Van Gelder, Row insurance man, received a cable two days after The Netherlands were liberated that his brother and wife and two nieces at Eibergen were safe . . . M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington" played 60 neighborhoods simultaneously, mostly solo, last week, and did okay . . . Morrie Salkin, the popcorn king, is passing out cigars (an announcement says) because his cat Poppy Corn had three little kernels.

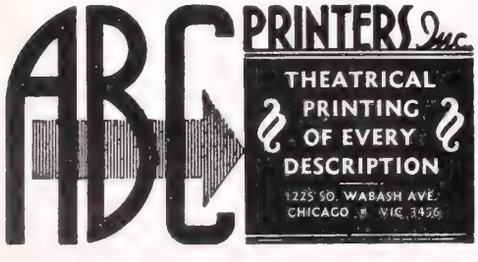
Nick Chiou has taken over the Ogden from Edward Cooney. Now Nick has two houses, the other being the Charm . . . Sammy Embers is busy again handicapping the races for other Rowites in his free time . . . Sophie Tucker's brother died unexpectedly in the east and within a half hour she was out of the Chez Paree and in a plane flying home to Hartford, with Willie Shore, current at the Chicago, going gack once more to the Chez to take over for her during her absence.

Fred Olson, business manager for the stagehands local, has recovered from an illness and is on the job again . . . Chicago Theatre Supply put all new booth equipment into the Main Armitage Ave., operated by Sam Chernoff . . . Bell & Howell is building a huge recreation and athletic field for employes of the three B&H plants. The spot will be near Lincolnwood . . . The Great States Belasco at Quincy had to be closed for repairs following the big windstorm there.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



I. J. Schmertz With Fox Longest of All

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—It sounds contradictory to say that I. J. Schmertz is celebrating his 37th year with the 20th-Fox Corp. organization when the company of that name is only holding its 30th birthday anniversary, but it is nevertheless true. You see, Schmertz stepped straight from school into the office of William Fox, at that time head of the Greater New York Film Rental Co. As in all American success stories, he started as the office boy. There were plenty of ladders back in 1905 and Izzie soon started to climb the Fox ladder to an executive position, but he always stayed on the same ladder.



I. J. SCHMERTZ

When William Fox sold his Greater New York Film Rental Co. to General Film and formed Boxoffice Attractions, Schmertz was made manager of the office. That was in New York. After Boxoffice Attractions became the Fox Film Corp. Schmertz continued to take on more and more responsibility in the distribution field. He opened and managed the company's branch in Albany for ten years. It was in Albany that the team of Schmertz and Bergman was formed, Schmertz as branch manager, and Edwin R. "Eddie" Bergman as salesman, a team that was transferred 16 years ago from Albany to Cleveland.

So far as is known, Schmertz has been with 20th-Fox and its immediate predecessors longer than any one, including its top men. He has maintained a reputation of integrity, good judgment and loyalty.

Commenting on the fact that his association with the company is older than the company itself, Schmertz said this was the only job he ever had, and although he has nothing to prove it, it is his private opinion that it looks like a permanent connection.

Flies to Bootsy's Last Rites; Dog Was a Film Fan

MILWAUKEE—That dog Eddie Lurie prized so much, Bootsy, died, and Manning Silverman of the Ogden and Eddie planed in to attend the funeral. Following a telegram Eddie received in Canton, Ohio, reporting the dog's demise.

A real funeral it was, too, with a wake and Bootsy wrapped in a woolen blanket.

Some years back this fine dog, noted for watching pictures, sat all through "Gone With the Wind" at the Bay Theatre, Green Bay. Later Bootsy saw another picture at the theatre, accompanied by Master Lurie. Hearing of the event, Bill Geehan asked if Bootsy liked that one as much as "Gone With the Wind."

Charles Dyas Now Mayor

OTTAWA, ILL.—Charles Dyas, Earlville theatre owner, recently was elected mayor. He was unopposed.

Van Zandt and Lloyd in "Bandleader"

Philip Van Zandt and Jimmy Lloyd were inked for featured roles in "I Love a Bandleader," a Columbia production.

VE-Day Bolsters Poor Week at Chicago

CHICAGO—A lot of rain would have made last week a sad one for the theatres if VE-Day hadn't come along to bolster up receipts. Otherwise the week was spotty, due largely to the inclement weather, for if it wasn't raining it looked like it might. The Roosevelt had a strong opening with "I'll Be Seeing You" following a strong tub-thumping campaign. The RKO Palace was strong with "Enchanted Cottage" and the Woods reported that "Flame of the Barbary Coast" held up in a big way.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 4th wk.....100
Chicago—**Practically Yours** (M-G-M), plus Willie Shore, Louis Jordan on stage.....125
Garrick—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M).....110
Grand—**Prisoner of Zenda** (FC); **Garden of Allah** (FC), reissues.....105
Oriental—**Strange Illusions** (PRC), plus Bonita Granville, Tommy Tucker on stage.....125
Palace—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ).....120
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA).....120
State-Lake—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 4th wk.....100
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 19th wk.....110
United Artists—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....110
Woods—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep), 3rd wk.....115
World Playhouse—**Zoya** (Artkino), 2nd wk.....105

Dorsey Orchestra Tops Attractions In Dull Week in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS — Adverse weather has proved a decided drawback to the theatre business all over the city. Jimmy Dorsey headed the downtown list at the Circle.

Alamo—**Great Stage Coach Robbery** (Rep); **There Goes Kelly** (Mono).....90
Circle—**What a Blonde** (RKO), plus Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra on stage.....120
Indiana—**Bring On the Girls** (Para).....100
Loew's—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M).....100

Don Wilson New Manager Of Three Illinois Theatres

OTTAWA, ILL.—Don F. Wilson, formerly of Long Beach, Calif., has assumed his new duties as manager of the three Ottawa houses of the Alliance Theatre Corp. Wilson succeeded Harold S. Kuntsen, who was transferred to Roseland, Ill., to take charge of three theatres recently acquired by the Alliance in that city.

Wilson, a native of Chicago, has been in the newspaper, publicity and theatrical business since his graduation from Purdue University. Before going to Long Beach as manager of a theatre there he was publicity representative for USO-Camp Shows for two years.

Greenfield, Ind., Theatre To Reopen About July 1

GREENFIELD, IND.—C. R. Jackson, manager of the State Theatre, badly damaged by fire in February, has announced repair and remodeling work probably will be completed for a reopening of the house about July 1.

New Sound Facilities in At Kendallville Theatre

KENDALLVILLE, IND.—New RCA wide range high fidelity sound equipment has been installed by Manager Frank Templin at the Strand Theatre here.

Newcomer Signs Warner Long-Term

Edward Thomas Kelly jr., a newcomer at the Warner studio, has signed a long-term contract.

INDIANAPOLIS

Ernie Pyle's film has been requested by Gov. Ralph F. Gates for a world premiere in Indianapolis. As Pyle was a native Hoosier, the chances are considered good that the governor's request will be accepted, although service men in the Pacific are likely to get the first look at the picture.

Joe Schilling, Connersville veteran exhibitor, celebrated a birthday recently. Friends inquiring his age receive a smile and nothing more . . . Salesman Max Meadows of Universal spent Mothers' Day at home in Dawson Springs, Ky . . . Vernon Elmes is the new head shipper at Universal . . . Universal salesmen attended a special meeting at the Universal exchange in Cincinnati May 14-15.

Joe Neger, 20th-Fox sales manager, is vacationing in the east . . . Exhibitors on Filmrow included Abe Kaufman, Fountain, Terre Haute; Victor Burkle, Rialto, Fortville; Arthur Clark, Vonderschmitt circuit, Bloomington; Max Factor, Alliance Corp., Chicago; William Studebaker, Logan, Logansport; Bruce Kixmiller, Bicknell; A. E. Austin, Austin, Versailles, and Raymond C. Thomas, Princess, Newbury . . . A. A. Allen sold his Ace Theatre, Brandenberg, to E. L. Ornstein, who operates the Rialto at Marengo and the State Theatre at Milltown . . . Betty Whetstein is new addition to the 20th-Fox office staff.

John Austin, son of A. E. Austin, has been discharged from the army . . . Louis Stuerle, Broadway, Louisville, shows some improvement at gin rummy. His recent record shows four victories over Indianapolis salesmen and 28 defeats . . . Mannie Marcus, head of Marcus Enterprises, visited his holdings in Cincinnati and Dayton . . . Henry Reise of the Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., Louisville, is renewing his acquaintance with the horse shoer at Churchill Downs . . . Robert Arnold and Roy Palmer, Warner auditors, were checking the local exchange . . . Local F35, front office employes union, has reached an agreement with exchange officials for the paying of the increase in wages granted by the War Labor Board.

Keith's Theatre, combination picture and vaudeville house, has closed for the summer . . . Sgt. Daniel C. Penrod, former salesman for Republic, was wounded in the left hand in Germany . . . Indianapolis blazed forth in all its glory Tuesday, but cancellation of the curfew exerted little effect on the local citizenry. Public night life in Indianapolis tapers off after midnight anyway because of the state's 12 o'clock deadline on liquor sales.

The Zaring Theatre observed its ten-year-old custom of admitting free every mother over 50 coming to the theatre on Mothers' Day.

Audrey Long Features in "Wasteland"

Audrey Long has been assigned the featured feminine role in "Wanderer of the Wasteland," an RKO production.

Variety Benefit to Add $60,000 for LaRabida

Chicago—It looks like $60,000 will be realized on the Variety Club benefit show, which was staged this year as a memorial to Hal Halperin, according to Jack Rose, Variety treasurer. Every one of the 3,000 seats in the Civic Opera House was filled for the big show, and most of the film biggies came in with $1,000 donations each. The huge success makes LaRabida, Jackson Park Sanatorium for child heart cases, much richer.

Team 5 Wins Laurels In Milwaukee League

MILWAUKEE—Team No. 5 won high season's honors in the IATSE Bowling League. Final standings gave No. 8 second place and No. 3 third.

Elmer Klase was high on the individual list with 78 games won and an average of 183-53.

Other standings:

Three-game high: No. 5, 2,736; No. 2, 2,637. Single game high: No. 1, 983; No. 5, 976; No. 7, 963.

Three-game high: Klase, 662; Harry Eifert and George Mace, 653. Single game: George Brader, 267; also second and third.

Mace finished the season in second place with 90 games, and an average of 181-8; Ray Kieren, 75 games, and 175-1; Spots Methenitis, fourth with 42 games and 174-32; Brader, 99 games, and 171-88. Other high men were Robert Lucht, Roger Mace, Arthur Weaver, William Reagan, Harry Eifert, Otto Trampe, William Morgan, Leo Sasse, Edwin Bigelow, Ray Smith, Chester Millis, Alfred Neuendorf, Sam Hoenig.

TEAM STANDINGS

	Won	Lost	Pct.	Avg.
No. 5	65	40	619	806-92
No. 8	64	41	609	786-14
No. 3	56	49	535	791-57
No. 7	53	52	505	787-5
No. 4	51	54	486	776-90
No. 2	48	57	457	790-31
No. 6	45	60	429	783-47
No. 1	38	67	361	765-7

Spook Garb Bodily Spirited From Palace Theatre

MILWAUKEE—There were strange things going on both on stage and backstage at the Palace Theatre. In addition to the regular fare of pictures, a flesh shocker, "Asylum of Horrors," was presented on stage. Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Toledo, hung five spook costumes backstage between performances. But the costumes disappeared just before an afternoon performance. However, spooks weren't blamed for the theft, as two small lads were seen racing down the alley near the Palace by H. Bosel, manager. Detectives searching for them said the costumes were valued at $100.

The Fanchon & Marco Case Now Under Advisement

JEFFERSON CITY, MO.—Division one of the Missouri supreme court has under submission the case of Fanchon & Marco vs. Thomas N. Dysart et al, following arguments by counsel.

A Navy Show on WBKB

CHICAGO—Sol Bobrov, navy, former concert master of the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra and one-time NBC staff musician, was one of the highlights of the navy's television program, the Recruiters, aired by WBKB, the B&K television station. Besides Bobrov, the show included "The South Sea Islanders," trio of Filipino sailors noted for their guitar proficiency.

Dick Powell to Play RAF Flier

Dick Powell of RKO has been signed to star in "Cornered," an original by Ben Hecht, Czenzi Ormonde and Herman Mankiewicz and set for production by Adrian Scott with Edward Dmytryk directing. Powell's role will be that of a two-fisted, honorably discharged RAF flier engaged in the hazardous adventure of tracking down a war criminal in South America. Filming is scheduled to start early in May.

Two Managers Step Up In Y&W Theatre Chain

BLOOMINGTON, IND.—Victor Sicilia, city manager for the Y&W Management Corp. here for more than a year, has been transferred to Muncie to manage five theatres operated by the corporation there. Roy R. Eshelman, manager of the Harris Grand, has been advanced to city manager of the Bloomington properties, which also includes the Princess. Charles Welch, manager of the Royal Theatre in New Castle, will become manager of the Harris Grand.

Double Features Gain In Twin City Theatres

From Midwest Edition

MINNEAPOLIS—Double featuring is increasing among Twin City independents to such an extent that many neighborhood and suburban houses even are using the twin bills on Sundays. So far, however, the Minnesota Amusement Co. has steered clear of the double features in its outlying theatres.

Last Sunday even the St. Louis Park, the Twin Cities' largest and most beautiful suburban house, advertised double features, the pictures being "Circumstantial Evidence" and "Nothing But Trouble."

Important theatres which double featured last Saturday included the Robin, playing "Bachelor Mother" and "Fighting Lady" (the latter also was double featured by the Minnesota Amusement Co. at its "A" houses, the State and Century, downtown), the LaSalle, Northtown, Alhambra, Ritz, East Lake, etc.

Twin City independent exhibitors always have been foes of double featuring and it wasn't so long ago that they confined their double featuring to Saturday midnight shows. Gradually they started to twin bill on Fridays and later on Wednesdays.

Many of the independents who now are double featuring assert they have been driven to it by product shortage. Unavailability of "A" pictures on many changes compels the use of "B" and lower classification releases and it's necessary to double feature these latter, they claim. Also, the exhibitors are fighting percentage by passing up percentage pictures in favor of dual "B" bills, it's pointed out.

Resume Film Showings

EDINBURG, IND.—After nearly a year without a theatre here, films again were being shown in the Masonic Temple, rebuilt after a disastrous fire last June.

Milwaukee Quack Artists Real Boxoffice Material

Milwaukee — Gertie, the nonchalant duck that has been raising her brood on piling of the Wisconsin Ave. bridge near the Riverside Theatre, may become a major local boxoffice attraction.

Gertie has been offering so much competition that Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, has evolved plans to fence off part of the bridge and Gimbel's board walk and install a ticket seller, naming the new project the Riverside Annex.

In the windows of the bridge tender's house on Mothers' Day, the Riverside manager displayed cards and flowers sent Gertie by local admirers. If Gertie continues to retain her hold on the public Eddie plans to install the entire duck family on a houseboat moored near the bridge.

Quick Switch to Late Shows After Lifting of Ban

MILWAUKEE—With the raising of the brownout and midnight curfew, local theatres scheduled midnight shows over the weekend.

Weekend business brought the greatest boxoffice stepup at the first runs. Neighborhoods not materially affected by the brownout when ruled originally in turn were not affected to any extent by the lift.

Local taverns and night clubs were happy about the whole thing. They'll catch that after theatre business again.

On VE-Day local theatres were busy readjusting schedules for late shows, if they held them before the ban.

One night spot on the day of the lifting of curfew had a waiting line as long as a cigaret line. And, when queried, most of these people reported they were just coming from the theatre. One spot, which remained open after midnight when the curfew was on to serve food, added an extra floor show.

Famous Players Plans Production of Shorts

From Canadian Edition

VANCOUVER—Famous Players has under consideration a plan to enter production, first with a program of 15 short subjects on Dominion documentary themes. Company executives are not in a position to issue an official announcement as yet, because a number of details remain to be worked out. The shorts will be released through Paramount, which owns a substantial interest in Famous Players Canadian Corp.

Civic Group Seeks Better Kid Shows

MILWAUKEE—Improvement in the quality of juvenile film entertainment is the goal of the Shorewood-Whitefish Bay civic committee in charge of children's special Saturday film programs, Mrs. D. Perry Blount jr. said at a meeting of the Milwaukee County Better Films Council.

"More and more children at lower and lower ages attend movies, but little is done to provide suitable pictures," she said. "This project, sponsoring special picture for children, was undertaken to bring in higher grade films for juveniles."

The committee selects features from lists recommended for children of eight years and over. A feature, newsreel, travel film or sports review and a cartoon highlight the two-hour show, she said.

Growth of Famous Players In 25th Annual Report

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—In submitting the 25th annual report to the shareholders of Famous Players Canadian Corp., J. J. Fitzgibbons, president, made special reference to the establishment of the circuit a quarter of a century ago, the growth of the chain since that time and the observance of its 25th anniversary. Fitzgibbons pointed out the company and its associates operate more than 300 theatres in every province and in Newfoundland, entertain more than 2,000,000 people weekly, provide an annual pay roll of more than $6,000,000 to about 4,000 Canadians, paid out more than $10,000,000 in all forms of taxes last year and had total expenditures of around $30,000,000 in 1944.

Employes Should Share Civic Duties

Saying that "it has been a guiding principle that all employes should be good citizens sharing in the civic responsibilities of the communities," Fitzgibbons outlined the many activities of managers and other employes in community projects, patriotic campaigns, service club work, election to public offices and enrollment in the armed services, with practically 1,000 names on the company's roll of honor. In addition the company's theatres have been placed at the disposal of public bodies, while free morning shows have been staged for many purposes in support of the war effort.

With respect to the future, Fitzgibbons said:

"Every company is devoting some attention to postwar plans. Like many other Canadian businesses, your company has formulated plans for extensive theatre construction and renovation when present government controls are removed. During the war, these restrictions have permitted only limited repairs with the result that there will be, in the postwar period, considerable repairs and renewals to existing equipment and properties, as well as new theatre building.

"As time goes, the motion picture industry is still a new business . . . What the future will bring, no one definitely knows. Your executives are watching with interest and keeping abreast of any ideas that may be developed during the postwar period and your company will be prepared to take fullest advantage of them." He concluded by referring to the prospect of a reasonably early victory and the return of men and women to the company's employment as a matter of great satisfaction.

Missouri Negro Theatre Opens

POPLAR BLUFF, MO.—The Broadway Theatre here, vatering to Negro patrons, was opened by Owner Ben R. Jones with "Stormy Weather," all-Negro film.

Showman Pays $100 for a Lighter

MILWAUKEE—Howard Schneeweis, active in the show business here before entering the marines, returned from active service with a 75-cent cigaret lighter for which he paid $100 on Bougainville.

For Schneeweis there came a temporary lull in battle duties. He was walking along the beach one day and wishing that he had some flame with which to light his cigaret.

It seems that out of 40 days, it had been raining for 35 of them. Every match in his company was soaked. Two of the GIs had lighters, but none had fluid. And need we point out, things were plenty rugged around there for a while.

Schneeweis, now assistant manager of the Oriental here, needed a light bad. He had $101 and no immediate place to spend it.

As he walked along the beach, another marine stopped to talk to him. It developed that this GI had a lighter—with fluid—and for sale!

"How much?" asked Schneeweis. "One hundred bucks," the marine returned.

"I'll take it!" Schneeweis fired back. And that marine was so surprised the deal went through. He's still recovering.

From then on while the fluid held out that lighter was a priceless item. And Schneeweis brought the 75-cent lighter back with him.



Iowans Dislike Duos; Women Lead Men

DES MOINES—Iowa may be the traditional home of the tall corn, but a recent Iowa poll about motion pictures featured by the Des Moines Sunday Register does not give first place to cinematic "corn." Surprised that such a question would be asked, 77 per cent of those questioned admitted that they attend "the movies" regularly. But they listed "Going My Way," "Since You Went Away" and "Thirty Second Over Tokyo" as favorites for the year. However, 31 per cent would not pick a "best show"—they had liked too many.

Poll-takers learned that 81 per cent of the city people attend motion pictures (a city in Iowa is anything over 2,500); 78 per cent of the smalltown folk attend and 72 per cent of the farm population. Also, it developed that the Iowa women are more interested in motion pictures than the men, for 80 per cent of them are fans, whereas only 73 per cent of the men admit it.

60 Per Cent Opposed Double Bills

If you want to know how often they go, the poll-takers checked that, too. Fifty-four per cent go as often as three of four times a week, 46 per cent attend irregularly. And for those who contend double features are popular, it will be nonplusing to learn that only 34 per cent are for them and 60 per cent against—six per cent didn't care one way or the other.

Maybe the women have household reasons for feeling more strongly on the subject than the men, such as being "detained" by a screen romance beyond the hour to start the family dinner or getting the children to bed early. Anyway, a 64 to 31 ratio of women favor the single feature and only a 54-40 ratio of the men. Six per cent of the men and five per cent of the women take doubles or singles in their stride and have no strong convictions one way or the other.

Bing Crosby scored as the favorite "hero," the term used rather than male star. More men than women favor him, by the way, and Spencer Tracy is the next popular hero. It may be something of a shock to the star system to learn, however, that 39 per cent do not have any favorites. Honest, that's what the poll showed.

Similar to BAROMETER Poll

As for "heroines," Greer Garson is first and Bette Davis second. Incidentally, these favorite results are very similar to the BOXOFFICE BAROMETER poll in which Greer Garson and Bing Crosby topped the list.

In almost the same proportion, about two-thirds of both the men and women questioned are uncritical of the Hollywood product with no desire to tell producers what they ought and ought not to do to make better motion pictures. They like nearly everything they see and said so. So if you are a believer in polls, this all probably means something or other to the trade—not only as it applies to Iowa but to other folks in the grassroots region of which Iowa is a part.

Pvt. Donald Clark Back In U.S.; Wounded in Action

BELOIT, KAS.—Pvt. Donald Clark, formerly with the Mainstreet Theatre here, is convalescing in the Barnes General Hospital, Vancouver, Wash., from wounds suffered north of Manila in the campaign to regain the Philippines.

Although hospitalized, Clark still is keeping up with things theatrical. His father Ray D. Clark, Beloit florist, has arranged for Donald to receive a copy of BOXOFFICE while he is at Vancouver.

The New Fox Boulevard Theatre, Wichita, Opens

WICHITA—Fox Midwest held an invitational opening of its new Boulevard Theatre here on Wednesday (16) and opened it to the public the following night. The picture chosen for the opening was "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" and among those from out-of-town who were able to attend the opening were Arthur De Stefano and Mrs. De Stefano. De Stefano, whose company, the National Theatre Supply Co., furnished part of the equipment, was on his way to Dallas for business reasons.

Because of priority restrictions, the theatre has been several years in construction. It is situated at the corner of Lincoln St. and George Washington Blvd. The lot is triangular in shape and the theatre widens as it extends back. Colonial in design, its overall dimensions are 58x150 feet and there is a porch instead of the usual canopy. Robert O. Boller of Kansas City, who has designed some 300 motion picture theatres in this locality, was the architect, and the construction was done by the John C. Meeley Co. of this city.

The Boulevard has only the one floor—no balcony at all—and the exterior is of red dry-pressed bricks, with white trimming. There is a parking area in the back and the front and sides of the theatre are attractively landscaped. The changeable letter panel sign is visible from several directions, and since it is free from all other buildings, it was possible to plan ten exits in all.

The interior is finished in exposed cinder block with brick trimmings. The decorations feature the Chisholm Trail, famous old cattle trail from Texas to early Kansas railroad points. The stage is 20x44x18, and has an extremely wide opening so that any type of presentation may be put on in the theatre. There is a large foyer with adjoining lounge rooms, with a candy booth opening off the foyer. The booth, the manager's office, advertising and usher rooms are on the second floor of the front portion. The floor is of colored concrete, with carpeted aisles.

Because of the number of war workers in Wichita, the theatre fills an entertainment need in the city and seats 972. L. B. Douglas, recently of Plainview, Kas., and a former Universal exchange manager in Kansas City a quarter of century ago, is the Boulevard's manager.

The Weavers Make Debut In New Theatre Roles

Springfield, Mo.—The famous Weaver Brothers troupe made a return theatre engagement here the other night—but not in the customary roles in which they have entertained thousands.

The occasion was the advent of Leon (Abner) Weaver as manager of the Milliken Theatre, a unit in the Dickinson circuit. For his first night on the job, Leon had as stagehand his brother Charley, his brother Max as operator, his wife Retha as ticket seller, his son Billy as ticket taker, his daughter Gloria as cashier at the concession stand and Brother Frank (Cicero) and Sister June (Elviry) as special guests.

Decision on Hospital At Variety Meeting

MINNEAPOLIS—Attendance at the Northwest Variety Club's dinner meeting May 21 is compulsory for all members, A. W. Anderson, chief barker, has announced, as the meeting will be given over to a discussion of plans for raising funds for the club's new heart hospital project.

"We have been assured by A. S. Jones, chief architect of the University of Minnesota, that the plans for the hospital will be ready for presentation at the meeting," Anderson informed members in a letter.

The club will defray the cost of building and equipping the hospital and will contribute a substantial sum annually for its maintenance. It will be located on the university campus and will be operated by the university.

Approximately 75 new members who have joined since the first of this year will be initiated, it was announced.

Theatre Supply Executives Report Brighter Future

KANSAS CITY—J. Eldon Peek, owner of the Oklahoma Theatre Supply Co. and Missouri Theatre Supply Co., and L. J. Kimbriel, manager of the latter, made a quick airplane round-trip to visit Chicago and New York manufacturers. They returned with expectations of early deliveries of material not now available and a stepup in deliveries of supplies now scarce. They placed several orders. They were in Chicago Monday and Tuesday, the latter VE-Day, and in New York Wednesday and Thursday.

Kimbriel pointed out that it will be easier to get booth equipment now.

"Mom and Dad" to Deluxer

MINNEAPOLIS — Harry Herman has set "Mom and Dad," the new hygiene special produced by Hygienic Productions, Cleveland, into the de luxe Lyceum Theatre for a three weeks engagement opening May 23. An extensive advertising campaign accompanies the engagement. At St. Paul opening date is now being negotiated.

R. Y. Hopkins Buys Theatre Property at Clarence, Mo.

CLARENCE, MO.—Ralph Y. Hopkins of Kansas City has purchased the Clarence Theatre at Clarence, Mo., from E. C. Best. Hopkins will take over the property May 23. He formerly operated a theatre within the housing area at the Sunflower ordnance plant near Kansas City. Mrs. Hopkins will assist her husband in the operation of the theatre.

Former Shoe Salesman Now Top Operator

PELLA, IOWA—A former shoe salesman from Kansas City is the chief projectionist at the New Holland Theatre here. Dow C. Phelps has been on the job a little over a year and customers of the theatre and the manager, J. H. Anderson, say he is doing a "swell" job.

Drive Under Way With Record in Bond Shows

OMAHA—This city launched its Seventh War Loan drive Monday with initial activities centering around the theatres and retail stores. Bands blared in the afternoon and booths at both stores and theatres were fully staffed by Omaha women's organizations.

Highlights from the theatre point of view:

1. The Orpheum, a Tri-States Theatre house managed by Ted Emerson, again will serve as county women's headquarters with a large staff working daily in the lobby in addition to the regular salesmen manning booths.

2. William Miskell, Tri-States district manager, and Allan Hupp, secretary of the Associated Retailers, announced Omaha's big bond premiere for Wednesday night, May 23, at the Paramount Theatre, managed by Donald Shane. The picture: "The Affairs of Susan."

To gain a ticket the purchase must be made at a theatre or retail store booth. Then all bonds must be presented at the Liberty lobby at the Orpheum to obtain tickets.

Predicts Sellout in First Week

Mrs. Robert Thorpe, state women's chairman, predicts a sellout by the end of the first week. Tickets will be given on a "first come, first served" basis.

3. Announcement by the Omaha World-Herald that it will offer $300 and two recognition flags to stimulate bond sales by store and theatre employes.

One recognition flag will go to the retail store showing the largest per-employe sale of bonds; the other to the leading theatre on the same basis. The newspapers will present a $50 bond to the theatre employe selling the most bonds, a $25 bond to the runnerup, $10 in stamps to the third, and $5 to the fourth. The contest runs until June 30 with standings being published in the World-Herald. Store employes vie for slightly larger prizes.

Meanwhile, Don V. McLucas, WAC chairman, announced the Omaha territory already has set an all-time record for the number of Free Movie Days with 207 as compared with 160 in the Sixth. Bond premieres total 134 as compared with 171, and children's bond premieres 16 as compared with 32.

The Exchange Score

The records of exchanges to date:

Columbia—Thirty-four possibilities, six bond premieres, 21 Free Movie Days and one children's premiere.

Twentieth-Fox—Thirty-three possibilities, 20 premieres, 15 Free Movie Days and no children's matinees.

Republic—Thirty-six possibilities, 13 bond premieres, seven Free Movie Days and no children's matinees.

M-G-M—Thirty-seven possibilities, nine premieres, 25 Free Movie Days and one children's matinee.

RKO—Thirty-seven possibilities, 16 bond premieres, 36 Free Movie Days and three children's matinees.

Universal—Forty-two possibilities, 18 premieres, 17 Free Movie Days and one children's matinee.

Paramount—Thirty-eight possibilities, 20 premieres, 25 Free Movie Days and five children's matinees.

Warners—Thirty-eight possibilities, 12 premieres, nine Free Movie Days and five children's premieres.

Monogram — Twenty-four possibilities, two premieres, eight Free Movie Days and no children's matinees.

PRC—Twenty-nine possibilities, four bond premieres, 16 Free Movie Days and no children's matinees.

United Artists—Twenty-eight possibilities, 14 premieres, 28 Free Movie Days and no children's matinees.

Mr. McLucas said from here out the WAC is following this program: A "yes" or "no" answer from every exhibitor in the territory. A "no" answer requires detailed explanation.

By BABE COHN

KANSAS CITY—It has been announced by Russ Bovim, city chairman, that plans are now complete for the Kansas City Seventh War Loan bond premiere to be held at the Newman Theatre at 8:30 o'clock Tuesday eveing, June 19. The feature will be the new United Artist release of Fred Allen in "It's in the Bag" with a supporting cast of guest stars including Jack Benny, Don Ameche, William Bendix, Rudy Vallee and Victor Moore. In addition appropriate stage ceremonies are being planned.

Assisting in the sale of bonds, for which premiere tickets will be issued through the theatres, is the local council of the international business women's organization, Beta Sigma Phi, of which Miss Agnes Nemanich is president. This active organization has over 500 members and has successfully assisted in bond selling in previous campaigns. In recognition of the work of the Beta Sigma Phi, 20 honorary hostesses will be selected from the membership to be present at the premiere performance.

The Bond Show Committee

The city committee handling the bond premiere includes Russ Bovim, chairman; Senn Lawler and Babe Cohn, publicity; Barney Joffee, tickets, and Lawrence Lehman, talent.

Latest reports from the field indicate that Free Movie Days now scheduled in the Kansas City territory will reach a new record high of more than 300.

It is estimated that bond premieres will total around 225.

"A good many exhibitors," said Bill Truog, distributor chairman, "have turned to Free Movie Days instead of bond premieres. We are certain now that the aggregate number of bond events in the territory will set a new high."

A meeting was held last Tuesday (8) at which city salesmen were organized to call on the independents to assist them in scheduling their bond activities. Those charged with the responsibility of handling the distribution and booking problems for premieres and Free Movie Days are unanimous in their praise of the fine job being done in the territory by the salesmen.

Send in Reports Promptly

It always has been difficult to get reports from the field following bond premieres and Free Movie Days. Every exhibitor holding any bond event is urged to make a complete and prompt report so that proper credit may be sent in for the territory. Three copies of newspaper stories or photographs should be forwarded to Elmer C. Rhoden, area chairman, Uptown Theatre Bldg., Kansas City.

"The All-Star Bond Rally," the bond short featuring Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Betty Grable, Fibber McGee and Molly and many other Hollywood big names, has demonstrated a boxoffice wallop in its first runs that establishes it as a top subject both from a standpoint of entertainment and also as a bond seller.

This 19-minute subject is available without cost to all theatres signing the Seventh War Loan pledge of cooperation. Any exhibitor who hasn't sent in his pledge and booked the short should do so without delay as print availability is necessarily limited.

Again C. E. "Doc" Cook of the Tivoli, Maryville, Mo., will hold a Free Movie week. The response to this elaboration of the Free Movie Day was so successful in the Sixth War Loan that Cook is repeating it for the Seventh.

VE-Day Extremely Quiet In Omaha; Few on Streets

OMAHA—Only essential war workers and theatre employes remained on the job as Omaha observed VE-Day, but the occasion couldn't have been more quiet.

The theatres, which complied unanimously with requests to remain open to keep crowds off the street, found their assistance was not needed. There were no crowds on the streets, and there were comparatively few people in the theatres.

Monday, following the announcement of Germany's unconditional surrender, business began to drop as even the housewives stayed home to listen to radios. It was little better in the evening.

"They really stayed away in the afternoon," said Pinky McIlvaine, manager of the Brandeis Theatre.

"Business just died away," said Ted Emerson, manager of the Orpheum Theatre. "No one that did come in was excited. If you hadn't read about it in the newspapers or heard about it on the radios, you would never know there was a change."

Probably the biggest excitement came Tuesday night, when Omaha's theatres again turned on the blaze of lights in their marquees. It offered the cheeriest atmosphere of a two-day period in which skies were overcast and in which VE-Day came as an anti-climax.

WOW Suit for Ascap Funds To Nebraska High Court

OMAHA—Nebraska's supreme court has received the suit of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Co., which operated WOW, and Joseph Malec, operator of Peony Park in Omaha, to recover music royalties paid Ascap from 1937-41.

The payments were made following passage in 1937 of the law which prevented Ascap from operating in the state and which recently was repealed. The society seeks to recover principal payments amounting to $87,724.92, plus interest and damages which bring the total claimed to $298,319. Malec sued for $14,283.53 in principal payments, plus interest and damages, which brings the amount to $50,707.

The actions were dismissed in district court.

Boys Town Choir Concert Seeks $750,000 in Bonds

OMAHA—Vivian della Chiesa, radio and operatic soprano who stars on NBC's American Album of Familiar Music, will appear as guest artist with the 95-voice Boys Town choir at a war bond concert in the Auditorium here June 19. The sponsor is the Omaha Council of Catholic Women and the goal in bond sales is $750,000. Admission will be limited to purchases of bonds through the council's booth at the Fontenelle Hotel.

Thieves Steal Display

OMAHA—A jockey's green hat and a green shirt with a white star on the back were taken from a display in the lobby of the Paramount Theatre last week. They belonged to a Omaha woman who made them for her son, now recovering from wounds received in the South Pacific.

Barber Subs for Thomas

DES MOINES—Bill Barber, former RKO salesman from Omaha, is doing the booking for Columbia during Bert Thomas' 30-day leave.

Columbia Sets Dates For Major Releases

KANSAS CITY—Ben Marcus, Columbia midwest division manager, held a meeting of branch managers here to discuss forthcoming productions and release dates for several top pictures. Release dates set included June 28 for "Over 21," the Irene Dunne comedy, and July 26 for the Technicolor special "A Thousand and One Nights."

The Kansas City meeting gave some time to discussion of "A Song to Remember," it being pointed out that national reports indicate it is to be Columbia's top grosser since the company has been in business. The film seems certain to go over as well in smaller towns as in the cities.

Following the division meeting several branch managers held exchange area meetings with salesmen. Branch managers attending were H. J. Chapman, Minneapolis; Mel Evidon, Des Moines; Joe Jacobs, Omaha, and Tom Baldwin, Kansas City.

Kansas City Area Film Houses Resume Owl Shows

KANSAS CITY—Saturday midnight shows have been resumed throughout this area, some starting May 11, others scheduling the resumption for May 19. In Kansas City the Esquire went back to its former schedule of swingshift shows on Friday and Saturday nights and the Tower resumed its Saturday swingshift midnight frolic, with a stage show starting at 12:30. The Regent resumed its "all night" schedule.

In the territory, houses that formerly had late programs went back to precurfew arrangements.

Indications that interest in midnight shows is more extended than formerly was seen in the rush demand for owl show pictures. Beverly Miller, PRC, said that for several days immediately after the curfew withdrawal there was a flood of calls from exhibitors and circuits to book or buy specific pictures, or inquiring for features suitable for late shows.

Another result was the adjustment of showing hours. Many theatres which had arranged programs to finish by midnight are going back to the later evening openings, especially advantageous as summer approaches.

Anne Shirley Pays Respects To Minneapolis Variety

MINNEAPOLIS—En route to Duluth to launch a ship at the Butler shipyards, Anne Shirley, 20th-Fox screen star, stopped over in Minneapolis and visited the Northwest Variety Club. She was escorted by Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer.

Miss Shirley had been visiting Canadian cities, aiding in a war bond campaign. This was her first visit to Minneapolis. Immediately after her Duluth trek she was to return to Hollywood.

In addition to Miss Shirley and Hoffman, the party that motored from Minneapolis to Duluth for the ship launching included Ralph G. Engelman of the treasury department, director of pay roll savings, and representatives of Butler.

Gold Star Mothers Guests At Minnesota Theatres

MINNEAPOLIS—The Minnesota Amusement Co. followed its annual custom on Mother's Day by admitting all Gold Star mothers free. John J. Friedl instituted the custom several years ago.

KANSAS CITY

Barney Joffee, manager of the Tower, which features a stage show with films, is using both facilities in the war bond drive. Special numbers have been arranged for the performances . . . Eddie Golden, Metro salesman, was visiting Pittsburgh relatives he hadn't seen for three years . . . Seen on Filmrow were Mr. and Mrs. Glen W. Moskau, Regal, St. Joseph; Harry Blake and Assistant Buergey, DeRay, Joplin; O. F. Bolinger, Pastime, Marionville; Nick Kotsis, Oswego, Kas., and Holden, Mo., and Harley Fryer, Neosho.

Doug Lightner, Commonwealth manager before joining the air forces, is back home at Higginsville, Mo., after 59 missions over Italy as a bombardier. His wife Mary has been acting manager in his absence. Lightner is scheduled to report at a southern base for reassignment soon.

Alex Schniderman has returned to this country after 32 months overseas and was visiting his father here. He operated the Giles Theatre for some 18 months before entering the service. His 32 months overseas were spent as security officer with the air corps in the Mediterranean area . . . Paul J. Back, RKO office manager, takes over June 1 as chairman of the bookers' WAC, succeeding Morton Truog, UA office manager.

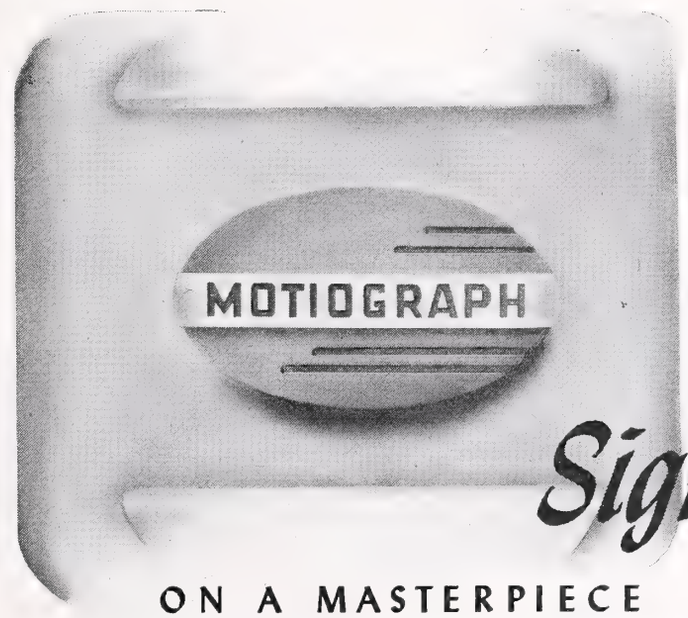
Lon T. Fidler, Monogram franchise holder here, was headed for Chicago for franchise owners' meeting. Mike Lee, Monogram manager, also was Chicago bound for a sales meeting following that of the franchise owners . . . A Universal district meeting was held Friday (18) at the Muehlebach Hotel with A. J. O'Keefe, western sales manager, and J. E. Garrison, district manager, in charge. Branch managers, office managers, salesmen and bookers from the exchanges at Omaha, St. Louis, Des Moines and Kansas City attended.

Jim Ronsiek, Metro salesman, was extended sympathy of Filmrow and exhibitors in the death of his mother at the family home in St. Louis. She had been ill for several weeks. Other survivors are Ronsiek's father and his brother Jack, with the armed services in Italy . . . Eddie Walton, assistant to James R. Grainger, president of Republic, and Nat Steinberg, district manager, were expected in Kansas City in connection with the company's anniversary drive.

Lieut. Robert D. Melcher, son of Rube, is back from the Pacific and "glad to be home." A B24 pilot he is to report at Santa Ana the last of the month for reassignment . . . Roy E. Russell, navy, was on Filmrow renewing old acquaintanceships of some six years ago when he was a booker at WB. He left Kansas City to enter another industry, moving to St. Louis. His wife and five-year-old son have been with him at San Diego. He has been in the navy 18 months as a ship's storekeeper.

Kaye Film Preview May 28

KANSAS CITY—A special invitational screening of Danny Kaye's "Wonder Man" is scheduled by RKO for Edison Hall here May 28.



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OMAHA

Harold Ironfield jr., son of the 20th-Fox salesman, has been sworn into the coast guard . . . Ben Fish, Goldwyn representative from Hollywood, spent several days here visiting the RKO office . . . Eddie Rickenbacker wrote Omahan Bert LeBron saying that while he hears talk of a multiple premiere for "Captain Eddie," he would like to see the big doings pulled off in Omaha.

Dorothy Larsen, United Artists stenographer, has resigned . . . M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager from Minneapolis, and William Gehring from the New York home office, spent a day here . . . Sid McArdle, UA office manager, passed his draft physical at Leavenworth, Kas., but no date has been set for induction . . . A quartet of 20th-Fox office workers spent the weekend out of the city. Esther Lynn went to Grand Island, Betty Rhodes and Marian Wallace to Lincoln, and Dorothy Weaver, booker, flew to Lake Andes, S. D. Dorothy adds a footnote that if anyone wants anything delivered by plane, she'll do the job.

Good news for Omaha business men was the report here by Kenneth E. Knapp, executive assistant for United Air Lines, who said that his firm has entered an application to inaugurate service between Omaha and Cleveland via St. Louis and Indianapolis . . . Jesse McBride, Paramount branch manager, planned to attend a meeting of company district managers in Denver . . . Frank Hannon, WB branch manager, is getting in and out his private office via the side door since a replica of a wigwam has blocked off the front entrance . . . Filmrow friends of Hugh Braly, Paramount Denver district manager, are extending sympathy in death of his mother, Mrs. Floyd Barr, at Selma, Calif.

Marie Hassett, Paramount chief inspectoress, who recently suffered an eye operation, has entered a hospital . . . "That's the Spirit" was a special preview at the Orpheum Theatre . . . Esther Moberg, UA cashier, vacationed in Chicago.

Jim Mooney of United Artists and Bill Burke, RKO, traveling auditors, were in town . . . Omaha's Dorothy McGuire met Omaha's Bob O'Neil on her entertainment tour in France . . . Evelyn Arthur, a Community Playhouse product, is back from Hollywood and expresses willingness to break into the legitimate theatre in New York . . . Cliff Winehill, Cincinnati Variety clubber, offered this suggestion to Drama Critic Jake Rachman for a memorial for Hitler: A lamp on a pedestal so he can hang all day and burn all night. Rachman made the suggestion that the atrocity films be kept around to show once a year as a reminder of what a war really is.

Connie Boswell will be at the Orpheum Theatre June 8 . . . Omaha Boy Scouts attended a free show at the Brandeis Theatre to start their participation in the Seventh War Loan drive. Capt. John F. Moriarty, former Omaha scout, who has seen action as a group surgeon with the combat engineers in Algiers, Morocco, Italy, France and Germany, related some of his experiences.

This story, told by Cecil B. DeMille here, is just coming out. He played a trick on the studios a couple of years ago by sending around copies of a scenario which was at the time before the cameras. To a man, the scenario editors regretfully informed him that his story was not suitable for films. As it happened it was one of the best.

Dorothy Heston, a tennis enthusiast, and coworker at United Artists, Esther Moberg, are both wearing new sparklers . . . Jerry Callahan, new Monogram branch manager, arrived here from Boston. His wife and child are remaining in the east for the present. Mike Comer, who held the post here, has been sent to Oklahoma City.

Exhibitors visiting along the Row: Henry Hynek, North Bend; Roy Banning, Mason City; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Noffsinger, Madison; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Craig, Plainview; A. J. Anderson, Sloan, Iowa; Jack Riggs, Central City; John Hopkins, Sidney, Iowa; Fred Miller, Broken Bow; Frank Simek, Ashland, and Earl Kerr, Des Moines.

Lou Higdon Doing Good Job As Overseas Correspond'nt

KANSAS CITY—His friends have heard recently from Louis Higdon, now stationed in the South Pacific as a U.S. navy overseas correspondent. Before entering the service, Louis managed the Ritz and Grand theatres in Chillicothe, Mo., for the Griffith circuit.



LOU HIGDON

His wife, Dorothy, is the present manager of the Uptown Theatre in Marceline, Mo.

Louis returned home about six months ago after 18 months on Attu Island, and then was shipped to the South Pacific area. His rank is that of chief petty officer. In this column is his picture in one of the jeeps that are customarily assigned to correspondents.

His present address is: L. C. Higdon, CSK, Overseas Correspondent, 39th Nav. Constr. Reg., FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

Red Dress Becomes Pass To "Dillinger" Photoplay

DES MOINES—In connection with the showing of Monogram's "Dillinger," the RKO Orpheum Theatre here admitted free any woman dressed in red on the opening day of the film's run. Radio publicity announced the "lady in red" stunt.

His New Twist Breaks Records on Premiere

Stockton, Kas.—Merle Swank, who runs the Nova Theatre here, added a new twist to his bond premiere for the Seventh War Loan campaign. And it paid off.

Swank let everybody in free, with no obligations. Then he got up on the stage and sold bonds directly to the audience. At the conclusion, he figured up and found he had disposed of $52,850 worth of bonds, most of them in the E series.

Last year, under the regular plan of requiring a bond for each seat, Swank's premiere grossed $49,000.

Stockton is a small town. The theatre seats 250.

MINNEAPOLIS

The winner of the Northwest Variety Club pool of VE-Day guesses will be announced at the dinner meeting May 21 to discuss plans for raising money for the club's heart hospital. The member who came closest to the right day will win a tidy sum as chances were $5 each . . . Look alikes: Ralph Maw, new M-G-M district manager headquartering here, and Bud Albrecht, White Bear, Minn., exhibitor . . . Bill Sears jr., naval petty officer and son of the Orpheum manager, visited here en route from 29 Palms, to Detroit to spend his leave with his wife.

Dick Lutz, son of Al Lutz of Warner Bros., is headed for football stardom at the University of Minnesota, according to reports. He's a fullback . . . Ray Allison, Altoona, Pa., independent circuit owner, stopped over en route to the Mayo clinic, Rochester, and visited the Northwest Variety Club where "the little judge," Ben Meshbesher, Warner salesman, took him in tow to show him the beauty spots of the city . . . Charlie Rubenstein, army air corps corporal, here on furlough before going to Camp Lee, Va., hobnobbed with his independent theatre circuit partner, Abe Kaplan . . . W. H. Workman, M-G-M branch manager, will celebrate his 26th year at his present post May 20.

John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president, and Ben Berger, North Central Allied president, took occasion at the M-G-M introductory luncheon to welcome Ralph Maw, new district manager, to Minneapolis. Maw has been with M-G-M for 19 years.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included Bert Parson, Springfield; Ed Malone, Alma, Wis.; Van Sloan, Waverly; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls, and Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis. . . . Ben Marcus, Columbia district manager, was a visitor.

Universal held an invitation screening of "That's the Spirit" before an enthusiastic audience at the Edina Theatre . . . W. H. Workman, M-G-M district manager, spent his two-week vacation in the usual manner visiting his mother in Florida . . . Eddie Walton, Republic assistant salesmanager, is due here May 23 for the company's anniversary drive.

Omaha Couple Gets Thrill In Viewing "Two Down"

OMAHA—Mr. and Mrs. George J. Shevilsky, parents of Sgt. Dale Shevilsky, were watching the finale of "Two Down and One to Go" at the Paramount Theatre when they spied their son in the picture making a salute.

Shevilsky said it was quite a thrill. Mrs. Shevilsky, he related, "yelled about as loud as anyone could."

Sergeant Shevilsky, a B24 radio gunner, had not been heard from since April 25 when his plane landed in either Czech or Russian territory, Shevilsky said. The family's information came from the pilot and crew members of his regular ship. Shevilsky had missed two missions with the ship and the balance of the crew, who had their time in, were waiting until he completed 50 flights so they could all go home together.

Free at Prison Camps

OMAHA—German atrocity and other war films will be shown in all enemy prisoner of war camps in the Seventh service command, Maj. Gen. C. H. Danielson has announced. In contrast to other films the prisoners see, these will be shown free. No entertainment films will be shown on the same program.

"Dillinger" Piles Up Minneapolis Top

MINNEAPOLIS — Newcomers were conspicuous by their absence the past week, but two of them, "Objective, Burma!" and "Dillinger," turned in nice grosses, with the latter catapulting the Gopher far above par. Among the holdovers in their second weeks, "A Song to Remember," made a particularly fine boxoffice showing. In its second canto at Radio City "Without Love" also held up well. The other holdover was "Thin Man Goes Home." Newcomer "Tomorrow the World" was a great disappointment, failing to click at the State despite glowing newspaper reviews.

(Average is 100)

Aster—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col) 90
Century—**Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk.....125
Gopher—**Dillinger** (Mono) 175
Lyric—**Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 90
Orpheum—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 110
Radio City—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100
State—**Tomorrow the World** (UA)..... 80
World—**Wuthering Heights** (UA), reissue.....100

Newman Feature, "Affairs of Susan," Sets Boxoffice Pace in Kaycee

KANSAS CITY—The return of midnight shows gave this city an "old-fashoned" weekend. "The Affairs of Susan" sent boxoffice totals zooming at the Newman and "Keep Your Powder Dry" did fairly well at the Midland. The Orpheum kept consistently around average with "The Enchanted Cottage" in its second week, though the big totals of the first week were not duplicated.

Esquire, Uptown and Fairway with the beloved classic "Tom Sawyer" played to good houses throughout the run. At the Tower "The Bull Fighters" and "Rockin' in the Rockies" plus a stage revue kept the ticket sellers busy.

Esquire—**Tom Sawyer** (Para), reissue.....105
Fairway and Uptown—Same as Esquire.....112
Midland—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M).....110
Newman—**Affairs of Susan** (Para).....150
Orpheum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk. 100
Tower—**The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox); **Rockin' in the Rockies** (Col), plus stage show.....110

"Dillinger" on Dual With "G.I." Is Best Des Moines Draw

DES MOINES—"Dillinger," on a double bill at the Orpheum Theatre with "GI Honeymoon," was the best drawing card among downtown houses last week. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" was held over for four days at the Paramount, and was replaced on Tuesday with the double feature "Circumstantial Evidence" and "Song of the Sarong." Tri-States officials declined to give a figure on the holdover.

"Music for Millions," showing at the Des Moines Theatre, did a slightly below par business.

Des Moines—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M)..... 95
Orpheum—**Dillinger** (Mono); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 120
Paramount—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), split with **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ).....Unavailable

"National Velvet" Omaha Leader In All-Around Good Week

OMAHA—All downtown Omaha theatres beat par during a week of wet, cold weather. "National Velvet" at the Paramount Theatre did the top business. "Dillinger" and "GI Honeymoon" at the Brandeis and "This Man's Navy" and "Swing Out Sister" at the Omaha were next best.

Brandeis—**Dillinger** (Mono); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 115
Omaha—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Swing Out Sister** (Univ) 120
Orpheum—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 105
Paramount—**National Velvet** (M-G-M).....125
State—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M), 2nd runs.....115
Town—**Dancing in Manhattan** (Col); **Gun Smoke** (Mono); **Hitler, Beast of Berlin** (SR), split with **Gangsters of the Frontier** (PRC); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col).....100

Capt. Ollie LeMere, Once A Booker, Killed in War

MINNEAPOLIS—Filmrow was saddened by news that Capt. Ollie LeMere, a booker with M-G-M before entering the armed services, was killed in action April 18 in Italy. He joined the army in 1942.

He was a first lieutenant in the cavalry. Home ill a year and a half ago, he refused to accept limited service but insisted on combat duty. He is survived by his wife, Casper Choinard. A brother-in-law is a United Artists salesman.

Carnival Spirit Follows Curfew Demise in Omaha

OMAHA—Omaha began Saturday night to show first affects of the lifting of the curfew.

Pinky McIlvaine, RKO-Brandeis Theatre manager, expressed it this way: "The result was very noticeable in increased Saturday night patronage. Everyone seemed anxious to be out—it was as if chains were suddenly taken off. They had a chance to celebrate and had a place to go after the curfew. It was like a carnival with all the bright lights on again."

Weekend Runs Only A Shortage Threat

MINNEAPOLIS — Some Twin City neighborhood exhibitors are considering curtailing their operations this summer to weekends because of the product shortage which is becoming more acute all the time.

Such a procedure would mark the first time in local film history Minneapolis and St. Paul showhouses went off a seven-day week schedule. What's in mind now is running only on Friday to Sunday, inclusive.

It has been suggested that, prior to taking the more radical step, the exhibitors try to operate the full week with fewer changes. If satisfactory boxoffice results can be attained in this manner, the shuttering won't be necessary, it is pointed out.

The frequent unavailability of strong A pictures has driven the independent neighborhood and suburban exhibitors to more double featuring than ever before. Even on Sundays now it's not infrequent for some of the more important houses to twin bill B or lower classification films. Hitherto this has been one of the country's strongest single feature situations.

Twin billing also is one of the ways in which some of the independents are fighting percentage. Even though hard put for product, a number of the boys are passing up many percentage pictures.

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DES MOINES

Mother's Day weekend found many Filmrowers journeying to towns in Iowa to be with their families. Elinor Yaryan, Warners, was gone for two days. From Universal, Esther Hueston spent the wekend in Gillman, Maxine Kaltenhauser visited in Elkhart, Twylla Wells went to her home in Montezuma, Doris Wolf spent the day in Payton and Mel Newman traveled to Omaha.

Alpha Rayner, Universal inspector, received a telephone call VE-Day from her son stationed in Hawaii. That was celebration enough! . . . Eileen Sandvik, NSS booker, was married recently to Bob Town . . . Betty Souder was vacationing in Bagley . . . Betty Southard is back from her vacation spent in St. Louis . . . A new girl at NSS is Waneta Eddy, shipping clerk.

Ernie Pickler, Universal salesman, was on a two-week vacation . . . Novello Phillips, Lou Ellman's secretary at RKO, also was vacationing . . . G. Ralph Branton's daughter Nancy is making her second appearance at Kendall Playhouse, this time in the stage play, "Kiss and Tell." Nancy is playing the leading role of Corliss. Nancy graduates from high school in June and plans to major in college in speech and drama.

June Douglas, Republic, has begun the season by getting some tan on her legs, having happened to catch the sun out for a couple of hours last Sunday . . . Marjorie Winburn, Paramount secretary, in on vacation . . . Employes had a letter from Ralph Hayden, now on patrol duty in Germany . . . Wanita Rinard, inspector, celebrated a birthday last week, and was entertained by her fellow workers. The girls gave Wanita a centerpiece mirror. Charlie, the janitor, presented Wanita some cologne.

Mrs. Ida Peters Greene, former secretary to S. J. Mayer at 20th-Fox, spent her vacation in Des Moines and visited old friends along the Row. Ida is in Los Angeles now, working for an insurance company. Other visitors included Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; M. A. Fauver, Brooklyn; Ray Baltzley, Bussey, and Ken Wagner, Wilton Junction.

Four from Universal here spent two days in Kansas City attending a preseason sales meeting. Those making the trip were Lou Levy, exchange manager; Kenneth Bishard and Ernie Pickler, salesmen, and Jim Ricketts, booker . . . E. L. Walton, New York, assistant sales manager for Republic Pictures, and Nat Steinberg, district manager, visited the Republic exchange here . . . R. C. LiBeau, Kansas City, Paramount district manager, called at the local exchange.

Spaghetti (wonderful)
and Chicken (great)
dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

Encyclopedia in a Tribute To Motion Picture Industry

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—The motion picture industry got into the big Encyclopedia Britannica in a large way. The industry is saluted for having achieved the biggest year of boxoffice receipts in its history, approximating two billion dollars, and also is applauded for its contribution to the war effort in terms of actual aid to the armed forces, in the form of films shipped to all camps and fighting zones, its stars who entertained here and abroad for the GIs, and its part in all the bond drives and other patriotic endeavors.

Figures show the industry sent without cost 24,356 prints of films to the armed services including features and newsreels, as well as 27,000 prints of shorts. The encyclopedia wound up with a tribute to the contribution made to propagating the American way of life through motion pictures as "films followed the American flag into every conquered strip of enemy land."

John Kemptgen Honored At M-G-M Farewell Party

OMAHA—M-G-M exchange employes gave a party at the Paxton Hotel to bid farewell to John Kemptgen, promoted to the Milwaukee helm, and welcome Omaha's new branch manager, G. E. McGlynn, former salesman at Des Moines.

Topping the list of guests was H. A. Friedel of Denver, new district manager who was booker and office manager for Metro here 17 years ago. Jim McCann, former Omaha salesman transferred to Des Moines, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kerr of Des Moines also were guests. Kemptgen was given a handsome engraved briar pipe.

Jean Parker's Robe a Prize For Service in Drive

OMAHA—Miss Pearl Richman, an Omaha woman who brought in two automobile loads of clothing for the United Nations clothing collection, was awarded a dressing robe from Jean Parker's wardrobe on the stage of the Orpheum Theatre for her outstanding job.

The award was made during the personal appearance of Miss Parker at the Orpheum.

New Theatre Project In Independence, Iowa

DES MOINES—A new 800-seat theatre, with stage facilities, will be constructed at Independence, Iowa, near the site of the former Grand Theatre, destroyed by fire last March.

Bob Malek, a United Airlines pilot now in Chicago, has purchased a 60-foot front on the Gedney block property from E. A. Boss, hotel chain operator. Boss had owned the Grand, which was located in the Gedney Hotel block. Malek has engaged the firm of Harrison and Weatherall, Des Moines architects, to draw plans for the theatre.

New Omaha Guild Sells Summer Season Tickets

OMAHA—With "Blithe Spirit" tentatively selected as its first play, the newly-organized Civic Theatre Guild this week will open its campaign to sell charter memberships and tickets for its three-play summer season.

Offering Omaha summer theatre for the first time in years, the guild plans its first play for the last week in June at the Sokol Auditorium. The guild has acquired offices and a workshop in the old Italian Community Center.

Complimentary tickets to the first show will be given to persons buying $3.50 memberships, Berne Enslin, director, explained. The privilege of voting for directors and deciding policy are prerogatives of members, he said, but season tickets will be sold separately.

Door price for the guild plays will be 78 cents, including tax; 30 cents for students. Season tickets sell for $2.

VE-Day Army Releases Well Received by Patrons

KANSAS CITY—The war department films, sealed and held for release with the German surrender, have excited much patron interest, exhibitors report. In addition to the M-G-M-distributed "Two Down and One to Go," "Don't Make Him Wait" also was on first run screens. Enough prints had been stocked to provide one for each newsreel print.

Omaha Bids for Premiere Of "Captain Eddie" Film

OMAHA—The campaign to bring the world premiere of "Captain Eddie" to this city is on.

Chamber of Commerce officials and others personally interested have written Darryl Zanuck and Tom Connors of the New York headquarters putting in Omaha's bid. Several others are writing Eddie Rickenbacker himself.

Lauds South Dakota Drive

MINNEAPOLIS—Norman Pyle, M-G-M exploiteer, co-publicity chairman for the film industry's Seventh War Loan campaign in South Dakota, reported an enthusiastic response in that state following five meetings held in Sioux Falls, Watertown, Mitchell, Pierre and Mobridge.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. Gr. 2864 Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825



Orleans Parish Head Backs School Films

From Southern Edition

NEW ORLEANS—Educators generally are aware of the teaching values of motion pictures, according to Mrs. Camilla Best, director of the audio-visual aids department of Orleans Parish public schools and prized contact of many local and visiting movie exploiteers, exhibitors and distributors.



CAMILLA BEST

Despite the eagerness of educators to utilize movies, however, they must be acquainted with the particular values of individual productions. In this connection Mrs. Best says nothing takes the place of personal contact. Bulletins sent through the mail are often buried in the mass of material on a busy principal's (or teacher's or supervisor's) desk. Mrs. Best recommends previews and complimentary tickets to representative school and parent-teacher groups, personal visits in schools by exploiteers as often as possible, and publicity supplies to school publications.

Works Out Many Tieups

She supplies mailing lists to exploiteers and personally plugs worthy films on her incessant rounds in school circles. Working with Dick Owens of 20th-Fox on "Wilson," she contacted school principals, history and social teachers with the result that reports were assigned en masse in two of New Orlean's largest public schools. Ken Prickett of M-G-M and Mrs. Best worked out numerous tieups with history, economics, civics, and industrial geography teachers on "An American Romance" and with art and speech teachers on "The Picture of Dorian Gray." With Henry Morris, Columbia exploiteer, she contacted music and music appreciation teachers on "A Song to Remember." Art and Spanish language teachers saw "The Three Caballeros" at previews arranged by Fred Ford of RKO and Mrs. Best, resulting in extensive lesson plans based on the film.

Ribbons to Joseph Gable

HIAWATHA, KAS.—Word has been received here that Pvt. Joseph Gable, former manager of the Chief Theatre here, has been presented the army good conduct medal and the Asiatic-Pacific service ribbon with a bronze battle star. Gable, whose home is in Cherryvale, is with the 13th AAF.

Theatre Again Proves Anything Can Happen!

Omaha—The funniest things sometimes happen in theatres.

A woman was chewing candy in one of Omaha's downtown theatres. She took it out of her mouth and tossed it way, only to discover she had left two front teeth in it.

An usherette with a flashlight spent a half hour finding the missing teeth.

Carroll Lane Buys Hotel

DES MOINES—Carroll Lane, former motion picture operator and state representative from Carroll, Iowa, has purchased the Crescent Beach Hotel and cottages on Lake Okoboji.

Adds to Picture Programs

DOUGLAS, KAS.—Cecil Miller, manager of the Star Theatre here, has inaugurated a program of two shows on Saturday and Sunday nights. One showing only will continue for other nights.

Girard, Kas., Houses Sold

GIRARD, KAS.—Ben R. Jones and Max P. Shelton of St. Louis, operators of houses at Poplar Bluff and Linn, Mo., have purchased two theatres here to bring their total to four.

Heller Theatre Adds House

COLERAINE, MINN.—The Heller Theatre Co., which owns houses in Coleraine, Bovey, Calumet and Grand Rapids, has purchased the theatre at Milaca.

Roxy Theatre Now Union

WICHITA, KAS.—The Roxy Theatre here now is employing union operators only, officials of the MPOU Local 414 have announced.

New Projectors Installed

KINGMAN, KAS.—New projectors have been installed by Frank Meade in his Meade Theatre here.

Change in RKO Supervisors

DES MOINES—The RKO Orpheum Theatre here is now under the supervision of John D. Redman, Omaha, Neb. Redman also supervises other RKO theatres in Iowa, New Orleans and Minneapolis. The theatre heretofore had been supervised by the Chicago division of RKO. Walter Ahrens is the local manager.

Suburbans Profit Most By Kaycee VE-Day

KANSAS CITY—VE-Day evening was relatively quiet here with only a bit of sporadic paper-throwing from hotel windows in the afternoon to give an appearance of hilarity that was not borne out by crowds. Saloons and taverns were open, though not largely patronized.

Downtown and suburban theatres had extra good attendance for a Tuesday. The people seemed drawn especially to the neighborhood theatres for the evening shows. Matinees downtown were better patronized than evening shows.

Phil Zeller Becomes Aide To Dickinson Chain Head

KANSAS CITY—Phil Zeller has returned to the middle west after several years in the east to join Dickinson, Inc., as field assistant to Glen Dickinson, president. Zeller was with Loew's in Boston for five years and was in Detroit as manager of theatres there.

Another Dickinson addition is one of the Weaver brothers of film fame, Leon Abner Weaver, who enters the exhibition field as manager of the Mullikin, Springfield, Mo.

Police Give Theatre Party To Safety Patrol Group

OMAHA—The Omaha police department gave a theatre party for Omaha's 100 safety patrol members, sponsors and school principals Saturday morning at the Orpheum Theatre. Safety patrol passes were permits of admission.

Ted Bolnick Optimistic

MINNEAPOLIS—Managers and other employes of the Bennie Berger circuit gathered here to hear operating plans for the ensuing season. It was the first such convention for Ted Bolnick, newly-named circuit general manager. Bolnick, who has bought into the circuit, expressed optimism over the attendance outlook.

Bond Buyers to Premiere

DES MOINES—With the official opening of the Seventh War Loan here, Tri-States Theatre Corp. announced the beginning of bond sales at 11 local theatres. Admission tickets to the $650,000 war bond premiere May 23 in the Des Moines Theatre will be given each band purchaser.

A Preview for "The Spirit"

DES MOINES—Invitations have been issued to exhibitors and press representatives for a special preview of Universal's new picture, "That's the Spirit." The screening was scheduled for 8:30 p. m. May 21 at the Paramount Theatre.

Art Perry at St. Joseph

ST. JOSEPH, Mo.—Art Perry, an old-time showman who formerly operated a stage show out of Kansas City, is now manager of the Jo here, a Dickinson circuit house.

Darkout No Harm, But Fronts Relight

MINNEAPOLIS—It had been reported here that lack of front sign and canopy illumination apparently hadn't hurt the theatre business, but just the same the big circuits and individual exhibitors lost no time in turning on their lights after the brownout ban was lifted. The showhouses have resumed their Saturday midnight shows and previous schedules and the signs and canopy lights are burning the same as before.

There had been fear that the brownout would crimp grosses downtown particularly because the bright lights in the loop were supposed to be a magnet. However, it didn't work out that way. Business held up normally for the most part. Yet, although a considerable savings was effected in electricity cost, it was deemed advisable to utilize the juice.

The resumption of Saturday midnight shows will swell weekly takings. The loop Lyric's special Saturday midnight preview had been especially well attended.

Many night club owners here declared they would have been satisfied for the midnight curfew to stick, except for Fridays and Saturdays. It only hurt their business on the weekends, they said.

There was a sharp drop in theatre grosses while official announcement of VE-Day was being awaited, but after the victory was proclaimed by President Truman the rebound was instantaneous.



BOXOFFICE

CARRIES

MORE

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

THAN

ALL OTHER

MOTION PICTURE

TRADE PAPERS

COMBINED

Independent Film In Record at Akron

CLEVELAND—"Dillinger" marked a new record for independent releases in Youngstown where the picture rolled up a record one week gross at the Paramount Theatre and moved over to the Park for a second continuous week. This is said to be the first time that an independent picture has been given moveover recognition. The picture opened at Warners' Strand, Canton, May 17 and on May 30 it will open a three-week run at the Palace, Toledo.

Nate Schultz, Monogram manager, reports that "The Flame of Barbary Coast," which just concluded a local first run engagement at Loew's State, is booked into the Paramount, Toledo; Ohio, Canton; Palace, Akron, and Palace, Youngstown.

Congratulate Bergman, New Manager at PRC

CLEVELAND—The Eddie Bergman installation party Monday was attended by more than a hundred members of the film industry who dropped into the PRC exchange between 11 a. m. and 2 p. m. to congratulate Eddie upon his appointment as manager.

Fred Rohrs, PRC district manager, and Bergman welcomed the guests which included Harry and Mrs. Reinhart of Canton, George S. Ellis of the Park Theatre, North Canton; Ken Veach of Dennison and Uhrichsville; John J. Huebner, Marion; George Delis, Canton.

Theatre Cashier Will Wed Manager J. H. Madden

PARKERS LANDING, PA.—Wedding bells were scheduled to ring here May 22 for James H. Madden, local exhibitor, and Josephine Zagst, his theatre cashier for more than a dozen years.

Madden started as a projectionist for Lew Hepinger, Clarion's veteran exhibitor-showman. Later he managed other theatres and since 1932 he has been the popular proprietor of the Parker Theatre here.

H. David Gives Clambake For Paramount Couples

CINCINNATI—Harry David, general manager of the Northis circuit, gave an old-fashioned clambake at his spacious home here for Paramount salesmen, their wives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Oulahan, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Borack (assistant to David), Marion Connelly, Paramount cashier, and Charles Perry, exploiteer, were among among the guests. Fred Myers, zone salesman, proved an excellent chef.

Francis Aiello Wins Award

LATROBE, PA.—Francis Aiello, manager of the Manos here, has been awarded an M-G-M honor roll button for showmanship. His campaign on "Marriage Is a Private Affair" won the special award. It was the 72nd to be won by local area theatre managers, according to Charles Baron, M-G-M exploitation representative.

Showman Minus Two Teeth

LOUISVILLE—Marvin Collier, manager of the Pix Theatre here, lost two teeth when assaulted by teen-age boys whom he ejected from the theatre for disturbing the program. The boys succeeded in evading police seeking them for disorderly conduct.

Showmen Pledge Heavy Bond Show Offensive

COLUMBUS—Ohio theatre men, as of May 11, had pledged 504 bond premieres, 1,115 Free Movie Days and 729 children's matinees for the Seventh Loan drive, according to a statewide survey by Pete Wood, Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio secretary. These figures top those of any previous drive.

In the Sixth War Loan Ohio sold $223,000,000 in E bonds of which the theatres were credited with 50 per cent. On the basis of pledged events to date, bond sales in theatres should exceed $150,000,000 for the Seventh War Loan.

Bond Drive Off Promisingly In the Pittsburgh District

PITTSBURGH—Morris M. Finkel, AMPTO president and co-chairman of the local area exhibitor drive for the Seventh War Loan, reports the campaign off to a good start. Many outstanding activities have been scheduled by theatres here for the drive period and all theatre owners are participating. The WAC distributors committee, which includes all branch managers, salesmen and exploiteers, are reporting splendid cooperation in this area.

WAC directors urge all theatre managers to give special attention to accessories and retailers distributed by National Screen Service and remind members in the exhibition field to return trailers promptly after scheduled showings as they will be in service throughout the campaign.

Importance of Bond Shows Given Emphasis at Cleveland Rally

CLEVELAND—The importance of holding bond premieres in as many theatres as possible was stressed by Joe Krenitz, WAC distributor chairman, at a meeting Monday of all distributor personnel.

"We are pledged to hold 25 per cent more premieres this time than in any previous bond drive," Krenitz pointed out to the film salesmen.

Nat Barach, NTS manager, urged the boys to impress all exhibitors with the importance of playing the bond trailers and returning them promptly to NTS so that they may be kept rotating. "Exhibitors will automatically receive a second and a third trailer when the preceding ones have been returned," Barach emphasized.

Tony Stern, Warner booking manager, has accepted the responsibility of being master booker for all free films used during the drive. This includes films for premieres, Free Movie Days, auctions, children's bond matinees or any other special performance a theatre owner may hold to which he is entitled to receive a gratis feature film. This is a divergence from former plans whereby each exchange handled its own free bookings.

Industry bond meetings are being held every Monday during the bond drive period.

CLEVELAND—Every theatre in Cuyahoga County was represented at the Seventh War Bond exhibitor rally in the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n headquarters in the Film Bldg.

Ernest Schwartz, CMPE president, conducted the meeting following a buffet luncheon. John Wallace of the war finance committee stressed the importance of the bond drive to bring the Pacific war to a successful conclusion.

Meyer Fine, WAC exhibitor chairman, urged all exhibitors to sign pledges guaranteeing to hold a bond premiere, Free Movie Day, juvenile bond matinee or all of them. Capt. Robert Siler, who in 26 months overseas, won the combat infantry badge, two Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart, related his experiences in fighting the Japs in New Guinea, Rendova, and Guadalcanal in an effort to make clear what the infantryman has to endure.

Southern Ohio Exhibitors Signed 100 Per Cent for Bond Drive

CINCINNATI—Maurice White, southern Ohio WAC chairman, conducted a Seventh War Loan drive meeting at the Variety Club of all exchange managers and exhibitors here. Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO Theatres general manager, presided, and Allan Moritz, WAC co-chairman, and White spoke. Four war veterans gave brief talks.

Southern Ohio exhibitors have signed up 100 per cent in the bond drive, it was announced.

Robot Bomb in Lobby Helps Sell Bonds

CLEVELAND—What is said to be the first U.S. robot bomb ever to be shown to the public is on display in the lobby of Loew's State during the Seventh War Loan drive. The exhibit was arranged by Howard Berkhart, manager of the State, and Ed Fisher, Loew publicity director.

The robot bomb measures 21 feet in length and has an 18-foot wing spread. It is mounted on a platform in the theatre lobby for all to see, one side of the deadly weapon being open for better inspection. For the purchase of a bond, patrons may mount the platform and inspect the bomb at close range.

This sensational display was obtained through the cooperation of the army air force from Jack Heintz of Cleveland and the Willys Corp. of Toledo, two plants which manufacture delicate instruments and working parts of the bomb.

Horror Films Viewed as Aid To Theatre War Bond Sales

DETROIT—Edward Jacobson, operator of the Davidson Theatre, plans to use the Artkino film, "Maidanek Death Factory," to sell war bonds in the Seventh War Loan drive. Immediately after running the film he plans to stop his show for a bond selling appeal to the audience. He believes the film will show the public why it should buy to the limit of its ability.

Jacobson believes that houses playing the picture without a direct bond appeal should run a bond-selling trailer or slide on the screen immediately after it, as people will be highly receptive to the appeal following such a powerful screen message.

Features Bonds in All Ads

ELLWOOD CITY, PA. — The Mighty Seventh War Loan drive is being exploited in all advertising issued by Andy Biordi, proprietor of the Majestic. One hundred special 10x18 window cards were distributed to local merchants, and he opened his bond campaign with a tieup on "National Velvet," featuring heralds, newspaper advertising, bookmarks, library and merchant displays.

PITTSBURGH

The USO-Variety Club Canteen has utilized the services of almost 7,000 volunteers and entertained more than a million and a half service men and women in the last two years . . . A new steel fire escape has been installed at the Fulton . . . The Schenley marquee has been newly decorated . . . Alton Rea, manager of the Smoot, Parkersburg, W. Va., was scheduled to go into uniform . . . Pvt. Mike Ackerley, son of Harry Ackerley, veteran projectionist here, was listed by the Ninth army as missing in action.

Cpl. Guido Ricci, nephew of Tony Civitarese, owner of the Strand, Pitcairn, and a former manager of that theatre, has been in Europe since before Easter, according to Guido's cousin, Miss Mary Civitarese, nurse's aide . . . Allen Sparrow, Loew's division manager, was a recent visitor here for conferences with Harry Greenman, Loew's Penn manager.

Sgt. Frank J. "Bud" Thomas, formerly of Republic, sustained a slight injury in Italy when an airplane propeller blade fell on his foot . . . Pvt. Mannie Greenwald, former manager of the Barry, is managing an army theatre in France . . . A Filmrow visitor was Lieut. Ed Brown, navy, former Wesleyville, Pa., exhibitor. He was home on leave after several trips across the Atlantic. With him was his father, Ben Brown of Warner circuit . . . Sam Fineberg, Monogram manager, was present at a company sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago . . . Nat Levey, RKO eastern division manager, was a visitor.

Lew Lefton, PRC manager, is seeing his dentist each Saturday afternoon . . . Best wishes to the J. J. McFaddens, Renovo exhibitors, who are observing their silver wedding anniversary . . . Variety Club contributed $100 for visiting service men to telephone home on Mother's Day from the USO-Variety Club Canteen . . . Dave Leff, former local exhibitor and now UA city salesman at Buffalo, was a visitor . . . Harry Feinstein, assistant to Moe Silver, was guest on the Sho-Biz-Quiz WJAS program with the Quiz Kids, Kap Monahan, Harold V. Cohen and Karl Krug . . . Leonard Jacobs, son of Sid Jacobs, Warners' West Virginia district manager, now is in uniform.

RKO's annual picnic has been slated for Saturday, July 7, at Rose Grove, North Park . . . Sunday midnight shows at the Casino were resumed with the lifting of the curfew . . . Newt Williams, National Theatre Supply manager of A&S Steinberg, Inc., theatre supply distributors, has been ill at the home of his sister, Mrs. Veldenzer, but has been resting comfortably, according to Sammy's nephew, Jerome "Jerry" Veldenzer . . . Republic's new and larger office quarters at 1709 Blvd. of the Allies, second floor, have been remodeled and newly decorated. Harry Williams, veteran film man who is now a painting contractor, handled the decorating chore.



GREAT SCREEN POSSIBILITIES—A sure bet for film fame is James Alexander, star of the Theatre Guild's "Oklahoma!" his friends say. Pictured in Pittsburgh, where the outstanding musical play established a record three-week engagement at the Nixon, are Rouben Mamoulian, production director, (left); at top, right, Syd Lehman, Republic branch manager, and the famous "Curly" of "Oklahoma!" who makes his initial film appearance in Republic's "Earl Carroll Vanities," wherein he sings the finale number, "You Beautiful Thing You." Lower right, Jimmy Alexander is pictured while being directed by Mamoulian, the famous film director. A number of the Hollywood studios are seeking to sign Alexander for pictures.

"Oklahoma!" is playing in Philadelphia for the next four months, and New York film executives and Hollywood talent scouts are excited regarding a screen career for Alexander. He is touted as a "must" to play "Curly" when the film version of the great American musical production comes to the screen.

William R. Stich, former theatre marquee sales executive, who resides at the Hotel Webster Hall here, has entered a new field, offering to retailers a line of costume jewelry, cosmetics, toys, games, etc. . . . Motiograph-Mirrophonic sound system and complete booth equipment at the new Sykes, Sykesville, were sold by A&S Steinberg. The installation was handled by A. W. Alexander, Altec engineer.

Capt. Frederick J. Rachiele, one of three service sons of the Harry Rachieles, Sharpsburg, Blawnox and Derry exhibitors, was in the news again when war reporters credited him with leading the first Allied troops to Berchtesgaden. Denying French claims to being first at Hitler's hideout, Rachiele said: "I was there with a patrol and we didn't see any Frenchmen. We took what was left of Hitler's flag, and came back."

Charles Brunner, local and district IATSE secretary at Altoona who suffered the amputation of a leg as the result of a foot infection, has returned to his home from an Altoona hospital . . . Pvt. John Heyman jr., son of the veteran projectionist at the State, Aliquippa, has returned to this country from Germany . . . Eleven district school children were honored for heroic acts at the 20th annual Junior Safety Patrol meeting which was staged recently at the Warner Theatre . . . The final meeting of the year of the motion picture division of the Allegheny County Federation of Women's Clubs was held in the Warner screening room where "The Enchanted Cottage" was previewed.

K. A. "Gus" Vaveris, Johnstown showman, has christened his new son George Xavier . . . SeaBee Arthur Goldberg was home on leave from Bermuda visiting his parents, the H. Goldbergs, Beaver Falls exhibitors . . . Johnny Dunn, projectionist at the Roosevelt, was ill at Mercy Hospital . . . Wesley R. Lund, former manager of the Strand, Aliquippa, now a member of the 324th combat engineering battalion, 99th infantry, was one of the first to cross the Rhine. He is the son of Jesse C. Lund, Notopoulos circuit Aliquippa city manager . . . Sgt. Max Shabason, former M-G-M booker, was a Filmrow visitor while on furlough from Randolph Field . . . Cpl. Dick Hornick, former assistant manager of the Strand, Johnstown, who was with the army engineers in Africa and Italy for two-and-a-half years, has returned to the U.S.A. His brother, Sgt. Bob Hornick, former Huntingdon and Connellsville manager, is on duty in Germany.

Belated word was received of the death of Daniel Collier, 93, veteran exhibitor, who retired from the theatre field at Suterville, Pa., six or seven years ago. "Old Dan" Collier had been widely known in the film industry for many years. He had been in poor health for a long period . . . Sgt. Jim DiMauro, former Johnstown, Vintondale and Jerome exhibitor, who was in service for several years in the Orient and who returned here some months ago, now is a B29 instructor at Grand Island, Neb. . . . Home from Iwo Jima, Gus Papageorge, coast guard junior officer, has been visiting at the home of his brother-in-law, K. A. Vaveris, Johnstown exhibitor.

Bill Graner, who has been assisting Morris M. Finkel at the Hilltop and Capitol, is back on the job after a ten-day illness . . . Joe Bell, Fayette City exhibitor, reports his sister died two weeks ago . . . The new Co-Op headquarters, formerly the Republic office, has been extensively remodeled. Bert M. Stearn's quarters are on the second floor, front; a second office adjoining is the Film Classics

division where Milton Brauman, former local M-G-M sales manager, presides as manager. Harry Long's office is on the street floor in a rear room formerly occupied by Syd Lehman, Republic manager.

Glenn Floyd, Follansbee, W. Va., and Monaca, Pa., exhibitor, is up and at 'em again after conquering pneumonia at a West Virginia hospital . . . There will be no Sunday motion picture exhibition local option elections in Pennsylvania this year, but several are due for listing at the spring primary election in 1946 . . . Lieut. John J. McTighe, son of the late Peter J. McTighe, veteran Enright employe, who furloughed here from Europe following his father's death, is en route back to Paris.

Pittsburgh Catholic Organ Questions Sund'y Offerings

PITTSBURGH—In an editorial entitled "Coveting the Sunday," the Pittsburgh Catholic, official organ of the diocese, condemned commercial amusements on Sunday, stating that "clean, wholesome entertainment" had been promised when Pennsylvania modified its ancient law a decade ago. "Before any more concessions are made to the money-greedy amusement industry," it went on, "these questions should be answered:

"1. Are even one-fourth of the movie houses offering Sunday programs suitable for children, from the moral standpoint?

"2. Has juvenile delinquency been reduced by opening the Sunday for commercial amusements?

"3. Is the general moral condition of the community better since the Sunday has been turned over to the amusement industry, for profit?

"Statistics show that the answer to the first question is 'no'—the figure varies from 10 to 15 per cent. The vast majority of children attending Sunday movies see films pronounced unsuitable for them by the Legion of Decency. Every one knows the answer to the other two questions."

Latin American Educators Enjoy "Caballeros" Screen

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.—One hundred educators and guests attending the Latin American institute of the West Virginia University were present at a special screening of Walt Disney's "The Three Caballeros" at the Warner Theatre. The visitors from South America, highly amused, were enthusiastic about the Technicolor cartoon feature.

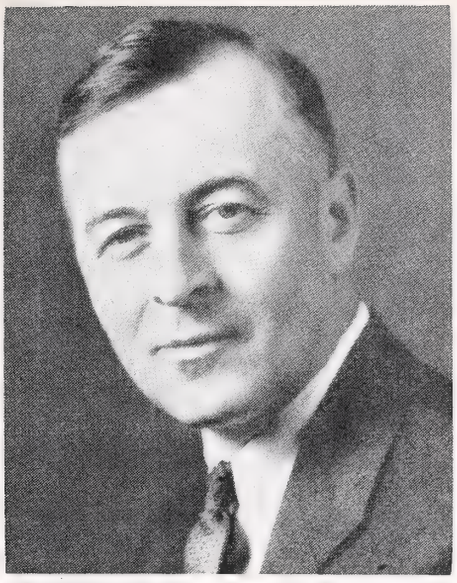
Dr. Warren F. Manning and Dr. Richard Aspinall turned press agents for the film, assisting Joe Murdock, Warner Theatre manager, and Douglas Beck, RKO exploiteer. In addition to the special screening for the distinguished visitors and guests, Morgantown was sold the Disney cartoon via special flag displays of the Latin American countries, valances, posters, bulletins issued by the university, photo and still displays.

New Pittsburgh Salesman

PITTSBURGH—M-G-M's new local sales representative is Harold Zeltner, who joined Leo's staff recently at Buffalo after receiving an honorable discharge from the army. He is a brother of Irwin Zeltner, former exploiteer here for UA, Universal and 20th-Fox.

N. Siegel to Paramount

CLEVELAND—Norman Siegel, for 15 years radio editor of the Press, has resigned to become affiliated with the publicity department of Paramount Pictures Corp. He will report for duty in Hollywood June 1 as a member of George Brown's staff.



PENINSULA PATRIOT — Martin Thomas, above, is exhibitor state co-chairman for Michigan, and as such has charge of the fertile peninsula section of the Wolverine State.

Okay on Filmrow Pay Boost Means Back Pay for 150

PITTSBURGH—The WPB has approved salary increases for members of the Filmrow Employes Union and several distributors have paid back wages held up pending action, Orlando "Slam" Boyle, 20th-Fox booker and union business representative, announced.

Wages on the increased scale amounted to ten per cent or better, Boyle said, and the increase was retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943. Approximately 150 employes are sharing in the boost in salary. Union members who resigned Filmrow jobs, but are still connected with the motion picture industry, are entitled to receive the back wages, Boyle said.

Form New Corporation

ALLIANCE, OHIO—Incorporation papers have been filed in Columbus for the R. S. Wallace Enterprises, with a capital stock of $50,000. R. S. Wallace, Sophy C. Wallace, and R. L. Kniveton are named as incorporators. The firm will operate the building at 239 E. Main St., which R. S. Wallace recently purchased. It houses the Strand, second run house, which has been operated by Wallace.

Three Operators to Army

PITTSBURGH—IATSE Local 171, in losing three additional members this week, has given 59 projectionists to the armed forces. Eleven members have received discharges. Newly inducted into the service were Ray Sosinsky of the Rhumba, Cloyd Turner of the Brushton, and J. Gerlach, relief projectionist.

Pittsburgh Variety Club Golf Tourney June 6

Pittsburgh—Variety Club Tent 1 will stage a golf tournament and dinner at the Westmoreland Country Club Friday, July 6, the proceeds to be donated to the Camp O'Connell fund. This will be the club's first benefit tournament in three years. Herbert Dimling is chairman. Other members of the committee include Tom Birks of the Sun-Telegraph, Archie Fineman, Buck Stoner, John McGreevey, Jerry Castelli, Art Morrone, John Walsh and Mike Gallagher, chief barker.

Drab Sameness Hurts Band Acts, Critic Says

PITTSBURGH — Kaspar Monahan, show shop editor of the Pittsburgh Press, adds his opinion as the cause for the waning popularity of band shows in theatres:

"Whether or not these shows, as charged, are listless and lacking in talent, there is a monotonous sameness to virtually all of them —the same procedure, same manner of presentation, same style of singing as practiced by the band's canary-cutie, same business by the drummer, etc. What a band needs is what every show needs—a smart producer or director to get some novelty and originality out of a performance."

Another fairly widespread opinion is that what's needed is more music and less noise, with a little real talent offered.

Ambridge Antitrust Case Set Back on Court Docket

PITTSBURGH—The Ambridge case, in which Harry Norman Ball seeks first run films for the Penn of that community, again is on the waiting list. The antitrust action, with four film distributing corporations among the defendants, was interrupted by the court while defense testimony was being taken. The U.S. court had to set back the film case because of scheduled jury trials. The length of time these trials will consume is not known, but additional time will be taken thereafter as Judge F. P. Schoonmaker has a vacation scheduled.

Final witness prior to the court's interruption was John Notopoulos, one of the theatrical executive sons of A. N. Notopoulos, veteran circuit exhibitor, who manages the new State, Ambridge, which plays the product formerly exhibited at the Penn when he managed that house. When the antitrust case is resumed, defendant distributors will be placed on the witness stand.

Pittsburgh Theatres Escape Imposition of City Levy

PITTSBURGH — When the Pennsylvania legislature killed a bill which would have allowed Pittsburgh to broaden its tax base by taxing things other than real estate, the amusement industries of this city probably were saved from an admission tax or a tax on gross receipts. Republican senators inserted an amendment which would require Pittsburgh's Democratic controlled city council to establish a new tax setup prior to the November elections. The measure, now killed, would have allowed Pittsburgh to levy a tax on subjects not now taxed by the state. Wages, sales, admissions, gross receipts, occupations, etc., were considered.

The state general assembly, now adjourned, killed the so-called fair employment practice legislation, defeated bills to legalize horse racing and permit Sunday ice games and shows and Sunday bowling. Earlier in the session a move to approve bingo games failed, as did certain professed safety measures and certain theatrical agents' licensing bills.

New Screen Is Installed At Grand Blanc Theatre

GRAND BLANC, MICH.—A new plastic molded screen has been installed at the Burton Theatre, giving approximately 40 per cent more light plus a tendency to project a third dimensional picture. It is a postwar type screen only recently released for civilian theatres.

DETROIT

Up in the Booths: M. W. Cummings, formerly of the Rialto, sends greetings from the Biltmore Theatre, Miami, where he is employed . . . Mrs. Frank C. Shannon, whose husband used to be at the Pasadena, reports he has not been heard from for several weeks . . . Walter Bradley of the Warfield is launching his yacht, the "Jane Anne" on June 1 . . . Percy Huebner jr., aged seven weeks, was the youngest visitor on record to Local 199 offices. His dad works at the Rialto.

Harry R. Berns of the Bijou is entering the hospital for a minor operation . . . Harrison L. Cronkhite, formerly of the Granada, has returned from a sojourn in California to Melvindale, Mich. . . . P. C. Baker of the Regent, formerly of Littlefield, has moved out on Grand River Ave.

Ralph Ruben and Wallace Ceglarek are Local 199's representatives at Percy Jones Hospital . . . Local B179 is moving offices downstairs to 400 Hoffman Bldg. . . . Mrs. Andy Trainer, whose husband is at the Adams, has been quite ill . . . The boys are all back on the midnight shifts again . . . Frank Kinsora of the Palms-State celebrated VE-Day by holding open house.

Gus Cohen of the Columbia has left for a three-week vacation on the west coast . . . Roger M. Kennedy, business agent, is leaving for the IATSE board meeting at Los Angeles . . . Dave Idzal has installed a new projection room in the Fox for special screenings.

Wolverines: H. H. Chase is revamping the booth in the Lake at Lake Odessa . . . George and Jim Olson are readying the Rialto at Grayling for the summer season . . . Thomas Reed is putting new projectors in the Dundee at Dundee.

Under the Marquees: Don Lovewell is revamping the Savoy with new projection equipment and screen . . . Manager Arthur Leazenby of the Cinema will have the house open for the summer, the first time in years . . . President Sam Baker of the Cinema was expected back from New York . . . Lou Cohen of the Paradise is back on the job after a two-week illness.

Theatrical Post Notes: Max Kolin and Owen Blough head a committee to raise $6,000 in the Seventh Loan drive in the post . . . Lewis Stone and Jack Dickstein are handling the Poppy Day sale in the Michigan Showmen's Ass'n . . . Clarence Apgar spent a weekend in Grace Hospital for a checkup . . . Harry Carson reports an opening for a "real salesman."

Exchanges: Charles Garner, Artkino manager, has booked "Zoya," story of an 18-year-old Russian girl hanged by the Nazis, for an indefinite run at the Cinema, opening May 23 . . . Jack Ryder, Paramount manager, reports all quiet on Cass Park . . . Al Champagne, 20th-Fox booker, reports new pictures coming through slower because of war conditions . . . Carl Shalit held a sales meeting here over the weekend of all Columbia managers in his district—Albany, Buffalo, Indianapolis, and St. Louis.

Jack Mundstuk, former M-G-M booker, and son of Dave Mundstuk, old-time independent exchange operator here, has been named M-G-M manager at Buffalo . . . Clair Townsend, PRC, is taking French lessons in the elevator . . . Manny Pearson, UA exploiteer, was in town to plug "Since You Went Away."

Sgt. Richard Flemion sends his dad William, PRC manager, a Mauser rifle captured from the Germans . . . Marie Wentela of Film Classics spent the two VE-Days curing intestinal flu with a new prescription . . . Betty Lehr of PRC wants it known her husband's name is Art, not Red.

Charles Garner, Artkino manager, was busy arranging the lobby of the Film Bldg. for bond sales . . . Lou Lober, formerly with M-G-M here, has been upped to acting chief of the OWI overseas branch, replacing Robert Riskin . . . Pvt. Seth Kantor, a marine, son of the NSS manager, is back on Guam, after the Iwo Jima campaign.

War Activities: Joe Gins, WAC state distributor chairman, is taking general charge of the bond booth in the Film Bldg. . . . Mrs. Arvid Kantor, wife of the NSS manager, has been named to handle the desk, as she has done for the last three drives. Wives of both distributors and exhibitors will assist her . . . Variety's committee that handled the day rooms and special recreation equipment at Percy Jones Hospital are going out there on an inspection visit this week. Alex Schreiber is the chairman with Arvid Kantor, Arthur Robinson, Lou Wisper and Jack Zide.

Short Circuits: Charlie Komer is putting new transverters in the Royal Oak, Whittier, Punch and Judy and Redford . . . Wisper & Wetsman are doing ditto in the Calvin at Dearborn . . . Earl Hudson and Jack Keegan left for New York on business . . . Warren Carmer of the Dexter sold $250,000 of bonds at his special bond rally . . . Storekeeper Peter Kavel, navy, former manager of the Ace, postcards from Salt Lake City en route to Los Angeles, and promises a new address soon.

Along the Rialto: Anne Gioffre, secretary to the president of Jam Handy, was back from a trip to New York City . . . Mrs. Arthur D. Kerwin, retiring president of the Greater Detroit Motion Picture Council, reports committee appointments will be made this coming month . . . John L. Loell, clerk of the arbitration tribunal, has moved to Room 730, Penobscot Bldg., to make room for an WMC expansion.

Wallace "Wally" Baker, former manager of houses for the Klett, Schreiber, and Cosco chains and with various exchanges at times, is running as an independent candidate for mayor . . . Pvt. William E. Carlson, son of William Carlson of Carlson Studios and a former chief barker of Variety, is home recuperating from his months in a German prison camp. He was an advance scout when captured.

Jack Bell of United Billposting is looking forward to nice summer business . . . Bill Green of M-G-M, Chicago, was in town to visit his mother . . . Henderson Richey, Jack Flynn, Bill Bishop, Warren Slee and Bill Green, all ex-Detroiters, held a reunion at M-G-M offices in Chicago . . . Charles Roth is planning to have his annual recital of pupils, although he has been in the army two years, at Hunter Field, Ga.

Sgt. Roger Saint Luis, nephew of Ann Sothern, elevator operator in the Film Bldg., was killed in action in Germany. He leaves five brothers in the armed forces . . . Billy Vine, Columbia star, is appearing at Lou Walters' Latin Quarter.

Police Rout Young VE Gang At Cincinnati's Lyric

CINCINNATI—A gang of from 30 to 40 youths tried to crash the gate at the Lyric on VE-Day, which was showing "Tarzan and the Amazons." Florence Kipp, manager, called police who dispersed the youths who had broken several doors.



FILM BOWLERS FETE LEAGUE CHAMPS—The Monogram maple splitters were honor guests at the annual dinner of the Detroit Film Bowling League which marked the close of the league's season. The championship five, shown at left, was captained by Jack Saxe, central figure in the group. At right, hitting the chow line for seconds, are Bob Dunbar, WB manager; Milton Cohen, RKO manager, and Moe Dudelson, UA manager. Irving Belinsky of the Franklyn Theatre wields the serving ladle.

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THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



A remodeled storeroom in Farrell, Pa., was the scene of **Herman L. Stahl's** first theatre venture. The Nixon opened in 1911 in the days of the single reels. Today, "Herm," as he is known to his friends, owns two houses in Oil City, Pa., the Drake, seating 1,967, and the 746-seat Lyric. He is a member of Allied, Chamber of Commerce, Elks and Variety. Three of his sons are in the army and another is with the OWI in Washington. A daughter, Shirley, lives at home. In the 34 years of his career the theatre has lost none of its fascination for Stahl. Hobby: Golf.



Back in the days when the infant motion picture "industry" consisted of men with a lot of nerve and an empty store, **Hyman Bank** of Williamson, W. Va., entered the business with his father in Keystone, W. Va., in 1907. He moved to Williamson in 1910 where he operates the Cinderella and Mingo theatres. Bank is active in civic affairs and is a leader in the Red Cross and the Chamber of Commerce. He is a Shriner and a member of the West Virginia Managers Ass'n. He is an ardent fisherman. "Hi" has one son, a dentist.



John F. Drebert, whose friends call him "J. F," introduced motion pictures to Boomer, W. Va., in 1912. He operates the Princess and Fountain Theatres there, each seating 300, at the present time and is a member of the West Virginia Managers Ass'n. He has always been interested in civic affairs and is a member of the Lions Club of Montgomery, W. Va. Drebert has a son in service and a daughter is dead. Besides his constant interest in presenting fine entertainment at his showcases this exhibitor finds much pleasure and relaxation in reading.



An electrical engineer trained at Ohio University, **Fred E. Gross** devoted eight years to that profession before going into the motion picture business in 1914 at Nelsonville, Ohio. In 1916 he moved to Crooksville, Ohio, where he now is operating the Majestic, a 450-seat house. Gross is married and has one son, Cpl. Jack L. Gross, stationed at Camp Atterbury, Ind., in a service unit. He is a member of the Elks, Athens lodge 973. Raising fine Hereford cattle, and indulging in an occasional fishing or hunting trip are his favorite diversions.



Owner of the Ferndale Theatre in Ferndale, Mich., since 1931, **Thomas H. Ealand** was before that time associated with the legitimate stage. He acted as agent and manager of roadshows and then produced his own. He managed the Crystal and the Orpheum for Saxe Bros., was general manager of the Miles circuit in Detroit, and with Paramount and Warner Bros. sales departments in Detroit, Cleveland and Toronto. Ealand's clubs are the Elks and Variety and he is executive chairman of the WAC, president of the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce.



Acquisition of the Pasadena Theatre in Detroit in 1923 was an important milestone in the motion picture career of **David Newman.** He still owns the Pasadena and in 1935 took over the Oliver, the Jefferson and Sheridan houses, each seating approximately 400. A past director of Allied of Michigan, Newman is a member of the Detroit Variety and Economic clubs and plays golf at the Knellwood Country Club. He is married and has two sons, Robert and Allan, both attending school. The Newman family lives at 18623 Santa Barbara Drive.



One of Michigan's veteran exhibitors, **William E. Schuttenhelm,** got his start at the Oakland Theatre in 1915. For the last 14 years he has operated the Globe in Detroit and was, for a number of years, director and officer of Allied of Michigan. A widower, "Bill" has two daughters, one of whom is married and living in Detroit and the other lives with him. A veteran of the Spanish-American War, he is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Knights of Columbus. He has been active in bringing the exhibitors closer together in his territory.



The owners of the Abington and Krim theatres in Detroit, **Sol** and **Mac Krim,** followed their father in a choice of a profession. Sol entered the business 20 years ago and is operating a one-man partnership while his brother Mac is in Europe. Capt. Mac Krim was an OWI correspondent until recently. He now is attached to the American embassy in Madrid, Spain. Two other brothers are with the air corps, Private Harry stationed at Chatham Field, and Lieutenant Leonard a B26 pilot in Europe. Sol, who is a member of Variety, is unmarried.



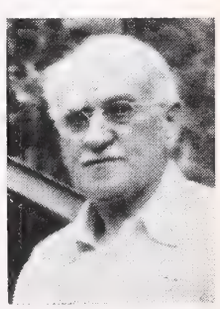
Harold R. "Hal" Munz became a motion picture exhibitor in 1922 in association with his father, Charles W. Munz, one of the pioneers of Detroit. Today he owns the Century Theatre there, a house seating 1,499. Munz vividly recalls the first picture he purchased, "Broadway Rose," starring Mae Murray. He is active in the theatre activities of his town and is secretary and treasurer of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan. The family home is at 17605 Stoekel Ave., and the Munz son, Charles, is serving with the army. Hal's favorite sports are fishing and yachting.



Ed Bleir was a wholesale fruit dealer in New York when he decided to move west to Ohio and become a showman. He opened the Royal in Mansfield, Ohio, in 1923 and in 1927 he sold it and bought the Sun in Cleveland. The 763-seat house proved to be just what he wanted and he has remained at its helm. Bleir is a member of Cleveland Motion Picture Theatre Owners League and ITO of Ohio. He is married and has one daughter, Norma Jane, an honor student in high school. Favorite off-hour occupation: Fishing.



A teacher of mathematics and chemistry in Ireland, **Bernard L. Kilbride** now of Detroit, came to this country in 1911 at 23. In 1917 he started as bookkeeper for John H. Kunsky, Inc., and has worked in various capacities for King ever since. For a time with King at radio station WXYZ he has acted as his investment counsel the last 12 years. He owns four theatres in Detroit, some in partnership with Dr. L. G. Hillier. His memberships include Knights of Columbus, Variety and Catholic welfare groups. The Kilbrides have 10 children, two boys in war.



F. A. Schneider of Detroit built his first theatre 35 years ago and is still operating the 1,000-seat Stratford. Two years after his first successful venture, he built the De-Luxe in 1917, a 1,500-seat house also in continuous operation. Schneider formerly was president of the Dix Theatre Co. His two daughters are co-managers of the Stratford, formerly managed by his late son, Gerald. An Elk and a member of the Knights of Columbus, Schneider's avowed hobby is attending conventions. He adds they have become "a little too strenuous for me lately."

CLEVELAND

L. H. **Walters,** local NTS manager, left here last Saturday (12) by plane for Los Angeles to attend the SMPEA meeting there. He planned a vacation after the meeting in Phoenix and Mexico City . . . Lieut. Tom Mooney, elder of Co-Op President Milt Mooney's two sons, has been transferred from Pensacola, Fla., where he was a naval air instructor, to San Francisco. His wife is with him. Milt's younger son Blair, 17, a student at Notre Dame, has enlisted in the navy and awaits induction.

Betty Buller, NTS bookkeeper, has a dual personality! By day she balances books but come night she entertains the boys at Crile General Hospital, Brecksville Veterans Hospital, the USO and the Stage Door Canteen with song. She is a member of the Cleveland Talent Revue unit entertaining service men.

Lou Ratener, Warner Theatres contact manager, and Harold "Bud" Friedman, assistant Warner Theatres booking manager, have gone to Hollywood for several weeks . . . Nate Schultz, Monogram franchise owner, was in Chicago recently attending a regional franchise owners meeting . . . Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, conferred with Manager Sam P. Gorrel here for a few days. Seplowin attended the opening of Republic's "Flame of Barbary Coast" at Loew's State in a prerelease run.

Ray Allison, manager of the Shaker, an Associated circuit house, last week entertained at dinner at Allendorf's the 13 women who take over his bond booth during the bond drives on a volunteer basis . . . Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager; Assistant Dick Wright and D. Leonard Halper, building engineer, inspected Warners' Youngstown theatres to see what will be required in Warners' postwar building plans.

Fred Meyer, Universal sales manager, was here to conduct a regional sales meeting . . . Local friends of H. A. Bandy were distressed to hear of his death at his home in California last week. Bandy, as the old-timers will remember, was first the Goldwyn branch manager here and subsequently a district manager for Goldwyn. He is survived by his wife.

Charles Spetka, manager of the Harris, Findlay, of necessity engaged usherettes to take the place of the draft age ushers. Now he admits they are doing a better job of filling the undesirable seats than the boys did.

Ed Fisher, Loew publicity director, and Howard Burkhardt, manager of Loew's State, were responsible for that clever book entitled "The Diary of Dorian Gray" whose 18x12-inch pages turned automatically. It was part of a large cutout advance display in the State lobby on "The Picture of Dorian Gray" . . . Marine Sgt. Marty Friedman, who handed out dates over the Warner booking desk before entering the service more than two years ago, is now at Guam.

Guy Ellis, former Variety Theatre manager who was married shortly before he went overseas, was in France when he last reported to the Warner office . . . Charlie Albert, who was one of the first inductees sent to Camp Claiborne, La., back in 1941, will also be one of the last to leave. Charlie writes that the camp is being abandoned, leaving only a skeleton force there, and he will be in the skeleton.

Ray Brown, Warner Theatres southern district manager, reports that his son Ray has recovered from an attack of pneumonia and is still stationed in Corsica. His Wac daughter Dorothy, stationed in Accra, Africa, has won her first stripe . . . J. S. Jossey has joined Mrs. Jossey in Los Angeles and is reported to be in much better health than he was when he left Cleveland two weeks ago.

Eddie Loye Named By Film Bowlers

DETROIT—Eddie Loye, office manager at RKO, was named president of the Film Bowling League at the annual election held in the Variety Club rooms in the Book Cadillac Hotel. Other officers elected: Robert Dunbar, WB manager, first vice-president; Fred Sturgess, Cooperative Theatres, second vice-president; William Pasanen, Film Truck Service, secretary, and Al Champagne, 20th-Fox booker, treasurer.

Plans for 1945-46 season were laid at the meeting, with the same time and place for bowling planned for next season as in the last year. A big golf outing is planned for the midsummer.

Following the election and business session, bowlers held their annual supper, followed by card games and refreshments.

Tablecloth notes on the meeting:

Max Blumenthal made sure that the right parties knew the Monogram team was the winner . . . Bob Buermele has just acquired a new house and two cartons of cigarets . . . Sam Smith, with whom your scribe graduated (Central, 1922) was a valuable member of the league this season . . . William Scharun reports he has gained four pounds . . . Boris Bernardi has lost 23 pounds in five weeks.

Emil Beck was called to California because of the serious illness of his wife . . . Clair Townsend, who was with Columbia the last nine years and was a Metro manager here many years ago, has been named to take charge here for PRC.

Bill Pasanen was railroaded into another term as secretary without a vote . . . Jack Zide was clamorous that he won the championship single handed . . . Joe Lee made sure that reporters got enough to eat . . . Leonard Soskin and Saul Sloan received their business calls over the club phone . . . Irving Belinsky was the chef-in-chief.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

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Super Comedy Earns High at Cincinnati

CINCINNATI—The industrial exposition staged by Exploiteer Wise at the Albee, combined with the super comedy, "Without Love," drew record-breaking grosses. "Salty O'Rourke" in its third week showed 25 per cent above average, as did "Brewster's Millions." "The Horn" just blew.

(Average is 100)

Albee—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 220
Capitol—**Salty O'Rourke** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. ... 125
Grand—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 80
Keith's—**Brewster's Millions** (UA) 125
Lyric—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 80
Palace—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB) 70
Shubert—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk. ... 80

"Tree" in Fourth Cleveland Week Turns in City's Top Score

CLEVELAND—With all downtown stores closed on VE-Day, good grosses were boosted into a week of excellent business by overflow crowds who had nowhere else to go. "God Is My Co-Pilot" at the Hippodrome shared top honors with "Salty O'Rourke" at the State. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" held to a high 130 per cent in its fourth and last week on the main stem. All other pictures drew well but finished just under the par line.

Detail for week ended May 9:

Allen—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd wk.; moveover from Hipp 90
Hippodrome—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 110
Lake—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 4th wk., 2nd moveover 130
Ohio—**Guest in the House** (UA), 2nd wk.; moveover from Stillman 90
Palace—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox), plus Gloria Jean, Bert Wheeler, Hal Leroy and vaudeville on stage 90
State—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 105
Stillman—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.; moveover from State 95

Heavy VE-Day Patronage in Detroit Sends Grosses Up; Calloway Scores

DETROIT—The local show business was up to a nice figure last week, helped strongly by the VE-Day celebration which shot average downtown grosses 300 per cent above normal for a Tuesday. Outstanding was the strength shown by the heavy array of Monogram features.

Adams—**Sudan** (Univ); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 120
Broadway-Capitol—**Dillinger** (Mono); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono), 2nd wk. 125
Cinema—**Wait for Me** (Art); **Stalin's Report** (Art) .. 135
Downtown—**Utah** (Rep), plus Cab Calloway on stage 145
Fox—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 140
Michigan—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) 120
Palms-State—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **Fashion Model** (WB), 2nd wk. 115
Paradise—**Broadway Big Shot** (PRC), reissue, plus Earl Hines orchestra on stage 130
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M; **The Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 120

"A Royal Scandal" Tops Attractions At Pittsburgh; "Song" Also Scores

PITTSBURGH — "A Royal Scandal" was well received at the J. P. Harris, scoring highest above average. The costume-farce comedy then was moved over to the Senator. The Stanley also had an attraction in "Between Two Women," the attraction being Van Johnson. "A Song to Remember" continued to show strength in its third downtown week.

Barry—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Mono); **Charter Pilot** (20th-Fox) 80
Fulton—**Sudan** (Univ) 90
Harris—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox) 125
Penn—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk. 85
Ritz—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk. 70
Senator—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk. ... 115
Stanley—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M) 100
Warner—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Three Is a Family** (UA) 75

Art Williams to Coast On "Wing and a Prayer"

Louisville—Art Williams, BOXOFFICE correspondent here, is back on the job after three weeks in Los Angeles, where he was a witness in a federal court case.

Williams reports an enjoyable visit despite the fact he was "bumped off" airplanes four times because of higher priority passengers on the trip out before finally being grounded at Phoenix, where he and three others chartered a small commercial plane for the remainder of the trip.

"I'll admit I didn't like that last part of the trip out," he confesses. "I'm not nervous as a rule, but there were no parachutes and no landing fields for miles at a stretch, the cabin was so full of leaking gasoline we couldn't smoke and the carbon monoxide fumes so heavy we could hardly keep our eyes open. On top of that, I had been without sleep for nearly 40 hours. What a trip!"

Discussion in Cleveland On Men's Film Tastes

CLEVELAND—What kind of motion pictures do men prefer to see? And how do they choose their film fare? Do they go to see the movies of their own choice or are they influenced in their choice of film fare by the feminine members of their families?

These are questions which were brought out into the open Tuesday evening (15) in a panel discussion of the subject sponsored by the Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland at its final meeting of the year in the Automobile Club.

Participating were seven leading citizens, Herbert C. Hunsaker, dean of Cleveland College; Leslie E. Frye, director of visual aids for the board of education; Dr. Bruno Gobhardt, director of the health museum; John Nicholson, librarian, Fenn College; William S. Hockman, director of religious education, Lakewood Presbyterian Church; Paul Healy, professor at the Case School of Applied Science, and W. B. McKenna, director of the University Settlement.

Cousin Buys Ohio Country Club From Peter Wellman

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO—George Wellman has purchased the Mahoning County Country Club from a cousin, Peter M. Wellman, Girard Theatre owner, real estate transfers at the courthouse at nearby Warren revealed.

The purchase concludes a land contract drawn up between the two men three years ago. It includes the clubhouse and some adjacent ground with the exception of the golf house. It for years has been the scene of get-together sessions of theatre men in the Mahoning Valley district.

Benefits to Ohio Theatres Projected by Tax Law

COLUMBUS—The Ohio house of representatives has passed a senate bill which clarifies the Ohio sales tax law with respect to film rentals. The bill now goes back to the senate for concurrence in amendments. It is expected the amended bill will be passed and be signed by Gov. Frank J. Lausche.

P. J. Wood, secretary of the ITO, said that the bill would save the industry $3,000,000.

Gleason to "Kid From Brooklyn"

James Gleason has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Kid From Brooklyn," an RKO production.

Michigan Variety Club Golf Tourney June 25

DETROIT—The Michigan Variety Club will stage its annual golf tournament June 25 at Meadowbrook Country Club, scene of last year's outing. Details are being arranged by these committees appointed by James F. Sharkey, chief barker.

Tickets—Moe Dudelson, chairman; Irving Belinsky, J. Oliver Brooks, Frank J. Downey and Kal Bruss.

Golf—Clare Townsend, chairman; Joe Gins, David Newman, David M. Idzal and Frank A. Wetsman.

Prizes—Carl W. Buermele, chairman; Joe Lee, Joseph Busic, Arthur Robinson and Ralph Raskin.

Special events—Milton E. Cohen, chairman; Ben Zimner, Ben Robins, Robert Dunbar and Charles Komer.

Akron Theatre Operators Seek to Set Clocks Back

AKRON—Recall petitions against four of the 14-member Akron city council are being circulated in a flareup over the semiannual change in time. The petitions were taken out after the council rejected a proposal to put Akron on "slow" time this summer.

Robert C. Menches, representing Akron theatre operators, told the council's public welfare committee that theatres would lose thousands of dollars if the city remained on war daylight savings time. He said people would not go to shows until it is dark. "Many theatres here," he said, "operated at a loss all last summer because of wartime."

Michigan Theatres to Aid In Cancer Society Drive

DETROIT—The Variety Club has undertaken to enlist every theatre in the lower peninsula of Michigan as an active participant in the annual drive of the American Cancer Society in the week starting May 25.

Trailers have been prepared to issue to each theatre individually through Earl J. Hudson, president of the Detroit United chain. The plan evolved by James F. Sharkey, chief barker, and Arvid Kantor, committee chairman, is to follow the trailer showing with a collection from theatre patrons.

Theatre Schedule Doubled

HARBOR SPRINGS, MICH. — Walter Large, operator of the Lyric Theatre here, has announced the theatre will be open four nights a week through the summer, adding Monday and Friday. It was operated only Saturday and Sunday nights in the winter months.

Mrs. W. A. Smith a Manager

AKRON—Mrs. W. A. Smith, widow of "Weary" Smith, is continuing to manage the Majestic Theatre here.

Emil Foryan in Army Call

PITTSBURGH — Emil Foryan, assistant shipper at the Republic exchange, will leave May 30 for an army camp.

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CINCINNATI

A J. **"Happy" Meininger,** new manager of the new Strand, and Mrs. Meininger are in the market for an apartment. They recently arrived here from Chicago . . . Florence Kipp, Lyric manager, is back at her desk following an illness . . . Charlie Palmer, report has it, was ordered to his bed at Jewish Hospital for three weeks but persists in roaming the corridors.

Stanley and Mrs. Jacques were vacationing in New York . . . Lou Siebert, RKO, is vacationing with his mother at Celina . . . Col. Arthur Frudenfeld was in Dayton for a war bond meeting . . . Bert Fiala, the Alhambra, is at the Miami Valley Hospital following an operation.

Pete Niland, Columbia, moved from the Kemper Lane to the Broadway downtown . . . The local Columbia staff finished in second place in the national sales drive. It held the lead for weeks. The boys will receive three weeks' extra pay.

George Daumeyer, Warner office manager, reports a dual celebration. His wife Elsa's birthday was followed by Mother's Day with appropriate remembrances . . . Bill Luibel and Ray Frisz called at WB . . . Also Mr. and Mrs. Taylor of Williamstown, Ky. . . . Erdine Carter was vacationing.

Johnny Allen, new district manager for M-G-M was a visitor. He formerly was city salesman here, was promoted to branch manager at Washington and from there to district manager. J. J. Maloney accompanied him here . . . Jim Curran, Republic booker, returned from a Kentucky trip. Mildred Post, assistant booker, pinch-hit in his absence.

Florence Beck, Paramount assistant cashier, was at her desk following an illness . . . Joe Oulahan jr., son of the Paramount manager, has enlisted in the navy and is awaiting induction.

Jack Rodman, Paramount booking manager, was vacationing at his home in Richmond, Ind. . . . Rodman's wife recently proved herself quick on the draw when a colored man attempted intrusion in the Rodman home. Mrs. Rodman held the intruder at bay with a gun until police arrived . . . Jack Knau has been added to the Paramount shipping department.

Rudy Mueller, formerly with PRC, is now booking for Film Classics . . . Mike Moran has resigned as booker for Universal . . . Clara Sibler, Columbia inspector, reports the death of her mother . . . Mary Meyer's father-in-law died . . . Variety Club barkerettes will hold their social Saturday (19). Mrs. Allan Moritz heads the committee.

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TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Indianapolis Keith's Set To Show "Dad" a Month

INDIANAPOLIS—Sam Roberts and Nicholas Boila, operators of Keith's Theatre, announce the leasing of the theatre during the month of June to Hygienic Productions of Cleveland for presentation of the new hygiene special, "Mom and Dad." Roger Callis, manager of the house, will be retained for the engagement which will be under the supervision of Marc Wolf and Al Blocher of Theatrical Managers, Inc. The opening is set for May 28. A $5,000 advertising campaign is under way, including 200 inches of space in each of the three Indianapolis newspapers, 25 24-sheets, 300 stands, 300 threes, 1,000 jumbo window cards, 104 radio spots and 100,000 four-page tabloid heralds.

DAYTON—During the three-week engagement of "Mom and Dad" at the Mayfair Theatre here, several patrons fainted during the powerful medical sequences in the films and waiting crowds broke a plate glass display case.

Loew Houses at Cleveland Shift to Wednesday Start

CLEVELAND—The Loew theatres here have advanced their opening day from Thursday to Wednesday. Although the immediate reason for the change is to be able to offer a new program on Memorial Day, this policy will be continued until further notice. Theatres affected are the State, Ohio, Stillman, Park and Granada. The RKO Palace, which this week inaugurated its summer policy of playing straight pictures without stage shows, will also adopt the Wednesday change plan.

Warners' Hippodrome and Lake theatres and the Allen plan to maintain their present policy of a Thursday change, but whether it will be continued in the face of the Wednesday change at the other downtown theatres only time will tell.

New All-Foreign Policy Adopted by Detroit House

DETROIT—The Cinema Theatre, specialty film house here, is shifting to an all-foreign policy with the end of the war in Europe. The house has been showing old American pictures, and numerous Russian films. The new policy will make it an outlet for all foreign product.

The house will be air conditioned soon and will stay open all summer. Previously it closed in the hot months.

COLUMBUS

Ohio film censors the other day hardly had time to sharpen their scissors when fire broke out in the film room. City firemen were called. When the smoke cleared, it was discovered that a can full of the censors' "seal of approval" films had burned. Linoleum on the floor was scorched.

Grace Frances Hardgrove, four-year-old daughter of John Hardgrove, manager of the Southern, subsequent run house downtown, is a full-fledged member of the Columbus zoo. One day Grace wandered away from the table in a restaurant where her parents were having dinner. When she returned Grace Frances was clutching a dollar bill with a note attached saying, "Buy yourself a membership to the zoo next season." It was signed "A Friend."

Jerry Shinbach, manager of the Palace, is local exhibitor chairman for the Seventh War Loan. He presided at first meeting of Columbus exhibitors held last week at the Variety Club. Maurice White, Cincinnati area chairman, and Allan Moritz, distributor chairman, addressed the exhibitors. Plans were arranged to hold children's bond matinees at neighborhood theatres plus a bond premiere downtown.

Doris Vacca, relief cashier at the Ohio, has been promoted to full-time cashier . . . Lights went on again on local theatre marquees following lifting of the brownout regulations. Midnight shows have been started again at RKO Grand, RKO Palace and Loew's Ohio on Saturday nights. Good attendance was reported on the first Saturday night following VE-Day. The Grand, in addition, is the only downtown first run having war worker shows. These are held on Thursdays until 5 a. m.

William H. Elder, manager of the Ohio, reported to the army last week and was sent to Camp Atterbury, Ind., for assignment.

Equipment Replacement Keeps Supply Men Busy

DETROIT—A flood of work in replacement of theatre equipment, as priorities and regulations permit is reported by Clarence E. Williamson, NTS branch manager here.

Among city installations are: Simplex sound and projectors, and Walker screen, Savoy, for Don Lovewell; Hertner Transverters in the Whittier, and Redford for the Komer & Goldberg circuit.

Upstate installations: Simplex E7 mechanisms, Lake Theatre, Lake Odessa, for H. H. Chase; Hertner transverters in the Royal Oak at Royal Oak and the Punch & Judy in Grosse Pointe for Komer & Goldberg, and in the Calcin in Dearborn for W&W; Simplex E7 projectors in the Dundee Theatre at Dundee for Thomas Reed and the Rialto at Grayling for the Olson Bros.

Midnight Shows Again

CINCINNATI—Following VE-Day and the lifting of the dimout, the Albee, Palace and Grand announced resumption of midnight shows, as did Willis Vance at his Twentieth Century suburban theatre.

Robert Dunton Advances

LONDON, OHIO—Robert Dunton, former manager of the State, Washington Courthouse, has been made manager of both the State and Majestic, succeeding Fred W. Unckrich, now in the navy.

More Than 200 Join In Farewell Fete

NEW HAVEN—One of the most successful dinners in New Haven's film records was given Morey "Razz" Goldstein, Monday night (14) here at the Hotel Taft. More than 200 wished the former branch manager success in his new post as Monogram eastern sales manager. Among the guests was a large contingent from Boston and New York. The district presented Goldstein a wrist watch. The dinner also welcomed Harry Rosenblatt, formerly of Boston, to the post of Metro manager here.

With Herman M. Levy as toastmaster, the speakers' list included Ted O'Shea, Harry F. Shaw, Steve Broidy, Maurice Wolfe, Edward Aaron, L. Hirschs, Rosenblatt, Harry Lavietes, Al Pickus, Herman Ripps, I. J. Hoffman, Barney Pitkin. The committee in charge comprised Pitkin, Ben Simon, Harry LaVine, Harry Martin, Thomas Moore, Tim O'Toole, Carl Goe, Jerry Lewis and Raymond Wylie.

The advance reservation list, greatly augmented as the date approached, included:

Gus Hordes	Phil Zimmerman
Milton Hyams	Herman Rifkin
Maurice Hack	Ben Welansky
I. J. Hoffman	Al Kane
J. Herzog	Steve Broidy
Ted Jacocks	Ted Fleisher
Morris Jacobson	Frank Lydon
P. Januska	Jack Meyers
Morton Katz	Harold Stoneman
Nick Karnaris	Ben Abrams
Harry L. Lavietes	E. X. Callahn
Saul Levine	Maurice Wolfe
Bernard Levy	Hy Fine
Herman Levy	Arthur Howard
Harry LaVine	Edward Aaron
A. Lombardi	L. Hirschs
Phil Markel	Harold Eskin
A. Melstone	Nate Jacobson
Tim O'Toole	Nate Furst
Harry Olshan	W. E. Morey
M. P. Proctor	Herbert Fenton
Bill Proctor	Arthur Greenblatt
Barney Pitkin	Jack Goldstein
John Pavone	Harry Goldstein
Lou Phillips	Herman Ripps
Al Pickus	Ben Abner
George Powell	Maurice Bailey
F. Porto	Edward Bellin
Eddie Rahm	Max Birnbaum
Leo Ricci	Harry Blume
Sam Rosen	Leo Bonoff
A. Rosenfeld	J. J. Bowen
Ted Schaffer	Edward Bowen
Saul Shainberg	Ralph Blumberg
Arthur Smith	William Brown
Joe Shure	Lou Brown
Al Somerby	C. Boscardino
Harry Stone	M. Botwinik
Phil Sherman	Edward Canelli
Max Salzberg	Frank Clugman
Robert Schwartz	Isaac Clugman
Albert Swerdlove	Ruby Clugman
Moe Silverman	George Comden
Harry Shaw	Dick Cohen
Ben Simon	J. Casey
M. Solomon	Louis Dubin
A. Tolis	Bob Eliano
Mike Tomasino	Ed Fay
Phil Trent	Joe Felder
Arthur Titus	Harry Fishman
Maj. Charles Verstandig	J. B. Fishman
Joe Walsh	Daniel Finn
Irwin Wheeler	J. Farkas
Raymond Wylie	Sherman Germaine
George Wilkinson	Lou Ginsberg
George Weber	Jack Glackin
Sam Weber	Carl Goe
Morris Weber	B. Godfrey
Earl Wright	Phil Gravitz
Joseph Weil	Sam Germaine
Lip Weinstein	

Goldstein severed a connection of more than 20 years with Metro, the last four of which were spent here.

Harry Rosenblatt, new Metro manager in New Haven, has been 15 years with that company in Boston. He will be given a dinner by the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club Monday (21) at the Hotel Bradford, Boston. New Haven contingent on hand will include Milton Hyams, Morton Katz, George Weber and others.

A Role in "Our Hearts" to Renavent

George Renavent has been assigned a role in Paramount's "Our Hearts Were Growing Up."

Colorful Parade Marks Opening Of Boston's War Bond Drive

BOSTON—To the blare of martial music and the tramp of marching feet, the Mighty Seventh War Loan bond drive was opened here officially Sunday afternoon with the colorful and inspiring "Parade of the Purple Hearts."

Led by ten Purple Heart veterans from each branch of the service and three survivors of the historic flag raising at Iwo Jima, the parade, staged under the joint auspices of the motion picture WAC and the Massachusetts war finance committee, wound its way from the Hotel Statler in downtown Boston up Beacon Hill and thence to the famous Boston Common where the motion picture industry had erected its "Bondstand."

Joan Fontaine, Jane Wyman, the Ritz brothers, William Eythe, Cesar Romero, Jay Wesley and other top film stars added a touch of Hollywood to the procession as, mounted on jeeps, they waved their salutes to the thousands who lined the streets all along the parade route.

At the "Bondstand," where the parade ended, a huge painting of the Iwo Jima flag raising was unveiled by the men who participated in the original action on the island, followed by a memorial service and a ceremony honoring Mrs. Harold R. Keller of Newtonville, recently selected as Massachusetts' "Mother of the Year."

Participating in the dedication of the "Bondstand" were the visiting film stars, Governor Tobin, Mayor Kerrigan, F. W. Denio, chairman of the state war finance committee; Sam Pinanski, national drive chairman, and Martin J. Mullin, state chairman.

Units in the line of march, each with its color guard, included marines, women marines, port of embarkation troops, a mechanized cavalry unit, men of the maritime service, Wacs, a naval battalion, mechanized units from the Boston ordnance district, coast guardsmen, SPARs, MPs, the Massachusetts state guard and the Massachusetts Savings Banks caravan. The ceremonies closed with a display of battle tactics on the Common.

Paul Levi, in charge of regional publicity for the drive, had as his aides Joe Di Pesa and George Kraska, Loew's; Arnold Van Leer, Paramount; Phil Engel, United Artists; Don Prince and Red King, RKO; Arthur "Slim" Moger, Warners; Ben Bartzoff, of the Jewish Advocate; Shep Epstein and Floyd Bell, trade papers; Eliot Norton, Boston Post, and Harry Selig of Fay Fotos.

Springfield Area Managers Meet; Plan Biggest Bond Campaign

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—Martin J. Mullin, Massachusetts state chairman for the Seventh War Loan, stressed to theatre men the necessity of accomplishing more in the two drives of this year than has previously been done in three. He was speaking at a meeting of all managers in Hampden County recently at the Springfield home office of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc.

The enthusiasm of attending managers may be gauged by the number of requests to become issuing agents, bringing the record up to almost 100 per cent in this area.

Before introducing the speakers, Nathan E. Goldstein, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., who presided at the meeting, commented on the excellent job the industry has accomplished in all preceding war loans. He expressed his confidence that the theatre managers of western Massachusetts will far exceed their past results for the forthcoming drive. He emphasized the importance of arranging more bond premieres, Free Movie Days, kiddie shows and other activities necessary to insure success for the program.

Ed Smith, Springfield chairman for the drive, described activities which had been lined up by his committee, including Free Movie Days in every theatre on June 6, and an "all service" stage show with a cast of 60 headed by Cesar Romero, children's bond shows simultaneously at six Springfield theatres, and a war bond premiere on June 26 at the downtown Capitol Theatre.

Other speakers were Maynard Keiser, chairman of the Hampden County war finance committee, and Edward Powell, representing the treasury department in western Massachusetts.

Drive On in New Haven Area With 45 Bond Shows Listed

NEW HAVEN—As the Seventh War Loan swings into action this week 45 bond shows, including evening premieres, morning cartoon shows, a minstrel and a radio show, had been scheduled by circuits and independents. In addition, cooperation on June 6 Free Movie Day had been pledged 100 per cent in the territory.

Herman M. Levy and Henry Needles, co-chairmen, reported all advance county meetings held as scheduled.

Added to the premiere list were the following theatres:

Colonial, Canaan; Allyn, Hartford; Mystic and Strand, New Britain; Whitney, Hamden; Capitol and Garde, New London; Broadway and Palace, Norwich; Bradley, Putnam; Eno Memorial, Simsbury; Colonial, Southington; Empress and Palace, South Norwalk; Palace, Stamford; Warner, Torrington; Wilkinson, Wallingford; Capitol, Willimantic; Rialto, Windsor Locks; Strand, Winsted.

The Loew Poli Theatre offered a fine bit of community cooperation by opening its doors to the retail stores bond rally Friday morning (11). Stores closed until 11 a. m. to permit employe attendance.

Luncheon Loan Kickoff Held In the Bridgeport Area

BRIDGEPORT — Fairfield County theatre managers and guests gathered at luncheon at Hotel Barnum here to launch their Seventh War Loan drive.

Among those attending were Carl J. Goe and Henry Needles, Warner Bros., New Haven; Lou Brown, New England advertising and publicity head for Loew's; Mathew L. Saunders, manager of Poli and county chairman; Al Hamilton, Empress, Norwalk; Jack Schwartz, West End; Al Domian, Globe, Frank Geiger, American; Edwin A. Ribo, Merritt; Hans A. Molander, Black Rock; Phil Oliver, Strand; Joseph P. Plavacky, Hippodrome; Robert Carney, Lyric; Harry A. Rose, Majestic; E. J. Harvey, Palace, Danbury; S. J. Redmond, Norwalk Theatre, Norwalk; Ralph J. Mauro, Altec Service Corp.; George Weber, M-G-M; George Comden, Fine Arts, Westport; Albert M. Pickus, Stratford Theatre, Stratford, and Ralph F. Stitt, New England representative for 20th-Fox.

Sondergaard's Option Exercised

Gale Sondergaard's option has been exercised for another year. She is slated to star in a new series, the first of which will be "The Spider Woman Strikes Back."

BOSTON

The **Motion Picture** Salesmen's Club party at the Variety clubrooms in the Hotel Statler drew a large group for the screening and buffet supper . . . Miss Mary McKenney has joined the Columbia clerical force . . . Dorothy Ringer has returned after a long illness.

Gus Schaefer, RKO district manager, is reported improving at Newton Hospital . . . Joe Cohen of the Snider circuit suffered an injured hand when caught in his car door . . . George Clegg, brother of Miss Demi Clegg, United Artists secretary, underwent an operation . . . Ed Pollard, owner of theatres in Mexico and Rumford, Me., has returned from Florida where he bought an orange ranch. He said he intends to rebuild his theatre in Mexico, which burned last winter, as soon as materials can be had.

E. T. Bradley, owner of the Champlain in Swanton, Vt., was reported seriously ill at a hospital in Mt. Clemens, Mich., where he had gone on a vacation . . . Projectionist Foggia, formerly with the Opera House in Woodland, Me., is hospitalized at Fort Devens from wounds suffered in Germany. While in Paris he said he met his brother Louis, also a former projectionist at the Opera House.

A screening of "Tomorrow the World" was held at the RKO screening room for the press and the UA staff in connection with its opening at the New Normandie and Tremont Theatres . . . Ralph Snider of the Snider circuit has purchased the Oceanside Hotel in Magnolia. Bob Appleton will manage it . . . Dick Sullivan will be married to Alice Lowther of Newton early in June. A New York and Atlantic City honeymoon is planned . . . Jimmy Shea of the Shea Theatre, in Turners' Falls, died recently.

Each member of the local Tub Thumpers of America has purchased a war bond to start off the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Harry Germaine brought in anywhere from 25 to 50 decks of playing cards for distribution among veterans in hospitals and service men by the Macaulay Legion post. In the last month cards were given to the Cushing, Lovell, Soldiers Home and to Marine transport hospitals.

The Macaulay (theatrical) post welcomed a new member, Samuel Weinerman . . . Leading blood donors are Max Melincoff, 14 pints; Mrs. Jack Eilenberg, 14, and Walter Littlefield, 12, and Harry Smith, Eddie Dobkin, Frank La Roche, Jack Eilenberg, Ernest Warren, George Gootner, Charles Morse, Jack Schmitzer, John Downing, Ben Bebchick, Harry Germaine, William Erbb and Arthur Galvin.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wexler recently . . . L. J. Hacking, Altec New England district manager, announces the B&Q Associates have contracted for booth replacement parts for its theatres in Brookline, Quincy and Rockland.

George Valley, owner of the Strand in Winooski, Vt., reported his wife seriously ill at home . . . Jack Robbins, manager of the Modern, Marlboro, is handling all bookings for Lou Stern's theatres. Stern, who enlisted in the navy early in the war, has been transferred to the Pacific.

Nancy Hanks, singing star with Garwood Van's orchestra at the Hotel Statler, is a hit . . . William B. Hathaway of the New Bedford Theatre has returned to work after a four-week siege of pneumonia.

With the lifting of the curfew and brownout, the Rialto Theatre resumed its policy of all night showings. All burlesque houses resumed their midnight shows . . . Dick Sullivan, Boston publicist, reports he has made his 115th hospital show since his discharge from the army a year ago. Dick has given a great amount of time and energy to enlisting the talent, making arrangements for transportation and directing these shows. He has gone to hospitals throughout Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire.

Jane Wyman and the Ritz brothers were in Boston for a ten-day tour of army and navy hospitals under USO auspices. They also took part in the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Mitzi Green, former child screen star and now a popular singer, was in for a three-week engagement at the Club Mayfair.



START BAY STATE CAMPAIGN—Bond-selling plans for the western half of Massachusetts were set in detail at a meeting held in the screening room of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., at Springfield.

Top, l. to r.: Edward A. Smith, manager Paramount Theatre, Springfield, and chairman of the WAC theatres committee; Maynard Keiser, Springfield representative, treasury department; Nathan E. Goldstein, regional director for WAC; Martin J. Mullin, state chairman, and Harry Smith, WMT circuit manager.

Bottom, first row: J. Kamuda, Grand Theatre, Indian Orchard; George Coleman, Calvin Theatre, Northampton; Louis Levine, Rivoli, Chicopee; Arthur Darley, Arcade, Springfield; second row: James Altree, Liberty, Springfield; Larry O'Neil, Suffolk, Holyoke; Albert Desautels, Majestic, Holyoke; Lew Breyer, Bijou, Holyoke; Gerry Germain, Broadway, Springfield; George Freeman, Loew's Poli, Springfield; third row: Ernest Whitford, Strand, Westfield; George White, Strand, Holyoke; Stephen Fitzgibbon, Garden, Springfield; Elihu Glass, Majestic, West Springfield; fourth row: Joseph Shea, Garden, Greenfield; Charles Patch, Art, Springfield; Samuel Small, operators' union; Louis Williamson, business agent, operators' union; Herman Rifkin, Rifkin Theatres, Inc.

More Waterbury Light Needed in Theatre Area

WATERBURY—Theodore Scott Smith, city engineer and superintendent of streets, made public his recent report to the board of public works in which he recommended improved lighting of the main stem theatre area.

He pointed out that East Main St. at Spring "is the most dangerous intersection in the city and therefore more light would reduce hazards to pedestrian safety in this busy theatre district." He recommended that the light directly opposite the Poli theatre be doubled in size and that four new standards of 1,000 candlepower be installed along the entire theatre district. He also told the board that the brownout, "definitely has increased the traffic hazard in this busy section of the city."

New Boston Hotel Awaits Lifting of Priority Barrier

BOSTON—Reports downtown Boston is to have a new hotel and amusement center apparently are based on plans of Ford Hotels, Inc., of Montreal, Ottawa and Detroit, to build here as soon as priorities can be lifted and steel can be obtained.

The projected hotel, it is reported, will be a 100-room house. A definite site has not been selected, although it is said that locations are under consideration, one at Park Square and the other on Arlington St. facing the public gardens. Both are in easy distance of the Boston film district.

Olivia de Havilland Fever Victim, USO War Casualty

BOSTON—Olivia de Havilland was being treated at a Boston hospital for a fever contracted on an entertainment tour of GI camps in the Pacific. She was expected to remain several weeks.

Miss De Havilland's sister, Joan Fontaine, also was in to take part in the Seventh War Loan campaign.

Warners Inspects The Grove Bldg.

BOSTON—Warner Bros. representatives have been here inspecting the Cocoanut Grove property in the heart of the film district with the idea of acquiring the site for erection of a new exchange building after the war. Observers here confidently expect the Grove property will be acquired by Warners.

The Grove building, ravaged by the disastrous fire of 1942 in which 500 persons, including Buck Jones and many motion picture exhibitors and distributors lost their lives or were injured, is still standing, a boarded and grim reminder of the greatest tragedy ever to strike Boston. At one time there was a possibility that the property would be acquired for a downtown emergency receiving hospital.

The building was first occupied many years ago by the first Paramount exchange in Boston. Harry Asher was then in charge. Years later Asher met his death in the same building, being a member of the party entertained by Herman Rifkin for Buck Jones, the guest of honor. Rifkin's wife perished in the fire.

Sgt. Gene Elliott Killed In Fighting in Pacific

HARTFORD—Sgt. Gene Elliott, 21, former Lenox usher, has been slain in the war. Manager Frank Ramsey reports. He served as an aerial gunner in the Pacific area.

Sands in "They Dream of Home"

Johnny Sands has been inked to a term pact by Vanguard Films and will debut in "They Dream of Home," a United Artists production.

Holidays to Promote Sales in Seventh

Boston—Paul Levi, publicity chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive in this area, has prepared a list of holidays and suggestions for bond selling promotion in connection with them. The list:

May 20—"I Am an American" day, inaugurated here by the Hearst newspapers.
May 22—National Maritime Day. With Boston a leading port the day takes on added significance here.
May 23-29—American Legion membership week.
May 30—Memorial Day.
June 1—Wedding Day. Special honeymoon war bond sales.
June 4-7—Victory at Midway day.
June 4-15—Graduation exercises in 400 schools and 83 colleges in New England.
June 5—National Pageant and Glenn Miller day.
June 6—Free Movie Day; First Anniversary of D-Day.
June 10—Children's Sunday.
June 14—Flag Day.
June 17—Bunker Hill day.
June 26—First American troops landed in France in 1917.
July 3—Women's Army Corps day.
July 4—Independence Day.

Levi suggests that on "wedding day" copy be used in advertising like this, "Buy bonds now at the Blank Theatre for postwar purchases of the things you want for your home." He says Children's day is celebrated in all churches.

"School graduation is a super-excellent time of great enthusiasm with unlimited opportunities for purchase of bonds at your theatre. Stage a parade of students with the high school band, now at their prime, carrying banners advertising the Seventh War Loan."

'Twas a Flying Debut 35 Years Ago, But Laurion Is Still Going Strong

NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CONN.—Thirty-five years ago in June—the 17th, to be exact—Albert Laurion opened his theatre here, the Union Hall. He not only opened it, he opened it in style, with a showmanship flair that would have done credit to the later years of Samuel F. Rothapfel's flair for making an impression. Like Roxy, he discovered there was something called overhead to be reckoned with.

Opening a theatre in North Grosvenordale in those days was something of an adventure. It needed a lot of faith. The town didn't have electricity in the homes or on the streets, but Laurion was 28 and full of the confidence of a young man. He risked his life's savings in the adventure.

His first two nights were failures, even though the hall was filled to capacity. The reason was the overhead. He had staged the opening night as a gala premiere—a term familiar even today. The local town band was hired, a pianist played during the showings, a singer contributed selections while the slides with the words were shown on the screen. There were ushers, a cashier, an operator and two men to tend the steam boiler which generated the electricity. This boiler was in a shed attached to the hall.

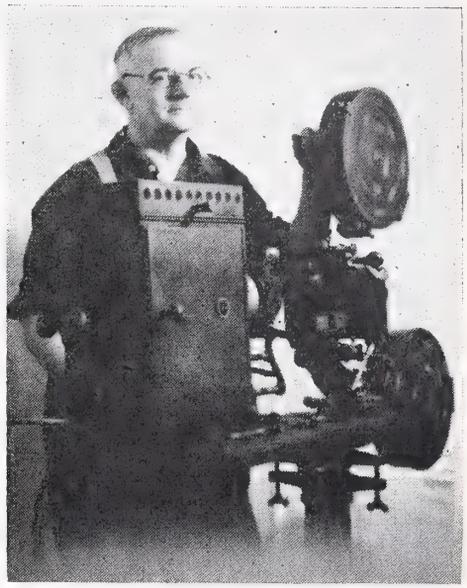
Water Carried From the River

After balancing the expenses against the receipts those first two nights, Laurion decided upon retrenchment in a big way. His wife, Rosa, became booker, buyer and cashier. Water had to be carried in pails from a nearby river to the boiler—a bit of a chore, to put it mildly.

Films had to be brought over miles of snow-covered roads in a sleigh in the winter, and by bicycle or wagon in summer. The dirt roads would break the heart—and possibly the springs—of a present-day motorist and his car.

Laurion sent his bookings to New York written in French. He still wonders how the distributors happened to have translators. He could figure out how many people were going to attend the show each night by looking up and down the dark street and counting the lanterns being carried by the prospective customers.

Silent pictures were shown three or four nights a week continuously until 1935. At that time this was probably the only theatre in Connecticut sticking to silents, but Laurion



TWO OLD-TIMERS—Albert Laurion, a 35-Year Showman, is depicted above with a 1907 model projector, whievh he used when he started in business in 1910. The projector has long since been retired, Laurion, like Tennyson's brook, is purling right along.

didn't care. He didn't like the first sound pictures because the synchronization of sound and picture was "off" so often, so he waited until he thought sound had advanced. He finally installed sound equipment Mar. 3, 1935.

There will be no special celebration June 7. The show will go on as usual. Laurion will be the manager-operator that night, as usual. Mrs. Laurion is still the booker, but one of his daughters is now the cashier, and a son-in-law is assistant operator.

Laurion is a member of the Knights of Columbus and St. John the Baptist Society, and, of course, he knows everybody in town. His hobby is a 35-acre farm where he raises peacocks and does gardening. He has two sons and four daughters. The boys have joined the Catholic ministry. One—Henri E., is a first lieutenant-chaplain in the army.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Ansel N. Sanborn, Carroll County film circuit owner and state legislator, has been named to a house conference committee which will serve with a senate group to consider a measure providing for a cost-of-living increase for state employes.

Canobie Lake Park in Salem, one of the best known amusement resorts in northern New England, has opened for the season. Boyd Raeburn and his orchestra was the season's first band . . . Melvin F. Morrison, manager of the Strand in Dover, has been named to the recreation and publicity committees of the Dover Gridiron Club.

Mrs. Beatrice Blackmar of Pembroke, chairman of the New Hampshire Federation of Women's Clubs motion picture committee, read an article on production and costuming of film hits at the annual May luncheon of the Warner Women's Club.

Theatre attendances were hit all over New Hampshire when an unusual mid-May storm came on the night of May 10, blanketing the state with snow and disrupting traffic. A gale accompanying the snowfall blew down a number of trees and electric power poles, blocking several important highways. Many communities were left temporarily without electric and telephone service.

Thomas Hagan, manager of the Manchester WPB office, announced the lifting of the brownout . . . Manchester theatres reported a rushing business on VE-Day when thousands of persons jammed the downtown streets. Stores were scheduled to remain open throughout the day, but the spirit of the occasion was too much for the employes and by noontime virtually all of them were forced to close.

"Meet Your Infantry," the army bond show, is scheduled to make its New Hampshire debut in Berlin June 2 and wind up in Claremont June 23. Other communities to be visited by the show are Laconia, 4; Concord, 5; Dover, 6; Portsmouth, 8; Manchester, 11; Nashua, 13, and Keene, 16.



GOVERNOR'S TRIBUTE TO CUDDY—Gov. Maurice J. Tobin of Massachusetts is shown above presenting a March of Dimes medal to E. A. Cuddy of M&P Theatres, state chairman of the MOD campaign for the motion picture industry. The award is in recognition of the wholehearted support rendered by Massachusetts exhibitors in the 1945 collections. Pictured here, left to right: Max Melincoff, Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp.; Joseph Brennan, Allied Theatres of Massachusetts, Inc.; Tobin; Arthur Howard, Affiliated Theatres Corp.; Cuddy; George W. Horan, Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.; Nathan Yamins, Fall River.

WORCESTER

Richard Landy and John Engdahl have joined the Capitol's staff . . . When hometowner Jean Dawn, dancer, appeared in the Plymouth's vaudeville show, Manager Jerry Finegan made some good tieups . . . Ralph Eaton, former manager of the Plymouth, has joined F. W. Woolworth Co.

The Better Films Council has approved "Here Come the WAVES" and "The Horn Blows at Midnight" for the family; "Days of Glory," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Murder in the Blue Room," "A Song to Remember" and "Tomorrow the World" for mature-family audiences, and none for adults only.

Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, playing a dance date at the Auditorium at $2 a head, drew 4,600, the gross being the largest ever taken in at a dance here . . . Elmer Daniels, manager of the Capitol, recently got a boot out of the Evening Gazette's ten-years-ago column, which narrated how Daniels and his aides were held up in the theatre office and robbed of $1,500.

On its "Thunderhead" campaign, the Elm Street used a white horse with rider through the business streets . . . Bobby Callan, son of Mrs. Ada Callan, Plymouth, is playing with the Buffalo baseball team of the International League . . . Alec Davis, manager of the Warner, is back at his desk after being ill with an ear condition at his home in Lynn.

Arthur Rohmer, M&P auditor, was in from Boston to pay a periodic visit to the Capitol . . . Vaughn Monroe, the orchestra leader, was in town . . . Charles J. LaFrance, film operator in a Southbridge theatre, has been approved by the state commission as a boxing judge.

Mrs. Howard S. Shepard was elected president of the Better Films Council for her 15th consecutive term at the annual meeting at the Sheraton. Named to serve with her were: Mrs. Harris A. Smith, vice-president; Mrs. Stephen P. Foster, secretary; Mrs. Leslie B. Phillips, treasurer; Mrs. Alvin L. Grout, Mrs. Roy S. Lanphear, Mrs. John D. McKinley and Miss Emma F. Booth, executive board.

Because he is allergic to cotton, Elmer Daniels, manager of the Capitol, sleeps between silk sheets . . . Harry Cool, playing in vaudeville at the Plymouth, revealed to Manager Jerry Finnegan that he is organizing his own orchestra, to open in Chicago in July.

The summer stock season will open at the Playhouse May 29, with Guy Palmerton in for his third season as manager . . . The family of Jeffrey Lynn in nearby Auburn received word that he has been promoted from first lieutenant to captain in Italy, where he is with the air force.

A bill came before the state legislature to reimburse George M. Beede, manager of the Strand in Westboro, for land he bought from the town and which he later discovered was his all the time . . . Jimmy Kastler, formerly of the Capitol, was in from Boston to make an inspection of the house . . . Manager Jerry Finnegan of the Plymouth went to Springfield for two days to handle a legitimate show.



New Naugatuck Hall

HARTFORD—The state legislature has approved a bill which includes approval for a $200,000 bond issue to build a new town hall in Naugatuck, thus canceling plans to repair the Gem Theatre which is located in the old town hall building. The latter decision was made by the Naugatuck borough board last week.

Phil Trent Back

HARTFORD—Phillip Trent, former Universal salesman in the Connecticut territory prior to an Albany transfer, has returned to this area as salesman for United Artists.

Billy De Wolfe to "Blue Skies"

Billy De Wolfe, Paramount player, has been cast for the comedy lead in "Blue Skies."

'Salty O'Rourke' Fills New Haven Theatre

NEW HAVEN—"Salty O'Rourke" and "Rockin' in the Rockies" had them waiting in line at the Paramount, and was held over for another 11-day run. "Forever Yours" and "The Scarlet Clue" were up among the high grossers for the year at the Bijou. "The Three Caballeros" and "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal" was held over for an extra week. Although VE-Day was better than the usual Tuesday, most patrons remained at home listening for the news.

(Average is 100)

Bijou—**Forever Yours** (Mono); **The Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 135
College—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 95
Loew's Poli—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col) 100
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Rockin' in the Rockies** (Col) 140
Roger Sherman—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO) 100

"Co-Pilot" and "Cottage" Turn in Big Money of Week at Boston

BOSTON—"God Is My Co-Pilot" at the Metropolitan and "Enchanted Cottage" at the Keith Memorial turned in the big business of the week. "Music for Millions" opened very strong but then tapered off. "The Unseen" was good at the Paramount and Fenway. "Brewster's Millions" in its third week at the Majestic was still earning good boxoffice receipts. Gypsy Rose Lee on the stage and "Betrayal From the East" on the screen packs the RKO Boston to capacity.

The theatre business profited from the fact that the stores closed VE-Day afternoon. Detail for the week ending May 17:

Boston—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO), plus stage show 135
Fenway and Paramount—**The Unseen** (Para); **The Man Who Walked Alone** (PRC) 135
Majestic—**Brewster's Millions** (UA) 125
Memorial—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO) 140
Metropolitan—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk.; **Scared Stiff** (Para) 140
Orpheum and State—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 125

"Salty O'Rourke" Is Heading List in Hartford Week

HARTFORD—With the lights on again and the midnight entertainment curfew lifted, boxoffice receipts jumped high. Second week holdovers were at the Palace, Regal and Allyn. "Salty O'Rourke" did top business.

Allyn—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col); 2nd wk. 160
E. M. Loew's—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 150
Poli—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **The Bull Fighters** (20th-Fox) 165
Poli Palace—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) 135
Regal—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 2nd wk. 125
State—**GI Honeymoon** (Mono), plus Guy Lombardo band on stage 100
Strand—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 150

Record Dealers Aid in Plug For Guy Lombardo Troupe

HARTFORD—Decca record dealers here cosponsored newspaper and press ads and planted full window displays in connection with the personal appearance at the State of Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians. The troupe appeared as guest stars on the Sage-Allen Hi-Jinks radio program over WTHT with a bobby socks audience.

Hartford Calm VE-Day

HARTFORD — Local managers reported business "as usual" on VE-Day and there were no hilarity, demonstrations, or vandalism. Liquor places closed and the city's full police force reported promptly but neither action was necessary. Except for one insurance company, practically all businesses operated as usual.

HARTFORD

Pvt. Anthony DiLorenzo, ex-Daly, reports from Belgium receipt from his parents of a shockproof wrist watch . . . Max Salsburg of RKO and Phil Trent of UA were in town on selling rounds . . . Maj. Sam Rosen, recently discharged after serving in the China-Burma-India area for more than two years, has rejoined the Rosen Film Delivery Co. in New Haven. He recently visited the new Webb Playhouse manager, Robert Wickwire, in Wethersfield . . . Pvt. Louis Turner, former Princess projectionist, has returned to North Carolina after spending a furlough here.

Ken Trumbull, who has been on the Rialto staff the last three months following his discharge from the maritime service, has resigned due to illness . . . Michael Daly represented theatre men of this area at the dinner given in honor of Police Chief Charles J. Hallissey. More than 300 attended. The affair marked 35 years of service for Chief Hallissey.

The legislative committee on state parks has reported favorably a bill providing for creation of a commission to consider the advisability of incorporating Ocean Beach Park, New London, in the state system of parks and forests. It is feared that the $3,000,000 property will become "a second Coney Island" if the state doesn't take it over. Numerous entertainment and theatre men feel, however, that the resort has not been open long enough to demonstrate its full financial possibilities . . . Robert Kippen, new Webb Playhouse manager succeeding Mrs. Norman Rolfe, has moved his family from Syracuse, N. Y., into Mrs. Rolfe's former home in Wethersfield.

More than 30 theatre managers of this area were guests of Publisher Francis Murphy and the Hartford Times on a tour of inspection of the Times Tower in Avon, future television site. It was a most enjoyable affair and had its humorous angles, too. In a part of the tour, one of the elevators got stuck and Warners' maintenance chief, Charlie Lowe, who thought it was going to be a night off, good-naturedly went to work. Later, when the group was taken to the Club Algiers for dinner, there were songs by Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli manager, and other music by Sam Scheckter, Columbia manager. Guests included Lou Brown, I. J. Hoffman, Jim McCarthy, Henry Needles, Fred Greenway, Frank Morin, Frank Ramsey, Dean Barrett, Walter Lloyd, George Landers, Maurice and Al Schulman.

I. J. Hoffman, Warner zone manager, was in town on an inspection tour . . . Local theatre men report the relighting of theatre marquees gave an extra spurt to boxoffice receipts . . . Cpl. Rocky Volope, ex-Regal assistant, writes from Germany he'll soon be on the way home . . . Joseph Quittner of New York and Peter Perakos of New Britain, co-owners of the Q&P circuit, conferred in Hartford.

Mrs. O'Toole, executive secretary to Henry Needles, Warner district manager, remained on the job despite a bad cold to help keep the Seventh War Loan drive wheels rolling smoothly . . . Bond tickets for the Bushnell Memorial premiere of "Without Love," starring Hartford's Katharine Hepburn, went on sale May 14 . . . Morris Schulman has purchased a beautiful new West Hartford home. He is co-owner of the Rivoli and Webster theatres.

Jesse Gaw, assistant to Lou Cohen at Loew's Poli, visited New York . . . Friends hear that Bill Ramsey, brother of the Lenox manager, Frank Ramsey, is doing well as a featured player with Columbia on the coast . . . Peggy Daly, daughter of Michael Daly, has taken a secretarial job at the Pratt & Whitney plant . . . Harry F. Shaw, New England division manager for Loew's, and Mrs. Shaw were home from a three-week vacation in Florida . . . It is rumored Warner will build five postwar theatre in this area.

Philip Abuza, 59, brother of Hartford's Sophie Tucker, died from a heart attack at his home here . . . Ed Slusaiz is new at the Lenox . . . Manager Tom Grace, Eastwood, visited New London.

Cpl. Ed Kubasic, former assistant manager of the Strand, was reported at a rest camp in the South Pacific after serving in the Iwo Jima campaign . . . Hans Schnable, former Colonial employe, is with the navy in the Pacific . . . Robert Hendricson, Loew's Poli usher, has been named chairman of the membership committee of the Friendly Social Club. The organization is the first of its kind in this area for ushers and theatre officials feel it will encourage the boys to stay in the business. Bowling teams and sport events are being planned.



CONNECTICUT LINED UP—State leaders in the industry gathered at New Haven to lay out plans for the Seventh War Loan. Left to right: (Seated) Phil Sherman, Waterbury, co-chairman; Morris Shulman, Hartford, county co-chairman; John J. Scanlon, Litchfield County chairman; Herman M. Levy, Connecticut state chairman; Henry Needles, state co-chairman; Walter Murphy, New London County chairman; (standing) Matt Saunders, Fairfield County chairman; Harry F. Shaw, New Haven County chairman; Ben Simon, codistributor chairman; Carl Goe, distributor chairman; James McCarthy, Hartford County chairman; Harry Ross, Bridgeport; Jacob Schwartz, Fairfield County co-chairman, and Lou Brown, state publicity chairman.

Yale Drama School Lists Alumni in Show Work

NEW HAVEN—The Yale department of drama claims a big representation in the 1944-45 theatrical season on Broadway, in Hollywood, on the road, and in various entertainment and special service activities of the armed forces.

John Hersey, author of "A Bell for Adano," is a Yale alumnus, class of 1936; while Paul Osborne, adapter of the book to the stage, and Henry C. Potter, director, were members of the class of 1928.

Whitfield Cook, 1930, directed the play "Violet," while Albert Margolies, 1930, was its producer.

Blevins Davis, 1936, produced the musical "Rhapsody" with a book by Arnold Sundgaard, 1934, from a story by Alois Nagler, former fellow in drama. Costumes for "Rhapsody" were by Frank Bevan, 1930; lighting by Stanley McCandless of the drama school faculty at present, and stage management by Dan Sattler, 1938.

Paul Feiquay, coproducer with George Abbott of "On the Town," graduation in 1939, while Alvin Colt, designer of the costumes, and Peggy Clark, stage manager, were alumni of 1937 and 1938.

"One Touch of Venus" and "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," both holdovers from the previous season, were directed by Elia Kazan, class of 1934, who went overseas this year with the special services division. Michael Gordon, 1932, directed "Rebecca," "Sophie Halenczek" and "Therese Requin." Sam Leve, 1935, was scene designer for "Dark Hammock," "Hand in Glove," "Sophie Halenczek" and "Last Stop."

Betty Smith, 1934 alumna, author of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," has written a play, "Mine, and Never Yield," which Michael Todd is producing.

In Hollywood, Elaine Ryan, 1930, wrote the screenplay for "The Silver Fox"; Robert Johnson, 1930, wrote "Sergeant Mike"; Bert Granet, 1930, wrote the book for Eddie Cantor's musical, "Show Business," and Harry Kleiner, 1941, received a contract to write screenplays.

Frank Hunt is Promoted At Cleveland 20th-Fox

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—Promotion of Frank Hunt, member of the 20th-Fox exchange for 24 years, to the dual position of assistant to the manager and office manager, was announced by Manager I. J. Schmertz. Hunt leaves the head booker's desk, a place he has occupied many years.

Frank Hunt is quiet and has minded his booking business so well that those whom he has served so long may not know that he joined the Fox organization back in 1921 as poster clerk under Sam Dembow, acting branch manager at the time. The exchange was located in the Finance Bldg. on Prospect Ave. When Hunt was promoted from the poster department to the booking department he learned the facts of booking from Carl Hohage, then head booker. Hohage has been out of the picture business for some years.

Hunt was married 15 years ago, just one year after Schmertz was appointed branch manager. He has no children, claims no hobbies. He does admit, however, that he tends to the spade work in the garden, but after that the responsibility is up to Mrs. Hunt.

NEW BRITAIN

Manager Joseph Borenstein of the Embassy was a patient at General Hospital after an operation. His condition was reported good. Henry Wittke, assistant manager, State, Manchester, continues as relief manager . . . Manager Joe DiLorenzo, Daily circuit, plans to build a new marquee on his Plainfield, Plainfield.

Theatre men throughout this area report business was "normal" on VE-Day and there were no exuberant crowds . . . Murray Epstein is the new manager of Pouzzner's Victory Theatre, New London . . . War bond premieres in New London were scheduled at Walter Murphy's Capitol and Jack O'Sullivan's Garde . . . The Madison and Saybrook exhibitor, Leo Bonoff sr., reports his son, Lieutenant Leo, is serving in the Pacific as pilot of a Billy Mitchell bomber . . . The Carberry Theatre, Bristol, now features weekly Saturday morning shows composed completely of shorts and cartoons with admission set at 14 cents for all . . . Redecoration is continuing at the Garde, New London.

Manager Norman Rowe, Plaza, Windsor, is planning a theatre party for the high school boys and girls who compose his Victory corps of bond sellers . . . Fishman Theatres will reopen the 700-seat Cameo, West Haven . . . Local managers report boxoffice receipts have jumped with the end of the brownout.

A bond night rally was held at the Plaza Theatre, Windsor, with John Ashmead of the Connecticut war finance committee as a speaker. In addition, Manager Rowe announced that the Victory corps, composed of high school students who represent the theatre, would "mind-a-baby" for one night from 7 to 11 o'clock for persons buying a bond in the first two days of the Seventh War Loan campaign.

The Strand, Stamford, was due to close for the season on May 29 . . . Manager Jack Sanson, State, Manchester, has a surprise plan in store to boost his bond premiere of "It's a Pleasure" on June 6 . . . Manager Paul Klingler, Strand, Waterbury, reports two new generators have been installed and that the ultramodern rest rooms are nearing completion.

Ashley to Play Opposite Bruce

Edward Ashley has been signed for the romantic lead opposite Virginia Bruce in "Love, Honor and Goodby," a Republic picture.

Frank Setting Up Own Distribution on "Dog"

From Midwest Edition

MINNEAPOLIS—W. R. Frank is setting up his own national sales force to distribute a single film, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," his second and latest Hollywood production. After its fine boxoffice showing in test runs, the local circuit owner and Hollywood producer says he "can't understand" why he was unable to make a distributor deal with any of the major companies.

It's not uncommon to distribute independent pictures by disposing of them on a state right basis, but this may be the first time when a sales organization has been established for a single picture. Sales representatives will be appointed in every exchange center and arrangements will be made for physical distribution through established outlets, Frank announces.

George R. Jermain, well known in local film centers and manager of Metro Premium Co. sales for the past eight years, has been appointed as representative for this territory and also has been delegated to obtain representatives in the Milwaukee and Omaha centers. He already has started on the job.

After several test runs which resulted in sensational grosses, the Minnesota Amusement Co. bought "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" for its entire circuit. Indorsing the picture enthusiastically, John J. Friedl, president of the big chain, says he will give it preferred playing time.

Frank also was unable to get his first independently personally-produced picture, "Enemy of Women," set with any major company for distribution. However, this hasn't discouraged him as far as his producing activities are concerned. He says he already has plans for his third picture and will announce them and start shooting within the next few months.

Sister Kenny Uses Films To Fight Medical Group

PEORIA—Sister Elizabeth Kenny, the Australian nurse, showed motion pictures to demonstrate her dermo-neuromuscular treatment for polio in her conference with Gov. Dwight Green, who had invited 1,500 state officials and others to attend. From Illinois she went to Washington where she will show films in her fight against the American Medical Ass'n, which seeks to bar her from raising funds in the U.S. with which to practice her polio cure.

SPRINGFIELD

Herman Rifkin, local exhibitor, has returned from Portsmouth, Va., where he visited his son, Capt. Julian Rifkin, army . . . Ed Carroll's Riverside Drive-In has started full daily operation . . . Bill Sozak, Capitol assistant manager, visited his "best girl" in New York on his day off and friends are expecting an announcement soon. She works at the Billy Rose Diamond Horseshoe night club.

Manager Jerry Finnegan, Plymouth, Worcester, was in for a business chat with Ed Harrison, Court Square manager . . . The spot of assistant manager, Garden Theatre, Greenfield, is open, it's reported . . . On behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive, Andy Sette, Capitol manager, organized a service men's speakers program which he presents on his stage at each performance. It is opened with the screening of a bond short, following which Sette introduces returned service men to present their war bond selling talks.

Twelve-year-old Theresa Smith played hookey from school, sat through two complete shows at the Paramount Theatre, and then, afraid to go home for dinner, fainted between a row of seats where she was found at about midnight by William Weldon, a cleaner. She was taken to a hospital for emergency treatment and returned to her home the following morning. She told police she had "skipped" the afternoon school session and had eaten nothing the entire day.

Numerous local theatre men attended the Morey Goldstein dinner in New Haven to bid farewell to the former M-G-M branch manager and wish him the best of luck in his new post as eastern sales manager for Monogram . . . Herb Brown, former manager of the Victoria Theatre, Greenfield, was home on naval leave after completing boot training in Sampson, N. Y.

Ed Harrison's Court Square and other main stem houses are resuming their midnight show policies now that the midnight curfew has been canceled . . . Folks here were sorry to learn of the recent death of James A. Dineen, co-owner of the Modern Theatre in nearby Lawrence . . . The Shrewsbury Drive-In has opened for its eighth season.

Manager and Mrs. Al Anders, Bijou, were Boston weekend visitors . . . Manager Ed Smith of the Paramount said it with flowers to Mrs. Smith on Mother's Day . . . Cpl. Fred Cabana, formerly of Loew's Poli, writes theatre pals he recently celebrated a birthday in India and appreciates the swell mail coming his way.



CIVIC OCCASION—Some of the guests at the opening of "It Happened in Springfield" at the Capitol Theatre, Springfield, Mass. Left to right: Dr. John Franrud, superintendent of schools; Mrs. Crane Wilbur and Crane Wilbur, who wrote and directed the picture; Ruth Evans, Hollywood adviser on picture; Mayor J. Albin Anderson and Mrs. Anderson.

Favor Regulation Change For Women Entertainers

HARTFORD—The labor committee of the state legislature voted favorably on a bill to permit the employment of women entertainers over 21 in night clubs, theatres, and restaurants after 10 p. m. The bill was supported by the American Federation of Musicians, the American Guild of Variety Artists, the Restaurant and Liquor Dispensers Ass'n and various night club and theatre owners.

Dow's Consider Stock

HARTFORD—This city may be given a taste of stock this summer, according to Al Dow, one of the proprietors of Dow's Theatre. "We are waiting for an answer from owners of the real estate regarding some changes that would be desirable," he said. The theatre now is playing films, with vaudeville weekends.

NEW HAVEN

VE-Day and the previous day were quiet. VE-Day found a large staff of coppers on the streets, but by noon most were recalled. All stores closed as well. People wandered around a while then took to the theatres, where there was much better than average matinee business. The neighborhoods generally were quiet, too. Exchanges closed variously at 11, 12 and 1.

Exhibitors have pledged 100 per cent support to Free Movie Day June 6, but more bond premieres could be used . . . Jim Harris, Paramount short subjects sales representative, was a visitor . . . Also Al Kane, district manager, arrived Monday (May 1) for a look at the exchange . . . Harry Martin, Arthur Titus, and Eva Cooperstack represented the Elm City at the Universal sales meetings in Boston's Ritz Carlton, Friday and Saturday.

Ralph Pasho has been caught in a jam between the WPB seat authorization for his new Naugatuck theatre and the OPA price ceilings, and the proposed early summer opening may be delayed . . . Manager Raymond Wylie of UA has bought a home on Fountain St. and will bring his family from Syracuse.

Ben Simon and Sam Rosen returned from Bald Mountain, near Rangeley, Me., with nary a fish. They reported rain and cold weather . . . The Morris Nunes are California bound for a combined business and pleasure trip . . . Mrs. Lou Anger of the Barnum, Bridgeport, has been doubling at the boxoffice and as manager while Lou recuperates at home from an illness.

Hymie Schwartz of the Hillcrest, Taftville, is still suffering from a kidney ailment which keeps him from the theatre . . . Charlie Repass was back from a vacation at Saratoga . . . Tom Moore continues his popular Tuesday night screenings for the exchange staff . . . Evelyn Johnson is the new secretary to the office manager at RKO.

The Bernard Levys had a successful fishing weekend at Twin Lakes . . . Robert Wood, Roger Sherman assistant, has been seriously ill several weeks at home . . . Harry Martin was well gratified at audience reaction to "That's the Spirit," previewed May 15 at the Paramount . . . The Paramount is planning a radio Breakfast Club bond show from the theatre May 23.

Earl Wright has an outstanding bill to collect; $12 from the playful fellow who threw a baseball through his windshield . . . Pvt. Billy Nutile of Paramount is in Germany.

Fox Photo Provides a Bit Of Peachtree St. in France

From Southern Edition

Atlanta—Move over, you pinup girls and make room for the Fox Theatre. The famous Emory Hospital Unit in France wants a picture of the Fox to hang in the new officers hut there.

Writing to William K. Jenkins, president of Georgia Theatres, Maj. Julius Hughes, former Atlanta physician, explained that the lads and lassies of the outfit are hungry for scenes of Peachtree St. They wanted a nice big photo of the Fox, a familiar landmark to all, for the spot of honor on the wall of their prefabricated clubhouse.

Jenkins ordered a new photograph made of the theatre and sent a 24x18-inch print to the unit.

BRIDGEPORT

Manager Harry A. Rose of the Majestic has been sick . . . Attendance for the first three weeks of the dramatic stock venture at the Klein Memorial auditorium has been far below expectations . . . The first traveling carnival of the season spent a week just across the city line in Fairfield, but almost nightly rain kept it from being much opposition . . . Fred Pearcy, who was student assistant as Loew's Globe before he joined the navy, is back from his second trip to France.

Manager Morris Rosenthal is back at Loew's Poli in New Haven after being abed at his home for nine days with a "strep" throat . . . Mrs. Albert E. Shea was in New York to see "Up in Central Park" . . . Hurd Hatfield, who has the title role in "The Picture of Dorian Gray," studied for the theatre in nearby Ridgefield.

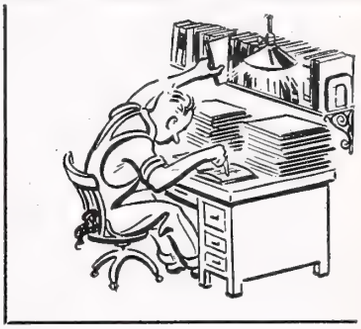
Donald W. Collins, former Warner projection and sound engineer in this area, is now in New York . . . Charles Schwerin, former manager of the Hippodrome, has moved to New York . . . Despite such film names as Jane Darwell, Lyle Talbot, H. B. Warner and Frederic Tozer, "A Doll's House" failed to attract much attention during a two-day engagement at Loew's Lyric.

Molly Rosenthal is hoping to win her third plaque during the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Announcement of the surrender of Germany had little effect on theatre attendance here . . . Painters have brightened up the marquee at the Warner.

New Title for Boston Blackie Picture

"Boston Blackie's Rendezvous" is the new title for "Surprise in the Night," at Columbia.

Brother, can you spare some time?



Others like to know what you are doing — what changes you are making at your theatre, etc. Send in the news and we'll relay it to the industry.

Buying? Installing? Remodeling? Redecorating? Rebuilding? Transferring? Exploiting? Hiring? Promoting?

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Theatre .....

Location .....

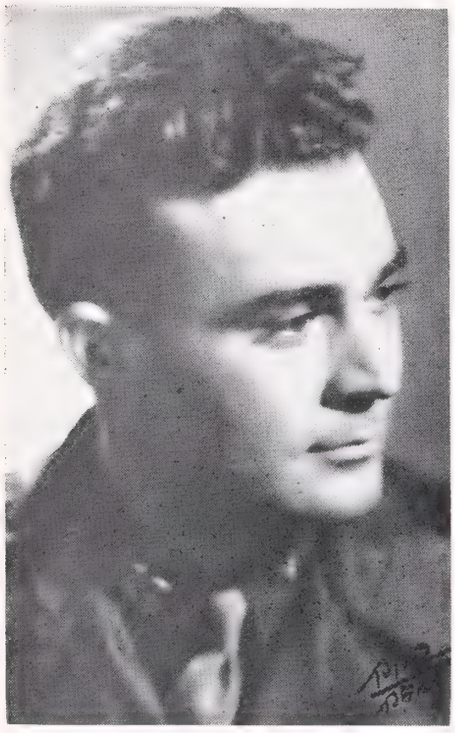
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Capt. Rachiele Wins Esteem and Stars

From Mideast Edition

PITTSBURGH—Capt. Frederick J. Rachiele of the Seventh army medical detachment, and one of the three uniformed sons of the Harry Rachieles, Sharpsburg, Derby and Crafton exhibitors, is a physician who not only can win war medals but also the esteem of his fellow men and patients.



CAPT. FREDERICK J. RACHIELE

Comrade and family doctor to the first battalion infantrymen of the Third infantry division, Rachiele "gives understanding with his pills and spiritual comfort with his surgery, and he will never be forgotten by the soldiers of his battalion," said a headquarters news release last week.

His Greatest Medicine

The public relations department's announcement states: "Doc Rachiele has a personality that is his greatest medicine, his men say. He has talked more men out of being sick than he has dished out with medicated cures. At Le Haute Jacques, where casualties were high and morale hit a new low, the Doc not only treated the wounded at the aid station but went up with litter-bearers to help evacuate and treat wounded, and was a great help to the men still able to fight by laughing and cracking jokes to help them forget their particular corner of hell."

Captain Rachiele has helped civilians in need of medical attention, too. In Les Rouge Faux, for instance, when a direct hit on a house killed the mother of 13 children and wounded several of the children, he treated their wounds and went under concentrated artillery and mortar fire for candles and food for the stricken family. His aide men say there's little work for them to do because everyone wants to see the Doc. For a while Captain Rachiele was assistant regimental surgeon, but he said the life was too tame there and he petitioned to be returned to his boys at the battalion.

Awarded a Bronze Star

He was awarded a Bronze Star in Italy, May 24, 1944. Then a first lieutenant, Rachiele crossed over a mile of terrain interdicted by nebelwarfer and mortar fire to render medical aid to front line troops. Despite shells bursting on the edge of the gulley in which he worked and small arms fire from the enemy about 275 yards away, "Doc" Rachiele exposed himself for about two hours while treating a group of wounded men. Later, en route back to the aid station, he gave emergency treatment to four other men lying wounded out in the open, ignoring shells that hit about 25 yards away.

Later he received another citation. With another medical officer, Captain Rachiele supervised the evacuation from a mine field of at least 70 men of 150 casualties suffered after a crossing of a river in France, Nov. 20, 1944. Although enemy artillery and mortar fire shells burst as close as ten yards to them, on one occasion killing two litter-bearers next to them, the two officers remained exposed over four hours until every casualty was treated and evacuated. The army added an Oak Leak cluster for this.

His brothers are Lieut. Arthur B. Rachiele, with the infantry recently in the Philippines, and Leo Rachiele, first class seaman.

Film Man Liberated After Jap Detention

BUFFALO—Arthur G. Doyle, former prisoner of the Japs at the Santo Tomas University war prison, revealed during an interview here last week that as the Americans swept toward Manila, many internees attributed the heavy machine gun fire outside the prison gates to possible food riots or guerrilla activities, but "never dreamed U.S. troops were attempting to free us."

Doyle, a native of this city, was Far Eastern representative for 20th-Fox when he was captured. Having arrived in the U.S. March 30, he spent a few days at the home of his sister, Mrs. Leo P. Meyer, here before leaving for New York.

The night the camp was liberated, Doyle said, he was surprised to see ten Japs who were guarding the hospital building break through the barbed wire fences in a mad dash for one of the main buildings.

Believed They Were Japs

"We then heard tanks roaring down the roads and believed the Japs had sent them to quell this disturbance," he said. "The next thing I saw was the silhouette of a soldier, his rifle slung over his shoulder. He said something in English and I yelled back, 'Those aren't American tanks, are they?' The reply was, 'Sure they are. You're all free.'"

Doyle served as an aide at the camp hospital. His weight dropped from 190 to 149. However, after getting his "fill of good old American chow," he is back to 168.

The food situation became acute when administration of the camp was taken over by Jap military authorities in February 1944, he said. Before that, the camp was ruled by Jap civilians who allowed prisoners to buy food at the front gate.

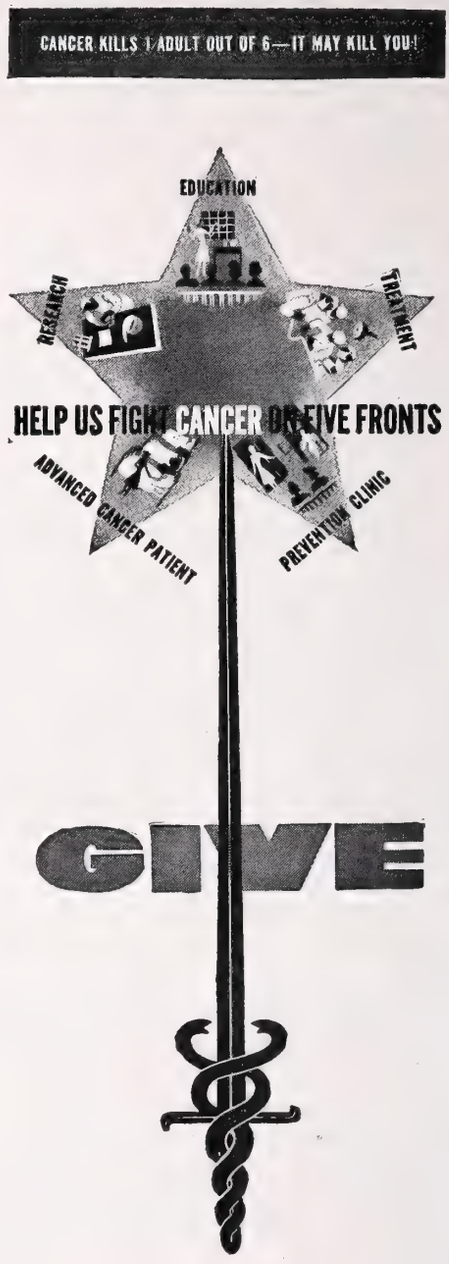
"After February, we had to depend solely upon the smuggling system," he said. "The Japs only gave us four tablespoons of rice a day. Our smuggling line was operated from the nuns' quarters on the first floor of the hospital building. It was supposed to have been sealed off from us, but we managed to contact either the nuns or their serving girls and pass money to them. They bought food from the Filipinos and brought it back to us."

The Santo Tomas "black market" boasted unbelievably high prices. Sugar sold for $50 a pound; corned beef for $40 a pound, and cigarets for $40 a package. Doyle emphasized that "the cigarets bore no similarity to American brands!"

The Japs were not "unnecessarily cruel," Doye said, but if internees disobeyed they were severely punished. Aside from the food situation, the next worst thing was the overcrowded living quarters. Each person was allowed only 30 inches of space and the buildings were infested with vermin.

Rita Johnson to "Pardon My Past"

Rita Johnson has been added to the cast of "Pardon My Past," a Columbia production.



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Hightower to Open Theatre at Terral

DALLAS—L. G. Hightower, a druggist in Terral, Okla., is opening a new theatre there soon, he informed film and equipment men here. All equipment, including arrangements for cooling, has been acquired for the house, to be named the Tower. The Oklahoma showman-to-be is an uncle of J. F. Hightower, an exhibitor at Fort Worth until a few months ago.

Terral is located a few miles from Ryan and is less than 100 miles from the Red River, boundary line between the states. Hightower said there is mighty good fishing in the river near his town and that you get a strike nearly every time you cast out. The fish come far up stream from the heavily stocked Texoma Lake, he said. Before leaving Dallas to speed opening of his theatre, Hightower placed a subscription to BOXOFFICE.

Milton Starr Now Heads Six Divisions of the WPB

NASHVILLE—Milton Starr, recently appointed by J. A. Krug, chairman of the WPB, as assistant vice-chairman of the Office of Civilian Requirements, has been in government service ever since the Jap sneak attack of Pearl Harbor.

In his new post the Nashville Bijou Amusement Co. executive, on wartime leave, will head six WPB divisions: government projects, equipment and supplies; prison war programs office; forest projects; chemicals, drugs and health supplies; consumer field, and government requirements.

C. T. Myers to Maben, Miss.

MABEN, MISS.—C. T. Myers of Derma has purchased an interest in the Maben Theatre and now is in charge of its operations.

VE-Day Party at Memphis

MEMPHIS—A VE-Day party was held last Saturday night at the Variety Club. The M-G-M studio and employes were sponsors.

Gamble, O'Donnell Spark Big Meetings in Texas

DALLAS—Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division of the U.S. treasury and operator of 16 theatres in the west, visited Dallas last week for the purpose of conducting a meeting with both the War Activities Committee and War Finance Committee for the Seventh War Loan campaign. Gamble's schedule included a cocktail party given in his honor by R. J. O'Donnell, southwestern WAC chairman and state chairman for the campaign.

Those invited included members of the exhibitors' and distributors' committees for the WAC in Texas; James O. Cherry, city manager of Interstate Theatres in Dallas; Raymond Willie, assistant general manager of Interstate; William O'Donnell, district manager, Interstate; and the following members of the WFC; Nathan Adams, state chairman; Judson James, state director; Cowdon Henry, assistant state director; Ben F. Wooten, Dallas County chairman; Fred Florence, president of the Republic National Bank; Bob Thornton, president, Mercantile National Bank; Tiste Adoue, mayor pro tem of Dallas; Edgar Flippen, president, First National Bank of Dallas.

Kickoff for the Seventh War Loan in Texas was the 30-minute war bond show over Interstate's Showtime broadcast on Sunday afternoon, May 12, from the stage of the Palace in Dallas. Appearing on the show were Gamble, R. J. O'Donnell and Dorothy Rae and Fred Lowery, both featured with the Horace Heidt orchestra. The show was produced under the direction of Brady, who is radio chairman for the WAC for Texas.

These events climaxed a week of intense Seventh War Loan activities by O'Donnell, who had conducted a series of bond meetings in McAllen, Amarillo and Wichita Falls.

Another statewide broadcast in the interest of the campaign over the Texas Quality network on Monday night, May 14, originated from the stage of the Paramount in Austin. Featured on the program was Nathan Adams, state chairman for the WFC and Texas Gov. Coke Stevenson. The scene was a war bond premiere conducted by Louis Novy, city manager of Interstate Theatres in Austin.

$100,000 in Bonds Sold VE-Day by Circuit

Dallas—Incomplete reports on E war bonds sold in Interstate and Texas Consolidated theatres on VE-Day indicated that the total would reach $100,000, considered a fine showing for an almost impromptu undertaking. Reports from other circuits either were not available or were too incomplete.

South Is Solidly Behind 7th Loan Drive Events

KNOXVILLE, TENN.—E. W. Street, southern loan drive coordinator, reports that the 4,420 theatres in this area are prepared to give a record number of bond premieres during the Seventh Loan.

J. L. Cartwright, Florida exhibitor chairman, says that 87 per cent of the state's theatres have already pledged for bond premieres and 90 per cent for Free Movie Day. Florida State Theatres circuit has signed up 100 per cent for these events.

Blues King Out of Navy

MEMPHIS—Clyde McCoy, the "sugar blues" king of the trumpeters, is a civilian again following a discharge from the navy. McCoy had been at the Millington NATTC since 1942.



PANHANDLE IS PREPARED—Theatre managers of the Panhandle of Texas, meeting at Amarillo last week, announced themselves as prepared to meet the challenge thrown out by the Seventh War Loan campaign. The meeting was sparked by the presence of R. J. O'Donnell, general manager of Interstate Theatres and exhibitor chairman for Texas.

O'Donnell, in the light suit, stands just right of the center of the picture. Jack King, regional director of the bond drive, is at extreme right. Other theatre managers picture are: W. J. Wooten, Canyon; J. Parker, Dalhart; Harry Ragan, Rex, Amarillo; Lee Bell, Clarendon; Carl Benefiel, Pampa; Grady L. Wilson, Capitol, Amarillo; C. E. McSwain, Plainview; Robert D. Sparks, Leon, Amarillo; Weldon Wood, State, Amarillo; Myron Vann, Paramount, Amarillo; H. S. McMurry, Dumas; R. A. McAmis, Star, Amarillo; F. F. McHenry, Texas, Amarillo; Claude Motley, Lubbock; C. F. Hardwick, Hereford; Clark Abbott, Lubbock; Horace Clark, Wellington, and Tom Davidson, Borger.















GOLFING GO-GETTERS—Photos on this page depict some of those Terrific Texans who came to Dallas for the big Seventh War Loan meeting and the Variety Club's golf tourney. In the usual order, beginning with the top panel at left and downward thereafter:

Texas Consolidated crew: C. H. Stewart, Waco; James McNeill, Breckenridge; Torrence Hudgins, executive secretary, to William O'Donnell; William O'Donnell; Pat Hudgins, Denison; Lew Bray, Rio Grande Valley; Jimmie Allard, Vernon; Jack King, Amarillo; J. T. Hughes, Brownwood. Next panel, selecting the prizes, the figures in front: Charley Meeker, Raymond Willie, Matt Dowling, Duke Evans.

Next: Fred Larned of Paramount Pictures, first prize winner, gets a gold watch from Chief Barker James O. Cherry; Bottom: Torrence Hudgins, center, displays his third place prize to Bob Davis, left, and Claude Leon, right.

At top of this column: Conrad Brady tees off, with a gallery of, r. to l.: Roy Newman, Pat Hudgins, Charley Jordan. Center: Bob Kelly lines up a shot, the onlookers being Arthur Shannon, Paul Evans and Mitchell Lewis. Bottom: Bill O'Donnell tees off as his running mates, J. T. Hughes and Lew Bray, look on. (All photos by Frank Shelby.)

G. A. Bell New Manager Of Cuthbert, Ga., Theatre

CUTHBERT, GA.—George A. Bell of Cuthbert is the new manager of the Lee Theatre here, succeeding John L. Smith. Smith is now in the armed forces, stationed at Camp Blanding. Bell formerly was with the Ross Federal Service, handling film investigations for 12 companies.

Atlanta Variety Members Stage Annual Golf Outing

ATLANTA—Monday, May 21, was looked forward to as the big day of the year by members of the Variety Club here. The club's annual outing and golf tournament was scheduled at North Fulton golf course with an elaborate program including barbecue, golf, horseback riding, swimming and tennis. Numerous contests were open to men and women with war bonds as prizes. The golf tournament was based on blind handicaps, and was open to all.

Prizes were offered for out-of-town members and guests, and an invitation was extended to 200 veterans from Lawson General Hospital to participate in the day's festivities as guests of the club.

Interstate Circuit to Build When Ban Is Lifted

DALLAS—The Interstate circuit will build a one-floor 700-seat theatre on Preston Rd. near Northeast Highway as soon as restrictions are lifted by WPB. The circuit has owned the lot for four years. An architect's drawing of the new house, to be called the Preston, appeared in one local newspaper and a story on the project appeared in the other. A small stage will be included for shows and special presentations.

NEW ORLEANS

Miss Frances Marion of the M-G-M editorial board was due here May 18, according to a notice received from the Culver City studio at the local exchange . . . Dave Prince of Atlanta, RKO district manager, was a visitor part of last week . . . Lynn Merrick, the Columbia actress, stopped here en route to Florida for a USO hospital tour.

Mrs. Lorraine Brown, stenographer at Columbia, went to San Francisco to meet her husband Charles, recently returned from a ten-month tour of naval duty . . . Ruth Klair, biller, and Mrs. S. C. Kinerd, inspector at Warners, were on vacations.

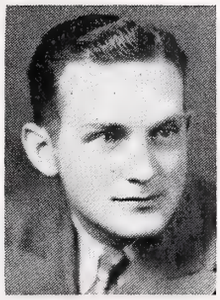
Jeff Davis, manager, was scheduled to leave Baptist Hospital this week for a period of convalescence at home . . . Harold Cohen has returned to Monogram after serious illness . . . Ruth Bonner has joined the UA as cashier . . . Audrey Wilson, assistant cashier at RKO, was on vacation.

Visitors on Filmrow: Clinton Bucovich of the Belmont and Strand theatres in Pensacola, Anthony Demharter of the Peacock and Clarence Chandler of the Roxy, New Orleans; Clarence Thomassie of the Gay, Harvey; Mr. and Mr. and Mrs. Milton Guidry of Erath.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Toups entertained at an informal dinner in the Vieux Carre for Mrs. James H. Doolittle of Washington, the wife of Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle, who was en route to San Antonio. Toups is manager of the State Theatre here.

The 20th-Fox crew here on location for "The Enchanted Voyage" is making almost daily headlines. John Lester, Item columnist, reported that while most folk were celebrating VE-Day, Director Lloyd Bacon was having trouble with the war between the states. His production was held up for removal of a gunboat sunk in the mouth of the Tchefuncta River during the earlier war. A Sunday Times-Picayune feature carried pictures and details of the remarkable boat which figures in the film as well as of several characters.

SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Holland Webster of Elizabeth City, N. C., took over the theatre business where his father left off. He now has under his control a circuit of six houses, in North Carolina. They are the Alkrama, Carolina and Gaiety in Elizabeth City, the Columbia in the city of that name, the Pioneer in Manteo and the State in Hertford. "Web" is a member of the North and South Carolina Exhibitors Ass'n. He is president of Rotary and a Shriner. He is married and has two young children. His hobby is farming and raising prize-winning pigeons.



E. R. Prigmore of Charleston, Miss., entered the motion picture business in his home town the year the first world war began, 1914. He operates the Superba Theatre which has a seating capacity of 600. He is married and has a son, E. R. Prigmore jr., who is now serving his country in the army air forces. "Deacon" Prigmore, as he is known to his friends, takes an interest in the affairs of his community. When he has time off from his theatre duties he likes to forget his worries by going fishing in the waters near Charleston.

CHARLOTTE

Charlotte's newly elected city councilmen were sworn in Monday (14). The seven men, newcomers to politics, were nominated by a coalition group made up of members of the former Citizens's and People's movements here, but are not affiliated with either group. The motion picture industry for the first time has a member on the council, J. Sam Hinson, Monogram manager, who was second high in the primary and maintained that position in the election.

Hall Houpe, manager of the Carolina and Rogers theatres in Shelby, is chairman of the retail store division in the Seventh War Loan. Houpe was chairman of the bond rally held Monday night (14) for all civic clubs . . . The industry is well represented in the YMCA annual membership roundup. Serving as generals are H. F. Kincey and H. H. Everett, while T. A. Little and J. H. Dillon are captains.

The youngest visitor in the TOA of the Carolinas office this week was nine-month-old Susan Andreas, daughter of Mrs. Julia Andreas, secretary at Bryant Theatre Supply and the Variety Club. Susie is a picture of health and has big blue eyes and red hair like her mama . . . Mrs. Bea Blankenship has resumed her position as secretary to H. F. Kincey of the North Carolina Theatres, after a four-month stay in California with her naval husband.

Eileen Massie, daughter of J. E. Massie of the Park, Waynesville, is visiting her brother, who is in the air corps at Camp Blanding, Fla. . . . Charles Leonard is back at his booker's desk at Columbia after pinch-hitting in similar capacity at the Atlanta branch.

R. E. Brantley of the Tryon, Tryon, has been elected a member of the school board there . . . Lyman Hamrick, owner of the Hamrick in Gaffney, was a New York visitor . . . Eddie Hough, manager of H. H. Everett's Union, S. C., theatres prior to his induction into the navy two years ago, was here on leave.



Joe Hornstein, Inc., Opens A Miami Branch Office

MIAMI, FLA.—Joe Hornstein, Inc., New York theatre equipment distributor, has announced the opening by June 15 here of a branch office at 1417 N.E. Second Ave., under the management of Harold Hornstein. The firm offers 35mm projection and sound equipment, draperies, chairs, carpets, ventilating and air conditioning equipment, lighting fixtures and other theatre supplies and services.

Memphis Theatres Observe National Family Week

MEMPHIS—"My Pal Wolf" and a short, "Children of Mars," were presented in Memphis as part of National Family week. In cooperation with M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, the Youth Council Service presented the shows at Strand for three days. Rialto and Idlewild presented the shows two nights and Linden Circle and Hollywood two other nights.

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MEMPHIS

Lieut. Paul Short, district manager for National Screen Service before entering the navy, was back in Memphis with a navy inspection party which included Lieut. Robert Taylor, the film star. Short visited old friends on Filmrow . . . L. W. McClintock, manager for Paramount, was in Dallas to attend a meeting of district managers.

Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager and WAC chairman, was back from a tour of Arkansas in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive . . . T. R. Thompson, UA Kansas City district manager, and B. J. McCarthy, St. Louis branch manager, were in Memphis on business . . . Miss Gerry Clifton, for 14 years with Paramount, has become a Republic booker.

J. C. Mohrstadt, Hayti, Mo., and E. J. Smith, Allbeimer, Ark., were Filmrow visitors . . . Miss Mitzi Hines, assistant cashier at Columbia, was a vacationer . . . Loew's State was all set for VE-Day. For several weeks it had been holding a film, "Victory in Europe," which it started VE-Day . . . Memphis Little Theatre opens May 21 with the comedy, "Over 21."

Claud Morris was in Memphis to chat about Danny Kaye's new picture, "Wonder Man." It comes here in July . . . Mike McGee, Commercial-Appeal dramatics editor, said in his column last week: "Memphis should be ashamed. A free concert for children was presented at Ellis Auditorium by I. L. Myers and only 84 attended. Is that any way to act, folks?" . . . The Memphis roadshow season closed last weekend with Mae West in "Catherine Was Great."

Bob Taylor Back to Studio Just as Soon as War Ends

MEMPHIS—Robert Taylor, the film star, now Lieutenant Taylor, USNR, expects to resume his interrupted film career "just as soon as we get this job over," he said on his arrival here for a conference on navy flight training films.

Much of Taylor's time in the two years since he entered the service has been taken up as an actor and narrator in films made by the navy for the instruction of its cadets.

"These films have been made in various parts of the country," Taylor said, "some in New York, some in Chicago and some in New Orleans."

Except as narrator in "The Fighting Lady," he has not worked in a civilian film since he entered the service.

His wife, Barbara Stanwyck, often visits him when her Hollywood contracts permit, he said. She soon will be seen in Warners' "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," in which she costars with Humphrey Bogart.

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New Goliad Theatre To Open in June

GOLIAD, TEX.—Rubin Frels, operator of a south Texas theatre circuit with headquarters in Victoria, is converting a building here into a theatre to be known as the Goliad. He holds a WPB priority to spend $6,000 on the building and expects to complete the work by mid-June. He has equipment for use at the new house.

Texas Small Town Patrons Welcome Late Shows

DALLAS—Small town theatre owners, noticeably hurt by the midnight curfew and brownout orders, reflected their pleasure on the Row following the lifting of the two bans.

Raymond Cornes of the Cornes at Farmersville said people in his community were on hand for his first midnight show, certain he would have one following newspaper stories that the curfew was off. He ran an ad in his paper but felt that the news story did the work.

John Stewart, of the Plaza at Kaufman, said his people warmly welcomed the late Saturday shows.

Popcorn Seasoning Points Now Nearly Double

DALLAS—Due to an OPA order, effective Sunday (13), which increased point values on lard, shortening, cooking and salad oils from six to ten points a pound, it takes practically twice as many points for popcorn seasoning now. All industrial users of fats and oils are affected by the cut except makers of pharmaceuticals.

Charles E. Darden, local popcorn distributor, advised his customers recently that the seasoning was critical and that exhibitors should buy shortening and cooking oil in any quantity wherever they could find it.

Memphis Shell to Be Used For Religious Meetings

MEMPHIS—The ministers association has been granted the use of Overton Park's shell from 7:30 to 8:30 each Sunday night this summer for citywide religious service through an agreement with the Open Air Theatre, which has the shell leased for outdoor musical shows.

Brownout Ends; Receipts Soar in Memphis Theatres

MEMPHIS—Memphis theatres lost no time in turning on their lights again following victory in Europe. The brownout ended on VE-Day Tuesday and all downtown shows had their marquees blazing before dark. Filmrow closed all day Tuesday. Theatres did a landoffice business.

Joseph Haber to Join USO For Overseas Concert Tour

MEMPHIS—Joseph Haber, concert violinist, who has made his home in Memphis for several years, has returned to New York and will join Grace Moore and Nino Martini for an overseas USO show this summer.

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W. R. TUTT
EARL G. VANDIVER
H. G. WALDEN
F. R. WATSON
MRS. F. R. WATSON
J. T. WATSON
LOUIE WEAVER
MRS. J. A. WEST
MRS. M. M. WEST
SIDNEY WHARTON
H. E. WHEATLEY
R. A. WHELAN
WAGNER WILLIAMS
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MONTAGUE 20th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MARCH 16—JUNE 28

COLUMBIA PICTURES

DALLAS

Allan Glenn, Paramount exploiteer and publicity man for the southwest with headquarters here, left Monday for Tulsa to work on a campaign featuring a new company release . . . Will Wade, ex-cafe man and ex-postmaster at San Augustine who still owns and operates the Augus Theatre there, was a Filmrow visitor. Wade, who comes to Dallas perhaps twice a year since his film business is handled by Ind-Ex Booking Service here, owns several farms and sells red cattle and hogs to the Fort Worth packers. Wade was here primarily to see about getting a few shots of penicillin for sinus trouble, but failed as there were no hospital accommodations.

Forrest Dunlap, sales manager of American Desk Mfg. Co., recently handed out a number of plastic letter openers which contained cards for a year's calendar in the handle. Dunlap is devoting all his time now to getting ready for a brisk chair business when the green light is turned on in that industry. He sold four of his five theatres recently, still retaining the Fort Theatre in Fort Smith, Ark.

Ed Blumenthal and Lloyd Rust of the Monogram used a little showmanship by erecting a display in their front plate glass windows. Lobby boards in colors on new releases were arranged in clear view of all passersby and exhibitors who happen to be in town. It is the only such window display on the Row.

The city council at Mission is planning a 10 o'clock curfew for boys and girls under 16. This council is carrying out recommendations of the county grand jury which is waging a campaign to curb delinquency in the county . . . An added pay roll of 2,000 men will benefit the J. G. Long Velasco Theatre in that town when the Dow Chemical Co. reopens its war plant there June 15. Long opened the modern new Velasco a few months ago and the plant closed about that time. However, the town had enough other business to make the new house profitable. The Dow plant at Velasco is a separate unit from the new Dow plant at Lake Jackson, a few miles away.

Miss Olivia Stock of the Relax Theatre at Muenster was on the Row buying and booking. She recently joined a group of local business men in the theatre operation, yet she talked about film matters like a veteran. She plans regular trips to Dallas in connection with her new duties.

Ed Blumenthal and Lloyd Rust were preparing to attend the Monogram franchise holders meeting starting May 21 at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. The pictures "Dillinger," "Flame of the West," "China's Little Devils," and "Sunbonnet Sue" will be discussed from publicity and sales angles. Steve Broidy, general sales manager, will present the 1945-46 products to the franchise holders.

Jimmy Wakely and Lasses White of Monograms Saddle Pal western series have returned to Texas for personal appearances in southwestern theatres. They opened in Roswell, N. M., May 15. They will be in Dallas about June 15 to spend a few days with Ed Blumenthal and Lloyd Rust and visit the Dallas exchange.

B. G. Herber and his wife left on a trip through central and southern Texas. He will call on a number of exhibitors en route on equipment matters that have been hanging fire since the first year of the war.

Navy Officer to Defend 'Mr. New Orleans' Crown

New Orleans—The annual "Mr. New Orleans" contest at Pontchartrain Beach will be Sunday, May 20. This event now draws more entries than the annual "Miss New Orleans" contest which proved a springboard for such motion picture careers as those of Dorothy Lamour and Dorothy Dell Goff.

Ensign Anton Reel, USN, winner of the "Mr. New Orleans" title for 1944, will defend his laurels in this year's contest, promoters announced.

Mrs. Gross Buys Theatre

DALLAS—Mrs. R. O. Gross, owner of the Texas in Mesquite, and her son-in-law, James F. Riggs, have purchased a neighborhood theatre here from Sgt. Bernard Gay and wife. Mrs. Gross and her late husband operated a theatre at Roscoe for about two years until his death when she moved to Mesquite and purchased the Texas.

To Repair Fire Damages

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—Mrs. J. M. Gillespie, owner, has awarded a contract to Ralph & Smallman Co. for repairing fire damages to the Galax Theatre, now under lease by Frank Merritt of Ace Theatres.



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OKLA. CITY

Robert Clarke of this city makes his first appearance in pictures in RKO's "Falcon in Hollywood." With stage and radio experience, as well as talent and good looks, it is predicted in Hollywood he will go a long way in the film world.

The problem of obtaining a staff for the 24 bond booths here was solved by Mrs. Roger J. Rickey, state council president of the Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority. More than 150 of the organization volunteered to help in the booths.

The weather has been changing from cold to hot and back again in the last two weeks, keeping exhibitors busy turning from cooling devices to heating plants . . . The main topic of conversations on Filmrow for the last two weeks has been the Griffith antitrust suit.

Lifting of the curfew saw most of the city theatres resume their late shows. The Uptown's Saturday night previews, the late shows at the Liberty and Midwest, and the Criterion's swingshift programs all have been resumed. A check of theatres over the state has revealed the majority have resumed their previews or late shows.

C. B. Akers, state WAC chairman, predicts that this will be the most successful war bond drive ever conducted by theatres here . . . The Dr. I.Q. program at the Criterion Theatre has drawn big audiences. It was scheduled for a total of seven Monday nights. Recently a Boy Scout won $1,600 in bonds for answering the "famous quotations" question.

Leading attractions recently were "National Velvet," which played one week at the Criterion and two weeks at the Tower in moveover, and "A Song to Remember," held two straight weeks at the State . . . The recent quick booking and handling of the government release, "Two Down and One to Go," won plaudits for the Metro staff.

Exhibitors say the Fox release, "Seventh War Bond Rally," was one of the best shorts they had ever shown—and it was free, too . . . The favorable reaction toward dog-story pictures may start a regular production of these animal films.

H. O. Stark of Griffiths has been taking it easy since the illness that kept him away from his office for several weeks . . . . Fred Jackson, Griffiths, has his hands full with the direction of 62 bond-issuing agencies in as many theatres in Oklahoma City and over the state.

T. B. Noble of the State Theatre, who now lives in Colorado Springs, the headquarters for his associated company, has remarried . . . Charlie Smith having been released from the service is now back at his old job handling the posters department, with Boyter Booking Agency.

The shortage of popcorn seasoning has caught several local exhibitors without a sufficient supply to keep operating . . . Exhibitors on the Row were: Claud Thorp of Ryan, Harry Smith of Cement, Don Abernathy of Fairview, John Thomas of Kingfisher, A. J. Sigmund of Lexington, C. D. Bullard of Stonewall, Roy Rollier of Lamont, Mrs. Elizabeth Tucker of Guthrie, H. L. Gilliam of Ardmore, John Terry of Perry, A. R. Walker of Broken Arrow, L. H. Georke of Canton, C. J. Travis of Eakly, R. H. Russ of Stillwater, John Gray of Chickasha.

Estelle Totty, former cashier at the Uptown and now a cashier for Grauman's Egyptian in Hollywood, was here on her yearly visit. Local friends were surprised recently when they discovered a picture in a magazine of Clark Gable talking with Estelle at Egyptian.

"Sergeant Mike," a current Columbia release, has Loren Tindal, one of Oklahoma City's home-town boys, featured in the cast. He formerly was with a local orchestra as a pianist.

SAN ANTONIO

Martin Villapadierna, the rotund projectionist at the State, is back from a short vacation trip to Corpus Christi . . . "A Doll's House," starring H. B. Warner, is billed for the Texas Theatre June 1-2 . . . Grady Cole of South States Films, New Braunfels, was among the recent visitors . . . Pvt. Fred Monk, a member of the 43rd "Winged Victory" division, has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on Luzon Island . . . Joe Estes, Interstate, gave a full barrel of castoffs to the clothing drive.

Mrs. Rebecca Gallegos of the Azteca Films staff has been hospitalized following a recent operation and is expected back at work around the middle of June . . . In town to book Mexican productions were Charles White and Edward Rowley, Dallas . . . From Monterrey came the news Jo Henson of the Texas Theatre here reached the finals by besting Mrs. Al Lever, whose husband is city manager for all Interstate theatres in Houston. The San Antonio women's champion won three and two over Mrs. Lever. Other theatrical people playing in the Mexican golf tournament included Edward Brady of San Benito and Harlingen.

Karl Hoblitzelle was in San Antonio on his way to the Rio valley where he has a citrus farm. While here, Hoblitzelle stayed at the Penthouse atop the Majestic Bldg. . . . This column was pecked out after your correspondent had been relieved of 48 hours of guard duty with the TSG following a rather quiet VE-Day . . . Reaction on the horror newsreels showing atrocities of the enemy is boosting sale in the Mighty Seventh.

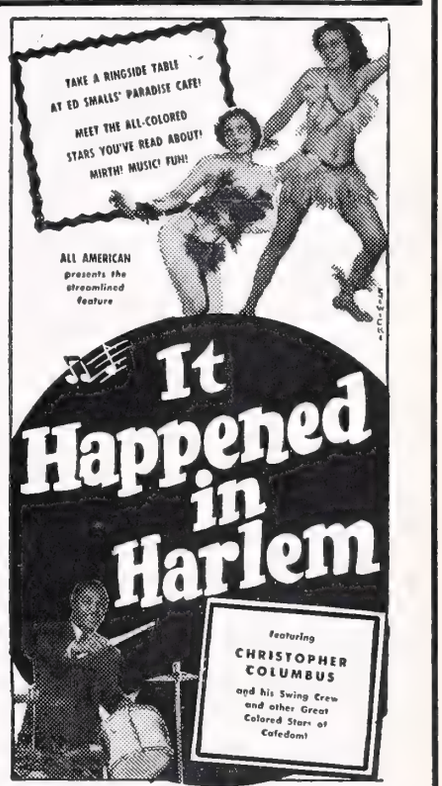
Al Irwin, Interstater from Houston, was in town looking in the pink of condition. While here he conferred with Manager Reynolds and his publicity chief, Joseph M. Estes . . . Eph Charninsky has returned from a business trip to Dallas . . . Paul Garza of the Obrero and Bruce Parker of Western States Life are back from a flying two-day visit in Monterrey . . . Erich Neumann, formerly of the Houston police department, recently was appointed custodian of the municipal auditorium . . . Lieut. Norman Schwartz, former Interstate suburban manager here before joining the armed service, is now on active duty in the European theatre of operations.

KMA Chatter: That new singer of sweet melodies Saturday mornings answers to the name of Miss Frances Watson . . . General Manager-Owner Howard W. Davis visited Laredo and the Lower Rio Grande Valley last week on station business . . . Pedro Infante, here for personal appearances at the city auditorium, was a guest star on the air for 15 minutes. He recently completed a series of Mexical musical short subjects for M-G-M in Hollywood.

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ATLANTA

Bill Collins, director of Co-At-Co Theatres, which includes the Buckhead Theatre, will turn that suburban house over to the women of the Tallulah Falls school May 22, 23 and 24 for a benefit showing of "Tonight and Every Night." All proceeds will go to the school's building fund. Prizes will be offered at each performance and a grand prize will be awarded on the last night of the run.

Johnny Mack Brown, western star of Monogram Pictures, has opened his personal appearance tour of Georgia, Alabama, North and South Carolina. It will continue through the month of June . . . Memorial services were held at the Confederate Avenue Baptist Church in honor of Harry Humphries, USNR, son of Earl Humphries, manager of Theatrical Printing Co. Humphries was killed in action some time ago.

Jimmy Trippe, formerly with the Cherokee Amusement Co., Erwin, Tenn., and recently with the U.S. army, has been discharged and is now with his old company as manager of the Lyric Theatre at Erwin . . . John W. Mangham of Screen Guild Productions has returned to the city after the meeting in Chicago . . . Francis Randolph, Florida salesman for United Artists, was hospitalized after a recent heart attack.

Mrs. Mary Thelma Davis, wife of Merritt W. Davis, district manager for Republic Pictures, died in a private hospital after a long illness. In addition to her husband, Mrs. Davis is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Dolly Davis; a son, Capt. Merritt Davis jr. of the U.S. army, and two brothers, Bill C. Talley, branch manager of Republic here, and Zack Talley of Charlotte.

John Carter, owner of the Brookhaven Theatre, Brookhaven, Ga., has been inducted into the army. The theatre is being operated by his wife . . . Harold F. Cohen, special representative of Monogram Southern exchanges, suffered a slight heart attack and was confined to his bed at his home in New Orleans . . . Miss Marian Starr of Florida State Theatres was all smiles before leaving for her vacation in Florida and a suntan . . . T. K. Jones, owner of the Ritz Theatre and mayor of Dadeville, Ala., was a Filmrow visitor.

Astor Pictures suffered approximately $200 loss in a fire in their poster department . . . In town booking and visiting friends was Bill Griffin from Cullman, Ala., who has received information from the war department that his son was injured on Okinawa. Also on Filmrow was William Green, Grantville, Ga. . . . Tom Jones, Georgia Theatre Co. publicist, has been inducted at Fort MacPherson . . . Bill Kemp, now in Memphis as manager of Loew's State, is homesick for Peachtree and the Variety Club. While happy in his new setup, Bill still misses the gang and wishes to be remembered to one and all.

Lukie Stein sends post cards from Los Angeles that he visited Tent No. 26 of Variety and reports their club rooms are gorgeous, stupendous and super-colossal. Friends understand a BERET now is part of his regular wardrobe . . . Miss Sonia Burge of the Poster Exchange was a recent bride . . . Miss Marinelle Smith of Theatrical Printing Co. visited in La Grande, Ga., on her vacation.

Sgt. George H. Wallace, former branch manager of the Sack Amusement Co. here, paid Filmrow a visit . . . Albert Sack, Dallas president of the company, visited the local branch . . . Filmrow has received word Harry Nichols, formerly with several trade magazines here, has returned from the Philippines . . . Nat Bernstern, Chicago, is planning a new theatre in Miami Beach, Fla. Construction will start soon. Bernstern operates several theatres in the Chicago territory.

M. S. Katz of PRC has returned from Birmingham where he visited with his son, Cpl. David Katz of the U.S. army . . . D. O. Graham, PRC booker, is at his desk after an illness . . . W. H. Rudisill has returned from a sales trip in Alabama . . . Harry Katz has returned from Charlotte where he visited the company office . . . A. B. Balch was visiting south Georgia.



MARRIED IN ATLANTA—Howard Rutherford, chief petty officer of the U.S. navy, who formerly was assistant manager of Loew's Grand in Atlanta, was wedded recently to Miss Frances Young of Mississippi. The ceremony was performed at the Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta. The couple are on a New Orleans honeymoon.

Chief Petty Officer Howard Rutherford, former assistant manager of Loew's Grand, and the former Miss Frances Young rang wedding bells here . . . The recent overseas press club edition of Newspaperman contains an article by Carol Weld of RKO here. He is a former Paris reporter . . . Manager Frank Henson of Loew's Grand Theatre says "Between Two Women," a low budget picture, did more business for him than "National Velvet," the reason being Van Johnson . . . Jack Kirby, Paramount district manager, was visited by Oscar Morgan, Paramount's boss of short subjects.

New Azteca Releases

SAN ANTONIO—Thomas Garcia, assistant manager and chief booker for the local Azteca Films Distributing Co., has announced three new Azteca pictures for current release. They include "El Rosario" with Andrea Palma, Tomas Perrin, Tena and Miguel Angel Ferriz; "Tribunal de Justicia" co-starring Jose Cibrian and Raquel Rojas, and "Me Ha Besado un Hombre" featuring Maria Elena Marques, Abel Salazar, Andres Soler and Agustin Insunza.

Child Pianist Featured

MEMPHIS—Helen Walker, who celebrated her 11th birthday last week, was the guest artist Sunday at the Memphis Symphony orchestra's first children's concert at Ellis Auditorium. She won a piano contest sponsored by the Symphony Society. She has studied under Percy Grainger, pianist-composer.

To Start Shows in School

NEW ORLEANS—H. C. Johns planned to begin exhibiting Saturday (19) in the Rosenwald School in Welsh, La.

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Per lens..... **$30**

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Ontario Exhibitors Attack Quebec Tax

TORONTO — Exhibitors in Ontario have been invited to lend their active sympathy to the theatres of Quebec where the provincial government has imposed a six per cent luxury tax on various forms of equipment and films, including film rentals, thus making Quebec theatres the most heavily taxed in the Dominion. It was pointed out that 37 per cent of boxoffice receipts at Quebec theatres must be turned over to federal and provincial authorities in various direct taxes, not to mention real estate, business and corporation taxation and annual license fees.

Sam Korman of the Capitol at Rouyn in northern Quebec sent a copy to Toronto of a telegram which he had wired to David Cote, member of the Quebec legislative assembly, which read:

Please oppose vigorously inclusion of film rentals in proposed six per cent luxury tax. Movie houses already heavily taxed particularly in Quebec where theatres are handicapped by prohibition to admit children under 16 years. Urge you to exert utmost pressure to have film rentals dropped from list of taxable items.

What is particularly surprising is that the Quebec provincial government should impose new luxury taxation at the end of the war in Europe when governments and public are seeking relief from war tax burdens.

Theatre Amusement Adds Capitol at Midland, Ont.

TORONTO—The Theatre Amusement Co. has acquired the Capitol at Midland, Ont. H. C. D. Main, circuit partner, was in Midland several days to check on details of operation with Manager Sam Dolcourt. This circuit is operated by Sam Fingold, Ralph Dale and Dick Main.

Record at Switchboard

TORONTO—A record number of telephone calls was registered on VE-Day at the central telephone service maintained here by Famous Players theatres. Three girls on the switchboard handled 1,217 inquiries from the public regarding theatre performances and programs from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m., an average of more than 100 messages an hour. The peak was recorded at noon when more than 200 calls were received in 60 minutes. The previous record day was on Thanksgiving last fall when slightly more than 900 calls were handled.

On With Grease Shows

TORONTO—"The war must go on" is the motto of the Imperial and Capitol in Sarnia, Ont., two units of the Famous Players Canadian circuit. With the bells of victory still ringing to celebrate the capitulation of Germany, the theatres announced the continuance of special fat salvage shows for the collection of household greases to be used against Japan.

To Shoot "Overlanders"

SYDNEY, AUS.—Osmond Borradaile, English cameraman, who voluntarily entered Tobruk to cover the siege there, has arrived in Australia to join Film Director Harry Watt in filming "The Overlanders." Pictures filmed by him include "Elephant Boy," "The Drum," "Four Feathers," "Hell's Angels," "Senorita," "The Lion of Judah" and several Clara Bow features.

Halifax VE-Day Rioters Treat Theatres Lightly

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Estimated damages of more than $5,000,000 were incurred in Halifax and nearby Dartmouth in a wild period of explosive abandonment set off by the first news of the capitulation of Germany.

Theatres, which closed Monday with the Associated Press prerelease advance news of the surrender, suffered less than many other types of establishments, but marquees and lobbies were damaged and door and window glass shattered in the rioting, which necessitated the imposition of martial law before order could be restored. Ticket booths were virtually destroyed at the Orpheum and Capitol and the lobby of the latter was severely damaged.

The theatres remained closed from Monday through Thursday, reopening under military protection after the disorders had been quelled.

Civil authorities placed the blame upon the army, navy and air force for failure to prevent the rioting, which was led by members of the armed forces, inflamed by liquor and their numbers augmented by hundreds of civilians, including scores of women and young girls, all in a similar state of intoxication. It was charged the naval authorities had taken no steps to keep the men at their stations, but had let some 10,000 loose to celebrate as they chose.

The Dominion government has ordered an investigation, which fortunately had no counterpart here where the celebration was relatively quiet.

Hardly a plate glass store window escaped smashing in the Halifax district rioting. Scores of the stores were looted with the looters walking boldly through the streets carrying armfuls of the stolen goods. Three liquor package stores were stormed and practically all stocks taken and consumed. A brewery was entered despite a police cordon and hundreds of cartons of bottled ale carried and trucked away. Dozens of trucks and cars were taken from owners and three streetcars were turned over. One was burned on the street. A police patrol car was overturned and several policemen injured. Two mercantile buildings were set on fire and damaged, their stocks looted as the fires raged.

VE-Day Brings Out Theatre Signs Of 1929 Vintage at Toronto

TORONTO—One of the most interesting sights on VE-Day downtown here was a display of old film posters, pasted on six-sheet boards, which were brought out to protect the front of the Franklin store in the corner of the Colonial Theatre Bldg. on city hall square. All the pieces were of ancient vintage, since the theatre has been closed for 15 years.

One poster advertised "Man and the Moment," from the story by Elinor Glyn, and featured Billie Dove. It was released in 1929. The style of artwork was in as distinct a contrast to present poster work as the title was old. Another sign announced "A Nut to Win," a Clarence Rowland production featuring Jack Mulhall and Charlie Murray in a college race track film. Both pictures were Associated First National Attractions.

The Colonial, which went out of business with the advent of sound pictures, is scheduled to disappear shortly to make room, along with other buildings, for the expansion of the Robert Simpson department store. Also to disappear in the same block for the postwar store is the Ace, which was remodeled from the old Photodrome a few years ago.

The Ace secured unexpected publicity on VE-Day when a commentator of CFRB described the celebration scene in front of the city hall and mentioned the fact that the pictures at the Ace were "Death Factory," a film showing the atrocities in a German political camp, and "The White Cliffs of Dover."

Shea's, also on the Square, found Manager Fred Trebilcock prepared for attack by the surging crowds. The boxoffice was moved from the street front to the inside lobby while all moveable signs and furniture were taken from the lobby and foyer. In addition, an old screen was used in place of the costly new screen, just in case patrons started to throw things. But there was no disturbance.

TORONTO — Famous Players Canadian Corp. used two effective display advertisements in the newspapers on VE-Day. Both were of four-column size.

The first read: "VICTORY . . . With heartfelt gratitude . . . We join in the rejoicing and thanksgiving for this day of Victory." The second: "INTERMISSION . . . But the show is NOT over. Backed by efforts at home, our fighting men have rung down the curtain on Act I . . . the Battle of Europe is over! But some of our greatest battles lie ahead . . . In Act II we must forge the weapons to war against Japan and fashion a lasting peace . . . Canada still needs every dollar you can lend!"

Montreal Theatres Chief Sufferers In Youths' VE-Day Celebration

MONTREAL—Theatres were the chief sufferers in Montreal's VE-Day celebrations, when groups of youthful demonstrators raided the theatre front to carry off flags, advertising posters and anything else moveable.

Exhibitors quickly removed such objects. As there was no rioting or disturbance inside the theatres exhibitors felt they had fared fairly well.

A bonfire was made of the Orpheum's display posters by a group of revellers. During the day gangs of youths and bobby-socks girls invaded St. Catherine St. houses, marching in and out at will, but as a rule they did not stay inside long, finding the excitement in the streets too inviting.

Flourishing Theatre Business With Winnipeg Stores Closed

WINNIPEG—With everything here closed tight, theatres did a flourishing business on VE-Day. The houses were decked in bunting and displayed huge stills of the Allied leaders. Ads were carried in the dailies notifying the public that the houses were being kept open as a public service, and additional ads were run carrying the congratulations of the industry. The Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors Ass'n also used paid space to convey their happiness in victory over Germany.

Grafton, S. D., Strand Burns to the Ground

From Midwest Edition

GRAFTON, S. D.—The Grafton Theatre burned to the ground recently. Fire started in the rear and had burned out the interior by the time firemen were called. When the first hose was trained on the building the roof and sidewalls collapsed, leaving only the brick front standing.

Construction Outlook Is Unchanged By VE-Day

TORONTO — Odeon Theatres of Canada executives here asserted VE-Day developments would not affect the program for the visit of J. Arthur Rank to Canada, except possibly the turn in international affairs would spur the Canadian Odeon circuit to earlier consideration of postwar expansion plans, tempered by requirements for the prosecution of the war against Japan.

At this writing no word had come from the Dominion government of any modification of the restrictions on construction projects to enable the Canadian circuits to proceed with the erection of cinemas immediately. However, one of the first federal acts was to remove the eight per cent sales tax on building materials and to abolish various special war taxes on the importation of certain types of machinery, both steps designed to speed up construction work of essential nature, such as working men's homes, military hospitals and urgently-needed business buildings.

The ban continues on the erection of new theatres, and a permit still is required from the controller of construction for repair work on theatres being in excess of $500. There has been no suggestion that the $500 maximum limit will be raised and the government has made it clear that consideration is being given only for small houses to relieve congestion, and for military hospitals, the immediate program for which represents expenditures of $33,000,000.

Still another factor is that, although the sales tax has been removed from building supplies, there is yet an extreme shortage of lumber and hardware lines. The government has authorized the production of many household articles for civilian use but the lid has not been raised on the civilian manufacture of goods or equipment to be used in theatres.

There is a federal election on June 11 and it is just possible the government may ease other wartime restrictions in the next few weeks in a desire to curry favor with the public but the outlook for the theatre business is not encouraging because of its non-priority classification.

Sgt. J. B. Switzer, RCAF, Transferred to New Post

Sgt. J. B. Switzer of the RCAF has been transferred from Dafoe, Sask., to Gimli, Man., Canada.



In forwarding his new subscription address for his issues of BOXOFFICE Switzer enclosed a recent photograph made at his former station at No. 5 BG School at Dafoe, in which he is running two No. 8 Holmes 35mm projectors.

The sergeant's address is Sgt. J. B. Switzer, No. 18 SFTS, RCAF, Gimli, Man., Canada.



Ontario MPTA Poll On 16mm Situation

TORONTO—The Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Ontario is conducting a survey among its 230 exhibitor members regarding local 16mm competition, for licensed theatres, according to A. H. Jolley, executive secretary.

Jolley pointed out that "with thousands of these showings taking place in homes, factories, clubs and rural communities, the situation requires thoughtful consideration," adding that from 1936 to a recent date the 16mm receipts rose by 133 per cent while 35mm receipts in regular theatres increased 82 per cent. The association is anxious to determine if adequate protection has been afforded to the 35mm exhibitor from the continuing expansion of 16mm exhibition through an agreement with 16mm distributors, chief point of which is that the commercial showing of 16mm features and shorts must not take place within ten miles of a 35mm theatre.

Jolley pointed to a recent bulletin of the National Film Board, Ottawa, which said that 16mm films were being seen by 77,000 Canadians weekly in clubs and schools, 75,000 rural people were seeing the shows regularly in circuits supervised by the NFB, 75,000 workers were attending screenings in factories and trade union halls, while 34 regional libraries were supplying NFB films to schools, community centers and libraries. The National Film Board was presenting 2,000 film shows monthly in factories and hundreds more were arranged by workers' organizations, according to the bulletin.

MARITIMES

The displays for the Eighth Victory Loan in store windows in Halifax attracted much attention. The National Film Board took pictures of the window exhibits for use in future bond drives, if any. Responsible for the displays were Henry Deveau and Marty Simpson, assistants to Bob Roddick at the Capitol, and Herb Pitts, assistant to Freeman Skinner at the Orpheus, both FPC houses.

Eldon Rathburn, St. John, composer of a symphonette which was played at Los Angeles while he was there, told a St. John service club of his trip which included a tour of Metro studios and a meeting with Louis B. Mayer and Walter Pidgeon, ex-St. John residents.

"Keys of the Kingdom" has been doing good business through this territory but nothing like that of "Going My Way." One vital defect is the absence of comedy . . . Mrs. Gertrude Johnston, recently named assistant manager at the Capitol, St. John, has been on the staff there for a decade, starting as cashier. She has also been treasurer and office secretary. The new manager, Harrison Howe, is one of the youngest theatre managers in the FPC chain.

Marty Simpson of the Halifax Capitol is second vice-president of the new Lions Club there and thus on the first executive of the club . . . A recent reference to Bill Calder as caretaker of the Sydney Mines Community was meant for Bill Cuzner, owner-manager of the Sydney Mines Strand. Bill Calder is caretaker of the Yarmouth Community . . . Harry MacDonald, new doorman at the Mayfair, St. John, is the first employe there to wear a police uniform, the same as that for the city police. McDonald was sworn in as a special policeman before joining the Mayfair staff. He was formerly a lumber scaler.

Nice "Velvet" Debut In the Yonge Street

TORONTO—After the first rush to celebrate the death of Nazi Germany, local theatres returned to what could be described as normal business, aided somewhat by near-wintry weather which discouraged outdoor activities. "National Velvet" opened nicely at Loew's Yonge Street but "A Song to Remember" continued to hold its own for a fourth week at Shea's. At the Imperial "The Woman in the Window" was better than par and second week of "Between Two Women" was steady at Loew's Uptown.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**Marriage Is a Private Affair** (M-G-M); **What a Blonde** (RKO)..... 95
Imperial—**The Woman in the Window** (RKO)..... 105
Loew's—**National Velvet** (M-G-M)..... 115
Shea's—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 4th wk..... 100
Tivoli—**Till We Meet Again** (Para); **The National Barn Dance** (Para)..... 95
Uptown—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd wk... 90

Holiday and VE-Day Observances Cut Down Attendance in Montreal

MONTREAL—Excitement over Germany's capitulation kept many regular patrons away from first run shows, and the week also was broken by the Ascension Day holiday. Only films held over were "Music for Millions" at the Palace, and "Le Signe de Torro," French language film, at the Orpheum.

Capitol—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Dangerous Passage** (Para), 2nd wk..... Fair
Loew's—**To Have and Have Not** (WB), 3rd wk..... Fair
Orpheum—**Le Signe de Torro (The Mark of Torro)** (WB)..... Held for third week
Palace—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M)..... Held over
Princess—**Blonde Fever** (M-G-M); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ)..... Average

Spencer-Famous Combine Buys Site for New House

ST. JOHN, N. B.—A site for a new theatre has been purchased in Charlottetown, P.E.I., by the F. G. Spencer Co. here. It is the YMCA property on Grafton St. With the Capitol it gives the Spencer interests a theatre frontage of 180 feet on Grafton St.

The new building will be started as soon as restrictions and scarcities are eased. The purchase was completed on a visit to Charlottetown by Fred G. Spencer, president of the Spencer firm, and Bob Roddick, Maritime manager for Famous Players. Famous is buying a half interest.

The new theatre will be of brick, with seating on the ground floor. Spencer-Famous now have the Capitol, Prince Edward and Empire in Charlottetown, all the theatres there, but Odeon-Rank have acquired a site there to build their first Prince Edward Island holding.

Joseph Reardon Killed

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Lieut. Joseph W. Reardon of St. George, N. B., recently officially announced as killed in action while with the Canadian army in Germany, had been projectionist at the Marina, St. Andrews, Opera House, St. George and Strand theatres, Black's Harbor. All are within about 25 miles in the Bay of Fundy region adjacent the international border.

Joe's mother, one sister and a brother live at St. George, where he was born. A sister lives at Lawrence, Mass. The brother recently returned from overseas service with the air force. Joe enlisted in 1941 and was commissioned in June 1944, in England after a course at Sandhurst royal military college.

Johnston Signed for "Beautiful"

Johnny Johnston has signed a contract and will play a lead role in "You Are Beautiful" for Metro.

Columnist Explains Film Making

WINNIPEG—Filming of a short by the National Film Board on the Manitoba Music Festical here recently was the occasion of a full column writup in the Tribune that directed public interest not only on the subject, one of the Know Your Canada series, but also was good publicity for the industry in general. The article was written by Columnist Schrader.

"As you may know," wrote Schrader, "the film industry has perpetrated a minor myth in connection with synchronizing sound and the visual film. Occasionally a voice, violin, or what have you is recorded on film independently. Then cutting room matches the two and the audience enjoys superior entertainment."

He related the voice of a 13-year-old boy already had been recorded when the shooting started here. The record then was used by the film crew playing his voice back during the visual filming.

Recounts Preparation Necessary

"There was quite a bit of preparation before the camera began to grind. Denis Gillson, the cameraman, had 30,000 watts playing on the stage, not counting the theatre's own footlights. Then Alex (the boy) had to undergo several rehearsals so the camera could be adjusted properly. When they made up their mind where Alex was to stand, they marked the spot with a piece of chalk.

"Then they rounded up a number of other youngsters to sit in the box. The backs of their heads would be photographed to produce the effect of an audience. Then they summoned a couple of stagehands to put a glow on the piano. I asked Mrs. Gudrun Parker, the producer, how much preparation was needed, and she estimated it took six hours to produce one and a half minutes on the screen.

"They finally got set, and Gillson manned his camera on the balcony. Mrs. Parker rolled up a magazine and shouted: 'Sound . . . Camera . . . Scene four, take two,' and the camera began to whirr.

Record Timed to Mouthings

"The public address system issued the record of Alex's voice and Alex timed his mouthings to the record.

"'Cut,' shouted Gillson. 'The sound and the visual aren't matching.'"

Schrader went on to describe how the attempts were made over and over again until the two matched.

He then gave the public a taste of movie lingo in the following: "The crew also took shots of the Winnipeg boys' choir. These were closeups, and the camera was mounted in what looked like a broken-down gun carriage. The lens were focused on a single boy and then gradually drawn out to include the full choir.

"This shot, in movie jargon, is called a zoom-out, and the gun carriage is known as a dolly. As a matter of fact, movie people have a whole grist of strange talk and a layman might just as well be listening to code.

The Manitoba Music Festival is the most important single event in the city. With thousands of parents interested the column was widely read.

Scotland Yard Plans Films To Train Its Detectives

WINNIPEG—The Tribune last week carried an article on the use of films by Scotland Yard written by its London correspondent, A. C. Cummings, who also services Associated Southam newspapers.

Cummings related that Scotland Yard plans to produce training films to educate its detectives. Impressed with the use the war office has made of training films, the recently appointed deputy assistant commissioner is planning a similar scheme for the detective agency. "He himself prepared the scenario of the first picture, which demonstrates modern and efficient methods of dealing with housebreakers."

This will not be Scotland Yard's first effort at film making, Cummins added. "Not long ago, in conjunction with the British council, the agency made a short film on a day in the life of a London policeman, and called it 'Man on the Beat.' It will be seen shortly by audiences all over the world. The commentary has been translated into 23 languages, one of them German, for use in German-speaking Switzerland and eventually in Australia."



TWENTIETH-FOX PLAQUES TO A PAIR—Bill Novak, manager of the Metropolitan in Winnipeg, and Charlie Bahrynowski, who pilots the Metropolitan in Regina, were given plaques by 20th-Fox for establishing house records in their respective theatres during the playing of "Thunderhead," in April, the 30th Anniversary month of the producing company.

In the picture Mayor Coulter of Winnipeg is shown presenting a plaque to Novak. A similar ceremony was held a short time later for Bahrynowski. Left to right: Harold A. Bishop, Manitoba supervisor for 20th-Fox; Charles Krupp, 20th-Fox salesman; Bahrynowski; Novak; George Dowbiggin, district booker for Famous Players; Mayor Coulter; J. H. Huber, 20th-Fox's Winnipeg branch manager; E. A. Zorn, Famous Players' district manager.

OTTAWA

Diplomats from many countries, Canadian government officials and local social leaders attended the Canadian premiere of "Colonel Blimp" held at the Elgin under the auspices of the women's auxiliary of the naval headquarters. The proceeds of the first performance were presented on the stage to Mrs. Donald Gordon, wife of the chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

John Grierson, commissioner of the National Film Board, met Montreal's leading film men at a conference in the Mount Royal Hotel to discuss the postwar use of government films to advertise the Dominion and boosting international trade . . . The National Film Board hit the jackpot of timeliness on the release of "Salute to Victory," although there was a 42-hour rush to finish the picture to catch VE-Day. This picture and a companion piece, "Now, the Victory," dealing with Dumbarton Oaks and the San Francisco conferences, were privately screened in the NFB theatre here before government officials and press representatives.

With the signing of European peace the Capitol broke out with "Hotel Berlin" tie-ups on contemporary happenings in the German capital . . . A peace sign was the reintroduction of the Saturday amusement page in the Examiner at Peterborough, Ont.

Leslie M. Frost, provincial treasurer in the last Ontario government, has again been nominated at Lindsay for the riding of Victoria . . . The moving picture censorship and theatres branch of the treasury department has not yet issued its annual report for the year ending March 31.

It is reported that no film features have been imported into Canada from France following the liberation of the Republic and, meantime, Canadian theatres specializing in French-language films are continuing to rerun prewar product from that country.

B&F Managers at Toronto Set Up Christmas Fund

TORONTO—Establishment of a Christmas fund was announced at the monthly luncheon of the B&F Managers Ass'n, which is made up of managers of the score of Bloom and Fine units in the Toronto district. On the suggestion of Sam Fine, the fund will be devoted to some worthy cause at the end of the calendar year. Money will be raised through the holding of raffles in conjunction with the monthly gatherings in the King Edward Hotel.

The association decided to hold an outing on Centre Island July 15. A picnic committee was appointed as follows: Lou Ross, chairman; Art Grover, William Collins, Arthur Magee and Tom Waterfield.

Solly Cohen, manager of the Grover, proved to be the winner of the luncheon raffle, a traveling clock, his ticket being drawn from the hat by Sam Bloom. In addition to Bloom and Fine, other executives present were Sam Sternberg and W. A. Summerville jr.



NFB Making Short on Work Of Canadian News Men

TORONTO—A seven-man camera crew of the National Film Board spent several days here taking pictures of newspaper men at work during a rush of war-peace news. The clips will be assembled into a short dealing with the operations of the press in the Dominion. The camera shots were taken at the Canadian Press bureau here and in the newsrooms of the Telegram, the Globe and Mail and the Star.

Representatives of the board are making a tour of Canadian cities from coast to coast to pick up local shots depicting the work of newsmen.

A Blood Donor 16 Times

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Johnny Farr, veteran manager of the Rivoli, North Sydney, and until recently owner of that theatre, has given 16 blood donations to the Red Cross war blood bank, and is continuing. In addition he was publicity chairman for the Eighth Victory Loan drive in North Sydney and has been active since the start of the war not only in all the bond campaigns, but also far war stamp sales, the Queen's Fund, Red Cross campaigns, and Russian, Polish, Greek, French relief drives.

The Midnight Curfew Remains in Canada

Toronto—Although the U.S. raised the midnight curfew on places of amusement immediately after VE-Day, the prohibition on midnight shows here and in other Canadian cities will continue, it is stated, because war conditions were not considered when local bylaws were passed to ban owl performances. Midnight shows are permitted here only at Christmas and on New Year's Eve, being banned otherwise because of complaints of alleged unsavory conditions.

Blood Bank Contributors Are Guests of Theatres

From Eastern Edition

ALBANY—Red Cross blood bank donors in Schenectady and Troy are given passes to Proctor's Theatres in those two cities by Guy Graves and Larry Cowen, managing directors of the two theatres.

Graves originated the policy in Schenectady following a highly successful entertainment given by him in cooperation with Red Cross and blood bank officials there for members of the "Gallon Club," composed of men and women who had given eight or more pints of blood. Cowen adopted the plan for Erie.

More than 1,400 persons wearing the pin denoting they were eight-pint contributors attended the entertainment.

Officials in charge of the affair, the first of its kind in this section and believed to be one of the first in the country on so big a scale, offered apologies and promised the next time the "galloneers" would be invited to a larger auditorium.

The Schenectady Union-Star devoted almost a full page to pictures and stories of the unique event. Two of Phil Spitalny's all-girl orchestra entertained and a wounded veteran spoke. The idea is believed practical for any theatre in a city or town with a large number of "gallon club" members.

The new plan by Graves is to issue a pass to every person donating blood. The Red Cross furnishes names and addresses. A Red Cross mobile unit from the Schenectady regional headquarters visits Albany and other cities in a 70-mile radius.

Ben Marcus Planning Postwar Expansion

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE—Ben Marcus, president and general manager of S&M Theatres is now preparing his organization for postwar expansion, and has announced that Joe Strother, buyer and booker, has been promoted to assistant general manager in charge of booking and buying for the circuit's theatres and exchange operations.



BEN MARCUS

Hank Tollette has been promoted to assistant general manager in charge of the operations.

Marcus has moved the S&M headquarters from Ripon to the First National Bank Bldg. in Oshkosh. He has purchased a home in Oshkosh into which he has moved.

Strother will continue to maintain offices in Milwaukee, and Tollette will have his offices at Neenah.

Marcus also announced that construction on a new theatre at Tomah will begin within the next 90 days. The Varsity Theatre at Appleton has been added to the S&M circuit, with active operation to begin May 1. This gives the circuit 12 houses.

At a meeting of the managerial, and office staffs in Oshkosh, plans were laid for the Ben Marcus spring drive of 1945. In attendance were: Strother, Tollette, Don Harrington, who recently was upped from Neenah manager to manager of the circuit's two houses in Clintonville; Dorothy Carson recently upped from assistant manager of the Brin to house manager; Charles Lowe, Clarence Holtze, Ollie Lenz, Hy Cohen, Don Jones, Aileen Steeps, Erna Hicks, Lorraine Reif, Helen Nigel and Helen Witte.

Numerous cash prizes were set up for the winners of the drive that started April 22 and runs to July 21.

T. C. Hoad Demonstrates His "Dual Projection"

TORONTO—Thomas C. Hoad, projection specialist with General Theatre Supply Co. here, aroused wide attention through the development of a system of film projection which brings a constant flow of pictures to the screen without intermittent blanks.

The Hoad invention consists of paired projectors with which is used a form of positive prints in pairs in which alternate frames are blank, the use of which eliminates the shutter arrangement for the progressive showing of scenes. Hoad calls his invention "dual projection" and claims that its adoption would relieve all eye strain for patrons through the continuous screen illumination.

Hoad has built a working model of the new double-projector which he has demonstrated before executives and managers of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and also before a gathering of fellow-projectionists, all of whom appeared to be greatly impressed with the new principle. It is understood that arrangements have been made for a demonstration before the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Frisco Circuit Favors Saturday Kid Shows

SAN FRANCISCO — The importance of visual entertainment and education for children has been realized by the San Francisco Theatres, Inc. The Saturday matinee programs at the Coliseum, Harding and Metro theatres comprise two comedy features, a variety of short subjects and cartoons. Bugs Bunny and Edgar Kennedy are far more popular with the kids than Humphrey Bogart and Ginger Rogers.

Oftentimes the individual theatres give away special door prizes such as comic books, ice cream or candy. To the children who attend these special matinees and to their parents as well, Saturday is the day of days. The value of such programs for children in these times and the need for more theatres to follow the lead of the San Francisco circuit cannot be over emphasized, observers state.

Model Home Tieup Sells Milwaukee "Cottage"

MILWAUKEE—Sonny McDonald of the Warner Theatre arranged an effective tieup with the Klode furniture store as part of a campaign for "The Enchanted Cottage." A model home in the store was redecorated and called "The Enchanted Cottage."

The exhibit was thrown open to the public prior to the opening of the film, and three pieces of furniture on display were offered as prizes in an "Enchanted Cottage" photo contest. Promotion was further helped by a series of six cooperative newspaper ads with theatre tiein copy.

The Warner Theatre erected the romantic set-piece suggested in the press book with cutout cottage, flowers, vines, etc. All couples married in Milwaukee on opening day were invited to the picture's premiere as guests of the management.

Coffin, Hearse, Pellets Sell "Body Snatchers"

UNIONTOWN, PA.—The Manos Theatre played up the scare angle in exploiting "The Body Snatchers" to good advantage. The management rigged up a huge false front with coffin effect for the house and utilized an old horse-drawn hearse as a street ballyhoo.

Nerve pills were distributed among school children, and smelling salts placed on hand in the lobby for squeamish patrons.

To Doctors on "Women"

BEAVER FALLS, PA.—Bob Higgins, manager of the Rialto, forwarded approximately 300 special letters to members of the medical profession in the Beaver Valley as part of an advance campaign on "Between Two Women." Another exploitation was the distribution of Van Johnson fan photos via a store tieup. Another store cooperated by issuing imprinted paper bags, etc.



Bond Girls Paired With Soldier Boys

★ ★ ★

Seven girls from Chicago war plants were chosen for outstanding war bond sales by U.S. treasury department representatives for blind dates with war veterans as a prelude to the preview of "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Roosevelt Theatre. They raised a Seventh War Loan Minute Man flag at the festivities in Blackstone Hotel.

In the above photo, Sam Horowitz, midwest and southern division sales manager of Vanguard Films, is shown at the left; Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago in the center, and Abe Platt, Balaban & Katz executive, at right, with the seven girls.

Numbered lots were drawn to pair the war plant beauties with the soldier boys on a gala evening of blind dates.

44 Windows on "Tree"

CLEVELAND—Harry Weiss, 20th-Fox, exploitation director, reports that he set 44 display windows in this area for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at the Hippodrome and the Allen. Most of them were book windows. In addition he used 500 streetcar cards. The public library cooperated with displays.

Fish Rodeo Goes Over Big At South Carolina Theatre

Saxon, S. C.—Nelson Hampton, manager of the Sax Theatre here, has inaugurated a "Fishing Rodeo."

On a specified night a lucky number drawing is held in the theatre and to the holders of the first 25 lucky numbers a permit is given to fish in the well stocked Saxon Mill pond for two hours on the following Saturday. There is no limit on the number the fishermen may catch but no one except holders of the Sax Theatre lucky numbers are permitted to participate.

In addition to angling pleasures there are prizes awarded as follows: $5 in cash to the fisherman catching the largest single fish, $3 in cash to the fisherman catching the largest amount of fish in weight, and $2 in cash to the fisherman catching the largest number of fish by count.

And how the event has gone over!

An Effective Match Stunt on 'Have Not'

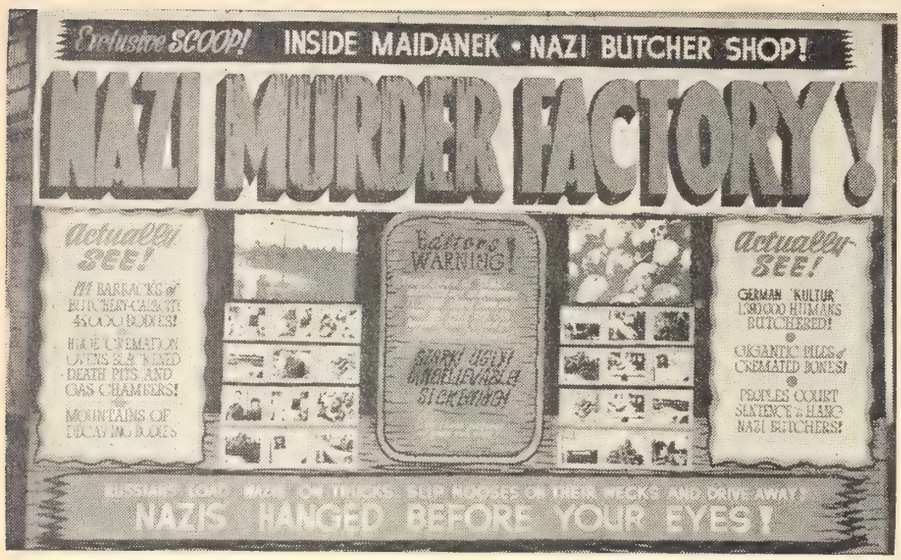
DES MOINES—The Roosevelt Theatre created interest in Warner Bros.' "To Have and Have Not" when it played here by attaching a book of paper matches to a 4x6-inch giveaway card headlined "The Fireworks Started When She Said, 'Anybody Here Gotta Match.'" Art work on the card included Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, who is shown lighting a cigaret.

Tri-State Theatres also used the stunt with equally good results at other houses in the circuit.

Free Connie Moore Photos For "Dangerous" at Ohio

CLEVELAND—Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew's Ohio, highlighted her campaign for "Delightfully Dangerous" with a Woodworth window which featured a blowup of a picture of Constance Moore and a card offering a free photo of the star upon request. Her campaign also included the use of tent cards at leading downtown restaurants, a Wurlitzer window featuring Morton Gould records, a Statler florist window display, banners on a fleet of Klein News trucks, and two personal appearances on the radio and a radio tieup with a letter contest on "What Makes a Woman 'Delightfully Dangerous?'"

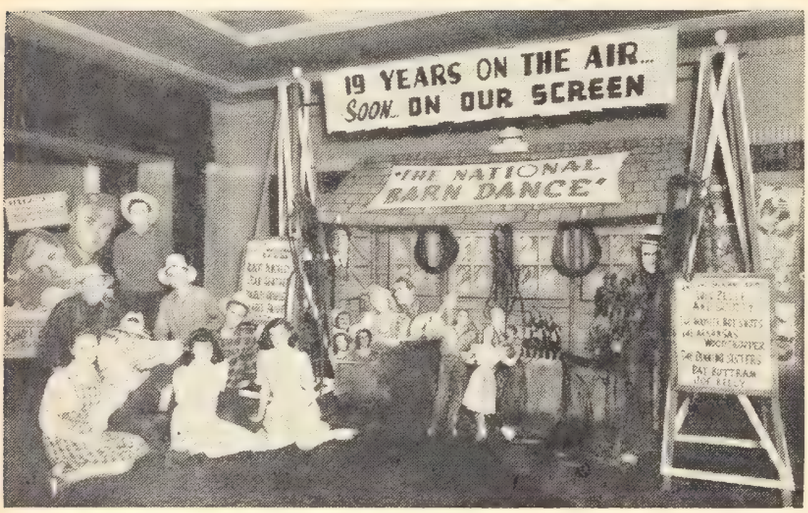
Attention-Getters Inside and Outside the Theatre



MAKES 'EM SHUDDER—"Inside a Nazi Death Factory" brought the crowds to the Telenews in San Francisco. It pulls no punches in depicting the horror camps in Germany, and Charles E. Shutt, manager, pulled no punches in devising the above front, featuring the "worst" stills and strong words.



FOLLOWUP—The hotel register idea, incorporated in the above lobby, was used by Marlowe Conner of the Capitol, Madison, as a followup of numbered invitations issued a week in advance.



REALISTIC LOBBY—John W. Schafluetzel of the Nebraska in Lincoln did good business on "The Barn Dance." The entire staff wore overalls and straw hats (above) two weeks in advance, and the popcorn girls and cashier wore bright, crisp ginghams and had pigtails in ribbons.



MARLOWE CONNER, manager of the Capitol, Madison, Wis., doped out the lobby display at right which featured good luck pieces obtained from returned flyers stationed at Truax Field, Madison. A card described the articles (protected by glass) and the names of the owners.



SINGING BALLY—For "Music for Millions, Manager Charles Lynn of the State, Minneapolis, had two young couples give out with torchy numbers, covering the loop in advance. They even sang on streetcars. They also passed out photos of Margaret O'Brien.



GAY FRONT—Al Perly, manager of the Midtown in Toronto, arranged this front for "Minstrel Man." The man in the photo is Assistant Lyle Evans, since transferred by 20th Century Theatres to the Hollywood in Niagara Falls, Ont.

Plan Americanism Program on Bonds

"I Am an American" week is this week, May 14-24, but a recent communication to all Schine circuit managers which reached our desk the other day from Seymour L. Morris of the Schine advertising and publicity department contains a suggestion which can be adapted for use during the war bond drive, which doesn't end until June 30. Moreover it's never too late to learn.

Morris asserted the "I Am an American" celebration gives showmen "a tremendous opportunity" to have their audiences show what real Americans they are by buying war bonds at their theatres.

Theatre men in situations where the Americanism week was not observed might arrange a bond selling promotion around the idea. As the Schine executive points out this year we have more reason to be happy and proud to shout to the world, "I Am an American!" and buy bonds.

"We also should be willing to step forward and extend a welcome hand to those who have recently become citizens of this great democracy," the communication reads. ". . . It is up to us to give guidance as to the correct way of life and the democratic privileges which are our heritage."

An appropriate subject for the celebration should be booked, such as Warners' "It Happened in Springfield" and "I Am an American."

Of course tieups should be made with a patriotic or civic organization, of which there are many from the war finance committee to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Preview for Sports Writers Plugs 'O'Rourke' Race Film

ST. LOUIS—Jim Castle, Paramount's district advertising representative, recently arranged a special screening of "Salty O'Rourke" for the sports writers and commentators of the St. Louis area. Each was contacted personally by Jim and the day before the screening he sent them the following wire:

HOLDING SEATS AT RAIL FOR YOU AND YOUR STAFF FOR BIGGEST HORSE RACE OF YEAR TO BE RUN AT PARAMOUNT SCREENING ROOM. POST TIME, 8 P. M. RAILBIRDS SAY WATCH "WHIPPER," OWNED BY "SALTY O'ROURKE" ALAN LADD, RIDDEN BY STANLEY CLEMENTS, TRAINED BY WILLIAM DEMAREST, SPURRED ON BY GAIL RUSSELL.

Those receiving the wire were J. R. Stockton, Post-Dispatch; Bob Burns, Globe-Democrat; Sid Keener and "Kid" Regan, Star-Times; France Laux, Station KMOX; Johnnie O'Hara, Gardner advertising agency's sports commentator; Ed Wilson, Station KWK, and Harry Caray, sports announcer of the Ruthrauff & Ryan agency.

Others in attendance included M. Henry, general station manager of Station WTMV, East St. Louis; Elmer Muschanuy, program director of Station KXOK; Kay Morton of the Just for You show on KXOK; Harold Gram, sports announcer of KXOK, and Mr. and Mrs. George Carson, local sports enthusiasts.

Display Five Stories High

The back of the Roxy in New York can be seen by crowds leaving Radio City. It's one of the biggest open spaces in mid-Manhattan, so the Roxy management took full advantage of it for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," arranging there a huge advance display extending five stories high.

Memorial Day Calls for Appropriate Observance by Nation's Showmen



NEW STYLE BOOTHS—Loew's Theatres has uniform booths throughout the circuit. The one shown here was installed at the State, New York.

Memorial Day, Wednesday, May 30, when the nation bows in solemn tribute to those who gave their lives in freedom's cause, will be observed with fitting ceremony in many of America's theatres.

Among tried ideas for observance of the day in theatres are the issuance of invitations to all returned disabled veterans to be guests of the management, possibly at an early preregular run special program; tieups with patriotic groups for Memorial Day matinees, with the presentation from the stage of a bouquet or tribute to group representatives, and a special Memorial Day war bond sales effort accentuating bond purchases as the most fitting means of paying tribute to the men who have fallen.

Routine showmanship calls for appropriate and appealing lobby frames, and any timely war exhibits in the foyer. All advertising, particularly newspaper copy, should reflect the occasion in showmanly but dignified style.

Showmen have on former occasions in many instances gotten their Memorial Day message over to congregations, through the pulpit, on the Sunday preceding. If the theatre's program is especially appropriate the chances are greater this year in view of the victory in Europe.

With an eye for getting representation in parades contact heads of marching groups.

Falling on Wednesday the date opens the way for Memorial Eve matinees or midnight shows the night before; this should hold especial interest for school children.

W. S. Samuels at Memphis

W. S. Samuels, who has contributed many ideas to Selling Seats columns from Los Noches, Tex., and later from Milan, Tenn., now is manager of the Strand at Memphis.

Palace, Albany, Utilizes Press Book Suggestion

ALBANY—The Palace Theatre availed itself of a press book suggestion and, by means of a tieup with the Knickerbocker News, executed a successful "Typical Boy" contest in connection with its run of "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka." The theme of the contest was that Roddy McDowall in "Thunderhead" played a "typical American boy." Entrants in the competition did not need resemblance to Roddy to win.

A Quiz on Bells for "Bell Tolls"

GREAT FALLS, MONT.—What do you know about bells?

Manager Will Steege of the Liberty Theatre here found a quiz contest based on the foregoing question a highly stimulating advance stunt for the showing of "For Whom the Bell Tolls," starring Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman; however, it could be employed equally effectively for any film in which the word "bell" is prominent in the title.

Steege had printed a list of ten questions which he distributed. For the best 25 sets of answers tickets for the picture were given as prizes. Answers were mailed to the theatre or left there shortly in advance of the film's opening. The questions:

Where is the world's largest bell?

Where is the bell known as "Big Ben"?

Is the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia the same one which rang when the Declaration of Independence was signed?

What bell tolls the news of disasters at sea?

What is the name of the book about a bell toller who wasn't pretty?

What poet used the word "Tintinnabulation" in a poem about bells?

What famous inventor is the cause of more bells ringing every day than any other man who ever lived?

Where would you look for a bell bottom?

Where do the bells toll for "A New Love, a True Love, Who Comes From the Sea?"

What is a "bell cow"?

(Editor's Note: Answers to the questions are (1) the largest bell in the world is the great bell of Moscow, cast in 1733; it is 21 feet high, 21 feet in diameter and weighs 432,000 pounds; (2) Big Ben is in Westminster Tower, London, a survivor of the Luftwaffe raids; (3) the Liberty Bell, first to be rung in jubilation over the signing of the Declaration of Independence, still is at the old State House in Philadelphia; (4) a bell at Lloyd's underwriters headquarters in London; (5) The Hunchback of Notre Dame; (6) Edgar Allen Poe; (7) Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone; (8) at the bottom of a seaman's pant legs; (9) this quotation is from "The Bells of St. Mary's"; (10) a "bell cow" is one that is belled in order that a herdsman may readily locate a herd.)

Copy These Rules for New Employes

SAN FRANCISCO—The Walter J. Preddey theatre supply house, of which Robert O. Bemis is general manager, is well known in this area for its showmanship ability. The Preddy Showman's Directory, which lists San Francisco Bay area theatres, circuits, theatre accountants, equipment houses and film exchanges, and the Showman's Calendar are fixtures in most theatres and offices in the industry here. Recently the Preddey organization came out with "What the Patron Expects," a booklet of rules for service staffs.

In these days of rapid turnover, a list of courtesy rules should be in every theatre for new employes to read. The Preddey list follows:

Treat Patrons Like Guests

Employes should always remember every patron is a personal guest whose presence is most welcome and worthy of every consideration. Nothing makes a patron feel more at home than a friendly greeting.

Remember that you represent the theatre while you are employed and the company that you work for at all times, whether on or off duty. Conduct yourself so that it can be proud of you. Take pride in your own personal appearance, be neat, well groomed, attractive. SMILE.

Bear in mind that you have a most personal contact with the patrons and your attitude can build or destroy goodwill. Help us to conduct our theatre in the best manner.

Always be courteous, considerate and pleasant. Never give curt answers, answer all questions politely, fully and with consideration no matter how busy you might be. Avoid hurried, abrupt answers. Never talk back to a patron even if one abuses you.

Always smile, be pleasant and reflect a gracious attitude that will make our theatre an asset in the community. Never raise your voice, always speak softly.

Remember that you, as one of the theatre staff, are partly responsible for the kind of service given our patrons. Keep your standard of service as high as possible. Give special attention to the aged, children and mothers with children in arms.

Don't Keep 'Em Waiting

Always be on time; in fact, a little ahead of time, if possible, as you are an essential employe. Be ready by opening time so as not to delay the patrons.

Never hold long or unnecessary conversations with friends or other employes to the detriment of patrons who may be waiting.

Should any argument or discussion arise with a patron that you cannot straighten out in a satisfactory manner, call the manager. That is his duty.

Never eat, drink, chew gum, smoke or read while on duty. Don't have bad breath. Don't flirt with patrons even if they are receptive to it. Never accept a tip. Never leave your station except when necessary.

Call the manager's attention to any complaint you may receive from any patron concerning the conduct of the theatre or otherwise.

Keep the regular theatre programs or calendars available for any patron who may ask for one, or tell the patron where these may be had. Learn your time schedule of shows daily.

Be thoroughly familiar with the current program playing in the theatre, and know the stars in the picture playing. Know the big pictures that will be shown soon, particularly on the next program.

Report to the manager promptly any hazards you might observe, or may be called to your attention by patrons, such as broken seats, torn carpets, lights out, exits off, etc., which might cause accidents and result in expensive damage suits.

Report immediately to the manager any unusual occurrence of any nature you may observe. Know exactly what to do in case of emergency.

Ushers

Ushers should know at all times how many seats are available in their section. Keep a steady check on your aisles and when the busy hour arrives be sure you know the amount and location of all vacant seats.

Never use a flashlight in such a manner that it will attract the attention of the patrons and detract from the screen. Keep flashlight pointed to floor at all times.

Pick up paper lying on the floor. Ask every patron where they would like to sit and take them to that seat.

Watch for loud talking, unnecessary noise, petting parties, patrons with their feet on the seats, temperature in theatre too hot or cold, defective sound or any other condition annoying to patrons.

Crying babies are a problem and you must be very diplomatic, but yet accomplish your purpose in quieting such disturbances without offending anyone.



SMART?—Just a high school boy with the usual abbreviated raincoat apparently reading the latest war news as he strolls down the main stem. The bally was originated by Harold Mortin, manager of the State, Syracuse, N. Y.

WB "Rhapsody" Campaign To Have Store Tieups

As part of the campaign on the George Gershwin musical, "Rhapsody in Blue," Warner Bros. has lined up more than 75 leading department stores and women's wear shops in this country and one in Honolulu and another in Mexico for a style promotion campaign. The wardrobe of "Rhapsody" has been designed by Milo Anderson, Hollywood designer, with accessories, hats and bags by Casper-Davis and Ben Brody.

Many of the stores, which include Peck & Peck in New York, Gimbel's in Philadelphia, Carson-Pirie-Scott in Chicago, Filene's in Boston, J. W. Robinson in Los Angeles, City of Paris in San Francisco, Halle Bros. in Cleveland, Bamberger's in Newark, and other prominent establishments, have agreed to use up to six window displays on "Rhapsody," each featuring a different wardrobe item. A set of six blowups of productions stills from the film will be supplied to the stores.

The advertising campaign on "Rhapsody" patterns will include full-color page ads in Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Town and Country, and other national magazines. Stores will tie in locally with newspaper ads as well as "Rhapsody" mentions in fashion columns and on women's radio programs.

War Plant Posters Used In "Attack" Campaigns

"Counter-Attack" has inspired a goodly number of clever promotional stunts. Noteworthy is the campaign conducted by Bill Brereton, manager of the Lafayette Theatre, Buffalo. He worked closely with the nearby Bell Aircraft plant, local stores, Russian War Relief, Inc., the public library and other local agencies.

Bell Aircraft bulletin boards throughout the plant were covered with posters reading: "Bell Airocobras and King Cobras have helped make the great Russian counterattack possible. Now see the story behind it . . . in Columbia's 'Counter-Attack.'"

Brereton set a seven-day contest over local radio stations and got numerous newspaper plants in Buffalo for the picture. He arranged to have the Russian War Relief mail 5,000 cards to its mailing list, urging attendance at the picture.

"Dorian Gray" Essay Contest Is Success

HARTFORD—"How fantastic, how real, how lurid this 'Picture of Dorian Gray.' A truly amazing and fantastic story," wrote Jessie J. Schultz in her winning entry in the Dorian Gray essay contest sponsored by the Poli Theatre and the Hartford Times. The top award was a $25 war bond.

"I wanted to leave, but I couldn't drag myself away," Miss Schultz continued. "One could not conceive what was in store, even after reading the outstanding previews and the advertising. How could a movie critic say, 'I was disappointed. It wasn't what I expected'! It was more than one could imagine. I went away with a turmoil in my stomach. A masterpiece, this portrayal of a man's soul. The story of a man's soul just can't be told, but amazingly enough, it was told, and how vividly! I actually saw a man's soul.

"I could not possibly see a picture like this often, my whole day after was taken up with the vision of Dorian Gray coming back to me. How can I express my feelings? It does not take more than one word to sum up this picture. Plainly, and in all sincerity, it is truly turbulent."

The theatre and newspaper judges, headed by Manager Lou Cohen, awarded guest tickets to other winners. The winning entry was featured on the theatre page of the Times with a full column writeup.

Cohen also had the theatre column of the Times here "written" by the theatre's cat, called Mrs. Loew's Poli, to publicize "The Picture of Dorian Gray." In part, the column read:

Some people won't believe it, but I was once black. Then I read "A Picture of Dorian Gray," which is coming to our theatre next week and lo and behold, I was white! That's how eerie it is. All about a very pleasant and sensitive young man who gets mixed up emotionally and becomes a killer. Oscar Wilde wrote it, and the story certainly is a wild one. I've been hanging around the theatre for a long time and I don't think we've ever had anything quite like it before. I don't very often leave the theatre, so I see just about all the pictures we have, sometimes from the audience out front and at other times from backstage. And since the war began and my boss, Mr. Cohen, has been so busy selling war bonds to theatre patrons, I don't get out much at all. I think "The Picture of Dorian Gray" is going to be a humdinger. It's worth taking my time to write this, and I hope it'll be worth your time to come and see it.

Cohen followed this through with an item under the Fan Fare Column on the following night: "News Item—'Hitler observes birthday without fanfare.' 'Don't tell me, says Mrs. Loew's Poli, Main St. feline, 'that they've censored my story of yesterday on Dorian Gray!'"

The campaign was a notable success.

Radio and Schools Chief Help in Selling "Song"

Michael Stranger of the State, White Plains, N. Y., found radio a big help in publicizing "A Song to Remember." WFAS, the local station, has a Quiz and Quips program on which Stranger had little trouble in placing a quiz stunt.

The announcer asked, "Who among her many love affairs and writing of many books in the 19th century France found time to be the pioneer for women's rights and who depicts that angle in 'A Song to Remember!'" All five trunk lines at WFAS were busy receiving answers from listeners. Passes went to those giving correct answers.

Cards and stills were provided for posting on school bulletin boards and announcements were made on the school public address system.

Besides displays at music stores, one used a scene mat in a 2x7 ad on piano repairing and tuning.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING 1944	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
JULY 8	[13] (67) Musical 5019 **LOUISIANA HAYRIDE** Judy Canova Ross Hunter Richard Lane R—July 22—PG-549	GROUP 8: **JULY RELEASES:** (95) Com.-Dr. 490 **THE CANTERVILLE GHOST** Charles Laughton Margaret O'Brien Robert Young R—June 3—PG-538 (101) Musical 429 ◎**BATHING BEAUTY** Red Skelton Esther Williams Basil Rathbone R—June 3—PG-537	[8] (79) Comedy 304 **JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE** Simone Simon R—May 20—PG-533 [15] (73) Melodrama 305 **ARE THESE OUR PARENTS?** Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot R—June 24—PG-544	GROUP 4—1943-44: (75) Melodrama 4317 **THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN** Franchot Tone Veronica Lake Binnie Barnes John Sutton R—Mar. 4—PG-511 (79) Com.-Mus. 4318 **YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE** Betty Rhodes Johnnie Johnston Marjorie Weaver Johnnie "Scat" Davis R—Mar. 4—PG-512 (75) Drama 4316 **THE NAVY WAY** Robert Lowery Jean Parker Bill Henry Roscoe Karns R—Mar. 4—PG-512 **SPECIAL: (Adv. price)** (157) Drama 4338 ◎◎**FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS** Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Katina Paxinou R—July 24—PG-454 **SPECIAL:** (136) Drama 4337 ◎◎**THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL** Gary Cooper Laraine Day Signe Hasso Dennis O'Keefe Carol Thurston R—Apr. 22—PG-526 **GROUP 5—1943-44:** (96) Mus.-Com. 4321 **AND THE ANGELS SING** Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (65) Comedy 4322 **HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID** Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (100) Drama 4323 **THE HITLER GANG** Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (66) Melodrama 4324 **GAMBLER'S CHOICE** Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528 (106) M'drama 4325 **DOUBLE INDEMNITY** Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528		GROUP 5—1943-44: (64) Mystery 421 **THE FALCON OUT WEST** Tom Conway Barbara Hale Don Douglass R—Mar. 11—PG-514 (86) Drama 422 **DAYS OF GLORY** Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck Maria Palmer Lowell Gilmore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (83) Adventure 423 **THE YELLOW CANARY** Anna Neagle Richard Greene Nova Pilbeam R—Apr. 15—PG-524 (92) Mus. Drama 425 **SHOW BUSINESS** Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (74) Comedy 424 **SEVEN DAYS ASHORE** Wally Brown Alan Carney Marcy McGuire Gordon Oliver R—Apr. 22—PG-525 **SPECIAL:** (110) Mus. Drama 461 **GOYESCAS** Imperio Argentina Rafael Rivelles Armanda Calvo R—May 27—PG-536 **GROUP 6—1943-44:** (63) Comedy 426 **GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST** Harold Peary Marion Martin Richard LeGrand R—June 24—PG-544 (65) Adventure 428 **A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE** Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538 (88) Musical 429 **STEP LIVELY** Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545 (67) Drama 430 **YOUTH RUNS WILD** Bonita Granville Kent Smith Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon Tessa Brind R—July 1—PG-546 (91) Drama 427 **MARINE RAIDERS** Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey Robert Ryan R—June 24—PG-543	[7] (59) Melodrama 319 **CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS** Janet Martin Allan Lane William Lane [14] (56) Outdoor 356 **CALL OF THE ROCKIES** Smiley Burnette Rerelease: [15] (56) Western 3305 **COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN** Gene Autry [20] (55) Western 461 **SILVER CITY KID** Allan Lane Peggy Stewart Wally Vernon [26] (68) Mystery 321 **SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD** R—June 24—PG-543 [31] (69) Mus. Com. 325 **THREE LITTLE SISTERS** R—Aug. 5—PG-554 [5] (56) Melodrama 322 **GIRL WHO DARED** [5] (75) O'd'r Mus. 344 **SONG OF NEVADA** R—June 17—PG-542 [11] (56) Western 451 **BORDERTOWN TRAIL** [12] (70) Musical 401 **SING, NEIGHBOR, SING** R—Aug. 19—PG-558 [13] (58) Melodrama 324 **PORT OF 40 THIEVES** Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 [16] (56) Western 3313 **SAN ANTONIO KID** Wild Bill Elliott Reissue: [1] (60) Mus. Wst. 3306 **RIDE, RANGER, RIDE** Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes [12] (56) Drama 326 **STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT** [14] (68) Com.-Mus. 328 **THAT'S MY BABY** R—Sept. 23—PG-569 [15] (55) Western 462 **STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY** [15] (87) Musical 327 **ATLANTIC CITY** R—Aug. 12—PG-555 [15] (74) Musical 345 **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY** R—Sept. 2—PG-562	**JULY RELEASES:** (65) Melodrama 431 **ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER** Preston Foster Victor McLaglen Lois Andrews R—May 27—PG-535 (85) Melodrama 432 **CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA** James Mason Carla Lehmann Raymond Lovell R—June 3—PG-538 (103) Romance 433 ◎**HOME IN INDIANA** Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain June Haver Lon McCallister R—May 27—PG-536 **AUGUST RELEASES:** (70) Musical 501 **TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT** Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548 (97) War Drama 502 **WING AND A PRAYER** Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550 **SEPTEMBER RELEASES:** (75) Musical 503 **SWEET AND LOWDOWN** Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554 (73) Adventure 504 **DANGEROUS JOURNEY** R—Aug. 19—PG-557 (82) Musical 505 ◎**GREENWICH VILLAGE** Carmen Miranda Don Ameche William Bendix R—Aug. 12—PG-555	[14] (106) Drama 496 **SUMMER STORM** George Sanders Linda Darnell Anna Lee R—May 27—PG-535 [20] (174) Drama **SINCE YOU WENT AWAY** Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotten R—July 29—PG-552 [4] (80) Comedy 497 **ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS** William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—July 22—PG-549	[7] (67) M'drama 8018 **JUNGLE WOMAN** R—May 27—PG-535 [7] (65) Horror 8039 **THE MUMMY'S GHOST** R—May 13—PG-531 [7] (58) Western 8086 **TRIGGER TRAIL** [14] (62) Musical 8045 **TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE** R—June 10—PG-539 [18] (57) Western 8087 **TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT** [21] (65) Comedy 8040 **ALLERGIC TO LOVE** Noah Beery jr. Martha O'Driscoll R—May 6—PG-529 [18] (74) Comedy 8001 **IN SOCIETY** Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558 [1] (86) Drama 9005 ◎**GYPSY WILDCAT** Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556 [8] (60) Musical 9022 **MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS** Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559 [16] (90) Comedy 9008 **THE MERRY MONAHANS** Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559 [22] (69) Mystery 9019 **PEARL OF DEATH** Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	[15] Reissues: (103) M'drama 341 **MANPOWER** Edward G. Robinson (79) M'drama 345 **TIGER SHARK** Edward G. Robinson (92) M'drama 347 **THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL** John Garfield (66) Horror 344 **THE WALKING DEAD** Boris Karloff (89) Comedy 343 **BROTHER RAT** Ronald Reagan (65) Comedy 346 **POLO JOE** Joe E. Brown [22] (130) Biog. 315 **THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN** Fredric March R—May 6—PG-530 [12] (127) Drama 319 **MR. SKEFFINGTON** Bette Davis Claude Rains Walter Abel R—May 27—PG-536 [2] (102) Comedy 401 **JANIE** Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551 [9] (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 **CRIME BY NIGHT** Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553 [23] (118) Mys-Farce 403 ◎**ARSENIC AND OLD LACE** Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
JULY 15	[20] (82) Drama 5008 **SECRET COMMAND** Pat O'Brien Carole Landis Chester Morris R—June 3—PG-537										
JULY 22	[25] (65) M'drama 5037 **U-BOAT PRISONER** Bruce Bennett Erik Rolf John Abbott R—July 22—PG-549				[25] (60) Western 465 **FUZZY SETTLES DOWN** Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty						
JULY 29					[30] (61) Western 458 **BRAND OF THE DEVIL** James Newill Tex O'Brien [1] (69) Musical 404 **MINSTREL MAN** Benny Fields R—June 24—PG-543 [5] (62) Mystery 417 **SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH** R—Aug. 19—PG-557						
AUG. 5	[3] (80) Com. Dr. 5007 **MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR** Edward G. Robinson Ruth Warrick Ted Donaldson R—July 15—PG-547		[5] (57) Western 356 **WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE** Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580		[10] (72) Drama 416 **DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS** June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay R—July 15—PG-547 [16] (72) Musical 505 **DIXIE JAMBOREE** Frances Langford R—July 15—PG-548 [18] (67) Melodrama 421 **MACHINE GUN MAMA** R—Aug. 19—PG-558						
AUG. 12			[15] (59) Western 366 **MARKED TRAILS** Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580								
AUG. 19	[17] (63) Horror 5027 **CRY OF THE WEREWOLF** R—Aug. 26—PG-560 [17] (61) Horror 5026 **SOUL OF A MONSTER** R—Aug. 26—PG-559	AUGUST RELEASE: **SPECIAL:** (145) Drama 500 **DRAGON SEED** Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	[19] (60) Melodrama 333 **CALL OF THE JUNGLE** Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564 [26] (61) Comedy 325 **LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH** James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569		[2] (62) Western 466 **RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT** Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581						
AUG. 26	[24] (72) Musical 5012 **KANSAS CITY KITTY** Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee										
SEPT. 2	[31] (69) Western 5221 **SWING IN THE SADDLE** Jane Frazee Red River Dave Guinn Williams	GROUP 9: **SEPT. RELEASES:** (112) M'drama 501 ◎**THE SEVENTH CROSS** Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-553 (87) Comedy 502 **BARBARY COAST GENT** Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-553 (90) Comedy 504 **MAISIE GOES TO RENO** Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 503 **WATERLOO BRIDGE** Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor	[2] (71) Mystery 306 **OH, WHAT A NIGHT** Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558 [9] (64) Mystery 317 **BLACK MAGIC** Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565 [16] (60) M'drama 313 **BLOCK BUSTERS** R—Aug. 19—PG-557 [16] (56) Western 357 **LAND OF THE OUTLAWS**		[8] (76) Musical 509 **SWING HOSTESS** Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582						
SEPT. 9	[7] (91) Drama 5002 **THE IMPATIENT YEARS** Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559										
SEPT. 16	[14] (74) Musical 5025 **EVER SINCE VENUS** Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch. R—Sept. 23—PG-567										
SEPT. 23	[19] (61) Mystery 5033 **ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT** [21] (55) Western 6201 **COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER**				[21] (56) Western 551 **GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER** Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570						

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
SEPT. 30	28 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571	OCTOBER RELEASES:		GROUP 6—1943-44:		(70) Mystery 451 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES:		29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-575	(117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556	30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele	(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577	(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552	6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson	(74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568		6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(100) Rom.-Fan. 506 ©KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-560		(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch. R—June 10—PG-539		(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567		13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Action-Dr. 40 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575			(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542		(81) Comedy 434 BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshal Marsha Hunt R—July 29—PG-552	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry			20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 ©THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 40 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582			(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	(72) Comedy 435 HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly Barbara Hale Gordon Oliver R—July 29—PG-551	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562	(90) Mus.-Rom. 508 ©IRISH EYES ARE SMILING June Haver Dick Haymes Monty Woolley R—Oct. 14—PG-573			
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574		3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY		31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579	SPECIAL:	6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581 7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES:		3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6039 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583	NOVEMBER RELEASES (122) Drama 510 ©AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-546 (124) Drama 507 ©MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568 Reissue: (104) Musical 508 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald Nelson Eddy	10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561	(125) Com.-Dr. 4335 ©GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	(92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD		10 (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583	10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569	11 (99) Rom.-Dr. 40 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584		17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton		15 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer R—Sept. 9—PG-566	GROUP 1—1944-45:	15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott	(87) Musical 510 ©SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582		17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
NOV. 25			24 (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557	(97) Comedy 4401 ©RAINBOW ISLAND Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565		(113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572	30 (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577		23 (81) Drama THREE IS A FAMILY Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	24 (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585	26 (102) Comedy 40 THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
DEC. 2			1 (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White	(88) Drama 4402 TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565		(87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572	30 (71) M'drama 404 FACES IN THE FOG R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 RED RIVER VALLEY Gene Autry			1 (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	
DEC. 9	7 (69) M'drama 6032 SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587		8 (..) Comedy CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	(76) Com-Mus. 4403 THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-565	6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 ROGUES' GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605	(96) Drama 502 THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567			8 (120) Drama GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	8 (64) Comedy 9031 HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
DEC. 16	14 (60) Musical 6038 DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594	DECEMBER RELEASE:	15 (68) Mys-Com. 416 SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(81) Comedy 4404 OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Gail Russell Diana Lynn Charles Ruggles Dorothy Gish R—Sept. 2—PG-562	9 (60) Western 556 OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe 15 (79) Comedy 501 THE TOWN WENT WILD R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(75) Drama 505 MY PAL WOLF Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568				16 (63) Musical 9037 MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586	
DEC. 23	21 (55) Western 6203 SADDLE LEATHER LAW R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 TOGETHER AGAIN R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(89) Comedy 509 LOST IN A HAREM Abbott & Costello Marilyn Maxwell John Conte R—Sept. 2—PG-561	22 (76) Melodrama ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(56) Drama 4405 DARK MOUNTAIN Robert Lowery Ellen Drew Regis Toomey Eddie Quillan	22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 CASTLE OF CRIMES Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall	(69) Comedy 504 GOIN' TO TOWN Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake R—Sept. 30—PG-571	23 (85) Musical 406 LAKE PLACID SERENADE Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593	(86) Rom.-Dr. 513 SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak Bobby Driscoll Charles Winninger Jane Darwell R—Dec. 9—PG-588		22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587	
DEC. 30	28 (63) Romance 6205 TAHITI NIGHTS Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mat...		29 (62) Com.-Dr. BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids		29 (55) Western 553 THE WHISPERING SKULL Dave O'Brien		23 (55) Melodrama 408 THOROUGHBREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara Dorr...		29 (87) Drama TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field	29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 ©CAN'T HELP SINGING Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff	30 (124) Musical 405 HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN Bette Davis Jack Benny Mu...

1945	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
JAN. 6	4 (60) Comedy 6039 LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598	JANUARY RELEASE: SPECIAL: (138) Drama 511 THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	5 (..) Western NAVAJO TRAIL Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	GROUP 2—1944-45: (85) Drama 4406 AND NOW TOMORROW Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575	SPECIAL: (99) Suspense 582 THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW Edward G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey R—Oct. 14—PG-574	30 (60) Melodrama 407 THE BIG BONANZA R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS	JANUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (137) Drama 514 THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592	5 (86) Drama I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592	5 (60) Musical 9035 NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
JAN. 13	11 (59) M'drama 6041 YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595	JANUARY RELEASES: (101) Com.-Dr. 513 THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587	12 (68) Comedy ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(92) Drama 4407 THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578	(94) Comedy 551 THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576	16 (71) M'drama 409 GRISSLY'S MILLIONS Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597			12 (74) Comedy 9020 SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596	
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 EADIE WAS A LADY Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	(56) Drama 514 MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	19 (63) Mys.-Com. ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker Peter Cookson	(113) Romance 4408 FRENCHMAN'S CREEK Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce R—Sept. 23—PG-567	GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 GIRL RUSH Frances Langford Wally Brown R—Oct. 28—PG-577	22 (69) Comedy 410 THE BIG SHOW-OFF R—Jan. 20—PG-597		19 (92) Drama MR. EMMANUEL Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	19 (57) Western 9039 UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597	20 (100) Drama 410 TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601	SPECIAL: (113) Dr./Mus. 512 MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor R—Nov. 11—PG-582	26 (83) Drama FOREVER YOURS Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(76) Mys.-Com. 4409 ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577	(67) Mystery 507 FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588	26 (55) Western 464 THE TOPEKA TERROR Allan Lane Linda Stirling			26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 SAGEBRUSH HEROES Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor		2 (66) Mystery THE JADE MASK Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland		3 (54) Western 557 HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King				2 (88) Mus-Com. 9002 HERE COME THE CO-EDS Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams	FEBRUARY RELEASES: (117) Musical 515 MUSIC FOR MILLIONS Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590	9 (..) Melodrama CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga		6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 KID SISTER 8 (58) Western 554 MARKED FOR MURDER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien				9 (63) Musical 9021 HER LUCKY NIGHT Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 17	22 (72) Comedy 6019 LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE 22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	(69) Drama 516 BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	16 (..) Western GUNSMOKE Johnny Mack Brown 16 (..) Com-Mys. THERE GOES KELLY Jackie Moran	BLOCK 3—1944-45: (99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591	10 (63) Mdr.-Mys. 523 THE SPELL OF AMY NUGENT R—Mar. 3—PG-610 15 (72) Drama 516 FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606	(62) Western 509 NEVADA Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys R—Dec. 16—PG-590	15 (56) Western 3317 GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming	FEBRUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (128) Drama 517 A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599		16 (71) Mystery 9013 HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 THE MUMMY'S CURSE R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 411 OBJECTIVE, BURMA! Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE R—Feb. 10—PG-602		2 (..) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver R—Mar. 10—PG-612							23 (94) Musical 9012 FRISCO SAL Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama A SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(100) Drama 517 THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595	9 (..) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611	(158) Drama 4413 FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454		(84) Musical 583 BELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586				2 (76) Drama 9006 SUDAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	MARCH RELEASES: 9 (81) Drama 516 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven		(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599 15 (..) M'drama SWAMP MAN	SPECIAL: (71) Disney 591 THE THREE CABALLEROS Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans Roy Rogers R-Mar. 17—PG-613	MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599			
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale	22 (..) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown					(67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603		16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-600	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604		(64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592	31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603		30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624		31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
MAR. 31											

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommende
Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photograph

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609		6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ◎BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ◎◎NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	13 (..) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom		
APR. 21	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623 19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER		20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608	15 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe
APR. 28	19 (58) Western 6206 RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID R—May 5—PG-628 26 (89) Drama COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619		20 (..) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog
MAY 5		MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626		2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray
MAY 12	10 (67) Mystery BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Richard Lane		12 (70) War Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628		7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson
MAY 19	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor Pat Parrish	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main	19 (..) Western IN OLD NEW MEXICO Duncan Renaldo	BLOCK 5—1944-45: (113) Rom-Com. 4421 THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	16 (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618
MAY 26	24 (84) Melodrama THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616	26 (..) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	
JUNE 2				(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John
JUNE 9	7 (60) Comedy TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee 7 (..) Mus.-West. RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis			(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424 A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619	15 (..) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617
JUNE 16					
JUNE 23					
JUNE 30					

WEEK ENDING	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
APR. 7	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley (82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry	APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614		7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 14	(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	
APR. 21	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604		(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613		20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan R—April 28—PG-626	
APR. 28	(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603			4 (147) Comedy ◎COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) Western 9073 ◎SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 ◎IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610	10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ◎DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622		4 (89) Mus.-Com. PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621	
MAY 12	SPECIAL: (90) Western ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young			18 (..) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 19	(98) Comedy 552 ◎WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622	25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher	
MAY 26	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623				25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
JUNE 2	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell				1 (92) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan	
JUNE 9	(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616		JUNE RELEASES: (77) Comedy 526 ◎WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn		8 (61) I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce	9 (92) Comedy 417 PILLOW TO POST Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince
JUNE 16	(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622				15 (68) BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	
JUNE 23	(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding R—Apr. 21—PG-621		(..) 527 DON JUAN QUILLIGAN William Bendix Joan Blondell Mary Treen Ann Revere B. S. Pulley		22 (60) Mus.-Com. PENTHOUSE RHYTHM Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark	
JUNE 30					29 (61) Mystery THE FROZEN GHOST Lon Chaney Evelyn Ankers Milburn Stone	30 (86) Drama 418 CONFLICT Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ## Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, − Poor, = Very Poor. ◎ Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		....
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6422	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23		....
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17	±	3-24
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)	5- 4	+	4-28
6411	Wife Decoy (17)	6- 1		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (18)	6-15		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		....
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	5-18		....
6503	Fiesta Time (7½)	6- 1		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6652	No. 2 (Baker) Ikky, Tikky Tambo (9)	10-12	+	11-18
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		....
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27		....
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (..)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed) VE-Day	5- 8		....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	2- 2	+	4- 7
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		....
6752	The Egg Yegg (7½)	5- 4		....
6753	Kukunuts (6½)	7-26		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		....
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18		....
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		....
6703	Goofy News Views (7)	4-27		....
6704	Bobby Socks (..)	7-12		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		....
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		....
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		....
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
6860	No. 10 (Eddie Cantor-Ginny Simms) (..)	7-27		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	##	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2	+	5-12
6807	The Iron Masters (9½)	4-27	+	4-28
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	7- 6		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		....
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	##	2-12
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	##	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	##	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	##	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	##	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	##	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3	±	4-28
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	##	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	##	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	##	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13	##	4-28
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17	##	4-28
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	##	3-24
W-546	Jerky Turkey (8)	4- 7	##	5- 2
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	##	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (20)	4-14	+	5-12
A-503	The Last Installment (19)	5- 5		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	##	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	##	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	##	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		....
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		##	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	##	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
K-576	The Seesaw and the Shoes (10)	5- 5	+	5-12
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-471	Fixin' Tricks (10)	9-18	+	10-16
S-472	Football Thrills of 1942 (10)	9-25	##	10-16
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		....
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	##	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	##	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	##	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	##	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	##	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	##	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (8)	4-14	+	5-12

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	##	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	##	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	##	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)		##	3-24
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	##	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	##	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (9)	5- 4	+	5-12
R4- 8	Fan Fare (..)	6- 8		....
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	##	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	+	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	+	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magica-Lulu (8)	3- 2	##	4-28
D4-4	Beau Ties (8)	4-20		....
D4-5	Snap Happy (..)	5-25		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	##	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	##	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15		....
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (8)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (8)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	+	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26		....
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better or Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	##	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	##	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6	+	4-28
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1		....
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	##	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	##	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18		....
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	##	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (10)	5-11	+	5-12

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	##	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	##	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	##	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	##	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	+	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	+	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30	##	5-12
54,110	African Diary (7)	4-20		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
53,401	Feather Your Nest (18)	10-23	##	11-18
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	##	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,203	No. 3 (9)	10-29	+	10-30
44,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	11-27
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	##	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21	+	5-12
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	##	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2	##	4-28
54,206	No. 6 (8)	4-13		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	##	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	##	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	##	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	##	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	##	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	##	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	##	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
33,113	Children of Mars (20)	10-22	##	10-30
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	##	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	##	2-12
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	##	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	##	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	##	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	##	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	##	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	##	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	##	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	##	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9	±	5-12
53,106	Guam-Salvaged Island (17)	4-13		....

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (19). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.

Battle Stations. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.

The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.

It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.

Liberation of Rome. (21). Dist. by M-G-M. Excellent. Rev. July 29.

Memo for Joe. (10). Dist. by RKO.

Movies at War. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Report to Judy. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Reward Unlimited. (10). Dist. by UA and M-G-M.

Road to Victory. (10). Dist. by WB.

Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.

Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.

Target-Tokyo (19). Dist. by RKO.

The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.

The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.

V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.

Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox. Rev. April 28.

What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date		Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE				
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29			....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6			....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS				
4352	Ski Slopes (9)	7-21			....
5351	Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15			....
5352	Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15			....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1- 5			....
5353	Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+		1-27
5354	Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1			....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)				
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)				
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4			....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10			....
	MARCH OF TIME				
	Vol. 10, No. 12 Americans All (18)	7-14	‡‡		7-29
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡‡		8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+		9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+		10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡‡		11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1			....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡‡		12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26			....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡‡		3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23			....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..) The Returning Veteran	4-20	‡‡		4-28
	Vol. 11, No. 10 (..)	5-18			....
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15			....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13			....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)				
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡‡		4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4			....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25			....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29			....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10			...
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8)	1-19	‡‡		2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2			....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+		1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	3-30	‡‡		2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8)	7- 6			....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	5- 4			....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	4-13			....
5261	The Empire State (8)	7-27			....
	SPECIAL				
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8			....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)				
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7			....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28			....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7)	8-18			...
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1			....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22			....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13			....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27			....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17			....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7)	12- 8			....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7)	12-22	±		2-10
5509	Mighty Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+		2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2			....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16			....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7)	3- 9			....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23			....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	4- 6			....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-27			....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5-11			....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	5-25			....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8			....
5519	Aesops Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29			....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20			....

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date		Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)				
8239	Fish Fry (7)	6-19	+		8-12
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	+		11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+		12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡‡		1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡‡		2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (7)	5-14			....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS				
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17			....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±		8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15) Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+		9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15) Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+		10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15) Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±		12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15) Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡‡		12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17			....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14			....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28			....
9127	Rockabye Rhythm (15) Frankie Masters & Orch., Phyllis Hules, Eddie Williams, Frank Cook, Marty, Kay, Pat and Jo.	.....			....
	PERSON—ODDITIES				
8380	The Honest Forger (9)	6-19	+		8-26
8381	Spinning a Yarn (9)	8- 7	+		8-12
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡‡		10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+		1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15			....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22			....
9375	Author in Babyland (9)	5-14			....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)				
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+		1-22
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+		10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15			....
9237	Sliphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19			....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)				
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17			....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13			....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)				
	VARIETY VIEWS				
8360	Mr. Chimp Goes South (9)	5-29	+		7-29
8361	Bear Mountain Game (9)	8-14	‡‡		7-29
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡‡		10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+		12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+		12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29			....
9355	Your National Gallery (9)	4-23	‡‡		2-24

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date		Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)				
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16			....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30			...
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+		11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±		1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±		2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±		3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±		4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (..)	3-17			....
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11)	4-21			....
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)				
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+		10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡‡		11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡‡		4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡‡		3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (7)	5- 5			....
	FEATURETTE				
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡‡		10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17)	10-14	‡‡		11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20)	12- 2	+		1-13
1101	I Am an American (20)	12-23	+		12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡‡		11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡‡		3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (..)	3- 3			....
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28	‡‡		4-28
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+		3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (..)	4-14			....
1111	Plantation Melodies (..)	5-12			....
	MELODY MASTERS				
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+		10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+		11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+		11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡‡		1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡‡		12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡‡		1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24			....
1608	Circus Band (..)	5- 5			....
1609	Bands Across the Sea (..)	6-23			....
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)				
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+		10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±		10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±		11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡‡		11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡‡		2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡‡		1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡‡		2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+		2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (..)	2-24			....
1703	Life With Feathers (..)	3-24			....
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7			....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (..)	5-19			....
1706	Gruesome Twosome (..)	5-26			....
1707	Tale of Two Mice (..)	6-30			....
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)				
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡‡		11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡‡		2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (..)	12-30			....
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡‡		2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡‡		3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10	‡‡		5-12
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7	‡‡		4-28
1507	Water Babies (10)	5-19	‡‡		4-28
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (..)	6- 2			....
1509	Bahama Sea Sports (..)	6-19			....
1510	Flivver Flying (..)	6-30			....
	TECHNICOLOR				
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡‡		12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡‡		12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡‡		1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (..)	6- 9			....
	VITAPHONE VARIETY				
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+		9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7			....
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+		11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (..)	3-17			....
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (..)	5-26			....

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date		Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists				
	THE WORLD IN ACTION				
....	The Labor Front (21)	11-19	±		12- 4
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21)		+		3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡‡		5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+		10-21
....	Fortress Japan (17)	8-10	‡‡		8-12
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡‡		10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±		11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+		12-16
	Serials				
	COLUMBIA				
5140	The Desert Hawk. 15 Chapters.	7- 7	+		7-29
6120	Black Arrow. 15 Chapters.	10-20			....
5120	The Batman. 15 Chapters.	7-16			....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter. 13 Chapters.	1-26			....
	REPUBLIC				
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa. 15 Chapters.	7-10			....
381	The Masked Marvel. 12 Chapters.	11- 6			....
382	Captain America. 15 Chapters.	1-29			....
383	The Tiger Woman. 12 Chapters.				....
	UNIVERSAL				
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+		5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City. 13 Chapters.		+		8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat. 13 Chapters.		+		11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+		12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 72: VE-Day.

News of the Day, No. 270: VE-Day.

Paramount News, No. 73: V-E reel—Paramount News Extra.

Pathe News, No. 75: VE-Day.

Universal News, No. 396: V-E reel.

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Movietone News, No. 73: Eisenhower hails GI as hero of Europe; highlights of victory; U.S.-Red armies; Nuremberg shrine "kaput"; lifts curfew, racing ban; nation's landmarks glitter; peace parley executive committee meets; hospital ship hit by Jap suicide plane; heroes of week.

News of the Day, No. 271: Eisenhower hails victory; wave of Nazi suicides; Japs blast hospital ship; Holland celebrates peace; Yanks, Red armies link up; lights go on again.

Paramount News, No. 74: Molotov ends U.S. visit; Italy first surrender; Yanks, Russians join up; Japs bomb hospital ship; V-E allies mark victory.

Pathe News, No. 76: Flag of Iwo over Capitol; lights on again; Japs bomb hospital ship; Leipzig, Nuremberg to Yanks; Eisenhower's victory statement.

Universal News, No. 397: Funeral pyres of Nazidom; Eisenhower calls GIs real heroes; Jap pilot dives on hospital ship; Iwo flag symbol of Seventh Loan; VE-Day.

•

All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 134: Saudi Arabians visit Frisco zoo; Negro lawyer honored in Wayne County; Paul Robeson in CIO celebration; final phases of war in Italy; Secretary of War Stimson speaks; General Marshall speaks; nation celebrates victory by "carrying on."

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

Blonde From Brooklyn

CAST: Bob Haymes, Lynn Merrick, Thurston Hall, Mary Lou Treen, Carlyle Blackwell, Marilyn Johnson, Dick Winslow. PRODUCER: Theodore Richmond. DIRECTOR: Del Lord. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

At a night club with Lynn Merrick, Bob Haymes, once a song and dance man, persuades the orchestra leader to let them do an impromptu song routine, which is a hit. As a result, "Colonel" Thurston Hall, rascal, sells them the idea of letting him promote them for radio. Hall renames the girl after the last of an esteemed southern family, thereby bringing about a series of complications involving a lawyer who has been searching for an heir to the family's estate. Hall wants Lynn to accept the money, which she refuses to do; although to renounce the name would bring unfavorable publicity. Eventually an heir is found and Lynn, angered because Bob suggests she marry the heir, leaves on the eve of their radio show. Bob locates her in time for the broadcast—a success—and the pair become engaged.

Independents

And Then There Were None—Or—Ten Little Indians

CAST: Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston, Louis Hayward, Roland Young, June Duprez, Sir C. Aubrey Smith, Judith Anderson. PRODUCERS: Popular Pictures, Inc. DIRECTOR: Rene Clair. ORIGINAL: Novel by Agatha Christie. SCREENPLAY: Dudley Nichols.

Ten strangely assorted people, unknown to each other, are tricked into visiting a lonely house on an island, as guests of a Mr. U. N. Owen. The group soon realize that they have been marooned. Mr. Owen, their host, does not arrive, but through a clever trick, his voice fills the room, accusing each with unpunished crimes in their past. Shortly after, ten little Indians figures are found standing ominously on the living room mantel and each of the ten visitors knows he is marked for death. One by one they die, each in accordance with the "Ten Little Indians" nursery rhyme. And after each slaying, one of the figures is found broken. Horror and suspense grip the house until all are murdered but two —a boy and a girl in love. Which one is the murderer?

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Early to Wed

CAST: Lucille Ball, Van Johnson, Esther Williams, Keenan Wynn, Cecil Kellaway, June Lockhart, Ben Blue. PRODUCER: Jack Cummings. DIRECTOR: Eddie Buzzell. SCREENPLAY: Dorothy Kingsley. ORIGINAL: Not set.

A libelous newspaper item results in a damage suit which breaks up the marriage of Lucille Ball to Keenan Wynn, reporter. Keenan asks his friend, Van Johnson, for help. They plan to frame Esther Williams, about whom the item was written, to get her to withdraw the suit. Part of the plan involves Van marrying Lucille temporarily. After the ceremony Van flies to Mexico where Esther and Cecil Kellaway, her father, are vacationing. His attempts to make headway with her fail and he tells her off. Snubbed for the first time, she becomes interested in him. Van, playing his cards well, goes back to the States with an invitation from Kellaway to hunt with him. Esther is there and Van falls in love with her. Lucille and Keenan track them down and a series of misunderstandings occur which are finally ironed out.

Paramount

Too Good to Be True

CAST: Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, Michael Chekhov, Ruth Donnelly, Alan Bridge, Tom Dugan, Tom Fadden, Howard Freeman. PRODUCER: Harry Tugend. DIRECTOR: John Barry. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Harry Tugend.

Showgirl Betty Hutton, fiancee of Lawyer Sonny Tufts, goes to work for Theatrical Producer Howard Freeman, who promises to throw some law business Sonny's way. Freeman makes a pass at Betty, whereupon she lands him a resounding wallop and leaves in a huff. Returning to pick up her hat, she finds he has been murdered and she is suspected. She confesses so that Sonny can defend her and make a name for himself. After a headline-garnering trial, Betty is acquitted. Meanwhile, Betty, suspicious of ham actor, Michael Chekhov, gets his confession when he becomes piqued because she is enjoying all the notoriety for a crime which he committed. Betty calls on Sonny for help. They put Chekhov behind bars, and land in each other's arms.

Well-Groomed Bride

CAST: Ray Milland, Olivia de Havilland, Sonny Tufts, Constance Dowling, James Gleason, Jean Heather, Jay Norris. PRODUCER: Fred Kohlmar. DIRECTOR: Sidney Lanfield. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: George Beck and Manny Seff.

A hectic duel of wits ensues between Ray Milland and Olivia de Havilland over the last remaining bottle of imported French champagne in San Francisco. Milland wants it to christen a new aircraft carrier. Olivia wants it to serve at her wedding to Sonny Tufts, a legendary football hero, who has never gotten over his once-famous past. A series of madcap adventures take place for the ownership of the champagne. In the midst of the melee, Sonny finds himself on the verge of losing Olivia. In a furious windup of the whole affair, Olivia finally consents to christen the flat-top with what was to have been her wedding champagne. Sonny discovers that he has not lost Olivia after all. Ray, happy over the carrier's christening, finds himself perfectly contented with one of Sonny's earlier amours.

You Hit the Spot

CAST: Johnny Coy, Frank Faylen, Noel Neill, Ann Doran, Mikhail Rasumny, Ann Shoemaker, Carmelle Bergstrom. PRODUCER: Louis Harris. DIRECTOR: George Templeton. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Louis Harris.

Johnny Coy, a night club dancing star; Frank Faylen, orchestra leader, and Noel Neill as both Muriel and Anne, songstresses, are all in a hit show at the Olympian Club. Muriel is in love with Johnny but he is unaware of her feeling toward him. During a rehearsal a terrific storm blows up and the club is struck by lightning. Johnny is knocked unconscious. He dreams he is on Mt. Olympus where he meets Jupiter, Juno and all the Greek gods and goddesses and believes that the band has been sent there to provide them with entertainment. While there he meets Echo, who strangely resembles Muriel, and he falls in love with her. The rest of the story revolves around the experiences of the band in the home of the gods. When Johnny finally recovers consciousness he realizes he has always been in love with Muriel.

PRC Pictures

Congo Pongo

CAST: Richard Fraser, Maris Wrixon, Gordon Richards, Michael Dyne, Lionel Royce, George Lloyd, Larry Steers. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: Sigmund Newfield. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Gordon Richards, his daughter, Maris Wrixon, and their party organize a safari to explore the African Congo headwaters but, upon hearing of a white gorilla, or pongo, which is half human and now at large, decide to search for him instead. Unknown to them, the gorilla trails the safari and is very much attracted to Maris. When discord in the party is caused by the attentions of Michael Dyne to Maris the guide, a former murderer, enlists Dyne in a plan to seize the guns and food and embark on a search for gold, taking the girl with them. On the way Dyne is murdered by the guide, who is subsequently killed by the pongo. Meanwhile Richard Fraser and the girl's father discover the animal's footprints and trace him to a cave. They arrive in time to save Maris and capture the gorilla for scientific study.

Republic

The Tiger Woman

CAST: Adele Mara, Kane Richmond, Richard Fraser, Peggy Steward, Cy Kendall, Gregory Gay, John Kelly. ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS: Dorrell McGowan and Stuart E. McGowan. DIRECTOR: Philip Ford. ORIGINAL: Based on a radio play by John A. DUNKEL. SCREENPLAY: George Carleton Brown.

Adele Mara, night club singer, is married to the owner of the "Tiger Club" where she is featured. She is carrying on a secret love affair with her husband's business partner, Richard Fraser. When her husband becomes involved in a gambling debt, his life is threatened. In order to make restitution he frames the robbery of the club and collects the insurance money. When Adele comes to ask for a divorce to marry Fraser, she finds him murdered. She persuades Richard to make it look like suicide to draw suspicion away from herself. Kane Richmond, a private detective, suspects Adele of the murder. He drives Fraser to the point of confession, but before the confession can be gotten Richard is murdered. Kane, convinced that Adele has had a hand in this too, uncovers sufficient evidence to prove her guilty of both murders.

RKO Radio

Mama Loves Papa

CAST: Leon Errol, Elisabeth Risdon, Edwin Maxwell, Paul Harvey, Charlotte Winters, Charles Halton, Barry Bernard. PRODUCER: Ben Stoloff. DIRECTOR: Frank Strayer. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Charles Roberts and Monte Brice.

After 20 years of marriage, Elisabeth Risdon decides to make her small-time husband, Leon Errol, into a big shot. Sending him to the office one day in striped pants, cutaway, and bowler hat, his boss thinks he is dressed for a funeral and gives him the day off. He is taken for a commissioner when he happens at an unveiling in a park, and Paul Harvey, political boss, thinks Errol just stupid enough to be useful in his, Harvey's, racket—selling inferior playground equipment to the city—and appoints him park commissioner. When questioned at Harvey's home by a philanthropist who plans to make a large donation, Errol blurts out the truth about the equipment. Having queered his chance as commissioner, he goes home dejected; but finds his former boss waiting to offer him a big promotion.

20th Century-Fox

Captain Eddie

CAST: Fred MacMurray, Lynn Bari, Charles Bickford, Thomas Mitchell, Lloyd Nolan, James Gleason, Mary Phillips. PRODUCER: Winfield Sheehan. DIRECTOR: Lloyd Bacon. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: John Tucker Battle.

Fred MacMurray, as Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, and his crew of seven find themselves afloat on life rafts without food or water, after their army transport has crashed. They are all without hope, all but "Captain Eddie" whose faith in their eventual rescue never wavers. As the hours drag into days, Eddie relives his youth: the time when at 13 he experimented with his own flying contraption; later experiments with a perpetual motion machine; his first real flight ending in a crash; his first job in a buggy factory; meeting Adelaide (Lynn Bari) whom he later marries; World War I—America's ace of aces; peace—a leader in the air transportation field; World War II—his reveries are interrupted by the sound of a plane which circles overhead, then lands.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

A Harbor Goes to France

Col **(Panoramic Cartoon)** **10 Mins.**

Excellent. This reel, produced by the British Ministry of Information, is an absorbing study of how a harbor was built in England and then towed to the shores of France. Audiences will be interested in seeing how the gigantic task was accomplished to make the European D-Day invasion possible. Views of the actual building and placing of the harbor are interspersed with explanatory diagrams. The reel catches and will hold audience attention.

Community Sing

Col **(No. 8, Series 8)** **9 Mins.**

Good. Organist Dick Leibert and the Song Spinners present some more established favorites which will make the audience want to sing. The songs are "How Many Hearts Have You Broken," "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams," "You Were Meant for Me," "And Her Tears Flowed Like Wine" and "Sweet and Lovely."

Film-Vodvil

Col **(No. 5, Series 2)** **11 Mins.**

Very poor. The acts featured in this reel are of the general calibre of a high school student production. The acts are Sabins' Personettes, Viola Layne, an impersonator of sorts, and Lowe, Hite and Stanley. Some one in the audience will probably make comment like, "No wonder vaudeville died." Even the most easy to please audience probably would not react favorably to this film.

Goofy News Views

Col **(Phantasy)** **7 Mins.**

Poor. The reception this receives will depend largely on how easy to please your audience is. A cartoon travesty on the newsreel, it is made up of fanciful interviews with such varied people as football players and riveters. It is pretty weak comedy as most of the situations are build-ups to old and familiar jokes. This will make a hit only with those audiences ready to laugh at anything.

The Monster and the Ape

Col **(Serial)**

Good. The kids will go for this fantastic 15-episode serial. Complete with long-fanged apes and tin-suited monsters with electric eyes, evil gangs and fair ladies, this tale has enough horror to keep the children coming back week after week. There is the usual quota of serious minded scientists opposing fiends intent on controlling civilization.

Two Local Yokels

Col **(All-Star Comedies)** **17½ Mins.**

Fair. Andy Clyde and Charles Judels each claim to be the best romeo in the country. It looks like Charlie is winning the title when Andy's wife divorces him because he spends too much time with his friend. However, after much slapstick, including some pie-throwing, Andy wins back his spouse. The typical Clyde slapstick leans heavily on sounds of breaking bones and hard blows for comedy effects.

Now—the Peace

UA **(World in Action)** **21 Mins.**

Topical. Up to the standard set by the rest of the series, this two-reeler is particularly timely. Although much of the footage is library material, the photography is crisp, the editing fast and the narration dramatic. The National Film Board of Canada, producer of the picture, has managed to make a documentary that does not flag in interest from beginning to end.

Ain't That Ducky

WB **(Looney Tunes)** **7 Mins.**

Amusing. Daffy Duck and his pursuer are harried by the mischievous antics of an impudent duckling with portfolio. Intense curiosity regarding the contents of the little fellow's briefcase, causes the hunter and Daffy to join forces and uncover the mystery. The fun is fast in a furious chase, until the briefcase is found to contain a surprise ending.

Ain't We Got Fun

WB **(Blue Ribbon Cartoon Reissues)** **7 Mins.**

Good. The master of the house mistakenly attributes a raid on his pantry to the cat and turns him out. The mice, who are the actual culprits, abandon caution and celebrate kitty's downfall by an orgy of eating, when they are discovered by the old man. He implores the cat to return and rid him of the pests, but the cat does so only after a guarantee of a higher standard of living, which includes a priority on the softest chair in the house.

Circus Band

WB **(Melody Masters Bands)** **10 Mins.**

Excellent. The circus connotes thrills, glamour and romance, and all these elements are present in this thoroughly entertaining film, intensified by the lilting music of the circus band. The prodigious preponderance of peerless performances includes all the traditional circus attractions, from cavorting clowns and ponderous pachyderms to intrepid trapeze performers.

Gruesome Twosome

WB **(Merrie Melodies)** **7 Mins.**

Rollicking. Two tomcats, vying for the favor of the feline queen of the alley, set out in search of a little bird, with the hussy's heart to be the victor's reward. Tweety, the weathered object of their quest, refuses to be caught, and outwits them at every turn. An outraged bulldog seeks vengeance upon the cats, as Tweety calmly contemplates the proceedings.

Hare Trigger

WB **(Bugs Bunny Specials)** **7 Mins.**

Amusing. Bugs Bunny tangles with Yosemite Sam, a rootin', tootin', two-gun train robber. Enraged because Bugs questions his nefarious reputation, Sam pulls no punches in his attempts to prove he is all the sheriff's notices claim. There are a good many entertaining situations, with a surprise finish, in which our friend, the rabbit, smugly announces his victory over the pocket-size badman.

I Only Have Eyes for You

WB **(Blue Ribbon Cartoon Reissue)** **7 Mins.**

Amusing. Our hero is a little iceman who is much in love with a young lady with a passion for radio crooners. Lacking the voice to capture the girl, the iceman uses a ventriloquist for dubbing the dulcet tones of a crooner. In a trick ending, the ventriloquist wins the girl, and the little iceman winds up with an old maid, lacking in physical charm, but a darn good cook.

Law of the Badlands

WB **(Featurette)** **20 Mins.**

Good. This capsuled western provides enough flying bullets, warring Indians and thoroughly bad hombres to satisfy the action loving youngsters. Capt. Robert Tate Fleming, prosecuted for a murder he did not commit, is dismissed from Col. George Custer's famed 7th U.S. cavalry. Years later Fleming traces the man who framed him and forces a confession. With the uprising of several Indian tribes, he joins Custer in his valiant "last stand." His name cleared, Fleming reveals that he is the father of Karen Grimm, a young girl he befriended when her adopted "dad" was killed in a stagecoach robbery.

Life With Feathers

WB **(Merrie Melodies)** **7 Mins.**

Hilarious. Imagination of the rib-tickling variety has gone into this reel, and patrons will enjoy lots of unrestrained laughter in the story of a little love bird of quavering voice who quarrels with his mate and decides to end it all. He appeals to the neighborhood cat to eat him, but the sophisticated feline refuses, smelling a rat. The humor is top-notch, and the dialog is rich in current slang, as the cat and the bird battle it out right down to an uproarious finish.

Mexican Sea Sports

WB **(Sports Parade)** **10 Mins.**

Very good. Vivid Technicolor enhances the beauty of Acapulco, Mexico, where lovers of surf and sand can enjoy deep sea fishing, water skiing, sailing, swimming and sun soaking. Senor Lou Morron, famed Mexican deep sea fisherman, and his wife, equally proficient in snaring the finned broncos of the deep, provide a myriad of thrills as they land two enormous sailfish. Acapulco gives evidence of being the ideal spot for complete, soul satisfying relaxation.

Navy Nurse

WB **(Featurette)** **20 Mins.**

Very good. The vital part being played by our naval nurses in the present war is illustrated in this film. The setting is a naval hospital where a Miss Riley (played by Andrea King) acts as instructor to new nurses. One of the young recruits, in doubt about her future nursing career, turns to Miss Riley and an older nurse for advice. Together they dispel her fears. Graduating with honors, she becomes an instructor, and carries on in naval tradition.

Overseas Roundup No. 3

WB **(Vitaphone Varieties)** **10 Mins.**

Good. The remarkable adaptability of the helicopter for rescuing shipwrecked sailors and sighting enemy submarines is the subject of the opening scenes. The tremendous task of grinding coffee beans to supply GIs with the aromatic brew they term 'mud," and Chinese soldiers training with American equipment under the guidance of army instructors are featured in the following sequences. Finally there are shots of radio broadcasts beamed for the GI in the field, as "This Is the Army" is saluted.

The Birds and the Beasts Were There

WB **(Sports Parade)** **10 Mins.**

Picturesque. Photographed in striking Technicolor are some rare birds and animals, brought to this country from their native habitats by an enterprising couple. The monkeys are always good for a laugh, and some of the plumage on the birds is breathtaking in its beauty. In addition to its technical attractiveness, the reel has a high informative quality.

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WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY: Two Simplex projectors, three point bases, rear shutters, double bearing, upper and lower magazines, two Peerless low intensity lamps, 10¼ inch reflectors, ammeters, two 30 ampere rectifiers, two Ross 4 inch lenses, $1,215. Two pair Powers 6B mechanisms, heavy duty gates, upper magazines, $180 per pair. Two Powers projectors, complete 6B mechanisms, $260 per pair. Two 60T three phase rectifiers with meters, contractors and eight tubes, all new, $460 per pair. 1000W stereopticons, $34.95 each. Rear shutters for Simplex, $77.50 each. Hand rewind sets, $10.95 per set. Metal fire extinguishers, $1.89 each. One RCA 9430A heavy duty speaker, new, $49.50. Two complete arc controls for Peerless or Motiograph low intensity lamps, $69.50 per pair. B-2196, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

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DICTAPHONE OUTFIT, DICTATER, TRANSCRIBER, SHAVER—all reconditioned, $149.50; Powers rear shutter heads, good condition, $135; reflectors, 50% off; Rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, $250; Footlights, $3.50 ft.; Commercial vacuum cleaner, $119.50; Water cooler, DC only, $77.50; Low intensity arclamps, $75. Spring catalog now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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GIVE YOUR POPCORN THAT REAL BUTTER FLAVOR and color. Economical to use. The PERFECTION CO., Waco, Texas.

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PROFESSIONAL DISC STUDIO RECORDING SYSTEM, TWO SPEEDS, rack panel, complete. Originally $3,500 now $750; DeBrie 35mm LeParvo camera, $195; Continuous contact 16mm printers, picture, track or both, $1,375; Miles 16mm recorder reproducer, $195; Berndt Maurer 16mm recording systems, latest improvements, $1,995. Send for Spring Bulletin. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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STILL TIME TO ORDER NEW AIR WASHERS, ROTARY SPRAY MAT TYPE, WORK WITH ANY BLOWER—EASILY INSTALLED. 5,000 cfm, $115; 7,000 cfm, $140; 10,000 cfm, $170; 15,000 cfm, $200; 20,000 cfm, $230. New prewar blowers, starting at $106.50 for 5,500 cfm; also diffuser grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Catalog. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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THEATRE GAMES WITH GREATER AUDIENCE INTEREST. MORE THRILLS and MORE SUSPENSE. BINGO—$1.50 per thousand cards, No. 1-75 die-cut. Buy direct from LOUIS KESSLER, NOVELTY GAMES CO., 1434 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn 16, N.Y. Manufacturer and printer, servicing exhibitors exclusively for over 12 years. Various other games available.

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WANTED—THEATRE MANAGER, small town circuit. Must be draft exempt and sober. State qualifications and references first letter. K. LEE WILLIAMS THEATRES, INC., Box 272, DeQueen, Arkansas.

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BURCH, MANLEY, CRETORS, ADVANCE poppers. All electric machines. French fry type. KRISPY KIST KORN MACHINE CO., 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6.

POWERS 6B HEADS, SOUND PORTABLES. FULL DETAILS. HIGHEST PRICES PAID. B-2197, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

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STILL SOME REMAINING—BUT SELLING FAST—600 American ball-bearing velour fully padded back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, rebuilt like new, $9.50; 552 Heywood-Wakefield Seven-ply reupholstered panel back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, $7.50; 242 American ball-bearing (in two lots) heavy reupholstered panel back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, $6.50; 500 Heywood-Wakefield heavy panel back, box spring cushion chairs, excellent condition, $5.95; 300 solid oak auditorium chairs, refinished, $3.95. Wire now for stock list. 600 pieces heavy green pullman velour, 22x36 inch, dry-cleaned, $1.25. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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USED 16mm SILENT FILMS—Bought, sold, traded. HUNTER, 29 John, Rensselaer, New York.

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A Big Job requires TEAMWORK!

★ The BIG JOB of the Motion Picture Industry is the SHOWMEN'S SEVENTH...the War Loan Drive to Speed Total Victory!

★ 3 "sock" TRAILERS...to help you put over this tremendous campaign...have been produced by your industry...and are being distributed to all theatres by NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE.

★ RAW-STOCK SHORTAGES have limited the number of prints available,..so 50% of the theatres will run one trailer...while the other 50% run another. The trailers will then be interchanged through National Screen exchanges.

Our Job is to see that all theatres run all 3 trailers! Here's where we need Your help!

★ *Please* RETURN YOUR TRAILER IMMEDIATELY after its scheduled run! . . . to your NATIONAL SCREEN EXCHANGE . . . so that EVERY THEATRE RECEIVES ITS PRINTS! ★ DON'T DELAY! ★ YOUR COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL! A missout on a trailer may mean UNSOLD BONDS. ★ The RETURN of WAR LOAN TRAILERS is an IMPORTANT PART of *your* BIG JOB in the SHOWMEN'S SEVENTH!



Thank You

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

THE MIGHTY 7
WAR LOAN

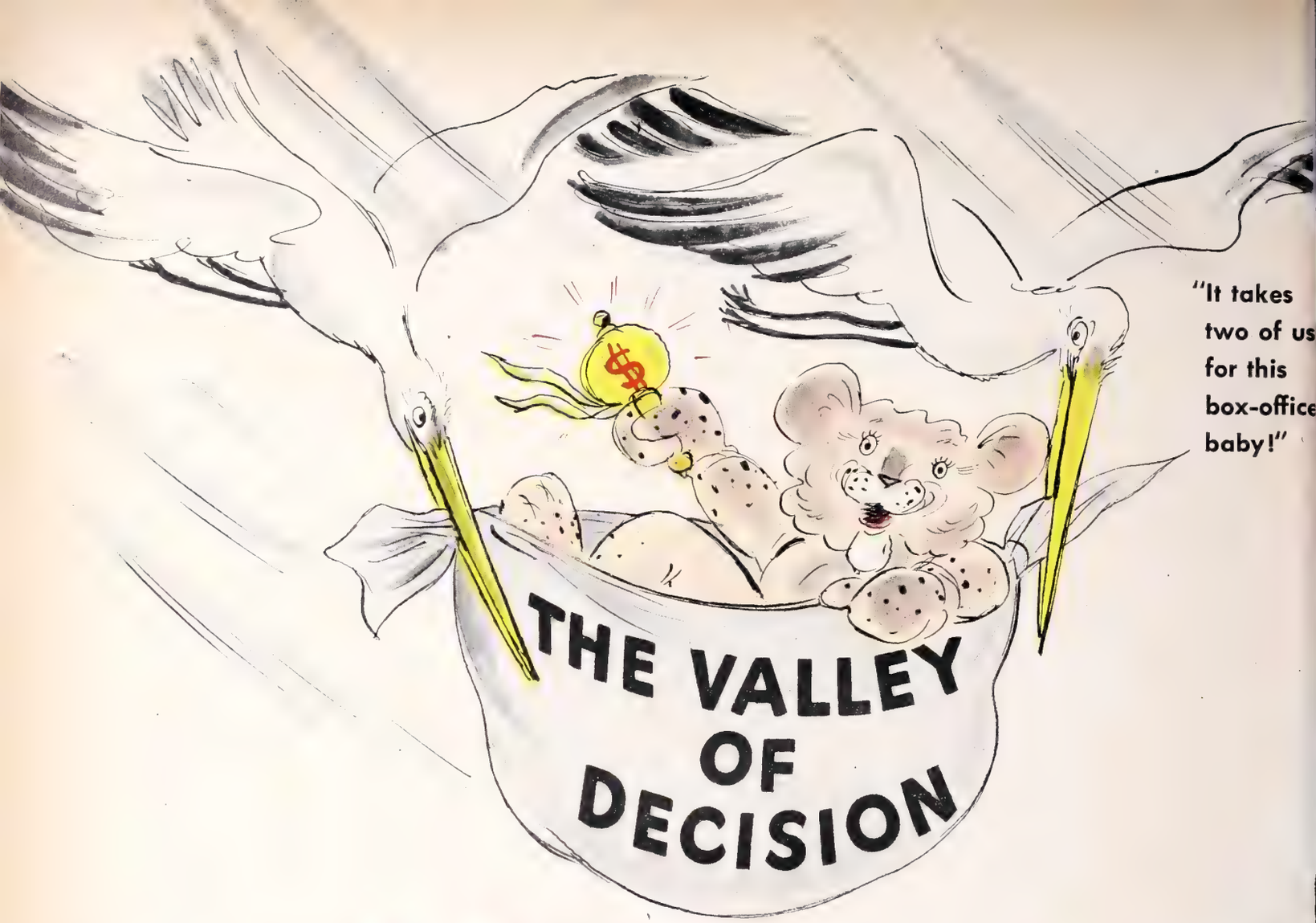
The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

MAY 26, 1945 Entered as Second Class matter at Postoffice at Kansas City, Mo., under Act of March, 1879. 25c Per Copy. Per Year, $7.50 NATIONAL EDITION



The MODERN THEATRE



THE BIG ONES COME FROM M·G·M!

"Keep plenty of time open like Music Hall is doing! 3d week tops 1st and 2d!"

GREER GARSON · GREGORY PECK · "THE VALLEY OF DECISION"

DONALD CRISP · LIONEL BARRYMORE · PRESTON FOSTER · MARSHA HUNT · Gladys Cooper · Reginald Owen Dan Duryea · Jessica Tandy · Barbara Everest · Marshall Thompson · Screen Play by John Meehan and Sonya Levien · Based on the Novel by Marcia Davenport · A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture · Directed by Tay Garnett · Produced by Edwin H. Knopf



Are all preparations made for June 6th — Free Movie Day?



This colorful Free Movie Day Poster is included in your Showman's Portfolio and is available FREE at your nearest National Screen Service Exchange. Display it prominently!

D-Day, June 6th, is a Big Day in your theatre! It's National Free Movie Day and with 100% Showmanship behind it, will become the biggest single Bond selling day of the Seventh War Loan Drive!

This message is sponsored as part of their contribution to the War Loan Campaign by Columbia, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount, RKO-Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warners.

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!



another clean-up right Away!!

Jack L. Warner, Executive Producer

IT'S Right on Top

OF THE YEAR'S LIST OF LAUGH HITS!



They're crazy with Love - and it's crazy with Laughter!



IDA LUPINO

She loves to fight 'cause making up means making love!

SYDNEY GREENSTREET

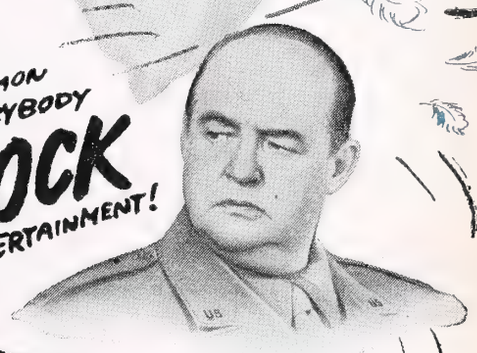
'The Fat Man'—he's a 300-pound blues-buster!

WM. PRINCE

The kid from 'Objective Burma' has a new objective-IDA LUPINO!



C'MON EVERYBODY IT'S SOCK ENTERTAINMENT!



"PILLOW to POST"

WARNERS'

ADORABLE, ROARABLE HIT!

with

STUART ERWIN • JOHNNY MITCHELL • RUTH DONNELLY • LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN

Screen Play by Charles Hoffman From the Stage Play by Rose Simon Kel

Produced by ALEX GOTTLIEB

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
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TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 47 No. 3
MAY 26, 1945

BOXOFFICE

TELL 'EM, SELL 'EM

THERE is a growing tendency to take nothing for granted in the attraction values of motion pictures. The bigger the picture, the bigger the campaign has been an accepted rule of long standing. But the trend increasingly is going forward toward making the prospective patron picture-wise well in advance of showings.

In an article on the news pages of this issue, Mr. Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity and exploitation for 20th Century-Fox, sets forth what his company is doing to pre-sell the public. No avenue of approach is overlooked, the theme being, "The more you tell, the more you sell!" But it mustn't stop there. The exhibitor has to carry forward in his job of selling at the point of sale. Awareness of that is in strong evidence in the Showmandiser Section of each issue of BOXOFFICE.

Exhibitors are applying showmanship methods, geared to local situations and finding the results profitable. In many instances there has been a happy revival of the "personal touch" such as management endorsement of a given picture. Angles that have local appeal are ferreted out by the exhibitors and then promoted to the hilt.

The desire for more of the point-of-sale showmandising is further evidenced in exhibitor requests for aid from distributor field exploitation men. In line with this, as well as for other reasons, Warners recently expanded their field exploitation force. These men have not only been doing a job of direct selling of specific pictures in cooperation with exhibitors, but have also contributed materially to the building of goodwill in the general industry interest.

It's an old story, of course, what M-G-M has been doing in the promotional line, having consistently maintained a large field exploitation force. The attentions of this staff to the needs and merchandising problems of small town theatres have brought such good results, that they are being constantly expanded.

Another forward step recently proved itself in Chicago, where distributor advertising was timed with subsequent-run showings of a picture. Thus the distance between first-run openings and the later runs was bridged and the business result proved gratifying. There should be more of this type of cooperative advertising, particularly where the gap between runs is wide.

The late William Wrigley jr. had the right idea. One of his advertising slogans was, "Tell 'em quick and tell 'em often." And even today, when the Wrigley Co. has no product to sell, it continues to tell 'em about it.

Exhibitors, particularly those in the three-and-four-change

situations who contend they cannot do any picture exploiting, could profitably adapt the Wrigley principle to selling their theatre as an institution. Yes, indeed—tell 'em and you'll sell 'em!

★ ★

Profiting From Experience

"It is from the past that we learn what to expect of the future." So said Mr. Winston Churchill in an address before the British Parliament that was broadcast throughout the world several days ago. Those words might well be heeded by the motion picture industry, if it is to benefit from its experiences of the past, particularly as regards legislation.

The industry has been rather lucky in escaping virtually untouched by the many bills put before the state legislatures this past session. But they will come up again in the next and the next and the next. And some of the nuisance ideas, particularly those that offer revenue-bearing possibilities, will find their way into county and municipal hoppers, as experience already has shown to be the case.

Luck alone did not defeat the many measures brought up; it took hard work also—hard work that the handful of stalwarts among exhibitors and distributors, who always are alert to these matters, shouldered. But one day the catch-as-catch-can volunteer-fireman methods of dealing with legislative matters is going to result in a sad awakening. Luck and those "old reliables" will not always be able to hold out against the increasing force and volume of legislative problems that seem destined for the future.

Something should be done about it—not in emergency call at the eleventh hour—but now. Careful planning and thorough organization in which every faction of the industry participates on a full-time basis—locally and nationally—will pay dividends.

★ ★

Ten Years of Achievement

In this year of important anniversaries one that is worthy of wide recognition is Republic Pictures Corporation's tenth year. Under the guidance of Mr. Herbert J. Yates sr., founder, and Mr. James R. Grainger, president, the company has advanced rapidly to its position of leadership in the field of independent production and distribution.

Republic has contributed importantly to the requirements of many thousands of theatres with its so-called "bread and butter" pictures. It has steadfastly maintained its leadership for the greater part of its ten-year career in the making of westerns. Serials, too, are an important part of its film fare. A further mark of its progress has been the increasing number of high-budget productions that are studding its yearly programs, and earning playing time in the nation's key theatres.

Congratulations, Herb and Jimmy!

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

"Two Down and One to Go" To Be Withdrawn May 31

War department's demobilization film, criticized in many quarters as being outdated and causing confusion in the minds of spectators, out of circulation at end of month.

• • • —

Near Riot in Kansas City Over Hope Show Tickets

Thousands of bond-buyers storm auditorium for ducats to radio performance ten days away; shout "robbery" when told all were gone; create dispersal problem for police.

• • • —

Private Hearings Are Set By Small Business Group

Senate's film industry probers to take up complaints of individuals with distributors; decision follows conference between committee's counsel and DofJ.

• • • —

Johnston Will Continue As Head of Monogram

Reported reorganization moves fail to develop at Chicago franchise holders' meeting; Steve Broidy given additional authority as executive vice-president.

• • • —

New York Projectionists' Union Pact Talks Start

Ten-year agreement with Local 306 expires August 31; latter seeks 25 per cent pay increase; time and half for overtime, seven holidays, sick leaves and longer vacations.

• • • —

J. Arthur Rank Denies He Will Build in U.S.

Will confine construction to Canada, he says, in reply to query about rumors he would erect house in New York for exploitation of his pictures.

• • • —

Paramount Partners End 4-Day Chicago Meeting

Television piped by WBKB direct to Edgewater Beach Hotel feature session of theatre executives, who also discuss the new season's product and sales policies.

• • • —

Executives Rush to Get In on European Tour

Word that Eisenhower has approved plan to permit producers and executives to tour battle zones under war department auspices precipitates rush for the privilege.

• • • —

Deferment for Fathers Over 30 Seen as Help

Ruling is vague and calls for "sympathetic consideration" by selective service boards, but harried theatre men and exchange heads feel it will ease situation.

COLOR TELEVISION IS ASSURED BY WIDE CHANNEL APPROVAL

Experiments Will Continue; Equipment Manufacture Awaits War's End

By AL SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—Color television and 1,000-line black-and-white television are assured video enthusiasts through the final frequency allocations report recently issued by the Federal Communications Commission. In assigning to television a very "substantial amount of space above 400 megacycles which will permit the development of color television and superior black-and-white television through the use of wide channels," the FCC, in effect, has given Columbia Broadcasting System and other groups interested in this phase of video possibilities a go-ahead signal to continue their experiments along these lines with the assurance that, once approved, color and fine-definition television will be available to the public on assigned channels.

Holdup Decision on FM

Meantime the FCC report stresses the fact that the War Production Board's restrictions on set manufacture compels it to hold up final decision on channels for FM transmission and color television. In this connection the commission pointed out that its decision not to make a final allocation for FM at this time would not in any way hamper future development of that service, inasmuch as the WPB has advised the radio industry that production of new AM, FM and television transmitter or receivers cannot be resumed "in 1945 or even in the first part of 1946 unless Japan capitulates."

The allocation table released by FCC offers three principal changes from the proposed report which was issued last January and which subsequently was the subject of oral argument. The three changes are:

Television has been assigned a thirteenth channel at 174 to 180 mc. In the proposed report, this band originally had been assigned to air navigation aids. The present report makes available 13 channels below 300 mc, all of which can be assigned to television immediately. There also is available to television a very substantial amount of space above 400 mc which will permit the development of color television and superior black-and-white television through the use of wider channels.

Unassigned Space Available

In the earlier report, 6 mc were left unassigned with the statement they ultimately would be assigned to television, FM, facsimile or the safety services, upon a showing of need. The final report makes the unassigned space available as follows: 2 mc are added contiguous to the FM band of 18 mc width, wherever that band is finally placed. Initially, these 2 mc will be available for stations rendering a facsimile service exclusively, but manufacturers of FM receivers should include these 2 mc in new FM receivers as it is contemplated that facsimile may move above 400 mc, thus making these 2 mc available for FM. This will give FM 20 mc instead of 18.

The final report also gives the motion picture industry 18 mc, shared 12 with relay broadcast, geophysical, forestry and conservation and six with relay press.

Exhibitors, meanwhile, are watching the rapid video changes with keen interest.

Tom C. Clark of Texas Is Nominated Attorney General to Succeed Biddle



TOM C. CLARK

NEW YORK—News of the nomination of Tom C. Clark of Texas to succeed Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle spread through film offices swiftly when the late editions began to appear Wednesday night.

Clark was head of the antitrust division of the department of justice for a long period and considerable progress was made during that time toward agreement on revision of consent decree. He is regarded by leading film attorneys as an able individual who can state his views with considerable force and clarity without heat or rancor.

There was considerable surprise within the industry when he was transferred from the antitrust division to the criminal division of justice department last August, with the result that all industry negotiations were turned over to Wendell Berge. Berge immediately began to issue public statements, some of them on the west coast, and the impression spread that antitrust action had developed into a political football.

No Opposition in Senate Seen

Washington reports indicate there will be no opposition to confirmation of Clark by senate when Biddle's resignation takes effect June 30.

Clark was born in Dallas in September, 1899. He practiced law there several years and joined the department of justice in 1937. He was coordinator of alien enemy control in western defense command in 1942, and in war frauds unit as well as antitrust and criminal cases. From April, 1940, through 1941, he was regional director of west coast field offices of the department, with headquarters in Los Angeles.

He was named first assistant to Thurman Arnold, when Arnold was head of the antitrust division in September, 1942. During the course of his negotiations with the film industry on the antitrust suit it was reported a disagreement had developed in the department over handling of the case. Attorney General Biddle switched Clark into the criminal division post held by Berge and put Berge in charge of antitrust negotiations.

Since the start of antitrust action in 1938, there have been four attorneys general—Homer Cummings, Frank Murphy, Robert H. Jackson and Biddle.

Capital Television Station Under DuMont Operation

WASHINGTON—Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., is conducting field tests, preliminary to the establishment of a permanent television station here.

The research staff is making tests to determine field strength and propagation data in this territory. The company has leased the top floor of the Harrington Hotel and plans to erect a permanent antenna on the roof as soon as permission is granted by the WPB. Call letters of the station are W3XWT.

"On to Tokyo" Release Set by "U" for May 31

NEW YORK—At the urgent request of the war department WAC is hurrying into release "On to Tokyo." The release has been set for May 31 through Universal exchanges.

Produced to supplement "Two Down and One to Go," "On to Tokyo" contains answers to questions uppermost in the minds of many American men and women regarding demobilization and redeployment of troops, and plans for the war against Japan.

May Ease Up on Steel Containers

WASHINGTON—Film distributors may be enabled to get steel containers after 60 days, if present WPB plans mature, it was revealed at a meeting of the steel shipping containers industry advisory committee. Limitation order L-197, restricting the delivery and use of new and used steel shipping containers, will remain in effect for at least 60 days, WPB stated.

WPB Revokes Limitations On Additional Materials

WASHINGTON—Revocation of WPB limitation orders include the following, which may affect materials used by the motion picture industry:

Limitation order L-33, prohibiting production of table, floor and other types of portable electric lamps, subject to materials available;

Limitation order L-39, issued Feb. 24, 1942, to control production and distribution of fire protective, signal and alarm equipment, also subject to materials available. Removal of restrictions makes available fire extinguishers of all types.

Griffith Case Hearing Adjourned Until Fall

OKLAHOMA CITY — Judge Edgar S. Vaught Thursday adjourned hearings in the Griffith antitrust suit in federal court here until September after additional former independent operators in cities in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico were called as government witnesses in the third week of the trial.

More evidence on theatre situations in Lubbock, Tex., and Mangum, Okla., was heard this week when P. E. Smith, a former partner of Wendell Bearden in the operation of the Tech Theatre in the Texas city, corroborated testimony of Wendell last week relating to dealings with Griffith representatives in the college center and Pat Duffy, Mangum independent operator, continued his testimony from the previous week.

William Nagle, operator of the El Morro Theatre at Gallup, N. M., was the first witness to be heard from that state, where the Griffiths also operate a number of theatres.

Nagle said he had been in business in Gallup since 1928 and that prior to Griffith's entry there with the purchase of the Cairo Theatre (later renamed the Chief) in 1930 he had played all major film product.

Competition Reduced Available Product

After Griffith came into the town, he said, he was reduced to M-G-M and Paramount releases. In 1936 another Griffith theatre, the Navajo, was opened there, he testified.

C. C. Hann, called as a former operator at Altus, Okla., said that after a few months there he had sold to W. T. Spears, whom he designated as a Griffith partner. Cross-examination brought out he had operated for a month at a time in several Oklahoma and Texas communities and had left unplayed contracts in some.

In cross-examining Duffy the defense brought out that 1937, when Duffy sold his Mangum theatre to Griffiths, was a bad year in that section and that the exhibitor had lost money in the operation of his theatre.

War Loan Films Ready For Wide Distribution

WASHINGTON—Thirty million Americans will view 16mm films of the war in the Pacific as part of the motion picture educational program in the current Seventh War Loan drive, the war finance division of the treasury has predicted from detailed reports in the last drive.

The navy has prepared three long subjects titled: "Remember These Faces," "My Japan," made up of captured Japanese propaganda pictures and newsreels, and "Midnight," which dramatizes the work of the navy around the globe, and five shorter films.

The army has put together a troop transport picture of the Normandy invasion titled "D-Day Minus One" and a thrilling Pacific film: "Action at Anguar." The coast guard provided "The Story of a Transport." Other films include "The Enemy Strikes Back," "Fury in the Pacific" and "All-Star Bond Rally," the latter a Hollywood film with a galaxy of stars, made under the auspices of the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry for theatre exhibition and now available in 16mm through community War Finance Committees and 16mm distributors, as are all these films.

The National Photographic Ass'n has designated June 7th as National Photographic Dealers E-Bond Day when many will screen these films continuously all that day.

Rank Denies Expansion Plans Include the U.S.

TORONTO—J. Arthur Rank, British film industrialist who arrived here Monday, said he knew nothing of a report that a so-called showcase was contemplated for New York City as a first run home of British product.

In his first interview for publication Tuesday, attended by an imposing crowd of daily and trade press representatives, he announced world-wide expansion did not include the creation of a circuit of Odeon theatres in the United States.



J. ARTHUR RANK

Bad weather had halted his transatlantic air trip and he had remained two days in Newfoundland before coming on to Toronto.

In answer to expansion queries he stated, "We now are trying to insure that if our films are good enough a fair proportion of the audiences of the world shall be given a chance to see them."

With respect to the program in Canada, Rank said it was his intention to erect as many theatres as could be successfully operated, but details were yet indefinite pending conferences with Paul L. Nathanson of Odeon Theatres of Canada, with whom he holds a half partnership interest in Canadian management.

He spoke of plans to produce feature pictures with Canadian backgrounds, to be made largely in his British studios and also educational and children's films in the Dominion. This program is in line with his desire to build a truly Canadian picture industry.

With Nathanson he was confident the program would bring permanent employment for Canadians and there also would be modern theatres for the entertainment of Canadians. Those in the film business have a grave responsibility to the world, he said, and films could be a powerful force for peace.

Rank further said that the quota of raw stock from the United States was not sufficient for British film needs. At present his studios have an annual production of 30 features out of a British total of 60, but the pictures made now are costly and elaborate compared with the prewar product.

He said no promise had been forthcoming in regard to the lifting of restrictions on theatre building in Canada in the near future.

Minneapolis Trade Speculating Over Visit of British Tycoon

MINNEAPOLIS—Trade here is speculating whether there is any connection here with the coming visit of J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate, and the purchase of downtown property by Bennie Berger and his associates as the site of a theatre to be built after the war.

It is reported that Rank would like to have a theatre in Minneapolis as the nucleus of a circuit in this country and that he may tie up with Berger.

The announced purpose of Rank's visit is business in connection with his British milling interests. Berger refused to confirm that he has been in touch with Rank or that a conference between him and the British film producer-theatre owner will take place.

Long Runs for Rank Pictures

LONDON—Three new films produced by J. Arthur Rank organization—"Henry V," "Madonna of the Seven Moons" and "Waterloo Road"—are doing excellent business, according to boxoffice returns. "Henry V," starring Laurence Olivier, is now in its seventh month at the Carlton Theatre, while "Madonna of the Seven Moons," featuring Stewart Granger, has already been seen by 2,884,299 paying patrons in 110 part run situations.

St. Louis Area Leads War Bond Show Drive

NEW YORK—Reports on Seventh Loan activities from exchange territories the country over show St. Louis leading all other exchanges with a total of 1,264 bond shows lined up as of May 12. This figure includes 111 premieres, 62 children's shows and 1,091 Free Movie Days.

The national campaign was off to a flying start with an over-all total of 12,974 shows scheduled by mid-May.

The closest runnerup to St. Louis for the number of shows planned was the Dallas exchange area with 905. This was 244 premieres, 168 children's shows and 493 Free Movie Days.

Other high-ranking exchange territories were Boston with 785 shows, San Francisco with 695, Minneapolis with a total of 670, and Kansas City with 500.

During the entire Sixth War Loan drive 15,278 bond shows were held in the nation's theatres. With only a little over 2,000 more performances than were set before the opening of the drive, the Seventh is expected to top other drives.

Ask Theatres to Send in Good Publicity Stunts

New York—Jerry Zigmond, advertising and publicity coordinator for the Seventh War Loan, is urging all theatres to send to the national committee in New York three copies of all publicity and ads, photographs, radio scripts, flyers, bond premiere tickets and the like.

He also seeks publicity material which originates in the field as fast as it is used, so that bond-selling stunts can be given wide coverage.

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

"Two Down" Objections

NEWSPAPERS in various parts of the country have been reporting dissatisfaction with the war department's film, "Two Down and One to Go," which is supposed to make clear the manner in which the armed forces are to be demobilized on a point score basis.

The film was played generally in first runs, but when managers received criticisms from their audiences they began to question the value of the film. The picture was completed last October. Since that time the system has been modified, as the newspapers have stated.

Right away some audiences asked: "How about the men in the navy?"

The head of one large circuit took an open stand against further exhibition; many are reported to have withdrawn the picture without saying anything about it.

In the meantime, "On to Tokyo," hailed as "the McCoy" in answering questions uppermost in the minds of many anent demobilization and other war problems, and produced to supplement "Two Down," is being rushed by Universal into release for May 31, at the request of the war department.

* * *

Battle for Fair Play

FOR many months it has been apparent that in some foreign markets kid gloves are a handicap in securing fair treatment for American films. Quotas, fancy import licenses, confiscatory taxes, insistence that American pictures finance home production, and other assorted government-backed handicaps have grown steadily in the past two or three years. Opposing this kind of treatment without a united front has been found impossible.

The state department has been sympathetic and helpful, but war considerations have necessarily taken precedence over ordinary business problems.

Now the industry is getting down to brass tacks by agreeing to form an export association under the Webb act with membership open to any film exporter. At the same time it is pressing for some kind of an international declaration of policy at the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, and is hoping that in the negotiation of future trade treaties films will have their place.

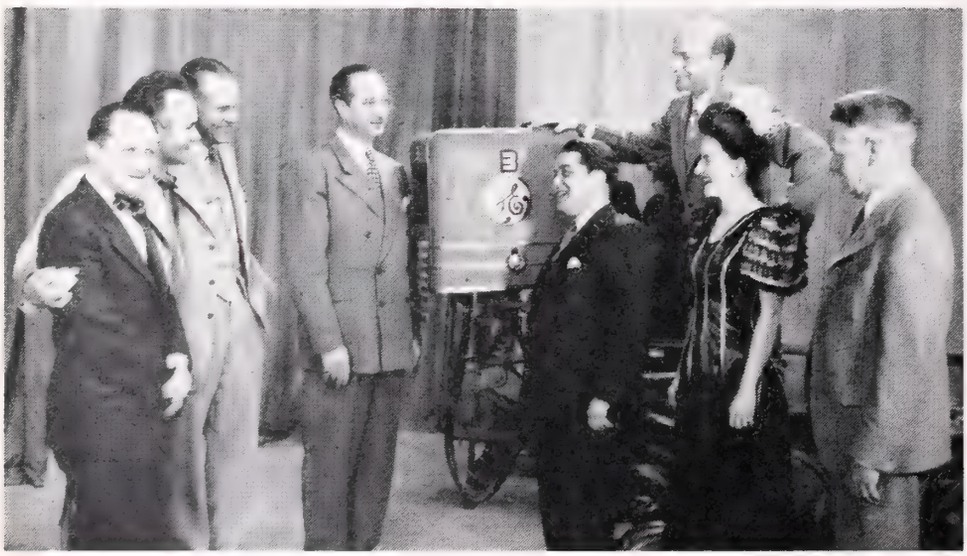
The general idea is that if in the future some country wants to continue to apply catch-as-catch-can-no-holds-barred rules in competition somebody will win.

* * *

Chance to Experiment

MUCH of the steam that has been generated in recent months by the Columbia Broadcasting System's insistence that manufacture of television transmitters and receivers be delayed until experiments demonstrate whether the ultra short waves can be used for scanning up to 1,000 lines in both black and white and color are feasible has been that much wasted effort.

The Federal Communications Commission has decided to postpone definite action on both television and frequency modulation. This seems to leave the argument where it began. In the meantime experiments can be carried on in the ultra high frequencies, the first relay system to Boston can be tested, and the results may show who is right and who is wrong. It is quite probable that the men who planned to make receiving sets in a big way will not be happy over the delay.



THEY TAKE TO THE AIR—Up in the Albany area film men try everything to sell bonds. Their latest stunt is a telecast over WRGB, General Electric television station at Schenectady. Left to right: Charles A. Smakwitz, WAC area public relations chairman; Johnny Olsen, star of Ladies Be Seated, television show; George Markham, general manager of WRGB; C. J. Latta, area exhibitor chairman of WAC; Paul Mowrey, television chief of the Blue Network; Hoylan Bettinger, program director; Peggy Olsen, star, and Alonzo P. Adams, U.S. treasury representative.

RKO Will Back Four B'way Stage Plays

NEW YORK—RKO will help finance four stage plays, three of them musicals, which will be made into films, says William Dozier, executive aide to Charles Koerner, vice-president in charge of production at the studios.

The properties follow:

"Alice Blue Gown," a modernized version of "Irene," hit musical of former years which will be produced as a stage play by Charles Casanave. The play will be modernized by James Montgomery, author of the original, and Harry Tierney, composer of the original score. Several of the songs from the former musical, including "Alice Blue Bown," "Irene" and "Castle of Dreams," will be retained.

Molnar's "The Play's the Thing," a musical version of which will be produced and directed for the stage by Jed Harris.

"Anything Can Happen," nonfiction best-seller by George and Helen Papashvily; to be produced by Max Gordon; dramatized by S. N. Behrman and directed by George S. Kaufman.

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," to be produced as a musical by Oscar Serlin, with Ray Bolger probably cast as Ichabod Crane.

All of the foregoing will probably be produced next season with the possibility that the completed films may be ready for the 1946-47 selling season.

Dozier said that the four plays have one quality in common; they are timeless and it doesn't matter much just when they are produced. He said that if RKO's partially-financed stage hit, "I Remember Mama," remains on Broadway until next season there is a possibility that the company might have five plays on the boards at one time.

RKO May Have 40 Films

In discussing next season's product, Dozier estimated that RKO would make 40 films, including approximately eight double AAs and the same number of As and 24 low-budget films. This will be about five more than this season.

"Back to Bataan" will be released next month. It stars John Wayne and was directed by Edward Dmytryk, who handled the megaphone for "Hitler's Children."

"Spanish Main," a high-budget Technicolor production, will be released late in the fall. Production was delayed by the strike, but the film is now ready. It stars Paul Henreid and Maureen O'Hara.

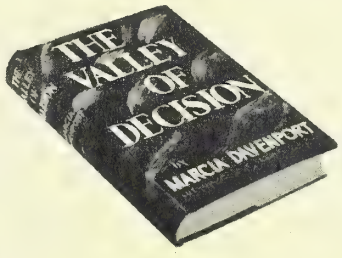
For next season, Dozier said that "Tomorrow Is Here," similar in theme to the current "The Enchanted Cottage," will be produced from an original story by Pamela Harris and with a screenplay by John Twist. Ted Tetzlaff, cameraman on "Cottage," will direct this his first film. Lawrence Tierney, new find of Monogram's "Dillinger," is being considered for the lead.

RKO plans to put before the cameras after the first of the year a Cary Grant vehicle, "A Very Remarkable Fellow," based on the late George M. Cohan's "Pigeons and People." Also planned for next year is George S. Kaufman's and Moss Hart's "Fabulous Invalid," which is being completely rewritten for the screen. This film will be in Technicolor and will star Maureen O'Hara, said Dozier.

Flag Ceremony Draws

NEW YORK—The flag on the Iwo Jima memorial in Times Square is now being raised and lowered daily by a detail of military police under Lieutenant Colonel McNulty, U.S.A. The flag raising ceremony occurs daily at 11 a. m., and has attracted many persons to the vicinity of the bond booths erected and manned by WAC for the Seventh War Loan drive.

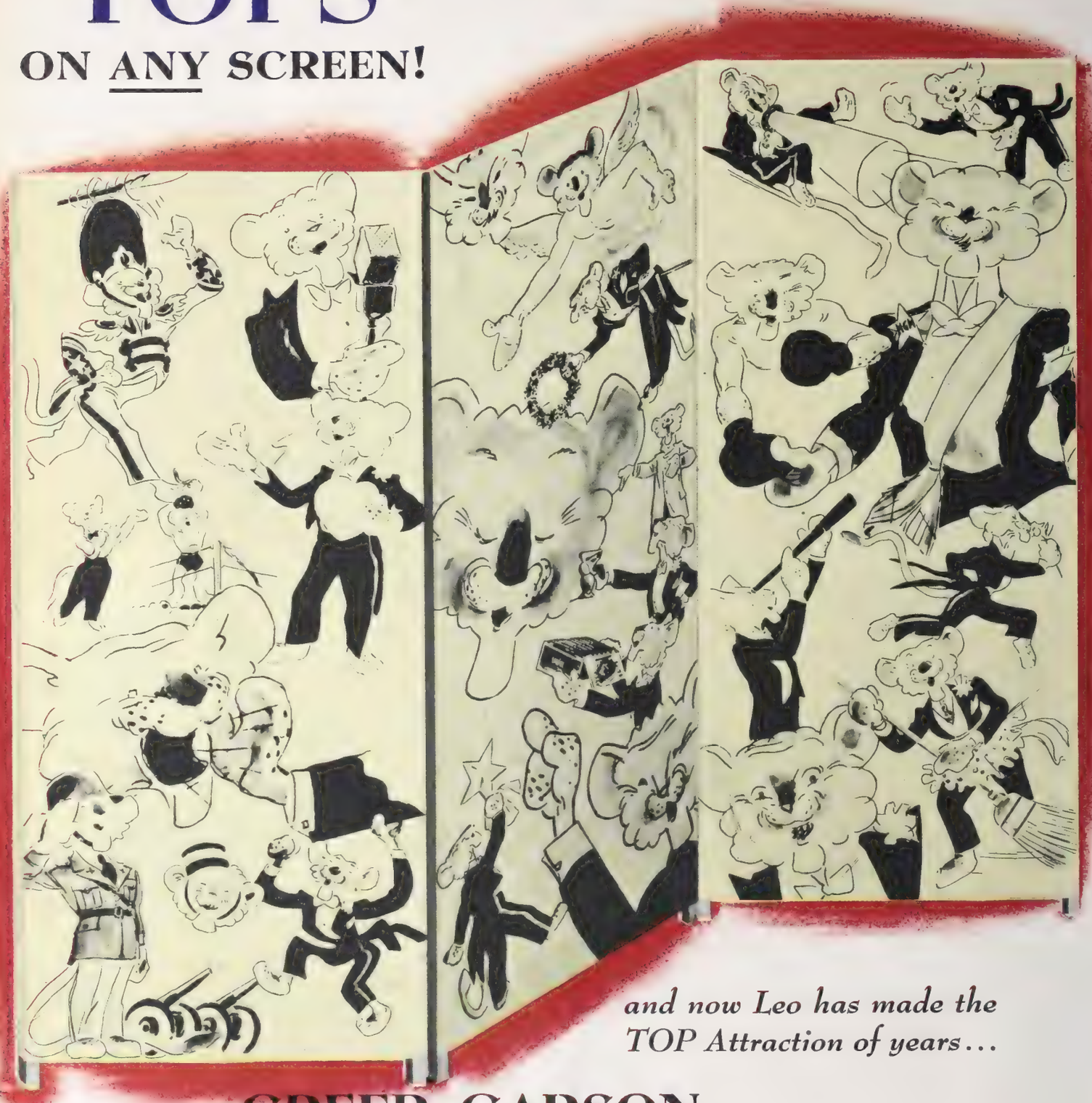
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GLADYS COOPER • REGINALD OWEN • DAN DURYEA • JESSICA TANDY • BARBARA EVEREST • MARSHALL THOMPSON

Screen Play by John Meehan and Sonya Levien • Based on the Novel by Marcia Davenport

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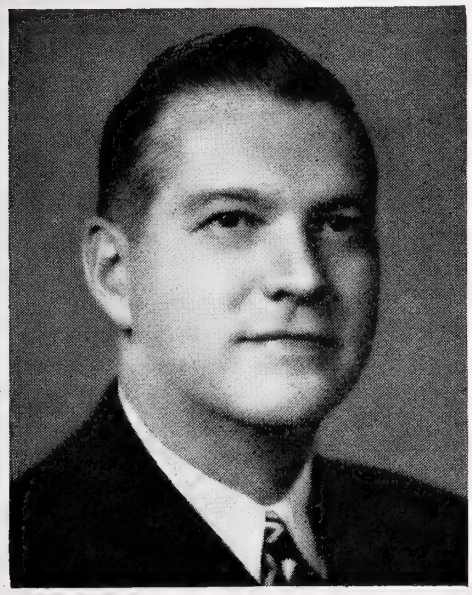




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Reagan Will Be Feted On 25th Anniversary

NEW YORK—His colleagues will honor Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, at a luncheon in 21 Club on May 31, marking the 25th year of Reagan's service with the company.



CHARLES M. REAGAN

Reagan started with Paramount in 1920, as a salesman at the Cincinnati branch.

Born in 1896 at Lawrenceburg, Ind., Reagan graduated from Notre Dame in 1916 and took a fling at the hotel business before becoming connected with Paramount.

His rise with this company has been rapid. In 1922 he became manager of the Indianapolis exchange and three years later became district manager of the Indianapolis-Cincinnati-Louisville territory. In 1932 he took over the Chicago area; becoming western division manager two years later.

Appointed to the post of assistant general sales manager in 1941, he was advanced to the distribution vice-presidency in April 1944.

Division One Is Winner In Monogram Contest

CHICAGO—Winning exchanges in Monogram Victory Parade, sales and collections competition which ended March 30, were announced by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. The contest carried total awards of $14,350.

In the sales department, winners were: Division 1, San Francisco, Dallas, Atlanta; Division 2, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Cleveland; Division 3, Memphis, Portland, Omaha. In collection department: Division 1, San Francisco, Dallas, Atlanta; Division 2, Charlotte, Detroit, New Orleans; Division 3, Memphis, Seattle, Denver.

For over-all improvement in the 26-week drive, on combined collections and sales, awards were: Division 1, Omaha; Division 2, Kansas City; Division 3, San Francisco.

Dividend of 13¾ cents per share on preferred stock of Monogram Pictures Corp. was announced by President W. Ray Johnston. The amount is payable June 15 to stockholders of record June 1.

Opera Seats as Bond Prizes

NEW YORK—WAC has received 50 pairs of reserved seat tickets for the premiere of the Russian opera, "The Quiet Don," at Carnegie Hall May 27, 28 and 29 to be used as war bond auction prizes.

Selznick Tells Purpose of SIMPP Organization

NEW YORK—Members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers are determined to take steps to protect themselves against possible studio strikes, according to David O. Selznick.

"We independent producers, less able to cope with the situation than are the major studios, don't want to be caught in the middle, as we are now," Selznick said on his arrival from Washington.

Characterizing the organization as "a mutually helpful society that will make our future more successful here and abroad," he declared there had been no revolt against Will H. Hays, nor had there been heard any rumblings of desire for a break with the MPPDA on the part of the independent group.

"We should work with Hays as long as our operations are identical," he added. "I see no reason why the independents should not have their own title registration; but they'll continue to use that of the MPPDA as long as the Hays outfit is cooperative.

Production Code Revision

"Nor have we any intention of breaking with the Breen production code. The Breen office actually is independent of the Hays organization. Although we intend to abide by the production code, it needs revision. We're dealing with present day audiences; why deal with a 1930 code?"

Asked if SIMPP contemplated forming its own export organization under the Webb act, Selznick said it was "debatable." As to a previously reported plan for Vanguard to take over Ross Federal as the nucleus for a distributing structure of its own, he said it had been considered at one time but was now cold. Queried regarding a possible hookup with J. Arthur Rank, British film tycoon, Selznick characterized the situation as "purely nebulous, although we may get together sometime or other."

Vanguard has no desire to get into exhibition or production on a large scale. "We will produce about five pictures a year, as many as we can make well, three or four—or 14. We have facilities for making at least a dozen," he said. Characterizing Vanguard's August release, the slightly more than two hours long "Spellbound," as "a short one," Selznick said it had been set for August release and would be the first of his pictures to go into the Astor Theatre, the Broadway house he and Sam Goldwyn have leased jointly.

Wins in a Gallup

Asked if he didn't think his pictures would get more bookings if released in less footage, Selznick declared two-hour pictures are playing every type of theatre in the country, even the smallest. "We're not cutting ourselves off from playdates, rest assured on that. Gallup polls on 'Since You Went Away' show a greater number of patrons who said they could see even more of it than persons who kicked regarding its length.

"It's better to spend three hours seeing one good picture than two weak ones. That's not only my personal opinion, but that of many audiences. Instead of getting patron reaction by preview cards we give them questionnaires a foot long. Hollywood experts told me it was wasting paper. Believe it or not, three times as many persons filled in the questionnaires as ordinarily filled in the small-size cards. I knew they would—every patron is a frustrated producer at heart.

"We kept previewing a picture until the filled-in questionnaires indicated the patrons were approximately 100 per cent agreed the picture was the right length. Who is to say in advance what the proper length of a picture is? You don't ask what the proper length of a book is, do you? The experts said over-length pictures were foredoomed to failure, but I didn't give a damn what the experts said—I had the public with me!"

Cowan Urges Unity Among Independents

NEW YORK—What this industry needs is an organization of independent producers that will stick together and make its influence felt in the distribution field, says Lester Cowan. Independents are now making about 40 per cent of the important product, he points out, and there is no reason why they shouldn't get the same playing time all other major product gets.

The subject came up when he was asked about the resignation of United Artists from the MPPDA because most of the company's producers belong to the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. He is not a member, but he sees important work to be done by this organization.

Independents can make pictures cheaper than some of the major studios, he pointed out, but, like the majors, they are bound to have some that will not be top grossers. This increases the gamble, if the weaker ones do not get playing time. To avoid this he contends that the independents should have some way of working together to make their influence felt in the exhibition field.

He's Host at Luncheon

Cowan was host at a luncheon at the Sherry-Netherlands which was attended by George J. Schaefer and representatives of the trade press. He told of many of the problems connected with the production of "G.I. Joe," the Ernie Pyle story, which is a tribute to the newspaper coverage of the war and a sympathetic revelation of the lives and thoughts of the soldiers fighting it.

Some of America's leading newspaper figures and some men in government positions wanted him to make it a film plea for world freedom of communications, but he held to the theory that by sticking to the human qualities of Pyle's approach it would serve this purpose better in the foreign field in an indirect way and would avoid any problems of foreign censorship which might otherwise be encountered.

The picture runs 113 minutes and will be ready for tradeshowing shortly. It will not be roadshown, but Schaefer will insist that it shall not be included on any double bill. It will be available for showing on 16mm prints to soldiers in camps by June 9.

A number of previews have been held and a poll has been taken which, Cowan says, shows that 82 out of each 100 queried expressed a desire to see the picture. It will be shown in Washington under the auspices of the Press Club June 12. At Indianapolis on July 6 a showing will be sponsored by the University of Indiana and the proceeds will go to the Pyle memorial fund.

"It is not a war picture in the usual sense," he said; "it deals with the men who are fighting a war."

Cowan plans four pictures next year. As soon as it becomes possible, he expects to do a picture about the men returning from war.

Bond Sales Are Gaining Fast, All Reports Show

NEW YORK—Regional reports to WAC headquarters show the Seventh War Loan campaign has gotten off to a fast start. Theatre men everywhere have plunged into the drive and prospects for reaching E bond quotas early are brightening daily, says Sam Pinanski, national chairman.

In Los Angeles 425 schools, acting as a unit, will cooperate with the industry during June by permitting children to attend special matinees at neighborhood theatres in connection with their bond selling efforts. Each pupil buying a war bond of any denomination, converting a war stamp album into a bond, or persuading an adult to buy a bond will be admitted to the matinees free. The programs will feature major current features, plus cartoons, travelogs, scientific subjects and war activity shorts.

Illinois has lined up 165 bond premieres, 129 children's matinees and 454 Free Movie Days, as against 87, 34 and 305, respectively, in the Sixth War Loan drive. The Chicago Theatre launched the industry's major event in the windy city with a war bond premiere including stage stars and other attractions.

In Buffalo Bob Hope, accompanied by his radio troupe, did a half-hour noon bond show on the stage of the Buffalo Theatre. Admission was by war bonds sold at the three downtown Shea houses and the Movieland Bond Cottage. Approximately $100,000 in bonds were purchased. Later during their brief stay, Hope and his unit put on a Smokes Fund show for the Buffalo Evening News.

At the Adams Theatre, Newark, the first Maj. Glenn Miller Salute netted $1,000,000, according to the special events committee. The all-stage show featured more than a score of theatre, film and radio luminaries.

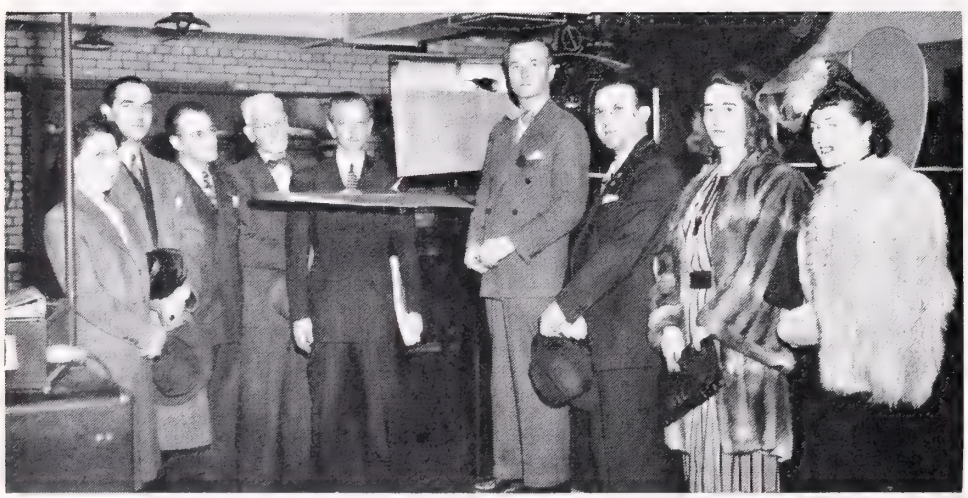
In the Trenton area RKO theatres report gratifying results. A recent bond premiere at the Capitol Theatre was sold out two days in advance, and preliminary sales indicate similar interest in the Mayfair and Lincoln premieres, June 14 and 28, respectively. Local radio stations cooperate by supplying talent and plugs.

At the Empire Theatre, Fall River, $299,475 in war bonds were sold for a special war bond premiere, "Salvos of 1945." Sold out in two days, the house was able to gross the commendable figure because it limited bond buyers to four seats, regardless of the amount of the purchase. In the drive's first week the theatre sold 1,491 bonds, valued at $144,225. The campaign chairman reports Seventh War Loan 16mm films have been shown by the local committee to every civic, fraternal and church organization in the city, with three projectors constantly in work. The Empire manager put his theatre at the disposal of 1,500 retail clerks for a mass meeting, with "All-Star Bond Rally" as one of the features; stores opened an hour later to permit employes to attend.

Theatres, retailers and newspapers in Omaha have staged an intensive drive. County bond headquarters, set up in the Orpheum lobby and manned by 24 women representing various organizations, sold $75,000 in bonds on opening day. The bond premiere at the 2,776-seat Paramount on May 23 was sold out days in advance. Bonds for the premiere were sold in all theatre lobbies, downtown stores and at a Liberty Bond bungalow on the street's busiest corner.

The World-Herald is offering $300 in prizes and two recognition flags to stimulate bond sales, prizes to be divided between retail store and theatre showing largest per-employe sale of bonds.

Two full-page ads urging bond sales were made up by theatre ad men and promoted in the World-Herald; one of the pages was a cooperative ad on the Paramount bond premiere. In addition, the newspaper ran a Seventh War Loan poster in five colors on its front page the opening day of the drive. Three bands, supplied by the paper and WAC, played on downtown streets, taking turns in front of each theatre and store housing a bond booth. The paper also turned over its Sunday society page to features on Seventh War Bond women workers.



ON A BOND TOUR—Theatre managers of the Borough of Queens toured their territory to get the Seventh War Loan off to a flying start. Here they are shown near the Pan-American Airways Link trainer at LaGuardia Field. Left to right: Caroline Adams, Queens Theatre; John Joneck, St. Albans Theatre; Ray Malone of RKO, public relations chairman; Russell Cohen, Town Theatre; Fred W. Brunelle, exhibitor chairman of Queens County; A. Paul Wollam of Pan-American; Jules Pincus, Lefferts Theatre; Miss Dureen Camp, Maspeth Theatre, and Miss Rae Terry, Roosevelt Theatre.

More Bond Premieres Scheduled by Loew's

NEW YORK—Schedules for ten more bond premieres have been set for local Loew's theatres. Performances of "The Affairs of Susan" have been arranged for the Mt. Vernon Theatre on June 19 and for the Pitkin, American and Dyckman theatres on June 22. "The Clock" will also be shown at bond premieres on June 22 at the Apollo, Burnside, Spooner and Oriental theatres.

Kiddie shows will be held at the Pitkin and American theatres on June 16 and June 9, respectively.

The schedule of local Loew theatres assigned to staff the Statue of Liberty during the remainder of the bond drive is as follows: Criterion, June 9; Capitol, June 11; State, June 15; Criterion, June 25; Capitol, June 26, and State, June 30.

Greek Festival Given At WAC 7th Loan Rally

NEW YORK—More than 100 Greek-American organizations were represented at the first of the United Nations Festivals staged as a Seventh War Loan rally by WAC at the Liberty Statue in Times Square on May 24.

The program had originally been scheduled for the preceding Saturday, May 19, but was postponed because of the weather. Native programs honoring Norway, France, Lithuania, Poland, China and other nations are planned for subsequent Saturday afternoons.

The entertainment featured speakers, performances by American and Greek screen and radio personalities and native music and dancing.

What's a State Boundary Between Bond Sellers?

KNOXVILLE—Charles R. Mitchell, exhibitor of Barbourville, Ky., and head of the Seventh War Loan drive for Knox County, Ky., believes in the good neighbor policy.

He surprised F. Curtis Allen, WAC chairman for Knox County, Tenn., by sending him a check for a $1,000 E bond. The Kentucky county passed its quota of $189,000 on VE-Day, so Chairman Mitchell sent the check to "help out the Knox County, Tenn., drive."

Sells 1,600 Bonds Worth $205,055 in Six Days

NEW YORK—George Langbart, manager of the Savoy Theatre, a Randforce house in Brooklyn, has caused considerab'e astonishment and admiration in WAC headquarters by going out and selling 1,600 individual E bonds for a face value of $205,055 in six days, May 15 to 20.

It was a one-man bond selling campaign organized with the cooperation of social and civic organizations.

Blood Donor Drive Reopens

NEW YORK—Brooklyn theatres, at the request of the Red Cross, have again taken up the campaign to get blood donors. The campaign was temporarily discontinued at the beginning of the Red Cross War Fund drive in March. At that time 32,000 theatre patrons had signed up to give their blood. Three Brooklyn theatres will be staffed each week by Red Cross volunteers. The drive started May 24.

Astor Gets "Beyond Tomorrow"

NEW YORK—Astor Pictures Corp., through a deal with the Bank of America, has acquired world rights to "Beyond Tomorrow," released in 1940 by RKO.





COMMANDER JOHN FORD TAKES TIME OUT . . .

M-G-M is singularly fortunate to have a director so brilliantly equipped to guide the destinies of the biggest motion picture project of our time

THEY WERE EXPENDABLE

Wounded while filming battle scenes at Midway and veteran of 3 years of duty in the Pacific, Commander John Ford is on special leave to direct W. L. White's best-selling story.

Commander Ford was out there. He shipped and lived with our fighting men in the flaming Philippines. He is immortalizing on celluloid the gallantry of the PT boat heroes who rescued General MacArthur and made naval history.

The eyes of all film men are on the making of this mammoth drama. Such an enterprise brings enduring glory to our industry. Commander Ford, already an Academy Award winning director, is making an industry epic and from time to time M-G-M will continue to keep exhibitors advised of its progress through the trade press.



Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

FM Still Question Mark In the Report by FCC

An analysis of the Federal Communications Commission report on frequency allocations reveals that frequency modulation (FM) still remains the question mark requiring an answer. For that reason, FCC engineers and industry experts will conduct further experiments to assure exact frequency locations for FM.

Of significance to the layman is the quotation in the report which states that the FCC decided "not to make a final allocation for FM at this time . . . because the commission has received advice from the War Production Board that the radio industry would not resume production of new AM, FM and television transmitters or receivers "in 1945 or even in the first part of 1946 unless Japan capitulates." This is not to say that a small quantity of receivers and possibly a few transmitters may not be made available. However, this will have little or no effect upon the future expansion of AM, FM and television services, it is further stated. The WPB also advised the FCC that in the event of any change in its prediction, it will give 90 days' advance notice.

It is important to note that in the FCC report quoted above, the restrictions on production apply not only to FM and AM but to television as well. One government official reported to me that despite the strides made in television experimentation, the curtailment of production caused by WPB restrictions will keep this method of entertainment out of widespread public use for at least 12 months after the Pacific war is ended.

Steel Production High But Shortages Continue

Despite the fact that steel production continues at a high rate, there is little indication that there will be sufficient quantities of the needed metal available to make possible full production of needed equipment for the motion picture industry for some time to come. In a recent report issued by Steel, trade organ for that industry, it was stated that open-ending of the controlled materials plan, under which steel producers are allowed to accept priority-free orders at once for scheduling after July 1, "has proved a disappointment to many customers." It further was stated that with the estimated needs figured at 16,000,000 tons of finished steel for the third quarter, "it is obvious no considerable capacity will be available for unrated orders unless essential needs prove much lighter than now indicated."

Taking into consideration the fact that the film industry's equipment needs come under the heading of "unrated orders," and the fact that the Pacific war will not cause a lessening in essential military requests, the statement from Steel confirms last week's report in BOXOFFICE that it will be the first of the year before exhibitors may be assured of needed items in appreciable quantities for theatre use.

Overseas Plane Travelers Get Accident Insurance

Film executives who are consistent trans-Atlantic plane travelers will be interested in a trip accident insurance policy recently announced by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The policy covers trip accident, regardless of destination and regardless of point of origin, on planes of the army transport command. It is expected that the same insurance program will be approved by the naval air transport service.

The ATC awarded the contract for the insurance as of May 14 to the Indemnity Insurance Co. of Philadelphia and the program will be serviced by Marsh and McLennan, insurance brokers with offices in principal cities.

Under the U.S. CofC setup, a passenger can obtain protection up to $10,000 as easily as buying a money order. A typical $5,000 policy will cost about $5 for ten-day protection anywhere in the world, with rates based on the amount, time and trip.

ODT Ban on Conventions Saves Many Travel Miles

A drop in hotel occupancy, with its consequent possible effect upon film attendance, is expected in Cleveland, Detroit, Toledo, Minneapolis, Peoria, New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, Cheyenne and Boise, according to a report submitted by the ODT to the war mobilization director, Fred M. Vinson. Asserting that this drop in attendance will be caused by the ban on conventions imposed by the ODT, the report further states that the convention ban has resulted in savings of more than 52,000,000 passenger miles in three months.

The report further outlines an analysis from the American Hotel Ass'n which reveals a substantial reduction in hotel occupancy in Chicago, Indianapolis, Buffalo, Milwaukee, Grand Rapids, Bay City, New York City, Syracuse, St. Louis, Springfield, Ill.; Dallas, Galveston and Salt Lake City.

WPB Plans to Revoke 210 Of 420 Conservation Orders

Approximately 210 of the 420 limitation and conservation orders imposed by WPB that were operative as of April 1 will be removed within the next few months, it was announced by WPB. But if industry expects to find itself suddenly manufacturing needed civilian goods, it is advised to proceed cautiously because the present all-out effort against Japan may necessitate imposition again of restrictions now being lifted.

"Contract cutbacks, and the resulting release of productive resources, will be spread over a period of months," stated the WPB chairman, J. A. Krug. "In the first three or four months (since VE-Day A.S.) a substantial share of the freed materials must be channeled into the production of highly essential items for ourselves and our allies. The pentup demands for such important programs as farm machinery, oil country goods, transportation and utilities will consume a great deal of the material freed by cutbacks."

Meantime WPB has established an expediting service in its field offices to facilitate the flow of critical items from idle, excess and surplus inventories into essential production. The WPB district manager has been ordered to assign a member of his production staff as production expediter to aid contractors, faced with shutdowns and slowdowns because of nondelivery of necessary items in locating idle, excess and surplus materials and equipment.

Secretary of Treasury Lauds 7th Loan Film

Washington—In a letter to Tom Baily, coordinator of the Hollywood division of WAC, Secretary Henry Morgenthau jr. expressed the treasury department's thanks for the industry's short "All-Star Bond Rally," now playing in theatres nationally as a feature of the Seventh War Loan drive.

"I wish to compliment you and thank you," Morgenthau's letter said, in part, "on behalf of the treasury for delivering to us a very tangible instrument of help for our most important war loan drive."

Film Trades Seek Recognition Of the Apprentice Program

The War Manpower Commission's program of apprentice training, whereby the government will provide financial assistance to returning veterans eager to learn a trade, has found many employers seeking recognition of occupations within their scope as apprenticeable trades, it was reported at a recent meeting of the federal committee on apprenticeship set up by WMC. It was reported that among the employing groups seeking such recognition are theatre circuits and film distributors, as well as various film trade groups such as projectionists, musicians, carpenters, electricians, etc.

The FCA, which consists of representatives of management, labor unions, the department of labor, the office of education, the Federal Security Agency and the WMC, has recommended that to protect the veterans and to maintain standards of apprenticeship, adequate safeguards be set up by state agencies authorized to approve business establishments for apprentice training to assure veterans thorough training in all skilled trades.

Under present apprentice training plans the federal government has provided that veterans may be given financial assistance at the rate of $50 a month, if he has no dependents, and $75 a month if he has dependents. This sum is in addition to any wages paid by an employer during the apprenticeship period. The government payment is reduced when this payment, plus the wage from the employers, equals the rate paid journeymen in the trade.

To assure veterans of full knowledge of the apprentice training service, the war department has completed a radio recording which will be played to all service men abroad. The program is entitled "What's the Deal?" and includes a talk by William Patterson, director of the WMC apprentice training service.

With relationship to apprentice programs, the WMC issues a word of caution, asserting that "special care in selecting apprenticeable occupations for returning veterans, both ablebodied and disabled, must be exercised, for it is of no service to veterans if they are placed in trades . . . that they are unable to perform." To avoid such errors in judgment, local U.S. employment offices will cooperate with interested employers.

It is important to note, too, that veterans are not required to have clearance from USES for jobs.

I've Heard:

That Hal Lowe, the Philadelphia Inquirer's authority on motion pictures in Washington and expert on Capitol Hill affairs, may be moved up a notch or two now that Inquirer Bureau Chief William Murphy has gone over to the Republican National Committee as publicity director;

That Jack Goldberg, local M-G-M salesman, is doing a swell job as sales manager for Leo's exchange here.

Inferno on Carrier Is Newsreel Highlight

NEW YORK—Action films of the epic of heroism that kept the U.S. Carrier Franklin afloat after it was hit by two 500-pound aerial bombs featured the newsreels released to first runs on the eastern seaboard Thursday.

Movietone News, Paramount and Pathe devoted their entire issues to the valiant struggle of "Big Ben" and her crew. News of the Day used 655 feet out of a total of 700, while Universal's footage on the saga totaled 522, with the remainder of the reel featuring "I Am an American" day and the return of the first contingent of doughboys from Europe.

One of the most exciting events filmed in some time, the films show how the carrier's planes were about to take off, loaded with bombs, when a Jap plane got through the antiaircraft screen to drop two missiles on her flight deck. Flames are seen sweeping the deck after many explosions take a big toll of life.

Rescue ships of the fleet, 60 miles off the Japanese coast, risk destruction to take survivors off "Big Ben." Scenes of unparalleled heroism mark the crew's attempt to fight the flames, refusing to give up the ship.

The ship's chaplain, characterized by her skipper as the "bravest man I ever saw," is shown administering the last rites of the church to a mortally wounded crewman. This is one of the most poignant moments in a film that is unquestionably the finest example of the gallantry that is winning the war in the Pacific. It is an epic that should rank with the best films that have come out of the war.

It was filmed on shipboard by navy cameramen who risked their lives in photographing the event. Arthur Clark, F. Smith, Harold Nyby and Millard Vary, the latter two formerly of Movietone News, were the cameramen. The reel was serviced to all newsreels by Paramount.

WNBT First Station to Telecast Saga of Blazing U.S. Carrier

NEW YORK—Working with all possible speed to keep metropolitan viewers up to the minute on the latest news, NBC station WNBT was the first to telecast official USN motion pictures of the saga of the USS Franklin. The film, taken by navy combat cameramen aboard the blazing carrier, depicts the story of the gallant crew that refused to desert the floating inferno after it had been struck by Jap bombs; the explosions caused the carrier's own bombs and high octane gasoline to blast the ship for hours as it drifted helplessly toward the Japanese coast, less than 60 miles away.

The video program showed also how the carrier survived and sailed 13,000 miles into New York harbor under its own power. Because of the enthusiastic response accorded the telecast, it was repeated on subsequent evenings.

Appeal Board Upholds McHenry, Ill., Ruling

NEW YORK—The appeal board has upheld the decision of an arbitrator in the Chicago tribunal who dismissed the clearance complaint brought by R. J. Miller, operator of the Colony Theatre, McHenry, Ill. The major distributors were defendants.

Miller, in naming Publix Great States Theatres, Balaban & Katz, El Tovar Theatre Co. and Woodstock Amusement Corp. as intervenors, claimed that the clearance granted to these circuits' houses was unreasonable.



GENERAL VISITS WAC—Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansel, commander of the 21st bomber command on Saipan at the time of the first B29 raid over Tokyo, is greeted at WAC headquarters for a press interview on "Target Tokyo." The pictures was released by RKO on May 24. Left to right: Francis Harmon, General Hansel, George Schaefer and S. H. Fabian.

Variety Clubs Convene August 16, 17 and 18

NEW YORK — Arrangements have been completed for the tenth national business meeting of Variety Clubs of America at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, August 16, 17 and 18. Preceding the general business sessions there will be a meeting for national canvasmen and national officers only, August 15, while the entire program will culminate with a banquet in the grand ballroom August 18.

Due to transportation conditions and in accordance with ODT requirements, attendance will be limited to a minimum, although close to 800 industry representatives are expected to attend the banquet. Picture notables together with important figures from other fields will be on the dais at the banquet to dignify further the annual tribute Variety Clubs pay to the winner of the Humanitarian Award.

On the agenda during the business meetings will be requests for charters from four exchange cities. Delegates are expected from every active tent in the United States as well as from those now being organized in Canada.

Monogram Will Increase Proportion Of "A" Group, Johnston Announces

CHICAGO—Forty-three pictures, including 31 features and 12 westerns, will comprise the 1945-46 program of Monogram Pictures Corp., it was announced here by President W. Ray Johnston at the semiannual board of directors meeting and sales conference, held at the Blackstone Hotel. Production budgets, it was stated, will far exceed appropriations for any previous year, and proportion of films in the A classification will be increased.

Included in the schedule are two ice extravaganzas starring Belita—"Golden Girl," a King Bros. production from an original screenplay by Philip Yordan, and "Wonderland," a Scott R. Dunlap production; "Allotment Wives," starring Kay Francis, and produced by Miss Francis and Jeffrey Bernerd; "Dillinger's Moll," a sequel to Monogram's current all-time record breaker, "Dillinger," and "The Singing Cop," with Phil Regan.

Two outdoor adventure pictures will be James Oliver Curwood's "Blazing Forest," with Jean Parker, and Jack London's "Trail of the Yukon." "Gregory the Great," produced by Louis Berkoff, will present Edmund Lowe in the story of a magician and hypnotist. In the field of musicals will be "Casa Manana," to be produced by Lindsley Parsons, and "The Swing Parade," with a cast including Gale Storm, Phil Regan, The Three Stooges, Connie Boswell, and the orchestras of Will Osborne and Louis Jordan, produced by Harry Romm and Del Lord.

Other films in the list are "Love Has No Alibi," Collier's magazine story by Octavus Roy Cohen, a King Bros. production; "Main Street Girl" (already completed), with Robert Lowery and Doris Merrick, and produced by Joe Kaufman; "Babies for Sale," exposing the illegal adoption racket; "Isle of Terror"; Earl Derr Biggers' story, "The Dollar Chasers," with Jean Parker; "Maid for a Man," a comedy; "When Zombies Walked" and "Murder in Manhattan"—the latter two to be booked as a double feature horror show.

In the series field, the program will offer Sidney Toler as the star of three Charlie Chan films, to be produced by James S. Burkett; four East Side Kids pictures; four High School Kids films, produced by Sam Katzman, and two "chillers" featuring the character, "The Shadow."

Westerns for the year will be eight starring Johnny Mack Brown, two of which will be specials and four starring Jimmy Wakely.

Only one change in the executive and corporate personnel of Monogram was announced. Alton Brody, Los Angeles, resigned as a director and member of the executive committee.

Elected to succeed him was Paul Porzelt, of the firm of Emanuel & Co., which organization handled the sale of securities incidental to the company's recent increase in capitalization.

Zigmond, Kaycee Visitor, Pleased Over WAC Work

KANSAS CITY — Jerry Zigmond, former managing director of the Newman Theatre here, and coordinator of the national publicity committee for the Seventh War Loan, was here this week and said he was well pleased with the work of the local industry's WAC in the present drive.

While here, Zigmond made arrangements to move his family to New York City, where, after the present bond campaign, he will resume duties with Buchanan & Co., advertising agency, handling theatre accounts.

Hausler Succeeds Kaplan As Century Sales Head

NEW YORK—Sam Kaplan, general manager of Century Projector Corp., has retired, President H. E. Hammons reports. Actively associated with the industry for more than 25 years, Kaplain started Sam Kaplan Manufacturing & Supply Co., which in 1938 became the Century Projector Corp.

He has been succeeded by W. D. Hausler, comptroller of the company since 1938. Another appointment reported by Hammons is that of George C. Steilin to factory manager.

BOX-OFFICE AND MORE!

HILARIOUS AND MORE!

Different AND MORE!

No Words To Describe It!









MORE STORY APPEAL THAN

CONEY ISLAND

MORE SONG HITS THAN

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND

MORE GIRLS THAN

SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY

No Musical To Compare To It!

FRED MacMURRAY · JOAN LESLIE · JUNE HAVER in





"WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" in TECHNICOLOR





Is The Funniest Picture Ever! Another Box-Office Hit from...

20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY

GERSHWIN-WEILL SONGS fill the air with box-office music!

"Morale"
"If Love Remains"
"Song of the Rhineland"
"All At Once"
"Columbus"

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

Directed by GREGORY RATOFF

Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

Screen Play by MORRIE RYSKIND · Story by Morrie Ryskind and Sig Herzig · Lyrics and Music by Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Warners Will Make "Hotel Tokyo," "Berlin" Sequel, With Same Cast

Continuing its policy of pursuing current events—and often with a prophetic touch—for a source of screen material, Warners has announced plans for making a feature titled "Hotel Tokyo," which the studio is heralding as a sequel to "Hotel Berlin." The forthcoming picture will have the same cast as the predecessor, Faye Emerson, Helmut Dantine and Andrea King. Peter Godfrey will repeat as director.

Another morsel of news from the Burbank studio concerns determination to shoot the works in exploiting its approaching release, "Pride of the Marines." Following conferences between Jack L. Warner, executive producer, Charles Einfeld, Ben Kalmenson and Mort Blumenstock, a budget of $300,000 was set for selling the film. Bulk of the appropriation will be spent on key city engagements with WB publicity field representatives working in territories several weeks in advance of opening.

Sokolove Is Ticketed to Become An Aide to Leo's Al Lichtman

Richard Sokolove has been ticketed to become assistant to Al Lichtman, Metro executive. Sokolove recently resigned as editor at Columbia in which job he served two years . . . Abe Burrows, writer for Ed Gardner's Duffy's Tavern radio show, has been signed to a contract as a writer-producer by Paramount . . . Another Paramount acquisition is Francis Faragob, signed to a seven-year post as a screen writer.

William Pereira continues as a producer at RKO Radio under the terms of a new contract. Currently he is preparing "All Brides Are Beautiful" and "Lady Not Alone" . . . Producer Robert Bassler had his option lifted for another year by 20th-Fox.

Growth of PRC Shown by Number Of Contributing Producers Now

Indicative of the growth of PRC during its five years of life is the number of producing units it currently has contributed to the company's product. The total was brought to 11 with the signing of Harry Brash and Harry Sauber. They are in addition to Leon Fromkess, president, who personally produces a number of the company's important attractions, and Ben Schwalb, executive producer.

The producer roster includes Martin Mooney, with five pictures on his schedule; Jack Grant with three; Harry Sauber with three; Leo McCarthy with three; Robert Emmett with five; Harry Gourfain with three; Clarence Green-Rouse with two; Jack Schwarz with two; Alexander-Stern with seven and Sigmund Neufeld with four.

Schwarz, Neufeld, Gourfain and Alexander-Stern are independent producers, distributing their product through PRC, and the others are contract producers for the company.

Lean Pickings Are the Lot Of the Story Peddlers

Lean pickings were the week's lot for the peddlers of stories, with only two properties having been sold.

RKO Radio acquired an unpublished original story by Charles Kerr, entitled "Double Trouble," as a possible vehicle for Leon Errol. It is a comedy drama dealing with a kindly professor whose life ambition is to invent some scientific instrument which will win him a medal. Picture will be produced under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell.



WARNERS FETE PEARSON—While on a quick visit to Hollywood between covering the San Francisco conference, Drew Pearson, Washington columnist and radio commentator, visited the Warner Bros. studio and was given a luncheon reception by Jack L. Warner, with stars and executives in attendance. Pictured here, l. to r.: Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity; Robert Smith of the Los Angeles Daily News; Pearson; Warner.

William Goetz of International Pictures announced the purchase of Dorothy Kilgallan's short story, "Pygmalion Jones," which recently appeared in Cosmopolitan magazine, and its early filming under the title, "It Had to Be You." Robert Smith his been assigned the writing of a screen treatment.

Actor-Producer Moss to Debut Shortly as a Film Director

Jack Moss, who has been a business manager, actor and producer, will make his debut as a film director when the George Abbott production, "Snafu," based on the New York stage play, goes into work at Columbia. Moss will serve also as associate producer . . . Universal Producer Walter Wanger arranged to borrow George Marshall from Paramount to direct "Canyon Passage," the Ernest Haycox novel which is to be filmed in Technicolor . . . Manny Wolfe has been given a new contract by RKO Radio to continue as head of the story and writing department . . . Alcie Young of the PRC story department has been named assistant story editor under Jack Jungmeyer.

Edward Nassour Latest to Join Independent Production Ranks

Uneventful indeed the week that fails to bring forth an addition to Hollywood's roster of independent film makers. Latest to join the list is Edward Nassour, Los Angeles manufacturer, who announced formation of Consolidated Pictures, and the purchase of a studio and other properties on Sunset Blvd. He plans production of both features and featurettes.

Within a few weeks, Nassour said, he will announce his executive board. His studios take in the area from Van Ness Ave. to Ridgeway St. on Sunset. Nassour claims to be the original inventor of animated figures. He made some animated pictures under the title of "Humanettes," on which he claims to hold the patents and the title trade name. He plans to start production of his "Humanettes" in the near future. The "Humanettes" will be made under a separate corporation aside from Consolidated Pictures.

Nassour's plans automatically precipitate a controversy over rights to the "Humanettes." Some months ago, Walter Lantz, who produces cartoons for Universal, announced a series of shorts utilizing the figures. At that time Nassour was associated in the venture with Lantz. When that association terminated, Lantz reiterated his intentions of carrying on with the project.

A 22-Year-Old Girl, Newcomer, Will Costar in "Blue Skies"

Joan Caulfield, 22-year-old newcomer, won the costarring role with Bing Crosby and Paul Draper in Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," which will be filmed in Technicolor at Paramount . . . New on Metro's agendum is "Ballerina," which will topline Tamara Toumanova, ballet star, just returned to Hollywood and an M-G-M contract. In her first picture she will share stellar honors with Margaret O'Brien, and the film will unite the producer-director team of Joe Pasternak and Henry Koster . . . Also at Metro, Hume Cronyn, John Carroll and Pamela Britton were set for leading roles in "A Letter for Evie," and Jules Dassin was assigned directorial duties on the picture which William Wright will produce.

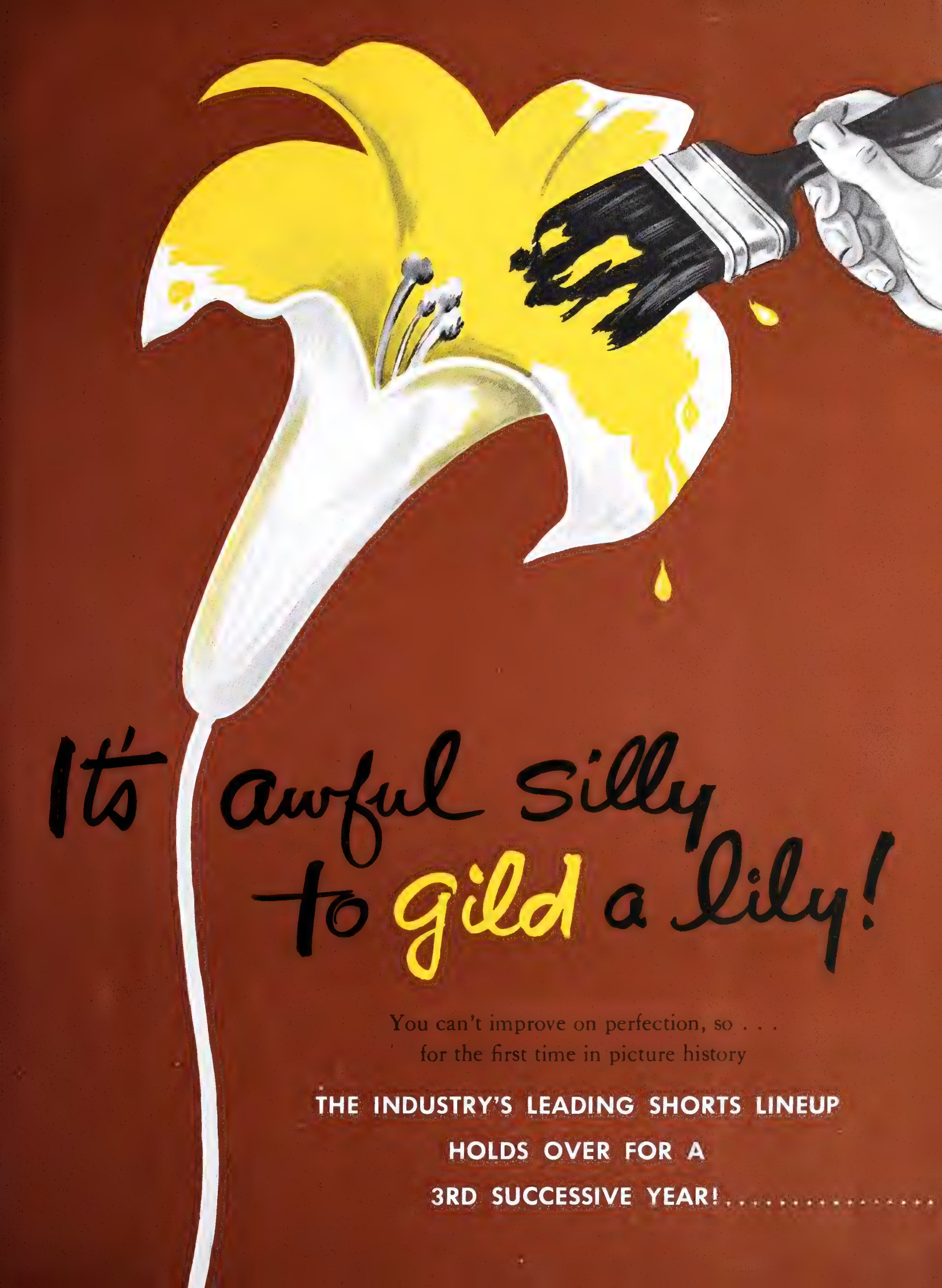
Evelyn Keyes was handed the feminine starring role in a super western to be filmed in Technicolor which Columbia is making under the temporary title of "The Kansan." The picture is to be directed by George Sherman, who was a producer-director at Republic before coming to Columbia, and the producer is Michel Kraike . . . Bert Gordon, the "mad Russian," and Harry Von Zell, radio announcer, will be starred by PRC in a feature comedy, "How Do You Do." The picture will be the first produced by Harry Sauber. It is to be a comedy radio murder mystery in which Gordon and Von Zell will play themselves and will introduce many of the fictional radio detectives.

At the same studio, illness of Pamela Blake required casting switch for lead in "Club Havana," with result that Dorothy Morris was signed for the part . . . Ginny Simms was signed by Producer-Director George Waggner to costar with Charles Coburn and Robert Paige in Universal's comedy with music, "Alibi in Ermine" . . . Top role in Warners' "Night and Day," story of Cole Porter and his music, has been assigned to Jane Wyman . . . Alexis Smith was tagged for the femme lead in the same picture.

Head of GAC's Theatres Division Will Try His Hand at Production

Harry Romm, head of the theatres division of General Amusement Corp., is to try his hand at production. He is due in Hollywood June 25 to make "Swing Parade," a Monogram musical. The chore involves a leave of absence from his present theatre-booking activities. Previously he was well known as an agent in New York. Del Lord, on leave from Columbia, will be director and associate producer of the new film.

Scripting assignments were made by Sol Lesser as follows: Ilse Lahn on the screenplay of "Civilian Clothes," based on the Thompson Buchanan play; Carroll Young to a treatment of "Show Me a Land," from the Clark McMeeking novel, and Robert Riley Crutcher on screenplay of "Paris Canteen" from his own treatment.



You can't improve on perfection, so . . .
for the first time in picture history

THE INDUSTRY'S LEADING SHORTS LINEUP

HOLDS OVER FOR A

3RD SUCCESSIVE YEAR!. . . . . .

Because

they have proved their outstanding quality leadership in two terrific years of phenomenally increasing popularity with audiences, critics, and the trade–

Paramount

will repeat the same great

9 SERIES OF 62

Shorts for 1945-46

75% IN COLOR!



THE AWARD-WINNING WONDERS OF THE INDUSTRY!

Winner of One-Reel Academy Award for 1944 and 1942—*Jerry Fairbanks' "Speaking of Animals."*

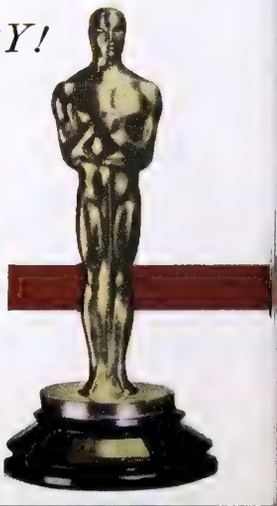
Winner of 1943 Special Academy Award—*George Pal Puppetoons*

Winner of 1943 One-Reel Academy Award—*Jack Eaton's "Grantland Rice Sportlights"*

Winner of "Boxoffice" Magazine's 1944 Exhibitor Poll—*George Pal Puppetoons*

Ten-Best Selection in "Boxoffice" and "Showmen's Trade Review" Polls—*Technicolor Musical Featurettes*

Ten-Best Selection in "M.P. Herald-Fame" Poll—*"Popeye" Cartoons*



Again Paramount's Famous "Second-Feature" Musical Shorts Will Set the Industry's Standard of Beauty, Class and Color



6 TWO-REEL

Musical Parade Featurettes

in Technicolor

Produced by
Geo. Templeton

Stepping into the Top Spot in the Animation Field



PARAMOUNT'S BIG FOUR ANIMATED COMEDIES

All in Technicolor

Headed by
"THE INDUSTRY'S NEW No. 1 SHORT SERIES"
—by vote of America's Exhibitors in this year's Boxoffice Magazine Poll

8 ONE-REEL

George Pal Puppetoons

6 ONE-REEL

Little Lulu*

Cartoons

•

8 ONE-REEL

Popeye*

Cartoons

•

6 ONE-REEL

Noveltoons*

•

*Produced by
Famous Studios

THE UNCONTESTED TOPS IN NOVELTY!

JERRY FAIRBANKS'

3 Famous Series

•

Headed by The 1944 1-Reel Academy Award Winner
—By Unanimous Consent The Funniest Shorts On The Screen!

Speaking of Animals

6 ONE-REEL SUBJECTS



•

Popular Science

In Magnacolor
6 ONE-REEL SUBJECTS

•

Unusual Occupations

In Magnacolor
6 ONE-REEL SUBJECTS

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Continued from Previous Page



For 25 Years the Favorite Sport Shorts of Exhibitors and Audiences!

Grantland Rice Sportlights

10 ONE-REEL SUBJECTS

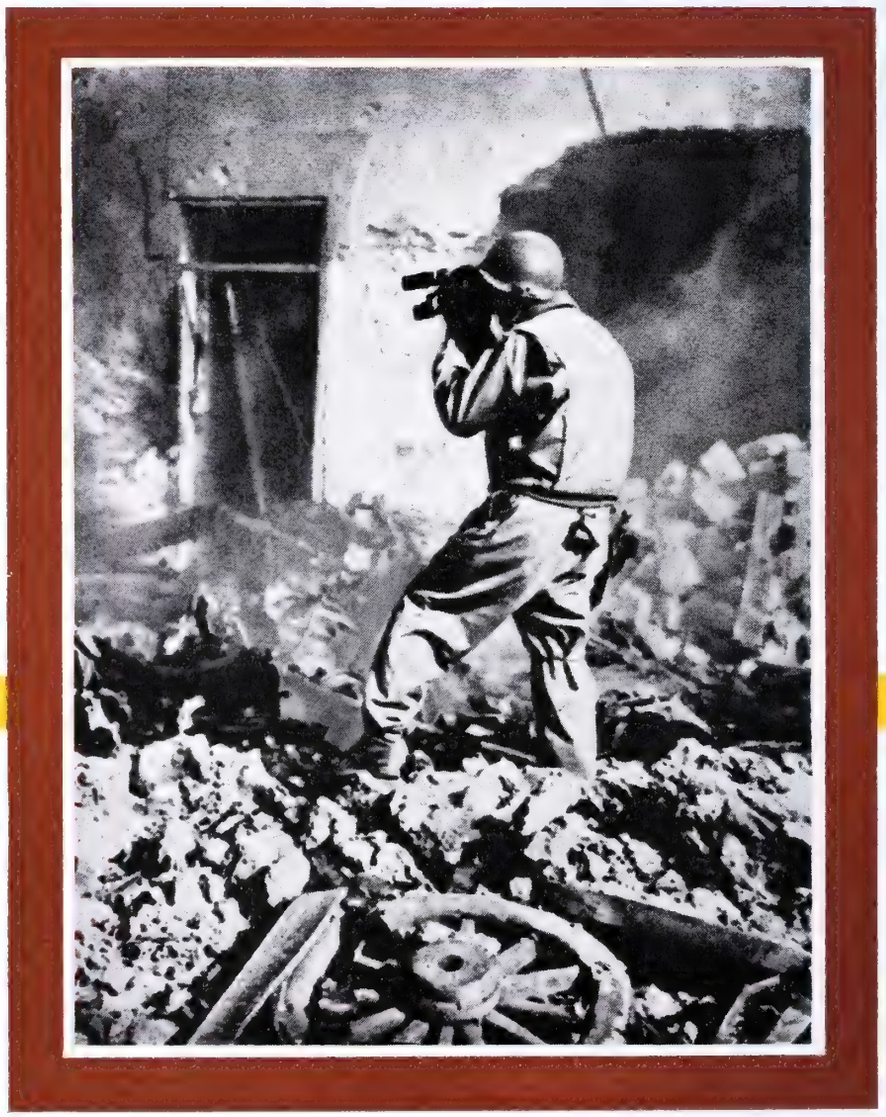
Produced by

Jack Eaton

And 104 Issues of the Greatest *NEWS* of All—The Screen's Most Dramatic, Show-Wise Presentation of Pictorial History in the Making—

Paramount News

"The Eyes and Ears of the World"



62 Shorts—75% in Color

Plus 104 Paramount News

IN 1945-46 FROM

Paramount

THE BIG SHORTS

High Production Cost Here to Stay–Ostrer

LONDON—Increases in production costs are here to stay, according to Maurice Ostrer, executive producer of Gainsborough Pictures. Writing in Kinematograph Weekly, he urges producers to study the relationship of two factors governing their balance sheets: the cost of their films and the size of the market for which they're designed.

In looking at a production budget one must remember, first and foremost, film production cost is continually rising, and shows no sign of stopping, he says. Second, since the war the time taken to produce a film has steadily increased because, owing to staff and raw material difficulties, things take longer to do; hence studio rentals run on, eating up expenditure.

"No planning in the world can prevent a film being more expensive now than it would have been in 1938," Ostrer continues. "Furthermore, higher costs run up by one company indirectly mean higher costs for others. If one company persistently pays 'over the odds' for players, other companies must step up their prices—or risk having a dissatisfied actor to deal with. Thus extravagance in some companies—and we all know it exists—is not a private concern; it affects the whole industry.

Three "Musts" for Producers

"Intelligent planning can precent reckless extravagance. It can save you from chaos. Before a producer starts shooting he should have three things: one, a cast-iron script, completed to the last detail, to avoid shooting off the cuff, most wasteful of all unbusinesslike failings; two, an accurate breakdown giving him a close approximation of all the things involved in the film, money, time, materials, etc.; three, he should be able to predict what his unmade film will look like—not just in terms of pictures, but in terms of money.

"It is no good a producer saying 'I propose making a film which will look beautiful, get rapturous notices from the critics, and delight the highbrows.' What a producer should be able to say is: 'I am about to spend $500,000 on a picture featuring Smith and Jones. It will gross not less than $1,000,000, in view of its players, its subject matter and the type of treatment we propose giving it.'" Ostrer continues. "Difficult? Of course it's difficult. But it's the only possible approach to the subject.

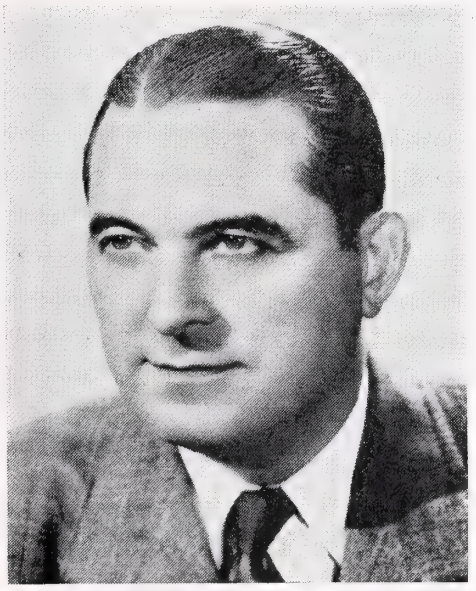
A Typical Cost-Sheet

"I am often asked what I consider to be a reasonable expenditure for a medium-priced commercial picture of good class and sound entertainment value. Here simplified, is the cost-sheet of 'The Man in Gray,' selected as a representative specimen of the type of cost-sheet we're dealing with all the while at Shepherds Bush. The film cost about $380,000, and this is how it divided up—the percentages being approximations:

"Story and scenario, five per cent; direction department, three per cent; acting 17; production department, five; art department, one; camera department, two; recording and rerecording, five; sets, 16; lighting, 2.5; film stock, 4.5; wardrobe, four; makeup department, two; music, two; location, 0.5; insurance, etc., four; miscellaneous, four; studio rent, 13; production fee, three; royalties (recording), one.

"Many of the charges show sharp rises from the prewar figure. Although small compared with the total, items like wardrobe hire have shot up out of all recognition in the past few years. So, of course, have the cost of sets, hourly wage bills for carpenters, plasterers, property men, etc."

Preselling Is Vital Help In Theatre, Says Horne



HAL HORNE

NEW YORK—What the publicity and advertising departments of a distributor strive for is exactly what salesmen and exhibitors are striving for, says Hal Horne, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation of 20th-Fox.

His slogan is: "The more you tell, the more you sell!"

"The more you tell about a picture, the more you create a desire among the public to see the picture, and the more people you tell your message to, the more people will want to see it," he says.

And to test his technique Horne has set up an elaborate system of records in his department.

Building name values is, of course, fundamental. These create presold assets for any picture, he points out.

"In direct proportion to the degree in which personalities are publicized into marquee names these names are turned into boxoffice magnets," he states. "And, by the same token, in direct proportion to the degree with which these names, plus picture setups, are projected to the public by the publicity and advertising departments, east and west, these setups are turned into money-makers for the operators of theatres.

Says Exhibitors Learning

"The exhibitor is learning, more and more, that what he is really buying is a double-barreled attraction consisting of two components, namely: (1) the picture itself, and (2) the campaign which precedes and is made to work side by side with the picture."

Hit and miss methods have been eliminated so far as possible, says Horne. Budgets have been increased and systems of tests have been worked out in great detail.

"Every story that goes out to the public on a picture is tabulated, its qualities measured, and the number of people it reaches set down," he says.

"Every program which goes out over the air is appraised, both as to its effect on the public, and the number of people reached. Every advertisement which is placed in fan magazines, national magazines and newspapers throughout the land, is weighed as to its effectiveness from every possible angle, and the number of people reached is tabulated. Every 24-sheet, six-sheet, one-sheet, window card and accessory is scrutinized most carefully before being displayed and, once displayed, the total number of people reached is added to the statistics of penetration.

Penetration Is Gauged

"Hence, by the time a picture is ready for release, the well-kept records show whether the nation has been sufficiently penetrated to permit that picture to be exhibited.

"This is the insurance that gives to every salesman who promises that, with each picture, every exhibitor will receive both a build-up and a concurrent campaign. Our assurances are not based on chance, or hunch, or other intangibles. They are based on actual facts and figures, backed up by sworn circulations of newspapers, magazines and fan publications.

"Modern invention has annihilated time and space. Publicity sent out today is published in thousands of newspapers tomorrow. Programs emanating from New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, are heard simultaneously in every nook and corner of the land."

Films Morale Builder, Says Pacific Veteran

BUFFALO—Despite the physical handicaps under which films are shown on islands of the Pacific, they are still the No. 1 morale-builder for the men in the service, take it from Sgt. Ed. Sullivan, home here this week after 23 months with an amphibious outfit in New Guinea.

Sullivan, who produced amateur theatricals here before the war, said the handicaps of movies in the Pacific are many and varied. Generators are prima donnas in primitive places, pictures fade and "you lose the skin tones on Lana Turner, for instance," he reported regretfully. A temperamental generator can also drop or hoist the familiar voices of screen stars an octave or two.

It took Sullivan more than a year to see how "Casablanca" turned out. He followed it from Port Moresby to Milne Bay before he saw the final clinch. He saw "Rhapsody in Blue" three times, once in the pouring rain.

Sullivan hasn't seen a show since getting home but he's done a good deal of radio listening and believes radio advertising is going to have to streamline itself if it wants to keep veterans tuned in. The soldier in the field gets his radio entertainment without commercials.

"Those plugs about medical products sound shockingly personal and completely objectionable to ears unaccustomed to them," he said.

Roxy Bond Quota 12,000

NEW YORK—The Roxy Theatre's E bond quota has been fixed at 12,000. To date 3,649 bonds have been sold, says David Katz, house manager.

Katz and his assistants, Nathan Dinnes and William Moclair, and Paul Ash, orchestra leader, are devoting all the time they can find to the campaign. During the Sixth campaign the theatre sold 7,844 E bonds with a face value of $462,150.

Climaxing
The Most Triumphant Year In Paramount History....



Paramount's
TRADE SHO

CITY	"INCENDIARY BLONDE" *In Technicolor* Betty Hutton, Arturo De Cordova, Charles Ruggles, Albert Dekker, Barry Fitzgerald

	PLACE	DATE
ALBANY	DELAWARE THEATRE 290 Delaware Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
ATLANTA	RHODES THEATRE 62 South Rhodes Center, N.W.	FRI. JUNE 8 11 A.M.
BOSTON	ESQUIRE THEATRE 264 Huntington Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
BUFFALO	NIAGARA THEATRE 426 Niagara Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	DILWORTH THEATRE 1609 S. Boulevard	FRI. JUNE 8 10:30 A.M.
CHICAGO	SURF THEATRE 1204 Dearborn Parkway	FRI. JUNE 8 10:30 A.M.
CINCINNATI	FOREST THEATRE 671 Forest Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
CLEVELAND	COLONY THEATRE Shaker Square	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
DALLAS	MELROSE THEATRE 3419 Oaklawn Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
DENVER	BROADWAY THEATRE 1756 Broadway	FRI. JUNE 8 10 A.M.
DES MOINES	INGERSOLL THEATRE 3711 Ingersoll Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
DETROIT	FISHER THEATRE 7331 2nd Boulevard	FRI. JUNE 8 10:15 A.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	ST. CLAIR THEATRE 800 Ft. Wayne Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	VOGUE THEATRE 3444 Broadway	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	AMBASSADOR THEATRE Ambassador Hotel	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
MEMPHIS	MEMPHIAN THEATRE 51 South Cooper Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	COLONIAL THEATRE 1516 West Vliet Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	ST. LOUIS PARK THEATRE 4835 Minnetonka Boulevard	FRI. JUNE 8 2:15 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	WHITNEY THEATRE 1220 Whitney Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 11 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS	CIRCLE THEATRE 1709 North Galvez Street	FRI. JUNE 8 11 A.M.
NEW YORK CITY	NORMANDIE THEATRE 51 East 53rd Street	FRI. JUNE 8 10:30 A.M.
OKLAHOMA CITY	TOWER THEATRE 425 N.W. 23rd Street	FRI. JUNE 8 10:30 A.M.
OMAHA	DUNDEE THEATRE 4952 Dodge Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 248 North 12th Street	FRI. JUNE 8 11 A.M. & 2 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	SHADYSIDE THEATRE 5518 Walnut Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
PORTLAND	ORIENTAL THEATRE 822 Southeast Grand Avenue	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	WEST END THEATRE 4819 Delmar Boulevard	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	STUDIO THEATRE 161 South Main Street	FRI. JUNE 8 10 A.M.
SAN FRANCISCO	METRO THEATRE 2055 Union Street	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.
SEATTLE	EGYPTIAN THEATRE 4543 University Way	FRI. JUNE 8 2:30 P.M.
WASHINGTON	PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 306 H Street, N.W.	FRI. JUNE 8 2 P.M.

n Block *and* "Incendiary Blonde"

AND TWO RE-ISSUES

'INGS · JUNE 6th to 8th AND JULY 6

6TH BLOCK For 1944 To 1945	"OUT OF THIS WORLD" EDDIE BRACKEN VERONICA LAKE DIANA LYNN CASS DALEY	"ONE EXCITING NIGHT" WILLIAM GARGAN ANN SAVAGE	"YOU CAME ALONG" Hal Wallis' Production ROBERT CUMMINGS LIZABETH SCOTT DON DeFORE	TWO RE-ISSUES Cecil B. DeMille's "NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE" In Technicolor GARY COOPER PAULETTE GODDARD MADELEINE CARROLL	"THIS GUN FOR HIRE" ALAN LADD VERONICA LAKE LAIRD CREGAR ROBERT PRESTON

PLACE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
FOX PROJECTION ROOM 1052 Broadway	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 8 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 154 Walton Street, N.W.	THURS. JUNE 7 1 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 58-62 Berkeley Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 464 Franklin Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 11 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 305 So. Church Street	THURS. JUNE 7 3:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1306 So. Michigan Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:10 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1214 Central Parkway	THURS. JUNE 7 3 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 1 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1735 East 23rd Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 11 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 11 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 412 So. Harwood Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 2100 Stout Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3:45 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3:45 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1125 High Street	THURS. JUNE 7 12:45 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 12:45 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 12:45 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 479 Ledyard Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 2:15 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 1 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:45 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 116 West Michigan Street	THURS. JUNE 7 1 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1800 Wyandotte Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
AMBASSADOR THEATRE PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE	JUN. 7..3 P.M.	JUN. 7..1:30 P.M.	JULY 6..2 P.M.	JUN. 6..3 P.M.	JUN. 6..1:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 362 So. Second Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1121 No. 8th Street	THURS. JUNE 7 3 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1201 Currie Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 82 State Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 82 So. Liberty Street	THURS. JUNE 7 10 A.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 11 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.
FOX PROJECTION ROOM 345 West 44th Street	THURS. JUNE 7 3:20 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2:15 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:15 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 701 West Grand Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1704 Davenport Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3:45 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3:15 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 248 North 12th Street	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 11 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 11 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 1727 Boulevard of Allies	THURS. JUNE 7 2 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 909 N.W. 19th Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 11 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 11 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 2949 Olive Street	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 270 East 1st South Street	THURS. JUNE 7 1 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 205 Golden Gate Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 3 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:15 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 3:30 P.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 2330 First Avenue	THURS. JUNE 7 1:30 P.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 11 A.M.	FRI. JULY 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 1:30 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 11 A.M.
PARAMOUNT EXCHANGE 306 H Street, N.W.	THURS. JUNE 7 10:30 A.M.	THURS. JUNE 7 2:30 P.M.	FRI. JULY 6 2 P.M.	WED. JUNE 6 10:30 A.M.	WED. JUNE 6 2:30 P.M.

20th-Fox Profit Drops For First Quarter

NEW YORK—Net profit of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. and all subsidiaries, including National Theatres Corp. and Roxy Theatre, Inc., for the first quarter of 1945 ending March 31 was $2,855,485. The net for the same period in 1944 was $3,186,302.

Dividends on the prior preferred and convertible preferred for the period were $1.33 per share. For the same period in 1944 the dividends were $1.57.

Gross income for the first quarter from sales and rentals and theatre receipts was $42,028,729.82, compared with $41,970,539.42 for the same period in 1944. Consolidated net profit before federal taxes, minority interests and contingencies was $8,642,101.54. Provision for federal income and excess profits taxes was $5,135,000, compared with $7,580,000 for the 1944 period.

David Bader Installed As AMPA President

NEW YORK—AMPA officers, elected without opposition recently, formally assumed their new posts Thursday at a luncheon meeting held at Toots Shor's restaurant. The newly-elected officers are:

David A. Bader, president; David A. O'Malley, vice-president; Grace Rosenfeld, secretary, and Melvin Gold, treasurer. The board of directors includes Blanche Livingston, Vincent Trotta, Martin Starr, Ray Gallagher and Charles Alicoate. Jacques Kopfstein was designated trustee for three years.

Martin Starr, retiring president, presided until Bader assumed his new post. Westbrook Van Voorhis, March of Time narrator, and Harry Browning, publicity director of the M&P circuit, were guests.

Copies of "Forever Amber" were presented as door prizes to Mel Konecoff, Vincent Trotta, Mel Gold, Phil Williams, Joe Ehrlich and Floyd Stone.

Loew's, Paramount Join In Exploitation Drive

NEW YORK—As a result of its recently-completed deal with Paramount, Loew's Theatres will launch the first boxoffice exploitation drive the circuit has had for some time. A backlog of Paramount features, plus releases from M-G-M and other studios, will be released in June, July and August.

Details of the campaign were discussed this week at a gathering of Paramount and Loew's officials. Present were Charles Reagan, Hugh Owen and Bob Gillham of Paramount, who offered full cooperation in the drive, and C. C. Moskowitz and Oscar A. Doob, as well as district managers, managers and the publicity staff of Loew's.

WB Plans Radio Treat For Gershwin Fans

New York—An entire 24-hour day of Gershwin programs, first of its kind, is being arranged by station WNEW for Gershwin Jubilee week during latter part of June to mark the premiere of Warner Bros.' "Rhapsody in Blue."

The round-the-clock schedule will include Gershwin quizzes, novelties such as demonstrating five different renditions of a Gershwin melody, and a wide variety of musical features. Commercial spots will be included in the setup.

Men Worry About "Laura" During Raid on Saipan

New York—Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansel, back from Saipan, tells of an outdoor showing of "Laura" which was interrupted by a Jap air raid just as the mystery of the film was about to be cleared up. The performance was completely disrupted with men diving in all directions for nearby foxholes.

The fighter plane raid continued for nearly two hours during which time the chief topic was not the damage being inflicted by the Japs, but who was the culprit in "Laura."

M-G-M Makes Two More Promotions in Field

NEW YORK—Two more promotions in the field forces of M-G-M have just been made, bringing the total to ten in the last few weeks.



JACK GOLDBERG

Jack Goldberg, salesman in the Washington exchange, has been named branch sales manager at Washington, and Mike A. Cramer, Denver salesman, has been made sales manager for the branch there. Goldberg will work under the supervision of John S. Allen, district manager for Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Washington, who also acts as Washington branch manager. Cramer will continue under the supervision of Henry A. Friedel, district manager for Omaha, Salt Lake City and Denver. Friedel also is branch manager at Denver.



MIKE A. CRAMER

Goldberg and Cramer have been with the company for years. The former joined in 1928 as a salesman at Detroit. Later he worked at Cincinnati and Albany before going to Washington. Cramer joined the company 14 years ago as Denver checker. He was made office manager in 1937 and salesman three years ago.

Connors Issues Appeal For Free Movie Days

NEW YORK—Tom J. Connors, national distributor chairman for the Seventh War Loan, has sent out word urging all theatres which are not bond issuing agents or subissuing agents to arrange to issue bonds on Free Movie Day, June 6.

The industry aims to make this day the biggest single bond-selling day of the campaign, he says.

"The public will respond to the exhibitors' showmanship efforts for this one-day event, particularly since it commemorates the greatest invasion in history, D-Day," Connors says.

"The distributors' division has done a splendid job of lining up theatres for Free Movie Day, but a greater number of theatres is needed to put this event over with a bang. Where theatres haven't facilities to become issuing agents, it is easy for them to become subissuing agents for the one day, by making arrangements with theatres which issue bonds, or with local banks. Any picture which the exhibitor plays that day will serve for Free Movie Day."

Director Earl Lindsay Dies at Miami Beach

MIAMI BEACH—Earl Lindsay, director and producer, former chief assistant to Ernst Lubitsch, died suddenly in Miami Beach. He was 48.

Lindsay left Hollywood in 1932 after he became totally blinded by set lights.

He was born in Philadelphia, but went to Pittsburgh as a child. He played with the Duquesne Theatre stock company and in pantomimes at the old Opera House there. At the age of 21, he left for New York, where he was associated with the Shuberts, Arthur Hammerstein and C. B. Dillingham.

Lindsay is credited with discovering Barbara Stanwyck, Mae Clarke, Ruby Keeler and Jean Harlow.

Pledged Events for 7th Will Beat All Records

NEW YORK—With a total of 4,378 bond premieres, 1,687 children's shows and 8,558 Free Movie Days already pledged, an all-time record is being set by exhibitors for the Seventh War Loan.

As compared with the Sixth Loan, children's shows have scored the greatest increase. Totals for that entire drive were 975 children's shows, 4,557 bond premieres and 8,911 Free Movie Days.

The Minneapolis exchange territory leads the country in bond premieres with 331 already lined up, only 47 behind its Sixth Loan total of 378, which was a record for the country.

Excluding metropolitan New York, Dallas leads in Free Movie Days with 550 and in children's shows with 193.

Of the more than 700 theatres in the metropolitan New York area, 611 have pledged for Free Movie Days compared with 143 in the Sixth, 97 children's shows and 214 bond premieres, and Los Angeles, with 225 Free Movie Days, 167 children's shows and 192 bond premieres, show large increases.

Millions See 16mm Films During the Seventh Drive

NEW YORK—An audience estimated by the treasury department at 30 million persons is expected to view 16mm films of the war in the Pacific as part of the non-theatrical motion picture program of the Seventh War Loan.

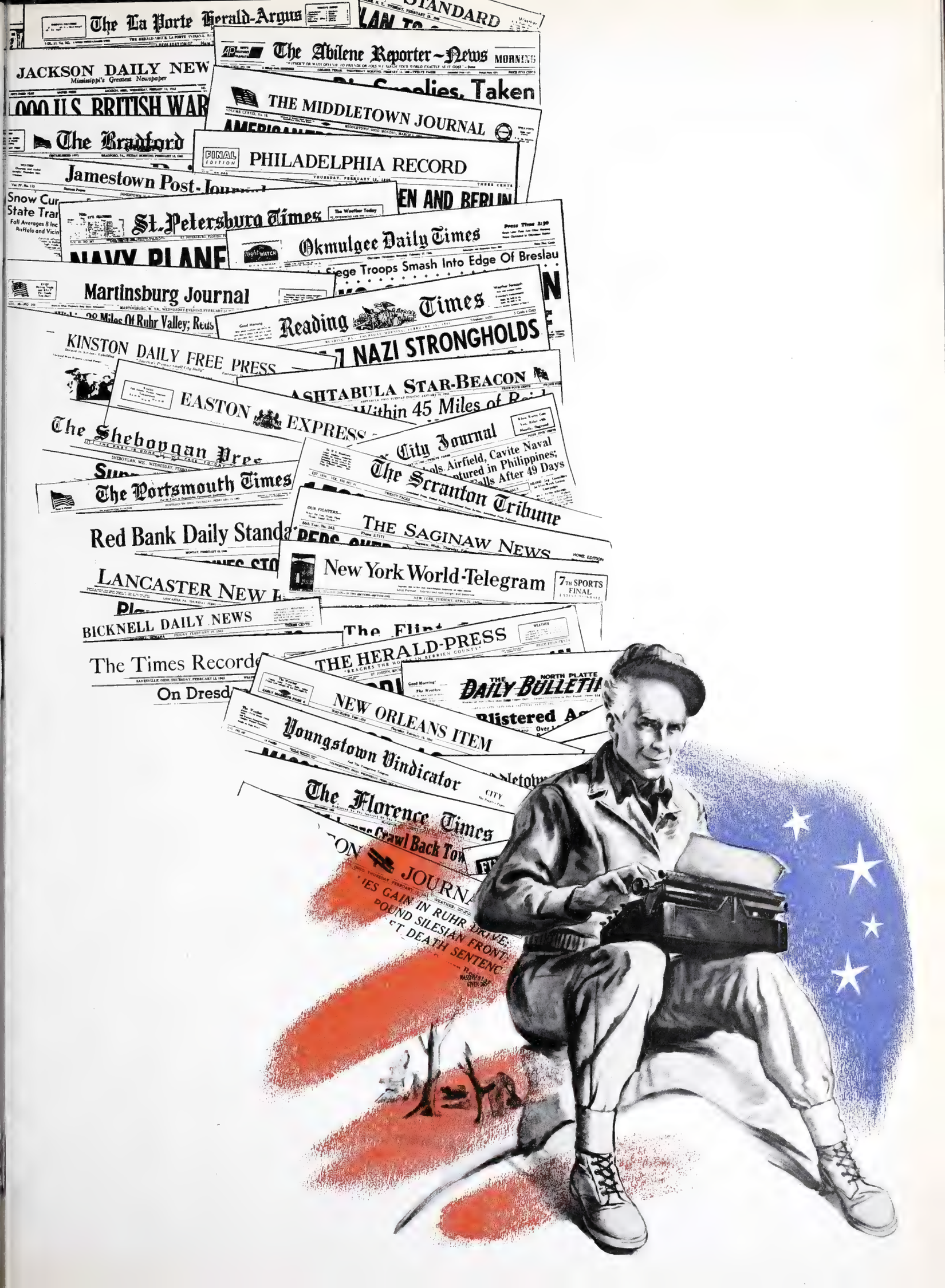
During the Sixth War Loan, distributors of 16mm films reported a total of 22 million saw the films. Since the current campaign is longer and the 16mm program broader in scope it is expected that the audience will be greater by at least eight millions.

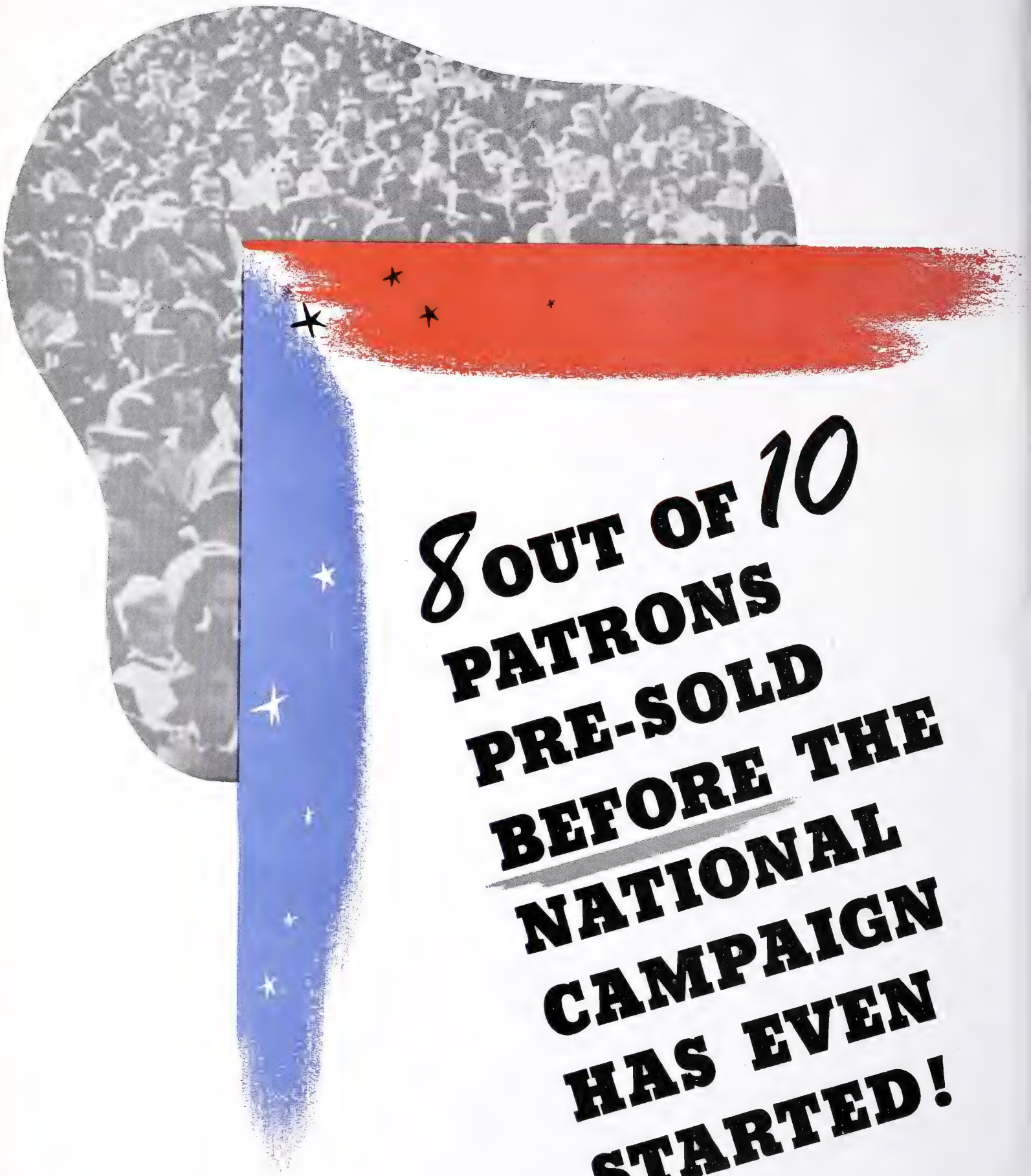
The navy prepared three long subjects, "Remember These Faces," "My Japan" and "Midnight" and five shorter films for showing during the campaign. The army produced "D-Day Minus One" and "Action at Anguar." The industry's "All-Star Bond Rally" also is being shown.

Three Films in Paramount Sixth and Last '45 Block

NEW YORK—Paramount's sixth and final block for the 1944-45 season will consist of three pictures, "You Came Along," "Out of This World" and "One Exciting Night." "Incendiary Blonde" will be sold separately and will be available for bookings during Paramount week and thereafter.

In addition to these four, the company will reissue "Northwest Mounted Police" and "This Gun for Hire."


The La Porte Herald-Argus
The Abilene Reporter-News
JACKSON DAILY NEWS
Mississippi's Greatest Newspaper
THE MIDDLETOWN JOURNAL
The Bradford
PHILADELPHIA RECORD
Jamestown Post-Journal
St. Petersburg Times
Okmulgee Daily Times
Martinsburg Journal
Reading Times
NAZI STRONGHOLDS
KINSTON DAILY FREE PRESS
ASHTABULA STAR-BEACON
EASTON EXPRESS
The Sheboygan Press
The Portsmouth Times
City Journal
The Scranton Tribune
Red Bank Daily Standard
THE SAGINAW NEWS
New York World-Telegram
7TH SPORTS FINAL
LANCASTER NEW ERA
BICKNELL DAILY NEWS
THE HERALD-PRESS
The Times Record
NEW ORLEANS ITEM
Youngstown Vindicator
The Florence Times
JOURNAL



8 OUT OF 10 PATRONS PRE-SOLD BEFORE THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN HAS EVEN STARTED!

Newspaper and magazine ads that reach many more millions announce Ernie Pyle's "Story of G. I. Joe" to *your* patrons!



LIFE: 4,250,000 readers will see this ad on June 25th!

TIME: 1,250,000 readers will see this ad on June 25th!

SUNDAY COMICS: 22,400,000 followers of the 53 Sunday comic newspapers will see this four color ad in the July 22nd and 29th issues!

FAN MAGAZINES: Between June 10th and the 25th, 12,600,000 movie-going readers of the fan magazines will see this ad in the July issues!

LIBERTY: 1,350,000 persons will buy the June 23rd issue and see this ad!

TRUE STORY: 2,250,000 readers of the July issue will see this ad!

8 out of 10 patrons pre-sold now... THIS CAMPAIGN WILL MAKE IT 10 OUT OF 10

SOLD!

To the 22,000,000 readers of more than 700 newspapers!

SOLD!

To the 1,150,000 readers of Ernie Pyle's best-seller, "Here Is Your War" and to the 750,000 who read his second sensational book, "Brave Men"!

SOLD!

To the countless millions who have seen, read and remembered the articles and pictures featuring Ernie Pyle in every national magazine in America!

SOLD!

To the many millions who are waiting to see the unforgettable film story of the boys they love as only Ernie Pyle could tell it!

SOLD!

To the listeners on every major radio network through hundreds of Ernie Pyle tributes on leading national programs!

Truly, the picture with the greatest pre-selling in the history of the industry!

THE PICTURE THE WORLD WILL NEVER FORGET... FROM THE MAN IT WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER!



Lester Cowan presents

ERNIE PYLE'S "STORY OF G.I. JOE"

starring

BURGESS MEREDITH

as Ernie Pyle

Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN

Screenplay by Leopold Atlas, Guy Endore and Philip Stevenson

RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Seek Nuisance Tax Repeal

CINCINNATI—A vigorous effort on the part of Kentucky motion picture exhibitors will be made in the 1946 legislative session to bring about a repeal of the ten per cent "nuisance" tax on theatre tickets, Thomas Hill, director of the state exhibitors' association, has announced.

"Death Factory" Cuts Stand

DETROIT—City officials here ignored protests of numerous labor, religious and special organizations against the cutting of scenes from "Maidanek Death Factory" by Lieut. Charles W. Snyder, police censor, when the film was shown at Telenews theatres. The cuts stood.

Not a Delinquency Cause

TORONTO—In his annual report J. O. Silverthorne, chairman of the Ontario government's film censorship bureau, said "the board takes the stand that the motion picture film is never an only factor and rarely a principal factor in contributing to juvenile misbehavior."

60,000 Pledge Loyalty

CHICAGO—More than 60,000 Chicagoans braved threatening skies and thundershower forecasts to renew their pledge of loyalty to U.S. institutions in an "I Am an American" day mass meeting at Soldier Field.

Start 1,200-Seat Theatre

DETROIT—Work has been started on a new 1,200-seat theatre here as a west Detroit suburban addition to the Wisper & Wetsman circuit, operators of 19 theatres in this area. Another suburban house planned by the circuit for the east side will seat 3,000 persons.

Approve Roosevelt Dime

HARTFORD—A suggestion by a West Hartford woman that a new 10-cent piece be coined bearing the likeness of Franklin D. Roosevelt has gained wide approval. The idea has been hailed as especially fitting because of the late President's interest in the March of Dimes campaigns.

Nazi Horror Films to All

ST. LOUIS—Mayor Kaufman has formed a committee here to arrange for the public showing of the army signal corps Nazi atrocity films at the huge Kiel Municipal Auditorium, "lest we forget."

Variety Conclave in August

NEW YORK—The tenth annual business meeting of the Variety Clubs of America will be held here Aug. 16, 17 and 18, with a banquet in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria the closing night as the grand finale.

Eye Coin-Receiving Machines

JEFFERSON CITY, MO.—A bill to tax and regulate all coin receiving machines, such as juke boxes, marble games, weighing machines and vending devices, etc., has been reported favorably by a Missouri state senate committee. The bill would enable county officials to prevent the placing of such machines in undesirable locations.

Greer and Pidgeon Favored

NEW YORK—Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon were voted favorite stars among screen actresses and actors in a poll of 3,500,000 homes conducted by the Woman's Home Companion. Bette Davis was second choice for women, while Spencer Tracy and Bing Crosby tied as second choice for men. The balloting, divided according to age groups of the voters, showed Van Johnson a top-heavy juvenile favorite but the bobby-sock vote failed to land him any higher than sixth.

Film Dog Dodges Kleigs

DES MOINES—Bright lights and noises attendant upon the presentation of Laddie to the prize winner in a newsboy contest here caused the film dog actor featured in "Son of Lassie" to cower in confusion against his new master.

Atrocities Must Be Authentic

PHILADELPHIA — Atrocity films may be shown in this state only if they are actually factual documentary scenes, the Pennsylvania state censorship board has ruled. Otherwise they're out. The board took the stand in deleting a hanging scene in the Artkino film "Zoya" but letting the atrocity scenes in "Maidanek Murder Camp" stand.

"Phone Home" Fund Grows

INDIANAPOLIS—A fund sponsored by the American Legion's 40 & 8 organization, the Indianapolis Star and Station WIRE to enable every combat veteran hospitalized at the two government hospitals here to make a five-minute telephone call home is growing rapidly. Containers placed in theatre lobbies here soon contained nearly $1,500.

Films Great Morale Builders

BUFFALO—Motion pictures remain the No. 1 morale builder for America's fighting forces wherever they go, S/Sgt. Ed Sullivan declared here after his return home from a 23-month stretch of service with an amphibious outfit in the Pacific.

Talent Schools Expose

CHICAGO—An expose of racketeering "talent schools" has been made here by the Herald & Examiner in a series of articles which revealed how credulous young women were being bilked through promises they would be brought to the attention of film and theatre scouts.

Price Ceilings Remain

OTTAWA—Price ceilings in Canada will not be affected by reductions or abolishments of wartime taxes following the end of hostilities in Europe, Dominion finance department officials have announced. Price freezes will remain as a guard against inflation.

Free Day at Krim Theatre For Hitler's "Funeral"

Detroit—Four years ago Sol Krim of the Krim Bros. neighborhood circuit promised he would admit all patrons free on the day of Hitler's funeral.

A week or so ago reports of the death in Berlin of the Nazi chief were published. Subsequent stories indicated the reports were correct but there probably never would be a funeral for the fuehrer.

But last week Krim fulfilled his promise. On one week day the cashier and ticket-takers were given the day off and everyone was admitted free. In addition Krim held a special matinee last Saturday free to all children.

Hays to Ban "G.I. Joe" If Dialog Undeleted

NEW YORK—The Hays office will refuse its seal of approval to "The Story of G. I. Joe" unless Lester Cowan, the producer, deletes certain lines of dialog in the film. The disputed dialog, considered by MPPDA as expressions of profanity under the Production Code, are taken verbatim from the late Ernie Pyle's column, Cowan said.

Cowan, an independent producer releasing through United Artists, is not a member of the Hays group. Last week UA announced it was withdrawing from MPPDA. Nevertheless, failure of the Hays office to grant the picture a production code approval seal would prevent the film from being shown in large first run and circuit theatres throughout the country.

"It seems to me the Hays office is falling far behind the American public, many, many millions of whom have already given this scene their personal seal of approval," Cowan said.

The scene portrays the removal from a height on the way to Rome of the body of Capt. Henry T. Waskow by members of his 36th division company. The words in question are spoken by three soldiers. In the incident related by Pyle, Cowan said, the dialog is spoken with "such deep feeling and conviction it could not be construed as blasphemy."

"We Accuse" Being Booked by Some Without Approval Seal From Hays

NEW YORK—"We Accuse," documentary film of the trial and execution of Nazi war criminals by Russians at Kharkov, has been booked into Herbert Rossner theatres in Los Angeles and San Francisco for limited engagements.

The film is reported to have been refused Hays office Production Code seal of approval because narration contained the word "damned" and certain scenes showing concentration camp atrocities were repeated.

Bookings in greater New York area are now being arranged and will be reported shortly, according to Irvin Shapiro, producer of the picture.

Army Asks Industry Help Promote "Infantry Day"

NEW YORK—U.S. army ground forces have asked the industry to cooperate in promoting Infantry Day, June 15. Date marks the anniversary of Gen. George Washington's appointment as commander-in-chief of the Continental forces which, in 1775, consisted almost entirely of infantry.

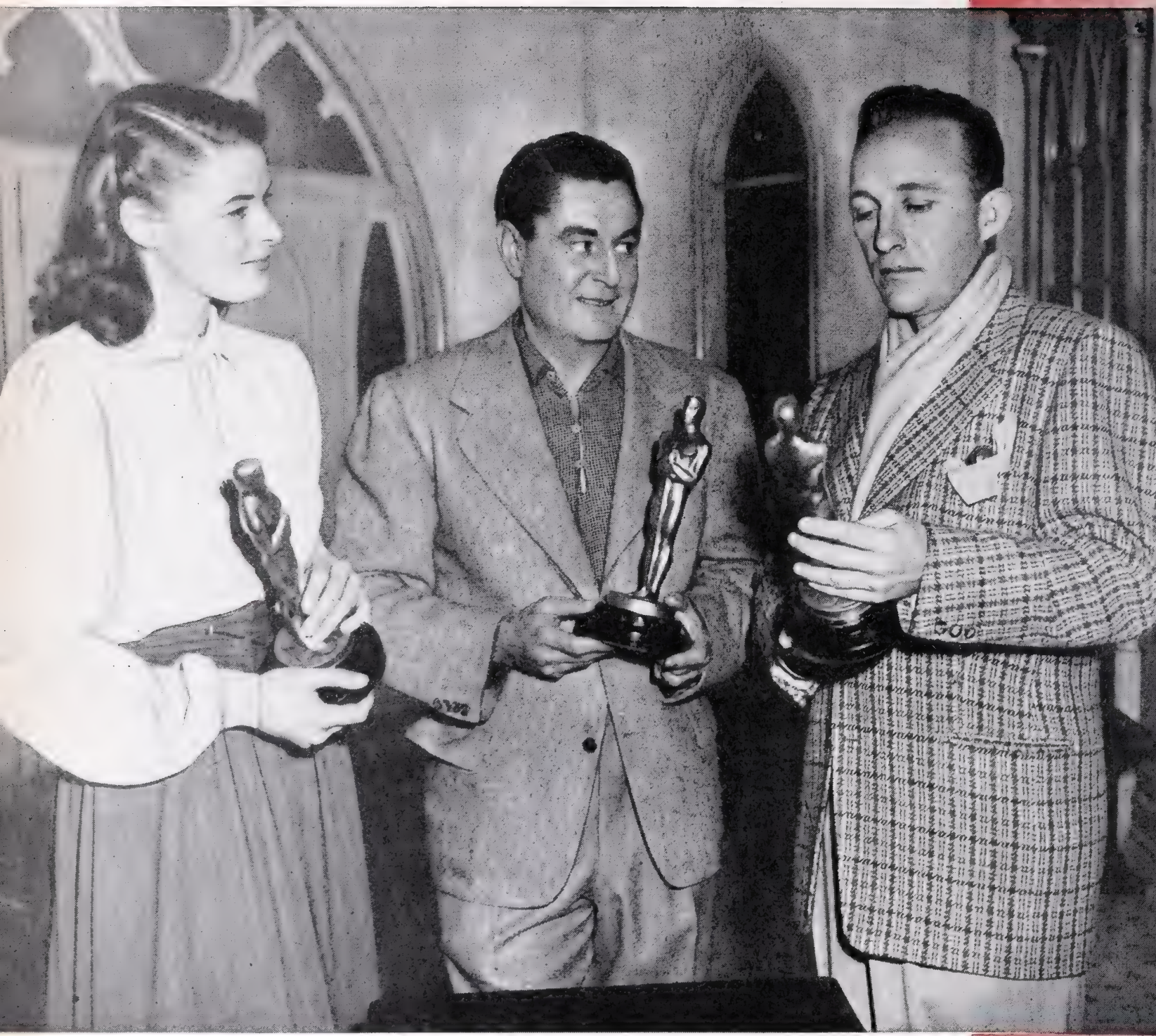
Special events directors throughout the country have been alerted to assist in the promotion. Exhibitors and Seventh War Loan drive chairmen, by getting in touch with local war finance offices, can play an important part in honoring the foot soldiers.

New Aide for Ireton

NEW YORK—Merryl Lewis has been appointed assistant to Glenn Ireton, Warner Bros. field exploitation representative for Canada. Miss Lewis, well known in Canadian and British trade circles, formerly was associated with film companies in London and New York.

Ruggles' Aides to London

NEW YORK—William Collier jr., producer, and Salvador Camarata, musical director for Decca Records, Inc., have been sent for by Wesley Ruggles in London. They are to work with Ruggles on "London Town," a Technicolor musical, which he is producing in conjunction with J. Arthur Rank interests.



The RKO organization is indeed proud of its association with BING CROSBY, INGRID BERGMAN and LEO McCAREY, and to voice its continuing high regard for their deserved achievements in winning Hollywood's most coveted honors,

the Academy Awards for 1944.

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Once in a lifetime

it could happen . . . the three top

current Academy Award

Winners combining their talents

for one great picture!



BING CROSBY • INGRID BERGMAN

before the cameras . . . in

LEO McCAREY'S Rainbow Production

The Bells of St. Mary's

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

Educational Film Field To Expand Enormously

By FLOYDE E. BROOKER

Third and Last in Series On Educational Pictures

New York—The last of a series of three articles, written by Floyde E. Brooker, director of the division of visual aids for army training, U.S. office of education, discusses the relative positions of the growing educational film industry and the entertainment film industry. Also considered are the part Hollywood production may play in contributing its talents to the field.

NEW YORK—It might take 25 or 50 years, but it may well be that the educational film business one day will equal or surpass in annual value of its product the theatrical film production business. This estimate has all the hazards of any estimate made about the automobile business in 1908, but let us consider some facts:

1. If educational films are ever taken seriously, we then face the task, in a sense, of duplicating in pictures most of the material that now fills our great librairies of books, as well as our museums, for it is all stuff of which films are made.

2. There are more than 100,000 school districts, involving approximately 200,000 school buildings, many times the number of theatres, and each district can use many films for every one the theatre uses.

Educational Film's Long Life

3. An instructional film is useful many times over for many years and so has a greater life than the theatrical film.

4. There is always a new generation coming along which needs to be taught many of the same things their elders were taught.

5. There is a tremendous upsurge of peoples throughout the world, which will call for educational films. We may expect educational film projectors in many instances and through government assistance to precede the entertainment projector.

6. Entertainment is more of a group thing while education tends to be more individual. This has important implications if 16mm sound projectors become as common in the homes of tomorrow as the radio is today.

It is doubtful whether anyone, least of all a specialist in educational films, can predict the impact on theatrical productions. We can, however, raise some questions and note some of the developments that are common knowledge.

Are the Fields Far Apart?

First of all, are entertainment and education as far apart as some would have us believe? Certainly one of the primary characteristics of entertainment is its ability to attract and hold attention. In this sense, good education should attract and hold attention, and, just as certainly, good entertainment may well be educational. Neither theatres nor schools, in fact none of the institutions of modern society, can exist unless they serve essentially the same objectives. If schools were to teach our children to become thieves, and the theatres were to teach them to be honest men, or vice versa, society would have to decide between them and one would have to be eliminated. This responsibility of the theatre has been recognized in the Motion Picture Production Code. The theatre is an institution which provides many presentations that possess an educational character.

The human urge in these times for more information and understanding has been so great that the theatre has had to accept a more serious educational role than has been true in the past. The newsreels of Iwo Jima may hardly be called entertaining and neither may many of the other subjects that the theatres have run of their own desire and at the request of others.

These are times of great popular interest in many subjects such as geography, military mechanisms and the like. This popular interest is educational in nature and primarily on the adult level. If this popular interest is general enough and powerful enough, they will "see" the things they want to see if they are shown. Where such audiences may gather to satisfy such interests is problematical, but such interests undoubtedly will constitute one of the problems of the theatre owner. Because the theatre is the place where motion pictures are shown, people with motion pictures of an educational, advertising and propaganda nature and people wanting to see such motion pictures tend to think of the theatre at once as the answer of getting the two together.

Theatre Owners' Influence Great

It may be that eventually there will come the same specialization of services provided by the various kinds of theatres as has already come with libraries. Newsreel theatres and foreign language cinemas are indications of this approaching specialization.

The contemporary motion picture theatre is in the key position in this problem, and the decisions being made by theatre owners will wield the greatest single influence on this development.

The influence of war on education has been one of dramatizing the multitude of things adults of today "do not know" rather than "what they know." If this urge "to know" becomes general enough, and the large circulation of certain types of magazines tends to support the belief that it is, then films will be produced for that audience. These may be newsreels and travel films in character with some popular science included, or they tend to be produced by business organizations interested in the institutional advertising that comes from sponsored films. Where the adults are concerned, the problem of getting the film and the audience together will continue. At first it is likely that present systems of distribution will continue, with such films being shown in churches, schools, club rooms, hotels and in some department stores. It may well be that eventually small auditoriums will develop that will specialize in showing such sponsored films and that showings will be advertised in order to secure a selected audience. This is already being done on a small scale in some of the large city department stores on a temporary makeshift basis.

The need for educational films for schools is almost without limit if we consider the number of subjects taught and the period of years over which they are taught. If the schools ever accept films and undertake to create a more film-structured curriculum than they now have, the minimum of educational films required for this would be about 5,000 films. (This estimate is based on two films per week, for an average of five subjects per student, for a year of 30 weeks, for 16 years of formal education). Certainly this is a minimum number. In terms of such a curriculum, eliminating outdated films and eliminating some overlapping and duplication, there are not more than 1,000 films available at present.

This may be a fantastic goal at present. The present rate of expenditure of public funds by our schools will not support any such production programs. The development of popular support, the availability of equipment and the availability of films are three legs of the same stool; they are so interdependent that any increase of one tends to support and to promote an increase of the other. When this acceleration will be cumulative enough to support the expenditures requisite for a production program of some 4,000 films is the moot question.

Separate Industry May Develop

It is more than likely that the acceleration in its slowest beginnings is even now taking place. Many commercial organizations have outlined ambitious programs of sponsored films that are essentially educational films, new companies specializing in the production of educational films are being formed, and in numberless other ways the shadows cast by coming events seem to be apparent.

Undoubtedly the theatrical film producing companies have a place in educational film production. Many films can be used with equal success for entertainment and education, since the difference in use makes the difference in the objectives served. Hollywood probably still knows more about making films dealing with the emotions than any other group of producers.

One of the decisions that is in the making is whether the theatrical film industry is "the film industry" or the "theatrical film industry." If the former, then they will produce educational films; if the latter, then a separate educational film producing industry will develop. Educational films at the present time will not support the high salaries customarily paid to the theatrical motion picture actors and technicians, and the returns at present in terms of the theatrical industry are "peanuts." They undoubtedly possess the technical talent and just as undoubtedly they have established the standards of quality which educational films must meet.

Hollywood could enter the educational film field at little cost if it so chose. Much of the material shot for backgrounds could be edited and voiced to produce excellent educational films. Indeed, as the schools have found from the films released by Teaching Films Custodians, some of the shorts, without any alterations or with minor technical changes, provide very useful educational film material. Many features, if they could be made generally available to schools once their theatrical usefulness is ended, would provide first rate material for education.

Greater Discrimination Visioned

Exhibitors certainly will ask whether or not the increase in the use of educational films will not cause a tiring of the public of motion pictures and a lessening of theatre attendance.

It may, here and there, but it is unlikely. The number of books is constantly on the increase since the amount of reading done by the average individual is constantly increasing. The increase in the use of books for education has not brought a decrease in the number of books read for entertainment. If anything, the contrary is true.

The increased use of films as media of communication undoubtedly will bring about a greater discrimination relative to the quality of the content and its presentation. Many motion pictures now "get by," particularly in the advertising and educational motion picture field, because of their novelty. Color,

sound and three-dimensional developments still continue to provide a sufficient range of novelty to attract people. Furthermore, people are so accustomed to the pleasure of theatre attendance that groups, educational and otherwise, by giving advance notice of a meeting "with the showing of a movie," can attract a crowd. This is likely to prove less so, as the people see more motion pictures and more different kinds of motion pictures, and distinguish between seeing a "movie" and a "movie on an interesting subject."

Superb Skill Is Needed

These developments will not come easily. Much has been learned but more remains to be learned. The superb skill developed in the production of theatrical pictures must be applied to the production of educational motion pictures. We must learn, however, how to apply this skill to the production of educational films. Unwittingly, these skills have been developed in the tradition of the theatrical product. While it is true that certain types of educational films may best be produced in the theatrical tradition, it is equally true that this cannot be so of educational films for skill training, for the development of basic understandings and the like. In the production of this type of film, the writing of scripts, the camera work, the cutting and the editing differ considerably from the theatrical tradition.

The distribution of educational films remains a problem with the cost on one hand being measured against the educational disadvantages of being compelled to order films months in advance. Films cannot secure wide or effective acceptance by public education as an instrument of education until and unless specific motion pictures are available to the teachers at the time when the content of that film fits into the instruction. The practices followed by Teaching Film Custodians mark an important advance in the solution of this total problem of fitting distribution into educational needs.

There still remains also the problem developing in the minds of the general public an understanding of what educational films are and their potential importance to effective education. Many of the general public will confuse educational films with the cartoons seen in the theatres. Until this understanding is developed in the minds of the public, the producers and the exhibitors, educational film will continue in the "never-never land" of uncertainties.

Cumulative Audience Over Years

The serious use of motion pictures as media of communication, rather than just as a means of entertainment, will tend to increase the numbers of pictures produced and shown; will tend to create different kinds of motion picture presentation for differing audiences. As the films increase in number, the objectives of the film become more limited and specific and the audiences for the film will tend to grow smaller. It should be noted, however, that the greater life of an educational film may provide a cumulative audience over the years that will belie the smallness of any one audience.

Naturally, the development of a new media of communications as complex as the motion picture has revolutionary implications only dimly discernible now. New patterns of production, distribution and use are constantly developing and being tried. Some have not worked, others that come along might. As new and successful patterns come along they will exert an influence for change.

The basic patterns for the production, distribution and use of theatrical films may remain the same. It is the over-all pattern for the entire field of motion pictures that will change as the scope and usefulness of the motion picture is understood, realized and exploited.



CHINESE PEOPLE HONOR WARNER—The award of recognition on behalf of the Chinese people, from Mme. Chiang Kai-shek to Jack L. Warner, made in St. Louis recently, was received for the latter by Hall Walsh, Warner Bros. district manager. Presentation was by James J. Rick, Missouri state chairman for the National China Relief committee. Rick is in the light suit, at left, handing the citation to Walsh. Among those present were members of the Chinese army and Mission. After the ceremonies the guests saw "God Is My Co-Pilot," an element of the service on behalf of the people of China for which the citation was made.

Foreign Trade Outlook Set for June 14 Talk

NEW YORK — Prompt revival of foreign trade will be the topic of a meeting of the American Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce scheduled for June 14. Will Clayton, assistant secretary of state, will talk on "The Foreign Economic and Commercial Policy of the State Department," and Winthrop Aldrich, president of the chamber and chairman of the board of the Chase National Bank, will outline the plans of the organization.

Philip Reed, chairman of the American Committee, says the chamber plans to broaden the scope of its activities and hopes to secure the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, the National Association of Manufacturers and others.

Loew's Reports Profit For 28-Week Period

NEW YORK—Loew's, Inc., reports a net profit of $6,768,469 for the 28 weeks ending Mar. 15, 1945, as compared with $7,442,698 for the same period in 1944.

After giving effect to the recent three-for-one stock split-up, earnings for the 1945 period amounted to $1.34 per share, as compared with $1.47 per share for the same period the previous year if a like number of shares had been outstanding.

The company's share of operating profit after subsidiaries' preferred dividends was $16,700,201, or $2,509,639 less than of the 28 weeks ending Mar. 16, 1944. Profit before federal taxes was $12,142,183 for the 1945 period and $14,738,551 for the corresponding period of 1944.

Four "Rhapsody" Concerts Set by Paul Whiteman

NEW YORK—Four George Gershwin concerts, featuring "Rhapsody in Blue," will be conducted by Paul Whiteman as part of Gershwin Jubilee week, June 29-July 6. Whiteman's first concert will be on the Hall of Fame program, over the Blue network on May 27. He will also conduct the Blue Network Symphony in a full-hour Gershwin program on June 30, Detroit Symphony on June 27 and a Gershwin concert in Paterson, N. J., on July 4.

Manila Film Outlook Better, Lober Says

NEW YORK—At least 35 theatres in Manila will be operating by June 1, according to Louis Lober, OWI overseas motion picture bureau chief. This is a particularly praiseworthy showing, when one considers that the first house was reopened to the liberated Filipinos on April 1, less than two months ago.

Servicing of these theatres with American films has been made possible by the opening of a central film exchange in Manila on April 9 by Robert Perkins, OWI film officer, and by the recovery of 112 feature films belonging to American companies. Regular weekly deliveries by air of OWI's United Newsreel and distribution of OWI-released documentaries, have also helped bring the Manila region up to date.

Perkins discovered 56 of the 112 recovered features in one warehouse cache; these were the property of the following concerns: Columbia, six; 20th-Fox, nine; Paramount, 17; Universal, 16; United Artists, eight; M-G-M, 17; RKO, 24, and Warner Bros., 15. Among them were eight films never before shown in the Manila area. Former employes of many of these companies now comprise the operating staff of 14 at the central film office. Pictures owned by independent Filipino and Chinese distributors are not handled by the exchange.

All theatres in Baguio, Cebu and Iloilo have been destroyed, Lober said. To speed important psychological warfare films into devastated areas, OWI is using any available portable film units.

Faversham's Widow Dies

NEW YORK—Mrs. Edith Campbell Faversham, actress and widow of William Faversham, former stage and screen star, died at the age of 61. She was his third wife. His second, Julie Opp Faversham, the mother of his two sons, died in 1921.

Art Schmitz Drops Dead

MILWAUKEE — Art Schmitz, 49, RKO branch manager here since 1927, dropped dead at his home here Tuesday as the result of a heart attack.

ROBERT YOUNG • LARAINE DAY

IN

"Those Endearing Young Charms"

with

ANN HARDING

and Introducing

BILL WILLIAMS



—A riot in his first important RKO comedy role!



★

NATIONAL MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN TO 25,150,475 CIRCULATION —in Life—Ladies' Home Journal— Woman's Home Companion—True Story—Liberty—Pic—Look—

—and Fan 1st.

Produced by BERT GRANET

Directed by LEWIS ALLEN

Screen Play by Jerome Chodorov

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN

Home from the wars... Oh Boy!

RKO's

Action on the furlough front . . . in radiant romantic hit . . . between the lovely who believes wooings mean weddings, and the pilot who thinks any girl is just a date! . . . Stimulating spice and sparkle headed for top box-office money!



RKO RADIO PICTURES

WB Midnight Reviews Resumed Over Country

NEW YORK—Advance midnight previews of forthcoming pictures are being resumed by Warner Bros. exhibitor accounts, following the recent lifting of the curfew. Held usually a week or more before the regular opening, the advance showings have proved effective in promoting word-of-mouth advertising and in boosting attendance.

Among the first of the houses to present midnight previews again are the Strand, Akron; Capitol, Lancaster, Pa.; Ohio, Canton; State, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Tivoli, Laredo, Tex.; Stanley, Camden, N. J.; Capitol, Wheeling, W. Va.; Strand, Pottstown, Pa., and others now setting dates.

In addition to two June releases, "Pillow to Post" and "Conflict," films given the advance sendoff include "Escape in the Desert," "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Roughly Speaking," "Hotel Berlin" and "God Is My Co-Pilot."

"Iwo Jima" Film Release Scheduled for June 7

NEW YORK—"To the Shores of Iwo Jima," a two-reeler Technicolor film produced by the navy, marine corps and coast guard, will be released on June 7. Based on films taken by service cameramen, the film records the conquest of the island fortress of Iwo Jima.

It was edited at Warner Bros.' studios and released by United Artists for OWI. In filming this battle two cameramen were killed, one is missing in action and 12 were wounded.

Sale of Popcorn Machines To Popper's Supply Group

LOS ANGELES — Harry Taylor, currently head of Popper's Supply Co., Morrie C. Smead, Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Rube Melcher, Kansas City, Mo., have taken over the U.S. sales and distribution of the Viking



RUBE MELCHER



HARRY TAYLOR

Popcorn Machine, to be manufactured by the Viking Popcorn Machines, Inc., of Los Angeles.

Manufacture of the machine will start as soon as government regulations permit and factory facilities and finances have been set up for the manufacture of approximately 2,500 machines the first year.

R. A. Johnson, previously engaged in the manufacture of commercial refrigerators, is president of the manufacturing company.

Olga San Juan to "Blue Skies"

Olga San Juan has been cast for a principal role in Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," a Paramount production.

LETTERS

SUNDAY SHOW DILEMMA

To BOXOFFICE:

I thought you might be interested in what is happening at the Neptune Theatre at Wachapreague, Va. On Easter Sunday I started Sunday shows, after trying to convince the town council that it was okay.

But when I put out my advertising to that effect the council got a petition against it. I got one out for it. There were 40 more signers for Sunday movies than there were against it. The council called a special meeting and voted against it, even though the majority of the people wanted them.

To start with, this is a great fishing resort and most of the fishing is done on Sunday and requires a guide to take them out. One of the councilmen is a guide and therefore works on Sunday.

The council got a warrant and the trial came up in the lower court with a judge only. After all the testimony the judge found me guilty of working on Sunday and fined me $5. I didn't pay the fine and made an appeal for a new trial and it was granted. The case comes up the first Monday in June.

The judge that found me guilty called my lawyer after the trial and said he was sorry for the verdict that he gave, but he didn't want it to rest on his shoulders, and that he had rather a jury pass on it.

Anything that you might do to help or any suggestions that you might have would be accepted with thanks. You may print this if you wish. I would like other exhibitors' opinions on this.

GEORGE W. CORE.

Neptune Theatre,
Wachapreague, Va.

Fitzgerald's "Cradle to Grave" Chart Analyzes Public's Interest in Films

By JAMES GAHAGAN

MILWAUKEE—Commenting on the prominent place the films have in the amusement field, Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp., recently said:

"We believe that there is no other place where the family can get, for a quarter each, so much entertainment, relaxation and education as in the movies." (The 25-cent average admission charge was determined by Fitzgerald, in that though admissions are higher for first runs, children's admissions and neighborhood admissions resulted in an average of 25 cents.) Continued Fitzgerald:

"We have drawn up a chart to show people's interest in pictures, almost from the cradle to the grave, you might say. The little children don't go in any numbers, of course, but beginning at age 8 and lasting until 12, many youngsters become avid movie fans, and a sizeable part of film output is directed to that audience. From ages 13 to 17 there is a little less interest—these young folks have more duties at home, more school work, outside interests, parties and the like. But 18 to 25 is the romantic period, and there the interest takes a substantial rise—young people interested in love like to go to pictures.

"After 25 most of them get married, budget housekeeping problems, rear families; then the attendance curve goes down.

"The next age group to show a change is the later thirties, and the forties. By this time the married folk are pretty well established—children old enough to stay home alone—parents have more money, as a result they can go more frequently to the pictures. Attendance stays high with these grownups until they get into the 50s and 60s. People in the 50s and above are inclined to go out, but little things deter them. If it's raining they hold back, or maybe mother's eyes are bothering her, or dad is feeling tired—so they stay home. Growing older they go out less and less."

Fitzgerald, who has spent practically all of his life in show business, and the film industry specifically, has seen many changes in the industry since entering it years ago. He indicated that since the earliest days of the silent flickers the pictures have greatly influenced all phases of the lives of American people. Concluding, he said:

"Visual education is recognized now by all nations as a huge proposition, with tremendous possibilities. A prefabricated theatre has been designed; it can be built in multiple lots, to standard dimensions with air conditioning, and it can be put up in 48 hours. If it is moved, 50 per cent of it can be salvaged. Latin America and China are fertile fields for this type of theatre. Visual education is coming to them. Certain Chinese leaders have estimated that, with a few hundred semiportable theatres an educational uplift can be given China that would possibly take 100 years by old methods."

More Houses Aid Drive

NEW YORK — Theatres other than the principal Broadway houses are now participating in manning bond booths at the Iwo Jima memorial in Times Square. These houses include Academy of Music, RKO theatres, Selwyn, Patio, St. George, Frisch & Rinzler circuit theatres, Park Plaza and Amsterdam.

Roy Rogers Winds Up His Tour at Providence

NEW YORK—Roy Rogers has completed his spring tour at Providence after crossing the country and making many stops in army and naval hospitals. Over 30 theatres in Rhode Island played his pictures while he was in Providence. During his stay there he entertained at the army hospital at Camp Myles Standish and the naval hospital, Newport.

Highlights of the tour included visits to the Walter Reed and naval hospitals, Washington; the Crile and marine hospitals, Cleveland; the Deshon Army Hospital, Butler, Pa., and the Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh.

Red Cross Total Nears Seven Million Figure

NEW YORK—The 1945 Red Cross collections have reached $6,941,349, with only 17 exchanges out of a total of 40 making final reports.

The remaining 23 exchange areas have made partial reports. Final figures are expected by June 1. The total to date is already more than $887,000 greater than the entire 1944 collection.

"Accuse" World Premiere At the Little Carnegie

NEW YORK—"We Accuse," documentary film of the Kharkov trials of Nazi war criminals, will have its world premiere at the Little Carnegie Theatre on June 2, according to Irvin Shapiro, producer.

The Hays office is reported to have refused to grant the picture its production code seal of approval.

RKO RADIO PICTURES INC. TRADE SHOWINGS

OF FOUR PRODUCTIONS

BRANCH	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE		BACK TO BATAAN		WEST OF THE PECOS		GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS	
			Day and Date	Time	Day and Date	Time	Day and Date	Time	Day and Date	Time
Albany	Fox Projection Room	1052 Broadway	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Projection Room	191 Walton St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Boston	RKO Projection Room	122 Arlington St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Tues. 6/19	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Fox Projection Room	290 Franklin St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Charlotte	Fox Projection Room	308 So. Church St.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Mon. 6/4	3:45 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	2:30 P.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Chicago	RKO Projection Room	1300 So. Wabash Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Projection Room	12 E. 6th St.	Mon. 6/4	8:15 P.M.	Mon. 6/4	9:45 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	8:15 P.M.	Mon. 6/18	8:15 P.M.
Cleveland	Fox Projection Room	2219 Payne Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Dallas	Paramount Projection Rm.	412 So. Harwood St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Denver	Paramount Projection Rm.	2100 Stout St.	Mon. 6/4	2:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/4	3:45 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	2:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	Fox Projection Room	1300 High St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Detroit	Blumenthal Projection Rm.	2310 Cass Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Projection Rm.	116 W. Michigan St.	Mon. 6/4	1:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:45 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	1:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/18	1:30 P.M.
Kansas City	Paramount Projection Rm.	1802 Wyandote	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	RKO Projection Room	1980 So. Vermont Ave.			Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Memphis	Fox Projection Room	151 Vance Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Projection Room	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Minneapolis	Fox Projection Room	1015 Currie Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
New Haven	Fox Projection Room	40 Whiting St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
New Orleans	Fox Projection Room	200 So. Liberty St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
New York	RKO Projection Room	630 — 9th Ave.	—		—		Tues. 6/5	11:00 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	11:00 A.M. and 2:30 P.M.
	Astor Theatre	B'way at 45th St.	—		Mon. 5/28	10:30 A.M.	—		—	
Oklahoma City	Fox Projection Room	10 No. Lee St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Omaha	Fox Projection Room	1502 Davenport St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Philadelphia	RKO Projection Room	250 No. 13th St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Pittsburgh	Fox Projection Room	1715 Blvd. of Allies	Mon. 6/4	1:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:45 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	1:00 P.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Portland	Star Pre-view Room	925 N. W. 19th St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
St. Louis	S'Renco Projection Room	3143 Olive St.	Tues. 6/5	11:30 A.M.	Tues. 6/5	2:30 P.M.	Wed. 6/6	11:30 A.M.	Tues. 6/19	2:30 P.M.
Salt Lake City	Fox Projection Room	216 E. 1st South St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
San Francisco	RKO Projection Room	251 Hyde St.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	1:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Projection Rm.	2318 — 2nd Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.
Sioux Falls	Hollywood Theatre	212 No. Philips Ave.	Mon. 6/4	9:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	11:00 A.M.	Tues. 6/5	9:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	10:30 A.M.
Washington	Fox Projection Room	932 New Jersey Ave.	Mon. 6/4	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/4	2:30 P.M.	Tues. 6/5	10:30 A.M.	Mon. 6/18	2:30 P.M.

Frisco Shows Credit To Industry-Dietz

NEW YORK—Howard Dietz reported on his return here from the United Nations Conference at San Francisco that the state department "was pleased with the job that the industry did in furnishing entertainment and relaxation to the hundreds of delegates and their staffs."

Dietz, chairman of the industry's planning committee which formulated plans for showing of U.S. films to the delegates at the United Nations Theatre, formerly the Alcazar, said that all indications pointed to a highly successful venture.

Average nightly attendance at the theatre was approximately 750 out of a possible total of some 3,000 delegates and members of the staffs, the M-G-M publicity chief asserted.

The industry's planning committee, consisting of Dietz, Claude Lee, Glen Allvine, Fay Reeder, Claude Collins and Allyn Butterfield, held daily meetings to discuss matters of policy.

Theatre's Name Is Changed

It was learned that experiments were made as to the best time to screen the shows at the beginning of the conference. At first there were three shows starting at 5:30 o'clock and at the present time two shows are presented nightly starting at 7 o'clock.

Dietz disclosed that the United Nations Theatre would be the permanent name for the house, and the former name of Alcazar would be dropped. The new name was adopted because of its general popularity, he said.

While features and short subjects were shown at the United Nations Theatre, Dietz said that documentaries were exhibited to smaller audiences at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. Among the films shown there were the special films of each of the United Nations delegations photographed by industry camera crews.

Dietz said that emphasis was on entertainment in the selection of programs. He paid tribute to members of his committee for their good taste and restraint in preparing the programs and in publicizing the event. The industry, he felt, had done a job of which it might well be proud.

The M-G-M publicity chief spent a week at the studios prior to his return here for conferences with Louis B. Mayer, Howard Strickling and other executives on various production matters.

The industry's film program is expected to continue until the end of the conference. Glen Allvine and other members of the committee are remaining in San Francisco for the present.

Film Classics Sets Deal

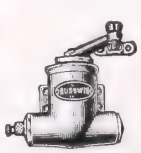
NEW YORK—Film Classics has set a deal covering distribution rights to "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" for Chicago, New York, Buffalo and Indianapolis territories. "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" is the second new feature deal Film Classics has taken over, first being "I Was a Criminal."

Featured Role in "Too Good to Be True"

Walter Wilson, recently signed to a long termer, gets his first featured role in "Too Good to Be True," a Paramount production.

DOOR CLOSERS REPAIRED

DAVE JANES (Locksmith)
227 E. 9th St., K. C. 6, Mo.



R. W. McGowan to Handle Film Buying for F&M

NEW YORK—Ralph W. McGowan, long associated with Fanchon & Marco, has been named film buyer and contract supervisor in the company's New York offices by Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager.



RALPH W. McGOWAN

McGowan has been with the company for 18 years on the west coast, in Salt Lake City, New England and St. Louis. He has been district manager in St. Louis recently.

Arthur expects to spend more time on the coast supervising his varied business interests there.

Interest in N. Y. Houses To the Shubert Group

PHILADELPHIA—In one of the largest theatrical transfers in recent years, Albert M. Greenfield & Co., Inc., has sold for Bankers Securities Corp., Philadelphia, a half-interest in a group of theatres in New York City to interests affiliated with Messrs. Lee and J. J. Shubert. These theatres are: the Majestic, 1,700 seats, on 44th west of Broadway; the Royal, 1,100 seats, on 45th west of Broadway, and the Golden, 800 seats, on 45th west of Broadway.

Ownership of the other half-interest in this group of theatres remains in the hands of Shubert interests. While the amount of the consideration was not disclosed, it was partially cash, the balance remaining on mortgage.

New Navy Incentive Film Exposes Japs' Strategy

WASHINGTON — Captured Jap movies, animated maps and combat action are combined in "The Admiral's Reply," USN 14-minute incentive film now being released in 16 and 35mm. Narrated by Rear Adm. DeWitt C. Ramsay, the picture reveals Jap strength, psychology and battle strategy.

Intended for war plant and labor union showings, the picture presents a realistic appraisal of the job ahead before victory in the Pacific can be final and complete. It highlights the kind of enemy we now face, the battle ground on which we must fight him, his riches in natural resources, and stark facts on the size of Nippon's army, Jap air power and the fighting fanaticism of the enemy.

Army Wives Helping Bond Sale in 7th Loan Drive

NEW YORK—Brock Whitlock, Richmond Theatre manager, presents stage auctions sponsored by the USO Service Wives Club. Wives of service men solicit worthwhile gifts from merchants to be awarded those buying the largest amount of war bonds.

All bonds sold by club members to relatives, friends, etc., are purchased through the theatre, according to Whitlock, serving as chairman of a special committee for the Richmond WFC.

Roy Rogers in SEP Story

NEW YORK—Roy Rogers is the subject of a feature story by Pete Martin to appear in the Saturday Evening Post issue of June 9. It will be accompanied by two pages of color photographs of the Republic star and his horse Trigger.

Trio of GE Executives Advance to New Posts

CLEVELAND—Three sales executives at General Electric's Nela Park have been advanced to new posts as part of a reorganization program affecting home office operation of GE lamp department. Elevated to positions of greater responsibility are O. H. Young, W. H. Robinson jr. and E. D. Stryker.

Young, who has been sales manager of all photolamp activities, will continue in that capacity, but in addition, he will assume new duties and responsibilities as part of the lamp department's eastern sales division activities.

Robinson has been named sales manager of electric discharge lamps. In addition he will be responsible for similar work on all other electric discharge lamps except the germicidal and glow types.

Stryker has been named sales manager of lighting equipment promotion. Until lately a member of the sales promotion division at Nela Park, he has been transferred to the lamp department's western sales division.

NBR Gives Top Rating To Gary Cooper Film

NEW YORK—In its current weekly guide to selected pictures the National Board of Review gives top rating to "Along Came Jones," RKO release starring Gary Cooper. Tabbing the picture as "especially worth seeing," NBR calls it "a delightful spoofing of the good old western . . . witty in story and dialog, well acted, produced and directed."

Selected features of the week are "Blood on the Sun" (UA) and "Where Do We Go From Here?" (20th-Fox). Of the former, NBR says it is "suited in every way to Cagney's personality and talents . . . production values are noteworthy." Concerning the second release, the guide asserts "Kurt Weill's music is gay and Ira Gershwin's lyrics are smart and amusing . . . Fred MacMurray romances nicely with Joan Leslie and June Haver."

Short subjects deemed worthy of mention are "Dark Shadows" (M-G-M), "The Dippy Diplomat" (Univ), "Now—the Peace" (UA) and "Track and Field Quiz" (M-G-M).

Tradeshow Dates for Six Arranged by Paramount

NEW YORK—Paramount branch managers have been notified of the dates for tradeshowing of the company's sixth and final block for the 1944-45 season. It includes "Out of This World" and "One Exciting Night," to be shown June 7, and "You Came Along," to be screened July 6.

The company also has two reissues and a special for June showing. The reissues, "Northwest Mounted Police" and "This Gun for Hire," will be screened June 6, and the special, "Incendiary Blonde," which will be sold separately, will be shown June 8.

Warners Set "Marines" Budget at $300,000

NEW YORK—A budget of $300,000 has been set by Warner Bros. for "Pride of the Marines" as a result of conferences between Jack L. Warner, Charles Einfeld, Ben Kalmenson and Mort Blumenstock on the coast.

Most of the appropriation will be spent on key city engagements, with Warner field men assigned to cover each territory several weeks in advance.

Kalmenson and Blumenstock have just returned from Hollywood and are now working out the details.

NWLB Salary Ruling Affects Film Firms

WASHINGTON—The ruling of the National War Labor Board directing Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. to extend its present practice of granting ten per cent salary increases to employes above the $250 a month grade may have a definite effect upon future salary negotiations within motion picture companies. Westinghouse, it seems, has been in the habit of granting automatic ten per cent increases after six months' satisfactory service, to employes whose incomes run $250 a month or less. The NWLB has ruled that such raises should apply as well to those whose incomes are in higher salary ranges.

If the NWLB precedent is followed, there is every likelihood that unions within the film industry, such as UOPWA and exchange employes' groups, may request automatic raises and then seek to have those raises operative within all salary brackets.

Ex-Mayor Walker Stages Film Comeback for Fund

NEW YORK—Former Mayor James J. Walker returns to the screen in an appeal on behalf of 408 voluntary hospitals, health and welfare agencies participating in the Greater New York Fund, appearing in a film short now being shown locally.

The film was made for the eighth annual appeal with the cooperation of Fred J. Schwartz, former WAC member now serving as chairman of features and motion pictures for the public relations committee of the GNYF. Universal Newsreel volunteered its services in filming the short. Harry Mandel, RKO publicity and advertising director, served as chairman of the production committee.

The fund's intensive campaign runs through June 9.

A. S. Howson Completes Twenty Years With WB

NEW YORK—Albert S. Howson, scenario editor and director of censorship for Warner Bros. has just completed his 20th year with the company. Before joining Warner Bros., Howson had considerable experience as an actor, stage manager and director for the Frohmans and other leading theatrical producers.

In addition to handling scenario and censorship matters during the last two decades, Howson directed some of the company's early Vitaphone shorts. At one time he assisted in the reading and purchasing of stories.

A. H. Fisher to Manage Chicago Branch of FC

NEW YORK—Film Classics has bought from John L. Jones, franchise owner, the Film Classics of Illinois Exchange. With this purchase, Film Classics now owns outright 30 per cent of its exchange system throughout the United States.

A. H. Fisher, formerly city sales manager in Chicago for United Artists, will manage the newly acquired exchange, according to L. E. Goldhammer, Film Classics vice-president and general manager.

RKO Buys WABC Time

NEW YORK—RKO has purchased participations in three WABC programs for two current releases, "The Enchanted Cottage" and "China Sky." The radio programs are the Phil Cook show, Margaret Arlen and Personally, It's Off the Record.

In this issue

The MODERN THEATRE

immediately following the LOCAL NEWS PAGES

The American Family Enjoys an Evening out Together
by HELEN KENT

★

Just Off the Boards

★

Tradewinds

★

Postwar Seating Service may Resume with Prewar Models

★

True Seating Comfort is not a Matter of Soft Cushions
by H. S. LEADER

★

Television Theatrewise . . . Will it Help or be a Hindrance?
by ANSEL M. MOORE

★

Thorough, Purposeful Planning Restores the Paseo Theatre
by BEN S. BROWN

★

Further Depositions on the Cause of Film Destruction

★

The Quiz Pot

TOPICS of interest to Every Showman.

'Way Ahead' Screened For Radio Celebrities

NEW YORK—Hal Horne, publicity, advertising and exploitation director for 20th-Fox, held the first of a series of special screenings for the Two Cities film, "The Way Ahead," at the home office projection room. It was attended by leading radio commentators. Ted Lloyd of the radio department handled the arrangements.

Horne intends to use comments obtained in this way in his ad campaign.

Among those at the first screening were: Hildegarde, NBC entertainer; Sidney Moseley, Mutual news analyst. Arthur Hale, also of Mutual; Johannes Steel, WHN; Harry Hershfield, NBC; Bruno Shaw, Blue Network; Judith Allen, WHOM; Shirley Eder, Mutual; Adrienne Ames, WHN; Maxine Keith, Mutual; Paula Stone, Mutual; Ethel Colby, WMAC; Dave Elman, star of Hobby Lobby; John J. Anthony, Mutual; Ted Husing, sports announcer; Maggi McNellis, NBC, and Kathleen Winsor, author of "Forever Amber."

Altec Employes at Front Share Pension Benefits

NEW YORK—Altec employes in the armed forces will participate fully in the company's retirement pension plan. Considered to be on leave of absence, they will receive full credit for the length of service while in uniform.

All employes of Altec, including those added in recent years to replace those in military service, are covered under the plan. No contribution is required of any employe since Altec assumes the entire cost.

Garson, Pidgeon Top Companion's Poll

NEW YORK—The 30th Woman's Home Companion poll, querying women a cross section of 3,500,000 homes, posed the question: "Who Is Your Favorite Star?" The results were interestingly broken down into the age groups of voters as well as announcing the winners. Thus Greer Garson was first for the women stars in every age group, her smallest vote coming from the under-25 crowd. Bette Davis was second, with her heaviest vote from the under-25. Irene Dunne tied for third place with Claudette Colbert, Miss Dunne's appeal for all ages, especially in medium-sized towns, and Miss Colbert's appeal especially among the younger element.

Among the male stars, Van Johnson won a special place because while he only tied with Clark Gable and Ronald Colman for sixth place, he was top man with the under-25s. Walter Pidgeon was first, with a special appeal for those over 45. Spencer Tracy tied with Bing Crosby for second place, with Gary Cooper a close third. According to the poll, women prefer a "strong character or an ironic comedian to a pretty profile."

It was learned that two out of every five go to the film houses once a week or oftener; three out of five prefer musicals; one out of two likes comedies.

Havana Audiences Prefer Spanish Redialog Films

HAVANA—An overwhelming majority of film patrons prefer Spanish redialog pictures, according to a poll taken on "And Now Tomorrow" by Americo Rosenberger, Paramount manager for Cuba. Of the attendance queried, two-thirds said they would prefer to see only Spanish redialog films, maintaining this form is easier to understand than the old method of superimposed titles. Of the remainder, 20 per cent had no preference, and only 13 1/3 per cent of those polled reported unfavorably.

Without exception, however, the noncommittal and negative reactions were from English-speaking persons who, Rosenberger pointed out, naturally could be expected to prefer the pictures in their original form. Both Spanish and English speaking patrons accorded the film a cordial reception during its run at the Fausto Theatre, Rosenberger said.

Modern Screen to Issue Eight Foreign Editions

NEW YORK—Modern Screen, fan magazine, plans to put out foreign editions in eight languages after the war, according to George T. Delacorte jr., head of Dell Publishing Co.

The publication is now sending a special overseas edition to men in service abroad.

Delacorte predicts an upsurge in circulation. Readership of fan magazines now runs over 25,000,000, he says. With the foreign editions he expects it to go to 30,000,000 as paper becomes available.

Schine Books WB Shorts For "American" Week

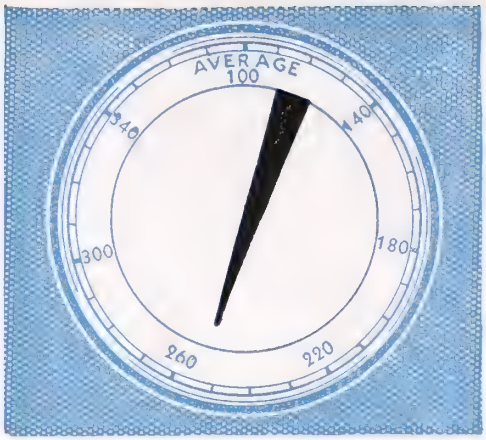
GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.—Warner Bros.' "I Am an American" and "It Happened in Springfield" have been booked in all of the Schine circuit houses during "I Am an American" week.

Many of the theatres have tied in with the local posts of the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Seventh War Loan has also been brought into the campaign.

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Dillinger—

San Francisco 250

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Betrayal From the East (RKO)	125	154				125							95	100	85	130							116
Between Two Women (MGM)	135				90			100		100				165	103	145	125	210	100		130	175	131
Bullfighters, The (20-Fox)							100			100	100	100				115	100						103
Cisco Kid Returns, The (Mono)						120	110		115								100				100		109
Counter-Attack (Col)		187						75	100			100				185	95				150		127
Dead Man's Eyes (Univ)	110	110	100				100		115	100			100	100	100	125	100		80	100			103
Dillinger (Mono)				180				120	150					175		290	115				250		183
Double Exposure (Para)	100	100				115	100		100	100	105	100	100	100	100		95				100	100	101
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120						200		100		105			100	93		125	130	85				118
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160			90	135			140		100	150		195	120					130	138
Eve Knew Her Apples (Col)		100		80				75				100	100		100		100	125					98
Experiment Perilous (RKO)	100	200	115	120	70	120	140	115		100	130		100	100	93	165	130	150	180	160	155	125	128
Flame of the Barbary Coast (Rep)			115		100		163								110		125						123
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110	105	95	75		175	95	125	95		100		100		150	110		75		150		111
Gentle Annie (MGM)									110			100				95		110			100	100	103
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180		120	120	160	150	100		110	205		215	110		140		145
Great Flamarion, The (Rep)						115				95	100	100			100								102
Guest in the House (UA)	130	150	115	90	95		160		90		115	115	100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	119
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115	105	95	90		175	100			120	107		125	97	105	125		75		125		111
I'll Remember April (Univ)	100		100		115		100	95	90				100									100	100
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110	70		165	130	90		120	125	100	110	100	155	130	190			150		123
Keep Your Powder Dry (MGM)			120	105	95				125	100	110		100	100		170		210			130	160	127
Mr. Emmanuel (UA)	115	118			120				100					125	78				45		110		101
Music for Millions (MGM)	135	119	120	110	130		130	95	120	140	170	150	100	150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	133
Nevada (RKO)		110	100			125	100		100		100			110	83				100	150	100	100	105
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100		105						100		100	150	85			135			165		117
Picture of Dorian Gray, The (MGM)										120	98	143			125	155							128
Practically Yours (Para)	125	137	125	130	100	130	190	100	125	125	145	173		160	105	190	140	195	75		150	150	139
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)	150			90			160				97	150	105			120		180	125		130		131
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130			160	105		200					175		150	140	195							157
She Gets Her Man (Univ)	110	125	100	95	90	120	100	90	100	100	120	100	100	100	100		110	175			100	100	107
Sing Me a Song of Texas (Col)						115	100		100	90	100			100			105		100		100	140	105
Song of Bernadette (20-Fox)		130		95			165	90	130	85	115		90	125			95	140	75		135		113
Song of the Sarong (Univ)	100		100				100					100	100				105						101
Sudan (Univ)	125	145	110	80			150		145		102	108			100	185	95		90		115		119
Tarzan and the Amazons (RKO)	110			120							120	100			100								110
This Man's Navy (MGM)	125	108	110	105	80					120	87	112	100	125			120	175			140		116
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115	85		160	120	90	110		150	100	140	100		110		90	150	170	200	132
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110					110				95	80	109			155			110	140	117
Utah (Rep)						100			145		120			100	97				125		100		112
Without Love (MGM)			110	220					120			133		140		150					140		145

IT'S A STEP IN THE "RIOT" DIRECTION



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with

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GLADYS GEORGE
and RUTH TERRY
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Adaptation and Screen Play by Bradford Ropes
Based on a Novel by Marcel Arnac

A Republic PICTURE

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Together Again (Col)—Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, Mona Freeman. A very good comedy that drew well and pleased. If Miss Dunne had given us one good song it would have pleased a lot of people. That little bit coming downstairs was too short for most of us. Weather: Terrible.—M. Bailey, Strand, Dryden, Ont., Canada.

Tonight and Every Night (Col)—Rita Hayworth, Lee Bowman, Janet Blair, Marc Platt. Average business. Beautiful color but weak story. Some good comments and some unfavorable. A fair all around bill of entertainment. Played Sun., Mon.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Barbary Coast Gent (M-G-M)—Wallace Beery, Binnie Barnes, John Carradine. This one brought them in pretty well. It is a natural for the small town. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Excellent.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Small town patronage.

Canterville Ghost (M-G-M)—Charles Laughton, Margaret O'Brien, Robert Young. This is one of the few of its class of fantastic pictures that satisfied our customers. The scene in which Charles Laughton rode a bomb caused our customers to laugh until they hurt. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

Main Street After Dark (M-G-M)—Edward Arnold, Selena Royle, Tom Trout, Audrey Totter. Held up for half of a double bill with a western. My personal impression was not so favorable but somehow there were no comments for or against it—which is not a healthy sign. Played Fri., Sat. Western: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Going My Way (Para)—Bing Crosby, Rise Stevens, Barry Fitzgerald, James Brown. Just three little words: SRO!—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Small town patronage.

Going My Way (Para)—Bing Crosby, Rise Stevens, Barry Fitzgerald, James Brown. Superb acting. This show deserves the highest possible credit that can be given. Many people saw it three and four times. It broke all records for nearly three years. Played Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Good.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Sign of the Cross, The (Para)—Fredric March, Elissa Landi, Claudette Colbert, Charles Laughton. DeMille's modernization process helped this one a lot, although it still suffers from antiquity. There is something about the reissues that makes them different from modern films—although I cannot just sense what it is. Perhaps it is the absence of a running musical background in many cases. Despite the fact that both projectors broke down (at alternate times) and our audience enjoyed an intermission between each of the six reels, they liked it fine.—Gray Barker, Pictureland, Glenville, W. Va. College, rural and small town patronage.

Barometer of Business Is the Boxoffice

"The greatest barometer of one's business is the boxoffice, therefore personal likes and dislikes should never enter into anything an exhibitor has to say about pictures."—Elias "Louis" S. Sutter, Princess, Regal and Castle theatres, (N) Kansas City.

RKO RADIO

Casanova Brown (RKO)—Gary Cooper, Teresa Wright, Frank Morgan, Patricia Collinge. The first day after VE-Day a little quiet but the second night did very well. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

It's a Pleasure (RKO)—Sonja Henie, Michael O'Shea, Bill Johnson, Marie McDonald. A bell ringer. Tops in ice shows. Sonja skates, dances and acts in Technicolor that really does her justice. It's her picture all the way and you won't be sorry you played it.—Peter Kavel, SK 3/2, AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (RKO)—Disney cartoon reissue. Here is a grand show that will still do excellent business for you. We had many nice comments. Business was well above average. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Tall in the Saddle (RKO)—John Wayne, Ella Raines, Ward Bond, George "Gabby" Hayes. We have always double billed weekends. This we played on a single bill with a Stooge comedy and it proved to our satis-

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faction that it could be done.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)—Dennis O'Keefe, Constance Moore, Eve Arden, Otto Kruger. Republic is hitting the top brackets. Here is a musical that can take its place among the others. Well-balanced story, acting, songs and sets make this one for the top spots.—Peter Kavel SK 3/2 AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Song of Nevada (Rep)—Roy Rogers, Dale Evans. This offers something different in horse operas, a combination of popular music and cowboy songs. Very good. We doubled with "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para). Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Washington's best.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Diamond Horseshoe (20th-Fox)—Betty Grable, Dick Haymes, Phil Silvers, William Gaxton. Boy, oh boy, what a spectacle! The first musical in a long time that has a prewar standard of production. It should please everyone. Seen at a navy show. What a reception!—Peter Kavel SK 3/2 AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Jane Eyre (20th-Fox)—Orson Welles, Joan Fontaine, Margaret O'Brien, Peggy Ann Garner. This was my night off, so I went to see our bill. This is one of the few pictures that to me throws off the yoke of celluloid and takes on reality. After the first reel the thing transported me right to the foggy moors, and I got an extra thrill out of watching the photography and listening to the musical score, so well integrated that they provided just the right amount of gravy for Orson's marvelously delivered ham. Best where you have high school and college patronage, for the sticks won't go all-out for this one. Business was fine. Played Thurs., Fri.—Gray Barker, Pictureland, Glenville, W. Va. College, rural and small town patronage.

Shrine of Victory (20th-Fox)—British documentary. This is a very interesting picture and people want to see it. I played it Fri., Sat., Sun. with Gene Autry's "Comin' Round the Mountain" (Rep) for the second time and it was the best patronage I ever had—better than "Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox) and "Going My Way" (Para) and 30 per cent above last year. Exhibitors are afraid to book it because there are no stars or gorgeous clothes—just facts, but facts that people want to see, so advertise it and play it.—Peter Fakas, Elm Creek, Neb. Small town and rural patronage.

Sweet and Lowdown (20th-Fox)—Benny Goodman and His Band, Linda Darnell, Lynn Bari, Jack Oakie. Did the usual weekend business. Doubled with "The Kansan" (UA). Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Sweet Rosie O'Grady (20th-Fox)—Betty Grable, Robert Young, Adolphe Menjou, Reginald Gardiner. I played this one during Fox's anniversary. I don't generally play Fox but I wish I did—if they would all take like this one. Business was swell. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Take It or Leave It (20th-Fox)—Phil Baker, Marjorie Massow, Edward Ryan, Stanley Prager. Now I have seen everything. Not over 10 per cent of it was new photography, the rest stolen from old pictures. However, it was good entertainment and did business, so I have no complaint to offer if it doesn't get to be a habit like war features. Played Wednesday. Weather: Average.—Johnny

THE THEATRE PARTNER

THE HUMAN SIDE OF THE BUSINESS

ALEXANDER FILM CO.



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Phil March, theatre chain owner of Wayne, Nebraska, sums up in one concise sentence what he thinks about theatre screen advertising revenue:

"I own a building which cost me $5,000 and rent it for $25.00 a month. This is two dollars a month less than I receive per month from running Alexander Film Co. ads."

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UNIVERSAL

Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Babes on Swing Street (Univ)—Ann Blyth, Peggy Ryan, Andy Devine, Leon Errol. A good little programmer that pleased a fair house on a weekend double bill. Worth a spot on a weaker change, and they'll like it. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Stormy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Christmas Holiday (Univ)—Deanna Durbin, Gene Kelly, Dean Harens. With the title and stars, I expected to make plenty, but it just turned in an average gross. People will take to musical comedies before they will to straight dramas and Universal could really have made a money-grosser by putting these two stars in a musical. I didn't think much of the picture. Played Sun., Mon.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Climax, The (Univ)—Boris Karloff, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Gale Sondergaard. This is not a small town picture. Karloff has never been popular here, and horror pictures do not take with us. However, it was well produced. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Conspirators, The (WB)—Hedy Lamarr, Paul Henreid, Sydney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre. Terrible business. Warner makes only a few pictures a year due to the shortage of film, yet wastes it on pictures like this. I believe I am right in saying that these pictures are the ones that have brought out the big complaints against pictures with a war background. How about more musicals and comedies, even westerns?—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

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Clearance Reduction For Brockton House

NEW YORK — Keith's Campello Amusement Corp., operating the Keith Theatre, Brockton, Mass., has been awarded a reduction of clearance by an arbitrator in the Boston tribunal. Arbitrator John D. Reilly's award reduces clearance of the Brockton and Colonial theatres over the Keith Theatre to 45 days and that of the Rialto to 30 days.

The complainant sought a 30-day clearance after the Brockton first runs. Reilly, in his decision, stated in part: "It was conceded at the outset that there is substantial competition between Keith and the downtown houses. Most of Keith's potential patrons are also potential patrons of the downtown theatres . . ."

The five major companies were named as defendants. Intervenors were the Brockton Olympia Realty Co., Washington Operating Co., Star Amusement Co., Montello Amusement Co., and Anston Theatres, Inc.

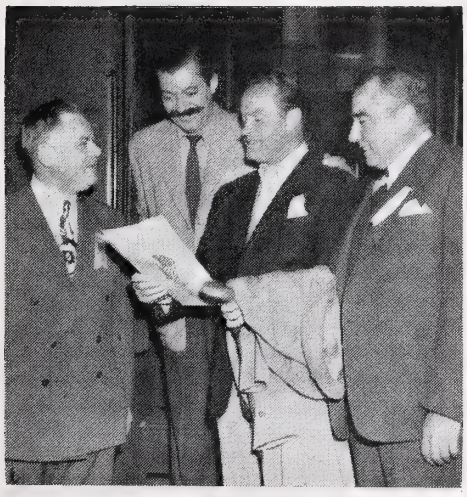
An appeal from the decision of an arbitrator in its clearance complaint against RKO has been filed by Basil Bros. Theatres, operating the Colvin Theatre, Kenmore, N. Y. The appellant was joined by Buffalo Theatres, an intervenor. Basil Bros. asked for 30-day availability after Buffalo first runs in the original complaint. Request was denied.

The Phoenix Amusement Co., owner of the Seneca and Andrews theatres, Salamanca, N. Y., has withdrawn its clearance complaint against the major distributors.

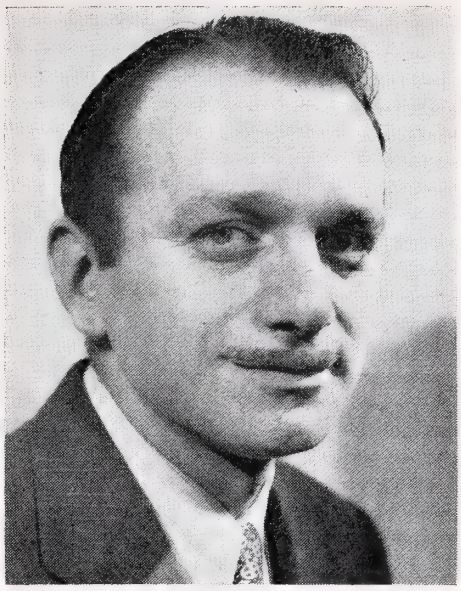
Democracy Needs Free Screen, Says Swensen

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. plan to continue dramatizing democracy in action on the screens of the world in the postwar period, Joel Swensen, researcher on the company's exploitation staff, told the Greenwich, Conn., Lions Club at a special meeting at which he was guest speaker.

Swensen said that free access to information conveyed by films, radio and the press will be more necessary than ever if democracy is to function in the postwar world. The industry's war activities, he said, are a model of cooperation with the government's prosecution of the war. He urged the Lions Club to assume leadership in the movement to guarantee freedom of expression.



HERE THEY ARE! — Washington's Seventh War Loan campaign really got under way when Bob Hope and Jerry Colonna arrived. They are being greeted by Fred S. Gogod (left), chairman of the District of Columbia committee, and Wilmer Waller of the WFC.



NEW RKO ART HEAD—Stanley Sherwin, who has just been named art director by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity. Sherwin has been with RKO for several years.

Goldman Seeks New Philadelphia Spots

PHILADELPHIA—William Goldman, biggest independent film operator in Philadelphia, is looking over sites for new houses to be built after the war. He is reported to be particularly interested in the site of old Kugler's Restaurant, 15th and Chestnut Sts., one of the choice locations in the central city.

Goldman operates Keith's and the Karlton, both formerly of the Stanley-Warner chain, and the News, an all-nighter, in the central city, and also has several houses in neighborhood locations and in upstate cities.

At present Goldman is engaged in litigation with the Warners and other major distributors, charging they have conspired to prevent him from obtaining first run pictures for his Erlanger, a former legitimate theatre. At one time he was zone manager for the Warners.

RKO's Income Is Higher, But Profits in a Drop

NEW YORK — Radio - Keith - Orpheum Corp. and subsidiary companies reported a net profit of $5,206,378.46 for 1944. This is $1,763,626.09 less than the net profit of 1943.

Gross income from theatre admissions, film rentals and sales, rents and other operating income was $84,902,990.56 for 1944 as compared with $78,795,320.34 for the preceding year. Expenses for 1944 were $9,914,-054.81 greater than for 1943.

Provision for estimated income and excess profits was $5,228,694.01 for 1944 as compared with $6,000,000 in 1943.

Dividends on common and convertible preferred stock of Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp., a subsidiary company, were $22,315.55 in 1944.

Irvin Weiner Bares Plans For New Theatre Circuit

LEONARDTOWN, MD.—Irvin Weiner, former owner of the Hollywood Theatre on the historic Three Notch state road near this city, announced he would open a chain of theatres in Washington and Baltimore in June. Weiner owns the Waldorf Theatre in Charles County.

A. E. Lichtman Named Variety Welfare Head

WASHINGTON—A. E. Lichtman, circuit operator and former chief barker of Tent No. 11, Variety Club, last week was named chairman of the Variety Club welfare committee, succeeding Rudolph Berger, resigned. Berger, new M-G-M division manager, will continue as a member of the board of governors as he will make periodic visits to the city.

The board acclaimed the welfare leadership of the former chairman which won the club the national honors. Lichtman formerly served as vice-chairman of the committee.

Film, Stage Stars Help 'Show Business Salute'

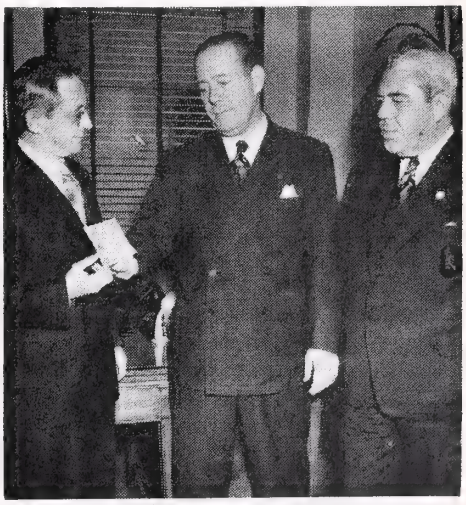
NEW YORK—"A Salute to Show Business at War," honoring stars of the entertainment world who have "made notable contributions in the fight against fascism," will be made by the Spanish Refugee Appeal at a dinner Sunday evening, June 10, at the Hotel Astor. Dorothy Parker, acting chairman of the appeal, and Rex Stout, chairman of the writers war board, will be the principal speakers. Margaret Webster will act as chairman for the dinner.

Appeal sponsors include Joan Fontaine, Dolores Del Rio, Bette Davis, William Eythe, Ruth Gordon, Phil Baker, Wilella Waldorf, Paul Robeson, Jane Cowl, Dean Dixon, Richard Maney, Anton Dolin, John Mason Brown and Louis Kronenberger.

Eliminates Clearance In Maine Decision

NEW YORK—There is no "substantial competition" between the Neptune Theatre, McKinley, Me., and the Criterion Theatre, Bar Harbor, Arbitrator Sumner H. Babcock ruled in eliminating the latter's clearance, in a decision handed down in the Boston tribunal.

Hollis G. Reed, owner of the Neptune, in filing an arbitration complaint against Paramount and Warner Bros., alleged that the Criterion's clearance was unreasonable. United Enterprises, Inc., which operates the Criterion, was named intervenor. Julius Joelson, head of the J. J. Theatres, Inc., in New York, is president of United.



GOVERNOR BUYS FIRST—Morris A. Mechanic, Baltimore exhibitor, sells the first bond of the Seventh War Loan to Maryland's governor, Herbert R. O'Conor, while Frank N. Durkee, executive of the Baltimore Theatre circuit, looks on with approval.

BROADWAY

Arthur Hornblow jr., M-G-M producer, arrived from Culver City and is stopping at the Waldorf Towers . . . E. Z. Walters, Altec's comptroller, has returned from Hollywood, where he conferred with G. L. Carrington, company president.

H. S. Morris, Altec merchandising manager and eastern representative of Altec Lansing Corp., is back at his desk following a business trip to Detroit and Cleveland.

S/Sgt. Edmund Kennedy, formerly an accountant in the RKO Radio foreign department, has been released from a Nazi prison camp and is expected home. This was the first direct word from him since a letter was received last November by his brother, Jack Kennedy, also of the foreign department.

Leonard Spinrad, who was a member of Mort Blumenstock's publicity staff at the Warner Bros. home office before going into the army, has been promoted to first lieutenant. At present Spinrad is attached to the Army Pictorial Service here.

Roy Haines, Warner Bros. western and southern division sales manager, left on a tour of the midwest and southwest territories, with stops scheduled in Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Dallas and New Orleans . . . Ellingwood W. Kay arrived on the coast to assume his new post in the story department at the Warner Bros. studios.

Russell H. Stewart of the M-G-M publicity department became a father for the second time. It was an eight pound, six ounce boy born at Physicians Hospital, Jackson Heights.

Edwin W. Aaron, circuit sales manager for M-G-M, attend the graduation of his daughter from Mt. Holyoke College . . . Sam Clark, west coast field representative for Warner Bros., visited San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento in connection with campaigns on "Pillow to Post" and "Conflict."

Howard Koch, Warner Bros. writer, returned to the coast and will resume scripting on "Land I Have Chosen" . . . Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International Corp., visited Cairo, Egypt, from London. Other stops are scheduled prior to his return.

James R. Grainger, Republic president and general sales manager, left for the company's coast studios, with stopovers at Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans and Dallas.

The filming of Sonja Henie's second International Technicolor film, "Countess of Monte Cristo," has been postponed to enable the skating star to embark on an overseas hospital tour.

Norton V. Ritchey, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for Monogram, attended the company's sales conference at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago.

Helmut Dantine, Warner Bros. star currently making personal appearances at the Strand, will make a recording, discussing democracy, to be used for OWI shortwave broadcasting overseas. He also will record a similar talk in Italian.



HALF-ACRE SIGN—On the back wall of the Roxy Theatre, New York, there is the biggest bond sign in Manhattan. A 24-sheet would fit into one corner. The sign is 40 ft. high and 70 ft. from left to right. It is illuminated at night. It faces Radio City.

Salvador Camarata, Decca records musical director, arrived in England to begin work on Wesley Ruggles' production, "London Town," being made in conjunction with the J. Arthur Rank interests.

William Collier jr. stopped off here from the coast before leaving for Britain to work with Ruggles.

Republic stars Vera Hruba Ralston, Al Pearce, Tito Guizar and Jane Withers were featured on the Which Is Which? program, broadcast over CBS . . . Morris Goodman, president of Republic Pictures International Corp., flew to Paris from London for several weeks' stay.

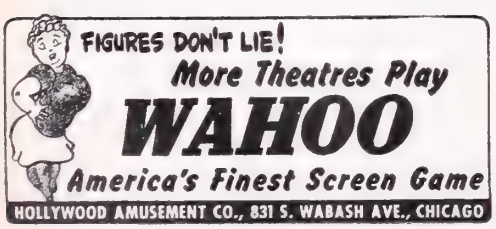
Jacqueline Harvey, daughter of George Harvey, short subjects publicity manager for Paramount, underwent an appendectomy at the Polyclinic Hospital. She is reported on the road to recovery.

Eugene Lange of the Warner Bros. contract department, is the father of a second daughter, christened Doris Marie.

Kim Hunter, chosen by British producers Powell and Pressburger as the result of a 6,500-mile talent search to play the role of an American WAC in their next picture, "A Matter of Life and Death," arrived from the coast. Miss Hunter will leave for London to fill her assignment.

Hal B. Wallis returned to Hollywood after conferring with Joseph H. Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, executives of Paramount and others. Under discussion were distribution plans for three pictures Wallis has completed for Paramount, "The Affairs of Susan," "Love Letters" and "You Came Along" and production plans for forthcoming films.

Martin Starr, UA exploitation director, went to Pittsburgh to set up advance campaigns on three of the company's releases scheduled for the Harris Theatre.



Officers Are Inducted By ITOA in New York

NEW YORK—Newly-elected ITOA officers headed by President Harry Brandt were installed by S. H. Fabian, theatres' chairman of the WAC, at the annual installation luncheon at the Hotel Astor, Thursday. Other officers inducted were:

David Weinstock, first vice-president; Max A. Cohen, second vice-president; Leon Rosenblatt, treasurer; Joshua Goldberg, secretary, and John C. Bolte, sergeant-at-arms. Installed as directors were:

Leo Brecher, A. H. Eisenstadt, Norman Elson, Samuel Freedman, Isidore Gottlieb, Abe Leff, Emanuel Hertzig, Gilbert Josephson, Martin Levine, Irving Renner, Ray Rhonheimer, Rudolph Sanders, Abraham Shenk, Henry Siegel, Charles Steiner and Bernard Zimetbaum.

In addition to Fabian, George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman, and Herban Gluckman, treasurer, were guests. Max A. Cohen was temporary chairman.

Approximately 200 members and their wives attended. Gifts were presented to the women, guests of honor and officers and directors.

LaGuardia Airport Tieup Sells $129,000 in Bonds

NEW YORK—WAC, cooperating with the civil air patrol, sold $129,000 worth of E bonds in three days at LaGuardia Airport. Purchasers of $500 bonds received free airplane rides.

Interest in the stunt, engineered by Ray Malone, RKO publicist and WAC chairman for Queens, has been building. On opening day, Sunday, May 13, $28,000 in bonds were sold; on Saturday, a poor flying day, sales amounted to $4,000, and on Sunday, bonds totaling $97,000 were processed.

The project will continue through Sunday, July 7. To handle these sales, Fred Brunelle, WAC borough chairman, has set up a schedule for local film theatres to man the bond booth in rotation. Only bonds bought at the airport entitle the buyers to free scenic rides over the city.



JOINS CELEBRATION—Helmut Dantine, in New York for personal appearances at the Strand with his picture, "Escape in the Desert," joined in Mayor LaGuardia's celebration of "I Am an American Day" on the Mall at Central Park.

"Decision" Is Tops On Gay White Way

NEW YORK—Aided by the end of the curfew, business remained at profitable levels at the Broadway first runs.

Columbia's "Counter-Attack," the only new arrival, opened well at the Criterion.

At the Music Hall, Metro's "Valley of Decision" continues to exceptional business in its third week.

"Blood on the Sun," UA release starring James Cagney and Sylvia Sidney, was the new attraction at the Capitol. Paramount's "A Medal for Benny" followed the same company's "Affairs of Susan" into the Rivoli.

Twentieth-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe" entered its fourth week at the Roxy May 23. UA's British importation, "Colonel Blimp," was ending its eighth week at the Gotham. PRC's "Crime, Inc.," is scheduled for an early June showing at the Rialto.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 4th wk.....140
Capitol—**The Clock** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 125
Criterion—**Counter-Attack** (Col) 185
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 8th wk.....105
Palace—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 3rd wk.....110
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show, 4th wk. 125
Radio City Music Hall—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 3rd wk.....170
Rialto—**The Brighton Strangler** (RKO).....110
Rivoli—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 8th wk.....100
Roxy—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 155
Strand—**Escape in the Desert** (WB), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 165
Victoria—**Dillinger** (Mono), 4th wk.....170

"Salty O'Rourke" Top Heavy Favorite In the Philadelphia Sweeps

PHILADELPHIA—"Salty O'Rourke," starring Alan Ladd, led all the way in the run for the money in the boxoffice derby here this week. "Diamond Horseshoe" and "The Enchanted Cottage" followed the top-heavy favorite to the wire.

Aldine—**Song to Remember** (Col), 8th wk.....165
Arcadia—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk...145
Boyd—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk...185
Earle—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA), plus stage show 130
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....200
Karlton—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), 2nd run.....130
Keith's—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd run.....135
Mastbaum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO).....190
Stanley—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para).....220
Stanton—**The Unseen** (Para), 2nd run.....140

"Diamond Horseshoe" Registers 200 At Great Lakes in Buffalo

BUFFALO — "Diamond Horseshoe" kept Betty Grable among the top grossers here, recording twice average in a bangup seven days at the Great Lakes. "Earl Carroll Vanities" and "The Great Flamarion," both from Republic, were strong at the 20th Century with better than one and one-half times average. "The Affairs of Susan" was assured of a moveover after a good week at the Buffalo. This was the city's fifth successive week of almost steady rain.

Buffalo—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **When the Lights Go On Again** (PRC).....117
Great Lakes—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....200
Hippodrome—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Scared Stiff** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover.....102
20th Century—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 170
Lafayette—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 89

Para. Choral Group Fiesta

NEW YORK—Paramount Pictures Choral Society presented its spring concert and fiesta on May 25 at the Plaza Hotel. Consuls of 21 American republics and officers of the armed services attended the performance.

The musical program featured North and South American selections by the all-girl chorus and by the male chorus.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

"MR. (SAMUEL) PINANSKI is a modest man. He is remarkable in other ways, too. As copartner with Martin J. Mullin, he operates the M&P chain of movie theatres, the largest in the east." This quotation is culled from an article in the Boston Post by Elliot Norton which tells of the Seventh War Loan and Pinanski's part in it.



SAMUEL PINANSKI

It hit the nail squarely on the head in characterizing him as a modest man. Pinanski is not only modest as far as claiming credit for himself is concerned, he is also modest insofar as one person's limitations go in heading an important undertaking.

"Directing the Seventh War Loan," he says, "is not a one-man job. Like any other big job, if one attempts to handle it alone, one would almost certainly be limiting the objectives by one's own limitations."

Pinanski feels that the Seventh War Loan is an "important job," and, as such, he has surrounded himself with the best brains that he could find. "It isn't possible to wave a wand and expect to get a big job done. One needs all the varied talents and skills that can be secured. No man possesses a monopoly of intelligence adequate to solve all the complex problems and to do all the work that is required to be done."

Important Figure in New England

One of the industry's least publicized leaders, Pinanski has been an important figure in New England for several decades. He hasn't changed his attitude even though his chairmanship of the Seventh War Loan has made him a national figure.

At his insistence, the Seventh War Loan has been called the "grass roots" campaign to focus attention upon the important task to be done by the exhibitor and manager—the men who actually sell the bonds to the public.

During the current campaign he is devoting his entire time to this mission. Born and bred in Boston, he moved to New York so that he would be in close touch with day-to-day developments. He is as enthused as a small boy with a new toy whenever one of his out-of-town lieutenants telephones to inform him of a new accomplishment. The sell-out of a bond premiere or the reaching of a quota sends him into transports of joy. His face lights up in a friendly grin that invariably makes friends instantly.

It is this warm and personal touch that make his co-workers feel that they must never let him down.

In addition to directing, with Martin J. Mullin, the circuit that bears his name, Pinanski acts as adviser to the First National Bank of Boston on the bank's investments and financing of a number of film companies. These industry financial dealings are said to be the most extensive of any institution in the country.

A member of the Massachusetts War Finance Committee since the start of the war, Pinanski has been active in civic and philanthropic affairs for many years. His interest in the underprivileged is manifested in his directorship in the Boys Club of America.

For two years he served on the survey committee of Brookline, Mass., where he makes his home. He also was a member of the postwar committee of the community. By appointment of the governor, Pinanski has served as head of the Massachusetts Committee for Public Safety.

In Theatre Business 32 Years

Pinanski's association with the theatre business dates back 32 years. After his graduation from the Lowell Textile Institute, he became interested with his father in the operation of the Beacon Theatre, Nashua, N. H., then operating roadshows. When his father decided to build the Modern Theatre, on Washington St., Boston, young Pinanski helped to design the theatre, putting his engineering training to good use.

Upon completion of the Modern, Pinanski managed the house and began to learn the business in earnest. Thus began an association with his father in various ventures which continued until the latter's death four years ago.

"The theatre business began to get into my blood," says Pinanski of these days, adding: "and for the next two or three years we began to expand our theatre holdings slowly and methodically."

Then followed various executive posts with the New England Theatres Operating Corp. and Paramount-Publix. A dozen years ago, Pinanski formed the partnership with Mullin and the M&P circuit resulted. Today the company operates some 145 houses in New England extending from Maine to Hartford, Conn.

A devotee of the simple life, he likes to hunt, fish and ride. His favorite form of relaxation is to visit his farm at Pride's Crossing, Mass., where he can indulge his hobby of riding to his heart's content.

Greek-Americans in Rally

NEW YORK—Greek-Americans staged the first of a series of United Nations rallies in Times Square. The rallies, held in conjunction with the Seventh War Loan drive, will be dedicated to a different nationality each week for eight successive Saturdays.

Nearly 200 Greek-American societies, communities and war veterans participated, many of the groups wearing native costume and engaging in Greek dances. Among those appearing were Katina Paxinou, George Coulouris and Fred Arlis. Also present were Archbishop Athenagorais; John Kallergis, consul general; Nicholas Lely, minister of information, and the parents of Pvt. Stratis C. Vasilakos. A detachment of U.S. marines presented posthumously to Mr. and Mrs. Vasilakos the Silver Star and Purple Heart awarded their son for conspicuous gallantry in action against enemy forces in Peleliu.

Subsequent rallies, arranged in part by Irving Lesser, Morris Kinzler and George A. Generalis, WAC chairmen, will be dedicated to the Chinese, Jugoslavs, Lithuanians, Norwegians, Czechoslovakians, Poles, French and Russians. Group dances, authentic music and bands in colorful array of native costumes as well as personal appearances of government representatives, film stars and war heroes will feature the proceedings.

Bessey of Altec Back

NEW YORK—Vice-President H. M. Bessey of Altec has returned from a business trip to the west coast. He visited company district offices en route via San Francisco and Seattle.



ACTIVITY AT SYRACUSE—Central New York's promotion of the Seventh War Loan drive took final form at a recent meeting of exhibitors and distributors in Hotel Syracuse. Shown above are, left to right, Harry H. Unterfort, Onondaga County chairman of the bond campaign and co-chairman of WAC for the county; Emanuel Waronov, local distributors chairman; Max Yellen, western New York chairman of the motion picture division of the war finance committee; Robert Murphy, western N. Y., chairman of WAC; Sidney Grossman, co-chairman of county WAC, and Ira Cohen, district chairman, WAC.

Bond Shows Are Planned For 119 N. Y. Theatres

NEW YORK—Bond premieres have been promised by 119 theatres in the metropolitan with a goal of 214,708 E bonds during the rest of May and June. This is on the basis of a bond for every seat. During the last loan campaign 73 theatres in this area held special bond shows.

For the first time four Broadway houses—the Roxy, Rivoli, Paramount and Palace—will have bond premieres with stage shows. This makes 13,399 seats available for these shows, compared with 5,486 last year when the Capitol was the only house to hold a bond show.

Forty-nine theatres with a total seating capacity of 77,705 will hold children's bond shows, compared with 11 houses with 18,833 seats during the Sixth War Loan.

WAC Bond Premiere Plans Discussed at Rochester

ROCHESTER—Final arrangements were discussed Tuesday for the War Bond Premiere to be sponsored by the War Activities Committee of Rochester Theatres June 8.

The program will include the premiere showing of Universal's new film, "That's the Spirit," with Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Buster Keaton and Andy Devine and broadcast over a nationwide hookup of Mutual's "Double or Nothing" program from the stage of the Eastman Theatre.

Members of the executive committee sponsoring the show are Jay Golden, Comerford manager; Lester Pollock, Rochester manager, and Clinton Young of Geneva, district manager of Schine's theatres.

Open Bell N.Y. Exchange

NEW YORK—With Frances Kulick, former PRC branch manager, in charge, Bell Pictures, Inc., has opened an exchange in the Film Center Bldg. Among films the new exchange will distribute are "The Prisoner of Zenda," "Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "The Garden of Allah," reissues.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

Capitol Bond Plans Sparkle With Zipp

WASHINGTON—With the Mighty Seventh War Loan under way, every theatre in Washington is united behind Fred S. Kogod, D. C. chairman of the motion picture industry for the drive.

To meet the Washington quota the industry here, in addition to participating in all activities and events planned by the national committee, has arranged an "Oscar" campaign of war bond premieres and a strong program of special events, highlighted by projection room screenings, the Victory Bowl, the Victory Ship, a baseball game at Griffith Stadium and, as a grand climax, a rousing Cavalcade of Freedom.

Other aspects of the publicity campaign call for trailers, the "All Star Bond Rally" short subject, Free Movie Day June 6, press portfolio, Bing Crosby recordings, Seventh War Loan buttons, rallies and auctions, a proclamation issued by the D. C. board of commissioners, special lobby and newspaper copy for Memorial Day May 30, and Glenn Miller Day arrangements.

A new feature in the Seventh War Loan will be a special baseball game between the Washington Senators and a service team at Griffith Stadium the night of June 14. This game will make 25,000 seats available to theatres. There will also be a mammoth outdoor show at the Watergate, where at least 10,000 tickets, given to the purchasers of bonds, will be available to theatre patrons exclusively.

The MPTODC has appropriated bond prizes to two winners in each of the 11 areas into which the District has been divided for purposes of the campaign. Kogod has personally set up $150 in bond prizes for managers doing the best bond-selling job from April 1 through May 13, with the supplementary MPTODC prizes to be given for the best job done from May 13 through June 30.

Sidney Lust, chairman for the Fifth War Loan, has been appointed chairman of the industry exhibitor and exchange division, in the hope of getting at least $1,000,000 in personal sales to the personnel of the industry.

Participating showmen on the executive committee of the WAC aiding Kogod are John J. Payette and Carter Barron, co-chairmen; Frank LaFalce, area publicity chairman; John S. Allen, exchange area chairman, and Joseph B. Brecheen, Washington exchange chairman.

Tilyou Set for Kid Show

NEW YORK—Manager Lou Niss of the Tilyou Theatre, Coney Island, has enlisted the services of the entire faculty and student body of Mark Twain Junior High School, Brooklyn, in putting over his Seventh War Loan bond show for youngsters, June 8. A goal of $75,000 has been set. Sales of E bonds to date have pushed the $16,000 mark.

A Button Pusher at $12 Per Push Irks Manager

White Plains — Demands from Local 366 of the stagehands union compelled Jack Brown, manager of the County Center, to retain at $12 a night an additional union member "to push buttons." The button, Brown said, illuminated an American flag and made it wave.

The button-pushing chore formerly was performed by a stagehand who also played "The Star-Spangled Banner" on a photograph and managed the amplifying system. Union regulations, Brown continued, forbade the record-player from having anything to do with operating the flag display, no matter how brief the work might be.



COWAN ON THE AIR—"How Shall We Re-Educate Germany?" was the topic of an American Forum of the Air broadcast in which Lester Cowan, independent producer, participated. Shown here are: (l-r) Prof. Mark Van Doren of Columbia; Cowan, and Theodore Granik, attorney and editor, who founded the program.

Maryland Counties Zone Bond Setup Announced

WASHINGTON—Zone county chairmen for the state of Maryland were announced last week by Seventh War Loan Co-chairman Frank H. Durkee, who is handling the campaign with Co-chairman C. Elmer Nolte. Named to head the seven state zones are: Alleghany and Garrett—Carl Sherred, Maryland Theatre, Cumberland; Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery and Washington—George Payette jr., Maryland Theatre, Hagerstown; Baltimore, Hartford, and Cecil; William Allen, Towson Theatre, Towson; Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George, and St. Mary's—Kenneth Duke, St. Mary's Theatre, Leonardtown; Caroline, Kent, Talbot and Queen Anne—Sam Mellets, Dentonia Theatre, Denton; vice-chairmen, Emerson Russell, Lyceum Theatre, Chestertown, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester—Marsh Gollner, Arcade Theatre, Salisbury; Baltimore city chairman, residential section—Lauritz Garman, Uptown Theatre; Baltimore downtown section chairman—Morris A. Mechanic, New Theatre.

Louis E. Schecter heads the state publicity, with Gertrude Bunchez handling publicity for the downtown Baltimore houses and Jacques Shellman handling trade press publicity.

N. Y. Sells 61,125 Bonds In First Week of Drive

NEW YORK—Theatres in the Greater New York area sold a total of 61,125 E bonds having a maturity value of $6,562,100 during the first week of the Seventh War Loan. The bonds were sold as follows:

Broadway theatres, 5,214; Manhattan, 10,164; Brooklyn, 19,338; Bronx, 13,454; Queens, 11,729, and Richmond, 1,226.

Neighborhood theatres of the RKO circuit serviced the Times Square bond booth May 27. Each day during the drive the booth is manned by a different theatre operating under supervision of WAC.

Roxy E Bond Sales Now Far Ahead of Schedule

NEW YORK—With the Seventh War Loan drive only one week old and six weeks to go, the Roxy reached 35 per cent of its quota of 12,500 E bonds. As of Sunday, May 20, the Roxy had sold 4,406 bonds with a maturity value of $170,175.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

RKO Golf Tourney At Rye Draws 400

NEW YORK—RKO's tenth annual golf tournament held Tuesday at the Westchester Country Club, Rye, N. Y., was attended by nearly 400 employes and guests, the largest attendance in the history of the event.

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, presided at the dinner held in the evening and awarded prizes to the winners. Rathvon's reference to the return to active duty of Ned E. Depinet was greeted warmly by the guests.

Prominents on the Dais

Among those seated at the dais were Phil Reisman, Malcolm Kingsberg, Gordon Youngman, Robert Mochrie, Walter Branson, Harry Michalson, Nat Levy, James Brennan, Leon Britton, RKO Argentine manager, and George Kallman, former RKO Philippine manager, who spent several years in the Santo Tomas prison camp at Manila.

The committee of arrangements consisted of Rathvon, Depinet, Kingsberg, Mochrie, Maj. L. E. Thompson, William Clark, J. H. Walters, Garrett Van Wagner and A. W. Dawson. The prize committee was John Farmer, Dick Gavin and Harry Pimstein, and the working committee included John Jones, Charles Fretz, Al Tuchman, Walter Strickerling, Daly Kiel, Herb McEntee and Jack Carney.

Prizes in the golf tourney were awarded as follows:

Kickers' handicap—For RKO employes, Walter Ament; for guests, William A. White; low gross score—RKO employes, south course, Harry Michalson; west course, Harry Pimstein; runnersup, Walter Branson and Lou Miller; low gross for guests—A. Kronenberg, J. Pitcher; runnersup, G. Barry, Norman Ayers.

Putting contest—First, Don Smith; second, N. Peter Rathvon; third, Charles Zagrans; fourth, Jack Level, nearest the pin contest—south course, Harry Cole; west course, R. Buggeln.

The Foursome Winners

Foursome winners included the following: F. Valvano, Ned Clark, Ned E. Depinet, Charles Boasberg, Harry Romm, Bob Sherman, S. Lewis, J. Burke, Dr. H. Brown, W. Laudbrown, S. Weill, I. Brodsky, James Mulvey, J. Turner, H. E. Newcomb, Walter Seaton, P. Crane, H. Moran, J. Murphy, Charles Yates, Lou Golding, Bert Sanford, E. McGuire, A. S. Calvin, William A. Scully, George Ronan, N. E. Keesely, N. Kushner, F. C. Eggerstedt, Oscar Lager, Russell Emde, P. Chauncey, Charles Levy, B. Kautman, George F. Dembow, John Farmer, Ted Lauder and J. C. Kelleher.

Chester Friedman won a box of Wheaties as a prize for the highest score.

In the tennis tournament, Don Lowenthal won the singles prize, while the doubles crown went to Richard Altschuler and Lou Wolfe.



"RUNNERSUP" AT RYE—RKO folk called it a day, hied to Rye, and the big golf tourney was on! Top panel, left: Ned Depinet chats with George Kallman, former RKO manager in the Philippines, recently liberated after three years in a Jap prison camp; right: the treasury representatives, William Clark and Malcolm Kingsberg.

Center panel, left: James Brennan, manager of RKO metropolitan theatres, registers with Rutgers Neilson for the tournament; right: Phil Reisman, Walter Branson, Harry Michalson.

Lower, left: President N. Peter Rathvon awards prizes as several RKOites look on; right: Depinet steadies an opening swing.

Front Office Workers To Discuss Back Pay

ALBANY—Local F-43, covering front office workers, was to hold a special meeting to discuss the back pay situation as it affects employes of Columbia, Republic and National Screen. Workers for these companies have not received the back pay awards recently approved for employes of "the big five," it was said on Filmrow.

Union members wanted to know what was holding back the 10 per cent back wage increases. It was not clear whether the WLB had okayed pay hikes for the three companies. An AFL contact man from New York, who handles most of the negotiations with home offices, was to attend the meeting.

Universal to Reissue "Life" and "Heaven"

NEW YORK—Universal will reissue "Imitation of Life," starring Claudette Colbert, and "East Side of Heaven," toplining Bing Crosby, June 15. William A. Scully, the company's vice-president and general sales manager, said that the pictures will be offered either singly or as a double bill.

Prerelease dates have been set for the Lafayette Theatre, Buffalo; Missouri Theatre, St. Louis, and Keith's, Dayton.

Actress to Wed Proser

NEW YORK—Jane Ball will marry Monte Proser, owner of the Copacobana Night Club she announced on the coast prior to her departure for the east. Miss Ball appeared on the stage in "Panama Hattie" and "Let's Face It," before making her debut in films.

Disney Executive to Wed

NEW YORK—James E. Finey, Walt Disney sales executive, will wed Sylvia Novita at the Church of St. Francis Xavier on June 3. The couple will honeymoon in the far west, returning via New Orleans and Miami.

Variety Post Sponsors Bigger Kiddie Drive

PHILADELPHIA—Variety Post No. 713 has arranged a surefire children's program for the Seventh War Loan drive. As incentive for selling war bonds, Philadelphia school children have been told by their teachers that the three children in each school who sell the greatest number of war bonds will be guests at a special show to be put on at the Fox Theatre on June 16.

The performance will include vaudeville, suitable pictures and personal appearances by war heroes, city officials and school heads.

They have also arranged with the army authorities at Camp Dix to have 50 prize winning children visit and make a complete tour of Camp Dix, including eating in a regular army mess hall. The Variety post has made arrangements to take the children to the camp and back by bus.

This plan is far more ambitious than any previously tried since it includes junior high as well as elementary schools. Also, in other drives the children were merely awarded honor medals and certificates.



BROOKLYN REPORTS—Theatres in Brooklyn raised $177,945.52 during the Red Cross War Fund drive. The theatre committee presents full reports and a check to Surrogate Francis D. McGarey, chairman. Shown here are: Seated—Edward C. Dowden of Loew's theatre publicity department, chairman; Judge McGarey, and Mrs. Ruth Nathan, co-chairman. Standing—Charles Dowe, manager of the Fox Theatre; Myron Siegal, Century circuit; Larry Grieb, representing RKO theatres; Emanuel Frisch, Randforce, and Ben Simon, Loew's Metropolitan Theatre.

WASHINGTON

Hester Harry is the new office assistant at United Artists, replacing Sherley Lazar, who resigned to join her soldier husband in Oregon . . . Nancy Harper will marry Tony Perruso May 27 . . . Dot Mattingly has recovered from her recent appendectomy.

The first open house at the Variety Club last Saturday night was a huge success, with bingo, music and various and sundry other entertainment. Harry Bachman was in charge of arrangements and, as usual, Frank Boucher was in there "pitching" and batting 1000 . . . New Variety Club members include Emerson Yorke, Emerson Yorke Studios, New York; William S. Crouch, executive producer, Film-Craft Productions, New York; Lieut. W. R. Sokel, USNR; Eric E. Shinkel, assistant contract clerk, Warners, and Adolph Silverstein, War Finance Committee.

Many happy returns to Mel Nau at Paramount . . . Ditto Inspector Alice Keester at Universal . . . Vince Doughert's little son Vince jr. is minus his tonsils. Same goes for Ed Fontaine's secretary, Elizabeth Waskey . . . At RKO Elizabeth Hook is back at her desk after her recent illness . . . Harley Davidson and Glenn Norris came in town . . . Bernie Depkin jr., Rives, Martinsville, Va., was a Filmrow visitor.

Sammy Walsh, comedian, is back at the Del Rio by popular request. Sammy made a hit at the club during a two-week engagement last month and drew rave notices from Drama Critics Nelson Bell and John Maynard.

Andy Smith jr., 20th-Fox eastern division manager who is making a tour of his offices, held a meeting with the entire Washington personnel on Wednesday after which he went into a closer huddle with Branch Manager C. E. Peppiatt, Salesmen Fred Klein, Jerry Murphy, Glenn Norris, Sam Diamond, Joe Cohan; Office Manager John O'Leary and Bookers Sara Young, Nat Rosen, Ann Griffin and Emil Kashouty: Exploiteer Bill Michalson.

Ann Peppiatt, daughter of 20th-Fox branch manager, C. E. Peppiatt, celebrated her 12th birthday Saturday with a screening party.

Clara Lust, wife of Ben Lust, Theatre Supply Co., has returned from a week's visit in New York . . . Ben Siegel, Theatre Advertising Co., was in New York undergoing a minor operation.

Warner Theatre Items: John J. Payette, general zone manager, announces that Hollywood and radio stars, Barry Wood, Patsy Kelly, Helmut Dantine and Andrea King, will be "in person" stars at Warners' Earle Theatre. Barry Wood and Patsy Kelly as a team starting May 31, and Helmut Dantine booked for early in June . . . Uptown Theatre will discontinue weekday matinees for two weeks while it is undergoing decoration. A new color scheme and design will predominate throughout the theatre and promenade. Attractive drapes and damask will be installed. The temporary change will not affect Saturday and Sunday schedules.

Charlotte Duncan, secretary to Frank La Falce, director of advertising and publicity, entertained the following girls in the advertising department with a Sunday spaghetti dinner at her home: Doris Mullineaux, Myrtle Todd and Dorothy Kolinsky.

The Air Medal for bombings over Germany has been awarded to S/Sgt. Carl F. Bauman, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bauman. Carl's father, a musician in Jo Lombardi's Earl Theatre orchestra, is a veteran of the 29th Blue and Gray division in World War I. Bauman is a Liberator nose-turret gunner with the 15th air corps in Italy and a veteran of 16 bomb missions over Germany.

Winners of the war bond donated by the Salesmen's Club when drawing was held at their annual dinner dance: $500 war bond, John Fox, Pocomoke, Md.; $200 war bond, Cecil Wolfe, Olinsboy Farm, Charlestown, W. Va.; $100 war bond, Albert Pohl, Laurel Theatre, Laurel Md.; $50 war bond, Frank Boucher, K-B Theatres, Washington; $50 war bond, Isadore Rappaport, Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore; $50 war bond, Ike Haywood, Elco Theatre, Portsmouth, Va.; $25 war bond, Copeland Ornoff, Lenox Theatre Norfolk, Va.; $25 war bond, Spud Query, Lincoln Theatre, Marion, Va.

Buddy Hall of Rudy Berger's Metro office has returned from weekending in Glen Ridge, N. J., where she attended the Glen Ridge Country Club spring dance . . . Inspector Mary Livroia spent her vacation at North Beach, Md. . . . Booker Ida Barezofsky attended the Hadassah seaboard regional conference in Richmond. She was the Washington delegate of the business and professional division.

"Vic" Wallace, navy, came in to visit while on a few days' leave . . . Head Biller Beatrice Sherman is on leave of absence . . . Inspector Margaret Dempkish was ill . . . Sympathy is extended to Rita Beckert on the death of her uncle . . . Congratulations to Gertrude Kober Kerner on the birth of a 6½-pound son.

Former Shipper Eddie Lucas at Metro is stationed in New South Cumberland, Pa. . . . Congratulations to Biller Ethel Karas and hubby who celebrated their first wedding anniversary . . . Word comes to us from Pvt. Pete Prince, former salesman, that he is studying French.

Esther Blendman has returned to her desk in the Metro cashier's department after a brief illness . . . Inspector Virginia Borum was vacationing with cashier's assistant, Alice Reighly . . . Division Sales Manager J. J. Maloney of Pittsburgh was in town for sales conferences. George Crouch, Warner Theatres, was taking a vacation.

Irene Dunne, screen star, was in town appearing at the Veterans' Hospital . . . Robert R. Lee is building a 400-seat house in Turners' Corner near Baltimore, Md. He expects to open about September 1 and is looking for product.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

Eugene Straub to Manage Rochester RKO Palace

ROCHESTER—Jay Golden, city RKO-Comerford manager, has announced appointment of Eugene Straub of Buffalo, recently discharged by the army, as new assistant manager of the RKO Palace here. He succeeds Tom Grierson who resigned in order to devote all his time to management of his roller skating rink at nearby Charlotte.

Resignation of Joseph Ferris, assistant manager of the Century, who is moving with his family to San Diego, Calif., was also announced by Golden who said no successor has yet been named. Ferris expects to continue in the theatre business on the coast.

Variety Club Legion Post Medals to 50 Youngsters

PHILADELPHIA—Fifty American Legion medals were presented this week by Sara McNeill, director of public welfare, to deserving teen-agers at a special ceremony held at Funfield Center.

The medals were donated on behalf of the American Legion by Jack Kramer, commander of Variety Post No. 713. The Variety Post has been working with the department of welfare on a two-year program to help combat juvenile delinquency.

Philadelphia May Get Premiere of "Marines"

PHILADELPHIA—Warner Bros. field representatives are discussing with civic authorities and theatre managers arrangements for a world premiere of "Pride of the Marines" here. Following conferences between production, sales and theatre department heads in New York, the company went to work on the plan. Sgt. Al Schmid, marine hero, whose life story the film portrays, was born here.

BUFFALO

Bob Hope appeared with his troupe on the stage of Shea's Buffalo Theatre to highlight that theatre's activities in the Showmen's Seventh War Loan drive. Admission was by purchase of a bond only. Tickets went on sale several days in advance at the Victory booths of the Buffalo, Great Lakes and Hippodrome. The house was a sellout. The radio troupe also appeared that evening at Memorial Auditorium for the benefit of the Buffalo Evening News Smokes Fund. That was a sellout too.

Dewey Michael's Mercury brought back "When You're in Love" and "One Romantic Night" . . . Under instructions from the state office of civilian protection, Buffalo has canceled its blackouts, blackout drills, siren notices, control of civilians during blackouts, lighting and dimout and blackout switches. Now they're trying to figure out what to do with all the sirens that dot building and telephone poles throughout the city.

At an estimated cost of $1,000,000, a shopping center, including stores, offices, a theatre and an auto sales agency, will be erected in Abbott near Ridge Rd., Lackawanna, as soon as restrictions on building materials are lifted. The project, largest business development in suburban Lackawanna's history, will be financed through the Buffalo Gravel Corp. A 19-acre tract of land has been purchased for $12,050 from the city. Lackawanna's city planning commission has approved tentative plans for the project.

Backing the War Loan drive in its second week, the Movieland Cottage here is being staffed this week by Shea's Great Lakes and its volunteer workers from Buffalo Chapter of Hadassah, under the direction of Mrs. Henry Latz.

Jack Mundstuk, M-G-M's new branch manger, is having a heck of a time finding a place to live in Buffalo. He's finally resorted to running daily want ads. There's just Jack, the missus and their five-year-old boy . . . WAC short subjects were screened Monday afternoon at the Fox exchange for distributor and exhibitor interests alike.

The girls at the Columbia exchange are having a tough time getting that match bowling game with the gals at RKO. Columbia's Barbara Hartman says she fears RKO is "getting cold feet" . . . George Mason, manager of Shea's Great Lakes, and Mrs. Mason celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at a dinner at the Park Lane. There were 12 guests. George gave Kay 25 silver dollars while the dinner was in progress.

Helen Cotter, Columbia's film inspector, took a week's vacation because of the return of her son, Sgt. Willis Burton, an infantryman, from Germany on a 30-day furlough. Her boy was among the first overseas veterans to set foot on American soil after VE-Day.

Columbia has received a letter from Chuck Harter, its former booker. Chuck still is in Germany, but is using a typewriter to write his letters now. Looks as though they've put him behind a desk at last. Chuck has seen a lot of fighting and has been wounded.

In town this week were Sam Slotnik of the Slotnik-Cantor circuit, Syracuse; Sam Sunness of Binghamton; Harry Tishkoff of the Empress Theatre, Rochester, and Essie Bettigole, Rivoli, Syracuse.

There's a new baby at the Marvin Atlas home. Marve's connected with the Commodore Theatre . . . John Bykowski, UA booker, the industry's first air raid warden here, has been able to relinquish his duties now that OCP is at an end.



THEY VISIT WESTCHESTER—Milton Berle staged his radio show, Let Yourself Go, at the Westchester County Center to get the Seventh War Loan under way. H. R. Emde, WAC county chairman (left), Ann Sheridan, and Spencer Gray, newspaper publisher (extreme right), aided.

ALBANY

Fred Mabeus, former projectionist at Warners' Delaware, has been given an honorable discharge from the navy. He was stationed at Mare Island, Calif. Mabeus is the second member of Albany local, IATSE, to be discharged from the navy recently. The first was 50-year-old Louis Romain of the Grand who also served in World War I.

Alex Sayles, manager of the Grand, was a member of the general committee for "I Am an American Day," observed with colorful ceremonies at Bleecker Municipal Stadium May 20. Forest Willis, announcer of WOKO and close friend of local film men, also served on the committee.

Larry Cowen, managing director of Proctor's Theatre, Troy, and upstate publicity director for Fabian circuit, has been appointed publicity chairman of Troy Post, American Legion. Cowen, recently placed on the inactive list by the navy after serving as an intelligence officer, with the rank of lieutenant commander, handled publicity for state conventions of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars in Albany.

The new doorman at the Grand is Clarence Spain, who recently retired as a lieutenant after 30 years' service with the Albany fire department. Lieutenant Spain is widely known here . . . Oscar Levant, who captured an audience of 3,500 at the Palace with his vaudeville-like concert under the auspices of the Variety Club, was telling the truth in his quip about being "full of sulfanilamide." The pianist had a badly-infected throat. Local critics commented that his unorthodox style pleased the big crowd, many of whom were not concert-goers.

Striking teaser advertisements were spotted on various pages of Albany papers in advance of the opening of PRC's "Crime, Inc." at the Ritz. The insertions, in heavy type, stated cryptically, "Crime Is Coming to Albany Tuesday." They were run as far front as page three. Striking copy for "The Story Behind New York's Fighting District Attorney" was placed on the theatre pages the day before the film started its run.

Dorothy Neodosko of the Albany branch of National Theatre Supply Co. says her brother with Patton's Third army wrote that film scenes of the atrocity camps in Germany were not exaggerated. He did not get a chance to see the worst of the prison and labor camps but those he viewed were enough for the youthful sergeant. Miss Neodosko has another brother in the army hospital in the United States.

A favorite practice of booth men in theatres of Albany and other cities is watching news reels and service films to see if they can spot sons, brothers and other relatives in uniform. The Times-Union "boxed" a story that Rocco Mezolla of the Delaware crew, was scanning pictures in the hope of catching a glimpse of his son.

Pete Vournakis, owner of the Strand and Liberty in Watertown, visited Filmrow. Among others on the Row were: George Thornton of the Orpheum in Saugerties and the Orpheum in Tannersville; Sam Davis, Phoenicia in Phoenicia; Mrs. Inez Ferguson and John McIntyre of the Copake in Copake; Walter Wertime sr., and his secretary, Mrs. Mary Flanigan of the Chester in Chestertown.

Scaron Manor in Schroon Lake booked its first picture of the season for May 25. This class resort spot has film dates set by an Albany man. Saranac Lake Inn, big hotel in Saranac Lake, will start screening films on July 1. A. L. Slaughter handles the bookings, which are usually for one night.

Community Film Distributors, Inc. has been incorporated to conduct a business in motion picture films in New York. Incorporators are: John J. Corwin, Ida Sandler and Irene Elman, 70 Pine St., New York. Levien, Singer & Neuburger, 70 Pine St., New York, were incorporating attorneys.

George Seed, city manager for Fabian circuit in Cohoes, suffered a sprained ankle in a riding accident, it was reported. Seed is an expert horseman . . . Max Westebbe, RKO manager, participated in the annual RKO golf tournament at a Westchester country club.

Seventh War Loan meeting of managers, salesmen and bookers was held Monday in the 20th-Fox screening room. Ray Smith, Warner exchange manager and distributor chairman in the area, presided. "Bomb Tokyo," which opened at the Ritz the following day, was shown. Plans for a Free Movie Day, with admission on the purchase of a war bond, or a Kiddie Matinee were discussed.

M-G-M Promotes Five Of Home Office Aides

NEW YORK—M-G-M's establishment of a new sales division and three new districts in the field has resulted in five assistants to home office sales managers receiving new assignments.

Paul J. Richrath, former assistant to John J. Maloney, central sales manager with headquarters in Pittsburgh, is now assisting E. K. O'Shea, eastern sales manager. He succeeds Leonard Hirsch, now assistant to Rudolph Berger, newly appointed southern sales manager with headquarters in New Orleans.

Irving Helfont, erstwhile assistant to Joe Bezahler, home office aide to John E. Flynn, western sales manager with headquarters in Chicago, is now assistant to George A. Hickey, west coast supervisor with headquarters in Los Angeles.

Charles Deesen continues as home office aide to Maloney. Bezahler remains as Flynn's assistant.

Under the new setup, Richrath will have Boston, New York, New Jersey, Albany, Buffalo, New Haven and Detroit. Deesen will have Detroit, Cleveland, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Washington, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. Bezahler will have Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Des Moines, Denver, Omaha and Salt Lake City. Hirsch will have Atlanta, Charlotte, New Orleans, Dallas, Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Memphis. Helfont will have Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco and Seattle.

WB Men Back From Coast

NEW YORK—Ben Kalmenson, Warner Bros. general sales manager, and Mort Blumenstock, eastern advertising and publicity head, have returned from a week of conferences at the Burbank studio. While on the coast they conferred with Jack L. Warner and Charles Einfeld, advertising and publicity director, on final 1944-45 and early 1945-46 releases.

General Lauds RKO Film

SAN FRANCISCO—Gen. Carlos Romulo of the Army of the Philippines, accompanied by members of his staff, attended a special showing of "Back to Bataan" at the RKO exchange. He described the picture as "thrilling and authentic."

Magazzu Signs With Mono

NEW YORK—The P. A. Magazzu circuit, with nine houses in the Philadelphia area, has signed for the Monogram 1944-45 product, according to Steve Broidy, general sales manager.

Girls Sell Bonds

NEW YORK—The sale of $42,500 in E bonds by 12 high school girls at the opening of the Seventh War Loan rally at Loew's New Rochelle Theatre resulted in a break in the Standard Star.

Women Workers Too Late To See Atrocity Films

Troy—Thirty women Red Cross workers visited Proctor's Troy in a body and asked to see the Nazi horror films. The management reluctantly told them that they were a day too late; the newsreel had finished a three-day run. The ladies had received a suggestion from a top Red Cross official that they should view the atrocity pictures, but were not quite soon enough.



MAMMY!!—Al Jolson and his bride, the former Erle Galbraith, arrive at Grand Central Station to attend the premiere of Warners' "Rhapsody in Blue," and how they cooperated with the photographers!

Frank P. Rosenberg's Father Dies at 75

NEW YORK—Ike Rosenberg, 75, father of Frank P. Rosenberg, Columbia director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, died at Park West Hospital after an illness of five days. Funeral services were conducted from the Park West Memorial Chapel, 115 West 79th St.

In addition to his son, Rosenberg is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Ruth S. Rosenberg, Mrs. Helen Kott and Mrs. Lilian Braun; two sisters, Mrs. Lena Barnett and Mrs. Rose Marks, and two brothers, Joe and Abraham Rosenberg.

Woman Manager Arranges Clever Poster Contest

NEW YORK—Miss Rei Terry, manager of the Roosevelt Theatre, Woodhaven, L. I., is sponsoring a Seventh War Loan poster contest for children of grammar school age. Suitable prizes will be awarded those submitting posters adjudged most persuasive in urging persons to purchase bonds.

Each school entered in the contest will be permitted to submit five posters. The 20 entries from the four local schools will be displayed in the Roosevelt foyer and lobbies.

John K. Henry Interred, Victim of Auto Crash

NEW YORK—Funeral services were held this week for John Kenneth Henry, Skouras division manager for East Bronx and Westchester, who died in Fordham Hospital of injuries received in an auto collision.

Henry was 37 years old and had been with the company since its inception. A wife and two daughters survive him.

Eagle-Lion Films Moves

NEW YORK—Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., has moved to its new quarters, 245 West 52nd St. Purpose of the change was to be closer to the Lawrence Organization, handling press relations for J. Arthur Rank's enterprises. The building formerly was occupied by the Theatre Guild.

Highest Court Receives Appeal on Injunction

ALBANY—The court of appeals, highest in New York state, has before it the appeal of Cornelia Otis Skinner and Emily Kimbrough, who wrote "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" for an injunction prohibiting the producers from using their names in a second film, "Their Hearts Were Growing Up."

Paramount purchased the motion picture rights to "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," making a highly successful film under that title. It contends that in buying such rights for $50,000 it gained the future use of the characters in the book. The company has spent about $500,000 in the production of the second picture, which visualizes alleged boarding school experiences involving the same names and characters.

The plaintiffs declare in their brief that "the story is wholly objectionable" to them and that use of their names will make of the plaintiffs serial characters such as "Potash and Perlmutter" and "Katzenjammer Kids." Lower courts have sided with Paramount in the dispute.

Army Wives Helping Bond Sale in 7th Loan Drive

NEW YORK—Brock Whitlock, Richmond Theatre manager, presents stage auctions sponsored by the USO Service Wives Club. Wives of service men solicit worthwhile gifts from merchants to be awarded those buying the largest amount of war bonds.

All bonds sold by club members to relatives, friends, etc., are purchased through the theatre, according to Whitlock, serving as chairman of a special committee for the Richmond WFC.

Museum Director Returns From Sojourn in South

NEW YORK—John Abbott, executive director of the Museum of Modern Art, has returned from North Carolina where he has been for his health. En route he stopped at Washington to discuss organizational matters. His health much improved, Abbott intends to take up his duties at once.

Abbott's wife, Iris Barry, curator of the museum's film library, recently returned from Hollywood where she made a survey of industry production.

Lester D. Cohen, Manager Of Arcade Theatre, Dies

NEW YORK—Lester D. Cohen, proprietor of the Arcade Theatre at Broadway and 64th St. for more than 30 years, died of a heart attack at his home. Cohen was born in this city and attended local public schools. He retired six months ago.

Surving are his wife, Anne, and a daughter, Mrs. Pauline Price.

Rank Slated to Talk Before ITOA June 6

New York—J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate, who arrived in Canada recently for a visit to the Dominion and the United States, has accepted an invitation to address the next meeting of the ITOA at the Hotel Astor, June 7.

It is understood that he will discuss production and distribution of British-made product in this country and elsewhere throughout the world.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER

(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Studio Jurisdictional Disputes Near Finale

Hollywood's historic studio strike took on a just-before-the-battle-mother quiet as it crawled into its 11th week and prepared for the election which will settle the jurisdictional dispute from which the fireworks originally sprouted.

The national labor relations board had set May 24 as the date when the set decorators—all 70, or less, of them—will vote to determine under whose jurisdiction they henceforth shall fall. It remained to be seen whether or not settlement of this momentous issue, which long since has been lost in the shuffle of the strike's larger facets, will bring an end to the labor wars. Pending election, however, all was quiet on the various studio fronts.

Meanwhile, another of Hollywood's long-standing jurisdictional conflicts seemed to be approaching settlement. The Associated Actors and Artistes of America announced it will give full support to the Screen Extras Guild and will issue SEG a charter after it holds a democratic election of officers and directors.

The formal statement issued by the International Board of the 4-As follows:

"In order to ensure all motion picture extras democratic control over their own union affairs, the Associated Actors and Artistes of America after thorough investigation of the extra situation has decided to give full support to the Screen Extras Guild and will issue a charter to Screen Extras Guild following an election of officers and directors, according to conditions previously outlined by the 4-As.

"The 4-As invited two organizations to apply for a charter for an extras' organization—Screen Extras Guild and Screen Players Union—with the stipulation that to qualify for a charter, the organization must meet the following conditions:

"(1) All former Class B members of Screen Actors Guild to be eligible for membership without payment of initiation fees and without discrimination or recrimination.

"(2) Democratic constitution and by-laws to be acted on and approved by members of the new organization and subject to approval of the 4-As International Board.

"(3) Election by secret ballot for Board of Directors and officers of new organization to be held in 60 days, with all former Class B members of Screen Actors Guild desiring to belong eligible to vote.

"Screen Players Union ignored the invitation from the 4-As. Screen Extras Guild accepted it.

"To the best of our knowledge, the invitation from the 4-As was never presented to the membership of SPU.

"The 4-As is not willing to turn over control of the union affairs of approximately 4,500 extras to a group which is not representative of extras.

"The 4-As has the responsibility and is determined to maintain its union jurisdiction in the entertainment industry.

"The 4-As believes the charter to be given Screen Extras Guild will afford all extras the opportunity of deciding their own affairs.

"We have arranged with the California State Federation of Labor to assign C. J. Hyams to assist Screen Extras Guild in organization work and an office will be opened shortly. Membership application cards will be available for all extras.

"The new organization, Screen Extras Guild, can be assured of the active support of all the component parts of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, which includes American Federation of Radio Artists, Actors Equity Ass'n, Screen Actors Guild, American Guild of Variety Artists, American Guild of Musical Artists and Chorus Equity Ass'n."

O'Brien and Ryan Join As Phil L. Ryan Pictures

Pat O'Brien and Phil Ryan, who formed a partnership to produce a picture for Columbia release last year, have joined forces again as Phil L. Ryan Pictures, Inc. Their next production, also for Columbia release, will be "Perilous Holiday," based on Maj. Robert Carson's serial about an ex-flyer in Mexico City, who finds himself involved with a group of American exiles mixed up in illegal across-the-border deals.

O'Brien will be starred in the film, while Ryan functions as producer. Approximately one-third of the picture is to be shot in Mexico.

Studio Executive Treks Continue at Fast Pace

For the second consecutive week, coast to coast treks by studio and home office executives showed signs of returning to normal levels.

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, returned from New York and home office huddles. Oscar Morgan, sales manager of the company's short subjects and Paramount News, left for Denver, following four days here during which he held regional sales conferences and conferred with Paramount short subjects producers George "Dink" Templeton, George Pal and Jerry Fairbanks. Stanton Griffis, chairman of Paramount's executive committee and head of the Red Cross activities in the Pacific, arrived at the studio recently from Washington, en route back to the Philippines.

Producer Lawrence Weingarten returned to Metro studio from New York. Lillie Messinger, special story representative for Metro, left for Gotham for a four-week stay on company business.

Ten of Monogram's top men left for Chicago to attend the company's semiannual board of directors meeting and sales conference. They included W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram Pictures Corp.; George D. Burrows, vice-president and treasurer; Howard Stubbins, head of Pacific coast exchanges; Mel Hulling, president of the San Francisco branch; Trem Carr, executive director; Alton Brody, director; Franklin and Maurice King, producers; George B. West, Cincinnati and St. Louis franchise owner, and Scott R. Dunlap, producer.

Two United Artists biggies, President Edward Raftery and Sales Chief Carl Leserman, returned to Manhattan after conferring with producers and gandering new product. Barry Buchanan, UA advertising and publicity head, who came to Hollywood with Leserman, extended his stay a few days.

Ben Kalmenson, Warner sales head, returned to the home office following studio powwows.

Republic studio rolled out the red carpet for its No. 1 man, Herbert Yates, back from a New York trip.

Para't Faces Heavy Picture Program

Facing the busiest production program in its history, Paramount studio currently has 25 features in preparation.

Planned for early starts are Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," which will star Bing Crosby, Paul Draper and Joan Caulfield, with Stuart Heisler directing and Joseph Sistrom producing, and "To Each His Own," a Charles Brackett story, which Mitchell Leisen will direct, with Olivia de Havilland starred, and stage star, John Lund, making his screen debut opposite her.

In preparation for starts somewhat later are "Calcutta," drama which Seton I. Miller will produce; the Norman Krasna play, "Dear Ruth"; Booth Tarkington's "Monsieur Beaucaire," which Bob Hope will make about August 1, with Sol C. Siegel producing; "Alice," from Sir James M. Barrie's play, "Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire," to be produced by Charles Brackett; Irving Stone's best selling novel, "Immortal Wife," to be produced by Karl Tunberg; a historical spectacle, "California," now being written by Frank Butler and Theodore Strauss; Heywood Broun's "The Sun Field" to be produced by Danny Dare; "Third Avenue," a Barry Fitzgerald picture written by John McNulty, to be produced by Kenneth Macgowan; "Lady Seventeen," a story of Victorian England by Ladislaus Fodor, to be produced by Tunberg; "The Wayfarers," novel by Dan Wickenden; "Blaze of Noon," aviation novel by Ernest K. Gann; "The Forgotten Friday," an original screen story by Richard Sale; "Break-Up," an original screenplay by Richard Fluornoy, to be produced by Paul Jones; "Scruffy," original screenplay by Harry Segall, for Barry Fitzgerald, to be produced by Macgowan, and "June Bride," play by Graeme Lorimer and Eileen Tighe, to star Diana Lynn.

B. G. DeSylva Productions is planning "An Honest Woman," the story of a Follies girl, to star Betty Hutton. DeSylva and Jack McGowan are at work on the story.

Hal Wallis Productions has five pictures preparing—"The Life of Tschaikovsky"; Mabel Seeley's novel, "The Crying Sisters," to be directed by Byron Haskin; Lillian Hellman's play, "The Searching Wind"; the Samson Raphaelson play, "The Perfect Marriage," and John Farrow's story, "Dishonorable Discharge."

Bill Pine and Bill Thomas are readying three—"They Made Me a Killer," "Hot Cargo" and "Swamp Fire."

Quimby Signs Long Term

Fred Quimby, cartoon producer and short subjects executive, signed a new long-term contract with Metro. Quimby, who joined the company in 1926, organized the shorts program and later launched the M-G-M cartoon studio. His forthcoming schedule includes 16 cartoons.

Hollywood at War

AS A PART of Hollywood's program to step up to maximum capacity the entertainment for GI circuits, a number of the screen's top dramatic stars will be sent overseas to play the leads in USO-Camp Shows theatrical productions.

Lists of plays approved by the war department and particularly suited to military audiences have been turned over to a number of stars who volunteered in response to Hollywood Victory Committee's appeal for an army of performers to visit General Eisenhower's forces in Europe following VE-Day. As soon as the stars and war department decide on a role, the plays will be cast either in Hollywood or New York.

Definite arrangements already have been made for Bette Davis and Charles Ruggles to go overseas as stars in theatrical companies, Miss Davis in "Holiday" and Ruggles in a comedy still to be selected.

Vanguard of the entertainment army set for overseas tours this summer, Sonja Henie left for a port of embarkation. Miss Henie was one of the early volunteers and is scheduled for a six-week tour of overseas hospitals.

Final arrangements for Frank Sinatra to make an overseas tour have been completed. Sinatra will headline a GI circuit troupe with Phil Silvers, Fay McKenzie and Betty Yeaton. The troupe will be assembled at an embarkation point for early departure.

Europe is not receiving the exclusive attention of the film capital's soldiers in grease paint. The biggest volunteer entertainment army of the war is poised for a summer invasion of Pacific combat zones. A dozen top performers have been cleared through USO-Camp Shows and the war department.

Several Sign for Six Months

Several performers have been signed to six-month commitments. Matthew Bolton will join a company of "Night Must Fall," Karen Morley is set for "Blithe Spirit," Roger Pryor for "The Front Page," John Roache and Vernon Steele for "Meet the Wife" and Brad Taylor for "Hellzapoppin." Constance Dowling and Thelma Schnee are waiting assignments.

Interviews for musical comedy performers to be cast in companies scheduled for overseas were held at the Hollywood Masonic Temple. Harry Krivit, who produces musicals for Camp Shows, was here from New York to conduct auditions. Among shows announced by Camp Shows for overseas tours are "Diamond Horseshoe," "Copacabana," "Up in Central Park," "Rosalinda," "Radio City Music Hall Revue," "Roxy Theatre Revue," "Merry Widow," "Hellzapoppin," "Good News" and "Roberta."

The home front, too, was getting its share of consideration:

Sonny Tufts was set to open a GI tour at Darnell General Hospital, Danville, Ky., with dates scheduled at Nashville, Memphis, Hot Springs, Ark., El Reno, Okla. . . . Joseph Cotten left for a week of visiting both army and navy installations on Puget Sound . . . A two-week route through North Carolina was scheduled for Marilyn Maxwell, leaving May 23 . . . Three weeks of dates in the New York and Boston areas were arranged for Ida Lupino in June.

Dinah Shore was set to spend three weeks in hospitals en route to New York, stopping off at Ogden, Utah; Glenwood Springs and Colorado Springs, Colo.; Clinton, Iowa; Battle Creek, Mich., and Sampson and Utica, N. Y. . . . Gale Sondergaard, Dan Duryea and Frank Faylen wound up hospital tours, Miss Sondergaard finishing a four-week route in the Midwest, Duryea closing a two-week tour at New Orleans and Faylen ending a two-week route at Taunton, Mass. . . . Irene Dunne closed a week's tour in the Washington, D. C., area.

Diana Lynn opened a hospital tour at Santa Fe, N. M., with stops scheduled at Amarillo, Tex.; Topeka, Kas., and Cleveland, Ohio, en route to New York . . . Jimmy Durante and Garry Moore, Jeri Sullavan, Stu Wilson, Loraine Krueger, Marion Kerrigan and the Clauson Trio entertained at Santa Monica army air force redistribution center . . . Wally Brown and Alan Carney headlined a troupe at March Field, with Martha Green, Monty and Fulton, Gloria Elwood, Evelyn Bell and George Cresney . . . Harpo Marx, Vivian Blaine, Marilyn Hare, Virginia Carroll, Heidi Olson, Robert Armstrong and Herb Bruce played a three-day stand at San Diego naval installations . . . A group including Eddie Bracken, Barbara Morrison, Gilbert and Lee, Gloria Faye, Gerri Gale, Cochrane and Nadine and Roberta played three airfields in the Sacramento area . . . Gracie McDonald, Danny Thomas, Chester and Lili Morris, Gerri Chavey, Monty and Fulton, Jean Davis and Marian Bell entertained at Hoff General Hospital at Santa Barbara and Santa Barbara redistribution center.

Betty Grable, George Jessel, the Mills brothers, Corinna Mura, Bill Goodwin, Frank Nelson and Elvia Allman waxed a "Mail Call" . . . Danny Thomas, Orson Welles, the King sisters, Eddie Marr, Peggy Lee, Larry Adler and Ken Carpenter recorded "Command Performance" . . . Radio division of HVC set Jack Carson, Marie McDonald, Connie Haines, Mel Blanc and Harry Mitchell to wax an overseas "GI Journal" platter and entertain Hollywood Canteen audience . . . Lena Horne was guest star on the "Jubilee" overseas transcription for the armed forces radio service, with Andy Kirk and orchestra, the King Cole Trio, Mel Blanc, Ernie Whitman and Verne Smith.

International Buys Screen Rights to "Pygmalion Jones"

William Goetz of International Pictures announced the purchase of Dorothy Kilgallan's short story, "Pygmalion Jones," which recently appeared in Cosmopolitan magazine, and its early filming under the title, "It Had to Be You." The story deals with the romantic and theatrical adventure of a Brooklyn school teacher after being adjudged winner of a "Miss Subways" contest. Robert Smith has been assigned to do a screen treatment.

Lumber Action Drama Set For Pine-Thomas Filming

Bill Pine and Bill Thomas have announced that their next Paramount production will be "Hot Cargo," an action-drama of three U.S. army tankmen who return from the war to haul giant redwood trees in northern California, using tanks they drove in Germany. The film will star William Gargan and Robert Lowery. Lew Landers will direct from a screenplay by Goeffrey Homes.

Sokolove Signs With Metro

Richard Sokolove was signed to become assistant to Al Lichtman, Metro executive. Until his recent resignation, Sokolove has been story editor at Columbia for the past two years.

Blake Replaced by Dorothy Morris

Because of illness, Pamela Blake will be replaced by Dorothy Morris in "Club Havana," a PRC production.

Universal First to Buy Corporation Bonds

Seventh War Loan drive reports Universal as the first Hollywood studio to make a purchase of corporation bonds. A. H. McCausland, studio chairman for the Hollywood Motion Picture War Finance Committee, reported an investment of $1,000,000. He also announced that studio employes have purchased more than $180,000 worth of bonds since the start of the drive, including one individual investment of $75,000. Universal's purchase puts the HMPWFC total to date near the $2,500,000 mark.

An All-Texas Premiere Set For New Gary Cooper Film

Gary Cooper's "Along Came Jones," his first Cinema Artists production for International Pictures (RKO Radio release), is set for an all-Texas world premiere starting the week of June 20.

By arrangement with Bob O'Donnell of Inter-State Theatres the Cooper film will open at the Majestic, Dallas, Wednesday, June 20; at the Metropolitan, Houston, June 21; Majestic, San Antonio, June 22; Majestic, Fort Worth, June 23, and in 95 other theatres throughout the state from Laredo and Corpus Christi to the Panhandle within the following week.

An all-Oklahoma theatre booking is expected to follow with national release of "Along Came Jones" during the two weeks' period, July 1 to 15.

Bob Hope Will Play Role In Which Valentino Starred

Bob Hope will star in Booth Tarkington's "Monsieur Beaucaire" as his first picture under his new seven-year deal with Paramount. A story of romance and chivalry in the days of Louis XV, the same vehicle served as one of Rudolph Valentino's starring films in 1924.

To be produced by Sol C. Siegel, "Monsieur Beaucaire" is being adapted by Melvin Frank and Norman Panama and is scheduled to start August 1.

Jossey Leaves Hospital; Recuperating on Desert

J. S. Jossey, co-producer with Kroger Babb of the new hygiene picture, "Mom and Dad," with headquarters for Hygienic Productions in Cleveland, has been released from Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital, where he recently underwent a series of treatments for a throat infection.

Accompanied by his wife he is spending several weeks at the Saboba Hot Springs Hotel, San Jacinto, in the heart of the desert.

Warners Plan Tokyo Film As 'Hotel Berlin' Followup

In anticipation of an American entry into the Jap capital, Warner Bros. will film "Hotel Tokyo" as a followup to "Hotel Berlin." The cast will include the stars of the latter production, Faye Emerson, Helmut Dantine and Andrea King. Peter Godfrey will direct.

Five Pictures for Bassler

Producer Robert Bassler, under contract to 20th-Fox, has had his option lifted for another year. Bassler has five productions in preparation, "The High Window," "The Homestretch," "Party Line," "Smoky" and "Precinct No. 33."

New Theatre Group For Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY—Organization of a new theatre group here to be known as the Salt Lake Theatre, Inc., may bring a new showhouse to this city.

Although organized primarily for the promotion and presentation of stage shows, officers of the new group say it is possible they may put motion pictures in the house, when they are able to secure materials for its construction.

The purpose of the new organization is to revive the old Salt Lake Theatre, a pioneer Mormon showhouse built under the supervision of Brigham Young, according to Edwin H. Lauber, member of the group.

For the last five years, the organization has been presenting stage shows at the Lyric Theatre, a showhouse owned by the Mormon church and currently billing stage shows and motion pictures. The group has been known previously as Deseret Theatre and Deseret Players. Directors of the new corporation are Donald B. Adler, Nathan B. Hale, Blanche L. Dalebout, Dorothy Jacobson, Bea Turner, Rowena J. Miller, Ira C. Curtis, Evelyn Luke, Carl Wallace, Joseph H. Williams, Ione Duncan, Ray Bergman, Lorna Taylor, Ralph A. Sheffield and Lauber.

Nine Advance in Fox West Coast Managerial Lineup

LOS ANGELES—Opening of the new Loma Theatre in San Diego resulted in nine managerial promotions in Fox West Coast's southern California division under Andrew Krappman. Morgan Ames, going from the Fox Beverly to the Loma, and Oscar Peck, who shifted from the Belmont Theatre to the Cabrillo in San Diego, top the list.

Other changes are Louis Grim, from the Boulevard to the Beverly, and Leonard Howard who moved from the Carlton to the Boulevard. Manuel Abrams went from the LaBrea to the Marquis, being replaced by Alvina Peers, formerly of the Ravenna.

Paul Steinmueller was promoted from assistant manager to manager of the Larchmont, replacing Catherine Orr, who moved up to manager of the Belmont and temporary manager of the Ravenna. George Henderson was upped from assistant manager to manager of the Embassy.

Altec Names Supervisors For Two Coast Cities

LOS ANGELES—S. M. Pariseau, Altec district manager, has appointed Max V. Neumann and Martin Goulson supervisors for Los Angeles and San Francisco, respectively.

Neumann, with Altec since its inception, recently completed an assignment with the electronic division of the company where he has been working on special devices for the navy. Goulson has just returned from overseas on military leave from Altec.

Republic Buys Newspaper Babes in Gangland Series

Republic has purchased screen rights to a series by John Gibbon, which appeared in the Chicago Herald Examiner, titled Babes in Gangland. The series covers the careers of kid criminals and reportedly attracted national attention among juvenile welfare authorities. Republic will produce the pictures this season, Allen Wilson, studio executive, announced.

Extend Victor Francen's Contract

Warner Bros. has extended Victor Francen's contract.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

OCCASIONALLY in the past, the trade press has commented upon the perennial practice of industry publicity men to inject sex into the advertising copy for virtually every picture that is released, even though many of the features so treated are as sexless as a paralyzed earthworm. But such comment has never been very drastic or critical. After all, there is some sound basis of logic in the don't-bite-the-hand-that-feeds-you idea.

Apparently, the time-worn routine attained a new high of inconsistency and indignity in the campaign used to exploit British-made "Colonel Blimp" for its world premiere engagement at Brandt's Gotham Theatre, New York. The copy for the picture, created by Buchanan & Co., advertising agency which specializes in motion picture campaigns, attracted lightning from widely-read Time magazine. That publication reproduced a dignified still from the picture along side of one of the advertisements, which patently went overboard in its effort to sell the film through the sex approach and with a calloused conscience toward misrepresentation. The ad copy employed the catchline "the lusty lifetime of a gentleman who was quite a rogue," beneath which was an Esquire-coverish character tossing a popeyed leer in the direction of an oomph girl with more curves than the Denver and Rio Grande railroad. To make the comparison more striking, the magazine described the picture as a "quietly excellent, eminently tasteful and strictly nonsexy English film."

Much more significantly, Time continued its uncharacteristically kindly criticism with, "Such advertising, which was outlawed years ago in another field by the food and drug act, is by no means uncommon in exploiting moving pictures."

In which purportful observation by a publication with the prestige and circulation of Time, motion picture advertising men should recognize a danger signal. Certainly, most of them are smart enough to heed the warning.

→

For Lo! these many years, members of Hollywood's hungry press sophistically have consoled themselves with the thought that the meagerness of the pay check was compensated by other advantages.

Now comes Alex Evelove, Burbank's blatant blurber, to add new substance to the assuagement. The Evelovean contribution was contained in the following smug publicity release:

"No press representative will attend the wedding of Lauren Bacall and Humphrey Bogart, Warner Bros. studio announced today."

→

George Brown reveals to a breathless world that "Kenneth Macgowan, Paramount producer, will exhibit his famous collection of primitive masks at the Pasadena Art Institute . . . "

Blurber Brown will not be in charge of the exhibition, thereby sparing the spectators considerable confusion.

→

GREEK CORRESPONDENTS SEE FIRST U.S. FILM IN FOUR YEARS
—Pete Dailey-Universal headline.
Apparently liberation has done little to mitigate the suffering of the poor Greeks. The picture, Dailey's yarn revealed, was "Salome, Where She Danced."

→

From elegant, clothes-conscious Bill Hebert comes a bit of toilette trivia. It appears that Frank Ross and Mervyn LeRoy, producer and director, respectively, of the if-when-and-as screen version of "The Robe" have been experiencing sleepless nights worrying about how and where to obtain "a perfectly seamless garment" such as is described in the Lloyd C. Douglas novel.

Then came a solution, yea, nearly a miracle, in a cable from Jerusalem. It was signed by Charles Julian, RKO representative in the Holy Land, and was addressed to Charles W. Koerner, RKO production chieftain. Representative Julian confided that: "personally have ordered here exact and authentic replica of 'The Robe.' "

When the made-to-order cassock arrives from Jerusalem, maybe Winsome Willie will loan it to harassed reporters for their trips to the wailing wall necessitated by wading through such tripe.

→

Indigent indeed is the catch-as-catch-can press agent who does not boast "associates."

The ol' Behemoth of Blurb, to whom fancy billing—for himself—was no novelty, started it all when he hung out his shingle to inform one and sundry that "Russell Birdwell and Associates" were willing to take on public relations clients—for a not inconsiderable fee.

Then, there are "Howard G. Mayer and Associates," it being the same Mayer who, prior to his joining the Hollywood free-lance gentry, ruled over the all-is-confusion era in Columbia studio's press department.

In each case, just who or what constitutes the associates is never quite clear, with the possible exception of the gal who operates the mimeograph and stands guard over the postage stamps.

But most appalling is the amount of space devoted to billing the press agents on each and every release emanating from their offices.

A new high in such paper-wasting legend and propensity toward association is attained by the following:

From:
Edward Dukoff Associates
Hollywood, Calif.
For:
Jock Lawrence Associates
New York City, N. Y.

→

A news tidbit from Warners' weary welkin-ringers informs that "Lynne Baggett, Warner Bros. actress, was named 'Miss Maritime' by the editors of Maritime Murmurs."

Does that make her a Baggett of salt?

→

LIFTING OF RACING BAN SAVES LOCATION TRIP
—Howard Strickling headline.
But what it did to not saving the bankroll!

→

FLACK'S LIMERICK CORNER:

At Radio is Praise-Pundit Perry
A publicist both wise and wary
Because at playing croquet
He's such an umpchay
It's his chest, not his head, that is hairy.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Blurbers

Columbia

Leslie Fenton and Fred MacMurray have hired BILL BLOWITZ as director of publicity for their Mutual Productions' film, "Pardon My Past."

RKO Radio

FOSTER GOSS, publicist and newspaper man, joined Perry Lieber's praisery as unit writer.

Briefies

Monogram

Starting as soon as bookings are set up, Bruce Cabot will do a personal appearance tour in connection with west coast prerelease runs of Jeffrey Bernerd's "Divorce." Itinerary will include Portland, Seattle and San Francisco.

Paramount

"Vive La Canadienne," a story to be filmed as a Technicolor musical featurette, has been purchased from Carolyn Pratt, reader in the studio story department. Film will be produced and directed by GEORGE "DINK" TEMPLETON.

Cleffers

Paramount

RUDY SCHRAGER was signed to compose an original score for the background music of "People Are Funny."

Universal

MIKLOS ROZSA signed to compose the musical score for "Lady on a Train."

Meggers

Columbia

JACK MOSS set to make his debut as film director with "Snafu."

Metro

Megging chore on "The Green Years" goes to HAROLD S. BUCQUET.

NORMAN TAUROG named to direct "The Hoodlum Saint."

JULES DASSIN assigned directorial duties on "A Letter for Evie."

RKO Radio

WILLIAM BERKE has been given a term contract and assigned to the direction of "Dick Tracy," first in a series of features to be based upon the cartoon-strip character.

20th Century-Fox

GEORGE CUKOR was signed to direct "The Razor's Edge," which Darryl Zanuck will personally produce.

Universal

Walter Wanger has borrowed GEORGE MARSHALL from Paramount to direct "Canyon Passage."

Options

Columbia

KEN CURTIS will star in "Song of the Prairie," which was scripted by J. Benton Cheyney from his own original story. Picture is slated to start July 5 with Colbert Clark producing under the supervision of Jack Fier.

KEN CURTIS, radio singer, has been signed to a term contract.

LARRY PARKS' option in his long-term contract has been picked up.

Feminine starring role in "The Kansan" handed to EVELYN KEYES.

Metro

WILLIAM "BILL" PHILLIPS assigned spot in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

MARINA KOSHETZ, opera star, signed to a long termer and will make her bow in "Two Sisters From Boston." Her second assignment slated for "No Leave, No Love."

HUME CRONYN and PAMELA BRITTON were set for leading roles in "A Letter for Evie."

JOHN CARROLL has been set for the top male role in "A Letter for Evie."

ARTHUR WALSH was inked for the second male lead in "No Leave, No Love."

Paramount

JOAN CAULFIELD, 22-year-old Broadway actress, won the costarring role in Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies."

JOHN LUND will make his screen debut in "To Each His Own."

DOROTHY PORTER, 18-year-old songstress, has been signed to a long-term contract. Her first screen appearance will be as costar with Bob Graham in "A Tale of Two Cafes."

CHARLES VICTOR has been signed to a seven-year contract.

IRIS ADRIAN has been signed for role in "Too Good to Be True."

Recently signed to a long termer, WALTER WILSON gets his first featured role in "Too Good to Be True."

PRC Pictures

Because of illness, Pamela Blake will be replaced by DOROTHY MORRIS in "Club Havana."

BERT GORDON, the "mad Russian," and HARRY VON ZELL, radio announcer and comedian, have been signed for starring roles in "How Do You Do." Harry Sauber will produce.

Signed to a long-term contract, GRACE GILLERN handed femme lead in "Checkmate."

RKO Radio

Added to "Deadline at Dawn" are LAWRENCE TIERNEY, JEROME COWAN and CONSTANCE WORTH.

Additions to the cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever," International production, include BOYD IRWIN, ANNE LOOS, CHARLES D. BROWN and EVAN THOMAS.

GLENN VERNON and TOM NOONAN, young actors from the Broadway stage, have been re-signed.

20th Century-Fox

DICK HAYMES' option has been lifted for another year.

United Artists

NORMAN LLOYD cast in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

Newcomer ROBERT HOLTON to debut in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

GEORGE RAFT has been inked by Seymour Nebenzal's Nero Productions for the male lead in "Whistle Stop," which Leonid Moguy will direct.

Universal

FRANK ORTH, MATT McHUGH and WILLIAM HALL added to the cast of "Uncle Harry."

WILLIAM FRAWLEY, HOBART CAVANAUGH and MABLE FORREST set for featured roles in "Lady on a Train."

HARRY VON ZELL, radio announcer, signed for a role in "Uncle Harry."

THURSTON HALL has been signed by Producer Felix Jackson for a featured role in "Lady on a Train."

ANDREW TOMBES has been inked for a role in "Frontier Gal."

GINNY SIMMS ticketed to costar with Charles Coburn and Robert Paige in "Alibi in Ermine." Susanna Foster, originally scheduled for this role, will return to the cast of "Once Upon a Dream."

Spot in "Uncle Harry" set for SAMUEL HINDS.

Warners

ALEXIS SMITH has been inked for the femme lead opposite Cary Grant in "Night and Day."

JOHN SHERIDAN has had his option lifted.

ROBERT ARTHUR checks into "Danger Signal."

Cast of "Night and Day" to include JANE WYMAN and HENRY STEPHENSON, who was signed for the part.

Scripters

Columbia

JAMES LLOYD was set to do the first treatment on "Night Editor," to be producer by Ted Richmond.

WILFRID PETTITT has been assigned to do the screenplay of "Checkmate for Murder," to be produced by Rudolph Flothow.

Independent

Sol Lesser has assigned ILSE LAHN to do the screenplay of "Civilian Clothes"; CARROLL YOUNG to do "Show Me a Lane," and ROBERT RILEY CRUTCHER to do "Paris Canteen."

Metro

Playwright PAUL GREEN checked in for scriveningchore on screenplay of "Red Shoes Run Faster," an original story by Henry Bellamann which Arthur Freed will produce.

Paramount

FRANCIS FARAGOH, playwright and screen writer, was signed to a seven-year contract.

WHITMAN CHAMBERS signed by Producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas to develop a screen story around the activities of the notorious Japanese radio propagandist, "Tokyo Rose," known to American fighting men as "The Female Voice of Death."

ABE BURROWS, radio scripter, inked to a contract as writer-producer.

PRC Pictures

JAMES LUNTZEL, former publicity man, has been signed to write the finished script on "Murder in Spades," to be produced by Harry Gourfain.

RKO Radio

EDWIN BLUM has been signed to write the screenplay of "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," which will be Jesse Lasky's first independent production under the recently-signed share-cropping deal.

HY KRAFT engaged to do a dialog-polishing stint on "Countess of Monte Cristo."

Story Buys

RKO Radio

An unpublished original story by Charles Kerr, entitled "Double Trouble," has been purchased as a possible vehicle for Leon Errol. Picture will be produced under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell.

20th Century-Fox

"Precinct No. 33," mystery yarn by Charles Booth and Scott Darling, has been purchased and set for Robert Bassler's production slate.

Technically

Metro

PAUL YOUNGBLOOD named unit art director for "Bad Bascomb."

JACK GERTSMAN has been named unit manager for "She Went to the Races."

RKO Radio

LESLIE URBACH has been assigned the dialog director post on "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

SAM RUMAN has been set as assistant to Director Edward Killy on "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

ARTHUR BLACK engaged as first assistant director to Norman Z. McLeod on Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

Five art director assignments were made by Albert D'Agostino. They are: AL HERMAN, "All Brides Are Beautiful"; JACK OKEY, "Deadline at Dawn"; CARROLL CLARK, "Cornered"; LOU CROXTON, "Wanderer of the Wasteland," and RALPH BERGER, "Tomorrow Is Here."

Title Changes

PRC Pictures

"In Old Wyoming" has been changed to SONG OF OLD WYOMING.

Frank R. Hanrahan Is New Treasurer for Disney

Walt Disney Productions has announced selection of Frank R. Hanrahan, banking and investment authority, as treasurer of the organization. In addition, Hanrahan was elected to the board of directors, succeeding Mrs. Roy O. Disney, resigned.

Hanrahan comes to the Disney company after having served as comptroller of the Basic Magnesium project in Nevada. He began his banking career in Chicago in 1909 with the National City Bank. In 1917 he became manager of the loan department of the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago, during which period he was loaned to the War Finance Corp. in Washington.

Fox to Build Theatre In Windsor Hills, Calif.

LOS ANGELES—Fox West Coast Theatres Corp. has signed a contract for the construction of a new theatre at the corner of West Slauson Ave. and Overbill Drive in Windsor Hills. It will be started as soon as materials are available.

Manny Wolfe Remains Chief of RKO Story Staff

Manny Wolfe has been given a new contract by RKO Radio to continue as head of the story and writing department at that studio.

Pereira Stays With RKO

Under the terms of a new contract, William Pereira continues as a producer at RKO Radio. Pereira made his bow as producer on the Gower St. lot with "Johnny Angel," and is currently preparing "All Brides Are Beautiful" and "Lady Not Alone."

"Dillinger" Scores 250 In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO—Boxoffice honors go to "Dillinger" at the Esquire Theatre. A first-rate publicity and advertising campaign by the Blumenfeld circuit and a representative film brought attendance at the Esquire and Tivoli theatres up to 250 per cent.

(Average is 100)

Esquire and Tivoli—**Dillinger** (Mono); **The Phantom of 42nd St.** (PRC) 250
Fox—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono) 130
Golden Gate—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk., plus stage show 120
Orpheum—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ) 125
Paramount—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 110
State—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 110
St. Francis—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 2nd wk. 150
Warfield—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), 2nd wk. 130

"Salty O'Rourke" in Second Week Continued to Be Los Angeles' Choice

LOS ANGELES—The southland's first touch of hot weather brought a sharp decline in first run takes. In contrast to last week's high grosses, Paramount's "Salty O'Rourke," in its second week at the Hollywood and Downtown Paramount theatres, dropped to 130 and 100 respectively, but still led in the former. United Artists' "Guest in the House," which opened at the Chinese, State and Uptown theatres, hit only average figures, as did Columbia's "Counter-Attack" and Metro's "This Man's Navy," both in their first week.

Chinese, State and Uptown—**Guest in the House** (UA); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 110
Downtown Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep), 2nd wk. 100
Egyptian, Ritz and Los Angeles—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 4th wk. 85
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); Gentle Annie (M-G-M) 110
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 100
Hollywood Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd wk. 130
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk. 105

"Salty O'Rourke" Continues Strong; "Wonderful Crime" Tops

DENVER—"Flame of Barbary Coast" with "Eve Knew Her Apples" drew the most money at the Denver and Esquire, but "Having a Wonderful Crime" with "The Bullfighters" at the Paramount had a slight edge on percentage. "Salty O'Rourke" was good enough at the Denham to get a third week.

Aladdin—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 2nd run 150
Denham—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd wk. 120
Denver and Esquire—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 160
Orpheum—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Fashion Model** (Mono), 2nd wk. 85
Paramount—**Having a Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 175
Rialto—**Youth on Trial** (Col); **Dead Man's Eyes** (Univ) 160

"Song" Back for an Extra Week at Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY—In an unprecedented move, Intermountain Theatres brought "A Song to Remember" back to a first run house after a week's intervention following a highly successful two-week showing earlier.

The picture opened at the Centre Theatre, moved to the Studio, then closed for the customary period before going to a second run show. The demand for the picture was so great in the intervening week, however, the management decided to bring it back and the picture was put back in the Studio for a third-week showing.

Mobile Bond Sale Units Step Up California Drive

LOS ANGELES—Southern California Showmen's Mighty Seventh War Loan drive went into high gear with the announcement that 80 "On to Tokyo" mobile units in Metropolitan Los Angeles are contacting war plants, clubs, lodges and residential sections each night. Under direction of Spencer Love, Fox West Coast executive, the units are manned by theatre personnel, Citizens Defense Corps and members of the Citizens War Service group.

In residential areas units are assigned to a four-block section for coverage and while crew members make house-to-house solicitations, sound systems broadcast War Loan message. The method of approach has met with considerable success and plans are to send the units to group picnics, church affairs, general community gatherings and large meetings where bond issuing facilities are not available.

Stepped-up activity by city schools during the coming weeks of the drive was assured with the announcement that Los Angeles' 425 schools, acting as a single unit, will cooperate with the motion picture bond sales committee.

The first three Fridays in June at 3:15 p. m. have been set aside for school children to see specially arranged matinees at their neighborhood theatres in connection with their bond selling efforts.

Each pupil who buys a war bond of any denomination, converts a war stamp album into a bond, or influences an adult to buy a bond, will be eligible for admission to the matinee.

Danny Kaye and his Pabst Blue Ribbon show, featuring Harry James' band, Eve Arden, Benny Rubin and Ken Niles, was set to a coast-to-coast broadcast from the stage of the Hollywood Pantages Theatre, Friday, as Hollywood's second big war bond premiere in conjunction with the Seventh. The premiere was to feature also a preview-showing of the new Danny Kaye Technicolor feature, "Wonder Man," produced by Samuel Goldwyn.

Tickets were made available at all first run theatres in Hollywood as well as banks and leading stores. Purchase of a bond in any denomination entitled buyer to admission.

Future bond premieres are being lined up for Warners' Hollywood, Grauman's Chinese, Egyptian, Hawaii and Guild theatres.

LOS ANGELES

J. Unger, United Artists western sales manager, arrived from New York for a week of conferences with W. E. Calloway, western district manager for the company . . . Among the honeymooners: King Trimble, Universal salesman in San Francisco, is honeymooning in Los Angeles, and Ben Peskay, Film Classics, and the former Miss Mary Holmes of Los Angeles are spending their honeymoon in Las Vegas.

A fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed screen and draperies in the Del Mar Theatre here. Temporary installations were made by the John P. Filbert Co., enabling the theatre to open the same evening . . . National Theatres Supply Co. salesman, Glenn Slipper, made a business trek to Pheonix and Tucson.

The British film, "Forty-Eight Hours," is being handled by Sam Nathanson, former Universal salesman . . . Harry Goldfarb, owner of three theatres in National City, visited friends on Filmrow . . . Lew Goldstein of Independent Pictures, trained in from New York.

Booking on the Row were Joe Venable, Park Theatre, Huntington Park; Gus Allen, South Gate Theatre, South Gate; Hugh Bruin, Whittier; Ike Victor, Victor Theatre, Long Beach, and Judge LeRoy Pawley, Indio theatres, Indio. Bookers from Los Angeles included Morris Smith, Playhouse; Tom Tobin, Aloha; Leon Glasser, Dixie, and Leon Levy, Pix Theatre.

Rudy Hagen, national checking supervisor for Warner Bros., was in town for a three-day confab at exchange with Henry Herbel, west coast district sales manager. He left for San Francisco, Portland and Seattle meetings . . . Home from a five-month trip is William Z. Porter, traveling auditor for Monogram. He covered the company exchanges at Dallas, Oklahoma City, Kansas City, Des Moines, Omaha, Denver and Salt Lake City.

Bicycling between cities, Sam Clark, Warner Bros. west coast exploitation representative, left for San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento where he will set up advance campaigns on "Pillow to Post" and "Conflict."

Fox Takes Over McCormick Theatres for the Duration

CANON CITY, COLO.—The Fox Intermountain Amusement Corp. has assumed the management of the McCormick Theatres while George McCormick, circuit manager, is in the armed service. He was inducted early this month.

The McCormick organization operates the Rex and Skyline Theatres here, the Rialto at Florence and a theatre at Hot Springs, N. M.

A. R. Mottner New Manager

ASHLAND, ORE.—Albert R. Mottner has assumed the management of the Varsity and Lithia theatres here, members of the Walter H. Leverette group.

Tailor Maids to "Young Widow"

The Tailor Maids have been signed by Hunt Stromberg to sing in "Young Widow," a United Artist production.

1ST CLASS DISTRIBUTION FOR THE ENTIRE SOUTH — thru

(JOHN) JENKINS & BOURGEOIS (O. K.)

ASTOR PICTURES COMPANY
HARWOOD AND JACKSON STS.
Riverside 1884 — DALLAS 1, TEXAS



STARS AID PREMIERE—Proving that the business of selling bonds for the Seventh War Loan drive has its lighter moments, the photographer snatched these informal shots of Hollywood celebrities who devoted their time and talents to the all-star bond premiere staged at Warners' Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles:

(1) The house was a complete sellout, which capacity business was as early as 4:30 p. m., when long lines of bond purchasers started forming to be assured of choice seats. Tickets were free with purchase of bonds of $100 to $5,000 denomination and could be bought at any southern California theatre. The Wiltern seats 2,600.

(2) A shot inside the theatre during the show.

(3) Sherrill Corwin, vice-chairman for the Southern California Theatres Bond committee, assists Paulette Goddard in a dressing room rehearsal of her part in the show. Corwin worked as co-producer of the show with radio's Ed Cashman.

(4) Abbott and Costello (Abbott being substituted for by Prof. Mellohead).

(5) Paulette Goddard and Bing Crosby.

(6) Rochester digs—and the reference isn't to cutting a rug.

PORTLAND

Pvt. Morrill E. Ritter jr., owner of the Florence Theatre in Florence, Ore., now is stationed at Camp Pendleton in California. He operates the camp theatre there.

Among exhibitors on the Row booking were Miss Verne Ross of Toledo; Ed Randall, Sutherlin; Robert Marsden, Marshfield; Lloyd Claver, Coquille; Dick Fisk, Bandon; Lloyd Moore, Hermiston; M. D. Murphy, Beaverton; A. M. Dunlop, Astoria, and Frank Buckmiller, Baker. The last had two of his women operators with him, which kept the local film boys busy as an entertainment committee.

Eino Hemila was in town for several days and caused quite a "hot" sensation by almost setting fire to one of the choice rooms in a local hotel with—believe it or not—a lighted CIGARET!

The missing PRC salesman, Jim Quier, has turned up after a three-week selling trip. Friends are audibly wondering if the fishing season had anything to do with his disappearance . . . Ted Gallanter, M-G-M's exploitation man, was host to Claire Trevor and George Murphy, screen stars, when here on a bond-selling tour. The stars attended a private screening May 10 at the Star screening room.

Gov. Earl Snell of Oregon and his party were guests at a special screening of Jane Powell's latest picture, "Delightfully Dangerous," at Star screening room. Miss Powell, it will be remembered, is a Portland girl. The film is creating a lot of interest among the Portlanders.

New employes on Filmrow include Joanna Aust, booker's stenographer at Columbia; Beulah Gabriel, the new biller at RKO; Edith Wheeler, cashier at the same exchange, and Mrs. Bonnie Lindroff, secretary to Mark Cory at RKO. Lloyd McCullough, formerly with the marines, is now the assistant shipped at RKO.

To Build at Belleville, Ore.

MEDIA, ORE.—Kemper Freeman of this city has obtained WPB priorities for the construction of a 500-seat theatre in Belleville. The estimated cost of the project is $42,000.

Jack Henry to Montrose

MONTROSE, COLO.—Jack Henry of Denver now is managing the Fox Theatre here as successor to Stub O'Brien, who resigned following his induction into the army.

Los Angeles House Opened

LOS ANGELES—Bill Kaye, owner of the Kiva and Linda Lee theatres, has opened his New Barbara Theatre in the southeast section of this city with a policy of presenting only all-request programs.

New Ideas in Portland Construction

SPOKANE—Several theatrical construction innovations new to Spokane are incorporated in the design of the new Garland Theatre, a $130,000 structure now nearing completion at the corner of Monroe and Garland Sts., here.

The theatre, which Lester N. Johnson, spokesman for the owners, expects to be open by June 15, will be the first stadium-type motion picture house in this city, with the balcony built in successive tiers back of the main floor rather than overhanging the main auditorium. This design eliminates the "dead" space beneath the conventional overhanging balcony where hearing often is difficult, Johnson said.

Another feature is the continental type seating arrangement in the lower tier, new to this section. Through allowing wider space between the rows of seats, the necessity of a center aisle is eliminated and persons can pass in or out of the rows without the usual inconvenience to seated patrons.

Roy L. Bair, E. W. Johnson and James Crick are associated with L. N. Johnson in the project.

SAN FRANCISCO

Delores Del Rio was featured at a performance of the United Nations Theatre in "Maria Candelaria," one of her latest Mexican films. Also shown in all all-Latin program was "Sao Paulo," depicting life in the Brazilian metropolis. It was produced by the coordinator of inter-American affairs.

In town recently were Dorothy Lamour, Ernie Barron, Vivian Blaine, Rene DeMorco, Kirby Grant and Lina Romay.

Row Ramblings: Robert Bemis, manager of the Walter G. Preddey Co., spent the last week putting equipment in the naval hospital at Mare Island naval yard . . . Cliff Almy, general manager for Warner Bros. in the Philippines, returned to San Francisco after being a "guest" of the Japs for three years in Santo Tomas. He returned with his wife and intends to remain here for a bit before making future plans.

Harry Saber of the Western Theatrical Equipment Co. was in Los Angeles for a convention. Rose Golik, office manager for the company, was on a vacation up north. The two facts, according to Jean Rilovich, secretary, made the office quite a lonely spot.

Worth seeing is the handsome gold plaque on the wall of the Paramount exchange here which reads: "Serving Our Country." The honor roll lists Glen Haviland, Harry Miller and Harold Peters.

Days when there is no matinee, members of the "Harriet" cast tour Bay area hospitals and entertain convalescents with a 75-minute version of "Charley's Aunt" . . . Jack Benny is taking immunization shots here in preparation for an overseas tour which will begin in June. He'll be accompanied by Larry Adler and Martha Tilton.

Edward Levin, brother of Jess Levin of General Theatrical, returned on a 30-day leave after 33 months in the Pacific. He arrived Wednesday, May 16, and wedding bells rang for him the next day when he married Ruth Nesenfeld.

Cheri Danby, theatrical and motion picture performer, has said adieu to show business for a spell and has opened the Cheri Shoppe, selling used clothing of movie stars and socialites. Miss Danby has worked the theatre circuits throughout the entire United States, appearing at the Orpheum, Golden Gate theatres, here. She started in the motion picture business with Max Sennett.

The Sacramento planning commission has an application by F. H. Enwalkd of 1517 Thirty-third St., for a permit to erect a $20,000 drive-in theatre at the corner of Auburn Blvd. and Madison Ave.

The May 5 issue of BOXOFFICE carried a note under the San Francisco items that Ernie Gibson was the new Warner Bros. northern California salesman. Gibson informs this correspondent he is still with the United Artists, having recently been transferred from the Salt Lake branch to Sacramento.

Two new programs featuring Constance Bennett with news about the cinema capitol and Broadway and a rehabilitation show, Reunion U.S.A. centered around reorientation problems, were begun May 21 over KGO and the Blue Network. The Constance Bennett quarter hour show can be heard at 12:45 (PWT) every Monday through Friday and will not only include news about Hollywood and Broadway but also fashion reporting. During her screen career, Miss Bennett established an all-time record with the highest salary ever paid an actres—$30,000 per week.

"The Drunkard" managed by Andrew Saucier and starring the Hollywood personality, Anthony LoCicero, opened the Green Street Music Hall . . . The John Steinbeck story, "A Medal for Benny," starring Dorothy Lamour and Arturo de Cordova, will be the war bond premiere offering at the Orpheum this coming week.

War Prisoners in U.S. Like 'Wide Open Spaces' Films

Ogden, Utah—Prisoners of war at the camp near here apparently have voted the motion picture "Utah" as their favorite. According to camp directors, they've run this film several times at the camp theatre, built and paid for with the 80 cents a day made by working prisoners. The captives, according to officials, express a preference for western films.

French Seek Closer U.S. Film Contacts

The establishment in France of an exchange bureau to assist in bringing the French motion picture industry into closer contact with the American industry has been revealed in a message from Louis Daquin, producer-director who is secretary of the Comite de Liberation du Cinema Francais. The message from Paris was received by the Hollywood council of guilds and unions and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization.

Another message was received in Hollywood by the Screen Writers Guild from Henri Bergson, president of the French Syndicat de Scenaristes, pledging cooperation between French and American film writers.

Emmet Lavery, chairman of both the Screen Writers Guild and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, says technical and creative personnel groups in the American film industry have already begun the organization of an exchange service with French screen groups.

In his message to American film writers, Bergson expressed the belief that the screen will become the chief agency of international understanding and cooperation, and Daquin pledged the efforts of the French film liberation committee to the "lifting of the motion picture industry above private interests and the erroneous conception of certain financial groups."

Nebraska Repeals Law Banning Ascap Society

From Midwest Edition

LINCOLN—Ascap was almost back in business in Nebraska as the legislature passed a bill which repeals the anti-Ascap law enacted in 1937. The vote was 27-11. The bill was signed by the governor and becomes effective in 90 days. Some other states used to have anti-Ascap laws, but Nebraska was the last state to hold out against the society.

Before the new bill was passed, Senator John Mekota of Crete, a strong opponent, moved that the enacting clause be stricken. His attempt to kill the bill failed, 7 to 27. Senator Mekota had charged that Ascap, which he termed a "vicious monopoly," was conducting a "campaign of fear" to "coerce" music users to support it and the legislature to pass it.

Joe Malec, operator of Omaha's Peony Park, which, with Radio Station WOW, are the state's largest music users, commented, as follows, after the bill was passed:

"In seeking truth and justice in defense of free enterprise under the laws of our Constitution I bow to the organized power of the music Ascap cartel which knows no justice and does not recognize the laws of our Constitution. While our sons fight all over the world to bring freedom to other nations we are losing their freedom here at home to monopolies and cartels. We are heading the wrong way."

The majority of the state's music users, including the theatres led by Robert Livingston of Lincoln, had written letters to the senators supporting the bill and asserting that they must have some agency to deal with for public performance of music or be subject to numerous and costly copyright infringement suits.

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Tom Norman's Career Dates Back to 1903

From Central Edition

PALATINE, ILL. — This 50-year anniversary of motion picture exhibition has been a great year for reminiscing. Among the old-timers entitled to tilt back his chair and start I-remember-whenning is Tom Norman, owner of the Pal Theatre here, which he remodeled about six years ago.



TOM NORMAN

Norman's theatre career dates back, however, to 1903-'04, when he was the operator in a storeroom show. This was at Lincoln and Wrightwood avenues in Chicago. Then he became a booker for Universal on Lake St. and remained with the company until 1914, and still prizes the letter of regret at losing him from Carl Laemmle, carrying best wishes for his future.

Tom next operated the Rex Theatre at Racine, Wis., and one of the same name at Oshkosh. Other ventures, in their chronological order, included managing the Archer Bros. Portage Park Theatre at Chicago, field manager for Fischers' Paramount Theatres, Milwaukee salesman for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and with Albert Dezel's Road Shows.

Folks in other industries and professions are always looking forward to a day of retirement to a little chicken farm or some such pastoral objective. But in show business, more and more of those active for a long period of time like to get a nice location in a small town and keep right on in the industry.

Tom's still doing all right for himself in the only business he has known for the past 40 years.

Building Plans Announced For E. Bakersfield, Calif.

Bakersfield, Calif.—Plans for a new structure in East Bakersfield to house a 998-seat theatre and seven storerooms have been announced by Richard Lemucchi of the Banducci & Lemucchi Theatre Co. It will be erected on property owned by the company at the corner of Monterey and Baker Sts.

To Tonto Creek From Row

JEROME, ARIZ.—Phil and Gladys Pecharich, managers of the Ritz and Liberty theatres here, spent the first week in May on Filmrow in Los Angeles. Having attended to business matters there, fellow anglers will find them on Tonto Creek trout fishing when the season opens May 30. Tonto Creek is up under the Mogollon Rim in northern Arizona.

Dan Putnam to New Post

MANETTE, WASH.—The new Bay Theatre has been opened here under the management of Dan Putnam.



Ray McFarlane Buys Film House at Arbuckle, Calif.

ARBUCKLE, CALIF. — Ray McFarlane, formerly of Benicia, has purchased and assumed charge of the Arbuckle Theatre. He formerly managed the State at Benicia. Lee Thornhill, former Arbuckle manager, will continue here as McFarlane's assistant.

Plans New Theatre Project In Former News Building

OAKLAND, ORE.—E. H. Randall, owner of the Rand Theatre in Sutherlin, has purchased the building formerly occupied by the Oakland Tribune here and plans to remodel the structure into a theatre seating about 300.

Tacoma Theatre Men Add Second House to Holdings

TACOMA, WASH.—Sid Dean and Fred Gamble, operators of the Rex Theatre here, have taken over the Lakewood Theatre also. It was formerly operated by the Moore estate.

On the Job Nine Years

MARYSVILLE, CALIF.—A new screen and other improvements have been installed in the newly decorated State Theatre here. The theatre is under the management of Harry E. Browne, now in his ninth year on the job.

Denver Theatre Reopened

DENVER, COLO.—The Jewel Theatre here has been reopened after a week in which it was closed for remodeling.

Jack McFarlane an Owner

ARBUCKLE, CALIF.—Jack McFarlane of Benicia is the new owner of the Arbuckle Theatre here.

SALT LAKE CITY

In tribute to Heber J. Grant, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons), all theatres here remained closed during the forenoon on the day of his funeral, May 18. Many theatre owners and operators in the state were personal friends of the 88-year-old religious leader.

Charlie Pincus, Utah Theatre manager, has scheduled Dr. I. Q. for appearances on the stage at his theatre for seven weeks beginning June 7. While in Salt Lake, the quiz expert will produce a bond show.

Harold Chesler, former operator of the Princess Theatre, Bingham, who is now in the merchant marine, was at home last week on a short leave.

Personnel of Intermountain Theatres are competing in an exploitation contest on selling the new picture, "Murder, He Says." Anything goes, according to contest editors —limericks, poems, novel ads or what have you. Prizes will be $150 in war bonds.

The Salt Lake City exchange territory has pledged 149 war bond premieres, 61 children's bond shows and 176 Free Movie Days during the Mighty Seventh War Loan, according to Tracy Barham, Utah chairman of the motion picture pulse of the drive. A children's bond premiere for junior high school students has been scheduled for May 26 here and a premiere for elementary students will be held June 2, both at the Capitol Theatre.

"Silver Dollar" Jake Is at It Again

From Southern Edition

MIAMI—Jake Schreiber, retired exhibitor who's having plenty of fun in a patriotic way here entertaining the armed forces, who earned his sobriquet by giving away bushels of Uncle Sam cartwheels at his Detroit theatres, has broken loose again. This time it's the Seventh War Loan. Already Jake is hotter than the German retreat over the campaign, and he plans to sell a lot of bonds for the "Mighty Seventh."

Jake is still giving away silver dollars—also by the bushel. He presents the coins at impromptu sketches he stages at local hospitals for the ill and wounded of the war. He brings a lot of cheer into the lives of these soldiers, incidentally.

Some months ago a page of pictures describing Schreiber's antics at these hospital shows, including a flock of Florida bathing beauties he invariably takes with him to the affairs, were published in BOXOFFICE. Now Jake has ordered reprints of this page rushed to him by air express. He plans to use this broadside in his one-man campaign for the "Showmen's Seventh."

"I'm still a showman," Jake said, "and refuse to sit on the sidelines even though I'm not what might be called active in theatre operation. These boys need me, and my country needs me. Whatever I can do to help, is surely little enough."

Charles Boucher to Fox Theatre Post at La Junta

ROCKY FORD, COLO.—Charles Boucher, ex-marine, formerly of Rocky Ford, has been named assistant manager of the Fox Theatre at La Junta. He had been employed at the Ord Theatre in Ordway since his return from overseas.

Morris and Levin Buy An Interest in Grand

SAN FRANCISCO—Mark M. Morris jr. and Morris M. Levin have purchased an interest in the Grand, an 850-seat house in the Mission district.

Wilbur, Wash., House Sold To Gus Bergstrom, Republic

WILBUR, WASH.—The Roxy Theatre building here has been sold by Miss Marie Faldborg of Seattle to Gus Bergstrom, theatre operator at Republic.

Fire Razes Gardena, Calif., Theatre With $100,000 Loss

GARDENA, CALIF.—Fire of unknown origin May 3 destroyed the 800-seat Gardena Theatre here. The loss was placed at $100,000.

Theatre Opens After Fire

SOAP LAKE, WASH.—The Soap Lake Theatre here was opened recently following a fire which necessitated temporary closing. Two shows a week are presented, on Tuesday and Saturday nights.

New Carlton, Ore., Theatre

CARLTON, ORE.—A 300-seat motion picture theatre is included in the remodelling of a two-story brick building recently gutted by fire here. Stores and office rooms will be constructed in the remainder of the building.

60,000 Chicagoans Say: "I Am an American"

CHICAGO—In their first acclamation of victory in Europe since VE-Day, Chicagoans last Sunday streamed into Soldier Field to celebrate "I Am an American" day.

After threatening skies and thunder showers, the weather had cleared before the start of the program—sponsored by the Herald-American—and more than 60,000 Chicagoans were in the great stadium. The day was so proclaimed several years ago by the late President Roosevelt and endorsed by Gov. Dwight Green for this area.

Admission was free. The crowd came early to be entertained by Col. Armin P. Hand's military band; by numerous choral groups; Great Lakes choristers; women's military units and innumerable church groups, representing every denomination.

Governor Green said: "This is the happiest 'I Am an American' day so far—this vast assemblage of Americans of every race and creed is a demonstration of the strength of our country, which is saving the world from slavery." Mayor Edward J. Kelly likewise lauded the strength and said: "We as Americans will see to it that this suffering, horror and bloodshed shall not be allowed to happen again."

But the afternoon was not all serious. Many luminaries of the entertainment world thrilled the crowd with informal talks, fine music and great good humor. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, film stars who were married a few days ago, appeared. Bogart reminded Americans that constitutions and courts alone cannot safeguard liberty. He said: "Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women. If it's not there, no constitution or court can save us." Miss Bacall, who could not talk because of an attack of laryngitis, drew cheers when she waved to the crowds and whispered a hoarse "hello" into the microphone.

Pat O'Brien, film star, gave, as a dramatic oration, the words of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Sophie Tucker sang one of her comedy songs and was encored back to do "Some of These Days." Thousands cheered as Sonny Tufts, screen star, put in his appearance. Other entertainers included Buddy Clark, Don McGuire, James Russell Conlin, Terry O'Donnell and Princess Daisy Maude Underwood.

A group of 200 received their oath as citizens; numerous war heroes received decorations, through arrangements with the military, and there was a re-enactment of the famous flag-raising at Iwo Jima.

Van Praag Leaves PRC To Open Own Exchange

CHICAGO—Mort Van Praag has resigned his managerial post with PRC Pictures of Illinois, effective May 26, and with his wife, will open an independent exchange, Supreme Pictures, at 1306 S. Wabash, handling Selznick reissues.

A housewarming is being planned for the opening on June 4, the anniversary of Van Praag's 30th year in the industry.

E. St. Louis Station Sold

ST. LOUIS—The sale of radio station WTMV, East St. Louis, for $105,000 to a newly formed Wisconsin partnership has been authorized by the FCC. The purchasers are Mr. and Mrs. William Johns, William Johns jr., and Myles H. Johns. They are associated with the Oshkosh, Wis., Broadcasting Co.



ANNIVERSARY CHAT — Two prominent exhibitors in the St. Louis territory drop into the Columbia exchange to pledge their help for Abe Montague's 20th Anniversary. Left to right: James Bradford, Columbia salesman; Charles Wells of the Farrar-Turner circuit; Art Kalbfell of the Komm-Wehrenberg circuit, and Roy Purdy, Columbia accessories manager.

Talent School Racket Is Exposed in Chicago

CHICAGO—In an expose of so-called talent schools, in which gullible young women are bilked through promises they will be groomed for the stage or pictures and brought to the attention of studio scouts, the Chicago Herald-American has caused two such racketeering institutions to fold up and others to be brought under scrutiny of the Better Business Bureau.

The schools followed the practice of signing students only after the tuition had been paid in full, the expose revealed. When applicants were short of funds they were taken to a loan agency, usually associated with the school, which advanced money for the tuition after the applicants signed notes and wage assignments at a high rate of interest.

Little or no schooling was provided, the newspaper revealed, and the "studio scouts" never materialized.

Warners Stage Three-Way Shift in Kohler, Wis., Setup

KOHLER, WIS.—A series of changes in the Warner theatres here followed the induction of Leo Schuessler, manager of the Sheboygan, into the armed services.

Waldon Ryan, manager of the Rex, and Miss Margaret Leik, assistant manager, went to the Sheboygan in similar capacities. Raymond Arnold went from the Majestic to manage the Rex and Miss Nellie Luksis, assistant manager of the Sheboygan, became manager of the Majestic. She is the first woman to become manager of a film house here.

Miss Sylvia Urbancic, cashier at the Sheboygan, was made assistant manager of the Rex.

"Mom and Dad" Opens In Two Illinois Spots

Champaign, Ill.—"Mom and Dad," the new hygiene film which according to its distributors has been breaking boxoffice records in dozens of midwest cities, has been dated into the Co-Ed Theatre on the U. of Illinois campus here, and the Princess Theatre in Urbana, for a day-and-date engagement opening June 4.

Floyd Lewis, agent for Hygienic Productions, is here supervising the exploitation campaign.

Chicago to Demonstrate Unity Behind Truman

CHICAGO—A demonstration attesting the unity of the people behind our new commander-in-chief, Harry S. Truman, is planned in the form of a stage spectacle to be presented in the Chicago Stadium Sunday night, May 27. Mayor Edward J. Kelly is chairman of the committee in charge and is assisted by a group of leading Chicagoans including many from show business. Among them are John Balaban, James Coston, Edwin Silverman and Jack Kirsch.

Participants will include navy, army, marine and coast guard units, with bands; nationalists groups in costume; choral societies and other organizations, along with stage, screen, cafe and radio stars, such as John Boles, Sophie Tucker, Ted Weems, Frances Faye, Ted Lewis and Paul Robeson. The chief speaker will be Justice William Douglas of the U.S. supreme court.

Frank Smith of the RKO Theatres will handle the staging with Madeline Woods taking care of publicity and other arrangements.

Three Sons of Irving Mack Now Purple Heart Members

CHICAGO—Word has been received that Joseph Mack, eldest son of Irving Mack of Filmack Trailer Co., has been wounded in the fighting on Luzon. He now is in a base hospital where his condition is reported satisfactory.

Joseph is the third of Mack's three sons who have been awarded a Purple Heart. Bernard is in the O'Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Mo., recuperating from wounds received in Germany. Donald was decorated for injuries received in France.

Wife of Illinois Circuit Owner Dies at Harrisburg

HARRISBURG, ILL. — Funeral services were conducted here May 16 for the wife of Steve Farrar of the Farrar and Turner circuit, operators of motion picture theatres in a number of southern Illinois towns. Mrs. Farrar also is survived by a son, the manager of the Grand Theatre, Vienna, Ill. Mrs. Farrar was prominent in civic affairs, including the sponsorship of home gardens.

Geehan Heads Milwaukee Motion Picture Commission

MILWAUKEE—In an acrimonious meeting William V. Geehan, assistant to Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp., was elected chairman of the city motion picture commission.

The commission consists of nine members who with 23 aides view first run pictures in advance of Milwaukee release in the interests of censorship.

Arthur Groom Takes Over At Loew's in Evansville

EVANSVILLE, IND.—Arthur Groom, formerly of Loew's State, Memphis, has taken over the management of Loew's Theatre here, succeeding Jack A. Mercer. The latter was made manager of the Orpheum in Boston, largest of the three Loew theatres there.

Charles Olson Dies at 65

CARMEL, IND.—Charles Olson, 65, widely-known theatre operator and former manager of the Lyric at Indianapolis, died at his home here recently.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Thirty-two years a motion picture showman, **Bruce Kixmiller** has watched the theatre business grow in Bicknell, Ind., the town where he started and where he now owns the Colonial and the Indiana theatres. This month, the 31st, marks the anniversary of his start. Kixmiller is a director of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, a Mason and an Elk of Bicknell and a member of the Columbia Club of Indianapolis. Politics is his avocation—he is Republican city chairman. He is proud of the service record of his son, Capt. Bruce Kixmiller jr.



James E. Coston, zone manager in Milwaukee and Chicago for Warners, began his motion picture career in 1910 as a ticket-taker for small south side theatres. He acquired interests in 28 local theatres which Warners later took over in 1930. He then became general manager for the company in that area. Today he supervises 22 houses in Chicago and 24 in Wisconsin. The Coston Booking circuit, booking and buying for the 136 tneatres, was started by him. He is married and has two daughters. Betty Ling's husband is a writer at Fox studios, Audrey's a SeaBee.

MILWAUKEE

Film salesmen who have called on Irving Vincient of the Grand, Oconto Falls, for signed contracts, gave him a farewell party when he turned GI . . . Eddie Lurie, Monogram, has been educating exhibitors on "Dillinger." The film did splendidly in the first Wisconsin run at the Fox, Marinette . . . Why does Milton Schefft, National Screen, wear a skating cap during the daily toil?

Paul Horowitz, former Princess manager, is a salesman these days, but not of film . . . Bob Menzies, known to intimates as "Scotty," is out of the air corps and back in filmdom as assistant manager at the Varsity . . . Howard Neville, Kickapoo, Gays Mills, was in booking.

Roused from slumber late one night, Volmer Dahlstrand, Milwaukee musicians representative, was informed a nonunion band was working a local spot. Grumbling plenty he motored fast to catch the offenders. He found a nonunion band but none of the members was a day over 12 years. It seems it was only a rehearsal.

An outing Ben Poblocki arranged for branch managers and Reel Fellows was postponed—too much cold weather and rain . . . In operation about a month, Paramount Publications, a sheet music distributing firm, is headed by a local lad, Nic Harper. He formerly was with Isham Jones and Woody Herman on violin and arrangements. Roy Kaiser, another local musician, assists . . . Here booking were Sam and Irving Vincient, Oconto Falls; Ray Lenz, Pastime, Horicon, and Sam Miller, State, Rhinelander.

Rotund Jerome Kurz of the Ray Smith firm was sick, so was Ray Shulz, 20th-Fox booker, and George Edgerton, 20th-Fox salesman . . . Harold Wirthwein, Paramount manager, says "Salty O'Rourke" is swelling all boxoffice receipts . . . Eva Johnson, United Artists, is back after an illness . . . Becky Hoffman, secretary to Walter Bennin, Metro office manager, vacationed in Kansas City.

Bill Exton, Roosevelt, Kenosha, was a visitor . . . Barney Sherman, Regal operator, has closed a deal for the Douglas in Racine.

W. L. Ainsworth, Fond du Lac, attended Caravan confabs in Detroit, Chicago, Indianapolis and was host to ITO members in Milwaukee, with Sim Samuelson and Martin Smith, Caravan executives . . . Central divisional manager for Paramount, James J. Donohue, was here to confer with Harold Wirthwein, local branch manager . . . Filmcutter Victor Ludwig in town from the Universal studio visiting his dad John, independent theatre operator, conferred with Bill Parker, Universal manager here.

Joe Strother, S&M circuit, returned from a swing through the territory . . . Lieut. Gordon Koehler, son of Chaz Koehler of Astor Pictures, pulled into Mitchell Field here at the controls of a huge navy plane. A busy lad, Gordon, with his constant air travel out of Traverse City, Mich. . . . Mark Brazee, Warner circuit, announced he had booked Lawrence Welk and his band into the Capitol, Madison, for June 26; also that "Affairs of Susan" was set as a bond premiere there.

Dancing at State Fair Park has opened for the summer season, with Steve Sweedish and his band . . . At Warners' Sheboygan Theatre, Sheboygan, an all high school "flesh" talent show, "Royal Rumpus Review," was set by Mark Brazee for May 29.

Lillian Kupersmith, National Screen booker, vacations shortly. New Orleans is beckoning . . . Hugo Vogel shoved off for Chicago . . . Don Weisfeldt of the air corps was on furlough in town and caught a few screenings . . . Elsie Sutter, "Miss Wisconsin," keeps the home fires burning by modeling for art students at a local art school.

Brooks Stevens handled the interior decoration on La Salle Hotel's Circle lounge. It's strictly on the bridle path side, with white horses highlighting the motif.

Lovers of classical music should catch "Loretta and Her Violin" with the trio headed by Tony Lombardo at Steuben's.

Johnny Mednikow, National Screen, returned from about the fastest trip on record through the territory . . . Universal sneak-previewed "That's the Spirit" at Warner Theatre. First nighters got plenty of laughs with Jack Oakie's antics . . . Jerry Koehler, son of Charles Koehler, Astor Pictures, formerly handled a guitar for Johnny Davis on tour . . . Johnny Matis, Alhambra manager, went vacationing, chiefly ice fishing . . . Warners' Venetian Theatre, Racine, has "Affairs of Susan" set for a June 21 bond premiere.

James Coston, Warner zone manager, conferred with Al Kvool and Mark Brazee, Warner circuit officials here . . . Bill Parker, Universal branch manager, toured the state territory with Fred Stein, Fox Wisconsin official . . . Charley Trampe attended Monogram's board meeting and sales confab at the Blackstone in Chicago May 22.

The Granada at Oshkosh reopened . . . UA office personnel enjoyed that Irv Zinda wedding reception . . . For this item the groom gets the ink . . . Don Deakin, Dells, Wisconsin Dells, is still in circulation!

Cold Rains in Chicago Put Chill on Theatres

CHICAGO—The Windy City has been a wet one as well and the show business was damp. Last Friday saw the first respite in the downpour which set a new record, beating the old mark set in 1883. Chill winds also set a new mark in temperature, May 15 being the coldest on record. But "Diamond Horseshoe" felt neither cold nor rain at the State-Lake. Everything else just did so-so. Lifting of the curfew has failed to up business to any marked degree at late shows, the public having obviously gotten into the habit of hitting the feathers early. This doesn't hold true of cafes, however, for every night is New Year's Eve at the bistros, the nighthawks wading into the bright spots until the early, wet dawn of the morning.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 5th wk. 95
Chicago—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk., plus stage show 110
Garrick—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 100
Grand—**Strange Death of Hitler** (Univ); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), reissues 95
Oriental—**Frisco Sal** (Univ), plus stage show 115
Palace—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of Sarong** (Univ), 2nd wk. 100
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 110
State-Lake—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox) 115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 20th wk. 95
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 110
Woods—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep), 4th wk. 95
World Playhouse—**Zoya** (Artkino), 3rd wk. 95

VE-Day Brings No Market Spurt At the Milwaukee Theatres

MILWAUKEE — VE-Day failed to bring marked boxoffice returns, though there was a spurt with the lifting of the curfew.

Alhambra—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Battle of San Pietro** (WAC), 4th d. t. wk. 100
Palace—**A Song to Remember** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 2nd wk. 100
Riverside—**She Gets Her Man** (Univ); **The Suspect** (Univ) 100
Strand—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para); **Thin Man Goes Home** (M-G-M), 4th d. t. wk. 95
Warner—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 2nd wk.; **It Happened in Springfield** (WB) 100
Wisconsin—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col) 100

Milwaukee Offerings Fail to Excite More Than Average Patron Interest

MILWAUKEE—"The Enchanted Cottage" at the Warner pulled an average take, as did "Music for Millions" at the Wisconsin. Others were near average, with a few falling below.

Alhambra—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO) 95
Palace—**Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 100
Riverside—**Tomorrow the World** (UA) 95
Strand—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd run 100
Warner—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO) 100
Wisconsin—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Dangerous Passage** (Para) 100

Errol-McGuire to "Riverboat Rhythm"

Leon Errol and Marcy McGuire have been set for top roles in "Riverboat Rhythm," an RKO production.

ST. LOUIS

Mayor Kaufmann has announced he will try to obtain the army signal corps Nazi atrocity films for a public showing at the Kiel Auditorium here under the sponsorship of the city. The request will also be made for the signal corps film, "Know Your Job in Germany." The mayor's plan is in line with a suggestion by Joseph Pulitzer, editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Pulitzer was a member of a group of newspaper men from this country which returned recently from a tour of Europe as the guests of General Eisenhower. There the editors visited scenes of Nazi brutality and obtained eye-witness information of the atrocities.

J. Goldfarb, owner of the Uptown Theatre, 1651 Washington Ave., Alton, Ill., was one of five Alton business men accused of illegally employing minors. Suits were filed against the business concerns by Atty. Gen. G. F. Barrett as part of a state-wide campaign by Atty. Gen. George F. Barrett to enforce the Illinois state child labor laws. Employment of children under 14 years is prohibited and children between 14 and 16 years may be employed only under certain rigid legal restrictions.

Two patrons of a carnival at Grand Blvd. and Laclede Ave. were injured when a "fly-o-plane" in which they were riding overturned, throwing them 30 feet to the ground. Attendants were unable to account for the mishap, saying the patrons had been fastened by safety belts before starting the ride.

A $10,000 isolation ward for infantile paralysis patients at St. Mary's Infirmary here has been provided by the St. Louis and St. Louis County chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The infirmary is a private institution for Negroes. There are three similar wards in local white hospitals. Funds for all were provided through the March of Dimes drives of the local motion picture theatres and the Mile-o-Dimes campaign of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and radio station KMOX.

Edward L. Kuhs, real estate and automobile dealer, and Harry F. Kline, financial secretary, AFL International Union of Engineers Local 2, have been appointed to the Municipal Auditorium commission . . . Theatres of the metropolitan St. Louis area will give free admission May 28 and June 4, 6, 11, 18 and 25 to purchasers of war bonds . . . Frances Smith, Ambassador assistant treasurer, has returned from a vacation in Miami Beach.

Washington Hall, historic town gathering place at 203-209 S. Third St., is being razed after nearly a century of colorful history. The hall was the scene of meetings in 1861 by opposing factions in the impending Civil War. It was built in 1846. During the World's Fair in 1904 it gained an unsavory reputation, being known as the "Bucket of Blood," due to a gangster influx.

"Forever Yours" enjoyed a great first run engagement at Loew's Orpheum here, rating real raves from the film critics. It will move soon into the Ansell-Schuckert-Levin second run houses, Ritz, Esquire, Avalon, Norside, Will Rogers and Varsity.

The Fairmount Jockey Club plans to open May 26 for a 30-day race meet. The advance sale of season tickets for the 88 performances of the 1945 season of the St. Louis Municipal Opera totaled $155,000. This is $25,000 more than the 1944 season's record-breaking total.

The marriage in New York recently of Miss Mary Stevenson, Broadway singing star, and John Kennedy, production manager of the St. Louis Municipal Opera, has been revealed to local friends. They met at the Forest Park open air theatre in 1943, when Miss Stevenson was making her first appearance here. She returned in 1944 to play in "Hit the Deck" and "Maytime."

Harold Cass, a film veteran, has returned to the business after an absence of some five years to take over the eastern Missouri territory for United Artists. He replaces Ed Rudolph, resigned . . . Jerry Behner, booking manager for Paramount, is back on the job after spending a week at the Missouri Baptist Hospital.

"Salty O'Rourke" went into a second run at the Ambassador after a great opening week, while "Bring On the Girls" continued to hold its own at the Missouri Theatre. Maurice Schweitzer, Paramount manager, chuckled: "It looks like Paramount week."

Carl E. Roessler jr., manager of the Jefferson Hotel, has been elected chairman of the Municipal Auditorium commission. He succeeds Isaac A. Hedges, who resigned last month . . . Irv Waterstreet, M-G-M publicity man, was out in the territory, as were Herb Washburn, manager for National Screen, and Tommy Williamson, RKO Radio manager.

Seen along Filmrow were Herschel Eichorn, Roxy, Mounds, Ill.; Joe Goldfarb, Uptown, Upper Alton, Ill.; George Karsch, Leadbelt Amusement Co., Farmington, Mo., and John Rees, Regal, Wellsville, Mo. . . . Harry C. Arthur jr., Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. circuit general manager, spends his spare time in St. Louis playing golf with Ralph McGowan of his organization. He also endeavors to view home games of the Browns from a front row box. Harry is a director of the club.

Matt Schulter, head booker for the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. houses, and Clarence Hill, manager for Columbia, were "Kings for a Day" at the meeting of the St. Louis Variety Club. Several reels of pictures were shown and each guest received a pack of cigarets.

Bob Cluster, southern Illinois exhibitor, is convalescing at his home in Salem, Ill., following a stay at St. John's Hospital here . . . Art LaPlant, assistant manager at Columbia, is busy these days. One of the bookers quit unexpectedly and Art had to take over.

None of the theatres in St. Louis or St. Louis County suffered serious damage in the severe hail, rain and windstorm which swept through this section. The storm did upward of $500,000 damages, florists and their greenhouses being the chief victims.

The FBI law enforcement conference for the St. Louis area was held May 16 in the Esquire Theatre, Richmond Heights, St. Louis County. The sound motion picture "On Guard" and another motion picture of in-

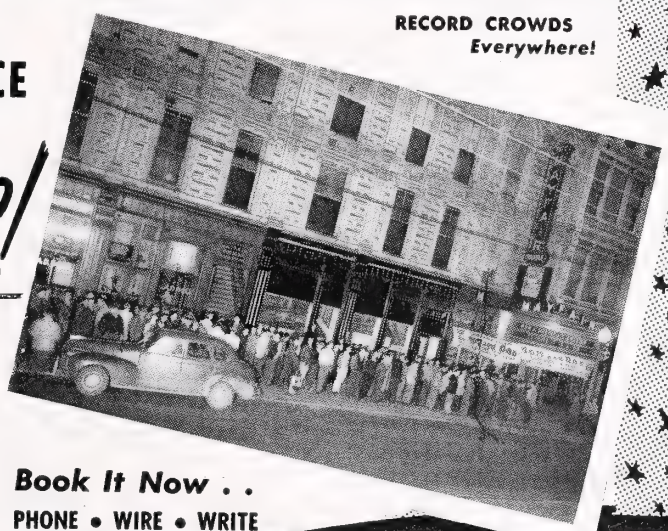
(Continued on next page)

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

"MOM AND DAD" ran three solid weeks at the Mayfair, Dayton, Ohio. One newspaper praised it editorially and the "home of aviation" marveled at the tremendous crowds. A Dayton pastor reviewed the film and praised it from his pulpit.

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

ST. LOUIS

(Continued from preceding page)

terest to Missouri law enforcement officials was shown.

Deputy Constable Al Lipman, who has been directing traffic at the Drive-In Theatre, St. Louis County, for the last three years is proud of that "no accident" record that has been rolled up. Thousands of automobiles have passed in and out and in front of the theatre in the period.

St. Louis girls 18 years and older who have had dancing experience will have an opportunity to go overseas with USO-Camp Shows, according to an announcement by Tony Peluso, manager of the Fox Theatre here. Those who pass tryouts here will be sent to New York for final rehearsals. Murial Stryker Hill will make final selections of the girls here.

Menasha Skulnik, comedian, was seen in the musical comedy "Good News" at the Kiel Auditorium the night of May 21 in a benefit performance for the rehabilitation fund of Jerome L. Goldman Post No. 96, American Legion . . . Trade screenings scheduled for St. Louis include RKO Radio's "Wonder Man" at the St. Louis Theatre, 718 North Grand Blvd., at 11 a. m., May 28, and M-G-M's "Twice Blessed" at the S'Renco Screen Room, 3143 Olive St., at 1 p. m., May 29.

The Browns, champions of the American League, have been moving at such a fast clip of late they probably have infected Owner Don L. Barnes with their speed fever. Barnes paid fines and costs of $41.40 in a justice of peace court in Clayton last week for careless and reckless driving. The New York Yankees will tell you the Browns have also been driving rather reckless—they've taken the New Yorkers for nine games in a row, the last five of the 1944 season and the first four played this year. Harry C. Arthur jr., Fanchon & Marco executive, gave advance warnings to "watch those Browns." He is a director of the club.

M-G-M Service Workers Get Retroactive Pay Hike

CHICAGO—Service department employes at M-G-M—shipping clerks, inspectors and postal clerks—received their 10 per cent raise, retroactive to Dec. 1, 1942. Other exchanges are expected to pay the increase soon.

The M-G-M increase is applicable to employes in the Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Indianapolis exchanges, as well as here. An increase for front office help, also retroactive, is expected to go through in several exchanges through efforts of International IATSE, New York.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



St. Louis Has Flying Start in Bond Drive

ST. LOUIS—Harry C. Arthur jr., WAC chairman for eastern Missouri, and Bernard McCarthy, distributor co-chairman for the St. Louis territory, have revealed St. Louis is away to a fine start in the Seventh War Loan compaign.

McCarthy announced the St. Louis sector has lined up 25 per cent more war bond premieres for the Seventh War Loan than the entire total for the Sixth. He also reports a 35 per cent increase in free movie nights and a 25 per cent gain in free movie shows for children.

Going into May 16 St. Louis reported war bond sales of $29,371,400, or 18.7 per cent of its quota of $156,772,436. Sales in process were expected to add some $10,000,000 to the area total. The Fox Theatre reported sales of $300,000 on the opening day. Members of the American Legion Auxiliary of the 11th and 12th Missouri districts of the legion war loan drive are in charge of the bond booths in the lobby of the big theatre at Grand and Washington Blvds.

Theatre Phone-Home Fund Contributions Reach $1,463

INDIANAPOLIS—Theatre patrons here contributed $1,463.20 of the present total of the phone-home fund, Dr. Harry H. Nagle and Earl Cunningham, chairman and assistant chairman of the fund's theatre committee, announced.

This sum accumulated from coins and bills theatre fans dropped into containers placed in the lobbies of 23 theatres in the city. Managers of these two dozen establishments further cooperated by including a short trailer focusing attention on the phone-home fund at each program.

The fund, which is sponsored by the 40 & 8 of the American Legion, the Indianapolis Star and Radio Station WIRE gives each combat veteran at the Billings and Wakeman General hospitals a free five-minute telephone call home.

Visual History by Television Coming, Speaker Asserts

CHICAGO—Network television before the end of 1946 was predicted by Paul B. Mowrey, television manager of the American Broadcasting Co., speaking before the Executives Club at the Hotel Sherman.

"When television reaches the peak of its postwar development, one 30-minute presentation will embrace 90 per cent of all the departments of motion pictures, theatre and radio," Mowrey said.

The radio official prophesied television would bring into the homes actual events that constitute modern history in the making.

"For instance," he continued, "every American would have felt himself a great deal closer to the current picture in Washington if—instead of simply reading about the swearing in of Harry S. Truman as President—he actually had been able to see the ceremony taking place."

The television of epoch-making scenes such as this will become a reality in a "very short time," the speaker said.

Reopen at Edinburg, Ind.

EDINBURG, IND.—The Pixy Theatre here, destroyed by fire last June, has been reopened after having been virtually rebuilt. Entire new furnishings and equipment were installed.

INDIANAPOLIS

Herman Morgan, who has been associated with Affiliated Theatres for several years, has resigned his post and will join the Dudley Williston circuit as manager of the Park Theatre. El Dean Thompson will succeed Morgan with Affiliated.

Elenor Borkes, who recently resigned as head biller at the Warner exchange, has been named assistant booker at RKO. She will serve with Allan Berkowitz, recently made head booker to succeed Gordon Schuman . . . Jerry Abrams, son of Sam Abrams, sales manager at PRC exchange, has been inducted into the navy. He has been a student at Indiana University.

Seen along Filmrow were Ray C. Thomas, on his annual tour from Newburg; Harry VanNoy, Paramount Theatre, Anderson; Harold C. Reckley, Greencastle; Pete Panagas, Alliance Theatres, Chicago; Roy Harold, Rushville; Joseph Schilling, Connersville, and Bob Hudson, Richmond, Ind. . . . Russell Brentlinger, RKO manager, made a personal call on exhibitors in southern Indiana and Louisville.

Horace Spencer, head shipper at RKO, has been home because of illness . . . Paul Leatherby, RKO office manager, reported for his physical examination Saturday at the Indianapolis armory . . . Everett Freeman has been appointed head shipper at Monogram exchange . . . The Indianapolis Variety Club is busy making plans for its annual golf tournament and dinner, to be held some time in June.

The Indianapolis News has announced it is bringing Bob Hope and Bing Crosby to the city for an exhibition golf match May 30 at the Speedway golf course. The proceeds will go to the PGA fund for rehabilitation of wounded service men. The two will play against professionals.

Universal staged a preview of "That's the Spirit" at the Indiana . . . The Oliver Theatre, recently closed because of a booth fire, reopened May 21 . . . Carl Anderson, booker at Universal, was called to Portland, Me., by family illness.

Lieut. Donald L. Williamson, pilot of a B47 bomber, was killed April 26 over England. He was employed at the RCA plant here before entering the service . . . Keith's Theatre, combination films and vaudeville, has closed for the summer. It will reopen early in September . . . The Fox Theatre, burlesque house, also has closed for the summer.

Missouri Proposes to Tax, Regulate Coin Machines

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri senate committee on criminal jurisprudence has reported favorably a bill which would require a license fee of from $10 to $25 annually on all vending, weighing and amusement machines receiving coins. The measure would exempt pay telephone stations and devices operated for the convenience of passengers on passenger trains. County courts would determine where and what types of machines, if any, may be operated in their county.

The bill could prevent the placing of juke boxes and slot machines in beer parlors and roadhouses, Sen. William M. Quinn of Maywood, its author, explained. He estimated the measure would raise about $1,500,000 annually. The license fee would be $10 for machines operated for less than five cents, and $25 for those which operate for five cents or more.

New Film Compresses Long Verbal Messages

From Eastern Edition

WASHINGTON—Recent improvements in sound recording by the army signal corps have made it possible to compress long messages, spoken into a recording device and reproduced on a light thin film belt, into such small compass that they can be carried in capsules harnessed to the backs of homing pigeons. About 20 times as much wordage can be set down in this manner as can be typed on paper of similar surface space.

The film is made of ethyl cellulose, first cousin to ordinary cellophane, and is produced in two forms, a seamless, extruded type, and a type welded with a seam. The color is dark burgundy. The belt is one foot long and three and one-half inches wide, of which three full inches can be used for voice reproduction.

When set in motion on the recording device, the film belt takes 30 minutes to run its full course. Then it can, in case of special necessity, be turned inside out and a similar recording made on the other side. This means one full hour of speech can be recorded on a single thin belt. Average talking has been found to run about 150 words to the minute, but some rapid talkers are able to register 300 words a minute.

It is estimated that approximately 18,000 words can be put on one film belt. It is possible to insert two such film belts into a four-inch capsule such as has been developed for harnessing to a pigeon's back, so that a single bird can carry 36,000 words of spoken message. To get that much written wordage onto a similar surface space would require, in the words of a recording expert, "the services of a Coney Island pin engraver."

An interesting property of this cellulose film is that it is edible. Granting that it is no more palatable or nourishing than cellophane, it has the advantage that in case of sudden emergency, such as the unexpected intrusion of an enemy force, the person holding the message can literally eat his words.

Youthful Bond Battalion Aids Milwaukee Drive

MILWAUKEE—Bond sales in the Seventh War Loan drive got off to a flying start through the salesmanship of 2,200 members of the Capitol Theatre's Junior Bond Battalion.

The youthful salesmen were given Junior Battalion membership cards at a special free bond show given by Marlowe Conner, manager of the theatre. For each bond sold, or purchased by themselves, the salesmen's cards will be punched—and holders of cards with one or more punches gain free admittance to a special war bond show at the Capitol June 30. There are special prizes for top salesmen.

Less than 20 minutes after the show finished, one of the Junior Battalion members, Jack Gordon, returned with money for the first bond sold by a juvenile salesman.

Babb Off to Minneapolis

ST. LOUIS—Kroger Babb, general agent for "Mom and Dad" and co-owner of Hygienic Productions, was here on business last week. Babb went by airline from here to Minneapolis where his film was at the Lyceum on May 23.

Remodeling Progresses

GREENFIELD, IND.—C. R. Jackson has announced he expects to complete remodelling and redecoration of the State Theatre here for an opening by the middle of June.

CHICAGO

Capt. Tom Gilliam jr., son of the branch manager for 20th-Fox, was in with his wife from their home in Fort Wayne for a visit with his parents. Tom spent 39 months overseas and holds a Purple Heart as well as a Presidential citation . . . Nate Slott, circuit head, is recovering from an operation . . . The Chicago Theatre had a sidewalk full of bobby-socksers for the opening performances of "Between Two Women." Early birds received a colored photo of Van Johnson.

Bob Hope and Bing Crosby were due here this weekend for a charity golf tournament at Tam O'Shanter . . . Gene Atkinson, Local 110, is putting the bite on his boys to buy more and more bonds in the Lucky Seventh . . . Maurice Rubens was marooned in Joliet all week by lack of a scow or hip boots . . . Harriet Parsons, daughter of Louella, was in town on her way back to the coast. Her ma used to be a local sob sister on the Examiner before it folded.

Jim Booth, Essaness booker, has donated an even dozen pints to the Red Cross blood bank . . . Harry and Bee Blumenthal of Ad-Art are going to have a party to celebrate the fact that their quarters are finally complete, with a new stairway and elevators now operating . . . Ralph Kettering and his wife have gone to Hollywood to visit their son, Tommy, his wife and new youngster.

Jack Lieb, Metro war newsreel cameraman, was guest at the Press Photog's show in the Sherman Hotel, where he showed his films of D-Day in Normandy and of the liberation of Paris . . . The Art Institute, reviving the oldies, showed "Sergeant York" (1914) last Saturday—the second in its children's free show revival series . . . Irving Berger, manager of the Essaness Mode, and his assistant Ernest Croson were in the hospital, as was Jack Reed, Crown manager.

Jack Allen of Film Delivery Service is in the hospital for minor surgery . . . Connie Gallo, formerly assistant to Bill Briscoe, manager of the RKO Grand, is now helping Sally Wagner at the RKO offices.

Ten "white collar girls" chosen in a contest run jointly by the Tribune and Commonwealth Edison Co., were guests at Warners at a luncheon and preview of "Roughly Speaking," which depicts the early struggles of women who left the kitchen to enter the business world. Lucia Perrigo, Warner press agent, was in charge of the stunt.

Morrie Salkin and Mrs. Salkin entertained Mrs. Morris Schulman, operator of the Bryan Amusement Co., Bryan, Tex., and Mrs. Henry Lazarus, theatre chain operator of New Orleans, at dinner in the Variety Club rooms. Morrie sang such appropriate numbers as "Deep in the Heart of Texas" and "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans," accompanied by Maestro Sweet of the Variety Club, but the visitors enjoyed the dinner anyway.

Sgt. Charles Teitel, with the army in Texas, and Bernard Teitel, stationed at Great Lakes naval station, were in on furloughs to help celebrate Mothers' Day. Their father is Abe Teitel . . . Al Winston and Virginia Seguin made folks 20th-Fox conscious by grabbing plenty of space in the papers on the visit of Roddy McDowall of "Flicka" fame, here to do a stint for the war loan drive. The kid star bought a bond and had it made out jointly to himself and Thunderhead.

Warren Slee, M-G-M publicist, rushed out to the airport to meet Walter Pidgeon, passing through from the coast to Cleveland for a bond drive appearance. Warren had to use strong arm methods to stave off autograph-seekers who jumped the fence shouting "That's my pidgeon" . . . It's wedding bells for Howard Wolk, son of Ed Wolk, the equipment magnate, and Sylvia Grade.

Herb Lyons, B&K's television publicist, says television was devised so that people could see for themselves if some things were really as bad as they sounded. But, of course, that doesn't apply to WBKB programs . . . June Havoc, screen and stage notable, helped the bond drive by auctioning off a pair of nylons at the Hub department store, between Oriental Theatre appearances.

Howard Dietz, Leo the Lion's vice-president in charge of publicity, stopped over briefly, west-to-east bound . . . Al Jolson and his bride were here on their way east for the premiere of "Rhapsody in Blue." Al made his first big hit here in the old Dearborn Theatre (now the B&K Garrick) when he came from Frisco with Primrose & Dockstader's minstrel show from which he mammy-ed his way to fame . . . Bill Bishop is letting a few select friends look at the note he got from Greer Garson, who said she read in BOXOFFICE that the M-G-M Garsonites won the bowling championship here and was so happy over all her pin-down boys.

Harry Schrieber, assistant to Frank Smith, RKO chief here, has been named city manager for the circuit in Cleveland, succeeding Clem Pope, resigned . . . Race fans at Sportsman's Park last Saturday had a hard time keeping their minds on the nags. Counter-attractions were a group of film stars, there to boost bond sales. These included Pat O'Brien, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall and Ida Lupino. Ida also appeared at Treasury Center, leading a band of Chippewa Indians and a leashful of war dogs as a bond-selling stunt. She is going to visit many veterans hospitals while en tour . . . Ben Blotcky, Paramount branch manager at Minneapolis, was in to talk things over with Allen Usher, district manager.

E. Z. Dimitman, executive editor of the Chicago Sun, was back from Europe where he got a closeup of the Nazi atrocity camps. He told the press and a group of other guests about things he saw when Marshall Field gave a luncheon at the Palmer House. In the audience of more than 1,000 were 200 exhibitors. Mayor Kelly spoke briefly to stress bond buying.

Dave Dewey, Chicago Theatre Supply Co., is on a business trip through Indiana. Dorothy Glassberg, formerly of the Stanley Supply Co., is now with the Dewey organization . . . A preview of "That's the Spirit" was presented by Universal at the Palace and drew a crowd of exhibitors despite the downpour . . . Variety Club had a big crowd at the preview of "Valley of Decision," last Saturday night.

Herb Elisburg of Chicago and Florida has his fingers in bolt of bandages after a box of safety matches exploded right in his hand. It was not, however, his dealing hand, but his calling hand, so his gin rummy game was only slightly slowed up . . . The Marbro marquee reads: "Here Comes the WAVES" with Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, plus "One Body Too Many." Jimmy Savage cracked, "Which one?" Great-States closed with "A Song to Remember" for June showings over the circuit.

Sol Cohen, Dezel Roadshow Attractions man, is on a business tour through Iowa. Sam Kaplan of the same office has given an even gallon of blood to the Red Cross. Donald Shields, formerly of Dezel's Chicago of-

(Continued on next page)

CHICAGO

(Continued from preceding page)

fice, has been receiving treatment in Gardiner General Hospital for wounds suffered in New Guinea. He was sufficiently improved to visit his folks in Detroit. All-American News, the Negro newsreel, has 200 feet of atrocity films in its current release.

Harry Mandel, Film Classics distributor, Indianapolis, was on Filmrow . . . Fred Joyce, Lester Cowan Productions, is back from an extended eastern trip. He says "G. I. Joe," which is having Hays trouble because it has "damn" and "lousy" in the dialog, is going to be premiered in Loew's, Indianapolis, in June . . . Duke Hickey of Charles Francis Coe unit of MPPA was in from Florida for a week.

Harold Stevens, Paramount branch manager, said the war department's "Fight for Sky" short is in and will be showing in the loop shortly . . . James Donahue and Allen Usher, Paramount executives, were in Milwaukee to talk over coming productions with Harold Fitzgerald.

S. W. Donogh of RCA Distributing Corp. has been made managing director of RCA's general offices here . . . Morris Nues, New Haven theatre executive, and his wife were in for a visit with Ben Lourie, Columbia exchange manager. They are California bound . . . Jack Flynn, Sam Shirley and Bill Bishop, M-G-M officials, have returned from a jaunt over central territory . . . Dick Hooper, television expert of the midwest division of RCA, leaves for New Orleans May 28, thence to Miami, Jacksonville and other Florida cities.

Decree Ends Trusteeship

ST. LOUIS—United States District Judge George H. Moore has entered a final decree in the Theatre Realty Co. federal trusteeship, discharging the trustees, terminating proceedings and the closing the estate. After the termination the Fox-St. Louis Properties paid a stipulated $1,000 into the court.

Provision for Television Included in Theatre Plans

MILWAUKEE—A modern motion picture theatre, to be equipped for television reception of newsreels, will be constructed here on N. Third St., between W. North and W. Meinecke Aves., as soon as wartime restrictions are lifted, according to Harry Hart, operator of the Atlas Theatre.

Hart, who has been in show business for 30 years, said that the new theatre will have seating capacity of 1,400. Cost of the project will be between $175,000 and $200,000.

Chicago SGP Office Opens

CHICAGO — A local exchange of Screen Guild Productions, new national distributing organization, has been opened at 1325 S. Wabash Ave. Johnny Jones has announced that the prints of the first release, "Wildfire," an outdoor picture in color, have arrived and screenings are being scheduled for the various circuits. Ted Levy, already associated with other Jones film ventures, is in charge.



Anti-Petrillo Bill Advances In Missouri State Senate

JEFFERSON CITY — The Williams bill, striking at the efforts of the musicians' union to control the broadcasting of music, has been perfected in the senate preparatory to final passage. The measures, which have been opposed by organized labor, provide penalties for interfering with the presentation of broadcasting of educational, cultural, fraternal, patriotic, religious or patriotic programs.

Sen. H. R. Williams of Cassville, author of the bill, said it was his purpose to checkmate James C. Petrillo of the musicians' union.

Musical Concert Scheduled For Milwaukee Film House

MILWAUKEE—An unusual program is billed for the neighborhood Colonial Theatre here May 28 when Bruno Esbjorn, violinist, will present a concert. Choral selections will be presented by the Resurrection church choir. The concert is sponsored by the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Armchair Travelers on Trek

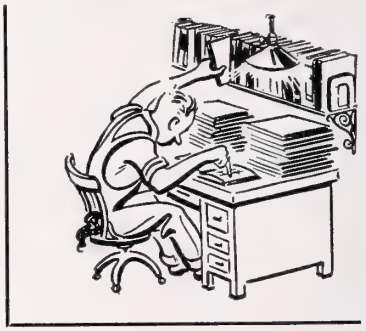
CHICAGO—"Mysterious India," a picturization of one of the most unusual expeditions ever made through tropical jungles and snow-capped mountains from Taj to Tibet, was shown at the film session of the Arm Chair Travelers in the club's new headquarters, 32 W. Randolph St.

Shrine Head Buys Site

WHITEWATER, WIS. — Alfred Arvold, Shrine imperial potentate, has purchased a tract of land back of the Trautman home here as a site for a new theatre.

Brother, can you spare some time?

Others like to know what you are doing — what changes you are making at your theatre, etc. Send in the news and we'll relay it to the industry.



Buying? Installing? Remodeling? Redecorating? Rebuilding? Transferring? Exploiting? Hiring? Promoting?

GIVE US THE FACTS. WE WILL DO THE REST.

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Name ..... **Position** .....

Theatre .....

Location .....

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Laffmovie Idea Wins In Unique Hub Setting

By FLOYD L. BELL

From New England Edition

BOSTON—As the Boston dowager said, raising her ocean blue framed lorgnette and sniffing a bit disdainfully—for dowagers do sniff at times even as you and I.

"Humph, in Boston we spell it 'laugh.' What outrageous outlanders have spelled it 'laff'?"

A clever Frenchman named James J. Mage (and it's pronounced Maje), who owned 14 theatres in France before Hitler marched in one day and burned most of them and closed the others, came to America with an idea and a reputation for being one of the best showmen and one of the most reliable in the business. He landed in New York and they do say that he gave one look at Times Square and said, "Why, everyone is looking so mournful, are there no comedy pictures to be seen here?" Assured there were none he got on a train and came to Boston and found people here even more lugubrious at the moment and the theatre marquees all ballyhooing pictures with the title of "war" somewhere.

Not a Tear in Ten Reels

"This will never do," said wise Mr. Mage. "New York and then Boston . . . we must give them a new type of theatre and call it Laffmovie. We'll give people nothing but comedy pictures, not a drop of tears in ten reels—no war, no murder, no gruesome events at all, just funny pictures . . . and people will laugh and their hearts will be young and gay and they will go forth better equipped to fight the battles of democracy."

And Mage hurried back to New York and engaged a personable young man named Harold Weisenthal, who had been born in a theatre and fed upon a bottle containing liquid grease paint. And Mage made Weisenthal his general manager of a company which from that moment existed.

Then he leased, for 30 years, showing his faith and his optimism, a theatre on 42nd St., near Broadway, remodeled it and named it Laffmovie. Then he scurried back to Boston and leased the former Normandie Theatre opposite the big R. H. White store and renamed that one also Laffmovie, and then he went to Chicago and to Detroit. And he will go to other cities.

Start Laughing in Lobby

But to Boston he returns every week or so to rub his hands with glee and note with satisfaction that his idea has taken fruit in a big way and to listen to the loud roars of laughter coming forth from Laffmovie, for the laughs can be heard many times for blocks and people line up in front of the theatre to enter that strangely fascinating new lobby where all the mirrors are odd ones and where laughter begins even before one enters the theatre to view the comedy pictures shown there.

There's a handsome young chap named Don Martin, who is resident manager, and his smile is wide and intriguing as he greets patrons of Laffmovie.

And over in one corner usually may be seen this tall, broad shouldered, stalwart Frenchman and the slender Weisenthal standing beside him, and they are chuckling, too, because their idea has clicked.

Laffmovie displays never a serious picture. From the time it opens until it closes one hears naught but laughter by people who want to forget their worries and their cares and to forget above all the blood and the desolation shown on many a screen.

Mage has been in the thick of the fighting in Europe; he has seen friends and relatives killed, his home desolated, his theatres torn from him, but he knows that people must not weep always lest they lose their strength, their valor and their keen perception.

Bright Postwar "Dream" Challenge to Film Men

From Western Edition

HOLLYWOOD—It is the responsibility of the motion picture industry in the postwar era "to crystalize and help project the dream the whole world is dreaming, the brotherhood of man."

Such is the opinion of Dore Schary, producer in David O. Selznick's organization, as expressed in an address before the Advertising Club of Los Angeles.

Schary voiced his confidence concerning the ability of the motion picture business to help that dream reach realization.

"I have pointed out" he said, "that the screen has articulated trends and not actually initiated them. It may be that in the future the screen will be used for an initiating force because we know better today the function of the film; we know its power, we know its scope, and knowing all those things, we will perhaps be able to dramatize this new world, this one world, this good world dream."

Industry Has Important Role

"This industry is going to take its place in the postwar world," continued the producer, "as a medium that will bring to the public of the world what must be said and what shall be said. Not only the picture business, but the world is facing its brightest future, its brightest dream. I honestly feel that entire mankind is at the threshold of a door that can lead to peace, prosperity and enlightenment, or lead to despair, defeat and anarchy. I want to help make better pictures that will help this better dream come true. I am grateful to the industry and to the American public for the rewards they give people in the picture business, and I want to function as one who will answer the challenge to the motion picture business.

"This great powerful industry has in its hands the power to help fashion a new world of good and decency and dignity. If it fails to use that power, it is not only going to lose friends, it is going to lose profits. But the picture business, being what it is, will rise to this postwar challenge and will continue to win the respect and admiration of the world and will reflect in its product all the glorious facets of our great nation, the U.S.A."

Scoffs at Propaganda Use

Schary scoffed at the thought that the screen has been used as a means of propaganda. "Motion pictures do not initiate" he declared. "They only articulate the public consciousness. They pick up that consciousness and go on from there. No motion picture ever started a trend of public opinion or thinking. The public makes the trend, not the film industry."

To illustrate, Schary stated that the nation's attitude toward prohibition brought about the era of gangster pictures. The Lindbergh kidnaping started the trend of G-men films.

"In 1939," he explained further, "the American public by poll was 78 per cent willing to help England fight the Germans even if it meant getting into the war. Motion pictures during that era merely reflected the change in American thinking. It dramatized that change with good and courageous pictures."

Actual war films, according to Schary, have served the function the public wanted them to serve. "The early ones were heroic and grand," he said. "But then as news of death came along, the public's attitude changed. The picture business caught that attitude so our war pictures became tougher, more realistic, more hard-boiled.

"Now as we enter the last days of the European war, we are trying to guess what the public attitude toward war films is going to be. My own opinion is that the public will go to see any good film.

"The postwar world during the period of readjustment is going to be full of tensions and points of view and problems. These tensions and points of view and problems are going to be discussed in the press, the radio, the theatre, and if the motion picture fails to discuss these same issues, tensions and problems, it's going to overlook an important market."

Winnipeg Sports Editor Lauds Blues Short

From Canadian Edition

WINNIPEG—It isn't often that a sports editor reviews motion pictures, but Tony Allan, head of the sports department at the Tribune here, took time off to write a glowing plug for "Jammin' the Blues," a short subject Manager Bill Novak played at the Metropolitan. The reason for Allan's special interest is that he is a swing fan with an unusual knowledge of the subject.

Under his standing head, "One Man's Opinion," Allan wrote: "The first intelligent treatment of a jazz theme ever to come out of Hollywood, 'Jammin' the Blues,' a one-reeler now showing at the Met, is a notable triumph over trite studio formulae by Norman Granz, who is responsible for the music, and Gjon Mili of Life magazine, responsible for the striking photography.

"Acutely aware of the boxoffice value of such names as Harry James, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman, picture producers for years have been groping unsuccessfully for some means of exploiting the popularity of the juke box kings. As a rule they clutter their products with so much stupid dialog, nauseating girl trios and the inevitable jitterbug dances, that scarcely any music manages to filter through.

"'Jammin' the Blues' is the very antithesis of conventional Hollywood methods and as a result, the emphasis is on well-played, well-recorded and well-presented music. There is a jitterbug dance, to be sure, also a vocal interpolation of 'Sunny Side of the Street' (for those who must have words with their music), but neither detract a great deal from the jam session atmosphere so expertly created by the camera effects.

"Mili, who is well known for his graphic pictures of jazz musicians in Life, shows the players against stark black and white backgrounds and also from unusual angles which are effective without being tricky."

Dragon Parades Enter Chi. Bond Premiere Plans

Chicago—Every theatre is staging or making ready for bond premieres. The B&K Chicago will offer "The Valley of Decision" May 24; the RKO Palace will present "China Sky," and Frank Smith, the RKO chief here, is arranging with the mayor of Chinatown for a fiery dragon parade and all the fixings which will dazzle the loop before winding up at the theatre. Other houses are perfecting plans for similar performances. The showmen, according to pattern, are doing an all-out job on the current drive.

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Des Moines Premiere Nets $650,000 Return

DES MOINES—The first movie event of the Seventh War Loan drive in Des Moines was a $650,000 war bond premiere at the Des Moines Theatre, May 16.

"The Affairs of Susan," starring Joan Fontaine and George Brent, with Walter Abel, Dennis O'Keefe and Don DeFore, a former Cedar Rapids, Iowa, boy, was the feature.

Tickets were free with the purchases of E bonds at the Des Moines, Roosevelt, Orpheum, Paramount, Strand, Uptown, Ingersoll, Hiland, Eastown, Garden and Iowa theatres.

Clothes worn by Miss Fontaine in the filming of the picture were shipped to Des Moines from Hollywood for a special publicity tieup. The gowns were modeled for newspaper photographers by the women employes of the Tri-States offices. They were on display in Younker Bros. department store windows for several days preceding the showing of the film.

DeFore, 30, former University of Iowa student, went to Broadway eight years ago after a sojourn on the west coast stage. He now is under a seven-year contract. He recently had roles in "The Human Comedy," "A Guy Named Joe" and "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Jackson and Jahnick Win Variety's VE Jackpot

MINNEAPOLIS—Charlie Jackson, Warner salesman, and Clem Jahnick, Delano, Minn., exhibitor, proved themselves wizards in figuring out when the war with Germany would end. They decided on May 10 and took a ticket jointly in the Northwest Variety Club's jackpot. Their guess won the pot and they'll split $175 less 25 per cent which goes to the club's charity fund. Chances were $5 each.

Francis Barak of Orpheum Resigns to Move West

OMAHA—Francis Barak has resigned as assistant manager of the Orpheum due to ill health and will move to the west coast. His successor is Dale Russell, former assistant manager of the Paramount. Wilbur Sandford, student manager and three months out of the army, where he worked with motion pictures, is the new Paramount assistant.

New Theatre Opens June 13 At Excelsior Springs, Mo.

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MO.—The old Wood theatre here is to open June 13 as the Siloam, the name honoring the original spring at this world-famous resort. "Curley" Wilson, manager of the Beyer, will supervise the operation of the house. Both are Fox Midwest theatres.

Minneapolis Owner Looks Back on 21 Years in City

MINNEAPOLIS—Harry Hirsch, owner of the Alvin Theatre here, is celebrating his 21st year of theatre operation in this city. The Alvin features burlesque musical revues.

Tom Saunders at Columbia

MINNEAPOLIS—Tom Saunders has joined the Columbia sales staff as North Dakota salesman. He replaces Bill Evidon who was moved over to northern Minnesota. Saunders formerly was with Paramount in Cincinnati.

'Urge' Wins Mother View Of Son in Palau Action

Kansas City, Kas.—Mrs. W. R. Wilson, 900 Lyons St., caught a glimpse of her son, Jack Roy Wilson, in a newsreel in her first visit to a theatre in months. The son, a naval chief petty officer, was shown aiding in the evacuation of wounded men in the Palau action. Mrs. Wilson said she had felt an unusual urge to go to the Electric Theatre, where the film was showing, on that particular day.

Crosby Golf Tickets Sale Opens in Topeka

TOPEKA—Tickets have gone on sale at the Grand and Oakland theatres here for an exhibition benefit golf match at the Topeka Country Club June 3 featuring Bing Crosby and Bob Hope. The two screen luminaries will be accompanied on the course by Betty Hicks, Babe Freese and Dick Metz.

Proceeds will go to the Shawnee County memorial fund. Sponsors anticipate one of the greatest galleries in the club's history to witness the match. Several hundred patients from the Winter General Hospital will be guests.

Tickets for the affair also are on sale at several downtown stores and other commercial institutions.

Allied Seeks Out-of-Town Affiliates and Associates

MINNEAPOLIS — North Central Allied is trying to get out-of-town independent exhibitors in the state to form an organization to be affiliated with it or to become members. The North Central body now comprises only Twin City independents.

As a first step to get the out-of-towners organized, North Central this week invited 20 of them to be its guests at a luncheon, but only eight showed up. However, North Central officers say they're not discouraged.

Variety Has Full Plans For Heart Hospital

MINNEAPOLIS — Detailed plans for the heart hospital which the Northwest Variety Club will build on the University of Minnesota campus and equip and support as its most pretentious charity project were revealed to members by Art Anderson, chief barker, at a meeting this week. Members gave the project a unanimous vote of approval.

The change of title of the organization from Twin City to Northwest Variety Club was officially and legally completed by a vote of the members. Sixty-six new members were inducted.

Paul Rogers New Manager Of Mt. Vernon, Mo., House

MT. VERNON, MO.—Paul Rogers, former projectionist at the Gillioz Theatre at Monett, is the new manager of the Strand Theatre here, owned by Mrs. Thelma Richardson. Rogers, before going to Monett was manager of the Concord Theatre at Springdale, Ark.

H. S. Stulz Buys Control Of Clyde, Kas., Theatre

CLYDE, KAS.—H. S. Stulz, Columbia salesman, is the new operating lessee of the Plaza Theatre here. He continues with the film company, Mrs. Stulz being in charge of the playhouse in his absence. The Stulz home formerly was Topeka.

H. H. LaVine Buys Theatre

KANSAS CITY—Herman H. LaVine has purchased the Pic Theatre at 36th St. and Prospect Ave. here. He formerly was manager of the Colonial, Gillham and Giles.

Rites for Wichita Doorman

WICHITA, KAS.—Funeral services were conducted here for William B. Barton, 49, former doorman at the Orpheum Theatre.



WAR MOTHERS ARE GUESTS—Twenty war mothers were the honored guests of the Newman Theatre in Kansas City in a Mothers' Day promotion which climaxed a day of activities for the group including a citywide tour, a luncheon, and a matinee to see "The Affairs of Susan."

The photo shows the war mothers doing an interview over a local radio station in front of the Newman's bond booth. "Needless to say," remarked Babe Cohn, manager, who arranged the visit of the war mothers, "the sale of Seventh War Loan bonds also was given plenty of plugging."

KANSAS CITY

E. B. Coleman, Dallas, Metro exploitation supervisor, was in town a few days looking things over . . . J. J. Unger, western sales manager for United Artists, was here from New York for a conference with T. R. Thompson jr., district manager, and W. E. Truog, branch manager. He went from Kansas City toward the coast . . . Amy Sinclair, Metro office manager, was on vacation.

Jim Ronsiek, Metro salesman, back from St. Louis where he attended the funeral of his mother, says that his brother Jack was flown from Naples to Miami Beach but arrived too late for the services. The brother, a corporal in the tank corps, has something like 110 points amassed in three years of service and expects to be discharged soon. He participated in several battles in Africa and Italy with the "Famous First" of Gen. Mark Clark.

Wanda Wilburn, secretary to Ben Marcus, Columbia division manager, had several interesting days at Louisville on a vacation but missed the races.

Dan Payton, on Filmrow this week, was looking around for another theatre after selling his Cozy at Girard, Kas., to the Allied Theatres of St. Louis. It happened that Payton recently relinquished two positions and has too much time on his hands. He was in the treasurer's office at Lamar, Mo., until April 1 and owned the theatre property at Girard, including a couple of storerooms and an apartment. Now he's looking around for something new. Payton formerly owned the Plaza at Howard, Kas., which he sold in 1943.

I. Wienshienk, district manager for Publix-Great States Theatres, Alton, Ill., was on Filmrow visiting friends of the period when he was a theatre manager here. His mother and other relatives reside in the city . . . Hazel Ralph, head of the accounting department of Commonwealth, used a week's vacation to visit her parents in Newton, Kas.

Filmrow visitors included Paul Oetting, Lyric, Concordia, Mo.; "Hank" Doering, People's, Garnett, Kas.; Sol Banks, St. Louis, owner of several theatres in Missouri and Kansas; Nick Kotsis, Holden, Holden, Mo.; M. S. Heath, Plaza, Liberty, Mo., and John R. McElwee, Roxy, Blue Springs, Mo.

Frank Dodson, associate of Commonwealth at Ellsworth, Kas., was taking a rest after a period of extra hard work. He is spending it at the Commonwealth offices . . . E. E. Erickson, now with Monogram at St. Louis, had a week off and used it to renew acquaintanceships in Kansas City. He formerly was a PRC salesman and circuit executive here.

Popcorn worries have started again. This time it is for the 1945 crop, cold, wet weather preventing or hampering ground preparation and planting . . . Flood threats made it nip and tuck whether there would be another series of scurrying around to get prints through. But the danger passed with only two sections hit—Manhattan, Kas., and Brookfield, Mo. They got their prints in time, though a few hours late. There were no dark houses reported.

"Tom Sawyer," shown recently at Fox Midwest first run houses, is one of the class that goes on and on and on. It is a David O. Selznick production, rereleased by Beverly Miller Special Attractions.

Lieut. Lucille A. Triplett, sponsor of the "Triplett Nightmares," is the heroine of air force men at Don Ce-Sar convalescent hospital, St. Petersburg, Fla. The Triplett team of enlisted men won a softball tournament against the officers and its picture was published in a local paper. Bill Kubitzki was easily recognizable.

M. B. "Shack" Shackelford, Columbia salesman, flew in the army air force with Harry Carlson, who was fatally injured in a crash at Lakeport airfield Saturday (19); they had been discharged from the army at the same time. Shackelford watched Carlson's take-off, saw the plane crash, ran to the scene and took Carlson to the hospital. Shackelford had flown to Lexington, Mo. and back in that very plane a few hours previously.

E. Rolsky said he is restless, idle, and can't seem to find any business other than exhibition of sufficient interest to warrant attention, so he's looking for a theatre to buy, or one to manage. His sons are busy with the war. The older, Robert, was still in Belgium at last report. Morton, with the air corps ground forces, was last reported en route to embarkation point.

Earl Jameson jr. now is well into his advanced course in navigation on a B29 and it looks as if he will be set to go about August 1.

Many a manager is reminded by some particular incident that shorts often have a lot of drawing power. Last week a manager was standing in his lobby near the entrance and noticed that two business men, who had come in only a few minutes before, were leaving. That was while "It Happened in Springfield" was on the screen. He remarked that he had occasionally noticed patrons timing their entrance for a short or a cartoon and leaving when it was finished.

Responsive to a suggestion from the Kansas City branch, the Warner home office prepared and distributed copies of "The Faith of Flyers," from "God Is My Co-Pilot" to exchanges. Don Walker, local field representative, has been passing out copies to exhibitors in key cities where the picture is or will be running. Apparently the patrons in all locations want copies.

Warren Weber, on Filmrow reporting that the dikes held at Winfield, was not happy about the excessive rains, but the thought that occupies him considerably is that exhibitors are going to have to "get back into the show business" before long. The day will pass, he claims, when all the exhibitor has to do, rain or shine, is find people to take tickets and run the machines.

Kaw Theatre Aide Wins Town's Courtesy Award

MARION, KAS. — Pauline Keazer, lobby shop attendant at the Kay Theatre here, has just won the Beard Memorial award. This is given each year to the girl, who, in the opinion of a committee composed of teachers and business people, is the most courteous girl in school. Pauline is a high school senior.



PAULINE KEAZER

Richard Brodhead, manager of the Kaw, takes pardonable pride in the fact that one of his employes should be given recognition of this type. The Kaw is a Dickinson house.

"Pauline's courteous manner, winning smile and pleasant personality is with her every minute of the time she is at work," he says. "Besides all this, isn't she pretty?"

Just 18 years old, Pauline is five feet, three inches tall, weighs 118 pounds, has grey-green eyes and brown hair.

Roanoke at Kansas City Now All-Spanish House

KANSAS CITY—Some time ago the Kimo, 3319 Main, one of the Dickinson theatres here, began showing Spanish-dialog pictures two nights a week, and attracted crowds from the Mexican quarter and from Spanish students all over the city. Saturday matinees were begun to take care of the student crowds especially, and these also were well attended. Mrs. Mayme Stone Cappo put on an energetic exploitation campaign, using handbills in Spanish and contacting local groups, hiring Mexican ushers, and advertising in the local newspaper.

Because of the better transportation facilities afforded at the Roanoke Theatre, another Dickinson house at 39th and Summit, the Spanish pictures have been moved over there and are run exclusively with a Wednesday and Sunday change and a Sunday matinee. Joe Cappo, who had assisted Mrs. Cappo at the Kimo, has taken over and reports good attendance justifying an all-Spanish house in Kansas City.

The Kimo is no longer showing Spanish pictures, most of which are made in Mexico and distributed by Clasa-Mohme.

Peter Lorre's Contract Extended

Peter Lorre's contract has been extended an additional year at Warners.

Army Finds Proper Outlet For "Ole" Olsen's Talents

Des Moines—Ralph "Ole" Olsen, former Universal salesman now serving in the army, is back in the motion picture business.

Olsen writes from France that he has been transferred to Headquarters Com-Z-ETO, special services, motion picture branch. Recently, he was sent from Paris to Nancy to open an army film house there.

COMPLETE BOOTH EQUIPMENT. Two Simplex double bearing heads completely rebuilt, 3-point stands, two Strong utility low intensity lamps, two 30 ampere rectifiers, complete Scott-Ballantyne sound system, double channel amplification, dual speaker system, pair series 2 lenses, film cabinet, rewind and splicer. $2,500 cash, plus transportation.

TWO GROUPS SEATS. One group, 100 veneer, $2.50 each. Other group, 176 veneer and 150 squab bottoms and panel backs. Veneers, $2.50 each; squabs, $3.50 each. Cash, plus transportation.

All subject to prior sale.

JIM FOLAND

1818 Wyandotte St. Victor 4658 Kansas City 8, Mo.

Young Trade Makes Tarzan Top Attraction

KANSAS CITY — Oscar Wilde's thriller proved a little too much for the average film fan, who has things to worry about other than soul destruction. Business for "Dorian Gray" here hovered around average, however, and many people enjoyed the exceedingly well done presentation. The "kids" jammed the Orpheum to see "Tarzan and the Amazons" plus "Pan-Americana," running the boxoffice take well above average.

Esquire, Uptown and Fairway showed "Earl Carroll's Vanities" with satisfactory results. "The Affairs of Susan" continued to do very well in its second week at the Newman. Two reissues starring Gary Cooper and Cary Grant in "The Cowboy and the Lady" and "Topper," respectively, did very well at the Tower, proving that you can't have too much of a good thing.

(Average is 100)

Esquire, Fairway and Uptown—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep) 105
Midland—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M) 98
Newman—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk 105
Orpheum—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 120
Tower—**The Cowboy and the Lady** (FC); **Topper** (FC), plus stage show 115

All Varieties of Weather Contribute To Lackadaisical Week in Omaha

OMAHA—The theatre week was marked by the warmest day of the year thus far, several downpours of rain and even a little hail. "Between Two Women" at the Paramount Theatre easily had the best comparative boxoffice records, despite a week cut short by the bond premiere there.

Brandeis—**Counter-Attack** (WB); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 95
Omaha—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk., moveover from Paramount 100
Orpheum—**Molly and Me** (Para), plus Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom and the McFarland twins on stage 90
Paramount—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M) 125
State—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M), 2nd run 120
Town—**Sudan** (Univ); **Can't Help Singing** (Univ); **The Man From Tumbleweeds** (Col), split with **Dangerl Women at Work** (PRC); **The Lone Star Ranger** (20th-Fox) 100

"Diamond Horseshoe" and "Velvet" Are Top Minneapolis Grossers

MINNEAPOLIS — "Diamond Horseshoe" and "National Velvet" were both boxoffice winners the last week. Holdovers were "Without Love," in its third week, and "Dillinger," "Objective, Burma!" and "Wuthering Heights," in their second weeks. The first-named has been an outstanding grosser here.

Aster—**Double Exposure** (Para); **The Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 100
Century—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk 110
Gopher—**Dillinger** (Mono), 2nd wk 100
Lyric—**Objective, Burma!** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk 90
Orpheum—**It's in the Bag** (UA) 80
Radio City—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox) 140
State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 150
World—**Wuthering Heights** (UA), reissue 100

Van Johnson Film Leads in Weak Showing at Des Moines Theatres

DES MOINES—"Between Two Women," starring Van Johnson, was the leading attraction among downtown "A" houses here. With a cartoon, March of Time and news short, the film was showing at the Des Moines and Roosevelt theatres. Wallace Beery in "This Man's Navy" and "Blonde Fever," double features at the Paramount Theatre, did slightly below par business. "Counter-Attack," with Paul Muni, at the Orpheum Theatre, failed to draw good crowds.

Des Moines and Roosevelt—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M) 100
Orpheum—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 75
Paramount—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M) 95

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MINNEAPOLIS

Everybody glad to see William "Bill" Mussman back on his Paramount salesman job after a three-month absence due to illness. Bill was seriously ill, but now he's fully recovered and rarin' to go again . . . Bob Murphy, Minneapolis Sunday Tribune and Star-Journal movie critic and editor, in his review of "National Velvet," calls it a "cinch for a place on the annual ten best list." He even declares it "should get consideration as the best movie of the year." The picture is holding over for a second week at the State here, where it did a smash business during its first seven days.

The Lyceum, legitimate roadshow house, is going in for films on a more extensive scale. It plays the Swedish pictures and occasional Russian films. It had a double bill, "The Russian Story" and "They Met in Moscow," and the hygiene picture, "Mom and Dad," heavily advertised, is current.

John Hamilton, formerly with the University of Minnesota visual education department and now with the British information service in Chicago, brought here a group of four British documentary films for display to those interested and for possible later loan to groups. They are "Children of the City," a two-reel study of the juvenile delinquency problem in a Scottish city; "The Eighth Plague," a study of the spread of the locust and the methods of combating it in central Africa; "Looking Through Glass," a survey of the British glass manufacturing industry, and "Housing in Scotland," an analysis of the housing shortage in a critical area. The group was reviewed at length by Bob Murphy in last Sunday's Tribune.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included Fred Schnee, Litchfield, Minn.; Nick Grengs, Spooner, Wis.; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls, Minn., and Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis. . . . Roy Haines and Harry Seed, Warner Bros. western sales and district manager, respectively, in town for several days . . . Ralph Maw, M-G-M district manager, in from Chicago. Eventually he will headquarters here . . . Kenny Adams, Universal salesman, vacationing in northern Minnesota.

Bill Winters, RKO salesman, temporarily out of commission as a result of an attack of rheumatism . . . "Hy" Chapman, Columbia branch manager, reports that "Song to Remember" did the biggest business in four days during its first six days at the Granada Theatre, Duluth. It even outgrossed "Cover Girl" at that house, according to Chapman.

Christie Walsh, well-known in the newspaper world and now an associate producer of "Captain Eddie," the Rickenbacker picture which Eureka Pictures is making and which will be distributed by 20th-Fox, is scheduled to be in Minneapolis June 18 for a luncheon and reception . . . Bill Sears jr., son of the Orpheum manager, a petty officer in the navy, visited his dad here en route from 29 Palms, where he is stationed, to Detroit, Mich., to spend his leave with his wife there.

Is this correspondent's face ever red! In a moment of absent-mindedness or whatnot he last week reported erroneously that Anne Shirley had paid a visit to the Northwest Variety Club en route to Duluth to launch a boat. It happened to be the very charming Anne Baxter whom the correspondent met in tow of Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, instead of Miss Shirley (who also is beautiful and personable), and this now is set down for the records in regret and sorrow for an inexcusable slip of the typewriter keys.

Verlie Burt, 20th-Fox assistant ad sales manager at 20th-Fox, didn't report back to work last Monday, as she expected and was supposed to do. She was "bumped" off the plane en route home from California where she spent her vacation, visiting her company's studio among other things.

Ray Allison, Altoona, Pa., theatre circuit owner, who stopped off at the Northwest Variety Club last week and was entertained by "the little judge," Ben Meshbesher, Warner Bros. salesman, is spending ten days at the Mayo clinic, Rochester, Minn., he advised Meshbesher in a telegram. The latter will visit him there.

Alan Usher, Paramount district manager, a visitor . . . Harry Anderson, who was Warner Bros. assistant cashier before he entered the navy and who now is a yeoman in the service, home on leave . . . Ivan Anderson promoted at RKO from assistant shipping clerk to booker. Ned O'Donnell replaces him in the shipping department.

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"MOM AND DAD" ran three solid weeks at the Mayfair, Dayton, Ohio. One newspaper praised it editorially and the "home of aviation" marveled at the tremendous crowds. A Dayton pastor reviewed the film and praised it from his pulpit.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Allied Theatres of St. Louis Adds Kansas House to List

KANSAS CITY—Max P. Shelton, president of Allied Theatres, St. Louis, announced the purchase of the Cozy at Girard, Kas. Shelton, with Ben R. Jones, Allied associate, was on Filmrow here looking after booking and other matters for the new acquisition.

The Allied Theatres, set up about six months ago with headquarters in the Arcade Bldg. in St. Louis, has the Lynn, Lynn, Mo., and the Broadway, Poplar Bluff, Mo. The two partners have been interested in the motion picture industry, they said, but not as active exhibitors prior to the organization of the company.

Mrs. Evelyn Bowers will continue as manager of the Girard house, Shelton said.

Plans Perfected for New Theatre at DeSoto, Mo.

DeSOTO, MO.—O. W. Stiegemeyer, theatre architect, was here recently to complete plans for the projected new Collins Theatre, a 600-seat house to be erected as soon as material is available. While here he also checked remodeling plans for the DeSoto Theatre, where a new floor is being installed and other improvements being made.

Attend Chicago Meet

DES MOINES—A. H. Blank, president, and G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatres Corp., were in Chicago attending a meeting of the Paramount partners. The sessions were held May 21 to 24 at the Edgewater Beach Hotel.

Bennie Berger in Large Real Estate Deals

MINNEAPOLIS—Bennie Berger, who recently was elected president of North Central Allied, and owner of one of the largest independent circuits, has been of late a heavy purchaser of downtown properties here, including real estate and one of the best known cafes. The latter venture is in association with W. A. Steffes, at a reported cost of $45,000. Last week local newspapers announced that Berger and two associates had purchased one of the choicest loop corners for $100,000, and, after the war, intend to erect on part of it a new theatre as part of a large building project.

As president of North Central Allied, the Twin Cities' independent exhibitor organization, Berger in a recent open letter sent to President Truman and members of Congress stated that "distributors' excessive film rentals and percentage demands are reducing independent exhibitors to the status of candy hawkers."

Berger recently returned from a vacation in Mexico. On his return he was elected head of NCA, and issued a statement charging that the film distributors' rental demands "had brought independent showmen to a desperate plight, ruining them and driving them out of business."

Broadcasters Seek New Chief to Succeed Ryan

OMAHA—A special committee, headed by Comdr. T. A. M. Craven, vice-president of the Cowles radio interests, was selected here by the board of directors of the National Ass'n of Broadcasters to name an operating head for NAB by July 1, when J. Harold Ryan ends his term as president.

By unanimous vote the board had offered the presidency to Paul W. Morency, manager of WTIC, Hartford, Conn., but he was unable to obtain a year's leave of absence from the Travelers Insurance Co. The new committee, after naming an operating head, will continue to look for a permanent chief.

The board also recommended a series of new amendments, several of them looking to the future role of television and FM. One provides that representatives of these two new branches may become directors-at-large.

Among those attending the two-day parley were Harry B. Spence, Aberdeen, Wash.; E. L. Hayek, Albert Lea, Minn.; Glenn Bannerman, president of the Canadian Ass'n of Broadcasters; Leslie Johnson, Rock Island, Ill.; J. O. Maland and Harold Fair, Des Moines; Dietrich Dirks, Sioux City; James Shouse, Cincinnati; Paul W. Morency, Hartford; Campbell Arnoux, Norfolk, Va.; Kolin Hager, Schenectady; Hugh Terry, Denver; W. B. Way and Kenneth Miller, Tulsa; Roy F. Thompson, Altoona, Pa.; T. A. M. Craven, Washington; Frank King, Jacksonville, Fla.; John E. Fetzer, Kalamazoo; Nathan Lord, Louisville; Hoyt B. Wooten, Memphis; J. L. Reinsch, Atlanta; Frank Stanton, New York; Lewis H. Avery, Washington, and Fred Borton, Miami.

New Booth Installations

ORANGE CITY, IOWA—Western Theatre Supply Co. has installed new booth equipment at John Van Groniger's Palace Theatre here.

Change at Montrose, S. D.

MONTROSE, S. D.—Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Erickson now are in charge of the Montrose Theatre, having purchased the property from Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Knutson.

"Laddie" Bewildered in Des Moines By Confusion and Flashlights

DES MOINES—Laddie, son of the motion picture dog, Lassie, has been awarded to Alfred Rucker of Cresco, Iowa, grand prize winner of the Des Moines Register and Tribune's "Your Dog Pal" contest for carrier salesmen.

Alfred, 13, received the dog at a program at the Paramount Theatre here attended by 500 city carriers and their guests. Ten other dogs were awarded to city circulation contest winners.

The presentation was preceded by a special showing of M-G-M's as-yet-unreleased "Son of Lassie," a film in which Laddie was one of the actors.

It was a bewildering day both for the boy and his new pet. Laddie shrank from the flashlights and noise, but he neither nipped, barked nor whined. When things became a little too confusing he simply snuggled a little closer to his new master.

New Iowa Theatre Owner

OCHEYEDAN, IOWA—Ray Van Gilder is the new owner of the Princess Theatre here and plans the best pictures he can buy to suit the local taste.

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DES MOINES

Harold Lyons, manager of the Des Moines Theatre, got the Tri-States offices in a furore last Monday when he opened the trunk containing Joan Fontaine's wardrobe for "The Affairs of Susan." Imogene Thomas, Art Stolte's secretary, looked especially fetching in the white negligee. And the three-piece tailored suit was just made for Lucille Wesp. All the other gals who could get into size nine clothes dolled up for the news photographers. Harold didn't seem to mind his job of "supervising" the procedure at all!

Don West, Central States booker, was vacationing at Hot Springs . . . Effie Hackley, poster clerk at Warners, had her son Carl visiting her from Minneapolis last weekend.

Bert Thomas already is lonesome for Filmrow! After two weeks of his 30-day leave, Bert had to drop in at Columbia just to see how things were . . . Ruth Cook, Mel Evidon's secretary, spent the weekend moving . . . 'Tis said Mary Benjamin spent the time playing baseball! . . . NSS has obtained the services of Carl Schwanebeck, a high school student, for the summer months. James McLaren, shipper at NSS, is on vacation, and will visit in Omaha and Davenport.

Lou Levy, manager at Universal, was on vacation, but didn't leave a forwarding address . . . Gretchen Kelleher, cashier at RKO, also was taking a two-week vacation, and Novello Phillips is back, looking all rested up.

The Republic office was buzzing with activity by visiting dignitaries. Some rearrangement of pictures was also in progress in an effort to find a proper spot for the new color reproduction of the Hollywood studios of Republic Pictures, which had just arrived.

People along the Row are going to miss Earl Myers, who resigned at the end of last week. Myers is going to get a little closer to Clear Lake, so he can spend every extra minute fishing . . . Betty Johns, Paramount inspector, was vacationing in California . . . Della Mae Hurr, from Dallas Center, Iowa, is a new clerk at Paramount . . . Betty Olsen, second booker at M-G-M, left for San Francisco, and will be away until the middle of June.

Ed Spiers, manager of the Monogram exchange, was in Chicago attending the semi-annual board of directors meeting and sales conference, held at the Blackstone Hotel May 22 . . . Walter Ahrens, manager of the RKO-Orpheum Theatre, was on a two-week vacation. Ralph Granzen, assistant manager, was taking his place.

Russ Fraser, advertising manager of Tri-States Theatres Corp., was in Omaha, where he introduced Jim Castle, new Paramount exploiteer in the Omaha territory, to the Tri-States managers in Nebraska . . . H. M. Warren, manager of Central States, was in Omaha on a business trip . . . Harry Hamburg, manager of the Paramount exchange, attended a district short subjects meeting in Kansas City.

Old Tractor Solves Heat Problem at Des Moines

Des Moines—Tom McCoy, manager of the Orpheum Theatre at Dubuque, probably has the most unusual type of steam heat of any movie house.

Though he read somewhere that presence of 1,000 persons in a room raises the temperature a dozen or so degrees, McCoy didn't think the 3,500 persons his theatre accommodates would eliminate the chill in the house.

The heating plant had gone haywire. After a long search for an old steam engine, McCoy was about ready to close the theatre until summer when he learned Justin Hentgen of LaMotta, Iowa, had a 26-year-old steam tractor. It now stands in the alley back of the theatre, hand-fired and forcing steam into the building through a pipe!

St. Paul Critic Stirred By J. B. Priestly Attack

MINNEAPOLIS — Hollywood films have a stout champion in Jules L. Steele, St. Paul Pioneer Press movie editor and critic. For a second time in recent weeks he went to their defense and showed how superior they are to the British product. In doing so, he lambasted J. B. Priestly, British author and playwright, who has called American movies "trash" and "drivel." The Steele outburst was prompted by the fact that one of his readers, who previously had attacked the quality of Hollywood pictures, and who sent him a copy of the Priestly opinion.

"Well, that's just too bad," wrote Steele. "Perhaps the fact that Playwright Priestly's stage efforts were never successful in New York, but eminently so in London, has something to do with his belittling attitude toward the movies.

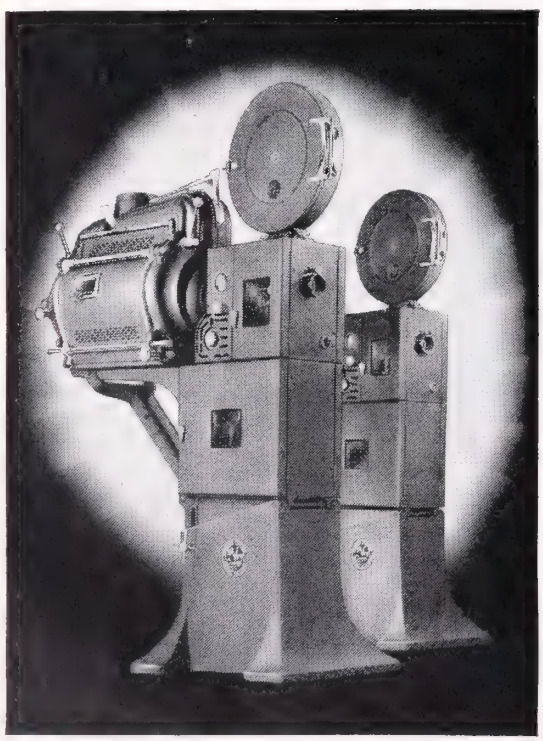
"Anyhow, I see no reason why I should not stoutly defend American-made movies. Most of us have seen English film products and are therefore able to draw comparisons. In direction and in acting, in the stories themselves, the British-made are slow, deliberate and somewhat wandering; meticulous in every detail as against the rapid action of the average Hollywood-made movie. A case in point: Could a British studio have produced 'Mrs. Miniver,' an English story written by an English author, as well as it was done in Hollywood?

British Lack Hitchcock

"Of course, there are exceptions, but since Alfred Hitchcock, ace British director and producer, left the Isles for Hollywood a couple of years ago to direct pictures there, it seems to me that, cinematically at least, the British have nothing to brag about in the way of picture-making. Hitchcock's '39 Steps' was one of his best from England.

"They tell me our 'trash' and 'drivel' is still proving attractive to the English moviegoers in that country. So it is possible that Hollywood may be able to withstand these withering blasts of which Commentator Priestly's is the latest windstorm—or brainstorm.

"Critics of the movies are prone to lose sight of the fact that they necessarily must be made to suit all mentalities; for the average picture audience is so composed. Although the movies we are seeking have certainly not reached perfection—and probably never will—they are making progress with distinction in spite of anything Priestly or George Bernard Shaw, et al, may write or say to the contrary. Moreover, nobody's dragging my correspondent (who called attention to Priestly's comment after depreciating movies himself) into a movie theatre and forcing him to see the picture on exhibition there."



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OMAHA

Harry Schiffrin, former Warner Bros. salesman who has seen action with the army in Africa, Italy, Germany and France, dropped a card to friends along Filmrow from Scotland saying he is enjoying a three-week leave.

Harold Johnson, Universal branch manager, was on vacation . . . Morrie Snead, Council Bluffs exhibitor, took his first air trip, going to Kansas City . . . Russell Fraser, Tri-States Theatres advertising chief, was in town Monday.

Lou Ireland, Logan exhibitor, met his son here on the latter's way home on leave from the army . . . Jim Corrigan, formerly with the Dundee Theatre here, visited friends along Filmrow after arriving home after two years overseas as a navy officer.

Jim Castle, Paramount exploiteer, was in the city to confer with Tri-State officials . . . Western Theatre Supply Co. has installed new sound at A. J. Chantry's theatre at Osceola and chairs at the RKO-Orpheum at Dubuque, Iowa.

Joe Jacobs, Columbia branch manager, and his family were vacationing in Missouri's beauty spots, including the Lake of the Ozarks region. Mel Eviden, branch manager at Des Moines, was making the same trip . . . Dorothy Biesendorf of Metro was to depart for WAVES training Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl White of Quality Theatre Supply Co. spent the weekend in Lincoln attending the first of two medical graduation exercises for their son John from the University of Nebraska . . . Marjorie Stiles, Warner booker, missed several days of work due to illness.

Frank Hannon, Warners' branch manager, was to fly to Texas this weekend to attend the eighth grade graduation of his son, Tommy. Tommy will accompany his dad back to Nebraska for the summer . . . J. E. Callahan, Monogram's new branch manager, was in Chicago Monday for a company parley.

Marion Wallace, 20th-Fox stenographer, was on vacation, enjoying overseas company . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Crystal of Florida were Filmrow visitors. Joe formerly worked here . . . Harold Ironfield, 20th-Fox salesman and latest member of the film colony to receive an eviction notice, has set up headquarters at the Loyal Hotel while awaiting better housing times.

Ruth Moberg, former biller at United Artists, who resigned recently to move to Chicago, is back as a stenographer . . . Mildred Williams, 20th-Fox office manager, spent the weekend in Des Moines . . . Frances Harrington, 20th-Fox biller, spent several days in Lincoln.

Fay Honey, former owner of the Tecumseh at Tecumseh, Neb., now city manager for Midstate Amusement Co. on the west coast, writes that he has named his wife as manager of Richmond's theatres. Their son, Lloyd, was inducted into the army earlier this month.

R. J. Dalton, Oxford exhibitor, walked into the 20th-Fox office Monday in time to be the official drawer for the office war bond prize. The winner was Jean Crane, sister of Betty Crane, a Fox employe.

Iz Weiner, Universal salesman back from a Colorado vacation, reports the first week there was too much snow and the second was cut short by a sales meeting in Kansas City. Branch Manager Harold Johnson, Salesmen Phil Monsky and Ed Cohen and Booker George Nash also made the trip.

Omaha business men have hailed the ICC decision equalizing the nation's freight rates as "one of the greatest things that ever happened to Omaha." Eventually this should mean more theatre business, too.

Omaha's Irene Austin was back for a few days visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Austin, before leaving on a lengthy USO tour . . . Irene Noblette Ryan, former Omaha comedienne, appears in "That's the Spirit" . . . An estimated 1,500 season tickets and 50 memberships already have been sold for the newly-organized Civic Theatre Guild.

Visitors along the Row included: Wesley Mansfield, Tama and Ida Grove, Iowa; Frank Good, Red Oak, Iowa; Nate Sandler of the circuit bearing his name, Des Moines; Frank Hollingsworth, Beatrice; Carl Johnson, Red Oak, Iowa; Eugene Hopkins, Whiting, Iowa; Arnold Johnson, Onawa, Iowa; Joe Warnack, Battle Creek, Iowa, and Mrs. Isabelle Strohmayer, Crawford.

Good Luck Streak Ends After 28 Good Years

Northfield, Minn.—For the first time in 28 years the Grand Theatre here was compelled to cancel a program recently because of mechanical troubles. Manager Dilley believes this is some sort of a record, considering the many mechanical breakdowns in the early days of motion pictures.

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Crowd Hears Senator Tell of Nazi Atrocities

OMAHA — Facilities of the 2,000-seat Omaha Theatre, managed by Rollin K. Stonebrook, were taxed to the limit Tuesday noon as a capacity crowd attended a special report on war atrocities given by Sen. Kenneth Wherry. The regular show schedule followed the talk.

Fire Destroys Bayard, Neb., House Operated Since 1915

BAYARD, NEB.—Fire has destroyed the Rex Theatre, Bayard's oldest showcase, doing damage estimated between $15,000 and $25,000.

The house, which has been operated continuously since 1915, was swept by fire on a Saturday afternoon. A Safeway grocery store and a J. C. Penny Co. store adjoining it were damaged. The fire was subdued with the aid of a pressure pump truck from the Bridgeport fire department.

L. F. Flower and his son own the theatre. He said the structure would be rebuilt as soon as the WPB permits.

Remodel Omaha Theatre

OMAHA—Remodeling operations are beginning this week on the North Star Theatre here, recently acquired by Walter Creal, who also owns the Beacon Theatre. Scott-Ballantyne Co. announced this week that WPB approval had been obtained for the project. The auditorium will be revamped with new projection and sound equipment.

Races Back to Omaha

OMAHA—Racing will return to Ak-Sar-Ben Field here June 19 after a lapse of two years. The return of racing was made possible when the army, which has been using the field, agreed to relinquish part of the stadium for the racing period.

Still Short on Manpower

OMAHA—Relaxation of WMC restrictions July 1 will not lift the ceiling restriction on the Omaha Group II area unless the manpower shortage here materially improves by then, WMC announced here.

Hodges Buys Theatres

DES MOINES—Kenneth R. Hodges, who recently purchased the theatre at Morning Sun, Iowa, has also bought the house at Winfield. The latter was owned by E. S. Tompkins, now in service.

New Theatre for Cabool

CABOOL, MO.—L. L. Pruitt, owner of the Cozy Theatre, will erect a new theatre building here soon. The site is next to the Reed-Harlin grocery building.

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Omaha's First Bond Show Returns $250,000

OMAHA—This city's first major bond premiere of the Seventh War Loan drive netted sales of $250,000 in small E bonds, Tri-States Theatres district manager, William Miskell, announced.

The premiere was held at the Paramount Theatre, managed by Donald Shane. As for past premieres all 2,900 seats were sold. The picture, "The Affairs of Susan," coupled with recent war successes was responsible for a sell-out in downtown theatres.

Miskell announced that Omaha's second premiere, which also will be all Es but will include those of higher denominations, will be June 13 at the Paramount. The premiere picture has not yet been named.

Omaha's bond buying also was helped during the week by personal appearances of Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom, who sold war bonds on downtown streets in exchange for autographs while here on engagement at the Orpheum.

"Target Tokyo" Premiere At Grand Island, Neb.

GRAND ISLAND—What Grand Island air field officials called the world premiere of "Target Tokyo," motion picture story of the B29, was to be held here last Wednesday.

Guests invited included Gen. Henry H. Arnold, commanding general of the army air forces, at whose direction the picture was prepared as a historical project, and Maj. Gen. Robert B. Williams, commanding general of the second air force, which is responsible for Superfortress crew training.

The 20-minute short opens with a town marker saying, "Grand Island, Pop. 19,130."

Guests of honor at the premiere were Capt. Vincent Evans, pilot of the Dauntless Daunty, one of the first superforts to visit Tokyo, and Capt. Ronald Reagan, who appears in the picture.

New Theatre to Be Opened This Fall in Bonesteel, S. D.

BONESTEEL, S. D.—Al Blakkalb, owner of the Bonesteel Theatre here, is planning a new 450-seat house to replace his old theatre.

Western Theatre Supply Co. of Omaha will handle the job. The theatre is expected to open about August 15. The old theatre will be converted into a store.

New Outdoor Theatre

OMAHA—The new outdoor theatre at Blanchard, Iowa, owned by J. C. Irwin, will be ready to open June 10, a Western Supply Co. official announced this week. The official also revealed that Irwin plans to build a theatre for indoor showings next winter.

Gerald Stange Into Army

CAIRO, NEB.—Gerald Stange of the Cairo Theatre has entered the army. Gerald's brother Robert and his father Harry will continue to run the house during his absence.



Bingo Games Again Hit By Ohio Senate Action

COLUMBUS—Bingo in Ohio definitely is back in the news following a second recommendation for passage of the Shurtz anti-bingo bill by the senate judiciary committee by a vote of 5 to 3 despite protests of spokesmen for fraternal, religious and veterans' organizations and several ministers.

Among those arguing for bingo as a philanthropic aid were representatives of the Moose, Eagles, American Legion, Junior O. U. A. M. and other fraternal and veteran groups, all pleading for its retention as a source of funds for charitable enterprises.

The advocates caused the author of the bill, Sen. George G. Shurtz, a minister who was a chaplain in World War I, to rise in indignation and belabor the witnesses—and a crowd of more than 200 of their supporters—for relying on games of chance "contrary to the constitution of the state of Ohio" as the source of good works.

Shurtz shook his finger at the opponents of his bill and told them that bingo was not needed to inspire charity, that all they had to do was to "take your gifts and lay them on the altar—and that will be real charity."

Juke Box Owners Win Suit From Youngstown Council

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO—The seventh district court of appeals has held that Youngstown's juke box ordinance is illegal because of the $10 annual license fee, plus $1 for each wallbox, is excessive. The court upheld a decision of the Mahoning County common pleas court.

The suit was brought by juke box owners after the council voted to double the annual license fee.

Queen City Variety Names Golf Tourney Committee

CINCINNATI — Queen City Variety Club has announced a committee for the annual golf tournament. This event, a highlight in the social year, promises to be the biggest and best yet, and the committee is busy arranging plans. Chairman of this activity is Irving Sochin, assisted by Harry "Pop" Wessel, Jack Fineberg, Hardie Meakin, Lev and Harry Bugie, Arthur Mannheimer, Pete Niland, Saul Greenberg and Ray Frankel.

Sol Schumann to Manage Cleveland Marvel Theatre

CLEVELAND—Sol Schumann, son of the late Dave Schumann, has returned to Cleveland from California, where he has been living during the last five years, to manage the Marvel Theatre. It is owned by Mrs. Dave Schumann and M. M. Jacobs. Sol was released from the Red Cross, in which he served as a field director, in order to return to Cleveland.

Mrs. Eudoxia Ureel Dies

DETROIT—Mrs. Eudoxia Ureel died here May 17. She was the mother of Michael Ureel, operator at the Ramona Theatre, and an aunt of George Ureel, operator at the Flamingo.

S. L. James Heads Rotary

EATON, OHIO—S. L. James, owner of the James Theatre here, has been elected president of the local Rotary Club for the 1945-46 fiscal year. He will take office July 1.

Columbus Also Seeks "Rickenbacker" Bow

Columbus—This city, the birthplace of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, and the city where he attended school, will be the place of the world premiere of 20th-Fox's "Captain Eddie," film of Rickenbacker's life, if the city council has anything to say about it. The council has just passed a resolution unanimously asking 20th-Fox to have the premiere here when the film is released in late August.

Congressman John M. Vorys, who is chairman of the citizens' committee sponsoring the move. Many of the early scenes of the picture occur in Columbus. Thomas J. Herbert, former attorney general of Ohio, is vice-chairman of the committee.

Several other cities wish to obtain the premiere showing, including Miami, Sioux City, Omaha, Indianapolis and Atlanta.

Ovation for Pidgeon In War Bond Rally

CANTON—Walter Pidgeon addressed 15,000 persons here and in Massillon to mark the start of the Seventh War Loan campaign in this district. It was declared the greatest war bond rally ever staged in the area. Pidgeon was given a terrific ovation when he appeared at a rally on the public square here, climaxing the day's strenuous program.

On the following day three of the six heroes who planted the flag on Mt. Suribachi made a personal appearance here. Walter Kessler, manager of Loew's in Akron, campaign promotion chairman, introduced Pidgeon on all occasions and handled details of his several appearances in the district.

Charles B. Collier Maimed In Fighting in Germany

HARLAN, KY.—Pvt. Charles B. Collier, former advertising manager of the New Harlan Theatre here, is recovering at Stark General Hospital at Charleston, S. C., following the loss of a leg in the fighting in Germany.

Protests Cut of Nazi Death Factory Scenes

DETROIT—Numerous labor, religious and specialized groups were represented in the protest made over the cutting of scenes from "Maidanek Death Factory" as shown at the Telenews theatres here. Despite the widespread nature of the protest to the police commissioner, it was his decision to uphold the censorship of Lieut. Charles W. Snyder, and the cut stood.

Jack Raskin, secretary of the Civil Rights Federation, indicated that the group would unite to fight to restore the cut if the films were released to any other Detroit theatres. He stated that the hanging scenes were "the only part of the picture that actually showed the Germans suffering," after indicating earlier the suffering they had imposed upon their victims. The CRF is a local branch affiliated with the National Federation for Civil Liberties.

Groups uniting in protest were: Wayne County CIO Council, Civil Rights Federation, Workers United for a Free World, Detroit Council of Churches, representing virtually all Protestant churches; Jewish Community Council, IATSE Local 199, Veterans Department of the United Automobile Workers, and the National Lawyers' group.

Some of the group felt that the picture might not be suitable for "very young children," according to Samuel Sage, secretary of the CIO Council, but this view was not unanimous. Objection here, Sage indicated, was based more upon the horror scenes left in than in the hanging scene which was cut.

Circuits Buy "Heights"

CLEVELAND—Bob Snyder, local Film Classics representative announces that he has closed all-circuit deals on "Wuthering Heights" with the following: Associated circuit, with engagements including the Shaker, Shore, Mayfield-Center and Fairmount theatres; Washington circuit, including the Olaza, Astor and Haltnorth theatres of Cleveland and the Falls at Cuyahoga Falls; Scoville, Essick & Reif circuit, including the Ezella, Madison, Willoby, Berea and Galion theatres, and the entire Community circuit throughout the city. The Shea circuit has been sold for all Ohio spots, Snyder reports.



GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY—Leading delegates to the Latin American Institute convention conference at West Virginia University, attended a special showing of Walt Disney's "The Three Caballeros" at the Warner Theatre, Morgantown, W. Va., of which Joseph Murdock is manager. L. to r.: Dr. Warren F. Manning, University of West Virginia; Richard Aspinall, co-chairman, Latin American Institute; Armand E. Singer, chairman, round-table discussions; Abel P. Santos, chief of cinchona section of the Foreign Economic Administration; Dr. Francisco Banda of Ecuador, and Frank Herrera, head of modern languages, University of West Virginia.

CINCINNATI

Queen City Variety Club's Saturday night socials are going strong. Get out the niblicks and reprocessed balls—Queen City Variety has announced a committee for the annual golf tournament. Prizes this year are "out of this world," announces Irving Sochin, 20th-Fox city salesman and the club's chairman of activities.

June brings weddings—and the Row will have its share this year. June Robinson, RKO, will be married June 1 to a service man . . . Ned Hastings, manager of RKO Grand, will be married to Helen Sharpe, charming assistant treasurer of RKO Lyric, June 16. Many prenuptial parties were planned for the couple . . . Myrtle Guenther, Metro, will middle-aisle it on the 26th, according to announcements. Her groom-to-be is Lewis Babbit.

Joe Charles Oulahan, son of Paramount's Joe Oulahan, is now in boot training at Great Lakes. Young Joe, 18 years old, enlisted in the navy last March, and received his call on the 14th . . . Warners' former shipper, Seaman Harry Brinkman, was here on leave.

Mrs. Allen Kohan arrived to take up her new home here. Kohan succeeded Bill Brumberg at Warners. The latter recently was promoted to director of field exploitation, New York office . . . John Eifert of Warners was suffering from a slight cold and loss of voice . . . Universal's Jack Bannan also suffered a cold and neuritis following extracted teeth.

Universal's office was undergoing a spring house cleaning and paint up. The city salesman, Frank Schrieber, was vacationing. Schrieber promised to pay an exchange visit with the famous Schrieber twins, now nine months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Candrea, Dayton, Ohio, were in. Also James Howe, Carrolton, Ky.; Mrs. Fon Sexton and son, A. J., from Ashland. Manny Marcus and Mr. and Mrs. Marc Wolf, Indianapolis, were here. Also Frank Mandros, Charleston, W. Va. . . . Mildred Johnson, assistant manager to Florence Kipp at RKO Lyric, is visiting in Chicago, Ill., for two weeks.

Sid Zins, Columbia, was here on "Counter-Attack" . . . Word came that Abe Hyman is doing a most commendable job in the Seventh War Loan drive in Huntington, and getting full cooperation from all exhibitors there.

Charlie Palmer, Columbia, was on the mend at the Jewish Hospital . . . Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Daumeyer, parents of George Daumeyer, Warners' office manager, were here for a visit. N. F. is manager of the Columbia, Dayton, Ohio . . . Dorothy Fisher, RKO, was hospitalized for a minor operation.

Katherine Mersch, Metro, was vacationing . . . Edna Ossege, secretary to S. M. Booth, was back at her desk after a vacation. She spent a happy weekend in Columbus, where she was entertained at the Variety Club and visited film folk. RKO's Aileen Steinhauer, assistant cashier, was vacationing in Florida . . . B. M. Stanley Jacques at RKO and Mrs. Jacques were back after a fortnight in New York City, where they visited their sons, Don and Robert, twins.

Margaret Woodruff of Schine's "Belpic" is planning to spend Decoration Day at Bellefontaine, with the home folks . . . Schine's entertained important visitors this last week. Harold Raives was here from Cleveland; Lew Hensler, Kentucky representative, was in. Harry Stearn and Mrs. Stearn were up from Corbin, to take in "One Touch of Venus." Louis Lazar, Gloversville, N. Y., was in and out on a territorial trip.

Duke Clark, Paramount district manager at Dallas, stopped over between trains on his way to visit his son, Robert Clark, Paramount city salesman, and his new grandchild, Sherry Clark, nine months old . . . Paramount's traveling auditor, B. H. Blatz, was here.



STARS AT PITTSBURGH RODEO—Roy Rogers broke all rodeo records at the Gardens, Pittsburgh, where he appeared for six evening and two matinee performances. A special Friday matinee had to be added, when all tickets were sold prior to the opening of the week's rodeo.

Photos snapped at the Pittsburgh Republic exchange, at the Gardens and at Hotel Webster Hall include, top left: The King of the Cowboys with Syd Lehman and Hymie Wheeler, Republic executives; left, center: Typical of 180 Roy Rogers contest winners from theatres in the area are several West Virginia girls, Wilda Dodrill of Carolina; Lolette Held of Idamay; Rogers; Bertie May Darway, Carolina, and Della Bragg, Idamay. Lower left: Republic exchange girls; right, top: Roy Rogers and his guest, Carolyn Lee; right, lower: Bob Klingensmith, nephew of BOXOFFICE's representative; Charles E. Warner, Bridgeport, W. Va.; Rogers and Carolyn Lee.

Rogers staged special shows at government and children's hospitals in the Pittsburgh district and then he moved on with the rodeo to Toronto.

Kentuckians Are Seeking Repeal of 10% State Tax

CINCINNATI—Thomas Hill, director of the Kentucky Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors, part owner of the Liberty, Broadway and Madison theatres, Covington, Ky., stated here that a vigorous effort will be made at the 1946 session of the Kentucky general assembly to repeal the ten per cent state tax on theatre tickets.

The Kentuckians complain that the promise given at the time the tax was imposed, that it would be repealed immediately after state warrants had been liquidated, has not been kept. The showmen are merely seeking equality with other industries considered essential to the war effort, and point out that their war bond drives, Red Cross collections, and other war activities, entitle them to consideration, Hill declares.

A concerted effort will be made to repeal the admission tax as soon as the next session of the general assembly convenes.

Standards Group Honors Formica Vice-President

CINCINNATI—R. W. Lytle, vice-president in charge of special engineering of the Formica Insulation Co., has been given recognition for his wartime contribution to development of postwar aviation by the National Aircraft Standards Committee.

Lytle will represent all of the country's pulley manufacturers on the Committee on Postwar Airplane Pulley Design of the Standards Committee.

Big New Theatre Project Planned for Maumee

TOLEDO—Jack O'Connel, who made the front pages by his refusal to abide by the curfew order at the Loop Theatre, is planning to build an entertainment project in nearby Maumee, it was learned here. The structure, it is said, will combine a 1,400-seat motion picture theatre, bowling alleys, a department store and a drug store.

Dublin Drive-In Reopens

DUBLIN, OHIO—The Riverside, central Ohio's only drive-in theatre, has been opened for the season. The same policy as last season is in effect, with the first feature starting at dusk and two shows nightly. There will be no increase in prices this season and children under 10 will be admitted free when accompanied by adults.

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CLEVELAND

Nate and Sam Schultz announce the purchase of the Quilna and Rialto theatres of Lima from F. C. Focht, effective June 1. Other theatres in the rapidly expanding Schultz circuit are the Union, Almira, and Ambassador, Cleveland; the Lorain Theatre, Lorain, and the Strand, Youngstown.

Ken Veach of Uhrichsville had a letter from Sgt. Marty Friedman the other day saying that he's in the thick of things in Okinawa. Marty, who used to be a Vitagraph booker, has been in the photographic division of the marines for the last three years . . . Nat L. Lefton, until recently PRC franchise owner in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Detroit, was a patient at Mount Sinai Hospital . . . J. Maxwell Joice, Paramount regional publicity director, also was under hospital care.

Bill Roseman of the Washington circuit is doubling as manager of both the Haltnorth and Globe theatres . . . Max Weinstein, co-owner with Oscar Stotter of the Ritz Theatre, is back in the hospital for another operation. Weinstein, who operates the theatre from his bed, has stopped counting the number of operations he has had in the last five years.

Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, has a flashy 22-foot display board in the lobby as part of the Seventh War Loan drive display. It contains 25 large photos of action in the Pacific. The photos were provided by the Folmer-Graflex Corp. of Rochester. Under lock and key in a glass case are displayed assorted sizes of mortar shells, some rocket shells and hand grenades.

M. B. Horwitz, general manager of the Washington circuit, and Joe Leavitt, owner of the Independent Screen Room, became grandfathers simultaneously when a daughter was born to Selma and Sandy Leavitt. The young lady has been named Barbara Eileen . . . Meet Claire Heller, newest member of the film colony. She is the new secretary to Nat Wolf, succeeding Anne Urbas.

John Mahaly did not get his People's Theatre, Akron, open last Saturday as expected. New equipment to replace that damaged by fire did not arrive on schedule . . . L. H. Walters, National Theatre Supply Co. manager, was 24 hours late arriving in Los Angeles to attend the SMPE meeting. Delay was caused when he was bumped off a plane en route to make room for a high priority passenger . . . Sally and Max Jacobs of Imperial Pictures are leaving May 31 for a ten-day vacation at Martinsville, Ind.

Mrs. George Erdmann, wife of the secretary of the Cleveland MPEA, was ill . . . John Cromwell of the Star Theatre, Antwerp, an infrequent visitor, was in town shopping for a big-time picture for a special Memorial Day program . . . Howard Knippenberg, former projectionist who has served two years on a battleship in the Pacific, was home on leave. He participated in several major engagements.

Peter Wellman of Girard has closed his recently acquired Victory Theatre, Youngstown, temporarily to permit a complete renovating job. When it reopens in 30 days it will be called the Fox Theatre.

Florence Gordon Aster, who resigned as secretary to Warner district manager Charles Rich, now is living in Los Angeles. Her husband has been discharged from the army . . . Ask George Ellis, who is now doing his own booking for his Park Theatre, North Canton, to show the picture of himself at the ripe age of five years, and his father, both all dressed up in the approved Greek uniform.

"Wuthering Heights," released by Film Classics, has been bought by all major circuits in this territory, Bob Snyder, sales representative, announces. He has closed deals with the Associated circuit for all of its theatres, including the Shaker, Fairmount, Center Mayfield, Shore and Hilliard Square; the Washington circuit for all of its houses; the entire Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit and all of the houses of the Community circuit. Snyder reports that he has ten prints working solid in this territory.

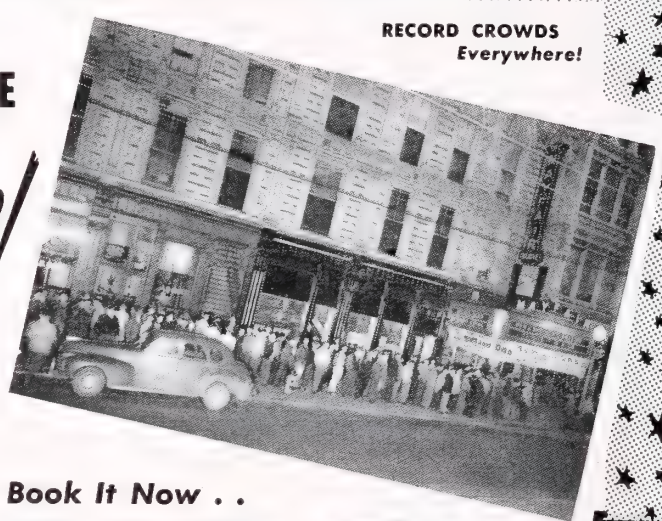
Jack Gertz, distributor of Coulter dinnerware and Harker bakeware, reports that he has closed a new deal to service the Almira Theatre. The Lexington Theatre was so pleased with the results of its deal that it has entered into a new contract for Harker bakeware. Premiums are still going strong in this area and are in greater demand than the supply available.

Meyer Fine, WAC exhibitor, has been appointed motion picture chairman of the Jewish welfare drive . . . Milton Bryer, former Schine theatre manager in Bucyrus, who has returned to Cleveland to manage the Imperial Theatre, has a son Robert now stationed in Marseille, France. He is serving with the infantry . . . Charlie Gottlob of the Milo and Mt. Pleasant theatres, has announced the marriage of his daughter, May 27.

Margaret Macsay, Republic head booker, is vacationing with her husband, S/Sgt. William Kasmarek, who recently returned after 16 months overseas duty in the air corps . . . S. P. Gorrel, Republic branch manager, says the "Flame of Barbary Coast," which concluded a two-week downtown first run engagement at Loew's State and Loew's Stillman theatres here, is booked for June showings at the Paramount Theatre, Toledo; Palace, Akron, and the Ohio, Canton.

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THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



R. W. Phelan of Clendenin, W. Va., entered the motion picture business in 1920. In that year he and his partner, Charles C. Clendenen, acquired their first theatre. Today they own the Roxy and Star theatres in Clendenin. Phelan has been vice-president of the West Virginia Managers Ass'n for the past ten years. He devotes a good deal of his time to civic affairs and for six years was city recorder in Clendenin. Phelan, both a Mason and a member of the Lions, is married and has a daughter, Carol Sue.



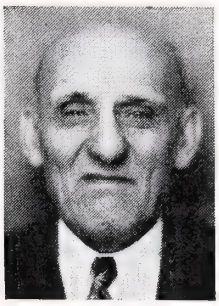
Mrs. G. Nelson Foxworthy of Flemingsburg, Ky., has been an exhibitor since 1922. Before that time she worked in a local theatre as a ticket seller while she was still in high school. At one time she played the piano for silent pictures. Her many years of theatre experience have proved a great help to her in managing the Princess Theatre. Mrs. Foxworthy, known to her friends as Doug, is a member of the Woman's Club and is recording secretary of the Fleming County Garden Club. Her hobbies are her Victory garden and civic activities.



Clarence Fleischman, a Toledo theatre man of many years standing, opened his first house, the Atlas, in 1909. Today he is the owner of the much larger World Theatre with a seating capacity of 1,754, located at 1229 Dorr. He is a member of the Masons. He is married and has two daughters, one married. The other one is now attending DeVilbiss High School. Fleischman loves the outdoors and has made many hunting and fishing trips to the Canadian woods. He takes a good citizen's interest in civic affairs although he holds no public office.



Mrs. Esther L. Clark of Cadiz, Ohio, has been about the theatre all her life. Her grandfather built the Community Theatre in 1925 and she assisted her father in running it many years. In 1935 she took over the active management of the house. She is a member of ITO of Ohio. She has two children, a boy and a girl, yet finds time from her home and business duties for community interests. She is on the library board and is Harrison County chairman for the camp and hospital council of Fletcher General Hospital. She is fond of traveling, camping trips.



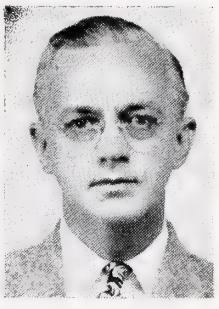
Starting in 1919 with the Academy Theatre in Detroit, **Harry Brown** of that city built up a circuit of eight theatres. Today three of these, the Grand, Ambassador and Belmont, are leased to his son Sam. He has either leased or sold the others, concentrating his attention now on the management of a single 1,150-seat house, the Dexter. Brown is a member of Allied of Michigan and of the Masonic order, also. In his spare time Brown likes to bowl. In addition to Sam, he has two other children, John and Dora, all married.



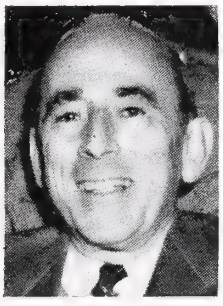
Twenty years ago last February, **Howard R. Paul** bought out an exhibitor in Yale, Mich., to start his motion picture career at the Princess. In 1933 he purchased the old Palace Theatre in Romeo, Mich., and built a new house there in 1935. Today he operates the latter house and the Yale in the town of the same name. His wife aided in the management of the houses until her death in 1942. Paul is a member of the Detroit Variety Club. The favorite recreations of this exhibitor are hunting and fishing—and seeing a good picture.



The Family Theatre, owned by **Nicholas G. "Nick" Shafer,** has become a permanent and treasured fixture in Covington, Ky. Shafer built this 534-seat house in 1916 after working a year with Pathe Films. In 1921 he started the Victoria, replaced in 1924 by the Shirley. He is a member of Kentucky Exhibitors Ass'n, Masons and the Variety Club of Cincinnati. He is married and has one daughter, Shirley M., who is attending college. Shafer represents the showman's faith in his career with theatre entertainment the last 29 years. He lives at Lakeside, Ky.



William J. Blatt of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., entered show business in 1920 when his family purchased the Star Theatre, East Brady, Pa. He moved his business office to Pittsburgh in 1941 when Blatt Bros. opened their main office on Filmrow. Blatt has five children. He is a member of the board of directors of Allied of Western Pennsylvania, enjoys playing cards, especially bridge. Interested in fishing and boating, he belongs to the coast guard reserve. He and his brothers spend their summers at Lake Chautauqua sailing their 33-foot cabin cruiser.



William Skirball knows the theatre business inside and out both as a distributor and exhibitor. He started as the Des Moines manager for Metro in 1916; next, went into the sign business, and later had the Warner and Columbia franchise in Cleveland. He sold the film rights to go into educational films. He opened his first theatre in Mansfield, Ohio, and since has acquired and sold many houses. At present he owns ten houses in Ohio and Pennsylvania. He is a member of Variety, Oakwood Country Club and Masons. He lives at Gates Mills, Ohio.



In 1921 **Phil Brozier** got into show business. He just happened into it and has stuck for 24 years. Today he owns the 360-seat Brozier Theatre in Avella, Pa. Being a man of many interests, he recently purchased a coal mine; he also operates a vegetable farm, in addition to his motion picture ventures. He is a familiar figure in Avella, having been formerly the town's tax collector and justice of the peace. He is a member of the Slovenian National Club. Of his six children, two sons are serving overseas. Fishing and hunting are his favorite outdoor sports.



George "Brownie" Brown started in motion picture business as an operator at the Pastime Theatre in Coshocton, Ohio, in 1911. In 1913 he rented the Orpheum in Cambridge. From 1915 to 1933 he operated the Lyric and in 1916 he opened the Luna in Byesville, the latter a theatre with a seating capacity of 450, which he now manages. He is a member of the ITO of Ohio. Brown is married and has a daughter, Rebecca Ann, eight months old. He is a member of the Elks. His favorite pastimes are hunting and fishing in Ohio fields and streams.



In 1921 **Guy Joseph Oglietti** of Leechburg, Pa., bought a rundown shooting gallery in Reynoldsville and remodeled it into a 350-seat theatre. After a few years in Turtle Creek operating the Keystone he returned to Leechburg and went into partnership with his brothers in the Palace and Cosmorano theatres, the latter now the Penn. Oglietti annually makes a trip to Canada for fishing. His other hobby is photography. He is a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. A son, Capt. Elmer G. Oglietti, died in Italy, March 22, 1944.

DETROIT

Production: Ross Roy reported Dr. E. N. Tisdale will head up marketing and research . . . John B. McClintock and Paul Sutton joined the writing staff . . . Clarence Kerby is new art director . . . H. P. Brigham returned to the company, where he formerly was located . . . Robert H. Plew, formerly with Jam Handy, joined Visual Training in charge of slide film production . . . Jack F. Jackson, technical writer, promoted to army program coordinator . . . Betsy Morray is president of the Little Theatre group being organized by the staff at Jam Handy for their own amusement.

Up in the Booths: Walter Bradley of the Warfield is pleasing the missus by keeping his yacht docked for the summer, on account of gas rationing . . . Harrison Cronkhite, who returned from a spell as assistant studio cameraman in Los Angeles, is now in the booth at the Crystal . . . Lee Gamble of the President is the father of a new baby girl, Trina Lee.

Richard Connell of the Pasadena is looking forward to modernization of the booth, already under way. His mother, Mrs. Joseph Connell, widow of the former Columbia operator, moved to Port Huron . . . M. E. Donlon of the Calvin in Dearborn is busy with war work and a special assignment at Jam Handy as well . . . Ed Douville, president, invited us to the Nghtingales' big annual banquet, May 22, at midnight.

Clarence W. Jones, formerly of the Arcadia, met in the control room of WJR . . . Houston Morton was back from a buying trip to Chicago. He plans to open a new machine shop . . . Marty Shore spent Sunday out on Rog Kennedy's farm running the spreader . . . Eldo Burdicker of the Rouge was in bed with a bad cold.

Wilbert Haartge of the Midtown is running a special share-the-ride club for Aileen Davis of the local office . . . Nicholas Tsoukalas, long time at the Carmen in Dearborn, moved to the Highland Park. Gil Lubin moved from the Highland Park to the Washington. He replaced Emil Rausch who is on the sick list . . . Sympathy to Max Mansfield of the Westown upon his bereavement.

Profile: Al Allen, new booker at RKO replacing Gordon Schuman, has been in the merchant marine since 1941. Before the war he handled publicity for tours in Honolulu. He entered film business over 30 years ago with General Film Co. in Denver and was with Selznick Pictures, the original Louis J., in Minneapolis. Then he went on the road, handling publicity for motion picture and legitimate roadshows for many years.

Drug Store Stuff: Bill Flemion's new haircut won Censor Howard Stewart's okay . . . Dorothy Harrison and Clark Baker had a little argument over the lunch counter, but friendly . . . Bob Dunbar phoned back to his office from lunch for an emergency call . . . Moe Dudelson and Milt Cohen figuring Detroit sells films different from other territories . . . Max Blumenthal hurrying for a 1 p. m. meeting.

Notes on Caravan's Tablecloth: Bill Carlson, past potentate of Moslem, staged a bangup luncheon as program chairman. John Ballenger, police chief; Eleonore Hutzel, deputy, and two dozen top cops turned out. Lieut. Felix Paden, whom we last knew as sergeant, was one of the liaison men. Max Throop, senior inspector, doubled as second in command. Fred Ringler, who used to have the Crystal Theatre, told about his circus days . . . William Carlson jr., just back from a German prison camp, was our luncheon neighbor.

Wolverines: Edmund J. Papineau sr., who just opened a new drive-in theatre at Walled Lake, at the "village" rather than the more familiar park end, plans to install additional equipment as soon as priorities permit . . . Eddie Carrow of the Lyon at South Lyons, E. J. Pennell of the Coliseum at Bronson, the Ashmun brothers with the Center at Marlette and the Garden at Frankfort ordered new American Bodiform chairs, Clarence Williamson of NTS reports . . . John F. Cassin, Port Huron projectionist, was just named city manager. He formerly was mayor there.

Under the Marquees: Ed Sadlowski, brother of Henry Sadlowski of the Crane, is house manager at the Franklin for Irving Belinsky . . . Harry E. Thompson, managing the President, was a civil engineer before going into show business . . . W. R. McDowell of the Pasadena was working in a crowded lobby, while new equipment was being readied for installation . . . Walter Aller will celebrate his 25th anniversary at the Del-The Theatre, where he is the manager, on May 30 . . . Peter Kavel, navy, former manager of the Cameo, was transferred to Camp Bedilion, Calif. . . . Ed Kirchner scooped the town by booking Al Dezel's "Hitler—Dead or Alive" at the Family for a first run . . . Clarence Williamson reported orders going in for new American Bodiform chairs for two new 1,500-seat Detroit suburban theatres . . . George McCall, manager of the Hughes Downtown, was off for a business trip to New York City.

Short Circuits: Jack Keegan, UDT executive, rates congratulations upon his marriage, announced from New York, to Mrs. Renee Mercer of Detroit . . . Al Dezel's Film Classics has completed a deal with Co-Operative to play the entire circuit with "The Cowboy and the Lady," starring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon, also the first Captain Cub Technicolor cartoon, "Blast the Japs" . . . Sidney Hunt, who formerly had his own house at New Baltimore before going in the army, is new manager of the Harper for W&W, following his discharge. He succeeds Phil Zeller.

Along the Rialto: Vi Whiteside of the stagehands local is back from a visit in Canada . . . Billy Vine, Columbia star, is currently making a personal appearance at Lou Walters' Latin Quarter . . . George McArthur is busy doling out a half carload of Nue-Made products.

Exchanges: Ben Robins, Lou Berman, Jack Stewart, Fred Bonnem and Milton Zimmerman were back from the Universal sales conference at Chicago . . . Anne O'Donnell, who formerly was top gal in the local PRC office and now has a nice job with the home office, was in town on a routine visit and slated to go on to Cleveland and Cincinnati . . . Sidney Turer, formerly with Columbia in Kansas City, and for the past month with Universal in Chicago, is new booker at Universal here . . . Milt Cohen is having a special trade screening of Danny Kaye's "Wonder Man" at the Fisher May 28.

Theatrical Post Notes: Owen Blough and Max Kolin are out to make that $6,000 bond sale in the post a reality . . . Gil Lubin was busy on child welfare activities . . . Harry Carson reported the election will be June 11 at midnight . . . Jack Ferentz, musicians' prexy, closely follows post activities, even if his hours don't let him participate often.

Turn-oit-ers for the May meet were Roy Rube, Local 199 secretary; Lew Tucker, counsel, and Lee Crowell, historian . . . Joseph Kollar, former censor, presented an interesting veterans' rehabilitation project. Commander Harry R. Berns turned the idea over to a committee . . . Comrades Pratt and Tucker are on the committee to recommend changes in the GI bill of rights.

Bud Cusick, past commander, confined to his home by illness. Address: 1415 Parker . . . Cy Harris remains at the Marine Hospital . . . Dutch Brock is convalescing from a further operation at the Dearborn Hospital.

S 1/c Leon Crowell, son of Historian Lee, after passing his submarine-detection course with highest honors at Santiago, has been transferred to Ft. Everglades at Fort Lauderdale . . . Lieut. Robert Goldstaff is in the officers' pool at Aberdeen, awaiting assignment, after his recent illness . . . Carl Rush's son Bob is now stationed next door to home, at Grosse Isle.

One Theatre Triples Sales Record in War Bond Drive

CLEVELAND — The Seventh War Loan drive got off to a better start here than did the Sixth. In fact, taking Loew's State Theatre as typical, the first three days of this drive more than tripled the sale of bonds during the first three days of the previous drive. Sale for the Sixth was $21,225. For the Seventh Bond drive it was $72,750, Howard Burkhart, manager of Loew's State Theatre, reports.

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Theatregoers "Rained In" in Detroit Area

DETROIT—Business was generally down in the local territory last week because of rain. Daily heavy downpours discouraged entertainment seekers to the point that it took an exceptionally strong attraction to draw a good gross. Sunday, the only exception, drew more outdoor pleasure-seekers than theatregoers, by its novelty.

(Average is 100)

Adams—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col).....115
Broadway-Capitol—**Dillinger** (Mono), 2nd wk.; **Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.....110
Cinema—**Personal Column** (French); **Man Who Sees the Truth** (French), reissues..... 85
Downtown—**Man Who Walked Alone** (PRC), plus stage show 85
Fox—**Eadie Was a Lady** (Col); **Counter-Attack** (Col) 115
Michigan—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep) 120
Palms-State—**Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono); **This Man's Navy** (M-G-M) 115
Paradise—**Lone Texas Ranger** (Rep), plus stage show 130
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....105

"Experiment Perilous" With Stage Show Hits 190 at the Stanley

PITTSBURGH—Stage attractions, absent since last October, returned to the Stanley, and with "Experiment Perilous" on the screen, broke the house record at 90 per cent above average. Moveover films, "A Royal Scandal" and "I'll Be Seeing You," were popular and "The Three Caballeros" at Loew's Penn was sufficiently strong to merit a moveover to the Warner.

Barry—**A Man Betrayed** (Rep), reissue; **Nevada** (RKO) 100
Fulton—**Sudan** (Univ), 2nd wk..... 70
Harris—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ), 11 days 100
Penn—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO)..... 90
Ritz—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 3rd d. t. wk.....140
Senator—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 125
Stanley—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO), plus stage show 190
Warner—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 110

"Co-Pilot" in Second Moveover Week Scores Highest Average in Cleveland

CLEVELAND—With four of seven first run downtown houses hitting the bell at par, "God Is My Co-Pilot," playing a second week on a moveover, was the only picture in the show palaces to break the jinx, scoring a big 135 at the Allen. Continued rain, reaction from the VE-Day feeling of elation and the preponderance of holdovers may have had some effect on attendance.

Allen—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk., moveover 135
Hippodrome—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO)..... 70
Lake—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), 3rd wk. and 2nd moveover 100
Ohio—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. and 2nd moveover 100
Palace—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....100
State—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep).....100
Stillman—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk..... 90

'Diamond Horseshoe' Leads Attractions In Good Film Week at Cincinnati

CINCINNATI—"Diamond Horseshoe" had an exceptional run held over down town. United Artists had four features on the theatre bill of fare. Business was good.

Albee—**It's in the Bag** (UA)..... 70
Capitol—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk.....110
Grand—**Escape in the Desert** (WB).....100
Keith's—**Brewster's Millions** (UA), 2nd wk..... 80
Lyric—**Prisoner of Zenda** (UA); **The Garden of Allah** (UA), reissues.....100
Palace—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....160
Shubert—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk..... 90

Sutton In Pittsburgh Group

THOMAS, W. VA.—C. L. Sutton, owner of the Sutton Theatre, has joined Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., Pittsburgh film buying and booking organization.

COLUMBUS

Local downtown theatres are disappointed in the comparatively slim attendance at the midnight shows, reinstituted following the lifting of the curfew order. Patrons, out of the habit of attending late shows, have stayed away in large numbers. Exhibitors hope the habit will reassert itself soon.

Harry Shannon, 75, for 46 years manager of the Shannon Players, a traveling road show company well known throughout the mideast section, died of a heart attack at his home in Larue, Ohio. Shannon suffered a heart attack a month ago in Cleveland, where he was working. He was taken to his Larue home, where he suffered his fatal attack. After almost a half century of traveling from coast to coast with his show, Shannon retired four years ago. Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Adelaide Lorene Shannon; a daughter, Mrs. Hazel Shannon Tooill, Columbus; a son, Harry Shannon jr.; a granddaughter, Patricia Ann Tooill, and a sister, Mrs. D. T. Kelsey, Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. Joan Barcroft, publicity manager of the local RKO theatres since her husband, Sgt. John Barcroft, former RKO press man, joined the army over two years ago, has resigned. No announcement has been made of her successor . . . Walter Pidgeon, M-G-M star, made several war plant visits on behalf of the Seventh War Loan here last week.

John Hardgrove, manager of the Southern, started off the Seventh War Loan with a $5,000 war bond sale to one purchaser . . . Sgt. Roger Garrett, marines, writes from the Pacific he has been attached to a newly-formed entertainment unit headed by Lieut. Bob Crosby, radio and screen star. Garrett formerly was organist at Loew's Ohio.

J. Everett Watson, Cincinnati M-G-M exploiteer, was here working on a big campaign for "The Picture of Dorian Gray" . . . P. J. Wood, ITO secretary, sent out special notices to members warning them not to play "Two Down and One to Go" because of the "confusion" that might result because of the "antiquated" point system of army discharges shown in the government film.

Bond Drive Pressure On In the Pittsburgh Region

PITTSBURGH—Exhibitors in this area are working overtime in promoting the Mighty Seventh War Loan drive, film salesmen and field exploiteers report.

Theatre owners and managers coming into the film market have not been discussing special premieres, kiddies shows and Free Movie Days as in other campaigns, but they are doing their job individually and collectively. Film salesmen were allocated small quantities of extra gasoline for calling on theatres which they were assigned to represent in the interest of the drive. Following scheduled playing of drive trailers, exhibitors are urged to return them promptly to National Screen Service, so that other theatres may be served.

James H. Nash, Ill., on Leave

PITTSBURGH—James H. Nash, UA sales representative for West Virginia, has been granted a leave of absence due to illness. Milton Hartz is filling in. He was a temporary retirement PRC West Virginia sales representative.

Harker and Baggett to "The Time"

Jane Harker and Lynne Baggett have been added to the cast of "The Time, the Place and the Girl," a Warner production.

Death to 3 Stagehands In the Detroit Local

DETROIT—Death struck three times in a week in the ranks of IATSE Local 38, taking three of Detroit's veteran stagehands.

Roy Gill, 40, of the National Theatre and the Masonic Temple, died May 16 in Tucson, Ariz., after a long illness. He was formerly at the old Detroit Opera House and had been a member of Local 38 for 18 years. His wife and one child survive. The body was brought to Detroit for burial.

William Hines, 70, died from a heart ailment. He had been at the Riviera since it opened in the '20s, and at the Palace. He was on the road before that. At one time a show billposter, he held a national record as secretary of the Detroit Billposters' local for 35 years. He was a member of Local 38 for 31 years. His wife survives. Interment was in Elmwood Cemetery.

Roy W. Lloyd, 63, died backstage from a heart attack, at the Hughes-Downtown Theatre. A stagehand for 35 years, he was formerly at the Cass, Fisher, Lyceum and Garrick. His wife survives. Interment was in Roselawn Cemetery.

W&W Circuit Now Building New 1,200-Seat Theatre

DETROIT—The first actual construction work on a postwar project here was started this week by the Wisper & Wetsman circuit of 19 theatres upon a 1,200-seat theatre at Middlebelt and Michigan roads in the west side suburb of Inkster.

The house, to be named the Inkster, is being erected by the Board Construction Co. as contractors for the realty owners, and will be leased by Wisper & Wetsman under the operating name of Michigan Movies, Inc. Saul Korman, operator of several Detroit theatres, will be a partner in the enterprise. Ted Rogovy has been engaged by W&W as consulting architect.

Construction also will be started soon upon a second postwar theatre project at Wyoming and Eight Mile roads in northwestern Detroit by W&W in association with Korman, who planned to erect the Duke Theatre in this neighborhood before the war. The new house, which has not yet been named, will have 1,500 seats. Plans are now being drawn up by Charles N. Agree, theatrical architect.

Priorities have been granted for the erection of both houses, Lou Wisper said, and present plans call for completion and opening of these first two new theatres next fall.

W&W also has plans for four other theatres, including the 3,000-seat Point Theatre in the far east end of Detroit, and three others in undisclosed locations.

Equipment House Expands To Meet Increased Demand

CLEVELAND — The Sanco Electric Co., headed by Dave Sandler, is enlarging its organization to meet increased demand for equipment parts. Sandler has specialized in the war years in acquiring equipment not in use, remodeling it and selling it to theatres which otherwise might not have been able to stay open. Some small theatres, Sandler says, have often been desperate for parts which cannot be purchased in the open market. Not only has the personal service department of the Sanco Electric Co. grown over this period, but its mail order department has increased to such an extent that Sandler is now installing specialists to give it their attention.

PITTSBURGH

Arthur H. Levy, Columbia manager, entered Montefiore Hospital for an operation. During his absence George Tice of the local branch and Sam Galanty, district manager, will handle Columbia's business here . . . Harry Hendel, proprietor of the New Granada in the Hill district and ration board chairman, has California on his mind. He made several visits there in recent years and is preparing to shove off for another extended vacation.

Pvt. Paul Reith, former RKO office manager now in Germany, writes to at least one member of the RKO staff here each week . . . Wally Allen, 20th-Fox exploiteer, whose birthday anniversary was May 19, celebrated the occasion last Friday at the Variety Club's family night party . . . A. "Mickey" Sleisenger, former local area exhibitor, who withdrew from the field more than a year ago when he transferred the Ritz, Rankin, to Dave Fineman and Bob Lieber, was a Filmrow visitor the other day. He is no longer interested in returning to the business, he said, and is thinking of retiring.

"Here's Your Infantry," the buy-a-war-bond-admission show, which more than 30,000 witnessed at Forbes Field, was scheduled to display doughboy tactics at McKeesport, Greensburg, Uniontown, Waynesburg, Washington, Rochester, New Castle, Sharon, Meadville, Erie, Butler, Indiana, Johnstown, Clearfield and Altoona, according to R. H. "Bob" McClintic, WFC vice-chairman for Pennsylvania. The war department has 28 units of 39 men each staging this combat demonstration, but only the "local" unit has Sgt. Charles E. "Commando" Kelly!

Mode-Art Pictures, Inc., under the direction of Jim Baker, photographed the newsreel of the local Seventh War Loan parade which was featured at downtown theatres last week and which is now going in neighborhood houses . . . Maurice Baker, Barry manager, who took time out for an operation at the Steubenville Hospital, returned to theatre duties late last week.

Don D'Carlo, theatrical booker, is scheduling events for the annual "Miss Pittsburgh" and "Miss Western Pennsylvania" contests, dated for July . . . PRC here will not replace Milton "Mickey" Hartz, salesman, at the present time. Hartz resigned PRC duties and joined UA temporarily last week to substitute for Jimmy Nash, who is on a leave of absence due to illness . . . Kaspar Monahan, Press show shop editor, expects to return to Kentucky next month to attend the Derby. Monahan's assistant, Dick Fortune, has been in Los Angeles for several weeks editing 1946's "Ice-Capades" program.

Mike Manos, circuit executive, returned from Hot Springs looking like a million. He was a Filmrow visitor with his district manager, Bernard Buchheit . . . A son has been born to Lieut. and Mrs. Gray Carpenter, son and daughter-in-law of the Fleming Carpenters, members of the corporation which owns and operates the Times Theatre, Braddock. Lieutenant Carpenter, an actor before going into the navy three years ago, is somewhere in the Pacific area . . . With the Casino closed for the season, Rudy Kahn, veteran house manager and treasurer, will go to the Globe, Atlantic City, as summer manager.

Pete Wood, ITO of Ohio secretary, via post card urged exhibitors not to exhibit "Two Down and One to Go" as it is confusing and inaccurate. He claimed the film is out-of-date.

Dom Mungello, Burgettstown exhibitor, received his army induction notice last Saturday . . . Filmrow visitors included George Wheeler, former local film booker who has booked for an independent circuit at Washington, D. C., for several years, and his nephew, Sgt. Donald Chaban, formerly of the local RKO service staff, who was on furlough from Camp Normoyle, San Antonio, Tex. . . . Lieut. F. D. Moore jr., son of the Warner exchange manager, flew into the city from the west coast, coming direct from Okinawa.

Perry Nathan, National Screen manager; Bill Mack and Ed Levin, sales representatives, will attend an eastern regional meeting in New York, June 11-12-13. Jack Cohen, eastern manager for National Screen, who formerly headquartered in New York, now has his office in Philadelphia . . . Ed Lurie, representing King Brothers, Monogram producers, was here exploiting "Dillinger," Fulton attraction . . . It's vacation season again, and Peggy Martin of the Paramount office, was enjoying her first week off duty.

Lew Hepinger, Clarion exhibitor, staged a bachelor dinner the evening of May 16 at the Tea Room, Clarion, in honor of his good friend, James H. Madden, Parkers Landing exhibitor. Among the film men present were Bob Lynch, Dave Kimelman, Bob Caskey, George Moore, Bill Scott, Lou Hanna, Charlie Conrad, Dave Silverman, Leo Isaacs, Irvin Jacobs and Harold Zeltner. A special glass set was presented to the guest of honor . . . "Jimmy" Madden and Miss Josephine Zagst, cashier at Madden's Parker Theatre, Parkers Landing, for a dozen years, were married at St. Mary's Church there.

Bill Jervis, former RCA executive at Indianapolis who came here to manage National Theatre Supply's local branch after Newt Williams was stricken with spinal meningitis, was visited the other day by J. W. Servis, NTS sales promotion executive. Jervis added a second clerk, John Shaffer, to the staff . . . BOXOFFICE mail and checks for subscription renewals are now being received at 1709 Blvd. of the Allies, Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

Jerry Castelli, Library exhibitor, reports that Sergeants Jim and Dario "Danny" are keeping themselves busy respectively with the ATC at Fairbanks, Alaska, and at the Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis. Another brother, Corporal Victor, after 43 months in service, received a medical discharge and he is now operating Jim's tavern at Hills Station. Jerry, himself, who has been troubled with an infected finger, has a collection of President Roosevelt funeral pictures which he snapped in Washington. He is a member of the committee which is staging the Variety Club golf tournament at Westmoreland Country Club on Friday, July 6.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Christy are pals of this BOXOFFICE corner. One day we received a check for five bucks for a new subscription and the next day they make an appearance on Filmrow. That's the way all good exhibitor friends should conduct their business. The Christys, who have operated at Tidioute for a number of years, have acquired the Palace, Conneautville, and they have been busy renovating that property. His son Howard now is a private in the France-German sector and son Guy, AAF, is in northern Italy. and son Guy, AAF, is in northern Italy.

Walter L. "Buck" Titus jr., executive assistant to James R. Grainger, Republic president and general sales manager, was here for several days in the interest of the company's tenth anniversary and to inspect the new and larger office quarters of the Republic branch exchange. Also here on business was Sam Seplowin, Republic's district manager, who headquarters in Detroit.

Joseph Dattola, son of the Elmer Dattolas, graduated Tuesday from the Springdale High School and expects to be in the merchant marine within a few weeks. His parents have returned from Florida . . . Pvt. Bill Langer, formerly with Berlo Vending Co. here, was home on furlough and has reported to Fort Ord, Calif., from where he expects to ship out to the Pacific theatre of war . . . Dave Miller, Universal district manager, made an appearance here.

Mrs. Bart Dattola, wife of the New Kensington exhibitor, who had been ill at the Allegheny General Hospital for several weeks, is recuperating at her home . . . The Sid Dicklers (he manages Warners' Belmar in the Homewood district) are parents of a son, born in Pittsburgh Hospital.

Shapiro & Fineman circuit office on Filmrow and Andy Battiston's theatre brokerage office, also at 1711 Blvd. of the Allies, have been completely redecorated. It was a swell housecleaning job . . . Mort and Art England's Affiliated Enterprises office in the Van Bldg. has been remodeled . . . The Sun Telegraph on May 16 pictured Photographer Sgt. Charles Aquaviva, son-in-law of Mrs. Dora Steinberg, Monogram cashier, receiving a hug from a Russian soldier when they met near Grabow, Germany.

Sgt. Carl Peppercorn, former local RKO salesman who sustained shrapnel wounds while on duty and who recuperated at the navy hospital at St. Albans, Long Island, was a visitor recently at the RKO New York home office . . . Marine William Habegger, former manager of Warners' Majestic, Johnstown, who had been in the Aleutians for upward of a year, was here en route to a new base at San Diego.

With the lifting of the midnight curfew on entertainment, the Drive-In, on Route 88, resumed its former policy of giving two complete shows nightly, according to Norbert Stern, owner . . . The curfew had put a stop to Sunday midnight shows at the Casino and during the three-month period this city was without this midnight performance for the first time in 27 years. George Jaffe, Casino owner, inaugurated Sunday midnight shows at the old Academy on Liberty Ave. more than a quarter of a century ago. Through depressions, wind, rain, snowstorms, blizzards and floods, the Sunday midnight show went on each week. Later, when he operated the old Bijou and Duquesne and Gayety theatres, the weekly show was presented. Local burlesque season of 37 weeks came to a close Saturday night.

Henry Schultz, proprietor of the Monarch, Wilson, inducted into the army four months ago and in training at Camp Crowder, Mo., expects to return here on furlough in June or July, according to his wife, who is managing the theatre, and who was a Filmrow visitor. Henry's father, John J. Schultz, veteran exhibitor, died last year.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Theatre Men Advocate New Roosevelt Coin

HARTFORD—Local theatre men were interested to learn from Congressman Herman P. Koppleman that a West Hartford woman's suggestion a new ten-cent piece bear a picture of the late President Roosevelt is being given serious consideration by the bureau of mints in Washington. Local theatre men agree that this commemoration would be especially fitting in view of the late President's interest in the Mile O' Dimes campaign. This campaign has always gained the 100 per cent cooperation of theatre men in this city.

Authors to Aid Bond Sales In West Hartford Campaign

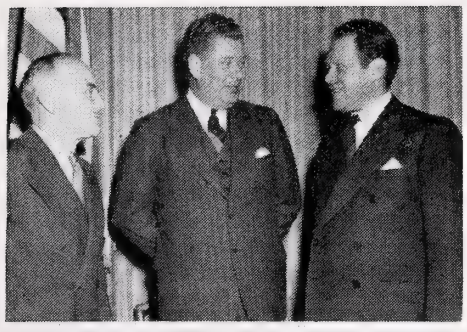
HARTFORD—A "Book and Author" show will be presented at the William H. Hall high school in West Hartford June 5 in behalf of the Seventh War Loan. Admission will be by war bond purchases only. Guest authors present for the affair will be Lillian Hellman, author of "Watch on the Rhine" and other Broadway successes; Col. Robert Henrique of "No Arms, No Armour"; Carl Van Doren, Pulitzer Prize winner, and Bennett Cerf of "Try and Stop Me," who will serve as emcee.

A full-page ad for the event was landed in the Hartford Times, sponsored by 65 West Hartford merchants.

Norwich Campaign Starts With A Mothers' Day Appeal

NORWICH—"The Seventh War Loan drive points the way to the speediest conclusion of the war—and the inevitable destruction of Japan." With these words, Joseph Boyle, manager of the Broadway and New London County co-chairman for exhibitors, started the campaign at theatres here on Mother's Day. The slogan adopted for the opening of the drive was: "Buy Mother a bond for Mothers' Day and help bring the sons, brothers and fathers back sooner."

One of the highlights of the drive here was to be the appearance of the Infantry Concert group, composed entirely of enlisted men who were members of the nation's leading symphony orchestras prior to army induction, at Joe Miklos' Palace May 29. It will be followed by the war bond premiere of "Affairs of Susan."



TELEVISION EXPERTS—Earl I. Sponable, left, director of research for 20th-Fox, at Boston with Paul Chamberlin, General Electric sales executive, and Walter Memmon, manager of International Business Machines Co., at a luncheon during which the plans of 20th-Fox for putting WIXG into operation early in the fall were disclosed. This station will be in a hookup which will connect Schenectady, New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. Several big advertising accounts already have been lined up.

German Eyes Not Open To Atrocity Evidence

Portsmouth—Maybe the producers will be able to live it down, but right now the veracity of their films, especially newsreels, is questioned by the defeated Nazis.

When the surrendered German submarine U873 was brought here a crew member, Reiner Landgraff, said he didn't believe reports of German atrocities.

Told that he would probably be shown some atrocity films, he replied with typical German arrogancy that his opinion would not be changed.

"Diamond Horseshoe" Sets Hartford Record

HARTFORD — With war bonds selling strong at all theatres, boxoffice receipts also remained high. "Salty O'Rourke" remained at the Allyn for a third big week. Second week holdovers did good business at Loew's and the Regal. It was a lucky "Diamond Horseshoe" at Lou Cohen's Loew's Poli boxoffice.

(Average is 100)

Allyn—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Sing Me a Song of Texas** (Col), 3rd wk.....135
E. M. Loew's—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col), 2nd wk. 140
Palace—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO); **Song for Miss Julie** (Rep) 120
Poli—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox) 190
Regal—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Song of Sarong** (Univ), 2nd wk. 130
State—**The Lady Confesses** (PRC), plus Vaughn Monroe and band on stage.....100
Strand—**Sudan** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ)..145

"Royal Scandal" Shares Honors With "Cottage" in Downtown Boston

BOSTON—"Enchanted Cottage," held over at the Keith Memorial for the third week, was still strong but "Royal Scandal," which opened at the Fenway and Paramount, was terrific. "Tomorrow the World" at the New Normandie inaugurated its new policy of first run pictures. "Salty O'Rourke" opened at the Metropolitan and "Between Two Women" at the State and Orpheum. Business was generally good and the grosses of the one holdover were remarkable.

Boston—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO), plus stage show.....125
Fenway and Paramount—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Hitch-Hike to Happiness** (Rep).....150
Majestic—**Brewster's Millions** (UA), 4th wk.....120
Memorial—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), 3rd wk.....130
Metropolitan—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para).....130
Normandie and Tremont—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA).....140
State and Orpheum—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Power of the Whistler** (Col).....135

"Salome" Conquers the Rainy Spell To Draw Crowds at New Haven

NEW HAVEN — "Salome, Where She Danced" and "She Gets Her Man" did good business at the Roger Sherman, in spite of too many rainy days. "It's a Pleasure" and "The Great Flamarion" went to the College for a second week after average business first week at the Loew Poli. "Salty O'Rourke," paired with "Rockin' in the Rockies" made over average for a second week at the Paramount.

Bijou—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Utah** (Rep) 97
College—**Three Caballeros** (RKO); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk..... 75
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Rockin' in the Rockies** (Col), 2nd wk.....103
Roger Sherman—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ).....120

Schwartz Back to Job

BRIDGEPORT—Jack Schwartz, manager-owner of the West End Theatre, has returned from a brief vacation in Virginia.

Two Win Citations For Polio Drive Aid

HARTFORD — March of Dimes citations were presented by Gov. R. E. Baldwin to I. J. Hoffman, state chairman of the 1945 drive, and Lou Brown, state publicity chairman, in a ceremony in the governor's offices. The medals were awarded by Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman of industry participation, for outstanding work in the campaign.

New Haven Officer Wins Promotion in Philippines

NEW HAVEN—Maj. Edward C. Fitzgerald, former shipper and booker at the Paramount exchange here and more recently commander of an infantry battalion on Luzon, has been promoted to lieutenant colonel, it was learned. Fitzgerald holds the American Defense Ribbon, Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with three major battle stars, the Philippines Liberation Bar with one star, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He is a veteran of Guadalcanal and New Georgia, and has been in the Southwest Pacific since December 1942. After almost a year of continuous service in an active combat zone, he contracted malaria and was evacuated to a hospital in New Caledonia, later rejoining his outfit in New Zealand.

Mayor of Springfield Thanks Harry Warner

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—America will be richer, says Mayor J. Albin Anderson jr., in a letter to Harry M. Warner, because of the showing of such pictures as "It Happened in Springfield" and will be indebted to Warner Bros. for bringing the Springfield plan for democracy to the attention of the entire country. Mayor Anderson reported a flood of favorable reactions coming in from all parts of the country as a result of the showing of the two-reeler.

"Bond Rally" Given Big Ads in Boston Papers

BOSTON—The M&P circuit used two-column 294-line ads in all the Boston papers for "All-Star Bond Rally." Managers were instructed to push the short with lobby and outside displays and to give it space in all ads.

"Two Down and One to Go," the WAC short on demobilization, was played at the same time, and to make room for it second features were eliminated.



CRITICAL ONCE-OVER — Henry Needles, Connecticut co-chairman for the Seventh War Loan; Matt Saunders, Fairfield County chairman, and Mayor Jasper McLevey of Bridgeport examine one of the campaign posters.

BOSTON

A dinner for Harry Rosenblatt will be held at the Bradford May 21 by the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club. Rosenblatt, ex-treasurer of the club, recently was promoted to branch manager at the New Haven M-G-M office.

Ernie Warren of Universal was promoted from Maine territory salesman to city salesman here. He will move his family as soon as living accommodations can be found. Walter Dyer, former head booker, replaced him in Maine . . . I. H. Rogovin, local manager of Columbia, has returned from the district managers' meeting in Chicago.

Al Cohen, with the sales department of National Screen Service, will move back to Philadelphia to enter business with his father, who operates the Scriptex Products Co. Cohen's resignation becomes effective June 23 . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Dervin of United Artists celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary with a dinner and a show.

Ann Dvorkas, National Screen Service bookkeeper, has been visiting her fiance, Lieut. Leonard Pollack, in Florida . . . Lieut. Alfred J. Fecke, son of Al Fecke of Republic, was due here to visit his parents. Fecke, a naval ace who has been awarded many decorations, landed in San Francisco April 30 . . . John Feloney, sales manager for 20th-Fox, returned to Boston after a few days in western Massachusetts with Salesman Murray Shaffer.

Sgt. Richard Phillips, son of Tony Phillips, projectionist with 20th-Fox, has landed in the U.S. after two and a half years overseas. He is expected home on furlough soon.

Matt Simons, ex-sales manager of 20th-Fox, paid the exchange a visit last week . . . In observance of Mothers' Day, Loew's Theatre gave a souvenir box of chocolates to the first 100 mothers of service men attending the opening performance of "Music for Millions." The gifts were made by Manager Sullivan.

Van Johnson in "Between Two Women" opened at the Loew's State and Orpheum on Wednesday instead of on Thursday night . . . S/Sgt. Charles Wayshak, aerial photographer with a B24 Liberator squadron in the 15th air force in Italy, was awarded a DFC.

Lieut. Leonard Coplen, in charge of a group of medics with the 100th infantry division of the Seventh army, reports that during the enemy artillery siege days at Rimling, the 100th division medics delivered two babies, dressed civilian wounds and visited civilian homes when sufferers couldn't get to the aid station. He is the son of Abraham Coplen.

In the "Brewster's Millions" campaign, in which a service man was provided with $250 in $1 bills to play Mr. Brewster, Phil Engel, originator of the stunt, did a little miscalculating and went $6 in the hole. His GI Brewster overplayed the part and spent not only the $250 but also $6 belonging to Phil.

Harold Weisenthal, general manager of Laffmovie Corp., which recently purchased the Tremont and Old South theatres, was here for the opening of "Tomorrow the World." Phil Engel conducted an exploitation campaign on the film for the last few months which proved very effective. Also the picture is receiving an unusual amount of newspaper space. A picture dealing with the problem of Nazi youth could not have been released at a more timely moment.

Mitzi Green, the former child star appearing at the Club Mayfair, is hailed as a clever and entertaining young woman. George Holland of the Boston American says she is a new Sophie Tucker of the cabaret circuit, if she elects to be the new Sophie Tucker; she is the new Elsie Janis of show business, if she elects to accent her best talent—impersonations—or she is a young Fannie Brice, if she wants to play comedy alone.

Eddie Davis, owner of the Rhumba Casino and the Fox and Hounds, and Mrs. Davis celebrated their 23rd wedding anniversary recently. Participating in the celebration were a caravan of celebrities headed by Jane Wyman, the Ritz brothers, Phil Swartz, the composer, and Choo Choo Johnson.

Cpl. Frederick Berg, son of head booker Sam Berg of 20th-Fox, wrote from France saying he had recovered from an attack of German measles. He had been hospitalized with the measles for about a month . . . Herb Brown, former manager of the Victoria Theatre in Greenfield, is home on leave after completing his boot training at Sampson, N. Y.

United Artists' "It's in the Bag," featuring Fred Allen, will have its New England premiere at the Majestic following "Brewster's Millions." The dinner for Allen was originally scheduled for May 6 but was postponed to May 26th due to the star's illness. Governor Tobin, Mayor Kerrigan and other prominent persons are to attend.

Mrs. Dorothy Gardner Murphy, former head of the contract department at M-G-M exchange, is spending a few days in Boston. Mrs. Murphy is from Monument Beach, Cape Cod . . . Ted O'Shea, general sales manager for M-G-M, was a visitor. A meeting and dinner for the sales staff and other M-G-M officials were held at the Hotel Statler.

A new plaque has been placed in the hallway of the Macaulay Post home, dedicated to the memory of Maj. Frank Cavanaugh . . . Joe DiPesa did some fine work on the publicity for the dedication of the Maurice Tobin Canteen recently, having arranged for photographers from all papers to cover the affair as well as sending out some excellent releases.

The "rose cabbage hat" worn by Irene Dunne in the Columbia production, "Together Again" made such a hit with the local millinery shops that pictures of the hat still are displayed in many downtown windows. A heavy publicity campaign on "Together Again" was launched by the Columbia publicist, Abe Bernstein. At that time tieups were made with most of the department stores, millinery shops and beauty shops with elaborate displays featuring the costumes worn by Miss Dunne. The idea went over so well both with the theatres and the stores that the feminine population not only viewed the picture but flocked to the stores to purchase a chapeau on the order of the "rose cabbage."

Art Moger, Warner publicist, has been traveling from Boston to Buffalo and to Rochester and Syracuse on the exploitation of "God Is My Co-Pilot" . . . Mac Farber of PRC reported his automobile stolen for the second time this year. He had parked it in front of the PRC headquarters.



AT BOSTON OPENING—Mayor John E. Kerrigan of Boston was one of a group of prominent citizens at the opening of "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "It Happened in Springfield" at Boston. Left to right: Mayor Kerrigan; President Paul F. Collins of Northeast Airlines; Peter Carens; Jerry Wechsler, sales manager of Warner Bros.' Boston exchange; Max Nayor, Metropolitan Theatre manager, and George E. Carens, Boston Traveler sports columnist.

Military Enlists Audience As "War Bond Task Force"

PORTSMOUTH — The Colonial Theatre here was the scene of New Hampshire's opening rally in the Seventh War Loan campaign.

In the morning program, Eliot A. Carter, WFC state chairman, presented Gov. Charles M. Dale an official appointment as honorary state chairman, and the entire audience was sworn in by military officials as members of the "Seventh War Loan Task Force."

John W. Howe, manager of the theatre, served as piano accompanist for singers from "The Student Prince" cast, playing in Boston.

Bridgeport's Spring Drama Fails to Attract Audience

BRIDGEPORT—The city-sponsored spring drama festival, scheduled for six to eight weeks at the Klein Memorial Auditorium, closed after the fifth week due to extremely poor business. The shows failed to draw one capacity house and most of the time played to a handful of patrons. Diana Barrymore in "Her Cardboard Lover" drew a scant 50 people on a Sunday night.

Summer House Opens Early

SOUND VIEW, CONN.—The Old Colony, 400-seat summer house recently acquired by Thomas Grasso, will open in June this year instead of awaiting the usual July 4 opening. Grasso's father and wife will assist him in the operation of the theatre. Amalgamated Theatres does the theatre's booking and buying.

HARTFORD

Harold Andrews, Daly circuit employe two years, has entered the army induction at Ft. Devens. He was replaced by Harold Barry . . . Anthony Damago, ex-Astor, has joined the Webb Playhouse projection staff . . . Redecorating and modernizing program will start this summer at E. M. Loew's . . . "Doty" Fitzson, Allyn cashier, reports that hubby Stanley is now with the navy in the Philippines.

Betty Miller, Colonial, who has been looking over dude ranch catalogs for months, will leave on a vacation June 23 for Sun Canyon in the Adirondacks . . . Manager Sam Scheckter, Colonial, has tied up with the Shriners and the B'nai B'rith organizations for war bond solicitation . . . Bobby Hart, petty officer in the navy, visited his former boss, Manager Fred Greenway, at the Palace last week. He was a former assistant manager.

We hear that Charlie Obert, Allyn, has finally bought that boat and is planning a summer excursion . . . Best wishes to the Palace assistant manager, Martha Gilwech, on her 14th wedding anniversary . . . Max Finn, E. M. Loew's general manager, was here conferring with City Manager George Landers.

Busy Hartfordites had an opportunity for two early-bird showings in a single week with the opening of "Sudan" at the Strand Wednesday and "Diamond Horseshoe" at the Poli Thursday . . . Bernie Levy, manager of Proven Pictures here prior to entering the buying and booking business in New Haven, reports that the first anniversary of his Amalgamated Theatres will be July 1. He and partner Louis Ginsburg have acquired the Barnum, Bridgeport.

Among local theatre men expected home under the army's point discharge system is Sgt. Hollis Sweeney, former Poli student assistant, now in the South Pacific . . . Happy birthday to Evelyn Gervais, Allyn (26) . . . Manager and Mrs. Sam Scheckter, Colonial, went to New York on his day off to visit the Warner home office and relatives there.

Harry F. Shaw, Loew's Poli division manager, was here following his recent three-week Florida vacation . . . Rube Lewis, Palace stage manager, expected his daughter Evelyn, a nurse cadet at Beth Isreal Hospital in Boston, home on a leave this week . . . Cpl. James Bracken, former contact manager for Warners, is now in Germany.

Mrs. George Landers, wife of E. M. Loew's city manager, has recovered from an illness at New Britain General Hospital and is now convalescing at home . . . Manager Hugh Campbell, Central, reports that his sons Bob and Tom, in the service for almost five years, are expected home from overseas.

Lou Cohen, Poli, reported 162 war bonds sold for $16,150 by May 16 and other managerial records around town are equally good. The 3,277 tickets provided to fill the Bushnell Memorial for the bond premiere of "Without Love" this week (24) were distributed at local theatres on a "first come first served" basis.

The Colonial chief of service, Lewis Glynn, is subbing for Henry Jennings, doorman, who is sick . . . Cpl. Paul D'Amato, former assistant at E. M. Loew's, has completed a 30-day furlough after overseas duty in Italy and has almost enough points for discharge.

Rudy Frank, former publicity director for the State and now on the advertising staff of WELI, New Haven, came in to visit local theatre pals last week . . . There are rumors that the E. M. Loew's circuit is planning to build an amusement park and theatre in this area in the million-dollar bracket . . . Parking lots at Manager Robert Wickwire's Webb Playhouse are being reconditioned. Sam Rosen of New Haven is handling the deal.

Michael Daly is using three separate serials a week at his Hartford spot, planning to continue the policy through the summer . . . Mrs. Kelleher, Princess chief bookkeeper, has started a garden.

New Summer Theatre

NEW LONDON—Morton A. Mencher announced the opening of a new summer theatre, the Griswold, adjacent to the Griswold Hotel here. The 800-seat house will be re-equipped. At present the stage is being enlarged for the presentation of tabloid musicals. The Griswold Players' season of ten weeks will start June 28. Casting will be under the direction of Abner J. Greshler, RKO Bldg., New York.

NEW BRITAIN

A stirring rally at the Embassy launched the Seventh War Loan here. Downtown stores were closed at 9:30 a. m. and all the personnel paraded through to the theatre where "Fury in the Pacific" was screened. Fred O. Radcliff, chairman of the general retail division, introduced the speakers: Mayor George A. Quigley, Lieut. Comdr. R. T. Fish, the Rev. James J. Brophy and B. H. McElhone. McElhone related plans made for the drive, stressing the bond premiere show at the Strand May 25 when the Infantry Concert group was to appear and "Diamond Horseshoe" screened. The city's quota is $4,000,000 in individual bond purchases. Randolph Maller of the Strand is the local exhibitor chairman.

Manager Joseph Borenstein, Embassy, recuperated at home following his discharge from New Britain General Hospital. Henry Wittke, assistant at the State, relieved at the Embassy . . . For "Wilson," Manager Russ Barrett, Capitol, Willimantic, drew the bobby-socks trade by issuing special student admission price tickets through the schools and arranging dismissal at 2:30 p. m. in time for the matinee.

Additional bond premieres set in the area include: Capitol, Middletown, May 29; Wilkinson, Wallingford, June 5; Capitol, Milford, June 6, and Garde, New London, June 9 . . . A hearty welcome home is being extended to Don Blaine, former manager of the Jodoin, Baltic, who is home on a 30-day furlough after 18 months in New Guinea. His sister, Mrs. Alexander, whose hubby is also in the service, is managing the theatre during his absence.

A war bond drive minstrel show by merchants will be presented at George Wilkinson's Wallingford . . . The State here and the Capitol, Meriden, have signed for the F. Cohen air refreshener system . . . The Connecticut Light & Power Co. has put an okay on the installation of five 1,000-watt candlepower bulbs on Waterbury's main stem.

Manager Joseph Spivak, Music Box, featured a Saturday morning kiddie cartoon show at 12 cents on May 19 with good business results calling for a repeat policy very soon . . . Local managers are now awaiting word from many former employes in the service on how they rate with the newly announced army point system.

Jean Stevens to Cast of "Mexicana"

Jean Stevens, dancer, was added to the cast of "Mexicana," a Republic picture.

WORCESTER

Charles Desrosier, usher at the Plymouth, was attacked by a gang of hoodlums while walking home from the theatre and beaten so badly hospital treatment was necessary. Police do not believe the assault had any connection with his theatre duties . . . The Orpheum in Gardner was turned over to the use of the war bond committee for a rally that drew a large attendance.

Manager Ernest Sharaf of the Rialto has started a dinnerware giveaway . . . Edward B. Haley, manager of the Fitchburg in that city, has been handling the war bond campaign as regional director in the North Worcester County area . . . Mrs. Mabel Robison has resigned as cashier at the Plymouth . . . Sam Wasserman moved back to the Auditorium for his final stage play of the season, "Abie's Irish Rose."

The Better Films Council announces approval of "Brazil," and "Heavenly Days" for the family; "The Enchanted Cottage," "Winged Victory," "Together Again" and "Tomorrow the World" for mature-family audiences, and "Dark Waters," "The Hairy Ape" and "A Royal Scandal" for adults only . . . Manager Harold Maloney announces the Poli and the Elm Street have changed temporarily to Wednesday openings.

Mrs. John A. Lind, 60, of Auburn, mother of Jeffrey Lynn, film actor, now a captain in the army air force in Europe, died last week in her home. Surviving are four other sons and three daughters . . . A small attendance turned out for the one-nighter of "A Doll's House," at the Plymouth, but Lyle Talbot, H. B. Warner and Jane Darwell of films got enthusiastic receptions.

Paul Robinson of the Capitol has the reputation around town of preferring eclairs even to steaks . . . Mary and Betty Howe, Worcester vaudeville act, have split because Betty is rejoining her sailor husband on the west coast; so Mary is going it alone in a single act . . . June Raymond, Worcester model, is revealed as a contestant for the role of Salome in "The Robe."

Frank Duffy reports that the crowd of 4,500 that turned out for the Tommy Dorsey dance at the Auditorium not only was the largest of Dorsey's New England tour, but was the second biggest in Worcester's history . . . Charles and Barbara Krylo, Millville dancers, got newspaper attention when they came back to Worcester to play the Plymouth.

Moe Jaffe, manager of the Lyric in Fitchburg, reports a good house for "Abie's Irish Rose," the city's first stage show in years . . . Manager Elmer Daniels is arranging to have the Capitol's foyer redecorated . . . Joe Meade, on the road as a stagehand with "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," returned to the Plymouth . . . When the marquees were turned back on, some of the theatres found their lighting systems needed overhauling.

Announcement was made last week of the engagement of Miss Doris R. Lesser of Bridgeport, Conn., to Capt. William Garbose of the Athol, son of Jacob Garbose, Athol theatre man . . . The newspapers played up a long series of petty breaks and thievery, which included two in theatres.



NEW HAVEN

Even present rumors on the street were to the effect that Amalgamated will handle the Hartford subsequents, which Warner will give up July 1 as lessee and A. M. Schuman interests, owners of the real estate, will take over . . . Also carried about was a report that Arthur Lockwood and Sam Rosen are selling the Stuart, Lakeville, and the Millerton Theatre to an Oneida, N. Y., party . . . On June 24, Bryan Memorial, Washington, will go on a full-week schedule instead of weekends. It celebrates a tenth anniversary this spring.

"Wilson" did good matinee business on the Fishman circuit but poor evenings. The management did a thorough job in the schools on the picture, arranging to have the children excused early to attend.

Capt. Walter Stiles, head of the state police license bureau which includes theatre supervision, will celebrate his 70th birthday June 13. He has had an eye on the theatres since 1921 . . . The Columbia staff is planning a luncheon for Walter Silverman, salesman, and his fiancee, Helen Rosenthal, of Elmhurst, L. I., at the Towne House June 9. They will marry June 17.

Harry Olshan has received a rupee from Sgt. Tony Martin from Calcutta . . . Jack Davis, Republic district manager, was a visitor . . . They say Sam Hadelman's letter to William Rodgers is a honey . . . Bill Vuono of Stamford was on the street . . . Bernard Levy was a Springfield visitor Sunday, while Lou Ginsberg went to New York. Lou's pretty wife surprised him with a birthday party May 16. Says it's his 24th.

Oscar Levy, owner of the Music Box, New Britain, was in from Providence to visit his theatre . . . After Mildred Caplan, clerk in the Poli office here, had reached the $1,000 bond sale goal in first two days of the war loan campaign, making her eligible for Loew's employe prize, she had to come down with the mumps! Leon Rosenberg, engineer, also has hit the $1,000 goal, and is trying for the $5,000 prize. Morris Rosenthal, manager, is cooperating with half a dozen organizations and taking his bond wagon to all sorts of meetings to get that extra bond.

In the service: Pvt. Sidney Kleper, former manager of the Bijou, now many months in Germany, has received a Good Conduct Medal . . . Chief Usher Dick Payne of the Paramount has been in the hospital continually since reporting for army duty . . . And now Doug Amos, former assistant, is writing from the hospital at Camp Wheeler, Ga., where he has been confined for weeks.

Sgt. Michael Somma, formerly at Republic, is now in the Palau Islands . . . Pvt. Francis Flood of Warner Theatres, still in a hospital in England after being injured . . . Cpl. James Bricken, also WB Theatres, is in Germany . . . Joseph Reynolds, also a Warnerite home on furlough after two years or more in Alaska, went to Atlantic City for rehabilitation.

Harry F. Shaw, Loew Poli division manager, returned from his Florida vacation with a cold and a sulpha reaction . . . Jack Shields, Capitol, Ansonia, is still recuperating at home . . . Joseph Borenstein, manager of the Embassy, New Britain, still is off duty after his operation and H. Wittke of the State, Manchester, is relieving.

Morris Rosenthal of the Poli finally cornered an apartment and is moving in from Bridgeport after a year of commuting . . . Vince Palmeri, formerly at the Roger Sherman, writes there's nothing like Peru . . . "Wonder Man" (RKO) tradeshowing will be at the Whitney Monday (28).

Summer Stock Season On In Playhouses at Worcester

WORCESTER—Two stock companies probably will be available to the city this summer. The Playhouse in the Auditorium opens with Guy Palmerton managing for his third year. "Blithe Spirit" was the initial offering, with a cast recruited in New York.

Palmerton is undecided about his playhouse in Whalom, which he has conducted for a decade. Gasoline rationing closed it last summer.

Bob Daggett has indicated he will operate the Red Barn in Westboro. Last year, for the first time, he kept the house dark because of rationing, but with an easing of restrictions and a letup in manpower difficulties, he will attempt to resume.

Westboro Town Hall, formerly of the scene of summer stock that was featured by the presence of film stars, will not be open. Its operator, Alan Gray Holmes, is a navigator in the army air force.

Million Dollar Goal Set For N. H. Theatres in Drive

DOVER, N. H.—Melvin Morrison, manager of the Strand Theatre here and state chairman of the motion picture division of the WAC, has announced that a one million dollar goal has been set by theatres in this state for E bond sales during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Chairman Morrison said he expected this amount would be subscribed during a statewide series of Free Movie Days, war bond previews and children's programs.

N. HAMPSHIRE

A group of films were shown by George M. Foulkrod, professor of agricultural engineering at the University of New Hampshire, at a recent meeting of the Newmarket Community Church men's club.

The old Portsmouth Theatre in Portsmouth, purchased at public auction recently by Guy Tott of Kittery, Me., has been renamed as the Civic Theatre. The former legitimate and movie house will undergo renovation, after which its future policy will be announced. Herman L. Smith has been named as general manager.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" started a run at regular prices at the State in Manchester May 16. The schedule was changed so that the first show started at noon . . . In the recent heavy mid-May snowstorm and gale, a large display sign was blown down at the Park in Nashua.

Recent "name" band attractions in Manchester have been Shep Wolan and his orchestra at Cocoanut Grove and Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra at Bedford Grove.

Gov. Charles M. Dale has signed the so-called "grill room bill" which will permit first class hotels to operate grill rooms or cocktail lounges provided the establishments are not located in "dry" towns.

Melvin F. Morrison, manager of the Strand in Dover, presided at a meeting of the Strafford County chapter, Infantile Paralysis Foundation, of which he is chairman.

The Franklin in Durham held a Seventh War Loan show May 17 with Lieut. Richard H. Clarke as the speaker. There also was a feature picture. The minimum admission requirement was the purchase of a dollar's worth of war stamps . . . A resolution passed at the annual convention of the N. H. state council, Knights of Columbus, condemns indecent films and their exhibitors.

SPRINGFIELD

All theatres, banks and department stores are issuing agents for the war bond show at the Paramount here June 12 which will feature an all-service stage review . . . The Vaughn Monroe orchestra clicked at the Springfield Auditorium to the tune of $1.25 top.

A new tulip dinnerware giveaway series has opened at the Liberty for the ladies on every Wednesday and Thursday for the 84 weeks . . . Betty Kean, former Hartfordite who has been featured in such Universal films as "Murder in the Blue Room" and "Slightly Terrific," headlined the weekend stage bill at the Court Square.

Ed Carroll, owner-manager of the Riverside Auto Theatre and amusement area, postponed his fourth annual Mothers' Day contest one week and awarded $200 in war bonds plus free corsages . . . The final knockout for beano in Massachusetts was dealt when the senate approved a house bill outlawing the game . . . Manager and Mrs. Al Anders, Bijou, visited at Boston last weekend.

Lieut. Carroll Lawler, former owner of the Lawler at Greenfield and now First naval district recreational director, was here visiting . . . Jimmy Gleason, former manager of the Strand, New Bedford, has resigned from the E. M. Loew's circuit after two years.

"Motion pictures are being put to their best use when they help advance American ideas, as an increasing number of them are doing," stated Mayor J. Albin Anderson jr. in a letter to Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., reporting reaction to "It Happened in Springfield," two reeler propagandizing democracy.

The bill filed by Representative Philip M. Markley on behalf of WMAS, Springfield, which seeks to amend the state laws on state reservations to permit leasing points like Mount Tom, the highest elevation in western Massachusetts, to television interests, is causing a "battle royal" here. It is being opposed by Holyoke legislators who want to control the location for WHYN, which has petitioned the FCC for permission to operate a station at that site.

A war bond premiere will be held at the Capitol June 26 with all theatres, banks and department stores in Springfield serving as issuing agents for the event. An infantry concert group has been booked.

Theatre Man, Reported Missing, Killed in Action

WEST HARTFORD—Lieut. Russell R. Weldon jr., 26, former Central Theatre usher, previously reported missing, was killed in action on an aerial mission over Germany, word has been received from the war department by his wife, Mrs. Marie W. Weldon. A pilot of a P51 fighter, he went overseas last November.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Peter, 2, and James, seven-weeks-old. James was born the day Mrs. Weldon received notice that her husband was reported missing. On behalf of Lieutenant Weldon's theatre associates, Manager Campbell hereby extends condolences to Mrs. Weldon.

Theatres Close for Summer

NEW HAVEN — The Warner zone office here reported the Globe, Clinton, closed May 20 for the summer and the Tremont, Ansonia, will close May 27.

Huge Sports Palace Projected in Atlanta

ATLANTA—A million dollar sports palace here with accommodations for ice carnivals, ice hockey, basketball, tennis, wrestling, special motion picture shows and all other forms of indoor entertainment is awaiting only a priority approval from the government.

The arena will be equipped with giant freezing units which can turn the terrazzo floor into a large sheet of ice within a few hours. A large press room will overlook the entire arena.

Young Bridges Relates Adventures in Germany

HOUSTON—O. B. Bridges, manager of the Sunset here, reports his son, Pfc. William Bridges, is safe and well following an Easter Day escape from a German prison camp. The boy wrote homefolk he is in Hospital Plant 4148 waiting to be sent to the U.S. He was captured January 19 while serving with the Seventh army. Bill wrote he escaped with five other Yanks.



PFC. WILLIAM BRIDGES

Young Bridges graduated from Houston High and attended A&M College and the University of Texas. He went overseas with the infantry in 1943 and took part in five major battles.

The father is a veteran showman and film man. He sold silent product in the old days and sound films during the earlier part of the change. He has operated and managed numerous Texas houses.

Victory Theatre, Del Rio, Sold to Jack Johnston

DALLAS—Jack Johnston, theatre owner in McPherson, Kas., has purchased the Victory Theatre in Del Rio, Tex., from A. M. "Buck" Morgan.

The late H. S. Leon and John Hardin put in the Victory at Del Rio about two years ago. Hardin dropped out and Leon sold the house to "Buck" Morgan just before he died.

Two Ex-Tennesseans Wed

ELIZABETHTON, TENN.—David Leslie Ogle, foreman of the position printing department of Technicolor, Inc., Hollywood, and Miss Mildred Elizabeth Goddard, employed in the laboratory of the same company, were married recently in Tijuana, Mexico. Both were residents of Elizabethton before going to the coast and gained their initial experience in the textile laboratory of the local North American Rayon Co.

Row Closed Memorial Day

DALLAS—Memorial Day, May 30, will find Filmrow here on holiday. Exhibitors who had planned business on the Row that day might well postpone the trip, as no one will be available except in case of an emergency.

Plans Clarksville House

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.—Crescent Amusement Co. is said to plan the construction of a new theatre here on a site which it owns adjacent to the post office.

Memphis Film Men Sponsor Huge Air Show for Bonds

MEMPHIS—The motion picture industry here will sponsor the Seventh War Loan exhibition, "Airborne Attack," at Municipal Airport June 16 and 17. This giant air show, expected to attract 50,000 persons, will show in graphic detail how our new airborne power will figure in the fight against the Japs.

The demonstration will include display of combat tactics, mass parachute jumps, glider landings, aerial supply drops and evacuation of the wounded by the "snatch" pickup of gliders. It was to be presented by 64 officers and enlisted men of the services involved. The show is staged by the treasury department with the First troop carrier command.

Admission is by purchase of a war bond at any downtown or neighborhood theatre or any film exchange or supply house in Memphis. For ten days prior to the show, the industry will take over the operation of the Victory House in Court Square to stimulate the sale of bonds and to publicize the air show. Workers from the film industry will sell bonds to the crowd during the air show.

M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, Inc., and Tom Young, chairman of the War Activities Committee of the industry, are co-chairmen of the show.

Other leaders in the motion picture industry who are on the committee and working to make the show one of the greatest in the history of the midsouth include Howard Waugh, entertainment chairman; Herbert Kohn, co-chairman of entertainment; J. A. Pritchard, Victory House chairman; Ed Sapinsley, chairman of bond applications and ticket blanks; Joe Simon and J. A. West, lobby displays; Elliott Johnson, outdoor screen advertising; Chalmers Cullings, special publicity, and Tom O'Ryan, special advertising. Jimmie Gillespie is chairman of the publicity committee.

Comfort Keynote Sounded For Jonesboro, Ark., Films

Jonesboro, Ark.—Film fans may attend the three theatres here this summer in slacks, shirt sleeves, work clothes or any other informal and comfortable attire they choose.

Will Mack, city manager of the three theatres, Strand, Palace and Liberty, says the policy was begun last summer when the weather was uncomfortably hot, and has been continued as many war workers find it more convenient to see a good show after work without having to go home and "freshen up." Before each feature presentation at these theatres a trailer is flashed on the screen saying: "Come As You Are."

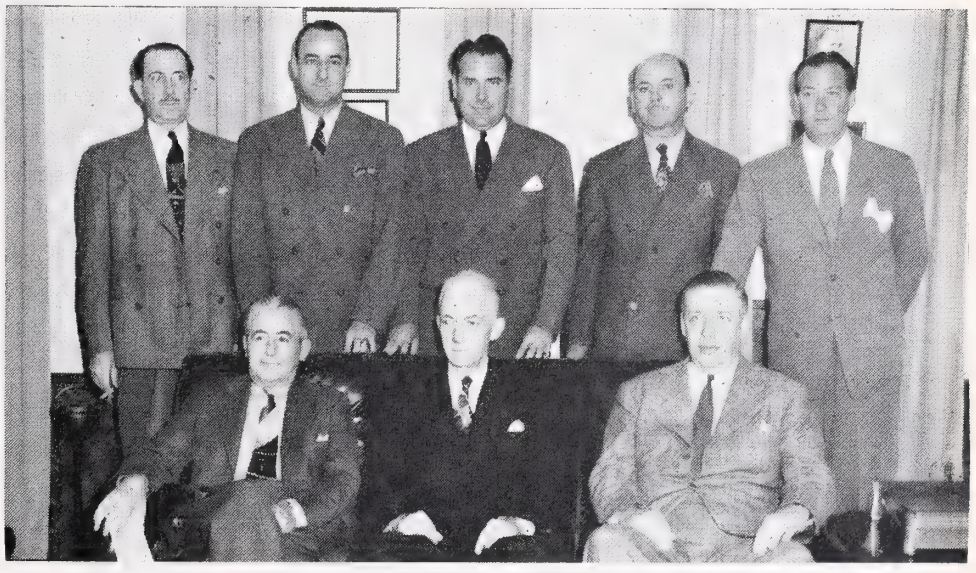
Bob Conway, manager of National Screen Corp., Memphis, which makes many trailer features, says that Jonesboro is "one of the few cities in this territory that is featuring the 'come as you are' policy."

Murphy-Buckwalter Rites

NEW ORLEANS—Philip Murphy, Columbia salesman, and Miss Louise Buckwalter, who has theatres in Quitman and Stonewall, Miss., were married recently. Paul Shallcross of the Columbia staff was an attendant at the ceremony.

Heads War Bond Drive

KNOXVILLE—J. H. Squires, manager of the Riveria Theatre, is appointed chairman of the moving picture theatres division of the Seventh War Loan drive in Knox County.



PARAMOUNT VETERANS HONOR BRASHER—Paramount veterans honored Ralph Brasher, traveling auditor, who on May 15 celebrated 30 years of service with the company. This impromptu photo was snapped in the third floor office of Duke Clark, southwestern district manager. It was coincident with the visit of Oscar Morgan, short subjects and news sales manager of New York, who conducted a two-day sales meeting at the Adolphus Hotel.

In the photo, left to right, with their respective years of service with the company, seated: Oscar Morgan, 31 years; Brasher; Duke Clark, 24 years. Standing: Allan Glenn, district publicity representative, who started with Paramount in 1916, left the company later but came back; L. W. McClintock, branch manager at Memphis, 20 years; Fred Larned, Dallas branch manager, 20; C. H. "Buck" Weaver, Oklahoma City branch manager, 21; Heywood Simmons, sales manager in the Dallas territory, 20 years.

DALLAS

Hoyt Stanfield, projectionist for more than 20 years in John Stewart's Plaza Theatre in Kaufman, accompanied his boss to the Row last Monday where he visited friends and looked into what's available in the electrical industry. Stewart is only part-time boss in Hoyt's case as the latter is an expert electrician and does electrical contracting in Kaufman as well as operate the Plaza projectors.

Jim Tobola, owner and operator of the Best Theatre in West, said beer only has just been voted back in McLellan County and he hopes for the good of his town that the issue might be finally settled. It has been in and out several times during recent years. He believes his theatre business as well as other business in West will be better off with beer staying in.

Charles Barker and wife of the Frost at Frost were on the Row Monday . . . Herman Abrams, Republic's east Texas representative, received "greetings" from the President of the United States and was to report to his draft board May 23 for his first examination . . . Bob Hooks of the Select and Leroy theatres in Mineola who received such a summons recently was turned down for physical reasons, it was reported.

L. B. Crow, who lost the Victory Theatre in Leonard by fire a few days ago, gave the people of his town their accustomed entertainment in an improvised location within four days. The city council came to his rescue and offered him the city auditorium. Crow had some used but idle equipment, bought a little more to go with it and got a picture on the screen. As soon as he corrects a minor acoustical problem, he will put on a creditable substitute show until he gets a new Victory building and new equipment ready.

Sgt. Bernard Gay returned to his post in Long Beach, Calif., with his wife and baby after selling the Gay here to Mrs. R. O. Gross and James F. Riggs.

Wallace Walthall, National Screen Service executive, back from a business trip to Oklahoma City, was honored with a surprise party at his home, commemorating his 26th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Walthall planned the informal celebration. Guests included Maj. Helen T. Walthall, a sister-in-law with the Eighth service command here; Mrs. Elaine Saal and daughter, Mrs. Hank Robb; Mrs. Walthall's mother, Mrs. M. L. Bitting, and the latter's daughter, Mary, who is in the booking department of the Columbia exchange.

Mrs. Lillian Bullard of the Savage in Durant, Okla., will open her Rio Theatre in McKinney, Tex., May 31. She now is revamping the old Pope Theatre which she leased there a few weeks ago.

Sgt. Francis Barr, combat correspondent in the marines, arrived home from Iwo Jima. His picture with his wife was on the first page of the Times-Herald. Barr was a former Elm Street publicist and theatre manager for Interstate circuit before volunteering in the marines immediately after Pearl Harbor. His next assignment is not yet known.

Dave and Jake Lutzer, Universal salesmen and owners of several small-town theatres, have taken on a new venture as owners of a restaurant on Gaston Ave. at the Lakewood Country Club. They have made a deal with an experienced operator to handle the place for them.

Raymond Thompson and his wife of the Mecca and Texas in Jacksboro were on the Row booking . . . Raymond Cornes, Cornes, at Farmersville, said he is getting ready for another fishing trip into east Texas . . . Joe Hackney of Canton was here on his regular weekly visit, accompanied by his wife.

P. G. Cameron, well-known showman who went to check over four theatres recently acquired in the Los Angeles area, has returned. Claude Kennell, a son-in-law, and Guy, his son, are managing these properties. P. G. only a few months ago bought a large home on the coast which he sold on the trip. He said definitely he is going to maintain his home in Dallas. He will go back to the hospital here in a few days for the last in a series of operations. Cameron brought back news that Anthony J. Xydias, Texas exhibitor of the old days and a Hollywood producer after that, is safe in the Philippines where he was interned through the Jap invasion. Mrs. Xydias had since died. He is a brother-in-law of J. C. Chatmas in Marlin and George Chatmas in Hearne.



SHIPPER TO SINGER—Letroy Peak, former shipper at the 20th-Fox exchange in Oklahoma City, still is "sending" but not films. He recently left the film job to become master of ceremonies and singer with the Bob Barrett Service Club.

Gary Cooper Personals Are Arranged in Texas

DALLAS—John Leroy Johnston, publicity chief of International Pictures, Inc., has been in Dallas arranging for personal appearances of Gary Cooper on Elm St. here, in Houston, San Antonio and Ft. Worth on June 20, 21, 22 and 23, respectively. The star's appearances will be in conjunction with his latest production, "Along Came Jones," showing in principal theatres of the Interstate circuit.

Add to Cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever"

Boyd Irwin, Anne Loos, Charles D. Brown and Evan Thomas have been added to the cast of "Tomorrow Is Forever," International production.

Walter B. King
King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
Ambassador Hotel Dallas, Tex.

Big Processing Plant Ready in Plainview

DALLAS—Glenn A. Beard, partner in the popcorn distributing firm of Charles E. Darden & Co., returned this week to Plainview where he has completed a large new processing plant for handling big quantities of grain from acreage the company has under contract in the Panhandle irrigated area. This plant is an enlargement of one the company had under operation there during previous seasons.

There are two stages in the processing at the new plant. First is a screening treatment which eliminates all husk and foreign substances and next is a gravity process which stabilizes the corn with the proper moisture content for popping before packing in moisture proof bags. Baird said the plant capacity is one carload a day.

Charles E. Darden said that, while the popcorn situation is clearing up nicely, with prospects for adequate supply bright, the seasoning picture continues to be anything but good. He continues to urge theatre men to buy seasoning in any quantity anywhere they can get it. He did say, however, that he expected to have an announcement concerning a new idea in seasoning soon.

Youths Take $600 in Candy From a Dallas Theatre

DALLAS—The storeroom of the Lisbon Theatre, owned by Oskar Korn and managed by John Fuller, was burglarized by three youths a few nights ago and about $600 in candy and other confectionery supplies was missing. The boys, all in their teens, readily admitted the thefts and some of the merchandise was found in their possession.

Fuller has had a fully developed juvenile problem in his neighborhood ever since the Lisbon was built about four years ago. He has had numerous burglaries and his share of the rowdyism. Police protection in that area apparently is no deterrent to the young vandals. On one occasion a group of boys in a jalopy rode up and down the highway knocking down the theatre's three-sheet boards. The court and cooperation of parents, only in this case, put an end to this sort of sport.



POSTER SHOW—Ray Milland and Gov. Ben Laney of Arkansas look on while June Bright displays the Seventh War Loan posters.

OKLA. CITY

A letter from Ernie Fair, formerly with BOXOFFICE in Oklahoma, finds Ernie in Germany with the army. He is well but getting a bit anxious to return home.

KOMA's "Bluff Creek Roundup" which showed every Saturday night on the stage of the Shrine Auditorium is closing for the summer months. Hiram Higsby, the emcee for this show, is the proud father of a baby daughter.

Neighborhood theatres resumed their early 1 o'clock openings with the start of school vacations. The majority open at 5 p. m. during the school period.

Ed Gardiner, Metro exploiteer, still is taking it easy following a recent operation . . . Marion Osborne, WAC distributor chairman, at a recent meeting urged all film salesmen and workers to hurry their final reports on the Red Cross collections. Many managers failed to get their reports in or merely reported to other chairmen.

Jimmy Hobbs of Metro's sales staff has been showing some of the Filmrow boys how the game of golf should be played. These lessons cost . . . Marie Lutz, owner of Theatre Posters, is feeling much better after an illness and is more like the jolly Marie everyone knows . . . Mrs. Peek of Oklahoma Theatre Supply seems to have the answer to the shortage of ten-cent popcorn bags.

Dewey Gibbs, Columbia's branch manager, is elated over the grosses being turned in by "A Song to Remember" . . . With NSS now handling all advertising accessories for Columbia pictures, this now leaves only Warners of the larger companies that still maintain an accessories department.

Film Tells Memphis Story

MEMPHIS—The story of this city's work in preparing for peacetime business is being told in a motion picture prepared by the committee for economic development, "Mobilizing Main Street."

A WPB Priority Is Granted For New Maple Theatre

DALLAS—WPB has granted priority to B. Forrest White, operator of the Maple Theatre, to construct a new theatre building at a cost of $32,500. The new house will replace the Maple and will be built on the opposite side of the street.

The priority provided that construction must start by the middle of June. Architect Raymond Smith will plan and superintend construction. The building will be of the ultra-modern type with various streamlined effects.

White has an unnamed associate in the new project which will be designed to satisfy city authorities more definitely on safety measures not credited to the present house.

In the same WPB communication it was announced that Sullivan & Moore Theatres, Inc. at Greenville had been given priority to build a new theatre there, replacing the Rita, destroyed by fire around the first of the year. Construction on this house is expected to start at once. Sullivan & Moore operate all theatres in Greenville in a partnership with Jefferson Amusement Co. in Beaumont.

Old Film Buddies Reunited In Oklahoma Army Meet

OKLAHOMA CITY—Maj. Gordon Jones, Hollywood character actor prior to entering the army, visited Oklahoma City recently on official business. Remembered best here by the industry for the characters he portrayed were "ramblin' wreck" in "My Sister, Eileen," Alabam in "Flying Tigers" and "Rubber Legs Ryan" in "The Feminine Touch." He also was in the "They All Kissed the Bride" and "This Is the Army."

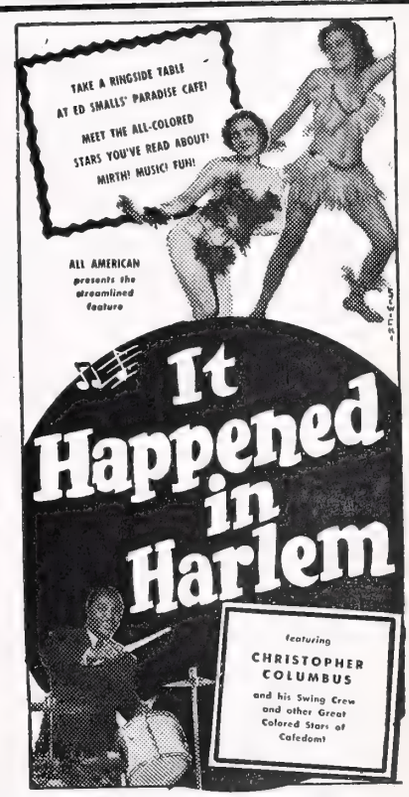
Jones was reunited in Oklahoma City with an old buddy, Capt. Harold Brand of Moore and Oklahoma City. The two became friends in Hollywood in 1941. It was their first meeting since that time.

Beauty Show to Aid 7th

VIENNA, GA.—Mrs. W. E. Griffin plans a beauty show to pep up bond sales at her Vienna Theatre.

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"MADE FOR EACH OTHER"

is doing a big business all over the country.

OTHERS IN THE CAST include Charles Coburn, Eddie Quillan, Louise Beavers, and many other favorites as well as the unforgettable Carole Lombard!

We will give you the lowdown in this column every week . . . Our tip is to book immediately this great David O. Selznick production, and give your fans one of their favorites.

Director John Cromwell has dramatically and entertainingly put together an exciting and suspenseful production. It is an answer to the demand of people everywhere who seek good entertainment.

It is pictures like this and others that we will tell you about every week in this column, that have solidly established our exchanges. Exhibitors have reported almost without exception that through our service they have packed theatres, giving the public a greater entertainment value than average. Accordingly they have shown substantial profits.

Whether you operate big city or small town theatres you will find a spot for the Film Classics type of merchandise.

. . . and that's the lowdown

from FILM Classics EXCHANGES

in Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and soon we will be operating in Memphis.

Oklahoma City Bond Show Brings $750,000

OKLAHOMA CITY—Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy drew an overflow audience in the big war loan show at the municipal auditorium here. More than $750,000 worth of bonds sold.

C. B. Akers, state WAC chairman, arranged for the appearance of the Bergen-McCarthy team, Don Ameche and a host of other entertainers, when it was learned these stars were to appear at the Norman naval air technical training center to entertain at the station hospital.

Upon completing the show arrangements, the Oklahoma City theatres war bond committee arranged to help stimulate bond sales by presenting bond show tickets to each bond purchaser at the city's 25 theatres, as well as carrying publicity for the event.

Most Theatre Replacements Not in Sight, Ezell Says

DALLAS—Claude C. Ezell, consultant in the Recreation Section, Office of Civilian Requirements, Washington, D. C., here for a few days, said the increasing opinion that things are loosening up and that materials and goods will be available soon is anything but the true picture.

In the case of theatre equipment the restrictions have been lifted to where manufacture is possible if materials are procurable, but the army and navy requirements have to be met first. So it leaves things practically as they were as little additional critical material has been available to the manufacturers.

Textiles used widely in theatre equipment and furnishings cannot be had for theatre usage. This is true of the manufacture of seats and other goods, Ezell said. Lumber is decidedly unavailable for theatre construction, he added. It is going to be some time yet and at least until the defeat of Japan before restrictions on construction and equipment are lifted, Ezell said.

A New 1,000-Seat Theatre Projected in Knoxville

KNOXVILLE—The city planning commission has granted a zoning permit to Jack Comer and William Dunbar for the construction of a 1,000-seat theatre on Chapman Highway. The theatre will be built as soon as conditions permit.

Johnny Mack Brown Helps

GREENVILLE, S. C.—H. T. Lashley, WAC county chairman, garnered front page publicity for the Seventh War Loan drive with a picture showing him selling the first bond in the local campaign to Johnny Mack Brown, appearing at the Rivoli Theatre.

"Going My Way" Plane Went On Despite All

Memphis — Outnumbered, outmaneuvered and shot up many times, "Going My Way" winged its way to safety. It was the only one of 13 B17s that returned after being intercepted by over 70 enemy fighter planes over Germany.

This story was told of the plane named for the famous Bing Crosby picture by Lieut. Kenneth P. Allmond, 20, who returned home to Memphis after 35 missions over France and Germany.

NEW ORLEANS

One of Filmrow's most distinguished and delightful visitors was Frances Marion (Mrs. Fred Thomson) of M-G-M editorial board. At a luncheon given for her by Mr. and Mrs. Ken Prickett, the writer told of today and yesterday in the film colony. "No matter how we talk about it, we old-timers love Hollywood," she confessed. Miss Marion's conversation was peppered with names of the great and near great among film players, writers, directors, producers and "moguls." Most intriguing were Miss Marion's reminiscenses of the many westerns she and her husband made together before his death. She was here to visit a son in naval training on the Mississippi gulf coast.

At times conversation among New Orleans film folk is as wide as the world and as interesting. A cross section glance reveals Joel Bluestone, Universal exchange office manager, talking of music and musicians. Related to Nathan Milstein, the violin virtuoso, he has met many of today's musical greats and delights in discussing what makes them great . . . With Roger Lamantia, RKO branch manager, art is a favorite topic. He keeps up with exhibitions at local galleries and has enjoyed especially the fine shows sponsored of late by several branches of the armed services.

Ken Prickett of Metro's exploitation staff can stoutly elaborate his political views without ever losing his infectious grin . . . Rodney Toups, Loew's State Theatre manager, is a gifted raconteur, with dialects of this region a specialty. Mrs. Toups is one of the most diligent of Red Cross workers and active in musical circles.

Maurice Barr of the Paramount-Richards organization, and Mrs. Barr are patrons of the New Orleans Symphony orchestra and leaders in war activity and civic work.

Fred Ford, RKO exploitation field supervisor, may be seen on his frequent trips here snatching a moment to look in antique and gift show windows for a present for his lady, and talking meanwhile of his grand-daughters, Freddie and Pat . . . How to get a damaged car repaired is said to be a very pertinent topic with George Nungesser, Monogram salesman.

Leo V. Seicshnaydre, Republic branch manager, will respond happily to inquiries about his two sons, Leo jr. and Allen Craig, the latter so named for the very good reason that mama liked the name Allen and papa liked the name Craig. Add the little fellow's christening name, Joseph, and you have Joseph Allen Craig Seicshnaydre, all of which is rapidly being reduced to Al.

Miss Patsy Toca of the 20th-Fox exchange is still regaling her associates with enthralling stories of her Mexico City vacation . . . Even a "Lil Abner" would be impressed by the many pretty girls on Filmrow. Josephine Albana of Film Classics, Rosemary McGraw of 20th-Fox, Marie Daries of Columbia, and scores of others.

Edgar E. Shinn, L. M. Otis and M. J. Artigues, Paramount salesmen trio, were last heard discussing "The Topic of the Moment" in film circles—bonds and how to get them sold.

Roof Garden Season On

MEMPHIS—Memphis' two hotel roof gardens opened for the summer. Bob Strong opened at Hotel Claridge and Chuck Foster at the Peabody roof.

Many Theatre Projects For Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY—A theatre building boom here in the near future was forecast by L. M. Rauch, local real estate developer who is planning to erect a neighborhood theatre at 16th and Drexel Sts., to adjoin a group of stores already established there.

Jack Covitch, formerly with Standard and later in the blind business, has been released from the army and is planning to erect a theatre as soon as WPB okays his application.

With rumors of others contemplating entrance into the exhibition field through the operation of their own theatres, one exhibitor said: "If all of the theatres are built that we hear about, the exhibitors will have to patronize one another to have enough business."

Six Williams Westerns To Sack Amusement Co.

DALLAS — The Sack Amusement Enterprises has acquired the negatives and world rights to six Big Boy Williams westerns which it will release in both 35mm and 16mm immediately, it was announced by Jerry Musgrave, secretary.

The deal was concluded in Hollywood with Alexander Brothers, who produced the pictures under their Beacon Productions banner. Sack is preparing new accessories and new prints for national state rights release.

Andrew Tombes Cast in "Frontier Gal"

Andrew Tombes has been assigned a role in "Frontier Gal," a Universal picture.

SAN ANTONIO

Recent visitors from Dallas included Johnny Jenkins of Astor Pictures and Fred Bruner, exploitation man, Warner Bros. . . . The Interstate City offices have recarpeted their entire space on the seventh floor in addition to other renovations.

The new Latin American flesh show at the Zaragosa Theatre is being produced by Alex Moore and Olga. Others on this Mexican vaudeville program include Elisia Berumen, the musical comedy star; "Santillan," the eccentric violinist; Antonio Sosa, singing-guitarist; Raul & Don Cleto, ventriloquist, and Cuartras Garcia, the dancing twins. This is the only show of its kind in town and it is enjoying a healthy engagement of four weeks.

Sgt. Max Baer who has been in five different army hospitals for the last 13 months, has been ordered back from New York to Kelly Field for active duty, according to a recent report by the Associated Press . . . Looking neat in that cowgirl garb is Miss Bobbie Parham, one of the many Red River Dave fans.

Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys were carded for a date at the Municipal Auditorium June 9 . . . PBXer Mary Houston Welker on the Interstate switchboard has really gone Hollywood in a swanky new coat suit and turban to match.

Robert "Bob" Nelson, U.S. navy, former assistant manager and treasurer at the Majestic before donning navy blues, is in town on a month's leave. Bob says that he has lost ten pounds in his favor . . . Jerry Ray's paint horse answers to the name of "Flash."

Coquita Wilton, the singing senorita, left for Laredo to play the Mexican fiesta there and also other night club dates. She recently went over big in Alice, Robstown, Kingsville, Corpus Christi, and many other south Texas towns.

Sgt. Henry Villapadierna of the army air force was in town on furlough from Pratt Field, Kas. The sergeant was formerly stationed at Tinker Field, Okla. . . . Exhibitors in town to book Mexican pictures included A. B. Balli of Balli Theatres in Elsa and La Villa; Carl Johnson, Arcadia and Gem, Floresville; Lazaro Isaquirre, Rex, Mission, who also brought several carloads of cattle to market here since feed is scarce in these parts; Mr. and Mrs. George A. Carpinteyro, Ramirez, Cotulla; Matilde Chapa, Mirando City Theatre, Mirando, and David Smason, Karnes, Karnes City.

Visiting the Seven Oaks night club in Alamo Heights the other night, your scribe picked up the following notes: Colonel Chadwick, manager-owner, is a retired army man . . . Miss Ruthie Gillette, a striking brunette, is the new torch singer with the Mack Rogers orchestra. Incidentally, Mack is one hot trumpet player and no foolin' . . . Among the theatre men who are regular patrons of this establishment are John Reynolds, skipper of the Uptown, and Betta Wolfe of the nearby Broadway Theatre.

To Change Title of "Club Havana"

"Club Havana" has been changed to "Two Tickets to Heaven" on the PRC lot.



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MEMPHIS

Wedding bells on Filmrow: Miss Alma Bloesch, secretary to the office manager of National Screen Service, was married to Lieut. James Johnston, air force, at the West Memphis, Ark., Presbyterian Church last week.

Visiting exhibitors from the midsouth seen on the Row last week included J. R. Leavell, Whiteville, Tenn.; Miss Louise Mask, Bolivar, Tenn.; Mrs. Cliff Peck, Covington, Tenn.; R. B. Gooch, Selmer and Savannah, Tenn.; R. X. Williams, Oxford, Miss.; L. J. Denning, Bemis, Tenn., and Moses Sliman of Luxora, Ark., here booking for his theatre.

At M-G-M, Branch Manager Louis Ingram was back from a business trip to Kansas City. Miss Marguerette Keen was on a two-week vacation at her home in Dyess, Ark., and Carl Skaggs, head shipper, was back from a two-week visit with his brother in Texas.

At RKO Miss Irene Jones, cashier, was away on a two-week vacation . . . 20th-Fox branch manager, Tom Young, was up to his neck in Seventh Loan drive business . . . Miss Betty Baggett, contract clerk, was away on a two-week vacation.

One of the best known women in midsouth theatrical circles died last week. She was Mrs. Marion Jordon, who with her husband, Talmadge Jordon, operated the Majestic Theatre at Iuka, Miss., for more than 20 years. Mrs. Jordon had been in Memphis many times booking for her theatre and had many friends on Filmrow.



O'DONNELL ENTERTAINS—Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division of the treasury department, was guest of honor at a party given by R. J. O'Donnell, southwestern chairman for WAC and Texas chairman for the Seventh War Loan campaign, at the Baker Hotel, Dallas. Left to right: Gamble; O'Donnell; Bob Thornton, president of the Mercantile National Bank of Dallas, and Fred Florence, president of the Republic National Bank.

Universal Pictures had a visitor this week. He is Carl Miller, auditor from the New York office . . . Perry Spencer, publicity director for Universal, was in New Orleans on business . . . J. A. Prichard, branch manager of Universal, and two salesmen for the company, W. J. Carmichael and C. R. Ost, are back from a staff meeting in New Orleans.

CHARLOTTE

James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, was here for a conference with Cy Dillon . . . James Earnhardt, manager of the Taylor in Edenton, N. C., reports May 29 at Ft. Bragg for induction in the army. While he's in the service bookings and buying will be handled by Hank Hearn of Exhibitors Service. Mrs. Earnhardt will manage the house.

Lightning last week struck the top of the chimney of Wilby-Kincey's Carolina Theatre and knocked off a corner. Persons in the theatre at the time noted the sharp flash of lightning shook the entire building. That portion of the chimney damaged by lightning is to be rebuilt promptly.

Lieut. Comdr. Emil Bernstecker, former manager of the Carolina Theatre and city manager for Wilby-Kincey Theatres here, has returned from overseas duty and is spending a few days as the house guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Kincey. Bernstecker enlisted for naval service shortly after the United States was drawn into the war and has had important assignments in a number of landings on European shores. His outstanding work in preparations for these landings was the subject of a recent Associated Press dispatch. He will return to undisclosed duties after his leave.

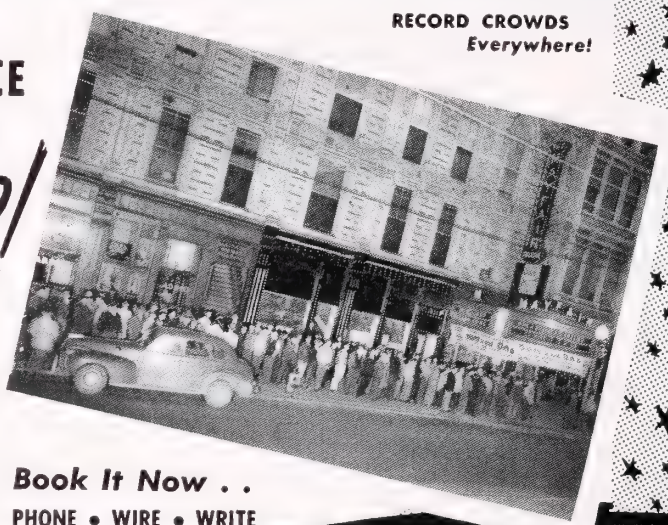
Visitors on the Row included Mr. and Mrs. James Earnhardt, Taylor, Edenton; E. G. Pophal, St. Pauls, St. Pauls; Everett Qualls, State, Burlington; C. Prosser, New, Johnsonville, S. C.; J. D. McIntyre, Rowland, Rowland, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rowe, Pender, Burgaw.

The army motion picture service will close its Charlotte office soon, it was announced by Bill Williams, manager. Activities of the branch will be temporarily handled from Washington. The office here is located in the Commercial Bank Bldg. It had jurisdiction over all theatres in army installations in North and South Carolina. It was opened May 9, 1942. At one time it handled 78 theatres. Williams, who succeeded George Helms when the latter entered the army in October 1943 will return to his home in Denver. Leonard Branscombe, administrative assistant, is being transferred to the Atlanta office. The closing is in line with the army's retrenchment program following VE-Day.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

"MOM AND DAD" ran three solid weeks at the Mayfair, Dayton, Ohio. One newspaper praised it editorially and the "home of aviation" marveled at the tremendous crowds. A Dayton pastor reviewed the film and praised it from his pulpit.



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Two Theatre Projects Talked at Nashville

NASHVILLE—Tony Sudekum, president of Crescent Amusement Co., has purchased a building site at 1603 21st Ave. South, and it is believed that he plans the construction of a combined film theatre and recreation center similar to Bell Meade and Melrose. The theatre would probably replace the present Belmont house, which is near this site. Crescent is also expected to build a theatre recreation center on Gallatin Road, East Nashville, as soon as materials are available.

Paralysis Patients See Airborne Attack Show

CHARLOTTE—The polio patients at Memorial Hospital got a thrill they'll always remember on a recent afternoon when they were special guests at the airborne attack show at Morris Field in the interest of the Seventh War Loan drive. Their visit to the air base was arranged by Max Bryant and his polio committee of the Variety Club.

For many of the children it was the first time they had left the hospital since their entrance; for all, it was a memorable experience; for the Variety Club members, it was another leaf in the long book of good deeds they have performed in their untiring efforts to provide entertainment and cheer for the little shut-ins.

Fifty Vehicles in Convoy

Variety Club members with their cars, Charlotte firemen under the direction of Chief Hendrix Palmer, and city and county police gathered at the hospital shortly after noon to transport the children, their nurses and necessary equipment to Morris Field. When all were loaded the convoy of 50 vehicles, including six ambulances lent by local firms, proceeded to the air base with a police escort. At the entrance to the base they were met by a military escort, and the procession was conducted on a tour of the military installation, then shown to an area reserved for them by their military hosts.

The patients were removed from the automobile and ensconced, some on stretchers, others in wheel chairs and folding chairs for the big event. Before it began, the paratroopers who were to participate marched out in full accoutrement and visited their special guests. Little eyes sparkled with interest as the stalwarts of the "bright blue yonder" displayed their battle equipment; little hands timidly held out autograph albums which the paratroopers gladly signed. They chatted and laughed, the children and the airmen, until time for the airborne show to start, then the paratroopers waved goodby to their admiring audience and dashed off to join the airborne troops for a spectacular patriotic performance that drew gasps from a huge gathering.

The children sat entranced through the show. They saw their new buddies parachute to earth from great planes. They witnessed a spectacle of America's aerial power, and saw gliders, cut loose from the planes which towed them, settle on the sham battlefield and disgorge men, jeeps and arms.



AIDS SOUTH'S CAMPAIGN—E. W. Street, above, of the Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville, is a member of the industry's Seventh Loan national committee as southern coordinator. He is rendering assistance to Tennessee's state exhibitor co-chairmen, Kermit Stengel and M. A. Lightman, as well as to other showmen over the southland.

Frances Greer to Sing In Memphis Operettas

MEMPHIS—Frances Greer of the Metropolitan Opera Co. will sing the lead in "Roberta" the week of July 23 and in "New Moon" the week of July 30 at the Memphis Open Air Theatre summer shows in the Overton Park Shell.

Business Manager Joseph Cortese telegraphed Memphis from New York that he had signed Miss Greer, a native of Helena, Ark., who sang at the MOAT two seasons and is a Memphis favorite.

"Best news since VE-Day," Cortese asserted.

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ATLANTA

Capt. **E. E. Whitaker,** former city manager for Georgia Theatres, was back from the South Pacific. He said that he saw plenty of "good Japs"—all dead . . . Ike and Harry Katz, PRC, were exultant over the reception "Crime, Inc." is getting over the country . . . W. A. Finney, division manager for Loew's, is back from a New York business trip.

Claud Morris, Samuel Goldwyn's director of exploitation, was in town to plug "Wonder Man," Danny Kaye's new Technicolor comedy . . . Harry Graham and Perry Spencer from Universal in New Orleans were business visitors.

Johnny Harrell, booker for the Martin-Thompson Theatres, has returned from a vacation in Florida . . . Bob Cannon, owner of theatres in Live Oak and Lake City, Fla., was a visitor to the Martin office here . . . R. E. Martin of Columbus was vacationing in Florida . . . J. H. Thompson visited Atlanta.

Cecil Cohen, formerly of Lake City, Fla., has opened a new Negro theatre, the Pix, in Jacksonville . . . Mrs. Mildred Hinton of Universal Film Exchange was seriously ill . . . Pete Carnes, former RKO shipper, now is in the booking department.

Ira Stone, office manager of RKO, was vacationing . . . Lane "Narrow Gauge" Howard, formerly RKO booker, has resigned because of ill health . . . Visitors on the Row included H. H. Green, Albertville, Ala.

Marjorie Keith, secretary to Frank Harris of Harris Enterprises, and Capt. Nick Jaundoehl were married recently. They now are at Ft. Benning . . . William "Bill" White, branch manager of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., Charlotte, visited the Atlanta branch.

Ann Hautman, secretary to Harry Paul of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., was vacationing at her home town, Dawson, Ga. . . . E. S. Michael and Al Fox, auditors of Republic Pictures, visited the local branch . . . Jimmy Grainger, president and general manager of Republic Pictures, visited Sales Manager Bill Talley of the local branch.

A. C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern exchanges, returned after a business and pleasure trip with Mrs. Bromberg to New York . . . The Atlanta censor board has passed the picture "Dillinger." Board members are Miss C. Smith, Mayor William B. Hartsfield and Aubrey Milam, chairman of police commissioners.

Twentieth-Fox Notes: Harry Ballance is all smiles since the doctor checked him okay . . . Paul Wilson was visiting the Charlotte branch . . . Jimmy Gillespie went to Memphis . . . Mrs. Christine Banks, ad-sales manager, has returned from a trip through Texas . . . Mrs. Louise Braselton has returned from Dallas after visiting her granddaughter . . . Mrs. Margaret Fields is leading all employes in the big Seventh War Loan drive . . . Mrs. Ruby Shirley has returned to her post after an automobile accident.

G. B. Davis, formerly with old Triangle Film Co., is now connected with United Artists as salesman . . . Mrs. Lillian C. Claughton has announced the sale of the Kingston Theatre, Daytona Beach, Fla., to Hollis Drew . . . Clyde Goodson, Paramount branch sales manager, has returned from Tennessee.

Walter Morris, Knoxville, Tenn., was visiting friends on the Row and booking . . . Stephan Justus, Columbia salesman, was in New York . . . R. J. Ingram, Columbia district manager, returned from a meeting in Chicago.

Cordie Whitfield, Columbia, was spending her vacation in Florida . . . Miss Betty Ratterree of Theatrical Printing Co. has the distinction of being the only person on Film-row who is a member of the Red Cross blood bank Gallon Club.

W. H. Rudisill, PRC, returned from a Nashville circuit call. A. B. Balch was calling on circuits and independent theatres in Memphis.

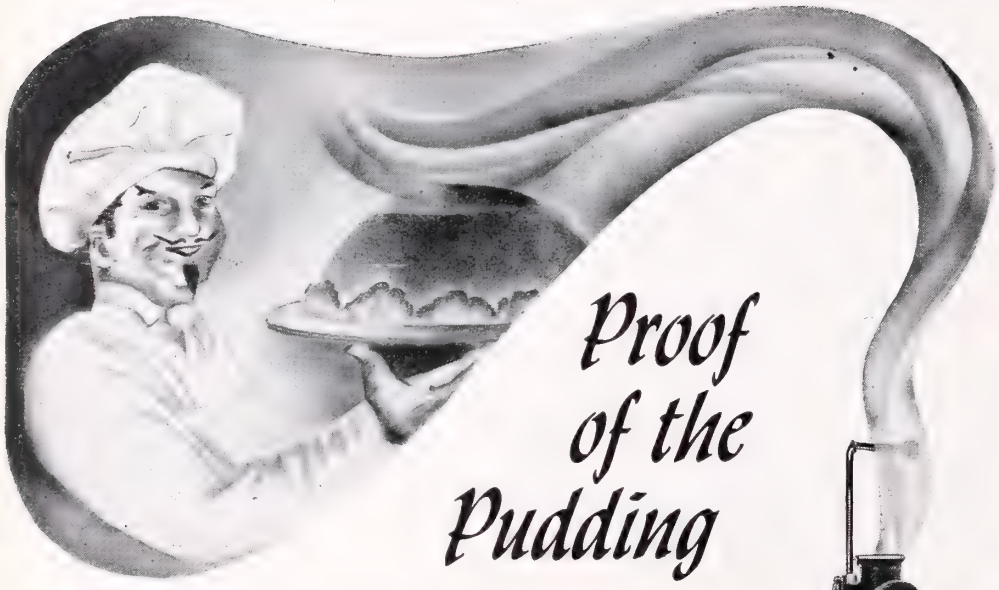
John Thompson, Vidalia, was on the Row booking . . . Mrs. Hazel Burton, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., was vacationing in Oxford, Ala. . . . Harry Paul was visiting in Florida and Fred Bearden of the same company, was visiting in South Carolina . . . Pvt. Rags Ragsdale, formerly with Wil-Kin, stopped in at the local branch on his way overseas.

Eleven Bond Premieres Scheduled in Georgia

ATLANTA—Eleven bond premieres in support of the Seventh War Loan drive in Atlanta and other Georgia cities opened in Athens May 15.

William K. Jenkins, state chairman for theatre participation in the drive, says all are going 100 per cent in their effort to put the campaign over.

Following the Athens premiere openings will be held in Elbertson, Augusta, Brunswick, Buford, Columbus, Gainesville, Macon, Savannah, Waycross and Atlanta. The date of the premiere here is yet to be set.



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Censor Clears Films As Delinquency Cause

TORONTO—Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the Ontario government's film censorship and theatres inspection bureau gave a highly interesting conclusion with respect to juvenile delinquency in relation to moving pictures following a survey when he said: "The board believes it is on solid ground when it takes the position that the film is never an only factor and rarely the principal factor in contributing to juvenile misbehavior."

Chairman Silverthorne commented that "while the topic had been of concern to socially-minded organizations, there existed nothing by way of authoritative fact which might be of assistance to the board." He continued, however, that "a greater interest on the part of the distributor and exhibitor in the type of film entertainment offered in certain areas by neighborhood theatres could tend to reduce delinquency."

At the same time, he expressed the view any delinquency attributable to the cinema should be regarded as of local nature requiring the application of local corrective measures rather than the implementation of a blanket policy.

Ontario Exhibitors Meet To Discuss Safety Code

TORONTO—A nice crowd of exhibitors and municipal officials turned out at Windsor for the luncheon meeting of the southwestern division of Ontario Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n to discuss civic enforcement of safety measures in theatres under the new policy of the Ontario government.

The meeting marked the first appearance of A. H. Jolley of Toronto as executive secretary of the provincial organization. Syd Taube, his predecessor, introduced him. The Toronto delegation included Joe Garbarino, M. Levine and S. Kanitsky. District theatre men in the gathering were V. Chauvin and H. Rankin of Tilbury; Simon Meretsky, Barney Mechanic, F. Hannan, J. LeFaive, B. Brown and E. Meretsky of Windsor; Mayor Floyd Rumford of Forest; W. S. Woof, Amherstburg; Steve McManus, Kingsville; H. King and F. Reid of Chatham, A. Axler, Leamington; H. Sills of Wallaceburg, and C. Hessel of the fire prevention office, London, Ont.

Canadian Circuit Heads Honor Guests at Dinner

TORONTO—In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of 20th Century Theatres, now operating 53 houses throughout Ontario as an associate with Famous Players, a complimentary dinner to N. A. Taylor and Raoul Auerbach was held under the auspices of the 20th Century Club at La Chaumiere Restaurant, Toronto.

The club, comprising members of the head office staff, presented an illuminated scroll to the two executives to express loyalty and admiration and the testimonial is being hung in the company's board room. Taylor is the managing director and Auerbach is general manager of the theatre group.

Churchman Is Peeved

MONTREAL—The Rev. H. E. D. Ashford, former air force chaplain overseas, told delegates attending the British Columbia convention of the United Church of Canada that entertainment programs presented troops overseas are "the dirtiest, filthiest, muckiest things imaginable."

Canadian Film Official Lauds British Advances

TORONTO—The report of O. J. Silverthorne, chairman of the moving picture censorship and theatres inspection branch of the Ontario government, for the fiscal year ending March 31, contained highly interesting comment regarding British films and their growing importance in Canada. He said:

"I am pleased to call attention to the most important development in motion picture exhibition in a quarter of a century, the rise of the British film to a prominent place on the screens of the Dominion. For many years press, public and legislators have been asking for a type of British film that would equal that of Hollywood in interest and technique, yet present ideals and backgrounds closer to our hearts as Canadians. Amazingly enough, this has been accomplished during the most trying times and under the most disadvantageous conditions in the history of the United Kingdom.

British Films Welcomed by Public

"In the fiscal year of 1944-45 there were released for Canadian showings 43 (British) feature motion pictures as against 24 during the previous 12 months—an increase of almost 100 per cent. These figures are even more telling when one notes that such films have been shown in first run metropolitan theatres—places attended by the most critical type of patron—much more often than in the past. In other years most British films were confined to theatres where there was a marked preference for them. Now such features have found a welcome place in the tastes of the general public.

"This preference continues to grow not only in Canada but in the United States, where British films may now be seen in leading theatres in major American cities. The outstanding British films of the past season are but an indication of what is to follow, for in technical excellence and expansiveness photoplays ready or now in preparation are equal to Hollywood's best. Patrons will recall such outstanding films as 'This Happy Breed' and 'The Way Ahead' as proof of the ability of British film craftsmen.

"Films in production in Britain and frankly aimed at the screens of the world are 'Men of Two Worlds,' 'Caesar and Cleopatra,' 'Blithe Spirit,' 'Henry V,' 'Nicholas Nickleby' and 'Inexperienced Ghost.' A good share of these films are in Technicolor and several will cost in the neighborhood of $3,000,000 each.

"All will bring increased enjoyment to Canadians and accentuated interest to Americans who are finding British films, new to most of them, not only inspiring but, because of unfamiliar backgrounds and themes, distinctly novel.

"Thus a dream of many years is about to be realized—one that will have a marked effect on motion picture exhibition in Ontario, which contains almost one-third of all theatres in the Dominion.

"The British rise is related to Ontario in another way—motion picture production. Odeon Theatres of Canada, a partner of Odeon Theatres of Great Britain, will establish a motion picture studio in the vicinity of Toronto for the production of instructional, educational and entertainment films. A type of film to be made will be for juveniles and shown in connection with the organization of children's matinee movie clubs along the lines of those which are successful in Britain. A complete organization of artists, animators, educational specialists and language experts will be engaged in this work.

U.S. Producer Plans Canadian Unit

"It has also been authoritatively stated that one of the major United States producing companies includes in its postwar plans the establishment of a producing unit in Canada. The board feels that this producer will serve Canada to a marked extent from a national point of view if he should include the ever-popular 'Time Copy' of shorts depicting Canadian customs, life, developments and future expansion along with feature presentations."

Commenting on other films later in his report, Silverthorne said: "We have received, during the year, a larger number of films of a religious nature and it is encouraging to note that they have been widely supported by the public of the province. The board also notes that during the year, feature subjects and film concerts have been produced to furnish theatre audiences the best in music from great composers."



WINS ASN's TROPHY—A. D. "Nick" Nicholson is shown receiving the ASN bowling trophy from B. E. Norrish. Nick was captain of the winning Fairmiles in the Associated Screen News Bowling League. More than 100 bowlers and their friends attended the annual banquet that wound up the season at Windsor Hotel, Montreal, when prizes were presented.

Daylight Savings to Stay In Effect in Canada

OTTAWA—Official word from the office of secretary of state in the Canadian government has discounted the possibility of early abolishment of wartime daylight saving regulations under which the Dominion has been required to observe "fast time" for the conservation of electric power.

Novotna to Montreal

MONTREAL—Jarmila Novotna, beautiful Czech operatic soprano who has been one of the principal stars of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York the last few years, will replace Grace Moore as Mimi in the Montreal presentation of "La Boheme" at His Majesty's May 29. The Montreal Festivals has just received word that Miss Moore will leave for Europe before the date of the production. A telegram received by Madame Athanase David, president of the Montreal Festivals, explained Miss Moore is being sent to Europe on rehabilitation work.

VANCOUVER

Charlie Doctor, manager of the Capitol, reports the death of his father at the age of 71. Another son, Gordon, also survives . . . Bessie Webster, for the past seven years with 20th-Fox, resigned following her recent marriage. Trixie Thompson, former secretary to Manager Jimmy Patterson, succeeds her as cashier.

A check on local first run theatres which have been playing both single and twin bills indicate that single features are in the lead at the boxoffices of the downtown Capitol, Orpheum and Vogue theatres.

Recent Odeon changes in B. C. managers saw Jack Bernard move from the Olympia to the Odeon in North Vancouver. He was succeeded by Effie Simpson, former assistant manager at the Park. Al Davidson of the Rio, Ladysmith, took over at the Plaza, Victoria, succeeding Jack Armstrong, who went to the Lux, Vancouver. Tom Cook moved from the Lux to the Rio Theatre, Victoria, and Bill Calladine from the Rio, Victoria, to Ladysmith.

VE-Day proved a harvest day for Vancouver theatres, all doing capacity business. Theatres presented lavish fronts to celebrate the victory . . . The Regina office staff of General Films 16mm exchange made 120 Red Cross donations since the Blood Clinic was opened two years ago. It has only 35 members.

Joe Atlemore of the Natal Theatre, now in the army stationed at Little Mountain barracks, was on Filmrow looking up his pals in show world. His wife is managing the Natal in his absence . . . A Vancouver girl has returned to her home town as star of one of the most publicized pictures in recent months. She is Yvonne DeCarlo, 20-year-old former King Edward School student, who is starring in "Salome, Where She Danced."

Earl Keate, field publicity man for RKO, was here from his Seattle headquarters working on a campaign with Charlie Doctor for the coming showing of "Enchanted Cottage" at the Capitol . . . British Columbia again went over the top as the first province to exceed its Victory Loan quota. It was passed four days ahead of the finish of the drive. The film industry did a tip-top job for the drive.

The New Westminster board of trade has obtained a 16mm sound film projector which it will place, with one of its operators, at the disposal of the public. Five hundred films are available . . . Famous Players Canadian Corp. recently completed a partnership agreement whereby it takes over the operation of the Northland Theatre, Flin-Flon, Man., from C. Plummer, who retains a 50 per cent interest. Hugh Summers, from the Strand, Brandon, was appointed manager.

A color movie of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, its scenic delights and industrial possibilities, will be made this summer by the government of British Columbia . . . Leo Devaney, general manager of RKO and president of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, was a recent visitor.

William Passmore of the Royal Theatre, Moose Jaw, Sask., has purchased the 396-seat Cadet Theatre, Esquimalt, B. C. It is only three miles from Victoria and a big naval base. His son will manage the theatre until Passmore moves to the coast . . . Earl Hayter, Odeon supervisor for British Columbia, has served 25 years in the movie industry. He has been voted into the Canadian Picture Pioneers here.

Leslie Plottel, Empire-Universal manager, and his Vancouver staff are winning top money in the Canadian division of the Universal sales drive . . . Dennis Earl of the Oak, associated with the Odeon circuit the last three years, has been appointed manager of the Odeon Theatre in Haney, B. C., succeeding Jack Pearce, resigned, Earl Hayter, Odeon supervisor, announced.

With the timeliness which has made Canada's National Film Board famous, a new subject, "Salute to Victory," is now playing local first runs. The short is a tribute to the Dominion's fighting men and home front workers. It is available to all theatres free.

Albert Wiancho, who operates the Bently in Bently, Alta., has purchased the theatre at Rimbey, Alta., from Bert Hedley of the Empress, Ponoka . . . Larry Bearg, western district manager, is here from Toronto on an inspection visit of British Columbia Famous Player houses. Bearg was British Columbia district manager for FPC before his promotion. He will take his family east when he returns to head office.

W. P. Nicols of the Royal, dean of theatre veterans here, will begin a stage show policy now that alterations are completed in compliance with the British Columbia fire regulations which were tightened up recently. He will offer twin bills plus vaudeville. The house is in the east end . . . The Lyric at Swift Current, Sask., has experienced another outbreak of seat-slashing and other vandalism in the theatre which includes the dismantling and stealing of light fixtures, Mike Healey, owner, reports.

No one fainted and no one walked out. This was the report of local theatre managers following the first run showings of atrocity films. People were anxious to see the films and boxoffice receipts increased, exhibitors said . . . The Hollywood troupe of stars here for the Victory Loan drive went for Canadian steaks and cigarets in a big way, both short in the U.S., the stars said.

The Vogue here cashed in on the local girl angle of Yvonne DeCarlo in the film "Salome, Where She Danced," to outstanding business with a topnotch press. The film appeared set for a long and profitable engagement. It's now on its second terrific week.



CRITICS SEE "BLIMP"—Canadian reviewers and tradepaper representatives attended a dinner given by United Artists at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, for the Canadian National Film Board before the opening of "Colonel Blimp" at the Elgin Theatre. Among those present, and pictured above, are: Hy Bossin, Canadian Film Weekly; Helen Allen, Toronto Evening Telegram; Jacques LaRoche, La Presse, Montreal; Jay Smith, Canadian Moving Picture Digest; J. W. Thompson, Montreal Herald; Will McLaughlin, Ottawa Journal; E. W. Harrold, Ottawa Citizen; Jean Logan, Ottawa Citizen; Herbert Whitaker, Montreal Gazette; Jack Karr, Toronto Star, and Roly Young, Toronto Globe and Mail.

TORONTO

Persistent rumors, not denied, are that 20th Century Theatres is closing a deal for the taking over of Firestone Theatre Enterprises as a part of the circuit's expansion program. Sam and Harry Firestone have been associated with N. A. Taylor for several years and their holdings include an interest in the Midtown, Toronto, and ownership of the Esquire, Toronto, and the Esquire, Brantford.

It was a proud moment for Win Barron, commentator for Canadian News, for which he makes weekly trips to New York, when he screened the Victory edition of the series for a group of press reviewers and other interested persons along with the feature, "Bring On the Girls." The Victory News was a rapid-fire roundup of events leading to the collapse of Germany. Barron was credited with a fine job.

The complete occupation of Germany has been followed by the news of the liberation of Thomas William Dowbiggin of the RCAF from a Nazi prison camp. He was reported missing after a raid over enemy territory last summer. He is the oldest son of Tom Dowbiggin, veteran branch manager of Paramount at Montreal. A younger son is also in the air force.

James R. Nairn, advertising manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp., enjoyed a lengthy stay in New York City for a checkup on exploitation jobs . . . A former booker of the Toronto branch of Paramount Film Service, Lieut. William DeMille of the RCAF overseas group, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery and meritorious service. Details of the citation were not available.

The Variety Club is considering plans which include taking over the Green Room in the Victoria Theatre, owned by Famous Players . . . Al Sedgwick, recently appointed manager of Odeon's Palace at St. Catharines, has reported to friends in Toronto he has encountered the familiar housing problem there . . . Harry J. Kaufman, general manager of Monogram, was in Chicago for a conference of the company's franchise holders.

"Berlin" Easily Wins Montreal Honors

MONTREAL—Heavy rain somewhat decreased attendance at first run theatres, but whenever the downfall eased off the fans crowded to see their favorites. "Hotel Berlin" at the Capitol had easily the longest queue and was held over. A second week of "The Song of Bernadette" at Loew's did moderately well and the same may be said of the second week of "Music for Milions" at the Palace, and "Le Signe de Zorro" (The Mark of Zorro) in its third week at the Orpheum. A fair attendance daily greeted "Rough, Tough and Ready" at the Princess. Two additional theatres featured first runs, the Snowdon drawing big crowds for the amusing British film, "Bell Bottom George," starring George Formby, and lesser audiences went to His Majesty's to see another British film, "Mr. Emmanuel."

Capitol—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), held.....Great
His Majesty's—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA).....Average
Loew's—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.....Moderate
Orpheum—**Le Signe de Zorro** (WB), 3rd wk.....Average
Palace—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....Pretty fair
Princess—**Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col); **Eadie Was a Lady** (Col).....Fair
Snowdon—**Bell Bottom George** (British).....Excellent

Salome Dances Into Top Flight Spot In Yvonne DeCarlo's Old Home Town

VANCOUVER—"Salome, Where She Danced," which features a Vancouver girl, Yvonne DeCarlo, was the pacemaker among the new films last week. It showed at the Vogue. Papers gave it top publicity and it appeared set for a nice run. "National Velvet" at the Capitol hit par for its third and final week and moved out to ease the product pileup of first run releases. "The Song of Bernadette" opened at the Capitol to big business, and "Tonight and Every Night" at the Orpheum had a head start and looked good.

Beacon—**Unpublished Story** (Col); **Git Along Little Doggies** (Rep), plus stage acts.....Good
Capitol—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....Very good
Dominion—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO); **An American Romance** (M-G-M), both moveovers.....Good
Orpheum—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M).....Below average
Plaza—**Brewsters Millions** (UA); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep), 2nd wk.....Pretty good
Paradise—**Youth on Trial** (Col); **Girls of the Road** (Col).....Very good
Strand—**The Great Moment** (Para); **Here Comes the WAVES** (Para), moveover.....Good
Vogue—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ).....Very good

"Bernadette," Long Delayed, Scores Top Rating With Toronto Film Audiences

TORONTO—"The Song of Bernadette" finally reached the screen in Toronto, opening at Shea's to excellent business after a long delay because of price restrictions. To greet J. Arthur Rank of England on his arrival from England was a British feature, "Fanny by Gaslight," at Loew's Uptown, which was attracting considerable attention. "National Velvet" held over at Loew's Yonge Street with nice returns and "The Woman in the Window" remained for another healthy week at the Imperial.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox).....95
Imperial—**The Woman in the Window** (RKO), 2nd wk.....90
Loew's—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100
Shea's—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....125
Tivoli—Same as Eglinton.....95
Uptown—**Fanny by Gaslight** (Br.).....110

"Song" Builds Up to Lead Week's Boxoffice Parade at Calgary

CALGARY—Cool, cloudy weather kept amateur gardeners out of their patches to the benefit of theatre boxoffices, especially those in the suburbs. Good attractions in the downtown first run houses picked the cream of business. Leaders were "A Song to Remember" tying with "National Velvet." However, the Columbia picture built up daily and was to have a longer holdover engagement than the Metro equine drama.

Capitol—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), held over 3 days.....Very good
Grand—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk.....Excellent
Palace—**Objective, Burma!** (WB).....Good
Palace—**Brazil** (Rep); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M).....Good

Halifax Theatre Staffs Remain On Constant Guard in Rioting

HALIFAX—Theatre staffs here and in Dartmouth remained on duty almost a full 24 hours each day to guard the playhouses from rioters in the VE-Day disturbances which started with the first announcement of Germany's surrender. Theatres were closed from VE Monday through the entire week as military and civil police were restoring order in the community.

Among the film houses, the Capitol, leading member of the Famous Players chain, suffered the most damages. The theatre front, marquee, lobby, ticket booth and windows offered mute evidence of the mob's destructiveness. Ironically, the Capitol since early in the war has been the scene of weekly Sunday shows for service men. It was members of the armed services who led the drunken rioting.

Some Famous Players employes at the Capitol and the Orpheum did not have their clothes off for the full week, and had very little sleep. They went the week without a real meal, eating sandwiches when obtainable. At the Family, owned and operated by Franklin & Herschorn, Pat Dwyer had his staff on guard for the full period. Although right in the middle of the riot zone, the damage at the Family was minor.

At the Casino, leased and operated by Odeon-Rank, the staff under Tom Courtney stuck to its post through Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, day and night. During the extreme vandalism of Tuesday, Courtney assigned himself to the front of the theatre to plead with the crowds not to damage the property. Only slight damage was reported at the Empire, Garrick, Oxford, Community and Gaiety.

On the Dartmouth side, Ivan Haley organized his Mayfair and Dundas staffs into a protective force during and after the rioting. The Dundas was the base for armed soldiers imported from Camp Debert to enforce martial law. This was the only maritime theatre serving as an emergency barracks. Little damage was evident at either theatre.

The Halifax and Dartmouth theatres resumed operations Monday afternoon, May 14. Damage to properties was being assessed by a special commission. Another commission was to investigate the disturbances and fix responsibility. Eventually, the government is expected to pay the costs of the outbreak by the naval men, four of whom already have been sentenced to prison for from two to five years for their part in the disorders.

Dave Oliver, RKO, Filming NFB Short on Alberta

CALGARY—David R. Oliver, former RKO cameraman who was with the U.S. Fifth army in Italy, was here last week on a tour in which he is taking films of various phases of Alberta's industries and activities. Rejoining RKO studios after discharge, Oliver was loaned to Canada's National Film Board to produce a series of films on western Canada.

He started with shots of the last class of New Zealand and Australian airmen leaving the British Commonwealth air training plan schools in the Calgary district.

This week, Oliver and his four assistants will film scenes of the oil industry in Turner Valley, then some ranching and agricultural shots after which he will return to Calgary for shots of the famous Stampede.

Oliver closed his army career with a 19-day 'round the world trip in a cargo carrying plane of the U.S. navy. He covered the invasion of Sicily and Italy. Later he was with the Allied forces, being one of three cameramen who accompanied bomber crews on the Hamburg raid.

His wife, who is accompanying Oliver on the Alberta tour to Calgary, formerly lived in Banff where her mother still resides.

"Nineteen years ago," Oliver explains, "I was up in Banff filming a newsreel of the Canadian Rockies. I needed three dog teams, so I hired one of the Banff girls who had a smart team. Nine days later I married her."

New Tag on "The Magnificent Rogue"

"The Cheaters" is the new title of Republic's "The Magnificent Rogue."

CALGARY

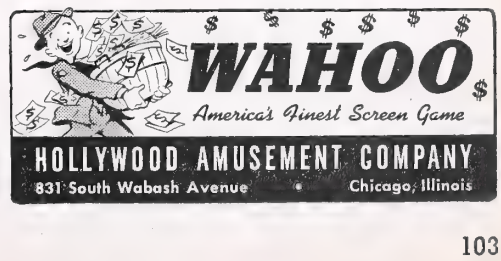
Yousef Karsh, Ottawa cameraman, came in from the San Francisco conference for a stay at Banff. The maker of personality shots of notables was looking over picture possibilities of the Rockies.

Frank Shepherd, owner of Garry in the east end, has leased it to James C. Crawford, discharged flight lieutenant in the air force. Crawford gained his experience in theatrical work in Kansas City before joining the Canadian air force. Shepherd retains control of his theatres at Biggar, Saskatchewan, and at Armstrong.

W. H. B. Sharpe of Sharpe Theatre Supply has returned from a trip to Alaska and the coast. He went to Whitehorse to dismantle equipment of the theatre there formerly run by the Standard Oil for employes. He went on to Juneau, then down the coast to Seattle and Vancouver.

Harry Phillet of the Phillet & Forest circuit in northern Manitoba, was in last week . . . Also a visitor was Leo Devaney, Canadian general manager of RKO, en route to Vanconver . . . I. F. Shacker, mayor of Hanna and operator of the Capitol there and the Rex at Kindersley, was on Filmrow . . . Bob Lighthouse, released from army service, is the new salesman at Paramount exchange.

Cecil B. De Mille of Hollywood will be the principal speaker at the convention of the Alberta Canadian Legion here June 3-6. De Mille, who is expected to arrive June 3, said in a telephone conversation he was interested in addressing the veterans because his mother was English and because of his desire to thank Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen for their contributions to victory.



MONTREAL

Although there is still hope of some modification of Quebec's luxury tax, distributors are adding six per cent to their film bills to theatres, that being the amount they are instructed to collect, as from April 27. Protests have been made by the Allied Theatrical Industries on behalf of exhibitors but so far there is no indication that films or film rentals will be exempted from the tax. The impost also applies to electric lights and telephones, as well as to automobiles, telegrams and cables, radios, and a host of other items.

Word comes from Dublin that the southern Irish are seeing American and British war films and documentaries for the first time, owing to the lifting of the censorship at the end of the war.

Personal appearances of film stars are so frequent nowadays that middle-aged fans have been racking their recollections to determine who were the first stars to visit Montreal. Amongst those for whom claims are made are Francis X. Bushman and Beverley Bayne, who appeared at the Regent in 1919 . . . George Formby is pulling them in at the Snowdon with his latest comedy, "Bell Bottom George."

E. N. Tabah, general manager and secretary of Confederation Amusements, announces declaration of a dividend of $3 a share on the preferred stock, payable June 15 to shareholders of record May 15 . . . Ken L. Royce, former manager of General Films in Montreal, is now manager of the Drummond in Drummondville, Que., for the proprietor, Edouard Gaunthier, Sorel.

His Majesty's is showing a British film, "Mr. Emmanuel," starring the Norwegian actress, Greta Gynt . . . Anne Baxter celebrated VE-Day here, taking part in a broadcast, but made a faux pas when she said she spoke French, "but not the kind of French spoken in Montreal." French-Canadians contend they speak perfect French, so her remark did not go down too well.

In Montreal for a Victory Loan broadcast was Pierre Aumont, who appeared in stage plays here when he first escaped from France. He made a personal appearance at the Chateau and was acclaimed by a large audience . . . The Montreal branch of the Canadian Association of Scientific Workers, cooperating with the National Film Board and the National Film Society of Canada, gave a free "scientific film night." A Soviet film of experiments in the revival of organisms was shown.

Roland Cantin's latest song, "Put Away Your Gun, My Little Soldier" was published VE-Day and had it first radio airing over the Dominion network of CBC, being broadcast from the Normandie Roof in Montreal . . . The motion picture industry is continuing its protests against Quebec's six per cent luxury tax, which applies to films and film rentals . . . The regular semiannual dividend of 50 cents a share has been declared on the "A," "B" and Voting Trust certificates of United Amusement Corp., and will be payable May 31 to holders of record May 15.

"Le Pere Chopin," first feature length film made in Quebec province, had its premiere at the St. Denis. It was produced by Renaissance Films of this city and much of it was shot in suburban St. Laurent. Local stage and radio stars figure in the cast . . . Theatres, as usual, have played a worthy part in promoting the Eighth Victory Loan . . . Consolidated Theatres in the past 12 months distributed 16,000 free passes to visiting members of the armed forces. Consolidated owns and operates all the first run theatres on St. Catherine St.

Expert Dislikes Mount Royal Television Station Plan

MONTREAL—A mountain top location for a television broadcasting station, while it might prove more satisfactory in some ways, is not vital to its successful operation, according to Leonard Spencer, chief engineer of CKAC and the first radio technician in Canada to delve into the possibilities of visual broadcasting.

Surrounded by all manner of radio equipment, Spencer announced that in theory the higher the antenna, the more efficient the station. "A balloon would be the best," he chuckled. "But seriously, with today's tremendous strides in television, any tall building equipped with a modern antenna would be just as good or even better than the mountain site.

"It's true that if the building wasn't as high as the peak of Mount Royal here, residents in sections of Outremont and the town of Mount Royal would have poor reception. On the other hand, the Sun Life Bldg. is about the same height as the mountain and would serve ideally if a tall antenna were constructed on the roof.

"There are too many factors against the site on Mount Royal," Spencer contended.

Bacall Opposite Boyer in "Agent"

Lauren Bacall has been assigned the feminine lead opposite Charles Boyer in "Confidential Agent," the Warner version of the Graham Greene novel. Herman Shumlin will direct with Robert Buckner producing.

ST. JOHN

A father and son are competitors in film distribution in the maritime provinces—Reg March, trade veteran and maritime manager for 20th-Fox, and John March, PRC maritime manager. Both have headquarters in St. John. The younger March has been in distribution since his late teens. This is believed to be one of the few instances of a father and son in competition in selling pictures.

Stevie Doane, chairman of the Nova Scotia censor board, was a trophy winner in the Mayflower Curling Club's ice activities for the 1944-45 season at Halifax. He is a veteran curling enthusiast . . . Lou Michelson, who had been on the staff of Columbia and Maritime Films for many years, now is booker at Monogram here. Previously, Sam Jacobs, manager, did his own booking. There is no further word yet as to when Monogram will start erecting its new exchange building near the currently used quarters; and with Empire-Universal as a tenant.

The Yeo Theatres at Souris and Montague on Prince Edward Island are using the same pictures for consecutive dates. In addition to two shows a night, the Montague Yeo offers one Saturday afternoon show, starting at 3.

The Empire, located upstairs in the municipal market building in Charlottetown, is now being operated only three days a week by the Spencer circuit. The Prince Edward, originally used for road shows, is being continued by Spencer at Charlottetown. It seats 1,050 and was the first Spencer house in the island community, having been taken over 35 years ago. The Spencer Capitol seats 514 and was built 17 years ago. The site for the new Spencer house is immediately adjoining the Capitol.

Joe Franklin is back in St. John after being absent since December, when he trekked to Miami Beach. On the way back he visited in New York and Boston. Mrs. Franklin accompanied him.

Western Showmen Back Pioneer Fund

VANCOUVER—Leo Devaney, general manager of RKO for Canada and president of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, was a visitor. He spoke at a luncheon at Hotel Vancouver to outline the activities of the CPP in connection with the Clair Hague memorial benevolent funds. All exchange managers, circuit heads and independent theatre owners attended.

The following officers were elected: District manager, Frank Gow of FPC; district captain, Harry Woolfe, UA; publicity and exploitation, Ivan Ackery, manager of the Orpheum.

Devaney outlined the objects of the fund in his address and the western showmen voiced support of the idea, which is to help any needy person in the amusement business whether they are a member of CPP or not.

Devaney also reported that Variety Tents would be established in key centers across the Dominion soon.

Price Ceilings to Remain In Canada Indefinitely

OTTAWA — Abolishment or reduction of wartime taxes on many articles, announced by the Canadian finance department following the termination of hostilities in Europe, does not affect ceiling prices or other forms of wartime control, it has been stated by an official source in Ottawa. Such ceilings are to be maintained indefinitely because of the danger of inflation, it was stated.

There has been no change in the order-in-council providing for the freezing of theatre admission prices nor in the regulations governing film rental contracts. At the same time the wartime prices and trade board is not requiring merchandisers to reduce prices on building materials, electrical appliances and other lines to the extent of war-tax reductions but it was anticipated that benefits would be passed on to consumers wherever possible. If this policy is maintained by the prices board, theatres would not be required to reduce admission prices when the war amusement tax of 20 per cent on theatre grosses is dropped by the government.

Distinguished Audience At the "Blimp" Premiere

MONTREAL—Film critics were among the guests invited to witness the Canadian official premiere of the GCF film, "Colonel Blimp," at the Elgin, Ottawa. Among those present were the governor general and Princess Alice, several ambassadors, statesmen, naval, military and air force officers, and, of course, film distributors.

John Grierson gave a luncheon and at it one of the speakers was E. M. Schnitzer of United Artists.

A reception was also given by Donald Gordon, chairman of the wartime prices and trade board. Local critics were taken around the National Film Board building and viewed some of the current pictures.

Return Billing for 'Sullivans' In St. John Family Theatre

ST. JOHN—Business was so heavy for "The Sullivans" at the local Regent, only north-end theatre, that a three-day run of continuous shows failed to meet the demand. The film was brought back several weeks later for another three-day stand. The first time it was shown the first half of the week. The second showing was in the latter half. Return bookings are unusual at this neighborhood house.

The MODERN THEATRE

MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SECTION of BOXOFFICE



SEE PAGE 14

presents *Seating Service*

ISSUE OF MAY TWENTY-SIXTH, 1945

YOUR



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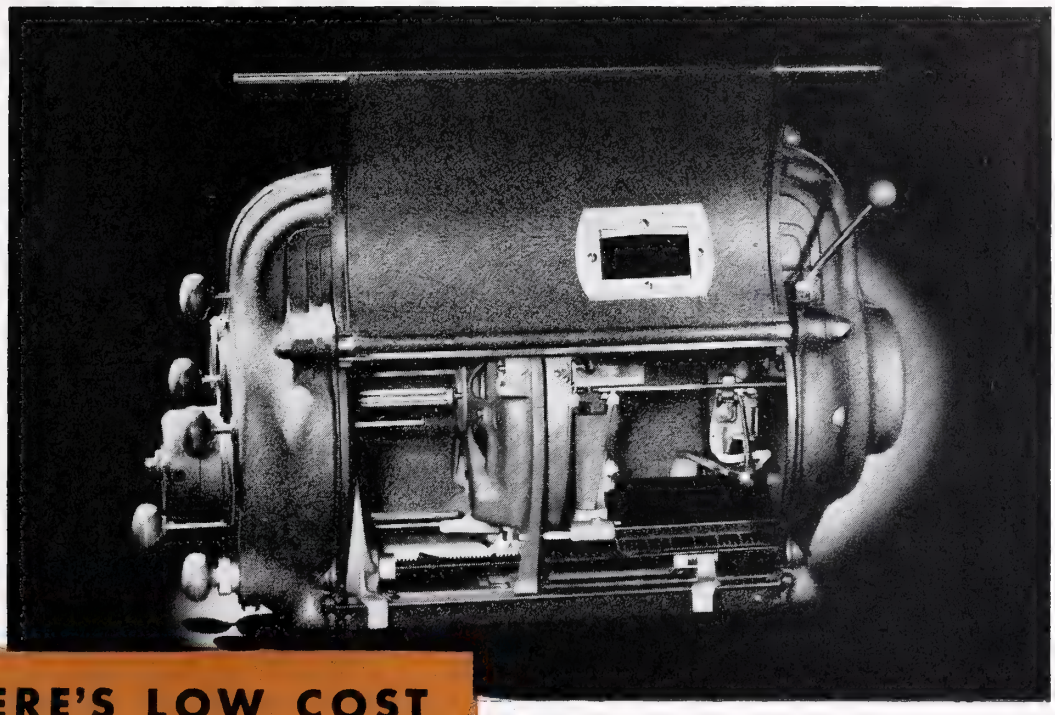


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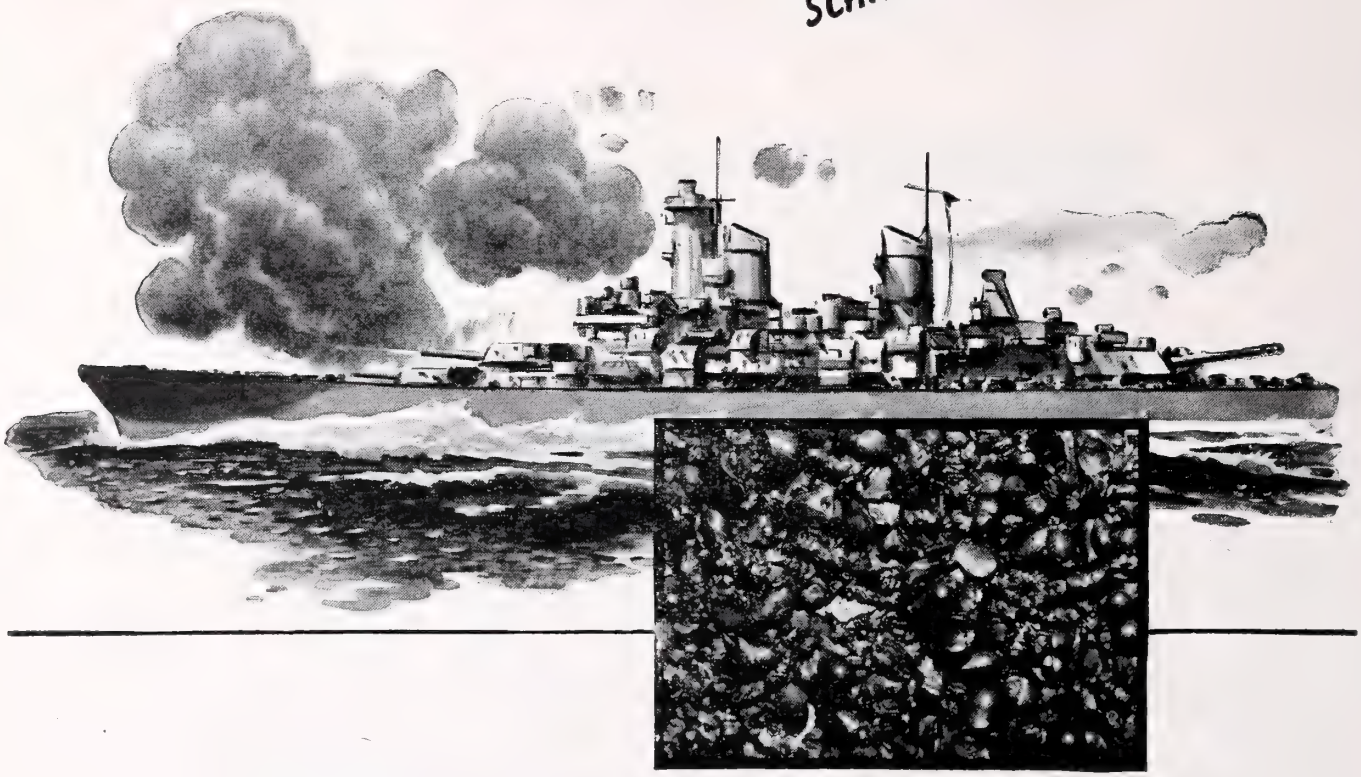
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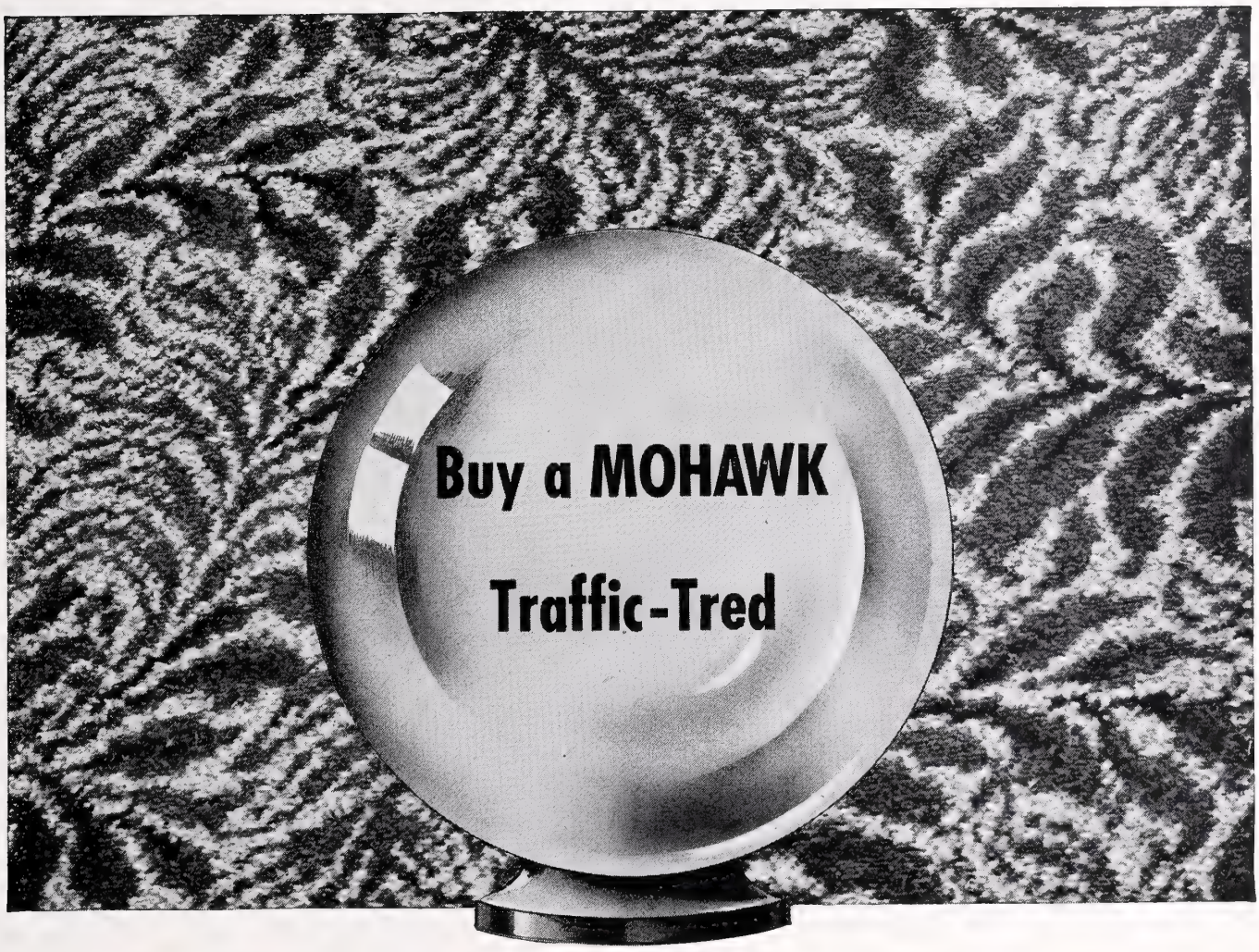
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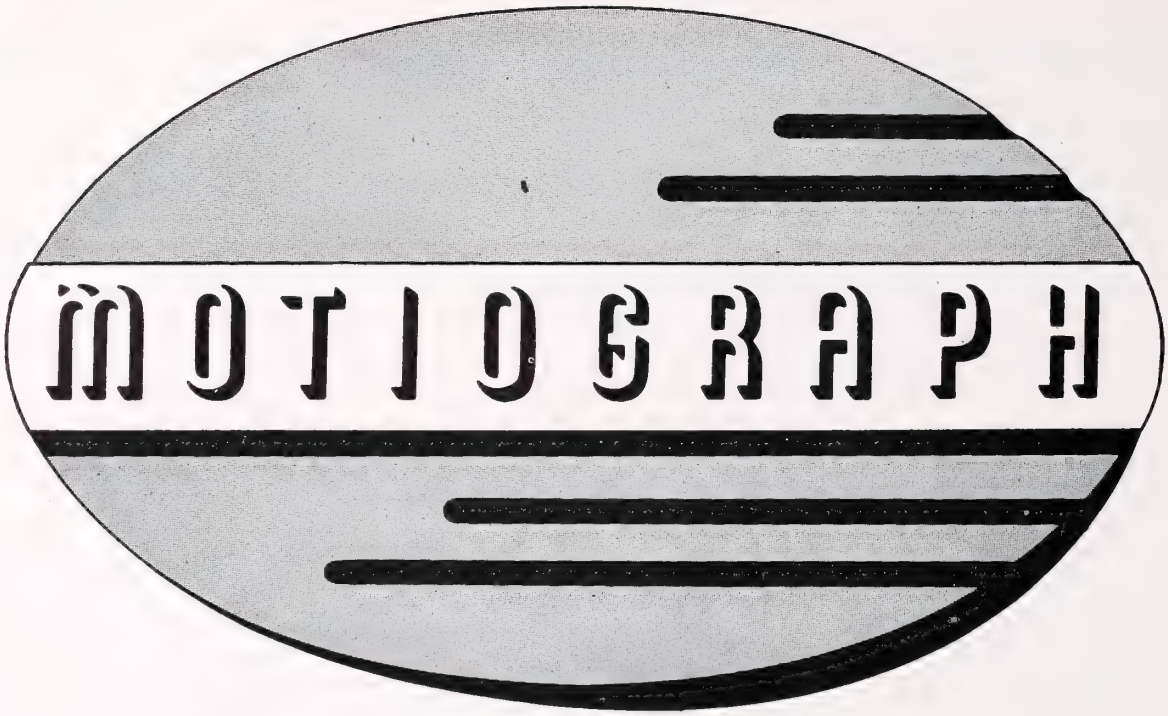
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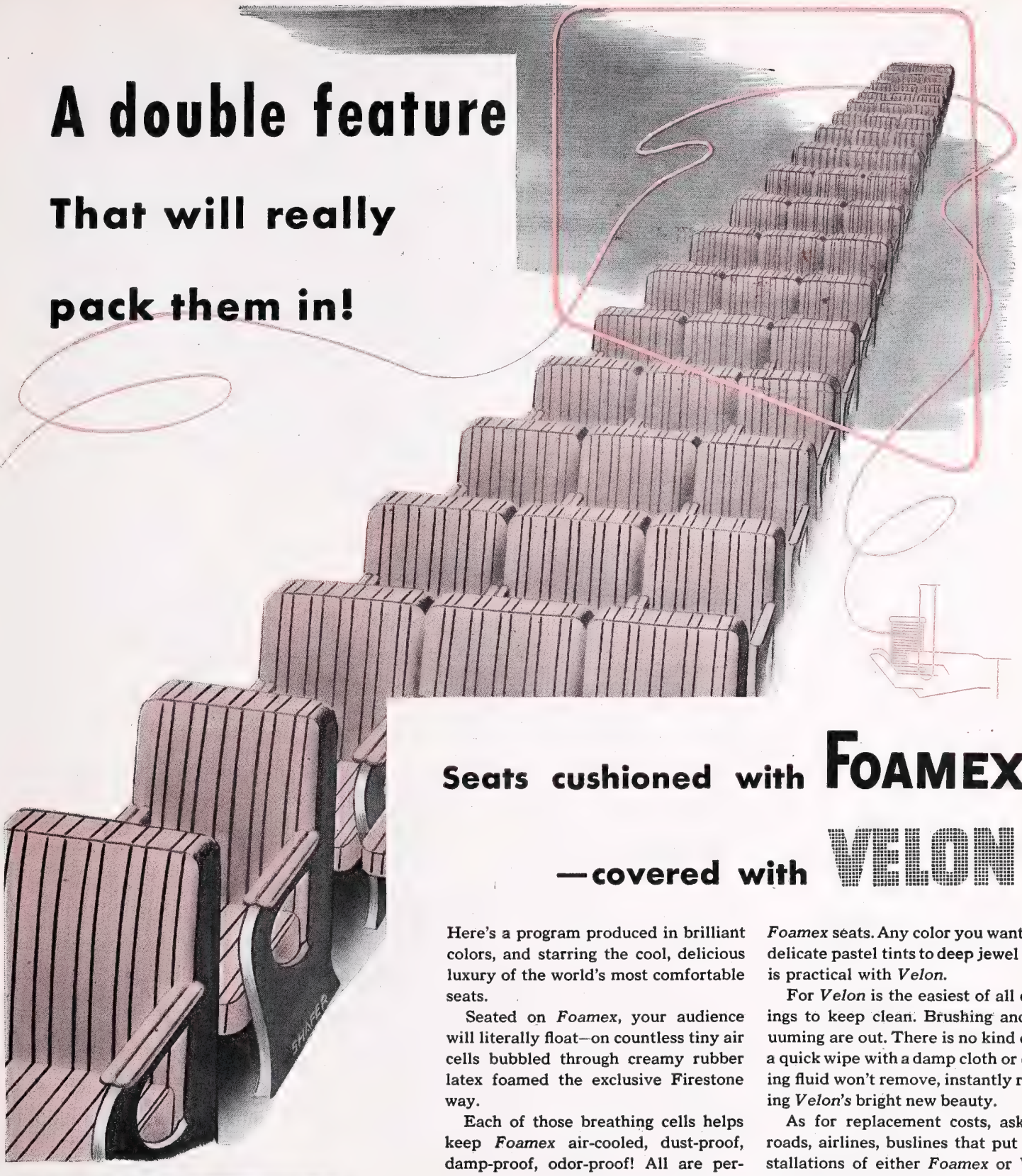
MOTIOGRAPH

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As for replacement costs, ask railroads, airlines, buslines that put in installations of either *Foamex* or *Velon* before the war. They'll tell you *Foamex* wears years longer—that after years of heaviest wartime traffic no *Velon* has ever lost its original beauty.

"See it at your favorite theatre!" Their favorite theatre will *always* be where the seats are as comfortable as *Foamex*, and as lovely as *Velon!*

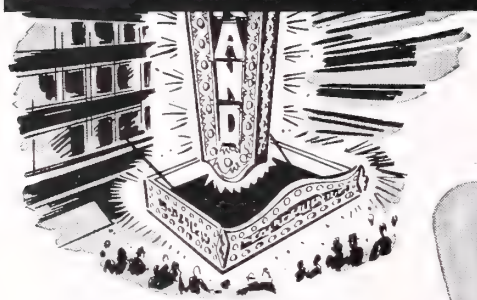
*TRADEMARK

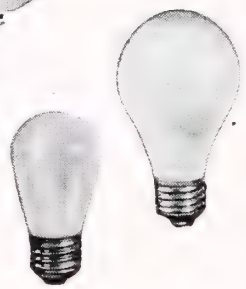


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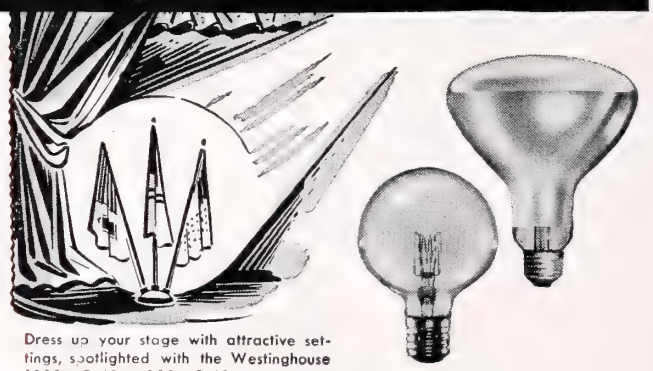
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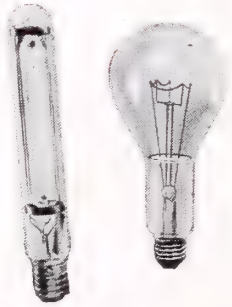


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The MODERN THEATRE

MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SECTION of BOXOFFICE

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LUCERNE TOLER PATERSON, Associate Editor | **Vol. XII. — No. 6**

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Material Scarcities May Ease a Bit—But Slowly

Don't expect a mad-rush delivery of the materials you have ordered or expect to purchase as a result of the cessation of hostilities in Central Europe. You'll simply have to take your turn.

The Far East situation is still to be cleared up the hard way; and even if that job were behind us too, there would still be a waiting line for most all civilian requirements.

OPA restrictions are expected to ease up considerably, according to all reports; but as in the past an OPA directive to go ahead and make it does not tell the manufacturer where to find the tools, materials and manpower with which to produce what we may be needing long before actual delivery is possible.

In this, our Seating Number for 1945, we had expected to be able to offer some measure of encouragement on the production and delivery time for new theatre seating. Unfortunately we are unable to do so. As yet no new postwar theatre seats are being fabricated and a huge back-log of seating orders is piling up for future delivery.

Manufacturers of theatre chairs are still too completely absorbed in war production to proceed with the design and production of new postwar models, which most of them have in mind. Reconversion of plants and necessary retooling has to be done before production can start.

Yet we are given to understand that new chairs will be announced and production started by several of the factories before very long, and especially by those who have already taken many orders for delivery of theatre chairs if, as and when.

In the face of present circumstances and the unlikelihood that the situation will ease materially for many weeks, we again urge all prospective purchasers of theatre building materials, furnishings and equipment to plan their improvement projects immediately, prepare specifications and wherever possible book their orders for a delivery priority.

In order to better serve our industry it would be helpful to all manufacturers to know what our postwar requirements are going to be and thus give them a chance to intelligently set up their schedules for adequate production and earliest possible deliveries.

If your theatre planning (a new house or remodeling of the old one) is yet to be done, it will be unwise to waste further time. Blue prints, seating plans and specifications are essential to the intelligent purchase, delivery and installation of everything you're going to need.

Many theatre owners are ready with prepared plans. Some have prearranged priority on deliveries. Get ready for the big rush soon to start What we've preached and predicted concerning the importance of preparatory theatre planning, practically since the first day priority went into effect, is soon to come true. Are you ready—with plans?

Toler

The American Family enjoys

AN EVENING OUT TOGETHER

by **HELEN KENT**

In this article the author addresses her reasoning to the public in the presence of our readers, who being vitally interested in the outcome, are expected to draw certain conclusions therefrom. One conclusion is hardly escapable. The multiple-enterprise theatre project should be a money-maker for the motion picture industry. Or conversely, in other hands, a mighty tough competitor for the exhibitor of motion pictures alone.—EDITOR.



IF YOU are a movie-fan—and figures show that if you're human, you're practically bound to be—aren't you somewhat bored by your favorite entertainment as administered nowadays? And yet, you do keep on attending theatres, perhaps more often in the past few years than you ever did before! Well, you're the typical American and it matters not whether you're young or old; man, woman or child.

The reason you're going to more movies during these war-troubled years is attributable to a number of things, principal among which are war-edged nerves which you try to soothe and relax under the benign influence of a shadow world and too, you've probably more money to spend for what the movies have to offer. At any rate, you're hitting a new high in "box-office," which is the theatre industry's monetary yardstick.

However, you're becoming outspokenly bored and the situation is causing the brows of the industry to rise and become furrowed. The motion picture industry is actually jealous of your patronage. It has been gratified with increased attendance during the past few years, and it will do all in its power to hold your interest and continued custom at the boxoffice, postwar.

THE MISSING LINK

Admittedly, the war years have been difficult to theatre operation. They have been definitely deterrent to the exercise of smart showmanship, that magic treatment in theatre operation which causes patrons to come again and again. This lull in showmanship marks the one big element which you are missing, and which is the predominant cause of boredom or waning interest.

In some respects, showmanship has been neglected because money has come pouring into the boxoffices too easily. When income comes easy, the spark of competition is no longer an incentive, and the coasting begins. However, smart showmen who face the future clear-eyed are coming to the realization that patronage can go as easily as it came; when the many compulsion factors of wartime living are removed.

Showmanship in the motion picture entertainment business, of course, encompasses every factor from Hollywood production to exhibition in Podunk. Yet, it is in the exhibition phase, either big town or hamlet, where showmanship has been sorely neglected for the duration. Hollywood's product is of par value despite loss of many young stars; but the exhibition department seems to have lost more than stars. Its hospitality has slumped beyond the danger point already.



Motion picture exhibitors have seen their houses grow old and run-down in the war years, and because of needed restrictions the once proud cinema has been allowed to deteriorate in efficiency and appearance until it has reached a state of monotony which reflects in the very boredom of its patrons. More than in any other respect, showmanship has suffered in the deterioration of property. Motion pictures as they are produced may be as fine or finer than ever; but the manner and environment in which they are presented has had a great downfall.

That this condition will be remedied post haste when the war restrictions are removed is a foregone conclusion. Plans have been made throughout the war years to put showmanship and theatre properties back on an even firmer base at the earliest possible moment. Of necessity, this rebirth of showmanship must come in a rush after the war if patrons are to be held. Competition, not among individual theatres, but of various contemporary forms of entertainment which will also blossom anew, makes the element of time exceedingly important.

Plans now in work and ready to be consummated at an early postwar date lead one to believe that most of the war-enhanced patronage can be held and even increased further. The postwar theatre is going to be an institution for not only the entertainment but for the education, recreational diversion and gratification of all ages, types and classes of the American family.

Cartoonist Marguerite Ann Task sketches the highlights of a full evening of fun, exercise and entertainment for every member of the American Family at a multiple-enterprise amusement center . . . Stay-at-homes will be no problem for the exhibitor who provides what the public so obviously wants and is willing to pay for.

AMUSEMENTS MERGED

As distinguished from anything which has gone before in theatre formation and function, the new trend in design and construction of the entertainment plant is designated the "Multiple-Enterprise Theatre Project" by its enthusiastic proponents and the architects who are active in its conception. Different from its one-purpose predecessors, yet a natural outgrowth of the prewar modern motion picture theatre which presented as many patron appeals as were possible in a house designed only for pictures, the new idea goes many steps further in the provision of facilities for all-round entertainment.

Behind the "Multiple-Enterprise" idea in showmanship is the motivating desire

by present-day exhibitors to provide more in the way of all-family entertainment, and thus to checkmate the keen competition for the American amusement dollar that will soon arise with the end of wartime restrictions. It is now recognized that the sizeable percentage of persons who do not attend movies regularly are those who prefer other forms of recreation. Hence, the more progressive movie people believe they can woo the stay-aways by providing more of what they want—*and motion pictures as well.*

If you prefer participation sports such as bowling and billiards to the more static motion picture relaxation, wouldn't you just as soon have them in a center of entertainment grouped about the motion picture theatre—and perhaps see a movie either before or after your participation, or at least take the family along on the trip so that they could see a picture while you're indulging a fling at your favorite pastime? That's the way it will be when the "Multiple-Enterprise" is a reality, and a fine one judging by the way real showmen have in the past thrown themselves wholeheartedly into public entertainment business once they get started.

And that's only one facet of the trend. As designed by skilled theatre architects, the group entertainment plant will be a Community Center, offering a restaurant, cocktail lounge, super market and shops, dance pavilion, roller or ice skating rink, ping-pong, billiards and bowling. All these in addition to the finest motion pictures in a beautiful theatre and, as soon as it comes, television — which, by the way, may be shown to best advantage in a component hall or intimate theatre, so that the element of choice between televised and filmed picture programs is open for the patrons.

More for Less

You're going to like this new entertainment layout and so will your entire family. It's a natural, which still offers the most refined entertainment and wholesome health-giving recreation at the lowest cost, a selling point jealously guarded by the motion picture industry. A few such projects are, in fact, already in operation, and the experiment, if it may be termed such, has been highly successful. The idea of combining several forms of entertainment under skilled theatre operation and management was conceived and editorially sponsored by this publication several years prior to the war and undoubtedly the enforced incubation period will have resulted in a better approach to the ultimate construction of such postwar projects.

This is the way the "Multiple-Enterprise Project" will work: Ideally, it will be constructed in a community where the need for more than one type of recreation has been pre-determined. As laid out, such a project requires ample space, hence it is predominantly indicated for mid-town construction; but will more likely be suited to new neighborhood or suburban locations. Too, it usually is surrounded by landscaped areas and ample parking space—ideal, of course, for city planning or tenement improvement.

It will be an institution serving the entire community and as such will provide many public service facilities both free and for nominal charges. In such respects, it will win whole-family patronage, which has always been the goal of astute theatre management. As always, the standards of excellence and refinement upheld by the astute movie-makers and exhibitors will reflect most favorably upon each of the amusement enterprises which comprise the project.

A Family's Evening Out

Specifically, whole-family patronage of the multiple-enterprise group might work out something like:

Pop, the breadwinner, who is notoriously the movies' severest critic, might prefer to bowl or try his luck with a pool cue. So, ordinarily he might take himself off to that once purely masculine retreat and leave the rest of the family to its own resources—perhaps at home. But with the fine community playhouse, said family could pile into the family car with Pop at the wheel and be off for a merry evening, each to indulge in entertainment of his or her choice.

Mom, if she's typical, probably would take in the movie, although she might spend part of her time at a billiards table too; this purely as a result of bringing that interesting game of skill out of the backroom and putting it on a refined basis which even the ladies will condone.

Sis and Junior, lively representatives of the younger set, could use up excess energy at the skating rink or dancing, and then relax in the movie afterwards. Too, they'd probably be on hand at the soft drinks bar, or otherwise indulging in the various pastimes provided.

That leaves Grandma and Grandpa, but they would no longer be left at home. They'd be right in there taking in the pictures and having the time of their lives, aided and abetted by hearing aids and good comfortable chairs. Even the very young members of a family could be entertained and properly cared for in such a setting, inasmuch as most postwar theatres will provide a nursery or "cry room," where the small tots can be entertained either by seeing the movies with their mothers behind a glass wall or by playing with specially provided toys and trinkets. Finale: The whole family may then gather at the cafe for supper or perhaps a fling at the soda bar.

Varied entertainment and participation sports in one convenient place could well be the answer to the boredom many patrons of theatres have expressed lately. Assuredly, present theatre operators will leave no stone unturned to show appreciation for wartime patronage under the difficulties encountered. The money which has been amassed in wartime operation will certainly find its way into future projects to hold the popularity gained. Multiple-enterprise planning for whole-family entertainment would seem to be the most logical solution to the now-present and on-rushing problem of the motion picture industry, i. e. how to hold its lead and improve its position as America's chief purveyer of public entertainment.



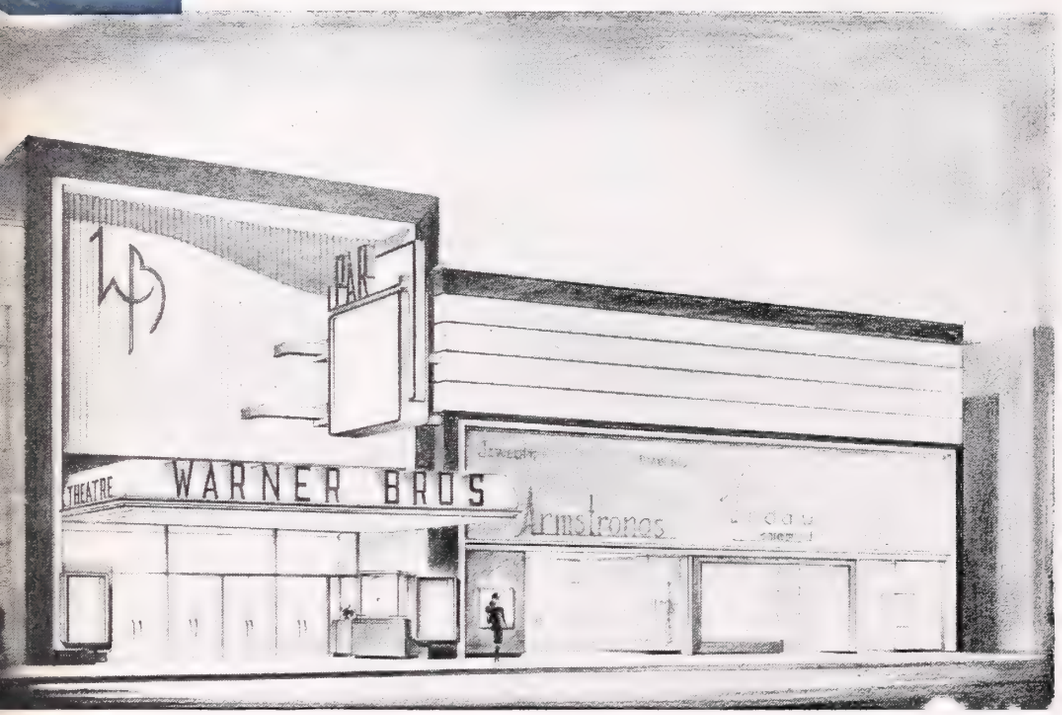
Meanwhile—





Just Off the Boards

Architectural perspectives and early stage visualizations of postwar theatre building projects, the erection of which will proceed promptly with the relaxation of material priorities. The completed projects will be featured in forthcoming issues of The MODERN THEATRE section.



READY FOR RENOVATION

LITERALLY thousands of cinemas throughout the land, a quarter century old or even less, might well profit from the treatment above prescribed. But the principal advantage indicated is not so much in the manner of treatment as in the obvious fact of *preparedness*—readiness for V-J Day or sooner when construction can proceed without delay.



MASON G. RAPP

Subject: Front elevation perspective by Rapp & Rapp, theatre architects, of the 26-year-old Parthenon Theatre on Hohman Avenue at Sibley Street in Hammond, Indiana, as it will appear after renovation of the facade, front lobbies and foyers.

Project: Definitely postwar and comprising, in addition to the complete modernization and rearrangement of the 2,000-seat theatre, a new office building, incident to the current widening of Hohman Avenue at this point, which cuts fifteen feet off the entrance to theatre and existent office building.

Architects: Rapp & Rapp of Chicago, members of The Modern Theatre's Architectural Advisory Board, who designed and supervised the original Parthenon Theatre in 1919. Complete plans, specifications and working drawings for postwar renovation now prepared and ready for construction the day approvals are obtainable. Theatre exterior will be done in combinations of granite, stone, glazed tile and tempered glass.

Ownership: Hammond Theatrical Company, of which Mr. Carl Kleihege, of Hammond, Ind., is president.

TO BE CONTINUED

TRADEWINDS

THE EDITOR'S MONTHLY WEATHERVANE ON CURRENT EVENTS IN THIS AND OTHER INDUSTRIES AFFECTING THE INTERESTS OF THEATRE OPERATION

Theatre Planning Should Set the Pace for Postwar Employment

The Committee for Economic Development this month called upon its 2,800 community and county chairmen to stimulate planning for postwar construction programs in their respective communities. Acting jointly with the American Society of Civil Engineers, C.E.D. urged that private construction programs be hastened to the blue-print stage so that building work may start as soon as materials and manpower are available.

The Engineers' group estimated that if proper planning and blue-printing are done now more than $15,000,000,000 worth of private and necessary public works projects will be ready for bids in the first year after peace. Such a program, it was said, would provide jobs for 9,000,000 workers.

In asking its local units to stimulate this planning C.E.D. took its fourth major step to encourage high level productive employment after the war. Previously it had undertaken programs to stimulate the creation of jobs in commerce, industry and agriculture.

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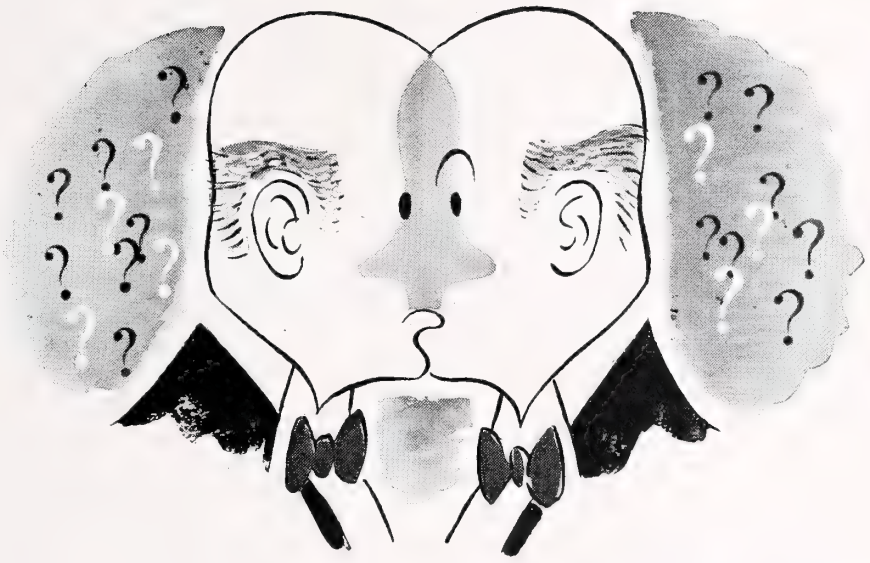
The foregoing news item should stir our industry into action, since practically every theatre now in operation is badly in need of improvements, ranging from thorough renovation and repair to complete structural modernization and refurnishing. And there are thousands of all-new theatres to be erected in order to serve recreation and entertainment to the 60 million workers the postwar prosperity formula calls for.

The real significance of the report to present exhibitors does not rest merely with getting ready to serve the people to be employed by other industries. It raises the point of responsibility and an opportunity for our industry to set the pace for employment stimulation in every community.

Shall we dally and further delay our postwar property improvement projects? Or shall we set an example for other local industries to follow, by preparing our blue prints and publicly announcing our intentions immediately?

The time for clandestine theatre planning, if indeed it ever existed, is now well past. Let's get going!

QUICK QUIZ:



Are you asking yourself these questions?

How can I keep post-war box office at present levels?

Can I be sure of profitable operation the year around?

How can I buy the right air conditioning system at the right price?

What about maintaining our prestige and improving house appeal with up-to-date air conditioning?

What air conditioning equipment will best fit my particular needs?

What system will operate without drafts — and repay me most in customer satisfaction?

EASY ANSWER:

CONSULT CARRIER. Carrier knows — from 43 years' experience — the most effective, most efficient, most dependable air conditioning, refrigerating and unit heating for your theater. Put your post-war plans up to a Carrier representative — and learn about the remarkable new developments which will be ready for peacetime installations. Know your Carrier representative and you will learn about modern air conditioning.

Carrier Corporation, Syracuse, N. Y.

Carrier

AIR CONDITIONING • REFRIGERATION

INDUSTRIAL HEATING

Postwar Seating Service may RESUME WITH PREWAR MODELS

* * *

V-E DAY finds the seating industry fairly swamped with a huge backlog of orders on war contracts and a pressing demand for earliest possible delivery on new theatre chairs for civilian use. With pressure increasing upon him from all sides, the theatre chair manufacturer is in pretty much of a production predicament as we go to press with this, our Seating Service number for 1945.

Up to this time the public seating plants and personnel have been so completely absorbed in vital war production that there has been little time or opportunity for postwar production planning. Consequently no new models are ready for the inspection and appraisal of some eight or ten thousand prospective purchasers, many of whom have almost reached a point of readiness to buy new chairs sight unseen, provided prompt delivery can be arranged.

As far as known or can be anticipated there will be no radical changes in theatre chair design or construction over prewar standards. Whatever changes to be made will be largely in the interest of expediting the delivery of quality-built theatre chairs at the earliest possible date. We may therefore figure on a resumption in the manufacture of the latest prewar (1941) models with perhaps several improvements of an accessory nature thrown in for good measure.

Raw Materials Needed

Steel, plywood, jute, rubber and upholstery materials are still on the critical list; therefore time must be allowed for materials and manpower shortages to slacken up considerably before the production of theatre seating can be resumed on a scale that will even begin to satisfy the enormous pent-up demand.

Most seating fabricators are ready to swing back to commercial production immediately when restrictions are removed; but the problem is where to find materials for the fulfillment of orders on hand. At least two of the chair manufacturers have foresightedly extended delivery priorities on orders placed with them, thus accommodating those theatre owners and builders who have planned their projects and are ready to proceed with construction.

Most all the best 1940-41 model theatre chairs should be back on the market as soon as raw materials become available. But, don't look for the prewar variety of styles and models. To facilitate manufacture and delivery the seating manufacturers will probably confine their production to fewer models for some time to come; but without sacrifice in the characteristic quality, comfort and luxurious appearance of their most popular prewar models.

Certain innovations and improvements will be added, principally in the new war-tested upholstery fabrics of various kinds soon to become available. A number of these new upholstery products although not yet available, are being announced by advertisers in this issue. A few of the better upholstery fabrics of the prewar period are also being re-introduced at this time.

Foam rubber cushions, plastic arm rests and fittings will undoubtedly appear in several of the postwar theatre chair models once they are placed in production. Other innovations and refinements are likely; but no radical changes in the form of theatre chairs are to be anticipated before late summer or early in the fall.

Probable Improvements

One innovation bids fair to become generally adopted by the seating makers once they get back into the swing of civilian production. Fluorescent aisle lights will be designed for application to end standards. A small pencil-size fluorescent tube of the cathode type is being developed for this purpose. With a built-in reflector and an inexpensive transformer, end standards may be designed for a most practical application of fluorescent aisle lighting.

On the same principle and by the same method "black lighting" (ultra violet) soon to be produced in tubular form, instead of the prewar bulb type, may be built into chair end standards with a small transformer, thus to activate fluorescent carpets in theatre aisles. The "black-lighted" carpet promises a prompt return to its prewar popularity as soon as carpets can be manufactured again.

Theatre planners, both architects and clients, are giving greater consideration to the spacing of theatre chairs in future installations. Increased back-to-back spacing is indicated under a common realization that comfort and convenience of access to theatre chairs are more important than extra seating capacity. The minimum is gradually increasing to the more logical 36-inch spacing of chair rows for chairs of standard dimension whether equipped for automatic seat-lifting or retraction, or to be raised by hand or by body contact. The retracting or self-raising seat will undoubtedly resume its prewar popularity with exhibitors and their patrons.

Such features as postwar correctness, body conformity, fireside comfort and smart appearance will be stressed prominently by the producers of postwar seating, plus numerous innovations their designers may have developed, once they are able with materials and manpower to resume production pretty much where they left off at the beginning of the war.

Prepare to Purchase

The promptness and extent in which governmental restrictions on the production of public seating are relaxed or removed will determine the delivery date on new theatre chairs. To most manufacturers reconversion presents no great problem. It's a matter of completing present war contracts and securing the necessary materials out of which to make chairs.

With V-E day past, and the consequent possibility of a cut-back in war contracts, it is reasonable to expect some good news on the theatre seating situation shortly. But time must be allowed for the transition. A period of three to six months is expected to elapse after steel and other critical materials become available before theatre chair production gets well under way. Then orders already placed must be filled in the order of original dating.

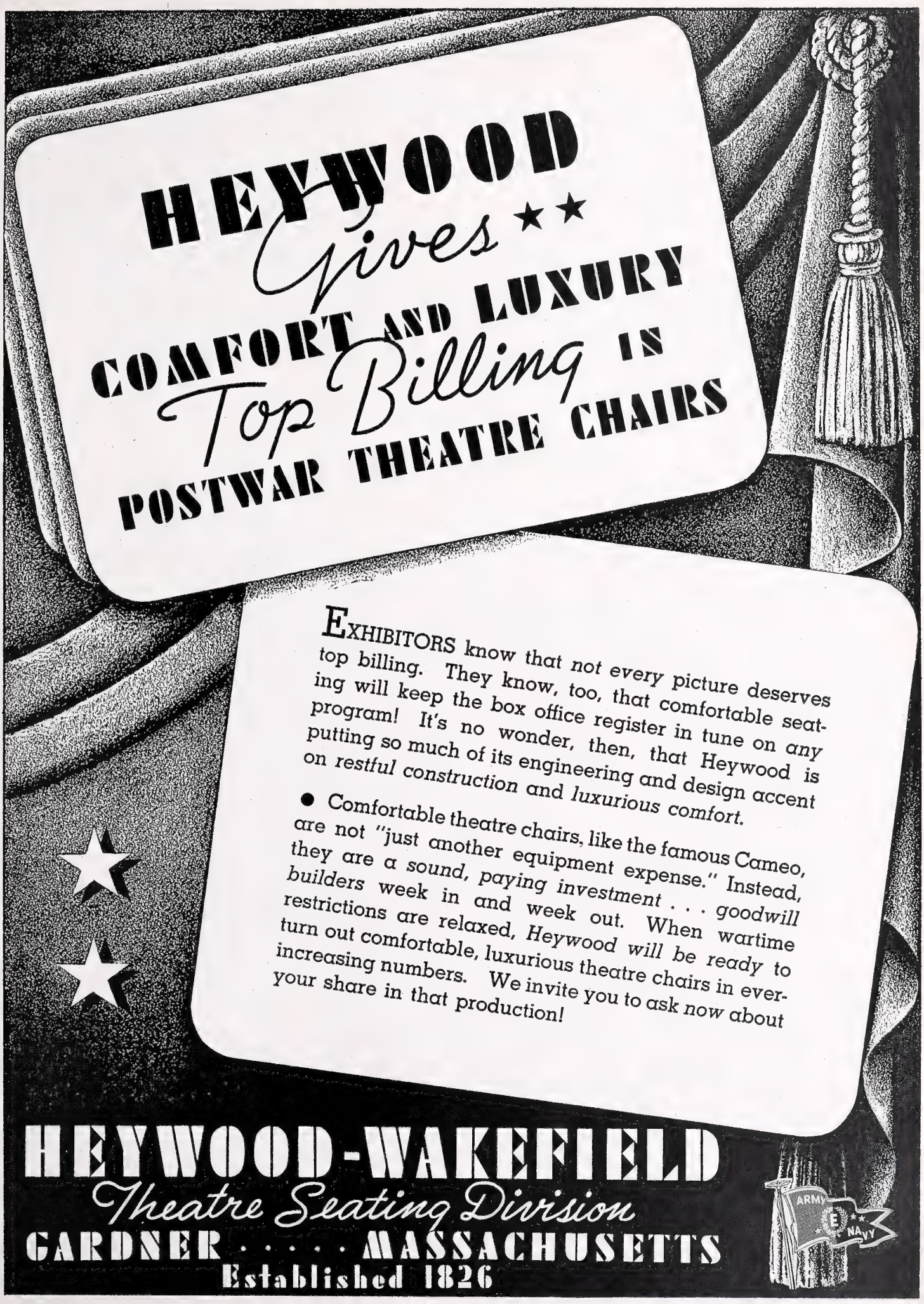
To save this, avoid disappointment and insure earliest possible deliveries, prospective purchasers of seating should prepare their seating plans and specifications at once and where possible place their orders subject to prevailing prices on future delivery. Thus a priority may be established. Meanwhile, and of most importance, a careful study should be made of all materials now being proposed for new chair construction including upholstery materials, steel, wood and plastic products which will undoubtedly influence the design for quality, comfort and luxurious appearance of the new theatre chair models shortly to be announced.

Remember: That extra 4 to 6 inches back-to-back makes a world of difference to the patrons. Comfort compensates for the loss of an extra row of crowded seats.

Put away another War Bond for yourself during the BIG SEVENTH and keep on encouraging your patrons to buy and KEEP them.

Frontispiece

Seating Service *brings to mind one of the foremost functions of motion picture entertainment in theatres. Complete relaxation, as indicated by our cover girl in this instance, is vital to the fullest enjoyment of every motion picture presented. The comfortable, posture-correct theatre chair contributes, more than any other single element of House Appeal, to the patron's complete enjoyment of the program, and particularly the inevitable, inescapable run of program pictures that fall too far below par in entertainment value. A comfortably seated theatre can take the quality fluctuation of film product in stride. The completely relaxed patron is far less critical of the too-frequent flop picture and far more inclined to come back again and again.* (Photograph by Hedrich-Blessing, courtesy Heywood-Wakefield Company.)


HEYWOOD
Gives ★★
COMFORT AND LUXURY
Top Billing IS
POSTWAR THEATRE CHAIRS
EXHIBITORS know that not every picture deserves top billing. They know, too, that comfortable seating will keep the box office register in tune on any program! It's no wonder, then, that Heywood is putting so much of its engineering and design accent on restful construction and luxurious comfort.
● Comfortable theatre chairs, like the famous Cameo, are not "just another equipment expense." Instead, they are a sound, paying investment . . . goodwill builders week in and week out. When wartime restrictions are relaxed, Heywood will be ready to turn out comfortable, luxurious theatre chairs in ever-increasing numbers. We invite you to ask now about your share in that production!
HEYWOOD-WAKEFIELD
Theatre Seating Division
GARDNER . . . . . MASSACHUSETTS
Established 1826
ARMY
E
NAVY

True Seating Comfort is not A MATTER OF SOFT CUSHIONS

by **H. S. LEADER***

WE GO to a theatre to see the picture, but our enjoyment of it is affected by a number of things which can contribute to a feeling of relaxed well being. Of these contributing factors the most important is comfortable seating.

Seating comfort is not easily defined or measured. We have heard the phrases "floating on a cloud" or "resting on a bed of eider down" used to express the ultimate in ease or comfort. Expressed in mechanical terms this might be "a body supported by low pressure, well distributed over the supported area."

The unit pressure, the pressure distribution and the size and contour of the supported area merit consideration in detail. For a subject of given weight the greater the support area, the less the unit pressure. For this reason a mattress on which we lie is ordinarily softer than a cushion on which we sit and this in turn is made softer than a carpet on which we stand.

Sensation of Comfort

It is a common experience that even small unit pressures applied at a point or on a limited area of the body surface produce more discomfort than the same total pressure applied to a large area. As applied to the human body this cannot be taken to mean than an absolutely uniform distribution of pressure is the most desirable. This is not true because of the nature of the human body. Much of the weight of the body is hung on the skeleton through muscles and ligaments. Due to continued use, the flesh or portions of the body lying between the bones and the support areas become padded or calloused. An example is the soles of the feet. These areas can endure higher pressures with less discomfort than the flesh on other parts of the body. Some portions of the body, in the neighborhood of a large artery, where blood circulation may be restricted or where pressure on a nerve may produce partial or temporary paralysis, can endure much less pressure without discomfort than other areas. Therefore, low unit pressures properly but not uniformly distributed over the supporting area gives the greatest sensation of comfort.

We are familiar with two common ways of increasing the area of contact or of getting low unit pressure. One is to use soft yielding materials (springs or rubber are examples) and by the greater deflection of areas supporting the largest loads, secure more uniform distribution. Another is to shape an unyielding material like wood to the approximate shape of the body. An example is the saddle shaped office chair. Of these two methods of securing comfort the use of yielding surfaces is the most common and the most satisfactory.

Size Compensation

Comfort in the theatre chair is not obtained solely by the use of cushioned surfaces. Theatregoers come in all sizes, with women and children predominating. It is not possible in the theatre, as in the school, to provide the proper range of sizes for those of less than adult size. It is not possible to adjust critical dimensions as would be done with a factory chair. The theatre patron cannot, as he would at home, move about to relieve a constrained or uncomfortable position. It is necessary, therefore, to pay closer attention to the proper selection of dimensions and to the correct relationship of parts than would be done for household chairs. Many of these would be highly unsatisfactory for continued occupancy by the wide range of sizes found among theatre patrons.

To be in a comfortable relationship with each other, it is necessary that the seat be pitched upward from the horizontal at the front and the back backward from the vertical. The amount of seat and back pitch can be determined from established standards. These have been obtained by adjusting a measuring chair to the best comfort for a large sample representing normal physical variations. Theatre chairs generally have a range of back pitch adjustment so that the chairs when installed can be set to give the maximum comfort within the limits of the row to row spacing. Within limits greater back pitch tends to give more comfort. Balconies generally require chairs with less than normal pitch.

Seat Height Important

The most critical dimension on a theatre chair is the seat height at the front edge. The normal male adult is generally comfortable in a seat height of about 17". The correct seat height for a normal child of six would be 11" and the correct sizes for other age groups range up to adult size. Students of postural hygiene have determined that the use of seat heights lower than the best choice is not harmful or uncomfortable. The theatre owner should insist on chairs whose seat height is somewhat below the best choice for an adult male if he is interested in his more numerous block of patrons, women and children. Common practice is about 16-¾".

Even with the optimum seat height the legs of a considerable portion of theatre patrons will be partially supported by the seat in the area directly behind the knee. Where patrons are short enough so that their feet do not touch the floor or on inclines where the feet are extended, the whole pressure of supporting the legs will come in this area. Because this part of the leg is extremely sensitive to pressure, it is highly important in securing adequate comfort to distribute this pressure over as great an area as possible. To do this, the seat should easily conform to the shape of the under part of the legs. Since the pressure upward against the leg must be equal to the downward weight, comfort is not a matter of softness but a matter of securing the curve which will spread the pressure over the greatest area. Usually to attain the correct curve with the minimum amount of effort it is necessary that the cover be loosely tailored. The accompanying sacrifice in appearance is of little importance compared with the gain in comfort and customer approval.

Correct Compromise

The degree of softness of the seat cushion is a matter of concern to the theatre owner. Occupants vary greatly in weight and a cushion soft enough to be more comfortable for a very light occupant would not be correct for a very heavy one. The correct compromise may be a little stiff for some and soft for others. Most people usually select as the most comfortable a degree of softness which is comfortable initially but does not remain comfortable for long periods of time. As long as the front edge is soft it is not necessary or desirable that the rest of the cushion be made as soft as some household chairs.

Softness in the old coiled type of spring unit is frequently accompanied by a lack of lateral stability. This shimmy is not hazardous but neither is it comfortable or impressive. Another fault common to household furniture and generally avoided in a comfortable theatre chair is extreme depth (measured from front to rear). This ranks with the high seat in discomfort for short individuals.

Compound Curvature

For many years the backs of theatre chairs were made with simple curvature; that is, as if they were cut from a cylinder. The curvature was approximately that of the human back and permitted the occupant to move from one position to another one of equal comfort. The better type of modern chair now has a back with compound curvature which more accurately fits the back and is more comfortable because the distribution of pressure is more uniform. Padded backs are common and comfortable but there is a growing use of spring backs in houses which need the best in comfort.

Reasonably enough the comfort of the chair is affected by its width and by the row-to-row spacing. Theatre chairs are commonly made in three widths, 19", 20" and 21". Although they may be used as a means of adjusting the length of rows the 19" chairs should not be used if patron comfort is considered. Experience has shown that there is no need for the 18" chair once considered necessary as a fill-in size. Some city codes establish 20" as a minimum.

Not directly connected with the theatre chair itself but important to comfort is the row-to-row spacing. A healthy regard for

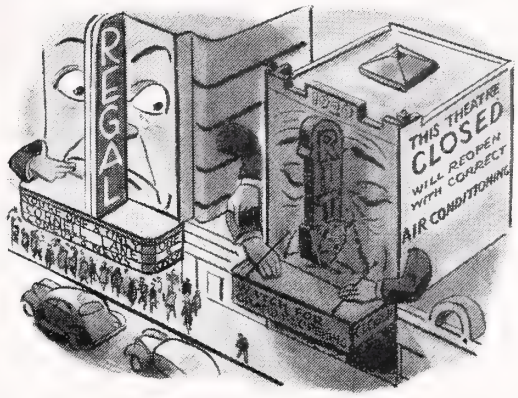
(Continued on page 24)

*Director of Research American Seating Company.

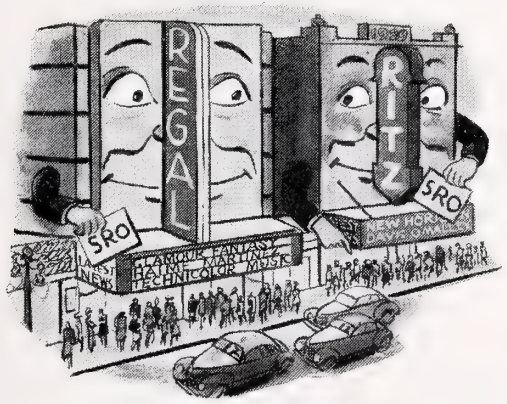
Engineered for S.R.O.



1 At the Regal and the Ritz
Both the pictures were big hits.
At the Regal — S.R.O.
At the Ritz — well just so-so.



2 Both were air-conditioned — true,
But the difference was due
To the engineering plan
And the way the systems ran.



3 At the Regal, you'd detect
Air conditions were correct.
But the Ritz was quick to act.
Now their house is also packed.

It pays to be sure that you have *correct* air conditioning . . . that temperature, humidity, circulation, ventilation and air cleanliness are scientifically blended for complete comfort of patrons and for protection of fine furnishings.

Depend upon Westinghouse engineering experience, research and equipment for *Correct* Air Conditioning for your new or modernized theatre.

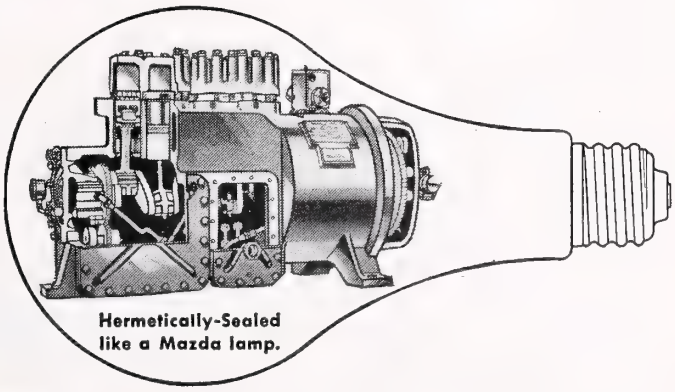
Consult Westinghouse in the early stages of planning. Get the Westinghouse booklet, "How to Plan Correct Air Conditioning." Phone your nearest Westinghouse office, or write Westinghouse, 150 Pacific Avenue, Jersey City 4, N. J.

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Television Theatrewise . . . WILL IT HELP OR BE A HINDRANCE?

by **ANSEL M. MOORE**

THE TELEVISION STORY, theatrewise, is still full of surmises. Nevertheless, it's a tale that has been told often and argued fervently enough by its proponents and press agents, that there should be no surprise if some day we may have television with us in fact.

We shall not herein undertake to add further surmise or surprise to the television situation; but rather shall try to rationalize some of the rampant reasoning that has attended the subject in relation to what it will (when it arrives) do to disturb, destroy or conversely, abet and bolster up theatre business at the boxoffice.

With tongue-in-cheek, we had long surmised that televised moving pictures theatre-screen size might make their auspicious debut in certain of our metropolitan cinemas of ample size and atmospheric grandeur to make the premiere an outstanding promotional event for public interest. This of course with a view to honing up the public taste for home television.

It now appears that fireside television may become an established fact without benefit of theatre promotion. Leastwise we have seen or heard of no preparations for theatre television premieres, although television spokesmen tell us blithely that both home and theatre will soon become beneficiaries of this new boon to mankind.

If theatre (big screen) television is not to be used for the promotion of public interest in, and desire for, home television sets, then will someone please tell us what is the purpose of televising our theatres? Certainly no one is naive enough to claim that television can ever take the place of canned film for the economical distribution of picture entertainment to the public. Until television can actually improve on the present high technique of motion picture photography and sound reproduction there is little danger of it every superseding the film method for mass entertainment. So why any furore, if indeed there is any, over what television is going to do to theatre business, good or bad.

So far the most rabid proponents of television, theatrewise and otherwise, have placed their charge in the theatre category only for the purpose of showing spot news and sports events, such as world's series ball games, the Kentucky Derby, championship prize fights, political pow wows, etc., such as our public is accustomed to seeing next day, or at the latest, next week, at their local movie or news reel theatres. The psychological effect of seeing things right while they are happening is being largely over-rated, we suspect.

Besides, timing is the crux of telecasting. News events of wide public interest are not likely to happen during show time. Fate is not likely to cooperate very closely with the television exhibitor and as to prearranged race meets, prize fights, ball games and musical festivals, it is not likely that any hard-headed showman would care to stick out his neck so far as to time his program to all such events. So let's check off television as far as it concerns our presently constituted cinemas as a still remote possibility.

The television theatre may come into being as a commercial contemporary or competitor to the present newsreel theatre. Logically it might be combined with the newsreel theatre to the advantage of both methods of news transmission. A television reception room or auditorium might well prove a most popular and profitable adjunct to one of the many multiple-enterprise amusement projects now being planned. Another novel enterprise could thus be added as an extra drawing card. Otherwise television won't mix well with the prevalent method of moving picture exhibition. We might as well recognize it for what it will be—just another competitor.

Now let's don't break out with goose pimples over the competitive threat. It really isn't possible that home television, a reasonably early postwar certainty, will have more effect on theatre patronage than radio did upon its entry into the amusement field. Until the novelty wore off home radio receiving sets affected theatre admissions somewhat, but the recession was shortlived and today radio is rarely accused of wrecking our theatres.

The American public will never allow itself to be interned at home with entertainment. Human kind is naturally gregarious. Men, women and children must mix with the crowds to enjoy themselves and our presently constituted motion picture theatre industry will always be the beneficiary of human nature, come home television or what have you.

However, there is this to be said in precaution. You exhibitors of motion pictures had better not rear back and rest too completely on your war records. You, and each of you, will have to provide a greater variety and kind of entertainment than you have in the past and under more comfortable conditions than you've provided it during the war. Otherwise home television and many other counter-attractions are liable to soon darken your doors—and for keeps.

The extent in which you are willing and prepared to cope with fireside television and all other forms of outdoor and indoor amusement is going to determine how well you weather the storm of competition that is now brewing for picture showmen without side lines and supporting attractions.

If there are boxoffice possibilities in television, let's find out what they are. If they are too meager, as we are inclined to suspect, let's figure on ways and means to checkmate competition before it arises. Better get completely into show business than take the chances of being pushed completely out of it, because you stayed too little too late.

Points Out Need for Construction Planning

In discussing the need for immediate blueprinting of private construction Malcolm Pirnie, chairman of the American Society of Civil Engineers Action and Advisory Committee of the C.E.D. points out that as a general rule it takes twice as long to get ready for a construction project as it does to build it.

"There is a shockingly small amount of construction actually ready for bids, in our opinion. That is why we urge planning now so that we may start building when materials and manpower are released from war work," he added.

He stated that during 20 prewar years, from 1920 through 1939, the value of all new construction, including maintenance, averaged 10.7 percent of the national income. On the basis of a postwar estimated income of 140 billion dollars, the normal value of construction after victory should be 15 billion dollars annually. However, delayed repairs and general maintenance work estimated to cost five billion plus estimated new construction of 15 billion indicate an annual investment in construction immediately after the war of 20 billion dollars, his statement indicated.

Owed to An Industry

Ansel pays out gratitude to the floor coverings industries in next (June 23d) issue for what they have done to improve the House Appeal of our theatres, decoratively and otherwise. It's the FLOOR COVERING number for '45.

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No._____

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

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PLANNING

INTERESTING COMMENTARIES ON CONTEMPORARY PLAN PROCEDURE

Thorough, Purposeful Planning Restores the Paseo Theatre

by **BEN S. BROWN**

A THEATRE rebuilt during wartime, after destruction by fire, to meet specific demands of several groups otherwise to be denied moving picture entertainment, and thus definitely contributing to the war effort as indicated by approval from the governmental authorities, is the new Paseo, recently reopened in Kansas City.

Not only was "a" theatre provided for these groups, but the plans for the new house were functionally designed, and new features provided for added comfort and convenience. Because of meeting these objectives, the plans were approved and construction allowed to proceed by OPA authorities.

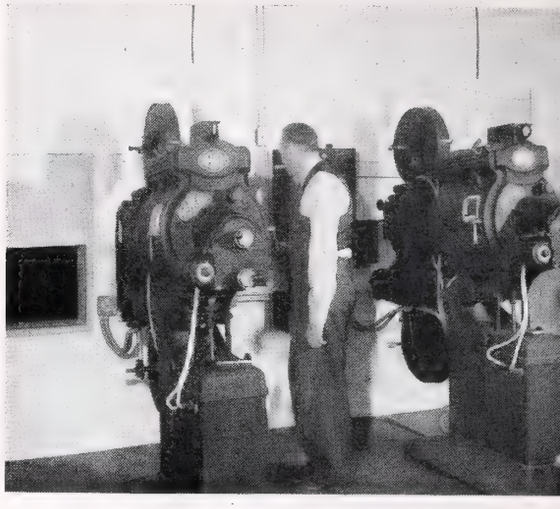
The Paseo, therefore, may be taken to indicate the way any theatre owner would proceed, if he wanted to do his utmost to meet the particular needs of his clientele. In order that the theatre, when completed, should meet the needs of the community, under conditions prevailing *when the theatre was constructed,* the owner and all concerned with the project in this instance took great pains to fulfill the objective.

Worthy Example

The Paseo, owned and operated by B. J. Fredman and Rube Finkelstein, is located at the southwest corner of 81st street and Woodland avenue. It was destroyed by fire January 25, 1943. The building, erected prior to 1920, had been remodeled for the Marlborough Amusement Co., (Messrs. Fredman and Finklestein) in 1940; with a new front, a marquee, new ceiling, stage and heating equipment. The Charles A. Smith organization of architects, who had planned and directed the first remodeling, was given the task of planning a new theatre under wartime conditions. The task included the meeting of all conditions that might arise or were set up by the governmental agencies during construction. The owners, in fact, turned the whole project over to the architects; with the single admonition that they were to do the best possible job in thorough research work, in negotiations with the government agencies, in specification of materials, in providing a theatre that would meet, as conditions permitted, the requirements of the community. B. R. Press, one of the Smith organization associates, was assigned the task.

The War Production Board was notified of the fire March 5, 1943. Already work had started on rebuilding plans; whereupon a month later, an application for permission to erect was filed. The following 15 months were occupied with the interchange of communications between architect and government concerning need for the theatre, character of building, details of added features of construction and equipment.

The primary factor to win permission to rebuild, was the entertainment need of the community, a suburban section known as "Marlborough," at the southern city limits, embracing a small shopping center

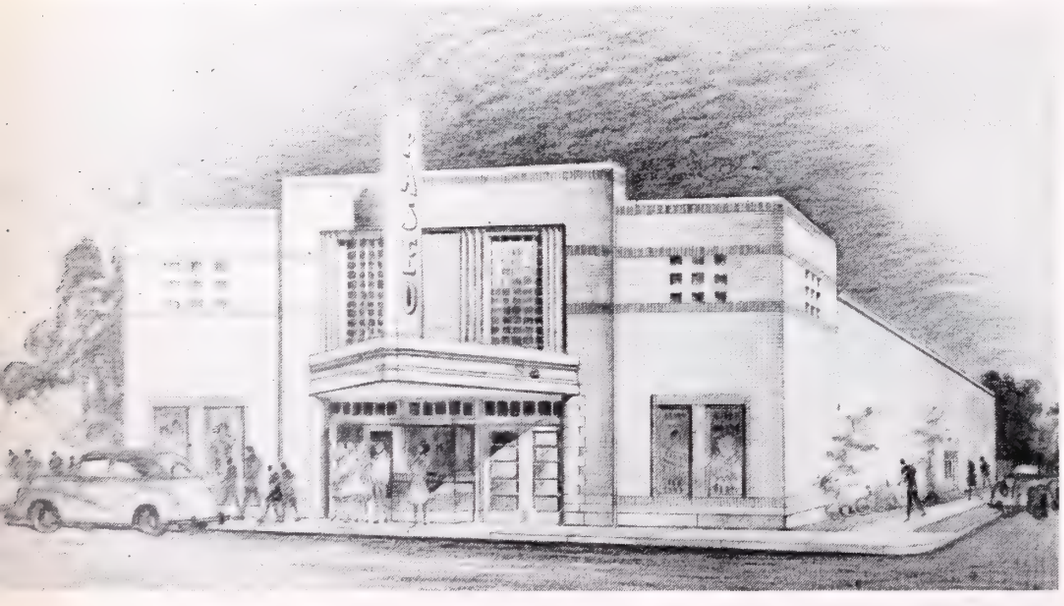


Ben L. Walker, the Paseo's manager "just happened" to walk into camera range when this picture of the Paseo's spacious well-equipped projection room was taken.

in which the theatre was located. The application emphasized a distinct need for a theatre in this community and it was set forth that a great many of the homes in the district had been occupant-owned for years. The nearest other theatre was 1¾ miles east; the next nearest 1½ miles west, one 2 miles to the north and none at all to the south.

Purpose: Public Service

Marlborough is a community of established homes, sizeable families and many children, who patronize the theatre in the early evenings and Saturday afternoons.



Architect's exterior perspective of the new Paseo Theatre in Kansas City, Missouri, recently opened to the residents of Marlborough. Owing to material shortages still in effect the main sign and marquee were missing at opening date. Otherwise the completed project closely follows the architectural sketch here shown.

The population, in the area served (Washington township), had increased substantially from 1940 to 1943; much of the increase a consequence of the war effort, many of the new residents war workers in the nearby defense plant of Pratt & Whitney. That the physical and nervous strain under which they worked might be relieved, for more efficient production was a matter of concern to the War Production Board.

It was pointed out in the application that it was planned to provide the utmost in comfort and convenience of the new war workers, as well as for the older residents of the community, many of them engaged

(Continued on page 22)



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Allows openings 15 feet high, and higher, and of any length. Affords boundless space for punching up copy on every feature. Showmen can now enjoy a field day in preparing billing.

Permits use of larger letters than ever before.

Adaptable to the use of *lifesize* and larger colored transparencies that inject life in the display.

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Window-Type Frames, available in multiples to fit unlimited size areas, are installed separately and before the glass. Lamps or neon can be cleaned or removed and all glass easily removed and replaced on the job without removing frames. No soldered parts hold them in permanent position. NO OTHER MAKE FRAME AFFORDS THESE ADVANTAGES!

Alert showmen will be quick to seize upon it for billing every picture as a BIG attraction ... for outselling their competition. Be the first in your city to install them! Write, wire or phone for details today, or see your theatre supply dealer. Literature and name of nearest dealer will be sent upon request.

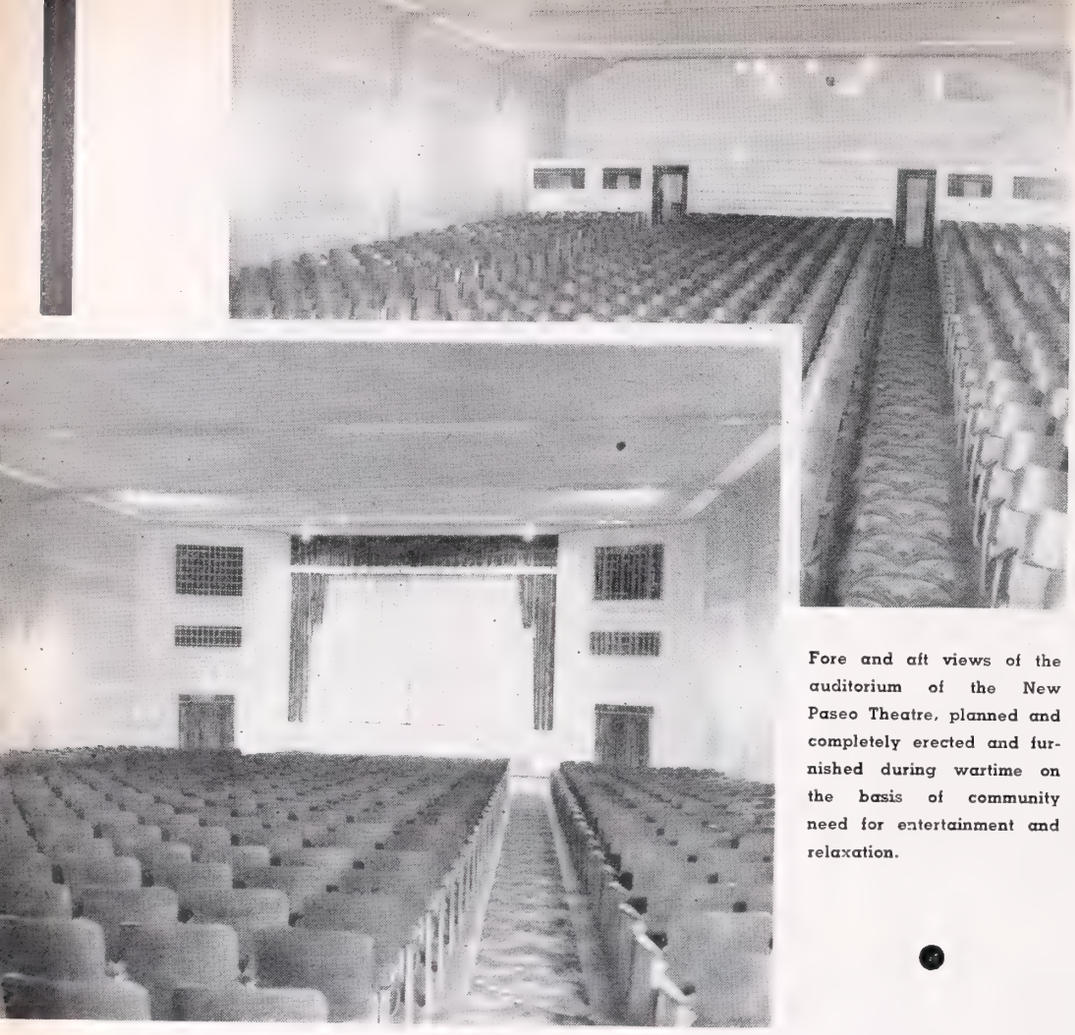
WAGNER PLASTIC LETTERS

the modern means of attracting attention and pulling in business, afford a vivid, colorful display—impossible with other letters.

Gorgeously brilliant, like neon, when light shines through them, they assume sharply silhouetted and third dimensional effect by day. That's why theatres are replacing their old style solid opaque letters with these boxoffice magnets.

Available without priorities in 4" and 10" sizes in fonts of assorted colors (red, green, blue, amber and opaque black) from 76 letters up. Additional sizes up to 17 inches in height available very shortly. The beautiful, non-fading, permanent colors go all the way through. There is no surface color to chip or scale off. Painting is never required. Strong. Durable.

Wagner Sign Service, Inc.
218 S. Hoyne Avenue
CHICAGO 12, ILL.



Fore and aft views of the auditorium of the New Paseo Theatre, planned and completely erected and furnished during wartime on the basis of community need for entertainment and relaxation.

Thorough, Purposeful Planning Restores the Paseo Theatre

(Continued from page 20)

also in war work. The plans were made, details adjusted and approved from time to time throughout the 15 months as ideas were developed. Suggestions were exchanged between the architects and government agents to assure the best possible accommodations for all the residents, the families of service men and war workers. Special thought was given soldiers' wives with children, who obviously deserved special arrangements so that they could attend conveniently and enjoy the show without disturbance to other patrons. Thus a "cry room" was included in the new Paseo plans.

The development of plans for good projection at the new Paseo will be described first, because it represents most clearly the effort of the architects and owners to meet, through survey and studied analysis, the responsibilities of theatre operation in wartime. That such careful studies may also be advisable in peacetime goes without saying.

Projection Planned

At the very beginning of the project the architects made a careful study of projection room practice. All available literature on projection room and equipment was studied. Concerned also with the personal element and the way projectionists go about their work, their movements, various duties, major and minor, the architects got the idea of projectionists regarding both layout and equipment. Mr. Press visited many theatres, interviewing managers and projectionists. The Paseo projection room thus embodies numerous practical features suggested by projectionists. Many of the operators informed him they would appreciate more room; that ample working space would be a distinct advantage in the efficient performance of manifold duties. Hence, the architect allowed as much space for the projection room as possible under the limitations imposed.

The rewind bench at the right side of the 19-foot room, ordinarily lighted by the source of general room illumination, has a special light of its own. This light illuminates the panel from which all circuits and lights are controlled. There are also four outlets in the ceiling, one near each projection machine provided with pull cords. Two additional outlets are for general illumination.

Ordinarily, the projectionist has a stool on which he can sit in front of the high-elevation port, during the run of a reel. In the Paseo projection room there is additionally a special observation window, set at "seat height"; 24 inches wide and 18 inches high. A theatre seat or ordinary chair may be set at a convenient distance from the window, in which the operator may sit while viewing the screen and may reach the machine quickly should an emergency arise.

Ventilation of the projection room is provided for in two ways. There is a large-size ventilator grill, 30 inches in diameter, located in the ceiling and supplemental ventilators in the front wall of the booth. The second-story front wall is comprised largely of glass blocks, arranged in panels. A framed glass ventilator damper is sent in each panel, which the operator may manipulate for additional air when needed. A register in the booth, for heated air from the gas furnace also heats the entrance portion of the theatre.

Bike Parking Lot

A bicycle room is a special feature of the Paseo. Located at the right side of the entrance, (12 by 18 feet) just inside the door, it provides a safe bike parking lot for children or grownups who use this means of transport, and was particularly needed for the Paseo. Information supplied to the WPB showed that there are no public transportation facilities southward from the theatre, from which direction many children come to attend early evening shows or Saturday matinees. There are neither street car lines nor busses in that southward area.

The bicycle room with special racks, occupies about half of the building portion south of the lobby between the standee area and the street. The remainder of this space is occupied by toilet rooms, with entrances from the standee area.

On the left of the entrance is the confection room, 12 by 18 feet in size. This room was located in this position after careful study. Its front is open to the lobby, except for a short wall at the back of the room, where the popcorn machine is located. Patrons entering from the street can see the confection room, particularly the popcorn stand, and responding to its "invitation," may reach it easily. Patrons leaving the auditorium to the right, must pass the room directly.

Back of the confection room and separated from it my a concrete wall, is a furnace room for a gas furnace providing heat for the adjacent portions of the first floor and for the second-floor portions, including the projection room, the offices and the cry room. A stairway to the second floor adjoins the furnace room; under this stairway, accessible from the confection room, is storage space.

Other Added Features

The cry-room, for mothers with small children, is located on the second floor at one side of the projection room; accessible by way of the staircase from the standee area. This room provided with comfortable theatre seats, has as its front wall, plate glass 2 feet 6 inches high and 8 feet long; set in felt for absorption of vibration. On the opposite side of the projection room is

IDENTIFICATION

The New Paseo Theatre, Kansas City, Missouri

AIR CONDITIONING: United States Air Conditioning Corp.
ARCHITECTS: Charles A. Smith Co.
CARPETS. Thos. L. Leedom Co.
DRAPERIES: Great Western Stage Equipment Co.
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR: Fromhold Electric Co.
EQUIPMENT CONTRACTOR: Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Flett Construction Co.
LIGHTING FIXTURES: Summerour & Devine, Inc.
PLUMBING: U. S. Engineering Co.
PROJECTION ACCESSORIES: GoldE Mfg. Co.
PROJECTION & SOUND: R.C.A.—Brenkert
SCREEN: RCA Snowhite
SEATING: Heywood-Wakefield Company

the manager's office. Both office and cry-room are nicely decorated.

The Paseo lobby has three 40 x 60 display frames, one on each side and one in the center of the inner lobby wall between the entrances to the auditorium. Over this center frame an electric clock will be placed. Resilient cork tile flooring is provided for the lobby, foyer, standee area and confection room for comfortable walking and standing.

The haydite block construction (waterproofed on exterior and interior) are interior decorated in two tints to form three longitudinal stripes in two contrasting colors. A pleasing decorative effect was achieved.

The concrete floor of the auditorium was given a floor enamel coating that penetrates the concrete. When the house is to be cleaned, no mopping around seats is necessary. A hose may be used to wash the floor, "knocking off" gum and grease. The water, flowing toward the front of the house, is stopped by a curb formed under front of stage. Perforated rubber matting is used in the aisles. The strip of matting has flexible metal edging, to prevent curling and liability of tripping.

The ceiling of the auditorium is of two heights; the last portion or panel (the material is arranged in panels) from stage back, being that portion adjacent the projection room, raised to provide for projection angle. Composed of low-density tile in three pastel-type colors: tan, reddish brown and brown and arranged in twin-rectangular pattern, a variegated effect is achieved.

Illumination of the auditorium is from side fixtures, with frosted glass, mounted on pilasters. There are four pilasters on each side, wood-fluted except where the fixtures are mounted, or at wainscoting. Each fixture contains 14 lights, two 24-inch fluorescent lamps for running illumination, and 12 10-watt incandescent lamps for color set-ups. Four color settings are provided for through the incandescent lamps in the fixtures. These fixtures are nine feet from the floor, affording a smart decorative effect, as well as illumination and color changes.

Especial care was exercised in ventilation for the auditorium, and of the entire building as well. The auditorium is heated by a gas-fired furnace, air being blown through grills under the stage level. Similar grills (metal) are for supply of cooled air through the same duct system.

Over the standee area, at its 16-foot ceiling, is an extra large trap door (4 by 4 feet) operable from the projection room upon signal by the manager. Foul air that gathers in the back of the house (when even blowers cannot always remove it fast enough) may be released through this trap door into the attic.

The attic is provided with the usual ventilators, but they are operable at will. They may be kept closed to retain either heated or cooled air. If left open, they can be closed promptly when a storm comes up, to protect the attic from damage by moisture. The metal roof dampers are operated by counter-balanced chain cords with fusible

(Continued on following page)

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Water Coolers
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Thorough, Purposeful Planning Restores the Paseo Theatre

(Continued from preceding page)

links to open them automatically in case of fire.

The front of the Paseo is faced with buff brick, trimming in dark brick. Cast stone composes the coping; and the same material, rounded, forms the vertical frame of the entrance. The lower part of the boxoffice is of faced brick, the upper part in glass. The doors are full plate glass—for the maximum emission of light from the lobby.

The upper facade features glass blocks, in two vertical panels separated by a concrete block panel. These panels provide light for the projection room. Reflectors behind the glass are accessory to the color illumination of these panels. A horizontal glass panel above the entrance and boxoffice (below the projection room glass-block windows) admits daylight, and permits fluorescent light from the lobby to shine out into the street at night. Mounted on the front wall, one on each side of the entrance, are two 40 x 60 illuminated poster frames.

True Seating Comfort Is Not a Matter of Soft Cushions

(Continued from page 16)

net profit will permit no extravagance in row-to-row spacing but there is a growing tendency to increase this spacing even at the expense of seating capacity. Many older houses will be reseated at 32″ or less. Chicago's legal minimum of 34″ is the largest in the country, but a number of houses exceed that and more are expected to. Adequate spacing is necessary to reasonable standards of comfort. Somewhat more generous spacing will so greatly facilitate ingress and egress as to make unnecessary a variety of mechanical complications proposed for this purpose.

Take good care of your present seats. They may have to serve you another year or so before you can replace them.

Until after V-J Day, the need for conservation of all theatre equipment will remain. Keep up the upkeep!



New Window-Type Frames Introduced by Wagner

The marquee advertising display of which sales-minded theatremen have always dreamed is said to have become a reality in the announcement by Wagner Sign Service, Inc., Chicago, of a new window-type marquee frame.

Allowing openings of 15 feet and even higher, and of any desired length, the window-type frame is said to afford unlimited space for punching up copy on every desired feature. Showmen, it is pointed out, can now enjoy a field day in copy writing, since stilted copy and abbreviations are no longer necessary.

The use of even larger letters than ever before now becomes possible and according to the announcement colored life-size and larger transparencies can be installed on the new marquee frame.

A marquee advertising display of smash proportions and dynamic force can be effected by combining the new frame with beautiful effects obtainable through the use of various sized translucent colored plastic changeable letters, produced by Wagner. A new and additional 17″ high font of these letters will be available shortly, so that a showman may lay out a marquee with every effect that can be obtained with a paint brush.

The window-type frames, available in multiples to fit unlimited sized area, are installed separately and before the glass. Lamps or neon can be cleaned or removed and all glass easily removed and replaced on the job without removing the frames. There are no soldered parts to hold them in permanent position. This, says the manufacturer, is the first time display frames have offered these advantages.

Get that theatre improvement project under way. It aids employment and more jobs make better boxoffice.

New Projection Rectifier To Be Available Soon

Trade-named "Varitronic," a new projection rectifier, manufactured by Electron Equipment Corporation of South Pasadena, California, is soon to be available for theatres it is announced by Mr. D. B. Clark, the company's chief engineer.

According to Mr. Clark, the unit is capable of replacing one or two motor-generators or old style rectifiers and will operate 65- to 80-ampere arcs over long periods with utmost dependability. Other advantages stressed are precision voltage adjustment under load, high efficiency, small floor space, silent operation, instant reversible polarity and close regulation. Electron Equipment Corporation supplies electronic equipment to Paramount Pictures, Inc., and other Hollywood studios.

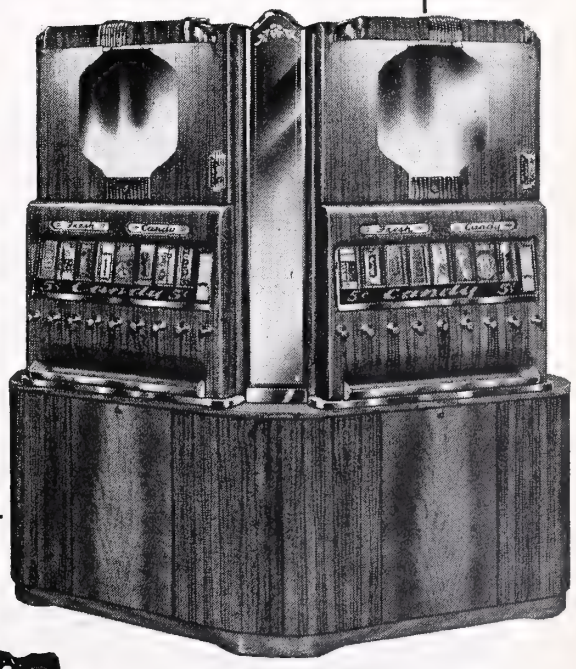
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Our full capacity is still devoted to turning out vital war materials . . . but UNIVENDOR will be back after Victory!



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Nu-Wood not only adds new beauty and distinction—but improves poor acoustics as well. Its sound-absorbing qualities improve theater-goers' enjoyment—make them want to return oftener. Nu-Wood also insulates—helping to cut heating costs . . . increasing air conditioning efficiency. Nu-Wood is available now to make your theater as "fresh" and new as the cinemas of tomorrow—and at a cost so low it will surprise you.

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Reconversion Plans Under Consideration

Consideration of an extensive reconversion program was among the first business transacted by the Board of Directors of American Seating Company, re-elected April 18th. As a first step, approval was given to the expenditure of $600,000 for immediate reconversion necessities. The stockholders again chose as directors Heber W. Curtis, R. K. Merrill, H. M. Taliaferro and V. L. Wills, all of Grand Rapids, together with J. A. Aull, Middletown, Ohio, John E. Martin, Birmingham, Michigan, and W. B. Turner, Dayton, Ohio.

The officers continued by vote of the Board are Harry M. Taliaferro, President; J. A. Aull, Vice-President; V. L. Wills, Vice-President and Secretary, and E. M. Mootz, Treasurer.

In his report, Mr. Taliaferro outlined the work of the company's planning committee which has been studying every phase of postwar production needs for more than a year. Among the factors recommended by the committee, and approved for execution as soon as conditions permit, are the purchase of extensive new manufacturing equipment, a rearrangement of plant facilities and the erection of at least one new building. While much of this work will be started as soon as reconversion is permitted, he stated, jobs after the changeover period will not be held up for the completion of the program. Only minor changes will be needed in some plant divisions befor the output of civilian goods can start again. However, he emphasized, the speed with which civilian production can be instituted depends uon the release of materials by the War Production Board and by the War Manpower Commission's action on manpower releases.

Included in the report were the results of a conference by key personnel from each of the firm's sales offices. An expanded line, including improvements on previous products, as well as new ones, and a completed plan of distribution and sales are ready.

Concerning employment, the company president also stated that V-E day is expected to have less effect at the Seating Company than in many war industries. The new A-26 Invader attack bombers, for which wing spars and other assemblies are being made in the local plant, will continue to have a high priority rating for the Pacific theatre. Pilot seats and packboards, also, will continue to be needed in large quantities. In addition, the firm has a substantial backlog of government orders for new products. The postwar level of employment, once reconversion has been completed, is expected to remain above the prewar average.



COMING

WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS

J. D. Lippmann Elected Head of Textileather



Left to right: H. E. Collin, chairman of the executive committee; Jules D. Lippmann, president; L. H. Green, chairman of the board of Textileather Corporation, Toledo, Ohio.

Jules D. Lippmann was elected president of Textileather Corporation, Toledo, Ohio, and L. H. Green, former president, was named chairman of the board at a recent meeting of the directors at the company offices in Toledo. Other officers elected include C. A. Collin, chairman of the executive committee. Members of this committee include Mr. Lippmann and Mr. Green.

Mr. Green is associated with a number of important industries. He is president of Automotive Materials Corporation, Detroit; chairman of the board of Martin-Parry Corp., York, Pennsylvania; vice-president and chairman of the executive committee of Rexair, Inc., Detroit, and chairman of the board of Standard Cotton Products Co., Flint, Michigan.

Mr. Lippmann who has been associated with Textileather for 31 years, began as a 15-year-old office boy in the New York office of the original Textileather Company of Newark, New Jersey. He has risen steadily in the firm, serving as executive vice-president and general manager for a number of years prior to his election now as president.

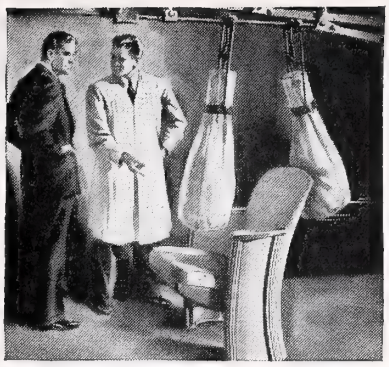
Pre-war, Textileather was among the four largest producers of leathercloth in the nation. The company also produced 80 per cent of all the closed car headlining materials for the automotive industry. During the war period the company facilities have been expanded and their Technical and Manufacturing Divisions have done important work in developing specially processed and specially coated fabrics to meet the problems of Army, Navy and Air Forces equipage. The company has received the Army-Navy "E" and a white star for continued high achievement in war production.

Mr. Lippmann predicts that manufacturers of postwar products in many fields will find vastly improved plastic materials for their requirements.

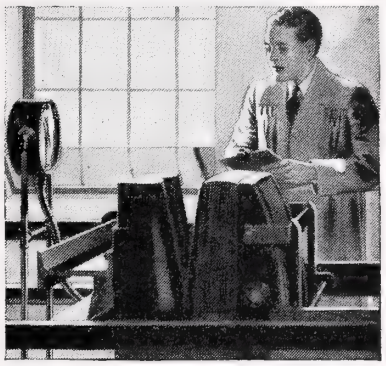


COMING

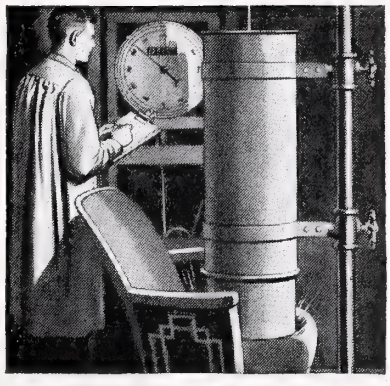
WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS



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Dear Subscriber: Please put a marker here and pass this issue on to Projection Room

CINE' CLINIC

PRACTICAL DISCUSSIONS ON MODERN PROJECTION AND SOUND PRACTICES

Further Depositions on the Cause of Film Destruction

FOR the benefit of those who came in late, may we explain that this is another session of the Cine' Clinic Court of Inquiry on the causes and effects of faulty screen presentation. It started many months ago with an editorial by ANSEL M. MOORE, our caustic up-front columnist, who "Peglerized" the whole motion picture industry, producers, distributors, exchanges, exhibitors and projectionists, challenging them collectively to "Get Rid of the Old Rattle-Traps"—meaning projection equipment of ancient vintage. A cooperative plan to retire to the junk heap all mechanisms beyond a certain age was then proposed.

Quite unexpectedly many of our projectionist readers evidently accepted the challenge as a reflection on their ability to keep their old "Maxwells" in service, countering to our surprise with claims that manpower, rather than equipment age and inadequacy, is the prime cause of film mutilation and faulty screen presentation.

Col. Moore's contention has been temporarily side-tracked in the maelstrom of charges and counter charges by projectionists who admirably have taken it as an opportunity to stress the need for improvement within the craft.

Thus we proceed now with testimony in rebuttal by Proj. HERBERT JAMES, of the Valley Theatre, Artesia, N. Mex., who writes:

"In regard to my last contribution to Cine' Clinic on film damage, you asked me to 'step down' to place on the stand Chief Proj. Ritz Miller of Nevada, who, as you put it, refuted my charge that young blood should be barred from the projection room. I would like to correct the misunderstanding. I am not against young blood learning the profession, if they are interested and want to learn the ABCs of projection and take pride in getting as near perfection as possible in the screen image. My respects to Ritz Miller, who by the tone of his letter in Cine' Clinic, does take a great interest in the art of projection and seems to know what is what.

"Why should I say that young blood should be barred from the projection room when I, myself, was learning to thread up at the age of 14 years—26 years ago; but operating to me was more than waiting for cartoons and comedies to come on. I got more of a kick watching and studying the generator, the arc, the machine, than waiting for Charlie Chaplin to come on.

"What do we have today—chief oper—excuse me—punks, who have no business being in show business in any capacity, let alone the booth. Their biggest thrill is the cartoon and comedy. What do they care about generators, rectifiers, equipment, film damage, focusing and even the illuminated screen? As long as there is a Popeye, that is all that matters. If anything should happen to stop the show (electrically) that doesn't worry the 'chiefs.' It's just a job to them where they get 'paid' for looking at moving pictures.

"The exhibitor books his pictures, some costing $50,000 to $100,000 to produce. The direction is well trained; the cameraman is skilled; the sound men have put in plenty of study; editors, developers, printing machine operators, all highly skilled. From there through skilled handlers to the exchange; from the exchange to—oh, no! not skilled operators, but blacksmiths, who haven't the slightest responsibility or knowledge of how that picture should be presented to the public. After the prints have made about a four-week run around the States, what have we got? Five reels of scratched, patched, perforated, punch-marked prints. First punch-mark—'won't be long now.' Second punch-mark—'pretty close now.' Third punch—'get ready.' Fourth punch—'almost here.' Fifth punch—'start motor.' Sixth punch—'no see, missed; bigger punch neded.' If some of the 'chiefs' would throw their punches and nails away and buy a good pair of glasses, it would be easier on the patrons' eyes too.

"Exhibitors, get wise! People know good projection when they see it. Television is just around the corner. True, the televised picture gets a little shaky and blurry at times; but it can't compete with some of the motion pictures I've seen for blurriness and 'arc static.' When people can sit at home and enjoy a crisp, clear, steady and unpunch-marked picture, why go to the corner movie and see a poor sample of television?

"When gasoline comes back and television is here, something tells me that there will be manpower shortage of projectionists—and I said *projectionists.*"

Sorry, Herb. Apparently we misjudged the inference of your previous testimony. This, however, should clear the atmosphere for all concerned. Come in again.

* * *

Proj. BILLY MOORE, Tivoli Theatre, Ardmore, Okla., turns from kinks and gadgets to good advice with the following testimony. Says he:

"I've just finished reading the Cine' Clinic 'Who Dood It?' and I must say there are some very good points brought out. But there is just one thing that was not brought out, 'bad splice making.' When a young fellow goes into the projection booth to learn to operate, does the teacher show him how to make correct splices? Or does he just tell him once or twice, and that's all? There's more to it than just that. Bad splices are causing more film damage than anything I know of; and worst of all these bad splices are going through the exchanges, where I don't see how they could be missed. Yet you get the film from the exchange, O.K. to run.

"Some small-town theatres do not require film inspection before running. They get the film, take the band off the reel, thread it up and start showing. If there's a bad splice, and the operator is not standing by the projector, there's a break. A foot or two of film is torn up, maybe more. Then the projectionist makes his splice, often without a splicer. Sure his splice may go through his projector; but will it go through the next fellow's machine? That's the question.

"It's not altogether the young projectionist's fault. Poor training could be to blame, i.e. (1) Did the projectionist who taught him show him how to make a correct splice when he had to? (2) Did the instructor know how himself, or did he care? (3) Does the young projectionist want to learn all he can about operating, and how to improve his work to make his manager proud of him? (4) Or is the student projectionist just there for the money, and just wants to make believe? (5) Is there something else he wants to do more than operate? If so, don't ever let him try to operate, because he will ruin the film for the next fellow. These are just a few of the things that are wrong now.

"Everyone must have a start and the young fellow is entitled to a good one. Give him a break. Some of the older projectionists don't think so; but I'm sure they started when they were young men, and if the truth were told when they were 14, or maybe two or three years older. Yet they wanted to learn all they could because it was going to be their life's work. Is it going to be some of these younger fellows' life work, or are they just there for the

PROJECTIONISTS: The Cine Clinic Department is wide open to you for discussion of your present problems. Thru these columns you can either ASK advice or GIVE it. We'll gladly answer your questions or publish your suggestions for the good of all concerned and with comment and complimentary credit to you. Should you desire private information or advice, enclose stamps for reply. Address The MODERN THEATRE, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4, Ill.

money, and don't care what happens to the next guy?

"I started when I was fourteen. My father taught me and I was so short I had to stand on film cans to make changeovers. Yet I liked it, and I always wanted to do it. I'm now 22 years old.

"So you see fellows, if you like to operate and want to make it your life's work, do your best to learn all you can about the business. If you have a problem find out from someone who has been at it longer than you have. If they won't tell you, write to someone you might know up the line. Keep trying and if you don't want to learn, then get out of the business, find some other job, and give someone a chance who really wants to learn.

"Now back to the bad splicing and to help the fellow who doesn't have a splicer. You can make a splice just as good, and as neat as a mechanical splicer can make, and all you need is two single edged razor blades, and a piece of smoked glass. This is what you do." (See The Quiz Pot column on page 31.)

Thanks Billy. We'll now retire to The Quiz Pot and have a look at your latest kink.

* * *

And here again is our good friend and corroborator, Proj. BERT PENZIEN, of I.A. Local 735 in Detroit, Mich., who deposes as follows:

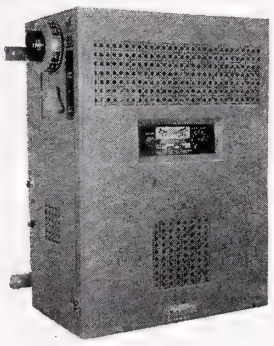
"Have read with great interest the many good letters on film damage. A wide variety of viewpoints have been brought forward, all of which seem to be true; but we haven't heard a thing from any film exchanges yet. How come? Don't they read this section? (If not Bert, will bet their ears are burning—Ed.)

"I would like to say something about cue-mark mutilation which seems to irritate most of us. I think most of the trouble goes right back to the studios. Almost half the cues are not put in so they can be easily seen. For instance, a black dot in a dark scene and only a white ring in a light scene. So what happens? When the operator fails to catch or thinks he will miss it, he puts in one of his own. Everyone evidently thinks it is worse to miss a changeover than to put more marks on the film. The customers will howl if you miss the changeover; but won't say anything if there are a few extraneous marks on the film. If you don't believe this ask some of your patrons. You will probably be surprised to find that no matter how muti-

(Continued on following page)

ROYAL SOUND MASTER

Licensed Under U. S. Patents of Western Electric Co., Inc.



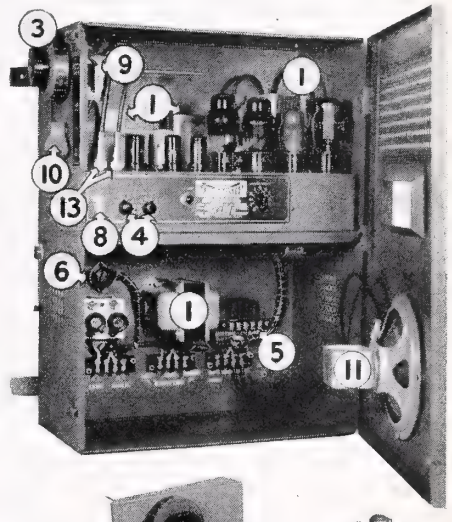
PD-50 SERIES AMPLIFIER

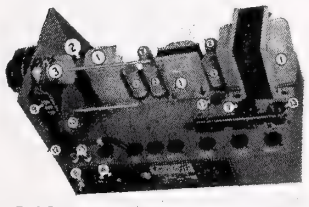
The circuit design of the "PD-50" series amplifier incorporates all the latest recognized developments essential for highest quality, brilliant, true life-like reproduction.

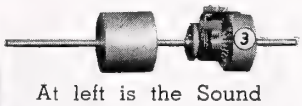
Foremost of the many unusual built-in features is the complete complement of "Climatite" treated transformers and chokes, recognized throughout the world for their ability to stand up under most severe operating conditions, they have been found to be unusually free from trouble under extremely humid tropical conditions . . . Plug-in type filter condensers make replacements of these condensers as simple as changing a tube . . . Calibrated step-type volume control . . . Instantaneous silent change-over in photo-electric cell circuit . . . Photo-electric cell connections through low capacity cable with heavy locking connectors to amplifier . . . Wide range tone control . . . Built-in booth monitor and monitor amplifier assures ample volume on monitor . . . True, life-like humless reproduction . . . Maximum safety factor . . . Complete amplifier chassis quickly and easily removed from cabinet and extra chassis is available for theatres wishing stand-by protection . . . Available as an accessory is a remote volume control and changeover, for operation from the working side of the Number Two projector.

15 POINTS OF QUALITY

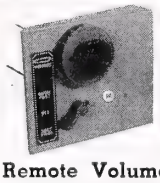
- 1. All transformers and chokes "Climatite" treated
- 2. Plug-in type filter condensers
- 3. Calibrated step-type volume control
- 4. Wide range tone control
- 5. Exciter lamp balance
- 6. Exciter supply voltage control
- 7. Amplifier voltage control
- 8. Photo-electric cell voltage control
- 9. Auxiliary volume control
- 10. Sound change-over in photo-electric circuit
- 11. Built-in booth monitor and monitor amplifier
- 12. Complete extra chassis available for stand-by protection
- 13. All connections from chassis to cabinet plug-type
- 14. Remote volume control and change-over available for working side of No. 2 projector
- 15. Highest quality workmanship throughout







At left is the Sound Master Chassis, above, the calibrated step-type volume control.



Remote Volume Control and Change Over

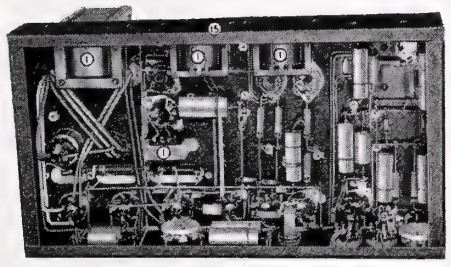
Brings complete sound control to the working side of each projector.



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MORE THAN AN AMPLIFIER . . .



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One look at the workmanship in this amplifier is enough to convince even the most critical user of the high quality of Sound Master equipment.

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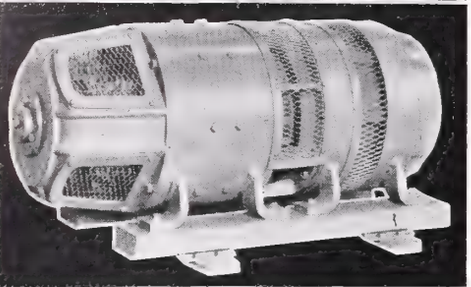
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Motor-Generators and Motors for Every Requirement

Further Depositions On the Cause of Film Destruction

(Continued from preceding page)

lated the films are, they won't even know what cues are or when they appear on the screen. They're busy watching the picture—not the upper right-hand corner of the screen. Most of the help working in the theatre night after night don't know these cues are in the film unless somebody explains it to them.

"I think the studios could eliminate much of this cue trouble if they would put in a double motor start cue. That is the cue would appear in four frames then skip four frames and appear again the next four frames.

"All cues should be a black dot with a white ring around it. The black dot with the white ring can be seen in both light and dark scenes. In the meantime we can go on cussing the cue markers; but it won't help the situation a bit. If a better cue is put in by the studios most of those doing the punching will probably quit it or hire a seeing-eye dog to help make the change-overs."

Very good, Bert! Which brings up the thought that cue marks could be put on by the Braille system so that even a blind man could hardly miss a cue.

* * *

Ssssh, Gentlemen! There's a lady present. Modify your tones and watch your language. We have with us Proj. RUTH EMLER of the Strand Theatre, Great Bend, Kans., who puts in a word for the fair sex. Says Ruth:

"I enjoy reading the Cine' Clinic very much, and I wonder if you would accept a woman projectionist's viewpoint on damaged film.

"In this profession as well as others, we are coming forward to learn and keep on learning, so that we may fulfill the vacancies this war has made. So why are you men so bitter against us? I believe we are just as careful as the rest of you, if not more so, because we know that at the drop of a hat you will say, 'We told you so; they are no good for the job.'

"To those of you men who were willing to teach us and had faith in our ability to learn, I say, thanks a million for your generosity. One thing we all agree on is the damaging of film by unnecessary cues. When the film is first released each reel has a good cue on it, so why punch it full of holes?

"If the projectionist thinks he needs a better cue, let him use a regular cue-maker which is made for that purpose. I have a Clint Phare cue-maker in my booth and I know they are available now.

"As to whom film damage should be blamed on, I agree with Proj. John F. Ford. It isn't all caused by we beginners and the film exchanges and film delivery methods are part of the cause. During the three and a half years I have been in a booth I have received a lot of film from the exchanges that was damaged so badly I could not salvage it. When I was an apprentice I saw the film delivery man toss our feature out of the truck and when the can hit the cement it burst open and film rolled everywhere.

"In closing, I say let's all combine forces to stamp out needless film damage and then we'll all be happier."

Now, Ruth, you shouldn't worry your head about our willingness to accept the feminine point of view. We're right anxious to hear from you and more of the gals. Come in again any time.



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THE *Quiz* POT

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What Would You Do About It?

Here's that guy Proj. BILLY MOORE again. This time with some kinks for the correction of poor film splicing which he claims in the Clinic is the curse of the profession. Let's see what he has to say, which is:

"Most of you have wooden rewinder benches. I have one and I don't have a film splicer. My bench is four feet long and one and a half feet wide. In the center at the front of the bench, I cut a square hole, seven inches long and five inches wide, one inch from the front edge. Under this hole I put a square tin box with a light bulb socket in it. I have a switch to turn the bulb off when not in use. Over this hole I fitted a cover of smoked glass with which to check the film and scrape off the emulsion with a razor blade. After this is done take one razor blade (single edge) and mark it with red fingernail polish. This blade you will use as a rule. The plain blade you use as a scraper. Now cut down one sprocket hole from framing line, holding the ruler blade down lightly on the film as a guide. Then scrape with the other blade.

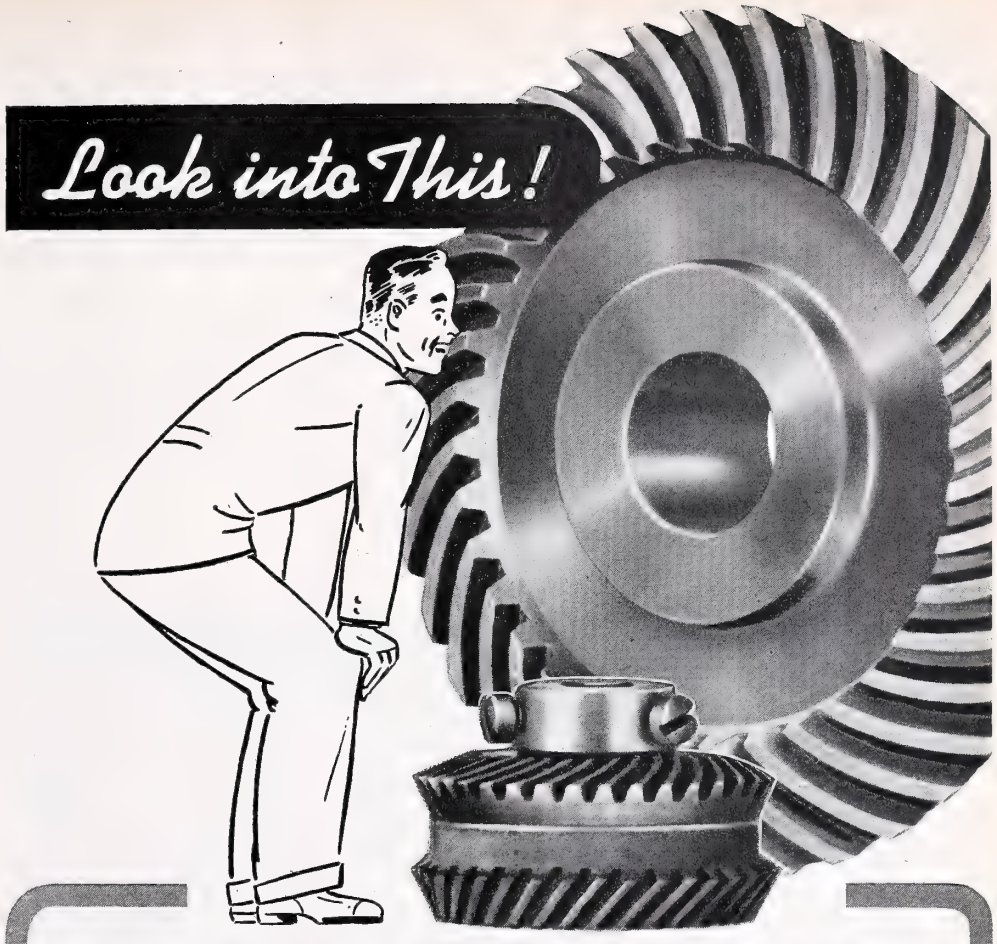
(Aside to the Editor): "I'm not sure this is clear, but it's the best I know how to expain it. So I'm sending you a razor blade and film attached so you can see how I hold the blade to scrape the film. Maybe you can help me explain it better and help do away with some of these horrible splices. I'm also enclosing some bad splices which I cut out of several pictures—*after* inspection by the exchanges! Also enclosing a splice I made with the two blades. I do not have a mechanical splicer, or anything that looks like one; but if this is not just as good a job as an automatic splicer can do, then I give up."

Evidence of his handiwork submitted by Billy seems to bear out his above claims. But listen, Billy has a problem too. Here 'tis in his own handwriting:

"I have read in several books where different projectionists use some kind of special glass in the projection portholes to take the yellow out of low intensity light, and put a blue effect on the screen. I have low intensity lamps and machines with rear shutters, and I would like to know if some of the boys might be using this type of glass and could tell me where I might get some."

Sounds something like Polaroid glass to

(Continued on following page)



SPIRAL BEVEL GEARS

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NOW SIGHT *ALONE* or SIGHT *and* SOUND

★ New type—positive action, perfectly synchronized Strong Changeovers are now available in three standard models—Strong *Special* changeover for porthole installation, Strong *Zipper picture* changeover for projector-head mounting, and the new Strong *Dual-Purpose Zipper* changeover for *sight & sound.* Essannay Electric Manufacturing Co., 1241 S. Wabash Av., Chicago 5.

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What Would You Do About It?

(Continuation of THE QUIZ POT)

us Billy; but maybe some of the boys can tell you, which please do fellows.

* * *

And here we have Exhib. RAY S. HANSON of the Fox Theatre at Fertile, Minn., who tosses a piece of sound trouble into the Pot, saying:

"Maybe some reader of The QUIZ POT may have a solution to my trouble. I have Simplex Type E sound projectors with the large heavy bases and Strong intermediate hi-intensity lamps. I installed all this equipment myself and it has given me excellent results.

"The trouble I have is that when the arcs burn, I pick up a faint noise in the sound. This noise does not come from the motors on the arcs as a person might think. Neither does the noise come from the tube rectifiers I use; but from the arcs themselves. I have tried condensers and condenser-choke combinations with no luck. This noise is not noticeable when I play a print that is recorded fairly high in gain; but when I get a print with squeeze track, the noise from the arcs is fairly high.

"In regards to grounding and bonding, this has been taken care of and checked. All the wiring is in conduit with shielded cables. I have tried filters on the A. C. line entering the amplifier. Hoping that you may be able to find me an answer, I remain."

Come on gang! Let's not leave Exhibitor Hanson remain too long without an answer to his problem.

* * *

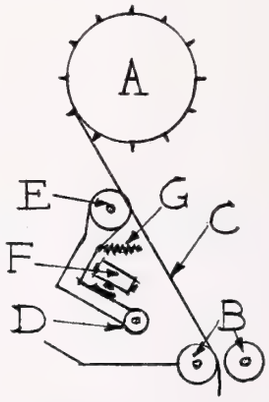
Proj. WAYNE BLAKESLEY, Jr., on leave to Uncle Sam's Navy from the Pickwick Theatre, Syracuse, Ind., sweetens up the Pot with the following Kinkeroos; about which he writes:

"Since I have been in the Navy, I have not been in projection work; but I plan to return to it after the war.

"In the December issue I read about the 'Nightmare P-38' and would like to offer my congrats to Proj. Skalicky. I have shown below a few gadgets which may be added to his projector or any other projector for that matter.

"Fig. I is a built-in Co2 fire extinguisher. The Co2 is held under pressure in a tank. From the tank a pipe runs directly into the upper magazine. A valve in the pipe releases the gas in case of fire, and is sup-

FIG. I.



Legend: A—Sprocket; B—Rollers; C—Film; D—Movable Arm; E—Roller; F—Micro-switch; G—Spring.

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Permanently anchors loose chairs to concrete floors in ten minutes. Complete Kit and Instructions . . . $5. f.o.b. Chicago.

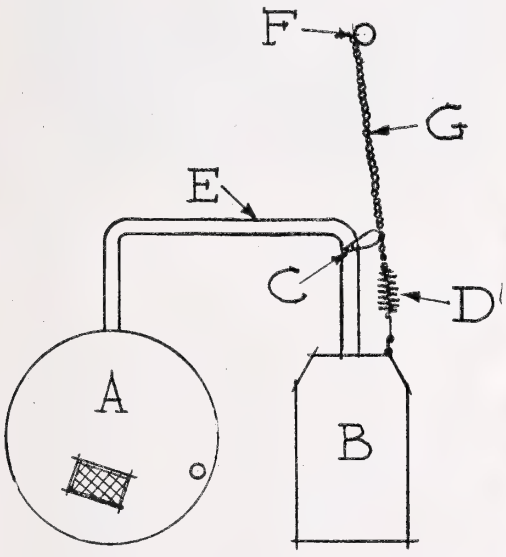
PARTS—New and Used for all makes of chairs.

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posed to keep fire out of the magazine. It could be operated manually or, better yet, could be hooked up to operate when the fire-doors on the portholes close.

"Fig. II is a warning device. It consists mainly of a moveable arm with a roller on the end. The roller rides on the film between the take-up sprocket and the lower magazine. If there is no film in the projector or if there is slack in the film at this point, the arm will move and close the

FIG. II.



Legend: A—Magazine; B—Co2 Extinguisher; C—Valve; D—Very strong spring; E—Connecting pipe; F—Fire-door release; G—Chain.

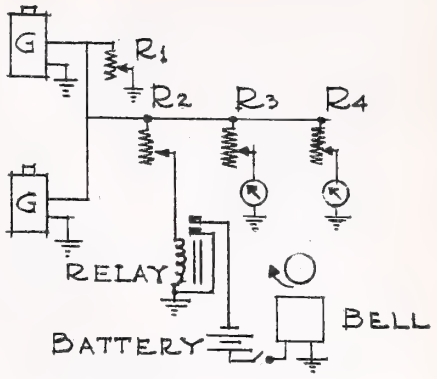
micro-switch. This could be hooked up to ring a buzzer or bell. A steady buzz would indicate broken film, while an intermittent buzz would indicate an uneven take-up.

"Fig. III is the remote footage indicator that Proj. Skalicky mentioned. Two small D. C. generators are coupled to the shaft in the upper reel magazine of each projector. At the beginning of the reel, the shaft is turning slowly, and very little voltage is developed. Toward the end of the reel, the shaft will be turning faster, and thus develops a greater voltage. The generators should have a high internal resistance to prevent one from shorting the other to ground.

"I have not given any values in the diagram since they will depend on the components used. There may be some difficulty making the four adjustments since each interacts on the other. R1 should be adjusted to give full-scale deflection when the machine is running with only a few feet of film left. R2 should be adjusted to

(Continued on following page)

FIG. III.

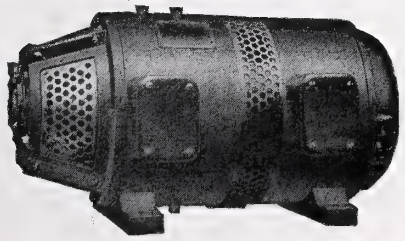


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What Would You Do About It?

(Continuation of THE QUIZ POT)

ring the bell at whatever footage the projectionist feels convenient. R3 and R4 should be set in the center of their range and then the markings on the meters should be laid out in either feet or minutes. R3 and R4 will then take care of any minor adjustments that may have to be made later.

"In connection with cue-marking, I have a suggestion which I would like to add. Back home in Indiana (Pickwick Theatre, Syracuse) we have been using an electrically operated bell. A strip of tin foil is affixed to the film with film cement. A roller in the sound head was insulated from ground to form a switch. Some projectors come from the factory with a similar switch. It can be installed in any projector. If this method was accepted universally, there would be no need for any markings of any kind on the picture. We have been using this system for over two years now with perfect success."

Nice bit of gadgeteering, Wayne. Come in again, and here's wishing you and your buddies an early V-J Day.

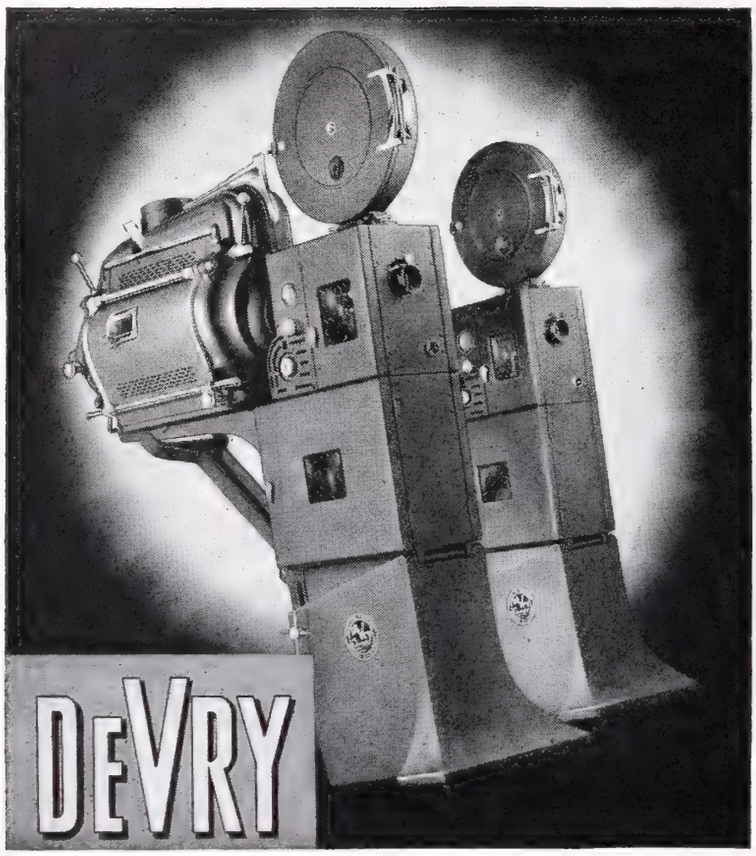
HERTNER GETS E AWARD



Standing: John H. Hertner, founder and chairman of the board of the company. Seated, left to right: Lt. (j.g.) Edward G. Swain, U.S.N.R.; Cyrus C. Dash, president of the company; Capt. H. C. Fick, U.S.N.; Mrs. William Moran (Gold Star Mother).

On April 9th, men and women of the Hertner Electric Company in Cleveland, Ohio, peacetime producers of the well-known Transverter, celebrated the presentation of the coveted Army-Navy "E" award for outstanding production of war materials. Interesting to note in the presentation is that according to Capt. Fick, "only four per cent of war plants throughout the country have been awarded the Army-Navy 'E';" and the Hertner Electric Company is the fourth subsidiary of the General Precision Equipment Corporation to receive the award.

Don't wait 'til you're able to go *all out* on house renovation. Do all you can now and follow through with the rest of it as you can. That's smart theatre maintenance.



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G. E. Air Becomes Major Department

Establishment of the air conditioning department as one of the six major operating departments of the General Electric Company was announced recently by C. E. Wilson, president of the company. Operations pertaining to heating, air conditioning and commercial refrigeration have previously been the responsibility of the company's appliance and merchandise department. The new department will have its headquarters at Bloomfield, New Jersey, and George R. Prout has been designated as general manager.

Mr. Prout, a graduate of M.I.T., has been connected with General Electric since 1920, when he enrolled in the various student engineering courses while an undergraduate. Subsequently he represented the company in New England and in the southwest, and in 1939 was appointed manager of the industrial department for the entire southwest district. In 1941 he became manager of the industrial control division, with headquarters in Schenectady, and in 1944 was assigned to manage the air conditioning and commercial refrigeration activities in Bloomfield.

The new department, according to Mr. Wilson, will select and utilize appropriate marketing channels and methods for all of its products except air conditioning for rail transportation, which remains a responsibility of the transportation divisions of the company. Sales divisions of the new department are as follows:

The Industrial, Marine, and Contractor Equipment Division (including refrigerant condensing units and compressors, naval and marine systems, self-contained air conditioners, central plant air conditioners, conditioned air cooling units, finned coil surface and heat transfer assemblies, and evaporative condensers and coolers); the Packaged Cooling Equipment Division (including water coolers, room air conditioners, window-mounted room coolers, beverage coolers, commercial food storage cabinets, refrigerated merchandisers and dispensers, and frozen food cabinets in large sizes); and the Automatic Heating Equipment Division, which is responsible for domestic heating equipment.

Technical Research Data Source Tapped

Research data of immense importance, much of which is buried in the many departments of the Technical Schools and Universities, is being unearthed for the first time. Master Theses are now being made available to industry. Information which is not easily accessible is being made available in carefully indexed form.

Through the cooperation of the leading Technical Schools and Universities, Master Theses that are of importance to Industry and Research, will be indexed in the technical "Digest-Index" issued by the National Research Bureau, Inc. They will be supplied on microfilm through the Library of Industrial Research, a non-profit organization, acting as clearing house for the exchange of Technical, Scientific and Management information. Many of the leading firms in the United States and Canada are members of the Library.

Smart-looking slip-covers might help your old chairs do an additional hitch of service. They make chairs more comfortable in hot weather.

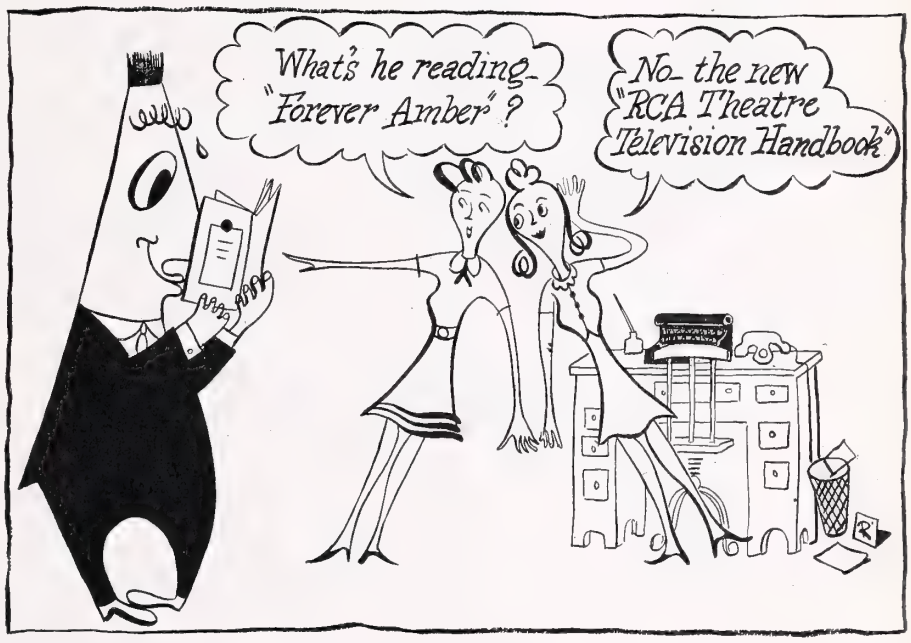
For All Types and Makes of Projection Arc Lamps



STRONG Precision REFLECTORS

Sold by most independent theatre supply dealers.

THE STRONG ELECTRIC CORP.
The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps
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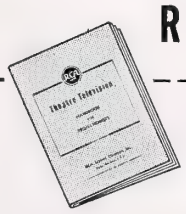
THE RCA Theatre Television Handbook may not be as exciting as a "best seller," but you will be vitally interested in learning the what, how and why of theatre television from the booklet's timely articles and discussions.

The Handbook was designed for projectionists, but also contains news of television developments of interest to exhibitors and theatre managers — such as television reception and large-screen projection. There are chapters dealing with the commercial possibilities of television, handling of programs, audience response.

RCA's television experience is backed by a quarter century in the field of electronics and includes television installations at the New York World's Fair in 1939, and demonstration large-screen television projection at the New Yorker Theatre in 1941. This new book is offered by the RCA Service Company as an aid to projectionists and exhibitors in preparing for the advent of theatre television.

Send for your free copy, today! Address: RCA Service Company, Inc., Box 70-178H, Camden, New Jersey.

RCA SERVICE COMPANY, INC.
A Radio Corporation of America Subsidiary



FREE! NEW BOOK ON THEATRE TELEVISION

Don't wait—get your copy of this informative book on Theatre Television right away. No obligation.

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Name.....
Theatre.....
Are you: Manager?.....Projectionist?.....
Address.....
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Simplex HIGH
PROJECTION ARC LAMPS

Yes, more and more, for theatres are going to buy more carefully and they look to Simplex for the latest developments.

The Simplex High delivers the snow-white light essential to satisfactory projection of Technicolor pictures—double the light of the low intensity, at only slight increase in cost.

If you can qualify, we will help you apply for new equipment now.

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THEATRE SUPPLY
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FLOOR COVERINGS IS THE FEATURE SUBJECT FOR NEXT (JUNE 23d) ISSUE

MATTING

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For entrances. Non-slip. Lies flat. Good scrapeage. Easily handled and cleaned. Black in color. Comes in sheets 29"x63"x¾" Can be trimmed for smaller or odd shaped areas.

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See your supply dealer or write for prices and literature on matting for safety, sanitation and comfort. Give details of your problems, location, prevailing conditions, size of the area, etc

AMERICAN MAT CORPORATION • 1719 Adams Street, Toledo 2, Ohio

America's Largest Matting Specialists

Also Offering Matting Repair Service

National Ballyhoos Boxoffice Equipment

Windows of 28 National Theatre Supply branches from coast to coast are concentrating on boxoffice supplies this month to tie up with National's latest equipment campaign which includes tradepaper ads



and two streamlined direct mail pieces, all keyed to the same theme.

Featured in the boxoffice campaign are illuminated glass admission signs, coin holders, no-draft speaking tubes, electric ticket registers, tickets and boxoffice ledgers and report forms. During the entire year National branch windows will accomplish quick changes to keep up with fast-moving monthly campaigns.

Theatres Abroad React To Equipment Program

Theatres overseas are showing active interest in RCA's program for a complete line of theatre equipment, according to Karl Streuber, manager of the newly-consolidated Theatre and Sound Equipment Department of the RCA International Division.

"Since the first announcement of our plans for this program," Mr. Streuber said, "there has accumulated marked evidence of a world-wide demand for new theatre equipment, both for modernizing existing theatres and for building new ones. RCA's plans to provide theatres with projectors, generators, screens and other equipment, as well as RCA sound systems, have been in step with this demand and have been welcomed by exhibitors abroad.

"Our expanded program of distribution is itself the fulfillment of a demand from theatre owners, dealers, distributors, technicians and manufacturers in many parts of the world. The established lines which we have grouped into one family of products permits the extension of RCA standards to cover the entire field of theatre equipment."

Included in the RCA International Division family of theatre equipment are Brenkert projectors, Enarc lamps, Baldor rectifiers, Westinghouse copper-oxide rectifiers, Century-Roth Actodectors, International Seat Corporation chairs, RCA motion picture screens and RCA theatre sound systems.

about PEOPLE and PRODUCT

New Hand: Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Hand, of Manhasset, N. Y., announce the birth of a son, Owen Kenneth, April 28th, at the Park West Hospital, New York City. Mr. Hand is advertising and publicity manager of Altec Service Corporation. Mrs. Hand is the former Mrs. Mary Muir Semple Whyte, of Strathmore-Vanderbilt, L. I.

* * *

"Roll Out the Red Carpet for Our Returning War Vets." On a clever illustrated mailing card, J. P. Travis, president of Universal Corporation of Dallas sounds the call to Texas manufacturers. Sealuxe theatre front display systems (Miracles in Metals) are soon to be J. P.'s contribution to postwar jobs for returning G.Is.

* * *

A new and said-to-be important addition to the Jensen family of Speech Master speakers appears in the new Type NF-300 reproducers announced by Jensen Radio Manufacturing Co., of Chicago. Special applications are its forte.

* * *

Will Whitmore, long-while advertising supervisor of Western Electric Co., has been named advertising manager to succeed H. W. Foster, deceased.

* * *

Genial Joe Robin (Imperial Generator Joe) appeared fit as a fiddle and rarin' to go when interviewed by the M.T. reporter last month. Orange juice; wonderful.

* * *

Ad-Manager Ed T. Jones (RCA Photophone) original proponent of the curative powers of the cinema for nerve-shot business execs., still takes his prescription two or three times a week.

* * *

An emergency order for shipment by air of motion picture projectors and sound equipment to be installed in a special projection room at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in San Francisco, for the use of United Nations delegates, was received by DeVry Corporation, pioneer Chicago motion picture equipment manufacturer, last month. They were to provide 24-hour projection of newsreels and documentary films of interest to the peace delegates.

* * *

Current headline — "OPA Holds Carpet Industry Not Entitled to Price Increase." What most theatre men would like more to know is When Do We Get It?

* * *

New booklet of directions on Drive-In Theatres just released by RCA gives much interesting factual information on the subject.

* * *

B. Pearlman, erstwhile veteran theatre supply dealer, now retired to greener fields

(Continued on following page)



Just Call...

NATIONAL
for BOXOFFICE SUPPLIES

* Admission Signs (ILLUMINATED)
* Coin Holders (PLASTIC)
* Speaking Tubes
* Ledgers
* Report Forms
* Tickets
* Ticket Registers "Automaticket"—Electric

Equipment and Supplies For Every Theatre Need

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY
Division of National • Simplex • Bludworth, Inc.

BOXOFFICE • LOBBY • BOOTH • AUDITORIUM • JANITORIAL

ADLER "THIRD DIMENSION" MULTIPLE SIZE SILHOUETTE LETTERS
and Exclusive "REMOVA-PANEL" Glass-in-Frame Units
ADLER SILHOUETTE LETTER CO.
2909 Indiana Ave., Chicago 1451 B'way, N. Y. C.

HERE IS FLAVOR AND ECONOMY
Special blend of pure vegetable oils refined and colored for use in wet or dry poppers. Also popping oil, salt, cartons, sacks.
AMERICAN POP CORN CO.
SIOUX CITY, IOWA
JOLLY TIME AMERICA'S FINEST POP CORN SEASONING

Be Wise! Order Yours NOW!

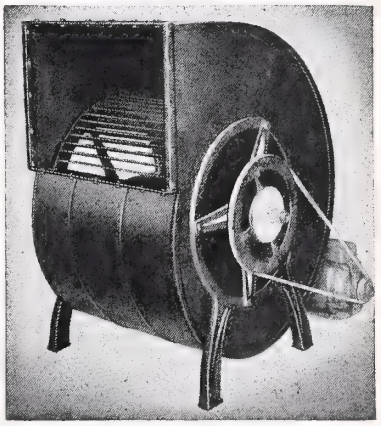
BRAND NEW
BLOWERS
COMPLETE WITH DRIVES

Only 100 available for early June shipment! Pre-war heavy gauge steel. First come—first served.

To avoid delay mark order priority "AA5 MRO CMP5" and enclose 50% deposit. Specify freight or express. Ceiling price allowed if no motor wanted.

CFM output	with rebuilt *motor	apprx. shpg. weight
5,500	$106.50	300
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11,000	190.75	425
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*All motors in perfect working condition, guaranteed 1 year.



Standard discharge is bottom horizontal

MAY TYPE AIR WASHERS also available from $115

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449 WEST 42nd STREET LOngacre 3-4040 NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

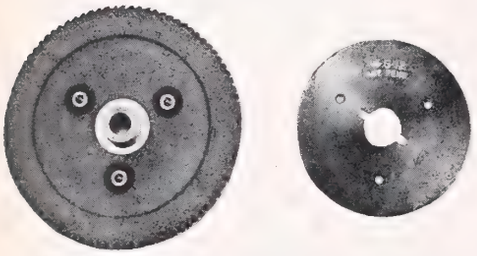
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One of Our Most Popular Sellers

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for all Standard Projectors

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Use Wenzel quality, precision projector parts to keep your present equipment operating smoothly—until the time when our new projectors are available. Send for our catalog, mentioning name of dealer who serves you.

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COPPER OXIDE AND TUBE TYPE RECTIFIERS

The modern means of converting A.C. to D.C. as an ideal power supply for projection arc lamps.

Low original, operating and maintenance costs. Quiet operation.

Distributed through leading independent theatre supply dealers.

THE STRONG ELECTRIC CORP.

87 City Park Ave., Toledo 2, Ohio

The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps

IMMEDIATE DELIVERIES



On CHICAGO's Supreme Expansion Bolts. Keep seats anchored securely. Available now at leading supply houses.

CHICAGO Expansion Bolt Co.

2228 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago 12, Ill.

about PEOPLE and PRODUCT

(Continued from preceding page)

(Golde Mfg. Co.) back from Miami last month.

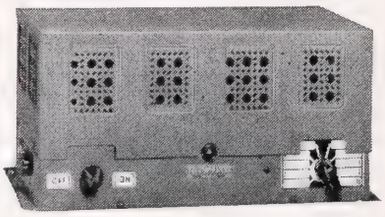
* * *

Erwin R. Fensin, of the Fensin Seating Co., Chicago, announces plans for postwar seating production. "As soon as government restrictions allow," says Mr. Fensin, "we will start making prewar model chairs. Certain new designs, not available now, will be released in the very near future. When V-J Day arrives, we will be prepared to offer the industry several new and revolutionary innovations that we are not now at liberty to divulge."

Inter-com System Becomes Paging Unit

The new and improved HP-16 Power Booster, latest development of the Talk-A-Phone Electronic Laboratories, enables the busy executive to now have various departments at his fingertips without going through a central switchboard.

The HP-16 is said to be capable of delivering a minimum of 15 watts "voice range" power, which is more than ample to cover the average paging system requirements, however more than one booster



can be used in a system where greater power levels are necessary. In addition, special type speakers are available for use with boosters when necessary.

The X-tra Power Booster will work with the majority of inter-communication systems, however certain of the Talk-A-Phone models have been specially designed so that when the HP-16 is used it becomes an integral part of the system, and not only gives the regular advantages of an office inter-communication system, but in addition paging facilities.

The unit illustrated is neat and compact, measuring 6" x 12" x 6¼" high. It is equipped with "On-off" switch, "Pilot Light," indicator and variable "Volume Control." All controls are easily accessible and the unit may be placed anywhere near the Master Station. The units are connected to the Master Station by only four wires furnished with the Boosters. It is furnished complete with installation and operating instructions as well as a set of matched tubes. Operation is on 110 volts AC, 60 cycles.

Look into the matter of having your old chairs re-upholstered. Many fine materials for this purpose are now or are soon to be available.

The Brilliancy of your **PROJECTED PICTURES**

— regardless of the efficiency of all other equipment, is dependent directly upon the condition of the optical surface of the reflector in your lamphouse, since any light which reaches the screen must necessarily be reflected to the screen by this surface of the mirror.

Replace your mirrors regularly with new, genuine

National **REFLECTORS**

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY

Division of National • Simplex • Bladwerth, Inc.

"There's a Branch Near You"

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*Indicates sustaining members of The Modern Theatre Planning Institute.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

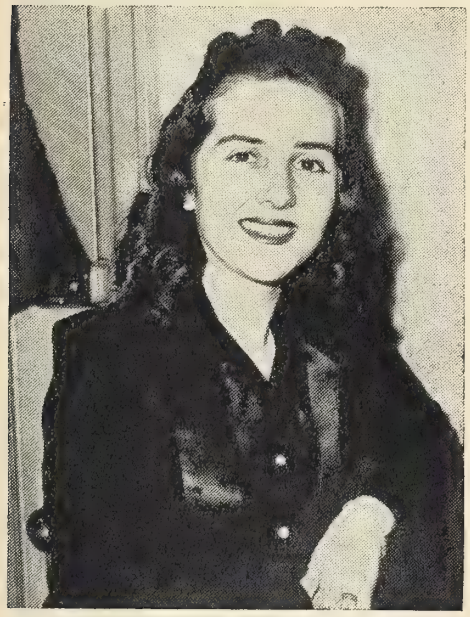
BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Comely Mother Wins "Song" Talent Honor

OMAHA—Ruthann Hawthorne, an Omaha Community Playhouse product and mother of two, won the "George Sand Memorial" talent search at the Brandeis Theatre during the showing of "A Song to Remember."

Five finalists competed on the Brandeis stage for the honor, after the field had been



RUTHANN HAWTHORNE

narrowed from 64 entrants. Mrs. Hawthorne, who was active in dramatics at North High School, Creighton University and had radio parts at Tucson, Ariz., will next compete in the state contest.

Judges were Dr. Charles Charvat, Creighton University; Alic Liljegren, Omaha public schools, and Mrs. Frances McChesney Key, Omaha University.

Other exploitation centering around the picture included the playing of records of music from the film in public and parochial schools. City School Superintendent Hobart M. Corning also called attention to the picture in his weekly letter to all schools.

Tieins also were effected with the Omaha Public Library, which featured a display of historical books, and local book stores, Revolon nail polish also featured the picture in a tiein ad.

Omaha's largest department store included 5,000 heralds publicizing the picture in their monthly mailing list. Louise Cotter handled the exploitation for the Brandeis.

Knot-Tieing Contest Helps Sell "This Man's Navy"

BUTLER, PA.—A knot-tieing contest with local Sea Scouts participating was arranged by George Notopoulos, manager of the Penn, as a feature tieup for "This Man's Navy." Navy books and materials were displayed.

Plan for School Vacations—

Begin Season's Program With Bid to Graduates

With the approach of the school summer vacation months, showmen are giving special thought to making their theatres the "place to go" for the younger generation.

Graduation theatre parties are a natural for high school and junior high classes, and numerous theatres in the past have found a letter to class officers inviting the class to use their facilities has been very effective. This idea can apply not only with the graduating class, but with all the other classes. Special features might be billed which would be of particular appeal to the young people of high school age.

Aid Graduates Buy Gifts

One idea which proved highly successful was a tiein by a theatre with the high school graduating class to aid the class in purchasing its graduation gift for the school. Under the plan, class members sold tickets for a one-night show at the straight evening rate, with no discounts and no refunds for tickets unused. The show was held on five successive Monday nights, with the class receiving a percentage on all tickets its members sold.

The cooperative show was so successful the class not only accomplished its objective—a public address system for the auditorium—but also had enough money left to install speakers in every room. And the theatre's share more than paid for the effort involved.

Another theatre found success with a graduation show and dance at the theatre. After the last performance the stage was cleared for dancing to the music of younger set favorite bands played on a borrowed juke box. All students attending the final show were entitled to participate.

For continued work among the younger patrons after school has ended contacts with local and regional heads for camps for boys and girls can be made in which the camps are offered a means of raising money by which they can accommodate additional children. Individual patronage may be stimulated through giving free show tickets to youngsters pledging themselves to attend the theatre at least once every week over a three-month period.

Dancing on the Stage

Another stunt for "the kids" which registered was the staging of an old-fashioned barn dance following the final performance, in which members of the audience participated in the dancing on the stage. The theatre was decorated to fit the occasion. This could be a regular feature through the summer months.

A plan which drew the cooperation of school officials in many communities was to offer free tickets to the three highest students scholastically in each class. This also could be used with the grade schools.

Personal letters to each member of the graduating classes is a goodwill builder likely to pay many future dividends.

A Saturday morning special program of cartoons and shorts arranged primarily for juveniles and shown before the regular theatre opening hour proved quite an attraction for one theatre. Adults were attracted by the idea as well as children. This also could be a regular weekly summer-month feature.

In larger communities, where especial consideration must be given to prevention of juvenile delinquency, managers may score with the Parent-Teacher Ass'n and similar organizations by arranging special juvenile shows featuring films from the approved lists of those organizations, together with suitable shorts and cartoons.

This idea has been tried with success as a cooperative venture in which the organizations interested in the presentation of better juvenile programs became active sponsors of the special programs.

Markers Aid Disney Film

PADUCAH, KY.—The Columbia Theatre distributed 10,000 bookmarks on varicolored tintype stock to help publicize "The Three Caballeros." The accessories were distributed among students in local public and parochial schools.

An Instrument Drive Helps "Millions" Run

Des Moines — A theatre collection of musical instruments was conducted here in connection with the showing of "Music for Millions." The drive for brass, string and percussion instruments and harmonicas was sponsored by the Des Moines music merchants in cooperation with the Tri-States Theatres Corp. The instruments will be used in rehabilitation work at war veteran hospitals.

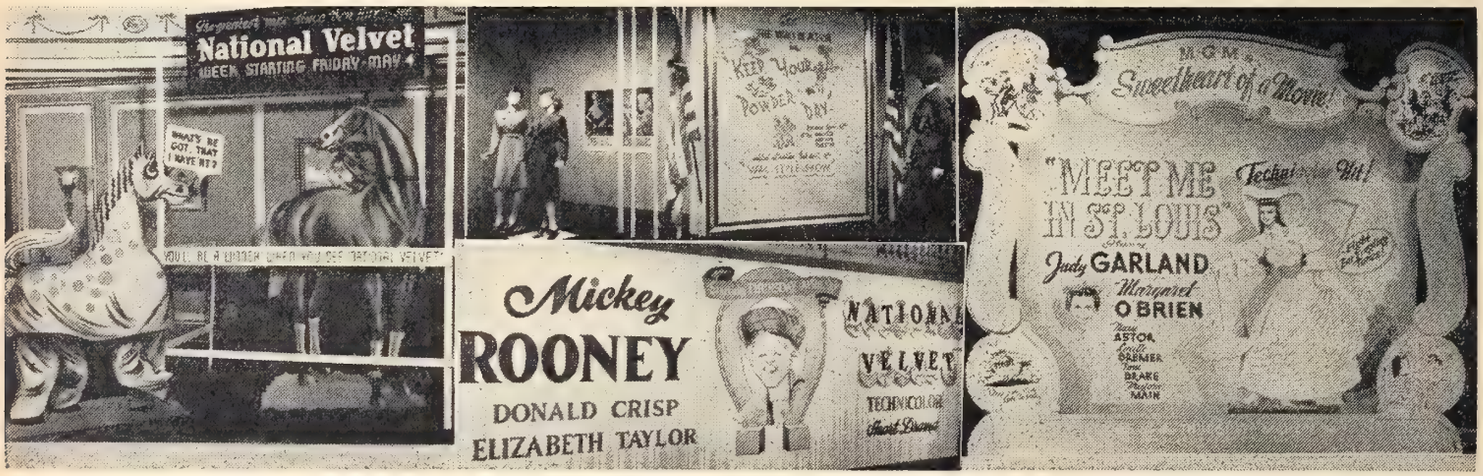
An interview with Cpl. David Sanderson, 30, local saxophonist in an army air forces band, was published in the daily paper. He said that many more instruments are necessary to carry on the army musical therapy program, which is one of the newer types of rehabilitation for shell-shocked or nerve-tense veterans.

Instruments were collected at the Des Moines Theatre. All donors of instruments in good condition received two passes to "Music for Millions," showing at the Des Moines and Roosevelt theatres. Harold Lyon is manager of the Des Moines.

"Best Photos of the Month" Chosen by M-G-M Service



SOME EFFECTIVE STUNTS—Top panel, at left: Macy's book window sells "The Valley of Decision" to thousands daily; arranged by G. S. Eyssell of Radio City Music Hall. Center, top: Book stunt used by Rodney Toups, Loew's State, New Orleans, publicizing "The Picture of Dorian Gray." Bottom: Dave Thomas, Centre, Salt Lake, trotted out an ancient trolley, advertising "Meet Me in St. Louis." Right: James Gavegan, St. James Theatre, Melbourne, Australia, promoted music window during "Two Girls and a Sailor" showing.



EYE-APPEALING ARRANGEMENT—Left: Whimsical lobby display on "National Velvet," as arranged by Len Worley, Madison, Peoria, Ill. Top center: Store window and Wac style show, on "Keep Your Powder Dry," from the fertile Jack Matlack, United Artists Theatre, Portland, Ore. Bottom: Dan Murray's spectacular lobby display on "Velvet" got results for the Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Right: George Miner at Loew's Mt. Vernon in the New York town of that name was well repaid for this gay and colorful lobby display on "St. Louis."



JOCKEYING FOR RESULTS—Left: Sam Gilman of Loew's Regent in Harrisburg, Pa., dressed his staff as jockeys, lending colorful touch in advance to "Velvet's" opening. Right: M. E. Ferrera of the Marine, in the Gulf coast town of Pascagoula, Miss., got a group of young ladies to honor That Man Van, and organized the first Van Fan Club on the opening of "Between Two Women."

Initial Metro Photo Selection Totals 11

On these two pages Selling Seats reproduces the initial group of winners in the newly inaugurated M-G-M "Photos of the Month" feature. The winning photos, 11 in all, were announced by William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation for M-G-M.

International in scope, the group of first winners, Ferguson relates, includes the St. James Theatre in Australia, where James Gavegan will receive a certificate for his campaign on "Two Girls and a Sailor."

All exhibitors, whether operating large or small theatres, in small or large towns, are eligible provided they send photographs of their campaigns to M-G-M's Photo of the Month, 1540 Broadway, New York City.

The new feature is included in a new pictorial service now being issued monthly by M-G-M and sent to theatre owners, circuit executives, theatre advertising, publicity and exploitation directors.

Photos of the Month embraces the best shots of exploitation stunts, displays, lobbies, theatre fronts, street ballyhoos and other promotional tieups received each month by M-G-M's home office exploitation department. Exhibitors whose photographs are selected as one of the photos of the month will receive a parchment honor certificate and the exhibitor earning the highest number of citations in one year will receive a special annual award.

In judging the pictures to be used in this monthly photo news, special consideration will be given the small town exhibitor who has limited resources available to carry on effective exploitation campaigns, said Ferguson. This new service is intended to call attention through pictures, to successful promotional efforts which can be adopted by other exhibitors for their exploitation campaigns.



SKETCHERS DRAW AN AUDIENCE —Sketches of members of the cast of "The Picture of Dorian Gray," made in the lobby of Loew's Theatre in Rochester, N. Y., by art students of the Rochester Institute of Technology in a contest sponsored by Manager Lester Pollock, proved a magnet to draw interested spectators. It was part of Pollock's promotional buildup for the film, as was also a huge "walking book" (shown at right) which, with power provided by a man inside the covers, paraded the downtown streets.

The sketching contest photo was chosen as one of Metro's Photos of the month.

Meadville Goes Western For "Annie" Opener

MEADVILLE, PA.—This city went western in a tieup for "Gentle Annie" at the Academy. Western books were featured at the public library and western story magazines and books were "shoved to the front" and into the windows of the magazine and book stores.

The Meadville News Co. featured Ten-Story Western magazine, and other merchants displayed western shirts, leather goods and western music and records. One women's wear shop featured stills of Donna Reed. A news agency inserted 4,000 special heralds in Sunday papers. Ed Claffey, manager of the Academy, concentrated on the fact that at Meadville "Gentle Annie" was having one of its first public showings.

Industrial Exposition In Lobby of the Albee

CINCINNATI—An industrial exposition, which Nathan Wise, RKO Theatres exploiteer, promoted, opened Thursday (3) at the RKO Albee. Sixteen major industries in this area displayed their skills and samples of their wartime products. The army, navy and air corps cooperated. The radio and newspapers covered the opening ceremonies, which was attended by civic officials, including the mayor.

The exposition, which is not tied up with any motion picture, will continue in the lobby several weeks.

Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO division manager, and Joe Alexander, Albee manager, assisted in the event.

Pigtail Contest Held For Girls of 6 to 60

WAUKEGAN—With the girls, old and young, going in for pigtails (the kind that don't require red points) the Genesee here conducted a pigtail contest for entrants 6 to 60 years old with awards for the thickest and longest braids.

Lucky Horseshoes Feature Promotion of "Horseshoe"

HARTFORD—Lou Cohen of the Poli and Ralph Stitt, 20th-Fox exploiteer, organized a topnotch publicity campaign for "Diamond Horseshoe." Silver-painted cardboard horseshoes were distributed in conspicuous places around town with free admission tickets attached entitling finders to attend the opener.

One of the horseshoes was hanging from the marquee, another was on a downtown sidewalk, another under an ash tray in a night club, and one was in a municipal park. On the opening night of the film, Cohen announced from the stage that a "diamond horseshoe" was under one of the theatre seats. The lucky finder won a choice of a $50 war bond or a night at Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe night club in New York with all expenses paid.

"Salome" Contest Planted In Shopper at Chicago

CHICAGO—Ben Katz, Universal publicity man here, tied up with the Downtown Shopping News to create a flurry for "Salome, Where She Danced" through the medium of a contest in which readers were offered awards for making as many words as possible out of "S-a-l-o-m-e" and writing a letter of 25 words or less on why the contestant wanted to see the film. The publication, a semi-weekly with a circulation of 600,000 delivered free to every house, apartment or dwelling of any kind in the entire Chicago area, devoted considerable space to the stunt.

Attention-Getters

By using 40x84s in frames and life-size colored cutouts of Yvonne DeCarlo, starred in "Salome, Where She Danced," the management of the Criterion Theatre, New York, attracted plenty of attention from passers-by in advance.

Bang! Bang! for "Dillinger"

SAN FRANCISCO—The Esquire Theatre's promotion for "Dillinger" rated medals of merit among local showmen.

Newspaper advertising broke out with an eight-column, four-inch ad across the bottom of the local theatre pages that made all other display ads on the same page look up with interest.

The lobby display at the theatre stopped the market St. crowds, and by a succession of pointing valances led them to the boxoffice window.



The marquee was a masterpiece of showmanship with a black silhouette of a man hunched over firing a machine gun, and splashed across in large vivid letters was the single word "Dillinger." The machine gun blasted a loud tat-a-tat-tat that could be heard for blocks around. In unison with the firing, red sparks flew from the gun.

A traveling billboard with a 24-sheet crying "Dillinger" shown in accompanying photo parked in front of the Esquire, traveled about the city by day and Market St. at night.

The film packed them in not only at the Esquire but also at its sister house, the Tivoli.

Pages Turn Automatically

CLEVELAND—An oversized replica of "The Diary of Dorian Gray," each page of which measured 18x12 inches and turned automatically, attracted considerable attention in the State Theatre lobby. The book was part of an elaborate cutout display which Ed Fisher, Loew publicity director, developed to exploit the film, "Dorian Gray."

Palace, New York, Obtains Window on Short Subject

Unusual is the exhibitor who goes out and gets a window display on a short. Recently the RKO Palace, New York, obtained one in Bonwit Teller's Fifth Ave. store for the This Is America short, "Power Unlimited." A few stills, several small posters, a credit card and man's smoking robe made up the display.

Roy Rogers Hosts Kids

CLEVELAND—Roy Rogers was host to 110 children and 50 adults at a luncheon held on Saturday (28) at the Hollenden Hotel. The children were selected by 56 theatre managers all of whom played a Roy Rogers picture during the week of April 22 when he brought his rodeo show to the Arena for a one-week engagement. Rogers took the youngsters to the WTAM radio station from the luncheon, and then to see his show at the Arena as guests of Arena Manager Al Sutphen.

Champion Newsboy Wins a Lassie Pup

DES MOINES—Laddie, already film actor at the age of five months, arrived here a few days ago from Hollywood to become grand prize in the Des Moines Register and Tribune carrier salesmen "Your Dog Pal" contest. Laddie is a son of Lassie, famous M-G-M collie star.

Winners in the contest were announced at a special showing of the film, "Son of Lassie," for the Register and Tribune carriers, made possible by the cooperation of M-G-M and Tri-States Theatres. Laddie, as the grand prize, was presented to the high-ranking carrier in ceremonies on the stage of the Paramount Theatre. Winners of 100 additional pedigreed dogs were announced at the same time.

Five thousand carrier boys participated in the contest, planned to encourage carriers to give the best service to the paper's readers. Judging was based on courtesy, good delivery service, regularity of collections, payment of account, and other service phases of route work.

Laddie has a role in the film, "Son of Lassie," and worked in "Hold High the Torch," starring young Elizabeth Taylor, Frank Morgan and Lassie. Laddie also has been chosen to appear with Elizabeth Taylor, 12, new child star, for a national mazazine layout.

The puppy, marked much like Lassie but of lighter color, obeys commands readily. He will follow on a leash, come when called, and lie down or sit up as ordered. Rudd Weatherwax, Lassie's former owner, asserted the dog has a high canine I.Q.

Roosevelt Theatre Has Big "IBSY" Campaign

CHICAGO—In spite of the difficulties of securing space on theatrical pages, Selznick International's publicity department, through special exploitation stunts, got considerable publicity for the opening of "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Roosevelt Theatre.

The No. 1 space-grabber was the tieup with the pay roll division of the treasury department whereby an "I'll Be Seeing You" blind-date dinner party was staged at the Blackstone Hotel. Seven local girls chosen by the treasury department for their outstanding war bond sales records had blind dates with seven war veterans just returned from action in Europe and the Pacific. Guests at the party included Mayor Edward J. Kelly who was interviewed along with the girls and soldiers on a broadcast over WLS. The broadcast described special features of the party and gave plugs to the film.

Newspapers covered the event with photographers and special feature writers.

Another feature of the campaign was a contest for the best letter on "How Returning Service Men Should Be Helped to Adjust Themselves to Civilian Life." The L. Fish Furniture Co., leading furniture dealer, promoted the contest through a 1,000-line ad in the Herald-American and a full page ad in the Times. Blowups of the ad were displayed in windows of the store and announcements were made over its Sunday radio program.

Another tieup, with the Becker cleaning stores, used 50 window displays of six-foot streamers reading "I'll Be Seeing You Early About Your Spring Cleaning." Each poster gave picture credits and play dates at the Roosevelt Theatre.

The Triangle restaurant used the film title on 2,000 "tent" cards placed on display at all its branches.

OOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◐ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
APR. 14	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611		13 (..) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	BLOCK 4—1944-45:		GROUP 3—1944-45	Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry	APRIL RELEASES:		13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	
APR. 21	17 (87) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623 19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ◐◎NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	20 (..) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(92) Mus. Com. 4416 ◎BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	15 (..) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (..) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley (82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610	20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	(156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan R—April 28—PG-626	
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama 6006 COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604		(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	4 (147) Comedy ◎COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) Western 9073 ◎SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	10 (67) Mystery 6031 BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Steve Cochran Richard Lane	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main	12 (70) War Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628	(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603	10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613	MAY RELEASES:	4 (89) Mus-Com. 9011 PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621	
MAY 12	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Pat Parrish Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor		19 (..) Western IN OLD NEW MEXICO Duncan Renaldo	BLOCK 5—1944-45:	16 (..) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(90) Mus.-Com. 584 ◐IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610		(104 Musical 524 ◎DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622	18 (..) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 19	24 (84) M'drama 6010 THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616	26 (..) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	(113) Rom-Com. 4421 THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	1 (62) Mystery THE MISSING CORPSE J. Edward Bromberg Isabel Randolph	SPECIAL: (90) Western ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622	25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
JUNE 2		JUNE RELEASES:		(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John	SPECIAL: (98) Comedy 552 ◎WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626				1 (92) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan	
JUNE 9	7 (60) Comedy 6029 TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee 7 (..) Mus.-West. RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis	(110) Drama 525 THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY Hurd Hatfield George Sanders Donna Reed		(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	15 (..) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623				8 (61) 9041 I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce June Preisser	
JUNE 16		(102) M'drama 526 ◎SON OF LASSIE Peter Lawford Donald Crisp June Lockhart		(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424 A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619	29 (..) Western THREE IN THE SADDLE Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell		JUNE RELEASES:		15 (68) 9042 BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	9 (92) Comedy 417 PILLOW TO POST Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince
JUNE 23	21 (..) BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN Robert Stanton Lynn Merrick Thurston Hall Mary Treen	SPECIAL: (119) Drama 527 THE VALLEY OF DECISION Greer Garson Gregory Peck				(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616		(77) Comedy 526 ◎WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn		22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043 PENTHOUSE RHYTHM Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark	
JUNE 30						(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622		(..) 527 DON JUAN QUILLIGAN William Bendix Joan Blondell Mary Treen Ann Revere B. S. Pulley		29 (61) Mystery 9030 THE FROZEN GHOST Lon Chaney Evelyn Ankers Milburn Stone	30 (86) Drama 418 CONFLICT Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet
JULY 7						(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding Bill Williams R—Apr. 21—PG-621					

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ## Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, − Poor, = Very Poor. ◎ Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		....
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6422	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23		....
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17	±	3-24
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)	5- 4	+	4-28
6411	Wife Decoy (17)	6- 1		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (18)	6-15		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		....
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	5-18		....
6503	Fiesta Time (7½)	6- 1		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6652	No. 2 (Baker) Ikky, Tikky Tambo (9)	10-12	+	11-18
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		....
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27		....
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (..)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed) VE-Day	5- 8		....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	2- 2	+	4- 7
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		....
6752	The Egg Yeng (7½)	5- 4		....
6753	Kukunuts (6½)	7-26		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		....
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18		....
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		....
6703	Goofy News Views (7)	4-27		....
6704	Bobby Socks (..)	7-12		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		....
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		....
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		...
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
6860	No. 10 (Eddie Cantor-Ginny Simms) (..)	7-27		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	##	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2	+	5-12
6807	The Iron Masters (9½)	4-27	+	4-28
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	7- 6		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		...
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	##	2-12
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	##	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	##	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	##	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	##	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	##	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3	±	4-28
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	##	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	##	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	##	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13	##	4-28
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17	##	4-28
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	##	3-24
W-546	Jerky Turkey (8)	4- 7	##	5- 2
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	##	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (20)	4-14	+	5-12
A-503	The Last Installment (19)	5- 5		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	##	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	##	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	##	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		...
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		##	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	##	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
K-576	The Seesaw and the Shoes (10)	5- 5	+	5-12
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-471	Fixin' Tricks (10)	9-18	+	10-16
S-472	Football Thrills of 1942 (10)	9-25	##	10-16
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		...
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	##	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	##	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	##	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	##	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	##	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	##	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (8)	4-14	+	5-12

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	##	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	##	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	##	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)		##	3-24
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	##	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	##	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (9)	5- 4	+	5-12
R4- 8	Fan Fare (..)	6- 8		....
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	##	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	+	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	+	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magica-Lulu (8)	3- 2	##	4-28
D4-4	Beau Ties (8)	4-20		....
D4-5	Snap Happy (..)	5-25		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	##	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	##	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15		....
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (8)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (8)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	+	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26		....
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better or Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	##	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	##	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6	+	4-28
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1		....
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	##	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	##	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18		....
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	##	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (10)	5-11	+	5-12

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	##	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	##	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	##	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	##	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	+	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	+	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30	##	5-12
54,110	African Diary (7)	4-20		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
53,401	Feather Your Nest (18)	10-23	##	11-18
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	##	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,203	No. 3 (9)	10-29	+	10-30
44,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	11-27
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	##	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21	+	5-12
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	##	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2	##	4-28
54,206	No. 6 (8)	4-13		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	##	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	##	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	##	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	##	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	##	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	##	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	##	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
33,113	Children of Mars (20)	10-22	##	10-30
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	##	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	##	2-12
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	##	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	##	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	##	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	##	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	##	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	##	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	##	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	##	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9	±	5-12
53,106	Guam-Salvaged Island (17)	4-13		....

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (19). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.

Battle Stations. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.

The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Fight for the Sky.

It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.

Liberation of Rome. (21). Dist. by M-G-M. Excellent. Rev. July 29.

Memo for Joe. (10). Dist. by RKO.

Movies at War. (10). Dist. by Univ.

Report to Judy (10). Dist by Univ.

Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.

Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.

Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.

Target-Tokyo (19). Dist. by RKO.

The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.

The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.

V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.

Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox. Rev. April 28.

War Comes to America. Dist. by RKO.

What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE			
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29		....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6		....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS			
4352	⊛Ski Slopes (9)	7-21		....
5351	⊛Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15		....
5352	⊛Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15		....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1- 5		....
5353	⊛Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+	1-27
5354	⊛ Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1		....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)			
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4		....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10		....
	MARCH OF TIME			
	Vol. 10, No. 12 Americans All (18)	7-14	‡	7-29
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡	8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+	9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+	10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡	11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1		....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡	12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26		....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡	3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23		....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..) The Returning Veteran	4-20	‡	4-28
	Vol. 11, No. 10 (..)	5-18		....
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15		....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13		....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)			
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡	4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4		....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25		....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29		....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10		....
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8)	1-19	‡	2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2		....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+	1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	3-30	‡	2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8)	7- 6		....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	5- 4		....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	4-13		....
5261	The Empire State (8)	7-27		....
	SPECIAL			
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8		....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)			
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7		....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28		....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7)	8-18		....
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1		....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22		....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13		....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27		....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17		....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7)	12- 8		....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7)	12-22	±	2-10
5509	Mighty Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+	2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2		....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16		....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7)	3- 9		....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23		....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	4- 6		....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-27		....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5-11		....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	5-25		....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8		....
5519	Aesops Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29		....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20		....

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)			
8239	Fish Fry (7)	6-19	+	8-12
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	‡	11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+	12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡	1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡	2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (7)	5-14		....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS			
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17		....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±	8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15) Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+	9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15) Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+	10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15) Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±	12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15) Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡	12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17		....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14		....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28		....
9127	Rockabye Rhythm (15) Frankie Masters & Orch., Phyllis Hules, Eddie Williams, Frank Cook, Marty, Kay, Pat and Jo.			....
	PERSON—ODDITIES			
8380	The Honest Forger (9)	6-19	+	8-26
8381	Spinning a Yarn (9)	8- 7	+	8-12
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡	10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+	1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15		....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22		....
9375	Author in Babyland (9)	5-14		....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)			
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+	1-22
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+	10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15		....
9237	Slphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19		....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)			
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17		....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13		....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	VARIETY VIEWS			
8360	Mr. Chimp Goes South (9)	5-29	+	7-29
8361	Bear Mountain Game (9)	8-14	‡	7-29
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡	10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+	12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+	12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29		....
9355	Your National Gallery (9)	4-23	‡	2-24

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)			
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16		....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30		....
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+	11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±	1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±	2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±	3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±	4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (..)	3-17		....
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11)	4-21		....
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)			
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+	10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡	11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡	4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡	3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (7)	5- 5		....
	FEATURETTE			
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡	10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17)	10-14	‡	11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20)	12- 2	+	1-13
1101	I Am an American (20)	12-23	+	12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡	11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡	3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (..)	3- 3		....
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28	‡	4-28
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+	3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (..)	4-14		....
1111	Plantation Melodies (..)	5-12		....
	MELODY MASTERS			
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+	10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+	11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡	1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡	12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡	1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24		....
1608	Circus Band (..)	5- 5		....
1609	Bands Across the Sea (..)	6-23		....
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)			
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+	10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±	10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±	11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡	11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡	2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡	1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡	2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+	2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (..)	2-24		....
1703	Life With Feathers (..)	3-24		....
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7		....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (..)	5-19		....
1706	Gruesome Twosome (..)	5-26		....
1707	Tale of Two Mice (..)	6-30		....
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)			
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡	11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡	2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (..)	12-30		....
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡	2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡	3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10	‡	5-12
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7	‡	4-28
1507	Water Babies (10)	5-19	‡	4-28
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (..)	6- 2		....
1509	Bahama Sea Sports (..)	6-19		....
1510	Flivver Flying (..)	6-30		....
	TECHNICOLOR			
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡	12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡	12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡	1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (..)	6- 9		....
	VITAPHONE VARIETY			
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+	9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7		...
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (..)	3-17		....
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (..)	5-26		....

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists			
	THE WORLD IN ACTION			
....	The Labor Front (21)	11-19	±	12- 4
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21)		+	3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡	5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+	10-21
....	Fortress Japan (17)	8-10	‡	8-12
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡	10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±	11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+	12-16
	Serials			
	COLUMBIA			
5140	The Desert Hawk. 15 Chapters.	7- 7	+	7-29
6120	Black Arrow. 15 Chapters.	10-20		....
5120	The Batman. 15 Chapters.	7-16		....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter. 13 Chapters.	1-26		....
	REPUBLIC			
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa. 15 Chapters.	7-10		....
381	The Masked Marvel. 12 Chapters.	11- 6		....
382	Captain America. 15 Chapters.	1-29		....
383	The Tiger Woman. 12 Chapters.			....
	UNIVERSAL			
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+	5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City. 13 Chapters.		+	8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat. 13 Chapters.		+	11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+	12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 74: Surrender of Germany; end of Mussolini; mighty Seventh War Loan drive under way; heroes; President pays honor to mother; horse racing again; hats; first veterans discharged under point system.

News of the Day, No. 272: Reims surrender; Nazi capitulation to Montgomery; London celebrates victory; Mussolini's end; GIs demobilized; President's mother to Washington; flag speaks.

Paramount News, No. 75: Army frees first veterans; Seventh War Loan; Duce's last mob scene; how end came.

Pathe News, No. 77: Seventh War Loan drive opens; death of Mussolini; German surrender.

Universal News, No. 398: Nazis sign surrender; last Nazi prisoners arrive; death of tyrant; Seventh War Loan drive opens; President has real Mothers' Day; point system frees first GI Joe; heroism rewarded; they're off.

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Movietone News, No. 75: Final German surrender in Berlin; Germany in defeat; French traitors who aided Nazis tried and shot; German submarine scourge ends as U-boats give up; Milan, freed from Nazi yoke, reviles last S.S. troops.

News of the Day, No. 273: Final surrender signed in Berlin; Hamburg a shambles; new German crimes revealed; gestapo agents executed; Nazi U-boats captured; $100,000 Nazi gold found by Yanks.

Paramount News, No. 76: Europe—problems of victory; surrender in Berlin; U-boat surrender; Nazis in New York; aftermath of Milan; revenge in France; decay of Reich.

Pathe News, No. 78: Executed French traitors; inside Berlin; defeated Germany.

Universal News, No. 399: U-boat menace ended; Germans surrender amid ruins; German loot discovered; in wake of victory; all-out air war in Japan.

●

All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 135: President Truman names Walker to Liberian post; Negro doctor, Dr. Charles W. Bugg, named to Wayne College staff; health week celebrated in Chicago and U.S.; woman news commentator on San Francisco station, a leader of her race; Willis wins 20th boxing go; history is made at red school house in Germany; public reaction to the cessation of European hostilities.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

‡ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ‡ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	A											
549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)	UA		7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)	Mono.		2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)	Para.		4- 7-45	‡			+	+			4+
573	Alaska (76)	Mono.		10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
545	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)	PRC		7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
546	American Romance, An (122)	MGM		7- 1-44	±	‡	‡		‡	+	+	9+ 1—
575	And Now Tomorrow (85)	Para.		10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	‡	+	8+
544	Are These Our Parents? (73)	Mono.		6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	‡	+	—	+	7+ 4—
524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)	Mono.		4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
589	Army Wives (68)	Mono.		12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)	WB		8- 2-44	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	+		10+
555	Atlantic City (85)	Rep.		8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
542	Attack (80)	RKO		6-17-44	+		‡	‡	‡		‡	9+
	B											
572	Babes on Swing Street (70)	Univ.		9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)	MGM		8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
528	Bathing Beauty (101)	MGM		6- 3-44	‡	+	‡	+	‡	‡	+	11+
586	Belle of the Yukon (84)	RKO		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	‡	±	∓	8+ 4—
	Bells of Rosarita (..)	Rep.					+	±	±			3+ 2—
540	Beneath Western Skies (56)	Rep.		6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
610	Betrayal From the East (85)	RKO		3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+	+	7+ 5—
596	Between Two Women (83)	MGM		1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
	Beyond the Pecos (..)	Univ.								∓		1+ 1—
596	Big Bonanza, The (60)	Rep.		1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
568	Big Noise, The (74)	20-Fox		9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
597	Big Show-Off, The (69)	Rep.		1-20-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	‡	∓	6+ 7—
565	Black Magic (64)	Mono.		9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
557	Block Busters (60)	Mono.		8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
586	Blonde Fever (69)	MGM		12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
628	Blood on the Sun (94)	UA		5- 5-45	+	‡	‡	+	+			7+
578	Bluebeard (73)	PRC		10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
610	Body Snatcher, The (78)	RKO		3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 2—
	Bordertown Trail (56)	Rep.								±		1+ 1—
569	Boss of Rawhide (59)	PRC		9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
	Both Barrels Blazing (58)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
	Bowery Champs (62)	Mono.				±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
578	Bowery to Broadway (94)	Univ.		10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
	Brand of the Devil (61)	PRC							∓			1+ 1—
577	Brazil (91)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	+	‡	+	+	‡	+	9+
614	Brewster's Millions (79)	UA		3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
552	Bride by Mistake (81)	RKO		7-29-44	±	+	±	+	‡	‡	+	9+ 2—
627	Brighton Strangler, The (67)	RKO		5- 5-45	∓	±	+	±	±	+		6+ 3—
603	Bring On the Girls (91)	Para.		2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
622	Bullfighters, The (61)			4-21-45	—		±	±	±	±	∓	5+ 6—
	C											
564	Call of the Jungle (60)	Mono.		9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 8—
	Call of the Rockies (56)	Rep.							+	±		2+ 1—
	Call of the South Seas (59)	Rep.				∓	∓		∓	∓	—	4+ 5—
538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)	20-Fox		6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3—
589	Can't Help Singing (89)	Univ.		12-16-44	+	+	‡	‡	+	+	‡	10+
538	Canterville Ghost, The (95)	MGM		6- 3-44	+	+	+	+	+	‡	+	8+
571	Carolina Blues (81)	Col.		9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
554	Casanova Brown (92)	RKO		8- 5-44	‡	+	‡	‡	‡	+	‡	12+
	Castle of Crimes (60)	PRC				±	±	∓			∓	4+ 4—
	Cheyenne Wildcat (56)	Rep.							∓	±		2+ 2—
604	Chicago Kid (68)	Rep.		2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
622	China Sky (78)			4-21-45	+	±		+	=	±		4+ 4—
628	China's Little Devils (..)	Mono.		4-28-45	±	∓		±	∓	±		5+ 5—
542	Christmas Holiday (93)	Univ.		6-17-44	+	±	+	‡		‡	+	8+ 1—
603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)	20-Fox		2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
	Cisco Kid Returns (..)	Mono.					±	±		∓		3+ 3—
571	Climax, The (86)	Univ.		9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3—
616	Clock, The (92)	MGM		3-24-45	∓	+	‡	±	∓	‡	‡	10+ 3—
	Code of the Prairie (50)	Rep.							+	±		2+ 1—
620	Colonel Blimp (148)	UA		4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	‡	‡	8+ 1—
574	Conspirators, The (101)	WB		10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
619	Corn Is Green, The (114)	WB		4- 7-45	+			+	+		+	4+
	Corpus Christi Bandits (..)	Rep.							±	∓		2+ 2—
619	Counter-Attack (89)	Col.		4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+	+	+	6+ 4—
	Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
	Crazy Knights (63)	Mono.				∓					∓	2+ 2—
553	Crime by Night (72)	WB		8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)	Col		2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	7+ 6—
601	Crime, Inc. (74½)	PRC		2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)	Col.		8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)	Col.		11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
	D											
594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)	Col.		12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
557	Dangerous Journey (73)	20-Fox		8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
591	Dangerous Passage (62)	Para.		12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 6—
566	Dark Mountain (56)	Para.		9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
583	Dark Waters (89)	UA		11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	‡	8+ 1—
526	Days of Glory (86)	RKO		4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)	Univ.		9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)	UA		3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±		5+ 7—
547	Delinquent Daughters (72)	PRC		7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3—
587	Destiny (65)	Univ.		12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
622	Diamond Horseshoe (104)			4-21-45	+	‡	‡	+	‡	+	+	10+
614	Dillinger (74)	Mono.		3-17-45	+	+	∓		+	+	+	6+ 1—
	Divorce (71)	Mono.							±			1+ 1—
548	Dixie Jamboree (72)	PRC		7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5—
611	Docks of New York (62)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	±	∓	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
592	Double Exposure (64)	Para.		12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—	±	6+ 3—
561	Doughgirls, The (102)	WB		9- 2-44	‡	+	‡	+	‡	±	±	10+ 2—
550	Dragon Seed (145)	MGM		7-22-44	+	‡	‡	+	‡	‡	‡	12+
540	Drifter, The (60)	PRC		6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
	E											
602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)	Col.		2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)	Rep.		3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)	RKO		2-17-45	+	+	‡	‡	‡	+		9+
	End of the Road (51)	Rep.				±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
561	Enemy of Women (86)	Mono.		9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)	Univ.		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
625	Escape in the Desert (81)	WB		4-28-45	±		∓	±	∓		±	5+ 5—
609	Escape in the Fog (62)	Col.		3- 3-45	±	∓		±		∓		4+ 4—
611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)	Col.		3-10-45	±		±	±	∓	±	∓	6+ 6—
534	Eve of St. Mark, The (96)	20-Fox.		5-20-44	+	+	+	+	+	‡		7+
567	Ever Since Venus (74)	Col.		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
587	Experiment Perilous (91)	RKO		12- 9-44	‡	±	+	+	+	+	‡	9+ 1—
	F											
578	Faces in the Fog (71)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)	RKO		12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
554	Falcon in Mexico (70)	RKO		8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
	Fashion Model (..)	Mono.				∓	+	—		∓	∓	4+ 4—
	Fighting Guardsman, The (..)	Col.				±						1+ 1—
595	Fighting Lady, The (61)	20-Fox.		1-13-45	+		‡	+	+	‡	‡	9+
	Firebrands of Arizona (55)	Rep.							∓			1+ 1—
623	Flame of the Barbary Coast (91)			4-21-45	+	+	±	+	±	+		6+ 2—
	Flame of the West (..)	Mono.						±	∓			2+ 2—
606	Fog Island (67)	PRC		2-17-45	=	±	±	±	±	=	±	5+ 9—
544	Follow the Leader (65)	Mono.		6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±		6+ 6—
549	Forty Thieves (60)	UA		7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
568	Frenchman's Creek (113)	Para.		9-23-44	+	+	+	‡	‡	+	±	9+ 1—
606	Frisco Sal (94)	Univ.		2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	‡	±	∓	8+ 4—
564	Frontier Outlaws (58)	PRC		9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
	Fuzzy Settles Down (60)	PRC							±	∓		2+ 2—
	G											
	Gangster's Den (..)	PRC								∓		1+ 1—
570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)	PRC		9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3—
591	Gentle Annie (80)	MGM		12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+	+	7+ 5—
540	Ghost Catchers (68)	Univ.		6-10-44	±	±	+	—	‡	±		6+ 4—
	Ghost Guns (60)	Mono.							+			1+
612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)	RKO		6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
	Girl in the Case, The (64)	Col.				∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
	Girl Who Dared, The (56)	Rep.				∓		∓	±	±		4+ 4—
577	Girl Rush (65)	RKO		10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
608	God Is My Co-Pilot (88)	WB		2-24-45	+	±	+	+	+	‡	+	8+ 1—
571	Goin' to Town (69)	RKO		9-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6—
539	Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)	Rep.		6-10-44	—	±	∓	±	—	±	±	5+ 7—
536	Goyescas (110)	RKO		5-27-44	∓		±	±				3+ 3—
	Great Day (..)	RKO					∓					1+ 1—
624	Great Flamarion, The (..)	Rep.		4-21-44	+	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	6+ 6—

‡ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ‡ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Variety	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		Great John L., The (..) UA									‡		2+
566		Great Mike, The (73) PRC			9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
541		Great Moment, The (83) Para			6-17-44	±	‡	‡	+	+	+	‡	10+ 1−
		Great Stagecoach Robbery (..) Rep								±			1+ 1−
555		Greenwich Village (82) 20-Fox			8-12-44	+	±	±	+	‡	+	+	8+ 2−
597		Grissly's Millions (71) Rep			1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589		Guest in the House (120) UA			12-16-44	+	±	‡	+	∓	‡	+	9+ 2−
		Gunsmoke (..) Mono								±	±		2+ 2−
547		Gunsmoke Mesa (59) PRC			7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601		Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (63) Col			2-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
556		Gypsy Wildcat (86) Univ			8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
		H											
541		Hail the Conquering Hero (101) Para			6-17-44	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	13+
598		Hangover Square (77) 20-Fox			1-20-45	+	+	‡	+	‡	‡	+	10+
604		Having Wonderful Crime (70) RKO			2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551		Heavenly Days (72) RKO			7-29-44	−	±	±	+	‡	+	+	7+ 3−
542		Henry Aldrich's Little Secret (74) Para			6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601		Her Lucky Night (63) Univ			2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600		Here Come the Co-Eds (88) Univ			2- 3-45	+	±	‡	+	‡	+	+	9+ 1−
591		Here Come the WAVES (99) Para			12-23-44	+	±	‡	‡	‡	+	+	10+ 1−
594		Hi Beautiful (64) Univ			12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607		High Powered (..) Para			2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±		6+ 5−
625		Hitchhike to Happiness (70) Rep			4-28-45	±				+	±		3+ 2−
588		Hollywood Canteen (124) WB			12- 9-44	‡	+	‡	‡	‡	+	+	11+
		Hollywood and Vine (..) PRC					±	+			±	±	4+ 3−
536		Home in Indiana (103) 20-Fox			5-27-44	+	+	+	‡	‡	‡	+	10+
627		Honeymoon Ahead (59) Univ			5- 5-45	±	±			±			3+ 3−
620		Horn Blows at Midnight, The (80) WB			4- 7-45	+	+	±	+	∓	+	+	7+ 2−
612		Hotel Berlin (98) WB			3-10-45	+	±	‡	+	±	±	‡	9+ 2−
		House of Fear, The (..) Univ					∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593		House of Frankenstein (71) Univ			12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
		I											
577		I Accuse My Parents (68) PRC			10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601		I Love a Mystery (69) Col			2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539		I Love a Soldier (104) Para			6-10-44	‡	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
		Identity Unknown (..) Rep					+	‡	+		+	±	6+ 1−
592		I'll Be Seeing You (86) UA			12-23-44	+	+	‡	+	+	‡		8+
624		I'll Remember April (64)			4-21-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
579		I'm From Arkansas (70) PRC			10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
559		Impatient Years, The (91) Col			8-26-44	+	±	+	+	‡	+	‡	9+ 1−
558		In Society (74) Univ			8-19-44	+	+	+	‡	‡	+	±	9+ 1−
567		In the Meantime, Darling (72) 20-Fox			9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
537		Invisible Man's Revenge, The (78) Univ			6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
573		Irish Eyes Are Smiling (90) 20-Fox			10-14-44	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	14+
610		It's a Pleasure (90) RKO			3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	‡	+	8+ 2−
605		It's in the Bag (90) UA			2-17-45	±	+	±	+	‡	+		7+ 2−
		J											
		Jade Mask, The (66) Mono					±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
551		Jamie (102) WB			7-29-44	+	±	‡	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
535		Jungle Woman (67) Univ			5-27-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 4−
		K											
		Kansas City Kitty (72) Col					±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604		Keep Your Powder Dry (93) MGM			2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592		Keys of the Kingdom (137) 20-Fox			12-30-44	+	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	12+
		Kid Sister, The (..) PRC					±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560		Kismet (100) MGM			8-26-44	+	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	+	11+
		L											
		Lady Confesses, The (..) PRC					±		±	±	±		4+ 4−
593		Lake Placid Serenade (85) Rep			12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	‡	+	8+ 2−
		Land of the Outlaws (56) Mono							±	=	∓		2+ 4−
567		Last Ride, The (56) WB			9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576		Laura (88) 20-Fox			10-21-44	+	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	12+
546		Law Men (55) Mono			7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548		Law of the Saddle (59) PRC			7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ 4−
		Law of the Valley (59) Mono							±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605		Leave It to Blondie (69) Col			2-17-45	±	+	±			+	∓	5+ 3−
569		Leave It to the Irish (61) Mono			9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598		Let's Go Steady (60) Col			1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581		Lights of Old Santa Fe (78) Rep			11-11-44	+		‡	+	±	+		6+ 1−
561		Lost in a Harem (89) MGM			9- 2-44	+	+	+	‡	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549		Louisiana Hayride (67) Col			7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
		M											
558		Machine Gun Mama (67) PRC			8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551		Mademoiselle Fifi (69) RKO			7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585		Main Street After Dark (56) MGM			12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555		Maisie Goes to Reno (90) MGM			8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
534		Make Your Own Bed (82) WB			5-20-44	+	−	+	−	±	∓	±	5+ 5−
578		Man in Half Moon Street, The (92) Para			10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599		Man Who Walked Alone, The (60) PRC			2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543		Marine Raiders (91) RKO			6-24-44	∓	±	‡		+	‡	+	8+ 2−
574		Mark of the Whistler, The (61) Col			10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
		Marked for Murder (..) PRC									∓		1+ 1−
580		Marked Trails (59) Mono			10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556		Marriage Is a Private Affair (117) MGM			8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	‡	8+ 3−
		Marshal of Reno (56) Rep								∓	±		2+ 2−
540		Mask of Dimitrios, The (95) WB			6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567		Master Race, The (96) RKO			9-23-44	+	+	‡	+	+	‡	+	9+
619		Medal for Benny, A (80) Para			4- 7-45	+	+	‡	+	‡	‡		9+
582		Meet Me in St. Louis (113) MGM			11-11-44	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	14+
575		Meet Miss Bobby Socks (68) Col			10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
559		Merry Monahans, The (90) Univ			8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	‡	8+
543		Minstrel Man (69) PRC			6-24-44	‡	+	+	+	‡	+		8+
576		Ministry of Fear (84) Para			10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
625		Missing Corpse, The (62) PRC			4-28-45	−	±		±	±			3+ 4−
584		Missing Juror, The (66) Col			11-18-44	+	±	+	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3−
613		Molly and Me (76) 20-Fox			3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559		Moonlight and Cactus (60) Univ			8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
596		Mr. Emmanuel (92) UA			1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	‡	‡	8+ 3
536		Mr. Skeffington (127) WB			5-27-44	+	‡	‡	‡	+	+		9+
547		Mr. Winkle Goes to War (80) Col			7-15-44	+	±	+	+	‡	+	±	8+ 2−
568		Mrs. Parkington (124) MGM			9-23-44	+	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	+	12+
		Muggs Rides Again (..) Mono					∓						1+ 1−
598		Mummy's Curse, The (60) Univ			1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
619		Murder, He Says (93) Para			4- 7-45	±	+	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
583		Murder in the Blue Room (61) Univ			11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588		Murder, My Sweet (95) RKO			12- 9-44	+	±	‡	±	+	+	‡	9+ 2−
590		Music for Millions (117) MGM			12-16-44	+	±	‡	±	+	‡	‡	10+ 2−
552		Music in Manhattan (81) RKO			7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576		My Buddy (69) Rep			10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586		My Gal Loves Music (63) Univ			12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
586		My Pal Wolf (75) RKO			9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	‡	+	8+ 3−
543		Mystery Man (58) UA			6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
		N											
565		National Barn Dance (76) Para			9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
590		National Velvet (124) MGM			12-16-44	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	14+
590		Nevada (62) RKO			12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594		Night Club Girl (60) Univ			12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538		Night of Adventure, A (65) RKO			6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
572		None But the Lonely Heart (113) RKO			9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	‡	‡	9+ 3−
585		Nothing But Trouble (69) MGM			12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
		O											
		Oath of Vengeance (..) PRC								±			1+ 1−
600		Objective, Burma! (142) WB			2- 3-45	+	+	‡	+	+	‡	‡	10+
558		Oh, What a Night (71) Mono			8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
		Old Chisholm Trail (60) Univ						±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
577		One Body Too Many (76) Para			10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
		One Mysterious Night (61) Col					±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562		Our Hearts Were Young and Gay (81) Para			9- 2-44	+	±	‡	+	‡	‡	‡	11+ 1−
537		Outlaw Trail (53) Mono			6- 3-44	±		∓		∓		∓	4+ 4−
555		Outlaws of Santa Fe (56) Rep			8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
		P											
604		Pan-Americana (70) RKO			2-17-45	+	±	±	+	‡	∓	±	8+ 4−
509		Passage to Marseille (109) WB			2-19-44	+	+	‡	+	+	+	‡	9+
505		Passport to Destiny (64) RKO			2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
621		Patrick the Great (89) Univ			4-21-45	±	+	+	+	+		‡	7+ 1−
561		Pearl of Death, The (69) Univ			9- 2-44	∓	±	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Penthouse Rhythm (..) Univ					±						1+ 1−
		Phantom of 42nd Street (..) PRC					±			∓	∓		3+ 3−
626		Phantom Speaks, The (69) Rep			4-28-45	∓	±		±	±	∓		5+ 5−
607		Picture of Dorian Gray (110) MGM			2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	‡	‡	‡	10+ 2−
627		Pillow to Post (94) WB			5- 5-45	±	±	±	±	+			5+ 4−
545		Port of Forty Thieves (58) Rep			7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	±	7+ 6−
612		Power of the Whistler, The (72) Col			3-10-45	∓	∓	∓			−	±	4+ 5−
592		Practically Yours (90) Para			12-23-44	+	+	‡	+	+	+	‡	9+
576		Princess and the Pirate, The (94) RKO			10-21-44	‡	+	‡	+	‡	‡	‡	12+

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		R											
	565	Rainbow Island (97)		Para.	9- 9-44	±	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	+	8+ 4−
	563	Range Law (57)		Mono.	9- 2-44	±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
	566	Reckless Age (63)		Univ.	9- 9-44	±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
	548	Return of the Ape Man (60)		Mono.	7-15-44	−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
		Riders of Santa Fe (63)		Univ.							±		1+ 1−
	579	Riding West (58)		Col.	10-28-44	+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
	623	Rockin' in the Rockies (67)		Col.	4-21-45	−							1−
	535	Roger Touhy, Gangster (65)		20-Fox	5-27-44	±	±	+	∓	+	+		6+ 3−
	605	Rogues' Gallery (60)		PRC	2-17-45	±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
	606	Rough Riding Justice (58)		Col.	2-17-45	∓				∓	±		3+ 3−
	609	Rough, Tough and Ready (66)		Col.	3- 3-45	±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
	600	Roughly Speaking (128)		WB	2- 3-45	+	±	±	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
	615	Royal Scandal, A (94)		20-Fox	3-24-45	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	+	9+ 1−
	581	Rustler's Hideout (62)		PRC	11-11-44	±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
		S											
	593	Saddle Leather Law (55)		Col.	12-30-44	±				−			1+ 2−
	598	Sagebrush Heroes (54)		Col.	1-20-45	±					∓		2+ 2−
	621	Salome, Where She Danced (90)		Univ	4-21-45	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3−
	608	Salty O'Rourke (100)		Para.	2-24-45	+	+	±	+	+	±	ǂ	8+ 2−
		San Antonio Kid, The (56)		Rep.						±	±		2+ 2−
	566	San Diego, I Love You (83)		Univ.	9- 9-44	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 1−
	562	San Fernando Valley (74)		Rep.	9- 2-44	+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
		Saratoga Trunk (..)		WB							ǂ		2+
	620	Scared Stiff (64)		Para.	4- 7-45	∓	=	±	±	∓	±		5+ 7−
	626	Scarlet Clue, The (..)		Mono.	4-28-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
	537	Secret Command (82)		Col.	6- 3-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2−
	543	Secrets of Scotland Yard (68)		Rep.	6-24-44	±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	602	See My Lawyer (69)		Univ.	2-10-45	±	±	∓		∓	±	±	6+ 6−
	544	Sensations of 1945 (86)		UA.	6-24-44	±	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	584	Sergeant Mike (60)		Col.	11-18-44	±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
	557	Seven Doors to Death (62)		PRC	8-19-44	±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
	552	Seventh Cross, The (112)		MGM	7-29-44	±	+	ǂ	+	−	+	ǂ	8+ 2−
	575	Shadow of Suspicion (68)		Mono.	10-21-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	575	Shadows in the Night (67)		Col.	10-21-44	±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6=
	596	She Gets Her Man (74)		Univ.	1-13-45	±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
	551	She's a Soldier Too (67)		Col.	7-29-44	±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
	587	She's a Sweetheart (69)		Col.	12- 9-44	±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
		Sheriff of Cimarron (..)		Rep.						+			1+
		Sheriff of Las Vegas (55)		Rep.						+			1+
		Sheriff of Sundown (56)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1−
	560	Sign of the Cross (118)		Para.	8-26-44	+			ǂ		±		4+ 1−
		Silver City Kid (55)		Rep.						∓	∓		2+ 2−
		Silver Fleet, The (..)		PRC			+		+	+			3+
	552	Since You Went Away (174)		UA.	7-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	595	Sing Me a Song of Texas (66)		Col.	1-13-45	+					±		2+ 1−
	558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing (70)		Rep.	8-19-44	±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	570	Singing Sheriff, The (63)		Univ.	9-23-44	−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
	582	Something for the Boys (87)		20-Fox	11-11-14	∓	±	±	ǂ	+	±	+	8+ 4−
	622	Son of Lassie (102)		MGM	4-21-45	±	ǂ	+	+	±	ǂ		8+ 2−
	607	Song for Miss Julie (69)		Rep.	2-24-45		−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
	542	Song of Nevada (75)		Rep.	6-17-44	+		+	+	+	+		5+
	626	Song of the Sarong (65)		Univ.	4-28-45	=	−	±	−	±	±		3+ 7−
	599	Song to Remember, A (112)		Col.	2- 3-45	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	564	Sonora Stagecoach (51)		Mono.	9- 2-44	+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
	559	Soul of a Monster, The (61)		Col.	8-26-44	∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
	536	South of Dixie (61)		Univ.	5-27-44	∓	±	±	±	±	±	−	6+ 7−
	628	Southerner, The (91)		UA.	5- 5-45	+	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ		8+ 1−
	610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The (60)		PRC	3- 5-45	±	∓				±		3+ 3−
		Stagecoach to Monterey (55)		Rep.						+	±		2+ 1−
	545	Step Lively (88)		RKO	7- 1-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ		+	7+ 2−
		Steppin' in Society (..)		Rep.							±		1+ 1−
	562	Storm Over Lisbon (86)		Rep.	9- 2-44	∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
	573	Strange Affair (78)		Col.	10-14-44	±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
	603	Strange Illusion (87)		PRC	2-17-45	+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
		Stranger From Santa Fe (..)		Mono.							∓		1+ 1−
		Strangers in the Night (56)		Rep.			+		+	±			3+ 1−
	612	Sudan (76)		Univ	3-10-45	±	±	+	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
	535	Summer Storm (106)		UA.	5-27-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1=
	588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (86)		20-Fox	12- 9-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	553	Sundown Valley (55)		Col.	8- 5-44	±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
	594	Suspect, The (85)		Univ.	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	10+
	554	Sweet and Lowdown (75)		20-Fox	8- 5-44	+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
	582	Swing Hostess (76)		PRC	11-11-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
		Swing in the Saddle (..)		Col.						∓			1+ 1−
		Swing Out, Sister (60)		Univ.			±	±		±			3+ 3−
	593	Tahiti Nights (63)		Col.	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
	539	Take It Big (76)		Para.	6-10-44	∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	548	Take It or Leave It (70)		20-Fox	7-15-44	±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
	572	Tall in the Saddle (87)		RKO	9-30-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	616	Tarzan and the Amazons (75)		RKO	3-24-45	±	∓		±	±	+	±	6+ 5−
		Ten Cents a Dance (..)		Col.			±						1+ 1−
	569	That's My Baby (68)		Rep.	9-23-44	=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
		That's the Spirit (..)		Univ.			±	+	+	+			4+ 1−
		There Goes Kelly (..)		Mono.			∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
	589	They Shall Have Faith (83)		Mono.	12-16-44	±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
	587	Thin Man Goes Home (101)		MGM.	12- 9-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (138)		MGM	11-18-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	595	This Man's Navy (100)		MGM	1-13-45	+	±	±	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Thoroughbreds (55)		Rep.			±	±			±	∓	4+ 4−
	621	Those Endearing Young Charms (81)		RKO	4-21-45	+	∓		±	+	±		5+ 3−
	590	Three Caballeros, The (71)		RKO	12-16-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+		ǂ		8+
	585	Three Is a Family (81)		UA.	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	554	Three Little Sisters (69)		Rep.	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
	563	Three of a Kind (67)		Mono.	9- 2-44	±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
		Thrill of a Romance (..)		MGM							ǂ		2+
	599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (78)		20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
	572	Thundering Gun Slingers (60)		PRC.	9-30-44	∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
	565	Till We Meet Again (88)		Para.	9- 9-44	∓	±	+	+	±	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	581	Together Again (100)		Col.	11-11-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	574	To Have and Have Not (100)		WB.	10-14-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
	591	Tomorrow the World (87)		UA.	12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	600	Tonight and Every Night (92)		Col.	2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
		Topeka Terror, The (55)		Rep.						±			1+ 1=
	581	Town Went Wild, The (79)		PRC	11-11-44	±	ǂ	∓	+	+	+	=	7+ 4−
	599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (128)		20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		Trigger Law (54)		Mono.						∓			1+ 1−
		Trouble Chasers (..)		Mono.			=						2−
	538	Tucson Raiders (55)		Rep.	6- 3-44	+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
	539	Twilight on the Prairie (62)		Univ.	6-10-44	∓	±		±	−	±		4+ 5−
	624	Two O'Clock Courage (..)		RKO	4-21-45	±	±	∓	=	±	±	±	6+ 8=
		U											
	549	U-Boat Prisoner (65)		Col.	7-22-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	597	Under Western Skies (57)		Univ.	1-20-45	−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
	556	Underground Guerrillas (82)		Col.	8-12-44	∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
	608	Unseen, The (80)		Para.	2-24-45	∓	±	+	±	+	±	ǂ	8+ 4−
	582	Unwritten Code, The (61)		Col.	11-11-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
		Utah (..)		Rep.				+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
		Utah Kid, The (57)		Mono.						±			1+ 1−
		V											
	621	Valley of Decision, The (102)		MGM.	4-21-45	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	563	Valley of Vengeance (56)		PRC.	9- 2-44	±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
	625	Vampire's Ghost, The (59)		Rep.	4-28-45	=	−		±	−	∓		2+ 6−
		Vengeance of the West (..)		Col.						±			1+ 1−
	573	Very Thought of You, The (99)		WB	10-14-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	±	+	8+ 3−
		Vigilantes of Dodge City (55)		Rep.						±	±		2+ 2−
		W											
	534	Waterfront (66)		PRC	5-20-44	±	±	±	±	+		±	6+ 5−
	553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A (70)		Mono	8- 5-44	±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
	580	West of Rio Grande (57)		Mono.	10-28-44	±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
	557	When Strangers Marry (67)		Mono.	8-19-44	+	ǂ	+	+	+	+		7+
	570	When the Lights Go On Again (74)		PRC	9-23-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
	602	What a Blonde (71)		RKO	2-10-45	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
	550	Whistler, The (59)		Col.	7-22-44	±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
		Wild Horse Phantom (..)		PRC						±			1+ 1−
	556	Wilson (158)		20-Fox	8-12-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	550	Wing and a Prayer (97)		20-Fox	7-22-44	±	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
	586	Winged Victory (130)		20-Fox	12- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	616	Without Love (111)		MGM	3-24-45	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	10+ 1−
	574	Woman in the Window, The (99)		RKO	10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	11+
	626	Wonder Man, The (96)		RKO	4-28-45	ǂ		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		10+
		Y											
	534	Yellow Rose of Texas (69)		Rep.	5-20-44	+		+	+	+	+	±	6+ 1−
	595	Youth on Trial (59)		Col.	1-13-45	±	±	±					3+ 3−
	546	Youth Runs Wild (67)		RKO	7- 1-44	−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−
		Z											
	623	Zombies on Broadway (68)		RKO	4-21-45	∓	−	±	±	±	−		4+ 5−

Where Do We Go From Here? F

Comedy With Songs

20th-Fox (526) **77 Minutes** **In June Block**

Once in a while it is the exhibitors' good fortune to book a "dream" picture, one that has everything. This is it. The basic idea is as fresh as new-mown hay and the treatment is as consistently novel. The Technicolor photography, in fact, the entire production is just about tops. It should be one of the season's big grossers unless we miss our guess. Fred MacMurray, a 4F disappointed because he is unable to join the armed forces, seeks out a magician. The latter, Gene Sheldon, rubs his magic lamp and in fantasy MacMurray is transported back into past events of historic importance with quite humorous results. June Haver and Joan Leslie, as the flirt and the real love interest, respectively, are tops. Everyone in the production end rates many bows. Produced by William Perlberg; directed by Gregory Ratoff.

Fred MacMurray, Joan Leslie, June Haver, Gene Sheldon, Anthony Quinn, Carlos Ramirez, Alan Mowbray.

We Accuse A

Documentary

Film Rights, Inc. **70 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Here is a grim indictment not only of the Nazis, not only of Germany, but of Fascism everywhere. Here is factual evidence of how Fascism is spawned, how it is reared, how it spreads terror and ruin, and—most important—how it has been, can and must be dealt with. "We Accuse" centers around the trial in Kharkov of three uniformed Nazis and a Russian civilian collaborator, accused, tried and convicted of murdering and torturing 300,000 Soviet citizens. Scenes of Nazi-perpetrated horror, no more ghastly than those seen in recent U. S. signal corps newsreel releases, are shown as effective background for the restrained powerful narration written and delivered by John Bright and Everett Sloane, respectively. Equally effective are battle shots, many of them new to our screens, of the Red Army. Recommended particularly for class houses and foreign patronage theatres. Recommended also for reconsideration by the Hays office, reported to have withheld its MPPDA stamp of approval.

Divorce F

Drama

Monogram (——) **71 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

An approach to the timeworn divorce problem, this assays as one of Monogram's more impressive offerings. It should qualify as excellent supporting material in the plush showcases and can carry top billing in almost any other spot. The screenplay, masterfully contrived and dialoged, is given a timely slant, by making the husband a restless returned service man, thereby qualifying him as a more ready victim for the triangle situation with which he is confronted. Production values throughout are impressive and unstinting, resulting in a bow and a half for Kay Francis, who co-produced—along with Jeffrey Bernerd—and starred. In the latter chore, she does not shine too brightly, largely because she is given rugged competition by a sterling supporting cast. Directed by William Nigh.

Kay Francis, Bruce Cabot, Helen Mack, Craig Reynolds, Jean Fenwick, Larry Olsen, Johnny Calkins.

Swing Out, Sister F

Comedy With Music

Universal (9033) **60 Minutes** **Rel. May 18, '45**

Aimed at a supporting niche on a double bill, this film is weak entertainment fare, and reflects somewhat lackadaisical interest on the part of those concerned with its production. Most of the humor hides behind the long, gray beard of age, while generally heavy-handed direction inflicts cruel punishment on so capable a comedian as Arthur Treacher, to name just one. Five musical numbers and two specialty acts interrupt the haphazard wanderings of the script and afford several moments of pleasant interlude. The plot tells of the rivalry between a night club owner and a symphonic conductor with a yen for swing. The object of their attentions is an attractive singer, who is supposed to be preparing for a concert career, but is actually the star performer in the night club floor show, and finally winds up with the right guy. Edward Lilley directed.

Rod Cameron, Billie Burke, Arthur Treacher, Frances Raeburn, Jacqueline DeWit, Samuel S. Hinds, Fuzzy Knight.

The Fighting Guardsman F

Drama

Columbia (——) **80 Minutes** **Rel. May 24, '45**

Adventure, pleasantly spiced with romance. Made from Alexandre Dumas' novel, "The Companions of Jehu" it gives exhibitors an action drama about a Robin Hood band that helped to bring about the French Revolution. The picture is timely in its arguments for the cause of freedom but far enough away historically to allow families of service men to enjoy it. Not a harrowing type of picture because for the most part the people who get into difficulties are the ones who deserve it, and justice done on the screen has always been popular. Willard Parker's portrayal of the band's leader, Roland, former aristocrat, and Anita Louise's costumes and performance give patrons a pleasing sweetheart pair. Lloyd Corrigan's role as Louis XVI—arrogant, fat and comically amorous—makes the end seem a natural and fitting consequence of his acts. Henry Levin directed.

Willard Parker, Anita Louise, Janis Carter, John Loder, Edgar Buchanan, George Macready, Lloyd Corrigan.

Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion F

Mystery Drama

Columbia (6031) **67 Minutes** **May 10, '45**

Like radio serials and newspaper comic strips, series pictures (not to be confused with serial pictures) develop a following of fans who like to see the same character (or a number of characters) react to continually changing sets of circumstances. Boston Blackie (Chester Morris), has been a lot of things and in this picture he substitutes for a famous and temporarily indisposed bibliopole. Blackie's intentions are as good as the famous paving of you-know-where, but as usual he gets the police on his trail and there are plenty of exciting, though not too plausible, happenings before he is able to prove that the lovely Lynn Merrick, as Gloria Mannard, is a murderess and back of the first-edition forgery. Strictly a "boiler-plate" program filler but sufficiently entertaining to preserve the industry's niche in the field of providing escape relaxation fare. Arthur Dreifuss directed.

Chester Morris, Lynn Merrick, Richard Lane, Frank Sully, Steve Cochran, George E. Stone, Lloyd Corrigan.

Bells of Rosarita F

Musical Western

Republic (442) **68 Minutes** **Rel. June 19, '45**

Literally and figuratively this should be a circus for the devotees of boots and saddles films. More diversified entertainment is crowded into its footage than normally is found in a Roy Rogers starrer. There are his established supporters: Dale Evans, the Sons of the Pioneers, Gabby Hayes, etc. Then, to further bolster the King of the Cowboy's considerable talents, guest appearances are made—and they fit logically into the plot—by every one of Republic's sagebrush stars. Into the yarn is woven a bit of circus, a touch of Hollywood and the standard ingredients of a rootin', tootin', shootin' hoss opera. To make all this possible, the story had to be stretched like a prewar girdle. Productionwise and in other technical details, the picture measures up to the high standards of the series. Directed by Frank McDonald.

Roy Rogers, Grant Withers, Wild Bill Elliott, Allan Lane, Donald Barry, Robert Livingston, Sunset Carson.

La Rival de Su Hija F

Drama

Azteca Films **(——) Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Since the second title of this is "El Abanico de Lady Windermere" (Lady Windermere's Fan), there will be a certain amount of literary interest in it. However, in this country the exclusively Spanish dialog will not be too incomprehensible because Oscar Wilde's story is so well known. Since it is a society drama in any language, depending upon clever and sophisticated dialog, the usual audience for Mexican pictures in the United States will not be too much impressed. This reviewer saw the picture at a regular theatre catering to an audience much more appreciative of Tito Guizar's and Jorge Negrete's singing and the colorful dancing which charm in most Mexican pictures. The exhibitor was wise enough to have Jaime N. Reyes and Yolanda in person to supply the lack of action in the picture.

Anita Blanch, Susana Guizar, Rene Cardona, Augusto Novaro, Miguel Angel Ferriz, Fanny Schiller.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Fighting Guardsman"**

There are a number of pegs on which to hang exploitation stunts for this picture. The name of Dumas means something to all literate picturegoers and many will have read the story and want to see it on the screen. Literary women's clubs, high school and college English classes (as well as French history and literature classes) should be contacted well in advance of the showing. In fact, the company is to be commended for the good taste shown in its handling of Louis XVI's favorite indoor sport of elevating new ladies to his favor. It produces a ludicrous rather than a sensual effect.

CATCHLINES:

Patriotic Brigands Who Dared to Kidnap a King . . . Their Leader an Aristocrat Who Believed in the Rights of the Common People . . . A Fat, Arrogant King Who Said, "I Am the Law" . . . They Took the King's Gold and Gave It to the Poor.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion"**

It must be taken into consideration that the picture in itself has little to interest those who would be interested in bookstore displays of first editions. However, features concerning famous book forgeries and their detection will arouse interest in the picture and then the name "Blackie" as a nickname suggests offering a prize for the longest list of famous—or infamous—Blackies submitted. The title itself, "Booked on Suspicion," can call for a "planted" interview with the local chief of police on the prevalence of such booking.

CATCHLINES:

Her Racket Was Books and She Was a Killer . . . The Book Was Counterfeit and There Were Lots of Other Phonies . . . Boston Blackie Meets a Dangerous Gal and Her Pal.

It's an Old, Old Book Racket With Some New Feminine Angles . . . Blackie Eludes the Police to Trap the Real Killer, a Girl . . . He Was Booked for Backing the Wrong Book.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Bells of Rosarita"**

Tie in with local radio station to broadcast cowboy songs, interspersed with blurb about film, for week in advance. Print handout bills showing "Trigger's" horseshoe, each bearing a different number, to be compared with list of numbers shown outside lobby. Lucky numbers to rate free admission. Roping contest may be staged opening night for local sagebrush artists.

CATCHLINES:

A Galaxy of Western Stars . . . Roy Rogers Challenges a Scheming Smoothie . . . Riding the Trail to Danger and Romance . . . His Fighting Will Make Him Your Action Favorite . . . He's a Singin', Fightin' Son-of-a-Gun!

Rip-Roaring Thrills, Laughs, and Excitement! . . . With a Song on His Lips and a Gun on His Hips—Roy Rogers Is at His Best . . . Blazing Bullets and Crashing Fists Smash Outlaws of the West.

SELLING ANGLES: **"La Rival de Su Hija"**

Be sure that you emphasize the second title, "El Abanico de Lady Windermere" (Lady Windermere's Fan), in your advertising. A prize might be given to that lady who brings the loveliest fan for display in one of the downtown store windows. A large fan in the marquee will attract attention and local bookstores can be helpful if they will arrange window displays of Oscar Wilde's book. Since the picture has limited action and depends on clever and sophisticated dialog for its appeal, direct your advertising toward Spanish classes and clubs.

CATCHLINES:

She Became the Rival of Her Own Daughter—or So People Thought . . . Once She Had Deserted That Daughter, But in a Crisis Brought On by Jealousy, She Acted the Part of an Unselfish Mother.

Oscar Wilde's Drama of the Woman Who Saved Her Own Daughter From Making the Same Fatal Mistake She Had Made . . . His Wife's Fan in a Bachelor Friend's Apartment.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Where Do We Go From Here?"**

You can safely open your purse strings and not go overboard in selling this picture. It is one of the most novel and intriguing comedies with music released in recent years. Exhibitors should see it themselves if possible before playing. Then they will be in a better position to gauge its value. Tie in with music stores on the songs and with historical societies and libraries on the historical sequences.

CATCHLINES:

Love, Fantasy and Music Rolled Into One Bundle of Joy . . . He Was a 4F Who Had to Fight His Way Into the Army . . . The Marines Wouldn't Have Him So in Fantasy He Joined Washington's Army.

Nobody Knew How He Joined Christopher Columbus' Crew . . . A Magic Lamp and a Genie Transported Him Into Past Ages But With Plenty of Laughs! . . . Romance and Laughs in a Heart-Satisfying and Rib-Tickling Saga of Delight.

SELLING ANGLES: **"We Accuse"**

For houses whose patrons seek sensationalism, play up the Nazi atrocity scenes hitherto unshown here; for theatres whose clientele responds to a more dignified approach, stress the even more topical angle of the trial of war criminals. American Legion and other patriotic groups may be relied on to attend in a body; they should help you circularize heralds stressing the angle of what we fight against and what we're fighting for. Tieup cards in any type store may be worded: "We accuse ourselves of offering the best values in town."

CATCHLINES:

Timely as Tomorrow's Headlines . . . Now It Can Be Told . . . A Madman's Nightmare . . . See What It's Like to Be a Nazi Slave Laborer.

The Nazi Master Plan Exposed . . . Fascist Depravity at Its Worst . . . Learn What Makes a Fascist Tick . . . The Story of Four Who Were Afraid to Die, and 170,000,000 Who Weren't.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Divorce"**

Stage an exclusive screening for judges, women's club officials, social workers and others interested in combating divorces. Use their comments as copy for newspaper ads and other material. Buy spot-announcement time on local radio station to follow program dealing with domestic problems. Offer prizes for the longest list of world-famous divorcees, such as the Duchess of Windsor, etc.

CATCHLINES:

A Provocative But Highly Entertaining Approach to the Divorce Question . . . Sophisticated Divorcee Breaks Up Happy Home and Gives the Town Gossipers a Field Day.

There Were Too Many Women in His Life . . . One Too Many . . . So He Had to Choose Between a Dutiful Wife and His Childhood Sweetheart . . . You'll Laugh and You'll Cry at This Daring, Exciting, Domestic Comedy Drama.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Swing Out, Sister"**

Arrange an amateur talent evening featuring hot jazz performers versus classical musicians in your locality. Alternate each contestant from the opposing sides, and judge the event by audience applause, but make allowances for the natural popularity of swing music. For this event, cooperation from schools, music teachers, record shops and music stores can be easily secured. Tieins with recorded music programs over the radio, playing the four tunes featured in the picture, will reach a large audience of swing fans who listen faithfully to these programs.

CATCHLINES:

A Holiday for You Hepcats . . . With Happy Music and a Solid Beat . . . Will Keep the Rhythm Rockin' and the Spirit in Your Feet!

Five Big Musical Numbers to Entertain You . . . Two Well-Known Specialty Acts to Thrill You . . . In This Charming, Frolicsome and Light-Hearted Picture!

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TWO SIMPLEX PROJECTORS, new double bearing, rear shutters, like new. Standard bases, Strong low lamps, rectifiers. RCA soundheads, new amplifier, Jensen speaker, large Walker screen. Price complete, $2,250—Cash. B-2195, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

A COMPLETE PACKAGE READY TO OPEN A THEATRE—Booth outfits consisting Simplex projectors, lamphouses, lens, soundheads, motors, amplifier, speakers and soundcreen. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP, New York 18.

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FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2 000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 South Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

ONE ULTRAPHONE SOUND SYSTEM—Complete with horns; late model soundheads; late model amplifier, 56-57, two 2A3 and 5Z3 tubes, $650. Write AMERICAN THEATRE, 3621 Main St., Indiana Harbor, Ind.

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wins the TOP Award in the Woman's Home Companion Poll





IDA LUPINO — She's cute as a jeep full of dynamite!

WILLIAM PRINCE — That 'Objective Burma' kid has a new objective-IDA

SYDNEY GREENSTREET — 'The Fat Man'-He's a 300 pound blues-buster!

"PILLOW TO POST"

IT'S THE NEW WARNER IOT.!!

with STUART ERWIN • JOHNNY MITCHELL • RUTH DONNELLY • LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Screen Play by Charles Hoffman • Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN
From the Stage Play by Rose Simon Kohn

N.Y. STRAND NOW!

Produced by ALEX GOTTLIEB

MOTIO



ICTURE DAILY SAYS:

Showmen can accentuate the positive assurance that all and sundry customers who can sit through it without laughing will be given double their money back (as the radio salesmen put it). If that sounds like risky business, ask any Warner salesman who has seen the picture in front of an audience to underwrite the offer for you, and if he is not willing to do so it is still a good bet—but he will be. The audience that saw the preview at Warners' Beverly Hills Theatre—a class house in a class neighborhood where Laughter-out-loud is almost a social blunder—tittered, guffawed and several times screamed, which ought to prove, since the film is down-to-earth stuff in every particular, that the less swanky audiences, of which there are so many more, will knock themselves out laughing.

Ida Lupino, venturing into comedy for the first time and doubtless opening a new career for herself, is the topmost billing name and the central character, with Sydney Greenstreet (no menacing villain this time) a mainstay, and with William Prince calmly colossal as the unwilling hero.

The picture is beneficiary of the recent relaxation of rules about the use of actors in uniform for purposes of comedy. The military personnel portrayed here are as human, fallible and, under natural circumstances, as amusing as the military personnel that is winning the war is and always was but could not be shown to be for the first three years of the conflict.

Alex Gottlieb produced the picture, drawing freely and often on the store of comedy lore out of which he concocted the early Abbott-Costello hits, and Vincent Sherman directed it as if having the time of his life. Audiences will be having a lot for which to thank both craftsmen."



With All Your Might!
The Mighty 7th War Loan!

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
PUBLISHED IN EIGHT SECTIONAL EDITIONS

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SAN FRANCISCO—25 Taylor St., Gail Lipman, ORdway 4812-4813.
SEATTLE—2418 2nd Ave., Joe Cooper, Seneca 2460
WASHINGTON—2812 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Al Sherman, EMerson 2652. Filmrow: 932 New Jersey, N. W., Sara Young.

IN CANADA

CALGARY—The Albertan, Wm. Campbell.
HAMILTON—20 Holton, N., Hugh Millar.
MONTREAL—4330 Wilson Ave., N. D. G., Roy Carmichael, Walnut 5519.
ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 47 No. 4
JUNE 2, 1945

BOXOFFICE

CREDITS TO THE INDUSTRY

ADD ANOTHER laurel to the many that Leo, the Lion, has earned. This time it is for excellent performance in the role of star reporter. Not only has Leo shown a remarkable nose for news, but the kind of news he has procured about exhibitors all around the nation is a credit, not only to the individuals concerned but to the industry as a whole.

The 20-Year Showmen series of thumbnail biographies which has been appearing in BOXOFFICE was made possible through the splendid cooperation of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer organization. Interesting tid-bits about the personal histories of a substantial number of the industry's pioneering exhibitors, they have provided an extraordinary cross-section of the great amount of civic activity in which exhibitors take part in their communities. This is aside from the war activities and charity work in which virtually every exhibitor is engaged to the hilt.

Of the approximate 1,000 showmen whose biographical sketches and pictures already have been published, a high percentage are active members in several civic organizations; some hold or have held important public offices; others have business associations of a wide range through which they render public service beyond the scope of their theatres. Here are a few examples:

Mr. Benjamin T. Pitts of Fredericksburg, Va., operator of 23 theatres in Virginia and West Virginia, is a state senator. Each year he donates scholarships to various schools.

Mr. Frank C. Martin, who has theatres in Morenci and Clifton, Ariz., has served as mayor, president of the Chamber of Commerce, War Finance Committee chairman, County Director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, and is an Elk and Rotarian.

Mrs. Edna Wilma Simons of Missoula, Mont., who operates 19 houses in Montana and Idaho, is a past president of the Democratic Women's Club.

Mr. William Knotts of Covina, Calif., is both police and fire commissioner in his city, a Mason and Rotarian.

Mr. A. F. Kehr, owner of two theatres in Ogallala, Neb., has held office as mayor, fire chief, selective service chairman, president of the Commercial Club, the County Fair Association and the local Rotary Club.

Mr. James P. Thompson of Tahlequah, Okla., is chairman of the utilities board, was mayor of his city for eight years, county treasurer for four years and is a Kiwanian.

Mr. J. M. Suckstorff, Princess and Roxy theatres, Sidney, Mont., is past president of the Chamber of Commerce, secretary-manager of the Richland County Fair, city alderman, director of Kiwanis, county chairman of Chinese Relief and a member of the County War Savings Committee.

Mr. Raymond M. Joyce, Eno Memorial Hall Theatre, Simsbury, Conn., is vice-president of Morse College.

Mr. C. Dayton LaPointe of Chatham, N. Y., was the first commander of the local American Legion post.

Mr. Milburn Kenworthy of Moscow, Idaho, is past president of the Chamber of Commerce, served six years as city councilman, is chairman of the war price and ration board of Latah County, is president of the Moscow Hospital Ass'n and past president of the Rotary's board of trustees.

The industry can justly be proud of these and the legion of other theatremen who are leaders in their communities. They bring credit to themselves and to their industry. They know the true meaning of good citizenship—and good showmanship.

★ ★

What the Public Wants

The current ballot for the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award for the best picture released in the month of May brought a vote from Mr. Paul Hochuli, motion picture editor of the Houston (Tex.) Press, for "Dillinger." In comment thereon, Mr. Hochuli remarked, "I was just in the mood for a 'shoot-'em-up.'" The same picture drew another newspaper editor's vote. This came from Mr. Alan Grey Branigan of the Newark (N.J.) Evening News. Since Blue Ribbon Awards are made to pictures that have "whole family appeal" as well as merit, Mr. Branigan qualifies his vote with, "The lesson in this crime-does-not-pay film is extremely well expressed."

Mr. Hochuli apparently has his finger well on the public pulse, for the Monogram film has been doing a sensational business in its key city openings. Therein may be the basis for Mr. W. Ray Johnston's announcement that his company will place emphasis on action pictures for next season. And we are glad to see that he has included comedies and outdoor pictures in the plans.

Unquestionably the public would like a change of pace as well as diet in its motion picture fare. Action long has been the keystone around which motion picture success has been built. It is an old reliable, even to the lowly western, which has pulled many a wavering patron back through the turnstiles. Action, provided in varying types of stories and not restricted to any one particular category, will build patronage consistently.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

No Antitrust Suit Change, Francis Biddle Declares

At final news conference attended by successor, Tom C. Clark, attorney general says government will press for divorcement and case will go to trial October 8.

• • • ——

St. Louis Mayor Arranges Free Atrocity Film Shows

Unedited signal corps reels and "Know Your Job in Germany," army anti-fraternization film, shown six times daily Thursday, Friday, at Opera House for 300 groups.

• • • ——

Joseph Seidelman Sees Need For Army Service Revamp

Universal foreign head who is also government consultant says gift film distribution must follow redeployment; army in future will pay three cents per foot for 35mm films in non-combat areas.

• • • ——

Removal of Film Censorship Will Raise Export Totals

Many productions held out of foreign market during the war as result of the government's export license control can now be sent abroad; no figures available on number.

• • • ——

Mary Martin Is Taken Off Hospital's 'Critical' List

Urgently needed blood donated by friends and fans has improved condition of film star, hospitalized for shock sustained when dog attacked her small daughter.

• • • ——

British Theatre Slump Due, Herbert Wilcox Declares

Departure of large number of free-spending American soldiers will affect grosses, producer believes; recent attendance peaks have run to six million weekly.

• • • ——

Warners' MPPDA Resignation Leaves Vacancy on the Board

No change in situation and no withdrawal, spokesman indicates; Albert S. Howson is out as chairman of the title registration committee.

• • • ——

20th-Fox Sued for Million By a Cartoon Producer

Hugh Harman goes to court alleging a breach of contract over deal to make the animated sequences for "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe."

• • • ——

Abbott and Costello Signed To New Contract With "U"

Comedians reconcile their differences and pact with Universal until 1950 to make three pictures yearly; will also make one annually at M-G-M for five years.

WPB GRANTS RAW FILM STOCK INCREASE FOR THIRD QUARTER

Industry Given 10,000,000 Feet More Than Figure Of Preceding Period

WASHINGTON—The WPB has given the film industry an additional allotment of raw film stock for the third quarter, bringing the total allocation to 271,000,000 feet for the three months starting July 1, it was announced Thursday. This represents an increase of approximately 10,000,000 feet over the second quarter total and an increase of about 15,000,000 feet over the first quarter total, or approximately the same footage granted the film industry for the fourth quarter of 1944.

At the same time the WPB announced that allotments for newsreels total 56,860,219 feet, or approximately 4,000,000 feet more than the amount allotted during the first and second quarters, when total allotments averaged 53,000,000 feet each quarter.

It further was stated that authorizations for the transfer and exposure of raw film will be valid only if bearing the number 14,000 or higher. Under the number system used by the WPB, this means that raw film stock allotted to producers must carry an authorization number ranging from 14,000 upward to be acceptable for processing.

Rank's Footage on Two-a-Year Basis

The question of J. Arthur Rank's request for additional footage is answered, at least for the time being, in the present allocation, which allows him footage on the basis of two films per year, instead of on six pictures as requested by the British producer.

As in the second quarter, WPB has established an over-all quota, or allotment, for independent producers as a group, in addition to quotas for the ten producers affiliated with the national distributors. This over-all quota represents the amount of film normally received by independent producers, plus a small additional amount needed to provide flexibility of operation for the smaller independent producers. The individual quotas of the distributors from whom the independents formerly received film has been reduced to the extent that they supply film to independent producers. The third quarter quota for independent producers is 1,085,200 feet greater than the second quarter quota. However, the independent producers' third quarter quota represents the same percentage, about ten per cent, of the total amount allotted to major producers as in the second quarter. As in the past, companies that make positive prints available to the army and navy for showing to the armed forces will be given "credits" for additional film in the third quarter. For that period, film credits for prints lent to the army and navy will total 74,100,000 feet as compared to second quarter credits totaling 66,000,000 feet and first quarter credits of 60,000,000. The third quarter credits thus represent an increase of 14,100,000 feet over the first quarters.

The Film Industry Advisory Committee meeting scheduled to be held next Thursday may be called off, the WPB said, inasmuch as the raw stock allocation figures have been sent to the various companies. The meeting originally was designed to discuss the third quarter allocations.

Third quarter allotments for the producing companies are:

Columbia	29,208,380
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	40,693,360
Monogram	7,888,810
Paramount	28,717,870
Producers Releasing Corp.	5,308,890
RKO Radio	22,251,810
Republic	17,736,950
20th Century-Fox	30,707,010
Universal	26,501,090
Warner Bros.	32,576,910
Independents	29,408,920

Raw stock allocations for newsreels are:

March of Time	2,318,719
Movietonews	13,318,500
News of the Day	12,129,000
Paramount News	12,392,250
Pathe News	9,574,500
Universal News	7,127,250

Will Drop Film Export Censorship on June 9

WASHINGTON—After tossing bouquets at the film industry for its loyal and earnest cooperation, Byron Price, director of censorship, has ordered the censor's film boards of review in New York and Los Angeles to close down June 9.

Price further announced that the film industry will be asked to adopt voluntary censorship, although the Office of Censorship will continue to uphold its responsibility in the event "the success of voluntary censorship became imperiled from any source."

"The Office of Censorship does not seek to escape its responsibility by delegating its powers to any private group or other government agency," Price declared. "It does not, however, foresee a need for using those powers since they would be exercised only to intervene if the success of voluntary censorship became imperiled from any source. It is not my intention that the industry be denied any assistance which this office may properly give it.

"In deciding to discontinue its present compulsory controls over imported and exported films, the Office of Censorship has been influenced by many considerations, but two of them are dominant. The first is that the end of the war in Europe permits a general readjustment of censorship policies; second, there is the record of the industry itself, which has shown a splendid understanding of censorship principles and an earnest readiness to cooperate."

Third of Century Fete Is Set by Paramount

NEW YORK—Paramount will conduct its Third of a Century Celebration from August 26 to September 29 under the slogan "Entertaining the World for One-Third of a Century." In the middle of the observance Paramount week will be celebrated as usual with "Incendiary Blonde" as the principal feature for release. More than 350 bookings are scheduled.

Principal outlines of the plan were given Thursday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president and general sales manager, at a luncheon in his honor at 21 Club. This was in observance of his 25th anniversary with the company.

Reagan said he had never worked for any other company, a record unique in this business.

Usher and Clark the Captains

The sales drive in connection with Paramount month will be captained by Allen Usher and Duke Clark. They will make a tour of the country in July and will be accompanied by Adolph Zukor, Cecil B. DeMille and some of the company's more important players. They will split up certain territories and each player or personality will cover a certain number of exchanges with the captain and division manager.

An elaborate publicity and advertising campaign has been planned with special publicity kits for field men, containing art, byline stories by famous people connected with company, suitable art on past successes and pictures to come. Two or three coast-to-coast broadcasts will be put on during August. National magazines and newspapers and the trade press will be used for advertising. A special trailer will be issued with 350 prints. This will include details on awards during the past year and footage on forthcoming productions.

WB Calls for Redemption Of Serial Debentures

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., has called for redemption on June 29 all of its four per cent serial debentures outstanding in the principal amount of $7,000,000. The company also will call for payment on June 28 all of its two and three-fourth per cent term bank loans, $10,000,000 of which will be outstanding on that date.

These securities will be refinanced by a term bank loan of $17,000,000 bearing interest at the rate of two per cent. The new bank loan will be payable in semiannual installments ending with a payment due May 1, 1952.

Film Producers to Tour Battlefields of Europe

WASHINGTON—The war department is completing plans for a tour of the European battlefronts to be made by a selected group of film producers and executives, it was learned here. A list of producers now is being compiled and will be announced some time next week. The trip will take place about mid-June. While no details are forthcoming, a war department spokesman asserted that plans for the trip "are in preparation."

May Spend Up to $5,000 on Repairs

Washington—Exhibitors may now spend as high as $5,000 in new construction work without WPB authorization, instead of the previous $200 limitation imposed by the government agency.

Under the terms of the amended order, all or part of the $5,000 exemption may be used for repairs, although special WPB authorization must be obtained for maintenance and repair work costing in excess of 20 cents for each square foot of gross floor area. Any part of the $5,000 used for repair work is to be deducted accordingly from the allowance for new construction.

FILM INCOME PEAK HIT IN 1943, BUT TAXES EXCEEDED PROFITS

Total Net $61,692,863, With Federal Levies At $105,716,765

By J. M. JERAULD

NEW YORK—Major film company reports for the first quarter of 1945 already made public and others to be issued soon indicate that 1943 was the peak year for both gross and net income of the war boom spending era. The decline had set in before VE-Day and before recent announcements of cuts in government spending.

Distributors are eyeing the foreign market hopefully.

Twentieth-Fox had a net of $2,855,485 for the first three months of 1945, equal to $1.33 per share on the common; for the same period in 1944 the net was $3,186,302, equal to $1.57 per share on the common. This is a decline of $330,817.

RKO reported a net of $5,206,378 for 1944, at the rate of $1.56 per share of common. In 1943 the net was $6,964,004, or $2.16 per common share. This was a decline of $1,757,626. It shows the trend began some time back. It was noted first at the end of 1944. In 1943 the net profit of seven major companies—Columbia, Loews, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox, Universal and Warners—was $61,692,863. In 1944 it fell off to $60,219,227.

These figures confirm reports coming in from the field recently to the effect that theatre attendance isn't what it was.

Financial observers interested from the investment angle say there is nothing in this to become alarmed about. They point out that all the major companies have been husbanding their resources and improving their positions to meet a business setback. Paramount has retired considerable debt, Warners is refinancing some of its borrowings at lower interest. Twentieth-Fox has simplified its corporate structure by absorbing National Theatres, RKO has dissolved Keith-Albee-Orpheum, the theatre-operating subsidiary, and has acquired full control of the Singer circuit of 14 midwestern theatres in which it had a 50 per cent interest.

Unlike the lush days before 1929 after sound came in, all companies have been operating on a conservative financial basis and have been getting rid of the financial hangovers which followed the depression.

In the meantime taxes have bounced up to the point where they equal net income in many instances and in some exceed it by considerable margins. This is particularly true of Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, Universal and 20th-Fox.

Federal Taxes Top Profits

Federal taxes have grown faster than the profits. In 1941 the total net profit for Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox, Universal and Warners was $34,543,788. Taxes were $13,791,381.

In 1942 Federal taxes crept up close to the total net. The net was $51,418,356. Taxes were $44,974,419.

In 1943 the tax leap was startling. Total net was $61,692,863. Taxes were $105,716,765, or, to put it another way, taxes were $44,023,902 higher than the total net.

Both net and taxes declined in 1944, but the taxes were still far in excess of the net. Total net was $60,219,227 and taxes totaled $97,129,884, an excess of taxes over net profit of $36,910,657.

For the four-year period total net profit was $207,874,234 and total taxes were $261,612,449.

Twentieth-Fox has had a tremendous increase in net income from $4,921,926 in 1941 to $13,380,491 in 1944, but this doesn't mean its film distribution business has increased to that extent. In 1943 the company acquired the 58 per cent interest in National Theatres held by the Chase National Bank. This gave the company complete control and the National Theatres income was added to the 20th-Fox. This helped raise the company's net. In 1942 the 20th-Fox net was $10,609,784. In 1943 it jumped to $12,920,455, and for 1944 it was $13,380,491. Taxes flew upward to $23,800,000 in 1943 and $25,100,000 in 1944.

Improved quality of pictures and the addition of the theatre income to the RKO report boosted RKO's net from $538,692 in 1941 to $5,206,378 in 1944. During the same period taxes leaped from $466,602 in 1941 to $5,228,694 in 1944.

Loew's Gains Eaten by Taxes

Loew's, Inc., always strong financially and with consistent product even through the depression, shows the lowest percentage gain during the war period, largely because its gross increases are eaten up by an increasing percentage of taxes. In 1941 the company's net was $11,553,890 and its taxes $3,747,298. In 1944 the net was $14,517,255, an increase of approximately 25 per cent, but the taxes jumped from $3,747,298 to $15,187,262. During 1943 the all-time high for taxes was $21,239,869.

Universal, which was in the doldrums in 1941 with a net of $2,341,202, was up to $3,759,968 in 1943, its peak. For 1944 the net had fallen back to $3,412,701. Taxes went up from $1,806,174 in 1941 to $8,823,882 in 1943 and $8,354,487 in 1944.

Warners has had a gain in net from $5,429,302 in 1941 to $6,953,462 and has been persistently strengthening its financial structure.

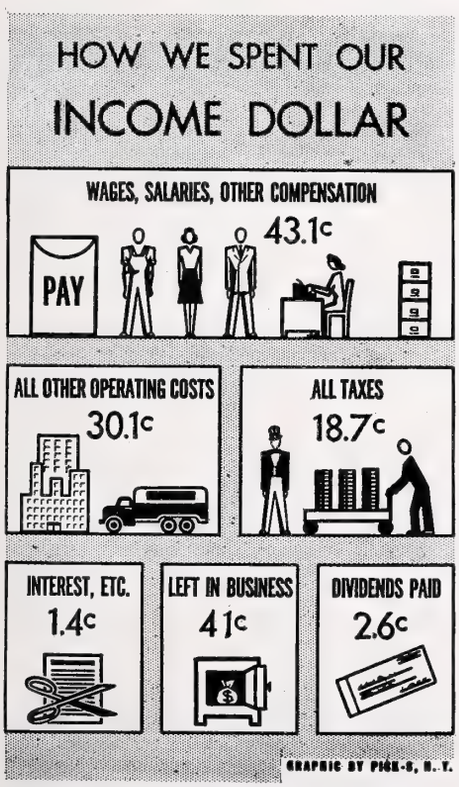
Not all of the increases since 1941 have been due to improved business. In October, 1942, the British government released $42,500,000 of funds which had been accumulating there over a three-year period. Later Australia, the Union of South Africa and the Indian government released considerable sums, and the companies paid income taxes on these accumulated sums greater than would have been required if they had been allowed to filter through annually.

All the major companies hope this will not happen again. This is one of the reasons for the earnest efforts to form an export corporation under the Webb Act which will serve all companies in the export market. Only by joint action, it is felt, can American companies secure fair treatment in some foreign markets and oppose any efforts of some governments to take over a large proportion of American profits to finance their local film industries. After World War I the foreign market built up the American industry.

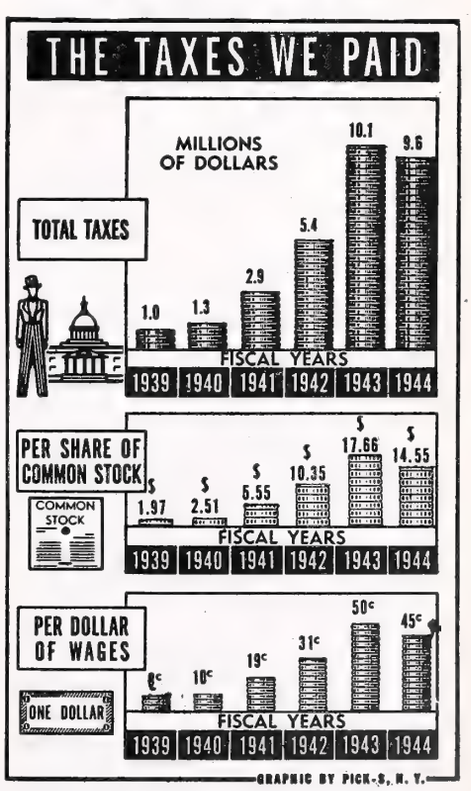
In the United States it has become a habit for lawmakers and others to use the large sums associated with the conduct of the film business as an excuse for new taxation and

(Continued on following page)

Decline Started in 1944 And Is Continuing in First 1945 Quarter



UNIVERSAL'S BREAKDOWN—This is the striking way in which J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal president, had the allotment of the company's income illustrated in the last annual report.



TAX GROWTH—This illustration also is from Universal's last annual report. A somewhat similar illustration might be employed for the other major companies of the industry.

Rank, Nathanson Form New Distributing Firm

TORONTO — Formal announcement was made here Tuesday of an agreement reached by J. Arthur Rank of England and Paul Nathanson of Canada for the establishment of a new Canadian film exchange company to distribute all films of Rank's British studios as well as of the Gaumont Co. in France. Canadian facilities will be made available to all other studios in both Britain and France.

The new distributing company has not yet been accorded a name, but will have a federal charter for operation in Canada, with branches in six key cities from coast to coast. British pictures have been handled by Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., one of Nathanson's companies, and this enterprise will continue to distribute Universal and Republic product.

Rank was not present at Toronto when the announcement was made, because he was meeting Malcolm MacDonald, British high commissioner to Canada, at Ottawa, to discuss film and theatre developments in the Dominion.

On Tuesday Rank with members of his overseas party were in Montreal as dinner guests of D. C. Coleman, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Coleman is a member of the board of Odeon Theatres of Canada and is chairman of the board of Associated Screen News, Ltd., of Montreal.

Meanwhile, Barrington Gain of London, financial adviser to Rank, remained in Toronto to check on the Rank-Nathanson agreements. Definite word on the Canadian Odeon program of expansion was momentarily expected at the weekend, before Rank's departure for New York on Sunday, June 3.

Rank to Be Dinner Guest Of Hays in New York

TORONTO—Following the annual meeting of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., J. Arthur Rank and his party left here Thursday night for a weekend at Seigeneury Club, Montebello, Quebec, as guests of D. C. Coleman, president of Canadian Pacific Railways and a director of Odeon.

On Monday, June 4, Rank arrives in New York. That evening he will be a guest at dinner of Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, where he will meet the leaders of the U.S. industry.

Accompanying Rank are G. I. Woodham-Smith, legal advisor; John Davis, theatre advisor; Barrington Gain, financial advisor, and Jock Lawrence, public relations counsel.

Monday noon Rank will pose for photographers in the Balinese suite of the Sherry-Netherlands and hold a press interview.

Kodak Company Visions Employment Increase

ROCHESTER—Postwar construction plans for two large new buildings were announced Tuesday by officials of Eastman Kodak Co. here.

The new buildings, anticipating postwar employment exceeding even the present war expanded force, will cost several million dollars. One will be a six-story structure at Kodak Park which will house dining room and recreational facilities for thousands of Kodak workers. The other will be a 14-story addition to Kodak office which will provide approximately a third more office space.

Diagnosing Revocation Orders Becomes a Fad

WASHINGTON—While more and more revocation orders are being put into effect, interpretations of these orders fast are becoming the latest governmental fad. For example priority regulations covering the manufacture of electronics equipment under order L-265 now are interpreted to point out that while manufacturers may obtain priorities assistance in obtaining limited quantities of construction materials for civilian use, these manufacturers must comply with all applicable WPB orders and regulations. Regardless of the "double-talk," it develops that electronic equipment still is subject to preferred orders.

Production of passenger automobiles is authorized after July 1, but the problem is to get the necessary raw materials.

Limitation order L-185, controlling production of water heaters, was revoked. However, this revocation also is subject to other applicable orders and regulations of WPB.

Bennie Berger Purchases The 1,900-Seat Palace

MINNEAPOLIS—Bennie Berger, independent theatre circuit owner, was on the front pages again when he purchased still another valuable loop property, the 1,900-seat Palace Theatre. This was on top of acquisition of the old West Hotel property downtown, on which a theatre will be constructed, as part of a large building project, after the war, and other loop real estate. The Palace purchase price was in excess of $100,000, as was that of the West Hotel property.

The Palace Theatre is under lease to the Minnesota Amusement Co., being operated by it and William Elson. The lease still has six years to run.

"G I Joe" Okinawa Showing Set

NEW YORK—Ernie Pyle's "Story of G.I. Joe" will be shown June 9 for the first time before an Okinawa combat troop audience.

Income Peak in 1943; Taxes Exceed Profits

(Continued from preceding page)

for other purposes. Even inside the industry round figures are quoted for odd purpos s. It has often been said that a statistician can prove anything from a mass of figures.

P. J. Wood furnishes an illustration in his latest bulletin to members of the ITO of Ohio. He tabulates the gross receipts of seven major companies for 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 and writes to his members as follows: "If your gross business did not INCREASE in the same proportion as did that of the companies listed below, we suggest you make application for film adjustments. And then when you receive the adjustments, wire this office and we will present you with a little-used German submarine."

Two major company sales managers smiled when this tabulation was shown to them, and suggested that they had recently renewed their offers to Ohio exhibitors to make adjustments where an exhibitor could show he had not made a normal profit on an individual picture.

They pointed out that net profits of the theatre and not gross receipts were the usual basis for seeking adjustments.

Twentieth-Fox gross receipts went up 262 per cent in four years, according to Wood's tabulation. The net increased 172 per cent, but a large part of this increase was due to the addition of the profits from the several hundred theatres operated by National Theatres and now consolidated into the 20th-Fox annual report.

"Is Pete suggesting that any Ohio theatre that didn't more than double its gross is entitled to a full refund on all the 20th-Fox pictures played, because we changed our corporate structure?" inquired a 20th-Fox executive who didn't want to be quoted because he said he did not want to get into a controversy.

Seemingly, a question for Pete to answer.

Admission Taxes for April of 1945 Considerably Under Level of March

WASHINGTON—Admission taxes for April are down $1,568,274 from the March level of $30,645,244. March receipts are considerably over those of February, a short month of bad weather. Receipts for April were $29,076,970, or $14,169,051 more than for the same months in 1944; however, the great increase is traced to the higher amusement levy presently in force.

Breakdown of Profits and Taxes

NET PROFITS FROM 1941 THROUGH 1944

	1941	1942	1943	1944
Columbia	552,743	1,611,659	1,802,279	2,005,834
*Loew's	11,553,890	12,692,580	13,422,853	14,517,255
*Para	9,206,042	13,125,436	14,584,821	14,743,106
*RKO	538,692	2,017,433	6,964,004	5,206,378
*20th-Fox	4,921,926	10,609,784	12,920,455	13,380,491
Univ	2,341,202	2,806,952	3,759,968	3,412,701
*Warners	5,429,302	8,554,512	8,238,483	6,953,462
Totals	34,543,788	51,418,356	61,692,863	60,219,227

*Profits of theatres included

FEDERAL TAXES FROM 1941 THROUGH 1944

	1941	1942	1943	1944
Columbia	145,420	1,163,617	3,679,562	4,229,625
Loew's	3,747,298	6,932,512	21,239,869	15,187,262
Para	3,744,725	16,129,422	28,283,452	28,879,816
RKO	466,602	734,000	6,000,000	5,228,694
20th-Fox	2,275,162	7,460,000	23,800,000	25,100,000
Univ	1,806,174	4,304,868	18,823,882	8,354,487
Warners	1,606,000	8,250,000	13,890,000	10,150,000
Totals	13,791,381	44,974,419	105,716,765	97,129,884

Crucial Point Reached In Bond Drive–Coyne

WASHINGTON—The Seventh Loan drive has reached the crucial point now, according to Robert W. Coyne, national field director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department. He pointed out that no previous drive has lasted so long or had such a high goal.

Reports from state and local war finance offices are encouraging, he said, and particularly emphasize the fine work of the theatres in their cooperation in many special events.

"I have not yet heard a theatre man say he's done enough. That's the spirit that will make possible the seven-billion-dollar goal of bond sales to individuals," Coyne concluded.

Bugs Bunny Nearly Kicks Over GI Poll Applecart

NEW YORK—Results of the "GI Oscar" poll, conducted by the Army Pictorial Service in eight theatres of war around the world, class Rita Hayworth as favorite glamor girl, Bing Crosby as best male performer and Jennifer Jones as top actress of the year. Top comedy honors went to Eddie Bracken, according to Yank, army weekly.

The areas in which polls were conducted included the Mediterranean, Middle East Alaska, Newfoundland, the Pacific, Iceland, Central Africa and various ATC installations. "Pollings of some local theatres," Yank reports, "varied from the over-all findings. Thus, Barry Fitzgerald beat out Bing for acting honors in the West African service command voting. In the same theatre, Danny Kaye scored above Eddie Bracken in the comedy section. In Hawaii, Bugs Bunny almost caused an upset when early voting placed him third as outstanding male star.

"No statuette will be awarded with the GI Oscars," Yank concludes. "The awards serve simply as definitive dope on what soldiers like best in motion pictures."

Knox Wins New Laurels

NEW YORK—The Hollywood Foreign Correspondents' Ass'n at a dinner attended by 250 of its members presented a parchment scroll to Alexander Knox "for the best performance by a starring actor during 1944," according to word received by 20th-Fox home office. The film company plans to release "Wilson," Knox's starring vehicle, at popular prices nationally next month. The picture will return on July 25 to the Roxy, scene of its premieres.

March of Dimes Reports Total Near $5,000,000

NEW YORK—Total collections for the 1945 March of Dimes are close to the $5,000,000 mark, with additional state chairmen completing their reports. With two of the largest states, New York and Illinois, still to be completed a grand total of $5,800,000 is now almost certain. In 1944 the total was $4,667,000.

Thall to San Francisco

NEW YORK—Charles M. Thall, western coordinator for the Seventh War Loan, who has been handling matters for his territory at industry headquarters here, will be located at headquarters for the northern California WAC, Room 300, 25 Taylor St., San Francisco, for the remainder of the drive.

Republic Is Launching Studio Expansion Plan

HOLLYWOOD—Launching its tenth anniversary celebration, Republic announced that it has $20,000,000 appropriated for the studio's forthcoming product and another $2,000,000 earmarked for studio expansion.

Herbert J. Yates, president and founder, received acknowledgements of the occasion from high sources in the nation, the state and the industry.

Yates himself spoke of the studio property a decade ago as "a hole in the ground out in nowhere." Today it occupies on 70 acres a modern motion picture plant employing 1,200 workers. It has 11 sound stages, permanent exterior sets, a western cow town and



HERBERT J. YATES

a new music stage claimed to be the most complete in the world.

"During 1945 we have planned to establish the necessary equipment for Technicolor," Yates said. "This equipment, consisting largely of lighting, generators, air conditioning, and so forth, will cost $180,000. We will produce two pictures in Technicolor in 1945."

First of these is to be a romance, "Concerto," an original story by Borden Chase, which will be the initial picture produced and directed by Frank Borzage, now under term contract to Republic.

Alfred Santell, another producer and director, also under contract, now is filming a musical, "Mexicana," starring Constance Moore, Tito Guizar, Estelita and Leo Carrillo. Republic has announced its stellar anniversary picture as "Flame of Barbary Coast," which was directed and produced by Joseph Kane, dean of his profession at the studio, who was there when Yates organized it in 1935.

Republic was the outcome of a merger engineered by Yates, between four independent companies, Mascot, Liberty, Monogram and Select. He was then head of Consolidated Film Industries, which he still controls. Production was started with the film, "Tumblin' Tumbleweeds," written by Armand L. Schaefer, now assistant general manager of the studio.

At first Republic concentrated on westerns, featuring Gene Autry, in more recent years acquiring Roy Rogers. In late years the studio has expanded to produce musicals and dramatic films.

The anniversary celebration on which more than half a million dollars will be expended will extend through July 27. In that period Republic will conduct a national newspaper and magazine advertising campaign while a series of events at the studio and in the New York home offices will fete the occasion.

Stars under contract to the studio this year, who will join in the celebration, include Constance Moore, John Wayne, Ann Dvorak, Roy Rogers, Tito Guizar, Vera Hruba Ralston, Joseph Schildkraut, Wild Bill Elliott, Victor McLaglen, Edward Ashley, Virginia Bruce, Michael O'Shea, Ona Munson, Al Pearce, Eugene Pallette, Jane Withers, Walter Catlett, Stuart Hamblen, Don Barry, Stephanie Bachelor, George "Gabby" Hayes, James Lydon, Roy Acuff, Bobby Blake and others.

Yates said that the 1945-46 production schedule will be the heaviest yet undertaken by Republic. At the same time as soon as war restrictions are lifted construction will be launched on large scale to provide additional stages, office buildings and technical housing.

Myers for Theatre Clocks; Says All Exhibitors Agree

New York—Abram F. Myers has sent out a bulletin to Allied members pointing out the need for clocks in theatres. A traveling friend has pointed out to him, he says, that he and others like to drop into theatre just before train time.

Parents like to tell their children when to come home, he points out.

"Apparently there are millions of patrons whose comfort and convenience would be enhanced by the installation of clocks in theatres," he writes. "We have polled a number of active exhibitors as to whether there was any objections to a program of putting clocks in theatres—aside from the current clock shortage—and they all agreed that there was none."

Censorship on Voluntary Basis Starting June 9

WASHINGTON—Censorship of motion pictures for import and export will be placed on a voluntary basis starting June 9, the Office of Censorship here has announced.

Compulsory controls were being discontinued, Director Byron Price said, because the ending of the European phase of the war permits a "general readjustment of censorship problems . . . taking consideration of the need of economy in public expenditures."

Solon Requests Atrocity Films Play Over Nation

WASHINGTON—The war department has been requested by Representative Marion Bennett of Missouri to make sufficient prints of the signal corps motion picture of atrocities in German concentration camps so it can be played soon throughout the nation, the congressman said prior to his departure for Springfield, Mo.

A $10,000,000,0

ALL AMERICA KNOWS the hard-hitting

• But nobody knows it as well as we wh



00.00 Orchid from YOU

rd-selling job you exhibitors have done during the past six War Loans. nderstand *fully* how much of your time and energy went into that vital work—and is now going into the Showmen's Seventh.

• As citizens, we thank you for the tanks and planes and guns whose purchase your tireless sales-work made possible.

• As motion picture producers and distributors, we thank you for the credit and honor your efforts have reflected on the industry we're all part of.

• Please let us know in what way we can help you. As in the past, our management men, our field men, our ad and publicity men are at your service. When you want 'em, say the word. Meanwhile, the word we say to you is: CONGRATULATIONS!



In appreciation for the Showmens Seventh

COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP.
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES
PARAMOUNT PICTURES INC.
RKO-RADIO PICTURES, INC.
TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP.
UNITED ARTISTS CORP.
UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY, INC.
WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.

Riskin Gives His Views On Re-Educating Nazis

NEW YORK—Re-education of the Germans can be accomplished in the long run only if we supplement documentary and newsreel releases with entertainment films, according to Robert Riskin, retiring chief of OWI overseas motion picture bureau. Attempts to force propaganda upon them will prove unsuccessful; conditioned by 13 years of intensive and continuous Nazi propaganda, they're not likely to be receptive toward ours.

"Soon—perhaps immediately—the German people will be allowed to shop around for film entertainment," Riskin said when interviewed. "We're not going to force them into theatres—although we'll be firm about making them see documentary films and newsreels.

No Films Shown in U.S. Area

"To my way of thinking the best way of showing the Germans our ideas and ideals would be by theatrical films made in Germany my Germans—technicians and artists whom they know and with whose work they're familiar," he added. "Needless to say, these films would be made under our control.

"If you don't behead the Germans, use them," Riskin continued. "Not to use them is, as a general policy, all wrong. Effective supervision is, of course, a prime essential. Such an organization probably would come out of the Allied Control Commission. Such a setup is already functioning in Italy where American entertainment films are being shown to the public. In the American controlled area of Germany no theatrical films of any sort are being presented at this time."

Asked if OWI would map the policy under which such releases would be produced and distributed in Germany and, eventually, Japan, he said OWI had never dictated policy. Policy was formed by many agencies and by a combination of civil and military groups in the various allied nations. It would and should remain an overall conception.

"After the four great powers agree on policy," Riskin went on, "pictures from each of those countries should be shown in all the occupied areas, regardless of which nation or nations are in control of that particular portion of Germany."

Favors a $500,000 Subsidy

Prior to joining OWI three years ago Riskin was one of Hollywood's best known writer-producers, turning out such films as "It Happened One Night," "You Can't Take It With You," "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town" and "Lost Horizon." He recently resigned from OWI to form his own producing company in California.

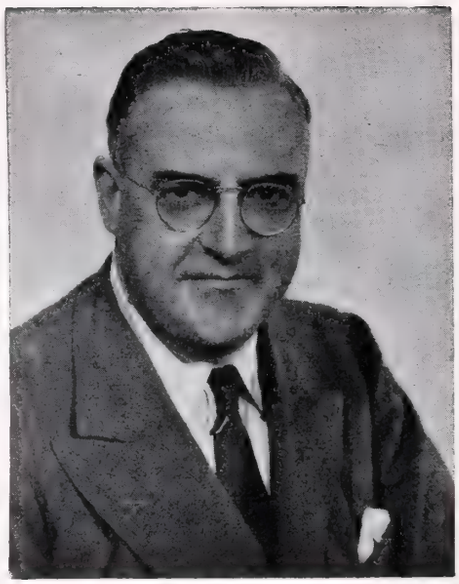
Apart from his own producing plans, he is interested in seeing formed a new and separate motion picture organization, subsidized by major film companies, for the production abroad of documentary and informational films designed to promote America and our way of life after the disbanding of OWI, six months after the war's end. The initial subsidy cost would be about $500,000.

Such an organization would be headed by a working producer and his writing staff. Contributing its services Riskin visualizes an advisory board, composed of such experienced film producers as Frank Capra, John Huston, John Ford and others. A policy board, composed of a leading scientist, a state department representative, an outstanding educator, etc., would be included in the structure, Riskin concluded.

Monogram's Accent On Action Pictures

NEW YORK—While discussing Monogram's production plans for next season, President W. Ray Johnston declared that the "public is tired of problem pictures and wants to relax. Above all, the public wants to forget about the war."

In view of this attitude, said Johnston, Monogram plans to place emphasis on action



W. RAY JOHNSTON

pictures and comedies next season. There will also be an expanding market for outdoor films along with the aforementioned pictures, Johnson declared.

The Monogram president said that "Dillinger" has been doing a "terrific business" all over, breaking records in many spots.

When asked about the raw stock situation, he said that he expected an easing of restrictions by August 1. The end of the war in Europe, he felt, would help to relieve the raw stock pinch to a considerable degree.

Johnston disclosed that the company has in various stages of preparation the dubbing in Spanish of six films, including "Lady, Let's Dance," "The Unknown Guest," "Return of the Ape Man," "Law of the Valley," "The Chinese Cat" and "Detective Kitty O'Day."

Booked in 42 Texas Theatres

These films, while made for the Latin American market, will also be shown in various Spanish-language theatres in the United States. They will first be shown in some 42 Texas theatres that play Spanish-language films.

"Lady, Let's Dance" will also be dubbed in French for the foreign market and for showings in Canadian cities, such as Montreal, that have large French-speaking audiences.

Monogram has appointed a new South American representative, Bernard J. Gates, who is making a tour of Latin America to set up Monogram franchise holders throughout the continent. The company also plans to appoint a London representative for the United Kingdom and one for Paris who will handle the company's affairs for Europe.

Southern California Doubles Bond Sales

LOS ANGELES—The first week's report of bond sales in southern California theatres for the Seventh War Loan showed bond sales more than doubled the first week's figures in the Sixth Loan.

During the period 66,202 bonds were sold through southern California theatres for a money total of $6,613,016. In the Sixth Loan at the end of the first week 29,770 bonds amounting to $3,591,516 had been sold.

Of the week's total, Fox West Coast Theatres accounted for 34,254 bonds with a value of $3,425,475; Warner Bros. Theatres, 25,734 bonds with a value of $2,586,752, and independent theatres 1,584 bonds worth $158,489.

Theatre sales in the report included Paramount Hollywood, $344,300; Paramount Downtown, $48,700; RKO Theatre $13,525.

Los Angeles exchanges sold the following amounts in the opening week: 20th-Fox, $16,900; RKO, $8,125; Monogram, $3,825; M-G-M, $3,750; Republic, $1,450; Universal, $500; Warner Bros., $450; Paramount, $350; PRC, $275; UA, $150.

Seventh Loan Tradepaper Publicity Post to Shain

NEW YORK—Sam Shain, assistant to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, has taken over tradepaper publicity duties for the Seventh War Loan drive under John Hertz jr., national publicity drive. Shain, who was director of tradepaper relations in the Fourth War Loan, succeeds Al Finestone, who has been released at his own request to return to Paramount Pictures for a special assignment.

Samuel Pinanski, national chairman of the Showmen's Seventh campaign, who made the announcement, joined with Hertz in tributes to Finestone, declaring that he had performed "a magnificent job" during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Roy Cooper Urges More Children's Bond Shows

NEW YORK—Roy Cooper, WAC chairman for northern California, who has been here for conferences with WAC officials, urges exhibitors to put more emphasis on children's shows in their bond selling campaigns.

At 33 school children's bond matinees held in northern California in the Sixth War Loan, $77,000 in E bonds were sold. The area committee is making an effort to increase such shows 500 per cent in this drive. A goal of 200 children's shows has been set.

School children, Cooper said, are among the most active bond sellers if given the proper exhibitor backing.

29,747 Bonds Sold in Two Weeks by Fox West Coast

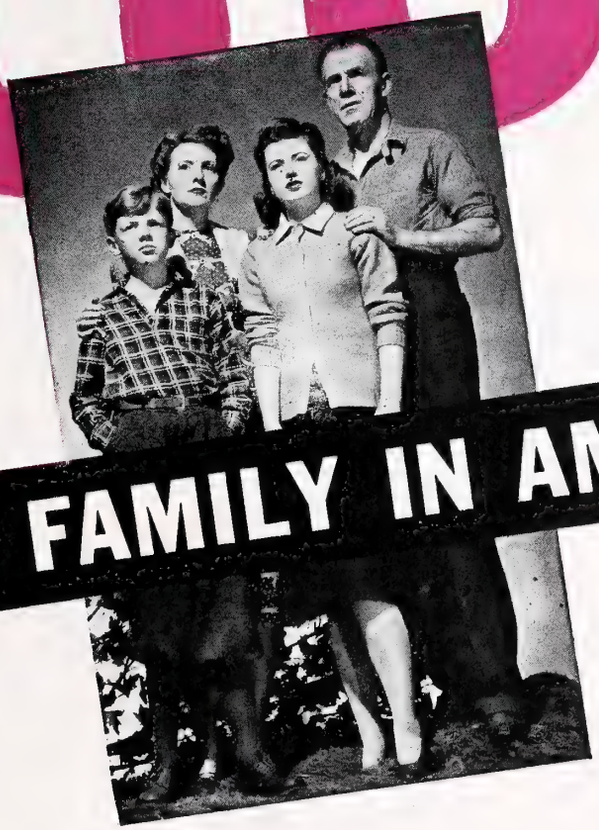
SAN FRANCISCO—Eleven bond premieres held during the first two weeks of the Seventh War Loan drive in the northern California division of Fox West Coast Theatres resulted in 29,747 individual E bonds sold, with a maturity value of $3,613,247.

During the first week of the drive six bond premieres were held with 14,761 bonds sold. Their maturity value was $1,762,222.

Hodge Returns to U.S.

NEW YORK—Tom Hodge, assistant director of the film division of the British Information Services, has erturned from six weeks in England. While there he conferred with British authorities on the question of improving newsreel coverage on the Burma and Pacific fronts.

RUSH



TO EVERY FAMILY IN AMERICA!

The most urgent, the most timely film!

"ON TO TOKYO!"

In 17 dramatic minutes the G. I. sons of your patrons ask 17 vital questions that affect every man and woman in your audience. You will not consider it merely a duty to run this unusual subject. Your public will thank you for showing it! Far different from anything you've seen so far!

BOOK IT AT ONCE! IMPORTANT!
NATIONWIDE RELEASE MAY 31st!

Produced by Army Pictorial Service for the Army's Information and Education Division. Released by OWI. Distributed by Universal for War Activities Committee — Motion Pictury Industry.

How Right!



THE TRADEPAPERS SAID THIS...

"Cagney's best since 'Yankee Doodle Dandy'! ... Thrill-packed smash hit! ... It spells box office! ... Can't miss doing topflight business in all situations!... Cagney is back in stride with a made-to-order two-fisted role! ... Strong box office attraction! ... Should be one of U.A.'s top-grossing pictures! ... Certain to register as very popular entertainment! ... An attraction for top billing ... Should land with the better Cagney grossers!...Production, direction, acting, etc., are aces!"

(Money lines from seven leading trades!)

JAMES CAGNEY *in* "BLOOD of the

SYLVIA SIDNEY

a WILLIAM CAGNEY production

How Right!



THE PICTURE DID THIS...

Smashed all records at the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco for any picture, any time, playing at regular admission prices! This is exclusive of the record-breaking World Security Conference Premiere held by the San Francisco Press Club, which broke a precedent of 56 years by sponsoring "Blood on the Sun" while calling it "a masterly production of the highest entertainment value!"



A SMASHING HIT from U.A.!

OPENING SOON—CAPITOL THEATRE, NEW YORK!

SUN" with

PORTER HALL • JOHN EMERY
ROBERT ARMSTRONG • WALLACE FORD
ROSEMARY DE CAMP • JOHN HALLORAN

Screenplay by Lester Cole • Additional Scenes by Nathaniel Curtis • From a Story by Garrett Fort

rected by FRANK LLOYD

Premiere of "Tokyo" Held at Grand Island

GRAND ISLAND, NEB.—The film industry played a major role here in one of the biggest weeks for this city. It began with the premiere of "Target Tokyo" at the small theatre at the Grand Island air field. Main speaker in the preshowing ceremonies was C. C. Frazier, former state insurance director, who spoke on behalf of Governor Dwight Griswold.

Other speakers on the program included Maj. Gen. Robert B. Williams, commanding general of the Second air force; Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis, commanding general of the 17th bombardment wing; Col. John G. Eriksen, commanding officer of the Grand Island army air field, and Capt. Vincent Evans, bombardier on the first Tokyo B29 raid.

Quintet Given Decorations

In the final portion of the prefilm ceremony, General Williams pinned decorations on five enlisted men from the Fairmont army air field. Capt. T. M. McLaughlin, air field public relations officer, was master of ceremonies.

The first 15 minutes of the program also was carried over KMMJ and rebroadcast Sunday afternoon over the Nebraska State network.

Among guests were John Casey, Chicago, representing the governor of Illinois; State Senator Ellie M. Fagan, Little Rock, Ark., representing that state, and Mayor Harry Grimminger. Fifty Wacs from the Kearney army also attended.

The following day "Target Tokyo" was released to more than 600 other theatres and the Capitol Theatre here, in cooperation with the Grand and Island, made the most of the occasion. They tied it in with a feature, "God Is My Co-Pilot," and a speech on war atrocities by Senator Kenneth Wherry (Rep., Neb.). Everyone in the large audience purchased a war bond as the price of admission.

To Show "Corn" June 25

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has set Monday, June 25, for national tradeshowing of "The Corn Is Green." The picture is now in the tenth week of its prerelease run at the Hollywood Theatre.

Stage Revival for "Irene"

NEW YORK—Charles Casanave and Lou DuFour, who have obtained a Dramatists Guild contract from the authors for "Irene," stage hit of a quarter century ago, will bring out a streamlined revival of the play at a Broadway theatre some time in August, under the title of "Alice Blue Gown."

Exhibitors See No Slump Ahead, Richey Declares

NEW YORK—Many exhibitors of the country are anticipating no recession in business in the postwar period and are devoting their thoughts to more intensive merchandising and to plans for refurbishing their houses as soon as restrictions are lifted, according to H. M. Richey, M-G-M's director of exhibitor relations. Richey has just returned from a tour of the country's key cities extending from the middle west to the coast, during which he spoke to scores of exhibitors, distributor salesmen and executives and production chiefs.



H. M. RICHEY

Is Impressed With Optimism

"What impressed you most?" Richey was asked. He replied:

"I was impressed by the optimism evidenced not only among exhibitors but among distributor and production executives. I saw little or no evidence of alarm over the possibility of a recession during the transition period from war to peace.

"The main topic of conversation among exhibitors and the thought uppermost in their minds are postwar plans for the improvement of their theatres. There were no signs of any uncertainty about the future as far as I could ascertain."

Most exhibitors with whom he talked, Richey said, plan to redecorate their houses. They expressed some concern over the possibility that newcomers might erect theatres, but this prospect is not alarming, said Richey.

"The theatre owner of today," continued Richey, "is more conscious of his place in the community than he ever has been. There has been a rebirth of pride in his business. This comes partly from the war services which he has rendered and which have brought the exhibitor closer to his community.

"There have been various periods when exhibitors have been by turns, projection-conscious or sound-conscious. Now they appear to be housekeeping-conscious."

Theatre men appeared to be only slightly interested in the consent decree or government investigations. They seem to be too busy with their own businesses to give more than passing attention to these matters, he said.

When asked whether the exhibitor who operates theatres in the war production areas are showing any fear of depopulation after the war, Richey replied:

"Exhibitors on the west coast, where many war industries are located, seem to feel that the population will not be seriously disturbed. They are confident that the tremendous need for consumer goods and other manufactured articles will absorb the labor supply freed from war industries."

As an example of the way the exhibitors are thinking about merchandising of their product and creating new sources of business, Richey referred to an independent circuit of theatres in smaller towns of the southwest which has developed a late Saturday night show.

"This type of show is developing a new clientele of young people and is not cutting into the regular Saturday or Sunday business. This particular exhibitor uses a feature which is just below the high-bracket category. The film costs are nominal and the only extra expense is a few dollars for projectionists, etc. The idea has gone over very well and has brought extra dollars into the boxoffice."

This special show idea is only one of many that enterprising exhibitors are experimenting with, concluded Richey.

United Nations Theatre Turns 'Em Away Nightly

SAN FRANCISCO—An average of more than 200 persons has been turned away nightly from the 1,150-seat United Nations Theatre. During the fifth week of operation as an international showcase, these previews were presented for delegates to the United Nations Conference.

The films programmed were: Monday, May 28, preview of "That's the Spirit" (U) and "The Battle of San Pietro" (WAC-army short); Tuesday, May 29, preview of "Christmas in Connecticut" (WB) and "Library of Congress" (OWI); Wednesday, May 30, preview of "Back to Bataan" (RKO) and special one-hour program on the liberation of Paris, presented by France Forever, Orson Welles presiding; Thursday, May 31, "Meet Me in St. Louis" (M-G-M); Friday, June 1, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" (20th-Fox); Saturday, June 2, "Hollywood Canteen" (WB); Sunday, June 3, "They Met in Moscow" (Artkino).

Race On for First Television Theatre

Chicago—The first television theatre in the country will be erected in Libertyville, Ill., with others to follow elsewhere, according to Fred W. Dobe, industrial engineer associated with A. J. Balaban, formerly active in the B&K circuit here but for last few years in charge of New York's Roxy. Balaban is associated also with the management of the Liberty Theatre at Libertyville, which Dobe owns.

A site 155 by 250 feet has been acquired and the building will be started as soon as materials are available. It will have many innovations new to theatre operation, in addition to the television feature. The project is not connected with the Roxy, nor with 20th-Fox's television plans.

Libertyville is considered an ideal site, because it is close enough to Chicago to get big town trade, yet sufficiently removed to assure perfect reception.

Milwaukee—Harry Hart, owner of the Atlas, will spend approximately $200,000 on the construction of a new theatre here, presumably the first to be equipped for television reception of newsreels. Work will start on a No. Third St. site as soon as building restrictions are lifted. The theatre will seat approximately 1,500.

Universal Stock Joins Stock Exchange Lists

NEW YORK—A group of executives and directors of Universal Pictures Co., Inc., headed by N. J. Blumberg, president, took part in ceremonies at the Stock Exchange on May 28 in connection with the listing of the company's common stock. It had previously been traded on the Curb Exchange.

Declare Monogram Dividend

NEW YORK—A dividend of 13¾ cents per share on the preferred stock of Monogram has been declared by the board of directors. The dividend is payable June 15 to stockholders of record June 1.

Up... Way up!

That's the business on this rhythmic romance that The Exhibitor says is "packed with entertainment ranging from burlesque to excellent ballet!" Here's a hit with an earful of outstanding music and an eyeful of burlesqueens, spectacular production and marquee headliners all adding up to a boxoffice total that will please in any situation!



CHARLES R. ROGERS presents

"DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS"

with JANE POWELL • RALPH BELLAMY
CONSTANCE MOORE • MORTON GOULD AND HIS ORCHESTRA
and Arthur TREACHER • Louise BEAVERS • Ruth TOBEY • Screen Play by Walter De LEON and Arthur PHILLIPS • Based on a story by Irving PHILLIPS, Edward VERDIER and Frank TASHLIN • Associate Producer: Joseph S. TUSHINSKY • Original Music and Arrangements by Morton GOULD • Musical numbers staged by Ernst MATRAY
Produced by CHARLES R. ROGERS • Directed by ARTHUR LUBIN

Delightfully yours from U.A.!

Pledges Param't Aid To New-World Accord

NEW YORK—Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board for Paramount, has pledged the producing resources of his company to the task of increasing understanding between the peoples of the Americas. The pledge, inscribed on parchment, was presented to consular representatives of South and Central American governments at a fiesta in honor of the western hemisphere republics given by the Paramount Pictures Choral Society at the Hotel Plaza.

Following Zukor's address in English, the pledge was read to the audience in Spanish by Arthur L. Pratchett, Paramount's Latin-American division manager; in Portuguese by Paulo de Alencar, commentator for Paramount Brazilian Newsreel, and in French by Raymond Lange, Paramount writer.

Specially Filmed Short Shown

In addition to choral selections the program included a specially filmed short, "Rehearsal in the Board Room"; violin solos by de Alencar, former concert master of Rio de Janeiro's oldest symphony orchestra, and a trio sung by Frances Bellante, Ethel Smallwood and Areline Fanelli.

The guest list included Mr. and Mrs. Newbold Morris, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Schaefer, Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Romero, Mrs. Virginia Flint, Miss Alba Martinez Prado, Mr. and Mrs. Euryalo Cannabrava, Mrs. Maria M. Garrett, Mrs. Harry Spalding, Mrs. Maruza Nunez de Soler, Mr. and Mrs. Peter de Rose, Gonzalo de Arango, Melchior Guzman, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Keough, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Reagan, George Weltner, Robert O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Newton, Judge and Mrs. Stephen Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Cokell, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Scollard, J. E. Perkins, Hon. and Mrs. M. J. Kennedy, Lieut. and Mrs. Julius Gordon.

Video Censorship and Tax Measure Is Up in Ohio

COLUMBUS—A bill to amend the Ohio censorship statutes to include television has been introduced in the Ohio senate by Sen. Emil A. Bartunek (D), Cleveland, and Sen. Lawrence A. Kane (R), Cincinnati.

The proposed amendments include a fee of $3.00 for each ten minutes of televised screen time and $3.00 for each additional ten minutes of screen time or fractional part thereof. The amendments also include a provision for submission of scenarios of all televised pictures to the state department of education for examination before such televised pictures can be publicly exhibited.

As under the present law, 50 per cent of the fees collected would go to the superintendent of public instruction "for dissemination of information relative to the history, scenic beauties, natural resources and industries of Ohio," through the office of the director of visual education, and for the creation, maintenance, administration and regulation of a suitable collection of visual aids for loan to the educational institutions of Ohio.

Televised pictures must be of a "moral, educational, amusing or harmless character" in order to obtain censorship approval, as in the present law governing censorship of motion pictures. Televised pictures must also bear the serial seal of approval number issued by the censorship burden. Fines up to $1,000 are provided for violations. It is expected that the proposed amendments will get an early committee hearing.

DeVry Original "Suitcase Projector" to Smithsonian

Chicago—To the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C., to take its place beside other antiques, has gone the original "suitcase projector," created by Dr. Herman D. DeVry 30 years ago.

Known as the world's first portable film projector, the invention was developed and completed in the basement of Dr. DeVry's Chicago home.

Executive Envisions Short Popcorn Crop

OMAHA—Planting conditions for popcorn, an important item for all exhibitors, are very bad in the main producing areas, says John W. Nicolson, head of Nebraska Seed Co., and executive of a dozen other seed industry concerns. This means, Nicolson said, that judging from present conditions, the situation next fall is likely to be fully as acute if not more acute than it was last fall. Poor planting conditions are due to excessive rainfall over many areas; moisture marks of from two to six inches having been recorded only too frequently over past months.



JOHN W. NICOLSON

"We ourselves are fortunate in having acreage in Oklahoma, Colorado and west central Nebraska," said Nicolson, "that has gone into the ground in good shape. However, the corn acreage in the Omaha area and in Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio is very poor."

Nicolson said that corn is going into the ground much later than last year, and that this initial step will be ten days later than it was last year. Last year there was recorded the most favorable open fall on record from the standpoint of an early frost, so that this year there will be that hazard with which to contend.

"The factors building up to the present are for another short supply of popcorn for next year, a late crop, which means one containing a lot of moisture in the fall, hence needing special drying and processing to put it into popping condition," he remarked, and added:

"Popcorn users who have been holding back thinking they are going to buy popcorn cheaper will be sadly disappointed."

Just returned from a conference in Washington, Nicolson says there is a possibility that popcorn will be removed from price control. His company has broken ground for a new processing plant in Omaha. His popcorn output is distributed nationally by Popper's Supply Co., with offices in Kansas City, Los Angeles and other centers.

Monogram Sales Drive Awards Total $14,350

NEW YORK—Winners of Monogram's 26-week sales and collections drive which ended March 30 follow:

Division No. 1, San Francisco, Dallas, Atlanta; division No. 2, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Cleveland; division No. 3, Memphis, Portland, Omaha. Omaha, Kansas City and Denver won prizes for attaining the best overall improvement in both sales and collections. Awards totaled $14,350.

Mexicans Are Enjoying Pictures in English

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY — A coast-to-coast trip through wonderful country, from the world's most beautiful port of Acapulco on the Pacific, a site, by the way, chosen by Uncle Sam as the best resting place for his many nephews coming back from war, to another interesting port on the Gulf of Mexico, Tuxpam, has prevented your scribe from sending his weekly notes. (Maybe it was better for the readers).

During this time, and as an example of the many different points of view, we learned that although many happy couples take in Mexico for their honeymoon, others, like Merle Oberon, came to untie a marital knot. She was seen buying many thousand pesos worth of beautiful clothes which, as is everything else in Mexico, are not rationed.

Texas Visitors in Mexico City

Texas visitors included Ed Rowley of the R&R circuit at Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Lucchese of San Antonio. From California came Mr. and Mrs. Lou Anger of the 20th Century-Fox.

Some notes from South America—Lina Montes, the beautiful star of the Mexican version of "Camille," left with Rafael Baledon, another Mexican luminary, to take the leading roles in a picture to be filmed at the Bolivar Studios in Venezuela. Our old acquaintance, Jose Bohr, is reported to be now in Chile preparing another picture. Bohr is a real pioneer of the Spanish-talking pictures in Hollywood and Mexico.

Although American magnates seem to think the dubbing of American pictures with Spanish voices will go on, the general opinion, at least in the City of Mexico and places visited, has given a sort of red signal. "Together Again" and "Suspect" (in its third week) are advertised to the effect that they are in English and that one will hear the real voices of the well-liked actor. There must be a reason!

Production continues in full activity at the three studios, and construction on the other two new ones is also going at top speed. Both Messrs. Azcarraga and Gilders hope to have their studios finished within the year. With the war half over, everybody hopes it will become a little easier to obtain new equipment and replacements.

Magic Power of Cantinflas

Another difficulty has arisen between the old enemies of the new union headed by Cantinflas and Negrete. The four-star artist was to appear at the Iris Theatre with Paco Miller's company. He found the doors closed and a strike declared by stagehands. Immediate action was taken and all theatres were closed for three weeks. Many interviews took place between several parties, including the President of Mexico, who, it appears, must take a hand in everything, especially labor troubles. He wisely advised both parties to fix matters up as best they could among themselves, which they did one bright morning without any further fuss, showing, like Negrete informed the public, that where there is a "good" will, there IS a way (San Francisco please note!)

The South American actor, Crox Alvarado, returned from Hollywood where he would not start in the picture he was to make, on account of the continued strike.

Pedro Armendariz also was welcomed back, especially by Producer Manrique who was waiting for him to start his new picture, "Rayando el Sol." So Manrique claims there is a silver lining to all dark clouds.

And hasta luego!

M-G-M TRADE SHOW OF "BEWITCHED"



"BEWITCHED"

WITH

PHYLLIS EDMUND THAXTER · GWENN

HENRY H. DANIELS, Jr. · HORACE McNALLY

MINOR WATSON

Adapted for the Screen by Arch Oboler from his original story "Alter Ego"

Directed by ARCH OBOLER · Produced by JERRY BRESLER

ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	TUES. 6/19	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.	TUES. 6/19	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	TUES. 6/19	10:30 A.M. Also 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	TUES. 6/19	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	TUES. 6/19	8 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	TUES. 6/19	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	TUES. 6/19	3 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street	TUES. 6/19	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	TUES. 6/19	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	TUES. 6/19	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK NEW JERSEY	M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue	TUES. 6/19	10:30 A.M. Also 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	TUES. 6/19	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	TUES. 6/19	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	TUES. 6/19	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	TUES. 6/19	1 P.M.

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Smith and Burrows to Start Reconversion Duties Soon

Appointment of Allen G. Smith and Lincoln V. Burrows among the "reconversion chairmen" who will control the changeover of industry from military to civilian use indicates that the government is determined to give free play to those individuals whose abilities have been demonstrated again and again in governmental service. Both Burrows, as "reconversion chairman" for photographic equipment and accessories other than 35mm, and Smith, in charge of 35mm motion picture equipment and booth equipment, already are hard at work completing plans for the reconversion of those items from war use to full civilian use.

Despite the fact that manufacturers of such equipment face no major reconversion problems, primarily because they continued the manufacture for war use of the same items they produced for civilians, material shortages make it necessary for both Burrows and Smith to keep a sharp lookout on behalf of the industries they represent as government officials.

Tighter Labor Control Seen in Merger Bill

The recent agency merger bill proposed by Representative Carter Manasco (D., Ala.) would take the National Labor Relations Board out of the list of agencies exempted from change by presidential order. The purpose of freeing NLRB, declared an exempt agency in 1939, is to permit President Truman to go ahead with plans to rebuild the department of labor to include NLRB, WLB, USES and several other labor agencies.

That an agency merger bill would be approved by both houses is a foregone conclusion. President Truman asked for sweeping powers in that respect and it is felt that the Manasco bill is a compromise offer that would overcome any congressional objections to the President's earlier merger proposal. Of utmost significance and one overlooked by many is the Manasco bill clause giving the President full control over the disposal of the NLRB and its component labor agencies. It ties up most emphatically with the appointment of Federal Judge Lewis B. Schwellenbach to succeed Frances Perkins as secretary of labor. It points the way toward a tighter control of labor and management and a stiffening of governmental policy in the handling of all labor disputes.

Judge Schwellenbach's record as a labor attorney prior to his appointment as a federal judge has won him the respect of both the AFL and the CIO. His appointment to the President's cabinet as secretary of labor was applauded by all labor groups, with but few exceptions. It is felt that as a cabinet member, he would take the labor department out of the emasculated role it was forced to play during the last 12 years and breathe new life and virility into it. The vital question mark remains: How would a strong, masterful labor department react to the solving of those problems affecting labor and management?

President Truman has indicated, by his appointment of Judge Schwellenbach, that he will turn over those problems to a person who will tolerate no deviation from the principles of justice in correcting existing abuses.

That this appointment is of definite interest to the motion picture industry will become more and more apparent as complications arising out of labor problems created by returning veterans and by the inevitable future discussions anent wages and other foci of disputes will make a strong governmental labor policy important to the future welfare of the country and to all industry.

One may be assured of this:

There will be no hemming and hawing and hedging on labor disputes after Judge Schwellenbach gets in. Labor may have a slight edge on any dispute that may come up, but Judge Schwellenbach will be tough, honest and hardboiled. So any arguments coming before a rejuvenated NLRB will have to be good arguments or they'll get short shrift.

Enemy-Produced Pictures Under Government Control

Approximately 8,000,000 feet of motion picture film, representing some 1,500 titles, formerly owned by nationals of enemy or enemy-controlled countries, are among the assets listed by the alien property custodian, James E. Markham, it was revealed in the custodian's report to President Truman. Of this vast quantity of film, a considerable portion has been used by the army, navy, office of strategic services and, to a lesser degree, by other agencies.

Also of interest to film executives is the fact that the alien property custodian has released to American manufacturers thousands of patents, many of them applicable to the production of motion picture equipment. The office of alien property custodian also "licensed for reproduction 1,592 works other than books, including musical compositions and miscellaneous items."

Early Stockpiling of Coal Is Requested by the WPB

Industrial consumers of bituminous coal are urged, as a matter of patriotic cooperation, and as a sound business precaution, to stockpile as much of the fuel as possible during the summer period to offset an expected winter shortage of as much as 25,000,000 tons.

"The pressure on war production and transportation has been little changed by the arrival of VE-Day," stated J. A. Krug, WPB chairman. "Therefore, to prevent any further jeopardizing of war production because of any lack of coal supply, I am calling upon all war and war-supporting industries to make an unprecedented effort to place coal orders without delay and within the limitations of orders by the solid fuels administration to develop a full stockpile during the summer period."

Army Cuts Will Replenish Civilian Stocks of Candy

Stocks of many popular brands of candy, originally intended for use by troops in the European theatre of operations, will be distributed by army exchanges here, thereby making available added stocks for civilian uses. Coming in the face of the announced sugar shortages, this news should be a welcome relief to those candy users who need packaged goods to replenish empty vending machines.

Lumber Shortages Still Acute Despite Lifting of Controls

Despite lifting of WPB controls on many items needed for theatre construction and operation, there is little likelihood, as previously reported in BOXOFFICE, that full civilian use of these materials will be available for some time to come. Lumber, one of the most important of all materials for its varied usability in theatre operations, remains on the critical list and there's little chance for its availability for full civilian construction before the year is over.

The WPB recently announced that the tight lumber situation is due to two factors. Production has declined about 11 per cent as compared with 1944 production and, at the same time, military and civilian demands continue at substantially the 1944 level. Too, depletion of standing timber and rising operating costs are other contributory factors in the production decline.

The lumber and lumber products division of WPB also adds that "lumber is in more critically short supply than almost any other item in common use for both military and civilian purposes and may be a limiting factor in the immediate future in the expansion of construction activities and related industries."

Extension of the Trade Act Is Called an Industry Aid

The action of the house of representatives in extending for three years the reciprocal trade treaty and in granting the administration a 50 per cent increase in tariff bargaining authority will have its ultimate beneficial effects upon the film industry, as well as upon industry as a whole, according to trade experts here.

While the Republicans, and some Democrats, in the house attempted to kill the reciprocal trade act or emasculate it with amendments, the administration won its first major test in this case with a vote of 239 to 153 in favor of the act's continuance. President Truman thus was assured of the necessary authority and power to continue the trade policies laid down by President Roosevelt. In granting the administration this power, it was seen as an affirmation of the government's policies on international agreements and an affirmation of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals of greater international accord and amity.

However, the ultimate effect of the reciprocal trade act extension upon the motion picture industry will be noted in matters affecting in-trade agreements between the United States and other nations. With the United States maintaining a choice bargaining position because of its greater present and possible postwar productive capacity as compared to other industrial nations, the film companies here stand to benefit greatly not only because of the unique qualities motion pictures possess as salesmen for American industry but because film production and distribution represent one of the major industries in the United States.

With the United States market still remaining the greatest money potential for all film products, whether made in Hollywood or abroad, the position of the American producer and distributor remains superior in all markets. That superiority will be maintained in great measure by the reciprocal trade agreements that will continue to be put into effect by the federal government.

I've Heard:

That the Lichtman circuit of Negro theatres set a bondselling record with almost $750,000,000 in war bonds sold during the last six drives;

That business men are looking forward to continued cancellation of the so-called "security system" that made obligatory registration each time you had to visit a government official. Thank Commerce Secretary Wallace for repealing that ruling in the commerce building.

Chicago Bond Premiere Sells $3,500,000 Total

CHICAGO—An "expensive" audience jammed the B&K Chicago Theatre Thursday night of last week. The audience of 4,000 represented $3,500,000 of war bonds—almost $1,000 per person! All this was the result of the first of the Chicago's industry's first bond shows for the Mighty Seventh. It was a bargain night performance, featuring a coast guard hero, a celebrity-packed stage show and world premieres of two motion pictures.

For the occasion the U.S. navy and marine corps granted a special preview of the spectacular Technicolor battle film, "To the Shores of Iwo Jima." To balance the grim war scenes there was the premiere of M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision."

Marines Post the Colors

In the stage presentations, showmanship of war heroes equalled their valor. With a proscenium-high cutout of the bond poster as background, four marine veterans of the Pacific posted the colors, while Marine Sgt. Francis J. Coleman, holder of the Silver Star, Purple Heart and Presidential Citations, led the audience in the National Anthem.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly paid tribute to the "motion picture people who are always at the front putting the truth on the screen." Other speakers included Lawrence Stern, Cook County drive chairman, and Admiral Henry J. Taylor.

Drawn from several theatres and night clubs the entertainers included: Lou Breese, Chicago Theatre maestro, who emceed the stage show; the Chicago Theatre orchestra; Arsene Siegal, organist; Condos Brothers, dancers; John Boles, singing star; Jan Murray, comedian; Barbara Blaine, acrobatic dancer; Chris Cross, ventriloquist; Jean Williams, songstress; Ben Beri, comic juggler; Pierre D'Angelo and Vanya, dancers; Henny Youngman, comedian, and Arthur Lee Simpkins, a Negro singer.

Dave Wallerstein, midwest coordinator of the Seventh War Loan drive for the WAC of the motion picture industry, and a B&K district manager, arranged the premiere for his "home" house, and had the aid of Nate Platt, William Holden, Warren Jones, Francis Pallester, Leo Stahr, Harry Potter, Archie Herzoff and Helen Bolstad.

Cuban Award to Disney

NEW YORK—The Sociedad Colombista Panamericana of Havana has presented its international yearly award to Walt Disney as a tribute to the contribution made by him toward inter-American better understanding through his films "Saludos Amigos" and "The Three Caballeros." This year's award represents the first time a motion picture producer has been chosen for this distinction.

Plagiarism Suit Delay

ST. LOUIS—In the plagiarism claim suit of Dieckhaus vs. 20th Century-Fox, upon oral application of the defendant, the film company was granted an extension until July 5, 1945, within which to file transcript of the record on its appeal to the U.S. circuit court of appeals. In the same proceedings the stipulation filed on May 3, 1945, was made void and there was substituted therefor a new stipulation relative to agreements with reference in plaintiffs' deposition to Richard Sherman, etc. The new stipulation modified pro tanto the stipulation of parties heretofore filed, to which was attached the list containing parts of records, proceedings and evidence to be included in defendants' transcript of record to be filed with the U.S. circuit court of appeals.



HIGH PRAISE FROM MAYOR KELLY—Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago paid high tribute to the "motion picture people who are always at the front putting the truth on the screen." The mayor spoke to a capacity audience of 4,000 at the "Mighty Seventh" bond premiere at the B&K Chicago Theatre.

L. to r.: Mayor Kelly, Lawrence F. Stern, Cook County drive chairman for the Seventh War Loan; John Balaban; Dave Wallerstein, midwest coordinator of Seventh War Loan.

Once a Showman, Always a Pushover For Any Philanthropic Enterprise

By PAUL PEREZ

NEW YORK—"Silver Dollar" Jake Schreiber is in town, rarin' to help put over the Seventh War Loan drive. The town and the drive may not yet be aware of his presence but they will be—yes, indeed—they certainly will be. For Jake is one of the most dynamic, high pressure salesmen in or out of show business, and any cause benefiting the war effort and the armed forces is right up "Silver Dollar's" ballyhoo.

He gained the sobriquet 18 years ago in Detroit where he gave away silver dollars in lieu of bank night or other enticements at his Colonial Theatre, first all-night picture house in the United States. And he has been giving them away ever since, but not to theatre patrons—he retired from show business some time ago. Now they go to newly-returned wounded war heroes. Silver dollars are the least of the things he gives to battle-scarred veterans, he gives 'em resounding, Falstaffian belly laughs, he gives 'em renewed courage, and he gives 'em, or so more than one grateful GI convalescent believes, he gives 'em back their health!

The Answer to a GI's Prayer

Jake doesn't wait for the wounded to be hospitalized. At Miami Airport, a few miles from his Florida home, Jake starts entertaining the Purple Hearts while they're still lying on their litters waiting for the ambulance. Colorful showman that he is, Jake knows the value of a flashy front, and usually appears in cowboy garb or another of the 200 costumes his wardrobe contains. Knowing that an oldster in costume offers little thrill to a gal-hungry GI, Jake usually is accompanied by three or four girls, mostly night club entertainers. After considerable scientific research, he is practically certain that soldiers, sailors and marines would much rather see a bathing beauty in a one-piece bathing suit than "Silver Dollar" Jake Schreiber in a $500 vaquere outfit.

Brandishing a stethoscope, one of a dozen props he invariably has on hand, Jake hurriedly gives each of his "patients" a rough examination. (The actual examination is mild; it's Jake's questions, diagnosis and prognosis that are rough.) Other props used by Jake include a two-foot cigar, an oversized thermometer, hot dogs, rubber dolls and various meters and other devices whereby Jake measures thissa and thatta. Jake winds up the clowning by decorating the patient with a silver dollar looped on a red-white-and-blue silk ribbon, and telling the lad to follow the coin's motto, "In God We Trust."

Reserved—But Not Too Reserved

When Jake stages his shows at hospitals, the routines are just as screwball, the half-dozen night club girls just as stimulating. Because bed patients can't participate in many of his hilarious events—watermelon eating race, bobbing for silver dollars in a tub of flour, hula and jitterbug contests, guessing by touch while blindfolded the identity of a baby alligator, and pinpoint bombing wherein three patients standing atop tables try to drop raw eggs into the open mouths of three of their buddies lying on the floor—Jake always makes a point of devoting much of his and the girls' time at the bedside of non-ambulant cases. For the latter he thoughtfully stages weight-guessing contests, assuring the bedridden contestants they "can't guess the gal's weight unless you feel her muscles." Needless to say, the gals are good-natured as well as good looking.

In the two years he has been in Miami Jake has given dozens of his Victory Shows, visited hundreds of bedsides, cheered thousands of wounded. Don't think they forget him, or he them—he employes two secretaries who do nothing but answer letters from men Jake has entertained; at Christmas he sends out several hundred gifts to those he believes may not be otherwise remembered. Jake has two letters from former wounded men of which he is particularly proud. One is from a lad Jake entertained in a hospital who spent his entire bankroll—$20 he'd earned by choir singing—on a victory bond. "It was worth it," the letter reads, "just to meet Jenny" (one of Jake's pretty assistants). The other letter, and Jake gets quavery when he reads it, is from a badly wounded youngster who writes: "Your silver dollar is bringing me luck—it already has brought me quick recovery."

Maybe Jake isn't such a clown as he'd have you believe.

Action on the Furlough Front!

. . . in RKO's brilliant new romantic topper . . . an all-out battle in this war called love, between a kiss-and-run hero, and a girl with only marriage on her mind! . . . Solid shooting for important box-office money!



★

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Woman's Home Companion—True
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LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

ROBERT YOUNG • LARAINE DAY

IN

"Those Endearing Young Charms"

with

ANN HARDING

and Introducing

BILL WILLIAMS

... Sensational in his first big RKO comedy role.



Produced by BERT GRANET *Directed by* LEWIS ALLEN Screen Play by Jerome Chodorov

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Sol Lesser Leaves for France June 4; To Launch "Paris Canteen" Filming

First American producer to launch a picture in France since its liberation will be Sol Lesser, who plans to leave for Paris on June 4. He will arrange for filming sequences for his forthcoming "Paris Canteen." At the same time, Lesser will arrange for distribution of part of "Paris Canteen" proceeds to French charities.

New Long-Termer to Fred Quimby; B. G. DeSylva and McGowan Sign

Fred Quimby, cartoon producer and short subjects executive, signed a new long-term contract with Metro. Joining the company in 1926, Quimby organized the shorts program and later launched the M-G-M Cartoon Studio. For the forthcoming schedule, he is producing 16 cartoons . . . Writer Jack McGowan has been put under contract by B. G. DeSylva and has started work on DeSylva's second independent production for Paramount, "An Honest Woman," starring vehicle for Betty Hutton.

Felix "Fefe" Ferry, producer of revues at Monte Carlo, Paris and London, has been signed by Sol Lesser. Ferry will act as talent coordinator for "Paris Canteen," lining up the American, British and French stars which will headline the international musical.

International's Ad Budget Heavy On Coming "Tomorrow Is Forever"

Director Irving Pichel has completed final sequences of International's "Tomorrow Is Forever" and in so doing established the film as the new company's most pretentious production effort to date. Thirteen weeks in production is the picture's history. The biggest advertising and exploitation budget International has given any of its films will precede release through RKO Radio pictures in the fall.

Pine and Thomas Switch Their Plans; "Hot Cargo" the Next for Paramount

Making a switch in the schedule, Bill Pine and Bill Thomas, independent producers whose efforts are distributed by Paramount, announced that their next will be "Hot Cargo," to star William Gargan and Robert Lowery. It is to be an action-drama of three U.S. army tankmen who return from the war to haul giant redwood trees in northern California, using tanks they drove in Germany. Lew Landers will direct the picture from a screenplay by Geoffrey Homes.

"Anna and the King of Siam" First 20th Chore for Director Cromwell

"Anna and the King of Siam" will be the initial megging chore at 20th Century-Fox for Director John Cromwell, recently signed to a term ticket by the Westwood lot. Louis D. Lighton will produce. Cromwell was originally assigned to "Cluny Brown," an Ernst Lubitsch production, which was temporarily shelved . . . Louis Edelman, who recently joined Paramount as a producer, will make Richard Sale's original, "The Forgotten Friday," as his first picture on the lot . . . Phil Rosen has been signed to direct "Gregory," murder mystery drama to be produced by Louis Berkoff, Los Angeles theatre operator, as his first film to be released by Monogram.

As usual, assignments were plentiful at Universal. Witness: With the signing of Adele Buffington to write the original screenplay of "Down by the Border," and Bob Williams for a similar chore on "Rustler's Roundup," Associate Producer-Director Wallace Fox now has his western stories lined up for the 1944-45 season; Richard Wallace was signed by Producer Felix Jackson to direct the forthcoming Deanna Durbin-Charles Laughton picture, "Catherine the Last"; Bertram Millhauser, contract writer, was assigned by Producer Felix Jackson to start work on an untitled story for Miss Durbin.

Richard Thorpe was assigned to direct Metro's "What Next, Corporal Hargrove?" which George Haight will produce . . . Gertrude Walker has been set by Columbia to do screen treatment on "Murder by Television," mystery thriller to be produced by Wallace MacDonald . . . At the same studio, Ben Markson was signed to do a screen treatment on "Prison Ship," yarn about war in the Pacific, to be produced by Alexis Thurn-Taxis . . . Kurt Siodmak has been ticketed by Warner to write screenplay of "The Beast With Five Fingers." William Jacobs is producing.

Phil Ryan and Actor Pat O'Brien Joining for "Perilous Journey"

Phil Ryan, veteran industry executive, and Actor Pat O'Brien, who were associated to produce a share-cropping picture for Columbia last year, again have joined forces to make another for the same company, this time under the banner of Phil L. Ryan Pictures, Inc. The proposed film will be "Perilous Holiday," based on Maj. Robert Carson's Collier's serial about an ex-flyer in Mexico City, who finds himself involved with a group of American exiles mixed up in various illegal across-the-border deals. Approximately one-third of the film is to be photographed in Mexico. Ryan will produce, O'Brien star.

Hollingshead Schedule of 17 Shorts For WB Distribution Is Completed

With the completion of "Alice in Jungleland," a two-reeler, the 17 Warner short subjects on Gordon Hollingshead's 1945-1946 production schedule are ready for distribution. Among the films delivered to Norman Moray, short subjects sales manager, are nine Technicolor subjects: "Forest Commandos," "Fashions for Tomorrow," "In Old Santa Fe," "Cavalcade of Archery," "Michigan Ski-Daddle," "Sports Go to War," "Fin 'n Feathers," "With Rod and Gun in Canada," and "Snow Eagles." Black-and-white subjects include "Barbershop Ballads," "Star in the Night," "Good Old Corn," "Spade Cooley and His Band," "Here Come the Navy Bands," "Novelty Bands," "Alice in Jungleland" and "So You Think You're Allergic."

Story Market Has a Boom Week; Republic Outstanding Buyer

Peddlers of stories, plays and assorted material literary for motion picture production tossed aside their "One Meat Ball" theme song as Hollywood's story mart enjoyed a boom week. Rare indeed the studio that failed to dip into the till to make a purchase.

Paramount closed a deal with Arthur Harry Segal for "Scruffy," a whimsically spiritual story which will be a starrer for Barry Fitzgerald. It is now being written in screenplay form by Segal . . . Paramount also acquired "Golden Earrings," forthcoming novel by British author Yolanda Foldes. It was purchased in manuscript form and is described as a humorous story about a British colonel who mixes with a band of gypsies on the continent.

First purchase of a story by a modern Russian writer for Hollywood filming since the start of World War II was recorded when RKO Radio acquired the screen rights to "Die Gently, Stranger" by David Tutaeff, who wrote it first as a short story, then expanded it into a screenplay. RKO's London office had it translated and transmitted to the studio. "Die Gently, Stranger" has for its background the beaches of Stockholm.

Republic bought screen rights to the forthcoming novelette, "Pennies to Burn," by Rose Simon Kohn, in a prepublication deal. It is described as a suspense story with a New York theatrical background and has been handed over to Herman Millakowsky for production in the near future . . . Another Republic purchase was screen rights to a series, "Babes in Gangland," by John Gibbon, which appeared in the Chicago Herald Examiner. The series covers the careers of juvenile criminals. Studio will produce the pictures this season, Allen Wilson, studio executive, announced . . . Then to make sure it would be the outstanding bull in the market, the Valley lot acquired an original screenplay, "The Dead of Night," a horror story by Royal Cole and Sherman Lowe.

Fred MacMurray of Mutual Productions purchased an original screenplay, "For Others, They Sing," from Lou Breslow and Val Burton. Story is a comedy-drama of a material witness who is held in jail while murderers are at liberty. MacMurray will star.

Role of Miss Russell's Father in "Some Call It Love" to Winninger

Top of the week's casting news:

COLUMBIA: Charles Winninger will play Rosalind Russell's father in "Some Call It Love"; loanout deal with Metro brings Sara Haden to cast of same picture; Williard Parker and Larry Parks draw male leads opposite Evelyn Keyes in the Technicolor western, "The Kansan"; loanout of Marjorie Reynolds to star in the Jules Levey production, "Trail Town" for United Artists, called off, and her next picture will be a stellar role in "Song of Broadway"; Edgar Buchanan goes into same picture.

METRO: Chill Wills signed to a new long-term contract and handed a spot in the comedy, "What Next, Corporal Hargrove?"; Leon Ames to "The Postman Always Rings Twice," the Lana Turner-John Garfield co-starrer which Tay Garnett will direct and Carey Wilson will produce; Marsha Hunt gets the title role in "A Letter for Evie."

MONOGRAM: Edmund Lowe signed for the leading role in "Gregory."

PARAMOUNT: Bob Hope will do Booth Tarkington's story, "Monsieur Beaucaire," which served as one of Rudolph Valentino's starring vehicles, as his first picture under his new seven-year deal. Sol C. Siegel will produce. Melvin Frank and Norman Panama are scripting.

RKO RADIO: Morgan Conway and Anne Jeffreys set to play title role and Tess Trueheart, respectively, in "Dick Tracy."

UNITED ARTISTS: Joan Tetzel signed for an important role in Selznick International's "Duel in the Sun"; George Raft ticketed for male top line in Nero Production's "Whistle Stop."

UNIVERSAL: Martha O'Driscoll set for a top featured role in "Alibi in Ermine"; Franchot Tone and David Bruce signed for roles in "Once Upon a Dream."

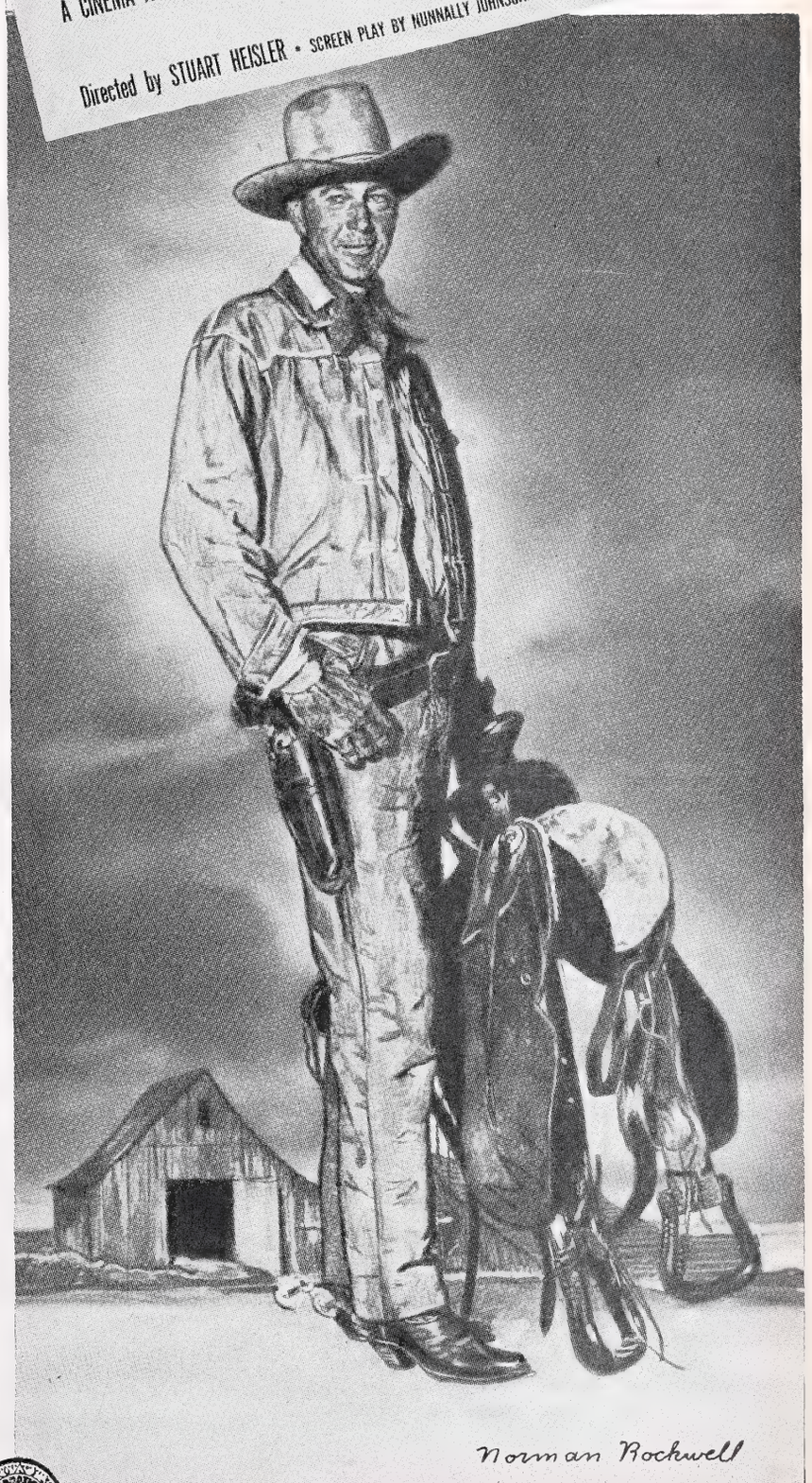
WARNER: Katina Paxinou signed for one of the top roles in "Confidential Agent," Charles Boyer-Laurel Bacall starrer; Role of Marilyn Miller in "Silver Lining" assigned to Joan Leslie. David Butler will handle the megging assignment.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

TRADE SHOWINGS of INTERNATIONAL PICTURES'

GARY COOPER ★ LORETTA YOUNG
in Nunnally Johnson's
"Along Came Jones"
with
WILLIAM DEMAREST • DAN DURYEA FRANK SULLY
A CINEMA ARTISTS CORP. Production
Produced by Gary Cooper
Directed by STUART HEISLER • SCREEN PLAY BY NUNNALLY JOHNSON • AN INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

BRANCHES	PLACE OF SHOWING	DAY & DATE	TIME
ALBANY	Fox Projection Room 1052 Broadway	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
ATLANTA	RKO Projection Room 191 Walton Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
BOSTON	RKO Projection Room 122 Arlington Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
BUFFALO	Fox Projection Room 290 Franklin Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	Fox Projection Room 308 So. Church Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	RKO Projection Room 1300 So. Wabash Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Projection Room 12 E. 6th Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
CLEVELAND	Fox Projection Room 2219 Payne Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
DALLAS	Paramount Projection Room 412 So. Harwood Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Projection Room 2100 Stout Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
DES MOINES	Fox Projection Room 1300 High Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
DETROIT	Blumenthal Projection Room 2310 Cass Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	Paramount Projection Room 116 W. Michigan Street	TUES. 6/12	1:30 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	Paramount Projection Room 1802 Wyandote	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	RKO Projection Room 1980 So. Vermont Ave.	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	Fox Projection Room 151 Vance Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Projection Room 212 W. Wisconsin Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	Fox Projection Room 1015 Currie Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	Fox Projection Room 40 Whiting Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	Fox Projection Room 200 So. Liberty Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
NEW YORK	Normandie Theatre 53rd St. Nr. Park Ave.	TUES. 6/12	10:30 A.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	Fox Projection Room 10 No. Lee Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
OMAHA	Fox Projection Room 1502 Davenport Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	RKO Projection Room 250 No. 13th Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	Fox Projection Room 1715 Blvd. of Allies	TUES. 6/12	1:00 P.M.
PORTLAND	Star Preview Room 925 N.W. 19th Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Projection Room 3143 Olive Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	Fox Projection Room 216 E. First South Street	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	RKO Projection Room 251 Hyde Street	TUES. 6/12	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Projection Room 2318 Second Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS	Hollywood Theatre 212 No. Philips Avenue	TUES. 6/12	10:30 A.M.
WASHINGTON	Fox Projection Room 932 New Jersey Avenue	TUES. 6/12	2:30 P.M.



GOOD ENTERTAINMENT IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Some Wasted Effort

IN RECENT months the navy department has done a remarkable job of coordinating its film activities so that combat footage is shipped and released at top speed, but the army seems to be set in its ways.

Last October the Technicolor Disney-animated "Two Down and One to Go" demobilization film was completed and distributed in sealed cans with orders that these should not be opened. It was released May 10. Immediately everybody asked—what's the mysterious multiplication number that sets the total of points? No answer. Some film executives suggested that the sequence showing General McNair, who died some time ago, be removed. The idea was not accepted.

Newspapers began to comment on the fact that the film was outdated. Patrons began to protest. How about the demobilization of the navy, marines and coast guard? No answer.

M-G-M did a remarkable job of distribution. Four hundred prints played 800 first runs the first week. At the same time the army showed 278 prints in various parts of the world. Two weeks later it was decided to withdraw the film from circulation.

Each print was 3,060 feet long—a total of 2,074,680 feet of Technicolor raw stock, plus an enormous among of work, wasted.

Now "On to Tokyo," in black and white with a minimum of animation and running 17 minutes, is being rushed out by Universal for the army and OWI to bring the demobilization program up to date.

* * *

"We Must Be Tough"

OF MORE than passing interest is a letter received by the secretary to C. C. Moskowitz, Loew's executive. Written 23 days before the war ended in Germany, it gives a GI's vivid account of what he has himself witnessed. The letter follows:

To—Miss Sylvia M. Sewards
Loew's, Inc., 7th floor
1540 Broadway, N. Y. 17, N. Y.
U.S.A.

From—Sgt. A. A. Siegel 32992104
HQ B'try 574 A AA AW BN (SP)
APO 403, c/o P. M., N. Y.

GERMANY, APRIL 15

Dear Sylvia:

This is from the heart of Naziland. A place that is being battered and beaten—but they still fight. Every dirty trick you have heard of, is being used. White flags flying from houses—and snipers in the attic or cellar. People wave at our troops—and then throw grenades with the other hand. The only time they are docile and can be trusted—is when dead. Those are the good Germans. Believe me, this is no exaggeration. All Germans are Nazis—and all Nazis are bad. They support the policies, they fight for and with the army, in fact—it is hard to tell who we are fighting—the people in civilian dress or the soldiers. Arms, ammunition, grenades—everything to fight a guerilla fight are in every cellar. Only when a town has been leveled—each building razed and flattened—is it safe to walk through. They ask for it—they get it. Any possible feeling of sympathy for them disappears with the first winging bullets overhead. The sound of an 88 shell is not nice. Its results are worse. I am writing all this so you folks at home will tell everyone—no quarter—no thoughts of an easy peace. They must be beaten and very completely to make it possible for any world peace for the future. Write to your congressman, your senator—tell them. We must be tough—make the Germans pay for what they have done. Not with money, necessarily, mostly with the sweat of their backs in labor, rebuilding what they destroyed. Remember, a labor camp (German) is beyond all imagination.

ARNIE.

* * *

RKO Turns to Stage

RKO's DECISION to produce Broadway stage plays differs in some ways from the technique of other companies. It is not simply an arrangement whereby the company finances a stage producer for the purpose of getting an option on a possible hit. In this case RKO owns the properties, has controlled their adaptation to stage use, and intends to make them into pictures if they pan out. Charles Koerner, production head, has proceeded on the theory that there is no point in paying large competitive sums for literary and stage productions after somebody else has made them valuable.

If the four properties controlled by RKO pan out, it is expected that the company will find it easier to get the players it wants, further enhancing their value.



"SILVER DOLLAR" JAKE—Retired but far from retiring, ex-Detroit showman Schreiber has sold more than $1,000,000 worth of E bonds in Miami, Fla., from his "bond wagon," pictured above.

Myers Fires Blast At Cowan's Ideas

NEW YORK—Lester Cowan, producer of "G.I. Joe," is the target for a blast from Abram F. Myers in the latest bulletin to Allied members. He heads it "Lester Cowan Brushes Off the Law."

The "brushing off," says Myers, arose from a statement by Cowan that he would like to see a national circuit of about 1,200 seats for each theatre, where good pictures could be held indefinitely. At the same time Cowan said he personally did not think theatre divorcement—separation of distributor controlled theatres from their present owners—would do the industry any good.

Myers does not state what law would be violated, if somebody should organize a new national circuit and he doesn't mention that no court to date has decided how large a circuit can be. Restraint of trade and monopoly practices have been the basis of decisions thus far.

"The small number of independent exhibitors who have been lured by producer propaganda into declaring against theatre divorcement should study Cowan's ideas with the greatest care," writes Myers. "We are certain the new attorney general will find them interesting. For here is a monopolist's dream of heaven: A ready-made market, no more competition, no more selling expense or trouble, exclusive selling, high admissions, extended runs, drawing all patronage into the circuit theatres. How do you like that, Mr. Independent Exhibitor?"

Myers continues: "Apparently Cowan has heard little and cares less about the mounting popular prejudice against trusts and cartels, or the avowed policy of the government to encourage and protest 'little business.'

"If, as a result of his (Cowan's) ingratiating declaration against theatre divorcement Cowan gets 'The Story of G.I. Joe' set on favorable terms in the affiliated first run theatres, he may experiment with his idea on that picture. According to Mr. Schaefer, the picture will be sold only on percentage and double billing will not be permitted. Extended runs undoubtedly will be demanded and an effort made to bleed the picture in the high admission theatres. If the picture is as successful as its sponsors predict it will be, maybe Cowan will be satisfied with his first run revenue and will not seek to sell the picture to the subsequent run, neighborhood and small-town theatres."

Chicago to Have Chapter Of the Tub Thumpers

CHICAGO—A new organization of publicity representatives, public relations men and press agents of the motion picture, theatrical, newspaper and allied industries is about to be formed here, to be known as the Chicago chapter of the Tub Thumpers of America.

Following in the footsteps of the Gridiron Club of Washington, the Cheese Club, Banshees and Circus Saints and Sinners of New York City, the Tub Thumpers have already sprung into existence in Boston and New York. Principal purpose will be to foster the spirit of comradeship among local representative newspaper and publicity writers, and to render publicity yeoman service to all worthwhile civic and national projects. First, of course, is the boosting of sales of war bonds and speeding the Seventh War Loan.

Walt Disney has granted the Tub Thumpers the privilege of using on their literature his own tub-thumping symbol used in "Bambi."

Interested persons can obtain information on the charter meeting to be held within the next two weeks, from William H. "Bill" Green, at M-G-M, 1307 South Wabash Ave.

WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

"CONFLICT"

Starring

HUMPHREY BOGART

ALEXIS SMITH·SYDNEY GREENSTREET

MONDAY, JUNE 11th, 1945

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	2:00 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin St.	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	8:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	Paramount Sc. Room	412 S. Harwood St.	10:00 A.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	3:45 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	Paramount Sc. Room	362 S. Second St.	2:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Room	70 College St.	3:00 P.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Room	1220 Vine St.	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Room	221 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT! THE MIGHTY 7TH WAR LOAN!

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Press Books Go to GIs

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—An unusual GI request—for film press books and mats—has been received here by Walter Griffith from Cpl. Larry Waters, with the American army in Germany. The corporal, former manager of the Charlotte Theatre, seeks the material for use in teaching advertising in a GI educational program.

Seats No. 1 Theatre Need

OKLAHOMA CITY—Seats constitute the first item on the list of postwar improvements planned by Oklahoma theatre owners, a survey shows.

Women Pick the Programs

CLEVELAND—The "little woman" of the house is the one who decides on the motion picture theatre programs, seven leading educators here agreed. While men prefer the action type of picture, the savants asserted, they usually let the women do the theatre offerings shopping.

Horror Becomes Their Asset

CHICAGO—A new organization to deal exclusively in horror films has been formed here by Larry Stein, Irving Mach and Herb Elisburg as a outgrowth of the trend toward chillers noted in this city. It is named "Horror, Inc."

DeVry Projector to Smithsonian

CHICAGO—The original "suitcase projector" created by Dr. Herman D. DeVry 30 years ago has been sent to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington where the world's first portable film projection machine will take its place among other historical inventions.

Iwo Jima Film Ready Soon

CINCINNATI — The war department's Technicolor short, "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," will be released June 7 to tie in with the Seventh War Loan, it was announced here. A nominal charge is asked for the film to defer expense of production.

Says Films Cause Coolness

OMAHA—Films which create a misconception of American life are the cause of much ill feeling on the part of the Argentines against the United States, Prof. Asher N. Christenson of the University of Minnesota asserted in an address here.

Sells $2,000,000 in Bonds

SAN ANTONIO—A bond sale record is claimed for Jack O. Mitchell, manager of the Majestic Theatre here. He has sold more than $2,000,000 in bonds since the war started.

Antiunion Bills Passed

JEFFERSON CITY—By a vote of 24 to 4 the Missouri senate passed and sent to the house of representatives twin bills directed against James A. Petrillo and the musicians' union.

Bond Queen Contest Scores

SALT LAKE CITY—More than 500 girls, each representing $5,000 in bonds sold or pledged, have been entered by various Utah cities and communities in the Bond Queen contest sponsored by Utah WAC of the film industry. The contest with its resultant spirited competition for the coveted title is pushing bond sales well above quotas. The contest winner will receive a free trip to Hollywood and a screen test.

Television Coming 'With Bang'

HAMILTON, ONT.—Television sets at $250 are forecast by H. J. Latimer, Canadian General Electric sales manager here, when materials are available. He predicted "when television comes it will burst upon us."

Government Controls Continue

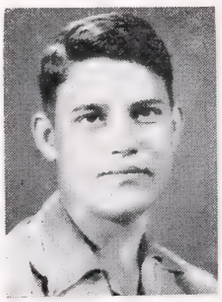
TORONTO—Continued governmental controls over film business operations and rental contracts has been indicated by recent actions of the Canadian wartime prices and trade board.

City Retains War Time

MINNEAPOLIS—By a vote of 22 to 1, the city council here has rejected a law passed by the state legislature to return Minnesota to standard time.

He's Manager at 16

PAVO, GA.—James L. Johnson, manager of the Pavo Theatre, is 16 years old, and believes he is the youngest exhibitor in the country. He started as a projectionist at the age of 15, and has managed the Pavo for more than a year.



JAMES L. JOHNSON

The present projectionist, Carl Reid Reddick, 15, is releasing a man for service in the U.S. navy. Reddick has been a projectionist only a short time, Johnson says, "but up to date has done satisfactory work; he fits in nicely."

"I think the people of the U.S.," he continues, "should be thankful that young boys and girls could step in and take the place of a man or woman in this great crisis, when men are needed so vitally in the armed forces."

Rank Just Doesn't Know About "Gangster" Films

Toronto—J. Arthur Rank, multimillionaire head of a British film empire, does not know what a gangster film is. At least that is the impression which he gave to the many reporters at a press conference held in the Royal York Hotel here in discussing film production plans in Canada and at his studios in England.

"Will you make any gangster films?" he was asked.

"What is a gangster film?" asked Arthur Rank.

The reporters looked at each other in great surprise. A variety of explanations were offered by the newsmen with such words as "racketeers" and "gunmen" being heard.

Rank still looked from one face to another with a somewhat blank expression. The reporters finally settled on the word "melodramas" as being the proper descriptive. Even that did not hit the right chord, apparently, because Rank referred to pictures with mystery and suspense.

So it looked to Canada's newspaper men that Rank's British product would not include "gangster films."

Bond Premiere Returns Indicating Heavy Sales

NEW YORK—Reports from exhibitor state chairmen of the Seventh War Loan drive received by WAC headquarters indicate considerable bond premiere activity, according to Samuel Pinanski, national chairman.

In California the returns tabulated by Richard Spier, Fox West Coast division manager, are as follows: Fox Theatre, Oakland, 2,800 seats, sold 4,215 bonds worth $755,775; California Theatre, Berkeley, 1,800 seats, sold 2,450 bonds worth $271,565; Fox Theatre, Watsonville, 1,128 seats, sold 1,001 bonds worth $149,940; California Theatre, Watsonville, 1,200 seats, sold 1,001 bonds worth $139,940; Grand Theatre, Richmond, 1,000 seats, sold 822 bonds worth $124,550; Marvel Theatre, Vallejo, 800 seats, sold 1,686 bonds worth $166,900.

George L. Tucker, New Mexico exhibitor chairman, reports the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, sold out in advance for a bond premiere on May 23, with 1,326 bonds worth $204,850, maturity value. Of these, 1,321 were E bonds amounting to $164,850. Four C bonds were sold at maturity value of $40,000. In addition to a premiere film showing, the 1,300-seat house staged a 30-minute amateur show with a university sorority cast.

Broadcast Nets $1,000,000

Herman Levy, Connecticut exhibitor chairman, reports $1,000,000 in bonds sold for admission to the Don McNeil Breakfast Club Blue Network broadcast from the stage of the Paramount Theatre, New Haven, on May 23; one-third of the bond admissions were sold directly by the theatre. The Poli Theatre, New Haven, will stage a bond premiere on June 12 with Baby Rose Marie, Morton Downey and other stars.

The Orpheum Theatre, Davenport, Iowa, will have the Don McNeil Breakfast Club for a special bond show on June 28, for which the house is scaled at $871,950. The following morning the show will do its regular broadcast from the house stage, with admission by bond only, reports John Dastal, manager, who arranged the hookup and persuaded station WOC to pay all the expenses. In addition WOC has been giving the show continual air plugs since early in May.

Large Grosses in E Bond Sales Rolled Up All Over Country

NEW YORK—Large grosses in E bond sales continue to be rung up by exhibitors throughout the U.S., according to latest reports received by Seventh War Loan headquarters.

Henry L. Needles, co-chairman for the industry's Connecticut drive, reports a gross of $628,000 for a bond premiere at the Bushnell Memorial, Hartford. In the neighboring state of Massachusetts sales of E bonds at a bond show presented by the Empire Theatre, Fall River, amounted to $299,475.

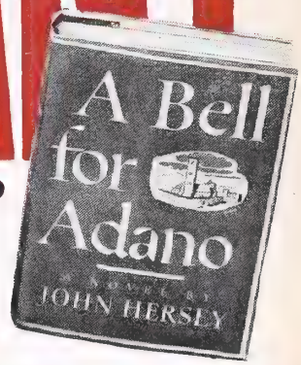
A Salute to Major Glenn Miller show at the Adams Theatre, Newark, sold $1,000,000 in E bonds.

The 1,800-seat Wilson Theatre, Fresno, sold 2,500 E units with $271,500 majority value.

Warren Irvin, South Carolina state chairman, reports successful children's bond shows as well as bond premieres. In Greenwood, S. C., the Kincey circuit found it necessary to open the Carolina Theatre to handle an overflow at the State, with 1,104 E bonds sold at $66,075 maturity value. In Anderson Andy Hutchinson had an attendance of 922 children, and sold 1,440 bonds worth $142,440. Manager M. F. Schnibben of the Colonial Theatre, Florence, processed $113,050 in bonds and sold by auction from the stage contributed merchandise to the value of $316,600.

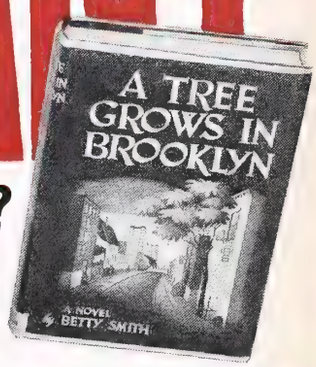
WHAT COMPANY

will soon release this year's Pulitzer Prize novel?



WHAT COMPANY

has the crowd-drawing hit from America's best-loved book?



WHAT COMPANY

owns the book that's Number 1 on today's best-seller list?



The answer to all box-office questions–



Century-Fox

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY! THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

SOLVING OF POSTWAR ERA PROBLEMS MADE EASIER BY THE EXPEDIENT OF EMPLOYES' SUGGESTION BOX

By ERNEST A. DENCH

NUMEROUS postwar problems are being presolved in the press by the leaders of commerce, industry and civic life, but little is being heard from employes. They, too, are doing a lot of thinking and discussing among themselves. How many motion picture exhibitors are trying to draw them out?

A suggestions campaign at this time might help remove any suspicion that the exhibitor is little concerned with postwar conditions as they may affect his employes. Furthermore, it should help weld his workers into a pull-together team rather than a tug-of-war crew.

Two Types of Employes

There are two types of employes to approach for ideas—those now employed, both old-time employes and wartime newcomers, and former employes who now are in the armed services. In regard to the first group, some of the boys and older men are new to the motion picture industry. Among the women some never before worked outside their own homes. All these wartime personnel additions are seeing the motion picture industry through fresh eyes. Is insufficient working experience or lack of technical knowledge a deterrent to discovering how things might be done differently? Hardly; the most practical suggestions will have a common sense background. Despite their greenness, these employes are being broken in the hard way, what with rundown equipment and other wartime handicaps, and may have much to offer.

As to the second group, our men in uniform have lots of time to think. Some are doing much more than that. On leaves in foreign countries, they are visiting motion picture theatres and introducing themselves to the owners and managers, with whom they are swapping trade ideas and experiences. Many a man now in uniform is grateful to his civilian employer back home for the cheery letters, gift packages and the reemployment offer. These ex-employes will wish to reciprocate, so a suggestions cam-



paign should be open to them, even if it does take much longer to get returns.

It is a mistake to assume that to ask for suggestions is to receive them. In every organization a few employes will respond immediately, but the majority will wait to see what happens to the ideas of the pioneering minority. For this reason, promptness all the way through is a MUST in the handling of a suggestions campaign. It requires frequent collections, speedy acknowledgments, prompt decisions, fair rewards paid without delay, and, when possible, early utilization of suggestions.

There is another reason for speedy handling of suggestions. The employe got the plan off his chest when his interest in it was high. It is bad for his morale when that interest lags because of long waits. Not all suggestions are practicable, but if a worker's idea is rejected he or she does not desire coworkers to be aware of it—and thus be on the receiving end for jokes and jibes. Three ways of ensuring anonymity are these:

1. A mimeographed or printed suggestions blank with a detachable top retained by the employe. Blank is individually numbered in two key places—at the detachable top, and on the portion below it going to the employer. When the award is made, the number is announced, and the claimant comes forward.

2. Not quite so confidential-proof is the plan used by a small employer. Each worker writes his name and the nature of the suggestion on a separate sheet. The employer or his secretary removes this separate sheet before passing along the suggestion to the committee.

3. The handwriting is a complete giveaway if the judging committee has employe representation. Then, too, some workers find it hard to express their ideas on paper. A stenographer should be made available for those employes who wish to dictate their suggestions. Without this "Girl Friday" aid, many a good idea might remain locked in a worker's practical brain.

Suggestion Blank Important

Making the suggestions blank attractive is highly important. The right type of a suggestions blank will promote orderly thinking, or thinking in the direction with which the employe is vitally concerned at the time. For instance, in a well-displayed "box" at the top center of the form, might appear this reminder:

TO EMPLOYES—

How can we, in the postwar period, fill the house most, if not all, of the time?

If we can STAY busy most, if not all, of the time, your jobs are secure—and also those of our ex-service men and women.

Security of employment tenure is a matter now very much on the minds of workers, and will dominate American commerce and industry until the war ends. The employer to come right out in the open with this touchy subject while seeking remedies from his workers will prove the sincerity of his intentions. It will also bolster the morale of the organization.

Some campaigns run continuously, others have a time limit placed on them. Prevailing conditions will determine the timing factor. When quick results are desired, the best starting time is shortly before a period when workers have real need of some extra money. There are, as a rule, two such exceptionally pressing periods—early December, for holiday spending, and the summer vacation months.

In regard to adequate compensation, a fair basis necessarily varies. In some cases the benefits from ideas are intangible, and cannot be measured in terms of money. Among these is a plan for making the women's restroom more homey, or paying employes at a more convenient hour or day. These are morale or welfare items and in some instances are more valuable than actual money saving suggestions.

Method of Awarding Prizes

Some employers defer awards until the suggestion has had a full chance to produce results. Under wartime handicaps of equipment and supplies, there may be unavoidable delays in getting started. However, this may defeat the whole plan by dampening employe interest. Given choice, an employe would prefer a stated sum at the outset rather than wait indefinitely for his percentage, which may not, anyway, amount to his optimistic estimate.

Employes will, on the whole, respond favorably to a minimum award of $5 for each accepted suggestion. One employer with this



system also pays $25 for the best suggestion received each quarter. At the year's end, the contributor of the year's "star" suggestion receives a check for $100.

The easier that employes can make suggestions, the more will be sent in. Complete and impartial coverage of employes is by enclosing suggestion blanks in pay envelopes at frequent intervals. Equally important is the depository. The location to choose is that which employes frequent the most. The suggestions box will need a mailing slot and lock, with clearance made once daily or oftener. A pad of suggestion blanks should hang over the box, as no employe should have to ask each time he or she wants an extra blank.

How to Reduce Duplication

A likely situation is that of two workers submitting the self-same suggestion, even if worded differently. There are two ways to reduce duplications: 1. When a suggestions campaign is started, attention should be called to the possibility of "two bright minds thinking alike," coupled with a "Do It Now" reminder; 2. The suggestion box should be cleared often, and the contents time stamped.

For a judging committee, the ideal is equal representation of management and men. A small committee is the most successful, especially when headed by an experienced chairman.

"Suggestion schemes, properly organized," states the British ministry of production, "give the employe an added interest in the work. They stimulate constructive thought, and bring to the notice of management men and women who may well prove capable of undertaking more responsible duties. They help in developing the team spirit in an organization."

READY FOR IMMEDIATE DATES!

Gable

IN AN ACTION-PACKED ROLE!



CLARK **GABLE** LORETTA **YOUNG**

in Jack London's Famous Adventure Story

CALL OF THE WILD

with JACK OAKIE

Directed by WILLIAM WELLMAN

20th Century-Fox 30th ANNIVERSARY

The year's most important re-issue is another event from

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!



Ethereal Lillian Gish—The wistful little actress as she appeared in D. W. Griffith's 1915 masterpiece, "The Birth of a Nation."



A rag, a bone, a hank of hair—Theda Bara really wowed 'em as an irresistible vamp in the torrid "A Fool There Was."



Famed comedy team—John Bunny and Leah Baird were surefire boxoffice attractions in such pictures as "Chumps."

Hollywood Family Album

No. 1 Movie Fan



CHARLES WHITE

Charlie White's Star Room Offers Rare Picture Story Of Filmland From Infancy



Early sea siren—Gloria Swanson got her start in films as a Mack Sennett Beauty.

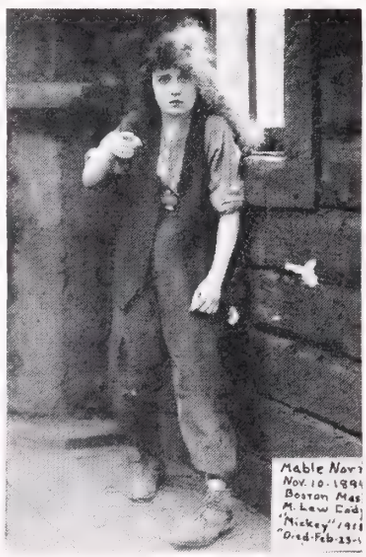


Coy maiden—Margarita Fisher with Robert Z. Leonard in "The Primeval Test," 1913.

Pictured on these pages are rare scenes and stills from the collection of Charles White, self-styled and unchallenged "World's No. 1 Movie Fan." The super-enthusiastic Charlie's super-collection numbers 75,000 photos, 500 of which he classes as rare, of 7,000 different persons, mounted on panels 4x6 feet in his Star Room at 1215 Alberta St., Portland, Ore. War work permitting, Charlie will spend part of the coming summer north of the border, touring Canada with the photographic collection of screen celebrities. It appears that Charlie, who started his hobby as a rumpus room feature at his bungalow some years back, made such a hit with the part of it he displayed at the Silver Anniversary of Famous Players Canadian Corp. at Vancouver last winter, that he has been approached with a proposition to take his entire collection to Canada this summer and spend his time going from city to city showing panels in theatres and stores. His exhibit drew 50,000 persons in ten days in a large city several months ago. The photos date to 1889.



Tops in Filmdom—Mary Pickford and William S. Hart in a rare 1920 photograph.



Lovable hoyden—Mabel Norman won the hearts of theatregoers in 1918 as "Mickey."



War I whistle gal—Ina Claire took a back seat to none in feminine charm in '18.



Horse opera starter—"Bronco Billy" Anderson set the pattern for westerns in 1914.



Remember Hell's Angels?—Jean Harlow skyrocketed into stardom in this epic film.



Latin Chinese—Ramon Navarro in the film based on the play, "The Son Daughter."



Pre-Asta Myrna—Miss Loy was a high ranking star before "The Thin Man" claimed her.



A veteran of the silent days, Wallace Beery is shown as he appeared in 1915.



Racetrack Thriller—Lillian Russell of stage fame was lured to films for "Wildfire."



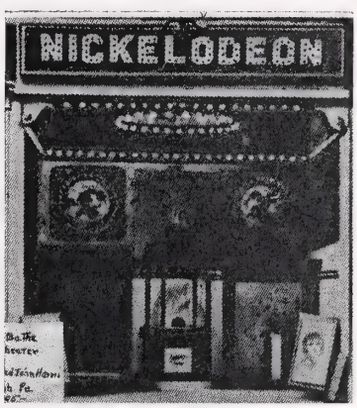
Harold Lloyd as an extra—This rare photograph of the former film comedy king shows Harold, without the familiar glasses, at extreme left in an early picture.



Little Caesar — A youthful Edward G. Robinson is shown here in "The Tiger Shark."



The Old Maestro—D. W. Griffith is shown here directing a 1916 opus.



First Film Theatre — The claim is advanced for this Pittsburgh house in 1905.



Darling of the AEF—Elsie Janis won the hearts of overseas Yanks in World War I.



Boogy Man of 1918—This picture shows Rupert Julian as Kaiser Bill in 'Beast of Berlin.'



Twin Heart Throbs—Wallace Reid shows how to have and to hold Mae Murray in 1916.



Serial Queen—No other star ever survived as many dire perils as Pearl White, 1913.



Keystone Komedeers—Chester Conklin and Mack Swain were Mack Sennett favorites.



Changeless Pose — Virginia Pearson demonstrates one thing that remains a standard.



NO WONDER HE'S



Film Daily

"This down-to-earth fantasy, loaded with surprise entertainment, is a box office natural. The producers, Fessier and Pagano, have injected a solid formula into their original screenplay to lift an unheralded property into the 'sleeper' class . . . a warm and tasty dish of entertainment with a seasoned group of players whose well directed tintype characterizations add flavor to the era of the high button shoes and the mutton sleeve. Oakie's sympathetic portrayal breeds charm and adds interest to his versatility."



Showmen's Trade Review

"The film is bound to have mass appeal. Jack Oakie was never funnier. The story which can be made or broken in direction has been handled by Charles Lamont with a deftness that gives credence to the fantastic and produces a succession of laughs. The film's winning qualities are served importantly by Peggy Ryan and Johnny Coy in creative dance numbers that are a joy to watch."

THAT'S the SPIRIT

starring **JACK OAKIE · PEGGY RYAN**

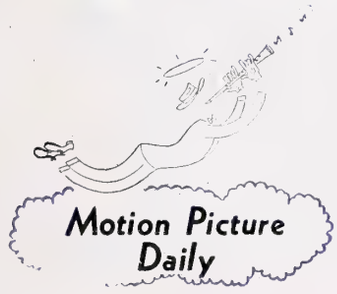
with JUNE VINCENT · ARTHUR TREACHER · GENE LOCKHART · JOHNNY COY
ANDY DEVINE · BUSTER KEATON · IRENE RYAN

Original Screenplay Written and Produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano • Directed by Charles Lamont • A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

FLOATING ON AIR!

He's just read the reviews of

THAT'S the SPIRIT



Motion Picture Daily

"A gay, entertaining comedy in the fantasy vein of 'The Ghost Goes West' and 'Here Comes Mr. Jordon,' and more recently, 'A Guy Named Joe.' It adds up to appealing 'spirited' hilarity with a generous sprinkling of dancing and songs, featuring Peggy Ryan and a new youngster, Johnny Coy, who scores outstandingly."



Variety

"'That's the Spirit' is a breezy, diverting musical with a story of somewhat different cast, several good songs, a couple eyeful production numbers and a group of troupers who move with ease and impressively through the 85 minutes it takes to wind the works up."

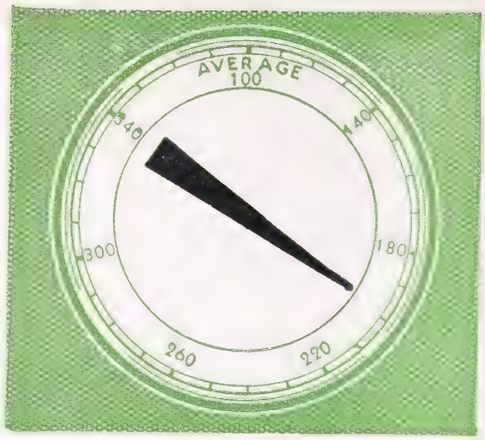
UNIVERSAL PICTURES

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN.

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.

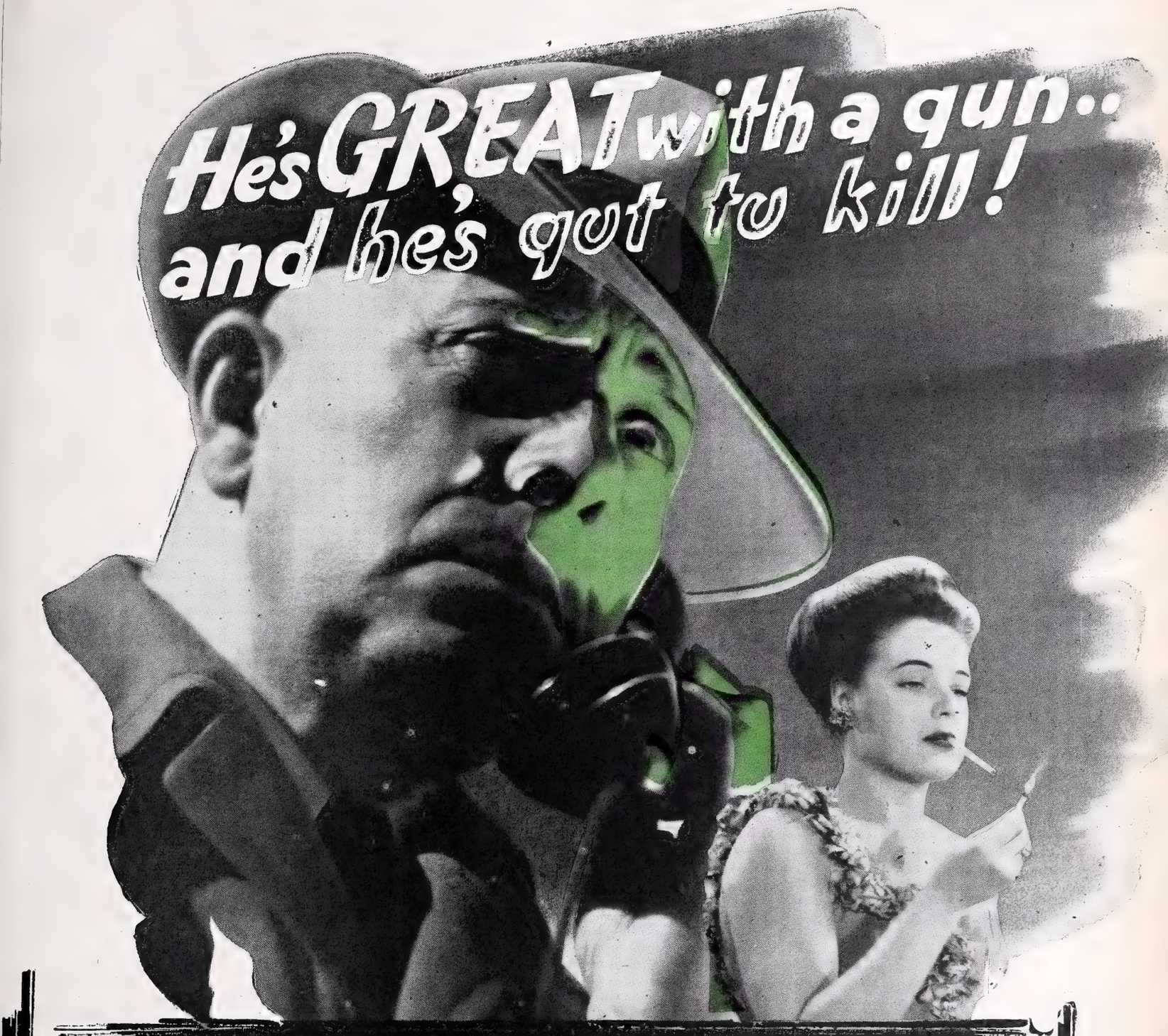


Top Hit of the Week

Diamond Horseshoe—

Los Angeles	200
Denver	193
Kansas City	165
Boston	145
Omaha	125

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Affairs of Susan, The (Para)		117		130	130						150			160		150		185			130		**144**
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115		95	140	138	95	100		125	150		85	145	165	150	**123**
Between Two Women (MGM)	135		115		90	135		100		100				165	103	145	125	200	100		130	175	**130**
Bluebeard (PRC)	100		100			100			115			100		100	90								**101**
Brewster's Millions (UA)	130		110	125								100					105				150		**120**
Counter-Attack (Col)		187		90				75	100			100				185	95				150		**123**
Crazy Knights (Mono)	125					100	125		90												100	100	**107**
Delightfully Dangerous (UA)	100			80	70													120			115		**97**
Diamond Horseshoe (20-Fox)	145	200	115	160	100		193				165	200		140		195	125	200					**162**
Dillinger (Mono)		160		180		150		120	150					175		290	115				250		**177**
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120	170					200		100		105			100	93		125	130	85		100		**121**
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160			90	135			140		100	150		195	120	190				130	**142**
Eve Knew Her Apples (Col)		100		80			100	75		90	98	100	100		100		100	125					**97**
Forever Yours (Mono)			110									100	110		135						100		**111**
GI Honeymoon (Mono)	100	100					100	100	100						100		100					130	**104**
Guest in the House (UA)	130	150	115	90	95		160		90	95	115	115	100	100	90	155		150	85		140	150	**118**
Hangover Square (20-Fox)	125	82	90	105	90	110	150		100	115	105	127	90	115	103	175	100	190	90		110		**114**
High Powered (Para)		100					80		90			100	100		90						100		**94**
Horn Blows at Midnight, The (WB)	130	165		70	88		90					130			100	185		80			130	110	**116**
House of Frankenstein (Univ)	115	102	110	105	120	140	190	100	100	120	100		100	150	85	205	125	195	80	175	150	140	**129**
Identity Unknown (Rep)	100	100	120						85	100					80		100				100		**98**
I'll Remember April (Univ)	100		100		115		100	95	90		90		100									100	**99**
Keep Your Powder Dry (MGM)	130		120	105	95		150		125	100	110		100	100	90	170		210			130	160	**126**
Leave It to Blondie (Col)	110		110			100	100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100		100		65		100		**99**
Molly and Me (20-Fox)				90			100		95			100	100		80		90		60		100		**91**
National Velvet (MGM)	130	149	115	120	130	140	170	105	130	125	200	147	110	150	105	160	125	210	115	250	160	150	**142**
Picture of Dorian Gray, The (MGM)				110						120	98	143			125	155							**125**
Practically Yours (Para)	125	137	125	130	100	130	190	100	125	125	145	173	100	160	105	190	140	195	75		150	150	**137**
Roughly Speaking (WB)	130	190		110	82		155	110		95	110	140	100	100	110	175	95	200	80		120		**124**
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)	150	100		90			160		130		97	150	105			120		180	125		130		**128**
Salome—Where She Danced (Univ)		222	110											90	120	165			100		125		**133**
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130			160	105		200	95		115		175		150	140	195		220					**169**
Scarlet Clue (Mono)	100								100				100	100	100								**100**
Song of the Sarong (Univ)	100	89	100				100				90	100	100		80		105						**96**
Swing Hostess (PRC)			100			140				75					90							130	**107**
Tarzan and the Amazons (RKO)	110			120				90			120	100			100		105						**107**
Thoroughbreds (Rep)		88					100		100	95			85		100		100						**95**
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110			140		110	90	98		95	80	109			155			110	140	**115**
Unwritten Code (Col)	110	100				125	100		100	90		110		100	90				80				**101**
Youth on Trial (Col)			115			100	160								100				90				**113**
Zombies on Broadway (RKO)	115			80			100	75						90		75	95						**90**



The Great FLAMARION

ERICH VON STROHEIM · MARY BETH HUGHES

"GREAT WITH A GUN"

with DAN DURYEA • STEPHEN BARCLAY

ANTHONY MANN—*Director* • *Screen Play by* ANNE WIGTON, HEINZ HERALD, RICHARD WEIL • *Story by* ANNE WIGTON

Based on a character "BIG SHOT" by VICKI BAUM *from Collier's Magazine* • *Producer*—WILLIAM WILDER

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Lost in a Harem (M-G-M)—This was doubled with "She Gets Her Man" (Univ). Truthfully, I don't see how anybody could sit through such silly antics as these two grown-ups put on the screen and call it amusement. Business was fair but the comments from the patrons as they left were not so good. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

Maisie Goes to Reno (M-G-M)—Ann Sothern, John Hodiak. This is a good program picture. We did average business, so no complaints. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy. —Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

Mrs. Parkington (M-G-M)—Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Edward Arnold, Agnes Moorhead. There was some doubt about this one for small town patronage but it held up all right. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (M-G-M)—Spencer Tracy, Van Johnson, Robert Walker, Phyllis Thaxter. Pictures don't often measure up to the terrific advertising punch given them but this one did all right and general comments were "good." Certainly is worth playing anywhere. Played Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. Weather: Rainy.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

And Now Tomorrow (Para)—Alan Ladd, Loretta Young, Susan Hayward, Barry Sullivan. This picture did a nice weekend business. Weather: Rain.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Great Moment, The (Para)—Joel McCrea, Betty Field, Harry Carey, William Demarest. Although this is perhaps the meanest of Preston Sturges' offerings, it is still pretty good, but hardly good enough to stand alone on the marquee. Mr. Sturges surely likes to have parades in his pictures, and you can always depend upon him for an unusual credits background.—Gray Barker, Pictureland, Glenville, W. Va. College, rural and small town patronage.

Hail the Conquering Hero (Para)—Eddie Bracken, Ella Raines, Raymond Walburn, William Demarest. A very good picture but not for Sunday. Everybody goes to church here on Sunday, which is bad for us. Played Sun., Tues. Weather: Fair.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid (Para)—Jimmy Lydon, Diana Lynn, Charles Smith. The best of the series to date that we have played. It's a natural. Doubled with "Song of Nevada" (Rep). Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

National Barn Dance (Para)—Jean Heather, Charles Quigley, Robert Benchley, Mabel Paige, National Barn Dance Troupe. If you can't or don't do business with this picture, sell your theatre. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Our Hearts Were Young and Gay (Para)—Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, Charles Ruggles, Dorothy Gish. This is a fair show but nothing exceptional. A few people who read the book were disappointed. Business was just average. Played Sat., Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—D. E. Drayer, Majestic, Frankfort, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Rainbow Island (Para)—Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken, Gil Lamb, Barry Sullivan. Those Hollywood boys must work pretty hard to make them this bad, but strangely enough our patrons went away with nothing but smiles. If your audience isn't highbrow you can play this and strike out any Technicolor from your books—meaning the red. Played Sun., Mon.—Gray Barker, Pictureland, Glenville, W. Va. College, rural and small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Big Bonanza (Rep)—Richard Arlen, Robert Livingston, Jane Frazee, George Gabby Hayes. Very good and we need more like this. Nice crowd and we had bad weather.—Jack Herkel, Baxter, Cincinnati, Ohio. Suburban patronage.

Hands Across the Border (Rep)—Roy Rogers, Ruth Terry. An old one but let's see you beat it. It's something different—not the same old bang-bang western. The same old guy falls off his horse ten times. We could use more like this but not so much dancing.—Jack Herkel, Baxter, Cincinnati, Ohio. Suburban patronage.

Hitchhike to Happiness (Rep)—Al Pearce, Dale Evans, Brad Taylor, William Frawley. Another good Republic comedy. Well done in all departments. Will go on either side of a program.—Peter Kavel SK 3/2 AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Man From Frisco (Rep)—Michael O'Shea, Anne Shirley, Gene Lockhart. Too long to double bill and not strong enough to stand on its own. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair. —Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Something for the Boys (20-Fox)—Carmen Miranda, Michael O'Shea, Vivian Blaine, Phil Silvers. Business just fair, for a fair picture and rental much too high. Nice color and music. No one went overboard for it. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Winged Victory (20th-Fox)—Sgt. Mark Daniels, Pvt. Lon McCallister, Cpl. Don Taylor, Jo-Carroll Dennison. Played this one on VE-Day, a real break for us, and they turned out —to our liking. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Frank B. Stover of Alexandria, Va., has been in the motion picture industry for many years and in 1937 became assistant to the president of the Alexandria Amusement Co., which operates three theatres in that city. Stover is a member of MPTO of Va., the Odd Fellows, Eagles, Kiwanis and Variety clubs. He is an all-round athlete but likes outdoor sports particularly well. He holds no public office but does take an interest in the community affairs of Alexandria. He is married and has two sons, Frank B. jr., and Robert Lee.



FRANK B. STOVER

UNITED ARTISTS

Colonel Blimp (UA)—Roger Livesay, Anton Walbrook, Deborah Kerr, Jane Millican. With advertising you can get them in and they won't be sorry. An English production that rings the bell. The best one sent over in many a year. Color and extra good acting brings this one across for a winner.—Peter Kavel SK 3/2, AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

It's in the Bag (UA)—Fred Allen, Jack Benny, Don Ameche, Victor Moore. Here is one that should please all. All is at his best. Don't be afraid to use this.—Peter Kavel SK 3/2 AATD—Acorn 55, Camp Bedilion, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Jack London (UA)—Michael O'Shea, Susan Hayward, Osa Massen, Harry Davenport. Did not do a sellout business, but did above average. A good picture for small towns. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Lumberjack (UA)—William Boyd, Andy Clyde, Jimmy Rogers. Boyd is very popular with our trade. Doubled this with "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono) and did real well. Played Tues., Wed.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Since You Went Away (UA)—Claudette Colbert, Joseph Cotten, Jennifer Jones, Shirley Temple. This one is sure to grab several Oscars in every way. A real draw for large or small towns.—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. Small town patronage.

Texas Masquerade (UA) — William Boyd, Andy Clyde, Jimmy Rogers. Bill Boyd is a big draw with us. Played on the same bill with "National Barn Dance" (Para), Fri., Sat. Weather: Mild and rain.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Up in Mabel's Room (UA)—Gail Patrick, John Hubbard, Mischa Auer, Charlotte Greenwood. Did a fair midweek business. Good for a lot of laughs and thrills. Doubled with "One Mysterious Night" (Col) and the audience liked them.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Climax, The (Univ)—Boris Karloff, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Gale Sondergaard. The gorgeous setting wasn't enough. It played to the smallest crowds in a long while and comments generally unfavorable. Played Wed., Thurs.—Elaine S. George, Liberty, Condon, Ore. Rural and small town patronage.

Enter Arsene Lupin (Univ)—Charles Korwin, Ella Raines, J. Carroll Naish, George Dolenz. This one fell down badly at the boxoffice. The title was one strike against it and the French accent didn't help it, either. Not much to say for it. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Ghost Catchers (Univ)—Olsen and Johnson, Martha O'Driscoll, Leo Carrillo. A lovely combination for weekend business, with "Swing in the Saddle" (Col). They really turned out to see these pictures. Business above average. Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Her Primitive Man (Univ)—Robert Paige, Louise Allbritton, Robert Benchley. Our weather was much milder, giving the rural districts a chance to see a show. This picture really

(Continued on page 42)

First...THREE TERRIFIC WEEKS IN CINCINNATI! *Then*...SMASHES ALL RECORDS ON BROADWAY! NOW...

DILLINGER BLASTS DETROIT!

BREAKS EVERY RECORD EACH DAY FOR FIRST 3 DAYS AT THE BIG BROADWAY-CAPITOL! GROSSES MORE IN THESE 3 DAYS THAN AVERAGE WEEKLY GROSS!

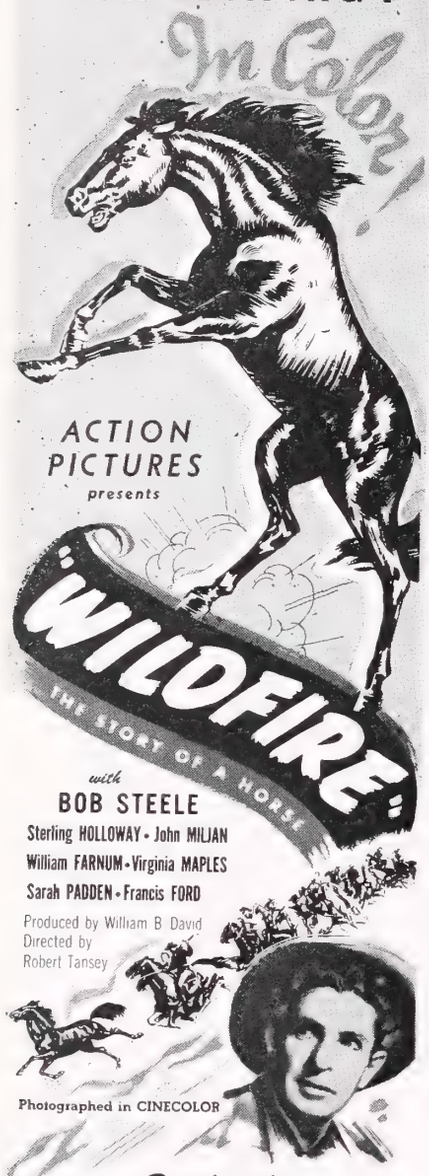
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featuring **Edmund LOWE** • **Anne JEFFREYS** • and introducing **LAWRENCE TIERNEY** as John Dillinger

with EDUARDO CIANNELLI · MARC LAWRENCE · ELISHA COOK, Jr. · Directed by MAX NOSSECK · Screenplay by PHILIP YORDAN

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Canada

TORONTO, ONT.—277 Victoria St.

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(Continued from page 40)

satisfied and did big business. Doubled with "Forty Thieves" (UA). Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

In Society (Univ)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Arthur Treacher. Here are those money-makers in another of their nutty pictures. I am glad to hear that their new show, "Here Come the Co-Eds" (Univ), has some new stunts for obtaining laughs, as the public is tiring of their usual stunts. But they had been gone for so long that they passed it up. Marion Hutton's singing rates with that of her sister, Betty. Played Sun., Mon.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Jungle Woman (Univ)—Evelyn Ankers, J. Carrol Naish, Samuel S. Hinds. A very good horror film from the company that really knows how to make them. It should do well, even on a single bill. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Bad.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Merry Monahans, The (Univ)—Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie, Ann Blyth. Not too bad. It followed "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox) and did better than we expected. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

Riders of the Santa Fe (Univ)—Rod Cameron, Eddie Dew, Fuzzy Knight. Just about on a par with the other horse operas and got by on our weekend double. Not too long and with a short feature, you can get it over by midnight. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Stormy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

This Is the Life (Univ)—Donald O'Connor, Susanna Foster, Louise Allbritton, Patric Knowles. Donald O'Connor, the lad who is going to fill Mickey Rooney's shoes, always gets "A" time in our theatre—and after seeing this show you will know why. Everyone loves him and wants to see more of him. Universal will attend to that. Played Sun., Mon.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, Va. Va. Rural patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Brother Rat (WB)—Reissue. Ronald Reagan. Priscilla Lane, Jane Wyman. An outstanding comedy that failed to do average business. Plenty of comedy and it is about the boys in uniform. I still can't understand it. It should do well elsewhere. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Frank and Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

Crime by Night (WB)—Jane Wyman, Jerome Cowan, Faye Emerson, Charles Lang. A nice little mystery comedy that was priced a little too high. The short, "Musical Movieland" was worth the price of admission alone. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Storm.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)—Dennis Morgan, Dane Clark, Raymond Massey, Alan Hale. Being about a man who lives only 14 miles from here, this picture outdrew any picture ever played in town. Without any prejudice this picture is one of the greatest of the year. It was a runnerup for the BOXOFFICE best picture of the month (Blue Ribbon Award) for April. We played it Mon., Tues., Wed. Play this one and you'll hear your cash register ring.—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. Small town patronage.

Hollywood Canteen (WB)—Jack Benny, Jack Carson, Bette Davis, Joan Leslie. One of the finest we have ever seen. This not only serves as fine entertainment but also proves that the boys in the service are very well taken care of by our industry. Played Sun., Tues. Weather: Fair.—Francis Powell, Colonial, Stanwood, Wash. Farm and small town patronage.

Hollywood Canteen (WB)—Jack Benny, Jack Carson, Bette Davis, Joan Leslie. Our patrons came through a big rainstorm to see this and it was enjoyed by all. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Objective, Burma! (WB)—We got rained out Sunday night and the picture just didn't have a chance but it is a mighty good description of the kind of fighting out in the jungle country against the Japanese, from all reports. A picture that will draw extra business and worthy of your best time. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

They Made Me a Criminal (WB)—Reissue John Garfield, Ann Sheridan. A honey of a picture that failed to do business. More than pleased all that saw it. I gave it "A" time, but I can't understand why it flopped. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Ralph Raspa, State, Rivesville, W. Va. Rural patronage.

To Have and Have Not (WB)—Humphrey Bogart, Walter Brennan, Lauren Bacall, Dolores Moran. Business not quite average. Most comments were that it was "fairly good." It is nothing to shout about but we will get by all right on it to satisfy most of the patrons. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair to good.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Services to Exhibitors For Picture Selection

While every exhibitor wisely keeps his finger on the pulse, so to speak, of his local situation, and buys with this in mind, there are other definite aids to his selection of pictures for his house. Among these attention is here called to the Barometer page which appears each week in BOXOFFICE, and to the monthly BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Awards for the best release of the month which is good entertainment for the whole family.

The Barometer page shows the percentage of a picture in a number of key cities during its first runs. While there is considerable difference in the reaction of neighborhood audiences and small town houses to pictures that may do well in some large cities and leave grass-root audiences cold, there are still many of these which have universal appeal. BOXOFFICE reviews are written with the idea of giving exhibitors an idea of the type of audience each picture is slanted for—or whether it is a natural for almost any situation.

As for the pictures which are voted the Blue Ribbon Award by the National Screen Council, these are judged by this group of radio commentators, motion picture editors and civic film council or other organization representatives to be screen fare that the whole family will enjoy. Exhibitors who buy a Blue Ribbon picture should take advantage of this fact in their exploitation. Already this year the following have received this honor and are commended to exhibitors:

January, "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M); February, "The Keys of the Kingdom" (20th-Fox); March, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" (20th-Fox), and April, "National Velvet" (M-G-M).

In addition to the winners, Honorable Mention is given several pictures each month. Reprints of the Awards, containing a list of runnersup, and with Council member comments on pictures, are available for mailing to interested exhibitors upon request.

Television Is Employed To Boost Bond Sales

ALBANY—The New York state war council, which is credited with the first use of television to promote the sale of war bonds, had its first show for the Seventh War Loan Tuesday night on WABD, Dumond station in New York. A service film, "Pacific Fury," was televised.

Rex L. Stout, author, and Miss Bea Wain, singer, were feature speakers. Stout, who has been televised over WRGB in Schenectady, gave a brief address before the picture was shown. Miss Wain followed the film. New York and Washington representatives of the motion picture and special events section of the WFC cooperated in arranging the performance.

Other shows, with guests from the screen, stage and radio, are to be broadcast over NBC and CBS television stations in New York on WRGB. The first bond television performance was given over WRGB in the Sixth War Loan campaign. Army, navy and coast guard films are being used exclusively.

Edward J. Mallin, director of the film division for the council, has been awarded a citation by the National 16mm War Loan committee for his enterprise.

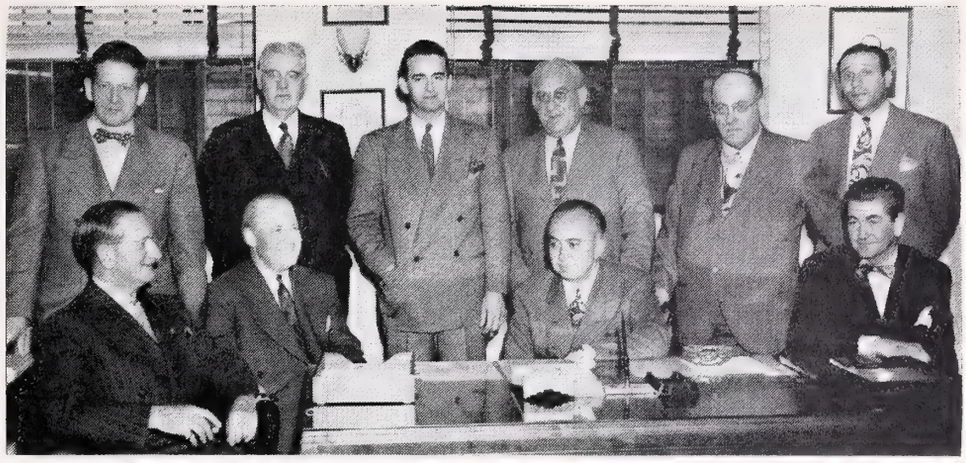
Flushing Airport Offers Bond Buyers Air Rides

NEW YORK—Flushing Airport has joined LaGuardia Airport in selling $500 E bonds entitling buyers to free rides over the city each Saturday and Sunday through July 7, in any of the planes controlled by the civil air patrol.

To handle the overflow of bond buyers who find LaGuardia Airport more accessible than Flushing Airport, the central chapter of the American Red Cross at Queens has placed a number of station wagons at the disposal of the industry. These will be used to transport bond purchasers at LaGuardia to the Flushing Airport.

Hughes Branch Manager

NEW YORK—International Theatrical & Television Corp. is opening a branch office at Washington, D. C., to service the states of Maryland and Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia. George A. Hirliman, president, has appointed Martin T. Hughes general manager of the new exchange.



LEO'S NEW DISTRICT MANAGER—John S. Allen, recently elevated by Metro to division managership, tackled his new assignment by swinging around the territory. In the photograph above, Allen is being officially installed by Central Division Manager John J. Maloney of Pittsburgh, the locale being the Washington exchange of M-G-M. Left to right, sitting: Jack Goldberg, Washington sales manager; Maloney; Rudolph Berger, newly-appointed southern sales head; Allen. Standing: Salesmen Fred Rippingale, Frank Scully, Tony Fursee, Harry Cohen, Phil Bobys and Office Manager Joe Kronman.

Robin Protests Against Equipment Restrictions

NEW YORK—A protest against restrictions surrounding the manufacture and export of projection and sound equipment has been lodged with the U.S. department of commerce by J. E. Robin, head of the theatrical supply export company bearing his name.

Robin said the difficulty in obtaining materials and manpower for the manufacture of equipment, "together with the restricted export quotas, have reduced to a mere dribble the export of American made equipment."

While American manufacturers are hamstrung by restrictions, he said British manufacturers are promising early delivery on booth equipment in some world markets. In India, for instance, the British manufacturers promise delivery within one month.

Argentina Admits Trio of Pictures

NEW YORK—March of Time received word that Spanish versions of "What to Do With Germany," "Underground Report" and "Portugal, Europe's Crossroad," have been admitted to Argentina.

Shea Interests Buy Great Lakes Bldg.

BUFFALO—In its second big real estate transaction since January 1944 Buffalo Theatres, which operates the Shea houses here, has acquired all the property on the northwest corner of Main and Chippewa streets, in the heart of the downtown theatre district. The property includes the Great Lakes Theatre and nearly a score of stores on Main and Chippewa.

The property was purchased by the newly-formed Great Lakes Theatre Corp., a subsidiary of Buffalo Theatres, from J. & D. H. Coplon.

Vincent R. McFaul, president of Buffalo Theatres, and the new subsidiary, and David H. Coplon, treasurer of J. & D. H. Coplon, confirmed the purchase and sale of the property last week.

$2,000,000 Figure Involved

Neither McFaul nor Coplon would divulge the amount of money involved, but other sources reported it was more than $2,000,000.

In the first big realty transaction announced Jan. 7, 1944, the Shea interests purchased for about $2,000,000 the properties including Shea's Buffalo Theatre, the Hippodrome and the site of the Old Court St. Theatre, now a parking lot, from the McNaughton Realty Co.

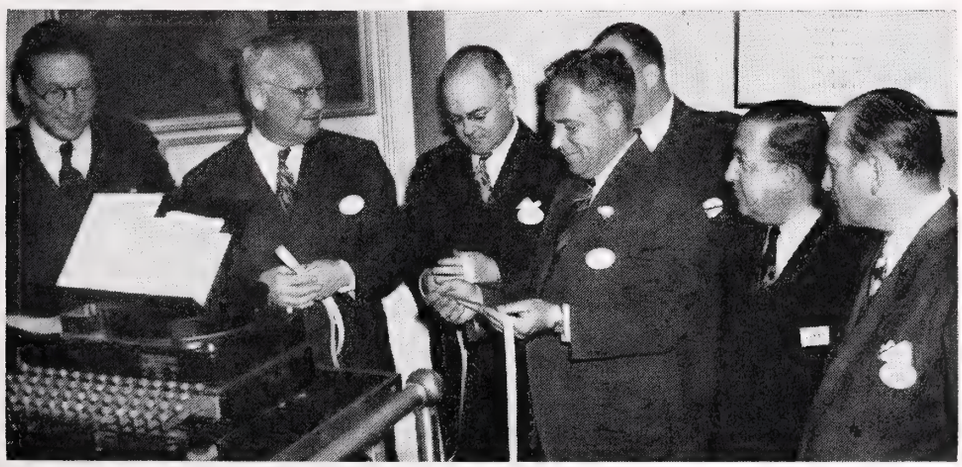
Purchase of the Great Lakes represents the latest and most ambitious move in the expansion plans of the Shea theatrical interests, which already are the largest in New York state outside of New York City.

Papers on file in the county clerk's office, showing the sale of the properties, have tax stamps costing $55 attached. This would indicate a cash consideration of about $50,000.

The warranty deed points out the property is subject to four mortgages held by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. for $525,000, $450,000, $700,000 and $100,000, which have been consolidated into one first mortgage; two mortgages held by the Marine Trust Co. for $285,000 and $140,862, and two mortgages in the amounts of $150,000 and $74,137, held by the Liberty Bank of Buffalo.

Also, the sale is subject to the leases held by the tenants now occupying the properties involved.

Until this latest realty deal by Shea, its interests operated the Great Lakes Theatre under lease.



UNIVERSAL IS LISTED—Several executives of Universal were guests of the New York exchange a few days ago when the stock was listed on the big board for the first time. Left to right: Philip L. West, director of the department of stock list of the exchange; N. J. Blumberg, president of Universal; John J. O'Connor, vice-president; Charles D. Prutzman, vice-president and general counsel; Samuel Hachnovitch, treasurer, and Budd Rogers, director.

BROADWAY

William Terry, who is featured in the Jack H. Skirball comedy, "It's in the Bag," a UA release starring Fred Allen, has arrived to attend the premiere of the picture at the Globe Theatre June 9.

Irving Rapper, Warner Bros. director, visited Mexico City on a short business trip.

Tom Baily, industry consultant to the treasury for the Seventh War Loan, conferred with Chairman Samuel Pinanski on additional plans for the drive.

Katina Paxinou, recently signed by Warner Bros. for "Confidential Agent," is back at the coast to start work in the picture.

Danton Walker, New York Daily News columnist, will be featured in a Warner Bros. two-reeler, "So You Want to Be a Columnist," produced by Gordon Hollingshead with LeRoy Prinz directing. The film will show Walker gathering news at night clubs and other Broadway spots.

Chester Erskine, writer, arrived from the M-G-M studios. He is a guest at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Pat Kirkwood, M-G-M star, left for Hollywood accompanied by her mother. They recently arrived from London.

Jack Mundstuk, Buffalo M-G-M manager, and Harry Rosenblatt, New Haven manager, visited the home office for two-day meetings with E. K. O'Shea, eastern sales manager.

Henry L. Nathanson, president of Regal Films, Ltd., visited here from Ontario.

J. G. Oppenheim jr., formerly of the Parkway Theatre, Chicago, is the new manager of the Avalon Theatre, The Bronx.

Ralph Bellamy and Ruth Hussey have completed a six-day tour of Wisconsin in the interest of the Seventh War Loan, with appearances in six cities. Their activities included special events programs in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, and they helped launch the Red River naval invasion fleet, which will stage beach maneuvers at several Red River ports.

Nat Wolf, Cleveland zone manager for Warner Theatres, arrived for a short stay to confer with home office executives.

Producer-Director Monty Banks stopped at the Waldorf-Astoria during his visit here from the coast.

With justifiable pride, Irving Ross of the 20th-Fox art department has announced the birth of his third child, a girl, at the Mt. Eden Hospital, The Bronx.

Ed Van Pelt, former vice-president of the Continental Bank & Trust Co., has assumed complete charge of the Seventh Ave. and 38th St. branch. Since his affiliation with the company, a number of individuals and organizations representative of the industry have become its clients.

Andy Russell, who has completed his first film role in B. G. DeSylva's "The Stork Club" (Para), will leave Hollywood June 15.



SEEKING NEW TALENT — LeRoy Prinz, Warner dance director, with Mrs. Prinz, reaches New York to interview prospective talent for a forthcoming picture. He created the dances for "Rhapsody in Blue," soon to open on Broadway.

Russell will rehearse with Raymond Scott's orchestra here before starting a ten-week personal appearance tour, opening in Boston June 26.

Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects and newsreel sales manager, presided at the company's Chicago sales meeting outlining programs for the new sales year. The meeting was attended by Chicago, Milwaukee and Minneapolis sales personnel.

Carlos Ruiz of Universal Films of Cuba was a recent arrival. He is planning to open a new distributing company in Havana to handle American product.

Leon Britton, RKO manager for Argentina, arrived for conferences with Phil Reisman . . . John W. Hicks, Paramount vice-president and foreign head, who has been undergoing treatment for the past month at Memorial Hospital, is improving.

Charles Herbert Core, former UA Far Eastern representative, who was rescued from a Jap concentration camp, has arrived here from the coast.

Ann Goebel, secretary to Albert S. Howson, Warner Bros. director of censorship and scenario editor, has just completed 20 years of service with the company.

Helmut Dantine and Andrea King, Warner Bros. stars, left for personal appearances at the Earle Theatre in Philadelphia after completing their stint at the Strand.

G. L. Carrington, president of Altec Service Corp., is back from a Hollywood visit.

J. K. Hilliard, chief engineer of the radar and motion picture division of Altec Lansing Corp., has returned from the coast.

Sol Lesser is scheduled to leave June 4 for Paris to arrange for filming sequences for his forthcoming production, "Paris Canteen." He will also complete arrangements for the distribution of part of the film's proceeds to French charities.



Loew's Plays First Para. Film in '45

NEW YORK—"Here Come the WAVES," the first of 15 films comprising Paramount's first three blocks for the '44-'45 season, has opened on the Loew's metropolitan circuit. This is the first of Paramount's product to play that circuit during the present year. Completion of negotiations between Paramount and Loew's recently made the pictures available to Loew's and subsequent run theatres that follow it.

Loew's will play "And Now Tomorrow," starting June 7, and "Frenchman's Creek" on June 21, and at intervals the balance of the 15 pictures. Subsequent run circuits have been unable to play Paramount films until the deal with Loew's had been made, because the circuit plays them first run in the metropolitan area.

In addition to the three films already mentioned, the following Paramount pictures will play the Loew's circuit and then be released to the subsequent run theatres:

"Rainbow Island," "Till We Meet Again," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," "Ministry of Fear," "For Whom the Bell Tolls" (at popular prices); "Practically Yours," "National Barn Dance," "Dark Mountain," "One Body Too Many," "Man in Half Moon Street," "Dangerous Passage" and "Double Exposure."

Review Board Top Rating Awarded to 'Way Ahead'

NEW YORK—The National Board of Review's weekly guide awards top ranking of starred selected feature to "The Way Ahead," 20th-Fox British-made comedy-drama directed by Carol Read and co-starring David Niven and Raymond Huntley. The board says "the film is alive with healthy humor . . . rare characterizations . . . admirable script."

Two other British films, "The Silver Fleet" (PRC) and "They Met in the Dark" (English Films), together with a Swedish production based on Charles Chaplin's "The Kid," "Goransson's Pojke" (Scandia) are the foreign contingent in the board's selected features classification. Domestic features in this category are "Santa Fe Saddlemates" (Rep.), "Scotland Yard Investigator" (Rep.), and "The Southerner" (UA).

Selected short subjects are: "Eyes for Tomorrow" (Emerson Yorke), "Fisherman's Luck' (20th-Fox), "Harbor Goes to France" (Col), "Memo from Britain" (MOT No. 8), "The Returning Veteran" (MOT No. 9), and "The Master Key" (U).

Subway Lauds "Thrill"

NEW YORK—"Thrill of a Romance," now at the Capitol Theatre, has been designated the Picture of the Month by Susan Lee, motion picture editor of the metropolitan subway systems. Go See cards urging subway patrons to view the picture, a still from which is shown, appear in every car on all subway and elevated lines.

Kaye Film Into Astor

NEW YORK—"Wonder Man," Danny Kaye's second Technicolor feature for Samuel Goldwyn, will have its premiere at the Astor Theatre on Friday, June 8. It will be shown on a continuous run basis and is set for an indefinite engagement.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

Entry of New Films Ups B'way Grosses

NEW YORK—The arrival of five new attractions at Broadway first runs were reflected in generally satisfactory boxoffice grosses. The end of the curfew began to make itself felt at many of the theatres, particularly at the 600-seat Rialto. Hardest hit by the curfew because of its late shows, the Rialto's business has shown a decided gain since the restriction was lifted.

New films that opened to better-than-average receipts included "Thrill of a Romance," at the Capitol; "China Sky," Palace; "Pillow to Post," Strand; "A Medal for Benny," Rivoli, and "The Body Snatcher," Rialto.

"Valley of Decision" did slightly better in its fourth week at the Music Hall than it did on any of the three previous weeks.

UA's "Blood on the Sun," starring James Cagney and Sylvia Sidney, will follow "Thrill of a Lifetime" into the Capitol. The same company's "Delightfully Dangerous" will be the next attraction at the Gotham, following "Molly and Me." "It's in the Bag" is scheduled for an opening at the Globe.

"Here Comes Mr. Jordan," Columbia reissue, has opened an engagement at the World Theatre. RKO's "The Enchanted Cottage" is now in its sixth week at the Astor.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 5th wk.....140
Capitol—**Thrill of a Romance** (M-G-M), plus stage show 165
Criterion—**Counter-Attack** (Col), 2nd wk.....115
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 9th wk.....105
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO) 155
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show, 5th wk. 110
Radio City Music Hall—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 4th wk.....175
Rialto—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO).....130
Rivoli—**A Medal for Benny** (Para).....145
Roxy—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 4th wk. 135
Strand—**Pillow to Post** (WB), plus stage show.....155
Victoria—**Dillinger** (Mono), 5th wk. 150

Monogram's "Dillinger" Wins Draw Of Patrons at Buffalo 20th Century

BUFFALO—"Dillinger" and "GI Honeymoon," two from Monogram, recorded better than one and one-half of average at the 20th Century. "The Affairs of Susan" and "Diamond Horseshoe" wound up holdovers at the Hippodrome and Great Lakes in fine style. "A Royal Scandal" and a Laurel & Hardy vehicle were fair at the Buffalo. "The Fighting Guardsman" and "Tahiti Nights" were above average at the Lafayette. The weather was cold and rainy.

Buffalo—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 100
Great Lakes—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 150
Hippodrome—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **When the Lights Go On Again** (PRC), 2nd d. t. wk.....114
Lafayette—**The Fighting Guardsman** (Col); **Tahiti Nights** (Col) 104
20th Century—**Dillinger** (Mono); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) 160

"Barbary Coast" Leads Philadelphia Grosses With "Forever" Close

PHILADELPHIA — For the first time in many years, the product of two non-major producers led the boxoffice parade at first run deluxers in this town. They are Monogram's "Forever Yours" and Republic's "Flame of the Barbary Coast." Only major picture to hold its premiere here this session was "Without Love" at the Boyd.

Aldine—**Forever Yours** (Mono) 175
Arcadia—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 145
Boyd—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....170
Earle—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox), plus stage show..165
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.....170
Karlton—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk.....135
Keith's—**Here Come the Co-Eds** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk. 110
Mastbaum—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk. 90
Stanley—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd wk.....145
Stanton—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep).....180

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

BENJAMIN WRAY, proprietor of General Delivery Service, is known along Filmrow as the "booker's best friend." And he isn't very far behind in the estimation of exhibitors, too.

A veteran of more than 27 years in the industry, Wray is called on to deliver a print in a hurry to avoid a missout when something goes wrong. For instance, when a print comes to New York from out of town too late for the film carriers to deliver, Wray's truck picks it up at the railroad station and rushes it to the theatre.

Many managers have spent anxious moments at the curb for these special trucks to arrive. Whenever a print must be sent by railroad to an out-of-town theatre Wray sends it via the "baggage-check" method. He calls it one of the secrets of the trade. His own experience includes a special visit he made to Washington to deliver a print for an opening.

He started his present business in 1934, with a second-hand truck he purchased for $75. Now he has nine trucks, which he estimates, travel a combined total of more than 120,000 miles per year.

Perils of a Gotham Blizzard

His most exciting experience occurred during the winter of 1934-35 when Long Island was snowbound and he had to deliver films to theatres there. Train service having been discontinued because of the blizzard, Wray was put on his mettle figuring how to deliver the film. He hit on the idea of hiring a taxicab which miraculously got through the snow and delivered all the film with one exception. "The one town that we couldn't get to," says Wray, "was Port Jefferson. The snow was piled so high that our taxicab just couldn't get through. But we managed to deliver our film in every other town."

When asked how it was theatres were open even though the various towns were snowbound, Wray said: "While transportation between towns was at a standstill the people got tired of staying at home and went to their local theatres. This did not require any traveling." He still believes it was the toughest assignment of his career.

News of the Exhibitors: Mike Mario has assumed operation of the Boro Hall, Brooklyn, since Leo Greenfield joined the army . . . Arthur and Joseph Reitano have succeeded S. Seligman in operating the Embassy, Newark . . . Sam Stiefel's office is now booking for the Embassy, Bayonne, N. J. . . . E. M. Loew has opened the Valley Stream Drive-In Theatre; Valley Stream, L. I.,

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Al Mendelson, veteran booker at the 20th-Fox exchange, has been awarded a solid gold veteran's jewel in commemoration of his 25th anniversay as a member of Williamsburgh Lodge, Odd Fellows. The emblem will be presented by the grand master of the lodge at special ceremonies in Brooklyn, June 5.

Dr. Milton Nussbaum, co-owner of the Cameo Theatre, Jersey City, who is attached to the army medical corps, was a visitor to Filmrow . . . John McKenna, UA booker, went into the armed service June 1 . . . Irving Dreeben, ad sales clerk at the same exchange, is now working in the navy yard . . . Merle McKenna, telephone operator at the UA branch, lost her father.

UA's Chief Booker Ben Levine is in the market for a tricycle for his daughter, three years old on Memorial Day. "I've been spending all my spare time trying to get one, without success," Ben wails . . . Film Classics' New York exchange, 362 West 44th St., has enlarged its quarters, taking over an additional store around the corner on Eighth Ave.

Marion Landsman, secretary to Jack Ellis, received a letter from her brother, Ben, a SeaBee, stationed in the Marianas, which has handed her many laughs. Her brother, who is a talented artist although that isn't his profession, drew a picture of a bluejacket somewhat the worse for wear, standing in front of a tough petty officer. The CPO says: "What, only 30 months and you wanna leave already?"

Metro Salesman Bob Ellsworth is on jury duty . . . Sidney Stockton, Leo's office manager, spent two days of a seven-day vacation visiting friends in Albany . . . Other vacationers were Lou Johnson, chief shipper, and Ethel Silver, secretary to Edward Richter, chief booker . . . Madeleine Anderson, Ralph Pielow's Girl Friday, is beginning to spend her weekends at her family's summer home in Long Island.

The Motion Picture Associates will hold its 26th annual dinner-dance at the Hotel Astor, June 6. George J. Schaefer, chairman of the board of Lester Cowan Productions, will receive the organization's first award for the most outstanding achievement in aiding the war effort. Mrs. E. R. Harriman will formally accept the station wagon donated by the MPA to the American Red Cross. Jack Ellis, first vice-president, is chairman of the arrangements committee.

Joseph J. Felder, former Monogram branch manager, has become an associate partner with Moe Kerman in the Astor Film Exchange, 630 Ninth Ave.

Variety Club Fetes Veterans

BUFFALO—Members of the Variety Club helped make a success of the last Civic "welcome home luncheon" for overseas veterans, held Saturday (26) at Hotel Statler. They served on the greeters' committee, with Murray Whiteman of Whiteman's Song Shop and Elmer Lux, branch manager for RKO, as co-chairmen.

With the compliments of Variety, each of the more than 200 veterans attending received: Guest tickets which can be used in any theatre in the city, large packages of candy, five silver dollars, a souvenir wrestling book, a ticket to a wrestling show at Memorial Auditorium, invitations to any baseball games at Offermann Stadium, a copy of Spice O'Life, containing pinup pictures, and invitations to the Glen Casino, Williamsville, certificates for dinner parties at Chez Ami, local night club, the Park Lane, Laube's, Hotel Stuyvesant and MacDoel's Restaurant.

Assisting Whiteman and Lux were Vincent R. McFaul, Robert Murphy, George Mackenna, Max Yellen, Matthew Sullivan, W. E. J. Martin, Harry Altman, Dewey Michaels, Stanley Kozanowski, Marvin Jacobs, George Gammel, Andrew Gibson, Jack Goldstein, Phil Fox, Irving Fried, George Ferguson, Ira Cohn, Jack Chinell, Albert Becker, Jack Belman, Constantine Basil, Mannie Brown and Marvin Atlas.

District of Columbia Active in Bond Drive

WASHINGTON—Theatre managers the country over are setting new bond sale records in the "Mighty Seventh" but Ed Purcell, manager of the Strand in Staunton, Va., set some sort of a record, to say the least. Purcell exceeded his Seventh War Loan quota of E bonds the very first night of the drive, with a total bond sale of $22,000. His over-all quota, using $25 as a seat value, was $21,625.

Fred S. Kogod, DofC industry chairman, has announced a special children's bond premiere and stage show to be held at the Apex Theatre on June 21, starting at 1:30 p. m. Screen feature will be Universal's "Patrick the Great."

As one of its activities in the drive, the Little Theatre will hold a special bond premiere on June 26 of "Thunder Rock."

John Marcon, manager of Warner's Metropolitan Theatre, has netted $202,400 in war bonds to top his quota of $200,000 and thereby becomes the second downtown theatre manager and the seventh in the District of Columbia to surpass his goal in the current war loan drive. Marcon attributes a large part of the fine job to Mrs. Robert E. Wilson, chairman, and members of the AWVS.

With a total bond sale to date of $401,000, Joel Margolis, manager of Loew's Capitol Theatre, has surpassed his quota of $400,000. The Capitol is the eighth theatre in the District and the second Loew house to top its goal in the present drive.

Staten Island Managers Active in Bond Events

NEW YORK—Theatres in Staten Island have been active in promoting the Seventh War Loan, according to Milton A. Schosberg, borough publicity chairman.

On May 24, the St. George Theatre held a bond rally, sponsored by the Jewish War Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars; the American Legion band played. On May 25 the Paramount Theatre held a bond auction, sponsored by the Stapleton Business Men's Ass'n, at which valuable merchandise was auctioned. On May 29 a parade through the business section of Stapleton was held in conjunction with the outdoor bond auction sponsored by the Rosebank Community Council, Paramount Theatre and the CDVO.



CHECK FOR HEROES' PHONE FUND—Daphne Skouras presents a check for $39,670.51 to William Detelef, treasurer of the New York Mirror. It was the proceeds of a show put on in conjunction with the Mirror by Skouras Theatres war effort department. Left to right: Sgt. Robert McNutt, making phone call; MM/3c Fred Williams, to the right of Miss Skouras; Coxswain Donald Madden; Detelef, and an unidentified onlooker.

Premieres at Buffalo Are Set for June 18

BUFFALO—The outstanding event of the local motion picture campaign to aid the Seventh War Loan drive will be the big war bond premieres in the five downtown theatres Monday evening (18). Admission will be through bonds purchased in the theatres.

At the Buffalo, preview audiences will see "Valley of Decision." At the Great Lakes will be "Nob Hill." The Hippodrome will have "Murder, He Says." "Over 21" will be at the Lafayette and the 20th Century will show "Those Endearing Young Charms."

Monday, as all other Mondays during the drive, will be another of those red letter days when everyone who buys a war bond will receive two guest tickets to the downtown theatre in which the bond is purchased.

Buffalo will participate in the nationwide Free Movie Day, June 6, when two guest tickets also will be given for each bond purchased in the theatres. This is in commemoration of the first anniversary of D-Day.

The Movieland Bond Cottage this week was in charge of the 20th Century Theatre. It was staffed by the auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

300 Buyers of Bonds Take Six-Hour Cruise

NEW YORK—More than 300 bond buyers, purchasing a total of $371,000 of Seventh War Loan E bonds, participated in a six-hour cruise aboard the USMS American Mariner on Long Island Sound.

Although the tickets were allotted to buyers of $1,000 E bonds, a number of theatres staged special bond auctions and realized individual bond sales well in excess of the stated minimum. Several theatres in this district corralled $97,000 for 70 tickets. Among them were the Nemo, selling $11,000 in bonds for four cruise tickets; the 86th Street, vending $9,000 in bonds for four tickets; the Academy of Music, processing $11,000 worth for six tickets, and the 83rd Street, taking in $7,000 for three.

Brooklyn ran Manhattan a close second. There $91,000 worth of E bonds were sold for 75 tickets. The Marlboro Theatre received top score with $7,500 worth sold for three tickets.

Philadelphia Area Books 295 War Bond Premieres

PHILADELPHIA — This area already has booked 295 bond premieres for the Seventh War Loan drive, more than in any previous drive, Sidney Samuelson, area exhibitor co-chairman, revealed.

Boys and girls in the public schools participating in the drive will be rewarded with two events. The three boys and girls from each school who sell the most bonds will receive two free tickets each for a special stage and screen show at the Fox June 16.

The 50 leading winners will be taken June 26 to Fort Dix, N. J., for a day's outing and a tour of the camp. Albert M. Cohen, senior vice-commander, Philadelphia Variety Post 713, is heading the movie-school phase of the drive.

More Bonds Than Seats!

NEW YORK—Proctor's Theatre, Yonkers, sold 2,110 E bonds with a maturity value of $116,475 at its bond premiere. With admission on the bond-for-every-seat plan, the total exceeded that theatre's capacity by 50 bonds, indicating that many standees. The program, arranged by Charles Oelrich, manager, and Russell Emde, county chairman, presented "The Better Half" on the stage and the local premiere of "God Is My Co-Pilot."



NOVEL BOND STUNT—Times Square observers blinked when a large group of girls in Greek costumes began their native dances at noon as a feature of a bond rally. The stunt was sponsored by the Federation of Greek Societies and WAC.

Flushing Stores' Tieups Aid Two Bond Premieres

FLUSHING—Manager Lee Koken of the Keith Theatre reports sales totaling $25,100 at his bond auction night. Through the cooperation of Conovitz Jewelers, contributors of 14 free gifts, a stainless steel cutlery set brought $3,500 in bonds, while a wrist watch, alarm clock, electric toaster and coffee pot each brought $2,500 worth of bonds.

Another merchant tieup made with Abramson's largest local department store, netted the Flushing Theatre a full-page ad in the Long Island Star-Journal, announcing the special bond premiere of "Enchanted Cottage" to be held June 27. In addition, Abramson's is selling bonds for the premiere, crediting them toward the theatre's bond sales.

Incorporations

—ALBANY—

Community Film Distributors: Formed to conduct a business in motion picture films in New York; 200 shares, no par; Ida Sandler, John J. Corwin, Irene Elman, 70 Pine St.

Federal Film Corporation: Formed to carry on a business in motion picture films, etc., in New York; 200 shares, no par; Solomon Widelitz, David Weiss, Theodore Berger, 170 Broadway.

Trans-Lux Ad-News: New York, name changed to Trans-Lux News Sign Corp.

Richmond Amusement Corp.: To operate amusement centers in Richmond County; 100 shares, no par. Douglas Bleiman, 234 Hart Ave., West New Brighton, S. I.; George E. Hodes, 1683 E. 34th St., Brooklyn; Sylvia Gussow, 1410 Ave. S, Brooklyn.

Selmar Amusement Corp.: Formed to operate amusement centers in Richmond. Bernard Seligman, Anna Seligman, 103 Boardwalk, South Beach; Elmer L. Martin, 468 Seaside Blvd., South Beach, L. I.

Telecast Corp. of America: To conduct business in New York. Albert Levine, 25 W. 43rd St.; Emanuel Rothstein, Lillian Rothstein, 295 Madison Ave.

290 Delaware Corp.: To purchase theatrical property at that address in Albany as an investment; $20,000, $100 par. Warner Bros. tenancy unaffected.

Bond Buyers View B29

NEW YORK—The general public was permitted to view the inside of a B29 bomber for the first time since the war began. This attraction, available with the purchase of E bonds of any denomination, was arranged by Ray Malone, RKO publicist and Queens WAC chairman, through the cooperation of the army air force.

Honor Roosevelt Manager

NEW YORK—Mildred A. FitzGibbons, manager of the Roosevelt Theatre, Flushing, received an orchid on WJZ's Breakfast in Hollywood program for her community activities. These include selling more than $3,000,000 in war bonds.

"Sold Out" in 10 Days

NEW YORK—As evidence of the public's interest in the Seventh War Loan, Max A. Cohen of Cinema circuit reports he sold out within ten days the entire quota of war bonds he had ordered for his 11 theatres. He obtained an emergency replacement of bonds from the Federal Reserve Bank.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

EASTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Since 1918 **William Spiegel** of Philadelphia has been a motion picture exhibitor. In that year he entered a partnership with Leo Posel to operate the Leo Theatre. They managed a number of houses in Philadelphia and Chester until 1939. Spiegel is now sole owner of the New Lyric, an 850-seat house in Germantown. He is a member of Allied. The Spiegels have an eight-year-old daughter. Spiegel is a familiar and well-liked figure in his community and long has enjoyed the many pleasant associations formed in the course of his picture career.



Frank S. Sechrist of Shrewsbury, Pa., gave up a career in the automobile industry to become a theatre man in 1923. His first theatre was the Trail. He still owns the Trail and four years ago built another, the New Theatre. He is a widower and has a son also in the motion picture business, running a theatre in Glen Rock, Pa. Frank has the wanderlust. He has traveled all over this country, Canada, Mexico and Cuba in a car and trailer and hopes to cover South America in this same way after the war. Fishing also is a favorite hobby.



Samuel "Al' Frank, an exhibitor of Hammonton, N. J., left the woolen business in 1921 to take up his present career. He now is the owner of the Rivoli, Colonial, Ritz, Berlin, Laurel and Park theatres there. Before becoming a theatre owner he was a film salesman in Philadelphia. He is director of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. For two terms he served as president of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Masons, is married and has two sons now serving in the armed forces.



Charles F. Ramsay was in the automobile business when, in 1920, he built the Ramsay Theatre in Stewartstown, Pa. He liked motion picture management so well he gave up his other interests to devote his entire time to operating his 300-seat house. He is a prominent figure in his community and has been a councilman for 23 years and a member of the Masons since 1908. Ramsay is married and has a daughter, Ruth, now in school. He enjoys operating his theatre so much it is almost a hobby for him as well as a pleasure to Stewartstown picture fans.

Ups 6th Loan Take 700 Per Cent

NEW YORK—Patrick Galvin, manager of the Granada Theatre in Corona, L. I., increased his war bond sales 700 per cent in one move. During the Six War Loan the Granada, located in a poor neighborhood, accumulated a bond total of $6,000. This month he presented a single performance of his stage show at the Corona Jewish Center, selling 240 bonds worth $42,550.

Red Cross Gifts Total $306,145

PHILADELPHIA—Audiences in 713 theatres in eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey contributed $288,930.13 during Red Cross War Fund week, Earle W. Sweigert, area exhibitor chairman, announced. Individual contributions from theatre managers and employes and corporate gifts of theatre circuits brought the grand total for the area to $306,145.24.

Opens Five of a Circuit

LEONARDTOWN, MD.—Irvin Weiner will open the first five of a circuit of theatres in Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, on June 6 when he leaves St. Mary's after 38 years of business activity. He retains his Waldorf Theatre in Charles County.

Exhibitor's Daughter to Graduate

LEONARDTOWN, MD.—Miss June Weiner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Weiner of this city, owners of the Waldorf Theatre, will be among the graduates of St. Mary's Academy here.

Reserve Verdict in Walters Action Against Co-Partner

BUFFALO—Justice Alonzo G. Hinkley in supreme court has reserved decision on the application of Mr. and Mrs. Louis E. Walters of Cleveland for a dissolution of partnership in the Niagara Drive-In Theatre Co., operating an outdoor motion picture theatre on Niagara Falls Blvd., just outside Buffalo.

The action is directed against their co-partner, James S. Driscoll of Erie, Pa. The plaintiffs also are seeking an accounting and an early sale of the assets with appointment of a receiver to operate the business pending the sale.

The defendant maintained he would suffer "an irreparable loss" unless he is allowed to conduct the business for the summer season. He estimated the business will show a profit of at least $10,000 this year.

Driscoll also denied the allegation of Walters that he had failed to render an accounting and give the plaintiffs their share of the profits. He said the business is financially solvent and asserted his willingness to pay the plaintiffs $32,500 for their interest.

ACE REEL END ALARM
JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

BUFFALO

W. E. J. "Bill" Martin, dramatic critic for the Buffalo Courier-Express, was ill last weekend. Eugene Gutekunst, assistant telegraph editor at the paper, took his place for a couple of days . . . Snazzy invitations to a special exhibitors' tradeshowing of "Wonder Man," starring Danny Kaye, were put in the mail by Elmer Lux, RKO branch manager. The screening was at Shea's Niagara Monday (28) and Lux's invites certainly drew.

Credit goes to the cast of the Bob Hope show at Shea's Buffalo last Monday noon for pulling Erie County's Seventh War Loan drive out of its customary weekend lag, Chairman Daniel W. Streeter declared this week. Hope fans who bought bonds to obtain tickets for the show pushed individual war bond purchases to $12,396,122. Streeter credited the show with more than $100,000 of the total over the weekend, although complete tabulations from all of the issuing centers will not be available for several days.

It was a Bob Hope week in Buffalo. Bob and his radio troupe also entertained Monday night at Memorial Auditorium in behalf of the Buffalo Evening News Smokes-for-Soldiers fund. It was a packed house. Then Bob and his gang went on to the naval training station and hospital at Sampson.

Buffalo's BOXOFFICE reporter has been elected president of the Independent Editorial Federation, collective bargaining agency for editorial employes of the Buffalo Courier-Express, where he is employed.

Just when midnight and swing-shift shows were showing signs of returning to their precurfew popularity, cutback orders came from Washington for Bell Aircraft and Curtiss-Wright, Buffalo's two big plane manufacturing plants. Some observers saw in the cutback orders the sounding of the death knell for around-the-clock shifts.

We got to the Hipp the other night about 8:30 to see "The Affairs of Susan." It was one of the best pictures we've seen in many a moon.

It looks like a good summer for the Buffalo area's two drive-in theatres, now that Washington has promised more gas for A and B ration book holders. It's been a dull season so far, what with almost 30 consecutive days of rain.

Filmrow is curious about prospects for completion of the new Shea house at Main and Edward, now that VE-Day has come and gone and building restrictions may be relaxed. The theatre auditorium and front are complete, with only finishing touches to be applied to the interior. The house uses the auditorium of the old Teck Theatre, one-time leading legitimate theatre in western New York.

J. Arthur Rank, British film leader, is expected to visit Buffalo, possibly next week. In Toronto, Rank conferred with Paul Nathanson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada and was greeted by officials of the Empire-Universal exchange there. A partner in Universal, Rank owns some 850 theatres in England, 90 in Canada and others in South Africa and other parts of the world.



ADVANCE PEEK—Among those at the tradeshowing of RKO's "Back to Bataan" at the Astor Theatre were: (l-r) Nat Levy, eastern division sales manager; Robert Mochrie, general sales manager; Arthur Waykoff, Raritan Theatres, and Charles Boasberg, metropolitan division manager for RKO.

Wilcox Sees a Slump In British Theatres

NEW YORK—Theatre attendance in the United Kingdom is due for a sharp drop as American troops depart, according to Herbert Wilcox, British producer, on his arrival here this week. Americans have been responsible for a weekly attendance of 6,000,000 in Britain, he estimated. "American service men," he added, "do not go to the pictures alone."



HERBERT WILCOX

Making his first visit to the U.S. since 1942, Wilcox said he's here on a threefold mission: to set distribution arrangements for "A Yank Lived in Grosvenor Square," his latest feature, and, if possible, for his next picture also; to visit Hollywood in search of talent for the latter, and to complete arrangements for the appearance on the New York stage of Anna Neagle, his wife, star of "A Yank."

He plans to preview "A Yank" for the first time here in Brooklyn, because Pfc. Elliot Arluck, GI without previous screen experience who plays important role in the picture, was provided by the army and OWI when Wilcox asked for a "typical Brooklynite." The picture, made with the cooperation of British and American forces, shows what happens when an average U.S. soldier finds himself among the British nobility.

Questioned regarding the British production outlook, Wilcox said he thinks between 70 and 80 features will be made during 1946 of which 12 will be outstanding. British demobilization as an aid to the trade problem is negligible, he said, pointing out that men being discharged from the services are channeled into mining and other industries. An even greater problem than the manpower situation, he concluded, is scarcity of equipment needed to return derequisitioned studios into operation.

Tradeshow Dates on Four RKO Features Arranged

NEW YORK—RKO will tradeshow "Two O'Clock Courage" on Monday, June 4, at all exchange centers except Los Angeles and New York. The same afternoon, "Back to Bataan" will be screened in all cities except New York.

"West of the Pecos" will be tradeshown in all RKO exchanges on June 5. "George White's Scandals" will be screened on June 18 in all cities except Boston and St. Louis where it will be viewed the following day.

PHILADELPHIA

Dave Barrist, the premium mogul, dislocated his shoulder in a fall and now is carrying his arm in a sling . . . Jane Dietz, percentage clerk at Warner exchange, was ill last week . . . Tom Kennedy, ex-FC salesman, is now in Germany . . . B7 held its last union meeting of the season last week.

Charles Zagrans, RKO branch manager, is back from a southern trip . . . Pete Holman, ex-Paramount booker now stationed at Sampson, N. Y., naval training station, visited the exchange . . . Claude Morris, Sam Goldwyn's eastern advertising representative, conferred last week with Exploiteer Bucky Harris on exploitation for "Wonder Man" . . . Eleanor Shurtleff has left 20th-Fox to join her husband in Fairhaven, Mass.

Oscar Neufeld is cooperating in furnishing some of his beauties to the War Finance Committee for the "blind date" program.

Dennis Bassone, 20th-Fox Movietonews cameraman, covered the German submarine surrender at Cape May, N. J. . . . H. J. "Doc" Schad, popular Reading exhibitor, was elected a member of the board of the Shriners Home of Philadelphia . . . Stanley Kositski, Universal office manager, resigned last week and will announce a new connection shortly.

Theatre men of the Philadelphia area have purchased more than 700 copies of "Movie Lot to Beach Head," the book which tells the story of the industry's contribution to the war, for distribution to civic, state and other leaders in the territory, the War Activities Committee announced. Large purchasers included: Norman Lewis, A. R. Boyd, A. and L. Sablosky, Comerford circuit, Lewen Pizor, David Milgrim, A. M. Ellis, Ben Fertel, A. J. Rovner, Jay Emanuel Theatres, Max M. Korr and the Varbalow circuit.

20th-Fox Uses 415 Spots

NEW YORK—A total of 415 spot announcements from ten metropolitan radio stations will have been used by 20th-Fox for the Two Cities British-produced film, "The Way Ahead." The period covered is from May 23 through June 3.

Republic Title Change

NEW YORK—Republic has changed the title of its forthcoming Vera Hruba Ralston feature from "Strange Obsession" to "The Uninvited Guest."



AMPA CHANGES OFFICERS—Martin Starr, retiring president, makes his valedictory address, while Dave Bader, left, the new president, seems to be enjoying the talk. On the right are Rutgers Neilson and Grace Rosenfeld, secretary.

ALBANY

John E. Curry of the National Theatre Supply Co. New York office spent several days at the local branch. He also went into the field, calling on J. Guy Selmser, purchasing officer for the Schine circuit, Gloversville, and Bill McNeily, purchasing agent for the Kallet circuit, Oneida. McNeily is also Utica city manager for Kallet, being stationed at the Uptown Theatre.

Sam Rosen, vice-president of Fabian Theatres, and Mrs. Rosen vacationed at the Gideon-Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs . . . Joe Shure, booking manager for Fabian upstate, hopped to Cincinnati to be with his father, seriously ill . . . Fred Maas, recently appointed maintenance engineer for the circuit, visited the Albany division office for a huddle with General Manager Saul J. Ullman.

The Empire Theatre in Cohoes has been undergoing repairs and refurbishing, after a serious fire last winter . . . Eileen Gardner, pleasant and efficient secretary in the Fabian division offices at the Palace Theatre here, received word that her husband, an air corps technical sergeant, is now stationed at an air base in China. Before her marriage she was Eileen Downs.

Harry Lamont was scheduled to withdraw from operation of the Regent in Cohoes June 1. He had been running the theatre for a year on lease from Walter Wertime sr., who owns the Chester in Chestertown. The Regent was on a part-time schedule. For some time it was a link in the Fabian chain, but that circuit gave up the 400-seat house after building the Cohoes. Lamont conducts theatres in several small towns, including Philmont, Greenville and Athens. His wife managed the Regent.

The Auto-Vision, East Greenbush, operated by Dave Willig, got away to a flying start despite inclement weather. Willig held over Paramount's "Going My Way" from three to five days. Metro's "Two Girls and a Sailor," starring Van Johnson, followed. Auto-Vision had a double bill over the weekend, "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" and "The Whistler." For duals, the featured picture is shown twice in the night. Daylight delays the starting hour until 8:30 or later. Willig's staff includes Norm Pratt of Rensselaer, who has managed a number of area small theatres; Gregory Fisher and Gene Kelsey, projectionists, and several assistants.

C. J. Latta, Warner zone manager and upstate WAC chairman, spoke at a screening of war shorts at the 20th-Fox projection room. Charles A. Smakwitz, his assistant, and Ray Smith, Warner exchange manager, were other speakers. "On to Tokyo" was one of the shorts screened.

Twentieth-Fox held a screening of "Nob Hill." Those attending included Saul Ullman, Fabian division manager; Alex Sayles, Palace manager, and Edgar S. Van Olinda, critic for the Times-Union.

Sam Slotnick, Syracuse exhibitor, has taken over the Cameo in Waterford and the Family in Watervliet, operated for the last two years by the Conery circuit of Ravena. Slotnick is a brother of Morris Slotnick, exhibitor at Oriskany Falls and Waterville.

"To the Shores of Iwo Jima" and "On to Tokyo" were screened at a Monday war bond meeting of branch managers, salesmen and bookers in the 20th-Fox screening room. United Artists is selling "Iwo Jima." "Tokyo" is released free by Universal. Ray Smith, Warner manager and distributor chairman, has virtually 100 per cent pledges from exhibitors for a Free Movie Day or children's matinee show.

John Mohan, veteran of combat action in Africa, Sicily and Italy, is a new booker at Paramount. He was sent from Boston to replace Harry Wyckoff, who was reported to have accepted a place with the company in a southern office.

Karl Harte has resigned as head booker at Columbia. He came to Albany last year, after working for several distributing companies in New York and in the field for 15 years.

Seen on Filmrow were Mr. and Mrs. Jerry LaRocque of the Fairyland, Warrensburg; Dave Rosenbaum, owner of the Capitol, Elizabethtown, and manager of the Hollywood, Ausable, and the Rex, Keesville; Sam Rosenblatt of the Strand, Watervliet; Owner Bernstein of Deicher & Bernstein, operating the Palace and Lincoln, Schenectady, and Sam Davis of the Hunter, Hunter.

RKO held a tradeshowing of Samuel Goldwyn's "Wonder Man" at Warners' Delaware Theatre Monday. About 100 saw the new Danny Kaye picture. Among those present were C. J. Latta, zone manager; Max Friedman, chief buyer; Joe Weinstein, short subject booker; Sam Rosenblatt of the Strand, Watervliet; the RKO sales crew, headed by Manager Max Westebbe, and representatives of local clubs and women's organizations.

Jean Maurache Dead

ALBANY—Jean Maurache, 60, orchestra leader at the Grand here during the heyday of vaudeville and before that pianist for silent movies at the Leland and Albany theatres, died recently in nearby West Berne. He was born in Marseilles, France, and was a resident of Albany for more than 30 years. He worked for F. F. Proctor at the Leland and for Samuel Suckno at the Albany, two of the city's first motion picture houses. Later, Maurache was appointed pit leader at the Grand. For the last ten years Maurache had been out of show business.

Two Added to M-G-M Block

NEW YORK—M-G-M has added two pictures to its 11th block making a total of five for the block. The two new films are "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "Son of Lassie," the latter in Technicolor. They will be June releases.

Viewpoint at Variance As to Atrocity Films

ALBANY—The atrocity films and other war pictures should be preserved to be shown to high school students starting courses in subjects such as American history, an important official of the New York state education department told a representative of BOXOFFICE.

Asked whether the newsreels of the German horror camps should be exhibited beharm children, unless they happen to be of

"There is much to be said for both sides. Personally, I do not think these pictures harm children, unless they happen to be of the nervous or highly emotional type. I took my own children, ages 7 and 11, to see the newsreels. The films had no ill effect on either. The girl and the boy were not unduly shocked. nor was their sleep disturbed. I discussed the picture with them afterward.

Answer Lies in Rearing

"After all, it was not entirely new to my children," he continued. "They had heard on the radio about the scenes depicted and had looked at still pictures. They know their brother was fighting in Germany and that the horrors filmed were true, not make-believe. I do not think it will help normal children to be sheltered from the realities of the world in which they must live.

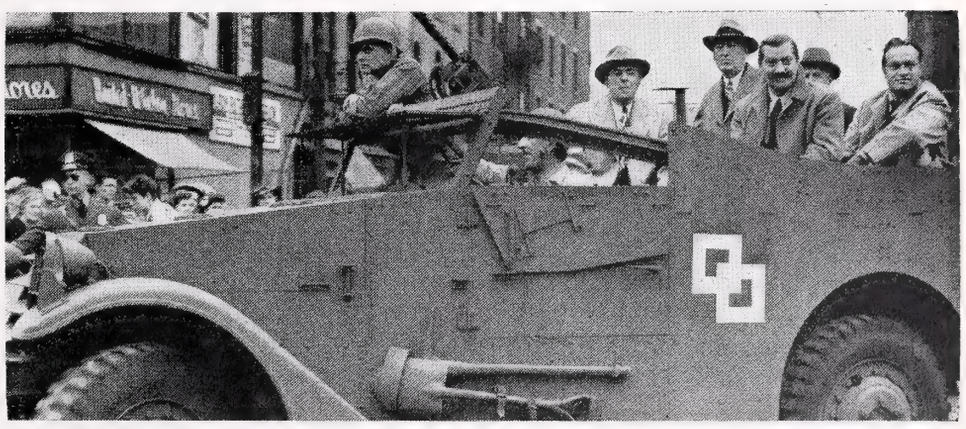
"It is my opinion the answer lies in the manner in which the children are being reared. If their upbringing is properly handled, children should be able to adjust themselves to almost any situation. My wife and I always give much consideration to pictures our youngsters see."

A leading Albany physician, father of a large family, the oldest 13, stated he would prefer not to have his children see the films. He thought they would be disillusioned soon enough, that at their ages they had ideals and concepts which it would be better not to shatter. Some of the incidents pictured might be a little beyond their understanding, he said.

Variety Club Contributes $10,000 to Boys' Camp

ALBANY—The Variety Club has contributed $10,000 this year to the Variety Boys' Club at Thompson Lake. Of this donation $6,000 will go towards a new mess hall and two additional bunk houses and $4,000 will be for the upkeep of the camp.

The boys are selected to attend the summer camp at no cost to themselves. This is the only such camp there is in this area.



GETTING AROUND IN STYLE—Buffalo furnished an armored car for Bob Hope and Jerry Colonna, not that they needed it, of course. The army can get gasoline. At Shea's Buffalo Theatre the comedians used quips freely and bonds sold the same way. Hope said the sales ought to "gladden Morgenthau's heart." Mayor Joseph J. Kelly accompanied them.

Clearance in Hub Case Cut by Appeal Board

NEW YORK—While substantially affirming the arbitrator's decision in the clearance complaint filed by the National Theatre Co., operator of the National Theatre, Boston, against the major distributors, the appeal board has made several additional clearance reductions. The Rivoli Theatre, Inc., and Dudley Amusement Co. were intervenors.

The appeal board dismissed the complaint against Paramount, M-G-M and Warner Bros., as far as the Rivoli Theatre is concerned. Maximum clearance over the National was fixed as follows: By 20th-Fox and RKO, 30 days to the Rivoli, Roxbury; by Loew's and Warner Bros. to the Dudley, Roxbury, on films not played at the Rivoli, 14 days, and on pictures played at the Rivoli, seven days.

The plaintiff stated in the original complaint that clearance in favor of the Dudley and Rivoli was: Warner Bros., 21 days; 20th-Fox, 60 days, and Paramount, Loew's and RKO, 30 days. This clearance was alleged to be unreasonable and request was made to eliminate it or to reduce it to one day.

Loew's Arranging Radio Coverage During Summer

NEW YORK—Extensive radio coverage is being planned by Oscar A. Doob in order to promote the slogan, "The Big Ones Come to Loew's" and to sell the individual Paramount and M-G-M summertime shows.

Schedules being arranged call for representation on local outlets of networks as well as time with leading independent stations. Loew's has used radio intermittently, but this is the first time the company has planned week-after-week programs over a long period.

To Barnstorm Midwest

NEW YORK—Hollywood as well as Broadway will be represented at the luncheon-meeting of the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions at the Hotel Astor on June 5. Purpose of the luncheon, according to Chairman Fredric March, is to report final plans for the committee's caravan which goes out later this month to barnstorm midwest strongholds of isolationist senators for support of United Nations Charter now being drafted at San Francisco.

Paramount International Expands N.Y. Offices

NEW YORK—Paramount International Films, Inc., on the tenth floor of the Paramount Bldg. has begun extensive remodeling of the office space. Considerable footage is being added to the floor space. The remodeling project is one of the first apparent materializations of postwar plans of Paramount International.

NBC Telecaster Returns

NEW YORK—A. Burke Crotty, recently discharged from the army, has returned to NBC's television staff as a producer of field broadcasts. In uniform since June 1943, Crotty had been at NBC for 13 years, starting in 1930 as assistant photo editor and later becoming photo editor of the press department.

Republic's Drive Is Opened

NEW YORK—Republic's Tenth Anniversary drive opened here with the presentation of "Flame of Barbary Coast" at the Globe Theatre. The drive continues through July 27.



IDA LUPINO'S IN—Accompanied by her baggage, the Warner star, who recently finished work in "Pillow to Post," arrived in New York to start a six-week tour of army hospitals.

Cancer Drive Head Lauds Cooperation of Theatres

ALBANY—"Marvelous cooperation" by the managements of the Palace, Strand and Madison theatres in the cancer drive was reported by Mrs. James E. Rooney, chairman of the theatre collection committee. Mrs. Rooney said that the houses not only provided tables and chairs, but permitted complete freedom to her women workers in making lobby collections.

Mrs. Rooney also stated that Francis Cunningham, assistant manager of the Grand, had telephoned her to ask why collections were not being taken at that house. She explained that there were insufficient volunteers to conduct work in more than three theatres. Next year it is planned to cover all film houses here. The theatre collections were "substantial," Mrs. Rooney said.

Saul J. Ullman, upstate Fabian chief, directed all his managers to extend their cooperation in the cancer campaign.

Inducted, J. J. Wright Honored by Colleagues

NEW YORK—John J. Wright, Paramount short subjects department and latest member of the home office to be inducted into the armed forces, was tendered a farewell luncheon at the Dixie Hotel. In the absence of Oscar Morgan, department chief, Stanley R. Chase presented to Wright a wrist watch from his colleagues.

Present to wish Wright a safe and speedy return to civilian life were Arthur Dunne, George Harvey, Lester Coleman, Steve Kolonkoswki, Joe Philipson, Lee Ullman, Mildred Ellman, Alice Gardner, Olive Crisp, E. Ida Wolf, Eleanor Gallagher West, Anna Stumpf and others.

Willis Jones Joins Universal

NEW YORK—Willis N. Jones has joined Universal's publicity department. He was at one time publicity man for heavyweight champion Joe Louis.

King Brothers Guests Of W. Ray Johnston

NEW YORK—Maurice and Franklin King, producers of "Dillinger," were guests of honor at a reception tendered by W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram, at the Warwick Hotel.

Among the theatre and circuit representatives present were Walter Higgins, Si Fabian, Sam Rosen, Bernie Brooks, Al Reid, Fred Schwartz, S. Goodman, William Brandt, Lou Brandt, Harry Brandt, Joe Ingber, John Benas, Ben Joel, Harry Mandel, Frank Damis, Edward Heyman, Leon Netter, Leonard Goldenson, John Nolan, Norman Elson, E. C. Grainger, Nat Fellman, Harry Kalmine, Maurice Maurer, Dave Dietz and others.

Monogram personnel included George Burrows, Howard Stubbins, Mel Hulling, Alton Brody, Norton V. Ritchey, Nellie Witting, Col. Gene Householder, Morey Goldstein, M. E. Morey, Madeline White and J. S. Harrington. The trade press was well represented.

Golden Purchases Option On "Queen for a Day"

NEW YORK—Golden Productions, Inc., has taken an option on the film rights to "Queen for a Day," package radio show produced by Raymond R. Morgan Co. of Los Angeles. Originating in New York, the half-hour program is broadcast five days a week over 260 Mutual and allied stations from coast-to-coast with Bud Williamson as master of ceremonies.

Morgan is associated with Breakfast in Hollywood, Tom Breneman radio show to be produced by Golden as its next release through United Artists. "Queen for a Day" will probably follow, according to Sam Dembow, president.

Loew's Planning Contest For Summer Promotion

NEW YORK—Loew's metropolitan circuit is offering $500 in war bonds as prizes to winners of a movie title contest to help promote its summer shows.

Some 400,000 copies of a 12-page booklet containing the titles of films to be played during July and August are being distributed to patrons. Contestants are required to compose a sentence using three or more of the picture titles.

Dorothy Parker to Speak

NEW YORK—Dorothy Parker will tell of filmdom's participation in a "salute to show business at war," arranged by the Spanish Refugee Appeal for its dinner at the Hotel Astor on Sunday evening, June 10. Other speakers are Margaret Webster, Jose Ferrer, Rex Stout and George Abbott.

Stanley to Get "Ural"

NEW YORK—"The Ural Front," Soviet film depicting the removal of a war plant from Leningrad to the Urals in the early days of the war, will open at the Stanley June 6. Artkino is releasing the picture in the U.S.

Ascap, Hotels in Deal

NEW YORK—Ascap and the American Hotel Ass'n have completed a five-year deal by the terms of which the hostelries receive the right to play music composed by Ascap members.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Roy Rogers Slated For Two Starrers

While there has been no official or definite change in the draft status of Roy Rogers, western star, recent alterations in the selective service policy indicates that he will continue to be available for picture work for some time. Some ten weeks ago, when the Republic actor left on a rodeo and hospital tour, it appeared that he would go into uniform as soon as that trek was completed. Rogers, just returned to Hollywood, is subject to call from his draft board at any time, but the studio feels that there will be time to make at least two more pictures toplining him before he is called—if ever.

First of the duo is "Sunset in El Dorado," set for June 4 start. Dale Evans will have her tenth consecutive role as leading lady opposite Rogers in the new film which will feature George "Gabby" Hayes and the Sons of the Pioneers. Frank McDonald is director; Lou Gray is associate producer.

Randall Faye is scripting an original screenplay, "Rainbow Over Texas," for the second starrer.

War Front Entertainer List Is Growing Daily

Growing daily is the total of Hollywood personalities who will entertain on worldwide war fronts and in liberated area during the next eight weeks. Sixty already have been signed, the Hollywood Victory Committee reports. They are set to headline USO-Camp Shows troupes and to visit hospitals in Europe, the Pacific, Panama and the Caribbean and at northern outposts.

Sonja Henie, Allen Jenkins with a troupe of five entertainers and Frank Sinatra with a group including Fay McKenzie and Phil Silvers were covering the hospital and battlefield circuits by the end of May.

In June the GI theatres will get Amos and Andy, Judith Anderson, the Jack Benny-Paulette Goddard troupe with Larry Adler and Martha Tilton, Ed Gardner with Jinx Falkenburg and a supporting troupe, Bob Hope and Jerry Colonna with several other entertainers, a Kay Kyser troupe, Ella Logan, Rosita Moreno.

Male stars, draft-deferred by General Hershey's new order, enrolled virtually en masse for the entertainment industry's overseas army. Eddie Bracken and Jack Carson, whose draft status recently forced them to cancel proposed tours, announced that they would be available for early departure overseas. Kenny Baker, John Garfield, Alan Ladd and Barry Sullivan enlisted to go on completion of current film or radio commitments to which they were bound except in case of military induction.

Ruth Hussey and Ralph Bellamy launch the second of a series of tours for the Seventh War Loan, opening in the Philadelphia area.

Employe Benefit Plan Gets Treasury Approval

The U.S. treasury department approved a profit-sharing and retirement plan for the employes of the Music Corp. of America and its subsidiaries. The plan, which provides benefits after six years of service and retirement at the age of 55, is retroactive to Jan. 1, 1944. Payment of benefits to employes now in the armed services who have been incapacitated, or to their beneficiaries in case of death, is scheduled to begin immediately.

Trustees of the fund will be Jules C. Stein, Lou Wasserman and Karl Kramer.

Country Gentry Setting For New Stanwyck Film

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, has announced that Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Cummings will costar in "The Bride Wore Boots," a comedy by Dwight Mitchell Wiley which Seton I. Miller will produce.

Scheduled to start in July, the picture will be directed by Irving Pichel, with Patric Knowles in the third principal role.

Dan Bloomberg Now Chief Engineer at Republic

Dan Bloomberg, Republic studio sound director and studio engineer, has been elevated to the post of chief engineer of the studio by Allen Wilson, vice-president. Bloomberg will now head all phases of permanent construction at Republic. His duties will also include the position of technical manager of editorial, film library and process.

Grainger on Studio Visit

James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager of Republic pictures, arrived in Hollywood for a ten-day studio visit. He was here to confer with Herbert Yates in regard to final plans for the worldwide celebration of Republic's tenth anniversary and the forthcoming 1945-46 production schedule.

Republic Signs Rogell

Al Rogell has signed a two-year contract to produce and direct two pictures a year with an option of a third picture each year at Republic.

A Rest for Carole Landis

On the advice of her doctors, Carole Landis is taking a two months' leave of absence from 20th-Fox studios.

To Make "Forgotten Friday"

Louis Edelman, who recently joined Paramount as a producer, is scheduled to make Richard Sales' original, "The Forgotten Friday," as his initial picture.

Strike Is Unchanged After Labor Vote

That labyrinthal jurisdictional mess into which has developed Hollywood's 12-week-old studio strike apparently has been untouched by the outcome of the National Labor Relations Board official election to determine which union is to have jurisdiction over the handful of set decorators, disputed control of whom was the spring board for the walkouts.

There were 112 ballots cast in the election, of which 60 designated Screen Set Designers, Illustrators and Decorators Local 1421, a Conference of Studio Unions group, as the preferred agency. This is the union to which the decorators always have belonged and whose jurisdictional rights were challenged by Property Craftsmen's Local 44, an IATSE affiliate, for which the remainder of the ballots were cast.

All Ballots Challenged

Results of the election immediately became no dice, however, because every ballot cast was challenged on eligibility grounds by either the feuding SPU or IATSE or by labor representatives of the Producers Ass'n.

So, for the time being and for all practical purposes the strike remains status quo. Charges of unfair labor practices were filed before the NLRB against nine major producers by Atty. Frank Pestana on behalf of striking set decorators and painters.

The charges, Pestana said, were based on letters mailed April 4 terminating the employment of the strikers. Pestana holds that the set decorators voted to strike because of refusal of the producers to bargain collectively with the union, and the painters refused subsequently to cross the picket line, as did the carpenters, machinists, electricians and janitors whose unions are not affiliated with the IATSE. He claims that firing of the strikers and their sympathizers is unfair labor practice under the Wagner act.

Hearings on WMC Rulings

At the same time, hearing on appeals from the War Manpower Commission ruling relating to the strike were scheduled for midweek. Findings of the hearing were to be forwarded to Washington for decision.

Weekly statement from the producers touched on another phase of the strike and said:

"Technicolor Motion Picture Corp. has cancelled its agreements with Local 1185 IAM, Local 30 IBEW, Local 946 carpenters, and Local 278 janitors, and has terminated the employment of the members of these unions who have declined to render their services for Technicolor. Their places are being filled by any persons with the proper qualifications to perform the work of machinists, electricians, air-conditioning operators, carpenters or janitors."

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Briefies

Warners

"Movieland Magic," Technicolor short telling the behind-the-scenes story of movie making, set for production by GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD with JACK KERN directing.

Cleffers

Columbia

MARLIN SKILES has been signed to compose the background score for "Over 21."

MARLIN SKILES has been assigned to compose the background score for "I Love a Bandleader."

Warners

Musical score for "Night and Day" to be conducted by RAY HEINDORF.

Loanouts

Columbia

Through deal with Metro, SARA HADEN has been borrowed for cast of "Some Call It Love."

Meggers

Metro

WILLIAM VON WYMETAL, opera director, has been engaged to stage opera sequences in "Two Sisters From Boston."

Megging chore for "What Next, Corporal Hargrove?" set for RICHARD THORPE.

Monogram

PHIL ROSEN has signed to direct "Gregory."

Republic

DORRELL and STEWART McGOWAN, brother associate-producers, are preparing their own original screenplay, "Night Train to Memphis." Roy Acuff has been set for a featured role in the picture, which will start production in June.

Director B. C. SPRINGSTEEN signed to a term deal.

20th Century-Fox

JOHN CROMWELL's first directorial chore will be the Louis D. Lighton production, "Anna and the King of Siam." He had been scheduled to meg Ernst Lubitsch's "Cluny Brown," but the film was postponed due to the unavailability of Jennifer Jones.

Universal

RICHARD WALLACE has been signed to direct the forthcoming Deanna Durbin-Charles Laughton picture, "Catherine the Last."

Options

Columbia

WILLARD PARKER and LARRY PARKS chosen for male leads in "The Kansan."

Signed for Mutual's "Pardon My Past" are DOROTHY LINN and HARRIET DEANE.

LUDWIG DONATH set for spot in "The Kansan."

COULTER IRWIN wins long-term contract.

Femme lead in "Snafu" goes to Newcomer NANETTE PARKS.

EDGAR BUCHANAN inked for a role in "The Kansan."

Loanout deal with Paramount for MARJORIE REYNOLDS to star in the Jules Levey production, "Trail Town," for United Artists, has been canceled, and her next will be a stellar role in "Song of Broadway," scheduled for July.

CHARLES WINNINGER inked for "Some Call It Love."

Metro

Signed to a long termer, CHILL WILLS was handed a top spot in "What Next, Corporal Hargrove?"

LARRY BURKE, young Irish tenor, set for a featured role in "This Strange Adventure."

LEON AMES wins top featured role in "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

Part in "She Went to the Races" handed to BEN CARTER.

MARSHA HUNT cast in title role of "A Letter for Evie."

Monogram

Cast of "The Shanghai Cobra" includes BENSON FONG, MANTAN MORELAND, JOAN BARCLAY, WALTER FENNER, JAMES CARDWELL, GENE STUTENNROTH, JOE DEVLIN, GEORGE CHANDLER, CYRIL DELEVANTI, JANET WARREN and STEPHAN GREGORY.

EDMUND LOWE inked for leading role in "Gregory," Louis Berkoff production.

Paramount

Songstress PENNY PIPER cast in "The Blue Dahlia."

GLORIA HOLDEN inked for top featured role in "Too Good to Be True."

JAMES MILLICAN joins roster of "Too Good to Be True."

Stellar role in "A Tale of Two Cafes" set for BOB GRAHAM.

Newcomer CHARLES VICTOR and ROSE HOBART, who was engaged for the part, join cast of "Too Good to Be True."

RKO Radio

Re-signed to term deals: GLENN VERNON and TOM NOONAN.

ANN JEFFREYS has been cast in the role of Tess Trueheart in "Dick Tracy," first in a series of features based on the Chester Gould comic strip.

Featured part in "Wanderer of the Wasteland" handed to ROBERT CLARKE.

MORGAN CONWAY has been inked to portray "Dick Tracy" in the screen version of the cartoon strip.

Under a supplementary contract JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT will star in three pictures annually, instead of two, the original stipulation.

United Artists

GERALD MOHR has been inked for a role in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow."

JOAN TETZEL, Broadway actress, assigned important spot in David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun."

Universal

JUDY CLARK, comedienne, signed for a featured role in "Uncle Harry."

MARTHA O'DRISCOLL has been set for a top featured role in "Alibi in Ermine."

FRANCHOT TONE signed to costar with SUSANNA FOSTER and LOUISE ALLBRITTON in "Once Upon a Dream."

DAVID BRUCE draws top line in "Once Upon a Dream."

JAN WILEY and CLARA BLANDICK inked for "Frontier Gal."

Warners

JOAN LESLIE has been assigned the role of Marilyn Miller in "Silver Lining," which David Butler will direct.

DAN SEYMOUR inked for cast of "Confidential Agent."

JACK MORTON has been signed to a two-year contract as a stock player.

Ticketed for role in "Confidential Agent" is KATINA PAXINOU.

Scripters

Columbia

BEN MARKSON was signed to do a screen treatment on "Prison Ship," yarn about war in the Pacific, to be produced by Alexis Thurn-Taxis.

GERTRUDE WALKER has been set to do the screen treatment on "Murder by Television," mystery thriller to be produced by Wallace MacDonald.

Metro

DWIGHT TAYLOR signed for screenplay chore of "No Leave, No Love."

Paramount

JACK McCOWAN, will script B. G. DeSylva's "An Honest Woman," new starring vehicle for Betty Hutton.

Universal

BERTRAM MILLHAUSER has been inked to write the screenplay on an untitled story for Deanna Durbin.

ADELE BUFFINGTON and BOB WILLIAMS engaged for original screenplay stints of "Down by the Border" and "Rustler's Roundup," respectively.

Warners

KURT SIODMAK has been signed to write the screenplay of "The Beast With Five Fingers," to be produced by William Jacobs.

Story Buys

Independent

Fred MacMurray, Mutual Productions, has purchased an original screenplay, "For Others, They Sing," from Lou Breslow and Val Burton. Story is a comedy-drama of a material witness who is held in jail while murderers are at liberty. MacMurray will star.

Paramount

"Scruffy," a whimsically spiritual yarn by Harry Segal, has been purchased from the author as a stellar vehicle for Barry Fitzgerald, and is being scripted by Segal.

"Golden Earrings," forthcoming novel by British author Yolanda Foldes, has been purchased in manuscript form. The book is a humorous story about a British colonel who mixes with a band of gypsies on the Continent.

RKO Radio

Purchase of rights to "Die Gently, Stranger," by David Tutaeff, contemporary Russian writer, was reported. Story, originally written as a short story and later expanded into a screenplay, employs water as a device for creating a mood of horror against a background of beaches in Stockholm. Set for Val Lewton's production slate, film calls for an all-star cast.

Republic

Allen Wilson, vice-president, announced purchase of screen rights to Rose Simon Kohn's forthcoming novelette, "Pennies to Burn," in a prepublication deal. Described as an outstanding suspense story with a New York theatrical background, yarn has been handed over to Herman Millakowsky, associate-producer, for production in the near future.

"The Dead of Night," a psychological horror story by Royal Cole and Sherman Lowe, has been purchased.

Technically

Columbia

HAL LE SEUER, former actor, has been signed as makeup artist on Mutual Productions' "Pardon My Past."

Stylist JEAN LOUIS has been borrowed from Columbia by Samuel Goldwyn to design the apparel for his next Technicolor musical, "The Kid From Brooklyn."

GEORGE MEEHAN set as chief cameraman for "The Kansan."

Metro

"Two Sisters From Boston" to have EDDIE WOEHLER as unit manager.

Monogram

HARRY NEWMAN will undertake chore of cameraman on "Allotment Wives, Inc.," to be produced by Jeffrey Bernerd and Kay Francis.

Paramount

EDITH HEAD will style the feminine wardrobes for Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies."

HERMES PAN has been borrowed from Metro to stage the dance numbers for "Blue Skies."

C. C. COLEMAN appointed as assistant director on "Blue Skies."

Republic

LARRY CEBALLOS has been assigned to direct the musical numbers in "Down Tahiti Way."

United Artists

FELIX "FEFE" FERRY, producer of Monte Carlo, Paris and London revues, has been signed by Sol Lesser to act as talent coordinator for "Paris Canteen," lining up the American British and French stars which will headline this international musical.

Title Chance

RKO Radio

The final title for Eddie Cantor's forthcoming western musical will be SHOW BUSINESS OUT WEST.

Travel by Film Chiefs Slumps to Former Levels

Travel by industry brass hats, after showing signs for a couple of weeks of surging upward toward prewar levels, again sunk to the low ebb at which restricted accommodations have held it during recent months. Paramount's red carpet was given the largest workout.

Hal Wallis trained in from New York following two weeks of conferences with Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, regarding releasing plans for his three initial share-cropping pictures for that company. Following him by a couple of days and here for huddles came his New York associate, Joseph Hazen. Richard Mealand, head of Paramount studio's story and writing departments, left for Gotham on business. S. Ganguli, general sales manager for Paramount in India, Burma and Ceylon, arrived from New York on his first visit to the studio. Ganguli flew to New York from Bombay early in May.

With the conclusion of the Monogram board of directors' meeting in Chicago, W. Ray Johnston, George D. Burrows, Maurice and Franklin King, Howard Stubbins and Mel Hulling proceeded to New York. Of the other remaining members of the western contingent, Trem Carr returned to Hollywood as did Scott R. Dunlap and George B. West.

Louis B. Mayer and Howard Strickling checked in at Metro studio after spending two weeks in New York. Dr. Paul Koretz, of Metro's original story propjects department, left for New York on a two-week business trip.

Winfield Sheehan departed for Manhattan toting a print of the feature he recently finished for 20th-Fox distribution.

In from New York for business talks was Jake Milstein.

Premieres Prove Best Bond Sales Devices

LOS ANGELES—Bond premieres continue to be the best bond-selling device in this community and southern California showmen are playing them across the board in their all-out effort to reach their quota in the Seventh War Loan drive.

Fourth of such events for Hollywood Blvd. has been set with the Sealtest Village Store program presenting Joan Davis with Jack Haley, scheduled for Warners' Hollywood Theatre, Thursday, June 7, at 6:30 p. m. The other part of the show will be followed by an important studio feature preview. Tickets were made available to bond purchasers at all Hollywood Boulevard stores, banks and theatres.

First week's report of bond sales in theatres of southern California in Seventh campaign showed an increase in both bond sales and gross money over first week's figures of the Sixth War Loan, according to Gus Metzger, theatre WFC chairman.

In the first week of the Seventh a grand total of 66,202 bonds were sold throughout southern California for a money total of $6,-613,016. The Sixth at the same mark had sold 23,141 bonds for a total of $2,637,664.

Third radio-screen bond premiere for Hollywood Boulevard featured the Hoagy Carmichael show, Something New. It was staged at the Egyptian Theatre.

LOS ANGELES

Culver City's Meralta Theatre, which burned about two years ago, is being readied for reopening by Pearl Merrill and Laura Peralta . . . Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dixson of the Dixson Theatre Service, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary recently . . . Newton Jacobs, RKO manager in San Francisco, was vacationing in Los Angeles, his former home.

After a year with Patton's Third army in Germany, Lester Taylor, son of Harry Taylor (Poppers Supply Co.), was recently made a captain . . . Lew Decker, Palms Theatre manager, expects to be inducted into the army June 14 . . . Lieut. Henry Turkel, formerly with the Eastland Theatre, is now stationed at Sawtelle Veterans' Hospital where he is serving as a doctor.

Among those booking on the Row were: Charles Simmons, Needle Theatre, Needles; Bill Knotts, Caven rancher and theatre owner; Mrs. Jennie Dodge, owner of the Mayfair in Ventura; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Lemucchi and son, Ray, of Arvin, Oildale and Bakersfield, and Johnny Bannerman, Los Angeles.

Charles Skouras to Attend Loma Theatre Opening

LOS ANGELES—Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres head, returned from a two-week business trip to New York and left immediately for San Diego with a group of Fox West Coast executives to participate in the opening of the new Loma Theatre there. The house was erected under priorities to serve the Loma Vista residential section.

To Honor Republic's Tenth

LOS ANGELES—In honor of Republic's tenth anniversary celebration, Fox West Coast Theatres will present two of that studio's pictures, "Flame of the Barbary Coast" and "Earl Carroll's Vanities," at the Fox Wilshire, Guild and United Artists theatres starting May 31.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

PRODUCERS seem intent upon keeping alive and kicking the Bard's well-known query, "What's in a name?"

Currently are raging several of those teacup tempests which stem from controversies over claimed rights to motion picture titles.

Independent Producer David L. Loew and the Freres Warner are engaged in one such embroilment. Loew recently formed a new company, Loma Vista Films, in association with the Marx Brothers, and announced that its initial effort would be a zany comedy titled "A Night in Casablanca," to star Groucho, Harpo and Chico of the Marx clan. Picture will be for United Artists release.

Immediately, the Warners filed a protest with the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, claiming that their Academy Award winning "Casablanca" is still in circulation and that the proposed Marx starrer, because of smilarity of title, would impair future revenues of the Warner feature.

On the surface, the remonstrance from the Burbank producers is inconsistent with industry past performances, including their own. Casablanca is a place on the world's map, very much in the limelight during the last three years, just like Berlin, Tokyo, Burma and scores of other geographical designations. As such, probably its use in any form definitely is in public domain.

The same Warners produced "Objective, Burma!" More or less contemporary were Universal's "Burma Convoy," Metro's "A Yank on the Burma Road," PRC's "Bombs Over Burma" and Paramount's "Moon Over Burma."

Then consider the same outfit's "Destination Tokyo" which was followed by Metro's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo." At present Pine and Thomas are launching a feature titled "Tokyo Rose." And to top it all, Warners themselves, have just announced plans to produce "Hotel Tokyo" as a timely successor to its recently-released "Hotel Berlin."

In view of which, it would appear that they might encounter considerable difficulty in establishing their exclusive rights—either ethically or legally—to Casablanca, or variations thereof, as a motion picture title.

Meanwhile, the conflict has furnished bountiful publicity ammunition for the proposed Loew-Marx film, a situation of which George Glass, free-lancer handling their publicity, was quick to take advantages.

Or maybe that's the main idea behind the controversy. Such deals to aid and abet the gentle art of pressagentry have not been entirely unknown in the past.

In which event, this space becomes just another sucker for a left hook.

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Going into production at Universal is "Catherine the Last."

But the studio made the reviewers, showmen and the public really happy when it recently announced the Andrew Sisters—the last.

→

During the past several weeks news morsels from major publicity departments have concerned themselves with such as "Alexis Smith entertained Mme. Ali Jawdat and Mlle. Selma Jawdat, wife and daughter of the Minister of Ivak" . . . "Guests at Metro studio were Abol Ghassem Amini, publisher-editor of Omid, and member of Iranian Parliament; Abbas Mass'udi, publisher-editor of Ettelaat, Journal de Teheran, Samedi and Yadegar, and member of Iranian Parliament; Dr. Mostafa Mesbahzadeh, editor of Ekaihan, and Professor of Law at University of Teheran; and Majid Movaqar, publisher-editor of Mehre Iran" . . . "Professors I. E. Goron, I. S. Dzhigit and M. K. Kalinin, USSR government scientists, were guests of Humphrey Bogart."

It's the backwash of the United Nations San Francisco conference, of course. But the publicists will be glad when it's all over. Correct spelling of the visitors' names and connections is a tough chore—and, what's more, it's difficult for a quick gander to determine who's a producer and who's a guest.

→

Paramount has purchased screen rights to "Golden Earrings."

The story department will have to guard them closely or Blurber George Brown will have them in the noses of his vassals.

→

"THE BIG SLEEP IS
AT COLUMBIA TODAY"
—Whitney Bolton headline

At long last, the publicity department gets recognition.

→

For a role in "The Robe," Director Mervyn LeRoy has signed Don Avalier, Lucey's head waiter.

His past experience with cover charges should be valuable.

→

Like a fighter who keeps slugging even though it occasionally exposes his chin, is Behemoth of Blurb Russell Birdwell. He gets clipped on the button periodically, but just as often he lands a haymaker that knocks for a loop other industry press agents, affiliated and independent.

Such a knockout by the B. of B. was scored with the appearance of the June 2 issue of Collier's magazine, the cover of which carried a picture of Martha Tilton, a Birdwell client. Reportedly, Miss Tilton is the first living personality ever to decorate the widely-read publication's cover.

Painted by Lieut. Seymour Thompson, USNR, from a photograph of Miss Tilton, the cover depicts the songstress smashing a piggy-bank to buy a war bond in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive.

But that ain't all. Birdwell reveals that his organization sold the editors of Collier's the idea of using three additional of his clients in the same spot some time during the next several weeks. They will be Carole Landis, Ted Donaldson, and Toni 7.

And the payoff: The B. of B. confesses, with uncharacteristic modesty, that it was his wife who convinced the magazine that motion picture personalities should rate an occasional cover.

Be that as it may, the coup is praiseworthy for its enterprise and, further, should earn the considerable gratitude of the praise fraternity for exploring and opening a new and lush outlet for motion picture personality art.

SEATTLE

Danny Matin, recently discharged from the navy, was visiting friends on Filmrow. He now is located in Portland . . . Jo Chadwick was back at RKO after a three-month absence . . . Al and Mrs. Forman were visitors of brother Bill Forman. Dorothy, Bill's wife, was in the hospital recovering from an operation.

Jerry Lubin, auditor for Warners, went to Minneapolis . . . Lloyd Lamb was host to the Frank L. Newmans, senior and junior, on his boat . . . Phyllis Navarre was in the hospital with a badly sprained ankle . . . Georgia Watkins, secretary to Vic Gauntlett, made her first visit to the Rendezvous for the Blair reception.

Frank Jenkins was bound for Spokane, then Portland . . . The Eldon Pollocks, senior and junior, were busy booking on the Row . . . Sammy Siegel was en route to Portland and San Francisco . . . L. H. and Frances Theuerkauk have purchased a house boat on Lake Union.

Russell Brown, who has been managing the D&R Theatre in Aberdeen, has been transferred to the Liberty in Portland . . . Joe Rosenfield was in from Spokane interviewing folk . . . Chet and Sue Nilsson of Tacoma were arranging bookings.

Mickey De Leo was in from Port Townsend . . . Doc Bonallie was here from Friday Harbor . . . Leonard Raatz, out of the navy, now selling film again for 20th-Fox . . . Mike Barovic, prominent exhibitor, was back from San Francisco, where he visited with the Jugoslav delegation at the United Nations conference.

Morty Endert, formerly with Warners, was killed in Germany . . . Roy Brown of Evergreen left for Los Angeles. He is a film buyer . . . Maj. and Mrs. Charles Galbraith were guests of Art and Gladness Gollofon . . . Howard McBride was over from Spokane.

Jake Schwartz, New York, was visiting Vete Stewart . . . Dan Putnam jr., Bremerton, reports business good at the new Bay Theatre of which he is manager . . . Herb Kaufman, local manager for Paramount, went to Los Angeles for a conference on short subjects.

Dick Schmidt and his office staff gave a dinner in honor of Elizabeth Teague, senior employe of the army motion picture service. Dick is manager of the AMPS . . . Arthur Aronson, has established a Seattle branch of the Hollywood Advertising Agency. Don Beckman, formerly with Art and later with National Screen, will be the local manager for the new agency, which specializes in usherettes uniforms.

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"Horseshoe" Scores In Los Angeles Run

LOS ANGELES—Standout best grossers among the first run bills were 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," scoring 200 at the Chinese, State and Uptown theatres.

(Average is 100)

Chinese, State and Uptown—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Escape in the Fog** (Col).....200
Downtown and Hollywood Paramounts—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep), 3rd wk. 76
Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz—**The Clock** (M-G-M) 150
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk...100
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Counter-Attack** (Col), 2nd wk.; **I'll Tell the World** (Univ)..... 85
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd wk..... 90

"Diamond Horseshoe" Goes Over Big In Denver; Tabor Hits 300 Mark

DENVER—"Diamond Horseshoe" and "GI Honeymoon," showing at the Denver, Esquire and Webber, had no trouble in grossing top money here, although the Tabor ran up a huge percentage with the help of an A. B. Marcus stage show, "La Vie Paree," in its first run showing of "Silent Barriers."

Aladdin—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk.....150
Denham—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd wk.; **High Powered** (Para) 80
Denver, Esquire and Webber—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono).....193
Orpheum—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 150
Paramount—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Thoroughbreds** (Rep) 140
Rialto—**Alcatraz to Berlin** (FC); **Crazy Knights** (Mono) 125
Tabor—**Silent Barriers** (FC), plus stage show..... 300

"Blood on the Sun" to First Place In Third Week at San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO—"Blood on the Sun," in its third week at the United Artists, came into first place.

Esquire—**Dillinger** (Mono); **Phantom of 42nd Street** (PRC), 2nd wk. 135
Fox—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep) 140
Golden Gate—**The Body Snatchers** (RKO), plus stage show 140
Orpheum—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ), 2nd wk. 110
Paramount—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep) 130
State—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB); **What a Blonde** (RKO), 4th wk. 120
St. Francis—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono), 2nd wk.....130
Tivoli—Same as Esquire 135
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 3rd wk.....140
Warfield—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), 3rd wk.....120

Warm Weather, Army Stage Show Stiff Competition in Seattle Area

SEATTLE — Real summer weather broke last week and many folks found their way to the beaches. The film attractions barely held their own.

Blue Mouse—**Practically Yours** (Para); **It's in the Bag** (UA), 3rd d. t. wk. 130
Fifth Avenue—**The Unseen** (Para); **Scared Stiff** (Para) 100
Liberty—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 140
Music Box—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 120
Music Hall—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Betrayal From the East** (RKO).....100
Orpheum—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk.....150
Palomar—**Big Bonanza** (Rep), plus stage show.....150
Paramount—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 150

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SAN FRANCISCO

Dan McLean is back greeting patrons at his Embassy Theatre after nearly three years in the coast guard . . . Also back home is Lieut. Jean Pierre Aumont. Aumont and wife, Maria Montez, are in San Francisco for a short visit. They had been married only two months in 1943 before Aumont was sent overseas.

Row Ramblings: "Diamond Horseshoe" was slated for a war bond premiere at the State.

Jean Rilovich, Western Theatrical Equipment Co., was given a surprise birthday party at the office. It was her 21st . . . Rose Golik of the same office returned from attending her sister's wedding in Seattle . . . A. Keith Snyder, Western manager, is going on a vacation to the Redwoods.

Eleanor Lavelle, secretary to Newton Jacobs, RKO manager, will leave for Seattle soon. Mrs. Sally Thompson will replace her . . . Florence Allingham celebrated her birthday recently . . . Harry Spauling, head shipper for RKO, received his 1A classification, then took a sigh of relief when the "over 30" rule was announced . . . Newton "Red" Jacobs spends his Thursday nights at Stage Door Canteen. He is area chairman for the bond drive.

PORTLAND

The war activities report from Mark Cory revealed that Portland had passed the record set on the Sixth War Loan drive with more premieres, kiddie shows, etc., lined up. In addition, a large number of screening room previews have been arranged, which will result in the sale of over three million dollars in bonds, half of which will be E series.

Mark Cory, besides all of his enthusiasm in this Seventh War Loan drive, still found time to pass out cigars. He is a grandfather again. His son, Maj. Mark Cory jr., is now stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., after combat duty overseas.

California Chamber of Commerce please note: The sun has been shining all day, and if that isn't a treat after the "liquid sunshine" we've been having, ask any of the Filmrow gang. Seen enjoying the nice weather were Carl Porter from Salem and Claude Smith from Tillamook.

Among exhibitors seen on Filmrow the last week were Charlie Whiteside from Corvallis; Bill Ripley, Longview, Wash., and Bill Hibbert, Sheridan. Ripley has sold the Columbia and Longview theatres in Longview, as well as the Liberty in Kelso to the John Danz circuit.

In the last BOXOFFICE issue, we reported that RKO had a new assistant shipper, Lloyd McCullough. Due to the resignation of Richard Gitschlag, Lloyd will not be assistant booker. "Dick" is leaving for Oregon State College in a few weeks to acquire some "book larnin'."

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St. Louis Bond Sales One-Third of Quota

ST. LOUIS—War bond purchases in St. Louis last week had reached a total of $51,185,500, or 32.6 per cent of the quota assigned to St. Louis and St. Louis County. The purchases of E bonds, however, have amounted to only $9,156,850, or 22 per cent of the $41,557,491 goal.

Tickets for the Eddie Cantor war bond show at the Kiel Auditorium May 29 now are being distributed through 41 motion picture theatres of the city and county that are authorized E bonds sales agencies. Persons buying E bonds are entitled to tickets to the Cantor show.

Appellate Judges Named For Plagiarism Review

ST. LOUIS — The United States circuit court of appeals has assigned the case of 20th-Fox Film Corp. vs. Marie Cooper Oehler Dieckhaus Swanson (on appeal from a decision of Judge George H. Moore in favor of Mrs. Swanson in her plagiarism suit against the film company) to Judges Sanborn, Woodrough and Thomas.

The appellate court has entered an order for the original depositions with exhibits to be made a part of transcript of record on appeal on petition of appellant and with the consent of counsel for the original plaintiff, who charged that the motion picture "Alexander's Ragtime Band" was based in important details on her unpublished novel, "Love Girl." Since the motion picture grossed $5,000,000 the author may win 20 per cent of the net profit of the production should the higher courts uphold Judge Moore's findings.

Asphalt Tile Forms Carpet Substitute in Many Houses

CHICAGO — Theatres here were awaiting 15,000 yards of carpet, according to Joe Donovan of the Slater Co. Normal carpet requirements are about 10,000 yards, he said. His firm specializes in asphalt title for lobbies which now is being used in many houses as a carpet substitute.

Mrs. Minnie Fensin Dies

CHICAGO—Mrs. Minnie B. Fensin, widow of the late Morris Fensin and mother of Morton L. and Erwin R. Fensin of the Fensin Seating Co., died at her home here Sunday, May 27.

Partners of Paramount Study Video Progress

Crosby-Hope Golf Match Draws 30,000 in Chicago

Chicago—Thirty thousand fans of assorted ages followed Bing Crosby and Bob Hope around Tam O'Shanter golf course last Saturday when the two film favorites played an exhibition match for charity. The entire proceeds went to the service men's rehabilitation fund sponsored by the PGA.

Before the match the two appeared at Vaughan General and at Hines Memorial hospitals, where they entertained disabled vets and made their usual tremendous hit. Crosby teamed with the veteran amateur Chick Evans of Edgewater Golf Club, while Hope was a partner of Jimmy Hines of the PGA executive staff. Who won? . . . who cares?

DeVry Aides to Supervise Visual Education Courses

CHICAGO—C. R. Crakes, director of the visual films department of the DeVry Corp., has planned a heavy program for the summer. He will be at Oklahoma Agricultural College, Stillwater, Okla., the week of June 13, lecturing on visual education programs, then will go to Valley City, N. D., June 18; Dickinson, June 19, and Minot June 21 to talk at North Dakota teachers' colleges.

From June 25 to August 3 he will supervise visual teaching at the Northwestern University summer school here, and from August 6 to 18 he will do the same thing at Leland Stanford University.

Miss Norman Barts, assistant director at DeVry's, will be at Mount St. Mary College, Los Angeles, July 22 to 28.

Louis Lamm Joins S&M As Manager of Brin

MILWAUKEE—Another step in postwar expansion has been taken by Ben Marcus, president of the S&M circuit, with the addition of Louis Lamm to his staff as manager of the Brin Theatre, Appleton.

Lamm formerly was with the larger circuits in the state in theatre management.

CHICAGO — Postwar theatre architecture, with accent on television as a coming entertainment medium, was the chief topic at a meeting of Paramount officials at the Edgewater Beach Hotel here last week. It was attended by divisional circuit heads from various parts of the country.

An elaborate receiving set was set up in the hotel and the executives witnessed a special television broadcast from WBKB, owned by the Balaban & Katz Corp., Paramount affiliate. The progress of the medium was discussed at a round table, with Lieut. Comdr. William Eddy, navy video expert, and Elmer Upton, manager of B&K's television station, leading the discourse.

The closed meeting also had on its agenda the theatre divorcement issue which now is up for airing in a consent decree trial in New York.

Among the representatives of the 35 Paramount circuit affiliates who attended the four-day session were John Balaban, B&K; Robert J. O'Donnell, general manager of Interstate, Texas; Sam Pinanski, M&P Theatres; Jules J. Rubens, head of Great States; John Friedl, Minneapolis; Earl Hudson, Detroit; Carl Hoblitzelle, Texas; Frank Walker, Ben Trustman, E. V. Richards, J. J. Fitzgibbons, R. B. Wilby, A. H. Higgenbotham, H. F. Kincey, G. Ralph Branton, A. H. Blank and M. J. Mullin.

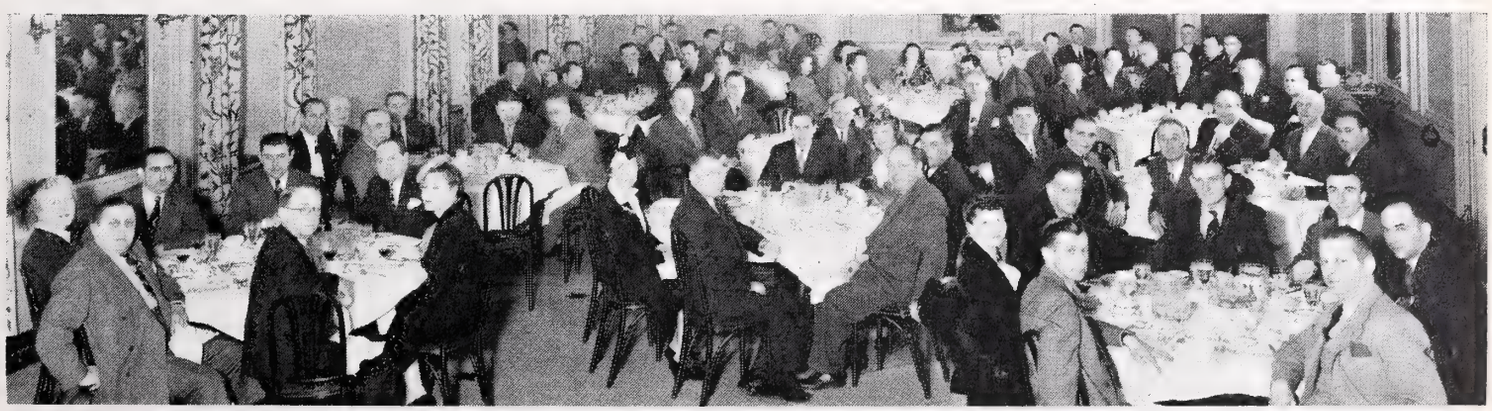
The New York home office delegation included Leonard Goldenson, president; Leon Netter and Edward L. Hyman.

Exhibitor to Wisconsin Rotary Club Top Post

MILWAUKEE — William L. Ainsworth, Fond Du Lac independent exhibitor, has been elected district governor for the Rotary Club for central and southern Wisconsin. John P. Adler, now president of the ITO for Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, was Rotary district governor for northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan last year. Thus two theatre men have held high offices in the Rotary organization in two successive years.

Alexis Smith Opposite Cary Grant

Alexis Smith has been given the feminine lead opposite Cary Grant in "Night and Day," a Warner production.



TRIBUTES FOR HARRY—Here is seen the group which attended the luncheon at Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee, honoring Harry Shumow, Milwaukee Metro manager, who departs on leave shortly. At this meeting attended by Sam Shirley and John Flynn, Metro executives, Ralph N. Maw, new Metro district manager, and John G. Kemptgen, who takes over as manager at Milwaukee, were introduced.

CHICAGO

Every day's a holiday in Chicago now, as far as shindigs, banners, parades and what-have-you are concerned. The bond drive, bringing scores of film stars this way; the Chicago reception for General Clark May 30, the Truman celebration and the bond premieres—with a record-breaker at the B&K Chicago—have everyone as dizzy as a two-headed guy at a mermaids' convention.

Mort Van Praag, who resigned from PRC to open his own exchange, was given a send-off by Henri Elman and the office staff, including Alice Dubin and the other gals. Mort was presented a gift plus lots of good wishes. Mike Gottshaw, formerly with Film Classics, will now handle sales for PRC in the north-side and suburban area.

Norm Kassel figures that Danny Kaye's new picture, "Wonder Man," due to open at the Woods the middle of June, will probably run 44 weeks, for Danny's other hit, "Up in Arms," ran 22 and in this new one, Danny is twins!

Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M chief, accompanied by his personal physician, was a stopover visitor on his way west . . . Glorya Holtzman, editor of the I. & I. Contract, has received the news Kenny Yeater, former manager of the Lake for Manta & Rose, has been released from a German prison camp and is homeward bound. The names of Roy Boughammer, formerly of the Indiana staff at Indiana Harbor, and George Karm, of the Lake Theatre staff, have been added to the Manta & Rose service plaque. It now bears 100 names of employes serving Uncle Sam.

A. J. "Happy" Meininger, former manager of the Garrick and now at the Strand for Telenews in Cincinnati, has received word that his son A. J. jr. was wounded in action in Germany and is hospitalized in England. Happy's pals remember the lad when he served as a page for the Great States Rialto in Elgin . . . Charles Shapiro, Essaness supervisor, is back from Baltimore where he visited his son Howard in the navy at that port.

Al Burne, secretary to John Balaban, is back on the job after an illness. Carl Guldager, film critic of the Daily News, is doing the This Is Chicago gossip column and if he continues the paper will name a new critic.

William Waskow, formerly with the B&K Iris, was recently liberated from a Nazi prison camp . . . MacNeill Smith, B&K Gateway employe, was in Florida for a vacation . . . Bogy and Baby Bogart copped more white space in the dailies last week than bonds and bombings.

Irving Mack was host to Harold Schwarz, Tower Pictures Co., Dallas, Tex. . . . Theatre owners are having the shorts—figuratively and literally. Short of features, they're presenting lots of shorts—some of them oldies but good enough for a second airing . . . It cost the film houses something like $20,000 to get the marquees back into condition after the long brownout and the heavy weather here.

Jimmy "The Corn Is Green" Savage says a vegetarian is a fellow who was out-pointed in an argument with his butcher . . . Swift & Co. has had a film made of the life of the founder of the packing company which has grown up with Chicago, called "Red Wagon." It was shown to the press, Swift staff members and other invited guests at the Morrison Hotel May 28. It was produced by American Film Center, N. Y., and features John Whitney, who was in "The Sullivans," "Wilson" and other films, and Barbara Woodell, who had a part in "Dorian Gray" and "Lady, Let's Dance."

Claude Morris, the Goldwyn tub thumber, is pounding away on the coming Kaye film, "Wonder Man." Danny will open the war chest drive, starting September 28, via a radio show set for the Coliseum. After the broadcast he will put on another show for the workers on the fund-raising campaign . . . When Bing Crosby was here last week for his charity golf match with Bob Hope he made a record to be used for the June 6 Father's Day bond drive.

Henry Kahn, M-G-M local sales head, is in New York for a confab . . . Early patrons of the Oriental Friday last week saw "Delightfully Dangerous" on the screen. "Brewsters Millions" was advertised on the marquee, due to a mixup on the film can labels.

Mrs. Lillian Russell, cashier at the B&K Norshore, is telling about her brother, Gorgon Hinsley, a naval sergeant who, when flying over Iwo Jima not long ago, dropped a letter addressed to his brother Charles, a marine stationed on the island and (believe it or not) the brother found the letter! . . . Eddie Kramer, assistant manager of the Gateway, has resigned.

Jack Warner was in briefly, going west to east . . . Paul Small, coast producer, was here talking over films with Sophie Tucker . . . Madeline Woods is losing her temper and her mind (but no weight) with the details of the Truman celebration and the Gen. Mark Clark reception three days later, plus her other publicity jobs . . . Ed Walton, Republic's eastern executive who formerly was here, was in for a visit with Bill Baker, Republic's local chief and Bill Field, the new exchange manager.

Warners screened "Thrill of a Romance" and "Blood on the Sun" in its private showroom last week with admission by bonds. Pearl White, secretary to James Coston, sold $55,000 worth, which was mighty fine! . . . Bob Hickey asked the waitress at Spectors why the white plate special was ten cents more than the blue plate ditto and the Goddess of Grub cracked: "Because we gotta wash the white plate."

Frank Smith, RKO local chief, was back from a New York trip in time to help with the Truman show, the rally in Soldier Field which will feature Henry Wallace and others, as well as get ready for the Palace bond premiere . . . Erwin Fensin, the seating mogul, has pulled up another chair in his household for his new baby daughter Maureen, the second little girl . . . Chico Marx was in from the coast after going over the script which will unite him and his brothers in a film called by this bewildering mouthful: "Casablanca, 1946, A. B."

Don McGuire, young film personality, came in from Hollywood to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Rose, last week; met Nancy Jacobson, daughter of Richard H. Jacobson, publisher of Standard Opinion, and they were wed! . . . Ben Cohen, manager of WB Frolic, is vacationing in Florida . . . E. M. Glucksman is back from a business trip to New York and Washington and is about to make another streamlined feature, "Boogie Woogie Blues." The first two he made are doing okay. He is also readying a full-length feature, untitled. All have Negro casts.

Maurice Bergman, eastern ad and publicity director for Universal, was in from New York to cut it up with Ben Katz, local Universal publicist, and they set up a new 15-minute radio series to boost coming product in Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Detroit . . . James Coston, Sam Shirley, Jack Flynn and Tom Connors have gone on a fishing trip to Canada. Also in the party are Walter Immerman, Tom Flannery and Ralph Branton.

Charles Ryan, Warner circuit executive, received a letter from his son Kenny in Italy with the 85th division, who says he expects to be transferred to the CBI front . . . Jack Hess, publicist for Barger's Rialto, the drive-in and other amusement accounts, has been named local editor for the new Radio Reporter & Time Buyers Guide . . . Bob Hope and Bing Crosby renewed acquaintance with lots of wounded vets they had met overseas when the two actors, golfers and funsters performed last Saturday at Vaughan General Hospital.

Herb Elisburg and his wife will be in New York June 8. Herb will have a business confab with Sam Cummings, M. D. Sackett and Max Rosenberg on picture deals . . . Variety Club had a big crowd at its bingo party last Saturday night, which was topped off with a buffet spread.

Walter Pidgeon is bond-driving in these parts. He dropped into the Associated American Artists galleries Friday coincident with the arrival of a new painting called, oddly enough, "Pigeon Fancier" . . . Charles Victor, former radio actor here and for three years in the army air force, has a Paramount contract and is being tested for "Calcutta."

Switch at Crawfordsville

CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND.—Cook & Rayburn have acquired the lease on the Ritz here. Maurice Stribling formerly operated the house.

Reopen at Edinburg, Ind.

EDINBURG, IND.—The Pixy Theatre here, rebuilt following a fire last June, has reopened under the direction of Owner J. B. Sconce.

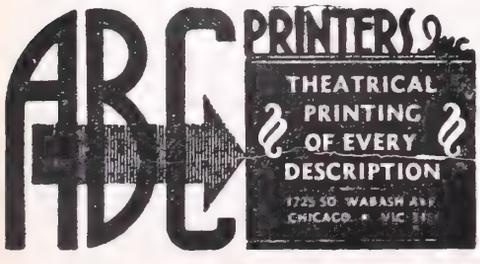
Freed in Germany

INDIANAPOLIS—Lieut. Leon J. Cooning jr. and Pvt. John L. Phillips, both former employes at the RCA plant here, were liberated from a German prison camp April 29 and are on their way home . . . Sgt. Charles Spargur, a former employe at the 20th-Fox, was liberated March 22 from a German camp.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

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Van Johnson Film Sets Chicago Pace

CHICAGO—With State St. resembling a midway, the public has been enticed to the loop and thence, by good attractions, into the theatres. The Chicago and Oriental scored well with good pictures and excellent stage shows, while the Woods with a pair of chillers and the Palace with "Salome—Where She Danced" did a hefty business. The holdovers, too, did above average.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 6th wk.....105
Chicago—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), plus stage show 125
Garrick—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....100
Grand—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of the Sarong** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk.....105
Oriental—**Brewsters Millions** (UA), plus stage show 120
Palace—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ) 110
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 105
State-Lake—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passions** (PRC), 21st wk. 105
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 110
Woods—**Vampire's Ghost** (Rep); **Phantom Speaks** (Rep) 110
World Playhouse—**Wuthering Heights** (FC), reissue 105

Indianapolis Film Business A Little on the Off Side

INDIANAPOLIS—Business was a little on the off side last week and grosses not so good. "Salty O'Rourke," playing single at the Indiana, topped the list. While the weather was cool it did not effect amusement parks, which reported a big attendance.

Alamo—**Marked for Murder** (PRC); **Unwritten Code** (Col) 90
Circle—**Guest in the House** (UA); **Thoroughbreds** (Rep) 95
Indiana—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Tomorrow the World** (UA).....115
Loew's—**Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col).....90
Lyric—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk.....90

"Practically Yours" Brings Average Grosses in Dull Milwaukee Week

MILWAUKEE—"Practically Yours" registered average business here as did "The Enchanted Cottage" in the second week, and "National Velvet" in its third week.

Alhambra—**The Vampire's Ghost** (Rep); **The Phantom Speaks** (Rep) 95
Palace—**Practically Yours** (Para); **High Powered** (Para) 100
Riverside—**Patrick, the Great** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ) 100
Strand—**National Velvet** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Warner—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk.; **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep) 100
Wisconsin—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Dangerous Passage** (Para), 2nd wk. 100

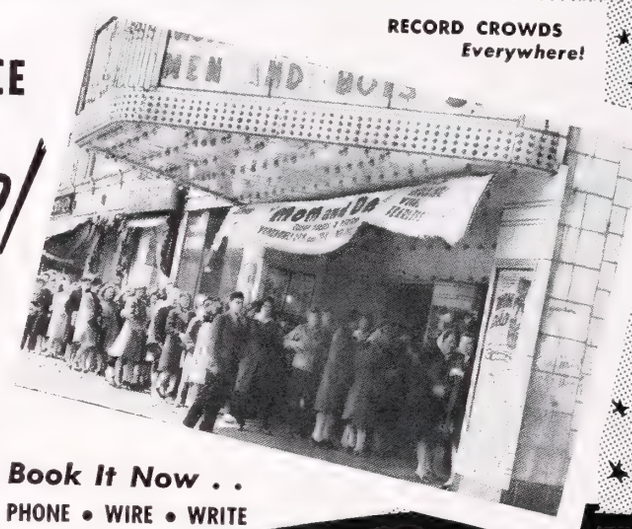
18-Year-Old Singer Signs Long Term

Dorothy Porter, 18-year-old songstress, has been signed to a long-term contract at Paramount. Her first screen appearance will be as costar with Bob Graham in "A Tale of Two Cafes."

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

AN EARLY matinee lineup welcomed "MOM AND DAD" to the Tivoli Theatre, Gary, Ind. It broke the house record on Wednesday — opening day — and Marc Wolf, head of the Y. & W. circuit dated it in every town.



RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

HYGIENIC PRODUCTIONS
Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Mel Mednikow and Bride Are Milwaukee Visitors

MILWAUKEE—Sgt. Mel Mednikow, son of Johnny Mednikow, National Screen branch manager in Milwaukee, and his new bride were snapped by the BOXOFFICE correspondent when the duo were in town. Mel was in show business here before entering the armed forces and recently returned from overseas.



MEL MEDNIKOW

He expects to spend some more time in the service, however, this time in the United States, specifically at a training center in Nebraska.

Predict Television Will Strengthen World Peace

From Southern Edition

NEW ORLEANS—That television will be one of the greatest forces for strengthening world understanding and peace was predicted here by Dr. J. Marino Inchaustegui, consul of the Dominican republic and professor of Spanish at Loyola University. He returned here from the international educational assembly held in New York to draft measures for presentation at the United Nations conference in San Francisco.

"We realize," Inchaustegui said, "that through the use of television the hundreds of millions of illiterate throughout the world can hear and see what they can not read. We know that human beings learn faster through their eyes and ears than any other way. Children can begin their education two years earlier because the teaching of a child through pictures and sounds will be far less strenuous.

"The entire world will be a vast school room for we are led to believe that development of television has come through experiments for war," the professor said.

Benefit Fund Established As Memorial to Hague

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Canadian Picture Pioneers, as a tribute to the memory of Clair Hague, late president of the organization, announced establishment of the Clair Hague memorial benefit fund, proceeds of which are to be devoted to those of the film industry who fall upon dark days. J. J. Fitzgibbons of FPC and Paul L. Nathanson of Odeon have provided a number of annual theatre passes for different localities which are to be prizes in raffles for the fund, which already has reached a substantial figure through private donations.

In charge of arrangements are Oscar R. Hanson, Clare Appel, Jack Arthur and Ben Cronk, all of whom were closely associated with Clair Hague for many years in trade and philanthropic meaures.

Altec Reports Renewals

CHICAGO—Fox Wolverine circuit has renewed agreements with Altec for servicing its theatres in Hancock, Iron Mountain, Menominee, Laurium and Houghton, Mich. Renewals for Fox Wisconsin Theatres on the Fox and Strand theatres, Marinette, have also been received.

To Reopen at Brazil

BRAZIL, IND.—Joseph McKinley will reopen the Fox Theatre here June 22.

Film Clearance Cases Set for June Hearing

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis tribunal of the American Arbitration Ass'n has announced new settings for unreasonable clearance complaints pending here against members of the Big Five.

The case involving the Stadium Theatre, Caruthersville, Mo., will come up before Arbiter Joseph T. Davis of St. Louis June 18, while the complaint of Adolph Rosecan, doing business here as the Princess Theatre, 2841 Pestalozzi St., has been reset to come up before Arbiter Harry G. Erbs June 20.

The Princess Theatre case led to the filing of a $285,000 damage suit by the St. Louis Amusement Co., et al, against Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th-Fox and Warner Bros., the owners of the Princess and Apollo theatres and various individual defendants and the counter-claim of Rosecan and the owners of the Apollo Theatre now pending in the United States district court here.

INDIANAPOLIS

Jerry Colonna, screen and radio star, was to caddy for Bob Hope and Tony Romero was to caddy for Bing Crosby in the golf match at the Indianapolis Speedway golf course May 30. Bob and Bing paired with Ed Dudley of Philadelphia, president of the National Professional Golfers Ass'n, and Marion Smith, pro at the Indianapolis Country Club and president of the Indiana PGA, in the Decoration Day match. The entire proceeds of the match will be turned over to the PGA for its rehabilitation fund for hospitalized service men.

The marquee of the Victory Theatre, Huntingburg, clicked on the night of May 8 when the brownout was lifted with PRC picture, "When the Lights Go on Again" . . . The Fox Theatre, Brazil, will reopen June 22 under the management of Joseph McKinley . . . Carl Harthill returned from the Monogram convention . . . Guy Craig, Columbia manager, spent the week in the southern part of Indiana and Louisville on business.

The Kentucky Theatre, Cadiz, Ky., has been sold to Andy Anderson. It formerly was operated by R. S. Newman. Anderson now operates the Hartford house at Hartford, the theatre at Beaver Dam, and the house at Hodginville, Ky. Freeman Smith has been named manager of the Kentucky Theatre.

B. Bennett, who operates the Star Theatre at Fort Branch, Ind., and the Victory at Calhoun, Ky., has acquired the Shelburn in Shelburn, Ind., which has been closed several years. It will be renovated and redecorated before the opening.

Horace Spencer, shipper at RKO here, is a patient at the Methodist Hospital . . . William Shirley, Columbia exploitation director, is busy directing the exploitation program on "A Song to Remember" throughout this territory.

The Ritz, Crawfordsville, which has been operated by Maurice Stribling for some time, has been leased to Cook & Rayburn, who will operate the house. Stribling will remain as projectionist . . . Clyde McKean, Warner manager here, is very proud of his "money clip" which was awarded him as first prize by the home office for first place in the fifth week on the "Heap Big Powwow" 1945 drive.

"God Is My Co-Pilot" was playing extended time in Terre Haute, Lafayette, Richmond and Connersville . . . Ball Brothers, Muncie, one of the largest industrial plants in the state, purchased 3,660 tickets for "Objective, Burma!" and distributed them to employes . . . Republic here is making a concerted effort on its playdate drive, which is in celebration of Republic's tenth anniversary.

Ted Liebtag, manager of National Screen Service, and Herman Booth and Abe Madison, salesmen, will attend the regional meeting of the company June 11-13 at the Waldorf Astoria, New York . . . Mannie Marcus, head of the Marcus Enterprises, spent several days last week in Chicago.

Syl Grove, who operates the Capitol and Shelby theatres in Louisville, was stricken seriously ill last week . . . L. J. McGinley, Universal manager, went to the home office in New York for a business conference . . . Burton B. Jessel of Visual Films, Des Moines, which produces the Chicago Cubs football releases, was a business caller on Filmrow last week. He announced that Ted Husing will narrate this year's series.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Arthur "Art" Kalbfeld of St. Louis entered show business in 1915 with his father. Their first house was the Pauline Airdome. The following year they built the Pauline Theatre. Kalbfeld has stayed with the business as an exhibitor since 1915 except for time out during the first world war when he served in the army. He managed the Pauline successfully for many years and in 1936 took over the operation of another house, the Robin. He is a member of the American Legion and 40 & 8. Kalbfeld is married, has no children. Hobby: The show business.



Antonio "Tony" Bianchi, owner of five theatres in Charleston, Ill., began his motion picture career in 1920. He started in Auburn, Ill., with a partner, Dominic Frisina, then went to Mattoon in 1922 and finally settled in Charleston in 1927. Bianchi ran for city commissioner recently, an election without opposition. He is a member of many civic organizations including the Elks, Rotary, Masons and Shriners, and is president of the Charleston Country Club. He is athletic, with hunting, golf and bowling among his favorite sports. He has a son overseas.



Leon Jarodsky, head of Jardosky Enterprises in Paris, Ill., first became acquainted with the business by helping his father run the theatre he opened in 1910. Consequently Jarodsky grew up in the business and has held practically every job in the theatre. In 1912 he opened his first house independently. The Jardoskys continued to enlarge their theatre holdings from year to year by buying some houses and building others. He has two daughters and a stepson. Daughter Eileen is on the staff of Armour Research Foundation.



Edward Brunell has been a motion picture exhibitor since 1923 when he bought the Metropole Theatre in Chicago. During the course of his career he has been associated with many houses. However he still operates the Metropole, his first interest. He was one of the original organizers of Allied Theatres of Illinois and for two years he headed ITO of that state. Brunell is assistant chief barker of the local Variety Club. His favorite pastime is amateur photography. Brunell likes golf better than any other sport. He is not married—"still looking," he says.



Thomas N. Curley is one of St. Louis' veteran showmen, having been a motion picture exhibitor since 1923. His first theatre was the Queens. He liked the business so well and was so successful in the operation of his theatre that in 1930 he took over another house, the Ashland. He still operates both of these theatres and continues his connection with the industry. He says he doesn't consider show business as his work but as a hobby. During the first world war Curley served his country in the navy. He is unmarried.



John D. Marlow of Herrin, Mo., was in the merchandising business until 1916 when he gave it up to become a motion picture exhibitor. The move was a wise one for today he successfully operates four houses, the Marlow and Annex in Herrin, and the Marlow and Liberty in Murphysboro. Marlow is a member of MPTOA, and as one of the more public spirited citizens of his community is a director of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Elks and Eagles. Fishing is his favorite pastime. He is married.

Chicago Company Forms To Exploit Horror Films

CHICAGO — Larry Stein, former Warner circuit press agent who recently became an independent exploiteer, has organized Horror, Inc., with the backing of Irving Mack of Filmack, Shepard Bros. and Herb Elisburg, owner of the Studio Theatre.

The move was made when a horror trend was noted in loop and some outlying houses. Chillers have been doing well at RKO Grand and are always good at the Woods. Elisburg will go to New York June 8 to confer with Max Rosenberg on deals in connection with the new hair-raiser enterprise.

The Rise of Charles M. Reagan

By CHARLES BECKER

From Eastern Edition

. . . "The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it—so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it. **How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more patience would have achieved success.**

"As the tide goes clear out so it comes clear in. In business, sometimes prospects may seem darkest when really they are on the turn. **A little more persistence, a little more effort and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success.** There is no defeat except from within, no really insurmountable barrier save our own inherent weakness of purpose."—Marden.

The above quotation just about sums up the personal and business philosophy of Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution. Reagan, one of the newest appointees among major sales chiefs (he was appointed to the post a year ago) keeps it available for handy reference in the top drawer of his desk. The portions in bold type are the ones that particularly impress him.

The sentiments expressed in this bit of homespun philosophy are important to him for they seem to epitomize the difficulties that one meets along life's highway and the successful methods that may be used to hurdle these difficulties.

Drifts Into the Hotel Business

It was natural for Reagan to go into the hotel business after his graduation from Notre Dame. His father had been in the same business before him.

While working in the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, located about 20 miles from his birthplace, Lawrenceburg, Ind., Reagan first met Fred Streif, Paramount's Cincinnati branch manager.

Streif liked the lad from the start. Holding out a bright future for him, Streif asked one day: "Why don't you come to work for us?" Reagan thought the idea was fine and when Streif repeated the offer several weeks later he took him up on it.

The upshot of the conversation was that he was appointed an apprentice salesman, assigned to cover the mining areas adjacent to Cincinnati. "I knew nothing whatever about pictures," says Reagan of this period. "In making my first call on an exhibitor in Wheelwright, Ky., I thought it best to admit it.

"This exhibitor was mighty patient with me, perhaps because I was so openhanded with him. He asked me how much I wanted for my pictures and I replied: 'Here's what I am supposed to get for them.' When I admitted that I didn't know how to make out a contract he said he would have his secretary do this for me.

Travels on Muleback and Tricycles

"In those days I found it necessary to travel from one mining town to another on muleback, there being no other form of transportation. At times I had to travel on a sort of tricycle on rails . . . there wasn't even the customary handrail to be had.

"Violence was a common sight. I remember seeing a man shot on the courthouse steps during one labor disturbance. At another time when I stepped off the train I was stopped dead in my tracks and prevented from entering the town to call on an exhibitor. It seems that a particularly bloody strike was in progress and I was warned that I might get hurt."

After a year of hazardous experience, Reagan was transferred to new territory which included the Kentucky blue grass country as well as a portion of the mining district. His first prospect in his new territory was the late John Elliott, a dour individual who operated a circuit of theatres in and around Lexington.

Reagan recalls Elliott as a somewhat eccentric man who would give you anything you asked for if he liked you, but if he didn't . . .!!! In asking Reagan to call on Elliott, Branch Manager Streif said: "You won't be able to sell him, but see him any way and show him the lineup of pictures and prices. I'll talk to him later." Reagan did as he was instructed.

Reagan said, in recalling his first visit to Elliott: "I went to see him not expecting to sell him anything. We exchanged pleasantries and later recalled that my father like himself was interested in thoroughbred horses. This struck a responsive chord and we chatted for nearly an hour.

"Then Elliott volunteered: 'I suppose you want to talk business?' to which I replied that I did. When I showed him the list of pictures and quotations he didn't even scrutinize them, saying that he would buy them all at the prices quoted.

"He not only helped me to make out the contracts, but signed them immediately. When I returned to Cincinnati, Streif asked me how I made out. When I told him that I had closed the deal he just couldn't believe it. The signed contracts finally convinced him, however."

He Becomes Sales Manager

After 18 months as a salesman he was made sales manager of the same branch. Then in 1923 he was appointed Indianapolis branch manager and in 1927 district manager for Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Louisville. Reagan set an unprecedented record during his five years' service there. There were no "skipped" bookings, exhibitors playing all of the pictures for which they contracted. This accomplishment was so unusual at the time that an observant friend declared: "This fellow (Reagan) is certainly going places!"

Then came another promotion in 1932 when he was appointed district manager for Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit. Two years later he was named western division manager. After seven years he was made assistant sales manager in 1941.

Reagan's career is unique in that he started with Paramount and in 25 years advanced to the top spot in the sales department. May 31 marks his silver anniversary with the company.

Recognizing the necessity for close relationship between the sales force and the nation's exhibitors, Reagan has increased the number of division managers from two to four since becoming sales manager. He believes implicitly that the sales executives and staff should spend as much time as possible in the field and that personal contact with exhibitors makes for the most satisfactory relationship with the company's customers.

A business man of high principles, his friends say that his unquestioned integrity has much to do with his personal success. But they are quick to add that his personal magnetism and capacity for friendship has contributed greatly.

"The fellow who puts forth just a little more effort will get ahead," he told a friend recently. "The line of demarcation between success and failure is so fine that it is almost impossible to distinguish between the two."

A student manager of Notre Dame's football team during his undergraduate days, he is still an active alumnus of his alma mater.

Mae a Strong Rival For Picture Shows

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. — First run houses encountered strong competition, with Mae West doing four shows at English's Theatre, and packing them in on every occasion. All flesh houses have closed for the summer and the movies will have everything to themselves for a time at least, or until night baseball begins.

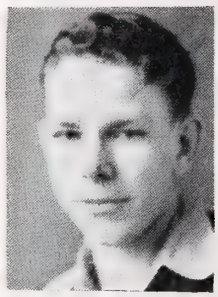
(Average is 100)

Alamo—**Gun Smoke** (Mono); **Going to Town** (RKO) 90
Circle—**Bullfighters** (20th-Fox), plus stage show.....110
Indiana—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 110
Loew's—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M).....120
Lyric—**The Cowboy and the Lady** (FC); **Barbary Coast** (FC) 100

Son of Mrs. L. M. Rube Runs Machines at Carolyn

From Southern Edition

"Bunks" Rube, projectionist of the Carolyn Theatre in New Hebron, Miss., will be a veteran in the theatre long before he is 20. "Bunks" is the 14-year-old son of Mrs. L. M. Rube, manager of the Carolyn. He has held the "highest" job in the house a year now and his dexterity and experience in the work have made him an expert at a very early age. Mrs. Rube reports that he has been on the job practically every night since he started. "Bunks," for his part, is fond of his work and wouldn't mind working in the projection room for years to come.



"BUNKS" RUBE

The Theatre Hold Is Strong In John McGinley

From Southern Edition

WILBURTON, OKLA.—Once a showman always a showman! Such a spirit is typified in the life of John McGinley, veteran theatre man here. Although not physically active in the business since he sold the American Theatre to K. Lee Williams several years back and even though confined to a wheel chair, McGinley is still part of the show business in spirit.

Almost every day, John rolls himself down to the front of the American in order that he may greet his many friends as they pass. The stroke that keeps him in the wheel chair has not prevented him from keeping in touch with film and civic leaders in Wilburton. Film salesmen who call on his town never miss a chat with the veteran showman.

Savannah Council Bars Projected Negro Theatre

From Southern Edition

SAVANNAH—Through an amendment to the building and zoning code, the Seventh city council has blocked the construction of a new theatre projected by Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Weis for the southeast corner of Waldburg and East Broad Sts. here.

Announcement by Weis recently of plans to erect a theatre for Negroes on the site drew a strong protest from property owners in the neighborhood.

Theatre Manager Resigns

NICHOLASVILLE, KY.—Robert Suell has resigned as manager of the Park Theatre here to go with the Blue Grass ordnance depot at Richmond.

A. H. Fischer Named Chicago FC Head

CHICAGO—Johnny Jones has sold his local franchise for Film Classics to the home office in New York, it was announced following news that Jones and Jack Kirsch are among the executives of Screen Guild Productions, newly formed company which has established its exchange here at 1325 S. Wabash Ave., with Ted Levy as manager.

L. E. Goldhammer, general manager of Film Classics, has named A. H. Fischer, formerly sales manager of UA, as manager of Chicago exchange for Film Classics.

The Father of Bob Shelton Is Killed by Motor Car

From Midwest Edition

KANSAS CITY—The Rev. R. M. Shelton of nearby Independence, father of Bob Shelton, division manager of Commonwealth, was fatally injured recently when struck by an automobile. The funeral, attended by many from Filmrow and the Commonwealth offices, was held at Independence and burial was at Mexico, Mo., his old home. The elder Shelton was a retired Christian minister. He is survived by his wife, and two sons, Robert M. jr. and Paul.

To Reopen Shelburn Star

SHELBURN, IND.—B. Bennett, who operates the Star at Fort Branch and the Victory Theatre at Calhoun, Ky., will reopen the Shelburn here. The house has been shuttered for several years.

More Chicago Items

* * *

Balaban & Katz, as befuddled by the weather as everybody else, ran an ad, during the cold, wet spell, "We're ready for that sudden heat wave." It came a few days later.

The Daily News review of the Woods Theatre's twin chillers, "Vampire's Ghost" and "Phantom Speaks," said: "Eat popcorn, as everyone else does at the Woods to keep your teeth from chattering." Sounds like one of Jack Belasco's corny gags . . . Ray Breckenmaker is now assistant manager of the B&K Roosevelt, and Joseph Derband has been named assistant at the Granada.

Bob O'Donnell, former Chicagoan, here for the Paramount meeting, has gone back to Texas, but he took time to visit relatives here . . . Bob Engel, DeVry sales manager, has gone to a sales meeting in New Orleans . . . Louis B. Mayer was the guest of Fred Curley, president of the Santa Fe, at dinner during the film executive's brief stop here . . . Rud Lorenz, UA district manager, is on a fishing expedition into Wisconsin.

A. H. Blank, Iowa circuit head who was in town for the Paramount meeting, is planning to reorganize the Des Moines Variety Club soon. That Tent has been inactive for some time . . . Comdr. Jack Dempsey, Walter Pidgeon and Eddie Cantor did a swell job selling bonds at State and Madison for the Mighty Seventh. Bill Hollander, B&K advertising executive, is the liaison man between the industry and the State St. council in arranging such activities.

Install New Film Screen

FLINT, MICH.—A new plastic molded screen has been installed at the Burton Theatre, providing approximately 40 per cent more light.

M I L W A U K E E

When Sam Miller of Rhinelander journeys into Milwaukee he leaves Rhinelander late at night, rides on through to Chicago and returns to Milwaukee on a later train. By that time exchanges are open. We have yet to hear of one opening at 5 a. m., and that's when Sam would hit the Row, alighting from Rhinelander special . . . Arnold Kovitz, National Screen bookkeeper, runs elevators nights when not toiling at his desk.

Mae Dalton, ad sales manager of 20th-Fox, has been so busy what with handling ad doings at the exchange here and working the territory, that your photographer felt you might like to know what she looks like . . . With summer here in spite of the weather, all hikers were requested to contact Arnold Kovitz for jaunts with Muni-Hikers Club. Kovitz is that slim lad at National Screen . . . Eddie Weisfeldt almost got a hole in one at Brynwood the last time he golfed, but an unidentified person inadvertedly kicked Eddie's pellet as it was entering the cup, and he is on the torried side!



MAE DALTON

State exhibitors booking on the Row: Frank Milavetz, Range, Hurley; W. Erickson, Loyal, Loyal; Frank Eckhardt, Jefferson, Jefferson . . . Viola Witzke, National Screen head shipper, was hospitalized with appendicitis . . . Have you tried to get a recording of "Laura" lately? More scarce than ciggies . . . Charley Trampe, Monogram manager, indicated "Dillinger" is still "out of this world" at the boxoffice . . . What's Durgan Beemar doing with those red bathing suits?

Jimmie Howard, veteran showman and percussionist now associated with Columbia music, was on bill when the Miller Theatre opened here in vaudeville, days . . . Ray Smith and Eddie Gavin were seen eating ice cream! . . . Lorraine Perlman, Metro office, received perfume from her husband in France.

Eleanor Schwada, Film Board booker and a Row visitor, functions as a legal stenographer most of the time. All spare moments she spends aiding orphanages, churches, etc., in their film chores . . . Johnny Mednikow, National Screen branch manager, will attend the Chicago sales confab June 15, 16 and 17.

The Reel Fellows—branch managers outing, sponsored by Ben Poblocki, was to be June 1 at Tuckaway, and Ben advised Don Woods to visit the driving range before then, with all clubs in the bag . . . Rud Lorenz, UA district manager, was in town.

La Verne Le Breck of Metro was informed that her husband, Sergeant Robert, added two oak leaf clusters to his heavily decorated chest . . . Sheldon Grange, Hollywood Theatre, Minocqua, dealed for a summer home . . . Herb Greenblatt, RKO district manager, was in town huddling with Walter Blaney office manager, and Joe Imhoff, RKO salesman.

Off for three weeks in Hollywood, Buck Herzog, Milwaukee Sentinel amusement columnist, will do stories on Milwaukee and Wisconsinites in the film capital . . . June Tack, National Screen, eats so much at noon she can't stay awake . . . Believe it or not, a gal came out of the Varsity barefoot. She must have gone through those ration stamps fast! . . . Art Standish, now Miller Theatre manager, is an ex-roller skating showman.

Delft circuit is buying and booking for the Temple and Soo theatres. Ditto the Oak and Cedar at Manistique . . . Harold Perlman, former Metro poster clerk, furloughed and chatted things over with the old gang.

With considerable time spent waxing his mustache, Hugo Vogel missed that Chicago train . . . Jo Tomaski, UA inspector vacationing in California, mentioned something about rain. We have that, too.

Jack Kaplan, former Fox Miller manager, now manages the Wisconsin, and Art Standish, former assistant at the Strand, manages Miller . . . Howard Krueger, National Screen toiler, wears a silver bracelet about three inches wide, a hand-hammered gift from his flame in the WAVES . . . Those old-time movies have been drawing patrons to George Devine's dance palace.

Midwest finals in the Royal strip contest at the Empress brought out some plain and fancy undrape, with local winner promised a Hollywood jaunt and picture test . . . Dick Gahey took over at Alhambra while Johnny Matis vacationed.

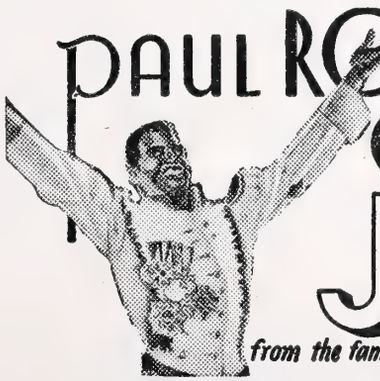
The Row was still shaken by the sudden

(Continued on next page)

A BOX OFFICE HIT FOR ANY THEATRE !

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PAUL ROBESON in Emperor JONES



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Fairy Tales of Today Realities Tomorrow

Radio, which in 25 years has made it possible to see (through television) and hear around the world, has a future in which "the fairy tales of today will be the realities of tomorrow," according to the report of its first quarter of a century of existence by the Radio Corp. of America.

Listing its scientific achievements in the field of radio during the past 25 years, RCA prophesies an even more spectacular future for the next quarter century. "RCA has spun a world-wide communication system around the earth linking more than 50 countries; it has led the way in development of electron tubes. It mastered the shortwaves, electronized the phonograph and created the electronic system of television. RCA pioneered in broadcasting and gave to America its first nationwide radio networks. It helped to carry the voice of the President of the United States within earshot of every person on earth."

Radio Feats Into Background

But, the report continues, "all these achievements will be surpassed in the postwar world of radio." For the more or less immediate future, RCA promises "electronics that will give the mariner and the aviator all-seeing eyes . . . pocket radio-telephones . . . an electron telescope that may reveal the farthest star . . . scientists dream of inter-stellar communication and the transmission of electrical energy by radio for power, light and heat . . ."

Radio "which has its roots deeply embedded in the history of radio communications as a science, an art and an industry," began simply enough. From Marconi's first faint signal in 1895 to 1918, while progress was made, wireless was still confined to dots and dashes. But during the last war radio "found an electric tongue"; it learned to talk and to sing.

In 1919 RCA was organized to send and receive messages. In 1920 broadcasting was born from the defect that radio conversations were too public. The U.S. presidential election returns of that year were broadcast to a limited number of nearby amateur receivers, an achievement that was quickly understood. Almost "overnight radio became a national pastime."

Envisaged by David Sarnoff

All this and more had been envisaged in 1916 by David Sarnoff, now president of RCA. He had conceived the idea of the "radio music box" and saw its economic and social implications. He anticipated that within three years of beginning the sale of such "music boxes" at an average price of $75, at least a million of them could be sold. Actual sales were $85,500,000.

The whole history of radio—which is the quarter century story of RCA—is retold in the report. From crystal detectors to vacuum tubes to the superheterodyne circuit to frequency modulation with all the steps before television, the present and immediate future of radio; all these remarkable developments are rehearsed in proper order. The broadcasting of the Dempsey-Carpentier championship fight in 1921, the first commercial program in 1922, November 22 of that year when the New York Philharmonic was first heard on the air—those were the days when radio history was being made daily. As a result, in 1923, Americans spent $175,000,000 for radio instruments.

Landmarks abound in RCA's record. The first U.S. presidential hookup, the first time the opening of Congress was broadcast (1923), the political conventions, the first international broadcast from England in 1924, advertising on the air, and finally the foundation of the National Broadcasting Co.

MILWAUKEE

(Continued from preceding page)

death of Art Schmitz, RKO manager. Art had attended the regular Monday night screening at Warner screen room. Certainly Art has left a void in the hearts of those who knew him.

Sgt. Mel Mednikow, son of Johnny Mednikow, National Screen manager, accompanied by his brieds did the Row and the town. Johnny combined business with a trip to St. Louis, and gave vent to that rare smile unearthed by Mel's bride, who tagged Johnny "Smiley."

Ben Marcus, S&M biggie, huddled with Joe Strother and spent some time on the Row . . . Nic Coston, back in town following some relief managerial work for Warners, was nearly run over in heavy traffic at Sixth and the Avenue. He promised your scribe a medal for saving his life.

Who was the fellow that had to rouse Johnny Schuyer of the Delft circuit from slumber in that St. Paul railway berth? And why did Johnny fail to keep that certain appointment? Well, the goods were delivered, weren't they? . . . Lou Orlove, Metro exploiteer, expects to have his own plane shortly.

Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, attended a Milwaukee Journal-sponsored consumer analysis gathering at Milwaukee Athletic Club . . . Jackie Moran and Keefe Brasselle of the films were steered around by Jack Kaplan, Wisconsin manager. Brasselle recently ended a role in "Fairy Tale Murder" with Gloria Jean. Moran played the lead in "Song of the Open Road," with Jane Powell.

Walter Liberace, local concert 88er, is being angeled by Director Mitchell Leisen of the film capital and has shown some of his wares . . . "Watchtower Over Tomorrow" and "The Peace Builders," two peace films, were shown at the museum . . . That comedian and guitarist, Jose Mayol, another local boy making good, did some tunes in a movie with Sophie Tucker and Paul Whiteman.

In recent legislation, theatre license fees were raised from $100 to $150 a year for theatres with 1,200 seating capacity or less. Houses with greater capacity get nicked $200 to $300, according to recent bill passed by the Wisconsin legislature.

"Youth for the Kingdom," the Castle Films release, was shown in Sheboygan and was highly commended for its correcting influence on juveniles . . . Gertie, that space grabbing duck, continued to stop traffic at the Wisconsin Ave. bridge, as well as to cut boxoffice take at Eddie Weisfeldt's Riverside. Next week—East Lynne.

Remodel at Platteville, Wis.

PLATTEVILLE, WIS. — Plans are being made to remodel the Gem Theatre here to provide accommodation for 700 patrons. A. C. Berkholtz, West Bend, is the theatre owner and Wally Burton is manager.

Mrs. Saunders Adds Cozy

CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY.—Mrs. Paul Sanders will open the Cozy here, recently completed. She also operates the local Alhambra.

Exercise Sondergaard's Option

The option of Gale Sondergaard has been exercised for another year at Universal. She is slated to star in a new series, the first of which will be "The Spider Woman Strikes Back."

Allied Theatres Operators Get Incorporation Papers

ST. LOUIS—Allied Theatres, 606 Arcade Bldg., has been incorporated with 5,000 shares of $10 par value stock. It is authorized to operate theatres and present stage and motion picture productions, including television. Named as stockholders were Eloise Hambrick, Brentwood, Mo.; Margaret Tucker, Maplewood, Mo., and Arlie Wolter, St. Louis, Mo. However, it has been learned that Max P. Shelton, 146 South Maple Ave., Webster Groves, Mo., will head the new corporation which is expected to control, manage, operate or represent in the booking of pictures of a number of theatres in Missouri and other midwestern states.

New Cabinet Projector May Be Available Soon

CHICAGO—A new cabinet projector, called Sono-Vision, will be on the market as soon as the WPB releases necessary materials. It will feature a larger type screen than previous models, as well as a new type of continuous reel. Mills Industries is the producer. Richard K. Law, new advertising manager, is preparing an extensive campaign on the commercial projector among industries, schools and government services. The company plans to turn out 4,000 the first year.

Anti-Petrillo Bill Passes

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri senate May 22 passed and sent to the house of representatives the twin bills of Sen. H. R. Williams, Republican, Cassville, directed against the activities of James A. Petrillo and the musicians' union. The vote was 24 to 4.

New Distributing Company

JEFFERSON CITY—Capitol Records Distributing Co. of Illinois has been authorized to operate in Missouri as a foreign corporation. United States Corporation Co., St. Louis, will be its principal Missouri representative.

Clubs View Travel Films

CHICAGO—Among films seen last week aside from regular shows were prewar color reels of European countries, shown to the Catholic University Club, and travel films of modern Sweden, seen by the Arm Chair Travelers and released under the title "Colorful Sweden."

Gallant Offer Backfires, Lady Accepts His Pipe!

From Midcase Edition

Louisville—Harry Bloom, in his column in the Times, tells this one about a fellow worker:

His inevitable pipe in a corner of his mouth, Boyd Martin, drama critic, was in a bank lobby when an attractively-garbed woman who may have known him but whom he couldn't place, remarked, "My, but you look so comfortable smoking a pipe."

"Yes, there's a good deal of pleasure in it," he agreed.

"I may try it myself some time," she said.

Taking the pipe from his mouth, he obeyed that impulse.

"Here, would you like to have this one?"

To his amazement she accepted and stuffed it in her purse. The pipe would give him even more pleasure if he could see it put into service by its new owner.

Film Critic Potter Aids Burial of Nazi Victims

MINNEAPOLIS — Current newsreels show Capt. Merle Potter, dean of local theatre critics and general manager of the Berger theatre circuit before entering the army, helping to direct burial of the Buchenwald camp victims. He's public relations officer for the Allied military government in Europe.

Newspapers here ran stories about Potter's presence in the newsreels and also about a letter written by him to a friend here. The letter tells in detail of German barbarism uncovered by the Third army in Neunberg and how Potter attempted, without much success, to bring a sense of compassion to villagers for their passive approval.

Potter received permission to take charge of the burial of 161 bodies from three pits in the Neunberg woods and 43 from the village cemetery. All were Polish Jews. German villagers themselves, including women, were forced to carry the coffins after the burgomeister had been ordered by Potter to prepare for a mass funeral for the victims.

"I told the guards," wrote Potter, "that if anyone laughed or smiled to slap him with all possible force. I don't know that any guard slapped anyone. I did—as hard as I could. I scrubbed my swollen right hand afterward."

William Miskell Named A Playhouse Director

OMAHA—William Miskell, district manager here for Tri-States Theatres Corp., was elected to the board of directors of the Community Playhouse at its annual meeting last week.

Fred Segur was selected president, Miss Lucy Updike, secretary; Robert D. Neely, re-elected treasurer, and Past President Clarence W. Teal to serve on the executive board.

Mrs. Evelyn Paeper Arthur was voted outstanding actress of the season for performance of Mrs. Smith in "Suspect" and Earl Braddock, winner last year, was credited with the top male performance in the role of a Hessian soldier in "Pursuit of Happiness."

Says Films Create Chill Toward U.S. in Argentina

OMAHA—Motion pictures can be blamed for much of the ill feeling Argentines have for the United States, Prof. Asher N. Christenson of the University of Minnesota, who served in the United States embassy in Argentina, told Rotarians here.

Professor Christenson said the Argentines do not know how we live. They get their ideas of Americans from motion pictures and do not realize we look upon these pictures as a means of escape and entertainment, he declared.

Independents Expanding

MINNEAPOLIS — North Central Allied is launching a campaign to bring out-of-town independent exhibitors into the body, which now is composed of Twin City independent theatre owners almost entirely. The board of directors will be enlarged to include four out-of-towners. This plan was decided upon in preference to trying to get the out-of-towners to form an association of their own to be affiliated with North Central.

Fred McGee Buys Theatre

DES MOINES—Fred McGee has purchased the Pastime Theatre, Iowa City, from Ray Lumsden. Lumsden also handles road shows.

Little Man, He Has a Busy Day—All of Them

Omaha—Exhibitors in this area recently seem to be conducting a derby to see who's the busiest man in the territory.

The latest claim comes from E. J. Kleinsasser, owner of the Met Theatre at Freeman, S. D. In addition to running the theatre, Mr. Kleinsasser is:

(a) A justice of the peace; (b) a law student; (c) a professional photographer; (d) treasurer of the city school; (e) owner of a paint and wallpaper store; (f) collector for the local college museum; (g) a mink trapper and duck hunter, and (h) one of the town's most eligible bachelors.

How does he keep up with everything? Mr. Kleinsasser doesn't have to worry. He doesn't own a calendar.

Omaha to Press Bid For Rickenbacker Film

OMAHA—Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, was in Omaha lining up a special press and radio luncheon at the Omaha Athletic Club June 20 for Christy Walsh, former sports writer and now an associate producer.

While in the city Walsh also was to meet with many old friends of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and discuss Omaha's participation in the celebration of the picture, "Captain Eddie." The Chamber of Commerce and prominent local citizens already have put in a bid for the premiere of the picture here.

Harry Herman Resigns "Mom and Dad" Agency

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA—Harry Herman, head of the Herman theatres here, has resigned his position as northwest agent for "Mom and Dad," produced and released by Hygienic Productions of Cleveland, Ohio, upon advice of his doctor. Herman underwent a major operation at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., last year and in a recent checkup was ordered to take a complete rest for several months.

Des Moines "Susan" Garners $600,000

DES MOINES—Approximately 1,500 E war bonds with a maturity value of $600,000 were sold for the premiere last week at the Des Moines of "Affairs of Susan," first motion picture event here of the Seventh War Loan campaign, Manager Harold Lyon announced.

Tickets for the premiere were obtained by E bond purchases at the Des Moines, Roosevelt, Orpheum, Paramount, Strand, Uptown, Ingersoll, Hiland, Eastown, Garden and Iowa theatres.

A "standing room only" house would have brought in $650,000 from bond sales, Lyon said. In addition to "Affairs of Susan," starring Joan Fontaine and Don DeFore, formerly of Cedar Rapids, a film showing the attack upon the aircraft carrier Franklin and her "miracle" return trip to this country was sent especially for the premiere.

E. L. "Jack" Johnson Buys Del Rio, Tex., Theatre

E. L. "Jack" Johnson, former Robb & Rowley partner at McPherson, Kas., has purchased the Victory Theatre at Del Rio, Tex., from Buck Morgan, and with Mrs. Johnson has taken over the active management of the property. For the last four years Johnson has operated a theatre which he built in Los Angeles.

The theatre has been redecorated completely and a new screen and other new equipment installed.

Mother of Battle Survivor Works in Bond Booth

DES MOINES—Mrs. Robert Southworth, whose son, Lieut. Robert Southworth, was one of the survivors of the USS Franklin, sold war bonds in the Orpheum Theatre bond booth Thursday night (24.) He was one of the few survivors left at Pearl Harbor for reassignment. He is now serving on a seaplane tender.



UNIVERSALITES MEET AT KAYCEE—Preseason district sales conference of Universal Pictures, held at the Hotel Muehlebach here drew personnel from the St. Louis, Omaha and Des Moines exchanges, who joined with the Kansas City group for discussions of the coming season's product.

In the photo, left to right, first row: S. Nesbitt, St. Louis; H. Zack, St. Louis; G. Nash, Omaha; S. Hankin, St. Louis.

Second row: K. Bishard, Des Moines; E. Pickler, Des Moines; L. Levy, Des Moines; J. Ricketts, Des Moines; I. Weiner, Omaha; H. Johnson, Omaha.

Third row: Ralph Morrow, Virginia Gaylord, Izzy Daynosky, Morris Relder, Tommie Thompson, Jack Langan and Larry Klein, all of Kansas City.

Back row: J. E. Garrison, district manager; A. J. O'Keefe, western sales manager; P. Monsky, Omaha; E. Cohen, Omaha; H. Hynes, St. Louis.

Steaks Top-Billed at Managers Mess

MINNEAPOLIS—Newspapermen, company executives and other guests were present at the Minnesota Amusement Co.'s managers' mess at the Hotel St. Paul. Bob Stribley of the St. Paul Pioneer Press was so impressed by the steaks served at the affair that he was inspired to write the following story which appeared in last Sunday's edition:

"Have I been a bit snooty lately? If I have, there's a reason. At noon Monday I had STEAK! Don't you think that entitles me to make like a big shot?

"Tender steaks received top billing at the Monday managers' mess of the Twin City Minnesota Amusement Co. executives and guests given in the neatly appointed Casino of Hotel St. Paul. James Eshelman, manager of the Paramount, St. Paul, was chairman, assisted by Jeanette West, manager of the Uptown, St. Paul.

"Howard Kahn (Paul Light), Pioneer Press-Dispatch columnist who was chief speaker, talked wittily and informatively on the recent shakedown cruise of the Cruiser St. Paul. Songs were delightfully sung by Audrey Shorbund, William Loomis and Harold Jahn of the St. Paul Civic Opera. They were ably accompanied by Cliff Reckow and string ensemble.

"Before luncheon, Lou Golden, manager of the St. Paul RKO Orpheum, cracked: 'I hear we're going to have steak and mushroom sauce. Blue Monday is a red-letter day.'

"When he had finished eating William Ronning of Minneapolis, Minnesota Amusement Co. booker, sighed and asked: 'Why does everything always taste so good in St. Paul?' To which John Read of St. Paul, manager of the Riviera, replied: 'You're heard the answer before, Bill: St. Paul always has what it takes.'"

Sees Boom in Philippines If They Stay With U.S.

From Western Edition

"Future of motion pictures in the Philippine Islands depends upon the attitude of the Philippine government," in the opinion of Daniel Lederman, just returned to the U.S. after three years in a Japanese internment camp.

Lederman, who was the managing director of 20th-Fox Corp. in the Philippines from 1933 until his capture by the Japanese New Year's night, 1942, returned to his country on the Admiral Eberle, which docked in San Pedro with 2,900 Americans recently rescued from Jap prison camps.

"If the present Philippine government holds a plebiscite and the vote is in favor of remaining a part of the U S., there will be a tremendous business boom on the islands," Lederman stated.

May Seek Independence

"However, if the Filipinos decide to form their own independent government, I am inclined to think that foreign capital will be a little timid."

This, Lederman said, would retard the return to normalcy of Filipino business in motion pictures as well as other fields.

The motion picture industry was among the first confiscated by the Japanese after their entry into Manila, Lederman said. Only a few major theatres were left standing. The others were dismantled and sent back to Japan. Film exchanges were commandeered and Japanese-made pictures rented to the Filipino theatre owners at exorbitant prices.

Strangely enough, Lederman said, the Japs did not ban showings of the few American-made pictures which they found in the exchanges. However, with every showing of an American film, the Japanese insisted on showing two or more shorts depicting the military might of Nippon.

Films Run Again and Again

The popularity of American films is attested to by the fact that they were run time and again until the prints were shredded. On rare occasions, American films were run in some internment camps, accompanied by the inevitable Japanese-made shorts. The Los Bonos internment camp, in which Lederman was a prisoner, had no films during the three years he was there.

Nearly all the motion picture houses not dismantled by the Japs were destroyed during the American campaign to reconquer the islands, Lederman said. In Manila, only three first run houses, the Times, Ideal and Lyric and a few other small theatres, are still open. Before normal motion picture business can be attained, these houses will have to be rebuilt.

Lederman, who lost 60 pounds during his internment, expects to return to the Philippines within the next year. He will remain in the U.S. until he recovers his health.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 — Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Inc'p't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

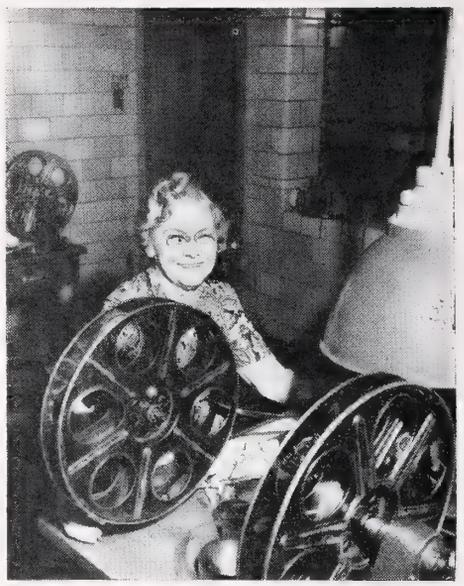
EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825



Jessie Stewart Feted On Her 76th Birthday

KANSAS CITY—Mrs. Jessie Stewart, inspector at Universal, was gratified and surprised recently to have the local office stop in the middle of a busy day to honor her 76th birthday with a cake, served with ice



cream. In addition she received a five dollar bill from her fellow employes, enclosed in an appropriate card. According to information at the exchange, Mrs. Stewart can still "run rings around most of us," is seldom absent from her inspection table and works right along with the others.

Mrs. Stewart herself feels her three years with Universal has softened the blow she had when another exchange suggested she might be getting too old to continue her work there and she was out for four years. She went with Paramount exchange in 1922 and between that time and 1938 worked also at Pathe, United Artists, RKO and others. She moved twice with Paramount during that period.

Little and quick in her movements ("I can keep up with those 18-year-old girls, all right"), Mrs. Stewart's first job was in a millinery shop in 1903. After working at several establishments, including Adler's, she opened her own shop and ran it for nine years while she reared a family of four children, two boys and two girls. It was after her family grew up that she began working as a film inspector. She still enjoys it and thinks nothing of that extra birthday recently celebrated. She just doesn't feel old enough to quit when capable hands are so badly needed to do the world's work.

Audience Sings While Theatre Lights Are Out

MISSION, KAS.—The lights went out during a recent evening program at the Dickinson Theatre here, but that didn't send the crowd home. Emergency lights were put into use by Jimmy Welsh, manager, and an old-fashioned "sing" was held for a full hour and a half.

A man in the audience offered his services at the piano and a woman came to the front and voluntarily led the singing. Many old and new favorites were sung by the audience with a great deal of vigor before it was learned that the electricity would not be repaired in time for the show to go on that night.

Pass-out tickets were distributed for the following night. No one asked for a refund.

Bond Rally Film Available to Clubs

KANSAS CITY—Evidence of the effectiveness of the Seventh War Loan subject, "All-Star Bond Rally," is contained in the following excerpt from the Kiwanis News of this city.

". . . Last week Kiwanian Babe Cohn introduced the 'All-Star Bond Rally' film by telling of the tremendous public service of the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry, including 16,000 theatres, in promoting all phases of the war effort . . . The climax of the meeting was the bond sales. George Powell, the efficient chairman of public affairs committee, and three of his helpers, Lloyd Owen, George Heimovies and Ed Webb, sold, after the meeting, $17,450 in war bonds . . ."

This 16mm sound print is available for civic club or other organization showings in the territory where 16mm sound projection equipment can be had locally. Clubs may contact Babe Cohn, Newman Theatre, Kansas City, Mo., for bookings.

The "All-Star Bond Rally" subject is available to all theatres signing the Seventh War Loan pledge card.

Two Boys Are Held in Omaha Theatre Thefts

OMAHA—Fred Joseph Garliech, 18, was held here by police in connection with robbery of the Military Theatre, when candy bars were taken after entry had been forced. Harvey Joe Meehan, 17, was arrested last week and admitted participation in the break-in, police said. A third boy is sought.

DES MOINES

Filmrowers missed Ruby Dyer Zelcher, who is taking a three-week leave of absence from Warners because of ill health. Myrtle Bechtal and Johnny Winn are dividing Ruby's work during her leave. A new biller at Warners is Leola Mae Harris.

Neva Fitch of 20th-Fox was away from the office for a week with a cold. Marion Kenyon has replaced Victoria Pewick as contract clerk at Fox . . . Friends along the Row sent condolences to Bernice Rudston, Stanley J. Mayer's secretary, whose father died last week . . . Fox employes were proud of their 100 per cent signed pledges for the exchange in the Seventh War Loan. They are sure they will go over their quota.

Visitors along the Row last week included Ray Neitzke, Story City; Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; Bob Bernau, Lake City, and Roy Lepovitz, Madrid.

Al Rodriguez, assistant shipper at Paramount, is leaving soon to go back to Panama. Al has been a student at Drake University this year . . . Pearl Ellenwood, inspector at Paramount, was to visit in Menlow over Memorial Day . . . Josephine Segar, Paramount biller, was on vacation. Judy Brooks, formerly accountant for Paramount, was back helping out for a week or so.

Visitors along the Row last week included: F. R. Bandy, Britt; Charles Peterson, Hampton; Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville; A. L. Kuhl, Corning; V. J. Shipright, Osceola; Joe Smith, Laurens, and Cliff Hamilton, Earlham.

Helen Clarke was doing the booking at Republic until Earl Myers' position is filled . . . Doris Wolf, Universal, was vacationing at her home in Payton, Iowa . . . Twylla Wells illuminated the Universal offices with her bright green nail polish last week . . . Madge Ward Clark's daughter, Barbara Ward, was recently elected secretary of the student council at North High School here.

George Sexton to Manage Dickinson's Glen Theatre

KANSAS CITY — The appointment of George Sexton as manager of the Glen Theatre here, has been announced by Phil Zeller, district manager of the Dickinson Theatres. Sexton, who is replacing Larry Galoy, is a veteran theatre man who recently has been engaged in another field.

Sedalia Fox House Opens

SEDALIA, MO.—Without special ceremony, the Liberty, Fox Midwest second theatre here, had a successful opening May 17. James J. Long is manager of the district.

Radio Announcer Assigned a Role

Harry Von Zell, radio announcer, was assigned a role in Universal's "Uncle Harry."

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

NOW AVAILABLE —for Immediate Shipment

GYRA-SPRAY, MAT TYPE COOLING SYSTEM

Low in price. Low cost of installation. Still this cooling system will give the results of systems selling at four times the cost of GYRA-SPRAY.

BUY NOW!

See DES MOINES THEATRE SUPPLY CO.

1121 HIGH STREET Phone: 3-6520 DES MOINES, IOWA

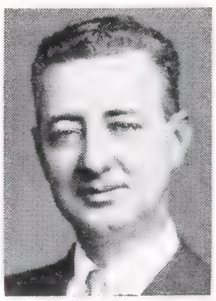
MIDWEST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



In 1912 with a $5,000 loan from his father, **Joseph V. Gerbrach** opened his first theatre, the Scenic. He operated it with his two sisters. Before deciding to go into the business Gerbrach says he asked himself two questions: "Can I have any fun in it? Can I make any money?" The answers were a definite yes. Gerbrach now owns four theatres in Ames, Iowa, and says he has always enjoyed his theatre connections. He is a member of MPTOA, and is active in civic groups. He is a licensed pilot and experienced deep sea fisherman.



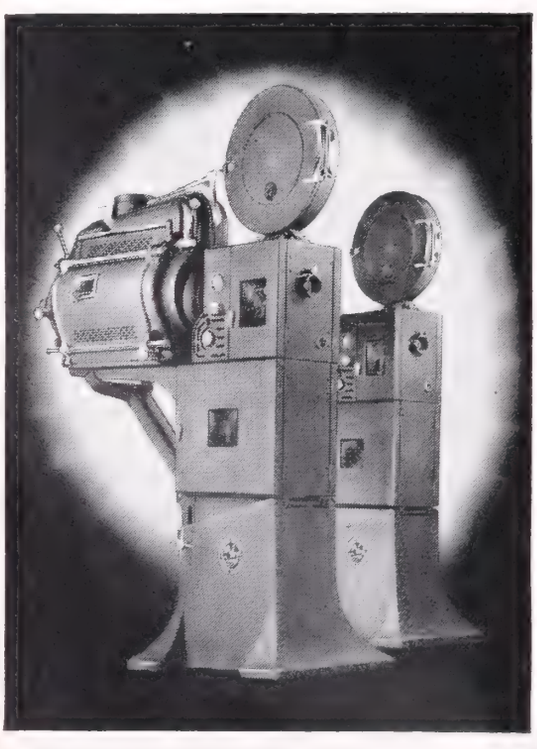
James Earle Kirk of Omaha had a career in the motion picture business for several years before he became an exhibitor. In 1914 he worked as a salesman for General Films and later for Pathe. Six months after joining Pathe he was promoted to branch manager. In 1918 he bought the Grand Theatre in Omaha and has continued to operate houses in that city ever since. Today he owns the North Star. He was one of the local founders of the Nebraska-Iowa MPTO and was once secretary of that organization. He is a member of the Optimists Club, like bowling, golf.



One of the first theatre jobs for **Louis H. Greife** was playing the piano for silent pictures. In 1911 his father bought the Windsor Theatre in Windsor, Mo., and seven years later Louis became a partner in his father's business. During his years as a showman he has performed every operation in running a theatre. He is a member of KMTOA. In addition to managing his house he also operates a furniture store in the town. He is married and has a son, Frederick, who is in his second semester at the University of Missouri.



As the result of a business deal, **John L. "Andy" Anderson** got into the motion picture business in 1913 quite against his wishes. He had operated a bowling alley until that time. However, once in the business he became so fascinated by it he has made the management of his two theatres, the Anjune and Aurora, in Plankinton, S. D., his life work. The Anjune is named after June, one of his four daughters. Anderson is vice-president of the South Dakota exhibitor organization. An accomplished musician, he was at one time with an orchestra.



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The New DeVry Is Tops
Simplified
Modern Design
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DeVry includes Sound System with built in Synchronized Sound heads. Reproduces masterpieces in black and white or Technicolor faithfully.

STEBBINS
Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte
Kansas City 8, Mo.

Aged Iron Stairway Leaving the State

OMAHA—A winding iron stairway with a newspaper and theatrical history came into the news here again after a lapse of many years. The stairway, now a part of the State Theatre, owned by R. D. Goldberg, will again become a fixture of the Omaha World-Herald.

The circular stair, which led from the business office to the editorial rooms in the old World-Herald Bldg. on the site of which is now located the State Theatre, was familiar to thousands of World-Herald workers and visitors for 25 years. When the newspaper moved to its present headquarters 30 years ago, the building which had been its home since 1889, was razed and the theatre erected.

The stairway, however, was salvaged and installed in the theatre for the use of workmen in the projection room. It wasn't used much, though, so Goldberg decided recently to have it moved.

Then the World-Herald made an offer. It would remove the stairway and take it over as payment for the job. And now it will be installed between editorial room floors.

A familiar figure on the old stairway once was William J. Bryan, one-time editor. Visitors as diverse as Frances E. Willard and John L. Sullivan used it. Jim Corbett, Bob Fitzsimmons and many other sports celebrities used to use it to visit Sports Editor Sandy Griswold.

Among theatre stars to call on Publisher M. Hitchcock were Robert Mantell, Otis Skinner and DeWolf Hopper.

Ballantyne Opening Awaits Lifting of Travel Ban

OMAHA—Robert Ballantyne, owner of the Ballantyne Co., has a time fuse on plans for the grand opening of his new Davenport St. headquarters.

Now that VE-Day has past, Ballantyne says there is only one more hurdle to be cleared—the ban on travel. Shortly after that, he says, exhibitors in the area will be invited to attend "open-house" at the new quarters where there will be all things appropriate to such an occasion.

However, Ballantyne's new building, called by some the finest of its type in the country, already has had its share of wide-eyed visitors. And the head of the company is never too busy to show his friends around.

Pointed Questions Aimed At St. Paul City Official

MINNEAPOLIS—Dr. George Snyder, head of the division of hygiene in the St. Paul department of education, in a letter warned that film houses may be helping in the spread of scalp ringworm, an infectious disease. He has been asked that if the infection is spread in theatre seats, why wouldn't it also be true of waiting rooms, doctors' chairs, depots, streetcars, buses, churches and schools along with the film houses and barbershops, the only places mentioned in his letter.

Filmrow Workers Get Raise

MINNEAPOLIS—Many film exchange employes are getting a windfall through the War Labor Board approval of a ten per cent wage boost for them. The increased stipend is retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943, and those who have been employed on the Row before and since that date will have a sizeable check coming. The boost had been agreed upon by the film companies and the employes' union.

Grable Film Defies Kansas City Rains

KANSAS CITY—Continued rainy weather did little to help business here, but "Diamond Horseshoe," featuring Betty Grable in Technicolor if not much else, had the response expected. The film enjoyed a tremendous week at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway and was held over.

"The Affairs of Susan" in its third week kept neck to neck with last week's boxoffice returns at the Newman. The Midland with the rather gloomy "Tomorrow the World" found only a half-hearted response, though business managed to bob up and down just below average.

The Orpheum with a double dose of horror, "The Body Snatcher" and "The Brighton Strangler," failed to frighten enough customers to swamp the ticket office, though business for the week was about average. The Tower offered "Song of the Sarong" and "I'll Remember April" plus a good stage revue, and business was consistently fair.

(Average is 100)

Esquire, Uptown and Fairway—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox) 165
Midland—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 98
Newman—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk. 105
Orpheum—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO) 100
Tower—**Song of the Sarong** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 100

"Affairs of Susan" Takes Boxoffice Lead Among Minneapolis Theatres

MINNEAPOLIS—"Affairs of Susan" got the big play last week but it had little in the way of opposition, aside from holdovers. The latter were the highly praised and high grossing "National Velvet," "Diamond Horseshoe" and "It's in the Bag," in their second weeks. The first named was far out in front of the others.

Aster—**Bluebeard** (PRC); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) 100
Century—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 90
Gopher—**Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 90
Lyric—**It's in the Bag** (UA), 2nd d. t. wk. 70
Orpheum—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ) 90
Radio City—**Affairs of Susan** (Para) 160
State—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 110
World—**Maryland** (20th-Fox), reissue 90

"Horseshoe" Attracts the Best Audiences of Omaha Week

OMAHA — "Diamond Horseshoe" at the Paramount pulled the best audiences during the week. "Between Two Women" continued to draw well in a moveover to the Omaha. There was both a heavy shower and sunny weather over the weekend.

Brandeis—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 105
Omaha—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 120
Orpheum—**Naughty Marietta** (M-G-M), reissue; **The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para) 95
Paramount—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox) 125
State—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox), 2nd runs 115
Town—**I Love a Mystery** (Col); **Wild Horse Phantom** (PRC); **I Married a Murderer** (YOR), split with **Ghosts on the Loose** (Mono); **Police Bullets** (Mono); **Two-Fisted Justice** (Mono) 100

"Salty O'Rourke" Is Top Drawing Attraction at Des Moines

DES MOINES—All three downtown houses here did below average business last week. Of these, Alan Ladd and Gail Russell in "Salty O'Rourke" proved the top drawing cards at the Des Moines Theatre, with "Target Tokyo" as the second feature. The double feature at the Paramount was "Dark Waters" and Laurel and Hardy in "Bullfighters." At the Orpheum, "Tarzan and the Amazons" and "Pan-Americana" shared the double bill.

Des Moines—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 95
Orpheum—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 90
Paramount—**Dark Waters** (UA); **Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 90

MINNEAPOLIS

M A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, went to Des Moines to arrange for the world premiere of "State Fair," scheduled for August 29. It will be released at that time throughout Iowa, its locale, and 75-day and date bookings already have been signed up.

W. H. Workman, M-G-M branch manager, is back from a vacation in Florida, where he visited his mother . . . J. Lubin, Warner Bros. home-office auditor, was a visitor . . . Every third weekend Harold Wise, Paramount booking manager, flies to Chicago to visit his parents.

LeRoy J. Miller, Universal branch manager, was spending his vacation in and around Minneapolis . . . A large crowd turned out for RKO's invitation screening of the new Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man." The reception was highly enthusiastic . . . Alan Usher, Paramount district manager, was here to conduct a sales meeting in connection with a drive for Paramount week. All salesmen came in to attend the meeting.

Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, returning after arranging luncheons in Des Moines, Omaha and Lincoln for Christie Walsh who will be in Minneapolis June 18 in connection with "Captain Eddie," the Rickenbacker picture.

The M-G-M exchange was being remodeled to provide a private office for Ralph Maw, new district manager, who will headquarter here. Until the office is ready he'll be in Chicago . . . Rud Lohrenz, United Artists district manager, was a visitor . . . A redecorating job is being done at RKO.

Jimmy Dorsey's engagement at Orpheum here was canceled because of the band leader's illness, necessitating his return to California . . . Harry Hirsch, burlesque impresario, again was cosponsoring the annual Roller Derby at the Auditorium . . . Ringsiders at the Graves-Olivera fight at the Auditorium included Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis., exhibitor; the always-present Harry Dryer and Abe Kaplan, exhibitors; Fred Abelson, Universal salesman, and the 20th-Fox branch manager, Jack Cohen.

John J. Friedl, president of the Minnesota Amusement Co., was back from Chicago, where he attended a meeting of Paramount partners, associates and executives to discuss current operations, problems and plans. Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, presided.

Carol Bruce of the movies was appearing in person at the Hotel Radisson Flame room . . . Dorothy Lewis, who appeared as the star of an ice picture for Republic, now is at the Hotel Nicollet Minnesota Terrace with her new ice show.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!



RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!

AN EARLY matinee lineup welcomed "MOM AND DAD" to the Tivoli Theatre, Gary, Ind. It broke the house record on Wednesday — opening day — and Marc Wolf, head of the Y. & W. circuit dated it in every town.

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O M A H A

Biggest news in the Tri-States Theatres Corp. headquarters here this week was the receipt of a telegram from Madeline Schiller that she and David Kauffman, owner of one of the largest stores in their home town of Grand Island, had been married . . . Charles Lorenz, head shipper at M-G-M, is taking a leave of several months due to ill health. As soon as the doctor gives his okay, Charley will head for California.

Francis Pace, Malvern, Iowa, exhibitor, has installed new Royal Soundmaster equipment in his theatre. Scott-Ballantyne Co. did the job . . . Jack Sutherland, former exhibitor at Ewing, Neb., was along the Row Monday with Mrs. Sutherland. Jack is looking for a new theatre . . . Bill Wink, WB salesman, has moved into his new home . . . Herb Rhur, 20th-Fox shipper, is on vacation . . . Vacationing out of Warners' office were Carol Kearns, bookkeeper, and Peggy Bragg, inspector.

Enid Cody, 20th-Fox inspector, resigned this week to move to California . . . Clyde Cooley, 20th-Fox screening operator, is expected back this week after a long visit with his son Raymond in the navy at Gulfport, Miss. . . . Jean Vinci is the new telephone girl at M-G-M . . . All theatres remained open here Memorial Day, but most other businesses were closed . . . Hugh Braly, Paramount district manager from Denver, spent Monday here.

Harold Johnson, Universal manager, spent part of his vacation, visiting the old home town, Minneapolis . . . Milina D'Agosta, Paramount contract clerk, left for California where she will visit her brother who is in the coast guard.

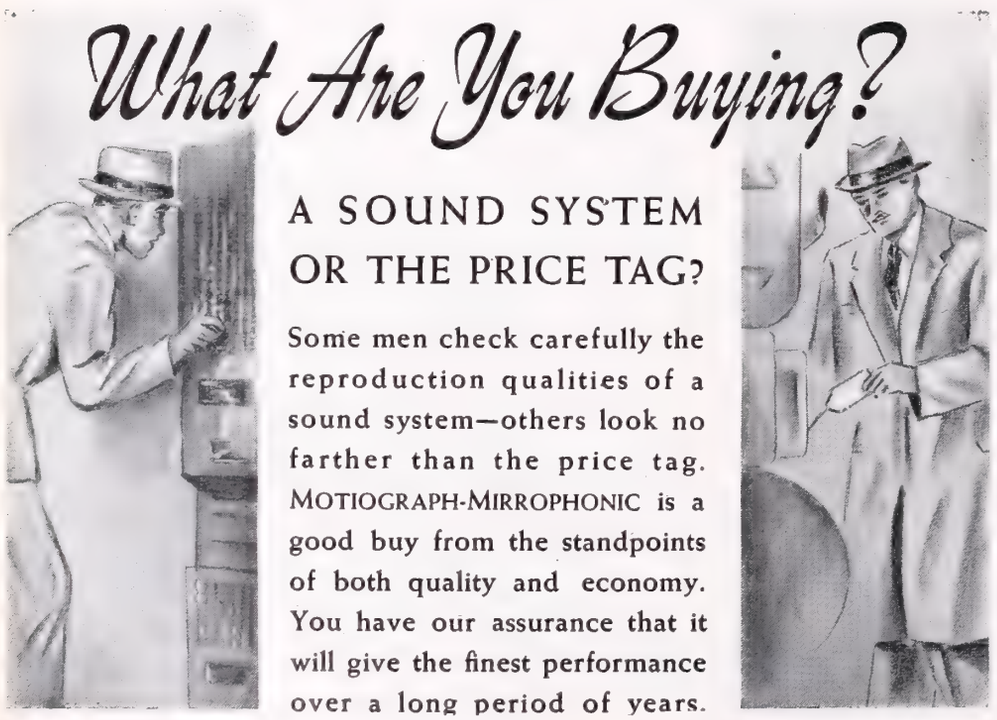
The big bond premiere at the Capitol Theatre, Grand Island, last week netted more than $300,000 in bond sales which must be something of a record for a city of that size. Wally Kemp, Tri-States city manager, was in charge of arrangements . . . "Here's Your Infantry" will be presented Friday and Saturday at Creighton Stadium to further swell war bond sales here.

Henry S. Rachman, Omaha owner of a food shop and uncle of R. D. Goldberg, Omaha circuit owner, and Jake Rachman, Omaha film critic, died Sunday . . . Deloris Chapman, a war worker, won the role of "Claudia" from a field of 16 in tryouts for the Civic Theatre Guild's first production . . . Betty Rhodes of 20th-Fox exchange and Lois Brown are Filmrow's two representatives in the production.

Theatre owners here welcomed an announcement by the new city council that out-of-town visitors no longer will be handed parking tickets . . . Charles Fischer of the army and Maxie Rosenbloom, who went to school together, met here after 26 years while Maxie was performing at the Orpheum Theatre.

Monday was one of the nicest days of the spring but few visitors showed up along the Row even among the regular crowd. Phil March of Wayne and Ed Kugel Hostein, Iowa, were the only two noted for something of record. Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Holdrige, Shenandoah, and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Thacker, South Sioux City, were in last week.





Yale Drama School Lists Alumni in Show Work

From New England Edition

NEW HAVEN—The Yale department of drama claims a big representation in the 1944-45 theatrical season on Broadway, in Hollywood, on the road, and in various entertainment and special service activities of the armed forces.

John Hersey, author of "A Bell for Adano," is a Yale alumnus, class of 1936; while Paul Osborne, adapter of the book to the stage, and Henry C. Potter, director, were members of the class of 1928.

Whitfield Cook, 1930, directed the play "Violet," while Albert Margolies, 1930, was its producer.

Blevins Davis, 1936, produced the musical "Rhapsody" with a book by Arnold Sundgaard, 1934, from a story by Alois Nagler, former fellow in drama. Costumes for "Rhapsody" were by Frank Bevan, 1930; lighting by Stanley McCandless of the drama school faculty at present, and stage management by Dan Sattler, 1938.

Paul Feiquay, coproducer with George Abbott of "On the Town," graduation in 1939, while Alvin Colt, designer of the costumes, and Peggy Clark, stage manager, were alumni of 1937 and 1938.

"One Touch of Venus" and "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," both holdovers from the previous season, were directed by Elia Kazan, class of 1934, who went overseas this year with the special services division. Michael Gordon, 1932, directed "Rebecca," "Sophie Halenczek" and "Therese Requin." Sam Leve, 1935, was scene designer for "Dark Hammock," "Hand in Glove," "Sophie Halenczek" and "Last Stop."

Betty Smith, 1934 alumna, author of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," has written a play, "Mine, and Never Yield," which Michael Todd is producing.

In Hollywood, Elaine Ryan, 1930, wrote the screenplay for "The Silver Fox"; Robert Johnson, 1930, wrote "Sergeant Mike"; Bert Granet, 1930, wrote the book for Eddie Cantor's musical, "Show Business," and Harry Kleiner, 1941, received a contract to write screenplays.

New Warners Exchange Project in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS—It has been announced that Warner Bros. will build a new exchange building here as soon as priorities are available. Plans call for a two-story structure. The company owns the building where M-G-M, Republic and its own office now are housed.

Cronyn and Britton Leads in "Letter"

Hume Cronyn and Pamela Britton were assigned the leading roles in "A Letter for Evie," a Metro production.

St. Paul Baby Benefits From Theatre's "Birthday"

St. Paul, Minn.—John Read, manager of the Riviera Theatre here, recently celebrated the theatre's 17th "birthday" by presenting a complete crib outfit to the first baby born in St. Paul after midnight May 9 and before midnight May 10. The theatre was opened as the Astor May 10, 1928.

Roosevelt's Career Tempting Film Men

By IVAN SPEAR

THE ice has been broken on a lush, tempting but extremely delicate pool of motion picture material — the life and ideologies of the late, great Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

United Artists Producer Benedict Bogeaus was first among Hollywood filmmakers definitely to announce intentions of making a feature based upon the vast amount of screen substance brought into focus by the President's death.

Prior to Bogeaus' proclamation, the trade and lay press had indulged in considerable conjecture regarding ventures reportedly being mulled for the production of biographical subjects on FDR. Railbirds printed that both David O. Selznick and Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox impresario, were toying with such ideas. Spokesmen for neither would give official status to the reports.

Bogeaus' picture will be called "The Four Freedoms." Further than that, slightly on the ambiguous side, was the press release which revealed the undertaking. It came from Jerry Dale, Bogeaus' publicity head, and is subject to some analysis:

Dale declared, "the picture, presented as sheer entertainment, will be filmed with an all-star cast and produced on a lavish scale." That much is attributable to standard procedure of press agentry—the wisdom and good taste of which, in this instance, might be questioned.

Next! "Although President Roosevelt will not be pictured in any form in the production, efforts will be made to film the production in cooperation with the President's close associates who would act in an advisory capacity." Write that much off to protection and, maybe, a bit of wishful thinking. No one will produce a film in which President Roosevelt is pictured "in any form" without permission of his widow and family. Just how difficult it will be to secure that permission, time will tell.

And, then, the crux of the situation as reflected in two phrases: the picture is to be "a memorial to our late President" and "in aspect the film will be international, portraying to the world a story of the principles for which Roosevelt stood."

With those two ambitious statements, establishing a definite, albeit still vague and unofficial, connection between the proposed feature and the memory and ideologies of the nation's mourned wartime leader, Praiser Dale saddled his employer with an immense responsibility, which if it is not munificently fulfilled makes them both guilty of unforgivable opportunism.

Yes, President Roosevelt's life is indeed a lush and tempting pool of screen material. In the best interests of the industry, the nation and the world, fervently is it to be hoped that no producer, including Bogeaus—and more certainly, no press agent—bites into it for more than he can chew—tastefully, creditably and faithfully.

Theatre Lobby Turned Into Navy Recruiting Station

Des Moines—Glenn Fried, manager of the Paramount Theatre, Waterloo, set up a navy recruiting booth in the lobby of his theatre in connection with the showing the M-G-M's picture "This Man's Navy." Navy personnel officiated in the booth, and signed up any recruits who volunteered for the service.

Town in Flames on His Opening Night Fails to Faze Exhibitor Now Veteran

From Central Edition

ST. LOUIS—They called out the firefighters the night Walter A. Thimmig started his career as a motion picture exhibitor at the Gem in Marissa, Ill. October 12, 1910, is a memorable date in the history of this Illinois town since it was the night a considerable portion of the town square was destroyed.



W. A. THIMMIG

When the first cry of "fire" electrified the town, Thimmig was stationed up in his wooden projection booth grinding out film at his first show held in the back room of a bank building. It was, in fact, a preview, a showing in advance of the contemplated schedule. A group of clerks who worked in the stores on the square had begged Walter to give them a chance to see the pictures and he complied. Fate had placed his opening and the worst conflagration in the history of Marissa on the same night.

In the small theatre the cry of "fire" came from Bial Brantler, today a Marissa policeman, who had rushed into the audience of some 200 people, a goodly portion of the town's population, for volunteer firefighters to fight the blaze sweeping the opposite street.

Thinking that a smart-aleck was attempting to break up his show, Thimmig hurried down from the booth. The patrons quickly left the theatre and one woman in her haste fell down an open stairway. Fortunately she was not injured.

Incidentally, Thimmig purchased his first projection machine from Barney Rosenthal of the Swanson-Crawford Co., today manager for Monogram Pictures. The price—$85—sort of "took" the new exhibitor, he feels today. The modern projection machine today costs approximately $3,500, plus screen sound equipment.

His first admission price was five cents for the ten-minute show, which consisted of a one-reeler. Shows averaged three an hour.

Following the fire store space was at a premium in Marissa and Thimmig was induced to give up the little back room he was using for his showhouse. He made a deal for the use of the Temperance Temple, a meeting hall that was controlled by a number of men and women strongly opposed to liquor. Complications were encountered since Thimmig had previously operated a tavern. When he finally convinced the temperance folk that he was interested wholly in operating a picture show they played him with a lease several yards long and containing enough whys, wherefores and whereases to make the best Philadelphia lawyer dizzy.

Operated First Rural Circuit

So the Gem moved into the Temperance hall and it was operated by Thimmig for five years. He then moved to Sparta, Ill., where he operated a theatre for the following five years. In that period he also had houses in Lenzberg, Marissa, New Athens and Sparta and furnished film to theatres in Coulterville and Tilden. It was the first circuit in that section and probably one of the first in the U.S. outside of the big cities.

Later in his career Thimmig operated the Strand in Salina, Kas., and he also had a house in DuQuoin, Ill. He had a brief experience in the state rights film distribution business and for a while he had the Universal Sound & Service Co., furnishing sound equipment to theatres in the St. Louis territory.

Along about 1920, with his brother, the late Charles Thimmig, south St. Louis real estate and insurance man, he took over the New Grand Duchess Theatre, located in an old church building on the site of the 5,000-seat Fox Theatre of the Fanchon & Marco circuit. Later the name of the house was changed to the Mid-Way, since it was almost the exact center of St. Louis. After five or six years he sold his interest in that house to his brother and a business associate.

Prior to the erection of the Fox, Charles Thimmig had a deal just about set with the Selznick, Klaw & Erlanger and old International Life for a pretentious motion picture theatre and office building on Grand Blvd. and a vaudeville house and large apartment project on Washington Blvd. After months of negotiations and just before a 99-year lease was to be signed the owner of the ground, the late Col. Moses Sheenberg, had a stroke and before he recovered sufficiently to consider again the proposition some of the major parties had met with financial complications that caused them to back away.

One of the interesting experiences in Thimmig's early operations in Marissa was the free Saturday night shows he gave in cooperation with the business men of the community. He stretched a large sheet across the main street of the town. The business men paid well for brief advertising slides shown during the show which brought some 3,000 to 3,500 persons to town. Naturally while in town they visited the business houses. It was a profitable arrangement for all.

Thimmig, 65 years old on February 26 last, took over the McNair Theatre here on Oct. 12, 1930, just 20 years after starting at Marissa. He is happy in this comparably small 583-seat house. When he took over there he spent several thousand dollars in modernization, including a new structural glass front. He resides at 5037 Milentz Ave. in southwest St. Louis.

As a young man Thimmig was a coal miner and later operated a tavern in the "wet" section of the Marissa. However, he looks on the day of Marissa's great fire when he ran his first reel as a lucky day in his life.

M-G-M Service Workers Get Retroactive Pay Hike

CHICAGO—Service department employes at M-G-M—shipping clerks, inspectors and postal clerks—received their 10 per cent raise, retroactive to Dec. 1, 1942. Other exchanges are expected to pay the increase soon.

The M-G-M increase is applicable to employes in the Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Indianapolis exchanges, as well as here. An increase for front office help, also retroactive, is expected to go through in several exchanges through efforts of International IATSE, New York.

Mystery Element Lacking In Johnson Photo Theft

Des Moines—Van Johnson might well be Des Moines' latest pinup boy. A 14x17 framed photo of the actor disappeared from the Roosevelt Theatre lobby during the showing of his picture "Between Two Women" last week. Roosevelt Theatre officials carefully explained that they were not looking for a man in the case.

KANSAS CITY

Bob Ringler, RKO salesman, had an uncomfortable week on his western Kansas trip wrestling with a sore tooth. After visiting several dentists he finally had the tooth pulled but the pain persisted. Returning here an X-ray revealed a tiny sliver of silver from a filling had fallen into the cavity, causing the pain.

Bill Burke, RKO home office representative, was here for the weekend . . . Ray Nolan, RKO district manager, was in Kansas City from St. Louis a few days last week.

Virginia Smith was laid up for a few days after being struck by a truck in Swope Park, where the RKO branch picnic was held. She and three other girls of the party were walking along a road near the lagoon early in the evening when the accident occurred. She was bruised and shaken up but not badly injured.

Mrs. Mary Ada McPeek, Paramount inspection department, has received word that her son, Pvt. Joseph A. McPeek, 20, was wounded in action in Germany April 12 and died the following day. He was with the Third army. McPeek enlisted in March 1943. A chaplain wrote that he was the youngest member of his tank destroyer unit. Mrs. McPeek has another son in the service, Cpl. Charles R. McPeek, in the medical corps at the prisoner of war camp at Weingarten, Mo.

Two Paramounters have sisters who have just entered the woman's army corps to take part in caring for returning soldiers needing special attention. Kathryn E. Mistele, sister of Billie Mistele, has enlisted for postwar training as a medical-surgical technician, and now is at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga. . . . Mrs. Mary McCurdy, sister of Alma Brosnahan, inspection department, will take postwar training at Des Moines. She is a former member of the corps.

Lon T. Fidler, Monogram franchise owner, left May 29 for Denver. He had just returned here from Chicago where he attended a franchise owners meeting and the semi-annual meeting of Monogram's board of directors. He was proud his franchise points, Kansas City and Denver, were winners in the recent drive, Kansas City taking second for over-all improvement and Denver third in the department of collections.

Mike Lee came back from the Chicago sales meeting of Monogram with $1,000—the award for winning second place for the Kansas City branch, which he manages.

H. E. Doolittle, head of Kansas City Ticket Co., reports that his company has completed making tools under war contracts and now is ready to resume normal prewar operations.

Virgil Green, Green Theatre, La Plata, Mo., says the rains haven't seriously interfered with farm work in his area . . . Frank Weary, Richmond, Mo., here on one of his regular visits to Filmrow, remarked that while some patrons may be prejudiced against war pictures, some war films have drawn the largest attendances.

Joe Allard, assisting at R. R. Biechele's Osage, Kansas City, Kas., was visited last week by his son, the Rev. Robert E. Allard, Christian church minister who enlisted as an army chaplain and now is in rehabilitation work for returned service men.

Oscar Morgan, general manager for Paramount short subjects department, held a meeting here last week for regional branch officials. Attending were R. C. LiBeau and Ray Copeland, Kansas City district and branch managers; Harry Hamburg, Des Moines branch manager, and Maurice Schweitzer, manager of the St. Louis branch.

Dow Summers, who took over operation of the Royal, Unionville, when his father moved to California, was on Filmrow this week booking. He said his father and mother, now visiting in Unionville, are delighted with their California home.

Alma Brosnahan baked a "birthday" cake with a single candle to celebrate her first year in the inspection department at Paramount. She took it to the office and the other girls provided additional refreshments to make a real anniversary celebration of the occasion.

The RKO teams that took part in the interoffice contest in the Ned Depinet drive had a picnic at Swope Park Saturday. The losing teams treated the winners and are said to have provided a first rate menu and fine entertainment. When it started to rain the party adjourned to the Earl Dyson home.

Columbia people here are eagerly awaiting prints of "A Thousand and One Nights" and formulating plans for its screening . . . Pvt. William R. Simpson, formerly house manager at the Tower here, is back home after being a prisoner of war in Germany. He had been away two years.

Pres Gordon visited Filmrow this week while convalescing from a major operation. He has been in charge of the Anne, Maysville, Mo., the last three years but will turn it back to the R. H. Meeks July 1. Meek now is in the navy, but Mrs. Meek is preparing to operate the house.

George Ross, manager of National Screen branch here, plans to attend a regional meeting of the company in Chicago June 15, 16 and 17. Also attending will be Salesmen Frank Berglas and Frank Meyer.

Memorial Day meant work as usual at the war plants, stores and many other business places were closed for the day. Sunday schedules were in at motion picture theatres with skeleton crews for short hours on Filmrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Miller and their eight-year-old son are visiting Beverly Miller, PRC franchise holder. Herbert formerly worked with his brother on Filmrow before becoming distributor for Taystee bread at Union, Mo.

The Paramount Pep Club held its annual meeting last week, electing Albert C. Morris, booker, as president to succeed "Andy" Anderson, salesman. Anne O'Toole, booking department, was elected vice-president, and Dorothy Duderstadt, contract department, secretary-treasurer. The Pep Club has limited its social affairs during the war, but continues active in social services.

The Electric, Springfield, Mo., used large-sized German type for a striking announcement of "Hotel Berlin," beginning with the word "Achtung!" In smaller English type below was the translation: "Attention! Warners rip the roof off the Hotel Berlin!" . . . R. H. Patt has returned from a visit with his brother, E. N. Patt, at Creston, Iowa.

Universal's Tommy Thompson heard Monday that his son Tommy jr. had embarked for somewhere in the Pacific with the navy. He had received initial training at Park College . . . E. P. Michael, Michlo, Braymer, Mo., was accompanied to Filmrow this week by his son S/Sgt. Gene Michael, home on furlough from Hawaii.

Swing shift shows, while not yet back to their precurfew attendance, are building up nicely, managers report.

Coal dealers and producers and distributors viewed "Power Unlimited" at the meeting of the Missouri Retail Coal Dealers Ass'n recently. The picture, one of RKO's This Is America series, was given a special screening through arrangements made by Harry Vawter of the Bituminous Coal Ass'n with the RKO office. The coal men were greatly interested in the variety and range of articles derived from coal, as well as of uses with which all were more or less familiar.

Tech. Sgt. Martin Finkelstein has returned to civvies, having been honorably discharged by Uncle Sam. An exhibitor before entering the service, Martin plans to return to exhibition after a short rest.

Ralph Pullen, Ft. Wood Theatre, Waynesville, Mo., did a series of bond premieres, using the plan of issuing a numbered ticket to all purchasers, good for a drawing of war bond prizes. Three premieres were staged with good results.

As a feature of the bond premiere to be held at the Newman Theatre here June 19, BOXOFFICE will present a citation to Bob Carnie, Paramount salesman, for the outstanding record of service to their country by members of the Carnie family.

"No School for Showmen," Says Ed D. Durwood

Kansas City—"There are no schools for showmen," said Ed D. Durwood, general manager of Dubinsky Bros., on the stand here in an income tax appeal hearing. "If you've got that feel, you're a showman."

His words were a tribute to the previewing ability of his late wife, Mrs. Celia D. Durwood, who died in February, 1944.

"My wife got expert as to the feminine point of view—what will bring women to the boxoffice," he said. "I relied on her judgment. If you exhibit the wrong picture in the wrong spot at the wrong time, you can lose as much as $1,000 a week."

Republic Booker Leaves To Manage Theatre

DES MOINES—Earl Myers, booker at Republic Pictures, has resigned his position to become manager of the Palace Theatre, Mason City. The Palace is owned by Central States Theatres Corp. Myers replaces C. E. Lindblad. Mrs. Myers will join her husband in Mason City soon.

George Thacker Purchases Tyke at Titonka, Iowa

TITONKA, IOWA — George Thacker has purchased the Tyke Theatre here from the Bartlett brothers. Thacker formerly owned the theatre at West Bend, which he recently sold.

Reopen at Humboldt, Kas.

HUMBOLDT, KAS. — The Cozy Theatre here again is open, completely redecorated and with new equipment, following a destructive fire.

Exhibitor to Missouri Spa

DES MOINES—Beulah DeNune, exhibitor at Tipton, Iowa, was planning a trip to Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Clevelanders Don't Go for Premieres

CLEVELAND—More than 80 bond premiere pledges have been received from exhibitors of the northern Ohio area by Tony Stern, master booker in charge of all Seventh War Loan booking.

"This is only the beginning," Stern says, "because we expect to have many more before we are through."

Cleveland is not a fertile field for bond premieres. Because they have not been successful in the past, exhibitors refuse to go for them. They refuse to put their shoulder to the wheel for what they know from experience will fail; they hesitate to associate their theatres with a failure. This is not a reflection either on the theatre owners or on the people of Cleveland. The exhibitors have staged bond premieres in the past with all the flag waving and fanfare set forth in the campaign books. The results have been poor. Clevelanders are buying their full share of bonds. They buy many thousands of dollars worth of them at the theatres. But a free picture show does not evoke their enthusiasm.

Warner Theatres has set up the following war bond schedule in this zone: 1 bond auctin, 12 bond premieres, 3 kiddie bond premieres and 105 Free Movie Days in which 21 issuing agent theatres will observe Free Movie Day every Wednesday for the duration of the drive.

The Variety Theatre here has scheduled an auction June 6. Manager Frank Wheatley is now busy lining up merchandise to be sold for bonds.

Premieres are set as follows:

Strand, Akron, May 29.
Warner, Youngstown, open. In cooperation with the Paramount and State.
Palace, Cleveland, June 6. In cooperation with the Hippodrome.
Ohio, Lima, June 4.
Ohio, Sidney, June 15.
Sherman, Chillicothe, June 8.
Harris, Findlay, June 15.
Ohio, Canton, open. In cooperation with the Palace.
Pastime, Coshocton, June 19.
Palace, Lorain, open.
Ohio, Sandusky, June 12.

Cincinnati Pledges Hold Up, But Premieres Are Fewer

CINCINNATI—Exhibitor pledges for the Seventh War Loan have proven substantial in this area, although bond premieres pledged are slightly below last year. Col. Allan Moritz, WAC co-chairman in this area, announced 94 bond premieres have been pledged, 396 Free Movie Days, and 30 children's matinees.

John McKay Returns Home From a German Camp

CINCINNATI—John McKay, the son of Paul McKay, Montgomery, W. Va., exhibitor, has returned home after being reported missing by the war department and subsequently confined in a German prison camp.

The young man surprised his family, and report has it, walked in unannounced.

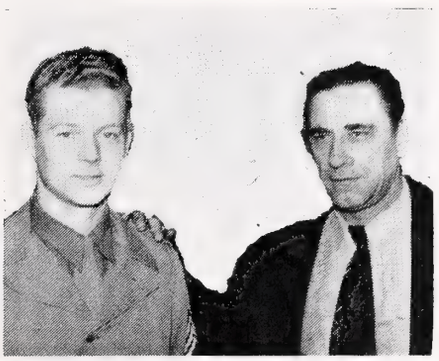
Theatre Robbed of $100

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO—About $100 in cash and a typewriter were stolen from the Alpine Theatre at nearby Chester, W. Va., by thieves who pried open a rear door.

Exhibitor's Three Sons in Navy

ELLWOOD CITY, PA.—Three sons of Frank Biordi, veteran showman at the Majestic here, are enrolled with the navy. John is now in boot training at Bainbridge, Md.; Bob is a petty officer, radar instructor, in Tennessee, and Lieut. Rudy, Annapolis graduate, is on a cruiser off Okinawa.

Exhibitors Hew To Line As High War Pay Skids



SHOP DOUBLE-TALK — Sgt. Dick Hogan, AAF, former juvenile star in Republic, RKO and Warner pictures, and Frank Thomas, IATSE Local 171, discussed "coffee grinders" when Hogan visited Pittsburgh's Filmrow, but their subjects weren't the same. Dick's was airplane engines, while Frank stuck to motion picture projectors.

CLEVELAND—Theatre attendance is probably one of the most reliable barometers of the times. When business is good theatre attendance is good. When business is slim, so is theatre attendance. Ever since Pearl Harbor, when industry was stepped up to meet war conditions, Cleveland motion picture theatres have flourished in direct proportion to increased employment and to fat pay rolls.

A large percentage of Cleveland industry is devoted to the manufacture of airplane parts and to tools for the manufacture of other war requirements. Last week a 45 per cent cut in the manufacture of planes was announced. This was immediately followed by an announcement of a drastic hours cut at Jack & Heintz, one of the largest airplane parts manufacturers in the country. Working hours were cut from a maximum of 84 to a new maximum of 50 hours resulting in a 30 per cent reduction in earnings affecting more than 8,000 employes.

Had Received 112 Hours Pay

Night shift workers who have been putting in 84 hours a week were receiving pay for 112 hours, counting time and a half for hours over 40 a week and double time for Sunday. Under the reduced schedule they will receive 55 hours' pay for 50 hours' work. White collar workers are similarly affected.

While this is the first public announcement here of a cut in hours it is undoubtedly the forerunner of many others. Those affected by the wage reduction will cut down on their spending, observers figure, and those not yet affected will take warning and put their money away for less prosperous days.

The theatres, usually the first to benefit by a prosperity wave, are prepared to be the first casualty of the end of war boom days. They are prepared to face a period of slim business. But what are they doing about it?

Offer the Best They Can

Nothing. There's nothing they can do about it, they say.

"Theatre patronage is a brittle article," one prominent exhibitor said. "It must be handled with loving care. All we, as theatre owners, can do is to reflect the public mind. We can offer the best entertainment possible at the lowest admission prices consistent with good business.

"Can we meet the conditions facing us with reduced admissions? Obviously, with taxes and operating costs, not to mention films, at their present high level, we cannot lower admissions. But we can sell entertainment and service."

Will the trend, which has been to the downtown first run houses, revert to the neighborhood houses with their lower admission scale?

"That," a subsequent run theatre owner stated, "is anybody's guess. But it has been the public practice in other times to seek lower priced admissions when the pay envelope was not too full, so we, who have not been in on the big money spent during the lush days, look forward to seeing some of our patronage return to the neighborhoods."

Muskegon Regent Damaged in Blast

DETROIT—The Regent Theatre at Muskegon suffered a $25,000 loss by a fire following an explosion of undetermined origin May 21. The house is operated by Paul J. Schlossman and the Butterfield circuit.

Martin Christiansen, manager of the Schlossman house, said he had left the theatre less than half an hour before the fire. Carlyle Williams, former maintenance man at the house, saw the fire from a nearby restaurant and was able to open the doors and remove films and supplies to safety.

Detroit Nightingales Pay Tribute to Men in Service

DETROIT—The Nightingales Club, bowling organization of the projection side of Filmrow, held their annual installation of officers last Tuesday at midnight at the Detroit Labor Temple.

The event was strictly informal and was marked by the presentation by President Edgar Douville of engraved compacts to the wives of members in the service—Mrs. Francis Light, Mrs. Robert C. Kemp, Mrs. Edward Waddell and Mrs. S. J. Lambly jr. Tribute was also paid to the three other service members, William Edwards, Robert C. Moesta and Robert J. Trainer.

Guests of honor included Frank Kinsora, president, IATSE Local 199; Roy R. Ruben, president of the Screen Craft Club; Harry R. Berns, commander of the theatrical post; George McArthur, McArthur Theatre Supply Co.; R. E. Pierce, Altec Service Co.; Mrs. Roger M. Kennedy, wife of the IA vice-president, and Anne Holoyad and Aileen Davis of the IATSE office.

Open Air Theatre Opens

AKRON—The Starlight, Akron's original open air theatre, has been opened at S. Arlington Ave. and Waterloo Rd. Programs feature double bills of subsequent run films.

Club Honors Akron Stations

AKRON—The city's three radio stations, WADC, WAKR and WHCK, were presented testimonials by Kiwanis Club President John A. Thorpe jr. at a luncheon in the Mayflower Hotel in recognition of the 25th anniversary of broadcasting.

CLEVELAND

Walter J. Titus jr., assistant to James R. Grainger, Republic president, was in town part of last week to confer with Sam P. Gorrel, local manager, in regard to Republic's tenth anniversary drive . . . There was rejoicing last week at Universal where summer working hours went into effect. The entire office is now working on an 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. schedule. Other exchanges are discussing adoption of the same plan.

Hand it to the RKO publicity man, Peter Bathory, and William Heiss, RKO Palace manager, for a swell contest they arranged with the May Co. for "The Enchanted Cottage." The department store set up a model six-room "enchanted cottage," which was duly advertised in all the newspapers, and also cooperated with the Palace in a letter contest. One $50 bond and two $25 bonds were given by the Palace to writers of the best letters on, "What are the requirements for an enchanted cottage?"

Peter Bellamy, who used to edit the amusement page of the News before adopting the navy blue, has been made classifications officer in the navy training center, at Sampson, N. Y. . . . Sam Stecker of Associated circuit and Mrs. Stecker have gone to Nashville, Tenn., to attend the graduation of their daughter Lita from Ward Belmont College.

Sick Report: Nat L. Lefton is in an advanced stage of convalescence at Mount Sinai Hospital following an emergency operation. Leroy P. Langford, until recently of the Oliver Theatre Supply, is undergoing treatment at Lakeside Hospital. Selina Amster, 20th-Fox secretary, is at Mount Sinai recovering from an operation.

Sgt. Tommy Levandis, former Oliver Theatre employe, is home from the CBI area on a 30-day furlough . . . Henry Hellriegel, theatre contractor, stopped off here on a furlough with his wife and three children en route from Ft. Knox, Ky., where he completed his basic training, to Camp Meade, Md. Henry doesn't expect to be there long, however, as Camp Meade is just a way station for far places. The boys gave a party for him Thursday night in the CMPEA clubrooms.

William Heiss, manager of the RKO Palace, announces the theatre will go back to its stage and screen policy June 29. Name bands and vaudeville will be resumed with Friday again as the opening day . . . George "Bud" Gilliam, formerly of Warner Theatres, has announced his marriage to a WAVE, one of a group he was assigned to train . . . Girls of Warner Theatres staged a shower Thursday evening last week in honor of Hinda Zarkey of the contact department who will wed soon.

Gene Vogel, now Universal manager in Albany who formerly was here, was in last week on a social visit . . . Sanford Gottlob has been appointed 20th-Fox salesman to cover the river territory. Ray Schmertz, who formerly covered it has been promoted to city salesman. Gottlob is an old hand in the film business, having been with M-G-M and also a Film Classics franchise owner.

Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew's Ohio, has as her guest for two weeks her sister, Evalyn Learned, Port Chester, N. Y. . . . Hal Shreffler of the Castamba Theatre, Shelby, was in on one of his infrequent visits. He says that his son Hal jr. was wounded in action in Europe and now is in England . . . Edward J. Modi of the State, Barnesville, put in a personal appearance at the exchanges last week.

Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, and Tony Stern, booking manager, will leave for New York June 4 to attend a zone managers' meeting on the following day . . . "Report from Iwo Jima," WAC film, was thought to be the finest documentary film released to date by those who saw it in a screen room the other day . . . Tony Stern, Warner booking manager, reports that the stage show, "Asylum of Horrors," is doing terrific wherever he has played it, which includes the Warner houses in Mansfield, Lima, Coshocton and Findlay. It's a one-hour show featuring Frankenstein the Monster and is handled by Jack Baker, who is bringing it east after having fulfilled successful engagements on the west coast.

Jack Sogg, M-G-M manager, will be putting a service flag in his window very shortly. It will be for his son-in-law, Dr. Fred Soldow, who has completed his internship at City Hospital and is just waiting to be called to duty . . . Anne Vickers, M-G-M booker, has heard that her nephew, Sgt. Hugh O'Neil, missing in Germany since February 25, has turned up safe and sound. He was in the hands of the underground partisans who saved him from capture by the Germans.

Howard Burkhardt, manager of Loew's State, is running a double feature free show in his lobbies. In the outer lobby is a Locust M22 airborne tank and in the inner lobby is a robot bomb. This is the first public exhibition of either of these weapons of war and they are creating a big stir . . . Enlarged quarters of Associated circuit are gradually taking shape with the accounting department moved to the newly acquired space adjoining the old offices.

Mrs. Conrad Re-Elected

CLEVELAND—Mrs. C. W. Conrad was re-elected president of the Cleveland Cinema Club at the annual meeting held last week in the Higbee Lounge. Others re-elected: Mrs. Ralph D. Kittle, vice-president; Mrs. M. M. Beyer, second vice-president, and Mrs. Luis Zettlemeyer, recording secretary. Mrs. W. B. Todd was named corresponding secretary and Mrs. Samuel Lewis treasurer. In its final bulletin of the year, the club called attention to the review service it has inaugurated at the public library. Parents may get complete information about audience suitability as well as the content and art quality of all pictures by calling the fine arts department of the library any day between 9:30 a. m. and 9 p. m.

Louisville Usher Robbed

LOUISVILLE—En route home from the theatre where he is an usher, Donald Schmidt, 15, was attacked and robbed of $14 by two Negroes near Second and College, police reported. Felled by a blow on the head, Schmidt was picked up by a passing motorist and taken to General Hospital where he was treated for head and face cuts.

Neal and Lindsay to "Club Havana"

Tom Neal and Margaret Lindsay were signed to head the cast of "Club Havana," a PRC production.

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"Susan" Outruns All Cleveland Shows

CLEVELAND—"The Affairs of Susan" outran all other first run releases, finishing the race for patrons with a big 30 per cent above par. It moved from the State to a continued run at the Stillman. All of the other new shows just about got by, but the holdovers did very well for themselves. "God Is My Co-Pilot" chalked up a 105 per cent in its third week, this one at the Lake, on a double moveover, while "Salty O'Rourke" did a good opening average at the Ohio where it was playing its third consecutive week and its third moveover.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB) 88
Hippodrome—**Escape in the Desert** (WB) 77
Lake—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd d. t. wk. 105
Ohio—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk. 100
Palace—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 80
State—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para) 130
Stillman—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk. 75

Good Outdoor Weather Cuts Into Grosses at Detroit

DETROIT — Business was generally off, largely the result of the absence of rain during several days of the week, plus a good weekend for outdoor attractions. The trend is away from holdovers at first runs. One major closing, the Paradise, occurred last week, which will mean some redistribution of patronage at other houses.

Adams—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.; **Counter-Attack** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 110
Broadway-Capitol—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Cinema—**Peter the Great** (Para); **Resurrection** (Para), reissues 90
Fox—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 130
Michigan—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk. 105
Palms-State—**Objective, Burma!** (WB); **Trouble Chasers** (Mono) 120
Paradise—**Three's a Crowd** (Rep), plus stage show 140
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.; **Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 100

"Affairs of Susan" Rings the Bell At the Cincinnati Albee

CINCINNATI—Business was good in the major houses. "Affairs of Susan" rang the bell with "Diamond Horseshoe," in its second week, pushing for top honors. "Coney Island" opened.

Albee—**Affairs of Susan** (Para) 130
Capitol—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M) 110
Grand—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 120
Keith's—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 80
Lyric—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) 80
Palace—**Counter-Attack** (Col) 90
Shubert—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 110

"The Unseen" Seen by Many Patrons But Most Pittsburgh Houses Slow

PITTSBURGH—Grosses dropped last week with four holdover-moveover films on view. The Stanley enjoyed a very profitable week with Spike Jones' band and "The Unseen." Stage shows again have been discontinued at this house, as suitable bookings are limited, and no flesh attractions are in the Stanley cards for the summer or early fall. The Stanley's prior week, with the first stage show in five or six months and with "Experiment Perilous," hit a house record.

Barry—**Youth on Trial** (Col); **Nobody's Children** (Col), reissue 90
Fulton—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox) 90
Penn—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO) 85
Ritz—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 110
Senator—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 4 days, 3rd wk. 80
Stanley—**The Unseen** (Para), plus stage show 130
Warner—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk. 85

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THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



It's almost a question of which came first, films or **John and Frances Robertson** of Osborne, Ohio. His start in show business, at least, dates back to about 40 years ago and a life of wandering over the countryside with an old Edison projector as the major equipment of a perambulating "theatre." Married for 35 years, the two Robertsons later operated shows in various small Ohio towns and now own the Park, Bremen; Paxton, Bainbridge; Delyn, New Straitsville; Midway, Osborne and the Frances, Mechanicsburg, which is named after Mrs. Robertson.



Mary Semelroth Candera of Dayton, Ohio, has devoted her entire career to the motion picture industry. In 1925 she bought her first theatre, the Wayne. In the years that followed she has become a familiar figure on Cincinnati's Filmrow. Today she has a circuit of six houses in Dayton and Franklin. This group is known as the Semelroth circuit and conists of the Peoples, Federation, Wayne, Sigma and Park theatres in Dayton and the Ohio Theatre in Franklin. She is a member of ITO of Ohio. Mrs. Candera considers pictures her hobby.



The recent sale of the Rialto and State Theatres at Beaver Falls, Pa., by **Sam S. Hanauer** and his brother Ralph ended a theatre career of 44 years for Sam. Starting in legitimate in 1900, as early as 1902 he showed his first film in what was then known as the Lyceum. Remodeling it in 1928, he called it the Rialto, and in 1941 added the State. Hanauer has served as county treasurer, been on the city council five times and officiated twice as chairman of the Republican county committee. His hobby is politics, as can be guessed from these activities.



Charles Fine, the owner of the Empire Theatre in Cincinnati, decided in 1922 to switch from cigar manufacturing to motion pictures and he has never been sorry. He is a member of Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors, Inc., and Variety Club. Married and the father of three children, Arthur, Eugene and Esterose, Fine sometimes finds time for farming and fishing, his favorite sports. He also enjoys swimming and insists on Florida waters which he believes are the finest in the world. The Fine family residence is at 4526 Paddock Rd., Cincinnati.



When prohibition came along there were a good many men in the liquor business who had to find some new field of endeavor. **Morris Berkowitz** of Cleveland turned to show business. He built his Waldorf Theatre in 1920 and has remained a showman since that time. In the course of his theatre career he acquired two other houses but later sold them. Last winter he leased the Waldorf and then retired. He was formerly on the board of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners League and the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio and is a Mason.



Ronald Emrick became a motion picture exhibitor in the 1920s when he bought a theatre from a man who was leaving for California. His house is the By-Jo in Germantown, Ohio. "Ron," as he is called by his friends, is a member of ITO of Ohio and is active in town affairs. He currently is serving as a member of the library board. His clubs include the Masons, Eagles, Variety, Eaton Country Club, and the American Legion. Emrick is married but has no children. His favorite sports are hunting, fishing and flying.



On Christmas day in 1919, **T. J. Hickes** opened his first theatre in Saxton. He was in the meat business there and decided that Saxton needed a picture house. He rebuilt the Aldine in 1935 when fire destroyed the old theatre. The Hickes have one son in service, Thos. J. jr. with the navy in the South Pacific. A daughter, Clara, is married to a navy man. Hickes is a Mason. He is glad he switched professions many years ago, thinks the picture business is "tops" because he learns something new every day, and because he enjoys showing good pictures.



For **E. J. Myers** of Chillicothe, Ohio, there has never been any doubt as to the status of the motion picture industry. In the game since 1915, the theatre business always has been, is, and always will be "okay" in the eyes of this veteran showman. He operates the 700-seat Majestic Theatre and is a member of MPTOO and the Elks Club. Friends call this genial exhibitor who is unmarried, "Ducky." He lives at 198 North High St., and enjoys getting out of the city occasionally on a hunting or fishing trip when gas stamps allow.



When **Park A. Belden** of Akron was graduated from Case College in 1917 he went to work for a rubber company. However, three years later he gave this up and joined his late father in the management of the Thornton Theatre. His family had been associated with the business since 1913 when the theatre was built. Since the death of his father last year at the age of 79, Park has continued to manage the house. He is a member of Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio and the Akron Motion Picture Theatre Owners. His hobby is fishing.



Frank Biordi, together with Andy Biordi, runs the Majestic Theatre in Ellwood City, Pa. He has been in show business since 1917, the year in which he and John Biordi bought their first house. Frank Biordi has six children, four sons and two daughters. Three of his boys are serving with the navy, one of them on duty in the Pacific area. He is a member of the Eagles. The civic welfare of Ellwood City is of interest to him even though he does not hold any public office. Biordi is interested in books as a hobby when his 1,057-seat house is not demanding attention.



Mary Craig and her husband started in theatre business together in 1921. After Craig's death seven years ago Mrs. Craig took over completely the management of their theatre, the Crystal in Meadowlands, Pa. The theatre's seating capacity is 275. Mrs. Craig has been active in the politics of her community and is the Democratic county committee woman as well as a member of the Democratic women's council and the Boosters Club. She is proud to have twin grandsons, born to her son, George, pit boss at Lindly coal mine.



R. W. Goodall of Versailles, Ohio, who recently celebrated his 77th birthday, has operated the Versailles Opera House for 25 years. He is a familiar figure in Versailles, having also owned and managed the town's leading drug store since 1898. Goodall recently retired from the drug business but continues to operate his theatre. At one time he claimed the checker championship for his vicinity, but in recent years he has forsaken checkerboard strategy in order to follow politics more closely. His daughter, Helen, is a teacher. His son, Norman is in defense work.

Revised Ohio Sales Tax Form in Effect June 1

COLUMBUS—C. Emory Glander, Ohio tax commissioner, has ordered a revision of the semiannual sales tax return from (ST-10) on which licensed vendors make their reports to the sales tax division. It will be in use for the June 30 report on the six months period from January 1, last.

The new form has been revised "so as to make certain that vendors will report and pay to the state the total amounts of money which they have collected from consumers on the sales tax," according to a statement by Glander.

The form heretofore in use provides a computation to determine "net taxable sales" and then requires vendors to return and pay a tax of "not less than three per cent of such net taxable sales." The department has found that some vendors have reported their tax on a flat three per cent basis, notwithstanding the fact that they have collected sales tax proceeds in excess of three per cent.

To correct this situation, the new semiannual sales tax return form now requires the vendor to return and pay the total amount of the tax actually collected, as shown by the vendor's records, or pay three per cent of the net taxable sales, whichever amount is greater.

Film Couple Bids Goodby To English "Duration" Sons

PITTSBURGH—After spending five years with their American "duration" parents following the blitz of England, Peter Salkilld 10, and his brother David 8, are going back to rejoin their father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Salkilld, in London. Since 1940 they have lived with Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Neill, Mount Lebanon. They are returning without trace of their British accent and "are typical little Americans." Neill is employed here by Warner Brothers.

Salkilld is a Warner London office employe, although he has been serving with the British army engineers corps. The boys were placed with the Neills here by the Children's Aid Society.

Ohio Methodists Support Bill to Prohibit Bingo

COLUMBUS—Ohio Methodists have voted to support Senator George Shurtz's anti-bingo bill now being considered by the state legislature. The annual state Methodist conference, in session last week at the King Ave. Methodist Church here, approved a resolution, aimed at eliminating bingo games in Ohio, offered by Dr. J. C. Williams, chairman of the social service commission of the conference. Williams is a former candidate for governor of Ohio on the Prohibition ticket.

Beef Luncheon Steals Spot At Republic Film Preview

Pittsburgh — Republic, celebrating its tenth anniversary, staged a special screening of "Flame of the Barbary Coast" for the local press and radio group last Thursday. A noon luncheon at the William Penn Hotel preceded the screening. More than a dozen guests were present.

Syd Lehman, Republic manager who arranged the luncheon, surprised the hotel management and the guests by obtaining a large slab of beef for the occasion. The film, designated as Republic's anniversary release, goes into the Fulton here.

Cleveland Loses Colorful Figure In Retirement of L. P. Langford

CLEVELAND—With the retirement of Leroy P. Langford from the motion picture theatre supply business through the sale of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co. to the Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp. of New York, Cleveland and its vicinity loses one of the pillars in the amusement industry.

For more than 32 years, Langford has been in the theatre supply business. He started in Milwaukee with his own Wisconsin Theatre Supply Co. In 1927 he sold the business to National Theatre Supply Co. and joined NTS as chief engineer in the engineering department's general offices in Chicago.

In 1932 Langford came to Cleveland as manager of the local NTS office, a position he held until 1936 when he resigned to go into business for himself with the purchase of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co., then without a head following the death of E. E. Oliver.

Langford expanded his business in 1938 with the purchase of the Superior Motion Picture Supply Co. which Art Morrone of Pittsburgh was operating in the present location of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co.

While Langford's motion picture supply record is pretty well known by the many exhibitors in the territory which he has served during the last 18 years, his former connection with the legitimate stage is less known.

Ever since 1903 Langford has been connected with show business. He started out as call boy for the late Richard Mansfield. He toured the country with the Rogers Bros. when they were appearing in "The Rogers Brothers in Harvard," and with George M. Cohan in "Little Johnny Jones." In 1903 he toured the northwest with itinerant picture shows, putting on shows from a truck equipped with projectors and screen.

Leroy Langford was born in Terre Haute April 14, 1885. His boyhood years were divided between Terre Haute and Chicago, but he calls Milwaukee home. His retirement from the theatre supply business is caused by failing health, but as soon as he has recovered sufficiently he and Mrs. Langford plan to return to Milwaukee. His Cleveland friends, of whom he has many, wish him a speedy recovery and success in whatever new venture he undertakes.

CLEVELAND—Ben and Harry Perse, president and vice-presdent of the Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp. of New York, last week completed a deal with Leroy P. Langford for the purchase of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co. Change of ownership of this oldest local motion picture theatre supply company became effective Friday, May 18. It will continue to be operated as the Oliver Theatre Supply Co., and M. H. Frietchle, long affiliated with Langford, will remain as local manager.

This is the first venture of the Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp. to operate outside of New York. It might be preliminary to further expansion, although no such plans exist at the present time, Ben Perse said.

The Oliver Theatre Supply Co., Inc., under the new ownership, has been appointed exclusive distributors in the northern Ohio area for the RCA Victor division of Camden, N. J. It will handle distribution of RCA sound and other types of theatre equipment including Brenkert projectors, Brenkert lamps, Baldor rectifiers, International chairs, Century generators and Westinghouse Mazda lamps.

"We are also expanding in the field of decorating," Perse said. "A complete line of drapery material, seat coverings and other theatre requirements will be maintained, as well as janitor and cleaning supplies."

COLUMBUS

Lou Holleb, Majestic manager, is the possessor of a Nazi battle flag sent him "to be used as a bar rag for the Variety Club" by Cpl. Larry Kaplane, former manager of the Grand. Kaplane is with an airborne outfit that participated in the final battle of Germany.

Jim Keefe, 20th-Fox exploiteer, and Jack Needham, salesman, were seen around town very busy with advance work in connection with the possible world premiere here of 20th-Fox's "The Life of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker." The World War I ace was born in the Buckeye capital.

Mrs. Wayne Shepler, whose husband is manager of Loew's Majestic, Evansville, was a local visitor. She is spending several days here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Graf. Her husband is due this week on his vacation. The Sheplers also will visit his folks in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Gerald Wendt, science advisor of Time, Life and Fortune, created something of a stir in local theatrical circles with his statement here last week before a one-day conference of central Ohio industrialists that he believes the 30-hour work week will become an accepted practice soon after the immediate postwar boom has settled down. He envisions increased theatre and film attendance when the 30-hour week arrives.

John F. Koenig, 60, former musician with the Keith, Hartman, old Colonial, Lyceum and old Broadway theatres here, died after a short illness.

William H. Elder, former Loew's Ohio manager, writes that he's strictly GI now. He's stationed with an antiaircraft training battalion at Ft. Bliss, Tex. His outfit is due for 17 weeks of basic training including two weeks of desert maneuvers.

Kentucky Companies Move

FRANKFORT, KY.—The Versailles Amusement Co. and the Nelson Amusement Co., both of Lexington and having offices together, amended their charters to authorize moving their headquarters to Georgetown.

Robert Arthur Into "Danger Signal"

Robert Arthur has been assigned a role in "Danger Signal," a Warner production.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



DETROIT

Alex Schreiber, Lou Wisper, Arvid Kantor, Fred C. Dickely, Arthur Robinson and Jack Zide made the trip to the Percy Jones Hospital and Ft. Custer to inspect and dedicate the Variety Club hut, dark room and other gift installations at the two places. The boys met Ralph Ruben of Amusement Supply after much searching . . . Jerome and Leon Weingarden, sons of I. Edward Weingarden, owner of the Columbia at Flint, have taken over the Flint there from W. Johnson, former owner.

Short Circuits: Clark Field, Palms-State former manager who was wounded in France, has been given his discharge and is rejoining the UDT staff . . . Frank Upton of the marines, former manager of the Michigan, was in town on furlough . . . Earl J. Hudson, UDT president, was in Chicago for a meeting of the Paramount partners . . . Alice Gorham reports UDT managers have sold $400,000 in war bonds to date.

Bill Brumberg, WB executive in charge of field men, was in town briefly . . . Donald Kuhn, manager of Associated circuit's Center, was kidnaped and robbed of $1,979 receipts Sunday by two bandits who seized him at his home and drove him back to the theatre, where they forced him to open the safe.

Mac Krim, with the American embassy at Madrid, has been assigned to take an 18-month cultural course there in preparation for further duties abroad . . . Nick Forest, manager of the Kramer, runs a route of skee balls on the side . . . James Forest, youngest of the five brothers, has just been liberated from a German prison camp. Frank Raspa jr., a frequent contributor to BOXOFFICE's Exhibitor Has His Say page from Rivesville, W. Va., is his cousin. Leonard Krim has been promoted to first lieutenant and awarded an Air Medal for service on the German front.

Along the Rialto: Vi Whiteside of the stagehands office reports a serious shortage of men . . . Arvid Kantor, NSS manager, is distributing trailers for the American cancer drive . . . John L. Loell, clerk of the arbitration tribunal, has new quarters in the Penobscot Bldg.

Harold Robinson's Film Service truck went on a wild ride Tuesday when a youth stole it from in front of the Film Bldg. and crashed into an ambulance three miles away . . . Pfc. Herman Boodman, son of Jacob Boodman of Detroit Film Cleaning Service, is with the military inteligence reconnaissance in Czechoslovakia. His father will reopen the Film Bldg. after the war . . . Theatrical Post has tendered official thanks to all those on Filmrow who contributed to the Poppy Day fund . . . H. S. Morris, Altec merchandise manager, was a local visitor.

Exchanges: Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, was in Cleveland for a conference . . . Jack Flynn and Bill Bishop, M-G-M, have returned to Chicago . . . Bill Brumberg, WB exploiteer, was due for a visit . . . Fred Bonnem, Universal, and Clare Townsend, PRC, met at the Cass to see "Ten Little Indians" Sunday night.

Leola Frazier, switchboard operator at Warners, was recovering from an appendectomy at the Cottage Hospital, Grosse Pointe . . . Charles Kinney, RKO exploiteer, has been transferred to New York. Jack Quirk comes here from Minneapolis to take his place . . . Stewart Graff, former poster clerk at UA, joins RKO as new booker.

Milton Zimmerman, office manager at Universal, proudly exhibits the enlarged and remodeled office quarters for the staff . . . Joe Gins, Columbia manager, was back from a trip through the "thumb" and central Michigan . . . James J. Donohue, Paramount division manager, and Harry Golstein, district manager, were local visitors, spending two days visiting principal circuits here . . . Arvid Kantor, NSS manager, went to New York with Ivan Clavet and Fred Mindlin, salesmen, for a regional meet of the staff.

Up in the Booths: Lee Gamble of the Pasadena reports the entire family down sick with colds . . . Herman Howell of the Howell has left to go on the road . . . Harold Korn of the Monroe has left for the army . . . Robert Wetherell, formerly of the Bijou, has his honorable discharge from the army and plans to resume operating.

Ralph Ruben was in town over the weekend . . . Nick Tsoukalas of the Highland Park keeps in trim by bicycling to work daily . . . Pvt. Edward Waddell, wounded at Iwo Jima, is convalescing at a west coast hospital . . . Ray W. Bonner, formerly of the Alden, has moved to the Joy, just a step from his home.

Noel W. Sanders has moved from the Joy to the Echo, succeeding Ross Reed . . . Max Blumenthal plans to open a camera shop after the war . . . Peter Burke of the Plaza is recovering from a bad cold, a reminder of a serious strep throat of three years back.

Under the Marquees: Irving Belinsky is proud of the revamped front on his recently acquired Franklin . . . Peter Kavel, former Ace manager, is planning to visit the L. A. studios while stationed with the navy in California . . . Edward Jacobson, operator of the Davison Theatre, is taking over the Monroe, where he was manager for a number of years. Archie Gayer, operating Archie's Playland Arcade next door, will be his partner.

Sam Mintz, veteran owner of the Monroe, is retiring . . . Kiska Operating Co., Jacobson-Schreiber organization, remains inactive . . . Lou Cohen goes to New York the end of next month to book shows for next year for the Paradise, which closed Thursday. The staff has scattered, with Milt Herman doing publicity around the circuit, Leon Schwartz going to the Roxy and Phil McNamee checking equipment around the circuit.

Harold Berg, press agent for the Downtown, is taking his master Masonic degree . . . Sidney Hunt, who had his own theatre at New Baltimore before going into the army, has been named assistant manager at the Harper for W&W.

Theatrical Post Doings: The Theatrical Post covered the Film Bldg. in great style on the annual Poppy Day. Harry Carson reports receipts much higher than ever before. Especially active were Vi Akins, Edna Blough, Marie Frasier, Grace Greenblatt, Ellsa Mills, Ellen Myers, Elizabeth Rush and Mrs. Straub. Arthur Clamage of the Avenue and Manager Kane of the National rated special mention for the work done by their casts in building up sales.

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Iwo Jima Film Release June 7, Dudelson Reminds

CINCINNATI — Harris Dudelson, United Artists manager, announced that the war department's 19-minute Technicolor short, "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," will be released June 7.

"The film is one of the finest yet put out by the war department, and exhibitors are urged to wire in or write at once for dates due to the time element," said Dudelson. The film ties in with the Seventh War Loan drive.

A nominal charge is asked for the print to defer expenses of the government.

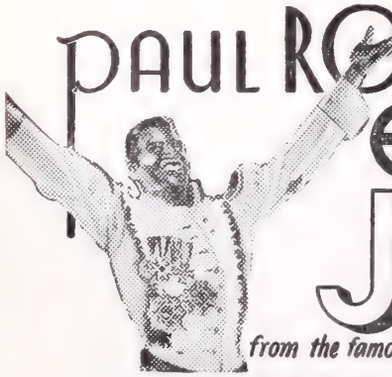
"Wonder Man" Preview May 28

PITTSBURGH—Samuel Goldwyn's "Wonder Man" will be given its tradeshowing at the Rialto, 166 Fifth Ave., Monday, May 28, at 1 p. m. The RKO release stars Danny Kaye and the Goldwyn Girls in Technicolor.

Lund to Debut in "To Each His Own"

John Lund will make his screen debut in the Paramount picture, "To Each His Own."

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F11 Members Get Back Checks; B11 Waits

PITTSBURGH—Loew's, RKO, Universal and 20th-Fox paid retroactive wage increases last week to members of Filmrow Employes Union F11, and other distributors will issue checks soon. The approved 10 per cent increase is retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943.

A news article several weeks ago eliminated reference to B11 members, or union service employes. Application for increased wage scales for B11 members has not been approved. Last fall a two per cent increase was offered, but this was promptly rejected by the B11 union.

Teen-Age Boys Rob Show Aids; Money Recovered

LOUISVILLE — Two teen-aged bandits in army uniforms snatched a satchel containing $1,489.30 from Erle Newlon, 24, assistant manager of the National Theatre here, and Alfred Burke, 17, an usher, as the two were taking the money to the First National Bank near midnight recently.

Newlon, a discharged army pilot who saw service in the Pacific where he was wounded, chased the bandits, captured one, and perhaps would have seized both of them except for a group of soldiers, who figured it was a scrap between civilians and members of the armed forces and interfered.

The capture of the boy, about 16 years old, resulted in the arrest later of three more youths at Lexington, Ky., where they had gone by bus from Louisville. A total of $958.85 was found in possession of one of the youths. Apparently only two boys participated in the actual holdup.

CINCINNATI

Charles Rich, Warners' district manager, was here on a routine trip . . . Bob Burns, Columbus representative for Warners, and Mrs. Burns celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary.

Jack Goldman, Goldman chain, is still at a hospital following a heart attack. While not permitted visitors, the report is he soon will be back at his desk . . . Booker Carl Brown, Goldman chain, is renovating his Miami River summer cottage, recently damaged by the Ohio valley flood . . . Madeline Berger, WB inspector, was vacationing . . . Kathleen Held is back at her desk following illness . . . John Eifert, Warner city salesman, has sworn off farming. Recent deluges of rain devastated Eifert's prized Victory garden.

Irene Sagel, 20th-Fox, returned from a Florida vacation . . . "Call of the Wild," 20th-Fox reissue, has been set into RKO Keith's.

Helen Roudebush, Universal, received from her soldier husband, Howard, former Universal booker now stationed in Germany, word of much rejoicing in his company over cessation of hostilities . . . Mitchell Blackschlaeger is resigning from United Artists, where he served as sales representative. He has acquired Hank Davidson's theatre at Lynchburg, Ohio. G. J. Geinzer, former operator of two small town houses near Pittsburgh, will succeed Blackschlaeger.

Lenore Schmidt, former well-known Warner booker, sends a "hello" to territorial friends. Lenore is now with the Goldman interests . . . Bernie Kranze, RKO district manager, was here, also Al Kolitz, from Cleveland . . . RKO's invitational tradeshowing of "Wonder Man," filled the Forest Theatre to overflowing. Plans are being made for a premiere of "Back to Bataan."

Rudy Knoepfle, Republic, showed some improvement, according to bedside report . . . Charles Palmer, Columbia representative, expected to be discharged from the hospital within ten days . . . The Queen City Variety Club has set August 16 as the date for the annual golf tournament at the Summit Hills Country Club. The picnic committee meets this week to decide a place for the annual family picnic on July 27. The Saturday night socials, under the chairmanship of Irving Sochin, are proving very successful.

J. J. Grady, 20th-Fox district manager, was back from a week at Buffalo . . . Mrs. Gil Sheppard, wife of G. I. Sheppard, 20th-Fox salesman, is convalescing following an operation . . . Edward H. Williams renovated and redecorated the Terminal and added improved projection equipment. The Terminal operates from 11:30 a. m. until 10:30 p. m. in the Union depot.

Edgar Douville to Head Detroit Nightingales

DETROIT—Edgar Douville, operator at the Linwood-LaSalle Theatre, was elected president of the Nightingale Club, bowling organization of Detroit operators, for the season of 1945-46. Others elected were: vice-president, M. E. Donlon, Calvin, Dearborn; secretary, John Colwell sr., Harper; treasurer, Michael Badarak, Nortown, and recording secretary, Roy Thompson, Oakland.

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PITTSBURGH

Sgt. **Henry Miller,** who managed the Harris Family until he went into uniform more than three years ago, does not expect to return to this country until 1946. He is somewhere near Paris, connected with the director of operations at the headquarters of the U.S. strategic air forces in Europe, under the direction of General Spaatz. Friends may address him (33364527) Hq. & Hq. Sq. USSTAF (Main), APO 633, N. Y.

Mrs. May Weir, Warner exchange booker, who was hospitalized following an operation, plans to return to her desk June 4 . . . Lieut. Walter Good, who used to manage the Harris Newsreel, vacationed recently with his former employer, Johnny Harris, in Hollywood, where Harris is working on his new "Ice-Capades." Good is assigned to Camp Hood, Tex. . . . Charlie Truran, Meadville exhibitor, has been ailing.

The Nixon here will undergo extensive renovations during the summer months, while Sam Nixon, manager, vacations in California and New York . . . "Uncle" John Monahan, brother of Kaspar Monahan, Press show shopper, has been ill . . . John J. Maloney, M-G-M division manager, and Moe Silver, Warner circuit's zone manager, were in New York on business last week . . . Harry Grelle, veteran in the industry, is resigning June 30 as manager of the Broughton.

Three United Artists releases, the first ever to play at the J. P. Harris, have been licensed for the local house. They are "Tomorrow, the World," "It's in the Bag" and "Brewster's Millions" . . . Fulton will go dark for a month in midsummer, and the house will be extensively renovated during this period . . . Ralph Cobb, Warners' Etna manager, has been promoted to manager of the Smoot, Parkersburg, W. Va., succeeding Alton Rea, who answered Uncle Sam's "greetings."

Saal Gottlieb, M-G-M manager, celebrated a birthday last Friday at the Variety Club family party . . . Cpl. Jimmy Rizza, formerly of the Paramount exchange staff, is in the Marianas . . . Bert Wild, manager of Warners' Butler, Butler, Pa., underwent an operation in Bellevue Suburban Hospital . . . The Wally Allens (he is the 20th-Fox area exploitation representative) celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary the other day.

John D. Walsh, Fulton manager, entertained at the recent Republic luncheon for the press and radio gang by telling ghost stories. Polly Malone of WCAE emphasized entertainment as in her Polly Entertains program; Karl Krug, Sun-Telegraph drama critic, deplored film product released during the last several months, and Tim Birks of the same paper's drama and sports departments was awaiting the opening of the racing season at Wheeling Downs, May 28.

Danny Davis, assistant to Lew Lefton, PRC manager, has taken over the main line sales duties, and Jack Withers has returned to the West Virginia area. Milton "Mickey" Hartz recently resigned as a PRC salesman to join United Artists here, replacing Jimmy Nash, who was given a leave of absence due to ill health . . . Mrs. Jewel Ivosevic of the Warner exchange availability department resigned last week when her husband, who is in the navy, was scheduled to go overseas. Doris Lees was promoted from the billing department to fill her job.

Tony Mungello, Burgettstown exhibitor, who injured his left arm some months ago while on duty in a war industry, underwent a second operation on the arm last week in Mercy Hospital here . . . Nick Notopoulos and J. A. Gribble, local area circuit exhibitors, report considerable fire loss at a theatre they operate at Williamsport, Md. A projection booth fire was reported there last week.

Mrs. Frank King, wife of the California, Pa., exhibitor, and their daughter and son-in-law, Lieut. and Mrs. H. D. Kuhns, USN, departed for Portland, Ore., where Mrs. King will visit for a month or so. Kuhns, connected with the Red Cross blood bank here for six months, was shifted to Portland when the Pittsburgh blood bank was discontinued.

H. J. Heinz II, president of the H. J. Heinz Co., this week began the third consecutive year as president of the Community Chest, having been re-elected at the fund directors' meeting last Thursday. The motion picture theatres of this area will cooperate with the campaign in the fall.

Frank Hamre, RCA manager here, returned from a district meeting in Cleveland. Prior to the meeting Hamre visited the RCA factory in Camden . . . Variety Post 589, American Legion, staged a tremendous entertainment Tuesday evening at the Veterans Hospital, Aspinwall. These regular monthly shows are presented by the Variety Post and Karl Krug, drama editor of the Sun-Telegraph.

James H. Rankin, veteran Bridgeville exhibitor, reports that his son Jim jr. of the army medical corps, attached to the 217th general hospital, Paris, has been promoted to major . . . Lieut. Steve Rodnok jr., son of the Oakmont exhibitor and formerly manager of the Oaks there, was a Filmrow visitor on furlough from Chatham Field, Ga., where he is in the B29 service . . . Pvt. George R. Herrington, son of the AMPTO secretary, is somewhere in Germany.

A. W. Goodyear and J. P. Riley of Motion Picture Advertising Service Co., producers of Screen Broadcasts, were Filmrow visitors the other day. Another Screen Broadcasts visitor in this area was Aubrey Chadick, MPA vice-president . . . Kennywood Park has issued its second millionth book of free tickets to members of the armed forces . . . Leo Abernathy, locally prominent in labor circles and international president of the billposters union, has been reappointed on the state labor relations board.

Marcella Herman, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Herman, Carnegie theatre owners, is the bride of Daniel J. McGrogan . . . A type mixup here recently confused Newt Williams of National Theatre Supply Co. with Sam Steinberg of A&S Steinberg, theatre equipment distributors. Both have been in ill health and both are recuperating . . . Sgt. Henry Miller, former manager of the Harris Family, has returned to his outfit near Paris after furloughing on the Riviera at Nice.

Newton W. Fredericks of the Garden, Lock Haven, Pa., is ill at his home following a heart attack . . . Morris E. Lefko, RKO manager, spent several days in New York on business . . . Edwin J. Moriarty, former M-G-M salesman, has just completed his boot training at Bainbridge, Md., and he is expected here on a short leave.

Gerard J. Geinzer, Broughton and Suterville exhibitor, is retiring from this field to join the ranks of the distributors as a United Artists sales representative at Cincinnati. He will cover the area of northern Kentucky and south Ohio to Columbus. The Broughton was sold recently to A. E. Olnhausen. Geinzer's wife and 17-year-old son will operate the Suterville house until it is transferred. An older son of the new UA salesman, Gerard jr., is a naval radar operator in the Pacific.

A high windstorm Wednesday (16) collapsed the Clyde Beatty Circus main tent at Greensburg, Pa., but 3,500 spectators escaped by nearest exits while the tent poles still swayed. In true trouper tradition, circus acts performed and clowns, assisted by candy butchers and roustabouts, aided the crowd in making its getaway, with only three circus employes slightly injured. Damage was estimated at $10,000. The show moved into Johnstown for a performance the following day . . . The Wallace Gordon Circus and Wild West Rodeo, also playing in this area, opens a week's engagement June 25 at McKeesport.

Fred J. Herrington, AMPTO secretary, extended praise and thanks to Charlie Blatt of the Blatt Bros. Theatres for his "excellent work in behalf of theatre owners and the motion picture industry" in connection with fighting adverse legislation in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Now that the legislature has adjourned and the session at Harrisburg has closed, Herrington can state that Charlie Blatt of Somerset, Pa., is entitled to much appreciation in the trade for his efforts to assist the motion picture business.

Among other measures which would have harmed the industry and for which the cost would have been very burdensome, the elder of the Blatt brothers "was responsible for the killing of the bill which would have established a film tax of five cents a foot on all film coming into Pennsylvania," Herrington stated. AMPTO of W. Pa., also kept alerted to the Harrisburg situation relating to Pittsburgh's proposed new tax setup, which included a special admission tax for Pittsburgh, and which was killed in the closing hours of the regular session of the general assembly. Herrington states that Charlie Blatt's effort was responsible for the death of the five-cent state film tax, which under terms of film contracts would have been paid by exhibitors who license films and not by producers-distributors.

Eddie Golden, former city exhibitor, who hadn't been seen on Filmrow in eight years, was around to say hello. Now the father of two daughters, aged eight and five, Eddie has been a film salesman since withdrawing from exhibition here. He is now the M-G-M representative for Kansas, attached to the Kansas City branch office. It was good to see Golden again. He was here for a family reunion with two brothers of Mrs. Golden who returned from war duties. (Remember Eddie Golden's old Idle Hour on Diamond St.?)

Edgar E. Shaffer, Slippery Rock exhibitor and proud grandpop, was a Filmrow visitor with his son, Cpl. Robert E. Shaffer, AAF, who was furloughing from his base in Idaho. Young Corporal Shaffer reported that his wife and infant daughter are doing fine . . . Rube Jackter, Columbia's assistant sales manager, was a visitor in connection with the Abe Montague 20th Anniversary drive, a very successful business tribute to the well liked Columbia general sales manager. Another Columbia visitor was Sam Galanty, district manager.

Eddie Singer, RKO's assistant shipper, who was inducted several weeks ago, is in training at Camp Wheeler, Ga. . . . Sam Nixon, manager of the Nixon, was a guest on the Sho-Biz-Quiz WJAS program . . . Sgt. Gabe Rubin, owner of the Art Cinema, who furloughed here from Tampa, spent upwards of a week in New York "enjoying life" and seeing some new and old shows. He returned to MacDill Field, Fla.



Boston Bond Show Is Set for June 11

BOSTON—In the interest of the Seventh War Loan drive, a war bond stage and screen premiere will be presented at the Metropolitan Theatre June 11.

The management of the Met, in cooperation with the army, will present a military pageant as a tribute to the late Maj. Glenn Miller. The entire cast of the CBS all-star network program, Youth On Parade, will appear on stage. This company of 50 nationwide favorites will be under the direction of Dolphe Martin.

A prerelease showing of one of Hollywood's major film productions will be the screen attraction. Admission to the performance is by the purchase of a war bond at any downtown M&P theatre.

Hartford Bond Events Come in Rapid Order

HARTFORD—Theatre patrons of this area invested $628,375 in war bonds to see the Connecticut premiere of Katharine Hepburn, a Hartfordite, in "Without Love" and the musical program of the Infantry Concert Group under the sponsorship of the area's motion picture theatres at Bushnell Memorial May 24.

Arrangements for the highly successful event were handled by Henry Needles, state co-chairman; James McCarthy, country chairman, with the full cooperation of the following: Mayor William Mortensen, managing director of the Bushnell Memorial; Lou Cohen, city chairman, Loew's Poli; George Landers, E. M. Loew's city manager, publicity director; Fred Greenway, Walter Lloyd, Frank Morin, Ted and Morris Harris, Charles Repass, Frank Ramsey, Sam Scheckter, Al Schulman, Thomas Maller, Dean Barrett and Lou Brown.

The theatres also sponsored a series of free vaudeville shows May 25 and 26 at the Victory House here. Manager Fred Greenway, Loew's Palace Theatre, was master of ceremonies.

Needles has announced these events sponsored by the theatre men will follow the successful bond premiere:

Maj. Glenn Miller war bond salute, with special screen trailers and program at the Victory House June 5 with Manager Fred Greenway, Palace, as master of ceremonies.

Free Movie Day June 6.

Children's bond premiere at Walter Lloyd's Allyn June 23.

A giant night club talent show at the Harris Bros.' State June 27.

Special screen announcements and lobby events for the end of the drive June 30.

War Mothers Are Honored Guests of Guy Lombardo

HARTFORD — Three representative war mothers who have made outstanding contributions and sacrifices were invited to the Harris Bros. State Theatres as guests of Bandleader Guy Lombardo in observance of Mothers' Day.

Each was given a musical salute by Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, as well as a corsage. He also presented a carton of cigarets to each mother to foreward them to any relative or friend in the armed forces.

Guy Kibbee on Stage

HARTFORD—Guy Kibbee, the actor, was at the State last weekend with Vaughn Monroe's orchestra.

Some Usher May Owe Cpl. Russ Grant a Cigar

Hartford—Manager Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli, reports receiving an entertaining letter from his former assistant manager, Cpl. Russ Grant, which demonstrated Grant still retained his sense of humor and flair for showmanship.

"I was going to send you a complete kraut uniform, with helmet and dress hat," Grant wrote, "but figured you'd probably have one of the ushers wear it for a ballyhoo and the local citizens would probably beat he——l out of the kid, making you, me, and everybody concerned very unhappy, especially the usher! No, sir, no usher's blood will ever be on my hands!"

E. M. Dowling, Holyoke Theatre Manager, Dies

PITTSFIELD, MASS.—Edward M. Dowling, manager of the Victory Theatre in Holyoke since 1942, died in St. Luke's Hospital here. He was born in New York 60 years ago.

Starting in show business as press agent, first with Barnum & Bailey circus and later with Pawnee Bill, Dowling became assistant to Tex Rickard in the management of Madison Square Garden. Subsequently he managed Paramount houses in Scranton, Morristown and Newburgh before coming here in 1934 to operate the Palace for Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc. Later he was district manager of six houses in North Adams and Pittsfield.

Dowling was a captain in World War I. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

Dinner to Tub Thumpers As Bond Purchase Reward

BOSTON—A dinner will be given June 15 by Tub 1 of the Tub Thumpers of America at the Hotel Statler. Georgia Gibbs and other stars of the stage, screen and radio will appear in conjunction with the official affiliation of radio station WCOP with the Blue ABC net, which takes place on that date.

The dinner is free to the Tub Thumpers through the cooperation of Bert Stanbro, manager of the Statler, for pledging 100 per cent bond purchases. The bonds must be purchased between May 13 and June 9.

Worcester Forbids Showing of 'Crime'

WORCESTER—After a long period of inactivity, the police censors bestirred themselves last week, with the result that "Crime, Inc." was banned from a scheduled showing at the Plymouth, operated by E. M. Loew.

Representatives of the police chief sat in on a preview at the Regent and turned in an adverse report, with the result that the chief ordered the ban. It had been teamed with "Youth Aflame," which was not affected. Manager Jerry Finnegan obtained "Shadow of Suspicion" as a replacement.

The police also warned all theatres that "Dillinger" must not be shown until it has been viewed and passed by their censors.

The banning of "Crime, Inc." was considered inconsistent in trade circles here, for everything else in the book has been playing here unmolested. Last year there was a run of sex and drug films. Not long ago the Roger Touhy picture drew no objections and ran for two weeks.

When it was first announced that "Dillinger" would be made in Hollywood, the Worcester Better Films Council sent a letter of protest to the producers and to the Will Hays office.

Novel Features in Plan For Connecticut Theatre

LITCHFIELD, CONN. — Joseph F. Reed, operator of the Bryan Memorial, Washington, and the Bantam Theatre, reports he has acquired the 400-seat Playhouse here, formerly used for stage presentations, and now is awaiting WPB authority to renovate and reopen it as a novel motion picture house.

The 32-feet wide auditorium will have seats set 36 inches apart. The booth will contain provisions for television installation, and the house will be air-conditioned. Reed plans to illuminate his passageways into the auditorium with "black light" overhead, to reflect on illuminating carpets. Patrons will enter facing the audience instead of the screen.

John Pavone to Monogram

NEW HAVEN—John Pavone, for eight years Universal manager here, has been appointed New Jersey salesman for Monogram.



READY TO GO—Southeastern Massachusetts leaders gathered in New Bedford for a discussion of Seventh War Loan plans and received an enthusiastic response. Shown here are: Seated (l-r)—Harry Zeitz, New Bedford chairman; an unnamed exhibitor; M. J. Mullin, state chairman; William S. Canning, Fall River E bond chairman; standing—Harry Kirchgessner, member of the state advisory committee; Morris Simms, New Bedford, and Paul Levi, state publicity chairman.

BOSTON

Herman Rifkin, vice-president of Monogram; Ben Abrams, local manager, and Harry LaVine of the New Haven office, attended the Monogram branch managers' meeting in Chicago . . . Walter Young, owner of the Strand in Farmington, N. H., was reported injured while cranking an automobile.

Abe Yarchin, theatrical insurance booker, underwent an operation at one of the Boston hospitals recently . . . Dennis Shea, owner of the Shea in Turner Falls, died after a long illness. The theatre, which will remain in the hands of his wife, will be operated by Ernest Frugeri, who had been handling the booking and buying.

Joseph L. Carrolo, owner of the Midway at Oakland Beach, R. I., made one of his rare visits to Filmrow . . . A surprise birthday party was given for Irving Mendelson, UA office manager, by the office force.

Miss Betty Winn of UA devotes several hours weekly to the Red Cross . . . Harry Goldstein of RKO announced the engagement of his son, Cpl. Arthur Goldstein, to Sylvia Kopel of Boston. The corporal, a dental technician, returned recently from the African war area, is now at the POE here.

Hugh Herbert and Arleen Whelan have the leads in "Oh, Brother!" which will have its premiere at the Plymouth Theatre here. Produced by Maximilian Becker and Peter Warren, it is directed by Bretaigne Windust. John Mitchell, Catherine Doucet, Forrest Orr and Susana Garnett will be in supporting roles.

The Club Mayfair resumed its celebrity nights after the lifting of the curfew . . . Tickets have gone on sale at the Colonial for the much postponed world premiere of "The Wind Is Ninety," to be presented under the direction of Albert de Courville by arrangement with the Shuberts . . . James Winn of UA visited a local hospital for a checkup.

Harry Gold, eastern division sales manager for UA, was in Boston for several days . . . Ray Wylie, UA manager at New Haven, also was a visitor.

Ida Lupino will arrive June 11 for a bond show and hospital tour . . . A screening of "Colonel Blimp" was held last week at United Artists screening room.

Renee Bergeron, former assistant manager of the E. M. Loew's Strand in New Bedford, was reported killed in action in the Philippines.

The Bette Davis "holiday" troupe which is scheduled to go overseas will include three Bay State members: Robert Benchley, who was born in Worcester; Charles Gordon, Winchester, and Bette herself, a native of Massachusetts. Bette's mother stated in a recent interview here she was writing a biography of her daughter.

Officers of the Wac and a group of prominent state and city officials, including Gov. Maurice Tobin and Mayor John E. Kerrigan, attended the opening of "Keep Your Powder Dry" at the Loew's State.

Art Moger, Warner publicist, left for Buffalo, Rochester and other points on publicity for "God Is My Co-Pilot." Tieups with all the USOs and other service men's organizations are being made as well as the usual billboard and newspaper advertisements. The Metropolitan enjoyed heavy attendance on the film.



FETED IN THE HUB—Harry Rosenblatt, above, new manager of the Metro New Haven exchange, was feted in Boston on Monday by former cronies in the industry there.

Mrs. Helen Burns of PRC received a letter from her son Thomas who had been reported missing in action. Thomas wrote he had been captured by the Germans and escaped.

"Skip" Avery, owner of the Key in Meredith, N. H., and the Acme in Kennebunk, Me., was on Filmrow recently. He says he is feeling much better after a tonsilectomy . . . Harry Alexander jr., son of the manager for 20th-Fox at Albany and former sales manager at the Boston office, died at Kansas City . . . Each 20th-Fox employe pledged to buy an extra war bond in the Seventh War Loan drive.

A daughter was born to Mrs. Frederick Berman of Lowell, daughter of Morris Ralby of the Park in Brockton . . . Jack Gordon Wallens, son of Wally Wallens of the Pouzzner circuit, will enter an officers' school. He is stationed at New Orleans in an army transportation unit.

Free tickets for the war bond preview at Loew's State of "Without Love" were distributed to every purchaser of a war bond at the State and Orpheum . . . Gene Krupa, "king of the drums," was doing big business at the Boston.

Bob Cooper, representing "Colonel Blimp," the British production, is assisting Phil Engel and Eddie Allen on the film opening at the Majestic. Tieups were made with Filenes department store, the Northeastern Airlines and other local business concerns.

Guy Owen's "Intimate Ice Revue," which closed after record-breaking business at the Copley Plaza Hotel here, has gone to the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco for a three-month engagement. The show will return to Boston in November or December.

Performers and animals from the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circuit put on a bond show on the Boston Common. The arrangements were made by Bert McKenzie of M-G-M and members of the Tub Thumpers of America, with the cooperation of Allen Lester, president of the circus.



John Devlin, Hub Loew Executive, Stricken

BOSTON — John H. Devlin, secretary of Loew's Boston theatres, died last week at the Cambridge Hospital after a brief illness. He had been associated with Loew's as secretary and legal representative here for many years. He was a vice-president and director for Allied Theatres of New England and a member of the law firm of Guterman & Guterman.

Before entering the theatrical profession 20 years ago, Devlin was a newspaper reporter for several of the Boston dailies. He started as secretary to the late M. Douglas Flattery, at that time managing director of the Loew interests.

Devlin is survived by three sons, John H. jr., Maj. Frank Devlin, a graduate of West Point, and James Devlin, in the navy. Mrs. Devlin died seven months ago.

Makes Her Operatic Debut

HARTFORD — Marilyn Landers, talented daughter of Loew's city manager, George Landers, was presented by the Hart School of Music Opera Guild in a leading role in Puccini's "Sister Angelica" at the Hart Auditorium on May 14, 15, 16. Landers, Mrs. Landers and their son Richard attended the performance May 16 in company with several local newspaper representatives. The event played to SRO on all three performances and press reviews were very good, with verbal orchids to Marilyn Landers.

N. HAMPSHIRE

The Scenic in Rochester started May 14 to sell war bonds, giving free tickets to the premiere showing of a film, the date and title to be announced later.

"The Falcon Takes Over," starring Tom Conway, was brought back to the Crown in Manchester by popular request.

Manager Melvin Morrison arranged a special children's war bond show for the Strand in Dover June 2, as a feature of the Seventh War Loan drive. Children showing proof of a bond purchase were to be admitted to the show, featuring a western film and talks by two war heroes.

The motion picture, "That Boy Joe," was shown at a recent meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society at the Baptist Church in East Rochester.

Lawrence Willey, owner of the Colonial Theatre Bldg. in Rochester, is planning another trip to California where he once was employed in film studios.

A double feature program, the Jeanette MacDonald-Nelson Eddy musical, "Naughty Marietta," and Cecil B. DeMille's "The Sign of the Cross," was given a return showing at the State in Manchester.

Bebe Daniels, former film star, interviewed Lieut. Virginia Keliher, army nurse from Barrington, on a recent American Eagle in London broadcast from England . . . The Beaver Lake Pavilion in Derry opened for the season May 26 with Bob Allard's orchestra.

War action films were shown through the cooperation of A. H. Rice of Hollis, state 16mm film chairman, at Seventh War Loan rallies held at several industrial plants in Laconia and Meredith.

Dick Haymes' Option Lifted at Fox

Dick Haymes' option at 20th-Fox was lifted for another year.

Two-Men Booth Bill Dies in Connecticut

NEW HAVEN--Both senate and house bills on two men in a booth have been reported out of committee unfavorably. This defeats the measure for the eighth consecutive session of the state legislature.

Other industry legislation, the fate of which still remains to be decided, includes the bill to lengthen Sunday theatre hours, which has passed the house and remains to be acted on by the senate; licensing of boiler operators, still in committee, and several fire and safety regulation bills.

NEW HAVEN

Harry Rogovin, Columbia manager here not many years back, now is district manager for Boston and New Haven . . . Tim O'Toole, Milt Hyams, Mort Katz and Sam Weber were in Boston for the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club testimonial dinner to Harry Rosenblatt.

In Boston for the confirmation of Lee Jonathan, son of Arthur Lockwood, were Mr. and Mrs. Herman M. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rosen, Phil Sherman, Ted Jacocks, Hymie Levine and Sam Weber . . . Sam Seletsky was in from New York.

Max Tabackman and Johnnie Pavone now both working as salesmen under Nate Furst in the New Jersey Monogram territory . . . No further action has been taken in the "Princess O'Rourke" plaquiarism suit by Helen Grace Carlisle here.

Congratulations were in order to the Morris Rosenthals of the Poli here on their 25th anniversary which they celebrated in New York . . . Rube Jackter, assistant sales manager of Columbia, was in for a visit . . . The story has it that Max Tabackman had the place and the party correct but got to the Taft a week early for the Goldstein dinner . . . Ralph Pasho will be opening his new Salem, Naugatuck, in July, no further holdups being foreseen.

Mrs. Helen Pearce is the name of the new assistant manager at the Paramount . . . Barney Pitkin, Jack Schmitzer and Henry Germaine from here were guests at the RKO Westchester Country Club golf tournament in Rye, N. Y.

Harry Lavine was back from a sales meeting in Chicago, while Herman Rifkin stayed on for a week . . . Lieut. William Hutchins, former manager of National Theatre Supply, was in for a last leave before sailing for the Pacific on a carrier . . . Hans Molander is managing at the Black Rock, Bridgeport.

Arthur Lockwood was in from Boston . . . Hymie Levine and Film Classics moved back in their former offices at 237 South Orange St. . . . Flora Cohn was reported booking for Al Pickus' Stratford Theatre.

Harry F. Shaw and Lou Brown visited the Loew houses in Worcester on the "rounds" . . . "Wuthering Heights" is doing well around the state, the report goes . . . Mrs. Harry Rosenblatt, wife of the new Metro manager, was in town at the Taft for a visit.

Louis Larra, former operator at the Lincoln, has been discharged from the marines . . . The new telephone girl at the Loew Poli is Irene Rispole . . . Michael Lietner, formerly at the Bijou here, was in on furlough from Texas.

Pvt. Ed Kaskie was in Czechoslovakia, and sent his old boss, Morris Rosenthal, some German cigars and other souvenirs . . . Sgt. Sam Williamson, formerly at the Poli, Bridgeport, was reported in the Pacific area.

N. ENGLAND 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Before he entered the theatre business **Burton J. Coughlan** was a commercial artist. After having done some sets for John Murray Anderson, he turned to theatre operation and took over the management of the house his father had built in 1921. He now owns the People's and Colonial theatres in Maynard, Mass. He is a member of Independent Exhibitors. Burt is interested in civic affairs and is a member of the Elks. He likes to play golf and hunt. His Irish setter, Rusty, goes with him on hunting trips. The Coughlans have a young daughter.



Miss A. Viola Berlin is the manager of the Exeter Street Theatre, Boston, which is controlled by the directors of the First Spiritual Church. She was placed in complete charge in 1935 upon the death of her father, and previously had worked with him for many years in the theatre. In addition to the theatre she is co-guardian of her cousin's two small sons, aged 10 and 12. Miss Berlin makes her home in Brookline. She is a member of Radcliff College Alumni Ass'n and her recreational interests include the theatre, music and travel.



In 1916 **Lee Malcarne** of Essex, Conn., was a ticket-taker in one of the theatres he now owns, the Essex Square. After his ticket-taking days he became a motion picture projectionist. In addition to the Essex Square, he also owns the Deep River and Clinton theatres in Deep River and Clinton, Conn., respectively. He is active in local affairs, being director of the board of trade and past president of the Rotary Club. He participates on committees of all civic drives. He makes a hobby of mechanics and likes to tinker with oil burners.



Mrs. G. L. Emmons of Morrisville, Vt., started in business in 1908. She and her late husband operated a nickelodeon in a small back room of a local hotel. For a long time they operated in this establishment which had folding chairs for seats. Finally they bought a 200-seat theatre which they ran until 1937 when the present 433-seat Bijou was built. Since her husband's death Mrs. Emmons has continued to manage the theatre with the help of her son. She has four children and 11 grandchildren. Her hobby is knitting for the Red Cross.

Aerial Gunner Dodged Capture by Nazi Forces

NEW BRITAIN, CONN. — Sgt. Joseph Horanzy, former assistant at the Embassy Theatre here, is home for a 60-day furlough following VE-Day. He was a ball turret gunner on a Liberator bomber with the 15th air force in Italy.

Once, with a formation of bombers attacking Linz, Austria, he was forced to bail out over enemy territory. Upon landing, Horanzy said he went through some experiences that would make good reading but cannot be disclosed as yet. He was reported missing, but after a short while he was able to return to his base. Four members of the crew avoided capture and three were made prisoners.

Horanzy entered the service March 25, 1943. He holds the Presidential Citation and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and several service stars.

Two War Prints Lost

BOSTON—Two prints of the 35mm film, "Here Is Your Infantry," have gone astray, according to the war finance committee. It has asked that all theatres make a careful search to see whether or not this trailer was sent to them in error. These trailers are used to publicize the "Here Is Your Infantry" show and are needed immediately, Paul Levi, Massachusetts publicity chairman, announced. The film should be sent to Hugh MacLennan, treasury department war finance committee, Boston.

PORTLAND

Fire started in the Unity Theatre projection room at Unity May 13 and damaged two other buildings and threatened to spread to other dwellings before it was extinguished. The damage was unofficially estimated at $25,000. Two hundred people escaped uninjured from the theatre.

C. J. Russell sr. of Bangor is chairman for the motion picture industry for Maine's Seventh War Loan. Two special meetings were held, one in Bangor for the section east of Waterville, and one in Portland for Augusta and all points west in Maine.

John M. Divney, former M&P Maine Theatre manager, is hospitalized in Paris with an arm wound. He received a Purple Heart . . . John Adams, former Haines manager of Waterville, is reported in the submarine service at Portsmouth . . . Bill Romanoff, formerly of the M&P Park in Rockland, is a member of the crew of the USS Boxer, the new aircraft carrier.

Phil Gwarjarnski, former usher at the State here, is in Iwo Jima. He was a former outstanding football player at Portland High School.

Film Showings Were Timed Right

BRIDGEPORT—Phil "Roxy" Oliver thinks he was right on the ball when President Truman made his VE-Day announcement for he was playing "Invisible Killer" and "Hotel Berlin" at his Strand Theatre.

HARTFORD

Jesse Gaw, assistant manager at Loew's Poli three years, has resigned to return to Boston to take care of her mother who has been quite ill. Mrs. Gaw's successor has not been named . . . A salute from the trade to Mrs. W. F. Smith, 80, who has sold war bonds at the Colonial throughout every War Loan drive and has never missed a performance!

The back foyer at the Astor was repainted in beige and repapered with cedarwood . . . Manager Tom Grace, Eastwood, reports that daughter Eileen, five, made her stage debut with the lead in a carnival at St. Joseph's School in New London.

Seaman Larry Landry, former Astor chief of service, is now in the South Pacific, according to V-mail received by Manager Bernard Stevens . . . Cpl. Norman Rolfe, former Lockwood & Gordon district manager, returned to Braintree on a furlough from Orlando, Fla., to join his wife, the former manager of the Webb Playhouse, Wethersfield. They were weekend guests of Manager Robert Wickwire of the Playhouse.

Jerry Lewis of Republic and Max Birnbaum of Warners were in . . . Stanley Sutherland, assistant Regal manager, went to New Haven for the premiere of "Wonder Man." When in Hollywood, Sutherland spent many days on this set.

Pvt. Stanley Barrall, ex-Strand, arrived home on a 15-day air corps furlough and visited Manager Jim McCarthy . . . Manager Fred Greenway, Loew's Palace, is doing a fine job as emcee of the vaudeville shows at the Victory House on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive . . . Manager Sam Scheckter, Colonial, scored an eye-catching lobby display on "I'll Be Seeing You" at the local YMCA with photos of Governor Baldwin and other leading state and civic officials.

Col. John R. Reitmeyer, formerly of the Hartford Courant, now is in Newfoundland . . . James Melton, radio and screen star, was here to sing for blind service men at the Old Farms Convalescent Hospital.

An extensive newspaper campaign was carried out by Manager Walter Lloyd, Allyn Theatre, to boost "Affairs of Susan." Highlights included a series of Hartford Times spot ads reading, "We wouldn't exactly say that Susan is a bad girl, but playing around with four men, well, after all, Susie!"

No publicity agent has yet been signed for the spot vacated by Rudy Frank, who recently resigned from the State to join the advertising staff of WELI, New Haven. The four Harris brothers are covering managing, publicity and booking of this house, which is the largest stage-film combination theatre in southern Connecticut.

All delivery trucks in this area are bannered: "Buy War Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre" . . . Sgt. Ben Cohen, son of Manager Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli, is stationed in the Marshall Islands with the air corps . . . Local theatre managers are beginning to work on vacation schedules now that the bond drive is well under way in this territory.

Bernie Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, arrived in town on business . . . The Eastwood candy girl, Sally Clemente, has recovered from her illness and returned to her post.

Pvt. Barney Fitzpatrick, ex-Crown chief of service, now is stationed in Texas with the air corps . . . The Colonial will reconvert to oil heat next winter . . . Nick Nadler replaces Ken Trumbull, resigned due to illness, on Dean Barrett's Rialto staff.

Two Pictures Draw Capacity Houses

BOSTON—"Diamond Horseshoe" at the Keith Memorial and "Keep Your Powder Dry" at the Loew's State and Orpheum opened the week with capacity houses. Business in all houses was very good. "Colonel Blimp" at the Majestic was great. At the Boston "Tomorrow the World" grosses were high.

Estimates for the week ending May 28:

(Average is 100)

Fenway—**Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Chicago Kid** (Rep) 130
Majestic—**Colonel Blimp** (UA) 145
Memorial—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono) 145
Metropolitan—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 140
Normandie and Tremont—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 140
State and Orpheum—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M) 130

"Enchanted Cottage" Sets Hartford High Mark

HARTFORD — Top grosses of $628,375 in war bonds at the Bushnell Memorial for the bond show captured all headlines here last week. On the local Rialto, however, top business was scored with "Enchanted Cottage" at Loew's-Poli and "Affairs of Susan" at Walter Lloyd's Allyn. Second week holdovers at the WB Regal and Loew's Palace did okay.

Allyn—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep) 175
E. M. Loew's—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ) 120
Palace—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 140
Poli—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Stepping in Society** (Rep) 180
Regal—**Sudan** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ), 2nd wk. 130
State—**Crime, Inc.** (PRC), plus stage show 100
Strand—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 150

SPRINGFIELD

Edwin W. Aaron, M-G-M circuit sales manager, stopped en route to attend his daughter's graduation at Mount Holyoke . . . Harry James is due from Hollywood June 9 with his band and headliners, Kitty Kallen, Corky Corcoran and Buddy DeVito at Ed Carroll's Riverside Park for a dance appearance.

Sam Scheckter, Colonial, Hartford, was in town visiting his family and theatre friends . . . Two Russian films, "Moscow Skies" and "Spring Song," had their western Massachusetts premieres last week at the Broadway Theatre.

Manager Ed Smith, Paramount, is doing a topnotch job publicizing the all-service stage show booked for his theatre June 12 on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive. Bonds for the event are going strong at all theatres, department stores and banks.

Manager George Freeman, Loew's Poli, arranged for a special broadcast by John B. Kennedy over stations WMAS and WSPR here, featuring dramatic excerpts from the picture "Dorian Gray." In addition, three-quarter page, four-column ad reprint in the Springfield Daily News of pages from "Dorian Gray's" dairy was a real attention-getter.

In further comment on "It Happened in Springfield," Mayor J. Albin Anderson stated that "America will be richer because of a picture like this and will be indebted to Warners for bringing the Springfield plan of education for democracy to the attention of the entire country."

The Seventh War Loan premiere on "Pillar to Post" will be sponsored by the theatres of this area June 26 at the Capitol Theatre . . . Manager Charlie Patch, Art, is apartment hunting.

WORCESTER

Manager Jerry Finnegan of the Plymouth signed three film players for personal appearances, Roddy McDowall, Helen Parrish and Betty Kean . . . Theatres here, which used to open new bills on Monday, have been pushing the starting day back so often that all had Wednesday premieres last week.

The legitimate season came to a close last week when Sam Wasserman fathered a production of "Abie's Irish Rose" at the Auditorium to a fair attendance.

Rita Johnson, Worcester girl, broke a toe in the middle of filming "Pardon My Past" . . . Manager Harold Maloney of the Poli conducted a preview of "Dorian Gray" for invited guests . . . Herbert Asher, house manager of the Royal, has returned here after hospital treatment in Providence, R. I.

A street parade served as ballyhoo for a bond rally in the Fitchburg in that city. Stores were closed until mid-morning to allow clerks to attend . . . Bob Robison, former manager of the Plymouth, has left on a summer tour with the Jay-Cee Hippodrome Shows, of which he is manager and ringmaster.

Ann Corio, film actress, was in town to visit her husband, Bob Williams, playing a stage date here . . . Michael Dunne, former radio announcer here, has finished his role in "Junior Miss" and 20th-Fox has cast him for "Precinct 33" . . . White City, amusement park at the Shrewsbury border of the city, has been reopened.

George M. Beede of the Strand in Westboro, who doubled as chairman of the town's collection of clothing for our allies, reported the campaign a great success and issued thanks to the townspeople . . . Hal McIntyre, the orchestra leader, was in town.

The Better Films Council announced approval of "It Happened in Springfield," "The Song of Bernadette" and "Sudan" for the family (from eight years of age); "Diamond Horseshoe," "Honeymoon Ahead," "I'll Remember April," "Salome, Where She Danced" and "Youth on Trial" for mature-family (from 12 years), and none for adults only.

Harold Maloney, manager of the Poli, used a "mechanical man" on the stage and in the lobby for "Dorian Gray" . . . Maurice Agulnick is back at the Olympia after an illness . . . Phil Loew reached a new high for number of pictures on one bill at the Family—12 . . . Gerald Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, will be married in Holyoke June 30 to Miss Kathleen Olson of that city.

Felix J. Gadbois, who has been employed at the Marlboro in that city for 17 years, was tendered a party on his 48th birthday.

New Haven Films Slow; Get Set for Holiday

NEW HAVEN—All business was average or under, with three of the houses reduced to six-day runs to get set for the proper Memorial Day openings. "Keep Your Powder Dry" and "Power of the Whistler" moves from the Poli to the College for a second week.

(Average is 100)

Bijou—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Identity Unknown** (Rep) 80
College—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk. 90
Loew's Poli—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Power of the Whistler** (Col) 90
Paramount—**House of Frankenstein** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ) 85
Roger Sherman—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ) 80

P. G. Cameron Obtains Arcadia Theatre

DALLAS—P. G. Cameron, veteran theatre man and former operator of four houses here, is back in the harness again through purchase of the Arcadia Theatre from Lee Hanley and R. H. "Bob" Clemmons. The



P. G. CAMERON

latter recently bought out the interest of Winfield Morton to end a three-way ownership of the house.

The price paid by Cameron was not announced but informed showmen believed it was well over $100,000. Ownership of the Arcadia Bldg. passed recently from the Morton estate to private hands. Hanley will continue as manager until Guy Cameron returns from Los Angeles to take over. Guy moved to the coast several months ago and bought a theatre there. This he is selling before his return here.

P. G. Cameron, the father, has been ill at Baylor Hospital for several months. He will return there soon to wind up a series of operations after which he expects to be in much improved health. He leased on about January 1 the Peak, Airway, Grove and Urban theatres for a long period of years to the J. G. Long circuit. He planned to move to California, and had purchased four theatres and a large home there. Plans changed, however, and the newly acquired home and one of the theatres will be sold. All of the Camerons plan to live here.

Muenster Theatre Owned By Local Stock Company

DALLAS—Miss Olivia Stock, secretary-treasurer of the Muenster, Tex., Relax, a theatre owned and directed by a group of 11 local stockholders, visited here recently. Previous to the opening of the community theatre the town had proved too small to maintain any of the private attempts to operate a show there. As war clouds became thicker and resultant activity increased, including the building of Camp Howze only a few miles away near Gainesville, the Muenster folk decided then was the time, and they opened the new Relax Theatre and have operated it successfully ever since. The end of war and return to normal times is another bridge. Muenster is a strong Catholic community.

Principals in the Relax Theatre organization are Louis Bernauer, a restaurant owner, who is president; Ben Seyler of the Ben Seyler Motor Co., manager; Joe Horn, bookkeeper at the local cheese plant, projectionist, and Miss Stock, books and handles other matters about the house.

"Ill Wind" Adage Applies To Chattanooga Theatre

Chattanooga—It wasn't bluebirds over the white cliffs of Dover nor swallows returning to Capistrano—it was an itinerant flock of "chimney swifts" that created citywide attention by settling down for a night in the smokestack at the Tivoli Theatre here.

The management couldn't tie the event in with the current picture but with the assistance of Robert Sparks Walker, a naturalist, he did get a lengthy story in local newspapers. Had the weather been colder the swifts would have interfered seriously with the operation of the heating plant.

Lieut. John Kniseley Now On a Pacific Fleet Staff

Lieut. John Kniseley has been plenty busy since he left Hot Springs two years ago this May, but he finds time to read BOXOFFICE and keep in touch with the theatre industry in which he worked before entering navy.

In renewing his subscription, Kniseley relates he has seen action in the raids on Truk, Palaus, Hollandia, Philippines, Formosa, Okinawa, Hong Kong, Saigon and other South China Sea ports and the second battle of the Philippine Sea in which a large part of the Japanese fleet was destroyed. He now is on the staff of a battleship division commander.

Before leaving for the Pacific Kniseley trained at the University of Arizona and Harvard University.

He formerly was with the Griffith circuit of Oklahoma City and the K. Lee Williams Theatres, Hot Springs.

Service Releases to Two New Orleans Film Men

NEW ORLEANS—Billy Briant, booker with 20th-Fox here before entering the air corps, and Al Hodges, with National Theatre Supply Co. before he joined the navy, are reported returning to civilian life.

Billy is the son of C. J. Briant, M-G-M branch manager, who by mutual assent is dean of New Orleans Filmrow, an honor he holds by virtue of more than 25 years of service on the Row and through his unfailingly genial personality.

New RCA Texas Outlet

DALLAS—J. W. Cooke, RCA regional manager, has appointed the Modern Radio Supply Co., San Antonio, as official distributor of RCA electron tubes and commercial sound equipment as well as test equipment and replacement parts. Walter R. Retzloff, owner and operator of the Modern Radio Supply Co., is widely known in Texas radio circles. In addition to the San Antonio outlet, he maintains branches at Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

Showmen Expecting 50,000 at Air Show

MEMPHIS—"In the muck and mud the young men of our country are buying us our comfort and our freedom, and they are buying it with the loss of an eye, the loss of an arm, the loss of a leg or the loss of a life," M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, told a bond meeting of the motion picture industry at Strand Theatre this week.

"And what are we doing? We are giving up a little meat, a few cigarets or a little gasoline. When we are asked to buy bonds we are not asked to give anything. When we buy bonds we are merely trading dollars for dollars at a profit."

The meeting was held to make plans for the forthcoming bond show, "The Airborne Attack," which will be staged at Municipal Airport June 17 and 18. The motion picture industry will sponsor the show. One admission ticket will be given with each $25 war bond purchased from any member of the industry or any of the shows.

Tom W. Young of 20th Century, co-chairman with Lightman of the committee, said that "we must dispel from our minds the gradually increasing complacency. The war with Japan will take more lives, more supplies and more money than the war in Europe. Every five minutes we can cut off that war will save many lives."

Motion picture theatres and exchanges were divided into four teams to compete in the sale of E bonds. Cecil Vogel of Loew's Palace and Louis Ingram of Loew's, Inc., were named co-chairmen of one team. Howard Waugh of Warner and Young head a second team. Bill Kemp, Loew's State, and L. W. McClintock, Paramount, head the third team, and Ed Sapinsley of the Malco and Ed Williamson of Warner Bros., are directing the fourth team.

J. Allen West, Hollywood Theatre, president of the MPTO of Tennessee and Arkansas, is general chairman in charge of all four teams.

An attendance of 50,000 is expected at the air show which is being sent by the treasury department in cooperation with the war department.

Lee Miller Takes Over "Mom and Dad" Unit

TAMPA, FLA.—Lee Miller, who appeared a few years ago in several Broadway hits including "Blossom Time" and "Hellzapoppin" and toured USO Camp Shows overseas, has been honorably discharged from the army.

Miller has accepted a position as unit manager and lecturer with Hygienic Productions of Cleveland and will head one of their "Mom and Dad" hygiene shows.

He was married here to Miss Pauline Johnson, a registered nurse, before departing for Moline, Ill., to take up his new duties with a "Mom and Dad" unit in that city.

Local Success at Last to Margaret

ATLANTA—At last recognition has come to Mrs. John R. Marsh of 1268 Piedmont Ave. N.E., who is probably better known as Margaret Mitchell, author of "Gone With the Wind."

"The recognition came in a most unexpected manner," she revealed as she sought the address of Sgt. Bill Mauldin, whose cartoon, "Up Front With Mauldin," has made a tremendous hit throughout the U.S., and wherever American soldiers are.

A recent Mauldin cartoon showed a muddy soldier badly in need of a shave with a book beside him. A shell had torn a hole in the book, and the soldier is laboriously writing a letter to Miss Mitchell, telling her his copy of "Wind," hidden under his shirt, had saved his life.

"Now every child in the neighborhood knows me," the author said. "They will speak to me now, and have some comment to make about the cartoon. So Mauldin has made me famous."

DALLAS

Carl Garner of the Lantex at Llano was in buying and booking following a similar visit earlier in the month. His business is good, he said, and his main trouble now is keeping a projectionist. He personally has trained several booth men, the last of which is being taken by the armed forces next week. That will put Garner back in the booth. He is a Variety Club member.

Henry Reeve, president of Texas Theatre Owners and owner and operator of the Mission at Menard, also was here buying and booking. He and Carl Garner are from the same part of the state . . . A. M. "Buck" Morgan is preparing to open the Texan in Fort Worth as soon as he finds some necessary equipment, he related while on the Row last week. The building had been leased to J. F. Hightower and Interstate circuit, who would have renewed the lease, Morgan said, but it was not offered to them. Instead it was sold to an out-of-state party from whom Morgan bought it. Morgan said he sold only a half interest in the Victory in Del Rio to Jack Johnston, who now is managing the house. Morgan bought it from the Leon circuit earlier this year.

P. E. "Posey" Williams of the Roxy at Munday was on the Row on a one-day booking trip. He has two sons in the armed forces. Both were officers in the air corps until one recently resigned his commission and enlisted as a private to get across quicker. Lieut. Rupert Williams is stationed at Scott Field, Ill. Lieut. Jack Williams was flying a C97 transport out of Wright Field, N. Y. when he resigned.

Add the name of Robert E. Helms to the list of film men who have served 30 years in the industry. Helms was a traveling auditor for Universal and other companies for years, then he settled here as office manager for RKO. He went with National Screen a few seasons, and two years ago he became office manager at Universal.

John Jenkins made an airplane trip to Atlanta to look after affairs in his Jaybee Film Exchange there. He and his partner, O. K. Bourgeois, of the Astor exchange here, recently acquired a number of new releases, mostly all-colored cast films.

Jack Deakins of the Palace at Floydada and Jack Holman, Levelland, were in together on the Row. Deakins has been doing a lot of fishing lately, mostly at Possum Kingdom Lake where he has become an expert at black bass casting. Holman formerly was the right hand man for Wallace Blankenship in his circuit. Prospects are that he will have a theatre interest or connection soon.

Ed Dorbandt of the Dixie and Lyric at Athens was at Gaston Hospital for an operation . . . Lieut. Paul Short, former Dallas showman and district manager of National Screen Service, was here recently with Lieut. Robert Taylor. They were on a special war department tour promoting the showing of official films.

Mrs. Willie Lee Simmons, head of the Paramount inspection department here for several years, has become acting president of Film Exchange Employes Union B53, succeeding the late C. D. Jackson. She was vice-president . . . Starlight operetta, successful in the state fair park here the last several seasons, will open for ten weeks June 18. Season tickets are $18, $12 and $6.

Eddie W. Fadal of Waco, who has owned and operated the Ritz in Valley Mills several years, is taking a vacation trip to San Francisco, where he will remain about two weeks and bring back his mother, who has been visiting a daughter there . . . M. D. Stewart, owner and operator of the Texas at DeLeon, has applied for service in the United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration, and if accepted will sell his theatre and go to Europe for the next several years. Stewart served in World War I and traveled in Europe considerably during and immediately after the conflict. His experience includes terms as mayor of DeLeon and an automobile distributorship elsewhere. He also pilots his own airplane.

Joe Hackney and wife of the Plaza in Canton and the two little Hackneys, Don and Michael, were on the Row Tuesday, his regular day for booking since he bought at Canton five years ago. Mrs. Hackney serves as cashier and manages the theatre when Joe is away . . . Lloyd Rust and Ed Blumenthal, Texas franchise holders for Monogram, returned from the company's annual sales convention in Chicago with confirmation of the fact that Dallas shared honors with Atlanta and San Francisco as winners of first honors in Division 1 for the 26-week Victory Parade drive recently ended.

The second floor of the Film Exchange Bldg. at 308 South Harwood St., occupied by Chas. E. Darden & Co. and Film Classics, has been air conditioned . . . Mrs. J. T. McClure, who formerly operated the Ritz in Celina and other similar theatres for many years, died at her home there last week following a stroke suffered a few days ago. A son Richard, who had assisted her in the theatres, has been projectionist at the Astor in Dallas two years. Mrs. McClure sold her Celina Theatre to Buddy Harris and retired from the business a few years ago.

Ensign Forrest Dunlap jr., son of the theatre seating man, was home on leave while waiting assignment to a new carrier. He had been flying a Hellcat based on a carrier on the west coast.

Sgt. Russel Brown, freed from a German prison camp, was on Filmrow last week following his return home by airplane. He entered the film business here as Republic poster clerk and booker, was promoted to salesman within two years, then became manager of the Oklahoma branch. He was in the French coast invasion. Russel said the Germans scared hell out of him trying to get information but otherwise did not harm him.

"Lady on a Train" Feature to Hall

Thurston Hall has been signed by Felix Jackson, producer, for a featured role in "Lady On a Train," a Universal production.

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Television Display Helps Sell Bonds

DALLAS—The Melba on Elm St. reported a great bond business when it gave a television demonstration to each bond purchaser. When this attraction waned a miniature Jap submarine was shown to buyers.

Telenews sold 722 during the showing of films of the Franklin disaster. Manager Joe Jackson, manager at the Village, No. 1 neighborhood house, reported excellent success with a timely stunt. He arranged a stage show with V12 talent from Southern Methodist University to speed bond buying.

J. F. "Uncle Joe" Luckett, manager of the White in South Dallas, called in the Kiwanis Club for a big bond rally in his theatre. The Kiwanis president acted as emcee and Uncle Joe made a pep talk; $20,000 worth of bonds was sold.

Everglade Fires Delay Production on 'Expendable'

MIAMI—Smoke from fires burning in the Everglades caused a ten-day delay in shooting of final scenes for the Miami-made picture, "They Were Expendable," M-G-M executive, Gilbert Kurland, revealed.

"During the last two weeks we have been able to work only four days," he said.

Scenes in which principals took part were completed four weeks ago, but secondary unit work consisting of long shots and scenes of sky fighting were yet to be finished.

Kurland said the last component of the studio troupe will leave Miami soon for Fort Benning, Ga., to shoot pictures of mechanized equipment to be shown in the picture.

H. R. Bisby Enlarges His Plaza at Garland, Tex.

DALLAS—H. R. Bisby, well-known showman and former film man who now operates the Plaza in Garland, has added a large number of seats to the house and put in a few streamlined touches to the already modern house. The front has been brightened with additional light and color. Bisby now boasts a capacity of about 1,400 seats. He formerly owned theatres in Oklahoma and the midwest and worked as a film salesman before coming to Texas about 12 years ago. He has retained interest in two or three theatres in addition to Garland where he has acquired both theatre buildings and accumulated business and residence rental properties.

E. L. "Jack" Johnson Buys Del Rio, Tex., Theatre

E. L. "Jack" Johnson, former Robb & Rowley partner at McPherson, Kas., has purchased the Victory Theatre at Del Rio, Tex., from Buck Morgan, and with Mrs. Johnson has taken over the active management of the property. For the last four years Johnson has operated a theatre which he built in Los Angeles.

The theatre has been redecorated completely and a new screen and other new equipment installed.

Fire Causes $4,000 Loss To Valdosta, Ga., Theatre

VALDOSTA, GA.—Fire of undetermined origin recently destroyed the balcony of the Palace Theatre here. Damage was estimated at $4,000. Allan Richardson, manager, said it would take about a month to make repairs. The house is operated by Martin Theatres of Columbus.

Alabama Court Bans City Hall as Theatre

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—The Alabama supreme court held May 17 the Bessemer city government could not rent part of the city hall for use as a theatre.

The court said that "The city may not . . . turn over the property to an individual for commercial purposes . . ."

All Colored Short Rights In South to Astor Pictures

DALLAS—John Jenkins of Astor Pictures said he had acquired distribution rights in 11 southern states on the Louis Jordan all Negro short feature, "Caledonia." Jordan is the well known band leader and composer of such hits as "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby," "Knock Me a Kiss" and others of which three million records have been made. He is featured in Universals' "Three Cheers for the Boys."

Based on the opinions of nationally known newspaper and radio critics who say that "Caledonia" has exceptional entertainment qualities, Jenkins hopes to secure bookings on this subject in numerous white theatres. He plans a general trade screening of the picture soon. Jenkins believes his company is fast becoming headquarters for all-Negro cast productions. He left later in the week for the Jaybee exchange in Atlanta in the interest of two new streamliner pictures.

John Carlyle to Debut in "For Better"

John Carlyle will make his screen debut in "For Better, For Worse," a Metro production.

M E M P H I S

Sol Kravitz, WB home office representative from New York, was here visiting last week at the local office . . . John Vallin, New York, who has been making an audit at Warners the last two months, left this week for his home in Washington . . . At Universal Carl Miller, New York auditor who has been working here six weeks, left for another assignment in St. Louis.

Twentieth-Fox reported Marie Griffin, stenographer, was vacationing at her home in Braden, Tenn. . . . Employes of 20th-Fox held a party and picnic last week . . . T. B. Kirk, Republic manager, went to Dallas for a meeting with J. R. Grainger, Republic president, and N. J. Colquhoun, district manager . . . RKO's district manager, Ben Kammack, Dallas, was a Memphis visitor along with Mrs. Kammack last week.

Irene Jones, cashier at RKO, went to her Missouri home this week for a vacation . . . All RKO employes attended a picnic today at the Clearpool resort near Memphis . . . M-G-M had two visitors: Whyte Bedford, Marion Theatre, Hamilton, Ala., and R. B. Gooch, operator at Selmer and Savannah . . . Paramount reported Allan Glenn, exploitation man from Dallas, was here working on "Affairs of Susan."

Mrs. Izola Presson, chief accountant at Paramount, entertained her sister, Pfc. Iris Dean Garner, Lubbock, Tex., last week. The girls gave them a party at Hotel Claridge. Fourteen attended.

Manager J. J. Rogers, Columbia, has been in Hot Springs for a two-week vacation. Salesman H. A. Chrisman was acting manager while Rogers was away. Inspector Jeane Johnson is on a two-week vacation from her duties at Columbia . . . Harold "Babe" Cohen, Monogram district manager, New Orleans, was here this week . . . Clare Hilgus and John Mangum, franchise holders for Film Classics, were here last week.

Ezra Rachlin, musical director of Memphis Open Air Theatre, and Victor Morley, general director, arrived this weekend. Marjery Fielding, new dance director, will arrive next week. Tryouts will get under way at Hotel Claridge for the MOAT productions . . . Six shows, each running for one week at the Overton Park Shell, will open July 2.

Memphis received national publicity last week when Collier's magazine published an editorial on the banning by the Memphis board of censors of "Brewster's Millions." The editorial flayed the action of the censors. The editorial concluded: "The best tip to the Memphis citizenry would seem to be to tell its film censors to get up to date or get out of office."

To Star in "Song of the Prairie"

Ken Curtis will star in "Song of the Prairie," which was scripted by J. Benton Cheyney from his own original story. Production on the Columbia lot is slated to start July 5, with Colbert Clark producing.

Gardner Gets Second Femme Lead

Ava Gardner has been assigned the second femme lead in "She Went to the Races," a Metro production.



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OKLAHOMA CITY

Visitors on the Row: J. S. Worley of Shamrock, Chester Fleming of Nowata, Wesley Hodges of Anadarko, Mrs. H. L. Mullins of Fletcher, D. Buffo of Hartshorne, C. H. Russ of Stillwater, A. R. Walker of Broken Arrow, J. D. Wineland of Picher, Mrs. Henry Simpson of Rush Springs, L. F. Creason of Eufaula, C. S. McDowell of Buffalo, Roy Eakins of Helena, J. C. Smock of Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jestes of Pawnee.

Harry Harris, former NSS service manager in Dallas, came in for a visit on the Row . . . Charlie Smith of Independent Posters finds that it is slow work getting accustomed to working at his old job after his release from the army.

The first week of school vacations brought most theatres downtown and in neighborhoods some good matinee business. Although the weather still hadn't reached the "hot" stage, several theatres were plugging their cooling systems with marquee signs. Many city exhibitors are wondering how this summer's business will compare with last year's, for it was last year that the travel ban kept the majority of people from leaving the city for vacations, and as a result the season was one of the best boxoffices ever experienced here.

Other visitors on the Row: Elmo Rankin of Custer City, Roy Rollier of Lamont, Mrs. W. T. Henderson of Medford, W. H. Martin of Oilton, A. W. Phillips of Grandfield, D. J. Denney of Higgins, J. C. Sanders of Cyril, Mrs. Mabel Ingraham of Mooreland, J. R. Smith of Mount View, Harry Smith of Cement, V. A. Wilkinson of Comanche, Mrs. Izah Adams of Sulphur, H. L. Boehm of Watonga, Frank Fietz of Garber, Lieut. Paul Beckhelm of Norman, R. R. Clark of Marlow, Mrs. Dudley Tucker of Guthrie, J. R. Brown of Shamrock, L. A. White of Weatherford, Oda Terry of Konowa.

Dr. I. Q., the question and answer man, was scheduled for a special show to boost E bond sales here at the Municipal Auditorium June 3. The quiz program was patterned after his weekly radio broadcast and theatre presentation as held on successive Mondays at the Criterion.

Guy Porter, formerly with Griffiths here, was on the Row visiting with old friends. Guy has seen action on the battleship Maryland.

Gilbert Clark of NSS was short handed recently due to vacations. John Reynolds of the specialty department now is back and so is Betty Harris of the shipping department . . . Marie Ferguson reports her husband has returned from duty overseas.

Charles Reidrich, now a lieutenant on a B24, flew in from England for a short leave and visited friends at the Uptown and Standard theatres where he formerly worked . . . H. O. Stark of Griffiths had a relapse from his recent illness and again is seriously ill.

Comdr. Tom Harris, who has recently returned for a short leave, has been stationed on a hospital ship. He called Gilbert Clark of NSS from Dallas and promised to come visit here with the old gang before returning.

Fox held a sneak-preview of "Don Juan Quilligan" at the Midwest recently . . . H. T. Burns has purchased the Ritz Theatre at Fletcher. Burns also owns the Opera House at Apache . . . Mike Comer, Monogram's new branch manager, was transferred from the Omaha office.



Add to Cast of "Deadline at Dawn"

Osa Massen, Marvin Miller, Joseph Calleia and Joe Sawyer have been signed for major roles in "Deadline at Dawn," an RKO production.

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Equipment Outlook Remains Uncertain

DALLAS—Oscar Neu of New York, president of Neumade Products Co., makers of booth accessories, declared manufacturing outlook appeared tighter. He is on an airplane trip calling on Neumade distributors in the south.

While more material is being released a greater number of industries is receiving the available supplies with the result that his company might not get any more or as much as they have in the past, he said.

Oklahomans Await "Go" Sign on Improvements

OKLAHOMA CITY—Seats apparently constitute the No. 1 item on the lists of Oklahoma theatre owners for postwar improvements.

A survey of the state's theatres also shows few exhibitors who aren't eagerly awaiting new carpeting and materials for other badly needed repair and remodeling work. New projection equipment also is a prime article of needy anticipation.

The turnstile type of entrance with a boxoffice on the side of lobby has caught the fancy of some. Others insist that crying rooms for babies is an essential, especially for the family or neighborhood trade. A smoking room is another feature many exhibitors say is a necessity to be added in the future.

Multiple entertainment units where a skating rink, dancing floor, restaurant and theatre are combined created little interest among exhibitors in this state. One expressed the thought that those entertainment centers were for larger coastal or tourist localities.

Popcorn Oil "Stretcher" Now Offered by Darden

DALLAS—Following local tests on a new popcorn seasoning "stretcher" called Savarol, Chas. E. Darden & Co. has closed a deal with manufacturers for exclusive handling of the product in this territory. Two teaspoonfuls of the coarse powder-like substance is added to a cup of corn and a third to a fifth of regular seasoning is then used. The stretcher has its own salt and coloring. It has a cottonseed oil base and is ration free.

Darden, accompanied by Al Pickens of the Isley organization, made a number of tests in the Wade Theatre on lower Elm St. They and Manager Jimmie Adams said the product works. Bob Montgomery of the Tower in Wichita Falls said he has been using Savarol for some time and that "it is really a stretcher."

The seasoning situation continues critical and many theatres have to pick up oils and greases wherever they can find it.

Work Starts on New Fox Theatre at Sparta, Ga.

SPARTA, GA.—Construction has been started on the new Fox Theatre building here and Col. Marvin Peck, owner of the property, expects it to be ready for operations late this summer.

Start Filming of 'Yearling'

SILVER SPRINGS, FLA.—Technicolor filming of Marjorie Kinnan Rawling's Pulitzer prize winning novel, "The Yearling," has been started here. George Peck portrays Penny Baxter and Jacqueline White plays Ma Baxter. Claude Jarman jr. of Nashville has the part of Jody Baxter.

"Dillinger" Scores Highest at Dallas

DALLAS—Although exam week in schools was expected to restrict the theatre business here noticeably, grosses were over average. The weather was fair and warm. "Dillinger" was the highest and played a full week. "National Velvet" was the third horse race picture in a row at the Majestic, but did the same good over-average as "Roughly Speaking" and whistler Fred Lowrey at the Palace. "National" shifted to the Tower for a second week.

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Beyond the Pecos** (Univ); **Queen of the Yukon** (Mono), reissues, split with **Gunsmoke** (Mono); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 120
Majestic—**National Velvet** (M-G-M) 140
Melba—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M) 135
Palace—**Roughly Speaking** (WB), plus stage show .. 140
Rialto—**Dillinger** (Mono) 150
Tower—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 125

SAN ANTONIO

Film Stars Gail Russell and Nancy Brooks visited the Brooke Hospital center May 26-28 to entertain patients . . . Lester Ketner, local BOXOFFICE scribbler, is now a member of FOE, Aerie 70.

American trucks and truckers and the role they played in winning the battle of supplies in the ETO, was featured in the motion picture, "Rolling to the Rhine," which was shown at the Labor Temple ballroom May 24. Recently released by the war department, the film is first being seen by men of the transportation industry before being projected in the regular theatres. The premiere here was sponsored by the teamsters union, 657.

Dorathy Livengood, pretty wrestling promoter here, is among the very few femmes in the world who stages these "grunt and groan" matches at the Auditorium every Wednesday evening . . . Paul Garza of the Alameda, Obero and Progreso theatres, was a business visitor along the Dallas Filmrow. While there he made additional purchases from Henry Sorenson of the Modern Theatre Supply.

Virginia Dean, a newcomer in the cinema world, was a recent visitor to the Alamo City. She hails from Hollywood . . . Another film celebrity who stopped over here briefly was Delores Del Rio, who was en route from New York City to Mexico City via American Airlines.

Alex Moore, booker, emcee, dancer and producer of stage shows, has returned from a combined business and vacation trip to Monterrey . . . Jimmy Lee, formerly with M-G-M on the west coast and more recently a marine combat cameraman, recently took over as the new night photographer at the Rockin' M Dude Ranch night club here. Lee was wounded at Pearl Harbor four years ago.

Sgt. Ernest Gonzalez of the San Antonio police department recalls the time when he was a dancer with a local troupe before becoming a gendarme. The sergeant was recently discharged after serving several seasons in the navy . . . The Goldwyn Girls, six gorgeous glamour gals, were here to cheer up the soldiers at Brooke General Hospital center. They just finished work in Goldwyn's "Wonder Man," starring Danny Kaye. From the Alamo City, the six lovelies went to the Corpus Christi naval air base to entertain the sailors there.

In town during the fore part of the week were Raymond B. Willie and Frank O. Starz, both of Interstate circuit, Dallas . . . Evelyn Kurka went to Kansas City to visit her mom . . . Ruth Olive aspires to become a novelist.

KMAC Chatter: Program Director Tony Bessan plowed up his alley to make a Victory garden . . . Bobbye Wofford, cute secretary, has a weakness for little white gardenias . . . Eddie Barker, youthful announcer, is going in for those western togs from Passel's, who styles the west . . . The president, general manager and owner, Howard W. Davis, went to Washington, New York, New London, Cleveland, St. Louis, Austin, McAllen and Laredo during the past month. This month's itinerary calls for visits to Birmingham, Los Angeles, New York and points east for San Antonio's most traveled radio business executive.

Violet Graham, former Texas Theatre candy girl, has returned to her New York home after a sojourn here for several months . . . During this columnist's recent three-day stay in Dallas, he gained a pound and a half.

This may be the last column to be batted out from the Alamo City, as yours truly expects to be California bound by the time you read this. Our mailing address for the time being will be c/o Mrs. Essie Coyle, 11975 Texas Ave., West Los Angeles (25), Calif. Hope to be in the western edition of BOXOFFICE next week.

Goldwire In as Manager Of Fitzgerald, Ga., Houses

FITZGERALD, GA.—Gilbert Goldwire has arrived here to become manager of the two local Martin circuit houses. He succeeds Randolph Elliott, who resigned to enter private business.

Marine Vet to Appear in "The Robe"

Tom Holland, recent dischargee from the merchant marine, was signed for a role in "The Robe," an RKO production.

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in Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and soon in Memphis.

NEW ORLEANS

Jack Auslet now is distributing Astor Pictures through his Dixie Films office at 218 South Liberty St. He and Mrs. Auslet recently entertained N. Emile Savini of the Atlanta and New York Astor offices. A native of New Orleans, Savini hadn't been here for 19 years. The Auslets saw that he had full opportunity to enjoy the famed cuisine of the city, including boiled crabs, shrimp and crawfish at the sea wall cafes on beautiful Lake Pontchartrain . . . R. N. Savini, New York, president of Astor Pictures, and a brother of Emile, is due here soon for a short visit.

James R. Grainger, general sales manager of Republic Pictures, has been here on business . . . R. L. Spindler, Mississippi sales representative of the Producers Releasing Corp., spent last weekend in New Orleans.

Tommy Dunn, now Mississippi salesman for Universal, has moved his family here from El Paso, where he was formerly connected with Film Classics, Inc.

John Elzey of the Delta Supply Co., 214 S. Liberty St., flew to Pensacola to inspect fire damage to A. B. House's Roxy Theatre . . . L. D. Guidry has been in New Orleans making arrangements to begin operations in Ville Platte and Opelousas. It is understood that he will be associated in these new enterprises with Don George of Alexandria.

Floyd Murphy has rejoined the Producers Releasing Corp. exchange here as salesman in Louisiana . . . Louis Watts, who has the Watts circuit, is reported to have bought out his partner, Wilton Smith, and thereby acquired full ownership of the Mansfield Theatre in Mansfield.

O. W. Diliberto has moved his refreshment stand from 210 to 219 S. Liberty Sa., into quarters formerly occupied by the Ashton Blum liquor store . . . Billy Fox Johnson of Pollock and LeCompte, La., is said to have purchased a building in Cheneyville preparatory to opening a new theatre there.

J. M. Guillory of the Allen Theatre, Oakdale, La., has begun construction of his new G. E. store.

Mrs. Henry Lazarus has returned from New York and Chicago and will shortly go to the west coast on business. Owner of the Center, Crown, Cinema and Coliseum theatres and co-owner with J. A. Dicharry of the Circle Theatre in New Orleans, Mrs. Lazarus is arranging for elaborate enlarging and rebuilding of the Coliseum and Crown as soon as possible. Jack Corgan of Dallas and August Perez of New Orleans are drawing plans for the enlargements.

T/Sgt. Ralph Reid, who was associated with the National Screen Service office here before the war, has received the Bronze Star for bravery in the Elbe River sector in Germany . . . Al Lavender, petty officer in the navy and another peacetime employe of National Screen Service, has been here on a 30-day leave from Trinidad . . . Miss Marcelee Julian, sister of Miss Rita Julian, office manager, is now in Plattsburg, N. Y., with her husband, S/Sgt. Harvey Marks. The bride was receptionist at National Screen before her marriage.

Recent Filmrow visitors have included Robert Molzen, who has theatres in Norco, Paincourtville and Labadieville, La.; Fred McLendon of Union Springs, Ala.; Roy Saxon of the Strand, Franklinton, La.; R. B. Dossett of the Star Theatre, Hattiesburg, Miss., who expects to enter the army shortly; L. E. Downing of the Haven, Brookhaven, Miss.; Benton Roy of the Roy Theatre, Mansura, La.; Mrs. Bertha Foster, who has theatres in Violet and Port Sulphur, La., and R. E. Pfeiffer of Baton Rouge and Jeff Rebstock of Golden Meadows.

Others were Cecil Kelly of the Fox Theatre in Plain Dealing, La., and the Gay in Stamps, Ark.; Sam Pasqua of Gonzales, La.; Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Hauber of the Hauber Theatre in Pineville, La., who were showing two nieces from St. Louis the sights of New Orleans; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mosely of Bogalusa; R. C. Renfroe of Yazoo City, Miss.; Francis Gaude, manager of the Ritz, Pensacola, Fla.; Mrs. W. L. Paternostro of Lake Charles, who always has a new photo of her grand children to show; Oscar Neu of Neumade Products Co., New York; Warren J. Salles of Covington, La., and Carl Weathers of Baton Rouge.

Miss Genie Fillingim of the Joy Theatres office staff has returned from a two-week vacation spent at that currently fashionable spot—home . . . Miss Marie Saucier, Columbia exchange inspector, was vacationing at home where she enjoyed a reunion with a nephew recently returned from a long tour of duty overseas.

Henry Glover, branch manager, and Harold F. Cohen, district sales manager of Monogram, have returned from a sales meeting in Chicago . . . J. L. Boyer, branch manager, and Doyle Maynard, salesman of National Screen Service, expect to attend a regional meeting of branch managers and salesmen in Chicago around the middle of June. Horace Houghland, salesman, will vacation in June in Chicago and New York.

T. W. Neely, manager of National Theatre Supply, is bearing up good naturedly after a downright ornery accident. A blaze back of his quarters at 220 South Liberty set off his sprinkler system, resulting in water damage to walls, floors and equipment. Neely said he'd have to redecorate throughout.

Gail Russell and Nancy Gates, Paramount stars, were warmly received here on their recent USO tour . . . Misses Margaret Gabosh and Marjorie Carter, and Mesdames Shirley Henderson and Bernadine Turley spent the past weekend at the Turley camp in Little Woods on Lake Pontchartrain. All are with the Columbia exchange and are nursing sunburn.

Gloria Dempsey, inspector at the Universal, is in Virginia to see her very special bluejacket, Charles Wilson, for the first time in more than a year . . . L. J. Langlois' son "Jelly" was seen on Filmrow, being home on a 30-day furlough after two years in the Pacific. He participated in the invasion of Iwo Jima.

Davidson Role in Ding Dong Williams"

William Davidson has been assigned a role in "Ding Dong Williams," an RKO production.

Texan's Bond Sales Total More Than $2,000,000

San Antonio—Manager Jack Osborn Mitchell of the Majestic Theatre and Manager Lee Aronstein of the Palace here are the only two showmen in town having the medal of honor of the motion picture industry for their excellent work in recent war bond drives.

Mitchell said he has sold more than $2,000,000 worth of bonds since the war loans started.

Mrs. Marion Jourdan Dies Unexpectedly at Iuka, Miss.

IUKA, MISS.—This community was mourning the death of Mrs. Marion McDonald Jourdan, who with her husband operated the Majestic Theatre here. Mrs. Jourdan, wife of T. M. Jourdan, died unexpectedly last week from cerebral hemorrhage.



Known affectionately as "Miss Marion," Mrs. Jourdan was a native of Collierville, Tenn., moving to Iuka when a small child. She was known far and wide for her broad charities and charm. She, with her husband, who was in ill health for many years, traveled all over the United States and made a wide circle of friends.

Besides her husband, she is survived by one sister, Mrs. Elmer Walker, and one brother, Harold McDonald, both of Iuka.

Showman on Bougainville Pays $100 for Lighter

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE—Howard Schneeweis, active in the show business here before entering the marines, returned from active service with a 75-cent cigaret lighter for which he paid $100 on Bougainville.

For Schneeweis there came a temporary lull in battle duties. He was walking along the beach one day and wishing that he had some flame with which to light his cigaret. It seems that out of 40 days, it had been raining for 35 of them. Every match in his company was soaked. Two of the GIs had lighters, but none had fluid. And need we point out, things were plenty rugged around there for a while.

Schneeweis, now assistant manager of the Oriental here, needed a light bad. He had $101 and no immediate place to spend it.

As he walked along the beach, another marine stopped to talk to him. It developed that this GI had a lighter—with fluid—and for sale!

"How much?" asked Schneeweis. "One hundred bucks," the marine returned.

"I'll take it!" Schneeweis fired back. And that marine was so surprised the deal went through. He's still recovering.

From then on while the fluid held out that lighter was a priceless item. And Schneeweis brought the 75-cent lighter back with him.

Coureen Again Is Offered Memphis Theatre Post

MEMPHIS — William Coureen, director of the Little Theatre here, has been asked to serve for another year.

"The executive committee voted unanimously to invite him back for another season," M. A. Lightman, president of the theatre organization, announced.

The invitation ended a controversy in which three members of the board of directors were not re-elected and one board member resigned only to withdraw his resignation later.

"Man" Preview at Theatre

DALLAS—Sol Sachs, RKO manager, showed the new Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man," to a good crowd at an invitational trade screening in the Palace.

Atlanta Variety Club Outing Big Success

ATLANTA—Eddie Melniker again won top golf honors in the Atlanta Variety Club's seventh annual tournament and barbecue outing. Some 200 soldiers from the General Hospital were guests and all said the club provided them a wonderful time.

Melniker was medalist in the tourney with a card of 79. Roy Brauer, Universal, was second and Col. T. E. Orr, Albertsville, Ala., third in the low gross division. All won war bond prizes.

Jimmy Harrison, Wilby Theatres, won the distance honors with the longest drive of the day. Johnny Lomax, RCA, proved to be Mr. Accuracy of the day, winning a war bond for being closest to the pin with his drives on No. 2 and No. 12.

The dubious honor of shooting the highest score of the day was divided by Harry Graham and Ken Laird, both of Universal.

The day ended with a big barbecue. Club members agreed that this was the best outing yet and voted to have the same event next year.

ATLANTA

Lieut. Robert L. Hames, marine officer, formerly with United Artists, has been awarded the Air Medal for "meritorious achievement as a pilot in the Solomon Islands and Bismarck Archipelago areas." The veteran of 35 fighter sweeps against the Japs, he was graduated recently from the air-infantry school at Quantico, Va., where he was assigned after his return from the Pacific.

Jimmy Grainger, president and general manager of Republic Pictures, was in Atlanta for a few days' visit with Branch Manager Bill Talley. He then went on to New Orleans.

Sgt. H. R. Kistler jr., former Warner booker, now instructor at the army base in Ft. Myers, Fla., was visiting his father, Georgia salesman for Warners exchange. He told friends on Filmrow a tale about shooting a black panther weighing 240 pounds.

A new employe in the booking department at Warners' exchange is Mary E. Helms, formerly with army motion picture service . . . W. T. "Buck" Tidwell, Warner Bros. auditor here since the first of the year, left last week.

Martin Theatres, Columbus, have purchased the Allison and Princess Theatres in Piedmont, Ala. They will be under the management of Milton Varnell.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Robinson, owners of Theatrical Printing Co., have returned to their home in Dallas after visiting the local office.

A. C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges; M. E. Wiman, branch manager for Atlanta, and Sam Hinson, branch manager at Charlotte, are back from the Chicago Monogram convention.

Bud Gray, southern publicity and advertising manager for Paramount, who had been ill in Birmingham for the past two weeks, was sufficiently on the way to recovery to fill a Nashville exploitation date.

Mrs. Stella Poulnet, Republic secretary, has returned after a vacation in Kentucky . . . Jack Crawford, one of the old-time theatre owners in this territory, paid Filmrow a visit while here as advance man for the John Daniels quartet . . . Visitors on the Row included W. G. Timmons, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; W. J. Bracken, Ozark, Ala.; Sam Wilson, Hazelhurst, Miss.; Nat Williams, Thomasville, Ga.; John Moffitt, Montgomery, Ala.; Carl Floyd and Lukie Stein of the Stein and Floyd theatres, Haines City and Jacksonville, Fla.

Jessie Reese is managing the Brookhaven Theatre since Pvt. John Carter left for Camp Lee, Va. . . . William Raper, ex-gob, is the new assistant manager of the Roxy Theatre . . . Charles Levy, Walt Disney's publicity chief, visiting the RKO local branch.

Miss Ruth Roberts of Monogram Southern Exchanges was confined to her home through illness . . . Fred Moon, columnist of the Atlanta Journal and a real friend of Filmrow, was at his usual post seeing everyone was taken care of at the annual Variety Club's annual barbecue.

E. Soloman, former branch manager for Toddy Pictures, has been transferred to the New York branch of the same company. M. Kempner has been appointed manager of the Atlanta branch.

The newsreel showing the death of Mussolini was warmly applauded when it opened in the big uptown theatres here . . . Mrs. Frances Hudgins, secretary to Roy Brauer of the Universal exchange, was all smiles when her husband arrived home unexpectedly after three years' service overseas.

Hubert Mitchell of Mitchell Industries was in Atlanta for a conference with his partner, Winfield Snellson, in regard to opening an Atlanta branch to handle stage equipment and draperies.

Doris Thurmond is leaving Columbia for a rest. She will be gone about three months . . . Pearl Moos, booker at Columbia, was on a vacation.

R. A. Davis of Martin and Davis Theatres, Dotham, Ala., and Mrs. Davis visited the local office and Filmrow . . . B. B. Garner, vice-president of Florida State Theatres, visiting here told friends at the Variety Club how unseasonably dry the weather has been in his section.

Arthur Kaye, representative of the American Guild of Variety Artists, was visiting the city . . . A. B. Balch of PRC has returned from Memphis . . . W. H. Rudisill was in Alabama . . . Ike Katz has returned from a business trip to Florida points.

"China Sky" Set for Bond Premiere at Hickory, N. C.

HICKORY, N. C.—The Center Theatre, under the management of Earle M. Holden, is figuring prominently in the Seventh War Loan activities for Hickory.

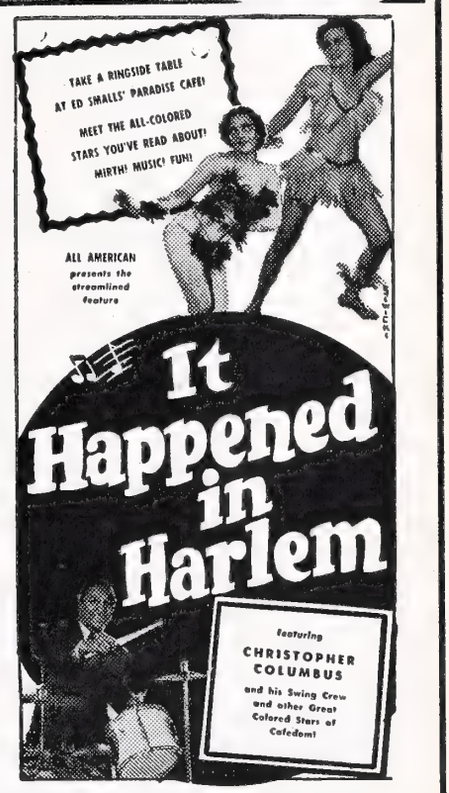
On the opening day of the drive the theatre was guest to all the retail clerks of the city for a special bond pep sales meeting. A special short, "Fury in the Pacific," was screened and two army officers gave a talk of their war experiences.

Wednesday morning, May 23, in cooperation with the women's division of the War Finance Committee, the Center arranged a school students bond premiere at which "The Three Caballeros" was the attraction. Students in greater Hickory selling $100 or more in bonds received a free ticket.

Tuesday, June 12, the theatre will present its big night bond premiere, this time cooperating with the Lions Club. For this occasion "China Sky" will be the screen attraction. This is expected to result in the sale of $100,000 in E bonds.

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"The Will Rogers of Exhibitors"

By CHARLES BECKER

IT' TOOK a war to bring out Samuel Rinzler's inherent skill and talent as a humorist and public speaker —a "Will Rogers of exhibitors," as he has been called.



SAMUEL RINZLER

Rinzler's career of speechmaking began unexpectedly enough in the fall of 1940, when he was invited to represent exhibitors at a testimonial luncheon for E. K. "Ted" O'Shea and John J. Bowen.

When Harry Brandt, chairman, first invited him to speak, Rinzler recoiled saying: "But I have never spoken before such a large audience. I wouldn't know where to start." Brandt reassured him, and brushed away every objection.

Success the First Time

Rinzler made his first appearance and he was so riotously successful that guests kept repeating his bon mots for weeks afterward. Jimmy Walker, former mayor, who is something of a wit himself and who appeared on the same program, referred to Rinzler as the "poor man's Jimmy Walker."

One of the gags that practically "laid them in the aisles" was Rinzler's retort to a previous speaker who said he couldn't "understand why exhibitors are always worried. They seem to look fine and most of them have just returned from an extended vacation in Florida."

"Yes, the trouble is," replied Rinzler "that the exhibitors are now wearing their worries in Technicolor." Guests began to perceive that a new humorist was arising in their midst, but what made them doubly certain was Rinzler's next crack.

Paying tribute to the guests of honor, he said:

"Before this luncheon, only one man could be a guest of honor: now we have a double feature."

Another witticism that went over with a bang was:

Question of Who Pays

"Usually, the exhibitor is taken to luncheon by the film salesman. But this time it's different. The exhibitors are paying for a luncheon for two film salesman and when exhibitors do that, these men MUST be good!"

In cold print these gags lack the gestures, intonation of voice and other qualities that make a Rinzler crack something to remember.

With the advent of the war, Rinzler was appointed co-chairman of the metropolitan division of the War Activities Committee. As such, he was in the forefront of every patriotic drive and was much sought after as a public speaker at industry functions. Soon it was common to hear the toastmaster announce: "And now we will hear a few words from Sam Rinzler."

Rinzler obtains most of his effects by just observing people. Before he is called upon, he makes copious notes of remarks made by previous speakers. But most of all he observes the guests.

For example, at the recent breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria for 1,200 managers and film company executives launching the Seventh War Loan, Rinzler said:

"I don't know what it is, but whenever I get up to speak people begin to yawn. My managers seem to be the only ones who can laugh and yawn at the same time."

During another part of his speech, he got a roar by saying: "Yes, I paid the check for this breakfast for all of my managers. I promised to buy them lunch and supper, too, if they do good work for the Seventh War Loan. But there's only one catch. This afternoon I am going out to see if I can get some reductions in film rentals. Then I will be able to tell them who's going to pay."

A little while later, he convulsed the audience by observing: "My speech would have been much better, but I am suffering from a little rheumatism and without my hands I don't speak so well."

For a long time, Rinzler has been attributing to his partner, Louis Frisch, authorship of his speeches, which is so much clowning. At the Seventh War Loan breakfast, in the absence of Frisch, he said:

"I'm sure this speech won't be so good because Louis Frisch didn't write it."

Rinzler admits that he is extremely nervous before he starts each speech. After he delivers his first sentence, however, his nervousness vanishes. At one function some time ago, Rinzler explained:

"Next to Closing" Appellation

"If my dentist only knew how his teeth were skating in my mouth, he would feel very badly about it."

Although Rinzler's speeches are seasoned with humor and wit, he never forgets the primary purpose of his talks.

President of Randforce circuit, operating some 50 theatres in the metropolitan area, Rinzler has been co-chairman of the regional WAC committee since the start of the war. He was chairman of the National War Fund drive in this area in 1943, during which he addressed gatherings ranging in number from a dozen in an exchange to 1,500 persons in the ballroom of the Hotel Astor.

He was Brooklyn and Long Island district manager for Fox Metropolitan Playhouses from 1929 to 1931, prior to which he operated his own circuit in Brownsville, Brooklyn.

Irving Lesser's letter to him, following the Seventh War Loan breakfast, sums up his effectiveness as a speaker who not only entertains but whose ability to put across the serious purposes of the various drives is without parallel.

"I knew you would be good, but I didn't think that you would be that good! If you ever make up your mind to play the Roxy I can promise you a next-to-closing spot."

Liberated GIs See Humor In First Film Selection

Memphis—"The Thin Man Goes Home" was the first film shown newly-liberated American prisoners of war on the way from the German Stalag IX-B prison camp to their home in the U.S.

"Very appropriate for many of the boys," wrote Pvt. John B. Nabers jr., and Pvt. Charles A. Grannis, former captives, in letters to their folk at home in Memphis.

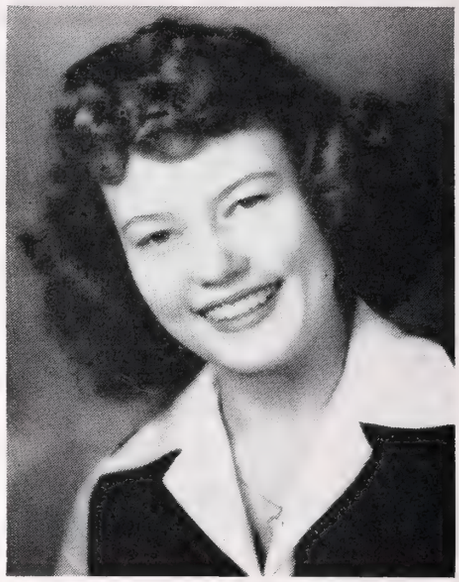
Lou Costello to Tour Country Soon

After winding up his current assignment, Lou Costello will leave on a three-week personal appearance tour of the country. All proceeds from this tour will go into the fund for the Lou Costello jr. Youth Foundation, which is being established to combat juvenile delinquency.

Kaw Theatre Aide Wins Town's Courtesy Award

From Midwest Edition

MARION, KAS. — Pauline Keazer, lobby shop attendant at the Kay Theatre here, has just won the Beard Memorial award. This is given each year to the girl, who, in the opinion of a committee composed of teachers



PAULINE KEAZER

and business people, is the most courteous girl in school. Pauline is a high school senior.

Richard Brodhead, manager of the Kaw, takes pardonable pride in the fact that one of his employes should be given recognition of this type. The Kaw is a Dickinson house.

"Pauline's courteous manner, winning smile and pleasant personality is with her every minute of the time she is at work," he says. "Besides all this, isn't she pretty?"

Just 18 years old, Pauline is five feet, three inches tall, weighs 118 pounds, has grey-green eyes and brown hair.

T. C. Hoad Demonstrates His "Dual Projection"

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Thomas C. Hoad, projection specialist with General Theatre Supply Co. here, aroused wide attention through the development of a system of film projection which brings a constant flow of pictures to the screen without intermittent blanks.

The Hoad invention consists of paired projectors with which is used a form of positive prints in pairs in which alternate frames are blank, the use of which eliminates the shutter arrangement for the progressive showing of scenes. Hoad calls his invention "dual projection" and claims that its adoption would relieve all eye strain for patrons through the continuous screen illumination.

Hoad has built a working model of the new double-projector which he has demonstrated before executives and managers of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and also before a gathering of fellow-projectionists.

Induction Follows Death In Action of Brother

Humboldt, Tenn.—Spicer Taylor, manager of the Rex Theatre, was inducted into the armed services May 9. About the same time his parents here were notified that his brother, James Glendale Taylor, navy aviation radioman, had been killed in action in the Pacific.

Songstress Dinah Wants Drama Role

MEMPHIS—Songstress Dinah Shore, queen of the blues, likes a dramatic role better than singing parts in picture.

Dinah was in Memphis en route back to Hollywood after attending the funeral of her father, S. A. Shore, in Nashville.

"I liked the 'Belle of the Yukon' best because it gave me a part in which I could cry," she said. "Dramatic parts interest me more than singing parts.

"My favorite fruit is corn on the cob. At our little ranch in Montana my husband (Cpl. George Montgomery) and I raised 35 ears of corn and we ate them all at one sitting."

Her husband, a former actor, is with the 18th motion picture unit of the army air forces at Fort Bliss, Tex.

Larry Waters in Germany Writes for Press Books

CHARLOTTE—A request for press books and mats came to Walter Griffith, manager of the Charlotte Theatre, from Cpl. Larry Waters, former manager of the theatre who is now somewhere in Germany with the 81st airborne squadron.

Waters said in his letter: "We are starting on a new educational program now that the war is over and I am going to instruct a class on 'Fundamentals of Advertising.' I would like a couple of press books and mats as I might be able to use them to better illustrate a few points. This course is an excellent one as I have been working on it for some time and I might as well use this time to try and gain a little extra knowledge that will do me some good.

"The other day we had some new men transferred in. One was named House. Sure enough, it was Dean House's boy, Roy. (Dean House is veteran Warner salesman.) So he and I got together and had a big bull session. He has only been overseas for a couple of months. He had come home not too long ago and so he was fresh on news. I knew Dean's other son better than this one but just the same it was good to see him. He is a staff sergeant and in the air corps supply section."

Universal Scout Hunting Campus Talent in Texas

DALLAS—Stacy Keach, Universal talent scout, is making an airplane trip through Texas visiting college campuses and Little Theatres. All key cities and college towns are on his itinerary. On the way back to Hollywood he planned to visit Albuquerque and Phoenix.

Repair Contract Awarded

BIRMINGHAM — A contract has been awarded to Ralph and Smallman Co., Birmingham, for fire-damage repairs to the Galax Theatre, owned by Mrs. J. M. Gillespie, and leased by Frank Merritt of Acme Theatres. The work, which is scheduled to begin at once, is estimated to cost $14,000.

Dallas Drive-In Opens

DALLAS—The Northwest Highway Drive-In Theatre was opened Friday last week by Underwood & Ezell, making the second such in operation here. They own several others in key cities of the state. A system of individual speakers for each car was installed this year following complaints from residents of the nearby exclusive residential area.

Georgia Proud of Its Showmen

By P. H. SAVIN

ATLANTA—The home-front people who have contributed probably more in time, work and money than any others toward the war effort—and said less about it—are those of the motion picture business. This holds true throughout the industry, from the big studios and the glittering stars down the line through the exchanges and circuits to the guy named Joe who operates a tank-town theatre with a two-bit top.

To aid in winning the war the showfolk have gone all out. They're still all out, and they will stay all out until Hirohito's white horse gives its last gasp. Right now we find them putting more steam behind the Seventh War Loan than they gave to all six previous bond drives—and no one needs to be told how much they did to put each of those others over the top.

William K. Jenkins, Georgia chairman for the theatres in the Seventh War Loan, proudly remarked that the showfolk of the state are working like beavers in the current campaign. In the Atlanta exchange territory theatres already have announced 171 special bond premieres, 46 war bond children's shows, and 180 Free Movie Days to stimulate the sales of bonds. Every mail, Jenkins said, brings in announcements of more special events being arranged. He said he was confident that virtually every theatre in Georgia would participate in the campaign.

Since Pearl Harbor the theatres of the nation, in addition to spearheading seven war bond drives, have taken the lead in Red Cross, community fund, war chest and infantile paralysis campaigns; they've raised millions for army and navy relief, aided in recruiting blood donors, collected clothing and salvage, and given uncounted hours to the showing of uncountable footage of patriotic and educational films in connection with the war effort.

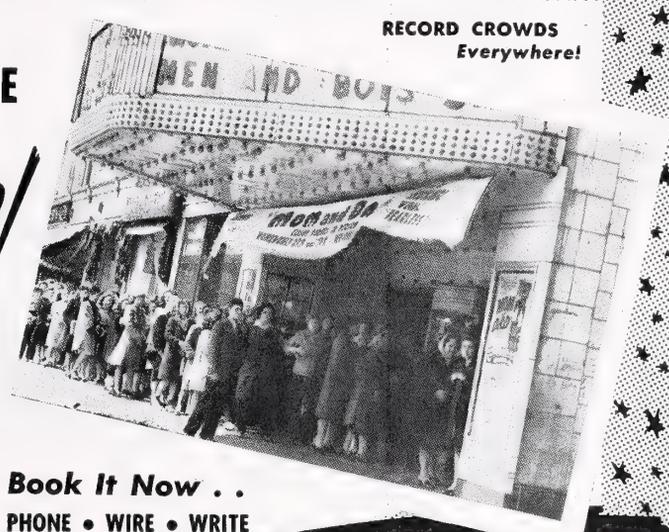
The people of show business don't go around bragging about what they've done and are doing. They saw their job and they tackled it in stride. They've done their part and more, and they've done it in the face of manpower shortages, mounting operational expenses, brownouts and an appalling shortage of film that the general public never heard about.

They don't want praise, recognition or citations, these tireless soldiers of the entertainment front. They merely want to get this war business over with so that the lights can go on again all over the world as they did on their own marquees a few nights back.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

AN EARLY matinee lineup welcomed "MOM AND DAD" to the Tivoli Theatre, Gary, Ind. It broke the house record on Wednesday — opening day — and Marc Wolf, head of the Y. & W. circuit dated it in every town.



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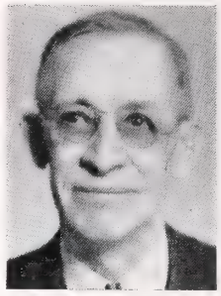
THE SOUTHERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Motion pictures lured **Frank Heiderich** of New Orleans away from a career in the wholesale furniture business. In 1911 he decided to go in business for himself and so opened the Mecca Theatre there. He now operates the Lyceum in the Tulane and Newcomb College section of New Orleans. Heiderich, a member of the association of commerce and at one time a member of the Y.M.B.C., is married and has a daughter. He has given up the more active sports now but in his younger days he liked to bowl and play baseball.



Ed Crew entered the motion picture business 26 years ago in Waurika, Okla. During the first world war he served his country in the navy. He has a 24-year-old son, Ernest, who is now with the SeaBees. The Crews also have a 13-year-old daughter, Leona. Ed manages the Empress and Royal theatres in Waurika and he is a member of MPTO of Oklahoma. He serves his community as a member of the city council. Hunting and fishing are his favorite diversions. Crew has a cattle ranch on the side, considers cattle raising a hobby.



R. G. Sykes, now of Oklahoma City, has been a motion picture exhibitor since 1905. His first theatre interests were in Sulphur. A year later he went to Elk City and in 1908 he moved to Clinton. In 1912 he operated in Electra, Texas. After several years there he went back to Sulphur in 1925. Still on the move in 1937 he was managing a house in Pawnee. Two years later he had hopped to Cleveland. Today he runs the Villa Theatre in Oklahoma City and is a member of MPTOA, a membership he has held since the formation of the association.



Clem M. "Mike" Funk has been a motion picture exhibitor in Guymon, Okla., for a good many years. He started his first theatre in 1907. Today he owns the American and the Royal theatres, 600 and 400-seat houses, respectively. A firm believer in the power of clever promotion, he has found anything worth running is worth advertising. He is a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mike, as his friends call him, likes to go fishing and likes good pictures. He is married and has two children, George Nelson Funk and Kathryn Funk Holland.



R. Lewis Barton, one of Oklahoma City's most prominent citizens, has been an exhibitor since 1921. He owns the Castle and Pryor theatres in Pryor, Okla., the Redskin in Oklahoma City, the Skytrain in Midwest City and the Cozy in Stroud. He is a member of MPTOA, the chambers of commerce of Pryor, Stroud, Oklahoma City, Capitol Hill and Midwest City. He was formerly mayor of Stroud, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the Democratic party. Son Robert has been awarded the Bronze Star and Presidential Citation.



Rene J. Brunet, owner of the Imperial Theatre on North Hogan and Dumaine Sts. in New Orleans, has been in the motion picture business since 1913. In that year he opened the Harlequin which he has closed since acquiring his present house. He is married and one son, Rene jr., assists his father in managing the theatre. Another son, Malcolm, is an ensign in the navy. His daughter, Lucille, is married and has two young children. Brunet is now on the exhibitor committee for war activities and devotes much time to the sale of war bonds.



Clarence Thomassie decided theatre operation was a good business and since his territory, Harvey, La., was open he went into business there. He has been successful with his theatre and has stayed there ever since. His theatre was called the Victory until 1938 when he changed the name to the Gay Theatre. He is chairman of the war, price and rationing board of Jefferson parish and is a member of the local Lions Club. His hobby, traveling around the country, has been interrupted by the war but he expects to resume it after victory.



Robert X. Williams jr. of Oxford, Miss., was attending the University of Mississippi Law School in 1917 when he became manager of the Lyric Theatre. In addition to the many posts he has held in government and politics he continues to operate the Lyric. He served on the board of directors of MPTO of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee and is on the board of directors of MPTOA. He is president of the Mississippi Theatre Owners. Along with the theatre and his law practice he runs a large farm where he raises cotton, most grain crops, cattle and hogs.



Harry W. Suddath entered the motion picture business with his father many years ago. He owns the Amusu Theatre in Natchitoches, La. The house has a seating capacity of 750 people. A public spirited citizen of Natchitoches, Suddath is an active sportsman and is especially fond of playing golf and fishing. He is married and has two sons, Harry jr., and Jerry, both of whom are now attending Kemper Military Academy. Suddath believes pictures today are in a class by themselves with a prestige and degree of perfection unequalled in entertainment.



The current labor shortage doesn't bother **Alfred E. Grosz** too much. He can always count on seven of his workers for assistance. They are his seven children, all of whom help him in running the Cortez Theatre in New Orleans. He says he has enjoyed show business since his start in 1920 and hopes all of his children will continue in this field. Grosz likes to spend his leisure time either doing oil paintings or working in his garden. Mrs. Grosz died ten years ago. The children are Esmond, Louise, Cloris, Francis, Allen, Lillian and Elise.

Mrs. Rodney Toups Heads N. O. Peace Group

NEW ORLEANS—Mrs. Rodney Toups has been named public relations chairman for the Louisiana Women's Action Committee for Victory and Lasting Peace. She will be in charge of organizing discussion groups in connection with educational motion pictures dealing with the work of the organization for international security now being formulated at San Francisco.

New Orleans groups affiliated with the committee include the Business and Professional Women, the Council of Church Women, the Council of Jewish Women, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters, the Council for Motion Pictures, the Federated Women's Club and the Girl Scouts.

Hughes Purchases Avon Theatre from L. B. Crow

DALLAS—B. H. Hughes of Waco, who recently sold the Strand at Rogers, has purchased the Avon at Wortham from L. B. Crow. Hughes, who is in the insurance business at Waco, sold the Strand in order to restrict his activities in preparation for construction of a new house at Leonard which will replace a fire loss.

Fire Damages Negro House

ROANOKE, VA.—Fire recently destroyed the projection booth and balcony offices of the Virginia Theatre, Negro playhouse here, and severely damaged the roof and stage.

Civic Group Seeks Better Kid Shows

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE—Improvement in the quality of juvenile film entertainment is the goal of the Shorewood-Whitefish Bay civic committee in charge of children's special Saturday film programs, Mrs. D. Perry Blount jr. said at a meeting of the Milwaukee County Better Films Council.

"More and more children at lower and lower ages attend movies, but little is done to provide suitable pictures," she said. "This project, sponsoring special picture for children, was undertaken to bring in higher grade films for juveniles."

The committee selects features from lists recommended for children of eight years and over. A feature, newsreel, travel film or sports review and a cartoon highlight the two-hour show, she said.

M. J. Savoy Home Scene Of Wedding Festivities

BASILE, LA.—An elaborate reception was arranged by Melvin J. Savoy, co-owner and manager of the Savoy Theatre here, for S/Sgt. Oris Redlich of this city and his bride, the former Miss Edna Schwartzenburg of Port Arthur, Tex., a sister of Mrs. Savoy, following their marriage last Sunday.

Redlich was liberated from a German prison camp March 30 after his capture in the Belgian bulge fighting December 8. He returned to his home here May 2 after two years of service overseas.

Savoy arranged for the local high school band to play a salute to the bridal pair as they arrived for the reception at the Savoy home following the church services.

Basile, La., Theatre Now Enters Its Seventh Year

BASILE, LA.—The M-G-M picture, "Mrs. Parkington," was chosen by Melvin J. Savoy as the feature presentation on the sixth anniversary program for the Savoy Theatre here June 24. The house has been under the continuous management of Savoy since it first was opened in 1939.

Little Theatre Final Show

MEMPHIS—Election of offices at Memphis Little Theatre was held Friday, May 18. "Over 21," a comedy, started a ten-day run May 21 as the Little Theatre's final show of the season.

To Debut in "They Dream of Home"

Johnny Sands, recently signed to a contract at United Artists, will debut in "They Dream of Home."

Negro Theatre Sets Pace In Oklahoma City Sales

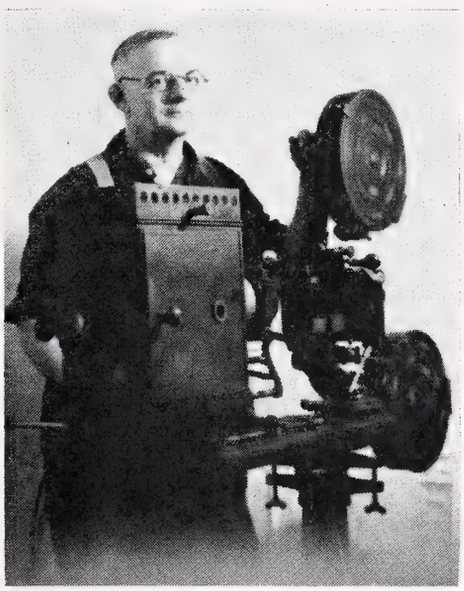
Oklahoma City—Sol Starr, operator of the Aldrige, a Negro theatre here, has surprised the War Bond Committee by reporting more than $10,000 worth of sales for the first ten days of the campaign.

This leads all of the 25 theatres, with the Reno running second. Next in order of the amount of sales are the State, Criterion, Midwest and Wes-Ten.

The next war bond premiere will be held at the Criterion June 4, to be followed by one at the Redskin, in Capitol Hill, on June 14.

'Twas a Flying Debut 35 Years Ago, But Laurion Is Still Going Strong

From New England Edition



TWO OLD-TIMERS—Albert Laurion, a 35-Year Showman, is depicted above with a 1907 model projector, which he used when he started in business in 1910. The projector has long since been retired, Laurion, like Tennyson's brook, is purling right along.

NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CONN.—Thirty-five years ago in June—the 17th, to be exact—Albert Laurion opened his theatre here, the Union Hall. He not only opened it, he opened it in style, with a showmanship flair that would have done credit to the later years of Samuel F. Rothapfel's flair for making an impression. Like Roxy, he discovered there was something called overhead to be reckoned with.

Opening a theatre in North Grosvenordale in those days was something of an adventure. It needed a lot of faith. The town didn't have electricity in the homes or on the streets, but Laurion was 28 and full of the confidence of a young man. He risked his life's savings in the adventure.

His first two nights were failures, even though the hall was filled to capacity. The reason was the overhead. He had staged the opening night as a gala premiere—a term familiar even today. The local town band was hired, a pianist played during the showings, a singer contributed selections while the slides with the words were shown on the screen. There were ushers, a cashier, an operator and two men to tend the steam boiler which generated the electricity. This boiler was in a shed attached to the hall.

Water Carried From the River

After balancing the expenses against the receipts those first two nights, Laurion decided upon retrenchment in a big way. His wife, Rosa, became booker, buyer and cashier. Water had to be carried in pails from a nearby river to the boiler—a bit of a chore, to put it mildly.

Films had to be brought over miles of snow-covered roads in a sleigh in the winter, and by bicycle or wagon in summer. The dirt roads would break the heart—and possibly the springs—of a present-day motorist and his car.

Laurion sent his bookings to New York written in French. He still wonders how the distributors happened to have translators. He could figure out how many people were going to attend the show each night by looking up and down the dark street and counting the lanterns being carried by the prospective customers.

Silent pictures were shown three or four nights a week continuously until 1935. At that time this was probably the only theatre in Connecticut sticking to silents, but Laurion didn't care. He didn't like the first sound pictures because the synchronization of sound and picture was "off" so often, so he waited until he thought sound had advanced. He finally installed sound equipment Mar. 3, 1935.

There will be no special celebration June 7. The show will go on as usual. Laurion will be the manager-operator that night, as usual. Mrs. Laurion is still the booker, but one of his daughters is now the cashier, and a son-in-law is assistant operator.

Laurion is a member of the Knights of Columbus and St. John the Baptist Society, and, of course, he knows everybody in town. His hobby is a 35-acre farm where he raises peacocks and does gardening. He has two sons and four daughters. The boys have joined the Catholic ministry. One—Henri E., is a first lieutenant-chaplain in the army.

Books Bond Premieres For Atlanta District

ATLANTA—J. H. Harrison of Wilby-Kincey Theatres, 145 Walton St., is handling all bookings of pictures for Seventh War Loan bond premieres in the Atlanta exchange territory.

Plans to Rebuild Theatre Razed in Hope, Ark., Fire

MEMPHIS—M. A. Lightman of Malco Theatres has applied to the WPB for a permit to rebuild a theatre recently destroyed by fire at Hope, Ark.

Long Rest From Music

MEMPHIS—Clyde McCoy, "the Sugar Blues King," honorably discharged from the navy last week, is going to lead another dance band but probably not until the war is over.

"At least I will wait until the army and navy start discharging more men, because that is where all the good musicians are now," he said. The 40-year-old band leader plans a long rest.

McCoy and his entire band of 14 members enlisted in the navy Sept. 19, 1942 following an engagement at a Memphis hotel. They have been stationed at NATTC since that time.

McCoy married one of the Bennett sisters, Miss Maxine Bennett, about eight months ago. They live at Forrest Park in Memphis.

McLendon Host at Picnic

ATLANTA—All Filmrow employes received an invitation from Fred T. McLendon, owner of the McLendon circuit, Union Springs, Ala., to Montgomery for the circuit's annual outing and barbecue on May 31. One of the extra added attractions was to be a wrestling match between Ben "Tarzan" Jordon and "Snake" Richardson.

Booth Fire at Laurel

SAN ANTONIO—A recent fire in the booth of the new Laurel Theatre caused $500 damage to the machine sound head and destroyed 2,000 feet of film. Homer Newman was the operator.

CHARLOTTE

J. J. Booth, Palmetto, Walnut Cove, N. C., has entered a hospital in Winston-Salem, N. C., for treatment . . . Bill Williams, formerly in charge of the army motion picture service headquarters in Charlotte, has joined Republic in Chicago . . . G. O. Strickland and Dr. J. T. Hiott have opened the Victory Downs Drive-In Theatre in Charleston, S. C. Strickland is manager and the booking and buying is being done by Hank Hearn of Exhibitors Service.

Reynolds Wilbanks, manager of Paramount here a few years ago, stopped off for a few hours en route to Atlanta, having received his discharge from the army . . . James Earnhardt, manager of the Taylor in Edenton, N. C., was scheduled to report May 29 for induction into the army at Fort Bragg, N. C. Being a little over 30 he now has been notified to stay home . . . Jeff Wilson, Biscoe, Biscoe, N. C., is on a business trip to Florida.

E. E. Wade's Gem Theatre in Belmont, N. C., was completely destroyed by fire Sunday, May 27. Wade also owns the Iris and Gay in Belmont . . . Dave Prince, southeastern district manager for RKO, was here for conferences with Rovy Branon, manager, and Gene Dyer, Roger Mitchell, Bill Sims and Bob Masterman, salesmen . . . There was large attendance and enthusiasm over the screening of Goldwyn's "Wonder Man" at the Carolina Theatre May 28.

Alf Mill, Colonial and Majestic, Tarboro, N. C., is in the Tarboro Hospital recuperating from an appendectomy . . . Rovy Branon and Cy Dillon have completed plans for the all-industry personal bond solicitation campaign for the Seventh War Loan.

Mark Silver, United Artists manager of the Washington exchange, was in town conferring with Sam W. Craver and Harry Pickett, booker and buyer for the Craver theatres . . . As an added incentive in the Seventh War Loan drive, the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry has released a 16mm sound film of "All-Star War Bond Rally," which is now available at the Charlotte public library film department. Hoyt R. Galvin, library director, pointed out that the film may be borrowed without charge by groups or individuals.

Hoyle Wynn of Greenville, S. C., and one of the owners of the Paris Theatre in that city, was a visitor on the Row with Ed Pettett, new manager of the theatre . . . T. A. Dennis and C. C. Nance will open a new Negro theatre in Albemarle, N. C., June 9. Theatre will be named the Peco and booking and buying is being done by H. D. Hearn of Exhibitors Service.

John Ward is general chairman for the bond-selling GI show, sent out by the overseas replacement depot at Greensboro, which is to be held at the Armory Auditorium on June 29 and is sponsored by the Variety Club . . . Johnny Mack Brown, en route to Statesville for an engagement, stopped off for a visit with Monogram's manager, J. Sam Hinson. Accompanied by Hinson and Max Bryant, chairman of the Variety Club's polio committee, he went to the polio center at Memorial Hospital to entertain the patients.

Among visitors on the Row were Max Zager and Phil Wicker of Standard Theatre Supply Co., Greensboro; John Warner, Plaza, Greenville; J. J. Booth, Palmetto, Walnut Cove; Fin Lee, Duplin, Warsaw; D. Holt, Troy, Troy, A. E. Miller, Century, Lincolnton; George D. Carpenter, Colonial, Valdese; Hall Houpe, Rogers, Shelby; J. Francis White, Sunset, Asheboro; Morris Littman, Sylvan, Rutherfordton, and J. W. Griffin, Romina, Forest City.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Griffith have returned from Oak Ridge, N. C., where they attended final exercises at the Oak Ridge Military Institute. Their son, Jack, was a member of the graduating class.

New Orleans Previewers See Kaye and Music Films

NEW ORLEANS—A large preview audience emerged from the suburban Circle Theatre May 28 wiping tears of merriment from their eyes and commenting volubly on Danny Kaye. The occasion was RKO's tradeshowing of "Wonder Man." A quite typical observation—"It's even better than 'Up in Arms' "—expressed the audience's high praise. Roger Lamantia, RKO branch manager, and Miss Jeanne Crozat, exchange office manager, had charge of the showing.

Musical leaders of New Orleans attended a recent preview of "One Romantic Night" (Astor Pictures film on the life of Shubert) as guests of Jack Auslet. Among those attending were Lionel Adams, president of the New Orleans Symphony Society; Walter Loubat, president of the New Orleans Opera House Ass'n; Leon Godchaux, president of the New Orleans Pops Concerts; Irwin Poche, chairman of the Community Music Fund drive, and Mrs. Camilla Best of the Orleans Parish public school board.

Twentieth-Fox will preview "Don Quilligan," starring William Bendix and Joan Blondell, at the Circle Theatre June 4 at 11 a. m.

"Mad Russian" to PRC Production

Bert Gordon, the "mad Russian," and Harry Von Zell, radio announcer and comedian, have been signed for starring roles in "How Do You Do." Harry Sauber will produce.



CAN'T ESCAPE FILMROW—No matter where film men go, they seem bound, sooner or later, to wind up on a Filmrow. Here Albert H. Duren, former salesman with the Atlanta branch of Monogram now a member of Uncle Sam's forces in India, is greeting Manager Mookerjee of Paramount's India exchange at Calcutta. The picture was contributed by Jack Kirby of Paramount, Atlanta, with P. H. Savin of the Monogram Southern Exchanges making the assist.

Exhibitor Is Missing Over New Guinea

DALLAS—Walter Penn, Columbia's west Texas representative, advises that the family of Lieut. Walter Moeller, owner of the Valley and Palace theatres in Muleshoe, Tex., has received notice from the war department that he is missing over New Guinea. His mother, Mrs. Anna F. Moeller, has been operating the theatre during her son's absence.

The war department has sent several notices to west Texas papers, telling of the heroic flights and strafing attacks he and his comrades have made in the Pacific theater.

Moeller was a P38 Lightning fighter pilot with the 13th Air Force. He was returning from a strafing mission over Borneo when he encountered a gale that forced him down.

His father, C. F. Moeller, who died a few years ago, was a pioneer showman in Muleshoe, and a great believer in the future of his county, which turned out to be a great agricultural area. He was instrumental in getting good roads across the county and played a prominent part in developing irrigation projects.

Scotland Yard Plans Films To Train Its Detectives

From Canadian Edition

WINNIPEG—The Tribune last week carried an article on the use of films by Scotland Yard written by its London correspondent, A. C. Cummings, who also services Associated Southam newspapers.

Cummings related that Scotland Yard plans to produce training films to educate its detectives. Impressed with the use the war office has made of training films, the recently appointed deputy assistant commissioner is planning a similar scheme for the detective agency. "He himself prepared the scenario of the first picture, which demonstrates modern and efficient methods of dealing with housebreakers."

This will not be Scotland Yard's first effort at film making, Cummins added. "Not long ago, in conjunction with the British council, the agency made a short film on a day in the life of a London policeman, and called it 'Man on the Beat.' It will be seen shortly by audiences all over the world. The commentary has been translated into 23 languages, one of them German, for use in German-speaking Switzerland and eventually in Australia."

New Columbus, Ga., House To Be Completed Sept. 1

COLUMBUS, GA.—Work is progressing at the site of the old Racine Hotel here of a new 1,100-seat theatre to be operated by the Lucas & Jenkins Theatres. It is expected to be completed by September 1. Construction costs are estimated at approximately $90,000.

6,000 at Bond Show

SAN ANTONIO—Celebrities in town for the war bond show at the Municipal Auditorium last Saturday and for the national broadcast from Kelly Field Sunday were Martha O'Driscoll, film star; Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy; Joan Merrill, deep-throated thrush; Pat Patrick, Hollywood comedian, and "Doctor" Jim Sherman, mirthful magician. Don Ameche did a swell job as master of ceremonies much to the delight of a packed house of over 6,000 bond buyers who enjoyed every minute of the Auditorium's two-hour show.

Dominion Controls Stay on Film Trade

TORONTO — Continued government control of film business operations and rental contracts has been indicated by the approval of J. R. Croft, administrator of services for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, Ltd., here, of the groupings of 1925-46 product of Warner Bros. This is the first authorization to be issued by the government for the new film season. It follows the termination of the European part of the second great war, when some controls for other industries have been dissolved. It has been pointed out that price ceilings and some other restrictions must be maintained to offset a threat of inflation.

Warner Bros. features for next season, of which there are 25, have been divided into five classifications with five pictures listed as "specials," four in Group 1, eight in Group 2, six in Group 3 and two in Group 4. The titles are not listed in the official approval but Warner Bros. has announced four pictures for early release. "Devotion," "The Big Sleep," "Saratoga Trunk" and "Rhapsody in Blue."

Apart from the government control order, Warner Bros. has prepared five all-Canadian short subjects in Technicolor, on which crews had been working in many parts of the Dominion. A two-reeler is "Forest Commandos," dealing with the forest fire menace in Ontario, and four one-reelers—"Snow Eagles" which was filmed in the Laurentian mountains; "With Rod and Gun in Canada," covering both coast, the Arctic and various outdoor sport areas; "Sports Go to War," showing soldiers in sport competitions, and "Canadian Sports," which includes diversified pastimes enjoyed by Canadians.

Tele Sets Will Cost $250 When Available, He Says

KITCHENER—Television sets when available will cost $250, according to H. J. Latimer of Hamilton, sales manager of the Canadian General Electric for the Hamilton district. He predicted no date, although he said that "when television comes it will burst upon us."

Latimer spoke at the Kitchener-Waterloo Kiwanis Club meeting at Kitchener. He forecast television will be responsible for great changes in living habits which will take place gradually. He said in the U.S. there already are nine television broadcasting stations and 10,000 television sets in operation. With regard to Canada, he pointed out that the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. has leased a building on Mount Royal in Montreal to transmit television programs.

The televising of baseball games, horse races and boxing events have already been arranged.

Following his address a sound film, "Sightseeing at Home," was shown which explained the method of operating television.

Theatre Amusement Will Build Soon at Midland

TORONTO—The Theatre Amusement Co., Toronto, has drafted plans for the erection of a new theatre in Midland, Ont., where the circuit recently purchased the Capitol and a theatre site from the Midland Operating Co. Following the transaction, H. C. D. Main conferred with Mayor Robinson of Midland to give assurance that the project would be carried out as soon as construction activities can be started. Theatre Amusement comprises the new partnership of Sam Fingold, Dick Main and Ralph Dale.

Compulsory Job Shift Abolished in Canada

Ottawa—Compulsory job transfers, decreed in Canada as a war measure, have been abolished, according to an announcement from Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell. This means that government orders providing for the transfer of males from 16 to 38 years of age from low priority occupations to essential work have been dropped. Theatres were included in the bottom labor category and it had been impossible to hire men for theatre occupations who could be used in war factory or other wartime jobs.

Men already moved to higher classifications under government direction will be required to continue in their present employment.

FPC Reported Buying Trio From Firestone

TORONTO—The latest version of the reported negotiations for ownership of the Midtown, Toronto, is that Famous Players Canadian Corp. is acquiring the theatre from the Sam Firestone, Lou Polakoff and Nat Taylor partnership. FPC is understood to be turning over the Bloor and Alhambra, also in the Bloor St. sector, to 20th Century Theatres, which is affiliated with FPC. Two other Firestone houses, the Esquire here and the Esquire at Brantford, will go to 20th Century Theatres, according to reports.

The Midtown was reconstructed from the old Madison after the start of the war in 1939 and, in the rebuilding, nothing was used except the side and rear walls to make it practically a new house. Because of the war, there were some delays in the extensive rebuilding job but it was finally opened as a unit of 20th Century Theatres.

Al Perly, formerly of Winnipeg, has been manager of the Midtown for several years. Jack Laver is manager of the Alhambra for FPC and Al Ritchie is in charge of the Bloor.

Incidentally, the Alhambra was one of the first theatres bought by the late N. L. Nathanson while the Allens erected the Bloor in the same neighborhood.

Rank Inaugurates Odeon Movie Clubs

TORONTO—J. Arthur Rank, English producer and industry leader, formally launched the Odeon Movie Clubs of Canada, a juvenile movement similar to Rank's Odeon Movie Clubs of Great Britain, when he spoke briefly from the stage of the Colony Theatre here at a matinee last Saturday morning (26). His talk at the Colony was the only public appearance scheduled by the British film man during his visit here and in Canada.

The juvenile film movement will get under way in all Odeon theatres in the Dominion early next fall.

With Rank at the Colony inauguration was Paul Nathanson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada.

Rank not only spoke from the stage but took a seat in the auditorium to witness the program and mingled with the boys and girls present long after the show. At times he was in the midst of a throng of autograph seekers, many of whom obtained his signature on their Odeon membership cards.

The Saturday morning program aroused much interest among educationists, child welfare, municipal and film trade officials. Rank directed some of his remarks to these adults in saying the policy would be to provide entertainment and instructional pictures which would please the most critical adults and discriminating parents. He felt that the type of movie club program would help to bring about a better relationship between the peoples of the world and expressed the hope there would be an interchange of juvenile club visitors between Canada and Britain.

The program itself spoke well for the organizing ability of Willard Conway, manager of the Colony, which was packed for the occasion. Proceedings started with a parade of an air cadet band into the theatre, followed by an audience singsong and the recital of the club pledge. There was a juvenile comedy on the screen, after which Manager Conway introduced ten boys and girls as club lieutenants before Rank and Nathanson spoke. The program also included a magazine reel, a feature of which was the making of toys by boys; the cartoon "Dumbo" and a British-made three-reeler which revealed a

(Continued on next page)



FROM ODEON TO PRC—At the head table at a recent farewell dinner in Vancouver in honor of Dave Griesdorf, who resigned as district manager for Odeon Theatres in British Columbia to become Canadian sales manager for PRC, were, left to right, Attorney General R. C. Maitland, Griesdorf and Howard Boothe, Griesdorf's successor.

Rank Inaugurates Odeon Movie Clubs

(Continued from preceding page)

school sports story in dramatic manner.

Before and during the performance a crew of moving picture and still cameramen took pictures, under the direction of Frank E. O'Byrne, recently appointed head of the Instructional Moving Picture Films which will shortly have a film studio in Toronto. Prints of these pictures are being sent to Britain to show the inauguration of the club movement in Canada to British Odeon members.

Rank, in an interview, pointed out that the juvenile clubs are nonprofit organizations although a small admission charge is made for the special Saturday morning performances. This revenue will be used for production of so-called juvenile films and for routine club expenses. The policy of the club movement, he said, was to provide wholesome pictures for children and to help in curbing juvenile delinquency. The latter point is not openly emphasized, however, although it is a main factor in the personal aims of Rank.

The suggestion was made at the conference that club shows at Odeon theatres on a Saturday morning might conflict with the regular Saturday afternoon shows which were usually attended by many children, with or without parents. This thought did not disturb Rank, however, who gave the opinion that the Odeon movie club movement would adapt itself to Canadian conditions over a period of time.

M-G-M Distributor to Erect New Canadian Exchange

TORONTO—Regal Films Corp., Canadian distributor of M-G-M product, has given notice of its intention to erect a film exchange building of its own at Victoria and Gould Sts. here, not far from the present Film Bldg., in which it occupies half of two floors and half of the basement for its head office staff and Toronto branch.

Other companies to move from the Film Bldg. include Empire-Universal-Films, Odeon Theatres of Canada, Sovereign Films and Associated Theatres. New film exchanges are under course of construction on Carlton St. for Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Co. and Columbia Pictures of Canada, both of which now are located in the Herman Bldg.

The moves are the outcome of the Film Bldg. fire 18 months ago, because of which the Ontario government revised its regulations to require separate structures of approved design for a film distributing company. Immediate erection of such buildings was impossible because of federal wartime restrictions but, with the war in Europe terminated, active work in this connection is expected to get under way. Warners and Columbia were given special permits to proceed with their new buildings but progress has been slow.

CALGARY

Gordon Brewerton, operating theatres in southern Alberta, was seen along Filmrow, summer booking. He is uncertain whether the theatre at the Park reserve, Waterton Lakes, will open for its short summer season. A lack of equipment is the reason.

Miss Joy Peacock, who assists her brother Glen Peacock in operating the Isis, was in Rochester for an operation. Miss Peacock was acompanied by Mrs. Glen Peacock . . . Harry Phillet, well-known ex-film salesman and theatre operator of the west, was in Calgary for the weekend. He stated that business is thriving in his new circuit he recently acquired in northern Manitoba.

E. Zorn, western director of theatres for Famous Players, arrived in the city today and will spend a few days in the province on an inspection trip.



20TH IS 20 YEARS OLD—Myer Axler, (center) supervisor, is shown presenting General Manager Raoul Auerbach (left) and President N. A. Taylor of 20th Century Theatres, with an illuminated scroll honoring them on the forthcoming tenth anniversary of the company. The presentation, made in behalf of the 20th Century Theatres Club, a head office organization, took place at its annual banquet in Toronto.

OTTAWA

Operated by the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club as a patriotic venture, the Capitol Theatre tea room, on the mezzanine floor of the city's largest theatre, observed its fifth anniversary with a special gathering of local society women. During the five years, the club has raised $55,000 for its war charities fund from the revenue at the tea room. The facilities were proved by the Famous Players Canadian Corp.

It has been reported that Odeon Theatres is negotiating a deal for the purchase of the Centre from Don Stapleton. The theatre has been operated by Odeon as a first run outlet for several years with Gordon Beavis as manager. It originally was built by the late Ben Stapleton, pioneer Ottawa exhibitor and father of the present owner.

After its special Canadian premiere performance under the auspices of the naval headquarters women's auxiliary, "Colonel Blimp" played two weeks at the Elgin, being replaced by "Brewster's Millions." Diplomats of many countries, high government officials and many socialists turned out for the swanky opening.

Not yet released, "After Work," a National Film Board picture dealing with recreational programs throughout the Dominion under the "national fitness movement," was privately screened for officers of the Recreational Ass'n of the civil service in the library of the Hunter Bldg.

F. R. Crawley was elected president of the National Film Society of Canada in succession to Col. W. A. Steel, and votes of thanks were extended to John Grierson of the National Film Board for providing many films for the many performances conducted by the organization during the last nine months. Appreciation was also expressed for the cooperation of O. J. Silverthorne, chairman of the Ontario board of moving picture censors.

20th Century Chiefs Receive a Tribute

TORONTO—Presentation of an illuminated scroll to N. A. Taylor and Raoul Auerbach, executives of 20th Century Theatres, by the 20th Century Club at the head office here, took place at a dinner marking the close of the employes' winter social program. Hye Bossin was toastmaster and Myer Axler, a member of the circuit since its first year, presented the scroll.

The scroll reads as follows: "1935-1945 . . . The loyal and admiring head office staff of 20th Century Theatres hereon records for posterity its utmost sincere congratulations to N. A. Taylor and Raoul Auerbach on the tenth anniversary of their joint enterprise . . . Within a decade that began with one place of amusement they have carried mirth, music and education into dozens of communities, launching immeasurable laughter and easing countless hearts. May they thrive in their happy purpose."

Bossin announced a formal tenth anniversary celebration will be held in June.

In expressing his thanks, Taylor recalled the uncertainties of the early days and said the devotion of the employes to the company's interests was an important factor in its success.

Presented also were pastel portraits of Michael Taylor, eight, and of Nancy Auerbach, five, to their parents, the portraits being the work of Ruth Chaplin. The scroll was produced by Frank Cavanaugh of the company's art department.

President Max White of the 20th Century Club welcomed the guests. The program included presentation of bowling prizes to Bess Minard, Lottie McMurdy, Max White and Hy Ginsberg.

WINNIPEG

While visiting here on an inspection tour, Rupert Caplan, Montreal, supervisor of programs for the Canadian Broadcasting Crop., was informed he was the recipient of one of the first awards given by the Institute for Education by Radio of Ohio University at Columbus. The award was based on Caplan's presentation of "O Day of Joy and Gladness," by the Montreal writer, Mac Schoub . . . Another first award went to Tommy Tweed, Toronto writer formerly of Winnipeg.

Frank Morris, for several years entertainment editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, recently resigned and left for Ottawa to join a government information bureau.

Gene Gaudette, Minneapolis, publicity representative for RKO, was a visitor here doing advance work on "Woman in the Window," which Bill Novak plays at the Met. Gaudette left here for his home town where he was to hold a premiere of the new Danny Kaye picture, "Wonder Man."

Bill Novak arranged a special screening of "Woman in the Window" for members of the city police force. The picture was halted about five minutes from the end, and the officers were asked by Gaudette to guess the ending. Not one was able to guess it. Ben Lepkin, film editor of the Tribune and BOXOFFICE correspondent, and Ted Schrader, Tribune columnist were present at the screening. The Tribune carried a story on its city page under a blackface head, "Film Crime Baffles Police."

Film Makers Attend Education Parley

WINNIPEG — John Grierson, Canadian film commissioner, was here last week as the head of a large delegation of the National Film Board department executives to attend a joint conference of the film board, the National Farm Radio Forum and the citizens' forum sponsored by the Canadian Ass'n for Adult Education.

Grierson was to speak at a public meeting on the subject of a comprehensive adult education program for Canada.

Among those present were Graham McInnis, director of information; Stanley Hawes, producer; Morley J. Toombs, coordinator of Canadian distribution; Lionel Reid, head of the film strip division; Gordon Adamson, director of urban distribution; Helen Watson, supervisor of rural circuits. All were from Ottawa.

Also present were Len Chatwin, Vancouver, regional supervisor for British Columbia; Noel Bates, Toronto, regional supervisor for Ontario; Raymond Mondor, Montreal, regional supervisor for Quebec; Clare Burt, St. Catharines, Ont., director of rural circuits in Ontario; E. F. Holliday, Regina, regional agent in Saskatchewan, and Norman Chamberlin, Ottawa, liaison officer.

George LeBeau, regional head in Manitoba, was one of the conference secretaries.

TORONTO

Noted for his long-distance vacation travels, Manager Fred Trebilcock of Shea's downtown theatre here now is in Mexico for his annual jaunt. Fred took an around-the-world cruise one year before the war, toured Europe twice, covered South America another time, has traveled to the Pacific coast and once went to the far reaches of the Canadian Arctic. Probably when the Pacific war is cleaned up he will make the rounds of the Antipodes and the Asiatic area. During his absence, managerial duties are being looked after by Miss Evelyn Lilley, manager of the Village, and Roy Clark, who was at the Tivoli until he enlisted in the armed service from which he was recently discharged.

A theatre owner, George James Tustin of Napanee, Ont., is seeking re-election to the house of commons in the elections June 11 as a candidate in the constituency of Price Edward-Lennox.

Marie Capalbo, formerly at Paramount here, is now pitching in the women's softball league at Montreal. When M. A. Milligan, former general manager of Canadian Paramount, sponsored a Paramount team in the Toronto loop, the two pitchers who sparked the nine to the championship were Thelma Golden and Miss Capalbo. Both eventually went to Montreal.

James R. Nairn, director of advertising for Famous Players Canadian Corp., has returned from New York where he went to get a line on new product.

The Ace on City Hall Square, closed its doors permanently May 26 when the Robert Simpson department store took over the building and adjoining properties for a large extension of the large retail establishment. One of the other acquired buildings is the old Colonial Theatre which has been dark for about 15 years. The Ace was the modernized version of the old Photodrome, one of the original small theatres in downtown Toronto. The windup feature was "The Seventh Cross." Incidentally, the proprietors recently acquired the Rio on Yonge St. in anticipation of the move.

MONTREAL

Film men at Montreal were disappointed and mystified by the nonarrival of J. Arthur Rank, who had been expected here May 17 and who turned up nearly a week later in Toronto, having halted only 20 minutes at Dorval where he changed planes. The delay in arrival was due to his plane being grounded in Newfoundland. At the time of this writing the local office of Odeon Theatres of Canada was without information as to when he would visit the metropolis.

Dubbed-in French language versions of Hollywood films have been so successful in replacing films from France during the war that France Film Co. is understood to have been negotiating to take over the distribution in Canada. So far, it is believed, the producing companies have decided to continue handling these films themselves.

RKO's annual drive which concluded May 10 was noteworthy here on two counts. The Montreal office went over its quota 16 consecutive weeks, a new record, and St. John came a close second. Since both these offices come under the jurisdiction of Hatton Taylor, Montreal manager, their record means two feathers in his cap . . . Al Jeffreys, Canadian general manager of United Artists and former Montreal manager, who has been sick several months, visited Filmrow on his return from Boston where he had a medical checkup. Jeffreys looked well, but must return to Boston shortly for a major operation.

John Grierson, National Film Board commissioner, and Stuart Legg, his producer, were lauded by Newsweek in connection with the release by United Artists of "Now, the Peace," latest of the NFB World in Action documentaries. Grierson is described by the review as "experienced and dynamic," and Legg as his "intellectual alter ego, brilliant, earnest and tough-minded." Together, says Newsweek, they have been a resourceful combination for 13 years—years which have marked the tremendous growth of documentary filmmaking.

An unusual visitor to Filmrow was John Dydzak, operator of the Palace, Val d'Or and the Palace, Cadillac. He reports that the northern Quebec mining district is on the verge of a boom, and is only waiting for the labor situation to ease.

A National Film Board group of cameramen from the newsreel unit has been taking shots in Montreal to be used in a documentary tentatively entitled "Pulp for Textiles." In the group are Bob Hasuler, Ernie Wilson, Jack Francoeur, Denis Mirabelle and Chris Lund . . . A stage performance of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" was given for children at the Snowdon by pupils of the Mary Beetles School.

General Theatre Expands, Forming St. John Depot

TORONTO — Famous Players Canadian Corp. and its subsidiaries have taken up postwar expansion in active manner. Pete Brown, manager of General Theatre Supply Co. here, has gone to St. John, N. B., to establish a maritime branch of that company, which will include a warehouse for all types of theatre equipment and supplies as well as servicing facilities. This step is being followed by the opening of branches at Winnipeg and Vancouver as regional depots for quick replacements and maintenance of equipment for theatres in the areas, whether Famous Players or not.



A sad and costly affliction that could happen to your theatre. It can be avoided if you engage the trained services of our technical staff.

Dominion Sound Equipments
LIMITED
Head Office: 1620 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal
BRANCHES AT HALIFAX TORONTO WINNIPEG REGINA CALGARY VANCOUVER

A National Theatre Service, such as maintained by Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, means—an organization with a specially trained personnel to provide regular and emergency technical service, equipment and supplies for theatres.

VANCOUVER

Frank Boothe, manager of the Park Theatre, was given a party on the eve of his departure for the Toronto head office of the Odeon circuit where he will be connected with the advertising department. Odeon employes here gave the party at the Paradise Theatre. Herb Wolfe of the Varsity succeeds Boothe at the Park, and he is succeeded by Al Goodman, a newcomer to show business, at the Varsity. Goodman formerly was with CKWX here.

It was reported from London that Herbert Wilcox's new production, "A Yank Lived in Grosvenor Square," is a smash picture for the Canadian and U.S. market. The switch in title was a tipoff, for the story first was called "I Live in Grosvenor Square." Anna Neagle and Rex Harrison share top honors in the film.

"Woman in the Window" got off to a fine start at the Capitol on Victoria Day, May 24, following an extensive publicity campaign by Charlie Doctor. The film was given a fine press and the picture led the town by a big margin.

"Everything was quickly back to normal" declared Famous Players executives in discussion of incidents in connection with VE-Day and the European peace celebrations in British Columbia. Odeon circuit also reported no damage to shows . . . W. P. Nicols, one of the oldest theatre owners in western Canada who now operates the Royal, has joined the Canadian Picture Pioneers. Nicols in the old days operated his own film exchange here.

Len Brewer, projectionist at the Paradise, received word that his son, Pilot Officer Dennis Brewer, had been released from a German prison camp . . . The engagement of Yvonne McEwan, daughter of Bob McEwan of the Grandview Theatre and an employe of Warner Bros. to Ernest Kirkpatrick, cameraman of Vancouver, was announced. The wedding will be held June 19.

A fire in the Orpheum, Fort William, recently caused damage estimated at $1,200 to the balcony and mezzanine floors. There was no one in the theatre when the fire started and all damage was covered by insurance, FPC reported . . . Howard Boothe, district manager for Odeon, anticipates his Park Theatre is in for increased business in the near future, for this district is in the midst of a big apartment building program.

Graham McInnes of the National Film Board and a recent visitor here, plans soon to produce a color film based on the late Emily Carr and her paintings. The script has been prepared and crews are expected to start shooting scenes in Alert Bay, Howe Sound and Victoria districts in a few weeks . . . Sick were Connie Brown, cashier at the Strand; Mary Ruddick of the Orpheum and Howard Boothe of Odeon circuit.

First postwar modifications of special taxes brought little relief to Canadian theatres with the exception of the abolishment of the eight per cent sales tax on building material. Supplies of building materials are very limited, so no new theatres will be able to get under way for at least a year.

The Log Cabin Theatre, Lilloett, B. C., closed since last year, has been purchased by George Taylor and will open shortly . . . The Lode Theatre, Wells, B. C., operated by A. Carola, closed through lack of business in this mining town. Ted Bobier, who operated the theatre before he joined the air force, was discharged recently and was reported interested in reopening the Lode.

The circuits reported that business was down around 30 per cent in Victoria from a year ago. Troops and naval personnel have been moving out at a rapid pace and the boxoffice at British Columbia's Capitol City has been affected. The Odeon circuit has gone in for women managers in a big way and reports they are doing a good job. The Olympia, Kingsway and Dundar theatres in Vancouver are managed by women. Dorothy Clark, an ex-theatre manager, is assistant booker at the head office.

Daylight Time Retained By Minneapolis Council

From Midwest Edition

MINNEAPOLIS—The city council has rejected a law just passed by the state legislature returning the state to standard time. The vote was 22 to 1.

While many Twin City independent exhibitors felt that the return to standard time would have helped the boxoffice, especially during the summer when it now remains light until a comparatively late hour, they had no part in getting the law enacted and made no effort to induce city officials to abide by it. They realized that sentiment here and in other cities was opposed to abandonment of war time.

In the cities it is pointed out that the change in time would cause great confusion with respect to radio and train schedules.

"Girl on the Spot" New Tag

"Girl on the Spot" is the new tag for "Serenade for Murder," a Universal production.





AT OTTAWA OPENING—Among the executives who attended the Canadian premiere of "Colonel Blimp" at the Elgin Theatre, Ottawa, were: Raoul Auerbach, general manager of Twinex Century Theatre Corp., Ltd.; Edward M. Schnitzer, UA home office executive, and Doug Rosen, UA Toronto branch manager.

"Girls" Proves Best Puller at Toronto

TORONTO—"Bring On the Girls" proved popular at the Tivoli and Eglinton as the bright comedy feature against the more serious holdover pictures at other first run theatres. The Tivoli really did big business. "National Velvet" at Loew's Yonge Street still drew nicely in its third week while "The Song of Bernadette" was also strong in its second week at Shea's. At Loew's Uptown, "Fanny by Gaslight" more than justified its holdover for another six days.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) 110
Imperial—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO) 100
Loew's—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 95
Shea's—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 100
Tivoli—Same as Eglinton 115
Uptown—**Fanny by Gaslight** (Br.), 2nd wk. 95

"A Tree" and "A Song" Brought Lines To Calgary Theatre Boxoffices

CALGARY—Exhibitors enjoyed a week of lineups at the boxoffice, which may not be equaled in the weeks to come. With the arrival of bright sunshine after a month of cold stormy weather that brought daily rains and snows, they face many rival attractions. Race tracks are opening for 12 days with biggest purses and horse entries in local history. Home gardeners are starting to catch up on the delayed spring. Stampede and school holidays are in the offing. Columbia's "A Song to Remember" played a grand business, building up from the capacity opening to score a record two weeks at the Grand.

Capitol—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) ..... Very good
Grand—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. ..... Very good
Palace—**Man in Grey** (Gainsborough); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) ..... Fair
Palace—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **O, My Darling Clementine** (Rep) ..... Good

A Mixed Reception in Montreal's Offerings in Late May Week

MONTREAL—First run films had a mixed reception during May's penultimate week. The honors went to "Tonight and Every Night" at the Palace, "Maytime" at the Princess and "Flemish Farm," a British film at the Kent. Moderate attention was paid to "Hotel Berlin" at the Capitol, "The Song of Bernadette" at Loew's and "Mr. Emmanuel" at His Majesty's. For the first time in months a dubbed-in French-language film, "En Marge de la Vie," fared poorly at the Orpheum.

Capitol—**Hotel Berlin** (WB); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep), 2nd wk. ..... Pretty good
His Majesty's—**Mr. Emmanuel** (Br), 2nd wk. ..... Fair
Kent—**Flemish Farm** (Br) ..... Excellent
Loew's—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. ..... Fair
Orpheum—**En Marge de la Vie (Flesh and Fantasy)** (WB) ..... Not so good
Palace—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) ..... Very good
Princess—**Maytime** (M-G-M); **Circumstantial Evidence** (20th-Fox) ..... Very good

"Tonight" Pleases and "Bernadette" Disappoints Vancouver Patrons

VANCOUVER—"Tonight and Every Night" at the Orpheum was the top favorite here last week, with grosses and the other first runs taking a sharp dip. "The Song of Bernadette" at the Capitol was a keen disappointment and had only a fair week. "The Song" was out after a six-day run in a house that has been holding pictures three to five weeks in the last year.

Beacon—**The Big Bonanza** (Rep); **Let's Go Steady** (Col), plus stage show ..... Average
Capitol—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox) ..... Disappointing
Dominion—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox); **Winged Victory** (20th-Fox), moveovers ..... Not bad
Orpheum—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) ..... Good
Plaza—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono) ..... Fair
Strand—**The Great Moment** (Para); **Here Come the WAVES** (Para), moveover ..... Average
Vogue—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd wk. ..... Fair

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Old Glory World's Third Oldest Flag

Named Old Glory by Capt. William Driver, Aug. 10, 1831, the flag of the United States is third oldest of the world's national standards—older even than Britain's Union Jack or the Tricolor of France.

The flag was authorized by Congress June 14, 1777. The date is now observed as Flag Day, each year in the United States and U.S. possessions.

Red is for valor, zeal and fervency. White for hope, purity, cleanliness of life, and the rectitude of conduct. The blue, color of heaven, is for reverence to God—loyalty, sincerity, justice and truth.

The star symbolizes dominion and sovereignty.

The symbol of Old Glory was interpreted by George Washington: "We take the stars from heaven, the red from our mother country separating it by white stripes, thus showing we have separated from her, and, the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing liberty."

The flag embodies the essence of patriotism. Its spirit is the spirit of the American nation; its history that of the American people.

Old Glory first rose over 13 states along the Atlantic with a population of 3,000,000. Today—over 133,000,000 people—it flies over 48 states, across the continent, over islands of the two oceans around the global war fronts.

Original Copy Gives Screen Calendar Personal Punch

Johnny Hynes of the Community Theatre in Conde, S. D., puts out a 9¼x11¼ program calendar on bristol containing an entire month's screen schedule. It is blank on the other side, and so suitable for tacking on the wall, etc. Hynes makes up his own copy using such descriptive phrases as: "We promised you a return date with these popular kids and here they are—Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan in 'Chip Off the Old Block'" and "This one is a little old but so good we know you want to see it—Don Ameche, Frances Dee in 'Happy Land.'"

Radio Firm Spends $3,800 On Ads in "Burma" Tieup

DETROIT—The Motorola Co., manufacturer of handie-talkie combat radios, spent $3,800 in newspaper and radio advertising in a tieup with the Palms State Theatre and the U.S. army signal corps on "Objective, Burma!"

Exploitation included personal appearances at the theatre by veterans of Burma fighting, lobby demonstrations of battle equipment, the use of a signal corps trailer, radio broadcasts by Lieut. Col. John Niehaus of the Chicago regional labor office and window displays in the city's largest retail store. The campaign was conducted during the second week of the "Burma" run.



Flag Day June 14; Time to Sell Bonds

FLAG DAY, June 14, always an important date on the aggressive showman's yearly calendar, is even more a red letter day this year because of the possibilities presented not only for the usual patriotic observance to which the day lends itself, but also because of its natural adaptability as a stimulus for bond sales.

Theatres the country over now are planning special observances for Flag Day and concentrating on those little added points of showmanship which will add to the industry's contribution to the Seventh War Loan drive on the 168th anniversary of the authorization by Congress of the Stars and Stripes as our national emblem.

Prominent on any list of special activities is cooperation with local civic celebrations to make the theatre "reflect the spirit of the community" and become a part of whatever activities take place. This can be done by having drum corps, Boy and Girl Scouts, civic organizations, bands, etc., appear on the stage in patriotic ceremonies dedicated either to the boys who have fought for the country, or a demonstration based on the part the city is playing in the win-the-war movement.

The dedicatory program on the stage could be followed by a spirited war bond campaign in which troupe members canvass the audience. In connection with the latter, merchants probably would take cooperative advertising in support of the campaign.

The special program could be on a regular show schedule or as a special matinee. The "Star-Spangled Banner" trailer and the M-G-M short, "The Flag Speaks," are appropriate subjects for the screen.

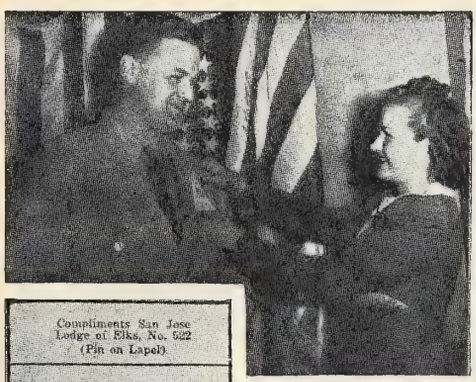
Other suggestions:

Because our national emblem of freedom is more revered than ever this year, proudly display it in and out of the theatre. If possible get a collection of flags of historical interest for a foyer display.

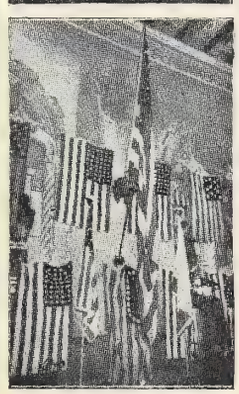
In any observance consult first and rigidly observe the flag code.

75 Enter Contest

ALBANY—Manager Leo Rosen of the Strand conducted a very successful pigtail contest for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." The Knickerbocker News gave the promotion heavy news and photograph space. Seventy-five entries were received.









PLEASE THE MALES — The second Thursday of June is Flag Day. Every male patron likes to have a pretty usherette pin flag emblems on lapel such as the cutie is doing at the above left.

Above right: Let the flag speak loudly in your foyer. Here's an appealing way of presenting the idea.

Left: Service clubs like the Elks could provide Flag Day lapel pins for a giveaway, like the tone shown herewith containing the pledge of allegiance. Historically interesting and appropriate are flag groupings in the foyer, like the one immediately at left.

Outstanding Displays of Week



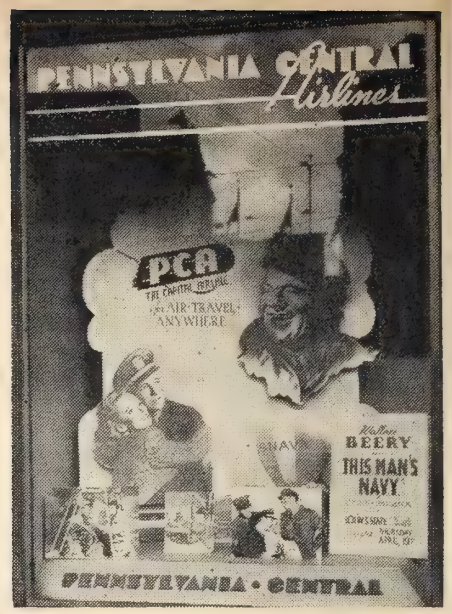
IT STOPPED 'EM—Life-size and in color, these blow-ups of Yvonne DeCarlo, star of "Salome, Where She Danced," made a striking display on the doors of the Majestic Theatre, Houston, Tex.



BAR IN LOBBY—An old-fashioned bar and a new-fashioned barmaid combined to make an attractive lobby display at Loew's State, Cleveland, in advance of "Flame of Barbary Coast." In a tieup with Royal Crown Cola the purchaser of a war stamp was given a free drink of Royal Crown.



QUICK ACTION—Earl Hubbard at the 20th Century Theatre, Buffalo, went to work in a hurry on VE-Day and used the above sign to stimulate bond sales. He intends to keep it up until he can paint out Tokyo.



NEAT CUTOUT JOB—Ed J. Fisher, Loew's State publicity director, Cleveland, made these cutouts and induced Pennsylvania Central Airlines to display them in connection with "Navy."

LOBBY TABLEAU—Placed on the mezzanine floor of the Capitol at Calgary, Alta., facing the long entrance lobby, this tableau, assembled by Jack Randall, of a jockey and pony provided excellent publicity a week prior to "National Velvet." The plaster pony was loaned by a western saddle store; figure of boy by a department store, and the jockey suit was rented from masquerade costume house.



BODY BEAUTIFUL—For "It's a Pleasure" the Palace, New York, thus played up the charm of Sonja Henie and Marie McDonald in the lobby displays.



"Lassie" Ad Campaign Ties In Local Dates

M-G-M has completed a national tieup with Albers Milling Co. and Carnation Milk on "Son of Lassie" designed to create advance interest for the picture in approximately 100 large and small cities. Both companies had previously cooperated with Metro on "Lassie Come Home."

Under the arrangement, special ads will appear in about 100 newspapers. These ads will promote Friskies, a dog food, but special space will mention the name of the local theatre playing "Lassie" and the opening date. Total circulation of these newspapers is 14,265,920.

A special merchandising campaign by Carnation provides for display pieces to appear in thousands of retail stores throughout the country. Booklets featuring "Son of Lassie" and "Dog Tricks," by Rudd Weatherwax, owner and trainer of the animals, will be distributed to retail stores by Carnation salesmen. A special sales portfolio indicating the story of the film and containing scene stills, tiein ads, publicity and playdates of local engagements, will also be distributed by the Carnation salesmen.

The Des Moines Register and Tribune recently conducted a circulation contest in conjunction with "Lassie." More than 100 pedigreed dogs were given away. The stunt was plugged daily with news stories, art, roto publicity, radio broadcasts, many ads, and letters and folders to boys in the state between the ages of 12 and 16. The dogs were furnished by the newspaper. The stunt was widely publicized in the newspaper's house organ, having a circulation of 32,000.

"Girls" Campaign Goes Over Big in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—Jim Castle, district exploiteer for Paramount, arranged a swell campaign for "Bring On the Girls" when it opened here.

On Radio Station KWK the popular WJV program conducted by Ed Wilson used the special disk of music from the picture on both the air programs. WEW, the St. Louis University station, used the 15-minute recording the Tuesday evening prior to the opening day. The music side of the platter was also used.

This arrangement also prevailed with KSD, the Post-Dispatch station, and KXOK, the Star-Times station. WTMV in East St. Louis, Ill., in addition to using the 15-minute platter and playing tunes from the picture through its daily shows for six days, built a special air show entitled "Bring On the Girls," using a cut-off of the picture's recording for the opening and various records of top name bands with music containing names of girls. Between these recordings they played tunes from the picture. It made a swell half-hour show.

Castle saw to it that all of the radio stations obtained from their Victor distributor the Spike Jones recording of "Hlo-oo." Interstate Supply Co., distributors of Victor records, arranged for and made 15 displays on "Bring On the Girls." The only cost to the theatre was the still of Spike Jones.

Boyd's department store at Sixth and Olive Sts. used a banner in its window with the following copy: "'Bring On the Girls' to our new sportswear shop, second floor . . . see Sonny Tufts, Veronica Lake, Marjorie Reynolds and Eddie Bracken in Paramount's Technicolor picture, 'Bring On the Girls.'"

At the St. Louis Band and Instrument Co. there was a window tying in with sheet music from "Bring On the Girls." The Star-Times, Globe-Democrat and Post-Dispatch all carried art displays of the stars.

Action Showmanship Sells Action Pictures at Denver Paramount



SIMPLE DISPLAY—Two stills, a 40x60 card and some paint turned out this window card for Sears store, Spokane, during the run of "Guest in the House" at the Orpheum Theatre. It was the idea of Al Baker, manager.

(The following article was written by Frank Monahan in a recent issue of Par, the National Theatres publication).

DENVER—Action pictures pay off at the first run Paramount Theatre here because they are sold with an action-type campaign. District Manager Harold Rice (formerly Paramount Theatre manager) and theatre assistant, Otto Bartusch, believe firmly that the public enjoys his advance campaign as much as the film fare he dishes up.

Every program booked into the house gets a personalized, tailormade campaign. What they did last week, last month or last year is not considered. Suggested campaigns in press books are usually entirely revamped. Rice's finished campaign is a masterpiece of planning, precision, initiative and all-out showmanship! And the extra effort is selling tickets at the boxoffice.

Westerns Must Be Sold in Denver

Typical of a Rice planned and executed campaign is the treatment accorded "Stagecoach." Any picture with a western theme needs to be really sold before the westerners (Denverites) here will go for it. Living in the heart of the Rocky Mountain region they apparently have to be shown in advance. And show 'em is what Rice showmanship does.

People here can read just as well as any other cosmopolitan place in America but Rice is a firm believer in the power of the photo blowup. His entire campaign on this picture made lavish use of blowups of both the stars and supporting players. In lobby standees, on his front, in window displays—30 by 40 blowups were used extensively. Increased newspaper lineage and teaser ads added weight to the campaign. Bumper strips were displayed on taxis and private cars.

Usher in Indian Makeup Beats Tom-Tom

Window displays were used extensively. Two music stores gave the use of their best windows, drug stores were cooperative and five-and-dime stores within a five block radius of the theatre featured "Stagecoach Sundaes" for the week-long run with all employes wearing lapel ribbons calling attention to the showing at the Paramount.

Live street ballyhoo was an important part of the campaign. Rice bedecked one of his boy ushers in an Indian suit and war paint and had him incessantly beat a tom-tom.

Even the radio came in for its share with a series of spot announcements over four local stations for three days in advance of opening.

Of course, when you talk to District Manager Rice he won't admit that the campaign was unusual for it is the aim to perform the unusual week in and week out. And the proof is in the results!

Flag Tableau Repeat Performance Thrills

NEW YORK—The Mt. Vernon War Finance Committee was so impressed by the Proctor Theatre's Iwo Jima flag raising tableau during one of the theatre's bond rallies, it requested Manager Arthur Koch to reproduce the spectacle in an outdoor bond rally.

As a result Koch presented the tableau at Howard Field, Mt. Vernon, last week. Included in the special outdoor show were the Endicott Johnson Glee Club of 100 voices and the 56-piece 3rd infantry band. Many public officials participated in the rally.

Big Equipment Exhibit During Maritime Week

CLEVELAND—Howard Burkhart, manager of Loew's State, and Ed Fisher, publicity director, tied up with the local merchant marine officials and seven large manufacturing plans for an extensive exhibit in the State lobby during national maritime week May 19-26. The plans contributed articles manufactured locally for use by the maritime service, including heavy chains, electrical equipment, engines, delicate instruments and freezing equipment for food preservation. Cooperating in the display were the Diesel Engine Department of General Motors, Towmotor Corp., Jack and Heinz, Swift & Co., Cleveland Chain Co., Reliance Electric Co., and the Railey Corp.

Buffalo Typewriter Contest

BUFFALO—On "Roughly Speaking" at the 20th Century, 10,000 heralds were distributed as applications for a speed typewriting contest held on the stage and won by Letha Cobo of East Concord. She won a $25 war bond and the title of "Western New York's Rosalind Russell." A $10 and $5 second and third prize also were awarded.

George Hossfield, ten times professional speed champion, presented the award and gave a brief demonstration. The contestants copied from a speed-o-lite, loaned by the Chown Business School. The Underwood Typewriter Co. thought so much of the promotion that they sent their public relations director here for the event.

An Overhead Display Aids 'Thin Man' Take

PITTSBURGH—A special overhead lobby display with cutout letters, installed two and one-half weeks before the opening of "The Thin Man Goes Home" was featured in the promotional campaign conducted by Lige Brien, manager of the Enright Theatre, which resulted in a highly pleasing volume of business.

A free color book distributed among children seeing the film also aided. A lobby sheet advertising the books was installed ten days in advance. In addition, a tieup was made with the candy counter whereby those getting a "lucky bag" of candy obtained passes for the picture. Advertisements were carried in five local newspapers all through the playing period.

RCA Anticipates Needs Of Drive-In Theatres

NEW YORK—RCA anticipates a development in drive-in theatre construction immediately after the lifting of wartime restrictions on building materials, equipment and gasoline. To meet this expansion, RCA's theatre equipment section plans to supply a complete line of sound and projection equipment designed to meet the requirements of this type of theatre. Incorporated in the line will be many new features developed by RCA engineers; these include revolutionary types of in-car speakers, combined terminal-box and speaker-receptacle units, and self-adjusting amplifier systems.

The plans for expanded activity in the drive-in field are shown in a 32-page illustrated booklet entitled "The Drive-In Theatre," now being distributed. The brochure also contains advice on the selection of a site for the drive-in theatre, discussion and diagrams of various types of construction covering the projection booth building, screen tower, ramps, parking area, etc., as well as sketches on equipment installations and technical service.



VISIBLE EVIDENCE—This buggy, driver and "corpse" traveled the streets of San Francisco on the opening day of "The Body Snatcher" at the Golden Gate Theatre. The buggy idea might be equally good for films with such titles as "Going My Way" and "Hitch-hike to Happiness." Signs could read "Are you 'Going My Way'?" with the theatre name, and "Want to 'Hitch-hike to Happiness'?"

Warners' "Springfield" Letter Used by Hynes

CONDE, S. D.—J. B. Hynes, operator of the Community Theatre, made effective use of the letter on "It Happened in Springfield" sent to exhibitors by Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros.

Hynes had the message reproduced and distributed copies to educators, civic leaders and students in all schools in his territory. At the bottom he added the line: "We have booked this subject to play Memorial Day."



MANNEQUINS IN STRIPES—Boys in convict garb carrying signs "I broke out of jail to see DILLINGER" was used by the Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington, Ky., as part of the promotion for the film. Other features of the publicity campaign were advance lobby sheets with bars giving a prison effect, front decorations to carry out the prison motif, scare and shock copy on the marquee, radio spot announcements warning the public to be on the lookout for "the killer" and tabloid heralds distributed in advance of the showing which featured scare copy and photographs.

Department Stores Boost "Horseshoe"

BUFFALO—Local department and retail stores cooperated on the campaign for 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," which played an engagement at Shea's Great Lakes Theatre.

The department stores' part in the campaign follows: J. N. Adam ran full page ads in the local newspapers; Hengerer's had quarter-page ads featuring Betty Grable as seen in the film, and Jahraus-Braun Co. used a large ad in the Buffalo Courier-Express, tying in with the "Lucky Seventh War Loan."

Many beauty parlors in Buffalo displayed Betty Grable coiffure posters. One-sheets heralded the theatre's tieup with Silver Screen magazine and the film. A local radio tieup with several national network programs was used and hundreds of cards publicizing the air shows and the theatre engagement were planted in store windows.

Music and record shops and the New York Central Railroad terminal were papered with various types of promotion material.

Thorough "Gray" Building By Samartano at State

J. G. Samartano of the State at Providence, R. I., had his entire executive staff working on his campaign for "The Picture of Dorian Gray," comprising V. O'Neill, relief manager; E. Stenzel, assistant; M. Ross, secretary, and A. Mott, chief of service. The promotion was notable for the thoroughness in which all media suggested in exploitative manuals on the film were employed.

Samartano says he liked the idea of a sketch class in the lobby and had the poster artist arrange a class sketching different characters from the film. The prize was a $25 war bond. A "thumb nail" review contest was arranged in the Providence Journal and Bulletin with a $50 bond to the winner. The house organist used "Little Yellow Bird" with proper script plugging "Dorian Gray" a week in advance.

In addition local film editors were provided with material on the film and invited to the first showing; the "No Cigarets" gag came in handy again; all lending and sales libraries were phoned, suggesting Wilde books would be in demand and that the theatre be permitted to service them with material on Wilde's "Dorian Gray" story; 10,000 Secret Diary booklets distributed to all factories a week in advance.

Three hundred 14x22 silk screen window cards were made up and distributed; Railway Express trucks bannered with four and two-sheets; Donna Reed coiffure co-op planted; recordings with teaser announcements used one week in advance during breaks in dark auditorium; teaser ads and want-ad series used in newspaper; several "Dorian" fashion displays promoted in store windows.

Honor Scout's Paper Drive In Theatre Lobby

In a tiein with the Boy Scout paper salvage drive of the White Plains, N. Y., area Michael Stranger, manager of Loew's Theatre, awarded promotion certificates to Scouts making the largest individual promotion certificates to Scouts making the largest individual collections. A picture of the presentation, made on the stage of Loew's, was planted in the Reporter Dispatch.

On display in the lobby was the Boy Scout paper exhibit which contained items such as containers for blood plasma, vaccine and rations, shell cases and a parachute used by paratroopers. The collection was made possible through the Westchester war council salvage chairman.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING 1944	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
JULY 22	25 (65) M'drama 5037 U-BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett Erik Rolf John Abbott R—July 22—PG-549	GROUP 8: JULY RELEASES: (95) Com.-Dr. 490 THE CANTERVILLE GHOST Charles Laughton Margaret O'Brien Robert Young R—June 3—PG-538 (101) Musical 429 ◎BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams Basil Rathbone R—June 3—PG-537	22 (67) Comedy 323 THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom R—Sept. 2—PG-563	GROUP 4—1943-44: (75) Melodrama 4317 THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN Franchot Tone Veronica Lake Binnie Barnes John Sutton R—Mar. 4—PG-511 (79) Com.-Mus. 4318 YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE Betty Rhodes Johnnie Johnston Marjorie Weaver Johnnie "Scat" Davis R—Mar. 4—PG-512 (75) Drama 4316 THE NAVY WAY Robert Lowery Jean Parker Bill Henry Roscoe Karns R—Mar. 4—PG-512	25 (60) Western 465 FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty	GROUP 5—1943-44: (64) Mystery 421 THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale Don Douglass R—Mar. 11—PG-514 (86) Drama 422 DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck Maria Palmer Lowell Gilmore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (83) Adventure 423 THE YELLOW CANARY Anna Neagle Richard Greene Nova Pilbeam R—Apr. 15—PG-524 (92) Mus. Drama 425 SHOW BUSINESS Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore R—Apr. 22—PG-526 (74) Comedy 424 SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Alan Carney Marcy McGuire Gordon Oliver R—Apr. 22—PG-525 SPECIAL: (110) Mus. Drama 461 GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina Rafael Rivelles Armanda Calvo R—May 27—PG-536 GROUP 6—1943-44: (63) Comedy 426 GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST Harold Peary Marion Martin Richard LeGrand R—June 24—PG-544 (65) Adventure 428 A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538 (88) Musical 429 STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545 (67) Drama 430 YOUTH RUNS WILD Bonita Granville Kent Smith Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon Tessa Brind R—July 1—PG-546 (91) Drama 427 MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey Robert Ryan R—June 24—PG-543	20 (55) Western 461 SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane Peggy Stewart Wally Vernon 26 (68) Mystery 321 SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD R—June 24—PG-543 31 (69) Mus. Com. 325 THREE LITTLE SISTERS R—Aug. 5—PG-554 5 (56) Melodrama 322 GIRL WHO DARED 5 (75) O'd'r Mus. 344 SONG OF NEVADA R—June 17—PG-542 11 (56) Western 451 BORDERTOWN TRAIL 12 (70) Musical 401 SING, NEIGHBOR, SING R—Aug. 19—PG-558 13 (58) Melodrama 324 PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 16 (56) Western 3313 SAN ANTONIO KID Wild Bill Elliott Reissue: 1 (60) Mus. Wst. 3306 RIDE, RANGER, RIDE Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes 12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT 14 (68) Com.-Mus. 328 THAT'S MY BABY R—Sept. 23—PG-569 15 (55) Western 462 STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY 15 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 16 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562 30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake 6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson	JULY RELEASES: (65) Melodrama 431 ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen Lois Andrews R—May 27—PG-535 (85) Melodrama 432 CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA James Mason Carla Lehmann Raymond Lovell R—June 3—PG-538 (103) Romance 433 ◎HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain June Haver Lon McCallister R—May 27—PG-536 AUGUST RELEASES: (70) Musical 501 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548 (97) War Drama 502 WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550 SEPTEMBER RELEASES: (75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554 (73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557 (82) Musical 505 ◎GREENWICH VILLAGE Carmen Miranda Don Ameche William Bendix R—Aug. 12—PG-555	20 (174) Drama SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotten R—July 29—PG-552 4 (80) Comedy 497 ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—July 22—PG-549	14 (62) Musical 8045 TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE R—June 10—PG-539 18 (57) Western 8087 TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT 21 (65) Comedy 8040 ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery jr. Martha O'Driscoll R—May 6—PG-529	22 (130) Biog. 315 THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March R—May 6—PG-530
JULY 29											
AUG. 5	3 (80) Com. Dr. 5007 MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR Edward G. Robinson Ruth Warrick Ted Donaldson R—July 15—PG-547		5 (57) Western 356 WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580								12 (127) Drama 319 MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains Walter Abel R—May 27—PG-536
AUG. 12			15 (59) Western 366 MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580								
AUG. 19	17 (63) Horror 5027 CRY OF THE WEREWOLF R—Aug. 26—PG-560 17 (61) Horror 5026 SOUL OF A MONSTER R—Aug. 26—PG-559		19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564							18 (74) Comedy 8001 IN SOCIETY Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558	
AUG. 26	24 (72) Musical 5012 KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee	AUGUST RELEASE: SPECIAL: (145) Drama 500 DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	26 (61) Comedy 325 LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569								2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Guinn Williams		2 (71) Mystery 306 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558							1 (86) Drama 9005 ◎GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556	9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559		9 (64) Mystery 317 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565							8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch R—Sept. 23—PG-567	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES: (112) M'drama 501 ◎THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552	16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUTLAWS	GROUP 5—1943-44: (96) Mus.-Com. 4321 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (65) Comedy 4322 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527 (100) Drama 4323 THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-525 (66) Melodrama 4324 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528 (106) M'drama 4325 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528	8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582 21 (56) Western 551 GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570 4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577				15 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 6201 COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER									22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	23 (118) Mys-Farce 401 ◎ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
SEPT. 30	28 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571									29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573		30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele							6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575	OCTOBER RELEASES:		GROUP 6—1943-44:		(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES:		13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556		(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541		(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry	(74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568		20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 ©THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582	(100) Rom.-Fan. 506 ©KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-560		(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch. R—June 10—PG-539		(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567		3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574		3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY	(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lyden Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	(78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581 7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN	(90) Mus.-Rom. 508 ©IRISH EYES ARE SMILING June Haver Dick Haymes Monty Woolley R—Oct. 14—PG-573	10 (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583	10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569	11 (99) Rom.-Dr. 406 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-578
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583		10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561 17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539	31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579 9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES:		10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569 17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584	NOVEMBER RELEASES:	24 (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557	(83) Drama 4330 THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field Harry Carey William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	15 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer R—Sept. 9—PG-566		15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott	(88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576	23 (81) Drama THREE IS A FAMILY Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	24 (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585	26 (102) Comedy 407 THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
NOV. 25		(122) Drama 510 ©AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-549 (124) Drama 507 ©MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568 Reissue: (104) Musical 508 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald Nelson Eddy	1 (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White 8 (..) Comedy CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	SPECIAL: (125) Com.-Dr. 4335 ©GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511		GROUP 1—1944-45: (113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572	30 (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577		8 (120) Drama GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	1 (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	
DEC. 2	7 (69) M'drama 6032 SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587		15 (68) Mys-Com. 416 SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(97) Comedy 4401 ©RAINBOW ISLAND Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565	6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 ROGUES' GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605 9 (60) Western 556 OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe	(87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572	30 (71) M'drama 404 FACES IN THE FOG R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 RED RIVER VALLEY Gene Autry	(87) Musical 510 ©SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582		15 (63) Musical 9037 MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586	
DEC. 9	14 (60) Musical 6038 DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594		22 (76) Melodrama ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(88) Drama 4402 TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565	15 (79) Comedy 501 THE TOWN WENT WILD R—Nov. 11—PG-581 22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 CASTLE OF CRIMES Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall	(96) Drama 502 THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567	23 (85) Musical 406 LAKE PLACID SERENADE Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593	BLOCK 5: DECEMBER RELEASES:	29 (87) Drama TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field R—Dec. 23—PG-591	22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587	
DEC. 16	21 (55) Western 6203 SADDLE LEATHER LAW R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 TOGETHER AGAIN R—Nov. 11—PG-581	DECEMBER RELEASE:	29 (62) Com.-Dr. BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids	(76) Com-Mus. 4405 THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-565	29 (55) Western 553 THE WHISPERING SKULL Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(75) Drama 505 MY PAL WOLF Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568	23 (55) Melodrama 408 THOROUGHBREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara Roger Pryor R—Dec. 2—PG-586	(130) Drama 512 WINGED VICTORY Sgt. Mark Daniels Cpl. Don Taylor Pvt. Lon McCallister Sgt. Edmond O'Brien Cpl. Lee J. Cobb Cpl. Alan Baxter Jo-Carroll Dennison Jeanne Crain Jane Ball Judy Holliday R—Dec. 2—PG-586		29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 ©CAN'T HELP SINGING Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589	30 (124) Musical 409 HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
DEC. 23	28 (63) Romance 6205 TAHITI NIGHTS Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593		5 (56) Western NAVAJO TRAIL Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(81) Comedy 4404 OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Gail Russell Diana Lynn Charles Ruggles Dorothy Gish R—Sept. 2—PG-562		(69) Comedy 504 GOIN' TO TOWN Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake R—Sept. 30—PG-571	30 (60) Melodrama 407 THE BIG BONANZA R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS	(86) Rom.-Dr. 513 SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak Bobby Driscoll Charles Winninger Jane Darwell R—Dec. 9—PG-588	5 (86) Drama I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592	5 (60) Musical 9035 NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
1945	4 (60) Comedy 6039 LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598		12 (68) Comedy ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin	(56) Drama 4405 DARK MOUNTAIN Robert Lowery Ellen Drew Regis Toomey Eddie Quillan			16 (71) M'drama 409 GRISSLY'S MILLIONS Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas			12 (74) Comedy 9020 SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan.	
JAN. 6	11 (59) M'drama 6041 YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Read										
JAN. 13											

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 EADIE WAS A LADY Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	JANUARY RELEASE: SPECIAL: (138) Drama 511 THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	19 (63) Mys.-Com. ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker Peter Cookson	GROUP 2—1944-45: (85) Drama 4406 AND NOW TOMORROW Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575		SPECIAL: (99) Suspense 582 THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW Edward G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey R—Oct. 14—PG-574	22 (69) Comedy 410 THE BIG SHOW-OFF R—Jan. 20—PG-597			19 (57) Western 9039 UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597	20 (106) Drama 410 TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601	JANUARY RELEASES: (101) Com.-Dr. 513 THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587	26 (83) Drama FOREVER YOURS Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(92) Drama 4407 THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578		(94) Comedy 551 THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576	26 (55) Western 464 THE TOPEKA TERROR Allan Lane Linda Stirling	JANUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (137) Drama 514 THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592	19 (92) Drama MR. EMMANUEL Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 SAGEBRUSH HEROES Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor	(56) Drama 514 MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	2 (66) Mystery THE JADE MASK Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland	(113) Romance 4408 FRENCHMAN'S CREEK Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce R—Sept. 23—PG-567	3 (54) Western 557 HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King	GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 GIRL RUSH Frances Langford Wally Brown R.—Oct. 28—PG-577	15 (56) Western 3317 GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming	(61) Doc.-Dr. 515 THE FIGHTING LADY U.S. Navy Carrier Ship R—Jan. 13—PG-595		9 (63) Musical 9021 HER LUCKY NIGHT Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams	SPECIAL: (113) Dr./Mus. 512 MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor R—Nov. 11—PG-582	9 (64) Melodrama CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga	(76) Mys.-Com. 4409 ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577	6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 KID SISTER 8 (58) Western 554 MARKED FOR MURDER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien	(67) Mystery 507 FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588	19 (69) Musical 411 A SONG FOR MISS JULIE Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607		16 (71) Mystery 9013 HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 THE MUMMY'S CURSE R—Jan. 20—PG-598	
FEB. 17	22 (72) Comedy 6019 LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE 22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600		16 (59) Western GUNSMOKE Johnny Mack Brown 16 (61) Com.-Mys. THERE GOES KELLY Jackie Moran			(95) Mystery 508 MURDER, MY SWEET Dick Powell Anne Shirley Claire Trevor R—Dec. 9—PG-588	28 (55) Western 454 SHERIFF OF CIMARRON Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill	FEBRUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (128) Drama 517 A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599		23 (94) Musical 9012 FRISCO SAL Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	17 (142) Drama 411 OBJECTIVE, BURMA! Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE R—Feb. 10—PG-602	FEBRUARY RELEASES: (117) Musical 515 MUSIC FOR MILLIONS Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590	2 (61) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver	BLOCK 3—1944-45: (99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591							
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama A SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(69) Drama 516 BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	9 (62) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611	(62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599						3 (117) Drama 412 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	(100) Drama 517 THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595	22 (74) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown	(158) Drama 4413 FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454		(84) Musical 583 BELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans Roy Rogers R-Mar. 17—PG-613				
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606			(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592			30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624 2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry				16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-609	MARCH RELEASES: 9 (81) Drama 516 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592	31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	SPECIAL: (71) Disney 591 THE THREE CABALLEROS Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590		MARCH RELEASES: (78) Drama 518 THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599 (67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610 7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614		
MAR. 31											
APR. 7	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609 12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale 30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604	13 (62) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom							13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 14	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623										

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◐ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⊛ indicates color photograph

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
APR. 21	19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER 19 (58) Western 6206 RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID R—May 5—PG-628		20 (54) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ◐⊛BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	15 (76) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (61) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley	20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	APRIL RELEASES: (156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan R—April 28—PG-626	
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama 6006 COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ◐⊛NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	20 (54) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	4 (147) Comedy ⊛COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) Western 9073 ◐⊛SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED Yvonne DeCarlo David Bruce R—Apr. 21—PG-621	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5			5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626		2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray	(84) Musical 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604		4 (89) Mus-Com. 9011 PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621	
MAY 12	10 (67) Mystery 6031 BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Steve Cochran Richard Lane	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	12 (70) War Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628		7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson			11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	
MAY 19	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Pat Parrish Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main	19 (64) Western IN OLD NEW MEXICO Duncan Renaldo		16 (64) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618		10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	18 (91) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 26	24 (84) M'drama 6010 THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616	26 (70) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	BLOCK 5—1944-45: (113) Rom-Com. 4421 THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	1 (62) Mystery THE MISSING CORPSE J. Edward Bromberg Isabel Randolph	SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 ◐⊛IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon	MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ◐⊛DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622	25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
JUNE 2						SPECIAL: (90) Western ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young			1 (92) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan	
JUNE 9	7 (60) Comedy 6029 TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee 7 (66) Mus.-West. RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis	JUNE RELEASES: (110) Drama 525 THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY Hurd Hatfield George Sanders Donna Reed			14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John	SPECIAL: (98) Comedy 552 ◐⊛WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626	(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622		8 (61) 9041 I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce June Preisser	
JUNE 16				(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619		GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623			15 (68) 9042 BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	9 (92) Comedy 417 PILLOW TO POST Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince
JUNE 23	21 (65) BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN Robert Stanton Lynn Merrick Thurston Hall Mary Treen	(102) M'drama 526 ◐⊛SON OF LASSIE Peter Lawford Donald Crisp June Lockhart			15 (77) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell			22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043 PENTHOUSE RHYTHM Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark	
JUNE 30		SPECIAL: (119) Drama 527 THE VALLEY OF DECISION Greer Garson Gregory Peck		(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	29 (..) Western THREE IN THE SADDLE Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616			29 (61) Mystery 9032 THE FROZEN GHOST Lon Chaney 29 (63) M'drama 9038 JUNGLE CAPTIVE Otto Kruger	30 (86) Drama 418 CONFLICT Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet
JULY 7				(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424 A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619		(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622		JUNE RELEASES: (77) Comedy 526 ◐⊛WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn		6 (..) Mus-Com. 9003 THE NAUGHTY NINETIES Abbott & Costello Rita Johnson Alan Curtis	
JULY 14						(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding Bill Williams R—Apr. 21—PG-621		(75) 527 DON JUAN QUILLIGAN William Bendix Joan Blondell Mary Treen Ann Revere B. S. Pulley			

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

Kiss and Tell

CAST: Shirley Temple, Jerome Courtland, Virginia Welles, Scott McKay, Scott Elliot, Walter Abel, Robert Benchley. PRODUCER: Sol Seigel. DIRECTOR: Richard Wallace. ORIGINAL: F. Hugh Herbert. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Shirley Temple and her chum, Virginia Welles, sell kisses at a bazaar, thereby causing a feud between their families. Out of this grows a fight between the girls' fathers; a suspicion that Shirley is going to have a baby; and that Virginia and Shirley's brother, (Lieut.) Scott Elliot, have secretly married—which they do later on. Shirley is seen leaving an obstetrician's office where she had gone with Virginia, but sworn to secrecy, is in a bad spot when asked who the father of her child is. Confused, she names the son of a neighbor, saying they are already married. At the height of this distressing situation, a telegram comes from Elliot saying he has just got himself a couple of Zeros; that the only person expecting a baby is Virginia; and he is the father and legal husband. The feud dies in a blaze of celebration.

PRC Pictures

Dangerous Intruder

CAST: Charles Arnt, Veda Ann Borg, Richard Powers, Fay Helm, John Rogers, Jo Ann Marlowe, Roberta Smith. PRODUCERS: Martin Mooney. DIRECTOR: Vernon Keays. ORIGINAL: Phillip MacDonald and F. Ruth Howard. SCREENPLAY: Martin Goldsmith.

Veda Ann Borg, an actress out of a job, is struck by the car of wealthy Charles Arnt and taken to his home to recover. Arnt's household consists of his wife, Fay Helm, his stepdaughter, Jo Ann Marlowe, Richard Powers, his brother-in-law and John Rogers, his assistant. During her convalescence Veda hears piercing screams and observes Charles hiding a glass of milk. Conversation in the household reveals that the family's wealth has been inherited from Fay's aunt, who died suddenly, and it is this money which enables Charles to keep up his collection of ceramics. Veda meets Powers and they fall in love. When Fay dies suddenly Veda becomes suspicious of Charles. Jo is taken mysteriously ill and Rogers is found murdered. Veda investigates and uncovers enough evidence to prove Charles' guilt. Charles tries to kill her but Richard reaches her in time.

Republic

An Angel Comes to Brooklyn

CAST: Kaye Dowd, Robert Duke, David Street, Barbara Perry, Charles Kemper, Marguerite D'Alvarez, Bob Scheerer. ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Leonard Sillman. DIRECTOR: Leslie Goodwins. SCREENPLAY: Stanley Paley and June Carroll. ORIGINAL: June Carroll and Lee Wainer.

Whenever a struggling young actor on Broadway has sufficient faith in himself, up in Actor's Heaven a bell rings, signaling that the time is ripe for an angel to descend earthward to assist. Kaye Dowd refuses to be discouraged by her many rejections from Producer Wilton Graff. Down to earth comes Charles Kemper. Concealing his true identity, he makes friends with Kay and Robert Duke, an artist in love with Kaye. David Street, an advertising writer, also in love with Kaye, attempts to thwart the theatrical plans of the trio. While Robert, Kaye and Charles are out Wilton Graff calls to put them in a show. David takes the message but does not deliver it. Kemper is called back to heaven, a failure, and Kaye becomes disheartened. Before the final fadeout David's perfidy is discovered, Kemper gets another chance and David wins Kaye.

Girls of the Big House

CAST: Lynne Roberts, Virginia Christine, Marian Martin, Adele Mara, Richard Powers, Geraldine Wall, Tala Birell. ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Rudolph E. Abel. DIRECTOR: George Archainbaud. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Houston Branch.

Lynne Roberts, as a young girl with a good family background, meets a shady character who involves her in a wallet snatching. Despite her innocence, the cards are stacked against her, she is imprisoned. Lynne's father is unaware of her imprisonment and thinks she has a job in the city. In an effort to keep up this pretense she tries to send him mail without a prison postmark. When this fails she breaks jail, goes to her home town and arranges with the postmistress to mail a letter a week from the batch she leaves. Returning to prison voluntarily, she is punished for her break. One of the prisoners feels sorry for Lynne and writes to Richard Powers, an attorney and old friend, who is in love with her. Through his efforts Lynne's innocence is proved and she is given a full pardon.

Scotland Yard Investigator

CAST: Sir Aubrey Smith, Erich Von Stroheim, Stephanie Bachelor, Forrester Harvey, Doris Lloyd, Eva Moore, Richard Fraser. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: George Blair. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Randall Faye.

Two impostors call on Sir Aubrey Smith, director of the National Art Gallery in London, for the return of the Mona Lisa which is being stored there. When delivered to Erich Von Stroheim, sinister art collector, he discovers it to be a clever copy, and returns it to Smith, Erich guesses the thief is Forrester Harvey, front for thieves. Confronted by Erich, Harvey demands 100,000 pounds for the masterpiece. Refusing, Von Stroheim subsequently kills Harvey and steals the painting for himself. Meanwhile Stephanie Bachelor, Sir Aubrey's granddaughter, enlists the aid of her fiance, Scotland Yard officer, who arrives at Erich's apartment in time to save Smith from being killed by the desperate Von Stroheim; the real Mona Lisa is recovered and returned to the French authorities.

RKO Radio

Back to Bataan

CAST: John Wayne, Anthony Quinn, Fely Franquelli, Beulah Bondi, Richard Loo, Philip Ahn, Ducky Louie. PRODUCER: Robert Fellows. DIRECTOR: Edward Dmytryk. ORIGINAL: Aeneas MacKenzie. SCREENPLAY: Ben Barzman and Richard Landau.

Opening with a factual re-enactment of the raid on Cabanatuan prison camp, the camera goes back to the days of 1942, revealing what went on behind the scenes in the Philippines until the islands were liberated. Listening from his post on Bataan, John Wayne hears Fely Franquelli plead with her countrymen to cease resistance and, realizing their plight hopeless, organizes a guerilla force. In one town the Japs hang a school principal because he refuses to lower the American flag; the "March of Death" is witnessed; and Corregidor surrenders. As a Filipino scout, Anthony Quinn refuses to sacrifice his people further—until he discovers Fely, whom he loves, has been sending vital information to MacArthur in her broadcasts. Finally, MacArthur reveals his plan to retake the islands in which the guerillas will help.

Be Your Age

CAST: Leon Errol, Dorothy Granger, Richard LeGrand, Maxine Semon, Jason Robards, Harry Harvey. PRODUCER: George R. Bilson. DIRECTOR: Hal Yates. SCREENPLAY: Hal Yates.

For years Leon Errol, who hates night clubs, pretends to his wife that he can't dance. She complains to his twin brother Roger, who advises Leon to learn to dance and to wear a toupe to look younger. While confessing to Roger that it is all a hoax and that he has bought a toupe, he is overheard by Mrs. Errol who is very angry. Hoping to placate her, Leon dresses up, presents himself, and is mistaken for Roger. He carries through the masquerade, takes her to a night club and makes love to her. She walks out on him. Leon phones Richard, his apartment house manager, to rig a dummy in his bed until he arrives. Richard is trapped in the bedroom when Leon appears. Roger shows up, the deception is uncovered, and in the ensuing confusion Richard escapes. Mrs. Errol, enraged, slams Leon over the head.

George White's Scandals of 1945

CAST: Joan Davis, Jack Haley, Phillip Terry, Martha Holliday, Gene Krupa, Ethel Smith, Glenn Tryon. PRODUCER: George White. DIRECTOR: Felix Feist. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Joan Davis gives a party for veterans of the 1919 edition of "George White's Scandals," in which she appeared. Martha Holliday, whose mother was a chorine in the 1919 show, arrives at the party. Joan invites her to visit her at a rehearsal of the new show in which Joan is to star. There, Martha who is a British dancing star, is mistaken to be a candidate for the chorus by Phillip Terry, dance director. She carries through the masquerade and is hired. In the meantime, Joan who is engaged to Jack Haley, the show's star comedian, is having her difficulties because Jack's sister, Margaret Hamilton, opposes the match. Martha and Phillip fall in love. When her true identity is revealed Martha disappears. Jack and Joan, to facilitate their own marriage, try to marry Margaret off. Both love affairs are finally untangled as the show goes on.

Tomorrow Is Forever

CAST: Claudette Colbert, Orson Welles, George Brent, Lucile Watson, Dick Long, Joyce MacKenzie, Natasha Gurdin. PRODUCER: David Lewis. DIRECTOR: Irving Pichel. SCREENPLAY: Lenore Coffee. ORIGINAL: Gwen Bristow.

After the 1918 Armistice, Claudette Colbert learns simultaneously that her husband of a year, Orson Welles, is "missing in action," and that she is pregnant. Six months after her boy's birth she marries George Brent. Orson, however, is not dead. His identification tags were shot away when he was wounded. Refusing to return a cripple he remains abroad and changes his name. Twenty years later he returns, hired as a chemist, by George. He is not recognized because plastic surgery has completely changed him. His son, Dick Long, who believes George to be his father, is anxious to enlist in the army, but is opposed by his mother. Orson convinces Claudette to let Dick go. While accomplishing this his frail health gives way and he dies. George finds letters from Elizabeth among his possessions. Claudette, who had previously begun to suspect Orson's identity, burns them unopened.

Universal

Lady on a Train

CAST: Deanna Durbin, Ralph Bellamy, David Bruce, George Coulouris, Allen Jenkins, Dan Duryea, Edward E. Horton. PRODUCER: Felix Jackson. DIRECTOR: Charles David. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

As her train pulls into New York Deanna Durbin, looking out of her window into the window of a shack level with the elevated track, sees a murder committed but can't see the assailant. In New York she rushes to the police who don't believe her story so she goes to David Bruce, author of the mystery book she's been reading. Skeptical, Bruce is finally convinced when Deanna recognizes the murdered man in a newsreel. She goes to the victim's Long Island home where the dead man's relatives mistake her for his night club singing girl friend. In the house Deanna finds a clue which involves her deeply in the affair. Another murder is committed and Deanna is nearly killed but ultimately she and Bruce track down the slayer, following which Deanna boards a train again—to honeymoon with Bruce.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

"Target Tokyo"

AFF-RKO (OWI release) 20 Mins.

Excellent. The films of the first B-29 raid over Tokyo taken by AAF cameramen are a gripping piece of history told on the screen. Well edited and capably narrated by Capt. Ronald Reagan, this two-reeler is as timely as the day's headlines. The film has an adventure story quality which gives it added audience appeal. People will want to know the details of this pioneer raid which made possible the present heavy bombing attacks on Japan.

Beau Ties

Para (Little Lulu) 8 Mins.

Very good. With the introduction of Fatso into the series, Lulu is confronted with the problem of winning the rotund little boy's affections from a blonde charmer. Through trial and error, Lulu discovers agressiveness, though effective, tends to break the spirit of the mere male. The tried and true and most direct route to Fatso's heart is through his stomach, and Lulu plys him with goodies until he enthusiastically carves his pledge to marry her on a tree.

Boogie Woogie

Para (Musical Parade) 20 Mins.

Good. This tale of an indulgent father who permits his offspring to haunt a juke joint during his wife's absence will strike a sympathetic note with jive enthusiasts and anxious parents. At the news of mother's unexpected arrival, dad attempts to herd the youngsters home before curfew, but in the ensuing confusion he is persuaded to join a jam session. All are happily surprised when mother joins them and confesses that she too has secretly been yearning to "get in the groove."

Fan Fare

Para (Grantland Rice Sportlights) 9 Mins.

Interesting. This sports quiz film paces the audience through a series of questions relating to varied sports, from aquatic feats to a "sixty-four dollar special" concerning the sports originated by Abner Doubleday, Isaac Walton and the Marquis of Queensbury. The more faithful followers of sports events will smugly inform their neighbors, "I told you so!"

Californy Er Bust

RKO (Disney Cartoons) 7 Mins.

Very good. The narrator, a veteran of pioneer days, recalls the arduous trek westward in covered wagons. The gags smack of clean American corn, original and rib-tickling, as we follow the valiant struggle through Indian infested wilderness. The savages attack, and when the situation portends a scalpers' holiday, a convenient tornado swoops up the entire wagon train. The survivors, according to this tongue-in-cheek saga, were scattered by the wind and gently deposited in various western states.

Dress Parade

RKO (This Is America) 16 Mins.

Good. The ingenuity and resourcefulness of America's fashion industry avails women in all income brackets of the opportunity to be well styled. There are interesting scenes depicting the training courses featured in the nation's schools, from which emerge talented designers. Inspiration for original designs is taken from ancient pottery patterns, old masters and even mummy wrappings. The short ends with a dazzling fashion show of original models.

Duck Pimples

RKO (Disney Cartoons) 8 Mins.

Amusing. On a stormy night Donald's overactive imagination inspires him to visualize the existence of the characters in a murder mystery he is reading. The case concerns missing pearls, and Donald finds himself involved in the crime, with the detective convinced he has stolen the necklace as well as the beautiful heroine. The author of the chiller emerges from the book and proclaims Donald's innocence. The guilty detective turns his water pistol on Donald, and the characters return to make-believe.

What, No Cigarets?

RKO (Edgar Kennedy Comedies) 18 Mins.

Average. Repetitious action and an abundance of overworked gags based on the hardships incurred by the cigaret shortage do not make for an amusing film. In his efforts to persuade his rich uncle, a chain smoker, to relieve him of the support of his shiftless in-laws, Edgar Kennedy becomes involved in a maze of stock situations. Brother-in-law sabotages his attempts at a home-made brand, and uncle leaves in a huff.

Spotlight on Congress

20th-Fox (March of Time) 16 Mins.

Illuminating. This two-reeler starts off well by rapidly reviewing the events that have shaken the world during the past several months. It then stresses the responsibility imposed upon Congress and urges a pay increase for the nation's representatives in Washington. Many prominent figures, governmental and otherwise, are shown, as are scenes from the press club party for freshmen senators. Considerable footage is devoted to depicting the daily routine of Jerry Voorhis, representative from California.

To the Shores of Iwo Jima

UA (USN-USMC-USCG Technicolor) 19 Mins.

Impressive. Based on 300,000 feet of film taken by 106 combat cameramen—two were killed, one is missing, 12 were wounded—this short is as exciting and dramatic as "Fighting Lady." Each of the 106 cameramen was so placed that every square yard of action is covered. The result is two reels of dynamic impact. It shows, without punch-pulling, how 4,000 U.S. marines died to make a tiny eight-square mile island into a U.S. bastion. Unforgettable color shots are night scenes of exploding American ammunition dumps and flame-throwers in action. Not the least inspiring part of the picture is the narration. Example: "They chased us off five times—we came back six."

On to Tokyo

WAC (USA-OWI) 17 Mins.

This subject was rushed through production to clear up any confusion possibly remaining in the minds of veterans and their families as to when and how members of the armed forces would be demobilized. Containing a minimum of animation, this short presents simple questions posed by soldiers, with straightforward answers from Secretary of War Stimson and ranking generals. Among the latter are Eisenhower, Stilwell, Somervell, Arnold and Marshall.

Overseas Roundup No. 1

WB (Vitaphone Varieties) 10 Mins.

Interesting. Little known facts about various phases of this war include shots of the highly effective work of our dirigible fleet in eliminating the Nazi submarine menace. Succeeding sequences depict GI designed recreational facilities for the boys on Bougainville, the gruelling task of transporting war materiel to Russia through Persia, Merrill's Marauders in their heroic capture of a Jap airfield in Burma and finally these same troops relishing Hollywood imported entertainment—in person.

Overseas Roundup No. 2

WB (Vitaphone Varieties) 10 Mins.

Absorbing. In the second issue of this top-notch series the camera records a vivid account of life on board an outbound troopship and the ever present danger of submarine attack. A rat-catching contest somewhere in the South Pacific, with the winner claiming six dozen bottles of beer; the valiant work of an aviation engineer battalion and the role played by medical corpsmen in the fierce drama of invasion comprise the following sequences. The film closes with shots of a GI rodeo staged in Australia.

Plantation Melodies

WB (Featurette) 20 Mins.

The beautiful strains of Stephen Foster's immortal music, lend nostalgia to this portrayal of the life of America's foremost composer. Flashback is employed to carry the audience through the happy years of Foster's youth, when "dear friends and gentle hearts" were inspiration for his lovely melodies, until at the age of 38 he died friendless, in poverty and despair.

Trap Happy Porky

WB (Looney Tunes) 7 Mins.

Fair. This cartoon is about Porky Pig, his trials and tribulations. Porky's vacation cabin is overrun with mice, so he hires a cat to exterminate them. As a result, the mice are driven away, but the cat invites his friends in. Porky then hires a dog to get rid of the cats, but the dog takes sides and Porky is out in the cold. Preferring the warmth, he joins the crowd, and there's "just one happy family."

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 76: Sea epic of the Carrier Franklin.

News of the Day, No. 274: U.S.S. Franklin; GIs return from Europe after VE-Day.

Paramount News, No. 77: U.S.S Franklin.

Pathe News, No. 79: Disaster strikes U.S.S. Franklin.

Universal News, No. 400: American Day celebration; fighting Yanks are home again; carrier refuses to die.

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Movietone News, No. 77: Hero of week; final liberation in Europe; Denmark; Holland; VE-Day in Paris; sea war epic; girls, your country needs you as cadet nurses; troop ship arrives with Eighth air force men; racing comes back, Lou "Tout" Lehr.

News of the Day, No. 275: Yanks win vital Philippine city; Congress sees President honor Jake Lindsey; General Patton decorates medics; victory across Europe; Copenhagen; Paris; Jimmy Doolittle's flyers home; new White House pet; nurses desperately needed.

Paramount News, No. 78: Philippines clean-up; cadet nurses needed until Japan's defeat; reel romance comes true; minute men of America; Sgt. Jake Lindsey; Denmark—nightmare has ended; Paris marks victory.

Pathe News, No. 80: Truman and Congress honor hero; bombers bring airmen home; Copenhagen hails Montgomery; nab Doenitz, Seyss-Inguart; cadet nurses ask for volunteers; Paris celebrates VE-Day; Philippine summer capitol captured.

Universal News, No. 401: Capture of Baguio; inside a free Europe; cadet nurses needed; thrilling U-boat capture; nation's highest honor.

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All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 136: In Chicago a crowd of 100,000 participate in "American Day"; Charley Mahoney, Negro leader, labor commissioner of Michigan, a busy man; Alpha Phi Alpha guests at huge banquet; Toledo, Ohio, gives promotion to Attorney Gibson; Harlem boys show their skills; with GIs on the Ledo Road in Burma theatre of war.

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

Nob Hill

F — Drama With Music

20th-Fox (529) — **95 Minutes** — **July Release**

Its story is almost as old as the Hill itself. But the yarn is always exciting, nostalgic and action-laden. Herein it is told so lushly and convincingly that any stigma of formula is completely buried in an avalanche of merit. Impressively and wisely cast, munificently produced, masterfully scripted and ably directed, the picture is virtually flawless from a technical standpoint. At the boxoffice, it should prove as golden as the period it depicts. George Raft finds a part made to his measure as the Barbary Coast big shot who goes overboard for a dame from the other side of the tracks and loses his sweetheart and friends, only to stage the expected comeback at the film's end. Production numbers are so richly mounted and so beautifully photographed in Technicolor that they must be seen to be appreciated. Directed by Henry Hathaway.

George Raft, Joan Bennett, Vivian Blaine, Peggy Ann Garner, Alan "Falstaff Openshaw" Reed, B. S. Pully, Emil Coleman.

Back to Bataan

F — War Melodrama

RKO Radio (——) — **97 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Because emphasis is placed on incidents and episodes, the story is woefully lacking in narrative qualities and many of the other normal factors. The film, therefore, assays as a rather loosely-knit pictorial account of the guerrilla warfare conducted on the Philippine Islands by natives and a few American soldiers from the fall of Bataan to the landings at Leyte. There are high moments of action, suspense, melodrama and spectacle which should make the film a winner among audiences where such attributes count. A timely twist is given the proceedings by a prologue and epilogue which show the liberation of prisoners from the Jap internment camp at Cabanatuan with authentic pictures of many of the liberated Americans. This factor adds materially to the film's considerable inherent exploitability and should add to its financial potentialities. Edward Dmytryk directed.

John Wayne, Anthony Quinn, Beulah Bondi, Fely Franquelli, Richard Loo, Philip Ahn, J. Alex Havier.

That's the Spirit

F — Musical

Universal (——) — **93 Minutes** — **Rel. June 1, '45**

Universal's song-and-dance offering gets off to a slow start until Jack Oakie appears, after which things begin moving. Although handicapped by lack of boxoffice names, "That's the Spirit" will please most patrons. The story deals with the return to earth, after 18 years, of a former burlesque comic who died before he could see his just-born daughter. Invisible to his earthbound in-laws, the rotund ghost inadvertently and invariably reveals his presence by his squeaking shoes. Only his daughter, a born dancer, can see and hear him, but he warns her not to tell anyone of his presence lest they think her demented. After many complications, during which the ghost's pompous, interfering father-in-law almost wrecks his granddaughter's happiness as he had that of her mother, everything is brought to a happy finale. The tunes are catchy. Charles Lamont directed.

Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Gene Lockhart, Andy Devine, Arthur Treacher, Johnny Coy, Buster Keaton.

I'll Tell the World

F — Comedy with Music

Universal (9041) — **61 Minutes** — **Rel. June 8, '45**

New faces, a screenplay with some semblance of acceptability and several humorous moments, and an array of bright specialties elevate this above the average of Universal's unending chain of modestly-priced comedies with music. While it doesn't pan out sufficiently weighty to top programs, it should shine in the second spot on dualers which habitually avail themselves of this type of film. The picture is accorded some marquee importance through the presence in the toplines of two names which are well known to the customers. Both, incidentally, contribute good performances, as do the members of a well-rounded supporting cast. As a lightning-gabber radio commentator, Lee Tracy has a part molded to his individual talent. His romance with Brenda Joyce, trying to crash the airways as a songstress, is the story. Directed by Leslie Goodwins.

Lee Tracy, Brenda Joyce, Raymond Walburn, June Preisser, Thomas Gomez, Howard Freeman, Lorin Raker.

Thrill of a Romance

F — Musical Romance

M-G-M (——) — **110 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Just what the tired business man—or woman—might order for relaxation and entertainment. Beautiful Technicolor accents the charms of Esther Williams, who plays the part of a bride at a fashionable resort, deserted right after the ceremony by a business-absorbed groom. She meets Van Johnson, an army major on leave, who hears her sobbing on the adjoining balcony. Their friendship progresses in the swimming pool where Van, freckles and all, will palpitate feminine hearts and Esther, in arresting bathing suits, will catch the appreciative masculine eye. If the story is neither new nor outstanding, it is something to have Lauritz Melchior, as one of the guests interested in the young people's dilemma, bursting into song at delightful intervals. It all ends happily after the returned stuffed-shirt husband finds he's still married to someone else. Richard Thorpe directed.

Van Johnson, Esther Williams, Lauritz Melchior, Francis Gifford, Henry Travers, Spring Byington, Tommy Dorsey & Orch.

Twice Blessed

F — Comedy

M-G-M (——) — **76 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Patrons who like their screen fare seasoned with plenty of juice will enjoy this fast-moving innocuous story of mistaken identities among the adolescents. Jeff Turner, easy-going newspaper man, married to glamorous Mary Hale, authority on child psychology, differs with her on how to bring up their twins, Terry and Stephanie. Following a divorce, Mary brings up Stephanie to become a super quiz kid, while Terry, under Jeff's guidance (or lack of it) turns into a torrid, teenager. By a combination of circumstances, the twins switch identities, lead each other's lives. Complications ensue as Stephanie, substituting for Terry, loses a jitterbug contest. Subsequently Terry, pinch-hitting for Stephanie, is arrested when police raid a dance hall. How the twins rescue Jeff from a vamp and reunite him and Mary makes for fast entertainment. Harry Beaumont directed.

Preston Foster, Gail Patrick, the Wilde Twins, Jimmy Lydon, Gloria Hope, Richard Gaines, Marshall Thompson.

Ten Cents a Dance

F — Comedy

Columbia (6029) — **60 Minutes** — **June 7, '45**

Repeating a title used nearly 15 years ago, Columbia builds a slight romantic comedy on the furlough romances of two buddies with taxi dance hall girls. Obviously made on a modest budget with a hackneyed theme that is somewhat relieved by a tandem bicycle scene and a lively jam session, plus some songs put over by Jane Frazee, it is not for intellectual or de luxe spots. The story concerns the efforts of girls at the hall to raise funds to pay for an expensive operation for one of their number. One of the GIs, played by Robert Scott, is a millionaire, but he modestly lets his pal cut the splash acting the part of a free spender. First planning to act as decoys for their employer to get the boys into a crooked crap game, the girls have a change of heart and start a riot to rescue the pseudo-millionaire. Will Jason directed.

Jane Frazee, Jimmy Lloyd, Robt. Scott, Joan Woodbury, John Calvert, George McKay, Edward Hyans.

Rhythm Round-Up

F — Musical Western

Columbia (6223) — **67 Minutes** — **Rel. June 7, '45**

This typical western with a plot tailored to bringing in musical numbers starts in eastern radio audition studios and ends in a rehabilitated western hotel. One of the Hoosier Hot Shots gets a notice that a hotel is his for the payment of back taxes. Since he and his rooty-tooters have been unable to wangle radio contracts in the east, even with the assistance of their attractive manager, Cheryl Walker, and they owe a lot of back rent, they go west like the young man and get a contract to broadcast from there. Arrived at the ghost-ridden, rundown hotel, they run into the real owner and find they have been swindled. Unknown to them, the swindlers are right there posing as handy men about the place. Making a deal with the owner, a cowboy crooner, the broadcast (and many another thing) goes on. Lots of action, lots of corn. Vernon Keays directed.

Ken Curtis, Cheryl Walker, Hoosier Hot Shots, Guinn "Big Boy" Williams, the Pied Pipers.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Thrill of a Romance"**

This picture should sell itself to several different types of audience groups. The younger women will want to see it because of Van Johnson, the men will want to see Esther Williams in the bathing suits which are written into the picture, and music lovers will want to hear Lauritz Melchior. There is also an arresting number by a young Negro singer, so attention should be called to the musical angle in its exploitation. The Technicolor and resort scenes should allow for attractive still and poster presentations.

CATCHLINES:

A Groomless Bride Meets a Lonesome Major . . . Her Husband Put Business Before Pleasure and Lost Out . . . They Gave Each Other Up and Then Found They Didn't Need to.

Color, Music and Romance With Aquatic Trimmings . . . A Picture Gay With Color and Beauty and Good Music . . . The Best Sheer Entertainment You've Been Able to See in a Long Time.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Twice Blessed"**

Offer ticket prizes for winners in a Most-Alike Twin Contest. Window tieups may be secured in all types of stores with cards reading: "Women with fine complexions who keep them beautiful with Blank's Makeup are Twice Blessed," etc. Obtain cooperation from parent-teacher and child welfare groups on the juvenile delinquency angle; get some liberal-minded citizen to declare the menace is exaggerated —use blowups of newspaper yarns on the resultant controversy as lobby displays.

CATCHLINES:

A Chic Chick Becomes a Hotcha Highbrow . . . A Brainy Babe Turns to Torrid Truckin' . . . She Found Night Life in a Night Court . . . Needles and Pins, Needles and Pins, When a Man Marries, Insure Against Twins!

Blackmail Didn't Faze Him, But a Female Did . . . She Thought He Was Only a Wolf, the Dog . . . To Avoid Blackmailing Photographs—Eliminate the Negative! . . . You Can't Tell Some Twins Apart—You Can't Tell These Twins Anything!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Ten Cents a Dance"**

There will be a tendency on the part of some exhibitors to sex up their advertising on this picture, which will do them more harm than good. Actually, there is nothing in it that your Aunt Miranda couldn't see and since it is probably scheduled for small town and neighborhood houses, the tandem bicycle idea will be better exploitation than worn-out appeals to the idea that here is something really naughty. There have been too many calls of "wolf, wolf" about perfectly innocuous pictures, like this one. Plug the songs and the dance theme—and the tandem bicycle.

CATCHLINES:

They Thought They Had a Racket Until They Fell in Love . . . Just a Couple of Taxi Dancers With a Friend in Need . . . Just Two More GI Furlough Romances That Paid Off for Someone Else.

Ten Cents a Dance—But They Were Playing for Bigger Stakes . . . Bicycles Built for Two—and Pedaled by Only One . . . He Was the Right Man But She Had the Wrong Angle on Him.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Rhythm Round-Up"**

Since the Hoosier Hot Shots and others have dramatized making music on washboards, tin funnels and what-have-you, a contest might be held for the most unusual instrument that actually plays a tune. This can be made a lot of fun for the audience as well as the participants if a good master of ceremonies can be obtained.

Radio plugs of the picture's radio talent can be used on spots where the type of music featured is enjoyed by listeners. Cardboard plaques showing "The Haunted Hotel" can also be used to advantage.

CATCHLINES:

Here They Are Again, Those Hoosier Hot Shots . . . The Zany Adventures of Musicians in the Great Open Spaces Dodging a Ghost . . . The Wild Ride of a Tenderfoot With Tender Regard for His Anatomy.

She Was Quite a Gal When It Came to Ideas But It Was Hard Putting Them Over . . . Everything From Music to Ghosts and Buried Treasure in the Cellar . . . Out Where the West Began to Get on Everybody's Nerves.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Nob Hill"**

Send a bevy of pretty girls in dance hall costumes through the streets in an open, horse-drawn vehicle carrying billing for the picture. Set up in foyer a roulette wheel or wheel of fortune. Give every bond buyer a chance to make a bet and if he can pick a winner, he gets two free tickets. Tie up with local travel agencies for window displays on San Francisco using stills from the picture.

CATCHLINES:

The Shock-Spot of the World in All Its Tameless, Shameless Glory . . . All the Greatness, the Wildness, the Fierceness of the Barbary Coast Flaming Again in Thrilling Spectacle . . . The World's Hottest Spot Flares Again in All Its Madness, Badness and Gold-Glutted Glory!

Barbary Coast vs. Nob Hill . . . The Eternal Triangle Causes Trouble . . . Who Gets Raft . . . The Toast of the Barbary Coast or the Nob Hill Aristocrat . . . Five Dollar Gold Pieces Are "Angle Music" to the King of the Barbary Coast.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Back to Bataan"**

Against background of stills, library or bookstore could make effective display with copies of Colonel Romulo's "I Saw the Fall of the Philippines," eye-witness account of Bataan and Corregidor. Through schools or newspaper, promote contest on a biographical sketch of Gen. Douglas MacArthur—war bonds as prizes. Throughout lobby display blowups from magazines, pictures, or native articles telling of customs, topography, culture, and other little-known facts of the Philippines—number of islands, dialects, etc.

CATCHLINES:

MacArthur's Daring American Rangers and Philippine Scouts Free the Prisoners of Cabanatuan . . . The Infamous March of Death . . . A Filipino Movie Star Broadcasts to the Americans in Apparently Traitorous Messages.

Heroic! Courageous!! Factual!!! Intrepid Guerrillas Become the Invisible Army . . . Stark Tragedy in the Midst of Glowing Bravery . . . MacArthur's Famous Promise, "I Shall Return," Fulfilled . . . Sensational! Startling!

SELLING ANGLES: **"That's the Spirit"**

For street ballyhoo have a man in white sheet with placard reading: "You, too, can walk through doors—Blank Theatre doors open today at 2:30." Clothing store tieups may be arranged with window cards reading: "Ghosts are invisible and don't care how they look. Don't be a dead one—look your best! 'That's the Spirit!' " Much of the film's charm stems from the old song hits. Arrange music counter and window tieups featuring bygone successes, with cards reading: "Nobody's too old to enjoy music—buy our records, sheet music, etc., and keep singing—'That's the Spirit!' "

CATCHLINES:

Old Songs . . . New Faces . . . Old Memories . . . New Loves —They're All Here . . . Fast on His Feet, and Dancing Into a Girl's Heart . . . Johnny Coy, the Screen's New Sensation! . . . Old Favorites and New Sensations . . . You'll Find 'Em All in "That's the Spirit!" . . . Fresh as a Springtime Breeze, Lilting as a Meadowlark's Trill! . . . Peggy Ryan Outdances Herself!

SELLING ANGLES: **"I'll Tell the World"**

Promote "Gift of Gab" contest to be held on stage prior to playdate; prizes for winners and guest tickets for all contestants. The winner might be "Announcer for a Day" at local radio station. In lobby place huge map showing Pacific war zones, indicating locations of daily action with colored pins. Across map "I'll Tell the World" to be written. Plug hourly news through PA system. Title is a "natural" for any merchant—I'll Tell the World (————) are the finest!

CATCHLINES:

Fast-Moving Comedy With Music . . . Brenda Joyce Tells It With Song—Lee Tracy Tells It With Laughs! . . . Mile-A-Minute Merriment as Radio's Lovelorn Editor Starts Blonde-Fire.

Radioland Goes Rip-Roaring . . . The Laughs Go High! The Music Goes Mellow! . . . Hilarious! Rib-Tickling Entertainment! They're Yell-Bent for Laughter . . . I'll Tell the World It's Good!!!

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GENERAL EQUIPMENT—NEW

40x65 GLASS SIZE STAINLESS STEEL POSTER CASES—Equipped with cold cathode tube illumination around entire case; immediate delivery. All other sizes, delivery in ten days. Catalog upon request. BEN B. POBLOCKI & SONS CO., 2159 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 7, Wis.

NEW MODERNISTIC cast aluminum 18-inch magazines. Immediate delivery, limited quantity, set of 4, $125 complete with reel end alarms. STANLEY THEATRE SUPPLY CO., 1235 South Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—USED

WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY: Two Simplex projectors, three point bases, rear shutters, double bearing, upper and lower magazines, two Peerless low intensity lamps, 10¼ inch reflectors, ammeters, two 30 ampere rectifiers, two Ross 4 inch lenses, $1,215. Two pair Powers 6B mechanisms, heavy duty gates, upper magazines, $180 per pair. Two Powers projectors, complete 6B mechanisms, $260 per pair. Two 60T three phase rectifiers with meters, contractors and eight tubes, all new, $460 per pair. 1000W stereopticons, $34.95 each. Rear shutters for Simplex, $77.50 each. Hand rewind sets, $10.95 per set. Metal fire extinguishers, $1.89 each. One RCA 9430A heavy duty speaker, new, $49.50. Two complete arc controls for Peerless or Motiograph low intensity lamps, $69.50 per pair. B-2196, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

A COMPLETE PACKAGE READY TO OPEN A THEATRE—Booth outfits consisting Simplex projectors, lamphouses, lens, soundheads, motors, amplifier, speakers and soundscreen. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP, New York 18.

DICTAPHONE OUTFIT, DICTATER, TRANSCRIBER, SHAVER—all reconditioned, $149.50; Powers rear shutter heads, good condition, $135; reflectors, 50% off; Rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, $250; Footlights, $3.50 ft.; Commercial vacuum cleaner, $119.50; Water cooler, DC only, $77.50; Low intensity arclamps, $75. Spring catalog now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2,000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 South Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

ONE ULTRAPHONE SOUND SYSTEM—Complete with horns; late model soundheads; late model amplifier, 56-57, two 2A3 and 5Z3 tubes, $650. Write AMERICAN THEATRE, 3621 Main St., Indiana Harbor, Ind.

OPENING A THEATRE? We will supply complete Simplex booth equipment consisting of projectors, lenses, magazines, bases, lamp houses, rectifiers or generator and complete sound equipment. RECONDITIONED and GUARANTEED—at $1,300. All other types of booth equipment and supplies furnished on request. Call or write SANCO ELECTRIC CO., Film Bldg. Phones: CHerry 5573, FAirmount 4958, Cleveland, Ohio.

RECONDITIONED: Powers heads, $75 each. Superior front shutter heads, $100 each. Superior rear shutter heads, $125 each. Motiograph heads, $125 each. New Jensen permanent magnet 20 watt 12-inch auditorium speakers, $22 each. Brenkert Hi-Low lamp houses with new mirrors, $200 pair. Westinghouse double 55 generator complete with panel and rheostats, perfect condition, $250. SANCO ELECTRIC CO., Film Bldg. Phones: CHerry 5573, FAirmount 4958, Cleveland, Ohio.

FOR SALE—GOOD THEATRE SOUND SYSTEM. RCA scund heads, two speakers, amplifiers, two motors and drives for Simplex mechanism. Now in operation. Inspection invited. Also good 6-volt public address equipment, complete. Phone or wire, C. J. SEVERSON, Wolf Point, Montana.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

BURCH, MANLEY, CRETORS, ADVANCE poppers. All electric machines. French fry type. KRISPY KIST KORN MACHINE CO., 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6.

POWERS 6B HEADS, SOUND PORTABLES. FULL DETAILS. HIGHEST PRICES PAID. B-2197, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

DE LUXE EQUIPMENT and 600 seats wanted for suburban theatre situation. Will pay cash. A. M. "Buck" MORGAN, Box 775, Grand Prairie, Texas.

WANTED FOR CASH—Pair Baby Strong arc lamps and rectifiers for portable Simplex projectors. B-2199, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DISC STUDIO RECORDING SYSTEM, TWO SPEEDS, rack panel, complete. Originally $3,500 now $750; DeBrie 35mm LeParvo camera, $195; Continuous contact 16mm printers, picture, track or both, $1,375; Miles 16mm recorder reproducer, $195; Berndt Maurer 16mm recording systems, latest improvements, $1,995. Send for Spring Bulletin. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

THEATRES FOR SALE

SMALL TOWN THEATRE—Building and equipment. ELECTRIC, Browning, Mo.

MERCHANDISE, STOCK and BUILDING—Also 240 seat theatre for sale, $20,000; $15,000 takes all. GEORGE H. VARBLE, P. O. Box 32, Kane, Ill.

THEATRES WANTED

RENT, LEASE, PERCENTAGE. Northwest, 1,500 to 5,000. No opposition. Experienced. Details first letter. ALBERT D. ZEMANEK, Kokomo, Colo.

WILL BUY THEATRE—In Arkansas small town. 1,200 to 3,000 population. B-2200, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED TO BUY OR LEASE—Theatre, 400 to 600 seats. Will go anywhere if the theatre is good. Must stand investigation. I have $10,000 cash to pay down. Send picture and complete details. I mean business. BOX 158, Argos, Ind.

WILL BUY THEATRE—In Arkansas small town, 1,200 to 3,000 population. B-2200, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED—Paying theatre, anywhere; middle west preferred. CHARLES MEANS, Box 995, South Bend, Ind.

THEATRE SEATING

THEATRE CHAIR PARTS — Standards, hinges, clamps, seats, backs, bolts, screws, cup washers, for all makes of chairs. Leatherette—send samples of your required replacements. CHICAGO USED CHAIR MART, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

STILL SOME REMAINING—BUT SELLING FAST—600 American ball-bearing velour fully padded back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, rebuilt like new, $9.50; 552 Heywood-Wakefield Seven-ply reupholstered panel back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, $7.50; 242 American ball-bearing (in two lots) heavy reupholstered panel back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, $6.50; 500 Heywood-Wakefield heavy panel back, box spring cushion chairs, excellent condition, $5.95; 300 solid oak auditorium chairs, refinished, $3.95. Wire now for stock list. 600 pieces heavy green pullman velour, 22x36 inch, dry-cleaned, $1.25. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

USED THEATRE CHAIRS, several odd lots of 50 to 200 all cushion seats, box and spring edge, 5-ply veneer backs, $5 each. STANLEY THEATRE SUPPLY CO., 1235 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

AIR COOLING EQUIPMENT

STILL TIME TO ORDER NEW AIR WASHERS, ROTARY SPRAY MAT TYPE, WORK WITH ANY BLOWER—EASILY INSTALLED. 5,000 cfm, $115; 7,000 cfm, $140; 10,000 cfm, $170; 15,000 cfm, $200; 20,000 cfm, $230 New prewar blowers, starting at $106.50 for 5,500 cfm; also diffuser grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Catalog. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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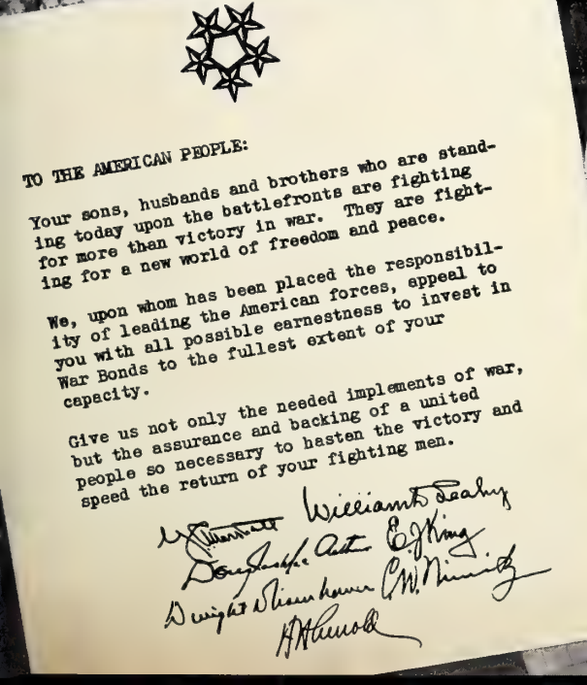
The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE









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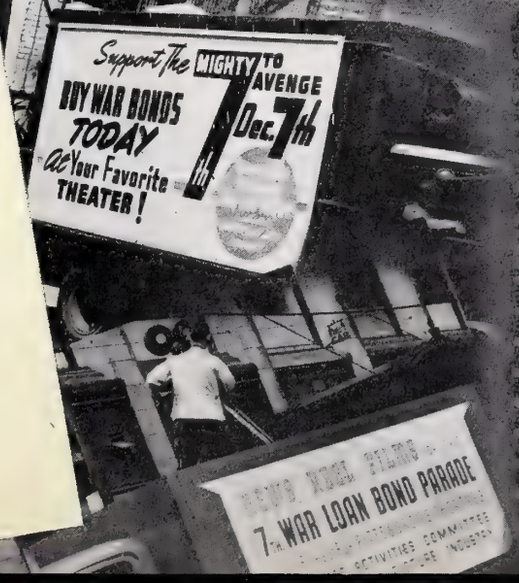
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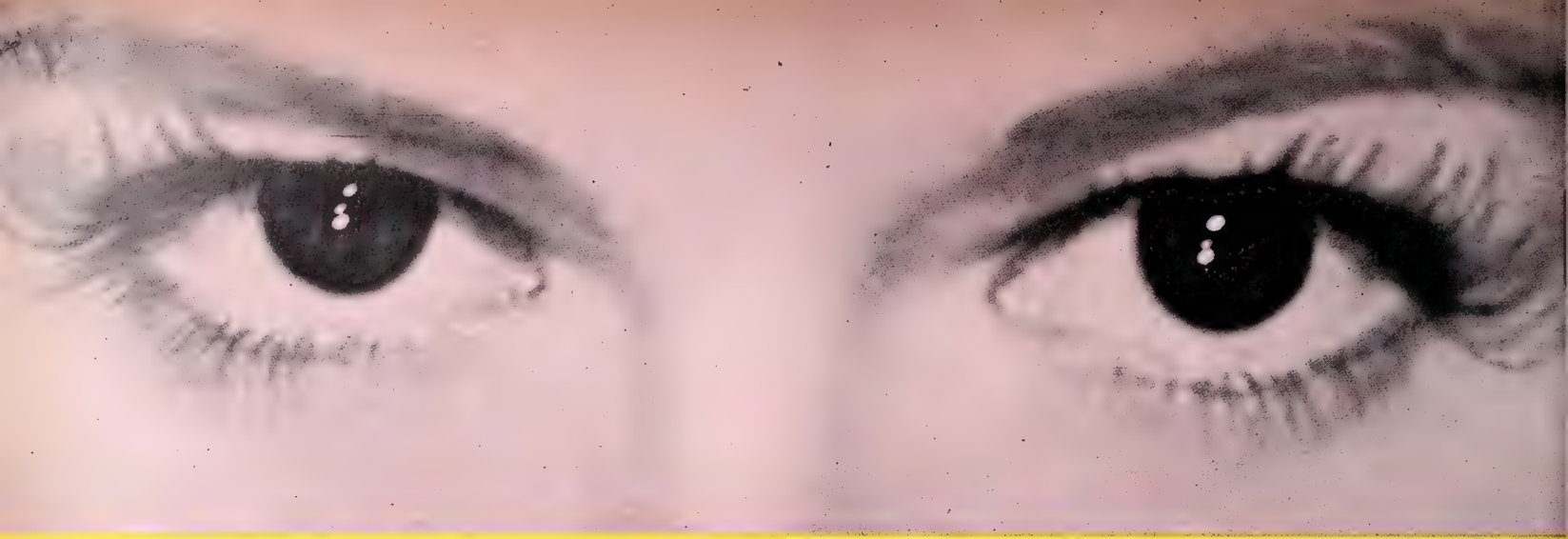












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In our newest production, "THE CORN IS GREEN", you'll see Bette Davis in one of the finest of her many fine achievements... as a woman so splendidly stubborn that she makes a daring dream come true.

You'll see, too, how Warner Bros. so brilliantly combines "*good picture-making with good citizenship.*" For "THE CORN IS GREEN" is not only wonderfully entertaining... it also makes a very pertinent point about the world we live in.

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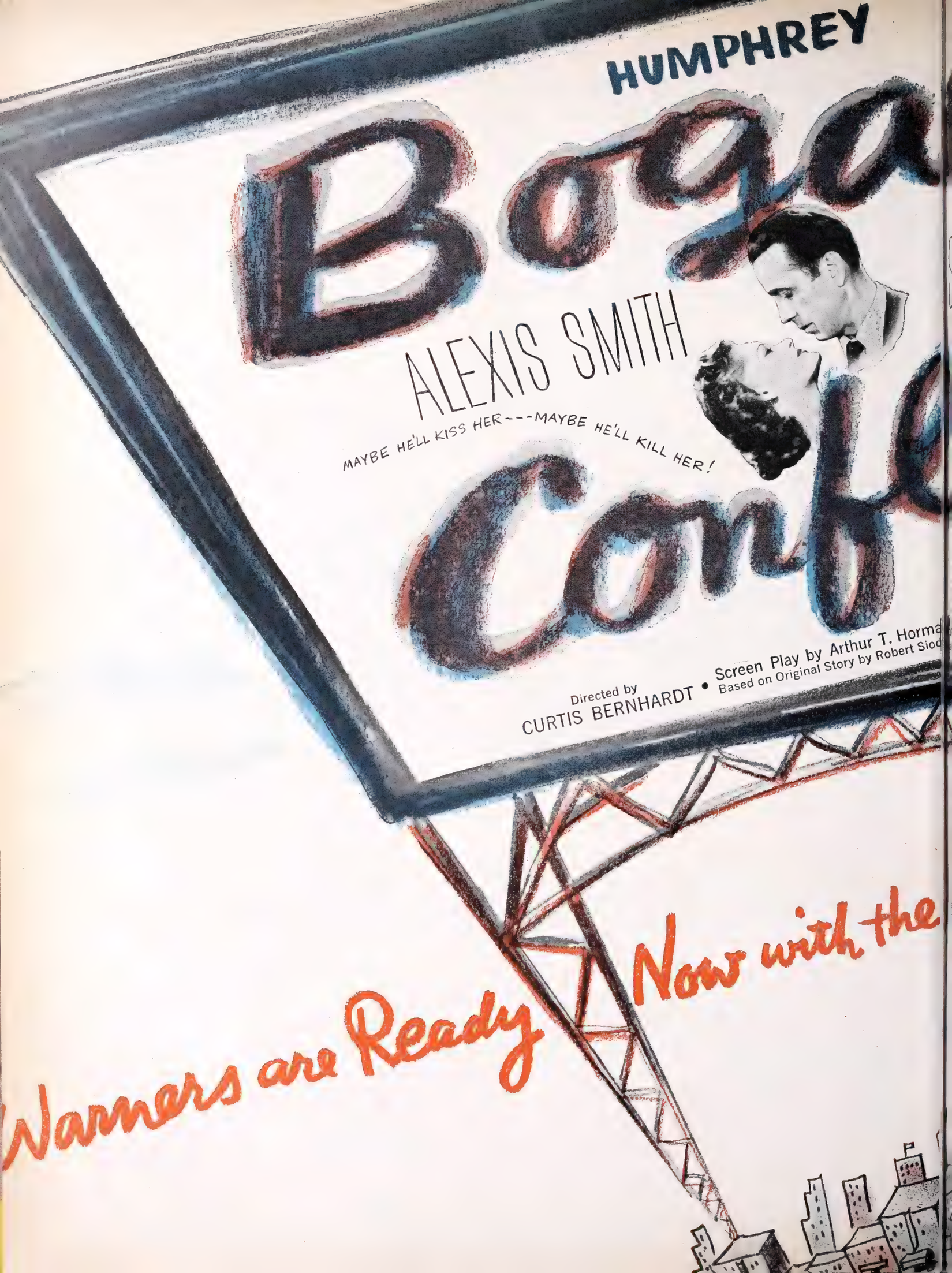




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NIGEL BRUCE • RHYS WILLIAMS
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WILLIAM JACOBS
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JUNE 9, 1945

BOXOFFICE

THE BRITISH PICTURE

FOR MONTHS prior to his arrival in the United States there were many rumors as to what Mr. J. Arthur Rank and his motion picture enterprises were going to do to "invade" this market as well as the markets of the world. Most of these rumors were just wild guesses and they have, happily, been put to rest by Mr. Rank, himself, in a brief statement he made before a gathering of the American industry's top executives the other night.

"Our growing-up, as makers and distributors of motion pictures," said Mr. Rank, "does not create any conflict between American and British film industries. Rather, it creates a most healthful condition of fair competition, good for all concerned—and I know, as always, that the best films will attract the widest audiences in the long run.

"We are now trying to insure," he continued, "that, if our films are good enough and entertaining enough, a fair proportion of the audiences of the world shall be given a chance to see them."

Those remarks should put at ease the minds of American exhibitors, who had envisaged a heavy flow of British films which they would be "forced" to play unprofitably. The fear of such a condition has as its basis the experiences of American exhibitors in the past with British films, which, perhaps, were not lacking in quality in their own country, but which had little or no entertainment appeal to American audiences.

Recognition by Mr. Rank that quality and entertainment values alone will entitle the films his companies make to showing in theatres in America and elsewhere is an encouraging sign. It augurs well for the British film industry and for those over here, who will give proper recognition to films of quality without prejudice of any sort. We say this in the knowledge that British pictures brought to this country in the past—and some of current release—not only are lacking in appeal to American audiences, particularly in the smaller cities, but also are handicapped by unintelligible British accents.

Exhibitors, by and large, should welcome any additional product source, particularly one that has contributed so much and so profitably to this industry's progress. Memories are short and there is inclination to forget some of the good accomplished by British film-making; that, despite the inferior quality of many of its releases in this market and its sad lack of audience appeal, the percentage of money-making attractions has been about as high as in our own films.

When we say that British-made films have contributed so much and so profitably to this industry's progress, we have in mind the top stars and directors those films have given us. For

instance, it was "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," starring Robert Donat, that introduced Greer Garson to American audiences. Miss Garson was last year selected as the top star in BOXOFFICE's annual popularity poll and has been similarly recognized in many polls that followed.

Many remember favorably the success of "The Private Life of Henry the VIII" through which Charles Laughton came to international fame and was captured by the American screen. That production also brought into prominence Madeleine Carroll, Merle Oberon, Binnie Barnes among others. Other stars of prominence and boxoffice worth are Ronald Colman, Leslie Howard (deceased), Vivien Leigh, John Loder, Herbert Marshall, Ray Milland, Anna Neagle, David Niven, Laurence Olivier and Basil Rathbone, to mention a few.

Among directors are Alfred Hitchcock, Carol Reed, Herbert Wilcox and Victor Saville.

Some of the better pictures made in England were given the benefit of American direction and production, although they had British casts. "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" is one of the outstanding examples. The war interfered with the carrying forward of such plans on an extensive scale, but these plans now are being revived. Doubtless there will result the establishment of still more name players and productions of wider audience appeal from the British studios.

The number of British-made pictures that have been released in this market are comparatively few. The number of 30 has been mentioned as a goal when raw stock and conditions permit. If the selection of those pictures to be released over here is made with care—giving unmistakable assurance of quality and entertainment value — American exhibitors would receive them with confidence; American audiences with greater interest and patronage; and a truly happy international film relationship will be established.

★ ★

Fight to the Finish

The half-way mark has been reached in the 7th War Loan drive. Early reports indicate fine results from the special events in which there is greater participation than ever before. But the goal is so big, especially for the sale of E bonds, there must be no lagging in effort until the finish line is crossed on June 30.

The front cover of this issue shows a few of the many ways in which exhibitors have showmandised the Showmen's Seventh. Inside pages depict and tell about other means being employed to surpass quotas. Some exhibitors already have gone over the top, but they are aiming for a mark that will be hard to beat the next time.

As Bob O'Donnell of Texas says, "Lick the sons-of-heaven with War Loan Number Seven!"

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Walt Disney Is "Exploring" Television for Film Use

In New York for three weeks of conferences, he admits some study has been made of production possibilities for video stations, with no decision yet reached.

• • • —

Comedian Cantinflas's Deal With RKO Is Called Off

Idol of Mexico says "The Magnificent Tramp" does not present accurate picture of below the border; production is shelved indefinitely by mutual agreement.

• • • —

Paramount Sales Meeting Scheduled for June 27-28

Two-day session to be held at Montreal will be conducted by Gordon Lightstone, general manager; Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, to attend.

• • • —

Buddy De Sylva Stricken; Is Ordered to Hospital

Hollywood producer has suffered a heart attack and must take a rest of two weeks, his physician, Dr. Morris Melnik, said Wednesday.

• • • —

Gradwell Sears to Devote Entire Time to UA Sales

President Edward Raftery says executive was not re-elected to board at his own request, so he could concentrate on company's distribution problems.

• • • —

Sees Huge South American Grosses on "Caballeros"

Leo Samuels, Disney sales manager, says production will play 99 per cent of all theatres; already has passed marks of some of industry's largest pictures.

• • • —

Harvey Day Eastern Head For Constance Bennett

Resigned recently after 15 years as sales manager for Terrytoons, he will act as producer representative for new company's contacts with United Artists.

• • • —

French to Get Material For Raw Stock Making

WPB hopes to raise manufacturing capacity there above present 80 per cent level in order to relieve strain on export requirements for finished product.

• • • —

Distributors Protesting Norway's 30% Ceiling

Seek to have new government modify control of rentals imposed only a week after resumption of exports to that country.

RANK DENIES SUNDRY RUMORS; TELLS U. S. DISTRIBUTION PLANS

Will Not Acquire American Circuit; Raw Stock Lack Holding Back Prints

By J. M. JERAULD

NEW YORK—J. Arthur Rank, the man who runs Great Britain's biggest film enterprises with his right hand and that country's biggest flour business with his left hand, reached New York early in the week and went into a busy day of interviews.

His enterprises are so vast that they are almost fabulous and his moves in the film business are so swift and varied he has most observers guessing all the time. As a result, he is the subject for varied rumors.

Here are some of those he denied at the start:

He has no intention of setting up a new distributing organization in connection with a number of American independent producers. He did not meet David O. Selznick in Canada. He will, however, visit Sam Goldwyn while in Hollywood. They met three times in England.

Yes, he has had some negotiations for acquiring a mid-Manhattan theatre as a show window, but nothing definite has materialized because there is no hurry about it, what with the present raw stock shortage.

His Plans Are in Making

He has no intention of acquiring a theatre circuit in this country.

That takes care of the denials.

His future production and distribution plans will be shaped by developments, he said. United Artists now has ten pictures to distribute here and 20th-Fox has one, "The Way Ahead."

Getting them into circulation is the current problem, he indicated. "The Way Ahead" has sufficient raw stock which he obtained to get the prints out. Raw stock also has been obtained for some of the UA releases. Eagle-Lion will act in a supervisory capacity during their distribution, and when they have reached the public he will be able to talk more understandingly of the problem of making British films popular here.

In addition to the 11 pictures now awaiting distribution here he has ten more in work or in various stages of preparation, the cost of which will run from 150,000 to 400,000 pounds each. He hopes for worldwide distribution on all of them, and intends to see that they are heavily advertised and exploited in this country. Some of them have already been shown to American troops abroad, he said, and the soldiers seemed to like them.

Sees Little British Building

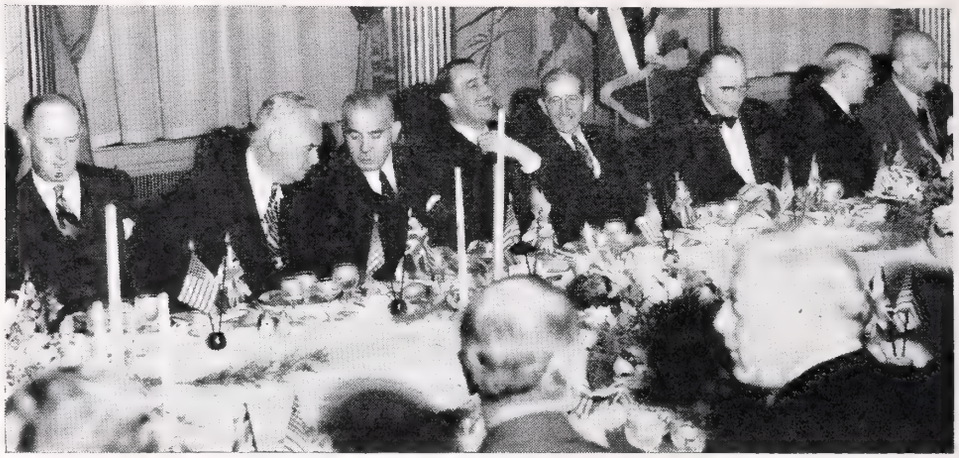
In reply to questions about the complaints of some British producers that they were being unfairly treated in the raw stock distribution, he said he had no criticism.

His theatre building plans in Canada await the removal of wartime restrictions.

While discussing this he displayed an engaging humor. He is tall, elegantly dressed, and with a pleasant ease of manner.

"How about studio and theatre building in England?" he was asked. He laughed.

"I don't think there will be much of either for the next three or four years. We hope to get the Pinewood Studios back in a month. That will expand production, we hope, to about 30 pictures a year, but theatres will have to wait. After all, I have nine flour mills that will have to be rebuilt, and I'm quite sure they will take priority over theatres."



HAYS HONORS RANK—Leading film men were guests at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria given by Will H. Hays for J. Arthur Rank. Left to right: Thomas J. Hargrave, president of Eastman Kodak Co.; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal; Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox; Rank; Hays; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam; Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc.; Barney Balaban, president of Paramount. In right foreground is Philip R. Reisman, vice-president of RKO.

Rank's arrival stirred up as much excitement in film circles as would have a visit of Prime Minister Churchill in political circles.

Will H. Hays went to the Sherry Netherlands early to extend the greetings of the president of the MPPDA to the president of the similar organization in England. Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal, in which Rank holds a 25 per cent interest, also was an early visitor.

By 10:45 a. m. the photographers arrived. Then the daily papers' representatives descended—or ascended—in force, and they were followed by the tradepaper boys. By that time a large delegation of film men was in the next room. Monday night Hays staged a dinner for Rank at the Waldorf-Astoria.

At the dinner, Hays stressed the vital importance of the free flow of motion pictures into all countries of the postwar world, because of their tremendous power to promote international understanding.

Success of the effort for a cooperative and peaceful world, said Hays, rests upon this international understanding. He described the screen's high potentiality for building goodwill after the war, emphasizing the common responsibility of "all who have to do with the instrumentality."

"We do, indeed," concluded Hays, "know that no problem can ever arise so great that it will not be equitably resolved by friends sitting around a table."

Accompanying Rank were G. I. Woodham-Smith, his legal adviser; John Davis, his theatre adviser; Barrington Gain, financial adviser, and Jock Lawrence, public relations counsel.

Rank intends to spend two weeks—he calls it a "fortnit"—in New York. Then he will spend five days in Chicago and Minneapolis. Much of the time in those cities will be in connection with his flour business. Then he will go to Hollywood for two weeks.

Issues Formal Statement

In addition to his informal remarks Rank issued the following prepared statement:

"I hope to meet the great leaders of the American film industry and to see how films are made in Hollywood.

"Great Britain has always given a warm welcome to American films and will continue to do so. However, Britain's film industry, although the war was very near us and created great difficulties (sometimes rather uncomfortable ones), our artists and technicians have made vast steps in progress. As a result, the British film in Britain is gaining in stature and in some cases in our English theatres have outgrossed the more popular American films.

"Our growing up, however, does not create a conflict between the American and British film industries. Rather it creates a most healthful condition of fair competition, good for all concerned—and I know, as always, the best films will attract the widest audiences in the long run.

"All we ask is that, if our films are enter-

Wants His Films So Good They'll Need No Quota

New York—"Personally I am not very much interested in a quota. If I can't make pictures interesting and of the type the public wants to see, I don't intend to stay in the business."

J. Arthur Rank speaking.

His remarks came during the course of an interview with the trade press.

"I am a great believer in free competition," he said, "and I want the pictures produced by our group to circulate freely throughout the world. The producers association in England wants a quota, however, so I accept the situation."

taining enough and good enough, a fair proportion of the audiences of the world shall be given a chance to see them. Where Britain's films are given a chance to be tested at the boxoffice, they usually stand the public test well and will do better and better as we progress.

"A great deal of what I know of America I have learned through your American films on British subjects. I believe you would rather see how we live and what sort of people we are through films we make ourselves, provided our films give you real entertainment, as I am sure they will."

Those present at the dinner given by Hays included Barney Balaban, Adolph Zukor, Joseph Bernhard, Nate J. Blumberg, George Borthwick, Joseph I. Breen, Jules E. Brulatour, Jack Cohn, David Coplan, John Davis, Ned E. Depinet, Arthur F. Driscoll, Barrington Gain, William J. German, Eugene S. Gregg, Earle W. Hammons, Thomas J. Hargrave, Francis S. Harmon, W. Ray Johnston, Jock Lawrence, Carl Leserman, Arthur M. Loew, Arthur W. Kelly, Irving A. Maas, W. C. Michel, Carl E. Milliken, Joseph A. McConville, Robert H. O'Brien, John J. O'Connor, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Charles D. Prutzman, N. Peter Rathvon, Edward C. Raftery.

Also Phil Reisman, David E. Rose, J. Robert Rubin, David Sarnoff, Nicholas M. Schenck, A. Schneider, George J. Schaefer, Joseph H. Seidelman, David O. Selznick, Spyros P. Skouras, T. Kennedy Stevenson, Walter P. Titus jr., Edward L. Walton, Albert Warner, G. I. Woodham-Smith, George Weltner and Robert Young.

Tycoon Says He Is Learning Fast Type of Films Liked in America

NEW YORK — British producers have reached the stage where their product often "outgrosses Hollywood's" in Great Britain, said J. Arthur Rank, in addressing the ITOA at a special meeting in Hotel Astor. He added: "Before long we shall send films to the United States that will do likewise."

Rank said the British have a lot to learn about making pictures for American audiences, but that the English producers do know their own people's taste in entertainment.

"I feel sure that we shall be able to achieve our aim in making our pictures suitable for American audiences," said the tycoon. "We (the British), are a bit stubborn in reaching an understanding of American requirements, but, after my visit here, I am sure we will have learned much."

Rank frankly admitted that it is up to the British to make their product suitable for U.S. audiences if they hope to obtain their share of playing time here. He expressed confidence that the British producers will be able to do this. He thanked representatives of the U.S. film industry for what he termed "their valuable aid."

Harry Brandt, president of the ITOA, who presided, said there is a "definite market in the United States for British pictures provided they compare well with previous successes."

"In producing such films as 'Mr. Emmanuel' and 'Colonel Blimp,'" said Brandt, "the British are on the right track."

Weltner Succeeds Hicks As Para Int'l President

NEW YORK—George Weltner, long an executive assistant to the late John W. Hicks jr. in the Paramount foreign department, has been named president of Paramount International Films, Inc., as successor to Hicks.

Weltner joined Paramount in 1922 and represented Paramount in Latin America. For some time during the past year Weltner has been vice-president of Paramount International and a member of the board of this subsidiary.

Small Producers Given Increased Raw Stock

Film Leaders to Tour European Operations

NEW YORK—Industry leaders have been invited to visit the European theater of operations as guests of SHAEF. The invitations will be cleared through WAC. The group is expected to leave by mid-June in an army transport command plane. Among those invited are:

Barney Balaban, Paramount president; Sidney Buchman, Columbia studio chief; Harry Cohn, Columbia president; Lester Cowan, Lester Cowan Productions; S. H. Fabian, chairman, theatres' division, WAC; Russell Holman, proxy for Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production chief; Francis Harmon, executive vice-chairman, WAC; Charles W. Koerner, RKO vice-president of production; Sol Lesser; E. J. Mannix, M-G-M studio executive; Taylor M. Mills; N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president; Jack L. Warner, production chief of Warner Bros.; R. B. Wilby, chairman, program committee, theatres division, WAC, Atlanta; Clifford P. Work, Universal production head; Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of production.

The purpose of the trip, as outlined in recent conferences with army officials, is to familiarize industry leaders with the army's postwar problems in Europe. Subjects to be specially studied include redeployment of troops, American military government, displaced persons, prisoners of war, food, transportation and reconstruction in liberated areas.

While in London the industry leaders will be guests of the British government. The itinerary will include visits to Copenhagen, Brussels, the Hague, Paris and perhaps Rome and Prague. The group also will visit the Rhine and Ruhr valleys, with stops scheduled at Cologne and SHAEF headquarters at Frankfort.

Conditions in Greece Appalling—Skouras

NEW YORK—Spyros P. Skouras, arriving from Europe by plane, stayed here long enough only to attend a dinner tendered J. Arthur Rank, and then entrained for Washington to report to government officials concerning his two-month trip abroad.

Three weeks of his stay on the continent were spent in Greece. Conditions there were appalling, he said, particularly in the rural districts.

Government Files N.Y. Antitrust Suit Answers

New York—A partial answer to the interrogatories of the eight distributor defendants in the New York antitrust suit has been filed with counsel for the defendants and Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard. The witnesses to be called in the trial scheduled for October 8 were not named in the document.

The answers to the questions asked by the distributors were given by direction of Judge Goddard, who asked that the government furnish as much information as it had by June 1 and the balance by July 1.

WASHINGTON—The WPB has allocated 622,180,000 feet of 35mm raw film stock for all military and civilian purposes in the third quarter of 1945, with 30,150,000 feet allotted to so-called Class C producers, to producers of "factual" films and to producers of so-called "special" pictures, such as those used for scientific research, microfilming or identification purposes.

The total allocated for the third quarter includes 327,860,219 feet set aside for the major film companies, independent producers and newsreel companies, as reported in BOXOFFICE last week. Of the 30,150,000 feet allotted to smaller producing groups, 8,100,000 feet have been set aside for Class C producers, companies designated as using fewer than 1,000,000 feet per annum; 15,750,000 feet to "factual" producers who make advertising pictures, educational films, etc., and 6,300,000 feet to producers of "special" pictures.

Reasons for the Increase

The total quantity of 35mm film allocated for the third quarter represents a reduction of 2,710,000 feet from the second quarter total and an increase of 21,431,000 feet over the first quarter total. In spite of the normal seasonal drop in film production in the third quarter, the WPB announced that increased quantities of 35mm film will be available for civilian purposes because of reduction in military, export and OWI allocations.

Small producers will be able to increase their over-all usage of 35mm film in the third quarter by 600,000 linear feet as compared with the second quarter, and by 2,100,000 feet as compared with the first quarter.

The increase in allocation for producers of factual pictures in the third quarter is 4,250,000 feet as compared with the second quarter, and 6,750,000 feet as compared with the first quarter.

The amount of 35mm film available for special pictures in the third quarter is greater by 800,000 feet than in the second quarter, and greater by 4,800,000 feet than in the first quarter.

Additional Revocations Are Announced by WPB

WASHINGTON—Further revocations of WPB limitation orders have been announced by that agency as follows:

Order M-160, controlling use of beryllium metal, which is used principally as a copper alloy and in fluorescent lighting;

Order L-123, covering 26 items of general industrial equipment, including air washers, electric motors and generators, fans, etc.;

Schedule XII of L-42, covering restrictions on the use of metal in plumbing fixtures;

L-316, covering restrictions on vitrified clay sewer pipe;

L-236, covering restrictions on the manufacture of builders' finishing hardware, cabinet locks and padlocks;

L-265, covering electronic equipment, has amendments which permits the production, for civilian use, of radio antennas, blank recording discs, and spring-motor phonographs. Officials of the WPB radio and radar division stated that this does not allow the free sale of all suitable electronic equipment to motion picture theatres, but does permit the sale of electronic equipment authorized for production specifically as motion picture equipment.

"DON'T RELAX," IS TED GAMBLE'S PLEA TO NATION'S THEATREMEN

"Pour Out Your Might," He Urges, as 7th War Loan Campaign Speeds Up

NEW YORK—"Don't relax! Pour out your might in showmanship!"

This is the message Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division of the treasury, sends to all exhibitors.

At the same time he disclosed that 15,987 theatre events, including bond premieres, children's shows and Free Movie Days have been arranged, compared with 14,443 for the Sixth War Loan, indicating that the Seventh's special events will break records.

"With two enemies out of the way," said Gamble in a communication to Samuel Pinanski, national chairman, "it is a temptation to sit back and relax. We cannot do that for a moment. Japan's armed might hasn't been hurt sufficiently to reach her replacement level. She's still fighting hard and our casualties in men and equipment are mounting.

"The industry's campaign is getting notable results. If this enthusiasm, patriotism and aggressiveness is carried forward, the Seventh will reach its goal. And that goal is not an easy one. The first billion was not hard to get; the second is difficult, but we have been told that four billions in Series E bonds is impossible and that the drive can fail. But it shall not fail! We must pour our might in money and in every idea that each member of the showmen's industry can devise."

Follow Through, Pinanski Urges

Comparisons of the special events for the Seventh and Sixth follow: Bond premieres, 4,791 against 4,557; children's shows, $1,831 against 975, and Free Movie Days, 9,365 against 8,911.

Pinanski had the following message: "We are very grateful to the exhibitors for exceeding the totals for the last drive. Now it is our job to follow through and make each event count."

Leading the nation in the various events are: Bond premieres, Minneapolis, 367: children's shows, Los Angeles, 202, and Free Movie Days, Dallas, 601.

Greatest gain in bond premieres are shown by Los Angeles, which has increased the number from 145 to 216; children's shows, Dallas, from 39 to 193, and Free Movie Days, Dallas, from 269 to 601. Boston's increase in the last category is only one behind Dallas, from 143 to 475.

The New York area, with some 700 theatres taking part, has scheduled 618 Free Movie Days, compared with 244 in the Sixth.

A sidelight on how a successful campaign can be waged, even though the exhibitor is a comparative newcomer to the business, is indicated in the case of Fred Zekman and Sam Dunevitz, operators of the Park Theatre, neighborhood Denver house. Although they have been operating the Park only since January, Zekman and Dunevitz have held their first bond premiere and have sold a bond for every seat.

Even their wives have pitched in to help sell bonds. The pair told of the successful results of their bond premiere and how they cooperated in showing all of the suggested films promoting the Seventh.

Dave Wallerstein, midwest coordinator for the campaign, reports that women volunteers selling bonds at the State Lake Theatre, Chicago, have helped to smash all previous records. Since they have been on duty at the theatre their sales have reached the five million dollar figure. Wallerstein says that the State Lake is typical of many Windy City theatres.

Rosa Hart of Southern Amusement Co., Lake Charles, La., averages more than $1,000 per day in sales of bonds by a radio auction broadcast at noon from the Paramount Theatre. Bids are received over telephones next to the microphone while the broadcast is on.

The Hollywood Motion Picture War Finance Committee, with a record of having sold upward of $93,000,000 in bonds during the three years of its existence, is again aiming at records. In the first two weeks, the 500-member committee, representing all branches and ranks in the industry, sold $3,000,000 worth of extra bonds.

A Job Half Done Is a War Half Won!

By SAM PINANSKI
National Chairman, "Showman's Seventh" War Loan Committee

Whether the $4,000,000,000 E bond goal of the Seventh War Loan will be met and surpassed is the acid test of our ability as showmen.

So far there has been a magnificent demonstration of what the motion picture industry can accomplish with united strength. I pay tribute to those tireless workers who have produced splendid results. But what has been done is not enough.

As Secretary Morgenthau has aptly said: "Our job is now to mobilize our strength for the defeat of Japan with the same singleness of purpose, the same concentration of energies, the same overwhelming power that we employed to crush Hitler's Germany. With your continued help, we shall succeed."

In this "grass roots" campaign, with the responsibility entirely on the individual in the field, I am grateful to the exhibitors for already setting national records in the number of theatre events. Now is our job to follow through and MAKE EACH ONE COUNT!

Bond premieres, children's shows, extensive local exploitation, and all other ways we know how—we must use them all to help put over the "People's Loan." We must keep selling and promoting bonds, day and night.

In the next three weeks we shall meet the supreme test. With your continued efforts, it will be met and passed with flying colors.

With all our might, LET'S FINISH THE JOB!



SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN'S BOND PREMIERE—The Will Rogers, a B&K theatre in Chicago, scored a ten-strike with the kiddies' bond matinee pictured above. There were 612 children present and 593 bonds were sold, an unusually high average for a juvenile audience. Milton Officer is manager of the house.



MASSIVE CUTOUT—The familiar Iwo Jima flag-raising scene is the motif for this eye-arresting layout in the New Amsterdam foyer, New York City.


Men are still DYING–
We Must Keep America BUYING!
So Far, So Good,
Mr. Exhibitor
Now, Let's Finish
The Job!
MIGHTY
7th
War Loan

THEY CAN'T QUIT...WE

Yes, Mr. Exhibitor, the only way to beat Japan is to burn them, blast them, and bomb them with billions of dollars of NEW equipment that the Bonds you sell in the Mighty 7th will provide!

Sell the public patriotism. Dig out those hidden dollars and convert them into "E" Bonds now. Sell as you've never sold before!



WON'T STOP EITHER!

MIGHTY 7th War Loan



3 more weeks to Finish our Job!... IT MUST BE DONE



If We Do Our Job!

The first reports coming in from theatres forecast another smashing Bond-selling success! With this start your Committee believes the Showmen's Seventh will top them all. But there's work to be done! Day and night, sell....

MIGHTY 7th War Loan

BONDS, BONDS...and more BONDS!

This message is sponsored as part of their contribution to the War Loan Campaign by Columbia Pictures Corporation; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures; Paramount Pictures Inc.; RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.; Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation;

Wisconsin's Assembly Aids Ernie Pyle Day

By JAMES GAHAGAN

MILWAUKEE—Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp., and state chairman of the WAC, certainly hit the jackpot with his Ernie Pyle Day. Not only has this bond sales motivator for the Seventh War Loan been bringing results for showmen, but so great has been the enthusiasm in Wisconsin that the state assembly and state senate unanimously passed and Gov. Walter S. Goodland signed, a joint resolution relating to Ernie Pyle Day.

This resolution was introduced by the floor leader, at the request of Fitzgerald.

In Wisconsin, anyone who purchased a bond at a theatre on Ernie Pyle Day, June 6, gained free admittance.

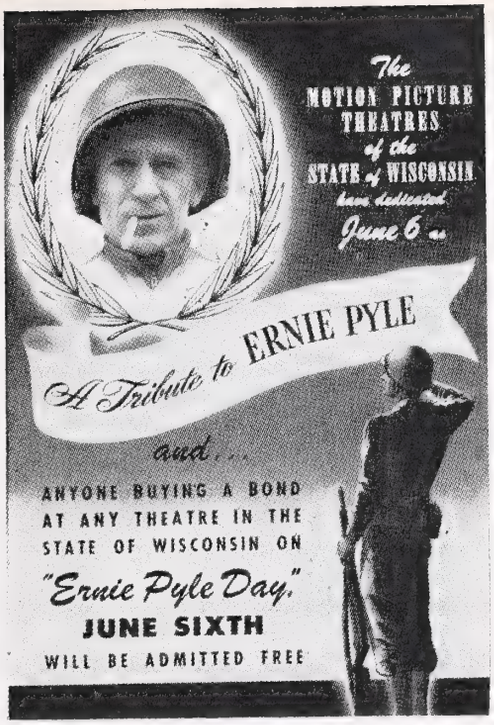
As assistance to exhibitors in promoting the event, Fitzgerald arranged with National Screen Service for distribution at cost, a one-column mat; a two-column mat; a 22x28 poster and a 40x60 poster.

Fitzgerald urged exhibitors to organize local Ernie Pyle committees to arrange stage presentations for the event with the American Legion post present.

Copies of the joint resolution relative to Ernie Pyle Day were dispatched to all showmen in the state and advertisements were placed in many daily and weekly newspapers over the state, publicizing the event in every city, town and crossroads in Wisconsin. Radio Commentators Jimmy Fidler and Walter Winchell gave Fitzgerald's tribute to Pyle national recognition.

Popular Radio Program Aids in Bond Premiere

DAVENPORT, IOWA — The Don McNeil Breakfast Club show, heard daily over the Blue network, has been obtained for the war bond premiere of the RKO Orpheum Theatre on Thursday, June 28. The show, which originates from station WMAQ, Chicago, will be presented during the bond premiere and will broadcast its regular program from the stage Friday morning. The theatre is scaled to $871,000 in bonds.





COVERING THE JAP FLAG — This stunt was originated by Capt. E. D. "Gene" Rich of the air technical service command at Wright Field, Ohio. He calls it a "barometer chart." Rich was formerly Chicago exploiteer for Loew's, Inc.



JEEP FOR BALLYHOO — Manager Grover F. Handley of the J. J. Parker United Artists Theatre in Portland, Ore., above at left, promotes the sale of war bonds with the use of a jeep in front of his boxoffice. A sign reads: "This vehicle is a war casualty—buy bonds in order to replace it with new equipment." His attractive usherettes daily conduct a bond ballyhoo from atop the vehicle.



CALIFORNIA CURB SERVICE — O. Roald Vestbie, manager of the State in Gridley, Calif., maintains this hut close to the curb in front of his theatre. Bond buyers can drive up and be served instanter.

Pinanski in Warning Against a Letdown

NEW YORK—Comparing complacency to a third enemy, Samuel Pinanski, national chairman of the Seventh War Loan, has cautioned exhibitors and other workers to guard against a letdown that might come with warm weather and summer vacations. The first two enemies, he described as "over-optimism and the Japs."

He urged all workers to be "on their toes" throughout this month, until the end of the campaign. "We are confronted with spring fever and hot weather but both of these can be licked by hard work," he asserted.

Beauty Contest Winner Would Get Bond Prize

CINCINNATI—The RKO Albee Theatre, in cooperation with radio station WCKY, is tying the Seventh War Loan into the Atlantic City bathing beauty contest to be held in September. Sid Weiss, RKO publicist, on behalf of Yvonne De Carlo, offered a $500 war bond to the young lady who is chosen Miss Cincinnati.

If this aspirant wins the Atlantic City beauty contest, she will receive an additional $500 bond from Miss De Carlo.

Release "On to Tokyo"

NEW YORK—"On to Tokyo," war department film clarifying redeployment and demobilization, has been released to first run theatres here. In Manhattan the picture opened at Radio City Music Hall, Roxy, Strand, Paramount, Rialto, Rivoli, Hollywood, Criterion, State, Gotham, New York, Republic, Victoria, Astor, Palace, Grand Central, as well as the Embassy and Trans-Lux Newsreel theatres. In Brooklyn the picture has gone into the Strand, Metropolitan, Fox and Albee theatres.

Mails Bonds to Patrons

ST. LOUIS—Fanchon & Marco's Ambassador Theatre is mailing bonds to purchasers and has found that this practice helps the sale. A trailer explains the plan.



LEGION COOPERATION — American Legion posts are maintaining this booth at the Fox Theatre in St. Louis for the duration of the "Showmen's Seventh." A. D. Welch, state Legion commander, second from left, bought $250,000 in bonds on kickoff day, pledging his organization to sell $5,000,000 of the E series during the campaign.

Street Points Out Need For Merchants' Tieins

By E. W. "Gene" STREET
Southern Campaign Coordinator

As the tremendous impact of showmanship and exploitation comes to be increasingly recognized as essential to the sale of war bonds, the more our industry is accepted in local communities and on a nationwide basis as an integral part of the several spearheads sponsored by the war finance division of the treasury department.

During the Seventh War Loan, more so than in previous bond drives, the treasury department has served as liaison between the theatres and the civic and business leaders of their communities. The treasury has spread the message: "The motion picture with its tremendous emotional impact on the mass public is one of the most powerful message-carriers in the world today."

Retailers Realize the Benefits

In Retailers' Program, a booklet published by the treasury for the Seventh War Loan, many pertinent references are made to the value of the theatre as a vital medium of disseminating information, and the part it plays in the success of bond drives.

Yes, the theatres are given a tremendous pat on the back to the local retailers in your community. I quote from the treasury's promotion material: "Thousands of motion picture theatres in all drives have sold millions in extra bonds through war bond premieres. Retailers can tie up with the theatres, issue coupons to bond buyers to be exchanged at the boxoffice. Talk this over with your theatre man" . . . "All over the nation theatres join in a Free Movie Day once in each war bond drive. See the theatre man about this, too. In return for advertising support, a manager may be glad to let you provide exchange coupons for extra bond buyers—both customers and employes" . . . "Arrange separately, or with other stores, for a mass briefing at your largest local theatre."

All this has tended to place our industry, particularly individual exhibitors, in an enviable position, a position of which each and every individual in the industry should be justly proud. But it behooves each of us to fully realize the obligation and responsibility which go with such recognition.

Advertising, exploitation and showmanship are second nature in our business, and with the facilities at our command it is my opinion that the industry as a whole has not taken full advantage of our opportunity to work with the retailers in our individual communities, although it has been presented to us on a silver platter.

The selling of war bonds is a community project on a nationwide basis sponsored by the treasury department. Over 130,000,000 Americans are united in one great effort of war financing. By the same token, the various spearheads in each community should unite for the sole purpose of selling bonds, and not for the sake of personal or group praise and glory.

The theatre manager should not wait for the retailers to call upon him and request cooperation. At the beginning, he should approach the retailers and offer his facilities and pledge his full cooperation in their efforts.

Those retailers who are issuing agents should be extended the privilege of issuing tickets to your events for their bond sales to customers and employes. And other issuing agents should be included, such as banks and other institutions.

Healthy Increase in Rallies

Throughout the nation during the Seventh there has been a healthy increase of rallies by retailers and their employes held in theatre auditoriums prior to opening. The merchants close their stores for one hour and all employes, led by a local band, march to the theatre for their pep rally, with the theatre manager helping by decorating the stage for the occasion, and affording gratis screening of special war activities and other film subjects which stimulate bond selling.

Some large department stores hold contests among their employes, and a bond premiere could be arranged at the theatre by the exhibitor, naming the night in honor of the retailer. This is a fine goodwill feature. Retailers have special advertising budgets for bond promotions and are delighted to go in on cooperative theatre pages. If the community effort is put on a "one for all, all for one" basis, everybody benefits and it will pay fine dividends.



PATCHES POINT THE WAY—It all began when Bess Schulter, owner of the Columbia Theatre in St. Louis, began to gather insignia, also known as "patches," from the boys in the neighborhood of the theatre who have gone into the armed services. Then Jimmy Tappella, the Columbia's manager, gathered the patches and created this effective 40x60.



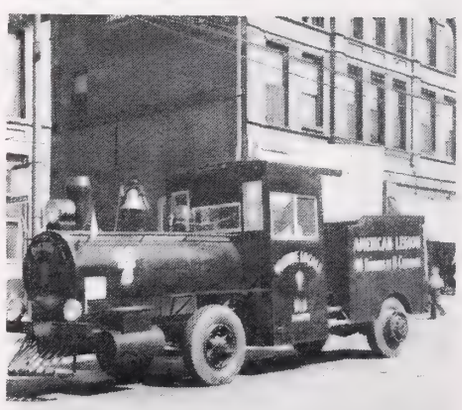
THE FEMININE TOUCH—This group of attractive young ladies are volunteer saleswomen for Oklahoma City's bond booths in the 25 theatres in that southwestern metropolis. All are members of the Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority. They make frequent trips throughout the city.







EFFECTIVE AMUSEMENT PAGE ADS—For the benefit of the entire exchange area, the Kansas City WAC is running the 3½-inch ad at the left every Friday in Kansas City, Topeka, St. Joseph and Springfield, Mo., newspapers. At top: B&K is placing this two-column appeal in all Chicago newspapers. Bottom: One of several reverse plate slugs inserted by Fanchon and Marco in St. Louis newspapers.



"40 ET 8" LOCOMOTIVE—Reminiscent of World War I is this mobile replica of an ancient French locomotive, employed quite effectively by the Duluth, Minn., American Legion post to promote the sale of bonds.



M-G-M's loving man Van Johnson is all wrapped up in Esther Williams and Technicolor in "Thrill of a Romance"

"Oh Van!"



"Please don't say No.. say Maybe!"



(HIT SONG FROM THE HIT PICTURE THAT'S PACKING CAPITOL, N. Y. WORLD PREMIERE. GET READY!)

On your toes – for the Show of Shows!

VAN JOHNSON
ESTHER WILLIAMS

in

M-G-M's BIG TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLE

"Thrill of a Romance"

with

FRANCES GIFFORD • HENRY TRAVERS • SPRING BYINGTON

and introducing the Metropolitan Opera Star

LAURITZ MELCHIOR

TOMMY DORSEY and his Orchestra

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY RICHARD CONNELL AND GLADYS LEHMAN

Directed by RICHARD THORPE • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

21st YEAR OF LEADERSHIP MGM

With all your might!
MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

LITHO U.S.A.

Racetracks Blamed Partly for Slump

By HARRY EDWIN WHITE

LOS ANGELES—There has been a pronounced slump at the boxoffices in this area since April. There are many contributing reasons. Possibly the two principal ones involve the laying off of many employes at war plants and the virtual elimination of overtime.

I interviewed Jack Berman, one of Los Angeles' most active independent theatre operators. He has affiliations with some 30 houses. Asked for his analysis of the situation, his answer reflected the viewpoints of other exhibitors contacted.

Berman said, in effect, that when folks are used to making from $60 to $80 a week, and have salary cuts due to lack of overtime, the theatres, in common with other business establishments, will suffer. People are just spending less money on amusement, Berman declared. He thinks that bowling, night clubs and other bright light spots are affected similarly by the theatre gross curve.

But there is another reason, a big one, Berman added. He called attention to the opening of Santa Anita, when 67,000 trekked to that racetrack and wagered $3,000,000 on the bangtails. With an estimated 12 per cent racetrack "take," or holdback, that means that a goodly portion of the 67,000 divided losses of $360,000. That much money out of circulation is bound to affect boxoffice grosses, as well as other amusements.

Where Did They Get the Gasoline?

Other theatre men are speculating on how 67,000 persons obtained sufficient gasoline to go to Santa Anita. They somewhat bitterly remark that in some instances projectionists have been refused enough "gas" with which to drive to work. In one instance, a projectionist brought his trailer along and slept on the theatre lot two nights weekly.

Southern California theatres have an enviable record in war bond sales, naval and marine recruiting and every other war activity. They run government films; stop their shows for Red Cross collections; allow amateur speakers to use their stages and for months the exhibitors have been neglecting their own businesses to further the war effort.

This reporter suggests that those in authority get an old sway-back, spavined horse and a superannuated hunch-backed jockey to ride it, carrying a megaphone. Then, right in the middle of the races shoo all the horses to the sidelines, let the jockey ride around on his spavined horse, followed by a regiment of grooms and stable boys armed with nosebags.

While the jockey is megaphoning the announcement the boys with the nosebags would circulate through the grandstand suggesting that the customers fill the nosebags with their spare change for the benefit of the Red Cross. They could also be signing up blood donors and bond buyers.

After the collection had been taken up, it would be quite in order to finish the race.

Debentures Due in 1952 Will Be Retired by Para

NEW YORK—The executive committee of Paramount's board of directors has authorized the prepayment of monies necessary to retire at par the $1,250,000 outstanding three per cent debentures due from 1952 to 1958. This prepayment is in anticipation of future sinking fund obligations.

The sum of $475,000 was paid into the sinking fund, May 15, and it is estimated that this prepayment will cover sinking fund obligations payable in 1946, 1947 and part of 1948.

38 Pictures Tentatively Slated to Roll in June

HOLLYWOOD—With production activities still hampered by the strike, reporting future schedules continues to be a precarious business. When May drew to a close, there were 38 pictures tentatively slated to roll in June—an increase of five over that of last month. Several holdovers added to the films planned for June getaways should insure a busy month at the studios, provided labor and sets are available.

Should the strike end in the meantime, it is reasonable to suppose that the number of starters for June will be materially increased; but by the same reasoning, if the manpower problem grows more drastic, the number could just as easily decrease.

According to current schedules, the pictures by studio are:

"Snafu" Features Nanette Parks

Columbia—"Snafu," which will be a George Abbott production with Jack Moss serving as associate producer and director, to feature Nanette Parks in the femme lead; "Burning the Trail" and "Bronco Busters," second and third, respectively, in the Starrett-Burnette series, with Ray Nazarro megging; "Hail the Chief," to be produced by Burt Kelly; "Tars and Spars," coast guard musical with Alfred Drake, Janet Blair and Marc Platt, under supervision of Comdr. Milton Bren.

Metro—"The Hoodlum Saint" for Cliff Reid's production slate, starring William Powell with Angela Lansbury, to be directed by Norman Taurog; "Two Sisters From Boston," set for production by Joe Pasternak, with Henry Koster directing and starring Kathryn Grayson with June Allyson, Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior and Peter Lawford; "The Postman Always Rings Twice," costarring Lana Turner and John Garfield, under the directorship of Tay Garnett, with Cary Wilson producing.

Monogram—"Gregory," slated for production by Louis Berkoff, direction by Phil Rosen, and starring Edmund Lowe; "Allotment Wives," a Jeffrey Bernerd production; and an untitled film in the Cisco Kid series, starring Duncan Renaldo.

Paramount—"Blue Skies," Technicolor production by Joseph Sistrom, for direction by Stuart Heisler, with Bing Crosby, Joan Caulfield, Paul Draper, Billy de Wolfe and Olga San Juan; "Calcutta," with Alan Ladd and William Bendix, for production by Seton I. Miller; "To Each His Own" which Mitchell Leisen will meg and Charles Brackett produce, with Olivia de Havilland, John Lund, Virginia Welles; Pine-Thomas productions, "Hot Cargo" with William Gargan and Jack Lowery, and "They Made Me a Killer," also with Jack Lowery.

PRC—"The Wife of Monte Cristo," a Leon Fromkess production with Jack Grant as associate producer and Edgar Ulmer as director; "Queen of Burlesque," an Alexander-Stern production; "Corky," with Martin Mooney as associate producer; "The Flying Serpent," a Sigmund Neufeld production; "Detour," to be produced by Martin Mooney; "Bombshell From Brazil," Jack Schwarz production, and "The Clock Struck Five," a Roth-Green-Rouse production.

RKO Radio—"Cornered," starring Dick Powell and Walter Slezak, with Edward Dmytryk directing and Adrian Scott producing; "Dick Tracy," film version of the comic strip, set for Producer Herman Schlom's schedule with William Berke megging; "Diary of a Chambermaid," starring Paulette Goddard under the direction of Jean Renoir; Eddie Cantor's new western musical, "Show Business Out West," in which Joan Davis and Felix Feist will costar; "Riverboat Rhythm," for production by Nat Holt; "The Falcon in Reno," to be produced by Ralph Dietrich with Tom Conway starring; "The Magnificent Tramp," toplining Cantinflas with John Auer as producer-director. "The Kid From Brooklyn," Samuel Goldwyn production, starring Danny Kaye.

Republic—"A Guy Could Change," to be megged by William K. Howard with Allan Lane as star; "Sunset in El Dorado," Roy Rogers starrer, under direction by Frank McDonald, and produced by Lou Gray.

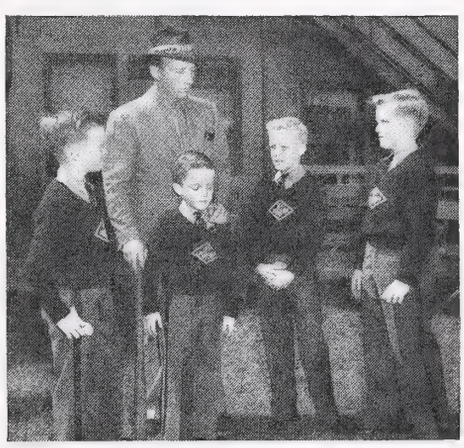
"The Spider" Coming From 20th

20th-Fox—"The Spider," Ben Silvey, producer, and Robert Webb, director, with Richard Conte and Kurt Kreuger featured.

United Artists—"Getting Gertie's Garter," Edward Small production, to be megged by Alan Dwan and starring Dennis O'Keefe.

Universal—"Alibi in Ermine," costarring Charles Coburn, Ginny Simms and Robert Paige, with George Waggner producing and directing; "Once Upon a Dream," starring Susanna Foster and Franchot Tone, with William Seiter directing for Producers Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano; "As It Was Before," with William Dieterle directing Merle Oberon and Charles Korvin in the starring roles.

Warners — "Confidential Agent," with Charles Boyer and Lauren Bacall directed by Herman Shumlin, and produced by Robert Buckner; "Night and Day," for Arthur Schwartz's production slate, and Michael Curtiz directing.



THE AMERICAN WAY—Bing Crosby pauses during batting practice with his four sons to give a pitch on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive. Left to right: Phillip Michael (twin) 10; Bing; Lindsay Harry 6; Dennis Michael (twin) 10, and Garry Evan, 11. Crosby's next is "Bells of St. Mary's" for RKO Radio.

NSS Is Shipping Crosby Seventh Loan Trailer

New York—"Meet the Crosbys," starring Bing and the four little Crosbys, the second of the Seventh War Loan trailers, is now being shipped by National Screen Service. Some 15,000 prints, in all, will be sent to theatres. Leo McCarey directed the subject.

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Year of Anniversaries

THIS is anniversary year—M-G-M's 20th, 20th-Fox's 30th, Columbia's 20th and Republic's 10th. Now Paramount is planning to celebrate a third of a century in the business. That ought to settle the question as to whether the industry is still in its infancy.



CHARLES M. REAGAN

In making the announcement of the company's plans at a luncheon last week, Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales, briefly reviewed the company's record. He spoke informally while seated. He warmed to his subject. His talent as a public speaker was surprising. His informality, his frankness and earnestness, his ability to choose words so impressed his hearers they broke into spontaneous applause.

"Why didn't you get in a plug for Paramount?" somebody asked facetiously.

His reply was as effective as his talk.

"It's the only company I ever worked for," he said seriously.

And nobody ever thinks of him as a veteran. He has no gray hairs; his appearance is boyish; his enthusiasm contagious. In an industry of mercurial ups and downs, of constantly shifting personnel his record is as unique as his personality.

* * *

Extraordinary Comedy

MOST of the present generation has never seen one of those Parisians who fights with his feet. They'll get a chance in "The Great John L." and, if they don't roll out of their seats, it will be a miracle. Some French smart boys walk up to a bar and bet a huge sum John L. can't knock out their man. Greg McClure, as John L., promises to do it without clenching his fists. The Frenchman removes his patent leather pumps, adjusts his boutonniere, and the fun starts. He kicks McClure in the chin, hits him in the stomach with both feet, dances around and swings a foot up backward into McClure's face, plays leapfrog over his prostrate form, and gets the watchers into hysterics.

How Frank Tuttle did the windup is a technical mystery. He must have had a piano wire on the back of the Frenchman's neck. When McClure finally hits him he flies into the air and lands on top of a grand piano. It's something to watch.

* * *

Rank Is a Surprise

SO MANY stories about J. Arthur Rank have preceded him to this country that the impression had gone the rounds that he is somewhat aloof and not inclined to make specific answers to questions when interviewed. The impressions about his personality have been as varied as the types of men who have met him.

His first day in New York was fantastic. It required the three-room Balinese suite at the Sherry Netherlands to keep various groups apart. This didn't disturb the Britisher. He took on all comers with easy grace, answering questions freely and calling upon his associates for details when he thought it necessary. He laughed freely at times.

In the midst of his rush across the continent and back he intends to look up an old friend of his father in Minneapolis who hails from Aberdeen, Scotland.

His grasp of detail is fascinating. He talks of production, exhibition and government problems in England; of circuit acquisitions in Canada; of talent and technical problems in this country as though he had spent his life in the business, and was not at the same time head of an entirely different enterprise of vast proportions.

* * *

Three-Language Paper

UNITED ARTISTS' foreign department publication is called United Artists—Around the World. Walter Gould, foreign manager, decided recently it ought to be issued in languages of the countries to which it goes. "Go ahead," he told Sam Cohen, foreign department publicity manager.

Sam has been going ahead. He is now getting the paper out in French and Spanish as well as English. Trying to fit headlines in three languages is as much of a problem to Sam as the fitting of foreign syllables to American dialog in pictures is to the dubbing experts. He's hoping Gould won't decide on Palestine and Saudi Arabia editions.



HE'S BOND-MINDED—Frank Pratt, manager of the Paramount Theatre in Portland, is doing an outstanding job of selling bonds in the "Mighty Seventh" campaign. He's busy night and day in the big theatre.

Export Ass'n Started By Film Executives

NEW YORK—At a meeting of executives, including foreign managers, of major motion picture companies, final decisions were made permitting the immediate incorporation of an export association under the Webb act. Attorneys were instructed to proceed immediately with the filing in Delaware of a charter, the form of which was agreed at the meeting. It is believed the corporation will be completed and ready for business within a week, at which time the board of directors will be named.

No choice has yet been made of a president to head the organization, nor has any territory been designated in which the organization will function.

Independents will be eligible to become members and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has been invited to arrange for the selection of one member of the directorate.

Raytheon Adds to Board

NEW YORK—Raytheon Manufacturing Co. has elected five new members to the board of directors. They are P. S. Billings, Harold C. Mattes, Joseph Pierson, Emmons Bryant jr. and George L. Langreth. Billings and Mattes were former executives of Belmont Radio Corp., now merged with Raytheon.

Former directors remaining on the board include President Laurence K. Marshall, D. T. Schultz, Ralph D. Booth, William Gammell jr., Havens Grant and Harry C. Watts.

NOTICE OF SALE

For licenses to distribute in the United States, 50 German or Austrian Motion Pictures

JAMES E. MARKHAM, Alien Property Custodian, invites sealed bids from American citizens, for licenses to distribute in the United States for a period of three years each of 50 motion pictures which have been vested by him.

Bids for licenses must provide for a royalty payment of 50% of net rental receipts (as that term is defined in the Proposed License Agreement), a satisfactory guaranty of not less than $100 for each full length picture and of not less than $50 for each short subject applied for. The bid shall be accompanied by a certified or bank cashier's check for 10% of the amount guaranteed. The deposit will be returned in case the bid is rejected. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Prospective bidders are invited to make inquiry at the office of the Alien Property Custodian, 120 Broadway, New York 5, New York, for details of the terms and conditions of sale, the terms and conditions of licenses, the form of bid, the list of available titles, synopses (where available) and information as to where and under what conditions prints may be examined.

All bids shall be in duplicate and must be received by the Alien Property Custodian not later than 12:00 o'clock noon, Eastern War Time, on JULY 6, 1945, at the above address.

(signed) James E. Markham
Alien Property Custodian

ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
FOUR!

It never happened before!



M-G-M sets new Music Hall Record!
Second week tops the First!
Third week tops the Second!
Fourth week tops the Third!
And it keeps rolling merrily along to
Another Music Hall Long-Run Record
For Leo, The Long-Run King!

(Sixth Week and going very strong!)

MAKE YOUR "DECISION" FOR EXTRA PLAYING TIME NOW!

Chinese "Cut" Theatre Tickets 81 Per Cent

CHUNGKING, CHINA—American motion picture distributors are having quite a time shipping films from the U.S. to China. Under a ruling by the Chinese government they must limit their purchase of foreign exchange to an amount equal to one Chinese dollar for each theatre admission sold. This restricts remittances of profits to four per cent of their total China earnings on the basis of the present 20-to-1 exchange rate.

If and when the exchange rate is increased, the percentage will drop proportionately. Remainder of the earnings can only be withdrawn upon approval of the Chinese government and no part of it can be used to buy currency on the black market, according to reports.

The situation in China is summed up in an interesting article in the Chungking edition of the Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury, which says, in part:

"Theatre magnates say ticket prices in China range from CN$200 to CN$400 per single admission, of which approximately 81 per cent goes for taxes, bonds and charity.

"The remaining 19 per cent is split 50-50 between theatre owners and film distributors, giving each a little more than nine per cent of the proceeds.

"Film distributors say that from their nine per cent they must meet all operating expenses and then can remit only CN$1 per ticket, or about .5 of the price of the cheapest ticket. Under present transportation conditions this is insufficient to meet the cost of shipping films from the U.S. to China.

"Efforts to obtain an official statement from responsible government officials, solicited through the Ministry of Information, evoked merely a 'no comment.'

"In other circles, however, it is believed probable that the new ruling is a temporary expediency and will be lifted when the exchange rate is raised. Previously film distributors could remit one-half of their earnings through foreign exchange, but frequently complained of delays of up to six months in securing approval of applications."

Film Carriers Discuss Service Improvement

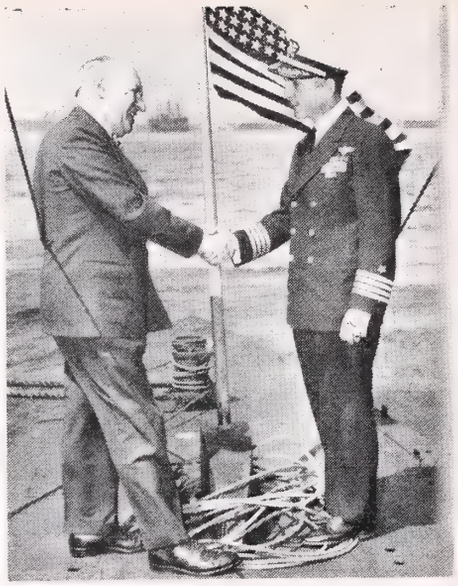
NEW YORK—Methods of improving delivery service and conserving film were discussed by representatives of distributors and the National Film Carriers, Inc., at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor. Taking part in the round-table discussion were the following distributor executives:

Mike Dolid and Herman Goldberg, WB; G. Knox Haddow and Henry Anderson, Paramount; A. A. Schubart and William McShea, RKO; William Brenner, National Screen Service; A. F. Cummings and H. M. Richey, M-G-M; A. W. Schwalberg, International Pictures, and Arthur Dickinson, MPPDA. Clint Weyer, secretary of NFC and member of the executive committee and board of governors, also participated.

The luncheon discussion formed an important part of the second day's session of the film carriers at which wartime problems were considered on Monday and Tuesday.

The film carriers, optimistic about the future, expressed the hope that there would be an easing of the present difficulty in obtaining tires and 1½-ton trucks within the next six months.

Film carriers are in Class 3, along with newspaper and radio, said Weyer and as such have been able to maintain adequate delivery service. This was accomplished in spite of manpower shortages and other difficulties, Weyer explained.



ON GERMAN SUB—Irving Lesser, New York area chairman for the Seventh War Loan, meets Capt. Daniel V. Gallery, commander of the task force which captured the U-505 last summer off the African coast. The meeting is on the stern of the U-boat. Bond buyers from over 700 metropolitan theatres are being admitted daily for an inspection of the sub at Pier A, Manhattan.

Monogram Ups Budget; Declares a Dividend

NEW YORK—Monogram has fixed Nov. 14, 1945, as the date for the annual stockholders' meeting, and has nominated the existing board—W. Ray Johnston, Trem Carr, Steve Broidy, George Burrows, Charles Trampe, Arthur C. Bromberg, William Hurlburt, Howard Stubbins, Herman Rifkin and Paul Porzelt—as the management's choice for the directorate to be voted on at the annual meeting.

Steve Broidy has been appointed vice-president in charge of operations, permitting him to sit in on all production, as well as sales operations.

The directors declared a 13¾ cents per share quarterly dividend on the company's preferred stock, payable June 15 to stockholders of record June 1. The board also voted increased budgets on the 1945-46 program to care for its expanded list of theatre customers here and abroad. Particular attention is to be given to the top budget pictures following the success of the company's current release, "Dillinger."

Distribution Changes Abroad Defer Some Mono Profits

NEW YORK—Monogram Pictures Corp. reports consolidated net profits for 39 weeks ended Mar. 31, 1945, of $107,840.94, after all charges including reserves for federal income taxes. This compares with net profits of $111,961.45 for the same period of the previous year.

Change in distribution in the United Kingdom on Aug. 1, 1944, from an advance royalty to a straight percentage distribution has resulted in considerable revenue being deferred to a later period which under previous type of operation would be reflected in the current statement, President W. Ray Johnston of Monogram reported. The new plan of operation will result in the company receiving a larger percentage of the gross receipts from distribution of its product in the English territory.

Warner Theatres Men Discuss 1946 Product

NEW YORK—Warner Theatres zone managers, film buyers and home office executives discussed operation matters and forthcoming product at a series of conferences. Among those participating in the discussions were Joseph Bernhard, general manager; Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, and the following home office executives: Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank N. Phelps, Abel Vigard, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Rosenquest, Louis J. Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat D. Fellman, Herman Maier, Rudolph Weiss, Frank Cahill, Martin F. Bennett and Dan Triester.

Following a discussion of summer theatre operating plans presided over by Bernhard, Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warner Bros. Pictures, outlined the new product to be released in the months ahead. Mort Blumenstock, advertising and publicity chief, described his department's plans for advertising the forthcoming product.

Zone managers attending the sessions included James Coston of Chicago, Nat Wolf of Cleveland, I. J. Hoffman of New Haven, Frank Damis of Newark, C. J. Latta of Albany, Ted Schlanger of Philadelphia, Moe Silver of Pittsburgh, and John J. Payette of Washington. Buyers present were Burt Jacocks and Max Hoffman of New Haven, Sam Blaskey of Newark, Max Friedman of Albany, John Turner of Philadelphia, George Crouch of Washington, Harry Feinstein and Saul Bragin of Pittsburgh, Alex Halperin of Chicago and Tony Stern of Cleveland.

Meeting of Paramount's Stockholders June 19

NEW YORK—The annual meeting of Paramount stockholders will be held in the Paramount Bldg., 1501 Broadway, Tuesday noon, June 19. Principal business of the meeting is to elect a board of directors consisting of 16.

The present directorate consists of Barney Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harvey D. Gibson, Leonard H. Goldenson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, Austin C. Keough, Earl I. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl, Adolph Zukor and the late John W. Hicks jr. The stockholders may fill the place left vacant by the recent death of Hicks.

Sterling Theatres Add Four Washington Units

SEATTLE — Sterling Theatres, of which John Danz is president, has purchased the Longview, Columbia and Vision in Longview, Wash., and the Kelso Theatre in Kelso.

The deal involved $450,000, it was reported.

CBS Promotes Stanton

NEW YORK—Frank Stanton, vice-president of the Columbia Broadcasting System, has been named general manager and elected to the board of directors of the company. He joined CBS in 1935 as research director and later served as director of advertising and research.

RKO Tradeshows "Jones"

NEW YORK—RKO Radio Pictures is tradeshowing International's "Along Came Jones," starring Gary Cooper and Loretta Young, in all exchange centers Tuesday, June 12.

That

RKO BRAND OF Showmanship

...The biggest simultaneous area opening of em all arranged for a gigantic opening in more than 100 New England and New York State theatres on June 26...

•

The blanketing Yankee Network and additional powerful stations beamed for the most concentrated mass coverage in history...

•

...Pages and pages of promotion in all Hearst Boston newspapers...

...Mammoth Night of Spectacle at Boston Garden to 18,000 people on Sunday, June 26, a Hearst-sponsored Prelude to a Premiere getting top priority promotion all along the line.

•

...Important persons from all walks of life at dozens of affiliated affairs...

...All wrapped up in showmanship's most extensive and intensive campaign of seat-selling exploitation on record!

•

To be followed by like treatment throughout the territory served by WLW, "The Nation's Station," Cincinnati.

...to launch


RKO'S MIGH
OF A HA
OF HE
AND T
DATE
DESTI
LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN
BACK TO
starring JOHN WA
with ANTHONY QUINN • BEULAH BONDI
Executive Producer ROBERT FELLOWS • Directed b
R K O
RADIO
PICTURES

TY DRAMA
NDFUL
ROES
HEIR
WITH
NY!

The inside story of the invisible army of the Philippines. A great drama of helpless fury and inspired courage . . . told on a flaming canvas of mighty action and thundering thrill — to live forevermore in the hearts of all who want to be free!



BATAAN

See THE MARCH OF DEATH! • JAP BRIDGE OF DEAD!
CABANATUAN PRISON RAID! • BATTLE OF BATAAN!
BOLO KNIVES VS. GUNS! • DARING GUERRILLA RAIDS!
YANK LANDING AT LEYTE! • *and more, and more, and MORE!*

YNE

ELY FRANQUELLI • LEONARD STRONG

WARD DMYTRYK • Screen Play by BEN BARZMAN and RICHARD LANDAU

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Textiles Remain Bottleneck For Many Theatre Items

Despite WPB relaxation of limitation and restrictive orders, textiles continue to be the bottleneck that will make it difficult for most manufacturers of many needed theatre goods to resume full civilian production. In a recent report by the WPB, it was stated that "military requirements for cotton textiles for the third quarter of 1945, on a one-front war basis, are at new record highs, above the level that the textile industry had been supplying for a two-front war and requirements for wool textiles and knit goods remain high."

The report issued by the WPB chairman also stated that "supply of these materials has been steadily declining in the last two years and in the third quarter will be some 20 per cent below the record high of 1942. Thus while the metal-working industries are beginning to reconvert to civilian production, the textile and leather situation is getting tighter."

The WPB report did state that the textile industry has adequate capacity to increase production as much as 25 per cent above current levels with three full-shift operations and there is no over-all shortage of textile fibers. This increase in production would mean added materials available for civilian use but the inability of textile manufacturers to grant additional wages, comparable to incomes earned by workers in other industries for skilled work similar to that needed in textiles, has been a stumbling block to added output.

The Krug report does not offer any solution to the problem, other than suggesting that a recently appointed governmental interagency committee, comprising representatives from WPB, OPA, WMC, OES and other agencies, meet to discuss the interrelated problems of production, wage rates and working conditions and ceiling prices.

The report stated, too, that if wage increases are granted, manufacturers would want increased prices. It is felt here that once manufacturers are permitted to increase their prices, production will rise. Thus, exhibitors, along with other civilians, may look forward to paying higher prices for needed upholstery coverings, carpeting, and other furnishings requiring textiles as a base.

NWLB Seniority Ruling Has Wide Implications

The National War Labor Board has ruled, in the case of Cineflex Corp., manufacturers of motion picture cameras for the armed forces, that length of service shall be the determining factor governing layoffs and rehiring of employes. The board's decision was based on the principle that it is discretionary with regional boards whether to qualify seniority provisions by providing that skill and ability be equal before seniority governs.

With regard to promotions, the company was directed to consider length of service, qualifications and ability, and physical fitness, with length of service as the dominant factor where other factors are relatively equal. The directive order also provides for a grievance machinery to decide problems of seniority. The board's action on the matter of promotions was based on the recognition that qualifications for performing a job are important in making promotions, but that once an individual is retained in a department for any length of time, it is presumed that he is capable of performing his job satisfactorily.

It was stated here that this particular directive undoubtedly will be applied to relationships now existing between film companies, both on the coast and in home offices, and various labor unions in the motion picture industry. This directive is of special import in home office labor-management discussions, inasmuch as the seniority problem is one that will come up again and again during future contract talks.

Veterans Are Being Cleared For Jobs in Film Industry

The War Manpower Commission, through the U.S. Employment Service, is relaxing any further restrictions on recruitment of veterans for civilian jobs with the result that exhibitors may find it somewhat easier to employ returning members of the armed forces. Employers who wish to hire returned veterans now may apply to USES for such personnel, even if their industry—and this applies to film exhibition—had not been rated as a war industry. A word of caution: This relaxation of WMC orders applies only to those areas where restrictions on labor have been lifted.

Raw Stock Allocations Face Plant Production Letdown

Despite the fact that the film industry has been given an increase in raw stock allocations for the third quarter, there is a possibility that the producing capacities of raw stock manufacturers will be taxed to the utmost to maintain present-day military and civilian requirements without going into further increased production. This is evident from the fact that Lincoln V. Burrows, chief, WPB photographic division, has been in a series of huddles with Eastman Kodak and other manufacturers in an effort to step up production, despite seasonal slowdowns caused by vacations, etc.

In an over-all report on quantities of film allocated to all users for the third quarter, the WPB revealed that the total amount of film allocations for the third quarter represents a reduction of 2,710,000 feet from the second quarter, but an over-all increase of 21,431,000 feet over the first quarter total. The report does state, in a most optimistic vein, that "in spite of the normal seasonal drop in film production for the third quarter, increased quanties of 35mm film will be available for civilian purposes because of reductions in military, export and OWI allocations."

While this sounds off an optimistic note, it is believed here that manufacture of raw stock for the third quarter will drop to a point where film production may face a lessened supply for the next three months.

WPB's Rosy Reconversion Picture Blurred Somewhat

A careful analysis of WPB Chairman J. A. Krug's recent report on war production and reconversion reveals that, despite its general rosy-hued aspects, its generalities point up that 6,600,000 workers face the possibility of unemployment immediately after the war is over. True, the Krug report does insist that these 6,000,000 now engaged in war work may find their abilities transferred through conversion to peacetime pursuits, but just how and when this is to be achieved remains the $64 question.

Of major interest to the film industry is the fact that the Krug report emphasizes the need for "getting rid of regulations and production limitations as quickly as possible and by doing so automatically lift the ceiling on initiative, imagination and resourcefulness—the very qualities the country will need most, if we are to have a resilient and expanding economy after the defeat of Japan." It states, further, that "in this way, the choice of what and how to produce, buy and sell—after positive assurance to military and essential war supporting agencies—will be left to the decisions of thousands of manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, farmers and ultimate consumers, rather than to government agencies and officials."

While getting "rid of regulations and production limitations as quickly as possible" sounds good on paper, it is felt here that a move along those lines might tend to benefit those businesses with greater purchasing power at the expense of the little fellow. In other words, as one government economist (not in WPB) stated, the larger circuits and film companies, because of the very vastness of their enterprises, are in a position to tie up manufacturing output for a while before the manufacturer is in a position to turn his attention to filling orders placed by the smaller exhibitor or producer.

The possibility of large-scale unemployment also may tend to cut down purchasing power considerably, it was stated, unless a definite reconversion plan is put into effect whereby the greatest number of unemployed possibles are absorbed by industry no longer subject to military demands. Just how this is to be accomplished is not explained in the Krug report.

However, rather than end on a gloomy note, I'll try to bring up your spirits somewhat, by reporting that all the government agencies are bending their efforts to complete a blueprint for peacetime economy that may still fulfill Krug's rosy promises.

Veterans Returning to Industry Get Break On Surplus Property

Returning veterans whose interests lie in motion picture exhibition are being given a break in the purchase of surplus property. The surplus property board, through regulation No. 7, has decreed that returning veterans may purchase surplus property to help maintain themselves in business or set themselves up in business without buying through regular dealer channels. The regulation becomes operative July 1.

Under the provisions of the regulation, returned veterans who, for example, are 50 per cent or better partners or actively owning motion picture theatres, may apply to the smaller war plants corporation to give them the highest priorities possible in the purchase of surplus government equipment.

ODT Ban On Fairs Seen As Film Business Boost

That what is one man's favorite dish may well be another man's poison is amply proved in the recent order from Col. J. Monroe Johnson, ODT chairman, that regional and state fairs cannot be held this year. The ban on such fairs, unless they are purely local and county meets, may well result in increased attendance at film theatres.

I've Heard:

That Variety Club's "Spieler" caused considerable comment prior to its publication. Ah, me!

That Eric Johnston, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, is clearing his decks to take over the much-talked-about Hays office assignment;

That the expected state department shakeup will play hob with that department's plans to sponsor some film productions explaining its policies.

"U's" Sales Campaign Will Honor Blumberg

NEW YORK—Universal Pictures sales department will launch a drive honoring Nate Blumberg, company president, to continue through from June 10 to October 27.

The sales force has been divided into three groups, eastern, western and southern, competing on a national basis, with subdivisions in each group. Awards will be made to branch managers, bookers and salesmen, office employes, shippers and film inspectors, as well as additional prizes for district managers placing first, second and third in the national drive.

In addition to current releases, new product available during the tenure of the Nate Blumberg testimonial drive will include "That's the Spirit," "The Naughty Nineties," "Uncle Harry," "Lady on a Train" and "On Stage, Everybody."

Hirliman Reports Buying Mascot Pictures Corp.

NEW YORK—International Theatrical & Television Corp. has purchased Mascot Pictures according to George A. Hirliman, president of IT&T. The transaction, negotiated through Nat Levine and Consolidated Film Industries, gives IT&T world rights to 19 features and 20 serials.

Among the features are "Pride of the Legion," starring Victor Jory; "Laughing at Life," starring Victor MacLaglen; "Little Men," starring Ralph Morgan; "Crimson Romance," starring Erich Von Stroheim, and "Waterfront Lady," starring Ann Rutherford.

The serials star Gene Autry, Harry Carey, George Brent, John Wayne, Bela Lugosi, Ann Rutherford and Mischa Auer, respectively.

Issue New Wilson Books As Film Is Released

NEW YORK—Three new books based on the life of the late President Wilson will be issued simultaneously with the release at popular prices of 20th-Fox's "Wilson." The books include "Woodrow Wilson, Selections for Today," "Woodrow Wilson and the People" and "Woodrow Wilson and the Great Betrayal."

Twentieth-Fox's exploitation department is at present arranging tieups with the publishers of the three books. The film is booked for a return engagement at the Roxy.

Film Daily's 27th Year Book Issued to Trade

NEW YORK—The 27th annual edition of the Film Daily Year Book, edited and published by John W. Alicoate, was issued last week. This volume features statistical information on motion picture production, distribution and exhibition. It gives production credits on all feature pictures released in 1944 in addition to listing titles of features released since 1915. It also features its poll of ten best pictures for 1944 and highlights the outstanding news events of last year.

Saw Nazi Brutalities

NEW YORK—Eli Gottlieb, 19-year-old former office boy at the WAC headquarters who was a prisoner of the Germans, witnessed many scenes of Nazi brutality, he said, when he arrived here after serving in France and Germany. He was captured near Bastogne last December 19 and was a German prisoner until April 16 when he was liberated by British troops.

Review >> << Flashes

PENTHOUSE RHYTHM (Univ)—Into the hopper went the usual assortment of songs and specialties, a characteristic cast of enthusiastic youngsters and all of the other ingredients which Universal relishes for its formula for low-cost musicals. The crank was turned and out popped this, the most recent offering in the studio's endless parade of such films. The picture is standard in every respect and, consequently, is equipped to stand up satisfactorily as a supporting feature. Kirby Grant, Lois Collier, Edward Norris, Maxie Rosenbloom, Eric Blore. Directed by Eddie Cline.

STEPPIN' IN SOCIETY (Rep) — An uncompromising judge discards his robes, but not his forbidding mien, and embarks on a vacation. Thereby hangs the tale of a series of adventures that teach him compassion and understanding of fellow men, who do not believe the shortest distance to success is on the straight and narrow. Edward Everett Horton, Gladys George, Ruth Terry, Robert Livingston, Jack LaRue. Alexander Esway directed.

THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS, A (Col)—Here is the time-mellowed legend of Aladdin and his lamp, so enticingly told that the picture's revenue possibilities should possess as much magic as was inherent in the oil burner which gave it theme. An original, clever and expertly-executed screen treatment makes the film a rare and delightful blend of fantasy and satire. Present—and in bountiful quantities—are all the lush trappings expected in a Technicolor extravaganza based on an Arabian Nights yarn: Pageantry, spectacle, romance, intrigue, action and beautiful harem maids. Cornel Wilde, Evelyn Keyes, Phil Silvers, Adele Jergens, Dusty Anderson. Directed by Alfred E. Green.

WEST OF THE PECOS (RKO)—Truly a pacesetter for modestly budgeted westerns, this will be a special treat for patrons of houses which specialize in sagebrush actioners and, at the same time, it can be a highly acceptable second feature on more pretentious programs. The story is standard Zane Grey, but scripting, performances and direction elevate the offering far above run-of-mill boots and saddles melodramas. One of its brightest innovations is the fact that the femme lead has something to do over and above being decorative. Robert Mitchum, Barbara Hale, Richard Martin, Thurston Hall, Rita Corday. Directed by Edward Killy.

WITHIN THESE WALLS (20th-Fox) — Produced at moderate cost with no names of particular drawing power, this story of a penitentiary warden's home life and problems manages to sustain both interest and pace. The somewhat creaking plot is that of a hardboiled judge who, appointed warden of an undisciplined penitentiary, cracks down on the unruly inmates but is unable to straighten out his own wayward 17-year-old son. Thomas Mitchell, Mary Anderson, Edward Ryan, Roy Roberts, Mark Stevens. Bruce Humerstone directed.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE.

Show Atrocity Films Free to the Public

ST. LOUIS—An uncut and unedited army signal corps film depicting Nazi atrocities was given a series of 14 free public showings at the Kiel Auditorium Opera House under auspices of a citizens' committee appointed by Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann. The six-reel film, portraying not only prison camp horrors but also the mass murder of 57 American soldiers following their capture in battle, was presented in conjunction with "Know Your Job in Germany," a documentary produced by the signal corps for instructing American troops policing the Reich.

Mayor Kaufmann obtained permission from army authorities to make the film available for public showing at the suggestion of Joseph Pulitzer, editor of the Post-Dispatch, who viewed the film in New York after returning from an inspection of atrocity evidence in Germany. Tickets to the number of 3,500 for each of the 14 performances were distributed to public school teachers, trades unions, veterans' groups, church bodies and heads of 300 other organizations for distribution among their members. The 49,000 tickets were exhausted two days in advance of the first performance. Persons under 16 years of age were not admitted.

Similar Showings Planned

The Writers' War Board, a group of prominent American authors working in the interests of the war effort, plans similar showings of the film in some 200 cities. Letters describing the success of the local showings have been sent by the WWB to editors of 177 leading metropolitan dailies throughout the country.

For the most part the audience, in which women outnumbered men two to one, sat in shocked silence at the sight of living and dead victims of Nazi brutalities. Some spectators turned their eyes from a few scenes, and one woman burst into tears when the screen showed survivors of the Buchenwald "extermination factory." Of the 20 spectators interviewed at random at the conclusion of the initial showing, not one considered the film too gruesome for public exhibition.

Small Town Exhibitor in Ohio Shows Nazi Atrocity Reels Without Charge

NEW LONDON, OHIO—John O. Guthrie, owner of the New Carolyn Theatre here, showed the German prison camp atrocity pictures free of charge and independent of his regular picture program. Instead of building up business on the drawing power of these pictures, Guthrie, who confines his theatre to evening shows only, opened it one afternoon, showing the atrocity reels three times. His house was crowded for every showing. "We saw people at these showings who have never been in the theatre before, Guthrie reports.

Asked whether this policy had hurt his regular business, Guthrie replied: "On the contrary. Some of those strangers have since come in as paying patrons."

"Eagle vs. Dragon" Contest Trophy to Jack Matlack

PORTLAND, ORE.—Jack Matlack of the Broadway Theatre has been awarded the first prize, a $500 silver trophy, in Universal's "Eagle vs. Dragon" exploitation contest. Second prize, a $100 war bond, went to Ted Waggoner, Wallace Theatre, Tahoka, Tex.

The judges were Chester Friedman, editor, Managers Round Table, Motion Picture Herald; T. C. Kennedy, Showmen's Trade Review and Paul Perez, BOXOFFICE.

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"Those Endearing Young Charms"



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BILL WILLIAMS

. . . Terrific in his first important RKO comedy role!

Produced by BERT GRANET *Directed by* LEWIS ALLEN

Moonlight Mission... Objective Romance!

. . . in RKO's top-of-the-season romantic success . . . reaching a new summit in spice and sparkle as a kiss-and-run pilot dares the heart-hitting flak of a lovely who gets his range! A big-time attraction for big-time crowds!



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—in Life—Ladies' Home Journal—Woman's Home Companion—True Story—Liberty—Pic—Look and Fan List.

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Screen Play by Jerome Chodorov

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Sam Goldwyn's Next Kaye Starrer For RKO to Be in Technicolor

Samuel Goldwyn has decided to film his next production for RKO Radio in Technicolor. The picture, "The Kid From Brooklyn" starring Danny Kaye, will set something of a record for the producer in the way of using tint photography. He hasn't made a picture in black and white since "The North Star."

Another RKO Radio share-cropping production unit, International Pictures, has set a budget of $225,000 for magazine, newspaper cooperative advertising and radio exploitation for the Gary Cooper-Cinema Artists production of "Along Came Jones." The radio advertising budget for the film will exceed by 25 per cent any previous radio exploitation budget for an International release.

M-G-M Assigns "Green Mansions" To Producer Pandro S. Berman

W. H. Hudson's story, "Green Mansions," which Metro will make after several other producers had played around with the idea, has been assigned to Pandro S. Berman to produce . . . At the same studio, Roy Rowland was assigned to direct "Alley Cowboys," the story of Cal Farley's Texas ranch, known as "Boys' Ranch." Together with Producer Robert Sisk, Rowland has gone to Amarillo to study the lives of the boys who run the ranch on a cooperative basis. Skippy Homeier will be starred in the picture.

"Diary of Chambermaid" to UA, Not RKO, as Planned Originally

"The Diary of a Chambermaid" will be written in celluloid for United Artists, not RKO Radio as was originally announced. Burgess Meredith initiated the production, planning to make it for the Gower Street lot and to star Paulette Goddard, with himself in a featured role. The actor-producer then ankled RKO and UA Producer Benedict Bogeaus took over the deal. Bogeaus plans to get the offering before the cameras at an early date with Jean Renoir directing.

Promoted From the Ranks, Siegel Will Direct Features for WB

Continuing its policy of elevating studio employes from the ranks, Warners has promoted Don Siegel, former short subject director, to direction of features and his first assignment will be piloting "The Verdict," from the Israel Zangwill novel, "The Big Bow Mystery" . . . Pursuing a like policy, Columbia has raised Dialog Director Mel Ferrer to full director status. Ferrer's first assignment will be to direct "The Girl of the Limberlost," which Alexis Thurn-Taxis will produce.

Harold Hooper, who joined Metro's executive staff less than a year ago, has resigned and announced his intentions of re-entering private business for the financing of independent production . . . Edward Kovacs, producer in Europe previous to World War II, has been signed by Monogram Producer Louis Berkoff to act as his associate producer on "Gregory" . . . Al Rogell has been signed to a two-year contract to produce and direct two pictures a year with an option of a third picture each year at Republic . . . Dan Bloomberg, Republic studio sound director and studio engineer, has been elevated to the post of chief engineer of the studio by Allen Wilson, vice-president.

Cameron Shipp, associate publicity director of Selznick Studio for the last 14 months, has resigned to re-enter magazine writing field . . . Chloe Elrod has been signed as casting director for Sol Lesser Productions. For the last 12 years Miss Elrod has been associated with the Universal Studios casting department . . . By mutual consent, Andre De Toth and Hunt Stromberg Productions have terminated the director's contract. De Toth plans to free-lance.

WB's Composer Roemheld Leaves For Germany Coordination Job

Heinz Roemheld, a member of Warners' music department, has taken a leave of absence and has gone to London, England, where he will be attached to the Office of Policy and Control for occupied Germany. With headquarters in London, the Warner composer will coordinate press, film, radio and other cultural fields in the conquered country.

RKO Will Make "Never Say Die," Original About a War Veteran

RKO Radio will make "Never Say Die," an original story about a war veteran and former newspaper man who believes he has only six months to live. Richard Berger will produce, with Jack Gross as executive producer. Bess Taffel is writing the screenplay from the original by Alexander Kenedi.

Other chores at the Gower Street lot: Leslie Goodwins signed to direct "Riverboat Rhythm." Clarence Upson Young ticketed to script "Badman's Territory" from the original screenplay by Jack Watteford and Luci Ward; and Edith Sommer, New York radio writer signed to do the screen adaptation of the David Tutaeff story, "Die Gently, Stranger," which Val Lewton is producing.

PRC Is Planning Film on Career Of Barrow, Southwestern Outlaw

As a followup to its production, "Crime, Inc.," PRC will make "Wanted for Murder," based on the careers of Clyde Barrow, the bandit who terrorized Texas and Oklahoma a decade ago, and his notorious "moll," Bonnie Parker. The production will be in the hands of Martin Mooney, who produced "Crime, Inc." . . . Another PRC assignment: Frank Wisbar, European director, set by Leon Fromkess to write and direct Leo McCarthy's initial production, "Strangler of the Swamp."

Barbara Stanwyck, Robert Cummings Costars in "Bride Wore Boots"

Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Cummings will be costarred in "The Bride Wore Boots," a comedy by Dwight Mitchell Wiley which Seton I. Miller will produce for Paramount. Irving Pichel has been signed to direct and Patric Knowles will have the third principal role. The story concerns a Virginia woman who is crazy about horses and married to a novelist who loathes them. Cummings has been assigned also to the starring role in "Dishonorable Discharge," script of which is being developed from an original idea by John Farrow, Hal Wallis Productions.

Story Peddlers Have a Lean Week; Paramount Buys "I Married Them"

Those low, anguished moans came from Hollywood's story peddlers who assembled at the film capital's wailing wall to mourn one of the leanest weeks their fraternity had suffered in several months. Only three literary properties were bartered as material for future features.

Paramount purchased the screen rights to the novel, "I Married Them," which has just been published by Howell Soskin. Written by Janet Van Duyn, the book revolves around a family of eccentrics in upper New York state. The central figure is a sane girl who married into the mad menage, and lives to tell the story of her experiences.

"Even Steven," an original story by Paul Gangelin, was bought by Columbia, to be used as the basis for "Texas Jamboree," one of the four western musicals the studio will produce next season. J. Benton Cheney has been assigned to do the screenplay. The feature will be produced by Colbert Clark under supervision of Jack Fier.

To be Frank Borzage's second production at Republic, that studio purchased "That Man Malone," which will star John Wayne. The story was purchased from RKO Radio. It is the story of an itinerant, easy-going blacksmith who returns from overseas as a World War II veteran to find his formerly simple-living wife the most important business woman in town. Borden Chase is the author.

Farrow to Direct Ladd and Bendix In "Calcutta" for Paramount

John Farrow, who directed Alan Ladd and William Bendix in two previous pictures, will direct the two stars for the third time in Paramount's "Calcutta." The picture, from an original story by Seton I. Miller who will also produce, is built around the adventures of the young flyers who pioneered the air route over the Hump before the American army air corps took over the job.



PARAMOUNTEERS CONFER—Short subjects were the topic of a conference at the coast studio during the visit of Oscar Morgan, short subjects sales manager. Left to right: Foreground—Oscar Morgan and George Templeton, producer of two-reel Musical Parades. Background—George Pal, producer of Puppetoons; Stanton Griffis, chairman of the executive committee of Paramount; Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of studio operations; Jerry Fairbanks, producer of Popular Science, Unusual Occupations and Speaking of Animals.

John W. Hicks, Head Of Para. Int'l, Dies

NEW YORK—John W. Hicks jr., president of Paramount International Films, Inc., and a vice-president of Paramount Pictures, died in Memorial Hospital last weekend following an operation performed on April 17. He was 58 years old.



JOHN W. HICKS Jr.

Born in Sedalia, Mo., Hicks had been identified with the industry since 1912, when he operated two Missouri theatres. In 1914 he became a film salesman and was branch manager for General Film Co. in Oklahoma and Missouri. Later he was made Minneapolis manager of Goldwyn Pictures Corp. He joined Paramount in 1919 as a branch manager of Paramount Publix. In 1920 he was transferred to the home office as assistant to the sales manager. He went to Australia in 1921 as managing director for Paramount and remained 11 years, returning to the home office to become manager of the English division.

The next year he became manager of Paramount International Corp. and manager also of the foreign department of Paramount. His election to the vice-presidency of the parent company came in 1936, and two years later he was elected to the board of directors. He was also made a director of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Arline Phipps Hicks; a son, John W. Hicks III, USAAF; two sisters, the Misses Mattye and Rubye Hicks of Sedalia, and a brother, Wilson Hicks, executive editor of Life.

J. Louis Rome Is Victim Of Sudden Heart Attack

BALTIMORE—While visiting in the headquarters of the Durkee circuit here, J. Louis Rome, 53, head of a local circuit of more than a dozen theatres, died suddenly Monday following a heart attack.

Rome was formerly chief barker of the Baltimore Variety Club and had also headed numerous charity drives. He served as state chairman of the industry's Fifth Loan drive.

Funeral services were held Wednesday.

A. J. Jeffrey, UA Canadian Sales Manager, Is Dead

TORONTO—A. J. Jeffrey, 45, UA's Canadian sales manager, who had been ill for several months, died Monday. He was scheduled to leave for Boston later in the week to undergo a major operation.

Jeffrey had been with the company for 19 years, first as salesman, then as branch manager for the territory. He later succeeded Dave Coplan as Canadian sales manager. His wife, Lilla, survives.

Republic, Empire Renew Canadian Distribution

NEW YORK—Republic Pictures Corp. and Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., have renewed their franchise agreement covering exclusive distribution of Republic product in Canada.

The renewed agreement marks the continuance of an association dating back to Republic's organization in 1935.

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

"Home Town" Bid for "Eddie"

COLUMBUS—A leather-bound volume of invitations from community leaders and organizations here has been presented to Hal Horne, 20th-Fox's director of publicity and advertising for the premiere of "Captain Eddie." Columbus is Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker's old home town.

Race Week at Chicago

CHICAGO—The film houses here had their own "Derby" last week with three race pictures—"Salty O'Rourke," "National Velvet" and "Thunderhead"—running simultaneously. In addition, nags were galloping in the flesh at Arlington.

Twin Theatres for Twin Bills

TORONTO—A new idea in double feature presentation is incorporated in plans for the construction of a companion theatre to Allen's Hollywood here. It will be erected with one entrance for both theatres. Patrons thus may see either of the features or both, as the main pictures will alternate in the two "wings" of the combined theatre.

May Circumvent ODT Ban

LINCOLN, NEB.—To circumvent ODT regulations banning regional and state fairs, the Nebraska state fair may be operated as the Lancaster County fair. County fairs are not banned, and the Lancaster County fair has operated here annually as part of state festival.

Radio Must Curtail Blurbs

WINNIPEG—In an address here E. L. Bushnell, director general of programs for the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., warned broadcasters their advertising announcements must be used much more subtly and in much smaller doses if that medium of advertising is to endure.

News Men in the News

TORONTO—The National Film Board has made a short of newspaper men at work in the rush of war and peace news. The shots were taken at the Canadian Press bureau here and in the newsroom of the Telegram, the Globe and Mail and the Star. Newsmen express the belief it will provide somewhat of a contrast to the "work" scenes in such films as "Gentlemen of the Press" and "Front Page."

Pyle Memorial Benefit

INDIANAPOLIS—The Ernie Pyle Memorial Fund will be the beneficiary in a special showing of "Here Is Your War" and "Brave Men" at the Loew's Theatre here July 6. Proceeds will be given to fund officials at the University of Indiana.

"Meanest Thief" Raids Club

BUFFALO — The "meanest thief" hereabout for many a day raided the Variety Club the other night and stole an undetermined amount of the club members' liquor, along with some inconsequential cash.

Slap at "Lurid" Ads

PITTSBURGH—In a word of warning to exhibitors, the Pittsburgh Press in an editorial entitled "Tip to the Movies" took a slap at lurid crime picture promotion stunts and "salacious promises" contained in some film advertisements. "What are the films advertising for—renewed attention from the Legion of Decency?" the editorial asked.

Legitimate Really Scores

PITTSBURGH—A banner season was enjoyed by the Nixon Theatre here, which presented 31 weeks of legitimate productions with only one week reported a loser. Several offerings established records. Capacity and record engagements were scored by "Winged Victory" for two weeks and "Oklahoma" for three.

Zoo Actors Go Into Action

ST. LOUIS—Denizens of the famous zoological gardens here again will be featured on the nation's screens this year. Cameramen for several companies have been here making newsreels and shorts of "dress rehearsals" of animal acts which will be featured in the zoo's 1945 season.

Seek New Theatre Permits

MINNEAPOLIS—Showmen here were speculating whether the new city council, elected this week, would change the previous policy against erection of additional theatres in this city. The council in the past has voted consistently against new theatre construction but numerous war veterans, eager to operate houses, have asked councilmanic members to let down the bars.

Favor Shorter Features

MINNEAPOLIS—Theatre men here are campaigning for shorter features. Patrons, they say, prefer a more balanced program with a feature and short subjects to a long feature which forces the shorts off the screen. And use of shorts with a long feature prevents sufficient boxoffice turnover, exhibitors contend.

It's a Pleasure to Please

NASHVILLE—As a plug for "It's a Pleasure" Dewey Moussin, manager of the Knickerbocker Theatre, persuaded Mayor Thomas L. Cummings to issue a Courtesy week proclamation calling upon citizens to resume their "custom of mutual dealings with an 'It's a Pleasure' attitude."

"It's a pleasure to do so," said the mayor in complying.

Town of 4,700 to Have 3,350 Seats—Maybe!

Maumee, Ohio—This town of 4,700 population promises to be the most overseated spot in the world. If present theatre plans materialize, there will be a theatre seat for every 1¼ persons living here.

Currently operating is the 250-seat Strand Theatre owned by Rufus Young. Last week, Jack O'Donnell, Toledo circuit owner, announced that he is back of a promotion to build an entertainment project in Maumee to include a 1,400-seat picture house. Young then countered O'Donnell's announcement with one of his own. His plans call for a 1,700-seat house.

So, if all these plans flourish into reality, the 4,700 population of Maumee will be provided with 3,350 seats.

EVE

Exhibitors are urged to watch the box-office

A VERY GRE

VICTORIA THEATRE,

G. C. F

DAVID

THE WAY

with Raymond Huntley · Billy

Foreword by Quentin Reynolds

Screen Play by Eric Ambler, Peter Ustinov

A Two

GREAT

"RIPPING DRAMA! FINE, STIRRING, MOVING!" —Liberty Magazine

"EAL! COMPELLING! VIVID! DAVID NIVEN IS SUPERB!" —Look Magazine

"XCITING! THE MOST EXCITING FILM I HAVE EVER SEEN!" —Adrienne Ames, Radio Commentator

"PICTURE THAT DOES IMPORTANT THINGS TO YOUR HEART!" —Louis Sobol, Famous Columnist

"HRILLING EXPERIENCE!" —Ted Husing

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

...WIT...

esults at the first engagement of

AT PICTURE!

New York City—NOW!

resents

NIVEN in

AHEAD

artnell Stanley Holloway

Directed by Carol Reed

oduced by Norman Walker, John Sutro

Cities Film



Released by 20th Century-Fox

30th ANNIVERSARY





AIDS PLANT RECRUITING—For three straight weeks the Telenews Theatre at Denver provided lobby space for displays and recruiting forces in cooperation with the USES in a drive for workers for war plants. In the first week the display was arranged by the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, as pictured in the lower photo, followed by the Cubusco Steel Co. and then by the Remington Arms Co. as shown at top. In return for the displays and space, the theatre received 100-word free announcements on all radio stations several times each day calling attention to the displays in the theatre and the auxiliary employment booths there.

TBA Asks Fast Action On Television Banding

NEW YORK—The Television Broadcasters Ass'n has presented to the FCC a request that it adopt at once for television alternative plan No. 1, which gives television 68 to 74 megacycles, 78 to 108 megacycles and 174 to 216 megacycles.

This action is a result of the announcement made May 17 by the FCC to the effect that it intended to defer assignment of television frequencies between 42 and 108 megacycles to permit further tests by engineers, including the commission's staff. The commission indicated that no assignment would be made for three months.

The TBA points out that cutbacks are now being made and the industry is now ready to turn back to civilian production. It says alternative plan No. 1 was selected because of its long range superiority for television, considering all factors. The association points out that it is ready to continue cooperation on tests.

English "Takes" Shrink, With Taxes on Increase

LONDON—"One does not have to be a fortune teller to say what is going to happen, if there is no alteration in the entertainment tax," according to Arthur Peel, prominent circuit owner. Urging exhibitor associations to bear in mind constantly the subject of entertainment tax and to seek concessions in any forthcoming budgets, he advised them to "keep on plodding to get the tax down."

At one theatre, Peel continued, he played a reissue, originally shown in 1941, and was astonished by the shrinkage in takings. In 1941 the picture had chalked up 10,151 paid admissions and contributed approximately $384 in entertainment tax to the government coffers. Less than four years later the same picture, at the identical house, played to 8,114 admissions and paid approximately $897 in entertainment tax.

The tax in 1941 was 25 per cent of the net takings and 20 per cent of the gross; whereas in 1945 it is 61 per cent of the net and 44 per cent of the gross. Thus, although there were 2,037 fewer admissions and $146 less in receipts, the entertainment tax payment increased $513, Peel pointed out.

20th-Fox to Release 23 Films to March, 1946

NEW YORK—Twentieth-Fox will release 23 features from June through next March, as follows:

June: "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Call of the Wild" and "Don Juan Quilligan"; July: "Nob Hill" and "Within These Walls"; August: "A Bell for Adano," "Wilson" and "Junior Miss"; September: "Captain Eddie" and "Caribbean Mystery"; October: "State Fair" and "Now It Can Be Told."

November: "The Dolly Sisters" and "Colonel Effingham's Raid"; December: "Dragonwyck" and "Fallen Angel"; January 1946: "Kitten on the Keys" and "American Guerilla"; February: "Enchanted Voyage" and "Cluny Brown"; March: "Leave Her to Heaven," "The Spider" and "The Way Ahead."

CBS Executive Returns

NEW YORK—Col. Lawrence M. Lowman, on leave of absence with the armed forces, returns to CBS on July 1 as vice-president in charge of television. Lowman will supervise all video activities including program production and operation under the direction of Worthington Miner, and engineering research and development under the direction of Dr. Peter L. Goldmark.

Nat'l Screen Policies Up at Three Sessions

NEW YORK—Home office executives and field sales executives of National Screen Service met at the Waldorf-Astoria Thursday, Friday and Saturday as a preliminary to regionals here and in Chicago.

The New York regional will be held June 11, 12 and 13 at the Waldorf-Astoria and the Chicago meeting is scheduled for June 15, 16 and 17.

Home office executives at the preliminary meeting included Herman Robbins, president; George F. Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales; William B. Brenner, vice-president in charge of operations; J. R. McPherson; M. L. Kaufman; J. A. Wolfe, comptroller; Jack Cohen and William Bein. Leo Abrams, New York; Bernard Wolf, Los Angeles; Louis Patz, Des Moines, and Charles Lester, Atlanta, also were present.

Administrative problems, operations and sales policies were topics for discussion.

Warner Bros. Set Dates In Summer for a Pair

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has scheduled "The Corn Is Green," starring Bette Davis, for release July 21. "Christmas in Connecticut," starring Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan and Sydney Greenstreet, has been set for August 11.

Film Panel Delegation Due at Science Session

NEW YORK—The employment problems in the entertainment industries—films, radio, theatre and music—and the opportunities for postwar expansion in these fields will be examined at a conference called by the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions for June 22 and 23 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

A special delegation from Hollywood, representing screen writers, actors and producers, will represent the film panel. The theatre panel will be addressed by Lillian Hellman and Margaret Webster; Gilbert Seldes and Peter Lyon will speak before the radio panel, while Dr. Roy Harris and William Feinberg will address the music panel.

Joe E. Brown First Civilian To Get Philippine Award

NEW YORK—The Philippine Service Ribbon was awarded Joe E. Brown, currently on his fourth overseas tour, by Gen. Douglas MacArthur at Manila recently "in appreciation for meritorious service and invaluable assistance to troops in the field."

The ceremony, with General MacArthur pinning the ribbon upon the star, marked the first time that a civilian has ever received the award.

A Role in "The Kansan" to Eddie Acuff

Eddie Acuff has been added to the cast of "The Kansan," a Columbia production.

Mexico Still Favoring Superimposed Titles

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—Mexican and American pictures, in English dialog with the usual superimposed Spanish subtitles, continue to be the favorite at all leading houses. We have not had any dubbed pictures for weeks.

Arturo de Cordova came back from Hollywood, probably to read the script of his next picture here. Reports from New York seem to make beautiful Maria Felix also one of the favorites, and Gotham has not seen some of her last pictures.

Films Mundiales, always ambitious, has plans for a picture starring our Dolores Del Rio with the Argentine star Hugo del Carril. It should be a knockout. Dolores' latest picture, "Las Abandonadas," now showing at the Chapultepec, after much official cutting, has been another success, not only on account of Dolores' art, but due credit must be given to Director Emilio Fernandez; the popular Pedro Armendariz, photographer, and others of the cast.

Juan Orol, an old-timer in producing, who has his ace card in cyclonic Maria Antonieta Pons, has in mind inviting Hedy Lamarr to star in the English production of his next picture, which of course will also be made in English with Maria Antonieta.

"La Luz Que Agoniza" ("Gaslight" to you) is the only dubbed picture which has survived and is now showing at a C house with good results.

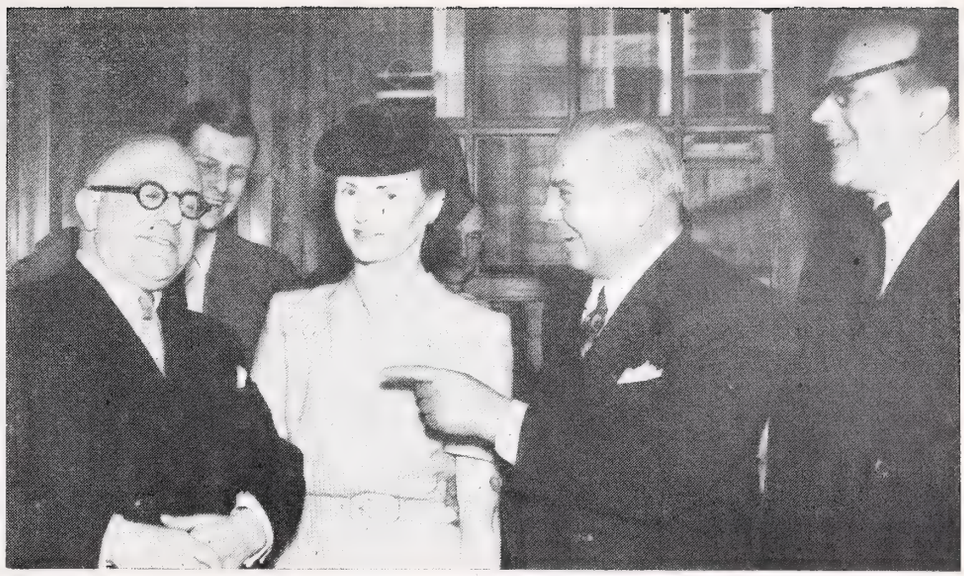
"Suspect" and "Together Again" at the Olimpia and Alameda respectively are drawing good crowds. "Suspect" is in its fourth week. Both pictures advertise strongly that you can hear the artists' own voices.

All studios are in full production, except Stahl's, which is now operated by the Rodriguez Brothers, who are getting ready for their next picture, to be directed by Brother Joselito of "Jalisco No Te Rajes" fame.

And "hasta luego"!

Last Two From 20th-Fox

NEW YORK—"Nob Hill" and "Within These Walls," final productions of the 1944-45 season, will be released by 20th-Fox during July, according to William J. Kupper, general sales manager.



LONDON SAYS FAREWELL—Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, was guest of honor at a farewell reception in London attended by film men and trade representatives. Shown here are: (l-r)—Ernest Fredman, K. N. Hargreaves, Norah Alexander, Skouras, and Francis Harley, managing director for 20th-Fox in England.

Solomon, Moved to N.Y., Is Succeeded by Kempner

ATLANTA—Emmanuel Solomon, formerly branch manager of Toddy Pictures Co., has been transferred and is now manager of the company's New York office. He will also be in charge of circuit accounts of the eastern territory for "The Bronze Venus," now being released there by Toddy Pictures Co.

Nat Kempner, well known in Georgia film circles, succeeds Solomon as manager of the local office.

New RKO Branch Heads

NEW YORK—Lou Elman, former RKO branch manager at Des Moines, will head the Milwaukee office, effective June 18. He succeeds the late Arthur Schmitz. With RKO since 1931, Elman will be replaced at the Iowa office by Seymour Borde, salesman in the Chicago exchange for the past six years.

"Wilson" a Hit With "Down Under" Solons

NEW YORK—Foreign department executives at 20th-Fox are jubilant over a telegram just received from Australia about a showing of "Wilson" before both houses of the Australian Parliament, Prime Minister Curtin and various diplomats.

Prime Minister Curtin's secretary wrote: "I am directed by the prime minister to thank you and your company for making available a copy of the motion picture 'Wilson,' which was screened this morning for senators and members of the house of representatives of the Commonwealth parliament, members of the diplomatic corps and the Dominion high commissioners.

"I can assure you that his film was more than well received by all present and was a valuable contribution to the knowledge of the members of the parliament on such an important subject as the film covers."



AT MONOGRAM PARTY—W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, was host at a party given for franchise holders, exhibitors and the press. Shown here (l-r): Al Rosen, producer of the stage plays, "Good Night Ladies" and "School for Brides"; Lieutenant Rosen, brother of Al; Howard Stubbins, Monogram Los Angeles franchise holder; James M. Jerauld, editor of BOXOFFICE; Madeleine White, eastern publicity director for Monogram; Mel Hulling, Monogram San Francisco franchise holder; Julian Rifkin, brother of Herman Rifkin, New England franchise holder.

"Best Film Plays '43-44" Published in Book Form

NEW YORK—"Best Film Plays, 1943-44," first of an annual series to be compiled by John Gassner and Dudley Nichols, has been brought out by Crown Publishers. In addition to introductions by Gassner and Nichols, the book contains a preface by Darryl F. Zanuck and a survey by Walter Wanger.

Illustrated with stills from the respective pictures are presented complete screenplays of the following films: "Going My Way," "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," "Wilson," "The Purple Heart," "Watch on the Rhine," "Dragon Seed," "The More the Merrier," "The Ox-Bow Incident," "Hail the Conquering Hero" and "Casablanca."

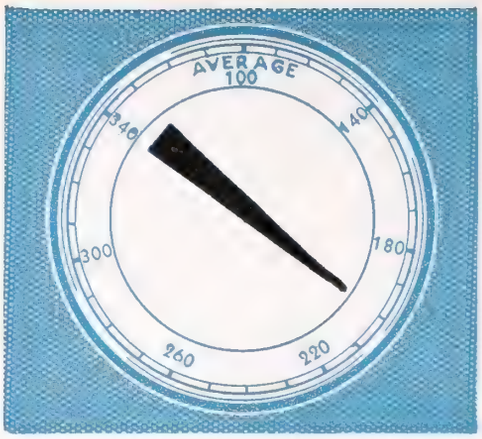
PRC Plans Documentary

NEW YORK—Since purchasing the motion picture rights to See magazine, PRC is planning to film a documentary short based on See's contest, "What Shall Be Done With Germany?" in the form of a round-table discussion by some of the delegates to the San Francisco conference.

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Salty O'Rourke—

Omaha 200
Kansas City 140
San Francisco 140

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Affairs of Susan, The (Para)	145	117		130	130		190	100	130		150	179	100	160	100	150	175	185			130		142
Betrayal From the East (RKO)	125	154		80		125							95	100	85	130					115	100	111
Between Two Women (MGM)	135		115		90	135	170	100		100				165	103	145	125	200	100		130	175	133
Brewster's Millions (UA)	130		110	125								100					105				150	140	123
Bring On the Girls (Para)	135	159	115	120	90	130	195	90	120	100	150	123	130	150	105	155	130	190			130		132
Bullfighters, The (20-Fox)	100						100	90		100	100	100	100	100		115	100						101
Counter-Attack (Col)		187		90				75	100			100				185	95		90		150		119
Crime Doctor's Courage (Col)	100		90		90		100	100	100			100	90	100	93	70	100		65		100	100	93
Diamond Horseshoe (20-Fox)	145	200	115	160	100		193				165	200	100	140	120	195	125	200				150	153
Dillinger (Mono)		160		180		150		120	150					175		290	115		140		250		173
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160			90	135			140	150	100	150	130	195	120	190				130	142
Escape in the Fog (Col)							100		100		100	100	100										100
Escape in the Desert (WB)				100	77										80	175			50				96
Flame of the Barbary Coast (Rep)			115		100		163								110		125	180			140		133
Forever Yours (Mono)			110									100	110		135			175			100		122
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180		120	120	160	150	100	150	110	205		215	110		140	175	147
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115	105	95	90		175	100	100		120	107	95	125	97	105	125		75		125	100	109
Hitchhike to Happiness (Rep)	100											100	100	100	100								100
Honeymoon Ahead (Univ)	125		100									100	100		85		100						102
House of Fear, The (Univ)	130	105	100	100	100				120	100			110	100	100	95	100	160	100		100	100	108
I'll Remember April (Univ)	100		100		115		100	95	90	100	90		100									100	99
It's in the Bag (UA)				70	80		97							90							160	125	104
Man in Half Moon Street (Para)	100	100		100				100	100	100		100	100	120	100	125	95	180		100	100	110	108
Molly and Me (20-Fox)	100			90			100	90	95	80		100	100		80		90	145	60		100		95
Nothing But Trouble (MGM)		82		90		110	100	85	100			100	100	90		80	100	135	100		100		98
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100	80	105			90			100		100	150	85		100	135			165		110
Picture of Dorian Gray, The (MGM)				110	125					120	98	143			125	155							125
Power of the Whistler (Col)	100						100					100	100	100	90								98
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)	150	100		90	50		160		130	80	97	150	105	115		120		180	125		130		119
Salome—Where She Danced (Univ)		222	110						125					90	120	165			100		125		132
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130			160	105		200	95		115	140	175		150	140	195	200	220			140		155
Sudan (Univ)	125	145	110	80	55		150		145	105	102	108	100	100	100	185	95		90		115	180	116
Tarzan and the Amazons (RKO)	110			120	117			90			120	100			100		105						108
This Man's Navy (MGM)	125	103	110	105	80			95	100	120	87	112	100	125	105		120	175			140		113
Thunderhead, Son of Flicka (20-Fox)	130	106	115	115	80	150	195	105	140	140	123	150	100	175	105	150	135	150	150		140	180	135
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110			140		110	90	98	107	95	80	109			155			110	140	115
Under Western Skies (Univ)		100	105			120	100		130	100		100			78		100						104
Unseen, The (Para)	135	150		100	120								100		90			180	120			100	122
Utah (Rep)						100			145	150	120			100	97		100		125		100		115
Without Love (MGM)	150		110	220					120		130	133		140		150		170			140		146
Zombies on Broadway (RKO)	115			80			100	75	100					90		75	95						91

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Beautiful But Broke (Col)—Joan Davis, John Hubbard, Jane Frazee, Bob Haymes. Very good comedy that is good enough for the weekend although many were out seeding, so we could not expect a large attendance and did not do so well—no fault of the picture. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Carolina Blues (Col)—Ann Miller, Victor Moore, Jeff Donnell, Georgia Carroll, Kay Kyser & Orch. A nice musical but Kyser is no draw for the theatres. Played Fri., Sat.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Carolina Blues (Col)—Ann Miller, Victor Moore, Jeff Donnell, Georgia Carroll. This drew well doubled with an old Ken Maynard. Many came back the second night—but they should, after the worst flood since 1943. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Barney T. Holt, State, Porter, Okla. Town and rural patronage.

Sagebrush Heroes (Col)—Charles Starrett, Dub Taylor, Constance Worth, Elvin Field. Very good "horse opry" for the last of the week.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

MONOGRAM

Ghost Guns (Mono)—Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatten, Evelyn Finley. Brown has always been very popular in this neck of the woods.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

Lady, Let's Dance (Mono)—Belita, James Ellison. A little old but I believe it is still worth playing. Average business but if people only knew what we know about Belita! She's a sweetheart on ice or in the ballroom—and she can act rings around Sonja Henie. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Double Exposure (Para)—Chester Morris, Nancy Kelly, Phillip Terry, Jane Farrar. A pretty good double feature programmer that our patrons seemed to like enough that no comment was made. It fits in well with a western and won't run you too long for the program.—Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Great Moment, The (Para)—Joel McCrea, Betty Field, Harry Carey, William Demarest. Liked by only the more educated class—too deep for most of my customers and not a draw for this locality. However, we must learn what to get. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Here Come the WAVES (Para)—Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, Ann Doran. A very nice picture that did average business. Everyone pleased with this. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

PRC PICTURES

I Accuse My Parents (PRC)—Mary Beth Hughes, Robert Lowell, John Miljan, Vivienne Osborne. This is a very timely picture and should do well on a single bill.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

My Pal Wolf (RKO)—Sharyn Moffett, Jill Esmond, Una O'Connor, George Cleveland. Not much to be said about it as a production but here is solid proof that the little people will spend their dollars at the boxoffice for a little story about little people, their children, and little doings. Give me more like this at RKO's live and let live policy and I'll get by. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Sat., good; Sun., very wet.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (RKO)—Disney cartoon reissue. Just for kids—adults wouldn't come. No draw here and I still was right but a salesman talked me into showing it, citing business it did in other localities. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Tall in the Saddle (RKO)—John Wayne, Ella Raines, Ward Bond, George "Gabby" Hayes. Since John Wayne's rise to stardom I have failed to see him in a picture not worthy of the best playing time. This is no exception. In fact, it's tops in boxoffice and entertainment. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Daredevils of the West (Rep—Serial)—Action plus—not much story or continuity but for suspense and realistic action, this serial can't be topped. It will take Republic years to accumulate enough furniture to make another like this at the rate it is being broken up. I hope they had enough to finish the remaining chapters. I have played four to date and they brought my Saturdays out of the red. I have high hopes for the future—I play a chapter every Saturday.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Great Stagecoach Robbery, The (Rep)—Wild Bill Elliott, Bobby Blake, Alice Fleming. When it comes to real old-time westerns, I think this is tops.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

Lake Placid Serenade (Rep)—Vera Hruba Ralston, Eugene Pallette, Vera Vague, Robert Livingston. Doubled this with "Sing, Neighbor, Sing" (Rep) which pleased more than the first one. Republic should continue with their program pictures and their wonderful westerns. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

SCREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS

Wildfire (SGP)—Bob Steele, William Farnum, Frances Ford. This is the first western I've ever run in color and it's very good. This is not Technicolor, it's Cinecolor. I think it is strong enough to feature on a double bill.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Fighting Lady, The (20th-Fox)—Documentary. Double billed this with "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" (20th-Fox). A good low allocation picture at a high allocation price. Fox sold the territory on these two as a unit—I guess so we couldn't kick at the price of the latter. Tremendous business. Played Thurs., Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

Sullivans, The (20th-Fox)—Anne Baxter, Trudy Marshall, Thomas Mitchell. Extra good and I have never seen customers leave the theatre so well pleased—best draw in months. Although I showed it late, it did what I expected. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Wing and a Prayer (20th-Fox)—Don Ameche, Charles Bickford, Dana Andrews, William Eythe. A most likely picture, with a good title. People turned out and the exhibitor was happy. Played Mon., Tues.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. General patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Climax, The (Univ)—Boris Karloff, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Gale Sondergaard. Why does Universal go so strongly on the horror type of picture? This is one of their best, however. The poor title kept people away. Fortunately, they reduced the allocation on this. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Austin C. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

In Society (Univ)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Arthur Treacher. They all wanted to know when they could see another one. Very good—kept them in laughs from start to finish. No story but that is not what I go by. My bread and butter is at the boxoffice. Therefore I will play one any time. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Barney T. Holt, State, Porter, Okla. Small town and rural patronage.

Moonlight and Cactus (Univ)—Andrews Sisters, Leo Carrillo, Elyse Knox. A western that was different but didn't seem to create much of a desire on the part of some patrons to see it. Anyway, we didn't do our average business and we don't need very much to do business on the weekend. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

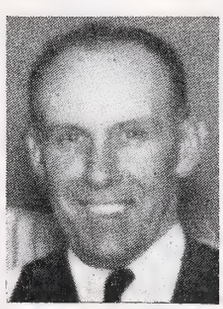
WARNER BROS.

Arsenic and Old Lace (WB)—Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane, Raymond Massey, Jack Carson. It may have been a great stage play but when you get more walkouts than you have had for ages, something must be wrong. I thought it okay but my audience didn't. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

Doughgirls, The (WB)—Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson, Jane Wyman. This didn't go over and the second night was worse than the first. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Grand Rapids Showman Takes Bad With Good

It was in 1930 that Emmett Goodrich of the Savoy Theatre, Grand Rapids, Mich., entered the film business. And he says that although there have been good times and bad times during those 15 years as an exhibitor, the hundreds of pictures shown have brought him financial success and joy and happiness to his patrons.



EMMETT GOODRICH

Goodrich is married and the father of three children, Mary two, Thomas three and Robert four—seemingly the stork just makes an annual stop at the Goodrichs.

This exhibitor is a member of the Variety Club and of the Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, and also of the Knights of Columbus and of the American Legion. The Savoy, which seats 1,000, is located at 80 Market St. in Grand Rapids and the family home at 826 Gladstone Ave.



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Congress Library Makes Annual Film Selections

WASHINGTON—Of the 421 features, 422 shorts and 520 newsreels released between May 1, 1944, and Apr. 30, 1945, the Library of Congress finds worthy of inclusion in its permanent collection 45 features, 48 shorts and 104 newsreels. Although seven of the features were chosen on a basis of outstanding performance by their casts, most of the films in this class were selected because they represent "a cross-section of the year's releases, exhibiting characteristic trends, themes, attitudes and types" or by reason of the presentation of actual events, people and places.

Dr. Luther H. Evans, acting librarian in Congress, emphasized that the reviewers—Barbara Deming, Liane Richter, Norbert Lusk and Philip Hartung—had not been commissioned to select from an aesthetic standpoint the "best" films of the year. On the contrary, the library's chief purpose is to preserve those films most faithfully recording in one way or another the contemporary life and tastes and preferences of the American people. This explains the higher percentage of news films selected, as well as the emphasis upon films of documentary importance. For the same reason there are included, without regard to intrinsic value but as reflections of the public interest, certain films which have grossed large boxoffice receipts or have won prizes. Others will be preserved primarily because of their concern with current social problems, or because they throw light upon present intellectual preoccupations.

Relies Upon Private Grant

Only a fraction of motion picture production can be retained for the permanent collections of the Library of Congress, Evans continued, because of its lack of adequate storage facilities. If practicable, the library would be as comprehensive in the acquisition of motion pictures as it now is in the acquisition of books, since under the terms of the copyright act it is entitled to two copies of every film registered, as well as of every book. Prior to 1942 the library was unable to preserve nitrate films because of the special storage facilities required by their inflammable composition. Even the recent highly selective policy has been possible only because of a private grant. This grant, from the Rockefeller Foundation, made in 1942 for a three-year period, expired on April 30 of this year. Despite the lapse of the project, the acquisition of motion pictures will be continued by the library.

Seven films selected as representative of outstanding performances were: "National Velvet," "Going My Way," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "Wilson," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "None But the Lonely Heart." Although the last-named was nominated by the National Board of Review as the best drama of 1944, and although the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences gave to Ethel Barrymore its award for the best performance by a supporting actress, the library's reviewers point out it was at the same time "the year's most distinguished and dignified failure at the boxoffice." "Meet Me in St. Louis," an example of the lavish musical in Technicolor, was outstanding also because of the performance of Margaret O'Brien, receiver of the Academy's special award as the outstanding child actress of the year.

Praises Newsreel Cameramen

The library's reviewers pay high tribute to the "expert workmanship and unsurpassed courage" of frontline cameramen for their important contribution to the authentic record of the war. Coverage of the battlefronts has been, of course, the principal subject of newsreel coverage for several years, and because the five newsreel companies have drawn from a common pool of pictures taken by the army, navy, coast guard, marine, Allied and newsreel cameramen, the percentage of visual matter selected for preservation is much higher than that of the actual number of newsreels chosen, Evans continued.

In selecting 45 features and 48 shorts from the 843 films reviewed in these classes, the selectors were guided by the following canons of selection: (a) films presenting actual events, people, places; (b) films, through art, accurately representing some aspect of reality; (c) films falling in neither of these categories but dealing with problems of outstanding significance or arousing special comment or controversy; (d) films grossing unusually large boxoffice receipts or winning prizes; (e) a cross section of the year's releases exhibiting characteristic trends, themes, attitudes and types; (f) films containing outstanding performances, and (g) films marking outstanding technical innovations.

"Wilson" Heads Feature List

Topping the list of features is "Wilson," recommended under four canons. Tied for second place are "An American Romance," "Going My Way," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Negro Soldier," "None But the Lonely Heart," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "War Comes to America, Part I," each recommended under three canons. Features recommended under two canons are "The Battle of Britain," "The Battle of China," "The Fighting Lady," "Heavenly Days," "The Hitler Gang," "I'll Be Seeing You," "National Velvet," "Since You Went Away," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" and "Two Girls and a Sailor."

Recommended under one canon each are "And the Angels Sing," "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Attack!," "The Battle of San Pietro," "Colonel Blimp," "Dangerous Journey," "Double Indemnity," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Forty-Eight Hours," "Hail the Conquering Hero," "Hymn of the Nations," "Main Street After Dark," "Man From Frisco," "The Man Who Walked Alone," "Murder, My Sweet," "Nothing But Trouble," "The Princess and the Pirate," "Reckless Age," "Salute to France," "The Seventh Cross," "Tall in the Saddle," "The Three Caballeros," "Thunder Rock," "Tomorrow, the World," "Welcome to Britain," "Western Approaches" and "Yellow Rose of Texas."

Among the shorts, two—"The Valley of the Tennessee" and "Watchtower Over Tomorrow"—lead with recommendations under three canons. Next on the list are "All-Star Bond Rally," "Americans All," "British Imperialism," "Conga," "The Disillusioned Bluebird," "The Enemy Strikes," "The Grain That Built a Hemisphere," "Grandpa Called It Art," "Inside France," "It Happened in Springfield," "Jammin' the Blues," "Mouse Trouble," "Pledge to Bataan," "Report on Italy," "Return to Guam," "The Swooner Crooner," "Weapons of War" and "Who's Who in Animal Land," each recommended under two canons.

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ATS Inducts Officers, Presents 15 Awards

NEW YORK—The American Television Society presented 15 awards for outstanding work in video during the last year at the June 14 meeting, following the induction of the organization's recently-elected officers.

Recipients of the awards, selected by editors of television periodicals, were: Station WNBT for outstanding production; WCBW for outstanding news program; WRGB for outstanding contribution to children's programming; WCBW for best educational program; WNBT for most consistent sports programming; Ruthrauf & Ryan, Inc., for most consistent effort in developing effective television commercials; Paul Alley of WNBT for outstanding editing of news films; WPTZ for developing football television technique; WRGB for best institutional video commercial; Klaus Landsberg of W6XYZ for consistent technical excellence in television productions; Paul Mowrey, director of television for American Broadcasting Co., for outstanding work in preparing the ABC for television; WBKB for preparing the midwest for commercial television; W6XAO for making video facilities available for commercial development on the west coast, and WABD for the development of video commercially.

Retiring President Honored

An ATS service award was presented to Dan D. Halpin, retiring president, by George Shupert, new president. Besides Shupert, the following new officials were inducted: David Hale Halperin, vice-president; Don McClure, treasurer, and Alice Pentlarge, secretary. Members of the board of directors taking office were: Prof. Edward C. Cole, John Flory, Dan D. Halpin, Theodore Huston, Charles H. Kleinman, Evelyn Peirce and Herbert E. Taylor.

During the last year membership in the ATS increased from less than 100 to approximately 300, it was reported.

United Artists Re-Elect All Company Officers

NEW YORK—All officers of United Artists Corp. were re-elected at an annual meeting of the company directors held June 5.

Edward C. Raftery was re-elected president, and Gradwell L. Sears, who attended the meeting, will continue as vice-president in charge of distribution. George L. Bagnall was re-elected vice-president in charge of production.

Additional officers to be re-elected included Harry J. Muller, treasurer; Loyd Wright, secretary; Charles E. Millikan, Paul D. O'Brien, Harry D. Buckley and Harry J. Muller, assistant secretaries. Herbert A. Weimer will again serve as assistant treasurer.

Edward C. Raftery, Franklin Cole, Isaac A. Pennypacker, Neil F. Agnew, Milton A. Kramer, Phillip F. Siff, Sydney Chaplin, E. Claude Mills and Rex Dennant were elected directors for the ensuing year at a stockholders meeting held before the directors meeting.

Directors for New Export Corporation Are Named

NEW YORK—Directors for the new motion picture export corporation, charter for which was filed at Dover early in the week were elected Thursday as follows:

Columbia, Joseph A. McConville; 20th-Fox, Murray Silverstone; Loew's, Maj. Arthur M. Loew; Paramount, George Weltner; RKO, Phil Reisman; Universal, Joseph H. Seidelman; Warners, Sam Schneider.

One more director is to be elected from the independents.

Army's Burning of Film "Tempest in a Teapot"

WASHINGTON — The much-talked-about film burning ascribed to the U.S. army, which has caused considerable controversy, turns out to be a "tempest in a teapot." The army admits it has disposed of such film, but insists that its action was correct in every detail and that failure of the film industry to respond to its calls for salvage bids made it necessary in the fall of 1944 to dispose of obsolete and unserviceable footage by burning.

For a ten-week period prior to November, 1944, the army burned some 225 tons of film. Most of this film was on an acetate base and various commercial film companies, such as Eastman Kodak and DuPont, turned down requests for bids in the hope that there may be salvage value in the film. Inasmuch as this film represented an accumulation of about two years of product that, according to army standards, no longer was usable, it was decided to dispose of it by burning.

Early in November of 1944, the army reclamation service, in experimenting with possible salvage use of the film, discovered that the acetate base might be used in plastic work and a reclamation plant was started at Fort Totten, L. I., to work out the commercial practicability of the film that may be declared unusuable by the army. Since that time all such film has been shunted to Fort Totten, where it is stored under water in old ammunition caves. Its ultimate disposal will depend to a great degree upon the continued experiments of the army reclamation service, and bids received from commercial companies based upon such experiments.

"At no time have prints valuable to civilian economy been destroyed," said Lieut. Col. George Muchnic, executive officer of the Army Pictorial Services. "The film destroyed in the past has been unserviceable prints and so-called surplus training films declared obsolete. Such pictures describing the use of 155mm guns for example, are of no value to the public and were destroyed.

"I must emphasize that all negatives and dupes are being kept for record purposes.

"Insofar as the stories concerning our refusal to permit other government agencies to use this film are concerned, those tales are not quite correct. We had received such requests, especially from the Office of Education, but inasmuch as some of these pictures were turned over to us subject to various conditions, we were not free to dispose of them to other agencies at that time."

Floodlights Brighten 'Wonder Man' Bow

NEW YORK—Some 60,000 watts of light flooded the marquee of the Astor Theatre for the opening Friday night of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Wonder Man." A special marquee was constructed for the engagement. It was the first brilliantly-lighted opening since the war.

Among the officials invited were Borough Presidents Nathan, Cashmore, Burke and Lyons. Members of the Brooklyn Dodgers, headed by Leo Durocher, were also guests, since Brooklyn is the locale of the film.

Eddie Cantor, RKO producer, headed a delegation of comedians who came to pay tribute to Danny Kaye, star of the film. These included Milton Berle, Bert Lahr, Ed Wynn, Peter Donald, Willie Howard, Ole Olson, Chic Johnson, Jimmy Savo, Zero Mostel, Guy Kibbee, Jerry Lester and Jackie Gleason.

Guests of Bruce Humberstone, director of "The Wonder Man," included Mrs. Sam Wood, Commander and Mrs. Phil Berg, Col. and Mrs. Paul Zuckerman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kreindler and Frank B. Humberstone, father of the director.

Schaefer Is Honor Guest At Associates Dinner

NEW YORK—More than 800 industry representatives attended the 26th annual dinner-dance of Motion Picture Associates at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel to honor George J. Schaefer, national chairman of WAC and chairman of the board of Lester Cowan Productions. Schaefer received a plaque, the first of a series of such awards to be made yearly to a person selected by the members, for his distinguished service in the industry.

Proceeds from the affair went to the Motion Picture Associates' charity fund. A station wagon was donated to the American Red Cross.



"SEVENS" EXPLAIN IT—Eddie Cantor and his vocalist, Nora Martin, reach New York for three weeks of broadcasts and some concentrated work on the Seventh War Loan before returning to the coast to start RKO's "Show Business Out West."

Irvin Shapiro Is Elected Head of New Film Group

NEW YORK—Irvin Shapiro has been elected president of United Screen Attractions, newly-formed national distribution company with home office at 1600 Broadway, and key branches planned in more than 20 exchange centers. The organization will release 30 new pictures as well as reissues.

In founding the new distributing company, the board of directors purchased all the capital stock of the former United Screen Attractions. The board also confirmed a distribution deal concluded by George A. Hirliman, president of International Theatrical & Television Corp. and Shapiro, whereby United Screen Attractions will distribute internationally all 35mm product controlled by IT&T.

BROADWAY

Col. **Nathan Levinson,** Warner Bros. studio head of sound recording and engineering, has returned to the coast . . . Jay Emanuel, independent circuit head, is chairman of the Philadelphia Sponsors Committee to help raise a $5,000,000 endowment for the expansion of Yeshiva College, New York, to university status.

Lieut. William Demille, former Paramount Film Service booker in Toronto, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

R. N. Savini, Astor Pictures president, visited New Orleans en route to Fort Worth and Dallas . . . Mrs. Helen Hall Rathvon, wife of RKO's president, is in Hawaii serving as a Red Cross club supervisor.

Harry H. Thomas, vice-president and general sales manager for PRC, is on a three-week business trip to the Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago and western exchanges.

Leonard Sillman, producer of Republic's "An Angel Comes to Brooklyn," arrived from the coast to look for scripts. He is stopping at the Hotel Pierre.

Bruce Humberstone, director of RKO's "Wonder Man," arrived from Hollywood to attend the world premiere of the film at the Astor upon the termination of the engagement of "The Enchanted Cottage" (RKO).

Mildred Lewis, who has been with the M-G-M publicity department for the past 19 years, has resigned. Marjorie Wright, formerly associated with Frank Whitbeck's office at the company's studios, succeeds her in the post of secretary to Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising, publicity and exploitation.

Edwin W. Aaron, M-G-M circuit sales head, left for coast conferences with George A. Hickey, coast supervisor, and Eddie Zabel, film buyer for Fox West Coast. He will be gone several weeks, with a number of stop-overs scheduled for his return trip.

William Fadiman, M-G-M studio story editor, is here from Hollywood, looking over the current theatrical field . . . Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., has arrived at the coast.

Jack Kirsch, head of Allied Theatres of Illinois, is registered at the Warwick Hotel.

Rodney Bush, 20th-Fox exploitation manager, was in Des Moines for discussions with Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatres, and others of the circuit officials on the forthcoming world premiere of the Hammerstein-Rodgers Technicolor musical, "State Fair." On his return to the home office Bush began work on national plans for exploitation of the film.

Bob Lynch, M-G-M district manager in Philadelphia, and Lou Formata, branch manager in that city, attended a two-day meeting with home office executives.

Trem Carr, Monogram executive director, returned to his coast office after attending the company's semiannual board of directors' meeting in Chicago.

Richard Mealand, head of Paramount's story department, arrived from Hollywood. This business trip marks Mealand's first visit since last November when he assumed the post of story chief at the studio.

Roland Reed, RKO-Pathe producer, arrived from Culver City, and is a guest at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Steve Broidy, Monogram's vice-president and general sales manager; George D. Burrows, vice-president and treasurer, and Maurice and Franklin King, producers, are back at the Hollywood offices.

Pfc. Eli Gottlieb, former WAC office boy, the holder of the Purple Heart and other decorations, was a visitor at the committee's headquarters.

Sonya Levien, M-G-M script writer, has arrived from Beverly Hills and is stopping at the Waldorf-Astoria . . . Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager for Warner Bros., is serving on the grand jury.

Robert A. Kreier, 20th-Fox International Corp. continental European manager, visited Stockholm, Sweden, en route to Paris, where he is making his headquarters.

Sol Lesser, producer, and Col. William H. Keighley, director, recently discharged from the army, stopped off here from Hollywood before leaving for Paris, where Lesser will begin arrangements for the production of "Paris Canteen," which will be released through UA.

Joseph Pincus, head of the 20th-Fox talent department under Vice-President Joseph H. Moskowitz, is on the coast conferring with Moskowitz and studio officials.

Jerry Dale, publicity representative for Benedict Bogeaus, arrived from the coast with a print of "Captain Kidd." Dale conferred with Barry Buchanan, UA director of advertising and publicity, on the forthcoming campaign for the film.

Martin Starr, UA director of exploitation, left for Cincinnati to arrange for the midwestern premiere of "Blood on the Sun," a William Cagney production.

Heinz Roemheld of the Warner Bros. studio music department, left for London on leave of absence to fulfill an assignment with the Office of Policy and Control for occupied Germany. His duties will embrace coordination of press, film, radio and other cultural fields.

Warrant Officer Ben Washer, who served as public relations officer and general manager of "This Is the Army," has been honorably discharged.

Leo Samuels, Walt Disney Productions foreign manager, has returned from a ten-week Central and South American tour, which included a visit to the company's coast studios.

E. C. Grainger, president and general manager of Shea's circuit, is on a ten-day trip through the circuit in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

T/5 Stuart H. Aarons, formerly of Warner Bros.' legal staff, has been awarded a Bronze Medal for meritorious achievement in the Philippines action.

George Brown, director of publicity at the Paramount studio, and Mrs. Brown, are expected from Hollywood June 16.



25TH ANNIVERSARY—Paramount associates of Charles M. Reagan gave a luncheon in his honor at the 21 Club in observance of his completion of a quarter century of service with the company. Left to right—Oscar Morgan, C. J. "Pat" Scollard, William Erbb, Robert M. Gillham, Reagan, Hugh Owen and C. B. J. Frawley.

Two of Leo's Pictures Have Set Some Records

NEW YORK—Two M-G-M films, "Valley of Decision" and "Thrill of a Romance," set several records during current engagements at the Music Hall and Capitol respectively.

"Decision" scored the best fourth-week gross of any Metro picture at the Music Hall. The combined four weeks' gross was the highest attained by any Metro attraction. Each week's gross was higher than the preceding week up to and including the fourth.

"Romance" just missed breaking the house record at the Capitol, but it did set a new high for any Metro film to have played there.

Industry Group to Scan Future Growth of Films

NEW YORK—The future of motion pictures in the postwar world will be discussed by a panel of Hollywood screen writers, actors and producers on June 23 at the Conference of Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Postwar World.

The conference will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel under the auspices of the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

United Files Appeal

NEW YORK—Notice of appeal has been filed by United Enterprises, Inc., on behalf of its Criterion Theatre, Bar Harbor, Maine, following the recent decision of an arbitrator in the clearance case filed by Hollis Reed, operator of the Neptune Theatre, McKinley, Maine. United was an intervenor.

Ginny Simms to Costar in "Alibi"

Ginny Simms has been ticketed to costar with Charles Coburn and Robert Paige in "Alibi in Ermine." Susanna Foster, originally scheduled for this role, will return to the cast of "Once Upon a Dream," also on the Universal roster.

'Decision' Tops Week's Takes in Fifth Week

NEW YORK—"Valley of Decision," in its fifth week at the Music Hall, was the best business-getter at the first runs. It had a good margin over the runnersup, "Thrill of a Romance," at the Capitol, and "Pillow to Post," at the Strand. Rainy weather and many holdovers affected grosses.

New openings included "Where Do We Go From Here?" at the Roxy; "Son of Lassie," Criterion, and "Wonder Man," Astor.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 6th wk.....130
Capitol—**Thrill of a Romance** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 150
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 10th wk.....105
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO), 2nd wk.....120
Paramount—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), plus stage show, 6th wk. 115
Radio City Music Hall—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 5th wk.....165
Rialto—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO), 2nd wk.....115
Rivoli—**A Medal for Benny** (Para), 2nd wk.....130
Roxy—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 5th wk. 125
Strand—**Pillow to Post** (WB), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 140
Victoria—**The Way Ahead** (20th-Fox).....110

"Without Love" Scores Heavily in Buffalo

BUFFALO — "Without Love" was the big leader here with better than twice average at the Great Lakes. "Between Two Women" and "Gentle Annie" were destined for a moveover after a good first week at the Buffalo. "A Royal Scandal" and "The Bullfighters" held to average in a moveover week at the Hippodrome. "Flame of Barbary Coast" and "The Big Show-Off" at the Century and "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven," two reissues, at the Lafayette, were fair. The weather has been cold and rainy and Filmrow is beginning to wonder if Buffalo is really going to have a summer, or even a spring.

Buffalo—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M) 126
Great Lakes—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....227
Hippodrome—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover..100
20th Century—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **The Big Show-Off** (Rep) 100
Lafayette—**Imitation of Life** (Univ); **East Side of Heaven** (Univ), reissues 106

"Pillow to Post" and "Caballeros" Set the Pace in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA—"Three Caballeros" and "Pillow to Post" lead the boxoffice parade here. A couple of holdovers kept a steady pace, but the rest were not spectacular.

Aldine—**Three Caballeros** (RKO).....185
Arcadia—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd run.....165
Boyd—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....170
Earle—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), plus stage show 90
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk.....150
Karlton—**Call of the Wild** (20th-Fox), reissue.....165
Keith's—**The Uninvited** (Univ), 2nd run.....110
Mastbaum—**Pillow to Post** (WB).....185
Stanley—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd wk.....175
Stanton—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep), 2nd wk. 155

Florida Circuit Court Upholds Ascap Verdict

NEW YORK—Judge W. May Walker of the Florida circuit court has upheld the report by Special Master James Messer jr. of the state of Florida in favor of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Ascap was one of three original defendants in a suit brought by Florida Attorney General J. Tom Watson, charging infringement of the Florida statute.

"The defendant, Ascap, is not a price-fixing combination, and is not prohibited from doing business in Florida," Judge Walker decided, adding "Ascap has legally complied with the Florida statutes, and is legally doing business in the state."

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

THE INDEPENDENT Theatres Service, Inc., now buying and booking for 54 New Jersey houses, found its former offices at 303 West 42nd St. inadequate and has moved to larger quarters in the Herald-Tribune Bldg., 230 West 41st St. The new quarters are approximately three times the size of the former offices, according to Al Suchman, chief film buyer.

The newest theatre to join its group is the Strand, Newark. Lucian Feldman is president of the operating company.

More than 65 Timberdoodlers, a group composed of guests who have visited Fred J. Schwartz's hunting lodge, Timberdoodle, at Lake Placid, N. Y. during recent years, staged a farewell party for Schwartz at the Waldorf-Astoria. Schwartz is expected to leave soon on an OWI assignment in Germany. He is vice-president of Century circuit.

Ed Freiberger, president of Timberdoodlers, presided. Schwartz was presented a going-away gift. Century employes have been rewarded with a trip to the lodge for outstanding work.

THEATRE NOTES: The Boro Hall, Brooklyn, is now booking through the Brandt office . . . Sam Stiefel is handling bookings for the Rivoli, Hoboken . . . Prudential and Island circuits have closed deals for Paramount's 1944-45 product.

Irving Rothenberg, salesman at the New York exchange, headed the list of salesmen for the seventh week of Warner Bros. sales drive . . . Bernie Brooks, film buyer for the Fabian circuit, is a benedict. His bride is Ruth Siegel.

Ralph Pielow, manager of the M-G-M exchange, got the thrill of a lifetime when his son, wounded in action in Europe last December, telephoned him from Charleston, S. C. This was the first information that Pielow had of his son's arrival in this country. Pielow jr. said that he expected to be transferred to a hospital closer to New York within a short time.

Tom Farrell, former M-G-M salesman now with the OWI, cabled his arrival in London . . . Louis Allerhand, hitting his stride, broke 100 for 18 holes while playing recently at the Engineers Club, Long Island . . . Edward Richter's son, Michael, is convalescing from a minor operation at his home.

The New York Bookers' Club will hold an informal party and dance at the Hotel Taft, June 25. At the fete, a drawing will be held to select the winners of $500 in bonds. Proceeds of the drawing are to be donated to the service men's fund . . . Capt. Bob Saunders, former Metro Cincinnati booker, visited old friends. He recently completed a training film for the AAF, with which he is serving.

Exhibitor Tom Wisner of the Oakland Theatre, Warwick, N. Y., was a visitor . . . Danny Ponticelle, ex-Warner Bros. booker, who spent 18 months on Admiralty Islands on a U.S. navy detail, has returned to the U.S. for a furlough and reassignment . . . Booker John Cunniff is vacation-bound . . . Nick Giordano, former UA film shipper now in the army stationed at Camp Croft, S. C., came in for a look-see.

Virginia Aaron, Metro booker, is wearing broad smiles these days since her favorite nephew, James A. Silverman, seaman first class, graduated from the U.S. naval training station at Bainbridge, Md. The lad, who recently turned 18, expects to be assigned to the Pacific theatre of operations.

Beatrice Calvert is a new film inspector at the UA exchange . . . Bess Brewer, a member of the statistical department at the same exchange, has returned after a brief illness . . . Sam Rinzler is back from a fortnight's vacation in Saratoga looking fitter than ever. He's glad that Louis Frisch, his partner, is feeling better because he missed the master hand in the writing of his speeches recently.



PARAMOUNT-M-G-M AGREE—Signing of the long-delayed agreement for return of Paramount product to the Loew New York circuit was the occasion for a luncheon in the M-G-M executives' dining room. Left to right (seated): Robert Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity director; Charles Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution; Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president of Loew's, and Oscar A. Doob, advertising and publicity director for Loew's Theatres. Standing: Eugene Picker, Loew booking chief, and Hugh Owen, eastern district sales manager.

7th Loan Special Events Registering Large Gains

NEW YORK—The Seventh War Loan has chalked up a considerable increase over the Sixth in the aggregate number of war bond premieres, children's shows and Free Movie Days, it was indicated as the current drive goes into the home stretch.

Free Movie Days, June 6 totaling 10,253, exceeded the number for any previous campaign; children's shows more than doubled those of the Sixth and the bond premieres were nearly 20 per cent better than in the preceding drive.

Comparative figures for the Seventh and Sixth, respectively, follow: Free Movie Days, 10,253 and 7,571; children's shows, 1,864 and 879; bond premieres, 4,964 and 4,284.

The following cities made the greatest gains: Free Movie Days, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Des Moines, Los Angeles, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco; children's shows, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, New York, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Salt Lake City; bond premieres, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and New Orleans.

"These figures," said National Chairman Samuel Pinanski, "are not complete in most situations but they do indicate the returns as of June 2." It was disclosed that Charlotte had 29 special events which are not included in the above-mentioned categories.

Governors Proclaim Event

Twenty-three governors and mayors proclaimed June 6 as Free Movie Day in the following states and cities: Oklahoma, California, South Carolina, Utah, Missouri, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maine, Illinois, Alabama, Iowa, Vermont, Ohio, New Mexico, Arizona, Wisconsin, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Omaha and Washington, D. C.

Around the nation, highlights of the Seventh War Loan activities included the following:

In metropolitan Los Angeles, 80 mobile "On to Tokyo" units made nightly tours of war plants, clubs, residential sections, etc., and piled up large bond sales. Feature of the Seventh in this area will be the bond premiere, June 25, sponsored by seven downtown first run theatres. The Downtown Business Men's Ass'n and major retailers are cooperating.

In northern California theatres have issued bond premiere coupon books to such agencies which sell bonds, giving each purchaser a premiere admission ticket.

Rick Ricketson, Colorado state chairman, said that in addition to bond premieres throughout the state, a bond-admission baseball double-header at Denver University will be held; Iwo Jima flag-raising survivors will make personal appearances at the Civic Center and, on June 19, a "cleanup" bond premiere will be sponsored by all Denver theatres.

In Washington, D. C., the Senators and a service team will play an exhibition game at the Griffith Stadium on June 14 to which only bond purchasers will be admitted. The campaign will be climaxed by the "Cavalcade of Freedom," to be presented July 4 on the Washington monument grounds.

Every Monday has been Free Movie Day in Buffalo during the current drive. A five-theatre bond premiere is to be held June 18.

In Seattle, a $1,000 bond will be given away July 6 in conjunction with bond premieres at five downtown theatres. The theatres are paying for the bond.

Robert Sternburg of Boston's Metropolitan Theatre, reported a sellout for the premiere to be held June 11.

Roxy Sells 8,210 Bonds; Exceeds Total of Sixth

NEW YORK—By selling 8,210 bonds, the Roxy has already exceeded total sales for the Sixth War Loan when 7,800 units were sold. Quota for the current drive is 12,000 units.

Tickets for the Roxy's war bond premiere and stage show, June 19, have been placed on sale at the bond booth in the lobby. The house is scaled at an aggregate bond purchase total of one million dollars.

In addition to the showing of a film obtained through the WAC, a stage show consisting of Roddy McDowall, Tony and Sally DeMarco, John Boles and Jackie Gleason, will be presented.



KEEPS EMPLOYES ON THEIR TOES—Announcement by Loew's, Inc., that members of service staffs (excluding managers and assistant managers), would receive citations for bond sales, was taken quite seriously by the staff of the White Plains (N. Y.) Loew's Theatre. Members of the "bond army" who sell $10,000 or more will receive a Gold Star citation; for $5,000 a Silver Star and $1,000 or more a Blue Star.

For the photograph above, Mike Stranger lined up the White Plains staff, all of whom have a number of sales to their credit. From left to right: Gladys Nicoletti, Margaret Russo, Fred Fallanca, Nick Nicoletti, Marion O'Dell, Molly Hughes, Margery Verge and Lucy Demasi.

All of Canada Seeing 'All-Star Bond Rally'

HOLLYWOOD — The Canadian government is making full use of "The All-Star Bond Rally" for its Eighth Victory Loan, according to information received by the Hollywood division of the War Activities Committee. It is being shown in every theatre and war plant in the Dominion and will be viewed by every uniformed man there and overseas.

Indication of Canada's appreciation of the film came in the form of a letter received by Tom Baily, Hollywood coordinator of WAC, from J. L. Ilsley, minister of finance for the Dominion. The letter said in part:

"I have been informed that it was your hope that 'All-Star Bond Rally' would be seen by more individuals than any other picture ever produced. It would seem from plans now afoot in Canada that your hopes will be fully realized as far as we are concerned. Needless to say, these plans are possible only because of the enthusiastic reception accorded to the production. I know that much of the credit for this success is due to your unremitting effort. The Canadian government and the National War Finance Committee are greatly indebted for your energetic help."

The Canadian version of the two-reeler was produced by 20th-Fox simultaneously with the domestic version.

Urges Theatre Managers To Aid Victory Legion

NEW YORK—A drive to enlist theatres and patrons in joining the Victory Legion is now under way. Membership in the honorary organization goes to any individual purchasing one $1,000 E bond or anyone selling at least ten E bonds of that value each.

An inscribed card and window sticker are presented to members. The motion picture industry metropolitan area committee is urging theatre managers with their bond-selling organization and mass patronage to promote the Victory Legion.

Hope Show Bond Buyers Add $100,000 in Buffalo

BUFFALO—At least $100,000 worth of bonds were purchased by 3,712 persons who attended the Bob Hope war bond show sponsored by the Erie County WFC, the Buffalo Evening News and the Shea Theatres in the Seventh War Loan campaign.

Sales for the noon show in Shea's Buffalo included six $1,000 bonds. Hope and his troupe participated in the show at Shea's Buffalo as volunteer aides in Erie County's loan drive.

Bond Rallies by RKO Go Strong in New York

NEW YORK—Local RKO theatres have been booming bond sales with Free Movie Days and special rallies. RKO Keith's Flushing has held three such rallies so far, and netted a total of $35,100 in E bond sales for the first two. Tieins with local merchants, offering hard-to-get items as bait, have proven quite effective. Special shows for youngsters have received the cooperation of local school authorities.

Bond Song's Big Play

BROOKLYN—Recordings of a specially written song, "Buy Your Bonds in Brooklyn," is being played in every motion picture theatre in the borough, as well as at Ebbets Field and outdoor rallies.

$4,575,000 Mark Hit at Glenn Miller Show

NEW YORK—The Major Glenn Miller war loan show staged at the Paramount Theatre by Manager Robert M. Weitman sold $4,575,000 in bonds, exceeding by almost $1,000,000 its original quota. Biggest single sale was $100,000 worth of bonds to Al Jolson, seated in the audience, who begged off making an impromptu appearance with Eddie Cantor.

Times Square was jammed an hour before curtain time by thousands awaiting a parade of a military contingent from Mitchel Field with its 50-piece band. The troops paraded down Seventh Ave. from 51st St., entered the theatre, passed through the orchestra and up a runway onto the stage. There the marchers presented a pageant as a prelude to the four-hour all-star show.

Military, naval and governmental officials as well as industry representatives were present in the jammed theatre. Name bands, stage and screen stars and several noted masters of ceremonies combined their efforts and gave the audience its money's worth.

Loew's Sells 114,732 War Bonds in 19 Days

NEW YORK—Loew's Theatres sold $10,564,934 worth of bonds from the opening of the Seventh War Loan through June 3. This represents 114,732 bonds.

The Pitkin Theatre, Brooklyn, managed by Al Weiss, which has been among the leaders in past bond drives, again led the entire circuit. Total sales were $552,275, representing 4,921 separate purchases. The runnersup were:

American Theatre, Gil Marbe, manager, $508,975; Boro Park, Brooklyn, Walter Heiber, $472,550; Kameo, Brooklyn, Sam Pearlman, $343,525, and Paradise, Jerry De Rosa, $306,575.

The out-of-town theatres finished in the following order: Capitol, Washington, $513,825; Columbia, Washington, $357,200; Loew's, Richmond, $325,575; State, Cleveland, $316,350, and Palace, Washington, $272,275.

Neighborhood Celebrity Aids Sale of War Bonds

NEW YORK—For his war bond rally at the Ambassador Theatre, Brooklyn, Manager Maurice G. Reisner chose a neighborhood celebrity, 62-year-old Mrs. Louis Scolnick, as his guest of honor. Selected as the "outstanding mother of 1945" by the Mother's Day Commemorative League, Mrs. Scolnick received extensive publicity in the metropolitan press; eight of her nine sons have served in the armed forces and the ninth expects to be called shortly.

Reisner used a Nazi swastika plus a Japanese rising sun to pep bond sales. Mrs. Scolnick made a stirring appeal on behalf of the Seventh War Loan, and was presented with flowers and gifts donated by neighborhood merchants. The theatre sold $15,000 in bonds and, Reisner reports, is planning similar rallies.

USN Heroes Aid E Sales

NEW YORK—Taking advantage of topical interest, Brooklyn theatres have been using heroes of the famous carrier, USS Franklin, to stimulate bond sales. Seven survivors, including the bluejacket shown receiving "last rites" in newsreels and newspaper photos, assisted in rallies held at the Kings, Paramount, Kenmore, Albemarle, Marine and Elm Theatres. Through the cooperation of the navy heroes, the houses sold 1,268 E bonds with a maturity value of $210,000.



JUST A COTTAGE SMALL—But quite important, this cottage, for it is aiding greatly in the sale of war bonds during the "Showmen's Seventh." It is called Movieland's Bond Cottage and is manned in the heart of Buffalo by the city's downtown theatres. Charles B. Taylor, advertising and publicity head for Shea's Theatre, helped put over the stunt.

Bardavon's Two Concerts Accelerate Bond Sales

POUGHKEEPSIE—The Bardavon Theatre reports sales totaling $89,000 at its bond premiere. Mayor Frank M. Doran, speakers from the Pawling Convalescent Center, and a concert by the 321st army service band of Fort Jay highlighted the event.

So successful was the latter feature the theatre followed it up last week with a concert by the Sea Landers, veterans of nine major invasions. The event was a spectacular success, according to Manager David Walsh.

WB Holds Bond Rally

NEW YORK—Warner Bros.' home office held a rally in behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive Wednesday afternoon, with all employes attending. Among the speakers were Albert S. Howson and Martin F. Bennett of Warners, returned war heroes and others.

Tickets of admission to the "Fighting Lady" exhibit at Rockefeller Plaza were given to bond purchasers.

Bond Booth at U-Boat

NEW YORK—The Seventh War Loan metropolitan committee has built and is manning a booth at USN Pier A at the Battery for E bond purchasers wishing to go aboard the captured Nazi submarine, U-505, on display there. The bond booth, 14 feet wide, is open daily from 11 a. m. to 8 p. m. Bond buyers are escorted onto the U-boat immediately on making their purchases.

Huge 7th Loan Banner

NEW YORK—For the first time in any of the war loan drives a huge street banner has been hung in the heart of the theatrical district. One, advising passersby to purchase bonds at picture houses, has been put up at 50th St. and Seventh Ave. by the greater New York committee.

"Tracy" Roles to Mazurki and Greer

Mike Mazurki and Jane Greer have been signed for major roles in "Dick Tracy," an RKO production.

Buffalo Zips Along With Bond Campaign

BUFFALO—The five downtown motion picture theatres, the Buffalo, Great Lakes, Hippodrome, Lafayette and 20th Century, this week reported a brisk increase in the sale of bonds for the bond premieres, which will be held June 18.

On Tuesday the Buffalo entertainment world joined in a war bond salute to Maj. Glenn Miller, one of its greatest heroes. Buffalonians were urged to buy an extra bond in appreciation of the many happy hours his music had brought.

A free ticket to one of the big premieres is given with each bond purchased in the theatres or at the Movieland Bond Cottage, Main and Genesee Sts. This week the cottage was staffed by volunteer workers from the Lafayette Theatre.

Wednesday, the first anniversary of D-Day on the beaches of Normandy, every motion picture theatre in Buffalo observed Free Movie Day. Two guest tickets were given to every bond buyer.

Disney Bond Certificate Helps Sell to Children

NEW YORK—A certificate designed by Walt Disney to stimulate sale of war bonds to children is being distributed in the metropolitan area. Printed in several colors, it shows many famous Disney characters, including the Seven Dwarfs, Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck.

Its inscription reads: "This is to certify that .... is the owner of a war bond, thereby becoming an investor in this country's fight for human liberty and a contributor in a world struggle to make life free and forever peaceful for all men." Certificates may be obtained through metropolitan area headquarters.

Public School Tieup

YONKERS—H. R. Emde, RKO zone manager and Westchester County chairman, has arranged that public school children buying bonds will be admitted to the Strand Theatre free at any time.

Film Stocks Active SEC Report Discloses

PHILADELPHIA—Activity in film industry stock was brisk in the period between April 11 to May 10 it was disclosed in a report by the SEC here.

One of the largest transactions reported was the acquisition of 3,740 additional shares of Warner Bros. $5 par common by Harry M. Warner, bringing his total holdings in that security to an even 150,000 shares.

There was plenty of activity in Loew's, Inc., common, highlighted by a stock splitup of 38,100 shares by a corporation. The splitup went to the following:

Howard Dietz, New York, 30 shares; Leopold Friedman, New York, 1,424; Eugene W. Leake, New York, 200; Charles Moskowitz, New York, 1,500; William A. Parker, Boston, 1,200; J. Robert Rubin, New York, 4,130; Nicholas M. Schenck, 3,826; Joseph R. Vogel, New York, 600; David Warfield, New York, 14,000, and Henry R. Winthrop, New York, 200.

Columbia Stock Is Active

Purchase of 2,395 shares of Columbia Pictures common by Harry Cohn, Hollywood, was largest deal in that security during the report period.

Other activity in Columbia:

Jack Cohn, New York, added 620 to his holdings, now totaling 32,496; the Joseph Cohn trust added 65; Ralph Cohn trust, 50; Robert Cohn trust, 145, and Jeannette Cohn trust, five shares.

Joseph McConville, New York, added two shares; Abraham Montague, 50; Abraham Schneider, 40; Nate B. Spinggold (through a holding company), added 254 shares, and Donald S. Stralen, New York, 15 shares.

Monogram Pictures of Michigan purchased 2,000 shares of Monogram Pictures Corp. $1 par common; William B. Hurlburt, Detroit, added 666 shares bringing his holdings to 4,029; W. Ray Johnston, Hollywood, reported holding 20,491 shares of Monogram common.

Barney Balaban making a belated report (December 1944) reported the acquisition of 2,000,000 Paramount conversion notes (2-3-4 p.c.).

Other transactions in Paramount:

W. E. Griffis trust reported disposal of 2,600 shares of Paramount $1 par common to a beneficiary.

Paul G. Brown, Boca Raton, Fla., reported the disposal of 8,672 Universal common warrants, while adding 306 shares of Universal common stock to his holdings now totaling 29,000.

Sales Competition Helps Break Republic Records

NEW YORK—Competition among Republic's eight sales districts is expected to produce a booking record in the company's history, according to a cross-country sales survey conducted at the suggestion of James R. Grainger.

Grainger, Republic's president and general sales manager, expressed his deep appreciation of the support being given to his company by leading circuits and theatre operators throughout the country.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Thompson of RKO Appeals For Greater N. Y. Fund

NEW YORK—Campaign activity in the industry points to rapid attainment of the $65,000 quota set for the motion pictures division in the Greater New York Fund's 1945 drive, according to Maj. Leslie E. Thompson of RKO, chairman.



MAJ. L. E. THOMPSON

The fund appeals on behalf of 408 local hospitals, health and welfare agencies which must obtain $22,500,000 in voluntary contributions to carry on their present levels of service to the community throughout the year, Thompson points out. Business concerns and employe groups are asked by the fund for a minimum of $4,500,000, as their share.

British Film Reduction May Occur on June 15

LONDON—Although the American army's operational demands for film have ceased, the Board of Trade has not yet officially set the date on which the existing 15 per cent cut in raw stock allocations will be reduced to ten per cent. It is understood this step awaits only the American WPB's reaction to the British demand for 25,000,000 feet of stock for British films to be shown in the U.S. The reduction is expected to be made effective June 15.

A supply of Gevaert raw stock received from Antwerp has not eased the situation appreciably, since it has served only to counterbalance a deficiency brought about by the temporary closing of the Kodak plant for overhauling.

Para Screens "Blonde" And Four Other Films

NEW YORK—"Incendiary Blonde," special release of Paramount's one third of a century celebration, was tradeshown Friday in theatres located in various exchange centers. In New York, the picture was shown at the Normandie Theatre. In Philadelphia and Washington where theatres were not available, it was screened at the Paramount exchanges.

On Thursday, "Out of This World" and "One Exciting Night," two of the films in the company's sixth block, were tradeshown in all exchange centers. On the previous day, two reissues, "Northwest Mounted Police" and "This Gun for Hire," were screened. These will also be released with the sixth block.

J. Arthur Rank Guest Of Universal's Board

NEW YORK—J. Arthur Rank was guest at a dinner tendered Wednesday night at the Links Club by the Universal board of directors. The dinner followed a meeting of the board. J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman, and Cliff Word, studio head, were unable to attend, as both are in California.

Those present were: Nate J. Blumberg, Paul Brown, D. C. Collins, Preston Davie, John Davie, Barrington Gain, William German, Jock Lawrence, Samuel Machnovitch, John J. O'Connor, Ottavio Prochet, Charles D. Prutzman, Budd Rogers, W. A. Scully, Joseph H. Seidelman, Daniel M. Schaeffer, Willis H. Taylor jr. and D. G. Woodham-Smith.

Many Attend Funeral Of John W. Hicks Jr.

NEW YORK—Many prominent film figures, among others, attended the last rites for John W. Hicks jr., president of Paramount International Pictures, who died last weekend. Funeral services were held at Campbell's Funeral Church, with the Rev. Ralph W. Sockman of Christ Church Methodist of Park Avenue officiating.

Among industry representatives present at the rites were Barney Balaban, Adolph Zukor, Austin C. Keough, Leonard H. Goldenson, Russell Holman, Charles M. Reagan, George Weltner, Walter B. Cokell, R. C. Clement, David Rose, Fred Mohrhardt, Milton Kirshenberg, Frank Meyer, J. E. Perkins, A. L. Pratchett, Albert Deane, Paul E. Ackerman, Richard F. O'Connell, J. J. Donohue, Oscar Morgan, Robert M. Gillham and Alec Moss, all of Paramount.

Others were Capt. Harold Auten, Henry Anderson, Win Barron, J. L. Brown, Ned Buddy, Sam Burger, W. R. Butler, W. F. Brooks, Lowell V. Calvert, Charles L. Casanave, Pat Casey, David A. Cassidy, Stanley Chase, Clinton Combes, Tom Connors, James Cron, H. A. Davidson, George F. Dembow, Sam Dembow jr., Stuart Dunlap, Gus Eyssell, John A. Eliot, George Elmo, G. B. J. Frawley, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Fairchild, Bernard Goodwin, M. Gowthorpe, Walter Gross, Knox Haddow, E. W. Hammons, F. L. Herron, Arthur Israel jr., Boris Kaplan, Sherwin Kane, Charles A. Kirby, Thomas Kirby, Alex Kiralfy, M. S. Kusell, Fred Lange, A. J. Leonard, Fred Leroy, Ann LeViness, Lucille Levy, Walter Long, Irving Maas, Lieut. Morey Marcus.

Also Karl G. Macdonald, Richard Mealand, Charles McCarthy, Carl A. Milliken, T. P. Mulrooney, Richard F. Murray, W. C. Michel, George H. Morris, Max Mendel, Leon Netter, Capt. Larry O'Toole, William G. O'Brien, Sam D. Palmer, Mrs. J. E. Perkins, Mrs. A. L. Pratchett, Miss Marian Phipps, Louis Phillips, James S. Polk, Martin Quigley, Dr. Otto Radl, Paul Raiborn, Phil Reisman, Budd Rogers, Jack Roper, Mrs. David Rose, Martin Rosenfeld, Mrs. Charles M. Reagan, George J. Schaefer, C. J. Scollard, M. A. Schlessinger.

Also Spyros P. Skouras, Mrs. Julia K. Shauer, Harold Smith, Morton Spring, Mrs. Emanuel Stern, J. V. Sureda, E. Schosberg, Linda Salzberger, Jack Segal, Frank Siter, Vincent Trotta, Don Velde, Edward Ugast, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wall, Joseph A. Walsh, Mrs. George Weltner, Mrs. William A. White, J. R. Wood, Harry J. Wright and Mrs. Adolph A. Zukor.

Sgt. Joel Levy Killed in Action in Philippines

NEW YORK—Sgt. Joel Levy jr., 28, son of Loew's out-of-town booker, has been killed in action in the Philippines. Sergeant Levy, who was attached to the photographic division of the army signal corps, was formerly connected with Loew's and later worked as a cameraman at the Monogram studios.

He is survived by his parents, his wife and a daughter, three months old, whom he had never seen.

Capital Honors Pyle

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Free Movie Day in the nation's capital, June 6, was dedicated to the late Ernie Pyle, war correspondent, who was slain by a Jap sniper in one of the battles of the Pacific.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers

SCRANTON-WILKES-BARRE

J. O'Leary, Comerford circuit general manager, is a team captain in the sustaining fund division in the annual membership drive of the Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

Dorothy Ann McAndrew, Comerford Theatres, and Sgt. Paul J. Conway were married last week in St. Ann's Church . . . In a name contest sponsored by Comerford Theatres for a new theatre in Olyphant to replace the former Granada, destroyed by fire, Miss Anne Kennedy was awarded a war bond for suggesting "Olyphant."

Lieut. and Mrs. T. J. Walker are parents of a son, born in New York. Walker, on naval duty at sea, is the son of the former postmaster general, Frank C. Walker, of this city . . . Through the courtesy of Manager Frank Loftus and the projectionists at the Globe Theatre, a special filming of "The Keys of the Kingdom" was shown last week for Catholic nuns of the Scranton area.

Mrs. Willard Matthews, Clarks, Summit, was spending a few weeks with her husband in Georgia. Matthews, former manager of the Strand, is an officer candidate at Fort Benning . . . Harold Bell, former manager of the Roosevelt, spent the weekend at home with his family on naval leave.

Cpl. and Mrs. Keith Martin, Hollywood, spent last weekend here with Mrs. Martin's mother, Mrs. Harry Madden. Mrs. Martin is the former Jeanne Madden, singing star of screen and stage . . . John Gilroy has been named assistant manager of the Capitol.

William T. Larkin, former assistant manager of the Strand, was home on navy leave . . . James Coyne, formerly of the Comerford, has been assigned to a newly-commissioned destroyer . . . Ensign James Clancy, now in the Pacific, a former employe of the Granada, Olyphant, suffered a fractured arm.

Gerald Joyce, formerly of the Strand, graduated from the USNR midshipman school at Chicago . . . Harry J. Hengler, former Comerford home office employe, has received the meritorious service plaque with star for the African campaign. The award was given to the entire 591st engineers, of which he was a member. It was one of the first outfits in Europe and participated in five major landing operations.

The front of the Rex, Dickson City, has been remodeled . . . M. J. O'Toole, Comerford publicist, spent a few days in Harrisburg last week . . . Micky Chapin, former Comerford employe, was home on navy leave . . . Sgt. Donald Drake, Globe, twice wounded with a ranger outfit in Italy, has been given limited service and now is doing clerical work.

John Coyne, formerly of the Strand, spent four months in an English hospital following wounds received in Germany . . . Tom Comerford is recuperating from an operation . . . Sgt. John Schultz, Capitol, Lebanon, has received the Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters. He has been a B24 nose gunner in the South Pacific since May 1944.

Lieut. Richard Smith, Capitol, Danville, was married to Miss Elsie Heinbach there when home on furlough . . . Roy Miller, Comerford, Carlisle, in the Pacific as a marine air corps mechanic, now is a sergeant.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



PHILADELPHIA GREETINGS—James Cagney was guest of honor at a reception in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel given by exhibitors. A private screening of "Blood on the Sun" was given. Shown here are: Mort Magill, UA branch manager; Clint Weyer, Cagney, Mike Felt and Henry Friedman.

John L. Miller, also of the Comerford, has been made a first sergeant.

Clyde Shoop, formerly of the Hollywood, Pottsville, was in Germany on VE-Day. Another Hollywood employe, Robert Morgan, was in Italy.

James Rogers, formerly of the Capitol, Williamsport, has receved a medical discharge from the navy after participating in five engagements against Jap bases . . . Sgt. Roger Ritter, formerly of the Keystone, Williamsport, recently married Miss Jean Phipps of Huntsville, Ala.

Cornelius McElwee, navy, formerly of the Capitol, Plymouth, is with the NSS Bath . . . Michael Fedor, Liberty, Exeter, is in Dutch New Guinea . . . Edward Anuskiewicz, Parsons, was in the crew of the USS Savannah when it was hit at Salerno.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Miller have announced the birth of a son Jimmy. Mrs. Miller is the former Irma Ganz, this city. Miller, staff writer for PM, New York, is the former area correspondent of BOXOFFICE.

Manager Fred Lee, Penn, Wilkes-Barre, held a cooperative newspaper and radio campaign last week with Bucky Harris, RKO, Philadelphia, on "Tall in the Saddle," which opened Friday.

E. C. Winegar as Receiver For Drive-In Theatre

BUFFALO—Elmer C. Winegar, associated with the Telenews Theatre here, has been appointed by Supreme Court Justice Alonzo G. Hinkley as receiver for the Niagara Drive-In Theatre on Niagara Falls Blvd. Winegar's bond was set at $10,000. He will manage the drive-in place pending further order of the court.

The partners owning the business—Louis Edward Walters of Cleveland and James Stephan Driscoll of Erie, Pa.—are having a legal contest. Walters and his wife, Theresa, are seeking to compel Driscoll to dissolve the partnership, render an accounting and sell the business.

Monogram's Stock on Curb

NEW YORK—Preferred stock of Monogram Pictures Corp. is now listed for trading on the New York Curb, according to W. Ray Johnston, president.

Cagneys Are Tendered Philadelphia Luncheon

PHILADELPHIA—James Cagney was guest of honor at a luncheon at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel tendered him by more than 150 circuit and independent exhibitors. On the dais with Mr. and Mrs. Cagney were Charles Leonard, Cagney's New York representative; Morton Magill, United Artists branch manager; Judge Charles Klein; Sidney Samuelson of Allied Exhibitors; Lewen Pizor of MPTO, and James Clark. Jay Emanuel was toastmaster.

Among the exhibitors attending were Abe, Lou, Dave and Nathan Sablosky of the Sablosky circuit; Morris and Moe Wax; Charles Steifel and J. Blumberg of the Steifel circuit; William Goldman, Lyle Trenchard and Elmer Hirth of the Goldman circuit; Martin Ellis; Ray Schwartz, Dave Nathan and Sam Milgram of Affiliated Theatres; Joseph and Sam Verbalo, Leo Posel, Al Boyd, Frank Buehler and Lou Goldsmith of the Boyd circuit; Sam, Frank and Ted Schlanger, A. Vanni, Lester Kreiger, John Turner, Lou Davidoff, Elmer Hollander, Morris Gable, Abe Einstein, Milton Young, Irving Blumberg and Ben Witth of Warner Bros.

Others present were Michael and Cecil Felt, William Greenfield, Oscar Forman, Margaret Carberry, Charles and Lou Segall, Dave Barrist, Nate Abelove, Jerry Meyers, Sam Hyman, George Resnick, Charles Hirsh, Lou Rovner, L. Heddelson, H. Rosinsky, I. Yaffe, K. Katz, Ben Fertel, Sam and Morris Gerson, Jack Greenberg, Ed Avello, A. Segal, George Robbins, Norman Lewis, Harry Perelman, M. Nelson, Sam Cantor, William Fishman, Joseph McPhillips, Joe Conwell, George Weiland, Mortimer Lewis, Harry Fried, Harry Pennys, Ben Amsterdam, M. Coane and Abe Frank.

Philadelphia Music Fete Nets Red Cross $100,000

PHILADELPHIA — Approximately 70,000 persons paid nearly $100,000 to attend the first annual music festival sponsored by the Philadelphia Inquirer. The show was held in Municipal stadium wth James Cagney as master of ceremonies. Profits went to the Red Cross.

The bill included the Philadelphia Orchestra, directed by Eugene Ormandy; Oscar Levant; James Melton, the "Oklahoma" cast, including James Alexander, Betty Jane Watson and Dorothea McFarland; the marine band; the Westminster Chorus of Princeton, and choral groups from various colleges and schools in Philadelphia and its suburbs and the Philadelphia La Scala Operatic Ballet group.

Cagney ran into complications when he came to town to emcee the show. He discovered that he was guest of honor at two simultaneous luncheons—one thrown by Publisher Walter Annenberg, of the Inquirer, and the other by United Artists. Each arranged their affair without knowing of the others plans.

The problem was solved easily by Cagney. He went to Anneberg's luncheon first and kept the exhibitors waiting for an hour and a half before going to theirs.

Conklin to Abbott-Costello Film

Chester Conklin has been inked for a comedy role in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood," a Metro production.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

U.S. Legion of Merit Goes to Colonel Rudd

NEW YORK—Col. A. G. Rudd has received the Legion of Merit for his service in organizing and directing the activities of the Army Emergency Relief and the personal affairs division of the Second service command. The decoration was presented at Governors Island by Maj. Gen. T. A. Terry, commanding general of the Second service command.

Colonel Rudd, who was on active duty with the army from April, 1942, to February, 1945, recently retired to resume his duties as vice-president of Newsreel Theatres, Inc.

RCA Victor Promotes Two

CAMDEN—Frank M. Folson has been elected executive vice-president in charge of RCA Victor division, and John G. Wilson becomes operating vice-president of the same division. Folson joined RCA after serving in Washington as chief of the procurement branch of the navy department. In addition to being in charge of RCA's manufacturing division, he is a director of both RCA and NBC. Wilson has been in charge of financial administration of RCA Victor for the past year.

Goodman Back at Para

NEW YORK—Monroe Goodman has been honorably discharged from the army and has resumed his former position as aide to Oscar A. Morgan, sales manager of Paramount shorts and news. Morgan's assistant since 1939, Goodman served in the armed forces for 26 months. His last duty was at Kelly Field in charge of the post theatre.

Sign Laboratory Pact

NEW YORK — An agreement climaxing months of negotiations was reached June 6 between Local 702 of the Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians' Union, and the employers group. This agreement will be held subject to ratification of the union membership at a special meeting on June 16.

Feldman Signs Lease

NEW YORK — Lucian T. Feldman has signed a long-term lease on the 600-seat Strand Theatre, 404 South Orange Ave., Newark. It has been operated for the last ten years by Arthur Shulman. The new lessee plans extensive alterations. Berk & Krumgold were the brokers.

Sumer Singer Dead

NEW YORK—Sumer Singer, 38, who handled film advertising for Buchanan & Co., died at his home, 1133 Park Ave. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and two children, Max and Lewis.

Wilma Freeman Leaves UA

NEW YORK — United Artists' promotion manager, Wilma Freeman, is leaving UA to join the Fizdale Organization on June 22. In her new association, Miss Freeman will continue to contact UA home office executives in view of the fact that her new job calls for handling the campaign for "The Southerner," a UA release.

Irving Cohen Leaves Paramount

NEW YORK—Irving Cohen has resigned from his post in the legal department of Paramount. He will enter into general practice in association with Howard E. Reinheimer, 11 E. 44th St.



PARIS-BOUND — Col. William H. Keighley (left), director, who was recently discharged from the army, and Sol Lesser, UA producer, arrive in New York on their way to France where they will produce "Paris Canteen."

Paramount Drive Aides Finishing First Tour

NEW YORK—Drive Captains Allen Usher and M. R. "Duke" Clark, Chicago and Dallas district managers, respectively, are completing the first of two tours of Paramount exchanges on behalf of the company's Third of a Century celebration, August 26 through September 29. Usher is covering western branches, while Clark is touring the south and east.

They have discussed with sales and booking personnel preliminary plans for the celebration, with special emphasis on "Incendiary Blonde," selected as the celebration feature.

Accompanied by the respective district managers, Usher has conducted meetings in Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Ore., Seattle and Salt Lake City.

Clark has visited Oklahoma City, Dallas, Memphis, New Orleans, Charlotte, Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

The second tour will start in July when company executives and studio personalities will accompany them.

RKO Elects Directors

DOVER, DEL.—Stockholders of RKO, at the annual meeting, elected nine directors: Ned E. Depinet, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum, N. Peter Rathvon, George H. Shaw, J. Miller Walker. Price, Waterhouse & Co. were named as accountants.

MPPDA Book Out June 15

NEW YORK—"The Hays Office," a history of the MPPDA, has been written by Raymond Moley, said to have been collecting material for it for six years. The book traces the progress in self-government made by the industry during the last 23 years. It will be published by Bobbs-Merrill on June 15.

Savage and Neal Costar in "Detour"

Ann Savage and Tom Neal are set to costar in "Detour," a PRC production.

South Africa Offers Many Opportunities

CINCINNATI—"South Africa will provide a fertile market for American exports in postwar days, particularly in war-developed refinements in laminated plastics for industrial, consumer and decorative applications," says A. A. Smit of Johannesburg, Union of South Africa. "The Union is ready and waiting as a wonderful market for American-made products."

Smit is associated with the Lamson International Corp., Johannesburg, representing the Formica Insulation Co. He is visiting the local plant of the latter company in order to study wartime developments in new applications of laminated plastic products such as have been produced for eventual use in meeting peacetime industrial and consumer needs.

British Scenarist Joins Princeton Film Center

PRINCETON, N. J.—Hugh Gray, former dramatic and film critic, screen writer and story editor, is now working on a number of special purpose film assignments at the Princeton Film Center. A native of England, Gray joined Gaumont British in 1931, later became associated with Sir Alexander Korda's London Films, and at the start of the war wrote many documentaries for the British Ministry of Information.

In 1940, Gray joined the RAF as an intelligence officer. He served as scenario writer and editor of a newly-formed film production unit until he was honorably discharged, holding the rank of flight lieutenant. Since his arrival in this country, in 1943, he has been working in Hollywood for RKO, Warner Bros., 20th-Fox and Universal.

Roxy Aide Drops Wreath At Sea to Mark Sinking

NEW YORK—Charles Sherman, Roxy projectionist, was given the honor of dropping a wreath at the approximate spot where the USS Plymouth was sunk by a German submarine in August of 1943. Sherman was a close friend of the late Ensign Rubin Ketch, who went down with the ship. They had been buddies since World War I when they served in the navy together.

Sherman and Chaplain J. J. Model, USNR, flew in a navy blimp to the approximate location where the USS Plymouth was sunk, about 153 miles off the coast of North Carolina.

M-G-M Re-Sign Quimby

NEW YORK—Fred Quimby, cartoon producer and short subjects executive, has signed a new long-term contract with M-G-M. He joined the company in 1926, organized its shorts program and later launched the M-G-M Cartoon Studio, winner of three Academy awards in four years. For the forthcoming release schedule Quimby is producing 16 cartoons.

Crosby Voted Year's Dad

NEW YORK—The General Eisenhower Medal was awarded to Bing Crosby for being the outstanding screen father of 1945 by the national Fathers' Day committee. Crosby, the father of four sons, paid tribute to other screen fathers and showed the committee and guests a picture of his boys. He is making a golf match tour for the Seventh War Loan.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

John Cromwell New President of SDG

The Screen Directors Guild held its annual meeting and considered ways and means of increasing social security of meggers. Adopted were resolutions calling for the establishment of a guild retirement fund and a fund which would be devoted to helping unemployed or sick members and their families.

Officers were elected as follows: John Cromwell, president; Mervyn LeRoy, first vice-president; Edward Dmytryk, second vice-president; Delmer Daves, secretary; A. Edward Sutherland, treasurer. New directors elected to a two-year term were: David Butler, George Cukor, Delmer Daves, Howard Hawks, Norman McLeod, A. Edward Sutherland, Richard Wallis and William Wellman.

Harold Hopper Quits Metro To Back Independent Units

Harold Hopper, Metro's general manager the last year, has resigned. Formerly with the motion picture photographic division of the WPB, Hopper will devote his future time to financing independent motion picture enterprises and to the management of the Cinema Mercantile Co. which he has owned for more than 20 years. He is also president of the Motion Picture Society of the Americas.

Heinz Roemheld to London For German Control Post

Heinz Roemheld of Warner Bros.' music department left for England on a leave from the studio. With headquarters in London, Roemheld will be attached to the office of policy and control for occupied Germany. The composer will coordinate press, film, radio and other cultural fields in the conquered country.

Followup on "Crime, Inc." Deals With Bonnie Parker

As a followup to "Crime, Inc.," Martin Mooney will produce "Wanted for Murder" for PRC. The film will be based on the careers of Clyde Barrow, the Texas bandit, and Bonnie Parker, his notorious cigar-smoking "gun moll."

Sgt. Joel Levy Jr. Killed

T/Sgt. Joel Levy jr., 28, former member of the Monogram publicity department, has been killed in action in the Philippines with an army signal corps photographic unit, according to work received by his father, Joel Levy, film booker for Loew's theatres. Levy is survived by a wife and child.



HOST TO POLISH ATTACHE—Marek Libkov (left), Republic producer, who escaped from the Nazis when they invaded Poland, together with Edward Ashley (center), male star in a current Republic production, was host at the studio to Wladyslaw M. Besterman, press attache of the Polish embassy in Washington, who was an observer at the San Francisco conferences.

Two Premieres Hold Center of Interest

Gary Cooper, producer and co-star with Loretta Young of International's "Along Came Jones," will go to Texas June 20 to attend a premiere showing of the picture, which will play more than 100 theatres of the Lone Star state the weeks of June 20 and 27. It will appear in 40 theatres in Oklahoma the week following. General release through RKO Radio will be July 1.

A premiere of Warner's "Rhapsody in Blue," filmization of the life of George Gershwin, will be held at the Hollywood Theatre in New York June 27, following a press preview the previous evening.

The premiere will precede by two days the official opening of George Gershwin Jubilee week scheduled to begin June 29.

"The Silver Fleet," PRC English-made production, will have a west coast premiere at the Esquire Theatre June 15, when it will open an indefinite engagement. The picture was produced by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger.

Montgomery a Director

Robert Montgomery will direct as well as act in his own picture, Metro's "They Were Expendable," while Comdr. John Ford remains in a Hollywood hospital with a fractured leg. Ford was injured when he fell from a camera platform.

WLB Rulings Issued In Publicists Case

For a brief moment, the publicists took Hollywood's labor limelight away from the striking technicians. Revealed were the recommendations of the War Labor Board panel which had heard the demands on the producers by the Screen Publicists Guild for an adjustment of wage scales and working conditions. Highlights of the panel's recommendations included:

Denial of the union's demand for classification of senior members.

Denial of the automatic promotion of juniors to seniors but recommended automatic promotion of apprentices to juniors after 12 months of service.

Forty-hour work week was denied, but hours were cut from 56 to 48.

No overtime after 6, as publicists demanded.

Minimum call will be six hours for juniors and seniors; four hours for apprentices.

Seniors to be granted a minimum of $120.64 weekly, the amount the producers had offered.

Minimum for juniors set in four brackets ranging from $65 to $89.96.

Apprentices' minimum pegged at $40 for 40 hours.

Allowance of 120 per cent of scale for distant location work was approved.

Other details included: No award of pay to over-scale people; denied union demands on holidays; denied union demand for arbitration of discharges; denied union demand for severance pay when discharged for cause or resignation; stipulated dismissal pay unless discharged for cause; denied union demand for dismissal pay in case of death; denied union demand that union be notified in advance on discharges; sick leave, existing practices continue; denied demand for subcontract clause; same union shop clause as now; denied bonus for limited term assignment.

As to the strike—it staggered into its 14th week with nothing of great significance happening. Pickets, even in increased numbers, continued to plod to and fro at film foundry entrances; there were the scattered displays of fisticuffs and shouting of invectives, and the producers again neglected to issue their weekly statement anent the strike's status and the fact that production is progressing unhampered thereby.

A. M. Botsford Resigns Post

A. M. Botsford, veteran producer and studio executive, has resigned as vice-president and general manager of A. & S. Lyons. He will vacation before announcing his new association with a leading independent producer.







"NATIONAL VELVET" PLAQUES—Came again BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Day in the Culver City lair of Leo the Lion. Metro's Technicolor feature, "National Velvet," was chosen by the National Screen Council as the best picture released during April, 1945. Here are some of the proud recipients of this publication's Blue Ribbon plaques:

Top: Pandro S. Berman, who produced the turf classic. Incidentally, Producer Berman's acquisition of the kudos with which he is photographed makes him the No. 1 winner of such plaques among producers.

Center: Moppet Elizabeth Taylor, who had a topline in the film and showed Hollywood a bit of plain and fancy scene-stealing.

Bottom: Helen Deutsch, who worked on the screenplay, permits Director Richard Whorf (who had nothing to do with "Velvet") to hold her plaque—but just for a minute. It seems that Megger Whorf and Scrivener Deutsch are old associates from the Theatre Guild of Gotham.

Altec Signs with USNAS

NEW YORK—Altec Service reports it has made contracts with the welfare department, USNAS, for the Eastside, Alamada, as well as the receiving station and USNS Pier 91, Seattle.

Overseas Soldiers Vote "GI Oscars" To Four in Poll by Yank Weekly

Jennifer Jones, Rita Hayworth, Bing Crosby and Eddie Bracken are the favorite screen stars of the armed forces in eight theatres of operation around the world. Their selection was established by a "GI Oscar" poll conducted by the army pictorial service and announced in the June 8 issue of Yank, the army weekly.

Col. E. L. Munson jr., chief of the army pictorial service, which distributes the motion picture industry's free 16mm prints of the latest Hollywood films to all our overseas forces, informed the players of their selection—Miss Hayworth as favorite glamour girl of the GIs, Miss Jones as top actress for her performance in "Song of Bernadette," Bing Crosby as best male performer for his role in the service men's number one film of the year, "Going My Way," and Eddie Bracken as top comedian for "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek."

Balloting was confined to films shown overseas in 1944 and polls were conducted in the Mediterranean, Middle East, Alaska, Newfoundland, Pacific, Iceland and Central Africa areas and at various ATC installations.

James A. FitzPatrick Faces Full Program of Activity

En route to London, where he will spend three months making a series of shorts for the British ministry of information, James A. FitzPatrick left for Halifax, N. S.

Accompanied by a Technicolor crew, FitzPatrick will stop in Halifax to make a Traveltalks for Metro. Having completed the Spanish version of "Song of Mexico," first of four features the producer is scheduled to do for Republic, he will return in September to start a Cuban musical.

AFL's Green Denounces Pomona Council Action

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, has denounced the Pomona Valley Central Labor Council for threatening to blacklist motion picture stars who refused to take sides in the current jurisdictional dispute. Green acted after the Screen Actors Guild had vigorously protested the Pomona Labor Council's action, both to the Pomona Labor Council and to the AFL president.

Stromberg to Start Work On Next Picture July 16

Starting dates for United Artists Producer Hunt Stromberg's remaining pictures for this year have been set.

"Dishonored Lady" is scheduled to begin July 16 and October 1 was announced as the starting date for "Strange Woman," the first of several pictures in which Hedy Lamarr will star, with Jack Chertok as producer, under the Hunt Stromberg banner.

Don Siegel Gets Boost To WB Features Post

Continuing his policy of elevating studio employes from the ranks, Jack L. Warner, executive producer, has promoted Don Siegel, former short subject director, to director of features. Siegel's first assignment will be "The Verdict," from the Israel Zangwill novel, "The Big Bow Mystery."

Hollywood At War

With 37 celebrities touring hospitals during May and 15 already off on June trips, the Hollywood Victory Committee in the last month topped all previous records for war effort contributions by film colony personalities, it was revealed by the committee's monthly report.

Covering 28 states, the 37 troupers visited 128 army, naval and marine hospitals and convalescent centers.

Eleven screen and radio names played to the armed forces overseas in May, the report states, listing Joe E. Brown, Don Barclay, Charles Butterworth, Marlene Dietrich, Sonja Henie, Allen Jenkins, Boris Karloff, Herbert Locke, Fay McKenzie, Frank Sinatra and Sid Silvers.

On hospital tours were:

Ruthe Brady	Diana Lynn
Charles Coburn	Faye Marlowe
Joseph Cotten	Marilyn Maxwell
Irene Dunne	Wanda McKaye
Dan Duryea	Lynn Merrick
Frank Faylen	Ritz Brothers
Cindy Garner	Gail Russell
Nancy Gates	Gale Sondergaard
Six Goldwyn Girls	Margie Stewart
Gloria Grahame	Carol Thurston
Marjorie Henshaw	Sonny Tufts
Colleen Kennedy	Raymond Walburn
Edgar Kennedy	Virginia Weidler
Patricia Kennedy	Ben Weldon
Ida Lupino	Jane Wyman

On the June hospital schedule so far are Robert Alda, Alan Curtis, James Dunn, Don McGuire, Florence George, the Great Gildersleeve (Harold Peary), Howard Hill, Henry O'Neill, Basil Rathbone, Ouida Rathbone, Edna Rush, Dinah Shore, Viva Tattersall and Sidney Toler.

Other early June activities set by HVC included:

Six headline personalities assigned to a Seventh War Loan tour of southern California cities with Lieut. Jimmy Greer and his coast guard band. Groucho Marx appeared at Glendale, Dennis O'Keefe at Long Beach, George Murphy at San Diego, Kay Kyser at Pasadena, Jack Haley at Santa Monica and Eddie Bracken at Santa Barbara.

Ruth Hussey and Ralph Bellamy left Philadelphia after four days of bond appearances in eastern Pennsylvania and then featured a big rally in Tulsa. They wound up their tour at Beaumont, Texas.

"War plant workers throughout the middle west are sold on war bonds as insurance for the future," declared Walter Pidgeon, returning to Hollywood from a two-week loan tour of industrial centers in Ohio and northern Illinois. Pidgeon made 16 appearances before a total audience of approximately 325,000, in Cleveland, Canton, Dayton, Martins Ferry and Bellaire, Ohio, and in Chicago and vicinity.

An HVC Camp Shows entertainment troupe went to San Francisco for three days at Bay area naval installations. Groucho Marx headed the group, with Harry Ruby, Kay Gorcey, Irene Ryan, Marion Bell, Jeanne Dorelle, Roberta and Frank Jenks.

A star cast featured a benefit for the Western Jewish Institute at the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre. In the show were Jack Carson, Dennis Morgan, Chester Morris, Martha Tilton, Barbara Morrison, the Guardsmen, Gloria Warren, Evans and Meyer and Charles Kemper & Co.

There's a "G.I." projectionist right behind them...



OFFICIAL U. S. COAST GUARD PHOTO

BEHIND the tanks and booming guns, the amph-tracks and the jeeps, you'll find G. I. movie-projection men... setting up shop to bring the boys a few bright hours on "Main Street"...

"Movies tonight!" Ask any morale officer or—more to the point—ask any Yank what that means. You'll learn how really important movies are when men are lonely and tired and a long way from home...

And it all adds up to this: The job being done by G. I. projectionists—movie-trained—is just about as big a contribution to military morale as can be imagined. The best evidence is written on the boys' faces ... when they hear that call of "Movies tonight!"

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors,* Fort Lee, Chicago, Hollywood

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Metro

After winding up his current assignment, LOU COSTELLO will leave on a three-week personal appearance tour of the country. All proceeds from this tour will go into the fund for the Lou Costello jr. Youth Foundation, which is being established to combat juvenile delinquency.

Blurbers

PRC Pictures

FRANK POPE, tradepaper editor and publicist, has joined Don McElwaine's praisery.

United Artists

California Pictures has added RITA STONE, formerly with CBS, to its publicity department.

Briefies

Metro

HAROLD KRESS, former film editor, assigned to direct "Purity Squad," a two-reel special. Chester Franklin will produce the Crime Does Not Pay short.

HERB MOULTON is producing "Cartoons in Action," newest of the John Nesbitt Passing Parade shorts. The one-reeler will tell the story of the men behind the famous comic strips and show them at work.

Paramount

NORMAN SIEGEL, for 19 years with the Cleveland Press, has joined the George Brown publicity department.

RKO Radio

The first of the six two-reel comedies featuring Leon Errol to be produced on the 1945-46 schedule will get the starting gun on June 10. Hal Yates will direct his own screenplay and George Bilson will produce. Shooting on the same number of two-reelers, featuring Edgar Kennedy, will begin as soon as Kennedy returns early in July from a tour of army and naval posts in the east and midwest.

United Artists

CAMERON SHIPP, associate publicity director of Selznick Studio for the last 14 months, has resigned to re-enter the magazine writing field.

Universal

"Gooney Gus" has been selected as the name of the new WALTER LANTZ Cartune character, based upon the gooney bird found in the South Pacific. "Gooney Gus" will make his debut in "Fairweather Fiends," starring "Woody Woodpecker."

Cleffers

Columbia

Musical score for Mutual's "Pardon My Past" ticketed for DIMITRI TIOMKIN.

Metro

GEORGE STOLL has been assigned musical director for "Holiday in Mexico."

Republic

Music for "Sunset in El Dorado" will be written by KEN CARSON and TIM SPENCER, members of "The Sons of the Pioneers."

Warners

RAY HEINDORF has been signed by Leo Forbestein to arrange and conduct the Cole Porter score for "Night and Day."

Meggers

Columbia

WILLIAM MULL was named assistant to Producer Michel Kraike on "The Kansan."

RAY NAZARRO will meg "Burning the Trail."

Metro

PANDRO S. BERMAN handed production reins for "Green Mansions."

ROY ROWLAND set to pilot "Alley Cowboys."

Monogram

EDWARD KOVACS has been signed by Louis Berkoff to act as his associate producer on "Gregory."

WILLIAM NIGH signed for directorial chore on "Allotment Wives."

Paramount

JOHN FARROW will meg "Calcutta," Alan Ladd and William Bendix starrer.

PRC Pictures

European Director FRANK WISBAR signed to write and direct "Strangler of the Swamp."

RKO Radio

LESLIE GOODWINS has been signed to direct "Riverboat Rhythm."

RICHARD BERGER has been assigned to produce, with JACK GROSS as executive producer, "Never Say Die," an original yarn by Alexander Kenedi about a war veteran and former newspaper man who believes he has only six months to live. Screenplay is being written by Bess Taffel.

Options

Columbia

One of the dual male leads in "Snafu" given to JIMMY LLOYD.

HARRY DAVENPORT joins cast of "Some Call It Love."

EDDIE ACUFF has been added to the cast of "The Kansan."

CONRAD JANIS has been inked to play the juvenile lead in "Snafu."

GEORGE SMITH has been inked to recreate his stage role of Colonel West in "Snafu."

Cast of "Some Call It Love" to include CORA WITHERSPOON.

PHYLLIS ADAIR inked for femme lead in "Burning the Trail."

Metro

ARTHUR WALSH draws spot in "A Letter for Evie."

HUME CRONYN chosen for key role in "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

CHESTER CONKLIN has been inked for a comedy role in "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood."

ANGELA LANSBURY has been inked for one of the two feminine roles opposite William Powell in "The Hoodlum Saint."

JOHN CARLYLE will make his screen debut in "For Better, for Worse."

WILLIAM POWELL signed to a new seven-year pact.

Monogram

Principal femme role in "Gregory" ticketed for JEAN ROGERS.

Additions to the cast of "The Shanghai Cobra" include ARTHUR LOFT, ROY GORDON and ANDY ANDREWS.

Paramount

New contracts were awarded to BARRY SULLIVAN, WILLIAM RUSSELL, BEA ALLEN, DOROTHY DAYTON and WILLIAM MEADER.

ROBERT CUMMINGS' next assignment for Hal Wallis Productions will be starring role in "Dishonorable Discharge."

PRC Pictures

ANN SAVAGE and TOM NEAL set to costar in "Detour."

EDMUND MacDONALD checked into cast of "Detour."

Republic

Moppet "Twinkle" Watts added to roster of "A Guy Could Change."

EDWARD ASHLEY has been signed to a seven-year term pact.

Added to cast of "Sunset in El Dorado" are MARGARET DUMONT, who was signed for the part, ROY BARCROFT and TOM LONDON.

RKO Radio

STEVE COCHRAN has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Kid From Brooklyn."

MIKE MAZURKI and JANE GREER have been signed for major roles in "Dick Tracy."

Important spot in "Wanderer of the Wasteland" assigned to TANIS CHANDLER.

BARBARA HALE draws top femme role in "Tomorrow Is Here."

Engaged for spots in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn" are LIONEL STANDER and WALTER ABEL.

United Artists

WALTER BALDWIN and BEN HALL were signed by Hunt Stromberg for featured roles in "Young Widow."

Comedian JAMES BURKE and GEORGE MEADER have been signed by Hunt Stromberg for roles in "Young Widow."

Universal

JESS BARKER has been set for a featured role in "As It Was Before."

CRAIG REYNOLDS was signed for a top featured role in "Uncle Harry."

THOMAS JACKSON inked for featured part in "Alibi in Ermine."

BUSTER KEATON inked for "Once Upon a Dream."

Warners

JAMES DOBBS, 21-year-old socialite scion of the hat manufacturing clan, has been signed to a term contract.

PETER LORRE has been assigned a key role in "Confidential Agent."

Role in "Confidential Agent" assigned to VICTOR FRANCEN.

Scripters

Columbia

JOE HOFFMAN and JACK HENLEY were assigned to do final polish job on script of "Hail the Chief."

RICHARD WEIL has been assigned to do first treatment on "Duchess of Broadway."

RKO Radio

EDITH SOMMER, New York radio writer, has been engaged to do adaptation of "Die Gently, Stranger."

Scripting chore of "Badman's Territory" inked for CLARENCE UPSON YOUNG.

United Artists

HOWARD HARRIS and SYD ZELINKA signed to assist Joseph Fields in screenplay chore for "A Night in Casablanca."

Warners

CRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD has been assigned to develop the screenplay of "Up at the Villa," from the novel by Somerset Maugham. Isherwood recently completed scripting "The Woman."

Story Buys

Columbia

"Even Steven," an original story by Paul Gangelin, has been purchased and will be used as the basis for "Texas Jamboree," one of the four western musicals the studio will produce next season. J. Benton Cheney has been assigned to do the screenplay. Colbert Clark will produce under the supervision of Jack Fier.

Paramount

Screen rights to Janet Van Duyn's best seller, "I Married Them," has been purchased. The story revolves around a family of eccentrics in upper New York state. The central figure is a sane girl who married into the mad menage and lives to tell the story of her fabulous experiences.

Republic

Purchased from RKO Radio, "That Man Malone" will be produced by Frank Borzage. John Wayne set to star.

Technically

Columbia

EDWIN PHILLIPS replaces Mel Ferrer as dialog director on "Some Call It Love," for the remainder of its shooting schedule.

JIMMY NICHOLSON set as assistant director on the George Abbott production, "Snafu."

Metro

Unit art director on "The Postman Always Rings Twice" to be RANDALL DUELL.

Assistant megger for "The Hoodlum Saint" to be HORACE HOUGH.

RAY JUNE draws lensing chore on "The Hoodlum Saint."

Because of illness, Lester White will be replaced by KARL FREUND as cameraman on "A Letter for Evie."

FERRIS WEBSTER assigned as film editor on "The Hoodlum Saint."

Monogram

Crew for "Gregory" includes EDWARD KOVACS, associate producer; SEYMOUR ROTH, assistant director; IRA MORGAN, cameraman; RICHARD CURRIER, film editor, and IRA HOKE, still man.

Paramount

JOHNNY COONAN assumes the post of assistant director on "To Each His Own." DON McKAY has been assigned as sound engineer.

DANIEL FAPP will photograph "To Each His Own."

Republic

Direction of dance sequences in "Sunset in El Dorado" assigned to LARRY CEBALLOS.

RKO Radio

FRANK REDMAN and JEAN L. SPEAK will handle the camera and sound work, respectively, on "Dick Tracy." Other technicians include RALPH BERGER, associate art director; RENIE, costumes, and CLEM BEAUCHAMP, assistant director.

ARGYLE NELSON has resigned as assistant production manager to become production manager for David O. Selznick.

Universal

LUCIEN BALLARD ticketed to lens "As It Was Before."

HAL MOHR, A.S.C., has been assigned to direct photography on "Alibi in Ermine."

CHARLES VAN ENGER, A.S.C., has been set as first cameraman on "Once Upon a Dream."

Title Changes

PRC Pictures

"Wanted Men" has been changed to FLYING BULLETS; "Ride, Ranger, Ride" will be called FRONTIER FUGITIVES, and the new tag for "Red River Express" is STAGE COACH OUTLAWS.

"Lost Atlantis" now LOST CONTINENT.

Republic

THAT MAN OF MINE is the new tag for "The Woman Who Came Back," an Armand Schaefer production, and Walter Colmes' "The Web" has been changed to THE WOMAN WHO CAME BACK.

Studio Travel Remains At Restricted Minimums

The gin rummy and klabiasch routes continued to miss the biggies of the motion picture industry as coast-to-coast treks by executives were held at travel-restricted minimums.

Sol Lesser entrained for New York, from where he will head for Paris in connection with his forthcoming production, "Paris Canteen." En route he will stop over in London to line up British stars. He will spend several weeks in the French capitol, making arrangements to shoot part of the production in studios there.

Another United Artists producer, Lester Cowan, returned from a trip to New York and Washington. Jerry Dale, publicity chief for UA Producer Benedict Bogeaus, went to Gotham on business.

Voldemar Vetluguin, head of Metro's original story projects department, returned from New York after spending the last few weeks there on company business, while William Fadiman, head of the studio's story department, left for Manhattan on his regular semiannual business trip to look over story properties and plays.

Trem Carr, executive director at Monogram, returned to his desk at the studio, following the company's semiannual directors meeting in Chicago. Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager; George D. Burrows, vice-president and treasurer, and Maurice and Franklin King, producers, returned from New York, where all went following the meeting.

Director Bruce Humberstone left for New York for the opening at the Astor Theatre of Samuel Goldwyn's "Wonder Man." While east, he was to attend the annual reunion of the Mayflower Humberstone Society at Litchfield, Conn.

James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, was in Hollywood for business conferences with Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board, and Allen Wilson, studio vice-president.

Director William Keighley left for Paris where he will gather data for a picture with a French background as his initial film following his discharge from the army.

Joseph Moskowitz, 20th-Fox vice-president and studio representative in New York, arrived in Hollywood for a two-week stay to confer with studio executives on current and future productions.

"Cheyenne" on Warners' Big Budget Schedule

"Cheyenne," from the novel by Paul Wellman, has been added to the Warner Bros. 1945-46 production schedule and will be one of the company's big budget pictures of the year, according to an announcement by Jack L. Warner, executive producer.

The story treats of Wyoming's fight for women's suffrage, with the central feminine character being a traveling saleswoman and one-woman chautauqua. The male lead is a highwayman-poet who leaves his verses in rifled cash boxes. Emmet Lavery is doing the screenplay and production by Robert Buckner is slated for September.

De Toth to Free-Lance

By mutual agreement, Director Andre De Toth terminated his contract with Hunt Stromberg Productions and announced that he will free-lance in the future.

A Change at Ouray, Colo.

OURAY, COLO.—Miss Shirley Hastings is the new manager of the Uray Theatre here, succeeding Mrs. Jasper Ray, who resigned because of ill health.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

CONTROVERSIES over titles, variations thereof and priorities thereto, are not limited to the heavyweights. A battle royal is brewing between two of the smaller studios, which promises to make the current conflict between David Loew and the Brudern Warner over "Casablanca" look like a tiddlywinks match.

Some months ago Monogram announced plans to produce a gangster film under the title "Baby Face Floyd." Republic has one in the works called "Baby Face Nelson." Both are to be predicated upon the nefarious career of Lester Gillis, notorious Dillinger gang triggerman of approximately a decade ago. Monogram claims priority to the use of "Baby Face" in any form and has placed its case in the hands of its attorneys. Spokesmen for the studio point out that the film was planned as a natural followup to its currently-in-release "Dillinger." In emphasizing the importance of the title to Monogram, they stress the probability that their present winner owes much of its record-shattering success to its handle. They estimate that under any other tag the film might have grossed a quarter of a million dollars. As "Dillinger," the picture is expected to reach the million and a half mark.

In view of which, quite understandable is the company's perturbance over the likelihood of a contemporary film with virtually the same title and theme to compete with the planned successor.

The Monogram-Republic title feud goes further and into less violent subjects. Monogram has announced "Wonderland" as a Belita starrer, Republic "Winter Wonderland" to topline Vera Hruba Ralston. Both gals are, of course, skating stars, so the features will of necessity carry their similarity further than their titles.

Indicated is the need for the United Nations peace conference to open a branch in Hollywood to specialize in matters titular.

→

Incidentally "Dillinger" was produced by King Bros., nee Kosinsky Bros.

If the film continues its present meteoric course toward important money—and there's no reason it shouldn't—don't be surprised to see it changed again—to Emperor Bros.

→

Ho, Hum, department:

Lauren Bacall and Bogart spent their honeymoon weekend on his boat, "The Sluggy."

→

Breathless Bernie Williams makes the welkin tinkle with this morsel of nostalgia:

"Because he started his working life as a St. Louis newspaper man, Hunt Stromberg attended personally to the casting of all players for newspaper roles in 'Young Widow,' which is now in production."

Shades of Horace Greeley, how the boys have changed!

→

Some weeks ago it was announced that Burgess Meredith would produce for RKO a li'l number yclept "Diary of a Chambermaid," with Paulette Goddard starred. In view of the many traveling salesmen stories and the comparably hackneyed production code, this space offered eight to five that the film—if, when and as made—would never reach the screen under that title.

Now the chambermaid has changed hotels, if not occupations. Meredith has checked off the RKO lot and at last reports Benedict Bogeaus plans to produce the picture for United Artists.

The odds on the title haven't changed.

→

John LeRoy "Flash" Johnston waxes enthusiastic with the following bit of Wellesian lore:

"Orson Welles added another attainment to a long list of talents on International's 'Tomorrow Is Forever' set last week. When Cinematographer Joseph Valentine complained of a severe backache, Welles gave him a spinal adjustment immediately, relieving the ailment."

The sextuple-threat man (writer, producer, director, actor, commentator, columnist) has given so many persons a pain in the-er-back, that it seems no more than fair that he should relieve at least one.

→

"JINX TAKES OFF TODAY
TO ENTERTAIN THE BOYS"
—Whitney Bolton headline.

Gypsy Rose Lee is good, too.

→

Strange names and distant places continue prominently in publicity releases. Item:

"Sheik Hafidh Al Kadi, Bagdad political leader and industrial tycoon, accompanied by his brother, Mustafa, will visit Warner Bros. studio as guests of Humphrey Bogart."

With Bogart just back from his honeymoon, the visitors Mustafa lot to talk about.

→

Unusually descriptive—and probably prophetic—are the titles of two features in Paramount's forthcoming block.

"Out of This World" should prove exactly that for the seekers of carefree, clever screenfare. It's a bonus package of showmanship for exhibitors, of entertainment for the customers.

But, "Incendiary Blonde" is the offering that will have industry and public tongues wagging. By the time this is printed, the reviewers will have trotted forth and put through their best paces all of the superlatives at their command—the most glowing of which cannot possibly give the picture more than its just due.

While the film can be termed a triumph in every department, there is one thought which most prominently stands out among the countless merits. Out of the magnificence of a master production emerges Betty Hutton—Actress.

No longer a rough-and-tumble, bubbling kid with great talent and an irresistible personality—but a fine-grained, exciting performer who has definitely won her spurs among the screen's best.

For which transition, no small amount of credit undoubtedly is due to Director George Marshall and his guidance of La Hutton in her unforgettable delineation of Texas Guinan.



UNIVERSALITES AT SALT LAKE MEETING—Denver, Seattle and Portland sales forces of Universal joined the Salt Lake City personnel of that organization for a meeting at Hotel Utah recently. The new product was discussed.

In the photograph, left to right—Front row: Al Mabey, salesman, Salt Lake; Bruce Marshall, booker, Denver; Emmett Warner, salesman, Denver; Frank Green, salesman, Denver; Mayer Monsky, branch manager, Denver. Second row: William Galloway, booker, Seattle; Donald Condon, salesman, Seattle; E. J. Piro, salesman, Seattle; Sam Milner, branch manager, Seattle; Carl Mock, salesman, Salt Lake.

Third row: Jim Mooney, salesman, Salt Lake; R. O. Wilson, branch manager, Portland; George DeWaide, salesman, Portland; H. F. Anderson, booker, Portland; Jim Hommel, salesman, Portland. Last row: C. J. Feldman, district manager; A. J. O'Keefe, western sales manager; C. R. Wade, branch manager, Salt Lake.

SAN FRANCISCO

Mrs. Lettie McGovern, Filmrow inspector, her husband, and five daughters have gone to West Point to attend the graduation there of their son and brother, Russell C. McGovern . . . The University of California Little Theatre will present on June 7 to 9, the world premiere of "The Private Life of the Master Race" a documentary play by Bertolt Brecht, noted exiled German writer. The play has a large cast and 17 scenes.

Bond shows continue to feature major premieres and from all indications, according to George Mann, "There is no doubt that the record of the Sixth War Loan drive will be topped." "The Valley of Decision," a picturization of Marcia Davenport's novel, had its bond premiere at the St. Francis May 31. The United Artists Theatre announced its bond premiere show to be the Bing Crosby production of "The Great John L."

Row ramblings: Worth Prine resigned as city manager of Palo Alto Fox West Coast Theatres, effective June 5. His successor has not been announced as yet. Prine expects to take a long vacation before going into private business. He and his family intend to remain in Palo Alto.

Glamour, sepia beauty personified, and a blues singer with grade A vocal cords, according to the critics, is stopping the show at the Golden Gate. Putting all the critics superlatives into two words spells out Lena Horne. La Horne, in addition to her appearance at the Gate has put in personals at the San Francisco Stage Door Canteen, as have Paul McNutt, Jack Benny, Don Wilson, Phil Harris, Larry Stevens, Rochester, Rita Hayworth, Ruth Hussey, Lana Turner and Turhan Bey.

Vacation sprees are continuing along the Row with Melba Berry, secretary to L. Borg, leaving for a two-week camping trip. Where Melba doesn't know, but it'll be away from the city . . . Ruth Washer Langley is saying adieu to Monogram Exchange here as she is anticipating l'enfant.

News and gossips on the Row was slight during the week, and out-of-towners few, the holiday being the cause. Theatres did an excellent business over the holiday with several new shows opening that day, among them the Gate with La Horne.

DENVER

Edward J. Mapel, owner of the Gem Theatre, has been elected president of the city council. This is his first term with that body . . . Maxine Kerr, Rialto manager, has resigned to marry Capt. Kenneth K. Lewis of the army air force. She is succeeded by Robert Otwell, recently with theatres in Casper, Wyo.

Joe Clark, recently a Fox West Coast theatre manager near Los Angeles, has taken over the managership of the Film Classics exchange in Denver. He expects to leave soon on a trip over the territory.

George McCormick, owner of theatres in Canon City and Florence, Colo., and Hot Springs, N. M., has joined the army and is in training at Camp Hood, Texas. Fox Intermountain is operating his theatres . . . The two parks in the midst of Filmrow have been given their annual cleaning by the city.

Don Tibbs, Monogram exchange manager in Salt Lake City, spent a few days in Denver conferring with the franchise holder, Lon Fidler . . . Mrs. Isabella Strohmeyer, who owns the Sioux, Crawford, Neb., underwent an operation at the Mayo hospital in Rochester, Minn.

Harold Brown and associates have bought the Coronado, Albuquerque, N. M., from Claude Graves . . . Exhibitors from out-of-town included Ray Katzenbach, Brush, Colo.; Paul Tramp, Trenton, Neb.; R. D. Ervin, Kremmling, Colo.; Frank Young, Otis, Colo., and Claude Graves, Albuquerque, N. M.

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'Affairs of Susan' Tops Los Angeles Offerings

LOS ANGELES—With new pictures at seven of the first run showcases, "The Affairs of Susan" was a standout best grosser, scoring 200 at the Hollywood Paramount and 158 at the Downtown. "The Enchanted Cottage" followed, bowing in with 150 in two houses, the Pantages and RKO Hillstreet. Of the holdovers, "Diamond Horseshoe" topplining with "Escape in the Fog" supporting, made the best showing.

(Average is 100)

Chinese, Uptown and State—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 2nd wk.....130
Downtown and Hollywood Paramounts—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep).....179
Egyptian, Ritz and Los Angeles—**The Clock** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 90
Guild, Wilshire and United Artists—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **The Power of the Whistler** (Col)....107
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Two o'Clock Courage** (RKO).....150
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 4th wk..... 80

'Diamond Horseshoe' on Moveover Hits Top Percentage Mark in Denver

DENVER—"Diamond Horseshoe" and "GI Honeymoon," on a moveover at the Aladdin, took top percentage, although "Between Two Women" and "Escape in the Fog," having many more seats to play to at the Orpheum, took in the most money. For money and percentage both, "Affairs of Susan" at the Denham was a close second, and was held over.

Aladdin—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono), 4th d. t. wk. 200
Denham—**Affairs of Susan** (Para).....190
Denver, Esquire and Webber—**It's in the Bag** (UA); **Power of the Whistler** (Col)..... 97
Orpheum—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 170
Paramount—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA); **Docks of New York** (Mono).....160
Rialto—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), 4th d. t. wk.....125

"Salty O'Rourke" Hits High Score In Rather Slow Frisco Week

SAN FRANCISCO—Last week was rather slow. The Fox hit the high score of 140 on "Salty O'Rourke." The second high went to the Paramount with 130 for "Bring On the Girls." The only other opening for the week was "Betrayal From the East" at the Golden Gate. Other houses played continued runs.

Esquire and Tivoli—**Dillinger** (Mono); **Phantom of 42nd Street** (PRC), 3rd wk.....125
Fox—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep) 140
Golden Gate—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO), plus stage show 125
Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep) 130
State—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), 2nd wk.....120
St. Francis—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono), 3rd d. t. wk.....110
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 4th wk.....120
Warfield—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), 4th wk.....110

"Ice Follies" Popularity Hurts Show Trade in Seattle

SEATTLE—Theatres here suffered the last two weeks because of the popularity of "The Ice Follies" at the Arena, the attendance at which totaled 106,480 people at an average of $2.50 per person. Now seats are on sale for the forthcoming "Ice-Capades."

Blue Mouse—**Unseen** (Para); **Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), 2nd wk. 140
Fifth Avenue—**Affairs of Susan** (Para).....175
Liberty—**Brewsters Millions** (UA); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 2nd wk.....150
Music Box—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 120
Music Hall—**Road to Morocco** (Para); **Sun Valley Serenade** (20th-Fox), reissues.....130
Orpheum—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep).....180
Paramount—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 175
Palomar—**Song of Sarong** (Univ); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep), plus stage show.....150

Big Angeleno Bond Blast Due June 25

LOS ANGELES—Local bond-selling showmen are pointing their efforts toward what promises to be one of the highlights of the campaign in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive—the simultaneous staging of bond premieres in seven downtown theatres. June 25 has been selected for the big blast, and admission to the theatres will be limited to purchasers of bonds. Each showcase will augment its regular program with the premiere of a major production.

"On to Tokyo" day was staged at more than 650 southern California theatres June 6. It was expected to result in sales of more than one million in E bonds, according to Gus Metzger, theatre bond sales chairman.

Bond buyers who made purchases of bond of any denomination on that day were admitted to theatre as guests of the management.

First of the schools-at-war junior war bond matinees were held at the following greater Los Angeles theatres: Bard's Adams, Carmen, Tujunga, El Sereno, Elysian, Vern, Warners' Forum and Huntington Park.

SALT LAKE CITY—Still attracting entries, Utah's unique queen contest for the Seventh War Loan already has resulted in subscription of more than 80 per cent of the bond quota set for the motion picture committee, according to local officials for the drive.

The contest has attracted more than 500 queen entrants, each of whom represent $5,000 in bonds pledged,

Utah's war loan activities received an extra boost with the visit to Salt Lake of Eddie Cantor, who put on a special show with tickets being given to each purchaser of a $100 bond from downtown retail stores. The motion picture and radio star sold five pairs of nylon stockings for $5,000 each, then bought a sixth pair for $25,000, a bond for each of his daughters. His appearance resulted in the sale of more than $200,000 worth of bonds.

Film Folk Take Leading Part in Hero Festivities

With the appointment by Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Mervyn LeRoy to produce the Coliseum show which climaxed the city's welcome to Gens. George S. Patton and James H. Doolittle, the motion picture industry extensively participated in the heroes' homecoming festivities.

Hollywood's top personalities and all available studio facilities were placed at the services of the sponsoring civic committee by Y. Frank Freeman, who was named by E. J. Mannix, president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, to represent the industry. Also made available were the talents of leading motion picture writers to work on dramatizations which, with spectacular pageantry being prepared by the army, preceded the contributed 45 minutes of entertainment which came directly before this spectacular and dramatic highlight.

At the request of C. K. Steele, city treasurer, and chairman of the civic committee, the public information committee of the motion picture industry organized and turned over a staff which had entire charge of press handling on all events connected with the homecoming celebration. The staff was headed by Arch Reeve, with Duke Wales actively in charge as his assistant. Publicists W. C. Lewellyn of Paramount, Don McDonald of Universal and Harold Mendelsohn of Columbia were on loan-out to the special organization.



HONOR EXHIBITORS' GROUP — In recognition of its generosity in providing thousands of free theatre tickets to service people, the California Theatres Ass'n, Inc., has received the United Service Organizations meritorious service award. Shown receiving the award for the CTA is its president, Joseph Blumenfeld (left). Edward D. Keil, local USO council, presents the certificate, marking the first time this award has been made outside the USO group.

Two Bond Shows Net 12 Million in Seattle

SEATTLE—Bond premieres now are engaging the chief attention in the war loan drive. The Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres has donated two theatres—by "donated" meaning they were closed to regular business all day and opened only in the evening for the special bond shows.

The first was the Music Hall, which raised $5.000,000 through the showing of the stage attraction "Bonds of Freedom," given by the army port of embarkation.

The second was the Orpheum, which raised $7,000,000 with the showing of the Fort Lewis production, "Kapers in Khaki."

Sterling Theatres will give the next stage show at the Palomar, with the Paramount scheduled for a stage show featuring two of the survivors of the Iwo Jima flag raising. The coast guard will do a stage show at the Fifth Avenue with Buddy Ebsen as master of ceremonies.

All theatres in Seattle are doing their part.

SALT LAKE CITY—Intermountain sports followers and film fans here are awaiting a benefit golf match to be staged June 17 at Ft. Douglas, near Salt Lake, with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby playing two Utah professionals. Proceeds are to aid in building a nine-hole golf course for patients and personnel at Bushnell army hospital, Brigham City, Utah.

The last time Crosby and Hope appeared in a golf exhibition in Salt Lake they drew the biggest gallery in Utah golf history and put $2,500 into the Ft. Douglas recreation fund. Following the match, Hope's troupe of entertainers, including Jerry Colonna and Frances Langford, will give an overseas-type show in the University of Utah stadium. Crosby also will take part.

Pueblo Theatre Reopens

PUEBLO, COLO.—The Pubelo Theatre here has reopened after a six-week period of redecoration and improvement.

Ticket Tax Approval Worries Exhibitors

LOS ANGELES—Exhibitors and distribution executives of this community are displaying considerable anxiety over the outcome of a local election in Bell, a suburb of Los Angeles, which by a vote of 650 to 237, approved an ordinance placing a two per cent tax levy on all theatre admissions.

Showmen fear that the Bell action may spread through the southland's many other comparable municipalities, of which there are an unusually large number in Los Angeles County.

Three houses are affected by the Bell tax, all operated by Fox West Coast. The ordinance, adopted by the Bell city council several months ago, was once shelved when nearly 1,000 voters signed a petition requesting its repeal. At the recent election it was submitted for referendum approval or rejection.

The play made by the city fathers of the suburb for more municipal revenue at the expense of theatres or their patrons is one in a series of such moves which have swept through contiguous communities during the past year. San Bernardino and Redondo are two cities in which similar moves were voted down by the public after the respective councils had submitted them as officially approved ordinances.

C. Marti Rescues Woman As Fire Razes Idaho House

BOISE, IDA. — Projectionist Chris Marti proved himself a hero when fire destroyed the Cambridge Theatre at Cambridge, Ida., last week. Painfully but not severely burned, Marti carried an unidentified woman, who had fainted, to safety outside the showhouse.

The fire started in the projection room, according to Joseph Hancock, general manager of the Hancock Theatres, who said its cause has not been determined. Hancock also said quick thinking on the part of theatre employes probably prevented a tragedy. As soon as the flames were discovered, the lights were turned on and all patrons asked to leave in an orderly manner. This they did, and all escaped injury.

Mark Alling Transfers To Frisco Golden Gate

SAN FRANCISCO—Mark Alling has just been transferred from the RKO Orpheum in Denver to the RKO Golden Gate here as house manager under the general management of Robert Corbin.

Mickey Gross, just released from the marines, is returning to his former position at the Orpheum in Denver. Burk Frank, who was house manager at the Golden Gate, has joined forces with the Golden State Theatres.

H. H. Moyer Buys Theatre Building at Gresham, Ore.

GRESHAM, ORE.—The New Gresham Theatre Bldg. has been purchased by H. H. Moyer, operator of the show house, from A. W. Metzger & Co., who constructed the theatre in 1936. Moyer has been operating the house under lease since that time. No sale price was announced.

Plan for "My Past"

Leslie Fenton, producer-director of Mutual's "Pardon My Past," and Abe Montague, vice-president in charge of sales for Columbia, met to discuss release plans and schedule on the film, which is being shot at General Service for Columbia release.



CO-CHAIRMAN IN COLORADO—Robert J. Garland, above, state exhibitor co-chairman in the Seventh War Loan campaign, has been exceptionally busy of late. His state has been extremely active with bond premieres, arrangements for Free Movie Days and similar events.

SEATTLE

Filmrow is preparing for a bond premiere of "Along Came Jones" in the Jewell Box, Little Victor, and Paramount preview rooms. A total of 150 seats are available and the admission to this special showing is the purchase of a $5,000 bond or more.

"Son of Lassie" is getting a big campaign here with the Friskie people doing most of the spending . . . A visitor was Doug "Wrong Way" Corrigan . . . George Smith, western division sales manager for Paramount, was here from Los Angeles with Del Goodman, western district manager.

Dorothy Forman came home from the hospital and is coming along fine . . . Walter and Mrs. Wessling of the Portland Monogram office, were weekend guests of Ralph Abbett, local Monogram manager . . . Rudy Hagen of the New York Warner checking department, is visiting Vete Stewart, local WB manager.

Arthur E. Meyer, manager of the projection department of International Projector, New York, visited Oscar Chiniquy at NTS here. He was on the way home from a meeting of the SMPE in Los Angeles . . . Joe Wright, assistant to Mickey Carney in the San Francisco division of the army motion picture service, was on the Row with Dick Schmidt . . . Midstate's theatre in Dayton, Wash., the Liberty, suffered $7,500 damage by fire that destroyed the booth and equipment.

Bjarne Moe is drawing plans for a new theatre to be built in South Bend by Ross Neilson of Raymond. Work will start this summer . . . J. and Gene von Herberg celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary . . . Elsie Heise of Metro left for Los Angeles to spend her vacation with her hubby.

Lieut. Bob Chesterfield is from England on a 30-day furlough . . . Priorities have been granted to Kemper Freeman for the construction of a 600-seat theatre in Bellvue . . . Phyllis Navarre was back on the Row after her accident on the golf links in which she sustained a torn ligament in her foot.

Dorothy Robinson of RKO has been made cashier to succeed Gene Gass, who resigned . . . Ted Lay of the B. F. Shearer Co. has returned from a nine-week trip through Montana . . . Heaton Randall was here from San Francisco.

Mrs. Rad Pratsch was in from Tacoma, W. B. McDonald from Olympia, and Gene Groesbeck from Enumclaw . . . Freda Kalusha hunting for red points . . . Betty Christie wondering about bacon . . . Ted Dash getting short of cigarets . . . Joe Cooper getting sick of the smell of paint.

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Mrs. Parker Serves as Liberty Ship Sponsor

PORTLAND—Mrs. J. J. Parker, president of the J. J. Parker Theatres, Oregon's largest independent motion picture theatre chain, was honored recently in being invited to sponsor the Liberty ship SS Chemawa, launched at the Henry J. Kaiser yards here.

Members of the motion picture WAC, the war finance committee and others prominent in film and civic circles were guests. Speakers were Wilbur Carl of the Oregon WFC and Jack Matlack, manager of the Parker circuit.

Included in the official party at the launching ceremony were Harry Lake, comptroller of Parker Theatres, and Mrs. Lake; Grover Handley, manager of the United Artists Theatre, and Mrs. Handley; H. J. Royster, manager of the Mayfair Theatre, and Mrs. Royster; A. M. Dunlop, Parker outstate supervisor, and Mrs. Dunlop, and John J. Parker jr.

Among the notables present were Mr. and Mrs. James Beale, Columbia; O. J. Miller, state exhibitor chairman, Seventh War Loan, and Mrs. Miller; Mr. and Mrs. Lou Amacher, M-G-M; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wessling, Monogram; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Cory, RKO; Mr. and Mrs. James Sheffield, Republic; Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Powers, 20th-Fox; Mr. and Mrs. Jack O'Bryan, United Artists; Mr. and Mrs. Morris Segel, United Artists; Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Wilson, Universal; Mr. and Mrs. Al Oxtoby, Warners; Commissioner Dorothy McCullough Lee; E. Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Oregonian, and Mrs. Hoyt, and Mayor and Mrs. Earl Riley.

Mrs. Parker received many congratulatory telegrams from film stars in Hollywood and top film executives in New York.

The circuit head, one of the country's leading exhibition executives, was accorded the honor in tribute to her many efforts in behalf of the war effort.

To Midwest and the South

COLORADO SPRINGS—Lee Wysong, sales promotion manager for the Alexander Film Co. here, left on a trip to Chicago and through the middle west to contact salesmen and district managers.

Justine DeVine, assistant to the president of the company in Detroit, went to Oklahoma and Dallas for funeral services for his mother.



LIBERTY SHIP SPONSOR—Mrs. J. J. Parker, head of the Parker Theatres circuit in Oregon, was honored recently in being chosen sponsor for the Liberty ship SS Chemawa. Shown with her is the ship's captain, Robert Osgood.

SALT LAKE CITY

Ralph Trathen, former theatre manager in Seattle, is now managing the Tower here . . . While here for a war bond show, Eddie Cantor revealed his next picture will be "Show Business Out West," to be produced by RKO. He expects to start on the picture within the next two or three weeks.

Mrs. James Mooney, wife of the local salesman for Universal, has recovered from an attack of pneumonia . . . Vacations are on at the RKO offices. Dorothy McGinn, contract clerk, was spending her two-week leave here around home. Lillian Seppi, assistant cashier, was visiting her folks in Lava Hot Springs, Idaho.

Roy Rogers, singing cowboy star, was in Salt Lake in connection with the celebration of Republic's tenth anniversary . . . A new paint job and general redecorating work have made Salt Lake's Arcade Theatre look like a new showhouse. The theatre is operated by James A. Christensen, who also is secretary of the Intermountain Theatre Operators' Ass'n.

Dinah Shore, star of screen and radio, entertained patients in the Bushnell army general hospital at Brigham City, last week.

Motion Picture Club members are polishing off their driving and putting in preparation for the annual golf tournament, expected to open June 21 at Nibley Park. Clare Woods, booker for Intermountain Theatres, chairman for the affair, said arrangements have not been entirely completed.

David H. Mann, former husband of Mae Mann, Hollywood columnist, is now assistant to the commissioner of publicity, Utah state department of publicity and industrial development.

Press, radio and sport representatives were guests of Ike Armstrong, University of Utah athletic director, at a luncheon at the Hotel Utah complimenting Christy Walsh. Walsh, recently named associate producer of "Captain Eddie," a film story of the career of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, was in Salt Lake in connection with prelease publicity for the film.

Chicago Attendance Cut by Holiday Rains

CHICAGO—Fair weather for several days plus a holiday would have made last week a big one, but the rains came to take the edge off grosses. Memorial Day crowds, brought downtown to see Gen. Mark Clark and 50 of his veterans, found their way into the shows after the 1 o'clock parade, but a lot of people hied out of town for the mid-week respite. There was no record-breaking business anywhere. The heralded "Thunderhead" opened well at the Garrick; ditto "Patrick the Great," plus an Olson and Johnson feature at the RKO Palace. The Chicago did well with "Bring On the Girls" and Dave Apollon heading a fine stage bill. Connie Boswell and a good supporting show with "Delightfully Dangerous," did okay at the Oriental.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 6th wk.....105
Chicago—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), plus stage show 125
Garrick—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox)..115
Grand—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ), 4th d. t. wk..... 95
Oriental—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA), plus stage show 120
Palace—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **See My Lawyer** (Univ) 110
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 4th wk.....105
State-Lake—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 110
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 22nd wk. 100
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 105
Woods—**Vampire's Ghost** (Rep); **Phantom Speaks** (Rep), 3rd wk. 100
World Playhouse—**Wuthering Heights** (FC), 2nd wk., reissue 100

Only Average Business Registered In Milwaukee, With "Sudan" Leading

MILWAUKEE—"Sudan" at the Warner turned in only an average take, while "Having Wonderful Crime" linked with "Delightfully Dangerous" at the Riverside pressed close to average. The other offerings were pretty much on the average side.

Alhambra—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Tomorrow, the World** (UA), 2nd d. t. wk.....100
Palace—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **The Unseen** (Para) 100
Riverside—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 95
Strand—**Practically Yours** (Para); **Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk..... 95
Warner—**Sudan** (Univ); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ)..100
Wisconsin—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Bull Fighters** (20th-Fox) 100

War Plant Reconversion Cutbacks Reflected in Indianapolis Theatres

INDIANAPOLIS—Outdoor amusments, or it might be a letdown in employment due to the industrial reconversion now taking place in several war plants here, have cut grosses.

Alamo—**Return of the Durango Kid** (Col); **Under Western Skies** (Univ)..... 90
Ambassador—**Utah** (Rep); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 150
Circle—**Sudan** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 105
Indiana—**Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox)..... 80
Loew's—**Naughty Marietta** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M) 95
Lyric—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.....100

Kirsch Combine Glad to Pay for Government Shorts

CHICAGO—Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, declared that his combine will be glad to pay for shorts which the government puts out but which are produced wholly, or in part, by Hollywood. Some buyers are said to be registering complaints because the War Activities Committee had set a price on "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," but Warners printed it and United Artists is distributing so it is not exactly in the "for free" category, since the distributors had to come up with at least part of the cost.



DEMPSEY A VISITOR—After the war bond meeting, held at the Varsity Theatre in Milwaukee, this photo was shot. Left to right: Gordon Hewitt, Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp.; Comdr. Jack Dempsey of the coast guard, former world heavyweight boxing champion; William V. Geehan, assistant to Harold J. Fitzgerald, Fox Wisconsin president.

Motion by Rosecan Seeks To Include Distributors

ST. LOUIS—In the $285,000 antitrust charge damage suit of the St. Louis Amusement Co., et al, vs. Paramount, et al, now pending before U.S. District Judge Richard M. Dundan, the defendants, Apollo Theatre Corp. and Adolph Rosecan, doing business as the Princess Theatre, St. Louis, have filed motions seeking leave to make United Artists Corp., Universal Film Exchanges, Inc., Columbia Pictures Corp., and Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of F&M, as parties to the action and that there be served upon them summons and a third party complaint.

In their replies to the original petition of the St. Louis Amusement, et al, the Apollo Theatre Corp., and Rosecan not only denied the allegations of the original plantiffs but in turn charged them with setting up a monopoly in the exhibition of motion pictures in St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Bigger -Than-Ever Crowds At Chicago Bond Shows

CHICAGO—Bond shows are attracting larger crowds than ever before at the neighborhood houses as well as in the downtown area. The Chicago set the pace last week with "The Valley of Decision" which was a sellout. The Palace was to stage its bond show Tuesday (5) with "China Sky," heralded with a dragon street parade from Chinatown to the downtown area.

Neighborhoods are readying big shows, with B&K announcing the following schedule: June 21, "Diamond Horseshoe" at the Tivoli, Marbro and Uptown; "Music for Millions" at the Southtown; "Practically Yours" at the Harding, and "National Velvet" at the Gateway.

Buy Future Theatre Site

TOMAH, WIS.—A lot at the corner of W. Council St. and Superior Ave. has been purchased by the S&M Theatres Co. as a site for a new theatre here when conditions permit. The company operates the Tomah Theatre.

Terrorist Cuts Late Grosses at Shows

ST. LOUIS—Cutbacks in the government war contracts here, plus the activities of an unknown man who has been stabbing lone women whom he accosts on the streets late at night have played havoc with attendance at special shows local theatre have been giving after midnight for war plant workers.

Since the restrictions on lighting were lifted, the houses that have revived the war plant shows have experienced an attendance decline of nearly 50 per cent, compared with that before the brownout.

The Missouri Theatre, a Fanchon & Marco house on Grand Blvd. and Lucas Ave., did not revive its war plant shows. Loew's State has been giving a special midnight show on Saturday night. The Express and Norside are other houses in St. Louis that have been giving war plant shows.

A survey of local taverns, night club and other late spots shows a sharp decline in attendance by women. The principal explanation of this is the terror that the slashing killer has inspired. One woman has been killed and another's life was saved only by quick thinking and fast moving by the crew of a police squad car.

Newsreels Film New Acts Of St. Louis Zoo Performers

ST. LOUIS—Cameramen for several motion picture companies have been here recently to film performances of trained animals at this city's famous zoo. For several years now the zoo shows have been a favored subject for the newsreels and short subject men.

Zoo visitors were given an unexpected treat the other day when they were permitted to witness the first full dress rehearsals of three animal acts in preparation for the 1945 opening. A new star performer is Blanquita, one-year-old polar bear. The act will be featured in newsreels of an early release.

Trainer Jules Jacot has, in addition to Blanquita, 13 lions, two Sumatra tigers and two European black bears in his acts.

Big Demand for Atrocity Film Tickets in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—Two extra showings will be made of the army signal corps films depicting atrocities in German prison and concentration camps because of the extraordinary demand for tickets to the free showing at the Kiel Auditorium May 31 and June 1. The new schedule called for seven shows daily, including an added showing at 10:30 p. m. Six reels of film, uncut and unedited, will be shown. With it will be exhibited a documentary motion picture entitled "Know Your Job in Germany," which was produced by the signal corps for the instruction of American troops who will police part of the Reich.

"Chick" Evans Invitations To a Luncheon-Screening

CHICAGO—Charles "Chick" Evans jr., son of the famous golfer and no mean tee-er off-er himself, has sent out letters of invitation to a screening, preceded by a luncheon, in the Stevens Hotel ballroom, June 14. "Captain Eddie" will be presented and Christy Walsh, former ball player and manager of stars in the national sport, will be a guest of honor. Walsh is associate producer of the film, made by 20th-Fox and starring Fred MacMurray and Lynn Bari, which is the story of the life of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker.

MILWAUKEE

James W. Geehan, 12-year-old son of William V. Geehan, appeared on the Grenadiers show over FTMJ handling announcing chores, as well as some piano and mouth organ licks with a 12-piece band of which he is a regular member.

Villa Theatre, Slinger, will open shortly under the wand of R. W. Jenkins, former Eskin circuit's Kiel manager . . . Eddie Gavin, Universal salesman, spent his entire vacation sleeping, due to rain and cold weather . . . Dan Keliher, Sprague Theatre, Elkhorn, said he would be 63 on "Ernie Pyle Day." Danny has 33 years in show business to his credit.

Frank Fischer, Reel Fellows Club president, says all exhibitors in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan are backing ticket sales advancing the orphans' picnic 100 per cent . . . Jack Kaplan failed to go over to Wisconsin Theatre as manager after all. He's still at the Miller. Art Standish, former Strand manager, is at the Wisconsin.

Charlie Trampe, Monogram, says "It's a Killer—Dillinger" . . . Good Mighty Seventh theatre canopy copy: "Buy War Bonds—Tonight and Every Night" . . . Harold Beecroft, 20th-Fox manager, is still looking for a house . . . Lou Orlove, Metro exploiteer, is having his shirts made at Hixon's now . . . Jack Lorentz, 20th-Fox district manager, was on the Row to confer with Harold Beecroft, local manager.

William Geehan, assistant to Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, goes to the coast shortly for a huddle with National Theatres biggies relative to a new assignment.

Hot after product sales, Meyer Kahn ripped his suit coat rushing out of 20th-Fox exchange . . . Jack Frackman, Republic manager, shows Milwaukee is out after things in Republic's tenth anniversary play-date drive with seven first runs downtown for late May-June. Here they are: "The Vampire's Ghost," "The Phantom Speaks," "Flame of the Barbary Coast," "The Great Flamarion," "Chicago Kid," "Hitchhike to Happiness," "Steppin' in Society."

Booking on the Row: Red Erickson, Loyal, Loyal, for the last time before entering armed forces; Sam Miller, State, Rhinelander; T. J. Watson, Blanchard, Blanchardville, accompanied by his son; Frank Eckhart, Jefferson, Jefferson; Russ Leddy, Orpheum, Green Bay.

Bill Parker, Universal manager, announced his product has been set for two top Warner first runs for week of June 22 . . . At Pasadena, Jack Hansen, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marius Hansen, Madison, was graduated from the Pasadena Playhouse, a dramatic school. While there Hansen appeared in ten major roles and spent some time on radio over southern California networks.

Opening of the penthouse play spot atop the Varsity Bldg. for Fox Wisconsin gals was shifted to the screen room by Harold J. Fitzgerald because of rain and cold weather.

Season tickets for the Wisconsin Players' summer playbill are selling at Wisconsin Union Theatre, with all productions set to play two nights. Coming up are Molnar's "The Guardsman," July 6 and 7; "Moor Born," July 20 and 21; "Arms and the Man," July 27 and 28, and "Papa Is All," August 10-11.

All Warner circuit employes in service received BOXOFFICE subscriptions with the compliments of the firm last Christmas. The Warner boys and gals still write back complimenting Al Kvool, local circuit executive, and Marc Brazee, state official, for their consideration.

Charles Koehler, Astor Pictures, announces that the firm has exclusive rights on "Caledonia," the Louis Jordon three-reeler . . . Joe Malits, Metro booker, was lifted from slumber Sunday with a hurry-up call to rush a print to Tommy Lees at his Lake Theatre, Lake Mills. Joe's learning the state the hard way.

Johnny Schuyler and Eddie Moyle, Delft circuit, were on the Row . . . Johnny Mednikow, National Screen branch manager, returned from St. Louis . . . Eddie Cantor did a personal in the interests of bond sales . . . Warner Theatre set "It's the McCoy" for its bond premiere.

Irene Preston of Independent Theatres weekended in Chicago . . . Ralph Maw, Metro district manager, was surprised with the birthday cake presented by Metro employes.

Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, still is smiling. Stage shows return June 15 with Lionel Hampton and his chief competitor, Gertie, the nonchalant duck, hatched her brood and is about through stopping patrons attempting to enter the Riverside.

Dean Fitzgerald, son of Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp., was host at a Hollywood party at the Variety Bldg. It was a bit of a farewell to his classmates at Milwaukee Country Day School, as Dean leaves shortly for service. Dean's classmates saw a private screening of shorts, as well as a full length feature.

Alan, son of Bill Parker, Universal branch manager, is now in navy blue . . . Bob Allen, UA manager, knocked the territory for a good spoon shot . . . Three brothers of Mary Jane Johnson, switchboard gal at Warners, were home on furlough so she took a vacation to be with them . . . Ben Marcus and Hank Tollete, S&M executive, huddled with Joe Strother . . . Gordon Koehler, with naval air experimental base at Traverse City, Mich., was expected in shortly by Charles Koehler, Astor Pictures.

Furloughing briefly here, John Rigas, former Warner Theatre usher, renewed friendships . . . Milt Ellis, Beloit theatre operator, has gone into stock raising as a hobby. With 15 acres at his disposal, Milt is raising steers and hogs.

Ed Walton, assistant to J. R. Grainger, Republic Pictures, and Bill Baker, district manager, huddled with Jack Frackman, branch manager here, on the Republic anniversary drive . . . At Belleville, business men are again sponsoring Saturday night open air village park movies.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



TREMENDOUS crowds packed the Paradise Theatre, Moline, Ill., during the 5-day engagement of "MOM AND DAD." Old and young alike called it "the most worthwhile two hours" ever spent in a theatre. Get your date set, now!

Book It Now . .
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MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Milwaukee Showmen Mourn Art Schmitz

MILWAUKEE—A record number of showmen attended funeral services for Arthur N. Schmitz, branch manager for RKO here since 1927. Schmitz, a native Milwaukeean, had been with the company for 22 years, starting as a salesman.

Among out-of-town officials attending were Walter Branson, western divisional manager; Harry Michalson, short subject sales manager; Sam Gorelick, Chicago branch manager; Herb Greenblatt, midwest district manager, and Alex Halpern, Chicago executive.

Capt. Raymond Schmitz, a son, flew here direct in time for the funeral from his station at Ft. Richardson, Alaska. Other survivors are his wife, Eleanor; another son, Lieut. Robert Schmitz, in the army in China, and a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Schue.

Loop Bristles With Army "On to Tokyo" Show

CHICAGO—The Loop might have been a section of the India-Burma road, or a strip on Iwo Jima, it was that filled with military equipment, soldiers and excitement. The "On to Tokyo" show being staged by the GIs for the bond drive was opened by Eddie Cantor with a score of screen, stage and radio stars and attracted at least 100,000 persons. The comedian sold a large number of bonds.

The display, extending from Congress to Randolph streets, was to continue 11 days. Once each day a pontoon bridge was thrown up by army engineers as a crowd-getting and bond-selling stunt.

INDIANAPOLIS

With swing shifts at local war plants declining since VE-Day, Saturday midnight shows in the downtown area here are on the wane. The late shows at the Circle and Loew's are fairly well attended, but at the Indiana the interest seems lacking.

Fred Joyce, who directs the publicity for Lester Cowan Productions, is making his headquarters at United Artists exchange while handling advance publicity for "The Story of G.I. Joe," the Ernie Pyle film. Indianapolis has been chosen for the premiere of the motion picture based on the writings of the Hoosier war correspondent. "Here Is Your War" and "Brave Men" will be shown at Loew's Theatre July 6 with the proceeds to go to the Ernie Pyle memorial fund at Indiana University.

The Dixie Theatre at Claysburg is the only theatre in Indiana employing female projectionists. Mrs. Virginia King, who was instructed how to operate a projection machine by her husband, is the regular operator. Miss Laverne Doffern, her assistant, was instructed by Mrs. King.

The Warner Club held its annual spring party at the Variety Club May 31. Dancing, entertainment and refreshments were included in the program . . . Dick Vlastos, who owns and operates the Dream and Fowler theatres at Fowler and the Fairy and Knox at Knox, has turned over the booking and buying of pictures to the Alliance Theatres Corp., Chicago.

Joyce Reed, switchboard operator at 20th-Fox, has resigned to join the WAVES. She reports for duty June 29 . . . Joseph Bommerscheim, National Theatre Supply Co., was in St. Louis to attend a special meeting the company was holding there . . . Mrs. Ora Meisner, who operates the Gibson Theatre at Batesville, was a Filmrow visitor.

Miss Lottie Chowing, a local resident, sold $20,000 in war bonds at the Lyric Theatre in one night at the bond booth there . . . An unpatriotic thief was busy again last week and stole the Phone Home fund collection jar from the lobby of the Fountain Square Theatre. Once before a thief took a fund collection jar. William Goff, house manager, said the jar contained approximately $40, mostly in nickels, dimes and quarters.

Fred Boyd, manager of the Ritz here, announces that his theatre will resume summer midweek matinees beginning immediately. The house will open at 1:15 with the program hitting the screen at 1:30 p. m. The midweek matinees were popular last summer . . . L. J. McGinley, Universal manager, spent the week in New York in conference at the home office. Fred Dolle and Charles Krebs, officials of the Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., also spent the week in New York on business.

Industrial reconversion now is in progress in many small communities and some of the larger towns where war industries and defense plants flourished for the last three years. Thousands of defense workers are planning to return to their former communities, and other workers who left the farms are also planning to return to agricultural work. Exhibitors in many localities undoubtedly will feel the effects. Already there is evidence of caution in spending.

Congratulations

MR. ABE MONTAGUE

on your 20th Anniversary with Columbia Pictures Corp.

PREMIER THEATRES, Evansville, Ind.

Oscar Fine

Isadore Fine

Jesse Fine

CHICAGO

Gen. Mark Clark was the man of the hour last week when he was officially received in Chicago with a parade and a dinner, hosted by Mayor Kelly. Dave Apollon, Henny Youngman and the whole Empire room show, Lenny Kent of the Rio Cabana, Arthur Lee Simpkins, Johnnie Neblett of the Chez Paree and many more were on the swell program arranged by Frank Smith, RKO, and Madeline Woods for the Clark dinner at the Palmer House.

Bob Hope with Jerry Colonna and others in his troupe were in town. Bob celebrated his 42nd birthday in South Bend last week where he was bond-driving . . . The films of the USS Franklin, now shown in loop houses, are considered by critics to be the greatest films to come out of the war . . Lou Goldberg was in from St. Louis with the picture he produced, "On Stage," and left shortly after for Minneapolis.

Horses, horses, horses—on the tracks and on the screen! Running neck 'n neck with the Arlington meet were three race features: "Salty O'Rourke," "National Velvet" and "Thunderhead" . . . Mrs. Joseph Chesser, new president of Chicago Film Council, was to preside at the June 8 meeting at the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, with war films the subject of discussion.

Greta Garbo and Dr. Gaylord Hauser were in town last week but eschewed the night spots and chewed their vegetables in seclusion at the Blackstone . . . Irving Mandel, waiting for a taxi on Michigan Blvd., was asked by two women where "Ecstasy" was playing, and he directed them to the Studio, even though the picture is a PRC and not a Monogram. Now it's up to Henri Elman to steer customers into "Dillinger," if and when.

Jimmy Coston, Warner Theatres zone manager, looked right handsome in the box with Mayor Kelly at the Truman celebration . . . Jean Hersholt, here for some weeks in the interest of Danish relief, said he is heading overseas to his native Denmark on a special mission . . . Sam Lamasky, business manager of Exchange Employes Union, is making a mighty effort to hit the 50 grand mark in bond sales among members.

Karl Brenkert of Brenkert Projection Co., Detroit, and Homer Snook, RCA, Camden, N. J., were on the Row for a confab with Ed Wolk . . . Ted Weber, head of the Chicago Sun amusement ad department, is in Meyer House of Michael Reese Hospital with a foot injury . . . Bill Green, M-G-M publicist, has started action on organizing a chapter of the Tub Thumpers here.

Bob Hickey, RKO publicist, is having his trousers re-enforced as he is off for Texas where he'll ride 'em cowboy to stir up interest in Gary Cooper's "Along Came Jones," which premieres at Dallas June 20 . . . Lieut. Jack Gould, son of Lou Goldberg, Paramount sales department, is here on a 30-day furlough from England. He wears a DFC, a Presidential citation and Air Medal with five clusters.

Hank Porter is back at National Screen after 14 rainy days at his Kankakee farm where he worked in his Victory garden . . . Dave Arlen, B&K publicity staffer and campaign director for the circuit in the Seventh War Loan drive, said employes are selling bonds to beat the band—also to beat the Japs. He added that Angelo Zucco, head janitor of the Paradise, has turned in $12,000 in sales made to relatives and friends, so thus becomes a three-star general in the B&K army.

Jay Frank, 20th-Fox publicity department, is working in the northern part of the state on the Seventh War Loan drive and Harry Winston of the same office is doing a like job in Wisconsin, working with theatre operators on bond shows and other stunts . . . Pure food officials are checking popcorn shipments which lately are not up to standard, so it is said. Loads of the stuff are being held up until brought up to federal requirements.

Henry Kahn, M-G-M office manager, was back from a business trip in New York . . . Ross Herman, Warner exchange, has been moved from country to city sales and Harry Charness took over in the country . . . Fire inspectors were giving vaults on the Row a strict double eye as the ordinance regarding film storage is strict. Vault space is so scarce, much storage is being made away from South Wabash Ave.

Lou Ramm, who books the World Wide Picture unit, "The Good Old Days," left on a business trip through Iowa and Nebraska . . . Dave Wallerstein, midwest coordinator in the bond drive, held a meeting last week with Milton Officer and other B&K zone chairmen to complete plans for 45 free shows for children to be staged June 23. The school children will sell the bonds.

Lieut. Herbert Schlosberg, one of the five officers in charge of filming at Iwo Jima, was in last week for the first showing of the marine corps' color picture, "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," and he met a lot of old friends. He was at one time in charge of the 16mm division of Ideal Pictures Corp. and of the same department with Henri Elman at PRC . . . Cynthia Mounsey, charming receptionist at B&K offices who always gives out with smiles and sometimes with cigarets, is in Wesley Memorial Hospital suffering with pneumonia.

Arline Smith, Abe Platt's secretary, gave up the last days of her vacation to assist the boys and gals at the Will Rogers Theatre in a bond-writing stint . . . Sam Myers' circuit was doing a swell job in the bond drive. Their show at the Evanston Stadium brought in $144,000 and the coming one at the Glencoe will hit a hundred grand, it is expected. The latter will be conducted by the Junior Minute Men, founded by Pvt. Harry Thomas, former Glencoe manager. The windup in bond premieres for the circuit will be in Libertyville at the Liberty Theatre June 26 . . . Joe Wilson, Paul Battenfield, Don Fauts and Gil Hix are carrying the news load on television station WBKB and the broadcasts are frequent as well as highly informative.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Cabot and Kelly to "Crooked Mile"

Bruce Cabot and Nancy Kelly have been signed for featured roles in "The Last Crooked Mile," a Republic picture.

ST. LOUIS

A crowd estimated at 10,000 attended a war bond rally in East St. Louis the night of May 28. Johnny Perkins acted as master of ceremonies and auctioneer for war-scarce items. A total of $130,075 in bonds was sold, raising the city's total to $4,011,375. Its quota is $6,159,000.

The Eddie Cantor show at the Kiel Auditorium, the night of May 29, drew a capacity audience. Eddie had his entire radio troupe on hand, supplemented by the Scott Field commandoes . . . A residence at 5235 Lindell Blvd. has been purchased by the Eden Theatre Co., a subsidiary of Fanchon & Marco. It is located in a restricted area but some day present restrictions may be lifted.

Film folk here were saddened by the death May 24 of Charles H. Close, who had been prominent in local war bond drives and other patriotic activities which brought him into contact with many of the local theatre owners, managers and exchange men. He was one of the executive leaders for the current Seventh War Loan campaign.

Municipal Opera guarantors have underwritten the 1945 season for $139,942.50, an all-time record. It exceeds the 1944 fund by $19,400. A total of 1,217 individuals and firms joined in the underwriting. However, they seem safe since never in the 26-year history of the famed St. Louis Municipal Opera have the guarantors lost money. The current season opened June 7, to run 12 weeks.

For the third consecutive season, 1,000 tax-free complimentary tickets to each of the 88 performances of the municipal opera will be given to service men and women. The tickets will be distributed daily through the USO. The advance sale of tickets has already passed the $160,000 mark.

Vladimir Golschmann, St. Louis Symphony conductor, has accepted the first USO-Camp Shows, Inc., invitation extended to any classical music conductor for a tour of war fronts overseas. He will leave soon to play with and for GI orchestras and audiences until September 1.

The bill of Sen. William Quinn (Dem.), Maywood, Mo., to regulate and license juke boxes, pinball and other coin-operated machines, including those that dispense food, gum, confections, cigarets, soft drinks, etc., has been amended by the Missouri senate to drop the minimum license fee from $10 to $5 per year on machines operated for less than five cents. Another amendment to reduce the maximum from $25 to $15 a year on machines charging five cents or more was defeated. The bill was then returned to the informal calendar of the senate at Jefferson City.

Don L. Barnes, principal owner of the St. Louis Browns, American League champions, and president of the American Investment Co. of Illinois, received $55,033 from that small loan concern in 1944, according to a report filed with the SEC.

RKO Radio scheduled a tradeshowing at the S'Renco projection room, 3143 Olive St. of "George White's Scandals" at 2:30 p. m. June 19.

Harry C. Arthur jr., Fanchon & Marco general manager, was to leave for New York to spend a large part of the summer in the east. He is WAC chairman for the St. Louis sector. In his absence Al Stetson, F&M war activities director, will aid Bernard McCarthy, UA distributor co-chairman, in carrying out the work.

Theatre Bond Drive Events Are Near 600

By BABE COHN

KANSAS CITY—Final tabulation of the bond-selling events in the Kansas City territory will show a total of nearly 600 events—bond premieres, Free Movie Days and children's matinees—substantially exceeding the total number of such activities held during the Sixth War Loan.

In order that the territory and individual exhibitors receive the proper credit for their bond shows itis requested by Bill Truog, distributor chairman, that the results of these shows be immediately sent to Senn Lawler, Fox Midwest Theatres, 3706 Broadway, Kansas City, Mo.

Free Movie Day was heralded throughout the territory on Wednesday (6) by unprecedented publicity both from national and local sources.

The Effort Is Nationwide

Nationally, all important radio chain break announcements of motion picture industry programs carried spots. The big show honoring Maj. Glen Miller on the stage of the Paramount Theatre in New York was carried over a network of both the Blue and Mutual Broadcasting companies, and included announcements on the observance of Free Movie Day in representative theatres in every community in the country. Locally, theatres included announcements in their own radio time and stories were used in newspapers throughout the territory. Space was given to the event in local theatre ads and in trailers on the screens.

Although the Free Movie Day bond totals have not been fully reported, it is apparent the Kansas City territory delivered a fine share of a record-breaking national total far in excess of any previous effort.

Early results from the early bond premieres, etc., in this territory indicate that these events will roll up tens of thousands of dollars in sales.

As always, the individual initiative and ingenuity of exhibitors in promoting bond premieres, Free Movie Days, and children's matinees is outstanding. No avenue of publicity was left unused in developing stunts that brought capacity audiences to their theatres. Theatres became a potent factor in every community reaching its bond sale quota and the cooperation of the local theatre manager with his war finance committee has added to the already widespread goodwill.

Newman Premiere June 19

In Kanas City, the bond premiere scheduled for the Newman on the night of June 19 is receiving growing interest. With the war finance committee's big Bob Hope-Bing Crosby show and the "Here is the Infantry" demonstration out of the way, attention now is centered on selling bonds for the premiere. Special ads and stories are scheduled with radio spots trailers and posters all being brought into play to sell the show. The city committee under the chairmanship of Russell Bovim held a checkup meeting this week at which final plans were made to insure a packed house that is scaled to bring nearly a half million dollars in bond sales. It is planned to have as honorary hostesses a group of business and professional girls who are assisting in the solicitation of bond sales. The picture will be Fred Allen's "It's in the Bag" and plans for hero awards on the Newman stage are being discussed.

Exhibitors Prefer Short Features Plus Shorts

MINNEAPOLIS—Exhibitors here want shorter features. They say their patrons prefer a balanced program of a feature and shorts and that they don't like having the long features crowd the shorts off the show. Long features, used with shorts, prevent a sufficient boxoffice turnover, they point out.

John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president, in particular, has been a staunch advocate of medium-length features. He belives that an entire show should not be of more than two hours or two hour and ten minutes duration and should include an assortment of shorts to provide extra spice and diversity.

"We are able to give a better rounded show when the feature isn't long," Friedl points out. "This makes for greater customer satisfaction. There's the danger of tiring audiences when the shows run longer than two hours or two hours and ten minutes. And many patrons feel cheated if they do not get a complete and balanced program of shorts along with the feature."

Excessively long features frequently have held down grosses here by preventing a sufficient turnover, according to Friedl.

Harold Johnson Finds Old Soupbone Still Is Working

Omaha — Harold Johnson, Universal branch manager, became interested in a sandlot baseball game recently. One team lacked a catcher. Harold volunteered "just to see if I could still do it after all these years."

Amazed to discover he still could handle the hot ones and peg to second, he now fills in regularly. As a result, he says, he's loosing weight so fast it keeps Mrs. Johnson busy taking tucks in his clothes.

"Jerry" McGee, Originator Of "Torch" Song, Dies

KANSAS CITY—Gerald F. "Jerry" McGee, tavern owner and former circuit singer credited with writing "The Torch," the first torch song, died at his home here Sunday (3) following an illness of two years. Death was caused by a throat ailment.

Born in Brooklyn, McGee became a streetcar conductor upon completing high school. His motorman, a man named Joe Schenk, liked to sing as well as he did and with another conductor, Gus Van, they formed a trio and soon quit the streetcar business for the stage.

McGee was teamed with Benny Fields, a minstrel singer, in a vaudeville act. After several years McGee joined Tommy Lyman and Joe Hamm and were on top billings in the east and middle west. The trio sang for a time at T. J. Pendergast's old Jefferson Hotel cabaret, and McGee decided to settle here.

Hamm started a night club here and McGee and Lyman worked for him. It was at this club in 1918 that McGee, Lyman and Hamm wrote "The Torch," a song that brought forth torch singers throughout the country. The song was never copyrighted and became public property.

"State Fair" Campaign Started at Des Moines

DES MOINES—Two 20th-Fox publicity men were in Des Moines last week working on the campaign for the premiere of "State Fair" to be held here on August 29. Rodney Bush, exploitation representative from Beverly Hills, and Walter Hoffman, exploiteer from Minneapolis, worked with theatre men on plans for picture's opening.

"Jones" Screening June 12

KANSAS CITY—RKO has set a trade-screening for "Along Came Jones," starring Gary Cooper and Loretta Young, for June 12 at 8:30 p. m., in the Paramount screening room.



ALWAYS GOOD—These huge badges were worn two weeks in advance by the staff of the Gillioz Theatre, Springfield, Mo., for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

KANSAS CITY

Amy Sinclair, Metro office manager, took a week's vacation at home . . . Bill Kubitzki informs his dad W. J. of 20th-Fox that he has received his service discharge but expects to remain in St. Petersburg, Fla., for a while before returning home.

Marti Boyer, Friendly Theatres, flew to Denver recently but rode the train back. In the air trip the plane ran into a storm and dropped 200 feet in a sudden plunge. She hasn't yet found words to tell how she felt!

Earl Kerr, on Filmrow last week, passed along the news that "Dutch" Young soon will resume managerial duties at the Rialto, Bedford, Iowa. He was discharged from a Michigan hospital after serving with the tank corps in Europe. His wife has been managing the theatre since he went away.

The society editors were a month behind time in reporting the marriage of Jim Ronsiek, Metro salesman, and Miss Helen Marie Bunker. They had set their wedding for June 16, but April 30 they were members of a party including two servicemen on furlough —lieutenants who had escaped from a German prison—and the soldiers' wives. Ronsiek and Miss Bunker were persuaded to advance their marriage, which they did. The ceremony was performed that night to climax the party.



DOROTHY HUGHES

Mrs. Dorothy Vandenburg Hughes, who has been secretary at the Newman Theatre for the last 18 months, has taken over the position of assistant manager, succeeding Mrs. John Morgan, the former Nellie Doyle Young. Mrs. Hughes has been associated with theatre work since 1935 when she started with Fox Midwest. She has also worked for the Paramount exchange and for RKO.

Oliver Unger, independent distributor, was on Filmrow with "Samurai," recently completed by Calvacade Pictures. He was on his way east to arrange a screening . . . The Ritz, Cameron, Mo., ticket seller is the daughter of the exhibitor, A. E. Jarboe. She is living with the Jarboes while her husband, Lieut. Raymond F. Davis, is with the Third army in Europe. Aaron Bagley, another member of the Jarboe family, is with the navy in California.

K. K. "Deacon" King, who resigned the management of the Commonwealth Rialto and Plaza at Searcy, Ark., 13 months ago to enter the air corps, was a visitor at Commonwealth headquarters here. His wife is managing the theatres in his absence. He is stationed at Victoria, Tex. . . . Bob Shelton, Commonwealth division manager, was recuperating after an operation . . . Eddie Golden, Metro salesman, has returned from a visit to his family in Pittsburgh.

Ted Davis of the West, Parsons, Kas., was a Filmrow visitor . . . "Parky" Parkhurst, Republic salesman, attended the graduation exercises at Monticello college, Alton, Ill. His daughter Marilyn is president of the junior class there.

W. L. "Bill" Presley has been operating the Globe, Savannah, Mo., while M. B. Presley, his father, was on a fishing vacation in Arkansas. Jim Presley, Lyric, Plattsburg, Mo., spent a few days helping W. B. fish, as did also daughter Lorene (Mrs. Lorene Davidson of the Binnie, Pattonsburg, Mo.)

Don Davis, RCA Photophone representative, reports that Homer Strowing of the Plaza and Lyric has been mayor of Abilene several months.

HARRY SAVEREIDE
THE MIDWEST THEATRE BROKER
Waterloo, Iowa
1850 Logan
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. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



TREMENDOUS crowds packed the Paradise Theatre, Moline, Ill., during the 5-day engagement of "MOM AND DAD." Old and young alike called it "the most worthwhile two hours" ever spent in a theatre. Get your date set, now!

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Film Folk Attend Party For Glen Dickinson jr.

KANSAS CITY—During a recent six-day visit here Ensign Glen Dickinson jr. and his wife were entertained at a party given by Glen Dickinson sr., president of Dickinson Theatres. Ensign Dickinson, who was vice-president of the company before entering the navy, is stationed at New London, Conn.

Present at the party were Russel Borg, manager of the Warner exchange here, and Mrs. Borg; Tom Baldwin, manager of the Columbia exchange, and Mrs. Baldwin; Woodson Longan, manager of the Dickinson home office, and Mrs. Longan; Harry Gathany, Warner city salesman, and Mrs. Gathany; J. L. Kimbriel, manager of the Missouri Theatre Supply Co.; Miss Louise Yeamans and Miss Billie Blacker of the Dickinson home office.

Hope-Crosby Bond Show Sells $2,667,237 Worth

KANSAS CITY—At least 12,000 persons attended the war finance committee's bond show at the Auditorium June 4. They bought $2,667,237 worth of bonds to see and hear Bob Hope and Bing Crosby, who came here from Topeka to put on the show and play a game of golf for the bond drive. The company included Jerry Colonna, Vera Vague (a former Osborne, Kas., girl), Skinny Ennis and his orchestra, and Frances Langford.

The party went from Kansas City to Knobnoster, Mo., to entertain GIs at the air base there Tuesday night.

J. C. Irwin to Open Outdoor Theatre at Blanchard

BLANCHARD, IOWA—J. C. Irwin will open an outdoor theatre here June 10. He also plans to build a new theatre for indoor shows next winter.

Broadway Actress in "Blue Skies"

Joan Caulfield, 22-year-old Broadway actress, won the costarring role in Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," a Paramount production.

"Salty O'Rourke" Is Tops in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY—The weather, too cool for outdoor entertainment, favored theatre attendance and the attractions were to the public's liking, hence a better than average week all around. The Newman's offering, "Salty O'Rourke," won high favor and was held over. Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn in "Without Love" drew well at the Midland, but pressure of dating operated against holding over. Fox Midwest first runs had a good week for the holdover "Diamond Horseshoe."

(Average is 100)

Esquire, Fairway and Uptown—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 100
Midland—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 130
Newman—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para) 140
Orpheum—**China Sky** (RKO); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col) 110
Tower—**The Man in Half Moon Street** (Para); **Identity Unknown** (Rep), plus stage show 110

"Co-Pilot" Outpaces Attractions At First Runs in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS—"God Is My Co-Pilot" set the boxoffice pace last week, turning in a fine gross for the State. Other newcomers, including "A Royal Scandal" and "Sudan," brought up the rear. Holdovers were the high-stepping "The Affairs of Susan," which did sensational business its first week, and "Salome, Where She Danced" and "National Velvet," the last-named in its third week.

Aster—**High Powered** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep) 100
Century—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk. 125
Gopher—**The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 100
Lyric—**National Velvet** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk. 115
Radio City—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 150
State—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox) 115
World—**Salome—Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk. 90

"Affairs of Susan" Leads in a Dull Week at the Des Moines Theatres

DES MOINES — "The Affairs of Susan," which played a war bond premiere a week prior to its regular run, drew the largest attendance in downtown A houses here last week. The film was showing at the Des Moines Theatre.

Both the Paramount and Orpheum Theatres ran two bills during the dull week. At the Orpheum, "The Body Snatcher" and "The Brighton Strangler" played the first four days, and "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Garden of Allah" finished out the week. The Paramount had a double bill of "Molly and Me" and "Delightfully Dangerous" through Sunday and finished the week with "The Sign of the Cross" and "Honeymoon Ahead."

Des Moines—**Affairs of Susan** (Para) 100
Orpheum—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO) 80
Paramount—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 90

Paramount to Film "The Wayfarers"

Paramount has completed a deal for the screen rights of "The Wayfarers," a novel by Dan Wickenden.



MAKE RESERVATIONS EARLY!

DES MOINES

Rose Conrey, inspector at Warners, has returned to work after a six-month absence Elinor Yaryan, also of Warners' inspection department, is now on vacation . . . Bert Thomas is back after a 30-day leave. He would have liked a little more sun for his vacation, but did enjoy his "rest" anyway . . . Gweneviere Halverson, Columbia inspector, is on vacation.

Several NSS employes are vacationing this week. They are Madeline Loomis, booker; Ethel Morrison, collection department, and Violet Swanson, bookkeeping department . . . Alice Else was ill a few days last week . . . Three new shippers have joined the NSS staff—James Fortino, Dick Anderson and Peggy Riggin.

Pauline Graham is a new stenographer at Universal . . . Lou Levy is back from his vacation and Twylla Wells is now on her vacation . . . Charlotte Musin has returned to her old job as stenographer at Monogram. Charlotte has just finished her sophomore year at the University of Nebraska and is home for the summer months . . . G. D. Milford, Republic home office man, is working in the exchange here temporarily.

Betty Johns, Paramount inspector, is back from a two-week vacation in California. Betty brought each of the girls in the inspection department a souvenir from her trip . . . Juanita Rinard, inspector, is the next vacationist at Paramount.

Visitors along the Row included: V. J. Shipright, Osceola; Wesley Mansfield, Tama, Belle Plaine and Toledo; Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Whitaker, Rockford; Robert Hessell, Green.

Election May Decide New Theatres Issue

MINNEAPOLIS—A city election this week may determine if a number of new theatres may be built here during postwar period. The issue is up to city council, to be selected by the electorate.

Exhibitors here are apprehensive because a number of war veterans are eager to become theatre owners and they've asked aldermanic candidates to commit themselves to leaving down the bars. It is indicated that most of the present aldermen will be re-elected and, hitherto, they've voted against new theatre construction. However, it will be hard to turn down war veterans seeking permits, exhibitor leaders have pointed out.

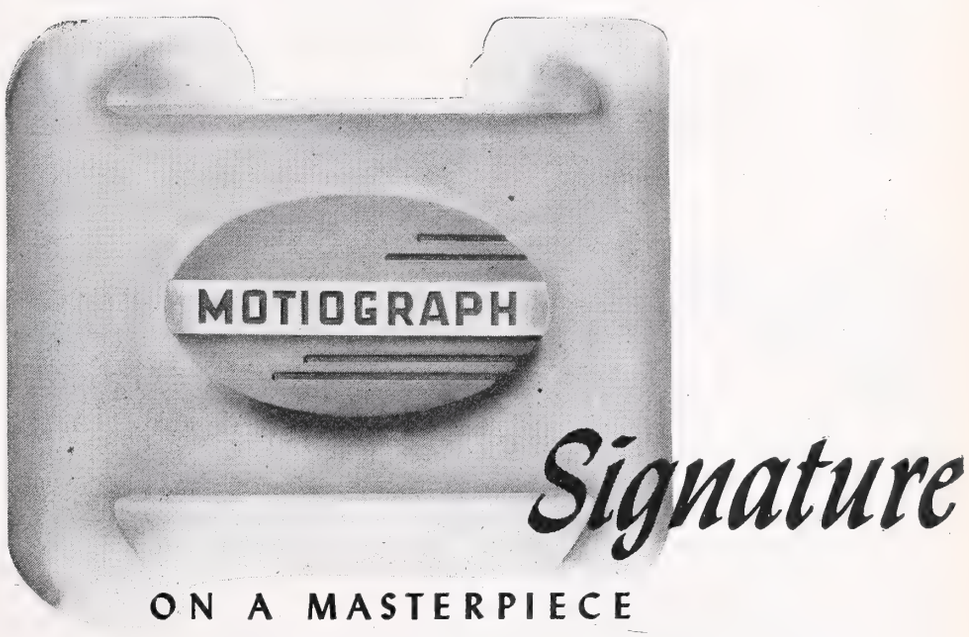
Film Group on Fishing Trip

MINNEAPOLIS—A group of film executives stopped over here briefly on their way to the Lake of the Woods for a fishing session. Included were Tom Connors, 20th-Fox sales manager; Jack Flynn and Sam Shirley, M-G-M western sales and district managers; Ralph Branton and Leo McKecknie, Tri-States circuit executives, and Walter Immerman and James Costen, Chicago circuit executives.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

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Des Moines Theatre Supply Company

1121 High Street, Des Moines, Iowa

MINNEAPOLIS

Bob Ableson, former RKO city salesman here now serving in the same capacity in Los Angeles, is enthusiastic over his new assignment, according to word received here by his brother Fred, local Universal city salesman. Bob bought a $16,000 home in Westwood Hills and will move into it June 16. His wife leaves here next week to join him . . . "Mom and Pop," hygiene picture, finished a sensationally big second week at the Lyceum, legitimate roadshow house. The film packed 'em in for 14 days.

Art Eisenberg, seaman in the navy, son of Frank, UA salesman, is making a name for himself as a ventriloquist in the service. He's seen in a picture entertaining the crew of his boat. Art started performing at eight and, before entering the navy, was prominent in local theatricals.

Paramount held an invitation screening of "Incendiary Blonde" at the St. Louis Park Theatre. Ben Blotcky, Paramount manager, was highly enthusiastic over this one.

The New Ulm Theatre, New Ulm, Minn., an Eddie Ruben circuit house, celebrated its tenth anniversary . . . Erik Rolf, Hollywood actor being sued for divorce, is a Minneapolitan . . . Bill Grant, Republic manager, is staying on the job despite a stomach ailment . . . Mrs. L. E. Goldhammer, wife of the Screen Classics vice-president and general sales manager, and their child left here this week for Los Angeles where the Goldhammers will make their home.

With northern Minnesota buried under snow, W. A. Steffes, World Theatre owner, deserted his estate there and spent the weekend in Minneapolis where it also was plenty cold. He says he thinks that after this he'll have to go to Florida for the summer, where he spends his winter.

For the first week in June, Duluth, Minn., got six inches of snow and Virginia, Minn., seven inches. It even snowed here June 2 and the temperature dropped to 38, the lowest for June in 75 years.

"O'Rourke" Hits 200 Mark To Lead Omaha Films

OMAHA—The Orpheum Theatre, depending entirely on a film bill, crashed to one of the highest grosses of the season with "Salty O'Rourke" and "Honeymoon Ahead" in an eight-day stand. Cold weather made all theatre business the best in weeks with the Paramount scoring heavily on "The Affairs of Susan." "Diamond Horseshoe" moved over to the Omaha and, paired with "High Powered," also went well over par.

(Average is 100)

Brandeis—**The Prisoner of Zenda** (UA); **The Garden of Allah** (UA), split with **The Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO) 105
Omaha—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), move-over from Paramount, 2nd wk.; **High Powered** (Para) 125
Orpheum—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ) 200
Paramount—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para) 175
State—**The Great Flamarion** (Rep); **Utah** (Rep) 130
Town—**Nabonga** (PRC); **The Old Barn Dance** (Rep), reissues; **Her Lucky Night** (Univ), split with **Corpus Christi Bandits** (Rep); **The Amazing Mr. Williams** (Col), reissues 105

Donald McKean Married To Miss June Carlson

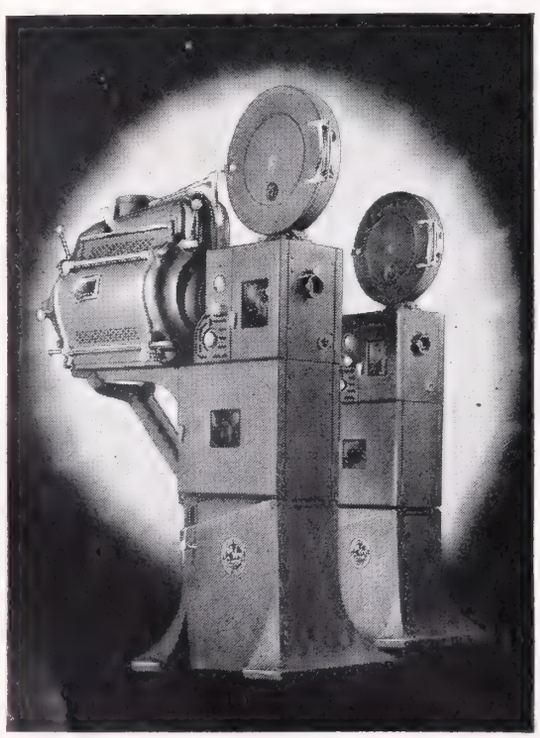
DES MOINES—Donald C. McKean, former Des Moinian who now is president of the American Productions, Inc., of Hollywood, and Miss June Carlson were married last week in the First Methodist Church in Hollywood. The ceremony was performed by the bridegroom's father, the Rev. Frank Chalmers McKean, former pastor of Central Presbyterian Church here. Wallace McKean, Hawaii, was best man.

Harry Wood a Visitor

DES MOINES—Harry Wood, former cashier for 20th-Fox, and now traveling auditor for Fox, visited here last week. He is now working in the Chicago exchange.

"Blonde" Is Previewed

DES MOINES—Paramount was to hold an invitational screening of its musical extravaganza, "Incendiary Blonde," Friday (8) at the Ingersoll Theatre.



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OMAHA

First stop of RKO Salesman Jack Andrews in the last war was the naval station at Great Lakes, Ill. June 1, Jack's son, Jack McCord jr., left for his first assignment in the armed forces. It was Great Lakes, too.

Two new Omaha branch managers are still house hunting. G. E. McGlynn, Metro, and J. E. Callahan, Monogram. McGlynn's family remains in Des Moines, Callahan's in the east.

Carl White jr., whose parents run the Quality Theatre Supply Co., is home for the summer from Kemper Military Academy in Missouri . . . Arthur Sklar, M-G-M auditor, was in town . . . Eleanor Horwich, Columbia cashier, made a hurry-up trip to Colorado Springs over the weekend.

Meyer Greenberg, shipper at National Screen, was vacationing . . . Maxine Keefover, secretary, is the latest addition to the National Screen force . . . Dick Moore replaces Clare Mosher as manager of the Casino Theatre in Sac City, Iowa. In another Pioneer circuit change Jimmy Gray has taken over the helm of the Earl Theatre at Carroll. He succeeds Ray Walter, new manager at Webster City.

Norman Nielsen, RKO office manager, is on vacation, doing a lot of yard work and talking about building a small swimming pool for his children, Norman jr. and Cherry . . . "Song to Remember," which many thought wouldn't go over in this territory, is scoring big . . . Harold Johnson reports the finest lawn and garden in town following his vacation. He also reports getting enough tips on golf to make him a threat to Joe Scott, 20th-Fox branch manager, in 1961.

Omaha's temperature dropped to 39 Monday in an all-time June 4 low . . . Betty Slater, niece of Joe Jacobs, has returned to Los Angeles from New York following a stay here with the Jacobs family . . . Rube Natelson, back from the coast, reports that Evert Cummings, former Tri-States Theatres district manager here, has added a third house to his string at Richcrest, Calif. . . . When Bob Hope and Bing Crosby arrived a little late at Boys Town, Hope explained: "Crosby insisted on riding one of his own horses out here."

The scattering of visitors along the Row included Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hintz and son, Tecumseh; Frank Good, Red Oak; Harold Klingman, Primghar; Fred Dethlefs, Manning; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Mundin, Lake Andes, S. D.; E. G. Gannon, Schuyler; William Groth, Charter Oak; Mrs. Francis Pace, Malvern, and Dormant Frank, Humboldt.

George Henger of Lincoln, in charge of the Theatres Co. and Cooper circuit houses in Oklahoma and Colorado, headed for Denver Saturday . . . Joyce Rodda, Metro assistant cashier, was out Monday with influenza.

Thousands Watch Hope And Crosby at Omaha

OMAHA—Bing Crosby and Bob Hope drew nearly 5,000 golf and theatre fans to the Field Club last Saturday despite record cold weather for this time of year.

While here the two were made admirals in Nebraska's mythical navy by Gov. Dwight Griswold who attended their golf match. The governor set the keynote for the gags that rained on Omaha when he quipped:

"Nebraska is proud of her corn and today we welcome two kindred souls just fresh from the cob."

Hope waited a minute, then turned to Crosby to ask:

"Who was that? What's his racket?"

Sam Steinberg, Film Man 20 Years, Dies

PITTSBURGH—Samuel Steinberg, 54, a pioneer in the motion picture industry, died here early Friday evening last week at the home of his sister, Mrs. Andrew Veldenzer. He had suffered declining health for several years and for six months he had been dangerously ill with a heart ailment and complications.

During his long period in the industry here of upward of two score years he had been a projectionist, film exchange employe, theatre owner and manager, film salesman, distributor of independent product, equipment salesman and distributor of theatre equipments. With his late brother Abe he had operated for many years as Steinberg & Steinberg, and for a decade or longer he had distributed equipments, fixtures, air-conditioning systems, etc., as A. & S. Steinberg, Inc.

Owned Filmrow Building

Abe died several years ago and Sam carried on the business at 1705 Blvd. of the Allies, a three-story building which he owned.

For many years Sammy Steinberg was "the life of the party" on all occasions, with his natural wit and showmanship, but ill health had forced his retirement several years ago. He spent several months in Florida last winter and returned here some weeks ago via plane in company with his nephew, Jerome "Jerry" Veldenzer. Lorraine Polanosky, secretary at the A. & S. Steinberg theatre supply office, and Gordon Gibson and Ben Stahl, engineer and assistant, have looked after the firm's business in recent months.

Noted for Good Humor

Sammy Steinberg had his ups and downs in the motion picture industry and was "broke" several times, but he always managed to keep plugging and he returned to the "top of the world," and in good humor. Always he was among the first to "kick in" to help some less fortunate fellow, in or out of the motion picture business. Until his health failed he was a member of the Midnight Oilers, a local theatrical group which met each night after hours at a downtown restaurant. Also he was a member of the Dapper Dan Club. As a local golfer, his name often appeared on the sports pages here. In his youth he was a prizefighter. His hobbies included horseback riding.

Probably the best known individual in the industry in the Pittsburgh area, the theatre equipment distributor is survived by his sister, Mrs. Andrew Veldenzer, and a brother, Emanuel "Manny" Steinberg, proprietor of the Pastime Theatre, Herron Ave. Services were held Sunday (3).

Bus and Streetcar Strike Hurts Cincinnati Houses

CINCINNATI—The Green Line bus and streetcar strike in northern Kentutcky hit business generally in Cincinnati last week. Exchange workers, especially those at Warners, many of whom live in Newport, Bellevue, Covington and Fort Thomas, Ky., experienced difficulty in getting to work.

Business in theatres also suffered, both in Ohio and Kentucky. Potential patrons, having arrived home by foot or the thumb jerk system, stayed there.

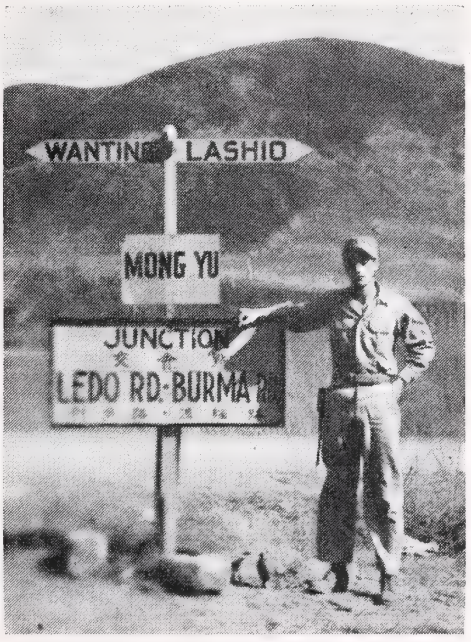
Books Five First Runs

DETROIT—For its tenth anniversary drive Republic has booked five features into the Downtown Theatre during July and August. They are "Hitchhike to Happiness," June 1; "The Great Flamarion," June 15; "The Chicago Kid," July 6; "Bells of Rosarita," July 13, and "Steppin' in Society," July 20.

Bob Finkel Stops for Photo On the Burma Ledo Road

PITTSBURGH—The photo shown here of Lieut. Robert S. Finkel shows exactly where he is, or was, when the picture was snapped.

Son of the William Finkels, Pittsburgh exhibitors, Bob has been in service for three



SECOND LIEUT. ROBERT S. FINKEL

years and has been overseas for two years in India, Burma and China. Before going into uniform Bob appeared in summer theatres after graduating from the drama school of Carnegie Tech; later he wrote screen plays for Monogram and he was an assistant director at the Monogram and Republic studios. Recently he distributed film in China to the camps, posts and outposts and he won his promotion to second lieutenant while in Burma. He may be addressed:

Second Lieut. Robert S. Finkel, O-889619, 4011th Signal Service Bn.; APO 627, New York.

He is a nephew of Morris M. Finkel, president of the AMPTO of W. Pa., who is in charge of the exhibitor participation in the Seventh War Loan drive in the mideast area.

Party for Mark Williams

NEW KENSINGTON, PA.—Mark Williams, who resigned as manager of the Kent, Arnold, to join the Warner circuit as manager of the Columbia, Sharon, was honored at a farewell party here in the clubrooms of the Theatrical Mutual Ass'n. Many friends in the Allegheny Valley attended the party and an appropriate gift was presented to the guest.

Howard Hughes Sells Downtown, Detroit

DETROIT—A major switch in Detroit downtown theatre operations saw policy or management changes in three houses. The Shubert Lafayette Theatre switched from legitimate to a vaudeville policy, running two shows on week days and three on Sunday. It is the second house to present a permanent stage show policy.

The Wilson Theatre, formerly a legitimate house also, was taken over by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra to be used for orchestra concerts, broadcasting and ultimately for television purposes as well. This will leave only one legitimate theatre, the Cass, under the Shubert banner but owned by E. D. Stair.

The most outstanding change was in a deal by which the 2,800-seat Downtown Theatre goes from Howard Hughes to Harry and Elmer Balaban June 15. The house was opened May 19, 1944, by Hughes.

The new owners also operate the Adams Theatre in the next block, a 1,770-seat first run house under the management of Charles C. Perry. The latter will take over direction of both houses. No change in operating policies is expected, despite early reports that the house would drop stage shows in favor of straight pictures.

Duty to Show and See Nazi Horror Film, Says Kramer

CLEVELAND—How do the subsequent run theatre owners feel about showing the German atrocity films in their neighborhood theatres? Abe Kramer, Associated circuit official, speaking for his group of houses, said that in his opinion everyone should see them.

"Sure they are shocking," Kramer said. "But not nearly so shocking as the facts involved. In my opinion it is the duty of exhibitors to show these reels and it is an obligation for the public to see them."

However, no concerted action has been taken by the subsequent run theatre owners. Each will use his own judgment, and much depends upon the type of audience to which his theatre caters.

Detroit Projectionist Dies

DETROIT—Loren C. Loy, Detroit projectionist, died May 24 as the result of a paralytic stroke suffered at his home near Pontiac. He was 42 years of age. Loy came from Tennessee, and was on the road for the Jam Handy organization for a number of years before coming to the Varsity Theatre here. His wife and three children survive.

Paper Bars Lurid Ad Lines

PITTSBURGH—For the first time in years the Pittsburgh Press refused a theatre ad, eliminating a display on "Ingagi" after publication of the first edition of the paper. An editorial stated that the advertising was for a downtown theatre, "an old offender in the matter of salacious promises." "Ingagi," which exploits "the love life of a gorilla," was revived here at the Art Cinema.

In a "Tip to the Movies" editorial, the newspaper stated that "some years ago the movies got so loose in what they pictured that they ran into a censorship movement known as 'The Legion of Decency' which proceeded to make life hot for them. Since then they've been so cleaned up that most of the objectionable situations that caused the movement have been eliminated. The only thing bad about some movies is the advertising which promises a great deal more than is delivered."

Many of the theatre ads "scarcely could pass muster," the editorial continued. "One, advertising 'Dillinger,' contained such phrases as 'a cold-blooded killer and a hot-blooded blonde—they stopped at nothing,' 'the bloodiest chapter in the history of crime,' 'doubly shocking because it's real.' Another dealt with 'public enemies on the loose,' 'the strangler—plying his horrible trade,' 'the fate of a girl who was nice to a stranger.' What are films advertising for—renewed attention from 'The Legion of Decency?'"

Educators Find Men Prefer Action Films But Go Where Women Wish

CLEVELAND—Men prefer the action type of motion picture but they go to see the sentimental variety because their women folk do the family theatre shopping.

This was the consensus of seven leading educators who made up a panel discussion on the subject "Men and the Movies—What men prefer in the movies and why they make their choice—Are they influenced by the feminine members of their families?"

The panel discussion was the main event of the final meeting of the season of the Cleveland Motion Picture Council, of which Mrs. Frank R. Anderson is founder and president. Mrs. Patricia Blair of the Cleveland Public Library was in charge of the meeting.

Discussion Along These Lines

Herbert C. Hunsaker, dean of Cleveland College, appeared in the role of moderator and led the discussion into three channels: (1) Do the film tastes of men differ from those of women; (2) the expanding use of 16mm film after the war and (3) the effect of television upon the family theatre habits.

Men prefer action movies as their first choice and musicals as their second choice. This was almost unanimously agreed upon by the panel members. Then how come that the sentimental picture, the so-called "woman's picture" is the one that is the boxoffice attraction? The answer is the man of the family is out voted by his wife and children when theatre night comes around. And their selections are usually of the escapist type, escape from daily household routine.

"That's why they like to see elaborate settings, many servants, fine clothes and luxury on the screen," W. Ward Marsh, Plain Dealer photoplay editor, said. "They know all about dishwashing, mending, cleaning up. So they don't want to see these family functions on the screen."

"All movies are practically all things to all people," Leslie E. Frye, director of visual education of the Cleveland board of education stated. "Yes, the family selects the pictures to see; men and women do differ in their film tastes, but Hollywood today offers practically everything in every film."

Letting the little woman do the choosing isn't always bad, however. Paul Healy, professor of Case School of Applied Science, said he and his wife decided on a 50-50 basis. Sometimes he does the choosing, sometimes his wife does. "And I am free to admit," he said, "that I have often enjoyed pictures of her choice that I approached with misgiving. Never would I have selected a picture with the title 'A Song to Remember' but seldom have I enjoyed one as much as this one."

The fact that men are greater realists than women was brought out by the statement that more men than women regularly attend the Telenews Theatre.

The family vote is headed by the woman of the house, but what about the children? Teen-age children definitely pick pictures by star value. L. Meola of John Hay high school said he can tell what pictures are being released by the hair dress, the carriage and the mood of his girl students. "And they change their styles with their change in film favorites," Meola reported.

Are double features an evil? And are they, by the length of the program, a bad influence on children? The unanimous opinion of the panel was (1) that the public gets what it wants. It obviously wants double features therefore that's what it gets, and (2) here's nothing to prevent a patron from seeing one of the two features offered and walking out when that's over.

In summarizing, Dean Hunsaker brought out that perhaps men and women differ in their tastes, that young people are influenced by pictures and that adults have an obligation to be critical for this reason; that educators are interested in the rapid postwar expansion in the use of 16mm films as visual aids and that teachers will require special instruction in the use of visual aids; and, finally, that, via television, there will be a widespread use of films in the home.

Other panel members were Dr. Bruna Gebhart, director of the Cleveland Health Museum; John Nicholson, librarian of Fenn College, and W. B. McKenna, director of the University Settlement.

Mitchell Theatres Donate Total Proceeds in Drives

BARBOURVILLE, KY.—Few if any firms here or in the nation can equal the record of the Mitchell Theatre for participation in various war bond drives and, in fact, all worthwhile organizations. Since the beginning of the war they have donated 100 per cent of proceeds for an extended period during each relief or war bond drive, according to the Barbourville Advocate.

In every Red Cross drive the theatres have made donations of two full days of showing for the cause. In the war fund drives as much as $570 at one time has been given through the proceeds at the shows.

A recent Crippled Children drive benefited under this plan and in 1942, the managers, Paul T. Mitchell and Charles R. Mitchell, received special recognition for their assistance in the army and navy relief drive. They have also contributed heavily to civic groups.

Fire Ends "It's a Pleasure" At Johnstown Cambria

JOHNSTOWN, PA.—Patrons at the Cambria here Memorial Day night didn't find pleasure when the show stopped and was not resumed. They did not know that a projection booth fire had interrupted the exhibition of "It's a Pleasure" until they had been dismissed from the auditorium in orderly manner. The theatre was closed for renovation and replacement of equipments. Fire, which started from a spark in the rewinding room, destroyed four double reels of the Technicolor feature, and damaged projectors and other fixtures.

Gets the Juvenile Lead in "Snafu"

Conrad Janis has been assigned the juvenile lead in "Snafu," a Columbia production.

Detroit Enjoys Good Week Despite Rains

DETROIT—Local show business was modestly good despite protracted rain. Patrons were choosy about spending and were picking their entertainment values more carefully, managers said.

(Average is 100)

Adams—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Song of the Sarong** (Univ).....120
Broadway-Capitol—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO).....110
Cinema—**Zoya** (Artkino).....140
Downtown—**Let's Go Steady** (Col), plus stage show.....110
Fox—**Salome—Where She Danced** (Univ); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col).....125
Michigan—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO).....130
Palms-State—**Objective, Burma!** (WB); **Trouble Chasers** (Mono), 2nd wk.....100
United Artists—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **A Sporting Chance** (Rep).....135

"The Clock" Sets Pace in Strike-Hampered Week in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI — M-G-M features were in three downtown houses, and took peak grosses with "The Clock," at RKO Albee. The Kentucky streetcar strike hurt business both in Ohio and northern Kentucky.

Albee—**The Clock** (M-G-M).....140
Capitol—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....80
Keith's—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 4th wk.....90
Grand—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk.....100
Lyric—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO).....80
Palace—**Patrick the Great** (Univ).....85
Shubert—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....90

"Dorian Gray," "Diamond Horshoe" Go Over Big With Cleveland Patrons

CLEVELAND — "The Picture of Dorian Gray," presented at Loew's State Theatre with one of the most widespread exploitation campaigns of recent days, rolled up big 125 per cent in its opening week and moved to Loew's Stillman for more of the same. "Tarzan and the Amazons" made a good 117 per cent showing in its initial bow at the Allen and the third week of "Diamond Horseshoe" shot Warners' Lake take up 60 per cent above average. Other pictures attracted only fair business.

Allen—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO).....117
Hippodrome—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 6 days.. 50
Lake—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....160
Ohio—**It's in the Bag** (UA).....80
Palace—**Sudan** (Univ).....55
State—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M).....125
Stillman—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk..... 95

Maidanek Hanging Scenes Cut by Censors in Detroit

DETROIT—A new development in the history of the Artkino film, "Maidanek Death Factory," was written in its showing to the Detroit Bar Ass'n—in an uncensored version. The Detroit censor had cut the hanging scenes of the Nazis for theatrical exhibition.

The picture also was shown uncut to a group of General Motors executives, on the understanding that the censor does not have jurisdiction over private screenings.

PEI Signs Szewczyk

BOSWELL, PA.—Charles Szewczyk's Mary Lee and Vernon theatres here and his Jerome, Jerome, have been enrolled with Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., Pittsburgh film buying-booking combine.

Aunt of Colleen Moore Is Dead

DETROIT—Mrs. Mary Rettie, 88, died last week at Port Huron. She was an aunt of Colleen Moore, Michigan contribution to the silent screen era. She also was the mother of Charles D. Rettie, former mayor of Port Huron.

TRADE DIRECTORY
A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Two Theatre Projects On Way in Kentucky

CINCINNATI—Mrs. W. S. Wyrick, operator of the Lyric, Carlisle, Ky., has announced plans for construction of a 500-seat theatre at Carlisle as soon as priorities permit.

The Ludlow Amusement Co., Ludlow, Ky., through Edward H. Williams, announced a new 600-seat theatre will be erected at 315 Elm St. there. The house will include equipment for television. Modern mass style of architecture with color contrasts in marble and glass will form the exterior. Williams also operates the Terminal Theatre here.

Tom Baird Awarded Scroll Of Merit for War Work

CLEVELAND — When Tommy Baird was selling theatre supplies for Oliver Theatre Supply, he not only was a good salesman but he was also a good bowler. He usually topped the weekly score of the contesting film bowling teams. Then he entered the service and, it turns out, became a good soldier. A Certificate of Merit awarded to him for heroic conduct Sept. 26, 1944, about a half mile from Mook, Holland, relates:

"T/5 Thomas Baird, radio operator, followed the battalion commanding officer who was leading advanced elements of his battalion in the attack. He was at all times subject to heavy fire from enemy small arms automatic weapons fire and under constant threat of heavy artillery and mortar fire. Because of the radio he was carrying, it was possible for Baird to take cover. After the successful conclusion of the attack Baird refused offered relief, preferring to stay with the commanding officer. Two days later when the battalion commander and the battalion executive officer both were wounded by mortar fire, Baird dressed their wounds under fire and continued to carry out his duties with the new battalion commander throughout the subsequent attack on enemy position. Because of his unflinching courage and inspired devotion to duty, at no time were radio communications disrupted. His coolness, courage and devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on him and the army which he serves."

John Friburg Given Honor Certificate by Legion

JOHNSONBURG, PA.—A special district service certificate of honor was presented by the Sophie Rood post of the Legion to John Friburg, Palace manager and former Johnsonburg Burgess, at a large dinner in the Elks Auditorium. This was the second such citation ever issued to any local citizen. The recognition was given to Friburg because of the exceptional job done by the veteran theatre man in every drive conducted since the outbreak of the war. Friburg's cooperation with the USO, Red Cross, war bond sales, scrap and paper drives, etc., etc., was recognized as exceptional because "his heart is in these very worthy efforts," Legion officials stated.

Idle Plant to Use Soon

NEW KENSINGTON, PA.—Stored in the basement of the Dattola here for several years, its installation forbidden by decree of a governmental agency, a 50-ton Frick refrigeration plant is now being prepared for early opening. Bart Dattola, veteran exhibitor, states that installation of the equipment will be completed in a week or ten days, and that the cost of the modernization is approximately $25,000.

COLUMBUS

A daughter was born here May 27 to Mr. and Mrs. F. Beverly Kelley of Delaware. Kelley is press representative of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus and has many friends in mideast theatre circles.

P. J. Wood, ITO secretary, desires to hear from exhibitors who are offered "The Call of the Wild" at terms higher than previous offers. Pete wishes full details of such higher offers on this reissue and will protest to Tom Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president. He also wants to hear from exhibitors who are asked an "unreasonable rental" from United Artists for "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," two-reel color special issued by the navy, marine corps and coast guard. Wood said complaints had been received from exhibitors who said they were being asked more money than is necessary to defray the cost of the prints and the advertising matter.

Gene Sheldon, local boy who has won a high reputation as a pantomimic comedian in London music halls, is back in town for a vacation with his parents. He has just completed work in Hollywood on 20th-Fox musicals, "Where Do We Go From Here?" and "The Dolly Sisters."

Lieut. Col. Virgil Jackson, co-owner of the Jackson-Murphy theatres here, is in the thick of the current Levantine fuss between the French and the Arabs. He's a military attache at the American legation at Beirut.

Maj. Mike Cullen, former Loew's midwestern division manager, V-mails from Europe that he's doing more traveling now than he did while covering his Pittsburgh-to-Kansas City circuit. Recently he went to Munich to set up theatre operation for American occupation forces and then moved to Nice and Cannes on the French Riviera. He is in charge of 200 GI theatres plus several exchange centers.

Friends are congratulating Gertrude Zweig, secretary to Allen Sparrow, Loew's midwestern division manager, on her sale of a $1,000 war bond plus two more at $25 each.

Manager Harry Simons of the Grand swears the following is true: Harry answered the Grand phone. "When does 'Christ Is My Navigator' go on next?" inquired a male voice. After a puzzled pause, Harry replied: "'God Is My Co-Pilot' goes on next at 4:41."

New Theatre Firm Name

LOUISVILLE—The Kentucky Amusement Co. of Elizabethtown, 40 miles south of here near Ft. Knox, a major army post, has changed its corporate name to the Elizabethtown Theatre Co.

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DETROIT

Pvt. **Herman Boodman** sent his dad, Herman Boodman of Detroit Film Cleaning Service, a picture of the World War I monument at Verdun on which he found his father's name . . . Pvt. Pete Simon jr. sent his dad a captured German officer's trench dagger for a mantelpiece decoration.

Theatrical Post Notes: Tom Saffady and Larry Lawrence of the Mike Falk booking office and Eddie Casmer of Lee 'n' Eddie's rate a big orchid for their contribution as the "Three Circles" to the Poppy Day fund. Jack Ferentz, musicians' prexy, was the custodian for the contribution . . . Harry Shipper was headed for Churchill Downs . . . Bob Henri, who subscribed about one-sixth of the post's war bond quota, has been missing from recent meets . . . Gil Light of the Michigan entered Harper Hospital for a general checkup.

Up in the Booths: Mrs. Lee Gamble, wife of the Pasadena projectionist, has returned from five weeks with her family at Van Wert . . . Roy Thompson finally made a date to fix up that sign . . . Gil Light is chairman of the board of governors of the Elks . . . Floyd H. Akins claims he's a good dancer . . . Charles C. Ross of the Campau, who formerly was on Gladstone Ave., has moved on to Highland Ave. in Highland Park.

Bert Penzien of the East Detroit had an interesting contribution on cue-mark film damage in the May 26 Modern Theatre . . . Roger Kennedy is back from the IATSE meet on the west coast . . . Ross Reed, formerly at the Echo, has gone into war work . . . John D. Tabor of the Chandler is building a new home in Royal Oak.

Richard J. Montgomery, owner of the Sun at Williamston, is now a private at Fort McClellan, Ala. Mrs. Montgomery and Richard's father are running the house . . . Lee McLain, owner of the Rex at Morenci, has also gone into the armed forces. Mrs. McLain is running the theatre.

Five UDT women managers were pictured in a photostory by John E. Finlayson, Detroit News screen reviewer, in the Sunday rotogravure section: Grace Lubar of the Riviera, Kathleen Breihan of the Cinderella, Eleanor Stanton of the Fisher, Jeanne Schmitt of the Madison and Lorna Pauls of the Broadway-Capitol.

Saul Korman has moved his circuit headquarters to 409 Fox Theatre building . . . Frank Doyle, former relief manager for the Schulte circuit, is still busy at war work, for the duration . . . Frank E. Stuart, manager of the Midway in Dearborn, has been suffering from a protracted severe cold.

Michael Chargot's Esquire was mistaken for a drive-in theatre by one Elisha J. Waldrif, who put his car through three lobby doors. Results: $75 fine . . . Leonard and Bernard Brooks, both given medical discharges from the navy, are back from California, ready to go to work.

Ernest Rogers, Detroiter for four years, but a newcomer to show business, is taking over the Courtesy, which he will run himself . . . Harry B. Oliver, former owner-manager, is going to bed for three months for heart trouble, and plans to go into the study of law thereafter . . . Sam A. Tanner, his ex-partner, is returning to the contracting business.

Julius Hirschman and Saul Saxon have sold the Joy to Max Sussman, formerly in the construction business, and C. J. Levin, another newcomer to show business. Saxon remains as house manager . . . George McCall of the Hughes-Downtown was off on another business trip.

Jake Sullivan was busy buying a replacement set of teeth . . . Mrs. Charles C. Perry, wife of the Adams manager, was in Joplin, Mo., for a visit with relatives . . . Fred C. Dickely, Altec manager, reports new sound jobs at Sandusky, Ohio, high school, and in the Savoy, Detroit, for Donald B. Lovewell . . . Hazen Funk of the Great Lakes has been christened "Mother" Funk: He's an honorary member of the Redford Blue Star Mothers . . . Eddie McGrath celebrated his 35th anniversary June 10 as pioneer singer for an early Kunsky theatre.

Lieut. Charles W. Snyder, head of the police censorship bureau, has been named governor of the seventeenth district of Optimist International . . . Harry Lee of the Duggan Booking Agency is the father of a boy . . . John L. Loell, clerk of the arbitration tribunal, reports much activity on the labor side of the local panel.

Arvid Kantor reports returns coming in nicely on the theatre cancer drive. Art Robinson is handling the checks . . . George W. Carr, International Seat representative, who recently celebrated his 83rd birthday, is leaving for a visit to the factory . . . Gypsy Rose Lee pinch-hit for Charles Gentry of the Times as reviewer for her own film, "Belle of the Yukon."

Arvid Kantor, NSS manager, goes to the home office at New York for a June 11 meeting . . . Al Dezel of Film Classics and Joe Ellul of the Empress have phone numbers only one digit apart . . . Arthur D. Knapp was feted by the 20th-Fox employes club upon his 25th anniversary with the company. Jack Lorentz, district manager from Chicago, and Jack Schlaifer, division manager from New York, were in for the occasion. Joe Lee, branch manager, acted as master of ceremonies. Presentation of a $25 war bond was made by fellow employes.

Arnold Monette, salesman, has been transferred to the Fox office at Chicago. Jay Frankel, former booker, succeeds him in the Saginaw territory. Bob Mower, formerly head shipper, succeeds as booker.

Sidney Bowman of UA is enthusing over the Technicolor two-reeler, "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," official service film . . . John P. Byrne, M-G-M district manager, was off for a New York conference . . . Justin De Vine, Alexander Films official, was a local visitor . . . Musical Note: Jack Ferentz and George Clancy on a week's business trip to New York.

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New $200,000 Film House Projected for Maumee, O.

MAUMEE, OHIO—Jack O'Connell, operator of the all-night Loop Theatre and several neighborhood theatres in nearby Toledo, will operate a 1,400-seat theatre to be built here at an estimated cost of $200,000 as soon as wartime restrictions are lifted.

Lake Erie Resort Reopens

SANDUSKY, OHIO—Cedar Point, Lake Erie amusement center, will open June 16. The season will continue through Labor Day. The excursion boat SS Theodore Roosevelt will resume its daily trips between Cleveland and the resort with the opening.

Her Husband a War Casualty

CINCINNATI — Mrs. Josephine Gillham, inspectress at M-G-M, received notice from the war department that her husband, Edgar, an electrician's mate, first class, was killed in battle on Iwo Jima.

CLEVELAND

A. R. Nero Now GI Theatre Booker for Camp in Reich

CLEVELAND—From Paris comes an interesting letter from Pvt. A. R. Nero, former Monogram shipper, telling in detail how he books picture shows for an Allied troop theatre.

"Three times a week," Nero writes, "I go to the Paramount film exchange in Paris, which isn't far from the German border, to book three changes a week for a theatre seating 500 and playing two shows nightly. There is a theatre officer and I work directly under him—Lieut. Christian F. Koher of Syracuse, Ind.

"Things are run here pretty much the same as at home, but all the films are old. The picture 'Bengal Lancer' is running in Paris houses for 30 per cent of gross. All they have in the exchanges are pictures that were made three years prior to the occupation of France.

"Here's where the army fits in. They have three officers' rooms in the Seine section. The army home office for Europe is in downtown Paris. Films almost up-to-date are shipped from New York to Paris. In other words, we show our own films. The 16mm are shown in the field and barracks areas.

"Theatres are requisitioned for army personnel at three franks per man (equivalent to six cents per man.) Back in the states three francs isn't worth more than one cent in exchange. So, after four years of I-hate-to-say-what, I'm trying to get used to the ways of working for a living."

Nero has been in the service four years, in the infantry. He has been overseas almost three years.

J. C. Peck Joins Directors Of Michigan Cooperative

DETROIT—J. C. Peck of Fenton was elected to the board of directors of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, taking the place vacated by the resignation of Ben J. Cohn. The latter recently sold his Crystal and Senate theatres to the Broder circuit, for which he became general manager, and consequently was ineligible for continued membership in the organization.

Other directors, all re-elected at the annual stockholders' meeting, are Fred DeLodder, James C. Ritter, Wade Allen, Harold Munz, Lou Wisper, Charles Komer, Alex Schreiber and Lou Cohen.

Officers will be elected at the June meetin of the board of directors.

Golf Is Out for Annual Cincinnati Variety Picnic

CINCINNATI—Mrs. Allan Moritz is chairman of the women's committee for the Queen City Variety Club annual picnic July 2 at the Summit Hills Country Club. The word is there will be no golf, although a program of games is being arranged for the entire family. The program begins at 11 a. m.

Mrs. Moritz entertained with a luncheon for her committee at the Variety Club Wednesday to get the picnic ball rolling.

"Co-Pilot" Repeats

LOUISVILLE—After winding up a four-week run at the Mary Anderson Theatre only a few weeks ago, "God Is My Co-Pilot" has been brought back for a repeat engagement at the same house.

Three Pittsburgh Premieres

PITTSBURGH—Seventh War Loan theatre premieres downtown include "Conflict" at the Stanley, June 7; "Diamond Horseshoe," Fulton, June 8, and "The Clock," Loew's Penn, June 12.

Nat Barach, National Screen Service manager, and Howard Savitz of the same organization are getting their wardrobes in shape to attend the NSS eastern division sales meeting in New York June 11-13 . . . Bob Snyder of Film Classics reports new "Wuthering Heights" deals include the Palace, Youngstown; Liberty, Zanesville and the Quilna, Lima. Snyder also reports that his newly acquired feature, "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors," starring an array of zombies, vampires, ghouls and werewolves, has been booked into the Circle for a first run engagement starting July 4.

J. Maxwell Joice, Paramount exploiteer, is back at his desk following an illness that required three weeks' hospitalization . . . Eddie Catlin, Warner city salesman, reports his son-in-law, Lieut. Harold Brainard, whose plane fell in German territory, was freed by the Allies and has returned to this country, reporting to Camp Atterbury. He has a 60-day leave . . . Joe Kolisky, Warner branch manager, modestly admits under pressure that his office has exceeded its sales quota for the last nine consecutive weeks in the current sales drive. Only eight more weeks of the same record to go in order to be in on the gravy.

Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, and Dick Wright, assistant, were in Lorain recently looking over theatre equipment and remodeling needs . . . Lou Ratener and Bud Friedman, Warner Theatres contact manager and booker, respectively, are back from a Hollywood holiday. "Back in body, only," Friedman says, "in spirit we are still out there where everything is as wonderful as the Chamber of Commerce says it is."

Starting on Memorial Day and continuing over the Fourth of July, Warners' Hippodrome and Lake and the RKO Allen will adopt the Wednesday change policy, thereby getting in step with the RKO Palace and the Loew houses. But after July 4 the Thursday change will be resumed at all the houses. The Palace, which returns to the combination stage and screen policy June 29, will offer its new show on Friday of each week. Loew's has not announced whether their houses will stay on the current Wednesday change or go back to Thursday change.

Tony Stern, president of the Warner Club, is in the throes of an elaborate program to redecorate the club . . . Charles Rich, Warner district manager, was in Pittsburgh on routine duty.

Ben Rappaport, Universal auditor, arrived here last week for a stay of several weeks . . . Stanley Hall who sold his Mary Jane Theatre in Amhert to John Matty last year to move to California, is back from there and is looking for another theatre. He didn't like California and wants to settle down in Ohio for keeps . . . James J. Grady, 20th-Fox district manager, who is wearing a beautiful coat of tan, spent a few days here on routine business with local manager, I. J. Schmertz.

Leo Jones, Upper Sandusky, has a future screen star in his family. His son Dickie is so photogenic that a 13th St. photographer has a whole window full of his pictures . . . Mrs. Ward, secretary to J. S. Jossey of Hygienic Productions, reports that he is recovering from a recent illness and is remaining on the west coast for a while . . . L. H. Walters, National Theatre Supply, is back from a combined business trip and vacation on the west coast.

Jack Walsh is now officially occupying Jack Mundstuk's position as M-G-M city sales manager. We lamp in one of the dailies that Mundstuk, recently visited the home office in his new capacity as Buffalo manager . . . A capacity crowds responded to RKO's invitational screening of "Wonder Man" last week at the Colony. The picture rated high as comedy entertainment and bets are being placed that it will prove one of the hit pictures of the year.

"Meet the Missus" Air Show On Theatre Bond Tour

DETROIT—W. S. Butterfield Theatres has conducted a special tour of Meet the Missus radio show on WJR, to seven principal upstate cities in a special war bond promotion. Arrangements were made by J. Oliver Brooks, head booker, to have Ross Mulholland, master of ceremonies on the program, present it on the stage of the leading Butterfield theatre in each city at a special matinee.

The show presented an opportunity for the feminine bond buyers to have a recorded interview made, which they may hear later over WJR, the only 50,000-watt station in Michigan. It was arranged strictly as a bond-selling promotion.

Cities on Mulholland's tour were: Ann Arbor, May 27; Jackson, May 28; Lansing, May 29; Saginaw, May 30; Bay City, May 30; Owosso, May 31, and Port Huron, June 1.

Role in "Tomorrow" to Barbara Hale

Barbara Hale has been assigned the top feminine role in "Tomorrow Is Here," an RKO production.

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THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Mannie Marcus, owner and general manager of a circuit of 11 theatres in Indiana and Ohio, got his start in the business when he was only 14 years old, 1909, working as usher and doorman after school. He worked his way up in the industry, becoming manager of the Fox Academy in New York. At that time he was made instructor for all managers of Fox theatres. He is probably the first man to run a school for the training of theatre personnel. He lives in Indianapolis where he is a member of the Columbia Club, Masons and Variety.



Twenty-six years ago, in 1919, **Maurice Markley** of New Castle, Pa., became owner and operator of the Strand Theatre in that city in partnership with his brother, Julius. Since then he has continued to be an exhibitor and now operates the State Theatre, a 600-seat house in New New Castle. He is a member of MPTOA, the Masons, Eagles and Moose. He is married and has four daughters and one son, Joseph, of whom he is especially proud, as he is now serving with a tank destroyer outfit overseas. Three daughters are married and a fourth is living at home.



Frank Panoplos of Clairton, Pa., is the owner of the State and Colonial theatres in that city. These houses have a combined seating capacity of 1,100. He is a member of the MPTO and of the War Activities Committee. Panoplos, who is known as "Pineapple" to his friends, has been in the motion picture industry since 1912 when he purchased the Lyric Theatre in McKeesport, Pa. His favorite pastimes are hunting, fishing and bowling. He is a member of Elks, Kiwanis and Variety, and is interested in civic affairs. He is married, has no children.

Frank W. Huss comes from a family of showmen. His father was a circuit owner and in 1920 Frank took over the operation of his houses, the Park, Americus, Imperial, Dixie and Royal in Cincinnati, and the Hiland in Ft. Thomas, Ky., are under his control today. Huss is president of the Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors, Inc., and vice-president of ITO of Ohio. He is married and has three young children, Frank, Margo and Louise. Huss, who is called Wes by his friends, is a Mason. His favorite sports are fishing, hunting and golf.



After his discharge from the army in 1921 **Michael Karolcik** became interested in motion pictures. He had seen them in large cities and decided his own town, Perryopolis, Pa., ought to see them too. He opened the community's first theatre, the Perry, soon afterward. His guess had been right; the 400-seat house was a success. His concern for Perryopolis did not end with building its theatre; he has been Fayette County commissioner, is fire chief of Perryopolis and school director of Perry township. He belongs to the Moose, Elks, Lions and Slovak clubs.



A veteran showman of many years standing is **D. B. Follett** of Gibsonburg, Ohio. Since the pioneer days of motion pictures in 1911 he has been in the theatre business continuously. He operates the Del-Lu Theatre in Gibsonburg, a house seating 300. He holds no public office but does take a good citizen's interest in the civic affairs of his community. He belongs to the Exchange Club. Follett is an active outdoor sportsman who especially enjoys hunting and fishing. He is married and has a daughter, Beryl Jean, who is a school teacher.





Frank Gross of Cleveland was a dairyman until 1914 when he decided it would be more interesting to be in the motion picture industry. So he turned to theatre operation in his home town at the Clark National. He now manages five houses in Cleveland: the Broadvue, Cedar, Grand, New Y and Quincy. He is a member of the ITO of Ohio and of the Cleveland Motion Picture League. He belongs to both the Variety and the Beechmont Country clubs as well as Knights of Pythias. Gross likes to play golf and gin rummy. He is unmarried.



John Bays lived on a farm until 1923 when he traded his acres for a theatre. He still operates that house, the Pastime, in Jackson, Ky. In addition to his managerial duties at the theatre he owns the largest hotel in Jackson, Mrs. Bays helping in its management. Perhaps as a result of his early life on a farm, Bays is very fond of animals. In fact his theatre has its own mascot, a mongrel puppy which he befriended. He is interested in civic affairs for personal reasons and because of his business interests. The Pastime seats 350.



In 1913 when a business deal with a car manufacturer fell through, **Lou Frisch** of Ashtabula, Ohio, converted his then useless garage in Akron into a theatre. The following year he hired a five-piece orchestra for the picture house. He has since acquired the Harbor Theatre, a 505-seat house in Ashtabula which he now operates. He is a member of MPTO of Ohio and is past-president of the Harbor Civic Club. Frisch's hobby, power boating, has served a useful purpose during the war. He is in the U.S. coast guard reserve.

When he left the armed services in 1918, **Leo J. Burkhart,** Crestline, Ohio, took over the management of a theatre for the owner who was ill at the time. Burkhart, or "Burkey" as his friends know him, liked the business so well he bought out the former owner one year later. Today he operates the Hippodrome, a 250-seat house in Crestline. He is a member of MPTO of Ohio. He belongs to the American Legion, the Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce and the Knights of Columbus. Burkhart likes to play baseball in his free time.



Charles L. Mack became manager of his theatre, the Strand, in Sebring, Ohio, in 1915. He bought out the owner and continues to operate the 500-seat house. Mack is a member of MPTO of Ohio. He takes a lively interest in the civic affairs of his community and is past-president of the business men's association. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. "Mac," as his friends call him, enjoys horseback riding. He is married and has two daughters, Donna and Joyce, 17 and 10, respectively, both attending high school in Sebring.



Victory was still pretty much in everybody's minds when **Cash R. Beechler,** Charlotte, Michigan, decided in 1919 on a theatre career, so he named his first house at St. Johns, Mich., the Victory. Today he owns the Eaton and "B" in Charlotte, and the Capitol at Eaton Rapids. He is a member of Allied. He is a member of Rotary and also the Masons. Fishing, hunting and golf are his recreations. One son, Cash J., is in the marines; another, Dick, is in Charlotte High School. A daughter, Pat Lou, is a student at Michigan State.



PITTSBURGH

"Dillinger" Hits High Spot in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH — "Dillinger" hit the high spot here last week at the Fulton. In addition to taking 40 per cent over average for the house, the gangster film outgrossed all other theatres here except Loew's Penn. The latter house, offering "Affairs of Susan," was under par for the period. Other grosses were depressed. Stanley, after two weeks of stage shows and record business, returned to pictures only with "Escape in the Desert," and the take was very poor.

(Average is 100)

Barry—**Bluebeard** (PRC); **House of Fear** (Univ).....100
Fulton—**Dillinger** (Mono) 140
Harris—**Counter-Attack** (Col) 90
Penn—**Affairs of Susan** (Para)..... 80
Ritz—**Three Caballeros** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk..... 80
Senator—**Gaslight** (M-G-M), reissue; **Nothing But Trouble** (20th-Fox) 100
Stanley—**Escape in the Desert** (WB)..... 50
Warner—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk... 70

Pittsburgh Legit Theatre Enjoys Banner Season

PITTSBURGH—The stage season, one of the all-time bests here, had lights up for 31 weeks at the Nixon. Opening September 18, the playhouse had only five dark weeks in the 1944-45 season. Several record weeks were reported and only one offering was reported a loser. Capacity and record engagements were scored by "Winged Victory," for two weeks, and "Oklahoma," for three weeks. The latter established another record for the Nixon: A mail order sell out. Thousands of checks were returned to the senders. "Oklahoma" will not return to Pittsburgh until the 1946-47 season.

For the 1945-46 season, Manager Sam Nixon expects to build his programs from the following productions:

Subscription plays will be selected from "A Bell for Adano," "The Tempest," "Carousel," "The Hasty Heart," "Foolish Notion," "Soldier's Wife," "Dark of the Moon" and "Sing Out, Sweet Land." On the tentative musical list are "Bloomer Girl," "Up in Central Park," "Laffing Room Only," "Carmen Jones," "On the Town," "Sadie Thompson," "Memphis Bound," "Seven Lively Arts" and "Hollywood Pinafore."

Dramatic attractions may include "Voice of the Turtle," "I Remember Mama," "Harvey," "Dear Ruth," "Glass Menagerie," "Anna Lucasts," "The Late George Apley" and "Kiss Them for Me."

Revivals expected include "Tobacco Road," "Barretts of Wimpole Street," "Green Pastures," "Life With Father," "Front Page," "Chocolate Soldier," "The Desert Song," "Show Boat," "Student Prince," "Blossom Time" and "Merry Widow."

Pittsburgh Canteen Wins Press Editorial Praise

PITTSBURGH—The second birthday of the USO-Variety Club Canteen here is an occasion "on which the whole community can be proud," states a Pittsburgh Press editorial. The "hospitality" editorial states that the local canteen "is the talk of the armed forces the world over. It has been a Godsend to tired, hungry, travel-soiled soldiers and sailors, and their female counterparts. It has provided top entertainment for thousands of service men. In the two years, the canteen has entertained more than two million members of the armed forces. It has provided them everything from a shower bath to a place to sit and rest. It serves food and soft drinks, offers a wide variety of games, provides a library and a thousand and one small services which are indispensable."

Joseph Dominick Mazzei, assistant manager at the Art Cinema, was scheduled for army induction June 7 . . . Jules Lapidus and Charles Rich, Warners' eastern and district managers, respectively, were here for conferences with F. D. Moore, local manager . . . An effort is being made to bring Bob Hope and Bing Crosby here for a golf match . . . Bill Hollenbaugh's new assistant shipper at Republic is Francis Drake, who succeeded Emil Foryan. Emil was inducted into the army May 30.

Lieut. Charles Schroeder, Eighth air force, a former member of the Art Cinema staff, has returned from England on the way to California and the South Pacific . . . Ray Allison, circuit exhibitor, is recuperating at Mayo's, Rochester, Minn., where he underwent an operation.

A Filmrow visitor was Al Glazer, former local exhibitor, who has resided in Hollywood five years. Recently he sold his theatre there and he expects to enter the photographic equipments field in Los Angeles. His son, Pvt. Norman Glazer, who was wounded in action in Germany, now is in France with an army engineers' division . . . Promoted to first lieutenant in Europe, Herb Joseph, son of the Abe Josephs, the Triangle, East Liberty, exhibitors, is with Patton's army in Germany.

M. J. "Mike" Cullen, former manager of Loew's Penn and later Loew's district manager, has been promoted to major in the army's special service. He has been overseas for several years directing entertainment . . . The "over 30" draft order stoppage, saved Dom Mungello, Burgettstown exhibitor, from going into uniform May 30 . . . Sgt. Donald Dickinson, son of C. W. Dickinson, Brownsville theatre executive, is in Germany.

"Cy" Bender, former Cresson exhibitor, is a CPO at Bainbridge, Md. . . . Reclassified on the "over 30" order, Bob Bowman, manager of the Warner, Erie, who had been dated for service May 28, is back at his job . . . Andy Gibson, local area exhibitor and an associate of Nick Dipson, circuit operator, is reported forming a film buying and booking combine at Buffalo in partnership with Mike Simon, former film salesman there.

Russ Zebra, Republic salesman, who states that he didn't know that he had been reclassified, was notified to report for an army physical examination on June 13 . . . The local RKO gang assembled in George Lefko's office last Saturday morning to listen to Lefko's son Bobby being interviewed on the Pie Traynor baseball radio program . . . Newt Williams of National Theatre Supply is much improved in health and he has returned to his home after fighting spinal meningitis at a local hospital for two months. He is able to walk with the use of two canes.

The Columbia gang forwarded a 22x28 "get well" card to Art Levy, manager, who is recuperating after an operation in Montefiore Hospital. (Art had progressed more than satisfactorily, but we don't know what might have happened after he got a load of that card—it could have pulled loose a stitch or two!)

Mrs. Richard L. Skirble, the former Vicki Seed whose husband has been promoted to sergeant with the signal corps in Germany, will become a mother in late August. Her brother is Martin Seed, local 20th-Fox salesman, and her father is Harry Seed, former Warner manager here who is now division manager at Chicago . . . Raymond "Bud" Allison jr., son of R. Allison, owner and director of the Rivoli and Hollywood circuits of Altoona, states that Charlie Baird, Portage exhibitor, who is a veteran of 40 years in the industry, is remaining in Florida indefinitely. From time to time Baird sends fruit from his farm at Fort Lauderdale.

Orlando "Slam" Boyle, 20th-Fox's booking chief here and business agent for Filmrow Employes Union F11, is on his two-week vacation . . . Larry 'Buster" Crabbe, PRC western star and former Olympic swimming champ, and his aquatic show will be featured at West View Park July 22 . . . The final monthly entertainment of the season at the veterans hospital, Aspinwall, was a smart and gay show staged by the Variety of the Legion, and Karl Krug, Sun-Telegram drama editor. The special shows will be resumed in September in cooperation with the Pittsburgh musicians' union and the AGVA.

Mike Gallagher, Mike Sachs, Mike Shapiro and Mike Winograd were hosts at the June 1 Variety Club family night party . . . The J. P. Harris war bond premiere June 15 will be "It's in the Bag" . . . Miss Verne Black of Wilkinsburg, a neighbor of your correspondent, is a leading contestant for the role of Salome in Frank Ross' "The Robe" . . . Indication from federal court was that the Ball vs. Paramount antitrust litigation would be resumed here this week.

Miss Clare Krumenacker, daughter of Paul Krumenacker, local Warner executive, was graduated from Seton Hill College . . . Julia and Frank Pudis, Northside manager, have named their new son Edward Eugene. He was born May 3 at St. John's Hospital . . . The Lew (PRC) Leftons have been worried about their son, Pvt. S. David Lefton, who has been ill and hospitalized for three months at Roen, France. Although mail coming through is uncensored, Dave has not stated the nature of his illness, merely saying he is "in quarantine."

A. P. Day, DuBois exhibitor, is reported in much better health since his return from Florida . . . Theatrical Mutual Ass'n, New Kensington, which has been giving a lift to war bond sales at theatres, staged a wiener, sauerkraut and mashed potatoes dinner the evening of May 31 . . . Charles Szewczyk jr., son of the Boswell exhibitor and civic leader, was the valedictorian of his Boswell High School graduating class. On June 1 he entered the electrical engineering school at Carnegie Tech.

A visitor was Fred Rohers, PRC district manager . . . Harry Greenman, war bond salesman and manager of Loew's Penn, has been giving some time to betting that "Thrill of a Romance" will top the opening week's gross of "Going My Way."

The J. J. McFaddens of the Rialto, Renovo, Pa., visited their daughter in Philadelphia, where she was graduated as a nurse. The McFadden residence was renovated while they were away . . . Remember Kathleen Williams, serial star of the silent screen a score and a half years ago? Well, she was in the news recently when she charged in a suit for $10,000 against the Frederick Hotel Co., Huntington, W. Va., that she had been scalded and suffered other injuries while taking a shower there.

"Mother" Harris Has Birthday

PITTSBURGH—Mrs. John P. Harris, widow of the founder of the world's first Nickelodeon, celebrated her 73rd birthday anniversary last Sunday.

Joan Bennett Stars in "None So Blind"

Joan Bennett will star in "None So Blind," psychological thriller from the pen of Mitchell Wilson which will be filmed at RKO.

Rudy Navari Sells Liberty in Verona

VERONA, PA.—Rudy Navari, exhibitor here 26 years, has transferred the Liberty to Pete and August Camerlo, brothers, who are newcomers to the theatre industry. Announcement of the sale was made June 1, the date of the transfer. The Camerlo brothers, who are newcomers to the theatre industry. Announcement of the sale was made June 1, the date of the transfer. The Camerlo brothers reside at Freeport, where they formerly operated a news distributing agency.

Navari, whose brother Sam is an exhibitor at Universal, Pa., has not stated his plans for the future, but it is believed that he expects to erect a new theatre in the rapidly-building Frankstown Road district. He had approved plans for this project, with the completed steel on the site prior to the war, but construction was deferred by governmental agency.

The Navari brothers, Rudy, Sam and Julius, operate the Flamingo roller skating rink in East Liberty. The Camerlo brothers were Filmrow visitors this week, assuming film contracts and attending to other business.

Pittsburgh Filmrow Pin League Ends Season

PITTSBURGH—Cash prizes were awarded at the annual dinner of the Filmrow Bowling League last Saturday evening in Webster Hall Hotel. The season of 24 weeks closed June 1 with the Miniatures as league leaders. Orlando "Slam" Boyle served as league president; Marjorie Botsford was secretary, and Jane Patterson was treasurer. All league games were rolled Friday evenings at the Triangle alleys. Favors were presented at the dinner as well as prizes.

The high season average was scored by Pete Quiter and Mary Price; high score for three games, Ben Hanna and Wahneta Gardner; high for one game, Bill Brooks and Jane Patterson; team with high game score, comedies; best increase in average, Jay Angel; winning team, Miniatures.

The six teams, in the order in which they finished, with captains listed first after each team:

Miniatures: Pete Quiter, Kay Larkin, Rae Miller, Grace Thomas, Meercy Braff, Ida Nussin.

Cartoons: Joe McCormick, Goldy Mandell, Mary Price, Ann Quinn, Cele Keiselbach, June Tolley.

Newsreels: Slam Boyle, Ida Wolfe, Anne Zinnmeister, Wahneta Gardner, Rhea Aaronson, Marjorie Botsford.

Victory Reels: Ben Hanna, Marion Willet, Peg O'Connell, Larry Carettie, Jay Angel, Ann McNab.

Comedies: Bill Brooks, Lucille Wirth, Jane Patterson, Ann Simon, Roseanne Fineberg, Roy Davis.

Trailers: Frank Silverman, Marion Heerman, Eleanor Manz, Mary Jane Kuhar, Shirley Ann Herrup.

New Akron Radio Editor

AKRON—Beatrice Offineer has been named radio editor of the Akron Beacon-Journal, succeeding Dorothy Doram, resigned.

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CINCINNATI

Visitors on the Row included these exhibitors: A. W. Phelan, Clendennin; H. J. Gilbert, Princeton, W. Va.; Charley Behlen, Lexington; C. F. Pfister, Troy; Miss Jean Ferguson, pinch-hitting as booker for her father, Frank Ferguson, Columbus; Nelson Burris, Lewisberg; Willard Floyd, New Madison; E. L. Keesling, Bramwell, and Mannie and Louis Shore, Williamson and War, W. Va.

Agnes Lannert, WB, was vacationing. Margaret Weller and Betty Hill, Metro, left via bus for two weeks at Miami Beach; Ann Poole, Paramount, was visiting her minister brother near Toledo.

Lieut. Bill Meier, former Paramount salesman, is stationed on Luzon. He has been in service over three years, two overseas.

Paramount's invitational trade screening of "Incendiary Blonde" drew exhibitors to the Forest Theatre on the Eighth St. It was well received . . . Nancy Oulahan, 14-year-old daughter of Joe Oulahan, Paramount, was in Good Samaritan Hospital for an operation.

Marion Conley, Paramount chief accountant and president of Film Workers Local F37, suffered from severe nose hemorrhages last week, and was at the Good Samaritan for treatment.

Joe Oulahan, Paramount, returned from a meeting at Cleveland outlining short subject product for the coming year . . . Helen White, Universal booker, has resigned due to illness . . . The Warner Club is planning a summer outing.

Allen Cohan, WB exploiteer, was in town working on "Pillow to Post," "Escape in the Desert" and "The Horn Blows at Midnight."

Metro feted Mike Berger, salesman with the company 20 years. The Metro Pep Club presented Berger a cake and he was the recipient of many congratulations . . . Phil Chakeres, Chakeres circuit, Springfield, and the entire Chakeres contingent were in last week.

Most of the Filmrow offices were working with a summer skeleton crew on Saturdays, employes getting every other Saturday off.

Mrs. W. S. Wyrick, Carlisle, Ky., has announced plans for a new house there . . . Pete Niland, Columbia salesman, entered the Good Samaritan Hospital for an operation . . . Charles Palmer is expected to be back on the job soon, after an illness.

David Rullman, son of Howard Rullman of Columbia, has been released from the hospital . . . Sam Galanty was at Columbia last week.

Ardelle Maxie, Schine's Belpic, was vacationing in Ashland, Ky., visiting her sister . . . Mrs. Margaret Woodruff spent the holiday weekend at Bellefontaine . . . Hardie Meakin, RKO Theatres, was in Washington.

Grace Baker of Butler Will Wed Henry Morgan Soon

TARENTUM, PA.—Announcement is made of the betrothal of Miss Grace M. Baker, manager of Warners' Palace, and Pvt. Henry T. Morgan, an army man for eight years who recently returned to this country after 40 months in the South Pacific. Miss Baker of Butler, Pa., has managed the local theatre for a year, and prior to this assignment she had been an assistant manager for the Warner circuit at Pittsburgh. An early summer wedding is planned.

Impressive Columbus Bid for "Eddie" Bow

COLUMBUS—Chances are good that this home city of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker will be selected for the August premiere of the 20th-Fox life story of the World War I ace, "Captain Eddie."

Hal Horne, 20th-Fox vice-president, said he was impressed with the number of invitations which have come from Columbus leaders and community organizations. Horne said the invitations, presented in a bound volume by Maj. Richard S. Wolfe, was the most impressive invitation he had ever seen and that he was deeply impressed. The collection included 57 invitations.

"In all likelihood," Horne told Major Wolfe, "a premiere will be held in Columbus."

The invitations were bound in a 12x15 inch blue leather volume with the famous Rickenbacker "hat-in-the-ring" stamped in gold in the lower right hand corner. Members of the invitation committee were Congressman John M. Vorys, chairman; Thomas J. Herbert, former Ohio attorney-general, vice-chairman; Herbert N. Lape, Neil R. Baker, Mayor James A. Rhodes, Thomas E. Bateman, Edgar T. Wolfe, Harry Gilchrist, Walter J. Reck, Arthur C. Johnson and Ralph Burkholder.

RKO Cincinnati War Bond Premiere Set for June 20

CINCINNATI — "Conflict," WB feature starring Humphrey Bogart and Alexis Smith, and an auction of interesting souvenirs from the stage will feature the RKO Theatres war bond premiere, set for the Shubert June 20. Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, area general manager, assisted by Nathan Wise, is arranging details.

Akron House Switches

AKRON—The Gayety, burlesque house here, has switched its policy to second run films, offering double features and shorts. The house is located in the downtown district near several first runs. The program will be changed two and three times weekly.

Drive-In Theatre Reopens

CANTON, OHIO—Boyer's Auto Theatre, one of the first of the drive-in type to operate in this district, has reopened for the summer, offering two shows from dusk with two features and shorts.



NIGHTINGALES INSTALL—At the Nightingale Club's annual banquet in Detroit, officers for the ensuing year were installed. These are, l. to r.: John W. Colwell jr., secretary; Roy Thompson, recording secretary; Michael Badarak, treasurer; M. E. Donlon, vice-president; Edgar Douville, president.

Three Theatres Add $243,061 for Bonds

NEW HAVEN—Three additional bond premieres in this section netted the Seventh War Loan an additional $243,061. The Palace, Norwich, led with $125,150. The Strand, New Britain added $108,111, and the Capitol, Ansonia, $9,800. Various houses in the Connecticut territory are planning stage or stage and screen combinations for their bond programs, while the Poli, Meriden, scheduled a concert.

The Poli, New Haven, show June 12 puts "The Clock" on the screen while stage and screen personalities are promised for the second half of the program. Already set are Rose Marie and a dancing act from the Martinique, New York. Even before announcement of the program, the house was more than half "sold out."

The Pickwick, Greenwich, also put on a successful stage show for this campaign, and the Playhouse, Ridgefield, has a "New York show" scheduled for June 27. Glenn Miller Day, June 5, featured a screen show at the Roger Sherman, New Haven, and Strand, Hartford. Both houses prefaced with a kiddie bond show the morning of June 2. Colonial, Southington, and the Windsor show "Bring On the Girls" and "Affairs of Susan" for bonds June 18.

Al Montefalco at Beach; Other R. Mahan Items

WATERBURY—Al Montefalco, publicity director of the Roger Mahan circuit and manager of the Carroll here, has gone to Milford, Conn., to spend two weeks with his parents at their summer home there. E. J. Cliffort, Mahan partner, is subbing for Montefalco.

Other Mahan theatre news:

Donald MacRae of the Tower is ill in St. Mary's Hospital.

The Plaza experienced good business on "After Mein Kampf" and "I Was a Prisoner of Nazi Germany."

Nellie Tibbetts, cashier at the Plaza, is ill in the isolation ward at a New Haven hospital.

June is being promoted as "Go to the Theatre Month" in the Mahan theatres.

Mrs. Beck, cashier at the Carroll, visited her son Edward at Bridgeport on her day off last week.

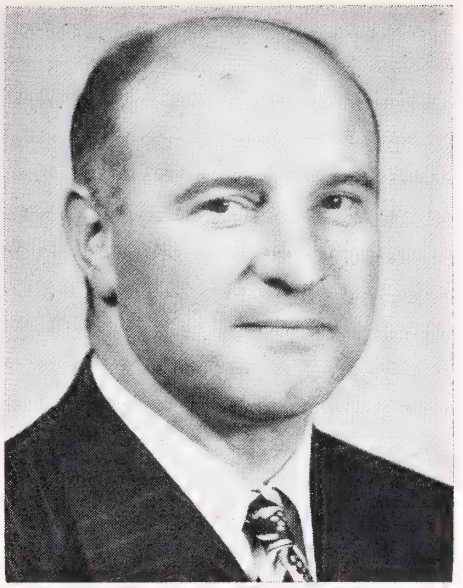
Markoffs Dealing for Two Additional Show Houses

NEW HAVEN—Negotiations are nearing completion for the acquisition of two additional theatres by Ted and Joseph Markoff, operators of Colchester, Moddus and East Hampton theatres. These are the Millerton Theatre, Millerton, N. Y., and the Stuart, Lakeville, Conn. Both were acquired about seven years ago by Arthur Lockwood of Boston and Samuel Rosen of New Haven. The Millerton house has been dark for the last two years.

It is anticipated that the Millerton and Lakeville houses will continue operation uninterruptedly under the new regime, and that both houses will be redecorated.

Schuman Company Named

HARTFORD—Al Schuman, Bridgeport exhibitor who purchased the Warner lease on five neighborhood theatres here, the Lenox, Rialto, Lyric, Colonial and Central, effective July 1, has named his organization the Hartford Theatre Operating Circuit with offices in the Lenox Bldg., 959 Albany Ave.



"GENERALS" PAY OFF—Max Nayor, above, managing director of M&P's Metropolitan in Boston, is making his patrons war bond conscious in many ways, including a gallery of war generals in his lobby, a beautiful and compelling display, reproduction of which is used on the front cover of this issue.

Joel Levy Jr. Loses Life In Philippine Battle

HARTFORD—It was reported here that T/Sgt. Joel Levy jr., 28, of the signal corps and son of the chief booker for Loew's out-of-town theatres, was killed in action in the Philippines. Levy, formerly of Loew's publicity department, was a combat photographer. His wife and a child survive.

Announce Fund Totals

HARTFORD—The final totals of collections in Connecticut theatres for the March of Dimes and the Red Cross drives have been announced with the former given at $117,750.98 and the latter at $82,867.47.

Lockhart to "Now It Can Be Told"

Gene Lockhart has been added to the cast of "Now It Can Be Told," a 20th-Fox Production.

Trades Groups Join In No-Strike Pact

BOSTON—Representatives of the Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts and of the district council of the AFL carpenters union have signed an agreement to prevent strikes and lockouts following the close of the war.

The agreement, which will permit theatre owners among others to enter without fear of tieups at once into construction following the release of priorities, is unique here. Previous similar agreements have been for the duration of the war only.

Both groups also agreed to establish a committee, composed of three members from each organization to work out plans for the reemployment of veterans of this war.

The terms of the contract are effective in Boston, Cambridge, Somerville, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Revere, Brookline, Winthrop, Dedham, Milton, Belmont and the islands of Boston Harbor.

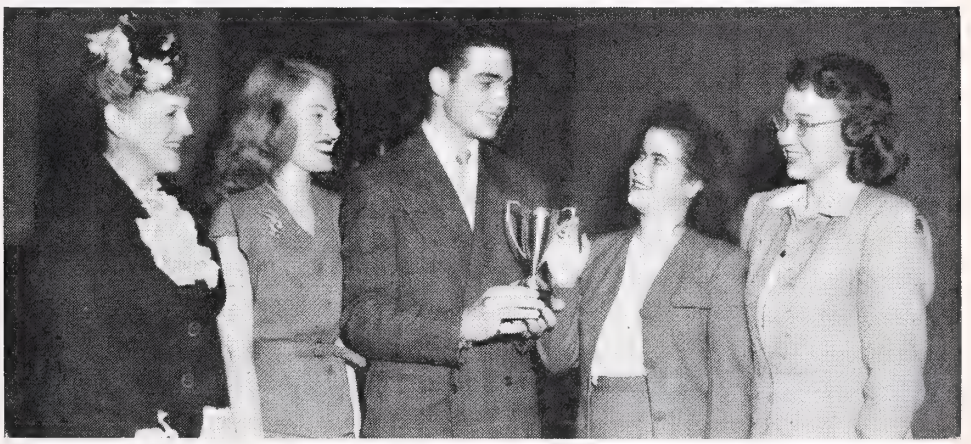
Week to Week Basis For First Run Houses

ST. LOUIS—A shortage of available product of a caliber sufficient to warrant showing in their houses and the possibility that it may not be possible to keep all of their first run theatres in operation through the summer months has caused the Fanchon & Marco interests to place the Ambassador, Fox and Shubert theatres on a week to week basis of operation.

This step, of course, is entirely precautionary and is intended to conform with the theatres' contracts with various unions, so that there will be no unnecessary delay should it become necessary to close any of the theatres. Such a precautionary step is usual at the fag end of an exhibition year when most of the available product has been played off by the first run theatres.

Ad Restrictions Continue

BRIDGEPORT—Press restrictions on theatre local advertising for June include a 15 per cent cut in space under June of last year. The same regulations continue as to national advertising, limiting space to 1,000 lines first run and 500 lines holdover on any one bill.



BETWEEN FOUR WOMEN—A part of the campaign carried out for "Between Two Women" at Loew's State and Orpheum theatres in Boston was a debate between two women students at Emerson College on the subject, "Marriage Versus Career!" Here is the winner, Nancy Latshaw of Chicago, accepting from William Moglia, ex-service man who acted as chairman, a trophy donated by Van Johnson, the star. Others in the picture: Left to right, Miss Natalie Gordon, society editor of the Boston Traveler, a judge; Eleanor Greene of Towanda, Pa., contestant, and Priscilla Fortescue, radio commentator, another judge.

NEW HAVEN

Harry Rogovin, former manager for Columbia here and for some years past Boston manager, now is manager of the combined Boston-New Haven district. The move is in line with decentralization all over the country.

Memorial Day business was good at all the downtown theatres. At the neighborhoods, the holiday was only a little better than average, except at the Whalley, where "Tomorrow the World" was sensational . . . Opening on the holiday of "Song of Bernadette" at popular prices was one of the best for that house in years.

Papers have not yet been signed on the sale of the Stuart, Lakeville, and Millerton, N. Y., theatres from Arthur Lockwood and Sam Rosen to Ted and Joe Markoff, but the deal is reported clinched . . . The Jewish War Veterans have proposed a new local post to be named for the late Sgt. Stanley Fishman, son of Fishman Theatres' senior member. Fishman was killed in action in Luxembourg.

Nelson Moore, son of the Paramount manager here, has been inducted into the navy . . . Doug Amos, former assistant at the Paramount, is out of the hospital at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and trying for OCS . . . Dick Payne, also formerly at the Paramount, now is at a POE in Brooklyn . . . Loew and other friends of Joel Levy, booker at the New York Loew office, were saddened by the news that his son was killed in action.

John Scully was in town to look in on the Universal office . . . Walter Silverman, Columbia salesman, who takes the big step June 17 in New York, will honeymoon at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec . . . The Morris Rosenthals added a New York weekend with shows and night clubs to their celebration of a quarter-century together.

Maurice Shulman of the Webster and Rivoli, Hartford has moved into a new home on Westerly Terrace . . . Mack Herbert of Dow's, Hartford, was a visitor on Meadow St. . . . Jack Post, Fishman circuit booker, and for the last several years in defense as well, has left the factory for full-time theatre duty.

Morris Rosenthal, manager of the Loew Poli here, and Mrs. Rosenthal were guests at a dinner-dance in New York given in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cirtron.

Fred Greenway of the Palace, Hartford, was sick. Lou Cohn of the Poli was substituting at the Poli . . . Mrs. Ed Fitzpatrick, wife of the Poli, Waterbury, manager, was seriously ill at St. Patrick's Hospital, Bridgeport . . . Floyd Fitzsimmons replaces Bert Mackenzie as M-G-M exploiteer for the Albany-New Haven territory. Mackenzie has moved to Boston to cover Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and Rhode Island.

Harry Shaw renewed old acquaintance at the Shubert "Marinka" opening, saying howdy to Romo Vincent, Mack Goldman, Harry Howard, the producer, and Murray Rose, office manager. Dixwell Playhouse presented Lieut. Joseph T. Brophy, veteran of European and African campaigns, as speaker at a war bond rally.

Sisterly pride and affection knew no bounds when Anne Canelli and Freda Kogen of Columbia and Belle Schiffrin of 20th-Fox greeted their brothers home. Cpl. Eddie Canelli, formerly with Warners here, was back from the Pacific and the Philippines after three and one-half years overseas. Norman Kogen was back from Europe on furlough. Morris Schiffrin was bedecked with ribbons after plenty of flying experiences.

Martha Donner is a newcomer in the Monogram office . . . Lou Ginsberg, in New York on business, had old home week there. He met up with Sam Rosen and Hymie Levine at Nate Furst's office, and also saw Morey Goldstein . . . Bernard Levy made a trip to Providence.

Lou Brown of Loew Poli circuit was in Providence . . . Bob Schwartz of the Park Playhouse, Thomaston, was breaking in his young son on the Row . . . Lon Vail, Rhode Island exhibitor, dropped in on Harry Olshan for a chat while en route to Hicksville, L. I.

Lieut. Charles Tomasino of the White Way is being shifted into legal department in the service . . . Harry Martin, Universal manager, took a house in Woodbridge for the summer . . . Jack Schmitzer, RKO auditor, was off for Pittsburgh after two months here.

Jack Rubach, new RKO booker, still is unable to find a house for his family . . . Poli houses in town sold $180,000 in bonds in first two weeks . . . Robert Wood, Roger Sherman assistant, was on the job after an illness of four weeks.

At the Metro office Ann Caparossi is the only June vacationer, starting June 17 . . . At RKO Katherine Higgins and Charlotte D'Addio picked June vacations.

Bill for Two Men in Booth Again Beaten at Hartford

HARTFORD—Both the senate and house bills calling for two men in a booth have been reported unfavorably by the state legislative committee. This means the defeat of the measure introduced in the state legislature many times before.

Shea Adds Nashua House

NASHUA, N. H.—The Colonial Theatre Co., a subsidiary of the M. A. Shea circuit which operates the State and Tremont theatres in this city, has signed a lease on the Colonial Theatre.



BOSTON CEREMONY — One of the impressive features of the Seventh War Loan campaign start on the Boston Common was the raising of the original Iwo Jima flag by three of the men who participated in the feat on the top of Mt. Suribachi. More than 200,000 persons attended. Maurice J. Tobin, governor of Massachusetts, is the man in civilian clothes.

"Without Love" Tops Good Boston Showing

BOSTON—The theatre business was great in the Hub last week with "Without Love" at the State and Orpheum and "The Affairs of Susan" at the Metropolitan making top grosses. "Diamond Horseshoe" at the Keith Memorial and "Salty O'Rourke" at the Paramount and Fenway still were strong.

The New Normandie Theatre, which opened with "Tomorrow the World," went back to its former policy and former name, "Laffmovie," after three weeks on a first run basis. The Tremont, also owned by the Laffmovie, Inc., held over "Tomorrow the World" with good business, and will continue to play first run films, according to present plans. "Colonel Blimp" continued at the Majestic with full houses after three weeks of top business.

A sneak preview was held at the Paramount and Fenway of the 20th-Fox production, "Don Juan Quilligan," which upped the grosses at both theatres as the preview was advertised long in advance although the name of the picture was not announced.

(Average is 100)

Boston—**Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ), plus stage show.....135
Majestic—**Colonel Blimp** (UA), 2nd wk.....130
Memorial—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono), 2nd wk.....130
Metropolitan—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox).....145
Orpheum and State—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....150
Paramount and Fenway—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.; **Bullfighters** (20th-Fox).....140

BRIDGEPORT

Morris and Molly Rosenthal celebrated thier 25th wedding anniversary with a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City, given by Mrs. Rosenthal's niece. Morris' two brothers, Joseph of London, Ont., and Abe of Sedalia, Mo., were present. A four-day trip to Atlantic City wound up the celebration. On their return to Bridgeport they packed up their household goods and moved to their new apartment in New Haven where Mr. Rosenthal is manager of Loew's Poli.

Thomas Calwell, Jimmy Hill and Edwin Nickerson have all met in the Philippines. Calwell and Hill were local projectionists before joining the army and Nickerson is the son of Leroy Nickerson, projectionist at the Majestic . . . Mrs. Louis J. Anger is managing the Barnum during her husband's illness . . . Manager Matt L. Saunders of Loew's Poli handled the bond sale at the Elks home.

Manager Harry A. Rose of Loew's Majestic is an expert at repairing cigaret lighters . . . Local projectionists are rejoicing over the liberation from a German prison camp of Oliver McLeod, who was a member of the local union before he entered the army.

Edward Lavery, veteran projectionist at Loew's Poli has checked off another birthday . . . The Albert E. Sheas have decided to call it a season at the Lyric after having presented 16 shows. They were recent New York visitors lining up legitimate attractions for next fall.

Dominick Macheroli, stage manager at the Majestic, has recovered from a leg infection . . . Also back after 15 days sick in bed is Hugh Fox.

John Fogerty, scenic artist for the Poli houses here, pays theatre employes a dime for every error they catch in his lettering.

WORCESTER

David Levine, projectionist at the neighborhood Greendale, has entered the service, and Charles McNulty has taken over as military replacement . . . Wellington Cody, veteran chief of service at the Plymouth, has resigned to join the New Haven Railroad. Coworkers tendered him a farewell party in the theatre.

A good-sized house turned out at the Capitol for the citywide bond premiere, thus rewarding the efforts of Manager Elmer R. Daniels and Assistant Leo Lajoie . . . The engagement has been announced of Miss Marcia Anstead of Hollywood to Walter H. Shales of this city, in the coast guard. They will be married in California in September. She is the daughter of Joe Anstead, former manager of the Elm Street.

The Better Films Council placed its stamp of approval on "Bells of Rosarita" and "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" for the family; "Eve Knew Her Apples," "The Keys of the Kingdom," "Pan-Americana," "Practically Yours," "Sweet and Lowdown" and "The Unseen" for mature-family audiences, and "High Powered," "Murder, My Sweet" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray" for adults only.

Manager Bill Brown of the Park has installed some very attractive frames in the front of the house . . . Jay Rogers, formerly of the Playhouse, is with the Shuberts in Chicago . . . Manager Jerry Finnegan of the Plymouth signed Helen Parrish and Betty Kean, both of films, for personal appearances at the same show . . . Mrs. Bridget C. Duffy, mother of Frank H. Duffy, theatrical promoter, died at her home.

Priscilla Marsden and Robert Hoaglund have resigned from the Greendale staff . . . The Capitol laid plans for a Saturday morning show for children buying war bonds and stamps . . . Paul and Janice O'Malley have joined the staff of Tom Kilcoyne's Strand in Clinton . . . Roddy McDowall, film actor, was in town.

Orphans and nuns were guests of the Elm Street for "The Song of Bernadette" . . . A new candy counter has been installed at the Greendale . . . Guy Palmerton, manager of the Playhouse, was host to members of the Worcester County Shrine Club . . . The Milford Police Ass'n sponsored a benefit show in the State, Milford, through the cooperation of Manager Arthur Mabey.

Bernie Satz, manager of the Casino, Ware's only theatre, has been writing a humor column for the Ware River News . . . The Millbury Street Merchants Ass'n and Manager Ernest Sharaf of the Rialto arranged for a bond show in the theatre . . . The Globe, 600-seater in Clinton, has been closed for the summer after operation three days weekly during the winter and spring.

Three former employes of the Park—Pvt. Huck Finney, who was about to undergo an amputation after being wounded abroad; George Olson, who has completed training as a flight officer, and Lieut. Kenney Lockwood—dropped around to see their former boss, Bill Brown . . . Dan Sullivan of the Capitol has been sick.

The Marlboro in that city, operated by M&P, was turned over to the high school students for their annual Memorial Day exercises . . . Milton Alexander of the Plymouth has passed physical examinations for the navy.

Bernard G. Levine, son of Jack Levine, projectionist at the Elm Street, has been promoted from staff sergeant to lieutenant in the Third army in Germany . . . Manager Tom Kilcoyne arranged screen and stage entertainment for his bond premiere at the Strand in Clinton June 12.

Fred Joseph, assistant manager of the Olympia, will play this summer in the orchestra at the Belmont Hotel in Harwichport . . . Stores in Leominster were closed during the bond show staged at the Plymouth by Manager Bill Yager . . . Russell Hebert, formerly of the Elm Street, was guest at a farewell party prior to entering the coast guard.

The Warner recently observed its 15th anniversary of operation under that name. It formerly was the Strand, having been opened originally with the late Roxy attending . . . The bandstand and auditorium sound boxes in the Plymouth have been redecorated.

Ban on "Crime, Inc." Sticks After Flareups

WORCESTER—Announcement that the police department had decided, on recommendation of its censors, to ban PRC's "Crime, Inc.," booked for the Plymouth, created a flurry of front page excitement.

Almost immediately the theatre and PRC went to superior court in Boston with a suit in equity against Thomas F. Foley, chief of police, asking the court to issue a preliminary restraining order preventing the chief from interfering with the showing of the film.

The complaint also asked the court to determine the amount of damages suffered by the plaintiffs by the chief's action.

The court withheld decisions on police authority in the matter, and the theatre announced it would show the picture regardless, intimating it would push the matter in the courts if there was any further interference. However, a day later E. M. Loew, owner of the Plymouth, said he had changed his mind and would abide by the police department's decision, that the picture would not be shown here.

At the court hearing Walter B. Allen, city solicitor, representing Chief Foley, said he knew of no law which gave the chief the right to ban a film, but pointed out that there is a law against presenting "any show or entertainment which manifestly tends to corrupt the morals of youth."

Ben G. Gilbert, attorney for both plaintiffs, replied that "Crime, Inc." in no way violated this law.

Switches Opening Dates

BRIDGEPORT—In order to catch the Memorial Day and Fourth of July holidays, the Loew's Poli has switched from a Thursday to Wednesday opening through to the second week in July. The change also affects the Globe, which plays Loew's Poli changeovers.

Burke and Meader to "Young Widow"

Comedian James Burke and George Meader have been signed by Hunt Stromberg for roles in United Artists' "Young Widow."

Back From Iwo Jima, He Misses BOXOFFICE

Kansas City—"Just back from Iwo Jima and no BOXOFFICE," says Jack H. Boyd, New England theatre man, in a letter to this publication from San Francisco. He continues:

"I am also in need of a Picture Guide, Date and Record Book. Would you please send me these, and my magazine, at once!"

BOSTON

John Scully, Universal district manager, and Myer Feltman, local manager, left on a two-week vacation in Maine together . . . Pvt. Malcolm Wolf, son of Ben Wolf, the M-G-M office manager, has recovered from wounds and now is stationed in Paris . . . James Winn, UA district manager, returned to the office after a brief illness.

Walter Silverman, former New Hampshire salesman for Columbia and now with the New Haven office, will be married to Miss Ellen Rosenthal, secretary to President Jack Cohn, Columbia, in June . . . Manager I. H. Rogovin of Columbia is vacationing in Texas on his ranch . . . Visitors at UA included George Jeffrey, Albany salesman, and his brother Al, manager for UA in Toronto.

Harry Blanchette of Woonsocket and Central Falls, R. I., died last month after a long illness. Blanchette sold all of his theatre interests some time ago to his partner, Morris Safner, Woonsocket.

Joseph Wolf, Columbia, was elected treasurer of the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club, replacing Harry Rosenblatt who resigned after his promotion to the New Haven M-G-M branch as manager. Louis Joseph, Bay State Films, was elected to the board of directors. Saul Simons was named chairman of the entertainment committee, replacing Al Cohen of National Screen Service.

Jack Markle of the Fine Arts visited briefly in New York . . . Arthur Sharby, former New Hampshire exhibitor, has been discharged from the navy after two years service. He is reported looking around for another theatre.

The Tub Thumpers of America announced that Tub No. 2 has been established in Portland with Harry Bostwick of the State as chief thumper and 30 members already enrolled . . . In Lowell, Mass., another Tub is being organized by Sam Torgan, Nat Silver, Steve Callahan, Dan Hickey, Paul Hillman, Jack Lynch, Jack Sullivan, George A. Gagan and several others.

Eddie Dobkin, M-G-M, commander of the Vernon Macaulay post, American Legion, has been ill at a hospital in Chelsea. He expected to be back on the job soon, however . . . Richard C. Sullivan jr., publicist, was married to Miss Alice Maybel Lowther. They have gone to New York and Atlantic City on a honeymoon.

Al Kenney has been appointed chairman of the military training program for the Macaulay Legion post. Ben Johnson and Charlie Kurtzman were appointed to the program committee . . . Hugh Herbert, with his whimiscal woo woo and fluttering fingers, arrived in Boston with Arleen Whelan and the cast and production crew of "Oh Brothers," which opened at the Plymouth Theatre after final rehearsals.

The Fine Arts Theatre closed after the showing of "The Life and Loves of Beethoven" and "Emperor Jones." It will open again in the latter part of August.

Floyd L. Bell has been busy arranging for the annual circus at Children's Hospital. Each year, Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey present a show for the youngsters confined to the hospital.

Nathan Silver of the Strand in Lowell has been getting some excellent results with his Seventh War Loan activities. Displays are up in the lobby, attendants remain at a large bond booth both day and night, newspaper publicity, screen trailers, and all available media are being used by Nathan.

HARTFORD

Fred Greenway, Palace manager, was off duty with a badly sprained ankle. Lou Cohen, Poli manager, and Martha Gilwech, Palace assistant, have been carrying on. Due to the injury, the Friday and Saturday afternoon vaudeville headline shows, featured weekly at the Victory House on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive, were postponed . . . Joseph Quittner of the Q&P circuit was a visitor at the Eastwood.

Pvt. Howard Andrews, ex-Daly headquarers, is now at Camp Ellis, Ill. . . . Astor Manager Bernard Stevens reports that his brother Eugene has been transferred from the air corps to the infantry in England . . . Bert Tucker, Sophie's son who is associated with the William Morris agency in New York, did some talent scouting here last week.

The Loew Poli will continue Wednesday openings until after July 4 with early bird shows on Thursdays . . . The quota of $200,000 for the book and author bond show May 29 was exceeded by more than 50 per cent. Hugh Campbell, manager of the Central, served as publicity director and bond issuing agent for the event, which starred Lillian Hellman, author of the Broadway play, "Watch on the Rhine."

Electrician's Mate Tommy Williams, ex-Palace who has been home here on a 30-day leave, returned to duty in the navy . . . Word has been received of the return of Hammonasset Park, for the past two years under army air corps operation, to public use . . . Lee Jonathan, son of Arthur Lockwood, recently was confirmed at Temple Israel in Boston . . . A rumor that the Amalgamated Theatres will handle the booking and buying for Al Schuman's newly organized Hartford circuit has not been substantiated.

Angie Corrado, Poli assistant, continued to handle the office work and bond-issuing details in the absence of Jesse Gaw, former assistant who recently resigned. Sam Horwitz, assistant at Loew's Poli, Springfield, was due to fill the spot permanently . . . We hear that Tom Grace's daughter Eileen distinguished herself at the St. Joseph School musicale . . . Memorial Day theatre business in this area was above normal, managers report.

Beatrice Dozias is the new usherette at the Princess . . . Cpl. Norman Rolfe, former Connecticut district manager for Lockwood & Gordon Theatres who recently arrived home on furlough from Orlando, Fla., and his wife visited at the Webb Playhouse where Mrs. Rolfe formerly was manager . . . Doorman Jagielski, Allyn, reports his son Edmund is a sergeant in the air corps service as a meterologist on Guadalcanal . . . WB's Max Birnbaum and Mrs. Birnbaum, Universal's Phil Trent and Max Salsburg of RKO were among the film folk in town last week.

Reconstruction is under way on the Webb Playhouse's driveway, reports Manager Robert Wickwire . . . I. J. Hoffman, Warner zone manager, was in on a tour of inspection.

Gertrude Harley is the new candy girl at the Daly spot . . . Pvt. Johnny Moran, ex-Regal, arrived home on a ten-day furlough from his marine base at Fort LeJeune, N. C., and visited local theatre pals.

Manager Lou Cohen, Poli, and Manager Fred Greenway, Palace, have posted signs in their lobbies stating: "When Japan surrenders and peace comes to the world we are ready to give our patrons the glorious news!" Press and local radio station connections for this news break have been arranged.

Bond Events Crowd Connecticut Slate

HARTFORD—Harry F. Shaw, special events chairman of the Seventh War Loan drive in Connecticut, conferred with State Chairmen Herman Levy, New Haven, and Henry Needles, Hartford, on the following arrangements completed for war bond and children's shows in the area:

Hartford—Eastwood, children's show, June 9; Allyn, children's show, June 23; State, bond show, June 27.

New London — Garde, children's show, June 9.

Waterbury—Poli, bond show, June 12.
Willimantic—Capitol, bond show, June 9.
Meriden—Palace, bond show, June 13.
Torrington—Warner, bond show, June 12.
South Norwalk—Palace, children's show, 9.
Bridgeport—Poli, bond show, June 12.
Danbury—Palace, bond show, June 5.

New Haven—Poli, bond show, June 13; Paramount, children's show, June 23.

Children's bond shows will also be booked into the Cheshire, Cheshire; Devon, Devon; Strand, Mystic; Colonial, Southington; Avon and Stamford theatres, Stamford; Stratford, Stratford; Carroll and Plaza, Waterbury, Rialto, Windsor Locks and Poli-Broadway, Norwich.

War bond shows will also be booked at the Bradley, Putnam; Eno Memorial, Simsbury; Cameo, Bristol; Colonial, Caanan; Community, Fairfield; Bonoff, Madison; Capitol, Milford; Whitney, Hamden; Fine Arts, Westport, and Strand, Winsted.

In Hartford a giant night club revue bond show will be staged at the Harris Bros. State June 27. A name band will be featured in addition to the theatre's Sammy Kaplan orchestra. Ed Gardner of Duffy's Tavern radio program fame is being sought for master of ceremonies.

A fish bowl drawing will be featured on the stage and theatre men are promoting valuable prizes such as wrist watches, refrigerators, toasters, etc., for lucky war bond ticket holders. Topnotch vaudeville talent from leading night clubs in Hartford and New York will be recruited for the affair and it will be concluded with an invitation to the audience to come up on the theatre stage for dancing, as in a regular night club.

James McCarthy, Strand manager, is serving as county chairman and is assisted by Lou Cohen, George Landers, Walter Lloyd, Fred Greenway, Ted and Morris Harris, Al Schulman and Frank Morin.

A Norwich Bond Premiere Boosts Sales by $122,975

NORWICH—Joseph Boyle, Seventh War Loan theatre chairman for this area, announced $122,975 in war bonds were sold at the bond premiere of "Affairs of Susan," together with the Infantry Concert Group program on stage at the WB Palace Theatre May 29.

Alvin Rudnitsky, using a $45,000 Stradivarius violin, opened the musical program of the concert group, which was well received. Before the performance members of the infantry group were dinner guests of the Robert O. Fletcher post, American Legion, at the post home.

The next activity in the campaign here will be a children's bond show at the Poli-Broadway Saturday morning, June 23. The committee is urging all children to convert their stamp books into war bonds for the occasion.

NEW BRITAIN

Jack Banner has rebuilt his theatre at Banner Lodge, Moodus. The Jack Gordon entertainment bureau of Hartford is lining up additional stage talent for shows there . . . Redecorations are continuing at the Garde, New London.

In the New London territory, the opening of Ocean Beach May 20 inaugurated a business boom for entertainment spots with the summer trade starting its annual return to vacation haunts here. Hal McIntyre, Bridgeport band leader who recently returned from a film engagement on the coast, was on the stand with his band.

Manager Joe Boyle, Broadway, Norwich, passed his preinduction army physical May 21 but has been given a deferment until June 15 to settle business affairs . . . Manager Jack Sanson, State, Manchester, was ill at Manchester Memorial Hospital and his assistant, Henry Wittke, took over.

Friends were congratulating Columbia Salesman Walter Silverman, who will be married to Helen Rosenthal in New York June 17. Trademen in the area are arranging a "stag" party for Silverman.

S/Sgt. Irving Hillman, former manager of the Capitol, Danbury, reported by V-mail from Belgium on a joyous reaction to VE-Day by himself and his buddies over there . . . Harry F. Shaw, Loew's Poli division manager for New England, recently returned from a three-week Florida vacation but his physician has again ordered him to bed.

Neil Hamilton comes east from the coast to costar with Libby Holman in "Over 21" for Gus Schirmer jr., in Stamford June 11 . . . Peter Perakos, Palace owner, started a new deal in giveaways May 25 for Friday afternoon and evening performances with Ambassador dinnerware. It's the most expensive deal to date. Jack Galackin, Arch Street owner, is negotiating for the opening of a new dish deal, too.

The war bond premiere of "Diamond Horseshoe," held May 25 at the Strand, plus the stage presentation of the Infantry Concert Group, was a sellout . . . Pat McMahon, State, was in Providence for a weekend visit with relatives and friends.

Ralph Pasho, Naugatuck theatre builder who was planning a June opening, reports a delay due to an OPA seating controversy, possibly until July or early August.

More New Britain items on page 48.

Joel Swensen of WB Cites Free Expression Need

HARTFORD—Joel Swensen, researcher on Mort Blumenstock's staff at Warner Bros.' New York headquarters, spoke last week at a meeting of the Greenwich, Conn., Lions Club. Previously he addressed the Connecticut Audio-Visual Education Ass'n at Stamford.

Speaking of the Warner plans to continue dramatizing democracy in action on the screens of the world after the war, Swensen asserted that free access to information conveyed by motion pictures, radio and the press would be more necessary than ever if democracy was to function in the postwar world. He cited the film industry's war activities program as a model of cooperation with the government, and urged Lions to take the lead in guaranteeing freedom of expression in all media of information.

Eggleston Role in "Blue Dahlia"

Clarke Eggleston has been assigned a role in "The Blue Dahlia," a Paramount production.

Ainsworth New Governor Of Rotary International

From Central Edition

MILWAUKEE—William L. Ainsworth, past president of Independent Theatres, and former executive head of the Rotary Club of Fond du Lac, was elected governor of the



WILLIAM L. AINSWORTH

144th Wisconsin district of Rotary International for the ensuing year beginning July 1. He is the first member of the Fond du Lac Rotary to be elected district governor.

Ainsworth, the new district governor of approximately 40 Rotary clubs in the central, southern, eastern and western parts of the state, is a past exalted ruler of the Elks Lodge in Fond du Lac, and a past state district deputy of the Elks; director of the Wisconsin State Chamber of Commerce; former president of the Fond du Lac Ass'n of Commerce, and the National Ass'n of Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors.

Independent Theatres, Inc., of which Ainsworth is past president, owns and operates theatres in Milwaukee, Racine, Oconomowoc, Mauston and Shawano. He is state chairman of the independent motion picture exhibitors in the state for the Seventh War Loan drive.

B&F Managers at Toronto Set Up Christmas Fund

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Establishment of a Christmas fund was announced at the monthly luncheon of the B&F Managers Ass'n, which is made up of managers of the score of Bloom and Fine units in the Toronto district. On the suggestion of Sam Fine, the fund will be devoted to some worthy cause at the end of the calendar year. Money will be raised through the holding of raffles in conjunction with the monthly gatherings in the King Edward Hotel.

The association decided to hold an outing on Centre Island July 15. A picnic committee was appointed as follows: Lou Ross, chairman; Art Grover, William Collins, Arthur Magee and Tom Waterfield.

Solly Cohen, manager of the Grover, proved to be the winner of the luncheon raffle, a traveling clock, his ticket being drawn from the hat by Sam Bloom.

Loses Legs in War

HARTFORD—Lieut. Eddie Downs, chief of service at Loew's Poli here for more than a year, suffered the loss of both legs during combat duty in Germany. He now is a patient at an army hospital in New Jersey.

N. HAMPSHIRE

The Olympic Theatre at Hampton Beach opened its summer season June 1.

The Magnet in Claremont was thronged May 29 for the bond premiere of "A Medal for Benny," starring Dorothy Lamour. There was also a stage show featuring the "Bondstormers," a U.S. army signal corps film, and a talk by Lieut. Richard H. Clark of Nashua, infantry combat veteran.

A. H. Rice, state chairman of the 16mm film program, has announced that he has films for all types of audiences to be shown in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive. These include seven shorts and six exclusive "impact bulletins" running four and five minutes. The titles were published in Manchester newspapers.

"Salvos of 1945," starring Cesar Romero of the U.S. coast guard, was booked for the Palace stage as a war bond show June 6. Toots Mondello and a cast of 60 sailors, soldiers, Wacs, WAVES and SPARs also appeared in the production.

The Benson wild animal farm in Hudson, which furnishes many animals appearing in motion pictures and circuses, was reopened to the public Memorial Day after being closed for two years.

Ansel Sanborn of Wakefield, film circuit owner and legislator, landed on the honor roll for perfect attendance during the 1945 biennial session of the state legislature. He is also chairman of the Republican state committee.

The Baboosic Lake amusement center has opened for the season with Herbert G. Wenzel as manager. Larry Conti's orchestra will play throughout the summer at the Pine Echo Pavilion.

May weather was not to the liking of New Hampshire's theatre operators. There was hardly a full day of sunshine, and then, of course, the mid-May snowstorm and gale, which blocked many highways in the state, had an inevitable effect on boxoffice receipts.

Burgess G. Hodges, who was associated with his stepfather, Clarence Mixer, former proprietor of the Bay View Pavilion, moviedance establishment at Alton Bay, has been promoted to major in the 94th division in Germany. He has also received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and several battle ribbons.

The Community in Epping was publicly thanked by the American Legion for the use of its amplifying system in the town's Memorial Day exercises.

NFB Making Short on Work Of Canadian News Men

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—A seven-man camera crew of the National Film Board spent several days here taking pictures of newspaper men at work during a rush of war-peace news. The clips will be assembled into a short dealing with the operations of the press in the Dominion. The camera shots were taken at the Canadian Press bureau here and in the newsrooms of the Telegram, the Globe and Mail and the Star.

Representatives of the board are making a tour of Canadian cities from coast to coast to pick up local shots depicting the work of newsmen.

Added to "Deadline at Dawn"

Lawrence Tierney, Jerome Cowan and Constance Worth were added to the cast of RKO's "Deadline at Dawn."

'Enchanted Cottage' to New Haven Top Mark

NEW HAVEN—"The Enchanted Cottage" and "Swing Out Sister" at the Roger Sherman, and "Diamond Horseshoe," paired with "Strange Illusion" at the Loew's Poli, were top rankers here. The Poli show went over to the College for a second week. "Affairs of Susan" and "Hitchhike to Happiness" also was held over at the Paramount, after a buildup business.

(Average is 100)

Bijou—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Man Who Walked Alone** (PRC) 105
College—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Power of the Whistler** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 90
Loew's Poli—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Strange Illusion** (PRC) 120
Paramount—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep) 100
Roger Sherman—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Swing Out, Sister** (Univ) 130

SPRINGFIELD

Sam Horwitz, assistant at the Poli here, left last weekend to become assistant to Lou Cohen at the Poli in Hartford, replacing Jesse Gaw, who has returned home to Boston after five years with Loew's . . . Andy Sette, WB Capitol, is practicing up on his golf on his off hours and would like to make up a foursome of theatre men. Now, let's hear from you!

Charlie Patch, Art manager, is still apartment hunting and getting rather discouraged. It seems he has found several apartments large enough for his family but too small for his new baby grand piano! . . . Dan Finn, business manager for Warner A houses in New England, was here on a tour last week . . . Actress Helen Parish made a personal appearance at the Court Square with good grosses.

Bond sales are continuing strong, reports Theatre Chairman Ed Smith, Paramount manager. The "Salvos of 1945," an all-service stage revue on behalf of the drive, is expected to be a sellout on June 9 . . . Lou Brown, Loew's publicity chief, conferred with George Freeman, Poli manager, here . . . Gerald Finnegan, former manager of the Court Square and now manager of the Plymouth in Worcester, will be married to Miss Kathleen Olson June 30 in Holyoke.

John Feloney, sales manager for 20th-Fox, and Salesman Murray Shaffer were here several days this week . . . "Blithe Spirit" will lead off the Valley Players' fourth season of summer stock beginning June 25 at the Mountain Park Casino, Holyoke. Lauren Gilbert, co-manager currently in the navy, is returning by special arrangement for the star role.

Harry James and band is en route from film chores at M-G-M in Hollywood to appear at Riverside Park June 9. Publicist Ed Storin reports the lineup includes Benny Goodman for June 19 and Duke Ellington for July 10.

Paul Levi, Massachusetts publicity chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive, has requested that all theatre managers of the state immediately mail him at 60 Scollay Square, Boston, stories of promotional activities already worked out or planned with at least six photos of stunts, plus a photo of the theatre manager or exhibitor, to complete his records of drive activities.

RKO Re-Signs Two Stage Actors

Glenn Vernon and Tom Noonan, young actors from the Broadway stage, have been re-signed at the RKO studio.

Leominster Woman Is a Screen Author

WORCESTER — Barbara Lee McEvoy, member of a well-known Leominster Theatre family, is emerging in Hollywood as a successful screen author. A graduate of Leominster High School and Wellesley College, she has had a hand in fashioning several plays, including "The Affairs of Susan" and "Stardust on Her Shoes." Now she is working on a life of Tschaikowsky, which will be produced this summer.

She comes of a family that has been interested in the theatre business for three generations. Her grandmother, Mrs. Thomas A. McEvoy, is the operator of the Plymouth and Rialto in Leominster. Her father Edward L. McEvoy is sales manager in New York for Universal shorts.

Her brother Earl McEvoy is an assistant director at M-G-M studios in Hollywood, having worked on "Dorian Gray," "Without Love" and "Abbott and Costello in Hollywood." Her sister Dorothea Lee McEvoy is executive editor of two magazines allied to the amusement field, Screen Guide and Seventeen.

Other kin are Bill Yager and Arthur B. McEvoy of the Plymouth, Leominster, and Albert I. McEvoy of the Union and Bates Opera House, Attleboro.

W&W Circuit Now Building New 1,200-Seat Theatre

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—The first actual construction work on a postwar project here was started this week by the Wisper & Wetsman circuit of 19 theatres upon a 1,200-seat theatre at Middlebelt and Michigan roads in the west side suburb of Inkster.

The house, to be named the Inkster, is being erected by the Board Construction Co. as contractors for the realty owners, and will be leased by Wisper & Wetsman under the operating name of Michigan Movies, Inc. Saul Korman, operator of several Detroit theatres, will be a partner in the enterprise. Ted Rogovy has been engaged by W&W as consulting architect.

Construction also will be started soon upon a second postwar theatre project at Wyoming and Eight Mile roads in northwestern Detroit by W&W in association with Korman, who planned to erect the Duke Theatre in this neighborhood before the war. The new house, which has not yet been named, will have 1,500 seats. Plans are now being drawn up by Charles N. Agree, theatrical architect.

Priorities have been granted for the erection of both houses, Lou Wisper said, and present plans call for completion and opening of these first two new theatres next fall.

W&W also has plans for four other theatres, including the 3,000-seat Point Theatre in the far east end of Detroit, and three others in undisclosed locations.

Equipment House Expands To Meet Increased Demand

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND — The Sanco Electric Co., headed by Dave Sandler, is enlarging its organization to meet increased demand for equipment parts. Sandler has specialized in the war years in acquiring equipment not in use, remodeling it and selling it to theatres which otherwise might not have been able to stay open. Some small theatres, Sandler says, have often been desperate for parts which cannot be purchased in the open market. Not only has the personal service department of the Sanco Electric Co. grown over this period, but its mail order department has increased to such an extent that Sandler is now installing specialists to give it their attention.

Tabackman, Salesman

WEST HAVEN, CONN.—Max Tabackman, former lessee and operator of the Rivoli Theatre here for many years before the Fishman circuit took over operation of the house, has been appointed salesman for Monogram in New Jersey.

Roanoke at Kansas City Now All-Spanish House

From Midwest Edition

KANSAS CITY—Some time ago the Kimo, 3319 Main, one of the Dickinson theatres here, began showing Spanish-dialog pictures two nights a week, and attracted crowds from the Mexican quarter and from Spanish students all over the city. Saturday matinees were begun to take care of the student crowds especially, and these also were well attended. Mrs. Mayme Stone Cappo put on an energetic exploitation campaign, using handbills in Spanish and contacting local groups, hiring Mexican ushers, and advertising in the local newspaper.

Because of the better transportation facilities afforded at the Roanoke Theatre, another Dickinson house at 39th and Summit, the Spanish pictures have been moved over there and are run exclusively with a Wednesday and Sunday change and a Sunday matinee. Joe Cappo, who had assisted Mrs. Cappo at the Kimo, has taken over and reports good attendance justifying an all-Spanish house in Kansas City.

The Kimo is no longer showing Spanish pictures, most of which are made in Mexico and distributed by Clasa-Mohme.

NEW BRITAIN

The stork paid a visit to the home of Projectionist Ed Guilbeault, Plainfield Theatre . . . Manager Pat McMahon, State, informed patrons via ads that "Going My Way" will be withdrawn from circulation starting June 1. "It was like selling cigarets!" he said . . . Oscar Levy, Music Box owner, was a visitor from Providence.

It is rumored that the L&G circuit is disposing of the Stuart, Lakeville, to an upstate New York theatre man . . . Manager Jack Sanson, State, Manchester, is still a patient at Manchester Memorial Hospital where his condition is reported as improving. Assistant Henry Wittke holds the helm in his absence.

Manager Al Hamilton, Empress, South Norwalk, is presenting war bond purchasers with "Thank You" receipt cards signed by Actress Madeleine Carroll, former resident of this area . . . Don Blaine, former manager of the Jodoin, Baltic, who is home on leave from the South Pacific, visited theatres, reporting he expects to leave shortly for further hospital treatment . . . Al Montefalco, former Roxy manager here and now publicity director for the J. Roger Mahan circuit, Waterbury, planted a contest on "What Is a Biscuit Eater" with passes for the film, "The Biscuit Eater" as awards.

A kiddie bond show has been booked for the Carroll, Waterbury, for June 12 . . . Manager Tom Grogan, Strand, Thompsonville, reports repainting of his orchestra floor . . . Celeste Holm, formerly of Ivoryton, is leaving the Broadway show, "Bloomer Girl," soon for the films.

Thomas Grasso is opening his 460-seat Old Colony Theatre, Sound View, June 15 instead of his usual July 4 date, he reports . . . Jack Galackin, New Britain exhibitor, is also making plans for an early summer opening of his Strand, Sound View . . . In addition, the Tremont Theatre, a WB holding, Ansonia, opened May 27 for the season . . . Capt. Sterling Hayden is now an army intelligence officer in Cologne, Germany, and his wife, Madeleine Carroll, is serving overseas with the Red Cross. Both film stars lived in nearby Westport many years and V-mailed best regards to local friends through BOXOFFICE.

Free Movie Day was observed here Wednesday . . . Sgt. Joseph Horanzy, former assistant at the Embassy, arrived home on a 60-day furlough after being reported missing in action over Italy . . . Pvt. Video Schevalo, ex-Palace chief of service, V-mailed from Italy that he is now stationed at a rest camp.

Store Shows Seen as First Telecasts

From Canadian Edition

MONTREAL—Some practical applications of television most likely to be seen by the public soon after the war were described by Robert Jouglet at a St. Lawrence Kiwanis luncheon in the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Jouglet is news commentator of radio station CKAC.

Jouglet said first telecasts would be the presentation of fashion parades in the display windows of the larger department stores here. He explained that this type of telecasting was the least costly and that it probably would be a vogue.

Jouglet said he doubted that firms will put on large shows for telecasting because of the cost. The purchasing price of any receiving television set will be expensive at first, Jouglet added, and it would appear foolish for sponsors to spend largely to reach only a limited audience.

Jouglet said that the type of program most likely to be sponsored would be sporting events and spot news, because the only cost involved would be the transmission of the event. He emphasized that television studios would need augmented staffs, including special engineers, designers, stage managers, etc.

He said television had a potential in America of some 130,000,000 customers on the receiving end, but that it would take a great many years before the receiving sets would be cheap enough to be bought by these millions.

Anderson Purchases Site For Marion, S. C., House

MARION, S. C.—B. B. Anderson of the Anderson chain has purchased a 110-foot lot on North Main St. as a site for a modern theatre to be constructed as soon as building conditions permit. L. B. Blackburn, real estate dealer here who handled the transaction, said the lot sold for $16,434.

Palmerton Opens Two

HARTFORD — Hartfordite Guy Palmerton has announced the opening of another season of dramatic stock at the Playhouse, Worcester, with "Blithe Spirit" on May 29. His Lake Whalom Theatre at Fitchburg has also opened for the season.

How to Line as High War Pay Declines

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—Theatre attendance is probably one of the most reliable barometers of the times. When business is good theatre attendance is good. When business is slim, so is theatre attendance. Ever since Pearl Harbor, when industry was stepped up to meet war conditions, Cleveland motion picture theatres have flourished in direct proportion to increased employment and to fat pay rolls.

A large percentage of Cleveland industry is devoted to the manufacture of airplane parts and to tools for the manufacture of other war requirements. Last week a 45 per cent cut in the manufacture of planes was announced. This was immediately followed by an announcement of a drastic hours cut at Jack & Heintz, one of the largest airplane parts manufacturers in the country. Working hours were cut from a maximum of 84 to a new maximum of 50 hours resulting in a 30 per cent reduction in earnings affecting more than 8,000 employes.

Had Received 112 Hours Pay

Night shift workers who have been putting in 84 hours a week were receiving pay for 112 hours, counting time and a half for hours over 40 a week and double time for Sunday. Under the reduced schedule they will receive 55 hours' pay for 50 hours' work. White collar workers are similarly affected.

While this is the first public announcement here of a cut in hours it is undoubtedly the forerunner of many others. Those affected by the wage reduction will cut down on their spending, observers figure, and those not yet affected will take warning and put their money away for less prosperous days.

The theatres, usually the first to benefit by a prosperity wave, are prepared to be the first casualty of the end of war boom days. They are prepared to face a period of slim business. But what are they doing about it?

Offer the Best They Can

Nothing. There's nothing they can do about it, they say.

"Theatre patronage is a brittle article," one prominent exhibitor said. "It must be handled with loving care. All we, as theatre owners, can do is to reflect the public mind. We can offer the best entertainment possible at the lowest admission prices consistent with good business.

"Can we meet the conditions facing us with reduced admissions? Obviously, with taxes and operating costs, not to mention films, at their present high level, we cannot lower admissions. But we can sell entertainment and service."

Will the trend, which has been to the downtown first run houses, revert to the neighborhood houses with their lower admission scale?

"That," a subsequent run theatre owner stated, "is anybody's guess. But it has been the public practice in other times to seek lower priced admissions when the pay envelope was not too full, so we, who have not been in on the big money spent during the lush days, look forward to seeing some of our patronage return to the neighborhoods."

Daylight Savings to Stay In Effect in Canada

OTTAWA—Official word from the office of secretary of state in the Canadian government has discounted the possibility of early abolishment of wartime daylight saving regulations under which the Dominion has been required to observe "fast time" for the conservation of electric power.



"HOLDUP" ON THE BEACH—E. M. Loew, Boston-Miami circuit head, in sombrero and serape, is pictured above backing up a statement with two trusty six-shooters. His Miami Beach victims don't seem to mind a bit. His center "victim" of the trio is "Silver Dollar" Jake Schreiber, retired Detroit theatre owner.

Protests Cut of Nazi Death Factory Scenes

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—Numerous labor, religious and specialized groups were represented in the protest made over the cutting of scenes from "Maidanek Death Factory" as shown at the Telenews theatres here. Despite the widespread nature of the protest to the police commissioner, it was his decision to uphold the censorship of Lieut. Charles W. Snyder, and the cut stood.

Jack Raskin, secretary of the Civil Rights Federation, indicated that the group would unite to fight to restore the cut if the films were released to any other Detroit theatres. He stated that the hanging scenes were "the only part of the picture that actually showed the Germans suffering," after indicating earlier the suffering they had imposed upon their victims. The CRF is a local branch affiliated with the National Federation for Civil Liberties.

Groups uniting in protest were: Wayne County CIO Council, Civil Rights Federation, Workers United for a Free World, Detroit Council of Churches, representing virtually all Protestant churches; Jewish Community Council, IATSE Local 199, Veterans Department of the United Automobile Workers, and the National Lawyers' group.

News Men Get Rough Ride Awaiting Sea Surrender

PORTSMOUTH—Two newsreel cameramen and six newspaper men had a narrow escape in a fierce northeast gale while waiting for the surrender of the German submarine U805 off the Maine coast, it was revealed upon their return to this port, where the U-boat was landed.

The movie and press group was aboard the former yacht of a New York millionaire which all aboard agreed was appropriately known in naval circles as "the roughest rough rider of the North Atlantic patrol."

A newsman suffered a badly wrenched knee when hurled against a bulkhead, and navy reports said several sailors received minor injuries.

Hedy Tops Hepburn On Hartford Rialto

HARTFORD—War bond sales continued high as Hartford's own Katharine Hepburn in "Without Love" scored at the Loew's Poli boxoffice. Hedy Lamarr in "Experiment Perilous" reached the money-making brackets; "Susan" stayed for a second week at the Allyn and second week holdovers also clicked at WB Regal and Loew's Palace.

Allyn—**Affairs of Susan** (Para);

(Average is 100)

Allyn—**Affairs of Susan** (Para);
Three's a Crowd (Rep), 2nd wk.....145
E. M. Loew's—**Youth Aflame** (Col);
Eve Knew Her Apples (Col).....120
Palace—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO);
Steppin' in Society (Rep), 2nd wk.....145
Poli—**Without Love** (M-G-M); shorts.....165
Regal—**Escape in the Desert** (WB);
Delightfully Dangerous (UA), 2nd wk.....130
State—**The Missing Corpse** (PRC);
plus Lionel Hampton and band on stage..... 90
Strand—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO);
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO).....170

Tele Sets Will Cost $250 When Available, He Says

KITCHENER—Television sets when available will cost $250, according to H. J. Latimer of Hamilton, sales manager of the Canadian General Electric for the Hamilton district. He predicted no date, although he said that "when television comes it will burst upon us."

Latimer spoke at the Kitchener-Waterloo Kiwanis Club meeting at Kitchener. He forecast television will be responsible for great changes in living habits which will take place gradually. He said in the U.S. there already are nine television broadcasting stations and 10,000 television sets in operation. With regard to Canada, he pointed out that the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. has leased a building on Mount Royal in Montreal to transmit television programs.

The televising of baseball games, horse races and boxing events have already been arranged.

Following his address a sound film, "Sightseeing at Home," was shown which explained the method of operating television.

Kentuckians Are Seeking Repeal of 10% State Tax

CINCINNATI—Thomas Hill, director of the Kentucky Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors, part owner of the Liberty, Broadway and Madison theatres, Covington, Ky., stated here that a vigorous effort will be made at the 1946 session of the Kentucky general assembly to repeal the ten per cent state tax on theatre tickets.

The Kentuckians complain that the promise given at the time the tax was imposed, that it would be repealed immediately after state warrants had been liquidated, has not been kept. The showmen are merely seeking equality with other industries considered essential to the war effort, and point out that their war bond drives, Red Cross collections, and other war activities, entitle them to consideration, Hill declares.

A concerted effort will be made to repeal the admission tax as soon as the next session of the general assembly convenes.

Hartford Girl Is Winner

HARTFORD—Terry Hurley of Hartford has been announced as the winner of a nationwide fashion motion picture contest conducted by department stores and sponsored here by Brown-Thompson's. She left for New York to be feted as a junior film queen in a publicity buildup.

BOXOFFICE

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The Memphis Peabody To Flexer & Haverfeld

MEMPHIS—The Flexer & Haverfeld Theatres, owned by David Flexer and Bernard Haverfeld, have purchased the Peabody Theatre here. They will take charge of the house June 16.

The firm already owns and operates the Ritz here, the Ritz and Royal in New Albany, Miss., the Varsity and Strand at Amory, Miss., and the Tower at Sardis, Miss.

The Peabody was purchased from John W. Eaton, who has operated it for several years. The price was about $65,000. The new owners plan to spend $20,000 for remodeling at once.

A new air conditioning system and the rebuilding of 800 seats are on the remodeling program. The new manager will be one of the Mississippi managers, who will be transferred to Memphis.

Student Bond Premiere Brings $154,825 Sales

HICKORY, N. C.—Hickory's first Seventh War Loan activity, a school student bond premiere planned and presented by the Center Theatre, was a huge success, Earle M. Holden, resident manager for North Carolina Theatres, Inc., announced.

Seven hundred and forty-seven students attended the morning showing of "The Three Caballeros" and these students had sold E bonds amounting to $154,825. Students were required to sell $100 or more worth of bonds to obtain a free ticket for the show. All Hickory schools participated in this event, the first school student premiere presented.

June 12 the theatre is cooperating further with the WFC in the presentation of a night premiere. "China Sky" is the offering. For this the theatre has tied in with the Lions Club as sponsors of the event.

Mayor's Proclamation Aid To "Pleasure" Campaign

NASHVILLE—As part of his campaign on "It's a Pleasure!" Dewey Moussin, manager of the Knickerbocker Theatre, persuaded Mayor Thomas L. Cummings to issue a Courtesy week proclamation, during which citizens should resume their "custom of mutual dealings with an 'It's a Pleasure' attitude."

The house also distributed cards to 65 stores in the Retail Merchants Ass'n reading: "It's a pleasure to sell you war bonds and serve you in any other possible way." Special additional tieups were made with local stores. Carol Weld, RKO exploiteer, helped on the campaign.

Jonesboro, Tenn., Theatre Now Under Construction

JONESBORO, TENN. — Remodeling work has begun on a building formerly occupied by the Dobyns-Taylor Hardware Co. to provide for a motion picture theatre for this community. Seats and other equipment for the house have been obtained by Paul Walser and Earl Nidiffer, operators. The theatre venture is the result of the efforts of the Jonesboro Kiwanis Club to bring a play house to this city.

Holland on Sick Leave, to Return to RCA in July

NEW ORLEANS—A. C. Holland, RCA engineer here who underwent a serious operation in January, is still on leave from his office but hopes to be able to return to work the latter part of July. At present he is recuperating in the country.

Tufts Puts Thumbs Down On Swollen Head Bands

MEMPHIS—"Nobody can work up to a size ten hat in the motion picture business and remain a star very long," said Sonny Tufts here last week.

"You are no better than your last picture. I have seen fellows make one good picture and sit back and say to themselves, 'Boy you're set.' That's stupid.

"You're never set in this business. You make a good picture. Then what? Your next picture has to be better. And the next one still better and on and on. You can't stop."

The Paramount motion picture star and Charles Campbell, comedian, were here to give shows to patients at the army's Kennedy Hospital and the navy hospital.

Cooper Appearance Tour Marks Picture's DeBut

NEW YORK—Gary Cooper, producer and co-star of "Along Came Jones," will make a series of personal appearances when his International production opens in 140 Texas and Oklahoma theatres, according to RKO. He will make appearances at the Majestic Theatre, Dallas, June 20; at the Metropolitan, Houston, June 21; the Majestic, San Antonio, June 22; the Majestic, Fort Worth, June 23, and on an all-south radio broadcast from Dallas, June 24.

The film will play more than 100 theatres in Texas during the weeks of June 20 and 27, and 40 theatres in Oklahoma the week following. RKO will tradeshow the picture throughout the country on June 12, and release it generally on July 1.

W. B. J. Floyd Jr. Manager Of La Grange, Ga., Theatre

LA GRANGE, GA.—W. B. J. Floyd jr., formerly of Rome, has assumed managership of the La Grange Theatre, succeeding Miller Smith, who has gone in business here.

Floyd was associated with the Lam Amusement Co. in Rome, where he was a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Legion. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd are making their home in La Grange.

Service Bond Show Scores in Macon, Ga.

MACON, GA.—A total of $364,915 in E war bond purchases was realized through two performances of "The Lucky Seven Varieties," an all service stage show presented under auspices of the Lucas & Jenkins Theatres at the Grand Theatre.

Lamar Swift, city manager of the L&J organization, and also special events chairman for the Bibb County Seventh War Loan committee, arranged for the show through special service branches of three local military posts. Capt. Wayne Scrivener, special services officer of Cochran Field, staged the performances.

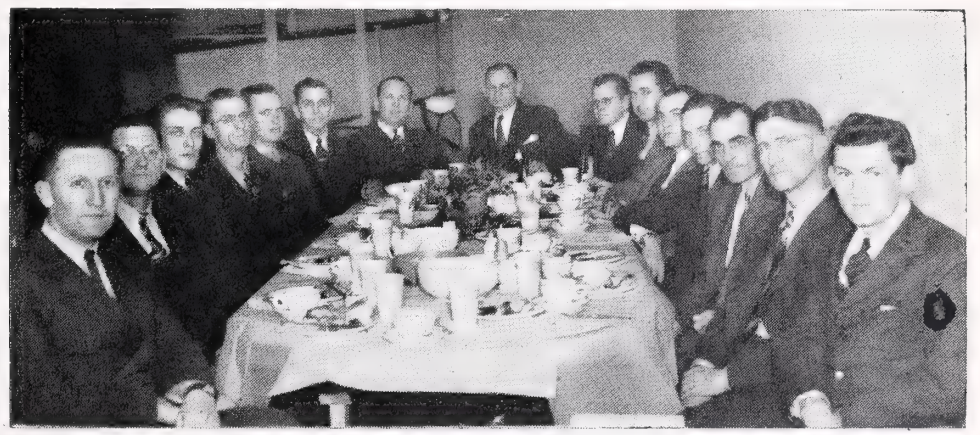
Featured on the program were Pvt. John Hubbard, former Hollywood leading man, now an infantry trainee at Camp Wheeler, Ga.; CPO Graham Jackson, Negro naval musician who recently gained nationwide recognition when Life magazine published a full-page photographic study of him as he tearfully played a dirge as the late President Roosevelt's cortege left Warm Springs; Pvt. Clayton Behee, former aerialist with Ringlings; Pvt. Myor Rosen, former harpist with NBC and New York Philharmonic orchestras, and many other former professional entertainers.

A week before the show, Swift engaged the efforts of the Macon Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in an intensive house to house canvass for war bond sales. With each bond purchase a ticket to the Varieties was given. This neighborhood drive resulted in the Boy Scouts totaling $170,850 in bond sales and the Girl Scouts, $28,000. The Lucas & Jenkins organization awarded a $25 bond to the Boy Scout and Girl Scout selling the greatest number of bonds.

Swift also received the cooperation of three local radio stations, the city's two newspapers and other bond issuing agencies in promoting the "Lucky Seven" show. Members of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority staffed a war bond booth outside the theatre the night of the show, and in the lobby throughout the campaign.

Edward Ashley Signs Long Pact

Edward Ashley has been signed to a seven-year term pact at Republic.

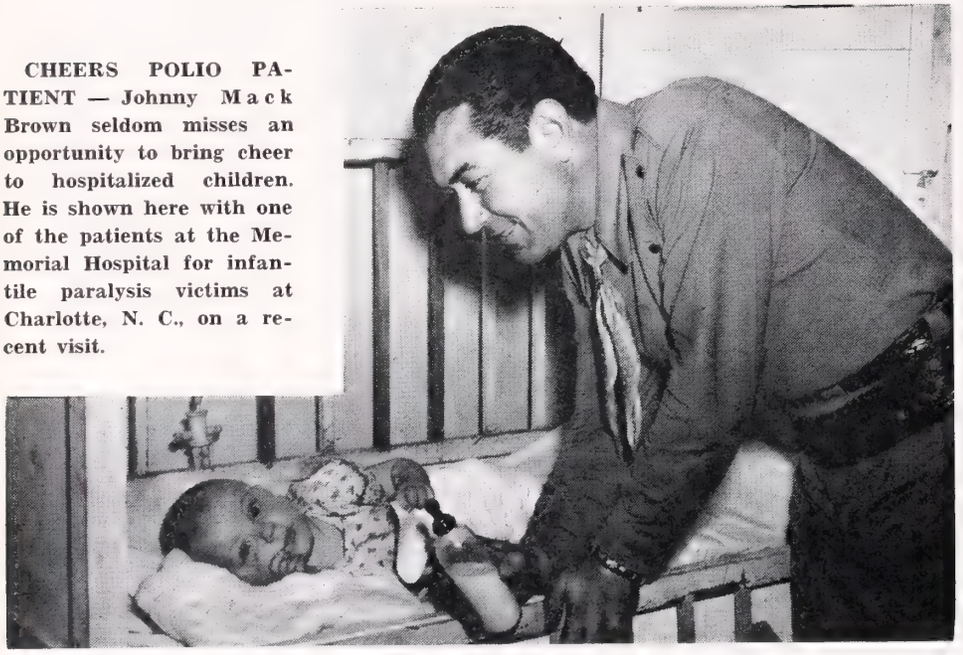


AFTER THREE FIRES IN A ROW—Fire prevention was the theme of discussions by these K. Lee Williams managers, meeting at the circuit's headquarters in DeQueen, Ark., recently. Within a period of five months three consecutive blazes destroyed theatres in DeQueen, Gurdon and Broken Bow.

In the photo, clockwise: Hunter Russell, DeQueen manager; J. A. Mantooth, Dierks, Ark., manager; Walter E. Cox, office manager; D. M. Standridge, Broken Bow, Okla., manager; Dean Coplin, Gurdon, Ark., manager; F. L. Smith, Ashdown, Ark., manager; Dick Suggs, field supervisor; Williams; Carrollton Allman, head booker and assistant general manager; Carl Roberts, Fordyce, Ark., manager; Levi Metcalf, Purcell, Okla., manager; Victor Farrar, Paris, Ark., manager; Hank Farris, Waldron, Okla., manager; Cecil Callaham, Nashville, Ark., manager; Thomas E. Crow, Hooks, Tex., manager.

Johnny Thrills Wards Of Charlotte Hospital

CHARLOTTE—Johnny Mack Brown, Monogram film star and hero of many a western thriller, found a thrill of his own in the spunk and courage of the small, medium and big children who are infantile paralysis patients at the Charlotte Memorial Hospital.



CHEERS POLIO PATIENT — Johnny Mack Brown seldom misses an opportunity to bring cheer to hospitalized children. He is shown here with one of the patients at the Memorial Hospital for infantile paralysis victims at Charlotte, N. C., on a recent visit.

The film star and his troupe, now on tour of southern states, visited the infantile paralysis unit at the Memorial under the auspices of the Charlotte Variety Club. The stars with Brown were the Drifters, a singing trio composed of Carl Zeller, "world's fastest oil painter," Rusty Elder, Jimmy Leroy and Trixie McCormick, rope artist.

Arrangements for the visit at the polio ward were made through Sam Hinson, branch manager of the local office Monogram Southern Exchanges.

The veteran of cowboy films launched the show with a bang. At one stage Johnny left the room, his eyes filled with tears that he managed to hide from the children, who laughed and got a big kick out of the show. Laughing or smiling shyly they shook hands with Johnny and one little girl clung to his hand with both of hers, refusing to let go until she had to clap at the end of a number.

The troupe stopped in Charlotte on the way to Statesville, where they were playing that night.

Cochran Added to Cast of "The Kid"

Steve Cochran has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Kid from Brooklyn."

Walter B. King
King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
Ambassador Hotel Dallas, Tex.

Sanderson New Skipper Of the Memphis Malco

MEMPHIS—The Malco Theatre on Main St. here has a new manager, Herbert Sanderson of Jonesboro, Ark., who replaced Myron Meyer June 1. The appointment was announced by M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres.

Sanderson is former assistant manager of Malco theatres in Jonesboro.

Meyer, who has been manager of Malco's Memphis theatre for the last two years, has been ill for several months.

Angela Lansbury to "Hoodlum Saint"

Angela Lansbury has been inked for one of the two feminine roles opposite William Powell in "The Hoodlum Saint."



"YOU'RE SAFE WITH BONDS"—Two umpires shout the decision as Jimmie Gillespie of 20th-Fox at Memphis slides home. Left to right: Tom Young, exchange manager; Harry Johnson and Frank Girard, umpires in the Southern League.

Trade's Bond Noise Arouses Memphis

MEMPHIS—Memphis, which for three years has won national honors as America's quietest city in its population bracket, was without a doubt one of the noisest cities on record Monday.

Whistles blew at every factory. Fire department sirens wailed. Scores of planes darkened the skies and dropped thousands of circulars.

The "big noise" was the motion picture industry taking over the city for a week of Hollywood-like fanfare in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive. Military bands played in Court Square. The motion picture industry took over the bond Victory House for a week.

The first day of the industry's activity was dedicated to Gen. W. A. Danielson, head of the army's service forces depot here. All types of war equipment were on display at Court Square as part of the industry's week of activity. Free films were shown.

Bonds were being sold in connection with the "Airborne Attack," great air show, which is being sponsored June 16-17 at the Memphis Airport by the motion picture industry.

Throughout the week there were public ceremonies in Court Square, known throughout the nation as Squirrel Park. Each day there was a band concert at noon and a public speaker.

Every theatre and film exchange in Memphis is engaged in selling bonds and the Court Square program for this week was arranged as the industry's biggest event in connection with the airshow.

MEMPHIS

Harlem Theatre, new showhouse for Negroes, West Memphis, Ark., opens this week. J. Jackson Rhodes is manager. The new theatre has 400 seats and is modern in every respect. West Memphis, across the Mississippi River from here, is a rapidly growing city.

Lieut. Conrad Bach, fromerly an official at National Theatre Supply Co., was back home this week on leave after some time in the navy. He visited old friends on Filmrow . . . Oscar Oldknow, NTS district manager, was in on business accompanied by T. W. Neely, New Orleans, official of the company . . . R. L. Bostick, NTS manager, attended a managers meeting in St. Louis last week.

Burtus Bishop, Dallas, the new M-G-M district manager, was here last week on his first official trip since taking over this district . . . Also on an official inspection tour was Rudolph Burger, New York and New Orleans official of M-G-M, the new division manager. They were to remain several days with headquarters at Hotel Peabody.

G. H. Goff, Parsons, Tenn., showhouse operator, was a Row visitor last week . . . Florence Beck, bookkeeper and assistant cashier at M-G-M, leaves this week for a two-week vacation.

Glenn Calvert, RKO office manager, was back at work with his left arm in a sling. Calvert broke his arm when he fell in the yard of his home while building a dog house . . . RKO employes held their first summer picnic last Saturday at Clearpool resort near here.

Jimmy Scheibler, office manager of RKO before entering the coast guard, was home for 15 days this month visiting friends on the Row . . . T. B. Kirk, branch manager of Re-

BUFFALO COOLING EQUIPMENT
10th Fl., 2nd Unit, Santa Fe Bldg. BUFFALO ENGINEERING CO., INC. Dallas, Tex.

public here, was back after business trips to Dallas and Nashville.

Raymond Kearney, head shipper at 20th-Fox, and Mrs. Kearney are the parents of a new baby boy, their first child, born here last week. Mrs. Kearney is the former Jackie Newman. The baby has been named Michael.

Twentieth-Fox employes, 35 strong, had a picnic this weekend at Overton Park and then adjourned to the Fairgrounds amusement park for more fun and frolics.

Herbert Kohn, assistant to the president of Malco Theatres, Inc., was elected president of the University of Michigan alumni for second year.

R. H. Conway, for seven years manager of National Screen Service here, has resigned and will leave Memphis next week to go into the poultry business in Atlanta . . . He is entering a new line of business after 20 years in the motion picture business.

Three service men and their dates were guests of Loew's State Theatre this week for dinner at Hotel Peabody, the showing of the picture, "The Clock," and for dancing on the Peabody Roof after the show. The service men were chosen at the USO parties last week. "The party's on Judy Garland and Bob Walker, who are featured in the picture," explained Bill Kemp, manager of Loew's State.

Allen Film Now at Globe

NEW YORK—"It's in the Bag," UA release starring Fred Allen, opened at the Globe Theatre, Saturday, June 9. The Jack H. Skirball production received excellent press notices.

SAN ANTONIO

We are still thrilled over meeting Martha O'Driscoll, the blond Universal star, and her charming mother backstage at the Auditorium during a bond show just before we left. From what we gather, around three millions in war bonds was sold at this San Antonio show.

Did you know that pretty Janet Blair's real name is Mrs. Busch? Her hubby formerly was a pianist in Hal Kemp's band and is now a sergeant in the army. Janet has just finished "Stars and Spars" for Columbia in which she has the leading feminine role. Alfred Drake does the honors opposite her.

Speaking of names, our Sunny Santone news scout informs us that little Jerry Ray was christened Ida Maezelle Glover and now is living in Dallas with her mother. Jerry is known as the "Sweetheart of the Range" in Texas radio and stage realms. She is going on 20.

Rose Yvonne Stein, Alamo City lyricist, recently wrote ten more new song numbers and she is looking for a song plugger in Hollywood. Her sister Minnie is registered at the Rosslyn Hotel in Los Angeles. Rosie already has had several verses published in national periodicals and all of her beautiful numbers are ripe for musical scores, we think.

Kenneth Chubbe, stage employe, is the new projectionist at the Texas in Santone . . . The latest to receive "greetings" from the President is David Grotheim who was chief of service at the Empire in the Alamo City and hails from Belleville, Ill. He will be breaking in a new pair of army GIs June 12.

At the Empire little Mary Seymour, usherette, is fast turning grey and she is still only in her teens . . . During our first trip to Dallas Clark, manager of Filmrow Cafe on Harwood, was all smiles when he cashed our $20 check. This genial skipper recently modernized his eating emporium to the delight of his theatrical patrons.

Warren J. Barker of the Interstate publicity office is the new BOXOFFICE correspondent here while this roving reporter is away from the Alamo City. Anyone having news items of interest to the trade are invited to phone or mail them to him at 701 Majestic Theatre Bldg., San Antonio 5, Tex. Thank you.

KABC inaugurated their Man on the Street broadcasts from in front of the Majestic. These Monday through Saturday remote airings are handled by Alec Chesser who awards free passes to any Interstate theatre for those answering the questions correctly. The 11:45 a. m. programs run 15 minutes.

War Films to Department Store Staff at Memphis

MEMPHIS — Gerber's downtown department store showed two war department films, "Story of a Transport," and "The Voice of Truth—Tokyo Rose," last week. Ira Pyron, manager of the store, arranged the pictures for the employes.

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FOR EVERY
MAN AND WOMAN
IN
SHOW BUSINESS



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HIROHITO
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SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Bill Slepka entered show business in Okemah, Okla., in 1925, and later took over the managership from his father, Anton Slepka. At the present he is in the infantry, but his interest remains. first and foremost, show business. Slepka was on the board of directors of the Okemah Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of Kiwanis and an active participant in war bond drives. His membership on the board of directors of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma remains open for him. His houses are the Jewel and Crystal. There's a Mrs. Slepka.



Frank Glick of Morton, Miss., says he was "born in the business." However that may be, he did his first active theatre work when he was 13 years old, painting signs for a motion picture house at Forest, Miss. He now owns the Morton Theatre in Morton and the Utica in Utica, Miss. He is a member of the Lions and Masons and is an honorary member of a local club, the Alley Cats. His hobby is raising cattle. And, lucky man for these times, he has 100 head of white-faced Hereford cattle. He is married, has no children. Glick considers show business the best to be in.

ATLANTA

Betty Jane Rooney, wife of Mickey, is expecting a child. A Birmingham, Ala., beauty contest winner, Betty Jane married Mickey after a short weekend courtship last September. Mickey is overseas with the army entertainment unit.

RKO Notes: Bernice Turner vacationed at Albany, Ga. Hubert Lyons, branch manager, was visiting Jacksonville. Mrs. Minnie Newman went by air to Jacksonville to see her son, who is in the navy. Florence Crosby and Kate Sellers also had vacations.

Tex Ritter, now on personal appearance tour, visited Atlanta, appearing at the Erlanger Theatre . . . Hoyt T. McMichen, formerly manager of the Kirkwood Theatre, has been appointed manager of the Tenth Street Theatre.

Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Notes: Jack Caletrane is back from a vacation. Harry Paul and Nash Weil visited the Charlotte office on business. Miss Sue Williams, accounting department, and Fred Bearden were vacationing.

Horace Denning of the drive-in theatre at Jacksonville visited friends on Filmrow . . . Spence Pierce, 20th-Fox publicity director, again was called before the selective service board. Jimmy Gillespie spent a few hours here and returned to Memphis.

Tommy Read, city manager of the Georgia Theatres, said that the Fox Theatre received about 500 requests from persons that wanted to climb to the roof to see the welcoming ceremonies for Gen. Courtney H. Hodges of the First army at the Georgian Terrace Hotel, directly across from the Fox. But Tommy had to refuse the requests. The only ones whom he allowed on top were the press and radio men.

Timmy McCoy, six-year-old dancing daughter of Ralph McCoy, proved the other night at the Washington Seminary May festival that crowds do not bother her. Borne into the spotlight on a huge tambourine, Timmy politely smothered a yawn. Her acrobatic numbers were the hit of the show. Papa McCoy is southern manager of Warner Bros.

Tom Jones, former office manager of M-G-M and now Uncle Sam's boy, was home on 60-day furlough after being injured in the invasion of Sicily. He was pinch-hitting in the M-G-M office . . . Harris Wynn, former Tennessee salesman of M-G-M is also in the service.

Cpl. W. F. Benton, formerly with Toddy Pictures and now radio technician on a B29, was visiting friends on Filmrow while on furlough . . . Irving Berg, New York, visited National Screen Service branch here before going to Memphis . . . Malcolm Taylor, Fox Theatre, Kingsport, Tenn., was a visitor.

Merritt Davis, southern division manager for Republic, was in Charlotte on business . . . Bill Talley, Republic sales manager, called district salesmen in for a meeting June 2. Attending were J. S. Carscallen, Ed Foster and Charles Roebuck . . . Mrs. Sara DuPree, formerly with Monogram, has a 10-pound son, born May 28.

John W. Mangham, Film Classics, has returned from New Orleans and Memphis . . . Nat Bernstein, Chicago, passed through Atlanta en route to Miami Beach where he is planning to open a theatre.

Mrs. J. M. Lakeman, the Princess, Haleyville, Ala., paid Filmrow a visit . . . Ike Katz of PRC has returned after a conference with Frank Rogers of Florida State Theatres in Jacksonville.

H. S. Wyckoff, Paramount, New York, was in the local office . . . John Ezell jr., who has operated the Film Forwarding Depot for the last 13 years, has decided to discontinue transportation of films because of the manpower situation.

On Filmrow booking were Mrs. Lucile Cobb, Fayette, Ala., and Colonel Peck, Sparta, Ga. . . . W. L. "Bill" Dowler, navy, formerly of the Dixie Amusement Co., Chattanooga, now is in Shumaker, Calif. . . . J. A. Whitington, MPA, was vacationing in St. Simons. George Jones, MPA, made a trip through Alabama. Lance Davis, MPA, traveled Georgia.

R. J. Ingram, Columbia southern division manager, visited the New Orleans branch . . . Cpl. W. R. Word, formerly booker at Paramount, was on the Row visiting friends . . . CPO Homer Clark, former booker for Columbia, has returned from the South Pacific after two years. He visited friends on Filmrow.

Frances Hudgins, secretary to Roy Brauer, Universal manager, and her husband, just returned after three years in the service in Europe, were vacationing at Jacksonville.

Miss Betty Sharpe, Paramount, last week visited her home town. On the bus returning here she met Jack Derrick, an ex-marine. They are now engaged.

Floyd Stowe of Florida State Theatres vacationed at Jacksonville Beach . . . Vacationing from Paramount were Kate Lewis and Virginia Rich, at Jacksonville Beach . . . Grover Parsons, branch manager of Paramount, has returned from a business trip to Florida.

Allied Theatres of St. Louis Adds Kansas House to List

From Midwest Edition

KANSAS CITY—Max P. Shelton, president of Allied Theatres, St. Louis, announced the purchase of the Cozy at Girard, Kas. Shelton, with Ben R. Jones, Allied associate, was on Filmrow here looking after booking and other matters for the new acquisition.

The Allied Theatres, set up about six months ago with headquarters in the Arcade Bldg. in St. Louis, has the Lynn, Lynn, Mo., and the Broadway, Poplar Bluff, Mo. The two partners have been interested in the motion picture industry, they said, but not as active exhibitors prior to the organization of the company.

Mrs. Evelyn Bowers will continue as manager of the Girard house, Shelton said.

New Sound System In

ELLAVILLE, GA.—A complete new RCA sound system has been installed at the Ellaville Theatre and the balcony for Negro patrons greatly enlarged in a series of improvements begun several weeks ago.

Tanis Chandler Key Role "Wanderer"

Tanis Chandler has been given an important spot in RKO's "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

The **PROOF** *is in the* **POPPING**

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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Metcalf Now Books Film in Marianas

Distributing films to more than 300 GI theatres operating on shore in the Marianas and the West Carolines, and in addition supplying pictures to the ships that come into port is the war job of Lieut. Sid Metcalf, officer in-charge of a fleet motion picture sub-exchange. Before the war he operated a theatre in Morrilton, Ark., in affiliation with K. Lee Williams and Levi Metcalf, his brother. They have two houses in Purcell, Okla.

"There is no doubt about it, motion pictures are our best form of entertainment out here," said Lieutenant Metcalf in a recent letter to BOXOFFICE.

Their First "Exchange" a Tent

When he and his unit "hit the beach" in August, their first exchange was a 16x16-foot tent which served about 20 theatres. They then handled only the 16mm films received from the army, and all 35mm films were distributed from a film exchange ship set up in the harbor.

Aiding the lieutenant in the first tent exchange were Chester Howard and J. S. Mann, projectionists who worked for the Metcalf brothers in Purcell before the war; C. H. Robinson of Baltimore, Md.; C. L. Blood of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and R. J. Slattery of Clinton, Iowa.

All shore-based theatres bring their films into the exchange every day to make an exchange, Metcalf explained. A regular schedule is set up so that the units can get their film schedules printed in advance and advertise their coming attractions in their newspapers and on schedule sheets.

Apt Names for the Theatres

"We have a radio station on the island," he wrote, "and at 16:00 every day they have a 'Theatre Marquee' program at which time they announce what is playing at the theatres around the island."

For security reasons every unit has a name for their theatre, the lieutenant said, and some of the names are singularly apt. Nob Hill, Rocky Point, Spam Bowl, Penguin Bowl, Oceanside, Bloody Bucket, Roxie, Carole Lombard, etc.

"The announcer really pans some of the pictures that we receive out here. About 95 per cent of the time he is justified in making some of the remarks that he makes," he pointed out.

According to the fleet exchange man, 99 per cent of the island theatres are built out of doors and the majority of the booths are made of wood. Some are tents. Most of the theatres have two projectors with the Holmes and DeVry machines predominating and the leading 16mm projectors are Bell and Howell, Ampro, Victor and Holmes, he wrote.

In connection with the exchange, he has a motion picture service and repair unit. The unit, composed of four trained men, has "done a wonderful job in keeping the projectors in running condition," Metcalf asserted.

"There has been a shortage of spare parts all along," he related. About the only parts we have been able to get are expendable spares such as photo electric cells, projection lamps, exciter lamps and fuses. It has been impossible to get parts such as gears, sprockets, intermittent movements, etc. I hope that we can start receiving some of the spares that we need soon."

Auditions for Open Air

MEMPHIS—Memphis Open Air Theatre auditions have started at Hotel Claridge with Ezra Rachlin, musical director, and Victor Morley, producer-director, in charge.



ROUTES FILM — Sid Metcalf, former Arkansas and Oklahoma showman, now is in charge of a motion picture sub-exchange in the Marianas Islands. A lieutenant, he's shown here on the job.

Arthur Walsh in "A Letter for Evie"

Arthur Walsh has been given a spot in "A Letter for Evie," a Metro production.

Missouri Proposes to Tax, Regulate Coin Machines

From Midwest Edition

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri senate committee on criminal jurisprudence has reported favorably a bill which would require a license fee of from $10 to $25 annually on all vending, weighing and amusement machines receiving coins. The measure would exempt pay telephone stations and devices operated for the convenience of passengers on passenger trains. County courts would determine where and what types of machines, if any, may be operated in their county.

The bill could prevent the placing of juke boxes and slot machines in beer parlors and roadhouses, Sen. William M. Quinn of Maywood, its author, explained. He estimated the measure would raise about $1,500,000 annually.

Anti-Petrillo Bill Advances In Missouri State Senate

From Midwest Edition

JEFFERSON CITY — The Williams bill, striking at the efforts of the musicians' union to control the broadcasting of music, has been perfected in the senate preparatory to final passage. The measures, which have been opposed by organized labor, provide penalties for interfering with the presentation of broadcasting of educational, cultural, fraternal, patriotic, religious or patriotic programs.

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OKLA. CITY

Ben Bainbridge is the new sales clerk at National Theatre Supply . . . Howard Wortham's son, Harold, a lieutenant, came in on leave from the Italian front wearing a President's unit citation and an Air Medal. Harold is pilot of a Liberator and has flown over so much water he said the most water that he would like to see for some time is not more than one would find in a bath tub.

Visitors on the Row: Mrs. Bess Wilkie of Harrah, Dudley Tucker of Pauls Valley, Rudolph Smith of Mount View, William Copeland of Geary, Wesley Hodges of Anadarko, Mrs. C. E. Norcross of Seiling, W. M. Miller of Gotebo, J. C. Smock of Hinton, Waite Kerr of Davis, J. D. Lankister of McAlester, L. C. Carter of Spiro, L. A. White of Weatherford, M. L. Giley of Eldorado, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jestis of Pawnee, J. C. Sanders of Cyril, Percy Miller of Carnegie, J. E. Jones of Sand Springs.

Jake Watkins of NTS is elated over the preview of a new model popcorn machine that will pop a full pound of corn at one popping. Jake said NTS would deliver the machines as soon as production is allowed.

Helen Graham, Warner cashier here, is back from a vacation spent in old Mexico. She liked it so well that we believe that Helen will be months getting back to the normal routine . . . Miss Waneva Benningfield is the new bookkeeper at Warners, replacing Billie Boydston who resigned to spend more time with her young daughter.

Barney Bloom, WB poster department manager, rolled up his sleeves and took over the position of head shipper to pinch-hit while Robert Peel jr. is absent due to an operation . . . Mary Jean Satterfield is the new general clerk at Warners.

J. B. Underwood, Columbia southwestern district manager, was in to see Manager Dewey Gibbs and his salesmen on the sales policy for Columbia's 1945-46 product . . . Max Frost, Columbia assistant shipper, is on vacation . . . Dudley Tucker jr., former booker at Columbia, has been released from the marines and accepted a position as traveling salesman for the A. W. Jergens Co. Dudley and his wife now live in Corpus Christi.

Mark Jenkins, the Metro exploiteer who is in charge of the Showbuilder, has finished the Oklahoma territory after many weeks working the towns and cities, and is now awaiting reassignment . . . John Cole is the new assistant shipper for Metro. He recently was released from the army. John was in the Italian and Sicilian campaigns.

Mrs. Elaine Daniels is the new assistant cashier at Metro . . . Athel Boyter of Boyter Booking Agency spent a few days fishing down near Tishimingo.

Paramount presented a special preview of "Incendiary Blonde" at the Tower Friday (8) . . . The new Gary Cooper picture, "Along Came Jones," will be screened in the Fox screening room Tuesday (12), at 2:30 p. m.

J. W. Hand to Enlarge Bamberg, S. C., Theatre

BAMBERG, S. C.—J. W. Hand, manager of the Little Theatre here, recently announced plans to enlarge the house by adding a balcony, new rest rooms and an entire new front.

Memphian in "Fury"

MEMPHIS—The photograph of a Memphian, Pvt. Carl T. Davis, appeared in local newspapers last week. The article was an illustration of the service film, "Fury in the Pacific," depicting the battle of Pelelieu Island where Davis lost his life. When the film showed here Mrs. Davis went to see it three times.

Organist Takes a Holiday

MEMPHIS—Milt Slosser, who played the organ here for many years before going to Loew's Capitol in Washington, took a vacation at home here, playing at Malco Theatre.

Davenport to "Some Call It Love"

Harry Davenport has joined the cast of Columbia's "Some Call It Love."

Cherish Those Dreams

of days to come, when you can have what you want, when you want it! Many items are here now — more coming — perhaps soon.

OKLAHOMA THEATRE SUPPLY Company

J. ELDON PEEK

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NEW ORLEANS

That Filmrow folk here are air minded is indicated by the number active in the civil air patrol. W. A. Prewitt jr., owner, and Miss Connie Bordelon, secretary of Associated Theatres, and Charles Lamantia, United Artists salesman, are captains in the organization. Carmen Smith of Exhibitors Poster Exchange and Shirley Reach of Joy Theatres are second lieutenants.

Ken Prickett of M-G-M, W. H. Cobb of Exhibitors Poster Exchange, and Curtis Matherne, Universal salesman, are all civil air patrol members. Meetings are now being held Tuesday and Thursday nights from 8 to 10 at the Delgado Trades School where there are excellent facilities for studying navigation, motors and other phases of flying. Herbert Hargroder, who handles amusement advertising for the Times-Picayune, is expected to return to the group soon after an illness.

Patricia Ann Kelly, seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Kelly, has returned home after being in the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital here for removal of her tonsils. The hospital is only a few doors from the Republic exchange on Tulane Avenue where Mr. Kelly is office manager, a factor which proved consoling while Patsy was extremely ill for a few days after the operation.

Robert Ellzey, 14 years old and possessed of a set of freckles to vie with Van Johnson's, is now working for his father, John Ellzey, at Delta Supply Co. With his mother and sister, Mary, already on the staff, the family is complete at the shop except for one other son, in the navy on the west coast.

Doris Trellue, booker, and Muriel Vincent, contract department of Warners' exchange, were on vacation. Also Shirley Callahan, bookkeeper at Joy Films, Inc.

CHARLOTTE

A district manager's meeting was held last week in Charlotte by Wilby-Kincey Service Co. Those attending were H. F. Kincey, Charlotte; R. B. Wilby and Nash Weill, Atlanta; Roy Smart and Harry Hardy, Charlotte; Warren Irvin, Columbia; M. S. Hill, Greensboro, and W. G. Enloe, Raleigh.

B. B. Anderson, Anderson circuit chief with headquarters in Mullins, S. C., opened his new Ocean Drive Theatre at Ocean Drive, S. C., June 2 . . . Ernest Stellings, booker and buyer for H. H. Everett Enterprises, Charlotte, is back from Blacksburg, S. C., where he went to investigate damages caused by two fires the same day at that circuit's Star Theatre. First fire started about 1:30 a. m. on the stage, the screen being damaged, and the second at 4:00 a. m. in the booth with the booth equipment completely destroyed.

George D. Carpenter and Verne Benfield and other associates in Colonial Theatres Co., Valdese, N. C., have bought the Carolina and Rivola theatres in Hickory, N. C., from John F. Miller, who has owned and operated the theatres more than 30 years. The transfer is effective July 1. There are two other theatres in Hickory, both owned by Wilby-Kincey Co. The Valdese exhibitors also own theatres in Valdese, Shelby, Madison, Mayodan, Conover and Granite Falls, N. C.

Visitors on the Row: J. B. McIntyre, Raeford, Raeford, N. C.; Tom Fleming, Sylvia, York, S. C.; H. B. Hargrove, Lyric, Bladenboro, N. C.; J. W. Watts, Watts, Williamston, N. C.; J. O. Childers, State, Pineville, N. C.; W. D. Sears, Sears, Taylorsville, N. C.; H. R. Berry, Center, Hartsville, S. C.; E. L. Hearne, Alameda, Albemarle, N. C.; Ben L. Stozier, Stevenson, Rock Hill, S. C.; J. C. Holland, Lyman, Lyman, S. C.; Charles Cash, Dixie, Kings Mountain, N. C.; Pete Lassiter, Conway, Conway, N. C.; Howard Chapmen, Gem, Cowpens, S. C.; W. C. Macon, Roxy, Old Fort, N. C.; George Ward, Colonial, Chesnee, S. C.; George Carpenter and Verne Benfield, Colonial, Valdese, N. C.

DALLAS

A. V. Wade of Gainesville, owner and operator of three theatres there in affiliation with Griffith, drove down Monday with Marshall Rose, projectionist at the Plaza. Rose placed his order for BOXOFFICE for the coming year. A. V. said he hasn't had time to do much fishing lately but hears they are still taking them at Lake Texhoma. He hasn't noticed any dropping off in soldier patronage although troops have been moving lately. A. V., one of the veterans among Texas exhibitors, has operated in nearly all sections of the state.

Paul Campbell, owner and operator of the Palace at Hico, was here Tuesday with young son, Walter, who just finished the sixth grade this year. The youngster, an expert swimmer and a capable fisherman, has been helping usher and during the summer will have added duties. Campbell is pleased with his recent theatre purchase.

Roy L. Hamilton of the Rio at Clyde, Tex., near Abilene, sent in a year's subscription to BOXOFFICE . . . Louis Charninsky, manager of the Capitol and Rialto on Elm Street, is doing his regular job of service for sale of war bonds and covered the Row last week for the Seventh. He made a talk to Universal employes on the ten per cent withholding plan asking a reinstatement of that system until Japan is wiped out. He also took orders for bonds.

Announcement was made some time ago in BOXOFFICE that the American Desk Manufacturing Co., makers of theatre seats at Temple, Tex., would soon start construction on a new factory there. This new project was nearer to reality when the WPB gave it a priority last week. Construction is expected to start very soon. A. P. Brashear, general manager, was here last week in connection with that expansion. His son, A. P. jr., was with him.

Paramount issued special invitations to a premiere presentation at the Melrose Theatre on June 8, of "Incendiary Blonde." The showing starts at 2 p. m. The invitations read, "you and your guests" . . . Coy Brewer and his wife are vacationing on the Texas gulf near Port Arthur. They took a cabin there for the two weeks. He is traffic manager for the Charles E. Darden & Co. and she is a stenographer in the Film Classics office on the same floor of the same building.

Miss Pat Rowland, stenographer in the Charles E. Darden & Co. office, has been on vacation in California and visited Mrs. Christine Tucker at San Diego. The latter, formerly bookkeeper in the Darden office, went to the coast last year to be with her husband who is in the navy.

J. G. Long, 54-theatre operator in the circuit which bears his name, and with headquarters in Bay City, was in town on a business visit. With him on the Row was a nephew, Glenn McClain, city manager of the Dallas Associated Theatres, the group of three Cameron houses which the Long interests acquired recently.

Joe Hackney, owner of the Plaza in Canton, is a new booker in the RKO exchange.

(Continued on next page)

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That's the lowdown from

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Showmanship Ups Bond Sales in Texas Theatres

DALLAS—By giving each bond buyer a piece of a Japanese Homare airplane motor exhibited in front of the Melba Theatre on Elm St. here, the house enjoyed a spirited sale of E bonds. So far, $50,000 have been sold. Each part given away was marked with Japanese figures telling its use. The motor was obtained from the navy for the stunt. An earlier bond selling idea at the theatre was an RCA television demonstration for buyers.

Joe Jackson, manager of the Village Theatre, turned in a big sale with his tieup with the navy in getting V12 material from SMU for use in selling bonds. Mrs. Marthe McSpadden of the Grand at Electra sent this telegram to Texas WAC headquarters: "Our E bond quota of $115,000 was quickly oversubscribed by $7,500 at our bond for every seat show. General bond sales over town over subscribed also."

Louis Charninsky, manager of the Capitol and Rialto, had booths at both theatres for Free Movie Day and delivered bonds to buyers personally. Jimmie Allard, city manager of Vernon theatres, had stage talent from Sheppard Field which was responsible for a $50,000 sale, with $5,000 worth being sold first day of the campaign.

Jack Groves of the Queen in Houston is having a Free Movie week instead of a Free Movie Day. He also had children's bond shows June 5 and 6. Beulah Greene, manager of the Texas in San Antonio, had a war bond premiere May 30 and a Free Movie Day June 6. Jim Unger of the Wichita Falls theatres had one bond premiere early and Free Movie Day June 6. A premiere for Negroes will be held in the Gem Theatre June 10. Unger is busy conducting rallies in Wichita County.

Raymond Jones of the Worth at Fort Worth had machinery set for a $500,000 E bond sale at his premiere there. In cooperation with the Fort Worth Press, he is conducting a popularity contest among war plant workers. Voting is based on bond purchases. J. P. Harrison will have a June premiere at the Dreamland in Denton. He has already had a premiere at the Texas and children's shows and Free Movie Days will be put on at regular intervals.

C. H. Stewart of the Waco theatres put up 50 special three-sheet posters on the Seventh War Loan campaign. Stage show talent from the Black Land air field furnished entertainment for his premiere.

Sam Stokes of the Robb & Rowley-United Theatres and chairman of bond sales in Nueces County, has arranged a "walking" parade three miles long of E bond buyers. The premiere at the Centre Theatre will be June 14. The high school band, the mayor and other officials will participate. The Tower follows with a similar show June 21.

J. Y. Robb of the Ritz, Lyric and Queen in Big Spring, used the high school band and other organizations, the mayor and Chamber of Commerce for his premieres covering those houses. Jack Mitchell of the Majestic in San Antonio placed a four-foot lighted candle in front of the house and offered a $25 bond to the nearest guess when it would burn down. He arranged with local merchants to give away a $2,000 mink coat to some lucky bond buyer.

J. D. Hillhouse, State Theatre, Galveston, tied up with the Boy Scouts, who went all over the city securing pledges from prospective customers to buy bonds at that theatre. The purchaser was entitled to vote for the scout selling him a bond and the scouts receiving five votes were admitted to a special stage show at the theatre the following week.

John Stiles, Plaza and Grand theatres, Ennis, reported he would have premieres and Free Movie Days as per general plan. Truman Riley of the Interstate theatres at Paris, will have an army stage show from nearby Camp Maxey. T. A. Howell jr., of the Harlingen theatres, will put on a premiere with returned war heroes from the air field furnishing the stage show. A "slave auction" is coming up later.

J. B. Arthur of the Grand at Granger will have a Free Movie Day and says this was the most successful stunt during the Sixth War Loan, when he sold $2,500 worth of bonds in this small town. Andy Thomas, manager of the Burkburnett houses, is having a "political rally" for candidates in the "Miss Victory Contest" scheduled for June 18. An all-star bond rally comes June 20-21 and the main premiere five days later. Other stunts will be a bond auction and a showing of war documentary films by the American Legion.

Henry Reeve of the Mission at Menard, held a bond sale in honor of two boys returned home after imprisonment in a Nazi prison camp. Bonds were dedicated to them. The stunt turned into a rally which reached out into all corners of the county.

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Order early! Check your tickets on hand now! Do not wait until you are out. There is both a paper and a color shortage.

HERBER BROTHERS
"Fair Treatment and Adequate Service Always"
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DALLAS

(Continued from preceding page)

He stays in Dallas during the week and commutes to Canton on the weekends. His wife is managing the theatre while he holds the Dallas job. Joe did some work in the Van Zandt County court house to take up some of his surplus energy during spare hours.

Cecil House, 20th-Fox branch manager, is on a leave of absence, or vacation, and will forget business cares until he recuperates some from a recent illness. He will leave soon with his family for some resort spot. In the interim, Phil Longdon, district manager, will look after the local branch . . . Miss Cherry Kleuser, former stenographer in the 20th-Fox exchange, left for a place in the Jefferson Amusement Co. booking office.

Adam B. Joseph installed a cooling system in the Sylvia Theatre he recently opened at Seagoville, 20 miles from Dallas. A former glider pilot, he received his discharge from the air corps recently. His theatre seats 300 and has a white stucco front.

The Variety Club which locked its doors at midnight during the curfew, took the lid off when the ban was lifted and has now decided that 1:30 a. m. will be the closing hour every night. The club rooms open on Sunday at 3 p. m. and week days at 11 a. m. Bingo every Saturday night at 8:30.

A wedding with double interest to the industry occurred last Friday when Thomas H. Brittain and Miss Zela Neal were married at Calvary Baptist Church. The bride is manager of the Western Union office on Film-row, having been with the company a number of years. The groom, a registered pharmacist employed in a local drug concern, assisted his brother-in-law, Forrest Dunlap, in the operation of several small theatres last year.

Moreland and Carter Booked for Tour

Mantan Moreland and Ben Carter, have been booked for a personal appearance tour. The route of the Monogram actors includes a week each at Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco; Oriental, Chicago; Paradise, Detroit; Palace, Boston; Howard, Washington; Royal, Baltimore, and two weeks at the Strand, New York.

Duren Ex-Paramount Salesman

In a photograph in the June 2 issue, taken in Calcutta when Albert H. Duren visited the Paramount India exchange, Duren was identified as a former salesman in Atlanta for Monogram. He is a former Paramount Atlanta salesman.

Selznick-Rank Deal Rumors in Toronto

TORONTO—One of the rumors which attended the conferences of Arthur Rank and Paul Nathanson was that David O. Selznick had arrived from New York to discuss the formation of a new distributing company in the United States.

A spokesman for Rank commented that, if Selznick were in Toronto, "he is keeping it a dark secret," adding that the British industrialist had no appointment for a meeting with Selznick.

Denials were also forthcoming from the offices of Canadian Odeon, Empire-Universal Films, United Artists Corp., and other companies. Yet, there was a belief that Selznick had been in Toronto briefly to discuss a distributing development.

Roy Miller Heads Theatre Managers of St. Catharines

TORONTO—The St. Catharines Theatre Managers Ass'n has elected Roy Miller of the Lincoln as its new president. He succeeds Leo Coyle, Granada, who was chairman at the annual dinner meeting in the Leonard Hotel. Vern Hudson of the Capitol was chosen secretary and Al Sedgwick, who recently became manager of the Palace, became the treasurer.

Dewey McCourt, who is leaving St. Catharines to become manager of the Brock at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., was honored with a presentation. Johnny Allen of the Tivoli at nearby Thorold was accepted as a member.

Toronto Loses Big Film Landmark in Expansion

TORONTO—A blank front wall on Queen St., opposite the city hall square here, now marks the former location of the Ace through the quick removal of the dazzling sign and marquee from the theatre, which along with other properties has been taken over by the Robert Simpson Co. for a large store expansion.

Return "Anthony Adverse"

TORONTO — "Anthony Adverse," released in 1936, has been brought back to circulation in the Ontario territory and one of the important reissue bookings was at the Savoy, a first run Odeon theatre in Hamilton, where it was given a regular run on dual billing. Good result at the boxoffice was reported.

Calgary Showman Gives Crash Victim First Aid

Calgary—Bill Guss, local manager of Regal Films, distributor of M-G-M product, lost his shirt recently . . . and it wasn't at the races current here either.

Hopping the CNR train from Edmonton to Calgary he was braced against his seat engrossed in a newly acquired copy of "Forever Amber." As the train rolled out of Alix there came a crash, which did not disturb him much. But he found passengers thrown around and a woman across the aisle from him bleeding profusely on her scalp.

Bill did first aid, opening his grip and tearing up a clean shirt to bind the bleeding wound tightly. He washed off the blood and had the patient ready for the ambulance when it arrived.

One of the train crew was killed and 27 passengers were injured in the crash between the passenger and a freight train.

Cites the Civic Training Role of Motion Pictures

WINNIPEG — Professional educators have failed in the imaginative training of the citizenship, and the direction of the civic imagination has fallen in large part "to the daring innovators of the other media—to the newspapers, the radio, the film and the advertisements," John Grierson, Canadian Film Board commissioner, said here at an open meeting sponsored by the Canadian Ass'n for Adult Education.

The leadership has fallen, Grierson said, "to those who knew how to use the new dramatic media and have had the sense to use them dramatically. Inevitably they have been driven by the very nature of their media into something approaching a living description of the new world that has grown up about us."

He said he regarded the dramatic pattern of the modern newspaper story as the greatest single contribution to civic education in our time, "not because of the substance of it, but because of the form of it, which, it seems to me, is basically necessary to the comprehension of our time."

Newspaper Story Dynamic

"In a newspaper story something does something to someone. Something affects something. Some is relative to someone. It has, more than any other single factor, turned men's thinking to the active or dynamic form without which it is difficult to conceive of any understanding of the nature of the modern world.

"Only less important is the influence of the radio, with its immediacy and personal contact with places and problems and people in far places.

"I shall not say nearly as much for the film. The most powerful of all mass media, the mass medium most capable of bringing the disparate elements of the wide world into obvious juxtaposition and association, the medium of all media born to express the living nature of interdependency, it has stuck all too stubbornly to the drama of personal habits and personal achievements.

"It has, I am afraid, done all too little to impose the cooperative habit of thought. In a world holding almost with a sense of spiritual dereliction and agony to the lost cause of isolationism, it has been the naive proponent of personal isolationism. On the other hand, it has done something to open a window on the wider world, to widen the stretch of men's eyes, and, in the documentary film, it has, I hope, for my own record, outlined the patterns of interdependency more distinctly and more deliberately than any other medium whatsoever."

The Problem of Education

Grierson drew attention to less obvious contributions to "the imaginative direction of the modern mind." He mentioned the gossip of the modern newspapers, which has done much "to accommodate village minds to metropolitan surroundings and provide a back fence equivalent for the highest skyscraper." He thought the better comic strips tuned the minds of children to the far places of the earth and to the new worlds of science. He also stressed the shop windows and counters of department stores and the use of advertising space in the interests of wider knowledge.

He found that the amount of knowledge conveyed daily by the various forces of education, inside and outside the schools and universities, and including newspapers, radio and films "is nothing short of colossal, and considering the mass of it and the complexity of it, it is astonishingly well conveyed by an army of observers, analysts and mechanics who have developed very difficult skills in the matter of world observation."

However, he warned, that the problem of education today was not one of techniques nor of visual aids. It was not the problem of conveying knowledge. He saw it as the need to build "a pattern of civic appreciation, civic faith and civic duty."

Grierson called for a thorough spring cleaning "not of the facts we teach, nor of the techniques with which we teach them, but of the images and patterns of belief in which these facts are framed."

Film Men Also Teachers

Educators have lived too much by themselves in a technological world where "education is everyone's business for the simple reason that the exchange of information is necessary to every administrative operation whatsoever."

He found that one of the results of isolating education from the facts of life has been to leave the real influence over men's minds in the hands of the newspaper men, film men, radio and advertising men "who have no license to teach." Government agencies of one kind or another have gone into the field of education, because it has the "greatest need and the most immediate appreciation of an understanding and imaginative citizenry."

Grierson cited the case of the film board, which, he called "a federal activity in information." Provincial governments welcomed and used its materials and services. He referred to the formation of a film board in Nova Scotia. Other provinces, including Manitoba, would follow a similar pattern, he had no doubt.

Radio Must Streamline Ad Blurbs, Canadian Broadcasting Chief Says

WINNIPEG—If radio advertising is to be continued, it must be used more subtly and delivered in much smaller doses, E. L. Bushnell, director general of programs of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., told a joint conference of film and radio educational agencies at a dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel last week.

In order to interest, inform and inspire the public, programmers must raise the quality of their product to new and higher levels, Bushnell said.

Experiences gained in army camps and battle will have given new impetus to the imaginations of men and women coming back from the wars, he said, adding: "They will bring us new ideas and tell us how to use radio with greater skill and imagination."

George Murphy Remains Cool; Averts Panic

Calgary — George Murphy, appearing here with Claire Trevor on behalf of Canada's Eighth Victory Bond drive, prevented a possible panic when a sudden dust storm engulfed a crowd of 15,000 at an open air army show at the Stampede grandstand here.

When the black cloud of dust descended, Murphy started a series of popular songs over the loudspeaker, urging the crowd to remain stationary and join in the singing. This continued for 20 minutes until the storm abated and the show was enabled to continue.



GREETS YOUTH OF CANADA—J. Arthur Rank, British film executive, had a busy time autographing membership cards for Canadian youngsters at the recent launching in Toronto of the Odeon Movie Club for Young Canadians, patterned after the Odeon Clubs organized by Rank in England. The British producer complied smilingly to the requests of scores of members in the new organization to sign their cards, as evinced by the photograph at the left. With Rank and the youngsters are John Davis, managing director of the Odeon Theatres of Great Britain, left, and Thomas J. Bragg, Toronto, Canadian Odeon executive. The picture at right shows part of the crowd of children at the organization meeting.

MONTREAL

The visit of J. Arthur Rank to Montreal was one of the outstanding events of the year. Filmrow had been looking forward to it and distributors were disappointed that they did not have an immediate chance to welcome him. Don Gauld, district manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, conferred with Rank at the Mount Royal.

Under hospital treatment was J. Arthur Hirsch, vice-president and general manager of Consolidated Theatres . . . Visitors to Filmrow included Mrs. Rivest, proprietor of the Canada Theatre, Joliette, Que., and her son. Mrs. Rivest took over the Passetemps Theatre at Joliette, renovated it and renamed it the Canada.

Defeat of the six per cent luxury tax which the Quebec government had made retroactive to April 27 freed the distributors from considerable worry, as the tax had been placed on films and film rentals. The large theatre chains, believing opposition to the tax would be successful, did not pay it while awaiting definite word, so that only the small theatres will have the tax returned, as they had paid in advance of the defeat of the measure.

The "Friends of Russia" organization, which has the support of many outstanding people including Paul Nathanson, is marking an anniversary June 22 with a gathering at His Majesty's at which a Russian film, supplied by Monogram Pictures of Canada, will be shown.

Changes in Confederation Amusements are announced, following retirement of E. N. Tabah, vice-president and general manager, who will enter the importing business. John Ganetakos of United Amusement Corp. has been named supervisor of Confederation, with "Bill" Tabah, a nephew of E. N. Tabah, as manager.

Joy Thompson, director of the Canadian Art Theatre, has signed a three-month contract with Irwin, Piscator to teach stage design at the Chapel Theatre, Long Island, N. Y. . . . "Whitey" Erickson, Hollywood stunt man, is appearing in a "sky thriller" at Belmont Park.

A season of opera at His Majesty's was inaugurated with a record attendance at "La Boheme," causing Thomas Archer, Montreal Gazette critic to remark: "In the jargon of show business, Puccini spells boxoffice" and Moira Sheehy repeated at the Empress "The Little Players of the Air" production previously staged at the Outremont.

Lifting of the 35-mile limit on operation of trucks, and restoration by the prices board of the use of vehicles by theatres for advertising purposes, afforded some relief to the film community. One interesting tidbit revealed by J. Arthur Rank is that only one British studio was put out of business as a result of air raids . . . Victory Theatre evoked some comment for its double bill, which read:

SHOULD A GIRL MARRY?
ONE THRILLING NIGHT.

Canadian Capital Visit By Rank Stirs Conjectures

OTTAWA—There has been much trade conjecture over the visit here of J. Arthur Rank of England with Malcolm MacDonald, British high commissioner to Canada. There was no announcement regarding the nature of the consultation, in fact, only a few people of the Canadian capital were aware of the visit.

In some quarters it was believed the conference had to do with Canada's wartime restrictions, still in effect, on the erection of new theatres and even on the remodeling of old theatres except for an emergency such as damage by fire or other element. But it was also felt that any discussion with the British high commissioner could only confirm the thought that the imperial government and the British Board of Trade had more than a casual interest in Rank's empire-wide plans because of the increasing importance of the screen in world affairs. At his Toronto press conference, however, Rank had said his expansion was a matter of business and he would build theatres where there was the expectation of successful operation.

Lloyd to "Young Widow" Cast

Norman Lloyd was cast in Hunt Stromberg's "Young Widow," a United Artists production.

Montreal Accords Real Welcome to 'Bell Tolls'

MONTREAL—The long-awaited "For Whom the Bell Tolls" made its belated first appearance at Loew's, and was greeted with enthusiasm. "Murder, My Sweet" did well at the Capitol, but was not held, and the second week of "Tonight and Every Night" at the Palace was satisfactory. "Le Franc Jeu," French translation of "Honky Tonk," did sufficiently well at the Orpheum to be held over. Fair audiences greeted "Hangover Square" at the Princess.

Capitol—**Murder, My Sweet** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) ..... Good
Loew's—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para) ..... Very good
Orpheum—**Le Franc Jeu (Honky Tonk)** (WB), held ..... Good
Palace—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col), 2nd wk. ..... Pretty good
Princess—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox) ..... Fair

"Practically Yours" and "Gray" Share Honors in Toronto Houses

TORONTO—Film fans enjoyed the situation, somewhat in reverse, of having holdovers at the Tivoli, Eglinton and Uptown while the three principal downtown theatres were introducing new programs almost simultaneously. Shea's brought in "Practically Yours" after two weeks of "Song of Bernadette" and the light theme attracted nice crowds. "The Picture of Dorian Gray" had a very healthy start at Loew's Yonge Street and there was steady patronage for "Objective, Burma!" in a more sober tone. "Bring On the Girls" repeated at both the Eglinton and Tivoli and "Fanny by Gaslight" hit a third week at Loew's Uptown.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton and Tivoli—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), 2nd wk. 93
Imperial—**Objective, Burma!** (WB) 90
Loew's—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M) 115
Shea's—**Practically Yours** (Para) 115
Uptown—**Fanny by Gaslight** (Br.), 3rd wk. 90

Warm Weather Brings Sharp Drop In Film Receipts in Vancouver

VANCOUVER—Theatre men were singing the blues when the warmest weekend of the year sent thousands of Vancouverites to beaches, parks and other bathing spots. The theatres felt it keenly, and most first runs are away below average. However, "A Song to Remember" at the Capitol played to full houses and appeared set for a nice run.

Beacon—**Mr. Muggs Rides Again** (Mono); **Sheriff of Las Vegas** (Rep), plus acts ..... Fair
Capitol—**Woman in the Window** (RKO) ..... Good
Dominion—**Barbary Coast** (PRC reissue); **Murder, My Sweet** (RKO), moveover ..... Fair
Orpheum—**Bring On the Girls** (Para) ..... Moderate
Plaza—**Much Too Shy** (Col-Br.) ..... Below average
Strand—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) ..... Average
Vogue—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA) ..... Pretty fair

Hot Weather and Race Meeting Reduce Attendance at Calgary

CALGARY—Hot weather, which sent amateur gardeners to their home plots and a 12-day twilight race meet here combined to dent boxoffice receipts. At first runs, only the favorite Dr. Gillespie episode clicking with Van Johnson, "Between Two Women," managed to play a holdover engagement. Exhibitors are now resigned to enter summer business season of prewar "normalcy."

Capitol—**Here Come the WAVES** (Para) ..... Good
Grand—**Frisco Sal** (Univ) ..... Good
Palace—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Strangers in the Night** (Rep) ..... Very good

Pete Egan a Grandfather

CALGARY—Pete Egan of the Palace received a telegram stating his son Carl was the father of a baby boy. Carl Egan, recently assistant manager of the Palace here, now handles the Tivoli in Winnipeg.

Alberta Victory Loan Totals Rise

CALGARY—Ken Leach, Alberta WFC motion picture chairman, reports motion picture industry subscriptions to Canada's Eighth Victory Loan are entirely satisfactory.

"The total subscriptions of theatre owners, film exchanges and theatre employes amounted to $241,450, which is an increase of $78,900, or 48 per cent over the Seventh loan, and it also exceeds by a considerable amount any previous loan," he said.

"Over 400 employes of the motion picture industry in Alberta subscribed to this loan, and Calgary reached the highest amount of any loan, $85,400, with Edmonton $70,500."

Quite a number of outlying theatres have yet to send in their report. It is anticipated that when complete, the final figure for the industry in the province will be more than $250,000.

United Artists Will Retain Canadian Group Affiliation

TORONTO — So far as known locally, United Artists Corp., Ltd., is continuing its membership in the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Ass'n although the parent company in New York has given notice of its resignation in September from the Hays organization, the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

The situation is similar to the development in which Warner Bros. announced its resignation from the Hays group in the States some months ago when the Canadian branch retained its connection with the Canadian association.

There was close relationship between the Canadian distributors organization and the MPPDA when Col. John A. Cooper of Toronto was president and treasurer of MPDA, with Cooper and Hays in frequent consultation on many subjects of importance in the two countries.

Film Types Demonstrated At Winnipeg Conference

WINNIPEG—A large audience at the Fort Garry Hotel last week witnessed a demonstration of different types of films being made by the National Film Board. Stanley Hawes, Ottawa producer of the board's labor films, showed a discussion trailer for use in the trade union circuits and described the way in which it was made and the purpose for which it was used.

Lionel Reid, Ottawa, head of the film strip department, showed a number of film strips. Present were delegates attending a joint conference held here of the National Film Board, national farm radio forum and citizens' forum. Members of the outside public were also present. Len Chatwin, Vancouver, regional supervisor for British Columbia, was chairman.

Temporary Studio Offices Established in Toronto

TORONTO—Frank E. O'Byrne, recently-appointed head of the Instructional Moving Picture Films, Ltd., the Nathanson-Rank studio project for the Toronto district, has established an office in the Toronto Film Building, 277 Victoria St., pending the erection of the proposed studios.

O'Byrne formerly had a temporary office in the Hanson Building, 431 Yonge St., which is occupied by Microfilm-Microstat and divisions of Esquire and Sovereign Film companies.

French Canadians Eagerly Await Film Importations From France

TORONTO—The formation of a new film exchange in Canada under Nathanson-Rank auspices, a development from the recent conferences between the British industry's leader and Paul Nathanson, is expected to have considerable bearing on the French film situation in Canada. The Toronto pact followed the signing of a contract by the Rank-controlled companies in England with the Gaumont Co. in France and the Compagnie Parisien de Location de Film for the mutual distribution of British and French productions "and in all countries where the French language is spoken." This takes in Canada, where the official languages are English and French, and where large areas, principally in Quebec, northern Ontario and Manitoba, are French-speaking.

For years the principal portion of French films on Canadian screens have been imported by France Film of Montreal, although virtually no new French features have been available since the occupation of France in 1940. Many theatres in Quebec province, however, continued to make use of the available supply of France Film, the prints being repeated quite often in some situations. There is evident hunger in French-Canada for new French pictures and the market is waiting. Incidentally, one French-language feature was produced in Quebec recently with French-speaking stage and radio players in the cast.

Rank's recent distribution deal with French producers, coupled with the prospect that British producers will use space in French studios, is expected to bring early action in the introduction of new French product in Canada. There has been no immediate comment from France Film at Montreal but it is known that a change took place the other day in the resignation of a veteran executive of the French-Canadian company. The latter recently has been presenting stage attractions in Ontario and Quebec in opera companies, concert singers and orchestras at a time when its film supply was reduced. French-Canadians are eager for French films and the entry of the Nathanson-Rank company into the field may arouse considerable attention.

Twin Theatres to Offer Choice in Double Bills

Toronto—Plans have been drawn for a companion theatre to Allen's Hollywood here to seat 750. It will be erected on an adjacent lot with one entrance for both theatres. The arrangement is planned to provide the public with the opportunity of choosing either feature of a double bill, the main pictures to alternate in the combined theatre and annex. The present Hollywood has a seating capacity of 1,056. Work will be started as soon as building restrictions have been lifted by the federal government.

TORONTO

The combined staffs of Oscar R. Hanson's group of film companies held their annual picnic June 5 at Circle M ranch, an outdoor playground at Kleinberg, Ont., of Charlie Mavety, head of the Mavety Film Delivery Service.

William F. Graydon, only son of Walter Graydon, manager of the Parkdale, was married to Evelyn Alice Crouch of Toronto in Centennial United Church. The son, 26, is a laboratory assistant in the chemical engineering department of the University of Toronto. Walter is one of Toronto's pioneer theatre men.

The death has occurred at her Montreal home of the aged mother of A. J. Laurie, general sales manager in Canada of Republic Pictures, Toronto. Laurie himself had recently been on the ailing list. The sympathy of his many friends was extended in his bereavement.

Manager Tom Daley of the Imperial has revealed that improvements in the theatre are on the way, including drapes of fibre glass to flank the screen which are expected to provide unusually effective ornamentation under colored lights.

A. J. Jeffery, Canadian district manager of United Artists, is recuperating at a health resort in the province of Quebec from a lengthy illness.

Announcement is made of the appointment of Duncan Campbell of Hamilton, as manager of the Elmwood at London, Ont., by Theatre Amusement Co., Toronto. Campbell recently was discharged from Canada's armed forces after lengthy service.

Jack Nelson of the Capitol, North Bay, Ont., has inaugurated an additional program for Saturday matinees to interest the juveniles, including the serial "The Monster and the Ape."

President J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Mrs. Fitzgibbons enjoyed a recent vacation stay at the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec City.

Henry L. Nathanson, managing director of Regal Films, Ltd., Toronto, was a recent visitor in New York City.

Plans Theatre in Calgary

CALGARY—Harry Cohen is going to build a new suburban theatre on Calgary's residential North Hill this fall if plans for materials are realized. Cohen retired from film selling—he was branch manager for Warners—some years ago, but still retains a keen interest in motion pictures. He intends to enter the field again as an exhibitor, with a local neighborhood house as a start.

Rites for M. A. Milligan

TORONTO — A number of prominent Canadian film men attended the funeral in Bradford, Pa., of M. A. Milligan, former general manager of Paramount Film Service, who died here after a lengthy illness. Among the Toronto mourners were J. L. Hunter, Toronto branch manager of Paramount; Vice-President R. W. Bolstad of Famous Players, and Ben Geldsaler, manager of the booking department at Famous Players head office.

Loew's Theatres Dividend

MONTREAL—Directors of Marcus Loew's Theatres have declared a dividend of $1 per share on the common, and the regular quarterly $1.75 on the preferred, both payable June 30 to shareholders of record June 7.

VANCOUVER

John Grierson, head of the National Film Board, is going ahead with postwar plans for worldwide distribution of Canadian government films made in different languages. Distributing facilities have been established in Australia and Mexico and at Paris and Brussels in addition to distribution centers which have been in operation in Great Britain and the U.S. for some years.

Bill Jones, RKO manager here, was progressing nicely after a major operation at St. Paul's Hospital . . . Also ill were Mrs. G. Hewitt, cashier at Warner Bros., and Howard Boothe, district manager for Odeon.

Tom Winchester, projectionist at the Dominion Theatre, was happy over the news his son, a pilot officer in the air force, was released from a war camp in Germany and will be home in the near future.

Short subjects, passed up because of lack of screen time, are now being sought by British Columbia theatres to fill out bills when prints of B features are not available, exchange heads here reported. Before, bills were too long to permit short subject showings. Now the theatre lads are even adver-manager for British Columbia and highly bills.

David Griesdorf, Canadian sales manager for PRC, was in from Toronto on his first trip since his appointment, checking the local situation . . . Larry Bearg, Famous Players western chief, left with his family to take up residence in Toronto. Bearg, before his promotion to the head office, was district manager for British Columbia and highly popular here.

Edward Bickle, who controls the three theatres in the Cumberland-Courtney district of Vancouver Island, announced plans were being prepared for a new theatre at Campbell River.

Ivan Ackery, live-wire manager of the Orpheum Theatre here, never misses any bets to get the boxoffice clicking. Recently he had 40 beautiful girls in a stage show for "Telephone Employes Night" and for "Tonight and Every Night" he tied in with Vancouver's largest drug store chain with the result that he obtained 40 drug store windows for a cooperative display with a new and very seductive perfume. Most of the stores are on the main streets of Vancouver.

Mike Kerelyuk, owner of the Vergerville Theatre, Vergerville, Alta., was a Vancouver visitor. He reported business good. His sons are in the armed forces and he is looking after the theatre again until the lads return home. Another visitor was Bill Sharpe of Sharpe's Theatre Supplies, Calgary. He stopped off on his way back from Alaska where he removed the equipment from the theatre at Whitehorse, Y. T., formerly ran for the employes of Standard Oil who were working on the Alaska Highway.

It is reported that a documentary film on lend-lease will be made shortly. Word from London is that both American and British governments are eager for the public to learn the terrific job accomplished since the scheme first went into effect. It will explain that lend-lease was not a one-way traffic and will show how the two governments cooperated to win the war.

Barbara Gray of the 20th-Fox accessory department left for a two-week vacation in San Diego, Calif. Many of the film and theatre crowd are planning to cross the U.S. border this summer for holidays, now that restrictions are eased on border crossings.

Rank Studio to Use Canadian Talent

MONTREAL—J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate who paid a belated visit to Montreal the final two days of May, announced he had obtained two good subjects here for a Canadian film to be produced in England following his return to the island. The nature of the subjects was not disclosed.

Confirming news of establishment of a studio in Toronto to produce children's 35mm films, educational documentaries and 16mm shorts, he also announced formation of a distributing company, Eagle Line of Canada, to handle films in the Dominion.

John Davis, theatre adviser and managing director of Odeon Theatres of Great Britain; G. I. Woodham Smith, Rank's legal counsel, and Barrington Gain, his financial adviser, accompanied the executive.

Formation of the Eagle Line, he said, was for distribution in Canada of all feature films coming to this country from England and for the handling of children's films produced in Canada by the Odeon Toronto studio. Key film men from Britain will be sent to Canada to train Canadian personnel in the technique of film production at the Toronto studios, he said. He added that Canada would be scouted for potential writing and acting talent.

Speaking further of his English film interests, Rank said production was now being done with six-year-old equipment but that new equipment would soon be obtainable and technique thus improved. Odeon Theatres of Great Britain, he added, intended to make some 30 first feature films yearly. A certain percentage of these films will be in Technicolor.

Rank pointed out that arrangements had been made by Gaumont-British with Gaumont-French to distribute British films in France in association with the French company. He added that a joint company owned by Gaumont-French and Gaumont-British existed in England for exploitation of French films in England. The British company has also rights with Gaumont-French to distribute French films in Canada.

OTTAWA

An Ottawa branch of the Odeon Movie Club for Young Canadians is in prospect for the Centre where Gordon Beavis is the manager, while other clubs are expected at the Avalon, Rexy and Nola, all Odeon units. Although the movement was started at the Toronto Colony, it is not expected that the Ottawa programs will be organized until the late summer because of the absence from the city of many children.

Ted Smiley, assistant manager of the Elgin, until his enlistment some months ago in the Canadian armed forces, was back in the Canadian capital on leave pending the possibility he may proceed to the combat area in the far Pacific.

Isser Singerman, manager of the Ottawa Imperial, may be transferred to a theatre elsewhere following the transfer of the house to 20th Century Theatres by Famous Players.

Manager Angelo Stevens continued his series of French films each Wednesday at the Rideau, despite the growing scarcity of the product, in the playing of a program comprising "Moulin Rouge" and "Vidocq."

Ross McLean, deputy commissioner of the National Film Board, has returned to Ottawa from San Francisco, where he directed the Dominion government's moving picture cameramen and photographers in the covering of the world security conference.

ST. JOHN

A two-week course in maintenance has been completed at the Savoy, Glace Bay, by Bob Roddick, regional FPC manager, and Henry Deveau, assistant manager of the Halifax Capitol. Similar courses at other FPC theatres through the maritime provinces are planned. Deveau has been specializing in maintenance the last year and expects to take a course on this subject in New York soon.

Three rolls of films were submitted in evidence at the hearings of the special commissioner investigating the VE-Day rioting and vandalism in Halifax . . . Two weeks after his return from Florida, J. M. Franklin, head of Franklin & Herschorn, started a tour of the F&H theatres including four in the Halifax-Dartmouth district.

Marty Simpson, assistant manager of the Halifax Capitol, is active in vegetable and flower gardening in his leisure time . . . Emergency lighting systems proved their value at St. John theatres when one of the two local distribution services did two fade-outs within two weeks, and during crowded houses.

Harry Doane, projectionist at the Yarmouth Capitol, is becoming a professional fisherman. This necessitates giving up booth work after 20 years. Doane has operated a cabin motorboat along the Bay of Fundy and Atlantic shores for several years, and has done some saltwater fishing in his spare time near his summer camp at Cape Forchu.

The Jimmy FitzPatrick party's stay in Nova Scotia will be about a month. Mrs. FitzPatrick is doing the musical score for the two, and possibly three travelogues being filmed, with Technicolor and sound, for Metro. The FitzPatricks came from Hollywood to Halifax for this assignment, made through the Nova Scotian government. One of the films will be of the Annapolis Valley, with the accents on the apple blossom celebration and Evangelineland. Another will be of the eastern mainland and Cape Breton Island, including Louisburg. Scenes in Halifax and Dartmouth will feature the valley film.

The old Opera House in St. John again is open for trade, but limited to the street floor entrance where a coin machine arcade has been re-established. This theatre has been idle for about ten years, although the rent has been paid by a pool of local exhibitors to keep it from being operated as a cut-pricer. This pool has prevailed for more than a decade.

Metro Buys "If You Ever Need Me"

"If You Ever Need Me," a first novel by Blair Traynor, was purchased for production by Irving Starr, Metro.

Bernstein of BOXOFFICE Moves to New Quarters

TORONTO—H. Bernstein, Canadian circulation representative for BOXOFFICE, has established headquarters in Suite 416, Wilson Bldg., 73 Adelaide St., West. All letters and inquiries regarding the Bernstein Enterprises should be sent to that address. The telephone number is Elgin 2504.



H. BERNSTEIN

Bernstein says that increased facilities in his new quarters will result in additional convenience for his clients.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Apartment Is Sold To Highest Bidder

Scarce articles put on the block have sent sales soaring at theatre war bond auctions. About the most sought-after thing in a war boom town is a place to live.

Paul Catalana, publicity director of the San Jose Theatre Co. and manager of the Willow Glenn at San Jose, Calif., has established ever increasing records in the previous six bond premieres he has conducted at the theatre. Like all showmen in the Seventh War Loan drive he wanted to surpass all other marks and, he informs us, he did go over the top by a comfortable margin in his premiere just completed.

An important factor in his success was the auctioning of a three-room apartment, which Catalana had promoted. He relates it is about as tough to get an apartment in San Jose as it is in Washington and the apartment to be "sold" to the highest bidder was the talk of the town.

Catalana doesn't explain how he arranged for a vacancy, but it's enough to say a resourceful showman always finds a way.

Ernie Pyle Photos to Bond Buyers at Cleveland

CLEVELAND—Local exhibitors prefer to exercise their ingenuity to increase the daily bond sales at their theatres. One such method, adopted by 105 theatres, is a tieup with the press for the gift of an 8x10 of Ernie Pyle to every bond buyer. The press is donating the Pyle photos, and is giving the gift newspaper publicity.

In many local neighborhood theatres every day of the bond drive is a Free Movie Day. Anyone buying a bond at the theatre is admitted free.

Ernie Pyle memorial stamps are attached to all bonds sold at the theatres giving away the Pyle photos. The stamps are blue, size 1½x2 inches.

This tieup with the Press was affected by Geo. Erdmann, secretary of Cleveland MPEA.

Luncheon of Career Girls Aids "Roughly Speaking"

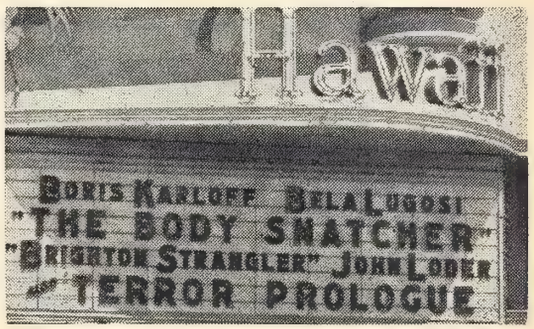
CHICAGO — "Roughly Speaking" received an advance send-off through a Career Girls luncheon followed by a special screening of the picture version of Louise Randall Pierson's success story.

A group of leading firms, including Illinois Bell Telephone, United Air Lines, Carnegie Illinois Steel, Santa Fe Railroad, International Harvester, Western Electric, Butler Bros., NBC, Commonwealth Edison, and several others, picked their "success story" girls to attend the luncheon. Also present were motion picture editors, women's page editors and other women of the local press.

In addition to getting many newspaper stories and pictures both before and after the luncheon, all of the firms whose girls attended the affair gave the film a good break in their house organs.

Audience Stunt Adds to Horror Bill Chills





PLUG HORROR BILL — A lively double horror bill campaign put on by Manager Al Galston at the Hawaii Theatre, Los Angeles, caused a sensation. A "monster" rambled through the audience and picked up a girl victim who had volunteered in advance. Then he carried her down the aisle. Business was so good that RKO has issued a special ad supplement for the double bill. The photo shows Cloyce Bump and Eric Jason who put on the chill-and-thrill stunt and part of the Hawaii marquee plugging the gag.

Request Box in Lobby, Radio and Ads Promote Monthly Favorite Show

The battle to keep a comfortable margin between operating expense, of which film cost is an important item, and net revenue is the theatre manager's ever-present activity.

Cyril Mee, manager of the City Opera House at Frederick, Md., has worked out an arrangement that helps solve this problem and at the same time provides an added "personal touch" helping build friendly relations between the theatre and its patrons.

Recently, Mee relates to Selling Seats, the Opera House has been presenting a popular request program at least once a month, made up of one and usually two return films.

In putting over the idea, Mee maintains a "Request Box" in the lobby, inviting patrons to ask for the return of their favorite pictures. Cards are provided for patrons to write down their favorites. In addition, the Request Box is plugged on the radio.

As a result, Mee relates, patrons have been sending in scores of post cards and letters, and from these he selects his return program.

Requests Arrive by Scores

As an additional buildup, Mee includes a signed notice of thanks in his ads on the popular request picture. A recent 2x7 ad read:

"Two Great Shows . . . Brought Back by Popular Request . . . ADVANCE SALE MONDAY (show started on Friday.)"

The personal note was inset at one side of the ad in ten-point type under the heading, "Notice." It read:

Thanks for the scores of post cards and letters asking for the return of these fine pictures. Please write me any time and I will be glad to try and comply with your requests.

Please don't fail to see these two attractions.

The returns help keep the film costs down, as Mee points out.

Coca-Cola Trucks Carry Ads for "Winged Victory"

SAN ANTONIO—Frank O. Starz, advertising and publicity director for Interstate, capitalized on the belief that signs on moving trucks are the most effective form of advertising obtainable.

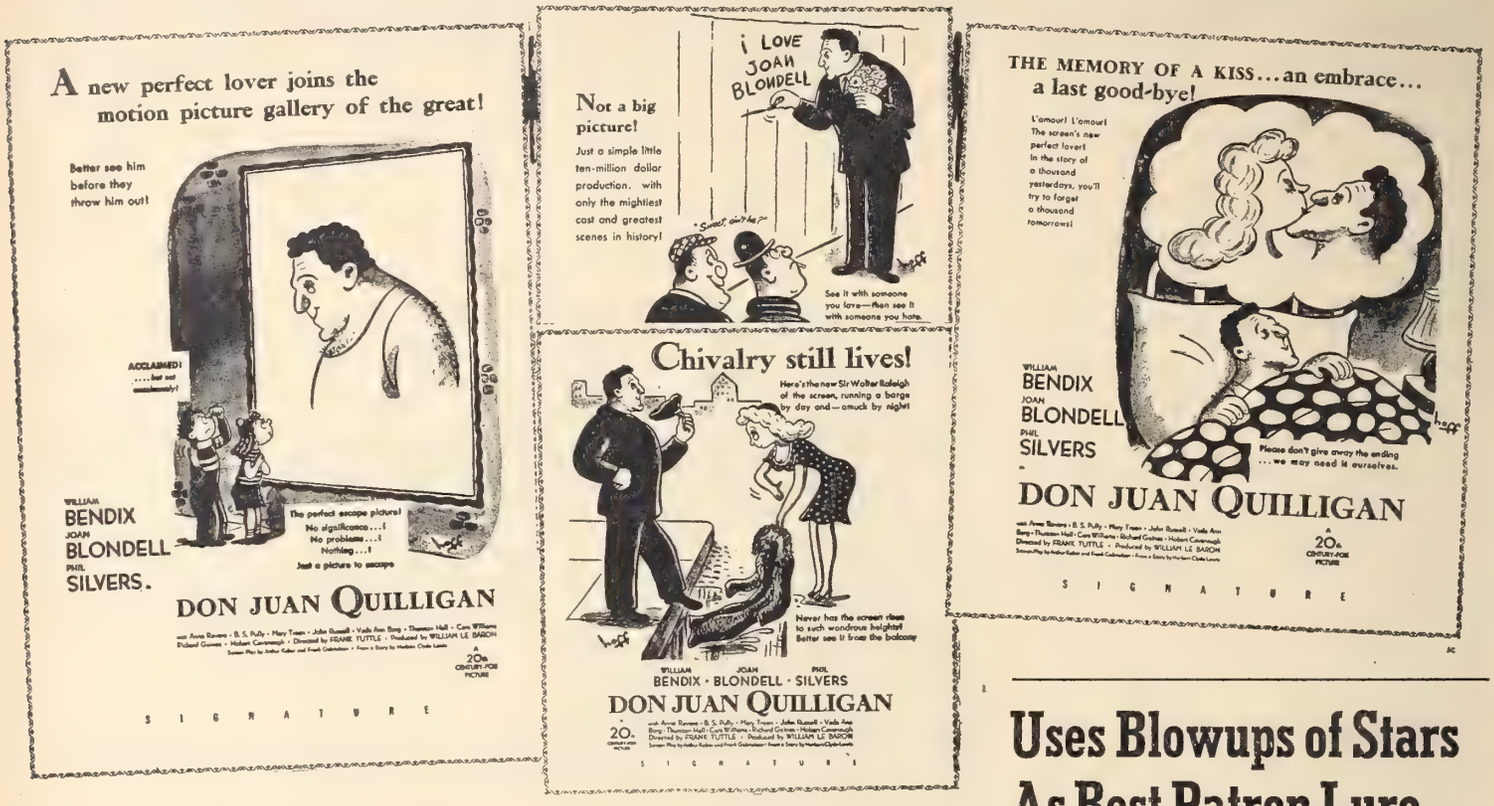
He obtained the cooperation of the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. to place signs on the back of the company's fleet of delivery trucks bearing the legend: "Coca-Cola Salutes 'Winged Victory,' showing at the Aztec Theatre."

"Hotel Berlin" Ties In With War Loan Drive

GUELPH, ONT.—In a tieup with the Eighth Canadian Victory Loan drive for his showing of "Hotel Berlin," Sam Mantle, manager of the Royal Theatre here, an FPC unit, had a large banner sign painted and hung from the guard rails above a busy railroad underpass. It read:

BUY VICTORY BONDS
To Rip the Roof Off
"HOTEL BERLIN"

"Don Quilligan" Ads Laugh and Invite Public In on Fun



Horne-Hoff Series Discards Old Forms for Broad Humor

An effective and refreshing series of ads has come from 20th-Fox on "Don Juan Quilligan." Faced with the problem of selling the picture as William Bendix's first starring vehicle, Hal Horne, director of publicity and advertising, realized he would have to seek an entirely fresh approach. He not only sought—he found it.

The fruit of Horne's search is a supplemental press sheet containing ten five-column newspaper ads. Horne wrote the copy and planned the art work, subsequently turning over the latter to Hoff, popular comic illustrator well known to readers of the New Yorker magazine. Both copy and illustrations, gravely portraying Bendix as the screen's great lover ablaze with passion, are hilarious.

Characteristic of Horne's wit are the footnotes mortised into Hoff's illustrations:

This picture will win the academy award; we don't know how, but we're working on it!

The picture the whole nation will be talking about—but in a nice way, of course!

Please don't give away the ending . . . we may need it ourselves.

See it with someone you love—then see it with someone you hate.

It's stupendous! It's colossal! It's terrific! We might even go so far as to say—it isn't bad!

The perfect escape picture! No significance . . .! No problems . . .! Nothing . . .! Just a picture to escape.

You'll yell, you'll scream, and whistle and cheer and make such a nuisance of yourself, we'll just have to throw you out of the theatre.

Equally facetious are the illustrations devised by Horne and executed by Hoff. One, captioned "Together again! For the first time!" shows Bendix soulfully gazing into a mirror. Another, showing the undershirted Bendix on a six-sheet, captioned "A new perfect lover joins the motion picture gallery of the great!" adds a hint: "Better see him before they throw him out!" That Horne realizes the danger of overselling product, is evidenced by this modest touch: "Not a big picture! Just a simple little ten-million dollar production . . . with only the mightiest cast and the greatest scenes in history!"

Simple Display Goes Over Big in "Tree" Campaign

KANSAS CITY—A minimum of art work and a maximum of books were used by Fox Midwest Theatres and Tommy Thompson, staff exploiteer of 20th-Fox, for a highly effective window display for the showing of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at three Fox theatres here. Sixty copies of the book, neatly arranged in terraced rows, formed the foreground in the display, building up to a background bearing six photo blowups of members of the cast and the simple announcement of the picture, the date and places of showing, was all that was required. Sixteen other windows were placed around town.

Reissue Ads on Bags

Sam Hebscher, manager of the Nola in Ottawa, Canada, obtained extra publicity for a program of reissues by promoting an ad imprint on 6x10-inch notion bags used by leading merchants in the neighborhood of the Nola. The reissues were "In Old Chicago" and "Golden Boy."

Uses Blowups of Stars As Best Patron Lure

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Mammouth head blowups of Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray were used by Manager Jack Flex of Keith's Theatre here for a front display in connection with the showing of "Practically Yours." It was his idea that such stars were more important drawing cards than the vehicle's name. The panels were done in four colors on a blue background.

"Brewster's Millions" Cash Spends Hard in Vancouver

VANCOUVER—United Artists and the Plaza Theatre obtained plenty of publicity in the local papers for "Brewster's Millions" by picking out Pvt. Jimmy Tennant, a pal of Smokey Smith, Victory Cross hero. Tennant, who recently returned from five years' service overseas, was given $250 in front of the theatre with the condition he spend it in 24 hours. He was a guest at the Hotel Vancouver, but the difficulty was that when he tried to spend any money he always found that his money was "no good"—everything was on the hotel, night clubs, etc. However, he finished by buying a $100 Victory bond, and a complete outfit for his return to civilian life.

The stunt was in charge of Willard Coghlan, UA publicity representative from Seattle, and Al Jenkins, manager of the Plaza. The film played two weeks.

Heralds From a Buggie

LATROBE, PA.—Horse and carriage days returned here as a ballyhoo for "National Velvet." Francis Aiello, manager of the Grand, had a girl and a boy in the carriage to distribute 2,000 heralds. Local schools staged art contests with war stamps, guest tickets and merchandise offered as prizes. Teachers participated as judges. The mayor proclaimed "Be Kind to Animals" week and the library cooperated with special table displays.

Striking Displays of the Week



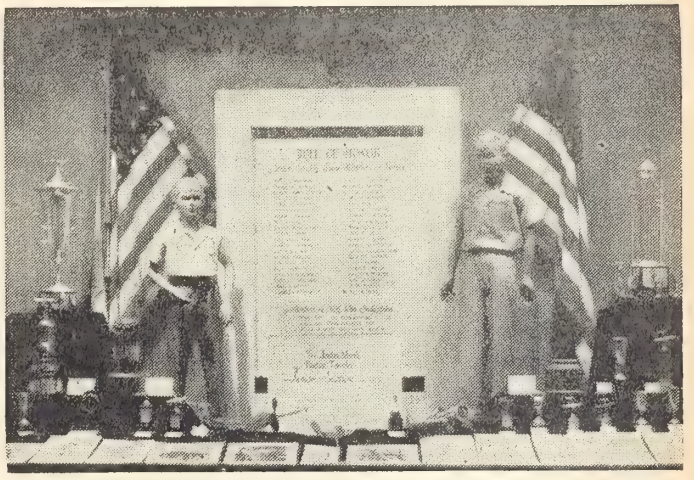
SUSPENDED FROM CEILING: Manager Ollie Green of the Stuart, Lincoln, Neb., worked out this realistic display by suspending from the lobby ceiling cutouts simulating men falling in parachutes.



COTTAGE EFFECT—It's not easy to turn a front into a cottage but the Warner at Milwaukee almost did it with not too much labor. Three pairs of trellis shutters opening on star blowups did the trick.



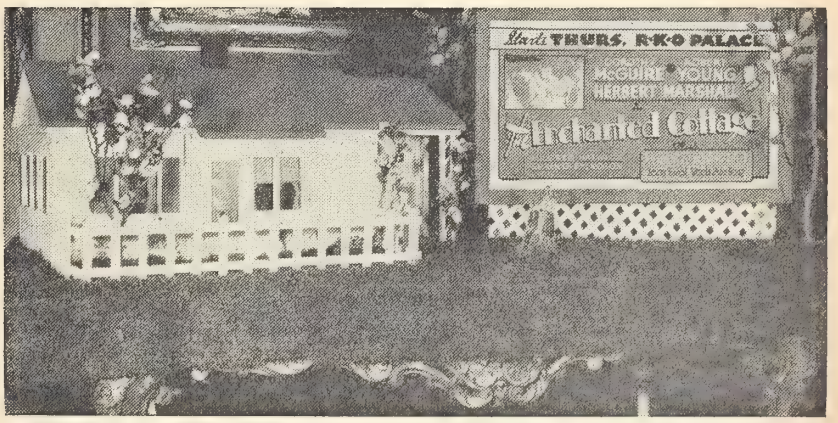
SUMPTUOUS DISPLAY—This is one of 20 windows in Harzfeld's department store, Kansas City, set by Manager Russ Bovim, Loew's Midland, for the engagement of "A Song to Remember." It is one of those kind of things that require the enthusiastic cooperation of a window decorator.



EFFECTIVE DIGNITY—This unusual display was used in the Jordan Marsh window, Boston, in connection with the opening of "God Is My Co-Pilot" with the help of the Junior Aviation League for boys 12 to 18. The memorial card listed the names of members in service and others in war plants.



THEMATIC DISPLAY—Lou S. Hart of Schine Theatres made this horseshoe display out of a piece of wallboard and 11 colored stills for the lobby two weeks in advance.



MODELS ALWAYS EYE-CATCHERS—Jay Golden, RKO manager for Rochester, N. Y., executed this model cottage in the lobby of the Palace there to promote "The Enchanted Cottage."

Week-Long Festivities for 30th Year

Brilliant Civic Event Held At Providence, R. I., by Ed Reed and Strand

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—A brilliant civic celebration Monday evening (4) launched the 30th anniversary week of the Strand Theatre here. It's a double-barreled celebration in that it also marks the 30th anniversary of Edward L. Reed's association with the operating company and the theatre as managing director.



EDWARD L. REED

With Paramount's "The Affairs of Susan" selected as the anniversary attraction, the celebration was heralded by the greatest publicity and exploitation campaign in the history of Providence. The entire city and state joined in the festivities.

Participating in the special ceremonies on the stage Monday evening were Gov. J. Howard McGrath of Rhode Island and Mayor Dennis J. Roberts of Providence.

All Kinds of Tieups Made

All kinds of tieups were made. For the first time, permission was granted to string a 15x30-foot banner across the street at City Hall, two blocks from the Strand. This is considered the best location in Providence. The huge banner tied in with the Seventh War Loan. Additional radio time was purchased with the campaign opening May 24 on all four local radio stations.

Twenty-five thousand copies of a beautifully illustrated souvenir program were to be distributed to theatre audiences and placed in libraries, doctors' waiting rooms and other places. The souvenir book, featuring "The Affairs of Susan," contains testimonials from Governor McGrath and Mayor Roberts, autographs of Paramount stars, the story of Paramount, stills of old-time Paramount pictures which have played the theatre, a double truck on Paramount stars, a special story on the Strand Theatre and other features. The cover is in six colors with a sprinkling of gold and silver.

Ed Reed, who has piloted the destinies of the house since it was built, recalled that the first picture shown at the Strand was "The Shooting of Dan McGrew," exhibited June 12, 1915. Ever since the opening day, the Strand has played every Paramount picture released. That in itself is a record.

"Paramount pictures have been sort of a bond with us," Reed said in discussing the celebration. "Situated as we are in a city whose morals are on a high plane, it has always been a source of comfort and satisfaction to know that when we played Paramount pictures, we were playing pictures that set a high moral standard in the community. This has been one of the fundamental reasons why the Strand Theatre has been able to grow progressively to the pinnacle it now holds in the community—a family theatre serving everyone in the family.

Reed's career in the theatre covers three decades of conscientious service to an organization that has always been aware of the caliber of men it put in the driver's seat. The Strand, under his promotion and with the cooperation of various women's organizations, was the first theatre in the country to conduct special Saturday morning shows for children.

At Christmas time, for instance, Reed inaugurated toy matinees. Admission was by toy only, and the truckloads collected were distributed among the city's needy youngsters. In leaner years, he substituted canned goods and other staples for toys, and supervised the distribution of huge baskets of food where they were needed most.

Reed is a member of the industry's War Activities Committee and participates in all patriotic efforts. He has sold millions of dollars worth of war bonds, and at present is active in the Seventh War Loan drive.

The Strand has operated through two world wars and survived two hurricanes. The first hurricane closed the theatre for six weeks when an accompanying tidal wave flooded the house to the footlights. During those six weeks, Reed never went home, never left the theatre. He supervised every piece of reconstruction. When the job was finished, he sat down. A workman said, "Why don't you go home?"

"Home? Why, this is my home."

The theatre's spic and span appearance is a constant source of pride to the management and a delight to the patrons.

M-G-M Stars Lucky in Iowa Poll of Fan Reactions

DES MOINES — M-G-M got an unusual break when an article appeared in the Sunday magazine of the Register on reactions of Iowans to films. Greer Garson was picked as the favorite actress of the fans in a poll taken by the Iowa poll. Spencer Tracy was chosen as second favorite among male actors. Both M-G-M players received favorable notice in the article and prominent pictures of both accompanied it.

Crown Furnishes Cards

WHEELING, W. VA.—Tied in with "It's a Pleasure," Royal Crown Cola furnished 500 window cards exploiting the Sonja Henie production, playing at the Court here, managed by Emmett M. Barnes.

A Bond Broadcast At "Flame" Debut

PORTLAND, ORE.—A broadcast from the stage of the Broadway Theatre devoted to the Seventh War Loan, highlighted promotion by Jack Matlack, manager and advertising director of the J. J. Parker Theatres, for "Flame of Barbary Coast." The film was mentioned in the broadcast in connection with Republic's 10th anniversary.

Three leading department stores devoted windows to the picture. A "Then and Now" theme was employed in the leading display, which featured costumes such as those worn in the era pictured in the film and modern wardrobes, under the heading "What My Lady Wanted."

Matlack gave special attention to his theatre front, which employed still boards, 40x60s, etc. Frames were especially designed for two sets of 11x14 photos of scenes.

NEW YORK—An overhead sign, attractive front, and special lobby displays were employed by Harry Goldstein of the Brandt office for the opening of "Flame of Barbary Coast" at the Globe Theatre.

The front display employed two side panels, one devoted to a 12-foot female figure, the other to action scenes from the picture, with such catchlines as "Action as Exciting as the Bolt of an Earthquake" . . . "Brawling, Colorful Story of the Queen of Hearts and the Ace of Gamblers" . . . "Two-Fisted Sock Entertainment in the Hot Spot of the World." The overhead panel used a two-shot of John Wayne and Ann Dvorak, costars of the film in a rococo frame, with a similar frame balancing the right-hand cast listing, and the title centered.

The marquee display carried cutouts of Wayne and Dvorak, film title, and cast; and the overhead sign used a dramatic, full-length female figure.

Anniversary Campaign in Brief

* * *

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Manager Edward L. Reed of the Strand here, announced the following exploitation and publicity highlights for the 30th anniversary celebration week of the theatre.

Extensive advance publicity featuring "The Affairs of Susan," and stage ceremonies including Gov. J. Howard McGrath of Rhode Island and Mayor Dennis J. Roberts.

Double-faced election banner tied in with the Seventh War Loan, extending from City Hall to the Biltmore Hotel on Washington St., the best location in Providence.

Congratulatory window cards planted on both sides of Washington St. in all stores, newsstands and other good locations.

Window display at Bowers' florist shop with still of Joan Fontaine surrounded by Black-Eyed Susans.

Pet shop display on Washington St. showing Joan Fontaine with her pet dogs.

Hairdo tieups planted with the Outlet Co., largest department store.

New Strand front, featuring "The Affairs of Susan" and the 30th anniversary, reproduced and on display at Outlet Co. window, at popular trolley and bus stop.

Washington St. music store display featuring the song, "If You Knew Susie," with stills of Joan Fontaine.

Orchestrations of "Susie" planted in all leading hotels. Also sheet music to be played where no orchestras are available.

Special souvenir book featuring "The Affairs of Susan," testimonials by Governor McGrath, Mayor Roberts and others, Paramount autographs, the story of Paramount Pictures, oldies, double-truck of Paramount stars, layout on the Strand anniversary all beautifully illustrated. Cover in six colors with sprinkling of gold and silver. Twenty-five thousand copies distributed. Printed on coated 100-pound stock, best available.

Special ads planted in three weekly newspapers and in dailies. Special stories and art.

Radio teaser copy for the week in advance. Special copy, radio discs made by Mr. Brenner, news announcer for Providence Journal, used as news flashes.

Entire house staff wearing 30th anniversary rosettes, with Black-Eyed Susans.

Every employe phoned 25 people telling about the film for the 30th anniversary.

Special screening for press. Entire house staff invited in order to start word-of-mouth campaign.

Pennants covering entire front of theatre from marquee to roof.

Birthday cake for public to guess weight and receive passes to theatre.

OOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parentheses is running time of feature. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◐ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⊛ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama 6006 COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	APRIL RELEASE: SPECIAL: (123) Drama ◐⊛NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	20 (54) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	BLOCK 4—1944-45: (92) Mus. Com. 4416 ⊛BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623		MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ⊛DIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622	4 (147) Comedy ⊛COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) Western 9073 ⊛SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED R—Apr. 21—PG-621 27 (..) Western 9083 BEYOND THE PECOS Rod Cameron	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	10 (67) Mystery 6031 BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Steve Cochran Richard Lane			2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray	7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell	10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626			4 (89) Mus-Com. 9011 PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621	
MAY 12	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Pat Parrish Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor		5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616		(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622	18 (91) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 19	24 (84) M'drama 6010 THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter John Loder	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	26 (70) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	16 (64) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake Charles Gordon		25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McLure Linda Darnell	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis	
MAY 26		(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main		(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	1 (62) Mystery THE MISSING CORPSE J. Edward Bromberg Isabel Randolph	(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding Bill Williams R—Apr. 21—PG-621				1 (92) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie 1 (..) Western 9084 RENEGADES OF THE RIO GRANDE Rod Cameron	
JUNE 2	7 (60) Comedy 6029 TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee 7 (66) Mus.-West. RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis	(90) Drama 524 THE CLOCK Judy Garland Robert Walker R—Mar. 24—PG-616		BLOCK 5—1944-45: (113) Rom-Com. 4421 THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John	GROUP 5: (66) Mystery 521 TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE Tom Conway Ann Rutherford		JUNE RELEASES: (77) Comedy 526 ⊛WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn		8 (61) 9041 I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce June Preisser	
JUNE 9											9 (92) Comedy 417 PILLOW TO POST Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince
JUNE 16	21 (65) BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN Robert Stanton Lynn Merrick Thurston Hall Mary Treen	JUNE RELEASES: (110) Drama 525 THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY Hurd Hatfield George Sanders Donna Reed		(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	15 (77) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617	(67) Drama 552 THE BRIGHTON STRANGLER John Loder June Duprez		(75) Comedy 527 DON JUAN QUILLIGAN William Bendix Joan Blondell Mary Treen Ann Revere B. S. Pulley		15 (68) 9042 BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook	
JUNE 23		(102) M'drama 526 ⊛SON OF LASSIE Peter Lawford Donald Crisp June Lockhart		(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 SCARED STIFF Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	29 (..) Western THREE IN THE SADDLE Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(95) Drama 523 BACK TO BATAAN John Wayne Anthony Quinn Beulah Bondi Fely Franquelli				22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043 PENTHOUSE RHYTHM Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark	
JUNE 30								JULY RELEASES: (..) Drama 528 WITHIN THESE WALLS Thomas Mitchell Mary Anderson Edward Ryan Mark Stevens B. S. Pully		29 (61) Mystery 9032 THE FROZEN GHOST Lon Chaney 29 (63) M'drama 9038 JUNGLE CAPTIVE Otto Kruger	30 (86) Drama 418 CONFLICT Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet
JULY 7		SPECIAL: (119) Drama 527 THE VALLEY OF DECISION Greer Garson Gregory Peck		(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424 A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619		(..) Mus.-Com. 525 GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS Joan Davis Jack Haley Phillip Terry Martha Holliday		(95) Drama 529 ⊛NOB HILL George Raft Joan Bennett Vivian Blaine Peggy Ann Garner Alan Reed		6 (..) Mus-Com. 9003 THE NAUGHTY NINETIES Abbott & Costello Rita Johnson Alan Curtis	
JULY 14											
JULY 21											

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ‡ Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, − Poor, = Very Poor. © Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		....
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6422	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23	±	5-19
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17	±	3-24
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)	5- 4	+	4-28
6411	Wife Decoy (17)	6- 1		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (18)	6-15		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		....
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	6-21		....
6053	Fiesta Time (7½)	7-12		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		...
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27	+	5-19
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (10)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed) VE-Day	5- 8		....
6660	No. 10 (Leibert) Rum and Coca-Cola (..)	6-29		....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	2- 2	+	4- 7
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		....
6752	The Egg Yegg (7½)	5- 4		...
6753	Kukunuts (6½)	7-26		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		....
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18	‡	5-19
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		...
6703	Goofy News Views (7)	4-27	−	5-19
6704	Bobby Socks (..)	7-12		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		...
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		...
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		....
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
6860	No. 10 (Eddie Cantor-Ginny Simms) (..)	7- 6		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	‡	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2	+	5-12
6807	The Iron Masters (9½)	4-27	+	4-28
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	7- 6		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		....
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	‡	2-12
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	‡	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	‡	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	‡	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	‡	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	‡	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3	±	4-28
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	‡	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	‡	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	‡	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13	‡	4-28
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17	‡	4-28
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	‡	3-24
W-546	Jerky Turkey (8)	4- 7	‡	5- 2
W-631	Mouse Comes to Dinner (..)	5- 5		....
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	‡	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (20)	4-14	+	5-12
A-503	The Last Installment (19)	5- 5		....
A-504	Phantoms, Inc. (..)	6- 9		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	‡	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	‡	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	‡	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		...
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		‡	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	‡	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
K-576	The Seesaw and the Shoes (10)	5- 5	+	5-12
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		....
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	‡	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	‡	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	‡	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	‡	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	‡	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	‡	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (8)	4-14	+	5-12

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	‡	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	‡	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	‡	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)		‡	3-24
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	‡	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	‡	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (9)	5- 4	+	5-12
R4- 8	Fan Fare (9)	6- 8	+	6- 2
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	‡	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	‡	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	‡	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magica-Lulu (8)	3- 2	‡	4-28
D4-4	Beau Ties (8)	4-20	‡	6- 2
D4-5	Snap Happy (..)	5-25		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	‡	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	‡	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15	+	6- 2
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (8)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (8)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	‡	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26		....
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better or Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	‡	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	‡	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6	+	4-28
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1		....
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	‡	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	‡	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18		....
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	‡	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (10)	5-11	+	5-12

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	‡	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	‡	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	‡	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	‡	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	‡	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	+	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30	‡	5-12
54,110	African Diary (7)	4-20		....
54,111	Donald's Crime (8)	5-11		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	‡	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	‡	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21	+	5-12
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	‡	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2	‡	4-28
54,206	No. 6 (8)	4-13		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
53,704	Let's Go Stepping (17)	5- 4		....
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	‡	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	‡	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	‡	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	‡	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	‡	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	‡	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	‡	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
54,309	Timberdoodles (8)	4-20		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	‡	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	‡	2-12
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	‡	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	‡	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	‡	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	‡	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	‡	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	‡	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	‡	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	‡	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9	±	5-12
53,106	Guam-Salvaged Island (17)	4-13		....
53,107	Dress Parade (16)	5- 4	+	6- 2

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (19). Dist. by 20th-Fox.
The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.
Battle Stations. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.
Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.
The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.
Fight for the Sky.
It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.
Liberation of Rome. (21). Dist. by M-G-M. Excellent. Rev. July 29.
Memo for Joe. (10). Dist. by RKO.
Movies at War. (10). Dist. by Univ.
Report to Judy (10). Dist by Univ.
Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.
Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.
Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.
Target-Tokyo (19). Dist. by RKO. Excellent.
The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.
The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.
V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.
Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox. Rev. April 28.
War Comes to America. Dist. by RKO.
What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE			
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29		....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6		....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS			
4352	◎Ski Slopes (9)	7-21		....
5351	◎Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15		....
5352	◎Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15		....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1- 5		....
5353	◎Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+	1-27
5354	◎ Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1		....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)			
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4		....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10		....
	MARCH OF TIME			
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡‡	8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+	9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+	10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡‡	11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1		....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡‡	12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26		....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡‡	3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23		....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..) The Returning Veteran	4-20	‡‡	4-28
	Vol. 11, No. 10 Soptlight on Congress (16)	5-18	+	6- 2
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15		....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13		....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)			
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡‡	4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4		....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25		....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29		....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10		....
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8)	1-19	‡‡	2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2		....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+	1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	3-30	‡‡	2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8)	7- 6		....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	5- 4		....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	4-13		....
5261	The Empire State (8)	7-27		....
	SPECIAL			
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8		....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)			
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7		....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28		....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7)	8-18		....
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1		....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22		....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13		....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27		....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17		....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7)	12- 8		....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7)	12-22	±	2-10
5509	Mighty Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+	2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2		....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16		....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7)	3- 9		....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23		....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	4- 6		....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-27		....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5-11		....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	5-25		....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8		....
5519	Aesops Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29		....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20		....

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)			
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	+	11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+	12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡‡	1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡‡	2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (7)	5-14		....
9239	Crow Crazy (..)	7- 9		....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS			
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17		....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±	8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15). Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+	9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15). Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+	10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15). Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±	12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15). Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡‡	12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17		....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14		....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28		....
9127	Rockabye Rhythm (15) Frankie Masters & Orch., Phyllis Hules, Eddie Williams, Frank Cook, Marty, Kay, Pat and Jo.	6-20		....
9128	Artistry in Rhythm (..) Stan Kenton & Orch., Anita O'Day, The Tailor Maids, Gene Howard.	7-18		....
	PERSON—ODDITIES			
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡‡	10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+	1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15		....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22		....
9375	Author in Babyland (9).	5-14		....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)			
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+	1-22
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+	10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15		....
9237	Sliphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19		....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)			
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17		....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13		....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	VARIETY VIEWS			
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡‡	10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+	12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+	12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29		....
9355	Your National Gallery (9)	4-23	‡‡	2-24

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)			
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16		....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30		....
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+	11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±	1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±	2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±	3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±	4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (7)	3-17	+	5-19
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11).	4-21	+	5-19
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)			
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+	10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡‡	11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡‡	4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (7)	5- 5	+	5-19
	FEATURETTE			
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡‡	10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17)	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20)	12- 2	+	1-13
1101	I Am an American (20)	12-23	+	12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡‡	11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡‡	3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (20)	3- 3	‡‡	5-19
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28	‡‡	4-28
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+	3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (20)	4-14	+	5-19
1111	Plantation Melodies (20)	5-12	+	6- 2
	MELODY MASTERS			
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+	10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+	11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡‡	1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡‡	12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡‡	1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24		....
1608	Circus Band (10)	5- 5	‡‡	5-19
1609	Bands Across the Sea (..)	6-23		....
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)			
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+	10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±	10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±	11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡‡	2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡‡	1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡‡	2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+	2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (9)	2-24	±	6- 2
1703	Life With Feathers (7)	3-24	+	5-19
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7		....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (7)	5-19	+	5-19
1706	Gruesome Twosome (7)	5-26	+	5-19
1707	Tale of Two Mice (..)	6-30		....
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)			
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡‡	11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡‡	2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (10)	12-30	+	5-19
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡‡	2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10	‡‡	5-12
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7	‡‡	4-28
1507	Water Babies (10)	5-19	‡‡	4-28
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (10).	6- 2	‡‡	5-19
1509	Bahama Sea Sports (..).	6-19		....
1510	Flivver Flying (..)	6-30		....
	TECHNICOLOR			
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡‡	12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡‡	12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡‡	1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (..)	6- 9		....
	VITAPHONE VARIETY			
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+	9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7		....
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (10)	3-17	+	6- 2
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (10)	5-26	+	6- 2

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists			
	THE WORLD IN ACTION			
....	The Labor Front (21)	11-19	±	12- 4
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21).		+	3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡‡	5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+	10-21
....	Fortress Japan (17)	8-10	‡‡	8-12
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡‡	10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±	11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+	12-16
	Serials			
	COLUMBIA			
5140	The Desert Hawk (15 Chapters.)	7- 7	+	7-29
6120	Black Arrow (15 Chapters.)	10-20		....
5120	The Batman (15 Chapters.)	7-16		....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter (13 Chapters.)	1-26		....
	REPUBLIC			
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa (15 Chapters.)	7-10		....
381	The Masked Marvel (12 Chapters.)	11- 6		....
382	Captain America (15 Chapters.)	1-29		....
383	The Tiger Woman (12 Chapters.)			....
	UNIVERSAL			
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+	5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City (13 Chapters.)		+	8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat (13 Chapters.)		+	11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+	12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 78: Japs retreat in bitter Okinawa fighting; war personalities; General Hodges; General Doolittle; Sergeant Carothers; report from Washington; Broadway night club cheer to wounded veterans; St. Louis zoo show for kiddies.

News of the Day, No. 276: Film epic of Okinawa; Hoover in Washington; General Hodges home to Atlanta; one-arm ball player; chimps are zoo champs.

Paramount News, No. 79: Europe vets to Pacific; Berlin-Allies reveal bomb damage; new Pacific battle grounds.

Pathe News, No. 81: Yanks win Naha; first air views of devastated Berlin; Britains hail VE—hear Churchill; new cabinet aides; bomber convoy brings airmen home; how V-1 bombs terrorized Antwerp; Atlanta welcomes General Hodges.

Universal News, No. 402: Air forces home via bombers; new cabinet members; Stettinius' plea for human rights; Ross, Hoover, Hodges; baseball's miracle man; battle on Okinawa.

Movietone News, No. 79: Battle for Okinawa; British navy joins American fleet in war on Japan; welcome home for General Clark; Byrnes appeals for aid to farmers; motor daredevils; mercy plane.

News of the Day, No. 277: Yanks plow through mud in grim Okinawa fighting; General Clark welcome home; more GIs home; Stettinius predicts success for security parley; farmers need your help; hospital planes christened by Mrs. Truman; 55,000 see Jeep win Kentucky Derby preview.

Paramount News, No. 80: Nation honors heroic dead; Americans in Europe; Americans in Okinawa; farm help wanted; Pacific shipping crisis; stubborn bottle delays christening.

Pathe News, No. 82: Stettinius on San Francisco; battle rages on Okinawa; Gen. Mark Clark hailed in Chicago; big naval repair job; Byrnes asks crop volunteers.

Universal News, No. 403: War dead honored on Memorial Day; destroyer survives eight attacks; Mrs. Truman christens planes; air rescue training; Iraq regent at capital; General Clark in Chicago; food chief appeals for farm help.

All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 137: Yanks set up radio station in Burma; Craigen serves in capital-labor dispute; Cleveland's Karamu House does notable job; nation honors fallen heroes with parade; first yanks back from European war theatre.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		A											
	549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)	UA		7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
	606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)	Mono.		2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
	620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)	Para..		4- 7-45	ǂ			+	+			4+
	573	Alaska (76)	Mono.		10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
		Along Came Jones (..)	RKO.								ǂ		2+
	545	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)	PRC.		7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
	546	American Romance, An (122)	MGM.		7- 1-44	±	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	+	+	9+ 1—
	575	And Now Tomorrow (85)	Para.		10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
	544	Are These Our Parents? (73)	Mono.		6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	+	+	—	+	7+ 4—
	524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)	Mono.		4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
	589	Army Wives (68)	Mono.		12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
	562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)	WB.		8- 2-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		10+
	555	Atlantic City (85)	Rep.		8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
	542	Attack (80)	RKO.		6-17-44	+		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	9+
		B											
	572	Babes on Swing Street (70)	Univ.		9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
	632	Back to Bataan (97)	RKO.		6- 2-45	+	±	ǂ		ǂ	+		7+ 1—
	553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)	MGM.		8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
		Bedside Manner (..)	UA.								±		1+ 1—
		Behind City Lights (..)	Rep.								∓		1+ 1—
		Bell for Adano, A (..)	20-Fox.								+		1+
	586	Belle of the Yukon (84)	RKO.		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
		Bells of Rosarita (..)	Rep.					+	±	±	+		4+ 2—
	540	Beneath Western Skies (56)	Rep.		6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
	610	Betrayal From the East (85)	RKO.		3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+	+	7+ 5—
	596	Between Two Women (83)	MGM.		1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
		Beyond the Pecos (..)	Univ.								∓		1+ 1—
	596	Big Bonanza, The (60)	Rep.		1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
	568	Big Noise, The (74)	20-Fox.		9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
	597	Big Show-Off, The (69)	Rep.		1-20-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	=	∓	6+ 7—
	565	Black Magic (64)	Mono.		9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
	557	Block Busters (60)	Mono.		8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
	586	Blonde Fever (69)	MGM.		12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
		Blonde From Brooklyn (..)	Col.				±						1+ 1—
		Blonde Ransom (..)	Univ.				∓	±					2+ 2—
	628	Blood on the Sun (94)	UA.		5- 5-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ		9+
	578	Bluebeard (73)	PRC.		10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
	610	Body Snatcher, The (78)	RKO.		3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+	+	7+ 2—
		Bordertown Trail (56)	Rep.								±		1+ 1—
	569	Boss of Rawhide (59)	PRC.		9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
		Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion (..)	Col								∓		1+ 1—
		Both Barrels Blazing (58)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
		Bowery Champs (62)	Mono.				±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
	578	Bowery to Broadway (94)	Univ.		10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
		Brand of the Devil (61)	PRC.							∓			1+ 1—
	577	Brazil (91)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	614	Brewster's Millions (79)	UA.		3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
	552	Bride by Mistake (81)	RKO.		7-29-44	±	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2—
	627	Brighton Strangler, The (67)	RKO.		5- 5-45	∓	±	+	±	±	+	+	7+ 4—
	603	Bring On the Girls (91)	Para.		2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
	622	Bullfighters, The (61)	20-Fox.		4-21-45	—		±	±	±	±	∓	5+ 6—
		C											
	564	Call of the Jungle (60)	Mono.		9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 8—
	538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)	20-Fox.		6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3—
	589	Can't Help Singing (89)	Univ.		12-16-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	10+
	571	Carolina Blues (81)	Col.		9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
	554	Casanova Brown (92)	RKO.		8- 5-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	12+
		Castle of Crimes (60)	PRC.				±	±	∓			∓	4+ 4—
		Cheyenne Wildcat (56)	Rep.							∓	±		2+ 2—
	604	Chicago Kid (68)	Rep.		2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
	622	China Sky (78)	RKO.		4-21-45	+	±	±	+	=	±	±	6+ 6—
	628	China's Little Devils (..)	Mono.		4-28-45	±	∓		±	∓	±		5+ 5—
	542	Christmas Holiday (93)	Univ.		6-17-44	+	±	+	ǂ		ǂ	+	8+ 1—
	603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)	20-Fox		2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
		Cisco Kid Returns (..)	Mono.					±	±		∓		3+ 3—
	571	Climax, The (86)	Univ.		9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3—
	616	Clock, The (92)	MGM.		3-24-45	∓	+	ǂ	±	∓	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 3—
		Code of the Prairie (50)	Rep.							+	±		2+ 1—
	620	Colonel Blimp (148)	UA.		4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 1—
		Conflict (..)	WB.								ǂ		2+
	574	Conspirators, The (101)	WB.		10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
	619	Corn Is Green, The (114)	WB.		4- 7-45	+			+	+		+	4+
		Corpus Christi Bandits (..)	Rep.								±	∓	2+ 2—
	619	Counter-Attack (89)	Col.		4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+	+	+	6+ 4—
		Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
		Crazy Knights (63)	Mono.				∓					∓	2+ 2—
	553	Crime by Night (72)	WB.		8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
	602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)	Col		2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	7+ 6—
	601	Crime, Inc. (74½)	PRC.		2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
	560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)	Col.		8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
	583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)	Col.		11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
		D											
	594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)	Col.		12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
	557	Dangerous Journey (73)	20-Fox.		8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
	591	Dangerous Passage (62)	Para.		12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 6—
	566	Dark Mountain (56)	Para.		9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
	583	Dark Waters (89)	UA.		11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1—
	526	Days of Glory (86)	RKO.		4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
	569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)	Univ.		9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
	609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)	UA.		3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±		5+ 7—
	547	Delinquent Daughters (72)	PRC.		7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3—
	587	Destiny (65)	Univ.		12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
	622	Diamond Horseshoe (104)	20-Fox.		4-21-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
	614	Dillinger (74)	Mono.		3-17-45	+	+	∓		+	+	+	6+ 1—
		Divorce (71)	Mono.						±	±	±		3+ 3—
	548	Dixie Jamboree (72)	PRC.		7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5—
	611	Docks of New York (62)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	±	+	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
	592	Double Exposure (64)	Para.		12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—	±	6+ 3—
	561	Doughgirls, The (102)	WB.		9- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	±	±	10+ 2—
	550	Dragon Seed (145)	MGM.		7-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	540	Drifter, The (60)	PRC.		6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
		E											
	602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)	Col.		2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
	611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)	Rep.		3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
	603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)	RKO.		2-17-45	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		9+
		End of the Road (51)	Rep.				±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
	561	Enemy of Women (86)	Mono.		9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
	585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)	Univ.		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
	625	Escape in the Desert (81)	WB.		4-28-45	±		∓	±	∓	±	±	6+ 6—
	609	Escape in the Fog (62)	Col.		3- 3-45	±	∓		±	±	∓		5+ 5—
	611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)	Col.		3-10-45	±		±	±	∓	±	∓	6+ 6—
	567	Ever Since Venus (74)	Col.		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
	587	Experiment Perilous (91)	RKO.		12- 9-44	ǂ	±	+	+	+	+	ǂ	9+ 1—
		F											
	578	Faces in the Fog (71)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
	588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)	RKO.		12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
	554	Falcon in Mexico (70)	RKO.		8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
		Fashion Model (..)	Mono.				∓	+	—		∓	∓	4+ 4—
		Fatal Witness, The (..)	Rep.								∓		1+ 1—
		Fighting Guardsman, The (..)	Col.				±				±		2+ 2—
	595	Fighting Lady, The (61)	20-Fox.		1-13-45	+		ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
		Firebrands of Arizona (55)	Rep.							∓			1+ 1—
	623	Flame of the Barbary Coast (91)	Rep		4-21-45	+	+	±	+	±	+	+	7+ 2—
		Flame of the West (..)	Mono.						±	∓	∓		3+ 3—
	606	Fog Island (67)	PRC.		2-17-45	=	±	±	±	±	=	±	5+ 9—
	544	Follow the Leader (65)	Mono.		6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±		6+ 6—
	549	Forty Thieves (60)	UA.		7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
	568	Frenchman's Creek (113)	Para.		9-23-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1—
	606	Frisco Sal (94)	Univ.		2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
	564	Frontier Outlaws (58)	PRC.		9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
		Frozen Ghost, The (..)	Univ.				±						1+ 1—
		Fuzzy Settles Down (60)	PRC.							±	∓		2+ 2—
		G											
		Gangs of the Waterfront (..)	Rep.								±		1+ 1—
		Gangster's Den (..)	PRC.								∓		1+ 1—
	570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)	PRC.		9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3—
	591	Gentle Annie (80)	MGM.		12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+	+	7+ 5—
	540	Ghost Catchers (68)	Univ.		6-10-44	±	±	+	—	ǂ	±		6+ 4—
		Ghost Guns (60)	Mono.							+			1+
	612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
	544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)	RKO.		6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
		Girl in the Case, The (64)	Col.				∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
		Girl Who Dared, The (56)	Rep.				∓		∓	±	∓		4+ 4—

⧺ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ⧺ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Variety	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
577		Girl Rush (65)		RKO	10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4−
608		God Is My Co-Pilot (88)		WB	2-24-45	+	±	+	+	+	⧺	+	8+ 1−
571		Goin' to Town (69)		RKO	9-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓		6+ 6−
539		Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)	Rep		6-10-44	−	±	∓	±	−	±	±	5+ 7−
		Great Day (..)		RKO				∓					1+ 1−
624		Great Flamarion, The (..)	Rep		4-21-44	+	±	±	∓	∓	−	∓	6+ 6−
		Great John L., The (..)		UA							⧺		2+
566		Great Mike, The (73)		PRC	9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
541		Great Moment, The (83)		Para	6-17-44	±	⧺	⧺	+	+	+	⧺	10+ 1−
		Great Stagecoach Robbery (..)		Rep						±			1+ 1−
555		Greenwich Village (82)		20-Fox	8-12-44	+	±	±	+	⧺	+	+	8+ 2−
597		Grissly's Millions (71)		Rep	1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589		Guest in the House (120)		UA	12-16-44	+	±	⧺	+	∓	⧺	+	9+ 2−
		Gunsmoke (..)		Mono						±	±		2+ 2−
547		Gunsmoke Mesa (59)		PRC	7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601		Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (63)		Col	2-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
556		Gypsy Wildcat (86)		Univ	8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
		H											
541		Hail the Conquering Hero (101)		Para	6-17-44	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
598		Hangover Square (77)		20-Fox	1-20-45	+	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	+	10+
604		Having Wonderful Crime (70)		RKO	2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551		Heavenly Days (72)		RKO	7-29-44	−	±	±	+	⧺	+	+	7+ 3−
542		Henry Aldrich's Little Secret (74)		Para	6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601		Her Lucky Night (63)		Univ	2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600		Here Come the Co-Eds (88)		Univ	2- 3-45	+	±	⧺	+	⧺	+	+	9+ 1−
591		Here Come the WAVES (99)		Para	12-23-44	+	±	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	+	10+ 1−
594		Hi Beautiful (64)		Univ	12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607		High Powered (..)		Para	2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	∓	7+ 6−
625		Hitchhike to Happiness (70)		Rep	4-28-45	±				+	±		3+ 2−
		Hollywood and Vine (..)		PRC			±	+			±	±	4+ 3−
588		Hollywood Canteen (124)		WB	12- 9-44	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	+	11+
627		Honeymoon Ahead (59)		Univ	5- 5-45	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
620		Horn Blows at Midnight, The (80)		WB	4- 7-45	+	+	±	+	∓	+	+	7+ 2−
612		Hotel Berlin (98)		WB	3-10-45	+	±	⧺	+	±	±	⧺	9+ 2−
		House of Fear, The (..)		Univ			∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593		House of Frankenstein (71)		Univ	12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
		I											
577		I Accuse My Parents (68)		PRC	10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601		I Love a Mystery (69)		Col	2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539		I Love a Soldier (104)		Para	6-10-44	⧺	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
		Identity Unknown (..)		Rep			+	⧺	+		+	±	6+ 1−
592		I'll Be Seeing You (86)		UA	12-23-44	+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺		8+
624		I'll Remember April (64)		Univ	4-21-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
632		I'll Tell the World (61)		Univ	6- 2-45	±				∓	±		3+ 3−
579		I'm From Arkansas (70)		PRC	10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
559		Impatient Years, The (91)		Col	8-26-44	+	±	+	+	⧺	+	⧺	9+ 1−
		Incendiary Blonde (..)		Para							+		1+
558		In Society (74)		Univ	8-19-44	+	+	+	⧺	⧺	+	±	9+ 1−
567		In the Meantime, Darling (72)		20-Fox	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
573		Irish Eyes Are Smiling (90)		20-Fox	10-14-44	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
610		It's a Pleasure (90)		RKO	3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	⧺	+	8+ 2−
605		It's in the Bag (90)		UA	2-17-45	±	+	±	+	⧺	+		7+ 2−
		J											
		Jade Mask, The (66)		Mono			±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
551		Janie (102)		WB	7-29-44	+	±	⧺	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
		K											
		Kansas City Kitty (72)		Col			±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604		Keep Your Powder Dry (93)		MGM	2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592		Keys of the Kingdom (137)		20-Fox	12-30-44	+	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
		Kid Sister, The (..)		PRC			±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560		Kismet (100)		MGM	8-26-44	+	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	11+
		L											
		Lady Confesses, The (..)		PRC			±		±	±	±		4+ 4−
593		Lake Placid Serenade (85)		Rep	12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	⧺	+	8+ 2−
		Land of the Outlaws (56)		Mono					±	=	∓		2+ 4−
567		Last Ride, The (56)		WB	9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576		Laura (88)		20-Fox	10-21-44	+	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
546		Law Men (55)		Mono	7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548		Law of the Saddle (59)		PRC	7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ 4−
		Law of the Valley (59)		Mono				±	±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605		Leave It to Blondie (69)		Col	2-17-45	±	+	±			+	∓	5+ 3−
569		Leave It to the Irish (61)		Mono	9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598		Let's Go Steady (60)		Col	1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581		Lights of Old Santa Fe (78)		Rep	11-11-44	+		⧺	+	±	+		6+ 1−
561		Lost in a Harem (89)		MGM	9- 2-44	+	+	+	⧺	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549		Louisiana Hayride (67)		Col	7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
		M											
558		Machine Gun Mama (67)		PRC	8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551		Mademoiselle Fifi (69)		RKO	7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585		Main Street After Dark (56)		MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555		Maisie Goes to Reno (90)		MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
578		Man in Half Moon Street, The (92)		Para	10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599		Man Who Walked Alone, The (60)		PRC	2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543		Marine Raiders (91)		RKO	6-24-44	∓	±	⧺		+	⧺	+	8+ 2−
574		Mark of the Whistler, The (61)		Col	10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
		Marked for Murder (..)		PRC							∓		1+ 1−
580		Marked Trails (59)		Mono	10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556		Marriage Is a Private Affair (117)		MGM	8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	⧺	8+ 3−
		Marshal of Reno (56)		Rep						∓	±		2+ 2−
540		Mask of Dimitrios, The (95)		WB	6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567		Master Race, The (96)		RKO	9-23-44	+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	9+
619		Medal for Benny, A (80)		Para	4- 7-45	+	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	+	10+
582		Meet Me in St. Louis (113)		MGM	11-11-44	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
575		Meet Miss Bobby Socks (68)		Col	10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
559		Merry Monahans, The (90)		Univ	8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	⧺	8+
576		Ministry of Fear (84)		Para	10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
543		Minstrel Man (69)		PRC	6-24-44	⧺	+	+	+	⧺	+		8+
625		Missing Corpse, The (62)		PRC	4-28-45	−	±		±	±	∓		4+ 5−
584		Missing Juror, The (66)		Col	11-18-44	+	±	+	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3−
613		Molly and Me (76)		20-Fox	3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559		Moonlight and Cactus (60)		Univ	8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
596		Mr. Emmanuel (92)		UA	1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	⧺	⧺	8+ 3−
547		Mr. Winkle Goes to War (80)		Col	7-15-44	+	±	+	+	⧺	+	±	8+ 2−
568		Mrs. Parkington (124)		MGM	9-23-44	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	12+
		Muggs Rides Again (..)		Mono			∓				±	∓	3+ 3−
598		Mummy's Curse, The (60)		Univ	1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
619		Murder, He Says (93)		Para	4- 7-45	±	+	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
583		Murder in the Blue Room (61)		Univ	11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588		Murder, My Sweet (95)		RKO	12- 9-44	+	±	⧺	±	+	+	⧺	9+ 2−
590		Music for Millions (117)		MGM	12-16-44	+	±	⧺	±	+	⧺	⧺	10+ 2−
552		Music in Manhattan (81)		RKO	7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576		My Buddy (69)		Rep	10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586		My Gal Loves Music (63)		Univ	12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
586		My Pal Wolf (75)		RKO	9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	⧺	+	8+ 3−
543		Mystery Man (58)		UA	6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
		N											
565		National Barn Dance (76)		Para	9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
590		National Velvet (124)		MGM	12-16-44	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
590		Nevada (62)		RKO	12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594		Night Club Girl (60)		Univ	12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538		Night of Adventure, A (65)		RKO	6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
632		Nob Hill (95)		20-Fox	6- 2-45	⧺	+	±	+	∓			6+ 2−
572		None But the Lonely Heart (113)		RKO	9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	⧺	⧺	9+ 3−
585		Nothing But Trouble (69)		MGM	12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
		O											
		Oath of Vengeance (..)		PRC							±		1+ 1−
600		Objective, Burma! (142)		WB	2- 3-45	+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺	⧺	10+
558		Oh, What a Night (71)		Mono	8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
		Old Chisholm Trail (60)		Univ				±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
577		One Body Too Many (76)		Para	10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
		One Mysterious Night (61)		Col			±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562		Our Hearts Were Young and Gay (81)		Para	9- 2-44	+	±	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	11+ 1−
555		Outlaws of Santa Fe (56)		Rep	8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
		Out of This World (..)		Para							+		1+
		P											
604		Pan-Americana (70)		RKO	2-17-45	+	±	±	+	⧺	∓	±	8+ 4−
509		Passage to Marseille (109)		WB	2-19-44	+	+	⧺	+	+	+	⧺	9+
505		Passport to Destiny (64)		RKO	2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
621		Patrick the Great (89)		Univ	4-21-45	±	+	+	+	+		⧺	7+ 1−
561		Pearl of Death, The (69)		Univ	9- 2-44	∓	±	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Penthouse Rhythm (..)		Univ			±				∓		2+ 2−
		Phantom of 42nd Street (..)		PRC			±			∓	∓	±	4+ 4−
626		Phantom Speaks, The (69)		Rep	4-28-45	∓	±		±	±	∓		5+ 5−
607		Picture of Dorian Gray (110)		MGM	2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	10+ 2−
627		Pillow to Post (94)		WB	5- 5-45	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
545		Port of Forty Thieves (58)		Rep	7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	±	7+ 6−
612		Power of the Whistler, The (72)		Col	3-10-45	∓	∓	∓		±	−	±	5+ 6−
592		Practically Yours (90)		Para	12-23-44	+	+	⧺	+	+	+	⧺	9+
576		Princess and the Pirate, The (94)		RKO	10-21-44	⧺	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		R											
	565	Rainbow Island (97)	Para		9- 9-44	±	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	+	8+ 4−
	563	Range Law (57)	Mono		9- 2-44	±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
	566	Reckless Age (63)	Univ		9- 9-44	±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
	548	Return of the Ape Man (60)	Mono		7-15-44	−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
		Rhapsody in Blue (..)	WB								ǂ		2+
	631	Rhythm Round-Up (67)	Col		6- 2-45	∓							1+ 1−
		Riders of Santa Fe (63)	Univ								±		1+ 1−
	579	Riding West (58)	Col		10-28-44	+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
		Road to Alcatraz (..)	Rep								∓		1+ 1−
	623	Rockin' in the Rockies (67)	Col		4-21-45	−					−		2−
	605	Rogues' Gallery (60)	PRC		2-17-45	±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
	606	Rough Riding Justice (58)	Col		2-17-45	∓				∓	±		3+ 3−
	609	Rough, Tough and Ready (66)	Col		3- 3-45	±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
	600	Roughly Speaking (128)	WB		2- 3-45	+	±	±	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
	615	Royal Scandal, A (94)	20-Fox		3-24-45	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	+	9+ 1−
	581	Rustler's Hideout (62)	PRC		11-11-44	±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
		S											
	593	Saddle Leather Law (55)	Col		12-30-44	±				−			1+ 2−
	598	Sagebrush Heroes (54)	Col		1-20-45	±					∓		2+ 2−
	621	Salome, Where She Danced (90)	Univ		4-21-45	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3−
	608	Salty O'Rourke (100)	Para		2-24-45	+	+	±	+	+	±	ǂ	8+ 2−
		San Antonio Kid, The (56)	Rep							±	±		2+ 2−
	566	San Diego, I Love You (83)	Univ		9- 9-44	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 1−
	562	San Fernando Valley (74)	Rep		9- 2-44	+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
		Saratoga Trunk (..)	WB								ǂ		2+
	620	Scared Stiff (64)	Para		4- 7-45	∓	=	±	±	∓	±		5+ 7−
	626	Scarlet Clue, The (..)	Mono		4-28-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
	543	Secrets of Scotland Yard (68)	Rep		6-24-44	±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	602	See My Lawyer (69)	Univ		2-10-45	±	±	∓		∓	±	±	6+ 6−
	544	Sensations of 1945 (86)	UA		6-24-44	±	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	584	Sergeant Mike (60)	Col		11-18-44	±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
	557	Seven Doors to Death (62)	PRC		8-19-44	±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
	552	Seventh Cross, The (112)	MGM		7-29-44	±	+	ǂ	+	−	+	ǂ	8+ 2−
	575	Shadow of Suspicion (68)	Mono		10-21-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	575	Shadows in the Night (67)	Col		10-21-44	±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6−
	596	She Gets Her Man (74)	Univ		1-13-45	±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
	551	She's a Soldier Too (67)	Col		7-29-44	±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
	587	She's a Sweetheart (69)	Col		12- 9-44	±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
		Sheriff of Cimarron (..)	Rep							+			1+
		Sheriff of Las Vegas (55)	Rep							+			1+
		Sheriff of Sundown (56)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1−
	560	Sign of the Cross (118)	Para		8-26-44	+			ǂ		±		4+ 1−
		Silver City Kid (55)	Rep							∓	∓		2+ 2−
	617	Silver Fleet, The (77)	PRC		3-31-44	±	+		+	+	ǂ		6+ 1−
	552	Since You Went Away (174)	UA		7-29-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	595	Sing Me a Song of Texas (66)	Col		1-13-45	+					±		2+ 1−
	558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing (70)	Rep		8-19-44	±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	570	Singing Sheriff, The (63)	Univ		9-23-44	−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
	582	Something for the Boys (87)	20-Fox		11-11-14	∓	±	±	ǂ	+	±	+	8+ 4−
	622	Son of Lassie (102)	MGM		4-21-45	±	ǂ	+	+	±	ǂ		8+ 2−
	607	Song for Miss Julie (69)	Rep		2-24-45		−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
	542	Song of Nevada (75)	Rep		6-17-44	+		+	+	+	+		5+
	626	Song of the Sarong (65)	Univ		4-28-45	=	−	±	−	±	±		3+ 7−
	599	Song to Remember, A (112)	Col		2- 3-45	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	564	Sonora Stagecoach (51)	Mono		9- 2-44	+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
	559	Soul of a Monster, The (61)	Col		8-26-44	∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
	628	Southerner, The (91)	UA		5- 5-45	+	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ		8+ 1−
	610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The (60)	PRC		3- 5-45	±	∓				±		3+ 3−
		Stagecoach to Monterey (55)	Rep							+	±		2+ 1−
	545	Step Lively (88)	RKO		7- 1-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ		+	7+ 2−
		Steppin' in Society (..)	Rep								±		1+ 1−
	562	Storm Over Lisbon (86)	Rep		9- 2-44	∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
	573	Strange Affair (78)	Col		10-14-44	±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
	603	Strange Illusion (87)	PRC		2-17-45	+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
		Stranger From Santa Fe (..)	Mono								∓		1+ 1−
		Strangers in the Night (56)	Rep				+		+	±			3+ 1−
	612	Sudan (76)	Univ		3-10-45	±	±	+	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
	588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (86)	20-Fox		12- 9-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	553	Sundown Valley (55)	Col		8- 5-44	±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
	594	Suspect, The (85)	Univ		12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	10+
	554	Sweet and Lowdown (75)	20-Fox		8- 5-44	+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
	582	Swing Hostess (76)	PRC		11-11-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
		Swing in the Saddle (..)	Col							∓			1+ 1−
		Swing Out, Sister (60)	Univ				±	±		±	∓		4+ 4−
		T											
	593	Tahiti Nights (63)	Col		12-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
	539	Take It Big (76)	Para		6-10-44	∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	548	Take It or Leave It (70)	20-Fox		7-15-44	±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
	572	Tall in the Saddle (87)	RKO		9-30-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	616	Tarzan and the Amazons (75)	RKO		3-24-45	±	∓		±	±	+	±	6+ 5−
		Tell It to a Star (..)	Rep								±		1+ 1−
	631	Ten Cents a Dance (60)	Col		6- 2-45	∓	±						2+ 2−
	569	That's My Baby (68)	Rep		9-23-44	=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
	632	That's the Spirit (93)	Univ		6- 2-45	±	±	+	+	+	ǂ		7+ 2−
		There Goes Kelly (..)	Mono				∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
	589	They Shall Have Faith (83)	Mono		12-16-44	±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
	587	Thin Man Goes Home (101)	MGM		12- 9-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (138)	MGM		11-18-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	595	This Man's Navy (100)	MGM		1-13-45	+	±	±	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Thoroughbreds (55)	Rep				±	±		±	±	∓	5+ 5−
	621	Those Endearing Young Charms (81)	RKO		4-21-45	+	∓		±	+	±		5+ 3−
	590	Three Caballeros, The (71)	RKO		12-16-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+		ǂ		8+
	585	Three Is a Family (81)	UA		12- 2-44	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	554	Three Little Sisters (69)	Rep		8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
	563	Three of a Kind (67)	Mono		9- 2-44	±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
		Three's a Crowd (..)	Rep							−	±		1+ 2−
	631	Thrill of a Romance (67)	MGM		6- 2-45	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
	599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka (78)	20-Fox		2- 3-45	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
	572	Thundering Gun Slingers (60)	PRC		9-30-44	∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
	565	Till We Meet Again (88)	Para		9- 9-44	∓	±	+	+	±	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	581	Together Again (100)	Col		11-11-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	574	To Have and Have Not (100)	WB		10-14-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
	591	Tomorrow the World (87)	UA		12-30-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	600	Tonight and Every Night (92)	Col		2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
		Topeka Terror, The (55)	Rep							±			1+ 1−
	581	Town Went Wild, The (79)	PRC		11-11-44	±	ǂ	∓	+	+	+	=	7+ 4−
	599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A (128) 20-Fox			2- 3-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		Trigger Law (54)	Mono							∓			1+ 1−
		Trouble Chasers (..)	Mono				=				−		3−
	538	Tucson Raiders (55)	Rep		6- 3-44	+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
	631	Twiced Blessed (76)	MGM		6- 2-45	±	+	±			±		4+ 3−
	539	Twilight on the Prairie (62)	Univ		6-10-44	∓	±		±	−	±		4+ 5−
	624	Two O'Clock Courage (..)	RKO		4-21-45	±	±	∓	=	±	±	±	6+ 8−
		U											
	549	U-Boat Prisoner (65)	Col		7-22-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	597	Under Western Skies (57)	Univ		1-20-45	−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
	556	Underground Guerrillas (82)	Col		8-12-44	∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
	608	Unseen, The (80)	Para		2-24-45	∓	±	+	±	+	±	ǂ	8+ 4−
	582	Unwritten Code, The (61)	Col		11-11-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
		Utah (..)	Rep					+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
		Utah Kid, The (57)	Mono							±			1+ 1−
		V											
	621	Valley of Decision, The (102)	MGM		4-21-45	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	563	Valley of Vengeance (56)	PRC		9- 2-44	±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
	625	Vampire's Ghost, The (59)	Rep		4-28-45	=	−		±	−	∓		2+ 6−
		Vengeance of the West (..)	Col							±			1+ 1−
	573	Very Thought of You, The (99)	WB		10-14-44	+	+	±	±	ǂ	±	+	8+ 3−
		Vigilantes of Dodge City (55)	Rep							±	±		2+ 2−
		W											
	553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A (70) Mono			8- 5-44	±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
		Way Ahead, The (..)	20-Fox				+				ǂ		3+
	580	West of Rio Grande (57)	Mono		10-28-44	±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
	602	What a Blonde (71)	RKO		2-10-45	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
	557	When Strangers Marry (67)	Mono		8-19-44	+	ǂ	+	+	+	+		7+
	570	When the Lights Go On Again (74)	PRC		9-23-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
		Where Do We Go From Here? (78)	20-Fox				+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ		7+
	550	Whistler, The (59)	Col		7-22-44	±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
		Wild Horse Phantom (..)	PRC							±			1+ 1−
	556	Wilson (158)	20-Fox		8-12-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
	550	Wing and a Prayer (97)	20-Fox		7-22-44	±	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
	586	Winged Victory (130)	20-Fox		12- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
	616	Without Love (111)	MGM		3-24-45	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	10+ 1−
	574	Woman in the Window, The (99)	RKO		10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	11+
	626	Wonder Man, The (96)	RKO		4-28-45	ǂ		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
		Y											
	595	Youth on Trial (59)	Col		1-13-45	±	±	±					3+ 3−
	546	Youth Runs Wild (67)	RKO		7- 1-44	−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−
		Z											
	623	Zombies on Broadway (68)	RKO		4-21-45	∓	−	±	±	±	−		4+ 5−

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

Incendiary Blonde

F — Musical Drama

Paramount (4431) — **113 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Its title doesn't even begin to describe the temperature, for as sheer entertainment the screen biography of Texas Guinan is hotter than a B29 load of fire bombs and it should keep the theatre turnstiles clicking fast enough and long enough to burn out their bearings. In fact, the reviewer's neck will not be extended too far through a prediction that it will prove the year's top grosser in its field—if not in competition with the season's entire product. In every department—story, performances, production values and numbers, direction, photography in sparkling Technicolor, music, costuming and other technical details—it is a triumphant job of picture making. In its vast variety of material there is ample to sate every and all tastes in screen fare—music, action, spectacle, suspense, romance, drama, comedy, tragedy. George Marshall directed.

Betty Hutton, Arturo de Cordova, Charlie Ruggles, Albert Dekker, Barry Fitzgerald, Mary Phillips, Bill Goodwin.

The Great John L.

F — Melodrama

UA (——) — **96 Minutes** — **Rel. June 4, '45**

John L. Sullivan has been dead since 1918, but, instead of dimming the memory of him, time has added to the legends of his feats in and out of the boxing arena. He is still a hero to the Irish; his name is familiar to every boy who puts on gloves in the polite modern versions of what used to be real prizefights. Frank Tuttle has fashioned a lively action film with romantic overtones of frustrated boyhood love and an unhappy marriage as a subtle defense of the fantastic brawling of the heavyweight champion. There is enough boxing to satisfy the men, sufficient love interest to appeal to women, and enough resurrection of a nostalgic past to stir the memories of the oldsters who refer to that era as "the good old days." Linda Darnell and Barbara Britton are beautiful even in bustles.

Greg McClure, Linda Darnell, Barbara Britton, Lee Sullivan, Otto Kruger, Wallace Ford, George Matthews.

The Way Ahead

F — War Drama

20th-Fox (511) — **106 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

This Two Cities film is a forthright presentation of the story of men who took up arms to defeat a Fascist enemy. The picture follows the army careers of a group of "civilian" soldiers—men who learned in the course of their training, pride in their outfit and selfless devotion to a cause that was their way of life. When a torpedo strikes the troopship en route to the fighting in North Africa, the men accept the emergency unquestioningly, endangering life in a calm execution of the tasks assigned them. It is this spirit that prevails and motivates the gallant action in following scenes of combat. The British accents are intelligible, and the unpretentious handling of the roles complies with the demands of a tale forceful in its simplicity. It is this simplicity, consistent throughout the film, that presages good grosses. Carol Reed directed. Foreword by Quentin Reynolds.

David Niven, Raymond Huntley, Billy Hartnell, Stanley Holloway, James Donald, John Laurie.

Blonde Ransom

F — Drama With Music

Universal (9042) — **68 Minutes** — **Rel. June 15, '45**

Spectators will be totally indifferent whether or not anyone ever ransoms the blonde—the producer, director, writer or anyone else connected with this li'l number which misses fire on every count. Woeful misuse of a group of proven troupers, a story which lacks definition and attempts to incorporate too many elements conspire with amateurish direction to make it one of the weakest hooks yet devised, upon which to hang an entry in Universal's endless parade of semi-musicals. The film should never struggle above a supporting niche in less important programs and even there it cannot hope for better than tolerance. Starting out as drama, laced with alleged comedy, the picture struggles through several changes of pace and then goes almost operetta in the closing sequence, which is the offering's brightest spot. Directed by William Beaudine.

Donald Cook, Virginia Grey, Pinky Lee, Collette Lyons, George Barbier, Jerome Cowan, George Meeker.

Out of This World

F — Comedy With Music

Paramount (4426) — **97 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Eddie Bracken singing—with Bing Crosby's voice; cute Diana Lynn playing the piano—backed up by a pulchritudinous girl band; specialties, production values, story, dialog, direction and all other details that literally live up to the film's title. Those are just some of the assets which will make this landslide of mirth and music a top-of-the-profit-sheet hit in any theatre where it is booked. Audiences will have just as much fun as those who made the picture and it is obvious that they relished their chores. The yarn takes apart a swoon crooner—from genesis to bobby-socks madness—and subjects his meteoric success to as subtle a ribbing as the screen has carried in many months. And for those who like music, there is a special bonus of entertainment. Directed by Hal Walker.

Eddie Bracken, Veronica Lake, Diana Lynn, Cass Daley, Parkyakarkus, Donald MacBride, Florence Bates.

Don Juan Quilligan

F — Comedy

20th-Fox (527) — **75 Minutes** — **Rel. June, '45**

This world needs a good laugh, and certainly there's plenty of material here. "Don Juan Quilligan," as the name might indicate, is a straight out-and-out farce, and it's plenty funny. It fits William Bendix, a barge captain Don Juan, like the proverbial glove. His experiences with women begin when he meets the sister of the owner of a goulash joint in Brooklyn. That sister is Joan Blondell, who has two brothers, one a cop, the other a ballplayer; plus a desire to get married. Up at the other end of the barge run, Utica, Mary Treen's cooking reminds Bendix of his mother. So, he blunders into some wedding complications. Phil Silvers invents a twin brother, and the fun goes on until Bendix is accused of murder. It will fit nicely into the top of any dual bill. Frank Tuttle directed.

William Bendix, Joan Blondell, Phil Silvers, Ann Revere, Mary Treen, John Russell, Veda Ann Borg.

One Exciting Night

F — Comedy

Paramount (4427) — **63 Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Several notches below the high standards established by previous Pine-Thomas productions, this murder yarn is formula from the opening shot to its weak climax. It's the hoary yarn about a disappearing corpse with rival reporters—a man and a gal—working against each other and both against the police to find the cadaver and the scoop that goes with it. Situations and dialog are unnatural and the cast didn't have a chance to lift the clambake out of the doldrums into which there is no action, no suspense, no comedy. The film was designed as a second feature, but even there it will prove disappointing, particularly in the better houses where P-T pictures are usually booked. Bill Thomas, himself, directed and did a fair job considering the material.

William Gargan, Ann Savage, Leo Gorcey, Don Beddoe, Paul Hurst, Charles Halton, George Zucco.

Tierra de Pasiones

F — Drama With Music

Clasa-Mohme (——) — **(—) Minutes** — **Rel. ——**

Combining folk customs and legend, this is an entertaining picture even without English captions. This is largely due to the virile singing of Jorge Negrete, a Mexican Clark Gable wired for pleasing sound effects. The picture opens on a Mexican holiday scene that is anything but festive, for the first mango has fallen. According to the legend, this day the local tyrant shall die by the hand of the son of the man he persecuted, drove into the hills, and later ambushed and killed. A flashback reveals the romance interrupted by the tyrant, who gives the hand of an aristocratic girl to another. The virginity test is dramatized by the girl's defiant confession that she expects a child by her sweetheart—so white flowers are torn from the bridal cart and red ones substituted. Then there is a Lochinvar rescue. Directed by Jose Benavides jr.

Jorge Negrete, Pedro Armendariz, Margarita Mora, Carlos Orellana, Jose Baviera, Margarita Cortes.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"Out of This World"**

Stage a contest for girl orchestras with winner getting a week's booking with the picture. Or, if that's too ambitious, apply the competition to amateur swoon crooners. In the foyer put up life-size cutouts of Eddie Bracken and Bing Crosby, with your P. A. system playing Crosby recordings which apparently come from the mouths of both. Window displays can be set at music stores, Western Union offices and ladies' apparel shops.

CATCHLINES:

The Songs Are Brighter . . . The Laughs Are Lighter . . . In This Tuneful, Love-in-Bloomful Jamboree . . . They'll Put a Song in Your Heart . . . Hot Rhythm . . . Sweet Romance . . . A Hep Capade of Fun . . . In a Serenade of Joy.

Men's Hearts Skip a Beat . . . When They Hear Diana's Glamour Girl Band . . . Girl's Swoon When Eddie Warbles . . . Western Union Messenger Saves the Day . . . With Headaches . . . Heartaches . . . And Laughter.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Don Juan Quilligan"**

There is only one selling angle to this—it's the mere idea of William Bendix as a Don Juan. Just get the outdoor paper—three-sheets, six-sheets or 24-sheets and make plenty of cutouts and plaster them all over the front and lobby. The girls will furnish the sex appeal. Also get the series of special ads and make blowups. They're in a kidding vein, broadly humorous; the ads are a laugh themselves and invite the public in on the fun.

CATCHLINES:

Bendix as the Screen's Great Lover Will Leave You in Stitches! . . . The Whole Nation Will Talk About This Picture —In a Nice Way, of Course! . . . Together Again for the First Time—Bendix and His Mirror! . . . You'll Yell, Cheer, Whistle, Scream; in Fact, We May Have to Throw You Out of the Theatre!

SELLING ANGLES: **"One Exciting Night"**

Have an essay contest advertised in your local newspaper offering passes to writers who best describe an exciting one night adventure. Winning entries can be published and displayed in the lobby. A street bally can be handled by an usher dressed as a "corpse"—dripping in blood—with a card on his back reading: "If You've Had a Dull Day, Cheer Up—Spend 'One Exciting Night' at the ..... Theatre."

CATCHLINES:

Gangster's Body Found in Wax Museum . . . Corpse Suddenly Disappears . . . Police Seek Missing Body . . . Rival Reporters Involved in Murder Mystery Are Stabbed by Cupid . . . A Spine-Tingling Comedy.

It's a Merry Murder Mixup . . . There's a Shudder in Every Shadow of This Puzzling Crime . . . Shocking Carnival of Chills . . . Terrorific . . . Ruthless Crime Exposed . . . Ever See a Corpse Walking? . . . Well, They Did!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Tierra de Pasiones"**

The literal translation of the title, "Land of Passions," might be more freely translated as "Tragic Ground," for the story revolves around the spot on which the father was ambushed and killed and where his son avenges his death. The exhibitor will know whether his own situation calls for his stressing of the crime element in the picture or the romantic and musical parts of it. Spanish speaking population segments should have handbills distributed to them in that language, and local high school and college classes notified of the showing.

CATCHLINES:

The Old, Old Story of Lovers Separated by Their Positions in Life and Unsympathetic Elders . . . How a Tyrant Oppressed All the People and One Man Rebelled and Was Killed as an Outlaw . . . But His Own Son Revenged the Father as His Mother Prophesied He Would.

The Bride Who Must Face the Bridal Guests in a Cart Decked With Scarlet Flowers . . . Theirs Was a Tragic Love That Ended a Tyrant's Oppression of the People.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Incendiary Blonde"**

Promote "Texas Guinan" nights at local night spots with performers made up and costumed in the fashion of her time and featuring songs from the film. Stage miniature rodeo and have street ballyhoo take on same atmosphere. Tieups are limitless—beauty parlors, music stores, ladies' shops, eateries, etc. Use the "Hi, Sucker" motive in ad copy.

CATCHLINES:

The Most Colorful Gal of Her Day in All Her Glittering Glory . . . Texas as the Female William S. Hart . . . And Texas as Queen of the Night Clubs in Their Lush "Hi, Sucker" Days.

Mighty in Its Entertainment . . . It's the West With a Zest . . . It's New York at Its Best . . . Cheerful Earfuls! Sightful Eyefuls! Flashy, Gay and Glamorous . . . Big Time, Laugh Time, Fun Time!

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Great John L."**

A careful choice of stills and lobby paper and emphasis on both the masculine and feminine appeal ought to make this a strong "A" attraction. Greg McClure, as John L., has a figure like Lionel Strongheart. The youngsters eat up this stuff. For those who like a good laugh there is a Paris fight with one of those violet-scented acrobats who fight with their feet. It's a complete howl. For the romantic interest Barbara Britton, who loses John in his youth, and Linda Darnell, who wins him, there is a nice balance of emotional and eye-appeal.

CATCHLINES:

Boston's Legendary Strong Boy—Lovable, Brawling, Romancing Giant—Lives Again on Screen.

You'll Be Punch-Drunk, Laugh-Dizzy and Slap-Happy After You See It the First Time; More So After the Second.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Way Ahead"**

Stress the theme of Allied cooperation in the war by lobby displays of blowups of action scenes from the film, emphasizing that here is an authentic account of the battling British "Tommy," a counterpart of our GI Joe. Arrange additional displays of pictures of service men in your community, listing decorations or citations they have received. Invite veterans, men on furlough, and, if possible, a group of men from nearby camps and bases to be your guests at the premiere of the picture.

CATCHLINES:

Clerk, Mechanic, Doctor—Raw Recruits . . They Learned to Deal Death and Cherish Ideals . . . The Story of Your Service Man, Any Service Man . . . They Risked Their Lives . . . They Defeated an Enemy . . . They Accepted Danger and Asked No Thanks.

Lives Uprooted as Men Are Called to Fight . . . Sacrificing Life to Defeat the Foe . . . Women Wait, Wonder and Pray . . . Men Complain, and Then Destroy an Enemy With Determination Born of Respect for Brothers-In-Arms.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Blonde Ransom"**

Arrange a tieup with prominent beauty shops for advance window displays exclusively for blondes. Use blonde wigs, shampoo and rinse bottles and a selection of production stills. A street bally can be handled by a striking blonde and an usher dressed as a gangster. Have the arms of the "blonde" tied to her side with the "gangster" holding the end of the rope. On his back place a card reading: "Held for Blonde Ransom at the ..... Theatre."

CATCHLINES:

She Launched a Million Dollar Crime Wave . . . Just for Love . . . She Hid Out for Fun and Held Out for Love . . . It's the Devil-May-Care Affair of a Honey With Money Who Kidnaped Herself.

A Merry Musical Melee . . . Racket Smashed Amidst Glamour, Mirth and Music . . . The Cards Were Stacked Against Him . . . Until a Blonde Popped in with an Ace up Her Sleeve . . . Heiress Hooks Gambler . . . But They Both Land in Jail.

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GENERAL EQUIPMENT—NEW

40x65 GLASS SIZE STAINLESS STEEL POSTER CASES—Equipped with cold cathode tube illumination around entire case; immediate delivery. All other sizes, delivery in ten days. Catalog upon request. BEN B. POBLOCKI & SONS CO., 2159 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 7, Wis.

NEW MODERNISTIC cast aluminum 18-inch magazines. Immediate delivery, limited quantity, set of 4, $125 complete with reel end alarms. STANLEY THEATRE SUPPLY CO., 1235 South Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—USED

WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY: Two Simplex projectors, three point bases, rear shutters, double bearing, upper and lower magazines, two Peerless low intensity lamps, 10¼ inch reflectors, ammeters, two 30 ampere rectifiers, two Ross 4 inch lenses, $1,215. Two pair Powers 6B mechanisms, heavy duty gates, upper magazines, $180 per pair. Two Powers projectors, complete 6B mechanisms, $260 per pair. Two 60T three phase rectifiers with meters, contractors and eight tubes, all new, $460 per pair. 1000W stereopticons, $34.95 each. Rear shutters for Simplex, $77.50 each. Hand rewind sets, $10.95 per set. Metal fire extinguishers, $1.89 each. One RCA 9430A heavy duty speaker, new, $49.50. Two complete arc controls for Peerless or Motiograph low intensity lamps, $69.50 per pair. B-2196, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

A COMPLETE PACKAGE READY TO OPEN A THEATRE—Booth outfits consisting Simplex projectors, lamphouses, lens, soundheads, motors, amplifier, speakers and soundcreen. Rebuilt and guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP, New York 18.

DICTAPHONE OUTFIT, DICTATER, TRANSCRIBER, SHAVER—all reconditioned, $149.50; Powers rear shutter heads, good condition, $135; reflectors, 50% off; Rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, $250; Footlights, $3.50 ft.; Commercial vacuum cleaner, $119.50; Water cooler, DC only, $77.50; Low intensity arclamps, $75. Spring catalog now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2,000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 South Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

ONE ULTRAPHONE SOUND SYSTEM—Complete with horns; late model soundheads; late model amplifier, 56-57, two 2A3 and 5Z3 tubes, $650. Write AMERICAN THEATRE, 3621 Main St., Indiana Harbor, Ind.

OPENING A THEATRE? We will supply complete Simplex booth equipment consisting of projectors, lenses, magazines, bases, lamp houses, rectifiers or generator and complete sound equipment. RECONDITIONED and GUARANTEED—at $1,300. All other types of booth equipment and supplies furnished on request. Call or write SANCO ELECTRIC CO., Film Bldg. Phones: CHerry 5573, FAirmount 4958, Cleveland, Ohio.

RECONDITIONED: Powers heads, $75 each. Superior front shutter heads, $100 each. Superior rear shutter heads, $125 each. Motiograph heads, $125 each. New Jensen permanent magnet 20 watt 12-inch auditorium speakers, $22 each. Brenkert Hi-Low lamp houses with new mirrors, $200 pair. Westinghouse double 55 generator complete with panel and rheostats, perfect condition, $250. SANCO ELECTRIC CO., Film Bldg. Phones: CHerry 5573, FAirmount 4958, Cleveland, Ohio.

FOR SALE—GOOD THEATRE SOUND SYSTEM. RCA scund heads, two speakers, amplifiers, two motors and drives for Simplex mechanism. Now in operation. Inspection invited. Also good 6-volt public address equipment, complete. Phone or wire, C. J. SEVERSON, Wolf Point, Montana.

METAL CHAIRS—30-inch, with back, $5; 26-inch, $3.50. Dark green leatherette 52-inch, $1.35 in rolls; less, $1.50 yard. Fans, pedestal, 24-inch new AC motor, $100. Generators, 25/25 ampere, $75. Three point stands, Simplex, pair, $75. CROWN, 346 W. 44th St., New York.

COMPLETE BOOTH EQUIPMENT—Super Simplex heads, 18-inch magazines, 5-point pedestals, Peerless L I lamps, stats, panel 20-40 Hertner generator, GoldE rewind, 15 slot film cabinet, Griswold film splicer, 2 Kollmorgan 4.50 half size lens, also 2 G.E. 55 amp copper oxide rectifiers (nearly new.) B-2202, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

10½x14 WALKER SILVER SHEET SCREEN (Used)—cheap. PALACE THEATRE, Booneville, Ark.

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THEATRES FOR SALE

FOR SALE CHEAP—Complete theatre, with 250 seats, projectors, sound, cooling system, popcorn machine. JEWEL CALLAHAM, Broken Bow, Okla.

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY to acquire consistent producer, located in the Florida section that has both summer and winter seasons. Good building, includes four rentals. $20,000 cash required to handle. B-2204, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRE—450 seats, good business, western town, 6,000; no opposition, Photophone equipment. Your own lease, $15,000. THEATRE BUILDING FOR SALE—Good tenants and income, $25,000. TWO SMALL THEATRES—with buildings, $7,000 and $13,000. B-2205, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

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THEATRES WANTED

WANTED TO LEASE—Small theatre in south Texas area, or building suitable for same; with or without equipment. Address: PIONEER PICTURES, Natchez, Miss.

RENT, LEASE, PERCENTAGE. Northwest, 1,500 to 5,000. No opposition. Experienced. Details first letter. ALBERT D. ZEMANEK, Kokomo, Colo.

WILL BUY THEATRE—In Arkansas small town. 1,200 to 3,000 population. B-2200, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WILL BUY THEATRE—In Arkansas small town, 1,200 to 3,000 population. B-2200, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

ATTENTION SMALL TOWN THEATRE OWNERS! Do you want to retire? I want to buy theatre in town 1,000 up. Write full information: R. GREEN, 51 Allison, Pontiac, Mich.

WANTED TO BUY OR LEASE—Theatre in Ohio, Indiana or Illinois. Town around 10,000 population. Cash for quick deal or can supply A-1 reference if leased. B-2206, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

EXPERIENCED MANAGER DESIRES TO PURCHASE THEATRE in Louisiana, Texas or Arkansas. Write: H. Black, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WILL BUY OR LEASE—Paying theatre, middle west. CHARLES MEANS, Box 995, South Bend, Ind.

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EASY WAY TO PAINT SIGNS. Use letter patterns. Avoid sloppy work and wasted time. No experience needed for expert work. Write for free samples. JOHN RAHN, B-1329 Central Ave., Chicago 51, Ill

EQUIPMENT WANTED

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POWERS 6B HEADS, SOUND PORTABLES. FULL DETAILS. HIGHEST PRICES PAID. B-2197, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

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PROJECTION EQUIPMENT

PAIR SIMPLEX PROJECTORS, rear shutter, BB intermittent mechanisms with Thyde changeovers, heavy duty stand; 1A test RCA sound equipment, complete, suprex lamps, 50/50-ampere De Forest magnesium rectifier, $3,500. CROWN, 346 W. 44th St., New York.

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STILL TIME TO ORDER NEW AIR WASHERS. ROTARY SPRAY MAT TYPE, WORK WITH ANY BLOWER—EASILY INSTALLED. 5,000 cfm, $115; 7,000 cfm, $140; 10,000 cfm, $170; 15,000 cfm, $200; 20,000 cfm, $230. New prewar blowers, starting at $106.50 for 5,500 cfm; also diffuser grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Catalog. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT NEW VICTOR 16MM SOUND PROJECTORS to essential users, $425; Heavy Jensen 12 inch PM speakers, $29.50; Automatic record changers, $39.95; Permanent phonograph needles, $1.50; SOUNDMAN'S TESTING OUTFITS AVAILABLE on AA2 MRO (Theatres may issue this priority) $28.40; Sound opticals, $15.95; Tubes, exciters, photocells, ceiling prices. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

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PROJECTIONIST and managers needed for permanent position with circuit. Good possibilities for the right man. BOX 1431 Bay City, Texas.

WANTED—Booker for enterprising theatre circuit. Excellent opportunity. Apply by mail: B-2208, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED—TWO EXPERIENCED MANAGERS and two projectionists for theatres we are acquiring in northern part of state about July 15. These are steady positions with an old reliable organization. Give full experience and salary expected in first letter. HOFFMAN AMUSEMENT CO., Buchanan, Mich.

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YOUNG MAN of 20 wishes position as assistant manager in second-run, averaged sized city theatre. Has average education and little experience, but is willing to learn. Can furnish reference. Would like post war position and a chance to learn. Write, giving location, estimate of salary and other details. Draft exempt. Duane G. Henry, PORT EDWARDS HOTEL, Port Edwards, Wis.

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POPCORN SEASONING—Bags—Boxes—Salt—popcorn machines. What do you need? POPCORN TRADING POST, 1116 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

GIVE YOUR POPCORN THAT REAL BUTTER FLAVOR and color. Economical to use. The PERFECTION CO., Waco, Texas.

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POPCORN MACHINES FOR SALE. Manleys, Burch, Cretors, Advance and Stars. CONSOLIDATED CONFECTIONS, 1116 South Michigan, Chicago 5, Ill.

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ORGANS BOUGHT AND SOLD—Tuning, repairing. SOUTHWESTERN ORGAN SERVICE, PO Box 285, Stephenville, Texas

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and BOB NOLAN and The Sons of the Pioneers

and Republic Guest Stars

WILD BILL ELLIOTT • ALLAN LANE • DONALD BARRY • ROBERT LIVINGSTON • SUNSET CARSON

Directed by FRANK McDONALD • Original Screen Play by Jack Townley

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

BOXOFFICE

JUNE 16, 1945 Entered as Second Class matter at Postoffice at Kansas City, Mo., under Act of March, 1879. 25c Per Copy. Per Year, $7.50 NATIONAL EDITION





THE CASE OF THE MODERN RIP VAN WINKLE!

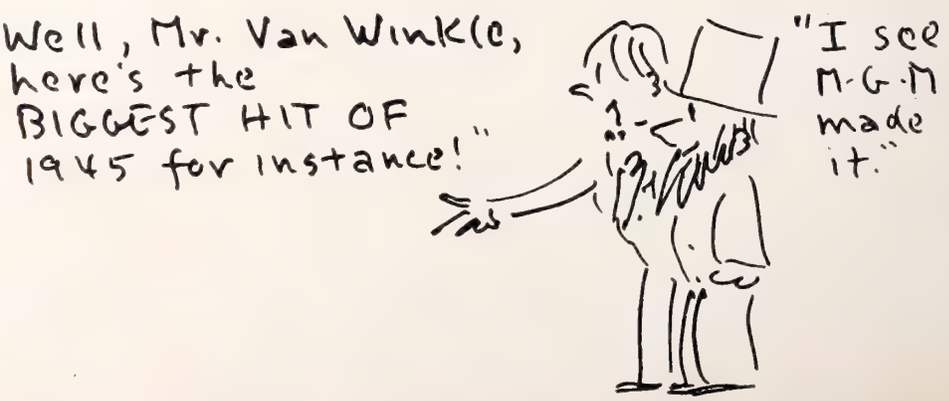




Imagine the surprise of Mr. Rip Van Winkle when he began to ask questions after his long snooze.

"When I fell asleep years ago," said Mr. Van Winkle, "a young Lion named Leo of M-G-M was the talk of the industry. Who's doing the roaring now?"

M-G-M's
"VALLEY OF DECISION"
7TH WEEK!
RADIO CITY
MUSIC HALL



(Continued above)



"There's another SOCKO hit!



"Gosh! M-G-M also!"

M-G-M's "THRILL OF A ROMANCE"
(Technicolor)
4TH WEEK!
CAPITOL THEATRE

THE HIT PARADE
(All M-G-M!)
"WITHOUT LOVE"
"NATIONAL VELVET"
(Technicolor)
"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"
(Technicolor)
"30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO"
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
"THE CLOCK"
"THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY"
"SON OF LASSIE"
(Technicolor)



"AMAZING! EVERY ONE IS M-G-M!"

"You're now looking at the pictures that get the big receipts and the long runs!"



Yes, indeed! Mr. Van Winkle found that M-G-M was still the big noise of the industry—that's what probably woke him up. And when he heard about those giant production enterprises "ZIEGFELD FOLLIES" and "THEY WERE EXPENDABLE" and learned that they also are M-G-M, he did handsprings!



AND SPRINGS)

"SHAVE MY WHISKERS! THAT LION HASN'T BEEN SLEEPING! HE'S WIDER AWAKE THAN EVER!"

"YOU SAID IT RIP! NOW THE BIG ONES COME FROM M-G-M!"

AS ALWAYS-



7TH WAR LOAN

LEADERSHIP



—that grows
greater and greater...

BOXOFFICE*

has by far the largest net paid circulation ever achieved by any film trade-paper in the U. S. A. and Canada.

* *FIRST in the Exhibition field*
FIRST in the Distribution field

as may be seen by comparing the statements of Audit Bureau of Circulations

The Pulse of the Motion Picture Industry

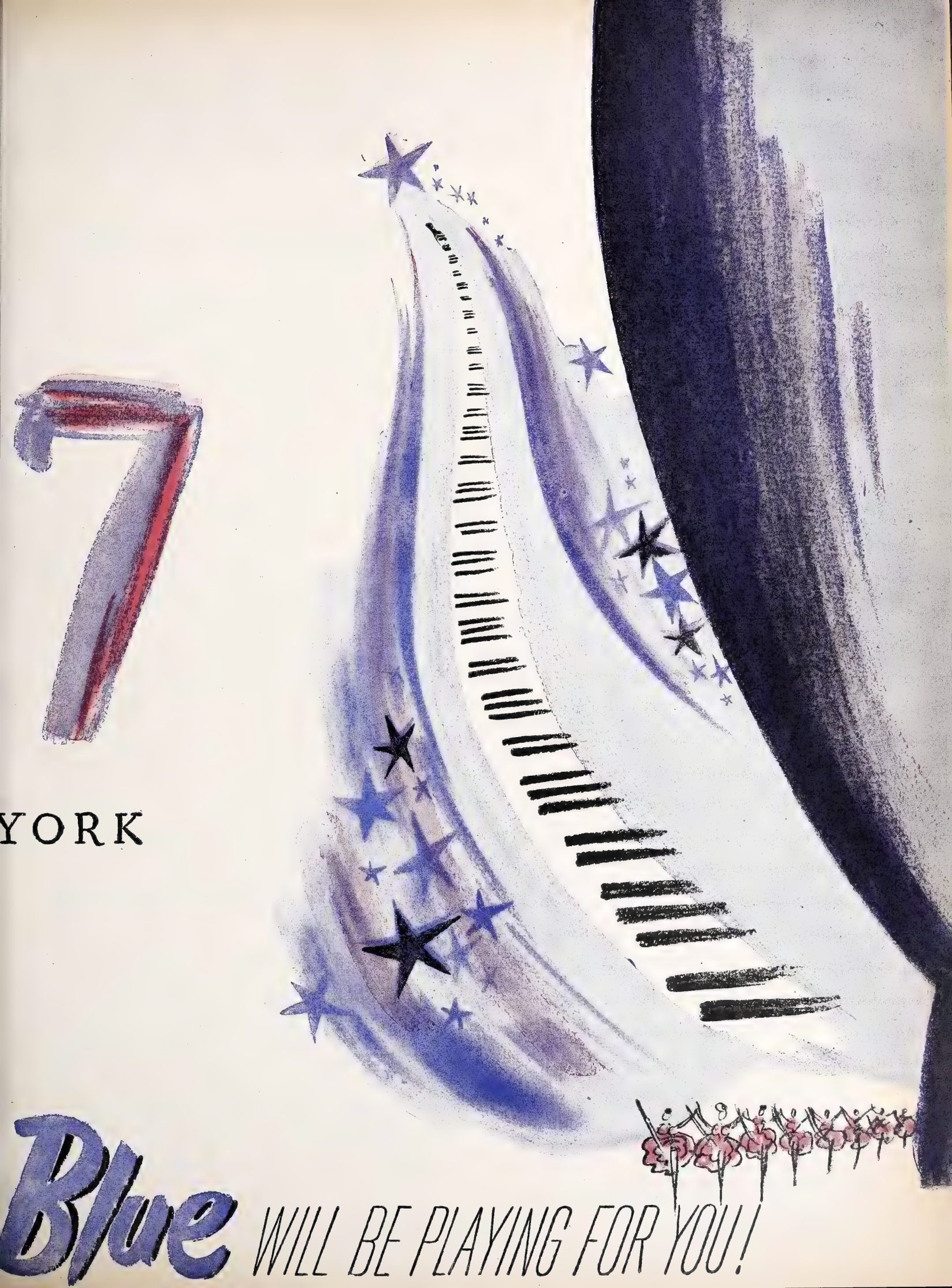
BOXOFFICE

HERE IT IS!!!

June 2

AT THE HOLLYWOOD IN NEW

SOON WARNERS' **Rhapsody in**


7
YORK
Blue WILL BE PLAYING FOR YOU!

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
PUBLISHED IN EIGHT SECTIONAL EDITIONS
BEN SHLYEN
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JAMES M. JERAULD
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Western Editor
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Other Associated Publications: BOXOFFICE BAROMETER, BOXOFFICE PICTURE GUIDE, published annually. THE MODERN THEATRE, published monthly as a section of BOXOFFICE.

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ST. JOHN—116 Prince Edward St., Wm. J. McNulty.
TORONTO—242 Milwood, Milton Galbraith.
VANCOUVER—411 Lyric Theatre Bldg., Jack Droy.
VICTORIA—1330 Dallas Road, Gordon MacKintosh.
WINNIPEG—709 Selkirk Ave., Ben Lepkin.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 47 No. 6
JUNE 16, 1945

BOXOFFICE

A LESSON TO BE LEARNED

IN THE name of "babies" and under the guise of "public service," one Mrs. L. L. Streett, in a column published in the Newark (N. J.) Sunday Call, referred to motion picture theatres as "closely packed halls that are filled with dust and germs" and as "disease-infected places." She cautioned parents to avoid them, if they would protect their young ones from "such potential danger."

The article has been brought to our attention by Mr. Gerald M. Paulmier, manager of the Maplewood Theatre, Maplewood, N. J., which is a beautiful theatre in the wealthy commuting town in which The Call circulates. Mrs. Streett, evidently, has never been to the Maplewood. Perhaps her column on Household Service is syndicated, which generalization is an even worse offense against the institution of the motion picture.

It is surprising that a modern newspaper would publish such an article without an investigation into the matter. They would not have dared to say the same things about hotels, restaurants, drug stores or department stores. But where the "movies" are involved anything goes. For usually no voice is raised in opposition to such unfair practices. Mr. Paulmier did raise his voice in vigorous protest to the editor of The Call, for which we heartily congratulate him. Said Mr. Paulmier:

"To refer to motion picture houses as 'disease-infected places' is to do gross injustice to every one of the thousands of properly operated theatres in the country. No motion picture exhibitor today can afford to allow circulation of such untrue statements as the above and also her reference to 'closely packed halls that are filled with dust and germs' as referring to a business generally so efficiently run as to be a credit to itself as well as to any community.

"Your Mrs. Streett is urged to visit my theatre and any other advertised in the Sunday Call and observe just how far afield are her descriptions of the modern motion picture theatre."

Mr. Paulmier is right. Motion picture theatres generally are very well run and have exceptional records for "good housekeeping" even in these labor-troubled times. The modern theatre provides comforts for parents who take babies to the movies because they have no one to leave them with, as Mrs. Streett herself acknowledges. "Cry rooms," where mothers may sit with children, are installed in many theatres throughout the country. Playrooms, where children can be left with supervising attendants, are still another service feature. And, as for "dust and germs," even the shooting-gallery type of theatre is far cleaner than many another business catering to the public. It should also be remembered that it was the

motion picture theatre which first introduced air conditioning and air purification in public buildings. Hardly a theatre is in operation today which does not have some type of air-changing and air-washing system, in use not only in summer but throughout the year.

There is a lesson to be learned from this incident: The exhibitor must be ever vigilant in keeping his house in order. And he can beat "the enemy" to the punch by inviting public-spirited people to see what he has to offer; by doing a better public relations job for himself and his enterprise; by selling the institution as well as the picture.

★ ★

Good Business-Getters

"A good picture, like a good book, never dies." We said that on this page in discussing reissues in 1937, repeated it in December 1943 and it bears repeating again, after the demonstration that judiciously-selected and properly-played reissues are good business-getters.

In the past two years the reissue market probably has reached proportions never before anticipated. First cause was the extended run of current product, next came the print shortage, both of which contributed to operational difficulties of subsequent-run houses. Primarily intended for this market, reissues have made their way into key first-run houses and with exceptional results.

Current instances are the holdover engagements at the Lafayette Theatre, Buffalo, and the Missouri Theatre, St. Louis, of Universal's dual rerelease of "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven." The former picture originally was released in 1934, the latter in 1939. While these pictures played as a dual program in the two situations mentioned, they are also being booked alone or coupled with other features.

When these pictures, and others currently revived, were originally offered, a week's engagement was the general average in first-run houses. And the subsequents played them out so rapidly that the life span of a picture was about three or four months. Multiple simultaneous runs further shortened picture life. Aside from the new generation, there are millions of potential patrons who did not have sufficient opportunity to see many a good picture of yesteryear; and also millions who would like to see some pictures a second time.

Instead of regarding reissues as "a means to an end," they should be carefully evaluated and properly merchandised. The newness of a picture does not insure its quality, which is what the public is interested in. Proof of that lies in the number of evidences of reissues outgrossing their original showings.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Biddle Seeks Three Judges In New York Antitrust Suit

Attorney general files expediting certificate to speed up decree case, scheduled for hearing October 8 before Judge Goddard, believing matter to be of general public importance.

• • • —

Group of Industry Leaders Leaves Sunday for Europe

Will tour war-devastated countries for three weeks on invitation of Supreme Headquarters of Allied Expeditionary Forces; Maj. Stuart Palmer is liaison officer.

• • • —

AFL President Green Asked To Block Actors' Boycott

Screen Actors Guild makes request in defy to Hollywood strikers' plea to blacklist mummers who cross picket lines; production is at higher levels than before walkout.

• • • —

J. Arthur Rank Is Guest Of 20th-Fox at Dinner

Spyros P. Skouras, president; Darryl Zanuck, Joseph M. Schenck, members of board and executives present at formal gathering Friday night in Union Club.

• • • —

Ross Federal to Handle Sales of 16mm Films

Present branches to be used for distribution of non-theatrical subjects with division for schools and colleges; checking service will be continued.

• • • —

No U.S. Films in the Reich For Present, Says Davis

OWI chieftain declares military and government authorities not seeking to provide fun for Germans; hence only documentaries and newsreels now; later some features.

• • • —

Truman Favors Regulation Of Gov't Corporations

Radio activities of OIAA and some functions of OWI would be compelled to submit budgets and justify expenditures; reported OIAA film plans will be scrapped.

• • • —

RKO May Increase List Of Pictures 30 Per Cent

Current season's releases, now totaling 35, may go up to 45, declares Charles W. Koerner, head of production, after studying results thus far this year.

• • • —

London Film Men Attend Hicks Memorial Service

Paramount London staff and many men prominent in industry at St. Martin-in-the-Field Trafalgar Square Church to pay honor to late head of firm's foreign distribution.

CONTROLS MAY BE ABOLISHED ON RAW STOCK BY YEAR'S END

Increase to 300,000,000 Feet for Last Quarter Possible, Says Adams

WASHINGTON—There is every likelihood that orders affecting the allocations of raw film stock will be lifted in entirety by the end of the year, it was stated by Stanley B. Adams, chief, consumers durable goods division of the WPB. At a press conference early this week, Adams emphasized his belief that if production capacity permits an average allocation of 300,000,000 feet for the fourth quarter (approximately 29,000,000 above the 271,000,000 feet allocated for the third quarter), film allocations will be lifted.

Wants Revocation Soon as Possible

"The WPB intends to do away with all limitation orders and allocations as fast as possible," stated Adams. "It is our hope to revoke L178, which limits film raw stocks, as quickly as possible. In setting up the criteria of allocation in terms of L178, we take the position that when 300,000,000 feet of raw film stock is available to major producers for a quarter, plus 100 per cent to Class C, factual and special producers, as well as to the army and navy, L178 will go out the window. Thus if the present 271,000,000 feet allocated for the third quarter reaches 300,000,000 feet, there will no longer be any allocations.

"We are attempting to hold up film stock production for the third quarter and there is a good chance that we may drop the allocations for the first of the year. We have ordered the plants to go all out on 35mm and X-ray film raw stock production at the expense of the other types of film. If raw stock production holds up, we will go into the fall in a very healthy condition and I have every reason to believe that L178 will be revoked as of the first of the year.

"The 16mm film supply may be affected to a small extent but allotments should run 50 per cent or about double the 1941 figures."

Questioned as to the individual allotments of film out of the 29,408,920 feet assigned to independent producers for the third quarter, Adams said that those figures are not available as yet. Asked about the 38,000,000 allotted to the Foreign Economic Administration for foreign countries, Adams insisted that this is a bulk allotment and that it is up to FEA to indicate just how this film is apportioned to the individual countries. Adams did state, however, that no film has been allotted to the Soviet Union for the third quarter and that Russia received only one-half of the footage, approximately 15,000,000 feet, assigned to it for the second quarter.

British Manufacturers Busy

British film allotment consists of 1,500,000 feet of color stock and British raw stock manufacturers are producing the balance of the film required by producers in that country.

Adams also stated that the Gevaert plant in Belgium is operating "satisfactorily," while a Paris plant, though producing some raw stock, is not doing as well because of a shortage of material and coal. However, whatever raw stock produced in France is being absorbed equally by the Allied armies and by the French government.

At the present time, there is no film industry meeting scheduled.

Donald Nelson, Former WPB Head, Is Named President of the SIMPP

HOLLYWOOD—Donald M. Nelson, former head of War Production Board and one of the most prominent and powerful figures in the wartime government, is entering the motion picture industry. He has accepted the presidency of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Joining the organization with him as vice-president is David M. Noyes, his assistant during his WPB days.

Lloyd Wright, one of the organizers of the society and its president and general counsel, will function in such dual capacity until Nelson takes over, after which he remains as general counsel only. John C. Flynn, executive secretary of SIMPP, continues in that position, under Nelson.



—Courtesy of Kansas City Star

DONALD M. NELSON

Negotiations for Nelson's services were opened in Washington recently by David O. Selznick, chairman of an SIMPP committee appointed to select a new head for the group. Serving on the committee with Selznick were Samuel Goldwyn, Walt Disney, Walter Wanger, Sol Lesser and Edward Small. En route to Hollywood from the east, Selznick wired ordering an immediate meeting of SIMPP members, and it was at that meeting, attended by Nelson, that the offer for his services was accepted. Nelson planed out for Washington following the conference and will take over his new duties on June 29. He has plans to maintain offices in New York and Hollywood, possibly in the nation's capital.

Other members of the society include Benedict Bogeaus, William Cagney, Charles Chaplin, Edward A. Golden, Leo Spitz, William Goetz, Jesse Lasky, Jules Levey, David L. Loew, Mary Pickford, Arnold Pressburger, Rainbow Productions, Inc., Charles R. Rogers, Harry Sherman, Jack Skirball, Andrew Stone, Hunt Stromberg, United Artists Productions, Inc., and Orson Welles.

Red Cross Drive Total Is Over Seven Million

NEW YORK—The industry collected $7,290,164 during the 1945 Red Cross campaign. This compares with $6,793,060 garnered last year and $3,067,236 the year before.

N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman, delivered his final report at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor. Basil O'Connor, national president of the Red Cross, and Howard Bonham and Joseph Weill, executives of the organization, were among the guests. Rathvon said:

"In presenting this report of the contributions to the Red Cross War Fund of 1945 from theatre audiences and the corporations and personnel of the motion picture industry, I wish to pay my personal tribute and extend the thanks of the national committee to every person whose fine work made this project successful.

"In Which All May Take Pride"

"When the War Activities Committee was requested by the American Red Cross to participate in their 1945 campaign, the appeal was made for a larger sum than ever previously collected, due to the greater war necessities.

"Through theatres, studios, home offices, exchanges, supply houses, etc., our group put forth their most enthusiastic efforts and obtained the result requested, an accomplishment in which all may take pride.

"It has been a real pleasure to serve as national chairman with such splendid cooperation. I am happy to extend to every participant the sincere thanks of the Red Cross and the men and women of our armed services who have been the grateful recipients of their generosity and labors."

Total number of theatres taking part in the campaign was 14,539.

Expenses Were $89,000

Rathvon said that expenses were $45,334.19, not including the cost of raw stock and printing of trailers which came to $43,758.90, making a total of $89,093.09. A $100,000 budget had been set up for expenses of the drive. National Screen Service delivered 15,354 trailers to theatres.

It was originally intended to prepare a book listing collections made by every theatre. When it was learned that the cost would be $5,000, the committee decided the money could better be used by the Red Cross.

Along with the financial report which Rathvon turned over to Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of WAC, were campaign books from every exchange area chairman. These listed collections from all theatres as well as donations of theatre managements and employes, film exchange employes, corporate gifts, etc. A large album of trade and newspaper publicity also was presented.

In addition to Rathvon, O'Connor and the other Red Cross officials, several executives of the industry's national Red Cross committee, were present.

INTERNATIONAL



CONTINUES WITH

RKO RADIO PICTURES

SHOWMANSHIP!

RKO

IS PROUD

With justifiable pride we of RKO welcome the continuance of our association with William Goetz and Leo Spitz in releasing the distinguished productions of

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

whose great stars, producers, directors and writers are proving

"Good Entertainment is International"



FIRST of the new group of INTERNATIONAL PICTURES to be released by...

RKO RADIO PICTURES

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES presents

GARY COOPER

and

LORETTA YOUNG

in

NUNNALLY JOHNSON'S

"Along Came Jones"

with

WILLIAM DEMAREST • DAN DURYEA

A Cinema Artists Production
Produced by Gary Cooper
Directed by Stuart Heisler
Screenplay by Nunnally Johnson
Novel by Alan Le May



INTERNATIONAL PICTURES presents

CLAUDETTE COLBERT • **ORSON WELLES** • **GEORGE BRENT**

"Tomorrow is Forever"



Directed by IRVING PICHEL • Produced by DAVID LEWIS

Screenplay by Lenore Coffee • Novel by Gwen Bristow



INTERNATIONAL PICTURES presents

SONJA HENIE

in

Countess of Monte Cristo

with

DENNIS O'KEEFE

Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER • Associate producer WALTER THOMPSON

Screenplay by Robert Smith • Story by Walter Reisch

IN TECHNICOLOR

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES presents

A Nunnally Johnson

PRODUCTION

Written and produced by the man
who created "Woman in the Window"
and "Casanova Brown"

INTERNATIONAL CONTINUES WITH SHOWMANSHIP

RKO RADIO PICTURES

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

UNITED NATIONS FILM SHOWS GIVE NEW AUDIENCE OUTLOOK

Documentaries Alone Poor Draws; Previews Pack Conference Theatre

By GLEN ALLVINE

SAN FRANCISCO—The two theatres provided by the motion picture industry for the use of the 5,000 persons accredited to the San Francisco Conference offer an interesting study in audience reaction and theatre attendance.

The small Conference Theatre in the Sir Francis Drake Hotel is operated by the state department for the showing of documentaries at the request of any of the 50 participating nations. Only once were its 100 seats inadequate, when it departed from its usual bill of shorts to show a feature documentary which had been shown the previous week at the big United Nations Theatre, seating 1,150. Normal attendance at the Conference Theatre for its interesting bill of shorts averages 60.

Latins Interested in Disney

Attendance at the United Nations Theatre varies from 300 persons turned away at the preview showing of "Valley of Decision," to 400 empty seats at the showings of Spanish or Russian features. Despite the Spanish language native to early California and to 19 of the 20 Latin American delegations, not much interest was shown in the two top Mexican productions, "Gran Hotel," starring Cantinflas, and "Maria Candelaria," starring Dolores Del Rio.

The Latins seem much more interested in the various Disney shorts and in the Disney feature, "Tres Caballeros." As a result of his travels and researches in Latin America, Disney and his associates seem to have caught a unique insight into what our hemisphere neighbors like, and are giving it to them with artistry and charm.

Despite the smaller local audience that understands Russian, the interest in the Soviet output appears to be much more active. Possibly because the USSR is the world's one great question mark, representatives of all nations have been attending the regular Sunday showings of Russian pictures, perhaps to find in their films some key to the Great Enigma.

Except during two previous weeks when there was one single showing of the feature, preceded only by the conference newsreel, all other programs of the United Nations Theatre ran from 7 o'clock until midnight, with various shorts to round out a normal two-and-a-half-hour program.

Long Documentaries Boresome

Because of the unusual international and intellectual character of the highly specialized audience, most of these shorts were documentaries, produced by the various participating nations and by the Office of Inter-American Affairs and the Office of War Information. In the screening of these informatory films it became apparent in the early weeks that the audience became restless after 20 minutes of unadulterated education, and the documentaries selected for later weeks were shorter.

Meanwhile at the Conference Theatre fewer than 40 persons were willing to sit through these four excellent orientation films produced by our war department: "Battle of China" (60 minutes); "Divide and Conquer" (60); "Battle of Britain" (50); "Battle of Russia" (45), and when "Gracias Amigos," an 18-minute offering by the Office of Inter-American Affairs was screened, only the operators were there to enjoy it.

Entertainment the Only Draw

This may seem like a long way around to prove what every exhibitor knows, that a message has to be sugar-coated and that there has to be an attraction to get them in to listen to even the most admirable lesson.

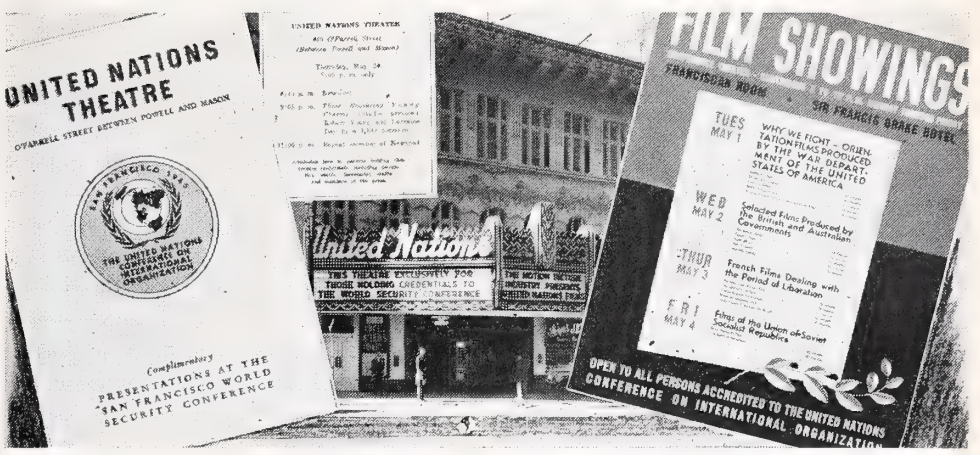
The state department, which makes very little pretense to showmanship, learned among other things in San Francisco, that documentaries, however admirable, will not produce an audience, but that the same documentaries, in footage preferably not to exceed 15 minutes, are very well received ahead of or behind an entertaining feature.

However, despite our tendency to evaluate films in boxoffice statements or by counting the house, the growing importance of well-made documentaries should not be minimized.

There will always be some people who agree with Robert Riskin that the informatory short should be encouraged, whether by government subsidy or commercial enterprise. It is obvious that the Soviets will be groping for international understanding through the increased use of ideological films. The British will continue, whether by government subsidy or otherwise, to tell the Empire's story.

At the conclusion of the conference the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Hon. Peter Fraser, will spend a week in Hollywood studying our production methods and placing orders for equipment to step up and improve production in that far away isle which has increasingly come under the military and economic influence of these United States.

In South Africa and other regions remote from Hollywood, the ideological impact of the motion picture is being envied and studied. It won't be long now before there are many new, if minor, centers of film production.



AMERICAN FILMS SCORE—Tribute to the worldwide preselling of their pictures by American companies is indicated by attendance figures at the United Nations Conference film showings. United States films outdrew all others, audiences sensing what they wanted, despite a decided restraint in the method of advertising the attractions. The United Nations Theatre marquee had no picture titles. One-column announcements having no type larger than 14-point were used. A simple program announcement, 17x22 inches, was posted at points where delegates gathered.

The approach was more restrained and dignified than that introduced several years ago by W. G. Van Schmus at Radio City Music Hall. In spite of this, from a potential drawing group of 5,000, at times hundreds were turned away. Documentaries were poor draws; previews packed the house.

Industry Is Completing Record of Frisco Meet

HOLLYWOOD—As completion nears of a historical film record of the United Nations Conference, plus special presentation reels edited and narrated for each of the 49 delegations, the industry is now winding up its most intensive and far-reaching job of international relations. Since the opening of the conference late in April, more than 300,000 feet of film covering important sessions have been flown here for processing and editing before being rushed back for two daily exhibitions to delegates.

A special camera staff provided by the newsreel companies supplied material for more than 100 individual stories. Another unit in Hollywood assembled an over-all record of the conference proceedings, while a third group selected and compiled shots of each delegation together with addresses by its leaders. At one period, work was going on simultaneously at four studios, laboratories and recording plants.

The gift reels, which were to be presented by Claude Lee to heads of the many delegations, are made on 16mm film and are enclosed in gold-embossed leather cases, with the compliments of the American motion picture industry.

These films begin with general shots of the conference, together with closeups of Big Five leaders, later concentrating on activities and addresses of members of the delegations for whom each reel is intended. English, Spanish, French, Russian and Portuguese were the languages used in narrations.

Another industry activity in connection with the conference has been the arrangement of studio visits for hundreds who have been able to visit Hollywood for a few hours.

Silverstone Views Vast Near East Expansion

NEW YORK—Postwar possibilities for film distribution in the Near East—all that part of northwest Africa which includes Libya, Egypt, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, British and Italian Somaliland, Abyssinia and Eritrea; Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, facing on the Mediterranean; Iraq and Iran—have caused Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International Corp., to reorganize the setup in that area and to open several new offices.



MURRAY SILVERSTONE

Cairo will continue to be general headquarters, but there will be new exchanges in Khartoum in the Sudan, Tel Aviv in Palestine, Beirut in Lebanon, Bagdad in Iraq and Teheran in Iran.

Silverstone has just returned from a seven-week trip that included stops in Ireland, England, France, Italy, Greece, a number of cities in Egypt, Palestine and Lebanon. He sees a great future for some of those areas. They are already centers of immense air traffic, the presence of American and British armies have had a marked effect on business life, and business is gaining.

Open New Theatre in Cairo

In Cairo 20th-Fox has just opened a new theatre—the Cairo—in partnership with a local operator. It is a 2,000-seat air conditioned house. The air conditioning apparatus was constructed in Palestine by engineers. Cairo has a population of 1,750,000, he says, and American pictures are tremendously popular. They are shown with English dialog, with superimposed French titles. In a panel at the side of the screen more titles with Arabic at the top and Greek at the bottom are shown. This apparatus is operated from the booth. The equipment is made in Cairo.

Palestine is bound to have a big increase in population, says Silverstone. Tel Aviv is a beautiful modern city, with some smart showmen operating the theatres. They have a unique system of showing pictures. First runs are shown in the evening from three to five weeks for a run. They are then immediately booked for second run afternoon showings in the same theatre. Revivals after six months are common in Egypt and Palestine, he states. The new Tel Aviv exchange will distribute films throughout Palestine, with the shipments sent direct from New York to Haifa. The new Beirut office will distribute for Lebanon and Syria.

Palestine Being Modernized

Some of the smaller settlements in Palestine, he says, are modern and are growing rapidly. A new generation is developing. The country is becoming self-sufficient, with its own manufactures and food production. In Palestine some theatres have titles in side panels or in panels below the screen in Hebrew. Simpha Grinwald has been installed as manager of the Tel Aviv exchange.

Distribution has been resumed in Athens and business is excellent. This business has been handled for many years by the Skouras Film Co. and the arrangement is being continued.

Control of distribution has not been resumed in Italy, Silverstone said, because there has been some delay in abolishing many of the Mussolini laws. He says the new Italian government is friendly and he hopes conditions there will improve shortly.

French distribution is chaotic. Most of the business to date has been done with old films which were just going into release when the Germans invaded the country. Loyal employes buried these and they are now being received as new pictures. Many producers who went into business during the German occupation want to continue. They are making their obstructionist influence felt, he says. Silverstone says he and Spyros P. Skouras conferred with the minister in charge of films in Paris. They hope to see an improvement in the general situation as a result of negotiations.

"American distributors must stick together in all foreign countries," says Silverstone. "If they don't, they will be sunk."

Offices have been reopened in Copenhagen, Denmark and Oslo, Norway. No business is being done in Holland because a government decree took over all businesses.

Planning Score of New California Drive-Ins

LOS ANGELES—California is to have no fewer than 20 new drive-in theatres, as soon as priorities and materials are available. The score or more of open air showcases are to be built and operated by a local company, headed by Seth D. Perkins and Adrian Wilson.

And out of the announcement of their plans comes some clarification of the situation throughout the remainder of the country as concerns drive-ins.

Basic patents on certain patentable features of such theatres are owned by Louis Josserand, who recently won a decision in the U.S. court of customs and patent appeals over eastern interests, which claimed rights to the same patents. During the time that the claims were in litigation, Josserand sold a franchise covering California to Wilson, local architect, who associated himself with Perkins, veteran exhibitor, to form their company.

The company initially planned to sell franchises in California communities for the erection of the drive-in houses, and advertised the availability accordingly. Later, however, Wilson and Perkins decided to build the houses themselves and are no longer interested in selling such rights. They have selected 20 communities for their first operations. Sites have been leased or purchased in five of them. For the time being, they choose not to divulge the communities in which they will launch their operations. Their rights and operations do not extend beyond this state.

Interests Remain Anonymous

In the nationwide picture are the patent-holder, Josserand, and his associate, Ace Emenhiser. The pair have an organization, reportedly backed by important theatre interests which prefer to remain anonymous, which so far has done little more than survey the rest of the country as to possibilities. Whether the Josserand-Emenhiser organization will go into a building program or will franchise territory to theatre men has not been determined.

Probably, it is as a result of their survey and inquiries among showmen throughout the country that many communities have been beset with reports and rumors of prospective drive-in activities. As the matter actually stands, however, California is the only state in which a franchise has been granted and where definite plans are formulated.

Variety Clubs National Meet Set for August

NEW YORK—The tenth national meeting of the Variety Clubs of America will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria August 16-18, with the humanitarian award for the outstanding individual to be presented at a banquet on the 17th.

R. J. O'Donnell and John H. Harris are serving as executive chairmen, and Chick Lewis is assistant executive chairman.

The list of chairmen includes the following: Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Nate J. Blumberg, Steve Broidy, Jack Cohn, Tom J. Connors, George Dembow, Ned E. Depinet, Leon Fromkess, James R. Grainger, W. Ray Johnston, Ben Kalmenson, Carl Leserman, Abe Montague, N. Peter Rathvon, Charles M. Reagan, Herman Robbins, Nicholas M. Schenck, William A. Scully, Gradwell Sears, Spyros Skouras, Harry Thomas and Herbert J. Yates sr.

UA Names C. S. Chaplin Canadian Sales Chief

NEW YORK—United Artists has named Charles S. Chaplin, Montreal branch manager, to the post of Canadian sales manager, succeeding the late A. J. Jeffrey. Chaplin will have complete supervision over UA's six exchanges, located in Calgary, Montreal, St. John, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg, and will make his headquarters at the Toronto office.



CHARLES S. CHAPLIN

George Heiber, branch manager in St. John, succeeds Chaplin as Montreal exchange chief, and is in turn succeeded as St. John branch head by Sam Kutinsky, salesman from the Montreal office.

All of the promotions take effect immediately.

NFMC Booms "Rhapsody"

NEW YORK—The National Film Music Council has sent a letter to several hundred chapters throughout the country urging their participation in promotional activities for "Rhapsody in Blue." This is the first of a series of films which the council intends to recommend for schools, clubs and other organizations. Outlines for study material, bulletin board posters, lists of music and records and other literature will be sent to music groups for discussion and other use, as a tiein for "Rhapsody."

"Bataan" Openings Set

NEW YORK—Arrangements have been made by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity for RKO, to hold a premiere of "Back to Bataan" at the Princess Theatre in Hawaii. This will be simultaneous with the Boston opening on June 25.

There have been no premieres in Hawaii since Pearl Harbor and the brownout is still in effect.

Yep, RKO again!

...now with the greatest simultaneous area opening in all box-office history!...

...more than 100 New England and New York State theatres taking part...

...Entire Yankee Network and additional pow-erful stations blanketing the region for the World Premiere on JUNE 26!...

...All Hearst newspapers in Boston going to town with pages and pages of the greatest promotion ever given a motion picture!...

...Main event to be preceded by gigantic Hearst-sponsored Night of Spectacle at Boston Garden on Sunday, June 24, where 18,000 will attend this Prelude to a Premiere, which is being handled like a circus!...

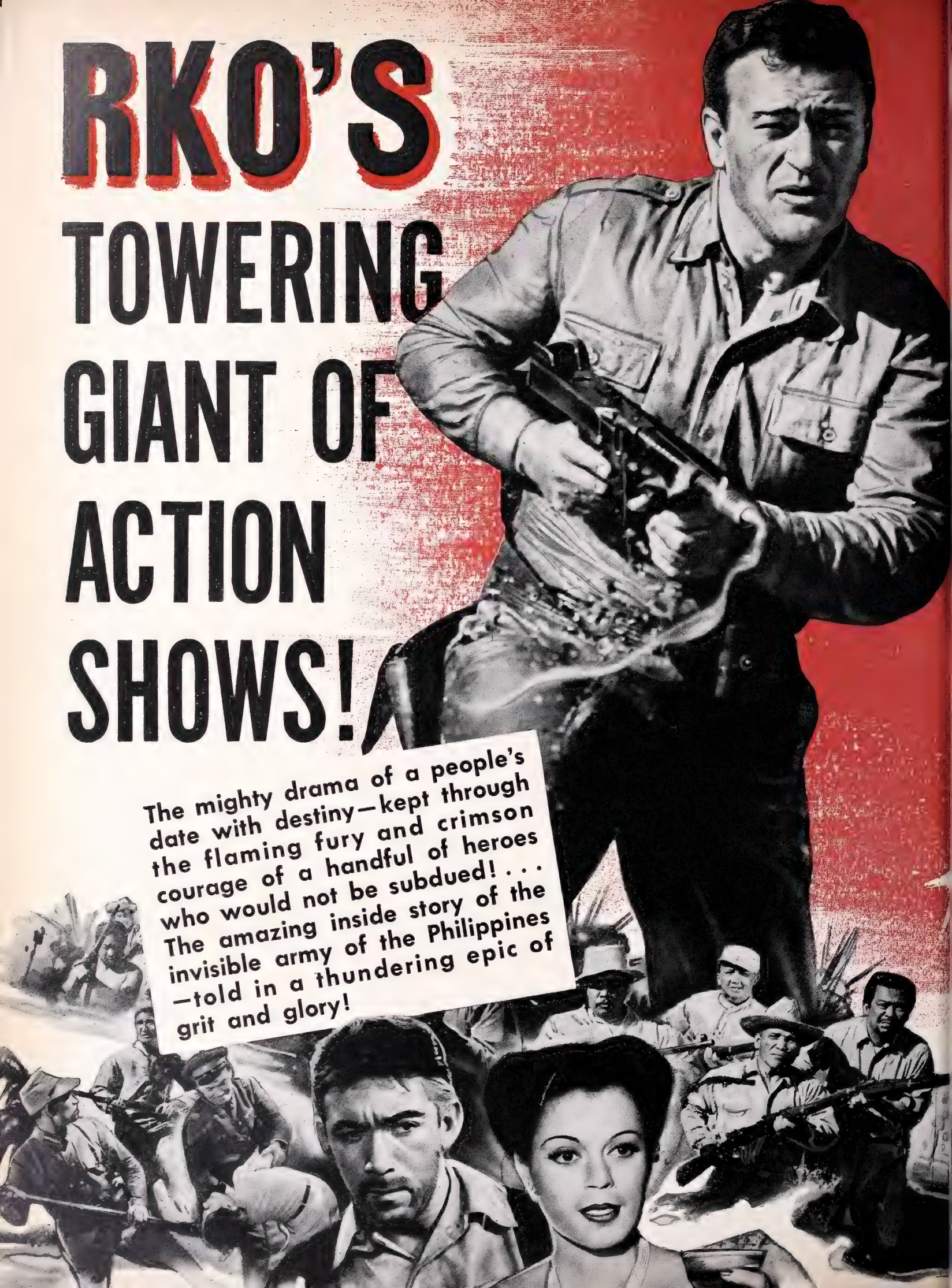
...Dozens of important personages attending dozens of affiliated affairs!...

...Millions being reached by the most far-reaching and intensive exploitation campaign known to showmanship...

New England to be followed by the same sort of treatment in another sweeping area premiere through WLW, "The Nation's Station," Cincinnati...

FOR

RKO'S TOWERING GIANT OF ACTION SHOWS!



The mighty drama of a people's date with destiny—kept through the flaming fury and crimson courage of a handful of heroes who would not be subdued! . . . The amazing inside story of the invisible army of the Philippines —told in a thundering epic of grit and glory!

BACK TO BATAAN

RKO RADIO PICTURES



Starring

JOHN WAYNE • *with* ANTHONY QUINN

BEULAH BONDI • FELY FRANQUELLI • LEONARD STRONG

Executive Producer ROBERT FELLOWS • Directed by EDWARD DMYTRYK

Screen Play by BEN BARZMAN and RICHARD LANDAU

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Release Dates a Problem

SETTING release dates is becoming more and more of a problem for the consent decree companies — M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox and Warners—as well as the nonconsent companies — Columbia, United Artists and Universal. Designating pictures by groups helped and worked satisfactorily so long as footage was available to supply the necessary prints. Now that has run into complications.

There is often no assurance that a backlog picture completed some time back can be delivered on a definite date, except where the prints were made months ago. This happened rarely.

United Artists has to sell pictures individually for two reasons—because it is a long-established policy and because individual producers don't want their pictures combined with those of other producers. Often when the picture and the prints are ready the company finds it cannot secure the expected first runs, because of holdovers of other product. This same problem has been encountered by all companies.

Independent exhibitors and subsequent runs complain bitterly, but distributors point out that they can't afford to sacrifice the first run revenue by turning pictures over to the subsequents.

In New York, Loew's and RKO theatres get the major first run product. Due to the long delay in reaching an agreement between Loew's and Paramount, the Loew houses are now pushing through a series of top Paramount pictures. This will relieve the subsequents' problems here in the fall.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO'S United Nations Conference gave a pretty good idea of the relative drawing power of documentaries and entertainment films. At the documentary showings in a hotel, average attendance was about 50; at the entertainment film showings in a theatre, more than 500 persons were turned away at times. And this audience was supposed to be a selection of the more thoughtful people of the world. They all want relaxation—especially the American film type of relaxation, it seems.

* * *

Facsimile Coming Soon

FACSIMILE by air and by wire has progressed so fast during the war that it may pop into public use almost any time when materials become available, says a writer in the Wall Street Journal. Teletypes are limited to about 60 words per minute. Facsimile is instantaneous. Unlike telephotos it requires no photographic development. The message, diagram, ad layout, or what have you? is fastened onto a roll in the sending machine and reproduced on a similar roll at the receiving end. Railroads and airlines are using it now for various purposes, including weather maps for the planes. It may be included in frequency modulation home receivers. Western Union, Raytheon, RCA, I. T. & T. and Finch Telecommunications are preparing to make the sets which will sell for about $500. No more arguments about who made what mistake. Interesting?

* * *

Diplomacy?

ON PAGE 3 of the New York Times drama section for June 10 was a long story by Thomas M. Pryor in which J. Arthur Rank freely states that he does not think American distributors are using unfair methods to keep British pictures out of the United States market. On page 1 Bosley Crowther intimates quite broadly that 20th-Fox deliberately delayed the editing and printing of "The Way Ahead."

He says this "promotes the vague suspicion (a *vague* suspicion, did we say?) that British films are susceptible to the old-time run-around."

All this is probably in the interest of good international relations.

* * *

If You Eat, You Pay

EATING in Paris is full of surprises—mostly unpleasant, says Murray Silverstone. For breakfast at the Ritz he received two pieces of bread, a cup of black coffee, and a blank look from the waiter when he said something about sugar and cream.

At a restaurant the check for a meager dinner for six was on a small piece of paper. It totaled over 6,000 francs—$120 in American money.

Ten per cent tips at this rate ought to permit the waiters to retire and buy farms after six months.

Cocktails run at about $2 in American money. U.S. soldiers are very sober.



PARA INT'L CHIEFTAIN—Geo. Weltner, veteran executive in the Paramount foreign department, has been named president of Paramount International Films, Inc., as successor to late John W. Hicks jr. He joined Paramount in 1922.



OVER-THE-BRIDGE LOYALTY—Those Brooklynites get homesick. Cpl. Isadore W. Sparer, attached to a medics detachment of the 608th Military Police Battalion, "somewhere in the Philippines," decided to name their theatre after their favorite neighborhood house. Other Brooklyn boys are in the unit, including the commanding officer.

Crystal Heads New Para Foreign Theatre Dept.

NEW YORK—Paramount International has organized a theatre department, headed by Clement S. Crystal, veteran New York builder, general contractor and realty operator, recently discharged from the army wherein he served as a lieutenant in the engineers' corps for more than three years. During his military service Crystal specialized in the construction of camps and airfields in numerous areas and the laying of pipe lines in the CBI theatre of war.

Under Crystal, the new department will acquire theatre properties, construct houses and handle all phases of the company's worldwide theatre operations including construction, remodeling and actual theatre operation. Headquarters for the theatre department will be in the Paramount International home office, now being remodeled to provide for the company's planned postwar expasion.

Prior to his army service, Crystal had built, converted and rehabilitated a number of theatres in the east. Among them are the Translux and the Criterion, both on Broadway.

World Tele to Be Factor In Keeping Future Peace

NEW YORK—Television on an international basis will be a leading factor in maintaining the peace, was the prediction made by Herbert E. Taylor jr., director of transmitter sales for Allen B. Dumont Laboratories, Inc., to members of the Clifton, N. J., Kiwanis Club. Video, through its visual power, becomes the universal language of the eye, overcoming the barriers of speech, dialect and misunderstanding. It promotes knowledge of and sympathy with the convictions and modes of living of our international neighbors, he continued.



ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE — M. R. "Duke" Clark, left, Dallas district manager for Paramount, and Allen Usher, right, Chicago district manager, captains in Paramount's One-Third of a Century drive, call on Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Roxy Sells 1,395 E Bonds In One Day for $96,425

NEW YORK—The Roxy Theatre accounted for a particularly large sale of bonds in one day recently. Dave Katz, house manager, and William Moclair and Nathan Dinnes, also of the managerial staff, supervised bond sales at three different parts of the city.

At the theatre itself, Katz reported a total of 374 E bonds, with a maturity value of $31,625. Aboard the captured Nazi U-505 at Pier A, Moclair sold 591 E bonds with a maturity value of $28,175. At the Statue of Liberty replica in Times Square, where Dinnes managed the sales, 430 bonds with a maturity value of $36,625 were sold.

Bond Rally in Washington Arranged by WAC, WFD

WASHINGTON—The area surrounding the Washington Monument will be the scene of a huge bond rally on July 4. Preparations are being made for an attendance of 300,000. Admission will be by purchase of war bonds.

The event will be a combined operation of the national and district War Finance Division and the district War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry.

Participation in the show will be by invitation of Secretary Morgenthau and Ted R. Gamble. George Murphy, president of the Screen Actors Guild, has been appointed Hollywood chairman of the rally. Murphy will work with the Hollywood Victory Committee and with Turner Shelton and Tom Baily.

J. Edward Shugrue Returns After Journey to France

NEW YORK—J. Edward Shugrue, director of the motion picture special events section of the War Finance Division, under Ted R. Gamble, national chairman, U.S. treasury department, has just returned to Washington after a two-week trip to Paris at the request of the French government. France is now in the process of formulating an expansive postwar reconstruction bond program and was desirous of learning at first hand the contribution of the motion picture industry to the success of the war bond program in the United States, Gamble revealed.

It is interesting to note of the first two treasury representatives to make the trip to Paris, one of them was a representative of the film industry.

Bond Shows Hitting New Highs, Says Pinanski

New York—Bond shows have hit a new high, says Samuel Pinanski, national industry chairman.

A total of 10,807 free bond shows has been held, compared with 7,571 in the Sixth War Loan. Bond premieres have reached 5,052, against 4,284 in the Sixth. Children's matinees total 1,868, against 879 in the Sixth.

Republic Gets Started On Expansion Program

HOLLYWOOD—Ground has been broken for a new generator power plant which is a part of Republic Studios' $2,000,000 expansion plan now under way in connection with its tenth anniversary observance. The new music stage building, constructed at a reported cost of $600,000, is the first building to be completed in the expansion program.

According to Allen Wilson, vice-president, who disclosed specific details of the building program, it further will include three sound stages completely equipped.

Blueprints have been approved also for a three-story executive administration building; a new portrait gallery; a casting department building; individual housing for the makeup and wardrobe departments; a separate publicity building; new commissary; permanent dressing rooms for stars and a series of bungalow-offices for producers and directors.

Plan also provides for enlargement of the miniature and trick shot departments and construction of three additional projection rooms.

"We Accuse" Held Over

NEW YORK—"We Accuse," documentary film showing trial of Nazi war criminals at Kharkov, has been held over for a second week at the Little Carnegie.

WE Declares New Dividend

NEW YORK—The directors of Western Electric have declared a dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock, payable June 29 to stockholders of record June 22.



IT SPARKLES—By an ingenious use of standout letters illuminated around the edges with tiny square mirrors, RKO developed a sign over the Astor Theatre that makes some of the surrounding advertising look dim.

Plan Para Films in Every U.S. Theatre Sept. 2-9

NEW YORK—September 2-9 has been declared Paramount week. Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, hopes to see the Paramount trademark on every U.S. screen to celebrate the company's Third of a Century Anniversary.

District Managers M. R. Clark and Allen Usher have been named captains of the drive and are making a tour of the country. They will continue to meet with sales and booking personnel to explain the general purposes of the celebration.

Reagan to Paramount Board

NEW YORK—Paramount directors elected Charles M. Reagan a member of the board to succeed John Hicks jr., deceased. A veteran of 25 years' experience in the industry, Reagan has served as vice-president in charge of Paramount sales and distribution for the past year.



IT SAYS "BUY A BOND"—And they do. Chinese patrons at the RKO Palace found a pretty Chinese girl selling bonds and put their cash on the line in a hurry during the opening week of "China Sky."

Republic Continuara Operando en Mexico

Por DON PEPE

MEXICO, D. F.—El señor Herbert J. Yates, alto funcionario de Republic Pictures Corp., llegó a esta ciudad con objeto de estudiar las posibilidades de que su compañia opere en Mexico. Se recuerda que Republic Pictures Corp., trabajó entusiastamente para llevar a la pantalla "La Canción de México" filmada por FitzPatrick y llevada a la escena en los dos idiomas. Hay enorme interés en ver esta pelicula, tanto por la fama de FitzPatrick, creador de las Peliculas Viajeras, como por ser la primera que realiza en largo metraje.

Durante la visita que el señor Yates hizo a Mexico, tuvo una entrevista con el ex Secretario de Gobernación, Lic Miguel Aleman, a la que concurrieron varios de los exhibidores de peliculas y el señor Emilio Azcarraga, propietario de las famosas estaciones de radio XEW y XEWW y ademas propietario de una cadenas de teatros, en los que se encuentra el Cine Alameda, uno de los mejores de Mexico.

Republic Hará Peliculas en Mexico

Al regresar el señor Yates a Hollywood anunció que su compañia hará cuando menos seis peliculas en español durante el año próximo, debiendose filmar ésta en esta ciudad. El señor Yates tiene tambien en proyecto de visitar varios paises sub-americanos en un futuro proximo con objeto de darse cuenta de las necesidades de la industria cinematografica en aquellos paises. Tambien ha hecho planes con el señor James R. Grainger alto funcionario de Republic Pictures Corp. para establecer sucursales aqui y que los gerentes de División de esa compañia vengan a Mexico con alguna frecuencia.

La nota sensacional de la semana fué la noticia de que, el famoso cómico de la gabardina ha roto el contrato que tenía con RKO, para filmar una película hablada en ingles, en los estudios de Hollywood.

"Cantinflas," segun se sabe, presentó a la consideración de RKO el argumento de "El Vagabundo Pródigo" que había sido escrito especialmente para él, pero los adaptadores de la RKO lo adulteraron en tal forma que el célebre actor se negó a filmarlo. El cómico dice queno quiere hacer "españoladas" en peliculas extrangeras que disgustarian a su gente y rompió el contrato. "Cantinflas" y su represontante Reachi, sin embargo estuvieron muy felices eñ Hollywood. "Cantinflas" no quiere decir si fué invitado a las Conferencias de San Francisco. Claro que no!

Esta maravillosa pelicula que dió fama mundial a Jennifer Jones, ha sido doblada en español, habiendose hecho todo el trabajo de doblaje en esta ciudad bajo la dirección de Gerardo Pozas y con voces originales de artistas mexicanos. "La Canción de la Bernardeta," es la primera pelicula que se dobla aqui en los Estudios de Fono-Mex, de reciente cración y por cuenta de 20th Century-Fox.

Nueva Compañia Productora de Peliculas

Ahora se trata de saber, si las peliculas americanas dobladas en Mexico, tiene mejor aceptación que las que se doblaron en los Estados Unidos.

Producciones Inter-Americanas S. A. es una nueva compañia productora de peliculas en la cual se ha invertido capital mexicano y tiene acciones de la 20th Century-Fox. Esta compañia comenzó a rodar su primera pelicula "Cantaclaro" que es una adaptación de la novela del mismo nombre, escrita por Rómulo Gallegos.

Con "Cantaclaro" son cinco las novelas que Gallegos ha llevado a la pantalla. Su primer triunfo fué "Doña Barbara." Esta primera pelicula de Inter-Americanas S. A. será dirigida por Julio Bracho bien conocido director cinematografico y como intérpretes estelares, la encantadora Esther Fernandez y Antonio Badu.



ADIOS, MANHATTAN!—Lionel Stander poses with his wife on the terrace of their penthouse just before leaving for Hollywood to join the cast of Sam Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

El simpatico Frank Fouce, quien pronto recibirá sus "Alas" (esto es debido a sus constante viajes en avion de Los Angeles a Mexico y viciversa) está proyectando introducir las peliculas mexicanas en las Islas Filipinas. Como conocemos bien a Frank, estamos seguros que logrará sus própositos.

Tal es el titulo de la pelicula que pronto veremos en las salas de espectaculos. Esta será la primera vez que dos de los mas famosos artistas mexicanos se diputaran los honores del éxito: Dolores del Rio y Arturo de Cordoba. Ampliamente conocidos en el mundo cinematografico.

William Howland quien acaba de hacer dos magnificas peliculas, "Perfidia" y "Odio" se encuentra nuevamente entre nosotros. Dice que vino para hacer arreglos para la filmación de peliculas en los dos idiomas.

BOXOFFICE Con Una Nueva Seccion

BOXOFFICE presenta en este número una columna de noticias en dos idiomas, Inglés y Español, lo que indudablemente agradará a nuestros lectores o por lo menos demostrará que BOXOFFICE esta siempre dispuesto a mejor su servicio informativo. Nos agradaría cualquier comentario sobre esta sección en Español.

Mario Moreno "Cantinflas" ha sido invitado para ir a España, como actor y como torero. En caso de ir, seguramente que hará peliculas allá en la tierra de Cervantes.

Hace poco se publicó la noticia de que la bella rubia Lina Montes, habiá sido herida en una tragedia, afortunadamente para sus amigos y admiradores, todo resultó falso. Lina sigue tan encantadora como siempre y filmando.

Y hasta la próxima en BOXOFFICE.

Saludos, Amigos! Howdy, Friends!

BOXOFFICE in this issue inaugurates a newsletter of cinema doings in Mexico, written in Spanish by its Mexico City correspondent, Don Pepe (Sr. J. J. Jimenez), as a further service to its friends below the border. In the column to the right appears an English translation.

This is an experiment which this publication not only hopes to continue, but to amplify, through arrangements now in progress, to include Spanish-language coverage of industry happenings in a number of Central and South American countries as well as Mexico.

Republic to Continue Production in Mexico

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—Important visitor of the week—Herbert J. Yates, Republic Pictures head, studying possibilities of continuing production by his company here. It will be remembered Republic's last venture in this field was untiring Traveloger FitzPatrick's "The Song of Mexico," which he made for Republic in the two languages. There is great interest in this picture, FitzPatrick's first full-length production.

During his Mexico City visit, Yates talked with former minister of the Interior, Miguel Aleman, and with a group of Mexican exhibitors. Prominent in the group was Emilio Azcarraga who owns Mexico's two most powerful radio stations and a chain of theatres. Since returning to Hollywood, Yates has announced that his company will produce at least six Spanish-language pictures within the coming year and do the filming here. Also that he will visit every South American country in the near future to study film needs. With James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, the distribution branch, he is working out plans for rotating visits of division and district managers to Mexico.

RKO-Cantinflas Deal Is Off

Note of the week—as usual, it has to do with Cantinflas's doings. Preparations were all ready to start his picture in English, "The Magnificent Tramp," which was to have been produced in Hollywood by RKO. However, it seems that differences arose over the interpretation of life in Mexico. Cantinflas's story was not acceptable to RKO and RKO's own script, presented by writers and adapters in Hollywood, was not acceptable to Cantinflas. So Cantinflas and his partner and manager, Reachi, had another pleasant visit to Hollywood. (Cantinflas did not wish to disclose whether he had been invited to attend the San Francisco conference).

The wonderful picture, "The Song of Bernadette," has been dubbed into Spanish. This time all work was done in Mexico, supervised by a Mexican, our competent friend, Gerardo Pozas, with original Mexican voices. This is the first picture dubbed here into Spanish by the newly-formed company, Fono-Mex, for 20th-Fox account. Dubbing is now being given another chance and expectation is keen to see if the public accepts this kind of work. This form of dubbing has had better luck so far than the dubbing done in United States.

A new producing company, Producciones Inter-Americanas, S. A., a corporation, the shares of which were subscribed by Mexican capitalists and 20th-Fox, has started work on its first production, "Cantaclaro," from another of the famed author Romulo Gallegos' novels. By the way, this will be his fifth novel presented on the Mexican screen—his first success being "Dona Barbara." Directing will be by popular Julio Bracho, who has had several hits lately; the feminine star will be beautiful Esther Fernandez, the costar Antonio Badu.

Mexican Pictures for the Philippines

Well-liked Frank Fouce, who will shortly get his "wings" (he flies so often between Los Angeles and Mexico) now is planning to introduce Mexican pictures in the Philippine Islands. He'll do it, too, for we know Frank.

"La Selva de Fuego" is the title of the picture where he will see teamed for the first time our leading stars, Dolores del Rio and Arturo de Cordova.

Another old-timer, William Rowland, who has already made two good pictures in Mexico, "Perfidia" and "Odio," is again in town, with elaborate plans to produce in both languages.

And "Hasta Luego!"

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Labor Market Eases in Spots; Shift Nine Areas to Group 2

Nine labor areas long classified as suffering from acute labor shortages have been shifted to Group 2, described by WMC as "areas in which labor shortages exist that may endanger essential production or areas that are approaching a balanced demand-supply situation." The nine areas thus shifted are Fort Wayne, Ind.; Lima, Ohio; Los Angeles; Morristown, N. J.; Philadelphia; Pontiac, Mich.; Santa Ana, Calif.; South Bend, Ind.; Waterbury, Conn.

It is well to realize that these shifts in groupings, under WMC rulings, indicate that cutbacks, contract runouts and cancellations are responsible in the main for the added labor supply. It also means in many areas, that workers are out of work—a factor that may, in the long run, have a definite effect upon boxoffice grosses unless reconversion takes on a more positive approach to the problem of re-employment of men and women thrown out of work because of war contract cancellations.

For example, 5,000 workers are being released in Fort Worth, Texas, as the result of an aircraft plant cutback; hundreds of other workers are being released in Grand Island, Neb., where a decline in ordnance production occurred; in Kenosha, Wis., where layoffs in an aircraft engine plant took place. These labor market areas now are in Group 3, succinctly described as "areas in which labor supply substantially balances demand for essential production or where a moderate labor surplus currently exists or is anticipated." A "labor surplus" indicates that a number of workers aren't being kept occupied or earnings the wages necessary to provide for amusements as well as for the essentials of living.

Group 4, designated as areas in which a substantial labor surplus exists or is expected to develop, now takes in the following localities:

Lawrence, Mass.; Portland, Me.; New York City (metropolitan region); Altoona, Pa.; Johnstown, Pa.; Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Charleston, W. Va.; Clarksburg, W. Va.; Fairmont, W. Va.; Morgantown, W. Va.; Cumberland, Md.; Huntington, W. Va.; Lexington, Ky.; Steubenville, Ohio; Evansville, Ind., and Quincy, Ill.

Interested observers here insist that unless local measures are taken to assure full employment in most of the Group 4 areas, lessened earning power will have a definite and negative effect upon most businesses, especially upon motion picture theatres and other amusements.

Film "Burning" Criticism Unfair to War Department

The war department is particularly "burned up" over the film burning stories which have been appearing recently in various columns and publications. At first glance, the disposal of 225 tons of negative film seems to warrant strong criticism. But when you consider that motion picture distributors regularly dispose of unserviceable prints, the department's action does not seem so heinous. Too, as reported in BOXOFFICE, the war department is maintaining a complete file of original negatives and duping negatives of the obsolete and unserviceable prints burned—which fact should put the quietus on those who have screamed "waste" at the army pictorial services and its officials.

This column is concerned with the facts, which seem to indicate that the war department hasn't deprived the exhibitor of films he'd like to use, unless, of course, he's anxious to show his customers, for instance, how to put together and take apart a 115mm gun. As for educational advisors who shouted "arson" because of this film burning, I'd like to see the college or high school pupil who'd learn anything practicable about how to manipulate a tank that the army has declared obsolete.

Film Companies Face Legal Problems in Freed Europe

Recent formation of the Motion Picture Export Ass'n, which first was reported in this column and which is designed to function in foreign countries under the terms of the Webb-Pomerene act on behalf of the film industry, focuses the spotlight upon the financial possibilities of Europe as a source of income to American producers and distributors. A recent report by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce should be of decided interest, inasmuch as it indicates that the Allied governments will concentrate upon furnishing needed fuel and food to the stricken areas before permitting shipping space and limited dock facilities to be used for commercial activities of any sort.

Dr. Emilio von Hofmannsthal, one of the world's leading authorities on international jurisprudence, recently told this reporter that one of the major difficulties faced by the film industry (and for that matter, all American industry) would be the re-establishment of legal claims to properties stolen by the Nazis and their Quisling cohorts during the Hitler robber rule. The newly-formed export association will find, as one of its major problems, the need to call in expert legal assistance to find the answers to the question of conflicting claims to properties sequestered by the Nazis.

When you realize that the Nazis made it a point of "honor" with them to observe so-called "legal" formalities in expropriating property from individuals who stood in their way, it then becomes easy to understand why Dr. von Hofmannsthal insists that American industry, and especially the film industry, faces grave difficulties in re-establishing its claims to properties stolen, whether "legally" or not, by the Nazis and their supporters.

It also is true that the alien property custodian is holding back sums received for the sale of properties formerly owned by aliens. These monies are to be held in escrow pending an accounting by the defeated enemy governments of American properties expropriated by them. If no such accounting is available, the sums held by the alien property custodian then will be apportioned to American businesses, where claims are made, or will revert to the United States treasury. Just how American film companies, for example, will share in these monies remains to be seen. At this moment, it looks like another legal headache all around.

The U.S. CofC report indicates that the Allied governments will do everything in their power to restore the conquered countries to some sort of economic balance. First efforts to achieve this aim will be to re-establish factories for the manufacture of necessities, such as clothing, and to restore agriculture. Meantime, tight shipping makes it necessary for this country, as the greatest source of supply to the starving countries of Europe, to reserve all possible cargo space for needed foodstuffs and clothing, machinery and tools, power, railway and electrical equipment and rolling stocks.

Even though films take up little space, there is scant likelihood that European raw stock manufacturers will be in a position, for some time to come, to turn out the necessary motion picture raw film needed to make enough prints to keep all European cinemas going. Too, it's important to realize that first construction needs in Europe go to housing and not to the building of motion picture theatres.

Building Material Supply Roundup Seems Gloomy

Theatre operators who anticipate heavy construction may find it necessary to practice patience for some time to come, if a WPB survey of available building materials supply is to be accepted at face value. The WPB in submitting this survey forecast probable progressive movement in future months but cast clouds upon any hopes for immediate building by stating: "It will take time, even after the extent of military cutbacks is known, to re-establish production, replace lost manpower and fill the pipelines." The survey, briefed down to cover those materials most needed for theatre construction, reveals:

Steel — supply situation improving for shapes and plates, but not for other steel products;

Cast-iron soil pipe—in extremely short supply, with little stock available;

Cast-ron pressure pipe—in somewhat better position than soil pipe, though orders are heavy and increasing. No improvement in sight;

Portland cement—ample supply;

Concrete pipe—readily available from stock or new products;

Concrete masonry products—in general in adequate supply, with some local shortages;

Structural insulation board—in fair supply, though subject to delay in deliveries. However, the supply situation is becoming tighter, due to export demands;

Hardwood—in tight supply, with no improvement in sight;

Laminated fibre board—in fair supply, though subject to delay in deliveries;

Gypsum board—while shipments have increased, unfilled orders are increasing more rapidly and delay in deliveries is increasing;

Asphalt roofing—production is increasing and is keeping pace with demands, but deliveries are slow. Large maintenance and repair demands are likely;

Common and face brick—though production in general is sufficient for current requirements on a national basis, there are serious local shortages;

Structural clay tile—nationally, production and shipments are approximately in balance, but reserves are low in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and Oregon.

I've Heard:

That private industry may be considerably disappointed in plans to buy in on surplus property what with government agencies, veterans and others getting first priorities on such available business needs;

That war expenditures are hitting a new high, despite a one-front war, and Secretary Morgenthau urges bigger and better bond purchases;

That transportation problems are becoming more acute and it's going to be tough for everyone who has to take to the road on business or otherwise.

Ceiling Unlimited... Target Beautiful!

—in RKO's stimulating new romantic hit! . . . as a furloughed pilot on the prowl meets up with a charmer wise in the way of the wolf! . . . It's romance! . . . It's fun . . . It's sure-fire for high grosses everywhere!



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BILL WILLIAMS



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Produced by BERT GRANET *Directed by* LEWIS ALLEN Screen Play by Jerome Chodorov

RKO RADIO PICTURES

REPUBLIC ANNIVERSARY LINEUP: 62 FEATURES AND FOUR SERIALS

$20,000,000 Will Be Spent By Company on Pictures For "Birthday" Year

HOLLYWOOD — Republic's product lineup for the 1945-46 season, as set by Herbert J. Yates sr., the company's president and founder, will include 62 features and four serials. Yates released this information to BOXOFFICE to be announced in connection with observation of the organization's tenth anniversary celebration which is being launched this month. Previously the Republic chieftain had revealed that $20,000,000 had been appropriated for the 1945-46 program and that an additional $2,000,000 was to be spent on studio expansion.

The record number of pictures comprising the schedule for the forthcoming season follows, as to subject matter, the policy the company has pursued for the past few years. Westerns will be liberally represented, as will musicals, and there will be a wide assortment of dramas and comedies.



TENTH BIRTHDAY—Lynne Roberts, Republic star, cuts Republic's tenth anniversary cake while Herbert J. Yates sr., founder of the company; Alfred Santell, producer-director; J. E. Baker, in charge of the production department, and Allen Wilson, studio vice-president, look on.

Two Specials Top the List

Topping the list are to be two special productions which will be produced and directed by Frank Borzage, recently contracted by the Valley lot. They are to be "Concerto," a musical, based upon the compositions of Rachmaninoff and Debussy, and "That Man Malone." Both were written by Borden Chase.

The studio's "De Luxe Ten" come next and include "Hit Parade," to be produced by Harry Grey; "A Fabulous Texan," to star Wild Bill Elliott, William O'Sullivan, associate producer; "Rio de Janeiro," a Tito Guizar starrer, Harry Grey, associate producer; "That Man of Mine," with Michael O'Shea toplined, Ann Dvorak tentatively the femme star, Armand Schaefer, associate producer; "Dakota," to star John Wayne under the production and direction of Joseph Kane; "Murder in the Music Hall," to star Vera Hruba Ralston, with Herman Millakowsky as associate producer; "In Old Sacramento," again combining John Wayne and Joseph Kane as star-producer and director team; "Calendar Girl" and "Earl Carroll's Sketchbook," both assigned to Associate Producer Harry Grey, but neither cast; "Plainsman and the Lady," to star John Wayne and Ann Dvorak. There is a possibility that this list of ten deluxers will be augmented by another Vera Hruba Ralston starrer, "Uninvited Guest," originally planned for the current season. It's now in production and may not be finished in time for this season's release.

"Premiere Eight" Star Rogers

Known as the "Premiere Eight," will be an octet of Roy Rogers starrers whose titles will be "Shine On Texas Moon," "Grand Canyon Serenade," "Rose of Juarez," "Song of the Golden West," "Heart of Old Mexico," "California Fiesta," "Trail Winds," and "Beyond the Great Divide."

Then come the "Victory Eight," including "An Angel Comes to Brooklyn," Leonard Sillman, associate producer, directed by Les Goodwin, and casting Charles Kemper, Kae Dowd and C. Montague Shaw; "Scotland Yard Investigator," with Aubrey Smith, Eric Von Stroheim and Stephanie Bachelor, George Blair as producer-director; "Affairs of Geraldine," associate producer, Don Brown, director, John English; "Don't Fence Me In," with Monte Hale, Sons of the Pioneers, and George "Gabby" Hayes, also to be directed by John English; "The Ghost Goes Wild," with no cast or credits set as yet; "Lighting Strikes Twice," Rudolph Abel, associate producer; "One Exciting Week," associate producer, Don Brown.

"Anniversary Eight" Named

Included in the "Anniversary Eight" are "Captain Tugboat Annie," a James Burkett production, directed by Phil Rosen, and to star Jane Darwell, with Edgar Kennedy featured; "Girls of the Big House," a Lynn Roberts starrer, with George Archainbaud as director and Rudolph Abel associate producer; "Down Tahiti Way," associate producer, E. Jocelyn White; "A Guy Could Change," Bill Howard, producer and director; "The Gentleman From Missouri" and "Night Train to Memphis," both to be produced by the McGowan brothers; "The Inner Circle," Walter Goetz, associate producer; "The Last Crooked Mile," starring Don Barry, associate producer, E. Jocelyn White.

The "Jubilee Eight" lists "A Song of Mexico," with Adele Mara, produced and directed by James FitzPatrick, and filmed in Mexico; "The Twisted Circle," E. Jocelyn White, associate producer; "Passkey to Danger," with Marek Libkov, associate producer; "The Invisible Informer," again produced by E. Jocelyn White; "Traffic in Crime," "Mysterious Mr. Valentine," "The Undercover Woman," and "Crime of the Century," all to be produced by Walter Goetz.

Known as the "Red Ryder Eight" are that number of pictures to star Wild Bill Elliott and titled "California Gold Rush," "Texas Manhunt," "Conquest of Cheyenne," "Sheriff of Redwood Valley," "Sun Valley Cyclone," "Wagon Wheels Westward," "Marshal of Laredo," "Colorado Pioneers."

Sunset Carson, another of Republic's western stars, will head the casts of an octet known as the "Superior Eight," including "Bandit of the Badlands," "Rough Riders of Cheyenne," "The Cherokee Flash," "Alias Billy the Kid," "Red River Renegades," "Days of Buffalo Bill," "The El Paso Kid," and Rio Grande Raiders."

There will be two horror pictures, "The Catman of Paris" and "Valley of the Zombies," neither as yet cast nor assigned.

The season's four serials will be released as "Daughter of Don Q," "The Phantom Rider," "King of the Forest Rangers" and "The Scarlet Shadow."

Stars under contract to the studio this year include Constance Moore, John Wayne, Ann Dvorak, Roy Rogers, Tito Guizar, Vera Hruba Ralston, Joseph Schildkraut, Wild Bill Elliott, Victor McLaglen, Edward Ashley, Virginia Bruce, Michael O'Shea, Ona Munson, Al Pearce, Eugene Pallette, Jane Withers, Walter Catlett, Stuart Hamblen, Don Barry, Stephanie Bachelor, George "Gabby" Hayes, James Lydon, Roy Acuff, Bobby Blake and others.

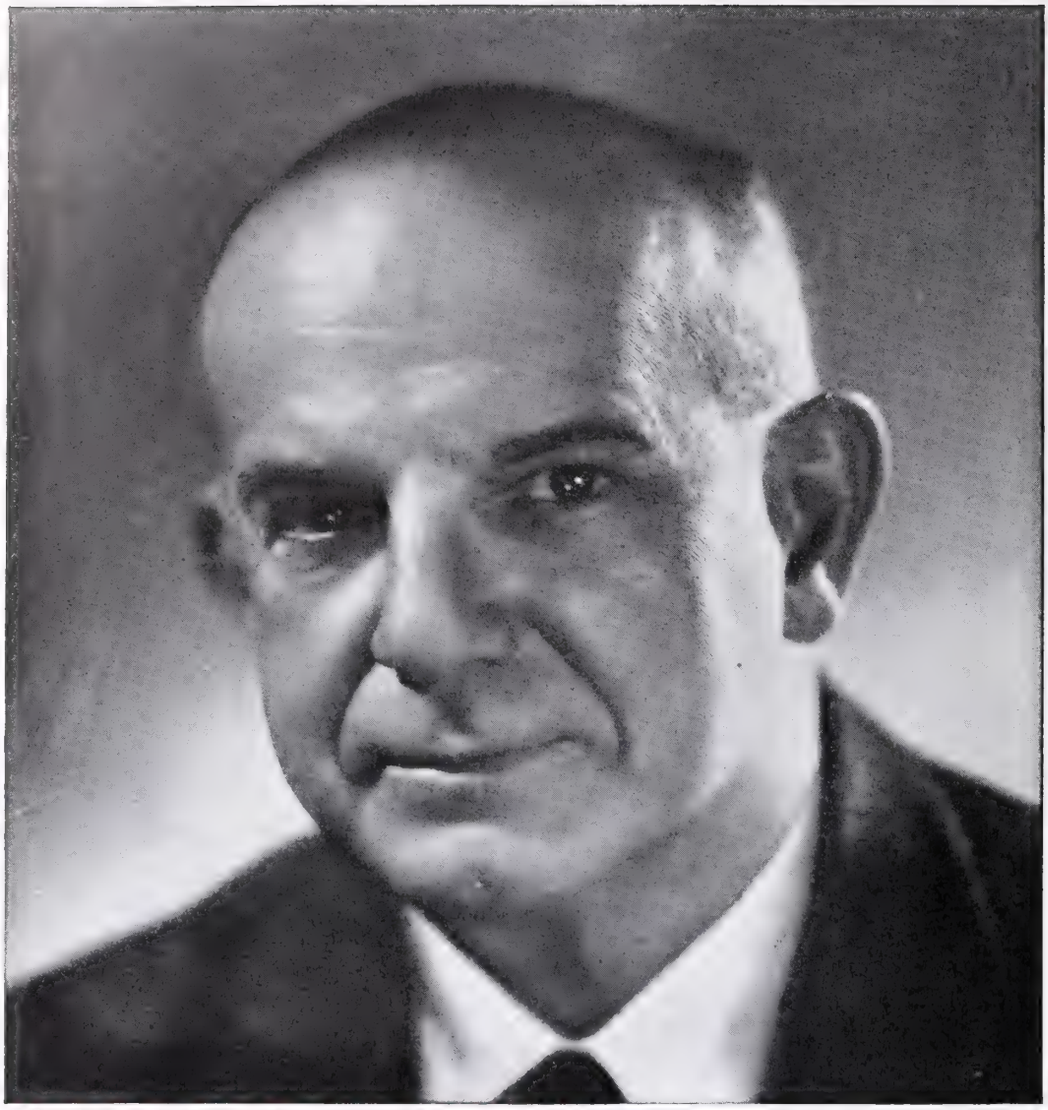
Republic Plans to Make Spanish-Language Films

HOLLYWOOD—Republic will produce at least six Spanish-Language pictures in Mexico City, Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic Pictures, said on his return from a three-day trip below the border. He complimented Mexican producers on their progress in film production, and added that he intends to visit every South American country in an effort to learn the film preferences of the southern republics.

Yates declared that a better understanding between Americans and below-the-border producers can be brought about by fraternization.


10 YEARS OF PROGRESS

A BUSINESS



HERBERT J. YATES

ONLY big-time motion picture producer I know who wears black shoes and keeps 'em polished is Herbert J. Yates. His coat matches his trousers and he wears a dark necktie and what I'm trying to get across is the idea that he's a businessman, making a business of the movies.

Not a bad idea, either, as you shall see:

I thought at first about starting this piece with something about Consolidated Film Industries, largest film laboratory enterprise in the world. I also pondered an introductory paragraph about Republic Studios in Hollywood, where efficiency and flower-beds flourish side-by-side and an owl holds a permanent lease on stage three.

But the best place to begin is at the beginning, when Fatty Arbuckle wanted $80,000 to finance a series of eight two-reelers. He went to Yates, a young man who had demonstrated his flair for business by rising rapidly to the top in the tobacco manufacturing business, but who had yet to reveal the instincts of a gambler. Now he revealed 'em. Arbuckle got his $80,000 on a handshake; Yates got it back with release of the first two-reeler. Boy!

That started the saga of Yates in pictures. He organized Republic Laboratories, which eventually became Consolidated, for the processing of Hollywood's film. He invested in many a major studio, financed many an independent producer.



Consolidated Film Industries, Inc.
Fort Lee, New Jersey



Consolidated Molded Products Corp.
Scranton, Pennsylvania



Consolidated Film Industries, Inc.
Hollywood, California

MAN MAKES MOVIES

by Frederick C. Othman

United Press Correspondent
Hollywood — Washington, D. C.

He owned the American Record Co., and he bought Columbia and Brunswick, only to sell the whole works just before the boom in phonographs. The one thing he kept was a contract with a crooner of cowboy songs, about whom more later.

Wall Streeters called the sale of the record companies, Yates' Folly. Maybe. I'll report here simply that the factory where he once pressed records in Scranton, Pa., now is his Consolidated Molded Products Co., employing more than 1,000 workers and known as one of the 10 largest plastics concerns in America.

Back in Hollywood in 1935 half a dozen independent producers were fighting among themselves, cutting each other's throats—with Yates' money! He'd financed them all and every time one of them beat another to the dotted line, Yates lost.

He fixed that, characteristically, by organizing a production company, Republic Pictures Corp., named after his first laboratory. There he installed his battling movie makers. Now they could fight for him, instead of against him. Only tangible assets of the new company were some western and serial scripts heavy with dust and a lease on a few old sound stages, with use of Mack Sennett's celebrated outdoor bathtub thrown in.

The depression wasn't even beginning to ease, the old-line movie producers were having their troubles, and they agreed to a man that Yates was nuts.

Western pictures at the time were dead; not even the 10-year-olds would go to see them. Serials had gone out years before with the "Perils of Pauline." The stages were undersized and the bathtub, where Sennett once had lolled while supervising the tossing of custard pies, was a definite liability. Somebody might fall in.

Yates had it filled with rich soil and planted calla lilies on top. Then he began cogitating the literature in the script library. It was his idea—his competitors now say it was his inspiration—to salvage those western scenarios by turning them into adult entertainment.

He'd have none of this manufacturing of cliff hangers for the juvenile trade. Yates figured he'd get the mothers in, and the fathers, too, by adding romance and song to the standard action script. All he needed was a cowboy singer and hey! He already had one; that tall young fellow from the record company; name of Autry, Gene. You know what that idea did for Republic; for that matter, what it did for good ole' Gene.

Yates looked over his serial scripts, which put the hero in jeopardy at 14 different chapter endings and gave him the gal in the 15th. They were a total loss, but you think he junked his serial production organization? Not by 14 fates-worse-than-death he didn't.

He injected comic strip characters into his chapter plays, first with Dick Tracy and then with the Lone Ranger, and thereby made of serials greater money-makers than even in the hey-day of Pearl White.

Yates then did something the rest of the industry never had considered. He discovered sectionalism as an asset and soon was turning out movies featuring such rustic radio heroes as Roy Acuff, Lulubelle and Scotty, "Pappy" Cheshire and the Duke of Paducah. Advertising wouldn't have done these pictures any good on Broadway; in the small towns, where they paid their profits, they didn't need advertising.

The founder of Republic evolved a 10-year plan for his studios, drew up his blueprints for each year and proceeded accordingly with his goal—the making of his company one of the largest in the business at the end of the decade. The war retarded him slightly, but the year 1945 has not yet ended and the Mabel Normand sound stage (perhaps the largest and certainly the most efficient in Hollywood) is booked solidly. So is another vast new stage. The newest structure on the lot that was once a cabbage patch is the largest and best equipped music auditorium in the world for scoring and dubbing pictures. Its design includes the most modern developments in architectural acoustics, and its RCA Sound equipment is the last word in the field of sound recording. The entire studio has been so improved that even if his bathtub still were there, Sennett wouldn't recognize it. Yates' most recent moves include the addition of Frank Borzage and Alfred Santell to his production staffs. You know those names and with negotiations now under way for equally important producers, directors, and players, the goal is not far off.

Yates never has believed in genius. He says the only difference between one of these rarities and the average man simply is that the average man needs a break. He has built his organization upon this theory, most of his top executives today once were the average men working hard in one or another of his industries.

He spends much of his time investigating other enterprises to see whether any of their methods can be applied to the movies. He also investigates his own studio, I once bumped into him on stage five, where he'd moved his desk and his secretary and where he'd just discovered that movie cameras never photograph any higher than 10 feet on an interior set wall. Why, he asked, were the walls 20 feet high? The scenic designer said they'd always been 20 feet. Yates said that from now on they'd be 10 feet. A small thing, perhaps, but the saving on paint, lumber, canvas and man-hours at the end of a year is something that helps turn red ink into black.

The factory-aspect of most movie studios depressed Yates. He presumed the other workers were depressed, too. He substituted green grass for concrete at Republic, cops with smiles for guards with guns and flower boxes for painted-out windows. What he wanted was a friendly atmosphere. He got it.

As of now the head men at Republic are doing considerable si senoring and buenas dia-ing. They're going to night school, studying Spanish, which gives you some idea what Yates currently is thinking about. And here I am about to use up all my space when I could have filled this whole book. I must mention that owl, the one thing inherited from the previous owners still on the lot. This bird has a perpetual leasehold on stage three. Sometimes he hoots and sometimes he flies through a high-class drama, thereby causing a retake, but no Republic executive would think of banishing him.

It takes a wise man and a calm one, a square-shooter and a go-getter, to equal Yates' achievement. That owl is a symbol.



Republic Productions, Inc.
North Hollywood, California



Consolidated Film Industries, Inc., Photo-Stills Division, New York City



IN the name of the Variety Clubs of America . . . an industry organization probably not much older than yourselves and to which so many of our associates belong, I salute you on your Tenth Anniversary. Long may your banners wave. Long may you prosper.

Year by year, we have watched you grow. Year by year the name of Republic has assumed new importance and stature in the records and accomplishments of our great industry.

Like your trade-mark, you stand for vision, courage, independence and accomplishment. So, to Herbert J. Yates, to James R. Grainger, to all your other executives and to each and every man and woman in your international organization, we pay our respects and offer our admiration and good wishes.

It is a privilege and an honor to write these words of congratulation.

R. J. O'DONNELL
Chief Barker
Variety Clubs of America



With humility and pride . . . . . Republic Pictures offers its appreciation to its men and women in the services of our Country.

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James A. Abee
Franklin Adreon
Frank Arrigo
Louis Asher
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Gene Autry
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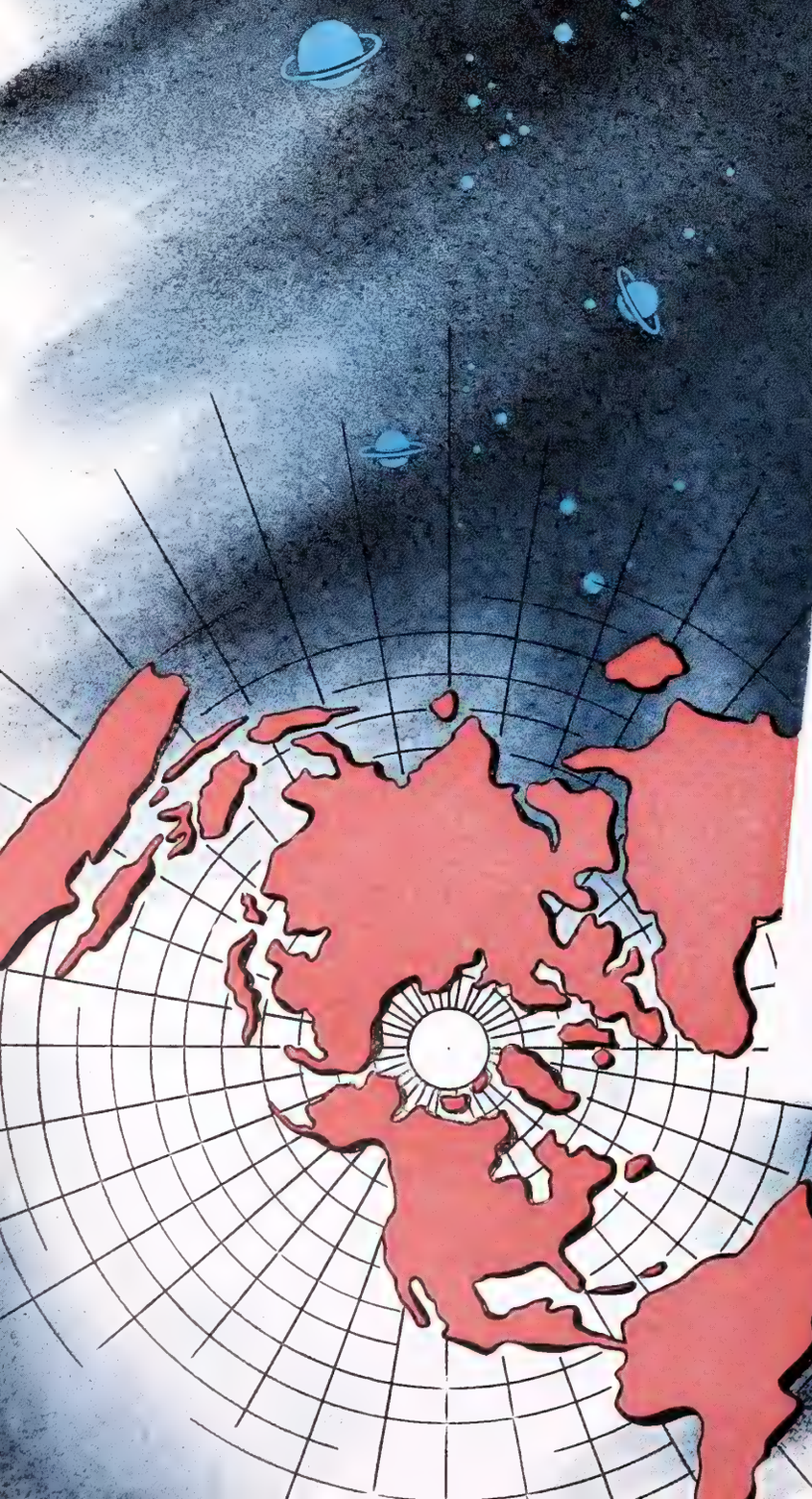
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Clare Swonson
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Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Producer Sanforth of Columbia To Make Picture Independently

Ever-growing ranks of independent producers were further increased with the announcement that Clifford Sanforth, Columbia production executive, had purchased "Bride of the Rain God," adventure novel by T. H. Willard. He plans to make the picture independently and in color under the title "Virgin of the Gods." Sanforth is currently in New York negotiating a release for the feature, in which he hopes to star Cornel Wilde, whose loanout from Columbia he is seeking.

Production on "Duel in the Sun," Strike-Interrupted, Will Resume

David O. Selznick has announced that production on "Duel in the Sun," which was interrupted because of the studio strike, will be resumed within two weeks. He also announced that one of the largest advertising campaigns in the history of motion pictures is planned for "Duel." In advance of release alone, $500,000 will be expended on this advertising campaign.

"American Guerilla in Philippines" Will Be Filmed in Technicolor

Darryl F. Zanuck, production chief at 20th-Fox, has decided to film that outfit's "An American Guerilla in the Philippines" in Technicolor. Picture, which originally was planned for black and white, will be photographed in Puerto Rico.

RKO Elevates Dewey Starkey to Post Of Assistant Production Manager

Dewey Starkey, a member of RKO's production staff for 20 years, has been elevated to the post of assistant production manager, succeeding Argyle Nelson, resigned to become production manager for David O. Selznick . . . Jules White observed completion of his 12th year as producer and director of Columbia short subjects by signing a new contract with the company that will run until next June. During his 12 years with Columbia, White has produced and directed 180 pictures.

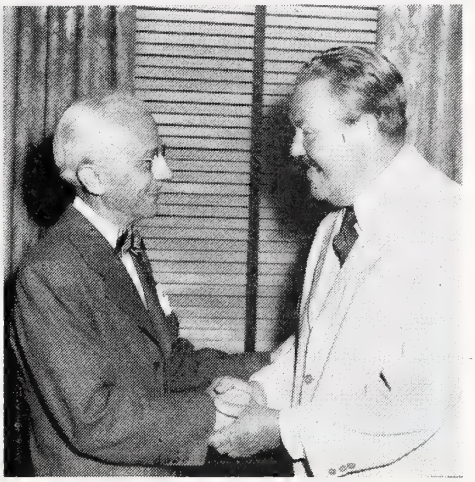
Edwin Phillips, former Broadway stage director now serving at the same studio as dialog director, had the option in his contract picked up for another term.

McHenry Back at Small Productions As Advertising-Publicity Director

Murphy McHenry has returned to Edward Small Productions as director of advertising and publicity, a position he previously occupied. McHenry's most recent connection was doing a similar chore for the Abbott-Herbert Corp., which made one feature for Columbia release . . . Writers Herman Mankiewicz and Bess Taffel have had their options lifted by RKO Radio.

"Cheyenne," Added to WB Schedule, Will Be One of Top-Budgeters

"Cheyenne," from the novel by Paul Wellman, has been added to Warners 1945-1946 production schedule and will be one of the company's top budget pictures of the year. Emmet Lavery currently is working on the screenplay with Robert Buckner set to produce. Story treats with Wyoming's fight for women's suffrage with the central feminine character being a traveling saleslady and one-woman Chautauqua . . . As his first assignment at Columbia following his return from New York, where he went to put on a stage production, William Castle will direct the next in the Crime Doctor series starring Warner Baxter. The production has not yet been titled.



CARR'S CONGRATULATIONS—Trem Carr, left, executive director of Monogram Studio, congratulates Sidney (Charlie Chan) Toler upon completion of his latest Chan picture, "The Shanghai Cobra."

Hagar Wilde has reported to Metro to start a writing assignment, working with Robert Andrews, on "Frankie From Frisco," which Arthur Hornblow jr. will produce . . . Lambert Hillyer has been signed to direct "The Lost Trail," Monogram's next western starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton . . . Arthur St. Claire has been assigned the screenplay of "Lost Continent," which Leo McCarthy will produce for PRC . . . William Goetz of International Pictures has borrowed Max Steiner, composer conductor, from Warners to create the music score for an RKO Radio release . . . Louise Randall Pierson also has been borrowed by RKO Radio from Warner to write the screenplay of "The Gibson Girl."

Recently promoted to produce features at Paramount, after two years of making briefies, Lou Harris has drawn as his initial assignment the recently-purchased "I Married Them" which will hit the screen as "Home Sweet Home" . . . Next in the Sherlock Holmes series at Universal is to be "Prelude to Murder," which Frank Gruber is scripting . . . Also at Universal, Stephen Longstreet has checked in to write screenplay of "Knave of Diamonds," which Joan Harrison will produce.

Emily Kimbrough to Write Latest Picture for Songstress Deanna

Still another picture has been added to Universal's schedule for Deanna Durbin. Latest addition is to be written especially for the songbird star by Emily Kimbrough, who in collaboration with Cornelia Otis Skinner limned the best-selling "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay." Felix Jackson, who will produce the picture, described as a light, gay comedy, closed the deal with Author Kimbrough.

Director Elmer Clifton's Daughter To Make Her Motion Picture Debut

Dorinda Clifton, 17-year-old daughter of Elmer Clifton, veteran director, will make her motion picture debut at Columbia—as the heroine of "Girl of the Limberlost" . . . Dusty Anderson, one of the 15 girls who remained at Columbia on an acting contract after appearing in "Cover Girl," was given her first lead when she was cast opposite Warner Baxter in the fifth picture in the Crime Doctor series . . . Rags Ragland will have a part in Metro's "The Hoodlum Saint" . . . Femme lead of the same picture went to Esther Williams and added to the cast were James Gleason and Frank McHugh . . . June Duprez was borrowed by Paramount from RKO to play one of the two leading feminine roles in "Calcutta," in which Alan Ladd and William Bendix will be starred . . . Barbara Britton was loaned by Paramount to Producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas to star with Robert Lowery in "They Made Me a Killer" . . . To Phillip Terry goes a top romantic assignment opposite Olivia de Havilland in Paramount's "To Each His Own," which Mitchell Leisen is directing. Frank Craven is another addition to the cast . . . John Loder and John Carradine will be costarred in "The Wife of Monte Cristo," a Leon Fromkess production for PRC . . . At the same studio, Claudia Drake was signed for the second feminine lead in "Detour," which will be directed by Edgar Ulmer.

Stardom was handed Marie "The Body" McDonald when Producer Hunt Stromberg, to whom she is under contract, loaned her to Edward Small for the title role in "Getting Gertie's Garter." She will costar in the United Artists picture with Dennis O'Keefe, under the direction of Allan Dwan.

Jacqueline de Wit, recently placed under term deal by Universal, was set by Writer-Producer Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano for a part in "Once Upon a Dream." William Seiter is directing . . . Donald Woods has been signed by Warner for an important role in "Night and Day," story of Cole Porter and his music.

RKO Purchases "Happy Birthday" For 8-Year-Old Sharyn Moffett

Two new ones were added to RKO Radio's future production agendum. To further advance the rise toward stardom of eight-year-old Sharyn Moffett, the studio purchased "Happy Birthday to You" in which the moppet will be toplined. Previously announced for the youngster was "Lend Lease for Penny."

"Wolf at Her Door," an original screen story by Jack Townley, was purchased and the studio has signed the author to write the screenplay, with Sid Rogell as executive producer. Story is a comedy with music in which the romance revolves around a smart young business woman and a band leader.

Other news tidbits from the Gower Street lot: Bill Williams has been assigned the starring role in "Tomorrow Is Here." It is a post-war story by Pamela Harris in which the drama centers around the mental and physical readjustment of America's medically discharged service men. Barbara Hale previously was announced for the top feminine role and Myrna Dell, ex-showgirl, gets her first important break in a major dramatic part.

Glenn Vernon and Marcy McGuire, young players who were teamed in "Ding-Dong Williams," will again be paired in "Riverboat Rhythm," recently announced comedy musical which has Leon Errol in the major role. Leslie Goodwins will direct and Nat Holt produces under the executive supervision of Jack Gross.

Sebastian Productions, Newcomer, Buys Rights to Detective Series

Distinguished by neither quantity nor quality were the transactions in the film capital's story market. Sebastian Productions, recent newcomer to the ranks of Hollywood's independent producers, for whose product no release has been established, laid it on the line for the screen rights to the Frank Gruber books about one Simon Lash, fictional detective. Sebastian plans to use the yarns as the basis of a series of whodunits.

Roundabout the Nation

By A. JULES BENEDIC

Projectionist Sisters Join Wacs

EL DORADO, ILL.—Two sisters, former projectionists in the same theatre in this little city, now are members of the Wacs. They resigned simultaneously to enter the service together. They are Mrs. Dorothea Thornton, wife of an army private, and Miss Mary Jane Hicks. Two brothers also are in the service.

Quits Distributor to Exhibit

TORONTO—After 24 years as Ontario branch manager here for Paramount, John L. Hunter has resigned to assume management of three Hamilton theatres owned by the estate of the late M. A. Milligan.

Theatre Prices No Riot Cause

HALIFAX, N. S.—Reported increases in theatre admission prices had no part in the VE-Day rioting here, R. S. Roddick, FPC district manager, told a royal commission investigating the disturbances. Theatre ticket prices have not been increased since the start of the war, Roddick said, the only addition being in increased taxation.

Canadian Ticket Tax Remains

OTTAWA—Little likelihood the 20 per cent amusement tax on theatre grosses would be abandoned with peace was seen by the federal treasury officials here despite the fact the tax was imposed as a wartime measure. In the last year for which figures were available (1943), the tax netted the treasury close to $10,500,000. It has long been a bone of contention between Dominion and provincial authorities, the latter contending the impost invaded the local taxation field.

Sues to Recover Securities

HARTFORD—Sophie Abuza, a native of this city, has filed suit in New York against a group of relatives and other defendants for recovery of $500,000 in securities which she alleges were taken from a safe deposit box there. Miss Abuza, incidentally, is known in stage, screen and radio circles as Sophie Tucker.

Projectionists Study Electronics

VANCOUVER—Looking ahead to the day when television and electronics may be integral parts of the motion picture theatre, the majority of members of projectionist local No. 348 here are attending classes in these subjects at the University of Vancouver.

Grierson In New Enterprise

OTTAWA—John Grierson of the National Film Board is one of the incorporators of a new organization known as Canada Foundation, formed to promote cultural activities in the Dominion. A fund of $1,000,000 is contemplated to conduct a program of art, music and drama.

Social Club for Salesmen

LOS ANGELES—Filmrow salesmen here have completed organization of the Motion Picture Salesmen of Los Angeles, formed to provide fraternal and social activities for the members.

No Welcome for Carnivals

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO—In a move to exclude carnivals from this community through the imposition of prohibitive license fees, the city council boosted the daily fee for such enterprises from $10 to $100. Among the points made by proponents of the exclusion were that the shows brought undesirables into the community, hurt the theatre business and were contributory to juvenile delinquency.

British Columbia Slump

VANCOUVER—With military camps closed and war contracts completed, the doldrums have descended on Prince Rupert and Prince George in northern British Columbia. Hundreds of workers have departed, business is away down and Herb Stevenson, owner of the Princess and Strand there, plans to close the former and operate the Strand only.

Miami Theatre Boom Coming

MIAMI—Site for a $300,000 theatre project has been purchased in the "Times Square" district at Washington St. and Lincoln Rd. here by Herb Elisburg of Chicago, where he operates the Studio Theatre. The district already contains three first run Paramount houses and two first runners operated by the Wometco circuit. Three other postwar theatres are planned within two blocks of the Elisburg project in this famous Florida resort city.

Warners Turn Back Clock

ST. LOUIS—The Warners will turn the clock back almost a third of a century when this city becomes the locale for the company's forthcoming Technicolor production, "The Frontiersman," saga of the early fur trade era. The Warners got their start as producers here early in the century, their first picture being labeled "The Glass Coffin."

A Record for Premieres

DALLAS—Four Texas and Oklahoma theatre circuits have joined in the all-Texas world premiere for Gary Cooper's "Along Came Jones" the week of June 20 to give this new International-RKO feature one of the broadest introductory bookings in the history of the industry. Cooper will make personal appearances at the first showings of the films in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, and Fort Worth. Later he will visit Oklahoma City on his way back to the coast.

He Totes Macon's Bacon

MACON, GA.—A third civic office—that as a member of the Boys Club here—has been assumed by Lamar Swift, manager of the five L&J circuit theatres in this city. He already was president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the publicity committee of the senior CofC organization.

"Horseless Carriages" Will Go Into Movies

Indianapolis—After reposing for 12 years in the Indiana state museum here, two venerable "horseless carriages" of an early vintage will depart soon to Hollywood to become motion picture participants. One is a high-wheeled chain-driven Holsman built in Chicago at the dawn of the century, and the other is a Stanley steamer once owned by John Brisbane Walker, one-time publisher of Cosmopolitan.

They were on loan exhibition here by Elgin O. Baker, who sold the vehicles to a producing company.

Screen Guild to Soon Announce Its Product

NEW YORK—Announcement of forthcoming product will be made withn a short time, said Johnny Jones of Chicago, president of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., here last week for a conference having also to do with the naming of a general manager for the company. He said that the company is deferring announcement of further product until the executive is named, although some product deals have been made and others are in negotiation.

Jones was here conferring with Harry C. Arthur of St. Louis and John L. Franconi of Dallas, the trio constituting the production committee of the new company.

"We of Screen Guild look to the future with confidence," said Jones, "secure in the knowledge we have a unique organization, built up by our own group. Each exchange center is represented by a stockholder in our organization, who in turn is a franchise holder. In our group are exhibitors and experienced distribution men, a combination obviously able to gain first-hand knowledge of audience demands. We believe our decisions in selecting stories, stars and type of product will result in obtaining exceptional entertainment values.

"In our opinion, we also have valuable over-all slants on what will click in the foreign field."

"In conclusion, Screen Guild's aim is to be the type of producing and distributing organization that will contribute to the industry, through an honest and sincere striving to bring major type product to the exhibitor."

Jones said that "Wildfire," Screen Guild's first release, in all color, had scored at the boxoffice of the Shubert Theatre in St. Louis, and in several spots on the west coast.

Air Force Officers Pack "Way to Stars" Opening

LONDON—High ranking air force officers of the United States and Britain turned out en masse to attend the opening of "The Way to the Stars" at the Pavilion Theatre. Co-starring Douglass Montgomery, American film star, Michael Redgrave, John Mills and Rosamund John, the Two Cities Production hails U.S.-British joint air operations. Press and public praised the picture.

Present were Assistant Secretary of War Robert Lovett; USAAF Brig. Gens. Edward P. Curtis, George McDonald and Earl W. Hoag; Eighth army air force Maj. Gens. William E. Kepner and Howard M. Turner, Brig. Gens. Charles Y. Banfill, Emil C. Kiel, Charles L. Booth, Francis Griswold, Bartlett Beaman, W. M. Gross, Edward W. Anderson, Walter R. Peck, Norris B. Harbold, E. L. Eubank, and other senior ranking officers. Others attending included the Right Honorable Harold McMillan, secretary of state for air; RAF Air Chief Marshals Sir Arthur Harris, Sir Arthur W. Tedder, Sir W. Sholto Douglas, Right Hon. Viscount Swinton, Air Marshal Sir John Slessor, air officers, commanders-in-chief, all home command air officers and commanders-in-chief, RAF of Australia, Canada and New Zealand, respectively.

Jinx Falkenburg Weds

NEW YORK—Jinx Falkenburg, 26, Columbia film star, and Lieut. Col. Tex McCrary, 34, former chief editorial writer of the Daily Mirror, were married at the home of Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora. Best man was Air Cadet Robert Falkenburg, the star's brother, who flew from Texas on a two-day pass.

WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

BETTE DAVIS

in

"THE CORN IS GREEN"

MONDAY, JUNE 25th, 1945

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	2:00 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin St.	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	8:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	10:00 A.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:00 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	Paramount Sc. Room	362 S. Second St.	2:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Room	70 College St.	3:00 P.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Room	1220 Vine St.	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Room	221 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.

With All Your Might! The Mighty 7th War Loan!

Radio Plans Salute To MOT's Birthday

NEW YORK—WJZ and the radio stations affiliated with the American Broadcasting Co. will help salute the March of Time's tenth anniversary with a series of special broadcasts beginning June 16 and ending June 23. MOT estimates that the programs will reach an audience of 40 million listeners.

The radio programs that will observe the celebration include the following:

Alma Mitchell, interviewing MOT Producer Richard de Rochemont, June 20, 12:30 p. m.; Nancy Craig, interviewing Associate Producer D. Y. Bradshaw, June 20, 8:30 p. m.; Don McNeill's Breakfast Club, June 19, 9 a. m., originating from Chicago, during which Phil Williams, MOT advertsing director, will be interviewed.

Radie Harris, discussing the March of Time, June 16, 12:15 p. m.; March of Time On-the-Air, June 21, 10:30 p. m., salute to the MOT on the screen; the Fitzgeralds, June 21, 8 a. m., salute to the March of Time; Stan Shaw, June 21, 2:30 a. m., interview with Westbrook Van Voorhis, "voice" of the March of Time; Galen Drake, June 21, 1:30 p. m., discussing highlights on the March of Time and Producer de Rochemont, and Johnny Olson's Rumpus Room, June 22, 12:05 a. m., interview with Jim Moynahan, of MOT's writing staff.

McNeill's Breakfast Club is carried over 236 stations, March of Time On-the-Air by 178 stations and Radie Harris over 50 stations. In addition to these programs, WJZ is giving additional time during the week to announcements of the anniversary.

Williams and Joseph M. Seiferth, WJZ audience promotion manager, arranged the tieup.

Current Issue of Look Gives Films Heavy Play

New York—Look magazine devotes more than 40 per cent of its current issue to the entertainment business. Of 24 illustrated articles, three are on motion pictures, three on radio, two on music and one on sports. Personalities in the amusement fields are also spotted in the Photoquiz, a regular Look feature.

Leading yarn is a color center spread on Lucille Ball, coming up in "Ziegfeld Follies"; Marie McDonald makes a Kodachrome page display and a black-and-white page. "A Medal for Benny" gets a three-column review.

Degree to Irene Dunne

CHICAGO—Irene Dunne has been awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Music by Chicago Musical College. She received the award at the commencement exercises at Orchestra Hall, June 14. Miss Dunne is the first actress to be so honored by the college, of which she is an alumna. The actress majored in voice at the school and was awarded a gold medal for scholarship when she graduated.

The doctorate was given in recognition of Miss Dunne's "outstanding accomplishments in and her unique contributions to the art of the stage and screen."

NBR Selects "Pillow"

NEW YORK—In its current weekly guide the National Board of Review recommends but one feature, "Pillow to Post," and one short, Screen Snapshots No. 7. The Warner Bros. feature is, according to the critic, "fast moving and funny . . . seething slapstick."

WB Home Office Meet Called for June 26-28

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. district managers and executives will hold a three-day conference at the home office, called by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, on June 26 to 28. The meeting is timed to permit the district managers to attend the "Rhapsody in Blue" Broadway premiere at the Hollywood Theatre. In addition to the Gershwin film, several of the leadoff pictures scheduled for 1945-46 release will be screened.

Sales policies and merchandising plans for these features will be discussed by those present. Among the district managers attending will be Norman Ayers, Robert Smeltzer, Charles Rich, Harry A. Seed, Hall Walsh, Ralph L. McCoy, Doak Roberts, Henry Herbel and Haskell Masters.

Home office executives participating will include, in addition to Kalmenson, the following: Joseph Bernhard, Samuel Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman H. Moray, I. F. Dolid, Ed Hinchy, Stanley Hatch, Bernard Goodman, A. C. Brauninger, Charles Baily, Bill Brumberg, Charles Einfeld and others.

Einfeld, vice-president in charge of advertising, came from the west coast especially to attend the conference. Prior to leaving the studio he met with sales and publicity representatives to outline plans for the special handling of "Rhapsody" and "Conflict." Present at the studio conference were Henry Herbel, Fred Greenberg, Sam Clark and Jack Leewood. Herbel accompanied Einfeld from the coast.

Music Plugs for "Rhapsody"

NEW YORK—Paul Whiteman will conduct an all-Gershwin program in the Hollywood on July 14, and a similar concert in Pittsburgh, July 26, in addition to those set for Detroit and New York in connection with the premiere of "Rhapsody in Blue" at the Hollywood Theatre here on June 27. He already has devoted two of his full-hour Sunday broadcasts to Gershwin and "Rhapsody." Several other radio shows will pay similar honor to Gershwin and the Warner Bros. film during June and July.

Toddy Films "Voodoo" Opus

NEW YORK—Toddy Pictures Co. has completed production of "Voodoo Devil Drums." The feature will be released nationally by the firm's exchanges and affiliates.



It's sad but true . . . one weak spot in your equipment can spell disaster, for you never know when it will start raising "cain." That's why it's so important to let our Altec Gabriels sound the note of approaching danger. A phone call or letter—and Altec moves in to make your booth a paradise for operators, your theatre a heaven for movie-goers.

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

ATLANTA • BOSTON • CHICAGO • CINCINNATI • DALLAS
DETROIT • LOS ANGELES • NEW YORK • PHILADELPHIA • SEATTLE

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

• SAVOROL •
A New
POPCORN SEASONING

Improves and enriches the flavor of popcorn, saves 20% to 35% on oil or shortening.

TRIAL OFFER

50 Pounds $8.75

F.O.B. NASHVILLE
No Ration Points

BESTER PRODUCTS CO.
Nashville 2, Tenn.

NSS Appoints Four District Managers

NEW YORK—The promotions of four branch managers to district managers, the advancing of four salesmen to branch managers and the creation of three new sales districts, were disclosed at the opening session of the regional sales meeting of National Screen Service at the Waldorf-Astoria. The new districts include:

Northeastern: Leo Abrams, former New York branch manager in charge, comprising New York, Albany, Boston, Buffalo and New Haven.

Southeastern: Charles Lester, former Atlanta branch manager in charge, comprising Atlanta, Charlotte and Memphis.

Southwestern: No district manager appointed as yet, comprising Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans.

Louis Patz, former Des Moines manager, has been appointed district manager of the realigned midwest area, comprising Des Moines, Omaha, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Denver and Salt Lake City.

Bernard Walf, ex-Los Angeles manager, has been advanced to head the west coast district which includes Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Portland.

Jack Cohen is in charge of the eastern district, comprising Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Washington.

The central district manager is William Bein. It includes Cincinnati, Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and St. Louis.

Newly-appointed branch managers are: Alfred Rothschild, Memphis; Harold Bennett, New York; Oscar Dizon, Des Moines, and Ben Ashe, Los Angeles.

Administrative problems, operations and sales policies were discussed at the three-day conference at the Waldorf-Astoria, June 11 through June 13. The Chicago regional meeting was billed for June 15 through June 17.

International Plans a Large Ad Campaign on "Jones"

NEW YORK—A budget of $225,000 has been set by International Pictures for magazine, newspaper cooperative advertising and radio exploitation for "Along Came Jones." A Norman Rockwell portrait of Gary Cooper will be the principal element of most advertising.

RKO has prepared two types of 24-sheets for the production. One 24-sheet will feature large romantic poses of Cooper and Loretta Young, the other will be a simple presentation of the Rockwell portrait.

The radio advertising budget for the film will exceed by 25 per cent any previous radio exploitation for an International release.

Picture Made by Swift Is Shown to Workers

NEW YORK—Swift & Co. has made a Technicolor film, "Red Wagon," narrating the life story of the founder of the company. The film was a year in the making and is now being shown to Swift employes and their families in Chicago, after which it will be presented to the company's workers all over the country.

Ascap in Brazilian Deal

NEW YORK—President Deems Taylor of Ascap signed contracts with Wallace Downey, representing Uniao Brasileira de Compositiores, Brazilian performing right society. The three-year pact becomes effective Jan. 1, 1946.

Review >> << Flashes

BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN (Col)—While a blonde from any other part of the country might be as potent, the Brooklyn locale is important, because in wangling a radio contract for Plantation coffee hour, Lynn Merrick and her boy friend, Robert Stanton, pretend to be just too, too southern . . . Just a bright little picture to fill out, but clever situations, dialog and songs make it worth while for exhibitors content with pictures made on a modest budget. Robert Stanton, Lynn Merrick, Thurston Hall, Mary Treen, Bob Haymes. Del Lord directed.

JUNGLE CAPTIVE (Univ)—This is a horror film replete with enough spine-tingling occurrences to induce a bumper crop of goose pimples. Otto Kruger conscientiously portrays a scientist obsessed with a theory he can restore life to the corpse of an "ape woman" his ghoulish handman has stolen from the morgue . . . This should round out duals and provide enough chills to be satisfactory warm weather entertainment. Otto Kruger, Amelita Ward, Phil Brown, Jerome Cowan, Dondo Hatton. Directed by Harold Young.

JUNIOR MISS (20th-Fox)—In bringing "Junior Miss" to the screen, Director George Seaton has, thanks to his own adaptation, lost none of the charm and humor of that recent Broadway-and-points-west stage hit. He has, in fact, heightened its pace and hilarity. Pleasantly acted by a moderately well-known cast, unostentatiously staged in moderate-cost settings, this annal of adolescence is 100 per cent boxoffice—may indeed prove one of the year's big money-makers. Peggy Ann Garner, Allyn Joslyn, Michael Dunne, Faye Marlowe, Mona Freeman.

WHY GIRLS LEAVE HOME (PRC)—A noble exploitation title which garnered plenty of shekels a couple of decades ago herein is hung on a picture which fits it like a $12.50 hand-me-down suit, leaving completely unanswered the burning question as to why damsels desert the parental domicile. In truth, it is just another cops and robbers melodrama, produced, directed and enacted satisfactorily, which is qualified to serve as support in situations normally booking PRC product. Pamela Blake, Sheldon Leonard, Lola Lane, Elisha Cook jr., Paul Guilfoyle. Directed by William Berke.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE.

Four RKO Films in June

NEW YORK—RKO has set four premieres for June. They are: "Wonder Man," June 18, and "Those Endearing Young Charms," on June 18, in New York, a Dallas showing of "Along Came Jones," on June 20, and a Boston premiere of "Back to Bataan" on June 24.

Zanuck, Schenck in N. Y.

NEW YORK—Joseph M. Schenck arrived here from the west coast and conferred with Darryl F. Zanuck, who arrived a few days later. Both will remain for an indefinite period.

LETTERS

"COMMENT BESIDE THE POINT"

To THE EDITOR:

I think you know I am not fussy concerning things written or said about me so long as there is no misrepresentation concerning my position in matters affecting Allied. I write you now only because I think the editorial comment interjected into the news item on page 28 of the current (June 2) issue of BOXOFFICE is beside the point and attributes to me a lack of familiarity with the antitrust law which is scarcely warranted in view of my long specialization in that field.

You cite the caption of my bulletin—"Lester Cowan Brushes Off the Law"—; treat it as though I had attacked the idea of circuit operation *per se*; and then proceed to destroy my assumed position by asserting that it is restraint of trade, not mere size, that determines whether a circuit is legal or illegal.

Granting for the time being that that is so, it has no bearing whatever on the subject-matter of my bulletin. The bulletin had to do with Cowan's declaration that he would like to make pictures exclusively for a circuit of theatres in which those pictures could run indefinitely. Surely in view of the decision in the Crescent case it is too late to assert that exclusive franchises are legal.

This is what the supreme court had to say:

> These (franchises) gave the defendants important exclusive film-licensing agreements.
>
> The chief weapons used by this combination in its unlawful welfare were the franchise agreements and the licensing system.

By par. 10 of the final decree in the Crescent case all existing franchises to which the Crescent interests were parties were invalidated.

It is interesting to reflect that Mr. Cowan's statement went far beyond anything ever attempted by the major companies. For a while in the '30s certain of those companies undertook to sell exclusively in some situations, but never openly; they merely refused to sell to the subsequent runs. But by 1940 when the consent decree was negotiated they had receded from that position and by Sec. VI agreed that "No distributor defendant shall refuse to license its pictures . . . on some run."

As I have no means of knowing whether the editorial comment was inserted in New York or in Kansas City, I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Shlyen—and am taking this opportunity of conveying my regards to both of you.

ABRAM F. MYERS
Allied States Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors,
Washington, D. C.

Holland Resumes Showing Of Films From America

NEW YORK—Cables from Holland state that the showing of American films has been resumed in Amsterdam. The demand for seats has been so heavy that speculators are getting as much as 40 guilders ($15.12) for tickets, and lines are forming in front of theatres as early at 4 a. m., although the shows do not start until seven hours later.

The Dutch population, as a whole, boycotted the German propaganda films shown during the Nazi occupation. Among the U.S. pictures released or scheduled for release are: "Sergeant York," "Air Force," "Watch on the Rhine" and "Action in the North Atlantic."



"WILL PAY OFF!" —*Variety*

"DESTINED FOR RICHES AT THE BOX-OFFICE!" —*Film Daily*

"HAS EVERYTHING!" —*Boxoffice*

"WILL WIN CUSTOMERS APLENTY!" —*Motion Picture Daily*

"HAS RARELY BEEN MATCHED!" —*Motion Picture Herald*

"SHOULD THOROUGHLY ENTERTAIN THE MASSES!" —*Showmen's Trade Review*

Directed by GREGORY RATOFF • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBER

Story by Morrie Ryskind and Sig Herzig • Lyri

THE REVIEWS... THE BUSINESS AT THE ROXY... THE DATES THAT ARE POURING IN... CLINCH THE CLAIM THAT

Fred MacMurray · Joan Leslie · June Haver

in

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

IN TECHNICOLOR

IS THE FUNNIEST MUSICAL EVER MADE BY



20th CENTURY-FOX

30th ANNIVERSARY

Screen Play by Morrie Ryskind

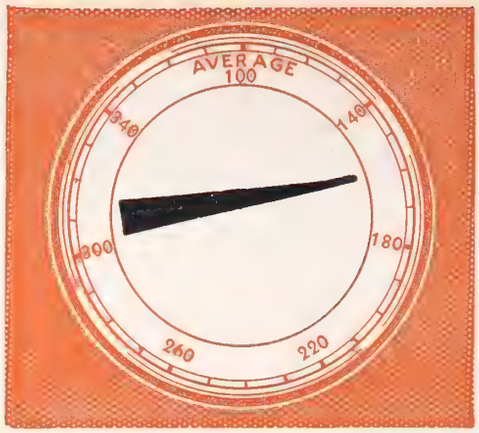
Music by Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY!
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hits of the Week

Delightfully Dangerous—
Denver 160

Without Love—
Indianapolis 160
New Haven 125
Cleveland 120

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Affairs of Susan, The (Para)	145	117		130	130		190	100	130	100	150	179	100	160	100	150	175	185	80		130	175	138
Betrayal From the East (RKO)	125	154		80		125				100			95	100	85	130					115	100	110
Between Two Women (MGM)	135	126	115		90	135	170	100		100			100	165	103	145	125	200	100		130	175	130
Body Snatcher, The (RKO)	115		110					80			100					130	105				130		110
Brighton Strangler, The (RKO)			100					80			100					110	100						98
Bullfighters, The (20-Fox)	100						100	90		100	100	100	100	100		115	100				100		100
China Sky (RKO)				100			140				110			100		155							121
Cisco Kid Returns, The (Mono)						120	110		115								100				100	120	111
Counter-Attack (Col)		187		90	75			75	100			100				185	95		90		150		115
Delightfully Dangerous (UA)	100		110	80	70		160	90					95		85			120			115		103
Diamond Horseshoe (20-Fox)	145	200	115	160	100		193	105	140		165	200	100	140	120	195	125	200			130	150	149
Docks of New York (Mono)		100	100			120	100		100	100				90					110		120	160	110
Double Exposure (Para)	100	100				115	100	95	100	100	105	100	100	100	100		95				100	100	101
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120	170	110				200		100		105	100	100	100	93		125	130	85		100	125	118
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160	105		90	135			140	150	100	150	130	195	120	190				130	140
Flame of the Barbary Coast (Rep)	125	110	115		100		163				103	125			110		125	180			140	130	131
Frisco Sal (Univ)	110	110	105	95	75		175	95	125	95		100		100	85	150	110		75		150		110
Great Flamarion, The (Rep)		100				115				95	100	100			100		130				100		105
Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (Col)								100	105		100	110	90		100		100						101
Having Wonderful Crime (RKO)	100	115	105	95	90		175	100	100		120	107	95	125	97	105	125	80	75		125	100	107
Her Lucky Night (Univ)	125	100	100				100	95	130		100	100	100		85		90		65		100		99
Horn Blows at Midnight, The (WB)	130	165		70	88		90			110		130			100	185		80			130	110	116
Identity Unknown (Rep)	100	100	120				133		85	100	100				80		100				100		102
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110	70		165	130	90	100	120	125	100	110	100	155	130	190			150		122
Keep Your Powder Dry (MGM)	130		120	105	95		150		125	100	110		100	100	90	170		210	90		130	160	124
Murder, My Sweet (RKO)	100	209	115	115	100		200	95	110	90	120	130	100	80	100	140		175	100		175		125
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100	80	105		120	90			100		100	150	85		100	135			165		111
Patrick the Great (Univ)		89	110	85			130						100						75		125	140	107
Power of the Whistler, The (Col)	100						100		100			100	100	100	90								99
Roughly Speaking (WB)	130	190		110	82	130	155	110	130	95	110	140	100	100	110	175	95	200	80		120		125
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130		120	160	105		200	95		115	140	175		150	140	195	200	220			140		152
Scarlet Clue, The (Mono)	100						100		100				100	100	100								100
Song of Bernadette, The (20-Fox)		130		95	117		165	90	130	85	115		90	125	110		95	140	75		135		113
Song of the Sarong (Univ)	100	89	100				100		110		90	100	100		80		105					140	101
Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (20-Fox)	120	121	115	110	100	110	185	95	110	115	157	100	100	165	95	150	160	180	140		120	150	128
Tarzan and the Amazons (RKO)	110			120	117			90	110		120	100			100		105						108
This Man's Navy (MGM)	125	108	110	105	80			95	100	120	87	112	100	125	105		120	175	70		140		110
Thoroughbreds (Rep)		88					100		100	95			85		100		100		80				94
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115	85		160	120	90	110		150	100	140	100		110	185	90	150	170	200	134
Three's a Crowd (Rep)									120			100					100				100	100	104
Without Love (MGM)	150	227	110	220	120				120	160	130	133		140	125	150		170			140	175	151

FIRST TIME IN HISTORY THAT A REVIVAL BILL HAS BEEN HELD OVER IN A DE LUXE THEATRE!



Holds over after sensational first week at Lafayette Theatre, Buffalo

TOGETHER OR INDIVIDUALLY THEY ARE TOPS!

Watch these early engagements . . . Bijou Theatre, Springfield, Mass.; Century, Rochester; Paramount, Syracuse; Colonial, Dayton; Missouri, St. Louis; Grand, Columbus.

NEW PRINTS AND NEW ACCESSORIES NOW AT YOUR EXCHANGE

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Girl in the Case (Col)—Janis Carter, Edmund Lowe, Bob Williams. We played this to above average business on a Sunday midnight. Played Wednesday. Weather: Warm. —Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Louisiana Hayride (Col)—Judy Canova, Ross Hunter, Richard Lane, Lloyd Bridges. Fine —well liked by all. A grand little show and I am not sorry I had it. Judy Canova is a scream and some real hoe-down music with it keeps everyone happy. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

There's Something About a Soldier (Col)—Tom Neal, Evelyn Keyes, Bruce Bennett, John Hubbard. This didn't do the business I thought it should—just did come out. Played Sunday. Weather: Mild.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

American Romance, An (M-G-M)—Brian Donlevy, Ann Richards, Walter Abel, John Qualen. Truly a marvelous picture. Entertaining and instructive. Just tops—and no fooling. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Bad.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

Meet Me in St. Louis (M-G-M)—Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer. We didn't get much of a break in weather, having rain all three nights, but the picture did a very nice business and seemed to draw out quite a few of the oldsters who seldom attend the newer pictures. It is good for your best time and will do plenty of business ordinarily. Played Sun., Mon., Tues.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

PARAMOUNT

For Whom the Bell Tolls (Para)—Gary Cooper, Ingrid Bergman, Akim Tamiroff, Katina Paxinou. A very good picture that did average business and well worth a playdate on your best playing time. The color was perfect and with Gary Cooper you have something to sell. War stuff is pretty much taboo now, but they seemed to like this one. Played Tues., Wed. Thurs. Weather: Fair:—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

I Love a Soldier (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. A nice picture. My patrons liked it and it should fit in almost anywhere. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

I Love a Soldier (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. Another picture from Paramount that did fine business. Some said just as good as "Going My Way" (Para) and the ones that didn't comment went out smiling—nuf·sed. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

PRC PICTURES

Marked Men (PRC)—Warren Hull, Isobel Jewell. We had a large crowd and the picture seemed to be well liked. Trying a new way next week, showing the show Sunday midnight. Monday and Tuesday we expect to have a larger crowd.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Whispering Skull, The (PRC)—Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Guy Wilkerson. Well, I see Tex is back in westerns again after a fling at radio. The fans seem to like him.—H. O. Losen, Lake, Lake City, S. C. Small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

Avenging Rider, The (RKO)—Tim Holt, Cliff Edwards, Ann Summers. Pretty good. A rootin'-tootin'-shootin' western where they just "kill 'em and let 'em lay." Played family nights and it pleased. Played Wed., Thurs.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarville, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

Power Unlimited (RKO)—This Is America series—Undoubtedly the best informative and educational short ever played in this location. Continuity and photography superb and easily tops any production in this series, with the possible exception of "A Letter From Home." This is the material that puts school boards, parents and teachers behind your efforts for community betterment. Played Sat., Sun.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

Goodnight Sweetheart (Rep)—Robert Livingston, Ruth Terry, Henry Hull. Doubled with "San Fernando Valley" (Rep) and didn't break any records. This little programmer pleased about as well as the Rogers western and is okay for the second feature on a weekend double. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Lake Placid Serenade (Rep)—Vera Hruba Ralston, Eugene Pallette, Vera Vague, Robert Livingston. We didn't do as well as we expected on this picture. The crowds were small at both showings of it.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Oh, Susanna (Rep)—Reissue. Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette. Extra good—the best crowd on a midweek bill that we ever had. You've got to hand it to Gene and Smiley, they do magnetize 'em and keep 'em that way. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Sullivans, The (20th-Fox)—Anne Baxter, Trudy Marshall, Thomas Mitchell. Played this for bond premiere and it was sure fire. Timely and human to the core. The fact these boys came from my old home town impressed me more personally. It was liked 100 per cent. Played Tuesday. Weather: Fair.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Up in Mabel's Room (UA)—Gail Patrick, John Hubbard, Mischa Auer, Charlotte Greenwood. This one got a lot of laughs and is a good tonic for the boxoffice. My people liked it a lot.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Bowery to Broadway (Univ)—Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey. A nice picture but nothing to rave about. Played Sun., Mon., Tues.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

In Society (Univ)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Arthur Treacher. I hear there are locations where this is big stuff. Thank heaven the IQs of my patrons are high enough they don't fall for this even though it cost me one weekend's profit to find it out. The boys can stay on the radio as far as this situation is concerned. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Johnnie Hynes, Community, Conde, S. D. Rural and small town patronage.

San Diego, I Love You (Univ)—Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton, Edward Everett Horton, Eric Blore. We did a rushing business on this, doubled with "Blazing Frontier" (PRC). These types always go well with the children on Saturday matinees.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Doughgirls, The (WB)—Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson, Jane Wyman. Not so hot. I wish I had been out of town on these two nights. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Good. —Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

Doughgirls, The (WB)—Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson, Jane Wyman. Something went wrong when they made this turkey. A good cast was made to seem amateurish and artificial—every scene was forced. Jack Carson was the only bright spot. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.

To Have and Have Not (WB)—Humphrey Bogart, Walter Brennan, Lauren Bacall, Dolores Moran. We did a fair business with this picture and think the crowd will take to Bacall. Played Mon., Tues. Weather: Warm—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

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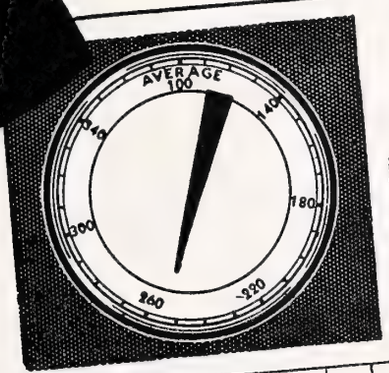
What Good's a Theatre Without BOXOFFICE?

"Please send me your magazine, BOXOFFICE weekly, as we have just purchased this theatre in Ocheyedan and find that this magazine is one we can readily use and which will be very helpful to us."—Ray Van Gilder, Princess Theatre, Ocheyedan, Iowa.

NO PICTURE IN RELEASE TODAY IS DOING AS MUCH BUSINESS AS MONOGRAM'S

DILLINGER!

THE PROOF IS IN THIS CHART FROM BOXOFFICE



BOXOFFICE BAROMETER
First Run Reports

Top Hit of the Week

Dillinger— San Francisco 250

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.

	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Between Two Women (MGM)	135				90			100		100				165	103	145	125	210	100		130	175	131
Dillinger (Mono)				180				120	150					175		290	115				250		183
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160			90	135			140		100	150		195	120					130	138
Experiment Perilous (RKO)	100	200	115	120	70	120	140	115		100	130		100	100	93	165	130	150	180	160	155	125	128
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180		120	120	160	150	100		110	205		215	110		140		145
It's a Pleasure (RKO)	120	119	110	110	70		165	130	90		120	125	100	110	100	155	130	190			150		123
Music for Millions (MGM)	135	119	120	110	130		130	95	120	140	170	150	100	150	135	165	130	215	85		130	140	133
Practically Yours (Para)	125	137	125	130	100	130	190	100	125	125	145	173		160	105	190	140	195	75		150	150	139
Royal Scandal, A (20-Fox)	150			90			160				97	150	105			120		180	125		130		131
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130			160	105		200					175		150	140	195							157
Song of Bernadette (20-Fox)		130		95			165	90	130	85	115		150	90	125		95	140	75		135		113
Three Caballeros, The (RKO)	130	235	115	115	85		160	120	90	110			150	100	140	100		110		90	170	200	132
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110					110				133	95	80	109			155		110	140	117
Without Love (MGM)			110	220					120						140		150				140		145

Since this chart appeared, record grosses have also been registered in Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Toledo and Akron!

Make way for MONOGRAM!

"DILLINGER" A KING BROTHERS PRODUCTION

featuring **Edmund LOWE • Anne JEFFREYS •** and introducing **LAWRENCE TIERNEY** as John Dillinger

with EDUARDO CIANNELLI · MARC LAWRENCE · ELISHA COOK, Jr. · Directed by MAX NOSSECK · Screenplay by PHILIP YORDAN





Blue Ribbon Award for May To "The Enchanted Cottage"

RKO Radio's screen version of "The Enchanted Cottage" has been voted the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award for May. This play by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, first produced in London in 1922, has been changed little with the exception of moving it up from the years of World War I to World War II, and changing the location from England to New England. It is a romantic story built around the theme of the rehabilitation of the wounded soldier.

Dorothy McGuire plays the role of the heroine, the same role played by Katharine Cornell in the Broadway presentation. Robert Young and Herbert Marshall also have leading parts. Harriet Parsons, daughter of Louella Parsons, was the producer. John Cromwell directed.

The Cast

Laura .....DOROTHY MCGUIRE
Oliver .....ROBERT YOUNG
Hillgrove .....HERBERT MARSHALL
Mrs. Minett.....MILDRED NATWICK
Oliver's Mother....SPRING BYINGTON
Beatrice .....HILLARY BROOKE
Stepfather .....RICHARD GAINES
Danny .....ALEC ENGLANDER
Mrs. Stanton.....MARY WORTH
Canteen Hostess
.....JOSEPHINE WHITTELL
Marine .....ROBERT CLARKE
Soldier .....EDEN NICHOLAS

Production Staff

Exec. V.-Pres. in Chg. of Production.....CHARLES W. KOERNER
Executive Producer
.....JACK J. GROSS
Producer .....HARRIET PARSONS
Director .....JOHN CROMWELL
Assistant Director.....FRED FLECK
Screenplay by.....DEWITT BODEEN
HERMAN J. MANKIEWICZ
Based on Play by
.....SIR ARTHUR WING PINERO
Director of Photography
.....TED TETZLAFF, A.S.C.
Special Effects
.....VERNON L. WALKER, A.S.C.
Art Directors
.....ALBERT S. D'AGOSTINO
CARROLL CLARK
Set Decorations
.....DARRELL SILVERA
HARLEY MILLER
Recorded by....RICHARD VAN HESSEN
Music by .....ROY WEBB
Musical Director
.....C. BAKALEINIKOFF
Orchestral Arrangements
..... GIL GRAU
Edited by.....JOSEPH NORIEGA
Gowns by.....EDWARD STEVENSON
Rerecording by..JAMES G. STEWART

This Award is given each month to the film receiving the highest number of votes from members of the National Screen Council, whose selection is governed by the outstanding merit and suitability of the film for whole family entertainment. Members of the Council are selected from the following groups throughout the country: Motion picture editors of newspapers and magazines, radio film commentators, reviewing committees, club women, better films councils, social, civic and educational organizations.

Re-Elect RKO Officials At Session of Board

NEW YORK—At the first meeting of the newly-elected board of directors of RKO held here June 14, the following officers were re-elected for ensuing year:

Floyd B. Odlum, chairman of board; N. Peter Rathvon, president; Ned E. Depinet and John M. Whitaker, vice-presidents; Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president and treasurer; Gordon F. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; J. Miller Walker, secretary; Garnett Van Wagner, comptroller; W. H. Clark, A. W. Dawson, O. R. McMahon and H. E. Newcomb, assistant treasurers; Kenneth B. Umbreit and William F. Whitman, assistant secretaries.

The following board members were re-elected: Depinet, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Odlum, Rathvon, George H. Shaw and Walker.

The regular dividend of $1.50 per share of its six per cent preferred stock payable Aug. 1, 1945, to holders of record at the close of business on July 20, 1945, was declared. This constitutes the dividend for the current quarter which will end July 31.

First Independent Tele Station to Be Tested

NEW YORK—America's first small, independent television station, W2XJT, Jamaica, L. I., begins FCC tests about July 1, according to William B. Still, owner of Jamaica Radio & Television Mfg. Co., operator of the station. The station will operate on channel 13, 230-236 megacycles, and its programs will be received within a radius of 35 miles.

The station's facilities, all designed expressly for W2XJT by Still, will eventually include a completely equipped studio for live broadcasts, motion picture film equipment, a control room containing three video monitors, two turntables and audio and video consoles, a 600-watt video and 150-watt audio transmitter, a 2,200 square foot construction and maintenance department as well as a specially constructed steel tower 200 feet high.

B&K Tele Bond Show Boosts Chicago Sales

CHICAGO—The Balaban & Katz television station, WBKB, has been telecasting the Treasury Variety Hour for the last two months at noon to further bond sales.

The entire program is piped to the Treasury Center and viewed by the noontime crowds. Hundreds of spot purchases of bonds have been made, plus sales to the regular followers of WBKB.

Approximately 450 television sets are privately owned locally and response of this audience has been gratifying. Persons desiring to buy bonds call the emcee of the show and sales are recorded on a "thermometer" set up before the video cameras.

Arthur Pincus Is Named To Loew Foreign Staff

NEW YORK—Arthur Pincus, addition to the foreign staff of Loew's International Corp., has been put in charge of radio and press books for the foreign department. He is making his offices with David Blum, head of foreign publicity and advertising, at the Capitol Theatre Bldg., where Blum recently moved.

Pincus formerly was a newspaper man, doing free-lance writing for magazines and radio.

14,539 Theatres Helped Swell RC Collections



RED CROSS REPORT—Basil O'Connor (right), national chairman of the American Red Cross, thanks N. Peter Rathvon, chairman of the industry's Red Cross Fund week campaign for 1945. The collections hit a new high of $7,290,164.

NEW YORK—N. Peter Rathvon, the industry's national chairman for the 1945 Red Cross campaign, reporting collections of $7,290,164, a record-breaking sum, said that 14,539 theatres had participated. He thanked members of the national committee and others who had assisted in the drive.

Rathvon's report was made at a luncheon in Hotel Astor. Attending were Basil O'Connor, national president of the Red Cross, and Howard Bonham and Joseph Weill, RC executives, in addition to these members of the industry's national committee:

Maj. L. E. Thompson, national coordinator; Leon J. Bamberger, campaign director; S. Barret McCormick and Harry Mandel, advertising and publicity directors; Arthur Brilant, publicity coordinator; Henderson M. Richey, meeting's chairman; Herman Robbins, trailers and accessories; John J. O'Connor, home office collections: Edward Schnitzer and Bernard M. Kamber, assistant distributor chairmen; William C. Michel, corporate gifts, and John A. Cassidy, tradepaper follows:

Collections by exchange areas were as follows.

Exchange Area or State	No. of Theatres	Audience & Industry Collections
Alaska	13	$ 2,433.62
Albany	184	82,916.43
Atlanta	710	324,512.84
Boston	489	230,842.36
Buffalo	279	131,943.13
Charlotte	530	137,809.30
Chicago	669	353,412.54
Cincinnati	466	167,204.58
Cleveland	412	204,586.33
Dallas	681	339,695.85
Delaware	32	14,665.58
Denver	254	70,358.46
Des Moines	349	94,510.37
Detroit	506	268,011.69
Indianapolis	306	99,394.94
Kansas City	495	128,108.36
Kentucky	140	50,108.53
Los Angeles	582	469,807.91
Maryland	211	77,141.41
Memphis	369	87,494.19
Milwaukee	351	101,615.67
Minneapolis	792	162,094.62
New Haven	132	87,271.47
New Jersey (northern)	242	181,368.53
New Orleans	519	144,922.49
New York	657	666,821.11
Oklahoma City	348	77,681.67
Omaha	319	61,515.72
Philadelphia	714	316,038.76
Pittsburgh	577	169,090.85
Portland	226	36,597.38
Puerto Rico	101	9,964.03
Rhode Island	53	24,482.31
St. Louis	466	122,045.06
Salt Lake City	244	70,215.86
San Francisco	477	329,782.02
Seattle	279	144,462.63
Virginia	260	102,082.46
Virgin Islands	4	204.09
Washington	51	102,874.42
Totals	14,539	$6,296,089.57
Corporate Gifts (less exchange and studio allocations)		$ 239,346.00
Collections from employes of home offices and New York exchange		36,355.00
Hollywood contributions		718,374.00
Grand Total		$7,290,164.57

Postwar Film Trends June 23 Meet Topic

NEW YORK—Analyses of new markets and trends in motion pictures will be presented at the film panel of the Conferences of the Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Postwar World on June 23 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Marc Connelly, producer and playwright, and Bosley Crowther, film critic of the Times, will be co-chairmen of the session arranged by the Hollywood Writers Mobilization in cooperation with independent citizens' committee, sponsors of the conference.

Among those procuring data for the panel were the following west coast film representatives: John Houseman, producer; Alexander Knox, star of "Wilson"; John Howard Lawson and Mary McCall jr., screen writers, and Emmett Lavery, chairman of the mobilization committee. Also to be presented are an analysis of the potentialities of educational and documentary films, prepared by Dr. Franklin Fearing, and a survey of the postwar possibilities of the cartoon film medium, made by Zachary Schwartz and Sgt. John Hubley.

Tradeshow RKO 'Scandals'

NEW YORK—The tradeshowing of RKO's "George White's Scandals," originally scheduled for June 18, will be held at the company exchange, 630 Ninth Ave., only July 2.

Uston Withdraws Complaint

NEW YORK—John Uston, owner of the Lake Theatre, Monponsett, Mass., has withdrawn his clearance complaint against Loew's, Paramount and RKO. The complaint was filed several weeks ago in the Boston tribunal.

New Jersey Allied Plans West End Outing June 27

NEW YORK—New Jersey Allied will hold an outing at the West End Casino, West End, N. J., Wednesday, June 27. The day's events will include luncheon, a diving and swimming exhibition, ocean and pool bathing, cocktails at 5:30 and a turkey dinner at 7 o'clock.

Representatives of all branches of the industry will be invited.

BROADWAY

William C. Gehring, 20th-Fox western sales manager, is in Los Angeles for discussions with executives of Fox West Coast Theatres on forthcoming product.

Edgar Bergen was in from Hollywood and was a guest at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Peggy Ann Garner, young 20th-Fox star, arrived from Hollywood accompanied by her mother to attend the world premiere of her first starring picture, "Junior Miss," at the Rivoli Theatre, June 16.

It's vacation time, and Oscar Morgan, sales manager for Paramount short subjects and Paramount News, spent a week at his summer home in the Thousand Islands.

Terry Turner, RKO exploitation manager, visited Boston, to supervise preparations for the benefit premiere of "Back to Bataan" at the Boston Garden on June 24.

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, returned to Hollywood after his visit at the home offices.

Clare Foley, Warner Bros.' 11-year-old star now portraying the brat in "Janie Gets Married," is scheduled to leave the coast June 30 with her father, Paul Foley, former stage manager for Brock Pemberton, who will direct a Broadway play this fall.

Arno F. Kerske, USN, former RKO Radio manager for China, arrived on his first visit to the home office. Kerske, holder of the army discharge service ribbon, Presidential Citation and Purple Heart, was a Jap prisoner for almost three years, and is now on convalescent leave.

Roddy McDowall, 20th-Fox star, has begun a limited personal appearance engagement at the Roxy Theatre in conjunction with "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Ann Ronell, composer of the musical score for Ernie Pyle's "Story of G.I. Joe," arrived from Hollywood to bid goodby to her husband, Lester Cowan, producer of the UA release. With 15 other industry leaders, Cowan has been invited by General Eisenhower to tour European battle areas.

Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, cut short his stay here to return to the coast for conferences with Cliff Work, production head, before the latter left for Europe.

Vincent Palmeri, former Warner theatre manager in Connecticut, who was transferred to Lima, Peru, a few months ago as branch manager, returned to the U.S. to report to his draft board.

Petty Officer Thomas Carey, former Comerford Theatres district manager, and Mrs. Carey are the parents of a second son, Donald James, born at the Mercy Hospital in Scranton.

James Coston, Warner Theatres Chicago zone manager, accompanied by Alex Halperin, booker, arrived here.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wrege have announced the birth of a daughter, Jill Ann, at the Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, N. J. Wrege is assistant to J. J. Unger, UA western division sales manager.



SOMETHING NEW—Anybody who can get a sign strung across a Manhattan street for anything has performed a feat. Irving Lesser turned the trick by getting a permit to string the above from the Roxy Theatre to the Winter Garden. It can be seen from Central Park on the north and Times Square on the south.

E. T. Gomersall, Universal assistant general sales manager, visited exchanges in Cincinnati, Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit.

Carl Ravazza, singer, has been signed by 20th-Fox for a three-year contract, whereby he will appear at the Roxy Theatre for six months. The remainder of the year he will spend at the coast studios, making films.

Kim Hunter has arrived in England to begin work on the Powell-Pressburger film, "A Matter of Life and Death," at the Denham Studios.

Charles MacDonald, RKO Theatres zone manager, is back from his Florida vacation.

Geraldine Fitzgerald, Warner Bros. star, who has just completed work in "Three Strangers," came in from the coast.

Rodney Bush, 20th-Fox exploitation manager, is back at the home office from his visit to Des Moines, where he set up plans for the August world premiere of "State Fair," Technicolor musical.

John Jackson, associated with Sir Alexander Korda, returned to London after spending several months here and in South America.

Sam Burger, M-G-M foreign roving representative, is back from South America, where he spent several months.

Lieut. John T. Howard, USNR, formerly Paramount Detroit branch manager, and Lieut. Mary Beatrice Mattingly, army, were married at Fort Myer, Arlington, Va.

Roxy Tops Bond Quota

NEW YORK—The sale of 13,163 E bonds with a maturity value of $873,625 at the close of Free Movie Day, June 6, pushed the Roxy Theatre far past its Seventh War Loan drive quota. The Roxy's quota for the current drive was 12,500 E bonds, representing 160 per cent of the total number of bonds sold by the theatre in the Sixth War Loan drive.



USN Cites Projector As Factor in Morale

NEW YORK—The role played by motion picture equipment in maintaining the high morale shown by the crew of the USS Franklin is attested by Rear Admiral C. H. Woodward, USN. In a telegram to the International Projector Corp., he says, in part:

"The Franklin's men not only kept her afloat but got her home 12,000 miles under her own power. Your sound projector has been an unfailing source of entertainment and relaxation to the carrier's personnel during the entire period when she logged 102,000 miles on extensive war missions, including two invasions and several strikes against Japan, Formosa and the Bonins.

"All of you may take deep satisfaction that your motion picture equipment helped to maintain the spirit and fighting efficiency of the men of this gallant ship."

Film Heads to Aid UJA Night of Stars Show

NEW YORK—The United Jewish Appeal has named Marvin H. Schenck chairman of the producing committee for this year's Night of Stars, to be presented at Madison Square Garden, November 13. This will mark the 12th annual Night of Stars, staged on behalf of the UJA, the combined fund-raising agency for the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal, the National Refugee Service and the National Jewish Welfare Board.

In addition to Schenck, the following will serve as officers of the committee: Honorary chairmen: Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Albert Warner. Co-chairmen: Louis K. Sidney, Ed Sullivan, Robert M. Weitman. Vice-chairmen: Arthur Knorr, Lester B. Isaac, Jesse Kaye.

Industry VFW Post Hears Maj. George F. Eliot

NEW YORK—The Crossroads of the World post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars received first-hand information about the San Francisco Conference when Maj. George Fielding Eliot addressed a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor.

Eliot recently returned from the conference and sounded the keynote of his talk when he declared that there is no reason to be annoyed by the arguments among the delegates. "The nations represented are being particular about the agreements they sign because they intend to abide by the policies set up."

Among the members of the VFW post are Harry Zapf, Skouras Theatres executive; Jay Sims, sports announcer and newscaster; Al Helfer, sports announcer and other members of the motion picture, radio and allied industries.

Stars at RKO's Bond Show

NEW YORK—The first world showing of RKO's "Those Endearing Young Charms" at the RKO Palace Theatre will be attended by a special audience of war bond purchasers, including stars of stage, screen and radio.

Included on the bill is RKO's "Dress Parade," latest release in the This Is America series.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

"Wonder Man" Clicks At New York Astor

NEW YORK—"Wonder Man" did a land-office business in its first week at the Astor. The gross was approximately 25 per cent higher than the previous record held by "The Princess and the Pirate."

Other new films that opened to better than average receipts: "Out of This World," at the Paramount; "Son of Lassie," at the Criterion, and "Where Do We Go From Here?" at the Roxy.

Approximately 920,000 persons saw "Valley of Decision" during the first six weeks at the Radio City Music Hall. This is a record for attendance and gross receipts for any film to play a six-week engagement in the 12-year history of the house. The run continued.

"Where Do We Go From Here?" began a second week at the Roxy.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**Wonder Man** (RKO) 240
Capitol—**Thrill of a Romance** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 135
Criterion—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 155
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 11th wk. 100
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO), 3rd wk. 110
Paramount—**Out of This World** (Para), plus stage show 155
Radio City Music Hall—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 6th wk. 160
Rialto—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO), 3rd wk. 85
Rivoli—**A Medal for Benny** (Para), 3rd wk. 115
Roxy—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), plus stage show 145
Strand—**Pillow to Post** (WB), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 120
Victoria—**The Way Ahead** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 95

Reissue Dual Program Takes Top Place Among Buffalo Film Houses

BUFFALO—With an upsurge of business during the latter part of the previous week, the Lafayette's pair of reissues went way above the average mark, warranting a hold-over week. It was one of the few times in downtown house history that two old films proved popular enough for a second week. "China Sky" and "Two O'Clock Courage" were about one and one-half of average at the 20th Century. "Between Two Women" held to a healthy figure in a moveover at the Hippodrome. "Without Love" was good in a second week at the Great Lakes and "Keep Your Powder Dry" and "Escape in the Fog" did well in their first seven days at the Buffalo.

Summer is here at last, the mercury getting up to and over the 70-degree mark daily.

Buffalo—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 129
Great Lakes—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 117
Hippodrome—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover 140
Lafayette—**Imitation of Life** (Univ); **East Side of Heaven** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk., both reissues 155
20th Century—**China Sky** (RKO); **Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO) 153

"Dillinger" Setting New House Record at Philadelphia Stanton

PHILADELPHIA — "Dillinger," aided by plenty of promotion, was setting a new house record at the Stanton. It was the hottest thing Monogram has ever had in this territory. Also attracting heavy money at the boxoffice turnstiles was "The Clock." Fine business also was noted at the Earle with "Betrayal From the East" and Louis Armstrong's band. "Where Do We Go From Here?" at the Fox was doing nicely.

Aldine—**Three Caballeros** (RKO), 2nd wk. 120
Arcadia—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col) 150
Boyd—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 140
Earle—**Betrayal From the East** (RKO), plus **Louis Armstrong** orchestra on stage 175
Fox—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox) 175
Karlton—**Call of the Wild** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk., reissue 145
Keith's—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 160
Mastbaum—**Pillow to Post** (WB), 2nd wk. 135
Stanley—**The Clock** (M-G-M) 200
Stanton—**Dillinger** (Mono) 240

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

TOM MEAD, Universal Newsreel editor, had a scheduled 15-minute audience with President Truman at the White House during the week. Realizing the President's many pressing duties, Mead used up only about five minues of his allotted time.

During the visit, President Truman revealed the gracious hospitality for which he is famous. He met Mead at the threshold of his office and escorted him to a seat near his desk. In the course of the interview, the President alluded to the exemplary work of the newsreels in the war effort. When the interview was over, the President escorted Mead to the door.

Mrs. Dan Regan operates the Concourse Theatre, The Bronx, in the absence of her husband who is in the merchant marine. Considered by bookers one of the prettiest women exhibitors in this area, Mrs. Regan manages to find time to take care of her two-year-old daughter as well as operate the theatre.

Vacation comings and goings: Dave Klein, Metro booker, attended several baseball games at the Yankee Stadium during his vacation . . . Bob Finkel and Harry Furst of Universal . . . Phil Winnick of the same company who visited his daughter and son-in-law in Maryland . . . Etta V. Segall of Monogram who spent her vacation at Plum Point, N. Y.

Exhibitor Max Cohen, Monticello and Liberty, N. Y., exhibitor, visited Filmrow for the first time in many months . . . Tom De Lorenzo, New Paltz, N. Y., showman, was here on business . . . Sgt. Harry Fellerman, AAF, stationed on Long Island, said hello to old friends. He's a former Universal salesman.

John V. Pavone and Max Tabackman are new Monogram salesmen . . . M. L. Kolber, formerly of the army air force, has been appointed cashier at the Republic exchange . . . A Panorama drawing in full color of the Republic studios has been hung on the wall of the Republic exchange. It was executed by Lewis Physioc at the studios.

Jack Farkas, assistant to Monogram Branch Manager Nat Furst, celebrated his birthday by taking his wife and two daughters to see "Othello," after which they went night clubbing at the Latin Quarter . . . John McKenna, UA booker, who was recently inducted into the army, made his first visit to the exchange . . . Hilda Zeiderman Frishman, formerly of UA cashier's department, whose husband is stationed in Kentucky, visited friends in the Film Center Bldg.

John J. Dacey, dean of film exchange executives and short subjects sales manager at the RKO exchange, observed his 40th wedding anniversary with his wife. A party for members of the immediate family was held at the home of Mrs. Harry A. Hall, 10 Park Ave. Among the guests was Sheila Mary Dacey, the celebrants' granddaughter. John J. Dacey jr., his son, was unable to be present. He was called out of town on business.

Cpl. Donald Bleier, formerly in the equipment business but now of the U.S. army signal corps, renewed acquaintances . . . Sgt. Max Polinsky, erstwhile M-G-M booker, writes from Italy that he recently saw a photo of a Broadway opening minus a long line of prospective ticket buyers and asks: How come?

Lillian Whelan is David A. Levy's Girl Friday now that Barbara Hart has returned to Milwaukee . . . Levy's son, Allen Henry, 15½ years old, graduated with honors from Staunton Military Academy . . . Filmrow heard that the Big U exchange finished among the leaders in the Scully drive.

It's a small world, etc.: Tommy Applebaum, nephew of Ben Levine, UA's chief booker, and Dan Ponticelle, former WB booker, were stationed on Admiralty Islands in the Pacific for 15 months. They weren't aware of this fact until a mutual friend writing from the U.S. advised them of their respective locations.

Thumbnail Biography: Homer H. Harman observes his eighth year as advertising and publicity director of the Roxy Theatre this year. He started in theatre work with Loew's in Columbus, Ohio, the same year he was married, at the age of 15. Six months later he moved into the publicity department. Then followed publicity assignments with Loew's Ohio and Broad theatres and with RKO's Palace and Majestic theatres in Columbus.

Then he went to St. Louis for Loew's, handling publicity at the State for three years, following which he transferred to Warner Bros. In the latter post he directed publicity at the Shubert, Orpheum and Hi Pointe theatres.

For the next two years after that, he was associated with Fanchon and Marco in St. Louis, coming to the Roxy from F&M. Has been publicity director for the Seventh War Loan in the metropolitan area serving under Irving Lesser, general chairman.

Harman was born in MacDonald, W. Va., Apr. 27, 1910; was married in 1925 and has two children, Joy, seven, and Gay, three.

Hyman Rachmil has been awarded a scroll emblematic of honorary life membership in the ITOA. Rachmil, retired theatre owner, was honored for his work in behalf of the exhibitor group . . . Ben Levine and his wife will observe their tenth wedding anniversary, June 21 . . . Beatrice Applebaum Goldner, formerly of the UA exchange staff, is the mother of a baby girl.

Two Ask Tele Licenses For Minnesota Area

WASHINGTON — Two television applications have been filed with the FCC. Radio station KSTP, St. Paul, seeks permission to erect and operate a commercial television station on channel No. 1. This is the second application from Minnesota. The first was filed from Minneapolis, W6XYZ, operated in Hollywood by Television Products, Inc., has applied for the right to change from an experimental status to full commercial operation.

Times Square Bond Show Will Feature Gershwin

NEW YORK—A George Gershwin Jubilee bond rally will be staged in Times Square on June 26 from 5 to 8 p. m. Stars of stage and screen will participate in the program to honor the noted composer.

Several thousand dollars' worth of wearing apparel, perfumes, radios and other hard-to-get items will be auctioned off to bond buyers. Bond purchasers will also get passes to "Rhapsody in Blue" which will open the next evening at the Hollywood Theatre.



EXHIBITORS OUT IN FORCE—Representatives of all the leading circuits in the New York metropolitan area attended the tradeshowing of RKO's "Along Came Jones" at the Normandie Theatre. Top, left to right: Harold Klein, Julius Joelson circuit; Charles Boasberg, RKO; Arthur Wakoff, Raritan Theatres; A. W. Schwalberg, International Pictures. Bottom, left to right: Phil Hodes, RKO; Sam Goodman, Century circuit; Boasberg; Harry Britwar, Prudential Theatres.

PHILADELPHIA

A near panic was averted last week at the Jumbo when Emmanuel Lewis, manager, calmed several hundred persons who became alarmed when they mistook the noise of a firecracker for a gunshot. Police rounded up ten youths accused of causing the disturbance.

Lieut. Charles D. Crowley, former manager for Stanley-Warner here, has been awarded a Silver Star for resisting a German tank advance in France last summer. Crowley used a bazooka until his ammunition was expended and then fired his carbine at the Nazi crew, causing the war department to praise him for "outstanding courage and leadership."

Pvt. Myer J. Hirsh, son of Exhibitor Charles Hirsh, was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action in Belgium January 10 . . . Alec Stiefel has taken over the duties formerly filled by Alan Holdcraft and is otherwise looking after the interests of Sam Stiefel at the Carmen.

Kitty Wagner, manager of the Mayfair, announced last week that the theatre would hold its bond premiere June 19, with Frankie Schluth, local comedian, acting as master of ceremonies in a big amateur show . . . Twentieth-Fox screened "Where Do We Go From Here?" and "Nob Hill" last week.

Al Davis, Monogram branch manager, was in Chicago last week for a sales meeting . . . Pauline Moray, Warner exchange clerk, still was away, ill, last week.

Mrs. Helen Moore, nee Packer, returned to her desk in the Warner contract department last week after a brief honeymoon . . . Dave Starkman has been added to the PRC sales staff by branch manager Frank Hamerman. Clem Reck remains as upstate salesman. Bill Solomon, formerly with 20th-Fox, rounds out the contingent.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Bequest to Liberties Union

PHILADELPHIA—Morris L. Fineman, veteran Camden, N. J., film man who died recently, left $1,000 to the Civil Liberties Union of New York. The balance of his $10,000 estate was divided between the Mt. Sinai Hospital here and a son.

N. Y. Sees "Junior Miss"

NEW YORK—The screen version of the stage hit, "Junior Miss," opened at the Rivoli Theatre on June 16. Peggy Ann Garner, who plays the title role, came east for the opening.

BUFFALO

The girls from Columbia and RKO finally held their match bowling contest, after many months of planning. Columbia, led by Barbara Hartman, booker's stenographer, won 3 in 3. RKO claimed it was handicapped by the absence of Cashier Eleanor Lanning, its top bowler. Eleanor's back now, however, and the girls plan to bowl again. RKO figures it will be on top this time. Speaking of Eleanor, she was in Los Angeles for the wedding of her sister Adele, Monogram's cashier here . . . The bowling match made Barbara Hartman $1 richer. Seems she made a bet with "Caesar" of RKO.

When Elmer Lux, RKO branch manager, his wife Nina and daughter Shirley Ann went to Bay Beach, Ont., this week for the summer, their Buffalo apartment was taken by the Jack Mundstuks. Jack is M-G-M's new branch manager here. He has been having a tough time finding a place to live . . . The RKO exchange is prepping for its annual summer party at Lux's Canadian spot.

RKO's division manager, Gus Schaefer, suffered a heart attack upon his return to Boston from Buffalo.

The Margaret O'Brien role of Adele Varens, Mr. Rochester's French ward in the motion picture version of Jane Eyre, was taken by a Buffalo girl when the Frank McCoy stock company put on the melodrama at the Erlanger. She is Joan Hetzelt, 14.

"On to Tokyo" was shown last weekend on the screens of all downtown theatres . . . That bond premieres continue popular was confirmed by the early step-up in sales in downtown theatres for free guest tickets to the five bond premieres here. Premiere night is Monday, June 18.

The board for the stadium and auditorium has given the Buffalo Hockey Club priority on the dates of November 19 to 25 for the Ice-Capades and January 29 to Feb. 3, 1946, for the Ice Follies . . . Crystal Beach, Canadian shore amusement park, has opened for its 55th consecutive season.

Arnold Febry turned over the news beat this week to Sara Weil. Arnold's grandmother is quite ill. Sara needs no instructions on pinch-hitting . . . Manny Woronov, M-G-M's Syracuse salesman, was in Memorial Hospital there suffering a severe throat infection.

Paramount Notes: Jane Nebrich, wife of Pete of Smith & Howell, has returned to an active part in the industry by becoming booker's stenographer . . . Alice Jackson is the new gal in the contract department. Jessie Kolken, former secretary to Manny Brown, branch manager, left Monday for an overseas assignment with the American Red Cross . . . Jessie was guest of honor at an exchange party in Hotel Markeen.

Sally Bifarella of the Paramount contract department is joining Mike Simon in the latter's new buying and booking combine with Andy Gibson, associated with the Dipson circuit. Mike was city salesman for Paramount . . . Dave Friedman, 21-year-old booker, has had his army physical and is awaiting induction. He's been rated 4F for quite some time.

Pat Cohen, former booker's stenographer at Paramount, is going to Mexico for the summer . . . The Buffalo exchange is planning a whopping observance of Paramount month, from August 26 to September 29 . . . Eddie F. Balser, head shipper, will observe his 25th anniversary with Paramount in August also.

There's a "G.I." projectionist right behind them...



OFFICIAL U. S. COAST GUARD PHOTO

BEHIND the tanks and booming guns, the amph-tracks and the jeeps, you'll find G. I. movie-projection men... setting up shop to bring the boys a few bright hours on "Main Street"...

"Movies tonight!" Ask any morale officer or—more to the point—ask any Yank what that means. You'll learn how really important movies are when men are lonely and tired and a long way from home...

And it all adds up to this: The job being done by G. I. projectionists—movie-trained—is just about as big a contribution to military morale as can be imagined. The best evidence is written on the boys' faces . . . when they hear that call of "Movies tonight!"

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors,* Fort Lee, Chicago, Hollywood

Praise Unions for Aid In "Mighty Seventh"

NEW YORK—Aid and assistance from labor and musical unions in presenting daily events have helped swell the total of the film industry's contribution to the Seventh War Loan drive, Irving Lesser, chairman of the New York area pointed out recently.

Citing the cooperation of motion picture machine operators, musicians and stagehands, Lesser said: "Too often these behind-the-scenes men are obscured by the efforts and accomplishments of famous performing personalities and executives. It is obvious that without their services, always given freely and in the highest spirit of cooperation and patriotism, the industry would hardly be able to carry on its task of exceeding its quota in the present Seventh War Loan drive.

"Locals in the greater New York area cooperating include Local 306, Motion Picture Machine Operators; Local 802, Associated Musicians of greater New York and American Federation of Musicians; Local 366, Stagehands Local of Westchester County; Local 1, Theatrical Protective Union of the IATSE and MPMO of the U.S. and Canada, and Local 4, Stagehands of the IATSE," Lesser concluded.

Performers Donate 12,000 Hours to 7th Loan Drive

NEW YORK—More than 1,100 stars and performers from all entertainment fields have donated their services at events sponsored by the motion picture industry during the Seventh War Loan drive, according to Irving Lesser, committee head.

Since the drive began, 700 cooperating theatres have sponsored approximately 12,000 hours of free entertainment for bond buyers in 42 days. This includes the daily three-hour period of entertainment at the film industry's Iwo Jima memorial in Times Square, 119 bond premieres and 64 children's shows at local theatres, the huge premieres and all-star rallies at the Broadway houses, hundreds of daily promotions held at theatres in collaboration with civic, charity and patriotic groups, as well as other events.

Hornell Bond Show Sold Out Two Weeks Ahead

HORNELL, N. Y.—A war bond premiere at the Dipson operated Majestic Theatre, set for June 21, has been sold out far in advance to the tune of $202,550. The house, with all seats reserved, was scaled from $25 to $5,000.

A stage show and orchestra will be presented in conjunction with the local premiere of Universal's "Patrick the Great."

The Dipson Theatres are also offering free admission to all bond buyers throughout the month.

Century Has 18 Special Events for 7th Drive

NEW YORK—Century circuit has booked 13 bond premieres and five kiddie bond shows for the Seventh War Loan.

The Mayfair Theatre, Brooklyn, and Lynbrook Theatre, Lynbrook, L. I., have already held their bond premieres, selling a total of $350,000 in bonds.

The Nostrand Theatre, with 995 seats, leads the circuit with aggregate sales of $800,000.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



SONNY TUFTS BUYS, TOO—When the Paramount star called on Bob Gillham, director of advertising and publicity, at the home office, Julia Sullivan, Gillham's secretary, decided it would be a good time to increase her bond-selling quota. It was.

Albany Variety Club USO Canteen to Close July 1

ALBANY—The USO-Variety Club Canteen in the Knights of Columbus building here will close its doors July 1. It had been rumored for some time that the national USO had decided there were no longer sufficient military and naval forces stationed in or passing through the Albany area to warrant continuation of the canteen.

At a recent meeting of the local USO council, an officer of the national organization stressed that concentration in the future was to be on war theatres and hospital areas. Judge M. Michel Dobris, who succeeded Judge Edward N. Scheiberling as chairman of the local USO council at the time of Scheiberling's election as national commander of the American Legion, said the council was cooperating with the national unit in ending the canteen here.

Thousands of service men have enjoyed the facilities of the canteen here, Judge Dobris said. The total is estimated to be 200,000 since the opening in the last week of March, 1943. Bowling alleys, a billiard room, sitting rooms, a writing nook and a hall for dancing, entertainment and films were provided by the Variety Club. KofC assistance was characterized as "marvelous."

The USO lounge in the railroad station is to be continued.

Patio in E Bond Tieup

BROOKLYN—The Patio Theatre made a deal with a local public school agreeing to admit the students free to a special film show, if the school sold a bond for each pupil. The school made good its promise by selling 2,000 individual bonds through the theatre, and on Saturday morning, June 16, the entire student body, 2,000 strong, saw "Thunderhead," plus comedies, cartoons and novelties at the Patio.

Mary Rochetti Cited

NEW YORK—Mary Rochetti, chief of staff at the Burnside Theatre, has qualified for a Loew gold star citation, according to Gene Meyers, district manager. Miss Rochetti has sold more than $10,000 in E bonds during the Seventh War Loan.

Six Capital Theatres Top War Bond Quotas

WASHINGTON — Theatres in the district blasted war bond quotas as six more houses went over the top. Latest reports showed 17 theatres as having surpassed their quotas.

The Booker-T, James Browne manager, had a total sale of $2,700 against a $2,500 goal and the Rosalia, headed by James Washington, showed $3,850 for a $3,500 quota. Howard Derrick, manager of the Mott Theatre, netted $2,650 to become the 11th manager in the District of Columbia to top his bond sale goal. The Beverly Theatre, Julian Lewis manager, went beyond its $35,000 quota to net $36,000 in bonds, while the Earle, under the leadership of Fred McMillan, passed $400,000 and is hoping to reach $750,000.

The Palace Theatre became the third Loew house in Washington to reach its goal in the Seventh War Loan drive. The $250,000 quota was surpassed with a total of $255,000, to give Loew theatres 100 per cent in Washington. The other two houses, Loew's Capitol and Columbia theatres, passed their quotas earlier in the campaign.

N. Y. Patrons Get 25,801 Bonds at 13 Free Shows

NEW YORK—More than a dozen theatres in the metropolitan area sold a total of 25,801 E bonds Wednesday, June 13, in a series of war bond premieres. As part of the Seventh War Loan drive, the following houses gave free admission to prerelease screenings of latest Hollywood films:

In Manhattan, the Academy of Music, Hamilton and Stoddard theatres; in the Bronx, the Royal, Chester and Park Plaza theatres; in Westchester, the Scarsdale Theatre; in Queens, the Astoria, Boulevard, Community, Strand and Century Grove theatres; in Nassau, the Century Grove Theatre, and in Suffolk, the Huntington Theatre.

Stars for Bond Show

ALBANY—Out-of-town stars booked for the children's war bond show at the Palace Saturday morning (16) were Henry Tobias, song writer who is currently director of entertainment at Totem Lodge; Otto Soglow, who cartoons "The Little King," and C. D. Russell, who draws "Pete the Tramp" comic strip.

N. Y. Tops Bond Record

NEW YORK—A record one week's sale of war bonds by 700 theatres in the metropolitan area was registered when a total of 77,323 E bonds with a maturity value of $6,762,462 was sold to patrons in the week ending June 10. Theatres in the area have already sold 375,036 E bonds with a total maturity value of $34,654,617.

Stage Bond Rally

NEW YORK—Approximately 800 employes of the crystal division of Reeves-Ely Laboratories participated in a Times Square bond rally, Thursday. More than 300 extra bonds have been sold to employes during the current drive by a labor-management committee.

Rally Honors 73 Dead

NEW YORK—A bond rally at Loew's Mt. Vernon Theatre in honor of 73 local boys killed in the war netted $10,000 in E bond sales. The rally was conducted by students of the high school the 73 soldiers had attended.

Loew's Sales of Bonds Are Near $13,000,000

NEW YORK—Loew theatre bond sales totaled to 147,085 in individual bonds and $12,838,735 in maturity value early in the week. The figures include in-town and out-of-town houses.

Loew's Pitkin and American Theatres are running close for first place in the in-town drive. The Pitkin, Al Weiss, manager, leads with $664,225 and 6,228 sales, and the American, Gil Marbe, manager, is close behind with $657,550, or 8,006 bonds.

The Boro Park, Walter Heiber, manager, is in third place with 4,774 bonds worth $523,525, and the Kameo, Sam Pearlman, manager, is in fourth place with 4,062 bonds worth $429,825. The Paradise, Jerry de Rosa, manager, has sold 4,198 bonds with a maturity value of $372,225.

The Capitol and Columbia at Washington lead the out-of-town group. The Capitol sales have reached 5,931 bonds—$628,475—and the Columbia has sold 4,660 bonds—$442,500. The State at Cleveland is in third place with 2,842 sales—$380,950. Loew's Richmond, Richmond, Va., is fourth with 2,623 sales—$358,400, and the Palace, Washington, is fifth with 3,683 sales—$318,525.

School Closes Half Day To Aid Kids' Premiere

BROOKLYN—At its children's bond premiere the Tilyou Theatre sold a total of 2,207 E bonds for a maturity value of $81,375, considered to be one of the largest totals obtained from this type of show. Louis Liss, manager of the house, persuaded the principal of the Mark Twain Junior High School to grant the students a half holiday in order to participate in the patriotic effort.

In addition to the film, "God Is My Co-Pilot," Liss presented an "in-person" stage show featuring Benny Baker and Danny O'Neill. Admission was free to purchasers of $25 to $100 E bonds.

RKO Makes Corporate Buy Of $3,325,000 in Bonds

NEW YORK—U.S. treasury certificates of indebtedness totaling $3,325,000 have been bought by RKO Theatres, RKO Radio Pictures and other company subsidiaries in connection with the current bond drive.

This corporate bond purchase does not include individual purchases by more than 7,000 RKO executives and employes.

Over Bond Quota

ALBANY—William C. Smalley of the Smalley circuit is a member of the Cooperstown war bond committee which reported the village had reached 116 per cent of its quota by June 10. Smalley headquarters are in Cooperstown, on the shores of Lake Otsego, made famous by Novelist James Fenimore Cooper. A calf and a lamb were among the articles auctioned at a war bond rally which Smalley helped to arrange. The rally was to

Smokes, $1,000 a Carton

BROOKLYN — The Midwood Theatre will present 1,000 packs of cigarets to bond buyers on Wednesday, June 20. For the purchase of a $25 war bond, one package will be given free; two packs for a $50 bond; three packs for a $100 bond, and a full carton for a $1,000 bond. Howard Cohn, manager of the Midwood, effected the tieup with Cookie's Corner, which is donating its cigaret allotment to further the sale of bonds during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Pork Chops on the Hoof A Bond Show Premium

Albany—A pig and several war bonds were given away at a Seventh War Loan rally in Benton's Strand Theatre, Plattsburgh, Wednesday night.

P. J. Malone, manager of the house, and W. J. Leonard, Plattsburgh dance master and leading bond salesman in the city, arranged the affair and donated the bonds. Leonard, also known as a sports promoter, sold $300,000 in bonds in the Sixth Loan drive.

Film Industry Assists, But Bond Sales Lag

PHILADELPHIA—Biggest sellers of bonds in Philadelphia's Seventh War Loan drive are the films and radio—particularly the first.

The drive itself threatens to be a failure. With two weeks to go only 55 per cent of Philadelphia's quota has been raised.

But everything Hollywood or the radio has tried has proven to be a great success. Every bond film premiere has been a 100 per cent sell out—and there have been 304 of them so far, as compared with only 253 for the Sixth Loan drive.

Among screen notables who have appeared at bond rallies are Ruth Hussey, Walter Huston, Ralph Bellamy, Helmut Dantine, Andrea King, Jean Parker, Lois Andrews and Jimmy Cagney. Whenever they appeared bond sales boomed. At bond rallies where film stars did not appear there was a notable lethargy in sales.

The radio tried the Breakfast Club as a bond stunt. It was a huge success. The next radio show scheduled is Blind Date to be tied in with the Eddie Cantor show. It promises to sell millions of dollars in bonds.

Buffalo Cameraman Aided In Filming of "Iwo Jima"

BUFFALO—Pvt. Angelo S. Abramo, assistant manager of Telenews Theatre here before enlisting in November, 1942, was one of 30 marine cameramen who helped film the preinvasion naval bombardment, landings and struggle inland on Iwo Jima for the film "To the Shores of Iwo Jima."

In filming the picture, which will be shown in all downtown theatres starting this weekend, two men were killed and two wounded. Abramo trained in newsreel photography at Quantico, Va.

Henie in Paris for USO

NEW YORK—Sonja Henie has arrived in Paris under sponsorship of USO-Camp Shows. The skating star is to fullfil a six-week engagement. Alec Templeton is also in France for an eight-week stint. These stars, and other big names, are the vanguard of the personalities who will go overseas to provide entertainment for the American forces of occupation.

Bonds for Standing Room

BROOKLYN—The Mayfair Theatre sold 1,974 E bonds with a maturity value of $247,575 at its war bond premiere. Many patrons bought standing room for a bond.

SRO at Kids' Bond Show

BROOKLYN—The Elm Theatre put up the SRO sign for its children's bond show. Sales totaled 1,000 E bonds with a maturity value of $55,000.

INCORPORATIONS

—ALBANY—

Visual Education Films: Formed to deal in educational motion pictures in New York; 200 shares, no par; Harry Sand, Mathilde Lewis and Rose Crystal, 135 Broadway.

Reda Kovac Films: Formed to conduct motion picture business in New York; 100 shares; Reda Kovacs, 100 W. 42nd St., and L. David Weiss and Bernard Smolowitz, 565 Fifth Ave.

American Photocopy Equipment Co. of New York: Formed in Wilmington, Del., recorded statement its New York office is at 21 W. 44th St.; Joseph S. Lederer, president; $10,000; $1 par.

Name Tradepaper Editors To Judge Serial Contest

NEW YORK—Columbia Pictures has obtained the services of seven leading tradepaper editors as judges in its nationwide exploitation contest on "The Monster and the Ape." They are: Chester B. Bahn, Film Daily; R. W. Baremore, the Independent; James M. Jerauld, BOXOFFICE; Sherwin Kane, Motion Picture Daily; Thomas Kennedy, Showmen's Trade Review; Herbert M. Miller, the Exhibitor, and Terry Ramsaye, Motion Picture Herald.

All exhibitors booking the serial are eligible to compete. Entrants are required to register in advance of their first date, and on finishing the run submit complete campaigns to the contest department at Columbia's home office. Final judging will take place about November 16, 1945.

First place winner in the contest will receive a $500 war bond; second place, $200 in bonds; third place, $100 in bonds, and fourth place, $50 in bonds. Those finishing in from fifth to tenth place will each receive a $25 war bond.

Elwyn Is Staff Director At Princeton's Center

NEW YORK—Robert Elwyn, stage producer and film director currently working on special-purpose picture assignments at the Princeton Film Center, has been named a staff director of that organization. He recently directed a number of pictures for M-G-M at Culver City.

Widely experienced both on the legitimate stage and in motion pictures, Elwyn produced several American stage plays at the Salzburg Theatre in Salzburg, Austria, before the war. Returning to this country he became managing director of the Maverick Theatre, Woodstock, N. Y., one of the first professional theatres on the summer circuit. Later he built the Woodstock Playhouse, producing and directing tryout plays there.

Capt. B. D. Lion Back At RKO Foreign Dep't

NEW YORK—B. D. Lion, formerly captain in the U.S. army's special services division, has returned to his post in the RKO foreign sales department. For many years he handled the European, United Kingdom and far eastern divisions for RKO prior to joining the army where he aided distribution of 16mm film to troops overseas.

His most recent assignment was in London for the psychological warfare division of SHAEF, distributing film to civilians in liberated areas.

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers



HONOR FOR SCHAEFER—Morris Sanders (left), president of Motion Picture Associates, looks on as Charles Reagan presents a plaque to George J. Schaefer, chairman of the board of Lester Cowan Productions, for distinguished service to the industry. At the right is Jack Ellis, vice-president of MPA.

Five Features, 8 Shorts On NBR Selected List

NEW YORK—The National Board of Review's current weekly guide designates five features and eight shorts for its selected list. Choices and comments are as follows: "Back to Bataan" (RKO), "breathtaking and exciting; "There Burns a Fire" (Scandia), "interesting and factual"; "Isle of the Dead" (RKO), "clever, subtle, macabre, chilling, plausible"; "Out of This World" (Para), "Bracken distinctly life of the party," and "West of the Pecos" (RKO), "spirited, piquant."

Selected short subjects were: "Battle of Supply" (RKO This Is America); "Jasper's Minstrels" (Para Puppetoon); "Land of 10,000 Lakes" (20th-Fox Movietone Adventure); "Legend of Coyote Rock" (RKO Disney); "Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats" (20th-Fox Terrytoon); "Tops in the Big Top" (Para Popeye); "West Point Winners" (RKO Sportscope), and "What It Takes to Make a Star" (20th-Fox).

Vanguard Sets New York Offices After Chaplin Suit

ALBANY—Vanguard Films of Los Angeles recorded a statement here designating 400 Madison Ave. as its New York office. Ernest L. Scanlon is vice-president.

The New York court of appeals, in a recent case filed by Charles Chaplin, owner of 25 per cent stock interest in United Artists, in an accounting action against David O. Selznick Productions, Inc., and Vanguard Films, which contracted for several pictures, considered the question of whether business was conducted in New York state. The majority ruling in the affirmative.

Favors Air Travel

NEW YORK—Eastern Airlines has announced the issuing of travel cards to all members of Hygienic Productions organization. Plans of the company are to favor air travel wherever possible in the transportation of the various units of their "Mom and Dad" hygiene show throughout the country.

RKO Buys Into Radio Time

NEW YORK—RKO purchased six participations on WABC for "Those Endearing Young Charms." Four were in "Personally, It's off the Record" broadcasts; one was in the Phil Cook program, and one in the Margaret Arlen program.

F. Siter Flies to Egypt

NEW YORK—Frank Siter, special representative for Paramount in the Near East, has left by plane for Egypt via Casablanca. Formerly Paramount manager in Romania, Siter first became associated with the company's overseas activities in 1928. He has been connected with the picture industry since 1924.

Two-Hour Horror Film

NEW YORK—"Dr. Terror's House of Horrors," two hours long, will be the first picture released nationally by Albert Dezel and Max Rosenberg of National Roadshows, Inc. The film is to be handled east of Pittsburgh by Classic Pictures, and in the Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Chicago areas by Albert Dezel Roadshows.

ITS in New Quarters

NEW YORK—Independent Theatres Service, Inc., held open house at its new offices in the Herald-Tribune Bldg., Monday. Al Suchman, chief film buyer, was host to a group of exhibitors and trade press representatives. The buying and booking organization recently moved from 303 West 42nd St.

"Blood on Sun" in L. A.

LOS ANGELES—Following its premiere at the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco, "Blood on the Sun" was booked into four west coast theatres here for day-and-date engagements. The picture opened June 15 at the Chinese, Loew's State, Uptown and Carthay Circle theatres.

Muriel Zola Joins PRC

NEW YORK—Muriel Zola, former United Artists publicist, is now handling promotions and tieups on PRC's "Crime, Inc.," for its Rialto Theatre engagement, starting June 29. Prior to her engagement at UA, Miss Zola did publicity and exploitation work for the stage and radio.

Waxman Staging Musical

NEW YORK—A. P. Waxman, well known in film circles, has just signed for the immediate production of "The Duchess Misbehaves," stage musical.

Former Showgirl in "Tomorrow"

Myrna Dell, former New York showgirl, has been assigned the next-to-top feminine role in "Tomorrow Is Here."

George Weltner Feted By Para's Executives

NEW YORK—George Weltner, newly elected president of Paramount International Films, Inc., was guest of honor at a luncheon given by President Barney Balaban at the Hotel Astor. In addition to Balaban, among those who attended from Paramount and the foreign subsidiary were:

Adolph Zukor, Austin Keough, Louis Phillips, Robert O'Brien, Leonard Goldenson, Fred Mohrhardt, Paul Raibourn, Russell Holman, Arthur Israel, Walter Cokell, Charles M. Reagan, Jack Karp, Robert Weitman, David Rose, J. E. Perkins, Clement S. Crystal and Fred W. Lange. Balaban, Zukor, Rose and Karp paid tributes to Weltner.

Exhibitors, Bookers See 'Incendiary' Tradeshow

NEW YORK—Among the metropolitan area film buyers, bookers and exhibitors at the tradeshow of "Incendiary Blonde" at the Normandie Theatre were: Jack Harris, Reade circuit; Charles Moses, Century circuit; John Benas and Al Daly, Skouras Theatres; Jack Gelber, Interboro Theatres; Morris Lane, Lane circuit; Irving Dashkin, Savoy Theatre, Jamaica, L. I.; Harry Britwar, Prudential Theatres; Sam Rinzler, Randforce circuit, and Murray Schoen, Earle and Beacon theatres; Brooklyn.

Also present were Bert Ram of the Ram circuit, Aiken, S. C., and Mrs. Ram, both on a visit here. Ram at one time worked in Paramount's Buffalo exchange.

Gans, R&R Executive, Dies of Heart Attack

NEW YORK—Louis Gans, 47, supervisor of the New Jersey houses of Rapf & Ruden for the last seven years, died Monday after a heart attack. Before joining Rapf & Ruden, he had been a manager and supervisor for the Leff & Meyers circuit and Leo Brecher.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at the Midtown Memorial Chapel, 171 West 85th St. Gans is survived by his wife, Mrs. Pearl Gans; a daughter, Ruth, and a son, Chief Warrant Officer Seymour Gans.

Skouras Re-Signs Altec

NEW YORK—Skouras Theatres Corp. has renewed agreements with Altec Service Corp. for regular periodical inspection service and repair and replacement parts for the sound reproducing equipment in 64 theatres in the metropolitan area.

Approve Four RKO Films

NEW YORK—The Motion Picture Council of Central Queens on its monthly list of approved features selected four RKO films. They were "Along Came Jones," "The Body Snatcher," "Those Endearing Young Charms" and "Wonder Man."

Declares 50c Dividend

NEW YORK—Directors of Western Electric have declared a dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock. The dividend is payable June 29, 1945, to stock of record at the close of business on June 22, 1945.

"Rhapsody" Air Plugs

NEW YORK—Warner Bros.' six participations on WABC in the Phil Cook program for "Rhapsody in Blue" went into effect Monday, June 11. The agency was Blaine-Thompson Co., Inc.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER

(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Spanish-Languagers Coming Via Republic

Herbert J. Yates, the president of Republic Productions, Inc., upon his return to the studio following a three-day visit to Mexico City to analyze production facilities there, announced that Republic will produce at least six Spanish-language pictures during the coming year, to be filmed in Mexico City. Yates conferred with Miguel Aleman, former minister of the interior of Mexico, and also met with a group of prominent Mexican exhibitors headed by Emilio Azcarraga, owner of a chain of theatres and of Mexico's two most powerful radio stations.

Commendable Mexican Progress

"Mexican producers are to be commended for their progress in film production," Yates declared, "and especially in view of the restrictions imposed upon us all by wartime conditions. They have done an excellent job and there is now definitely opportunity for a constant exchange of American and Mexican productions in North America, as well as an interchange of personalities from both countries, as quickly as war conditions permit."

Yates further disclosed he plans to visit every South American country in the near future in order to secure first-hand knowledge of film requirements and preferences. He also discussed with James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, the distribution organization, a plan for a system of rotating visits to Mexico by Republic division and district managers, as well as certain associate producers.

"The South and Central American markets have grown in importance by leaps and bounds," he said. "If there is to be an international thought in the postwar world, and it is apparent to everyone that if perfect understanding and peace is to be achieved, it is necessary, interrelations with our continental industrialites, motion picture fans and motion picture exhibitors is an excellent start on the road to peace.

American Films Welcomed

"That American films are welcomed by Mexico and South Americans, has been proved to us very conclusively in the tremendous reception now being given our 'Brazil,' 'Fighting SeaBees,' 'Lady and the Monster,' 'Lake Placid Serenade' and our Roy Rogers pictures. 'Brazil' is chalking up record grosses throughout Mexico, in Vera Cruz, Mexico City, Tampico, Torreon Chihuahua, and Aguas Caliente. And our special screening this week in Mexico City, of our 10th anniversary special, 'Flame of Barbary Coast,' was enthusiastically received by both press and exhibitors.

"A better understanding is certainly possible between producers of Spanish-speaking and English-speaking pictures, and can best be achieved by fraternization and discussions of mutual film industry problems."

WLB Approves Wage Hike For 3,000 Office Workers

Screen Office Employes Guild received WLB approval of a seven per cent over-all wage increase for its 3,000 members. The WLB also approved the terms and conditions of a new contract which guarantees earned vacations, night premium pay, preferential hiring, cumulative sick leave and many other benefits to the white collarites.

The wage increase, negotiated early in the year, will be retroactive to January, 1944. It is estimated by Glenn Pratt, SOEG business manager, that the studio white collarites will receive more than $500,000 in retroactive pay.

As it slid into its 15th week, Hollywood's studio strike at the same time slipped to still a lower place among the problems which command the mercurial interests of the film capital.

Pickets continued to be standard equipment before the portals of the film foundries, in which, according to the producers, activities were being carried on at near-normal levels.

To Washington Soon

At the weekly mass meeting of the strikers, Herbert Sorrell, president of the conference of studio unions, to which organization the striking labor groups belong, informed the assemblage that the local branch of the NLRB was ready to forward to Washington its recommendations as to what action should be taken as a result of the recent election to determine the bargaining agency for the set decorators, jurisdiction over whom was the original cause of the strike. Early action may bring an end to the walkouts.

Five Screen Actors Guild members have been named to serve as committeemen for the council of Hollywood guilds and unions. They are Rex Ingram, Robert Shane, Bill Davidson, Leroy Taylor and Dane Clark.

RKO Announces New Epic Of Early Oklahoma Era

"Badman's Territory," a story of a lawless period of America's frontier history, has been announced by RKO Radio for production in the late summer. The studio heralds it as the most spectacular outdoor picture since "Cimarron." Written for the screen by Jack Natteford and Luci Ward, story has for its background that portion of the United States which from 1850 to 1899 was outside the control of the federal government. Today it is part of the state of Oklahoma.

Among the many characters to be depicted in the film will be the James boys, the Dalton boys, Belle Starr, Sam Bass, Little Britches and Cattle Annie.

Nat Holt will produce under the executive supervision of Jack Gross.

July New York Premiere For "Incendiary Blonde"

"Incendiary Blonde," Paramount's Technicolor musical based on the career of Texas Guinan and starring Betty Hutton, will have a premiere in New York the latter part of July. It will not play elsewhere until the Labor Day week.

The local premiere at the Esquire Theatre of "Silver Fleet," the PRC picture which was produced in England by Michael Powell and Arnold Pressburger, was postponed from June 15 to June 22.

Bill Powell Signs a New Long-Term Metro Pact

William Powell and M-G-M studio renewed an 11-year-old association when the actor recently signed a new long-term contract. The first picture under the new pact will be "The Hoodlum Saint."

Tom Geraghty, Writer, Dies

Tom Geraghty, 62, pioneer screen writer and producer, died in a private sanitarium in Culver City. He is survived by four children. Prior to his illness, Geraghty was head of the Hollywood bureau of censorship, OWI, and during his screen career wrote over 100 originals and adaptations.

MCA-Eddie Bracken Row To SAG Arbitration

Music Corp. of America has referred its dispute with Eddie Bracken to the Screen Actors Guild for arbitration.

MCA claims it had paid for and created the Bracken radio show, The Life of Eddie Bracken, and was joint owner; while Bracken claims that MCA violated part of its agreement in claiming and retaining part ownership in the show.

Meanwhile, Bracken has served notice of discharge to MCA.

Film Industry Joins in Great Welcome To Generals Patton and Doolittle

With Hollywood's top celebrities and executives of screen and radio participating, Los Angeles wound up its two-day homecoming celebration for Gens. George S. Patton and James Doolittle in which the entertainment industry played a vital part.

The final occasion was a dinner to which the Hollywood personalities were invited in recognition of the industry's contribution to the most spectacular celebration southern California ever witnessed.

Hollywood's efforts were praised by Mayor Fletcher Bowron as "an outstanding example of civic and patriotic effort." Thanking Y. Frank Freeman, appointed by E. J. Mannix, president of the Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers, to represent the industry on the citizens' committee for the homecoming, Mayor Bowron said:

Mayor Credits Film Help

"Without the valued assistance of the industry, the city could not have achieved the stirring spectacle desired for this historic homecoming."

To Mervyn LeRoy went the task of producing the Coliseum show which highlighted the two-day program. Lieut. Col. Clifford W. Macfarlane was associate producer. Glenn Wheaton, Jerry Lawrence, Irving Brecher, Bill Ratigan and Leonard Callahan worked on the script for the spectacular show. David Rose was musical director, and William Cannon and Bill Hebert served as production assistants.

Stars of both screen and radio were set for the program by the Hollywood Victory Committee, with more top names volunteering for service than could be accommodated on the schedule. Humphrey Bogart delivered the narration depicting General Doolittle's briefing of his B25 pilots on the Hornet before the first Tokyo raid, and Edward G. Robinson introduced the General Patton sequence—key episodes in the show which was attended by a capacity audience of more than 105,000.

Jack Benny Was Emcee

Jack Benny, introduced by LeRoy, served as master of ceremonies, and Judy Garland opened the program by leading the audience in the singing of "God Bless America." Special numbers were performed by Jimmy Durante, Danny Thomas, Carmen Miranda, Frances Langford, the Charioteers, Ella Logan and Lena Horne.

A poem, "God of Battles," written by General Patton, was read by Bette Davis. The Lord's Prayer was delievered by Margaret O'Brien. Jeanette MacDonald, Lauritz Melchior and Ezio Pinza joined in singing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Walter Hoffman of Paramount and Lou Witte of 20th-Fox, with a staff of 16 studio explosives experts, produced the battle effects for the spectacular simulated tank attack which introduced General Patton at the Coliseum.

Newsreel cameras, both commercial and army, covered all phases of the homecoming.

Publicity was handled by an industry committee with Arch Reeve, secretary of the public information committee of the motion picture industry, as chairman and with Duke Wales actively in charge. On the staff were Don McDonald of Universal, W. C. Lewellen of Paramount and Harold Mendelsohn of Columbia, loaned by their respective studios.

Fox West Coast contributed prints of special announcement trailers on the Coliseum show and arrangements were made by the industry WAC for use of the trailers on 72 local screens for four days preceding the celebration.

Hollywood At War

Obviously it's physically impossible for Hollywood's soldiers in grease paint to be entertaining generals and GIs at one and the same time—especially when the generals are in Los Angeles and the GIs spread from Baffin Bay to breakfast.

The homecoming celebration for Gens. George S. Patton and James Doolittle, in which the film colony played so important a part, commanded so much attention by personalities and those who assign them to patriotic chores that little emphasis was placed on their routine chores of carrying entertainment to men and women in uniform. Probably activities in that department were at usual high levels, but the boys who broadcast the news thereon were leveling all of their guns at the big homecoming festivities.

Two more personalities were set by the Hollywood Victory Committee for overseas tours. Al Pearce will take a troupe on a three-month tour. Marc Lawrence will star in an overseas USO-Camp Shows unit of "Room Service."

Two troupes on the GI hospital circuit requested extension on their current tour routes. James Dunn, who was in the mid-south, asked for an additional week. Marilyn Maxwell requested another week on her tour of the eastern seaboard.

Michael O'Shea went to Livermore, Calif., to take part in a rodeo where he also made a plea for the war loan drive.

English Musical Star Arrives in Hollywood

Pat Kirkwood, English musical comedy star, arrived in Hollywood as the first star to be exchanged between M-G-M studios here and the M-G-M London studio on a "lend-lease" arrangement. Miss Kirkwood has been signed to make her American debut in the forthcoming drama, "No Leave, No Love," which Charles Martin will direct and Joe Pasternak produce.

Emily Kimbrough to Do Screen Story for Durbin

Emily Kimbrough, who with Cornelia Otis Skinner, wrote "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," will come to Hollywood from her home in New York to confer with Universal Producer Felix Jackson on an original screenplay for Deanna Durbin which she will write. The plot will be in light, gay comedy vein.

W. J. Conner Buys Into Hamrick Tacoma Houses

TACOMA—Will J. Conner has acquired all interests of the late Ned Edris in the John Hamrick theatres here and has assumed general management of the circuit's four houses in this city.

Resigns at Hoquiam, Wash.

HOQUIAM, WASH.—Leonard Erpelding has resigned as manager of the New Hoquiam Theatre here to go to Salem, Ore.

Citywide Fund Drive For Guild Canteen

Under supervision of Al Lichtman, chairman of its board of directors, a citywide campaign has been launched to raise funds for the Hollywood Guild and Canteen, one of the film colony's most popular wartime enterprises.

Increased demands on the unique institution, which has housed and fed more than 2,000,000 service men and women of all the United Nations since its foundation three years ago, makes it necessary, Lichtman declared, to broaden the list of free-will supporters to take in the entire community so increasing expenses can be met regularly.

No Organized Drive

The campaign will not be an organized drive, but will appeal to the civic pride of generous minded people of greater Los Angeles.

"While we are now reorganized on a better financial basis, the chairman states, "our outlays average around 13,000 a month, and we can no longer rely on one small segment of the community to shoulder this responsibility alone. When people all over the country talk about the wonderful job 'Ma Lehr's place' is doing, every one in the city benefits and all should rally to its support.

"Inasmuch as the guild is a haven for lonely service men where they are given clean home-like surroundings, we have recently repainted and replastered the dormitories, enlarged the reception room, repainted the 700 beds, installed new plumbing and flood lights, expanded the laundry facilities and engaged help to make and clean the beds.

Expect Food Budget to Soar

"We expect our food budget will go sky high when the fighting forces come through here on their way to Tokyo and we are asking all who can to send what they can, regularly, so we may maintain the institution which has reflected so much credit on our community."

William Goetz, industry chairman of the United Jewish welfare fund drive, has announced that two divisions have passed their quota.

According to Goetz, Allied Industries, Edward O. Blackburn, chairman, has reached 166 per cent of quota; RKO Studios, Leon Goldberg and George Bilson, chairmen, report 119 per cent.

Three studios were close to completing their drive: Republic, 97 per cent of quota; Warner Bros. and 20th-Fox, 95 per cent.

Preview in San Francisco For "China's Little Devils"

"China's Little Devils," Monogram drama costarring Harry Carey and Paul Kelly, had its premiere at the Esquire and Tivoli theatres, San Francisco. Trem Carr, executive director at the studio, sent the Chinese boy, Ducky Louie, back to his home town for a personal appearance in connection with his first picture. Producer Grant Withers was also on hand for the opening.

No. California Dimes Is Quarter of State Sum

SAN FRANCISCO—March of Dimes collections in northern California and Hawaiian theatres, totaled $356,452, according to George M. Mann, theatre division chairman for this area. This was more than one-quarter of the total amount collected in the state. The sum was included in the $1,357,378 total turned over by California to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Technicolor Adopts Retirement Plan

Following approval by the company's board of directors and by the federal treasury, Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager of the Technicolor organization, has announced the creation of a retirement plan available to all members of the organization between the ages of 25 and 65 who have had five years continuous service with the company.

Normal retirement age is set at 65, but employes may, with the consent of the company, retire on an adjusted income any time after age 55. If a member is continued in service beyond normal retirement age, he will receive full retirement benefits in addition to his salary or wage.

Each participant in the plan is required to deposit for his own account an amount equal to 3 per cent of the first $250 of his basic monthly pay, and 5 per cent of that part over $250 a month.

Technicolor provides a retirement income payable beginning at normal retirement age of an amount equal to 1 per cent of the member's basic compensation fo reach year of service after age 25. Full credit is accorded by Technicolor for each year of service over the age of 25 prior to the adoption of the plan.

The plan provides that the full amount of the member's deposit is withdrawable by him, with interest, on demand, whether he should leave the company for any reason or remain with it. If a member has been employed for a substantial period, though he terminate his service with the company, he may leave his deposits in the fund, and retain full benefits provided by the entire amount deposited to his account by Technicolor as well as his own.

Studio Biggies Leave For Battlefield Tour

While E. J. Mannix and Clifford P. Work were en route east by train, Sidney Buchman, Harry Cohn, Jack L. Warner and Darryl Zanuck planed out for Washington to join the party of studio and company heads who are to tour the European Theatre of Operations as guests of SHAEF.

The Hollywood executives, including Lester Cowan and Sol Lesser, who already are in the east, were to have a day's indoctrination in the capital before departure by ATC plane for overseas. The entire group were to be luncheon guests of Gen. George C. Marshall and Maj. Gen. Alexander Surles.

Company heads and others in the industry group who will be acquainted with postwar problems in Europe and Barney Balaban, S. H. Fabian, Russell Holman, Francis Harmon, Taylor M. Mills, N. Peter Rathvon and R. B. Wilby. In addition to visiting liberated capitals and other war-important centers such as Cologne and SHAEF headquarters, the film party will be guests of the British government in London.

Dewey Starkey to No. 2 Spot In Production at RKO

Dewey Starkey, member of RKO production staff for 20 years, has been elevated to post of assistant production manager, succeeding Argyle Nelson, who resigned to become production manager for David O. Selznick.

Starkey will assume his post as assistant to Walter Daniels, production manager, immediately.

Debuts in "For Better, for Worse"

John Carlyle, a Metro player, will make his screen debut in "For Better, for Worse."

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

GRATIFYING it is when on rare occasions the motion picture industry is accorded its merited recognition by anyone, most especially by civic groups.

One such situation presented itself in connection with Los Angeles' elaborately-planned celebration to welcome two homecoming heroes, Gens. George S. Patton and James H. Doolittle.

Ace Director Mervyn LeRoy was appointed by Mayor Fletcher Bowron to produce the show which climaxed the day's festivities. Hollywood's top personalities and all available studio facilities were placed at the command of the sponsoring civic committee by Y. Frank Freeman, who appointed Metro's E. J. Mannix to represent the motion picture industry. In short, Hollywood stole the show on virtually every count.

But, most pleasing was the fact that, at the request of C. K. Steele, city treasurer, and chairman of the civic committee, Arch Reeve's Public Information Committee organized and turned over a staff which had entire charge of publicity for the homecoming celebration. The staff was headed by Reeve, with Duke Wales actively in charge as his assistant. Publicists W. C. Lewellyn of Paramount, Don McDonald of Universal and Harold Mendelsohn of Columbia were loaned to the special organization.

Which, in a community where the gentle art of pressagentry has been developed to an all-time high, is a noteworthy tribute to Reeve, his staff and his work.

➞

Perhaps this recognition of Secretary Reeve's efficiency and effectiveness will win him an increase in the weekly honorarium. In which event, notice is hereby served on one and sundry—and most particularly Praise Pundit Perry Lieber—that as a pigeon, fattened or not, he belongs to this department.

➞

On the other side of the ledger, however, and just to safeguard against aforementioned Public Information Committee busting out at the seams with pride, attention is called to how its badly-battered preview system again broke down.

In two recent consecutive issues, widely-read Time magazine jumped picture review release dates. The June 4 issue printed a review on Paramount's "Out of This World," which made Time's lukewarm reactions to the picture available to the magazine's readers on June 1. The picture was shown to trade press reviewers on Thursday, May 31, with instructions to release reviews on June 6.

Time's May 28 issue—in circulation on May 25—voiced its critical opinion of United Artists' "The Great John L," Bing Crosby's sole try at producing. The Crosby offering was unfolded for the edification of the trade press on June 1, a full week later.

Precedent, logic, even law prescribes that tradepapers should print reviews on pictures ahead of the lay press-daily, weekly or monthly. Yet constantly violated is the courtesy studios extend to magazine critics who have distant deadlines to consider.

When such violations start coming in bunches, as above cited, the entire system is threatened and looming is return of evils of the unsatisfactory, time-killing, ill will-engendering practice of tradepapers catching films at sneak previews.

So, between bows, and for the good of the order, the PIC could well devote a minute to slapping a few release-jumping magazine wrists.

➞

Nobody likes an Indian-giver. Despite which, rescinded, recalled, cancelled, revoked and nullified are the few kind words this space dedicated to Behemoth of Blurb Russell Birdwell a couple of weeks ago.

The B. of B. announced and assured that his crashing of Collier's cover with Martha Tilton—with three more Birdwell clients to follow—was the first time that magazine had devoted the lush space to a "living personality."

The kudos for praiseworthy enterprise which resultantly were tossed to romantic, roving Russell—and associates—brought a gibing protest from Warner publicists who informed that the coveted Collier's cover, for the pioneering of which Birdwell claimed credit, had been devoted to three Warner stars—Alexis Smith, Joan Leslie and Michel Morgan—at various times during the past six months.

In industry idiom, "a guy just can't trust no one in this racket."

➞

Considering the hours they have spent in projection rooms looking at daily rushes, perhaps the greatest Coals-to-Newcastle gesture of all time is the current trek by a group of motion picture producers to view atrocities in Europe.

Best the exhibitors and fans can hope for is that they don't bring back any new ideas.

➞

The week's Neck Out contribution comes from Alex Evelove of the Burbank Eveloves, to wit:

Lauren Bacall received word that she has been selected 'Tender Queen' of the USS Kenneth Whiting."

➞

"SIGN SNAKE EXPERT FOR 'YEARLING' SCENE
—Howard Strickling headline.

That blended stuff should have produced plenty of qualified applicants.

➞

Radio division of Paramount's publicity department delivered a yeoman's job in connection with the debut of "Out of This World." During the picture's first week of the feature's New York run, Diana Lynn, its bug's-ear cute femme lead, was spotted on four popular coast-to-coast radio shows, including silk-stocking Information Please.

In each instance, the film was given an unusually strong plug—and that's exploitation at its most valuable.

➞

Metro's "Between Two Women" and "Main Street After Dark" were dualed at Grauman's Chinese theatre.

Sounds like an answer to a visiting GI's prayer.

➞

James Dobbs, socialite scion of the chapeaux-manufacturing Dobbses, has been signed to a term acting contract by a major studio.

The talent scout didn't give him that "In your hat" routine.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Blurbers

RKO Radio

Advancement of ARTHUR JEFFREY to be eastern publicity manager for International Pictures in New York has been announced.

Briefies

Columbia

JULES WHITE, producer-director of short subjects, signed to another year's contract, making a total of 13 years with the studio. His next production will be initialer of a series of two-reel comedies starring Eddie Foy jr., all to be produced and directed by White.

Paramount

"Kid Sister," next two-reel Technicolor Musical Parade for GEORGE TEMPLETON's production slate will star Bob Graham, Dorothy Porter and Miriam Franklin.

Cleffers

Columbia

HUGO FRIEDHOFER assigned to compose background score for "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest."

Republic

ROY WEBB, on loan from RKO Radio, assigned to score "Love, Honor and Goodbye."

RKO Radio

Through courtesy of Warners, MAX STEINER has been engaged to create 90 minutes of symphonic music for International's "Tomorrow Is Forever."

Loanouts

Columbia

RUTH NELSON has been borrowed from 20th-Fox for role in "Girl of the Limberlost."

Paramount

BARBARA BRITTON has been borrowed to costar with Robert Lowery in the Pine-Thomas production, "They Made Me a Killer." Film, from a screenplay by Geoffrey Homes, Winston Miller and Kae Salkow, based on an original yarn by Owen Francis, is scheduled for June shooting.

RKO Radio

JOYCE MacKENZIE has been borrowed from International Pictures for Samuel Goldwyn's "Kid From Brooklyn."

United Artists

Hunt Stromberg has loaned MARIE McDONALD to Edward Small to costar in the latter's "Getting Gertie's Garter."

Meggers

Paramount

"Home Sweet Home" first feature to be produced by LOU HARRIS, recently promoted from briefie ranks.

Monogram

LAMBERT HILLYER signed to direct "The Lost Trail."

RKO Radio

WALLACE GRISSELL set to pilot "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

Options

Columbia

JOHN SOUTHER, who appeared in the stage production of "Snafu," inked for his original role of "Mr. Taylor" in film version.

CARL "ALFALFA" SWITZER joins cast of "Some Call It Love."

ANN MILLER given a new long-term contract with a substantial boost in compensation.

NID MARKEL, star of Thomas H. Ince silent films and one of William S. Hart's leading ladies, has been signed for "Snafu."

DUSTY ANDERSON will play her first lead opposite Warner Baxter in an untitled picture of the Crime Doctor series, to be produced by Rudolph Flothow under the supervision of Leonard Picker.

Independent

Set for "Northwest Trail," Action Pictures' film of the northwest mounted police being produced by Max King and William David, are BOB STEELE, JOHN LITEL, JOAN WOODBURY, MADGE BELLAMY, RAYMOND HATTON, JOHN HAMILTON, CHARLES MIDDLETON, POODLES and GRACIE HANNEFORD, IAN KEITH and GEORGE MEEKER.

Metro

RAGS RAGLAND to have serious role in "The Hoodlum Saint."

JAMES GLEASON and FRANK McHUGH signed for featured roles in "The Hoodlum Saint."

ESTHER WILLIAMS assigned the feminine lead in "The Hoodlum Saint."

THERESE LYON, stage and radio actress, signed for a comedy role in "A Letter for Evie."

Monogram

BERNARD NEDELL, TERRY FROST, DORIS LLOYD, MATTY FAIN and TEALA LORING added to the cast of "Allotment Wives."

ADDISON RICHARDS, JONATHAN HALE and ANTHONY WARDE have been signed for roles in "Allotment Wives."

DON DOUGLAS, JONATHAN HALE, ROBERT EMMETT KEANE, MARJORIE HOSHELLE and JACK NORTON have been signed for roles in "Gregory."

Paramount

JUNE DUPREZ borrowed from RKO to play one of the two leading feminine roles in "Calcutta."

New film contracts have been awarded to DIANA LYNN, JOHNNY COY and BYRON BARR.

BILL GOODWIN inked for one of the romantic leads in "To Each His Own."

FRANK CRAVEN inked for a role in "To Each His Own."

LOLA LANE and WALLACE FORD signed for roles in "They Made Me a Killer."

CHARLES SMITH joined the cast of "Too Good to Be True."

EDITH KING, Broadway actress, will make her screen debut in "Calcutta."

PRC Pictures

Inked for "Detour," CLAUDIA DRAKE set for second femme lead.

JOHN LODER and JOHN CARRADINE will be costarred in "The Wife of Monte Cristo."

Republic

STANLEY PRICE, HARDIE ALBRIGHT and BOB WILKE added to roster of "Sunset in El Dorado."

BETTY BLYTHE and FRANKLYN FARNUM, celebrated stars of an earlier day, cast in character roles in "Love, Honor and Goodbye."

RKO Radio

MYRNA DELL, former New York showgirl, has been assigned the next-to-top feminine role in "Tomorrow Is Here."

SHARYN MOFFETT, eight-year-old star, has been set to star in "Happy Birthday to You." Previously announced for the youngster is "Lend Lease for Penny."

GLENN VERNON and MARCY McGUIRE have been inked for "Riverboat Rhythm."

Starring role in "Tomorrow Is Here" handed to BILL WILLIAMS.

Additions to the cast of "Wanderer of the Wasteland" include: ROBERT BARRAT, LARRY WHEAT, SAM LUFKIN, ETHAN LAIDLAW, SAM SHACK, LEW PALFREY, CECIL STEWART, GORDON JONES and FRED ALDRICK.

Universal

JAMES BURKE, KATHLEEN HOWARD and BILLY GREEN signed for featured roles in "Alibi in Ermine."

IRENE RYAN inked for a featured role in "Once Upon a Dream."

JACQUELINE DE WIT set for a role in "Once Upon a Dream."

DONALD WOODS ticketed for important spot in "Night and Day."

LYNN BAGGETT cast in "Janie Gets Married."

Scripters

Metro

HAGAR WILDE and ROBERT ANDREWS are scripting "Frankie From Frisco," which Arthur Hornblow jr. will produce.

Republic

FRANCES HYLAND signed to a year's writing pact.

Two yarns, "Double Jeopardy" and "This Guy Gideon," handed to MARTIN GOLDSMITH for scripting.

DANE LUSSIER and ROYAL COLE are collaborating on script of "Baby Face Nelson."

RKO Radio

Writers NORMAN MANKIEWIEZ and BESS TAFFEL have had their options lifted. Mankiewiez currently is writing "Made in Heaven," which Bert Granet will produce. Miss Taffel has jut completed the script for "Tomorrow Is Here," which Producer Nat Holt is readying for an early start.

Borrowed from Warners, LOUISE RANDALL PIERSON set for screenplay stint on "The Gibson Girl."

Universal

Reassigned, FRANK GRUBER set for screenplay chore of "Prelude to Murder," to be produced and directed by Roy William Neill, and costarring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce.

Story Buys

Independent

David Sebastian, who recently organized Sebastian Productions, Inc., announced the purchase of all screen rights to Frank Gruber's books based on Simon Lash, fictional detective, which Sebastian plans to use for a series of pictures.

Clifford Sanforth, producer, has purchased T. H. Willard's adventure novel, "Bride of the Rain God," which he will produce in color under the title "Virgin of the Gods." He is arranging to borrow Cornell Wilde for the role of a Mayan prince in the new opus. No release set.

Paramount

Hal Wallis Productions announced acquisition of "Love Lies Bleeding," psychological melodrama by Jack Patrick which will serve as starring vehicle for Lizabeth Scott.

Republic

"The Madonna's Secret," murder mystery by William Thiele and Bradbury Foote, has been purchased. Stephen Auer set as associate producer.

RKO Radio

"Mombasa," melodrama with an East African background, by Gerald Drayson Adams and Harold Channing Wire, has been purchased and will be filmed under executive supervision of Sid Rogell.

"Wolf at Her Door," an original screen story by Jack Townley, has been purchased, and the author has been signed to write the screenplay, with Sid Rogell as executive producer. Story is a comedy with music in which romance revolves around a smart young business woman and a band leader.

STEPHEN LONGSTREET to do final scripting of "Knave of Diamonds."

Technically

Columbia

BURNETT GUFFEY assigned to lens "Girl of the Limberlost."

EDWIN PHILLIPS, dialog director, had the option in his contract picked up for another term.

Dialog director on "The Girl of the Limberlost" set for JACKSON HALLIDAY.

FRANZ PLANER assigned to lens "Snafu."

MILTON FELDMAN set as assistant director on "The Girl of the Limberlost."

GENE HAVLICK assigned as film editor on "Snafu."

AL CLARK signed as film editor on "Girl of the Limberlost."

Art director for "Snafu" to be WALTER HOLSCHER.

Metro

Lensing chore on "Two Sisters From Boston" assigned to ROBERT SURTEES.

Monogram

Screenplay chore for "Dime a Dance" handed to HARRISON ORKOW.

Paramount

CHARLES WOOLSTENHULME has taken over chore of business manager for Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies."

HAL PEREIRA has been named unit art director on "Blue Skies."

FRED JACKMAN was set as cameraman on "They Made Me a Killer."

RKO Radio

Producer Adrian Scott has assigned HARRY WILD as cameraman; RUBY ROSENBERG as assistant director; JOHN TRIBBY as sound technician, and GEORGE GABE as chief of props on "Cornered."

Warners

FRANK HEATH assigned as assistant director for "Night and Day."

ERIC STACEY assigned as unit manager for "Night and Day."

GEORGE AMY assigned as editor for "Confidential Agent."

BERT GLENNON signed as cameraman for "Night and Day."

Title Changes

Monogram

ALIAS THE CISCO KID has been set as the title of the next Cisco Kid film starring Duncan Renaldo, and now being written as an original screenplay by Victor Hammond.

RAINBOW OVER THE RANGE selected as title of fourth in the western series starring Jimmy Wakely with Lee "Lasses" White, to be produced and directed by Oliver Drake.

PRC Pictures

The dog drama, "Corky," has had its title changed to DANNY BOY.

Greets Salt Lake Exhibitors

SALT LAKE CITY—Before going to Denver, where he now makes his offices as intermountain territory division supervisor of M-G-M, Henry Friedel met 30 theatre heads and exhibitors at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Utah here.

Friedel has been affiliated with M-G-M since 1916. For the last 17 years he has been manager of the Denver branch, now enlarged to become intermountain territory division headquarters.

Carl P. Nedley, Utah M-G-M branch manager, presided at the luncheon and introduced Friedel to the theatre owners and exhibitors.

IMPORTANT ROLE OF THEATRES IN DIFFICULT POSTWAR PERIOD

Northern California Areas View Little Hardship in Readjustments Ahead

By HARRY EDWIN WHITE

SAN FRANCISCO—California theatres will play a highly important role in the difficult days of economic readjustments lying ahead, in the opinion of Alexander R. Heron, state director of reconstruction and re-employment for the state of California.

It is in this area of the United States, with its swollen wartime populations and greatly increased pay rolls due to the heavy concentration along the west coast of ship building yards and aircraft manufacturing plants, that the problems of the immediate postwar period are expected to be most acute.

Greater Than 1849 Gold Rush

The influx of workers into the coastal production centers in the early part of the war was far greater, albeit less spectacular, than the stampede of fortune seekers into this promised land in the famed gold rush of story and song a century before. This movement from the hinterlands has been almost continuous, although in diminishing proportions, so that now no one can say definitely how many newcomers flocked into the coastal area to take jobs in the shipyards, the airplane factories and other war industries which already have started employment cutbacks to reduce their staffs to a peacetime basis of operations.

However, if exactitude is lacking, statistics are sufficiently inclusive to permit a reasonably accurate estimate by the California commission headed by Heron. It sets the total increase in the state's population since the beginning of the war at about one and three-fourths million, of which one and one-half million is estimated to be composed of newcomers to the state. Not all of this number, of course, can be classed as workers. Many families are included. And not all are expected to remain in the period of readjustment. In fact, the commission estimates that fully a fourth of the newcomers will return to the communities from whence they came. But even with this in consideration, the problems faced by California in the reconversion days ahead still remain of great magnitude.

Normal Shifts to Former Homes

It is the same, although possibly in a lesser degree, in Oregon and Washington. And, in fact, in every area where there has been a marked concentration of war industries and a consequent massing of workers. What can be done to meet these problems? How severe a strain will they place upon population swollen communities?

Well, to start with there is the normal shifting back to home communities. Anticipated in the California commission's estimate, only 75 per cent of the newcomers will remain in the state. This shift already is noticeable in many communities, not only here on the coast but in other centers. One clear indication is that "for rent" advertisements of apartments and houses are beginning to be inserted in dailies in communities where "wanted to rent" only heretofore could be seen. But this shift accounts for only a small proportion of war industry workers. For the rest, other employment must be offered.

Using the San Francisco Bay area as a concrete example and looking ahead with its postwar planning committees to the readjustment period, perhaps we may see what the future holds not only for this but also for other wartime heavy employment centers.

Cooperation Is the Keynote

In the Bay district, the spirit of cooperation among the various communities is the keynote in the approach toward the problem. San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond and Alameda have adopted the slogan of the Dumas musketeers—"one for all and all for one." Even Richmond, where postwar adjustments will be most difficult, insists the area be considered as a whole, and not as separate communities.

Vallejo is supported entirely by the Mare Island Navy Yard. With a prewar population of 35,000, it now has 90,000, with postwar employment expectations for 18,000 workers. This would indicate a future population of 70,000, and officials believe the change will be so gradual little hardship is expected.

Oakland's war population increase was 70 per cent, but more than a third of this peak increase already has departed and others are expected to go. The permanent increase, while large, is not believed to be destined to create too severe a strain upon the community's employment resources: To ease over difficult periods, the city has voted $15,000,000 in bonds for needed improvements and 135 new industrial concerns have earmarked expenditures of $21,000,000 for land and construction alone, when conditions permit. Oakland has further municipal plans calling for the expenditure of an additional $172,000,000. The community feels everything will work out satisfactorily.

San Francisco Plans Ahead

By the very nature of things, San Francisco did not have the big influx of the East Bay cities. But it, also, is well along with its postwar planning. Remodeling and repair by private enterprise is expected to bring about an expenditure of more than 65 million dollars; new construction is expected to amount to more than 80 million, and new equipment to run about 14 million.

This reporter was in San Francisco at the time of the great fire of 1906. He witnessed the reconstruction, started while the embers still were smoldering. He felt the quiet confidence and the city's spirit of indomitable determination to march on to new greatness. That spirit has never changed. There is quiet confidence here and through the entire Bay area that the future will be secure, and in the years ahead peace will have its victories in new and greater achievements than ever accomplished in the past.

Plan New Houses in Frisco District; Smith Views Prosperity Continuing

SAN FRANCISCO—Theatre owners in the Bay cities, such as Alameda, Richmond and Vallejo, feel present facilities will be adequate for the immediate future. In San Francisco, however, the Golden State Theatre & Realty Corp. and its affiliates, controlling some 100 theatres in this city, Oakland and other northern California communities, plans eight new houses each seating 1,000 or more. Other houses are planned in other localities. And other big exhibitors are expected to follow in line.

Eugene H. Emmick, president of the Golden State company, stressed that the company's 300 employes in the service would be welcomed back with open arms "to as good or better jobs than they had when they went away."

"We are giving much thought," he added, "on how we han help families of our Gold Star former employes."

"You can bet we will not fall behind the procession," Theodore Newman said after explaining the company's construction plans. "When better seats are available, our patrons will be sitting on them; when better sound is available, our patrons will be hearing it. Our improvement plans are all made—we await only the opportunity to carry them out."

However, some reconversion hardships are to be expected. They are inevitable, although not insurmountable. In the period of readjustment it is Commissioner Heron's belief the films can do important work in keeping the people informed as to the changing conditions. For instance, he points out, as soon as home building can be resumed the theatre could play an educative role in presenting facts about new materials and new designs, possibly through the medium of educational shorts. Also in the opportunities presented in new industries which will result directly from technical advances accomplished in the war.

"The theatre has been a very important factor in our economic and social life," he said, "and has contributed greatly to the maintenance of morale. It will continue to fulfill its functions, I am sure, in the period that lies ahead."

George A. Smith Says Prosperity Will Continue on the West Coast

LOS ANGELES—West coast showmen believe the present boxoffice boom will continue, and that most of the coast area is in for a great era of continuing prosperity. That is the report of George A. Smith, western division manager of Paramount Pictures, who made a four-week trip over the area.

Smith says a building boom is in prospect for the Los Angeles and Seattle areas, with a number of new theatres planned. He says also that the northwest district, particularly in the state of Washington, will add many new houses.

Boxoffice figures are keeping up, he added, judging from the grosses registered on a number of Paramount productions.

Much of this prosperity is traceable to the fact that the war has shifted westward, Smith said, and any employment layoffs have been offset by the critical need for workers in the shipping industries.

WESTERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



In '20 **Paul Morgan** and Carl S. Horn opened the Star Theatre at Hay Springs, Neb., with William S. Hart's picture "Sand." Since another house was directly across the street, Horn and Morgan decided to eliminate competition by buying out their competitor. Still operating the Star here, Morgan boasts that the management has not changed hands since its opening. Morgan is chairman of the board of education, and a member of the Masons. He has two married daughters whose husbands, both commissioned, are on active duty.



Carl S. Horn, owner of the Star Theatre, Hay Springs, Neb., entered show business back in 1920 when Horn and his partner, Paul C. Morgan, decided to open the present theatre. Three sons are in the armed forces and a daughter is attending Nebraska University. Maj. Max Horn is with the Ninth army in France. Maj. Thomas Horn, air corps, served 20 months overseas, participating in the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns, while Dean Horn, a lieutenant in the navy, is now on submarine duty. Horn, a Mason, is not a member of an exhibitor organization.



A. F. Kehr, owner of the Prairie and Princess theatres, Ogallala, Neb., entered the picture industry in 1910. His two houses, seating 572 and 300, in the order named, are located on Spruce Ave. Active in civic affairs, Kehr has held office as mayor, fire chief, selective service chairman and president of the Commercial Club, the County Fair Association, and also the local Rotary Club. His son, Robert L., is a staff sergeant in the air corps and has had more than two years' service in China. Kehr likes to hunt and fish.

SEATTLE

Elsie Heise left for Los Angeles on a vacation . . . Lou Tarrant, assistant to John Owsley of Tacoma, was on the Row . . . Frank and Mrs. Drew returned from the Canadian trip. He is manager of the 20th-Fox exchange . . . J. T. Sheffield, president of Republic in the northwest, returned from a tour of exchanges in Portland, Butte, Salt Lake City and Denver and immediately left for New York on business.

Joe Rosenfield, Spokane, was in booking . . . Frank Jenkins, publicity agent for 20th-Fox in this territory, has received word from his son Frank jr., now stationed at Guam. A radioman in the navy, he had his father worried for a time. Frank sr. was in the marines.

M. D. "Doc" Howe, formerly of Seattle, writes from New York, that his son is a prisoner on Honsu Island. "Doc" is in the publicity department of 20th-Fox.

Christy Walsh, associate producer of "Captain Eddie," attended a special banquet given at the Washington Athletic Club for sport writers and radio men. The affair was hosted by Pest Welsh, sports director of the University of Washington. The funniest crack of the meeting was made by Royal Brougham, sport writer for the Hearst papers. When he told of Christy, he said "he has more rackets than Tilden." Brougham and Walsh have worked together and his toast to his pal was grand.

Mrs. Evelyn Marshall is now secretary to the Universal manager, Sam Milner. She recently joined her parents here, coming from San Francisco. He is in the merchant marine . . . Barbara Navarre and Ann Hughes left for San Francisco on a short visit to be guests of Ann's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes.

Rotus Harvey and Gerald Hardy, San Francisco, visited Chet and Sue Nilsson of Tacoma. Harvey is prominent in the ITO, of which the Nilssons are members . . . Sgt. Frank Christie, in for a day from the Mt. Rainier ordnance depot, said hello to the gang at the Evergreen office. Prior to joining the army, Frank was the film buyer for Evergreen in the northwest.

Freda Kalushe is complaining about meat, but she gets the bacon . . . Bill Storey and Doug Forbes form a twosome at the "bring-your-own-lunch" club . . . Vic Gauntlett can leave off a lot of pictures now that his office has been painted.

Al Ahlskog was seen trying to keep books and listen to the radio at the same time. Gosh! He did it . . . Fax Duncan, manager of the Fifth Avenue, is the man responsible for the bond sale tickets getting to the banks, department stores and theatres. A grand job, Fax!

Girl office employes of 20th-Fox honored Margaret Colasurdo with a shower at the home of Thelma Nordin. Margaret was with the company for many months . . . Mickey De Leo was seen lunching at Von's cafe. He is from Port Townsend. Von's is owned by J. von Herberg of the theatre group of the same name. For out-of-town readers, Von's is the former Rippe's.

Jimmy Brooks of 20th-Fox was on a vacation . . . Mrs. Rex Thompson and her twin boys, Ron and Don, flew to Yakima to visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Griggs. Hubby Rex is busy looking after his theatres in Port Orchard.

Ted Wilson, former operator of theatres in Cashmere and Leavenworth, lunched on the Row with Wally Rucker of Metro sales staff . . . Al Finke was in from Portland for a special meeting . . . Eldon Pollock sr. was seen walking briskly down town and looking in fine shape.

Allan Usher, Paramount district manager in Chicago, was here with Del Goodman, western district manager, giving the local office a visit . . . Ted Galanter went to Portland to work on "The Clock" . . . Two new Warner players, Robert Alda and Don McGuire, have been visiting service men in the hospitals in this area.

K. C. Hartung, who recently was with Golden State Theatres in San Francisco, has been appointed manager of the B. F. Shearer Roxy Theatre in Everett. Frank Harris becomes swing-shift manager for the company's theatres in Bremerton, Everett and Seattle.

Rudy's Bond Show Is Set for Next Thursday

LOS ANGELES — Activities of southern California showmen in the third week of the Seventh War Loan drive resulted in the sale of bonds with a maturity dollar value of $8,421,839, Gus Metzger, local chairman, reported.

Rudy Vallee's coast-to-coast radio show is set for Grauman's Chinese Theatre for Thursday, June 21, as the fifth radio-theatre war bond show for leading Hollywood theatres. Vallee's guest stars will be Comedian Lou Holtz and Singer Olga San Juan, with Frank De Val's orchestra handling the musical portion. The screen program will feature a major studio preview.

Admission is through the purchase of a war bond in any denomination from Hollywood Blvd. theatres, banks and stores.

PORTLAND

Another one of the film boys has returned after several years overseas. Not only did he have enough points for a discharge, but some left over to buy meat. He was Burch "Pinky" Shelton, formerly with Warner Bros. It is rumored that "Pinky" yearns for the good old uniform again in order to compete with the military personnel that seem to be "sweeping" all the gals off their feet!

JoAnna Aust, formerly at Columbia, has joined Monogram as cashier and stenographer. She is replacing Mrs. Mary Spearman, who is leaving to meet her husband in North Carolina. Spearman is being returned from the European war.

Some of the out-of-town exhibitors on Filmrow were: Austin Dodge of Myrtle Point, Ore.; Roy Carpenter of Springfield, Ken Hodkinson of Bend, P. R. Henderson of Albany and Denzil Piercy of Estacada and Prineville.

Mrs. Flossie Odem of Redmond was on the Row for a few days. She reports that her husband Milt is still in New Guinea and is hopefully waiting for that age limit to drop to 39 so he can get back home!



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"Pillow to Post" Wins Los Angeles Patrons

LOS ANGELES—Warner Bros.' first run showing of "Pillow to Post" lead the de luxe field scoring 150 at the Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern. Running a close second, Republic's "Flame of the Barbary Coast" bowed in at the Guild, United Artists and Wilshire with 125, 125 and 115 respectively. RKO's "The Enchanted Cottage," in its second week, and 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe," in its third week, tied at 100.

(Average is 100)

Chinese, State and Uptown—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 3rd wk.....100
Downtown and Hollywood Paramount—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep), 2nd wk. 123
Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz—**The Clock** (M-G-M), 3rd wk. 130
Guild, Wilshire and United Artists—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep) 121
Hillstreet and Pantages—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO), 2nd wk.....100
Warners Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**Pillow to Post** (WB) 150

Seattle Theatre Business Is Off; Universal Duo Hits Top Score

SEATTLE—For some undetermined reason the theatre business has been off here. Some theatres blame it on the "Ice Follies," which did over $200,000, with the opening of advance ticket sales for "Ice-Capades" immediately afterward. The "Ice Follies" refunded many thousands of dollars by mail due to lack of seats. The Arthur Bros. circus ran into difficulty over tent flame-proofing. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the top men but the show went on after local "flame-proofers" satisfied the fire marshal.

Blue Mouse—**Unseen** (Para), 2nd wk.; **Three Is a Family** (UA) 100
Fifth Avenue—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk 120
Liberty—**Brewster's Millions** (UA); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 3rd wk.....120
Music Box—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 4th wk. 120
Music Hall—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Swing Out Sister** (Univ) 150
Orpheum—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), 2nd wk.....110
Palomar—**Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono), plus stage show 130
Paramount—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....120

"Affairs of Susan" Holds Top Interest For the Denver Theatregoers

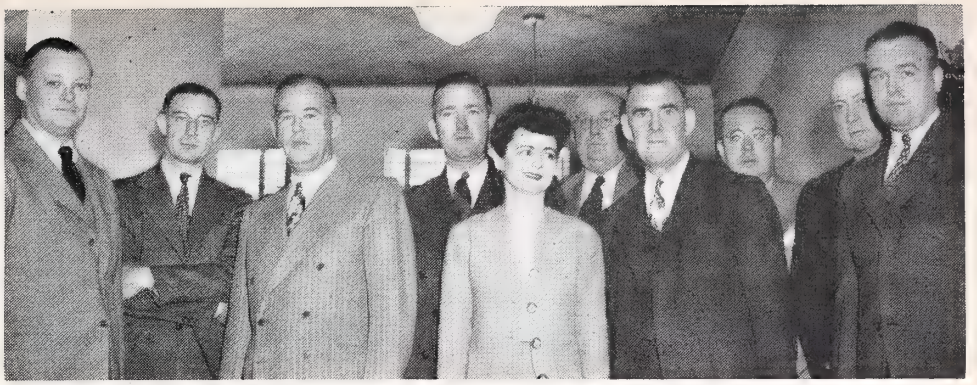
DENVER—"The Affairs of Susan," in its second week at the Denham, copped the high percentage and is staying at least a third. "Where Do We Go From Here?" with "Scarlet Clue" took in the most money, playing two houses. "China Sky" and "Pan-Americana" were strong at the Orpheum, just on the edge of a figure that would warrant holding over.

Aladdin—**My Sister Eileen** (Col), reissue.....150
Denham—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk.....190
Denver and Esquire—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono).....182
Orpheum—**China Sky** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 160
Paramount and Webber—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Identity Unknown** (Rep).....167
Rialto—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **GI Honeymoon** (Mono), 5th d. t. wk. 165

Leewood Is Transferred To New WB Territory

DENVER — Jack Leewood, Warner Bros. field representative in the Denver-Salt Lake City territories, has been transferred to the Seattle and Portland exchange areas, and will assume his duties there shortly.

Leewood's former activities will be taken over by I. Q. Gross, who has been added to the field staff. Gross, former newspaper correspondent, magazine writer and publicity man in the east for 11 years, has recently been honorably discharged from the army air forces.



PLAN PARAMOUNT CELEBRATION—Present at a meeting in Salt Lake City when plans were made for the region's observance of Paramount's anniversary, were: (l. to r.): Allen Usher, Chicago district manager; Carl Hallstrom, Salt Lake booking manager; Hugh Braly, Rocky Mountain district manager; Jimmy French, Montana salesman; Mrs. Mod Allen, assistant booker, Salt Lake branch; Dave Frazer, Montana salesman; F. H. Smith, Salt Lake branch manager; Wayne Thiriot, Idaho salesman; Alan Heid, Utah-Nevada salesman, and Ted Reese, Salt Lake chief accountant.

LOS ANGELES

Frank Fouce, operating the California and Mason theatres, booked three Mexican-made films during his recent trip to Mexico City . . . Attending a National Screen Service convention in Chicago were Al Blumberg and Ben Ash of the local office . . . Booking on the Row were L. E. Funk, Bellflower Theatre; John Minard, Norwalk; John Rennie, Town, San Fernando, and Al Galston, Hawaii, Hollywood.

Republic's west coast division manager, Francis Bateman, returned from a three-week visit to exchanges in Salt Lake City and Denver and visits to Colorado Springs and Albuquerque . . . The Linda Theatre, Linda Vista, operated by Harry Goldfarb and Jack Berman, opened, featuring a gala bond premiere.

Walt K. Millar has quit Republic's local sales force and will devote his time to state-righting a forthcoming feature to be titled "Child Bride." He has seven western states and will headquarter in Salt Lake City and Denver . . . Joe Skirball has returned his lease on the Allena Theatre to Lena Shatz.

Morris Safier, PRC western manager, left for a business trek to the Salt Lake and Denver exchanges . . . After making naval installations for the last two years, Max Neumann has been appointed service supervisor for Altec in Los Angeles . . . Morris Shipp, WB Los Angeles branch office manager, was vacationing at Big Bear.

Fred Bratcher, owner of Riverside's Del Rio Theatre, visited Sam Decker of Astor Pictures here . . . Before taking off for a look-see at his Vegas and Western theatres in Las Vegas, Earl Streebe, owner of the Palms Theatre in Palm Springs, was booking and buying on the Row.

In connection with his company's tenth anniversary, Francis Bateman, Republic's Pacific coast division manager, left to set bookings in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

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Salt Lake Region Men Plan Paramount Fete

SALT LAKE CITY—Under the leadership of Allen Usher, western captain for the 33rd anniversary of Paramount Pictures and Chicago district manager for the company, Utah, Idaho and Montana representatives laid plans for the celebration in those states at a meeting here this week.

Usher said Cecil E. DeMille will be in Utah July 18 to make further arrangements for the anniversary celebration, slated for August 26 to September 29. Included among those making plans for DeMille's visit to this area were Horace Burkinshaw; L. L. Sissel, White Fish, Mont.; F. M. Davis, Shelley, Idaho, and R. S. Tingley, Big Sandy, Mont. They have been showing Paramount Pictures in this region since the formation of the company.

Active in the meeting here were Hugh Braly, Salt Lake, Denver and Omaha district manager, and Frank H. Smith, Salt Lake branch manager.

SALT LAKE CITY

Members of the Motion Picture Club are looking forward to a club dinner dance to be held June 30. Mrs. Vincent Gilhoul is chairman.

As though trying to put over the Mighty Seventh wasn't enough to cause one a headache, Helen Garrity, public relations chairman for the motion picture committee of the drive, now has a case of measles to worry about. She's not the one who is ill, however. It's her daughter, Katherine.

All business establishments in Utah County, theatres included, where the war boom has been heaviest, are keeping their fingers crossed until the future of the Geneva Steel plant is settled. Business has been good in towns in that county for many months; theatres have been packed. Now, part of the plant has been closed and members of Congress and industrial leaders are wrangling over the plant's future.

Rain and cold weather for the last few weeks have failed to dampen the spirit of theatregoers in Salt Lake, according to local operators. Summer finally arrived last Monday, but it is expected to send some theatre patrons into nearby canyons and to the beaches of Great Salt Lake.

Theatres Set the Pace For Utah Bond Drive

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah as a whole is lagging in the Seventh War Loan, but the motion picture phase of the drive is holding up well and may go over the top long before the campaign closes, FWC officials intimated.

To give the theatre phase of the drive even greater impetus, war loan officials this week brought Actress Marjorie Reynolds for a tour of the state during the week. Included were stops in Ogden, Logan, Brigham City, where she visited the Bushnell Army Hospital; Salt Lake, Provo, Manti, Richfield, Price and Cedar City and many of the small villages in between. At all stops she chatted with young Utah beauties who are vieing in the queen contest, feature of the drive. One of the girls she met on her Utah tour will meet her again in Hollywood—the one who wins the contest.

The only county in the state to go over its quota in the drive thus far is Tooele, where Sam Gillette, president of the Intermountain MPOA, has been laboring diligently to put the Mighty Seventh over.

Cagney Picture Gains Pace in Fifth Week

SAN FRANCISCO—Lena Horne, plus "Two O'Clock Courage" plus opening on a holiday (with an advance in prices on that day) brought the Golden Gate barometer reading up to a strong 185 per cent. La Horne was given very special extra nice reviews by the dailies.

The St. Francis, with "The Affairs of Susan," picked up its third week reading of 110 to 120 in its fourth week, and likewise with the United Artists Theatre and "Blood on the Sun." The UA did 120 in its fourth week and in its fifth scored with a strong 135.

Esquire and Tivoli—**Docks of New York** (Mono); **Flame of the West** (Mono) 120
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 130
Golden Gate—**Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO), **Lena Horne** on stage 185
Orpheum—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **Patrick the Great** (Univ) 125
Paramount—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep), 2nd wk 100
State—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), 3rd d. t. wk 110
St. Francis—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono), 4th d. t. wk 120
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 5th wk 135
Warfield—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep), 2nd d. t. wk 120

Filmrow Salesmen Complete New Ass'n

LOS ANGELES—Filmrow salesmen have completed organization of the Motion Picture Salesmen of Los Angeles, an association that will provide fraternal and social activities for members. Plans are being made for an annual summer picnic and early fall dance.

Although established along similar lines of existing film groups, the group will not be affiliated with any association in other exchange areas. Some of the Row's earliest employes, I. J. White, M. J. McCarthy, Larry Kennedy, Hal Shields and Moz Burles, were elected directors.

Walter G. Preddey
THEATRE SUPPLIES
"EVERYTHING for the THEATRE"
187 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 2
Phone: UNderhill 7571

SAN FRANCISCO

Jerry Joroslow, manager of the Manor in San Mateo, was a recent guest at the San Mateo, Lions Club at the Hotel Benjamin Franklin. Joroslow related some of his experiences while in government service.

Paramount's special preview of "Incendiary Blonde" had a large turnout and favorable audience response. A special preview last week of "Don Juan Quilligan" at the Fox, however, did not fare so well . . . James Cagney at the United Artists Theatre in "Blood on the Sun" was smashing Japs in its sixth week.

On a business trip to New York were Harry Franklin and Bucky Williams of the Goldberg Theatres . . . Bob McNeil and family were vacationing at Richardson Springs . . . Hal Neides was also vacationing . . . New secretaries at the Golden State Theatres are Miss Roberta Gorden, Robert McNeil's right hand girl, and Ruth Hanson, who helps Morris Rosenbert, booker.

Commemorating D-Day, the California Palace of the Legion of Honour showed free, five war films from the British Information Service. Films included "D-Day," "Cherbourg," "Road to Paris," "Gateway to Germany" and "Air Battle 1945."

Gracie Fields, singing English comedienne, was in town prior to her hop to Australia, the first stop in an eight-month entertainment tour. Both Gracie and her husband, Monty Banks, director and comedian of English stage and screen, are going to Australia under the auspices of the Australian government. They will stage, cast and star in hospital and charity shows. From there they will go to Burma, India, Europe and England.

J. M. Bettencourt, sales representative for Paramount, has in his possession a mailing list compiled in 1917 when he was associated with the General Film Co. It is an interesting document. Bettencourt started in the industry in 1909, when he joined Turner & Dahnken, then located at 138 Eddy St. He handled the song slide and music department.

New assistant at the Esquire is Fred Renard . . . New manager at the Warfield is Lou Singer, and at the Paramount L. G. Tavolara.

Fox West Coast Theatres received commendation for great public service in a resolution adopted by San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce. The corporation was given recognition for operation of the United Nations Theatre which supplied entertainment and civic education to the world delegates. The theatre will be reopened to the public after the convention, under the name "United Nations."

Paul Stevens New Chief For the Oriental, Portland

PORTLAND—Paul Stevens has been named to succeed Al Utigard as manager of the Oriental Theatre here. Utigard goes to the Orpheum. The changes were announced by Earl Hunt, advertising manager of the Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres circuit.

Smell Good! Theatre Spray: $3.50 per Gal.
WESTERN THEATRICAL
Equipment Company
222 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco 2
Phone: Tuxedo 4484

Seattle's Tremendous "Mighty Seventh" Job

SEATTLE—This city is out to outdo its own mighty record in the "Mighty Seventh" drive.

A total of $30,000,000 in bonds sales for four stage shows now is in sight in the current drive. Two shows in the series already have netted more than $12,000,000, and the big weekend presentation at the Paramount Theatre was expected to up that figure nearly 50 per cent.

Last year Seattle rang the bell with an all-time national high for a single show in the Sixth War Loan drive when an army stage offering at the Orpheum here drew $10,000,000 in bond sales. The house seats 2,500.

The final presentation in the series, to be staged at the Fifth Ave. Theatre, will be presented by the coast guard with Lieut. "Buddy" Edsen as master of ceremonies. A feature performance will be a "K9 Squad" in action, showing how Uncle Sam's war dogs do their stuff. A dummy, heavily padded, will be used in the demonstration of the canine attack tactics.

A sale rate requiring a $50 bond purchase for a general admission ticket has been established for the affair. For a loge seat, patrons will have to purchase a bond of $1,000 or more.

All theatres here remain closed all day until the one big bond show at night in the presentation of the four-show series.

In addition to the bond series by the showmen of this community, the Northwest Film Club is staging a special bond premiere utilizing all preview theatres along Filmrow. Tickets to this novel feature require the purchase of a bond of $5,000 or more. To date more than $2,000,000 worth of bonds have been sold through the idea and it is expected the total will run well over $3,000,000. This is considered a new record in the "take" per capita, as the total seating capacity of all the preview rooms is only 180.

The Paramount bond bill featured a navy stage show, the introduction of two of the flag-raising heroes from Iwo Jima and a feature preview. As an added incentive to attend, two round-trip tickets for a week's vacation to Alaska with all expenses paid awaited some lucky bondholder.

Most of the talent for Seattle's record-breaking bond shows was recruited from the armed forces, both in the current and Sixth War Loan drives.

Sid Weisbaum Resigns Republic Film Post

SAN FRANCISCO—Sid Weisbaum, Republic manager here, has resigned, effective July 1, after 13 years with the organization. S. C. Martenstein, for many years assistant to Weisbaum, has been appointed as his successor.

Weisbaum is the oldest exchange manager in point of service in San Francisco. He started in the industry with Morgan Walsh here in 1920 at old Federated Films, which was owned and controlled by M. Cohn and David Chatkin. Since then he has been in distribution of films. He started with Republic in 1932.

Weisbaum expects to go east following his resignation. He is withholding future plans until his return here in the early part of August.

FWC Buys Stockton Site

STOCKTON, CALIF.—For construction after the war, Fox West Coast has purchased property on Pacific Ave., where it plans to build a modern, 1,200-seat theatre.

Elisburg Will Build $300,000 Theatre

CHICAGO—Herb Elisburg, owner of the Studio Theatre in Chicago's loop and of national rights to several motion pictures, has just concluded a deal for a theatre site in Miami Beach, Fla. The property is on the east side of Washington St., between 15th St. and Lincoln Rd., known as the "Times Square" section of America's famous resort center. In the same area are three first run Paramount houses and two first run theatres operated by the Wometco circuit. In addition there are three other postwar theatres planned for construction within two blocks of Elisburg's project.

It is estimated that the completed project will represent an investment of upward of $300,000. The building is to contain a theatre auditorium to seat approximately 1,200, and will also include stores. The property is 75x175 feet.

Although Elisburg's entry into the exhibition and distribution fields is comparatively recent, he has been active in the motion picture industry for almost 25 years. He started as an assistant to William K. Hollander, advertising and publicity director for Balaban & Katz in Chicago, and has since been identified as a press agent, ad chief, theatre manager and supervisor with many of the major film companies and circuits. Elisburg insisted that his new Miami activity will not affect his future free-lance efforts.

Warners Return to Turn Hands of Time Backward

ST. LOUIS—Warner Bros. will turn the clock backward when St. Louis becomes the locale for that company's forthcoming Technicolor, "The Frontiersman," starring Errol Flynn. A studio representative has been here making the necessary arrangements. Plans call for a start on the production within a few weeks.

St. Louis always has had a warm spot in the heart of Harry Warner, as it was here, in the early part of the century, that the Warner boys got their start as producers of motion pictures. Naturally their first picture, "The Glass Coffin," was a far cry from "The Frontiersman," but it was a very important step in the lives of the Warners.

W. L. Guthrie, location manager for Warner Bros., said that about 90 per cent of the forthcoming picture will be shot along the banks of the Mississippi River within 40 miles of this city. It will depict the early fur trading industry and since St. Louis has been the fur capital of the world since long before the days of the Louisiana Purchase the action naturally centers about St. Louis.

The cast will include 100 Dakota Indians. Two river boats will be converted to appear like the old-type wood burners of pioneer days. One of these will be the Golden Eagle of the Eagle Packet Co., which for many years had run out of St. Louis in the packet and excursion trade. Another is being sought.

The Chicago Censor Board Previews 82 in May

CHICAGO—The censor board of the police department previewed 320,000 feet of film, representing 82 releases, last month. It made 16 cuts and issued five pinks on "Kiss and Tell" (Col), "Body Snatchers" (RKO), "The Brighton Strangler" (RKO), "Vampire's Ghost" (Rep), "The Phantom Speaks (Rep), "Dillinger" (Mono) and "Crime, Inc." (PRC) are still unreleased in this area.

Mother Sees Film View Of Son Killed in Action

Chicago—State-Lake audiences, during the showing of "To the Shores of Iwo Jima" heard a woman shout, "That's my son!" as the film showed a marine being carried out of the battle on a stretcher.

The woman was Mrs. Margaret Stamos and the son was Lieut. John C. Cooper, 24, killed in action in the Pacific March 3.

Charles Cottle, manager of the theatre, gave the mother a strip of film, showing the sequence and Harold Evens, United Artists press agent, has promised that he will get for her another print, showing Cooper's face more clearly.

Earlier in the year, Mrs. Stamos recognized her son in a newsreel showing the raising of Old Glory on Mt. Suribachi and subsequently received details of the historic event in a letter he wrote.

"China Sky" Premiere Brings 4 Millions

CHICAGO—Free Movie Day was observed here on the first anniversary of D-Day. It was preluded the night before by the RKO Palace giant premiere of "China Sky." On the anniversary 300 theatres admitted patrons to unusually fine shows upon the purchase of a bond.

A parade through the loop stirred Chicago to the Palace bond show. In the line of march were Chinese Girl Scouts, ROTC units and bands, as well as officials of the city's Chinatown, mayor and all. Arriving at the theatre, the marchers staged a band concert. Inside the performance began with impressive ceremonies, featuring speeches by Mayor Kelly, Dr. Chang Lak Chen, the Chinese consul general here; Don McKiernan of the local branch of the U.S. treasury, and other prominent Chicagoans.

The Palace event resulted in the sale of $3,983,675 worth of bonds—a figure so large as to make headlines in all the dailies. The premiere was planned, staged and executed by Frank Smith, division manager for RKO; Lou Mayer, Palace manager, and Milton Woodward, the Palace publicist.

Bikos Brothers Buy Gary Business Block

GARY, IND.—The sale to Nick and Dan Bikos, of the Bikos Theatre chain, of the Dubetz Bldg. here has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Greenberg, former owners. The building is occupied by business establishments. The Bikos brothers operate five theatres here.

Two Autos Leave Museum For the Film Capital

INDIANAPOLIS—Two venerable automobiles, great grandfathers of the sleek streamliners you can't buy today, have been crowded out of sedate retirement in the Indiana State Museum and are now bound for the land of glitter and make-believe, Hollywood.

No doubt they will be restored to their turn-of-the-century smartness before they make their debuts before the cameras. But Verne Patty, curator of the museum, is sorry to see them go. He has had charge of them since they were loaned to the state in February 1933 by Elgin O. Baker, a former Hoosier now residing in Glendale, Calif., who sold them to a Hollywood motion picture producer.

One of them is a high wheeled, chain-driven Holsman, built in Chicago at the dawn of the automotive age. The other, a Stanley Steamer, was originally owned by John Brisbane Walker, who in 1899 published the Cosmopolitan magazine.

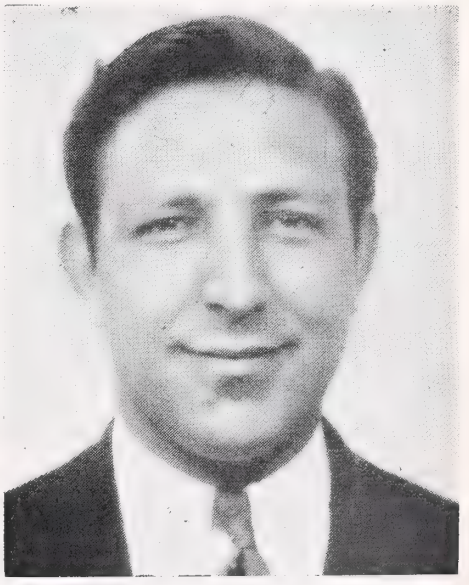
Fox Bldg. at Chicago Sold For $35,000 to Tulupan

CHICAGO — Dr. Ansel H. Tulupan has bought for $35,000 the property at 3161-75 Elston Ave., housing the 750-seat Fox Theatre and six stores. The seller was Morris A. Sommers of Los Angeles. The buyer and Gus Stathis will operate the theatre.

Harry Day Sells Theatre

DARLINGTON, WIS.—Harry Day has sold the Town Theatre here to the Eskin Theatre Co.





NEW RKO MANAGERS—Left: Lou Elman, who succeeded the late Arthur Schmitz as manager of the Milwaukee RKO exchange, and right, Seymour Borde, new manager of the Des Moines exchange, who succeeded Elman, when he was transferred to Milwaukee.

CHICAGO

Bill Hollander, head of the B&K advertising department, is the film representative for the Community Chest drive . . . Freddie Mindlin is back on the Row in charge of the special service department of National Screen.

Ben Bartelstein, head of the circuit bearing his name, is ill at Mt. Sinai Hospital . . . Danny Kaye in "Wonder Man," long heralded as coming to the Woods, opens June 21—at this writing. Danny and wife, Sylvia Fine, were in town briefly, headed east to a bond stint . . . So were Harry James and frau Betty Grable.

Cpl. Jack Garber, one-time B&K publicist, sent his old boss Bill Hollander a handsome putter from St. Andrew's Golf Club in bonny Scotland, where Jack's stationed. He's taking a "learn-on-leave" course and has had some training at Oxford, no less.

James Coston, Warner circuit head man, and Alex Halperin, booker-buyer for the same, were back from an eastern junket . . . Frank Smith, RKO Theatres head in the midwest, was off to St. Paul and Minneapolis for a conference . . . The Studio Theatre has been painted, decorated, repaired and is all set for warm weather—if it ever arrives—with the air conditioning plant overhauled.

Sam Horowitz, south and midwest sales manager for Vanguard, is touring the south . . . Bill Brisco, RKO Grand manager, and his gal Friday, Peggy Egbers, are making use of the old boxoffice that used to see service when the theatre was a legit. They're selling bonds from the window from whence once came tickets for Montgomery & Stone in "The Wizard of Oz," the Weber & Fields revues and George M. Cohan himself in "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

Harold Stevens, Paramount manager, was host at a preview of Betty Hutton's newest, "Incendiary Blonde," at the Surf last week . . . The American Television Society named B&K's station WBKB as the outstanding contributor to the advancement of television last year. Arch Brolly, the station's chief engineer, went to New York for an award presentation June 14.

S. J. Gregory of the Alliance circuit announces the acquisition of the Daisy and Knox theatres, Knox, Ind., and the Fowler and Dream theatres, Fowler, Ind., from Dick Vlastos, who is retiring due to ill health. John Doerr, booking manager, and Pete Panagos, promotion manager of the circuit, are in Indianapolis, arranging the new setup.

Mason Rapp, theatre architect, was in LaSalle scanning sites for a 1,200-seater there after the war for the L&P circuit . . . Elect-Tec Service has moved back to its remodeled headquarters at 1233 S. Wabash . . . Rodney Bush, 20th-Fox exploiteer, returned from Des Moines where he set up a premiere, with Ralph Branton of Tri-States circuit for "State Fair." It will show in a number of Iowa houses day and date.

J. Arthur Rank, British film mogul, will be honored by the trade here with a luncheon in the Blackstone June 18. Jack Kirsch heads the committee in charge. Others on the receiving line for the event are Edwin Silverman, Ben Eisenberg, Ted Levy, Bill Baker and Ben Katz . . . Charles Auerbach, veteran operator of the New Strand, received the sad news his nephew, Pvt. Max Rockman, 25, was killed in action in Luzon. Max was brought to this country from Germany by his uncle in 1938 and served two and one-half years in the army.

Harriet McCall, publicity gal at B&K, is all smiles: her hubby Sgt. LeRoy McCall is home from overseas for a visit . . . Charles Ryan, assistant zone manager for Warners, and his wife have gone to Santa Anita, Calif., for a visit . . . Ed Sayre, Universal premium mogul, has bought the property opposite his headquarters on the Row. It's being remodeled and will house equipment companies . . . Ed Wolk is another expander, for he will add two floors to his building at 1241 S. Wabash.

Max J. Rosenberg, National Roadshows, visited the Dezel offices to talk over his newest picture, "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors," booked in these parts by Sam Kaplan of the Dezel office . . . Bill Konzman, national representative of National Carbon Co., Cleveland, was a Row visitor.

Albert Besser, veteran projectionist of Local 110, died last June 7. Burial was at Waldheim Cemetery . . . Helen Hill, longtime receptionist at 20th-Fox, bid adieu to her fellow workers before stepping altarward with W. R. Livingston, a chief warrant officer at Great Lakes naval station.

Tom Budo, WB auditing department, was given a swell sendoff by Warnerites when he left for the army . . . Mort Van Praag says his new telephone number at his new Supreme Pictures exchange is HARrison 3027-29.

Virginia Seguin, 20th-Fox publicist, was telling about riding with Walter Winchell when he was in town not so long ago as guest of her exchange. He held her hand a bit overtime when saying goodby, so she withdrew it. "Smatter?" queried the scribe. "You," niftied Virginia, "don't use Jergens" . . . Actress Katina Paxinou with her actor husband, Alexander Minotis, was in town, as was her great Dane. She was coast-bound for her part in the Bacall-Boyer opus getting under way at Warners.

Leonard Klein, formerly of Omaha, has taken over the Eclipse studio, 165 West Madison St., specializing in scenery rentals. He said he expects to see a revival of stage shows in the flicker houses . . . Joe Vrouvas, longtime assistant booker to Van A. Nomikos, CVN circuit head, is now on duty at the veterans hospital in Wood, Wis. He formerly was stationed in the east.

Pvt. Bernie Malits, former manager in these parts, is out of the vets' hospital at Auburn, Calif., with a medical discharge and is going to get a Hollywood screen test. He can sing and is photogenic, so who knows? . . . Saul Goldman will handle theatre bookings for "The Red Wagon," story of the rise of Swift & Co., packers. The picture was shown to the press, at the Morrison last week and to employes of the packing house and others at the Museum of Science and Industry.

Mrs. Mike Godshaw, wife of Mike the Great of PRC, is off to the coast to visit her new grandson Paul, son of her son Barney . . . Frank Omick, Great States booker, keeps his office pals, Arch Spencer and Frank Standel, informed on baseball and horses. Any time he wants to quit booking, he can be a sports announcer . . . Joe Kopel is now operating the Bertha Theatre, booked by Allied. The Villas at Cicero, operated by George Chialtis, and the Savoy, owned by Fadman & Kaplan, has joined the Allied booking and buying brigade.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Sam Levinsohn Entered Theatre Business in 1907

CHICAGO—A veteran in the used chair business, owner of the Chicago Used Chair Mart, Sam Levinsohn started in the entertainment field at Oshkosh, Wis., in 1907. He ran the motion picture machine in a small house there and "did the illustrated song turns every half hour."



SAM LEVINSOHN

He entered the equipment field with H. R. Dutton of the old Exhibitors Supply Co. here in 1915. Five years later he moved to Minneapolis to become branch manager of the United Theatre Equipment Corp. and bought out the branch in 1922.

For 20 years he has been dealing in used and rebuilt opera chairs. Levinsohn is an active member of B'nai B'rith and Variety.

This public seating specialist is married and of his two daughters, one is a student at Northwestern; the other is married and has an infant daughter.

Predict Three-Week Run For "Mom and Dad"

INDIANAPOLIS—"Mom and Dad" topped all expectancies during its opening week at Keith's here, playing to turn-away business throughout the week. Marc Wolf and Al Blocher, who are supervising the engagement, said the picture is sure-fire for a three-week run and predicted it might play to successful business for five weeks.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Frisina circuit, with headquarters here, has announced the booking of "Mom and Dad," Hygienic Productions new boxoffice sensation, in all its situations in Illinois, Missouri and Iowa. Floyd Lewis handled the negotiations for the distributors.

Warner Bros. to Remodel Chicago Exchange Offices

CHICAGO—Warner Bros., as soon as materials are available, will air condition and modernize the third and sixth floors of the Warner Bldg., the floors occupied by the circuit and exchange offices. Plans are also ready for modernizing the Warner Pantheon Theatre in Hammond. Rapp & Rapp, theatre architects, have the jobs and also will remodel the Warner Film Exchange Bldg. in Kansas City.

Cronyn Key Role in "The Postman"

Hume Cronyn has been chosen for the key role in "The Postman Always Rings Twice," a Metro production.

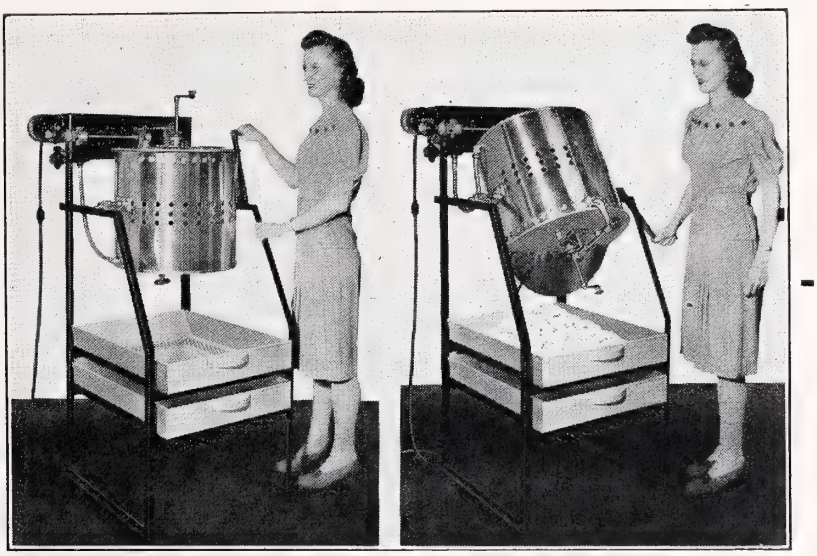
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Now Available

New CORN POPPERS*

- **Greater Capacity**
- **More Profits**
- **Lower Priced**
- **Revolutionary Design**

*No Priority Required



Pops 50 to 60 lbs. per hour—Lowest Percentage of Waste

Here is a new, wet type popper that uses less fuel, power and labor than any other popper made. It pops **50 to 60 lbs. per hour** and one girl can easily operate 4 machines and pop **over 1,600 lbs. per day.** One of our users pops over 5,000 lbs. per day. This revolutionary machine has the fastest gas burner ever put under a popper and features an automatic cut-off for assured safety. Lowest percentage of waste—it will pay for itself many times over.

Multiple installations are available, including all necessary equipment for large scale operations. This popper is a space saver, taking up an area only 24" x 28" and stands 57" high. Made of gleaming stainless steel and polished brass in welded-steel sturdy black frames. Combines streamlined beauty with long-lasting qualities. Fully guaranteed.

Single Unit Popper.....$495.00

Double Unit Popper.....$970.00

(Larger unit prices quoted on request)

CHICAGO THEATRE SUPPLY CO.

1255-57 South Wabash Ave. Chicago, Illinois

MILWAUKEE

This edition of Row tattle leads off with an explosive note that never has there been more activity on the Row—more up-state exhibitors, more booking and more exchange bustle than in any week in the last year. And Elaine Skinner, secretary to John G. Kemptgen, new branch manager for Metro, was so busy she "lived" at the exchange for the week . . . Kenneth Seim, rotund UA office manager, buried himself around Mercer for a week and provided UA personnel with "red point savers," better known as muskies. Then he departed for another week's vacation of the busman's variety around Chicago.

Your Milwaukee columnist huddled briefly in Chicago with Jonas Perlberg, BOXOFFICE representative there, when returning from a Cleveland jaunt. Incidentally, the Studio Theatre managed by Perlberg had the long-suppressed Hedy Lamarr opus, "Ecstasy," running into the 22nd week.

Milwaukee's "California Trio"—Fred Stein, Fox Wisconsin executive; Gordon Hewitt, another Fox biggie, and Bill Parker, Universal manager—picked up where they left off in California by blasting par at the sporty Brynwood Country Club golf course on Memorial Day. Parker accepted his beating gracefully, with Hewitt as usual murdering par . . . Back from temporary retirement, Iva Benning can be seen at her National Screen poster clerk chores . . . Ben Schwenke was on a vacation from his booking duties at Warners.

Bolstering the glamour section at Universal, Gloria Metz has assumed office chores . . . Lou Elman, formerly with Pathe here years back before RKO entered things, and recently RKO Des Moines manager, assumes RKO managership here, the post held by Art Schmitz until his sudden death . . . Orville Petersen, Universal office manager and booker, backyard vacationed.

Hedy Lamarrish 20th-Fox's "hello gal," Frances Radoff, celebrated a birthday, and to round things out, walked off with the weekly pool, winning a $25 war bond . . . This week's orchid to H. Brunner, WAC secretary, who has often toiled till the wee hours assisting Harold J. Fitzgerald, state chairman, at the controls of the WAC . . . E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager of Universal, and Manny Gottlieb, district manager, huddled with Bill Parker, local manager, mainly on plans for a Universal exchange building here.

Booking on the Row: Eddie Moyle, Delft circuit; L. T. Burkitt, Sparta; Fred Brown, Plymouth; Alfrey the Great, Plainfield; F. A. Buerki, Play Circle Theatre of Madison, accompanied by Carl Bunce, Madison projectionist, and Miss Jean Larson, that unique girl projectionist we told you about a few pillars back.

Arnold Kovitz, NSS head bookkeeper, smiles these days since receiving news that his mother and sister will move here shortly from Albany, N. Y. Ah! Those home cooked meals . . . When we could pull ourself away from our entertaining and disconcerting nephew Connie, who bent us over backward on a recent Cleveland trek, we boiled the phone wires attempting contact with Elsie Loeb, BOXOFFICE scribe there. But she was digging her column on the Row.

Lieut. Harold Orlove of the air forces, a biological chemist and brother of Lou, the publicist for Metro, lunched with Johnny Mednikow, NSS manager, your columnist and Lou at LaSalle coffee shop . . . Jack Kaplan, Miller Theatre manager (are you reading this, Jack?), canopied with: "I'll Be Seeing You" —"Keep Your Powder Dry" . . . Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, pulled his "I'm a Cripple" cane gag on Lionel Hampton's advancer. All that leads up to The Hamp's leadoff on stage show revivals at Riverside as of June 15.

The town's top Dixieland band currently can be caught at Johnny's Roundup, that 24-hour a day nightery . . . Did Ben Poblocki hear about the 76 Gordon Hewitt clicked the other day? . . . H. N. Brennan, Warner circuit man of Green Bay, was in town.

Local showmen are fast latchin' on to some of those unique photographs purveyed by Jordice Wiken, that very blonde gal whose stuff is rocking her to national acclaim. Both New York and Hollywood are angling for her lense work . . . Finally, proper weather or no, that Ben Poblocki-sponsored outing for branch managers and Reel Fellows at Tuckaway, came off, with the Reel Fellows outnumbering managers in attendance.

Publicist Myra Peache, who doubles as business manager for Port Players, that straw-hat unit so boxoffice in these parts for several seasons, tells us June 19 is set for opener. Next week's pillar will give you the plays to be presented.

While in Cleveland your scribe caught Walter Liberace, Milwaukee 88er who made good with his synchronized keyboard work, backgrounded by recorded symphonic backgrounds. The artist, a marked double for film man Robert Alda handling the role of George Gershwin in Warners' film, "Rhapsody in Blue," has been capturing patrons at the Statler Terrace room. Incidently, the picture, not released for national consumption, produced a year or two back, still gets lots of raves from GIs fortunate enought to view same.

Versatile Nick Coston of the Warner circuit is so wrapped up in his work that he left for lunch the other day, walked past his favorite eatery, and was back working before he realized things.

Johnny Matis, Alhambra manager back from vacation, is still thawing things out. You'll note the change in his voice too . . . Franklin Theatre blotters the patrons with words and music to "Should auld acquaintance be forgot" . . . Warners' Rio, Appleton, gave attenders "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," in connection with Flag Day observance June 15.

Juvenile delinquency was thwarted in a downtown theatre when a moron was fined for molestation of two teen-age gals . . . Sponsored by the Hi-Mount School P-TA, the children series kicked off at Uptown last Saturday afternoon with a two and one-half



WORK, LOITER AND REST—These Milwaukee film folk were snapped by the BOXOFFICE photographer while strolling about the film district recently. In the bottom picture the electrician at Riverside Theatre is replacing bulbs which "went sour" in the long brownout. At top, left, five of the United Artist girls take time out for a pose. From left to right are Jean Goodkind, Esther Ohm, Helen Burnsteen, Eva Johnson and Betty Luedke. Looking over the seated Elmer Hall's shoulder in the other photograph are Shippers Nick Meuren, left, and Barney Weisen. They are Metro employes.

hour show. At the show's end, the kids must leave theatre or purchase another ducat.

William V. Geehan, assistant to Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin, drapped affairs up here and shoved off for New York, preparatory for a west coast confab with National Theatres on his new assignment . . . Jack Kaplan, Miller manager, is giving an all-colored flesh show June 20, the first for the house since the vaudeville demise . . . Lillian Kupersmith, National Screen booker, returned from a New Orleans vacation with a drawl in her voice.

When Eddie Cantor was in town, Ruth Foster Froemming, wife of Maj. Paul G. Froemming, manager of the Soldiers Home, Wood, Wis., and Eddie, discussed numerous Ziegfeld Follies they worked in.

Booth Fire Fails to Excite 500 in Milwaukee Theatre

MILWAUKEE—A booth fire of undetermined origin at the East Theatre here caused damages estimated at $150 to the projector and projection room. Luther Reagan, operator, escaped with slight burns. Before leaving the booth Reagan turned on the automatic shutter system, confining the smoke to the projection room. Five hundred patrons present were only mildly excited.

An Indianapolis Drive-In Opened by Melvin Cox

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis film fans who enjoy seeing motion pictures from their automobiles were pleased by the opening of another drive-in theatre on Tibbs Ave. and State Rd. 67 this week. The theatre, owned by Melvin E. Cox, has a large screen made of asbestos. There will be changes of program Tuesday, Friday and Sunday nights and a late show every Saturday night.

Actors Set for "Northwest Trail"

Assigned to "Northwest Trail," Action Pictures' film of the northwest mounted police being produced by Max King and Dilliam David, are Bob Steele, John Litel, Joan Woodbury, Madge Bellamy, Raymond Hatton, John Hamilton, Charles Middleton, Poodles and Gracie Hanneford, Ian Keith and George Meeker.



CANTOR NO LIKE CRITICS—At a bond sale rally in Chicago a cameraman lined up Frank Smith, midwest division manager for RKO; the comedian, and Henry Murdock, drama and film editor of the Chicago Sun. Murdock enjoyed it.

ST. LOUIS

Ray Colvin, head of the Exhibitors Supply Co., is recovering from an attack of arthritis and neuritis which has been troubling him for the last few weeks.

Rose Hearle has been doing a nice job as head booker and office manager for Columbia Pictures . . . M-G-M will tradescreen "Bewitched" at S'Renco projection room at 1 p. m. June 19.

Cairo, Ill., was struck by a 50-mile-an-hour windstorm accompanied by heavy hail which did some $500,000 damage, seriously interfering with the local power and communication system. None of the several motion picture theatres in this town at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers were damaged seriously by the storm, it was understood.

Visit Zenith Factory

CHICAGO—Recent out-of-town visitors to the Zenith Radio Corp. plant included R. A. Anderson, vice-president of Van Hamm-Young Co., Ltd., Hawaii; Ben Arnold of Onondaga Supply Co., Syracuse; D. H. Marshall of Thurman & Boone Co., Inc., Roanoke, and I. C. Sampson of V. J. McGranahan Distributing Co., Toledo.

To Chicago University For Study of Films

INDIANAPOLIS—Miss Doris Louise Lynn, who has headed the visual education department in the public schools here for the past three years, has recently won a films tuition scholarship to Chicago University. The scholarship is awarded by the Encyclopedia Britannica and Miss Lynn will take the summer course. She plans to give special attention to the study of how to utilize motion pictures most advantageously in the classroom.



DORIS LYNN

Efforts are being made by the members of the Indiana General Federation of Women's Clubs to encourage legislation which will vote more money for visual education—primarily, motion pictures—in the public schools. Their objective is to have a projector in every school, as a modern supplement to charts, maps and other teaching aids.

Stars in "Dishonorable Discharge"

Robert Cummings has been assigned the starring role in "Dishonorable Discharge," the next Hal Wallis production.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

DECATUR, ILLINOIS, hasn't witnessed crowds like this in many moons. "MOM AND DAD" hung up a box office record at the Avon—and the thousands who saw the show praised it as the best educational picture in cinema history.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

World's First Color Films Viewed in St. Louis in '04

By DAVID F. BARRETT

ST. LOUIS—Don't overlook the part played by this city in the history of the motion picture industry. St. Louis has about as many "firsts" in the film world as it has in baseball.

It was a favorite expression of the late Eddie Dustin, one of the nation's real pioneers in film production, distribution and exhibition, that "St. Louis was making motion pictures when Hollywood was only a vacant lot." A careful search of the records proves conclusively that Dustin was right.

Pittsburgh and other cities may claim to have had the first motion picture theatre, but the very names of these first motion picture exhibition houses point to their origin. The name, "Nickelodeon," was taken from the old Odeon Theatre here, operated in the early 1900s in the Masonic Temple of that period, St. Louis de luxe cultural amusement place. It was natural the pioneers in motion pictures in St. Louis should combine "Odeon" with their admittance price to coin the name which came into almost universal use.

First Nickelodeons in 1903

The first nickelodeons were opened here in 1903 and early 1904. The Louisiana Purchase Exposition, or "St. Louis World's Fair," as it was more popularly known, gave big impetus to the budding film industry.

It was only naturally the new "magic lantern" shows should be given its first real tryout here in connection with the Fair. A man named Goldgrabber opened a penny arcade and nickelodeon on Franklin Ave., west of Broadway about that time, while a Frenchman whose name escapes memory opened a picture show on Delmar Blvd. opposite Delmar Garden, then one of the leading amusement places of the city. It may startle some to learn this Frenchman was the first to show motion pictures in color in America. He brought with him to St. Louis a number of French films, all very short, which he personally hand painted. After the



World's Fair closed in December, 1904, he went into various neighborhoods here presenting his forerunners of Technicolor in rented store buildings. He would induce the butcher or grocer at a prominent intersection to shift movable fixtures for a night in order to present his show. A couple of hundred camp chairs and a portable Edison projector constituted his equipment.

Even before the World's Fair the old Columbia Theatre at Sixth and St. Charles Sts. exhibited motion pictures in connection with its vaudeville shows, then the best in the country. Usually these were scenics or other brief outdoor shots that were run at the end of the stage show. Many customers wouldn't even wait to see them. The Westinghouse organization exhibited motion pictures as part of their display on the World's Fair grounds.

First Picture Theatre in 1906

The first local motion picture theatre to be devoted exclusively to motion pictures and not operated in conjunction with a penny arcade or some other business enterprise was the World's Dream at 1314 Market St., launched by John Karzin Oct. 17, 1906. About the same time the Dreamland Theatre was started on the site of the present Family Theatre on South Broadway. Prior to this time Karzin had been interested with Harry Miller in the operation of Miller Bros.' Nickelodeon at 1528 Market St. This was a 120-seat affair, and to get to the single entrance the patrons had to pass through a penny arcade. Karzin operated an adjoining restaurant.

Historians should note that by 1906 St. Louis had emerged from the nickelodeon stage and was already giving its motion picture theatres individual names such as the World's Dream, Dreamland, King Bee, Lyric, etc.

Theatre Had 140 Chairs

The World's Dream had 140 folding chairs and provided standing room for 200 additional customers. Karzin originally rented his film in Chicago for $25 a week, occasionally paying $35 for a headline attraction. His first projectionist was paid $15 a week. Currently the men in the first run houses have a base pay of $105 a week, with two men on each shift. Orchestras and presentations were unheard of and an usher was absolutely useless. The doorman doubled in the role of barker. He shouted merits of offerings to attract passersby. This was a natural development, since Harry Miller, who had been in business with Karzin, was a circus man. The barker was an indispensable adjunct of circuses and carnivals. Later a piano player and a vocalist were added to the staff. An early development of the industry was the illustrated song, in which a cigaret tenor led the audiences in butchering those sentimental ballads so popular in the early 1900s.

Following closely those first converted store show houses came the tent shows, and still later—a strictly St. Louis development—the airdomes. The present world famous municipal theatre in Forest Park is an offspring of the early airdomes that the motion picture industry gave to the world. Men early in this field, in addition to Karzin, were Make Nash, Happy Koplar, Fred Wehrenberg, Joe Mogler, Mike Cody, Tom Canty and Billy Goldman. Over in East St. Louis the pioneers included Harry Redmon, Joe Erber, "Pop" Davis and Ivy Summers.

Fred Wehrenberg built the first theatre to be erected in St. Louis for the exclusive use of motion pictures. This was his Best Theatre on Cherokee immediately east of Jefferson Ave. Karzin's World's Dream was in a converted store building.

First With Talkies

Steve Kaimann erected the O'Fallon Theatre on Florissant west of Fair Ave. about 1910. This was the first brick motion picture theatre in North St. Louis. The original building is now part of the present O'Fallon Theatre, which has been enlarged three times.

Edmond Koeln, former St. Louis city collector, with Frank Sievers and associates opened the Central Theatre on Market and Sixth Sts. about 1909. This house was the first in the world to give its patrons "talking motion pictures." It was located across Market from the Grand Opera House, which played vaudeville and other stage shows. Koeln and Sievers conceived the idea of having professional actors from the Grand stand behind the screen and speak for the screen stars and starettes. The effect was very realistic.

Later the same group erected the New Grand Central Theatre on Grand Blvd. at Lucas Ave. This was the city's first de luxe motion picture theatre and it was also the



AN EARLY WARNER FEATURE—Sam and Jack Warner are shown here in front of an early theatre with one of their first traveling roadshows of motion pictures.

first theatre in the world to be designed around the projection booth. Sievers said that since the theatre was to cater to motion pictures, the booth should be given a direct and perfect throw to the screen. It was a real forward step in the projection of pictures.

St. Louis also pioneered in the production of motion pictures. Truly it was making motion pictures when Hollywood was a vacant lot—or a series of pastures, to be more exact. Orrin T. Crawford, who had opened a film exchange in St. Louis about 1907 with 11 single reels, later conceived the idea of making motion pictures for exhibition in his own theatres. In addition, he continued to operate film distribution offices. Eddie Dustin was his right-hand man. They gave the world its first two-reel picture, the first three-reeler and the first five-reel feature length film.

Dustin was always a couple of jumps ahead of the parade. When it was decided to make "Sitting Bull," a five-reeler, Dustin convinced Crawford that in order to provide the proper atmosphere the picture should be shot in the Indian country with real Indians for the mob scenes. So a river boat was chartered and the stars and other members of the cast made a trip down the Mississippi and thence up the Red River to Oklahoma, where hundreds of Indians were hired at $1 a day.

Warner Bros. Pioneers

Warner Bros. were also pioneers in the production field in St. Louis. Their first offering was "The Glass Coffin," a far cry from the prospective St. Louis film, "The Frontiersman." Other early St. Louis productions included "Ten Nights in a Barroom," "The Phantom Chase," "Rain in the Face" and a version of "Buffalo Bill."

One of Crawford's early actors was Harry Hynes, present branch manager in St. Louis for Universal Pictures. Hynes played a part in "Ten Nights in a Barroom."

Crawford's chain of theatres included the old Gayety, then known as the Crawford, at the northwest corner of 14th and Locust Sts., long since torn down to make way for a parking lot; the Novelty, Lafayette, Gravois, Union, Maffitt, Victory (then the Mikado) and the Manchester. Many of those early picture houses had tin walls backed up with brick to give them distinction from straight brick buildings. Neighborhood boys got a thrill by throwing bricks against the tin walls.

Skouras Bros. Entered in 1914

The Skouras brothers, Charles, Spyros and George, entered the motion picture exhibition field here in 1914, when Spyros and Charles bought a half-interest in the old Olympia Theatre at 1420 Market St., on the site of the present $6,000,000 Kiel Municipal Auditorium. Before leaving St. Louis for other worlds to conquer the Skouras boys had formed the St. Louis Amusement Co. with Harry Koplar and Billy Goldman and had organized the Skouras Bros. Enterprises, Inc., and other subsidiary corporations. From their small beginning at the Olympia they pieced together a chain of 38 theatres in St. Louis and St. Louis County, with 19 auxiliary airdomes. The theatres had a total seating capacity of 52,974 and the airdomes 31,878. The airdomes were used in the summer months in the days before air-conditioning and cooler systems were perfected for theatres.

As early as 1908, St. Louis gave the world tuneful melodies by skillful orchestras. One of the pioneers in this field was David Harum Silverman, who headed a three-piece orchestra at the old Gem Theatre on Sixth St., just south of Market. Later, when the Skouras brothers became dominant factors in the local exhibition field, they emphasized high class orchestras at the New Grand Central and later at their Ambassador Theatre. The year 1921 found Silverman with Gene Rodemich and Allister Wylie, making talking machine piano records and still later the symphony orchestras headed by Silverman and Rodemich were also making records for the big companies.

And while browsing through the records, maybe one encounters statements that "St. Louis is a poor show town." Perhaps it is, for poor shows. But St. Louis has almost twice as many motion picture theatre seats per capita as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston or Los Angeles and most of them are filled with a fair degree of regularity.

INDIANAPOLIS

Jack Dowd, formerly employed at Warners and now stationed in Germany, soon is expecting to return home to his wife and baby . . . Mrs. Paul Sanders of Campbellsville, Ky., was on Filmrow booking pictures for her new Cozy Theatre, which she expects to open June 17 . . . Syl Grove, who operates the Capitol and Shelby in Louisville, was back on the job after a brief illness.

Harry H. Thomas, general sales manager, PRC, was a business caller at the local exchange . . . Max Jacobs, Imperial Distributing Co., Cleveland, was a visitor on Filmrow Thursday (7). While here on business, he paid friendly calls to many of his friends . . . Joe Bommerscheim of the NTS was suffering with a severe cold . . . Ward Scott, 20th-Fox district manager, Kansas City, conducted a special sales meeting in the exchange here.

Horace Spencer, head shipper at RKO exchange, died at his home after a long illness. He had been with the company since 1928. William Starling, assistant shipper, will carry on until a successor can be found . . . J. W. Servies of the NTS sales promotion department was here.

The Y&W Management Corp. has moved from the ninth floor of the Illinois Bldg. to larger space on the sixth floor . . . The wife of Richard Frank, manager at Paramount, is a patient at St. Vincent's Hospital after a minor operation . . . L. J. McGinley, manager of Universal, has returned from a New York business trip.

Capt. Robert C. Patrick, pilot of a B17 bomber who was captured May 14, 1944, when his plane caught fire and exploded near Frankfort, was liberated from Stalag 7-4 in Moosberg, and is now visiting his wife and parents here. He was a former employe at the local RCA plant . . . Variety Tent 10, is making plans for its annual dinner and golf tournament August 27.

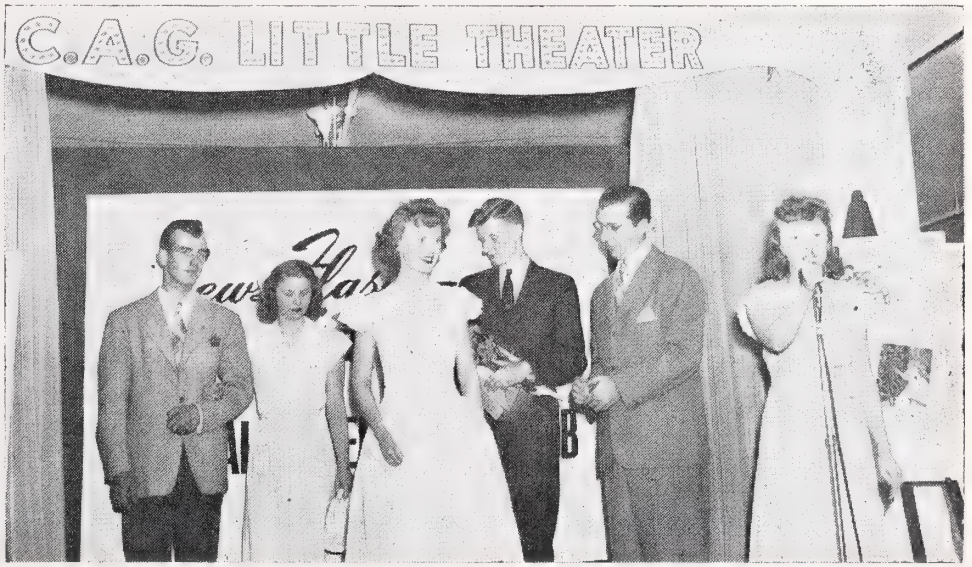
Frank Clark, a former manager for Paramount in Milwaukee, and now operating a chain of theatres in Wisconsin, was a Filmrow visitor . . . Miss Reba Cornett, former chief accountant at Universal and now a member of the WAVES, spent the weekend in Indianapolis with her friends. She is stationed at Quantico Barracks, Va.

Wayne Shepler, manager of Loew's Majestic Theatre in Evansville, is spending his vacation in Columbus . . . Ruth Spencer is the new assistant contract clerk at the 20th-Fox . . . Mr. and Mrs. "Stu" Tomlinson, observed their 25th wedding anniversary at the Variety Club rooms, Wednesday (6). Before the reception their daughter was married at the Tabernacle Presbyterian Church. Tomlinson is one of the early exhibitors and is widely known in theatrical circles here.

Filmrow visitors, booking and buying, included: John Doerr, Alliance Theatres, Chicago; Joe Schilling, Connersville; Bob Hudson, Richmond; Roy Harrold, Rushville, and William Studebaker, Logansport.

Buys New Theatre Site

FREEMONT, IND.—Howard Trumble, owner of the Reading Theatre here, has purchased a site for a new house at Reading, Mich., to be erected when materials are available.



SHIRLEY TEMPLE WINNERS—Dore Schary, producer of "I'll Be Seeing You," congratulates the winner and runnerup of the Shirley Temple contest staged at the Fair department store, Chicago. The girls are pictured with their escorts and are guests of the Selznick International at a theatre and supper party. Clairane Frank (center) is wearing a dress worn by Shirley Temple in the picture. The ballyhoo was for "I'll Be Seeing You," showing at the B&K Roosevelt Theatre and was promoted by Chick Evens, UA publicist, Jimmy Savage and Helen Bolstad of B&K publicity staff.

Educators Find Men Prefer Action Films But Go Where Women Wish

From Mideast Edition

CLEVELAND—Men prefer the action type of motion picture but they go to see the sentimental variety because their women folk do the family theatre shopping.

This was the consensus of seven leading educators who made up a panel discussion on the subject "Men and the Movies—What men prefer in the movies and why they make their choice—Are they influenced by the feminine members of their families?"

The panel discussion was the main event of the final meeting of the season of the Cleveland Motion Picture Council, of which Mrs. Frank R. Anderson is founder and president. Mrs. Patricia Blair of the Cleveland Public Library was in charge of the meeting.

Discussion Along These Lines

Herbert C. Hunsaker, dean of Cleveland College, appeared in the role of moderator and led the discussion into three channels: (1) Do the film tastes of men differ from those of women; (2) the expanding use of 16mm film after the war and (3) the effect of television upon the family theatre habits.

Men prefer action movies as their first choice and musicals as their second choice. This was almost unanimously agreed upon by the panel members. Then how come that the sentimental picture, the so-called "woman's picture" is the one that is the boxoffice attraction? The answer is the man of the family is out voted by his wife and children when theatre night comes around. And their selections are usually of the escapist type, escape from daily household routine.

"That's why they like to see elaborate settings, many servants, fine clothes and luxury on the screen," W. Ward Marsh, Plain Dealer photoplay editor, said. "They know all about dishwashing, mending, cleaning up. So they don't want to see these family functions on the screen."

"All movies are practically all things to all people," Leslie E. Frye, director of visual education of the Cleveland board of education stated. "Yes, the family selects the pictures to see; men and women do differ in their film tastes, but Hollywood today offers practically everything in every film."

Women Choose Well

Letting the little woman do the choosing isn't always bad, however. Paul Healy, professor of Case School of Applied Science, said he and his wife decided on a 50-50 basis. Sometimes he does the choosing, sometimes his wife does. "And I am free to admit," he said, "that I have often enjoyed pictures of her choice that I approached with misgiving. Never would I have selected a picture with the title 'A Song to Remember' but seldom have I enjoyed one as much as this one."

The fact that men are greater realists than women was brought out by the statement that more men than women regularly attend the Telenews Theatre.

The family vote is headed by the woman of the house, but what about the children? Teen-age children definitely pick pictures by star value. L. Meola of John Hay high school said he can tell what pictures are being released by the hair dress, the carriage and the mood of his girl students. "And they change their styles with their change in film favorites," Meola reported.

Are double features an evil? And are they, by the length of the program, a bad influence on children? The unanimous opinion of the panel was (1) that the public gets what it wants. It obviously wants double features therefore that's what it gets, and (2) here's nothing to prevent a patron from seeing one of the two features offered and walking out when that's over.

In summarizing, Dean Hunsaker brought out that perhaps men and women differ in their tastes, that young people are influenced by pictures and that adults have an obligation to be critical for this reason; that educators are interested in the rapid postwar expansion in the use of 16mm films as visual aids and that teachers will require special instruction in the use of visual aids; and, finally, that, via television, there will be a widespread use of films in the home.

Other panel members were Dr. Bruna Gebhart, director of the Cleveland Health Museum; John Nicholson, librarian of Fenn College, and W. B. McKenna, director of the University Settlement.

"Lost Boy" in Theatre

ST. LOUIS—A frantic search by plane and coast guard boats for Gerald D. Ashlock, 11 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ashlock, ended one night recently when the boy was found in the Senate Theatre, 9 N. Broadway, by his mother, after a neighbor reported seeing the boy in the show. The frantic search began when his ten-year-old brother told the parents Gerald had cast off in a boat which the boys found tied to a rack along the Mississippi River.

Council Hears Review

CHICAGO—The Better Films Council held its third literary tea of the year last Friday at the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs headquarters, 30 W. Washington St. Guests heard a review of Daisy Newman's volume, "Now That April's Here," presented by Mrs. Arthur L. Bergbom, president of the federation's seventh district. Mrs. Joseph Chesser, newly elected president of the council, presided.

Holland Films Booked

CHICAGO—Travel films of Holland will be shown at the meeting of the Arm Chair Travelers June 22 at 8 p. m. in the headquarters, 32 W. Randolph St. "Quaint Old Holland" is the title of one, a musical talkie. The other is "Dutch Guyana," dealing largely with the Balinese and Java and their ruling sultans.

Sisters Quit Projection Booth to Enter the Wacs

El Dorado, Ill.—Two sisters, Miss Mary Jane Hicks and Mrs. Dorothea Hicks Thornton, projectionists at the Nox Theatre here for the last two years, resigned recently to enter the Wacs and left for basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

Mrs. Thornton's husband, Pvt. George Thornton, has been in the army four years and was in Germany at the time of the Nazi surrender. Two brothers of the girls, Fred and Jesse, also were in the army in Germany.



Bond Shows in Loop Aid the First Runs

CHICAGO—Ma, pa and the kids buttoned up their overcoats, put on earmuffs and went to the films last week, despite the fact it was January in June. An unending hubbub on State St., where the army put on an "On to Tokyo" show, with equipment, gunfire and all the trimmings. brought crowds of people downtown. A large stage at State and Madison, with continuous entertainment, and another providing the same at State and Randolph, plus an ordnance corps show, gave everybody something to see every minute of the day and far into the night.

All this helped to make "Salty O'Rourke" go high, wide and handsome at the State-Lake and gave the Oriental a swell week with Johnny "Scat" Davis and his band, plus "It's in the Bag" as filmfare. The Chicago scored with "Bring On the Girls" and a good stage show, though this was a holdover bill. In fact, every house in the loop boomed into the big brackets, apace with the Mighty Seventh drive.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 7th wk.....105
Chicago—**Bring On the Girls** (Para), plus stage show. 2nd wk. 125
Garrick—**Thunderhead, Son of Flicka** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk 110
Grand—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangle** (RKO) 110
Oriental—**It's in the Bag** (UA), plus stage show....125
Palace—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **See My Lawyer** (Univ), 2nd wk. 110
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 5th wk.....110
State-Lake—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para).....120
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 23rd wk. 105
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 4th wk.....110
Woods—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep) 110
World Playhouse—**Wait for Me** (Art).....100

"Affairs of Susan" Milwaukee Top; Others Are Average

MILWAUKEE—At the Wisconsin "Diamond Horseshoe," linked with "Bull Fighters," pulled average, while "Affairs of Susan," at the Palace, topped average considerably. Othere houses were on the average side.

Alhambra—**Wuthering Heights** (FC), reissue.....100
Palace—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **The Unseen** (Para), 2nd wk. 120
Riverside—**Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA), 2nd wk.....100
Stand—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 1st wk.; **High Powered** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Warner—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep).....100
Wisconsin—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 100

"Without Love" Earns High Spot At Indianapolis; Layoffs Hurt

INDIANAPOLIS—Severe cutbacks in local war contracts and resulting layoffs apparently has restrained the theatre business.

Alamo—**Corpus Christi Bandit** (Rep); **Falcon in Hollywood** (RKO) 85
Indiana—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 100
Circle—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Betrayal From the East** (RKO).....110
Loew's—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....160
Lyric—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para).....100

More Nazi Horror Shows

ST. LOUIS—With 40,000 tickets reserved for war workers and their families, additional free showings of the Nazi atrocities pictures were given at the Kiel Auditorium last week. The extra shows were decided on after many thousands were unable to obtain tickets for the performances originally scheduled.

Free Movie Day at 350 Houses

INDIANAPOLIS—Approximately 350 theatres in the Indianapolis exchange center participated in Free Movie Day June 6 as part of the national Seventh War Loan drive. More than 60 bond premieres have been arranged in the state up to this time.

Premiere at Omaha Nears Four Million

OMAHA—Omaha's second major bond premiere, the "Knockout Okinawa" affair, drew another packed house of nearly 3,000 at the Paramount Wednesday night (13), William Miskell, area distributor announced, with $3,800,000 worth of bonds purchased for admission.

About 90 per cent of the bonds sold, Miskell said, were E bonds. The picture was "Without Love." Donald Shane manages the Paramount.

Meanwhile, Don V. McLucas, WAC chairman, announced a boost of six Free Movie Days and one bond premiere for the territory during the week, bringing the Movie Day total to 246, the premieres to 164. Children's matinees remained 26.

Downtown theatres here also are cooperating with the Douglas County war bond committee in two other features that will boost bond sales. Bond purchases at the theatres will entitle purchasers to tickets for the "Here's Your Infantry" show June 29-30 at Creighton Auditorium and a concert by the Boys' Town Choir.

Merle R. Blair, 22 Years At Cedar Falls Houses

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA—It was while traveling for Enterprise and Universal Film Co. in Iowa and Nebraska through 1919 to 1921 that Merle R. Blair, decided to settle in that state. He operated several theatres in western Iowa and in 1923 came to Cedar Falls to operate the two houses, the Empress and the Regent. The move was a happy one for he has remained to raise a family and become an integral part of the town's civic life.

Blair was vice-president of Iowa Theatre Owners Ass'n before joining Tri-States as a partner in January of 1939. For two years he was president of the Cedar Falls Chamber of Commerce and for six years chairman of the park commission. He is a Shriner, an Elk, and an active member of the Lions—he was state district governor of that organization.

Hobbies are golf and travel and principally his two sons. The oldest has been in the South Pacific nearly two years.

A 25-Year Birthday Cake For the Creston Strand

CRESTON, IOWA—The Strand, a Commonwealth theatre here, celebrated its quarter-century anniversary with a birthday party and all the trimmings. Percy E. Thomas, who has been the Strand's projectionist since the theatre opened 25 years ago, ran the machine for the birthday party.

Birthday cake was served to everyone attending the show. Mrs. R. H. Spencer is managing the theatre while her husband, who is a navy instructor in antiaircraft at Great Lakes, Ill., is away. Spencer became manager in 1941.

The first picture shown at the Strand was the silent feature, "The Brat," starring Nazimova, Thomas recalled.

Otto Nielsen, Decorator, To Take Over Rialto

STROMBURG, NEB. — Minnesotan Otto Nielsen, who specializes in theatre decorating, is slated to take over the 250-seat Rialto Theatre here from Charles C. Goodrick.

His First Trip to Filmrow After 19 Years in Theatre

Kansas City—C. R. "Charley" Neeley, Neeley Theatre, Dighton, Kas., was on Filmrow with his son Carl, who is now assisting in the operation of the theatre. Neeley built his theatre 19 years ago, but this is his first appearance on Filmrow.

Neeley, who has considerable farm interests around Dighton, knows film salesmen well from their calls and knows many branch managers and other exchange men from correspondence. He "had a grand day," visiting various offices, with Carl to introduce him. Carl formerly lived in Kansas City but was not in film business.

Minneapolis Leads In Bond Premieres

MINNEAPOLIS—This territory is leading the entire nation in war bond premieres already arranged and being held or held, according to figures compiled by John J. Friedl, WAC chairman. Exhibitors are going all-out to make the industry drive a stunning success, he says.

"The exhibitor response has been excellent," declared Friedl. "The fellows are going along in fine shape. The cooperation has been everything that could be desired and I wish to express my own and the committee's thanks to every member of the industry in the northwest."

Two Mark Tenth Year At New Ulm House

NEW ULM, MINN. — Carl Engstrom recently celebrated his tenth anniversary as manager of the New Ulm Theatre, erected by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fesenmaier in 1935. Engstrom came here from Minneapolis. Also participating in the tenth anniversary celebration was Roman Teynor, who began work there as an operator when Engstrom assumed the management and still is on the job.

D. W. Tusko Buys Home

STANLEY, N. D.—D. W. Tusko, Star Theatre here, has purchased a new residence closer to his show house.

Seymour Borde Takes Over RKO Des Moines

DES MOINES — Seymour Borde, former RKO salesman in the Chicago district, has been named successor to Lou Ellman, manager of the RKO exchange here who has been made RKO manager in Milwaukee. Ellman had been in Des Moines ten years. Prior to that he was RKO manager in Milwaukee, St. Louis and other midwestern cities.

Borde took over his new duties last week.

Several events were held for Ellman before his departure from the city. The RKO office held a party for him at the Pastime Club on June 15 and gave him a portfolio. The branch managers gave a dinner at the Hotel Fort Des Moines last week. Salesmen, district managers and exhibitors were present. The men gave Ellman a pen and pencil set.

Among the out-of-town guests at the dinner were Barney Brotman, Moline; Ben Marcus, Columbia's district manager, Kansas City; Nat Steinberg, Republic's district manager, St. Louis; Sam Shlaes, Moline; R. V. Nolan, RKO district manager, and members of the Tri and Central States Theatre Corp.

W. R. Hiller to Remodel State at Marshall, Minn.

MARSHALL, MINN.—W. R. Hiller, owner-manager of the State and Roxy theatres, has announced through the local press his plans for extensive remodeling of the State, local first run house.

The remodeling will include a new stadium type balcony, an extended auditorium and a substantial increase in seating. Work will start as soon as material is available.

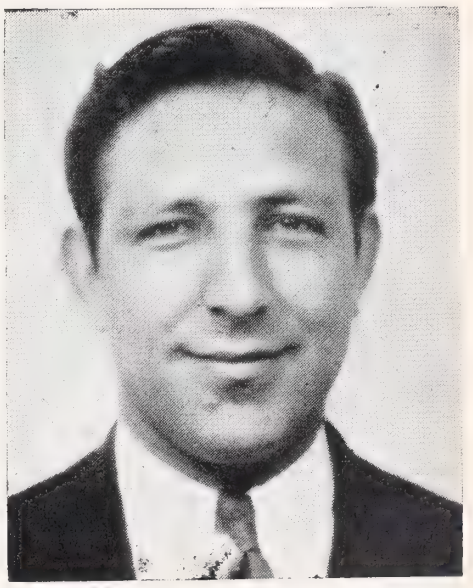
Daughter of D. V. McLucas To Wed Roger McCreary

OMAHA — Virginia McLucas, daughter of Donald V. McLucas, UA manager, will marry Roger McCreary of Omaha here July 7.

Rebuild Minnesota House

MINNEAPOLIS — Reconstruction of the motion picture theatre at Excelsior is now in progress after a destructive fire. The work will cost $24,000.





NEW RKO MANAGERS—Left: Lou Elman, who succeeded the late Arthur Schmitz as manager of the Milwaukee RKO exchange, and right, Seymour Borde, new manager of the Des Moines exchange, who succeeded Elman, when he was transferred to Milwaukee.

DES MOINES

Helen Haub, former booking clerk at Warners, was married in a church ceremony here last week. Her husband is Lieut. Craig Knop . . . Shirley Tilton, daughter of Elmer Tilton, came home from boarding school on crutches. Shirley fell from a horse, and injured her leg. She's really getting around on those crutches, though!

Kay Morehead, former contract clerk at Warners, now working at the state house, advised Filmrow friends that she intends to be married soon . . . A letter from Ruby Dyer Zelcher told Warner employes that she is getting lots of rest and sunshine down in Alabama. Ruby intends to be gone another couple of weeks.

Dick Geissinger, Universal shipper, was on vacation . . . Esther Hueston became an aunt for the first time last week and she's very proud of her new niece . . . Zora Fini, Monogram booker, and Helen Clark, Republic, are vacationing together this week and next. The girls plan to spend the first week at Clear Lake and the second at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago . . . June Douglas, Republic, has been away from her desk for ten days because of a severe cold, bordering on pneumonia. She hopes to return this week.

Charlotte Johnson, Warner inspector, was vacationing on her new farm south of Des Moines . . . NSS has a new stenographer, Jean Cohen, and a new biller, Jean Knight. Edna McClain, also of NSS, was vacationing in California.

In case Iowans forget that it will get hot, Tri-States is running trailers on their screens to remind them that WHEN it does, there will be air conditioning!

Barbara Luther is the new switchboard operator at Paramount . . . Shirley Bigham, M-G-M, has two reasons to celebrate this month. Her father is home on a 30-day leave, and her friend, Harold Bridges, called her long distance to tell her he had arrived in the States . . . Marie Butcher, M-G-M was ill last week . . . Fred Armington has gone in for farming on a small scale. Fred bought a new home with three-quarters of an acre of ground around it!

Keith Van Horn, Drake University student, is the new assistant shipper at Paramount . . . Twentieth-Fox has a traveling auditor, L. R. Antos, working at the exchange . . . Marion Kenyon is the lucky gal at Fox. She not only won a bond raffle at the office, but she won a $16 pool on the Kentucky Derby.

Imogene Thomas, Art Stolte's secretary at Tri-States, was vacationing in Boise, Idaho, where she is visiting her sister . . . Lucille Wesp, advertising department, spent last weekend in Fredricksburg, and Reba Hamand, Lucille's assistant, journeyed to Peru.

Exhibitors in town last week included: F. B. Damon, Fort Dodge; Wayne Dutton, Manchester; Mrs. Helen Pollard, Reinbeck; G. H. Maxson, Jewel; George White, Scranton; Mrs. L. R. McMahon, Gladbrook; Mr. and Mrs. I. Synnes, New London; Wes Mansfield, Tama, and Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, Knoxville.

It was "old home week" at 20th-Fox when three former employes visited at the exchange. Charles Parrish, former head shipper, and now instructor with the civilian air patrol in Texas, was here for a few days. Pearl Stansell, former assistant booker, now living in Akron, and Ida Greene, former secretary, were also in town.

Service News From Iowa Theatre Men

Thomas West, a seaman from Albia, is stationed in Connecticut now.

John C. Spongberg of the Call Theatre, Algona, was a prisoner of the Germans. John was taken prisoner in the North African campaign and was first held by the Italians, but when Italy was invaded he was moved north. John's father is a mail-carrier in Algona.

On Mother's Day, Pvt. Arnold Skillstad, former Albion, Neb. theatre man, cabled his mother from Paris, assuring her that he was safe and well and would be seeing her soon. He was one of 11,000 American prisoners released. Arnold was with the army intelligence service. He was held near the town of Noosburg, on the German-Austrian border and he wrote that he had been farmed out part of the time to work in German homes.

Robert H. Dohmen Promoted

Robert H. Dohmen recently was promoted to technical sergeant with a combat engineer battalian of the Seventh infantry division during the Leyte campaign in the Philippines. Bob wears the newly authorized Philippine Liberation ribbon with two stars. He was at the Albion, Neb. theatre before going into service.

Robert S. Flauher of Ames finished his flight training at Blytheville this spring. He was chief operator of the New Ames before he went into service in January of '43.

Several other Ames men have new addresses. Pvt. W. Cottrill is training at Camp Fannin, Tex.; Sgt. John J. Peterson is with the base unit at Hunter Field in Georgia, and Pvt. Frank Ferguson is at Camp Hood, Tex.

Lieut. Myron Blank, Des Moines theatre man, is now heading a navy office in the Chicago area.

Robert M. Fangman, a seaman of Boone, has finished his boot training at Great Lakes and started to school at the naval hospital in San Diego. Leonard M. Woods, who ushered at the Rialto in Boone for almost a year, has joined the coast guard and is training on Manhattan Beach in Brooklyn.

Other Boone theatre men include Sgt. Gordon Du Bois, recently gone overseas; Cpl. Robert E. Erickson, at Hondo, Tex., and Capt. Bernard J. McMahon at Fort Knox, Ky. Leo Peel is back in civilian clothes again. He and his wife are living in Cedar Rapids and Leo plans to enroll at Coe College in the fall, taking a course in physical education. Robert L. Peterson, a seaman, is at Farragut; Phil J. Rushmeyer is in England, and Virginia Whittmer, former cashier at the Rialto, is in nurses' training at Broadlawn Hospital in Des Moines.

Henry Plude Home on Furlough

Henry Plude, aviation mechanic, Cedar Rapids, was home on a brief emergency leave because of the illness of his son from infected tonsils. Lloyd A. Edwards, SK 3/c, husband of the assistant manager at the State in Cedar Rapids, was home from Tarawa this spring.

Of the other Cedar Rapids men in service, Pvt. Douglas H. McDowell is in training down at Sheppard Field in Texas. Clifford L. Morrison, S 2/c, was in Hawaii this spring. From the Philippines, Pfc. John B. Pettit wrote that he had received his Christmas box the middle of April. Cpl. Paul W. Ragona was in Belgium in March. Ted Wernimont, S 1/c, is still stationed at Farragut.

Sgt. James R. Dulin was wounded for the second time on March 4. Jim acquired a Purple Heart in Germany in January for severe leg wounds. Then that same left leg got it again, but this time the shrapnel missed the bone.

Vincent Hornberger, for two years doorman and assistant manager at the Cresco in Cresco, has joined the navy.

Pfc. Robert D. Danico of Davenport is a preflight test engineer with the eastern air defense command, stationed at Norfolk, Va.

Pfc. P. Paul Eibeck, former doorman at the Englert, Iowa City, has received the Purple Heart for serious injuries received in Belgium. He is now recovering in an English hospital. Cpl. John D. Beals was one of the freed prisoners from a prison, near Muhlenberg, Germany. Lieut. Gerald L. Greer was home in Iowa City a few weeks ago on a 30-day leave from the Kennedy Hospital in Memphis, where he is recovering from severe head wounds and a skull fracture received when he was commanding a rifle battalion with the Third army in Germany in December.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

Early Bird Arrives Week Too Soon for Radio Show

DES MOINES—Someone has said it's an early bird that gets the worm, but all Mary Benjamin, Columbia cashier, got was the bird.

Mary's a radio fan. For several weeks she exerted all her influence to obtain four tickets to the popular Breakfast Club broadcast to originate at the Shrine Auditorium.

Recalling the old adage, Mary, her friend, and Mary's two nieces, arrived last Saturday before the Shrine doors at 7:10 a. m. Mary and her guests were elated to discover they were the first arrivals. In eager anticipation they merrily passed the time until the doors should open at 8 a. m.

At 8 Mary noticed that she was not only the first arrival, but that she and her companions were the only arrivals. Mary glanced again at her precious tickets.

Yes, Mary believes in being early. She had got there just one week early!

She now knows that the broadcast will be held at 8 a. m. June 16, but Mary doesn't plan on being first in line then.

Showmen Stretch Hands Across Kansas Flood

FRANKFORT, KAS.—The rivers and streams of Kansas were overflowing when H. L. Jones, the railway agent here and manager of the New Victory Theatre at Vermillion, played the stellar role in a dramatic two-reeler, "The Show Must Go On."

Scene 1: The two bridges of Blue Rapids are out and the town is completely shut in by water. A big show with a heavy billing is scheduled by Chuck Schafer at the Regent, but the film is several miles away at the Frankfort station.

Scene 2: Jones, agent at Frankfort and also a showman, sees a chance to uphold the immortality of the theatre, grabs a phone to ring Schafer, who, in turn, calls a farmer with a good boat and an extra A stamp. Climax: The film is delivered on time; the showman at Blue Rapids is happy and the agent says to himself, "Boy, that was a close one."

Party and Baby Cart Given to Sam Abend

KANSAS CITY—Seventy-five Filmrow friends honored Sam Abend with a cocktail party at Hotel Muehlebach Friday last week on the occasion of Abend's then approaching marriage to Dorothy Goldstandt of Kansas City, the nuptials being performed on the following Sunday.

Arthur Cole, who emceed, presented to Abend a baby buggy, making a short speech to the effect that if the vehicle was not put into practical use "within a reasonable length of time, a more suitable gift will be presented." Others on the committee included Finton Jones and T. R. Thompson.

Abend, an industry figure for years, is a partner of Earl Jameyson in the operation of the Exhibitors Film Delivery and Service Co. and Friendly Theatres, Inc., a circuit of houses in smaller towns.



"FAREWELL" PARTY—At least, to bachelorhood. Sam Abend, Kansas City industry figure for many years, was presented with this baby carriage by a group of 75 of his Filmrow friends.

Sue Fraser in Accident

DES MOINES—Sue, six-year-old daughter of Russ Fraser, advertising director of Tri-States Theatre Corp., narrowly escaped serious injuries when she fell under a moving car last Sunday. The little girl was riding in her grandfather's car at the time. The driver was able to stop the vehicle without striking the child. However, Sue suffered a broken nose as a result of the fall.

Columbia Men to K. C.

OMAHA—A delegation from the Columbia exchange went to attend a meeting at Kansas City June 16 and 17 where the company's 1945-46 product will be outlined. Those attending from Omaha are Branch Manager Joe Jacobs and Salesmen Paul Fine, Harold Klingman and Morton Eichenberg.

Honeymoon for Abe Baier

KANSAS CITY—Abe Baier, who sold his Fiesta Theatre here last year, is planning a honeymoon trip. He was married April 17 to Jannette Goodhard of Kansas City. Baier's daughter (by a former marriage), Bernadine Baier, will travel with them.

KANSAS CITY

A cat in the speaker! Louis Griefe of the Windsor (Mo.) Theatre found one in the sound speaker behind the screen, after a long search for the source of wails. The commotion was heard before the show opened and the cat removed.

Bob Shelton was back on the job at Commonwealth Monday after a few days off for an operation.

About a dozen bond premieres had been held over the Griffith circuit up to June 12. The results of all were considerably ahead of the sales achieved in the last drive . . . K. L. Dickson, who is a veteran of two decades in projection experience in this area, was a visitor this week from his home in Levelland, Tex., where he now is chief projectionist with the Wallace Theatres. He has been in Texas three years. He said he missed the rainy weather most in his part of Texas.

Cpl. James "Jimmy" Lewis, former RKO manager here, is home on furlough from the First army in Germany. He is on the way to the Pacific. Mrs. Lewis is employed at UA . . . Columbia is preparing to redecorate and rearrange . . . Commonwealth offices are being redecorated.

Marjene Bragg is the new office manager's stenographer at UA. She recently came here from Paris, Mo. . . . Doris and Leila Garrett, Paramount, are taking vacations together, visiting relatives in Chicago.

Cpl. Terry Anderson, son of "Andy" Anderson, Paramount salesman, is expected home this week from Wakefield Hospital, Camp Atterbury, Minneapolis, where he went after landing in this country about June 1. He was in France and Germany with the Seventh army and was wounded in Germany last March . . . Elsie Plummer, Paramount inspector, is using her vacation to visit her father, ill in a hospital at Salt Lake City, and her sister there.

Charley Oliver, Warner booker, chose his former home town, Hoxie, Ark., as the scene for his vacation . . . R. F. Fite, Fite, El Dorado, Kas., conceding that his town has no general to welcome home, points out that El Dorado does have an ace, Jack Thomas, a local boy who was third man in the Pacific with 21 planes to his score.

Paul Oetting, Lyric, Concordia, Mo., likes to do things himself. Hence he is limiting his radio service to such volume as he can personally handle. The frequency of his trips to Filmrow is partly accounted for by the fact that his visits include calls on distributors in the radio industry.

Leo H. Freund, Adrian, Adrian, Mo., reports the wet weather in his section that kept farmers from the fields resulted in exceptional attendance during the prolonged wet spell at his theatre. Pictures keep the farmers' minds off their worry over the delayed farm work, Freund explained . . . Roy D. North, manager of the Fox Midwest Benton here, and Mrs. North have their son, Lieut. Jack North, naval pilot on a patrol bomber, home on leave. He has been on duty in the Caribbean.

Harry Thomas, PRC general sales manager, flew in from Minneapolis. He and Beverly Miller, local manager, spent several hours trying to find his baggage. It finally was located at Omaha . . . The extra good attendance at some downtown theatres the night of the Bob Hope-Bing Crosby bond show at the Municipal Auditorium was explained this way: Many people, disappointed in securing tickets for the bond show, went to the theatres instead.

Sol Francis, Monogram district manager, was here conferring with Mike Lee, local manager, elated over the extraordinary success of "Dillinger." Francis was on the way from Omaha to Oklahoma City and Dallas, thence back northward to Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Chicago . . . Sgt. Robert L. Dyson, son of Earl Dyson, RKO salesman, has been transferred to Laredo, Tex., where he is in training on a B29. An aerial gunner, he had been on a B17 heretofore.

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St. Paul Jockeys for Better Spot On Nation's Entertainment Map

MINNEAPOLIS — St. Paul, which always has played second fiddle to its larger twin, Minneapolis, in the matter of entertainment, with more of the important stage shows favoring this city, is setting out to get "a better break." Its Retail Merchants Ass'n has appointed an amusement project committee to put the town back on the show map and, if possible, to outdistance Minneapolis. It has made a vow that henceforth "St. Paul shall be well treated in the matter of entertainment."

The committee includes representatives of the St. Paul newspapers and largest business establishments. It will endeavor to have films shown in St. Paul as soon as they're scheduled for Minneapolis and to try to bring in the same name bands and other Orpheum attractions that have been playing their Twin City engagements exclusively here. It also will sponsor attractions and, as far as possible, limit their visits to St. Paul.

First fruits just have been announced—an exclusive three-day engagement of "Carmen Jones," outstanding Broadway musical show hit, for St. Paul in August.

There always has been keen and sometimes bitter rivalry between Minneapolis and St. Paul. Minneapolis always has been considered "a good show town" and St. Paul a bad one. Legitimate stage shows and films pull substantially greater grosses here than in St. Paul. The fact that this city has approximately 200,000 more population is one of the reasons.

Enlarged Lobby Greets Pipestone House Patrons

PIPESTONE, MINN.—The Orpheum Theatre, local first run house of the Lee & Mans circuit, has recently undergone extensive redecoration and limited remodeling. New lighting and an enlarged foyer are highlights of the work.

Under local management of H. J. Hellmer, this house and the second run State are offering the people of Pipestone the finest in modern showmanship.

G. Northouse Named

OMAHA—George Northouse jr. has been named manager of the Confidential Reports, Inc., office here which handles checking for five motion picture distributors covering Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota exhibitors. He replaces H. E. Lombard who has returned to the home office in New York.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

DECATUR, ILLINOIS, hasn't witnessed crowds like this in many moons. "MOM AND DAD" hung up a box office record at the Avon—and the thousands who saw the show praised it as the best educational picture in cinema history.

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



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WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

"Susan" Holds First Position at Omaha

OMAHA—Best comparative business in a good Omaha week was the second week showing of "The Affairs of Susan," which moved from the Paramount to the Omaha and was dualed with "Nevada." "God Is My Co-Pilot" was off to a good start at the Paramount. And for reissues, "Escape in the Desert" and "Torried Zone" did well at the RKO-Brandeis. The weather was rainy most of the week, ideal for the theatres.

(Average is 100)

Omaha—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd wk., moveover from Paramount; **Nevada** (RKO).....140
Orpheum—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **Scared Stiff** (Para).....95
Paramount—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB).....125
RKO-Brandeis—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Torrid Zone** (WB).....105
State—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox); **Army Wives** (Mono).....120
Town—**Dead or Alive** (PRC); **Under Western Skies** (Univ); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Univ), split with **After Midnight** (Col); **One Thrilling Night** (Mono); **Wild Horse Stampede** (Mono).....100

"Son of Lassie," Opening Right After School End, Clicks at Midland

KANSAS CITY—"Son of Lassie" fulfilled expectations with streams of patrons at the Midland, school vacations coming just in time to permit children to attend matinees alone or with parents in the evenings. "Salty O'Rourke" carried on strongly in its second week at the Newman. "Flame of Barbary Coast" hit the spot for the Esquire downtown patrons for a substantially over-average week, while the midtown Uptown and suburban Fairway scored par with it. The Orpheum did a little better than average with its double bill, "Escape in the Desert" and "Torrid Zone." The weather was somewhat more favorable for outdoor entertainment, but several storms kept the public confined largely to its spring routine which included visits to the theatre.

Esquire—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep).....110
Fairway and Uptown—Same as Esquire.....100
Midland—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Blonde Fever** (M-G-M).....150
Newman—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd wk.....115
Orpheum—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Torrid Zone** (WB), reissue.....105
Tower—**Bells of Rosarita** (Rep); **Hollywood and Vine** (PRC), plus stage show.....110

Cool Weather Helps Minneapolis Theatre Trade; "Co-Pilot" Still Strong

MINNEAPOLIS—Cool weather last week kept people off beaches and lakes and helped the theatre business. "God Is My Co-Pilot" remained the most impressive single item after earning a second week at Radio City.

Aster—**Phantom Speaks** (Rep); **Ten Cents a Dance** (Col), 5 days.....100
Century—**Dark Waters** (UA).....130
Gopher—**Youth Aflame** (Continental).....90
Lyric—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Orpheum—**China Sky** (RKO).....100
Radio City—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk.....110
State—**Murder, He Says** (Para).....120
World—**A Royal Scandal** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk.....90

"Horseshoe" Rates the Best Draw at the Des Moines

DES MOINES—"Diamond Horseshoe" was the top drawing card among downtown A houses last week. It was shown at the Des Moines. "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" and "Double Exposure," making up the double bill at the Paramount, drew slightly below average crowds. The Orpheum featured "Escape in the Desert" and "Torrid Zone."

Des Moines—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....105
Orpheum—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Torrid Zone** (WB), reissue.....90
Paramount—**Sunday Dinner for a Soldier** (20th-Fox); **Double Exposure** (Para).....95

Borrow June Duprez for "Calcutta"

June Duprez has been borrowed from RKO to play one of the two leading feminine roles in "Calcutta," a Paramount picture.

Bond Records Fall In Nebraska Drive

OMAHA—This territory already has cracked records in two of three departments in the Seventh War Loan drive, WAC Chairman Don V. McLucas announced.

Under revised figures for the Sixth drive made by national headquarters, Omaha has 163 bond premieres scheduled in the Seventh as compared with 124 in the Sixth. The present Free Movie Day total is 240 as compared with 160. Only in children's matinees, with 26 this time as compared with 36 last time, does Omaha trail.

"There are still a few precincts not reported," declared McLucas, "so we hope to boost the totals some."

"Unwarranted" Holdovers Headache to Neighb'hoods

MINNEAPOLIS — Long angry because extended loop first runs cause frequent produce shortages for them and allegedly "milk" outstanding pictures before they reach the neighborhood and suburban situations, independent exhibitors here are getting an even worse headache in consequence of present "unwarranted" holdovers due largely to curtailed Hollywood production.

Occasionally minus sufficient A pictures to go around, the Minnesota Amusement Co. at times gives a picture a second week, although the boxoffice gross doesn't call for such action, or even a third or fourth week. For the same reason, World, operated by the Minnesota Amusement Co. and W. A. Steffes, is going in for reissues on a larger scale.

A recent example of the "unwarranted" holdover was "It's in the Bag." It did poorly at the Orpheum and went out after six days. Because of product shortage, however, it was moved over to the Lyric, extended run house, for seven more days downtown.

Holdovers and long loop runs result in periods when the subsequent run independent neighborhood houses are unable to find a suitable or desirable picture to book. These independent exhibitors also complain they have to buy more companies' product than otherwise would be the case, thus increasing their operating costs and putting them more at distributors' mercy.

50 Attend Kaycee Luncheon For Emissary of "Eddie"

KANSAS CITY—Honoring Christy Walsh, prominent sports figure and associate producer of "Captain Eddie," 20th-Fox's motion picture based upon the career of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, Marchie Schwartz was host here Tuesday noon at a luncheon in the Trianon room of Hotel Muehlebach. About 50 were present from the local film industry, the press, radio and sports world.

Walsh is making a 15-city jaunt as advance emissary of the production. He humorously balks at the term "press agent," declaring that his mission has to do with an attempt to instill courage and patriotism into the rising generation. He spoke of his 26-year long association with Rickenbacker, declaring that the adventurous life of the World War I ace is an inspiration to all of young America.

Sales Rise in Nebraska

OMAHA—Sales for the first four months of this year are ten per cent more than for 1944 in Nebraska retail stores, it was announced this week. A four per cent increase was recorded in April over the same month a year ago.

O M A H A

Ann Schrieber, Wisner exhibitor, loves race horses. Last week she rented an apartment in Omaha. Now the question is, did she do it to obtain better bookings along Filmrow or for better bookings at Ak-Sar-Ben where the month-long racing season opens next week?

John Kemptgen, Metro's new manager at Milwaukee who left here about the first of the month, was back for the weekend . . . Omaha nosed out Chicago in Universal's sales drive which was just completed, with Des Moines running third.

After six weeks, E. I. Rubin, Paramount salesman and chief barker, is back in the harness. The Variety Club's board of directors met with Rubin prior to his return to work . . . United Artists reported more than 200 bookings set in two weeks on "Iwo Jima," the 20-minute Technicolor that gives some of the most vivid scenes yet recorded in this war. First showing in the territory was June 14.

Mrs. Harold Ironfield, wife of the 20th-Fox salesman, and their daughter, Polly, have left to spend the summer in New York where they will be near Harold jr., now in the coast guard . . . Moliegh Case is the new inspector at 20th-Fox.

Jimmy Pickett, city manager for Tri-States at Hastings, was vacationing with relatives near Orleans, Neb. . . . After three months of waiting, Don V. McLucas, UA manager, has lined up a painter. His original idea was to have the white portions of his brick house painted, but in order to get a man to do the job he had to have the interiors of two rooms done, too.

Phyllis Christensen, stenographer at RKO, is engaged to Hurst Otto of the navy, whose home is in Walnut, Iowa. He is now stationed at San Francisco and present plans of the couple call for waiting until the end of the war before tying the knot.

E. G. Gannon has set August 1 as opening date for his theatre at North Bend. Extensive remodeling with Minnesota's Otto Nielsen doing the job is now under way . . . Mrs. Esther Quaas, Universal head inspector, was back after six weeks' layoff during which she underwent an operation . . . Charles Gragert, Warner shipper, was vacationing.

Goldie Clements, Paramount employe, has resigned to devote full time to housewife duties. Succeeding her in the booking department is Marjorie Gerlach . . . The new Paramount "hello" girl is Rita Heavey . . . George Hinton, former Paramount salesman here, was back in Omaha to undergo eye treatments here. George lives in Kansas City where he was forced to leave the RKO staff due to ill health.

Margaret Kohutek, biller at Universal, was vacationing in Galveston, Tex. . . . Another Universalite, Lelia Kunze, assistant booker, is using her two weeks for a trip to Los Angeles . . . The former Nel Marie Johnson, now of St. Joseph, Mo., was back at Warners to see friends last week.

It was like the end of gasoline rationing along the Row Monday (11) with exhibitors in from a number of spots. They included: Phil March, Wayne; Tobby Stewart, Shenandoah; Mrs. Jennie Wickman, Tecumseh; E. W. Kugel, Hostein; R. E. Brown, Harlan; Paul Haecker, Alma; C. L. Sherron, Sutherland; Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson, Onawa; Frank Simek, Ashland; Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Evenson, Soldier; Harold Schoonover, Aurora; Lawrence Burke, Deshler; Burley Chamberlain, Winnebago, and Frank Good, Red Oak, Iowa.

Peggy Hoeldobler, who has been a Paramount Theatre employe for some time, now takes over the assistant manager's job . . . Construction on Omaha's new $480,000 municipal stadium may begin in about six weeks.

Mel Evidon, Columbia branch manager at Des Moines, motored back to Omaha with Joe Jacobs as a finishing touch to their vacations. Mel met the missus here and they attended the 50th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Evidon's parents . . . E. G. Gannon, Schuyler exhibitor, has purchased the Cozy Theatre at North Bend from Henry Hyneck.

Theatre Joins Promotion Marking a KRNT Shift

DES MOINES—Theatres here have joined in a citywide promotion arranged to mark the switch in radio networks by KRNT, the Register and Tribune station. KRNT joins the ABC June 15. Five coast-to-coast broadcasts will originate in the KRNT studios during the first week of the new hookup. Free tickets to two of the radio shows are being given at theatres when bonds are purchased. Also, several trailers are on the screens telling of the new network affiliation by KRNT.

Fox Des Moines Visitors

DES MOINES—M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, and J. E. Scott, Omaha manager, visited here last week.

Roles in "Love, Honor and Goodby"

Betty Blythe and Franklyn Farnum, celebrated stars of an earlier day, were cast in character roles in "Love, Honor and Goodby," a Republic production.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 — Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825

A $250 a Seat War Bond Record Set By Kiowa, Kas., "Little Exhibitor"

KIOWA, KAS.—In citing bond sales accomplishments, don't overlook the part played by the small town exhibitor.

O. C. Alexander, manager of the 300-seat Kiowa Theatre in this community of 1,500 population, has established an enviable bond sales per seat average of more than $250, not only for the Free Movie Day and bond premiere in the Seventh War Loan drive but also in the Sixth and Fifth preceding it.

In movie week of this campaign, in which purchasers of bonds were given tickets to the Free Movie Day and bond premiere, the sales totaled $75,080.50—or more than half of the community's bond quota of $138,000. When the theatre receipts were added the community's bond purchase total soared to $156,000, with the campaign still going strong.

In the Sixth, the Kiowa's shows netted $72,612.75 and in the Fifth—the first in which Manager Alexander participated — the total was $77,732.25. Figuring one $18.75 bond per seat, this means the theatre was sold nearly 14 times in each of the campaigns.

The per capita bond purchase average for the community in the Seventh War Loan drive thus far has exceeded $100.

Omaha's Buying Power Jumps During the War

OMAHA—During the war Omaha and Nebraska have built up a reservoir of buying power that points to a good postwar future for the city and state.

Omaha, on basis of 1944 figures, ranks fifteenth in per capita "effective buying income" among all cities with populations of more than 100,000. At the end of 1942, Omaha ranked 43rd. Today its effective buying income is $1,923 as compared with $1,314 in 1942.

Nebraska ranks 21st in the same category among states. But here's something more: Nebraska ranks fifth among all the states in percentage of increase since 1939, being up 267 per cent.

Throughout the midwest, Omaha's buying power is exceeded only by Indianapolis, but Omaha exceeds it in improvement. The closest jump in rank was made by neighboring Des Moines.

Films for Overbrook, Kas.

OVERBROOK, KAS.—The weekly picture show schedule has been reopened here by C. P. McNew of the McNew circuit, showing film at the Heberling Hall until weather permits a change to the airdome.

Renovate at Minatare, Neb.

MINATARE, NEB.—New sound equipment has been installed in the Aladdin Theatre here and the walls and ceiling covered with Celotex in a series of improvements made by Manager Gordon H. Cary.

Frank Craven in "To Each His Own"

Frank Craven has been given a role in "To Each His Own" at Paramount.



Full Moon Means Full "Day" for This Nebraskan

Aurora, Neb.—Harold Schoonover, veteran Aurora exhibitor, has taken on another job—farming ten acres of "Victory garden" land. His daily schedule now reads:

Up at 6 a. m. to deliver a rural mail route. Back in time for lunch, then acts as janitor and cleanup man at the theatre. Then dinner, after which he serves triple time as operator, ticket-taker and popcorn popper.

Where the Victory gardening fits in hasn't been revealed, but Harold says that except when he's planting by the moon he will reserve the hours from midnight to 4 a. m. for film salesmen.

Winkelman Heads Club

ALBIA, IOWA—Royce Winkelman, manager of the King here, has been elected president of the Albia Commercial Club.

MINNEAPOLIS

Bernie Bierman, University of Minnesota football coach just returned to that post after three years in the marines, will be host with 20th-Fox at a luncheon for Christy Walsh, producer of "Captain Eddie," June 18 at Hotel Nicollet.

"A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," independently-produced by W. R. Frank, Minneapolis exhibitor, and also being distributed independently by him, has been penciled in for a date at Century Theatre after several successful test engagements in Minnesota Amusement Co. country houses. The picture also will be shown as a kiddie bond show attraction at the State, the date to be set.

M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, and Walter Hoffman, branch office publicist, went to Des Moines to meet Rodney Bush, 20th-Fox chief publicist, to arrange the world premiere there of "State Fair" sometime in August . . . In the city booking were Exhibitors Fred Schnee, Litchfield, Minn.; M. J. Hilbert, Heron Lake, Minn., and Arvid Olson, Grantsburg, Wis.

Augie's night club, after booking in a pianist-singer without audition, found the act was on the Cherry Sisters level, and Operator Augie Ratner, instead of releasing the act, now provides help with earmuffs and customers with cotton wads during performances.

Stan Kramer, Warner exploiteer in Chicago, ushered Bud Benjamin to his post as branch office publicist in Minneapolis, Benjamin moving from Detroit. Lucia Perrigo of the Warners staff also made the junket . . . Robert Stevenson has been named to handle exploitation for Minneapolis theatres summer paper drive, in which passes are awarded children bringing specific amounts of waste paper to school collection depots.

The St. Louis Park Theatre was endangered by a fire which heavily damaged a hardware store next door, but quick work by the suburban fire department saved the house from any damage . . . John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. head, and Harry French, his assistant, visited Minot, N. D., on business.

Des Moines Permit Issued For New Radio Building

DES MOINES—The board of adjustment of the zoning commission has granted the Central Broadcasting Co., operators of radio station WHO, permission to erect a building at Thirty-First St. and Grand Ave. The building is to house a combination office, broadcasting station, studio and eventually a television broadcasting station.

The resolution granting approval carried 11 restrictions as to erection of the buildings. One of them provided all buildings along Thirty-first shall be set back 30 feet from the street. Another limited the height of the proposed television tower to 100 feet. Another declared no fences shall be located along Thirty-First or along the south end of the property to be used.

Screen Debut for Omahan Is "On Stage Everybody"

OMAHA — Billy Usher, an Omahan, will make his screen debut in the Universal novelty film, "On Stage Everybody."

Billy made his radio start here some years ago at the age of 12 on WAAW, the forerunner of WOWH. His theatrical career, which began while he was a student at Omaha's Central High School, developed when he moved to Chicago and appeared with such bands as Shep Fields, Harry Dunham and Harry James.

He won his film start with Universal via American Broadcasting's "On Stage Everybody" contest for professionals. He was one of ten winners among some 4,000 contestants. Billy is a singer and pianist and does both of his specialties in the picture.

Girl Ushers Make Bow At Chillicothe, Mo., House

CHILLICOTHE, MO. — The Ritz Theatre here has joined the big parade in replacing boy ushers with girls. Betty Kephart and Shirley Stevens are the new usherettes whom Manager John Newcomer says are doing an excellent job. Helen Zemba, cashier, also has been made relief doorman, for an additional feminine touch.

At the Grand Theatre here, Dan Tevis, manager, was succeeded by George Truesdell when Tevis entered the navy recently.

Daughter Is a Singer

DES MOINES — Geraldine Hamburg, 18-year-old daughter of Harry Hamburg, Paramount manager here, has made two public appearances as a lyric-coloratura soprano in Evanston, Ill., recently. She appeared with the Evanston symphony on May 13 and on May 20 appeared with the Evanston community orchestra in a concert at the First Methodist Church. Geraldine, who sings under the name of Geraldine Amber, is a graduate of Evanston High and was a student at Northwestern University. She is now connected with Anna Fitzu, former Metro star.

Bonus for Scully Third

DES MOINES—Universal here placed third in the Bill Scully drive which ended May 5, according to Lou Levy, branch manager. As a result of their efforts, the salesmen and bookers will receive two weeks' added salary and the other office employes will be given a week's bonus.

Sale to the Lillys as Co-Owners

EDGEWOOD, IOWA—O. F. Sheffert, former owner of the Strand Theatre here, sold the house to Frank C. Lilly and Margaret C. Lilly, as co-owners, and not to A. Lilly, as was erroneously reported in a recent issue.

Terrorist Cuts Late Grosses at Shows

From Central Edition

ST. LOUIS—Cutbacks in the government war contracts here, plus the activities of an unknown man who has been stabbing lone women whom he accosts on the streets late at night have played havoc with attendance at special shows local theatre have been giving after midnight for war plant workers.

Since the restrictions on lighting were lifted, the houses that have revived the war plant shows have experienced an attendance decline of nearly 50 per cent, compared with that before the brownout.

The Missouri Theatre, a Fanchon & Marco house on Grand Blvd. and Lucas Ave., did not revive its war plant shows. Loew's State has been giving a special midnight show on Saturday night. The Express and Norside are other houses in St. Louis that have been giving war plant shows.

A survey of local taverns, night club and other late spots shows a sharp decline in attendance by women. The principal explanation of this is the terror that the slashing killer has inspired. One woman has been killed and another's life was saved only by quick thinking and fast moving by the crew of a police squad car.

Newsboy Winner of Laddie Pup Honored at Cresco

DES MOINES—Karl Underwood, manager of the Cresco Theatre at Cresco, staged a presentation ceremony on the stage of his theatre last week in honor of Joe Rucker, the Register and Tribune carrier salesman who won the recent contest with the collie pup, Laddie, as the prize.

The superintendent of schools was master of ceremonies, and the Cresco mayor paid the town's tribute to the youngster. He presented Joe with an elaborate collar for Laddie.

Recalls Girl Bond Buyers For Portrait Premium

OMAHA—The Orpheum Theatre was calling all girls between the ages of 13 and 19 last week who had purchased war bonds at the theatre's Liberty lobby since May 14.

The stubs, which verified purchases and entitled their owners to a chance for a free portrait painting by Mary Overholzer on Youth Day, were lost.

Essay Contest on Dogs In "Son of Lassie" Buildup

LINCOLN—A purebred collie will be the award of essay writers here for the coming showing of "Son of Lassie" at the Lincoln Theatre.

Arlie Crites, manager, and Jack Connor, M-G-M exploiteer, are responsible for the contest publicizing the picture. Essayist will write on the subject, "Why I Like Dogs."

Contest Winner Gets Bond

OMAHA—Mrs. Maurice O'Brien of Omaha won the Dick Powell fan letter contest at the Brandeis Theatre held here for the showing of "Murder, My Sweet." Her reward was a $25 war bond. Tickets to the theatre were awarded other winners.

"Don Juan" at Des Moines

DES MOINES—A sneak preview and tradeshowing of "Don Juan Quilligan," the new 20th-Fox picture, was held at the Des Moines Theatre. Representatives of the industry, press and radio attended.

Her Courage in Fire Is Rewarded

Des Moines—Miss Joyce Ryan, assistant manager of the Illini Theatre, Tri-States house in Moline, Ill., has received two leather traveling cases in lieu of a medal.

The gifts were presented by the grateful Tri-States management for Miss Ryan's "level-headedness" during a recent fire next to the theatre. G. Ralph Branton, general manager, in presenting the cases, said she deserved a medal for her "courage and bravery." Tri-States, however, does not possess such a medal.

Miss Ryan was alone on duty at the Illini when the fire, which destroyed the adjoining building, broke out. Joyce calmed the patrons and prevented a possible panic.

"Less expert and careful handling could have been serious for our audience," said Branton in a letter to Miss Ryan.

Palace at Luverne, Minn., Reopens, Newly Decorated

LUVERNE, MINN.—Herman Jochims, veteral local theatre owner and manager, has reopened his first run Palace Theatre after an extensive redecoration program.

Known as southern Minnesota's most beautiful theatre, the Palace and its little sister, the Pix, are an outstanding memorial to the long years of care and management of their owner.

Russ Fraser in Omaha

DES MOINES—Russ Fraser, advertising manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., was in Omaha recently, working on promotion for two Paramount pictures, "Murder, He Says" and "Scared Stiff" which will play on the Tri-States circuit soon. While in Omaha, Fraser attended a luncheon for local business men at which Bob Hope and Bing Crosby were guests of honor.

Clinton Strand Improved

CLINTON, IOWA—The Strand has been redecorated. The front ends of the balcony were removed, an outside fire escape was erected, and a partition with arched doorways was built in the foyer. The entire interior was repainted.

Mel Evidon to Sales Meet

DES MOINES — Mel Evidon, manager of Columbia here, and Bill Johnson and Larry Hensler, salesmen, were attending the annual sales convention in Kansas City this weekend (16, 17). Art Leake, Columbia representative from Iowa City, also made the trip.

McCloughan an Owner

PROTECTION, KAS.—H. D. McCloughan, formerly of Concordia, is the new operator of the Midway Theatre here. A former newspaper man, he purchased the property from Maurice McMinimy, who had operated the theatre for the last two years.

Still Carl Reese's Car Is Good for Shape It's In

Omaha—Carl Reese, United Artists salesman, now has something other than films to tell exhibitors about when he makes the rounds.

While attending the Shrine circus here a couple of youths stole his auto and drove it 180 miles before the police recovered it and arrested the offenders.

Two fenders were dented, another license plate had been placed over his own, a brick had been tossed through a window, the steering gear was loose and a lock had been jimmied. And even worse, says Carl, a full tank of gasoline had disappeared.

Rank Studio to Use Canadian Talent

From Canadian Edition

MONTREAL—J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate who paid a belated visit to Montreal the final two days of May, announced he had obtained two good subjects here for a Canadian film to be produced in England following his return to the island. The nature of the subjects was not disclosed.

Confirming news of establishment of a studio in Toronto to produce children's 35mm films, educational documentaries and 16mm shorts, he also announced formation of a distributing company, Eagle Line of Canada, to handle films in the Dominion.

John Davis, theatre adviser and managing director of Odeon Theatres of Great Britain; G. I. Woodham Smith, Rank's legal counsel, and Barrington Gain, his financial adviser, accompanied the executive.

Formation of the Eagle Line, he said, was for distribution in Canada of all feature films coming to this country from England and for the handling of children's films produced in Canada by the Odeon Toronto studio. Key film men from Britain will be sent to Canada to train Canadian personnel in the technique of film production at the Toronto studios, he said. He added that Canada would be scouted for potential writing and acting talent.

Speaking further of his English film interests, Rank said production was now being done with six-year-old equipment but that new equipment would soon be obtainable and technique thus improved. Odeon Theatres of Great Britain, he added, intended to make some 30 first feature films yearly. A certain percentage of these films will be in Technicolor.

Rank pointed out that arrangements had been made by Gaumont-British with Gaumont-French to distribute British films in France in association with the French company. He added that a joint company owned by Gaumont-French and Gaumont-British existed in England for exploitation of French films in England.





Paper Bars Lurid Ad Lines

From Mideast Edition

PITTSBURGH—For the first time in years the Pittsburgh Press refused a theatre ad, eliminating a display on "Ingagi" after publication of the first edition of the paper. An editorial stated that the advertising was for a downtown theatre, "an old offender in the matter of salacious promises." "Ingagi," which exploits "the love life of a gorilla," was revived here at the Art Cinema.

In a "Tip to the Movies" editorial, the newspaper stated that "some years ago the movies got so loose in what they pictured that they ran into a censorship movement known as 'The Legion of Decency' which proceeded to make life hot for them. Since then they've been so cleaned up that most of the objectionable situations that caused the movement have been eliminated. The only thing bad about some movies is the advertising which promises a great deal more than is delivered."

Many of the theatre ads "scarcely could pass muster," the editorial continued. "One, advertising 'Dillinger,' contained such phrases as 'a cold-blooded killer and a hot-blooded blonde—they stopped at nothing,' 'the bloodiest chapter in the history of crime,' 'doubly shocking because it's real.' Another dealt with 'public enemies on the loose,' 'the strangler—plying his horrible trade,' 'the fate of a girl who was nice to a stranger.' What are films advertising for—renewed attention from 'The Legion of Decency?' "

Censor Clears Films As Delinquency Cause

From Canadian Edition

TORONTO—Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the Ontario government's film censorship and theatres inspection bureau gave a highly interesting conclusion with respect to juvenile delinquency in relation to moving pictures following a survey when he said: "The board believes it is on solid ground when it takes the position that the film is never an only factor and rarely the principal factor in contributing to juvenile misbehavior."

Chairman Silverthorne commented that "while the topic had been of concern to socially-minded organizations, there existed nothing by way of authoritative fact which might be of assistance to the board." He continued, however, that "a greater interest on the part of the distributor and exhibitor in the type of film entertainment offered in certain areas by neighborhood theatres could tend to reduce delinquency."

At the same time, he expressed the view any delinquency attributable to the cinema should be regarded as of local nature requiring the application of local corrective measures rather than the implementation of a blanket policy.

Kirsch Combine Glad to Pay for Government Shorts

From Central Edition

CHICAGO—Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, declared that his combine will be glad to pay for shorts which the government puts out but which are produced wholly, or in part, by Hollywood. Some buyers are said to be registering complaints because the War Activities Committee had set a price on "To the Shores of Iwo Jima," but Warners printed it and United Artists is distributing so it is not exactly in the "for free" category, since the distributors had to come up with at least part of the cost.

Para Opens Month Drive

OMAHA—Paramount launched the Paramount month campaign here with a big sales meeting. Gathering with Jesse McBride's sales staff were Allen Usher, district manager in Chicago and western division drive chairman; Hugh Braly, district manager from Denver, and Bob Blair, exploiteer.

At Parley With George Smith

DES MOINES—Harry Hamburg, manager of Paramount here, attended a meeting in Kansas City recently, with George Smith, divisional sales manager from New York.

Florida Circuit Court Upholds Ascap Verdict

From Eastern Edition

NEW YORK—Judge W. May Walker of the Florida circuit court has upheld the report by Special Master James Messer jr. of the state of Florida in favor of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Ascap was one of three original defendants in a suit brought by Florida Attorney General J. Tom Watson, charging infringement of the Florida statute.

"The defendant, Ascap, is not a price-fixing combination, and is not prohibited from doing business in Florida," Judge Walker decided, adding "Ascap has legally complied with the Florida statutes, and is legally doing business in the state."

Nebraska State Fair May Operate as County Fair

LINCOLN, NEB.—The Nebraska state fair may blossom into a glorified county fair, race meet, horse show and carnival next fall.

An ODT order has banned the holding of regional and state fairs because of wartime transportation troubles, but local and county fairs may be continued. Thus the fair board may decide to operate as a county fair since the Lancaster County fair annually is held as part of the big show. If ODT permits continued operation of the race meet, carnival, horse show and night grandstand show, the fair board will find itself in financial clover.

Ludy Bosten Opens New Palace at Muscatine

MUSCATINE IOWA—Dudy Bosten opened the Palace here last week, replacing the one which burned recently.

Gets GE Humboldt Agency

OMAHA—Dormont Frank, owner of the Cozy Theatre at Humboldt, Neb., said during a visit here that he also has obtained the General Electric agency for his town.

Reopen at Atwater, Minn.

ATWATER, MINN. — The Lyric Theatre here has been reopened after the entire interior was redecorated and other improvements made.

To Play in Monogram's "Gregory"

Don Douglas, Jonathan Hale, Robert Emmett Keane, Marjorie Hoshelle and Jack Norton have been signed for roles in "Gregory," a Monogram production.

Spanish at Roanoke Pleases Sr. Oberlin

KANSAS CITY—Sr. Fernando G. Oberlin, chancellor in charge of affairs at the Mexican consulate in the Waldheim Bldg. here, is much interested in the regular showing of Spanish dialog pictures at the Roanoke Theatre, 39th and Summit. He attends every week and is pleased to find how much his countrymen enjoy the pictures.



FERNANDO G. OBERLIN

At the same time, he points out that the pictures are a distinct service to students of Spanish because they educate the ear to the "sound" of the language.

"Many people study Spanish and are able to write it and to read it," he said, "but they cannot speak it and they do not understand it. Listening to the Spanish dialog helps them in these respects."

Oberlin has been six years in Kansas City at the consulate. Prior to this work he was a newspaper man on El Universal in Mexico City. He often saw the comedian Cantinflas in Mexico and tells of his rise to his present popularity with the Mexican people. Cantinflas started his career in the little theatres, seating only about 25 or 30, where he received three pesos a week, spent two and gave one to the poor. Then he went with the Follies Bergere there and started earning 20 pesos a week and gave half to the poor. He seemed to feel the people supported him and that he owed it to them. No wonder they love him!

Uncle Lou Marks' 39th Anniversary

From Southern Edition

DALLAS—L. G. "Uncle Lou" Bissinger, owner and operator of the Queen Theatre, will celebrate his 39th anniversary in show business, mainly by standing on the sidewalk out front, selling some tickets in the booth, greeting numerous friends and probably spending a little time in his upstairs office just reminiscing about old times.

Bissinger started in show business at the Lyric in Houston in 1906. He became associated with E. H. Hulsey and went to Oklahoma City to operate eight houses, then to Galveston to operate the Queen. In time, Bissinger moved to Dallas to manage the Queen, relieving E. V. Richards, who was then managing the house. This was in 1913. When Hulsey retired from show business Bissinger came into ownership of the house, which in its earlier day was one of the three leading houses on Elm St.

"Uncle Lou" does considerable charity work, caters to the wants and needs of newsboys and is a member of Variety Club. Friends hope he has more theatre anniversaries.

N. N. Galbreath Joins RKO

OMAHA—N. N. Galbreath, former Republic salesman here, has joined the RKO sales staff under Karl Howe, branch manager.

On Summer Schedule

DES MOINES—The Tri and Central States offices have adopted a five-day-week schedule for the summer months. The new schedule started the last week in May.

Theatre Auction Adds To Premiere Returns

CLEVELAND—Motion picture theatres in this area observed Free Movie Day June 6 almost 100 per cent, but the returns have not yet been tabulated and no final report can be made.

As in all previous bond drives the subsequent run theatres in Cuyahoga County, are observing every day as a Free Movie Day. Patrons who buy a bond at the theatre are admitted without charge. For this reason, it will be difficult to determine just how much the national Free Movie Day accomplished in Cleveland.

Cleveland's only downtown bond premiere, held at the Palace, was a great success. Harry Schreiber, RKO division manager and William Heiss, manager of the Palace, announce the sale of bonds in the amount of $500,000. An auction was held in conjunction with the premiere for the first time at a local downtown first run theatre, with more than 200 pieces of merchandise offered as premiums for bond purchases. Bidding was conducted by Maurice Freeman, professional auctioneer. Successful bids included an $8,000 purchase for a cake; $10,000 for a suit of clothes; $1,000 for a carton of cigarets; $7,000 for a pair of nylon stockings, and corresponding amounts for the other premium articles. The auction was sponsored by the B'nai B'rith, whose members gathered together the prizes and sold the bonds for admission.

Approximately 2,500 people attended. "China Sky" was the screen attraction.

Raymond Ventura Suffers Face Burns in Booth Fire

PITTSBURGH—Raymond Ventura, manager of the Metropolitan, Bloomfield district, sustained face burns one evening last week when fire damaged the projection room. He had entered the booth to assist Modesto Capalbo, projectionist, who was not injured. More than 200 patrons walked calmly out of the building after the flames were discovered. Police said the blaze was caused by a short circuit and that damage amounted to approximately $50. The Met, which had been operated for a long period by Dave Leff, now a UA salesman at Buffalo, was acquired late last year by Louis Kaufman.

Former Canton Manager Is Wounded in Okinawa

CANTON—Lieut. Lester E. Miller, former assistant manager of Loew's Theatre here, has been hospitalized on Guam for wounds suffered recently on Okinawa while serving with a tank battalion of the 77th division, his parents have been informed. He took part in campaigns on Leyte, Mindoro and Guam. He entered the service in September 1942.

B. Gore Acquires Colonial Theatre, Wheeling, W. Va.

WHEELING, W. VA.—Butler E. Gore is the new proprietor of the Colonial here, which had been operated for the past season by Walter Schnelle. Gore formerly operated six theatres at Tampa, Fla. Transfer was made last week.

Cincinnati Drivers Back

CINCINNATI—Following all-day walkout, the street railway car and bus drivers voted to return to their work, pending decision of WLB regarding their complaint.

Durfee, UDT Ally, Wins No. 1 Michigan Honors

Detroit — The 1,200 pupils of Durfee Intermediate School sold $738,000 in war bonds to make Durfee the No. 1 school in Michigan in the Seventh War Loan drive. Pupils were given a bond premiere in recognition of their efforts by William Ahrens, manager of the Annex Theatre. United Detroit Theatres issued bonds in the school tieup and presented Principal Irvin Van Tassel with the first 100 per cent war loan flag received by any school in Michigan.

Grande at Detroit Is Closed by Fire

DETROIT—The Grande, a west side house operated by Associated Theatres, was damaged by fire last Saturday morning. The stage was seriously burned and the remainder of the structure suffered from both fire and smoke. No reopening date was announced.

The Associated circuit only recently had reopened the Highland Park Theatre, closed for a year for rebuilding after the Christmas Day fire of 1943.

Promotion for Jerry Roth To Lieutenant Colonel

PITTSBURGH — Another promotion has elevated Maj. "Jerry" Roth to lieutenant colonel. Son of the Israel Roths, owners of the Penn here, and manager of the theatre before entering the army, Roth now is stationed in Belgium. He suffered a slight wound in action some months ago.

Legion Honors Kellenberg

PITTSBURGH—Delegates of 84 posts last week elected C. C. Kellenberg, Variety Post 589, senior vice-commander of the Allegheny County American Legion. "Kel," local 20th-Fox sales manager, has been active in the Legion for many years.

Celebrate Years at Para

CINCINNATI—Manager Joe Oulahan observed his 22nd anniversary with Paramount on June 4. Miss Aoelian Breen, head contract clerk, celebrated her 25th anniversary with the company, June 15.

Leroy P. Langford Dies at Cleveland

CLEVELAND—Leroy P. Langford, 60, vetern of 32 years in the motion picture theatre supply field and president of Oliver Theatre Supply Co. here the last ten years, died unexpectedly Tuesday at Lakeside Hospital.

He had been in ill health several months. He recently sold the Oliver supply company to Harry and Ben Perse of Capitol Theatre Supply Co. of New York. He is survived by his wife Clara and a sister, Mrs. Margaret Miller of Louisville.

Ashmuns Plan Renovation For Two Michigan Theatres

CARO, MICH—Plans for the remodeling of two of its houses, at Frankfort and Marlette, has been announced by the Ashmun Theatres circuit, with headquarters here. The concern operates eight theatres in Michigan.

At the Garden, in Frankfort, plans call for enlarged seating capacity, complete new heating and ventilating equipment, a new RCA sound system, new marquee, new carpeting and other renovations. At the Center in Marlette new carpeting will be installed and the house completely redecorated.

Work on the Frankfort theatre will begin when restrictions are relaxed.

Harry Bickel Renews Akron Contracts as Manager

AKRON—Harry Bickel, former owner of the Majestic and Tivoli theatres and at one time one of the leading exhibitors in this area, again is back in theatre business after an absence of several years. He has taken over the management of the Rialto and Norka, replacing Bob Postma, who has been inducted into the army.

B. W. Clark Buys Another Theatre at Grayson, Ky.

GRAYSON, KY.—B. W. "Buster" Clark, operator of the Clark Theatre, has purchased the Gray Theatre from Mrs. Z. T. Womack. He also owns Tabor Theatre at Olive Hill.

Leases at Brandenburg

BRANDENBURG, KY.—The New Ace Theatre here has been leased by E. L. Ornstein, motion picture theatre operator of houses at Marengo, Ind., his home, and Milltown, Ind. Meredith G. Jones will manage the theatre here.

A Short on Pittsburgh Favorite Son

By R. F. KLINGENSMITH

PITTSBURGH — Warners' "Plantation Melodies," two-reel featurette which went into release here last week without notice, could and should be a subject of extraordinary interest in the local area if any showman wishes to do something about it. The sparkling short subject features the life and music of Stephen Foster, America's beloved troubadour and one of Pittsburgh's favorite sons. The dramatic, melody-filled featurette stars Craig Stevens as Stephen Foster, with Dick Erdman and other stock company members of Warner Bros. Pictures in the cast.

LeRoy Prinz directed "Plantation Melodies," a 20-minute subject, and Gordon Hollingshead produced.

Pittsburgh area theatres especially should exploit this featurette; it could be used very well as a second feature in any situation. There is great civic interest in Foster. Various societies honor his memory each year with meetings and singing festivals and with services at his grave. The Stephen Foster Memorial Bldg., which faces Forbes St. in the Schenley Park district and which is attached to the Cathedral of Learning, is one of America's shrines. The Foster museum is visited by people from the four corners of the world, his melodies are immortal, forever best sellers in sheet music, song books, records. Yet, when the producer-distributor released this featurette at one of its affiliated first run theatres here, the subject was not publicized. Probably the Warner circuit's neighborhood theatres and other local area houses will find merit in the subject and will exploit the presentation of "Plantation Melodies."

Canton Old Grand Opera House Sold

CANTON — The old Grand Opera House, which presented the theatrical great in its 55-year history following erection in 1890, has been sold to the Canton Realty Co. here.

For a quarter of a century the Grand was Canton's legitimate playhouse. Later it was a topflight film house for several years. In recent years it has played burlesque. Jack Kane of Youngstown, operator of several theatres in the state, bought the house more than a year ago, then resold it last week to the real estate firm. Its future is uncertain.

At the time of its erection the Grand was one of the finest theatres in Ohio. Canton was one of the best show towns in the middle west with the result that nearly all of the great actors in the heyday of the American stage played here.

For years it was under lease to the late L. B. Cool and the Shea chain of theatres and along with the Park in Youngstown and the Colonial in Akron played first run films to heavy patronage. For several years Cool used full page newspaper ads locally for film showings.

Hygienic Productions Has New Direct Mail Dep't

WILMINGTON, OHIO — Hygienic Productions has placed Miss Joan Copeland, 1945 honor graduate of Wilmington High School, in charge of a new department in its advertising offices here. Miss Copeland will handle the direct-mail department which will mail four-page tabloid circulars to all RFD boxholders within a radius of 25 miles of each city in which the company's new hygiene attraction, "Mom and Dad," plays engagements. RFD mailings have previously been left up to the individual theatre managers, but the help problem faced by theatres prompted Kroger Babb, exploitation director of Hygienic Productions to install this new department.

DETROIT—Kroger Babb of Hygienic Productions spent several days here last week negotiating for a satisfactory theatre for a Detroit engagement of "Mom and Dad." No definite booking was announced, although several rumors prevail along Filmrow.

New Pro-Tex Reel Bands

CLEVELAND—Thomas Kulka, inventor, manufacturer and head of the Pro-Tex Reel Band Co. whose special feature is a new type of closing, is now confining his output to the manufacture of a new steel reel band and a new plastic reel band, known as Pro-Tex de luxe reel bands. The de luxe steel band, Kulka states, is being manufactured for use with both 16mm and 35mm films. The plastic band is being made in size for 16mm film only.

Canton Projectionist Dies

CANTON—Clarence W. Rice, 49, projectionist at the State Theatre, died recently in Aultman Hospital here. He was a member of Canton MPOU.



CINCINNATI

"Peck" Gomersall passed through last week and stopped off to see Rudy Knoepfle, Republic salesman on the invalid list. Rudy, president of the Cincinnati Cinema Club, recently was presented a reading lamp by the membership.

Among Filmrow callers were Jack Shea, Shea circuit; Willis Vance, whose suburban circuit will feature a majority of Warner products on the summer schedule; Jimmy Partlow, manager of the Oklahoma City Universal exchange, on his way to Tipp City, Ohio, with Mrs. Partlow. Jimmy's brother Bob, manager of the McCook Theatre, was operated on for appendicitis at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, and is recovering nicely.

Charles Hayman, Niagara Falls, who recently took over Schine's houses at Pikeville and Corbin, Ky., was here on his way to Kentucky . . . Louis Wetzel of the V at Dayton; Tony Stern, WB buyer, and Bill Wasserman, booker, were here from Cleveland . . . W. E. Hall, Mason, Ohio; C. F. Pfeister, Troy; Manny Marcus, Indianapolis, were in.

Joseph Candrea, Semelroth circuit, one of the oldest chains in the Gem City, was welcomed with Mrs. Candrea . . . Ann Keck, Warners, received word her brother, after three and one-half years service in Egypt, is slated for early release . . . Johnny Brunetti reported his son Jimmy, ex-Warner booker, is still in Italy in the signal corps. Jimmy has 112 points to his credit, but is still needed by Uncle Sam.

Joe Oulahan jr. was selected for special school training at Great Lakes. His sister Nancy is recovering nicely from her operation . . . Lieut. Don Clark, son of Duke Clark, Paramount district manager and a former chief accountant in the Cincinnati branch, is now overseas.

Letters have been received at Paramount from Robert Bicknell, former assistant shipper, now in Germany, and from John Flood, former chief accountant, describing a tour of the Paris night spots, that caused the girls to blush . . . Jack Rodman, Paramount booking manager, was back from a vacation at Richmond, Ind. . . . Ed Salzberg has recovered from a bad cold.

Betty Ann Harvey, 20th-Fox, now resigned, and Paul Dabbelt, who resigned to enlist in the navy, will middle-aisle June 13 . . . The 20th-Fox First Club presented Elvira Carroll with a cake on her birthday . . . Ann McHugh and Jane Christ are back at Fox following two weeks spent at Atlantic City . . . Edythe Tieman, secretary to Lev Bugie, 20th-Fox manager, was taking a week's vacation . . . Jesse Martini, inspector, won the bond in the Seventh war bond drawing at the Fox exchange. Another award will be made in two weeks.

The grand family outing staged by Queen City Variety, July 2 at Summit Hills Club, will start at 11 a. m., according to announcement of Irv Sochin, chairman of activities. The $3 per person includes luncheon, dinner and a family field day. Children under 12, $1.50. A varied program of games for all, with no golf widows guaranteed, is planned.

Margaret Hill and Betty Korb, Metro, left for a Florida vacation . . . Exhibitor Leo Stephany spends the cool of the morning hunting the elusive blue gill and bass, and reports the going tough . . . Carl Dueker's Butler Theatre, Butler, Ky., closed temporarily, due to fire, which also destroyed a Warner print.

Wellman Circuit Head Host at Bookers' Party

GIRARD, OHIO—Peter Wellman, head of the Wellman circuit, which operates houses here and in Youngstown, last week staged his sixth annual bookers' party. As in previous years, it was held at the Mahoning County Country Club. The program of events included golf in the afternoon, a dinner and evening entertainment. Bill Twigg, booking manager for the Wellman circuit, shared with Wellman in dispensing hospitality.

Because of travel restrictions, the crowd wasn't as large as in former years, but almost every exchange in Cleveland was represented. Those present included Bill and Mrs. Gross and Leonard Steffans and Ruth Kronheim of Columbia; Margaret Macsay and Virginia Kransenber, Republic; George and Mrs. Bailey and Anne Vickers and Nativa Roberts of M-G-M; Bob Blitz and Art and Mrs. Engelbert of Warners; Dave Gaffney, Universal, and Nadine Faegas, PRC.

Although the course was a bit soggy after the continuous rains, the guests reported they had a good golf game and a swell time from beginning to end.

Pittsburgh Radio Station Observes Silver Jubilee

PITTSBURGH — In connection with KDKA's silver jubilee, which will be observed November 2, Si Steinhauser, Press radio editor, quotes Frank Mullen, general manager and executive vice-president of NBC, as follows:

"Pittsburgh, the birthplace of broadcasting, can well take a bow in this silver jubilee year of radio: Pittsburgh gave a long list of contributions to the present day network program structure. It seems not 25 years but only a short time ago that we in Pittsburgh were listening to the pros and cons that preceded the first church broadcast, the first baseball game on the air, the first all-children's program, home forum and the like. Looking back it seems foolish, the fear that broadcasting would harm such established institutions of religion, sports, publication, theatre and concert hall attendance."

Mullen is a veteran radio director at KDKA, pioneer broadcasting station of the world, and he has many friends in the motion picture industry.

Ray J. Hayes of Warren Dies in Veterans' Hospital

WARREN, OHIO—Ray J. Hayes, 51, assistant manager of the Post Theatre here, died May 26 in Brecksville Veterans Hospital. For years he had been a representative of Universal. Born in Zanesville, he lived in Alliance before coming here. He was a graduate of Yale University and had traveled extensively in China. He served in the air corps in World War I.

Plan to Reopen Kentucky Theatre Early This Fall

CINCINNATI—The New Madison, Covington, Ky., recently destroyed by fire, is being rebuilt by its owners, the Ernest Realty Co. Expectations are for an early fall opening.

Broughton Theatre Sold

PITTSBURGH—A. E. Olnhausen of Ross Township has purchased the Broughton Theatre, according to Filmrow report, effective July 1.

"Without Love" Holds Edge at Cleveland

CLEVELAND—Three new pictures vied for first place in popular favor last week, with "Without Love" slightly in the lead at the State, while "The Song of Bernadette" at popular prices was a close second. "Enchanted Cottage" proved a popular vehicle at the Palace. One of the hits of the season was "Tarzan and the Amazons," which scored heavily at the Allen and duplicated the record in its second week on a moveover at the Lake. Bad weather contributed to continued theatre attendance which usually begins to drop off in June.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**The Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....117
Hippodrome—**Counter-Attack** (Col).....75
Lake—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO), 2nd wk.....130
Ohio—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk.....110
Palace—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO).....105
State—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....120
Stilllman—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100

"Valley of Decision" Scores 280 In Big Cincinnati Week

CINCINNATI—"The Valley of Decision" polled phenomenal grosses in a good business week. The first run fare was divided heavily between Metro and 20th-Fox, with Paramount and RKO sliced in.

Albee—**Where Do We Go From Here** (20th-Fox).....120
Capitol—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M).....280
Grand—**The Clock** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk.....110
Keith's—**Call of the Wild** (20th-Fox), reissue.....120
Lyric—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 4th d. t. wk.....100
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO).....100
Shubert—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.....90

Erratic Trend to Detroit Trade; "Horseshoe" Scores Top 140

DETROIT—The local show business appears to be entering a decidedly erratic period, with ups and downs not clearly related to boxoffice strength or anything more tangible than the uncertain weather. Holdovers are at a minimum, which helped stimulate patronage a bit.

Adams—**Salome—Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd. d. t. wk.; **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ).....110
Broadway-Capitol—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.; **The Informer** (RKO), reissue.....120
Downtown—**Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep), plus stage show.....100
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Power of the Whistler** (Col).....140
Michigan—**The Cisco Kid Returns** (Mono); **Roughly Speaking** (WB).....130
Palms-State—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO); **Belle of the Yukon** (RKO).....120
United Artists—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **A Sporting Chance** (Rep), 2nd wk.....120

"Punk" Is the Word for Theatre Business in Golden Triangle

PITTSBURGH—"Punk" was the word for Golden Triangle theatre business last week. Three holdover or moveover offerings and one reissue were among the attractions. Two theatres had hit average or better during the prior week. Neighborhood houses are reporting very poor grosses.

Barry—**Thoroughbreds** (Rep); **Mr. Wise Guy** (Mono), reissue.....80
Fulton—**Dillinger** (Mono), 2nd wk., 4 days.....90
Harris—**Patrick the Great** (Univ).....75
Penn—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M).....90
Ritz—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk.....70
Senator—**Stage Door Canteen** (UA), reissue.....75
Stanley—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M).....70
Warner—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 2nd d. t. wk.....75

Ex-Organist Kills Self

LOUISVILLE—Heyde C. Conrad, 53, former organist at the Rialto and former Alamo theatres in the days when pipe organ programs were the rage committed suicide by hanging himself from a rafter in a garage at his home here.

He Buys 1933 Auto So The Show Can Go On

Cleveland—Lee Miller, manager of a "Mom and Dad" unit for Hygienic Productions, recently sent the company a bill for a 1933 model Rockne sedan, which he purchased in an emergency to transport his show when his car was wrecked. In a note on the invoice he commented, "The great coach is dead—but the car bearing his name still marches on!

"We call it the All-American . . . It will do 57 miles an hour wide open, runs 30 miles on a gallon of gas, shakes like a Notre Dame shift, and is something to look at. It has only covered 169,780 miles and if it gets my show to the various towns during the next two weeks, I will donate it to a museum."

Navy Band Show Brings $752,425 in Canton Drive

CANTON—Four thousand packed the Palace here for the USS Helena band's show. Admission was through war bond purchases through merchants affiliated with the Canton retail merchants board, its sponsor. Walter J. Kessler, manager of Loew's in Akron, promotion manager for the county's Seventh War Loan, praised the mechants' selling campaign as one of the highlights of the drive. The show netted $752,425.

Allied of Michigan Parley in October

DETROIT—Allied Theatres of Michigan will hold their annual get-together October 8-9-10, according to action of the board of directors. Whether a convention will be held, or only a skeleton council called because of transportation restrictions will be determined later, according to Fred E. Pennell, business manager.

The site of the meeting will probably be Detroit, where sessions have been held practically throughout the war years, except in 1942.

Bond Drive Features Keep Walter Kessler on the Jump

AKRON — Walter Kessler, regional director of the bond drive and manager of Loew's Theatre, was a busy man in staging two bond premieres, supervising the army air show and arranging for the personal appearance of three marines who planted the flag on Mt. Surabachi in Iwo Jima.

Former Chautauquan Dies

WELLINGTON, OHIO — Fred B. Hanson, former actor, died here recently at 65. At one time he was widely known as a chautauqua circuit entertainer.

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DETROIT

Under the Marquees: R. Roy Shook, Robert R. Shook jr., and George D. Shook, who have the Shores Theatre in Saint Clair Shores and the Eastwood in East Detroit, are incorporating the Shook Theatre Co., capitalized at $40,000, at 377 Cambridge Drive, Mount Clemens . . . Sam Ackerman of the East Side is busy adjusting to his fifth new set of teeth . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Burchfield, who closed the original Palace last year, are back from Palm Beach for the summer months, with Burchfield in improved health.

Charles Danke, manager of the Lasky, found a ring, minus the stone, on the floor, which had been stolen from former Tiger Manager Mickey Cochrane . . . Frank Stuart, manager of the Midway in Dearborn, celebrated Flag Day a week early . . . Skippy Carmer, whose dad runs the Dexter, was the subject of some charming child photographs . . . Jake Sullivan, general manager of the David Newman circuit, did an outstanding job on cancer collections among Detroit exhibitors, collecting $289. Arthur Robinson of the Granada centralized the drive activities.

Filmrow Bond Desk: Mrs. Arvid Kantor has done a faithful daily job plugging for bonds . . . Mrs. Joseph Johann, whose husband is partner in the Midway in Dearborn, came in with an order for many thousands of bonds to boost sales . . . Mrs. Frank Stuart, wife of the Midway manager, assisted.

Great Lakes Bond Rally: Gustave W. Funk, assisted by sons Hazen and Henry, were hosts to a crowd that rated 300 turnaway passes . . . Manager Frank E. Leonard engineered arrangements . . . Dick Kramer was in charge of entertainment . . . Mayor and Mrs. Edward Jeffries jr. were on the program . . . Professor Hall, magician, contributed . . . Lincoln Chrysler, brother of M-G-M salesman, Floyd, ran the 40 et 8's locomotive around town to plug the rally . . . Joe Stark was musical director, with Fred Rivard as emcee . . . Dean Palmer had the public address system . . . There were 500 standees . . . Bonds sold, $10,500,000.

Wolverines: Wayne Pulsipher, a newcomer to the show business, is taking over the Our at Bellevue, and renaming it the Palace . . . E. A. London (no relation to the Detroit Londons), former owner, is planning to build a new house in Olivet . . . A. Hefferan's State at Grand Rapids is reported closed . . . Rumors from Mount Pleasant tell of a new house up in the oil town.

Up in the Booths: Frank Kinsora, Roger M. Kennedy and James Murtagh went to Chicago to attend the funeral of Frank Olson, veteran stagehand . . . Harry R. Berns of the New Bijou remains the dynamic little kingpin of theatrical post . . . Past Comdr. Gil Light of the Michigan remains in the hospital for a checkup . . . Robert Wetherell, who recently was discharged after 37 months in the army, is returning to his old post at the New Bijou. Maurice L. Rubin, whom he replaces, moves over to the Cinema . . . Ray W. Bonner has moved back to the Alden in Dearborn from the Joy, which was closer to his home.

Short Circuits: Patrick O'Connell, manager of the Imperial, has moved from away out in Grosse Pointe to Buchanan Ave., near the theatre.

Grand Rapids Gleanings: Taxi service good, if you get one . . . Hotels, including the Pantlind, headquarters of Western Michigan Variety, are well kept up . . . G. R. Miller of the Miller believes in eating his meals on time . . . Frank Kleaver of the Uptown was busy on the Seventh Loan . . . The Savoy's candy counter doing terrific business . . . Herman Bird of the Franklin kept busy maintaining order . . . Jack Stewart of Universal off to an early Monday start negotiating contracts.

Jack Kulms, ex-exhibitor and Universal salesman, now a gentleman farmer, was in town renewing acquaintances . . . Walter Semeyn of the Roxy off to a luncheon engagement . . . Ramona Park has opened to good business . . . Marquee lights of the Lake at Lake Odessa are pleasantly visible from the PM train . . . Warren Slee, M-G-M, busy arranging transportation for his company's personnel en route through Chicago, making the Stevens Hotel sky suite their headquarters.

Drug Store Stuff: Pfc. Herman Boodman, son of Jacob Boodman, head of Detroit Film Cleaning Service, was wounded three times but never let his family know till he recovered . . . Clarence Williamson, NTS manager, has returned from a central and southern regional meet at St. Louis, enthused over a new air conditioning unit and other new equipment on the way.

Along the Rialto: Ted Rogvoy, theatrical architect, was on a trip to Mount Clemens . . . Marquis E. Shattuck, former president of the Greater Detroit Motion Picture Council, was named head of the flag week committee by Mayor Edward J. Jeffries jr.

Glenn Harnden of the Cinderella booth has returned from an extended refresher course in projection equipment service at the Motiograph factory, and is moving and enlarging his machine shop, on the east side for years, to the United Theatre Equipment store on Cass . . . Houston S. Morton, UTE manager, reports the sale of eight pairs of projectors to a Detroit circuit for early replacement.

Exchanges: Fred Mindlin, National Screen Service, was feted at a farewell party before his departure for Chicago to take charge of the special service department . . . Arvid Kantor went to New York City for his big sales conference. Mrs. Kantor went along . . . Lou Lober, former M-G-M salesman here, is headed for London and Paris for six weeks as chief of the OWI overseas film bureau . . . Otto Bolle is back from his Sydney, Australia, office, for a home office conference in New York . . . Jack Flynn went to Wisconsin, just fishing.

Steinberg Supply Will Continue in Business

PITTSBURGH — The business of A&S Steinberg, Inc., theatre supply distributors, founded by Abe and Sam Steinberg, now deceased, will be continued, Jerome "Jerry" Veldenzer, nephew, who is president of the firm, announced this week. Sam, a veteran of 40 years in the industry here, died June 1 after a long illness. His brother Abe died several years ago.

Veldenzer, executor of the Steinberg estate, is supervising the theatre supply business which will be managed by Emanuel Steinberg, brother of the late Sam and Abe, and by Gordon Gibson, engineer, who has been connected with the firm for a long period. Ben Stahl, Gibson's assistant, continues on duty, and Lorraine Polanosky, secretary for a number of years, will manage the office. Miss Polanosky had been in charge of the office for the nine months that Sam had been ill.

Veldenzer, for the present will continue as sales manager for Superior Specialty Co., distributors of plumbing supplies, 3601 Blvd. of the Allies. The Steinberg theatre supply headquarters are on the street floor of the Steinberg Bldg., 1705 Blvd. of the Allies.

Emanuel "Manny" Steinberg, who will have charge of sales for the theatre equipments firm, is another veteran in film distribution, exhibition and in the accessory fields, including theatre supplies. Operator of the Pastime Theatre, Herron Ave., for a long period, he recently transferred that business to Saul P. Brown, a newcomer to the theatre field.

First SGP Release Booked Into the Detroit Downtown

DETROIT—Albert Dezel, distributor in this territory for Screen Guild Productions, has booked "Wildfire," first of the four current SGP releases, into the Downtown Theatre. The picture is based on a story by James Oliver Curwood.

Dezel also has booked "Wuthering Heights" to open at the Downtown June 22. A special exploitation campaign will be launched in connection with this feature.

Max Rosenberg, associated with Dezel in National Roadshows, was a Detroit visitor in connection with the opening of "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors," which he produced. Rosenberg, who came here from Richmond, Va., left for Chicago. The picture is slated to open in this territory in the Weller at Zanesville, Ohio, and to follow at the Circle at Cleveland.

City Would Ban Carnivals

EAST LIVERPOOL—The city council here has approved an ordinance increasing the daily carnival fee from $10 to $100, which is regarded as prohibitive, and circus fees from $25 to $50 a day. The ordinances were approved after much comment by members, who opposed carnivals in particular, contending they bring undesirables into the city, hurt theatre attendance and incite juvenile delinquency.

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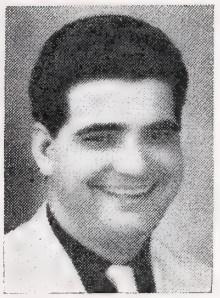
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THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



It is only natural that anyone with the name of a great theatrical figure should get into theatre business. Such is the case of **Mrs. E. L. Shakespeare** of Cincinnati. She started in 1913 as cashier at a Cincinnati theatre. In 1920 she became manager of the Queen Anne Theatre and of the Freeman in 1924 until 1938. Today she manages the National, the house wherein she was once cashier. In spite of the fact she operates a 417-seat theatre, Mrs. Shakespeare has remained very much a home-loving woman. She lives at 316 Joselyn St.



George Turlukis of Middletown, Ohio, has worked his way up in the motion picture business from usher to theatre owner. He started 24 years ago as an usher and projectionist. Since 1923 he has owned his own house, the Family Theatre, located in Middletown. He is a member of the American Legion, the Eagles and Ohepa. He is married and has a son who is following his father's career in show business. He, too, is a theatre manager. Turlukis is an outdoor sportsman and likes especially to go on hunting and fishing trips.



To the residents of Miamisburg, Ohio, the names of **Perry A. "Mose"** and **Harry E. "Lon" Weaver** are synonymous with entertainment. Their careers in show business started 33 years ago, in 1912. Today their Plaza Theatre, which seats 692, brings the best pictures to Miamisburg. They are members of ITOO and Perry formerly was mayor of the town. Both men have sons in service, both here and overseas. Their favorite diversions are fishing, hunting and baseball. Before starting in theatre business they worked in the entertainment field.



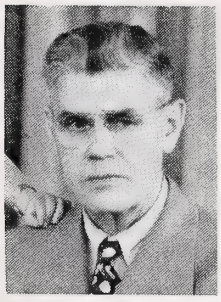
In 1917 **Andy Biordi** went to work for his father in a theatre that he owned at that time. Today Andy is managing the Majestic Theatre in Ellwood City, Pa. And that is no mean job to handle since the Majestic seats 1,057 persons. Biordi lives in Ellwood City with his family, which includes his wife and two daughters, Diana and Merceda. He takes great interest in the civic affairs of his community and is a charter member of the Lions Club. Biordi, who is "Chick" to his circle of friends, is an ardent football enthusiast.



Mrs. N. Zegiob of Lorain, Ohio, has been indeed an enterprising showman. When her husband died in 1926, she took over the sole management of their theatre, the Cozy. After that she acquired the Dreamland and Elvira theatres. Then in 1938 she purchased two others, the Pearl in Lorain and the Liberty in Vermilion. In 1930 the Cozy was disposed of, leaving her in charge of four houses. She is a member of the Royal Neighbors Club. She has two sons and two daughters, the latter both at college. One son, Charles, is a doctor in Akron.



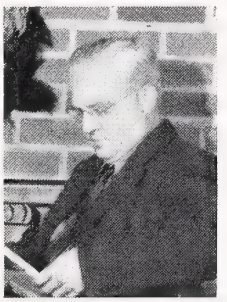
From shopkeeper to showman is the story of **J. C. Shanklin** of Ronceverte, W. Va. Until 1918 he was in the retail mercantile business, but in that year he entered the motion picture industry. In 1920 he was in the Amusu in Ronceverte. He acquired the Greenbrier in Charleston in 1931 and the Lewis in Lewisburg in 1943. Shanklin belongs to the Rotary Club and the Shrine. He served as a delegate to the state legislature in 1940. He is assistant to the president and convention chairman of the West Virginia Managers' Ass'n; director of MPTOA.



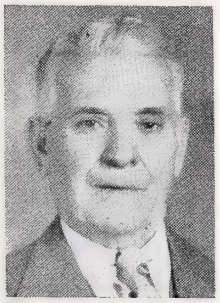
W. A. "Bill" Cassidy of Midland, Mich., has seen many changes in the motion picture business since he became an exhibitor 33 years ago. His first house was the Monarch Theatre in Midland. Today he owns four theatres: the Midland and Frolic in his home town, and the Strand and Alma in Alma. Cassidy is director of Allied Theatres of Michigan. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Knights of Columbus. His hobby is gardening and raising flowers. He is married and has two daughters, Sarah and Kathleen Marie.



Henry Thomas of Oak Hill, Ohio, in show business for more than 20 years, is the owner of the Liberty Theatre, 300-seat house in Oak Hill. He is on the board of directors of ITO of Ohio and a Rotary and Chamber of Commerce member. In addition to his motion picture work, Thomas devotes much of his time to music. For 37 years he has directed the Presbyterian Choir and competed in all the Eisteddfods for which his section of Ohio is noted. He is married and has three daughters and a son, Sergeant Lowell, recently returned from overseas.



One day in 1924 **Clair "Pap" Hall** of Clarence, Pa., was having a conversation with a theatre owner. The next he realized he had been talked into buying the house. Then, owning a theatre, he had to go into the business. Today he says emphatically he has never regretted the accident that got him into the industry. For the past 25 years he has been an ardent huntsman, going annually to Canada for moose the last four years. Hall has been councilman for the Snow Shoe borough for 16 years and is chairman of war bond sales.



Charles J. Penn, owner of the Overlook in Cincinnati, is making plans to improve his 550-seat house as soon as wartime restrictions are dropped. He has been in show business since 1924. One of his sons, Joe, is following in his father's footsteps, making a career for himself in the theatre. He is an operator at the Overlook today. Another son, Charles, was in the army and is now in defense work. Penn vacations in Florida to take advantage of the excellent fishing there. He is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors, Inc.



Dan Robins of Warren, Ohio, started in show business with Sam and Albert Warner when they opened their first theatre in New Castle, Pa. The three men shared the duties of management and operation, acting as ticket-seller, bookkeeper and operator. Success marked the careers of the trio. Today Robins owns a circuit of six houses in Ohio, the Daniel, Robins and Ohio in Warren, and the Butler, Warner and McKinley in Niles. He is a member of MPTO of Ohio. Robins is a member of Masons, Elks and Variety clubs. He is a bachelor.



Opening his theatre, the Berea, in Berea, Ky., was the result of a quick decision by **Scott R. Seale.** The town had had no theatre until 1918, when Scott decided it was time something was done about it. When he is not busy with the management of his business, he likes to work in his chicken yard, in which he raises prize poultry. He is not a member of any civic organizations in Berea but he does take a good citizen's interest in public affairs. He is married and has two daughters, Kathleen and Rosa Lee, both married.

Pittsburgh Service Roll Lists 24 Dead

PITTSBURGH—Here are the names of local Filmrow employes, projectionists, theatre owners and managers who are or were enrolled in the armed forces. Twenty-four of these boys and your men have lost their lives in service. Their names are preceded by an asterisk. Those who are known to have been honorably discharged are indicated by two asterisks after the name. This recent compilation of Honor Roll names, including casualties, is taken from the pages of BOXOFFICE.

Allen, Chas. "Dick"
Askounes, Anthony
Antonoplos, Milton
Antonoplos, Anthony **
Alexander, Jim jr.
Alvin, Merle
Alderman, Melvin
Alderman, Bernie
Anas, George
Anas, Thomas
*Ackerman, Walter
Ackerley, Mike
Adams, George F.
*Algeo, Roy jr.
Battiston, Richard
Basle, William
Basle, Andrew
Basle, George
Ball, George J.
Brown, Edwin P.
Beile, Joseph
Bezek, Joe
Burger, Henry
Banaszak, Edward
Berkeble, Henry
*Brizzi, Bruno
Barnett, Irving **
Barnett, Henry L.
Bartholic, Jack
Barner, John C.
Baczansky, Leo
Banks, Harold
Baraniak, Michael S.
Barbera, Julius A.
Barbier, Kenneth M.
*Balutes, Charles
Bello, Tom jr.
Bello, John A.
Beedle, Thomas
Bender, Cy
Berney, Irving
Biesecker, W. E.
Bazyk, Alex
Birocco, Joseph T. jr.
Blatnick, Jack
Boyd, George N.
Blum, Sidney
Broumas, John
Black, Clair
Bloom, Bob
Brozier, Phil jr.
Burns, Regis
Bugala, Joseph
Biordi, John
Biordi, Robert
Biordi, Rudy
Broudy, Milton
Bartiromo, Anthony
Cantor, Leo
Caskey, Richard L.
Carruthers, Charles
Carruthers, H. M.
Carruthers, John S.
Carettie, Lawrence **
Castelli, Dario
Castelli, James
Castelli, Victor **
Castelli, William
Cudugan, Harry
Capuzzi, Tom
Chaban, Donald
Christy, Howard
Christy, Guy H.
Check, Edward
Check, Jay
Cohen, Harold
Comuntzis, Gus
Comuntzis, Marcus
Comuntzis, Pete
Corbett, William
Conrad, Donald
Conrad, Robert L.
Constantino, Antonio
Coates, Charles
*Crane, Harry S. jr.
Cullen, M. J.
*Coss, James W.
Cook, John
Cook, Conrad
Coyle, Robert W.
Carroll, John N.
Cherkosly, Earle Y.
Cossoulie, Charles
Cossoulie, Pete
Daley, John
Daley, Andrew
*Day, Harry
Dawson, Ken **
Day, Bruce
*Dattola, Louis
*Dattola, Sam
Dattola, Elmer jr.
Dattola, Joe
Davis, Gus
Davis, Bernard
Delisi, Joseph
Delisi, Anthony **
Dick, Cornelius **
Dickinson, Donald
DiMauro, James
Denmark, Herman
DeGolyer, Charles
Detwiler, A. C.
DeFallo, Gene
Drew, Bob
Donne, Val
DiFrancisco, Clem
DiMichelis, Vincent
Dixon, D.
Enstrom, Donald
Edelstein, Melvin
Engstler, William T.
Engstler, J. G.
Erdeky, K. J.
Erdelack, Joseph M.
Faenza, Alfonso
Farrere, Philip G.
Feeney, Joseph
Ferrey, Ralph
Feldman, Emanuel **
Fitzpatrick, Edward
Filson, Robert B.
Fleishman, Elmer **
Fleishman, Francis
Finkel, Robert S.
Fitcher, Hampden V.
Fleeger, Wayne
Freinstein, John
Fleisher, Pearson
Frankel, Milton
Fesler, Delmer **
Freeman, R. T.
Freeman, Joseph
Friedel, William
Foryan, Emil
Fisher, John
Fisher, Fred
Findley, John W.
Fike, J. Nelson
Fink, Robert
Fierst, M. E.
Flanagan, Edward
Friedman, Earl **
Garson, Archie
Gamrod, Albert
Gee, Theodore
Garzo, Andy
Green, Millard
Green, Robert A.
Groudine, Howard
Gerlach, J.
Gill, Craver
Grimes, Kenneth
Greenwald, Manuel
Goldberg, Arthur
Gossetti, Louis
Good, Walter
Golden, Milton
Goldman, Jacob
Gottlieb, Fred M.
Gross, Danny
Gould, William
*Grande, William S.
Gilmore, Oran
Garbarino, Hayes
Gross, Paul E.
Grable, R. E.
*Gueirner, Frank
Gayzakian, Leon
Hart, Fred
Hadburg, David
Halm, Leslie
Hanlon, Ernest H.
Harris, Harry D. **
Hargreaves, Edwin
Heaton, Edward
Herman, Isaac
Hanst, Richard
Henderson, Morty **
Hornick, Robert
Hornick, Dick
Hopkins, A. D.
Hiehle, Forbes
Hiehle, Charles
Hoover, Donald C.
Heymann, Joe
Horner, Howard
Hungerman, Edward
Habegger, William
Herrington, George
Herrington, Phil
Hasley, F. E. jr.
Hodgkiss, James
Howley, John J.
Interrante, William
Ida, Joseph
Jaffurs, John jr.
Jennings, Richard
Joseph, Herbert L.
*Jackson, William K.
Jarvis, Forrest
Jacobs, Irvin **
Kallstein, John
Kaduk, George R.
Katz, Alfred
Katz, Albert
Katz, Melvin
Kahn, Jack
Kapanajko, Walter
Keaser, Robert
Keller, Robert
Kehrer, John F.
Kalos, James
Kirkpatrick, Joe
Kimelman, Robert
Kimmerle, Frank
Kimmerle, Leo
Kimmerle, Carl
Kihchel, Burt R.
Kleinerman, Paul
Klein, Bob
Kline, Richard
Kloos, William
Kocab, Charles
Krevochucha, George
Kimbel, Bob
Lange, Leonard D.
Lange, S. Jack
Lamproplos, George
Lampros, Louis
Latherow, Fred
Ley, James
Lefton, S. David
Lefton, Seymour
Lefton, Milton
Lefton, Godfrey
Levine, Lee
Leonardi, Larry
Lipsie, William jr.
Lipsie, Keith L.
Lidstone, Duane
Lidstone, Roger
Lind, Dan
Lorence, Herman jr.
Lowe, Malcolm J.
Lorenzi, Armand
Lieberfarb, Stanley **
Liebowitz, Sam
Little, Prosper
Link, Henry jr.
Loder, C. C.
Long, Thomas
Lockhart, Harry
Lund, Harold
Lund, Wesley R.
Lese, Walter
Laux, Robert V.
Lieberman, Ernest
Langer, Bill
Loeffler, Thomas J.
Lindsay, Jim
Mann, Melvin
Marks, Richard D.
Machesky, John
*Manos, Nicholas
Mervis, Jack
Mervis, Norman
Mervis, Ralph
Mervis, Leonard
*Marcheck, William
Merriam, King **
Minskey, Joseph
Minskey, Howard G.
Miller, William
Miller, Henry
Mikolowsky, William
Mikolowsky, George
McKnight, Francis
McKee, Paul J.
McNally, Arthur
McClellan, F. E. jr.
Murphy, David
Mayer, Bud
Morin, John
*Minges, Eddie
Mooney, John J.
Mullen, Pat J.
Moriarty, Edwin J.
Mulheirn, Paul
Munn, Robert W.
Mulbauer, Henry
Michael, Homer
McKowan, Russell
Moore, Joe
*McDonald, John
Maciejewski, John
Miklouicich, J. J.
McIver, William J. jr.
McKelvey, Miles C.
Mahoney, Edward P.
Nau, Orel
Nesbitt, Jack
Nesbitt, Al
Nesbitt, Bob **
Notaro, Pat
Notopoulos, Alex
Notopoulos, Nick
Nordquist, Al jr.
Osborne, John G.
Otte, George jr.
*Oglietti, E. G. jr.
Orban, Eugene
Ours, Elmer E. jr.
O'Neill, Eldon
Osman, C. D.
O'Connor, William
Perilman, Saul I.
Peppercorn, Carl
Pemberton, Joe **
Peck, Pete
Perretta, Louis
Petroplus, George
Petri, Robert
*Peters, Peter A.
Peters, Harry
Probst, Bill
Powers, James
Phillips, Ferd
Platt, John A.
Platt, Albert J.
Prioletti, John B.
Pulkowski, Jacob
Puglia, Paul
Powelson, William C.
Pell, John Patrick
Puzas, Andrew
Rastetter, Henry T.
Rask, Bernard
Ray, Matthew
Redfoot, Albert jr.
Ricci, Guido
Rich, Alfred
Rea, Alton
Rizza, James
Richman, Harold L.
*Rizak, Andrew
Reno, Lindsay
Rodnok, Steve jr.
Rodnok, George
Rosenberg, B. N.
Roberts, Bob
Rosenfeld, David
Rosenfeld, Jack
Roth, Jerry
Rosen, Nathan
Rothenstein, Martin **
Ross, Donald L.
Rubin, Gabriel G.
Rutter, James G.
Russell, John R.
Roberts, Jim
Reith, Paul
Reeves, Ken
Saccone, Joseph
Samios, Peter **
*Schultz, John R.
Schultz, Henry
*Schultz, Adolph
Scott, John A.
Serrao, Fred
Semyan, Joseph jr.
Semyan, George
Semplice, Salvatore
Serventi, Lewis
Serventi, Mark
Shirra, Russ
Shaffer, Robert E.
Shadley, Fritz
Shearer, Bob
Shabason, Max
Seigel, Harry
*Shevchuk, Peter
Silverman, Max
Sklar, W. N.
Scranage, Paul **
Sternagel, Roy
Simmons, Arnold
Sallows, George jr.
Soltz, Sidney
Sosinski, Norbert
Sosinski, Roy
Stack, Joseph
Stack, Edward
Stahl, John S. **
Shearn, Martin **
Stahl, Jack
Stahl, Morton
Stahl, Ralph
Srafin, John
Staminger, Herb
Steullute, Louis
Stewart, Charles
Stern, George
Steinfeld, Edward
Steinfeld, Saul
Stein, Harold
Stein, Irving
Stoyle, William R.
Svigals, Edward
Szymik, Joseph
Skigen, Al
Staruch, John
Sippey, James W.
Sutton, Henry
Sippel, Albert J.
Sidary, James
Singer, Al
Singer, Eddie
Szczepaniak, Henry J.
Shapiro, Robert
Thomas, Frank J. "Bud"
Tate, William
Thomas, Frederick
*Thomas, James
Thorns, Walter
Tipp, George
Tolley, Allen
Tolbert, Regis
Tuccio, Frank
Truran, Charles jr.
Thomassy, Fernel A.
Thurstin, William J.
Turner, Cloyd
*Vournakis, John P.
Ventrone, James M.
Wagner, Chris jr.
Walker, William
Wald, David
Watkins, V. L.
Welday, Eugene O.
Welansky, Ben
Weiland, Ken
Weiland, Bob
Weiland, John A.
Weltner, Jack
Williams, Jack **
Wintner, Eugene
Wilson, John W.
Wolfish, Marvin **
Woodward, Ken jr.
Wycich, James A.
Warrington, William
Winkler, Morton
Webb, Samuel C.
Yeagley, Wendell E.
Young, Skip
Young, Lester
Young, Mack G.
Yorko, Joe
Zedaker, W. L. jr.
Zbrozek, Casmir
Zeitor, William
Zomnir, John **

*Dead
**Honorably Discharged



GALLERY OF WAR LEADERS—A panorama blownup photographs of leaders of the armed forces of the United States, of which the above is a part, adorns the lobby of the Paramount Theatre in New York City. This particular poster advertised the giant all-star show and military pageant held on the night of June 5 as a war bond salute to Maj. Glenn Miller.

Pittsburgh Prepares Paramount Drive

PITTSBURGH—In preparation for Paramount's celebration of one-third of a century in the field of entertainment, a special meeting with all members of the local branch was staged here last Friday. M. "Duke" Clark, Dallas district manager and the eastern director of the anniversary campaign, and Earle Sweigert, local district manager, were here for the occasion. David Kimelman, branch manager, was in charge of the meeting which opened the drive. Paramount week, always observed in September, will be extended to a five-week campaign at that time.

A special trailer exploiting Paramount's one-third of a century as producers, was previewed at the Shadyside Theatre last Friday afternoon, hitting the screen just prior to the tradeshowing of "Incendiary Blonde." This trailer pictures awards won by Paramount last season and introduces scenes and stars from coming attractions.

Five members of the company's sales department at Pittsburgh have been employed by Paramount for a total of 124 years. Manager Kimelman is a quarter-of-a-century man.

E. M. "Ed" Stuve, dean of Paramount salesmen, has been on the job here with this company for 28 years. R. E. "Bob" Caskey is a 26-year-man; Charles Mergen is a 23-year-man, and Guy H. Peterson has been with the company for 22 years.

Other veteran local employes include: Nellie Dunn, 27 years; Margaret O'Connell, 20 years; Jack Fontaine, 20 years; Sabina Malatesta, 22 years; A. Harry Passarell, 22 years.

COLUMBUS

Columbus will become a motion picture set in July as shooting begins on the civic film, "This Is Columbus," Mayor James A. Rhodes said the city had been granted an AA1 priority for necessary color film. The cost has been subscribed by local business men; no taxpayers' money is being used. The script, as written by Escar Motion Picture Service of Cleveland, calls for a stranger to arrive at Port Columbus by plane, then to see the city unfold before him.

Harry Simons, Grand manager, is hoping to take a vacation soon in Maine. He liked the rock-ribbed state so well on his first visit that he wants to return. Incidentally, Harry, an accomplished pianist, is learning to play the accordion.

The Variety Club has two big summertime parties in prospect. One, open to the public, will be a golf and entertainment jamboree at a local country club. The other, a family affair, will be the annual picnic at Leo Haenlein's zoo park.

Marilyn Rose, 20-year-old Ohio State coed, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Rose, is one of the candidates for the coveted role of Salome in Frank Ross' production of "The Robe," soon to go before the cameras. Producer Ross has been conducting a contest to fill the role for the past year. Miss Rose recently appeared in the Browning Dramatic Society production of "Much Ado About Nothing" at Ohio State.

Clyde Sells, known on the screen as Orn Huntington, is in town visiting his parents. A former member of the Loew's Broad staff, he has been playing bit parts in Hollywood films for the past several years . . . Lieut. Bob Jaeger, former Loew's Broad student assistant, was in town recently on leave.

PITTSBURGH

E. Ours, Parsons, W. Va., exhibitor who suffered a heart attack some weeks ago, is reported much improved . . . The Pittsburgh council appropriated only $10,000 for park band concerts and outdoor productions this summer . . . M. A. Silver, Harry Feinstein and Saul Bragin, Warner circuit officials here, were in New York for a business conference.

Ben Braudie, formerly at Erie, has been substituting at Butler for Bert Wild, Warner's Butler manager, who has been ill and hospitalized . . . Westley Judson has been promoted by Warner circuit to manager of the Strand, Erie.

Sgt. Irving Barnett, 52, veteran of World Wars I and II, has been honorably discharged from service. A brother of the late Al Barnett, former local film executive, Irving formerly was employed at the Universal exchange and had been a theatre checker . . . Theodore P. Gee, formerly of Warners' Princess, Donora, who had been stationed at Kearns, Utah, has an APO number and is "overseas."

Fred Serrao, manager of the Circle, New Kensington, who was honorably discharged from the army last fall after several years in service, underwent a serious operation at Kittanning Hospital . . . Peg and Jim Lanagan, theatrical bookers here, have a son named James W. jr., born recently at the Magee Hospital . . . Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, was here on special business with Syd Lehman, branch manager.

Fred Solomon's American Poster Supply offices have been newly painted from ceiling to floor . . . A new front will be installed at the Fulton in the several weeks that the theatre will be closed, John D. Walsh, manager, states. The lobby, stage, rest rooms and the entire auditorium will be renovated. Fulton will go dark the third week in July . . . Pvt. James Laux, former manager of Warners' Melrose, is in training with a tank corps unit at Ft. Knox . . . Ben Steerman, Warner circuit executive here, won the recent gin rummy tournament staged by the Variety Club.

Howard G. Minsky, Warner sales representative in the West Virginia area until he joined the SeaBees more than two years ago, has been given a medical discharge and has returned to his home here. An old knee injury caused him considerable trouble in the period he served as a SeaBee storekeeper. Shortly after returning he visited at the Warner exchange where he received genuine welcomes from all. He went to work immediately as a salesman.

Walter Lese, former assistant manager at the Kent, Arnold, Pa., now stationed in Florida after 27 months in the Aleutians, was home on furlough . . . Art Greenblatt, Monogram district manager, was here on business with Sam Fineberg, local company manager . . . Pvt. Seymour Lefton, son of the Lew (PRC) Leftons, furloughed here from his post at Ft. Monmouth, N. J.

Republic established a record this week with five first runs on view at downtown theatres: "Flame of the Barbary Coast" at the Fulton; "The Phantom Speaks" and "The Vampire's Ghost" at the Senator; "The Chicago Kid" and "End of the Road" at the Barry.

Art Levy, Columbia manager, is at his home recuperating from an operation at Montefiore Hospital several weeks ago . . . Bruce Day, naval storekeeper and former manager of the Burwell, Parkersburg, W. Va., who is now at an eastern port, is expecting an increase in his family . . . Werner "Fuzzy" Lund, circuit exhibitor, was at Churchill Downs for the Derby.

Dr. L. H. Urling of Beaver, Pa., who was interested financially in the Alpine, New Brighton, Pa, managed by Bernie Potts, has purchased that theatre. He is a brother of Walter Urling, Alpine circuit executive . . . Jack Goldhar, United Artists district manager, was here on business at the office of Bill

(Continued on next page)

RAIN!

Rain is preventing the planting of popcorn in many sections. Your source of supply is protected and you are assured of your proportionate share with a Blevins Diversified Acreage Contract. This enables you to contract for popcorn in every section of the United States where corn is grown. Write for a Blevins Diversified Acreage Contract today.

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There is still some Bee Hive Brand Hybrid popcorn available if you write at once.

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FOR SALE: Theatre and other good paying businesses in live town, grossing $100,000 annually; splendid investment; sale price, $160,000. Owner will carry 60 per cent mortgage.

CLEVELAND

Harry Perse, owner of the Capitol Motion Picture Supply Co. of New York and of Cleveland's Oliver Theatre Supply Co., was in town to see how his new acquisition was working out. M. H. Frietchle is manager of the local concern . . . Jack Goldhar, United Artists district manager, was in town visiting with local branch manager, Morrison Orr, and spreading good cheer.

Gwen Richter of the Warner Theatre publicity staff has resigned to join an interior decorating firm in Pittsburgh . . . Donald R. Frifield, son of Paramount branch manager, Saul Frifield, last week won the distinction of being the youngest student ever to be graduated from Ohio State University. Only 17 years old, he received his degree from the school of journalism. Mr. and Mrs. Frifield attended the graduation exercises.

Sgt. Mike Magliosky, former National Screen Service shipper, a German prisoner of war for the past year and a half, was rescued by Allied troops, Branch Manager Nat Barach has been informed. Now at a hospital in France, Magliosky expects to be shipped home shortly. He was a member of a parachute battalion.

Oliver Broughton, M-G-M auditor, visited the local exchange . . . William Heiss, Palace manager, reports Monogram's "Dillinger" will move into the house for a week's run starting June 22 . . . Cpl. Stanley Krenitz, son of Universal branch manager Joe Krenitz, is home on furlough between assignments. He has completed a year and a half course in oriental languages at the University of Michigan, and will go to Fort McCullough, Ala., for two months. After that he will report to Fort Snelling, Minn.

Max J. Rosenberg of National Road Shows was a Cleveland visitor last week. He was here to complete negotiations with Bob Snyder of Film Classics for the distribution of his "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors" show in the territory west of Pittsburgh. East of Pittsburgh the show is being handled by Classic Pictures of New York. Manager E. Stutz has booked the show as his July 4 attraction at the Circle Theatre here.

Nat L. Lefton, former PRC franchise owner, has been discharged from the hospital and is convalescing at his home following an operation . . . Pvt. Howard Spiess, former Co-Op booker, has left Seagate Hospital, N. Y., to which he had been transferred from a hospital on the west coast, and is back on active duty.

Pete Gregory of the Crest Theatre, Crestline, now a member of the army engineers, is at Norfolk, Va., waiting overseas orders . . . Jack Steinberg of the Strand Theatre, Youngstown, was inducted into the marine corps two weeks ago. Letters will reach him addressed to Pvt. Jack Steinberg, T. P. 451410102, Barracks B1, U.S.M.S.T.S., Brooklyn, N. Y. Jack has a wife and two children at home.

"Incendiary Blonde" brought out a good crowd for the tradescreening at the Colony Theatre. Judging from the laughs, the audience reaction was entirely favorable . . . Milt Mooney, head of Cooperative Theatres of Ohio, hasn't heard from his son Tom of the navy air corps since he pushed off from the west coast for active service in the Pacific area.

Sally and Max Jacobs of Imperial Pictures have returned from a vacation at Martinsville, Ind . . . S. P. Gorrel, Republic branch manager, has extra copies of the June 9 issue of the Saturday Evening Post for exhibitors who are interested in the feature story of Roy Rogers, with colored pictures of his home, his family and his horse. It's pure coincidence, of course, that the story appears in Republic's tenth anniversary celebration—the first sales drive the company has ever held.

M. B. Horwitz, general manager of the Washington circuit, is back after an illness . . . Eddie Bergman, PRC branch manager, has a new method of attracting exhibitors into his office. He keeps on his desk such a beautiful bunch of rhododendrons (from his own garden) that everyone stops in to have a look.

Oscar Adelman, NSS shipper, is looking forward to the not too far distant day when he will retire to his armchair and slippers, while son Larry brings home the bacon. Larry, aged 5, recently sang on a program over Station WTAM. His singing and ad lib comedy made such a hit that he promises to be heavy competition to Bob Hope. The only hitch is that Larry has no ambition to be a radio star. He wants to be another Bob Feller and a name to conjure in the world of sports.

Coast Guardsman Gilbert Lefton, formerly with Academy Film Service, spent the week at home with his wife. Upon return to his base he expects to be reassigned to Manhattan Beach.

Harry Schreiber, RKO divisional manager, paid $1,000 for a carton of cigarets at his own bond premiere-auction. Of course, he got a bond, too.

U.S. Steel to Sponsor Air Programs of Theatre Guild

PITTSBURGH—The United States Steel Corp. has been named as sponsor of the Theatre Guild for a series of programs over ABC starting September 9. It will be heard Sunday night from 10 to 11, EWT. The Theatre Guild on the Air will not limit itself to guild plays but will draw its material from the most popular productions in the entire theatre.

Loder and Carradine to Costar

John Loder and John Carradine will be costarred in "The Wife of Monte Cristo," a PRC production.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



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1783 E. 11th St. Phone: MAin 0992
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

PITTSBURGH

(Continued from preceding page)

Shartin, UA's local manager . . . Jean Anne Blatt, daughter of the "Bill" Blatts, circuit exhibitors, was graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School.

F. D. Moore, Warner manager, was absent from duties for several days this week, having accompanied his son, Lieut. F. D. Moore jr., to the Philadelphia naval yards where he was to be reassigned. He had been on leave here since returning from Okinawa. "Dinty" Moore also visited with his parents at Wilmington . . . Pfc. Forrest Jarvis, magician-entertainer, has returned to duty after furloughing at Everettsville, W. Va., where his wife has been operating his theatre since he has been in uniform.

George Sallows, Morgantown, W. Va., showman, is reported much improved after suffering a heart attack about two weeks ago. Veteran partner of George Comuntzis, Sallows is "taking it easy," although he is said to be going to his office each day . . . Film salesmen covering the area presented the J. J. McFaddens of Renovo a silver anniversary gift last week. Silver candlestick holders were selected.

The 20th-Fox Family Club will hold its annual picnic June 30 at the summer camp of Jack Ellstrom, booker, at Zelienople . . . The H. H. Baldenspergers of the Utopian, Sheffield, Pa., observed their 22nd wedding anniversary last week.

Dom Serrao, veteran exhibitor and theatre builder, who has been ill for seven months, is on the mend and now is "coming down street for a few hours," according to his son, Bill' who heads General Theatres Corp. of Arnold and New Kensington. "Dad" Serrao is well known in the trade and everyone is very happy that he has recuperated . . . "Uncle" Lou Krieger, independent distributor, has set "Youth Aflame" into 42 local Warner circuit theatres and he has many other bookings on this attraction.

A Filmrow visitor at Andy Battiston's office was Russell Koontz, formerly Dipson-Gibson manager at Hornell, N. Y., who was discharged recently from the army. Koontz, whose home is in Greensburg, hopes to return to exhibition at an early date . . . Andy Gibson of the Dipson-Gibson circuit, who was a visitor on the local film market last Friday, stated that the film buying-booking combine which he and Mike Simon are heading at Buffalo was "ready to operate." Full announcement is being made at Buffalo.

Warners' local branch hit "over quota" for the tenth week in the company powwow drive and if the awards continue the Pittsburgh exchange will be "in the wampum," according to Paul Krumenacker . . . Fred LaBelle, Warner circuit personnel department manager, returned to his post after a three-month leave of absence. He vacationed on the west coast with his pilot son, Maj. Russell LaBelle . . . Archie Fineman of the Shapiro & Fineman circuit is to undergo a physical checkup at Mt. Clements, Mich.

Sid Marke, theatrical agent, whose mother, Mrs. Rosa Markowitz, died June 7, was extended sympathies of the Row. She was the grandmother of S. Sylvan Simon, M-G-M director. Surviving also are three daughters, Mrs. David P. Berman, Mrs. Eva Simon and Mrs. Pearl Hirsch . . . Harry Greenman, manager of Loew's Penn, and Doug Beck, RKO exploiteer, expect to stage a military wedding on the Penn stage in connection with the opening of "The Enchanted Cottage."

"Back to Bataan" Due For Mammoth Sendoff

BOSTON—RKO has arranged a comprehensive campaign for "Back to Bataan" in connection with a mammoth benefit to be held at the 2,000-seat Garden, Sunday evening, June 24. The Memorial Theatre will open with "Bataan" on Monday, June 25, immediately following the Garden benefit, the stars attending all performances of the film that day. Simultaneously, the RKO feature will be shown in 150 theatres in the adjacent territory.

Terry Turner, RKO exploitation manager, and his staff have been here for the past month setting up plans for theatre campaigns and the benefit opening, proceeds from which will go to the Hearst GI Center for wives of service men. Eddie Cantor, here on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive, will act as master of ceremonies for the affair at the invitation of Gov. Maurice Tobin, RKO President Ned Depinet and Walter Howey, director of three local Hearst papers.

Paul McNutt, former governor-general of the Philippines, heads an imposing list of government officials to be on hand, including Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, president Philippine commission to the U.S. and a member of General MacArthur's staff. A number of liberated prisoners from Cabanatuan prison will make personal appearances during the period of the area premieres.

Hotel Manager to Be Host To Boston Tub Thumpers

BOSTON—D. B. Stanbro, manager of the Hotel Statler, has donated dinners for the entire membership of the Tub Thumpers of America June 15. Each member, however, must produce evidence he has purchased at least a $100 war bond.

In the absence of Chief Tub Thumper Harry Browning of M&P in New York handling publicity for the Seventh War Loan drive, George Carens, assistant chief tub thumper and columnist of the Boston Traveler, will preside.

Stanbro's offer was made to the tub thumpers in recognition of their publicity work in behalf of the Seventh and all other war bond drives, the March of Dimes, the Red Cross drive and other similar civic and patriotic enterprises.

Boston's Tub No. 1 has been joined by several more chartered tubs in other cities. Permanent headquarters have been established here with Dan Hickey as executive secretary.

Cpl. R. N. Cantell Becomes Army Hospital Instructor

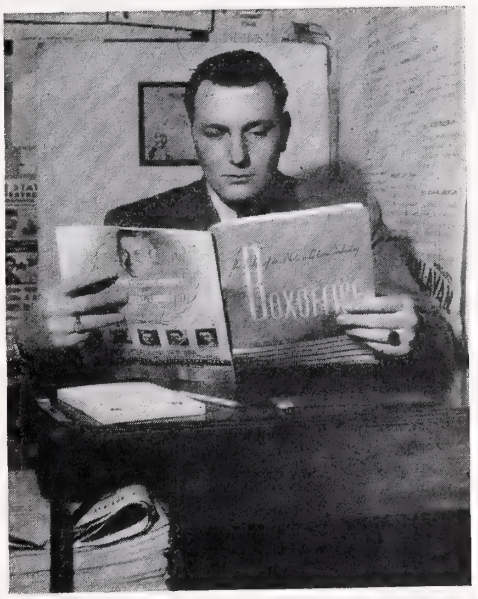
HARTFORD—Cpl. Robert N. Cantell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry I. Cantell, has been assigned as art and music instructor at the army convalescent hospital at Ft. Thomas, Ky. Cantell was a member of the cast of the army air forces show "Winged Victory," both on Broadway and in the Hollywood film version. Prior to army induction he had started a stage career.

Spook Shows Going Over

NEW HAVEN—Warner houses in Willimantic, Danbury, Derby, Norwich and New London have been booking for Clifford's spook show novelty unit, after similar successful shows at the Palace, South Norwalk, and elsewhere on the circuit. John Hesse, in charge of this district, reports the "spook" antics are put on as a special midnight attraction.

Newsy Program Handouts Add Tone to GI Theatre

The special services of the army, whose aim is to "entertain, inform and educate the soldier during off-duty hours," hasn't found it necessary to employ big advance campaigns to fill their theatres. However, for the convenience of the GIs programs are commonly used, such as the one forwarded recently by Peace Parkhurst, New England showman now a services lieutenant in the



LIEUT. PEARCE PARKHURST

air corps, while he was still at Matagorda Island, Tex. Parkhurst sent a sample program from his present station in the CBI theatre of war.

At the Texas air corps base, shows were held every Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with matinees included. The particular sheet Parkhurst sent was one sheet with a middle fold (four pages) printed on offset. The cover carried a cartoon on the special service's "terrific" efforts to entertain, "they're in there tryin'." Inside two pages were devoted to the show schedule with regular news type ads. Also listed were the best sellers added to the post library, the chapel outline for Sunday and an "ad" on the camp bowling alley.

A plug for the free athletic, hunting and fishing equipment, a plea for the Red Cross war fund, and a quiz column was carried on the back page. Also, a free admission offer to stimulate reader interest. A dog tag number was carried entitling the holder to a week's free admission.

G. E. Finnegan to Marry Holyoke Girl Here June 30

SPRINGFIELD—Mrs. Emil Schlegel has announced plans for the marriage June 30 of her sister, Kathleen Olsson of Holyoke, to Gerald E. Finnegan of Worcester, manager of the Plymouth Theatre. Finnegan formerly was manager of the Court Square here. He was graduated from Cathedral High School. His fiancee has been employed at the offices of the Boston & Maine railroad. The wedding will be at St. Jerome's Church in Holyoke.

Band Leader Aids Fund

HARTFORD—Louis Prima, band leader who headlined the State Theatre stage show last weekend, donated his services for the "Relief for Italy" campaign in Hartford through the Italian Central Council.

A Governor Assists Free Movie Day

MANCHESTER, N. H.—A bond purchase served as an admission to nearly every film theatre in New Hampshire when exhibitors held bond shows to mark the first anniversary of the invasion of France June 6.

Gov. Charles M. Dale issued the following proclamation in recognition of the day:

"June 6, the motion picture industry of the state of New Hampshire, as a highlight of that industry's Seventh War Loan campaign, will throw open the doors of their theatres on what will be known as Free Movie Day to all purchasers of Seventh War Loan bonds. This demonstration is not merely an inducement to people to buy war bonds, but is an expression of one important segment of our society's all-out support of this most important home front activity. Like every useful force this industry has dedicated its talents, its ingenuity and its manpower to promote the sale of war bonds.

"Less than 30 days remain in the mighty Seventh War Loan drive, and I urge every citizen who has not done so to buy that extra bond and help prosecute the war against the Japanese enemy. A Seventh War Loan bond is tangible proof that we at home are determined to back our men in the battle until victory is ours."

D-Day Anniversary Sees Big Boston Bond Sale

BOSTON—Paul Levi, heading the Seventh War Loan publicity drive for the motion picture industry of New England, and Jack Saef, co-chairman, staged one of the biggest bond demonstrations of the drive on historic Boston Common on the D-Day anniversary.

Levi arranged with the Hotel Statler to have Garwood Van and his Terrace room band, with Nancy Hanks, soloist, go to the bondstand on the Common. Accompanying Van and his band were Myrus, the mental wizard, and Talia, whose dancing is a sensation. Both were appearing in the Statler Terrace room show.

Talia is the sister of Capt. Arthur Wermuth, the "one man army of Bataan" who is now in a Japanese prison. Talia, relating this story of her brother, brought down the house and sold hundreds of dollars worth of bonds.

Nancy Hanks is a great grandniece of Abraham Lincoln, whose mother's name was Nancy Hanks. This, too, as told by the master of ceremonies, resulted in the sale of many more war bonds. The total was $37,000.

"Salvos of 1945" Show Tours New Hampshire

MANCHESTER, N. H.—Heralded by a full-page advertisement published in the local newspapers under sponsorship of a number of New Hampshire business concerns, the musical revue, "Salvos of 1945," starring Cesar Romero, member of the coast guard and former film star, opened its New Hampshire tour June 6.

The first appearance of the revue was at the Palace here and the remainder of the schedule was as follows: Colonial, Portsmouth, June 7; Senior High School, Nashua, June 8, and Latchis Theatre, Claremont, June 9.

The war bond tour was arranged by Melvin Morrison, manager of the Strand in Dover and state WAC chairman, assisted by Fenton Scribner of Nashua, publicity chairman.

BOSTON

James Winn, UA district manager, has recovered sufficiently from an illness to return home from the hospital . . . A screening of "It's in the Bag" was held for Boston radio and newspaper critics, followed by a luncheon.

Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager, was in for a few days . . . Maynard Sickels now is handling the Massachusetts and Rhode Island territory for NSS. He resigned from his position with the Capitol Theatre Supply last month after having been with that company for ten years.

Henry Wolper, Universal office manager, received a souvenir gift from Sgt. Joe Rahilly, former M-G-M booker who has been in the service in Europe. The package contained a black leather cigar case, two cigar cutters and box openers, all made in Germany.

John Scully and Myer Feltman of Universal have returned from their vacation at Rangely Lakes, Maine. They report that the weather there was no better than in Boston but the trip was enjoyable in spite of rain.

Mrs. Harry Lydecker, president of the Film Exchange Transfer Co., announced that transactions had been completed in connection with the purchase of the Cocoanut Grove site and building at the corner of Piedmont and Broadway. According to James Marshall, general manager of the transfer company, a modern one-story garage and office building will be constructed on the site.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin King of the Walden, Williamstown, were visitors . . . Floyd Bell visited in Washington and New York . . . Seaman Irving Stadler, nephew of Lou Wechsler of 20th-Fox, was reported killed while on a motor convoy in the California mountains. Lou Wechsler went to New York to attend the funeral.

E. T. Bradley, owner of the Champlain at Swanton, Vt., has returned from Mount Clemens, Mich., where he spent a brief vacation . . . Ray Curran, Maine's salesman for M-G-M, visited the local office for the first time in many months.

Dan Seletsky, booker for M&R, has returned to his home after several weeks at a local hospital. He expects to be back to normal soon.

Phil Engel had a busy time planning a press conference for Bing Crosby. Bing made his first public appearance here in more than 12 years and drew a tremendous house at the Seventh War Loan rally on the Common. He sang a medley of tunes and auctioned off personal autographs to the highest bidders in bonds.

Irene Manning, singing star of "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Doughboys" and "Desert Song," is singing at the RKO Boston, which is packed to capacity nightly . . . Jack Eilenbert, Max Melincoff and Walter Littlefield in front when it comes to donating blood to the Red Cross.

Francis Driscol is back at M-G-M after a short spell at home battling illness . . . The Massachusetts Theatre Equipment Co. is ready to occupy the ground floor at 20 Piedmont St. as Ed Comi, of the Theatre Service Supply Co., has moved to the upper floors of the building. The company has already made a number of local equipment installations. It is handling the New Century projector.

Paul Levi, publicity chairman for the Seventh War Loan drive, has requested that stories of promotional activities be sent to his office at 60 Scollay Square. The material is needed to complete the records.



Sophie Tucker Files Suit

HARTFORD—Sophie Abuza, better known on the stage, screen and radio as Sophie Tucker, has brought suit in New York against her sister-in-law, Mrs. Leah G. Abuza of Hartford; her nephew, Henry Abuza of Rockville, and other defendants, charging them with removing stocks and securities valued at $500,000 from a safe deposit box in the National City Bank of New York. Miss Tucker is a native of Hartford.

NEW BRITAIN

Manager Jack Sanson, State, entered the Manchester Memorial Hospital for an operation. His assistant, Henry Wittke, will be in charge during his absence . . . Joe Borenstein, Embassy manager, was looking fine after a recent operation at the New Britain General Hospital.

Dennis Rich, manager of the Cameo, Bristol, left for Jacksonville, Fla., to spend a two-week vacation with his son, stationed in the army there. The Cameo's relief cashier, Mrs. Plumb, will hold the fort . . . A new marquee and front will go up at the Plainfield, as soon as priorities permit.

Lieut. Steve Perakos, son of Peter Perakos, arrived home on a 30-day furlough after serving 28 months with the marines in the South Pacific to be greeted with notice of his promotion to captain. At the conclusion of his furlough, Captain Perakos will report to California for reassignment.

George Campbell, former manager of the Palace, and later connected with theatres in Wallingford, has returned to New Britain as a sales manager for a local paint concern . . . Vincent Palmeri, former Warner Theatres manager in Connecticut who was transferred to Lima, Peru, a few months ago as branch manager, has returned to this country to report to his local draft board.

Manager Joe Boyle, Broadway, Norwich, landed art work and the Ida Lupino cut on Free Movie Day in the Norwich Bulletin . . . Ralph Pasho will open his Salem, Naugatuck Theatre, in July . . . Wally Wallens, Pouzzner circuit, reports that his son Jack, now stationed with an army transportation unit in New Orleans, has been accepted for officers' candidate school.

Ocean Beach Park is beginning to bring summer crowds into the area . . . The Globe, Clinton, a 600-seat film house, has closed for the summer . . . Branford High School juniors and seniors were guests of Manager Ted Jacocks at his Branford, Branford, for a screening of "It Happened in Springfield."

Bob Schwartz, Thomaston exhibitor, reports he is teaching his young son Mike the trade and the lad now accompanies him on buying and booking trips.

Wm. Stanton, 21 Years In Rochester, Resigns

ROCHESTER, N. H.—A host of friends in the industry have learned with regret that William Stanton, manager of the Scenic and Colonial theatres here for 21 years, is resigning because of ill health. During his long service, the Scenic has been remodeled twice and he has seen the heyday of silent films and the progress of talkies.

Stanton, who has been forced to limit his activities for the last two years, will be succeeded by John S. Colbath, who was his assistant manager from 1932 to 1936 and again in 1938. Recently, Colbath has been connected with the United Shoe Machinery Corp.

Children's Shows June 23 In Hartford and Norwich

HARTFORD—Children here with partly filled war stamp books are invited to fill them and get a war bond and ticket to the children's war bond show at the Allyn Theatre next Saturday morning (23). Manager Walter Lloyd has announced a program of western and cartoon films to be presented in addition to a stage show.

At the Broadway in Norwich a children's premiere June 23 will show Hopalong Cassidy in "Forty Thieves," with a supporting bill of Walt Disney and M-G-M cartoons. Through the cooperation of Supt. Thomas W. Mahan, co-chairman of the WFC, Joseph Boyle of the Broadway theatre is offering a $25 war bond prize to the "champ." was bond juvenile salesman in the Norwich schools.

BRIDGEPORT

Lester "Al" Smith, former manager of the Lyric here, is now managing a theatre in Syracuse, N. Y. . . . The newest summer theatre in the state will be at New London in the Griswold Hotel with a 10-week season starting June 28 . . . The unseasonably cold weather has been a boon to the theatres, keeping people away from parks and beach resorts . . . Manager Frank G. Geiger of the American celebrated a birthday.

Sympathy to Edward Fitzpatrick, manager of Loew's Poli, on the death of his wife here after a four-month illness . . . Edgar Lynch, manager of the Roger Sherman in New Haven, is seen frequently dining at the Spinning Wheel in nearby Southport . . . Ralph F. Stitt is back enjoying his Westport country home after a business trip to Albany, Schenectady and Utica . . . The Klein Memorial did a nice week's business with "Wuthering Heights" at 60 cents top.

Betty Grable was in town when her husband, Harry James, played at Pleasure Beach ballroom . . . A move is under way to get city to observe the first week in July as P. T. Barnum week. Theatre cooperation is being sought . . . Summer stock at the Strand in Stamford got off to a capacity start . . . The personnel of Loew's Theatres here was saddened by the death in action of Sgt. Joseph Levy jr., son of Loew's out-of-town booker.

The vacation period got under way with Marjorie Lessner, assistant manager at the Majestic, taking the lead. Her husband, Jerry, was home on a three-day furlough . . . The children's cartoon war bond shows at the Warner and Merritt went over big.

Serious Role for Rags Ragland

Rags Ragland will have a serious role in the Metro picture, "The Hoodlum Saint."

"In the Bag" Debuts To Big Hub Gross

BOSTON—"It's in the Bag" opened at the Majestic after a big campaign to big business. Holdovers held sway at most of the houses. "Without Love," in its second week at the State and Orpheum, was still on top and "Tomorrow the World" held again at the Tremont to excellent business. "Flame of Barbary Coast" opened at the Paramount and Fenway with good reviews and good grosses.

(Average is 100)

Boston—**Body Snatcher** (RKO), plus stage show....125
Fenway and Paramount—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep) 125
Majestic—**It's in the Bag** (UA)....135
Memorial—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono), 3rd wk....125
Metropolitan—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk....140
State and Orpheum—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 140
Tremont—**Tomorrow the World** (UA), 2nd run....125

"Without Love" Tops Leading Bill In New Haven; "Bernadette" Draws

NEW HAVEN—Business was tops at the Poli with "Without Love," paired with "Escape in the Fog." The show went over to the College for a second week. Second week of "Diamond Horseshoe" and "Strange Illusion" beat the average at the College, and second week of "Affairs of Susan" and "Hitchhike to Happiness" at the Paramount maintained average business. "Song of Bernadette" made a comfortable margin over normal at the Bijou.

Bijou—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox)....110
College—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Strange Illusion** (PRC), 2nd d. t. wk....103
Poli—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col) 125
Paramount—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Hitchhike to Happiness** (Rep), 2nd wk....100
Roger Sherman—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **Delightfully Dangerous** (UA) 85

"Salome" Dances Into Boxoffice Lead at Hartford; Others Do Well

HARTFORD—"Salome, Where She Danced" took top boxoffice honors here following a topnotch advance publicity campaign by Manager George Landers of E. M. Loew's. "Pillow to Post" also clicked. The Palace and WB Regal did okay business on second stanzas.

Allyn—**Wuthering Heights** (FC); **Topper** (FC)....110
E. M. Loew's—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 170
Palace—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk....125
Poli—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M) 130
Regal—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO); **Having Wonderful Crime** (RKO), 2nd wk....125
State—**Bells of Rosarita** (Rep), plus stage show..100
Strand—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **House of Fear** (Univ) 160

Newsreel Scene Causes Ad

HARTFORD—Manager George Landers of E. M. Loew's planted a special theatre page announcement on his newsreel when the nearby Bradley air field was pictured in showing 65 U.S. bombers returning to this country with 1,000 air force personnel arriving for furlough and specialized training before further duty in the Pacific.

Kimball Cup Goes to Actor

HARTFORD—The Mark Twain Masquers have awarded the Elizabeth Kimball cup to Harvey Warren for his performance in "They Knew What They Wanted." The Masquers is a leading Little Theatre group in this area. The award is made each year to the member who has "created and maintained the best characterization of the season."

HARTFORD

There will be an October wedding for Angie Corrado, Poli assistant manager. Several parties are being arranged for her by local theatre folk . . . Cpl. Norman Rolfe, former Connecticut district manager for Lockwood & Gordon, has returned to Florida after a 15-day furlough.

Through the cooperation of the Hartford National Bank & Trust Co., Louis Prima and band, State Theatre weekend headliners, entertained service men at Bradley Field station hospital June 9 . . . The premiere of the film, "Target T B," made in Wethersfield by the Willard Pictures Corp. of New York, was screened at the Webb Playhouse. This two-reeler is an educational short with many Wethersfield people taking part. It will be distributed throughout the nation, gratis to exhibitors.

Frank Daly, son of Michael Daly, Daly circuit, will enter the merchant marines in July . . . Pvt. Ted DiLorenzo was due home on furlough from Alabama . . . Dot Reynolds is the new relief cashier at the Eastwood.

Pat O'Toole, Colonial, is a patient at the veterans hospital . . . Manager Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli, reports that his son Ben has been transferred to a new base in the Pacific . . Lieut. Jack Galinsky, ex-Poli, is now serving with the air corps in Italy.

Tommy Williams, ex-Palace, is stationed at Brooklyn navy yard, awaiting reassignment . . . Seaman Bobby Evans, formerly with the Palace and WB Regal, already has six battle stars to his credit, including the Iwo Jima invasion, and is now on a destroyer in the Pacific as a radio sound man. He has asked local friends to mail him BOXOFFICE editions.

John Mitchell, Colonial projectionist, was ill . . . John Hecker, husband of Strand Cashier Minnie Hecker, filled in . . . Jimmy Smith and his bandsmen, who have been aiding theatre managers with war bond and other community campaigns this season, will leave June 30 for a 15-week engagement at the Grandview Hotel, Moodus . . . "Here's Your Infantry" has been booked into the Bulkley Stadium June 19, reports Oliver B. Ellsworth, chairman of the WFC.

Local theatre men recalled that last year Free Movie Day came July 6, the day of the tragic circus fire here . . . Ann Corio, screen and stage celebrity, visited her family here en route to Hollywood.

Lilyann Carol, featured vocalist of the Louis Prima band, State Theatre headliners last weekend, was starred on the High School Hi Jinks radio show as the guest of Sage Allen's department store.

Sgt. Louis Mello, formerly of Loew's Palace, has been awarded a medal for devotion to duty. He served for 72 hours without relief during a critical situation in the Marianas invasion . . . A series of lobby cards in Manager Walter Lloyd's Allyn is attracting excellent advance attention for "A Medal for Benny." Each card contains a teaser poem in connection with the film.

Frances Fargnoli is the new candy girl at the Rivoli . . . Repair work on Dow's illfated marquee and front was started last week, Mack Herbert reports . . . Manager Hugh Campbell, Central, has announced a children's war bond show will be held at his spot June 27 at 10 a. m. with a giant cartoon program . . . Dow's has announced the discontinuation of its weekend vaudeville policy and will become a third run film house.

Jean Ericson was this city's entry in the national finals in the George Sand talent contest held in New York last week. Barbara Whitmore, 22, New York, was the winner . . . The Shriners' band parade promoted bond sales here at the Victory House.

Manager Fred Greenway, Palace, was rushed to Hartford Hospital last week for an appendectomy. He was recuperating from a torn ligament in his leg when he suffered an attack. Manager Lou Cohen, Poli, and Martha Gilwech, assistant at the Palace, were in charge of the theatre in Greenway's absence.

The entertainment committee of the board of aldermen has announced a series of summer band concerts to be held Sunday afternoons at Keney Park . . . Eye-filling spot ads were set in advance of "Salome, Where She Danced" in the local newspapers by Manager George Landers of E. M. Loew's. He also landed feature column stories on how Yvonne DeCarlo was "discovered."

Bert Stuart celebrated his tenth anniversary as master of ceremonies at the Lobster restaurant. He has frequently given theatre managers here full cooperation in publicity stunts . . . Manager Mack Herbert, Dow's brought back a reissue of "Mercy Plane," with top billing to James Dunn.

A new marquee and front will be erected shortly at the Daly Theatre here . . . The Jda Lupino cut and full column announcements boosted the Free Movie Day war bond observances here. One of the top scores was by Manager Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli, with 35 bonds for $2,825.

N. HAMPSHIRE

The Hebron Town Hall has been destroyed by a fire which also razed the general store, post office and 150-year-old Congregational Church . . . Brewster's Dairy showed a sound film, "Milk Pasteurization," at a recent meeting of the Wolfeboro Chamber of Commerce.

A war bond show at the Strand in Dover June 2 was attended by 141 children who purchased a total of $6,125 in bonds for admission to the program which included a film, stage program and talk by Lieut. Richard Clark, Nashua war veteran. The show was arranged by Manager Melvin Morrison, state industry drive chairman.

A sound film showing experiences of American troops in the Southwest Pacific was shown recently in the Antrim Presbyterian Church vestry . . . Bob Critchett has sold the Town Hall Theatre in Canaan to M. Slaff.

A war bond show at the Regal in Franklin June 4 drew a capacity audience. There were special films, stage entertainment and a talk by Lieutenant Clark . . . A new scrap drive was launched in Dover June 9 at a salvage show at the Strand where children contributing two pounds of tin were admitted free. The event was sponsored by the salvage committee through the cooperation of Melvin Morrison, manager.

L. E. Lynde, for many years manager of Central Park, widely known amusement center between Dover and Somersworth, and Mrs. Lynde observed their 50th wedding anniversary June 6. They were given an anniversary dinner and received many gifts and congratulatory messages.

NEW HAVEN

John Glackin was around on his first visit of the season, preparatory to opening his 500-seat Strand, Sound View summer house, the last week in June. A sprinkling of exhibitors in and around the exchanges included A. M. Schuman, Pete Perakos, Tom Grace, Joe Walsh, Art Smith and Bob Schwartz.

The 20th-Fox Family Club gave a surprise party in honor of Ben Simon and Mrs. Simon on their 20th wedding anniversary, June 11, at a dinner at the Tivoli restaurant, the club presenting to them several vases. Their son Stanley graduated from Hamden Hall and left for Sampson naval college . . . The 20th-Fox office force surprised Gloria Danzig with a birthday cake on her 21st birthday.

Eddie Canelli, former assistant shipper at Warners and husband of 20th-Fox inspector Laura Canelli is home after three and a half years in the Pacific . . . Vince Palmeri, former manager of the Merritt, Bridgeport, and since then in South America for Warners, is home waiting for a physical and probable induction . . . The Poli, New Haven, recently was host to a group of newly-inducted WAVES.

Columbia employes wined and dined Salesman Walter Silverman and his bride-to-be, Ellen Rosenthal of Elmhurst, L. I., at the Town House. The Tim O'Tooles and Harry Olshans, as well as a goodly Boston contingent of film people, planned to be present at the wedding at New York, June 17.

Jack Shields returned to the Capitol, Ansonia, after an appendectomy and an absence of several months. Congratulations were due him on the graduation of his son from Annapolis . . . Fairmont Theatre is doing okay with dishes these days . . . Harry Martin, Universal manager, was in New York for two days . . . Charlie Repass's son Edward, former professional baseball player, now is in the army in Munich.

Former Warner exchange staff member, Sarah Magliora, now Mrs. Charles Haddad, is the mother of a baby girl . . . Sympathy was being extended Ed Fitzpatrick, Poli, Meriden manager, on the death of Mrs. Fitzpatrick, after an illness of several months . . . Morris Nunes of Progressive Premium was back from San Francisco and Los Angeles looking tan and happy.

With the first sunshine, vacationers went into action: Anne Caparossi of Metro starts June 17; Charles Craig of the Rialto, South Norwalk, is off June 21; R. B. Hamilton of the Gem, Willimantic, will start June 28; John Matthews, Empress, Danbury, starts the same day and E. J. Harvey of the Palace there will relieve him; Anne Johnson, Universal biller, is looking toward June 23; Frances Silverman, Warner cashier, will be "doing" New York and Washington week of June 9 to 16; Charlotte D'Addio of the RKO office is all set for June 22, and Frank Porter, assistant shipper at Metro, planned to do the Stork Club on his vacation spree this week.

Visitors around town included Arthur Lockwood, in from Boston; Harold Eskin, an infrequent visitor from New York; Charles Fogle, in charge of Metro exchange maintenance; Joe Urdang of Aetna Cleaners visiting Harry Shaw, and Harry Rogovin, newly-appointed Columbia Boston-New Haven district manager.

Win New Paramount Contracts

Barry Sullivan, William Russell, Bea Allen, Dorothy Dayton and William Meader have been awarded new contracts at Paramount.

ODT Ruling Will Permit Four Boston Area Fairs

BOSTON—Massachusetts and the Boston area will have at least a dozen fairs again this year despite gas rationing. ODT regulations apparently will permit such famous events as the Marshfield, Brockton, Topsfield and Northampton fairs.

The ODT ruling that "county" fairs may be held will permit all these. In the case of Brockton, the fair has been an eastern regional institution for many years. However, the ruling apparently will shut off all advertising in Boston newspapers although it is presumed that radio advertising will be allowed.

The Brockton Fair in normal times plays to more than 300,000 persons in a single week. The entertainment features are usually furnished by nationally-known booking agencies. Joe Cahill, former Brockton manager and owner, was for years the superintendent of the amusement features. The Marshfield Fair will be the first on the schedule, opening sometime in August.

SPRINGFIELD

Free Movie Day was observed in this area by the Arcade, Art, Bijou, Broadway, Capitol, Court Square, Garden, Jefferson, Liberty, Loew's Poli, Paramount, Phillips and Strand theatres June 6 with high scores at all spots . . . A wave of horror landed in this area last week with double horror bills set at the Broadway, and Capitol.

Of competitive interest to Massachusetts exhibitors is the disclosure that the state will have at least a dozen fairs again this year despite gas rationing. The ODT ruling on the fairs will apparently permit the staging of such famous old ones as the Brockton, Northampton, Marshfield and Topsfield fairs . . . Dan Finn, WB New Haven executive, was in Springfield on tour.

Mort Reed now is sole owner of the Bay State Film Production, Inc., Springfield. He has completed a film assignment for the Sperry Gyroscope Co. in Long Island. His postwar plans are varied and intensive in the educational film making business. Reed aided the Warner crew with "It Happened in Springfield' and has been invited to the coast for business connections.

Andy Sette, Capitol. is a golf enthusiast and a foursome of local theatre men is being organized . . . Charlie Patch, Art, is still apartment hunting.

Harry James and his band was at Ed Carroll's Riverside Ballroom last weekend. Other film bands scheduled will include Benny Goodman, June 19; Woody Herman, June 28, and Duke Ellington, July 10 . . . The M&P circuit eliminated its second feature on programs whenever necessary to make room for the short subject of "Two Down and One to Go."

Jerry Finnegan, secretary of the Playgoers, Inc., was in town on business at the Court Square Theatre last week . . . The committee on taxation of the Massachusetts legislature has recommended a proposed ten per cent tax on admissions be adopted, except for benefits staged for religious, educational, or charitable institutions.

E. M. Loew, circuit owner, left for a short business trip to Miami . . . Herman Rifkin, Rifkin circuit, reports that his son Julian, a captain, is now at McGuire General Hospital, Richmond, Va.

WORCESTER

Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, reports that Roddy McDowall broke the house record for the season. The young film star made a hit with the theatre staff, too . . . Thomas Kivlan, former assistant manager of the Elm Street, was a member of the Boston stock company in Cambridge that has just completed a 38-week season.

Theatre fare has been coming in for a barrage of attacks in letters to the editor in the Gazette . . . Manager Elmer Daniels of the Capitol reports a holdover on "The Affairs of Susan" . . . Mal Hallett, the band leader, was in Fitchburg . . . Don Dudley, former maestro at the Plymouth, is leading the dance band at the Sheraton roof in Boston.

The Better Films Council has approved "Counter-Attack," "Escape in the Desert," "Identity Unknown," "The Keys of the Kingdom," "Main Street After Dark," "Together Again" and "Watch on the Rhine" for mature-family audiences; "The Affairs of Susan," "Enter Arsene Lupin" and "Without Love" for adults, and none for the family.

The York in Athol used the coast guard show, "Salvos of 1945" for its bond show . . . Frank Duffy transferred the Benny Goodman dance from Sun Valley, Shrewsbury, to the Worcester Auditorium . . . Helen Parrish, former film actress, was in town to do a song act at the Plymouth.

Millard C. Mears, manager of the Strand in Westboro, reports that so many show tickets were distributed among bond buyers that it was necessary to give three screenings of "National Velvet" . . . The parents of Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, were in from Springfield to visit him.

The Clyde Jordan Girls, Worcester dance group which has played in many New England vaudeville theatres, will leave next month for a ten-week tour of George Hamid fairs . . . Morton Stevens and Edward Rowley of the Playhouse were in the short-lived Broadway play, "Round Trip."

Friends here were interested in the promotion of Ralph McGowan to film buyer for the Fanchon & Marco chain of theatres, with headquarters in New York. He formerly was manager of the Poli and Plymouth here . . . Fred Parker and Raymond C. Metayer are operating the drive-in in Bellingham.

The Fitchburg in that city staged a fine bond premiere, with a street parade to the theatre and auction from the stage, which was broadcast. Stores were closed to allow clerks to attend . . . The Russian Orthodox Church sponsored a show in the Regent.

Carlton Bridgham is the new man at the Plymouth . . . Bill Yager, manager of the Plymouth in Leominster, arranged for the coast guard "Salvos of 1945" as his bond show. Competition was conducted among the industrial plants to determine the distribution of tickets.

Pvt. Ferdinand Skwark, formerly of the Monson in that town, has been home from Alaska on furlough . . . The Plymouth, still playing vaudeville in the middle of June, has benefited from the cool weather.

Circus Officials Start Terms

HARTFORD—George J. Smith, general manager, and Leonard J. Aylesworth, boss canvasman of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus, reported here June 7 to start serving sentences imposed in connection with the circus fire which took 168 lives here last July.

Night Lights Installed For Club's Playground

ATLANTA—The first step toward completion of the Variety Club recreation center on Bankhead Ave. was marked Wednesday evening (6) when outdoor lighting on the playground was switched on for the first time by Commissioner William C. Arnold, commander of the southern division of the Salvation Army.

The lights, installed at a cost of $3,500, provide the center with one of the best illuminated night baseball diamonds in the city.

Paul S. Wilson, first assistant chief barker of the club, said 13,700 children enjoyed the center's facilities during daylight hours in April. With illumination, it is obvious, club officials said, that thousands of youngsters will utilize it during the evening.

Work on another step of the project, the laying of a 60-foot square of concrete to be used as an outdoor skating rink, began Thursday (7), Wilson added.

Present at the informal exercises, in addition to hundreds of eager children, were Wilson and his wife, and other Variety Club officials and their wives, including Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Wilby, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ballance, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Reams and Charlie Durmeyer.

Mrs. Donnell Starts Third Stephenville House

STEPHENVILLE, TEX.—Mrs. Thomas Donnell has received WPB priorities to go ahead with construction of a long-contemplated third theatre here and work is under way on conversion of a store building she owns into a modern 500-seat theatre to be named the Ritz. Wyatt Hedrick, Fort Worth architect, drew the plans for the conversion job, expected to be completed in 60 days. Mrs. Donnell operates the Majestic, seating 800, and the Palace seating 500.

Griffith's Rex at Borger Destroyed by Flames

DALLAS—Newspapers at midweek carried a despatch that the Rex Theatre in Borger, Tex., was destroyed by fire. The house was owned by Griffith Amusement Co. at Oklahoma City. Further details were lacking here.

Bijou Co. Takes Over New Theatre at Laurel, Miss.

NASHVILLE—The Bijou Amusement Co., with headquarters here, will take over the Lincoln Theatre, Laurel, Miss., June 17, from its owners and builders, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Freeman.

"Dangerous" Into Gotham

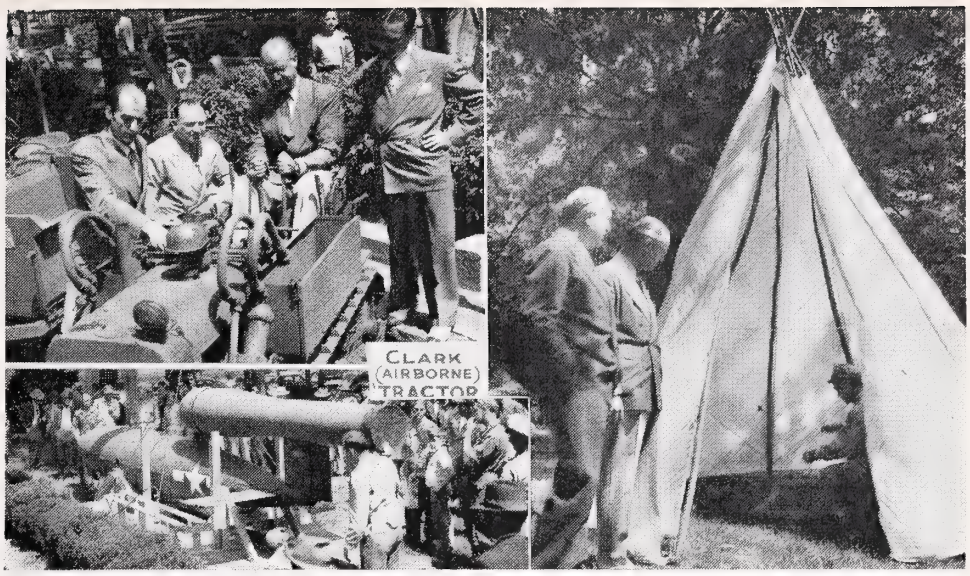
NEW YORK—"Delightfully Dangerous," UA release co-starring Jane Powell, Constance Moore, Ralph Bellamy and Morton Gould opened at the Gotham.

A. J. Foard Jr. a Manager

LENOIR, N. C.—A. G. Foard jr., recently discharged from the army, has been made manager of the Centre Theatre here. His home was in Lenoir.

Bond Tiein With Scouts

Eleven firms signed the Rex Theatre's page ad on their war bond premiere. The ad of the Minden, La., house also plugged the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts as bond salesmen.



AT INDUSTRY'S BOND JAMBOREE—The first robomb most Memphians have ever seen was displayed in Court Square all last week by the Memphis motion picture industry as it took over the city's Seventh War Loan drive for one week. M. A. Lightman sr., and Tom Young were co-chairmen in charge. The bottom left inset shows a crowd looking over the robomb.

Above right: Lightman, president of Malco Theatres (left) and Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager, are shown looking over the parachute tent which was part of the exhibit. Above left: A group of theatre people are shown looking over an airborne bulldozer. Young is the driver. Left to right are: Jim Prichard, Universal manager; Jimmie Gillespie, publicity man for the exhibit; Young and Ed Williamson, Malco executive.

Big Air Show Climaxes Industry Week

MEMPHIS—The greatest air show in the history of the midsouth was to be staged today and tomorrow (16-17) at the Memphis airport as the climax of the motion picture industry's largest activity in the Seventh War Loan drive.

"Airborne Attack," the gigantic air show touring the country to sell bonds, was sponsored by the local industry as its main contribution to the campaign.

As part of the job the industry took over Court Square with its army and navy exhibits for one week before the show. The Victory House at Court Square was operated by the industry for one week.

The air show was brought to Memphis to sell bonds. It is free. Some time ago the industry started selling bonds and giving each purchaser a ticket with a bond. Then the war department ruled that no person could be kept from the show because he or she was unable to buy a bond. A bond was not necessary to see the show this weekend—but it was expected.

The film industry proclaimed the opening day at Court Square as Gen. W. A. Danielson Day in honor of the commander of the army service forces depot here.

M. A. Lightman sr., co-chairman with Tom Young of the industry's war bond campaign, introduced General Danielson who spoke briefly on the necessity of buying bonds.

That opened the army and military exhibit which attracted thousands of persons from all over the midsouth and was climaxed this weekend with "Airborne Attack."

James Dunn and Southland's Cotton Maid Sell War Bonds

MEMPHIS—Film Actor James Dunn was Memphis' No. 1 war bond salesman last week. He appeared on a war bond broadcast from the Victory House in Court Square where he was the guest of the motion picture industry. He sold bonds personally across the counter for hours.

Dunn appeared with the Southland's 1945 Maid of Cotton, Jennie Erle Cox, West Point, Miss., who timed her homecoming from a nationwide tour so as to be in Memphis during the Seventh War Loan drive. Miss Cox and Dunn manned the war bond booth for an afternoon.

Both entertained patients at the army's Kennedy General Hospital two afternoons last week, although their shows were separate. Both went to Dyersburg for the army air forces "open house" last Sunday which was held in connection with the war bond campaign.

Dunn will be remembered as the "sweetheart" of Shirley Temple in her early films and more recently as the singing waiter in "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

Managers and Booth Men Guests at Carbon Dinner

OKLAHOMA CITY—The National Carbon Co. gave a midnight dinner for projectionists and theatre managers at the Huckins Hotel here recently. A sound picture depicting the uses of carbons was shown, among which are irradiation of milk, giving healthful indoor suntans to hospitalized patients and welding.

Present were Bert Bell, Alva Lyons, Bill Lowery, Lee Myrick, Ben Donley, Floyd Harcum, Howard Wortham, Jerry Jeter, Bill Baird, Omar Woodard, Frank Holick, Judge Pate, Lieut. Harold Wortham, M. A. Timmie, Harry Berling, Earl Landsburger, Bob Graham, Ed Browning, Lee Huff, L. Lowe and Robert Busch.

Doubles As a Vocalist

MEMPHIS—Wartime manpower shortages have done strange things. But who would ever have thought that they would turn Clyde Lucas into a vocalist?

Lucas, band leader, now at Hotel Claridge, tells a long tale of woe of how one vocalist after another was drafted. So he tried it himself. And he is doing pretty well, too.

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DALLAS 1 "Riverside 1884" TEXAS

A Bond Signature Ad

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA.—The Florida Theatre here arranged a full page signature news ad, signed by ten firms or names, for its war bond premiere.

"Janie" Is Pex Bond Show

SPARTA, GA.—The Pex Theatre staged a bond premiere June 7, showing "Janie."

DALLAS

Guy Cameron was due here late this week to take over management of the Arcadia Theatre recently purchased by P. G. Cameron, his father. Cameron sold the Aero in Santa Monica which Guy has operated since the first of the year. P. G. has three other theatres in Los Angeles and, looking for new fields to conquer, he bought the Chrysler agency at Santa Monica and will turn it over to a nephew. Cameron will build a new brick building covering one block to house the new enterprise. Sales of between 200 and 300 cars are anticipated the first year.

Charles E. Darden visited the Variety Club last Saturday night and bingoed three times during the evening . . . William Lowery is back after over two years of fighting the Japs in the Pacific. He received a discharge from the army with far more than enough points on actual combat hours alone. Bill expects to land a job somewhere in the film business. He is an experienced shipper and poster clerk.

J. C. Wilson and wife of Fort Worth were back from an emergency trip to San Francisco where a son of her sister was drowned in the bay. The Wilsons remained in the city ten days but the body was not recovered. The son, a sailor, and a mate were swimming while off duty from the San Francisco conference where they were assigned to look after foreign diplomats. Wilson had been a projectionist in Sam Archibald's Varsity Theatre four years. His wife operates the Dixie Theatre in Burleson, near Fort Worth which she has modernized.

Forrest Dunlap was back from a trip to Fort Smith where he went to look after his Fort Theatre for a few days . . . George Preston Tate, owner and operator of the Queen at Santa Anna, and a wholesale merchant in Comanche where he lives, was here with his young daughter Margaret Ann, who was getting ready to leave for the Kickapoo summer camp near Kerrville.

Phil Isley is on another trip to Los Angeles to visit his daughter, Jennifer Jones, and two grandsons, and will make several contacts at the studios. Before leaving Isley worked with Lloyd Rust of the Monogram exchange here and with studio officials, to bring Jimmie Wakely and Lasses White to the southwest for personal appearances at theatres and government hospitals. They played several spots in the state before returning to the studios for their next picture. Both visited the Variety Club rooms. Wakely appeared and sang on Interstate's radio program, Showtime, last Sunday afternoon.

John Franconi of Film Classics is back from a trip to New York on business, reporting first-hand experience with wartime congestion. After many attempts he found a room at the Gotham Hotel. The Classics men had their meetings in a suite at the Ambassador but the suite was not in their name. A friend had to leave temporarily and turned his accommodations over to the film company. Franconi was in good fortune again when his train home just missed a track washout.

All-Texas Premiere Is Set for "Jones"

DALLAS—Four Texas and Oklahoma theatre circuits have joined in the all-Texas world premiere showings of Gary Cooper's initial production, "Along Came Jones," the week of June 20, with the result that this new International-RKO release will have one of the broadest introductory bookings in history. Cooper will personally attend the premieres in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Fort Worth, also visiting Oklahoma City en route back to California.

Theatres holding simultaneous showings of "Along Came Jones" for which RKO has made 35 per cent of the nation's prints available, include houses of the Interstate, R&R, Jefferson Amusement and R. E. Griffith circuits.

New 900-Seat Fox Theatre Open in the Crescent City

NEW ORLEANS—The opening of the new Fox Theatre here was scheduled for June 14. Locally owned, it has 900 seats and is said to be one of the most modern suburban theatres in the south.

The building features a curved ceiling and a floor so designed as to enable patrons in the front rows to view the screen with the same comfort as those in the rear. The modernistic facade of the building is of maroon colored glass with a black border. Interior decorations carry out the same color scheme.

The theatre is equipped with the latest cooling, heating, lighting and safety devices. It is located on Elysian Fields near Gentilly Blvd. in a section of the city which has greatly increased in population since the start of the war.

Except for the Panhandle, Popcorn Outlook Poor

DALLAS—Reports from the nation's corn belt from Iowa to Indiana state that heavy and prolonged rains have damaged popcorn acreage greatly. Many growers haven't planted at all, unwilling to take chances on frost destroying a late crop. Conditions throughout the irrigated section of the Texas panhandle are good, however, and the crop is expected to be heavy. Local distributors fortunate in having much of this area under contract are understood to be in a preferred position with good prospects for an ample supply of corn for their theatre customers.

Robert Young Aids in Bond "Big Push" in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—Robert Young was slated to arrive here June 15 to take part in Seventh War Loan rallies over the weekend. Among functions scheduled was a "Beachhead to Tokyo" spectacle on Lake Pontchartrain, where Young was to act as master of ceremonies marking the opening of drive to reach the goal of $21,281,000 in E bonds set for this city.

The star has a large fan following here, judging by the reception of "The Enchanted Cottage" in its recent run at the Orpheum and Liberty theatres.

Change at Hendersonville

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.—John Hollingsworth, former manager of the State here, now is with the Strand, Spartanburg, S. C., in similar capacity. Mrs. Kathryn Corpening is the new manager of the State.

R. P. Dawson Directs Fleet Film Office

MEMPHIS—Lieut. R. P. Dawson, an official at Universal here before entering the



R. P. DAWSON

service, is back at the job as a film distributing official, but he has branched out. Instead of the midsouth as his "trade field," he now has the entire Pacific.

Lieutenant Dawson has been assigned as officer in charge of the fleet film exchange at San Francisco. The navy obtains more than 300 pictures a year, including all A films. More than 20 copies of each film are distributed by ship and plane to the fleet and its island bases. This big job is "right up his alley," he admts.

Dawson has just returned from two years service in the central Pacific war zone. His new job requires offices on Filmrow in San Francisco. Having been overseas himself he knows first hand how the American sailor aboard ship or stationed on one of those tiny, isolated islands looks to nightfall and the movies.

Some 30 circuits have been set up in the islands, all working in collaboration with the ships so that a troop or warship arriving in the Philippines, for instance, can "trade in" the films they have exhibited en route.

Dawson, a graduate of Georgia Tech, class of 1930, operates one of the largest film exchanges in the world.

Women's Council for Peace Views "Watchtower" Film

NEW ORLEANS—The first of a series of bimonthly movie discussion meetings was held here June 13 at the Rabouin School, under auspices of the New Orleans council of the Women's Action Committee for Victory and Lasting Peace. The photoplay shown was "Watchtower Over Tomorrow." Dr. Vernon X. Miller, dean of the law school of Loyola University, reported on the progress of the San Francisco conference.

Mrs. Joseph Friend, chairman of the council, said the meetings are being conducted "to prevent eight senators from again balking the will of the American people to join with the other nations of the earth to set up international law with power to enforce it."

Flames From Film Fatal to Booth Man

COVINGTON, OKLA.—R. T. Scott, 30, died in an Enid hospital of burns received Tuesday night (5) when motion picture film ignited in the projection room of the local theatre where he was projectionist. Scott, son of the Rev. L. L. Scott, Baptist pastor here, suffered the fatal burns in attempting to put out the flames, which subsequently were extinguished by firemen. There was no damage to projection equipment.

Third Civic Office For Lamar Swift

MACON, GA.—Lamar Swift, city manager of the five Lucas and Jenkins theatres here, recently was elected to the board of directors of the Boys' Club of Macon. This is the third civic office assumed by the theatre executive within the past month.

Swift recently was elected president of the Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the public relations committee for the Macon Chamber of Commerce, separate organization. He is the only theatre man to be named to the directorate of the boys' Club which is made up of local business and professional men interested in juvenile welfare.

Complete Plans for Theatre

ST. STEPHEN, S. C.—Plans have been completed for a new 360-seat theatre to be built here by W. S. Funk.

SAVOROL

An Amazing Scientific Compound, Almost Unbelievable—But True!

A NEW *Popcorn Seasoning* SENSATION

USERS REPORT THAT IT

Saves 20% to 35% of your Oil and Shortening

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The Pop Corn Man

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DALLAS 1, TEXAS

ATLANTA

Ernest Rogers, our friend and columnist of the Atlanta Journal, returning from a trip to the motion picture capital in California, stopped by in New Orleans. In his editorial of May 31, he devoted a column to Goodwin Broggi of the 20th-Fox, New Orleans, for the hospitality extended to him there.

Walter T. Hickey, Florida representative of Film Classics, is ill in a Tallahassee hospital . . . John W. Mangham, president of Film Classics of the southeast, has returned from a business trip to New Orleans and Memphis . . . Fred Mathews of Motiograph visited at Wil-Kin Theatre Supply.

Oscar New of Neumade products was visiting here . . . Jack Coletrane of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply was ill in the hospital . . . Hilton Chernas, formerly with Sack in Dallas, has been transferred to the Atlanta branch as assistant.

Jack Kirby, Paramount southern division manager and Bud Gray went to New Orleans . . . Mrs. Laura Kenny has taken over as office manager at M-G-M. She was formerly a secretary . . . William A. Finney, Loew's southern manager, was back at his desk after a swing around his territory.

Ike and Harry Katz of PRC were hosts to newsmen and film folks at the Mayfair Club . . . Perry Spencer, southern advertising and exploitation manager of Universal, and Ty Sanders, Universal newsreel cameraman, will stage and film a "Salome, Where She Danced" contest at New Orleans in connection with the opening of the picture there.

Harry Graham, southern division manager of Universal, has returned to the city after a business trip . . . Mrs. Sarah Smith, Columbia and her hubby were off on a trip to Jacksonville Beach, Fla. . . . Emery Austin, M-G-M exploiteer, was on a trip to Macon, Augusta and Savannah.

Warner Bros. shipping and inspection departments held a wiener roast at Adams Park on June 1 . . . Hugh G. Martin of the Martin theatres said bond premieres will be held in all 59 situations . . . Capt. E. E. Whitaker has returned to his post in the Pacific . . . Betty Compton has been added to the force at Film Classics.

Charles P. Lester, NSS southern division manager, went to New York. George Hoffman, George Tarrant and Randall Bryan, salesmen, followed a week later . . . W. Kaster of the Lee Theatre, Fort Myers, Fla., was on Filmrow.

Marian Starr of Florida State theatres returned from a vacation in Florida sporting a real moontan . . . Salesmen for Columbia were in town for a meeting . . . Mrs. Frankie A. English, secretary to Jack Kirby, Paramount, spent a two-week vacation in Miami Beach with friends . . . Duke Clark of Dallas, Paramount district manager, was visiting the branch here . . . Margaret Aiello, switchboard operator and maintenance clerk, Paramount, left for her former home, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Harry Ballance and Fred Dodson, 20th-Fox, were vacationing in Florida catching the big ones . . . Mozelle Starr and Betty Rary of M-G-M returned to their desks after a visit to Miami . . . Dick Kennedy, city manager for Wilby-Kincy in Birmingham, is vacationing in Florida.

T. K. Jones, after 12 years operating the Ritz Theatre, Dadeville, Ala., has decided to call it quits and disposed of his theatre to D. L. Buzbee. T. K. thanks all the exchanges for happy business connections and said he would like to have film folk call on him at Dadeville where he is the mayor.

Joe Horne, special representative of Universal, visited the local branch . . . Mr. McDermott, auditor for Universal at the local branch for the last several months, departed for Washington . . . Visitors on the Row included Mayor Earl Fain, owner of the Fain theatres, Leesberg, Fla., and Al Whittle, formerly with the Rialto Theatre and now with the army.

Paramount News Notes: Jim Kirby, son of District Manager Kirby and the recipient of a Purple Heart for wounds received in the Celebes, Dutch East Indies, recently was reported missing. We're happy to report that "all's well" now . . . Bud Gray was at his desk after a bout with a couple of docs . . . Jack King, latest addition to the Paramount sales department, now working out of Chattanooga . . . Helen Bressler is the new "voice" on the PBX board. Diminutive Peggy Ailleo, former PBX girl, left for her home in New York City.

Harry Wycoff is now a full-fledged Paramounteer in the booking stall . . . Valworth "Snow White" Griffin, Girl Friday to Buddha Gray, heard from her Big Moment in the navy and was all fluttery . . . Opal Foster joined the accounting staff . . . Ed Ashmore, hard-working, handsome booker, was readying for a vacation . . . Elsie Lord, joined the contract department . . . Bobbie Harvey, inspector, was on her way to Tampa for a vacation.

Grace Baker, inspector, is leaving after four years . . . Katie "Torchy" Lewis joins "Dula" Mae Rich, her sister, for a vacation trip to Jacksonville . . . "Incendiary Blonde" screening for the staff evoked highest enthusiasm . . . All were preparing for the big Paramount month drive.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



DECATUR, ILLINOIS, hasn't witnessed crowds like this in many moons. "MOM AND DAD" hung up a box office record at the Avon—and the thousands who saw the show praised it as the best educational picture in cinema history.

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

MOM and DAD
WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
Produced by
J. S. JOSSEY and KROGER BABB
Supervised by Barney Sarecky • Directed by Wm. Beaudine
IT'S A 100% GUARANTEED ATTRACTION!

UNITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR TERRITORY SOON! DATE IT NOW!

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Phone: Cherry 8158 • 503 Film Bldg., 2100 Payne Ave.
WRITE TODAY FOR FULL DETAILS AND PLAY-DATES
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Jewelry Tiein for Page Ad

The State Theatre at Kingsport, Tenn., arranged a tiein with a jewelry store for a full page newspaper ad on their war bond premiere.

Centerville House Reopens

CENTERVILLE, MISS.—The Center Theatre here has been reopened with new equipment purchased to replace that destroyed by fire in a recent blaze.

"Wonder Man" at Linden

MEMPHIS—Samuel Goldwyn's "Wonder Man," an RKO radio release, was shown May 28 at Linden Circle Theatre at a special exhibitors tradeshowing.

Chas. Smith in "Too Good to Be True"

Charles Smith joined the cast of "Too Good to Be True" at Paramount.

MEMPHIS

J. Colquhoun, southwest district manager for Republic, and Winfield Snelson, Hartsville, Ala., former manager for Republic here, visited the local exchange last week . . . At Warners Mrs. Martha Summers, contract clerk, and Mrs. Mary Alice Sperry, cashier, were on two-week vacations in Miami.

Universal reported Frances Edwards, booker-stenographer, and Mrs. Dorothy Munn, ledger clerk, on vacations to their former homes, Miss Edwards in Mississippi and Mrs. Munn in Jersey City, N. J. . . . J. A. Prichard, manager at Universal, is back after a business trip to Little Rock . . . Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager, has returned from a tour of western Tennessee in the interest of the bond drive. He is chairman of the Memphis motion picture WAC.

John Carter, 20th-Fox, was on vacation, moving from West Memphis, Ark., to Memphis . . . Mrs. Ethel Wolfe, advertising sales manager, was in Arkansas on vacation.

Filmrow visitors included the following theatre operators from the midsouth: Glenn Caldwell, Aurora, Mo.; R. X. Williams, Oxford, Miss.; Alfred Bishop, Holcomb, Mo.; Nathan Flexer, operator of shows at Waverly, Tenn., and Linden, Tenn., and Forrest Dunlap, Fort Smith.

Mary Alta Brenner, telephone operator at M-G-M, is on vacation . . . Arthur de Stefano of the St. Louis and Kansas City offices of National Theatre Supply was in on business.

"Incendiary Blonde," Paramount color film, was shown at the Memphian Theatre last week to a group of exhibitors and newspaper men.

THE QUEEN FEATURE SERVICE, Inc.
Quality Theatre Equipment & Supplies
1912½ Morris Ave. Phone 3-8665
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

UA Promotes Fred Jack; In Charge of 15 States

NEW YORK—Fred M. Jack has been promoted from district manager to division manager, with supervision over the south and southwest territory, according to Carl Leserman, United Artists sales chief. He will have complete charge of the new division, covering the 15 southern states from New Mexico to the Atlantic seaboard. Under the new sales alignment, Jack will continue to make Dallas his headquarters, traveling to New York when necessary.



FRED M. JACK

Well known in the southern territory, Jack has been with UA for the last three years. Prior to joining that organization he was associated with Warner Bros. in various sales capacities for 21 years.

Florida House Reopens

BONIFAY, FLA.—The Bonifay Theatre has been reopened after extensive repairs necessitated by a disastrous fire last November. A. C. Saunders is the owner and operator.

Signature Ad Has 44 Names

In promoting the bond show held simultaneously at the Carolina, Sumter and Rex theatres in Sumter, S. C., a full page signature ad containing 44 names was arranged.

Dusty Anderson With Warner Baxter

Dusty Anderson will play her first lead opposite Warner Baxter in an untitled picture of the Crime Doctor series, to be produced by Rudolph Flothow at Columbia under the supervision of Leonard Picker.

FILM CLASSICS Inc.

the Lowdown on FILM Classics

Published every week

CARY GRANT Constance BENNETT



in TOPPER

Undoubtedly one of the screwiest romances ever filmed.

They will come in droves to see this hit. Here is why—Cary Grant, Constance Bennett, Roland Young, Billie Burke, Allen Mowbray, Eugene Pallette, Arthur Lake, Hedda Hopper, J. Farrell McDonald, Elaine Shepard, Doodles Weaver, Si Jenks and "The Three Hits and a Miss."

WE SINCERELY believe this to be the best feature length picture Hal Roach ever made. It is entertainment from start to finish. Don't let it get by as a "sleeper." Don't overlook its extra boxoffice possibilities. It is genuine novelty in plot; hilarity and great shrieks of audiences laughter!

"Topper," along with such hits as "Made for Each Other," "The Cowboy and the Lady," "Barbary Coast," and a great many others which we will tell you about in this column are among the reasons why Film Classics releases play everywhere.

EXTRA! We have screened our new Technicolor one-reeler "Cap'n Cub Blasts the Japs" for many circuits in our various territories. Without exception it has been immediately set for early play. "Cap'n Cub" is a clever new cartoon ideal In addition to the many theatres that have booked the subject, it is now playing in all the army theatres. It is a subject your audiences will like.

That's the lowdown from

FILM Classics EXCHANGES

in Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, and soon in Memphis.

Theatre Managers Praise

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POPCORN SEASONING

gives a tender crispness, a buttery taste and color, and an enriched flavor to popcorn AND you save 1/5 to 1/3 on oil or shortening.

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50 Pounds $8.75

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No Ration Points

BESTER PRODUCTS CO.

Nashville 2, Tenn.

A THEATRE MANAGER IN LAWRENCEVILLE, ILL., SAYS:

"I received the shipment of 'Savorol' Monday and started using it Monday night and I wish to state right now that people really noticed the difference. They actually raved about it. You could hear some of them saying that we are now popping in real butter."

A THEATRE MANAGER IN SYLACAUGA, ALA., SAYS:

"Your recent shipment of SAVOROL received and tried. You can take my word, it will save you PLENTY on your popcorn seasoning."

CHARLOTTE

A fire which started in an adjoining soda shop damaged the Colonial Theatre in Valdese, N. C., recently, necessitating repairs to the front of the building, the seats in the balcony and the carpet. It was expected to reopen this week. The theatre is owned by George D. Carpenter, Verne Benfield and associates.

Dave Prince, RKO district manager from Atlanta, was here last week for a two-day conference with local manager Rovy Branon and salesmen Gene Dyer, Bill Sims, Roger Mitchell and Bob Masterman. Bill Andrews, former office manager, has been transferred to France. His wife and daughter Julia are in Charlotte visiting the Rovy Branons and later will visit Mrs. Jules Williamson. Jules, also former office manager, has just completed his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Tom Watson, former RKO salesman, is in India . . . Bob Masterman is on a trip in eastern Carolina . . . Mrs. Gwyn Lipscombe, cashier, took a vacation for two weeks while her husband was here on furlough . . . Elizabeth Land, boxoffice clerk, was also on vacation.

John Key, former RKO shipper, was in town on furlough. He's now stationed at Indianapolis . . . The officers at Camp Croft, S. C., selected four RKO girls to go to Camp Croft on a bond-selling trip, using the slogan "Buy a Bond and Kiss a Blonde." Those selected were Hazel Graves, booker; Genelle Duckworth, billing clerk; Sylvia Rhodes, cashier department, and Dolly Wade, booking department.

Capt. E. G. "Buddy" Hill has received his discharge at Camp Lejeune and has joined the Stewart-Everett Enterprises at New-Bern, N. C. Before entering the marines Hill was manager of the A. B. Huff houses in Kinston, N. C.

A new 2,500-seat theatre is being built at the marine base, Cherry Point, N. C. There are already two in operation at the point. Booking and buying will be done by H. D. Hearn of Exhibitors Service . . . Exhibitors also will book and buy for the hospital theatre at the navy yard in Charleston. It will open in two weeks.

Leon Cassidy is building a neighborhood theatre in the Ardmore section of Winston-Salem to be named the Ardmore. It will open around July 1. Booking and buying will be handled by Exhibitors Service. Booth equipment was purchased from A. G. Painter of the West End Theatre, High Point, N. C., which is closing. Other new exhibitors accounts are the new Negro theatre (the Peco) in Albemarle, N. C.; the Four Oaks in Four Oaks, N. C., and the Eden in Bath, N. C. The Peco in Albemarle is being built by C. C. Nace and T. A. Dennis and will open July 1. The Four Oaks and the Bath theatres are owned by R. O. Tarkington.

J. E. Massie, Park, Waynesville, N. C., is a New York City visitor . . . Lyle M. Wilson, Peoples, Roanoke Rapids, N. C., is in Clinton, Iowa, to see his father, who had a heart attack . . . S. S. Stevenson, Stevenson Theatres, Henderson, N. C., opened his radio station June 6.

District officials here from Atlanta were Merritt Davis, Republic; R. J. Ingram, Columbia; John Kirby, Paramount; Harry Graham, Universal, and J. J. McCarthy, Universal . . . Miss Billy Harris, Republic booker, was vacationing at Myrtle Beach, S. C.

W. T. Culpepper, owner of Carolina Amusements, Elizabeth City, N. C., died following a heart attack June 11. Funeral services were in Elizabeth City June 13. Culpepper for a number of years was also postmaster at Elizabeth City and had served several terms as state senator.

Visitors on the Row: Morris Littman, Sylvan, Rutherfordton; Fin Lee, Duplin, Warsaw; Frank Fowler, Princess, Mocksville; E. L. Carroll, Roxy, Bessemer City; Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Reeves, Reeves, Elkin; Cary Caudell, Wanoca, Wallace; J. W. Griffin, Romina, Forest City; Arnold Coffey, Sunset, Asheboro; George D. Carpenter, Colonial, Valdese; Douglas Craddock, Grand, Leaksville; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rowe, Pender, Burgaw; H. P. Howell, Howell, Smithfield; R. Glenn Davis, Louisburg, Louisburg, and Ben L. Strozier, Stevenson, Rock Hill, S. C.

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SPECIAL PRINTED TICKETS

When ordering give starting number, admission price, tax and color.

HERBER BROTHERS

"Fair Treatment and Adequate Service Always"

408 S. HARWOOD DALLAS, TEXAS

NEW ORLEANS

Duke Clark of Paramount's New York office has been in New Orleans setting up the machinery for his firm's "Third of a Century" booking drive Aug. 26 to Sept. 29.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Murphey, newlyweds, were presented a sterling silver casserole by Columbia exchange employes. Murphey is on the sales staff. Mrs. Murphey is an exhibitor, with several theatres in Mississippi.

Visitors on Filmrow included: Fred P. Houck, brother of Joy Houck; Alex Jones of Mobile, Ala.; Stanley Taylor of Crosby and Gloster, Miss.; Locke Bolen of Jackson, Ala., and Lieutenant Stone, booker for the naval station in Pensacola, Fla.

The children's war bond show at the Don Theatre in Alexandria netted $16,000 in bond purchases with "Son of Lassie" as the feature attraction. A prize collie pup was awarded W. H. Boren, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Boren, 114 Cook Ave. Hunter Jarreau, editor of Alexandria Town Talk, served as master of ceremonies. Don George operates the theatre.

Pfc. Charles Reil, who was in the shipping department of National Screen in New Orleans before the war, is now a patient in Lagarde Hospital here after having been liberated from a Nazi prison camp. He has been royally welcomed by his peacetime fellow employes, who report that he is looking fine but will be a patient at the hospital for some time yet.

J. J. Boyle, Doyle Maynard and Horace Hougland of National Screen will leave New Orleans this weekend for a regional meeting in Chicago.

Vacationers this week include: Miss Ethel Neil, secretary to L. S. Conner, WB manager; Miss Rosalee Manculo, general clerk at the Universal; Mrs. Helen Davis of the Columbia billing department, who is taking a week off to be with her coast guard husband, Meredith Davis, now home on leave; Miss Isabel Guidroz, Columbia inspection department, and Miss Lena Frosina, booker for Joy Theatres.

Mrs. Roe Olsen has joined the Joy organization as switchboard operator. Lieut. Lynn Cobena, formerly with Joy's, is home on furlough . . . Mrs. Alma Sherman, bookkeeper for the Ritz Theatres, has been in the hospital for a tonsillectomy.

Mrs. Carmen Smith, secretary-bookkeeper at Exhibitors Poster exchange, resigned her position this past week in order to have full time with her three-year-old daughter. Her husband, M/Sgt. Henry Smith, is in England . . . Mrs. Pat Christiansen, Columbia exchange biller, has been in Little Rock to visit her father, critically ill.

Misses Marian Tedesco, Margaret Kaiser and Rosemary Hill of Columbia spent last weekend at Clermont Harbor on the gulf coast, where they went crabbing with marked success. Crabbing, incidentally, has supplanted golf and other gone-with-the-war hobbies of many Orleanians now that the succulent crustaceans are scarce and expensive in comparison with the bounty and cheapness prevailing in normal times.

Donald Mars Recovers

OKLAHOMA CITY — Donald Mars, employe of Griffiths Theatres shipping department here, has been released from the clinic where he was treated for injuries suffered in a fall in the freight elevator shaft in the Griffith Bldg.

Rambling Reporter "Stuck" at Dallas

Lester Ketner, BOXOFFICE correspondent the last 15 years or so, has left his duties at San Antonio on a projected trip to California. After six days following his departure from his home city, he still was at Dallas. He forwards the following report:

Our first visit to the Variety Club quarters on the seventh floor of the Adolphus Hotel was one we never will forget. Visiting this swank theatrical lounge was an old friend, Pete Crown, who formerly operated the Crown Theatres in Oklahoma before selling to the Griffith circuit. Now Crown has a different business in San Antonio.

On the guest book register we noted the names of Bob Smith jr. of Temple, Benjamin Fish of Los Angeles and Jimmie Jefferies of Dallas.

We gained two pounds in the first six days we trekked along Theatrerow in this fascinating and metropolitan city. There is not another city like it in Texas; they do more business here in one hour than goes on in some other Texas cities all day.

Dropping in at the Charles E. Darden & Co. popcorn office in the Film Exchange Bldg. we met Patty Rowland, an attractive blonde who works there. She reported she lost several pounds during her recent vacation trip to San Diego.

Our next stop was at 20th-Fox on Wood St., where we were told of the good time enjoyed by all at the recent outing and picnic given for employes and their families at the Dreyfuss Club at White Rock Lake. There were ball games, dancing, boating, etc.

Fred and Truman Hendrix have been winning most of the gin rummy dough at Paramount . . . L. J. Sack, brother of Al, the head of Sack Amusement Co., added a few pounds during his vacation in Mississippi . . . The war bond talk Louis Charninsky of the Rialto and Capitol theatres delivered to Universal employes was said to be one of the best.

Hal and Dwight Brown are back at the Palace . . . Wade's Theatre will return to vaudeville soon, reports George Holland . . . Dorothy Rae, who closed a four-week engagement at the Palace, sang "Whistling Joe," a song which she composed herself. Her partner, Fred Lowrey, "the whistling songbird of Texas," accompanied her. They left here for Houston.

Theatre Jab at Blue Law Curb a Failure

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—Validity of a Bessemer city ordinance prohibiting Sunday shows was upheld June 7 by the Alabama supreme court.

The court declared that the ordinance was a valid exercise of police powers. The ruling upheld the Jefferson circuit court in denying an injunction sought by Bessemer Theatres, Inc., to restrain city police from arresting its employes on charges of violating the ordinance.

OKLA. CITY

Chet Humphrey, owner of the Ritz at Britton, is still taking it easy following his lengthy illness . . . Marlin Butler is elated over the sale of a $10,000 war bond through the bond booth at his Log Cabin Theatre. The sale netted the theatre a nice story and picture in the local newspaper.

Ed Kidwell, Jack Swiger and Jess Bollman, executives of Standard Theatres, spent a few days in Colorado Springs conferring with J. H. Cooper, Standard president . . . The Criterion Theatre's war bond premiere was an outstanding success.

All local theatres using freon and dry ice for their refrigeration equipment expect to have sufficient supplies for the season. So far the cool weather has not required much air conditioning . . . Lloyd E. Brown, projectionist at the Harrah Theatre, has moved to Roswell, N. M., to work for the Griffith circuit.

E. A. "Pat" Patchen, advertising manager for Standard Theatres here a few years back, was in to visit his brother and friends. Pat is a private in the air corps stationed near Denver. He expects to be released from the army soon and return to the exhibition end of the business.

Visitors on the Row: A. H. Circle, Waynoka; A. R. Walker, Broken Bow; J. B. Terry, Perry; L. H. Goerke, Canton; Mrs. Beaty Chronister of Hammon, and Truman Ellerd of Blanchard . . . Miss Patty Stevens of NSS was on a vacation and Frances Bloom was filling two positions during her absence.

Walter B. King
King Scenic Co.
Still Revamping and Decorating Theatres
Ambassador Hotel Dallas, Tex.

We Are Proud to Announce The Appointment of



RALPH W. THORNILEY

as the distributor of

POPPER'S SUPPLY CO.

products in the Dallas and New Orleans territories

A BRANCH OFFICE HAS BEEN OPENED AT 1902 WOOD STREET IN DALLAS

POPPER'S SUPPLY COMPANY

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Hadaway Busiest At $1-a-Year Job

GREENSBORO, N. C.—This city has an outstanding bond-seller whose fame spread to Washington and beyond. As a result, Ted R. Gamble, national director of the war finance division of the treasury department, made him promotional consultant to the special events section. His name is Norris Hadaway and he is city manager for Wilby - Kincey Theatres. He draws $1 per year for the treasury job and devotes most of his waking hours to it.



NORRIS HADAWAY

His interest in community affairs goes back to 1937, when he started to publicize local drives. In 1941 he was named permanent publicity chairman for the defense bond committee of Greensboro. Since then he has been called upon by various groups, including retailers, to organize their war loan campaigns, in addition to carrying on his work for WAC, for which he is Greensboro chairman.

As vice-chairman of the North Carolina war finance committee in charge of promotion, he organized a plan whereby leading theatre men were named special events chairmen, obtaining adoption of this plan by 87 of the 100 counties in the state. Later he organized military cooperation for war loan drives, and arranged more than 500 events during the Fifth War Loan.

Last fall he was called to Washington as special consultant and was granted a three-month leave of absence by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kincey. He also assisted in the preparation of the national retailers' Seventh War Loan campaign.

At present he is back in Greensboro running three theatres and directing the Seventh War Loan promotion for North Carolina. In between bond campaigns he directs the Red Cross, March of Dimes, scrap campaign and similar drives.

RAIN!

Rain is preventing the planting of popcorn in many sections. Your source of supply is protected and you are assured of your proportionate share with a Blevins Diversified Acreage Contract. This enables you to contract for popcorn in every section of the United States where corn is grown. Write for a Blevins Diversified Acreage Contract today.

•

There is still some Bee Hive Brand Hybrid popcorn available if you write at once.

Blevins Popcorn Co.

Nashville 2, Tenn.

SAN ANTONIO

Sgt. Jerry O'Donnell, nephew of R. J. O'Donnell, reported back for duty Tuesday (12). Jerry, former treasurer of the Empire Theatre, was here on furlough after 39 months in Africa and Italy. He has enough points to make him eligible for a discharge . . . Raymond Willie was in town for a few days to take a look at the nearly completed Woodlawn, the last word in suburban theatres.

Edgar Bergen and his three stooges, Charley, Mortimer and Effie, gave San Antonians a treat when they performed for the bond rally at the Auditorium. Don Ameche, the emcee, gave feminine hearts a thrill, while Joan Merrill, with her dulcet tones and her comeliness, captivated both male and female alike. Music was by the San Antonio aviation cadet center. Martha O'Driscoll made a brief appearance at the rally on her way to Kelly Field, where she was to perform. Henry Bergman, manager of the Aztec Theatre, was responsible for the splendid stage setting and the arrangements for the rally. The audience bought over three million dollars in bonds to see the show.

Beulah Greene, manager of the Texas, gave her bond premiere Wednesday with "Diamond Horseshoe" following a big publicity campaign directed by Lillian Mumme, acting interstate publicity chief here . . . "A Doll's House" ran a three-performance engagement at the Texas. Heading the cast were H. B. Warner, Lyle Talbot, Dale Melbourne and Jane Darwell. Mrs. Dorothy Pierre, dance critic, author and lecturer, preceded the play lecturing on Ibsen to women's clubs and educational institutions.

Ed Brady was up from the Valley . . . Jack King came in from Amarillo to attend his daughter's graduation. Another visitor was Al Irwin of Houston.

Two local radio stations, KTSA and KABC, have resumed their Man on the Street broadcasts. KABC's announcer has his spot in front of the Majestic Theatre, while KTSA's announcer parks his mike in front of the Gunter Hotel.

Howard Waugh Conducts A One-Man Bond Drive

Memphis—Howard Waugh, zone manager for Warner Theatres here, set out to conduct a one-man bond drive and was given the lead editorial in the Press-Scimitar as a result.

Waugh made a tour of all the theatre managers and other film executives and made sales everywhere he stopped, some of them for $1,000 and $5,000.

The Press-Scimitar said "If just a few men and women in Memphis will take similar interest and go to work with the vim and vigor he exhibited we will reach our bond quota—not only on big bonds, but on the E bonds, too."



Poppers Supply Opens A Southern Branch

DALLAS—To serve the Dallas and New Orleans territories, Poppers Supply Co. of Kansas City has opened a sales office here at 1902 Wood St., in the heart of the film district.



RALPH W. THORNILEY

Ralph W. Thorniley, who has been engaged in popcorn distribution to theatres several seasons with another company, has been appointed the Popper's distributor for the two key city territories.

Thorniley recently returned from Los Angeles where he visited Harry Taylor, the west coast Poppers distributor, and one of the promoters of the new Viking machines which the company will distribute on a national basis. Taylor is well known here and in the Texas territory. He is remembered as both a film man and sales manager of Constance Bennett cosmetics, a deal which Taylor placed in many theatres. On his west coast trip Thorniley made other contacts involving his new setup here, looking into sources of the several commodities necessary to a well-rounded popcorn service to theatre owners.

Both Taylor and Rube Melcher, Kansas City Poppers distributor, are optimistic over the prospects in Texas and Louisiana.

Other Poppers branches in this part of the country may be opened soon.

Fete for C. J. Briant, 30 Years on Filmrow

NEW ORLEANS — C. J. Briant, branch manager, was honored by the M-G-M office force at a surprise party Tuesday on his 30th anniversary on Filmrow. A native Louisianian, Briant's youthful appearance and zest are in contrast with his long period of service in the film business and in numerous civic activities.

Briant's official positions through the years with Rotary, Red Cross, his church, the March of Dimes, the WAC and other projects would make an impressive list. Among those attending the anniversary celebration for Briant was his son, Billy, who was recently discharged on points from the army air corps.

OK Theatres Building Two Houston Units

DALLAS—Oskar Korn's O. K. Theatres, which has its office on Jackson St., has started construction of two neighborhood theatres at Houston after receipt of priorities. One is the Avalon, a large de luxe house in the Magnolia addition; the second is the Port, a smaller and less pretentious house.

The O. K. circuit apparently is concentrating its future expansion in the Houston territory. It owns and operates four neighborhood houses there, all erected since the war program started several years ago. They are the Lindale, Globe, Grand and Midway. The circuit's only other theatre is the Lisbon here, built about five years ago.

BUFFALO COOLING EQUIPMENT

10th Fl., 2nd Unit, Santa Fe Bldg. **BUFFALO ENGINEERING CO., INC.** Dallas, Tex.

J. L. Hunter Quits Para Post to Be Exhibitor

TORONTO—John L. Hunter has resigned as Ontario branch manager of Paramount Film Service, an office he had held for 24 years, to assume management of three theatres in Hamilton owned by the estate of late M. A. Milligan, one-time Canadian general manager of Paramount who died in Toronto last month after a lengthy illness. Hunter will continue to live here while directing the Empire, Delta and Queen's theatres in Hamilton, 45 miles away.

Hunter, whose family home is at Arnprior, Ont., has been identified with the film industry since 1913 when he joined the Kleine Optical Co. in New York, later becoming Canadian manager for Associated Producers. In World War I he enlisted in the British air force in England, serving with the 103rd and 99th squadrons and also Trenchard's independent unit. He was wounded and shot down during the bombing of Metz, returning to England for convalescence. He went back to the United States in 1919. There he joined Associated First National Pictures and became general sales manager of the American Releasing Corp. Twenty-four years ago he was back in Toronto with Paramount.

Hunter's move does not take in the Paramount Theatre in St. John's, Nfd., which was erected two years ago by FPC and Milligan under a partnership arrangement. It is understood that Famous Players is acquiring the Milligan interest in that theatre to give the circuit complete ownership.

M. J. Coldwell Action Film For 'Canadian Democracy'

WINNIPEG—Action shots of M. J. Coldwell, national leader of the CCF, were taken by the National Film Board at the conclusion of an address he gave at a public meeting in the auditorium.

With George LeBeau, acting regional supervisor for the board, as a producer, Angelo, local moviemaker, took shots of Coldwell and a portion of the audience which remained behind for the purpose. LeBeau said the shots would be incorporated in a documentary which the board was preparing under the title, "Canadian Democracy."

Shots of Prime Minister King and John Bracken, Progressive-Conservative leader, have already been taken elsewhere.

Easing of Wartime Curbs Aids Film Advertising

Use of vehicles by theatres for advertising purposes has been restored by the wartime prices and trade board, and the 35-mile limit on operation of trucks has been removed. Gasoline rations have also been eased across the Dominion.

Odeon Buys the Fraser Theatre at Vancouver

VANCOUVER—The Odeon circuit has purchased the Fraser Theatre here which has been under lease from the Young estate for the last four years.

Margo Arrives in Quebec

QUEBEC—Well known in the U.S. as a television performer and former Powers model, blonde Margo Manning has arrived here to begin an engagement with Gilbert Darrisse and his orchestra at the Chateau Frontenac.

Treasury Asserts Ticket Levy Won't Be Dropped

Pop Elliotte Nears 25th Year in Rex Booth

Vancouver—Pop Elliotte, old-timer in Quesnel, B. C., where he has operated at the Rex for the last 25 years, will celebrate his 25th anniversary July 25. In 1920 he received his first projectionist's license and has been in the booth of the Rex ever since.

Eddie Newman Back At Winnipeg Theatre

WINNIPEG—Eddie Newman, formerly manager of the Metropolitan, has returned to the city after a leave of absence with the air force overseas for more than two years and will resume his post at the theatre.

Bill Novak, manager of the Metropolitan, goes to head the Capitol. Other changes announced by Famous Players were: Jack Proudlove, Capitol manager, returns to the Gaiety. Dave Robertson, who was running the Gaiety, goes to the Tivoli. Carl Egan, manager of the Tivoli, returns to the Palace at Calgary.

Provisionally promoted in April, the theatre managers have reverted to their former positions.

Theatres Enter Into Query On Attitude Toward Navy

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Theatres are singled out for special attention in a questionnaire being circulated by Canadian navy officers stationed in Halifax.

It is contended only those persons who have been residents of Halifax for at least ten years are being approached on the streets, in theatres, clubs, eating places, hotels, etc., with the list of questions.

One of the queries involves the individual's feeling toward members of the navy. If unfriendly, it is asked if overcrowding of film houses has been a source of irritation to the permanent civilian residents. The question presumes that the war years of jammed theatres and nightly boxoffice street queues was so consistently annoying as to cause localities to center resentment on the navy because sailors have been far more numerous than soldiers and airmen in Halifax.

Paramount Sales Meet To Be Held in Montreal

TORONTO—For the first time Paramount Film Service has arranged to hold its annual sales convention in Montreal, the dates chosen by General Manager Gordon Lightstone being June 27-28. Branch managers and bookers will assemble from all six distributing points in the Dominion to hear new season plans from Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution from the New York home office, and from Lightstone.

Masters, New Canadian WB Head, Visits Calgary

CALGARY—Haskell Masters visited the city on his first trip west as general manager of Warner Bros. distribution in Canada.

OTTAWA—Although called a war-finance measure when instituted in 1941, the 20 per cent amusement tax on theatre grosses is not likely to be dropped, it was announced by the federal treasury department. Other war taxes were being dealt with by the department of national revenue following the termination of hostilities in Europe, and some have been dropped or substantially reduced. The amusement tax, however, seems destined to be continued indefinitely despite the fact that all Canadian provinces, with the exception of two, also imposed a levy on theatre admissions.

A surprising aspect of the announcement was that it was made just prior to the federal general elections (11) when government candidates were making a wide variety of promises of concessions in other fields, for obvious purposes. There was no reference in the departmental announcement to the non-essential classification of theatres in the industrial setup nor of the need for continued revenue for the prosecution of the war against Japan or for the extensive social program of the government. It was just a plain declaration that the theatres were the last on the list for any consideration in the matter of tax relief.

The federal government's report for 1943 on the operation of Canada's theatres indicated that the federal amusement tax totaled $10,490,000 on theatre grosses aggregating approximately $52,500,000, compared with a tax total of around $9,000,000 in 1942. The figures for the calendar year of 1944 have not yet been released, but they may touch the $11,000,000 mark. The 20 per cent on theatre grosses is turned over to the federal revenue offices by managers from week to week, payments being accompanied by statement forms covering theatre operation figures. Sworn reports were required for some time until a more convenient procedure was adopted to facilitate the work.

The amusement tax has been one bone of contention between the Dominion and provincial authorities on the ground that the impost invaded the taxation field of the provinces, but the excuse was that the revenue was collected for the country's war effort. The Ontario government actually created the amusement tax during the first great war, the first levy being a simple one-cent surcharge on each theatre ticket regardless of face value.

Theatre Prices No Cause Of Halifax VE-Day Riots

TORONTO—With the authority of Famous Players Corp., R. S. Roddick, district manager, appeared before the royal commission investigating the VE-Day riots at Halifax to deny reports theatres there had charged high admissions to service men.

Roddick swore that the theatre prices had not been raised since the start of the war. Comparably, prices at Halifax theatres were lower than those in other parts of the Dominion, he said. If they appeared high it was because of taxation, he contended.

Chairman Doane of the Nova Scotia board of moving picture censors gave eye-witness evidence, saying navy men were drinking liquor in motor trucks of the navy. He related other incidents of disorder.

VANCOUVER

Bill Hale, old-timer in the western Canada show business and for years a projectionist at the FPC Metropolitan Theatre in Winnipeg, is the first FPC veteran to be pensioned. He has decided to make his home in Sydney, B. C., and extended a standing invitation to the boys in show business. They will be welcome visitors at his home any time . . . Howard Boothe, Odeon, B. C. manager, returned from an inspection trip to Trail, B. C., reporting that travel conditions "are brutal" at the present.

Bill Jones, manager of RKO, underwent an operation successfully and left the hospital this week to recuperate at home. Jimmy Davie, booker, is in charge at RKO during Jones' illness . . . The FPC Strand is playing plenty of first run pictures now in contrast to its recent second run twin bill policy. This will help to break the bottleneck on first run pictures which have been piling up here in the past few months.

Howard Fletcher of the Hollyburn in West Vancouver is a great fish expert, and has an aquarium in the theatre which is very interesting and adds much color to the Hollyburn. Fletcher, the projectionist, even has a tank in the projection room and spends plenty of time looking after his finny friends.

The $64 question in the Vancouver and Dominion trade: Will Odeon of Canada engage in a public stock offering in the wake of the Rank-Nathanson meetings? . . . Dave Griesdorf, general sales manager for PRC, completed a ten-day stay here and left for Calgary and points east via airplane . . . Haskell Masters, new Warner Bros. Dominion head, is here on the first visit since his appointment.

Members of projectionists Local 348 here are very much interested in television and electronics, and the majority are going to the University of British Columbia where an electronics class is held each Sunday under Professor Brown . . . Cliff Smith, manager of the Oak Bay at Victoria, has left the Odeon circuit, and Tom Cooke of the Rio Victoria is doing a dual job looking after both the Rio and Oak Bay until a new manager is appointed.

Close of War Boom Shakes Two Cities

VANCOUVER—The busy war boom at Prince Rupert and Prince George in northern British Columbia has subsided.

The population of the two towns and business there hit an all-time high during the years the government maintained several air force and army camps near by. The letting of war contracts to local industries brought in hundreds of war workers.

Now the military camps have been closed and the war contracts completed. War workers have departed to their former homes, or to jobs in cities where the war boom has continued.

Business is away down as compared to the peak years.

Herb Stevenson, who had purchased the two theatres in Prince George, has asserted he contemplates closing the Princess and keep only the Strand open. Stevenson, who also has theatres in Edson and Lacombe, Alta., had moved his home from Prince George to Lacombe.

A letdown is reported here since the end of the European war. Exhibitors blame the uncertainty over jobs, and hope their business will pick up again when arrangements for stepping up the war against Japan are decided.

Oppose Canadian French Language Radio Station

WINNIPEG—The recent granting of a license by the CBC for erection of a French language broadcasting station in St. Boniface was opposed by delegates to the 21st annual meeting of the Manitoba conference of the United Church of Canada.

"A duplicate system" of broadcasting was not in the interest of national unity, a resolution endorsed by the conference asserted, and stated it recognized "the right of French-speaking persons to hear programs in their own language."

Registering strong objection to the granting of the St. Boniface license, the conference recommended that no further similar licenses be granted until the whole question has been studied by a house of commons committee.



FILM BOARD LIEUTENANTS—Regional supervisors of the National Film Board met here recently in joint conference with the national farm radio forum and the citizens' forum under the sponsorship of the Canadian Ass'n for Adult Education. Supervisors, left to right: Len Chatwin, Vancouver; Noel Bates, Toronto; George LeBeau, acting supervisor, Winnipeg; Morley Toombs, Ottawa, coordinator of distribution; Gordon Adamson, Ottawa, director of urban distribution; Stanley Rands, supervisor, Winnipeg, and Raymond Mondor, Montreal.

OTTAWA

A coterie of National Film Board officials has returned to Ottawa from Winnipeg where John Grierson and others participated in the conference sponsored by the Canadian Association for Adult Education. The film commissioner dealt with the relationship of screen and radio. Regional representatives of the board from Vancouver to Montreal also attended the meeting.

Occupants of a couple of furnished rooms for more than a year in this congested city, Manager Sam Hebscher of the Nola and his wife have been able to obtain an apartment at last. Manager Ernie Warren of the Elgin has also been able to obtain an apartment and is to be joined shortly by Mrs. Warren, from Toronto.

A crowd of 6,000 turned out at the Auditorium to hear Miliza Korjus, singing star of the M-G-M picture, "The Great Waltz," in her appearance as guest artist with the Ottawa Philharmonic Orchestra.

Based on the promises of political parties prior to the federal elections June 11, there is the prospect that the new parliament will abolish the annual $2.50 license tax for every radio receiving set . . . His jurisdiction having been enlarged recently, T. T. Tubman, district manager of Famous Players and manager of the Capitol here, visited the circuit units in his added territory, including Brockville, Kingston and Belleville.

An organization known as "Canada Foundation" has been granted a federal company charter for the purpose of promoting cultural activities in the Dominion with the accompanying plan of raising a fund of $1,000,000 to conduct a program of art, music and drama. One of the incorporators is John Grierson of the National Film Board and another is A. D. Dunton of Montreal, who headed Canada's wartime information board now scheduled to disband.

Larry Stephens, manager of the Snowdon, a unit of the United Amusement circuit, Montreal, has been appointed manager of the exploitation department of United Artists in Canada with office in Toronto.

Paramount Lists 26 New Canadian Releases

TORONTO—The 1945-46 schedule of groupings of Paramount Film Service has been approved by Administrator J. R. Croft of the wartime prices and trade board.

Heading the list are two Hal Wallis productions, "Love Letters" and one other yet to be titled. Two features, "Blue Grass" and "Kitty," have been approved as specials and 22 other releases are listed as follows: Group A, 6; group B, 10, and group C, 6.

The government order indicates the release of 26 features in the new season by Canadian Paramount.

"No Knit Goods Subsidy"

MONTREAL—E. M. Ruttenber, the clothing trade's humorist, commented in Men's Wear, a copy of which found its way to Filmrow here, that "Laurel and Hardy are fascinating figures in the movies, but there is no truth in the report that they are heavily subsidized by the knit goods industry and that they wear long drawers to stress the beauty thereof. On the contrary, they discovered long ago that long drawers get a laugh when all else fails."

To Play Old Role in Film "Snafu"

George Smith has been signed by Columbia to play his stage role of Colonel West in "Snafu."

Queue Up for Canteen At Montreal Palace

MONTREAL—Good audiences favored the first run theatres throughout the opening week in June, with the crowds queuing up for "Hollywood Canteen" at the Palace and "For Whom the Bell Tolls," which despite its belated visit, was held over at Loew's. "The Suspect" drew average houses at the Capitol and the same may be said of "Destiny" at the Princess. The French language version of "Honky-Tonk" (Le Franc Jeu) concluded a two-week run at the Orpheum.

Capitol—**The Suspect** (Univ); **Song of the Sarong** (Univ).....Moderate
Loew's—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 2nd wk. .....Good
Orpheum—**Le Franc Jeu (Honky Tonk)** (WB), 2nd wk. .....Fair
Palace—**Hollywood Canteen** (WB), held over .....Swell
Princess—**Destiny** (Univ); **She Gets Her Man** (Univ).....Pretty fair

"Song" Only Vancouver Bill To Best Week's Average

VANCOUVER—With the advent of warm weather, midweek business slumped a little, a regular occurence here. Weekends were another story and all downtowners played to capacity. The over-all average of weekly grosses, however, has declined. Last week the only house above par was the Capitol with "A Song to Remember," which held. "I'll Be Seeing You" at the Vogue went for a third week.

Beacon—**Identity Unknown** (Rep); **Silver City Kid** (Rep), plus acts.....Fair
Capitol—**A Song to Remember** (Col).....Excellent
Dominion—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), moveover .....Fair
Orpheum—**Objective, Burma!** (WB).....Pretty good
Plaza—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep).....Fair
Strand—**Wuthering Heights** (PRC), reissue; **What a Blonde** (RKO).....Average
Vogue—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 2nd wk.....Moderate

All First Run Theatres in Toronto Enjoy a Good Business Week

TORONTO—Every first run theatre had its steady stream of patrons during the week, including the holdovers at Shea's and Loew's Yonge Street. With one exception the attractions were definitely on the comedy or musical side. "Practically Yours" repeated nicely at Shea's while attendance held up at Loew's for "The Picture of Dorian Gray." At Loew's Uptown, "Salome, Where She Danced" attracted both attention and comment, and "Tonight and Every Night" brought good crowds to the Imperial. "Roughly Speaking" was successful at both the Tivoli and Eglinton.

(Average is 100)
Eglinton—**Roughly Speaking** (WB).....105
Imperial—**Tonight and Every Night** (Col).....105
Loew's—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 100
Shea's—**Practically Yours** (Para), 2nd wk.....100
Tivoli—**Roughly Speaking** (WB) 105
Uptown—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ).....105

The Calgary Race Track Meet Eats Into First Run Boxoffice Take

CALGARY—Home gardening and the race track meet were strong rival attractions for film fans last week which hit boxoffices generally, but principally neighborhood houses. Only the downtown first runs with top attractions pulled regular business; others reverted to old-time fair business. Despite its timeliness, "Master Race" failed to stir interest, owing to inept plot and direction. "The Song of Bernadette" had a good run.

Capitol—**Song of Bernadette** (20th-Fox).....Good
Grand—**Mr. Emmanuel** (English); **Let's Go Steady** (Col).....Very good
Palace—**The Master Race** (RKO); **Curse of Cat People** (RKO).....Fair

MONTREAL

Exhibitors are cheerful this summer despite, or perhaps, because of the unseasonably cold and wet weather which persisted throughout April, May and the first ten days of June. Absence of warmth and sunshine restrained city people from making their usual weekend trips to the country and also made evening expeditions by automobile less alluring. As a result, motion picture theatres benefited, and audiences have been larger than is usually the case at this time of the year. Long queues nightly await a chance to see the most popular first run films, and it is beginning to seem as if Montreal is under-supplied with amusement, particularly as money is more plentiful amongst young people than was the case in prewar years.

Bing Crosby paid a midweek visit to Montreal, participated in a golf tournament and entertained service men at the local military hospital. Anticipated by a large group of fans, he had an opportunity to play a trick on them. A large limousine drew up in front of his hotel and a mob of autograph hunters followed it, but Bing slipped out a back door and drove away almost unnoticed in a sports roadster. The limousine, with motorcycle police escort, followed, without passengers.

The first attempt to hold an open-air recital on Mount Royal, with Lawrence Tibbett as the special attraction, had to be canceled and the recital postponed a week on account of rain. The following Tuesday, June 19, will, if the weather is favorable, see the first "concert under the stars" at Molson Stadium, under direction of Andre Kostelanetz, with Claire Gagnier, as soloist. Miss Gagnier recently achieved a notable success in her stage debut in a week of opera presented by the Montreal Festival.

One of the happiest occasions on Filmrow, particularly at Paramount, was the return of Lieut. Thomas Dowbiggin, son of Tom Dowbiggin, Montreal district manager of Paramount. Dowbiggin, who was three years in Europe, was shot down over France, taken prisoner and held for a year in a Nazi prison camp . . . Another Paramount event was the visit of Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager.

Price Board Sets Release Terms for Lida Products

TORONTO—A new distribution development for Canada was disclosed in the announcement of J. R. Croft, administrator of services in the wartime prices and trade board here, that approval has been given PRC for the release of four feature from the Lida Distribution Co., San Francisco, in accordance with Canadian government regulations covering rental contracts and prices.

The ruling is that the films must first be released to exhibitors holding a basic contract with Producers, with the maximum price an exhibitor is required to pay being the highest price paid for specials under his basic contract, whether flat rental or percentage.

It is also laid down that Producers and an exhibitor may mutually agree on the payment of a rental price higher than the basic contract figure but not exceeding 35 per cent in any case. For an exhibitor who has no basic contract with the Canadian film exchange the maximum rental for a Lida picture is to be 35 per cent of theatre gross.

Dobbs Hat Scion Signs Contract

James Dobbs, 21-year-old socialite scion of the hat manufacturing family, has been signed to a term contract at Warners.



O. Hanson Plays Chef At Annual Staff Outing

TORONTO—The various offices of the Hanson film organizations were closed for the annual staff outing at Circle "M" Ranch at Kleinburg, 23 miles from Toronto, with Mr. and Mrs. Oscar R. Hanson presiding as host and hostess and, at the same time, taking direct charge of the refreshment department. Garbed in appropriate costume, Hanson cooked the hot dogs and steaks over an open-air grill.

There were sport competitions, a softball game, horse-riding and a bonfire around which the picnickers engaged in a singsong. Comic prizes were presented to winners of sport events. A feature of the day was a demonstration with a wonderful pinto horse by Charlie Mavety, the animal doing a variety of tricks.

Guests included Art Milligan and E. V. Armstrong, MPOU; Newspapermen Ray Lewis, Hye Bossin and Bill Gladish; F. E. O'Bryne and Art Knowlton, Instructional, and W. J. Kennedy, Sovereign Films, general manager. Adam "Bill" Baillie, retired theatre owner, was also present and the executive officials included Harry A. Kaufman of Monogram, I. H. Allen of Esquire Films and George Oullahan of Microfilm-Microstat Films.

TORONTO

O. R. Hanson was called hurriedly to St. Louis to be at the bedside of his aged father, who was reported seriously ill . . . A. C. Stock, former manager of the Delta, Queen's and Empire Theatres in Hamilton, has acquired an outdoor summer camp near North Bay and has taken personal direction of the resort.

Tom Templeton, Mavety Film Delivery Service employe before enlistment in the armed forces, is back in civilian life, recovering satisfactorily after being a casualty although not yet able to resume his former work . . . Paul Donnelly of Canadian Monogram is getting plaudits for his hobby, conducting swimming classes at the Harrison Baths here. His activities are particularly for underprivileged boys.

Archie Laurie has returned to his post as general sales manager of Republic Pictures here following the burial of his mother in Montreal . . . The Hon. J. Earl Lawson, K. C., a director of Odeon Theatres, took part in the federal election campaign by speaking in the maritime provinces in behalf of John Bracken, the Progressive-Conservative leader.

The Hon. L. M. Frost of Lindsay, Ont., was re-elected in the Ontario provincial elections. He is expected to retain his cabient post of provincial treasurer with jurisdiction over film censoring and theatres in Ontario . . . George Norman Allin, booker of Odeon Theatres, is receiving congratulations on the birth of a baby daughter, Edwina Louise, at Grace Hospital.

The Parkdale, managed by Walter Graydon, was crowded for the annual theatre night of the Western Toronto Progress Club. A special program was presented . . . Mrs. Neva Christmas has resigned as assistant manager of the Tivoli, Hamilton, after receiving word her husband, who was a prisoner in Germany, is on his way back to Canada. He was a Famous Players manager before enlisting.

Jess Barker to "As It Was Before"

Jess Barker has been set for a featured role in "As It Was Before," a Universal production.

Canadian Legion Unit Urges Vet Projectionists

OTTAWA—Protest has been entered by the British Columbia provincial command of the Canadian Legion, British Empire Service League, against the employment of civilians as film projectionists by the National Film Board. The war veterans' organization reported that men who had not seen service with the armed forces were to be engaged as projectionists for NFB film shows before club, trade union and fraternal gatherings.

The British Columbia command adopted a resolution calling upon the National Film Board to employ ex-service men for the purpose.

Last Rites in Toronto For Albert Jeffery

TORONTO—Many film executives attended funeral services here for Albert J. Jeffery. Canadian manager for United Artists. Burial was in the family plot in Boston.

Jeffery, who succeeded Dave Coplan to the Canadian managership post in 1944 when the latter was made managing director for the company in Great Britain, was born in Boston 47 years ago. He had been with United Artists about 20 years, becoming branch manager for the company at Montreal in 1928.

Death at his residence in the Kingsway here followed a long illness. He had spent some time at a Quebec health resort and was preparing to go to Boston for an operation. He had returned to Toronto only a few days before his death, immediate cause of which was a heart attack. His wife, Lila Stuart Jeffery, survives.

Victory Bond Award Made In "Gray" Art Contest

TORONTO—There was an interesting gathering at the Arcadian Court for the presentation of prizes to art students for their painted conception of Dorian Gray in a public competition identified with the engagement of the M-G-M feature, "The Picture of Dorian Gray," at Loew's Yonge Street. The luncheon was organized by Dewey Bloom under the sponsorship of Regal Films, Canadian M-G-M distributor.

First prize of a Victory bond went to Miss Barbara Cook, graduate student of the Ontario College of Art, while second and third prizes, consisting of war savings certificates, were earned by Nelson Daney and Andrew Lukachko, the latter a student of Central Technical School.

Racing Close Relieves Exhibitors at Calgary

CALGARY—The close of a 12-day race meeting, the best ever held here, brought a sigh of relief from local exhibitors. With over 400 horses, a flock of new jockeys, some from Mexico, and a few track records broken, the race fans had their money's worth. The meet hit the theatres since, except on Saturdays, races started at 5 p. m., killing any chance for reaching a show after the last race.



Famous Players Sells Grand at London, Ont.

TORONTO—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has accepted the offer of $35,000 of the London Little Theatre for the purchase of the Grand at London, Ont., which has been more or less dark during the last five years except for occasional road shows. The house was one of the original units of the circuit owned by the late A. J. Small of this city, who disappeared more than 25 years ago after receiving $2,000,000 for his theatre holdings across Canada. The Little Theatre group plans to use it for amateur productions.

It was stated at London that President J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players had turned down a higher offer for the property from other theatre interests.

From a Famous Players source there is the information that the Victoria, in downtown Toronto, is to be reconstructed as part of its postwar program. The Victoria has been little used for many years although it was rumored that a portion of the building was to be adapted as the home of the Toronto Variety Tent, now in process of formation. Incidentally, Loew's Winter Garden, atop Loew's Yonge Street Theatre, is not to be reopened.

MARITIMES

Sylvia Brownberg, for the last eight years on the staff of the Mayfair in Saint John as bookkeeper and stenographer, has gone to London for postwar work with the Red Cross. She had been active in volunteer work for the Red Cross at Saint John from the start of the war and had been one of the most liberal blood donors among theatre workers in the maritimes. Succeeding her is Mrs. W. Jackson.

A member of the Saint John distributing force also is going to England for Red Cross work. She is Mrs. Cecil Doyle and was the guest of honor at a farewell party given by members of the Regal and Paramount staffs and presented an engraved identification bracelet. The two exchanges are in the same building. Ralph Thorne, veteran booker at Paramount, made the presentation.

The Famous Family Club of the Orpheus, Halifax, divided $100 equally between the Catholic and Protestant orphanages of Halifax as a nucleus for summer outings for the two groups. This marks the first time a maritime theatre staff has started a fund for this worthy objective. The dual presentation was made in the theatre lobby, and with representatives of the institutions participating. Manager Freeman Skinner was in charge.

Outdoor sports provided no competition for theatres in May, owing to the unseasonably chilly weather, which included rain, sleet, snow and freezing temperatures . . . Art Melanson and John Simonds have joined the Mayfair staff at St. John.

Almost next door to the FPC Capitol, Odeon-Rank will build a new theatre for showing English made first runs almost exclusively . . . In Halifax several churches have been converted into theatres but in St. John, a theatre, the Lyric, is now being used as a church by the Full Gospel Assembly. It was once housing vaudeville and pictures . . . Ron Kerr, formerly in film distribution in St. John, does relief duty as cashier at the Strand. He's in the electrical trade.

Esther Williams Lead in "Hoodlum"

Esther Williams has been assigned the feminine lead in "The Hoodlum Saint" at Metro.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE **Showmandiser** SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

Passes to Veterans A Welcome Home

Thomas Bello, Nanty-Glo, Pa., exhibitor, has issued "Welcome Home Courtesy Passes" to returned service men, as illustrated below:

WELCOME HOME **Courtesy Pass**

In recognition of the part you played in defense of your country, the management of this theatre welcomes you home. We extend to you this Courtesy Pass to

The Capitol Theatre
NANTY-GLO, PA.

Good for Week of.....

.....

Manager

A "St. Louis" Pig Tail Contest Draws 400

A special play for juvenile interest was made by Lige Brien of the Enright Theatre in Pittsburgh in the exploitation for "Meet Me in St. Louis. Included was a pig tail contest begun three weeks before the picture's opening which attracted 400 entries. Radio broadcasts were used to plug the contest and the film.

In addition, hits from the film were played by the theatre organist over the air and also at the theatre's regular community sings. As a further bid for juvenile business, 3,000 comic books were issued in advance listing eight big treats in store at the opening of "St. Louis." In addition to the film and a second feature, they included two serials, a comedy, newsreel, children's radio broadcast from the stage and the award of prizes in the pig tail contest.

Standard advertising medium such as newspaper ads, window cards, special lobby displays, etc., also were employed effectively. The results were highly satisfactory.

A House Sketching Contest Boosts "National Velvet"

MERIDEN, CONN.—Manager Mollie Stickles of the Palace landed a top break on the sport page of the Journal for "National Velvet." More than 100 special placards were distributed a week in advance at bowling alleys, stadiums, etc. Special notices were also posted at the local leading riding stable. She also planted a horse-sketching contest among the art students of a local high school and distributed 500 Rooney fan photos in connection with the tieup. Winners were feted at the theatre and the winning sketch displayed during the run of the film.

Costumes in Window Display

Clothes worn by Roy Rogers were placed on display in a window of the Z.C.M.I. department store at Salt Lake City in connection with the premiere there of Republic's "Utah" at the Lyric Theatre. Stills were used in the background. The merchandise display featured men's hats and accessories.

A Spark of Showmanship--

Half of Marquee Is Left Unlighted Until VJ-Day

Showmanship may be defined as the art of attracting favorable attention, of getting just far enough away from the obvious and commonplace to arouse the wonder and interest of homo sapiens. A dyed-in-the-wool showman always is seeking to focus the public goodwill on his business and his product.

An illustration of showmanship-at-work recently reached our desk from John Lavelle, manager of the Eagles and Colonial theatres at Wabash, Ind. In Lavelle's own words:

"When the local power and light company manager called me on VE-Day and told me that the brownout order had been lifted one of my boys and myself immediately began to fill the light sockets on the marquee ceiling with new bulbs. Just as we had finished half of the job our matinee show ended and the projectionist, Harold Shively (his son Richard was our regular operator until he was called to the army) came down from the booth and watched us replace bulbs.

"He asked if we were going to put them all back. Of course we were. But, he set me thinking when he said, 'The war's only half over.' He was thinking of his son who was still fighting the Japs. So I decided to fill only half of the sockets, leaving half the marquee dark.

"Many people have noticed it and asked about it. When we explain it, they decide that it's a pretty good idea."

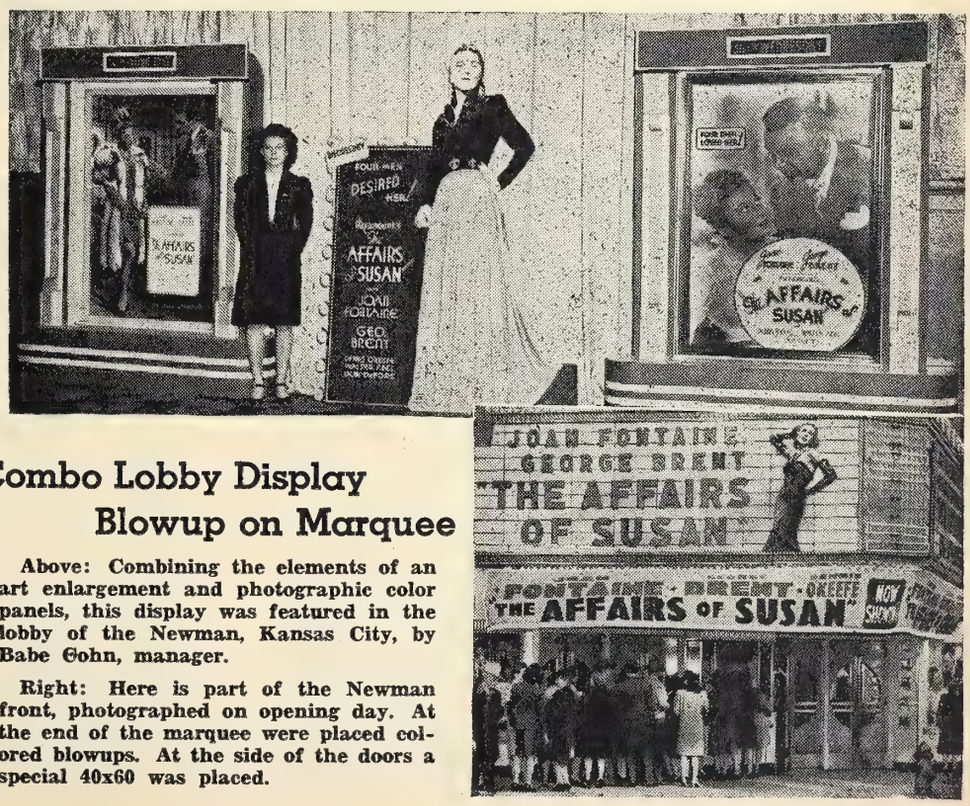
Symbolic "Tree" With Real Foliage Used in New York

The New Amsterdam Theatre in New York obtained permission of the city officials for the construction of an attractive front to form a symbolistic advertisement for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

Tree branches, attached to a board trunk, formed a heavy foliage background for the film title in cutouts extending around the boxoffice.

Couple Ballies "Clock"

STATE COLLEGE, PA.—A special front was prepared for the local engagement of "The Clock" at the Cathaum, and Joe Sommers, manager, had a young man in uniform and a girl standing under "The Clock" to attract attention.



Combo Lobby Display Blowup on Marquee

Above: Combining the elements of an art enlargement and photographic color panels, this display was featured in the lobby of the Newman, Kansas City, by Babe Cohn, manager.

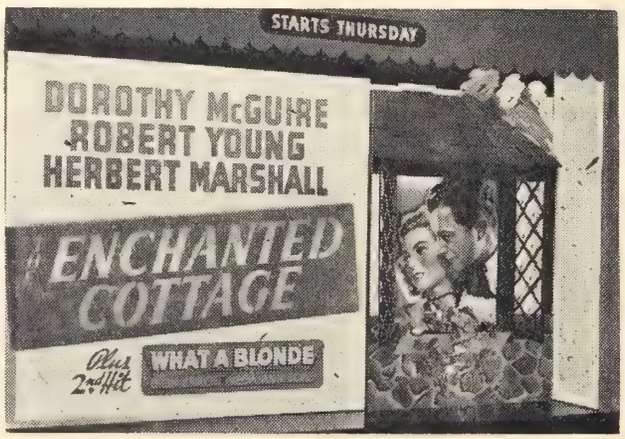
Right: Here is part of the Newman front, photographed on opening day. At the end of the marquee were placed colored blowups. At the side of the doors a special 40x60 was placed.

Patron Lure, Inside and Out!





EYE-FILLING FRONTS!—The above display on "The Flame of Barbary Coast" was used by Harry Goldstein at the Globe, New York, for the opening of the Republic feature film. Below is shown one of the fronts used in the Albany area on "Crime, Inc." The "Flame" display also included an overhead sign highlighting a full-length female figure and the title.



SOLD IN ADVANCE!—Such lobby displays on coming attractions as these shown here do much to create future business. Above, a giant cutout head from a 24-sheet set apart from the background gives dimentional effects at Lichtman's Lincoln, Washington, D. C. Seen at left is an artistic display by Jay Golden, using indirect lighting, at the Rochester, N. Y., RKO Palace. Below, an attractive panel by Gerald Sullivan and George Kraska calls attention to future offerings at Loew's State, Boston. The use of fluorescent tubes and the indirect lighting aids the effectiveness of these displays. The dark background used in the Washington house lends itself admirably to exploitation of the film's title.





Film Usage of Radio Hits Major Stride

ALBANY—The steadily growing use of radio time by Fabian's Palace and Warners' Strand here, as well as by leading producer-distributor companies, has recently become the subject for special comment by theatre men and laymen.

The Palace used for the first time here the big 15-minute transcriptions which Paramount has been releasing to plug top films, buying two 15-minute periods on WABY to give an air preview of "Bring On the Girls." The record, which carries dialog and musical numbers by principals of the cast, was played the day before the musical picture opened. It was supplemented by numerous announcements on WABY and WOKO before and during the engagement of "Girls." The transcription, apparently waxed before a studio audience, is entertaining, the music being particularly good. Listeners commented Veronica Lake's part on the record was small.

Some time ago RKO and the Palace sponsored several 15-minute transcriptions of dramatic scenes from "The Master Race," the Schine circuit also bought time for "Master Race" on WGY, Schenectady. Metro for some time presented five-minute sports roundups twice weekly on WGY. Paramount used it regularly for transcribed announcements of coming pictures. Announcements of engagements at local houses, first and subsequent runs, are employed on a follow-through.

Comment on the high standard of recent transcriptions for films shown here has frequently been made. Recently when a platter for "The Horn Blows at Midnight," in which an off-key instrument is played and the announcers work themselves into a hysteria of laughter was so funny a WABY announcer laughed out loud as he tabbed the engagement at the Strand. A crescendo choral effect was used with striking effect on transcriptions for "God Is My Co-Pilot" heard on Albany stations. Engagements at Proctor's and the Troy, in Troy, are also air-advertised in Albany.

Educational Alliance Solid In WB Gershwin Tieup

NEW YORK—The Educational Alliance, lower east side settlement house wherein George Gershwin first developed his musical talent, is cooperating wholeheartedly with Warner Bros. in exploiting "Rhapsody in Blue" as follows:

Neighborhood merchants are being tied in for participation in a gala day, June 27, opening date of the film at Hollywood Theatre on Broadway, with bleachers to be set up for several thousand persons. The roof garden at Educational Alliance headquarters will be given over to Gershwin festivities for an entire week, and Gershwin concerts presented in the auditorium.

A George Gershwin fund scholarship will be established for talented youngsters, and a bust of the composer installed in the Alliance's own Hall of Fame. A dinner launching the honors to Gershwin will be given by the Alliance board of directors to prominent alumni. The park at 197 East Broadway, across the street from the Alliance, is being renamed Gershwin Park.

Stills Help War Loan

PITTSBURGH—Boggs & Buhl reproduced stills from "Counter-Attack" as illustrations for Seventh War Loan drive advertising, giving credit to Columbia Pictures and the J. P. Harris Theatre. "History-Making 'Counter-Attack'" copy urged support and backing of "our boys" until V-Day.

Plan an Entertaining Program With Patriotic Dressing for Fourth

"Good Old Days" Doubles Average Apollo Week

KANSAS CITY—A "Good Old Days" program of old-timers from the silent film period doubled average attendance at the Apollo, Fox Midwest theatre at 3227 Troost Ave. Many of the patrons apparently were



from distant parts of the city because the increased grosses at the Apollo did not detract from attendance at the other theatres in the Troost neighborhood.

The half dozen "thrills of the Gay Nineties," which made up the Apollo's program, are tied together chiefly by the words of a commentator and appropriate music. The unit takes up two and one-half hours. Only one item was added by the theatre, a newsreel. The Apollo ordinarily runs two features for a week. The "Good Old Days" was scheduled for a week. It is distributed in this territory by Andy Dietz of St. Louis.

The Apollo used advance advertising in newspapers and special promotion for the unit. Lou Rann, representing Dietz, worked with Alan Mackey, Apollo manager, on the promotion. One novelty was the appearance on Kansas City streets of an old-fashioned horse-drawn surrey. The passenger was Simon D. J. Collins, nationally famous circus comic, in a spectacular Gay Nineties attire and an old-time police helmet. The driver also was in garb of that period. Collins passed out pasteboard handlebar mustaches bearing the show dates.

Add to "Shanghai Cobra" Cast

Arthur Loft, Roy Gordon and Andy Andrews have been added to the cast of Monogram's "The Shanghai Cobra."

Flag-waving, it has been said, is not box-office, and ordinarily July 4 is not a particularly big holiday in the show business, but in these war years the date can be made a profitable one by arranging an entertaining program subtly keyed to the patriotic and war angles.

July 4 falling on Wednesday this year, is the 169th anniversary of U.S. independence, and possibly is the last July 4 of the global war. A balanced program for the day should emphasize the principles for which America is fighting for and insists on including the peace.

An interesting program could be worked out with the local American Legion post and the Boy and Girl Scouts. Everyone loves martial music, so work a service or Legion band into the program.

Conducting of the oath of allegiance on the stage could be included, or a federal judge might agree to swear in new citizens at the theatre. Each new citizen could be awarded passes and a lapel flag, or receive appropriate recognition from Americanism groups.

Routine activity should include proper decoration of the theatre and dressing up of holiday ads and foyer frames. Strong bookings form the foundation of any program.

The party idea might be used profitably. War plants might be persuaded to buy a block of tickets for distribution to employes having high records for nonabsenteeism and efficiency. The DAR in former years has attended theatre ceremonies in a body.

Resourcefulness and well-executed showmanship finally are required to assure extraordinary attendance.

Bench in Lobby Calls Attention to "Gray" Film

Meriden, Conn.—A mere sign, placed on a bench in the lobby of the Poli-Palace here, formed an effective teaser display for the showing of "The Picture of Dorian Gray." It read:

"THIS BENCH RESERVED FOR DORIAN GRAY."

Huge Sign on Broadway Boosts "Dillinger" Film

NEW YORK—A huge painted sign stretching upward four stories from the marquee of the Victoria Theatre here was designed to make blase Broadway "Dillinger" conscious. It did the job. The central part of the painting was a huge likeness of the gangster, his fingers gripping a smoking gun.

William Powell Signs for Seven Years

William Powell has signed a new seven-year pact with the Metro studio.

Whispers Start at Boxoffice

ALTOONA, PA.—"The Picture of Dorian Gray" was exploited as a "Wilde" attraction here. The highlight was a whispering campaign conducted by members of the staff of the State Theatre; the whispers to patrons started at the boxoffice where the cashier in a "quiet" voice informed the ticket purchasers that "Dorian Gray" was coming. The ticket-taker and later the usher made "whispered" conversation regarding the coming picture.

Mrs. Thelma Shook, assistant to W. B. Jacoby, manager, made a library tieup and issued book cards. The newspaper campaign was complete, starting with underlines, then teasers, and building up to want ads and cooperative displays in addition to special displays. Book and records shops furnished a 1,000-name list for postal card mailing; 100 11x14 teaser cards were posted in addition to regular outdoor billing and 75 streetcar cards were placed. Opening with a midnight performance, comment cards were later used in exploitation of the attraction.

Drive-In Ads Sell the Outdoors





DRIVE-IN ART—Here three examples of the type of ads drive-in theatres are employing this year. Note the comparatively large space used to popularize the particular appeal of the auto theatres—picnic comfort, motion pictures under the stars. The ad above is from Toledo, the first of a series of cartoon ads. The two at the left are from Chicago.

Walkie Talkies Provide Good Tiein for "Burma"

Marlowe Conner, manager of the Capitol at Madison, Wis., tied in with the Ray-O-Vac and RMR companies of that city in the showing of "Objective, Burma!" wherein batteries used in the Handy Talkies portrayed in the picture were placed on display in the theatre lobby.

In addition, the companies purchased 7,000 tickets to theatre, which they distributed among their employes, and provided two Handy Talkies which were used by two returned service men in demonstrations walking and talking in various parts of the theatre as well as on the street in front of it.

Frisco Fox Starts Series Of Weekend Kid Shows

SAN FRANCISCO—The Fox Theatre here has planned four special Saturday shows specially for the younger set, 9 a. m. to 11:30. Walt Disney creations, including "Snow White," Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse cartoons will be used. Maybe this trend toward kiddie shows may lead to the opening of a "Kiddie Theatre," observers comment.

Review Quotes Form Panel

Big quotes from reviews of film critics in New York and Brooklyn were used on front poster panels by William McLaughlin of the Brooklyn Strand in the showing of "Mr. Emmanuel" immediately following the New York run. Plenty of color was used the make the panels with their "orchids" reviews catch the eye.

Tolerance Week During Baltimore "Emmanuel"

Robert Marhenkie of the Mayfair Theatre, Baltimore, and representatives of United Artists' home office induced Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin to issue a "Tolerance Week" proclamation prior to the opening of "Mr. Emmanuel." They reported it an effective stunt. The proclamation read:

WHEREAS, man's inhumanity to man has caused countless thousands to mourn, and wars are bred by intolerance, and,

WHEREAS, motion pictures do much to mold public opinion, and when a film, combining dramatic power, technical perfection and a powerful plea to end racial hatred and bigotry reaches our city, it should be of interest to all our citizens, and

WHEREAS, the film play "Mr. Emmanuel" which will be shown at the Mayfair Theatre during the week of May 7 carries a masterful presentation of the evils of racial misunderstanding.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Theodore R. McKeldin, mayor of Baltimore, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7 as Tolerance Week and do urge all our citizens to see this motion picture to the end that we may have a better understanding of the evils of racial hatred, and to profit thereby.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the City of Baltimore to be affixed, etc.

Huge Cross Street Sign Used for "Brewster" Film

Every showman cherishes a longing to stretch a banner sign across the street to advertise a picture, but most of them have to take it out in longing. An exception was Eddie Allen with the exhibition of "Brewster's Millions" at the Majestic Theatre in Boston. He obtained a permit to hang a four-section above the street advertising the film in its showing there.

A 24-Sheet on Floor

A 24-sheet was shellacked on the floor at the lobby entrance of Loew's Poli Theatre in Hartford, Conn., in Manager Lou Cohen's promotion for "The Picture of Dorian Gray." Patrons, walking over the sheet, were greatly impressed.

Buffalo's "Horseshoe" Gets Heavy Buildup

BUFFALO — Expert showmanship by Charles E. Taylor, advertising-publicity director of the Shea circuit in Buffalo; Wally Allen and his assistant, Julian Bowes, of 20th-Fox's field force, boosted "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" to a gala Buffalo premiere at Shea's Great Lakes Theatre.

One of the promotions, with J. N. Adam, major Buffalo department store, assumed proportions of a special advertising campaign in itself, with the store taking a number of full-page ads in local papers.

Tieup Ads Feature Leg Makeup

The famous Grable legs were spotlighted in another department store tieup, Hengerer's which took quarter-page newspaper ads featuring a photo of Betty in her dancing costume to promote leg makeup.

The showmen next tackled the Jahraus-Braun Co. and effected a Lucky Seventh War Loan tieup via a large ad in the Courier-Express with photograph of Grable under the "diamond horseshoe."

Edwards Beauty Salon took a large display ad in local papers with a picture of pretty Grable emphasizing the attractive hairdo she wears in the picture. In addition the windows of practically every beauty shop in town displayed Grable coiffure display cards.

Make Good Use of Radio Tieups

One-sheet snipe space was secured all over Buffalo, when the theatre tied in with Silver Screen magazine.

Excellent advantage was taken of the radio tieups effected by the New York exploitation department with Auto-Lite, sponsoring Dick Haymes in Everything for the Boys, and Teel Dentifrice, sponsoring Beatrice Kay in Gaslight Gayeties. Color display cards pointing up the radio program and the Great Lakes engagement were planted in hundreds of city store windows.

Coasters, as suggested by the press book, were fashioned from one of the ads appearing therein and were distributed to bars and night clubs throughout the city. Special table cards were displayed in three leading restaurant chains, including Child's.

Banners in Music Shops

Music and record shops featured the banners made available through tieups by the New York exploitation department, plugging the Hit Parade tunes from the film and coupling playdate credits with Beatrice Kay's Naughty Nineties album.

A tiein with the New York Central railroad resulted in the papering of its terminals and route points with display material, featuring ad elements created by the New York advertising department.

Shoe Trees Form Tiein For "Tree" in Shoe Shop

A pair of shoes and a pair of shoe trees were employed effectively in a window display tiein with the Regal Shoe Co. for the showing of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" in New York. A card displayed in the window read: "'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn' will keep your humor in good shape. These trees will keep your shoes in good shape."

Horse-Rider for "Velvet"

HUNTINGDON, PA.—Velvet materials and books were displayed at stores here in exploiting "National Velvet" at the Grand. Special printing included 2,000 "parking notices" and 50 war bond cards. Outdoor ballyhoo featured a young girl riding a horse which was bannered for the occasion by Manager Geinger.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
1944											
AUG. 5	3 (80) Com. Dr. 5007 MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR Edward G. Robinson Ruth Warrick Ted Donaldson R—July 15—PG-547		5 (57) Western 356 WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton R—Oct. 28—PG-580	GROUP 5—1943-44:	1 (69) Musical 404 MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields R—June 24—PG-543	GROUP 6—1943-44:	5 (56) Melodrama 322 GIRL WHO DARED	AUGUST RELEASES:			12 (127) Drama 319 MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains Walter Abel R—May 27—PG-536
AUG. 12		AUGUST RELEASE: SPECIAL: (145) Drama 500 DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	15 (59) Western 366 MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson Bob Steele R—Oct. 28—PG-580	(96) Mus.-Com. 432 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527	5 (62) Mystery 417 SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH R—Aug. 19—PG-557	(63) Comedy 426 GILDERSLEEVE SEES A GHOST Harold Peary Marion Martin Richard LeGrand R—June 24—PG-544	11 (56) Western 451 BORDERTOWN TRAIL 12 (70) Musical 401 SING, NEIGHBOR, SING R—Aug. 19—PG-558	(70) Musical 501 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548		18 (74) Comedy 8001 IN SOCIETY Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558	
AUG. 19	17 (63) Horror 5027 CRY OF THE WEREWOLF R—Aug. 26—PG-560 17 (61) Horror 5026 SOUL OF A MONSTER R—Aug. 26—PG-559		19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564	(65) Comedy 432 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527	16 (72) Musical 505 DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford R—July 15—PG-548 18 (67) Melodrama 421 MACHINE GUN MAMA R—Aug. 19—PG-558	(65) Adventure 428 A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538	13 (58) Melodrama 324 PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 16 (56) Western 3313 SAN ANTONIO KID Wild Bill Elliott Reissue: 1 (60) Mus. Wst. 3306 RIDE, RANGER, RIDE Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes	(97) War Drama 502 WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550		
AUG. 26	24 (72) Musical 5012 KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee		26 (61) Comedy 325 LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569	(100) Drama 432 THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Alexander Pope Victor Varconi Martin Kosleck Luis Van Rooten R—Apr. 22—PG-525		(88) Musical 429 STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545				2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Guinn Williams	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES: (112) M'drama 501 ◎THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552 (87) Comedy 502 BARBARY COAST GEM Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-553	2 (71) Mystery 306 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558	(66) Melodrama 432 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528	2 (62) Western 466 RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581	(67) Drama 430 YOUTH RUNS WILD Bonita Granville Kent Smith Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon Tessa Brind R—July 1—PG-546	12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT	SEPTEMBER RELEASES:	1 (86) Drama 9005 ◎GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556	9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 402 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559		9 (64) Mystery 317 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565		8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582	(91) Drama 427 MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey Robert Ryan R—June 24—PG-549	14 (68) Com.-Mus. 328 THAT'S MY BABY R—Sept. 23—PG-569 15 (55) Western 462 STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY	(75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554		8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch R—Sept. 23—PG-567	(90) Comedy 504 MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 50 WATERLOO BRIDGE Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor	16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUTLAWS	GROUP 6—1943-44:		(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	16 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 15 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562	(73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557 (82) Musical 505 ◎GREENWICH VILLAGE Carmen Miranda Don Ameche William Bendix R—Aug. 12—PG-555		15 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONA-HANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 6201 COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER			(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	21 (56) Western 551 GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien R—Sept. 23—PG-570	(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552			22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	23 (118) Mys-Farce 403 ◎ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-562
SEPT. 30	26 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571		30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele	(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch R—June 10—PG-539	4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577	(69) Drama 432 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES:		29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573	OCTOBER RELEASES: (117) Drama 50 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-556		(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542		(81) Comedy 434 BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshal Marsha Hunt R—July 29—PG-552	6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson	(74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568		6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-576	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(100) Rom.-Fan. 50 ◎KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-560		(104) Com-Dr. 432 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539		(72) Comedy 435 HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly Barbara Hale Gordon Oliver R—July 29—PG-551	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567		13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575			(83) Drama 4330 THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field Harry Carey William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541		SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry	(90) Mus.-Rom. 505 ◎IRISH EYES ARE SMILING June Haver Dick Haymes Monty Woolley R—Oct. 14—PG-573		20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 ◎THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F.
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582	NOVEMBER RELEASES: (122) Drama 510 AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-548 (124) Drama 507 MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-563 Reissue: (104) Musical 505 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald Nelson Eddy		SPECIAL: (125) Com.-Dr. 4535 GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511 GROUP 1—1944-45	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM	GROUP 1—1944-45: (113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572 (87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572 (96) Drama 502 THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris Stanley Ridges Osa Massen R—Sept. 23—PG-567 (75) Drama 505 MY PAL WOLF Sharyn Moffett Jill Esmond Una O'Connor R—Sept. 23—PG-568 (69) Comedy 504 GOIN' TO TOWN Lum & Abner Barbara Hale Florence Lake R—Sept. 30—PG-571	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562 6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581 7 (56) Western 465 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN 10 (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD 15 (55) Western 3315 VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott 30 (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577 30 (71) M'drama 404 FACES IN THE FOG R—Oct. 28—PG-578 1 (55) Western 453 FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Reissue: 1 (58) Ms.-West. 3308 RED RIVER VALLEY Gene Autry	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES: (88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576 (87) Musical 510 SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582 BLOCK 5: DECEMBER RELEASES: (130) Drama 512 WINGED VICTORY Sgt. Mark Daniels Cpl. Don Taylor Pvt. Lon McCallister Sgt. Edmond O'Brien Cpl. Lee J. Cobb Cpl. Alan Baxter Jo-Carroll Dennison Jeanne Crain Jane Ball Judy Holliday R—Dec. 2—PG-586 (86) Rom.-Dr. 513 SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak Bobby Driscoll Charles Winninger Jane Darwell R—Dec. 9—PG-588 JANUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (137) Drama 514 THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592 (61) Doc.-Dr. 515 THE FIGHTING LADY U.S. Navy Carrier Ship R—Jan. 13—PG-595		
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574		3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY	GROUP 1—1944-45	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578					3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 11	9 (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 9 (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583		10 (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561 17 (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(97) Comedy 4401 RAINBOW ISLAND Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565 (88) Drama 4402 TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565 (76) Com-Mus. 4403 THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-562 (81) Comedy 4404 OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Gail Russell Diana Lynn Charles Ruggles Dorothy Gish R—Sept. 2—PG-562 (56) Drama 4405 DARK MOUNTAIN Robert Lowery Ellen Drew Regis Toomey Eddie Quillan R—Sept. 9—PG-566	9 (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE 11 (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578 15 (73) Drama 511 THE GREAT MIKE Stuart Erwin Robert Henry Carl Switzer R—Sept. 9—PG-566			10 (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569 17 (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566	11 (99) Rom.-Dr. THE VERY THOUGH OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 18	16 (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584		24 (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557 1 (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White 8 (...) Comedy CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom		6 (60) Com.-Mys. 514 ROGUES' GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605			24 (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585	25 (102) Comedy THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
NOV. 25		DECEMBER RELEASE: (89) Comedy 509 LOST IN A HAREM Abbott & Costello Marilyn Maxwell John Conte R—Sept. 2—PG-561		GROUP 2—1944-45:						1 (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	
DEC. 2			16 (68) Mys-Com. 416 SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct. 21—PG-575	(85) Drama 4406 AND NOW TOMORROW Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575 (92) Drama 4407 THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578 (113) Romance 4408 FRENCHMAN'S CREEK Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce R—Sept. 23—PG-567 (76) Mys.-Com. 4409 ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577 (84) Mys.-Dr. 4410 MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds Carl Esmond R—Oct. 21—PG-567	9 (60) Western 556 OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe 15 (79) Comedy 501 THE TOWN WENT WILD R—Nov 11—PG-581 22 (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 CASTLE OF CRIMES Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall 29 (55) Western 553 THE WHISPERING SKULL Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	SPECIAL: (99) Suspense 582 THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW Edward G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey R—Oct. 14—PG-574 (94) Comedy 55 THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE Bob Hope Virginia Mayo Victor McLaglen Walter Slezak Walter Brennan R—Oct. 21—PG-576 GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 GIRL RUSH Frances Langford Wally Brown R.—Oct. 28—PG-577 (67) Mystery 507 FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588 (95) Mystery 508 MURDER, MY SWEET Dick Powell Anne Shirley Claire Trevor R—Dec. 9—PG-588 (62) Western 509 NEVADA Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys R—Dec. 16—PG-590 (91) Drama 510 EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr	23 (85) Musical 406 LAKE PLACID SERENADE Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593 23 (55) Melodrama 408 THOROUGHBREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara Roger Pryor 30 (60) Melodrama 407 THE BIG BONANZA R—Jan. 13—PG-596 31 (55) Western 3316 SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS 16 (71) M'drama 409 GRISSLY'S MILLIONS Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597 22 (69) Comedy 410 THE BIG SHOW-OFF R—Jan. 20—PG-597 26 (55) Western 464 THE TOPEKA TERROR Allan Lane	8 (120) Drama GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589 29 (87) Drama TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field R—Dec. 23—PG-591 5 (86) Drama I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592 19 (92) Drama MR. EMMANUEL Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	8 (64) Comedy 9031 HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594 15 (63) Musical 9037 MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586 22 (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587 29 (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 CAN'T HELP SINGING Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589 5 (60) Musical 9035 NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594 12 (74) Comedy 9020 SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596 19 (57) Western 9039 UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597 26 (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton	30 (124) Musical 4 HOLLYWOOD CANTE Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
DEC. 9	7 (69) M'drama 6032 SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587										
DEC. 16	14 (60) Musical 6038 DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594										
DEC. 23	21 (55) Western 6203 SADDLE LEATHER LAW R—Dec. 30—PG-593 22 (100) Drama 6003 TOGETHER AGAIN R—Nov. 11—PG-581	JANUARY RELEASE: SPECIAL: (138) Drama 511 THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	22 (76) Melodrama ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573								
DEC. 30	28 (63) Romance 6205 TAHITI NIGHTS Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593	JANUARY RELEASES: (101) Com.-Dr. 513 THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587	29 (62) Com.-Dr. BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids								
1945 JAN. 6	4 (60) Comedy 6039 LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598		5 (56) Western NAVAJO TRAIL Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton								
JAN. 13	11 (59) M'drama 6041 YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595	(56) Drama 514 MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Selena Royle Hume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	12 (68) Comedy ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589								
JAN. 20	23 (67) Musical 6014 EADIE WAS A LADY Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	SPECIAL: (113) Dr./Mus. 512 MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor	19 (63) Mys.-Com. ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker Peter Cookson								
JAN. 27	25 (69) Mystery 6024 I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Nina Foch		26 (83) Drama FOREVER YOURS Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown								

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
FEB. 3	1 (54) Western 6204 SAGEBRUSH HEROES Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor		2 (66) Mystery THE JADE MASK Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland	BLOCK 3—1944-45:	3 (54) Western 557 HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King			FEBRUARY SPECIAL RELEASE:		2 (88) Mus-Com. 9002 HERE COME THE CO-EDS Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	8 (66) Western 6221 SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy" Williams	FEBRUARY RELEASES:	9 (64) Melodrama CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga	(99) Mus.-Com. 4411 HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts Ann Doran R—Dec. 23—PG-591	6 (60) Com.-Dr. 521 KID SISTER 8 (58) Western 554 MARKED FOR MURDER Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien	(84) Musical 583 BELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586		(128) Drama 517 A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN Dorothy McGuire James Dunn Joan Blondell Peggy Ann Garner Lloyd Nolan James Gleason Ted Donaldson R—Feb. 3—PG-599		9 (63) Musical 9021 HER LUCKY NIGHT Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Feb. 10—PG-601	
FEB. 17	22 (72) Comedy 6019 LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE 22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	(69) Drama 516 BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	16 (59) Western GUNSMOKE Johnny Mack Brown 16 (61) Com.-Mys. THERE GOES KELLY Jackie Moran	(158) Drama 4413 FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454	15 (72) Drama 516 FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606		15 (56) Western 3317 GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming		(77) Drama 516 HANGOVER SQUARE Laird Cregar George Sanders Linda Darnell R—Jan. 20—PG-598	16 (71) Mystery 9013 HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 THE MUMMY'S CURSE R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 41 OBJECTIVE, BURMA! Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE R—Feb. 10—PG-602	(100) Drama 517 THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595				SPECIAL: (71) Disney 591 THE THREE CABALLEROS Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590				23 (94) Musical 9012 FRISCO SAL Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama A SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	MARCH RELEASES:	2 (61) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver				19 (69) Musical 411 A SONG FOR MISS JULIE Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607	MARCH RELEASES:		2 (76) Drama 9006 SUDAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 41 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven	9 (62) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611				28 (55) Western 454 SHERIFF OF CIMARRON Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill	(78) Drama 518 THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599			
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale	22 (74) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown	BLOCK 4—1944-45:	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599	GROUP 3—1944-45 (71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans Roy Rogers R-Mar. 17—PG-613	(67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603		16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 41 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-609	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604		(92) Mus. Com. 4416 BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	31 (87) Drama STRANGE ILLUSION Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	(82) Drama 512 BETRAYAL FROM THE EAST Lee Tracy Nancy Kelly R—Mar. 3—PG-610					
MAR. 31	5 (62) Melodrama 6037 ESCAPE IN THE FOG Otto Kruger Nina Foch William Wright R—Mar. 3—PG-609		6 (..) Melodrama (UNTITLED) Acquanetta 7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604					
APR. 7	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	APRIL RELEASE:	13 (62) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608	15 (76) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (61) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624	APRIL RELEASES:	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610		
APR. 14	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623	SPECIAL: (123) Drama NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor	20 (54) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	25 (60) Comedy 515 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay Daisy the Dog	(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe	(156) Drama 520 THE SONG OF BERNADETTE Jennifer Jones Charles Bickford Vincent Price Gladys Cooper William Eythe Lee J. Cobb Mary Anderson Ann Revere Roman Bohnen	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614	13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	7 (89) Drama 41 GOD IS MY CO-PILO Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey Alan Hale
APR. 21	19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER 19 (58) Western 6206 RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID R—May 5—PG-628		20 (54) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	(90) Mus.-Com. 584 IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610	SPECIAL: (90) Western 681 ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young		Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry	(94) Drama 521 A ROYAL SCANDAL Tallulah Bankhead Anne Baxter Charles Coburn William Eythe Vincent Price Mischa Auer Sig Ruman R—Mar. 24—PG-615	21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley	20 (65) 9040 SONG OF THE SARONG Nancy Kelly William Gargan R—April 28—PG-626	
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama 6006 COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619			SPECIAL: (98) Comedy 552 WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626			20 (55) Western 465 CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS Allan Lane Twinkle Watts Tom Landon	(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613		27 (90) Western 9073 SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED R—Apr. 21—PG-621 27 (..) Western 9083 BEYOND THE PECOS Rod Cameron	28 (78) Comedy 41 THE HORN BLOWS A MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620

BOOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography

WEEK ENDING MAY 5

COLUMBIA

M-G-M

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

WEEK ENDING MAY 12

COLUMBIA

10 (67) Mystery 6031
BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION
Chester Morris
Lynn Merrick
Steve Cochran
R—May 26—PG-629

17 (57) Western
BOTH BARRELS BLAZING
Charles Starrett
Pat Parrish
Tex Harding
Walter "Dub" Taylor

24 (84) M'drama 6010
THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN
Willard Parker
Anita Louise
Janis Carter
R—May 26—PG-629

M-G-M

MAY RELEASES:

(111) Com.-Dr. 522
WITHOUT LOVE
Spencer Tracy
Katharine Hepburn
R—Mar. 24—PG-616

(80) Drama 523
GENTLE ANNIE
James Craig
Donna Reed
Marjorie Main

(90) Drama 524
THE CLOCK
Judy Garland
Robert Walker
R—Mar. 24—PG-616

MONOGRAM

5 (65) Mystery
THE SCARLET CLUE
Sidney Toler
Mantan Moreland
Ben Carter
R—April 28—PG-626

12 (70) War Drama
CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S
Harry Carey
Paul Kelly
R—May 5—PG-628

19 (64) Western
IN OLD NEW MEXICO
Duncan Renaldo

26 (70) Western
FLAME OF THE WEST
Johnny Mack Brown
Raymond Hatton
Joan Woodbury

PARAMOUNT

BLOCK 5—1944-45:

(113) Rom-Com. 4421
THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN
Joan Fontaine
George Brent
Dennis O'Keefe
Don DeFore
Walter Abel
R—Apr. 7—PG-620

(95) Mys.-Com. 4422
MURDER, HE SAYS
Fred MacMurray
Helen Walker
Marjorie Main
Jean Heather
Porter Hall
R—Apr. 7—PG-619

(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423
SCARED STIFF
Jack Haley
Ann Savage
Barton MacLane
Veda Ann Borg
R—Apr. 7—PG-620

(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424
A MEDAL FOR BENNY
Dorothy Lamour
Arturo de Cordova
J. Carrol Naish
Mikhail Rasumny
Fernando Alvarado
R—Apr. 7—PG-619

P-R-C

2 (60) Mystery
PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET
Dave O'Brien
Kay Aldridge
Alan Mowbray

7 (63) Western
ENEMY OF THE LAW
Dave O'Brien
Tex Ritter
Guy Wilkerson

16 (64) Mystery
THE LADY CONFESSES
Hugh Beaumont
Mary Beth Hughes
R—Mar. 31—PG-618

1 (62) Mystery
THE MISSING CORPSE
J. Edward Bromberg
Isabel Randolph

14 (..) Mys.-West.
GANGSTER'S DEN
Buster Crabbe
Al "Fuzzy" St. John

15 (77) Melodrama
THE SILVER FLEET
Ralph Richardson
Googie Withers
Esmond Knight
R—Mar. 31—PG-617

29 (..) Western
THREE IN THE SADDLE
Dave O'Brien
Tex Ritter
Guy Wilkerson

RKO RADIO

GROUP 4—1944-45

(68) Comedy 516
ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY
Wally Brown
Alan Carney
Bela Lugosi
Anne Jeffreys
R—Apr. 21—PG-623

(78) Melodrama 517
THE BODY SNATCHER
Boris Karloff
Bela Lugosi
Henry Daniell

(76) Adventure 518
TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS
Johnny Weissmuller
Brenda Joyce
Johnny Sheffield
R—Mar. 24—PG-616

(78) Drama 519
CHINA SKY
Randolph Scott
Ruth Warrick
Ellen Drew
R—Apr. 21—PG-622

(81) Com-Drama 520
THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS
Robert Young
Laraine Day
Ann Harding
Bill Williams
R—Apr. 21—PG-621

GROUP 5:

(66) Mystery 521
TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE
Tom Conway
Ann Rutherford

(67) Drama 552
THE BRIGHTON STRANGLER
John Loder
June Duprez

(95) Drama 523
BACK TO BATAAN
John Wayne
Anthony Quinn
Beulah Bondi
Fely Franquelli
R—June 2—PG-631

(66) Western 524
WEST OF THE PECOS
Robert Mitchum
Barbara Hale
Richard Martin

(..) Mus.-Com. 525
GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS
Joan Davis
Jack Haley
Phillip Terry
Martha Holliday

REPUBLIC

10 (69) Horror 433
PHANTOM SPEAKS
Richard Arlen
Stanley Ridges
R—April 28—PG-626

20 (56) Western 3318
LONE TEXAS RANGER
Wild Bill Elliott
21 (59) Horror 434
THE VAMPIRE'S GHOST
John Abbott

23 (58) Melodrama 416
THREE'S A CROWD
Pamela Blake

2 (56) Western 455
SANTA FE SADDLEMATES
Sunset Carson
Linda Stirling

4 (55) M'drama 420
A SPORTING CHANCE
J. Randolph
J. O'Malley

19 (68) Outdr. Mus. 442
BELLS OF ROSARITA
Roy Rogers
George "Gabby" Hayes
R—May 26—PG-629

29 (68) M'drama 417
THE CHICAGO KID
Donald Barry
Otto Kruger

16 (72) Musical 419
HITCHHIKE TO HAPPINESS
Al Pearce
Dale Evans

20TH-FOX

MAY RELEASES:

(104 Musical 524
◎**DIAMOND HORSESHOE**
Betty Grable
Dick Haymes
Phil Silvers
William Gaxton
Beatrice Kay
Carmen Cavallaro
Willie Solar
Margaret Dumont
R—Apr. 21—PG-622

(61) Comedy 525
THE BULLFIGHTERS
Stan Laurel
Oliver Hardy
Margo Woods
Richard Lane
Carol Andrews
Diosa Costello
R—Apr. 21—PG-622

JUNE RELEASES:

(77) Comedy 526
◎**WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE**
Fred MacMurray
June Haver
Joan Leslie
Gene Sheldon
Alan Mowbray
Otto Preminger
Anthony Quinn
R—May 26—PG-630

(75) Comedy 527
DON JUAN QUILLIGAN
William Bendix
Joan Blondell
Phil Silvers
Mary Treen
Anne Revere
B. S. Pulley
R—June 9—PG-633

JULY RELEASES:

(..) Drama 528
WITHIN THESE WALLS
Thomas Mitchell
Mary Anderson
Edward Ryan
Mark Stevens
B. S. Pully

(95) Drama 529
◎**NOB HILL**
George Raft
Joan Bennett
Vivian Blaine
Peggy Ann Garner
Alan Reed
R—June 2—PG-632

UNITED ARTISTS

4 (147) Comedy
ⓒ**COLONEL BLIMP**
Anton Walbrook
Deborah Kerr
R—April 7—PG-626

18 (91) Drama
THE SOUTHERNER
Zachary Scott
Betty Field
R—May 5—PG-628

25 (96) Drama
THE GREAT JOHN L.
Greg McLure
Linda Darnell
R—May 26—PG-630

UNIVERSAL

4 (89) Mus-Com. 9011
PATRICK THE GREAT
Donald O'Connor
Peggy Ryan
Frances Dee
Donald Cook
R—Apr. 21—PG-621

11 (59) Musical 9028
HONEYMOON AHEAD
Allan Jones
Grace McDonald
Vivian Austin
Murray Alper
R—May 5—PG-627

18 (60) Musical 9033
SWING OUT SISTER
Rod Cameron
Billie Burke
Arthur Treacher
R—June 9—PG-634

25 (69) Comedy 9016
SEE MY LAWYER
Olsen & Johnson
Grace McDonald
Alan Curtis

1 (92) Comedy
THAT'S THE SPIRIT
Jack Oakie
R—June 2—PG-632

1 (..) Western 9084
RENEGADES OF THE RIO GRANDE
Rod Cameron

8 (61) 9041
I'LL TELL THE WORLD
Lee Tracy
Brenda Joyce
June Preisser
R—June 2—PG-632

15 (68) 9042
BLONDE RANSOM
Virginia Grey
Donald Cook
R—June 9—PG-634

22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043
PENTHOUSE RHYTHM
Lois Collier
Kirby Grant
Judy Clark

29 (61) Mystery 9032
THE FROZEN GHOST
Lon Chaney
29 (63) M'drama 9038
JUNGLE CAPTIVE
Otto Kruger

6 (..) Mus-Com. 9003
THE NAUGHTY NINETIES
Abbott & Costello
Rita Johnson
Alan Curtis

13 (..) Mus-Com.
ON STAGE EVERYBODY
Jack Oakie
Peggy Ryan
Otto Kruger

WARNER-F. N.

19 (79) Melodrama 416
ESCAPE IN THE DESERT
Jean Sullivan
Philip Dorn
Irene Manning
R—Apr. 28—PG-625

9 (92) Comedy 417
PILLOW TO POST
Ida Lupino
Sydney Greenstreet
William Prince

30 (86) Drama 418
CONFLICT
Humphrey Bogart
Alexis Smith
Sydney Greenstreet

21 (114) Drama 419
THE CORN IS GREEN
Bette Davis
John Dall
Joan Lorring
Nigel Bruce

WEEK ENDING MAY 19

COLUMBIA

24 (84) M'drama 6010
THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN
Willard Parker
Anita Louise
Janis Carter
R—May 26—PG-629

M-G-M

(90) Drama 524
THE CLOCK
Judy Garland
Robert Walker
R—Mar. 24—PG-616

MONOGRAM

2 (..) West.-Mus.
SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS
Jimmy Wakely
2 (..) Comedy
TROUBLE CHASERS
Billy Gilbert

9 (..) Western
FLAME OF THE WEST
Johnny Mack Brown
Raymond Hatton
Joan Woodbury

16 (..) Com.-Dr.
MR. MUGGS RIDES AGAIN
Leo Gorcey
East Side Kids

PARAMOUNT

BLOCK 6—1944-45:

(96) Mus.-Com. 4426
OUT OF THIS WORLD
Eddie Bracken
Veronica Lake
Diana Lynn
Cass Daley
Parkyarkarkus
R—June 9—PG-633

(64) Mystery 4427
ONE EXCITING NIGHT
William Gargan
Ann Savage
Leo Gorcey
Don Beddoe
R—June 9—PG-633

(..) 4428
YOU CAME ALONG
Robert Cummings
Lizabeth Scott
Don DeFore
Charles Drake

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

WEEK ENDING MAY 26

COLUMBIA

7 (60) Comedy 6029
TEN CENTS A DANCE
Jane Frazee
Jimmy Lloyd
R—June 2—PG-631

7 (66) Mus.-West.
RHYTHM ROUND-UP
Ken Curtis
Cheryl Walker

21 (65)
BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN
Robert Stanton
Lynn Merrick
Thurston Hall
Mary Treen

5 (..) Mystery
BOSTON BLACKIE'S RENDEZVOUS
Chester Morris
Nina Foch
Steve Cochran
Richard Lane

12 (..) Melodrama
◎**A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS**
Cornel Wilde
Evelyn Keyes
Adele Jergens

M-G-M

JUNE RELEASES:

(110) Drama 525
THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY
Hurd Hatfield
George Sanders
Donna Reed

(102) M'drama 526
◎**SON OF LASSIE**
Peter Lawford
Donald Crisp
June Lockhart

SPECIAL:
(119) Drama 527
THE VALLEY OF DECISION
Greer Garson
Gregory Peck

MONOGRAM

PARAMOUNT

P-R-C

RKO RADIO

REPUBLIC

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS

UNIVERSAL

WARNER-F. N.

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

I Love a Bandleader

CAST: Phil Harris, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Leslie Brooks, Walter Catlett, Carole Matthews, Frank Sully, Jimmy Lloyd. PRODUCER: Michel Kraike. DIRECTOR: Del Lord. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Posing as a big-shot, Phil Harris, scenic painter in a N. Y. night club, meets Songstress Leslie Brooks who has been refused a job by the club manager. After hearing her sing, Phil trips, cracks his head and becomes a victim of amnesia. As a publicity stunt, the manager hires Phil to lead the band with Leslie as vocalist. The two have a lover's quarrel and Phil disappears. His assistant, "Rochester," finds him and restores his memory by conking him over the head. Phil and Leslie reunite and marry.

Pardon My Past

CAST: Fred MacMurray, Marguerite Chapman, William Demarest, Akim Tamiroff, Harry Davenport, Douglass Dumbrille, Charles Arnt. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: Leslie Fenton. ORIGINAL. Patterson McNutt and Harlan Ware. SCREENPLAY: Earl Felton.

Fred MacMurray plays a dual role in this gay comedy which concerns two guys, a gal and a gangster. Fred and his invalided buddy, William Demarest, arrive in New York on their way to open a mink farm in Beaver Dam, Wis. Mistaken for a notorious playboy, Fred is picked up by Akim Tamiroff, a cultured gangster, who robs him of his life's savings. Many amusing incidents occur when Fred poses as his double at the playboy's home in hope of retaining his money. He falls in love with his secretary, Marguerite Chapman, and reveals an underhanded family plot.

Rusty

CAST: Ted Donaldson, Margaret Lindsay, Conrad Nagel, Gloria Holden, "Ace." PRODUCER: Leonard Picker. DIRECTOR: Paul Burnford. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

This is the story of a boy, his father and stepmother, and a dog. Lonely Ted Donaldson resents his new mother's strictness concerning dirty faces, muddy shoes, and her lack of interest in his and his dad's joy in fishing. Finding Ace, a still-ferocious ex-war dog, he seeks companionship with the animal and hides him in the cellar until the dog, mistaking his overtures, bites him. How Ted tames Ace—only to lose him when he uses psychology—finds him again and welds his estranged family into a happy one furnishes the rest of the plot.

The Gay Senorita

CAST: Jinx Falkenburg, Jim Bannon, Steve Cochran, Corinna Mura, Thurston Hall, Isabelita, Isabel Withers. PRODUCER: Jay Gorney. DIRECTOR: Arthur Dreifuss. ORIGINAL. Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Thurston Hall, wealthy contractor, plans to build a warehouse in the Mexican quarter, but Jinx Falkenburg and her grandmother have other plans. Hall asks his architect nephew, Jim Bannon, to handle the deal. Jim, under a fictitious name, meets and falls in love with Jinx and, using his uncle's money to do so, rebuilds the Mexican district. Hall finally breaks down, and Jim wins Jinx.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

They Were Expendable

CAST: Robert Montgomery, John Wayne, Donna Reed, Jeff York, Cameron Mitchell, Marshall Thompson, Paul Langton. PRODUCER: Cliff Reid. DIRECTOR: Commander John Ford. ORIGINAL: W. L. White. SCREENPLAY: Commander Frank Wead.

Based on the book of the same name by W. L. White, this is the tale of gallant P-T boat officers and their crews who, although considered "expendable," managed to account for thousands of tons of Jap shipping and successfully harried enemy invasions while America girded for war. Montgomery and Wayne, as skippers, find their most important assignment when MacArthur and his party escape from Bataan in their tiny craft. Between missions, Wayne finds time to romance with Army Nurse Donna Reed.

PRC Pictures

Checkmate

CAST: Dick Fraser, Grace Gillern, Cy Kendall, Ken MacDonald, Eddie Acuff, John Harmon, Emmett Lynn. PRODUCER: Jack Grant. DIRECTOR: Lew Landers. ORIGINAL: Sheldon Leonard. SCREENPLAY: Arthur St. Claire.

Unconscious and a victim of amnesia, Dick Frazer who, after being robbed of a secret formula and thrown from a train by thugs, is found by Grace Gillern and Emmett Lynn, ranch hand, on Grace's ranch. Yarn concerns the efforts of the gang, by means of torture and tricks, to make Dick divulge the name of one ingredient of the formula, without which it is worthless. Stranded on a lonely stretch of desert, without food, water or gas, Dick and Grace are finally rescued by Lynn and the sheriff.

Club Havana

CAST: Margaret Lindsay, Tom Neal, Dorothy Morris, Eric Sinclaire, Paul Cavanagh, Marc Lawrence, Sonia Sorel. PRODUCER: Martin Mooney. DIRECTOR: Edgar Ulmer. ORIGINAL: Fred Jackson. SCREENPLAY: Raymond L. Schrock.

This murder mystery takes place in a fashionable night spot, the Club Havana, where Eric Sinclaire plays piano with Carlos Molina's band. Guests at the club include Dorothy Morris with "Dr." Tom Neal and Divorcee Margaret Lindsay with Don Douglas. An unknown witness to a murder committed by Marc Lawrence, Eric's life is endangered when Sonia Sorel informs Lawrence that Eric has phoned the police. In the meantime, Miss Lindsay attempts suicide as the result of a lover's quarrel with Douglas. In an exciting climax, Neal saves her life, and Lawrence is brought to justice.

Republic

Love, Honor and Goodbye

CAST: Vlirginia Bruce, Victor McLaglen, Edward Ashley, Helen Broderick, Nils Asther, Veda Ann Borg, Victoria Horne. PRODUCER: Harry Grey. DIRECTOR: Albert S. Rogell. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

In this light comedy Virginia Bruce plays a dual role—that of mistress of her own home, and of a French maid in the home of a woman whom she believes to be her rival. When her husband becomes interested in another woman, Virginia is suspicious of the association and uses this ruse to check on him. He, however, is wise to her and leads her a merry chase until she discovers he is merely a benefactor to the woman.

20th Century-Fox

Dragonwyck

CAST: Gene Tierney, Vincent Price, Glenn Langan, Walter Huston, Anne Revere, Spring Byington, Jane Nigh. PRODUCER: Ernst Lubitsch. DIRECTOR: Joseph Mankiewicz. ORIGINAL: Anya Seton. SCREENPLAY: Joseph Mankiewicz.

Adapted from the Anya Seton novel, this is the story of a young farm girl, Gene Tierney, who, in 1844, goes from rags to riches when she leaves her parents, Anne Revere and Walter Huston, to live with her wealthy cousin, Vincent Price, at his Hudson River estate, "Dragonwyck." Price, a villain who is involved in the landowner's problems of that period, murders his wife and marries Gene. When his sins take revenge, he goes insane and is trapped and killed, leaving Gene to wed the young community doctor, Glenn Langen.

Enchanted Voyage

CAST: John Payne, June Haver, Charlotte Greenwood, Connie Marshall, Charles Russell, Clem Bevens, John Ireland. PRODUCER: Walter Morosco. DIRECTOR: Lloyd Bacon. ORIGINAL: Robert Nathan. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

This is the tale of an old man, his dreams, and his unswerving belief in the rightness of a child's heart; of a gallant little lady of nine whose faith inspired the strangest voyage ever logged in the Louisiana bayous; and of a boy who went off to war and of the girl who waited for him. When John Payne is reported missing, Connie Marshall, June Haver and Clem Bevens set out in a home-made boat to find a mythical island where Connie is sure they will find and rescue Payne. After getting themselves lost, the "rescue party" is found a few days later by Payne who has returned in the meantime.

Universal

Uncle Harry

CAST: George Sanders, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Ella Raines, Moyna McGill, Sarah Allgood, Samuel Hinds, Harry Von Zell. PRODUCER: Joan Harrison. DIRECTOR: Robert Siodmak. ORIGINAL: Thomas Job. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Adapted from the successful stage play, this story deals with George Sanders (Uncle Harry) who lives in New Hampshire with his sisters Geraldine Fitzgerald and Moyna McGill. When he is about to marry Ella Raines, Geraldine stages a fake heart attack and Ella marries another suitor. Hating Geraldine, Sanders places poison in her cup, and Moyna drinks it and dies. He confesses when Geraldine is accused of the crime, but no one believes him and she hangs. Refusing to marry Ella, now a widow, Sanders commits himself to an insane asylum.

Warner Bros.

Danger Signal

CAST: Faye Emerson, Zachary Scott, Dick Erdman, Rosemary DeCamp, Bruce Bennett, Mona Freeman. PRODUCER: William Jacobs. DIRECTOR: Robert Florey. ORIGINAL: Phyllis Bottome. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Story is a psychological study of a young woman caught in the web of love, leading up to the turning point in the woman's life—that moment when she reaches the greatest crisis—when she decides to kill the man who wooed her. Faye Emerson, deeply in love with Zachary Scott, is betrayed by her younger sister who steals Scott's affections, whereupon she carefully plans to poison him. Seeing the vial, Scott believes he is dying until told that none of the poison escaped the bottle. At that instant he is killed by a man, in the death of whose wife Scott had been involved.

Janie Gets Married

CAST: Joan Leslie, Robert Hutton, Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, Robert Benchley, Clare Foley, Dick Erdman. PRODUCER: Alex Gottlieb. DIRECTOR: Vincent Sherman. ORIGINAL: Josephine Benthan and Gertrude Keck. SCREENPLAY: Agnes Christine Johnston.

After two years of service abroad, Robert Hutton returns to his home town and marries the girl he left behind, 18-year-old Joan Leslie. Their marriage is almost wrecked by Hutton's overseas buddy, Wac Dorothy Malone, when she helps guide his journalistic career and by Publisher Donald Meek, who is interested in purchasing the newspaper owned by Edward Arnold (Joan's father). Lovers quarrels, family problems and a happy ending form this gay comedy.

The Time, the Place and the Girl

CAST: Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson, Janis Paige, Martha Vickers, S. Z. Sakall, Alan Hale, Angela Greene. PRODUCER: Alex Gottlieb. DIRECTOR: David Butler. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Yarn concerns the struggles of Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson, Janis Paige and Angela Greene in their efforts to open a night club in New York City. Opposition comes mostly from Donald Woods, a stuffy character who is manager for Maestro S. Z. Sakall, Madame Florence Bates, and their granddaughter, Martha Vickers, tenants in the building whose ears are attuned only to opera. After many near-calamities the show finally opens with Sakall conducting and all turns out happily.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

Jasper's Boobytraps

Para (George Pal Puppetoons) 8 Mins.

Fair. Jasper turns a potential feast for the starving scarecrow into a miniature blitz by planting a series of boobytraps in a picnic lunch of tempting delicacies. Blackbird warns the straw man to be wary, and he allows Jasper to gorge himself with no disastrous results. A charged olive proves Scarecrow's undoing, and Jasper is awarded a big black exploding cigar.

Pop-Pie Ala Mode

Para (Popeye Cartoons) 8 Mins.

Amusing. Our sailor hero, shipwrecked on the Specific Ocean, drifts to a lush tropic island by a cannibal tribe. He is unaware that the royal treatment he receives is intended to fatten him to pig-like proportions. When it becomes apparent that he is to be the main course for a native feast, he fortifies himself with spinach and escapes. However, he cannot convince a juvenile cannibal that Popeye on rye should not become a national dish.

Popular Science

Para (J4-5) 10 Mins.

Absorbing. Solar House, made entirely of glass, with the principal rooms facing the south, affords year-round sunlight. Charming models demonstrate the luxury of sunbathing in subzero temperature. The following sequence concerns the advances of biological science. The maturing time of an average hen is cut in two, resulting in bigger and better eggs. The film ends with a demonstration of the thrilling rescue at sea of a bomber crew by the army sea rescue service.

Talk of the Town

Para (Speaking of Animals) 9 Mins.

Fair. The use of similes pertaining to animals is stressed in this film, embellished by interviews with a mule; an elephant, who is so round, so firm, so fully packed; a yodeling canary; a hilarious horse and a hiccupping hen, which lays a three-in-one omelet. These takeoffs on phrases of everyday usage are amusing when you reflect on their unconscious employment.

Teen-Age Girls

20th-Fox-MOT (March of Time) 17 Mins.

Very interesting. This is a bit of a departure for March of Time—away from national and international problems to a subject of interest to parents and youngsters alike. This short shows how the young folks dress; what they eat, their attitude toward their parents. It was produced with the cooperation of a group of girls and was shown to them after it had been completed. Their criticisms were accepted and some of the sequences were remade. Because of its combined appeal for old and young it can be exploited heavily. Teachers and parents should go for it. Letters should be sent to women's groups.

Artistry in Rhythm

Univ (Name Band Musicals) 15 Mins.

Fair. This is a routine musical short featuring Stan Kenton and his orchestra, the Tailor Maids, Anita O'Day and Gene Howard. There isn't much to recommend it.

Broadway Farmer

Univ (Person-Oddities) 9 Mins.

Good. Highlight of this latest issue of the series is Chic Johnson of the zany comedy team of Olsen and Johnson. The subject gets its name from Johnson's Connecticut farm, within commuting distance of Broadway. The comedian is shown inspecting various parts of the farm, including the bandbox theatre. Other items equally as interesting are: H. H. Zietz of Denver, 80-year-old former scout, who served with Buffalo Bill; an odd collection of footgear; an artist in sea shells, and an amateur pinup artist.

Rockabye Rhythm

Univ (Name Band Musicals) 15 Mins.

Entertaining. Featuring Frankie Masters, this short includes nine vocal and musical selections by Masters and members of his orchestra and accompanying artists. Masters' personality is a definite asset to the reel and it is too bad that he could not have sung one or two more songs. Phyllis Myles, vocalist; Eddie Williams, baritone, and a quartet of girls, handle their specialties in good style.

Wingmen of Tomorrow

Univ (Variety Views) 10 Mins.

Very good. In view of the widespread interest in the future of aviation, this short is not only timely but interesting. Al Bennett, teacher of aeronautics, is shown teaching children ranging in age from five to 12 years, how to fly. The manner in which the subject matter is presented is interesting. Children are the principal performers. Exhibitors will find it a good bet.

Bahama Sea Sports

WB (Sports Parade) 10 Mins.

Good. Technicolor scenes of the Bahamas transport audiences from a dimmed theatre to a playland of sun, crystal waters, thrilling fishing expeditions and lush vegetation. The islands offer enchantment, and the film will stir unrest in the hearts of Northland inhabitants. Why the Windsors left is beyond comprehension. Some native color is introduced in the person of islanders with amusing talents.

Bands Across the Sea

WB (Melody Master Bands) 10 Mins.

Interesting. Martial music and music that means home accompany our fighting men to battlefield and far-flung outposts in this global war. Company bands, playing for wounded men and broadcasting via field radio to men in foxholes, are featured. The highlight of the film is a GI group entertaining their buddies with impersonations of name bands and a good natured takeoff on "Swoon" Sinatra.

Coney Island Honeymoon

WB (Technicolor Special) 20 Mins.

Very good. The magic of Coney Island's gaiety makes this carnival world a perfect honeymooners' playground for a young sailor and his bride. The couple eagerly head for a whirl at New York's famous funland. The camera follows them through a maze of thrilling rides, including the parachute jump, roller coaster and the Red Mill, a lovers' retreat. They swim, sun-soak and find happiness in the carefree crowds milling about them. Coney Island in Technicolor is gaudy, but gay.

Speaking of the Weather

WB (Blue Ribbon Cartoon) 7 Mins.

Amusing. When magazine cover girls, radio publication celebrities, True Confession, Sport Life and Police Gazette inhabitants, as well as a detective serial culprit, step from the niches in pulp fiction into a three-dimensional world, there's bound to be excitement. There is a merry chase over the magazine racks involving the efforts of characters from an endless variety of magazines to track down the thug. He is sentenced to Life, tilts a pinball machine and bedlam reigns.

Tale of Two Mice

WB (Looney Tunes) 7 Mins.

Fair. Two mice bearing accurate resemblance to Abbott and Costello in mannerism and speech, offer the same zany antics characteristic of the two comedians. They attempt some ludicrous schemes to pilfer cheese from the refrigerator, which is being guarded by a ferocious cat. The situations are novel slapstick for a tale concerning the perennial contest between cat and mice.

War Comes to America

WAC-RKO 66 Mins.

(War Department Documentary)

Produced by the army pictorial service under Col. Frank Capra's supervision, this is the third of seven feature-length documentary orientation films released for public showing. It is an ambitious venture, covering America's history almost from its discovery to the victory over the Nazis. Particularly courageous is the frank treatment of state department policy and reasons underlying the latter. The picture's tempo is fast, Walter Huston's narration effective, the animation by Disney dramatic, the music and sound effects an asset. Available gratis for bond shows and regular theatre bookings, this 66-minute feature should prove strong support on any double bill.

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 80: Defeat of Nazi war leaders—roundup by Allies; American generals return in triumph from European war; stolen Nazi loot seized by Allies at Berchtesgarden; bathing beauties use Florida's sun for tan; spectacular water display put on by Grand Coulee Dam; pipelines lead under Channel, aid victory in Europe.

News of the Day, No. 278: Goering taken with criminals; homecoming for U.S. generals; Soviet army honors General Patton; West Point sky salute; honors for F.D.R. aides; victory miracle now revealed.

Paramount News, No. 81: 10,000 Yanks come home; Germany after defeat; Steve Earley honored; operation pluto.

Pathe News, No. 83: Philadelphia welcomes Omar Bradley; Truman honors Steve Earley; Yanks visit Berchtesgarden; Allies take Goering, Von Rundstedtt, Kesselring; underseas oil line fed invasion.

Universal News, No. 404: Allies seize German loot and criminals; victory pipeline; midocean victory garden; war chiefs return to U.S.; war bonds launch new flat top.

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Movietone News, No. 81: President Truman reports on war against Japan; Yanks break Jap camp on Okinawa; Heindrich Himmler, Gestapo chief, kills self; Nazi atrocity camp cleaned out and burned by British flame throwers; Norway's traitor, Quisling; General Patton comes home in triumph; Annapolis and West Point graduations.

News of the Day, No. 279: Truman warns Japs of destruction; mopping up at Okinawa; inside Germany—Himmler suicide; Hangman's victim; Quisling on trial; Admiral takes own life; welcome home General Patton; Yanks homeward bound; West Point and Annapolis graduate largest classes.

Paramount News, No. 82: Army-navy graduate record classes; Okinawa cleanup; Europe, postscript to victory; Patton conquers Boston.

Pathe News, No. 84: Troop ships bring men home; Quisling goes on trial; Flensburg government ends; British cleanup Belsen; service schools graduate from Annapolis and West Point.

Universal News, No. 405: President warns Japs to give up; army tests new type helicopter; roundup in Europe; new officers graduate.

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All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 138: Yanks leave Burma on rotation plan; Dr. DuBois tells Denver of Frisco meet; Pittsburgh man is pigeon fancier on large scale; Washington, D. C., starts $55,000 drive to honor Mrs. Bethune; Bill Willis of Ohio named coach at Kentucky; Chicago welcomes General Clark and 50 GIs; Boys of 92nd division conduct services in Italy.

Conflict

F — Melodrama

Warner Bros. (——) **87 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Distinguished, among other things, for the excellence of its performances, this is a murder story done—and well done—in the modern manner, which prescribes that the audience witnesses the slaying during the early sequences. From then on, the action and suspense hinge upon the manner which the killer is exposed or exposes himself. If the business enjoyed by recently-released pictures of comparable motif can be accepted as criterion, then this latest offering is headed for substantial patronage and popularity. Bogart plans the perfect murder of a nagging wife because he has fallen in love with her sister. A psychiatrist friend of the family suspects him from scratch. How he sets a series of traps which lead the murderer into exposing himself furnishes the action. The film is richly produced by William Jacobs and ably directed by Curtis Bernhardt.

Humphrey Bogart, Alexis Smith, Sydney Greenstreet, Rose Hobart, Charles Drake, Grant Mitchell, Pat O'Moore.

Along Came Jones

F — Comedy Western

RKO (——) **91 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

In this, the first picture he produced for International, Gary Cooper is cast in a role which showcases to their best advantages those two facets of his talents which have kept him among the screen's most popular male stars. There is the whimsy of "Mr. Deeds" and the rootin', shootin' elements of the many sagebrush dramas he has toplined. To make such a blend possible, the story had to assume a comic, almost a burlesque approach to the usual western. The combination equips the feature as a unique exhibition venture. The standard trappings of an action melodrama are sufficiently present to satisfy those hankering for that kind of fare, while the tongue-in-cheek treatment should appeal to more sophisticated audiences. Add to such assets the marquee appeal of Cooper and Loretta Young and it sums up to what should be a profitable grosser. Stuart Heisler directed.

Gary Cooper, Loretta Young, William Demarest, Dan Duryea, Frank Sully, Russell Simpson.

Within These Walls

F — Drama

20th-Fox (528) **71 Minutes** **In July Block**

Produced at moderate cost with no names of particular drawing power, this story of a penitentiary warden's life and problems manages to sustain both interest and pace. The somewhat creaking plot is that of a hardboiled judge who, appointed warden of an undisciplined penitentiary, cracks down on the unruly inmates but is unable to straighten out his own wayward 17-year-old son. The latter, refused consent by his father to enlist in the marines, gets into a scrape and in order to raise the necessary finances, accepts money from some one for smuggling letters out of prison. Detected, he decamps, subsequently returning as a convicted felon, is given solitary confinement by his strictly impartial father for an infraction of the rules. At end he thwarts a prison break, dies saving the life of a "good" convict, his sister's betrothed. Bruce Humberstone directed.

Thomas Mitchell, Mary Anderson, Edward Ryan, Roy Roberts, Mark Stevens, B. S. Pully, John Russell.

Steppin' in Society

F — Comedy

Republic (418) **72 Minutes** **Rel. July 29, '45**

An uncompromising judge discards his robes, but not his forbidding mien, and embarks on a vacation. Thereby hangs the tale of a series of adventures that teach him compassion and understanding of fellow men, who do not believe the shortest distance to success is on the straight and narrow. A sudden storm forces Edward Everett Horton to seek refuge in a roadside inn of questionable repute, where association with would-be lawbreakers convinces him a little understanding of extenuating circumstances might go a long way toward persuading criminals that the law is not heartless. Thus, it follows that they will hesitate to break it. The judge's transformation is complete, and the ending is congenial. Ruth Terry brightens the proceedings with a ditty aptly titled, "If You Like Me, Then I'll Like You." This will fit a supporting spot on a double bill. Alexander Esway directed.

Edward Everett Horton, Gladys George, Ruth Terry, Robert Livingston, Jack LaRue, Lola Lane, Isabel Jewell.

A Thousand and One Nights

F — Fantasy-Comedy

Columbia (——) **93 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Here is the time-mellowed legend of Aladdin and his lamp, so enticingly told that the picture's revenue possibilities should possess as much magic as was inherent in the oil burner which gave it theme. An original, clever and expertly-executed screen treatment makes the film a rare and delightful blend of fantasy and satire. Present—and in bountiful quantities—are all the lush trappings expected in a Technicolor extravaganza based on an Arabian Nights yarn: Pageantry, spectacle, romance, intrigue, action, and beautiful harem maids. But the yarn is spun so mockingly, through the injection of modern situations and dialog, that subtle comedy vies for honors with the film's productional impressiveness. The unusual mixture of entertainment ingredients demanded expert handling by writers, director and cast, which all fulfilled triumphantly. Alfred E. Green directed.

Cornel Wilde, Evelyn Keyes, Phil Silvers, Adele Jergens, Dusty Anderson, Dennis Hoey, Philip Van Zandt.

Bedside Manner

F — Comedy

United Artists (——) **75 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Andrew Stone's production and direction of this Saturday Evening Post story result in an engaging light comedy. Made at moderate cost with a capable cast of fair drawing power, "Bedside Manner" will bolster any double bill. Story is a fast-moving narrative of young and pretty Dr. Hedy Fredericks' efforts to reach Chicago by car from New York. En route she gives three marines, a lift, stopping at her former home village, Blithefield, momentarily, she thinks. A case of mistaken identity involves her with handsome test pilot, Morgan Hale, practically engaged to Lola, a jealous spitfire. Hedy's uncle, Doc, conspires with Morgan to keep Hedy in Blithefield so she may give him a much-needed hand with his war boomed practice. Convalescent from a plane crash, Morgan feigns pantophobia (fear of everything), hoodwinks Hedy into treating and—at the end—marrying him.

John Carroll, Ruth Hussey, Charles Ruggles, Ann Rutherford, Esther Dale, Grant Mitchell, Claudia Drake.

Penthouse Rhythm

F — Comedy With Music

Universal (9043) **60 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Into the hopper went the usual assortment of songs and specialties, a characteristic cast of enthusiastic youngsters and all of the other ingredients which Universal relishes for its formula for low-cost musicals. The crank was turned and out popped this, the most recent offering in the studio's endless parade of such films. The picture is standard in every respect and, consequently, is equipped to stand up satisfactorily as a supporting feature. The opinion might be expressed that in this case the story used to bind together the prescribed elements is not as sound or acceptable as the average—but that slight shortcoming should have little effect on the over-all worth. The plot's fundamentals are based on that inevitable situation in which a group of talented amateurs are trying to crash Broadway. Directed by Eddie Cline.

Kirby Grant, Lois Collier, Edward Norris, Maxie Rosenbloom, Eric Blore, Minna Gombell, Edward S. Brophy.

West of the Pecos

F — Western

RKO Radio (——) **66 Minutes** **Rel. ————**

Truly a pace-setter for modestly-budgeted westerns, this will be a special treat for patrons of houses which specialize in sagebrush actioners and, at the same time, it can be a highly acceptable second feature on more pretentious programs. The story is standard Zane Grey, but scripting, performances and direction elevate the offering far above run-of-mill boots and saddles melodramas. One of its brightest innovations is the fact that the femme lead has something to do over and above being decorative. The part is played by Barbara Hale, a promising newcomer. Robert Mitchum in the topline is adequately he-mannish. There is a plentitude of fisticuffs, shooting, chases to satisfy the action addicts. Scenic backgrounds are natural and rugged, while photography and other technical details add their respective bits to the film's high rating. Directed by Edward Killy.

Robert Mitchum, Barbara Hale, Richard Martin, Thurston Hall, Rita Corday, Russell Hopton, Bill Williams.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"A Thousand and One Nights."**

Have a colorful tent draped over your boxoffice, falling to the sidewalk and causing pedestrians to pass through it as they walk by. Dress usherettes in harem garb and play atmospheric music over a hidden loudspeaker. Hire a fortune teller and build an open-front tent-like structure for her in a corner of the lobby. Place cushions on the floor, hanging lanterns, spears, scimitars and a pot of burning incense. Display a sign inviting patrons to have their fortunes told with the compliments of Aladdin.

CATCHLINES:

Bagdad! Desert Post of Allurement! . . . Where Desert Raiders, Harem Thieves, Slavers and Reckless Rogues Clash in Wildest Revelry . . . 1001 Thrills From 1001 Nights . . . A Tempest of Thrills Roaring Out of the Lusty Lore of the 1001 Nights.

When Aladdin Warbles a Love Song, the Slick Gals Swoon Behind Their Yashmaks . . . Fiery Adventure! Wild Romance! Forbidden Excitements! . . . See Aladdin's Lamp Perform Miracles. He Loved a Princess But Their Love Was Forbidden.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Bedside Manner"**

Have suitably garbed interne or nurse hurry through streets wearing card: "I'm hurrying to the Blank Theatre—the audience just split its sides laughing at 'Bedside Manner.'" Window tieups in medical supply houses, bookstores and sporting and aviation goods shops may be made on the strength of the props employed in the story by Carson, many of whose books are still strong sellers. Use teaser campaign: "Beware of pantaphobia!"

CATCHLINES:

He Was Afraid of Everybody, Except Beautiful Women . . . She Wanted to Reach Chicago in the Worst Way, So She Drove With Three Marines . . . Many a Strong Heart Is Guided by a Weak Mind.

A Woman Doctor Who Cured Everything But Her Own Heartache . . . A Test Pilot Who Could Fly Anywhere, Except From a Woman's Arms . . . Faster Than a Dive-Bomber . . . Funnier Than a Tankful of Laughing Gas.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Penthouse Rhythm"**

In cooperation with local dancing school, originate a new dance to be called "The Penthouse Rhythm." Hold exhibition on stage in which pupils participate for prizes. Service newspapers with pictures of dancers rehearsing for contest. Tieup with music store, giving them plenty of stills, with which to advertise musical numbers from the picture, records of which could be played so that passersby may hear them.

CATCHLINES:

Mistaken Identity Turns Party Into a Free-For-All . . . A Riotous Farce in a Ritzy Skyscraper . . . Bright, Breezy, Bewitching . . . Romantic Penthouse Turns Musical Madhouse . . . A Girly Whirl of Merriment.

Hilarious, Glamour-Charged Comedy . . . Winsome, Irresistible, Romantically Musical . . . Carefree! . . . A Scandal of Screams . . . Hectic! . . . Gleeful, Tuneful Entertainment . . . Riot of Gayety in a Hurricane of Laughter.

SELLING ANGLES: **"West of the Pecos"**

Hire a man who knows trick roping and have him stationed in the lobby to teach youngsters how to rope—or have the expert spin his rope in the window of a leading department or sport store. Invite patrons to try on an over-sized ten gallon hat, offering a prize if their size is the correct one. For laughs, have an extra supply of small sizes on hand for them to try on when the big one doesn't fit.

CATCHLINES:

Bad Men Will Be Dead Men . . . Gun-Smoked! Fight-Packed! Thrill-Loaded! . . . He's a One Man Posse . . . Another Zane Grey Thriller . . . Cowboy Rides the Danger Trail . . . Defying a Desperado Gang in Their Own Stronghold.

His Name Spells Terror for Bandits . . . Daredevil Challenges the Power of a Kill-Crazy Bandit Gang . . . She Masqueraded as a Cowboy . . . Until She Fell in Love With a Devil-May-Care Cowboy Involved in Two Killings.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Conflict"**

Let advertising and publicity stress the fact that this is of the new school of psychological murder yarns, comparable to "Double Indemnity," etc. Give Bogart plenty of emphasis because of his recent prominent spot in the matrimonial limelight. Plant stories—or run contest on same idea—about true, apparently perfect crimes that have been exposed because of one small clue.

CATCHLINES:

Only a Rose, But It Was the One Small Clue Which Frustrated the Perfect Crime . . And Kept the Murderer From the Woman for Whom He Killed His Wife . . . Bogart in His Most Exacting and Exciting Role.

Psychology vs. Unbounded Cunning . . . He Hated His Wife, Loved Her Sister . . . So He Planned a Murder Which Defied Detection . . . Until a Mild-Mannered Professor and a Troubled Conscience Exposed Him. Suspense! Shudders! Action!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Along Came Jones"**

Famous Artist Norman Rockwell has painted a portrait of Gary Cooper, in the title role, which is available in colors and in various sizes for use in dominating lobby displays. Publicize fact Cooper produced as well as stars in film and give Loretta Young marquee emphasis. Tieups have been made with Quaker Oats and Lipton's tea which will permit still displays in grocers' windows.

CATCHLINES:

It's Mr. Deeds on Horseback . . . This Adventure, Comedy, Romance About a Tramp Cowboy With Gentle Soul Who Was Mistaken for the West's Toughest Hombre.

Girl Shy, Gun Shy, Great Guy . . . He Went From Bad to Worse Trying to Square Himself With the Sheriff and Cupid at the Same Time . . More Romantic Than Rugged . . . A Two-Gun Buckaroo Who Couldn't Shoot . . . Thrills! Action! But Mostly Laughs! Gary Cooper in the Whimsy He Does So Well.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Within These Walls"**

Simulate prison exterior on theatre front and in lobby with exhibit of manacles, leg-irons, tear gas canisters, etc., if obtainable; imitation iron bars make good window effects in front of blown-up stills or cutouts of the players in prison garb. Street ballyhoo: girl in convict garb, with card: "I'm Going Back to Prison to Be Near the Man I Love . . . See 'Within These Walls,' Blank Theatre." Store placards: "You'll Find the Best Value in Town 'Within These Walls.'"

CATCHLINES:

He Put Fear Into Hard-Boiled Lifers' Hearts, But Couldn't Straighten Out His 17-Year-Old Son . . A Two-Fisted Warden Makes Seasoned Convicts Knuckle Down, Until His Own Son Puts the Finger on Him.

We Went to Prison to Save His Brother, Then Stayed There to Be Near the Girl He Loved . . . "Stone Walls Do Not a Prison Make," But They're a Mighty Good Substitute! . . . A Picture to Make You Think!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Steppin' in Society"**

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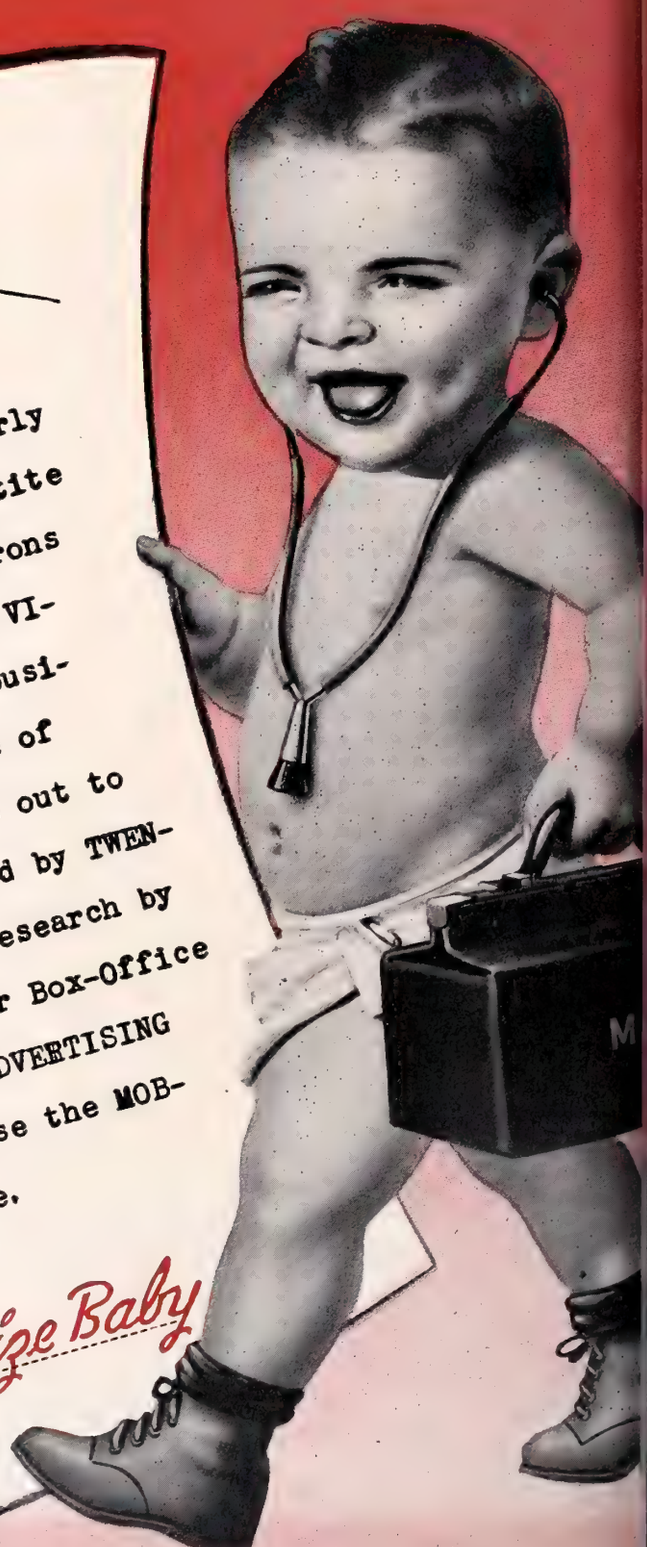
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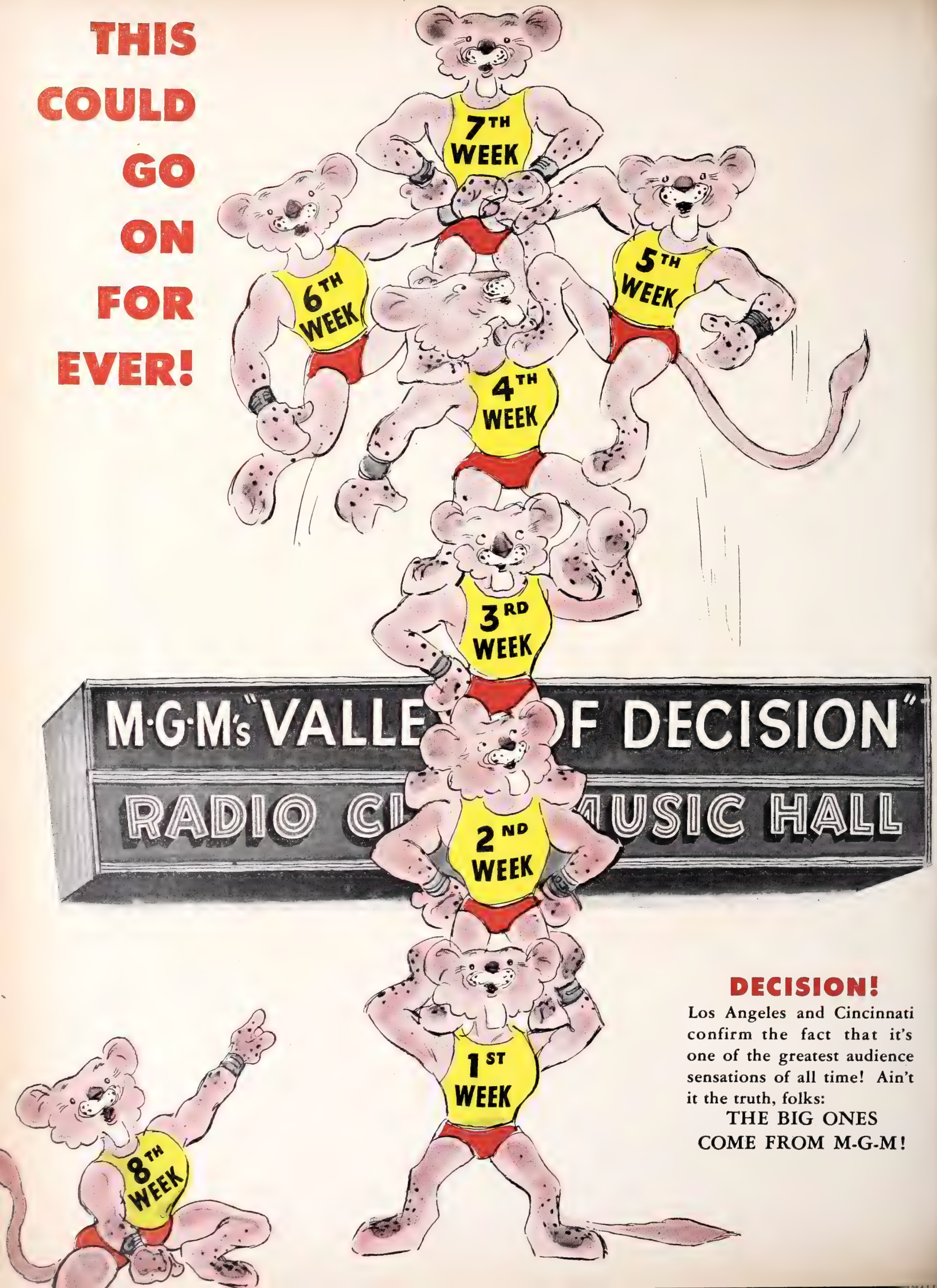
BOXOFFICE

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SWANEE
DELICIOUS
SUMMERTIME
CLAP YO' HANDS
PORGY AND BESS
THE MAN I LOVE
SOMEBODY LOVES ME
LADY BE GOOD
I GOT RHYTHM
EMBRACEABLE YOU
Warners'
RH



PRESENTING:

Robert Alda as
GEORGE GERSHWIN

Joan Leslie as
JULIE ADAMS

Alexis Smith as
CHRISTINE GILBERT

Charles Coburn as
MAX DREYFUS

Julie Bishop as
LEE GERSHWIN

Albert Basserman as
PROFESSOR FRANK

Morris Carnovsky as
MR. GERSHWIN

Rosemary De Camp as
MRS. GERSHWIN

Herbert Rudley as
IRA GERSHWIN

Eddie Marr as
BUDDY DE SYLVA

Oscar Loraine as
RAVEL

Ernest Golm as
OTTO KAHN

Martin Noble as
JASCHA HEIFETZ

Hugo Kirchhoffer as
WALTER DAMROSCH

Will Wright as
RACHMANINOFF

AS THEMSELVES:

AL JOLSON
OSCAR LEVANT
PAUL WHITEMAN
GEORGE WHITE
HAZEL SCOTT
ANNE BROWN
TOM PATRICOLA
JOHN B. HUGHES
THE WARNER CHORAL SINGERS

FOR THE PRODUCTION:

Produced by
JESSE L. LASKY

Directed by
IRVING RAPPER

Original Story by
SONYA LEVIEN

Screen Play by
HOWARD KOCH and ELLIOT PAUL

Orchestral Arrangements "Rhapsody in Blue" by
FERDE GROFE

With All Your Might! The Mighty 7th War Loan!

THE NATIONAL FILM WEEKLY
PUBLISHED IN EIGHT SECTIONAL EDITIONS
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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 47 **No. 7**
JUNE 23, 1945

BOXOFFICE

POSTWAR PROMOTION PLAN

PROGRESSIVE and aggressive merchants not only have taken a leaf out of the motion picture industry's book of showmanship—they've taken the whole book!

Wm. Filene's Sons Co., the big Boston department store, recently staged an all-store event, which they labeled, "Filene's Brings California to Boston and New England." Through this promotion they introduced California merchandise, textiles, styles and stylists amid the glamor of a Hollywood premiere. Since it was a store-wide, all-out effort, it, in some respects, out-Hollywooded Hollywood.

Apparently in the knowledge that they were merchandising in good showmanship fashion, Filene's sent us a nine-page news release and a lengthy telegram to give the full story. No doubt this also was sent to other motion picture trade papers. The story had no actual news value for the trade, but the example it sets and the suggestion it affords are worthy of comment here.

A "Products of Tomorrow Exposition" is scheduled to be held in Chicago early in 1946 in which it is reported the motion picture industry will be represented. That's very good. But why doesn't the industry go a few steps further and "Bring Hollywood to (Everywhere)" as it has done in various forms in the past?

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has had a number of touring expositions that carried its story and the story of its stars and product to every key city and to many small places in between. These were great promotions that created much goodwill for the entire industry. But it took one such exhibit a long time to cover the distances it had to travel. Of course, it can't be done now—but, when the war is over, why wouldn't it be a good plan to send out a dozen or more such exhibits—in which all of the industry participates?

Prior to the war, General Motors employed a huge motorized theatre, which put up in out-of-the-way places, showing films of their products to vast numbers of people. Chrysler did the same. There are many things that the public could be told about motion pictures and their making that would have both an educational and promotional value; that would pave the way for holding much of the patronage that has been gained during these lush times. If motion pictures can be used to sell motor cars, they can be used to sell the motion picture, its new personalities, etc.

The industry gave a sample demonstration of what it could accomplish with a small segment, but an important part of the world public, in the United Nations Theatre at San Francisco.

That was an all-industry movement. Extending such cooperative effort promotion-wise should hold great possibilities.

* *

On Working Together

At the recent dinner tendered by Mr. Will H. Hays of America to Mr. J. Arthur Rank of England there were strong evidences of the good that amity and unity can accomplish. Mr. Hays had remarked:

"What ties have bound us together are now increased in strength as never before. . . . We do, indeed, know that no problem can ever arise so great that it will not be equitably resolved by friends sitting around a table."

Mr. Rank responded:

"General Eisenhower has shown all of us how well we can work together when we have a common purpose for a common good. I am sure that our two great nations, insofar as films are concerned, at least, can work closely in the peace that will be forthcoming when Japan is defeated, as we have worked together in the war."

These are fine sentiments, the benefits of which can be derived only by their being put to practical use. It has been done in the war, with resultant victory in Europe. It is being continued between the two countries in the war in the Pacific. It has been done in the war effort through the unifying operations of the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry.

We say, again, as we have said so many times before, this spirit and principle of amity and unity should be extended into the postwar relations of the several branches of the industry with one another. To have "a common purpose for a common good." And to resolve industry problems "by friends sitting around a table."

* *

Now MOT Is Ten

A salute to the March of Time on its tenth anniversary! This excellent short subject series introduced a new type of journalism to the screen. Not only has it maintained its quality but it has actually improved it. Its selection of material and its presentation is so well planned and executed, that, despite monthly release, it has freshness and timely appeal even in late runs.

The March of Time has contributed to the screen's growing-up; broadened appeal to the less-frequent moviegoers, sometimes called "the intelligentsia," making many more regular patrons. The ear-appealing voice of Mr. Westbrook Van Voorhis has had no little to do with the popularity of MOT—on the air as well as on the screen.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

WB Pictures Refinances Outstanding Bank Loans

Company to retire mortgages on all its U.S. properties and subsidiaries as soon as deal completed; sum involved is $37,000,000, payable in 20 semiannual installments.

• • • —

Milliken Will Concentrate On Foreign Area Problems

Will Hays, MPPDA president, has relieved secretary of organization of many details; hereafter he will spend much time in Washington and possibly abroad.

• • • —

Cancel Invitation to Bid on German-Austrian Films

Alien property custodian withdraws request for proffers on distribution licenses of 50 foreign productions; deputy says APC never aimed to act as censor of seized films.

• • • —

"Two Down, One to Go" Cut to Eight Minutes

Much-discussed Technicolor film on veterans' point system made into patriotic short with opening speech and National Anthem; M-G-M to distribute 600 prints for WAC.

• • • —

New Travel Restrictions Halt Industry Meetings

Several film sessions called off in Canada as result of 30-day government ban; reports current army intends to take half of Pullman sleepers now used by U.S. civilians.

• • • —

London's Film Leaders Entertain U.S. Group

Maj. R. P. Baker, president of KRS, and G. H. Scarborough, head of CEA, hosts at dinner; N. Peter Rathvon and Darryl Zanuck among speakers; party left for Continent.

• • • —

OWI May Be Given Full Appropriation It Asked

Senate fund committee disregards house cut to $21,000,000 and approves total of $39,750,000 for coming fiscal year.

• • • —

Producers Agree to Pay Increase for Mummers

Conclude negotiations with Screen Actors Guild for modification of basic ten-year contract; approval of War Labor Board now is jointly sought.

• • • —

Trade Agreement Action Pleases Industry Heads

Senate passage assures fair treatment in many foreign markets, say those who have been watching working of the original Hull policy.

THREE-JUDGE PANEL IS NAMED TO SPEED UP ANTITRUST TRIAL

Goddard Is Included in Tribunal Appointed at Request of Biddle

NEW YORK—Quick action followed the attorney general's request for a special panel to speed up the antitrust suit against the industry, with the appointment by Presiding Justice Learned Hand of the U.S. circuit court of appeals of District Judges Henry W. Goddard and John Bright and Circuit Judge Augustus N. Hand to hear the case.

The present scheduled date for start of the trial is October 8. It was set some time ago by Judge Goddard. It is not yet known whether this will be advanced.

Early in the week company attorneys discussed the possibility of objecting to the transfer of the case to the proposed panel, but the appointment was made before any course had been decided upon. Under this arrangement the court rules that the case is of general public importance. This gives it a priority on the court calendar.

Catches Attorneys By Surprise

It is admitted that the application for a speedup caught major company attorneys by surprise. Under the terms of the expediting act, the filing of a certificate by the attorney general makes it mandatory upon the U.S. circuit court of appeals to appoint a three-man tribunal.

Whether naming of the panel means that the case will be heard during the summer months is the moot question of the moment. Since Judge Goddard set the trial date for October 7, the department of justice has filed answers to interrogatories and the company attorneys have asked for details. Technical maneuvers like these have been going on for years.

How many of these maneuvers the new three-man court will eliminate and how soon it will start functioning had New York lawyers curious this week.

Decision on AP Shows Antitrust Law Being Given Full Effect, Says Myers

NEW YORK—Abram F. Myers, general counsel for Allied, says the supreme court decision in the Associated Press case shows the Sherman antitrust law is being given full effect for the first time in 55 years.

"Many times in recent years," he says, "Allied has called attention to decisions upholding the Sherman act which had a bearing on the government's suits against the major producers, distributors and exhibitors. Now we have another. Counsel for the Associated Press based their plea on the asserted right of an individual to sell or not to sell his property as he sees fit, overlooking the changed legal status of such right when exercised in combination with others."

Then he quotes from the court decision and points out the act was specifically intended to prohibit independent businesses from becoming "associated" in a common plan.

The crux of the court ruling on the AP was: "Such hampering of business rivals can only be attributed to that which really makes it possible—the collective power of an unlawful combination."

"Can anyone," he asks, "who has observed the manner in which the great theatre circuits were acquired and have been strengthened and maintained honestly say that it was due to 'individual enterprise and sagacity'?"

Kuykendall Doubts If Antitrust Suit Decision Will Correct "All Abuses"

NEW YORK—Ed Kuykendall says there are quite a few exhibitor problems unsolved. The MPTOA chief places the "problem" created by the blocks-of-five, tradeshow method of selling at the top of the list in his latest general bulletin to the membership.

Even with the war boom on, he states, "exhibitors know what the system costs them in film rentals and insecurity." He says the distributors gladly continued the system after the consent decree requirements expired in 1943, and "will no doubt welcome a court order to make it permanent." Then he asks: "But what will be the result of their greatly increased distribution costs if film rentals are forced back to normal levels by a sharp decline in boxoffice receipts?"

Kuykendall then propounds the query as to "just how long exhibitor grievances can wait." Referring to the antitrust suit, he speculates whether or not a final decision will really remove any serious abuses, "prevent injustices and give the independent exhibitor a chance to live in the postwar world." He continues:

Says Divorcement No Cure-All

"Do you think theatre divorcement will prevent over-buying by a big theatre or a circuit theatre to deprive a smaller competitor of product? Will it really stop unreasonable and excessive clearance, reckless cut-rate competition between theatres, overseating by building promoters, the music tax extortion, trick contract provisions, unfair nontheatrical and itinerant competition, etc? Will the big theatre be any fairer competition in the hands of an independent competitor than it is under affiliated management?

"These are the sort of questions that all independent exhibitors should be thinking about. Can we afford to wait for the outcome of this lawsuit before we do something about trade abuses and unfair competitive practices? And will this lawsuit really solve any important exhibitor problems, no matter how it is eventually decided?"

The MPTOA head views the present war boom as the result of government spending, and visualizes a drop in boxoffice receipts when that spending is stopped; in fact, he adds, the drop has already started. Accordingly, he sees some "tough" film buying ahead.

Then Kuykendall takes up the music tax problem, labeling the Ascap levy as "unfair extortion" in the forcing of a "third payment" for the music, querying why the tax should be imposed for copyrighted music and not for copyrighted stories.

Wants Exhibitors to Fight

He says that exhibitors should no longer tolerate "a series of abuses," but should develop programs on a national scale to fight them, declaring that elimination of present bans on travel will once again permit conventions, at which these problems may be discussed.

Then Kuykendall points out that a theatre-building spree awaits only the end of the war, and he fears the results of "reckless construction," linking up the fact that under the consent decree method of selling, "the new guy can start bidding up the price of pictures immediately, what with a lack of franchises or even one-year contracts." He believes an alert trade association can head off a lot of wildcat promotions of unneeded theatres.

Kuykendall says there is also another danger that some of the companies are overemphasizing the foreign market for their product, to the neglect of American audiences. He sees the foreign market as being impoverished for some time to come, and, in the offing, quotas, blocked currencies and other trade barriers that will make it difficult to sell our pictures over there.

In view of this obvious uncertainty, says the MPTOA president, "it is a strange thing that you hear so little about any major company having plans to develop and expand the local market for good movies among the 140 million healthy and relatively prosperous Americans right here in our own country." He concludes:

Sees Business at Lower Level

"Only a distributor can fool himself that business will stay up to present levels when the government spending stops, but we exhibitors think it will level off at a lower level. Nevertheless we think this drop will occur without any alarming depression or collapse. You just have to figure on business at a lower level than we have enjoyed from the war boom, which is nothing to become alarmed over. Neither is it something to blindly ignore in your plans for the next few months.

"But it's still a great business, and we want to retain as much of it as possible during the so-called reconversion period, then go right ahead to improve and expand it here at home on a solid foundation. Even a reasonable increase in the mammoth and in some ways unlimited market for good movies in the U.S. would equal more in real money than the whole foreign market all over the world. Why aren't there some plans being made for the American market?"

16mm Shows at Cut Rates Real Threat—Kuykendall

New York—Cut-rate competition from 16mm film shows is the newest bugaboo faced by the "regular" exhibitor, says Ed Kuykendall in his latest bulletin. He adds that a new, commercial use of the narrower film is threatening in the form of outdoor theatres in centers of towns. These enterprises, he points out, plus small store shows, may be born as fast as portable equipment becomes available —much of it army surplus material.

"These itinerant exhibitors at cut-rate admissions are a coming problem for small town and neighborhood exhibitors," adds the bulletin, "and if you are unorganized and unable to work together on such problems, you will be a pushover for such competition."

NELSON TO LEAD SIMPP INTO FOREIGN AND U.S. EXPANSION

Members Are Not Satisfied With Playing Time Here, Or Export Outlook

NEW YORK—Appointment of Donald M. Nelson as head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers means that the organization intends to make its influence felt in both the foreign and domestic fields. At present the organization members are not satisfied with the playing time they are getting in this country and they are convinced that unless they can get equal treatment in the foreign market with the major producers they will be unable to market pictures costing more than $600,000 or $700,000.

An outline of the purposes of the SIMPP was given early in the week by William Cagney, here for conferences with United Artists distribution executives.

Cagney gave the impression that the SIMPP has no present intention of affiliating with the new export organization recently formed by foreign heads of the major companies.

Says Nelson Gauges Public Taste

"Nelson," he said, "is a man with extraordinary experience in the merchandising field. He knows how to gauge public tastes and how to meet them. He proved that with Sears, Roebuck. In addition, he has foreign contacts of outstanding value. He is personally acquainted with leading government figures in Great Britain and other parts of the British Empire; he knows high officials in France; he is personally acquainted wth Joseph Stalin; he knows Chiang Kai-shek. As a result of his experience with lend-lease details, he has a world picture of foreign problems. Where could we find a better man to take care of our interests?"

Nelson intends to open offices in New York and Washington as quickly as possible. He is looking for quarters now.

Independent producers are now making about 30 pictures per year and can go to a 40-picture schedule as soon as the raw stock situation clears up, Cagney said. This will involve a production budget of about $40,000,000 per year.

"We must get our share of the playing time," he said. "Up to the present we haven't done so. We can just about meet our negative costs in the domestic market and must have foreign distribution as well as improved domestic distribution.

"Our company—Cagney Productions—intends to go on a basis of three pictures yearly as soon as the raw stock situation eases. Others want to do the same. This will tend to add to our distribution difficulties. We feel that Nelson can help us get protection and assistance.

May Act Alone in Foreign Field

"In the foreign field we may have to take action alone. The major companies are already making aggressive moves. Cooperation with the majors may not be possible, because the problems are so different. We can't assure foreign producers distribution here, because we have no theatres. There is a possibility that we might form our own export corporation.

"Even our production problems are different. The only independent with a studio is Sam Goldwyn. Ben Bogeaus controls one, but that is all. During the current strike it has been impossible for us to make a move."



ARRIVES FOR CONFERENCES—William Cagney, producer for his brother James, gets into New York from the coast to talk over releasing details in connection with a number of UA productions.

Cagney also made some pointed comments on the domestic distribution problem.

He admitted the SIMPP had considered the possibility of making some kind of direct arrangements with circuits not controlled by distributors and with independent exhibitors.

"We hope it won't be necessary," he said. "but if it is forced upon us we will have to take the step."

Antitrust Suit May Figure

Some consideration, he said, has been given to the possibilities involved in theatre divorcement as a result of the antitrust suit.

"If the government fails to bring about more equitable distribution," he continued, "independent producers will have to move either toward purchase of theatres, or affiliations with existing groups."

Independents are also keeping their eyes on the changes which television might bring about, he said. Television, he pointed out, might bring about new forms of distribution. He expressed the opinion that radio interests now have television "in the bag" and that the film industry is lagging in taking advantage of its possibilities.

Myers Says Independent Exhibitors Should Extend Welcome to Nelson

NEW YORK—Appointment of Donald M. Nelson, former WPB head, as president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is "a realinement according to interest," says Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, in commenting upon the move. It is a normal development and should have caused no surprise, he states in a bulletin under date of June 19.

"Independent exhibitors were faced with a like problem back in 1928 when the affiliated circuits took over the MPTOA," he states. "Realizing that while all theatres have some important matters as film rentals, runs, clearance and other competitive practices there was a conflict of interest as between the affiliated and the independent theatres. Consequently those regional associations which were under independent control withdrew and formed Allied."

Myers says Nelson's connection with the industry will "stimulate competition among producers and accomplish much good."

"We hope," he says, "that in working out solutions for the independent producers' problems he will not overlook the importance of establishing fair, sound and friendly relations with the independent exhibitors. The affiliated interests did not meet him at the station with a band, but the independent exhibitors should extend a welcoming hand. As buyers and sellers of film the independent exhibitors and independent producers also have conflicting interests, but they also have much in common. They should travel the road, as far as they can, together."

Cagney Seeks Loan Deal to Get Star

NEW YORK—James Cagney may loan himself out to another company in order to get a star and director for "The Stray Lamb." If negotiations succeed, he will appear in a picture for Frank Capra.

"The Stray Lamb" is a Thorne Smith fantasy which John Barrymore bought from Roland Young several years ago. Cagney recently acquired it from the Barrymore estate.

William Cagney, business head for James, says it is an "exciting fantasy that can be given a feeling of reality," but it requires a big man. He hopes to make a deal with Gary Cooper, Bob Hope or Robert Montgomery, with Capra as the director. Production will start as soon as the studio strike clears up.

$2,500,000 for "Lion in the Street"

Another story he hopes to put into production shortly thereafter is "A Lion in the Street," by Adria Locke Langay. It is a story of an American demagogue who promises to take everything away from the wealthy and give it to the poor and who then betrays the poor. Cagney says it is more dramatic than "Yankee Doodle Dandy" and has a "real value in presenting the worth of American democracy." It will be done in Technicolor, if the stock is obtainable. Shooting may begin in December with a budget of about $2,500,000.

"Only the Valiant," by James Martus Warren, a psychological story of what happens to a group of cavalrymen sent out to sure death by a captain, will follow. This story is laid in the Indian war days, but it may be changed to make the enemy Japs.

These three will be for 1945-46 release.

If plans carry, and the raw stock situation clears, the company will start next March on "Port Royal," the story of a Jamaica city which disappeared centuries ago in an earthquake.

The Cagney contract with United Artists was signed originally on a three to five-year basis. It is now in the first half of the third year and Cagney said it was working out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

VIDEO THREATENS NEWSREELS, SAYS RALPH AUSTRIAN OF RKO

Prohibitive Costs on Coast Restrict Activities to The East at First

NEW YORK — Newrseels are seriously threatened by video, according to Ralph B. Austrian, vice-president of RKO Television Corp. "Television transmitters, although not so mobile as film cameras, once they're on the scene in action, have it over newsreels as there's no time lost in processing," he said, adding:

"Stepped-up production is imminent. Government restrictions on all electronic equipment, save for priorities needed by the army and navy for war communication, will be removed by October 1, or earlier."

"Once the industry gets the green light to go ahead, television will become as much a part of our daily lives as motion pictures and radio," continued Austrian, back from a survey of the video situation in Hollywood. The creative and technical workers of the SMPE and the Affiliated Committee on Television—comprising more than a dozen guilds and unions; Screen Writers, Screen Actors, Screen Directors, American Society of Cinematographers, Radio Directors, Radio Writers, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, in short everyone interested in films and radio—are excited over television. They want to get into it—and soon!

Video Soon After VJ-Day

"The technicians wanted to know why nothing is stirring in the matter of television out there on the west coast. The answer is: all television equipment manufacturers, nearly all the large transmitters, advertising agencies, communications and picture companies are in the east. Just as radio moved westward from the Atlantic seaboard, so probably will television.

"One of the objects of my trip to Hollywood was to discuss with studio heads their television plans, to find out if they were going into telecasting. Their attitude has changed greatly in the past half-year," Austrian went on. "They now realize television is due within a few months after VJ-Day.

"Creative artists and technicians in Hollywood, more aware than producers as to the imminence of television, wanted to know where they fit into television. Film actors are a cinch for video. Radio actors must ask themselves: 'Am I really an actor, or just a script reader?' Radio writers will have to say to themselves: 'I write for the ear; can I write for visual action?' As to the radio director's future in television—well, I don't know. He'll have to ask himself: 'Can I direct live talent, or am I just a dialog director?'"

Coast Video Costs Prohibitive

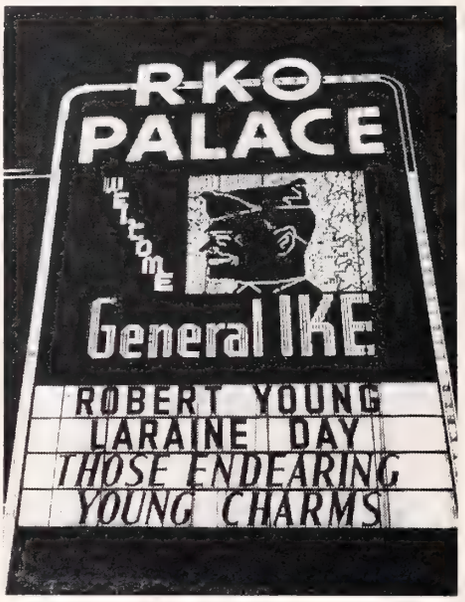
A further purpose of Austrian's trip to Hollywood was to investigate television production facilities and costs. "There are plenty of facilities on the west coast, but the production cost of films for television will be prohibitives for some time. Meanwhile, we're accelerating plans for producing here a supply of short films for televising—quizzes, series and similar subjects, 10 to 15 minutes in length. We intend to expand our organization here by getting and training for television a staff of writers, actors and directors.

"Television will be black-and-white for several years," Austrian thinks. "Under present conditions, Technicolor is 'out' as far as video is concerned. Because of technical limitations, the color of an actor's hair, complexion and attire changes from one color to another as he moves across the set from light to light. Color in television will, when it does arrive, be used mainly for the transmitting of color film or for commercial plugs—perhaps a shadow-box effect wherein the product advertised is shown attractively and colorfully packaged."

For theatres seating approximately 2,600 persons, television on a screen 15x20 feet will be suitable, while screens 8x11 feet should prove adequate for houses of Trans-Lux size. How close theatre equipment is to availability, Austrian is frank to admit he doesn't know. Home postwar models will range from 7x9 inches to 3x4 feet, the latter suitable for large homes, lodges, union halls and churches. At present, a screen 16x21 inches is being contemplated for standard home use.

"Great physical progress is being made among the manufacturers here, just as mental advances are being made by producers on the west coast. But out there, the boys who use their hands—they're the ones who are really hot for television," Austrian concluded. "The two west coast television stations I visited haven't advanced in quality since I was there last year, I'm sorry to report."

"Ike's" Visit to New York Stimulates Theatre Attendance, Bond Sales



SIGN WELCOMES IKE—When General Eisenhower rode up Broadway to a tumultuous reception, he was greeted by the above sign on the facade of RKO Palace. The sign measured 15 by 20 feet.

Honoring the general's visit, the Loew Bldg. was decorated with bunting and a huge blue flag was hung from the flagpole of the State Theatre.

NEW YORK—For several years Broadway has been stimulating soldier morale. So, when a soldier stimulates Broadway morale—that's news. Following General Eisenhower's triumphant procession through the city on Tuesday, thousands of the several millions who had turned out to do him homage, took advantage of the semiofficial holiday to attend motion picture theatres and purchase war bonds.

Attendance in every theatre in the Times Square district and throughout the metropolitan area showed increase. Warner Bros' Hollywood Theatre registered an increase of 85 per cent. Radio City Music Hall reported attendance as "very stimulating" and better than 20 per cent over average Tuesday business. Increases of 20 per cent were also chalked up at the Astor, Criterion, Mayfair, Rialto and Paramount. Business was reported up ten per cent at the Capitol, Victoria, Loew's State and Warner Bros.' Strand. The Palace, presenting a new picture, was unable to indicate the percentage increase, but described attendance as "way up." Randforce circuit reported attendance up 80 to 100 per cent.

Bond Sales Generally Up

Bond sales generally were up. Century circuit reported Tuesday's sales as 35 to 40 per cent over average. Other circuits registered slightly lower increases. The Broadway houses reported sales varying from "way up" at the Palace to "off" at Warner Bros.' Strand. At the Astor, sales were "higher than they've been for a week"; and additional purchases were chalked up at Loew's State. Radio City Music Hall, Capitol, Victoria, Criterion, Warner Bros.' Hollywood, and Rialto reported sales varying from "average" to "slight increase."

No sales were made at the Paramount as its staff was manning the bond booth in Times Square. There a steady line purchased bonds of small denominations continuously for four hours. To obtain seats on the upper level of the booth and other positions of vantage, 35 persons purchased $1,000 bonds, and a like number bought $500 bonds.

Republic International Chief Reaches London

LONDON—Morris Goodman, president of Republic International, has arrived from Lisbon and is conferring with Sam Smith, president of British Lion Film Corp., Ltd., and other company executives. While on the continent Goodman visited Paris and Madrid.

He expects to return to New York in the near future.

MPPDA Mourns Hicks' Loss

NEW YORK—The foreign managers of MPPDA's international department unanimously passed a resolution expressing regret at the death of John W. Hicks jr., president of Paramount International. A copy of the resolution was sent to the family of the deceased.

The Biggest Area Premiere Of 'Em All...

RKO Beats RKO as More Than 100 Theatres in New England and New York State are Set for Simultaneous Openings June 26!

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Entire Yankee Network and Additional Powerful Stations Beamed on Millions In Area.

●

Hearst Newspapers in Boston Going To Town With Pages and Pages of Promotion!

18,000-Seat Boston Garden Scene of Night of Spectacle, Sunday, June 24 . . . Hearst-Sponsored Prelude to a Premiere!

●

Important International, National and Local Personages at Dozens of Affiliated Affairs!

●

Tidal Wave of All Forms of Exploitation Breaking Over Every Inch of Wide Territory.

●

Similar Treatment Immediately Following For Area Served by WLW, Cincinnati, "The Nation's Station."

Watch→

RKO'S THUND
OF GRIT



The screen's great drama of how a handful of heroes started the juggernaut that crushed the Japs! It's the inside story of the invisible army of the Philippines! A thousand-thrilled action show that will make your crowds stand up and cheer!

Back To

Starring

JOHN WAYNE

with **ANTHONY QUINN** • **BEULAH BONDI**

FELY FRANQUELLI • **LEONARD STRONG**

Executive Producer
ROBERT FELLOWS

Directed by
EDWARD DMYTRYK

Screen Play by Ben Barzman and Richard Landau

ERING EPIC
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BaTaan



SEE THE MARCH OF DEATH!
JAP BRIDGE OF DEAD!
CABANATUAN PRISON RAID!
BATTLE OF BATAAN!
BOLO KNIVES VS. GUNS!
DARING GUERRILLA RAIDS!
YANK LANDING ON LEYTE!
and more, and MORE, and MORE!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Audiences Are Presold

ONE of the curious discoveries made during the United Nations Conference in San Francisco was the fact that audiences from all parts of the world know what stars and what types of pictures they want to see without any persuasion on the part of the exhibitor. It was already known, of course, that they prefer American pictures to all others.

Complete program changes were made daily, with listings in six-point type in the conference bulletin and on small sheets posted where delegates gathered. No picture titles were posted on the marquee. When previews were indicated the house was crowded. Attendance varied with different kinds of pictures.

Attendance was limited to about 4,000 persons accredited to the conference.

There was no word of mouth advertising, because programs were not repeated.

Twenty-nine Spanish - speaking nations were represented—enough to fill the theatre when Spanish language pictures were shown, but the largest audiences were at American pictures. Disney films were outstandingly popular with the Latins.

This seems to indicate that American players and films are so thoroughly presold audiences are assured.

It might be argued from this that exhibitors can apply their showmanship talents to emphasizing the sales angles which they feel are best suited to their particular types of audiences. Situations differ, as Murray Silverstone discovered on his recent visits to Cairo and Palestine. In the Egyptian capital, he found, exhibitors do not assume that an important picture is dead after its first run; they bring it back after six months and extract additional revenue. In Palestine they show first runs evenings only, and continue the picture after four or five weeks for matinee performances.

It is obvious that there is no monopoly on showmanship ideas in this country.

* * *

Great Soldier Picture

LESTER COWAN set out to capture Ernie Pyle's understanding of the common man in "G. I. Joe," and he did. The story begins in Africa and ends on the road to Rome after Monte Cassino. It's grim and gripping, but it keeps the infantryman, his daily life and his emotions sharply in focus, as did Pyle. Burgess Meredith, as Pyle, is sympathetic, understanding and self-effacing in the same way that Pyle is said to have been. Every distributor says that if war pictures are good there is no reason to worry about any public prejudice against war themes. This one is good.

* * *

Industry Surprise

DAVID O. SELZNICK has a capacity for going out and getting what he wants, and usually there is not much advance information on what his latest desire may be. He headed the group which negotiated with the dynamic Donald M. Nelson to become head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

With the number of independent producers increasing, this organization seems destined to become more influential. Nelson usually makes his presence felt wherever he is located. It was his reputation for action while executive vice-president of Sears, Roebuck & Co. that brought about his appointment as head of the WPB. Just how the SIMPP intends to employ his talents remains to be seen. If his salary is to be $50,000, as reported, the plans must be important.

* * *

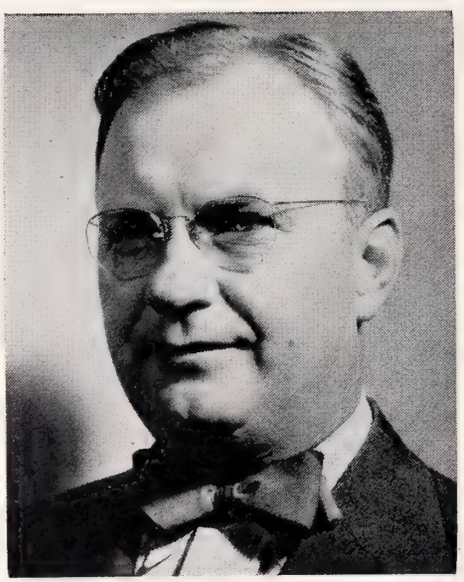
Talked Back to Goebbels

EMIL JANNINGS is quoted in the New York Herald-Tribune as saying that when the late Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels offered him a post as head of the German film industry he would not take it "unless I could be free to practice my art without interference."

What Goebbels said to that would make a good ten-minute short. Jannings must have been lucky that he didn't join Pastor Neimoeller at Dachau.

* * *

PARAMOUNT'S decision to have a theatre building division of its new foreign corporation shows it is being prepared for emergencies. Only recently National Theatres (20th-Fox) sent a man into Mexico prepared with plans to build prefabricated theatres in spots where no theatres now exist. And there has been some talk that J. Arthur Rank might do some acquiring and building in various parts of the British Empire.



IN NEW ALTEC POST—E. O. Wilschke, formerly manager of the Philadelphia district for Altec Service Corp. and more recently production manager for Altec Lansing Corp. in Hollywood, who has been named assistant to H. M. Bessey, vice-president of Altec Service Corp., effective July 16.

Heads of Film Industry Start Tour of Europe

LONDON—At the invitation of SHAEF a group of 13 of the motion picture industry's leaders are here acquainting themselves with problems now confronting the U.S. army in Europe, particularly those involved in its current post-hostilities plan.

Special emphasis will be placed on the following subjects: Allied Military Government; displaced persons, redeployment of the American army of occupation; prisoners of war; food; transportation and reconstruction in both liberated and conquered territories in so far as these subjects are the concern of SHAEF and British and American army groups under command of General Eisenhower.

While in England the group will be guests of the British government. Accompanied by Maj. Stuart Palmer, former Hollywood writer, as liaison officer, the film industry leaders will visit the following liberated capitals: Copenhagen, Brussels, The Hague, Paris, Rome and Prague; in addition, the itinerary will include the Rhine and Ruhr valleys as well as Cologne and Frankfort.

The group comprises Barney Balaban, Sidney Buchman, Harry Cohn, S. H. Fabian, Russell Holman, Francis Harmon, Edward J. Mannix, Taylor M. Mills, N. Peter Rathvon, Jack L. Warner, R. B. Wilby, Clifford R. Work and Darryl F. Zanuck. Lester Cowan, one of those invited to accompany the group, was unable to make the trip.

Television to Be Billion Dollar Industry—Sarnoff

NEW YORK—Within five years after full production starts, television will be a billion dollar industry, according to Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, RCA head. His company expects to start producing home television sets from nine months to a year after civilian production gets the go-ahead signal from the government.

To provide network facilities for television, thousands of miles of relay systems, using both automatic radio relay stations and coaxial cable to transmit programs from city to city, must be established. Similar relay systems will gradually come into use as common carriers of radiotelegraph, radioteletype and radiotelephone messages.

Like other authorities analyzing the immediate postwar and long-tange prospects of the American radio industry, General Sarnoff expects television to equal the expansion of sound broadcasting after World War I.

Tom Waller Is Appointed UA Publicity Manager

NEW YORK—Tom Waller, a member of the Paramount publicity department for the last nine years, has been appointed publicity manager for United Artists. His most recent assignment with Paramount was as syndicate and wire service publicity representative. His UA appointment is effective immediately. He succeeds James Dunn, resigned.

Waller has had a broad industry and newspaper background. He is well known in the trade as a syndicate by-line writer and specialist in national publicity.

Claude F. Lee Returns

NEW YORK—Claude F. Lee, director of public relations for Paramount, has returned from San Francisco where he spent two months supervising the presentation of film programs for the United Nations Conference.

All Studios in Mexico Are Busily Producing

By DON PEPE

MEXICO CITY—One of the youngest directors of our industry, Roberto Rodriguez, of the Rodriguez clan, left for Hollywood. He is preparing his next picture. Rodriguez brothers have been assigned four pictures this year.

Our good friend and fellow scribe, Antonio Salazar, director of the cinema magazine La Pantalla, who also was production manager for Producciones Rodriguez, is getting ready to leave for Venezuela where, with others, he will devote his activities to production in that South American republic. Salazar leaves here many friends who will miss him.

Laurita and Ray, well known singers, have been taken ill on their return after a successful tour in the U.S. Ray is resting and preparing new songs in his beautiful tropical town of Zongolica in the state of Vera Cruz. Together with his partner, Laurita, they will leave for another tour through California, and will also make New York to fulfill a contract for recording.

Everybody connected with the industry and the public at large are anxiously awaiting the coming arrival of Star Deanna Durbin.

"Tuya en Cuerpo y Alma," with beautiful blonde Lina Montes, our great actress, Sara Garcia, and South America's Crox Alvarado, distributed by Columbia, had a big success at the Palacio Chino. Columbia is also distributing "Adulterio," with Charito Granados, Julio Villarreal, beautiful Hilda Kruger and another great artist, Prudencia Grifel, and "Una Gitana en Mexico," with the "it" girl, Paquita de Ronda, and a great team, Angel Garasa and our own Pito Perez, popular Medel.

The Calderon brothers have just sustained the loss of their brother, Don Mauricio, who died in Los Angeles. Although Don Mauricio was not active in the film industry, he was well known to all and highly esteemed by the many friends of his brothers, Don Rafael and Don José, who, together with his nephew, Ruben A. Calderon, head of the Azteca Film Distributing Co., have received many proofs of sympathy.

All studios are kept in full production. At the Stahl Studios, producer Contreras Torres is working on his latest picture, about which we will give you some notes in our next.

And hasta luego!

Universal Gets VA Contract

NEW YORK—The Veterans' Administration has awarded a contract to Universal Pictures. The agreement calls for the film company to furnish 35mm sound film service to 91 veterans' hospitals and facilities throughout the country. The contract will be handled by Universal's nontheatrical department for the second year in a row.

Grad Sears Will Resume UA Duties on July 2

New York—Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists' vice-president in charge of distribution, will return to duty July 2. He entered a New York hospital early in February suffering from a heart ailment.

Sears left the hospital several weeks ago and has visited the office several times for short periods. He also attended the recent board of directors meeting and the dinner for J. Arthur Rank at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Raftery said he was happy to announce Sears' recovery.

"He has gained weight," he said, "and looks in the pink of condition."



YOUTH AWARD TO LEO: William Fadiman (left), story editor and chairman of the editorial board of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, accepts a special certificate awarded to Isobel Lennart by the Metropolitan Youth Council. The award, given for Miss Lennart's outstanding contribution to motion pictures in writing the screen play "Lost Angel," was presented by Allen Weisse, chairman of the Motion Picture Wing, before a large audience in New York's Town Hall.

Plagiarism Damages Must Be Shared, Court Rules

NEW YORK—Ruling that plagiarism damages recovered by authors are not "in the nature of a penalty" but are "compensation for the wrong perpetrated upon those who owned the motion picture rights of the play," the appellate division of the New York supreme court has handed down a decision awarding damages of approximately $70,000 to Guthrie McClintic, producer of "Dishonored Lady."

The decision was rendered in the suit brought by McClintic against Edward Sheldon and Margaret Ayer Barnes, authors of "Lady," which McClintic produced in 1928. When M-G-M subsequently produced "Letty Lynton," the authors sued, claiming infringement of their play. They were awarded damages of $171,413.11.

The court upheld McClintic's contention that he was entitled to part of the verdict because it was income derived from the play.

Columbus to Get Premiere Of 'Captain Eddie' Film

COLUMBUS — This city, birthplace of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, will present the premiere of "Captain Eddie," 20th-Fox film based on the life of the World War I ace. August 1 has been set as date for the gala opening, Hal Horne, the company's director of publicity, advertising and exploitation, told a luncheon group.

Present at the luncheon, held in Horne's honor, were Gov. Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, Mayor James A. Rhodes of Columbus, Congressman John M. Vorys, Publisher Edgar T. Wolfe of the Ohio State Journal, Publisher Ralph Burkholder of the Columbus Citizen, and other outstanding Ohioans, "Captain Eddie" would, they told Horne, receive a demonstration similar to the one this city accorded Rickenbacker when he returned from France in 1919, after shooting down 26 enemy planes.

Loew's Pays Dividend

NEW YORK—Directors of Loew's, Inc. have declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents on the company's common stock, payable June 30 to stockholders of record June 19.

Todos Los Estudios de Mexico en Produccion

Por DON PEPE

MEXICO, D. F.—Uno de los jóvenes directores de nuestro cine, Roberto Rodriguez, de la dinastía Rodriguez, salió a Hollywood, en viaje de observación y estudio para prepararse para su próxima película. Los Hermanos Rodriguez tienen asignadas cuatro películas en este año.

El buen amigo y colega, Antonio Salazar, director de La Pantalla, uno de los buenos periódicos especialistas del Cine Mexicano, y que venia fungiendo como gerente de Producción de Producciones Rodriguez Hermanos, está haciendo sus maletas para irse a Venezuela, adoñde en unión de otros enthusiastas piensan dedicarse a la producción filmica en aquella República. El Sr. Salazar deja un buen número de amigos en ésta, por su caballeroso trato y amplios conocimientos en el ramo.

La simpática pareja de Laurita y Ray, cancioneros que acaban de regresar de una fructífera gira en los Estados Unidos, no han sido muy bien recibidos pues los dos han sufrido enfermedades que los han tenido recluidos, en sus habitaciones. Ray en el paraiso troplical de su tierra, Zongolica, del estado de Veracruz está preparando sus nuevas composiciones para salir con su compañera Laurita a otra gira por California, de donde irán a New York a cumplir con un contrato para la grabación de discos.

Todo el elemento de la industria está esperando anciosamente la llegada de la Estrella Deanna Durbin, cuya llegada a México ha sido anunciada para estos dias.

Tuya en Cuerpo y Alma, una de las buenas películas Mexicanas distribuida por la Columbia, se estrenó con buen éxito en el Palacio Chino. Encabeza el reparto la linda rubia Lina Montes, nuestra eximia actriz Sara Garcia y el Sud-Americano Crox Alvarado. Columbia distribuye y estrenará pronto "Adulterio" con Charito Granados, Julio Villarreal, la guapa Hilda Kruger y Doña Prudencia Griffel, y Una Gitana en México, con la guapisima Paquita de Ronda, el gran actor Angel Garasa y Pito Perez, el popular Medel.

Los caballerosos Hermanos Calderon, acaban de sufrir la lamentable pérdida de su hermano mayor Don Mauricio, ocaecida en Los Angeles. Aunque Don Mauricio no tomó parte activa en la industria del cine, era muy conocido y estimado entre los numerosos amigos de sus hermanos Don Rafael y Don José, que han recibido muchas muestras de simpatía, en unión de Don Ruben A. Calderon, sobrino del extinto, jefe de la Azteca Films Distributing Company.

Todos los estudios siguen en plena producción. En los Estudios Stahl, en incansable Contreras Torres está ya en plena producciónde su nueva cinta, de la que nos ocuparemos en proximo número.

Y Hasta luego!

Zanuck Urges Showing U.S. Films in Germany

Washington — Darryl F. Zanuck discussed with President Truman his proposal that domestic picture producers make a percentage of their annual output in pictures of American life for the purpose of showing them in Germany also. The President, Zanuck said, displayed interest in the proposal and seemed favorably impressed.

The 20th-Fox head advanced the plan as an alternative to outright propaganda films, feeling Germans in time will become impressed with the virtues of democracy through seeing pictures of American life.

"WONDER MAN" IS SUPE

★"No more sprightly screen comedy has come to town for a long time . . . loaded with laughter!"
—*Howard Barnes, Herald Tribune*

★"'Wonder Man' gives guffaws the best break since the invention of the tickle. The flicker-frolic comes through with a jubilee of mirth!" —*Walter Winchell, Mirror*



★"Danny Kaye careens through one-man show . . . he's buoyant, gay and endless!" —*Alton Cook, World-Telegram*

★"Danny Kaye fans . . . there are millions of 'em . . . will eat this one up!" —*Lee Mortimer, Daily Mirror*

★"'Wonder Man' is bright and fast and brash . . . it's a loud, lively comedy!" —*Eileen Creelman, Sun*

"Wonder Man" in first week at the Astor beats All-time record by $10,000!

Samuel Goldwyn



It'll reap plenty of Jack at the BOX OFFICE!

LET'S TOP THEM ALL IN
THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN

R!...says New York Press...

★ "He chatters and cracks jokes winningly, races about in mad confusion . . . sings songs like something quite mad . . . Mr. Kaye running joyfully away with the show!"
—*Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times*

★ " . . .'Wonder Man' a howling success!" . . .
—*Kate Cameron, Daily News*

★ "'Wonder Man' is quite a guy . . . Danny literally outshines himself!"
—*John McManus, PM*

★ "The fun is fast, furious and . . . continuous. Kaye exploits his overflowing bag of tricks with contagious enthusiasm!"
—*Archer Winsten, N. Y. Post*



presents

Danny Kaye in "WONDER MAN" in Technicolor

with

VIRGINIA MAYO • VERA-ELLEN

DONALD WOODS • S. Z. SAKALL ALLEN JENKINS • EDWARD BROPHY • OTTO KRUGER • STEVE COCHRAN • VIRGINIA GILMORE and THE GOLDWYN GIRLS

Directed by BRUCE HUMBERSTONE · Screen Play by DON HARTMAN, MELVILLE SHAVELSON and PHILIP RAPP · Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Para's Finances Strong, Balaban Report States

NEW YORK—Paramount is in a strong financial position because of its retirement of long-term obligations, President Barney Balaban declared in his annual report to the stockholders. He said he was optimistic about the postwar outlook.

Any cut in tax rates at the end of the war, he said, would serve as a cushion against a possible decrease in revenue. Balaban observed that the wartime development of electronic devices may materially affect the amusement industry, particularly in television, adding that the company had taken steps to keep abreast of these developments.

The Paramount president referred to the strong lineup of product the company has been making and singled out "Going My Way" for special mention. He observed that this film had been unanimously chosen as America's favorite picture of 1944. Due to his absence in Europe, Balaban's report was read to the stockholders by Austin C. Keough, who acted as chairman.

Following the reading of Balaban's report, the following directors were re-elected:

Barney Balaban, Leonard Goldenson, Stephen Callaghan, Harvey D. Gibson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Charles M. Reagan, Duncan G. Harris, Edwin L. Weisl, John D. Hertz, Austin C. Keough, Earl I. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Adolph Zukor and Y. Frank Freeman. Reagan replaces the late John W. Hicks jr.

Cites Large Cash Reserve

Excerpts from Balaban's report follow:

"In appraising the present financial position of the company it is well to note that Paramount and its consolidated subsidiaries have approximately $5,000,000 more cash and government securities than is necessary to meet all their current assets, principally inventory and receivables of $43,946,000.

"Since Jan. 1, 1945, the previous conservative trend in our finances has continued. Cash has increased by approximately four million dollars. As will be noted later, consolidated debt is down by four million dollars and picture inventory has decreased approximately the same amount."

Referring to the reduction in long-term obligations, Balaban said they aggregated $122,000,000 in 1930, and $84,000,000 in 1936. At present they total $17,400,000.

Says He Is Optimistic

In discussing postwar prospects, he said:

"There has been much discussion during the last few months of the effect on our economy of the termination of the war in Europe and finally in Japan. There are many factors involved and experts disagree. Personally, I feel somewhat optimistic."

He envisaged additional revenue from "certain countries whose markets have been closed on account of the war and where many pictures released in late years have not been shown."

"However, an offset to this possibility is the tendency in many countries toward nationalistic control of motion picture imports and the development of additional competition in production. These are matters which will be influenced by our national policies and the Bretton Woods and San Francisco conference proposals.

"Based on an estimated figure of accumulated savings during the 1940-45 period of more than $150 billion, there is good reason to believe that the level of consumer expenditures will considerably exceed that of pre-war years. Motion picture receipts have in the past generally risen and fallen in proportion to consumer savings and expenditures. Additionally, any reduction in wartime tax rates, when effected, should also serve to cushion any decrease in revenue."



BARNEY BALABAN

The company, he said, is no longer subject to the provisions of the consent decree, providing for tradeshowings and licensing of films in groups of five or less. But the company is continuing these trade practices anyway.

Discussing electronic developments, Balaban said:

"The present war has, in many senses, become an electronic war and many unusual devices have developed which may materially modify the amusement industry, particularly as regards television. Paramount has, through various interests, kept closely in touch with these developments and is prepared to take advantage of those which may prove unusually useful.

"We are engaged in experimentation with possibilities of television in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Paramount also has a substantial interest in the Dumont Television Co."

Porter to Address Panel

NEW YORK—Paul Porter, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, will address the Radio Panel of the Conference of the Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Postwar World at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on June 23. Porter, whose commission opened hearings on FM and television June 22, will discuss the government position toward postwar development and expansion in these fields.

Mowrey Gets ATS Award

NEW YORK—Paul B. Mowrey, video division head of the American Broadcasting Co., received the first annual award of the American Television Society "for the most outstanding contribution to television during the past year." The plaque presented to Mowrey designated him as having been responsible "for the position the American Broadcasting Co. now holds in television."

"Wrong Impression From Gangster Films"—Rank

Chicago—J. Arthur Rank, British film magnate, told local theatre men that he was deeply touched by the kindness shown him here and that his party "had the wrong impression from gangster films with a Chicago locale that were shown in England."

He added that he was going to send everyone of his producers here to obtain fresh ideas of the "greatness of the central west."

When English studios obtain more equipment to replace wornout machines and studio personnel returns from war, English films will meet with greater favor from the American public because they will give wanted entertainment, thereby cementing greater understanding between peoples of two great nations, he added.

Big Welcome to Rank From Chicago Trade

By JONAS PERLBERG

CHICAGO — Tall, distinguished appearing and impeccably tailored, J. Arthur Rank, the "prime minister" of the British motion picture industry, arrived in Chicago Monday on another leg of this, his first tour of the United States—a tour which will take him to the west coast, for he wants to learn, first-hand, all about American methods of film production, distribution and theatre operation.

Tendered a dinner in the Blackstone, Rank met just about every important film man in the Chicago area, for attending were all circuit heads, exchange managers and others of the industry.

Rank courteously met the press. He declared that his flour mills in Britain would be rebuilt before his theatre chain would be expanded. From here he went to Minneapolis, capital of the flour industry in this country.

Rank declared that Great Britain was not out to flood the American market with its films, but said that friendly competition would continue to be the keynote. He declared that he believed Americans would rather study the British by means of British-made films than through American-made flickers purporting to delineate our English cousins.

Friendly Atmosphere Prevails

The local testimonial to Rank quite outdid anything of its kind in point of attendance and the friendly, interesting atmosphere which prevailed was handled by Edwin (Essaness) Silverman, assisted by Monogram's Ben Eisenberg; Jack Kirsch, Allied Theatres; Ted Levy of PRC and Ben Katz, Universal Pictures press agent.

The guest of honor was accompanied by his legal counsel, G. I. Woodham-Smith; John Davis, his theatre adviser; Barrington Gain, his financial manager, and Jack Lawrence, press relations.

Following his jaunt to the wheat belt, Rank will go west to renew friendship with Sam Goldwyn who, he said, he had met three times in England. Rank reiterated that he had no plans whatever for affiliating with independent theatre chains here or setting up a theatre chain of his own in this country.

He said he was very much interested in television and during his stopover here visited the WBKB television station with John Balaban of the B&K organization.

"Christmas" Showing for July

NEW YORK—Warner Bros.' "Christmas in Connecticut," will have its national tradeshowing July 18.

IT'S



DYNAMITE

SET TO MUSIC!...

GEORGE
RAFT
—a Barbary Coast wolf!

JOAN
BENNETT
—beautiful blue-blood on the loose!

PEGGY ANN
GARN
—your "Tree Grows in Bro

ACTION

... star-powered with glamour... sparkling with song!

from



20th CENTURY-FOX



GEORGE RAFT · JOAN BENNETT · VIVIAN BLAINE
PEGGY ANN GARNER in "NOB HILL" with Alan "Falstaff Openshaw" Reed · B. S. Pully · Emil Coleman · Edgar Barrier · Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY · Produced by ANDRE DAVEN · In TECHNICOLOR · Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock and Norman Reilly Raine · From a story by Eleanore Griffen · Music and Lyrics by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson · Dances Staged by Nick Castle

Directed by
HENRY HATHAWAY

Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock a

VIVIAN

BLAINE

-Cherry Blonde tigress at bay!

ER

star!

LAN Falstaff Openshaw

REED

f the Fred Allen show!



duced by

NDRE DAVEN

man Reilly Raine



The Biggest Figure in the TECHNICOLOR Spotlight!

Billy Rose's
DIAMOND HORSESHOE
IN TECHNICOLOR

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
IN TECHNICOLOR

NOB HILL
IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck's
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

Rodgers and Hammerstein's
STATE FAIR
IN TECHNICOLOR

THE DOLLY SISTERS
IN TECHNICOLOR

Moley Book Narrates History of MPPDA

By PAUL PEREZ

NEW YORK—Started five years ago and just published by Bobbs-Merrill Co., Raymond Moley's "The Hays Office" provides between 200 and 300 pages of interesting if not convincing reading. In his role of spokesman for the spokesman of the industry, Moley seeks to persuade the reader his book is rather a record of the industry's course along the road to self-government than a glorification of Will H. Hays.

Since most of Moley's source material was obtained from the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, one hardly expects to find any unflattering references either to MPPDA or Hays. Moley protests—too much, perhaps—that he is not an apologist for Hays or the MPPDA, yet refers to him more than once quoting Edward G. Lowry's phrase from "Washington Close-Ups" as "an articulate emotionalist."

He Can Be Articulate

Those who have attended industry functions at which Hays spoke know how articulate he can be. As to his emotional depths, Hays' own account of what finally impelled him to accept the job as film czar, speaks for itself.

"On Christmas morning, he relates, as he sat at breakfast, he overheard an argument in the next room. His son, Bill jr., aged six, and the boy's cousins, Charles Edward and John T. Hays, aged five and seven respectively, were putting on a set of cowboy suits they had found among their presents under the tree.

" 'I'm going to be Bill Hart,' piped Bill jr.

" 'No, you're not,' said Charles belligerently, 'I am.'

" 'Neither of you is,' announced John, the eldest. 'I am.'

"Tears Still Come to His Eyes"

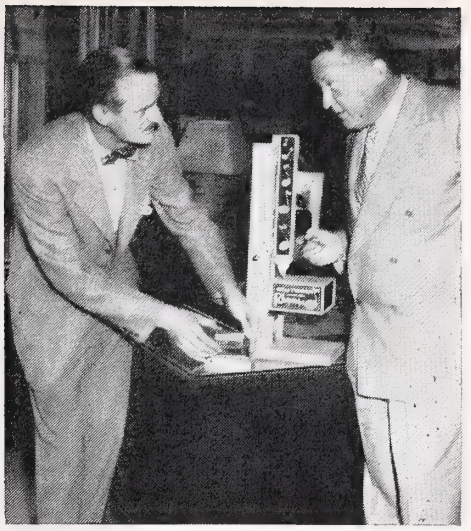
"Hays put down his newspaper. There went through his mind, he says, the familiar words, 'Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength.' Suddenly he realized that Bill Hart was real and close and important to his son and his nephews, that the movies were important to millions of children and grownups. It wasn't just a job that had been offered to him. It was a challenge, a duty. And the tears still come to his eyes when he tells that he stood up, then, in the shadow of the Christmas tree, and silently repeated the vow of St. Paul: 'And this I do.' "

Troop Movements Result in Cancelling Conventions

TORONTO—Scheduled for June 27-28 at Montreal, the managers' convention of Paramount Film Service, Ltd., has been called off because of the government's order to cancel all gatherings so as to divert trains and hotels for the accommodation of troops returning from Europe. Thus cancellation followed the withdrawal of Pullman coaches and dining cars from rail services for the use of civilians.

It has also been announced by N. A. Taylor that the scheduled tenth anniversary convention and dinner of 20th Century Theatres, June 25-26 in Toronto, had been cancelled in deference to the government's wishes.

Arrangements are going ahead for the second annual film trade golf tourney at the Oakdale Golf and Country Club here June 26, but contestants are urged to avoid the railroads in gathering for the event.



IT'S THIS WAY—Otto Luther of the Warners art staff shows Mort Blumenstock a model of the proposed front display on the Hollywood Theatre for "Rhapsody in Blue."

Review >> << Flashes

BEWITCHED (M-G-M)—Although shy in production value, boxoffice names, action and interest, "Bewitched" may have an appeal for avid followers of Director Arch Oboler's radio programs. Exploited along this line, it should prove satisfactory support on a double bill or midweek single. Its plot tells of a girl whose split personality drives her mad, finally impelling her to murder her fiance. Edmund Gwenn, Phyllis Thaxter, Henry H. Daniels jr., Addison Richards, Kathleen Lockhart.

MR. MUGGS RIDES AGAIN (Mono)—One of the best East Side Kid pictures to date, this entry in the series being produced by Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz should have a much wider appeal in both bookings and audience satisfaction, than the average predecessor. A sounder, better-written screenplay, specializing in plot rather than shenanigans affords the film its additional scope . . . It's a race track story which has Muggs a jockey, who is disqualified after he is framed by crooked gamblers. Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Billy Benedict, Nancy Brinckman, Bernerd Thomas. Wallace Fox directed.

NAUGHTY NINETIES, THE (Univ)—"The Naughty Nineties" provides a perfect setting for the kind of zany shenanigans of which Abbott and Costello are masters. In addition, pleasing tunes lend the proper touch of nostalgia to counterbalance the duo's antics. The cavorting couple run through some tried and true routines and others more original with their usual boundless energy . . . The film should provide a pleasant interlude for audiences with an appreciation of A&C humor, and settings are substantial enough to warrant general appeal. Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Alan Curtis, Rita Johnson, Henry Travers. Jean Yarbrough directed.

These reviews will appear in full in a forthcoming issue of BOXOFFICE.

Anti-Bingo Measure Loses Out in Ohio

COLUMBUS, OHIO—Bingo won't be outlawed as gambling at this session of the Ohio legislature, Sen. George G. Shurtz, Republican, Coshocton, conceded last week. He also disclosed that he was irked over the way he said the powerful senate rules committee "smothered" his legislation, which stirred up plenty of controversy earlier in the present session.

The minister-senator and self-appointed foe of gambling and liquor abuses said the committee, which decides the order in which bills shall be brought to a vote on the senate floor, killed his measure by a secret ballot, the outcome of which was "known only to its chairman."

Senator Shurtz asserted the vote was taken on ballots which were torn up and "tossed into a cuspidor," after an announcement that the measure was lost without disclosing the tally to the eight-member committee.

Senator Shurtz said his anti-bingo bill, backed by the Ohio Council of Churches, was twice recommended for passage by the senate judiciary committee after protracted hearings and deserved to be placed before the legislature for a vote instead of "smothered" in committee.

The measure was opposed by a number of fraternal and religious organizations which contended bingo was not gambling under Ohio law so long as proceeds went for benevolent purposes instead of personal profit.

Pass Bill Clarifying Film Rental Tax

COLUMBUS—The Ohio house of representatives last week passed 106-3 senate bill No. 312, which revised the bill clarifying sales taxes on film rentals. The senate previously had passed the revised bill, which may save the industry $3,000,000, it is estimated by P. J. Wood, ITO secretary. The bill now goes to Gov. Frank J. Lausche, who is expected to sign it.

Industry Keeps on Toes As Drive Nears Close

NEW YORK—Increased activity during the closing weeks of the Seventh War Loan drive throughout the country indicates the War Activities Committee's appeal to beware of complacency has made itself felt.

Northern California has set aside June 25 as "On to Tokyo" day, on which it is expected the industry drive will receive additional impetus in selling war bonds. Samuel Pinanski, national chairman, urges all industry state committees to adopt June 25 as a special Seventh War Loan bond sales day, to be known as "On to Tokyo" day.

As an example of the enthusiasm, initiative and work done by the "grass-roots" boys, Pinanski cites the work done by Pete Gladstone of the Cameo Theatre, Exmore, Va., a town of less than 500 population. Since it was impossible to get a stage show of any sort in this little community, Gladstone himself mounted the stage of his little playhouse after a screening of "All-Star Bond Rally" and as an inducement offered a six-month pass to the Cameo to the person purchasing the largest amount of bonds that night. The idea clicked and $3,500 in bonds were sold. Repeating the stunt the following night, he sold $4,450. Subsequently he carried out the same stunt at the Radium Theatre, Cape Charles, and sold $5,540 in bonds.

Role to Former "Our Gang" Star

Dick Winslow, ex-star of "Our Gang" comedies, has been added to the cast of "To Each His Own" at Paramount.

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Employment Drop Threatens Theatre Grosses in Spots

Theatres in areas depending upon transportation and shipbuilding, mining and manufacturing as principal sources of wage income for their patrons stand to suffer losses in attendance with a consequent effect upon boxoffice grosses, judging from a report issued recently by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins. In an analysis of employment in nonagricultural establishments, it was revealed that there has been an employment decline of "slightly more than a million since May, 1944," and a decline of 150,000 since April. The total employment figure quoted was 37,654,000 during May.

The employment decline, both over the month and over the year, was brought about by decreased employment in only two of seven major industry divisions—manufacturing and mining. Although manufacturing accounted for the largest part of the over-all decline, the decreases in mining were significant, it was stated. Insofar as shipbuilding and transportation are concerned, that industry has shown a steady decline for the last 17 months.

Boxoffice figures reported from larger cities seem to indicate that those centers where manufacturing, mining and shipbuilding are important economic factors, there has been a tendency toward a drop in attendance in first run houses, while neighborhood theatres in such areas continue to be strong in average gross reports.

Bids on Enemy Alien Films May Be Recalled Shortly

The recent call for bids on distribution licenses for 50 German and Austrian motion pictures, as announced by Alien Property Custodian James E. Markham, has brought about quite a furore among various organizations with the result that the government agency may drop its request for bids.

Several progressive organizations, as well as several exhibitors who customarily play foreign-language product, have indicated in strong terms to the alien property custodian that the release of these films, most of which were produced while the Nazis were in power in Germany and Austria, would be followed by theatre boycotts wherever the pictures would be shown.

Surplus Property Disposal Will Get a Careful Check

Exhibitors, producers and others who anticipate large quantities of available materials to be turned over for civilian use by the Surplus Property Board are doomed to disappointment. Theatre equipment, for example, now is being scattered all over the world and the usability of the bulk of the material, when ultimately offered for sale, may be nil.

In an effort to avoid possible scandals involving the disposal of this material, word has been passed along to military and other government agencies to use up all available material, even if it means the transshipment of such equipment from the former European theatre of war to the Pacific. In this war, there will be little opportunity for waste, if government officials here have their way.

Several congressional personages have been sharpening their axes in the hope that the Surplus Property Board will provide a sounding board for a juicy antiadministration scandal. President Truman, who as head of the Truman committee was an expert on digging up errors in judgment and whose political acumen becomes increasingly evident every day as he grows greater in stature by his forthright approach to the problems facing him, has been most emphatic in his insistence upon careful, honest and scrupulous handling of surplus property.

In several talks with SPB officials here, this reporter learned that while there may be a large quantity of equipment offered for resale to the public, most of the material ultimately to be turned back by the military, naval and government agencies is expected to have value only as scrap.

Chile Offers Fine Market For Equipment From U.S.

A motion picture equipment survey of Chile prepared by Nathan D. Golden, chief, motion picture unit, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, reveals that Latin American countries should be a fairly good market for United States supplies.

Of the 111 motion picture theatres in the Santiago district, practically all are using equipment five years old or older. Six theatres are under construction, of which two will use United States equipment and one Chilean-made equipment. The other theatres have not advanced sufficiently in construction for a choice of projectors to be made. In the Valdavia district, some 30 theatres are now open for replacements in projection equipment and the 65 theatres in the Valparaiso district also could use new equipment.

Peace Festivals Proposed, With Films Playing Part

There's nothing like preparing for peace, judging by an article in the current issue of World Economics, which proposes to set up an International Peace Festivals organization in order to dramatize the cause of peace through the arts. The article, penned by Lewis Lorwin and Paul N. Turner, suggests that the proposed organization would arrange for worldwide presentations, at easily accessible places, of festivals at which, through music, plays, ballets, paintings, sculpture, displays of household art and, of course, motion pictures, the cultural values and the ways of living of the different peoples of the civilized world would be visualized by the citizens of each country.

The Institute of World Economics in Washington plans to hold a conference of the principal cultural and artists' organizations of the United States in the near future to launch the new international organization.

Several of the motion picture unions, as well as Equity, are reported interested in the plans suggested.

I've Heard:

That Luther Evans, the new librarian of Congress, is very film-minded and you might watch that austere building for some news of interest to the film industry;

That Donald Nelson's appointment as head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, augurs some exciting moments for that organization and for the film industry in general.

Yates Views Expansion In the Foreign Field

NEW YORK—Herbert J. Yates sr., president of Republic Pictures, predicts an unprecedented expansion in the foreign field for films during the next three or four years. After that, he feels, holding the new markets will depend upon the ability of American producers to meet new competition.

His optimism over the near future is based upon the need for enormous reconstruction in Europe as a result of the war. Putting business in general back on prewar levels in



HERBERT J. YATES Sr.

Europe, he says, will be a strain on the resources of these countries and films are not likely to get top priorities. In the meantime the existing theatres and the hunger for entertainment will require American product.

In Latin America, he points out, the problem is different. More people are seeing films than ever before and the demand is increasing all the time. He says Republic will start production in Mexico City with Spanish dialog as soon as the RKO studio there is finished.

In common with all other American producers and distributors he hopes for equal treatment in all foreign markets, with a minimum of government discrimination. This will require a united front on the part of U.S. producers, he says.

Planning Big-Budget Pictures

Republic's plans for big budget pictures by Frank Borzage and other producers—a departure for the company—will develop with circumstances, he says. He declined to make an estimate of the cost of the first Borzage picture.

He was quite frank on this point.

"With a producer like Borzage," he said, "you don't sit down and say, 'Your budget is going to be so and so.' You get his ideas, work out plans together, ask him to keep an eye on the budget and hope for the best. With every item of cost about 40 per cent above the level of two or three years ago, you are lucky if the final cost does not run over a million or a million and a half."

He made a humorous observation on costs in general. "I'm a pretty good accountant," he remarked, "but those studio bookkeepers can get so many things into the overhead that I can't dig them out."



Such Lovely Reviews to Come Home To!

"Should bring ducats to the boxoffice . . . all the elements of acting, direction and pace are combined skillfully so that appetizing entertainment results. Andrew Stone deserves applause in his dual role of producer-director!"

— *Hollywood Reporter*

"Well-contrived, streamlined comedy . . . okay boxoffice!"

— *Variety*

"There are a thousand laughs in 'Bedside Manner' . . . it's the Treat of the Week!"

— *Hedda Hopper*

"Trim package of up-to-the-minute entertainment! Well-constructed comedy-drama right down the popular alley and should hit a nice stride at the boxoffice!"

— *Daily Variety*

"Picture of the Week!"

— *Jimmy Fidler*

"A comedy that will entertain all with its dialogue and unusual situations!"

— *Showmen's Trade Review*

ANDREW STONE presents

"BEDSIDE MANNER"

starring JOHN CARROLL and RUTH HUSSEY
with CHARLES RUGGLES and ANN RUTHERFORD

Esther Dale - Grant Mitchell - Frank Jenks
From the Saturday Evening Post story by Robert Carson
Screenplay by FREDERICK JACKSON and MALCOLM STUART BOYLAN
Directed by Andrew Stone - Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Dave Fleischer Buys Interest In New Sebastian Productions

Dave Fleischer, formerly a production executive with Columbia and Paramount, has purchased an interest in the newly-organized Sebastian Productions, which as its initial venture will make a series of whodunits based on the exploits of Simon Lash, fictional detective.

With the release of "One Exciting Night" in the Paramount package, Producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas will have reduced their backlog of pictures to two, "Follow That Woman" and "People Are Funny." One picture remains to complete this season's program, in addition to which the producers have four story properties in preparation for 1945-46, "Hot Cargo," starring Robert Lowery and William Gargan; "Swamp Fire," with Johnnie Weissmuller; "Shasta Dam," starring Lowery; "Nightmare," with Byron Barr.

"Anna and the King of Siam" Is Switched to Technicolor

Twentieth-Fox has switched still another picture from black and white to Technicolor, the second forthcoming feature to have been so treated within a week. Latest film elevated to the color treatment is "Anna and the King of Siam."

"The Frontiersman" Postponed; Schedule New One for Flynn

"The Frontiersman," which was to have been the Errol Flynn starrer, has been postponed and "Don't Ever Leave Me," an original by Norma and Ben Barzman, scheduled for the actor in its place. James Kern will direct, William Jacobs produce . . . But, while future production addenda lost the galloper in which Flynn was to star, another was gained through the announcement by RKO that it would make a super western under the title "Badman's Territory," which the Gower St. film foundry is touting as its most spectacular outdoor picture since "Cimarron." Randolph Scott has been signed for a top role. Nat Holt will produce under supervision of Jack Gross. Story, which was written for the screen by Jack Natteford and Luci Ward, has for its background that portion of the United States which from 1850 to 1899 was outside the control of the federal government. Among the real-life characters to be depicted, will be such notorious outlaws as the James Boys, the Dalton Boys, Belle Starr, Sam Bass, Little Britches and Cattle Annie.

Metro and Republic Unlimber Bankrolls in Story Market

Metro and Republic lots were the paywagons for the peddlers of stories, both studios unlimbering the respective bankrolls to acquire two literary properties for motion pictures.

Leo laid it on the line for "A Really Important Person," Saturday Evening Post story by B. J. Chute and "But Not Goodbye," stage play of a few seasons ago. Based on a comedy-drama by George Seaton, the fantasy will be produced by Irving Starr as his initial picture under his new M-G-M pact.

The Republic purchases included "Sleepy Horse Range," a novel by William Colt MacDonald, which Executive Producer William J. O'Sullivan has assigned Edward J. White to supervise as a starrer for Roy Rogers; and "Companion Wanted," an original story by Houston Branch who will also write the screenplay.

Paramount acquired screen and video rights to Vicki Baum's latest novel, "Beyond This Journey." The yarn, now being serialized in the Woman's Home Companion, probably will be a starring vehicle for either Alan Ladd, Ray Milland, or Sonny Tufts. Lou Edelman will produce and the screenplay is being written by Frank Partos. The story is a romantic melodrama of the adventures of a former American air ace flying commercially in South America and his involvement with escaping German war criminals.

"Murder is Unpredictable," an original screenplay by Eric Taylor, was purchased by Columbia and will be used as the basis of one of the Whistler series of features starring Richard Dix.

Blurber McVeigh Ankles Para; Will Enter Free-Lance Field

Veteran Blurber Blake McVeigh, assistant to George Brown, Paramount studio publicity head, has asked for and received a release from his contract and plans to enter the free-lance publicity field . . . Current option in the long-term contract of William Castle, Columbia director, was picked up by the studio . . . Republic signed William Thiele, European writer and film director, to a long term writing-directing contract. Thiele is co-authoring the final script of "The Madonna's Secret," with Bradbury Foots, for associate-producer Stephen Auer, and will direct that production when it goes before the cameras.

"Millie's Daughter" Treatment Assigned to Arnold Manoff

Assignments of executive and creative talent at Columbia were unusually plentiful. Arnold Manoff was signed to do a screen treatment on "Millie's Daughter," novel by Donald Henderson Clark. The film will be produced by Michel Kraike . . . Martin Field and Ted Thomas were assigned to scribble a new treatment on "Sing While You Dance," to be produced by Alexis Thurn-Taxis. Original story was by Lorraine Edwards.

Irving White, recently honorably discharged after serving three years in the army, most of the time in Greenland, was inked to write the screen treatment of "Murder by Television" . . . Three writers on the Judy Canova air show were ticketed to work on the script of "Hayfoot, Strawfoot," her next film for that company. Hal Fimberg will do a complete rewrite of the film script, while gagmen Henry Foople and Fred L. Fox were signed to contribute special gags.

Chores set at other studios: Lew Landers, formerly an RKO Radio director, returns to that studio after an absence of six years to direct "The Lie Detector," which Herman Schlom will produce. Lawrence Kimble is writing the screenplay . . . Trem Carr, executive director, assigned Lindsley Parsons to produce "Suspense," Monogram drama from a screenplay by Alfred Zeisler and Dennis Cooper . . . Jeffrey Bernerd pacted George Sayre to write the screenplay of "Black Market Babies," which he will produce for Monogram.

Leonard Lee at Universal was assigned to work on the script of the Charles Bonner novel, "Bull by the Horns," which Jane Murfin will produce . . . Gerald Geraghty started an original screenplay titled "The Gay Ranchero," for Republic Associate Producer Edward J. White, to star Roy Rogers.

Henry Blanke's next production for Warner will be "Woman in White," Wilkie Collins' mystery novel written in 1840 and forerunner of today's best mysteries. This is the second Collins novel to be planned for this studio, "Moonstone" being already in preparation . . . At the same studio Charles Hoffman, writer, was upped to producer's status.

King Brothers Will Undertake "Golden Girl," Belita Starrer

Revision in production allotments among Monogram producers reveals that the King brothers will undertake as their next venture "Golden Girl," which will topline Belita. "Suspense," from an unproduced play by John Faxon, which had been reported as the Brudern King's next, has been dumped into the company's lap for assignment to some other film maker.

At the same time, more light was thrown on the various Kids series which abound on the Monogram lot. For the past several seasons Jack Dietz and Sam Katzman, as Banner Productions, have co-produced the well-known "East End Kids" pictures. It is no film capital secret that Messrs. Dietz and Katzman have reached a parting of the ways. Katzman has two groups on the fire—"High School Kids," which has been definitely committed for Monogram distribution, and "Bowery Kids," for which he is currently seeking a release. Presumably, the "East Side" lads will remain under the aegis of Dietz. In any event, Monogram seems set for more kids than the Dionnes.

Bickford Is Signed by RKO For Role in "None So Blind"

Highlights of the week's casting news: Charles Bickford was signed by RKO Radio for a featured role in "None So Blind." It will be produced by Val Lewton . . . At the same studio Micheline Cheirel, French actress, was handed one of the two leading feminine roles opposite Dick Powell in "Cornered" . . . James Jordan jr., 21-year-old son of James and Marion Jordan, the "Fibber McGee and Molly" of radio has been cast for one of the top roles in "Tomorrow Is Here," RKO Radio's postwar story of the medical and physical readjustment of America's medically discharged service men.

Virginia Sale was signed by Warners for a role in the forthcoming Technicolor musical, "Night and Day," based on the life of Cole Porter . . . Also at Warners, a role in "Confidential Agent," Charles Boyer-Lauren Bacall starrer, was handed to George Coulouris and the starring role in "Humoresque," was assigned to John Garfield.

Kirby Grant was set by Producer-Director Wallace Fox to star in the next four western action pictures to be made by Universal. The first will be "Down by the Border," an original by Adele Buffington . . . Myrna Loy's first starring role as a free-lance trouper since her departure from Metro will be in the Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning production, "Genius in the Family," with Don Ameche as costar. United Artists will release . . . Another United Artists producer, Seymour Nebenzal, signed Victor McLaglen and borrowed Tom Conway for feature roles in "Whistle Stop" . . . Male lead opposite Celeste Holm in 20th-Fox's "Bandwagon" goes to Dick Haymes.

Elisabeth Risdon was signed by Pine-Thomas for a supporting lead in their forthcoming Paramount film, "They Made Me a Killer" . . . Charles Coburn drew a prize character role in Metro's picturization of A. J. Cronin's best seller, "The Green Years" . . . And, at the same studio, Slim Summerville joined the cast of "The Hoodlum Saint" . . . Paul Kelly and Otto Kruger have been signed to costar with Kay Francis in "Allotment Wives," Monogram production.

Columbia signed Ernest Cossart for a featured role in the picturization of "Girl of the Limberlost," which Mel Ferrer is directing.



United Artists

announces with pride that the future productions of

Preston Sturges

will be released thru U. A.!

Some of the hits produced by the Miracle Man of the Boxoffice!

- THE GREAT McGINTY
- THE MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK
- HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO
- SULLIVAN'S TRAVELS
- THE PALM BEACH STORY
- CHRISTMAS IN JULY
- THE LADY EVE

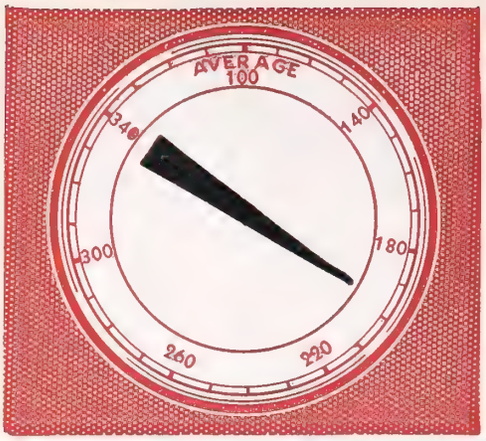
Preston Sturges' first U. A. Production!

"The Sin of HENRY DIDDLEBOCK"

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hit of the Week

Son of Lassie—

Seattle 200
Cincinnati 100
Des Moines 100

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115	110	95	140	138	95	100		125	150		85	145	165	150	122
Between Two Women (MGM)	135	126	115		90	135	170	100		100		133	100	165	103	145	125	200	100		130	175	130
Brazil (Rep)	110	111	110		120	135	135	100	100	100	87	90	100	90	70		135	185	70	135	130	140	113
China Sky (RKO)		153	115	100			140	100			110		95	100		155	115						118
Clock, The (MGM)				140					135			150		175		185		200			120		158
Counter-Attack (Col)		187		90	75			75	100		90	100				185	95		90		150	150	116
Dillinger (Mono)		160		180		150	173	120	150					175		290	115	240	140		250		179
Docks of New York (Mono)		100	100			120	100		100	100				90			100		110		120	160	109
Enchanted Cottage, The (RKO)	130	189	120	160	105		90	135	135		140	150	100	150	130	195	120	190				130	139
Escape in the Desert (WB)				100	77			90			105		100		80	175	105		50				98
Escape in the Fog (Col)		100					100		100	100	100	100	100		100								100
Eve Knew Her Apples (Col)		100		80			100	75		90	98	100	100	100	100		100	125			100		98
Flame of the Barbary Coast (Rep)	125	110	115		100		163		105		103	125		110	110		125	180	120		140	180	127
Forever Yours (Mono)			110						100	100	90	100	110		135			175			100	100	112
Gentle Annie (MGM)		100					100		110	95		100			85	95		110			100	100	100
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180		120	120	160	150	100	150	110	205	125	215	110		140	175	146
High Powered (Para)		100					80	100	90			100	100	100	90		100				100		96
Hitchhike to Happiness (Rep)	100								100			100	100	100	100								100
Honeymoon Ahead (Univ)	125		100				100		100			100	100		85		100					100	101
I'll Remember April (Univ)	100		100		115		100	95	90	100	90		100		100							100	99
It's in the Bag (UA)	135		115	70	80		97		110					90							160	125	109
Main Street After Dark (MGM)			82	95		100	100	100	100		100	100	100	120	100	125	100	125	100		100	100	103
Man Who Walked Alone, The (PRC)	100	100							85						100							100	97
Molly and Me (20-Fox)	100			90			100	90	95	80	90	100	100		80		90	145	60		100		94
Mr. Emmanuel (UA)	115	118	110		120				100					125	78				45		110		102
Pan-Americana (RKO)	110		100	80	105		120	90	100		100		100	150	85		100	135			165		110
Patrick the Great (Univ)		89	110	85			130						100		98				75		125	140	106
Picture of Dorian Gray, The (MGM)	135			110	125					120	98	143			125	155							126
Pillow to Post (WB)					90						115	150			105	145		185	65				122
Salome, Where She Danced (Univ)	120	222	110	120			183		125					90	120	165			100		125	150	136
Salty O'Rourke (Para)	130		120	160	105		200	95	130	115	140	175		150	140	195	200	220			140		151
Scared Stiff (Para)	100	100													98		95					100	99
Son of Lassie (MGM)				100	85			100			150				90	155						200	126
Tarzan and the Amazon (RKO)	110			120	117			90	110		120	100			100		105				130		110
This Man's Navy (MGM)	125	108	110	105	80		160	95	100	120	87	112	100	125	105		120	175	70		140		113
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110			140		110	90	98	107	95	80	109			155	85		110	140	113
Two O'Clock Courage (RKO)	125	100										100				80	100				150		109
Unseen, The (Para)	135	150	115	100	120								100	100	90			180	120		100	100	118
Where Do We Go From Here? (20-F)	140			120	95		180			115	117					135		175					135
Without Love (MGM)	150	227	110	220	120				120	160	130	133	100	140	125	150		170	125		140	175	147
Zombies on Broadway (RKO)	115			80			100	75	100				95	90		75	95						92

from W.R. Hearst!

OFFICE OF
WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST
LA CUESTA ENCANTADA
SAN SIMEON, CALIFORNIA

May 13, 1945

Mr. William Cagney,
Cagney Productions, Inc.,
1041 North Formosa,
Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Mr. Cagney:

Very many thanks for letting me see your picture, "Blood on the Sun."

It is a very fine picture, most excellent technically and wonderfully well acted.

We enjoyed it exceedingly.

I think it will be very valuable, as it will give our people a better insight into the Japanese character.

Personally I am delighted to see a newspaperman made a hero and not depicted as a punk, as they unfortunately are so often portrayed in the movies.

Naturally the Press Club would be proud of the picture and I trust that all good Americans will see the picture and be duly thrilled by it.

Sincerely,

W.R. Hearst

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Last Horseman, The (Col)—Russell Hayden, Dub Taylor, Ann Savage, John Maxwell. Good—and you always can depend on Hayden to put up a good fight in his westerns. Then of course the old-time music fills the bill for the balance of the picture and all leave well pleased. Payed Wed., Thurs. Weather: Rainy.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Three Is a Family (Col)—Marjorie Reynolds, Charles Ruggles, Fay Bainter, Helen Broderick. One of the comedy pictures that seemed to please all our Sunday patrons. Weather: Fair.—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. General patronage.

Together Again (Col)—Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, Mona Freeman. While I enjoy Boyer's acting personally, I cannot put his pictures across. Miss Dunne is well liked and the show was enjoyed by those present, but business was way off. It's a great picture if the stars take in your town. Played Fri., Sat.—Arthur E. Phifield, Park, South Berwick, Me. Small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

American Romance, An (M-G-M)—Brian Donlevy, Ann Richards, Walter Abel, John Qualen. This was one picture that fooled me. More comments than any picture I have run in a long time. Extra long but the interest it held kept them from thinking it a long show. I used a news and a cartoon with it. It is good on any program and too good to be used on a double bill. It's American—that's what they want, and not a scene of war. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair and warm.—F. W. Hamilton, Shelby, Shelbyville, Mo. City and rural patronage.

Between Two Women (M-G-M)—Van Johnson, Lionel Barrymore, Gloria De Haven, Keenan Wynn. A good picture that was certainly allocated too high for this town and Leo thinks too much of their new star, according to the business the picture drew at the boxoffice. If you can get a livable deal, a price and a date on it, play it. Otherwise, lay off it. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Rainy.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

Lassie Come Home (M-G-M)—Roddy McDowall, Donald Crisp, Dame May Whitty, Nigel Bruce. Exceptionally fine — liked by both young and old. A grand picture and of the highest calibre. The Technicolor is beautiful and added to the river and mountain scenes. What we want is more like this one. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Dark Mountain (Para)—Robert Lowery, Ellen Drew, Regis Toomey, Eddie Quillan. A real quickie, and if Paramount ever made a piece of cheese, this is it. Had many complaints from our audience.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

Frenchman's Creek (Para)—Joan Fontaine, Arturo de Cordova, Nigel Bruce. The most spectacular and colorful flop of the season. Tremendously oversold. Indeed, Paramount is the company to watch. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fair.—Rudolph Covi, Covi, Herminie, Pa. War workers and rural patronage.

Hour Before the Dawn, The (Para)—Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Barry Fitzgerald. Good, but not the type picture for here. Good acting and a good cast, but we just simply didn't do anything with it. It should go well in larger places. Played Tues., Thurs. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

RKO RADIO

Gildersleeve Sees a Ghost (RKO)—Harold Peary, Marion Martin, Richard Le Grand, Amelita Ward. A good program picture. This series always draws and it pleased above average. Very lightweight entertainment, but it's the kind they seem to prefer. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Arthur E. Phifield, Park, South Berwick, Me. Small town patronage.

It's a Pleasure (RKO)—Sonja Henie, Michael O'Shea, Bill Johnson, Marie McDonald. Give Miss Henie more Technicolor, as she is more beautiful and dazzling than ever before with an excellent cast. Very good comments. Played Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair.—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. General patronage.

Tall in the Saddle (RKO)—John Wayne, Ella Raines, Ward Bond, George "Gabby" Hayes. A natural for smaller Iowa towns. Give it exploitation and it will pay dividends.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

REPUBLIC

South of the Border (Rep). Reissue—Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette. Good, but you don't have to say Gene is out of pictures. Being cowboy No. 1 here, he still pulls them in like a sponge does water. Smiley Burnette is all you need with Gene. Played Fri., Sat. Weather Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditrium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Storm Over Lisbon (Rep)—Vera Hruba Ralston, Richard Arlen, Eric Von Stroheim, Otto Kruger. The people in my town just don't care for pictures of this type and they didn't come out for this one. No comments and a few walkouts. The only comment made was made by two couples that came out together: "We enjoyed your serial and short subjects, but that's all." Played Saturday. Weather: Fair and hot.—Garland C. Lamb, Rex, Minden, La. Small town patronage.

Running the Shelby Is A Family Affair

F. W. Hamilton of Shelbyville, Mo., has owned his Shelby Theatre there since 1941. He had been nine years with the Fox Midwest theatres in Kirksville as chief projectionist and lobby display artist prior to becoming an exhibitor. However, his start in picture business was made when he was 14 years old, "as operator, bill boy and general flunkey." This was in Gallatin, Mo., for J. E. Courter, still in business there.

Mrs. Hamilton acts as cashier at the Shelby and one son has the concessions while another handles the advertising, marquee, etc. Hamilton goes into the booth himself when his operator wants off, and does his own display and general manager's work. The whole family enjoys the business.

As a sideline, Hamilton does outside sign work and displays, and is a musician, playing the xylophone and the drums. His hobbies are fishing and music, in fact. Then he likes to work out trick, catchy exploitation.

As a major exhibitor problem he lists the shortage of prints which holds him up on playdates until some other situation makes up its mind, but he believes he is gaining ground on overcoming that.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Song of Bernadette, The (20th-Fox)—Jennifer Jones, William Eythe, Charles Bickford, Vincent Price. The Oscar certainly went to the right actress as Miss Jones was beyond compare. An excellent picture but it was too long. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Fair.—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. General patronage.

Sweet and Lowdown (20th-Fox)—Benny Goodman & Band, Linda Darnell, Lynn Bari, Jack Oakie. A musical that went over well with the younger element and got no kicks from the older folks. Better than average business. Played Thurs., Fri. Weather: Rain and cool.—Arthur E. Phifield, Park, South Berwick, Me. Small town patronage.

Winged Victory (20th-Fox)—Sgt. Mark Daniels, Pvt. Lon McCallister, Cpl. Don Taylor, Jo-Carroll Dennison. My patrons expected to see another war picture and were they surprised and pleased when it turned out as it did. Word-of-mouth helped me on this one. Played Wed., Thurs., Fri. Weather: Fair and hot.—Garland C. Lamb, Rex, Minden, La. Small town patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Guest in the House (UA)—Anne Baxter, Ralph Bellamy, Aline MacMahon, Ruth Warrick. No boxoffice show here. Maybe for the critics, but they don't patronize our theatre. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Rudolph Covi, Covi, Hermine, Pa. War workers and rural patronage.

Since You Went Away (UA)—Claudette Colbert, Joseph Cotten, Jennifer Jones, Shirley Temple. Exceptionally fine—even liked better than "Gone With the Wind." And if we rural districts had the people like we used to have when we showed "GWTW," we would have done even better with this one. Too many have gone to the larger cities and all we get are the "show-trained." Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

UNIVERSAL

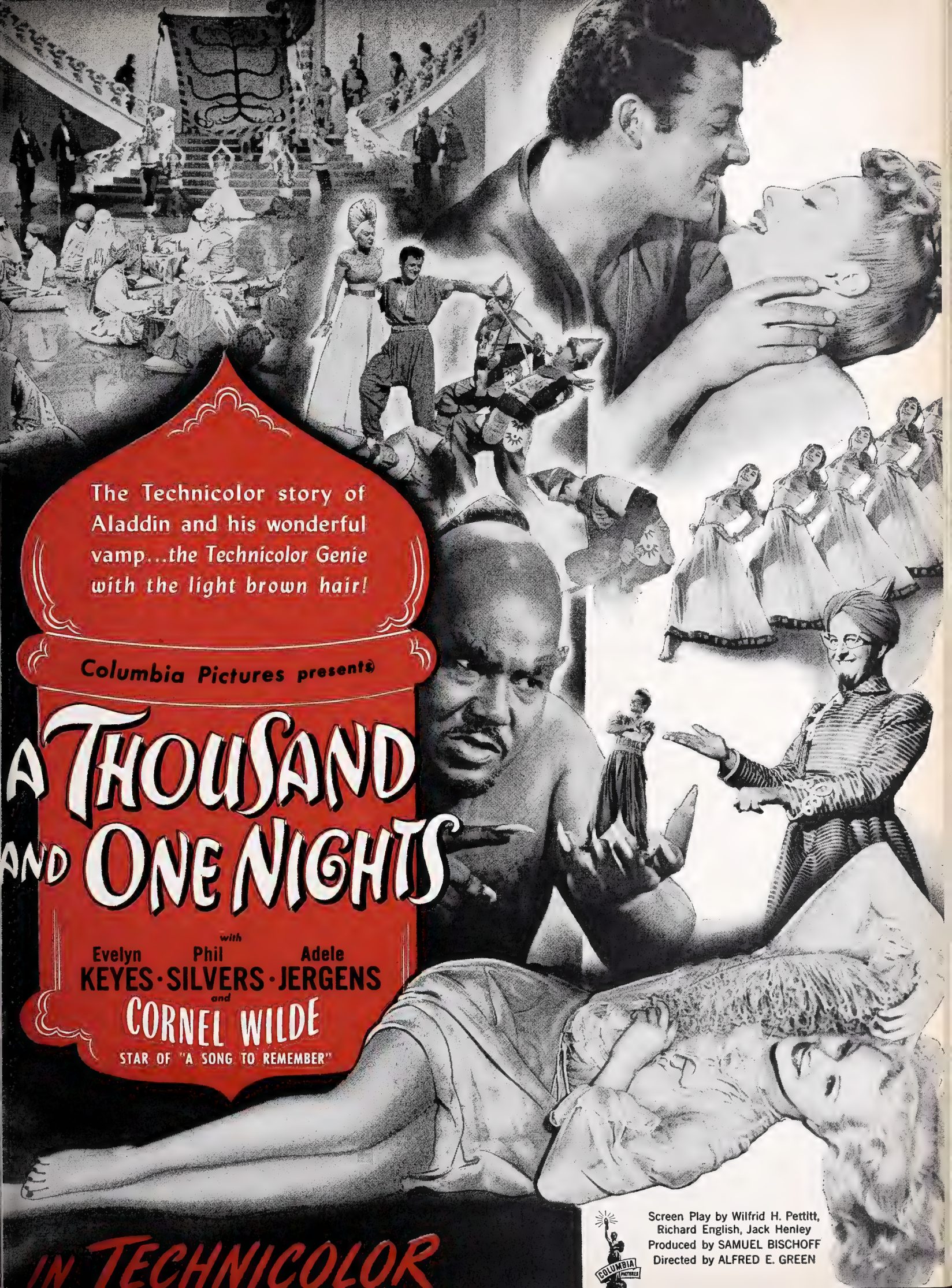
Merry Monahans, The (Univ)—Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie, Ann Blyth. If you want to make a little money for yourself, give this preferred time and get behind it. Our audience loved it.—C. L. Niles, Niles, Anamosa, Iowa. Small town patronage.

San Diego, I Love You (Univ)—Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton, Edward Everett Horton, Eric Blore. Just a mediocre show—double-bill stuff. Played Wednesday. Weather: Fair.—Rudolph Covi, Covi, Hermaine, Pa. War workers and rural patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Land Beyond the Law (WB)—Reissue. Dick Foran, Linda Perry. There is plenty of action and some good singing but this one didn't draw as well as some of the others. Maybe my patrons are getting tired of these reissues and want some new horse operas. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Fine.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

This Is the Army (WB)—George Murphy, Joan Leslie, Ronald Reagan, George Tobias. Usually when a great show is brought back it is good for above average midweek business. The first run a year ago was great, but this time—nix! Even the color didn't help. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Austin G. Dodge, Hiland, Myrtle Point, Ore. Small town patronage.


The Technicolor story of Aladdin and his wonderful vamp...the Technicolor Genie with the light brown hair!
Columbia Pictures presents
A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS
with
Evelyn KEYES · Phil SILVERS · Adele JERGENS
and
CORNEL WILDE
STAR OF "A SONG TO REMEMBER"
IN TECHNICOLOR
COLUMBIA PICTURES
Screen Play by Wilfrid H. Pettitt, Richard English, Jack Henley
Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF
Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

100-Point Campaign on "Rhapsody"

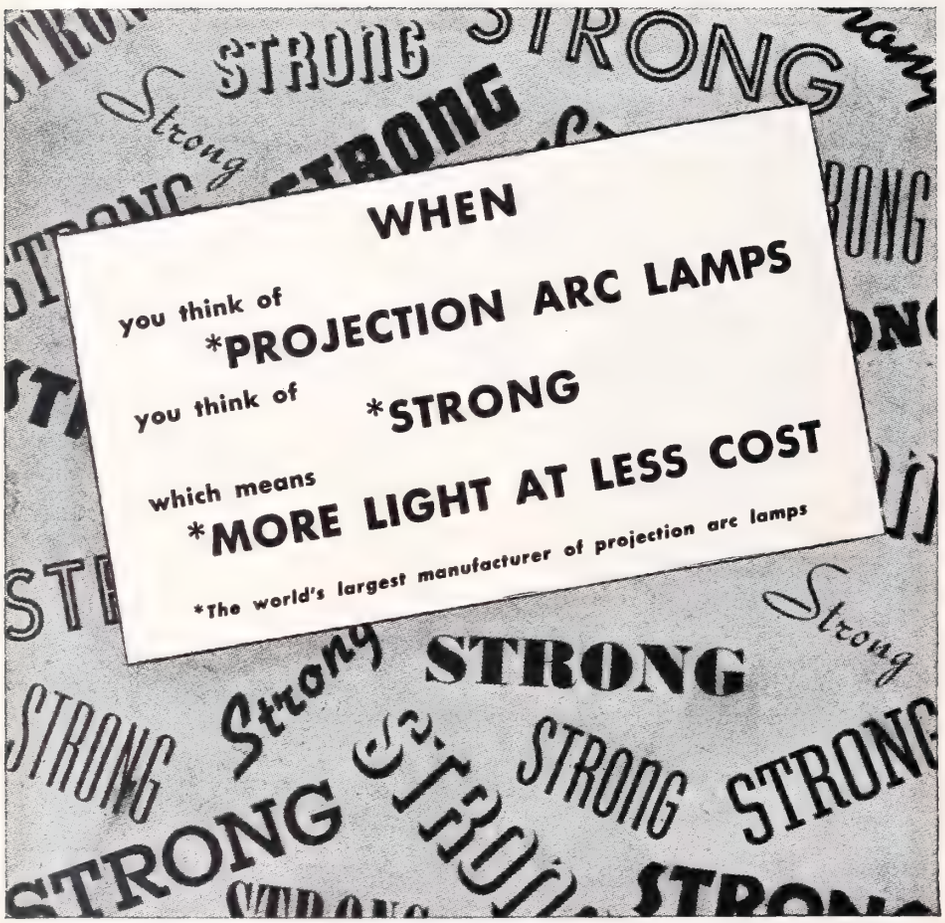
NEW YORK — Warner Bros. exploitation men, meeting at the home office June 26-28, will receive a detailed outline of the 100-point campaign on "Rhapsody in Blue," as well as instructions for forthcoming campaigns on "The Corn Is Green," "Christmas in Connecticut," "Pride of the Marines" and "San Antonio," devised by Charles Einfeld and Mort Blumenstock.

Attending the meeting, to be held concurrently with that of the sales department for its district managers, will be the following WB staff exploiteers: Ted Tod, Herbert Pickman, George Fishman, Glenn Ireton, Art Moger, Ed Benjamin, Richard Stephens, G. D. Woodward, Ira Epstein, Allen Kohan, Lucia Perrigo, Don Walker, Frank Bruner, George Wood, Stanton Kramer, Franklin Fisher and I. Q. Gross.

Also participating in the sessions will be Larry Golob, Charles S. Steinberg, Bill Brumberg, Bob Paskow, Will Yolen and Dan Karsch, home office executives.

WB Sales Heads on Tour

NEW YORK—Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warner Bros., accompanied by Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager, is on tour of exchanges in Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis and Cincinnati. Roy Haines, southern and western division sales manager, left to visit Atlanta and other branches in the south.



WHEN

you think of

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AUBURN THEATRE EQUIPMENT CO.
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ALBANY 4, N. Y.
Telephone: 5-9507

J. F. DUSMAN
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BALTIMORE 2, MARYLAND
Telephone: Saratoga 2433

Best Navy War Scenes In Postwar USN Film

WASHINGTON—Capt. Edward J. Steichen, USNR (retired), will serve as director of the newly-formed U.S. Naval Photographic Institute, according to Capt. Gene Markey, USNR, director of naval photographic services. The institute, established to promote and encourage photography on naval subjects, plans to give proper recognition to naval photographers and also possibly to give awards to civilian photographers for work done while on assignment with the navy.

"Naval motion picture scenes adjudged the best of the war will be incorporated into a film for public showing," Markey said. "Constant improvement of naval photography and increased use of photography—still and motion picture—as a medium of public information and for historical records are major objectives of the institute.

"It is planned to give annual awards to naval photographers for work afloat and ashore, with the presentations being made annually on each Navy Day, October 27, by the secretary of the navy," Markey concluded. "Outstanding work in both still photography and motion pictures will be considered in several categories. Basis for awards will include outstanding photography under fire at the risk of the photographer's life and photographs considered to have made important contributions to a better understanding of the war."

Pathe News, Inc., Board Names Officers for Year

NEW YORK—The board of directors of Pathe News, Inc., has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: N. Peter Rathvon, chairman of the board; Frederic Ullman jr., president; Gordon E. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; Walton C. Ament, vice-president; J. Miller Walker, secretary; Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller; James H. Herries, treasurer; Kenneth B. Umbreit, assistant secretary; William H. Clark, O. R. McMahon and George Ronan, assistant treasurers.

The election took place at the first session of the board since the annual meeting of the stockholders, held June 14.

NLRB Denies Union Right To Represent Managers

SAN FRANCISCO — The National Labor Relations Board, 20th region, has denied the petition presented by the United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 34, CIO. The union desired to represent the theatre managers and assistant managers of the Golden State Theatre and Realty Corp., and the San Francisco Theatres, Inc.

This denial will probably be the basis for judgment in further actions of this sort since precedent is usually an important factor in NLRB decisions.

The theatres were represented in this action by Frederick Reel jr., industrial relations consultant.

CBS Broadcasts to Japs

SAN FRANCISCO—The new 200,000-watt international short-wave transmitter operated by CBS for OWI at Delano, Calif., has gone into service. Beamed at the Japanese homeland and Jap-occupied countries, it is sending American psychological warfare messages to the enemy. The new super-power high-frequency transmitter makes the Delano station one of the three most powerful in the world, and the first of the three to be beamed directly to the Orient.

Wild Bill ELLIOTT

★ THE ALL-AMERICAN COWBOY ★



ANOTHER TOP ATTRACTION CELEBRATING REPUBLIC'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY

As **RED RYDER**

In **TEXAS MANHUNT**

with **BOBBY BLAKE · ALICE FLEMING**

IAN KEITH • WILLIAM HAADE • VIRGINIA CHRISTINE

Directed by LESLEY SELANDER

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY EARLE SNELL AND CHARLES KENYON

GOING GREAT GUNS!

More thrills from the thrillmaster who has built up tremendous following of impatient fans. Two-gun hero, made famous in newspaper cartoon strip, burns up trail with one of best to date! Box office records prove Elliott heading for top . . . but fast!

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

THE

THEATRE PARTNER

THE HUMAN SIDE OF THE BUSINESS

ALEXANDER FILM CO.

AUDIENCES WELCOME ADS THAT EDUCATE AND THEATRES ARE PAID FOR RUNNING THEM



Shown on screen before displayed by dealers.

There will be hundreds of new products on the market in the postwar era.



Shown on screen before on sale at local stores.

Motion picture demonstrations of product progress will be an interesting part of any theatre program. Theatre patrons will be constantly receptive to new comfort and economy features of AUTOMOBILES, APPLIANCES, HOMES, STYLES.



Shown on screen before available in local areas.

Motion pictures demonstrating modern conveniences will be the theme of ALEXANDER THEATRE SCREEN ADVERTISING . . . literally an advance showing of how America will live, work and play in the years ahead.



Shown on screen before shown in local shops.

Make your theatre available today for this local newsreel type of service and get extra revenue.



Shown on screen before on sale at local grocers.

WRITE FOR DETAILS NOW . . . TODAY

Nearly 10,000 theatres under contract.

ALEXANDER FILM CO.

Colorado Springs, Colorado

RKO's Profits Lower For First Quarter

NEW YORK—Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. and subsidiary companies showed a drop in net profits for the 13 weeks ended Mar. 31, 1945. This year's first quarter net earnings were $1,141,044.68 against 1944 net for the same period of $1,557,404.53.

Stock in subsidiary companies held by the public was bought back and no dividends were forthcoming for 1945 while last year preferred stock paid off $12,223.75.

Gross profit before taxes and other deductions for the first quarter of 1945 was $3,491,538.58; in 1944 the same period showed gross profits of $4,718,884.20. Provisions for federal income and excess profits tax was $2,022,000 this year against $2,831,000 for last year.

IT&T Designates 8 of 11 Judges in Film Contest

NEW YORK—The executive board of International Theatrical and Television Corp. has named eight of the 11 judges who will select the prize winning films in the IT&T Amateur Movie Contest.

They are: Louella O. Parsons, columnist; Jesse L. Lasky, producer; Veronica Lake, star; Hal Mohr, cameraman; William Meiklejohn, casting director; Norris Harkness, photo editor; Russell Potter, university executive, and George A. Hirliman, IT&T president. The remainder of the judging committee will be selected from the 16mm field within the next few days.

Para Anniversary Trailer Lists Awards and Stars

NEW YORK—Paramount has issued to all its exchanges a four-minute trailer dealing with the company's "One-Third of a Century" celebration. It lists the number of awards Paramount has received and presents excerpts from forthcoming productions.

Among the personalities shown are Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Betty Hutton, Diana Lynn, Dorothy Lamour, Arturo de Cordova, Eddie Bracken, Robert Cummings, Lizabeth Scott, Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland, Brian Donlevy, William Bendix and Barry Fitzgerald.

Expect 1,000 at Banquet

NEW YORK—Between 750 and 1,000 persons are expected to attend the Humanitarian Award banquet presented by the Variety Clubs of America at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on August 17. Identity of the recipient is being withheld for the time being. Last year's award went to Cordell Hull, former secretary of state.

Jackter Visits Two Offices

NEW YORK—Rube Jackter, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, after visiting two of the company's midwest exchanges, Kansas City and Minneapolis, in connection with the current Montague 20th Anniversary drive, has returned to the home office.

DOOR CLOSERS REPAIRED

DAVE JANES (Locksmith)
227 E. 9th St., K. C. 6, Mo.



Warners Will Refinance Its Outstanding Loans

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., has arranged to refinance its outstanding bank loans and will retire mortgages on all United States properties of the company and its subsidiaries as soon as the deal is completed.

The loan is for $37,000,000, payable in 20 equal semiannual installments to May 1, 1955, with interest at two per cent until Nov. 1, 1952, and two and one-half per cent thereafter. The banking syndicate handling the deal includes the New York Trust Co., Guaranty Trust of New York, First National Bank of Boston, Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co. of Chicago, Union Trust Co. of Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Co. for Insurance on Lives and Granting Annuities, Philadelphia; Bankers Trust Co. of New York, National City Bank of Cleveland and the First National Bank of Minneapolis.

Harry M. Warner expects to complete arrangements before August 31, the end of the company's fiscal year. The net operating profit for six months ending February 24 was $4,608,088 after making provisions of $8,200,000 for federal income taxes and $170,000 for contingencies. Net for six months ending Feb. 26, 1944, was $3,492,125 after provisions of $9,110,000 for federal income taxes and $625,000 for unrealized losses on fixed assets.

Third Quarter Raw Stock Quantities Are Revealed

WASHINGTON — Raw stock manufacture for the third quarter will be approximately 8,000,000 feet less than the 300,000,000 feet required to take raw film stock off allocations, it was revealed by Stanley B. Adams, chief, durable goods division, WPB, at a press conference. The WPB executive also stated that the army has a stockpile of raw film stock in Europe and that the WPB has recommended that this film be left there and declared surplus for use in Europe. The quantity of this raw stock was not revealed.

It was further learned that the army in the last two years has inventoried some 10,000,000 feet of 35mm negative which has been declared surplus. Bids have been asked for on this surplus film, most of which is overage, according to army standards.

Adams Says Rank Has 'Good Approach' To Question of Raw Stock Allocation

WASHINGTON — Stanley B. Adams, who handles raw film stock allocations, had a pleasant luncheon recently with J. Arthur Rank, British film tycoon, "but at no time were Mr. Rank's film problems discussed."

Adams said he was "favorably impressed" with Rank and said that the British executive "had a good approach" to the question of raw stock allocations.

The WPB executive insisted that Rank's company here will be allocated sufficient film for at least two pictures but that he could distribute more, "depending upon the number of prints he makes."

FEA Eases All Bans on Exporting of Equipment

WASHINGTON — The Foreign Economic Administration has lifted all bans on the export of photographic and motion picture equipment, it was learned here, however, export licenses are subject to WPB approval but the expediting of these licenses will give American manufacturers an opportunity to enter the foreign market with an assurance that most orders placed will be filled within a reasonable time.

Rank Hopes for Friendly Competition With U.S.

NEW YORK—Nearly 150 of the industry's leaders were present late last week at a dinner in honor of J. Arthur Rank and his party given by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, and members of the board of directors at the Union Club on upper Park Avenue.

Skouras told the diners Rank was a religious man and regarded his connection with the British film industry as in "the nature of a trusteeship" which he would exercise for the benefit of the British people, but, he assured them, he will not allow his religious convictions to interfere with his "business acumen."

Rank responded gracefully by saying he hoped the British and American industries could be "friendly competitors."

The gathering was one of a series that had been held in honor of Rank and his aides following his arrival two weeks before and prior to his departure for the midwest and the coast.

Rank Expresses Gratitude

"Thank you very much for the help you have given me," he said with feeling. "The technicians I have sent over here have been greeted cordially and have been aided in every way. I had some idea of what America might be like when I arrived a fortnight ago; now I realize its greatness is due to things I knew nothing about. I hope we can work more and more together."

Rank digressed from film subjects long enough to pay a tribute to General Eisenhower.

"He has endeared himself to the British people," he said. "Without his personality, his great feat of welding all the armies into our one cause would have met disaster in the Boche offensive in the Ardennes."

Archbishop Athenagoras of the Greek Orthodox Church, in his robes, was one of the striking figures among the guests.

Skouras and Rank were the only two speakers. Skouras was in rare form. He assured his perspiring audience at the start that he was no orator. Then he stirred a laugh by saying the word orator was derived from a Greek word with two meanings—clever and terrible. Everybody chuckled when Skouras described how he had told Rank in England that American audiences did not like the British accent.

"My association with the man whom I am shortly to present to you," he said, "has been a source of inspiration to me.

"He is a man of large and diversified business affairs who believes in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. I can truly say of him that his word is his bond.

"There is nothing prudish about him, nor would I have you believe that this religious nature at all interferes with the exercise of his business acumen."

Hopes Films Will Aid World

Skouras spoke of the hunger and devastation he had seen on his recent trip to Europe and concluded by saying, "Let us hope that through the medium of the motion picture we can assist in raising the moral standards of men so that another such awful war will not be visited on mankind.

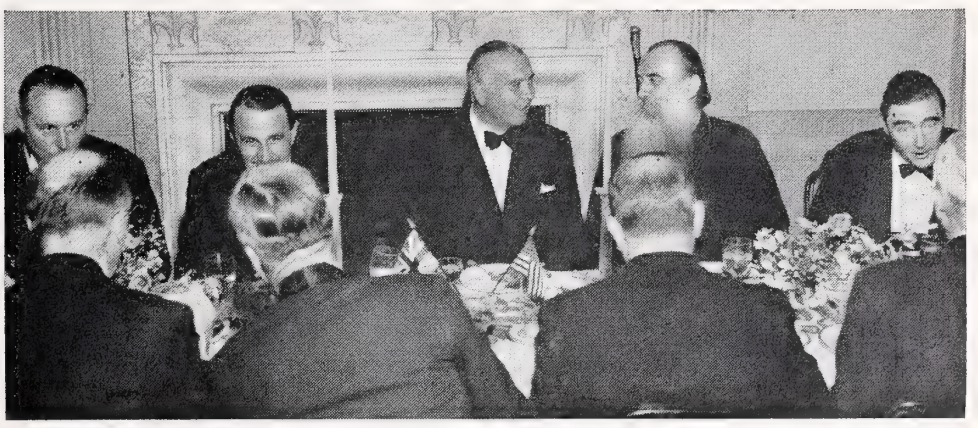
"Arthur Rank sees, as do few men, the enormous value of the motion picture as an important instrument in the cultural as well as the business life of a people. To him the use of this instrument requires a great degree of trusteeship. I can assure you that in his hands the trust will be ably and nobly executed."

Included among those present were:

Alan C. Abeel, James S. Alexander, Jack Alicoate, Edward Alperson, Capt. Harold Auten, Peter Badouras, Chester Bahn, A. J. Balaban, R. W. Baremore, James Beck jr., John Benes, Bertram Bloch, Mort Blumenstock, Otto Bolle, Joseph A. Bower, Colvin Brown, Barry Buchanan, John M. Budinger, Rodney Bush, John Caskey, Jules Catsiff, Robert L. Clarkson, Thomas J. Connors, A. Cornfield, Richard de Rochemont, John R. Dillon, Richard Dwight, Wilfred J. Eadie, William A. Edwards, Jay Emanuel, Chester Feitel, Roger Ferri, John J. Fitzgibbons, Horace C. Flanigan, Frank M. Folsom, Alan E. Freedman, Barrington Gain, George A. Garvin, George Generalis, James R. Grainger, Abel Green, Jack S. Haney, Evangelos Hardaloupas, K. Hargreaves, Jack Harrison, Daniel O. Hastings, Donald Henderson, John Hertz jr., I. J. Hoffman, Hal Horne, Franklin S. Irby, Felix A. Jenkins, James M. Jerauld, Harry Kalmine.

Sherwin Kane, Maurice Kann, Lacy W. Kastner, Alfred Kayton, Arthur W. Kelly, Tom Kennedy, Walter G. Kimball, Malcolm Kingsberg, Morris Kinzler, Otto Koegel, William Kupper, Roy E. Larsen, Peter Levathes, Col. Jock Lawrence, Irving Lesser, Maurice Leon, I. A. Mas, Paul Manheim, S. Barret McCormick, William C. Michel, John J. Miller, Harold J. Mirisch, Raymond E. Moon, Joseph Moskowitz, Paul Nord, Floyd B. Odlum, Robert J. O'Donnell, Edward Peskay, William P. Phillips, Al Picoult, Sam Pinanski, Joseph Incus.

William Powers, Fred Pride, Martin Quigley, Terry Ramsaye, Charles M. Reagan, Ralph T. Reed, Clifford Rahmer, Phil Reisman, Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, Norton Richey, Frank P. Rosenberg, Joseph M. Schenck, Charles Schlaifer, Jack L. Schlaifer, Col. Montgomery Schuyler, Sam Shain, Howard C. Sheperd, Ben Shlyen, Murray Silverstone, George P. Skouras, Andrew W. Smith jr., Earl I. Sponable, Stephen Stephanidis, Herbert B. Swope, Paul Terry, John C. Traphagen, William Weiss, George W. Weidner, George Weltner, Leslie F. Whelan, Jack White, William White, Christy Wilbert, John Wood, G. I. Woodham-Smith, Herbert J. Yates sr.



TWENTIETH-FOX ENTERTAINS RANK—Most of the principal figures in the industry were present at a dinner in the Union Club given by Spyros P. Skouras, president, and the 20th-Fox board of directors in honor of the British film man. Facing the camera (l-r): Robert Clarkson, Rank, Skouras, the Most Rev. Athenagoras, Roy Larsen; back to camera (l-r): Floyd B. Odlum, Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, Joseph M. Schenck, Ralph T. Reed and John C. Traphagen.

BROADWAY

Henry L. Nathanson, president of Regal Films, Canada, and T. J. Gould, sales manager for the M-G-M affiliate in Canada, are back in Toronto after spending several days conferring with home office executives. Dewey Bloom, in charge of exploitation in Canada under William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, accompanied them.

Edward M. Schnitzer, UA home office executive, visited Montreal to meet Charles S. Chaplin, newly appointed Canadian sales manager. Both then left for Toronto where Chaplin will officially assume his new duties.

Sid Kain, M-G-M exploiteer, is vacationing . . . Sgt. Glenn H. Haviland, AAF, formerly Paramount salesman in San Francisco, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service at an army air base in the Pacific, in connection with military operations against the enemy.

James Kirby, son of Jack Kirby, Paramount's Atlanta district manager, has won the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in the Celebes Islands, Dutch East Indies. Previously, he was erroneously reported missing.

Fely Franquelli, featured in RKO's "Back to Bataan," arrived on a brief visit, before resuming her trip to Boston to attend the June 24 benefit for service men's wives at the Boston Garden. She will be joined there by Anthony Quinn, who plays opposite her in the film, for personal appearances at the Memorial Theatre.

G. L. Carrington, president of Altec Service Corp., is visiting the company's coast offices after business conferences here.

William Cagney, producer of "Blood on the Sun," opening at the Capitol June 28, arrived from Hollywood . . . Abe Teitel of Teitel Films, Inc., and owner of the World Playhouse Theatre, Chicago, was a recent visitor.

Frank E. Mullen, NBC vice-president and general manager, was honored as an alumnus of Iowa State College at Ames.

Robert Mochrie, RKO sales manager, is expected back from his vacation shortly . . . Sam Jaffe, Hollywood agent, returned to the coast after a three-week visit.

Joseph H. Moskowitz, vice-president and eastern studio representative for 20th-Fox, has completed several weeks of conferences with studio officials. He was accompanied by Joe Pincus, head of the talent department.

Vladimir Lissim, newly appointed general European manager for RKO, left for Paris where he will make his headquarters.

George Kallman, formerly RKO manager of the Philippines and prisoner of war of the Japs before his rescue by General MacArthur's forces, is expected shortly. Upon his arrival he will accompany Leon Britton, RKO manager for Argentina, to Buenos Aires.

Ralph Pielow jr., son of an M-G-M branch manager, is recuperating at the Brook General Army Hospital in San Antonio, Tex., from wounds received in the battle of the Belgian bulge. His father is planning to visit him in the near future.

Roy Disney, general business manager of Walt Disney Productions, arrived from Hollywood and is stopping at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Joe Goodwin, who has been with Donahue & Coe, Inc., for ten years, has been named production manager. William Miller, formerly of Thompson & Koch Agency, is new associate production manager.



INTO UA PUBLICITY POST — Tom Waller, above, new publicity director for United Artists, is a former newspaper man and had been with Paramount for nine years.

Maurice Bergman, Universal eastern advertising-publicity head, attended a sales meeting in Montreal.

Hal Horne, 20th-Fox director of advertising-publicity, accompanied by Jerome Pickman, his executive assistant, and Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, are back from his Columbus trip.

Phil Williams, advertising director for MOT, and Joseph M. Seiferth, WJZ audience promotion manager, visited Chicago.

Walter Silverman, Columbia New Haven salesman, and Ellen Rosenthal, formerly secretary in the office of Jack Cohn, were married at the Free Synagogue.

John G. Paine, Ascap general manager, and Herman Finkelstein, resident counsel, are back from a nine-week stay in Europe.

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, Technicolor president, is spending several weeks at his home in Centerville, Mass.

Bill Mayberry, 20th-Fox casting executive, is in California.

Harry and Ike Katz, PRC Atlanta franchise holders, were here on business.

Will Yolen, who handles special events for Warner Bros., has been elected president of the Publicity Club of New York for the coming year. He succeeds William P. Mahoney, publicity director for Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborne.

Sylvia Fine, Mrs. Danny Kaye in private life, arrived from Beverly Hills on radio negotiations for her husband. She is stopping at the Waldorf . . . Walter L. Titus jr., executive assistant to James R. Grainger, Republic general sales manager, visited the company's St. Louis branch on his first stopover on a trip which will take him to Dallas, Oklahoma City, Memphis and Chicago. He is expected back July 2.

Claude Morris, exploitation director for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, left on visits to Chicago, Salt Lake City, Denver, Detroit, New Orleans and Atlanta for work on "Wonder Man" dates . . . Jack Goldsmith, former Warner Bros. field man, now a lieutenant in the aviation branch of the navy, has been awarded the Air Medal for conspicuous service in the Philippine war theatre . . . Ed Hinchy, head of the Warner Bros. playdate department, visited Boston and other New England points.

E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager for Universal, is on a visit to the southern exchanges, with scheduled stops in Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans and Memphis. He returns to the home office June 29 . . . George Brown, Paramount studio publicity director, and Mervin Houser of his staff arrived from Hollywood to confer with Robert M. Gillham, advertising and publicity director, on publcity and exploitation plans for forthcoming pictures, including releases scheduled for the One-Third of a Century celebration period.

David Rose, managing director for Paramount in Great Britain, arrived in Hollywood where he expects to line up a star, story and a director for the company's production in England. He will spend three weeks at the studios, returning to London the beginning of August . . . Mark Jenkins, head of M-G-M's Showbuilder, has completed coverage of the entire Oklahoma territory and will begin coverage of the Dallas exchange area in cooperation with LeRoy Bickel, Dallas manager, and E. B. Coleman, exploiteer for that territory.

Julien Bryan Telecasts First of Five Subjects

NEW YORK—The first of five weekly programs arranged by Julien Bryan, documentary cameraman, was telecast over NBC's television station WNBT on Friday, June 22. "Small Town, USA," is the title of Bryan's series, presented on RCA Victor's The World in Your Home program and narrated by Bryan.

After making 21 documentaries of South America for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, Bryan was asked by South Americans for films depicting our way of life "without the Hollywood trappings." After searching the U.S. for a town truthfully and accurately portraying a cross-section of this land, he selected Mt. Vernon, Ohio, population 12,000. The mayor, city officials and leading citizens cooperated in the production and appeared in it.

The first subject, "The Town," telecast last Friday, was made purposely on Decoration Day and reveals democracy in action. Subsequent subjects will be "The School," "The Doctor," "The Mechanic" and "The County Agent."

J. W. Piper Begins Work As an Aide to Weltner

NEW YORK—J. William Piper, former Paramount manager in Japan, Korea and Manchukuo, has taken over his duties as assistant to George Weltner, president of Paramount International.

During the last four and a half years Piper has served in Washington on detached duty with the Netherlands army, has done confidential work for the U.S. government and has spent ten months with the FCC in Portland, Ore. He joined Paramount in 1928 and was assigned to Kobe, Japan.

Wakely to Tour Griffith Circuit

Jimmy Wakely is scheduled for a tour of the Griffith circuit in Texas and Oklahoma, climaxing his trip July 4 as star of the rodeo at Lawton.

Eisenhower Reception Ups Broadway Take

NEW YORK—Gotham's reception to General Eisenhower, which attracted an estimated 4,000,000 persons to Manhattan, had a stimulating effect on Broadway first runs on Tuesday. It was the largest crowd, according to Police Commissioner Valentine, ever to take part in any public event in the history of the city. Theatres benefited from the windfall.

Business in many of the Broadway houses was up from 10 to 20 per cent, and in the case of the Hollywood Theatre, was 85 per cent above average.

The heat wave, throughout the week, however, had an adverse effect on business in most of the Times Square showcases. Two exceptions were the Strand, opening with "Conflict," and the Astor, playing "Wonder Man" for the second week. "Wonder Man" broke the previous house record at the Astor for the second time. The second stanza's gross was about 15 per cent above the former house record held by "The Princess and the Pirate." "Conflict" was close to a record at the Strand. "Where Do We Go From Here?" remained for a third week at the Roxy Theatre. "Blood on the Sun," UA release, went into the Capitol Theatre, June 28.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**Wonder Man** (RKO), 2nd wk. 215
Capitol—**Thrill of a Romance** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 4th wk. 120
Criterion—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk., 4 days 105
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 12th wk. 90
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO), 4th wk., 4½ days 85
Paramount—**Out of This World** (Para), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 125
Radio City Music Hall—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 7th wk. 145
Rialto—**The Woman in Green** (Univ) 110
Rivoli—**Junior Miss** (20th-Fox) 105
Roxy—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 2nd wk. 115
Strand—**Conflict** (WB), plus stage show 230
Victoria—**The Way Ahead** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk. 85

Heat Hits Philadelphia Trade; "Conflict" Opens to Strong 190

PHILADELPHIA—Only bright spot in center city was the opening at the Mastbaum of "Conflict." The heat wave knocked business for a loop, with the Aldine and Earle, with inadequate air conditioning plants, suffering most. "The Picture of Dorian Gray" was doing fair at the Boyd.

Aldine—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) 85
Arcadia—**Affairs of Susan** (Para) 145
Boyd—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M) 175
Earle—**Zombies on Broadway** (RKO), plus stage show 80
Fox—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 125
Karlton—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 4th d. t. wk. 155
Keith's—**Flame of Barbary Coast** (Rep) 120
Mastbaum—**Conflict** (WB) 190
Stanley—**The Clock** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 170
Stanton—**Dillinger** (Mono), 2nd wk. 175

"Dorian Gray" on Duo Achieves Highest Average at Buffalo

BUFFALO—"See My Lawyer" and another from Universal, "I'll Remember April," were better than 50 per cent over average at the Lafayette. "The Clock" and "Strange Illusion" assured themselves of a moveover after a good first week at the Buffalo. "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "Let's Go Steady" were good at the Great Lakes, while "Keep Your Powder Dry" and "Escape in the Fog" held up well in a moveover at the Hippodrome. The weather was warm and humid.

Buffalo—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **Strange Illusion** (PRC) 134
Great Lakes—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **Let's Go Steady** (Col) 142
Hippodrome—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk., moveover 115
Lafayette—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 155
20th Century—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA); **When Strangers Marry** (Mono) 100

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

THE theatre business snatched Leonard H. Goldenson from the practice of law by a hair's breadth—it was that close.

After graduating from Harvard Law School, which numbers among its alumni many famous jurists and lawyers, Goldenson, now president of the Paramount Theatre Service Corp., made an unsuccessful effort in 1930 to obtain a job with Paramount Theatres. Meanwhile, he practiced law in New York.

He had always wanted to become a theatre executive, he recalls, even when he was a child in his native town of Scottdale, Pa. His father formerly operated several theatres there. Goldenson used to help around his dad's theatres and dreamed of the time when he would manage his own houses. This ambition must have reposed deeply in his



LEONARD GOLDENSON

subsconscious mind when he maticulated at Harvard and later at the famous law school.

At any rate, upon his second attempt, he succeeded in getting a job with Paramount. But it wasn't because of his knowledge of theatre business, it was due to his legal training.

It came about in the following way. In 1933, when Paramount's New England houses were being reorganized after bankruptcy, Goldenson was assigned to the task. He spent four years on the job and, with the help of others, including Martin J. Mullin and Samuel Pinanski, put the moribund circuit on its feet again.

Y. Frank Freeman, then chief of Paramount's theatre operations, quickly recognized the unusual administrative talents of the young lawyer. On the strength of his accomplishments in New England, Freeman invited Goldenson to New York to become his assistant. Needless to say, Goldenson accepted the proffer.

After a year as Freeman's assistant, the young attorney turned theatre executive, succeeded his boss as chief of theatre operations when the latter went to the coast. Thus, at the age of 33, Goldenson became one of the youngest executives to hold such an important post.

Speaking of those times, he says: "I really learned about every phase of the business during my so-called apprenticeship days. There wasn't anything worth knowing about the business that didn't come to my attention during the four years."

It didn't take him long to adapt himself to the widespread operations of the circuit, with houses reaching from coast to coast and border to border.

Because the Paramount theatres are dispersed all over the country, Goldenson found it necessary, prior to the war, to spend half his time traveling. The war has necessarily restricted his movements, but when the curbs are ended, he expects to resume where he left off.

His attitude toward the future of the industry might be termed bullish, in the parlance of Wall Street. A favorite expression of his is: "This is still a great business!" He feels that the business has many possibilities that have not even been explored.

Far from being complacent, he believes that industry leaders must keep abreast of the rapidly changing times. He is alive to the many possible after-effects of the war. Among other problems facing theatre men in the postwar years, he says, will be those of shifting populations which will necessarily have an important bearing on their businesses.

Part Theatre of the Future Plays

Another postwar problem, and perhaps an added opportunity for service, is that of adapting the theatre of the future more and more to the needs of the community. This, he feels, will be more necessary than ever before in the postwar years when competitive businesses will resume their efforts to secure a larger portion of the public's amusement dollar.

There are a number of ways of achieving this objective. One of the principal ways, he believes, is to design new theatre properties in such a manner as to afford the maximum community service and comfort to prospective patrons.

Goldenson is a staunch advocate of the personal touch. That is the reason he believes it necessary to keep in close touch with the Paramount partners, associates and executives. "A large circuit," he told a friend recently, "cannot be operated from a swivel chair."

Asked about the returning service men and jobs, Goldenson replied: "We have every intention of absorbing every former Paramount employe who wants his job back. Some of these may have other plans but for those who want to return we can only say that their jobs are waiting for them."

Known as a hard worker who spends long hours at his desk, Goldenson smiled when he was asked to name his hobbies. He plays some tennis on Saturday afternoons during the summer and badminton during the winter.

Goldenson was elected vice-president of Paramount Pictures, Inc., June, 1942, and a director, April, 1944.

Exhibitors who attended the reception at the new quarters of the Independent Theatre Service, Inc., on the 19th floor of the Herald-Tribune Bldg., included the following:

Lee Newbury, Dave Snaper, Irving Dollinger, Jack Unger, Maury Miller, Louis and George Gold, Samuel and Al Hochberg, Jack Fields, Edward Lachman, Harry H. Lowenstein, Al Stevens, Louis Martin, H. Thorton Kelly, Haskell Block, Dr. Henry Brown, George Emmott, Joseph Siccardi and Harry Sheer.

Exchange executives present were Sidney S. Kulick, Ben Abner, Myron Sattler, David A. Levy, Charles Boasberg, Nat Cohn, Phil Hodes, Sol Trauner, Henry Randel, Ray Moon, Moe Kurtz, Morris Sanders, Seymour

(Continued on next page)

Along N. Y. Filmrow With Charles Becker

(Continued from preceding page)

Florin, A. W. Schwalberg, Jack Ellis, Maxwell Gillis, Bert and Frances Kulick, Herman Gluckman, Al Mendelson, Clarence Hill, Kitty Flynn, Clarence Eiseman, Moe Kerman, Joseph J. Felder and Ben Levine.

Recent Filmow visitors: Robert Goldblatt, Music Hall, Tarrytown, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Stravitz, Colonial Theatre, Monroe, N. Y.; Clint Wisner, Playhouse, Greenwood Lake, N. Y.; Martin Wohlforth, Ritz Theatre, Spring Lake, N. Y., and John Fioravanti of the Dunellen Theatre, Dunellen, N. J.

Exhibitor James Basil of the City Theatre, Union City, N. J., is convalescing from a broken shoulder . . . Herbert Fenton, film buyer for the Eskin circuit, operating houses in New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, underwent a tonsillectomy . . . Elliot Foreman is on jury duty.

Ralph Pielow jr., son of the M-G-M branch manager, who was wounded in Europe last December and who recently arrived in this country, has been transferred to the Brooks General Hospital, San Antonio, Tex. . . . Anthony Ricci, Republic salesman, is building a summer home at Hawthorne Lake, N. Y. . . . Ben Levine is a granduncle. His niece, Beatrice Applebaum Goldner, became the mother of a baby girl.

Fred Mayer, Universal booker, is active in the youth movement in Elmhurst, L. I. . . . Tom Farrell, former M-G-M salesman now with the OWI, has been assigned to Copenhagen, Denmark . . . Howard Levy has been catching a lot of fish lately around Sheepshead Bay . . . Vacationers: John Cunniff, Robert Ellsworth, Rose Giordano and Eleanor Moserowitz.

Charles Fogle, home office representative, is making a routine checkup at the M-G-M exchange . . . Florence Perau, Dorothy Benson, Marie Hitz and Sylvia Olitsky have donated blood to the Red Cross for the second time.

RKO Out-of-Town Theatre Men to Meet June 27-28-29

NEW YORK—Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO out-of-town theatres, has called a three-day home office meeting at which his key men from all over the country will gather. Scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 27-29, the meetings of out-of-town theatre representatives will be the first held by RKO in several years.



SOL A. SCHWARTZ

Among those expected to attend are Division Managers E. H. Groth of Boston, Arthur Frudenfeld of Cincinnati and his assistant, Hardie Meakin; Frank Smith of Chicago and John Redmond of Omaha.

Others attending will be Benjamin Domingo of Boston, Millroy A. Anderson of Los Angeles, Robert P. Corbin of San Francisco, Jay Golden of Rochester, H. H. Unterfort of Syracuse and Harry Schreiber of Cleveland.



PLAN PARAMOUNT CELEBRATION—Seated: Duke Clark, district manager for the Dallas territory, who is Paramount month captain; William Erbb, eastern divison manager. Standing: Earle W. Sweigert, district manager for the Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh area, and Ulrik F. Smith, branch manager in Philadelphia.

Managers, Assistants Win Tiff With RKO

NEW YORK—The work week of managers and assistant managers of New York City and Westchester County theatres has been established at 48 hours, with time-and-a-half for overtime, by the National War Labor Board. The dispute involved RKO Service Corp. and the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing the managers and assistants in 41 houses.

The union was recognized as the bargaining agent and allowed maintenance of membership and checkoff. Seniority and ability were declared the sole basis for layoffs, rehiring and promotions. Discharges are allowed only for just cause. Grievance machinery was ordered to handle any disagreements between the company and its employes with a NWLB arbitrator having the final say in disputes not resolved by the committee.

A wage increase was allowed under the "little steel" formula, averaging $9 per employe. Assistant managers will be paid $40-$75 weekly and managers will get $85-$140 per week. Classifications are to be reviewed every six months. Severance pay was ordered. It will range from two weeks' pay for one year of employment to 12 weeks' pay for ten years or more.

All provisions and increases covered by this report are to be retroactive to Dec. 8, 1944, and the contract will be binding to June 30, 1946.

The panel consisted of Jules J. Justin, public member; H. Lloyd Jones, industry member, and Ann Venturi, labor member. The union was represented by Boudin, Cohn & Glickstein and the company by Goldwater & Flynn.

Para Singers at Rally

NEW YORK—The Paramount Choral Society, consisting of 52 members, including 37 men and 15 girls, was the principal attraction at a war loan rally held on the steps of the sub-treasury building at Wall and Broad streets. Mrs. Edith Morgan Savage and Giovanni Camajani were the directors.

Fabian, Brandt Head Variety Club Affair

NEW YORK—Robert J. O'Donnell, national chief barker of the Variety Clubs of America, has appointed Si Fabian and Harry Brandt co-chairmen of the organization's Humanitarian Award dinner. The banquet will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria August 17 and will highlight the three-day tenth national meeting that opens August 16.

Fabian and Brandt will appoint and announce their full committee as soon as details have been worked out. Meanwhile, other committees have been appointed by O'Donnell and his co-executive chairmen, John Harris and Charles "Chick" Lewis. Robert M. Gillham, advertising and publicity director of Paramount, has volunteered to serve as head of the committee in charge of the annual Variety Club journal. Leon J. Bamberger, sales promotion manager of RKO, will serve as co-chairman. Other members will be Mort Blumenstock, Warner Bros.; Si Seadler, M-G-M; Barry Buchanan, United Artists; S. Barret McCormick, RKO; Maurice Bergman, Universal; Stanley Shuford, Paramount; Charles Reed Jones, Republic; Mel Gold, National Screen Service, and Maurice "Red" Kann, Quigley Publications.

The publicity committee is headed by Al Steen, Film Daily, with Bill Formby, Motion Picture Herald, as vice-chairman. Members of the committee include James M. Jerauld, BOXOFFICE; Sherwin Kane, Motion Picture Daily; Tom Kennedy, Showmen's Trade Review; Mel Konecoff, the Exhibitor; Jack Harrison, Hollywood Reporter; R. W. Baremore, the Independent; Frank Leyendecker, Film Bulletin; Al Picoult, Harrison's Reports, and Mike Wear, Variety.

Loew's Mayfair, 10, Set For Big Birthday Party

NEW YORK—Loew's Mayfair will celebrate its 10th anniversary during the week of July 6. A huge cake, with 10 large candles, will be presented to Mrs. Louise Leonard, manager.

Honored guests of the evening will be 10 service men and women. Stage, screen and radio celebrities will enliven the show.

Corsages will be presented to the first 10 ladies who come to the theatre at 10 p. m. each evening during the anniversary week.

Former Theatre Executive Now Lieutenant Colonel

WRIGHT FIELD, OHIO—Promotion of Maj. Joseph H. Goetz to the rank of lieutenant colonel has been reported by Air Technical Service Command headquarters. Lieutenant Colonel Goetz is assigned as chief of personnel services for the ATSC and is responsible for the production of soldier shows, all war department theatres, recreational programs and activities, processing of decorations and awards, as well as the information and education program for all ATSC officers and enlisted personnel.



LIEUT. COL. J. H. GOETZ

Goetz organized and produced the "ATSC Flying Varieties," a complete, all-professional soldier show, currently touring the eastern states on behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive. Prior to entering service in June, 1942, Goetz was assistant division manager for RKO theatres in the midwest.

Modify Arbitrator's Some Run Decision

NEW YORK—The appeal board has modified the ruling of the arbitrator in the some run complaint filed by Benton Roy, on behalf of his Roy Theatre, Mansura, La., against 20th-Fox, RKO, Warner Bros. and Paramount.

The arbitrator, in his decision, found that "the practice of the defendants in making pictures available as testified by themselves tends to defeat purposes of Section VI of the consent decree." He directed the defendants to offer Roy films for license on the same terms and conditions that existed in August, 1942.

In modifying the arbitrator's ruling, the appeal board dismissed the complaint against RKO, Warner Bros. and Paramount. It directed 20th-Fox "to offer its pictures for license to the complainant for exhibition in his Roy Theatre . . . on a run to be designated by such defendant and upon terms and conditions to be fixed by such defendant which are not calculated to defeat the purpose of Section VI."

In the Milwaukee tribunal, the Range Theatre, Hurley, Wis., and Rex Theatre, Bessemer, Mich., are to be permitted to play pictures 30 days after first runs in Ironwood, Mich., or 60 days after the last day of first run showings in Milwaukee, whichever is earlier.

The ruling was rendered by Arbitrator Thomas A. Byrne in an arbitration action brought against the five major distributors by the Range Amusement Co., owners of the Range Theatre. The Rex Theatre, operated by D. J. Kulascowicz, was an intervenor.

The AAA disclosed that a clearance complaint against Loew's in the New Orleans tribunal filed by the Joy Theatre, Shreveport, had been withdrawn.

Appeal Board Modifies Decision In Fair Operating Corp. Trial

NEW YORK—The appeal board has modified the decision of the arbitrator in the clearance complaint brought by the Fair Operating Corp., Jackson Heights, against Paramount, RKO, Loew's and Warner Bros.

The arbitrator had eliminated the seven-day clearance of the Skouras Theatres Granada Theatre, Corona, L. I., over the plaintiff's Fair Theatre. He fixed at one day the clearance of the Granada over the Polk Theatre, Corona, one of the intervenors.

In its decision, the appeal board changed the clearance of the Granada to one day over both the Fair and Polk theatres. In the case of the Fair, however, the appeal board directed that its availability shall be "not later than ten days after the conclusion of the run at whichever of the Boulevard, Jackson or Corona theatres shall play last." All three houses are operated by Skouras Theatres.

Twentieth-Fox had been named as one of the defendants in the original complaint. The arbitrator dismissed the proceeding against the film company because of the franchise agreement that exists between 20th-Fox and Skouras Theatres.

ACE REEL END ALARM

JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

Local 1461 to Boycott Houses During Dispute

New York—By an overwhelming vote, 73-2, the general membership of the Screen Cartoonists, Union 1461, elected to accept and carry out the request of the International Union of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers to boycott all motion picture houses until the decorators-theatres dispute is settled.

Willing to Negotiate With Union, Says WE

NEW YORK—Western Electric Co. has issued the following statement concerning the scheduled strike vote to be taken June 29 by the employes of the Kearny works:

". . . The union gave as the reason for the strike vote the company's alleged failure to make retroactive wage adjustments authorized by the War Labor Board in a directive issued on April 17. Ever since receipt of the board's directive the company has been and still is ready and willing to make the wage adjustments authorized by the board. But the union resists the company's taking such action unless it agrees to make effective certain other increases not specifically directed by the board."

WE and the union have been carrying on negotiations to settle the dispute since the directive was issued. The union filed a request for clarification of the directive May 17 with the WLB and the matter is still in the hands of the government agency.

Film Technicians Approve New Contract With Labs

NEW YORK—Members of Local 702 of the Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians Union, AFL, have approved a new contract covering 1,800 technicians in the metropolitan area.

Negotiations broke down last month when the union was offered only minor—from the union's point of view—wage adjustments. The membership authorized a strike but never called one. In the meantime, the workers refused to work overtime and on Saturdays.

The new contract gives the employes of 20 film laboratories in this area a 12-14 per cent wage increase ranging from $2 to $8.50 for workers now earning from $40 to $50.

"Two Seconds" Assists In Building Hospitals

NEW YORK—The American Hospital Ass'n held a press preview of "Every Two Seconds," one-reel documentary produced for its hospital service plan commission by Associated Filmmakers, at the Hotel Warwick on Thursday, June 21. More than 80 representatives of the trade and lay press, women's magazines and health journals were guests of the AHA at a luncheon following the screening of the ten-minute short.

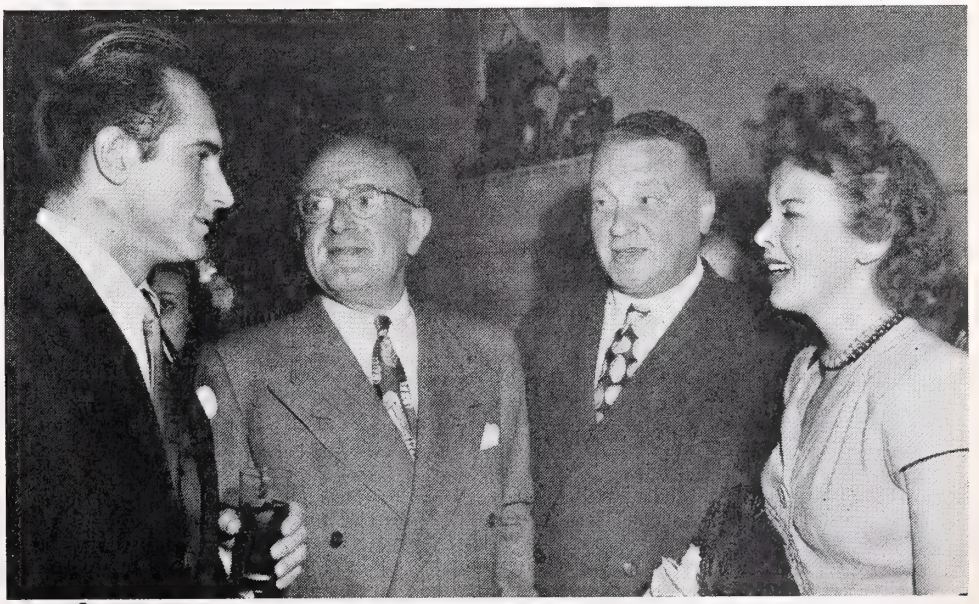
Documentary in treatment, the film tells entertainingly how a small town doctor obtained a hospital for his community, subsequently managed to better its equipment and, finally, enabled a maximum number of townspeople to avail themselves of its ever-increasing facilities. Supervised by Stanley Neal, and written and directed by Sobey Martin, "Every Two Seconds" is a workmanlike, professional job of filmmaking.

Public-spirited exhibitors whose communities lack adequate hospital facilities would be doing their fellow citizens a service in presenting this short subject on their screens. Available in both 35mm and 16mm, it may be obtained gratis by writing to the American Hospital Ass'n, 18 East Division St., Chicago, or (for exhibitors and circuits in the metropolitan area) direct from Associated Filmmakers, Inc., 45 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y.

Ending Bond Tour, Lupino Honor Guest at WB Fete

NEW YORK—Nearly 400 representatives of the press, radio and theatrical world attended the Warner Bros. reception to Ida Lupino at the Hotel Sherry-Netherland. Miss Lupino has been on a war bond and hospital tour in the east since finishing "Pillow to Post."

Among the celebrities present were Jack Benny, Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt, Faye Emerson, Helmut Dantine, Andrea King, John Dall, Nancy Walker, Loretto Shea and others. Warner executives on hand included Joseph Bernhard, Charles Einfeld, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Ed Hinchy, Larry Golob, Charles Steinberg, I. F. Dolid, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Goldberg and Wolfe Cohen.



AT IDA LUPINO PARTY—Helmut Dantine (left) got a laugh from Miss Lupino at a reception given in her honor by Warner Bros. at the Sherry-Netherland. In the center are Joseph Bernhard and Mort Blumenstock.

Sell British Film Stars Via Cards in Subway

LONDON—Gainsborough Pictures, one of J. Arthur Rank's interests, in order to make its stars better known to the British public, is using bus and subway cards, each one of which carries a plug for a particular player. The advertising and exploitation benefit not only Gainsborough and the stars, President Maurice Ostrer points out, but also theatre chain managers playing the pictures, and even the industry as a whole.

The panels include attractive portraits of the stars together with slogans describing their personalities and a list of their latest films. The campaign allows for six changes a year for each star.

The London project is only the beginning of an extensive drive, according to Ostrer. It is proposed to extend this bus and subway service to all large provincial cities as well as London. Although the basic idea of car advertising is by no means new, the Gainsborough plan represents the first attempt by British distributors to make their own stars nationally famous.

Improve Loew's Mayfair For 10th Anniversary

NEW YORK—Several alterations have been made on Loew's Mayfair Theatre for the tenth anniversary July 6. Among the improvements are:

A 54-foot stage has been built; a new proscenium arch, with velour drapes, has been constructed; new drapes have been placed on the mezzanine and couches and chairs have been newly upholstered. The overhead sign on the outside lobby has been replaced. Enlargements of scene photos from current attractions will be placed in this sign three times weekly.

Mrs. Louise Leonard, former manager of the Astor Theatre, is in charge of the Mayfair.

Para Confers on Plans For 33-Year Milestone

NEW YORK—Paramount executives and personnel conferred at the local exchange to discuss plans for the company's "One-Third of a Century" celebration, August 26 to September 29. Duke Clarke, Dallas, district manager and Paramount month captain, presided and was the principal speaker.

Present also were Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; Hugh Owen, New York and southern division manager, and Henry Randel, metropolitan New York branch manager. Congratulations were accorded to eight employes present, veterans of 20 years' service with Paramount.

Author of "Salty O'Rourke" Attracts Syracuse Blurbs

SYRACUSE—"Salty O'Rourke" got unexpected preopening promotion from local newspaper attention to the career of its author, Milton Holmes, Syracusan best known to the movie colony as operator of the Beverly Hills Tennis Club. Here he was known as Milton Heimlich and began his working life selling furniture in his father's store. He broke into the film writing money with "Mr. Lucky," following up with "O'Rourke" and the now-in-production "Torch Song."

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*



AWARD TO 20TH-FOX—Hal Horne, director of 20th-Fox advertising-publicity-exploitation, accepts the Parents' Magazine scroll commemorating the company's 30th anniversary. E. Philip Willcox, on the left, represented the publication which honored 20th-Fox for its high standard of production over a period of three decades.

SYRACUSE

Harry H. Unterfort, Schine city manager, and Jack Flex, Keith manager, were in charge of the highly successful auction at a bond rally sponsored by B'nai B'rith here last week. Bond sales came to $141,000, stimulated by premiums of such scarce civilian items such as nylon stockings, one of the first new mangel ironers and other household goods. The next night a bond rally at Keith's netted $70,000.

Richard Feldman has returned from a two-week vacation in New York. He is manager of the Paramount . . . Mrs. Kay Lazar, wife of the Empire manager, has returned home after an extended convalescent visit to her parents in Bellefontaine, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis W. Schine were in Syracuse last week when their daughter Doreen registered for the fall term at Syracuse University . . . The golf season finally having come to full bloom in Central New York, the informal meetings of exhibitors around the luncheon tables of the Hotel Syracuse have been put back a day until Thursday for the summer. Wednesday is the group's golf day.

Visitors of recent date include Charles E. Kurtzman, Loew's divisional manager, and Arch Lavine, head of the Schine real estate division . . . Mrs. Alice Warren, new relief cashier at the Strand, to which she transferred from the State, replaces Miss Agnes Schadt, soon to marry.

Recovering from a long illness, John Shelley reports himself eager to return to theatre duty. He again will be affiliated with the Schine interests in this city, assigned to one of the downtown units.

Outdrawing "Lassie Come Home," "Son of Lassie" has been held over for a third Syracuse week. It opened at the State, then shifted to the Strand.

PRC Has Three on Broadway

NEW YORK—"Lady Confesses" and "Missing Corpse" opened at the New York Theatre on June 20 followed by still a third PRC release at the Rialto, directly across Times Square, on June 22. The Strand in Brooklyn will get a twin PRC bill when "Phantom of 42nd Street" and "Missing Corpse" open there on July 19.

GE "Electronics Park" Started at Syracuse

SYRACUSE—While Schenectady is headquarters for General Electric's experimentation and testing of television equipment, Syracuse is a prospective center for actual, large-scale manufacture of GE's electronic components of television units. In accordance with plans announced more than a year ago, clearance and excavation of a site three miles from this city began last week. On it, as soon as materials are available, will be erected the buildings which GE has already said it will call "Electronics Park."

The plant will be a manufacturing entity separate from the Schenectady operations, and by the production headquarters for all electronic devices bearing the GE label. As such "Electronics Park" will be an expression of the corporation's present policy—and one increasingly common to big industry in general—of decentralizing its manufacture.

The site is shrewdly athwart major routes of transportation—this city is the junction of railroads going south as well as east and west, it is on the barge canal. The GE location is adjacent to the blueprinted route of the cross-state super highway, and nearer than any other industrial plant to the army air base, which is expected to become a commercial airport after the war.

Key members of GE's permanent electronics force have been setting up residence here in recent months, in preparation for the new operation.

CBS Offers Television Facilities to Clients

NEW YORK—Television facilities and personnel have been made available to network clients of the Columbia Broadcasting System. Service will be obtainable, a CBS booklet reports, on "a working partnership" basis for testing, development and broadcasting of commercial video programs.

Until expanded set-ownership provides measurable television circulation, no charge for "time on the air" will be made; neither will there be any charge for the reports, analyses and other special assignments of the CBS television audience research institute in its working relationship with client's experiments. A charge of $150 an hour will be made for major studio use—in both rehearsal and broadcasting—to defray part of the cost of such items as lighting, camera crew, announcers, producers, stage hands and studio maintenance.

Popper's Supply to Open Branches Over Nation

KANSAS CITY—Popper's Supply Co., with national headquarters here in charge of Rube Melcher and associates, will open branches shortly in Boston and Minneapolis. A southern branch was opened last week in Dallas, in charge of Ralph W. Thorniley, which will also service the New Orleans territory.

It is Popper's intention, said Melcher, who has engaged in the distribution of popcorn for many years, to eventually cover the nation with branches. The company has branches in Los Angeles and San Francisco, and is negotiating for additional offices in other cities. These will be announced soon, said Melcher, on the eve of his departure for the west coast.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

Loew's Pitkin in Lead In Chain's Bond Drive

NEW YORK—As the Seventh War Loan drive enters the home stretch, the Pitkin Theatre still leads the Loew circuit. The Pitkin, Al Weiss manager, has a total of 7,105 sales for a maturity value of $773,350. The American, Gil Marbe manager, keeps second place with 9,148 bonds, $755,775; while the Boro Park, Walter Heiber manager, retains third place with 4,980 sales totaling $553,000.

The Kameo, Sam Pearlman manager, is still in fourth position, reporting 4,359 bonds sold valued at $476,625 and the Paradise is fifth with 4,639 bonds sold for $426,925.

Out-of-town houses show no change in position. The Capitol, Washington, has sold 6,765 bonds for a maturity value of $698,875 and the Columbia, Washington, has sold 5,225 bonds, $509,925. Third place is held by the State, Cleveland, with 3,124 sales, $411,950; fourth is Loew's, Richmond, with 4,044 bonds, $386,300; fifth is the Palace, Washington, with 4,234 valued at $358,950.



BONDS BACKED BY BEAUTIES—This bevy of charming femininity gathered in the lobby of Sidney Lusts' Milo Theatre, Rockville, Md., in a competitive war bond sales campaign that boosted the theatre's quota some 200 per cent in a town of 2,300 population. Now the girls are seeking to quadruple the quota before the campaign ends. They are all students of Montgomery high school. Lust is presenting war bonds and theatre passes to the three young ladies who are first, second and third respectively in the campaign. (Photo by Van der Veer studio).

Bond Buyers Get Special Films at Loew Houses

NEW YORK—The Mt. Vernon presented a special viewing of "The Affairs of Susan" and Loew's Pitkin, American and Dyckman Theatres showed the same film at midnight shows for bond buyers.

Midnight premieres of "The Clock" were held at the Apollo, Burnside, Spooner and Oriental.

B'way Houses Top Quota

NEW YORK—Broadway's 16 first run motion picture theatres are the first group of film houses in greater New York to attain their Seventh War Loan quota. With a goal of 160 per cent of the Sixth War Loan sales, the big Times Square theatres have turned in $6,367,495 in E bond sales, representing 174 per cent of its Sixth War Loan sales and 14 per cent over quota.

Iwo Group Gets Big Play

NEW YORK—Almost 1,000 newspapers throughout the United States have reproduced photographs of the film industry's Iwo Jima statue in Times Square. The picture was sent out by all news services, with the Associated Press, whose photographer took the original picture from which the statue was reproduced, getting extraordinary coverage.

Mayfair Reports E Sales

NEW YORK—Mrs. Louise Leonard, manager of the Mayfair Theatre, reports her house sold 2,911 individual bonds during the first five weeks of the Seventh War Loan drive. The bonds had a total maturity value of $371,900.

Eastman Buys $4,000,000

ROCHESTER—Workers at Eastman Kodak Co. have bought more than $4,001,772 in war bonds during the Seventh War Loan, according to officials. This is 112 per cent of the company's quota.

Had 'Grand' View of Ike

NEW YORK — Grandstand seats for the General Eisenhower parade went to 60 purchasers of $1,000 bonds. The film industry placed these seats on its platform adjoining the Iwo Jima group in Times Square.

U Film, Broadcast Sells Out 3,500-Seat Eastman

ROCHESTER—Universal Pictures and Mutual network's radio program, Double or Nothing, joined forces to participate in the Seventh War Loan drive. The radio show devoted part of its half hour to Universal's "That's the Spirit," shown at the conclusion of the broadcast in the Eastman Theatre.

Admission to the radio program and picture presentation was by war bond purchase only. The 3,500-seat house was sold out, due in part to a special advance campaign whereby station WSAY plugged the event eight times daily for more than a week.

E Sales Top $5,000,000

NEW YORK—Century Theatres have sold more than 44,000 E bonds to amass a total of $5,280,850, including other series. The Elm, seating 952, sold 4,663 bonds for a total of $467,650, and the Nostrand, capacity 995, sold 2,968 units, for a total of $855,550.

All-Star Radio Show To Boost "Mighty 7th"

New York—The motion picture industry's Seventh War Loan drive will be highlighted by an all-star radio show Wednesday June 27, at 9 p. m., EWT, over the national network of the American Broadcasting Co. (Blue network).

Samuel Pinanski, national chairman of the industry drive, is telegraphing to all exhibitor and public relations chairmen throughout the country, requesting them to contact their local Blue network station and newspapers for the purpose of establishing the widest possible national cooperative coverage for this show.

The show will feature Joan Fontaine, Herbert Marshall and Agnes Moorehead in a performance of "Rebecca."

Announcements to be made on this show will emphasize the fact that the success of the Seventh War Loan drive is an indication of the measure of the home front support for the millions of men fighting in the Pacific as well as the millions scattered all over the world. They will urge the continued purchases of bonds "at your favorite motion picture theatre, open day and night, Saturday, Sunday and holidays for the sale of bonds."

Kids' Rally Sparkles; $101,000 Bonds Sold

ALBANY—The third children's bond rally at the Palace Theatre June 16 proved an outstanding artistic and financial success. An audience of 3,700, chiefly kids but sprinkled with parents and service men, bought $101,000 in bonds. The stage show was emceed by Forrest Willis, WOKO star broadcaster. On the screen was "The Son of Lassie." The performance ran from 9:30 until noon.

The Palace, which has more seats than any other house in the Albany district, rang with cheers, applause and plain noise. Henry Tobias, writer of many song hits and director of entertainment at Totem Lodge on Burden Lake, played the piano and led community singing. C. D. Russell sketched his cartoon character, "Pete, the Tramp," in color crayons, while Otto Soglow did the same with "The Little King." Both comic strips appear in the Times-Union. In addition there were several local entertainers.

The committee in charge included Saul Ullman, Fabian division manager; Alex Sayles, managing director of the Palace; Willis; Clay Myers of Myers Department Store; Frank H. Williams, county chairman for the Seventh War Loan and the WAC.

Glenn Miller Bond Show Stirs Memories in Albany

ALBANY—Leo Rosen, Strand manager, received high praise for special lighting and scenic effects in a Glenn Miller Bond night presentation. Jerry Atkins, Warner zone office exploiteer, worked with Rosen, himself a former orchestra leader.

The production recalled to veteran Albany filmgoers the days at the Strand when the late M. Colby Shaw and Julius Boxhorne led the house orchestra on the stage. The theatre at that time had a complete change of scenery (painted by David Lithgow, noted Albany artist) and of stage show, with singers booked from New York.

Charlie Bell of station WOKO emceed the outside bands and musicians who appeared at the Strand to pay tribute to Major Miller. Francis Murphy, leader of the Ten Eyck Hotel orchestra, one of the guest attractions, started as a violinist in the Strand house unit.

Washington "Discovers" Hollywood, Says Writer

NEW YORK — In the current Universal Pictures Stockholders News appear some of the observations of Herman A. Lowe, of the Philadelphia Inquirer's Washington bureau in his article entitled "Washington Discovers Hollywood." In the belief our readers will find the observations interesting we reprint excerpts from Lowe's article as it appeared in a recent issue of the American Mercury.

"Washington has suddenly discovered that millions around the world obtain most of their ideas about the United States from the movies, that there is ready-made in Hollywood a subtle and powerful weapon to spread the story of democracy and make friends for this country.

"As a result, four major federal departments are now working with the motion picture industry while a fifth has declared itself a policeman to watch the nature of the deals the business makes abroad.

"State department spokesmen say movies are genuine ambassadors of goodwill and as such will receive all help our embassies and consulates can give them. The department of commerce, which gave some aid in the decade before the war, has just completed for the industry a comprehensive survey of the world's motion picture market not overlooking even such limited ones as the Belgian Congo and the Fiji Islands.

Department of Justice Warning

"The Office of War Information and the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs admit they owe a great deal of their effectiveness abroad to motion pictures; they have recommended to Congress that Hollywood be given an important part in our postwar international activities.

"Within the past year, the justice department issued a warning it would oppose arrangements with foreign interests which might cause Hollywood to withdraw its films from any of the world's multiplying screens.

"In general, the film moguls are flattered by the attention, recognizing that they will need official cooperation to retain some world markets and to regain still others. There is, however, the uneasy foreboding in several quarters that the industry may be putting its head into a bureaucratic noose. Some motion picture people fear the possibility of a silent partner likely to become less silent as time goes on. This has happened in other nations.

"The government's sudden awakening to the universality of motion pictures — their tremendous effectiveness as a spreader of information, their unique ability to sell American goods and American ideas in every land —is a belated one. Other nations have known and feared the advertising punch of Hollywood for 20 years or more.

"The lines are being drawn for a postwar Washington-Hollywood cooperation that will rival the teamwork of the present war years. The signs are clear—except in one place . . . Congress still regards Hollywood as a chubby punching bag, to be ridiculed by speakers on dull afternoons.

"One of these days, however, Congress will find out what the rest of Washington already knows; then it can be counted on to deliver the kind of legislation which will further the world-wide mission of American movies. And Capitol Hill also looms as the port-in-a-storm to which the picture industry can appeal for help in the event any administration ever attempts to apply a thumbscrew."

Senator Connally a Friend

Fortunately, as J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal chairman of the board, points out, there are far-sighted members of Congress with a real appreciation of motion pictures as one of America's great industries and its significance to the progress of the nation. Among these is Sen. Tom Connally of Texas, chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, who has made the following appraisal of the industry:

"The American motion picture is an ambassador of the United States. It goes to all countries and serves as an interpreter of American life. The American motion picture has influence upon our foreign relations. Its responsibilities and its opportunities will increase with the years. There can be little doubt that in postwar days the motion picture will find wider gates of opportunity."

Library Breaks Tradition With 'Rhapsody' Buildup

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has arranged a precedent-breaking tieup with the Public Library on "Rhapsody in Blue." Cooperating with Will Yolen, Franklin Fisher and Abe Kronensberg, WB special events department representatives, the library has turned over its display cases and considerable wall space in the music room to George Gershwin material. This is the first time the famous Fifth Ave. institution, visited annually by thousands of students and music lovers, has boosted a musical film production.

In the display cases are first editions of Gershwin scores dating from 1898 to 1937, the year he died. Of particular interest is his original manuscript of his best known musical composition, "Rhapsody in Blue."

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changeovers

Deals on "Uncertain Feeling"

NEW YORK—Mort Sackett, president of Guaranteed Pictures, has closed deals with Bert Stearn of Film Classics, Pittsburgh, and with Jack Engel of Film Classics, Philadelphia, for "That Uncertain Feeling," United Artists reissue with Merle Oberon, Burgess Meredith and Melvyn Douglas. Deals are pending for sales in other territories.

Altec Renews Agreements

NEW YORK—Altec Service Corp. has renewed service agreements with Hamid's Million Dollar Pier, Atlantic City, N. J.; Castor Theatre, Philadelphia, and the Clifford, Flynn & Co. theatres in Montrose, Mifflinburg and White Haven, Pa.

McGuire Convalescing at Home

NEW YORK—P. A. McGuire, public relations head of International Projector Corp., has returned to his home at Amityville, L. I., after undergoing an abdominal operation at the Presbyterian Hospital. He will remain on the company's inactive list until July 4.

PHILADELPHIA

Times change—The last time Abbott and Costello appeared here in person was six years ago. They received a couple hundred bucks for appearing in a burlesque show. They return here August 3 for a stint at the Earle and for a week's work will leave with $20,000.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has discovered that it takes a Hollywood name to put over stunts. Ticket sales were slow for the paper's music festival until it was announced Jimmy Cagney would be master of ceremonies. The result: 72,000 paid $100,000. The Inquirer's war bond golf tournament at the Llanerch Country Club threatened to be a flop until it was announced Bing Crosby would appear. Then it developed into a huge success.

A new symphonic orchestra to be known as the Philadelphia "Pops" Orchestra will present a series of concerts in Town Hall this fall . . . Wednesday marks the third anniversary of the theatre wing's Stage Door Canteen at the Academy of Music . . . George Clifford, Embassy emcee, and Vincent Travers, New York band leader, are collaborating on a musical comedy.

The Philadelphia Hadassah sponsored one of the most successful bond premieres Tuesday night when a total of $4,511,075 worth of E bonds were sold for the showing of "Valley of Decision" at the Aldine, Stanley-Warner house.

Capt. Everett Callow has received an honorable discharge from the marine corps and is taking over his old post as director of public relations for the Stanley-Warner circuit . . . Irving Blumber, who has been filling in for Callow, will be second in command.

Pvt. Abe Zayon, former manager of the Colonial, has been commended by Gen. Leonard Wing for meritorious service in Aitape . . . Sy Friedman, former member of the 20th-Fox exploitation department at the local exchange, has been shifted to the midwest . . . Andy Schechtman is the new manager of the Astor . . . William Cohen, former office manager of 20th-Fox, has been named sales manager of the March of Time department.

David Supowitz has been awarded the contract to draw up plans for Stanley-Warner's new 1,200-seater in northeast Philadelphia . . . Approximately 13,500 persons laid $1,500,000 on the line for E bonds to watch the Eddie Cantor show at Convention Hall.

The Navy League presented a premiere of "Thrill of a Romance" at the Boyd and sold $2,376,000 in E bonds.

Disc Firm Calls 'Rhapsody' Tieup Greatest on Record

NEW YORK—Columbia Recording Corp. has reported to the trade what it describes as "the greatest motion picture tieup in the history of the recording industry" in connection with the Warner Bros. production of "Rhapsody in Blue."

Based on the vast store of recorded music by George Gershwin, the campaign will supply music dealers throughout the country with a colorful assortment of lithographs, posters and other material to be used in window and counter displays as well as other promotional activities connected with local engagements of the WB production.

Displays will be designed to tie in with theatres playing the picture, jointly exploiting the playdate and the music.

BUFFALO

Vincent R. McFaul, general manager of Shea Theatres, last week returned from New York, where he completed arrangements for a summer supply of films for Shea houses here. He also booked notable attractions to appear on the stage of Shea's Buffalo. The first of the stage shows, set for June 22, features the Ink Spots, Ella Fitzgerald and Cootie Williams and his orchestra. Also booked was Frankie Carle and his orchestra.

Motion pictures of Red Cross activities overseas and a Technicolor film showing services of the Buffalo chapter will be available through July and August to groups of 25 or more persons. An operator and projector will be provided on request.

Atrocity films taken in Nazi concentration camps are required sights for the 400-odd German prisoners of war at their camp on the Chautauqua Fair Ass'n grounds in nearby Dunkirk . . . Marking the first time that a revival double-feature program has been held over here, Universal's reissues of "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven" were strong enough for a second week at the Lafayette.

Packed houses were the general rule last Monday night during the five simultaneous downtown war bond premieres . . . Construction work at the Teck Theatre Bldg., housing a proposed new Shea theatre, is expected to be resumed within a short time, Evar J. Skoog, local manager of the Massachusetts Real Estate Co., said this week. Skoog said the recent relaxation on materials by WPB will allow the company to spend a certain amount toward completion of the stores fronting on Main St. The theatre itself, he said, probably would not be completed for some time.

The Regent Theatre and the Cold Spring Business Men's Ass'n joined in presenting a war bond rally and stage show at the theatre. Bond and merchandise prizes were distributed to 50 bond buyers. Lou Glenny was master of ceremonies.

Briskin Enterprises, formed by Murray Briskin, upstate theatre operator, is expected to act soon as a buying and booking agency in the Buffalo area. Corporation headquarters are expected to be located in New York. Briskin operates theatres in Syracuse, Waterloo and Groton.

Elmer F. Lux, RKO branch manager, has been named to the advisory committee of the Buffalo and Erie County chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis . . . Charley Spivak and his orchestra played for dancing this week at Memorial Auditorium.

Escapist stories, musicals and comedies will provide the great percentage of screen attractions for the summer months at the 20th Century Theatre, according to Managing Director Robert T. Murphy.

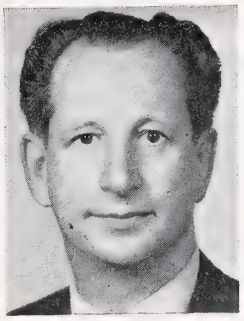
Ads Feature "Cool" Copy As Mercury Climbs

ALBANY—The Strand has been featuring in its newspaper ads, its new air conditioning plant. A boxed ad reads: "Stay Cool at the Strand. Our New Air Conditioning Plant Is in Operation Now! Enjoy Movies in Refreshing Comfort Here!" The arrival of torrid weather—the mercury climbed into the 90s over the weekend—brought out air conditioning copy by Fabian's Palace.

The unseasonably cold and rainy weather since May 1 aided business in many theatres, it is reported. Rain fell in this area for some 50 days.

Australia Underseated, Needs Theatres—Cohen

NEW YORK—To Australians and New Zealanders motion pictures are second in importance only to food and shelter, and constitute a more important factor of daily life than even their beloved horse-racing, says Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner Bros. International, recently returned from "Down Under."



WOLFE COHEN

"Picture-going plays such a great part in their lives—attending the cinema is an important event, planned weeks ahead—that films enjoy phenomenal runs," Cohen told a press conference. "Not only do pictures do excellent business for months on end, but, thanks to word-of-mouth advertising, they build up as they go along. 'Casablanca' and 'Kings Row,' now in their 28th week, could run a year easily. To show how films build, 'Casablanca' did more business in its 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th weeks than in its first and 'Kings Row' has topped its opening week's business no less than 18 times.

Sees Postwar Rebuilding Boom

"In Australia word-of-mouth tops national advertising as a selling force; national advertising is extremely difficult because release dates are not synchronized," Cohen continued, "and because important bookings are spread over a wide span, due to prolonged runs. The result is an endless chain: prolonged runs keep scheduled product from being shown and, because national advertising is therefore impracticable, word-of-mouth advertising keeps earlier-released features on the screen, tying up the theatres.

"Our release schedule calls for 36 features this year. Inability to set pictures into theatres in the past has compelled us to average only a dozen pictures apiece in the past several years—hence our present backlog. Definitely there are not enough theatres in Australia; Melbourne and Sydney are most under-seated of the cities.

"I foresee a postwar boom in theatre-rebuilding—because of various restrictions it frequently is easier to improve an already-built house than to construct a new one. The boom will in all probability be most noticeable in suburban areas. Very possibly Warner Bros. may build three showcases in Australia for its admittedly topical product; we must have outlets, but we will build houses only if absolutely necessary.

"Because of Australia's present labor shortage, there is little likelihood of any postwar unemployment. Business will continue to be good in all lines, particularly the motion picture field," Cohen went on. "I base this latter assumption on the fact, little known to Americans, that per capita attendance and admission prices at city theatres are greater in Australia and New Zealand than in the United States.

Quota Discussed, Discarded

"British films are preferred to ours only in certain neighborhoods of a few cities; elsewhere the American motion picture is more popular. At one time there was some discussion of establishing a quota favorable to British pictures, but nothing came of it. Loyal as Australians and New Zealanders are to the mother country, England, many of them look to the U.S. for guidance in their future mode of life," Cohen concluded. "Not ideologically or politically, of course, but in the matter of conveniences and modern improvements in the home."

Away from New York for five months, Cohen spent seven and one-half weeks aboard ship between Panama and Sydney, returning via plane in approximately two and one-half days. The importance of films as morale-builders was brought home to him on his outbound trip. Cooped aboard ship for nearly two months en route, the crew were morose on their arrival. On their first night in port the entire liberty party went aboard a nearby ship where pictures were being shown. The lift in their spirits was immediate and prolonged, Cohen noticed.

At Manus, Admiralty Islands, during a two-hour torrential downpour 7,000 GIs sat in a natural amphitheatre intently watching a motion picture program; it wasn't a super-production, according to Cohen, but not a soldier left before the final scene. "It's only when they are shown inferior films that they're badly disappointed. Fortunately, such pictures are seldom presented on the fox-hole circuit."

"Gas" Boost a Boon to Salesmen

ALBANY — The increased allotment of gasoline to holders of B cards will prove a boon to film salesman of the exchanges here. The former gas limits made motor travel difficult because of the extent of the Albany territory. The district runs north and northwest 200 miles or more and calls for long jumps into Vermont. Many of the hops are almost impossible to make by regular trains and buses.

The new quotas still will keep the picture peddlers on the tight side. Before gas rationing, it was estimated that the local boys averaged 600 miles weekly. Telephone and mail have been partial substitutes, but they can not replace personal contact.

Salesmen here were allowed 35 gallons extra for travels in connection with the Seventh War Loan. Each man was given a number of calls. He was expected to obtain pledges for war bond premieres or juvenile shows, and to assist in obtaining free pictures, as well as arranging other details. Every account, regardless of its size, was contacted.

Bogart's Wedding Bells Provide Idea for Billing

ALBANY—The Eagle, Albany subsequent run house operated by Joseph Grande, advertised "Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Bogart" in "To Have and Have Not." The billing was employed to capitalize on the recent marriage of Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

12,000 From Eastman Co.

ROCHESTER—The number of men and women from Eastman Kodak Co. in the uniforms of the nation's armed services has passed the 12,000 mark. Of these 215 have lost their lives.

WASHINGTON

Commissioner J. Russell Young extended a glowing tribute to the trade for its assistance in the planning of the General Eisenhower welcome, together with plaudits to Carter Barron, John J. Payette and Frank LaFalce for their outstanding job on decorations. Their suggestion of having two extension ladder trucks form an arch over Pennsylvania Ave. from which hung an immense flag and "Welcome Ike" banner was the highlight of the reception . . . Charles Stofberg, secretary to the commissioners, was executive secretary to the committee. A large number of motion picture and theatre executives attended the huge luncheon tendered "Ike" at the Statler.

News from Metro: District Salesmanager John S. Allen has returned from a visit to the Cincinnati office . . . Birthday greetings are extended to Rudy Berger, Ann Bullinger, Ida Barezofsky, Frank Scully, Margaret McMullen and Anna Bisaccia . . . Night shipper James Jones returned from his vacation . . . Vivian Kelly of the contract department has returned following a siege of chickenpox.

Inspector Frances Clark of Metro is vacationing . . . Peggy McMullen has bid adieu as that big bird is hovering over her household . . . The drop in the temperature was welcomed by the staff while members await a much needed part for the air-conditioning system.

Warner Theatre Items: Beverly Ewing, daughter of popular Bill of the advertising and publicity department, has graduated from Washington and Lee High and will enter college in the fall . . . Helmut Dantine, Warner star, who was on the Earle stage with Andrea King, proved quite a favorite with fans by presenting photos and autographs in the theatre lobby.

Mildred Bernhardt, Warner telephone greeter, has returned following an illness . . . Celo Karley, secretary to Harry Anger, is gleaming now that her big moment, a major in the army, has returned from a two-year stint overseas . . . It is just like home in the contact department now that Alice Anderson's daughter Helen is employed there for the summer months . . . Anne De Mello, secretary to Nat Browne, has sent her youngsters to the beach for the summer, with Anne dropping in over the weekends.

Washington bond purchasers had the opportunity to inspect the Nazi submarine U-505 which was captured off the West African coast on June 4 and towed intact with its crew of 59 officers and men to Bermuda, thence to the local U.S. coast guard dock, where purchasers of a $25 bond could get a look-see . . . Ida Lupino, Warner star, was a visitor last Saturday to participate in bond work and attend the 170th anniversary dinner of the U.S. engineers. Later she met with the local press.

Movietone News: Branch Manager Charles Peppiatt visited with exhibitors in Baltimore on Tuesday and then hopped to Richmond for a sales huddle . . . Mr. and Mrs. Danny Weinberg of Bedford, Va., are stopping at the Carlton for a few days. Dan just returned from duty for the Red Cross in the South Pacific . . . Glenn Norris, Clinch Valley salesman, is in for a few days . . . Naomi Chemilinsky is on the sick list . . . Elsie Rice, bookkeeping machine operator, is vacationing in Huntington, W. Va., with her husband who expects to enter the armed services soon.

Bill Michalson, Movietone exploiteer, gathered his family and headed for a vacation stay in Corinth, Miss. . . . Anna Ringer of the inspection staff has returned from vacation, while Russ Howard of the shipping staff is taking things easy in Lynchburg, Va. . . . Sara Young is still in Boston, due to the illness of her mother . . . Mae Feldman, branch manager's secretary, has shaken a siege of the sniffles.

Jack Foxe, Loew's Columbia manager, is the first Loew manager and the fourth of the district to double his quota in the bond drive . . . The Earle and Metropolitan theatres have sold close to a million dollars worth . . . K-B Theatres and the Lightman circuit have also gone over the top in sales . . . Kenneth Mize, marine regimental sergeant, who spent 30 months in a Jap prison, visited the RKO exchange and had eyes popping with sordid details of his confinement . . . Danny Rosenthal, George Wheeler, and Gus Lynch attended stag nite at the Baltimore Variety Club . . . Sam Wheeler has returned from the big city.

Sympathy of the Row is extended to Eddie Burns of the Maryland and Virginia censor boards on the death of his sister-in-law in Kentucky . . . Paramount's Bertha Boyd celebrated a birthday and was showered with gifts . . . Bill Brooker, exploiteer, is mapping plans for decorating the Paramount exchange come September when they celebrate their anniversary month . . . Mrs. Mel Nau is shopping for little things and it could happen while Santa is in town . . . Ben Oletsky has joined the Equity staff as salesman, as announced by B. H. Mills.

Kay Leases Two Houses

NEW YORK—David Kay, former cameraman and producer of documentaries, has leased the Brighton Beach Theatre, Brooklyn, and the Grieff Theatre, Union City, N. J. He will sponsor a 10-week summer season of stage revivals and new plays beginning July 3.

NBC Promotes R. W. Clark

NEW YORK—Robert W. Clark, WEAF station engineer, was appointed television operations supervisor. He will be responsible for the technical phases of field and studio operations.

Bond Sales Mount—as Buyers Mount Booth!

New York—Times Square was so crowded with admirers of General "Ike" on Eisenhower Day that many stood on canopies and marquees until ordered down by the police. Again and again the good-natured crowds broke through police lines and were forced back on the sidewalks.

At noon traffic was shut off and Sidney Gross, publicity director of the film industry's Seventh War Loan booth in Times Square, took advantage of the opportunity to offer to purchasers of $1,000 and $500 war bonds an opportunity to greet the general from the upper level of the booth and also the specially-constructed stand adjoining the Statue of Liberty replica.

In a matter of minutes both vantage points were filled and $52,500 worth of bonds had been sold. The first $1,000 bond was purchased by a New Jersey woman with 13 nephews—all with the nation's armed forces.

"Springfield" Insert For Dates in Canada

TORONTO—A special introduction of interest to Canadians has been added to Warner Bros.' "It Happened in Springfield." A promotional campaign has also been arranged.

Dr. George F. Davidson, deputy minister of national welfare, appears in the special introduction, speaking on tolerance. The insert was produced in cooperation with the National Film Board.

The Toronto portion of the Canadian Roundup radio program was entirely devoted to a discussion of the featurette by John Fisher, well-known commentator.

Information on the film has been distributed to national, provincial and municipal units of 14 Dominion organizations representing more than six million members; foreign language newspapers, key dailies, all libraries in cities with populations of 10,000 or more, and leading religious publications of all faiths.

Brig. Gen. Curtis, Eastman, Up for Major General

ROCHESTER—Brig. Gen. Edward Peck Curtis, World War I ace and peacetime motion picture sales manager for Eastman Kodak Co., has been nominated for the rank of major general by President Truman. The nomination now goes to the senate for approval.

General Curtis rejoined the air force in 1940 as a major and was nominated for his present rank by the late President Roosevelt for his outstanding work in the North African campaign. He was chief of staff for General Spaatz throughout the European campaign and was highly praised by Spaatz for his technical knowledge and efficiency.

At the Curtis home, 3541 Elmwood Ave., Mrs. Curtis said she expected her husband home "sometime next month." General Curtis has had only one week at home in the last five years.

"Romance" and Two Others To Be Released in July

NEW YORK—Three M-G-M releases for July will include "Thrill of a Romance," "Bewitched" and "Twice Blessed." These films comprise the 12th block.

"Romance" will be sold on similar terms to "Meet Me in St. Louis," but not on a separate contract. It is now ending its fifth and final week at the Capitol.

Cohen Given MOT Berth

PHILADELPHIA—William Cohen, 20th-Fox office manager, has been appointed sales manager for the March of Time in the local branch. Other 20th-Fox changes are as follows: Al Silvers, formerly with Warner Theatres publicity department, to the advertising sales department, succeeding William Solomon, now a PRC salesman; and resignation of Sy Freedman, who shared exploitation duties with Mike Weiss, to accept a midwest assignment for the company.

M-G-M Short Opens July 4

NEW YORK—"Mouse in Manhattan," M-G-M Technicolor cartoon, will open simultaneously in 16 cities on July 4. Produced by Fred Quimby, the short will be shown with "The Valley of Decision" on that date in Atlanta, Nashville, Richmond, Norfolk, Wilmington, Cleveland, Toledo, Evansville, Louisville, Harrisburg, Reading, Houston, Memphis, New Orleans, Rochester and St. Louis.

WB's "Corn Is Green" Prerelease Dates Set

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has set more than 150 prerelease bookings on "The Corn Is Green," going into general release July 21. To date 14 midnight previews have been booked also.

First out-of-town openings for the film are scheduled for July 4 at the Paramount, Brooklyn; Albee, Cincinnati; Mastbaum, Philadelphia; Mayfair, Asbury Park, and Warner, Atlantic City.

The Bette Davis picture ends its 13th week at the Hollywood Theatre here Thursday, June 27, to make room for "Rhapsody in Blue."

"Canterbury Tale" Remake Awaits Arrival of Star

LONDON—"A Canterbury Tale," brought back to the Denham studio for a remake by its producers, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, is awaiting the arrival from New York of its star, Kim Hunter. On their recent tour of the United States Powell and Pressburger chose Miss Hunter as the actress most representative of the typical American girl.

The Eagle-Lion production, Miss Hunter's first starring vehicle, concerns the adventures of a GI sergeant in England. The supporting cast includes Eric Portman, Sheila Sim and Sgt. John Sweet, U.S.A.

RKO Has Four Pictures In London's West End

LONDON—RKO currently has four features doing holdover business in West End cinemas. They are: "The Enchanted Cottage," in its second week at the Odeon; "The Princess and the Pirate," in its third week at the Leicester Square; "The Three Caballeros," in its fourth week at the New Gallery, and "Tarzan and the Amazons," still going strong at the Tivoli.

Next RKO feature due here is "Experiment Perilous," set to follow "Tarzan and the Amazons" at the Tivoli.

Terry Turner's Father, 85, Dies in Baltimore

BALTIMORE—John Piggott Turner, father of Terry Turner, RKO exploitation department head, died of pneumonia at the age of 85. Born in Maryland, he spent his entire life in this state. He was one of 17 children.

Another child, Mrs. J. Carroll Sullivan, also survives. Both attended the funeral services here.

The Lake at Lake George Open for the Summer

LAKE GEORGE, N. Y.—The Lake, Lake George, has opened for the summer. Bob Yates, old-time vaudevillian, manages this Adirondack situation, owned by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Carpenter. Mrs. Yates assists.

Woman on Unique Task

ROCHESTER—Mrs. Eleanor Baart, 25, is the only woman at Eastman Kodak Co. who can assemble, test and adjust a complicated army fire control instrument known as the aiming circle, and Kodak is the only company in the world which makes it. Mrs. Baart appeared last week on a nationwide radio hookup to explain workings of the instrument.

ALBANY

Brother John C. Bylancik, CSC, son of John A. Bylancik, Albany manager for National Theatre Supply Co., and Mrs. Bylancik, was to receive a bachelor of arts and letters degree in history at Notre Dame University, June 22. He is a graduate of Vincentian Institute in this city.

The Grand advanced the opening date for "Flame of Barbary Coast" from June 22 to June 19. Manager Joseph Saperstein announced that "For Whom the Bell Tolls," which had started a second week at popular prices, would be withdrawn after Monday's night showing. "Bells" also played a week at the Grand as a roadshow.

The Palace, Schenectady, has been condemned by the city and ordered closed, according to word on Filmrow. Details on the reason for this action were not available here early in the week. The Palace, seating 400, is an old house. Decher & Bernstein took over its operation more than a year ago. They also run the Lincoln in Schenectady.

Si Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres and chairman of WAC, was given a surprise luncheon by Fabian executives at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria before leaving for Europe. Among those present were: Sam Rosen, vice-president of the Fabian organization and Fabian's brother-in-law; Lou R. Golding, general manager of the Wilmer & Vincent houses in Pennsylvania and Virginia; Bernie Brooks, chief buyer; Saul J. Ullman, division manager in Albany; Al Reid and Joe Eagan. Word was received here that Fabian had arrived in London with the American film men, en route to western Europe and an inspection of Germany. The party is traveling at the invitation of supreme Allied headquarters. It is expected that they will make films showing why an American army of occupation is necessary in Germany and why large quantities of food must be sent to devastated European countries.

Filmrow visitors included: Charles Wilson of the Lake, Indian Lake; Mrs. Ana Tarbell of the Adirondack, North Creek; George Thornton, Orpheum in Saugerties and Tannersville; Walter Wertime, Chestertown . . . The Regent, Cohoes, which Wertime owns and which Harry Lamont had until recently operated, is dark . . . Bernie Kranze, Cleveland district manager for RKO, and Elmer Lux, Buffalo boss, were in the Albany area.

Lieut. Guy Graves jr., son of Guy Graves, Schenectady city manager for Fabian Theatres, has received a discharge from the army on points. A graduate in law from Harvard, Graves participated in the Italian campaign.

Charles Fitzgerald, assistant manager of Proctor's Troy, was home ill two weeks . . . Louis Rapp, manager of the Placa, Schenectady, married Dora Lee Panta of that city Sunday (17). Rapp was the second Fabian manager in Schenectady to walk down the middle aisle recently. Parker Sherwood of the Strand was returning from a honeymoon with the former Dora Dox of Schenectady about the time Rapp left.

The Silver Star will be added to Lieut. Francis Hicks' string of medals and campaign ribbons. He is a former assistant manager of the St. George, Staten Island. He lost his right arm in the battle for Germany, got out of a tank, threw several grenades and dragged three of his men to safety, near Cologne. Now recuperating at Maguire General Hospital, he is to undergo another arm operation. An alumnus of Birmingham Southern College, he is a brother of Mrs. Larry Cowen of Albany. He has a wife and small daughter, born while he was overseas with the crack First army.

News that 20th-Fox had purchased the screen rights to "Those Two Hands," by the Rev. Edward J. Edwards, was contained in a syndicated story in Catholic papers. Bruce Publishing Co. made the announcement in Milwaukee. This is the second book of a priest published by Bruce to be bought recently by a major producing company. Father Edwards wrote "Those Two Hands" and "Thy People, My People," while recuperating from an attack of malaria that developed in missionary work in the Philippines and China.

Luther Coville, for ten years an employe at Metro, has been appointed supervisor for Confidential Reports, Inc., checking organization. M-G-M gave him a surprise farewell dinner at the Crystal bar in Troy. Herman L. Ripps, branch and district manager, was present with the M-G-M staff, headed by Eddie Susse, office manager. Herman Jacobs, Albany manager for Confidential Reports, was a guest.

Mrs. Pat Kenton is now booker-secretary in the local offices of Confidential Reports. Miss Doris Champagne is bookkeeper and cashier . . . Leonard Stokes, former usher at the Grand, visited the theatre June 18 for a chat with staff members following his graduation from boot camp at Sampson naval base.

The Sealanders, coast guard band, appeared at the bond premiere of Proctor's Theatre, Schenectary. Guy Graves, managing director, reported the show a big success . . . George Seed, Cohoes city manager for Fabian, led a civic parade in that city. Seed, a veteran of the first world war, rode his prize horse.

Reports on Columbia men in service: Stanley Goldberg, former head booker-office manager, is overseas with the navy . . . Chick Mlinarik, ex-chief shipper and brother of a Metro inspector, is with the SeaBees in the South Pacific . . . Rudy Klein, poster clerk, has been with the army in Italy. Morris Cohn, genial salesman, is a member of the military police in the U.S. He is related to Jack and Harry Cohn, Columbia executives, and holds the Filmrow record for length of duty. He was inducted sometime before the United States entered the war, was discharged under the over-28 rule, and was recalled after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor . . . Sandy Miller, son of Joe Miller, branch manager, is a lieutenant in command of a submarine chaser. He has been stationed for some time in Florida as an instructor.

Tele "Eisenhower Day" Films in Quick Time

New York—Both CBS and NBC telecast films of General Eisenhower's Washington and New York receptions. A special ten-minute newsreel of Gotham's "Eisenhower Day" was photographed and televised the same day by CBS television station WCBW.

NBC's films, taken in the nation's capital, were flown here and televised on the screens of WNBT for viewers at 9:25 the same evening. Pictures taken the following day in New York by NBC were edited, cut, printed, narrated and televised in slightly more than two hours.

Color Postwar Video Is a "Must"—Seldes

NEW YORK—Watching television must be as simple and pleasurable as listening to radio before video fulfills its possibilities, both as entertainment and as a powerful social force, according to Gilbert Seldes, CBS director of television, addressing the radio panel of the Conference of the Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Postwar World at the Waldorf-Astoria on Saturday, June 23.

"The televised picture must be easy to see—a gratification to the eye—as moving pictures are," he said, adding, "for many a 'bad' movie is a pleasure to see for its rich quality, its delicate shading, its dramatic composition, and so forth.

"In the very high frequencies, far above the range of prewar television, there can be many more stations, each delivering perfectly a picture so pleasing to the eye, so agreeable to see, it can carry all kinds of programs. The fact that color dominates our lives to a great extent, and is capturing the fields of entertainment in the movies, and advertising in the printed page," Seldes concluded, "makes it all the more imperative that television for the postwar world shall be launched in color."

CBS Gets Noted Director For Tele Station WCBW

NEW YORK—John T. Reich, Viennese-born theatrical producer-director, has joined the staff of CBS television station WCBW as director-writer. A former associate of Max Reinhardt, he recently returned from Hollywood. For several years he has been associate professor of drama and play production at Ithaca College.

Prior to his arrival in the United States in 1938, Reich directed major productions at the Salzburg International Festival, the Max Reinhardt Theatres and the Austrian National Theatre. A graduate of the University of Vienna, he is a regular contributor to theatrical publications and has translated into German and French many dramas by Eugene O'Neill, Sidney Kingsley and Rachel Crothers, among others.

Membership Drive of Ampa Is Headed by Mel Gold

NEW YORK—The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers opened a membership drive at a board of directors meeting by naming Mel Gold chairman of the membership committee. Other members of the committee are: Chester Friedman, Max Stein, Jerome Pickman, Sally Perle and Ray Gallagher.

New members of Ampa include: Homer H. Harmon, publicity director of the Roxy Theatre; Sally Perle, Harmon's assistant; Sidney Gross, publicity director of the Rivoli Theatre; Jerome Pickman, assistant to Hal Horne at 20th-Fox, and Paul Mooney and Walter Marcus of National Screen.

Appoint Merrigan Clerk

NEW YORK—Edward L. Merrigan has been appointed clerk of the New Orleans arbitration tribunal, succeeding E. F. Corbera, resigned, according to the AAA.

Condon in Editing Berth

NEW YORK—Liberty magazine has appointed Robert Condon to succeed Eve Stanley as motion picture editor. Formerly connected with This Week magazine, he was assistant to Francis Harmon at the War Activities Committee in 1944.

Florida Heat Hampers Brown's Camera Crew

New York—It's hot as . . . (blazes) down in Florida! How do we know? Well, for one thing, we have just talked with Herbert Schwartz, unit publicity man for Clarence Brown's production crew. Brown has been working on location for the past six weeks at Silver Springs on "The Yearling."

Schwartz said on his arrival here en route to the coast that temperatures reached over 100 degrees almost every day, making it the hottest season in years. As though the heat wasn't enough, the production was hampered by a constant haze from a number of forest fires. These fires resulted from the exceptionally dry weather.

Brown is remaining in Florida for four more weeks to shoot additional scenes with Claude Jarman jr., Nashville, Tenn., lad, who is playing the role of Jody in the film. Gregory Peck, star of the film, has returned to Hollywood via New York. Schwartz departed for the coast several days later.

Brown expects to complete shooting of the picture on the coast by September.

20th-Fox's Family Club Outing a Great Success

NEW YORK—Employes of the 20th-Fox home office and exchange left June 20 for the company's third annual boat trip to Bear Mountain. The day's outing, sponsored by the Family Club, was a great success.

W. C. Gehring, western division manager, president of the club, headed the committee of 25 arranging the athletic events program. Lew Lehr, Movietone News commentator, was master of ceremonies.

Among corporation officers and executives who attended were Spyros Skouras, president; W. C. Michel, executive vice-president; Tom Connors, vice-president, and Murray Silverstone, head of 20th-Fox International Corp.

Bert Cunningham Returns To Pathe Newsreel Desk

NEW YORK—Maj. Bert Cunningham, USMCR, honorably discharged after three years' service, has completed his Florida assignment on John Ford's "They Were Expendable" for M-G-M. He returns to Pathe to take over direction of the news desk as assignment editor and first assistant to Alfred Butterfield.

Phil Nichols, pinch-hitting during Cunningham's absence, returns to full-time duty as Pathe commercial manager.

Appoint Chester Morris

NEW YORK—Chester Morris has been appointed a member of the adult advisor committee of the motion picture wing of the Metropolitan Youth Council. The organization is made up of more than 15,000 teen-age students in the New York area. The committee judges films for youth consumption and is headed by Dr. Frederick N. Thrasher, professor of sociology at New York University.

GIs Get 3 RKO Features

NEW YORK—Army pictorial service has selected three RKO features for showing overseas to combat troops. They are "Back to Bataan," "Sing Your Way Home" and "Johnny Angel."

Five Magazine Stories Written by Ornstein

NEW YORK—William Ornstein, M-G-M trade press contact, is the author of five articles on various phases of the industry. The first, "Future of the Flickers," appears in the current issue of Prairie Schooner.

Three others will appear in the July issues of Pageant, Facts and Swing. Another Ornstein article, "Movies for the Theatres at War," appeared in the April issue of Swing.

Campaigns With Billboards Reappearing in London

LONDON—Warner Bros. have launched a big billboard campaign in connection with the opening of "Hollywood Canteen." Strategically located sites for these signs have been engaged throughout the greater London area.

This is the city's first billboard campaign in several years.

Ascap Executives Return

NEW YORK—John G. Paine, Ascap general manager, and Herman Finkelstein, resident council, have returned from a nine-week stay in Europe. While abroad they conferred with foreign performing rights societies in the United Kingdom, France and Spain.

New Soviet Film Opens

NEW YORK—"The Last Hill," Soviet film based on the novel by Boris Voyetekhov, had its American premiere at the Stanley Theatre, June 23. It was directed by Alexander Zarkhi and Josef Heifetz whose film, "Baltic Deputy," was released here several years ago.

Cagney at Banshees' Luncheon

NEW YORK—James Cagney will be one of the guests of honor at a luncheon to be tendered Thursday by the Banshees to Miss Lee Carson and Lowell Bennett, International News correspondents recently returned from European battlefields. Others invited to appear are Frankie Hyers, comedian, and the Wesson Bros., stars of the NBC Supper Club.

Incorporations

— ALBANY —

Bruno of Hollywood, Inc.: Formed to operate a business in motion picture films; $20,000, $100 par; Anthony J. Bruno, Harold Schneider, and Esther Kirmow, Brooklyn.

Briskin Enterprises, Inc.: To conduct a motion picture and theatrical business in Syracuse; 100 shares, no par; Murray Briskin, 58-12 Yellowstone Blvd., Forrest Hills; Pearl S. Kosden and Monroe E. Stein, 341 W. 44th St., New York City.

Beekman Cinema, Inc.: To conduct theatrical business in New York; 200 shares, no par; Solomon Kleiman, Julius Molzberg and Mortimer Kraus, 120 W. 42nd St.

McKinley Amusement Corp.: To conduct business, with same incorporators as for Beekman Cinema, Inc.

Mordkin-Moser Conservatory, Inc.: To conduct theatrical business in Peekskill; $10,000, $100 par; Mark Mordkin, Crawford Ave., Yorktown; Marie Moser, 21 W. 65th St.; Eidas Bebarfeld, 259 W. 85th St., New York.

Marble City Amusement Corp.: To conduct business in New York; $20,000, $100 par; Louis M. Teitelbaum, Gustave W. Sommer, Anne Mellusso, 450 Seventh Ave.

Mohawk Theatre Corp.: To conduct business in New York.

Allied Theatre Ticket Service, Inc. of New York, dissolved.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Atlas Acquires 25,000 Walt Disney Shares

Joint announcement by Walt Disney, president of Walt Disney Productions, and Floyd B. Odlum, president of Atlas Corp., revealed that Atlas has purchased 25,000 shares of common stock of Walt Disney Productions from the company at a cash price of $10 a share. Atlas has also acquired the right to buy another 25,000 shares of treasury stock at $12.50 per share any time prior to the end of 1949.

Prior to the transaction all Disney common stock was owned by the Disney families. Atlas has had a substantial interest in Disney preferred stock for some time.

Plans are being considered by the Disney management to make an offer to the preferred stockholders to exchange their shares, partly for a new issue of debentures and partly for common stock.

Eastern Trippers Include Briskin, to Greet Capra

In the travel department, news continued to be scarce as home office and studio brasshats found it increasingly difficult to snatch accommodations on cross-country trains and planes.

Off to Gotham went Samuel Briskin, production executive who recently entered the independent field as a partner of Col. Frank Capra in Liberty Pictures. He planned to meet Capra, just discharged from the army, in New York for huddles on their initial production. The pair will meet also with distribution heads to discuss a release for their pictures, which probably will be distributed by either United Artists or RKO Radio.

The Warner publicity and advertising chief, Charles Einfeld, went to Manhattan to set campaigns on forthcoming pictures.

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president of Technicolor, was bound for New York and Washington on a short business trip.

Expected at the studio for one of his periodical visits to powwow with production heads and view completed pictures was Spyros Skouras, president of 20th-Fox.

Jerry Dale, publicity representative for UA producer, Ben Bogeaus, was back from a Manhattan trip.

Producer Arthur Hornblow jr. trained in from New York after completing final arrangements for the opening of his Metro picture, "Weekend at the Waldorf."

Joseph Hazen, Hal Wallis's associate, returns to New York after two weeks here. He has purchased a home at Lake Arrowhead, and plans to spend a larger portion of his time on the coast.

Gene O'Brien, in charge of Universal's radio department, checked in after a three-week trip to New York.

H. J. Yates, president of Republic Productions, left for New York for business conferences at home offices.

Paul McNamara Replaces Don King as Publicity Head

Paul MacNamara, formerly associated with Cosmopolitan magazine as promotion manager, has been retained by David O. Selznick, United Artists producer and owner, to head his studio publicity department, replacing Don King, whose future plans have not been determined.

Hub Bow for "Bataan"; "Eddie" to Columbus

A contingent of Hollywood personalities, headed by John Wayne, Anthony Quinn, Jesse L. Lasky, Ellen Drew and 12-year-old Chinese child actor, "Ducky" Louie, went to Boston to participate in a benefit in the Boston Garden June 24 and to attend the world premiere of RKO's "Back to Bataan" at the RKO Keith Memorial Theatre the following day.

Eddie Cantor, who was in Massachusetts at the time in behalf of the Seventh War Loan drive, emceed the festivities.

"Captain Eddie," 20th-Fox feature, is to have its world premiere July 29 at Columbus, Ohio, birthplace of Capt. E. V. Rickenbacker, whose life gives the film theme.

"Diary of a Chambermaid" To Star Paulette Goddard

United Artists Producer Benedict Bogeaus plans immediate production of "Diary of a Chambermaid," to star Paulette Goddard. Co-Producer Burgess Meredith, who formerly was to have produced the film at RKO, will play the leading featured role and Jean Renoir will direct. Adapted from the novel by Mirbeau, "Diary of a Chambermaid" is located in Paris during the colorful period at the turn of the century.

J. S. Jossey Seriously Ill

J. S. Jossey of Hygienic Productions, after further treatment at Hollywood Hospital, has again been ordered by his physicians to an extended rest in the hot climate of southern California. Jossey, who is suffering from high blood pressure and a throat infection, continues in a serious condition, his physicians stated.

Chloe Elrod Joins Lesser

Chloe Elrod has been signed as casting director for Sol Lesser Productions, with her first production to be "Tarzan and the Leopard Woman." For 12 years Miss Elrod was associated with Universal's casting department.

A Filmdom Welcome For Rank Monday

Directors of the AMPP will welcome J. Arthur Rank, president of the British Film Producers Ass'n, to Hollywood with a luncheon Monday (25). Rank was due to arrive that morning.

In attendance will be two top executive representatives of each studio member of the association. B. B. Kahane, first vice-president, will preside in the absence of President E. J. Mannix.

Rank is making his first visit to this continent and has been in the east following a series of consultations with business associates in Canada.

On the same day Walter Wanger was to be host at a cocktail party for Rank. Acting as president of the academy, Wanger invited outstanding players, directors, producers, executives and writers to the reception.

No Filming in Puerto Rico "For "American Guerrilla"

Because of transportation problems, original plans for shooting "American Guerilla in the Philippines" in Puerto Rico have been abandoned, according to Ray Clune, production manager for 20th-Fox. Plans for producing the film elsewhere were postponed pending the return of Darryl F. Zanuck from Europe.

Mel Ferrer Raised to Full Directorship at Columbia

Dialog Director Mel Ferrer has been raised by Columbia to full director status. His first assignment will be to pilot the screen adaptation of Gene Stratton Porter's "The Girl of the Limberlost," which Alexis Thurn-Taxis will produce. Ferrer came to Columbia 18 months ago from the Hildegarde air show, of which he was the producer-director.

Confers With HVC

Tom Baily, representing the motion picture WAC and industry representative with the treasury department for the Seventh War Loan drive, was in Hollywood to meet with the Hollywood Victory Committee on a series of special star bond appearances. Baily is on loan from the California Theatre Council to the treasury department.

Hal Elias Promoted

Hal Elias has been promoted as assistant to Fred Quimby, in charge of shorts and cartoons at Metro. Elias has been with the studio for the past 20 years, 11 of them n the publicity department. The last few years he has been assigned to the cartoon division handling publicity.

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Barnstormers

Monogram

JIMMY WAKELY scheduled for tour of Griffith circuit in Texas and Oklahoma, climaxing trip July 4 as star of rodeo at Lawton.

Blurbers

Paramount

BLAKE McVEIGH, for the last five years assistant publicity director, has been granted a release from his contract effective August 1. McVeigh will form his own publicity outfit limiting his efforts to productions and a small number of directors and actors.

United Artists

MURPHY McHENRY has rejoined Edward Small Productions as director of advertising and publicity, a position he previously occupied for several years. McHenry's most recent connection was doing a similar chore for the Abbott-Herbert Corp. which made one feature for Columbia release.

Loanouts

United Artists

TOM CONWAY loaned by RKO Radio for Nero Production's "Whistle Stop."

Meggers

Columbia

WILLIAM CASTLE's option picked up with start of "The Paper Doll Murders," which he is megging.

WILLIAM CASTLE assigned to pilot next Crime Doctor film, as yet untitled.

Monogram

LINDSLEY PARSONS set as producer of "Suspense."

RKO Radio

After an absence of six years, LEW LANDERS, formerly one of the studio's directors, returns to meg "The Lie Detector," romantic melodrama of a woman criminal lawyer and a district attorney, by Hilda Gordon. Film is set for early production by HERMAN SCHLOM, with SID ROGELL as executive producer. Lawrence Kimble is scripting the screenplay.

Warners

"Woman in White" set as HENRY BLANKE's next production chore.

CHARLES HOFFMAN, former writer, has been made a producer.

Options

Columbia

New long-term pact given to FRANK SULLY.

GLORIA PATRICE handed featured spot in "Girl of the Limberlost."

MARCIA MAE JONES added to cast of "Snafu."

Newcomer DORINDA CLIFTON cast as heroine in "Girl of the Limberlost."

Top male roles in "Song of the Prairie" go to KEN CURTIS and ROBERT SCOTT.

JANIS WILSON has been signed for "Snafu."

Featured spot in "Girl of the Limberlost" ticketed for ERNEST COSSART.

ADDISON RICHARDS inked for spot in "The Kansan."

Under personal contract to Mervyn LeRoy, VENESSA BROWN has been borrowed for second ingenue lead in "Girl of the Limberlost."

After 25 years, ENID MARKEY returns to the screen in "Snafu."

Femme comedy lead in "Song of the Prairie" set for JEFF DONNELL.

THE DINNING SISTERS, a trio of radio singers, have been signed to two western musicals.

WARREN MILLS inked for juvenile lead in "Girl of the Limberlost."

Leslie Fenton signed J. FARRELL MacDONALD for his Mutual production, "Pardon My Past."

Metro

LINA ROMAY wins important spot in "This Strange Adventure."

CHARLES COBURN inked for character role in "The Green Years."

Roster of "The Hoodlum Saint" to include SLIM SUMMERVILLE.

Monogram

Added to the cast of "Allotment Wives" are EVELYN EATON, MICHAEL BROWN, MARCELLE CORDAY, JOHN ELLIOTT, ELIZABETH WRIGHT and REID KILPATRICK.

Signed to costar with Kay Francis in "Allotment Wives" were PAUL KELLY and OTTO KRUGER.

Paramount

Four newcomers to contract list are: DOROTHY BARRETT, EILEEN DIXON, JEAN MARSHALL and MARGOT MORGAN.

MORTON LOWRY, young British actor, inked for "Calcutta."

FRANK ALBERTSON wins comedy lead in "They Made Me a Killer," Pine-Thomas film.

LOWELL GILMORE set for menace in "Calcutta."

Top romantic role handed to PHILLIP TERRY in "To Each His Own."

JAMES BUSH signed to replace Wally Ford in "They Made Me a Killer," Pine-Thomas film. Ford was forced out of cast by a previous commitment.

DICK WINSLOW, ex-star of "Our Gang" comedies, added to cast of "To Each His Own."

ELISABETH RISDON has been signed by Pine-Thomas for "They Made Me a Killer."

EDMUND McDONALD cast in Pine-Thomas' "They Made Me a Killer."

PRC Pictures

ELLA MAE MORSE, "Cow-Cow Boogie Girl" of radio, inked for femme lead in "How Do You Do?"

Republic

Femme lead in "A Guy Could Change" goes to JANE FRAZEE.

RKO Radio

NAN LESLIE and JAMES JORDAN Jr., draw juvenile romantic roles in "Wanderer of the Wasteland."

CHARLES BICKFORD cast in top role with Joan Bennett in "None So Blind."

JAMES JORDAN Jr., son of James and Marion Jordon, the "Fibber McGee and Molly" of radio, has been cast for featured role in "Tomorrow Is Here."

20th Century-Fox

DICK HAYMES wins male lead in "Bandwagon."

United Artists

Seymour Nebenzal has inked VICTOR McLAGLEN for "Whistle Stop," Nero production.

Universal

Recently put under contract, JESS BARKER set for two films, "Alibi in Ermine" and "As It Was Before."

Moppett BEVERLY SUE SIMMONS put under a long-term deal.

For her first free-lancing role, DORIS MERRICK signed for "As It Was Before."

Next four westerns, first of which will be "Down by the Border," slated as starring vehicles for KIRBY GRANT.

Warners

GEORGE COULOURIS checks into "Confidential Agent."

WANDA HENDRIX added to "Confidential Agent" cast.

VIRGINIA SALE ticketed for "Night and Day."

SELENA ROYLE ticketed for role of Cole Porter's mother in "Night and Day."

Scripters

Columbia

Honorably discharged after three years in the army, IRWING WHITE was inked for screen treatment of "Murder by Television."

MARTIN FIELD and TED THOMAS set to do new treatment on "Sing While You Dance."

ARNOLD MANOFF signed to do a screen treatment on "Millie's Daughter," novel by Donald Henderson Clark, which has been added to Michel Kraike's production slate.

Monogram

GEORGE SAYRE inked to write screenplay of "Black Market Babies."

PRC Pictures

Screenplay chore on "Lost Continent" assigned to ARTHUR ST. CLAIRE.

Republic

GERALD GERAGHTY is writing an original screenplay titled "The Gay Ranchero," for Edward J. White, associate-producer, to star Roy Rogers. Production set as soon as script is finished.

"Hit Parade of 1945" being scripted by KENNETH GAMET.

WILLIAM THIELE, European writer and director, signed to long-term writing-directing pact. Coauthoring the final script of "The Madonna's Secret," Thiele will also direct film.

Universal

LEONARD LEE reassigned for scrivening chore on "Bull by the Horns."

Story Buys

Columbia

"Murder Is Unpredictable," an original screenplay by Eric Taylor, has been purchased for the basis of one of the Whistler series, starring Richard Dix and produced under supervision of Leonard Picker.

Metro

"But Not Goodbye," stage play of a few seasons back, purchased for production late this fall. Original comedy-drama by George Seaton will be produced by Irving Starr, his first picture under his new pact. The comedy-fantasy is the story of an old man who dies, returns to earth as a ghost to clear up his business and marital affairs.

Recent purchase, "A Really Important Person," by B. J. Chute, has been set for early production.

Paramount

Screen and video rights have been acquired to "Beyond This Journey," Vicki Baum's latest novel, now being serialized in the Woman's Home Companion. A romantic melodrama of the adventures of a former American air ace flying commercially in South America and his involvement with escaping German war criminals, film is set for production by Lou Edelman, and screenplay is now being written by Frank Partos.

Republic

Original yarn by Houston Branch, "Companion Wanted," has been acquired. Screenplay chore also to be done by Branch.

Set as another Roy Rogers starrer, William Colt MacDonald's novel, "Sleepy Horse Range," has been purchased and assigned to Edward J. White for supervision.

Technically

Metro

CHARLES SCHOENBAUM set as director of photography for "Bad Bascomb."

Film editor on "A Letter for Evie" to be CHESTER SCHAEFFER.

Monogram

Crew on "Allotment Wives" includes RICHARD HARLAN, assistant director; HARRY NEUMANN, cameraman; WILLIAM AUSTIN, film editor; IRA HOKE, still cameraman; LORRAINE McLEAN, stylist, and ATHENA, gowns.

Paramount

HOWARD SMITH and F. PAUL SYLOS named supervising editor and art director, respectively, for "They Made Me a Killer," Pine-Thomas production.

JOHN B. SEITZ assigned director of photography on "Calcutta."

Warners

Crew assignments for "Night and Day" include BOBBY VREELAND, assistant to LeRoy Prinz for musical numbers; and BILL SKALL and BERT GLENNON, Technicolor cameras.

JOHN HUGHES assigned art director duties for "Night and Day."

Film editors assigned to eight features are RUDY FEHR, "A Stolen Life"; DICK RICHARDS, "The Two Mrs. Carrolls"; CHRIS NYBY, "Janie Gets Married"; LEE HUNTINGTON, "Confidential Agent"; IRENE MORRA, "The Time, the Place and the Girl"; DAVE WEISBART, "Mildred Pierce"; FOLMER BLANGSTED, "Too Young to Know," and FRANK MAGEE, "Danger Signal."

Title Changes

Columbia

FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY new tag for "Rusty."

Fifth in Crime Doctor series titled THE PAPER DOLL MURDERS.

SHE WOULDN'T SAY YES new tag for "Some Call It Love."

Metro

JOHN AND MARY is new tag on "For Better, for Worse."

Monogram

"Sunbonnet Sue" changed to THE GAY NINETIES.

Paramount

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN is new tag for "Too Good to Be True."

TAKE THIS WOMAN set as new title for "Lady Seventeen."

RKO Radio

"The Most Dangerous Game" changed to A GAME OF DEATH.

Final title for "Second Honeymoon" is DOUBLE HONEYMOON.

Film Classics to Handle "Boy, a Girl and a Dog"

Independent Producer W. H. Frank announces distribution arrangements on his latest picture, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," which will be sold by Film Classics in every territory except Minneapolis and Des Moines-Omaha. In Minneapolis, it will be handled by North Star pictures and in the Des Moines-Omaha area Frank personally will sell the attraction.

Frank has gone to Minneapolis to supervise local selling of the picture.

"Paper Doll Murders" Fifth in Series

"The Paper Doll Murders" is the fifth in the Crime Doctor series at Columbia.

Lethargy in Strike, Now in Its 16th Week

Hollywood's troubled labor limelight was again centered on the Screen Actors Guild, which was active in two jurisdictional disputes.

As a protectional measure for its members, SAG addressed a letter to William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, requesting him to balk the threatened nationwide boycott against actors who have crossed strikers' picket lines in front of Hollywood studios. The letter to Green follows:

The leaders of the striking unions in the existing motion picture controversy have announced, both by full-page advertisements in the motion picture trade papers and at their weekly mass meetings, their intention of nationally boycotting pictures made during the present strike, and also any pictures with actors who are presently crossing their picket lines.

Our members will deeply appreciate anything you may think it proper to do to inform the various labor councils and union members generally of the true status of this unfortunate situation, and of the unfairness and invalidity of such a boycott of our members.

Further, SAG broadcast copies of a letter from Paul Dullzell, international president of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, to Michael Jeffers, business representative of the Screen Players Union, which letter officially rejected SPU's request for a charter from AAAA. The letter reaffirmed previous decision that the only organization for extras which AAAA will recognize is the Screen Extras Guild, sponsored by SAG, also a Four A affiliate. The conclusiveness of Dullzell's communication, in the opinion of observers of the Hollywood labor scene, sounded the death knell for SPU.

The strike entered its 16th week with nothing much happening except the inevitable statement from the producers, which, in this instance, declared:

Recognizing that the production of motion pictures is the only true gauge of the effectiveness of the studio strike, we issue this report to our employes and the public:

With the 14th week of the strike nearing an end, production not only still is increasing but is at a higher level than before the strike began, and at its highest level since a jurisdictional dispute involving 52 employes culminated in a strike aimed to paralyze the industry.

Thirty-five pictures are before the cameras of the nine major studios. Ten pictures have been completed within the last week; six features will start within the coming week, and by the end of the month 12 new productions will be in work. All operations at Technicolor are continuing on schedule.

The producers stand exactly where they did in the beginning: They will continue to meet their schedules, fulfill their commitments and protect the jobs of loyal workers.

Screen Room Bond Showing Nets Denver Drive $125,000

DENVER—With "Valley of Decision" as the attraction, both the Fox and Paramount screening rooms were filled with 50 persons each at a special bond showing. All attending had bought at least $1,000 in bonds. With Mrs. J. Hilb and Mrs. Philip Miller doing the selling, more than $125,000 in bond sales resulted from the screenings.

Arrangements for the event were made for the industry by Mayer Monsky, Universal manager, and Henry Friedel, M-G-M district manager, with the cooperation of the RKO Orpheum, where the film will be shown later.

Dave Thomas Wins M-G-M Award for Theatre Display

SALT LAKE CITY—Dave Thomas, manager of the Centre, has received M-G-M's special citation for a "theatre display of the month," one of ten awarded in the nation. Thomas was presented the award by Ernest Van Pelt local M-G-M representative, for his display for "Meet Me in St. Louis."

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

BIG NEWS, exciting news, significant news for the entire industry was the announcement that Donald M. Nelson had become president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

His acceptance of the post adds incalculably to the stature of SIMPP, should make of it one of the most important and influential organizations in motion picture circles, in fact, in the entire industrial world.

Nelson brings to his new connection a background of experience and success surpassed by few Americans. During the many months he so effectively served his country as head of the War Production Board, he ranked high among the government's more important men. There can be no doubt that he established friendly and firm contacts among others in Washington's lofty places. That those connections can, and probably will, be invaluable to SIMPP and to the motion picture business generally, is obvious.

As further evidence of SIMPP's growing strength and soundness is the impressive list of producers and production organizations which recently have joined the organization; and the fact that John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the society since its organization, will continue in that position under Nelson. Flinn himself is no neophyte at government, press, industry and public relations.

Negotiations with Nelson were opened in Washington by a SIMPP committee headed by David O. Selznick and comprising, additionally, Samuel Goldwyn, Walt Disney, Walter Wanger, Sol Lesser and Edward Small. Within ten days, Nelson came to Hollywood, met with the society's members and the deal was closed.

The speed with which the entire transaction was started and consummated should engender some crimson faces among the biggies of the so-called Hays Office. For months the trade press periodically has printed the story that Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, is going to leave that post to become head of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America and its Hollywood adjunct, the Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers. But the deal has been, still is in fact, one of those is-you-is-or-is-you-ain't-my-baby? situations, in which obvious jockeying and face-saving transcended action.

Let comparatively new SIMPP continue its rapid strides toward the top of the industry's organizational ladder and the press, public and trade will soon start speaking of the Nelson Office, instead of the Hays Office, as the seat of authority in motion picture matters.

➡

One hears little these days about the Independent Publicists Guild, so bravely launched a few months ago—complete with a code of ethics, nothing less. In view of the ever-increasing competition in the catch-as-catch-can field, possibly its requiem can be sung to the tune of "Mairzy Doats," to wit:

Rogers hates Birdwell,
And Birdwell hates Epstein,
And they all hate Howie Mayer.
Free-lancers hate each other—
Wouldn't you?

➡

Proving, however, that Hollywood organizations always will come and go, still another move is under way to establish a Hollywood Press Club. This time the undertaking is fostered by a committee comprising Harry Crocker, Los Angeles Examiner, Milt Harker, INS, Erskine Johnson, NEA, Virginia McPherson, UP, and Bob Thomas, AP.

Their circular letter to film capital correspondents setting forth plans and proposals for the establishment is interesting and logical. But, then, the idea always has seemed practical. For one reason or another, it never has been able to jell, possibly because more petty jealousies and class distinctions exist between Hollywood newsmen than in any comparable group anywhere in the country.

Hollywood, ranking as it does as one of the nation's two or three most prolific news outlets, should be able to support a press club second to none. The potential membership and the necessary wherewithal are available in abundant quantities.

Perhaps this latest move by Columnist Crocker, et al, will prove the exception—a culmination to be desired.

➡

Garrulous George Glass trots forth his best corn in an effort to keep alive the alleged controversy between Producer David L. Loew and Warner Bros. over the title "A Night in Casablanca." Glass attributes the following to Groucho Marx, who, along with his zaney brothers, will be starred in the proposed Loew production.

Said Groucho: "If the Warners persist in saying they own exclusive rights to Casablanca, we Marxes are going to sue the Warners to restrain them from calling themselves brothers."

➡

George Brown broadcasts: "Linguists have a field day in Paramount's 'Calcutta' . . . Dialog will be heard in at least six languages, including French, Chinese, Russian and two Indian dialects."

If a few of Blurber Brown's releases can be tossed into the script, another language will be added—Greek.

➡

"LOUELLA PARSONS TO BE FILMED FOR STAUB REEL"
—Whitney Bolton headline.

It can't be on 16mm.

➡

Republic leased a wheat field near Bakersfield, on which the studio plans to erect a village of the 1880 era, for sequences in "The Plainsman and the Lady."

If a corn field could have served, the location trip would have been avoided, plenty of such acreage being available in Hollywood.

➡

DEPARTMENT OF UNDERSTATEMENT:

"A Game of Death" is the final title for the RKO Radio production filmed under the title of "The Most Dangerous Game."

➡

Shrinking violet note from Alex Evelove:

"Warner Bros. studio will make two bids this summer for an Academy Award for Kurt Bernhardt . . ."

Hollywood at War

Hollywood personalities again devoted their time and talent to a normal week of wartime chores following the temporary upset in their routine caused by the recent visit of two ranking army generals. Bond selling, entertainment of GI Joes and Janes were the two outstanding features of the week's agendum.

Screen star appearances at five major Seventh War Loan events were set by the Hollywood Victory Committee, with players scheduled for rallies from San Francisco to Chicago. George Murphy was master of ceremonies at a huge Chicago rally June 23. Linda Darnell appeared at two navy yards in the San Francisco area, June 21 at Hunters Point and June 22 at Mare Island. She was also to visit naval hospitals at the two installations.

At San Francisco July 4

Frances Langford, Groucho Marx and Tony Romano were scheduled to feature a bond show at San Francisco Civic Auditorium July 4.

Smiley Burnett appeared at a Santa Barbara rally with the National Barn Dance show. Robert Young and the navy's Red River bond invasion fleet climaxed a Louisiana tour with a waterfront rally at New Orleans.

Marjorie Reynolds appeared in three cities in Utah, where she was featuring a statewide campaign in which a Utah bond queen will be chosen.

Ida Lupino was featured on a bond program broadcast from Washington. The broadcast combined bond appeals with celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the army engineer corps.

Shirliey Temple left for a two-week USO-Camp Shows tour covering hospitals at Portland, Corvalis and Astoria, Ore., and Walla Walla, Wash.

Walter Brennan opened a week's tour at Salt Lake City, with Ft. Logan and Buckley Field, Colo., on his schedule.

Joan Leslie, Dick Haymes and Helen Forrest are scheduled for routes opening early in July, Joan to spend two weeks in Texas and Haymes and Miss Forrest to cover army and naval hospitals in North Carolina.

Dinah Shore stopped at Colorado Springs on a tour which will wind up in New York June 30.

Sidney (Charlie Chan) Toler and Viva Tattersall (Mrs. Toler) went to San Francisco on a two-week route in the Bay area.

Singer Florence George opened at Danville, Ky., first stop on a four-week tour covering Kentucky, Colorado and Utah.

Peggy Ryan was assigned to join Eddie Bracken on his impending overseas tour, and the first tryout performance for the Bracken unit was set by USO-Camp Shows for marine air base at El Toro. Other entertainers scheduled for the show are Maxine Conrad, Roberta, Gilbert and Lee and Shirley Gray.

Six Goldwyn Girls returned from a month-long tour of army and naval hospitals in the southwest.

Sonny Tufts wound up a three-week tour, arriving from a route which started in Danville, Ky., and ended at El Reno, Okla.

Also back from a hospital tour were Robert Alda and Don McGuire, who spent two weeks at army and naval installations in Washington and Utah.

Bob Hope was emcee on Command Performance with a cast of volunteers, including Alan Ladd, Ann Rutherford, Jerry Colonna, the King Sisters, Chu Chu Martinez and Ken Carpenter.

Set to appear on the armed forces radio service GI Journal waxed at the Hollywood Canteen were Kay Kyser, Linda Darnell, Connie Haines, Victor Borge, Rufe Davis, the Mel Torme Group, Mel Blanc, Harry Mitchell, Charlie Cantor and Dick Aurandt and orchestra.

Fredericks New Manager Of Fox Vallejo Theatres

SAN FRANCISCO—John Fredericks, former manager of Hardy's Theatre, has been transferred to Vallejo, where he will assume managership of six Fox West Coast theatres in that city. He will be replaced at Hardy's by Tony Vernava.

Fredericks had been employed by the FWC for more than 12 years, serving as manager of the State, Kinema and Tower in Fresno and the Alcazar here in San Francisco.

Four Added to Para Contract List

Dorothy Barrett, Eileen Dixon, Jean Marshall and Margot Morgan are newcomers on the Paramount contract list.



ON ANNIVERSARY TOUR—Paramount's San Francisco exchange welcomes Allen Usher, captain in the one-third of a century celebration, back home. First row (l-r). Jack Hurley, Jack Bettencourt, Betty Johnson, Claude Lee, H. Neal East, Allen Usher and Del Goodman; second row: Don Hicks (only his eyes and forehead showing), John Bowles and Henry Haustein; third row: Elizabeth Merritt and Paul Schmuck.

Hospital Fund Boost Boosts Bob Hope, Too

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah's January in June weather (the state's had frost nearly every night this month) switched to summer for the visit of Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Jerry Colonna and Gale Robbins.

Hope and Crosby put on another of their golf matches before a capacity crowd at Ft. Douglas club. It was one of several benefit performances the pair had scheduled here to build a nine-hole golf course and clubhouse for disabled veterans at Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City. When told that funds to erect the course were in sight, Hope said, "Gee, that's swell, and we're glad to do it."

Besides the capacity crowd that watched their golf match, another giant group was on hand for a special evening show Sunday in the University of Utah stadium, with the whole troupe taking part. A special dinner, attended by 450 persons, honored Crosby, Hope and the others at the Hotel Utah that night.

Bob and his performers, who have traveled 300,000 miles to entertain soldiers and sailors, left immediately after the Utah visit for New York and then to Europe for a summer tour of army camps.

Ed Rowden's Co-Op Service Now Is in High Gear

SAN FRANCISCO — A streamlined cooperative booking service now is functioning here at 250 Golden Gate Ave., under the direction of Ed Rowden.

The services offered by the Cooperative Booking Office are many and varied. Rowden, for 21 years has been associated with the Golden State Theatres.

DENVER

Buzz Briggs, State manager, took honors in the Screen Club Calcutta golf tournament with a gross of 91 and net of 61. (Wow, what a score!) Mayer Monsky, Universal manager, was second and Fred Zekman, Black Hills Amusement Co. booker, was third with scores of 99-66 and 91-68.

This city is one of the spots being picked for unusual activity in the Paramount 33rd anniversary celebration from August 26 to September 29. According to Allen Usher, Paramount executive, who was here from his Chicago headquarters, some of Paramount's stars will be brought here for the celebration. Paramount's anniversary film, "Incendiary Blonde," will premiere at the Denham here August 31.

Jerry Banta, formerly with Metro in Des Moines, and out of the navy for a year, has been moved to their Denver exchange as booker . . . Elmer Hiskey has closed the Hiskey at Mora, N. M.

Mrs. Virginia Morgan Collier, RKO head inspector and daughter of J. J. Morgan, National Theatre Supply Co. manager, was married last week to Pat O'Neil of the Railway Express.

Al Brandon, supervising checker for Metro, has been promoted to salesman, succeeding Mike Cramer, recently made exchange manager . . . George Mayo has been moved to the front office as booker at 20th-Fox, where he has been head shipper.

Spirited Bond Queen Finale Boosts Sales

SALT LAKE CITY—Although Utah as a whole was failing miserably in its bond drive, the motion picture phase of the state's Mighty Seventh received a boost from Secretary Henry L. Morgenthau, who telegraphed entrants in the queen contest his personal congratulations for their participation.

In a telegram to Clarence Bamberger, executive vice-chairman of the Utah WFC, Morgenthau said of the queen contest, which is being backed by all of Utah's motion pictures:

"I am watching with interest the progress of the war bond queen promotion now in progress in your state. The contestants, like thousands of other war bond volunteers, are materially aiding their government in helping supply the equipment necessary to finish the war. The sales that they are making are likewise a great bulwark in helping assure their fellow citizens a solid base of economic stability in the postwar period.

"Please convey the appreciation of the treasury department to all the contestants taking part . . ."

This national recognition redoubled the efforts of all queen contest entrants and their backers to overcome the deficiency in Utah's drive to subscribe $20,000,000 during the campaign. The state was within 60 per cent of its goal this week, but WFC officials intimated the motion picture phase of the drive was nearly, if not already, over the top. Two counties, in both of which queen competition has been spirited, have passed the 100 per cent mark.

Meanwhile, inspired by the visit to Utah of Marjorie Reynolds, Paramount screen starlet, Utah's comely beauties made extra effort to sell more bonds and votes for themselves. Final vote counting took place last Wednesday. Queens of the various towns, to be chosen at contests in the theatres, will be chosen in time for county finals June 26. Most theatres have held or are planning bond premieres for queen contest nights and as their contribution to the Mighty Seventh.

Two Ogden theatres, the Egyptian and the Orpheum, sponsored premieres June 22; Davis County scheduled a premiere at the Bountiful Theatre for June 23, and Salt Lake's premiere will be held Monday, June 25, at the Centre.

Earl Stein, Frisco, Named Los Angeles Sales Chief

LOS ANGELES—Herb MacIntyre, RKO western district sales supervisor, has promoted Earl Stein, film salesman from San Francisco to the post of sales manager in the Los Angeles branch. He will work under Harry Cohn, branch manager.

Stein's new assignment resulted in regrouping of the sales staff in San Francisco. Taking over Stein's position as circuit salesman is Ollie Watson. Max Ratner moves up to sales from head booker and Hal Gruber takes over Ratner's former work. Harry Spaulding has been upped to the booking department from shipping to take Gruber's spot.

Bond Show Marks Opening Of New San Diego Theatre

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.—The purchase of a bond of $100 or more was the key to attendance for the opening of the new Loma Theatre on Rosecrans St. here. Ceremonies May 29 included personal appearances by film notables and a concert by a service band.

The 1,000-seat Loma, newest of this city's first run playhouses, was erected at a cost of $100,000 by the Fox West Coast Theatres circuit.

Hollywood Paramount Turns in $795,000

Los Angeles—The Hollywood Paramount Theatre in Hollywood Blvd., only local de luxe showcase to have staged two bond premieres in connection with the Seventh War Loan campaign, chalked up a total sale of $795,000 in the two events. The theatre tops the Los Angeles field in the sale of individual bonds.

A total of more than $8,000,000 in war bonds have been sold to corporations and individuals within the motion picture industry since the start of the campaign, according to a report by the Hollywood war finance committee, of which Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio executive, is chairman.

Sterling Theatre Chain Acquires Three Houses

LONGVIEW, WASH.—In one of the largest real estate transactions in the history of this city, the Longview and Columbia theatres here were sold by W. G. Ripley of Longview to the Sterling theatre chain. The deal also involved the sale of the Kelso Theatre in Kelso. Buildings and real estate were included in the transaction.

The three theatres had been operated by J. G. Lovett through lease agreements which also were acquired by the Sterling interests. The chain includes 17 theatres in the Seattle district.

$7,000,000 More for War

SAN FRANCISCO—The war department has authorized the construction of a $7,000,000 depot for the army signal corps in Sacramento. One of the smaller buildings to be erected is a post theatre.

House Changes to Pictures

LEWISTOWN, MONT. — The Broadway Theatre here, closed for some time, will be reopened this fall as a picture house, the Fox Amusement Co. has announced.



C. OF C. DIRECTOR—Tracy Barham, vice-president and general manager of Intermountain Theatres, who continues as a member of the board of governors of the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce, following the annual mail ballot.

Three New Theatres Planned in Denver

DENVER—With the announcement by Harry Huffman, Fox Intermountain city manager, that Fox will build a theatre after the war, three new houses now are in prospect for Denver as soon as materials are available.

Fox will build a theatre to seat about 1,200 on East Colfax, the house to be a part of a retail neighborhood development with stores and possibly some apartments as part of the plan. The house will be equipped for both films and television. Plans are now being drawn.

P. G. Dikeou, wholesale candy and tobacco distributor, plans to erect a theatre on Welton St. with the total investment running in the neighborhood of $250,000.

A third theatre is tentatively planned to be included in the two or three million dollar building proposed for the old courthouse block in downtown Denver. The block has been bought by a New York group which intends to develop it after the war. It plans a "Radio City" in the buildings which will also include a department store, specialty shops and probably a hotel.

PRC Features at 11 First Runs Will Set Record

LOS ANGELES—Setting a record for the company in this territory, PRC will have feature pictures playing simultaneously in 11 Los Angeles first run theatres before the end of this month. The deals, which were set by Harry Storm, Los Angeles branch manager, place "The Town Went Wild" in Grauman's Chinese, Carthay Circle, Loew's State and Uptown, starting June 15.

"Out of the Night" goes into the United Artists, Fox Wilshire and Guild theatres on June 14. "Kid Sister" will play the Orpheum, beginning June 12. "Silver Fleet," produced in England, will start a run at the Esquire on June 22. A Buster Crabbe-Al St. John western goes into the Hitching Post on June 15. "Bluebeard" and "Fog Island" follow at the Hawaii.

Four Yakima Valley Theatres Boost Bonds

GRANDVIEW, WASH.—With this city leading off with a bond premiere show, four Yakima Valley theatres held bond premieres in June in an effort to boost the sale of bonds during the Seventh War Loan drive.

Toppenish held its premiere ready for June 28 at the Liberty, while Sunnyside had its bond show set for June 29.

June 20 the Capitol in Yakima played for bond-buying patrons. Special films were booked by the motion picture industry WAC for the Valley premieres. Retail stores in the city of Yakima sold the tickets for the Capitol show with only enough tickets released to fill the showhouse.

New Los Angeles House

LOS ANGELES—The Sepulveda Housing Corp. has announced the construction of a new 1,200-seat theatre at the corner of Sepulveda and Manchester Blvds. in the Westchester district here for the use of one of California's leading theatre operators.

Steele Buys Limon Theatre

LIMON, COLO.—John Steel of this city is the new owner of the Cactus Theatre here, having acquired the 330-seat house from W. G. Wiesselman.









Bond Premiere Returns Encourage Fred Reel

SAN FRANCISCO—Fred Reel, who has forsaken his regular occupation of industrial relations consultant temporarily to manage the bond headquarters for the Seventh War Loan drive, says the 52 premiere returns checked to date have been extremely good.

The Warfield here featured Humphrey Bogart in "Conflict" as its bond premiere. To help stimulate sales of the $25 bonds and to give a push to put the Harry B. Smith "One-Man Bond Drive" over the $3,000,000 mark, Dan McLean, owner of the Embassy Theatre, bought ten $25 bonds to give away June 21 at his theatre.

Jack Leewood, WB, Shifted To Portland-Seattle Area

SALT LAKE CITY—Jack Leewood, field representative for Warners in Denver and Salt Lake, has been transferred to Seattle. He will continue publicity work in that city and Portland.

On his farewell visit to this area, working on the picture, "Conflict," Leewood revealed he would travel to New York before reporting for his new job July 5.

Leewood was in this area for two years. He formerly managed a theatre in Newark, N. J.

Pasadena Manager Wins Bond for Bond Sales Work

PASADENA — John Heflinger, manager of the local Park Theatre, won a $500 war bond for having submitted the winning campaign for war bond showmanship in a contest conducted by a national fan magazine.

In a presentation at Republic studios, Showman Heflinger was awarded the bond by Jane Withers.

DEBUT OF THE LOMA—Opening of a de luxe showhouse is an exciting event under any circumstances, but, in view of wartime building restrictions, the recent debuting of Fox West Coast's Loma Theatre in San Diego, Calif., was especially noteworthy. Reportedly the only Southland first run theatre approved for construction by the War Production Board since war's beginning, the Loma is an 1,180 seater, FWC's 11th house in the Border City. A colorful premiere was arranged by Dick Smith, FWC district manager, which featured military and civic ceremonies. The feature screen attraction was 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe."

A delegation of FWC executives, headed by Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres president, traveled from the home office in Los Angeles to attend the launching. Screen stars recruited for the occasion included Peggy Ann Garner, Trudy Marshall, Jimmy Dunn, Marie McDonald, Richard Crane and Virginia Thorpe. In the photos:

Top: Crowds await the appearances of the stars before the theatre opens.

Second: Front of the house.

Third: Not all the pulchritude came from Hollywood, as this group of Loma ushers and other femme employes reveal. The lone male at the left is M. Ames, house manager.

Fourth panel, left: Trudy Marshall takes a bow. Center: San Diego's mayor, Harley Knox, and Cinemactor Jimmy Dunn in the ribbon-cutting ceremony which opened the house. Right: Marie "The Body" McDonald is introduced.

SEATTLE

Two former film salesmen now in the army, Lieut. Glenn Haviland (Para) who now is in the Pacific, and Sgt. Harry Blatt (Metro), who has been in Germany, have been awarded Bronze Medals . . . Capt. Maurice Conn, air corps, was a visitor. He formerly was here with Mascot Films and later went to Hollywood and formed his own film company.

Sgt. Chris Hansen of the air corps is on his way home from Europe. He was an operator for Walter Graham in Shelton and expects to go back to his old job when he gets his army release . . . Allan Vigor is back from six months in the Aleutians. He is in the merchant marine.

Lieut. Bob Chesterfield of the army air corps has gone to Anchorage, Alaska, to visit his brother Lee, a technical sergeant in the air force . . . Louis Landstrom, back from another Pacific voyage, will attend the maritime service school for a month and receive a higher rating.

Vic Gauntlett's son-in-law, CPO George Galvin, is bound for overseas duty . . . Al Finke, Oregon district manager for Evergreen Theatres, is now a grandpap. His daughter Dorothy and son-in-law Stuart Taylor are parents of a son . . . W. E. Calloway, UA district sales manager, was in from California. With A. J. Sullivan, local manager, he called on Roy Brown of Evergreen.

Mrs. Keith Beckwith has returned from a trip to Lethbridge, Canada . . . Doc Singelow and Dick Dement attended the dinner for General Doolittle at the Washington Athletic Club . . . Fred Lovett, who was manager of the Bob Ripley theatres in Longview recently purchased by John Danz, has come to Seattle to become assistant to Fred Danz, general manager of the Sterling Theatres.

Alice Scott of National Theatre Supply returned from a Salt Lake visit . . . W. B. McDonald of the Avalon in Olympia, stopped here with his family on their cruiser Marbob. They are pulling out for a northern trip . . . Betty Mariotta, of Jack Sampson's Sterling Theatres publicity department, left for Enumclaw to marry Henry Ford.

Alice Christiansen, secretary to Ben Shearer, left by plane to visit her parents in Phillipsburg, Mont. Jack Kloepper, Portland, was here visiting Bill Forman . . . Bob and Mercedes Cleveland were on vacation . . . Ed Johnson of the Motor-In, the only outdoor theatre in the northwest, was here several days from Spokane. The Motor-In is on the Seattle-Tacoma highway half-way between both towns.

Ethel Walton celebrated a birthday . . . Henry Kotkins flew in from a California trip . . . Henry Davidson and Ed Halberg, Port Angeles, were here booking . . . Ray Bauduc and his orchestra saluted convalescent service men at the naval hospital with Deeda Patrick as featured vocalist. The musicians were presented by the Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands.

Ann Kaufman celebrated a birthday . . . Art Zabel, Olympia, and O. M. Durham, Anacortes, were in booking . . . Francis Glanfield, Tacoma, was a visitor, as were Les McEachran of Warner Bros., Spokane; Gene Groesbeck, Enumclaw, and Russ Brown of the Liberty Theatre in Portland.

Georgia Watkins was getting a little rib about a fan dancer . . . A couple of weeks from now the bangtails start running at Longacres. It will cut the matinee business somewhat . . . Dorothy Cooper has started a vacation from the Capital Hill Times newspaper. She'll return in September.

Jerry Ross, after working until the wee hours, is doing a grand job at Victory Square every noon . . . Herb Sobottka, war loan chairman, keeps busy making sure that all goes well . . . Dorothy Peterson was swapping brands . . . Congratulations to Fax Duncan for a job well done handling tickets for the war loan drives. It is no cinch to cover banks, theatres and department stores and keep a record of the tickets and sales.

Orchids to Chris Casper for his promotion of the round-trip tickets and free "keep" for one whole week in Juneau, Alaska. Two tickets were awarded at a bond show. The couple taking the trip cannot even buy a drink in a night club. All eats, sleep, travel will be taken care of by Juneau Chamber of Commerce and the transportation by Pan-American Airways. Chris is assistant manager of the Paramount Theatre.

Arthur Dewer was here from Canada to visit his cousins, George and June Blair of the Rendezvous . . . Ronnie Ames, exploiteer for Paramount, was here from Los Angeles in the interest of "Salty O'Rourke" and "Bring On the Girls." A grand guy and liked by everyone in this territory.

Sally Rand visited friends then made a grand pitch at Victory Square . . . J. T. Sheffield wrote from Denver that he was on the way home after the New York trip. He is president of Republic of the Northwest.

Seattle Bond Premiere Total Up to 16 Million

SEATTLE—With two more big bond shows yet to be presented, this city's motion picture industry already has rolled up the imposing total of $16,000,000 in bond sales in four premieres and is confident its premiere total will be well in excess of $20,000,000.

The coming bond event of the Evergreen Theatres circuit at the Fifth Ave. Theatre here is expected to gross well over $3,000,000 when Lieut. "Buddy" Ebsen will emcee a special presentation arranged by the coast guard. Service shows always have rung the boxoffice bell on bond premieres here.

The last show at the Paramount gained $3,000,000 in bond sales.

Fox Buys Site for New First Run at San Pedro

SAN PEDRO, CALIF.—The Fox West Coast Theatres will construct a new first run theatre on half of the old Gaffey St. high school property here now owned by the Boys Club. The purchase provides a liability-free home for the club on the other portion of the property. Construction is expected to start soon.

Summer Theatre, U. of U.

SALT LAKE CITY — For the first time in history, the University of Utah here will present a summer theatre this year. Presentations will include "Our Town," "Return Engagement," "Lillion" and "Morning's at Seven."

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SAN FRANCISCO

The historic old Columbia Hotel and theatre in Columbia, Tuolumne County, has been purchased by the College of the Pacific under the recently created California history foundation. Organized as an extension of the school's summer session work, it is planned that Pacific Little Theatre will operate a summer theatre in the antiquated showhouse and present a daily playbill representative of the 19th century period in which it flourished.

Construction of the new Orosi Theatre in Orosi is progressing satisfactorily, according to John Terrill, owner and manager . . . The Chico city council has given first and second reading to an ordinance providing a three-cent amusement admission tax after spokesmen for the firm that owns the two Chico theatres offered to donate $7,500 to the city if the measure were dropped.

The WLB has ruled theatre managers and assistant managers cannot be considered union members as they are executives and not employes, it was reported. The Golden State Theatres and San Francisco Theatres were reported to have filed a petition upon which the ruling was made.

Bob O'Brien brings to attention the fact that in section 765 the San Francisco municipal code compels the management of theatres to warn patrons of the antihat regulation before the performance begins, by means of printed cards or a notice "in a conspicuous portion of the program."

Ducky Louie, Chinatown's gift to Hollywood and star of "China's Little Devils" and portrayer of a feature role in "China Sky," has taken the town's newsmen and critics by storm. It is reported he's China's version of Mickey Rooney.

Teddy Nasser is back home for a 30-day leave after 33 months overseas. All Filmrow greeted the long absent Nasser brother . . . Charles Petersen's new offices are something to behold, as is the gaily colored backstage retreat of Helen Wabbe, publicity head of the Golden Gate Theatre. Now audiences can listen to Helen pounding the typewriter and think she's part of the show.

Armand Cohn, PRC head, is vacationing at Richardson Springs for two weeks . . . The Row is proud of the companion feature at the Orpheum. Produced by Redwood Theatre's own William David, "Wildfire" is a fine western and an excellent start to David's production efforts.

New Paramount Contracts to Three

Diana Lynn, Johnny Coy and Byron Barr have been awarded new contracts at Paramount.

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"Salome" Sets Tempo For Denver Theatres

DENVER—"Dillinger" with "Honeymoon Ahead" were strong at both the Paramount and Webber, and were held an extra day. "Salome, Where She Danced" copped the high percentage at the Denver, and "Affairs of Susan" was good enough at the Denham to rate a fourth week.

(Average is 100)

Aladdin—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono), 3rd d. t. wk.....160
Denham—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk.....110
Denver and Esquire—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col).....182
Orpheum—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M).....160
Paramount and Webber—**Dillinger** (Mono); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Rep).....173
Rialto—**My Sister Eileen** (Col), return; **Flame of the West** (Mono).....140

"Valley of Decision" Takes Lead In Three Los Angeles Theatres

LOS ANGELES — Despite the two-day homecoming celebration for Generals Patton and Doolittle, which attracted thousands who otherwise might have purchased tickets to the de luxe theatres, grosses remained at par or above.

Downtown Paramount—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep), 3rd wk..... 68
Egyptian, Ritz and Los Angeles—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M).....160
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), 2nd wk.....100
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col).....100
Hollywood Paramount—**The Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk.....100
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**Pillow to Post** (WB), 2nd wk.....100

Juvenile Attendance Helps Boost "Tarzan" Into San Francisco Top

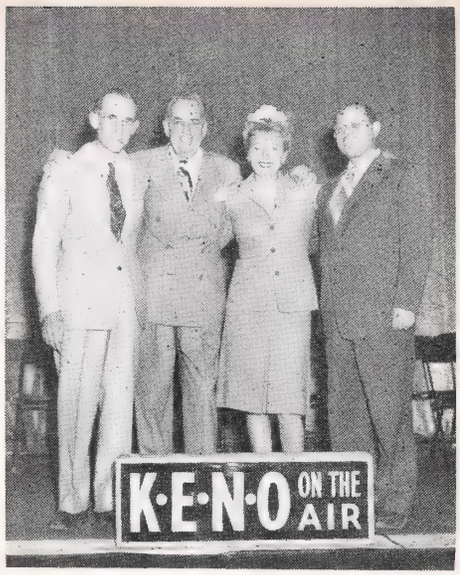
SAN FRANCISCO—A tie for first place honors with a reading of 140 go to the Paramount with "Murder, He Says" and "The Unseen" and to the Golden Gate with "Tarzan and the Amazons" luring juveniles. The weather here was unfavorable and a slack in business was noted.

Fox—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col).....120
Golden Gate—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO), stage.....140
Orpheum—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **See My Lawyer** (Univ), 2nd wk.....115
Paramount—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **The Unseen** (Para).....140
State—**Bring On the Girls** (Para); **The Great Flamarion** (Rep), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
St. Francis—**Diamond Horseshoe** (Fox); **The Bullfighters** (Fox), 2nd wk.....120
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 6th wk.....125
Warfield—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep), 3rd d. t. wk.....120

"Son of Lassie" Attracts Droves Of Seattle School Vacation Fans

SEATTLE—There were many surprises here. The weather finally became hot and so did the show business. All theatres reported better than average business, and all beaches were at their peak. With school out the Paramount, showing "Son of Lassie," received a big play from the kids and the Fifth Avenue was having a hard time handling the adults, with "Affairs of Susan" breaking some kind of record with a three-week stay.

Blue Mouse—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk...175
Fifth Avenue—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd wk.....175
Liberty—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **I Love a Mystery** (Col).....150
Music Box—**Diamond Horseshoe** (Fox), 5th wk.....120
Music Hall—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Swing Out Sister** (Univ), 2nd wk.....130
Orpheum—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Honeymoon Ahead** (Univ).....150
Palomar—**Enemy of Women** (Mono), vaudeville....150
Paramount—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Forever Yours** (Mono).....200



"HALF A MILLION" SMILES—The Huntridge Theatre in Las Vegas, Nev., sold $500,000 worth of E bonds at its recent one-night premiere, and this remarkable record for a town of some 20,000 persons was hung up with only four days of preparation. Tom Breneman, head of the radio show, Breakfast in Hollywood, was vacationing in Las Vegas when approached by Manager Herman Gould. To assist the "Mighty Seventh," Breneman agreed to put on a show, to be broadcast only by the local stations. A local sorority assisted in the sale of tickets and bonds. The combination was irresistible.

In the photo, left to right: Eddie Mansfield, Commonwealth circuit's district manager; Breneman; Mrs. Breneman; Gould.

SALT LAKE CITY

Ernest Van Pelt, field representative for M-G-M, has been seriously ill for the last two weeks. Mrs. Van Pelt says the danger is now past and Van will be working again in a couple of weeks . . . Joe Rosenfield of Favorite Amusement Co. was a visitor in Salt Lake last week along with J. T. Sheffield, head of the Sheffield Republic Exchange. Another Salt Lake visitor was Dave Farquhar, sales manager for the Metropolitan Mat Service for motion pictures.

Richard Sutherland, former assistant manager for the Capitol here, now a member of the merchant marine, has returned from his second trip to Pacific battle areas. This last journey, of three months' duration, was to Iwo Jima. He reported the trip was dull, but it was learned from his father that Dick's ship was under bombing and strafing attack.

Charles Walker, 20th-Fox Salt Lake division manager, returned to Salt Lake this week from Denver, where he attended a meeting of salesmen . . . Perry Smoot, Montana salesman for 20th-Fox, has resigned . . . A big welcome awaited Helen Remigi, office clerk for 20th-Fox here when she returned to the job last week following an intended short vacation which developed into a long stay away from the job due to an illness and an operation. She had been away since April 22.

Although she's not saying anything, it looks like romance for Lillion Seppi, assistant cashier for the RKO office until this week, when she resigned to go to Denver.

LOS ANGELES

W. C. Gehring, 20th-Fox western division manager, and Herman Wobber, Pacific coast sales head, huddled here recently for sales talks . . . Ed Aaron, Metro's home office western sales executive, and George Hickey, western supervisor for the studio, were on a two-week trek of Hickey's district.

Harry Stern, PRC's Los Angeles branch manager, closed a deal for the entire 1944-45 program with the Southern California Amusement Co. . . . Al Bowman, Universal salesman, returned from a business trip to Las Vegas.

On Film Row: Jimmy Chase of the Rampart Theatre; Leo Hamacher, Victory Theatre owner, who recently acquired the Romona, also in San Diego, from Mrs. Thomas, booking and buying for both showcases; Phil Isley, Dallas, father of Jennifer Jones, and H. J. Griffith, Kansas City, a member of the Griffith-Long circuit in the middle west.

Among recent visitors on Filmrow were Jimmy Finkler, manager of Jack Chazan's local Rosebud Theatre, and Ernie Filkox, booker and supervisor for Grover Smith's Glendale Theatre . . . Dayral Johnson, booker for Walker's Santa Ana Theatre, huddled with Roy Dixson on product buying.

Backyard vacationers included Ben Taylor, Warner checking supervisor, and Metro Booker Jack Jacobs . . . Harry Rackin and J. L. "Steve" Stephens of Exhibitors' Service returned from San Diego where they had gone on business . . . Henry Herbel, Warner western division sales supervisor, went to New York to attend a managers' meeting, June 26 to 28.

B. V. Studivant, National Theatres Latin American representative in Mexico City, flew in for a week of conferences at the home office . . . Having resigned from his post as sales manager for the Herb Rosner Co., Ed Horwitz plans to enter state's rights distribution for himself. He left for New York to line up product.

After a week's rest in Las Vegas, Bruce Fowler returned to his duties as first run district manager for Fox West Coast . . . P. G. Cameron sold his Aero Theatre in Santa Monica to Ray Theise, newcomer to the business from Oklahoma . . . William Martin, Hemet Theatre, Hemet, and Mrs. Foster Jackson, Elsinore Theatre, Elsinore, were booking and buying on the Row.

Vital Statistics Department: Bill Finn, booker for the local Central Theatre, was the papa of a son born to Mrs. Finn at the Queen of Angels Hospital June 10 . . . Filmrow friends were grieved to learn of the death of F. C. De Costa of Hanford, Calif., father of John De Costa.

Fire Sweeps Idaho House

CAMBRIDGE, IDA.—Joe Hannock, owner of the Cambridge Theatre, faces a rebuilding problem following a disastrous fire which swept the house May 25. Both building and equipment were badly damaged. Reconstruction depends upon availability of materials and equipment, Hannock said.

1ST CLASS DISTRIBUTION FOR THE ENTIRE SOUTH — thru
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ASTOR PICTURES COMPANY
HARWOOD AND JACKSON STS.
Riverside 1884 — DALLAS 1, TEXAS

"Eddie's" Emissaries Fete Chicago's Press

CHICAGO—Seventy representatives of the press attended the luncheon given by 20th-Fox in the Stevens Hotel last week to herald the coming of "Captain Eddie," the life story of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker. Chick Evans jr., son of the famed golfer and no mean player himself, signed the invitations to the affair at which Christy Walsh, former manager of Babe Ruth and other diamond stars, was guest of honor. Walsh is associate producer of the film, along with Winfield R. Sheehan, and has other features of sports calibre to his credit.

Principal speaker was Dr. Eben Carey, dean of medicine at Marquette University, who told entertainingly of Walsh's career which, in addition to the managership of sports notables, includes his ownership of a newspaper syndicate.

Arch Ward, sports editor of the Chicago Tribune, placed more laurels upon the guest of honor, as did several other impromptu speakers. Representing the industry were Jack Lorentz, Tom Gilliam of 20th-Fox, Walter Immerman and Bill Hollander of Balaban & Katz and M. M. Rubens of Great States.

No Theatres Are Reported Flooded in St. Louis Area

ST. LOUIS—Floods along the Meramec River through St. Louis County inundated large sections of Pacific and Valley Park, Mo., while a flash flood at Newburg cost the lives of four persons. In southeast Missouri the Black River reached record proportions at Poplar Bluff, affecting some 500 families.

Theatres in the towns affected by the high waters are the Lyric, Newburg, operated by Mildred Rauth, who also operates the Ritz in Rolla; the Royal, Pacific, operated by Leber Hirth; the Criterion and Jewell, operated by the I. W. Rodgers circuit, the Strand by G. Carey, and the New Broadway, operated by Allied Theatres, all in Poplar Bluff.

Death of Cyril Bloomer At Belleville, Ill.

BELLEVILLE, ILL. — The death of Cyril Bloomer, a member of the Bloomer family that owns and operates the local Rex and Ritz theatres, occurred here June 13. His brother Frank was visiting Filmrow in St. Louis when advised by telephone of his brother's death. His father Noah, formerly owner of the PRC exchange in St. Louis, is now a resident of Los Angeles.

Riviera Fire Causes $800 Loss and Empties House

MILWAUKEE—A projection booth fire at the Riviera Theatre caused $800 damage and drove 140 patrons, chiefly youngsters, into the street. Projectionist Robert Paradis was treated at Johnston Emergency Hospital for burns on face and hands. Manager Marvin Sorensen mounted the stage and persuaded patrons to exit calmly.

New Chicago North Shore Theatre Planned for 1,200

WAUKEGAN, ILL.—Plans are being formed for a 1,200-seat theatre in Libertyville in the Chicago north shore area by a syndicate cooperating with A. J. Balaban, founder of the Chicago B&K Theatres and at present director of the Roxy in New York. The property is owned by Fred W. Dobe.

Both Hat and Job Wear Well With G. Neckerman

Chicago—George Neckerman says the best buy he ever made was a felt hat, purchased at Siegel & Cooper's (remember) 30 years ago when he wanted to look his best, as he was applying for a job with Schoenstadt's circuit.

He got the job and is still with the circuit, managing the Midwest, and he still wears the hat, occasionally!

Indiana Sets July 6 For Tribute to Pyle

INDIANAPOLIS—A proclamation calling on this city to observe July 6 as Ernie Pyle Day was issued by Mayor Tyndall.

The day previously was set aside by Governor Gates to honor the late war correspondent. The world premiere of "Story of G.I. Joe," a film based on Pyle's writings, will be shown in Loew's Theatre that night.

"Ernie Pyle," said Mayor Tyndall, formerly a major general and one-time infantry division commander, "was the public servant of the foot soldier. I'm exceptionally pleased that this picture about Ernie gives an honest break to the up-front fighting man, and particularly the infantryman."

In his proclamation, the mayor asked that Ernie Pyle Day be marked in Indianapolis by display of the American flag and that the city pause a moment at noon in respect for the late Hoosier reporter.

All receipts from the premiere of the Pyle film will go to the Ernie Pyle memorial fund at Indiana University. The premiere is being sponsored by the Indiana University clubs of Indianapolis.

Street Accident Fatal To Pops Fricke, Stageman

ST. LOUIS—James Nicholas "Pops" Fricke, 75, veteran stage doorman at the Ambassador and American theatres and the Municipal Opera, died at St. Mary's Hospital here of injuries sustained when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver in front of the St. Agnes Home, where he resided.

"Pops" at one time was head of the Jefferson Hotel bar, under whom Charles Skouras, the prominent motion picture executive, worked as a bus boy. Later when Charlie and his brothers, Spyros P. and George P. Skouras, entered the motion picture field in St. Louis, Fricke was given a job as doorman at the Ambassador.

Roland Lavann Dies

MILWAUKEE—Roland Lavann, 33, trombone man at the Riverside Theatre seven years, died at his home here. A member of Local 8, Milwaukee Musicians Ass'n, Lavann is survived by his parents, his wife, Gwendolyn, and one son, Gary.

Louis Lamm Thirty Years in Exhibition

Along with his present employer, 20th-Fox Film Corp., Louis Lamm, manager of the Fox Wisconsin Odeon Theatre in Beaver, Dam, Wis., is celebrating his 30th anniversary this year.



LOUIS LAMM

With his brother Jules and his father, he opened a nickelodeon on Milwaukee Ave. in Chicago in 1915. Through the war years and until 1923 they operated the Windy City location. Then for nine years Louis managed theatres for Warner Bros. in the Cleveland zone.

Today as do thousands of brother exhibitors he considers the show business the "greatest and most fascinating in the world," and he wouldn't trade the job of operating the Beaver Dam theatre with anyone.

As is true with most exhibitors, he is keenly interested and active in local affairs; he is editor of the bi-monthly paper of the Rotary Club and a member of the Masons. Lamm is married and his son is a captain in the army, stationed at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis. His daughter is married and he is tremendously proud of his two grandchildren.

'Benny' Benjamin to Helm Of PRC's Chicago Branch

CHICAGO—Henri Elman, president of PRC, announced the appointment of William "Benny" Benjamin as manager of PRC here. Benjamin, 25 years in the film industry, formerly was with Grand National and was manager for RKO in Des Moines. He will arrive in Chicago June 25.

St. Louis Houses Set for Tele Green Light, Expert Says

ST. LOUIS—Leroy Upton, president of local IATSE No. 6, and sound technician at the 5,000-seat Fox, asserts the major theatres here already possess much of the stage, electrical and sound equipment necessary to convert them to use for televizing.

Monogram Signs With B45

CHICAGO—With Monogram's signing, all film exchanges in this city are affiliated with the Film Employes Union local B45, according to Sam Lamasky, business agent. He said all exchanges now are paying time and a half for Sunday work.

New Tag for "For Better, for Worse"

"John and Mary" is the new title for the Metro production, "For Better, For Worse."

Zaring's Kindness Wins Returns

Indianapolis—A. C. Zaring, who operates the Zaring Theatre, one of the oldest neighborhood houses in point of service, is known for his many charitable acts and his kindness to children. He is the type that just can't say "no."

Recently Zaring received a money order for $2 from Sgt. E. W. Jones formerly stationed at Ft. Benjamin Harrison and now in Germany. In the letter accompanying the order, Jones told of many delightful evenings spent in the Zaring Theatre while stationed at Ft. Harrison and expressed his desire his small niece and nephew, Katherine and Jimmy Sargent, nine and ten years of age, see as many shows as the money order would buy.

Zaring immediately doubled the number of tickets to permit the children to see 20 shows instead of ten. "Cast Thy Bread Upon the Waters," and Zaring has been doing that for many years.

CHICAGO

Abe Fischer, formerly with United Artists, is manager of the new Film Classics exchange, which will open about July 1 at 1248 S. Wabash. Herman Couston, formerly with Columbia, is head booker. Goldie Davidson, formerly of UA will be Gal Friday.

Lucia Perrigo, Warner publicist, is busy readying a super-duper campaign for "The Corn Is Green," which will follow "Salty O'Rourke" when it stops doing business at the State-Lake . . . Leon Fromkess, PRC president, was in to talk it over with Henri Elman, then went east. He is due back this way in July . . . Charlie Rose of San Francisco, an exchange manager, was in town.

W. E. "Doc" Banford, M-G-M manager, went to St. Luke's for a checkup . . . Larry Whittaker, manager of the B&K Tower, had a record-breaking auction as a bond sales stunt. He had on hand everything from meat (honest!) to cigarets. Jimmy Cassin, B&K Maryland manager, and his assistant, Norm Packer, promoted merchandise and cash awards for both bond buyers and sellers.

Sam Stoll, Paramount salesman, has been named manager for this area, succeeding Max Roth, resigned. Lou Goldberg takes over Stoll's city territory and Dave Kramer, former country salesman, will handle the northside and suburban area.

Irene Dunne was in town and received an honorary degree in music from her alma mater, the Chicago Musical College, to become the first film actress so honored . . . Jules Serkowich, Columbia press agent, off to Omaha and Minneapolis to thump tubs . . . The Majestic, closed 11 years and now owned by the Shuberts, will be called the Shubert. It's having its faced washed, its crumbling marquee repaired and experiencing other needed renovations. It probably will open in August.

Sid Blumenstock and Jules Fields, 20th-Fox, were in for the "Captain Eddie" luncheon at the Stevens last week, then went to Milwaukee for similar didoes . . . Emil Stern and Eddie Silverman played host to their Essaness employes at the annual outing staged last week at Hickory Hills Country Club in Palos Park.

Abe Teitel of Teitel Films was in New York . . . The World Playhouse has booked "Ivan the Terrible," Soviet film which the biggies at the Frisco conference saw. It was made by the Russian wizard, Eisenstein, and took three years to complete, yett! . . . Jack Ryan, former manager of the Savoy, now is at the Lido, Maywood . . . Nate Gross, Herald-American Town Tattler, is in Hollywood getting the closeup on the lowdown. His Sunday night radio show was taken over by Johnnie Neblett, producer and star on several network shows.

Bill Green says the initial get-together of the Tub Thumpers, new organization he is trying to whip into shape, will take place Monday evening, June 25, in M-G-M's club rooms. Plans for a Chicago chapter then will be formulated. All local press agents were invited to attend . . . Freddie Mindlin introduced Hank Markbrite to someone at Variety Club as "the industry's mortgage lifter." Hank sells corn, for popping.

Arnold Monnette, one-time office manager at 20th-Fox here, who has been in Detroit, is back as suburban salesman . . . Peggy Ann Garner, juvenile film star ("Tree Grows in Brooklyn"), went through with her mother on her way east for a premiere of two of the kid's newest films.

Eddie Jacobson, owner of the Monroe, Detroit, was on the Row for a confab with Saul Goldman, Variety Pictures . . . Starting September 13, the Chicago and the Oriental will open their new show week on Thursday, thus establishing a like opening date for the two loop houses having vaudeville.

Henry Kahn, veteran of the Row, has gone to New York as special home office representative for 20th-Fox. He was with M-G-M as sales manager for the last six years. Before that he was with Fox for seven years and before that another flock of years with M-G-M.

The Reel Fellows Club will have its spring meeting and luncheon June 24 at the Continental Hotel. Plaques will be presented to former Chicagoans who have gone elsewhere, including Henry Mandel, now with Film Classics, Indianapolis; Bob Allen, UA at Milwaukee; John Sokley, Warners, Oklahoma City; Seymour Borde, RKO, Des Moines; Julian King, Film Classics, Des Moines, and Milton Simons, past vice-president. Lou Goldberg, president of the club will make the presentations.

Morrie Rubens, Great States exploiteer, entertained at a barbecue party in his home in Joliet, but told everybody to bring some grub, red points being only less scarce than what they're good for. He made sure of having meats by inviting the mayor of the town, who is also the city's leading butcher . . . The Woods Theatre is getting new sound equipment, which will be introduced with the midwest premiere of "Wonder Man" in a week or so. The screen is being recoated for better presentation of Technicolor.

Chairman of the industry's 1945 Community drive will be Jack Rose, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois-Indiana circuit. The kickoff meeting is scheduled for October 1. The Chicago quota will be in excess of last year . . . Bill Bishop is cooking up a lot of chowder for the annual outing of Leo the Lions and Lionesses to be held at Lincoln Fields Country Club, July 28—golf, baseball, prizes and surprizes, he sez.

Miss Fran Harris, for three years a staffer for WBKB, joins Ruthrauff & Ryan to head the ad agency's television department . . . Albert Nickell of the Windsor (H&E Balaban circuit), made a deal with a hosiery salesman to purchase all available quality hose the man had to use as a bond sales stimulant—a pair for every femme buying a $500 bond . . . Edward Cobb, for three years salesman for National Screen, has gone to RKO in the same capacity.

Charles Ryan, Warner circuit executive, says their Highland Theatre sold $325,000 in bonds at their war loan premiere . . . Will DeVry, president of DeVry Corp., hosted the press and other friends at a dinner June 16 in Svithoid Club, marking the company's receipt of its fifth army and navy E award for production of sound film equipment for the armed forces . . . Sam Pickens is now head shipper for PRC exchange . . . Marshall Addis is now assistant manager of the B&K Lake Side Theatre.

Sgt. Everett Sorenson, one-time city manager for Alliance circuit in Vincennes, got his medical discharge and is now special relief manager for the circuit in Indiana and Illinois . . . Herndon Edmond now is special representative on the staff of Jack Lorentz, district manager of 20th-Fox.

Dave Dewey, Chicago Theatre Supply Co., held a preview of the new Page popcorn machine and Joe Goldberg unveiled his new Drink-O-Matic coke dispenser, so Dave got 'em thirsty and Joe cooled 'em off . . . A sneak preview of the Danny Kaye opus, "Wonder Man," was held in the Woods Tuesday and opened Thursday.

Al Winston, 20th-Fox press agent, has Christy Walsh in tow for luncheon events in his honor in Des Moines, Omaha, Minneapolis and Lincoln, to whoop it up for "Captain Eddie," same as was done here . . . Harry Neppo, owner of the Kimbark, has been informed that his son Alexander has received an Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters. He served with the Eighth air force and was on the final bombing mission over Germany, April 25, when he was shot down but landed safely behind Yank lines.

Belated Summer Aids All Chicago Houses

CHICAGO—Warm weather, 30 days overdue, finally arrived with sufficient vim to put overcoats into mothballs and "Air Conditioned" prominently into theatre ads. Bond parades and bond shows at the loop's two most prominent intersections continue to entice throngs into the downtown area while good attractions and the delightful coolness of the theatres encouraged spending at boxoffices. "China Sky," bond-premiered at the RKO Palace, was doing excellent business; Joan Merrill, Eddie Peabody and the flicker, "The Unseen," did right by the Chicago, while Willie Shore on the stage and "Jimmy Steps Out" on the screen gave the Oriental a good week. The holdovers were doing okay, especially the State-Lake's "Salty O'Rourke." The World Playhouse got off to a good start with "Mr. Emmanuel," rushed in a fortnight ahead of schedule.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 8th wk.....100
Chicago—**The Unseen** (Para), plus stage show.....125
Garrick—**Thunderhead** (20th-Fox), 3rd wk.....100
Grand—**The Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO), 2nd wk.....100
Oriental—**Jimmy Steps Out** (FC), plus stage show..125
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO); **Swing Out, Sister** (Univ).....115
Roosevelt—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 6th wk.....100
State-Lake—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 2nd wk.....115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 24th wk.....105
United Artists—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 5th wk.....100
Woods—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **Chicago Kid** (Rep), 2nd wk.....105
World Playhouse—**Mr. Emmanuel** (UA).....110

Three Milwaukee Bills Clock Average; Others a Bit Below

MILWAUKEE—"Without Love" at the Wisconsin clocked an average take. It was dualed with "Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion." "Sign of the Cross" coupled with another reissue, "Black Swan" came in with a bit below average. Other situations were average or close.

Alhambra—**Wuthering Heights** (FC); **Beau Hunks** (FC), reissues.....95
Palace—**Sign of the Cross** (Para), reissue; **Black Swan** (20th-Fox), reissue.....95
Riverside—**China Sky** (RKO); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO), 2nd wk.....95
Strand—**High Powered** (Para); **Between Two Women** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100
Warner—**Escape in the Desert** (WB); **Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), 2nd wk.....100
Wisconsin—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col).....100

Indianapolis First Runs Have Good Grosses in Rainy Week

INDIANAPOLIS — Most of the first run houses got off to a good start and ended up with top grosses. Perhaps the weather was too bad to attract the crowds to amusement parks, for it rained every night.

Alamo—**Sheriff of Cimarron** (Rep); **Jungle Woman** (Univ).....85
Circle—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Forever Yours** (Mono).....115
Indiana—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO), 2nd wk.....115
Lyric—**Affairs of Susan** (Para).....110
Loew's—**Without Love** (M-G-M).....100

St. Louis Trust Case More Complicated

ST. LOUIS—U.S. Judge Richard M. Duncan, who is officiating in the antitrust damage suit of the St. Louis Amusement Co. et al against Paramount Pictures et al, approved the joint motions of the defendants Adolph Rosecan of the Princess Theatre, and Joseph Litvag of the Apollo Theatre for leave to make United Artists, Columbia, Universal and Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, third party defendants to the action.

The original suit of the St. Louis Amusement Co. was directed against Paramount, Warner Bros., RKO, 20th-Fox, the American Arbitration Ass'n, Harold Connor, former clerk of the local AAA tribunal, Harry G. Erbs, attorney and an AAA arbiter, and also Rosecan, Litvag and the Apollo Theatre Corp.

The purpose of the defendants in wishing to make the additional film companies third parties defendant, is that pictures of those companies as well as the others are shown at the plaintiff's first run, second run and subsequent run houses ahead of the Princess and Apollo theatres.

Reel Fellows Play Golf In Slosh; Scores Soar

MILWAUKEE—After numerous postponements due to rain, cold weather, fog, and other uncataloged difficulties, the Reel Fellows outing, long planned at Tuckaway Country Club with Ben Poblocki as the sponsor, finally was held last week.

Around 20 Reel Fellows and a branch manager or so attended, and Bill Baker, Maury Anderson and Eddie Gavin played gin rummy, with Anderson doing the winning. The trio had teed off early in the day but down came the rain, and leaving their pellets lying between the first tee and the green they dashed for the club.

Because of rain golf play didn't start until 3 in the afternoon. Bob Allen, Charley Trampe, N. Provencher and "Sand-wedge" Weingarten, supplemented by Ben Poblocki, sloshed around nine holes. Allen came up with 51; Trampe, 47; Ben Poblocki, 43, and Provencher stopped counting about half way 'round. On the sixth hole Provencher took seven shots, and his ball was trapped, but his explosion from six feet holed out!

Anderson, Baker and Gavin finished their nine-hole round, but withheld their scores. (My! Were they that bad?)

Frank Fischer, Harold Beecroft, Don McFazden, Bill Foley, George Edgerton and Eddie Krofta kept dry "outside" by hitting the card tables for some gin rummy.

Charley Trampe had a bit of trouble on the third hole, but the arrival of his son Ray of the armed forces from New York took Charley away from the game for the Trampe summer home at White Oaks. Activities ended about 9 p. m. with an advance suggestion that Trampe sponsor the next event.

Hospitality Flows at Fete to Make Exchange Opening

CHICAGO—More than 300 film personalities were guests of Mort Van Praag and wife last week when they had a house warming for their new Supreme Picture Exchange at 13th Street and Wabash Avenue. Mort also celebrated his 30th anniversary in the business.

Jacqueline Faust, a WLS artist, entertained with accordion solos while the guests enjoyed a buffet spread with plenty of what it took to wash it down. The host presented souvenir letter-openers to his guests.

INDIANAPOLIS

Flame of the Barbary Coast" opened Wednesday (20) at the Indiana Theatre . . . Walter "Buzz" Miller, assistant to Billy Conners of the Marion Theatres Corp., was on Filmrow during the week.

Sgt. Daniel C. Penrod, a former salesman for Republic home on a 30-day leave, was married Thursday last week to Jean La Rue of Indianapolis. Penrod was wounded recently and will report to Wakeman Hospital, Camp Atterbury, Ind. . . . A sneak preview at the Circle of "Don Juan Quilligan" was held on Thursday night last week.

Betty Whetstein and Webster McDonald of Detroit will be married June 30 in the Tabernacle Church here. She is a member of the 20th-Fox office staff . . . John Barrett, chief accountant at 20th-Fox, was vacationing in Cincinnati . . . Florence Kitt of the 20th-Fox billing department, vacationed at home . . . Mrs. Leota King, RKO chief inspector, is spending her vacation with her husband at a lake in northern Indiana.

Jack Eward, head shipper at Paramount, will take a similar position with RKO June 25 . . . Russell Brentlinger, RKO manager, was in Chicago Wednesday and Thursday last week in conference with John Doerr of the Alliance Theatre Corp.

Carl Shalit, Columbia district manager, will arrive in the city Monday (25) to conduct a general sales meeting. A St. Louis delegation will attend. They are C. D. Hill, manager, and William Sherman, H. L. LaPlante and James Bradford, salesmen. Manager Guy Craig and Herbert Kaufman, Abe Gelman and Curtis Butler, salesman, comprise the local group.

George Hiliotes, who operates the Rialto, Fort Wayne, returned from a vacation in southern California. He brought back greetings from many former Indianapolis exchange managers now located on the west coast to their friends in this city . . . Claude McKean, Warner manager, spent several days in Louisville on business.

June vacationers at Warners: Theresa Toffalo, cashier, visiting her friends in Chicago; Wilma Barrow, secretary to Claude McKean, to Cleveland, and Phyllis Moore, contract department, at Shaeffer Lake, Ind.

Roy R. Palmer, WB home office representative, has gone to Detroit. R. W. Arnold, who had been working with Palmer here, has gone to Salt Lake City . . . PRC here has just completed a deal with the Greater Indianapolis Amusement Co. for playing "Crime, Inc.," "The Town Went Wild" and "Strange Illusions."

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

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MILWAUKEE

Hugh Flannery, manager of the Orpheum at Madison, has booked the Ink Spots . . . Lee K. Beznor, Milwaukee's district OPA enforcement attorney, was the hide man in a small combo here late in 1929. On sax in the unit was Woody Herman, Milwaukee boy that made good by fronting his own band . . . The SS Milwaukee Clipper Friday (22) was to start weekend cross-lake cruises between Milwaukee and Muskegon, Mich.

Manager Jack Frackman of RKO is so busy he's having food convoyed into his office . . . Enlisted men at Truax Field, Madison, were sent plenty with that highly modern swing purveyed by the Raymond Scott orchestra at the Orpheum there . . . Bing Crosby "voicing" for Eddie Bracken in Paramount's "Out of This World," is really something. Don't miss this one, exhibitors. There's some top-drawer 88 stuff, too.

"Pacific Challenge" was presented at Washington Park band shell with Lieut. Griff Williams, former band leader, fronting the 60-piece Great Lakes orchestra . . . A bit of Devils Lake vacationing is planned by Beatrice Schleif of Independent Theatres in July . . . The new RKO manager, Lou Elman, assumed chores . . . Mert Miller, the Mayville entrepreneur, booked a few . . . A Standard Theatres biggie and Don Woods, Warner manager, captured "those big fish" while way up north.

Gordon Hewitt, Fox Wisconsin film buyer, returned from the coast with reports of some terrific golf scores. Are you listenin', Ben Poblocki? . . . E. J. Alfrey, the Plainfield, Westfield and Hancock patron pleaser, showed the Row how to book . . . The Columbia gang expects to be ready for that picture soon . . . Jimmie Coston, Warner Theatres zone manager, huddled with Al Kvool and Marc Brazee, local executives.

Harold Beecroft's secretary at 20th-Fox, was partied, honoring 25 years with the firm . . . UA Manager Bob Allen's young daughter underwent a tonsillectomy . . . A new part-time poster clerk at National Screen is Robert Becker . . . Marian Carl, another newie at National Screen, assists Arnold Kovitz, head bookkeeper. Paramount Salesman Irving Wirthamer gave par the works while vacationing.

For an opener the Port Players, that straw-hat legitimate group, presented "The Dough-girls." To follow will be "Snafu," "Suds in Your Eyes," "Blithe Spirit," "Chicken Every Sunday," "Love Rides the Rails," "Dark Eyes," "Uncle Harry," "Kiss and Tell" and "But Not Goodbye" . . . Lionel Hampton and band rocked the Riverside, inaugurating the return of "flesh" shows.

Henry Theis, Alhambra projectionist, donned slacks and buried himself in his Rhinelander farm. Can it be that Sam Miller furnished any of that fertilizer? . . . Johnny Mednikow, National Screen manager, and Frank Fischer attended the big confab in Chicago arranged by National Screen biggies . . . Oscar Ruby, Columbia manager, talked things over with his son Gene of the air corps in Las Vegas.

Blossoming out in plaid shirt, sport coat, etc., N. Provencher, UA salesman, left the Row on the ropes . . . Verna Doyle, 20th-Fox booker, vacationed . . . Back from vacation Ben Schwenke, Warner booker, looked plenty refreshed.

Savoy Manager Billy Pierce and wife were on the Row booking . . . Bob Allen, UA manager, sold product up Marquette way . . . Helen Richcreek, secretary to Harold Wirthwein, was vacationing in Kentland, Ind. . . . "Hypo" Hadley of Film Arts can't forget that deal when Jack Phelps backed into a tank containing developer . . . At the Metro Pep Club's party honoring Walter Bennin's 15 years with the firm, G. W. Heaney of the Granada, Oshkosh, amazed all with his magician stuff. And Joe Malits, booker, cut the cake—or did he?

From Fort Atkinson, Walter Baier managed to book a few . . . Charley Trampe, Monogram manager, returned from a New York huddle with executives there . . . Roman Herold, Paramount, vacationed about Cincinnati . . . Oscar Marty, former National Screen poster clerk, has gone overseas as an interpreter.

Russ Leddy, John Adler, Charley Trampe, George Panka, Jack Yeo, George Fischer, Raynold Black and George Langheinrich attended Milwaukee's ITO huddle . . . Janet Uibel, Metro, gave Washington the eye, and said there's still no place to live there . . . That suntan Lillian Kupersmith acquired while in New Orleans is fading fast.

Charley Koehler, Astor Pictures, has a new granddaughter, Susan Jeri, born to son Jerome F. and wife . . . Appleton's favorite son, Houdini (deceased), was mentioned by John B. Kennedy in his recent newscast . . . Carol Hammer, the Paramount gal, enjoyed Shawano's cold weather . . . Sam Miller burnt up the Row again . . . Doesn't Bill Parker of Universal know he can't take Manning Silverman at gin rummy?

Cosmopolitan Hotel beckoned Elaine Skinner, Metro secretary, for two weeks of relaxation . . . An around-the-town vacation kept Norma Jelnik on the busy side . . . Irene Preston, ITO secretary to Harry Perlewitz, buried the stock book so well she's still employing a private bloodhound in digging the thing up . . . William Ainsworth, Fond du Lac, attended a Rotary confab in Chicago.

You'll see Milwaukee's Dave Miller, former Riverside band leader, handling the same chores in Paramount's "Incendiary Blonde" . . . Charley Trampe will host ITO board members at his Phantom Lake summer home July 11.

At Williams Bay, the Belfry Players under the direction of John Wray Young, Shreveport, La., will open their 12th straw-hat season with "Claudia" July 6. Robert E. Sherwood, playwright who will lecture at the University of Wisconsin thrice this summer, will do a screen biography of the late Franklin Roosevelt.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

THEATRICAL PRINTING



Add Five to "Allotment Wives"

At Monogram Bernard Nedell, Terry Frost, Doris Lloyd, Matty Fain and Teala Loring have been added to the cast of "Allotment Wives."

ST. LOUIS

Christy Walsh, former St. Louis boy, came back home last week to plug "Captain Eddie," the 20th-Fox production, of which he is associate producer . . . Jimmy Frisina of Springfield, head booker for the Frisina circuit in Illinois, eastern Missouri and southeastern Iowa, couldn't get past the quarter finals in the 15th Illinois amateur golf tournament conducted by the Chicago Golf Ass'n at the St. Charles Country Club. Frisina won the state title in 1942.

Moonlight steamer excursions on the Mississippi River are another victim of adverse weather conditions and war shortages. The Steamer Admiral, which usually starts its season prior to Memorial Day, is still to make its maiden trip of 1945. It may begin operations early in July company officials stated.

Many additional theatres planned to hold war bond premieres. The St. Louis area has already gone over the top so far as its overall total is concerned but the E bond mark is still far below 100 per cent . . . "The Warrior's Husband," a comedy, opened the third season for the Roof Top Community Theatre Thursday night (21).

Barney Rosenthal, manager for Mongram, has closed a deal with Fox Midwest for the 100 per cent showing in the nine cities of that circuit in southern Illinois and eastern Missouri of "Dillinger," "Flame of the West," "Forever Yours" and "G. I. Honeymoon" . . . PRC is now housed in its new quarters at 3334 Olive St. The switch took it from the eastern to the western end of that long block of film exchanges.

Guy Robertson, baritone and former St. Louis Municipal Opera star recently discharged after serving two years as a radio production specialist in the navy, is to join KWK, Hotel Chase here, as production director . . . "Back to Bataan," RKO picture, is to be given a territorial premiere that will include 90 day-and-date bookings. The exact date to be late in July or early in August, will be announced soon.

Under the leadership of Chief Barker Al Stetson, Variety here is experiencing a fine growth. It may soon have permanent quarters in the vicinity of Grand and Olive Sts., the motion picture crossroads of St. Louis . . . "The Great Mr. Handel" broke all house gross records at the Art Theatre during the first two weeks of its six-week engagement. "Fantasia" holds the record for length of run at the Art with 27 weeks in all. It may soon be brought back for another ten weeks.

Myra Stroud's magazine for Fanchon & Marco's service men sports, on the front page a snapshot of Harry Crawford taken in 1917 while an entertainer touring among camps in the first world war. He is currently manager of the Missouri Theatre . . . Eddie Lurie, Monogram publicity man, is cooperating with Fanchon & Marco in the exploitation for "Dillinger" which will open its St. Louis first run at the 5,000-seat Fox June 19 . . . A daughter Susan was born to the wife of Lee Norton, owner of the Grand Theatre, Sullivan, Ill., and former southeastern Missouri salesman for RKO.

The son of Tommy Williamson, RKO manager, is home on furlough from Ft. Riley, Kas. He has been in the army since early in January and is attached to a cavalry outfit . . . Walter Norton, brother of Lee Norton, and interested in the ownership of several nearby southern Illinois theatres, has received his discharge from the SeaBees. He plans to reenter the exhibition field.

Lou Patz Named NSS Midwest Manager

DES MOINES — Lou Patz, Iowa-Nebraska branch manager for National Screen Service, has been named to the newly-created post of midwest district manager for the company.

Patz, a veteran of 15 years in the film business, is leaving at once to take over his new post. His headquarters will be in Kansas City, where he, Mrs. Patz and their son will reside. Succeeding Patz in the Des Moines manager's job will be Oscar Dizon, NSS salesman for the Iowa-Nebraska territory.

As NSS midwest district manager, Patz's territory will include Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas City, Omaha, Des Moines and Minneapolis. Formerly, NSS has had but three district managers. Patz is one of three additional managers to take over in an expansion program by the company.

Patz has been with the Des Moines office since 1940. He began his film career as salesman for Warners in Omaha in 1930. From 1932 to 1936 he was manager for the Universal branch in Des Moines. He then went to Milwaukee.

He joined the National Screen Service in 1939 when he opened the Milwaukee branch office. He came to Des Moines from there.

Last Friday Patz was guest of more than 50 Filmrow friends at a farewell party here. He was presented a pen and pencil set by the Filmrow managers as a parting gift.

Dizon, the new manager here, recently was awarded a $1,000 cash prize as the leading salesman in the nation for the company in 1944. He has been a salesman for NSS for two and one-half years. In making the award, NSS officials emphasized that Dizon's achievement was not on a percentage basis, but was based upon actual sales. Before joining NSS Dizon had no film experience. Up to 1943 he was a furniture broker in Milwaukee.

Romance Blooms on Row

MINNEAPOLIS — Another Filmrow romance has the boys and girls talking. Bill Woods, who was a Paramount booker until he entered the armed services and who spent three years overseas in the air corps, will marry Edith Larson, who succeeded him as booker at Paramount when he became a soldier. The wedding is scheduled for June 30 in Minneapolis and the couple will honeymoon in Miami, Fla., where Bill has been stationed since his return from overseas.

Report Nelson Burruss Dead

KANSAS CITY—Filmrow was shocked Wednesday when news came of the death in Europe on June 8 of Nelson Burruss, former WB booker, who had been serving in Europe as a flight officer and glider pilot. Burruss had been overseas since last February. He is survived by his wife Florine, his parents and a brother.

R. E. Branscomb Is Home

NORTON, KAS.—Raymond E. Branscomb, former projectionist at the Cozy Theatre here, has received a medical discharge from the navy and is now back in civilian life. Branscomb had been on a sub-chaser in the Caribbean area for more than a year.

Joe Chantry Adds Theatre

FAIRMONT, NEB.—Joe Chantry, who owns theatres at Shelby, Exeter and Osceola, has added another to his chain. He will open a new house, the Fairmont, here in mid-July. It will seat about 400.



"HALF A MILLION" SMILES—The Huntridge Theatre in Las Vegas, Nev., sold $500,000 worth of E bonds at its recent one-night premiere, and this remarkable record for a town of some 20,000 persons was hung up with only four days of preparation. Tom Breneman, head of the radio show, Berakfast in Hollywood, was vacationing in Las Vegas when approached by Manager Herman Gould. To assist the "Mighty Seventh," Breneman agreed to put on a show, to be broadcast only by the local stations. A local sorority assisted in the sale of tickets and bonds. The combination was irresistible.

In the photo, left to right: Eddie Mansfield, Commonwealth circuit's district manager; Breneman; Mrs. Breneman; Gould.

Strowig of Abilene Busy on Ike Plans

KANSAS CITY—Homer Strowig, Abilene, Kas., exhibitor, was not on Filmrow for his usual Monday visit here this week. As mayor of Abilene, he had a lot to do with plans for the welcoming of General Eisenhower to that distinguished soldier's home town.

Newspaper reports of preparations give news of Strowig's activities that were characteristic and easily recognized. As chairman of the food committee he gave assurances that there would be something to eat for everyone. As mayor he was quoted as saying that Abilene is not aiming so much to put General Eisenhower on display as to express the appreciation and welcome of fellow townsmen, some of whom grew up with "Little Ike" and the other Eisenhower brothers.

Kentuckian New Columbia Booker at Des Moines

DES MOINES—Ralph Clayton of Dawson Springs, Ky., has been named booker at Republic Pictures, replacing Earl Myers, resigned.

Clayton is new to the industry, although his father-in-law, Joe Meadows, is widely known by theatre men in Kentucky. Meadows owns the Strand Theatre in Dawson Springs. Clayton has worked at the Strand recently, but has also been associated with a coal company. His wife will join him here in about five weeks.

WMC Reins Off Most Areas of Nebraska

LINCOLN—Manpower control in most Nebraska areas was suspended Monday, J. R. Kinder, state director of the WMC, announced. Kinder said the suspension was to assure the speediest possible action in heading off unemployment during the reconversion period. The suspension affects all areas except Omaha, Hastings and Beatrice.

The Omaha and Hastings area management-labor committees urged suspension, but this was temporarily denied due to the labor market in those areas, which Kinder said was more critical. Controls were continued at Beatrice at request of the committee there.

"Elimination of controls will remove employment ceilings that have been placed on industry," Kinder said. "It will also eliminate classification of industry as locally needed and will permit industry to make its own determination on the 48-hour week."

"Industry will no longer be required to obtain new statements of availability from new workers, nor will workers require statements in seeking employment."

Rites for Charles S. Drdla, Orpheum Engineer

OMAHA—The funeral of Charles S. Drdla, 46, who was chief engineer at the Orpheum Theatre 18 years, were held here last week. He died in a local hospital.

Surviving are his wife Lillian; his father Stanley, and five brothers, Otto, Robert, Theodore and Stanley, all of Omaha, and George, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas. The latter two are captains.

Fire Again Razes Theatre Operated by W. Bradley

CLEARWATER, NEB.—For the second time fire has destroyed a Walter Bradley house.

The 230-seat Palace here burned last week. Last year Bradley's house was destroyed at Neligh. It since has been replaced by the New Moon Theatre.

Bradley had no announcement whether he would rebuild here.

Partner Goes Part Way With Abend on Honymoon

KANSAS CITY—Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jameson acted as "chaperons" for the newly married Mr. and Mrs. Sam Abend on the first lap of the latter couple's honeymoon trip to Mexico City. The Jamesons accompanied the Abends as far as Parsons, Kas., on the train. Jameson and Abend have been partners in the Exhibitors Film Delivery here since 1921.

Fog Permits Republic Head To Visit in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY—James R. Grainger, president of Republic, grounded here with the stratoliner on which he was a passenger because of fog one day last week, spent several hours with R. E. "Bob" Withers of the local exchange before continuing on to New York.

I. W. Swirnoff Buried

MINNEAPOLIS—I. W. Swirnoff, film man of Neillsville, Wis., who died at the age of 39 after a brief illness, was buried in Minneapolis. He operated the S&M Theatre circuit and PRC and Film Classics in Milwaukee with Ben Marcus.

DES MOINES

Bill Brimmer, Warner salesman, is a happy father these days. His son Lieut. William Brimmer is in San Francisco after 40 months in the South Pacific and should get to Iowa soon. Another reunion among Warner employes is in the Hern family. Marjorie's two brothers are home on furlough—one coming from England and the other from Iceland.

Maxine Sheppard, Warner booker, is on vacation . . . Helen Levitt, former assistant cashier at Warners and now working in Florida, was here on vacation last week and visited old friends on the Row. Marjorie Ulm Stiles, former Warner employe, has been released from the marines and now is working in the Warner branch in Omaha.

Elinor Yaryan's husband Dale is home on furlough. Delores Vernon, Warner inspector, is taking two weeks leave to move her family into a new home . . . Eileen Town, NSS, is in Maryland visiting her soldier husband there . . . Betty Barnoski, Columbia, is wearing a new diamond ring. The lucky man is Norman Bacon, stationed at Great Lakes naval station . . . Maxine Harpole, also of Columbia, visited in Patterson over the weekend.

Charlie Peterson, genial theatre owner at Hampton, is making plans for the annual stag at the Hampton Country Club, to be July 28 this year. All Des Moines branch managers and salesmen will be invited. Lou Levy assures all that there will be plenty of the "usual thing."

Earl Myers writes he hasn't had time to go fishing yet, although his new position at Mason City puts him quite near the lake. Helen Clark and Zora Fini plan to visit Myers while they are vacationing at Clear Lake.

Lieut. Comdr. George Lofink, former Universal booker, was married in San Francisco April 4, according to an announcement received here last week. His bride was Patricia Hopkins . . . Gene Zucker, former poster clerk at Universal, has been made a flight officer at Hondo Field, Tex. . . . Mabel Magnusson, Universal, is vacationing at Lake Okobodji. Another Universalite on vacation is Bernice Lower, inspector.

Tony Tedesco, Monogram salesman, spent last weekend in Omaha . . . The girls at Republic are swooning at the southern accent of their new booker, Ralph Clayton. Clayton doesn't think he has any accent at all! . . . June Douglas returned to her desk at Republic for a few hours last week, but is still taking it easy after her recent illness.

Harry Hamburg, Paramount manager, has his daughter Geraldine home for a couple of months. She is taking work at Drake in preparation for a tryout in New York at the Julliard School of Music . . . Betty Olson, M-G-M booker, is back from her vacation . . . Marie Butcher is back at work after a short illness . . . Margaret Rawson, Jack Kennedy's secretary, is now on vacation.

Thelma Crittenden, Tri-States, is vacationing in California and will attend son Vic's graduation. Vic will be a navy pharmacist's mate . . . Harry Holdsberg and his wife visited old friends at Tri-States last week. The Holdsbergs were headed for Sioux City, where they will spend a couple of months while Harry regains his health . . . Virginia Orr was back at Tri-States working part time for a few days.

Maxine Bishop, G. Ralph Branton's secretary, is busy moving in after-office hours. Maxine had been living with her mother since her husband was killed in service, but now she has persuaded her mother to move into the home which Maxine and her husband had before the war.

Madge Ward Clark had a recent letter from her husband. Larry sent pictures, too, showing himself in a traditional grass skirt . . . Imogene Thomas, Art Stolte's secretary, is back from her vacation . . . Mrs. C. S. Hoffman of Knoxville made her regular round of the Row. A week without Mrs. Hoffman would not be complete.

A. J. McGough Back on Job

DES MOINES—A. J. McGough, M-G-M exploiteer, returned to work last week after suffering from a strep throat.

Hart's Leading Lady in "Snafu"

Enid Markey, star of Thomas H. Ince silent films and one of William S. Hart's leading ladies, has been signed for a role in Columbia's "Snafu."



Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

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Paramount Officials Meet To Plan Anniversary Fete

DES MOINES—Paramount district executives met here last week to plan activities for Paramount month, Aug. 26 to Sept. 29, when the company will celebrate its "third-of-a-century" anniversary. Among those attending were Allen Usher of Chicago, and R. C. Libeau of Kansas City.

A luncheon and a tour of the Raymond Blank Memorial Theatre were included on the program. Harry Hamburg is manager of the exchange here.

OMAHA

Following a screening for M-G-M employes, the group headed for the new home of Harvey Stinson, checking supervisor, for a house warming featuring a buffet dinner . . . Guy Black, Lyons, Neb., exhibitor, was in Monday. Guy reported a $24,195 bond premiere, some hay for the size of the town . . . Esther Lynn, 20th-Fox contract clerk, is in a local hospital.

Now it's Dr. John C. White. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl White, operators of Quality Theatre Supply, was graduated last week from the University of Nebraska. He also received a first lieutenant's commission in the army reserve. Next stop will be an interneship at Immanuel Hospital here . . . Parke Agnew, Metro booking auditor, is in town.

Bill Miskell, Tri-States district manager, reports "Iwo Jima" had considerable boxoffice pull in Tri-State houses here . . . Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, looked in on Omaha over the weekend . . . Rita Sumption, secretary to Joe Jacobs, Columbia manager, is vacationing . . . So are Ogla Taylor, Republic inspector and Margaret Anderson, contract clerk.

Visitors along the Row: George Hall, Franklin; M. Biemond, Ord; C. M. Albers, Osmond; Roy Bott, Hooper; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wise, Valley; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Records, Hebron; Raymond Brown, Harlan, Iowa; Mrs. D. L. Frank, Humboldt; Andy Anderson, Sloan, Iowa; Mrs. Paul Todd, Scribner; Ole Olson, Ida Grove, Iowa. John McQuistan, Bloomfield.

Sidney McArdle, UA office manager, is back from a vacation in which he did a "lot of fixing around his new home" . . . Frank Hollingsworth, Beatrice exhibitor, brought his daughter along when he visited the Row Monday . . . Joyce Rodda, assistant cashier at M-G-M, is back after a ten-day illness.

Hazel Jensen, RKO biller, with a vacation scheduled for this week, had a pleasant surprise. Her navy sweetheart arrived on the scene unexpectedly . . . Gladys Pullman, United Artists inspector, is on vacation . . . Charles Lorenz, Metro's veteran chief shipping clerk now on leave due to illness, is making rapid progress and is expected back in about a month . . . Mary Ellen Honey, WB clerk, is vacationing in California. Another Warner employe, Irene Hedrick, an inspector, also is taking her two weeks.

The Tivoli, South Omaha, is making another stab at Russian film, "Zoya," this week. The picture has English superimposed subtitles . . . Omahan Jean Heather (Heatherington) had a $1.98 dress for her entire wardrobe in "Murder, He Says," now at the Orpheum . . . Stage shows return to the Orpheum late this week with Skinnay Ennis bringing his band to Omaha . . . Another Omahan, Lenke Isaacson, a Community Playhouse product, is in Europe with a USO unit in "Kiss and Tell."

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

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"Clock" Runs High Mark at Twin City

MINNEAPOLIS—Sensational business was chalked up last week at Radio City by "The Clock" and it held for a second week. The Orpheum fared well, too, with "Flame of the Barbary Coast." Otherwise, holdovers held sway. It was third week for "God Is My Co-Pilot" and the second for "Murder, He Says," "Dark Waters" and "China Sky."

(Average is 100)

Aster—**The Great Flamarion** (Rep); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col) 100
Century—**Dark Waters** (UA), 2nd wk. 100
Gopher—**The Unseen** (Para) 100
Lyric—**China Sky** (RKO), 2nd wk. 90
Radio City—**The Clock** (M-G-M) 175
State—**Murder, He Says** (Para), 2nd wk. 125
World—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 3rd wk. 110

"Salty O'Rourke" Runs Well In Third Kansas City Week

KANSAS CITY—"Salty O'Rourke" in its third week at the Newman held up amazingly well in spite of the fact that the last seven days were adversely affected by the weather. The Midland with "Counter-Attack" found the audiences a bit on the slim side. Exhibitors believe patrons are tired of war in their film diet. "From Pillow to Post" at the Orpheum enjoyed above average attendance. The second picture was "The Crime Doctor's Courage." The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway with "Where Do We Go From Here?" played extra good houses. The Tower scored with two good pictures, "Molly and Me" and "Forever Yours," plus a lively stage show.

Esquire, Uptown and Fairway—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox) 117
Midland—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **The Fighting Guardsman** (Col) 90
Newman—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd wk. 115
Orpheum—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **The Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col) 115
Tower—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **Forever Yours** (Mono) 100

"Murder" Good Boxoffice at Omaha Despite a Sunny Weekend

OMAHA—"Murder, He Says" and "Scared Stiff" had a little the best of things in another good Omaha boxoffice week. All other first run houses were above par despite a sunny weekend after two weeks of rainy weather.

Omaha—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB), 2nd wk., moveover from Paramount; **Going to Town** (RKO) 120
Orpheum—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **Scared Stiff** (Para), 2nd wk. 130
Paramount—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M) 125
RKO-Brandeis—**China Sky** (RKO); **Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO) 115
State—**Music for Millions** (M-G-M); **Docks of New York** (Mono) 110
Town—**Double Exposure** (Para); **Riders of the Purple Sage** (20th-Fox); split with **Destiny** (Univ); **My Gal Loves Music** (Univ); **The Return of Wild Bill** (Col) 100

Des Moines Crowds Only Average Despite Local Tiein Advantages

DES MOINES—The three downtown A houses here all did average business last week. "Son of Lassie," much publicized because of the recent Register and Tribune carriers contest, was playing at the Des Moines Theatre. A double bill at the Paramount featured "Keep Your Powder Dry," a film in which some scenes were taken at the local Wac training center, and "High Powered." Pearl Bucks' "China Sky" was showing at the Orpheum Theatre, with "Brazil" on the same bill.

Des Moines—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 100
Orpheum—**China Sky** (RKO); **Brazil** (Rep) 100
Paramount—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M); **High Powered** (Para) 100

Wanda Hendrix to "Confidential" Cast

Wanda Hendrix has been added to the cast of "Confidential Agent" at Warners.

MINNEAPOLIS

Russell Pettingill, Universal northern Minnesota salesman, is in an Ashland, Wis., hospital for a major operation . . . Gertrude Guimont was advanced at Warner Bros. to fill the long vacant post of head booker . . . North Central Allied starting a rotating committee of three to review pictures at trade screenings for members, giving detailed report and estimate of boxoffice value . . . Bill Grant, Republic branch manager, was glowing because of the fine business turned in by "Flame of Barbary Coast" at the Orpheum here and Riviera, St. Paul, where it played day and date.

Bill Sears, Orpheum manager, has two big stage shows spotted in for the immediate future—Sammy Kaye and his band the week of June 29, and the Ink Spots and Cootie Williams band the week of July 27 . . . Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, was off to Des Moines, Omaha and Lincoln in connection with the visits there of Christy Walsh, who's beating the drums for "Captain Eddie," forthcoming Eureka picture which 20th-Fox will distribute.

Ben Marcus, Columbia district manager, was in from Kansas City . . . With a new switchboard installed at M-G-M to take care of the additional telephones made necessary by the building of new offices for Ralph Maw, district manager, and Norman Pyle, exploiteer, the exchange has a new telephone number, Main 2553, in place of Main 3351 . . . Norshor Theatre, Duluth, the Minnesota Amusement Co.'s ace head-of-lakes showhouse, will celebrate its fourth anniversary July 12 to 18 . . . Kenny Danes, head shipper, and his wife, Nora, poster clerk, at Warner Bros., were vacationing in a cottage in northern Minnesota.

Out-of-town exhibitors sighted on Filmrow included Art Abelson of Devils Lake and Langdon, N. D., and John Piller of Valley City, N. D. The latter told of selling $54,000 of Seventh War Loan bonds at a bond premiere at his theatre . . . Saul Malisow was back on the 20th-Fox sales' staff after a brief absence during which he worked in a war plant

Harry Thomas, PRC general sales manager, was in town and visited John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president . . . A new 600-seat theatre is being planned by Lyle Carrisch and associates, operating theatres at Excelsior, Wayzata and Mound, Minn., for Watertown, Minn. . . . Cozy, Cambridge, Minn., now is being managed by Jerry Nelson, erstwhile of the Monte, Montevideo, Minn. . . . Word reaches here that Ben Ashe, formerly of Minneapolis, has been promoted from salesman to branch manager at National Screen in Los Angeles.

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KANSAS CITY

Sgt. R. F. Means, son of Jay Means of the Oak Park, was home on the way from Camp Howze, Tex., to Ft. Ord, Calif., an embarkation point. Young Means is with the infantry . . . O. C. Alexander of the Kansas, Kiowa, Kas., has been trying for a year to enlarge and remodel his theatre and now hopes to get at it soon. He owns the building, and the lot has space for a 40-foot extension. He plans to increase the seating capacity from 325 to 500, put in an airconditioning system and make other improvements.

Harold Lux, who started Screenland at the northeast corner of 18th and Wyandotte Sts., on Film Row here 18 years ago, has a new partner. Arnold Stone, who has been associated with him the last ten years, has retired from the firm. Bernie LeVine, formerly in the cosmetic business, has joined Lux.

Cpl. Terry Anderson, son of "Andy" Anderson, Paramount salesman, arrived June 14 on furlough and found his closest friend of school days also home on furlough from Camp Hood.

W. E. Shaffer, Lemons, Mo., whose roadshow serves seven towns, has kept going on schedule so far against the handicaps of rains and floods, washed-out bridges and blocked highways. The long series of rain hazards was topped last week by a seven-inch downpour at Lemons, his center of operations from which he goes the rounds of Pollock, Purdin, Lucerne, Powersville, Worthington and Humphreys.

Cpl. H. E. "Elmer" Dillon, manager of the Howard, Arkansas City, Kas., has been heard from in Hawaii. He is in the army air corps.

Interference with farm work from the almost continuous succession of rainy days is becoming serious in most sections of eastern Kansas and in Missouri. Exhibitors are concerned, as citizens of their communities depend principally upon agriculture. An incidental exhibitor worry is over prospects for popcorn, which fade with every additional rainy day in the popcorn raising areas.

Beverly Miller has bought a new home at 58th St. and Blue Hills Rd. here. There is a park across the street, where Blue Hills Rd. and The Paseo part, and it's about the right size for landing and taking off with a helicopter . . . Harry Wheeler, former Paramount salesman, was in Pearl Harbor at last report. He's in the finance department of the air corps.

Frank F. Pace now is manager of the Drive-In Theatre, replacing Harold Eyestone. Pace is well known as a theatre manager, having handled C. E. Esterley's State for some nine years. He also was a projectionist both in Independence and Kansas City, Kas.

Recent visitors to Filmrow include Harley Freyer, Neosho, Mo.; Charles Shilkett, Rex, Joplin; Harry Musgrave, Minneapolis and Wamego, Kas.; Warren Weber, Nile, Winfield, and Ellinwood, Ellinwood, Kas.; Doc Lowe, Star, Lebanon, Mo., and Star, Hays, Kas. . . . George Hinton said hello to friends on Filmrow last week on his way from his home in Newton, Kas., to Omaha for eye treatment.

Joe Caddo, managing the Roanoke, where only Spanish language features are shown, says he's picking up some Spanish himself from looking at the pictures. Born in Kansas City of Italian descent, Caddo speaks some Italian and finds enough kinship between Italian and Spanish to enable him to understand some Spanish. He says patrons often make suggestions as to pictures they'd like to see—features which they have seen in other cities, especially in Mexico City or other Mexican centers.

John Eugene Perucca has been chosen to the long-vacant post of third shipper at Warners. Bill Jeffreys is head shipper and John Gier second.

Norris Creswell, PRC booker, once was close to professional participation in television. Years ago he took pictures of office, equipment, personnel of the first television company here, set up by Sid Noel whose war-contract business has had a Filmrow address the last few years . . . Julian King, who in Des Moines is Film Classics distributor for Iowa and Nebraska, was in Kansas City in another capacity as a franchise holder for Screen Guild Productions. His territory includes Iowa, Nebraska and the Kansas City area. He was here on a sales trip.

One of the exchanges received this telegram last week: "Due to washout train not here. Where is my picture?" . . . Miss Virginia Courtois, three years with Exhibitors Film Delivery, is displaying an engagement ring. She said the wedding is set for August 18. The man is Robert Silvey, now with Pratt & Whitney but formerly with Film Delivery, where he and his future bride began their acquaintance.

Visitors to Filmrow included Ferd Ledoux, Arcada, Holton, Kas., and George Hayob, Mary Lou, Marshall, Mo. . . . Tom Edwards, Ozark, Eldon, Mo., managed to make it to Kansas City this week, his first trip in a month. Edwards has been extremely busy with his theatre and his duties of president of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Shack" Shackleford, Columbia salesman, was a representative of the industry on the guard of honor for the ceremonies at the Liberty Memorial when General Eisenhower was feted here Thursday. The guard was chosen from the American Legion . . . Mrs. Cleo Coffey, inspector for the Oklahoma branch of Republic, took advantage of the opportunity to look over the Republic midwest exchange while here with her son Ralph to visit her mother. Les Durland showed them around.

Miss Norma Shankland, Republic clerk, has been promoted to biller and contract clerk. She replaces Thelma Buchanan whose army husband is returning from European service . . A new girl at Republic is Joan Rohde, whose father is "Bud" Rohde, owner of the Vox, Kansas City, Kas. She graduated from high school this spring . . . Film companies here were closed at noon Thursday (21) for the homecoming reception to General Eisenhower.

Many Fete Christy Walsh At Des Moines Luncheon

DES MOINES—The Christy Walsh entourage was in Des Moines last Tuesday in connection with the picture "Captain Eddie."

Lieut. Comdr. Jack Meagher, athletic director at the Iowa City navy preflight school, was host to about 70 men and women at a luncheon at the Fort Des Moines Hotel in honor of Walsh, prominent sports figure for many years, and now a motion picture producer.

Among the luncheon guests were Gov. Robert E. Blue; Adj. Gen. Charles H. Grahl, state selective service head; Col. Art Wallace of the Iowa state national guard; Forest Spaulding, city librarian, and representatives of the newspaper, radio and sports world, WAC officers and civic leaders. There were also representatives from Look magazine and the film industry.

Walsh spoke briefly at the luncheon. He is a special representative of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, the career of whom formed the base for the film.

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Book and Author Bond Show Nets $300,000

PITTSBURGH—A widespread promotional campaign for the stage and screen book and author bond premiere at the Enright Theatre here repaid the manager, Lige Brien, $300,000 in bonds sold.

The attractions offered were worthy of their tremendous buildup. Authors who auctioned their autographed works for bonds and were scheduled for a five-minute talk included: John Roy Carlson, author of "Under Cover"; S. J. Perleman, author of "One Touch of Venus" and "Crazy Like a Fox"; Esther Forbes, author of "Paul Revere and the World He Lived In"; Robert Henriques, author of "The Voice of the Trumpet." Stage acts from two local night clubs, a bond sing, the feature picture, which was "Between Two Women," and, of course, the bond auction were on the program.

In advance 27 different publicity announcements were obtained. These included two "page one" writeups and five first page stories which appeared in the Pittsburgh Press, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph, the Shopping News (East Liberty Chamber of Commerce) and the Tribune.

On the screens of the Liberty, Sheridan and Enright theatres trailers advertised the show two weeks in advance.

In radio advertising, spot announcements were made over station KDKA and WCAE for seven days prior to the opening. Over station WWSW spot announcements direct from the Enright stage were made every morning for ten days.

The following groups were enlisted for cooperation and tieups: East Liberty Women's Club, Ancient Order of Hibernians, American Women's Volunteer Service, East Liberty Lions Club, Order of Easter Star, Ladies Auxiliary, Catholic Daughters of America, East Liberty Minute Women, Mothers Club of Pittsburgh, East End Communist Political Ass'n.

Church groups cooperating included B'nai Israel Sisterhood, Adath Jeshuran Congregation and the Catholic Central Congregation.

War Bond Sales Lagging Throughout Pittsburgh Area

PITTSBURGH—War bond premieres, except in the metropolitan areas, are disappointing. The total number of bonds sold and maturity value of the same are very much under expectations. There is no evident lack of spirit in exhibitor circles, but theatre sales of bonds are in the same proportion to the decline in sales generally.

Good showings, however, still are being made in some of the small towns where exhibitors concentrate full efforts. At Eldred, for instance, attention was called to the drive via a street parade and by returned veterans who had been prisoners of war. Bonds in the amount of $31,000 were sold by the theatre enterprise. All exhibitors have been requested to report activities so that full acknowledgment may be given for outstanding work.

Buys Cadiz, Ky., Theatre

CADIZ, KY.—Freeman Smith of Hartford and Louisville has purchased the interest of E. S. Newman in the Kentucky Theatre here and is in operating possession of the property.

Show Referendum in Fall

MOUNT PLEASANT, PA.—A Sunday motion picture referendum will be conducted here at the general election in the fall.

F. D. 'Dinty' Moore Stricken On Way to Visit With Son

PITTSBURGH—F. D. "Dinty" Moore, Warner manager, while en route east last week with Mrs. Moore, was stricken ill at Bedford and removed to the hospital at Everett, where it was said he had suffered a nervous and physical collapse, another heart attack and had contacted a strep throat. The Moores were driving to Philadelphia to be with their son, Ensign F. D. Moore jr., who had recently returned from Okinawa. The son has been assigned to a California base, scheduled again to shove off into the Pacific. He stopped at Everett late last week.

"Dinty" Moore, who had been ill for some weeks, had returned to his film duties far too soon. He had planned to visit at Wilmington, Del., with his parents whom he hadn't seen in two years.

Lehman Resigns Pittsburgh Republic Managerial Post

PITTSBURGH—Sydney Lehman has resigned as Republic manager here, effective June 30. Lehman, who became one of the most popular figures on Filmrow during the year he has been here, plans to make his future home in California. With his wife and two children he will drive across the country, vacationing en route to the coast. His resignation came as a surprise.

Palace, Cleveland, Back To Stage-Screen Policy

CLEVELAND—The Palace will resume its combination stage and screen policy June 29 following six weeks of a straight picture policy. Guy Lombardo and his orchestra will inaugurate the return of the former policy. The admission prices will again become 55 cents and 65 cents during the week and 95 cents top over the weekend.

Whiteman to Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—As part of the ceremonies incident to the release of Warners' "Rhapsody in Blue," screen biography of the late George Gershwin, Paul Whiteman and his orchestra will be here Thursday, July 26, to play an all-Gershwin program which will duplicate the program he will direct in the Hollywood Bowl July 14 for the Gershwin Jubilee week.

Civic Spirit Soaring For 'Eddie' Premiere

COLUMBUS, OHIO—The premiere of 20th-Fox's "Captain Eddie," saga of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, will be held here on August 1 at Loew's Ohio.

This announcement was made here by Hal Horne, vice-president of 20th-Fox, at a luncheon of the local committee in charge of the premiere plans. Congressman John Vorys is chairman.

Horne indicated the decision to hold the premiere here, home town of the World War I ace, was influenced by the earnestness of the committee, which had prepared an impressive bound volume containing 57 invitations from local organizations. The invitations were presented recently by Maj. Richard S. Wolfe.

Captain Rickenbacker is expected to attend the premiere and the stars of the picture, Fred MacMurray and Lynn Bari, plus other 20th-Fox stars, are to be invited. It is planned to make the premiere the biggest film event in Columbus history.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rickenbacker, mother of the ace, who lives in Beverly Hills, Calif., also may come here. Among friends and relatives who will greet him are two sisters, Mrs. Emma Hanson, Blacklick, and Mrs. Mary A. Pflaum, who lives at 1334 E. Livingston Ave., where "Rick" grew up.

The War Advertising Council, composed of representatives of local newspapers, advertising agencies, department stores and utilities, is spearheading the promotional drive on the picture. Sid A. Phillips, advertising manager of the Ohio State Journal and chairman of the council, outlined a campaign of promotional activities for the picture.

It is planned to turn Statehouse Square into a display center of Rickenbacker mementoes and props and pictures from the production. A parade, with buggies and motor cars of the 1910 vintage, is to be one of the celebration highlights. Stores will close an hour earlier than usual to permit employes to attend the premiere festivities.

Greenville Showman Ill

GREENVILLE, KY.—E. Young of Mobile, Ala., is relief manager of the Palace Theatre here while Manager Pittman is spending a 30-day vacation recuperating from a recent illness.



CLEVELAND PARAMOUNTEERS TOLD OF CAMPAIGN—Paramount's district manager, M. R. "Duke" Clark, now on a nationwide tour in the interest of his company's Third of a Century service to the film industry, called a meeting at Cleveland and outlined his plans to the sales forces. In the photo, seated, l. to r.: Charles C. Perry, Cincinnati district advertising representative; Harry H. Goldstein, district manager; Clark; Saul Frifield, Cleveland exchange manager; Salesman J. Bernard Gardner. Standing: Bookers Irvin Sears and Art Young; Salesmen R. A. Norton and T. L. Irwin; Chief Booker Roth, Salesman Aaron D. Wayne.

DETROIT

History—Joseph Ellul of the Empress is preserving a pass of the Casino Company for the house, dating from 1911. It reflects show history. This circuit also had the Casino, Majestic and Royale. It ultimately developed into the great United Detroit circuit. A. Arthur Caille was president, John H. Kunsky (King), secretary-treasurer. J. M. Wood, house manager. The feature was a special noon show lasting 35 minutes.

Theatrical Post Notes: Owen Blough started festivities at the post's annual award day at Saint Francis' Home for Boys. Buddy Fields was emcee. Eddie O'Flynn carried on the entertainment, assisted by Pat Whelan, Red Ace, just back from overseas, and Dave Cairns. Max Kolin assisted Owen back to his home to bring the awards which had been left at the house. Jack Ferentz, who dressed for the event in a hurry, turned up with a pair of wife's bobby socks instead of his own.

Wolverines: Fred Boomer, who does a remarkable job in running the Community at Lincoln (population, 275), is going back for one more year at the Dafoe shipyards in Bay City . . . Jim and Ruth Langston of Saint Charles were in Saginaw buying equipment to extend their community telephone service, their other business venture.

Col. George McCoy, Columbia, packed at the Hotel Bancroft, Saginaw, and drove home to Detroit, leaving his bags neatly in the lobby . . . Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witters of the Court and James theatres, Saginaw, were on a trip to New York . . . William Anderson of the Sanilac, Sandusky, who has been ill with sinus infection, is able to be around again.

Under the Marquees: Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Burchfield, formerly of the Palace, had to ship their car back from Palm Beach on account of gas shortage . . . Skippy Carmer, son of the Dexter manager, is changing his name to GI Joe . . . Al Westaway of the Willis and Dox turned up the first straw hat reported on the Row . . . It seems Ed Sadlowski of the Franklin is a cousin, rather than brother of Henry Sadlowski of the Crane.

Marvin Rozner, former shipper at United Artists, is back from his boot training in the navy at Great Lakes . . . Herbert Spoon is another navy ex-filmite back on shore leave, looking over Max Blumenthal's projection setup.

Frank J. Downey, M-G-M manager who who has been ill, will be back in about two weeks. Dorothy Brown, secretary to Downey, is leaving to become assistant booker to John Dembeck for Associated Theatres, working in the Co-Op offices. She's been ten years with Metro, two and one-half as the branch manager's secretary. Mrs. Barbara Sanders of the M-G-M staff, takes her post. Clark S. Baker, Columbia booker, takes over the post as city salesman, replacing Clare Townsend who became district manager at PRC.

Fred E. Pennell, Allied Theatres manager, made his first visit to your scribe's new office . . . Maxwell M. Chetkin, former owner of the Joy, now chairman of the Harper Business Men's Ass'n, staged a big bond drive at the Harper, netting $250,000. That's $1,500,000 for him to date . . . Louis Lutz, manager of the RKO Uptown in Highland Park, walked over for a neighborly call on his opposition, the new manager at the Palmer Park.

Up in the Booths: Aileen Davis reports the pinochle gang in the clubrooms is switching to gin rummy.

Short Circuits: Rudy C. Schroeder, formerly manager of the Trenton Theatre at Trenton for Associated, is taking over the post at the Irving, replacing Max Schreiber . . . Frank W. Hall, formerly of the Lakewood, who has been visiting at Lansing because of his mother's illness there, is taking the post at Trenton.

Alice Gorham, UDT exploitation head, working on RKO's "The Body Snatcher," had nothing to do with that grisly grave robbery that actually happened in Detroit. Just life becoming truer than the most sensational film again . . . Alex Schreiber of Associated has temporarily reopened the Delray, booking in the pictures which were set for the Grande, closed by fire, but being readied for a quick reopening.

L. H. Gardner, former UDT executive, has moved back onto Franklin Road . . . Harry Wachendorf, former assistant manager at the Telenews, has joined the Broder circuit as relief manager.

Exchanges: Jack Ryder was host for a tradeshowing of "Incendiary Blonde" at the Fisher . . . Harlan Starr, the dean of Filmrow, is confident of great opportunities, especially in export, in the next few years . . . Jack Zide, Allied Films manager, has booked "48 Hours" into the Broadway-Capitol for a first run.

Dorothy Harrison of Allied traded waste baskets with BOXOFFICE . . . Al Dezel, Film Classics manager, is starting to book the unusual new thriller, "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors" . . . Herschel Stuart, Columbia exploiteer, was off to New York for a two-week vacation.

Mrs. Mae Scholle, office manager, and Calvin Leeder, sales manager of the Film Classics exchange in Cincinnati, were in town for a week's visit to the district office here to discuss plans with Albert Dezel . . . Mrs. Scholle was the house guest of Marie Wentela of the local office.

Production: Wilding production center of operations is being shifted from Detroit to Chicago.

Wynn Headlines Shubert Premiere

CINCINNATI—The bond premiere at the Shubert was changed from Wednesday to Friday, June 22.

Ed Wynn, stage, screen and radio comedian, was the star of a stage show and auction for which between 50 and 75 major items were collected, ranging from cigarets to a postwar kitchen stove. Joe Duncan, Owenton, Ky., noted tobacco auctioneer, was the auctioneer. WB's "Conflict" was the film offering. Col. Arthur Frudenfeld was in charge of arrangements.

"Wildfire" Hot As Its Name At the Downtown, Detroit

DETROIT—The biggest business in months was done at the Downtown Theatre with its first western film, "Wildfire," which came in virtually without an advance buildup.

The film is the first release of the new Screen Guild Productions, and was booked with Lionel Hampton's band on the stage. The records indicate that even a relative "sleeper" can do big business with a strong stage show at this first run house.

Two New Sound Setups Installed by Altec

DETROIT—Supervision of two new sound installations is reported by Fred C. Dickely, district manager for Altec Service Corp. Simplex type A15 Four Star system was installed in the Sandusky High School and a Type E system in the Savoy Theatre, Detroit, for Donald B. Lovewell.

Repertoire Veteran Dies

LA RUE, OHIO—Harry Shannon, 75, veteran repertoire manager who piloted the Harry Shannon Players in the middle west for more than 40 years, died here May 15.

Dark at Cairnbrook

CAIRNBROOK, PA.—Ideal Amusement Co.'s local unit house has been dark for several weeks and reports are that a new manager-operator will reopen the theatre.

Charles Coburn in "The Green Years"

Charles Coburn has a character role in "The Green Years," a Metro production.

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"Without Love" Takes Laurels in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH — "Without Love" and "Flame of the Barbary Coast" were leaders for the week and both held over, respectively, at Loew's Penn and the Fulton. No other offering hit par, although there was considerable improvement over the prior week.

(Average is 100)

Barry—**The Scarlet Clue** (Mono); **Rockin' in the Rockies** (Col) 80
Fulton—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep) 120
Harris—**Tomorrow, the World** (UA) 85
Penn—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 125
Ritz—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk 90
Senator—**She Gets Her Man** (Col); **Power of the Whistler** (Col) 80
Stanley—**Pillow to Post** (WB) 65
Warner—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M), 2nd d. t. wk. 80

"Dorian Gray" Continues to Set The Pace for Cleveland Houses

CLEVELAND — There was nothing outstanding in last week's film record. Of the new pictures, "Where Do We Go From Here?" made the best showing, scoring 95 per cent. "Pillow to Post" was a close second with 90 per cent. The only pictures to hit par were the holdovers, "Enchanted Cottage," "Without Love," "Counter-Attack" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray." The last was high with 110.

Allen—**The Enchanted Cottage** (RKO), 2nd wk 100
Hippodrome—**Pillow to Post** (WB) 90
Lake—**Counter-Attack** (Col), 2nd wk 100
Ohio—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 3rd wk 110
Palace—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox) 95
State—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 85
Stillman—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk 95

"Wildfire" Plus Hampton Music Leads Parade at Detroit

DETROIT—The show business has remained fairly stable, with ups and downs dependent upon particular strength of attractions. Warmer weather, and less rain than usual, discouraged showgoing somewhat, but the air conditioned houses were able to profit by their equipment.

Adams—**Berlin Correspondent** (20th-Fox); **Call of the Wild** (UA), reissues 130
Broadway-Capitol—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **48 Hours** (AFE) 105
Cinema—**Nine Bachelors** (French); **Amphitryon** (Globe) 85
Downtown—**Wildfire** (FC), plus stage show 150
Fox—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **Power of the Whistler** (Col), 2nd wk 125
Michigan—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono) 130
Palms-State—**It's in the Bag** (UA); **Brewster's Millions** (UA) 110
United Artists—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO) 135

"Decision" Leads by a Heavy Margin at Cincinnati Capitol

CINCINNATI — "The Valley of Decision" continued to lead heavily in its second week at the Capitol. "Salome, Where She Danced," lined them up. Heavy rain storms predominated throughout the week.

Albee—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 100
Capitol—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 180
Grand—**That's the Spirit** (Univ) 90
Keith's—**Call of the Wild** (20th-Fox reissue), 2nd wk. 80
Lyric—**China Sky** (RKO), 2nd d. t. wk 86
Palace—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ) 120
Shubert—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 80

Wins in Universal Contest

CINCINNATI—Universal here took second place in the recently completed Bill Scully anniversary drive. Peter Rosian's district was third in the finals.

Theatre Company Amends Charter

LOUISVILLE—The Elizabethtown Amusement Co. of Elizabethtown, Ky., has amended its charter, to establish par value of $10 a share on its capital stock.



AT 83, CARR IS ACTIVE—George W. Carr (left), International Seating Corp. representative, and a Filmrow veteran for several decades, celebrated his 83rd birthday in Detroit with friends as probably the oldest active filmite in the country.

Sho-Biz Quiz Programs Arranged to September

PITTSBURGH—Guests on the WJAS Tuesday evening 10:30 Sho-Biz Quiz program have been dated through August. The half-hour radio quiz, with music, sponsored by Dimling's Candy features the local drama critics, Harold V. Cohen, Post-Gazette; Karl Krug, Sun-Telegraph, and Kaspar Monahan, Press, and each week a guest from the motion picture industry appears on the program. Listeners win theatre tickets and candy by submitting questions which relate to theatricals and motion pictures shown in Pittsburgh during the last 15 years. A weekly boxoffice question is selected and the sender is presented a war bond. Guests also are awarded war bonds.

Guests for Sho-Biz Quiz are dated as follows:

June 12—James G. Balmer, Harris Amusement Co.; 19—Bryan D. "Buck" Stoner, Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc.; 26—M. A. Silver, Warner circuit zone manager.

July 3—Ken Hoel, Harris Amusement Co.; 10—Syd Lehman, Republic; 17—James M. Totman, Warner circuit; 24—Sam DeFazio, J. P. Harris manager; 31—Harry Greenman, Loew's Penn manager.

August 7—Don Wermuth, Warner circuit; 14—Alex Brevak, Harris Amusement Co.; 21—Herman Beiersdorf, 20th-Fox; 28—Joe Feldman, Warner circuit.

Fan Letter Award Winners Announced by Hygienic

CLEVELAND — Hygienic Productions has announced eight winners in its "fan letter" contest for March and April and has awarded $100 in cash prizes for each month's best letters.

March winners were Capt. Julian L. Dyess, chaplain, U.S. army, Welch Convalescent Hospital, Daytona Beach, Fla., $50; Henry C. Rutledge, school teacher, Rantoul, Ill., $25; F. W. Bedenbaugh, state representative, Lake City, Fla., $15, and John W. Peacock, Port Huron, Mich., $10.

April winners announced were William M. Potts, teacher, Flint, Mich., $50; Mrs. Nellie R. Gibbons, nurse, Peoria, Ill., $25; Mrs. Esther Dean, Staten Island, N. Y., $15; Grace Cauble, St. Petersburg, Fla., $10.

Reissue Features to Akron

CLEVELAND—Joe Krenitz, Universal manager, reports the Palace at Akron will play the double feature reissue program of "Imitation of Life," starring Claudette Colbert, Warren Williams and Rochelle Hudson, and "East Side of Heaven," with Bing Crosby, Joan Blondell and Mischa Auer, for one week starting June 29.

Queen City Variety Picnic to Be July 2

CINCINNATI — Saul Greenberg, Arthur Manheimer, Jack Fineberg, Harris Dudelson and Irving Sochin have been appointed members of a Variety Club committee to arrange the 12th annual Variety picnic at Summit Hills Country Club, July 2.

A bathing suit contest featuring modern and old-fashioned styles, a potato race for women, a baseball game, dancing, luncheon and dinner will be among the activities of the day, plus many surprises being prepared by Mrs. Allan Moritz, Mrs. Ann White and the committee members.

Dayton, Springfield and Columbus barkers and a delegation from West Virginia are expected.

Cleveland Kiwanis Frown On "Dillinger" Show

CLEVELAND — The Monogram picture, "Dillinger," which opens next week at the Palace Theatre, came in for some free advertising last week when the University Circle Kiwanis Club passed a resolution protesting the showing of this picture. The group declared it is "against the production and exhibtion of any film which would extol the questionable virtue of an outlaw whose claim to fame rests solely on his power and purpose to break every law in the moral and civic code."

This resolution was passed and a copy sent to the local newspapers for publication although the club officials admitted they had not seen the picture. Said President C. P. Sharp: "We got all our information from a broadcast by Jimmy Fidler."

Ed Wynn Is Schneider's Emcee at Bond Auction

CLEVELAND—Ed Wynn, star of stage and screen, was here June 21 to emcee the bond auction staged by George Schneider at the Carter Hotel under the sponsorship of the Cleveland Advertising Club and the Cleveland Athletic Club.

Schneider's auctions have been outstanding events of each of the bond drives. His prizes are war trophies, autographs of the top army, navy and air commanders and articles brought from the four corners of the world.

Renovation Progresses At Nixon, Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH—This city's highly successful legitimate theatre, the Nixon, now is undergoing extensive renovation. A six-week painting job is under way at the "world's perfect playhouse," the color scheme being ivory and gold. In addition to the auditorium and other interior redecorating, the Sixth Ave. side of the house is to be repainted before the new season opens.

Radio Contract for Kibbee

AKRON—Guy Kibbee, who made a personal appearance at the Palace here, has auditioned a dramatic radio comedy series, Alias the Deacon. It is a possible replacement for Hollywood Mystery Time, broadcast Sundays over Station WKAR here. He was advised while here that he had been signed for 13 weeks.

Guides Kentucky House

HOPKINSVILLE, KY.—Douglas Black of Gallitan, Tenn., has assumed the management of the Princess Theatre here, succeeding Charles Murphy, resigned.



PITTSBURGH PARAMOUNTERS SET—Plans for the Paramount month activities formed the basis for discussion at a meeting of the Pittsburgh exchange salesmen and bookers. From left to right, front row, they are: Edward Stuve, Eleanor Manz, Goldye Mandel and Dave Kimelman, branch manager; back row—Earle M. Sweigart, district manager; Charles Mergen, Bill Brooks, Guy Peterson, Bob Caskey, Lou Averbach and M. R. Clark, national drive chairman.

Memorial Trade Fair

CLEVELAND—Theatre business on Memorial Day was fair in the afternoon and good in the evening, a survey of local theatres shows. Although the weather was cold and threatening rain all day, with picnics and all outdoor sports out of the question, the public trend in the afternoon was to the race track where a capacity crowd attended the opening of the season at Thistledown. The evening, however, told another story. All entertainment roads led to the shows and both first and subsequent run theatre owners report that they did a real holiday business.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Floating Bond Auction Held by Variety Club

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland Variety Club sponsored a floating war bond auction to be held Friday (22) at 8:30 p. m., aboard the S.S. Theodore Roosevelt. More than 300 prizes were to be offered to bond bidders. This lake cruise auction is said to be the first of its kind ever held, and, as such, received a lot of newspaper and radio publicity.

Morrison Orr, United Artists branch manager, and Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, have been appointed co-chairmen in charge of the affair by the clubs two chief barkers, Meyer Fine and M. B. Horwitz.

Among the prizes were nylon hose, compacts, liquor, wine, ladies' hand bags and the usual accessories, and 25 season passes for two, contributed by 25 neighborhood theatres. Each pass has a cash value of $100. Participating theatres ran trailers announcing the floating auction and urging attendance. In addition to the regular prizes to be auctioned off, three $100 war bonds were given away free as "gang plank" prizes.

It was expected that the ship's capacity of 1,800 would attend the three-hour lake ride. Entertainment will be offered by two bands during the cruise.

Tieup With Cigarette Sale Sells $100,000 in Bonds

CLEVELAND—Howard Burkhardt, manager of the State, and the high national theatre bond salesman in the Sixth bond drive, added $100,000 to his current high through a tieup with one of the downtown stores of the Standard Drug Co. chain. The Old Arcade Standard drug store offered for sale 1,000 cartons of standard brand cigarets at $1.35 a carton with the purchase of a $100 bond. The supply was exhausted within a hour. Burkhardt not only made the tieup but also negotiated for the cigarets.

The drive will close in a blaze of excitement with a big air show to be held at the Cleveland Airport on July 8. Burkhardt and a member of the special events committee, will be in charge.

In addition to an exhibition by army fliers, Burkhardt has arranged to have on display 11 types of American planes used in combat, a Jap Zero and a German airplane. The American planes include a B17, B19, B24, B25, B29, C47, P38, P47, P51, XT59 and a Helicopter. Purchasers of bonds on or after June 25 will be privileged to examine the planes at close range.

Ambridge Case Hearings To Be Resumed July 9

PITTSBURGH—The federal court criminal term has closed and the resumption of the Ball vs. Paramount antitrust case has been scheduled for July 9 by Judge F. P. Schoonmaker. The case was before the court several months ago and the plaintiff's testimony is in the record and defendant A. N. Notopoulos and his son John have been heard.

Defendant distributors, Paramount, 20th-Fox, M-G-M, and RKO, will testify when the action is continued July 9. Known in the trade as "the Ambridge case," the plaintiff, theatre landlord, Harry Norman Ball, seeks first run films for his Penn, Ambridge; this product was licensed for the Penn for a decade by Notopoulos, circuit exhibitor, who erected a new theatre, the State, Ambridge, and who continued licensing the same films, exhibiting them at the new house. Ball's Penn has been dark for upward of 15 months.

Summerville to "The Hoodlum Saint"

Slim Summerville has been added to the roster of "The Hoodlum Saint" at Metro.

THE MIDEAST AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



When he was 12 years old **John Rundell** of Montpelier, Ohio, began his career as a theatre usher. When only 15 he was already managing the house. Today he is an operating partner in this same theatre where he started as a boy; his interests include the Kaufman and Paramount in Montpelier. He is a member of the ITO of Ohio and for the past five years has been president of the local school board and is president-elect of the Rotary Club. Rundell is fond of hunting, fishing and golf. His one son is stationed in the Pacific.



Morris Akselrad of Pittsburgh had been a confectioner until 1917 when he made the mistake (?) of getting into show business. His first house was the Morris Theatre at McKees Rocks, Pa. In successive years he acquired two other houses, the Regent and the Castle, and built a third, the Superior. Since then he has disposed of all but the Regent. He believes that a seven-day week has changed the business because now there is no time left for personal interests. However in the past he has traveled all over Europe and hopes to travel again.



James E. Falls of Walton, Ky., was just out of school looking around for some job when the idea came to him it would be interesting to operate a theatre. Being an enterprising lad, he borrowed the necessary capital and went into business. His guess was right. He liked show business and has continued to manage his house, the James, ever since. In addition he has acquired the Kentucky Theatre in Dry Ridge. His theatres have a combined seating capacity of 880. In his theatre operation he finds pleasure as well as a job to be done.



Until he enlisted in the navy a year ago, **Lieut. (j.g.) Fernand Thomassy** operated the 356-seat Dreamland Theatre in McDonald, Pa. His father started the theatre 35 years ago and after his death 12 years ago Fernand took over the business. From then until he left for service he continued his father's work. In addition to the theatre he operated a hotel in the town. Thomassy was Republican chairman for Washington County and on the McDonald Boy Scout board. He is married and has three young children.



Abe Cohen, operator of the East Palestine and Grand theatres at East Palestine, Ohio, sums up in a simple sentence the sentiments of many a real showman. He says: "I have enjoyed every minute of my association in the business and hope to continue for a long time." He entered the business in 1925 from another field. Cohen has a son, Jack, in the air force, a married daughter and a grandchild, Robert. He is a member of the ITO of Ohio and for exercise and relaxation enjoys plenty of Victory gardening, a pastime which is more than a war emergency for him.



Morris A. Rosenberg of Pittsburgh got into the theatre business by accident. He had intended to enter the Rabbinate but after he acquired the Rialto in 1920 he stayed in show business. He has since run theatres in Mt. Washington and Carnegie and after 25 years in show business believes it the most interesting business there is. He was president of National Allied longer than any other and is active today. He is owner of the Colony and Parkway theatres in McKees Rocks, Pa. He has three children and one, Bud, is serving overseas. Clubs: Masons, Variety.



Jim Scoville was in the shoe business in Dunkirk, N. Y., until 1912 when he moved to Cleveland and bought the Paul Rainey "African Hunt" on a states rights basis. In 1915 he entered a partnership with P. E. Essick. Today they own the Madison, Beachcliff, Shore and Parma theatres in Cleveland. Scoville is treasurer of the Cleveland Motion Picture Theatre Owners League and is affiliated with Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio. He is a Mason, a member of the Al Koran Shrine. His hobbies are fishing and boating. He has a married daughter.



T. J. "Ted" Vermes has been in the theatre business since he was a boy. He started as an usher in his father's theatre in 1920. He sold this house the following year and bought the Eclair. In 1928 he acquired the Yale and in 1937, the Norwood. He is a member of ITO of Ohio and of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors League. He is married and has two young children, a boy and a girl. The management of his three theatres keeps him too busy to allow much time for hobbies. The family home is at 10412 Clifton Blvd., Cleveland.



Wenard Kough of Windber, Pa., operates one of the oldest opera houses in that section of the country. His father started the Opera House, Windber, in 1908 in the same building it now occupies, though it has since been remodeled. Wenard took over its management in 1930 but still consults his father, now 82 years old, on all important matters. He finds his father's long years of experience invaluable in making decisions. Kough is an active sportsman; he plays baseball, basketball and football and likes to hunt and fish when time allows.



Joseph B. "Joe" Kosco of Brockport, Pa., has been active in the motion picture industry for 30 years. He built his first theatre in 1915 and has been a showman ever since. His current house is the Brockway in Brockway, a house seating 600. This Pennsylvania showman is not a member of an exhibitor organization but is affiliated with the Elks. Kosco likes to go fishing, if and when he has time. He is married and has three children; they are Billy and John, 10 and 12 years old, respectively, and Judy, who is 5 years old.



In addition to managing the Lincoln and Temple theatres in New Martinsville, W. Va., **Dr. Arthur Lee Koontz** also practices dentistry in the town. He and his partner, Bertrand Muhleman, started in theatre business in 1913 and are still together. Dr. Koontz is indeed an enterprising man for he also finds time for work with the West Virginia Managers Ass'n and the New Martinsville Chamber of Commerce. He is a Mason. For relaxation he enjoys fishing. He has a daughter, Virginia Lee, married to a naval officer.



Operating a successful sheet metal business was not enough work for energetic **Frank Porozynski** of Cleveland. In 1920 he decided to build a theatre. The New Victory Theatre was such a success that he built another, the Garfield, in 1927. He still operates both houses. In 1936 he turned over his sheet metal business to one of his three sons, Arnold, so that he could devote all his time to operating his theatres. He is a member of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors League and of ITO of Ohio. His hobby is farming.

PITTSBURGH

Sam Hanauer, Beaver Falls showman practically all of his life until his retirement several months ago when he sold his two theatres and other properties to the Rialto Theatre Corp. of Beaver Falls, is backing a project which will bring a powerful radio broadcasting station to that community . . . Tech. 5 Sidney Soltz, son of Jake "Rhumba" Soltz, who has been overseas 32 months and was hospitalized recently in Germany, has been awarded a Bronze Star. He writes he expects to return to the U.S. within a month.

Lieut. Paul Puglia, army air force ordnance officer and son of Larry Puglia, Waynesburg exhibitor, is stationed in Brussels . . . Capt. Jack Henderson, brother of Morty Henderson, local manager for the Harris circuit for a number of years, is in Paris in an army historical section helping write the history of the war in Europe . . . The house committee was in charge of last Friday's family night party at the Variety Club.

The Harris Senator staged a $1.20 midnight benefit showing of 20th-Fox's "Nob Hill," June 22, to give the Camp O'Connell fund a big boost . . . Sgt. Jim Balmer jr., waist gunner son of the Harris executive, was awaiting overseas orders at Greenville, S. C. . . . Harry Gamble, Senator manager, vacationed in Atlantic City . . . After being closed for two weeks for refurbishing and redecorating, Warners' Memorial, McKeesport, reopened last Friday evening. Atmospheric effects of stars and clouds are used while the theatre is operating.

Joe Ida, nephew of Guy V. Ida, Springdale and McDonald exhibitor, has been promoted to first lieutenant in the South Pacific . . . Little Carol Huhn, two-year-old daughter of the Norm Huhns of the Grandview, is recuperating after having her tonsils removed at a local hospital . . . William Leibovitz, Mount Pleasant exhibitor, states that his son-in-law, Harold Cohen, former manager of the Penn there who has been in service in Europe, is being transferred to the Pacific war.

Louis Stuler, assistant to Werner "Fuzzy" Lund, circuit exhibitor, has been notified that his brother, Ensign Myrl Stuler, 28, was killed, presumably in the Okinawa campaign . . . Joseph Latella, attorney and brother of Anthony, the Roscoe exhibitor, is stationed in Rome as an officer with the Allied control commission.

New Variety Club members include Alfred F. Serrao, Sidney Soltz, William E. Benswanger, Thomas J. MacWilliams, James T. Hansberry, George G. Tucker, Patrick A. Carmela, Homer E. Sterling, Burke F. Read and Horace Platt . . . John H. Harris, who has been looking after his new edition of "Ice-Capades" in Los Angeles for several months, will get started homeward July 11 when the ice show season opens in Seattle.

Charles Truran, Meadville showman and one of the best-liked exhibitors in the area, suffered another heart attack several weeks ago, and his doctor has ordered him to stay home for at least a year . . . Art Levy, Columbia manager, who underwent an operation some weeks ago, was able to walk around his home this week and after a short vacation he will be back at his film post.

The Ben Hannas recently observed their 17th wedding anniversary. Ben, a brother of Joe, Co-Op booker, and Lou, Republic salesman, has been with 20th-Fox here for 18 years . . . Lieut. Tom Anas, son of the late N. G. Anas, who was home on furlough, was here from Weirton, W. Va., with Paul Clendening, manager of the Anas theatres at Weirton and Hollidays Cove 17 years . . . Mayer Silverman, pioneer distributor-exhibitor of this city who "retired" a few months ago, is visiting in Los Angeles.

B. E. Gore, former Florida exhibitor, who acquired the Colonial, Wheeling, several weeks ago, entered a subscription for BOXOFFICE while on the film market the other day . . . Col. "Billy" Wheat, Sewickley exhibitor, reports that he has had his Sewickley newly painted . . . When the Fulton closes, John W. Walsh jr., manager, will vacation at his home in Newport, R. I., and later he will go to Greenfield, Mass., to open a theatre recently acquired by the Shea circuit. The Fulton will be renovated and a new front will be installed before the new season opens the Saturday before Labor Day.

James H. Alexander, Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., executive who was ill and hospitalized here last week, checked out of the Magee Hospital when he was relieved of suffering due to a kidney stone condition . . . Bernard Buchheit, Manos circuit district manager, spent a "too-short" vacation in his old home town, Birmingham, Ala. . . . Pvt. Saul I. Perilman, former Monogram salesman stationed in Reims, France, with a headquarters company special service section, is booking 16mm films for eight camps. He states he expects to have 51 theatres on the 16mm circuit and 18 theatres on 35mm films. Saul hopes to visit soon in Paris with Manny Greenwald, former manager of the local Barry, who is in the same special service department, working under Maj. Mike Cullen, former manager of Loew's Penn here.

Bob Dunbar, Warner Detroit manager, visited here last weekend . . . Pfc. John L. Barr jr., son of the Marienville exhibitor, after 19 months in the Aleutians, visited at his home for 14 days and is now reporting back to Camp Shelby, Miss. . . . New assistant shipper at the M-G-M exchange is Dan Cronin.

Gloria Turner, daughter of the Irvin Turners, and Lieut. George Adams jr., fighter pilot, were married at a church ceremony in Dormont, June 18. Her father is vice-president of IATSE Local 171 . . . Ike Pollas, Exhibitors Service truck driver for 18 years on the Clarksburg run, has resigned to join the carrier staff of the Post-Gazette . . . Paratrooper brother of Clyde Bailey, manager of the Opera House, Buckhannon, W. Va., who lost 70 pounds while a prisoner of war at a German camp, has returned to his home.

Angeline Granata, secretary to Hilda Lissmann, Warner office manager, and Pfc. Anthony Cugini, will be married July 7 at Fort Slocum, N. Y. . . . The Al Panzas of the Miami, Springdale, will vacation at Ocean City early in July . . . A Silver Star, awarded posthumously to Lieut. Melvin S. Barrett, 29, formerly of the Paramount staff here and at Cleveland, was presented recently to his widow, Sgt. Felicia Barrett, marines, at ceremonies at Ft. Myer, Arlington, Va. Barrett was killed in Italy March 5 while constructing a bridge.

Al Weiland, Coraopolis exhibitor, has resigned from Co-op, and Nick Malanos, East Pittsburgh, has withdrawn from Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc. . . . George Elmo, formerly with Paramount here, in Cleveland and Philadelphia, has joined Paramount International as manager for Panama, Central America and Ecuador. Prior to 1929 he had been a film manager in Mexico City and in Havana . . . Max Shulgold, Crown Film manager, has been entertaining his uncle, Samuel Alpern of Hollywood.

Harry Thomas, PRC general sales manager, and Fred Rohrs, district manager, visited Lew Lefton, local manager . . . The recent war bond premiere of M-G-M's "The Clock" at Loew's Penn, a sellout, was dedicated to Ernie Pyle . . . Sale of the Liberty, Veronica, from Rudy Navari to Pete and August Camerlo, brothers, was negotiated by theatre brokers, Andy Battiston and L. A. Farmer, 1711 Blvd. of the Allies.

Ray Allison, director of the Rivoli and Holly wood circuits, Altoona, who visited in Missouri after checking out of the Mayo clinic, has returned to his home. The veteran exhibitor entered the industry at Kansas City a number of years ago with Paramount . . . Mr. and Mrs. Lew Lefton of PRC and their son, Pfc. Seymour C. Lefton, were in Cleveland last weekend visiting Lew's brother, Nat, veteran film man who is recuperating from an illness and an operation.

Russ Zebra, Republic salesman, will go into uniform at an early date . . . Mr. and Mrs. Wally Anderson and Mary Whalen, Anderson's manager at the Mount Jewett theatre, will depart July 5 for a vacation at Ocean City . . . Now vacationing at Ocean City are Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Antonoplos of the East Pittsburgh and Turtle Creek theatres . . . Doug Beck, RKO exploiteer here, is in Boston assisting Don Prince in the giant campaign for the 150 theatre premieres of "Back to Bataan," which stars John Wayne.

Con McCloskey, veteran retired Uniontown theatre executive, comes into the city every once-in-a-while for treatment at Mercy Hospital . . . Tom Connors jr., former M-G-M salesman here and son of the 20th-Fox distributing chief, has received a commission as a lieutenant in the signal corps at Ft. Monmouth and he has reported to the photographic division at Astoria, N. Y.

Mrs. Martha Michael while on Filmrow the other day stated she had acquired the Rex, Southside, and that the house would be re-equipped and reopened late in July.

Victor A. Rigaumont, theatre architect, was host at last Friday's family night party at the Variety Club . . . The season's biggest outdoor show, Tom Pack's Thrill Circus, for the benefit of the police widows' pension fund, is the offering at Forbes Field June 18 to 23 . . . B. J. Redfoot, Windber and Central City exhibitor, vacationed on the west coast for a month and is back on the job here.

Fred Burleigh, Playhouse director here several years ago, has been promoted from sergeant to second lieutenant somewhere in the Philippines . . . William F. McDonough, projectionist at Irwin, comes into the city for medical treatment . . . Natalie Beiersdorf, daughter of the local 20th-Fox branch manager and Mrs. Herman Beiersdorf has been promoted from corporal to sergeant in the Wacs. She is in Manila.

George Petroplus, former manager of the Rex, Wheeling, W. Va., who had been in service overseas for several years, is assistant to the adjutant at Indiantown Gap, Pa. . . . A. C. "Bert" Detwiler, former Latrobe theatre manager, is somewhere in England . . . Andy Biordi is redecorating the Majestic, Ellwood City, and a new front will be installed there.

C. C. Kellenberg, 20th-Fox sales manager, was photographed in the newsreel showing the local Seventh War Loan parade and was on view on nine downtown theatre screens simultaneously . . . Earl Bailey, Harris' Warren manager, has been vacationing in Canada . . . Here on leave from Camp Pickett is Pvt. Max Silverman, former manager of the Ritz, who sustained a wound in action in Europe several months ago. He is the brother-in-law of Joe Hiller, local theatrical booking agent.

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ALBERT DEZEL'S

FILM CLASSICS EXCHANGES

CLEVELAND
CINCINNATI
DETROIT

CLEVELAND

From Dave Miller, Universal district manager, down to the last inspector, there was rejoicing last week with the announcement that the local exchange finished the John Scully sales drive in fourth place and in the prize money . . . Harry Thomas, PRC sales manager, was in town for a one-day visit with Edwin R. Bergman, local manager. Thomas' route included Pittsburgh and New York.

Tony Stern, Warner booking manager, may be able to pick pictures but he can't pick horses. His trip to the Kentucky Derby, he reported, was pleasant but not profitable . . . Millard Ochs, manager of the Warner Strand Theatre, Akron, and Mrs. Ochs left last week by plane for a vacation in Havana. Mrs. Ochs's former home.

Miss Beverly Jones is the newest member of the Warner publicity department. She succeeds Gwen Richter who resigned last week to return to the interior decorating field . . . The Akron crowd was in town the beginning of the week. Among those present were Max Federhar, president of the Akron Exhibitors Ass'n; R. E. Paulus of the Spicer Theatre and C. M. Martin, Dayton Theatre.

Bill Wasserman of the Warner Theatres booking department is entertaining his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Wasserman of California . . . Tony Stern, Warner Theatres booking manager, said he doesn't need a crystal ball to predict big things for Bob Alda, whose picture debut in "Rhapsody in Blue" he recently saw in New York. "A new matinee idol," Tony said.

Julius Lamm, manager of the Uptown, thinks he made some kind of record last week when his kiddie bond matinee netted sales of 600 bonds . . . Mort Goodman of the Warner west coast publicity department was in town on a sad errand. His parents had been informed by the war department of the death of a second son.

Lester Bucker, Columbia manager, and Mrs. Zucker, have returned from a vacation cruise down the St. Lawrence River . . . Murray Solomon has been appointed Warner summer relief manager . . . Ray Brown, Warner southern Ohio district manager, has wound up his vacation spent in his own back yard, and now Frank Harpster, who occupies a similar post in the northern Ohio district, is enjoying a couple of weeks of leisure.

Duke Clark, formerly of Cleveland and now Paramount district manager out of Dallas, paid his first visit to Cleveland last week since turning the district back to Harry Goldstein who had been away on extended leave. Clark was here in the capacity as co-captain with Alan Usher of the Paramount anniversary drive. His Cleveland meeting on Saturday (16) was followed by a similar one in Cincinnati on Monday, Indianapolis on Tuesday and Detroit on Wednesday. Duke received a real homecoming welcome all along the route.

Peter Wellman's son, Michael, recently graduated from Staunton Military School in Virgina, went from school into the army and now on his way to foreign parts. Wellman is the owner of a chain of theatres in Girard and Youngstown.

John Rundell, manager of the Kaufman and Paramount theatres in Montpelier, reports his son Johnny jr., a member of the army medical corps in the Pacific, was awarded a Bonze Star . . . Nate Schultz, whose hobby is collecting theatres, has named Jack Sheriff manager of his recently acquired Quilna and Rialto theatres. Sheriff is an ex-service man, recently discharged from the army.

Bill Twigg, booking manager for the Peter Wellman circuit, full of life and happy as usual, was on Filmrow last week . . . Joe Robins and Paul Ellis of the Robins Amusement Co., were in from Warren where their interests include the Daniel, Ohio and Robins theatres.

Home from three years active duty in Europe, wearing six service stripes, a master sergeant's insignia, seven Bronze Stars and another small insignia signifying his discharge from the army, came Edward F. Bobinski, brother of Charlotte Bobinski of the Arthur Luthi Display Studio. He formerly was affiliated with the film industry. Bobinski, member of the 45th infantry division, saw service in Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. He has been awarded a Legion of Merit badge.

Al Kolitz, local RKO manager, announced the opening of "Back to Bataan" at the Albee, Cincinnati, July 4, and in the Cleveland territory at the Hippodrome July 18 . . . Ernie Forbes of the Ernie Forbes Motion Picture Supply So. was here for the funeral of Leroy P. Langford of Oliver Theatre Supply Co., with whom he was formerly associated.

Ken Veach of Uhrichsville and Dennison and Mrs. Veach temporarily deserted their theatres for a much needed vacation in Lexington, Ky. . . . Anybody who wanted to sign up for a 20th-Fox contract last Monday was out of luck. It was the day of the annual picnic and the exchange closed at noon so that every one of the company employes could attend. Scene of festivities was Fels Lake.

Don Wolf, son of Nat Wolf, Warners, will not spend his summer vacation working for his dad this year. Instead he will visit relatives in San Antonio and Houston and stop off to visit ex-Warnerite Sgt. Charlie Albert at Camp Claiborne, La. . . . Dick Wright, Warner assistant zone manager, is taking pity on the poor cliff dwellers. He supplies them with flowers from his beautiful garden.

Over Quota at Premiere

CHILLICOTHE, OHIO—A bond premiere held at the Sherman Theatre enabled the county to exceed its quota three weeks ahead of the deadline. The premiere, staged by Manager Paul Montavon, represented the sale of $87,100 in war bonds. "Practically Yours" was the feature attraction.

CINCINNATI

Exhibitor Elston Dodge, captain of "The Flat Players," and Warners' Jimmy Abrose, captain of the "percentagers," representing the exhibitors and the distributors, will fight it out in a ball game at the Variety Club annual picnic, July 2. Mrs. Ann White has been appointed chairman of women's activities for the day.

Special Note: The annual golf tournament of the Variety Club has been shifted from August 13 to 27, Chairman Irving Sochin announced.

Chaplain Memy Sochin, serving on an army transport, has been visiting Cincinnati. Sochin is a brother to Irv Sochin, 20th-Fox sales manager . . . Word comes that Don Duff, former booker for Popular Pictures, has been stricken with fever in the Philippines.

Sgt. Milton Gertzman, husband of Sylvia Gertzman, Popular Pictures booker, is back in civilian life after 28 months in the service. Gertzman received a medical discharge . . . Jay Goldberg, son of Lee Goldberg, is serving with the 45th tank battalion.

Joe Goetz, formerly with RKO Theatres as assistant to Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, has been commissioned a lieutenant colonel. Goetz recently injured a knee, necessitating hospitalization.

The Butler Theatre, Butler, Ky., is closed due to heavy damages by fire . . . Miss Sarah Goldberg marked a birthday June 16 . . . Lee Goldberg, Popular Pictures, and Mrs. Goldberg were in Atlantic City. They were to spend a week in New York and were to be away approximately a month.

Cincinnati friends of Ray Frisz, Chakeres circuit, Springfield, were glad to hear he was recuperating satisfactorily following an operation at the City Hospital, Springfield . . . Pete Niland, Columbia, is back at his desk following an operation . . . Charles Palmer, hospitalized for some weeks, is expected to be back on the territory next week.

Visitors were George Turlukis, Middletown; James E. Howe, Carrolton, Ky.; W. R. Shafer, Morehead, Ky.; Orville Wood, Camden, Ohio; Joe Lee, Covington, Ohio; Dave Brown, Cabin Creek, W. Va., and Frank Alara, Matewan and Delbarton.

Dorothy Maxfield of Warners came out second in a bathing beauty contest staged here. She also displayed much prowess as a swimmer . . . Bob Lichenstein, booker, is entertaining his father, here from New York . . . Gil Sheppard is the first 100 percenter in sales at 20th-Fox. Sheppard, who covers Kentucky and West Virginia territory, is sold up on 1944-45 product.

Warners' Powwow brought the bacon for leading salesman in the first eight weeks to Bob Burns, Columbus. Burns received a sterling silver money clip. The local bookers are in second place in the ninth week, and are out for prime ribs . . . Universal reissues, "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven," enjoyed excellent business at the Colonial, Dayton, and are booked for RKO Grand in downtown Cincy.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

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Talk Stage Revival On U. S. Wide Setup

HARTFORD—A plan to revive vaudeville on a two-a-day basis in a string of theatres from coast to coast is the talk of the Hartford rialto. The deal involves the Dow's Theatre, report Al and Belle Dow, and also the Shubert circuit in New Haven. Test engagements have already begun in Detroit and Chicago.

Schuman Prepares to Open At Old Places in Hartford

HARTFORD—July 1 the Hartford Theatre Operating Co., original owners of five neighborhood theatres here, will resume operations at the Lyric, Rialto, Central, Colonial and Lenox. The company has repurchased the lease from Warner Bros.' circuit after a 15-year period. The organization, connected with the Park St. Investment Co., has chief owners listed as Al Schuman, I. Leon Schuman and Isadore Waxman.

Back in 1920, Al Schuman built the Lyric at Park and Broad streets. It was the first neighborhood theatre in the city. He built the Rialto one year later and then the Lenox. He purchased the Central from David Weinstock and then built the Colonial. He sold the lease on the five houses to Warners in 1930 for 15 years He says it is great to be back at the theatre helm here again.

Full staff announcements have not been made. He is handling his own booking and buying stints. In his "free time," he is going to hunt for an apartment in Hartford.

Joins Booking Circuit

LAKEVILLE, CONN.—The Stuart Theatre, recently acquired by Ted and Joseph Markoff, operators of theatres in Colchester, Moodus, East Hampton and Willimantic, has been added to the Amalgamated Theatres booking and buying service. The Millerton, also acquired by the Markoffs at the same time from Arthur Lockwood and Samuel Rosen, is being repaired and freshened for opening later this summer.

Caddigan Gets Promotion

BOSTON—Maj. James L. Caddigan, formerly associated with Paramount, has been promoted to lieutenant-colonel. A national guard public relations officer before Pearl Harbor, he has been responsible for the production of many of the radio and theatrical productions in this area, and is now serving as an intelligence officer in charge of police liaison.

Get Selznick Reissues

NEW HAVEN — Organized as Star Film Distributing Corp., Lou Ginsberg and Bernard Levy will have the Connecticut distribution of three Selznick reissues recently acquired by Charles L. Casanave. Ginsberg and Levy operate the new booking and buying combine here, Amalgamated Theatres.

Contract for Dolly Zito

HARTFORD—Dolly Zito, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Zito, has been signed for 15 weeks at New York's Versailles Club. Miss Zito was winner of two world's fair talent awards and it is said she is being groomed for films by 20th-Fox. She is a dancer and singer.

June Vacations for 14 Warner Managers

NEW HAVEN—The Warner Theatres vacation list for managers shows 14 June vacationers as follows:

J. Stanwood of the Premier, Newburyport; D. Rich, Cameo, Bristol; P. Wenzel, Strand, Newburyport; M. A. Riha, Merritt, Bridgeport; E. Lynch, Roger Sherman, New Haven; C. B. Craig, Rialto, South Norwalk; V. Morelli, Bristol Theatre; J. Sanson, State, Manchester; N. E. Brickates, Commodore Hull, Derby; R. B. Hamilton, Gem, Willimantic; J. J. Matthews, Empress, Danbury; B. M. Taylor, Broadway, Lawrence; M. Silverwatch, Strand, Waverly, and G. R. Carter, Strand, Woburn. Assistant managers will take over for relief duty in most cases. Vacation periods will be over by August 24 this year.

Many Hartford Entertainers With USO Army Shows

HARTFORD—A survey of this city's contributions to USO-Camp Shows revealed numerous local players have joined the war entertainment tours. Among the first were Al and Val Reno, who were on the spot when war broke out in Europe and wound up trouping across Africa long before the USO or army special service office got there.

Thom Conroy, former director of the Hartford Players, has been staging musicals in Italy for many months. The White sisters, Babs and Rena, still are touring the South Pacific zone after several seasons of touring American army and navy camps, and Francetta Malloy has arrived in the Pacific with "Five on a Fling."

Community Theatre Fund Increased by $2,500

HARTFORD—This city's dream of a community theatre of its own advanced another step when Harvey K. Smith, president of the Mark Twain Masquers, presented a check for $2,500 to Cedric Thompson of the Community Theatre Bldg. Corp. The fund, now reported to have reached an encouraging total, has been achieved from proceeds of plays, lectures and other entertainments presented by the Masquers, leading Little Theatre group in this territory.

Eye Worcester Poli For a Library Site

WORCESTER—One of the largest theatres in the city will disappear if the library trustees go through with their present plans. Having been defeated in their attempt to obtain the K. of C. property on Elm St. for the new library building, they are now considering a site across the street. This includes the Elm Street, operated by Loew-Poli, and the Workman block on Main St. The Elm Street is a 2,500-seater and formerly was the ace Poli house of the city.

Theatre Breaks Precedent In Booking for "Dillinger"

HARTFORD—Harry Goldstein, Monogram publicity agent, arrived last week for conferences with the Harris brothers, owners of the State, largest film-vaudeville theatre in southern Connecticut, on exploitation for "Dillinger." It has been a past policy for this theatre to book films for three-day weekend engagements only, but "Dillinger" was set for a straight seven-day booking. For the first three days, the picture was accompanied by a bill including the Ciro Rimac orchestra and a personal appearance of the Hollywood star, Jean Parker.

Theft Series Concentrated On Worcester Show Places

WORCESTER—A series of robberies here apparently was perpetrated by the theatrically-minded. The Rialto was broken into and the candy stand rifled. The Olympia was entered and candy and tonic machines were forced open. A half dozen automobiles parked outside the Playhouse by persons attending a performance were forced open and a variety of articles stolen. Other victims of the thieves were Danny Duggan and Milton Blakely, members of the theatrical fraternity.

Broadway Role for O'Shea

HARTFORD—Michael O'Shea is considering a starring role in a Broadway musical comedy next fall, it is reported here. O'Shea went to Hollywood from Broadway three years ago. His family resides here.



30-MINUTE "PITCH"—$80,000 IN BONDS!—Above is shown part of the crowd of 75,000 that surged upon Boston Common recently to see Bing Crosby. It was the largest crowd to appear on this historic Hub spot in 15 years. Bing crooned 'em into buying bonds to the tune of $80,000 during his thrilling half-hour appearance.

HARTFORD

Manager Hugh Campbell, Central, reports his vegetable garden is coming along fine. Theatre folk are looking forward to samples of his products again this fall . . . Sal Adorno, former Astor owner, has moved into an apartment above the theatre. He now is employed at a local war plant.

Peggy Daly, daughter of the Daly circuit owner, will spend a two-week vacation in Pennsylvania, visiting the parents of her friend, Sgt. Al Yester, who is stationed in France . . . Usherette Eleanor Keefe has been replaced on the Colonial staff by Andy Roche, brother of Ed Roche, 18, who was killed in Germany.

Sgt. Whittey Harris, recently discharged after serving with the army for two years in Italy, has returned as projectionist at the Daly Theatre here . . . Colonial Cashier Betty Miller left for a week's vacation in Saybrook . . . Mr. and Mrs. Kearns have joined the Daly staff as doorman and candy girl, respectively.

Manager Walter Lloyd, Allyn, is staging his children's war bond show June 23 . . . The ladies' room at the Astor has been repapered in beige and brown . . . Sgt. Tony Bifolk, ex-Lyric, is stationed in Saipan . . . Manager Fred Greenway, Palace, was discharged last week from Hartford Hospital after an appendectomy . . . Manager Lou Cohen, Poli, will vacation from July 30 to August 12 . . . Abbott and Costello have been set for a State booking.

Minnie Hecker, Strand cashier, was a patient at St. Francis Hospital. She was replaced in the booth by Connie Jackson . . . Pvt. Jack Moran and Pvt. Art Waterbury, ex-WB Regal, are stationed with the marines at Camp LeJeune, S. C. . . . Princess Usherette Viola DeMarco leaves June 24 for a two-week vacation at Old Orchard Beach, Me. Carmella Barbari leaves for a New York vacation the same day. Irene Loreau is the relief usherette . . . Richard Maller, son of Lyric Manager Tommy Maller, was graduated from the Hillside School June 19.

Ralph Stitt, 20th-Fox exploiteer, was in town for publicity talks with Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli . . . Fifteen new lobby mats have been installed at the Regal . . . Charles Atamian, Strand chief of service, still is out with a sore foot.

It was practically a sales convention of film men from New Haven last week. Seen here were George Walsh of Paramount, Phil Trent of Universal, Tim O'Toole of Columbia and Max Birnbaum of Warners . . . Manager Frank Ramsey, Lenox, reports his brother Bill is doing okay selling films for Columbia on the coast . . . Manager Campbell reports plans are complete for his children's bond show June 27 at the Central.

Pvt. Harold Andrews, Daly circuit, recently was discharged from the hospital and is back at Camp Ellis, Ill. . . . Raymond Highland, former Astor projectionist, arrived home on navy leave last week . . . Bernard Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, was in town . . . Dean Barrett, Rialto manager, and Frank Ramsey, Lenox manager, went to Point O' Woods beach last Tuesday during time off from theatre duties to enjoy their first swims of the season.

I. J. Hoffman, Warner zone manager, was in last week on a tour of inspection . . . Harold Schermer is new at the Regal, replacing Sal Geno . . . A meeting of the WAC of this area was held with representatives of the retail board and Hartford Chamber of Commerce officials to discuss plans for the war bond show set at the State June 27. Special prizes for lucky war bond holders are being promoted by local managers for the event through the cooperation of merchants of this city.

Cpl. Merril Katz, ex-Strand, returned from Germany last week . . . Dot Reynolds has resumed her post as relief cashier at the Eastwood . . . Pvt. Ted DiLorenzo, ex-Daly circuit, arrived home on furlough from Alabama and visited at headquarters here.

Manager Mack Herbert, Dow's, placed theatre page ads in the Times which were exchangeable for admissions at a fee of 25 cents for a reissue of "Cover Girl." It is rumored Dow's will become a straight burlesque house again.

N. HAMPSHIRE

Theatre reports show that the New Hampshire tour of the war bond show, "Salvos of 1945," starring the former Hollywood star, Chief Boatswain's Mate Cesar Romero of the coast guard, was a big success. The opener at the Palace in Manchester was a sellout, with purchases of $90,980 in bonds, and at the Colonial in Portsmouth, where the first 12 rows were reserved for $100 bond buyers, there was a crowd of 1,500. Equal enthusiasm was shown when the troupe played at the senior high school in Nashua and the Latchis Theatre in Claremont.

The high school graduation was held on the stage at the Star in Newmarket June 14 . . . Melvin Morrison, manager of the Strand in Dover, was a member of the committee

Frank K. Eldridge, manager of the Capitol in Concord, served on the war bond committee in connection with the visit of the navy air armada at the Concord airport, where war flyers put various types of combat planes through their paces . . . Ansel N. Sanborn, film circuit operator and state senator, was master of ceremonies at the unveiling of Wakefield's honor roll, at which Gov. Charles M. Dale was speaker. Mrs. Sanborn was a member of the committee in charge.

Navy, marine and civilian students at Dartmouth College in Hanover have picked Ingrid Bergman and Gary Cooper as their film favorites in the Dartmouth Log's annual spring poll. Yvonne DeCarlo, new screen siren, and Jane Russell were tied for pinup girl favorites and Bob Hope walked away with the radio honors . . . Ralph F. Seavey, 65, at one time manager of the Rochester Fair, is dead.

A war bond premiere at the Somersworth in Somersworth June 11 attracted a crowd of 750. Local veterans home on leave were presented from the stage as a feature of the stage show, "Salute to the Seventh" . . . Benny Goodman's band drew a throng to Bedford Grove in Manchester with a $2 top admission price.

Cpl. Donald E. Vaughan, army air force, a musician in civilian life, has been home on furlough in Portsmouth after serving 21 months in North Africa and Italy . . . Ted S. Kugele, for many years a well-known vaudeville actor billed as Ted Steele, is dead in Manchester.

The Pittsfield Fair Ass'n has requested permission from the state racing commission to hold pari-mutuel harness races during the fair from August 27-31.

WORCESTER

William F. Brown, manager of the Park, reported to police his theatre had been defaced with stickers that blamed the United States for the war. Some also were pasted on store windows . . . Bing Crosby came to Cushing General Hospital in nearby Framingham to entertain war veterans.

"Crime, Inc.," banned by the police here, was screened by the Universal in Fitchburg without objection . . . Putnam's war bond premiere was conducted in the Bradley June 22 with Leo Pominville in charge . . . George Hamid, amusement magnate, was in town.

The late S/Sgt. Erford Gage, film actor from Brookfield, was honored in posthumous awards of the Silver Star and the Bronze Star. He was killed on Luzon . . . Sheila Bromley, who was in pictures before she joined the Whalom in Fitchburg, has been cast for an overseas USO production of "The Night of January 16."

Mrs. Howard Shepard, president of the Better ilms Council, announces approval of "Son of Lassie" for the family; "Roughly Speaking" and "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" for mature-family audiences, and "The Affairs of Susan," "Hangover Square," "I Love a Mystery," "The Lodger" and "Without Love" for adults only.

John Delaney resigned from the Plymouth . . . Nate Goldberg, versatile manager of the Olympia, doubled to the South High School, where he conducted for the junior prom . . . Louis Prima made a quickie visit here to play for the Spotlight Band broadcast . . . The Lyric in Fitchburg has dropped its vaudeville for the summer, reports Manager Maurice Jaffe.

Frank Dubinsky denies he has any intention of sponsoring variety shows in New England baseball parks . . . A successful stage season was closed at the Plymouth with "The Gay Nineties Revue." Manager Jerry Finnegan said the stage fare will be resumed the latter part of August . . . Benny Goodman was in town.

Edward Rowley and Russell Johnson have joined the Playhouse . . . Ding Meldon has left the Plymouth to tour with the Jay-Cee Hippodrome Shows . . . The father of Lieut. Robert Bergin, air force, formerly assistant manager of the Elm Street, was taken by death . . . Alexander Lockwood, formerly of the Playhouse, is with the Chicago company of "Dear Ruth."

A bond rally in the Rialto, sponsored by Manager Ernest Sharaf and the Millbury Street Merchants Ass'n, resulted in the sale of $100,000 in bonds. A parade and auction were included . . . A service show, "Salvos of 1945," was booked at the Auditorium for three days to push the bond drive.

Fred Joseph, assistant manager of the Olympia, was removed to Memorial Hospital critically ill . . . Reed Lawton, mentioned prominently in the Langford murder case in New York, is a former resident of Worcester, where he dabbled in woman's clubs musicals. His real name is Antonio Netto, he having adopted the name of a former sponsor here, Mrs. John Reed-Lawton.

The office of Manager Jerry Finnegan at the Plymouth has been redecorated . . . Joseph P. Meade and Ernest Dumas joined the backstage staff at the Playhouse . . . Manager Guy Palmerton set the date for the reopening of the Whalom in Fitchburg for July 12, with performances daily except Monday.

Song Still Setting Hub House Records

BOSTON—"Where Do We Go From Here?" opened at the Metropolitan and played to good business. "The Picture of Dorian Gray" got off to a good start at the State and Orpheum following a heavy advertising campaign. "Flame of Barbary Coast" moved over from the Paramount and Fenway to the Olympia and Scollay theatres. "Song to Remember" opened at the Old South Theatre following its long record-breaking run at the State and Orpheum and moved down to the suburbans and second runs. Finally it went into the Exeter in Back Bay and again did record-smashing business. Now it is breaking house records at the Old South.

Estimated for the week ending June 21:
(Average is 100)

Boston—**Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO), plus stage show 135
Fenway and Paramount—**Affairs of Susan** (Para); **Molly and Me** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk. 135
Majestic—**It's in the Bag** (UA), 2nd wk. 125
Memorial—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Blonde Ransom** (Univ) 120
Metropolitan—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox) 140
Old South—**Song to Remember** (Col) 135
Orpheum and State—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col) 135
Tremont—**Tomorrow the World** (UA), 6th d. t. wk. 125

"Pillow to Post" Sets Slow Pace In Medium Week in New Haven

NEW HAVEN—Business hovered around average in all the downtowns. "Son of Lassie" paired with "Boston Blackie Booked On Suspicion," cut short its run for a bond show, then moved from the Poli to the College for a second week. Sudden hot weather took the starch out of attendance.

Bijou—**Gentle Annie** (M-G-M); **Nothing But Trouble** (M-G-M) 85
College—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk. 98
Poli—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col), 6½ days 90
Paramount—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Scared Stiff** (Para) 98
Roger Sherman—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **I'll Remember April** (Univ) 105

Hartford Theatres Enjoy Good Grosses With "Salome" Strong in Holdover

HARTFORD—"Where Do We Go From Here?" paired with "Sporting Chance" for good grosses at Loew's Poli. Second week holdovers at the Regal and the Palace did well. "Salome" kept the turnstiles turning at E. M. Loew's for another big week.

Allyn—**It's in the Bag** (UA); **Mr. Emmanuel** (UA) ..120
E. M. Loew's—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **I'll Remember April** (Univ), 2nd wk. 140
Palace—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Gentle Annie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 130
Poli—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Sporting Chance** (20th-Fox) 160
Regal—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **House of Fear** (Univ); 2nd wk. 110
State—**Dillinger** (Mono); Jean Parker; Tommy Dix; Ciro Rimac and band on stage 110

Film Couple Bids Goodby To English "Duration" Sons

From Mideast Edition

PITTSBURGH—After spending five years with their American "duration" parents following the blitz of England, Peter Salkilld 10, and his brother David 8, are going back to rejoin their father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Salkilld, in London. Since 1940 they have lived with Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Neill, Mount Lebanon. They are returning without trace of their British accent and "are typical little Americans." Neill is employed here by Warner Brothers.

Salkilld is a Warner London office employe, although he has been serving with the British army engineers corps. The boys were placed with the Neills here by the Children's Aid Society.

BOSTON

Arthur Marciarelli is now assistant to Manager Paul Slayer at the Durfee . . . Manager A. S. Murch of the North Shore, Gloucester, reports that during a huge war bond rally he held last week all stores closed for the one-hour during which the rally took place. Speakers and war veterans added to the film program.

Manager William E. Hartnett of the Embassy in Waltham obtained the assistance of all students of Waltham schools for his bond premiere last Saturday . . . Jack Melincoff of the Warner Theatre in Lawrence, reports he showed "Salvos of 1945" at a bond show and obtained $8,000 in advance sales.

The Old South and Tremont theatres opened Wednesday last week with "Counter-Attack. "Tomorrow the World" closed at the Tremont after a six-week run. The Old South has been playing only second run and reissues . . . James Winn of UA has returned home from a hospital well on the road to recovery.

Capt. Julian Rifkin, son of Herman Rifkin, vice-president of Monogram, is in McGuire General Hospital in Richmond for a checkup . . . Joe Baxter, former head of the poster department for E. M. Loew, was reported killed in Italy, where he had served with the infantry almost a year . . . The war bond dinner held for Tub Thumpers of America at the Hotel Statler drew almost a 100 per cent attendance despite the torried weather. Entertainment was furnished by Paul Whiteman, Georgia Gibbs and others.

The committee on taxation of the Massachusetts legislature has recommended that the proposed 10 per cent tax on theatre admissions be adopted. Five members of the commission dissented. Some of the local theatres are announcing committee action on their screens . . . The "Life and Death of Colonel Blimp" was approved with deletions here as were "Maidanek" and "Aida."

Pfc. Fritz Loew, nephew of E. M. Loew, has been reported wounded in action during the Okinawa invasion. He has been overseas about two years . . . E. M. Loew is in Miami on business.

Bert Lazarus, former premium distributor in this district, was selected as a guinea pig for a television broadcast at the RCA headquarters in New York. The strain of singing the chorus of a popular song forced him to leave immediately for his hotel to relax . . . Edward Dobkin of M-G-M, commander of the Macauley American Legion post, has returned home after a stay in the veterans hospital where he underwent treatment for pleurisy.

Corey Richmond, manager of the Hollywood and Liberty at Providence, has purchased the Columbia in Providence. He will remain as manager for the Hollywood and Liberty, owned by the Bomes brothers, who are in the army, and operate his own house as well . . . Herb Schaefer, brother of Gus of RKO, reports that his brother is much improved after a long siege of illness.

Fred Parker of the Bellingham Open Air Theatre announced that Raymond C. Metayer has been taken into the firm. Parker will retain active management of the theatre. New equipment has been installed in the theatre . . . Ralph Snider of the Metropolitan Theatre in Providence has three UA pictures for consecutive runs: "It's in the Bag," "Brewster's Millions" and "Delightfully Dangerous."

Mrs. Connie Dervin, M-G-M cashier and wife of Francis Dervin, Monogram salesman, underwent an operation at Brooks Hospital in Brookline . . . Plans are being completed for the world premiere of "The Great John L" here soon. Here for the campaign are Skip Weshner and Dick Gibson of the Bing Crosby organization, plus James Dunn and Martin Starr of United Artists . . . Irving Mendelshon reports that his brother David, who has a double Purple Heart and Bronze Star, now is at Cushing Hospital. He was flown here from Paris.

Ann Duggan, receptionist at UA, is leaving to enter a convent . . . Visitors at the UA office included Carl Leserman, general sales manager; Edward Schnitzer, home office executive; Ray Wylie, manager at New Haven, and Matt Sullivan, manager at Buffalo office.

SPRINGFIELD

Manager George Freeman of the Poli and Mrs. Freeman were vacationing at Hampton Beach . . . Under new WLB rulings and contract agreements, stagehands and operators in this territory will get a week's vacation with pay this summer if they have five years of service to their credit.

The newly organized Monday amateur night shows featured at the Court Square here are reported clicking. The bill includes two feature films. Prices have been reduced to 35 cents for balcony and 43 for orchestra seats on this deal . . . Albert Fortune, Poli, is taking a Cape Cod vacation.

"Salvos of 1945," gala all-service war bond show featured at the Paramount June 12, was a complete sellout. The star of the show, Coast Guardsman Cesar Romero, was feted by local theatre men after the performance . . . Andy Sette, Capitol manager, has announced "Pillow to Post" has been replaced by "Back to Bataan" for his war bond premiere June 26. Local theatre men have arranged a citywide tieup with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce and announcements have been posted on street light posts throughout the city.

Al Parness has moved into the Springfield "Y" from Holyoke to be closer to the theatre . . . Sgt. Fred Cabana, ex-Poli chief of service, mailed the theatre staff photos from India showing himself and his buddies posing with Jinx Falkenburg, who visited the base with a USO-Camp show.

The recently organized M. A. Shea Massachusetts Corp. has completed a lease for the Lawler, Greenfield, to take effect August 1. It is a subsidiary of Shea Enterprises, Inc., and a part of the Shea circuit.

The revival of "Scarface" clicked at the Garden . . . "The Affairs of Susan" continued to draw for a third week at the Broadway . . . Manager Al Anders, Bijou, and Mrs. Anders were in Boston last week.

Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, Worcester, was in to visit Ed Harrison, Court Square, and his fiance, Kathleen Olsson of Holyoke. Theatre pals are planning a stag party for Finnegan, who will be married June 30.

Sharyn Moffett in "Happy Birthday"

Sharyn Moffett, eight-year-old star, has been set to star in "Happy Birthday to You," an RKO production. "Lend Lease for Penny" previously was announced for the youngster.

NEW HAVEN

Harry Shaw is on the committee for the "Here's Your Infantry" demonstration of night warfare to be presented for bond buyers at Donovan Field, West Haven, June 25.

Ralph Pasho's new Naugatuck house, promised for July 1 opening, will be slightly delayed . . . Walter Silverman, Columbia salesman, is now a benedict. After being feted by the Columbia staff, Silverman was guest at a bachelor dinner at the Hotel Duncan . . . Bob Hoffman, shipper at 20th-Fox for many years, is outfitting a liquor store for operation on George St.

Marion Pardoll of National Screen was honeymooning in New York after her marriage June 15 to Lieut. Jordan Sommers of the Elm City. Mrs. Sommers will return to her position . . . Ted Jacocks of Branford was in Boston last week . . . The 25th anniversary party given for Ben and Mrs. Simon by the 20th-Foxites was a complete surprise, as were the beautiful vase gifts.

Steve Panoras and John Panoras have moved to Black Point, Niantic, for the summer . . . John P. Glackin, who annually rents a place in Sound View for the summer while he operates the Strand Theatre, was unable to find a rental and instead had a cottage built for himself . . . Harry Rosenblatt, Metro manager, is latest on the list of home-seekers here, meantime commuting to Boston.

Sam Rosen, recently back from Mexico, Canada and a few side trips, now is in Atlantic City . . . Rivalry is keen among the golfing Germaines, Henry of Paramount, Sam of 20th-Fox, Sherman of UA and Larry of Warner Theatres. The final match will be watched with interest.

Laura Canelli, 20th-Fox inspector, has resigned following the discharge of her husband Eddie, former Warner shipper, after three years overseas . . . Abel Jacocks, of the Capitol, East Haven, manages to sneak in a bit of fishing . . . Marc Kapaloric, son of Mrs. Lou Kapaloric of the Fishman Theatres office, will spend the summer at Long Lake, Riverdale, N. Y., where he will tutor in languages.

Tim O'Toole and Harry Olshan were reading telegrams from the boys in New York on "Thousand and One Nights," which will soon have tradeshowing here . . . Lee Alderman of Warner exchange was to start on vacation June 24 . . . Seen at the Towne House Thursday noon: Lou Brown, Harry Shaw, Joe Urdang and Harry Rosenblatt . . . Harry Moskowitz of Loew's maintenance, New York, went to Hartford with Harry Shaw.

Joel Levy, Loew booker, New York, and Mrs. Levy up to make Worcester, Springfield, Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport with Harry Shaw . . . Joe Boyle of the Broadway, Norwich, was here for his physical.

Lattice work, popular in lobbies for summer effects, is being limited in use by the state police . . . The Strand, Waterbury, will have all new rest rooms and fixtures . . . Harry Shaw has a new citation—one signed by General Miles for cooperation in furthering the WAC. He also proudly displays his March of Dimes medal.

Eliano Sells to Partner

WATERBURY, CONN.—Robert Eliano, for the last two years co-owner of the Alhambra here, has sold his interest to his partner, Ernest Smith. Eliano states he will vacation for at least a month; then seek new theatre association.

New Haven Bond Show Brings $156,825 in Sales

NEW HAVEN—More than $530,825 in E bonds and others to total $756,825 were sold by the stage and screen war bond show at the Poli here June 12. A capacity audience packed the house. Brian Ahearne, recently returned from a USO overseas tour with Katherine Cornell, was featured in the stage show with Rose Marie, singing star. Charlotte LaQuerre and Bobby Long supplied dance numbers, and Paul Brilliant of Paramount, shared comedy honors with Barney Grant of the "Fresh Up" program as master of ceremonies.

"The Clock" was the screen attraction. The show was arranged by Harry F. Shaw, Loew Poli division manager.

In the first 24 bond premieres in his territory, including four kiddie bond shows, the sales of bonds reported to the industry committees totaled $2,945,710. Before the campaign is over, theatres will have staged 41 premieres, as against 35 in the last bond campaign. In addition, Carl Goe, distribution chairman, reports 153 theatres throughout the state were pledged to participate in Free Movie Day.

The Strand, Winsted, is latest in the territory to schedule a bond premiere, with "Where Do We Go From Here" as the attraction and June 25 as the date.

BRIDGEPORT

Sam Haddelman, owner of the Capitol and Colonial, has moved his family to their summer home at Woodmont . . . Otto Esposito came out from behind his welder's mask long enough to show the boys he can still operate a spotlight. Before going into war work he was the city's No. 1 theatrical press agent.

Robert, son of Manager Matthew L. Saunders of Loew's Poli, has enlisted in the navy and is training at Sampson, N. Y. . . . Leslie Blakeslee, projectionist at the Warner, celebrated a wedding anniversary and received a ribbon for 1,000 hours of duty as an air raid warden.

Mary Martin, stage and screen actress, is recuperating from a recent illness at her home in New Canaan . . . First local manager to take off on vacation is Edwin Riba of the Merritt, who starts June 23 . . . Pretty Edna Healy has been substituting for Mrs. Evelyn Teto in the boxoffice at the Warner.

Larry Popa, former chief of service at Loew's Majestic, has been home on leave from the naval training station at Sampson, N. Y. . . . Robert Platz has left the Globe usher staff for the merchant marine . . . Sixteen vaudeville acts culled from the city's night clubs highlighted the war bond premiere at Loew's Poli.

Patricia Lesko is new in the boxoffice at the Merritt . . . Bernadette Bishop has joined the usherette staff at the same theatre . . . Harry James set a record for Pleasure Beach ballroom, drawing nearly 5,000 dancers.

Irene Dunne was a visitor in nearby Westport . . . John Fennell, doorman at the Globe, spent his vacation on his Newtown farm tending his pet strawberry plants . . . In town for the funeral of Mrs. Edward Fitzpatrick were Harry F. Shaw, Lou Brown, Mrs. Charlotte Sitzer and Samuel Shuloff.

Radio-Stage Star in "A Letter for Evie"

Therese Lyon, stage and radio actress, has been signed for a comedy role in "A Letter for Evie," a Metro production.

NEW BRITAIN

Pat McMahon, State, went into Providence at the weekend to visit his family . . . Max Tabackman, former local exhibitor, has been appointed salesman for Monogram in the New Jersey territory . . . Jack Glackin, Arch Street owner, and his family went to Sound View for the weekend to complete arrangements for the forthcoming opening of the Strand Theatre there.

Manager Jack Sanson, State, Manchester, reports he had a "double bill" operation at the Manchester Memorial Hospital last week, featuring gallstone and appendix. He expected to leave the hospital this week to convalesce at home. His assistant, Henry Wittke, substituted . . . Jack Glackin, Arch Street owner, used a triple-column exploitation ad in the New Britain Herald to announce the opening of his new antique china dish deal. It will be a Tuesday and Wednesday prize deal for the ladies as a summer business-booster.

Erna Mae Schell, Poli, Waterbury, won her sheepskin at Waterbury Catholic High School . . . Al Montefalco, former manager of the Music Box here and now publicity director for the J. Roger Mahan circuit in Waterbury, is spending a few days with his family at Myrtle Beach.

Bernie Levy, Amalgamated Theatres, was in town last week . . . Peter Perakos, Palace owner, was in East Hartford to visit his business partner, Joseph Quittner, who had come in from New York. Perakos was accompanied by his two visiting army officer sons, Captain Steve and Lieutenant Johnny.

Mrs. Tom Grogan, Strand, Thompsonville, was ill . . . Manager Joe Boyle, Broadway, Norwich, will be vacationing from August 13 to 26 . . . Manager Paul Klingler, Strand, Waterbury, will vacation in Pennsylvania and New York from July 29 to August 12.

The condolences of theatre men were extended to Manager Edward Fitzpatrick of the Poli, Waterbury, on the recent death of his wife, Frances Dorothy Higgins Fitzpatrick. Lieut. Neal Fitzpatrick, air force, flew home from Maxwell Field, Ala., to attend his mother's funeral.

A card from Manager Dennis Rick, Cameo, Bristol, who is vacationing in Jacksonville, Fla., to be near his son in the army near there, sends best regards to all through BOXOFFICE . . . Dorothy Booker, Poli, Waterbury, has her navy hubby home on a two-week leave from Corpus Christi, Tex. . . . Tom Grosso, Colony, Sound View, opened for the season June 15.

Aged Car Used to Boost Bonds at South Norwalk

HARTFORD—Manager Al Hamilton of the Empress, South Norwalk, reports a novel stunt used to plug war bond sales for his recent bond premiere. James Melton, actor and singer, who is a resident of nearby Weston, leaves the theatre his "Gay 90s super-de luxe five-passenger car" and all war bond purchasers were taken on a "sightseeing trip" for the city. The car was bannered with war bond copy.

Mrs. Fred Quatrano Ill

WATERBURY, CONN.—Mrs. Fred Quatrano, wife of the Lido Theatre manager, is recuperating after a major operation at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Berger Is Touring His New Metro Division

DALLAS—Rudolph Berger, newly appointed M-G-M southern division manager with headquarters in New Orleans, has arrived here for a two-week get-acquainted visit. His local headquarters are at Metro exchange on Jackson St., where Burtis Bishop has his district office, and where LeRoy Bickel is the branch manager, and E. B. Coleman the southern exploitation and publicity manager.

In the new southern assignment Berger is directly under William F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager, and his division comprises the New Orleans, Charlotte, Atlanta, Memphis, Dallas, Oklahoma City and Kansas City exchange territories. He will spend the next two and one-half months touring this territory.

In 1913 Berger was a film salesman at Philadelphia. He became M-G-M manager at Washington in 1925 and was made district manager of the Charlotte-Washington territory in 1940.

Berger, during his long residence in Washington, was closely identified with civic and charitable movements. He was an active member of Tent 11 of Variety of America and of Rotary. He was on the board of directors of the Washington Boys Club and of the U.S. Society for Prevention of Blindness.

Several informal gatherings and luncheons were planned in Berger's honor.

Berger Gives Dinner for Actor Young, Then Leaves on Tour

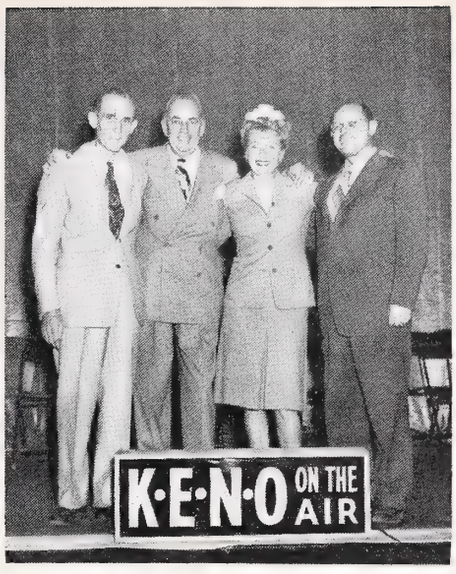
NEW ORLEANS—After three days in his office here, Rudolph Berger, the new M-G-M southern division manager, left Sunday (17) for Dallas on a tour of the exchange cities in his territory. Berger will bring his family here from Washington around the first of August.

While here Berger was host at a dinner for Robert Young, the M-G-M star, in the Pan-American room of the Hotel Roosevelt. Young concluded a bond selling tour of Louisiana here Sunday when he acted as master of ceremonies for a "Beachhead to Tokyo" spectacle on Lake Pontchartrain. Young and others in the reviewing stand were uninjured and even unaware when "invaders" in the bond show used phosphorus grenades by mistake instead of smoke bombs. Approximately 250 spectators were burned by phosphorus spray which shot to a height of 15 feet when thrown toward the crowded beach.

Young was accompanied on his tour by Bill Golden of M-G-M's publicity department. They left Sunday by train for the west coast.

Bob Shaw of Memphis, RKO publicity representative, was here to arrange the screening of "Those Endearing Young Charms," starring Robert Young and Laraine Day, held during the actor's stay. Shaw also left Sunday to begin a week's bond tour of Arkansas. He was among Berger's guests at the dinner for Young. Others included:

C. J. Briant, M-G-M local manager; Seymour Weiss, managing director of the Roosevelt; John Lester, New Orleans Item columnist, and Evans Rogers, Item public relations director; Mrs. Georgette McGregor, feature writer, and Miss Martha Ann Brett, motion picture editor of the Times-Picayune; Jill Jackson of radio station WWL; Rodney Toups, manager of Loew's State; Mr. and Mrs. Ted Liuzza and Mrs. Anice Temple, correspondents; Leon Tujaque, war finance committee chairman of Louisiana; Joseph Knecht, executive manager of the treasury department for Louisiana, and Ken Prickett, M-G-M exploitation representative for Louisiana.



"HALF A MILLION" SMILES—The Huntridge Theatre in Las Vegas, Nev., sold $500,000 worth of E bonds at its recent one-night premiere, and this remarkable record for a town of some 20,000 persons was hung up with only four days of preparation. Tom Breneman, head of the radio show, Berakfast in Hollywood, was vacationing in Las Vegas when approached by Manager Herman Gould. To assist the "Mighty Seventh," Breneman agreed to put on a show, to be broadcast only by the local stations. A local sorority assisted in the sale of tickets and bonds. The combination was irresistible.

In the photo, left to right: Eddie Mansfield, Commonwealth circuit's district manager; Breneman; Mrs. Breneman; Gould.

George Sanders of the Joy Dies After Short Illness

NEW ORLEANS — George Sanders, for several years manager of Joy Theatre on Dauphine St. here, died at Turo Infirmary after a brief illness. Originally from Missouri and a one-time vaudeville trouper, Sanders was a popular figure in film circles. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. Felix Martin of Carencrow, La., and one son, Jack, who is with the army in the Pacific.

Showman Plans Large Amusement Center

NEW YORK—R. Lewis Barton of Oklahoma City, an exhibitor for almost 25 years, is planning the construction of a large scale amusement center in the city's suburbs. He came east to discuss with the WPB the problem of obtaining material.

This proposed unit will include a theatre and entertainment facilities such as a roller skating rink and bowling alleys. In his plans, Barton is placing special emphasis on the parking problem, with an extensive area allotted for parking space to comply with the demands of a center that will prove the hub of community life. As a special feature he will include a variety of retail stores, which will offer convenient shopping for patrons.

Barton, featured in BOXOFFICE's 20-Year Showmen series, has been an exhibitor since 1921. He owns the Castle and Pryor theatres in Pryor, Okla., the latter built of solid stone with business structures forming a street front.

He also owns the Redskin in Oklahoma City, the Skytrain in nearby Midwest City and the Cozy in Stroud. The Redskin Theatre interior was featured on the cover of the March 3 issue of The Modern Theatre section of BOXOFFICE. Life magazine snapped 700 photographs of the theatre in line with an article planned for current publication.

One of Oklahoma City's most prominent citizens, Barton has an unassuming manner that is most ingratiating. He is a member of the MPTOA and the chambers of commerce of Pryor, Stroud, Oklahoma City, Capitol Hill and Midwest City. He is actively interested in civic affairs, and has served as mayor of Stroud, president of the chamber of commerce and chairman of the Democratic party.

While here, Barton is visiting with his daughter, Joanna, who is studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts at Carnegie Hall. His son, Robert, 22, now stationed in Trieste, northern Italy, has been awarded the Bronze Star and a Presidential Citation.

Both father and son are interested in exhibition, and Robert, who owns a half interest in the Midwest City Skytrain Theatre, which was completed in November, 1944, will continue in the field at the war's end.

Discussing BOXOFFICE as a valuable aid to theatre operation, Barton declared, "I look forward to receiving BOXOFFICE, and I have read every copy ever published."



GETTING ACQUAINTED—Rudolph Berger, newly-appointed southern division manager for M-G-M, visited the Atlanta exchange recently, his first official visit there. Seated are Berger, left, and Charles E. Kessnich, district manager.

Standing, left to right: Tom Jones, acting booking supervisor; Tom Lacy, sales manager, and L. B. Butler, Clarence Deaver, L. J. Tomlin and Carlos Moore, salesmen.

CHARLOTTE

Bill Drace, manager of the Grand Theatre in Greer, S. C., held a school bond show and the children sold 286 bonds representing $62,225. He gave a month's pass to the child who had the highest money total in bonds, promoted a $25 bond for the kid who sold the largest number of bonds and two gallons of ice cream for the room that had the highest percentage. The little first-graders won the ice cream.

The new Carolina in High Point, N. C., opened June 18. It is operated by the Main Theatre Corp. with J. F. White jr., secretary-treasurer. This modern new playhouse is also affiliated with other theatres operated by J. F. White jr., T. A. Little and F. H. Beddingfield, namely, the Wake and Colony theatres in Raleigh; Uptown and Criterion in Durham; State and Criterion, Greensboro; Cooleemee, Cooleemee; Sunset and Capitol, Asheboro; Visulite and Plaza, Charlotte, and also theatres in South Carolina and Virginia. The Carolina has been completely rebuilt into one of the most modern theatres in this section of the state. The seats are cushioned leather with red velour backs and are staggered to give perfect vision to the large new-type clear vision screen. The latest type in booth projection is used with RCA sound. An up-to-date heating and cooling system has been installed. A V-shape marquee graces the front of the building and the front is artistically finished in rich cream and gray stone.

A. F. Sams jr., president of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, Inc., and owner of the Statesville Theatre Corp., has returned to his headquarters in Statesville, N. C., after a nine-day checkup of his theatres in Boone and Blowing Rock, N. C. . . . Tommy Griffin, medical student at Bowman-Gray in Winston-Salem, N. C., spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Griffin, owner of the Romina and Grace, Forest City, N. C., at their home at Lake Lure, N. C.

Skinner Williamson, Columbia salesman, made everyone envious describing the country ham he got in North Wilkesboro, N. C. . . . Mrs. Walter Freudenberger, wife of the Film Classics manager, is a patient at Presbyterian Hospital.

A. E. Miller, Colonial and Majestic, Tarboro, N. C., is now at home recuperating from an appendectomy . . . T. C. Dellinger, owner of the Crossnore Theatre in Crossnore, N. C., is a patient at Mercy Hospital in Charlotte where he will undergo an operation . . . Roy Rosser, Temple and Sanlee, Sanford, N. C., was limping on the Row as the result of a sprained ankle.

Tommy Bachman, younger son of Johnny Bachman, Warner manager, has gone to Greensboro, N. C., to enter the Max Payne annual state junior golf tournament. While in Greensboro he will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Max Zager, Palace Theatre. Present state champion is Monty Hill, son of M. S. Hill, Wilby-Kincey district manager.

Samuel Goldwyn's "Wuthering Heights" was being shown simultaneously for three days at T. A. Little's Visulite and Plaza theatres in Charlotte. It is distributed by Film Classics . . . George Carpenter, Verne Benfield and associates of the Colonial Theatres Co., Valdese, N. C., are having their annual industry golf tournament at Linville on June 27.

Film Classics of North Carolina is distributing the four new all-color outdoor Screen Guild Productions in this territory. A trade showing was recently held on the first picture, "Wildfire." Walter Freudenberger is manager of Classics . . . Benn Rosenwald, chief barker of Variety, announces the following new polio committee: Jay Schrader, chairman; John Bachman, co-chairman; Rovy Branon, Roy Bradley and Sam Hinson.

C. E. Kessnick, M-G-M district manager from Atlanta, was in Charlotte for a week conferring with local manager Benn Rosenwald. Charlotte has just recently been added to Kessnick's territory.

The three boys of the Ben Stroziers (Stevenson and Carolina, Rock Hill, S. C.), Benjy 6, Robert 10, and Kinard 12, like to play black-jack and poker. In fact that's the way they're learning arithmetic. Mrs. Strozier, on returning home one afternoon, asked her new maid how the boys were. And the maid said "I suppose I'd better tell you, Mrs. Strozier, but them boys have been playing 'strip me naked poker.'"

Among visitors on the Row: Harry Cooke, Center, Mount Olive, N. C.; O. T. Kirby, Palace, Roxboro, N. C.; Morris Littman and daughter, Sylvan, Rutherfordton, N. C.; Ben Strozier, Stevenson, Rock Hill, S. C.; Charles Cash, Dixie, Kings Mountain, N. C.; Arnold Coffey, Sunset, Asheboro, N. C.; Mrs. Runa Curtis, Curtis, Liberty, N. C.



ALABAMA BOND LEADERS—Seated, left to right: T. E. Watson, Montevallo, chairman of district No. 8; R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham, state chairman; William Zoellner, Atlanta, area distributor chairman; Roy Brauer, Atlanta, Alabama distributor chairman. Standing, left to right: William N. Wolfson, Montgomery, state publicity chairman and chairman of district No. 11; Thomas G. Coleman, Anniston, district chairman; C. B. Grimes, Tuscaloosa, chairman of district No. 7; John Miller, Cordova, chairman of district No. 3; Paul Engler, Birmingham, state chairman for Negro theatres.

Army "The Land I Love" For Series E Buyers

CHARLOTTE—The soldiers from the army air forces ORD of Greensboro, who made such a big hit when they gave their show here several months ago, are coming back with a new show and many popular artists to entertain buyers of Series E war bonds. Their new show, "The Land I Love," will be presented at the Armory-Auditorium June 29 at 8 o'clock under sponsorship of the Variety Club.

"The Land I Love" is dedicated to the memory of the late President Roosevelt and is built around a stirring, patriotic theme which will feature old and new, classic and popular music. Tickets will be available to those who purchase Series E bonds on Monday, June 18, or after.

This will be the last presentation of "The Land I Love." It was planned for Charlotte because this is the home town of Col. Paul R. Younts, commanding officer of the Greensboro installation. A reception will be given by Variety for the members of the cast.

John Ward is general chairman of arrangements for the show. Members of the committees are as follows: Tickets, J. A. Bachman and Ernest Stelling; Armory, Tom Little and Cy Dillon; housing and feeding, George Roscoe and H. H. Everett; publicity, Jack Austin, A. L. Burks, Leonard Allen, Miss Martha Azer and Earl Crawford; stage, Walter Griffith, J. B. Erskine, Bob Jeffries and Bill Fowler; house front and seating, Frank Beddingfield, Byron Adams and J. V. Frew.

To Build New Cumberland House at Fayetteville

FAYETTEVILLE, TENN.—A new theatre will be constructed here by Cumberland Amusement Co., McMinnville, as soon as WPB grants the priorities, according to President Cowan Oldham. The Capitol, another Cumberland house here, is managed by Mrs. Edith Hardin.

Rockmart Bond Show

ROCKMART, GA.—A war bond show was presented at the Rockmart Theatre Wednesday last week by Manager Frank L. Jackson. All persons buying a bond were admitted free on that day, and were given tickets to the big bond premiere to be staged later at the Rockmart.

Albany Theatre Damaged

ALBANY, GA.—The Albany Theatre was damaged when a smoke pipe from a nearby dry cleaning business came uncoupled. Flames were quickly extinguished by the fire department.

C. R. Black Into Navy

CHARLOTTE—Charles R. Black of Paramount here has been inducted into the navy.

Announce Open Air Stars

MEMPHIS—Male stars who will sing in Memphis Open Air Theatre's six weeks of shows, starting July 2, include: Charles Yearsley, Donald Gage, George Britton, Eddie Roecker, A. J. Herbert and Rolph Sedan.

OKLA. CITY

Gary Cooper's personal appearance Monday at the State will mark the first time Cooper has appeared on any theatre stage in Oklahoma. His appearance, coupled with the showing of his new picture, "Along Came Jones," which was produced by Cooper, seemed certain to give the film a big start in this territory. If the packed screening room audience and the opening day crowds at the State are barometers, then "Along Came Jones" will score a smashing success here.

The screening of Metro's "Bewitched," which was directed by Arch Oboler, was interestingly received by those attending . . . Jim Partlow, Universal manager, just back from vacation, told of his experience in witnessing the Derby from the newsreel booths. He said that "the number of cameramen and the speed at which these men and their assistants had to work was amazing."

John Gray, the energetic exhibitor from Chickasha, stopped by to tell of receiving his pilot's license. He expects delivery on his new Taylor-Craft plane soon. When asked if he intends to fly back and forth from Chickasha to Oklahoma City, John said, "I will be doing just that, but the problem of having a car ready when I reached the field is yet to be solved."

Lieut. Gordon Wortham of the air corps came in on leave and joined his brother Harold, also an air corps officer. Both are former projectionists. They are sons of Howard Wortham of National Theatre Supply.

Filmrow golf notes: Belated golfing weather having finally arrived, Buck Weaver of Paramount showed himself still good at smacking those long drives. Jimmy Hobbs of Metro is a regular on the course and can shoot good enough to best most opponents. Bush Ince of Griffiths when on his game shoots a very good stick. Ince's putting is hard to beat anytime. Don Tullius of RKO is one of the Row's most ardent golfers and always has a good suntan in the summer. Horace Falls and C. B. Akers, both of Griffiths, and L. C. Griffith all manage to get in a few games when business and war activities permit.

Leon Felder of Altec also can be found on the course almost any day he is free from duties, along with George LeBlanc. George is constantly improving his game. With this number of Filmrow golfers, it is expected that there will be some hot matches in the coming season. And if anyone challenges either Paul Townsend or Jess Bollman of Standard Theatres, he'll have something on his hands.

Visitors on the Row included Waite Kerr, Sulphur; Mrs. Bess Wilkie, Harrah; Mrs. C. W. Duncan, Weleetka; R. L. Rubrecht, Marshall; Mrs. Laura Mullins, Fletcher; M. H. Simpson, Rush Springs; A. R. Walker, Broken Arrow; Mrs. M. H. DeFord, Anadarko; Bill Allison, Norman; Frank Deal, Wynnewood; Homer C. Jones, Alva; Lieut. Paul Beckhelm, Norman; John Thomas, Kingfisher; Jesse Sloan, Tuttle; Clyde Campbell, Beaver; Gene Graham, Guthrie; J. W. Gates, Butler; E. L. Hillerby, Coyle; J. C. Smock, Hinton; Mrs. W. T. Henderson, Medford; Ruby Jones, Shawnee; Elmo Rankin, Custer City; Dr. W. O. Young, Thomas; Glen D. Thompson, Healdton; "Doc" Deen, Perry; R. L. Rollier, Lamont, and J. L. Groves, Ringling.

ATLANTA

R. H. Manley, operator of drive-in theatres in Ohio, will open a drive-in soon in Oak Ridge, Tenn. . . . In New Orleans this week for the Monogram southern annual convention were Arthur C. Bromberg, president; M. E. Wiman, local manager; O. B. Corley, Hal Jordan and Jack Barrett, salesman; O. S. Barnett, office manager, and George Bell.

Fred Moon, motion picture editor for the Journal, is always ready to give Filmrow 100 per cent cooperation. On a recent Sunday, Johnny Mack Brown, Monogram western star, visited the city, and Moon came down town to interview the star, although it was his day off . . . Marguerite Helms, Theatrical Printing Co., is vacationing in the mountains of northern Georgia . . . B. D. Benton of Benton Bros. Express, took in the Kentucky Derby at Louisville. He came out a loser.

Benton Bros. has taken over the film forwarding depot . . . Bert Turgeon, Paramount office manager, was sick . . . John Baldwin, Paramount booker, and Miss Mary McCormack of Nashville were married June 22 at Nashville . . . F. T. Murray, manager of branch operations for Universal, visited the local office.

Mrs. Sara Folger of Florida State Theatres is vacationing in Tallahassee with her husband . . . Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern, was proudly exhibiting around Filmrow an ad which he sent to exhibitors some 20 years ago. He obtained it from the archives of T. M. Jourdan of the Majestic, Iuka, Miss.

Visitors included Ed Beach of Thomaston, Ga., and Fernandina, Fla.; R. L. Lovborn, Palace, Bowdon, Ga. . . . Mrs. Emilie Check and two children of New York are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Savin. Savin is vice-president of Monogram Southern . . . Robert E. Dunville, general manager of WLW in Cincinnati, told a meeting of Atlanta advertising agency representatives that 10,000 radio receivers and nine stations are now equipped to accommodate television.

R. J. Ingram, southern division manager for Columbia, visited the Charlotte branch . . . Harry Whitestone of the Whitestone shows visited on the Row . . . Ditto Ronald Biggers, Knoxville, Col. T. E. Orr and H. H. Green, Albertville, Ala. . . . Georgia McLaughlin, secretary to R. J. Ingram of Columbia, was home, ill.

Anne Moore has entered the employment of Atlanta Popcorn and Machine Co. . . . Lieut. W. L. Walker, who spent 11 months in a prison camp in Germany, was visiting friends on Filmrow. He formerly was a booker at Columbia.

Mrs. Evelyn Sutton, head biller at Warners, returned from a two-week vacation in Chicago . . . B. B. Garner, Florida State Theatres, Jacksonville, was a visitor . . . C. A. Matthews, Blumenthal Amusement Co., Charlotte; Cleo Manry, Buena Vista Theatre, Buena Vista, Ga.; Sen. Mack Jackson, Alexander City, Ala., and Foreman Rogers, Macon Theatre, Tuskegee, were on Filmrow.

Carl Hart, formerly with Columbia at Albany, N. Y., has been transferred to the local branch as head booker . . . New at Columbia are Grace Eller, Fran Klatz, Jacquelin Faulkner, Martha Flewellen, Claud Greenway, Thomas Mauldin and Joe Clark . . . Pearl Moos and Cornelia Evans returned from vacations. Marion Huggins left.

Harry Paul, manager for Wil-Kin here, was back after a trip to New York . . . Bertha Smith has joined the Republic accounting department and Edna Anton and Catherine Chappalear the inspection department . . . Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Weis and son Albert of Savannah were on the Row booking.

Gus King, president of Capitol City Supply, was on a trip to Louisville, Cincinnati, Chicago and New York.



HEADS CIVITAN CLUB—J. A. West, owner of Hollywood Theatre and president of the Tennessee and Arkansas MPTO, was elected president of Memphis Civitan Club at this month's annual election.

The veteran showman has taken a leading role in the picture industry's war activities committee and Memphis civic life.

Jack L. Cole, a Rome Booth Man, Killed

ROME, GA.—The war department has disclosed Marine Pfc. Jack L. Cole, a member of Local 427 here, was killed in combat on the island of Iwo Jima last March 9. He was the youngest member of the Rome local and the first to lose his life in action. He was employed as a projectionist at the West Theatre in nearby Cedartown. He is survived by his mother.

16mm Color Shots of "Ike"

NEW ORLEANS—Abe Harrison jr., president of Harfilms, Inc. of New Orleans, has been in New York where he supervised the making of a 16mm color motion picture of Eisenhower's arrival. Harrison is expected home June 27.

Gus Seligman Dead

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—Gus Seligman, for many years owner of the Colored Theatres Enterprises here, died recently.

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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

NEW ORLEANS

J. Boyle, Doyle Maynard and Horace Hougland were back from the regional National Screen Service meeting in Chicago . . . Therese Mueller and Peggy Larson of the National Screen office were on vacation, the former unexpectedly spending hers in Hotel Dieu after a sudden attack of appendicitis and the latter at her family's summer home in Lacomb, La.

Sonny Tufts, the star, is expected here July 4 for a conference at the Paramount exchange. He is one of several players from his studio who will visit in exchanges to discuss production, distribution and business affairs of mutual concern in the Paramount family. Tufts will be accompanied here by Hugh Owens, division sales manager of New York . . . Edgar Shinn, Paramount salesman, was on an extended trip through central and north Louisiana.

Miss Eola Sullivan, booker, and Sidney Otis, salesman of Paramount, were recently married. Mrs. Otis is currently training a successor at the exchange . . . Mrs. Hillrie Chronister, Paramount inspector, was on vacation.

Clarence Thomasie of the Gay in Harvey, La., has been elected president of the Harvey Lions Club . . . Philip Sliman of PRC here was in New York on business . . . Collins "Bud" Riley, RKO salesman for Mississippi who is in Mercy Hospital here after undergoing an operation, is recovering satisfactorily.

T. L. Davis, UA manager who has been away from his office for some time after a heart attack, is expected to return to work early next month . . . Charles Lamantia, Martin Honeycutt and Milton Dureau, UA salesmen out of New Orleans, will attend a sales meeting in Aransas Pass, Tex., July 30-July 4, with Fred Jack, division manager of Dallas, presiding.

Add vacationers: Mrs. Dolores Beckemeyer, UA inspector; Elizabeth Neel, RKO billing clerk; Ruth Hamilton, Columbia inspector, who is visiting her sister in Mandeville, La.; Gene Wright, Columbia billing department, who is visiting her grandparents in Carthage, Tex.; Heloise Lache, 20th-Fox; Agnes Engelbrecht, assistant booker, and Mrs. Gertrude Rooney, head inspector, at Universal.

Helen Davis and Pat Christiansen are back at Columbia . . . Colleen Carlin has returned to 20th-Fox after vacationing in Texas and Mexico.

The new Fox Theatre had a gala opening here Tuesday (19) with a large number of Filmrow representatives present. "Winged Victory" was the feature . . . Several offices on Filmrow have adopted summer hours, bringing the number closed on Saturdays to a majority. Several follow the five-day week policy throughout the year.

Jack Spire of Ideal Films is currently on a tour of north Louisiana contacting USO clubs, war plants and other 16mm customers . . . Frank Heiderich of the Lyceum here is smiling again now that his daughter has recovered from a serious illness.

Recent visitors on the Row included: Felix Hebert of Lake Arthur and Hayes, La., Sam Pasqua of Gonzales, Roy Pfeiffer and Joe Barcelona of Baton Rouge, Albert Guilbeau of St. Martinville.

All along Filmrow last week one of the first items of news was that Billy Briant has returned to his job as booker at 20th-Fox, following his discharge from the army air corps . . . Robert Lashley jr., assistant shipper at Fox, has joined the merchant marine . . . More than 30 Fox exchangers boarded trucks and went to Covington for their annual picnic.

A newcomer on the Row is Miss Joyce Cobb, who took Mrs. Carmen Smith's place as bookkeeper at the Exhibitors Poster exchange . . . Miss Helena McCarthy, office manager and booker at UA 11 years, is now working in a war plant . . . Two UA stenographers acquired hope chests last week: Isabel Julian, who plans to be married next spring, and Eunice Guess, whose fiance is now in Italy, but expects to return soon.

Joel Bluestone, Universal office manager, will leave for New York, his home, on a combination vacation and business trip June 29 . . . Margaret Gabosh of Columbia was among the few who viewed the Seventh War Loan "Beachhead to Tokyo" show from a special barge here Sunday. She was a guest of her mother, Mrs. Walter J. Gabosh, who has the rating of an admiral for her fine work in the drive. Miss Gabosh met Robert Young and the war veterans who participated in the event.

Shirley Henderson and Margaret Carter of Columbia spent the weekend at Clermont Harbor on the Gulf coast, and Marion Tedesco of the same office was at Bay St. Louis.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Paramount Month Parley To Be at Dallas June 29-30

DALLAS—A Paramount month drive meeting will be held here June 29-30. The meeting, intended to "spark-plug" Paramount month, will be conducted by Allen Usher, district manager at Chicago, assisted by Dallas District Manager Duke Clark.

Usher and Clark, recently appointed drive cocaptains by Vice-President Charles Reagan, have been holding similar meetings throughout the country, Clark visiting the eastern exchanges of the company while Usher made the western swing.

Following the local meeting, Usher will proceed through the eastern exchanges while Clark is making the western offices. Clark is expected to return here about August 1.

Monogram Holds 3-Day Meet at New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—A three-day regional sales meeting attended by representatives of Monogram exchanges in Atlanta, Charlotte, Memphis and New Orleans began here Tuesday (19) at the Jung Hotel.

Kemp a Newcomers Guest

MEMPHIS—William Kemp, manager of Loew's Theatre, formerly of Athens, Ga., was one of 36 guests at a Newcomers Breakfast given recently by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce.

Richards Faces Writ On Wages and Hours

NEW ORLEANS—An injunction restraining the Paramount-Richards Theatres from violating the fair labor standards act was reported signed here June 18 by U.S. Judge Adrian J. Caillouet.

The application for injunction was filed by representatives of the wage and hour division of the department of labor, who alleged that the company had paid employes at their central distribution office in New Orleans less than the minimum wages for the years 1938 through the present time. It was alleged that the company violated the terms of the act by working employes more than 44 hours a week during 1938, more than 42 hours in 1939 and more than 40 hours thereafter without paying them time and a half overtime.

The government charged also that the defendant failed to keep adequate time and wage records.

R. L. Parham jr. a Winner

NASHVILLE—Russell L. Parham jr., son of the long-time manager of the Princess Theatre, recently won a statewide contest in physics staged by the Alabama Junior Academy of Science. He is a junior at St. Bernards High School, St. Bernard, Ala.

SAN ANTONIO

Preparing the way for Gary Cooper's personal appearance at the Majestic Friday (22) in conjunction with the premiere of the Cooper-directed and Cooper-acted "Along Came Jones," were the following: Frank Starz, the publicity chief of the Interstate circuit; Bob Hickey and Fred Ford of RKO, and Arthur Jeffrey, publicity director of International Pictures. Cooper is to be awarded an honorary membership in the Texas Rangers at Austin by the government.

Frank Stroud made quite a hit when he acted as emcee, along with Jack Mitchell of the Majestic of the bond premiere held at the Texas last week. Frank, now of the army, will be remembered as one of the comedy twins who starred some years ago on the Chase & Sanborn hour and with Rudy Vallee.

Pfc. Ernie Hacksher's Randolph Field orchestra turned out some fine music for the bond premiere. The bond sales for the premiere went well over four million dollars. Beulah Greene, manager of the Texas, and Ernest Hauser, are hoping that at least several months will elapse before the next bond drive so that they may recuperate.

Charley Wolf, hard working treasurer of the Majestic, is becoming famed for his dry, humorous quips. His latest: He gets off all day Monday afternoon.

Heard about the Interstate offices: Young Carl Frey, former treasurer at the Laurel, becomes a student manager at the Texas . . . Orion Whitledge, who was a student manager at the Texas, resigned to enter another business . . . Robert Bru, chief usher at the Laurel, was promoted to the treasurer's position there.

Passing through last past week were Wallace Walthall and Dan O'Keefe of National Screen, and Van Allen Holleman of the Interstate legal department, returning from Galveston.

MEMPHIS

Al Rothchild, for two years salesman for National Screen Service, has been promoted to manager here . . . Doak Roberts, Dallas, WB southern district manager, was in . . . Mary Alice Sperry, WB cashier, and Martha Summers, contract clerk, are vacationing in Miami.

Wedding bells rang at 20th-Fox last week. Marie Griffin, stenographer, was married to Frank Bryan, who is in the navy. The wedding was at Arlington and was attended by a group of personal friends and members of the families of the bride and groom . . . Republic employes here are working hard on the company's national celebration of its tenth birthday.

At M-G-M, Mrs. Eva Mae Denton, No. 2 booker, was away on vacation, visiting the Mississippi Gulf coast. Miss Ola Purvis, inspector, was also on vacation . . . Lew Andrews, former Republic manager here, is now manager of the Ozark Amusements Co., operator of a string of theatres in Arkansas. Andrews was in last week and visited friends on Filmrow.

J. J. Rogers, Columbia manager, is back from that Florida vacation sporting a suntan of the first order. H. A. Chrisman, salesman, was acting manager during his absence . . . Twentieth-Fox employes have sold more than $10,000 in war bonds since the campaign has been in progress.

M. A. Lightman sr. was off to Wisconsin and Michigan for a vacation . . . Rain has hurt theatre business during the past two weeks . . . Cecil Vogel, boss of Loew's Palace, was back from the derby . . . Joe Simon, Warner manager, was visited by a delegation of girls wanting to join the circus. Somebody's joke . . . Bill Kemp, new manager of Loew's State, still was expounding the beauties of Georgia . . . Tommy Baldridge was dusting off his tires after a trip through Arkansas.

Howard Waugh kicked a goal with "Pillow to Post" at Warners. Advertised for adults only, it appeared that all schools had closed for the duration and a midget's convention was under way.

Dick Lightman and his brother M. A. jr., army and navy, respectively, were in town to visit their parents and friends . . . Everybody is still talking about the Chalmers Cullins barbecue held recently . . . Elliott Johnson of Malco fame, is in the midst of a novel.

A luncheon for the film industry and the press was held at Variety Club in connection with the motion picture industry's sponsorship of "Airborne Attack," which was staged last weekend at Municipal Airport. Tom Young, Memphis chairman of WAC, presided. Nurses and veterans back from combat spoke.

K. K. Kirk, Batesville, Ark., motion picture operator now in the army, was on Filmrow last week. Other exhibitors seen on the Row included: R. B. Cox, Batesville, Miss.; J. C. Shannon, Portageville, Mo.; J. C. Mohrstadt, Hayti, Mo., and Miss Louise Mask, Bolivar, Tenn. . . . Dixy Theatre, Adamsville, Tenn., has been purchased by R. R. Clemons. Clemons was in booking pictures for his new show.

Scott-Dixon Wedding

EARLINGTON, KY.—Harold L. Scott, manager of the Earl Theatre for two years, was married recently to Miss Margaret Ann Dixon. They took a southern wedding tour.

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DALLAS

Mrs. **Willie May Simmons** unanimously was elected president of Film Exchange Employes Union B53, succeeding C. D. Jackson who died this spring. She was vice-president and acting president until the election. She is head inspector at Paramount . . . Ernest E. Lutz, operator of several theatres mostly in eastern Texas, was on the Row on circuit business. He spends most of his time out among his theatres and the rest of it at his office in his home, 7012 Lakeshore, and visits Filmrow infrequently.

Jack E. Moore, owner and operator of the Midland Theatre in Midland, Calif., passed through on the way to Fort Worth and Sweetwater, his former Texas haunts. He dropped in to look at the June 16 national edition of BOXOFFICE which he takes. Two years ago he converted his western edition subscription to the national to know better what showmen are doing in all parts of the country. Moore formerly worked for Henry Rogers, the Robb & Rowley partner in Sweetwater, and traveled the circuit in a roadshow truck when that type of showmanship was prevalent several years back. Moore also worked for J. Howard Hodge, Griffith affiliate. His wife and daughter Jacqueline were with him.

Rains have been general all over northern and central Texas. Theatres have been hard hit in small towns which depend on black land roads. The Panhandle harvest of wheat is delayed but the rains were needed and worth the temporary setback.

A. M. "Buck" Morgan was in from Grand Prairie asserting he will reopen the old Texan Theatre in Fort Worth soon. Buck recently bought the building and now is remodeling and re-equipping it. It was formerly operated by J. F. Hightower and in recent months had been abandoned . . . Roy L. Brockman, manager and partner in three theatres at McKinney, has just rounded out 29 years in the show business. The McKinney newspaper ran a special edition on the anniversary with merchant congratulatory advertising.

August 21 is the 29th anniversary of the Robb & Rowley partnership. Harold Robb died early last fall and was succeeded as president by Ed Rowley . . . Wallace Blankenship was in his Dallas booking office all week from his circuit headquarters in Lubbock. He formerly lived at Levelland many years.

S. L. Oakley, vice-president of Jefferson Amusement Co., in charge of operations, was in town from the circuit headquarters at Beaumont. He formerly was in charge of buying and booking in the circuit's branch office on Filmrow here. Sam Landrum succeeded Oakley in the Dallas post . . . Mrs. W. W. McNatt of Naples was here to complete some of the circuit's bookings. Before the war she and her husband were here once or twice every week but since then their trips are infrequent.

Mrs. George Bass, wife of Lieut. George Bass now stationed on Saipan, was a visitor. She is the former Eloise McNatt, daughter of the W. W. McNatts, and a graduate of Baylor University who for several years worked in the McNatt organization . . . Bob Yancey of the Yancey Theatre at Normangee, a new hamlet situation he opened recently, was here for two or three hours Monday.

Harry Barnhill, owner and operator of the Gem at Turkey, was in booking and on equipment matters . . . George Smith of the Crystal at Center spent the weekend and Monday here booking . . . Cpl. Adrain Upchurch, former R&R booker home on furlough, visited at the circuit's general office and with many friends in the show business.

McLendon Will Build Dallas Office Bldg.

DALLAS—B. R. McLendon, head of the Tri-State circuit, has purchased a lot at 2008 Jackson St. on Filmrow on which he will erect a building to house the chain's general office, which then will be moved here from Atlanta, Tex. The top floor will be used by the circuit and the ground floor will be leased to another business.

For 10 or 12 years H. S. Shoemaker has operated his well-known barbecue stand on this property which is 33½x90 feet. McLendon moved here several months ago after buying a home and grounds on Walnut Hill Lane. His Casa Linda Theatre on Garland Road here, now nearing completion, will open late in July. It is of the stadium type, seating 923.

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DALLAS 1, TEXAS

A Gala "Jones" Debut In Dallas Majestic

By LES KETNER

DALLAS—This city was the scene of the southwestern premiere of the RKO-International picture, "Along Came Jones," with Gary Cooper appearing in person at the Majestic Wednesday (20). Cooper also was to make personal appearances in Houston, June 21; San Antonio, 22, and Fort Worth, 23.

The itinerary includes some 80 key cities all over the country with day and date showings along with personals by Cooper. Arthur Jefferies of RKO, New York, is handling play dates and personal appearances, assisted by Bob Hickey, press supervisor, Chicago, and Fred Ford, publicity supervisor of Atlanta.

William Goetz, head of the International Pictures, and other officials and celebrities were scheduled to attend the Majestic's gala first-nighter showing.

Our old San Antonio maestro, "Hymie" Waldman, is playing nightly at the Sky-Vu Gardens. For years Herman wielded the baton at the Gunter and Saint Anthony hotels, so what is the Alamo City's loss is Dallas' gain along the cabaret and night club front.

Speaking of musicians, Hyman Charninsky, Eph and Lou's band leading brother, is musical director for the Daily Times-Herald station KRLD. Hy formerly was in the air force at Perrin Field.

Telenews Executives Visit

Tennessee Williams, the dramatist and play writer, is back here from a sojourn in the land below the border. George L. Dahl has been elected to the board of trustees of Dallas Theatre, Inc., according to the chatter columnist in the Dallas Morning News. Ellis Levy and Milt Weisman, Telenews executives, arrived to visit the local newsreel house.

Dallas is a real metropolitan city. We made a survey of some of the places having flesh entertainment and this is what and where we found it: Clubs—Embassy, Summer Plantation, Abe & Pappy's, White Rock Terrace, Cocoanut Grove, Nite Bandbox, Bagdad, Sky-Vu Gardens and the Showboat. Hotels—The Adolphus Century room has a new ice skating show while the Baker features the Sands orchestra with the Steeles nightly in the Mural room.

When we were in San Antonio, we had the pleasure of meeting three of the six Goldwyn Girls, a bevy of Hollywood's beauties. The pretty maidens finished a hospital tour of Texas army camps and stopped off in Dallas last week for a day's rest before going on to Hollywood. We met Deanie Best, Gloria Delson and Karen Gaylord. Karen is a pro model and cover girl.

Rae-Lowrey Hit at Dallas

I don't know whether I reported that Dottie Rae (no relation to little Jerry) has closed a successful month's stand at the Palace here. Dorothy clicked with the Dallas folks when she did her own composition, "Whistling Joe," while blind Freddy Lowrey whistled along with her singing during their final week on Theatrerow here. They are now at Houston. There's a really grand pair!

News in staccato: Mary Alice Brown, who is Bob Kelley's Girl Friday, has at least two pet hobbies—collecting rare books and old and new recordings . . . James Bates, assistant manager at the Rialto, is spending his vacation on the Texas Gulf. Mrs. Ruby Kan with the flashing eyes is pinch-hitting while he is away . . . "Shorty" Billingsley, who has acted in many Hollywood flickers, is now in a war plant in Dallas . . . Billy Lewis, UA publicity manager for this district, left for New Orleans . . . Preciles Alexander, the critic, spent some time over in Longview taking in the sights . . . Fred Calvin, RKO exploitation director for this region, was among the recent visitors to Theatrerow.

Having already mentioned some the brightest night spots in Dallas, there are just three more that we'd like to tell you about. The Panamericano Theatre here presented Arturo Carranza, Gloria Berrones and other Mexican singers, dancers and a trio of fine guitar players. J. J. Rodriquez owns and operates this Latin American screen and stage playhouse. The Madcap Players Playhouse out on Grand Prairie and the Wayne Babb Plays are presenting one performance each night with an 8:30 p. m. curtain.

When a former Broadway actress gets locked in a downtown office building after closing hours, that's the time that she breaks into print once more. This was the case of Donna Young, a blonde 23-year-old commercial artist who is now making her home here. The Dallas bluecoats came to her rescue and took her home safe and sound.

Blankenship Moves His Offices to Lubbock, Tex.

LUBBOCK, TEX. — Wallace Blankenship, owner and operator of the Wallace circuit of theatres in the Panhandle, has moved his home and office here, which is a more central location for his activities. Recently he received a priority to rebuild the Wallace Theatre at Andrews which was destroyed by fire. The job is now under way and the opening is scheduled for early fall.

The Wallace circuit has a booking office on Filmrow in Dallas in charge of M. A. "Andy" Sisk.

Merritt Rebuilding Galax, Erecting a 1,200-Seater

BIRMINGHAM—Frank Merritt is proceeding with the rebuilding of the Galax Theatre which was destroyed by fire recently. He also is erecting a new 1,200-seat house there which will be opened about December.

Columbia Long-Term to Frank Sully

Frank Sully signed a new long-term pact at Columbia.

Lovers Lane Appeals To Washington WPB

DALLAS—The WPB in Washington will hear two appeals June 27 from local interests each of whom are asking priorities to build a theatre in the Lovers Lane-Inwood Road section here.

J. R. Euler, buyer and booker for one of the circuits for the past several years, is one of the parties seeking permission to build in this situation and Interstate circuit is the other. Both will be represented at the hearing by counsel and executives.

The controversy over the site has been going on for some time. Petitions submitted by both parties for priorities have been denied, but now it is believed that affirmative action of some sort will be forthcoming in view of relaxation of restrictions on some of the theatre construction materials.

Adwell and Wylie Seek WPB Permits for Fort Worth Project

DALLAS—W. V. Adwell and A. J. Wylie have submitted an application to the WPB for permission to build a theatre in Fort Worth adjoining the site of Texas Christian University. The Interstate circuit has also been planning a theatre for this same area.

Wylie, who was general sales manager for W. Lee O'Daniel when his Hillbilly flour was a top seller, has formed a partnership with Adwell. Adwell owns and operates the Roxy Theatre in San Angelo and the Ozona at Ozona. He formerly was a film salesman who worked for RKO many years.

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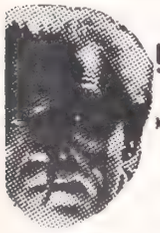
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SOUTHERN 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



John E. Feeney, owner of the 568-seat Cozy and the 400-seat Gem theatres in Tulsa, has been a motion picture owner in the state of Oklahoma since 1913. During the course of his career he has operated eight houses. He has managed houses in Bartlesville, Okmulgee, Henryetta and Tulsa. He is a member of MPTOA, the Chamber of Commerce, but is not affiliated with any fraternal organization. He is extremely fond of hunting, fishing and all outdoor sports. Feeney is married and has a married daughter, Mrs. Mary M. Falletti.



P. V. "Posie" Williams of Munday, Texas, has been a motion picture exhibitor since 1913. The Roxy Theatre which he operates today is a far cry from the primitive setup of his first house. An old sheet was used for a screen and the seats were wooden benches. He is a member of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas. In addition to his theatre interests he has been the wholesale distributor for Gulf Oil products since 1915. Williams is a member of the city council and belongs to the Masons. He is married and has three children.

Texas Showmen Keep Bond Sales at Peak

DALLAS — Texas theatre men continued their all-out promotion of the Seventh War Loan. Following a recent account of bond selling activities, here is an addition:

Total pledges of 613 were recorded for Free Movie Days, 334 war bond premieres, and 193 children's bond shows, by far the best record for any previous war loan.

Floyd Faubion, manager of the Star and Plaza in Teague for J. G. Long, sold $29,000 worth of bonds at his premiere. A soldier who was a prisoner of the Germans came from McCloskey Hospital and solicited sales from the stage.

Stages Victory Flight Contest

Jack King, city manager for Interstate in Amarillo, held a Victory bond flight contest and got a big story on the front page. The contest was among civic clubs to determine which one was to sponsor winning candidates for free air flights to Mexico City, New York and other cities. The contest will extend through July 6 and has the support of the Amarillo News-Globe. One hundred votes will be counted for each $25 E bond.

Louis Novy, Austin city manager, sold $327,750 at the Paramount premiere. Front page stories for ten days and intensive radio plugging informed the public all about the premiere in advance. The Eighth service command band and a half hour stage show plus "Diamond Horseshoe" made up the entertainment.

Harlingen Arcadia Sells $49,800

The Arcadia at Harlingen sold $49,800 worth of bonds at its premiere. The mayor and other prominent citizens were put on the block to the highest bidder who had them perform on the stage. Prewar merchandise was auctioned to the highest bond buyer.

G. S. Young of the Star at Petrolia, Texas, garnered $5,400 at an "All-Star Bond Rally" show. The town's quota was only twice that much.

W. M. Shieldes, Interstate partner at Tyler, sold 1,038 E bonds with a maturity value of $41,180. It was the most successful bond sale so far, he said.

Loew's State in Houston set a quota at $75,000 and at this writing Manager Homer McCallon had reported well over half that amount in bond sales.

Florine Maples, Capitol at Brownsville, reports a $132,650 sale. L. J. "Shine" Mason said $26,000 worth of bonds were sold at the Tex Theatre in San Juan, and that $125,000 worth of bonds were sold at the Palace in McAllen.

Mrs. Morris Schulman of the Palace at Bryan put over a $73,650 bond sale. The Bryan air base used its crash truck equipped with a public address system.

News Items of the Week At Atlanta Paramount

ATLANTA—Paramount news notes:

District Manager Jack Kirby wound up three successful drive meetings with Duke Clark remaining in Charlotte for huddles with Manager Harry Hass and his sales staff. Bud Gray left for "Incendiary Blonde" screenings after calling on theatres in Atlanta, press and radio contacts in the interests of Paramount month.

Louise McCall is flashing a diamond ring and is all adither in anticipation of her fiance returning from overseas. The Paramount family is giving Louise a shower at Sally Ledwell's home. Pretty Lucille Davis has joined the accounting department as utility clerk. Weber Howell, bookkeeper, is leaving for military service. "Out of This World" is set for a prerelease opening on the Wilby-Kincey circuit. Myrtle Hill is on a vacation. Bill Holiday, former salesman, writes he would enjoy letters, so write him at: Co. No. 4135, Barracks 423, USNTC, Bainbridge, Md.

Lois Wood, contract department, is sporting some very chic summer apparel. Sally Ledwell was appointed official scribe for the drive. Mildred McWaters is spending a week's vacation at Savannah Beach. Janette Abrams was vacationing at Jones Beach, L. I.

The accounting department is happy to welcome titian-haired Hortense McCain on F40 deck after doing a swell job as "hello" girl. Lucy McGriff spent the weekend in Washington with her daughter Charlotte after a five-month separation. Mrs. Myrtle Hill, inspector, vacationed in Norfolk, Va., with her navy hubby. The Paramount month trailer made a decided hit at the screening.

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Toronto Variety Club Greets National Head

TORONTO—A cross-section of the amusement industry in this district turned out for the first of a series of monthly dinner-meetings under the auspices of the new Toronto tent of the Variety Clubs of America. Seventy-five executives, representing film exchanges, circuit companies, independent theatre organizations, the legitimate theatre, studio officials and the press were present at the King Edward Hotel to greet R. J. O'Donnell of Dallas, Tex., national chief barker, special speaker.

At the next gathering, Albert K. Rowswell, chairman of Variey's humanitarian awards committee, is expected to speak, after which delegates from here will attend the tenth annual convention of the clubs at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, August 16-18. Formal application for a charter for the local unit, the first in Canada, will be made at the New York gathering.

O'Donnell outlined the aims, objects and achievements of Variety Tents throughout the United States. Following his talk, Louis Rosenfeld, general manager of Columbia Pictures of Canada, contributed $1,000 to start Toronto's humanitarian fund.

Preceding O'Donnell, J. J. Fitzgibbons, acting chief barker, gave an inspirational address in which he declared that the theatre and film men "could use the tools which we have so often used for others," pointing out that the film business "could do things as an industry" for the people generally, including the trade's own personnel. Through wartime activities, the film industry had gained prestige which it previously did not hold.

Paul Nathanson, assistant barker, hailed the Variety clubs as a medium which would "bring our people together in the two countries, the United States and Canada." The amusement industry, he said, should show that it supported the ideals of the Dumbarton Oaks conference and of the World Security conference at San Francisco. Nathanson declared there should not be only the Variety Clubs of America but a Variety Clubs of the United Nations to further the cause of world stability.

"We do not want another war in 20 years," he said.

Many Changes in Para. Lineup by Lightstone

TORONTO—Wide changes within the organization of Paramount Film Service have been made by Gordon Lightstone, general manager, effective July 1, following the resignation of Jack L. Hunter as Ontario branch manager to take over the three Hamilton, Ont., theatres left by the late M. A. Milligan.

Russell Simpson, branch manager at Vancouver, B. C., is being transferred to Toronto to succeed Hunter and Robert Murphy, present booker at Toronto, is promoted to manage the Vancouver branch. A surprising development has been the resignation of Sylvestre Gunn as headoffice booker of FPC to join Canadian Paramount as branch manager at Winnipeg, where he resided prior to moving to the theatre circuit's headoffice in Toronto. It was stated by Lightstone that Dave Brickman, branch manager at Winnipeg for many years, will remain with the company in another capacity.

The reorganization is practically concurrent with the scheduled holding of the annual Paramount convention at Montreal June 27 and 28 when the branch managers and bookers will be addressed by Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, and other officials from the home office in New York.

Canadian Travel Curbs Hit Exhibitor Sessions

OTTAWA—While the full effect of the Dominion government's directive through the office of transit controller for the immediate and general cancellation of sleeping-car accommodation for civilian railway passengers has not been determined, there is a belief that rail traffic will be greatly curtailed and that considerable number of conventions, trade meetings and other gatherings will be called off for the balance of 1945. The order is intended to divert railway equipment to the use of many thousands of service men returning from the European war zone and the United Kingdom over a period of six months or longer.

Only one film company sales conference had been announced at the time of the cancellation order, this being the managers' convention of Paramount Film Service at Montreal June 27-28. It was planned to go through with this meeting, with branch managers and bookers at Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg and St. John to use air transportation if necessary.

The 1945 convention of 20th Century Theatres had been called for June 25-26 at Toronto but all of the 53 managers of this theatre circuit are located in Ontario and night travel by railway can be avoided in practically all situations. It was doubtful, however, if Famous Players Canadian Corp. or Odeon Theatres of Canada would hold any central or national managers' convention this year. President J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players said no decision had been reached regarding a circuit convention because of the railway situation but regional conferences under district managers were already under way. Canadian Odeon probably would have liked to have staged a general meeting of 110 managers, following the visit to the Dominion of Arthur Rank, but nothing definite has been done, pending a clarification of the travel conditions.

The annual outing of the Famous Players headoffice staff will be held as usual this year but this event does not involve rail travel. In 1944, headoffice employes enjoyed a boat trip across Lake Ontario as part of the picnic program. Back in 1939 when Famous Players held its national convention at Niagara Falls, Ont., use was made of a special railway train for officials and managers but that was long, long ago.

Trio of Veterans Returns To Dominion Equipments

MONTREAL—Return of three men from service in the armed forces is announced by F. E. Peters, general manager of Dominion Sound Equipments, Ltd.



FRANK S. HASTIE

Former F/Lt. Frank S. Hastie, RCAF, serving in Canada and Europe since 1940, has resumed his duties as district service supervisor in Toronto.

John D. McCulloch, who has served with RCNVR since July, 1942, has returned to the theatre equipment sales department in Toronto.



JOHN D. McCULLOCH

F/O Boyd W. Dunning, RCAF, who served in the United Kingdom, Malta, France and Belgium, since 1941, has returned to the merchandise department in the headoffice, Montreal.

These are the first of many ex-service men to be re-employed in accordance with the company's established policy of re-establishment of service personnel.

Troop Entertainment Still Keeps Jack Arthur Stepping

TORONTO—The war in Europe is over for many people but not for Jack Arthur, district manager of FPC. He is continuing in his stride as program chairman of the citizen's committee for the troops, more or less in reverse. It is a case, now, of providing entertainment for Canadian units now on garrison duty in Germany, for the many awaiting their return trip to the Dominon and for the convalescents in military hospitals both here and in the United Kingdom.

Arthur's activities are linked with the sending of eight civilian show units across the Atlantic. The first of these, the "Masquers," had a farewell celebration at the King Edward Hotel here June 14, Jack Arthur in charge of the program. Two other civilian units are preparing to leave Toronto for the European theatre to take part in tours which are expected to last three or four months. Meanwhile Arthur is busy with the supervision of Famous Players theatres over a wide Ontario area.

Calgary Visited by PRC General Sales Manager

CALGARY—Bob Lightstone, new salesman at Paramount, set off on his first road trip . . . Jim DeZeeuw of the Napier at Drumheller, was seen along Filmrow, booking . . . Dave Griesdorf, general sales manager of PRC, visited en route to the coast. He informed Vernon Dixon, local manager, that PRC was now distributing Film Guild product in Canada.

New Post to Harold Nelson

MONTREAL—Harold Nelson, recently illumination specialist of the Montreal sales district of the Northern Electric Co., has been appointed merchandising manager in the same district. This appointment is part of a general company plan to bring the fullest degree of cooperation to appliance and radio dealers. Nelson has been with the company since 1929 and with the Montreal district sales organization since 1931.

VANCOUVER

Because of the many factors involved in reconversion here in British Columbia, theatre men in common with those of other industries view the situation with mixed hope and gloom. Local boxoffice takes have dipped sharply, but are excellent compared to depression era levels. Exhibitors in thoughtful moments realize that conditions of employment will be the most important factor in the months ahead and that they must again exercise showmanship, lacking for the duration except in a few isolated cases. The excuse has been that it was not necessary since people were packing the theatres anyway. But those days appear over, so it's back to the show business with no alibis.

Haskell Masters, Warner Bros. Canadian manager, left for Winnipeg via air after a week here. Masters was pleased with the local conditions and his western Canadian offices . . . The Swift Current, Sask., two-day Frontier Days celebration, put on by the Kinetic Club, will be presented again in July, with more accent on educational and agricultural exhibits. The Lyric and Eagle theatres there benefit by big crowds annually.

Harry Cohen, former Calgary manager for Warner Bros., is going to build a new suburban theatre on one of the exclusive residential districts there, but manpower and material shortages may hold up the project . . . In recognition of assistance given by school children to the Milk to Britain fund, the Nanaimo Kinsmen Club presented the Nanaimo school board with $394 to pay for a screen and projector for use in the Nanaimo schools.

Hy Singer, former Vancouver night club operator who recently war discharged from the RCAF, has purchased the Orient Theatre in Chinatown and plans to remodel and operate it as a night club. Singer will spend $125,000 on remodeling the theatre, which will be known as Singer's Theatre Restaurant. The Orient has had a checkered career, being the original Chinese theatre used by the Chinese stage shows here. As a picture show it was without success or profit.

Yvonne McEwan of Warner Bros. was given a lamp and shade by fellow employes, who wished her much happiness in her marriage . . . Filmrow has two new shippers, Barrie Marrell at Columbia and Danny Buchenough at Producers . . . The exchange building, which seems to be a problem child and has had many owners, is up for sale again.

Pete Egan, manager of the Palace Theatre, Calgary, is a grandfather. His son Carl, now manager of the Tivoli Theatre, Winnipeg, is the father of a boy.

Douglas White, Warner booker, is away on a two-week vacation. He motored to Kimberly in the Crows Nest Pass district with his family . . . Betty Thomson of 20th-Fox front office staff resigned to go to Winnipeg. She has been succeeded by Mary Cechina . . . Two former members of the Stanley Theatre staff now are working on Filmrow here, Kay Tapping at 20th-Fox and Doreen Fitzpatrick at Columbia. It's quite a change from ushering and cashiering, the lassies say.

Columbia's "Song to Remember," after two terrific weeks at the Capitol, was moved on account of accumulating first run product waiting release here. The Strand was playing two first run pictures to help out in the bottleneck caused by so many holdover pictures at the other Famous Player houses . . . Exhibitors here wonder what would happen if the average theatre usher was as rude to patrons as the average waiter or store clerk. Cafes, hotels and merchants could learn a lesson about employe courtesy from theatre operators.

British theatre attendance is due for a sharp drop as U.S. troops depart, it is reported by returned soldiers arriving here. It is estimated that Americans have been responsible for a weekly attendance of around 6,000,000 in Britain, and the GIs seldom went alone, the majority taking their gal friends with them.

A remarkable film chronicling the ordinary fighting man's achievements in the war since the Normandy invasion is in course of preparation by the British ministry of information. The cast is the whole AEF, from private soldier to commander-in-chief. The directors have had access to the product of all combat cameramen in the field; they have been able to select the best shot from some millions of feet of film they have viewed. A significant feature of this material is that since Germany's surrender reduced the cautions necessary for military security many secret weapons, such as tanks and guns of new design, and the actual disposition of named regiments in the field, will be shown on the screen for the first time. The title of the film, "The True Glory," is taken from Sir Francis Drake's famous prayer.

Canada's "Navy Show" will make a film for the British National Film Corp. if permission is received from Ottawa, according to Captain Connolly, chief of special services. The company now is on tour of American and Canadian camps in Europe. The British tour of "Navy" reportedly raised $200,000 for King George fund for sailors. Show personnel is composed exclusively of members of the Canadian navy.

Outdoor Show Move Near Halifax Hits Obstacle

HALIFAX, N. S.—After obtaining the approval of the city council and buying and installing equipment including projection and sound apparatus, chairs, screen, curtains, etc., for her open air theatre, Mrs. George Martin, has run against a formidable setback with indications that the case will go to the courts for solution.

It seems Mrs. Martin has been unable to get pictures for her outdoor theatre, which is located at Dingle, across Northwest Arm from Halifax, which has ferry and bus connections. Her trouble is reported to result from opposition by local exhibitors. The provincial board of censors has failed to issue an operating license, and until this is done no distributing unit can supply her with films.

The attitude of the exhibitors is that allowing the Dingle open-air theatre to function would create an unfavorable precedent, inasmuch as anybody could establish an outdoor picture show in his backyard with little outlay compared to the big expenditures and overhead for a regular theatre.

Mrs. Martin threatens to go to court if she is denied an operating license by the board. She operates a large concession at the Dingle with bathing, boating and canoeing privileges. The intention had been to start showing pictures late in May and continue until late September. It would be the first outdoor show in the maritime provinces exclusively for films, although vaudeville programs have been offered outdoors at several amusement parks in bygone years.

One Halifax exhibitor has pointed out there is an agreement between exhibitors and distributors that 16mm films will not be supplied for public showing whether for free or fee in communities with theatres. He questioned if there has been any action by the exhibitors in this case.

Montreal Continues "Hollywood Canteen"

MONTREAL—Summer weather, making its first appearance in mid-June, is responsible for a slight falling off in theatre business, but good business was done at the Capitol with "Tomorrow the World," at the Orpheum with the French language version of "The Constant Nymph" and at the Palace with the second week of "Hollywood Canteen." The third week of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" was considered satisfactory. Moderate business was done at the Princess with "Crime Doctor's Courage."

(Average is 100)

Capitol—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col) ..... Good
Loew's—**For Whom the Bell Tolls** (Para), 3rd wk. ..... Not bad
Orpheum—**A l'Ombre de Son Coeur** (The Constant Nymph) (WB) ..... Held over
Palace—**Hollywood Canteen** (WB), 3rd wk. ..... Very good
Princess—**Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col); **Leave It to Blondie** (Col) ..... Fair

"Without Love" Defies Toronto Warm Wave

TORONTO—A sudden warm wave knocked the props from under the boxoffice for most theatres but the women turned out regardless for "Without Love" at Loew's Yonge Street. The next best bet was "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at Shea's. "Patrick the Great" also was doing nicely at Loew's Uptown. A pair of 20th-Fox's "Hangover Square" and "The Bullfighters" brought steady crowds to the Eglinton and Tivoli.

Eglinton and Tivoli—**Hangover Square** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 90
Imperial—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 90
Loew's—**Without Love** (M-G-M) 110
Shea's—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox) 105
Uptown—**Patrick the Great** (Univ) 95

Only One Film, "Song To Remember," Goes Over Average in Vancouver

VANCOUVER—Not much of a selection was offered and business reflected the fact. The only picture to beat par was "Song to Remember" on its second and final week at the Capitol. Warm weather hit at the grosses.

Beacon—**Steppin' in Society** (Rep); **Code of the Prairie** (Rep), plus stage show ..... Fair
Capitol—**Song to Remember** (Col), 2nd wk. ..... Very good
Dominion—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), moveover; **Dancing in Manhattan** (Col) ..... Average
Orpheum—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M) ..... Moderate
Plaza—**Frisco Sal** (Univ) ..... Average
Paradise—**China's Little Devils** (Mono); **Fog Island** (PRC) ..... Not bad
Strand—**Having a Wonderful Crime** (RKO); **Master Race** (RKO) ..... Moderate
Vogue—**I'll Be Seeing You** (UA), 3rd wk. ..... Below average

Salome Goes On in Big Way In Calgary, Thanks to Yvonne

CALGARY—With "The Song of Bernadette" held at the Capitol for one week only, the gay note returned to the FPC's ace house here with Paramount's "Practically Yours" doing good business. The backward summer and the close of racing helped the boxoffice. Universal's rowdy, entertaining, "Salome" was big draw, with favorable comments being made on Yvonne De Carlo in the star role.

Capitol—**Practically Yours** (Para) ..... Good
Grand—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ) ..... Very good
Palace—**The Unseen** (Para); **Zombies on Broadway** (RKO) ..... Good
Palace—**Alaska** (Mono); **Are These Our Parents?** (Mono) ..... Fair

Theatre Crowd in Jeopardy

TORONTO—A few moments after arriving at a downtown theatre to leave a passenger, Albin Hooper, 60, taxi driver, collapsed at the wheel and the large car crashed into a nearby wall, barely missing a lineup of theatre patrons. The driver was found to be dead, believed the result of a heart attack.

TORONTO

Howard P. Robinson, a member of the board of directors of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has been elected a director of Acadia-Atlantic Sugar Refineries, one of the largest sugar-producing industries in Canada.

Bob Harvey, formerly a head usher with Famous Players in Toronto before service with the armed forces, has been appointed manager of the Brant at Brantford, Ont. Vince O'Leary, manager of the Famous Players' Grand at Kingston, Ont., has returned to the managerial ranks of the circuit after being with the armed services for several years.

Haskell M. Masters is making his bow at a Warners home office conference in New York June 26 to 28, following his recent appointment as general manager of WB Pictures Distributing Co. He has just returned from an inspection tour of western Canadian branches.

The death occurred at St. Louis of H. Hanson, father of O. R. Hanson, president of Monogram Pictures of Canada and other Canadian companies, after a long illness at an advanced age. Oscar Hanson has returned to Toronto after hurrying to the bedside of his parent . . . In the federal elections for the Canadian house of commons, G. J. Tustin, theatre owner of Napanee, Ont., was re-elected as the Progressive Conservative member for the riding of Prince Edward-Lennox, defeating two opponents handily.

For the engagement of "The Picture of Dorian Gray," Manager Fred Jackson of Loew's, London, Ont., conducted a jig-saw puzzle contest in the London Free Press over a period of days, a cut-up portrait of the picture's theme character being used, with passes offered as prizes . . . After recently taking over the Adelphi on Dovercourt Road here, David W. Snider has bought out the partnership interest of W. R. Davis to become the sole proprietor.

Miss A. Tyers, formerly assistant to Manager Bob Maynard of the Savoy, Hamilton, Ont., has been appointed manager of the Hume Theatre at Burlington, Ont., which is a unit of the Theatre Amusement Co. . . . Visitors have been Wolfe Cohen, head of WB foreign distribution department, who was Canadian general manager for some years, and David H. Coplan, formerly of Toronto and now head of United Artists in Great Britain.

Canadian Show Units Bound for Army Tour

MONTREAL — Eight civilian army show units sponsored by various commercial firms and organizations will go overseas about the end of June to entertain troops in Britain and European occupation forces, defense headquarters announced.

Their tour overseas is expected to last about three or four months and expenses other than salaries and production will be borne by the government. The tour is being organized by the Canadian Legion war services. Units expect to sail include:

From Toronto, "The Masquers," (the T. Eaton Co.); "Lifebuoy Follies" (Lever Bros.) and "Combines of 1945" (Massey-Harris Co.; Montreal: "Sun Life Revue" (Sun Life Assurance Co.), "The Masquers" (the T. Eaton Co.), "Canadian Legion All Stars" (Canadian Legion war services), and "Blue Bell Bullets Revue" (Bell Telephone Co. of Canada). From Halifax: Halifax Concert Guild Show, sponsored by that organization.

Capitol at St. George Said Sold to Rank

ST. JOHN—Sprague Bros. here has sold the Capitol, St. George, 45 miles south, it is understood, to Odeon-Rank. The house was erected about four years ago and seats 300.

The Spragues had previously operated the Opera House in St. George on lease, and continued to use this old roadshow house on weekends. The two Spragues, Les and Aubie, also operate the Gaiety, Fairville, in a hookup with Tommy O'Rourke, who runs the Minto Gaiety. O'Rourke handled the Fairville Gaiety on his own before shifting to Minto.

There has been some talk about Odeon-Rank taking over the Fairville house, originally known as Temperance Hall.

An unusual situation prevails at North Sydney Rivoli, where the entrance and lobby are owned by Odeon-Rank and the auditorium by Agnes McPherson. The two in concert are managed by John Farr.

Rank, it appears, will have quite a lineup of maritime consumers for his British and French made films, what with theatre projects for St. John, Halifax, Sydney, Charlottetown, Amherst, New Waterford and New Glasgow, and acquired houses in Halifax, North Sydney, Moncton, New Glasgow, St. George and likelihood of more. Some tieups are expected with independents in the maritimes and Newfoundland for use of the Rank output.

British Columbia Puts Vital Records on Films

VANCOUVER—The British Columbia government is microfilming all marriage, birth and death records on 35mm film. More than 1,000,000 documents are being photographed. The films are being taken in Victoria and developed in Rochester, N. Y., on a special film estimated to last up to 500 years, which it is hoped will give a perpetual record.

John Carroll the Lead in "A Letter"

John Carroll has been set for the top male role in "A Letter for Evie," a Metro production.

ST. JOHN

A personal appearance was made in the Capitol at Kentville by Jimmy FitzPatrick, travelog producer and commentator, in this area shooting apple orchard scenes and Evangeline atmosphere in the Annapolis Valley. His party included his wife. He told the theatre audience that he hoped to have a preview of his Annapolis Valley travelog in the Capitol during apple harvest time in September or October. He also explained, "If these pictures don't turn out all right you can blame FitzPatrick and his crew." George Fielding, manager of the Capitol, arranged for the personal.

Another party was shooting the apple blossoms from Associated Screen News, Montreal. Hank Michaud was in charge.

At the services for Mrs. W. H. Cuzner at Sydney Mines, the local Rotary Club provided a guard of honor. The bereaved owner-manager of the Strand is vice-president of the club and a past president. Two funeral services were held, one at the home and the other in Trinity Anglican Church, of which the veteran exhibitor and his wife were members.

Guests of J. M. and Mrs. Franklin at their apartment in the Mayfair here have been their daughter, Mrs. Lillian Babb, and her husband Sam of New York.

MONTREAL

The new Canadian general manager of United Artists, Charles Chaplin, made a success as manager of the Montreal branch and formerly was equally successful as Saint John, N. B., branch manager. Chaplin was feted by his Filmrow colleagues and his exhibitor friends at a luncheon given in the new roadside Chinese restaurant, Ruby Foo's, which has become a society haunt this summer.

While most Montrealers would like the ban on juveniles removed, B. Margo reigsters in favor of continuance of the prohibition. He writes: "Would any sane adult like his child to go to 'The Woman in the Window,' 'Ministry of Fear,' 'Identity Unknown,' 'The Suspect,' 'Murder, My Sweet,' 'I Love a Mystery,' 'Hangover Square,' 'Mr. Emmanuel,' 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' or any of the war pictures or horror pictures from the concentration camps?" The solution would seem to be marking certain classes of films "For Adults Only," and allowing the youngsters to see the others . . . The Gayety closed for the summer with jitterbugging by the Gayety girls with boys from the audience.

J. Arthur Hirsch, president of Consolidated Theatres, still is in the hospital and it is intimated he is likely to have a lengthy stay . . . Four practical scientific films were shown to members of the Canadian Association of Scentific Workers. One was "The River," showing how spring flooding problems on the Mississippi were solved. National Film Board cameramen have been taking shots around Sherbrooke, showing eastern township farmers at work, and will incorporate them in a short to be shown to service men to encourage them to take up farming.

The Adult Education Ass'n, at its annual meeting, recommended establishment of a film committee to discuss coordination of its forum interests with the work of the National Film Board and the National Film Society . . . Dorothy Reed, 19-year-old member of the Hilda Galt troops show, has been engaged by the USO and will leave shortly for overseas with the New York Roxy Theatre unit. Hilda, head of a Montreal dancing school, is a niece of Irving Sourkes, Montreal manager of Monogram Pictures.

The Queen's Canadian Fund makes the following announcement: "A constant supporter of the fund is Mrs. J. P. Dunning, owner of the Century Theatre, Ville Emard, who, with a gift of $40 passes the $1,000 mark. Soon after the fund opened its appeal, she set up a collection box in her theatre."

Canadian Film Men Honor Charles Chaplin of UA

MONTREAL—More than 80 circuit operators, exhibitors and film notables tendered a luncheon to Charles S. Chaplin, newly-appointed United Artists Canadian sales manager succeeding the late A. J. Jeffrey. The recently-appointed sales head was presented with a gold wrist watch on behalf of local exhibitors and film men.

Toastmaster was William Ellman. Present were Leo Devaney, president of the Motion Picture Distributors of Canada; John Grierson of the Canadian Film Board; Alex Adelman of Consolidated Theatres; Clare Appel of the Odeon circuit; Ed Wills, secretary of the Film Board; Edward Schnitzer, George Heiber and Sam Kunitzky of United Artists, and Dr. Charles Shapiro.

Subsequently Chaplin was guest of honor at a cocktail party given by Paul Nathanson of the Odeon circuit at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Donald M. Nelson's Appointment Creates Interest in Dominion

TORONTO—There has been some conjecture over the possibility that the jurisdiction of the newly-created Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in the United States may be extended to Canada to take in certain film distributing companies which are not linked with the Hays organization and prospective producing enterprises in the Dominion which are preparing for active operations. The appointment of Donald M. Nelson, former chairman of the WPB, as president of the new association aroused more than casual interest in the Dominion.

When Arthur Rank of England was in Toronto, there was a distinct rumor that David O. Selznick was in touch with the British film leader and it is thought possible that, in view of the Nathanson-Rank plan for a film studio at Toronto, the new independent society might have been one of the subjects for discussion. There is also the fact that United Artists has become identified with the new organization while Warner Bros. has reportedly severed relations with the Hays office. Both of these companies have Canadian organizations.

Several film exchanges in Toronto and Montreal are independent of producer-distributor associations and might become interested in the SIMPP. Incidentally, Frank C. O'Byrne, head of the Instructional and Sales Productions, and other officials made an inspection of the nearby studio property June 18 and an important announcement was promised shortly. This is the Nathanson-Rank project.

Still another angle is that Artkino Pictures has built up an organization in Canada for the distribtuion of Soviet features. Currently this exchange, with Canadian headoffice in Toronto, is releasing "We Accuse" for showing to adult audiences. In the newspaper advertising for the Canadian premiere at Odeon's Savoy in Hamilton, Ont., appeared the following statement in large type: "Hays Office Rejects Soviet Film Proving Nazi Barbarism."

Testimony Offered on VE-Week Vandalism

HALIFAX—In testimony before the special commissioner appointed to investigate the VE-week vandalism, disorders and looting here, Bob Roddick, district manager for Famous Players, pointed out that the Capitol, flagship in the maritime district of the FPC chain and largest maritime theatre, had been providing free film Sunday programs for sailors, soldiers and airmen since early in the war. When asked about a report that service men had been overcharged at Halifax theatres, he replied that the Capitol admission is the lowest in Canada for the first runs, although the Halifax prices might appear to be higher because of the provincial and the Dominion taxes. He said the Halifax prices had not been increased since the beginning of the war.

Stevie Doane, chairman of the Nova Scotia board of censors, followed the FPC regional chief. He said he walked behind a mob of sailors who smashed plate glass store windows with baseball bats and other things, and who entered the broken fronts and took stock from numerous stores. Doane heard a sailor yell, "We promised to take Halifax apart and by God we'll give her a lesson she'll never forget."

A naval truck participated in the raid on a brewery and the board chairman saw bottles passed around, with naval police participating. He told of seeing a large quantity of loot being carried by people—sailors, soldiers and civilians.

One British WREN who was drunk was wearing a fur coat, he said. An army truck and soldiers were involved in drinking. He saw a battering ram being used to smash in a brewery door. Merchandise stolen from stores was not only taken away but thrown on the streets. The naval glass smashers didn't miss many windows, said the censor chief.

FPC Declares Dividend

MONTREAL—Directors of Famous Players Canadian Corp. have declared regular quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share, payable June 30, to record of June 15.

Calgary Pioneers Picnic For Film Folk July 1

CALGARY — The Alberta division of the Motion Picture Pioneers will sponsor its first annual picnic for theatre and film exchange employes and their families July 1. Committees have completed all arrangements for the outdoor event. For those short of gas or lacking cars, special streetcars will take the picnickers to HMCS Tecomseh. Passengers will be taken to Sandy Beach at the Glenmore Dam on the outskirts of the city. Draw prizes amounting to $500 for the Pioneers Victory loan sale, will be awarded.

The committees in charge are Joe Palansky, Empire Universal, entertainment; J. K. Randall, Capitol, and Roy Chown, Strand, finance; Jack Reid, UA, transportation; Vernon Skorey, 20th-Fox, and Paul Cardell, FPC, sports; L. Hick, operator, and K. McLellan, artist, supplies. Over 400 guests are expected to attend.

The Film Exchange Victory Club is in charge of the food arrangements.

Walsh Second Lead in "No Leave"

Arthur Walsh has been assigned the second male lead in "No Leave, No Love," a Metro production.

MARITIMES

Henry Deveau and Marty Simpson, assistant managers at the Halifax Capitol, are wearing new blood donor buttons. So is Herb Pitts at the Orpheus . . . Part of the floor of the St. John Mayfair is being renewed gradually between 11 p. m. and 2 a. m. The auditorium will be redecorated in full, including ceiling and walls.

Archie Mason, veteran owner of the Springhill Capitol, was campaigning through Cumberland County as the Liberal nominee for the Dominion elections. His opponent is Percy Black of Amherst, holder of the seat and long active in politics as a Conservative . . . The late George N. Rattee, son of the Rev. Neil M. Rattee, Westville, bequeathed $300 to the Group Theatre, Belfast, Ireland, where the flying officer attended film shows frequently while there with the Canadian air force.

OTTAWA

When an explosion in the district disrupted electric service and threw the Cartier, Famous Players' unit in Hull, Que., into darkness, Manager Louis Gauthier took charge of the situation by turning on the emergency battery-lighting system and appearing on the stage to assure the audience there was no danger. Because of the nearness of the blast, which was heard distinctly by the patrons, Gauthier took the further precaution of requesting the audience to file out of the theatre in orderly manner. The Cartier was not damaged, although other property suffered from the mysterious explosion.

James T. Moxley, veteran theatre manager here, has announced the engagement of his only daughter Dorothy Edith to Alfred Nepean of this city, the marriage to take place the end of June. Jim recently recovered from a long illness to resume charge of the Westboro.

The spacious lobby and mezzanine of the Capitol was filled with floral exhibits for the annual iris show of the Ottawa Horticultural Society, the feature of which was the award of the Capitol Theatre Trophy for the finest display in the open class. The winner was C. E. Lester . . . Robert Myers has resigned as manager of the distribution department of the National Film Board to resume his position as booker with Famous Players Canadian Corp.

The eastern division of the Motion Picture Theatres Ass'n of Ontario has drawn up a central organization to deal with the many requests for theatre passes for charity and fraternal events. A committee of two has been appointed to handle applications for such prizes, received by any theatre in Ottawa and other cities of eastern Ontario. The committee comprises Manager Isser Singerman of the Ottawa Imperial and Morris Berlin of the Ottawa Somerset. They have promised to be tough in the free-ticket distribution.

Looking up many old acquaintances in the Ottawa district during a visit was Bob Maynard, manager of the Savoy, Hamilton, Ont., who was accompanied by his wife and children. Maynard, now with Canadian Odeon, was formerly associated with the Capitol and Cartier here . . . George McComber, veteran manager of the Lyceum, Port Arthur, recently suffered double bereavement in the deaths of his father and mother, who passed away within a few hours of each other.

Film programs at the Capitol were broken Wednesday night recently for a stage concert by Rudolf Serkin, pianist, one of the numerous musical presentations which have attracted capacity audiences at this theatre during the season.

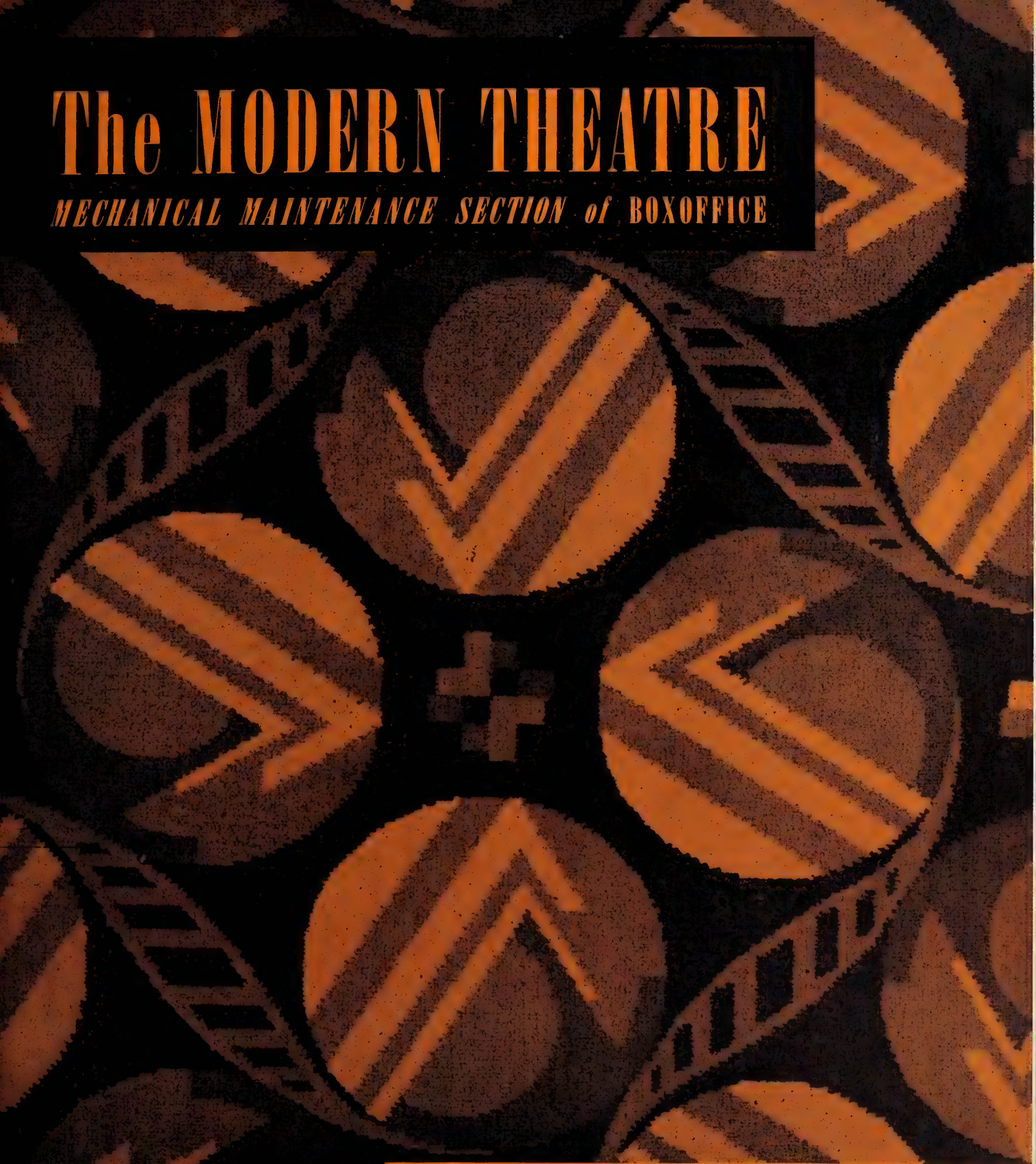
Film Nears Finish

MONTREAL—Work is being completed on "The True Glory," an authoritative film of the war on the western front which depicts the Allied campaign from D-Day until the unconditional surrender of Germany. "The True Glory," sponsored by the British and United States governments, was directed by Garson Kanin of Hollywood and Carol Reed, top-flight English director. It was produced with the cooperation of General Eisenhower, who already has viewed parts of it and will deliver the prologue.

Material for the picture was chosen by the directors from millions of feet of film taken by Allied cameramen. The title of the production was taken from a prayer uttered by Sir Francis Drake.

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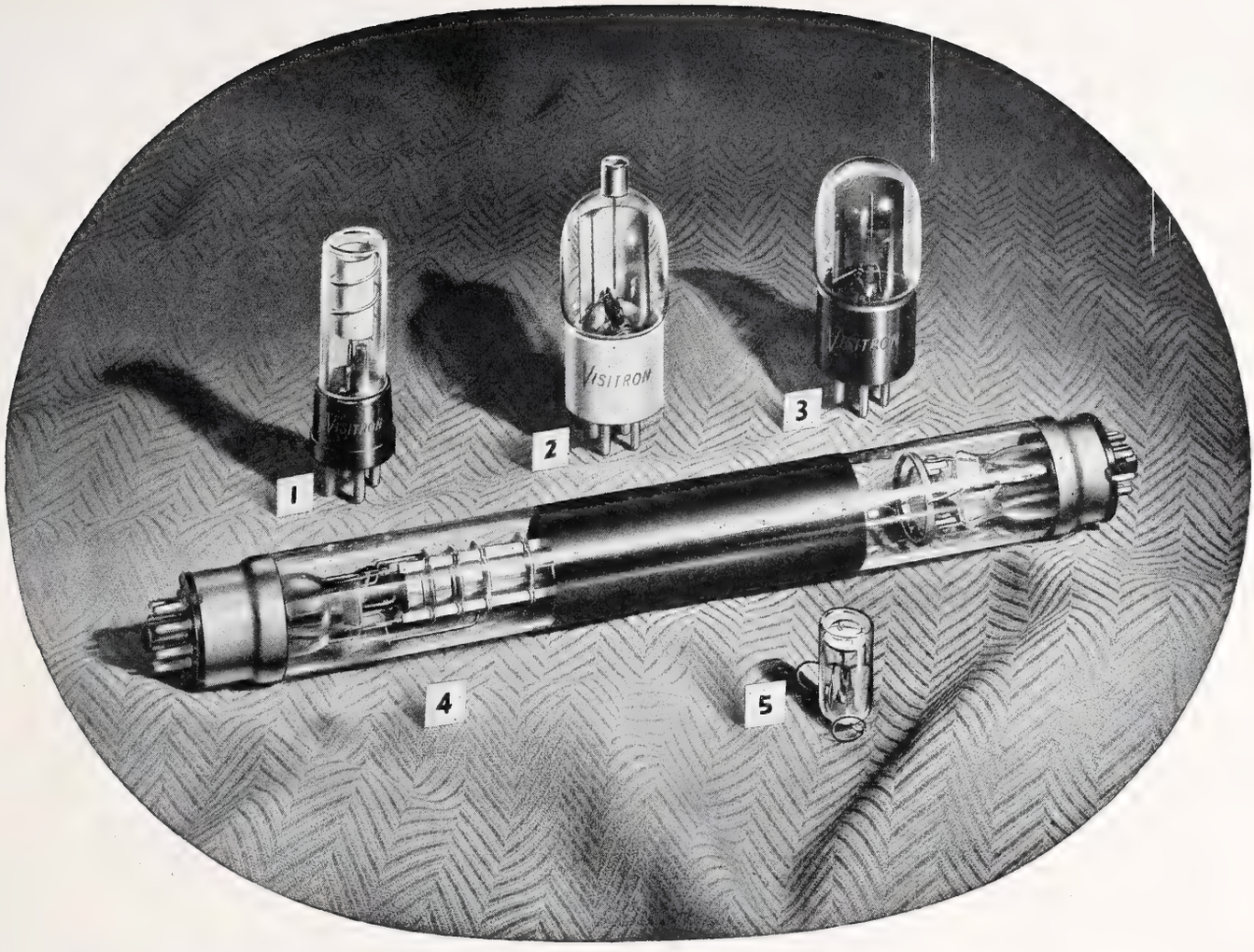
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(PAT. PENDING)

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Alert showmen will seize upon it for billing every picture as a BIG attraction...for outselling their competition. Be first in your city to install them! Write for details today, or see your theatre supply dealer. Literature and name of nearest dealer will be sent upon request.

WAGNER PLASTIC LETTERS

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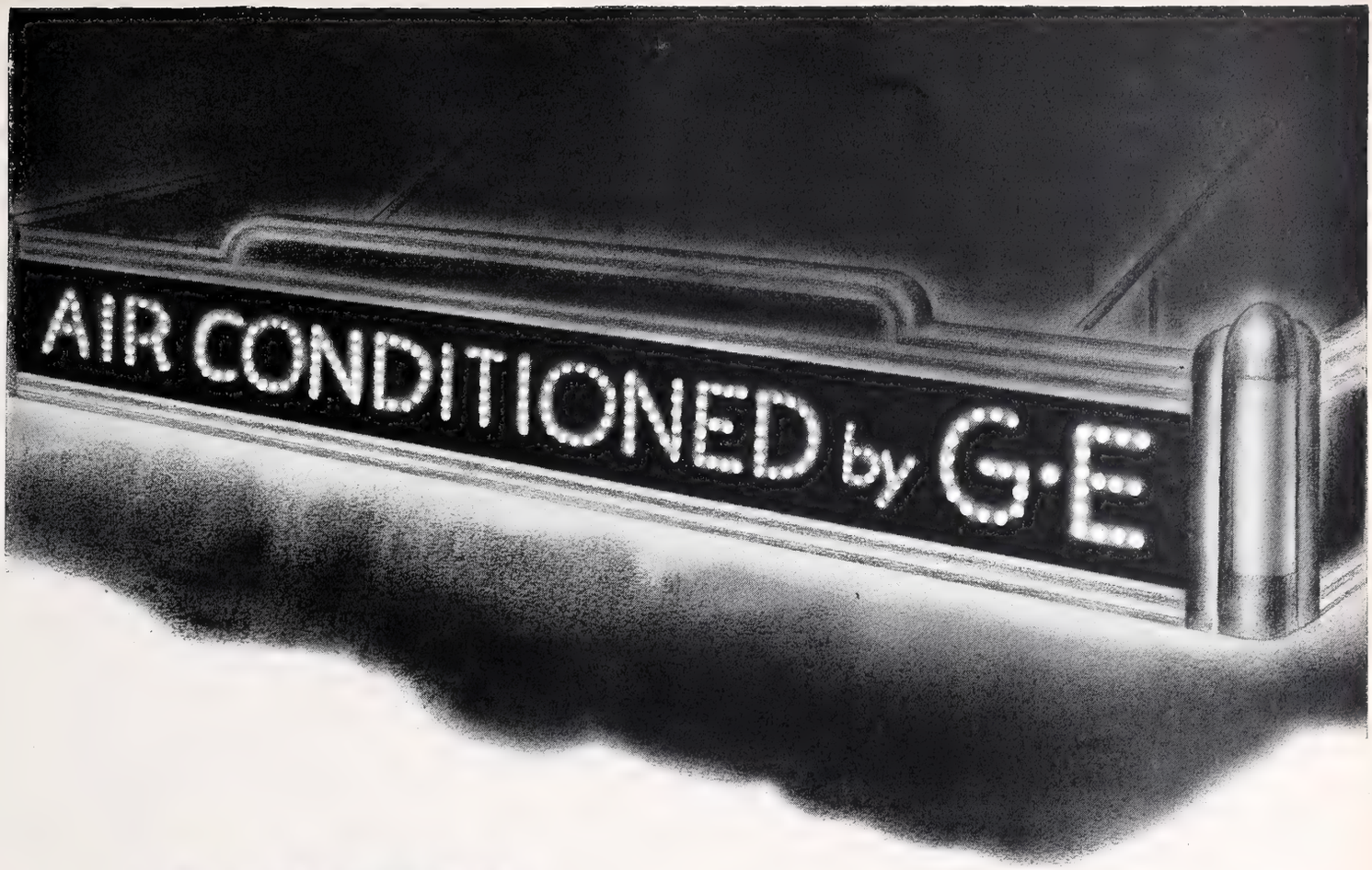
Gorgeously brilliant when light shines through them, they assume sharply silhouetted third dimensional effect by day. That's why theatres are replacing old fashioned solid opaque letters with these box-office magnets.

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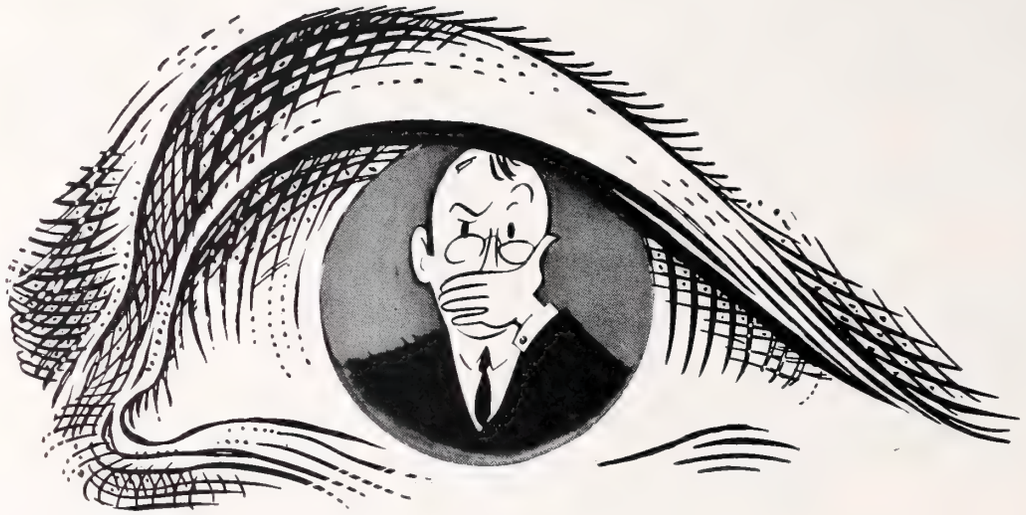
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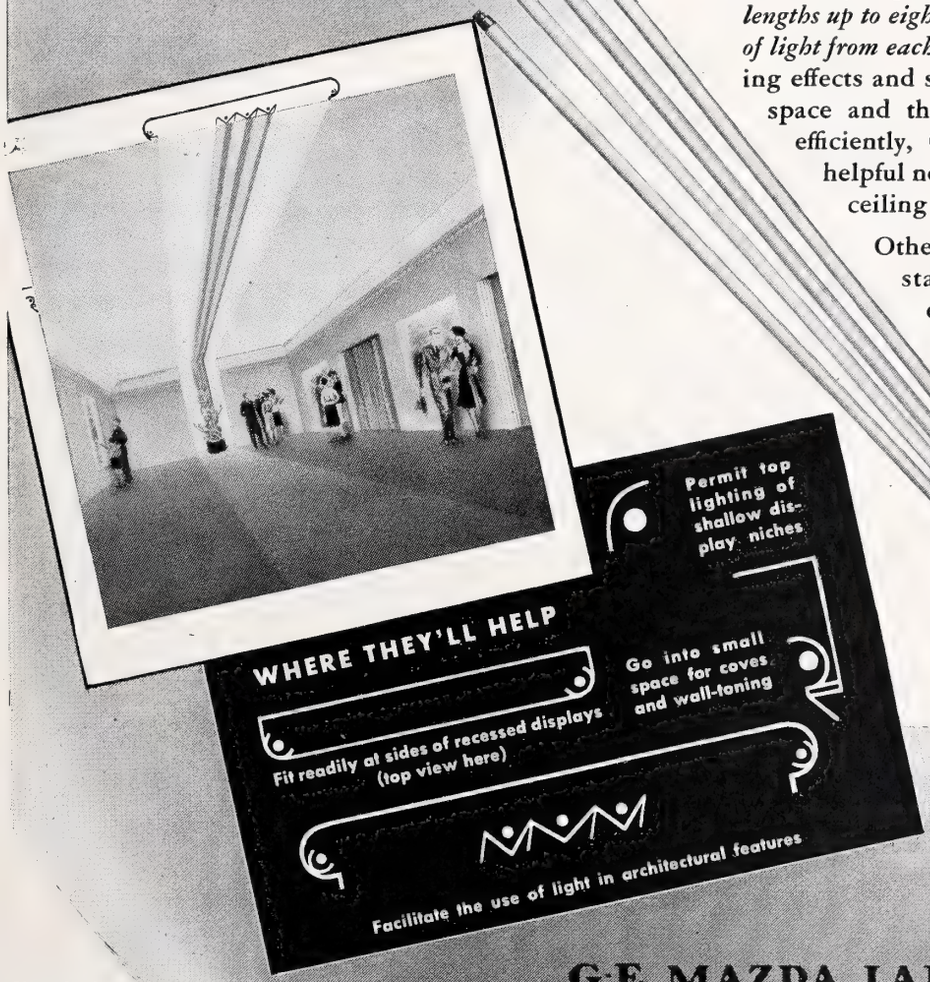
Another Product of General Electric Lamp Research

New G-E Mazda Slimline Fluorescent Lamps

Here's a brand-new lighting tool for tomorrow! A tool that offers greater flexibility in design and more versatility in performance. G-E Slimline lamps, with *lengths up to eight feet, small diameter,* and *two levels of light from each size* open up a variety of new lighting effects and services. Because they fit into small space and their light can be redirected more efficiently, G-E Slimline lamps permit many helpful new uses, especially in coves, shallow ceiling units and decorative features.

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BUY MORE WAR BONDS AND HOLD THEM

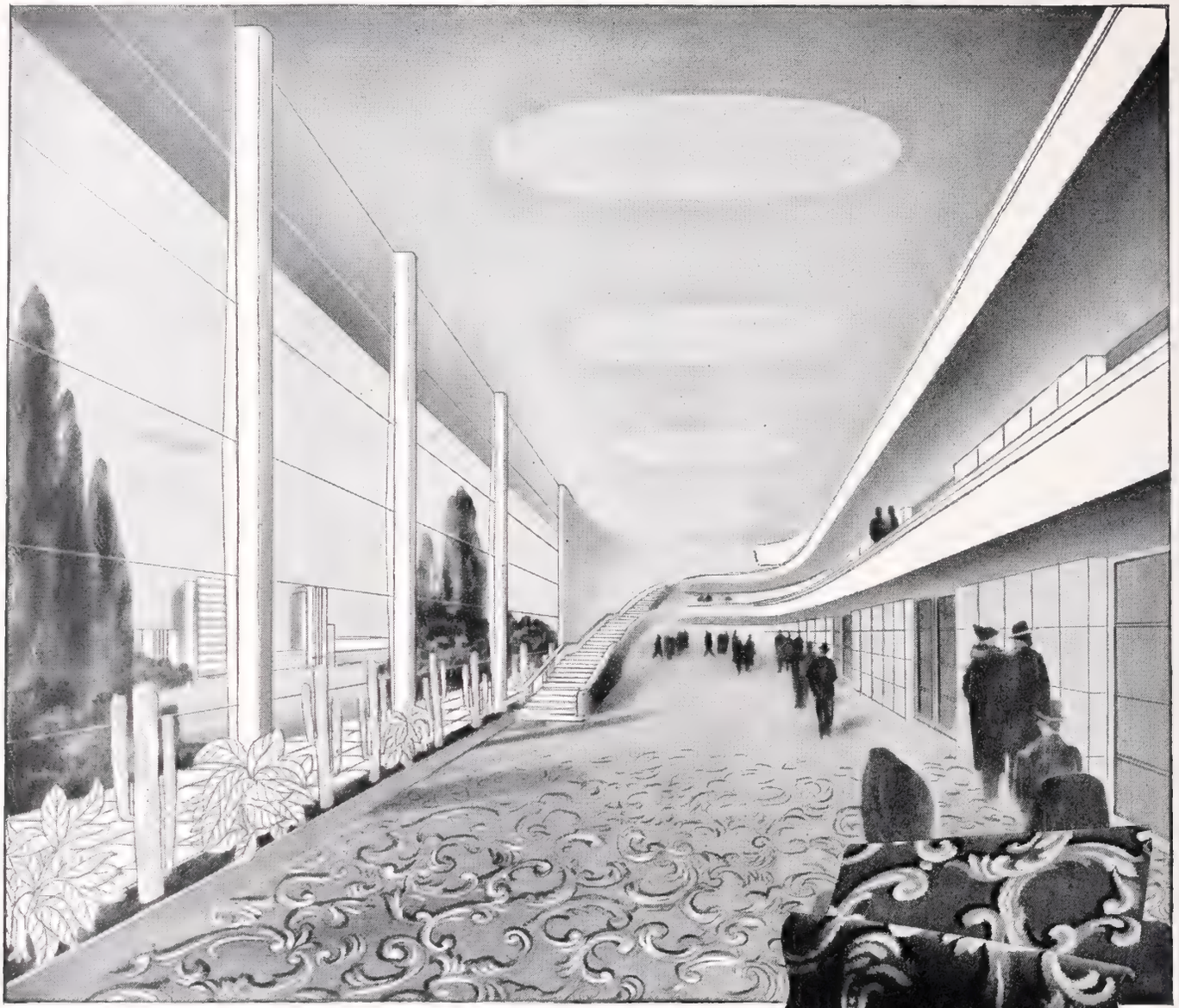


Hear the G-E radio programs: "The G-E All-Girl Orchestra," Sunday 10:00 p. m. EWT, NBC; "The World Today" news, Monday through Friday 6:45 p. m. EWT, CBS; "The G-E Houseparty," Monday through Friday 4:00 p. m. EWT, CBS.

G-E MAZDA LAMPS

GENERAL ELECTRIC

GOOD POSTWAR PLANNING DESERVES GOOD CARPET PLANNED BY BIGELOW



In this brilliant design, for postwar construction, the lobby has become a show window . . . A vast display case in which to merchandise a business.

And take note, please, of the floor. With Bigelow modern carpet designs, and an expert sense of color values, Bigelow Carpet Counsel has helped the architect add an exciting element to the design with the *right* floor covering.

When Bigelow looms can again weave contract carpet, Carpet Counsel will be ready to help you with the right carpet for the right spaces at no extra cost per square yard.



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140 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

The MODERN THEATRE

MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SECTION of BOXOFFICE

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Our Chance to Play a Leading Role in Reconversion

Possessed of the most powerful instrument ever devised for the moulding of public opinion, the motion picture theatre industry needs but to learn how to use its instrumentality for best effect on its own business for the future.

The motion picture theatre of tomorrow can be an outstanding public utility, or conversely it can be, at the option of its ownership and management, merely a place to screen pictures for amusement only.

From the top rung of the ladder of popularity to which the motion picture theatre has risen, as a result of a remarkably fine record for public service rendered during the war, it seems hardly possible that it will be let down to the level of its prewar function as a purveyor of movie thrills only.

The small-town or neighborhood theatre can be the style-setter of its community, not only by the pictures it may show; but in the measure of comfort, happiness, relaxation and pastime pleasures and diversions it may provide for its patrons.

Public morale is no mere wartime measure. It will be needed more than ever to fight our new battle to preserve peace and prosperity. The type of theatres we now plan to build will largely determine whether we shall act as a pace-maker for industrial and social progress or return to the slap-happy days of double features, jack pots, and tawdry prizes to hold our patronage.

We are now receiving too many inquiries from present exhibitors, and people who want to get into the business the wrong way, asking for free advice on how to build theatres cheaply. Invariably our free advice is DON'T DO IT!" This industry is already cursed with far too many cheaply built theatres. Any community, small-town or elsewhere, which really needs a theatre, will support a modern, well-equipped place of entertainment.

Small-town and suburban theatre owners should rid themselves of the complex that the natives won't go for the refinements of modern theatre operation. Some owners will wake up too late and find their "natives" going elsewhere for entertainment. So why not, altogether, let's set the pace for progress and social uplift in our communities by planning to build right—and as quickly (but not as cheaply) as possible.

Toler

On the Drawing Boards ... for

AMUSEMENT CENTER FLOORS

by **ELEANOR FOX DUFF**
Editor, RUG PROFITS

This is another of our current series of articles which constitute an exchange of information between the elements of supply and demand in theatre outfitting. The editor of RUG PROFITS herein reports to our readers (consumers) on the state of the floor coverings industries in respect to new product developments in design and fabric and delivery possibilities. Reciprocating, your editor, in the current issue of RUG PROFITS, has given the floor coverings industries (the suppliers) a perspective on the early postwar requirements of our theatres, both present and planned, including the new multiple enterprise projects.—Ed. Note.

WHETHER you are building a new theatre or amusement center, completely remodeling your present one, or merely replacing a badly worn carpet, floor covering designs for tomorrow's amusement floor will offer a fully flexible range of modern and traditional styles. In modern there will be innovations, notable largely in texture and in a new subtlety of color play. Floor covering stylists agree that the trend is to modern, but by modern they do not mean the angles and sharp lines of another decade.

Tomorrow's modern, according to designers of wool floor coverings, is texture enhanced by design and coloring. New fabrics will either be texturous or so subtly designed and distinctively colored as to give the illusion of actual texture.

Modern, according to hard-surface design departments, is in the application of custom-made or personalized floor designs created to order for the individual job.

Both soft and hard-surface floors have their places in the theatre or amusement center, the choice depending on the requirements of the particular theatre and the personal choice of its operating management.

The Supply Picture

In any discussion of wool floor coverings today, the first question is "how soon will they be available?" So before presenting the design forms now on the drawing boards, already in test samples or taking shape in designers' minds, a word on the supply picture is in order.

There is little likelihood that production of soft floor coverings will be increased during 1945. It is possible that supplies of hard-surface flooring may be increased slightly, but production of cotton duck and wool blankets for the armed services continues at the war pace, and has in fact been accelerated during the past few months. Millions of yards of duck have been woven on carpet looms. The country's largest manufacturer of blankets is a carpet mill. The demand for these war essentials has grown and shows no sign of abating as we turn to concentrate on the Pacific war.

It is hoped that as the third quarter draws to a close some relaxation of controls may be permitted, but no carpet mill is banking on that chance and all are standing by for the official green light before making any definite statements. The general consensus is that one year will be required to hit normal production again. But design departments are on the mark and ready to show theatre owners really outstanding designs in the modern and traditional forms.

The Style Trend

A poll of leading floor covering designers shows a unanimity of opinion that the modern treatment will be the important trend for theatre and multiple enterprise amusement project floors.

William Brown, stylist for Alexander Smith and C. H. Masland rugs and carpets, describes the trend in architectural style and decorative treatment in theatres and multiple enterprise projects as modern architecture and simple decoration.

"The amusement projects known as Multiple Enterprise, now in operation and being planned," he said, "are spacious modern buildings which convince us that this undoubtedly is the direction in which the amusement industries are going. We are preparing merchandise specifically designed to suit the requirements of the new theatre and multiple enterprise projects and are also giving consideration to the requirements of the renovated traditional theatres."

Stating that the development of new fabrics, in addition to the Smith Crestwood wool velvet line and the Masland wilton line, is under way, Mr. Brown said that many of the new fabrics will be round wire —uncut pile—constructed specifically to withstand the very hard wear to which such carpets are subjected.

"One of the fields of development which should interest us," Mr. Brown states, "is lighting. A great deal of study is being given to this subject because of its bearing on the color treatment of interiors. We also find renewed interest in the Smith fluorescent carpets."

Howard J. Eberwein, director of design and color, Lees-Cochrane Co., Inc., believes that the theatre, bowling alley, billiard

Soft Carpet Patterns

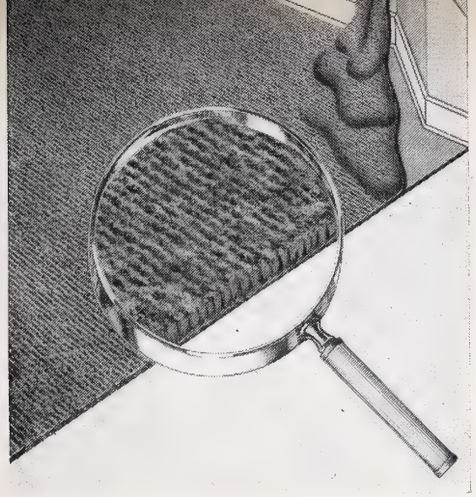
1. One of several new theatrical carpet patterns M. J. Whittall Associates has ready for postwar fabrication. The pattern shown can be colored to suit the decorative scheme of the area.

2. Stylist Wm. Brown of Alexander Smith & Sons designed this pattern and several others for a dashing color effect in larger areas. Mr. Brown advocates simpler treatments in smaller spaces.

3. This Wilton by Karagheusian shows the bold and striking pattern effect favored by theatres in the past. But the future will see development of a new type of theatre carpet, states Karagheusian. Patterns are now being prepared but will not be ready for presentation 'til production is normal again.

4. Howard J. Eberwein, director of color and design for Lees-Cochrane Co., Inc., offers this natural cactus form to exemplify what is being done by carpet designers to capture the local color theme in theatre carpeting.





An example of round-wire weaving is here enlarged for close inspection. This sample is from Bigelow-Sanford's Gropoint grade in Lokweave carpet. Lokweave has a patent back which permits easy replacement of burned spots or stains, as patches do not show. Another feature of this carpet is that the patent back permits individual designs for the particular installation, as color strips, monograms or decorative designs may be inserted without seams.

parlor and other allied amusement enterprises should offer their patrons pleasurable anticipation, comfort, stimulation and complete relaxation from the routines of the work-a-day world. As entertainers, they should create an atmosphere that is more ornate and dramatic than that at home or in the office.

"Color and design," Mr. Eberwein says, "will be used to the limit of their previously unrealized capabilities. Taking individual parts of each amusement floor area, we find that the furniture, walls, woodwork, ceiling, draperies and carpets are a composite of each element, so closely related that they achieve a harmonious effect in design, form a color only through proper application and correlation of all areas concerned. Gone forever is the meaningless application of design and color in this type of building."

"In the scientific application of color," Mr. Eberwein continues, "it is a matter of when and where to use *what* colors, and also the intensity of the color to gain not only a decorative, but also a psychological effect. In brief it is a case of 'what goes with what.'"

Texture the Keynote

T. E. Brown, merchandise manager of the Mohawk Carpet Mills, believes that the growth of the multiple-enterprise project, with its decentralization of shopping centers and amusement centers, "will be a definite challenge to our fabric research and styling departments."

"Most of the plans now on the planning boards," Mr. Brown states, "are being done in the modern manner. While the number of these projects in the planning stage is fantastic, and many of them will die aborning, there is no question but that there will be a sufficient number come into being which added to plans for modern in other industries, will give a definite prod to a wider use of modern fabrics, designs and colors.

"In my opinion," Mr. Brown continues, "modern in floor coverings starts with the fabric. This is the vehicle that carries the patterns and colors. Because modern is different and new, we must strive to develop new and different fabrics. The modern floor covering of the future will be based on texture. If the fabric has texture, and this will be the ideal, the design and color will be used to enhance the texture. If the fabric itself is not texture, then the design and coloring must be so handled that a texture appearance is attained."

Stylists of the Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company expresses the opinion that floor coverings for the multiple enterprise unit must be carefully considered in relation to the function of the space. For example, by nature of the game itself, Bigelow feels that billiard hall floors will be covered in plain or self color effects both from a practical standpoint as well as improving the appearance of the space to make it more attractive to women.

Maintenance Factor

Knowing that maintenance is a major problem, Bigelow recommends the Lokweave or patent back type of carpet in the looped pile or round wire type of construction for such areas. Lokweave has many practical features, such as cutting out unsightly stains or burns and repairing them by inserting a piece of the same color and fabric without the unsightly patched look of the conventional carpet. This company also believes that the round wire carpets are important because they resist soil more readily and can be cleaned by more frequent vacuuming than the plush type carpet.

Robert J. Carson, President of Thomas L. Leedom Co., believes that as the average person is more conscious of harmony in design and color today, theatres can add to their house appeal with attractively styled interiors.

"Most floor covering lines," Mr. Carson points out, "offer a diversified selection of modern, conventional, floral and period styles and the final selection is with the customer and his decorator. Round wire

(Continued on following page)

Hard Surface Coverings

5. Armstrong Cork Company's floor covering design for outer lobbies. Red and gray marbleized linoleum in interesting diagonals flank the black marbleized center traffic aisle.

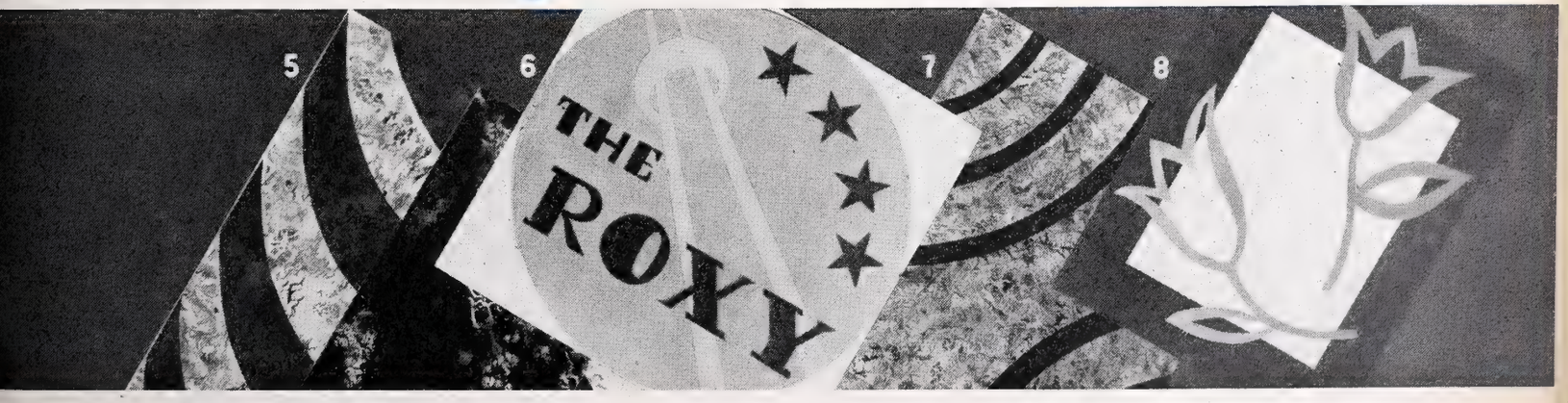
6. This type of name sign or monogram inset in linoleum individualizes the theatre and adds interest to the entrance. One of numerous designs by Armstrong.

7. A traffic directing design for the floor of the theatre lounge. The field is gray with feature strips of brilliant red. One of many interesting patterns being developed by Armstrong's Bureau of interior Decoration.

8. Another Armstrong suggestion for the floor of the theatre's powder room. The ground is of black linoleum with a turquoise center panel and a floral design in rich raspberry, especially contrived for feminine interest.

Frontispiece

Floor Covering *may well be regarded as the final or finishing touch to decorative refinement and functional efficiency for the modern theatre interior. Yet it rates first, rather than final, consideration among numerous practical provisions for eye appeal and comfort that combine to create and cultivate the receptive mood for entertainment provided . . . Our cover plate has for its principal background effect a carpet pattern designed expressly for motion picture theatre use in which geometrical figures simulating unwinding reels of film are woven into the pattern of a colorful, sturdy, deep-pile carpet to form a symbol of good showmanship.* (Pattern photo, courtesy Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co.)



On the Drawing Boards . . . for the New Amusement Center Floors

(Continued from preceding page)

fabrics have been standing up very satisfactorily under some trying installations and are adaptable to any type design. Some of the carved effects in Wiltons are highly recommended for powder rooms, lounges and other special rooms."

Alfred Oakley, head designer for Hardwick & Magee Company, points out that the advent of women in such sports as bowling and billiards calls for a more colorfully executed interior. For example, he believes that lounge and billiard rooms should be highly colored in contrast to the green tops of the tables. He recommends a plain twist or moresque carpet for this purpose so the attention of the player will not be distracted from the game.

"The theatre," Mr. Oakley says, "has long acknowledged the need for attractive show places but the trend now is definitely toward simplicity. The interiors will be less ornate so as not to detract from the performances and the soft indirect lighting enhanced with blended multi-color effects will add much to the modern theatre. The carpet too must be in keeping with the rest of the furnishings. Color, as always, will be a large factor. This should be considered first, then a simple design attractively executed. There are many new types of carpet which wil be available—round wire, high and low wire effects, cut and uncut pile, sculptured and embossed carpets."

Friendly Atmosphere

Designers for A. & M. Karagheusian, Inc. look for a friendly warm atmosphere to be the trend for amusement floors. Basing this attitude on the rise of the multiple enterprise project, the company anticipates an increased demand for quiet and intimate effects — chamber music rather than the brass band. An important influence, it is stated, is the modern decoration of architects and designers today. It aims for a spacious, serene effect. It looks not so much for pattern as for a mass of color tying together the other elements of decoration. It emphasizes the comfort of carpet underfoot and the texture itself.

W. H. Inett, Sales Manager of the M. J. Whittall mill, is one who looks for an increased trend to round wire fabrics. "This interest is thoroughly justified as the fabric has already been tried out under very exacting conditions and has been found satisfactory," he states. "The range of both price and quality is very broad. It would be well to remember that the costly carpets of our forefathers which lasted a lifetime, were all woven with uncut pile, so this type of fabric should be accepted on its merits and does not require any pressure selling."

Hard-Surface Flooring

Turning from the consideration of coming designs in wool floor coverings, the hard-surface flooring industry presents a wealth of ideas for amusement floors. Of course there are some areas in theatres and in other units of multiple recreation enterprises where linoleum will not be practical. But for flooring outer lobbies, lounges, and other areas, the material is practical and decorative, easily maintained and will bear heavy traffic.

Both Armstrong Cork Co. and Congoleum-Nairn, Inc., maintain interior decoration departments where floor plans are studied and individualized floors and color schemes are designed for the particular job through the local linoleum dealer.

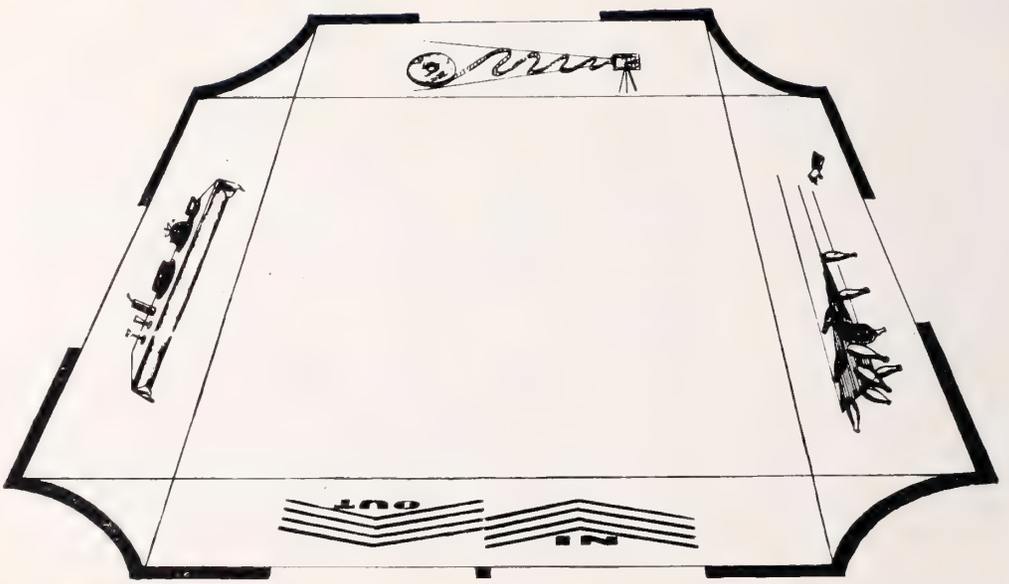
Commenting on the use of linoleum in theatres and other amusement places, the Bureau of Interior Decoration of the Armstrong Cork Co. states that this individual service can attract patrons. "An attention-getting design can be created by the use of different colors and types of linoleum and by means of borders, feature strips and other insets," it says. "The name of the theatre, a monogram or some identifying symbol can be inset right into the floor in a prominent position. An adroitly designed linoleum floor can change the shape of the lobby or other area. By the proper use of feature strips and inset designs, traffic can be directed along a particular path, or the establishment can be divided into several sections.

"While most theatre owners will doubtless want wool carpeting in the aisles for its extreme quietness," the Armstrong spokesman continued, "linoleum is suitable for almost all other areas. For those areas of multiple enterprise projects which are located in the basement or on grade, asphalt tile is the flooring to use, as linoleum is not recommended because of the moisture and alkali. This flooring is serviceable, easy to clean and maintain and is also fire resistant. Color combination and design effects are virtually unlimited and special insets may be made from it."

Pointing out that the multiple enterprise theatre project requires a multiple duty floor, the Interior Design department at Congoleum-Nairn, Inc. suggests that these floors must be durable to heavy traffic, yet comfortable and quiet underfoot as well as colorful and decorative and easy to keep that way. Emphasizing its versatility, Congoleum-Nairn says "limitless combinations can be made from Veltone, plain and jaspe effects. Complete freedom in color and design is available to the designer and owner. Linoleum insets to identify the various facilities of the amusement center, to invite use, to subtly direct traffic, to give a feeling of gaiety and relaxation, are practical durable parts of the linoleum floor.

"These same advantages of linoleum floors can be multiplied on walls, tables, bars, doors, etc., and eliminate expensive maintenance. Color correlated linoleum on floors, walls, etc., makes for a completely coordinated color scheme."

FLOOR PLAN FOR A MULTIPLE ENTERPRISE



ONE of the most novel and yet practical methods of identifying entrances to cafes, moving picture theatres, bowling alleys, and other amusement areas, centering upon a common foyer, is shown in the sketch above, submitted by Congoleum-Nairn. Inc.

The overall floor might be of Veltone Linoleum, which has a marbleized appearance, available in a wide variety of colors. Insets indicating the specific character of the shop behind the doors can be indicated by novel insets inlaid in the linoleum in plain colors.

Here a cafe has a table set with cocktails and food. The entrance to the theatre is indicated by a large roll of unwinding film, and the bowling alley by the ball and pins together with an out-thrust hand. Traffic movement at the entrance and exit is indicated by modern "flow" lines in the general direction, "in" and "out." Feature strips from corner to corner divide the center area into a large square which is left free of design since it has the largest traffic movement.

CASH IN ON

your other retail advertising



— with a

"MACHINE FOR SELLING"

Are you neglecting the biggest step any theatre can take to increase sales and profits?

Newspaper, radio, billboard reach people far outside your theatre and arouse their interest. Competent personnel, comfortable seating and other equipment and interior display, complete the selling process.

But getting people off the street and into *your* theatre, instead of into your competitor's —that's where you cash in on everything else you do . . . all your advertising efforts.

And that's the job on which Kawneer has concentrated for over forty years!

There's a Kawneer man near you who wants to help you. He'll be glad to tell you about sensational new developments that make the new Kawneer Theatre-Fronts so much more effective. Write Kawneer today—or send the coupon for illustrated booklet.

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THEATRE-FRONTS

MACHINES FOR SELLING!

Pull Them In To Buy!

THE KAWNEER COMPANY, 2906 Front St., Niles, Michigan.
Send illustrated booklet on Kawneer "Machines For Selling".

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Address_____

City_____ State_____

Owed to An Industry ... for

OUR FLOOR COVERING EFFECTS

by **ANSEL M. MOORE**

ON this occasion it is fitting, we feel, to pay our respects to the floor coverings industries for what they have done so well to raise the standard of house appeal in our theatres.

The floor coverings people have done more during the past twenty years to enhance the attractiveness of our houses, large and small, than perhaps any other supply group engaged in the fabrication and distribution of the more essential requirements of profitable theatre operation.

It is a bit difficult, however, in any discussion of fine floor coverings for theatres, to avoid lapsing into a state of eulogy on the esthetic elegance and luxurious appearance of modern carpet patterns from the viewpoint of eye-value alone. Whereas, there are several other practical functions of theatre floor covering which rate much-needed emphasis and explanation.

Suppose then we start off with the too commonly accepted function of theatre floor covering which is decorative effect, and proceed from there on with a resume of other potent reasons why present exhibitors and prospective builders of new theatres can not well afford to consider floor covering materials (when they become available again) as solely a decorative adornment. Which is not to imply, of course, that well-selected carpet patterns and weaves do not add immensely to the decorative elegance of theatre interiors.

On this point let's consider a common human trait, which logically places a theatre's floor covering in juxtaposition as the keynote to the entire interior decorative scheme or theme. Carpet is a crucial contingent to the well-established theory that first impressions are most important.

Upon entering any inclosure, be it a home, hotel suite, restaurant, shop, office or theatre auditorium, the first thing to claim the attention of the visitor is the floor. Safety dictates a critical examination of the landing area of the first steps inside, only after which the eyes are gradually raised for an appraisal of the place from floor to ceiling. Hence the carpet attracts attention and sets a mood for appreciation and/or expectancy as regards other appointments.

The luxurious feel of a good floor covering in the theatre lobby, foyer, standee area and auditorium aisles creates a first impression of comfort, which may or may not be characteristic in other physical appointments of the auditorium; but this first impression of comfort serves to temper any criticism that may arise from other sources including even the "turkey" picture on the screen. To a patron with tired or tender feet a deep-pile carpet leading him on to a comfortable seat is not unlike the Balm of Gilead. It works wonders for a receptive, less critical mood.

Showmen (and there are a few), who are inclined to scoff at lush theatre carpeting as purely a luxury, should remember that "ease" and "comfort" are terms synonymous thereto. And what, may we ask, is more important to the boxoffice than patrons at ease and made comfortable? Luxury in its true sense and applied within reason, therefore, becomes an essential to profitable theatre operation.

Passing to another facet of the functional effects of House Appeal Under Foot, one must consider the quietening, or acoustical effects of carpeting. Not only is the sound reception of the audience materially improved by the absorptive effects of full-carpeted floors, but the extraneous noises of traffic are substantially reduced. Thus the ear, as well as the eye and the sense of touch, is comforted in the theatre carpeting process.

Carrying on, in conclusion, to the matter of *taste*, by which is meant in this instance the public flair in general for a bit of garnishment with its entertainment fare, we doubt if any patron ever preferred a theatre because its floors were bare. To the contrary we are able to cite hundreds of cases in which ailing theatres (small ones too) have been promptly restored to public favor by the more expansive application of "expensive" carpeting. The qualifying word is quoted merely to emphasize the importance of *quality* in theatre floor covering. It must be borne in mind that only the more expensive fabrics can take the wear and tear to which theatre carpets are subjected. Cheap floor coverings are costly and should thereby eliminate themselves from consideration for theatre use.

Floor coverings because of the attractiveness and functional efficiency they add to any theatre are not to be considered in the category of a luxury that may be dispensed with lightly, or limited in concept of importance to a mere decorative effect. The floor covering if carefully selected and thoughtfully applied to the proper areas, performs the same comforting function served by posture-correct seating, air conditioning and other provisions for the comfort of theatre patrons.

Sometimes it is argued quite ineffectively by a few showmen, who should know better from experience, that because fine floor coverings are somewhat of a luxury provision, and comparatively expensive, they are not for the small or neighborhood theatres, but are suited only to the so-called "DeLuxe" houses where the public has learned to expect grandeur and good taste in theatre furnishings. The very successful income records (huge capital investment considered) of most of our deluxe theatres is a satisfactory answer to that line of argument. As a matter of fact, the average movie patron demands no less in grandeur and good taste from the small theatre than he does from the big one. That such atmosphere is not provided locally is probably why he or she is willing, more and more frequently, to pay higher admission prices to see the same pictures in the classier houses, where customarily no expense is spared to support the picture presentation with plenty of house appeal, under foot and elsewhere.

Fortunately the small theatre can provide the same degree of luxury to be found in the big houses at no greater expense per seat, because of the smaller areas of floor spaces to be correctly covered. It is not plausible, therefore, to maintain that richly covered floors are the exalted privilege of a relatively few large theatres.

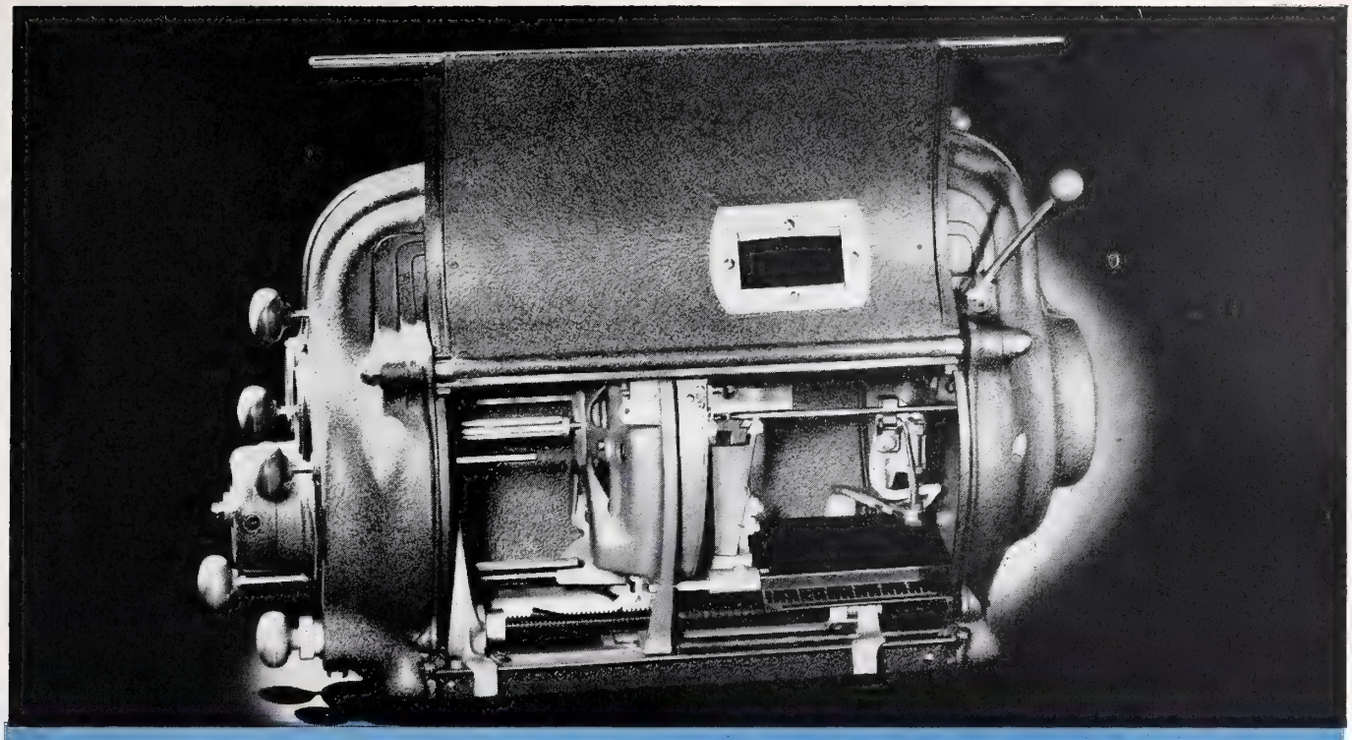
The floor coverings industry, several of whose members are foresightedly represented by stand-by advertising in this issue, are certainly to be commended for a fine record of service to our theatre industry. Supplying one of the principal ingredients of house appeal, the output of their looms may still be seen in most of our prewar modern theatres, pretty badly worn perhaps in many instances, but still serving well the functions hereinbefore outlined.

Despite the fact, from latest reports on the raw material situation, that it will be many months before they can manufacture and deliver even a modicum of new merchandise to meet the steadily mounting demand for theatre floor covering replacement and for new installations, the industry is not "looking out the window" as it gets along with its critical war production. It is definitely making plans for mill reconversion to civilian production, meanwhile expressing its concern for the post-war problems of our industry and getting ready to serve us again as soon as possible.

We can best express our appreciation to the floor coverings people for past favors by being patient as to delivery time and attentive to the proposals on new processes, products and pattern suggestions they will be making from time to time until Uncle Sam releases the raw materials out of which good theatre carpeting can again be made.

A Triangular Decision

Reviewing a year's testimony on who's to blame for it, Ansel, in next (July 21) issue comes to a decision that film damage is a three-way crime wave. It's the PROJECTION-SOUND number for 1945.



MORE SCREEN LIGHT

Projection lamps are judged by the quality and intensity of light which they deliver at the screen. That's why Strong High Intensity Lamps are first choice with the majority.

They project twice as much light as is possible with low intensity lamps and with only little increase in cost.

As the only projection arcs manufactured complete within one factory, Strong lamps can be so engineered as to guarantee the best screen results. They're sold by the better independent theatre supply dealers.

STRONG ARC LAMPS

THE **STRONG** ELECTRIC CORPORATION

87 CITY PARK AVENUE
TOLEDO 2, OHIO

The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps

Some Efficiency Measures for SUCCESS IN STORAGE HANDLING

by **ERNEST W. FAIR**

THE problem of how to store not only supplies and materials but tools and equipment is ever present for even the smallest theatre. As soon as the theatre manager solves the problem in one direction, it becomes alarmingly in need of attention in another. There is never any perfect answer to the problem and improvement in storage goes on every day. About the time the management believes the whole problem solved, new materials, supplies or equipment come along, or some condition arises within the theatre that makes the old method obsolete.

The foremost consideration in any type of storage is to keep the stored items free from their natural enemies. For example, certain chemicals used in cleaning and maintenance must be stored away from light. That requires storage facilities not only fulfilling that requirement but also being free of dampness.

Total Darkness

Dampness too often accompanies such storage. Also, a general conclusion that the requirement is to keep away from a great deal of light has resulted in a lot of damage for a number of theatres. The maintenance employe should be impressed upon that these items should be stored in *total*, not semi-darkness, and that best protection can be obtained only if that storage is in a dry spot, unless otherwise specified.

Another factor that should be borne in mind constantly is that such storage rooms need ventilation and such ventilation should be provided. Few indeed are the supplies, materials and equipment units used around a modern theatre which can be stored in an unventilated room for any length of time and not suffer a great deal of damage. Yet managers of many of our finest theatres wonder why deterioration proves so costly in otherwise perfect storage rooms. There is nothing like fresh air to take care of our stored items; simply because the elements of rain and sunshine can prove damaging too many of us conclude that air itself will be damaging.

Haphazard storage is also inadvisable. If merchandise must be moved about constantly, stumbled over to find what one is seeking, or piled up in huge stacks, the items therein cannot be expected to be ready for one hundred percent efficient use when withdrawn from storage.

Since the expense involved is not large, many theatres have found it a good practice to use large storerooms with shelves and drawers built around the walls and tables and cabinets placed in the center of the room for smaller items. Thus every item is stored by itself in a given spot and can be reached immediately by an employe should its use be desired in a hurry. Also, the chances for damage are a great deal less, since nothing is piled atop anything else; the stored items are handled only when placed in storage and when withdrawn, and individual storage treatment can easily be given items requiring special facilities.

Haphazard Storage

More damage is done to supplies and equipment in a storage room by haphazard storage than in any other way. If a piece of equipment has to be moved around (and carelessly most of the time) every time another item is withdrawn from storage, then each time the first named item is handled wear and tear are the natural results; and that means the useful life of the equipment or material has been curtailed even before we have had a chance to put it into operation or use. In those theatres where the correct system has been practiced such equipment and supplies always cost less to use. The important point, we are told by these theatre managers, is to store the item properly in the first place so that there will be no reason to handle it until the time for its actual use arises.

Experts also suggest that nothing be stored directly on the floor. Where items may be too large or heavy to store on such shelves or cabinets as mentioned above, it is advisable to place 2x4s or other wooden runners on the floor and store these items over the runners. Thus the items are protected from any moisture housed in the floor or seeping up therefrom; they are protected against vermin (and bugs have been known to get into even the best kept store rooms); and equally important, it is much easier to handle such heavy objects if one has a means of "getting a grip" underneath their containers. Some storage experts even advise the use of runners which have been creosoted or similarly treated where the storage room is in the basement of the theatre. The extra cost is very small.

Advice on Lighting

Another piece of advice well worth heeding is to have plenty of available light in the storage room or rooms. Too often these are rooms lighted only with a single 25- or 40-watt bulb. There should be as much, if not more, light in the storage room as in any other room of the building. Dark storage rooms lead to mistakes in handling, to accidents which result not only in employe injury but in damage to goods, and invite all kinds of trouble in handling the merchandise and equipment stored therein.

It is also advisable to have the light switch for the room outside of the room itself. Thus the lights may be turned on from the outside and there is no risk of an injury or something being broken by someone "hunting for the light switch." It is advisable to use the type of switch containing a small red bulb which lights up to show when the storage lights are on. Thus the lights are never left on when no one is in the room without being readily detected.

One theatre manager has also found it advisable to have a duplicate perpetual inventory record index stored right inside the storage room. On each card is shown exactly the bin or shelf number where the item is stored. This reduces chances for errors in larger theatres, helps an employe locate some item when urgently needed, and of course is an aid for more effective inventory control.

Fire Prevention

Another point of extreme importance is the advisability of good protection against fire, no matter how small the storage room may be. If the amount of stored items totals to considerable value it will be profitable to install an automatic warning and sprinkler system; particularly the former. In other cases such expensive protection may not be advisable but no storage unit is too small not to have some protection. Wisest procedure is to have two fire extinguishers handy right in the storeroom. Too often these are "down the hall" or in some other spot. When they are needed, they are needed in a hurry. The extra minute or two it takes someone to "go and get a fire extinguisher" may be all the time needed for the fire to destroy the stored items completely. However, if it is right in the room itself, there is always a chance of getting a blaze under control before any great amount of damage has been done.

Each of these points can be used profitably by any theatre, large or small, and the management of each such theatre can well check over its own storage facilities periodically. It's cheaper to make frequent check-ups than to replace damaged merchandise or equipment.

Start Something on Your Street!

Be the first in your neighborhood to announce a new building or remodeling project. Exploit it as an example of what other business houses along the street can do to INSURE BETTER PEACE-TIME PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

SODA-ACID EXTINGUISHER

Red Star

DRENCHES FLAME UNDER PRESSURE

Speed is the keynote of Red Star extinguishing action. A strong stream, driven by chemical pressure, is released immediately when the extinguisher is inverted. It has an effective range of 40 feet. Red Star is constructed with exclusive Sure Sweat seam, is easy to use, has no moving parts to get out of order.



2½ Gal.

AVAILABLE AT LAST!

The extinguisher you have been waiting for—in lustrous polished copper!

HOW TO USE

Underwriters approved for use on Class A fires, specifically against paper, wood, rubbish, textile, and similar materials.



HOW TO USE

Direct nozzle; invert extinguisher. Aim stream at base of flames, gradually working upward. Discharge completely.



IF IT'S GENERAL IT'S DEPENDABLE



Let General Protectioneers prescribe the right extinguisher for your every fire hazard.

THE GENERAL DETROIT CORP.

2270 E. JEFFERSON AVE., DETROIT 7, MICH.

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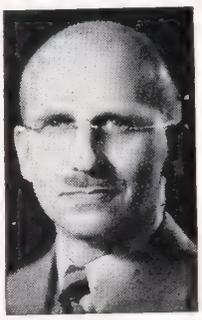
Just Off the Boards

Architectural perspectives and early stage visualizations of postwar theatre building projects, the erection of which will proceed promptly with the relaxation of material priorities. The completed projects will be featured in forthcoming issues of The MODERN THEATRE section.



Design copyright by Victor A. Rigaumont

ABOVE is Architect Victor A. Rigaumont's front elevation perspective of the new Kayton Theatre at Franklin, Pennsylvania. The new house already under construction, will replace the old Park Theatre destroyed by fire in November, 1944. Opening of the new Kayton is tentatively set for October.



V. A. Rigaumont
Architect

The original site of the Park Theatre (40x150 feet) is enlarged to provide an extra store room, lobby space, restrooms, executive offices, powder room and confectionery booth. The overall length of the new building will be approximately 300 feet. Approximate cost of the project, $200,000.

A building of brick and tile with a smart facade of terra cotta and structural glass which will be set off attractively by a modified V-marquee with clear-vision main sign and changeable attraction boards. The auditorium will have 1,044 seats and two aisles. Modern equipment will be installed throughout.

The builders, Kayton Amusement Company, a partnership comprising L. T. Houghton and Paul V. McKay, own and operate the Orpheum Theatre in Franklin, and several other houses in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Mr. Rigaumont, nationally-known theatre architect, has long been a member of the Advisory Staff of The Modern Theatre Planning Institute.

TO BE CONTINUED

TRADEWINDS

THE EDITOR'S MONTHLY WEATHERVANE ON CURRENT EVENTS IN THIS AND OTHER INDUSTRIES AFFECTING THE INTERESTS OF THEATRE OPERATION

Floor Coverings Industry Has a 5-Point, 5-Year Program

With production of floor coverings for civilian use now at its lowest ebb since the war began and prospects for its early resumption far more remote than is the case with other manufacturers of important theatre furnishings, the carpet mills are not twiddling their thumbs over postwar possibilities.

Leading units of the floor coverings industry have a five-point plan, already in operation, the object of which is to increase postwar carpet demand by at least 50 per cent over five-year prewar averages through:

1) Increased advertising by individual manufacturers; as much as two to three times that of prewar budgets.

2) A public relations program already at work, helping to publicize and implement the five-year plan.

3) Merchandising clinics to establish new methods of sales approach to all consumers.

4) Training courses for retail sales personnel ready to start as soon as personnel and new products become available.

5) Basic color cards, providing coordination in color combinations for complimentary decorative effects in floor coverings.

Thus the floor coverings industry is by no means "hiding its light under a bushel," so to speak. Without a thread of merchandise to supply at the moment, and fairly swamped with war orders, it is nevertheless making postwar plans and publicizing them.

The motion picture industry itself, and as well many manufacturers who will undertake to supply the mechanical needs of our theatres after V-J Day, may well be inspired to action by the present performance of the leading carpet manufacturers, who are doing a fine job of preparing for postwar security—prosperity for themselves, their employes and dealers.

Several millions of service men who will return from overseas may likewise benefit directly from this encouraging example of postwar economic development.

Put your foot down



...AND MAKE YOUR NEXT CARPET A MOHAWK

STEP INTO THE deep-cushioned luxury of a Mohawk "Traffic-Tred." Feel the springiness of its thick pile under foot. This springiness does not disappear as the carpet becomes older because of the way Mohawk has built it. Due to the exclusive "Balanced Construction" method of manufacture lasting color beauty . . . lasting pile resiliency . . . and long wear are woven into every square inch of a Mohawk "Traffic-Tred" carpet.

If you are considering recarpeting, put your foot down and make your next carpet a Mohawk. Get more carpet value for your money. Make your requirements known to the nearest Mohawk Contract Dealer. Should you visit him now, please bear this thought in mind—the reason his stock may be limited is because Mohawk, like all carpet mills, is engaged in vital war production. As soon as conditions will permit, he will once again have the wide assortment of beautiful colors and patterns for which Mohawk has so long been famed.

THIS IS THE MOHAWK "FIVE POINT" STAR OF BALANCED CONSTRUCTION

1★ Wool Blend
2★★ Pitch
3★★★ Rows per inch
4★★★★ Yarn size
5★★★★★ Pile Height

MOHAWK
"Traffic-Tred"
CARPETS
BALANCED CONSTRUCTION FOR LONGER WEAR

MATTING

PROTECT YOUR CARPETS
with
AMERITRED SOLID PLASTIC FRICTION MATTING

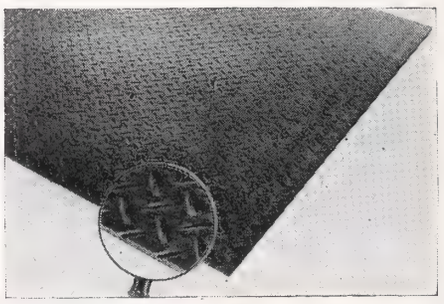
For entrances, in front of boxoffices, around drinking fountains, popcorn machines, on ramps, stairs and landings. Definitely more non-slip than corrugated matting. Lies flat. Good scrapeage. Easily handled and cleaned. Black in color. Comes in sheets 29" x 62" x 9/64". Can be laid end to end or side by side for covering larger areas, or can be trimmed for smaller or odd shaped areas. Withstands a great amount of wear.

RUBBER MATTING FOR USE IN FRONT OF EXPOSED SWITCHES

See your supply dealer or write for prices and literature on matting for safety, sanitation and comfort. Give details of your problems, location, prevailing conditions, size of the area, etc.

ALSO OFFERING MATTING REPAIR SERVICE

AMERICAN MAT CORP.
1719 Adams Street
Toledo 2, Ohio



Are You Ready to Remodel?

Remember this: It takes time to prepare plans and more time to locate and purchase the materials and equipment you are going to need. And it's much safer to buy with blueprints and specifications at hand.

No Restrictions On Sale of Supers Now



While volume of production still is limited by availability of materials, all restrictions on the sale of Super Theatre Cleaners have been lifted. Now you can keep your house clean and sanitary, keep the screen clean and bright, keep sound holes clear, keep lamp house clean, prolong the life of floor coverings, drapes, upholstered furniture, decorations, etc. with the specialized Super—the only cleaner designed and equipped to clean everything in the Modern Theatre. Ask your dealer. Write for specification data.

NATIONAL SUPER SERVICE COMPANY, Inc.
1941 N. 13th St., Toledo, Ohio

• With its many special tools, plus its powerful suction the Super easily cleans walls and all high things.

about PEOPLE and PRODUCT

Droll Theatre Supply Co. (Gus Anders, prop.), has moved to larger and more commodious quarters at 925 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, from which it will continue to dispense carbon-saving service.

* * *

Harry H. Strong, projection lamp manufacturer of Toledo, stopped off at Chicago on his way home from the SMPE sessions in Hollywood last month.

* * *

Erwin Wagner, of the Sign Service organization bearing his name, has been bear hunting. A brief but exciting respite from the business of bringing out that new show-window type marquee display frame recently announced.

* * *

And speaking of frontal display units, look for something startling from deep in the heart of Texas. Universal Corp., of Dallas (J. P. Travis, pres.) is readying a "big show" to start soon.

* * *

Homer B. Snook, mgr. of RCA's theatre division, was in Chicago last month to confer with Chicago Theatre Supply (Dave Dewey, mgr.) on new developments.

* * *

Frank M. Folsom, former Montgomery Ward director, who has been vice-president in charge of RCA Victor Division since January 1944, was recently elected executive vice-president in charge of the division. At the same time John G. Wilson was elected operating vice-president of RCA Victor Division.

* * *

Karl Brenkert (projection equipment manufacturer) in Chicago from Detroit, tells us that completed war contracts should place his company back in the full-swing production of theatre equipment within sixty days.

* * *

Clifford R. Wright, vice-president in charge of merchandising for Lees-Cochrane, Inc. (carpet mills), has assumed the additional duties of Director of Marketing for the company.

* * *

D. H. Finke (Ticket Register Industries, Inc.) announces the purchase of Coinometer from Ampro Corp., including business and factory facilities for producing the popular coin-changing machine. Further announcements soon.



COMING
HERE IT IS! SEE PAGE 35 FOR A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN PROJECTION LAMPS

"WORN TO THE BACK . . . . BUT STILL LOOKS GOOD!"

THAT'S the comment recently received from a theatre owner about the Alexander Smith Crestwood carpet in his theatre.

Fortunate indeed have been those theatres that have had Crestwood carpet during these war years.

They now know that it retains its rich coloring and luxurious appearance longer than any other comparably priced carpet.

They know from the wear test they have been forced to give it during the past three and one-half years of limited supply, that it is built for long and heavy wear.

They know it's the carpet to specify in the future.

Just as soon as conditions permit, Crestwood carpet will again be available in a wide range of styles, patterns and colors in the same dependable quality that has made it America's No. 1 theatre carpet. Put it in your future book.

ALEXANDER SMITH

CRESTWOOD

CARPET

ALEXANDER SMITH & SONS CARPET COMPANY

295 Fifth Avenue - New York 16, N. Y.

PLANNING

INTERESTING COMMENTARIES ON CONTEMPORARY PLAN PROCEDURE



Through the large plate glass window in the lobby the patron may view a profusion of semi-tropical plants and shrubs and the pool from which point the picture was taken.

The Palms—Adroitly Designed to Halt the Passersby

CUSTOMARILY a new motion picture theatre exterior is designed primarily for sales promotion of the spectacular type, with a towering facade and other fanciful facilities and lighting effects usually associated with outdoor advertising of the billboard variety.

Which is not to imply, of course, that an imposing theatre front structure with plenty of lighting and color and informative copy artistically displayed should be dispensed with. But as with other forms of outdoor advertising display there are certain inviolable rules of artistic application or restraint to be followed. Otherwise the result is liable to be an olio of overdone or discordant elements which are of little more value than eye-catchers. As such they may serve only to catch the eye and seldom hold the interest of the passersby.

The Landscape Lure

A modern theatre to fulfill its function in the successful presentation of motion pictures should have house appeal outside as well as within. As a matter of fact, the outdoor appearance of the house may well set a mood for the better reception of what goes on within. First impressions usually prevail.

For the suburban, community or neighborhood theatre, landscaping offers many interesting possibilities in postwar theatre planning. Lawn spaces, shade trees, flowering shrubs and evergreens, patios and promenades, scenic pools with spouting fountains and such outdoor attractions artistically arranged are valuable adjuncts to theatre advertising display.

The Palms Theatre at Phoenix, Arizona, newest unit of the Publix-Rickards-Nace, Inc., circuit of houses, which was opened to the public on March 22 is an excellent example of the "theatre-in-a-park" trend that will undoubtedly find expression in many of our postwar theatre building projects.



Wm. Pereira

Named for the palm trees which provide a nature-setting for it, the Palms Theatre was conceived by executives of the circuit and planned and designed by Architects Lescher & Mahoney of Phoenix, with Pereira & Pereira of Los Angeles as consultants.

In an outline of motives and a description of the theatre and its plans at the announcement of its gala opening, the designers had this to say:

"Based on the fact that 'neighborhood expansion' was necessary, an extraordinary site was selected and it was decided to build a house of such design that it would set a standard of excellence.

"In its design new devices were anticipated and provided for. The basic design was established, fully utilizing local materials. The house was originally planned in 1940, before the war, enabling us to pro- with minor changes with government approval in 1944.

"Accepting the premise that the picture is the focal point of the auditorium, the auditorium is simple. In addition to its spacious seating its only visual luxury is its contour curtain and cold cathode lighting on dimmers, which was perfected in 1944. The lobby and foyer are definitely residential in character and fit into the Phoenix locale. The landscaping—the large palms were existent—and pool became a part of the interior through its picture windows illuminated at night.

"Display areas exceed those in other jobs done by the same designers, and merchandising possibilities are also furthered and incorporated. The booth is fitted for preview track and though the house is modern it has the studio dramatic character projected in the design of the modern motion picture."

An Uncrowded Site

Located in one of the better residential areas of Phoenix, a short distance from the main business section, the Palms Theatre is not cramped for space. Built to accommodate a capacity of only 772 patrons, plenty of area was reserved for landscaping in front in a treatment that blends harmoniously with the modern pattern of the building. An impressive free-standing sign with a concrete base in front of the theatre carries the name of the theatre in attractive neonized script letters.

The building sets in a garden of stately palms and there is a patio with a sparkling pool, all of which remain visible from the glass-enclosed lobby. Parking spaces are provided on both sides and at the rear of



Mother Nature provides the setting for the Palms Theatre. A smart architectural adaptaion gives the house plenty of exterior eye appeal, a requirement often overlooked by the planner of theatres.

the building. Additional parking area when needed is available nearby.

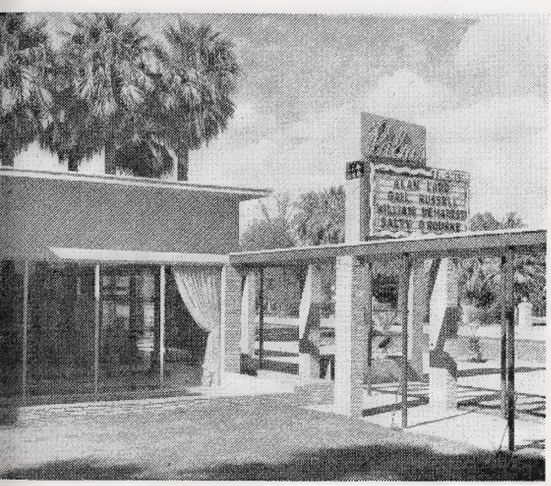
Carrying out the design motif, the foyer is lined with a display of Indian and local works of art, including paintings, sculpture, Indian relics, and the like, constituting a museum. The lobby looks out through plate glass windows 10 feet high, with semi-tropical plants and the pool plainly visible. This area is treated as a lounge, fully carpeted and equipped with modern furniture. The women's powder and public rooms and the manager's office are all reached from this lobby.

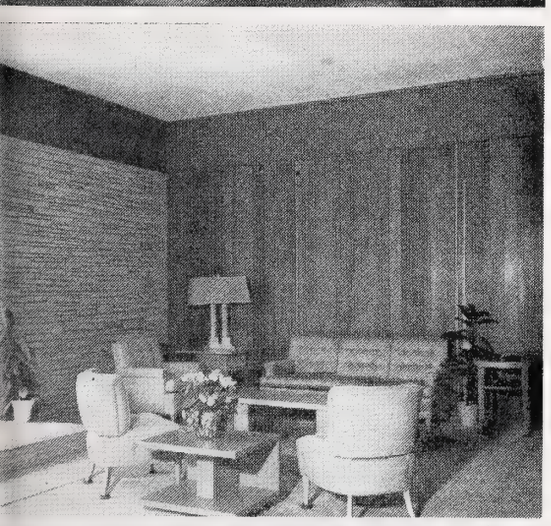
Planned for Comfort

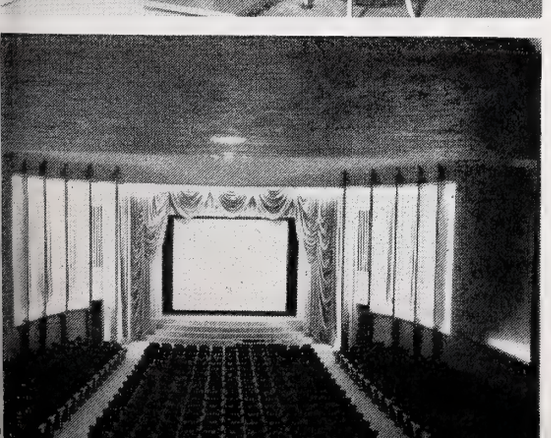
The auditorium is functional in design except for a concentration of lighting effects in front. The light sources are cold cathode in blue and gold; the blue is for running lights and the gold for house lighting. The Palms auditorium was especially designed to take advantage of everything research has done to improve the comfort of theatre patrons. Comfort is stressed, and, typically, the chairs, of the popular push-back type, are spaced 36 inches back-to-back, providing a lounge effect. Air conditioning is of the newest evaporative type. The latest types of projection and sound equipment were installed.

Although planned prewar and completed with considerable difficulty and delay during the emergency, the Palms Theatre, one of a very few permanent theatres erected during the war, sets a very good example to postwar planners. It was designed for house appeal outside as well as within.

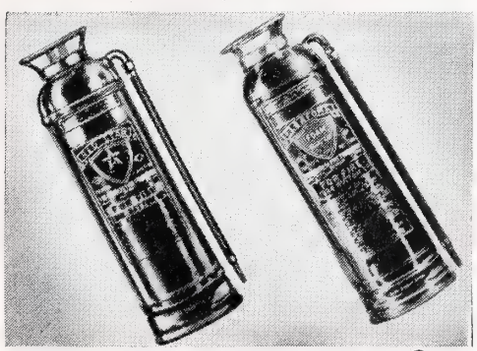
Top—View of the Palms Theatre entrance from the patio-garden looking towards the pool and lobby. Center—Arrangement of furniture in the lobby lounge located near the pool. Below—The auditorium with contour curtain up and tile curtain open and ready for picture presentation.







Fire Extinguishers to Be Available in July



The General Detroit Corporation announces production is being resumed on its prewar copper finish soda-acid and foam type fire extinguishers. Discontinued early in the war because of material shortages, Red Star soda-acid and Floafome foam type extinguishers will be available early in July.

Red Star extinguishers are familiar to most theatre owners, since they have been extensively used throughout the industry. Construction is of cold-rolled steel copper-lined with corrosion-resistant alloy. Special features are said to include superior seam strength through the use of an exclusive "sure-sweat" process, heat-resisting bottle, sturdy bottle cage, and double strength wheel cap. Red Star is Underwriters' inspected and approved for Class-A fires in wood, textiles, paper, rubbish, etc. Underwriters' Classification is A-1.

Floafome foam type extinguishers are similar to Red Star in construction, and produce approximately 22 gallons of fire-killing foam. Recommended for use on fires in gasoline, oil, paint, chemicals, textiles, and grease, they are classified by Underwriters' Laboratories A-1, B-1.

When new seating is installed why not look into the importance of hearing aids. Good time to get it done.

Now that the "brown-out" has been lifted, let's put our houses back in the spotlight—and pronto!

Keep in close touch with your local supply dealer. Ask him, "What's New?" He'll gladly tell you—maybe show you.

Consult The Modern Theatre Research Bureau for information on building products, furnishings and equipment.

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NOTE: The Institute does not undertake the professional functions of an architect or designer. Its service is intended merely to place our readers in touch with reliable local sources of preliminary information and advice on theatre planning and structural problems.

DECORATING

THE ARTISTIC SIDE OF ARCHITECTURE
AS APPLIED TO THEATRE DECORATION



Standee and stairway area in the Valencia Theatre at Evanston, Illinois, indicates good judgment in floor covering for crowded spaces. (Photo courtesy Bigelow-Sanford.)

Some Decorative Do's and Don'ts on Theatre Flooring

by HANNS R. TEICHERT*



TOO OFTEN decoration is thought of as the mere handling of wall and ceiling surfaces, with the attendant arrangement of furnishings against them. It is sometimes forgotten that one of the most prominent areas for size and visibility is the floor. Decoration should not only include this area but very rightly start right there and build up from it. We wish we could say that this is the general practice rather than the exception, but too numerous are the theatres where effects of walls, ceilings, and furnishings, carefully worked out for every purpose demanded of them, are completely nullified by the later addition of carpeting that has nothing whatever to do with the room in which it finds itself as to color, design, or psychological effect.

Inasmuch as advice and planning for this surface is among the rest of the details that your decorator stands ready to provide, it is only good common sense, since you trust him with two surfaces, not to limit his efforts for you to those, but to free him to work with the whole. Your results will then not increase to a mere third more power and effectiveness, but will compound in interest.

We could fill this article with horrible examples; for this is one of the real "blind spots" of theatre decoration, but we will confine ourselves to those most common floor covering faults to be guarded against.

*Theatre Decorating Specialist; Decorative Consultant to The Modern Theatre Planning Institute.



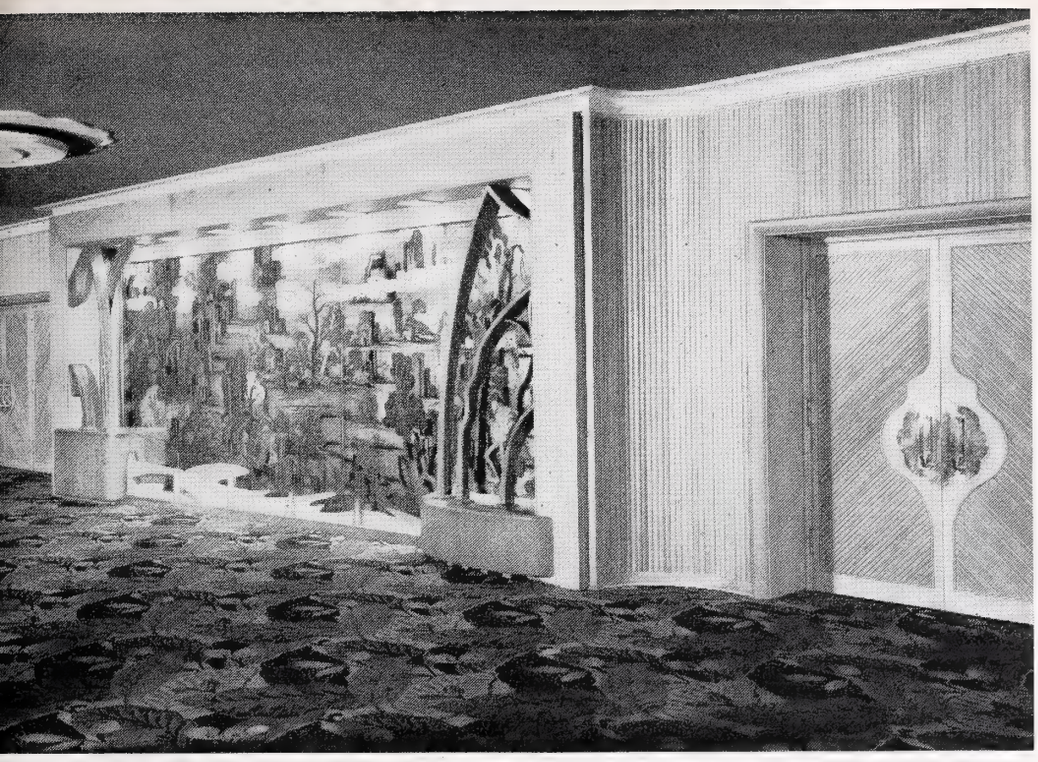
Floor covering in an occupational design is easily the decorative feature of the lobby of the Twentieth Century Theatre in Cincinnati. Yet it complements rather than detracts from other effects of decor. (Photo courtesy Mohawk Carpet Mills.)

Common Faux Pas

Perhaps the most blatant type of mishandling is the use of a very strongly patterned geometric motif of the outdated "modernistic" school, in almost primitive colors, against walls and ceiling where the colors verge on the pastel and are either in solid tones or in weaker floral patterns of wallpaper. Not only does the floor completely dominate the whole but it makes the walls look even more wishy-washy than they really are, and creates an unbalanced effect that is both dowdy and fusty. This lack of balance is one of the most ruinous of commn errors. In a case like this where the walls are weak, they should either be strengthened at the time of their next redecoration to hold their own against the

ADVISORY SERVICE

As Decorative Consultant to the MODERN THEATRE section, Hanns R. Teichert will be glad to correspond with any of our readers who may wish information and advice on decorating procedure. All such inquiries will be given prompt attention. Address your inquiry to The MODERN THEATRE, 322 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. It will be immediately referred to Mr. Teichert for analysis and advice, without obligation.



House Appeal Underfoot could hardly be more ideally exemplified than by this view of the lobby of the Valentine Theatre in Toledo, Ohio. Color and pattern were carefully correlated with decorative effect. (Photo courtesy Rapp & Rapp, theatre architects.)

carpeting; or when it comes time to replace the latter, a more harmonious pattern and color scheme should be chosen. But until one of these two things are done there will be no aesthetic peace within those walls!

The next most common fault in the integration of floor covering with general room decoration is the lack of feeling for pattern. The color may be perfectly selected for the rest of the room, but whereas the motifs of the furnishings might have indicated the use of a pattern of flowing form to correlate the decor, a carpet of absolutely foreign squares, rectangles, and other rigidities may be ordered. What's more, there have been instances where these patterns have been of such wide contrast of color within themselves that the patron has the feeling he is alternately stepping in and out of holes as he progresses. Contrast to this degree is not only visually unsettling but most unaesthetic. The main idea is that where a fern pattern is set up as the main decorative motif, use a fern pattern on the floor. Or where it is a floral, use that for the carpeting. Where the decorations are stylized geometrical, then go to that throughout. And don't feel that this will be monotonous, for the difference in the scale of the patterns, the differences in composition or design, and the differing color accents that may be brought in are all that are needed to provide all the contrast there should be. Anything further as to contrast is only liable to end up as confusion.

Dimensional Effects

This point of attention to pattern should also be looked at from another point of view. Many are the long bare lobbies that have been made longer and more rigid looking by the carpeting that led the eye by its strong pattern down the long weary length. Just a little thought would have caused the selection of a pattern that widened out the narrowness through strongly accenting the width measurement. Naturally, the reverse is also to be attained with a room which is too wide for its length and needs visual stretching. It is amazing how much difference a treatment like this can make when the proportions of a room are in need of it.

One final note on pattern selection might be to watch the period of the design to be selected as well as the pattern itself. By this we mean that if you have a house done in Louis XVI, Italian Renaissance, or any of the traditional periods, no matter how much you might be tempted to put in carpeting of some particularly attractive but unrelated design, resist that temptation! Stay in your period; but if you want to give your whole theatre a modern flavor within its traditional setting, that is permissible, but requires the greatest knowledge and deftness to bring it off successfully. In this case you will need the advice of your architect or theatre-decorator-specialist more than ever in the correlating of carpeting, for very likely what will be required here will be a custom-made job. While this service is not available now, it will be more important than ever after the war, for its advantages are numerous.

Color Correlation

Now that we have gone into the pitfalls to be found in the field of pattern alone, let us run briefly over some of the do's and don'ts of color for carpeting. The first might be: Don't choose your colors in too sharp tones. The reason is obviously that the parts taking the wear will gray down with usage leaving the less used portions to offer too much contrast to the eye and advertise the condition of the used part. Grayed, muted tones, without a too drastic contrast, are the best for general usage. These take on an antiquated look with age and mellow rather than become increasing eye-sores.

Another color hint is that rouge tones for the carpeting of the ladies' powder rooms is an obviously good choice. It is already the ground tone for fallen lipsticks and rouge cases. That it should also be flame-proofed for fallen cigarettes is only good sense and insurance. The same, in this latter regard, holds for the men's lounges; though the best general color for this usage is a mottled neutral tone that will be able to take the punishment of crushed cigarette butts.

Everything that we have said about carpeting applies in equal degree to all other floor coverings for theatrical use, be they asphalt tile, cork, linoleum, or any other product. The same laws of appropriateness as to pattern, color, period, and feeling . . . all the artistic commandments apply to them just as rigorously. An architect or theatre - decorator - specialist should be consulted to integrate them with the general decorative scheme for the best results.

The Positive Side

Now that we have offered some precautionary remarks, let's look at the positive side and consider some good examples of well-planned floorings.

First, let's look at the picture of the Valencia Theatre at Evanston, Illinois, a small house where the restricted lobby was handled most intelligently as to floor covering. Here a cut-up pattern would only have added confusion to the entrance, so the color scheme of the walls . . . four tones of one color . . . were called on for the theme of the floor. The two deepest, and most practical tones were used with just enough of a motif suggested in the formalized leaf design to take the bareness off so that the whole lobby looks tailored and uncluttered. No matter how small or modest a theatre may be it has the same access to good taste and making the best of itself.

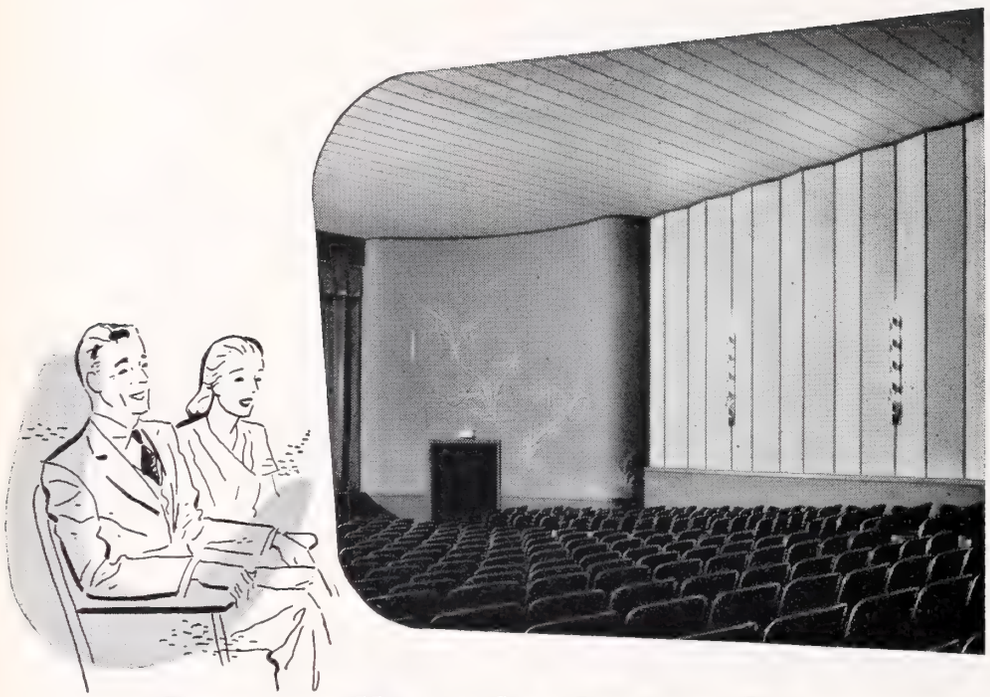
Our second good example is the Twentieth Century Theatre, at Cincinnati, Ohio. Here is shown the appropriate, and not indiscriminate, use of a geometrical pattern. In a setting of chastely simple lines, this carpeting becomes a feature of the house, for it is custom-made to provide the desired colors in a design symbolizing the personality of the Twentieth Century Theatre itself, with a stylized rendition of its exterior intertwined with the reels and film of its occupation. This effective and appropriate carpeting is as practical as it is attractive.

Our third example of flooring that is a glorification of its own usage is that used in the Valentine Theatre, at Toledo, Ohio. This remarkable theatre was one of the last to be remodeled before war restrictions made that impossible and was given The Modern Theatre's merit award as the most outstanding theatre completed in 1942. It is done in a modern stylization of traditional Chinese, with the richest of decorations. Naturally, the carpeting had to hold its own; so it was made an object of special consideration by the architects, decorators and contractor. It uses the lotus leaf and blossom motif taken from the hand-done murals. The colors are correlated and the whole effect is one of enormous richness, beauty and practicality when set against the elegant simplicity of the natural wood walls done in the Chinese manner.

War-Developed Fiberglas Basis for Sound Control

A basis for the development of products that will meet the sound control requirements of the motion picture, radio and television industries is provided by Fiberglas noise absorbing materials developed during the war period for use in military aircraft, Willis M. Rees, acoustical specialist of Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation, told the society of Motion Picture Engineers, assembled for their annual meeting in Hollywood last month.

In his discussion of the acoustical properties of Fiberglas, which was prepared jointly by he and Robert B. Taylor of the Fiberglas Research Laboratories, Mr. Rees stated that the most recent development is a down-like fiber of sub-microscopic fineness which is made into incombustible aircraft blankets with exceptional heat and sound insulating properties, combined with extremely light weight and low moisture absorption. The average diameter of one type of these down-like fibers is five hundred-thousandths (0.00005) of an inch. Blankets composed of these fibers and weighing two and a half ounces per square foot are being used for sound insulation in multi-motor heavy bombers.



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Sunroc Readies Some Radically New Coolers



The water cooler of the future will be as beautiful as a fine piece of furniture.

Yankee ingenuity and originality in industrial design are likely to hit a new high in America in the products which will be offered for sale after the war.

There will be entirely new types of products, aimed at advancing the nation's health, comfort, convenience and well being. Others, which had become fairly well established before the war, will resume where they left off, and make their bids for a far more extended market.

One of these adjuncts of better living which is undoubtedly destined to come into universal use is the electric water cooler. In all places frequented by numbers of persons, such as theatres, there is insistent demand for a dispenser of cool, refreshing drinking water.

The design of electric water coolers, for the most part, has been conventional and uninspired. Their strictly utilitarian lines frequently clash with the interior decorator's idea of a perfect ensemble.

The Sunroc Refrigeration Company, of Glen Riddle, Pa., has apparently taken this lesson to heart, and is doing something about it. Sunroc has put two famous industrial designers to work, restyling the cabinets of all its postwar models of water coolers. To sound engineering and sturdy, heavy-duty construction — which have made Sunroc water cooling service so satisfactory on our battleships and hundreds of other Navy craft—civilian eye-appeal is being added.

It is likely that something highly practical and original in streamlined functional design will emerge from their efforts. The new water coolers which will be available with the coming of peace will have the beauty and distinction of fine furniture.

There will be models for every conceivable indoor and outdoor use, in applications of the most diverse nature. Each model is being created, in design and color, to harmonize with, and enhance, its surroundings.

Laff-Lines

A LIST TO THE LIGHTER SIDE

A tough boatswain was in London during a severe robot raid. When the all-clear sounded, he was observed stamping angrily down the street clutching a brass doorknob in his hand.

"What's the matter, Boats?" a passing bluejacket asked.

"Matter?" roared Boats, "Why the lousy so-and-so's! They blowed a saloon right out of my hand."

* * *

She had a figure like an hourglass and she made every minute count. As she came out of the restaurant a G.I. walked up to her and said: "Hello, sweetheart. How about a little lovin'?"

"Are you," she inquired sternly, "in the habit of saying that to strange women?"

"Yes," he replied.

"I'll bet you get a lot of slaps in the face."

"I do," he commented, "but you'd be surprised how much lovin' I get, too."

* * *

He was sitting aslouch in the beverage room of a downtown hotel surveying his empty glass, and he had definitely had enough. Something also was decidedly wrong and presently he turned to the man next to him.

"Shay," he asked, "didju shpill a glass o' beer on me?"

"Certainly not!" answered the fellow guzzler.

The souse turned to the man on the other side.

"Mishter," he wanted to know, "didju by any chance throw a glass o' beer in me lap?"

"No!" snapped the man.

The drunk mulled over this information thoughtfully.

"Jusht what I been sushpecting," he declared solemnly. "It'sh an inshide job!"

New Orthoscope Lenses Demonstrated at SMPE

A demonstration of the newly developed Orthoscope Supplementary Projection Lenses was made before the May conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers in Hollywood last month. The new lenses, recently developed by Hal Huff, optical engineer, and manufactured by the H & H Optical Company of Hollywood, California, are distributed exclusively through National Theatre Supply.

According to the manufacturer, the Orthoscope is the greatest scientific improvement in projection optics since the birth of motion pictures. The Hollywood demonstration is expected to arouse unusual interest. A paper describing design and operation of the Orthoscope has been prepared by Mr. Huff for forthcoming publication in the SMPE journal.



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☐ Seating
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Theatre ..... Seating Capacity.....

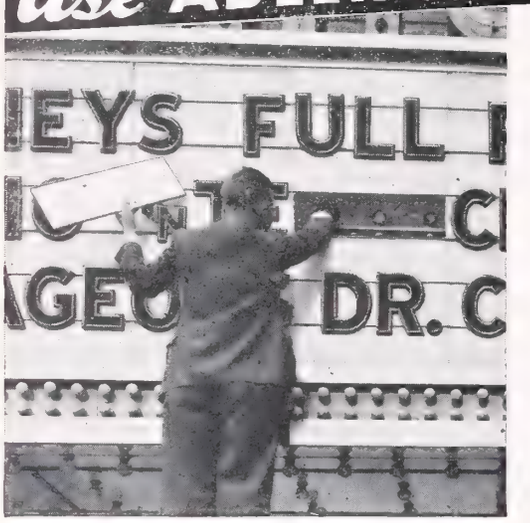
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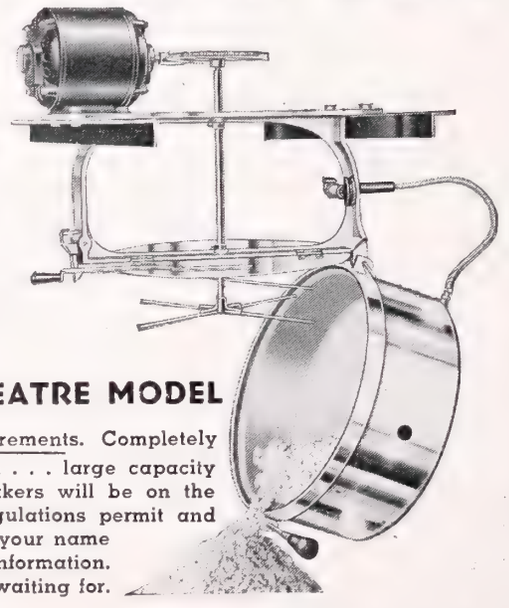
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If your popcorn requirements call for a heavy-duty, kettle-style popper . . . big in size . . . with a tremendous capacity, write for full details at once. Quantity will be limited, and orders will be filled in sequence received.

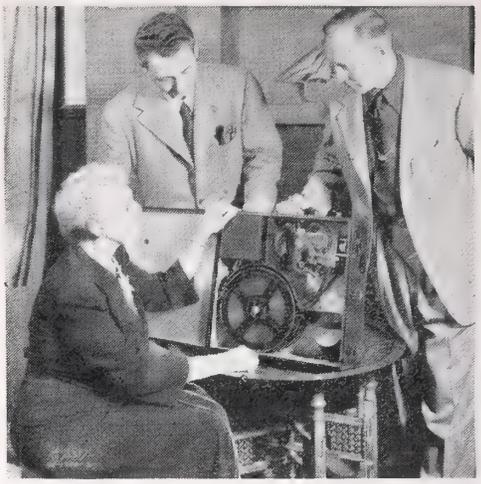
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Especially designed to meet your requirements. Completely new throughout . . . sturdy construction . . . large capacity . . . attractive cabinet. These profit-makers will be on the market just as soon as government regulations permit and materials are available. Get your name on file to receive complete information. STAR MACHINES are worth waiting for.

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Smithsonian Institute Gets Pioneer Projector



In the DeVry home in Chicago, Mrs. Ida DeVry, widow of the late Dr. Herman A. DeVry, with her sons, William C. (center) and E. B. (right) make final inspection of the original DeVry portable projector before it goes to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

Booklet Features Fronts As Selling Mechanisms

A fully illustrated, 16-page booklet, just published by The Kawneer Company, pioneer store-front manufacturers, should be of vital interest to theatre owners and managers everywhere at this time.

Based on over 40 years' experience in the store-front field, and on intensive research among outstanding authorities on commercial architecture and retail merchandising, it explains a new concept of theatre-fronts in outdoor advertising—as "Machines for Selling"—a part of the show rather than as merely a part of the building.

According to Kawneer findings, maximum results in customers pulled in and sales made can be obtained where individual problems of the business establishment are analyzed and a front design created to solve those problems. Working with architects in various localities, the Kawneer organization—which includes over 250 distributors—will assist exhibitors in obtaining such "Machines for Selling" when building restrictions are lifted.

A free copy of the booklet may be had by writing The Kawneer Company, 2915 Front Street, Niles, Michigan, or requesting it from The Modern Theatre Information Bureau.

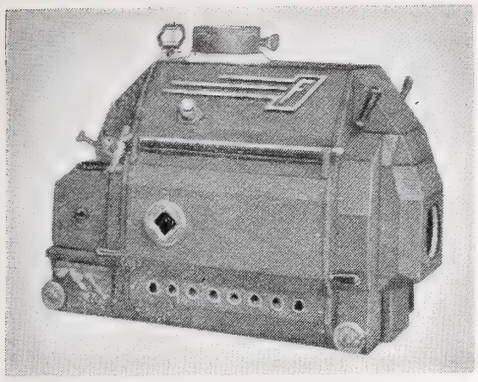
Don't wait for your competitor to start something. It's your move now. Get ready to remodel.

Good news! You can now get a new vacuum cleaner for that Fall Renovation Round-Up.

No new projectors for awhile maybe. But you can still get repair parts. Good ones, too.

How about building a multiple-enterprise amusement center for your town? Talk it over with the banker and other business men. Or will you wait and let "outsiders" do it?

Limited Deliveries on New Projection Lamps



First among the manufacturers of projection lamps to introduce new postwar models, Forest Mfg. Corp. announces its readiness to make deliveries, in order of receipt, on a limited number of the new Forest lamps, which are said to embody several ingenious improvements over prewar standards. The Universal Trim Model for simplified high intensity operation, with 14-inch reflector is illustrated above.

Oliver Theatre Supply Appointed RCA Dealer

The appointment of the Oliver Theatre Supply Co., Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, to distribute the RCA line of theatre equipment in the Cleveland film territory has been announced by the Theatre Equipment Section of the RCA Victor Division.

The Oliver firm was recently purchased by Ben and Harry Perse, owners of the Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp., RCA dealers in New York City, who have been engaged in the theatre supply business in New York for many years. The Cleveland business is being operated with local personnel, under the management of M. H. Fritchle, who was associated with the Oliver firm for some time prior to the change in ownership. The firm will handle the full RCA line of theatre equipment and supplies.

Elisburg to Build in Miami Beach, Florida

Herb Elisburg, owner of the Studio Theatre in Chicago's Loop, and of national rights to several motion pictures, concluded a deal this month for a theatre site in Miami Beach, Florida. The property is on the East side of Washington Street, between 15th Street and Lincoln Road, known as the "Times Square" section of America's famous resort center. In the same area are three first-run Paramount houses and two Wometco first-run theatres. In addition there are three other postwar theatres planned for construction within two blocks of Elisburg's new project.

Shepard Broad, prominent Florida attorney, represents Mr. Elisburg on the transaction with Kahn & Alpert, Inc. It is estimated that the completed project will involve an investment of upwards of $300,000. The auditorium to seat approximately 1,200, and the building will also include stores. The property is 75 feet by 175 feet.

Whatever the task...whatever the budget

THERE'S A

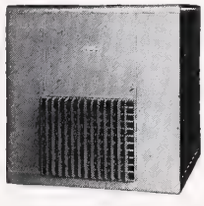
usAIRco

COMFORT COOLING SYSTEM

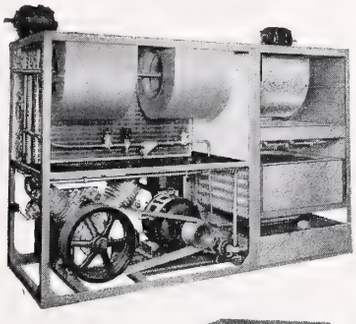
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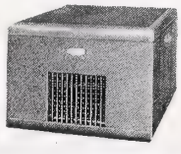
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CINE' CLINIC

PRACTICAL DISCUSSIONS ON MODERN PROJECTION AND SOUND PRACTICES

Favors an F.B.I. for Abatement of Fillum Butchery

WELL, folks, we're beginning to get some place, gradually but surely. The culprits are finally at bay. The finger has been put on the parties at guilt and, as we've long surmised, it's not a one-class crime. In fact, the evidence so far shows pretty conclusively that a blanket charge of criminal negligence in the care of picture film can be placed against Careless People, *et al.*

From the moment a picture film is released for public showing it appears that there are too many careless people awaiting in sadistic contemplation their chance to maul it. At the film exchange, on the delivery truck, at the theatres' receiving docks and finally up in the projection room, the flimsy roll of acetate takes a terrific beating from the mob—over and over again. Too bad "talking pictures" can't cry out in accusation of their assailants.

What's to do about it? Well, here's one of the best summations of the case we have had so far and with it a recommendation for remedial legislation. Why not an F.B.I. (Film Board of Inspection) to ferret out the offenders and fit the punishment to the crime?

On this point, hear now Chief Proj. FRED W. GUMBEL of the State and Grand Theatres at Worthington, Minn., who writes:

"I have been reading all the comments in this column for quite awhile now, but haven't gotten around to having my say before this. I guess it's about time that I stuck my neck out, which no doubt I am doing, when I say some of the things that are on my mind.

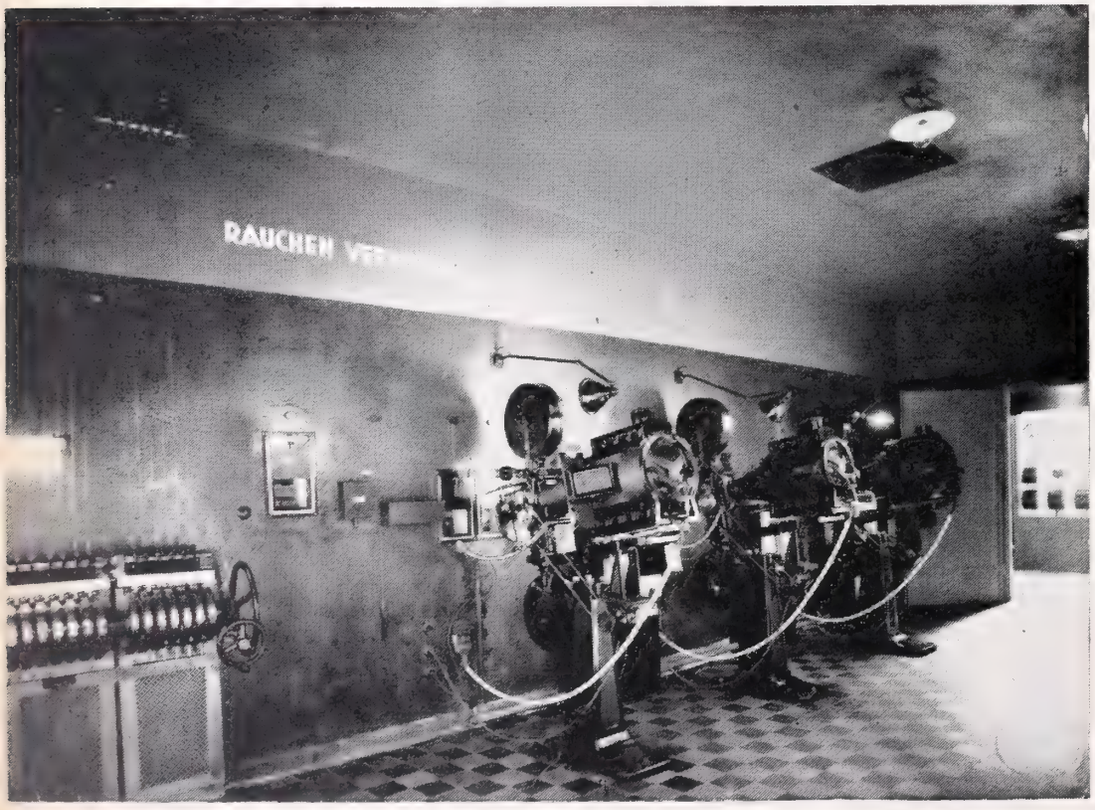
"Now about all this film damage that's going on. I've been in this business for the past 28 years and have had quite some experience with film, good, bad and otherwise. As to placing the blame for all the damage, I don't think it can all be blamed on any one source. As a matter of fact there are several of them and I shall try to get around to all of them before I get done with this.

"But first of all, I want to say that I agree with John F. Ford and Herbert James, who in a recent issue stated that all the damage isn't being done by the kid operators. Don't kid yourself; some of the young fellows are taking a real interest in their business. It's plenty of proof of that to me when I know that they are reading THE CINE' CLINIC and perhaps some similar departments in other tradepapers. Now, that's another thing. The boys who are reading and writing all this good stuff certainly are not the boys who are doing the damage and I notice that there are quite a few of the younger men appearing in print of late. The birds who should be reading these pages (not all of them, but a lot of them) are the birds who are gumming up the works for the others. These fellows are just too disinterested in their business to bother to read anything about what's going on. I mean the don't-give-a-damn kind of men and we do have some of that type in this business.

"Now to get to the source of the chewed-up film. First, let's take a little trip (if you have any gas) to some small town. It doesn't have to be in any particular state or locality. It might be any place; and it doesn't have to be one of the smallest towns either. Now that we are here, let's pay a visit to the local movie emporium. First I think we had better take a look at the projection room. What do we find? A pair of old machines of questionable vintage. Chances are they have been in the joint ever since it first opened and maybe they were second-hand at that time. Is the place clean? Oh, brother! The only place you can find to stand is where the guy who works here just has to walk in order to get to these antiquated hay balers and to the rewind bench. Look out when you take a step! You're liable to step on an old carbon butt and light on your own. All over the place is piled up a collection of junk such as old bent reels, burned-out light bulbs, a few old broken theatre chairs and the Lord knows what not. Don't fool yourself. There are many just such dumps as this in existence today.

"Now, let's take a look at the rewind bench. What, no film splicer? No; but get a load of the paper punch. Looks like it's been used some too. There is plenty of

(Continued on page 34)



WHO'S SMOKING NOW?

From overseas Sgt. W. E. Limmroth of Sweetwater, Texas, former assistant to Henry Rogers, partner of R&R Theatres at Dallas, sent home this picture of a German theatre projection room. Three Ernemann 7B projectors and auxiliary effect equipment are shown. Ideal working conditions are apparent—plenty of room, tidiness, ventilation and tiled floors are noteworthy. "Rauchen Verboten" means "No Smoking."

Sgt. Limmroth, abroad for three years, has been acting as foreign correspondent and observer on continental cinema activities for R&R "24-Sheeter" house organ, edited by Don C. Douglas, through whose courtesy the picture is here presented. Sgt. Limmroth is still a regular reader of BOXOFFICE in Europe and now in Germany, a habit he formed long ago in Sweetwater, Texas.

THE *Quiz* POT

A CAULDRON FOR COOKING UP ANSWERS TO OTHER PEOPLES' PROBLEMS

Address The MODERN THEATRE, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4, Ill.

What Would You Do About It?

Suppose we temporarily set aside our customary discussions of kinks and gadgets and problems that concern us more or less personally, and devote the column this month to a serious matter that concerns us all—*jobs for our returning G. I. Joes!*

In this important problem, the theatre industry, like every other class of business, faces a crucial test. How will it meet that test? But let's hear from a couple of our service men, just to get a line on their hopes and their apprehensions.

First, a letter from Proj. PFC. CLIFFORD HEBERT from overseas. Addressed to the "Ol' Quiz Pot" it reads:

"No doubt all you readers are aware of the fact that the Army has motion picture theatres all over the States and many other occupied countries. So I think it fitting to enter this bit of writing as a problem.

"I've read all the problems in the Ol' Quiz Pot and find all of them very interesting. And the one I am about to add means just as much to all of us as the different little gadgets invented to help us with our work.

"I started in theatres at the age of twelve, and worked in just about all the departments you can find in most theatres. But as you all know, I still have a lot to learn. We all have a lot to learn. And I say now is the time to improve on our work. You will have a lot of competition in the very near future.

"The Army has trained a lot of projectionists since this war started, and I must say that they are being well-trained. The men picked to become motion picture operators in the Army are usually quite hard-working men who are interested in their work. They learn fast and are trained with good equipment. I could even say the best.

"We all want these men to get good jobs when they get back; but we also want to hold our own jobs. And believe me when I say that we will have to keep on our toes. We mustn't feel so independent any longer, because the show will go on without us unless we prove every day that we are the men qualified for the title of 'Chief Projectionist.'

"So remember this tip: The show will go on just as well if you don't have all the comforts of home in your projection rooms; but it will not go on if you don't remember some little trick in adjusting an exciter lamp or photo-electric cell. So let's watch our Ps and Qs on these little mechanical problems that are so essential in keeping the show going."

Thanks, Pfc Clifford Hebert, for a hot tip to the boys here at home, some of whom may have grown a bit too complacent about their jobs, both present and future. Drop in again, Cliff.

* * *

Next, a nice letter from Proj. (Seaman 1/c) PAUL S. WOOD recently of the Base Theatre at Wolf Lake, Ill., but now at a Naval Training Station on the East Coast. Says Paul:

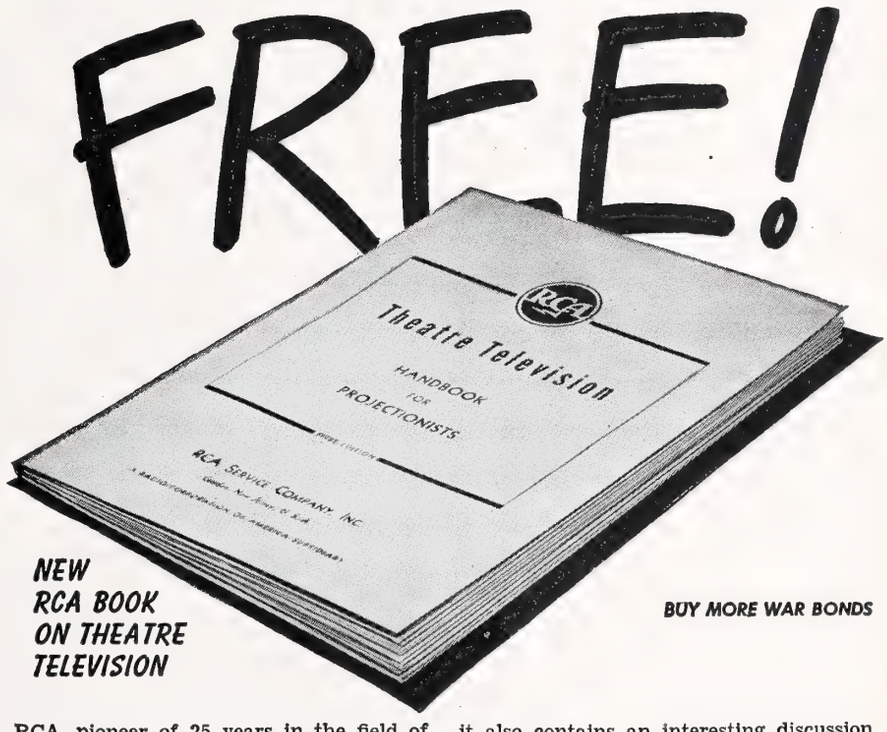
"Until I read that hearty letter from the young fellow, John F. Ford, I have been afraid to speak up because I, too, am one of the 'under-pups' or 'young operators.' At the present time I am working for one of the largest theatre circuits in the country —Uncle Sam.

"Prior to the war I had one year and two months in the booth as an apprentice without pay. I then worked as assistant operator at $3.00 per week, later becoming head projectionist at $19.50. This covered a period of almost three years.

"For almost two years I had only regular seamanship work with the U. S. Coast Guard. Upon my arrival at my present sta-

(Continued on page 38)





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Favors an F.B.I. for Abatement of Film Butchery

(Continued from page 32)

evidence here that things aren't just what they might be. I have always said that you can judge a man's work by the place he works in. We haven't seen this bird, nor do we have to; or even see what kind of a show he will put on. We can easily figure that out. So much for him; except that you will no doubt say, 'there's the dude that's doing plenty of damage to prints.' Okay, so we will say that he is. But wait! He is not altogether to blame.

"Let's take a look at the rest of the joint. What do we find? Ha! Just as we expected. It's all in keeping with what we just saw. Looks like the rats took over this place years ago. The dump hasn't had a good cleaning since the last war. If we will do a little digging around here, we will no doubt find old advertising from 'way back when John Bunny was the hot stuff in Hollywood, along with plenty of other just plain apcray. Now, we get to the guy who owns this 'palace of wonders.' He is the sort of bozo who will spend money on everything except the only thing that makes him a dime. He must be; because if he were anything else he wouldn't tolerate what we have just got an eyeful of. This guy is to blame for everything that goes on here; so we can't blame the guy upstairs for all of it.

"Okay! So now we have two of the culprits. But hold everything; these guys are not the cause of it all. How about the exchanges who furnish the film to this place? Why will they continue to serve film to such a dump when they can't help but know that a lot of film damage is being done here? So the exchange is just as guilty as the others. Why don't they demand that their product be used in only A-1 equipment, in clean theatres and handled only by competent employes? They could if they would. So I say the exchanges are as much or more to blame than anyone else.

"There have been squawks about film-damage ever since the start of the industry. It's a good deal like the weather. We all talk about it; but nobody ever does anything about it. Again I say that the right (or wrong) guys don't read all this stuff about film damage. This no doubt includes the exchange managers. But how are we going to get anything done about it? I'll tell you how. Every projectionist and manager will just have to put the heat on in the right places. Sooner or later results will be had. Why? Because these same exchanges are soon going to get mighty tired of this constant complaining and will

(Continued on page 36)

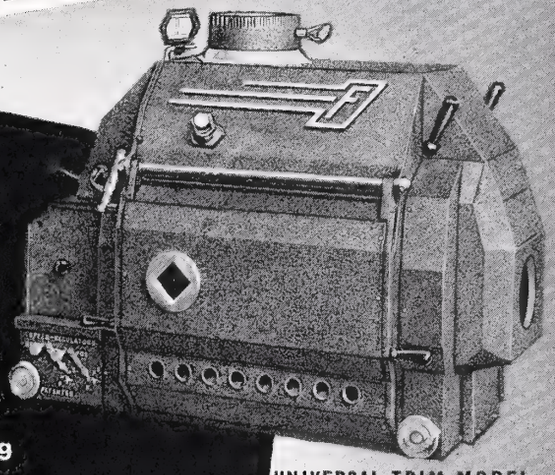
PROJECTIONISTS: The Cine Clinic Department is wide open to you for discussion of your present problems. Thru these columns you can either ASK advice or GIVE it. We'll gladly answer your questions or publish your suggestions for the good of all concerned and with comment and complimentary credit to you. Should you desire private information or advice, enclose stamps for reply. The MODERN THEATRE, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4, Ill.



EXTRA

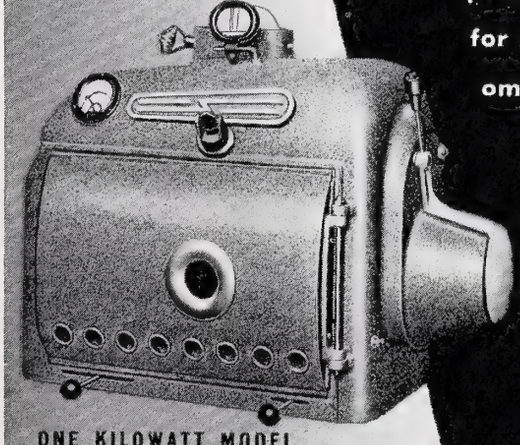
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Favors an F.B.I. for Abatement of Film Butchery

(Continued from page 34)

just have to find out where the damage is being done and put a stop to it.

"The best thing that could happen would be for each exchange to hire an investigator. And they could do no better than to hire a competent projectionist for the job. When a print is returned in a damaged condition, send out the investigator to find out just what is causing the damage. If he should find equipment that needs replacement or repair, or incompetent men, in the projection room, the exchange should demand that these conditions be corrected at once or discontinue service to that house. I'll bet a plugged nickel that said exhibitor will soon get busy and do something; but quick. If he didn't, he soon would be out of business. What do you think?

"Guess I'm about unwound, so I'll fold up for this time. But in closing, let me say that all small-town theatres are not like the one I described. Just a few of them and thank the Lord there aren't more of them. It only takes a few of them in any one exchange territory to do plenty of dirty work. You may print this if you see fit, if not, file it in the waste basket."

Nice goin' in there, Fred! Hence we saw fit to print. Our waste basket is for scrap paper only.

* * *

From Proj. "SHERLOCK" BARKER of the Pictureland Theatre, Glenville, W. Va., comes this bit of evidence. In submitting it, he says:

"Ah ha, my dear Watson, here's another corpus cue-delicti; this time too a victim of the mysterious cue-marker. This clip from a Universal pix exemplifies the perfidy of the promiscuous cue-marker with such finesse that I just had to send it in. Every one of the film's four reels (they could have put the 63-minute show on three) had two such sets of the fingerprints of the cue-marker's rape."

WHO DONE IT?



Like a fleet of four B-29s flying in formation, the "artist" certainly put his mark on this print for all to see.

Good sleuthing "Sherlock." All perpetrators will please 'fess up to this masterpiece and claim your rewards.

* * *

Comes now Proj. WALTER HESSER of the Avenue Theatre in Toronto, Canada, who can, and does, speak for the film exchangemen too. Walter writes:

"I read and enjoy your clinic and have gotten a lot of information out of it. With reference to 'Who Done It,' I would like to give my views.

"First, I wish to say I have had 20 years' experience as head shipper at Warners' exchange in Toronto, and have been a projectionist longer than that; so I have had a lot to do with both sides of the problem.

"To my mind it's not a case of 'Who Done It?', oldsters or youngsters, as there are criminals at all ages; but a case of let's try for a better future. But if the film exchanges with all their efficiency experts and the vast amount of money spent on making these pictures can't look after their own product, then we can holler, 'Who Done It?' the rest of our lives, and get nowhere fast. Now my idea for the remedy: First, pay their revisors a salary so that he or she will value his or her job and really look for mutilated or marked film. Then they will get efficient revising. Next, they should send out a form with every print to be filled in by the projectionist receiving it. This form would have places to indicate scratch marks, torn sprocket holes, pencil marks, leaders, etc., on it.

"I am sure most projectionists would co-

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operate and send such forms in, as it would help them get a better print. It would then be up to the exchange to check on the revisor, and also (and this is important) send a letter to the previous run, preferably to the manager, stating the condition the film was received in at the exchange. If this damage was not done at his theatre, why did he not report same? If these letters reach the same manager continually, it will take no great detective to find out who is mutilating film. Also the manager will soon find out that he has a culprit in his projection room, and I'll bet my last shirt that the film wreckers will soon get tired of being brought to light. If this procedure were made universal, the industry could save a lot of money, the public would in a short while see better pictures and all concerned would be a lot happier.

"We have government inspectors in Ontario who ask exchanges to send prints out (tail up) thereby forcing projectionists to go over their show before running it. I hope the above will be a solution and that some influential film magnate can see it. Well, boys, am I right or wrong?"

Well done, Walter! Right or wrong, you've made some fine points for the consideration of all concerned.

* * *

Exhib.-Proj. J. H. TAYLOR of the Rio Theatre at Dodge, N. Dak., speaking also from two sides of the situation, has this to say:

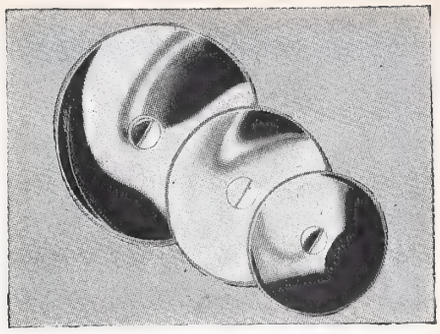
"I have just finished reading the letter by Proj. Gene Ross as well as all the other letters from time to time. In regard to film damage, I think you will find projectionists in the small theatres strive to put on just as good a show as the projectionists in the 'Super' houses. Why should the little theatre be allocated just any kind of print because we cannot have a union operator? I have a kick to make as I have known just this to happen: We operators visit a projection room in a large theatre to talk with the operator and pick up kinks and ideas on how to put on a better show, and what kind of an answer do we get to any question we ask? A large percent of the so-called big-time operators will tell us to go somewhere and find out.

"I started out in the early twenties and have been at it off and on since. I do this as a hobby and I like to put on just as good a show as any theatre. As to salary, the small theatre cannot pay very much; but I make my living otherwise. At present I am running my own theatre and it does not pay much.

"So many of the operators have made remarks about the 'kid' in the booth, and what to do about him. Why not get your state to license the operators as North Dakota does? In North Dakota we have to serve a two-year apprenticeship under a licensed operator and then go before a state board of electricians for an examination before we can operate. Up here you must be at least 18 years of age before you can start serving your apprenticeship and the operator under which you serve must register your name and starting date with the state board of electricians. The examination covers plenty of technical questions. All machines must be in charge of a licensed operator at all times and there are 15 to 20 things you can do that will cancel your license. This keeps the inexperienced 'kids' out of the projection room—yes, we have sloppy operators even here.

"I have met quite a few operators from other states who think our licensing system is crazy; but they howl about the fellow with about a week's training going into the booth to put on a show. We have theatres running in this state without a licensed operator; but the state will close them when they know it. I could write more of film damage and so forth, but I will leave it to the others as I think I have put my neck out far enough. So why not have more kinks, maybe each week a few?"

Thanks for the suggestion, J. H. We'll adjourn court now and retire next door to THE QUIZ POT to see what's cooking in the way of "Kinks."



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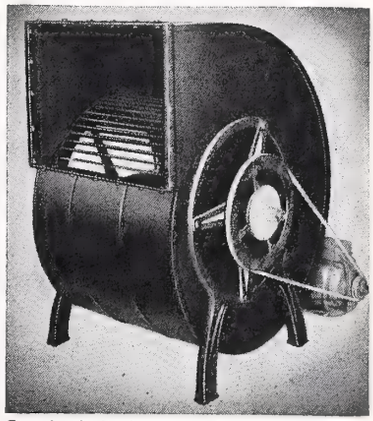
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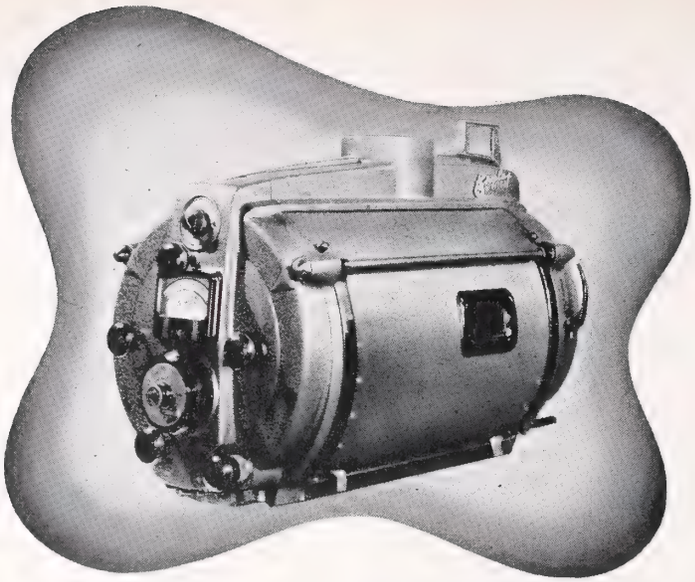
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NOW! "Handee Andy" all purpose tube steel 600 lb. cap. Full size, first quality, not a wartime makeshift. Light wt. very easy to handle. Ht. 44" .14" wide at nose. Curved cross pieces. The only truck we sell. Specializing permits a better truck, and more of them! By mail only at present time. Fully guaranteed. F.O.B. 1% 10 days. Unrated firms cash with order. AA5 will assist immediate delivery. Clip this.

9.95 Lots of 12
Lots 3, $11.95
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The HANDEES CO., Dept. 13B7 Bloomington, Ill.

What Would You Do About It?

(Continuation of THE QUIZ POT)

tion there was an opening for an operator for 35mm DeVry and 16mm Bell & Howell. I had no previous experience with Bell & Howell or any other 16mm machines. I welcomed the job because of the experience with 35mm.

"I have been the only projectionist at this base for the past eight months; serving also as manager, janitor and booker. I am not getting union wages for it; but I am getting what all the old-timers demand so much today in the line of experience.

"In my present work I have been handling prints that have never been released to the general public—new prints. I have not damaged or had any trouble with the equipment which so happens to be in better shape since I have been handling it. I am determined to make good at this business, and I will do any minor thing if I think it is right and if it will increase my knowledge of this work. Since we are receiving the latest material, I am forced to be more than careful and know what I am doing.

"Within a week I am leaving here to enter a Navy Motion Picture Technician School which I have been trying to get into ever since my enlistment. This training will almost insure me of doing the kind of work I want for the rest of my period in the service.

"That is all well and good; but this is my problem: As you may have conceived it is a *postwar job problem.* Regardless of how much service, it will be difficult to step out into civilian life and land a half-way decent job.

"If any of you fellow operators or anyone else has any advice on the possibilities for an ex-service man in securing a place in the booth after the war, I would be glad to hear from you. If anyone in the Cine' Clinic would care to give me their personal advice, it would be appreciated very much.

"My thanks to BOXOFFICE which has given me this chance to contact the outside theatre, as for the time being we are kind of shut off from the rest of the operators while here in service. We are still trying to reach the top too, and hoping someone will give us some advice in the meantime."

Speaking for the Cine' Clinic, Paul, we want to assure you that your problem is not going to be overlooked. Which is why we publish your excellent letter here and now. And we invite further comments on the subject from all concerned—as who isn't? Come on fellows, *What Would You Do About It?*

* * *

And here a note from Proj. JACK STARR of the Texas Theatre in Bay City, Tex., which reads:

"After reading the Cine' Clinic for the issue of April 28th, I have a few matters I would like to get off my chest. At the present time I am working for Long Theatres of Bay City, Texas. Since this is their home office theatre, I try to uphold perfect

projection and I am very fortunate in having good equipment, such as Brenkert Enarc lamps, RCA, OG-140A sound heads, and Kaplan projectors.

"I disagree with Proj. Gray Barker, regarding an automatic framer, etc. I think that all the modern improvements that will come after the war will be swell; but to have a booth that will almost run itself is impossible.

"No matter what they come out with, there will still be skill and determination needed in running a booth. I say improve the *quality,* not the *quantity!* Don't jam up the booth with electrical devices that would take a master mind to even find a switch.

"I also think there should be a nation-wide law that every projectionist should pass an examination before handling a job."

You've got something there, Jack! Until someone invents a "mechanical brain cell" we're going to need manpower in our projection rooms. Meanwhile men, let's keep the Ol' Pot a' cookin'. Kick in!

Problem for the Clinic

Acknowledging previous recognition, Proj. W. R. Nussbaum, of the Royal Theatre, Chillicothe, Ohio, brings up some trouble for discussion herein. He says:

"Thank you for publishing my letter in the April 28th issue. It is the very first time I've ever had a letter published in a magazine. Again many thanks, editor.

"I did not wish to seem harsh towards brother projectionists in regard to cue signal and general film mutilation; but those awful markings do spoil a fellow's effort to make a clear changeover. I started in motion picture operation in 1928 on old, worn-out equipment and awful old dirty prints. Today, although we are second run, we have as I stated in my previous letter, a Class-A booth, equipped with the best money can buy, and a kind employer and chief projectionist; I am his assistant.

"Now, may I ask you a question: I experience great difficulty in lighting or striking the arc in our Brenkert lamps using Suprex carbons. The manufacturer of our Roth-Century Actodector (double 50, 35 volts D.C., 38-40 Amperes) gave us a bulletin on striking the Suprex arc; but our difficulty persists.

"We've written to RCA-Brenkert. They recommend over-hauling the negative assembly which as you know is independent of the positive feed mechanism. We replaced motor brushes and cleaned motor commutator. Still positive feeds forward too fast and at times beyond control. Could power-line fluctuation in power delivery cause this varying power? We use no ballast resistance whatever.

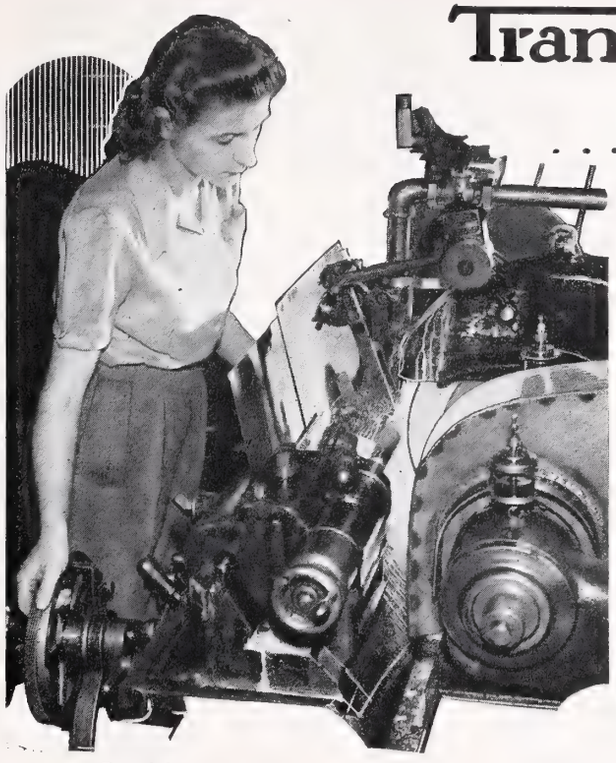
"We have been experiencing difficulty in controlling the rate of feed of the positive carbon. Upon thorough cleaning of the motor in the lamphouses we have regained partial control; but the difficulty still remains. Can, or will the 'boys' help us? Any suggestion will be appreciated, and I do mean it."

Come on gang! Let's pass along to Proj. Nussbaum a few pointers on how to solve his problems.

* * *

And now we conclude the column for this

TransVerteR



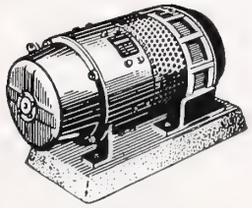
. . . a lifelong PRODUCT of PRECISION

FROM the grinding of a shaft on through step-by-step production, it is "tradition" at Hertner that precision is of utmost importance.

Precision grinding of shafts

The

TransVerteR



Manufactured exclusively by HERTNER

AS THE leading motor generator in the motion picture industry . . . as the means of obtaining direct current with the minimum of maintenance and freedom from replacement of parts . . . the Transverter has amply proven the wisdom of this policy for over a quarter of a century. It is pre-eminently the leader today!

For further details, consult NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY Division of National • Simplex • Bludworth, Inc.

In Canada, General Theatre Supply Co.

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They are available for all types and makes of arc lamps, and at a cost no greater than that of the ordinary reflectors

National REFLECTORS

. . . are the logical choice for replacement in your lamphouse as they are manufactured by projection equipment specialists.

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY Division of National • Simplex • Bludworth, Inc.

"There's a Branch Near You"

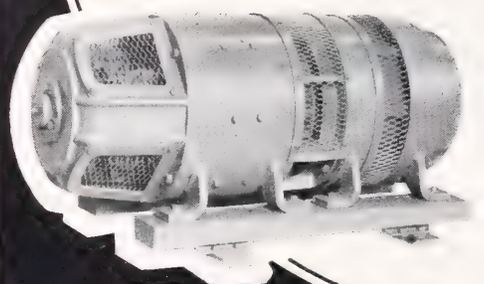
ARE YOU THE MAN WHO IS RESPONSIBLE

—for putting a good picture on the screen . . . AND KEEPING IT THERE?

If you are, you want the best means of avoiding the arc power failures which aggravate patrons, make refunds necessary, and fine chairs, air conditioning and good pictures meaningless. You need a

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Designed specifically for use with direct current high intensity arcs, that screen light source which is essential to the proper projection of Technicolor pictures and a safer, higher level of auditorium illumination.

Not just a motor-generator, but a guarantee of service—a power plant with 55 years' electrical know-how and 35 years' theatre experience "built in."

J. E. ROBIN, INC.

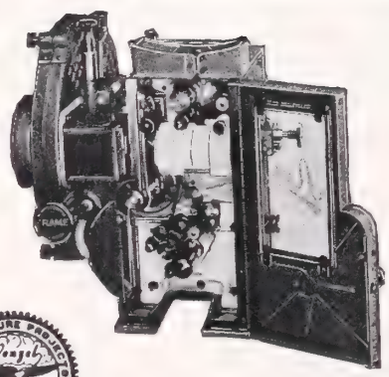
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Motor-Generators and Motors for Every Requirement.

Get Ready to Build!

If you wait 'til everybody's doing it, you're liable to miss the boat entirely. The race for reconversion is starting. Put your toe on the mark with well-prepared plans and specifications.

NOW AVAILABLE



WENZEL

"Smooth Running"

You can best be assured of Smooth-Running for your present equipment with Wenzel precision replacement parts.

We particularly point with pride to our New Style D-5 One Piece Door. Write for our complete parts catalog —mentioning name of dealer who serves you.

We are actively represented in every part of the world.

WENZEL PROJECTOR COMPANY
2505-19 S. STATE STREET
CHICAGO 16, ILLINOIS

Always Striving to MAKE IT BETTER

What Would You Do About It?

(Continuation of THE QUIZ POT)

issue with a communique from Proj. GRAY BARKER of the Pictureland Theatre, Glenville, W. Va., who writes:

"Here's a note to Proj. Sid Coffey, of Winnipegosis, Man., Canada, who 'seasoned the pottage' by describing a method of making slides. James Harper, who taught me to operate, has a nice process: Just take your blank slide glass and coat it with white shoe polish; then let it dry. Then take a sharp stick and cut your letters in the polish. This makes a black background with white letters on the screen, and a slide can be thrown right over a trailer to advantage. If you have any artistic abilities they can be incorporated right into the set-up."

All right, you slide artists, make a mental note of Gray's suggestion. Might come in handy some time.

On the ground space required for a Drive-In you could include a half dozen other amusement enterprises — all profit-makers. Think it over!

Better make a date with your architect today. He'll be a busy man before you know it. Others are getting ready to build.

ROYAL

SOUND MASTER AND LIGHT MASTER

SOUND AND PROJECTION EQUIPMENT-LICENSED UNDER U.S. PATENTS OF WESTERN ELECTRIC CO. INCORPORATED



DESIGNED TO LEAD - BUILT TO LAST - ENGINEERED TO DELIVER TOP QUALITY REPRODUCTION

THE BALLANTYNE CO.

1707-11 Davenport St. Omaha, Neb., USA

New Rewind Switch Gets Underwriters' Approval

National Theatre Supply, exclusive distributors of the Lakewood automatic rewind switch, reports that the device has received the approval of the Underwriters' Laboratories and now carries the familiar "UL" label.

Since originally made available to projectionists, the product has undergone a number of improvements which include a new, sturdy, cast aluminum housing and standard C-H heavy-duty switch.

The Lakewood switch has become increasingly popular with projectionists, as it is designed to eliminate the disturbing noise of film slapping until the rewind is stopped.

According to a spokesman for National, orders for the new switch are being received in steadily increasing numbers and it is thought that before many months hundreds of projection rooms from coast to coast will be equipped with the device.

Big-Game Hunters to Build Popcorn Machines

Phillip Carroll, well-known professional big game hunter, has joined Star Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, manufacturers of popcorn machines.

Carroll, although one of the more famous of the "bring 'em back alive" hunters, seldom discusses his experiences, and interested employes find him more willing to talk about the new postwar line of popcorn machines and food serving equipment which Star hopes to soon announce to the trade. But his scrap book tells interesting tales of big game hunting in dark Africa.

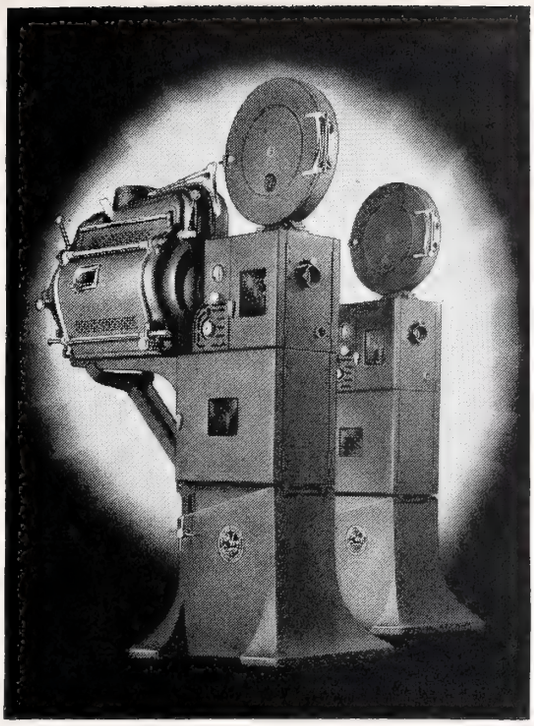
One of Carroll's most remarkable expeditions was in 1941 when he brought back eight gorillas, practically doubling the country's supply. And, in addition to the $30,000 worth of gorillas, he brought back an okapi, the rarest animal in the world and one which requires the personal permission of the Belgian King to capture. Carroll had been commissioned by the Governor General of the Belgian Congo to bring the animal back as a gift to President Roosevelt; but unfortunately the okapi died on the trip across.

He is also the man who captured and undertook to bring back the most ferocious gorilla ever taken out of Africa. This was also to be a present for F.D.R., sent by the Free French as a symbol of the ferocity of their fight against Naziism. The White House issued an acknowledgment, but the gorilla died while giving birth to a baby.

Carroll is not the only big-game hunter at Star. J. R. Burch, president of the company, also made yearly trips to Africa before the war, and has many trophies to prove his prowess.

Are you reading The CINE' CLINIC? At the rear of this issue you'll find some "real meat," sans red points.

Don't overlook the confectionery business in your new building or remodeling plans. Make more room for candy, popcorn and drink dispensing. It pays!



TWINS *to* COUNT ON...

For Glamorizing Hollywood's Best

To reproduce Hollywood's finest photography and sound at its *glamorous* best demands mastery in projection comparable with the photography and recording utilized in its filming.

New DEVRY *precision performance twins* enable you to reproduce Hollywood's masterpieces in black and white or technicolor on your screen the way your audiences want them—faithful to tone and color, camera composition and sound.

Because new DEVRY 35mm Motion Picture Projectors are the best that warborn engineering *know-how*, technical knowledge and skilled craftsmanship can produce, they are the most economical projection booth equipment you can buy. Before you buy, mail the coupon to DEVRY.

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DeVRY has the world's most complete peacetime line of motion picture sound equipment, including HI-Fidelity power amplifiers and speakers.

5 Time Winner
DeVRY alone has been awarded five consecutive Army-Navy E's for Excellence in the production of Motion Picture Sound Equipment.

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1111 Armitage Ave., Chicago 14, Illinois
Please send details about the NEW DEVRY 35mm Theater Projectors and Sound Systems.

Name.....
Address.....
City.....*State*.....
Theater.....*Capacity*.....

Watch The MODERN THEATRE for New Product Announcements

"World's Finest Postwar Chairs"

FENSIN SEATING COMPANY

62 EAST 13th STREET • CHICAGO 5

Distributors in All Principal Cities

REMEMBER THIS WHEN
YOU BUY CARBONS
there is

At Last

A CONTINUOUS CARBON TRIM

You burn every inch of Droll Processed Carbons, saving 10-25%.

Simply place copper sleeve on female end, dip male end of another carbon in carbon weld cement, insert in sleeve and press together for perfect electrical contact.

Joint and sleeve are consumed without altering light color or intensity. You can't tell on the screen when they burn through. No hand feeding necessary.

Available for these high intensity trims:

Negatives	Positives
6 mm. x 9"	7 mm. x 12" x 14"
7 mm. x 9"	8 mm. x 12" x 14"

and 13.6 mm. x 22" (machined for adapters), providing 20 minutes more burning time.

Shipped f.o.b. Chicago at regular carbon list prices, plus $1 per hundred for milling, drilling and clips; less 5% 10 days. Welding cement without cost. Order today.

DROLL THEATRE SUPPLY CO.
925 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago 7, Ill.

TALK ABOUT ECONOMY and RELIABILITY

STRONG
COPPER OXIDE AND TUBE TYPE RECTIFIERS

The modern means of converting A.C. to D.C. as a power supply for projection arc lamps.

Low original, operating and maintenance costs. Quiet operation.



Distributed through leading independent theatre supply dealers.

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87 City Park Avenue
TOLEDO 2, OHIO

The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps

BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU READ ABOUT IT IN The MODERN THEATRE section of BOXOFFICE

Century Projector Corp. Makes Personnel Changes

H. E. Hammons, president of Century Projector Corporation, announced the retirement of Sam Kaplan as general manager, May 1, 1945. Mr. Kaplan has been actively associated in the industry for more than twenty-five years. He started the Sam Kaplan Manufacturing & Supply Company, which in 1938 became the Century Projector Corporation. W. D. Hausler, who has been associated with the corporation as comptroller since 1938, becomes vice-president and general manager.

L. W. Davee, continues as sales manager. He is highly recognized in the industry on research engineering and sales-promotion and is well known in theatre trade. Geo. C. Steilin, appointed factory manager, has had extensive engineering and manufacturing experience with motion picture projection equipment.

Century will continue the production of the most modern equipment and rendition of dependable service. The present dealer-relationship policies will be sustained and the future postwar program considerably expanded. All other policies, officers, and personnel remain the same.

A New Postwar Model Steel Adjustable Chair



One of the country's leading producers of industrial seating, Kewaunee Manufacturing Company of Adrian, Michigan, is scheduled to begin shipping their new postwar models of automatic adjustable chairs and stools this month. These chairs and stools are said to be ideal for all types of work at bench, machine, assembly or inspection lines, and therefore are indicated for use of cashiers or projectionists in theatres.

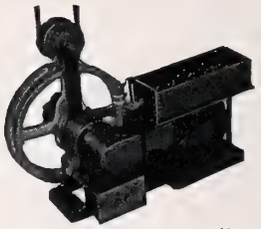
The new chairs have these features: Seat height may be changed instantly merely by lifting, to suit any individual, large or small, short or tall. Four height ranges are available in either the stool or chair, adjustable from 12 to 15 inches, 15 to 21 inches, 18 to 27 inches, 24 to 36 inches. The shaped steel backrest may be adjusted both vertically and horizontally in relation to the seat.

Probably the most popular height range for industrial use is the 18-inch minimum, 27-inch maximum. This one chair gives a variance of seating heights which covers most needs. The adjustment between the minimum and maximum heights can be made to the slightest fraction of an inch merely by lifting the seat. No bolts, nuts or screws are used in making adjustments. Wrench or screwdriver is not needed. The adjustment is entirely automatic. An illustrated bulletin may be obtained by request through The Modern Theatre Information Bureau.

TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

autodrape

CURTAIN MACHINES



All the advantages offered by Autodrape are too numerous to mention in this small space. Investigation will explain why they are the favorite of exhibitors.

AUTOMATIC DEVICES CO.
1035 Linden St. Allentown, Pa.
Export Office:
220 W. 42nd St., New York City
Also Manufacturers of Allentown Steel Curtain Tracks and Curtain Machines

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*Indicates sustaining members of The Modern Theatre Planning Institute.

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING



THE GROUP OF PHOTOS REPRODUCED ABOVE REVEAL HOW SHOWMEN OF BOMBAY, INDIA, ARE CARRYING ON EXPLOITATION WITH UNDIMINISHED EFFORT DESPITE SEVERE WARTIME RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF PAPER AND NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING SPACE. J. J. UNWALLA, 20TH-FOX OF INDIA PUBLICITY MANAGER WHO FORWARDED THE ABOVE PHOTOS, REPORTS OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES WERE ACCENTUATED TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF DISPLAY PAPER AND AD SPACE.

Oriental Dancer Out Front for "Salome"

DETROIT—Exceptional sidewalk exploitation was arranged by the Betty Smith, publicity director of the Fox Theatre here for "Salome, Where She Danced." A girl was dressed in appropriate Oriental dance costume, and placed out in front, to do a dance number in front of the house. A man was attired in circus barker costume and walked along the sidewalk with a portable microphone, calling attention to the unusual free attraction.

A portable public address system was used, and music piped from the lobby, including Oriental strains for the dance bits. The pair worked at 15-minute intervals, doing about a 15-minute show. In order to reduce interference with traffic, the girl worked just inside the outer lobby doors, with the barker himself right on the sidewalk.

A pretty girl gets attention anywhere, anytime, and when you put one in a Salome outfit, the crowds stop.

Photos From Bombay Show Wartime Exploitation Activities in India

Wartime controls have enforced severe reductions in the use of display paper and newspaper advertising for film exploitation in India, reports J. J. Unwalla, publicity director of 20th-Fox of India, in a letter he enclosed with a packet of photos he forwarded to Selling Seats from Bombay. But the handicap did not prevent Unwalla and the Regal and Globe theatres there from putting "unprecedentedly extensive" campaigns behind two 20th-Fox hits.

The outdoor promotional activities were accentuated to make up for the restrictions. Window displays, street banners, poster campaigning and billboarding reached new peaks in the city. To cut down the use of paper posters, billboards were painted, as illustrated in the book tieup photo (lower left) in the group above. On one wall along a main thoroughfare a "Bernadette" sign 48x12 feet (bottom tier) was painted two months in advance.

Huge double-side banners were stretched across all important streets.

Of interest are the two photos showing the Regal marquee on top of which are depicted displays made from blowups and cutouts.

Near the center at top is a cutout of the star of "Bernadette" standing on a concrete traffic block at a street corner.

In the center is shown a blowup of an editorial that appeared in Blitz, the Indian national news magazine, and displayed out front.

At right of the Blitz picture is a window display that contains a card on "Wilson" with this copy: "The Mammoth Motion Picture . . . It took 2½ years to make—The Astounding Human Story . . . It took 25 years to tell—The Supreme Triumph . . . It took 50 years of film entertainment to achieve."

Hal Horne Puts Horse After Cart, Then Figuratively Upsets Both

Last week we reported on Hal Horne's newspaper ad campaign, set to break in New York, for "Don Juan Quilligan." This week we report on Horne's foreword to the campaign. If the reader thinks forewords should be presented before the material it introduces, he—well he just doesn't know Horne. Even those who know him never are certain to what unorthodox press-agentry he may resort to next.

Remarkable is the fact that a director of motion picture publicity and advertising has had the courage to flout the conventional. Horne's ads not only are a takeoff on his own craft but they even spoof the hero and the plot and make uncomplimentary remarks about the film itself.



THE LEADING CHARACTERS—These three sketches appear in the "Don Juan" introductory ads. Left is Hal Horne's impression of Hoff, the well-known cartoonist who made the drawings for the Horne series. Center, the cartoonist's impression of Don Juan. Right, Hoff's impression of Horne, the 20th-Fox publicity and advertising director.

In the five-column introductory ad, signed by Horne personally, he writes about Don Juan Quilligan:

Born in most humble surroundings, he spent his early childhood in a jar of alcohol at Harvard. Fragmentary records reveal he had his hand in many things—and invariably was caught . . . He took to drink and drink took to him—an inevitably lasting friendship. Prosperity, as it must to all men, finally went to his head, but found it impossible to live in a vacuum . . .

Describing the film are these words:

If it's thrills you're looking for, and beauty and romance, spectacle, tears and heart throbs, then you'll simply have to go elsewhere, for these are not in the picture. Look for the big fire scenes, an entire city aflame! Look for the mightiest cast in history, 100,000 players running the entire gamut of emotions, and limping the rest of the way! Look for the pitched battle between the sexes—thousands of handsome men and thousands of glamorous women engaged in mortal combat! Look for all these—and see if you can find them.

But as Horne points out in conclusion and in a more serious vein:

But, after all, the play's the thing, and as the story unfolds on the screen . . . It will make you fighting mad . . . It will lift you out of your seat . . . It will bowl you over, tear you apart, make you hit the ceiling, fall on the floor, roll in the aisles and when you come to you'll wonder if what you paid for was to see a motion picture—or get a workout.

Hail then! Hail to Don Juan Quilligan—the crumbum of Lotharios.

Arranges Kresge Tieup For "Enchanted Cottage"

NEWARK—Manager Harry Weiss of the RKO Proctor Theatre made a comprehensive tieup with the local Kresge department store for "The Enchanted Cottage."

In addition to window displays, full-page newspaper ads with illustrations of home interiors bore the catchline: "See the new maple rooms of Friendship House. They will give you ideas for your own 'Enchanted Cottage.'"

Discs, Hotel, Music House Aid 'Rhapsody' Campaign

NEW YORK—In exploiting "Rhapsody in Blue," Warner Bros. will receive support from Columbia Records, RCA Victor, Hotel Roosevelt and the Music Settlement House.

As part of a national campaign on the music from the film, Columbia Records is using general magazine, educational, institutional and other advertising, designed to augment local opening campaigns. Full-page color ads in Life and Newsweek are scheduled, and the coverage will include the trade field, clubs, colleges, community groups and other channels.

RCA Victor also is preparing a campaign based on its various recordings of music by George Gershwin used in the picture.

The Hotel Roosevelt, scene of Gershwin's first all-jazz concert, is publishing a brochure giving highlights of the composer's life. The booklet will be distributed to guests and sent out nationally.

Also coincident with the forthcoming premiere of the film, Music Settlement House sent four gifted pupils to Public School 25, which the composer attended, for music assembly launching a Junior George Gershwin jubilee week.

Campaign on "Caballeros" Accentuates Latin Motif

ST. LOUIS—In its campaign on "The Three Caballeros" the Ambassador Theatre followed several angles. Special lobby displays were installed two weeks prior to the opening, and a screening arranged for the Mexican, Cuban and Panamanian consuls, the latter getting newspaper mention.

Streetcar passes carried copy for a week before the opening and window displays were arranged, featuring the Latin motif, with theatre copy. Music stores carried displays featuring the songs, and radio plugs also aided the campaign.

Bell Ties in With Wacs

NEW CASTLE, PA.—A complete Wac recruiting booth in the lobby of the Penn here was only part of the special Wac cooperation in exploiting "Keep Your Powder Dry." Wacs also furnished posters, photos and speakers for a Lions Club luncheon; the theatre issued "It's True" heralds which were distributed by the Wacs on their rounds in factories, plants, etc. J. G. Bell, Penn manager, exhibited a trailer on recruiting and a number of store window displays were arranged. Tied in with the Seventh War Loan drive were 100 window cards and 500 postal cards.

"Grapevine" Assists Rural Spot Booking

Leo H. Freund of the Adrian Theatre in the rural community of Adrian, Mo., relates that "grapevine" reports play an important part in his booking, which he performs regularly on trips to the Kansas City exchanges.

The so-called better pictures are not always the ones that draw the crowds to his theatre, he explains, the community as a whole preferring the simple type film containing characters or incidents familiar in their lives. Any picture with a dog or horse in it is surefire, he says. The "better" pictures, however, are necessary, Freund asserts, to maintain the prestige of the Adrian, and he books them on suggestions spoken to him by patrons. He explains it thus:

Two or three persons, doubtlessly of the town's more articulate class, will see a picture at a theatre in one of the nearby larger cities. They recommend it to their friends, who in turn tell the townsfolk about it. The talk finally reaches Freund, who immediately books the film. He says the arrangement is quite satisfactory, for no promotion is necessary on such "cultural" films.

"No matter how important a picture may be, no matter how many people know about it and have read of its success in the city, there is no appreciable interest in it in Adrian unless somebody the townsfolk know has seen it and tells them it is good," Freund comments.

Salt Lake Play on Name "Fleagle" Arouses Town

SALT LAKE CITY—"Have you ever been Fleagled?"

"It's fun to be Fleagled."

"Is it legal to Fleagle?"

The above two queries and statement printed on cards and distributed throughout Salt Lake had the town wondering what was going on. A local newspaper office received many calls at its information desk asking what "fleagled" means. Theatregoers saw these three teasers on the screen at the Utah Theatre didn't know what to make of it. Some even wondered if it wasn't something dirty and told Manager Charles Pincus they didn't like to see such things on the screen. But for the townspeople, the mystery still remained.

It was all part of a novel advertising campaign carried out by Pincus for "Murder, He Says," scheduled to open at the Utah Theatre June 13. The word "Fleagle" is the name of the family in the picture and Pincus made this novel play on their name to create interest in the film. Local newspapers carried the small teaser ads this week, and the small cards bearing the two questions and statement were distributed throughout the town, adding to the bewilderment of Salt Lakers.

So popular did the more unusual advertising campaign become that Dave Cockrill of the Denham Theatre in Denver requested samples of the small teaser cards and planned to use it for his campaign there.

According to Bob Blair of Denver, Paramount field representative, he is distributing the "Fleagle" cards to Paramount branch offices throughout the nation.

Adopts Press Book

Michael Stranger, manager of the State at White Plains, N. Y., reports he found it unnecessary to look further than the press book for enough practical slants on selling "The Picture of Dorian Gray." "We just adopted the things we thought applicable, practical and possible for us to follow through here," he relates.

Sell Theatre Comfort To Home Vacationists

Selling comfort now becomes a "must" for the enterprising exhibitor who would capitalize on the advent of hot weather and another travel-restricted summer.

The idea of spending a vacation at home may not be any more popular with the public than food rationing, but a lot more people are going to do it this year than ever before. All signs point to even greater restrictions on civilian travel this summer in order to facilitate the movements of troops from east to west in the concentration of our military might against the remaining enemy in the Pacific.

Theatres the Most Comfortable

In this situation the theatre offers a means of escape not only from mental problems but also from physical discomfort. In former years the summer season was poisonous to theatres, but with the advance of air conditioning the situation to a large extent has reversed itself. Theatres now are about the most comfortable places in town, and the exhibitor who can sell the idea of spending a home vacation in comfort by attending the theatre probably will have little cause for boxoffice lamentation.

Widespread publicity and promotion centered upon the comfort theme should pay dividends. Various means of doing this have been suggested, ranging from marquee decorations to billboards and newspaper ad borders all founded on the "cool" motif.

However, it should be remembered none can have the name without the game, so a thorough check of cooling plants should be the first matter of business. Summer uniforms should be cool appearing, and above all the cashier should give an impression of cool comfort. Few persons would rely on the "20 degrees cooler inside" signs if the ticket seller appears to be roasting.

In selling comfort, the "atmosphere" of the theatre should conform. Warm colored letters in displays should be changed to cool appearing units. Co-ops with merchants, beverage dispensers, etc., for newspaper ads might be worked up under a banner heading of "Keep Kool, Peanut City!" and stores closing on certain afternoons might elaborate their sign notifications of the fact to read: "This store closes every Thursday afternoon in July and August. Keep cool. Attend the Blank Theatre."

Appeal to Mothers

Mothers could be sold on the idea it's better for children to be inside a cool theatre in the hot part of the day than courting danger of overheating by playing outside. On extremely hot days or nights the telephone girl might answer all calls with: "Good evening, this is Blank's Cool Theatre."

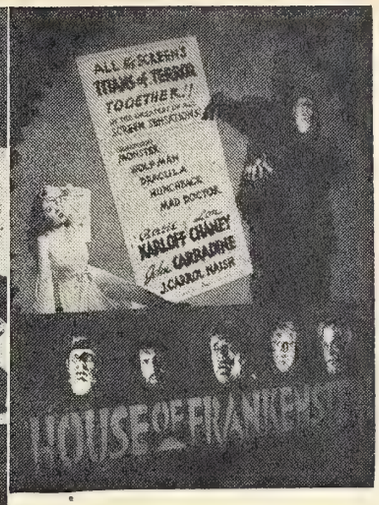
Trailers showing operation of the mechanism of the plant providing the "cool, healthful flow of air" into the theatre can be used effectively. Decorations to give the lobby the appearance of an icicle-hung grotto hold an inviting appeal to the man with a wilted collar and the woman with a steaming girdle.

Warm weather stunts can be employed—such as placing a cake of ice in front of the house and letting patrons guess how long it will take to melt, have ice wagons carry signs advertising "two ways to keep cool—buy our ice and attend Blank's Theatre." Staging the ever popular bathing girl revues aids business, and summer fashion shows in cooperation with local women's wear houses always click. But the main theme should be that of comfort. Why not this slogan:

"Attend the theatre and enjoy summer resort weather at home. Make this a Film Vacation year!"

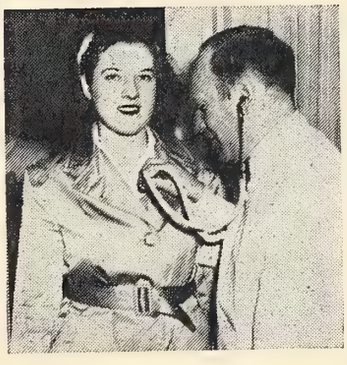
Shriek and Shudder

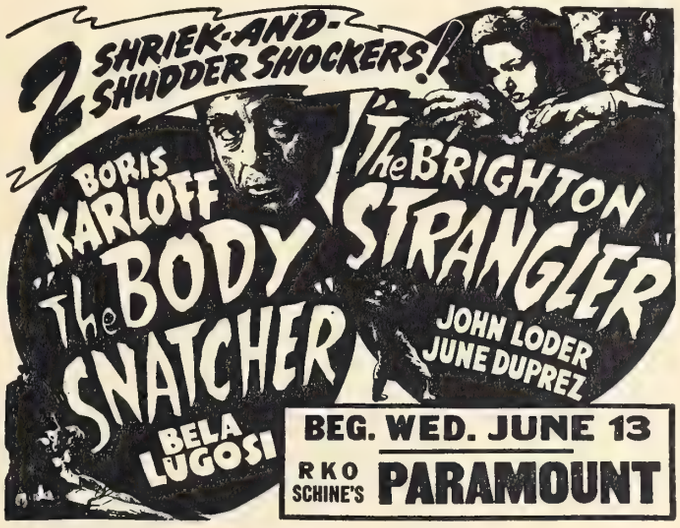




CHILLS IN LOBBY— County Coroner A. L. Brodie (above) watches an interne check a body in the RKO Grand lobby, and (right) the interne checks a patron who had just seen the horror duo.

Above right: A graphic lobby shocker at the Lincoln, Washington, which featured green lighting.



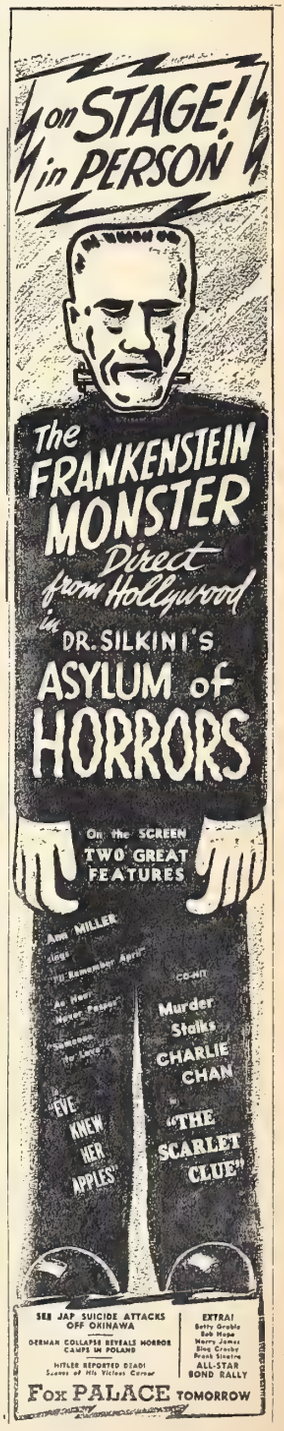




THREE ADS—The long "Monster" ad at the right was two columns wide, a full page deep and appeared at Milwaukee. Above: Here black space and lettering combine to create an eerie impression for Schine's Paramount. Bottom left: Norman Kassel of the Woods at Chicago puts some hilarity into his cartoon on a horror duo.

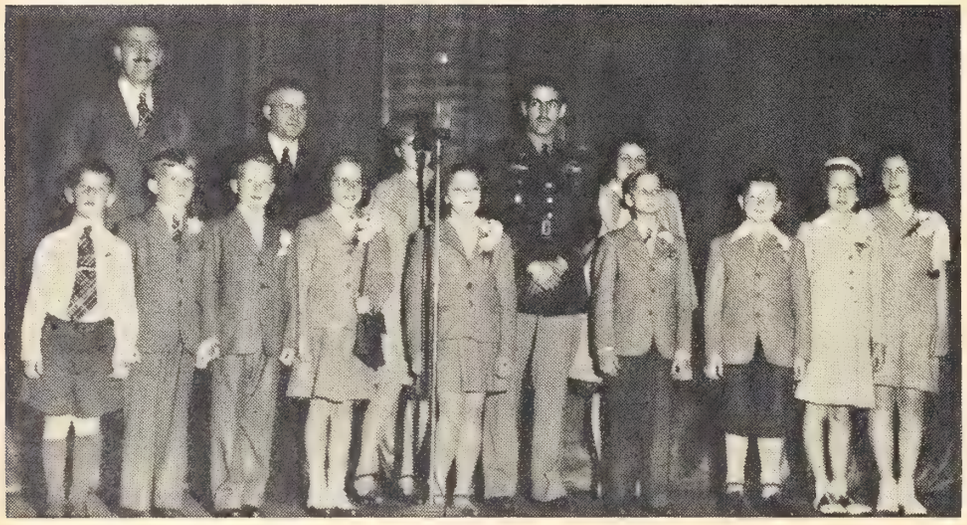


NEW HORROR SLANT — Not so much black space and no "corpses" appear in this two-column ad.



"Wingmen," a Short, Gets a Big Buildup

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO—Although stricken with appendicitis 12 days before the opening, Roy Peffley of the Paramount Theatre here directed a whirlwind campaign to put over the premiere of a short subject, "Wingmen of Tomorrow" (Univ), from his hospital bed. The subject has national interest and will pay extra promotion anywhere.



STAGE EVENT FOR A SHORT—Capt. Don Gentile, center, acted as master of ceremonies when the youngsters who appear in "Wingmen of Tomorrow," a short subject, were introduced from the stage at the premiere of the picture at the Paramount Theatre, Middletown, Ohio. At the extreme left is Al Bennett, sales manager of the Aeronca Aircraft Corp. and the man who taught these kids to fly.

Because the picture was made in Middletown with the cooperation of the Aeronca Aircraft Corp., he tied up with Aeronca on many of the campaign highlights.

Universal had arranged to supply free dodgers. Peffley used 4,000 of these, distributing them from house to house, in stores and under automobile windshield wipers, and in front of schools.

The dodgers contained four stills and this copy in blue and red:

This Year's Youngster is Next Year's Pilot . . . Universal Pictures presents . . . "Wingmen of Tomorrow" . . . Flying made easy—you'll be doing it tomorrow. See how the younger generation does it today. Five-year-olds take to the air like ducks to water.

Made in Middletown . . . World Premiere showing beginning—(dates and theatre) . . . See Middletown boys and girls fly . . . on the program with Deanna Durbin in "Can't Help Singing," etc.

One-Sheet on the Short

A one-sheet display made up of stills from the picture, proclaiming "Extra Added Attraction," was placed in the lobby two weeks in advance. Similar displays with playdates were placed in the hotel, in the bus station, and in the window of the city's biggest department store.

A radio program was arranged through Station WKRC Cincinnati in which six of the youngsters who appear in the picture, Al Bennett, their instructor, and John Friedlander, president of Aeronca were interviewed by Helen Nugent, a well-known Cincinnati figure and former opera singer. This broadcast mentioned the premiere, giving the history of it, and also plugged the feature. The Aeronca Corp. took an ad in the Middletown paper the day of the broadcast calling attention to the fact that local youngsters would be heard on the air.

The theatre ran a trailer for a week in advance of the opening pointing out that the picture was made in Middletown with Middletown youngsters and that it had a national interest. Principals at local school assemblies during the week prior to opening, gave a complete resume of the picture and recommended attendance.

On opening night Capt. Don Gentile, the hero who is stationed at nearby Wright Field, appeared on the stage to introduce the youngsters who appeared in person (photo in adjacent columns). His presence was extensively advertised and publicized.

Two days in advance stores carried ads in the Middletown Journal hailing this locally made subject. This gave representation on almost every page of the paper.

Two nights before the opening Aeronca gave a dinner in the local hotel to the youngsters who appeared in the picture and their parents and the press. This also was reported in out-of-town papers.

The Middletown Journal ran a publicity story and a three-column cut three days before the opening, an announcement about Captain Gentile two days before, and an account of the dinner the day before.

On the opening night the theatre was jammed to capacity. People were standing in the aisles, in the lobby and waiting to get into the theatre.



INSTITUTIONAL RIDER—Al Montefalco, Mahon Theatres publicist, put the rider on "June Is Go to the Theatre Month" above two-column combination ad for the Mahan houses at Waterbury, Conn. Other houses space not shown on the above.

'Gray' Preview Brings High Grade Publicity

George Freeman, manager of Loew's Poli in Springfield, Mass., really let loose with both barrels in his promotion of "Dorian Gray."

In addition to teaser cards that were placed around the theatre, in the lobby, the lounges and foyer for four weeks in advance, teaser ads in the newspapers and the regular teaser trailer, a man dressed in topper, white tie and tails with "Dorian Gray" written across his shirt front paraded the streets of the city and visited night clubs and other spots to hand out "confidential" cards telling the showing date for the film.

One of the most effective ideas was a special screening eight days before the opening attended by newspaper and radio critics, civic officials, members of the Motion Picture Council and library and book store representatives. Comment cards were filled out at the conclusion and later several of those present participated in a radio round-table discussion of the picture broadcast by Station WMAS. Participants were Louise Mace, Springfield Republican critic; Mrs. William Hansen, Motion Picture Council representative; Mrs. H. Davoie, representing Classical High School, and Freeman.

Toledo Boosts "Co-Pilot" With Reprints of Prayer

Toledo—This city's council of churches has circulated copies of a poem-prayer to more than 300 ministers of several faiths and other religious leaders of the community. The prayer is recited by Alan Hale, priest in "God Is My Co-Pilot."

Warner Bros., producers of "Co-Pilot," has also effected tieins with a department store and a war material manufacturer. The department store is sponsoring a model plane contest and giving the picture and the competition a newspaper buildup. The manufacturer arranged a display of his products in the Paramount Theatre lobby and notified his employes of the setup and the film.

Racing Revival and Derby Aid Kansas City "'Rourke"

The Kentucky Derby occurred during the second week of "Salty O'Rourke" at the Newman in Kansas City and, of course, shortly after the resumption of horse racing. And Babe Cohn, manager, made full use of both developments in his promotion of the picture. Specially prepared ads, designed to attract the attention of racing enthusiasts, were placed on the sport page of the daily newspaper. "O'Rourke" was held for a third week.

One-Sheet On Marquee

Bruce K. Young, manager of the Ritz Theatre at Dyersburg, Tenn., hit upon a novel use of a one-sheet in his promotion for "Dillinger." The sheet was set against the lighted marquee background so that the colors in the sheet made the face of Dillinger a standout. The result was that all faces turned upward to the picture on the marquee.

Style Short Added

UNIONTOWN, PA.—To stimulate woman patronage at the Manos while exhibiting "Tarzan and the Amazons," Bernard Buchheit, Manos district manager, booked "Dress Parade," fashion reel subject in the This Is America series. A department store tied in as sponsor of "Dress Parade," furnishing special displays and publishing cooperative ads.

Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C
MAY 12	10 (67) Mystery 6031 **BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION** Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Steve Cochran R—May 26—PG-629	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 **WITHOUT LOVE** Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616 (80) Drama 523 **GENTLE ANNIE** James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main R—Dec. 23—PG-591	12 (70) War Drama **CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S** Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628	BLOCK 5—1944-45: (113) Rom-Com. 4421 **THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN** Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	7 (63) Western **ENEMY OF THE LAW** Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson
MAY 19	17 (57) Western **BOTH BARRELS BLAZING** Charles Starrett Pat Parrish Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor		19 (64) Western **N OLD NEW MEXICO** Duncan Renaldo		16 (64) Mystery **THE LADY CONFESSES** Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618
MAY 26	24 (84) M'drama 6010 **THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN** Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter R—May 26—PG-629			(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 **MURDER, HE SAYS** Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	
JUNE 2		JUNE RELEASES: (110) Drama 525 **THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY** Hurd Hatfield George Sanders Donna Reed R—Feb. 24—PG-607	2 (..) West.-Mus. **SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS** Jimmy Wakely 2 (..) Comedy **TROUBLE CHASERS** Billy Gilbert	(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 **SCARED STIFF** Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	1 (62) Mystery **THE MISSING CORPSE** J. Edward Bromberg Isabel Randolph R—Apr. 28—PG-625
JUNE 9	7 (60) Comedy 6029 **TEN CENTS A DANCE** Jane Frazee Jimmy Lloyd R—June 2—PG-631 7 (66) Mus.-West. **RHYTHM ROUND-UP** Ken Curtis Cheryl Walker R—June 2—PG-631		9 (70) Western **FLAME OF THE WEST** Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury		
JUNE 16		(102) M'drama 526 ◎**SON OF LASSIE** Peter Lawford Donald Crisp June Lockhart R—Apr. 21—PG-622	16 (..) Com.-Dr. **MR. MUGGS RIDES AGAIN** Leo Gorcey East Side Kids	BLOCK 6—1944-45: (96) Mus.-Com. 4426 **OUT OF THIS WORLD** Eddie Bracken Veronica Lake Diana Lynn Cass Daley Parkyarkarkus R—June 9—PG-633	14 (..) Mys.-West. **GANGSTER'S DEN** Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John
JUNE 23	21 (65) **BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN** Robert Stanton Lynn Merrick Thurston Hall Mary Treen	SPECIAL: (119) Drama 527 **THE VALLEY OF DECISION** Greer Garson Gregory Peck R—Apr. 21—PG-621		(64) Mystery 4427 **ONE EXCITING NIGHT** William Gargan Ann Savage Leo Gorcey Don Beddoe R—June 9—PG-633	15 (77) Melodrama **THE SILVER FLEET** Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617
JUNE 30				(..) 4428 **YOU CAME ALONG** Robert Cummings Lizabeth Scott Don DeFore Charles Drake	29 (..) Western **THREE IN THE SADDLE** Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson
JULY 7	5 (..) Mystery **BOSTON BLACKIE'S RENDEZVOUS** Chester Morris Nina Foch Steve Cochran Richard Lane			SPECIAL: (113) Comedy 4431 ◎**INCENDIARY BLONDE** Betty Hutton Arturo de Cordova Charlie Ruggles Albert Dekker Barry Fitzgerald	
JULY 14	12 (..) Melodrama ◎**A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS** Cornel Wilde Evelyn Keyes Adele Jergens R—June 16—PG-635			REISSUES: (126) M'drama 4433 ◎**NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE** Gary Cooper Madeleine Carroll Paulette Goddard Preston Foster	
JULY 21				(81) M'drama 4434 **THIS GUN FOR HIRE** Alan Ladd Veronica Lake Robert Preston Laird Cregar	
JULY 28					
AUG. 4					

WEEK ENDING	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAY 12	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 **ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY** Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623	10 (69) Horror 433 **PHANTOM SPEAKS** Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ◎**DIAMOND HORSESHOE** Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622		11 (59) Musical 9028 **HONEYMOON AHEAD** Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	19 (79) Melodrama 416 **ESCAPE IN THE DESERT** Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 19	(78) Melodrama 517 **THE BODY SNATCHER** Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell R—Mar. 3—PG-610	20 (56) Western 3318 **LONE TEXAS RANGER** Wild Bill Elliott 21 (59) Horror 434 **THE VAMPIRE'S GHOST** John Abbott R—Apr. 28—PG-625		18 (91) Drama **THE SOUTHERNER** Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	18 (60) Musical 9033 **SWING OUT SISTER** Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher R—June 9—PG-634	
MAY 26	(76) Adventure 518 **TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS** Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616	23 (58) Melodrama 416 **THREE'S A CROWD** Pamela Blake		25 (96) Drama **THE GREAT JOHN L.** Greg McLure Linda Darnell R—May 26—PG-630	25 (69) Comedy 9016 **SEE MY LAWYER** Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis R—Feb. 10—PG-602	
JUNE 2	(65) Mys.-Dr. 4423 **SCARED STIFF** Jack Haley Ann Savage Barton MacLane Veda Ann Borg R—Apr. 7—PG-620	2 (56) Western 455 **SANTA FE SADDLEMATES** 28 (91) M'drama 415 **FLAME OF THE BARBARY COAST** John Wayne Ann Dvorak			1 (92) Comedy **THAT'S THE SPIRIT** Jack Oakie R—June 2—PG-632 1 (..) Western 9084 **RENEGADES OF THE RIO GRANDE** Rod Cameron	
JUNE 9	(78) Drama 519 **CHINA SKY** Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622	4 (55) M'drama 420 **A SPORTING CHANCE** J. Randolph J. O'Malley	JUNE RELEASES: (77) Comedy 526 ◎**WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE** Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn R—May 26—PG-630		8 (61) 9041 **I'LL TELL THE WORLD** Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce June Preisser R—June 2—PG-632	9 (92) Comedy 417 **PILLOW TO POST** Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince R—May 5—PG-627
JUNE 16	(81) Com-Drama 520 **THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS** Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding Bill Williams R—Apr. 21—PG-621	19 (68) Outdr. Mus. 442 **BELLS OF ROSARITA** Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes R—May 26—PG-629			15 (68) 9042 **BLONDE RANSOM** Virginia Grey Donald Cook R—June 9—PG-634	
JUNE 23	GROUP 5: (66) Mystery 521 **TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE** Tom Conway Ann Rutherford		(75) Comedy 527 **DON JUAN QUILLIGAN** William Bendix Joan Blondell Phil Silvers Mary Treen Anne Revere B. S. Pulley R—June 9—PG-633		22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043 **PENTHOUSE RHYTHM** Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark R—June 16—PG-635	
JUNE 30	(67) Drama 552 **THE BRIGHTON STRANGLER** John Loder June Duprez R—May 5—PG-627	29 (68) M'drama 417 **THE CHICAGO KID** Donald Barry Otto Kruger R—Feb. 17—PG-603			29 (61) Mystery 9032 **THE FROZEN GHOST** Lon Chaney 29 (63) M'drama 9038 **JUNGLE CAPTIVE** Otto Kruger	30 (86) Drama 418 **CONFLICT** Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet R—June 16—PG-636
JULY 7	(95) Drama 523 **BACK TO BATAAN** John Wayne Anthony Quinn Beulah Bondi Fely Franquelli R—June 2—PG-631		JULY RELEASES:		6 (..) Mus-Com. 9003 **THE NAUGHTY NINETIES** Abbott & Costello Rita Johnson Alan Curtis	
JULY 14	(66) Western 524 **WEST OF THE PECOS** Robert Mitchum Barbara Hale Richard Martin R—June 16—PG-635	14 (56) Western 456 **OREGON TRAIL** Sunset Carson Peggy Stewart			13 (..) Mus-Com. **ON STAGE EVERYBODY** Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan Otto Kruger	
JULY 21	(..) Mus.-Com. 525 **GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS** Joan Davis Jack Haley Phillip Terry Martha Holliday	16 (72) Musical 419 **HITCHHIKE TO HAPPINESS** Al Pearce Dale Evans	(71) Drama 528 **WITHIN THESE WALLS** Thomas Mitchell Mary Anderson Edward Ryan Mark Stevens B. S. Pully R—June 16—PG-636		20 (59) **THE BEAUTIFUL CHEAT** Bonita Granville Noah Berry jr. Milburn Stone	21 (114) Drama 419 **THE CORN IS GREEN** Bette Davis John Dall Joan Lorring R—Apr. 7—PG-619
JULY 28	SPECIAL: (90) Western 681 **ALONG CAME JONES** Gary Cooper Loretta Young R—June 16—PG-636	28 (72) Comedy 418 **STEPPIN' IN SOCIETY** Edward Everett Horton Gladys George Ruth Terry	(95) Drama 529 ◎**NOB HILL** George Raft Joan Bennett Vivian Blaine Peggy Ann Garner Alan Reed R—June 2—PG-632			
AUG. 4	(98) Comedy 552 ◎**WONDER MAN** Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—Apr. 28—PG-626	1 (68) O'td'r-Mus. 443 **MAN FROM OKLAHOMA** Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans				

SHORTS CHART

Short subjects, listed by Company, in order of release. Numeral is production number. Running time follows title. First date is National release, second the date of review in BOXOFFICE. The symbol between dates is rating from the BOXOFFICE review: ‡ Very Good, + Good, ± Fair, ∓ Mediocre, − Poor, = Very Poor. © Indicates color photography.

Columbia

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	ALL-STAR COMEDIES			
6421	Strife of the Party (16)	10-13	+	12- 2
6427	Open Season for Saps (18)	10-27	±	12- 2
6428	Design for Loving (21)	11- 3	+	12- 2
6409	A Knight and a Blonde (14)	11-17		....
6402	No Dough, Boys (17)	11-24		...
6429	Heather and Yon (17)	12- 8	±	3-10
6432	She Snoops to Conquer (18)	12-29	+	3-10
6410	Woo, Woo! (16)	1- 5	∓	3-10
6403	Three Pests in a Mess (15)	1-19	±	4- 7
6430	Snooper Service (14½)	2- 2	∓	3-24
6431	Off Again, On Again (16)	2-16	±	3-14
6432	Two Local Yokels (17½)	3-23	±	5-19
6404	Booby Dupes (17)	3-17	±	3-24
6433	Pistol Pickin' Nitwits (17)	5- 4	+	4-28
6411	Wife Decoy (17)	6- 1		....
6423	The Jury Goes Round 'N Round (18)	6-15		....
6405	Idiots Deluxe (17½)	7-20		...
	COLOR RHAPSODIES (Technicolor)			
6501	Dog, Cat and Canary (6)	1- 5		....
6502	Rippling Romance (8)	6-21		....
6053	Fiesta Time (7½)	7-12		....
	COMMUNITY SING			
6653	No. 3 (Baker) Swinging on a Star (10)	11-10		....
6654	No. 4 (Leibert) Hot Time in Berlin (9)	12- 1	±	2-24
5657	Christmas Carols (reissue) (10½)	12- 8		....
6655	(Baker) Tico Tico (11)	1- 1		....
6656	No. 6 (Baker) Very Thought of You (10)	2- 9	±	4- 7
6657	No. 7 (Leibert) I'll Walk Alone (11)	3-15		....
6658	No. 8 (Leibert) Sweet and Lovely (9)	4-27	+	5-19
6659	No. 9 (Baker) Confessin' (10)	5-25		....
6663	No. 13 (Special) Victory Reel (..) (Prints sealed) VE-Day	5- 8		....
6660	No. 10 (Leibert) Rum and Coca-Cola (..)	6-29		....
	FILM-VODVIL			
6952	Featuring Al Trace's Comedy Band (11)	10-27	+	12- 2
6953	Featuring Rootin' Tootin' Band (11)	12- 8		....
6954	Featuring Korn Kobblers (11)	2- 2	+	4- 7
6955	Featuring Loew, Hite & Stanley (11)	5-11		....
	FOX & CROW (Technicolor)			
6751	Be Patient, Patient (7)	11-30		....
6752	The Egg Yegg (7½)	5- 4		....
6753	Kukunuts (6½)	7-26		....
	LI'L ABNER (Technicolor)			
6601	Porkuliar Piggy (7)	10-13	+	12- 2
6602	Kickapoo Juice (7)	2-23	∓	3-10
	PANORAMICS			
5904	Traditions of Mexico (8)	4-18		...
6901	A Harbor Goes to France (..)	5-18	‡	5-19
	PHANTASIES CARTOONS			
6702	As the Fly Flies (6)	11-17		
6703	Goofy News Views (7)	4-27	−	5-19
6704	Bobby Socks (..)	7-12		....
	SCREEN SNAPSHOTS			
6853	No. 3 (Ken Murray, M. C.) (10)	10-19		....
6854	No. 4 (Variety-Mowbray) (9½)	11-22		....
6855	No. 5 (GI Janes in Hollywood) (10)	12-28	+	3-10
6856	No. 6 (Vallee-Allen) (9)	1-26	±	4- 7
6857	No. 7 (Mem'l to T. Mix-W. Rogers) (9)	2-25		...
6858	No. 8 (Letters to GI) (10)	3-29		....
6859	No. 9 (Doctors in Make-Up) (9½)	5-17		....
6860	No. 10 (Eddie Cantor-Ginny Simms) (..)	7- 6		....
	SPORT REELS			
6802	Hedge Hoppers (9)	10-20	‡	12- 2
6803	Aqua Maids (9½)	11-24		....
6804	Striking Champions (10)	12-22		...
6805	Kings of the Fairway (10)	2- 2	±	2-24
6806	Rough and Tumble (9)	3- 2	+	5-12
6807	The Iron Masters (9½)	4-27	+	4-28
6808	Hi-Ho Rodeo (..)	7- 6		....

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (Technicolor)			
T-511	Through the Colorado Rockies (9½)	10-23		....
T-512	Grand Canyon—Pride of Creation (9)	11-27	+	12-25
T-513	Salt Lake Diversions (9)	12-25	±	12-25
T-514	A Day in Death Valley (9)	1-22	+	2-12
T-515	Visiting St. Louis (9)	2-19	‡	2-12
T-518	Colorful Colorado (8)	5-20	+	6-10
T-519	Roaming Through Arizona (9)	6- 3	+	6-10
T-520	City of Brigham Young (9½)	6-17		....
T-521	Monumental Utah (9½)	7-29	‡	8-26
T-522	Wandering Here and There (9)	12- 9	‡	1-27
T-611	Shrines of Yucatan (9)	2-24	+	1-13
T-612	Seeing El Salvador (..)	3-31	±	4- 7
	MINIATURES			
M-581	My Tomato (7)	12- 4		....
M-582	Kid in Upper Four (11)	12-25	+	1-29
M-583	No News Is Good News (9)	12-18	+	12-25
M-584	Tale of a Dog (11)	4-15	+	4-22
M-586	Important Business (11)	4-29	‡	4-15
M-587	Why Daddy (9)	5-20	‡	6-10
M-589	Nostradamus IV (10)	9-30	‡	10-21
M-590	Little White Lie (..)	3- 3	±	4-28
	M-G-M CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
W-452	War Dogs (7)	10- 9	‡	10-16
W-453	Stork's Holiday (8)	10-23	‡	10-16
W-454	What's Buzzin' Buzzard? (8)	11-27	+	11-20
W-455	Baby Puss (8)	12-25	±	12-25
W-456	Innertube Antics (8)	1-22	±	2-19
W-533	Batty Baseball (6)	4-22	±	6-10
W-534	Million Dollar Cat (7)	5- 6	‡	4-22
W-535	The Tree Surgeon (8)	6- 3	+	6- 3
W-536	Happy-Go-Nutty (7)	6-24		....
W-537	The Bodyguard (7)	7-22	+	8-26
W-538	Bear Raid Warden (8)	9- 9	∓	8-26
W-539	Big Heel-Watha (8)		±	8-26
W-540	Puttin' On the Dog (7)		+	10-21
W-541	Mouse Trouble (7)	12-23	+	1-27
W-542	Barney Bear's Polar Pests (7)	12-30		....
W-543	Screwy Truant (7)	1-13	‡	4-28
W-544	The Unwelcome Guest (..)	2-17	‡	4-28
W-545	Shooting of Dan McGoo (..)	3- 3	‡	3-24
W-546	Jerky Turkey (8)	4- 7	‡	5- 2
W-631	Mouse Comes to Dinner (..)	5- 5		....
	M-G-M NEWS OF THE DAY (Released Twice Weekly)			
	M-G-M SPECIALS			
A-501	Dark Shadows (22)	12-16	‡	12-30
A-502	Fall Guy (20)	4-14	+	5-12
A-503	The Last Installment (19)	5- 5		....
A-504	Phantoms, Inc. (..)	6- 9		....
	OUR GANG COMEDIES			
C-498	Three Smart Guys (11)	10-23		....
C-499	Radio Bugs (9)	4- 1	∓	2-12
C-500	Dancing Romeo (10)	4-29	+	4-15
	PASSING PARADE			
K-488	Storm (10)	10-23	‡	10-16
K-489	To My Unborn Son (9)	10-30	‡	12-18
K-490	This Is Tomorrow (9)	11-27	‡	11- 7
K-572	Grandpa Called It Art (10)	7-15		....
K-573	Return From Nowhere (10)		‡	10-21
K-574	A Lady Fights Back (10)	11-11	‡	12-30
K-575	It Looks Like Rain (..)	3- 3	±	3-24
K-576	The Seesaw and the Shoes (10)	5- 5	+	5-12
	PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES			
S-473	Tips on Trips (10)	11-13		....
S-474	Water Wisdom (9)	11-27	±	12-25
S-551	Practical Joker (10)	1- 8	+	2-12
S-552	Home Maid (10)	2-19	+	2-19
S-553	Groovie Movie (10)	4- 8	‡	4-15
S-554	Sportsman's Memories (10)	4-22	‡	4-22
S-555	Movie Pests (10)	7- 8	‡	8-12
S-556	Sports Quiz (10)	9- 2	‡	8-26
S-557	Football Thrills of 1943 (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
S-558	Safety Sleuth (10)	11-25	‡	12-30
S-559	Track & Field Quiz (..)	3- 3	‡	4- 7
S-560	Hollywood Scout (8)	4-14	+	5-12

Paramount

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	COLOR CLASSICS CARTOONS (Reissues)			
C4- 7	No. 1 The Little Stranger (7)			....
C4- 8	No. 2 Snubbed by a Snob (7)			....
C4- 9	No. 3 Kids in the Shoe (7)			....
C4-10	No. 4 Hunky and Spunky (7)			....
	GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS (Technicolor)			
U4-1	Jasper's Paradise (7½)	10-13	‡	10- 7
U4-2	Two-Gun Rusty (7½)	12- 1	‡	11- 4
U4-3	Hot Lip Jasper (8)	1- 5	‡	12-30
U4-4	Jasper Tell (8)	3-23	+	4- 7
U4-5	Jasper's Minstrels (9)	5-25	+	3-24
U4-6	Hatful of Dreams (9)		‡	3-24
	GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHTS			
R3-10	Furlough Fishing (9½)	8-25	+	8-26
R4- 1	Rhythm on Wheels (9½)	10- 6	‡	10- 7
R4- 2	Broncs & Brands (9½)	11- 3	+	11-18
R4- 3	Long Shots or Favorites (9½)	12- 8	+	12-30
R4- 4	Out Fishin' (9½)	1-26	+	2-24
R4- 5	Blue Winners (9)	2-23	‡	1-27
R4- 6	Game Bag (9½)	3-30	+	3-24
R4- 7	White Rhapsody (9)	5- 4	+	5-12
R4- 8	Fan Fare (9)	6- 8	+	6- 2
	HEADLINER			
A2-11	Three Bears in a Boat (10)	8-20		....
A2-12	Yours Truly (10)	9- 3		....
A2-13	Stuffy in "Down With Everything" (9)	9-24	‡	10-30
	LITTLE LULU (Technicolor)			
D3-5	Lucky Lulu (7½)	6-30	+	8-12
D3-6	It's Nifty to Be Thrifty (8)	8-18	∓	10-21
D3-7	I'm Just Curious (7)	9- 8	‡	10-21
D3-8	Indoor Outing (8)	9-29	‡	12-30
D4-1	At the Zoo (8)	11-17	+	2-10
D4-2	Birthday Party (7½)	12-29	+	2-24
D4-3	Magica-Lulu (8)	3- 2	‡	4-28
D4-4	Beau Ties (8)	4-20	‡	6- 2
D4-5	Snap Happy (..)	5-25		....
	MUSICAL PARADES (Technicolor)			
FF4-1	Bonnie Lassie (19)	10- 6	‡	10- 7
FF4-2	Star Bright (20)	12-15	+	11-25
FF4-3	Bombalera (20)	2- 9	‡	12-30
FF4-4	Isle of Tabu (20)	4-13	±	3-10
FF4-5	Boogie Woogie (19)	6-15	+	6- 2
FF4-6	You Hit the Spot (..)			....
	NOVELTOON (Technicolor)			
P4-1	Yankee Doodle Donkey (8)	10-27	+	2-24
P4-2	Gabriel Churchkitten (8½)	12-15	±	3-10
P4-3	When GI Johnny Comes Home (8)	2- 2	+	2-24
P4-4	Scrappily Married (8)	3-30	+	4- 7
	PARAMOUNT NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	POPEYE CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
E3-5	Spinach-Packin' Popeye (7½)	7-21	+	8-12
E3-6	Puppet Love (7½)	8-11	±	11-25
E3-7	Pitching Woo at the Zoo (7)	9- 1	+	10-21
E3-8	Moving Aweigh (7)	9-22	‡	12-30
E4-1	She-Sick Sailors (6)	12- 8	+	4- 7
E4-2	Pop-Pie-Ala Mode (..)	1-26	+	6-16
E4-3	Tops in the Big Top (..)	3-16		....
E4-4	Shape Ahoy (..)	4-27		....
E4-5	For Better or Nurse (..)	6- 8		....
	POPULAR SCIENCE (Color)			
J3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 4	‡	8-26
J4-1	No. 1 (10)	10-20	+	10-21
J4-2	No. 2 (10)	12-22	+	11-18
J4-3	No. 3 (10)	2-16	‡	1-27
J4-4	No. 4 (..)	4- 6	+	4-28
J4-5	No. 5 (..)	6- 1	+	6-16
	SPEAKING OF ANIMALS			
Y3-6	Monkey Business (8)	9-15	+	10- 7
Y4-1	As Babies (9)	11-24	+	11-18
Y4-2	Who's Who in Animal Land (9)	1-19	‡	12-30
Y4-3	In the Public Eye (9½)	3-16	‡	3-10
Y4-4	Talk of the Town (..)	5-18	±	6-16
	UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS (Color)			
L3-6	No. 6 (10)	8- 1		....
L4-1	No. 1 (10)	11-10	+	11-18
L4-2	No. 2 (10)	1-12	‡	2-10
L4-3	No. 3 (10)	3- 9	+	3-10
L4-4	No. 4 (10)	5-11	+	5-12

RKO Radio

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DISNEY CARTOONS (Technicolor)			
34,109	The Old Army Game (7)	11- 5	‡	12- 4
34,110	Home Defense (8)	11-26	‡	12-25
34,111	Chicken Little (9)	12-17	‡	1-29
34,112	The Pelican and the Snipe (9)	1- 7	+	1-22
34,117	Contrary Condor (8)	4-21	+	5-27
34,118	Commando Duck (7)	5-12	‡	5-27
54,101	Springtime for Pluto (7)	6-23	+	7-29
54,102	Plastics Inventor (7)	9- 1	+	8-26
54,103	First Aiders (7)	9-22	+	10-21
54,104	How to Play Football (8)	9-15	+	11-12
54,105	Donald's Off Day (7)	12- 8	+	12-30
54,106	Tiger Trouble (7)	1- 5	±	1-11
54,107	The Clock Watcher (8)	1-26	+	1-26
54,108	Dog Watch (7)	3-16	+	1-27
54,109	The Eyes Have It (7)	3-30	‡	5-12
54,110	African Diary (7)	4-20		....
54,111	Donald's Crime (8)	5-11		....
	EDGAR KENNEDY COMEDIES			
43,402	Unlucky Dog (15)	11-12	+	1-22
43,403	Prunes and Politics (16)	1- 7		....
43,404	Love Your Landlord (18)	3- 3		....
53,402	Alibi Baby (18)	1- 5	∓	1-18
53,403	Sleepless Tuesday (18)	2-23	‡	3-24
	FLICKER FLASHBACKS			
44,205	No. 5 (9)	12-24	‡	4- 7
44,206	No. 6 (9)	1-21	+	5-12
54,201	No. 1 (10)	9-15	±	10- 7
54,202	No. 2 (10)	10-27	±	11- 4
54,203	No. 3 (9)	12- 8	‡	12-30
54,204	No. 4 (9)	1-19	+	3-10
54,205	No. 5 (9)	3- 2	‡	4-28
54,206	No. 6 (8)	4-13		....
	HEADLINER REVIVALS			
43,203	Romancing Along (21)	11- 5		....
43,204	Music Will Tell (18)	12- 3	±	12-25
53,201	Songs of the Colleges (15)	9- 8	±	11- 4
53,202	Swing It (16)	10-20	±	12-16
53,203	Swing Vacation (19)	12- 1	+	12-30
53,204	Swing Fever (19)	3-16		....
	LEON ERROL COMEDIES			
43,702	Cutie on Duty (18)	10-29	∓	12- 4
43,703	Wedtime Stories (17)	12-24	±	1-22
43,706	Girls! Girls! Girls! (17)	6- 9	+	7-29
53,701	Triple Trouble (17)	9- 1	+	11- 4
53,702	He Forgot to Remember (17)	10-27		....
53,703	Birthday Blues (17)	2-16	+	3-10
53,704	Let's Go Stepping (17)	5- 4		....
	PATHE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	PATHE SPORTSCOPE			
44,303	Stars & Strikes (9)	11- 5	‡	12-25
44,304	Mountain Anglers (9)	12- 3	‡	12-25
44,305	Co-Ed Sports (8)	12-31	+	1-22
44,306	Basket Wizards (8)	1-28	±	2-19
44,312	Ski Chase (8)	7-14	‡	8-26
44,313	Swim Ballet (8)	8-11	‡	10-21
54,301	Harness Racers (8)	9- 8	‡	9- 9
54,302	School for Dogs (8)	10- 6	±	11-25
54,303	Saddle Starlets (8)	11- 3	±	12- 2
54,304	Parallel Skiing (8)	12- 1	+	2-10
54,305	Five Star Bowlers (8)	12-20	‡	2-24
54,306	Court Craft (8)	1-26	+	3-24
54,307	Ski Gulls (8)	2-23	‡	4- 7
54,308	Athlete of the Year (8)	3-23		....
54,309	Timberdoodles (8)	4-20		....
	THIS IS AMERICA			
43,101	Sailors All (20)	11-19	‡	12- 4
43,102	Letter to a Hero (18)	12-17	+	12-18
43,103	New Prisons—New Men (17)	1-14	+	1-15
43,104	Mail Call (17)	2-11	‡	2-12
43,109	They Fight Again (16)	6-30	‡	8-12
43,110	Rockefeller Center (16)	7-28	‡	9-16
43,111	Brazil Today (18)	8-25	‡	9- 9
43,112	That Man May Live (19)	9-29	+	11-29
43,113	Navy Yard (16)	10-20	‡	11-18
53,101	West Point (17)	11-17	‡	12- 2
53,102	New Americans (19)	12-15	‡	12-30
53,103	Power Unlimited (16)	1-10	‡	2-24
53,104	On Guard (17)	2- 9	‡	4- 7
53,105	Honorable Discharge (18)	3- 9	±	5-12
53,106	Guam-Salvaged Island (17)	4-13		....
53,107	Dress Parade (16)	5- 4	+	6- 2

WAC VICTORY FILMS

The All-Star Bond Rally (19). Dist. by 20th-Fox.
Battle of San Pietro (33). Dist. by WAC.
The Battle for the Mariannas. (20). Dist. by WB. Impressive. Rev. Oct. 7.
Brought to Action. (..). Dist. by UA and M-G-M. Rev. Jan. 27.
The Enemy Strikes. (10). Dist. by Univ.
Fight for the Sky. (20). Dist. by WAC.
It's Murder. (10). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Oct. 21.
On to Tokyo. (17). Dist. by Universal.
Report to Judy (10). Dist by Univ.
Seeing Them Through. (9). Dist. by RKO.
Story With Two Endings. (10). Dist. by 20th-Fox.
Something You Didn't Eat. (9). Dist. by WB.
Target—Japan. (10). Dist. by Para.
Target-Tokyo (19). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. June 2.
To the Shores of Iwo Jima. (19). Dist. by UA. Impressive. Rev. June 2.
The Two-Way Street. (8). Dist. by Col.
The War Speeds Up. (15). Dist. by Col. Excellent. Rev. Sept. 16.
V-1—The Robut Bomb. (9). Dist. by RKO. Excellent. Rev. Nov. 18.
Watchtower Over Tomorrow. (15). Dist. by Col. and 20th-Fox. Rev. April 28.
War Comes to America. (66). Dist. by RKO. Good. Rev. June 16.
What's Your Name. (9½). Dist. by 20th-Fox. Rev. Jan. 27.

20th Century-Fox

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	DRIBBLE PUSS PARADE			
5901	Sea Food Mama (8)	10-29		....
5902	Good Old Days (8)	4- 6		....
	ED THORGERSEN—SPORTS			
4352	Ski Slopes (9)	7-21		....
5351	Blue Grass Gentlemen (9)	9-15		....
5352	Trolling for Strikes (8)	12-15		....
5302	Steppin' Pretty (..)	1- 5		....
5353	Nova Scotia (8)	2- 9	+	1-27
5354	Down the Fairways (..)	6- 1		....
	FOX MOVIETONE NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	LOWELL THOMAS MAGIC CARPET (Color)			
4155	Realm of Royalty (9)	2- 4		....
4153	Steamboat on the River (9)	3-10		....
	MARCH OF TIME			
	Vol. 10, No. 13 British Imperialism —1944 (18)	8-11	‡‡	8-12
	Vol. 11, No. 1 Postwar Farms (17)	9- 8	+	9- 9
	Vol. 11, No. 2 What to Do With Germany (18½)	10- 6	+	10- 7
	Vol. 11, No. 3 Uncle Sam, Mariner (17)	11- 3	‡‡	11-18
	Vol. 11, No. 4 Inside China Today (17½)	12- 1		....
	Vol. 11, No. 5 The Unknown Battle (18½)	12-29	‡‡	12-30
	Vol. 11, No. 6 Report on Italy (..)	1-26		....
	Vol. 11, No. 7 (..) The West Coast Question	2-23	‡‡	3-10
	Vol. 11, No. 8 Memo From Britain (16½)	3-23		....
	Vol. 11, No. 9 (..) The Returning Veteran	4-20	‡‡	4-28
	Vol. 11, No. 10 Soptlight on Congress (16)	5-18	+	6- 2
	Vol. 11, No. 11 (..)	6-15		....
	Vol. 11, No. 12 (..)	7-13		....
	MOVIETONE ADVENTURES (Color)			
4203	Mailman of Snake River (9)	5- 5	‡‡	4-15
5251	Mexican Majesty (8)	8- 4		....
5252	Jewels of Iran (8)	8-25		....
5253	Mystic India (8)	9-29		....
5254	Black, Gold and Cactus (8)	11-10		....
5257	Canyons of the Sun (8).	1-19	‡‡	2-10
5255	City of Paradox (8)	3- 2		....
5256	Alaskan Grandeur (8)	3-16	+	1-27
5258	Land of 10,000 Lakes (8)	3-30	‡‡	2-24
5201	Modeling for Money (8).	7- 6		....
5259	Isle of Romance (8)	5- 4		....
5260	Sikhs of Patala (8)	4-13		....
5261	The Empire State (8)	7-27		....
	SPECIAL			
5601	Three Sisters of the Moors (20)	9- 8		....
	TERRY-TOONS (Technicolor)			
4519	The Green Line (7)	7- 7		....
4520	Carmen's Veranda (7)	7-28		....
5501	The Cat Came Back (7).	8-18		....
5502	Mighty Mouse and the Two Barbers (7)	9- 1		....
5503	Gandy Goose in Ghost Town (7)	9-22		....
5504	Mighty Mouse in the Sultan's Birthday (7)	10-13		....
5505	A Wolf's Tale (7)	10-27		....
5506	Mighty Mouse at the Circus (7)	11-17		....
5507	Gandy's Dream Girl (7).	12- 8		....
5508	Dear Old Switzerland (7).	12-22	±	2-10
5509	Mighty Mouse and the Pirates (8)	1-12	+	2-24
5510	The Port of Missing Mice (7)	2- 2		....
5511	Ants in Your Pantry (7)	2-16		....
5512	Raiding the Raiders (7).	3- 9		....
5513	Postwar Inventions (7)	3-23		....
5514	Fisherman's Luck (7)	4- 6		....
5515	Mighty Mouse and the Kilkenny Cats (7)	4-27		....
5516	Mother Goose Nightmare (7)	5-11		....
5517	Smoky Joe (7)	5-25		....
5518	The Silver Streak (7)	6- 8		....
5519	Aeosps Fable—The Mosquito (7)	6-29		....
5520	Mighty Mouse and the Wolf (7)	7-20		....

Universal

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	LANTZ CARTUNES (Technicolor)			
9232	The Beach Nut (7)	10-16	+	11- 4
9233	Ski for Two (7)	11-13	+	12-16
9235	Painter and the Pointer (7)	12-18	‡‡	1-13
9236	Chew Chew Baby (7)	2- 5	‡‡	2-24
9238	Woody Dines Out (7)	5-14		....
9239	Crow Crazy (..)	7- 9		....
	NAME BAND MUSICALS			
8139	Melody Garden (15) Teddy Powell & Orch., Ray Eberle, Joe Stafford & Pied Pipers, Martha Tilton, Peggy Mann, Jack Palmer.	5-17		....
8130	Pagliacci Swings It (15) Joe Reichman & Orch., Gene Austin, the Tailor Maids, Hal Derwin, Carolyn Grey.	6-14	±	8-26
8131	Midnight Melodies (15). Matty Malneck & Orch., Connie Haines, the Smart Set.	7-19	+	9-16
9121	Swingtime Holiday (15). Gus Arnheim & Orch., Jimmie Dodd, Delta Rhythm Boys, Jean Davis.	9-20	+	10- 7
9122	Harmony Highways (15). Al Donohue & Orch., Jimmy Cash, Stapletons, Marilyn Hare, Foursome.	11-22	±	12-16
9123	On the Mellow Side (15). Emil Coleman & Orch., Delta Rhythm Boys, Della Norell.	12- 6	‡‡	12-16
9124	Jive Busters (15) Sunny Dunham & Orch., Carolyn Grey, Tailor Maids, Valesco & Lene.	1-17		....
9125	Melody Parade (15) Charlie Barnet & Orch., Pied Pipers, June Hutton, Grey & Diane.	2-14		....
9126	Swing Serenade (15) Henry King.	2-28		....
9127	Rockabye Rhythm (15). Frankie Masters & Orch., Phyllis Hules, Eddie Williams, Frank Cook, Marty, Kay, Pat and Jo.	6-20	+	6-16
9128	Artistry in Rhythm (15). Stan Kenton & Orch., Anita O'Day, The Tailor Maids, Gene Howard.	7-18	±	6-16
	PERSON—ODDITIES			
9371	Idol of the Crowd (9)	9-18	‡‡	10- 7
9372	One-Man Newspaper (9)	12-18	+	1-13
9373	ABC Pin-Up (9)	1-15		....
9374	Pigtail Pilot (9)	1-22		....
9375	Author in Babyland (9).	5-14		....
	SWING SYMPHONIES (Technicolor)			
8322	The Greatest Man in Siam (7)	3-27	+	1-22
9231	Abou Ben Boogie (7)	9-18	+	10- 7
9234	Pied Piper of Basin St. (7)	1-15		....
9237	Sliphorn King of Polaroo (7)	3-19		....
	TWO-REEL SPECIAL (Technicolor)			
8110	World Without Borders (21)	1-17		....
9112	Lili Marlene (21)	12-13		....
	UNIVERSAL NEWS (Released Twice Weekly)			
	VARIETY VIEWS			
9351	From Spruce to Bomber (9)	9-25	‡‡	10- 7
9352	Dogs for Show (9)	11- 6	+	12-16
9353	Mr. Chimp at Coney Island (9)	12-11	+	12-30
9354	White Treasure (9)	1-29		....
9355	Your National Gallery (9)	4-23	‡‡	2-24

Warner Bros.

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	BLUE RIBBON CARTOON REISSUES (Technicolor)			
1301	Let It Be Me (7½)	9-16		....
1302	September in the Rain (6½)	9-30		....
1303	Sunday Go to Meeting Time (6½)	10-28	+	11-18
1304	I Love to Singa (7)	11-18	±	1-13
1305	Plenty of Money and You (7)	12- 9	±	2-10
1306	Fella With a Fiddle (..)	1-20	±	3-10
1307	When I Yoo Hoo (..)	2-24	±	4- 7
1308	I Only Have Eyes for You (7)	3-17	+	5-19
1309	Ain't We Got Fun (11).	4-21	+	5-19
	"BUGS BUNNY" SPECIALS (Technicolor)			
9725	Buckaroo Bugs (7)	8-26	+	10- 7
9726	Old Grey Hare (7)	10-28	‡‡	11-25
1721	Herr Meets Hare (..)	1-13	‡‡	4- 7
1722	Unruly Hare (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1723	Hare Trigger (7)	5- 5	+	5-19
	FEATURETTE			
1102	Proudly We Serve (20)	9-23	‡‡	10-21
1103	Once Over Lightly (17).	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
1105	Nautical But Nice (20).	12- 2	+	1-13
1101	I Am an American (20).	12-23	+	12-30
1104	I Won't Play (20)	11-11	‡‡	11-25
1106	Congo (..)	2-17	‡‡	3-10
1107	Navy Nurse (20)	3- 3	‡‡	5-19
1108	It Happened in Springfield (..)	4-28	‡‡	4-28
1109	Are Animals Actors? (20)	3-31	+	3-24
1110	Law of the Badlands (20)	4-14	+	5-19
1111	Plantation Melodies (20)	5-12	+	6- 2
	MELODY MASTERS			
1601	Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys (10)	9- 2	+	10- 7
1602	Listen to the Bands (10)	10- 7	+	11- 4
1603	Harry Owens and Royal Hawaiians (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1604	Sonny Dunham and Orchestra (10)	11-25	‡‡	1-13
1605	Jammin' the Blues (10)	12-16	‡‡	12- 2
1606	Rhythm of the Rhumba (10)	1-27	‡‡	1-27
1607	Musical Mexico (..)	3-24		....
1608	Circus Band (10)	5- 5	‡‡	5-19
1609	Bands Across the Sea (10)	6-23	+	6-16
	MERRIE MELODIES (Technicolor)			
9715	Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears (7)	9- 2	+	10- 7
9712	Plane Daffy (7)	9-16	±	10- 7
9716	Lost and Foundling (8)	9-30	±	11- 4
9717	Booby Hatched (6½)	10-14	‡‡	11- 4
9718	The Stupid Cupid (..)	11-25	‡‡	2-24
9719	Stage Door Cartoon (7)	12-30	‡‡	1-13
9720	Odor-Able Kitty (..)	1- 6	‡‡	2-24
1701	Draftee Daffy (..)	1-27	+	2-24
1702	Trap Happy Porky (9)	2-24	±	6- 2
1703	Life With Feathers (7).	3-24	+	5-19
1704	Behind the Meat Ball (..)	4- 7		....
1705	Ain't That Ducky (7)	5-19	+	5-19
1706	Gruesome Twosome (7).	5-26	+	5-19
1707	Tale of Two Mice (7)	6-30	±	6-16
	SPORTS PARADE (Technicolor)			
9512	Champions of the Future (10)	11-18	‡‡	11-18
1501	California Here We Are (10)	12-16	‡‡	2-10
1502	Birds & Beasts Were There (10)	12-30	+	5-19
1503	Glamour in Sports (..)	1-13	‡‡	2-24
1504	Bikes and Skis (..)	2-10	‡‡	3-10
1505	Cuba Calling (..)	3-10	‡‡	5-12
1506	Swimcapades (..)	4- 7	‡‡	4-28
1507	Water Babies (10)	5-19	‡‡	4-28
1508	Mexican Sea Sports (10).	6- 2	‡‡	5-19
1509	Bahama Sea Sports (10).	6-19	+	6-16
1510	Flivver Flying (..)	6-30		....
	TECHNICOLOR			
1001	Let's Go Fishing (16½)	10-21	‡‡	12- 2
1002	Beachhead to Berlin (..)	1- 6	‡‡	12-16
1003	Pledge to Bataan (20)	2- 3	‡‡	1-27
1004	Coney Island Honeymoon (20)	6- 9	‡‡	6-16
	VITAPHONE VARIETY			
1401	Their Dizzy Day (10)	9- 2	+	9-16
1402	Ski Whizz (9½)	10- 7		....
1403	Outdoor Living (10)	11- 4	+	11-25
1404	Overseas Roundup (10)	3-17	+	6- 2
1405	Overseas Roundup No. 2 (10)	5-26	+	6- 2

Miscellaneous

Prod. No.	Title	Rel. Date	Rating	Rev'd.
	United Artists			
	THE WORLD IN ACTION			
....	Russia's Foreign Policy (21).		+	3-18
....	The Battle of Europe (17)	5- 5	‡‡	5-27
....	Global Air Routes (15)	6-23	+	10-21
....	Zero Hour (22)		‡‡	10-21
....	Inside France (19)		±	11- 4
....	When Asia Speaks (19)		+	12-16
	Serials			
	COLUMBIA			
5140	The Desert Hawk. 15 Chapters.	7- 7	+	7-29
6120	Black Arrow. 15 Chapters.	10-20		....
5120	The Batman. 15 Chapters.	7-16		....
6140	Brenda Starr, Reporter. 13 Chapters.	1-26		....
	REPUBLIC			
284	Secret Service in Darkest Africa. 15 Chapters.	7-10		....
381	The Masked Marvel. 12 Chapters.	11- 6		....
382	Captain America. 15 Chapters.	1-29		....
383	The Tiger Woman. 12 Chapters.			....
	UNIVERSAL			
8881	Great Alaskan Mystery	4-25	+	5- 6
....	Raiders of Ghost City. 13 Chapters.		+	8-12
....	Mystery of the River Boat. 13 Chapters.		+	11- 4
....	Mystery Queen of the Jungle		+	12-30

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 82: Assault last Jap line on Okinawa; Sgt. Henry E. Erwin receives Congressional Medal of Honor, makes war bond appeal; May Day victory parade in Moscow; Los Angeles ovation to Patton and Doolittle; Kentucky Derby.

News of the Day, No. 280: Rangoon captured—Burma liberated; grim fighting on Okinawa; GI sightseers in Venice; victory parade in Moscow; Patton and Doolittle hailed; Kentucky Derby.

Paramount, No. 83: Kentucky Derby; Russia parades victory army; new Pacific drive; west coast hails Patton and Doolittle.

Pathe, No. 85: Hoop jr. wins Kentucky Derby; Los Angeles hails Patton and Doolittle; final Okinawa drive; Red army on May Day.

Universal News, No. 406: Victorious generals welcomed; air blows hit Japs; R.F.C. chief outlines its aims; 1946 cars on way; Reds mark May Day; Derby Day.

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Movietone News, No. 83: Truman gets report from Hopkins and Davies; big four generals in Berlin; Hitler's hideout at Berchtesgaden; air field fog killer as British war miracle; battle reports from Philippines: don't travel; GIs relax in Venice; wedding for air hero Gabreski.

News of the Day, No. 281: Allied chiefs take control of Germany; Trieste crisis; Norway's independence restored; White House spot light; war miracle revealed; keep the tracks clear; paralysis funds thanks.

Paramount News, No. 84: Big three meeting set; stay home and speed victory; war of words—Japs yield to broadcast; European aftermath; GIs name movie favorites.

Pathe News, No. 86: Eisenhower, Zuchov, Monty, Tassingy in Berlin; Hopkins and Davies report to Truman; British device clears air field; screen stars win GI oscars; agreement in Trieste; Hitler's home becomes GI mecca; Colonel Johnson on war travel.

Universal News, No. 407: Allies sign control law for Germany; GIs tour Hitler's hideout; Patton, Bradley, Hopkins, Davies; air port fog no longer menace; Norway hails freedom; Yanks in Venice; stay home government pleads.

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All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 139: Lieutenant out on point system, home to Columbus; holy hour is conducted in Soldier Field, Chicago; Reverend Hill, Negro, a candidate for council in Detroit; valuable, scientific gifts presented to Freedman; New York names "Miss Sepia" for national contest; VE-Day news received in China; Barons trim Chicago Giants in doubleheader; Howard University conducts commencement.

REVIEW DIGEST
AND PICTURE GUIDE INDEX

An interpretative analysis of opinions deduced from the language of lay and trade press reviews. The plus and minus signs indicate the degree of favor or disfavor of the review. Blank spaces indicate no review. This department serves also as an ALPHABETICAL INDEX to feature releases. Numeral preceding title is Picture Guide Review page number. In parenthesis after title is running time. Date following distributor is BOXOFFICE review date. Listings cover current reviews. It will be brought up to date regularly. The meaning of the various signs and their combinations is as follows:

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; — Poor; = Very Poor.

In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
	A											
549	Abroad With Two Yanks (80)	UA		7-22-44	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
606	Adventures of Kitty O'Day (63)	Mono.		2-17-45	∓	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
620	Affairs of Susan, The (110)	Para..		4- 7-45	ǂ			+	+			4+
573	Alaska (76)	Mono.		10-14-44	±	±		+	+	±	±	6+ 4—
636	Along Came Jones (91)	RKO.		6-16-45	+	±	±		±	ǂ		6+ 3—
545	Amazing Mr. Forrest (71)	PRC.		7- 1-44	±	±	∓	+			∓	5+ 4—
546	American Romance, An (122)	MGM.		7- 1-44	±	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	+	+	9+ 1—
575	And Now Tomorrow (85)	Para.		10-21-44	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+
544	Are These Our Parents? (73)	Mono.		6-24-44	∓	∓	∓	ǂ	+	—	+	7+ 4—
524	Arizona Whirlwind (59)	Mono.		4-15-44	+		±		±		±	4+ 3—
589	Army Wives (68)	Mono.		12-16-44	±	±	∓	∓	—	∓	±	6+ 7—
562	Arsenic and Old Lace (118)	WB.		8- 2-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		10+
555	Atlantic City (85)	Rep.		8-12-44	+	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 2—
542	Attack (80)	RKO.		6-17-44	+		ǂ	ǂ	ǂ		ǂ	9+
	B											
572	Babes on Swing Street (70)	Univ.		9-30-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6—
632	Back to Bataan (97)	RKO.		6- 2-45	+	±	ǂ		ǂ	+		7+ 1—
553	Barbary Coast Gent (87)	MGM.		8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 4—
635	Bedside Manner (66)	UA.		6-16-45	±	±	+			±		4+ 3—
	Behind City Lights (..)	Rep.								∓		1+ 1—
	Bell for Adano, A (..)	20-Fox.								+		1+
586	Belle of the Yukon (84)	RKO.		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
	Bells of Rosarita (..)	Rep.					+	±	±	+		4+ 2—
540	Beneath Western Skies (56)	Rep.		6-10-44	∓		—	+	±	±	±	5+ 5—
610	Betrayal From the East (85)	RKO.		3- 3-45	∓	∓	±	±	±	+	+	7+ 5—
596	Between Two Women (83)	MGM.		1-13-45	±	+	±	+	+	±		6+ 3—
	Beyond the Pecos (..)	Univ.								∓		1+ 1—
596	Big Bonanza, The (60)	Rep.		1-13-45	±	±	+	±	±	∓	±	7+ 6—
568	Big Noise, The (74)	20-Fox.		9-23-44	+	∓	—	±	+	+	±	6+ 4—
597	Big Show-Off, The (69)	Rep.		1-20-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	=	∓	6+ 7—
565	Black Magic (64)	Mono.		9- 9-44	±	∓		±	±	±		5+ 5—
557	Block Busters (60)	Mono.		8-19-44	∓	±	—	∓	±	±	—	5+ 7—
586	Blonde Fever (69)	MGM.		12- 2-44	±	∓	∓	+	—	±		5+ 4—
	Blonde From Brooklyn (..)	Col.				±						1+ 1—
	Blonde Ransom (..)	Univ.				∓	±	±	∓			4+ 4—
628	Blood on the Sun (94)	UA.		5- 5-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ		9+
578	Bluebeard (73)	PRC.		10-28-44	∓	±	+	+	+		+	6+ 2—
610	Body Snatcher, The (78)	RKO.		3- 3-45	±	+	+	+	±	+	+	7+ 2—
	Bordertown Trail (56)	Rep.								±		1+ 1—
569	Boss of Rawhide (59)	PRC.		9-23-44	—		∓	∓			∓	3+ 4—
	Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion (..)	Col								∓		1+ 1—
	Both Barrels Blazing (58)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
	Bowery Champs (62)	Mono.				±	±	∓	±	∓		5+ 5—
578	Bowery to Broadway (94)	Univ.		10-28-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 3—
577	Brazil (91)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
614	Brewster's Millions (79)	UA.		3-17-45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
552	Bride by Mistake (81)	RKO.		7-29-44	±	+	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	9+ 2—
627	Brighton Strangler, The (67)	RKO.		5- 5-45	∓	±	+	±	±	+	+	7+ 4—
603	Bring On the Girls (91)	Para.		2-17-45	+	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 1—
622	Bullfighters, The (61)	20-Fox.		4-21-45	—		±	±	±	±	∓	5+ 6—
	C											
564	Call of the Jungle (60)	Mono.		9- 2-44	=	∓	—	—	±	—	—	2+ 8—
538	Candlelight in Algeria (85)	20-Fox.		6- 3-44	±	±		±	+	+		5+ 3—
589	Can't Help Singing (89)	Univ.		12-16-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	10+
571	Carolina Blues (81)	Col.		9-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5—
554	Casanova Brown (92)	RKO.		8- 5-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	12+
	Castle of Crimes (60)	PRC.				±	±	∓			∓	4+ 4—
	Cheyenne Wildcat (56)	Rep.							∓	±		2+ 2—
604	Chicago Kid (68)	Rep.		2-17-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	±	7+ 6—
622	China Sky (78)	RKO.		4-21-45	+	±	±	+	=	±	±	6+ 6—
628	China's Little Devils (..)	Mono.		4-28-45	±	∓		±	∓	±		5+ 5—
542	Christmas Holiday (93)	Univ.		6-17-44	+	±	+	ǂ		ǂ	+	8+ 1—
603	Circumstantial Evidence (67)	20-Fox		2-17-45	±	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
	Cisco Kid Returns (..)	Mono.					±	±		∓		3+ 3—
571	Climax, The (86)	Univ.		9-30-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3—
616	Clock, The (92)	MGM.		3-24-45	∓	+	ǂ	±	∓	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 3—
	Code of the Prairie (50)	Rep.							+	±		2+ 1—
620	Colonel Blimp (148)	UA.		4- 7-45	+	+		+	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 1—
636	Conflict (87)	WB.		6-16-45	+	+	ǂ	+	±	ǂ		8+ 1—
574	Conspirators, The (101)	WB.		10-14-44	∓	±	±	+	—	+	±	6+ 5—
619	Corn Is Green, The (114)	WB.		4- 7-45	+			+	+		+	4+
	Corpus Christi Bandits (..)	Rep.							±	∓		2+ 2—
619	Counter-Attack (89)	Col.		4- 7-45	=	±	±	+	+	+	+	6+ 4—
	Cowboy From Lonesome River (55)	Col.							±			1+ 1—
	Crazy Knights (63)	Mono.				∓					∓	2+ 2—
553	Crime by Night (72)	WB.		8- 5-44	±	±	∓	±	±	±		6+ 6—
602	Crime Doctor's Courage, The (70)	Col		2-10-45	+	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	7+ 6—
601	Crime, Inc. (74½)	PRC.		2-10-45	+	±		±	±			4+ 3—
560	Cry of the Werewolf (63)	Col.		8-26-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	∓	∓	7+ 7—
583	Cyclone Prairie Rangers (56)	Col.		11-18-44	±				—	±		2+ 3—
	D											
594	Dancing in Manhattan (60)	Col.		12-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7—
557	Dangerous Journey (73)	20-Fox.		8-19-44	±	±	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 3—
591	Dangerous Passage (62)	Para.		12-23-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
566	Dark Mountain (56)	Para.		9- 9-44	±	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 4—
583	Dark Waters (89)	UA.		11-18-44	+	+	+	±	+	+	ǂ	8+ 1—
526	Days of Glory (86)	RKO.		4-22-44	±	±	∓	±	±	+	±	7+ 6—
569	Dead Man's Eyes (64)	Univ.		9-23-44	±	±	—	+	+	∓	±	6+ 5—
609	Delightfully Dangerous (92)	UA.		3- 3-45	=	±	±	±	±	±	±	6+ 8—
547	Delinquent Daughters (72)	PRC.		7-15-44	+	∓	∓	+		±	—	5+ 3—
587	Destiny (65)	Univ.		12- 9-44	±	+	±	±	+	+	∓	7+ 4—
622	Diamond Horseshoe (104)	20-Fox.		4-21-45	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	10+
614	Dillinger (74)	Mono.		3-17-45	+	+	∓		+	+	+	6+ 1—
	Divorce (71)	Mono.				+		±	±	±		4+ 3—
548	Dixie Jamboree (72)	PRC.		7-15-44	∓	+	∓		±	±	—	5+ 5—
611	Docks of New York (62)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	±	+	±	±		∓	6+ 5—
633	Don Juan Quilligan (75)	20-Fox.		6- 9-45	+	±	±	±	+			5+ 3—
592	Double Exposure (64)	Para.		12-23-44	+	±	+	+	+	—	±	6+ 3—
561	Doughgirls, The (102)	WB.		9- 2-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	±	±	10+ 2—
550	Dragon Seed (145)	MGM.		7-22-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
540	Drifter, The (60)	PRC.		6-10-44	±		∓	±			∓	4+ 4—
	E											
602	Eadie Was a Lady (67)	Col.		2-10-45	+	∓	±	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 6—
611	Earl Carroll Vanities (..)	Rep.		3-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	+	±	7+ 5—
603	Enchanted Cottage, The (92)	RKO.		2-17-45	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+		9+
	End of the Road (51)	Rep.				±	±	±	—	±	±	5+ 6—
561	Enemy of Women (86)	Mono.		9- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	±		6+ 5—
585	Enter Arsene Lupin (72)	Univ.		12- 2-44	+	±	+	±	+	+	±	7+ 3—
625	Escape in the Desert (81)	WB.		4-28-45	±		∓	±	∓	±	±	6+ 6—
609	Escape in the Fog (62)	Col.		3- 3-45	±	∓		±	±	∓		5+ 5—
611	Eve Knew Her Apples (62)	Col.		3-10-45	±		±	±	∓	±	∓	6+ 6—
567	Ever Since Venus (74)	Col.		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	—	6+ 6—
587	Experiment Perilous (91)	RKO.		12- 9-44	ǂ	±	+	+	+	+	ǂ	9+ 1—
	F											
578	Faces in the Fog (71)	Rep.		10-28-44	+	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	7+ 5—
588	Falcon in Hollywood (67)	RKO.		12- 9-44	+	±	±	+	+	±	∓	7+ 4—
554	Falcon in Mexico (70)	RKO.		8- 5-44	+	±	+	+	+	±	+	7+ 2—
	Fashion Model (..)	Mono.				∓	+	—		∓	∓	4+ 4—
	Fatal Witness, The (..)	Rep.								∓		1+ 1—
	Fighting Guardsman, The (..)	Col.				±				±		2+ 2—
595	Fighting Lady, The (61)	20-Fox.		1-13-45	+		ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+
	Firebrands of Arizona (55)	Rep.							∓			1+ 1—
623	Flame of the Barbary Coast (91)	Rep		4-21-45	+	+	±	+	±	+	+	7+ 2—
	Flame of the West (..)	Mono.						±	∓	∓		3+ 3—
606	Fog Island (67)	PRC.		2-17-45	=	±	±	±	±	=	±	5+ 9—
544	Follow the Leader (65)	Mono.		6-24-44	±	±	±	∓	±	±	✓	6+ 6—
549	Forty Thieves (60)	UA.		7-22-44	±		±			±		3+ 3—
568	Frenchman's Creek (113)	Para.		9-23-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1—
606	Frisco Sal (94)	Univ.		2-17-45	+	∓	±	+	ǂ	±	∓	8+ 4—
564	Frontier Outlaws (58)	PRC.		9- 2-44	±		+	±	+		∓	5+ 3—
	Frozen Ghost, The (..)	Univ.				±	±					2+ 2—
	G											
	Gangs of the Waterfront (..)	Rep.								±		1+ 1—
	Gangster's Den (..)	PRC.								∓		1+ 1—
570	Gangsters of the Frontier (56)	PRC.		9-23-44	—				∓	—		1+ 3—
591	Gentle Annie (80)	MGM.		12-23-44	±	∓	±	∓	±	+	+	7+ 5—
540	Ghost Catchers (68)	Univ.		6-10-44	±	±	+	—	ǂ	±		6+ 4—
	Ghost Guns (60)	Mono.							+			1+
612	G. I. Honeymoon (70)	Mono.		3-10-45	±	∓	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7—
544	Gildersleeve Sees Ghost (63)	RKO.		6-22-44	±	±	∓	±	+	∓	∓	7+ 6—
	Girl in the Case, The (64)	Col.				∓	±		+	±	±	5+ 4—
	Girl Who Dared, The (56)	Rep.				∓		∓	±	∓		4+ 4—

ǂ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor. In the summary ǂ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G. Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
577	Girl Rush (65)	RKO		10-28-44	+	∓	+	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 4−
608	God Is My Co-Pilot (88)	WB		2-24-45	+	±	+	+	ǂ	+		8+ 1−
571	Goin' to Town (69)	RKO		9-30-44	±	∓	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6−
539	Goodnight, Sweetheart (67)	Rep		6-10-44	−	±	∓	±	−	±	±	5+ 7−
	Great Day (..)	RKO					∓					1+ 1−
624	Great Flamarion, The (..)	Rep		4-21-44	+	±	±	∓	∓	−	∓	6+ 6−
	Great John L, The (..)	UA				+	ǂ	+		ǂ		6+
566	Great Mike, The (73)	PRC		9- 9-44	+	+	±	+	+	+	∓	7+ 2−
541	Great Moment, The (83)	Para		6-17-44	±	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	10+ 1−
	Great Stagecoach Robbery (..)	Rep							±			1+ 1−
555	Greenwich Village (82)	20-Fox		8-12-44	+	±	±	+	ǂ	+	+	8+ 2−
597	Grissly's Millions (71)	Rep		1-20-45	+	±	+	+		+	+	6+ 1−
589	Guest in the House (120)	UA		12-16-44	+	±	ǂ	+	∓	ǂ	+	9+ 2−
	Gunsmoke (..)	Mono							±	±		2+ 2−
547	Gunsmoke Mesa (59)	PRC		7-15-44	∓		±	±			∓	4+ 4−
601	Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (63)	Col		2-10-45	+	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
556	Gypsy Wildcat (86)	Univ		8-12-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
	H											
541	Hail the Conquering Hero (101)	Para		6-17-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	13+
598	Hangover Square (77)	20-Fox		1-20-45	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	10+
604	Having Wonderful Crime (70)	RKO		2-17-45	±	∓	±	−	±	±		5+ 6−
551	Heavenly Days (72)	RKO		7-29-44	−	±	±	+	ǂ	+	+	7+ 3−
542	Henry Aldrich's Little Secret	(74) Para		6-17-44	+	±	∓	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
601	Her Lucky Night (63)	Univ		2-10-45	±	∓		±	=	±	∓	5+ 7−
600	Here Come the Co-Eds (88)	Univ		2- 3-45	+	±	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	+	9+ 1−
591	Here Come the WAVES (99)	Para		12-23-44	+	±	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	10+ 1−
594	Hi Beautiful (64)	Univ		12-30-44	−	∓	−	∓	−	∓	−	3+ 7−
607	High Powered (..)	Para		2-24-45	±	±	+	±	±	±	∓	7+ 6−
625	Hitchhike to Happiness (70)	Rep		4-28-45	±				+	±		3+ 2−
	Hollywood and Vine (..)	PRC				±	+			±	±	4+ 3−
588	Hollywood Canteen (124)	WB		12- 9-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	+	11+
627	Honeymoon Ahead (59)	Univ		5- 5-45	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
620	Horn Blows at Midnight, The (80)	WB		4- 7-45	+	+	±	+	∓	+	+	7+ 2−
612	Hotel Berlin (98)	WB		3-10-45	+	±	ǂ	+	±	±	ǂ	9+ 2−
	House of Fear, The (..)	Univ				∓	±	±	+	±	+	6+ 4−
593	House of Frankenstein (71)	Univ		12-30-44	±	±	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	I											
577	I Accuse My Parents (68)	PRC		10-28-44	∓	±	−	±	−	±	−	4+ 7−
601	I Love a Mystery (69)	Col		2-10-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
539	I Love a Soldier (104)	Para		6-10-44	ǂ	±	±	+	+	±	+	8+ 3−
	Identity Unknown (..)	Rep				+	ǂ	+		+	±	6+ 1−
592	I'll Be Seeing You (86)	UA		12-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ		8+
624	I'll Remember April (64)	Univ		4-21-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
632	I'll Tell the World (61)	Univ		6- 2-45	±				∓	±		3+ 3−
579	I'm From Arkansas (70)	PRC		10-28-44	∓	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
559	Impatient Years, The (91)	Col		8-26-44	+	±	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	9+ 1−
	Incendiary Blonde (..)	Para				+	ǂ	ǂ	+	+		7+
558	In Society (74)	Univ		8-19-44	+	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	±	9+ 1−
567	In the Meantime, Darling (72)	20-Fox		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
573	Irish Eyes Are Smiling (90)	20-Fox		10-14-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
610	It's a Pleasure (90)	RKO		3- 3-45	+	+	±	+	±	ǂ	+	8+ 2−
605	It's in the Bag (90)	UA		2-17-45	±	+	±	+	ǂ	+	+	8+ 2−
	J											
	Jade Mask, The (66)	Mono				±	±	±	±	±	∓	6+ 6−
551	Janie (102)	WB		7-29-44	+	±	ǂ	+	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	Jungle Captive (..)	Para				±	−					1+ 2−
	Junior Miss (..)	20-Fox				+	ǂ					3+
	K											
	Kansas City Kitty (72)	Col				±		+	∓	±	±	5+ 4−
604	Keep Your Powder Dry (93)	MGM		2-17-45	±	∓	±	±	+	±		6+ 5−
592	Keys of the Kingdom (137)	20-Fox		12-30-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
	Kid Sister, The (..)	PRC				±	+	±			∓	4+ 3−
560	Kismet (100)	MGM		8-26-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	11+
	L											
	Lady Confesses, The (..)	PRC				±		±	±	±		4+ 4−
593	Lake Placid Serenade (85)	Rep		12-30-44	±	±	+	+	+	ǂ	+	8+ 2−
	Land of the Outlaws (56)	Mono						±	=	∓		2+ 4−
567	Last Ride, The (56)	WB		9-23-44	±	±	±	±	±		±	6+ 6−
576	Laura (88)	20-Fox		10-21-44	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+
546	Law Men (55)	Mono		7- 1-44	∓		±		+	±	∓	5+ 4−
548	Law of the Saddle (59)	PRC		7-15-44	±		±	∓			±	4+ 4−
	Law of the Valley (59)	Mono						±	±	∓		3+ 3−
605	Leave It to Blondie (69)	Col		2-17-45	±	+	±			+	∓	5+ 3−
569	Leave It to the Irish (61)	Mono		9-23-44	∓	±	±	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
598	Let's Go Steady (60)	Col		1-20-45	±	∓	±	±	±	−	=	5+ 8−
581	Lights of Old Santa Fe (78)	Rep		11-11-44	+		ǂ	+	±	+		6+ 1−
	Lone Texas Ranger (..)	Rep				±			±			2+ 2−
561	Lost in a Harem (89)	MGM		9- 2-44	+	+	+	ǂ	+	+	±	8+ 1−
549	Louisiana Hayride (67)	Col		7-22-44	±	∓	∓	±	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
	M											
558	Machine Gun Mama (67)	PRC		8-19-44	=	±	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	5+ 8−
551	Mademoiselle Fifi (69)	RKO		7-29-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±		6+ 5−
585	Main Street After Dark (56)	MGM		12- 2-44	±	±	±	±	±	±	+	7+ 6−
555	Maisie Goes to Reno (90)	MGM		8-12-44	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
578	Man in Half Moon Street, The	(92) Para		10-28-44	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
599	Man Who Walked Alone, The	(60) PRC		2- 3-45	+	±	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 6−
543	Marine Raiders (91)	RKO		6-24-44	∓	±	ǂ		+	ǂ	+	8+ 2−
574	Mark of the Whistler, The	(61) Col		10-14-44	∓	+	±	+	+	±	+	7+ 3−
	Marked for Murder (..)	PRC								∓		1+ 1−
580	Marked Trails (59)	Mono		10-28-44	±		∓	±	−	∓	±	5+ 6−
556	Marriage Is a Private Affair (117)	MGM		8-12-44	±	±	±	+	+	+	ǂ	8+ 3−
	Marshal of Reno (56)	Rep							∓	±		2+ 2−
540	Mask of Dimitrios, The (95)	WB		6-10-44	±	+	∓	±	±	+	+	7+ 4−
567	Master Race, The (96)	RKO		9-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	+	9+
619	Medal for Benny, A (80)	Para		4- 7-45	+	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	+	10+
582	Meet Me in St. Louis (113)	MGM		11-11-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
575	Meet Miss Bobby Socks (68)	Col		10-21-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
559	Merry Monahans, The (90)	Univ		8-26-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	ǂ	8+
576	Ministry of Fear (84)	Para		10-21-44	∓	+	+	±	+	+	+	7+ 2−
543	Minstrel Man (69)	PRC		6-24-44	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	+		8+
625	Missing Corpse, The (62)	PRC		4-28-45	−	±		±	±	∓		4+ 5−
584	Missing Juror, The (66)	Col		11-18-44	+	±	+	∓	+	∓	+	7+ 3−
613	Molly and Me (76)	20-Fox		3-17-45	+	+	+	+	±	+		6+ 1−
559	Moonlight and Cactus (60)	Univ		8-26-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
596	Mr. Emmanuel (92)	UA		1-13-45	+	±		±	∓	ǂ	ǂ	8+ 3−
547	Mr. Winkle Goes to War (80)	Col		7-15-44	+	±	+	+	ǂ	+	±	8+ 2−
568	Mrs. Parkington (124)	MGM		9-23-44	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	+	12+
	Muggs Rides Again (..)	Mono				∓				±	∓	3+ 3−
598	Mummy's Curse, The (60)	Univ		1-20-45	+	±	±	+	±	−	∓	6+ 5−
619	Murder, He Says (93)	Para		4- 7-45	±	+	+	+	+	±		6+ 2−
583	Murder in the Blue Room (61)	Univ		11-18-44	∓	∓	∓	∓	+	±	∓	7+ 6−
588	Murder, My Sweet (95)	RKO		12- 9-44	+	±	ǂ	±	+	+	ǂ	9+ 2−
590	Music for Millions (117)	MGM		12-16-44	+	±	ǂ	±	+	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 2−
552	Music in Manhattan (81)	RKO		7-29-44	±	±	+	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
576	My Buddy (69)	Rep		10-21-44	+	−	±	+	+	±	±	6+ 4−
586	My Gal Loves Music (63)	Univ		12- 2-44	+	±	±	±	±	±		6+ 5−
586	My Pal Wolf (75)	RKO		9-23-44	±	±	+	+	±	ǂ	+	8+ 3−
543	Mystery Man (58)	UA		6-24-44	+		∓		±		±	4+ 3−
	N											
565	National Barn Dance (76)	Para		9- 9-44	+	±	+	±	+	±	±	7+ 4−
590	National Velvet (124)	MGM		12-16-44	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	14+
590	Nevada (62)	RKO		12-16-44	±	±		±	±	±		5+ 5−
594	Night Club Girl (60)	Univ		12-30-44	∓	∓	∓	±	∓	±		6+ 6−
538	Night of Adventure, A (65)	RKO		6- 3-44	+	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 5−
632	Nob Hill (95)	20-Fox		6- 2-45	ǂ	+	±	+	∓			6+ 2−
572	None But the Lonely Heart (113)	RKO		9-30-44	+	±	±	∓	+	ǂ	ǂ	9+ 3−
585	Nothing But Trouble (69)	MGM		12- 2-44	±	±	∓	+	±	+	∓	7+ 5−
	O											
	Oath of Vengeance (..)	PRC							±			1+ 1−
600	Objective, Burma! (142)	WB		2- 3-45	+	+	ǂ	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	10+
558	Oh, What a Night (71)	Mono		8-19-44	±	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
	Old Chisholm Trail (60)	Univ					±		∓	±	±	4+ 4−
577	One Body Too Many (76)	Para		10-28-44	+	∓	+	+	+	±	∓	7+ 3−
	One Exciting Night (..)	Para				∓	±	±	∓			4+ 4−
	One Mysterious Night (61)	Col				±	∓	∓	∓	∓	∓	6+ 6−
562	Our Hearts Were Young and Gay	(81) Para		9- 2-44	+	±	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	11+ 1−
555	Outlaws of Santa Fe (56)	Rep		8-12-44	∓		∓	±	±	−	∓	5+ 6−
	Out of This World (..)	Para				+	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	9+
	P											
604	Pan-Americana (70)	RKO		2-17-45	+	±	±	+	ǂ	∓	±	8+ 4−
509	Passage to Marseille (109)	WB		2-19-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	9+
505	Passport to Destiny (64)	RKO		2- 5-44	+	±	±	±	+	+	±	7+ 4−
621	Patrick the Great (89)	Univ		4-21-45	±	+	+	+	+		ǂ	7+ 1−
561	Pearl of Death, The (69)	Univ		9- 2-44	∓	±	+	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
635	Penthouse Rhythm (66)	Univ		6-16-45	∓	±	∓	±	∓	∓		6+ 6−
	Phantom of 42nd Street (..)	PRC				±	±		∓	∓	±	5+ 5−
626	Phantom Speaks, The (69)	Rep		4-28-45	∓	±	±	±	±	∓	±	7+ 7−
607	Picture of Dorian Gray (110)	MGM		2-24-45	±	∓	+	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	10+ 2−
627	Pillow to Post (94)	WB		5- 5-45	±	±	±	±	+	+	+	7+ 4−
545	Port of Forty Thieves (58)	Rep		7- 1-44	±	±	±	+	±	±	±	7+ 6−
612	Power of the Whistler, The (72)	Col		3-10-45	∓	∓	∓		±	−	±	5+ 6−
592	Practically Yours (90)	Para		12-23-44	+	+	ǂ	+	+	+	ǂ	9+
576	Princess and the Pirate, The	(94) RKO		10-21-44	ǂ	+	ǂ	+	ǂ	ǂ	ǂ	12+

⧺ Very Good; + Good; ± Fair; ∓ Mediocre; − Poor; = Very Poor. In the summary ⧺ is rated as 2 pluses; = as 2 minuses.

P. G.	Page	Title	Running Time	Distributor	Reviewed	Boxoffice	Harrison's Reports	Variety	Film Daily	Hollywood Reporter	Parents' Magazine	New York Daily News	Summary
		R											
	565	Rainbow Island	(97)	Para.	9- 9-44	±	∓	±	+	⧺	±	+	8+ 4−
	563	Range Law	(57)	Mono.	9- 2-44	±		±	±	±	∓	±	6+ 6−
	566	Reckless Age	(63)	Univ.	9- 9-44	±	±	+	±	∓	+		6+ 4−
	548	Return of the Ape Man	(60)	Mono.	7-15-44	−	∓	±	+		∓		4+ 4−
		Rhapsody in Blue	(..)	WB.							⧺		2+
	631	Rhythm Round-Up	(67)	Col.	6- 2-45	∓							1+ 1−
		Riders of Santa Fe	(63)	Univ.							±		1+ 1−
	579	Riding West	(58)	Col.	10-28-44	+		∓	±	±	±	±	6+ 5−
		Road to Alcatraz	(..)	Rep.							∓		1+ 1−
	623	Rockin' in the Rockies	(67)	Col.	4-21-45	−					−		2−
	605	Rogues' Gallery	(60)	PRC.	2-17-45	±	±	±	±	=		∓	5+ 7−
	606	Rough Riding Justice	(58)	Col.	2-17-45	∓				∓	±		3+ 3−
	609	Rough, Tough and Ready	(66)	Col.	3- 3-45	±	∓	±		±	∓	∓	6+ 6−
	600	Roughly Speaking	(128)	WB.	2- 3-45	+	±	±	+	±	⧺	⧺	9+ 3−
	615	Royal Scandal, A	(94)	20-Fox.	3-24-45	±	⧺	⧺	+	+	+	+	9+ 1−
	581	Rustler's Hideout	(62)	PRC.	11-11-44	±		∓	±	±		±	5+ 5−
		S											
	593	Saddle Leather Law	(55)	Col.	12-30-44	±				−			1+ 2−
	598	Sagebrush Heroes	(54)	Col.	1-20-45	±					∓		2+ 2−
	621	Salome, Where She Danced	(90)	Univ	4-21-45	+	±	+	+	+	±	±	7+ 3−
	608	Salty O'Rourke	(100)	Para.	2-24-45	+	+	±	+	+	±	⧺	8+ 2−
		San Antonio Kid, The	(56)	Rep.						±	±		2+ 2−
	566	San Diego, I Love You	(83)	Univ.	9- 9-44	+	+	+	+	⧺	+	±	8+ 1−
	562	San Fernando Valley	(74)	Rep.	9- 2-44	+		±	+	±	+	±	6+ 3−
		Santa Fe Saddlemates	(58)	Rep.						±			1+ 1−
		Saratoga Trunk	(..)	WB.							⧺		2+
	620	Scared Stiff	(64)	Para.	4- 7-45	∓	=	±	±	∓	±		5+ 7−
	626	Scarlet Clue, The	(..)	Mono.	4-28-45	±	±	±	±	±	±	±	7+ 7−
	543	Secrets of Scotland Yard	(68)	Rep.	6-24-44	±	±	+	±	+	±		6+ 4−
	602	See My Lawyer	(69)	Univ.	2-10-45	±	±	∓		∓	±	±	6+ 6−
	544	Sensations of 1945	(86)	UA.	6-24-44	±	+	+	⧺	+	+	+	8+ 1−
	584	Sergeant Mike	(60)	Col.	11-18-44	±	∓	±	±	±	+	∓	7+ 6−
	557	Seven Doors to Death	(62)	PRC.	8-19-44	±	±	−	±	±	±	±	6+ 7−
	552	Seventh Cross, The	(112)	MGM.	7-29-44	±	+	⧺	+	−	+	⧺	8+ 2−
	575	Shadow of Suspicion	(68)	Mono.	10-21-44	±	±	±	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	575	Shadows in the Night	(67)	Col.	10-21-44	±	±	±		±	±	±	6+ 6−
	596	She Gets Her Man	(74)	Univ.	1-13-45	±	±	∓	+	+	+	∓	7+ 4−
	551	She's a Soldier Too	(67)	Col.	7-29-44	±	∓		±	+	+	∓	6+ 4−
	587	She's a Sweetheart	(69)	Col.	12- 9-44	±	±	±				∓	4+ 4−
		Sheriff of Cimarron	(..)	Rep.						+			1+
		Sheriff of Las Vegas	(55)	Rep.						+			1+
		Sheriff of Sundown	(56)	Rep.						+	±		2+ 1−
	560	Sign of the Cross	(118)	Para.	8-26-44	+			⧺		±		4+ 1−
	617	Silver Fleet, The	(77)	PRC.	3-31-44	±	+		+	+	⧺		6+ 1−
	552	Since You Went Away	(174)	UA.	7-29-44	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
	595	Sing Me a Song of Texas	(66)	Col.	1-13-45	+					±		2+ 1−
	558	Sing, Neighbor, Sing	(70)	Rep.	8-19-44	±	±	∓	±	∓	±	∓	7+ 7−
	570	Singing Sheriff, The	(63)	Univ.	9-23-44	−	∓	±	∓	−	±	+	5+ 6−
	582	Something for the Boys	(87)	20-Fox	11-11-14	∓	±	±	⧺	+	±	+	8+ 4−
	622	Son of Lassie	(102)	MGM.	4-21-45	±	⧺	+	±	⧺	+	+	9+ 2−
	607	Song for Miss Julie	(69)	Rep.	2-24-45		−	±	∓	+	=		3+ 5−
	542	Song of Nevada	(75)	Rep.	6-17-44	+		+	+	+	+		5+
	626	Song of the Sarong	(65)	Univ.	4-28-45	=	−	±	−	±	±		3+ 7−
	599	Song to Remember, A	(112)	Col.	2- 3-45	⧺	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
	564	Sonora Stagecoach	(51)	Mono.	9- 2-44	+		+	−	±	±	∓	5+ 4−
	559	Soul of a Monster, The	(61)	Col.	8-26-44	∓	=	±	−	+	±	∓	5+ 7−
	628	Southerner, The	(91)	UA.	5- 5-45	+	+	±	+	⧺	⧺		8+ 1−
	610	Spell of Amy Nugent, The	(60)	PRC	3- 5-45	±	∓				±		3+ 3−
		Stagecoach to Monterey	(55)	Rep.						+	±		2+ 1−
	545	Step Lively	(88)	RKO.	7- 1-44	+	±	±	+	⧺		+	7+ 2−
	636	Steppin' in Society	(72)	Rep.	6-16-45	±	∓	∓	±	−	±	∓	6+ 7−
	562	Storm Over Lisbon	(86)	Rep.	9- 2-44	∓	±	∓	∓	+	±		6+ 5−
	573	Strange Affair	(78)	Col.	10-14-44	±	±	+	±	+	±	∓	7+ 5−
	603	Strange Illusion	(87)	PRC.	2-17-45	+	±		+	+	+		5+ 1−
		Stranger From Santa Fe	(..)	Mono.							∓		1+ 1−
		Strangers in the Night	(56)	Rep.			+		+	±			3+ 1−
	612	Sudan	(76)	Univ	3-10-45	±	±	+	∓	+	+	±	7+ 4−
	588	Sunday Dinner for a Soldier	(86)	20-Fox	12- 9-44	+	+	+	+	+	⧺	⧺	9+
	553	Sundown Valley	(55)	Col.	8- 5-44	±		±	±	±	±		5+ 5−
	594	Suspect, The	(85)	Univ.	12-30-44	+	⧺	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	10+
	554	Sweet and Lowdown	(75)	20-Fox.	8- 5-44	+	±	±	+	+	+	+	7+ 2−
	582	Swing Hostess	(76)	PRC.	11-11-44	±	±			±	±		4+ 4−
		Swing in the Saddle	(..)	Col.						∓			1+ 1−
		Swing Out, Sister	(60)	Univ.			±	±		±	∓		4+ 4−
		T											
	593	Tahiti Nights	(63)	Col.	12-30-44	±	∓	∓	∓	−	∓	∓	6+ 7−
	539	Take It Big	(76)	Para.	6-10-44	∓	∓	±	+	+	±	±	7+ 5−
	548	Take It or Leave It	(70)	20-Fox.	7-15-44	±	+	+		+	±	±	6+ 3−
	572	Tall in the Saddle	(87)	RKO.	9-30-44	+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	9+
	616	Tarzan and the Amazons	(75)	RKO.	3-24-45	±	∓		±	±	+	±	6+ 5−
		Tell It to a Star	(..)	Rep.								±	1+ 1−
	631	Ten Cents a Dance	(60)	Col.	6- 2-45	∓	±	∓				±	4+ 4−
	569	That's My Baby	(68)	Rep.	9-23-44	=	±	±	±	+		±	5+ 6−
	632	That's the Spirit	(93)	Univ.	6- 2-45	±	±	+	+	+	⧺	+	8+ 2−
		There Goes Kelly	(..)	Mono.			∓	∓	±			∓	4+ 4−
	589	They Shall Have Faith	(83)	Mono.	12-16-44	±	+		±	+	+		5+ 2−
	587	Thin Man Goes Home	(101)	MGM.	12- 9-44	+	+	±	±	⧺	⧺	+	9+ 2−
	584	Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo	(138)	MGM	11-18-44	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
	595	This Man's Navy	(100)	MGM.	1-13-45	+	±	±	+	+	+	±	7+ 3−
		Thoroughbreds	(55)	Rep.			±	±		±	±	∓	5+ 5−
	621	Those Endearing Young Charms	(81)	RKO	4-21-45	+	∓		±	+	±		5+ 3−
	635	Thousand and One Nights, A	(93)	Col	6-16-45	+	+	⧺		+			5+
	590	Three Caballeros, The	(71)	RKO.	12-16-44	+	⧺	⧺	+		⧺		8+
	585	Three Is a Family	(81)	UA.	12- 2-44	⧺	+	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	11+
	554	Three Little Sisters	(69)	Rep.	8- 5-44	±	±	±	+	±	+	±	7+ 5−
	563	Three of a Kind	(67)	Mono.	9- 2-44	±	∓			±		∓	4+ 4−
		Three's a Crowd	(..)	Rep.						−	±		1+ 2−
	631	Thrill of a Romance	(67)	MGM.	6- 2-45	+	+	⧺	+	+	⧺	+	9+
	599	Thunderhead—Son of Flicka	(78)	20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	+	+	+	+	⧺	+	8+
	572	Thundering Gun Slingers	(60)	PRC.	9-30-44	∓		−	±	∓		∓	4+ 5−
	565	Till We Meet Again	(88)	Para.	9- 9-44	∓	±	+	+	±	+	⧺	8+ 3−
	581	Together Again	(100)	Col.	11-11-44	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
	574	To Have and Have Not	(100)	WB.	10-14-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	⧺	8+
	591	Tomorrow the World	(87)	UA.	12-30-44	+	⧺	⧺	+	+	⧺	⧺	12+
	600	Tonight and Every Night	(92)	Col.	2- 3-45	+	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	+	+	10+
		Topeka Terror, The	(55)	Rep.						±			1+ 1−
	581	Town Went Wild, The	(79)	PRC.	11-11-44	±	⧺	∓	+	+	+	=	7+ 4−
	599	Tree Grows in Brooklyn, A	(128)	20-Fox	2- 3-45	+	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	12+
		Trigger Law	(54)	Mono.						∓			1+ 1−
		Trouble Chasers	(..)	Mono.			=				−		3−
	538	Tucson Raiders	(55)	Rep.	6- 3-44	+			+	+	±		4+ 1−
	631	Twice Blessed	(76)	MGM.	6- 2-45	±	+	±	±	∓	±		6+ 5−
	539	Twilight on the Prairie	(62)	Univ.	6-10-44	∓	±		±	−	±		4+ 5−
	624	Two O'Clock Courage	(..)	RKO.	4-21-45	±	±	∓	=	±	±	±	6+ 8−
		U											
	549	U-Boat Prisoner	(65)	Col.	7-22-44	∓	±	∓	±	+	±	±	7+ 6−
	597	Under Western Skies	(57)	Univ.	1-20-45	−	∓	∓	±	∓	−		4+ 6−
	556	Underground Guerrillas	(82)	Col.	8-12-44	∓	±	+	±	∓		±	6+ 5−
	608	Unseen, The	(80)	Para.	2-24-45	∓	±	+	±	+	±	⧺	8+ 4−
	582	Unwritten Code, The	(61)	Col.	11-11-44	±	∓	∓	±	±	±	∓	7+ 7−
		Utah	(..)	Rep.				+	+		+	±	4+ 1−
		Utah Kid, The	(57)	Mono.						±			1+ 1−
		V											
	621	Valley of Decision, The	(102)	MGM.	4-21-45	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	13+
	563	Valley of Vengeance	(56)	PRC.	9- 2-44	±		±	∓	+	∓	∓	6+ 5−
	625	Vampire's Ghost, The	(59)	Rep.	4-28-45	=	−	−	±	−	∓	∓	3+ 8−
		Vengeance of the West	(..)	Col.						±			1+ 1−
	573	Very Thought of You, The	(99)	WB	10-14-44	+	+	±	±	⧺	±	+	8+ 3−
		Vigilantes of Dodge City	(55)	Rep.						±	±		2+ 2−
		W											
	553	WAVE, a Wac, a Marine, A	(70)	Mono	8- 5-44	±	−	±	+	∓	∓		5+ 5−
		Way Ahead, The	(..)	20-Fox.			+		±	±	⧺	+	6+ 2−
	580	West of Rio Grande	(57)	Mono.	10-28-44	±			±	±	±	∓	4+ 4−
	635	West of the Pecos	(66)	RKO.	6-16-45	±	±	±		±			4+ 4−
	602	What a Blonde	(71)	RKO.	2-10-45	±	±	±	∓	+	∓	−	6+ 6−
	557	When Strangers Marry	(67)	Mono.	8-19-44	+	⧺	+	+	+	+		7+
	570	When the Lights Go On Again	(74)	PRC	9-23-44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	7+
		Where Do We Go From Here?	(78)	20-Fox.			+	⧺	+	+	⧺	⧺	9+
	550	Whistler, The	(59)	Col.	7-22-44	±	±	±	±	±	+		6+ 5−
		Why Girls Leave Home	(69)	PRC.						±			1+ 1−
		Wild Horse Phantom	(..)	PRC.						±			1+ 1−
	556	Wilson	(158)	20-Fox.	8-12-44	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	14+
	550	Wing and a Prayer	(97)	20-Fox.	7-22-44	±	+	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	11+ 1−
	586	Winged Victory	(130)	20-Fox.	12- 2-44	⧺	+	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	13+
	636	Within These Walls	(72)	20-Fox.	6-16-45	±	±	±	±	∓			5+ 5−
	616	Without Love	(111)	MGM.	3-24-45	+	±	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	+	10+ 1−
	574	Woman in the Window, The	(99)	RKO	10-14-44	⧺	⧺	+	⧺	⧺		⧺	11+
	626	Wonder Man, The	(96)	RKO.	4-28-45	⧺		⧺	⧺	⧺	⧺	±	11+ 1−
		Y											
	595	Youth on Trial	(59)	Col.	1-13-45	±	±	±					3+ 3−
	546	Youth Runs Wild	(67)	RKO.	7- 1-44	−	±	−	+	+	±		4+ 4−
		Z											
	623	Zombies on Broadway	(68)	RKO.	4-21-45	∓	−	±	±	±	−		4+ 5−

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

A Bell for Adano

F — Drama

20th-Fox (601) — **(——) Minutes** — **Rel. Aug., '45**

"A Bell for Adano" plays upon the emotions with the delicacy of a violin in the hands of a consummate artist. John Hersey's sympathetic understanding of the emotions of simple Sicilian villagers goes to the screen with no loss of the poetic feeling that made his book so successful. Henry King, who directed, has made no effort to add to or substract from the original; it seems so real and so honest that the beholder becomes a participant. There are moments of gaiety, with some fine singing; there are touches of delightful comedy; there are a few poignantly tragic moments, and the thread of a romance. It is a great picture, with a powerful appeal for old and young. The portrayal of Major Joppolo is so forthright and restrained it is fascinating. This role will put him out in the front ranks of the new stars. Gene Tierney and William Bendix also are outstanding.

John Hodiak, William Bendix, Gene Tierney, Montague Banks, Fortunio Bonanova, Henry Armetta, Louis Alberni.

Captain Eddie

F — Drama

20th-Fox (——) — **107 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Reflecting throughout that richness and authenticity of incident, atmosphere and characterization at which Director Lloyd Bacon ("The Sullivans") is an outstanding master, this biographical sketch of Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker, World War I flying ace, has much to command the attention and plaudits of discriminating spectators. But for all its merits in production and technical details, it possibly will encounter resistance where a mass appeal is necessary to enjoy top grosses. There may be some doubt that the heroic venture and rescue of Rickenbacker around which the biography revolves retrospectively stands out with sufficient importance against the panorama of subsequent war developments. The film portrays the story of that venture and reveals the highlights of the hero's life and career. It unfolds a picture of Americana, nostalgic, heart-warming, engrossing, charming.

Fred MacMurray, Lynn Bari, Charles Bickford, Thomas Mitchell, Lloyd Nolan, James Gleason, Mary Philips.

Blonde From Brooklyn

F — Comedy With Music

Columbia (6036) — **65 Minutes** — **Rel. June 21, '45**

While a blonde from any other part of the country might be as potent, the Brooklyn locale is important, because in wangling a radio contract for Plantation coffee hour, Lynn Merrick and her boy friend, Robert Stanton, pretend to be just too, too southern. They are helped out by another phony, whom they hire to coach them on that mint-julepy background stuff supposed to be typical of the Dixie-born. Everything was going all right until the synthetic southern belle, posing as Belle Withers, of the Mississippi branch, was "discovered" by a lawyer who had been searching for a Withers heiress of $800,000 she dares not claim—nor disclaim. Fortunately, a real heiress turns up in that old nick of time. Just a bright little picture to fill out, but clever situations, dialog and songs make it worth while for exhibitors content with pictures made on a modest budget. Del Lord directed.

Robert Stanton, Lynn Merrick, Thurston Hall, Mary Treen, Bob Haymes.

The Frozen Ghost

F — Mystery

Universal (9032) — **61 Minutes** — **Rel. June 29, '45**

Believing he has willed a man dead, Lon Chaney, famous hypnotist, breaks his engagement to his assistant, Evelyn Ankers, and seeks forgetfulness in work at a wax museum run by Tala Birell, her niece and a strange doctor. Tala, enamoured of the hypnotist, accuses him of making love to her niece, and in the course of a violent argument, she falls dead. Despite the erratic behavior of the doctor, Chaney is convinced he is responsible for Tala's death. When the niece disappears, Evelyn persuades him to use his psychic powers to determine the murderer. All ends happily with the apprehension of the criminal, and the reappearance of the niece, as Evelyn and Chaney anticipate happiness in hypnoses. The plot complications, which are numerous, should not dilute the eerie effect of wax replicas of famous murders. Harold Young directed.

Lon Chaney, Evelyn Ankers, Milburn Stone, Douglass Dumbrille, Martin Kosleck, Elena Verdugo, Tala Birell.

Story of G.I. Joe

F — Drama

United Artists (——) — **108 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

"Hi, fellas, it's the little guy." Thus did the GIs greet their favorite war correspondent, the late Ernie Pyle. And he, with similar affection, understanding and camaraderie, told their story. This is a faithful film version of that story—an uncompromising picture of war as it is for the foot soldier. Produced with consummate skill by Lester Cowan, it shows war as the grim business it is, with all of its grime, sweat, blood, hardship, suffering and sacrifice. Not a pretty picture, entirely free of heroics, melodramatics and glamor, it still packs an emotional wallop such as the screen seldom imparts. The cast is magnificent, from Burgess Meredith as Pyle, to the humblest private wallowing in the mud. The film's boundless excellence, plus the Pyle name, should assure its success. William A. Wellman directed.

Burgess Meredith, Robert Mitchum, Freddie Steele, Wally Cassell, Jimmy Lloyd, Jack Reilly, Bill Murphy.

Junior Miss

F — Comedy

20th-Fox (603) — **94 Minutes** — **Rel. Aug. 1, '45**

In bringing "Junior Miss" to the screen, Director George Seaton has, thanks to his own adaptation, lost none of the charm and humor of that recent Broadway-and-points-west stage hit. He has, in fact, heightened its pace and hilarity. Pleasantly acted by a moderately well-known cast, unostentatiously staged in moderate-cost settings, this annal of adolescence is 100 per cent boxoffice, may indeed prove one of the year's big money-makers. Its story is that of the younger of two teen-age daughters of a pleasant New York couple. Her attempts to marry off her uncle cost her father his job until, at picture's end, a combination of farcical misunderstandings rights matters and all ends well. Particularly amusing yet poignant are her attempts to appear grown up, usually thwarted by her 16-year-old sister. Recommended for any theatre and all audiences.

Peggy Ann Garner, Allyn Joslyn, Michael Dunne, Faye Marlowe, Mona Freeman, Sylvia Field, Barbara Whiting.

The Woman in Green

F — Mystery

Universal (——) — **68 Minutes** — **Rel. July 27, '45**

Universal has made an absorbing mystery of the latest exploits of that master sleuth, Sherlock Holmes. The result is a film that should find ready acceptance on virtually any double feature program. Bertram Milhauser, in an original screenplay, has dreamed up some exciting incidents involving Holmes. It all adds up to good entertainment, in spite of some lagging spots. A well-chosen cast, including Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, Hillary Brooke, Henry Daniell and Paul Cavanagh, contribute smooth performances. The story, in brief, concerns a series of baffling murders which stump Scotland Yard. Holmes, called into the case, surmises that the motive for the slayings is blackmail and proves his point. Produced and directed by William Roy Neill.

Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, Hillary Brooke, Henry Daniell, Paul Cavanagh, Matthew Boulton, Eve Amber.

Hollywood and Vine

F — Comedy

PRC Pictures (515) — **60 Minutes** — **Apr. 25, '45**

Never so happy as when spoofing itself, Hollywood offers in this picture a slight but amusing bit of froth. There are the screen-struck girl, pretty enough with Wanda McKay in the role, and an incognito successful playwright, Jimmy Ellison. While bobby-socksers may not swoon over him, he is what dramatic critics so often term "adequate in his part." There is more farce than comedy, especially in the opening scene, but all the dither about the ownership of the little mutt that made good in motion pictures and was then claimed by a former owner, plus grade-A romance, make an amusing film for the lower half of a double bill. The mutt is none other than the masculine Daisy of Blondie fame and will add appeal for youthful patrons. Also, Franklyn Pangborn's admirers will find here more of the same for which he is screen-typed. Alexis Thurn-Taxis directed.

Jimmy Ellison, Wanda McKay, Franklyn Pangborn, Ralph Morgan, Prince Michael Romanof, June Clyde, Leon Belasco.

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Story of G.I. Joe"**

Conduct a search for the most be-ribboned GI in your town—preferably a veteran of the Italian campaign—and make him the figurehead for a "GI Joe" week honoring all returned service men. Stage a gala premiere at which they are guests, with newspapers and merchants cooperating. Because of Pyle's name, newspaper tieups will be easy and can cover many angles. Spot stills in bookstores, along with copies of the Pyle book.

CATCHLINES:

Ernie Pyle's Tribute to the Mud-Slogging Soldier . . . Brought to the Screen as a Stirring, Engrossing Drama Which No American Should Miss . . . A Glorious Tribute to the Fighting Foot Soldiers.

Humor, Pathos, Drama and Stark Tragedy . . . Told in Celluloid Just as the Late, Great Ernie Pyle Would Tell Them on Paper to the Folks Back Home . . . The True, Uncompromising War Saga of Your Sons, Brothers, Husbands.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Junior Miss"**

Unlimited tieups suggest themselves for stores handling fashionable garb, cosmetics, stationery and sporting goods—in short, anything designed for the Junior Miss. The picture derives considerable humor from its heroine's attempt to liven up her autobiography—hold a contest offering admission prizes to the submitter of the tallest personal (?) experience. Offer vocational and public schools passes as prizes for best Junior Miss fashion designs. Give ticket prize to Junior Miss submitting best essay on "Are Parents Necesary?"

CATCHLINES:

Hilarity Hits New High . . . Helpful Hints for Distracted Daddies . . . A Girl Is Only as Old as Her Parents Let Her Look . . . She Wanted to Keep the Family Skeleton in Her Toy Closet . . . Sweet Sixteen vs. Frustrated Fourteen.

She Ate So Much, Daddy Said Her Tapeworn Had a Tapeworm . . . Life Had Passed Her By; She'd Soon Be 14 . . . Lilting as a Love Song . . . Frothy as a Bubble Bath . . . Mad as a Hedda Hopper Hat.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Woman in Green"**

Because this film is designed for and will be booked in most situations as a second feature, a modest campaign is indicated. An old gag that bears repetition would be to send a ballyhoo man into the busiest parts of town garbed in typical Sherlock Holmes attire. Be sure he wears a two-way cap and that he carries a large magnifying glass. Sign carried by the man should read: "I'm looking for clues. See how I solve the Mysterious Finger Murders in 'The Woman in Green' at the ..... Theatre."

CATCHLINES:

London Shocked by Hypnotic Murderer . . . Sherlock Holmes Solves Slayings That Baffle Scotland Yard . . . Can a Person Under a Hypnotic Spell Commit Murder? Watch the Master Sleuth Unravel a Fiend's Evil Machinations.

A Beautiful Blonde's Friendship Brings Death to Admirers . . . Holmes Traps His Would-Be Assassins . . .See the Master Detective Turn the Tables on a Crime Syndicate.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Hollywood and Vine"**

Since the dog plays a prominent part in the picture, have a trick dog contest in which the boy, or girl, who brings a dog to the lobby that can do the most tricks gets a season pass to the show. Then since it also features a screen-struck girl, offer the same kind of prize for the best 50-word essay on "Why I Would Like to Be a Movie Star." Advertise the picture as one the whole family can enjoy together. Also feature the fact that it is an expose of Hollywood by Hollywood itself.

CATCHLINES:

Motion Pictures Are Not Born But Made—and This Tells How . . . She Came to Hollywood and Starred as a Soda Jerk . . . But Her Dog Made a Hit . . . A Country Dog Comes to Hollywood and Makes Good in the Studios.

A Rollicking Farce That Will Give an Hour of Real Relaxation . . . See the Cane-Breaking Director Prove He Is a Genius That Way . . . A Picture to Show Hollywood at Its Wackiest.

SELLING ANGLES: **"A Bell for Adano"**

This is one of those pictures that definitely rate special treatment on single feature bills. Blatant ballyhoo will be out of place. Simplicity and dignity in the selling approach, with bookstore tieups and an appeal directed to those who have read the book will draw audiences in addition to the regular type of patrons. A blowup of Hodiak looking up at a bell tower similar to one used in the picture with a concealed record-player softly sounding a tolling bell would make an effective lobby display.

CATCHLINES:

Great Book . . . Great Acting . . . Great Picture . . . One of the Finest Productions of This or Any Year.

Adano Wanted a Bell and Happiness . . . A Girl Wanted Romance . . . How an American Major Helped Will Thrill You, Make You Laugh, and Perhaps Cry a Bit.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Captain Eddie"**

Set up a lobby display with life rafts, emergency rations and other equipment similar to the type used by Rickenbacker and his crew; use blowups of newspaper stories about "Captain Eddie's" experiences during his last crash landing. Returned service men in your community who have been rescued at sea could be asked to speak from your stage as a prologue.

CATCHLINES:

True Story of Rickenbacker's Rescue . . . Eight Men Floating in a Vast Ocean . . . With Nothing Between Them and Death But Three Life Rafts . . . How the Prayers of One Woman Were Answered.

Amazing Experiences of a Man Who Lives to Tell Them . . . Stark, Real Drama of the Endurance of Our Fighting Men . . . An Unforgettable Adventure in Realism . . . Faithfully Brought to the Screen.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Blonde From Brooklyn"**

Since the picture is a burlesque on what might be called drugstore southerners, an offer might be made to give a free ticket to the patron who was born in the U.S. farthest south of the Mason and Dixon line. The songs in the picture are worth featuring through radio tieups and one called, "Lost—a Wonderful Girl" could lend itself to local want ad placement to advantage. Local bars can be asked to feature mint juleps the week the picture is shown and humorous take-offs on "professional" southerners can be used in the advertising.

CATCHLINES:

They Were as Southern as Maple Sugar—and Their Good Luck Was Bad for Their Masquerade . . . The Tangled Web They Wove by Their Innocent Deceit Almost Landed Them in Jail . . . They Did It to Get Into Radio and It Nearly Put Them Off the Air.

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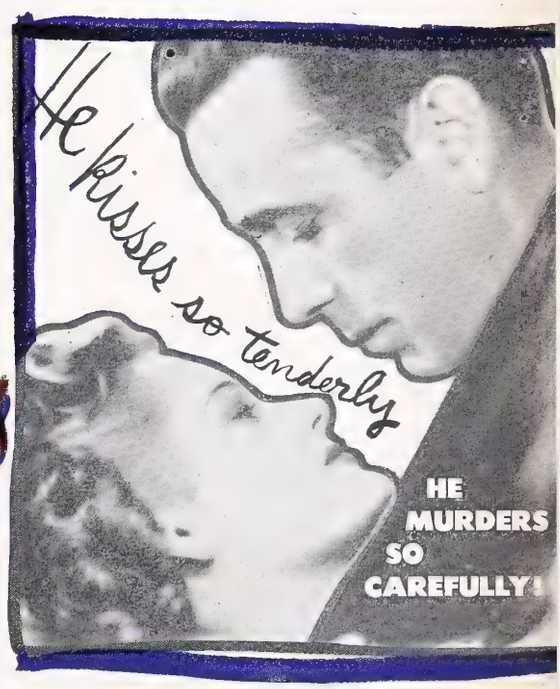
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Vol. 47 No. 8
JUNE 30, 1945

BOXOFFICE

ANTIDOTE TO TROUBLE

CULLED from a recent newsletter from the United Typothetae of America is the following:

"Postwar planners, as well as business people generally, will be interested in the recent Gallup Poll which indicated that 'four in ten will have no nest-egg to tide over unemployment.' This, in spite of the wartime prosperity of the past three years. Sixty per cent of those regularly employed felt that if they lost their present jobs, they could carry on until another one was found; 30 per cent answered in the negative; and ten per cent did not know. It was also discovered by means of the survey that on the average, white-collar workers could hold out longer financially under unemployment than the labor group."

Then there is the statement made by Mr. Barney Balaban to the stockholders of Paramount Pictures, Inc., this past week in which he said, "Based on an estimated figure of accumulated savings during the 1940-45 period of more than $150 billion, there is good reason to believe that the level of consumer expenditures will considerably exceed that of prewar years. Motion picture receipts have in the past generally risen and fallen in proportion to consumer savings and expenditures. Additionally, any reduction in wartime tax rates, when effected, should also serve to cushion any decrease in revenue."

While optimistic, Mr. Balaban was not overlooking the possibility of a drop in theatre patronage and income, for from this comes the wherewithal that turns the wheels of the entire motion picture industry. As Mr. Balaban also stated, there are many factors involved and experts disagree. For instance Mr. Ed Kuykendall, in the MPTOA bulletin issued last week, said, "Only a distributor can fool himself that business will stay up to present levels when the government spending stops, but we exhibitors think it will level off at a lower level. Nevertheless we think this drop will occur without any alarming depression or collapse. You just have to figure on business at a lower level than we have enjoyed from the war boom, which is nothing to become alarmed over. Neither is it something to blindly ignore in your plans for the next few months."

From the mercantile field there comes still another view. Mr. H. H. Wilson, president of the Emery, Bird, Thayer Co., large department store in Kansas City, said that modernized stores plentifully stocked, when they can become a reality again, will be only so many headaches unless there are plenty of customers. Setting the stage for the showing of a Committee for Economic Development film, depicting the importance of planning now for postwar employment, Mr. Wilson said, "The way to obtain an abundance of customers is to see that there are plenty of jobs available."

And that might very well be the answer to the concern of exhibitors and distributors about the postwar days to come. It might well serve as the answer to such fears as Mr. Kuykendall expressed over a building boom in the theatre field that could overseat many situations.

There is no gainsaying the need for the replacement of many outmoded theatre properties with modern structures; that the shifting of populations has caused many communities and cities to be underseated; that many theatres are in need of repair. This condition may invite "outsiders," aided and abetted by real estate promoters, as Mr. Kuykendall warns, but not if theatre owners in those situations make the right moves first; if they erect the new properties needed or repair and modernize their present buildings.

Since many businesses are centered around the motion picture theatre in every community, new building, rebuilding or modernizing will set the pace for others to follow. This will create employment in the manufacture of goods and materials needed for this work and the money so provided will carry forward the purchases of consumer goods which in turn will extend the cycle of employment over many fields.

The exhibitor who plans his property improvements now and who publicizes them on his screen and elsewhere will make his community conscious of the responsibility that rests on every American business man at this time. Not only will he be doing his part in the common welfare, but he will be securing his own interests for the present and for the future.

Just as the motion picture theatre has spearheaded the many big movements in the war effort, so can it lead the way in the days of peace to come—to create jobs for the G.I. Joes and Josies when they return from the battlefields, and for other Americans as well.

Job-creation is the antidote to unemployment and its ills; it is the way to keep an abundance of customers at ticket windows and stores; it is one of the best assurances to a lasting peace.

* *

Cue on Admission Tax

An indication of what American exhibitors may expect in the matter of tax easement lies in the retention of the 20 per cent amusement tax by the Canadian government, despite promises of concessions in other fields. The theatres, it was made apparent, are last on the list—even in the promise of tax relief.

There is little or no expectancy of tax reduction by American industry in 1945. However, there is hope for some easement to be made in 1946, depending on how the war with Japan goes. Using the Canadian situation as a cue, it gives warning to American exhibitors that they cannot start too early to give attention to tax matters; to try to assure fair and proper consideration by our government when tax cuts are in order.

Ben Shlyen

Pulse Beats

Raw Stock Controls May End With 3rd Quarter

Increasing supply leads WPB officials to believe situation may clear before end of September; manpower is chief uncertainty confronting manufacturers.

Rank Prefers Free Film Trade Without Quotas

Welcomed to Hollywood, says he's duty bound to favor English restriction law, but likes "unhampered competition, solely on merit, between British and U.S. films."

Lasky Says Independents Will Construct Studios

Executive also foresees better postwar distribution for films of individual producer; appointment of Nelson as SIMPP head "very constructive," he says.

Universal Is Reopening Its European Branches

Al Daff, vice-president of the company's export corporation, now in Lisbon after visiting Cairo and Athens; has already covered Great Britain and most of the Continent.

Senate Restores OWI's $39,670,215 Budget

Conflict with house will go to conference; re-establishing of cut followed an appeal by army officers and at President Truman's suggestion.

N. Y. Television Station Now Sought by 20th-Fox

Expansion of plans to enter field results in application to FCC for license to construct towers on Eagle Rock Hill in West Orange, N. J.

Dave Palfreyman to Take Over MPPDA Title Work

Shift due to change in duties of Carl E. Milliken, who will devote entire time to foreign problems; Adolph Schimel, Universal counsel, will be aide.

Public Relations Are Vital Declares Major Warner

He tells district managers and field men to improve contacts with both exhibitors and the public along lines of general public service and to watch postwar trends.

Hollywood to Have Only One Fund Drive Annually

Permanent Charities Committee votes seven to one in favor of single-campaign plan, President Y. Frank Freeman reveals at the weekend.

GOVERNMENT 16MM EQUIPMENT IN U. S. MAY GO TO SCHOOLS

Plans Call for Sale Abroad Of Those Projectors in The Foreign Areas

By POLLY SHERMAN

WASHINGTON—While most of the surplus motion picture equipment in the European and Pacific theatres of war will be disposed of abroad, there is a definite possibility that the Surplus Property Board will offer such equipment now in the United States to educational institutions in this country. Dr. Henry F. Alves of the U.S. Office of Education, stated that plans for such equipment disposal now are being drawn up and that the Surplus Property Board soon will issue a ruling covering such plans.

The decision to ask the Surplus Property Board to give priorities in the disposal of film equipment, with especial emphasis on 16mm projectors, was reached at a meeting held under the auspices of the Office of Education at which a group of educators representing schools throughout the country discussed plans for widespread use of sound films and broadcasting as educational media.

It is planned to set up a system of some 800 broadcasting stations devoted to educational pursuits. Eighteen states have indicated their desire to cooperate with detailed plans for coordinated educational broadcasts, while 11 states have plans well advanced. Four other states also have set a basis for such radio expansion. An integrated educational network in each state is the aim.

No Abnormal Quantities Seen

In discussing the meeting and the plans of the educators who attended, Dr. Alves stated that while the SPB may not issue an over-all declaration of policy as to the disposal of surplus film equipment, it is possible that "an agreement may be reached whereby educational authorities may be of assistance in programming needs for surplus property."

Meantime, the SPB, confirming the story in last week's Washington Report column that surplus property abroad will be disposed of in the countries where the property is located, stated that it is hardly likely that there will be abnormally large quantities of 16mm film equipment available for disposal, whether to educational institutions or to private interests.

Blumenfeld Circuit Joins With UA In Southern California "Invasion"

LOS ANGELES—United Artists product will have a new first run outlet in this market as the result of the establishment of Music Hall Theatres, a combination formed through the joining of forces of United Artists, Galston and Sutton, local independent circuit operators, and Joseph Blumenfeld, San Francisco chain operator.

The newly-established circuit will assume its first run status about August 1 and initially will have four showcases. They will include G&S's de luxe Hawaii Theatre on Hollywood Blvd.; their Elite in Beverly Hills, and the Tower and Colony, leases upon which have been obtained by Blumenfeld.

Significant on Several Counts

Formation of Music Hall Theatres is significant on several counts. It assures first run product for the Hawaii, which has been something of a stepchild as concerns product ever since it opened its doors, approximately four years ago. Conceded to be one of the most modern, best equipped and comfortable houses in southern California, the Hawaii was so located that zoning and clearances arrangements made it difficult for Galston and Sutton to secure first run pictures. Consequently they adopted an exploitation policy for the theatre and attracted considerable attention in local exhibition circles by building substantial grosses for first runs on films which did not find their way into the longer-established de luxe situations. Dual horror bills were prominent among the type of programs the house featured and intensively exploited.

Comparable assurance of an always-available first run outlet is assured the local United Artists exchange, which heretofore was often forced to await its turn for bookings in Fox West Coast houses which showcased United Artists product as well as pictures from M-G-M, 20th-Fox and, occasionally, Universal or one of the other companies.

The situation also lends some clarification to the local plans of Northern Showman Blumenfeld. Several months ago Blumenfeld snatched a lease on the Tower in downtown Los Angeles, which for many years was operated by Metropolitan Theatres, a Fox West Coast partnership affiliate. At the time that the lease was sold away from Metropolitan, and periodically since, the trade press has hinted at the extent of Blumenfeld's threatened "invasion" of the Southland. Subsequently, he leased the Colony, another Hollywood Blvd. house. While reports still persist that he is shopping for other local theatres his activities thus far have been limited to acquiring the two spots and throwing them into the Music Hall pool.

Plans provide that the four houses of the new circuit will change their names in each instance to Music Hall Theatre, each to have an indicated geographical designation. First program under the new setup, according to present plans will be Lester Cowan's "The Story of G.I. Joe."

Cliff Giesseman, Blumenfeld's district manager in San Francisco, will come to Los Angeles to take over management of the four houses.

Galston and Sutton own and operate, in addition to the two situations which join the circuit, the Marcal on Hollywood Blvd., and the Center in East Los Angeles. They will continue to operate these two independently.

Advent of the Music Hall houses will further swell the record number of first run theatres in Los Angeles, which already lists 17 of such spots, including the Hawaii.

Jack Blumenfeld Succeeds Giesseman As San Francisco District Manager

SAN FRANCISCO—Joseph Blumenfeld, head of the theatre circuit bearing his name, made an announcement concerning his entry into the southern California territory simultaneously with release of the news in Los Angeles.

Blumenfeld said that Cliff Giesseman, his district manager here, who will go to Los Angeles to take charge of the theatres there, will be succeeded here by Jack Blumenfeld, youngest of the four Blumenfeld brothers, and present manager of the San Francisco Orpheum.

Win Right to Inspect Records

Philadelphia—The U.S. circuit court of appeals has decreed that eight distributing companies have the right to inspect records of 41 Pittsburgh theatres on receipts actually derived on percentage pictures. The ruling dismissed the appeal taken by 27 exhibitor plaintiffs from the order of the Pittsburgh federal court in the Roth case.

Morris Roth and 26 other Pittsburgh exhibitors had brought suit to restrain eight distributors from demanding inspection of theatre records on percentage picture receipts, and from proceeding with or commencing any further actions like the Finkel case, instituted by each of eight distributors in connection with the Arcade and Colonial theatres, Pittsburgh, two of the 41 theatre complainants.

Distributors interposed more than 140 counterclaims in the Roth case against various exhibitor plaintiffs, for actual and punitive damages arising from alleged fraudulent percentage returns, and moved to inspect records of 41 theatres on receipts derived from some 7,000 percentage engagements since 1938.

The federal court's action constitutes a precedent, the case being first of its kind ever to reach a U.S. circuit court of appeals, so far as is known. Although the decision of one U.S. circuit court is not binding in another circuit, industry spokesmen believe few if any attorneys would challenge a decision of a federal appeals court handed down in another circuit.

Mexican Equipment Calls Exceed Available Stock

NEW YORK—Karl E. Zint, recently special engineering adviser on electronic equipment to the 21st bomber command in the Pacific, has been appointed vice-president of Western Electric Co. of Mexico. He brings a record of 15 years Hollywood experience as a motion picture sound engineer to his new assignment in Mexico, where he will be in charge of the company's operations.

"The demands of Mexican film producers for recording facilities are outstripping the available equipment, despite the fact that six channels were installed during recent months and a seventh will be under way," said E. S. Gregg, vice-president and general manager of Western Electric Export Corp., in reporting Zint's appointment. "Orders are now on hand for a number of additional units, and it is expected equipment will become available within a few months."

M-G-M Will Consider Postwar Distribution

NEW YORK — Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will hold the first of a series of conferences to consider current and postwar distribution problems at Hotel Blackstone, Chicago, beginning July 12. Similar sessions will be held every three months in various territories.

William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, will conduct the three-day meeting. A limited number of home office executives and sales and district managers will attend.

The home office group includes: Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising; William R. Ferguson, manager of exploitation; Si Seadler, advertising manager; Henderson M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor and public relations; Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer; Alan F. Cummings, manager of exchange operations; William G. Brenner, in charge of checking department; M. L. Simons, editor, The Distributor.

Sales managers: E. K. "Ted" O'Shea, John E. Flynn, John J. Maloney and Rudolph Berger of the eastern, western, central and southern districts, respectively.

District managers: John J. Bowen, New York; Herman Ripps, Albany; Maurice N. Wolf, Boston; John S. Allen, Washington; Robert Lynch, Philadelphia; John P. Byrne, Detroit; Sam A. Shirley, Chicago; Ralph W. Maw, Minneapolis; George A. Hickey, Los Angeles; Henry A. Friedel, Denver; Charles E. Kessnich, Atlanta, and Burtus Bishop jr., Dallas.

Don't Relax on Bond Sales, Gamble Pleads Over Radio

NEW YORK—Urging every American citizen to make it his duty to buy at least one more bond so that the individual quota will go over the top and the "Mighty Seventh" end in a blaze of glory. Ted Gamble, national director of the War Finance Committee, U.S. treasury department, broadcast an appeal on Wednesday night over the Blue network not to relax in the closing days of the drive.

Gamble paid a tribute to the motion picture industry, citing figures of this and past drives. His talk was in connection with a dramatization of "Rebecca," arranged by the Hollywood Victory Committee, under auspices of the industry's WAC, and featuring Joan Fontaine, Herbert Marshall and Agnes Moorhead.

In dramatic style Gamble reported that 7,000 theatres over the nation are issuing agents for bonds, being open at night and on Sundays and holidays. He said more than 8,000 theatres had held bond premieres during the "Mighty Seventh" and that 11,000 houses held Free Movie Day on June 6. Then he paid a tribute to Hollywood screen stars and to the nation's exhibitors, who were described as "hard workers who at all times give up their own business to aid in patriotic causes."

Gamble said that reports that the sale of bonds had been greater than the quota are not altogether correct. He said that in round figures the Seventh War Loan has been oversubscribed, but that "we are still far short of E bond sales to individuals."

Goodman Back in U.S.

NEW YORK—Morris Goodman, president of Republic Pictures International Corp., has returned from a two-month survey of the European market. During his absence he visited London, Paris, Madrid and Lisbon.

Agnew Sees Competition From Foreign Pictures

NEW YORK—American film distributors seeking foreign markets need expect no red carpet rolled out for them from any European country, according to Neil Agnew, vice-president of Vanguard Films, Inc., and Selznick International Pictures, on his return from a seven-week tour of England and the continent.

"The best, perhaps the only way of getting playing time abroad, is by making better pictures than anyone else," Agnew said at a press conference. "I know that sounds a bit stuffy, but nevertheless it's true. Picture business is booming and it's not unreasonable for them to wish to hold on to a good thing.

"In France, for example, it's a fair assumption that playing time will grow increasingly stringent, even more so than before the war. The French possibly will give one-third of their playing time to all foreign films, keeping for themselves the lion's share, or two-thirds. Mark you (Agnew emphasized), all this is supposition. At present, France hasn't the raw stock, stars, directors or technicians sufficient to make such allocation. If she were to do so now, it would be a case of 'her eyes being bigger than her belly.'

"One senses in France a strong nationalistic feeling. It's present, to a milder degree, in England. It's apparent elsewhere on the continent in varying degrees. Spurred by this new consciousness, all European countries are going to make a bid for the world market, particularly in the United States.

Powerful European Productions

"The countries abroad have some powerful product with which to go after playing time in this country. England has some exceptional product awaiting release; one picture I saw, 'Caesar and Cleopatra,' is one of the finest films ever made. France has some musicals made during the occupation—and the Germans know how to make musicals—that will bear comparison with similar efforts produced here. Russia, in Eisenstein's 'Ivan the Terrible,' has a tremendous picture, and doubtless many more; things are active in the Soviet film industry and its producers evidently are willing to spend 'big money.' Italy must not be overlooked; since its capitulation that country has been making pictures, many of them shown in France, and of sufficient worth to merit consideration.

"Save for one or two countries, the film industry is definitely active and will probably become increasingly so. Reciprocal arrangements are almost certain to be made between some of these countries and the United States. Reciprocal production — the trading of stars, directors, technicians and perhaps even equipment—seems more of a certainty than ever.

"As to Russia," Agnew continued, "there is a tremendous market. The Russians buy our films, perhaps not the way or to the extent we'd like them to—but they're buying. It would be extremely unfair to say the Russians wish to exclude our film from the Soviet territory."

Business is booming everywhere, Agnew said, the public eagerly flocking to see the best films available. In Paris it was surprising to follow a block-long queue around corners to find they were standing in line at a first class theatre like La Normandie for —"Robin Hood."

Boom Foreseen in England

Due to scarcity of materials there will be no reconstruction in England's blitzed areas for some time. The country has planned a huge reconstruction program—the rebuilding of London alone will take more than five years—that should furnish employment and adequate means for a great sector of the population for years to come.

Films, one of the few entertainments left to the English, are booming. West End first run houses are doing great business at top prices. The British authorities have put a ceiling on admissions, but the maximum set, Agnew added, is an extremely liberal one.

The war has made millions throughout the world film-conscious, Agnew declared, assuring future audiences for motion pictures from this and other countries. Asked if the United States film industry would "hand-pick the screen fare of foreign nations or supply it indiscriminatory from our backlog," he said quotas would largely determine what films we would offer to foreign markets. The European film market was aware of recent developments among independent producers in the United States and would ask for the best American product, regardless of the trademark.

Asked if he thought the independent American producers and distributors could work together under one export organization, Agnew said he was sure they could. The reason United Artists had not joined forces with the other independents, he continued, was "because the board of directors hadn't got around to it."

Come to Ohio, Says Wood to Rank

Columbus—New York, Chicago and Hollywood can't tell J. Arthur Rank what American motion picture audiences like, says P. J. Wood, secretary of the Ohio ITO.

In fact, says Wood in a letter to Rank, Chicago tastes are entirely different from those of the rest of the country. His letter to Rank was the result of an interview given out by Rank while in Chicago in which he said he would send all his producers there to study the American outlook.

"It is unfortunate that you visualize this marvelous country of ours through the impressions you have gained by your visit to metropolitan centers like those mentioned above," wrote Wood. "As a matter of fact, this same situation prevails among our American film producers and distributors, because for years they have hopped a train or plane at Hollywood, and when they opened their eyes, they found themselves either at Grand Central Station or LaGuardia Field.

"I suggest that instead of delegating all of your producers to visit Chicago, you have some of them circulate among the people of towns like my city.

"I assure you that it is the hope of the independent exhibitors of this country that you will be successful in producing that type of motion picture entertainment which will be boxoffice for them, and thus encourage you to expand your American activities. However, this can't be done if Chicago is your measuring stick."

Warns on Foreign Market Problems

NEW YORK—"Hollywood must take into account the changes abroad, particularly in Europe, or someone else will," said Theodore Strauss, motion picture writer, in a speech read before the film panel of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria. "In England J. Arthur Rank has emerged as a rather frightening bugaboo to many Hollywood executives who fear his announced intention of giving us a run for our money in the world market and even of invading our domestic preserve.

"But England is only the most immediate of our competitors," Strauss went on to say. "France still suffers acutely from film shortages and lack of production facilities, but even during the blackest days of the occupation the country maintained a semblance of its film industry. The Soviet Union also has maintained its producing units and undoubtedly is ready to expand its industry as soon as its emergency relaxes.

"Among the comparatively undeveloped markets of the world both China and India have the nuclei of film industries, however small, which one day might conceivably banner the aspirations of a continent which we have not yet seriously taken into account," he continued. "To a certain degree our experience in Latin and South America may serve as a precedent and an example of the adjustments which Hollywood must make if it is to gain friendly acceptance in these hitherto passive regions."

Seek Better, Firmer Relation

Hollywood, according to Strauss, is now making intensive efforts to place the industry's relations with the South American countries on a firmer and friendlier basis. It is making serious attempts to do justice to those themes which are part of the South American heritage and to deal with our southern neighbors on terms of dignity and understanding.

Pat Powers Opens Office

NEW YORK—Pat Powers, formerly special exploitation representative for 20th-Fox, has organized his own staff with headquarters at 545 Fifth Ave. He will specialize on exploitation, traveling displays and tradeshows.



NEW AUSTRALIAN MANAGER—Morris Goodman (left), president of Republic Pictures International Corp., congratulates Charles Bruce Newbery upon his appointment as general manager of the company's activities in Australia, New Zealand and India. Newbery will spend several weeks in the New York office before leaving for his post. He was with 20th-Fox in India for several years.

Paramount's Directorate Re-Elects All Officers

NEW YORK—Paramount's board has unanimously re-elected all company officers as follows:

Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board; Barney Balaban, president; Stanton Griffis, chairman, executive committee; Y. Frank Freeman, Austin C. Keough, Charles M. Reagan, Henry Ginsberg, Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-presidents; Walter B. Cockell, treasurer; Fred Mohrhardt, comptroller; Austin C. Keough, secretary; Norman Collyer, Jacob H. Karp and Frank Meyer, assistant secretaries.

Riskin Opens Hollywood Office

HOLLYWOOD—Robert Riskin, former chief of the overseas bureau of the Office of War Information, has opened an office at the California Studios where he is making preparations for his first film as an independent producer since resigning from that bureau.



AUSTRALIAN DEAL—Columbia renews its franchise with Greater Union Theatres. Left to right—R. Barmby, J. Evans and Norman B. Rydge, Greater Union executives, and N. P. Pery, C. H. C. Jones, J. Joel and E. F. Lane, representing Columbia.

Republic Planning Worldwide Selling

NEW YORK—Republic will expand its distribution organization to cover every area in the world, Morris Goodman, president of Republic Pictures International Corp., said upon his return from a ten-week trip to Europe.

The next five years will be as productive, if not more so, than the five years that preceded the war, Goodman said if—and he emphasized the "if"—the restrictions and quotas of foreign countries are lifted to permit U.S. companies to "get a free and clear road."

In amplifying Republic's plans in the international sphere, Goodman asserted that the company has extensive plans for expansion and added that: "There isn't a place in the world where other companies are represented that Republic will not, likewise, be represented." In the main, he said, Republic is building its own organization.

Business Above Prewar Levels

In estimating present attendance in Europe as above prewar levels, Goodman declared that his company is distributing at present all of its product in England, most of it in Portugal, a limited number in Spain and more in France. He pointed out that the company's expansion plans were nipped in the early stages in France by the outbreak of the war.

While conditions in Europe are generally unsettled, in England they are comparatively good. Republic will retain the distributors that it has had up to now in Europe, adding more.

Goodman reported that conditions are gradually righting themselves in France, but that no agreement has yet been reached between U.S. film companies and the French government regarding distribution of American product. As many previous American visitors to France have reported upon their return, French theatres are getting more power but are still not getting enough. Next winter will be a tough one, he predicted.

When restrictions are lifted in France and Italy, Republic will dub its films in those languages in the two countries, just as it is doing in Spain now.

While in England, he conferred with the company's distributor, British-Lion Film Corp. and in Portugal, with Salm Levy. In the countries he visited, England, France, Spain and Portugal, Goodman said that American films predominate. "There isn't enough native product to go around," he said.

Republic Will Streamline Worldwide Sales Under Grainger's Direction

NEW YORK—To permit freer exchange of ideas and personnel between domestic and foreign markets, Republic Pictures will coordinate its worldwide sales and distribution under James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager. Under the new arrangement Grainger will head ten corporations in the international field, covering operations in Argentina, Brazil, Central America, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, British West Indies and Colombia.

As soon as conditions permit, Republic hopes to hold its first international convention. Grainger expects to leave in August for Mexico City a nd a tour of South American capitals.

Perkins to South Pacific

NEW YORK—J. E. Perkins, Paramount International manager for the Far East, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, left for a sales supervisory trip to Australia and New Zealand. He expects to return about September 1.

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"JUNIOR MISS"

"WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" *in Technicolor*

"NOB HILL" *in Technicolor*

John Hersey's **"A BELL FOR ADANO"**

Darryl F. Zanuck's **"WILSON"** *in Technicolor*

at Regular Prices

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HE ACCEPTS FOR RKO—Ned E. Depinet holds the BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon for "The Enchanted Cottage," voted the best May release by the National Screen Council, which has just been presented to him by Ben Shlyen.

Cancel Plans to Build New Units in Canada

TORONTO—It was stated here Tuesday that plans for an extensive theatre building program by both Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., had evaporated because of the abnormal conditions in the building industry and because of a mutual desire to avoid what might prove costly competition.

President J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players was quoted as saying his company planned important theatres in several large cities of Canada, but is not going ahead with many new units as previously reported. Likewise it was rumored that J. Arthur Rank had reached an understanding with Paramount officials in New York during his recent visit there regarding the scope of a joint program with President Paul Nathanson of Canadian Odeon, which previously had been planning 50 new theatres across the Dominion.

According to the newest reported developments, each circuit may have decided to erect key theatres at strategic points, leaving the balance of the program to a time when construction costs are more reasonable. One spokesman admitted to BOXOFFICE that building costs, now 40 per cent above normal, preclude such a program. The latest story underlines the fact that the recent Nathanson-Rank conference in Toronto brought only one real announcement, this a statement of the establishment of the Eagle-Lion Co. of Canada for distribution of British and French product. The conference came to a close without announcement of any plan for new theatres in Canada.

Osserman Appointed RKO Latin American Chief

NEW YORK—Jack Osserman has been appointed Latin American supervisor for RKO. He will make his headquarters in Rio de Janeiro. Rene Beja succeeds him as Brazilian manager.

Osserman, who recently arrived here from Brazil, will assume his new duties in August.

Fly Pyle Film to Okinawa

SAN FRANCISCO—A print of "Story of G. I. Joe" has been flown to Okinawa, in accordance with a promise made the late Ernie Pyle by Lester Cowan, producer, to screen the film upon its completion for whatever group of doughboys Ernie might be traveling with and wherever they might be. A projection machine is being flown from a Pacific base.

Men and Events

By JAMES M. JERAULD

Rank Pretty Shrewd

IF J. Arthur Rank were running for president, he could not be smarter in his remarks for local consumption. In Chicago he told them it was a "lovely" city and he intended to have all his producers visit Chicago to study film tastes. This stirred up P. J. Wood, secretary of the Ohio ITO, who thinks Columbus and the surrounding territory is the Garden of Eden of America and film tastes are tops. A day or two later Rank issued a statement saying he intended to have his future pictures appeal to middle-western tastes. Smart?

* * *

International Chess

MOVES have been coming so fast in the international chess game insofar as they affect this industry that only the observer with time and patience can follow them.

In the course of a few days they lined up about as follows: Foreign managers organized an export corporation; Wolfe Cohen let it be known Warners intend to acquire theatres in South America and Australia, if the company deems them necessary; Paramount made it clear it intended to build or acquire houses in many parts of the world; Murray Silverstone of 20th-Fox detailed the company's plans for new offices in the Near East; Walter Gould of United Artists left for Europe; Neil Agnew of Vanguard returned from Europe; Spyros P. Skouras, Otto Bolle, Joseph Schenck and Murray Silverstone of 20th-Fox went to the coast to be there at the time of J. Arthur Rank's arrival; the Society of Independent Producers announced the appointment of Donald Nelson as executive head, with emphasis on his foreign connections.

This is not the chronological order of the happenings. It may not even be the order of their significance, but they came rapidly after Rank had made his first moves to acquire theatres in Canada.

Some of this strategy may be aimed at Rank's world moves. On the other hand some of it—the SIMPP move—is clearly intended to strengthen the left jab of the independent producers while they are swinging with their right to get playdates in United States theatres.

Every major company representative and the Hays office have pointed out for months that unless American exporters stick together they will take a beating in certain foreign markets. The mere threat of disunity in this field by the SIMPP makes some of the foreign department heads jittery.

* * *

Hodiak a Coming Star

ANYONE who wants to watch a coming star can train his binoculars on John Hodiak. His latest performance as Major Joppolo in "A Bell for Adano" (20th-Fox) is even more impressive than some of his previous roles. He has the happy faculty of making his characterizations so believable the audience doesn't realize he is acting. Joppolo could have been portrayed as a maudlin sentimentalist. Hodiak gives an impression of power and serious purpose. His takes on new stature as a boxoffice draw.

M-G-M has him under contract and is building him so fast his services are in demand from other companies. In 1943 he attracted attention in "Lifeboat," "A Stranger in Town" and "I Dood It." In 1944 he had four more roles, "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Song of Russia" and "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier." M-G-M has another, "Harvey Girls," which has not been released.

He is worth watching.

* * *

Want Police Inspection

LATEST annoyance for the industry is a proposal developed by several communities that films arriving within their borders be submitted for police inspection to determine whether they are in good condition. No doubt the plan includes a fee.

With raw stock already short and with positive prints being shipped from one place to another about as fast as they can be handled, this would be a fine annoyance to impose on the business. Insurance rates on exchanges and theatres have declined over a period of years, booth fires that do any serious damage are extremely rare, considering the fact that over 17,000 theatres are operating, some of them with inexperienced help due to the war.

Approximately 27,000 miles of film are handled in exchanges every day. Inspection takes a lot of physical equipment and sizable staffs. It also takes time. Setting up a plant in any exchange city police department large enough to handle all the arriving prints would be a first class job for any police department and a headache to distributors.



THEY TALK IT OVER—Sidney Meyer, general manager of the Wometco circuit in Miami, and Rube Jackter, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, discuss releases during the current Montague 20th anniversary campaign.

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THE PICTURE OF THE CENTURY FROM

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ROXY
New York City
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JULY 25th

D-DATE AUG. 1st!

SPEED TOTAL VICTORY! THE MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN!



Mass Regional Openings Are Begun on "Bataan"

NEW YORK — Regional premieres with from 50 to 150 openings in the course of a few days first gave this industry a novel jolt when S. Barret McCormick of RKO went to work on "Hitler's Children" and ran it up into a million dollar attraction. There have been others, but not since the raw stock situation became acute.

Showmanship That's Exciting

Now they are back again—in a new form—and New England is in the midst of some very exciting showmanship in 150 cities and towns.

It takes weeks to arrange these things, with the preparations beginning back in various branches of the distribution department and the laboratories, and with an advance man handling the details in the field. Terry Turner was the advance man.

Boston was the scene of the big feature which tied in with showings in six states—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and upper New York.

On Monday, June 25, after more than a week of ballyhoo, a benefit for the GI Wives' and Mothers' Fund was staged in the Boston Arena. This is the Madison Square Garden of Boston. The attendance ran up to 20,000. Eddie Cantor and his radio troupe headed a three-hour stage show which included Benny Goodman and his band; Romo Vincent, Johnnie Johnston and other stars. RKO's troupe included John Wayne, star of "Back to Bataan"; Anthony Quinn, Fely Franquelli, "Ducky" Louis, 13-year-old Chinese actor, all of whom were featured in the picture. Ellen Drew, RKO contract player, and Jesse L. Lasky, producer, also attended.

Brig. Gen. Carlos T. Romulo, Philippine commissioner in the United States, was present. He flew from the United Nations Conference in San Francisco.

Gov. Maurice Tobin of Massachusetts and Mayor Kerrigan of Boston headed parties and sat in boxes. RKO home office executives included Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio; Robert Mochrie, McCormick, Arthur Willi, Mike Poller, Nat Levy, Walter E. Branson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Sol Schwartz and Harry Mandel.

Newspapers and Radio Cooperate

Enough money was raised to completely equip the Service Men's Center in Boston.

As may be surmised, the newspaper space and the radio coverage was immense.

Next morning "Back to Bataan," with the RKO visitors making personal apearances all day, opened at the RKO Memorial. On the 27th there were 14 more openings; on the 28th, four more, and from then on they came by the dozens in the New England area. In upper New York state, served out of the Albany and Buffalo exchanges, but in the same radio coverage area, there were six openings on the 27th, 12 on the 28th, with others following in rapid order.

Other regions are scheduled for similar treatment: Cincinnati, July 4; Cleveland, July 18; San Francisco and Los Angeles, July 19; Seattle-Portland, July 31. Dates are in work for the rest of the country.

ALL BOSTON TURNS OUT—This is a new form of regional premiere worked out by S. Barret McCormick of RKO. A benefit for the GI Wives' and Mothers' Fund was held in the Boston Arena Monday, June 25. It drew 20,000 people, including state and city officials, with personal appearances of John Wayne and others. Next day the picture, "Back to Bataan," opened at the RKO Memorial and in 150 other New England theatres. Other similar regionals are to follow. Bottom left—Front row, Harry Mandel, Sol Schwartz, Malcolm Kingsberg; back row, Arthur Willi, with Mike Poller and friend. Bottom right—Gov. Maurice J. Tobin, John Wayne, Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo, Robert Mochrie and Ned E. Depinet behind John Wayne.

Ascap, Foreign Societies Re-Sign Licensing Pacts

NEW YORK—John G. Paine, general manager of Ascap, has returned from a nine-week tour of Europe. He was accompanied by Herman Finkelstein, general counsel. The main purpose of the trip was to clear up any problems that have arisen since the start of the war and to renegotiate agreements with the societies of the other countries.

Paine successfully negotiated reciprocal licensing pacts with the British, French and Spanish Performing Rights Societies. The agreements call for five-year reciprocal rights instead of the one-year arrangement heretofore. Negotiations are still going on for a similar contract with the Portuguese organization.

The new licensing terms not only cover the usual popular tunes, but now give reciprocal right to all the societies for the use of symphonic compositions. This will afford American listeners a much wider musical scope.

Washington Report

By AL SHERMAN

Film Equipment Faces Fine Future in Foreign Field

Protests from American manufacturers of film equipment finally touched the hearts of Foreign Economic Administration moguls, with the result that the government agency has lifted the ban on export licenses for such material to be offered for sale in the foreign market. The only hitch remaining is the attitude of the WPB in allocating needed raw stocks to manufacture the equipment in quantities to warrant the acceptance of orders from abroad.

Behind the lifting of the ban is an interesting story about a circular that a British manufacturer is reported to have sent to prospective customers in India.

The circular came to the attention of an American manufacturer who promptly sent his emissary posthaste to Washington to raise all kinds of hob with government officials. The American manufacturer felt that while he was being hamstrung in securing export licenses, the British, and perhaps others, were stealing a march and getting all the business. Too, if American manufacturers didn't get a chance to export, they'd be stymied for several years, and also losing the extra-profitable business that comes from selling replacement parts and extra equipment.

It didn't take much urging for FEA to see the point. Especially when the department of commerce also added its plea for lessened restrictions. It took a lot of discussion with the WPB, however, to do the job.

Treasury Dep't Pessimistic Over Large Tax Reductions

Despite the optimistic refrain sung by the cheery-eyed who look forward to great things after the war, the treasury department keeps sounding a note of pessimism about large-scale tax reductions. A treasury spokesman, Roy Blough, assistant to the secretary of the treasury, stated the treasury's case succinctly and effectively when he said recently:

"One of the most complicating factors (concerning tax problems—A.S.) is that there is less room for tax reduction than most people appear to expect. And it is human nature that everyone will want the lion's share of that relatively small amount of reduction. The limited scope for reduction and the imposing size of the remaining tax burden make it doubly important that extreme care be exercised in shaping the postwar tax structure."

"War Babies" Seek WPB Okay As Film Equipment Makers

Smaller manufacturers, especially those who entered the electronics field since the war began, are seeking other worlds to conquer and, judging from applications now being tossed at WPB, most of them are considering entering into the production of parts for sound equipment devices.

It will be recalled that J. A. Krug, WPB chairman, gave the green light to smaller businesses in a recent statement before the senate small business committee, when he informed the solons that, through preference ratings and by other means without his control, lesser manufacturing organizations are being given an opportunity to compete with big business in reconversion fields.

The WPB has carefully studied its control revocations and modifications to determine their effects on small business, stated Mr. Krug, and the government agency already has taken measures to safeguard the opportunity for small business to obtain materials and equipment needed for the production of civilian goods.

While these provisions are general in nature, they are of especial interest to manufacturers who, since the war, have turned to electronics as a field for wartime and future business. Most of these firms are equipped with slight changes, to turn their products to civilian use and most of the products made are of interest to motion picture exhibitors.

FCC Tosses Gage at Business In Fight for Radio Control

One of the most interesting (and important) undercover battles being waged in Washington now finds the Federal Communications Commission, on one side, tossing the gauntlet at big business, as represented by the National Ass'n of Broadcasters and the commercial sponsors, on the other. Of importance to the film industry in this battle is how the ultimate outcome may affect television and the concomitant offspring of radio, such as FM and sound projection.

While the battle has not been joined too openly as yet, a portent of the approaching storm may be seen in a recent speech made by Commissioner Clifford J. Durr in New York before the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts. Durr, after castigating radio for its timidity, emphasized the fact that the attitude of commercial sponsors "never to offend," while "it may be good salesmanship," poses the question: "Is it good radio?"

In his talk, Commissioner Durr stated that "the problems of broadcasting are, therefore, far greater than the questions of whether the commercial shall come at the beginning, the middle or the end of the newscast." Going on that premise, Durr went a step further to insist that the United States should "have a radio that is truly free—as free from economic domination and overweaning greed as from government censorship; . . . that is free from fear of offending, except through vulgarity and cheapness and obscenity and insincerity; that is free for the writer, the producer and the actor to give the best that is in him regardless of the effect upon the sale of commercial products."

While battle lines have not been set, it is believed that the FCC will endeavor, if possible, to urge those smaller stations now confined to platter programs to go in for experimental "live" shows and to insist that so-called "industry censorship" be modified so that the demands of a commercial sponsor should not dominate the editorial content of radio programs.

I've Heard:

That among Donald Nelson's duties with SIMPP will be an attempt to prompt that organization into tackling public relations in a big way out of Washington;

That Lester Cowan, in the estimation of John Maynard, Nelson Bell, Andy Kelley and Jay Carmody, Washington's experts on the cinema, is his own best press agent to which, having done a stint or two for that gentleman, I say "Amen!";

That Shakespeare's "As You Like It," Act 1, Scene 2, has a phrase that aptly describes Raymond Moley's book, "The Hays Office." It goes: "Well said. He hath laid it on with a trowel!"



CURTI TO PRC BERTH—Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, and Giorgio Curti sign the contract which makes the latter a producer on the PRC lot. His first chore will be "Heritage," the story of Jose Rizal, martyred Filipino patriot. Curti at one time was identified with motion picture production in Italy and was, also, for eight years, an instructor for international relations at the University of Southern California. Most recently he has been an executive with Fox West Coast Theatres, which berth he resigned to join the PRC fold.

New Company Will Handle 24 Western Rereleases

DALLAS—A group of Film Classics franchiseholders have organized Supreme Distributing Co., Inc., to handle domestic and international distribution of 24 western reissues starring Johnny Mack Brown and Bob Steele. Purchase of negatives was negotiated with A. W. Hackle.

Interested in Supreme are J. F. White jr., Charlotte; John Mangham, Atlanta; Arthur Lockwood, Boston; Jack Engel, Philadelphia; Al Grubstick, San Francisco; John L. Franconi, Dallas, and Robert L. Lippert, San Francisco.

Lippert, acting as sales manager for the group, has under negotiation franchise arrangements with other Film Classics distributors. His central office is at 1069 Market St., San Francisco.

The reissues consist of eight Johnny Mack Browns and 16 Bob Steeles. Prints of these subjects have been delivered to subscribing franchiseholders.

J. R. Williams to Direct 150 MOI Mobile Units

LONDON — J. R. Williams has returned from New York and will direct the British Ministry of Information's 150 mobile film units throughout the United Kingdom. Attendance at these mobile unit shows last year topped 18,500,000, with an average of 1,250 shows a week. More than 27,000 showings were held in British factories as well as in town halls or villages where projectors were unavailable.

On leave from the staff of Leeds University for the duration, Williams joined the MOI in 1941 as regional officer in charge of 16mm films. He went to New York City in June, 1942, to head the British Information Service's section on nontheatrical films.

M-G-M Shows Two in July

NEW YORK — M-G-M will tradeshow "Anchors Aweigh," Technicolor film starring Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson, and "Her Highness and the Bellboy," starring Hedy Lamarr and Robert Walker, in all exchange areas on July 10.

HANDSOME! HIDEOUS!

DORIAN GRAY!

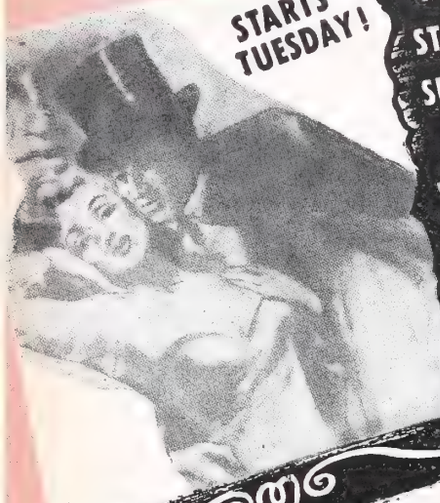
ONLY OSCAR WILDE COULD HAVE DREAMED UP SUCH A CHARACTER!
A NEW MOVIE EXPERIENCE AT LOEW'S SOON!

Sinners Beware! LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU!

Dorian Gray

OSCAR WILDE'S WILDEST STORY!

A NEW KIND OF MOVIE THRILL—LOEW'S SOON!



STARTS TUESDAY!

M-G-M's STARTLING SUCCESSOR TO "GASLIGHT"

★ ★ ★

THE STRANGE... FASCINATING STORY of A MAN WHO DESTROYED THE WOMEN HE LOVED!

★ ★ ★

TUESDAY at 3 THEATRES

OSCAR WILDE'S

The PICTURE of DORIAN GRAY

THE DISINTEGRATION OF A MAN THROUGH SIN

with

GEORGE SANDERS
HURD HATFIELD
DONNA REED
ANGELA LANSBURY

Directed by ALBERT LEWIN
Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN

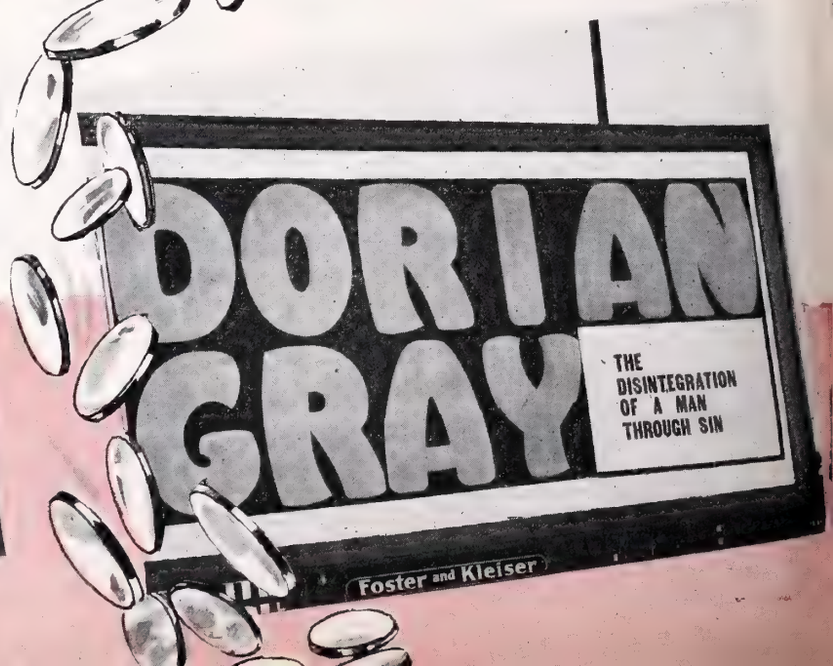
EGYPTIAN
Hollywood Mr. Highland
Gladstone 2109
Cont. from 12:00 Noon

FOX RITZ
Wilshire at LaBrea
WAinut 1221
Cont. from 12:15 Noon

LOS ANGELES THEATRE - Downtown
Broadway at 6th • MI 6221
Cont. from 9:00 A. M.







LOEW'S
WEDNESDAY
SCAR WILDE'S
WEIRD and WONDERFUL LOVE STORY
DORIAN GRAY

★ HE'S COMING ★

M·G·M presents OSCAR WILDE'S
The Picture of Dorian Gray

WILDE!
WEIRD AND WONDERFUL!
DORIAN GRAY
THE YEAR'S MOST UNUSUAL MOVIE!
LOEW'S

DOUGH ON A DAGGER!

"DORIAN GRAY" PAYS OFF!

Exploit it to the sky-high grosses!



With all your might! Mighty 7th War Loan

Hollywood Report

By IVAN SPEAR

Monogram Will Dub Six Recent Films Into Spanish Language

In a move for wider recognition in the Latin American market and among the hundred of U.S. theatres which specialize in exhibiting Spanish language pictures, W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram, has ordered that six recent features be dubbed in Spanish. They are "Lady, Let's Dance," on which the dubbing already has been completed, "The Unknown Guest," "Return of the Ape Man," "Law of the Valley," "The Chinese Cat" and "Detective Kitty O'Day."

RKO Radio Picks Up Its Option On Producer Harriet Parsons

RKO Radio picked up its option on Harriet Parsons and she will produce "The Prodigal Women" as her next assignment . . . Mervyn LeRoy will direct "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," the Jesse L. Lasky production for RKO Radio. LeRoy currently is on the RKO lot preparing "The Robe," which Frank Ross will produce. Filming schedules on the two features have been worked out so that it will be possible for LeRoy to pilot both.

Ray Nazarro was ticketed to continue as director of Columbia's series of Durango Kid westerns costarring Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette. "Bronco Busters" is the current offering. Colbert Clark is producer of the series . . . Alfred Zeisler has been signed to direct "Suspense," forthcoming Monogram psychological drama, and a Lindsley Parsons production . . . Sol C. Siegel, Paramount producer, took over the production reins of Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," after Joseph Sistrom was forced to relinquish the assignment because of his doctor's orders. Sistrom is taking an extended rest.

Also at Paramount, Walter Abbott, New York playwright and author, was signed to a term writing contract by Hal Wallis Productions. First assignment is screenplay of "Life of Tchaikovsky" . . . Archie Mayo will pilot "A Night in Casablanca" which David L. Loew and the Marx Bros. are to produce for United Artists, with the latter being starred . . . Edwin L. Marin was engaged by Jules Levey, another UA producer, to direct the untitled Ernest Haycox story with Randolph Scott in a starring role . . . A flock of writing assignments at Universal: Tom Gibson signed by Supervisor Morgan B. Cox to work with Patricia Harper on the script of the serial, "The Scarlet Horseman"; George Bricker set to write the screenplay of "The Bruteman," first of the new chillers which will star Rondo Hatton; Charles Marion assigned to write the script of "Way for a Lady," to be produced and directed by Charles Barton.

Mono Acquires "North of Nome" For 1945-46 Program Inclusion

Monogram has acquired "North of Nome," Jack London story, for inclusion in the 1945-46 program. Scott R. Dunlap has been assigned to produce . . . Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, currently in New York, sent back word of the purchase of two additional properties for the company's 1946-47 program. They are an original screenplay, "Queen of Diamonds," secured from Lou Golding, and an original story, "The Vanishing Gangster," written by Police Lieut. Maurice Spevak.

The Story Market Quite Steady: "Any Number Can Play" to 20th

In a steady story market, 20th Century-Fox bought "Any Number Can Play," novel by Edward Harris Heth. Purchased in galley proofs, the property was placed on the desk of Otto Preminger for production and direction . . . "Now That April's There," a provocative novel concerning the adjustment of a young English girl to her old home after spending the war years in America, was acquired by Metro as a stellar vehicle for Elizabeth Taylor. Sam Marx will produce. The author is Daisy Neumann.

King Bros., independent producers, bought an original, "Twilight," by Thilde Forster and John Kafka, a psychological drama with a present day California background . . . "A Kiss for Luck," original comedy yarn by Robert Wyler, was purchased by Columbia. To be produced by Leonard Picker, it concerns a girl who won a chinchilla coat on which she proceeds to borrow money from several different men . . . "Turn Home," a novel by Eleanor Mayo, went to Republic for Producer Armand Schaefer. Yarn is a romance laid in a New England fishing village.

Despite All Hazards, Dick Tracy Destined for Quite a Long Life

Dick Tracy, who has gone on and on and on as a newspaper strip, indicates that he will have comparable longevity on the screen. With the initial picture bearing his name still before the cameras, RKO Radio announces that a second feature about the Chester Gould pen-and-ink character is in the works. Lucy Ward has been signed to write the screenplay, with Herman Schlom scheduled to produce under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell. Morgan Conway will again portray the square-jawed sleuth.

DOS Goes Again to Stockholm To Uncover a Reported "Find"

United Artists Producer David O. Selznick, who discovered his kudos-and-bread-winning Ingrid Bergman in the Swedish Royal Dramatic Theatre, has again gone to Stockholm to uncover a reported "find." He has signed to a long-term contract Frank Sundstrom, leading man of the same Swedish theatre who is due in Hollywood to receive his first picture assignment under the DOS banner . . . The same Selznick again has changed the head of his studio publicity department, appointing Paul McNamara, formerly promotion manager of Cosmopolitan magazine, to replace Don King.

Upped from the publicity department, Hal Elias, a Leoite of 20 years' standing, has been named assistant to Fred Quimby, who heads Metro's shorts and cartoon department . . . Another newcomer at the Culver City cinema foundry is Edward Chodorov, ace Broadway playwrite, signed to a term scribbling contract and assigned as his initial chore the screenplay of "You Were There," film version of the magazine serial by Thelm Strabek, which Pandro Berman will produce.

PRC renewed its contract with Buddy Westmore, head of the studio makeup department . . . Fred Brannon has signed a seven-year contract as director at Republic. His first assignment will be "The Phantom Rider," a serial.

Rita Hayworth to Straight Drama In Next for Columbia, "Gilda"

After four years of musicals, Rita Hayworth will return to straight drama in her next Columbia picture, "Gilda," a melodrama, to be produced by Marion Parsonnet, who is also doing the final script. It is based on an original story by E. A. Ellington . . . Gail Russell will play her second lead opposite Alan Ladd in Paramount's "Calcutta" . . . At the same studio, Jean Sullivan drew a topline in "To Each His Own" which Mitchell Leisen will direct with Olivia de Havilland in the starring spot.

George Murphy has been selected to star in Metro's "Up Goes Maisie," opposite Ann Sothern. George Haight will produce, Harry Beaumont will direct . . . Another Culver City casting puts Jose Iturbi into a featured role in "Holiday in Mexico," musical to be produced by Joe Pasternak . . . John Wayne will share stellar honors with Claudette Colbert in "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," forthcoming Jesse L. Lasky production for RKO Radio . . . Also at RKO Radio, Walter Catlett was signed for "Riverboat Rhythm," and Jack LaRue joined the cast of "Cornered."

We wish to announce that the name of Frank Melford was erroneously omitted from the screen credits at the preview of BLOOD ON THE SUN. We, therefore, take this opportunity to correct this oversight and gratefully acknowledge Mr. Melford's contribution. The screenplay for BLOOD ON THE SUN was written by Lester Cole, with additional scenes by Nathaniel Curtis, and was from a story by Garrett Fort, based upon an idea by Frank Melford.

WILLIAM CAGNEY PRODUCTIONS

M-G-M TRADE SHOW OF "HER HIGHNESS AND THE BELLBOY"



HEDY LAMARR



ROBERT WALKER



JUNE ALLYSON

HEDY LAMARR
ROBERT WALKER
JUNE ALLYSON
IN
"HER HIGHNESS and the BELLBOY"
WITH
CARL ESMOND
AGNES MOOREHEAD
"RAGS" RAGLAND
Original Screen Play by
Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman
Directed by RICHARD THORPE
Produced by JOE PASTERNAK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	TUES. 7/10	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.	TUES. 7/10	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	TUES. 7/10	10:30 A.M. Also 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	TUES. 7/10	2:30 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	TUES. 7/10	8 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	TUES. 7/10	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	TUES. 7/10	3 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street	TUES. 7/10	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	TUES. 7/10	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	TUES. 7/10	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	TUES. 7/10	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	TUES. 7/10	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street	TUES. 7/1	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	TUES. 7/10	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	TUES. 7/10	1 P.M.

NOTE FOR NEW YORK and NEW JERSEY

JULY 10th

"HER HIGHNESS and the BELLBOY"
and
"ANCHORS AWEIGH"
(Technicolor)

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Both pictures will be shown starting at
9:30 A. M.
and again at
1:30 P. M.
M-G-M Screening Room,
630 9th Ave., N. Y. C.

NOTE FOR LOS ANGELES

JULY 10th

"HER HIGHNESS and the BELLBOY"
at 10:30 A. M.

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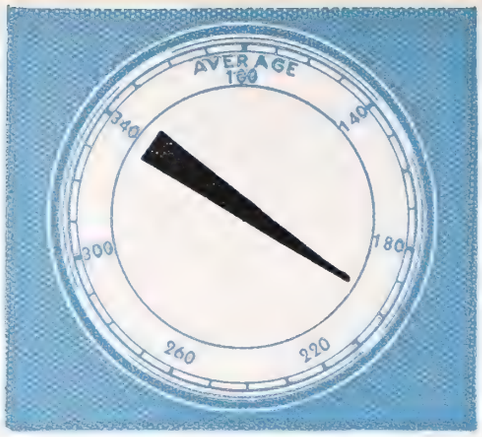
"ANCHORS AWEIGH"
(Technicolor)
at 2:30 P. M.
Ambassador Theatre
Ambassador Hotel

FRANK SINATRA • KATHRYN GRAYSON • GENE KELLY in "ANCHORS AWEIGH" with JOSE ITURBI and Dean Stockwell, Pamela Britton, "Rags" Ragland, Billy Gilbert, Henry O'Neill • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Isobel Lennart • Directed by George Sidney
Produced by Joe Pasternak
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

BOXOFFICE BAROMETER

First Run Reports

As a further development of the percentage method of reporting picture grosses (originated by BOXOFFICE in 1928), this chart shows the records made by pictures in five or more key city engagements. As other runs are reported, ratings will be added and averages changed.



Top Hits of the Week

The Clock—

Seattle 200
Chicago 120

Without Love—

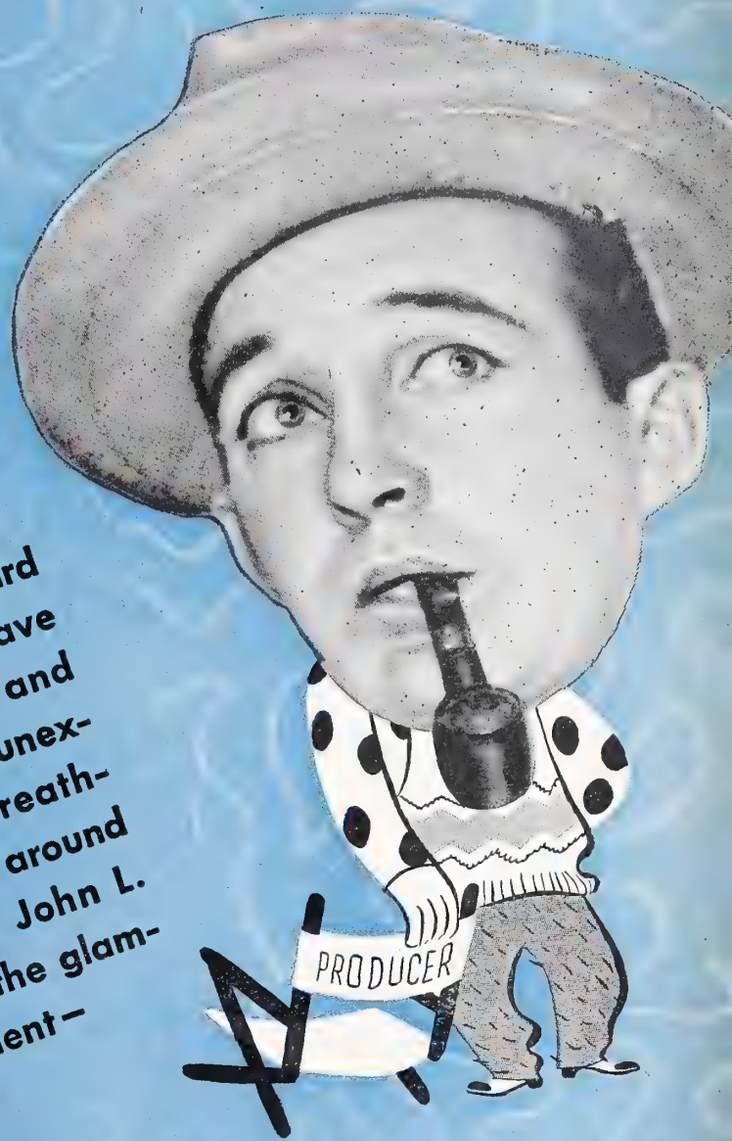
Denver 200

Computed in terms of percentage in relation to normal grosses. With 100 per cent as "normal," the figures show the percentage above or below that mark.	BOSTON	BUFFALO	CHICAGO	CINCINNATI	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DES MOINES	DETROIT	INDIANAPOLIS	KANSAS CITY	LOS ANGELES	MILWAUKEE	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW HAVEN	NEW YORK	OMAHA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	AVERAGE
Belle of the Yukon (RKO)	110	182	105	120	60		130	115	110	95	140	138	95	100	80	125	150		85	145	165	150	120
Betrayal From the East (RKO)	125	154		80		125		100		100			95	100	85	130	100	155	70		115	100	109
Big Bonanza (Rep)	110					120	100		120	100	100				93		110	100			120	140	110
Blonde Fever (MGM)	100	93		95		100	100	95	100	100	100	100	100	125	100			110			100	100	101
Body Snatcher (RKO)	115		110					80	100		100					130	105				130		109
B. Blackie Booked on Suspicion (Col)							100					100	100	90	90								96
Brighton Strangler, The (RKO)			100					80	100		100					110	100						98
Chicago Kid, The (Rep)	100		100									190	125						90		100		103
China Sky (RKO)		153	115	100	85		140	100			110		95	100		155	115						115
Clock, The (MGM)		134	120	140					135			150		175		185		200			120	200	156
Dangerous Passage (Para)	100	100				100	90		100	100	100	100	100	100			100	125				100	101
Delightfully Dangerous (UA)	100	100	110	80	70		160	90					95		85		140	120			115		105
Destiny (Univ)	115	100	115			100		90	100	95	100		100	100	100	125	100	165			100	100	107
Diamond Horseshoe (20-Fox)	145	200	115	160	100		193	105	140	110	165	200	100	140	120	195	125	200			130	150	147
Earl Carroll Vanities (Rep)	120	170	110				200		100	105	105	100	100	100	93		125	130	85		100	125	117
GI Honeymoon (Mono)	100	100	110				100	100	100						100		100					130	104
God Is My Co-Pilot (WB)	130	189		140	110		180	90	120	120	160	150	100	150	110	205	125	215	110		140	175	143
Great Flamarion, The (Rep)		100				115			90	95	100	100		100	100		130				100		103
Guy, a Gal and a Pal, A (Col)	100						100	100	105		100	110	90		100		100						101
High Powered (Para)		100					80	100	90			100	100	100	90		100				100	100	96
Horn Blows at Midnight, The (WB)	130	165		70	88		90			110	105	130			100	185		80	70		130	110	112
Identity Unknown (Rep)	100	100	120				133		85	100	100				80		100				100	140	105
It's in the Bag (UA)	135		115	70	80		97		110		102			90							160	125	108
Murder, He Says (Para)			115									132		120	90		95				140		115
Nevada (RKO)		110	100			125	100		100		100			110	83		100		100	150	100	100	106
Objective, Burma! (WB)	120	123	120	115	115	125	170	100	120	150	115	145	100	110	100	225	105	195	90		135	170	133
Patrick the Great (Univ)		89	110	85			130		75			100	100		98				75		125	140	102
Pillow to Post (WB)				100	90						115	120	100	120	105	145		185	65				118
Power of the Whistler, The (Col)	100						100		100			100	100	100	90				80				96
Rough, Tough and Ready (Col)	120	106	115			100					100	100	100	90	90	85	100		80		110		100
Salome, Where She Danced (Univ)	120	222	110	120	80		183		125			130		90	120	165			100		125	150	129
See My Lawyer (Univ)		150	100	80					75		100										100		101
Son of Lassie (MGM)				100	85			100		170	150			110	90	155	95					200	126
Strange Illusion (PRC)		100	115						115			130			100								106
Sudan (Univ)	125	145	110	80	55		150	90	145	105	102	128	100	100	100	185	95		90		115	180	115
Swing Out, Sister (Univ)			100				100				100				100		100					110	102
Tarzan and the Amazons (RKO)	110			120	117			90	110		120	100		110	100		105				130		110
Tomorrow the World (UA)	140		120	110			140		110	90	98	107	95	80	109		95	155	85		110	140	112
Unseen, The (Para)	135	150	115	100	120				110				100	100	90			180	120		100	100	117
Where Do We Go From Here? (20-F)	140			120	95		180			115	117				90	135		175	125			175	133
Without Love (MGM)	150	227	110	220	120		200		120	160	130	133	100	140	125	150		170	125		140	175	150

HOPE:
Hey, Groaner, is it true that you're a producer?

CROSBY:
Why, Mr. H., haven't you heard—haven't you heard—I have produced with infinite and loving care a cinema of unexcelled action and breath-taking romance built around a guy with a build, John L. Sullivan—it has all the glamour, all the excitement—





HOPE:
Now, now, Producer, aren't you being carried away—and maybe you should be—after all, the guys who review pics should have their licks, so move over Bing boy and let 'em up...

The Reviews of "The Great

By the tradepapers, with marginal notes by B. CROSBY

Ah, such good, good, news!

Bing Crosby Productions makes its bow with an extremely diverting picture that stands to prosper beyond the ordinary. Dealing with one of the fabulous names of the world of fisticuffs, the film is certain to be red meat for the men. The patronage of the women is accounted for by the marked attention given to the romantic side of Sullivan's life. Not to be overlooked is the prestige of the Crosby name. Rated fine entertainment of wide appeal. —FILM DAILY

NO, it's not trope —read on

I blush - I really do!

Since "The Great John L." is the first entrant to sport the colors of Bing Crosby Productions, exhibitors may naturally ask what gives. The answer is that the film, a strong contender, seems assured of a fast track in the boxoffice sweepstakes and is an odds-on-favorite to finish well up in the big money.

I'd like to be able to say this about another enterprise I'm fond of!

Yep, Greg sure gets 'em - they swoon all over the place. Hope had to be revived three times!

As the Boston Strong Boy, Greg McClure will appeal to men and women alike. In addition to looking the part physically, the boy can really act.

Offers women the lure of a beautiful love story. —M. P. DAILY

Take care, Sinatra, take care!

In his first independent production, Bing Crosby comes out with both fists swinging through a dramatization of the life of John L. Sullivan. When the pic is released it should be a great day all around, for the Irish as well as for the houses than run it. It's straight boff from start to finish. Greg McClure as Sullivan is an absolute find. —VARIETY

That's Varietyese for bang up boxoffice!

Should score a clean cut kayo as escape stuff with the paying customers. Bing Crosby's first venture in the production field is a potpourri of good boxoffice values. Greg McClure makes an auspicious debut in the title role. The song sequences are slickly staged and easy on the ear. "The Great John L." is definitely earmarked boxoffice! —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

A lively action film with romantic overtones of boyhood love and an unhappy marriage as a subtle defense of the fantastic brawling of the heavyweight champion. There is enough boxing to satisfy the men, sufficient love interest to appeal to women. Linda Darnell and Barbara Britton are beautiful. —BOXOFFICE

A pleasing show that ought to deliver satisfaction for audiences at large, and encourage the new Crosby company to further production efforts. —M. P. HERALD

Handsomely mounted, carefully and deftly directed production. Greg McClure is delightful in the ring sequences where his magnificent physique and obvious skill with his hands make him a most convincing John L. Sullivan. His physical development makes all other screen athletes look puny. —SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Has plenty of boxoffice punch. A piece of entertainment that is richly flavored, brimming over with a sense of life and interest holding all the way. Will appeal alike to men and women. —THE INDEPENDENT

John L."

I wonder, I wonder!

Wait till you hear Linda Darnell do "A Perfect Gentleman" -its tres, tres smooth!

You're not kidding- it'll leave you more breathless than Hope after his opening bon mots on his radio show!

Hope pitched his tent on the set with the hope of pitching woo — but the gals gave Prow-puss the go by!



Sinatra'll bail at this!

TRANSCRIPTIONS THAT ARE TERRIFIC!

"The Great John L." has a set of one and five minute radio platters for local use that have never been matched in motion picture history! These entertaining selling discs feature Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Frances Langford and Linda Darnell . . . doing their stuff just as they do it on the highest priced radio programs on the air! It's top spot selling at its best!

Which covers every body except childven and babies and they'll love it!

IT'S GREAT FROM U.A.









"Rhapsody in Blue" Superb Attraction

By JAMES M. JERAULD

As the story of a youth who struggled up out of the mass competition of the Lower East Side to world eminence as a composer "Rhapsody in Blue" has that "boy made good" dramatic quality which appeals to all Americans. If it had nothing else it would be a fine picture.

With all its other elements—a musical score that includes many of George Gershwin's outstanding compositions up to "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Porgy and Bess"; some lavish production numbers based on his stage successes; emotional love interest balanced between two women of contrasting types; a sensitive portrayal by Robert Alda of the inner creative urge that drove Gershwin on until he collapsed from exhaustion; delicate sidelights on the personalities of his father and mother; magnificent orchestrations; fascinating piano recordings done by Oscar Levant, and a cast of names—the boxoffice values of this picture add up to a superb attraction.

Gershwin became a popular hero before he died, one of the few men in this generation with an appeal both for the lovers of juke boxes and the so-called high brows. It is this combined appeal, plus the romantic angle, plus the gorgeous production numbers that ought to pack 'em in anywhere the picture is played.

The names alone could sell the picture: Robert Alda, who plays Gershwin; Joan Leslie and Alexis Smith, who portray the love interest in the composer's life; Charles Coburn, kindly promoter; Al Jolson, who repeats the performance that put over the first Gershwin success; Oscar Levant, Paul Whiteman, George White, Hazel Scott and Ann Brown. This is only part of a long cast. Irving Rapper directed from an original story by Sonya Levien.

Warners have already put into full swing an outstanding campaign on Gershwin's music. This alone insures heavy patronage the lovers of modern music.

In addition to "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Porgy and Bess," already mentioned, the "Concerto in F," "135th Street Blues," "Swanee," "Yankee Doodle Blues" and others are played and sung.

It is one of the outstanding pictures of the year. Warners will prerelease it shortly, but it will not be sold as a regular release until next season.

"RHAPSODY IN BLUE"

Statistically:

Warner Bros. Production

Running Time 139 Minutes

THE STAFF: Produced by Jesse L. Lasky; directed by Irving Rapper; original story by Sonya Levien; screenplay by Howard Koch and Elliott Paul; dance numbers by LeRoy Prinz; set decorations by Fred M. MacLean; musical direction by Leo F. Forbstein.

THE CAST: Robert Alda, Joan Leslie, Alexis Smith, Charles Coburn, Julie Bishop, Albert Basserman, Morris Carnovsky, Rosemary De Camp, Oscar Levant, Paul Whiteman, Al Jolson, George White, Hazel Scott, Anne Brown, Herbert Rudley, John D. Hughes, Mickey Roth, Darryl Hickman.

THE Exhibitor Has His Say ABOUT PICTURES

COLUMBIA

Let's Go Steady (Col)—Pat Parrish, Jackie Moran, June Preisser, Jimmy Lloyd. Simply a waste of film. It's too bad audiences have to be punished with pictures like this. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rainy.—Leonard J. Leise, Rand, Randolph, Neb. Rural and small town patronage.

Mr. Winkle Goes to War (Col)—Edward G. Robinson, Ruth Warrick, Ted Donaldson. Very good and well liked by all. Columbia put one out this time that can be put in the top bracket and they did not hold you up for it, either. Give it your best playing time and it's good for the weekend. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Tahiti Nights (Col)—Jinx Falkenburg, Dave O'Brien, Mary Treen, Florence Bates. A pleasing little program picture which was enjoyed by a good-sized crowd. Don't pass it up. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Arthur E. Phifield, Park, South Berwick, Me. Small town patronage.

Tonight and Every Night (Col)—Rita Hayworth, Lee Bowman, Janet Blair, Marc Platt. Beautiful Technicolor, a treat for the eyes. Business good and this picture should go well any place. Played Mon., Tues., Wed. Weather: Wet.—M. Bailey, Strand, Dryden, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Unwritten Code (Col)—Ann Savage, Tom Neal, Roland Varno, Howard Freeman. This picture was mediocre and did only fair business.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Between Two Women (M-G-M)—Van Johnson, Lionel Barrymore, Gloria De Haven, Keenan Wynn. This type picture is always good in my house and just seems to please everyone. Good business. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Fair.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

Kismet (M-G-M)—Ronald Colman, Marlene Dietrich, James Craig, Hugh Herbert. Nice color, well made, but no boxoffice appeal here. Several walkouts. We made the mistake of playing it Sun., Mon. Why waste good Technicolor on that type of picture. It would have been just the same in black and white here. Okay for a midweek date, or a double where doubles are used. The boys didn't go for the gold on Marlene's legs. Weather: Fair and cool.—F. W. Hamilton, Shelby, Shelbyville, Mo. City and rural patronage.

Lost in a Harem (M-G-M)—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Marilyn Maxwell, John Conte. This brought in extra business, but was so screwy it didn't please. Played Sat., Sun. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

White Cliffs of Dover (M-G-M)—Irene Dunne, Alan Marshal, Roddy McDowall. This one dragged out some of the stay-at-homers and they liked it. The recording on my print was spotted and hard to keep where it should be. However, it's a swell show. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Stormy.—Bill Leonard, Leonard, Cedarvale, Kas. Small town and rural patronage.

PARAMOUNT

Dark Mountain (Para)—Robert Lowery, Ellen Drew, Regis Toomey, Eddie Quillan. A nice little action picture that pleased. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Good.—Otto W. Chapek, Annex, Anamoose, N. D. Rural and small town patronage.

Great Moment (Para)—Joel McCrea, Betty Field, Harry Carey, William Demarest. These two pictures—doubled with "Eadie Was a Lady" (Col)—didn't do as well as expected The attendance dropped off considerably the second night. The weather was good theatre weather. Played Wed., Thurs.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Here Come the Waves (Para)—Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, Ann Doran. A very good picture but no big special—not big enough for the top group. Weather: Wet and cold.—M. Bailey, Strand, Dryden, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

RKO RADIO

Lil Abner (RKO)—Granville Owen, Martha O'Driscoll, Mona Ray. This is an old one brought back by popular demand. Grossed five times as much on this as on "The Princess and the Pirate," played two weeks previously. I cannot understand why there is not a series of Lil Abners. If you have not played this, bring it back, by all means. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair.—R. W. Phelan, Star and Roxy, Clendenin, W. Va. Small town patronage.

Tall in the Saddle (RKO)—John Wayne, Ella Raines, Ward Bond, George "Gabby" Hayes. This was sold as a super-western, something for the ladies to rave about. The ladies failed me. It was a good western but not good enough for the price I had to pay. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

Three Caballeros, The (RKO)—Aurora Miranda, Carmen Molina, Dora Luz, Clarence Nash. This was a sure cure for the people who tell you they cannot go to the movies because the pictures hurt their eyes. This picture blinded people, dazzled their eyes, and made them dizzy. They came reeling out of my theatre as though they were drunk. In fact, I had to go home and sober up myself, for all I could see were, dancing before my eyes, ducks, stars and rainbows, streaks and snakes. Played Sunday. Weather: Good.—J. S. Hoar, Lakeside, Rangeley, Me. Small town patronage.

Woman in the Window (RKO)—Edward G. Robinson, Joan Bennett, Raymond Massey, Edmund Breon. Not quite average Sun. Mon. business but a very good picture of its type. The best mystery in a long, long time. My folks prefer comedies and musicals over any other type of show. Played Sun., Mon. Weather: Good.—Arthur E. Phifield, Park, South Berwick, Me. Small town patronage.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Keys of the Kingdom, The (20th-Fox)—Gregory Peck, Thomas Mitchell, Vincent Price, Rosa Stradner. Did extra well the first night, and the second night, business was off 50 per cent. I don't know why. Played Wed., Thurs. Weather: Warm.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Thunderhead, Son of Flicka (20th-Fox)—Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster, Rita Johnson, James Bell. Beautiful Technicolor. The comments were good but not as good as for "My Friend Flicka."—J. C. Balkcom jr., Gray, Gray, Ga. General patronage.

UNITED ARTISTS

Song of the Open Road, The (UA)—Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Jane Powell, W. C. Fields.—Good by those that saw it but very few did. There was a carnival in town and too many liked the merry-go-round better—and the ferris wheel, do-dads and what-nots. You'd think with 1,000 people in town, 10 per cent would attend the show, but not here. Played Wednesday only. Weather: Good.—W. H. Swan, Auditorium, Roscoe, S. D. Rural patronage.

Tomorrow the World (UA)—Fredric March, Betty Field, Agnes Moorehead, Skippy Homeier. This was a good picture, hard to sell, but those who came were very well pleased. Fair business, but it's a pleasure to show this type of picture now and then—sort of a change from the regular run field. Played Sun., Mon.—Leo Stephany, Music Hall, Newport, Ky. Neighborhood patronage.

UNIVERSAL

Pearl of Death, The (Univ)—Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, Dennis Hoey, Evelyn Ankers. A nice program mystery for weekend audiences. We did okay on a double bill. Played Fri., Sat. Weather: Rain.—Harland Rankin, Plaza, Tilbury, Ont., Canada. Small town patronage.

Frisco Sal (Univ)—Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Alan Curtis, Andy Devine. If they had just cut out the classical stuff in the singing and let the action proceed this picture would have had a better reception. The last reel had some action but the others were slowed down for the first verse and chorus of a song. Just a programmer and good for that kind of date. Played Tues., Wed. Weather: Fair.—Mayme P. Musselman, Princess, Lincoln, Kas. Small town patronage.

WARNER BROS.

Very Thought of You, The (WB)—Dennis Morgan, Eleanor Parker, Dane Clark, Faye Emerson. Here is one that will please everyone. No musical extravaganza—no war—just a fine story well acted and well directed. Played Sun., Mon., Tues. Weather: Fair and hot.—Garland C. Lamb, Rex, Minden, La. Small town patronage.

PLAN AHEAD!

Place Your Order Now

for

• SAVOROL •

POPCORN SEASONING

Due to the great demand for Savorol there will be a two week's delay in shipment. Don't forget to order Savorol, the flavorsome, thrifty, popcorn seasoning. Saves 1/5 to 1/3 on oil or shortening.

TRIAL OFFER

50 Pounds $8.75

F.O.B. NASHVILLE **No Ration Points**

Bester Products Division

of

BLEVINS POPCORN CO.

Nashville 2, Tenn.

Speculate on Crosley Corp. Transfer

NEW YORK — Great curiosity has been aroused by the pending sale of the Crosley Corp., Cincinnati, to the Aviation Corp. The sale is subject to the approval of the Federal Communications Commission because radio station WLW and other broadcasting facilities and applications are included in the Crosley assets.

WLW has long been a key spot in national broadcasting and for many months has been ready to start construction of a television station. Its central location makes it a strategic spot in the possible future development of television networks.

Acquisition of the Crosley radio facilities will give Avco a prominent place in the field of radio broadcasting.

Along with WLW, 50,000 watts, is included an option held by Crosley for the purchase of WINS, New York, and several FM and television experimental stations, licenses and applications.

Avco is reported to have bought 64 per cent of the stock of the Crosley Corp. from the Crosley family, for approximately $13,600,000 and is offering $39 per share for all stock in the hands of the public. It is expected that 100 per cent control will eventually cost $22,000,000. A syndicate of 10 banks has been formed to assist in financing the deal.

At present, Avco has control of Vultee Aircraft, New York Shipbuilding, Republic Aircraft Products, Spencer Heater, American Central Manufacturing, and other companies and manufacturing units, but this is its first venture into radio and television.

PROTECT YOUR POPCORN PROFITS

LET US BOOK YOU NOW FOR YOUR ENTIRE 1945-46 SEASON'S SUPPLY!

Don't get caught short on popcorn this season . . . contract now with Mid-West for your requirements! We have thousands of acres under contract in the nation's best popcorn growing area and are increasing this acreage as rapidly as possible. Plan now for a full popcorn selling season by having us set aside your 1945-46 supply.

Millions of pounds more popcorn could have been sold than were produced in recent years. Farm labor shortages and the great demand for more critical crops will make the situation the same, *or worse*, this year and next. Here is your opportunity to protect your popcorn profits against shortages or higher wholesale prices. Estimate your requirements and place your order now!

Top Quality BLOSSOM TIME

SOUTH AMERICAN and PEARL CORN AVAILABLE

WRITE TODAY.. ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT WILL BE BOOKED

MID-WEST POPCORN COMPANY

370 SAUNDERS - KENNEDY BLDG., OMAHA, NEBR.

Deferred Deposit Plan Available — Ask For Details

District, Field Men At Warner Session

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. held a three-day meeting of district managers, presided over by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, at the home office. Another series of conferences for the company's field exploitation force was conducted by Mort Blumenstock, eastern director of advertising and publicity. Both sessions were addressed by Charles Einfeld, vice-president in charge of advertising.

Territorial sales executives attending the district meets included Norman Ayers, Robert Smeltzer, Ralph McCoy, Henry Herbel, Harry Seed, Charles Rich, Hall Walsh, Doak Roberts and Haskell Masters. Among the home office executives participating were Joseph Bernhard, Samuel Schneider, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, I. F. Dolid, Ed Hinchy, Norman H. Moray, Howard Levinson, Bernard Goodman and Stanley Hatch.

Field men present at the exploitation force meets included Bill Brumberg, head of the field staff; Ted Tod, George Fishman, Art Moger, Glenn Ireton, George Wood, Lucia Perrigo, Stanton Kramer, Frank Bruner, Don Walker, Herbert Pickman, Allen Kohan, Ira Epstein, G. D. Woodard, Richard Stephens, Ed Benjamin, Franklin Fisher, I. Q. Gross and Dan Karsch.

Following the first day's business discussions, the district and field groups attended the press preview of "Rhapsody in Blue" at the Hollywood Theatre.

Ben Washer Resumes Post

NEW YORK—Ben Washer, recently discharged from the army, has returned to his position as eastern advertising and publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn. While in the army, Washer was a public relations officer and handled Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army." Eugene Murphy, pinch-hitter for Washer in the East, has returned to Hollywood.

THE OFFICE OF ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN GIVES NOTICE THAT THE INVITATION TO BID, FOR LICENSES TO DISTRIBUTE IN THE UNITED STATES EACH OF FIFTY MOTION PICTURES, ISSUED JUNE 6, 1945, HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN. ACCORDINGLY THE PUBLIC OPENING OF BIDS WILL NOT BE HELD ON JULY 6, 1945, AS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED. ANY BIDS RECEIVED WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED AND THERE WILL BE NO AWARDS MADE.

FRANCIS J. McNAMARA
Deputy Alien Property Custodian

DATED: JUNE 21, 1945.

Congratulations to
REPUBLIC PICTURES
and to
HERBERT J. YATES
President
FROM
Michigan Independent Exhibitors Ass'n
Joseph P. Uvick, Secy.-Treas.
907 Fox Theatre Bldg.,
Detroit, Mich.

We too congratulate you,
For special credit is due
On product that's stable
By a company well able
To manage without dictatorship
Or unwanted forced partnership,
Without producers' forced percentage,
Policies of cheap carnival vintage.

Panel Argues Film's Postwar World Role

NEW YORK—Several hundred representatives of the entertainment, artistic, musical and publishing fields attended the two-day conference of the Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Postwar World at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria on Friday and Saturday, June 22-23. Marc Connelly, producer-playwright and Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times picture critic, were co-chairmen of the film panel.

"There is a terrible urgency in the need to create 'one world,'" according to an address written by Prof. Franklin Fearing, University of California, first vice-chairman of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, and read by Herbert Klein, noted documentary film director and producer. "The primary instrument in the construction of that world is human communication; the great mass media, radio and the motion picture, are the means—perhaps the only means—by which these tasks may be achieved."

Two talks, one on the general film scene and the other on full employment were delivered, respectively, by John Grierson, head of the National Film Board of Canada, and U.S. Senator James Murray of Montana. A documentary, "Now the Peace," produced by Grierson's organization, was screened.

"Films of Demented Woodchuck"

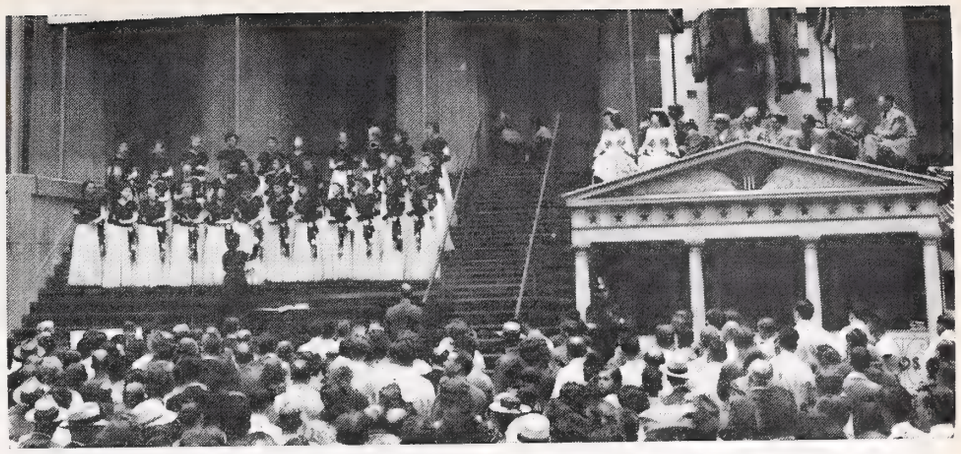
The change in purpose, content and technique of animated films was effectively shown in a short paper written by Sgt. J. K. Hubley of Hollywood, and read by Capt. Rodell Johnson, U.S. signal corps. "On the day the Wehrmacht attacked the Soviet Union four years ago, the animated picture industry of Hollywood," the paper revealed, "was making one feature-length cartoon about a deer, 16 short subjects about a duck, 12 shorts about a rabbit, seven about a cat chasing a mouse, five shorts with pigs, three about a demented woodchuck, ten with assorted animals, and one short technical subject on the process of flush riveting.

"Since that time the lone educational short, dubbed by the industry a 'nuts and bolts' film, has been augmented by hundreds of thousands of feet of animated educational film. Because of war necessity, pigs and bunnies have collided with nuts and bolts." The address went on to describe the changes wrought in animation technique since Pearl Harbor. "Dynamic symbols, images representing whole ideas, the flags, the skulls, the cartoon characters, can explain the nature of fascism in terms of its economic roots, the forces behind it, the necessity for its policies of aggression, its historical roots, its political structure.

"Animation a New Language"

"The dynamics of changing symbols: Bullets turning into guns, books to poison, ploughshares to swords, children into soldiers, soldiers to graves, can carry a visual potency as clear as the growth of a seed into a plant," the paper concluded. "The medium of animation has become a new language. It is no longer the vaudeville world of pigs and bunnies."

Following each address, the audience engaged in general discussion. Among those on the committees sponsoring and attending the conference were Jo Davidson, Fredric March, William Rose Benet, Van Wyck Brooks, Louis Calhern, Morris Llewellyn Cooke, Norman Corwin, Bartley Crum, Dr. Moses Diamond, Donald Du Shane, Prof. Albert Einstein, Florence Eldridge, Moss Hart, Lillian Hellman, Mrs. Beatrice Kaufman, John T. McManus, Dr. Alonzo F. Myers, Dr. John P. Peters, Paul Robeson, Dr. Harlow Shapley and Herman Shumlin.



PARAMOUNT SINGERS IN WALL ST.—Before an audience of more than 1,000 the Paramount Choral Society sang at a bond rally on the steps of the U.S. sub-treasury building. Claude F. Lee, director of public relations, and Austin C. Keough, vice-president and chief counsel, spoke.

Japanese Suicide Planes In Nation's Newsreels

NEW YORK—All newsreels released nationally on Thursday, June 28, films of Japanese Kamikaze suicide dive-bomber attacks on a U.S. navy task force supporting the conquest of Okinawa. The films, photographed by navy combat cameramen, were serviced by Paramount News.

Fox Movietone devoted its entire footage, 696 feet with titles, to this portrayal of American courage against Japanese fanaticism. News of the Day carried 600 out of 750 feet on the carrier attack, and the entire Paramount reel, 890 feet with titles, covered the action. More than half of Pathe's footage of 700 feet featured these shots, and Universal devoted 439 feet out of 699 to the incident.

The navy has not released any figures on possible casualties among their photographers. The reels, which also feature attacks on Japanese land based planes, are clear and miss no phase of the action.

Eliminates Protection In Philadelphia Case

NEW YORK—Ruling that the Temple Theatre and Century Theatre, both in Philadelphia, are not in direct competition, Arbitrator William A. Wiedersheim has directed that no clearance shall be granted to either house. RKO and Warner Bros. were defendants in the action filed in the Philadelphia tribunal. Hirsch Amusement Co. intervened.

The Temple is operated by David E. Milgrim and Raymond Schwartz. The complaint was lodged by Associated Theatres circuit which buys and books for the house. The complaint asked the arbitrator to eliminate any clearance between the two houses. At the present time, each of the theatres divides the RKO and Warner Bros. product between them and each has clearance over the other house on its particular portion.

May, 1945, Admission Taxes Show Increase

Washington—Admission taxes of $31,923,364.52 for May are up $3,306,285.76 from the May, 1944, level of $28,617,078.76. Revenue receipts from July 1, 1944, to May 31, 1945, were $329,308,141.09, showing an increase of $150,259,310.52 over a total of $179,048,830.57 received from July 1, 1943, to May 31, 1944.

RKO Holds Three-Day Meet for Executives

NEW YORK—Product for the forthcoming season, exploitation, theatre maintenance and other wartime problems were discussed at a three-day meeting of executives of RKO out-of-town theatres which opened at the home office Thursday. Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of the out-of-town theatres, presided, and introduced Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, who welcomed the visitors. Those present included:

Division Managers E. H. Groth of Boston, Arthur Frudenfeld of Cincinnati, and his assistant, Hardie Meakin; Frank Smith of Chicago; John Redmond of Omaha, also Benjamin Domingo of Boston; Millroy A. Anderson of Los Angeles; Robert P. Corbin of San Francisco; Jay Golden of Rochester; H. H. Unterfort of Syracuse and Harry Schreiber of Cleveland.

Wilbur B. England, personnel director, and O. R. McMahon, assistant comptroller, presided over the morning sessions on Thursday. The conferees had luncheon at Toots Shorr's.

Harold Mirisch, general manager of the RKO booking department, discussed forthcoming product at the afternoon session. George White's "Scandals" was screened for the delegates later in the afternoon. They spent the evening at a performance of "Carousel" at the Majestic Theatre.

Advertising and exploitation matters were discussed by Harry Mandel, RKO Theatres director of advertising and publicity, Thursday morning. The visitors were luncheon guests of Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio Pictures, at the Waldorf-Astoria.

A. E. Roech, manager of the real estate department, and David Canavan, maintenance manager, presided over a round table discussion of their specialties, in the afternoon. "Johnny Angel" was screened at 4 o'clock in the RKO projection room. The visitors had dinner at the Copacabana Club.

Individual problems were discussed Friday at the closing session, when Schwartz and his assistant, William Howard, presided.

AFRA Elects 8 to Board

NEW YORK—American Federation of Radio Artists elected to serve three-year terms the following national board members to represent the New York local: Quentin Reynolds, Kenneth Roberts, Minerva Pious, Myron McCormick, Alan Bunce, Juano Hernandez, Ned Weaver and Clayton Collier.

BROADWAY

Tom Eubanks, general accountant for Wilby-Kincey theatres, was here on business from Atlanta.

Dick Stephens, Warner Bros. field man working out of Buffalo, was in Syracuse on a campaign for "Conflict" at Keith's Theatre.

Herbert Schwartz of the M-G-M studio publicity department returned to the coast. He stopped off here from Florida where Clarence Brown and his unit have been shooting exteriors on "The Yearling."

Bill McCormick of M-G-M's publicity department is vacationing at Stony Creek, Conn.

Nicholas Napoli, president of Artkino Pictures, visited the company's Canadian offices in Toronto.

Lucille F. Plauche has been appointed Latin American publicity director for Monogram.

Bernard J. Gates, Monogram's special representative, went to Buenos Aires for conferences with Centrofilm, the company's distributor in that market. He will spend six weeks in Argentina before proceeding to Brazil.

Robert Riskin has taken offices in the California Studios preparatory to launching production on his first picture since his resignation from the OWI . . . Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warner Bros., and Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager, have completed their tour through the eastern and central exchange territories.

Bob Hope and Jerry Colonna arrived from Hollywood and registered at the Waldorf-Astoria prior to leaving on a European entertainment tour for service men.

Ray Rand, president of GI Music, left for coast conferences with Paramount executives on a proposed musical concerning the story of the organization's growth.

Louis Phillips, attorney for Paramount, and Mrs. Phillips celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a reception.

Duke Clark, Paramount's Dallas district manager and co-captain for the One-Third of a Century celebration, visited Cincinnati and Memphis en route to his district headquarters. He has just completed the first round of a nationwide tour of the company exchanges in connection with Paramount month.

Joseph Sweeney, executive of Florida State Theatres, spent a week visiting here . . . Henry A. Linet, Universal's assistant advertising manager, left for a trip to St. Louis, Omaha, Des Moines, Chicago and Detroit to set up opening engagements for "On Stage Everybody."

J. E. Perkins, Paramount International manager for the Far Eastern, Australian, New Zealand and South African division, is visiting Australia and New Zealand in connection with sales supervision.

Dave Bader, trade press contact for 20th-Fox, and Mrs. Bader, celebrated their second wedding anniversary . . . Victor Klein jr., recently discharged from the AAF after four years of service, has resumed work as film editor at the Warner Bros. studio. He completed ten combat missions over Germany.



COLUMBIA'S WINNER — Barbara Whitmore, 22 years old, national winner of the George Sand Memorial Talent Search held in connection with openings of "A Song to Remember." She has been given a screen test by Columbia, a radio audition with CBS and a six-month scholarship in the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Robert S. Wolff, managing director, RKO Radio Pictures, Ltd., covering the United Kingdom, flew here from London for conferences with Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Walter Gould, foreign manager of UA, arrived in Stockholm in connection with a survey he is making of the company's operations in continental Europe, following several weeks of visits to the London and Paris branches. He was accompanied by Emanuel Silverstone, special home office foreign representative, who remained in Paris to continue his study of French distribution facilities.

Jules Levey, independent producer releasing through UA, was in from the coast to confer with the company's home office executives. Upon his return to Hollywood, he will begin production of "Trail Town," his second UA film.

Lieut. (j.g.) Leonard Schlesinger, formerly of Warner Theatres home office staff, visited here from his post in Washington with the naval department.

Andrea King and Helmut Dantine, Warner Bros. stars, are back in Hollywood after personal appearances in the east.

Eddie Cantor, producer and star for RKO, appeared at a Hollywood bond rally following the completion of his work on behalf of the Seventh War Loan in the east.

Ted O'Shea jr., who has been with the marines in the Pacific for the last 19 months, arrived in San Diego. He is expected east shortly . . . Harold S. Bucquet, M-G-M director, arrived from the coast to look for a new actor to play the lead in "Green Years."



Rose Seeks Star Here For His English Unit

HOLLYWOOD—Expressing conviction that British-made pictures need international talent to enjoy maximum U.S. success, David E. Rose, managing director for Paramount in Great Britain, is in Hollywood in search of a star, a director and a story so that his unit can go into production in England immediately upon his return there early in August.

After having been forced to postpone production for many months because of wartime conditions and lack of studio space, Rose stated that the way is now clear for the making of at least one picture by Paramount in the remaining months of 1945. He definitely feels, however, that Hollywood talent is a necessary ingredient in any such venture in order to assure its success on the U.S. market.

"With one of the top stars an internationally-known name, imported from Hollywood, and another from the British cinema industry," Rose said, "plus a director with a reputation for doing pictures that have been successful on the world market, a good British-made production can be equally profitable on either side of the Atlantic. Lacking these assets any British production flies into a headwind insofar as U.S. distribution is concerned."

On British talent, Rose says that English stars are comparable to any Hollywood has to offer, the only trouble being that these players are relatively unknown over here. "As a consequence," he pointed out, "British players have no established marquee value to contribute to the U.S. boxoffice, and drawing power is lacking. There is no question about it, the moviegoing public in this country patronizes films with names it knows and likes."

"Junior Miss," "Lassie" Top Review Board List

NEW YORK—The National Board of Review in its current weekly guide gives top honors to "Junior Miss" and "Son of Lassie" as "starred selected features." The 20th-Fox feature is described as "natural and most diverting . . . delightfully funny . . . attractive picture." The M-G-M Technicolor film is credited with "good suspense . . . dogs are irresistible . . . good score."

Ratings of "selected features" went to one Paramount and two Universal pictures. The trio comprises "Incendiary Blonde," "The Naughty Nineties" and "The Woman in Green."

Selected short subjects were the following one-reelers: "Canine-Feline Capers" (Para Sportlight), "Community Sing No. 9" (Col), "Fan Fare" (Para Sportlight), "A Hatful of Dreams" (Para Puppetoon), "Popular Science J4-5" (Para), "See Food Mamas" (20th-Fox Dribble Puss Parade) and "Unusual Occupations L4-5" (Para). Also recommended was a two-reeler: "The Last Installment" (M-G-M Crime Does Not Pay).

"Great John L." Welcomed In Sullivan's Home Town

BOSTON — The premiere of "The Great John L." was held at the Majestic Theatre. State and city officials, luminaries of the sports world, and many of Sullivan's old friends attended the showing. Press critics lauded the film.

More than 100 stores used window displays or staged contests in connection with the opening. Stress was placed on the fact of John L. Sullivan having been born here.

Easing of Heat Wave Aids Broadway Trade

NEW YORK—A slight easing of the heat wave helped Broadway grosses. Two new arrivals, "The Naughty Nineties" at the Criterion, and "Those Endearing Young Charms" at the Palace, showed good returns in their opening weeks. Receipts of three holdovers were slightly higher than those of preceding weeks. They were "The Valley of Decision" at the Music Hall, "Thrill of a Romance" at the Capitol, and "Junior Miss" at the Rivoli.

The Music Hall management disclosed 1,190,000 persons have seen "The Valley of Decision" in its first eight weeks. The engagement of "Decision" has been topped thus far only by "Random Harvest" and "Mrs. Miniver," which played 11 and 10 weeks, respectively.

"Where Do We Go From Here?" was held over for a fourth and final week at the Roxy. "Call of the Wild," 20th-Fox reissue starring Clark Gable, Loretta Young and Jack Oakie, started an engagement at the Victoria June 23.

(Average is 100)

Astor—**Wonder Man** (RKO), 3rd wk.....200
Capitol—**Thrill of a Romance** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 5th wk. 125
Criterion—**The Naughty Nineties** (Univ).....170
Hollywood—**The Corn Is Green** (WB), 13th wk., 5 days 100
Palace—**Those Endearing Young Charms** (RKO)....145
Paramount—**Out of This World** (Para), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 115
Radio City Music Hall—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), plus stage show, 8th wk.....150
Rialto—**Crime, Inc.** (PRC) 120
Rivoli—**Junior Miss** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk.....115
Roxy—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), plus stage show, 3rd wk. 110
Strand—**Conflict** (WB), plus stage show, 2nd wk...225

"Salty O'Rourke" Is Big Leader At Buffalo With 186 Score

BUFFALO — "Salty O'Rourke" was a big leader last week, scoring nearly 200 per cent of average at the Great Lakes. A holdover was assured. "That's the Spirit" with another was a surprise hit at the Lafayette. "The Clock" and "Strange Illusion" held to nearly average in a moveover week at the Hippodrome. "Pillow to Post" and "Forever Yours" were fair at the Century, while the Buffalo was disappointing with "Where Do We Go From Here?" and "Chicago Kid."

Buffalo—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep) 91
Great Lakes—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para).....186
Hippodrome—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **Strange Illusion** (PRC), 2nd d. t. wk..... 96
20th Century—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **Forever Yours** (Mono) 119
Lafayette—**That's the Spirit** (Univ); **I'll Tell the World** (Univ) 130

"Decision" Leads the Philadelphia Parade During a Week of Heat

PHILADELPHIA—"Valley of Decision" led the parade here last session. Most of the other central city houses were in the doldrums because of the heat. "Belle of the Yukon" had an inauspicious premiere and "Son of Lassie" did not fare very well.

Aldine—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M).....115
Arcadia—**A Song to Remember** (Col).....155
Boyd—**Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M), 2nd wk...160
Earle—**Out of the Night** (PRC), plus stage show 115
Fox—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO).....120
Karlton—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....170
Keith's—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO), 3rd d. t. wk. 135
Mastbaum—**Conflict** (WB), 2nd wk.....175
Stanley—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M).....210
Stanton—**Dillinger** (Mono), 3rd wk.....150

Cagney Film at Capitol

NEW YORK—"Blood on the Sun" opened at the Capitol Theatre on Thursday, July 28. Critics on the metropolitan dailies gave the film a warm welcome.

Along New York's Filmrow

By CHARLES BECKER

BEFORE PFC. RALPH PIELOW Jr., son of the M-G-M branch manager, was sent overseas last December he telephoned to his father upon his arrival in New York. Unfortunately, his father was not at home and the son could not reach him. Before Pielow sr. could communicate with him, he was on the high seas bound for Europe. Some weeks later, young Pielow was wounded in action.

Young Pielow has returned to this country for treatment and is a patient at the Brooks General Hospital, San Antonio, Tex. His father took a flying trip down south to see him. Incidentally, Sgt. Larry Wallach who was a fellow patient in a British hospital with young Pielow, is also in this country. He telephoned to Pielow sr. upon his arrival here.

Exhibitor Notes: Don Jacocks, New England circuit head, was a visitor to Filmrow . . . Exhibitor George Reisner, Bert Sanford of Altec and Metro Salesman Howard Levy plan to spend a week fishing in Peconic Bay, L. I. . . . Abe Savage, operator of the Rivoli Theatre, Hoboken, died.

Filmrow mourned the death of Ben Ginsberg, veteran chief shipper at the Universal exchange . . . Bennie Forma's Windsor Theatre, Grand Street, will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday beginning July 9. This arrangement will continue through Labor Day . . . Vacationers include Virginia Aaron, Louis Allerhand and Robert J. Ellsworth, who has just returned.

The Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York held a drawing at the Hotel Taft. Proceeds of the drawing are to be donated to the service men's fund of the group . . . The wife of Isidore Seider, of Prudential circuit and Prudential film delivery, died . . . Employes on the upper floors of the Film Exchange Bldg. have good vantage spots from which to view convoys of returning troops.

Elmer M. Sichel, former Century circuit booker, is learning to be a tank driver at Fort Knox, Ky. . . . Charles Boasberg, RKO metropolitan district manager, plans to spend his vacation at Saranac Lake. His two children, Susan, 2½ years old, and David Peter, several months old, presented him with a sterling silver cigaret lighter for Father's Day . . . Robert S. Wolff, Boasberg's predecessor, now RKO managing director for Great Britain, is expected for a visit to this country.

The Colonial Theatre, West Orange, operated by Jerome Kreidel, has been closed for alterations . . . The daughter of Cliff Smith, general manager of the St. Cloud circuit, received her diploma at exercises held in her father's Washington Theatre, Washington, N. J. . . . Phil Levine, UA booker, won a handball tournament at the Walton High School.

Gertrude Dembroff, former Brooklyn booker at the UA exchange, has been transferred to the New Jersey book. She succeeds John McKenna who was recently inducted into the army . . . UA vacationers were Harry Newman head shipper, and Marion Landsman, secretary to Jack Ellis, branch manager.

Out-of-town exhibitors seen on Filmrow included the following: Tom Alfieri, Community Theatre, Millbrook, N. Y.; Al McKennon, Albermac Theatre, Pawling, N. Y.; Henry Grossman, Community Theatre, Hudson, N. Y., and Clinton Wisner, Playhouse, Greenwood Lake.

Mrs. Peggy Loonan Donnelly has resigned at secretary-assistant to Al Mendelson, 20th-Fox New Jersey booker. She has been replaced by Lois Jackson of the billing department . . . Filmrow has become a shirtsleeve community since the start of the heat wave.

"GI Joe" Preview Is Set As Press Club Tribute

WASHINGTON—A special invitational preview of UA's "Story of G. I. Joe," sponsored by the National Press Club as a tribute to the late Ernie Pyle, will be held at Loew's Palace Theatre on July 3.

The audience will include members of the press club, club guests and many high ranking officials of the government and armed forces.

E. W. Adams Shifts to WE

NEW YORK—Edgar W. Adams, general patent attorney for the Bell Telephone Laboratories, has been named patent attorney for Western Electric. He succeeds F. T. Woodward, who has been appointed consulting patent attorney. M. R. McKenney, a patent attorney in the Bell Telephone Laboratories, has succeeded Adams as general patent attorney.

Lasky to Make Two for RKO

NEW YORK—Jesse L. Lasky will make two productions a year for RKO on a percentage basis. Leadoff picture will be "Thanks God, I'll Take It From Here," costarring Claudette Colbert and John Wayne. Based on a forthcoming novel by Mae Livingston and Jane Allen, author of "I Lost My Girlish Laughter," the picture will be directed by Mervyn LeRoy.

N. J. Allied's Outing Draws a Crowd of 150

NEW YORK—Approximately 150 exhibitors and exchange executives attended the outing of New Jersey Allied Wednesday at the West End Casino, West End, N. J. The day's events included, in addition to the customary gin rummy games, a luncheon, a diving and swimming exhibition, ocean and pool bathing, cocktails at 5:30 o'clock and a turkey dinner in the evening.

Exhibitors included Sam Frank, Lee Newbury, David Snaper, Harry H. Lowenstein, Irving Dollinger, Edward Lachman, Harry Hecht, Maury Miller and Haskell Block. Exchange men present were Ben Abner, Clarence Eiseman, David A. Levy, Edward J. Bell, Harry H. Thomas, Nat Furst, Sam Lefkowitz and Frank Damis, Warner Bros. New Jersey zone manager.

H. Thornton Kelly, executive secretary of New Jersey Allied, was chairman of the arrangements committee. The regular meeting of the group was postponed one week due to the party.

Projector Repair and Parts
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

BOXOFFICE GOES TO A PREMIERE



Top panel, across: Crowd in front of the Hollywood Theatre awaiting celebrities: Maj. Albert Warner and Ann Sheridan. Below, on left—Joseph Bernhard, general manager of Warner Bros., and Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia; next below on left—bond rally in Times Square at which one sale was for $1,000,000; right—huge lobby display; bottom, left—Sam Rinzler, caught only partially by the camera; Harry Seed, Warners midwest district manager; Roy Haines, western and southern division sales manager; Sam Switow, Louisville exhibitor; Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager; Joe Seider and Artie Wakoff, New York exhibitors; bottom, right—Charles Einfeld and Milton Berle chatting.

Celebrities Witness 'Rhapsody' Preview

NEW YORK—The press preview of Warner Bros.' "Rhapsody in Blue" at the Hollywood Theatre was attended by celebrities of the theatrical world, society, business and military services. The showing was preceded by a three-hour George Gershwin jubilee bond auction in Times Square, with valuable merchandise and theatre tickets going to bond purchasers.

Among the notables invited to the preview were Judge Jonah Goldstein, Andre Kostelanetz, Lily Pons, Dorothy Caruso, Oscar Hammerstein II, George Abbott, Mike Todd, Oscar Serlin, Judy Garland, Phil Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gimbel, Jules Glaezner, Gladys Swarthout, Maj. Frank Chapman, Sol Hurok, Arthur Kober, Harry James, Ann Sheridan, Steve Hannagan, Herbert Bayard Swope, Col. Serge Obolensky, Alfred de Liagre, Mr. and Mrs. William Rhinelander Stewart, Henry Bernstein, Mrs. Mary Duke Biddle, Harry Richman, Thyra Samter Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Dresselhuys, Milton Berle, Phil Baker and many others.

Other prominent personalities on hand included Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Brig. Gen. Elliot Roosevelt, Faye Emerson, John Wildberg, Theresa Helburn, Lawrence Langner, Brenda Frazier, Liz Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Lytle Hull and Cheryl Crawford.

Also in attendance were Warner Bros. officials including Maj. Albert Warner, Charles Einfeld, Samuel Schneider, Joseph Bernhard, Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Harry Goldberg, Norman Moray, Mike Dolid, Ed Hinchy, Jacob Wilk, Larry Golob and others.

Ceremonies at the Hollywood Theatre included a lobby broadcast, a WAVES singing group, additional bond auctioning and the first demonstration of Handie-Talkie portable radios in press coverage of a film premiere here.

WB-RCA Arrange National Campaign for "Rhapsody"

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has greatly enlarged the possible scope of its publicity for "Rhapsody" by arranging a tiein with RCA-Victor.

A cooperative campaign is planned utilizing the broadcasting facilities, Victor dealer window displays, and the press contacts of RCA. Starting this month and continuing on until September, RCA will plug the musical with network time, run national and local advertising, and generally cooperate with the Warner field force in arranging further tieins throughout the country. RCA will also work with the WB educational bureau in contacting schools, libraries, clubs and other organizations.

Precedent-Breaking Library Tieup Is Arranged on "Rhapsody in Blue"

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. has arranged a precedent-breaking tieup with the Public Library on "Rhapsody in Blue." Cooperating with WB special events department representatives, the library has turned over its display cases and considerable wall space in the music room to George Gershwin material. This is the first time the famous Fifth Avenue institution, visited annually by thousands of students and music lovers, has boosted a musical film production.

In the display cases are first editions of Gershwin scores dating from 1898 to 1937, the year he died. Of particular interest is his original manuscript of his best known musical composition, "Rhapsody in Blue."

Single Bond Purchase Totals One Million!

New York—The biggest single war bond purchase in the history the Times Square Bond Center was made during the Gershwin Jubilee bond auction prior to the press preview of "Rhapsody in Blue."

The purchase, amounting to $1,000,000, was made by the Union Central Life Insurance Co. The record-breaking bid was made over a Motorola Handie-Talkie by Sidney L. Wolkenberg of Union Central's Charles S. Knight Agency. Milton Berle, master of ceremonies at the rally, accepted the bid on behalf of the WAC.

Filmedia Screens First Of Tolerance Subjects

NEW YORK—Approximately 500 members of the press and theatre, and religious, social and civic organizations attended the premiere of "Greater Victory," a Filmedia release produced by United Specialties, Inc., and shown at the Normandie Theatre.

The picture is the first of a series of films intended to help create interreligious goodwill, and was made in cooperation with the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Louis Calhern starred in the role of a Protestant minister, and Nicholas Farkas directed.

It is the story of two Nazi prisoners of war, one a former American, their escapades when they escape, and how a priest and the community rabbi aided the minister when the POWs damaged his church.

The film is available in 35mm for theatrical showings, or 16mm for organizational and discussion groups.

Prior to the showing, the audience viewed an uncut version of the famous signal corps atrocity films.

ATS President Appoints New Committee Heads

NEW YORK—George T. Shupert, newly-elected head of the American Television Society, has made public his appointments of many of the organization's committee chairmen for 1945-46. The balance of the committee chairmanships will be announced later.

Committees and their chairmen are: Education, Dr. Leonard F. Powers; finance and budget, Archibald U. Braunfeld; library, Myrtle Ilsley; membership, Joseph Doughney; motion pictures, Don Widlund; panel discussion groups, Richard Manville; general chairman; programs, Herbert E. Taylor jr.; program laboratory, Raymond E. Nelson; publications, A. W. Bernsohn, editor ATS News; reception, Sterling Norcross; yearbook and directory, Richard Steiner.

UA Sets Release Dates For Eight Productions

NEW YORK—United Artists has set release dates on eight major productions as follows: June 29, "The Great John L."; July 13, "Story of G.I. Joe"; July 27, "Guest Wife"; August 10, "The Southerner"; August 24, "Captain Kidd"; August 31, "The Outlaw"; September 14, "Paris," and September 28, "Spellbound."

All of the eight productions are now completed, according to Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager.

Vyvyan Donner to Coast

NEW YORK—Vyvyan Donner, director of 20th-Fox Movietone fashion shorts, left for Hollywood to discuss a series of featurettes showing prominent designers at work.

Regard Frisco Shows As an Industry Help

NEW YORK—That the film shows presented in San Francisco during the United Nations conference were a definite contribution to the public relations of the industry both in this country and in the foreign field is the opinion of Claude Lee, Howard Dietz and Glendon Allvine, who handled the details.

Approximately 60 entertainment programs were presented in the United Nations Theatre (the Alcazar renamed for the conference) and a similar number made up of documentary programs from most of the nations represented were shown in the Sir Francis Drake Hotel.

So that delegations from all the countries represented would have reminders of the gathering each was presented a 16mm reel edited out of the special material filmed during the conference under the direction of Claude Collins of M-G-M. This material included highlights of the conference sessions with special material at the end for each delegation. It was contained in a leather case and Claude Lee personally presented these to the heads of delegations, except in a few instances. Commentaries were included in the reels. Getting these proved to be a feat. Twenty were in English, 16 in Spanish, five in French, three in Russian and one in Portuguese.

Leaders Show Deep Interest

Lee reported an extraordinary interest on the part of delegation heads in American production problems. Lord Halifax, British ambassador, talked with him for nearly two hours on this. The New Zealand prime minister also was deeply interested, because his commonwealth intends to make documentaries for educational purposes within its territory and for the purpose of presenting its attractions elsewhere.

So that there will be a continuing contact between these foreign leaders and the industry it was made clear that the gift films were from Will H. Hays as head of the MPPDA.

Three letters complimenting the industry representatives on their understanding of the state department's desire to keep the conference showings on a dignified basis have been received by Lee from Secretary of State Stettinius.

Both Lee and Dietz made it clear that there was whole-hearted agreement between all industry representatives, including Hollywood personalities, as to what type of films should be shown and how they should be presented.

Many of the highlights of the programming and the manner in which pictures were received were published in the June 16 issue of BOXOFFICE and there were further references in the June 23 issue.

Secretary Stettinius Pleased

In one of his letters Secretary Stettinius complimented the industry "on the good taste and excellent impression" which the conference theatre showings had made.

In another he wrote: "I should like to express to you and through you to the motion picture industry my appreciation of the contributions which the industry made throughout the period of the conference.

"Not only was the industry most cooperative in helping maintain a serious note in the surroundings of the conference, but also in the very real service rendered by providing the United Nations Theatre as well as the facilities of the Conference Theatre.

"I am sure that these contributions by the motion picture industry have added materially to the success of our efforts as a host nation."

Newark Court Square Bond Total Is High

NEWARK—A bond selling campaign that oversells by approximately one-third is the kind to delight the heart of any showman. At last account, the high bond goal of the Court Theatre here will be overwhelmingly surpassed by just about that much.

John N. Levitt, the manager, opened the drive with a rally May 14, which was advertised by 200 Seventh War Loan window cards throughout his neighborhood situation. Prominent speakers, the American Legion, the Boy Scouts and air raid wardens took part in the program. Advance solicitation, bonds subscribed and paid for at the rally, totaled $63,000.

Interest, too, was stimulated by the mailing of programs all during May and June. Notations at the top told of the opening rally as well as the Free Movie Day June 6, the free children's day show and the bond rally arranged by the Court at Military Park, Saturday, June 23, in a tieup with the American Legion.

Sixteen schools were contacted in connection with the children's show. Admission was $1 or more in war stamps. A Walt Disney certificate was given on all bond purchases. The house was sold in a few days.

One of the weekly heralds Levitt sent in advance of the opening rally in May was dedicated to the memory of the late President Roosevelt and pledged "a bigger and better campaign" for the coming drive. The legend at the top of the circular stated: "This program is being run, as the San Francisco conference meets. Forty-seven nations of the world will try to formulate plans for a lasting peace for our world. Let's pray to their success. It can be done, it must be done. Difference of racial, religious, national custom, language, habit, color, should be set aside in the interest of all concerned. All can, all should live in peace with one another."

Nearly 20,000 Attend School Kid Premieres

NEW YORK—Nearly 20,000 children—19,496, to be exact—who bought a total of $967,245 in E bonds, were the guests of 12 motion picture theatres at special premieres last Saturday morning.

Theatres presenting the free bond shows were: the RKO 86th Street, RKO 23rd Street, and Palestine theatres, Manhattan; the RKO Strand, Far Rockaway; the Skouras Broadway and Steinway theatres, Astoria; the Skouras Jackson, Jackson Heights; the Skouras Forest Hills, Forest Hills; the Century Queens, Queens; the Century Strand, Rockville Center, and the Skouras Hempstead, Hempstead.

Rochester Bond Show Brings in $215,000

ROCHESTER—Maturity value of war bonds sold at the war bond premiere of "That's the Spirit" at the Eastman Theatre here was $215,000, according to Jay Golden, chairman of the theatre WAC.

The Double or Nothing radio show was staged in connection with the premiere.

Top Role in "To Each" to Phillip Terry

Phillip Terry has won the top romantic role in Paramount's "To Each His Own."

ACE REEL END ALARMS
Give Perfect Projection Changovers



THEY SELL 4,696 BONDS—The smiling woman on the right is Miss Mildred A. Fitzgibbons, manager of the Skouras Roosevelt Theatre, Flushing, L. I. On the left is William Terry, actor, and behind the microphone is Art Ford, WNEW announcer. Can they sell bonds? At a special show, with talent from the "Junior Miss" cast present, they sold 4,696 of the E series, with a maturity value of $415,300.

Showmanship Boosts Bond Sales at Loew Theatres

NEW YORK—Loew theatre managers continue to boost bond sales by ingenious promotion devices. Advertising his house's rally with a window display of parachutes, plasma and ordnance, Manager Mike Strange subsequently auctioned from the stage of the State Theatre, White Plains, 75mm shell cases for bond purchases. George Miner of the Mt. Vernon Theatre ran a successful Betty Hutton war bond cooperative ad in the Daily Argus.

Gil Marbe of the American Theatre held an American Legion rally that gained front page publicity and boosted E bond sales. Ed Douglas presented heroes from the carrier USS Franklin, auctioned cigarets and chocolates, and sold 80 E bonds with a total maturity value of $15,250 to the State Theatre patrons. Bill Weigand of the Melba Theatre cornered all bonds sold at Lane Bryant in Brooklyn.

Kid Champ Bond Sellers Jam Philadelphia Fox

PHILADELPHIA—A capacity audience of school children jammed the Fox Theatre in a morning special show for champion bond sellers. Public and parochial school children, representing sales of over $11,000,000, came from 350 schools in the Philadelphia area to be the guests of the Stanley-Warner Co. Albert M. Cohen, vice-commander of Variety Post 713, American Legion, acted as host.

Speakers included William J. Lowry, district superintendent of public schools in charge of war bond sales, and Father Edward M. Reilly, assistant superintendent of parochial schools.

The program included "It happened in Springfield," "To the Shores of Iwo Jima" and "Murder, He Says." Later in the week, 50 top winners were taken to Ft. Dix by bus for a tour of the army reservation and dined in the fort mess hall.

"Holiday in Mexico" for Jose Iturbi

Jose Iturbi will play in "Holiday in Mexico," a Metro production.

"Free" Alarm Clocks Prove Big Bond Draw

NEW YORK—Manager Irving Gold of the RKO 86th Street Theatre effected one of the best bond selling stunts of the Seventh War Loan drive when he gave away 100 alarm clocks, all well-known makes, to the first buyers of bonds worth $200 or more. Stories of Gold's idea appeared in the daily press, stimulating attendance and increasing sales.

Because he correctly anticipated the demand for the hard-to-get clocks, donated by the Yorkville Retail Jewelers Ass'n, Gold set up ten bond booths on the sidewalk in front of the theatre. The booths were manned by AWVS representatives, assisted by Harry Conover models and young ladies from the New York Life Insurance Co.

Highest price obtained for an alarm clock was $1,000 apiece. The total number of bonds sold was approximately 300, including several of $1,000 denomination. Total maturity value of the purchases was in excess of $50,000.

C. S. Latta Recounts War Activities by Theatres

ALBANY—A detailed report on war bond sales and Red Cross collections by 210 theatres in this district was given by C. J. Latta, state WAC chairman, in a five-minute talk on the Capitol steps Tuesday afternoon. Latta represented the motion picture industry at a ceremony in which a flag purchased by the pennies of 20,000 school children for the new Cruiser Albany was consecrated. The ceremony was broadcast.

Latta said that the theatres of the district had "joined together, at the outset of the war, to lend their efforts to all drives and to everything they could to end the war," and pointed out total sales in the Sixth War Loan by these theatres exceeded $28,000,000." Latta said "the majority of these theatres are issuing agents, selling stamps and bonds day and night." He added the theatres had collected "nearly $100,000" for the Red Cross in the recent drive.

Latta concluded with a plea and this pledge: "On behalf of the motion picture industry, I pledge that we will continue to do all we can in forthcoming drives until final victory. Let us hope that time is nearer than we think."

Loew's Kings Has Million Dollar War Bond Rally

NEW YORK—The 4,000-seat Loew's Kings Theatre, in Brooklyn, was the scene of a midnight bond rally on June 29. The house was scaled for $1,057,000 in E bonds, with a combination screen and big-name stage show as the bait.

On the stage program were Earl Wilson, Post columnist; Gil Lamb, comedy dancer; Maurice Rocco, boogywoogy pianist; Oscar Homolka, of "I Remember Mama"; Frances Heflin; Jan Murray; Mary Healy; Paula Stone; Phil Brito; Choo Choo Johnson, cover girl; Lou Wills jr., dancing star of "Laffing Room Only"; Lawrence Brooks, singer from "Song of Norway"; Grant Mitchell, Eileen Barton, and many others.

"Salty O'Rourke" was the screen attraction.

ACE REEL END ALARM
JOE HORNSTEIN, Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., New York City
or your Supply Dealer

THE EASTERN AREA'S 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



From 1912 to 1925 **Adolph Nussbaum** operated the Colonial Theatre in Newark. He then took over the National Theatre, a 500-seat house, which he still runs. Nussbaum, who has closely followed the development of the industry from pioneer days, is a member of the Allied Theatre Owners of America. He is active in civic affairs, president of the city Adas Israel congregation and a member of the Masons and Foresters. The Nussbaums have a son, Milton, a first lieutenant in the army dental corps. Two daughters are married. Nussbaum is fond of golf.



Samuel P. Slotnick entered the industry in 1918 with the leasing of the Rialto Theatre, Syracuse. He now owns the Globe, East and Acme theatres, Syracuse, the Palace in Baldwinsville and the Sodus, Sodus, N. Y. Slotnick, a member of a local exhibitor organization, has always operated theatres in the state of New York. He is a Mason, and spends his spare time following industry developments. Slotnick is married and has two children. His 19-year-old son Herbert is a private serving with the Seventh army. Melvin, 13, attends Charles Andrews School.



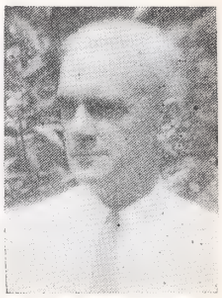
Pete Bekeros has been operating the City Theatre, a 696-seat house in Highland Falls, N. Y., since 1911, and in that period has found time for active participation in civic affairs. He has served as bank director and chief fireman, and at present is a school director and building and loan director. Pete holds membership in the Shrine, Elks, Lions Club and Knights of Pythias. He is acting as sergeant-at-arms for Allied Theatres, and is a fishing and hunting enthusiast. Pete, who is not married, is a veteran of World War I.



In 1912 **Moe M. Kridel** entered the film world. He operated in Criterion Theatre in Brooklyn, N. Y. He is now a resident of South Orange, N. J., and operates the Palace Theatre in Orange, 1,381 seats; the Beacon in East Orange, 1,180 seater, and the Colonial, an 850-seat house. Kridel was a charter member of the original Theatre Owners Chamber of Commerce and a former member of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. The Kridels' son, Jerome, is also in exhibition. Another son, Myron, is a technical sergeant in the air force.



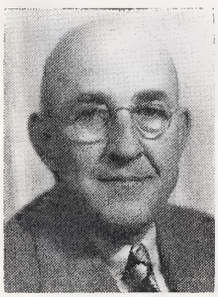
When asked about his life, **Clarence Lucas** replied: "Everything that has happened to me also has happened to Jack Reel." They're partners in the operation of the Radford and Virginian at Radford, Va.; the Pearis at Pearisburg, Va., and the Narrows at Narrows, Va. He lives at Pembroke. Lucas also is president of the Bank of Giles County, the county in which Pembroke and Pearisburg are located. He is a Mason and when not engaged at the theatre or the bank likes to hunt and fish. This exhibitor is married, has no children.



Not many men have made a business of a hobby as did **Jack Reel,** a veteran exhibitor of Pembroke, Va. He began giving motion picture shows in the Pembroke high school auditorium 26 years ago just to "pass the time away in the evening." After the audience left he swept the room and then waited for the coal stove to cool so he could take it home. He has two houses in Radford, one in Pearisburg and another in Narrows. Crime detection pictures are his favorites. He is justice of the peace in Giles County. The Reels have three daughters.



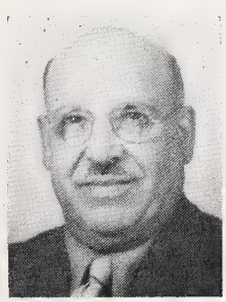
Sam Hochberg of Bloomfield, N. J., has been operating the 400-seat Savoy Theatre in Watsessing since 1925. It is his first and only house. He is actively engaged in community affairs, which he finds absorbing. Hochberg holds membership in the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. Al, the Hochberg's son, has always been interested in exhibition and is now following his father's profession. Hochberg derives great enjoyment from the playful antics of his grandchildren, and when leisure time is available, he is fond of playing pinochle.



It was springtime — April — when **William C. Allen** of the Towson Theatre, Towson, Md., decided the picture exhibition business was the business for him. That was a good many years ago, but Allen is still happy with his decision. The Towson is a 500-seat house that brings a lot of pleasure to its community as does Allen's other house, the Argonne, in the nearby town of Bel Air. He is a director of the MPTO of Maryland and a member of the Masons and Rotary Club. Golf is his greatest relaxation. The Allens have a married daughter.



L. J. Quinn, the veteran owner of the Strand Theatre at North Tarrytown, N. Y., can look back 30 years to the day when he started in the entertainment field as a projectionist. "Leo" has found operating the Strand, a 600-seat house, both profitable and pleasant. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and serves with the Volunteer Firemen Ass'n. Bowling and billiards are his favorite forms of relaxation. He is married and the father of two daughters; Regina is village recreational director at North Tarrytown and Lavina is a clerk.



Peter A. "Pete" Bifarella of Springville, N. Y., began his career in the industry 23 years ago at the Family Theatre, Attica. He now operates the Joylan, a 325-seat house in Springville. Bifarella belongs to the Rotary Club, Holy Name Society and the Knights of Columbus. The Bifarellas have six children. Sally is a Paramount employe and Rose, also following her father's interest in the industry, works for M-G-M. Marian and Helen live at home; Sam, a lieutenant in the navy, is listed missing in action and Leonard, a first sergeant, is overseas.



Max Fogel of Rochester went from the tailoring business to film exhibition in 1913. He still operates the Webster Theatre in Rochester. He closely follows community affairs, holds membership in the Masons and is a past master of Cerphuas Lodge. Fogel is married and has two children. His son, Jerome, is living at home and a daughter, Harriet, is attending Goucher College. Fogel advocates handball and golf for the overworked showman, and he is very good at both sports. He is happy he switched from the tailor trade to show business.



With the building of the Hempstead Theatre, Hempstead, L. I., in 1921, **Gary Piccione** entered the motion picture industry. He now operates the Mineola Theatre, Mineola, the Westbury, Westbury, each with over 1,000 seating capacity, and the Plaza, Freeport. A resident of Rockville Centre, Gary is a member of the Rockville Country Club and is active in the Mineola Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Island Theatre circuit. Piccione is married and has two children, Gary jr., a first lieutenant, army medical corps, and Gloria, a cadet nurse.

ALBANY

Mrs. Anna May Kretzer resigned as ad sales manager for the Warner exchange. Edna Shord will succeed her . . . Two new inspectors are being added July 2 . . . Teresa Morrissey is back on the job after an operation.

A heat wave over the weekend cut into the receipts at a number of area theatres. Cold and unusually rainy weather had kept business at a high level long beyond the normal spring letdown.

Warners' Madison is advertising "New Cooling Plant in Operation." The Madison is a class neighborhood theatre, one of the best in the Albany exchange district. Oscar Perrin, dean of Albany managers, is house chief.

Making the rounds of exchanges were Dayton La Pointe, the Crandall, Chatham; Mrs. Percy Quigley and Miss Julia Dolan, the Coxsackie, Coxsackie; Jerry LaRocque, the Fairyland, Warrensburg; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davis, the Phoenicia, Phoenicia; Mrs. Inez Ferguson, the Copake, Copake; Sam Milberg, PRC salesman and booker for the Family, Watervliet; Henry Frieder and Henry Grossman, the Community and Star, Hudson.

The Highmount Hotel, in the Catskill Mountains, started playing pictures on June 29. It is booking two bills, for single nights, each week . . . Phil Rapp, manager of Fabian's State, Schenectady, received a citation from the Schenectady county WFC for being one of the first to sell ten $1,000 E bonds.

David Snyder, discharged from the army, has resumed operation of the Opera House in Downsville, near the New York-Pennsylvania border . . . All Adirondack and Catskill Mountain hotels serviced by Albany exchanges are or will be playing pictures for guests by July 4.

Louis Rapp, manager of the Plaza, Schenectady, received a letter from Jean Geonett, former assistant manager, who has been with the air corps in England for more than two years. Geonett requested that the Fabian organization keep his desk polished; he hopes to get behind it again.

F. X. Callahan, 20th-Fox district manager, came to Albany from Boston to hold a sales meeting. He discussed policy and product to be released in the next three months. Henry Kahn, a special representative, accompanied Callahan. Kahn, who for some years was associated with Metro and who has been in the motion picture business since 1916, is pinch-hitting for Branch Manager Harry Alexander during the latter's three-week vacation. Wayne Carignan, Fox head shipper, has also been on vacation. His assistant, Ken Thompson, taking over. Sgt. Bud Dale, formerly of the Fox shipping department, has returned to Iceland, after a furlough in the states.

George Seed's striking stallion, Blackie, won the blue ribbon and first prize trophy in a field of 24 horses in the western class at O'Rourke Field, Albany County. The horse was put through his paces by Irwin Ullman, son of S. J. Ullman, Fabian upstate general manager. Seed, manager of the Cohoes and Empire in Cohoes, is an accomplished equestrian. He rides Blackie daily.

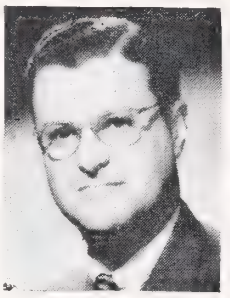
1ST CLASS DISTRIBUTION FOR THE ENTIRE SOUTH — thru

(JOHN) JENKINS & (O. K.) BOURGEOIS

ASTOR PICTURES COMPANY
HARWOOD AND JACKSON STS.

Experience of 15 Years in Game Is Back of Engel

PHILADELPHIA—Jack Engel contributes the wealth of 15 years experience in distribution to Screen Guild Productions, Inc., national distribution system. He sold Universal film in and out of Philadelphia for 11 years, and followed that with three and a half years with RKO. In 1944, he acquired the Film Classics franchise for the Philadelphia area.



JACK ENGEL

Engel was an ardent advocate for the formation of the Screen Guild Productions, Inc., believing that a new national distributing unit would challenge the interest of successful independent producers.

This line of thought led Engel to be one of the first to make a subscription to the Screen Guild capital structure. He is a member of the original board of directors.

PHILADELPHIA

A new theatre, the Abbey, is being planned for the northeast section of the city. It will be operated by Morris Katz and Benjamin Bogoslafsky. The latter is a wealthy baker here . . . Lewen Pizor, president of the MPTO here, has been elected president of the Metropolitan Hospital Ass'n.

"Pride of the Marines," Warner film about the life of Sgt. Al Schmid, blinded Guadalcanal veteran, will have its world premiere at the giant Mastbaum here August 9. Capt. Everett Callow, who as head of the local marine public relations office helped in the production of the picture, will help promote and publicize the premiere as head of the exploitation department of Warner Theatres. Callow recently received a discharge from the marine corps and returned to his old post with the Warner circuit.

FBI agents last week arrested a woman for wearing her Wac uniform despite the fact she had been discharged last January. She said she wore the uniform so she could get into the theatres at reduced prices. She was held in $1,000 bail by the U.S. commissioner.

Frank Pascuzzo, night club operator, landed in court last week at the behest of the WPB. He was forbidden to complete work on his new club in the northeast part of the city on the ground that he had violated building restrictions when he was allowed $2,000 in renovations but had put in $12,000 and was still going strong . . . Mrs. Frances Leon was elected president of the auxiliary of the Variety Club last week. Other officers: Thelma Mintz, vice-president; Sadie Blumberg, treasurer; Miriam Suskin, recording secretary and Edna Baylson, corresponding secretary.

The Philadelphia orchestra wound up its season with a net deficit of $25,478, President Orville H. Bullitt announced, but the season was one of the most "artistically successful" in the orchestra's history, he said . . . George Elmo, Paramount salesman recently elevated to branch manager, and Frank Hammerman, newly appointed exchange head for PRC, were guests at a luncheon on Monday at the Warwick Hotel given by the Motion Picture Associates . . . Max Felt is the new manager of the Frolic.

BUFFALO

The Ink Spots, Ella Fitzgerald and the Cootie Williams orchestra appeared at the Wednesday night war workers show at Shea's Buffalo . . . Monday was the final Free Movie Day of the Seventh War Loan drive. Guest tickets were given to each purchaser of bonds at the various theatre booths. Community theatres this week continued giving two tickets with each bond purchased on any day.

A Detroit youth pleaded guilty here before a U.S. commissioner to a charge of illegally wearing an army uniform. He is alleged to have obtained free meals and theatre tickets at several USO branches . . . The first Buffalo men to be assigned here on lecture trips sponsored by the Second service command arrived this week to show two films, "Reconditioning of Convalescents for Return to Duty" and "Diary of Sergeant Mike."

At a war bond rally in Shea's Kensington last week, Kensington-Bailey section residents paid $30,500 in war bond purchases for $1,000 worth of articles donated by the Kensington Business Men's Ass'n . . . "The Divorce of Lady X," English-made color farce-comedy, and "Rembrandt" were the Mercury offerings last week.

The ECA Club Coeds, 22 young women who are keeping the organization alive until its masculine members return from the war, sponsored a bond rally last week in Basil's Strand . . . The Sisterhood of Beth El, cooperating with Shea's Great Lakes, distributed free cigarets to all bond-buyers at the Movieland Bond Cottage last week.

Nancy Carroll, stage and screen star appearing at the Erlanger in "Too Many Husbands," appeared at a noonday bond rally in Lafayette Square . . . Marjorie Onions, M-G-M contract clerk, is on vacation . . . Betty Wingo, head booker, is back.

Columbia: Irving Sherman, assistant manager of branch operations, was here conferring with the cashier department . . . The girls beat RKO's women bowlers in that return match by 159 points. RKO was depending on their star, Eleanor Lanning, but Eleanor injured her ankle the day of the match and could not bowl . . . Anne Engler, secretary, returned from a weekend trip wearing an engagement ring, given her by Bob Zimmerman, on leave from the navy . . . George Ferguson, Buffalo salesman, is pinch-hitting for Meyer Fox at the booking desk.

Paramount: Paramount month is proceeding at full blast. Dates are coming in fast . . . 20th-Fox: Mildred Block, assistant cashier, is vacationing at Schroon Lake . . . Gertrude Wisniewski, stenographer, is spending a week near Eden . . . J. J. Grady, district manager, was a visitor . . . Ira H. Cohn accompanied Grady to Binghamton to see T. J. Walsh of the Comerford Theatres . . . Claire Spinner, inspector, is laid up with a foot injured in an accident in the shipping room . . . Manager Cohn will celebrate his 26th year with Fox Film Corp., July 5.

RKO: "Back to Bataan" opens this week at the Twentieth Century. Two soldiers who were in the Bataan death march have addressed audiences for a week after trailers were shown on the screen . . . The RKO exchange summer party has been set for July 21 at Manager Elmer Lux's summer home in Canada . . . Wilma Powell, biller, departed yesterday (29) for the marine barracks at Earle, N. J., to see her brother Keith, who recently returned from overseas for reassignment.

BALTIMORE

Gertrude Bunchez, publicity director at Loew's Century, is vacationing in Texas . . . Edward Bachmann, manager, has had the frames and marquee repainted at the Bridge . . . Across from F. H. Durkee's Senator Theatre is a parking lot for a restaurant. Theatre customers must have been taking most of the space because now a large sign has been erected reading "No Movie Parking."

James Dixon, former assistant at the Century now in the navy, was in town . . . Charles V. Gordon, has been reappointed to the Maryland state board of motion picture operator examiners. Other members recently named by Governor O'Connor are Caroll Baynes and Frank Hornig.

Rome circuit: Harry Vallantine will continue as supervisor and William Zell will continue to book . . . Arthur Greenblatt, eastern district manager for Monogram, was in town in advance of "Dillinger" at the Mayfair.

For the first time at Keith's, Lawrence Schanberger is showing a double feature of two Universal reissues, "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven." Double feature is for the one engagement . . . The late J. Louis Rome left an estate of $300,000 and interests in 13 theatres.

William K. Saxton, managing director of Loew's Century, held his fifth war bond premiere with the prerelease showing of "The Clock" . . . The Edgewood arsenal band gave a concert in front of the theatre. A custom-made suit and a needlepoint bag were given to the person buying the largest bond.

I. M. Rappaport opened with "This Is the Coast Guard," a musical revue starring Dick Stabile, former band leader and now chief coast guard musician, at the Hippodrome, June 28 . . . The WMC announces a relaxation for the Baltimore area in control over women's jobs. Exhibitors were pleased.

Harry Goldstein, Monogram's chief exploitation man, says he can't get used to the boat whistles and the chimes from city hall clock at night while he is trying to sleep.

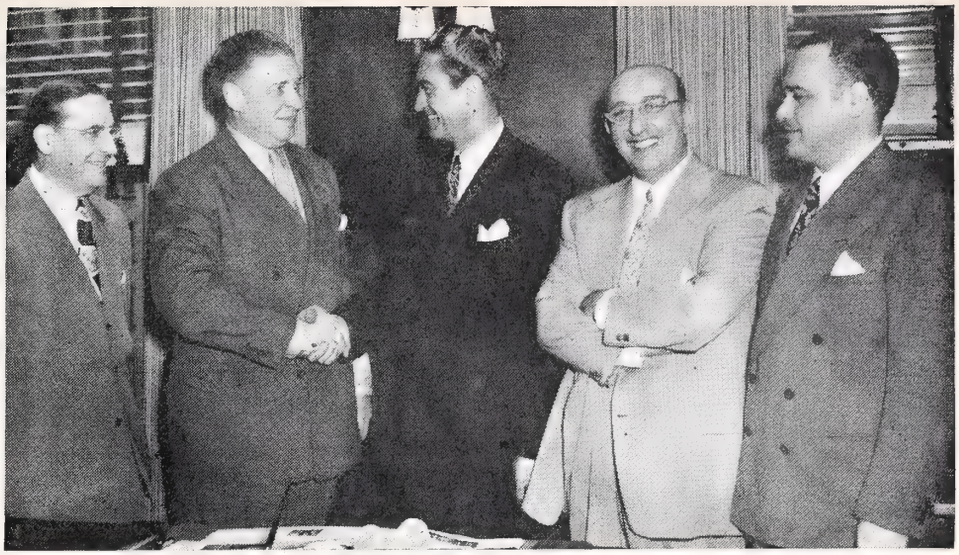
Former State Senator John Callen died this week. He was known to all the exhibitors here as president of the Liberty Defense League, which in 1928 opened the fight on the 150-year-old blue laws that forbade Sunday shows. On Sunday, June 29, 1928, he staged a Sunday show as a test case at the Broadway Garden Theatre at Baltimore and Gay Sts. He was arrested but the grand jury refused to indict him, but a week later when he tried again the show was stopped and he was fined $100. He then introduced a bill to repeal the blue laws. Result, Baltimore has Sunday motion pictures.

Louis Schecter, Rex, is running a kiddie bond show June 30. All kiddies attending will receive a free comic book . . . Sam Wheeler, Wheeler exchange, says he is looking for long runs of his film, "Thunder Rock," which opens at the Little, Baltimore, and the Little in Washington.

"Brazil," Republic Film, Goes Over Big in Rio

NEW YORK—The Ribeiro circuit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, played the Republic musical "Brazil" in day-and-date engagements at five of its houses. Grosses for the fourth day were 60 per cent better than on the opening day.

The film later opened a day-and-date engagement in Sao Paulo at two of the de luxe houses of the Serrador circuit.



HAPPY ABOUT IT!—This enthusiasm was generated at a meeting in the New York Paramount exchange for discussion of the Third of a Century celebration, August 26 to September 29. Left to right: Edward H. Bell, northern New Jersey sales supervisor; Duke Clark, anniversary co-captain; Hugh Owen, New York and southern division manager; Henry Randel, branch manager, and Myron Sattler, sales manager.

Legion Head Back After Visiting AEF Cemeteries

ALBANY—Former Judge Edward N. Scheiberling, member of the Albany Variety Club, former USO chairman here and national commander of the American Legion, has returned from a 20,000-mile plane flight to the American cemeteries in Europe. Judge Scheiberling met Pvt. Erastus Corning II, Albany's mayor and likewise a member of the Variety Club, at Brunswick, Germany, on his tour.

He was received by General Eisenhower and Pope Pius XII in private audiences.

Scheiberling attended the San Francisco Security Conference, for the American Legion, prior to leaving for a 40-day trip to France, Germany, Italy and England. He visited 26 cemeteries.

Will Reopen MPPDA's Paris Office

NEW YORK—Harold Smith, former Continental European representative for the MPPDA, left for Paris to reopen the office closed since the start of the war.

WB Field Men to Help Gauge Public Trends

New York—Warner Bros. field representatives were urged by Maj. Albert Warner, vice-president of the company, to give greater attention not only to maintaining good relations with exhibitors but also to closer cooperation along the lines of general public service.

"We aren't just in the entertainment business any more," he told a joint meeting of district managers and field men. "We have an important public responsibility to bear in mind. There is a big morale job for us to do when peace comes, just as there is while the war is on.

"The process of conversion from war to peacetime economy is bound to upset a lot of communities, necessitating a considerable shift in population, and perhaps bringing about changes in entertainment trends. It's up to you field men to watch those trends and help your exhibitor customers to keep a finger on the public's pulse, so the studio may be guided accordingly."

Indianapolis Is 100% Set for "Pyle Day"

INDIANAPOLIS—With seats scaled up to $100 a ticket, full proceeds on opening night of "Story of G.I. Joe" at Loew's Theatre on July 6 will go to an Ernie Pyle fund for a school of journalism scholarship at the University of Indiana, the late war correspondent's alma mater. Leading citizens have formed a sponsors' committee for the premiere.

Through the cooperation of the Retail Merchants Ass'n all buildings and streets will be decorated. Full window display coverage, cooperative newspaper advertising and radio time on all major networks is assured the opening. Schedule of events will start with a parade of Camp Atterbury infantry, motorized equipment and military bands.

The Indianapolis Press Club will act as host to visiting newspaper representatives at a cocktail party, following which there will be a dinner at the Claypool Hotel tendered by the sponsors' committee to out-of-town dignitaries, including U.S. senators, representatives, the governor, the mayor, the president of the University of Indiana. An army vehicle will bring Ernie Pyle's father and aunt here from Dana, Ind.

On the stage of Loew's, prior to the screening of the film, a bust of Pyle will be presented to the university. The Indianapolis Times will award the original manuscript of "Story of G.I. Joe" to the highest bidder in war bonds. The state of Indiana has arranged for a 24-sheet billboard on Monument Circle, and all streetcars and taxicabs will carry cards and snipes announcing the premiere.

The city has arranged for special lamppost cards to be hung in the downtown area. Proclamations calling for all citizens to honor Ernie Pyle's memory on July 6 have been issued by Governor Gates, Mayor Tyndall and Edward R. Scheiberling, local American Legion post commander.

Stage and Wall Drapes
JOE HORNSTEIN *has it!*

FCC Finally Raises FM to Higher Band

WASHINGTON—The Federal Communications Commission has given frequency modulation broadcasting a higher band. In its final report on radio-frequency allocations between 44 and 108 megacycles, FCC assigned FM 90 channels between 88 and 106 mc, 20 of which, from 88 to 92 mc, are for non-educational FM. Currently FM is between 42 and 50 mc; consequently the action lifts it "upstairs."

Six channels have been assigned to television, one between 44-50 mc, three between 54 and 72 mc, and two between 76 and 88 mc. Allocation of these six-megacycle bands, it is said, will make possible immediately the use of all 13 television channels below 300 mc. Television also will probably be given a higher band, according to an industry spokesman.

The proposed upward movement of FM has been the most controversial issue in the whole program of postwar frequency allocations. In adopting the conclusion just announced, FCC overruled the recommendations of the Radio Technical Planning Board's four panels on FM, television, facsimile and coordination of frequency allocations, respectively; of Maj. Edwin H. Armstrong, inventor of FM; and the strongly expressed opposition of officials and engineers of RCA, NBC, Zenith Radio Corp., Television Broadcasters Ass'n, FM Broadcasters, Inc., Electronics Manufacturers Ass'n, and Pioneer FM Radio Manufacturers.

President John Ballantyne of the Philco Corporation, one of the largest radio set manufacturers, heralded the FCC decision as giving "the green light" to both FM and television. "The commission's decision establishes FM radio on a high-quality basis that will provide interference-free service for the public and, over the years, lead to its fullest possible development," he said.

All-Star Bill Aids Bond Sale at Yankee Stadium

NEW YORK—Last-minute additions to the all-star stage show at Yankee Stadium, Tuesday night, July 3, include Lucille Ball, Helen Jepson, Dennis Morgan, Connie Haines and Edgar Kennedy. Earlier volunteers for the U.S. army war bond spectacle, "Here's Your Infantry," were Abbott and Costello, Helen Hayes, Judy Canova, Edward Arnold, Leo Carrillo, Tony and Sally DeMarco, and the Nicholas Brothers.

Tickets for the show may be obtained by a war bond purchase at any picture theatre in the five boroughs and Westchester County.

"Bell for Adano" Follows "Decision" at Music Hall

NEW YORK—"A Belle for Adano," scheduled to follow the current attraction, "The Valley of Decision," into the Radio City Music Hall, will be the first 20th-Fox film to play there in nearly a year and a half. "Decision" is now in its ninth week at the Music Hall.

The last 20th-Fox picture to play at the Music Hall was "Jane Eyre," in February, 1944. Other films made by the same company that have played there previously have been "Claudia," in November, 1943, and "Tales of Manhattan," in September, 1942.

"Rockies" at Laffmovie

NEW YORK — Columbia's feature length comedy-musical, "Rockin' in the Rockies," will have its local premiere at the Laffmovie on July 4. The cast is headed by the Three Stooges and Mary Beth Hughes.

Extend WAC Bond Drive One Week, to July 7

New York—The War Activities Committee, nationally and locally, has decided to continue its bond selling activities until July 7, although the Seventh War Loan drive terminated officially June 30. Theatres throughout the country have determined to take advantage of the additional week and reach the individual purchases quota of $4,000,000,000.

Roach, Wilson File Suits Against Film Classics

NEW YORK—Hal Roach has filed suit for $50,000 against Film Classics. He claims breach of contract and seeks to terminate a contract signed with the releasing company in August, 1943, for the rights to all Roach films. He further says he believes that a statement of June 15, 1945, accounting for approximately $19,000 due him over and above a $10,000 advance, should show receipts closer to $50,000. Stillman & Stillman, attorneys for Film Classics, report that they had asked arbitration previous to the present suit by Roach, claiming that the producer has not delivered pictures contracted for and, further, has withheld money from the company in excess of his claims. The releasing company intends to file a countersuit.

A second suit against Film Classics has been filed by Maurice Wilson. He wants an accounting on seven films that the company was to release in some European countries: "Becky Sharpe," "The Young in Heart," "Dancing Pirate," "Nothing Sacred," "Made for Each Other," "A Star Is Born" and "Little Lord Fauntleroy." In this case the company's attorneys claim that they turned over the rights of the pictures to Irving Shapiro, that they have received no money to account for, and categorically deny all charges made by Wilson.

AT&T Files Debentures With Securities Board

NEW YORK—American Telephone & Telegraph Co. proposes the issuance and sale of $175,000,000 of 35-year 2¾ per cent debentures, due on Aug. 1, 1980, according to a registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Net proceeds from the sale of this issue, with other funds of the company, will be used, as announced previously, to retire on October 1 at 105 and accrued interest, the company's 25-year 3¼ per cent debentures, due on Oct. 1, 1961, which are outstanding in a like principal amount.

Munson Upped to General

WASHINGTON—The senate has confirmed the promotion of Col. E. L. Munson jr., chief of the army pictorial service, signal corps, to the rank of brigadier general. He is in charge of the producton of training and informational films, distribution of the industry's gift 16mm entertainment pictures overseas, and maintenance of still and motion picture records of the war for the U.S. war department.

WB to 24-Sheet England

NEW YORK—Warner Bros. will spend approximately $150,000 on posters to be displayed this year throughout the United Kingdom. This is the first time a producing and distributing company has undertaken a sustained poster campaign in the British Isles, according to WB reports. Sites ranging from 24-sheets to 48-sheets have been bought in all exchange territories and most of the key cities.

Television at Standstill In England, West Says

NEW YORK—Television in England has been at an absolute standstill since the war, reports Capt. A. G. D. West, president of the British Kinematograph Society and technical director of three television companies of the J. Arthur Rank organization. Captain West arrived by plane from London to spend about a month in the United States for a quick survey of television progress here. He said he hoped some advance technically had been reached in American laboratories.

He will visit engineers and laboratories in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and other cities to study developments in the three principal fields of television—large-screen, home and transmission. He wishes to compare American ideas on future technical progress with those of British engineers now beginning again to work on the problem.

Before the war 20,000 receivers were sold in England, Captain West said, of which an estimated 5,000 were lost during the bombings. Six theatres were equipped with 12x15 screens, and these houses got excellent results televising special events such as boxing matches and the derby. On his return to London about the middle of July, Captain West will participate in the consolidation of Bush Radio with Cinema Television, Ltd., one of the companies he already heads as technical director. The other two Rank firms are Baird Television, Ltd., and Societe Internationale de Television.

Rush Tele Plan, ATS Asks FCC, to Assure Vets Jobs

NEW YORK—The American Television Society, endorsing the recommendation of the Television Broadcasters Ass'n and Frequency Modulation Broadcasters, Inc., has advocated early establishment of television plans so members in the armed forces might have a more promising employment picture awaiting them on their return.

"Many of our members are in the armed services and are particularly concerned lest failure to have television plans completed, before widespread cutbacks in war orders occur, weaken possibilities of employment for themselves and their comrades," a letter from ATS President George Shupert to the Federal Communications Commission reads, in part. Specific recommendation was made that the FCC adopt at once television alternate plan number one, giving television 68 to 74 megacycles, 78 to 108 megacycles and 174 to 216 megacycles.

Television Sets Are High On Postwar Buying Lists

NEW YORK—"Television sets are so high on postwar shopping lists, according to public opinion surveys, that even with 50 manufacturers talking production, there is little chance of the supply satisfying the demand for years to come," Paul E. Carlson, receiver sales executive of the DuMont Laboratories, told members of the American Marketing Ass'n recently.

When the stations are built for which applications are on file, he predicted, television will be available to more than 60,000,000 persons.

Winkler Joins 20th-Fox

NEW YORK—Ruth Winkler has joined the 20th-Fox home office exploitation staff as assistant to Chester Feitel. She formerly was a publisher of theatrical souvenir programs.

Erno Rapee Succumbs To Heart Ailment

NEW YORK—Erno Rapee, director of the Radio City Music Hall orchestra since the theatre opened in December, 1932, died at his home at 25 Central Park West, after suffering a heart attack. He was 55.

Born in Budapest June 4, 1891, he received his early musical education at the conservatory in that city. Graduating from the institution in 1909, he spent a season with the Dresden Opera before leaving for New York in 1912.

Arriving without funds, he drifted to the Hungarian quarter, and was hired as a musician at the Cafe Monopole for $25 a week. Soon afterward he became musical director for the Hungarian Opera Co. of New York.

In 1917 he went to work for the late S. J. Rothafel, better known as "Roxy," and became musical director of the Rialto Theatre. Followed several years at the Capitol, the Fox in Philadelphia, and the Roxy Theatre here, during which his "campaign to bring high-class music to America" resulted in spreading the appeal of the classics from early presentations of popular arias from "Faust" and "Carmen" to the more profound works of Tchaikowsky and Wagner.

Subsequently he became musical director for Warner Bros.-First National Pictures in Hollywood. Since the beginning of the war, Rapee had given some of his time each week to service in the United States coast guard.

He leaves his wife and two sons, Robert, a saxophonist in the orchestra at the Center Theatre, and George, an attorney, recently discharged from the army.

Ben Ginsberg, Universal Dead After Heart Attack

NEW YORK—Ben Ginsberg, 60, who joined Universal in 1912, died of a heart attack at his home in Brooklyn. At his death he was supervisor of the shipping department at the New York exchange.

He had been assistant supervisor for 15 years until 1937 when he was appointed head of the department.

Funeral services were conducted at the Glassman Memorial Chapel, 200 Broome St. Burial was in Bayside Cemetery, Queens.

Ginsberg is survived by his wife, Alice; a daughter, Beulah, and a son, Robert, who recently arrived in this country after being wounded in action in Europe.

Former Zukor Secretary, Belle Goldstein, Dies

NEW YORK—Belle Goldstein, who served as Adolph Zukor's confidential secretary from his start in the industry until 1938, died in the Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital. In the latter year, Miss Goldstein joined the Paramount studio's radio department on the coast. She returned to New York some time later to join the eastern office of International Pictures. She was granted a leave of absence several months ago. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Esther Goldstein, and two sisters. The funeral was held Thursday at the Riverside Memorial Chapel.

Pioneer Walter C. Thomas Succumbs

PITTSBURGH—Walter C. Thomas, 54, veteran of the industry here, died at his home Tuesday afternoon of heart disease. Thomas pioneered in the nickelodeon days and was an independent distributor for upward of 40 years. For many years he was a newsreel photographer. Proprietor of the Acme Distributing Co., he handled all local independent films and many industrial films and trailers.



ANNIVERSARY PLAQUE — Phil Wilcox, in behalf of Parents' magazine, presents "a tribute to a decade of progress and achievement in the production of wholesome, popular American motion picture entertainment" to Herbert J. Yates sr., president of Republic Productions.

Variety Club Conference Cancelled Indefinitely

NEW YORK—The Variety Club conference, scheduled to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Aug. 16-18, has been cancelled. Despite the fact this year's affair was to be of limited size, the executive committee believed that the organization could best cooperate with the ODT and facilitate the tremendous troop movements by calling off the meeting.

A new date will not be set for a meeting until transportation facilities are more free to carry civilian personnel. In the meantime, the Humanitarian Award committee will meet to decide upon this year's recipient of the award.

Worthiest Teacher Derby For "The Corn Is Green"

CINCINNATI — As the highlight of the campaign for "The Corn Is Green" an essay contest was being sponsored by the Palace Theatre, Arthur Frudenfeld manager. Students wrote on "The teacher who has done the most for me." Good support was received from the press and radio, with a tiein by the local CBS station, WCKY.

Prizes included a silver plaque signed by Bette Davis for the worthiest teacher, and a war bond to the winning student. Honor pupils, teachers and civic officials assembled at the Palace on the opening night for the presentation of the awards.

Mrs. Rose Seider, 61, Wife Of Circuit Partner, Dies

NEW YORK—Mrs. Rose Seider, 61, wife of Isidore Seider, partner in the Prudential circuit and Prudential film delivery, died at her home in Brooklyn after a short illness. She was active in the Yeshiva and other Jewish educational and philanthropic groups.

Funeral services were held at the Midwood Chapel, 1625 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn. Burial was in Staten Island. In addition to her husband, Mrs. Seider is survived by three sons, Morris, Edward and Seymour.

Maurice Goldberg Dies

CHICAGO—Maurice H. Goldberg, founder and president of the GoldE Manufacturing Co., died here on June 19. An announcement from the firm states that the business will be carried on under the present management.

Stars Go on the Air In Republic's Honor

NEW YORK—To date nine Republic stars have made feature appearances on nationwide radio broadcasts in connection with the company's 10th anniversary celebration. During July, windup month of the milestone observance, five more broadcasts will feature Republic luminaries.

Jane Withers, heard on Which Is Which? and Blind Date, makes a third appearance on the General Electric House Party as well as over CBS, July 6. Al Pearce has been featured on the GE House Party as well as "Which Is Which?" and "People Are Funny," NBC program. Other Republic stars featured on nationwide broadcasts were Monty Hale, on "People Are Funny"; Vera Hruba Ralston, Tito Guizar and (by proxy) John Wayne, on "Which Is Which?" and Bill Elliott on "Breakfast in Hollywood."

Still to make scheduled appearances are Dale Evans on "Blind Date," July 2; Saundra Berkova on "People Are Funny," July 13; Victor McLaglen on the same program, July 20, and Constance Moore on the GE House Party program, July 11. A Republic star for the "People Are Funny" program, July 8, is still to be chosen.

Schedule Three Regional Meetings for Monogram

HOLLYWOOD—Three simultaneous regional meetings of Monogram distribution forces have been scheduled for July 14-15, according to an announcement by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. Huddles will concern themselves principally with complete and final release schedules for the 1945-46 season, as well as discussion of selling plans and exploitation programs.

The Pacific coast meeting, at which Broidy himself will preside, will be held in Los Angeles.

The New York meeting will be conducted by Edward Morey, assistant sales manager, and Morey Goldstein, eastern sales manager, and conferences in Chicago will be in charge of Sol Francis, midwest district manager, and Arthur Greenblatt, special representative.

RCA's International Ads Boost Para's "Tomorrow"

NEW YORK—Paramount has arranged a tieup with RCA's international division for advertising "And Now Tomorrow." Foreign language newspaper ads, 925-line size, will appear throughout the world concurrently with the release of the picture.

To date, the advertisement, in Spanish, has appeared in the leading newspapers of Mexico, Cuba and Puerto Rico. As release dates occur elsewhere, similar advertisements, printed in the native tongue, will appear simultaneously.

The copy states: "Lovely Loretta Young in her gallant role in the compelling Paramount Picture, 'And Now Tomorrow,' is a symbol of faith in the future and the desire for happier living . . ."

Honor France and Russia

NEW YORK — French and Russian war heroes, diplomatic and consular representatives, and choral and dancing groups attired in native costume, participated in French - American and Russian - American Day. The occasion was the sixth of the colorful United Nations festivals presented at the film industry's Iwo Jima memorial in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive.

WASHINGTON

J T. Powell will open his New Theatre, Chincoteague, Va., on July 2. It seats 400. Powell also owns the Powell, which seats 425.

Twentieth-Fox's booker, Nat Rosen, is on vacation. He and the wife and son Barry went up to New York to visit the folks.

Joe Fields, former owner of the Rivoli and Embassy theatres, Baltimore, is in town on a visit from Hollywood.

Virginia Walker is the new employe in the WB contract department. She will also relieve on the switchboard.

Bill Brocker, Paramount exploiteer, was a recent WB visitor.

Lieut. Comdr. George Werner, formerly short subjects booker, stopped in to say "hello" before hopping off for his next assignment.

Celo Karley, former secretary to Harry Anger of WB, is visiting in Tennessee and will also make a trip to South Dakota.

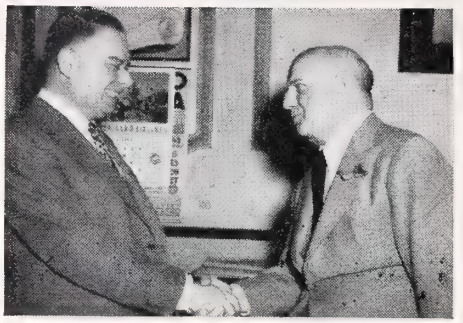
Beth Davis, contract department, is wearing a brand new engagement ring . . . Kitty McGlynn, booking department, was the sole attendant at the wedding of her sister Eleanor June 30 . . . Rodney Collier, manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, was in to confer with Frank LaFalce, publicity director . . . Cyril Mee, manager of the Opera House, Frederick, Md., celebrated his 31st wedding anniversary June 17.

Coast Guardsman O. Francis Leland came in from Baltimore to spend a few days . . . The Wilson Colliers, Fairfax Theatre, Kilmarnock, Va., are the proud parents of a son born in a Richmond hospital . . . At United Artists home office auditor, Julius Levine, is in for a periodical checkup . . . Local F-13 executive board held a regular meeting on Wednesday evening . . . Tommy Rosa has resigned as relief manager of the K-B Theatres to go into the appliance business.

Allen Dibble, March of Time representative here, is on vacation. Perry Culley is holding down the fort . . . Columbia office manager, Oscar Blumenthal, is vacationing . . . Bill Gearing has resigned as student booker at Warners to accept a bookership at Monogram . . . Doris Piper is the new E40 clerk at 20th-Fox . . . Norman Elson, vice-president of the Translux Theatre Corp., stopped off here . . . Paramount shipper, Pete Badessa replaces Pat O'Lones who resigned recently. Badessa comes back to Paramount after 20 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Goodman, Ideal Theatre, Baltimore, are spending the summer at Ocean City, Md. . . . C. E. Peppiatt, 20th-Fox branch manager, spent several days touring with Salesman Glenn Norris . . . A. V. S. Clark, for many years associated with the Paramount and James theatres in Newport News, Va., has resigned to accept a position with the Schine circuit. Clark is now in Gloversville, N. Y. for a brief orientation period before being assigned to one of the Schine houses in a managerial capacity.

Joseph H. Gollner, son of Schine district manager, Marsh Gollner, passed entrance exams to the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and entered the academy on June 16, 24 years after Daddy Gollner entered the same academy . . . Lieut. John Howard, USNR, and Bea Mattingly were married last week . . . Helen McClung is the new Form 40 clerk at Paramount . . . Gladys Murray Silverstein has resigned from the Wheeler Film Co. to make her residence in New York City. Gertrude Epstein is resigning from PRC to replace her as booker and office manager.



HANDS 'CROSS THE BORDER—Herbert J. Yates sr., president of Republic, greets Alexander Buelma, head of the Mexican Tourist Bureau, while visiting Mexico City. While there Yates made arrangements for production of at least six Spanish language pictures yearly.

Blood donors from 20th-Fox this week included Emil Kashouty, Doris Scheer, Marion Bowen and Pearl Torney . . . Joseph Basson, IATSE representative, came in from New York last week for a few days' visit . . . Emlyn Bemfer, on leave of absence from Paramount, writes from Orlando, Fla., that she is slowly regaining her health . . . Little Arthur Diamond was guest of honor at a birthday party given in his honor at the Baltimore Variety Club June 25. His daddy, Sam, 20th-Fox Baltimore representative, also celebrated his birthday on the same day.

Lee Septembre has resigned as exploiteer for Columbia Pictures to accept a similar position with one of the western branches of RKO. Wife Vera, who operated the switchboard for Columbia, has also resigned . . . Producer Jules Levey was a Washington visitor this week . . . The Lawrence Schanbergers, Keith's Theatre, Baltimore, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary with a reception and dinner at the Belvidere Hotel recently.

Margaret Stant of United Artists is away sick . . . It is rumored that two more theatres are to be built in Alexandria, Va. . . . Saturday night parties at the Variety Club are very popular and successful—next one scheduled for July 7 . . . Tom Pozin has resigned as booker and office manager at Monogram to go into the army.

Lieut. Bernard L. Rosen, son of Morton Rosen, Baltimore exhibitor, has just received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Lieutenant Rosen is stationed in Germany. His brother, Pvt. Hobart Rosen, who spent three months in a hospital in England, has now returned to France . . . Grace Fisher, Maryland and Embassy Theatres, Cumberland, Md., together with her granddaughter, Vivian Stooch, were Filmrow callers. Vivian will enter Holy Cross Academy in the fall . . . Daniel Atkins, Cardiff and Hancock, Md., was in town.

Eleanor Shefferman is the new biller . . . May Manger's son, Tommy, has gone back to Oklahoma City after several days' leave . . . Walter Shermans, navy husband of Bebe Shermans, head biller, has been transferred from California to New York . . . Booker's secretary, Hazel McCarthy, is spending a few weeks' vacation at North Beach, Md. . . . Dorothy Pfluger, cashier department, is in Charlestown, S. C., visiting her husband, Ray, who is a radarman 2nd class . . . Inspector Frances Clark is vacationing.

Cesar Romero, screen actor, is scheduled to appear at Iz Rappaport's Hippodrome Theatre in Baltimore soon . . . Lillian Levy, Columbia Pictures, is in Hollywood, on leave of absence . . . Sara Young has returned to her desk at 20th-Fox after several weeks' absence in Brookline, Mass., because of the serious illness of her mother. Son Richard is visiting relatives in Lynbrook, L. I. . . . Paramount's Mary Donahue is vacationing in Ohio and Dorothy Hafferty is on vacation in North Beach, Md. . . . The Morris Oletskys and the Barry Goldmans will soon leave for Ocean City, Md. to spend the summer.

A special screening room premiere on July 2 with a $1,000 war bond tag on each of the 50 seats, has been arranged for the Benjamin Franklin Fellowcraft Club of D. C. by Sol Sorkin, manager of RKO Keith's Theatre. For the $50,000 show, Sorkin will screen RKO's "Wonder Man," starring Danny Kaye . . . For the third time in the Seventh War Loan drive, Frank Sabotka, manager of Warner's Avalon Theatre, Washington, D. C., has surpassed his bond quota. He has achieved $54,350 in bond sales against an original quota of $15,000 which places him well on the way to a fourth turn around.

Three more Warner Theatres, the Savoy, Avenue Grand, and Silver, have reached their quotas for the current drive, bringing to eleven the number of Warner houses in D. C. to go "over the top." Alex J. Kalabokos, manager of the Savoy, has sold $20,700 in bonds, thus surpassing his quota of $20,000; George N. Page, manager of the Avenue Grand, has a bond sales total to date of $25,000 and Claude Land, of the Silver, has met a quota of $60,000 in E bonds.

Albany Theatre Men Aid In Cruiser Flag Ceremony

ALBANY—Charles A. Smakwitz, assistant zone manager of Warner Theatres and public relations director for the WAC upstate, was on the committee of arrangements for the blessing by Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergymen of a battle flag for the Cruiser Albany. Ceremonies were held on the steps of the capitol Tuesday, being broadcast by Stations WOKO and WABY.

The flag was purchased by pennies contributed by the city's 20,000 school children. Dr. John W. Parks, superintendent of Albany public schools, was chairman of the Albany student cruiser battleflag fund committee.

The crack Fort Jay army band of 54 pieces, which was to appear on the stage of the Strand theatre that night in connection with a war bond show, played for the capitol steps ceremonies. S/Sgt. Howard A. Stanton, 33, of Paterson, N. J., a veteran of 25 months' combat service in the Pacific area, spoke.

The Cruiser Albany was to be launched at Quincy, Mass., June 30, with a group of selected Albanians, including school youngsters, as guests. It is the fifth war ship to bear the name of the city.

PRC Acquires Exchanges In Boston, New Haven

NEW YORK—PRC has acquired its own exchanges in Boston and New Haven. Harry Goldman has been retained as branch manager of the Boston office, and Harry Gibbs for the New Haven.

Acquisition of the two New England branches gives the company a total of 11 exchanges. The others are Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Omaha, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

HOLLYWOOD BOXOFFICE
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTER
(Hollywood Office—Suite 219 at 6404 Hollywood Blvd.; Ivan Spear, Western Manager)

Chas. L. Glett Named International Boss

Charles L. Glett has been apointed general studio manager of Selznick International Pictures, according to an announcement made by Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard Films, Inc. Glett will supervise the physical phases of Selznick activities including supervision of the production manager's office.

Recently discharged for the signal corps as a major, Glett will step into the position with a background of many years in the motion picture industry. Before entering the army, he was vice-president and general manager of Myron Selznick & Co.

L. Milestone Will Direct "Love Lies" for Wallis

Hal Wallis Productions announced that Lewis Milestone has been signed to direct the psychological melodrama, "Love Lies Bleeding," a Paramount release. The picture is scheduled to start rolling in September. The screenplay, from an original by Jack Patrick, will be written by Robert Rosson, who recently was associated with Milestone on "Walk in the Sun." They have deferred another independent venture as a result of their interest in the Wallis production. Lizabeth Scott has been signed for one of the leading roles.

D. O. Selznick to Expand Use of Gallup Poll

Negotiations have been completed between David O. Selznick and Albert E. Sindlinger, executive vice-president of Audience Research, Inc., for the continued service of the research facilities of Dr. Gallup's organization. During his recent visit to New York, Selznick had a number of conferences with the Gallup research organization on plans to expand the research facilities rendered to Selznick in relation to future productions.

Jack Grant Leaves PRC

Having completed his first production for PRC Pictures, "Shadow of Terror," and turned in a completed script of "Wife of Monte Cristo," Jack Grant checked off the PRC lot recently. "Shadow of Terror," formerly "Checkmate," is now being scored, and "Wife of Monte Cristo," is ready to go into production within the next month.

Contract to Les Goodwins

Leslie Goodwins, who has directed a number of RKO s smaller budget films during the last 12 years without a contract, has been signed by the studio on a term deal calling for his services as a producer-director. Goodwins is currently directing "Riverboat Rhythm."

Rank Prefers Free Film Trade Without Quotas

HOLLYWOOD—Unrolling its very best red carpet, Hollywood extended a warm welcome to J. Arthur Rank, British film tycoon leader, who, accompanied by his entourage, arrived in the film capital for a two-week stay.

Little new information concerning his current operations or future plans came out of the series of press conferences, luncheons and other events which featured the first day of his visit. Rank, in both informal interviews and prepared statements, repeated what he had already told reporters in Canada and New York, which information has been widely printed.

Highlights of his careful answers to questions addressed to him at his press conference revealed:

He proposes purchasing a New York theatre to be used principally as an American showcase for British-made films; but he is not contemplating a theatre-building program in this country.

Twenty to 30 features will be produced during the forthcoming season by the production organizations he controls. British producers are leaning more toward the American production code so as to avoid the necessity of making changes in their product when it is released in this country. Some such changes will be necessary in his current "Henry V," which United Artists will distribute.

Rank declared that United Artists for the time being will continue to be his major outlet in this country, with one film going to 20th-Fox. He said that Universal's distribution setup will not be used for his pictures, although he has a substantial financial interest in Universal. He is not planning, for the time being at least, on establishing his own American distributing organization.

Concerning the British quota law, Rank declared that he was more or less duty bound to favor it in his capacity as head of the British Producers Ass'n, but that, as an individual producer and exhibitor, he would rather operate without it, permitting a return of unhampered competition solely on merit between British and American films. The quota law runs until 1948, at which time it comes up for continuation or killing.

"Want to Make Finest Films"

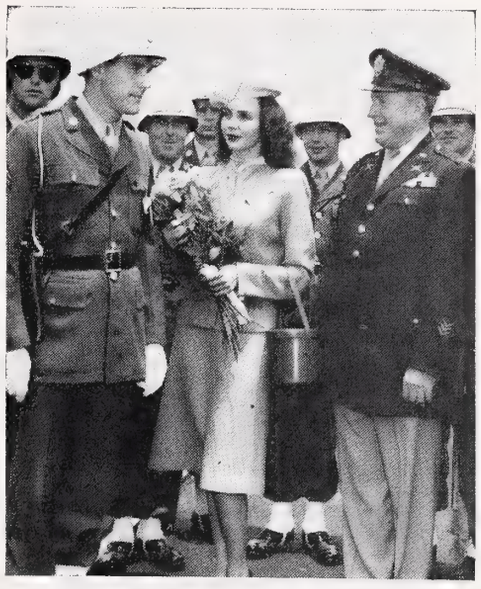
Rank's prepared formal statement handed to the press on the morning of his arrival stated:

"I have come to Hollywood to study and to learn something of American film production methods, at the invitation of the various American film companies. I am grateful for the opportunity and for the chance to make many new American friends among you here. In England, it has been my privilege to have made many friends among the American representatives for your film companies there and among the officers and soldiers of the American army serving in Europe, many from your industry here. It is these friendships which bring our two countries closer together—in peace as we now are in war.

"What do we want? The answer is very simple. We want to make the finest films of which we are capable and we are seeking for them a fair proportion of the world's audiences—here in the United States, as well as elsewhere.

"But, to read into this ambition any feeling of conflict is without basis. We quite openly admit that we hope to create strong friendly competition for Hollywood. I be-

(Continued on next page)



ARMY HAILS JENNIFER—Selected as their favorite actress in a poll of millions of GIs conducted by the army pictorial service, Jennifer Jones was given a formal army reception on her return to Hollywood. The official welcoming delegation was headed by Col. Allen Kimberly, right, but Jennifer's attention seems more upon the handsome M.P. corporal at left, one of the escort of honor which accompanied her to receive congratulations of Los Angeles Mayor Fletcher Bowron.

Prefers Free Trade Minus Any Quota

(Continued from preceding page)

lieve that this competition will result in a boon to Hollywood because it will force you to outdo us—and the audiences will be the winners.

"We do not expect to do it overnight. There is much hard work ahead of us. Hollywood has always set the pace. Some of our producers are nationalistic-minded, rather than internationalistic in their approach to film production. We grant all this. Yet we want to make fine entertainment. We want to contribute something new, as Hollywood has so ably done.

"Our film-makers in Britain during the war in Europe have had a rather difficult time. Yet, despite blitzes and bombs, they carried on and have made what I feel is adequate progress under most unfavorable conditions. When our young men return (as will your fine young men) we feel that we shall then be ready to realize our hopes for the future.

"Hollywood has been very kind to us. Everyone of our producers and technicians who have come here to observe and to study have been welcomed with open arms by your studios. Every door has been open to them. Every effort to help them has been made. For this, I am deeply grateful. It has meant much to us."

"Films a Stewardship"—Rank

Following the press conference the visitor was the guest at a luncheon given by the Ass'n of Motion Picture Producers, at which he said:

"We who bear the responsibility of creating film entertainment for the world's screen know the burden of that responsibility. Millions upon millions of people depend upon us to furnish them entertainment not based alone on the financial return but upon recognition of the great impact that films have upon the thinking of this world.

"None of us feels that the screen belongs to us. Rather it is a trusteeship, a stewardship, which has been placed in our hands. I want you to know that so far as I am concerned, I shall always work with that in mind, before all else."

B. B. Kahane, vice-president of AMPP, presided at the luncheon in the absence on an official mission overseas of E. J. Mannix, association head, and welcomed Rank and his party. The visitors included G. I. Woodham-Smith, John Davis, Barrington C. Gain and Jock Lawrence.

Entering the motion picture field in 1935, Rank already was one of the heads of the largest milling interests in the British Isles, and still is a member of the boards of 14 milling concerns. His first association with films was through a subscription to the Methodist Church for the production of religious motion pictures. Thereafter, step by step, he gained holdings which now include control of the Odeon and Gaumont British theatre circuits, Gaumont British newsreel, the three most successful motion picture production groups, plus studios and distribution organizations. He also has an interest in Odeon Theatres of Canada and is the largest individual stockholder in American Universal Picture Co.

Other guests at the luncheon included Fred W. Beetson, Maurice Benjamin, Nate Blumberg, Joseph I. Breen, Irving Briskin, William Dozier, Marvin Ezzell, Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Samuel Goldwyn, John Joseph, Charles Koerner, Sam Katz, Al Lichtman, Louis B. Mayer, Robert Newman, Arch Reeve, David E. Rose, Joseph M. Schenck, Lew Schreiber, Spyros Skouras and Allen Wilson. William Burnside, west coast representative for Rank's interests, also attended.

The next day he was feted at another luncheon given by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Lloyd Wright, who will be succeeded on June 29 by Donald M. Nelson as president of SIMPP, presided.

Stars Dramatize Peace Goals in "Caravan"

Bette Davis, Orson Welles, Alfred Drake, Alexander Knox, Joan Fontaine, Jimmy Gleason, Edward G. Robinson, George Coulouris and Danny Kaye starred in a locally staged dramatic musical program designed to celebrate the end of the world international security conference and to enlist public support behind world unity for a lasting peace.

The "Caravan" was written by a committee of writers headed by Leonardo Bercovici, was produced by Dore Schary, and sponsored by the Hollywood independent citizen's committee of the arts, sciences and professions.

G. A. Hirliman Seeks Cast

George A. Hirliman, head of International Theatrical and Television Corp., was in Hollywood lining up a name cast for his Broadway play, "Flamingo Road." Hirliman also conferred with a number of independent producers relative to making pictures for IT&T.

"Bataan" Premieres In Hawaii Theatre

The first premiere of any picture to be staged in Hawaii since Pearl Harbor was held at the Princess, Honolulu, June 25, for RKO's "Back to Bataan." It was a simultaneous world premiere with the film's opening at the RKO Keith Memorial in Boston.

Because the brownout and 10 o'clock curfew still exist in the islands, the Princess premiere started at 7 p. m. to allow patrons ample time to reach their homes afterward.

Bing Crosby's first motion picture production effort, "The Great John L.," was premiered at the Majestic in Boston June 27. Old-time boxers were invited to attend. A special budget has been set aside for exploiting the film in Boston, New York, Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati and Los Angeles.

The Screen Publicists Guild Elects George Thomas Jr.

At a meeting of the Screen Publicists Guild, officers were elected as follows: George Thomas jr., Paramount, president; Don Thomas, Universal, vice-president; Lyle Rooks, International, recording secretary; Charles Daggett, Cagney Productions, trustee, and Oliver Hopps, 20th-Fox, financial secretary-treasurer.

Party for C. P. Skouras

LOS ANGELES—A cocktail party was given in honor of Charles P. Skouras by the wives of Variety Club members June 29. The gathering was held at the Ambassador Hotel in the Variety clubrooms. Mrs. Tom Connors headed the committee in charge.

New Contract to Westmore

Buddy Westmore, head of PRC studio's makeup department, has had his contract renewed.

Alice Young Advances

Alice Young of the PRC story department has been named assistant story editor under Jack Jungmeyer.

Black Hills Renews Altec Pact

SEATTLE—Black Hills Amusement circuit has re-signed with Altec Service Corp. for their theatres in Nebraska and South Dakota.



SMILES ON THE RKO LOT—Blue Ribbon day brings smiles to the RKO Radio lot. "The Enchanted Cottage" was voted by the National Screen Council as the best picture for the whole family released during May, 1945, and those concerned with its making became recipients of BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon plaques.

Here, photographed with their respective kudos, left to right: Jack J. Gross, the film's executive producer; Producer Harriet Parsons; Herman J. Mankiewicz and DeWitt Bodeen who wrote the screenplay.

Western Agreement Is Canceled by SAG

So-called "quickies" will not be as quick as they used to be, as a result of action just taken by the Screen Actors Guild which served notice on seven producers of westerns of the cancellation of the so-called "western agreement" of 1938 under which these companies were permitted under certain conditions to produce small-budget westerns on a 54-hour week.

In announcing cancellation of the agreement, John Dales jr., SAG executive secretary, said that when the agreement was made the seven producers maintained that unless they were allowed to employ the 54-hour week, they could not operate, and that they agreed, in return for the concession, to make at least four westerns and two serials during each calendar year and to make their financial records available in proof of their inability to operate on the regular 48-hour week basis. Dales added that the Guild had recently reviewed the situation and had found that there is no current justification for the longer work week.

The seven companies affected are: Alexander Stern Productions, Inc., Cisco Kid Productions, Inc., Great Western Productions, Inc., Sigmund Neufeld Productions, Inc., Range Busters, Inc., Harry Sherman Productions, Inc., and Stern Productions. Only three of them presently are actively engaged in production.

Successful conclusion of annual negotiations for modification of the basic, ten-year contract between SAG and the major motion picture producers also was announced by Dales, who revealed that the guild and the producers are in substantial agreement on the following points:

Day Players

Increase in the minimum rate from $25 to $35; current agreement regarding payment of quarter checks for canceled weather-permitting calls, formerly limited to day players earning up to $100, will be extended to day players earning up to $200.

Free time day player now gives for fittings to be cut in half.

Free time day player gives for interviews, now unlimited, to be limited to one and a half hours.

Provision for retroactive conversion is to be amended to limit the producer's right to retroactive conversion to three days, instead of seven, heretofore allowing producer retroactively to convert a player after termination and subsequent recall, to be eliminated.

Stunt Men

Overtime, heretofore paid on a stunt player's base pay for the day plus his adjusted pay for one stunt not to exceed $100, will hereafter be paid on the stunt player's total adjusted pay without limit, but overtime caused by travel time will hereafter be paid only on the stunt player's base pay for the day.

Hereafter, financial agreements must be reached prior to performance of a stunt, except in limited cases.

Free Lance Players

The minimum weekly rate shall be increased from $100 to $115; the "glorified extra" contract, at the $75 a week rate, to be eliminated.

Sunday work will hereafter be paid at the time and one-half rate.

Stock Contracts

The minimum weekly rate will be increased from $50 to $60 for the first six months and to $75 thereafter.

Singers, whether specialty or ensemble. The new day rate will be $35 for recordings and $25 for rehearsing or working playbacks, with a weekly minimum of $115, instead of ensemble singers receiving $25.

All salary increases are to be retroactive to April 1, 1945.

PRC Blankets Arizona

LOS ANGELES—The local PRC office recently closed contracts whereby every city and town in Arizona, with one exception, has booked the company's product. Latest circuits to be signed include the Diamus Amusement Co., in four cities; the Olmstead-Mace theatres, covering 14 situations; the Griffith-Lous, with 17, and Fox West Coast, covering Phoenix and Tucson.

Spearheads

By IVAN SPEAR

DIFFICULT to understand is the appointment of Howard G. Mayer and Associates to serve as press and public relations counsel for the Motion Picture Society for the Americas. The very title—to say nothing of its declared purposes—of MPSFA indicates that it is very definitely a part of industry structure and over-all policy. Mayer and Associates specialize in commercial and radio clients. They have, and apparently desire, few motion picture accounts. What's more they do not, if this department's experience is criterion, service the motion picture tradepapers.

In view of which, bewildering is the Mayer appointment when the industry is crawling with free-lancers who concentrate on matters cinematic.

→

Commanding favorable comment is No. 1, Vol. 1 of "The Screen Writer," newly-founded official organ of the Screen Writers Guild. Dalton Trumbo is editor, Gordon Kahn, managing editor, and the editorial committee boasts such names as Ring Lardner jr., Lamar Trotti, Robert Andrews, Arnold Manoff, Theodore Strauss, Frank Partos, Earl Fenton and Michael Hogan.

With such a lineup of established scrivening talent at the publication's helm, much will be expected by way of content excellence from the new magazine, which is to be published monthly. The initial offering contains definite promise that such expectancy will be fulfilled. Contributing to its columns were Strauss, Trumbo, Harold Medford and Mary McCall jr.

→

Shed a tear for the poor film reporters who try to keep abreast of the vertiginous pursuits of the title-thinker-uppers.

Scott Dunlap's current production at Monogram was born and reared as "Sunbonnet Sue," who then became "The Gay Nineties," not to be confused with Universal's recently-previewed "The Naughty Nineties." At last report, "Sue" had changed her tag to "Belle of the Bowery," not to be confused with Dunlap's last offering, "Flame of the West," not to be confused with Republic's "Flame of Barbary Coast."

→

According to Whitney Bolton, silk-stocking savant of superlatives at Columbia, "Because of point shortage in Columbia's prop department, Director-Producer Jack Moss has had the dialog of 'Snafu' changed so that the big luncheon scene is planted to fall on a meatless day."

Despite all of the ham on the set.

→

And the same Bolton is definitely persona non grata with the Chamber of Commerce. He had the audacity to broadcast:

"Rain Yesterday Chased
Film Troupes Inside"

And that in southern California on June 21, the first day of summer.

→

This-We-Gotta-See Dept:
"'SISTERS' ROLL AT M-G-M STUDIOS"
—Howard Strickling headline.

→

Open Sesame note:

Giorgio Curti, former Fox West Coast executive and son-in-law of Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, has been signed as a producer by Leon (Foolish Like a Fox) Fromkess, president of PRC.

→

As a feature of Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's live combat show staged at Santa Monica in connection with the Seventh War Loan drive, Toni Seven, Mary Anderson, Diana Lynn and Ruth Hussey, wearing combat uniforms, participated in bombarding and capturing a simulated fortified Jap pillbox by being the first girls in the country to fire bazookas and operate flame throwers, spitting out liquid fire at 1,800 degrees.

Hollywood wolves bid for a place in the pillbox—they liked the idea of such glamor throwing that much heat their way.

→

It's too logical for Hollywood:

Alvena Tomin, model, chosen by Producer Jack Moss to portray a model in Columbia's "Snafu."

King Bros. sign May Mann to play herself in Monogram's "Golden Girl."

→

Frank Borzage, veteran producer-director, commanded considerable attention and space with a letter he addressed to the Producers Ass'n, copies of which obligingly were distributed to the press by Henry Rogers, Borzage's personal exalter.

It seems that Producer Borzage viewed with "growing alarm" a "trend toward another cycle of gangster and racketeer films," which, he opined, "could prove very harmful to the nation and the motion picture industry."

Borzage, to the accompaniment of much tom-tom beating, recently affiliated himself with Republic where he will make top budget features on a share-cropping basis. At the same studio, one of the most intensely-touted pictures on forthcoming production agenda is to be "Baby Face Nelson," celluloid biography of the infamous triggerman of the Dillinger gang and as sanguinary a killer as ever wielded a tommy gun.

→

According to Pessis and Ettinger, catch-as-catch-can stress agents, Russell Wade's fan mail doubled following release of "The Body Snatchers."

Could be the meat shortage.

→

The week's Neck Out contribution comes from Behemoth of Blurb Russell Birdwell:

"Theodora Lynch has cancelled a summer concert tour to devote herself to bottling the Hereford water which has been so widely discussed in Reader's Digest and Collier's magazines."

→

Fifteen tailless cats are sought by Producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas for "They Made Me a Killer," according to a Paramount publicity release.

That's trimming the budget pretty close.

→

"Among the other punishments devised by the Japs for Americans imprisoned at Manila's Santo Tomas College was to deny them seeing American-made motion pictures, according to Clifford Almy, for 11 years managing director for Warner Bros., in the Philippine Islands before being taken captive by the Nips."

Consensus among Hollywood reviewers: "That ain't punishment."

STUDIO PERSONNELITIES

Briefies

Metro

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Mouse," Technicolor cartoon, set for codirection by WILLIAM HANNA and JOSEPH BARBERA, to be produced by FRED QUIMBY.

Warners

"A Day in the Life of a Jockey," two-reeler, scheduled for early production. GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD will produce, JACK SCHOLL will direct.

Carlos Molinas and his orchestra signed for untitled two-reeler devoted to Latin American rhythms on GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD's production slate.

Cleffers

Monogram

WILL OSBORNE and orchestra inked for spot in "Swing Parade."

LOUIS JORDAN and his band inked for "Swing Parade."

Warners

ADOLPH DEUTSCH signed to do original score for "Danger Signal."

FREDERICK HOLLANDER assigned to write original score for "Janie Gets Married."

Loanouts

United Artists

Seymour Nebenzal has borrowed AVA GARDNER from Metro for femme lead in "Whistle Stop."

Meggers

Columbia

RAY NAZARRO to direct "Bronco Busters," third in series of Durango Kid westerns. COLBERT CLARK is producing.

Monogram

"Suspense," phychological drama, will be directed by ALFRED ZEISLER. It's a LINDSLEY PARSONS production.

Paramount

Because of illness, JOSEPH SISTROM is dropping his assignment as producer on "Blue Skies." He will take an extended rest.

Republic

FRED BRANNON inked seven-year contract as director. First chore is "The Phantom Rider," a chapter film.

RKO Radio

Production chores for "The Prodigal Woman" go to HARRIET PARSONS' whose option has been lifted.

"Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here," will be directed by MERVYN LeROY as a Jesse L. Lasky-Mervyn LeRoy Production.

United Artists

Jules Levey has signed EDWIN L. MARIN to direct his untitled western.

David L. Loew has signed ARCHIE MAYO to pilot the Marx Brothers starrer, "A Night in Casablanca."

RAY TAYLOR and LEWIS D. COLLINS set to direct studio's next serial, "The Royal Mounted Rides Again."

Options

Columbia

After nearly two years in the California state guard, FRANCIS FORD, serial star of silent films, returns for role in "The Kansan."

Male lead in "The Woman in Red" goes to GEORGE MACREADY.

RITA HAYWORTH's next to be straight drama in "Gilda," melodrama based on an original by E. A. Ellington. Marion Parsonnet will produce as well as write the final script.

NINA FOCH assigned role in "The Woman in Red."

JOHN LITEL and JOHN ABBOTT set for "Paper Doll Murders."

Stellar role in "Song of the Prairie," goes to JUNE STOREY.

GLORIA HOLDEN inked for "Girl of the Limberlost."

LOREN TINDALL assigned important spot in "Girl of the Limberlost."

ALMA KRUGER, veteran trouper, added to cast of "The Paper Doll Murders."

Femme lead in "Calcutta" handed to GAIL RUSSELL.

Metro

DOROTHY PATRICK, former Powers Model, signed to a long termer.

BEN BLUE inked for comedy role in "Two Sisters From Boston."

CATHERINE YORK cast in "Two Sisters From Boston."

CHARLES LA TORRE gets featured spot in "This Strange Adventure."

The male stellar spot in George Haight's production "Up Goes Maisie," goes to GEORGE MURPHY.

JOSE ITURBI inked for "Holiday in Mexico."

Monogram

SELMER JACKSON replaces Addison Richards in "Allotment Wives."

MANTAN MORELAND and BEN CARTER, colored comedians on Bob Burn's airer, signed for "Swing Parade."

PAT GLEASON signed for "Allotment Wives."

Leading femme role in "The Lost Trail" goes to JENNIFER HOLT.

Paramount

GRIEF BARNETT joins cast of "To Each His Own."

Spot in "To Each His Own" inked for ARTHUR LOFT.

JEAN SULLIVAN set in "To Each His Own."

JOHN WHITNEY, Broadway leading man, inked for "Calcutta."

RKO Radio

JACK LA RUE signed for "Cornered."

Newcomer JOAN NEWTON set for "Riverboat Rhythm."

Comedian WALTER CATLETT signed for important spot in "Riverboat Rhythm."

Former French actress, MICHELINE CHEIREL signed for "Cornered."

ANNE HUNTER ticketed for top femme role in "Cornered."

JOHN WAYNE signed for stellar role in "Thanks, God, I'll Take It From Here."

Options were lifted on players LARRY WHEAT and JASON ROBARDS.

LAWRENCE TIERNEY has had his contract renewed.

20th Century-Fox

FRED MacMURRAY signed for romantic lead in "Smokey."

United Artists

For her first free-lance role, MYRNA LOY set to star in "Genius in the Family," Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning production.

Added to roster of Nero production, "Whistle Stop," are FLORENCE BATES, CHARLES JUDELS, CHARLES DRAKE and JIMMY AMES.

SUZI CRANDALL, former cover girl, will debut in "Notorious," Selznick International film.

Universal

CLAUDE RAINS signed to costar in "As It Was Before."

HOWARD FREEMAN ticketed for "Once Upon a Dream."

RALPH MORGAN inked for featured role in the Pirandello drama, "As It Was Before."

FUZZY KNIGHT wins top featured role in next four westerns, first of which will be "Law for Pecos."

Warners

Top places in "Dancing With Tears" handed to ZACHARY SCOTT and JANIS PAIGE.

Singing part in "Night and Day" handed to JANE HARKER.

PETER LORRE set for "Confidential Agent."

JOHN GARFIELD set for starring role in "Humoresque."

Scripters

Columbia

HAL FIMBERG, HENRY HOOPLE and FRED L. FOX, Judy Canova air show scripters, signed to work on "Hayfoot, Strawfoot."

Metro

EDWARD CHODOROV, author of Broadway hits, signed to termer and set to do screen version of Thelma Strabel's mag serial "You Were There."

Paramount

WALTER ABBOTT, New York playwright, signed to a termer by Hal Wallis Productions. First assignment is screenplay of "Life of Tchaikovsky."

RKO Radio

Second of the "Dick Tracy" features is to be scripted by LUCI WARD. Herman Schlom will produce under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell. Morgan Conway will continue in the title role.

Universal

TOM GIBSON set to script "The Scarlet Horseman" in collaboration with Patricia Harper. The serial is slated for July filming.

Script chores on the screenplay "The Bruteman" handed to GEORGE BRICKER. It is first in a series which will star Rondo Hatton.

PATRICIA HARPER assigned to script "The Scarlet Horseman" in collaboration with MORGAN COX. It is the fourth in a series of westerns starring Kirby Grant, produced and directed by Wallace Fox.

CHARLES MARION set to do "Way for a Lady."

Story Buys

Columbia

"A Kiss for Luck," original comedy by Robert Wyler, purchased for production by Leonard Picker. Tale concerns a girl who owns a chinchilla coat on which she proceeds to borrow money from several men.

Independent

"Twilight," a psychological drama with modern California background, by Thilde Forster and John Kafka, bought by King Bros. Starts next fall.

Metro

Novel by Daisy Neumann, "Now That April's There," newly-acquired property set as stellar vehicle for Elizabeth Taylor. Story concerns adjustment of a young English girl to her old home after spending the war years in America. Film will be produced by Sam Marx.

Monogram

"North of Nome," by Jack London, purchased for inclusion in production schedule for 1945-46. Scott R. Dunlap will produce.

PRC Pictures

Two properties for 1946-47 program are "Queen of Diamonds," an original screenplay secured from Lou Golding, and "The Vanishing Gangster," by New York Police Lieut. Maurice Spevak.

Republic

Eleanor Mayo's novel "Turn Home," published by William Morrow, has been purchased for Armand Schaefer, who will supervise production. A romance laid in a small New England fishing village, film is slated for top-budget class.

20th Century-Fox

"Any Number Can Play," a novel by Edward Harris Heth, purchased in galley form, has been placed on Otto Preminger's production schedule. He also will direct.

Technically

Metro

GEORGE FOLSEY set to lens "The Green Years." HUGH BOSWELL was named unit manager and JACK GREENWOOD assistant director.

RAY JUNE signed as cameraman on "The Hoodlum Saint."

KEITH WEEKS assigned as unit manager, AL JENNINGS as assistant director and LEO VASIAN as art director on "What Next Corporal Hargrove?"

CHARLES ROSHER signed as director of photography on "The Kissing Bandit."

CHARLES HUNT named unit manager and BERT GLAZER assistant director for "Boy's Ranch."

Monogram

King Bros. have inked MAURICE HINLIN, European art director, and FRANK SYLOS to design sets on "Golden Girl."

Paramount

ALMA MACRORIE named film editor for "To Each His Own."

ROBERTA JONAY, actress, set as dance director on "Calcutta."

Republic

Frank Borzage assigned ERNST FEGTE art director on "Concerto," studio's first Technicolor picture.

RKO Radio

ROBERT DE GRASSE set to lens "Riverboat Rhythm," JOHN TRIBBY will handle sound recording, HARRY D'ARCY will be assistant director.

United Artists

Film editor's assignment goes to OTHO LOVERING on the untitled Ernest Haycox story of the early west, to be produced by Jules Levy.

SAMMY LEE set as dance director for Ernest Haycox's untitled story of the early west, which Jules Levy is producing.

VICTOR STOLOFF inked as dialog director for "As It Was Before."

Title Changes

Monogram

BELLE OF THE BOWERY new title for "The Gay Nineties," formerly "Sunbonnet Sue."

John Terrill, ATC Veteran, Runs New Orosi Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO—John L. Terrill, owner-manager of the new Orosi Theatre in Orange Cove, reports his recent opening was "a tremendous success." The Orosi has been under construction for several months. Terrill, who formerly owned and operated a theatre at San Andreas and managed the post theatre at Long Beach, recently was discharged from the air transport command.

Industry Leaders Pay Tribute to Rothacker

Tribute was paid by film industry leaders and foreign department representatives to Watterson Rothacker, former head of the Los Angeles board of review, at a dinner following the termination of the board's operation. Censorship of import and export film had been discontinued by order of Byron Price, wartime censorship head.

The dinner was sponsored by the foreign committee of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, of which Jack Cutting of the Disney studio is chairman.

Sam Katz, presenting the guest of honor with an inscribed watch on behalf of those attending, praised Rothacker for his handling of wartime censorship problems. Rothacker called attention to the industry's record of willingness to cooperate.

On the guest list were Y. Frank Freeman, Harold Hopper, Henry Ginsberg, Jesse Lasky, Loyd Wright, John C. Flinn, Allen Wilson, Col. Jason Joy, Trem Carr, Luigi Luraschi, Eli Levy, Robert Newman, Robert Vogel, Doc Bishop, Ralph DeLara, George Ledante, William Lackey, Gunther Lessing, Ben Schwalb, William Gordon, Harold Sugarman, Cecil Coan, Saul Oppenheim, Carl Schaefer, George Bole, Geoffrey Shurlock, C. Merwin Travis.

Y. Frank Freeman Named Charities Group President

Y. Frank Freeman was unanimously elected to the presidency of the industry's permanent charities committee to succeed Jane Murfin, automatically retired according to bylaws providing that the presidency must revolve among the associations, guilds and other groups represented. Freeman was nominated by Carl Cooper, chairman of labor's executive committee. Edward Arnold, executive vice-president and treasurer, and John Flinn, secretary, were re-elected.

Samuel Goldwyn, founder and first chairman of the committee, was presented an encomium for his "generous accomplishment and inspiring leadership," and naming him the first honorary life member of the organization.

Scrolls of appreciation also were awarded Charles W. Koerner, Fred S. Meyer, Walter Wanger and Ginger Rogers, chairmen of the four industry campaigns conducted within the last year. In the president's annual report, Miss Murfin revealed that the war chest, infantile paralysis and Red Cross drives yielded a record sum of $1,971,240 from an unprecedented number of donors. The industry's collection of used clothing for Allied relief was headed by Miss Rogers and brought in 32,566 pounds of garments and shoes.

Stars to Shine at Bond Climax in Washington

Hollywood stars will take part in the huge climaxing event of the Seventh War Loan at the nation's capital on the night of July 4. Headline entertainers of both screen and radio have been invited to Washington to join with government officials and military leaders in winding up the 14 billion dollar drive.

The occasion will be a gigantic rally at the base of the Washington monument, with a crowd of 300,000 expected to attend. Admission to a special area seating 50,000 will be by bond purchase. The national war finance division, the District of Columbia and the Washington WAC of the motion picture industry are cooperating in the event.

Petition for Halting Strike Sent Mayor

Deader became the deadlock that grips the tired studio strike which approached its 17th week with virtually no change in status or developments. A petition urging that some official action be taken by municipal authorities to end the walkouts was sent to Mayor Fletcher Bowron. It carried the signatures of a sizable number of prominents in all branches of production and set forth that:

"The current strike in the motion picture industry is proving daily more injurious to all those employed in motion pictures and to the entire community.

"We do not wish to take any position in regard to the issues involved but we believe the strike can and should be settled at one in the interests of all the people of Los Angeles.

"We call upon you as the leading public official in Los Angeles to call together all the disputants and to demand that they settle the controversy immediately on a basis as fair as possible to all the parties concerned."

Metroites Dominate Biggie Travel News

Metroites dominated what little travel news was developed by studio and home office biggies.

William Fadiman, head of the scenario department, checked back on the lot after a three-week stay in New York on company business. Director Harold S. Bucquet trained east in search of talent. Sonya Levien, contract writer, returned from a two-week business trip to New York. Stuart Dunlap, managing director of southern Latin American countries for Loew's International Corp., with his home office in Buenos Aires, arrived at the studio for conferences. Producer Arthur Freed trained in from Gotham where he has been conferring on his recently completed productions. Another arrival from Manhattan was Joseph Vogel, public relations chief of the New York office; while Robert M. W. Vogel, head of the studio international department, left on an extended survey of film conditions in nine Latin American countries. Vogel planned to visit Mexico, Panama, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Trinidad, Puerto Rico and Cuba.

David E. Rose, Paramount managing director in Great Britain, arrived from New York for studio conferences regarding a resumption of Paramount production in Great Britain. Paramount Producer Hal Wallis, meanwhile, was packing his bags, preparatory to taking off for a Gotham business trip.

Leon D. Britton, sales representative for RKO in the Far East prior to the war and for the past three years sales manager for the company in Argentine, arrived in Hollywood for studio conferences. Britton was to return to Argentina July 1 but will be transferred back to the Far East territory, with headquarters at Singapore, as soon as conditions permit.

At 20th-Fox the red carpet was unrolled for the company president, Spyros Skouras, here from New York, and Joseph M. Schenck, production executive, who returned from the east.

United Artists Producer Jules Levey took off for New York and Washington; while a member of UA's board of directors, Rex Dennant, arrived for a Hollywood visit.

Sam Sax, PRC producer, went to New York.

W. R. Frank, independent producer, left for Des Moines, Omaha and finally Minneapolis to approve booking deals in connection with his new picture.

Hollywood at War

Entertainment of overseas service men continued to command a lion's share of attention from the Hollywood Victory Committee and its volunteer personalities.

Three troupes of entertainers set for overseas USO-Camp Shows tours played tryout performances at camps and hospitals in the Los Angeles area. Eddie Bracken, with Peggy Ryan, Maxine Conrad, Roberta, Gilbert and Lee Shirley Gray, worked out at Pasadana regional hospital.

Gene Autry, just mustered out of the army, appeared at Ft. MacArthur with Will and Gladys Ahern, Rufe Davis, Sandra Shaw and Marjorie Alden.

The Al Pearce troupe, including Joan Barton, Arline Harris, Mary Lee, Russ Clark, Charles and Mignon, Trudy Ewan and Emma Lou Welsh played Torrance Regional Hospital.

Greet Homecoming Warship

Frances Langford and Tony Romano greeted a homecoming warship at San Pedro.

Arthur Treacher signed to spend two months serving GIs in European military hospitals. Leaving about the middle of July on a USO-Camp Shows tour, the comedian will pay bedside visits to wounded.

Jack Carson, with Chili Williams, Mary McCarty, Jeri Gale, Joyce Anderson and Tommy Wells played the Long Beach ferry command station.

John Hodiak was set to play two weeks on the Camp Shows hospital circuit out of New York, starting July 10.

Herbert Marshall headed the cast of the GI Journal radio show which was recorded before a Hollywood Canteen audience. In the cast were Iris Adrian, Rags Ragland, the King Sisters, Mel Blanc, Harry Mitchell, Harry Lang, Joe Forte, Bob Mitchell and the AFRS orchestra.

Tour Routes for Radio Cast

Tour routes were set on the USO-Camp Shows hospital circuit for two radio acts, with the Great Gildersleeve (Harold Peary) leaving July 2 and George Burns and Gracie Allen taking off July 1. Gildersleeve was to spend four weeks in GI hospitals, opening at Jackson, Miss. Playing Memphis and Nashville, Tenn., Joplin and Springfield, Mo., Chickasha and Norman, Okla., he will hit six army and two navy installations. Burns and Allen were set to appear at navy hospitals at Astoria, Ore., Seattle and Bremerton, Wash., and Madigan General Hospital at Ft. Lewis, Wash., through July 7. The team has also volunteered for another week's tour early in August.

Shirley Temple opened a ten-day hospital tour at Barnes General Hospital, Portland, Ore.

Scheduled for the armed forces radio service Command Performances overseas transcription were Paulette Goddard, Jack Carson, Randolph Scott, Joan Edwards, Arthur Treacher, David Street, the Town Criers and Ken Carpenter.

A Mail Call show featured Jimmy Durante, Eddie Jackson, the Andrews Sisters, Ella Mae Morse, Brenda and Cobina and Harry von Zell.

SALT LAKE CITY

A **"Movie Day"** outing in a canyon near Salt Lake is being planned tentatively for some day in August. Filmrow will close for the occasion, and it is possible all theatres will do likewise.

C. R. Wade, branch manager for Universal, has acquired a new son-in-law. His daughter, Marsha, was married in Salt Lake last week to Sgt. Thomas Phillpin of Cleveland. The newlyweds are now in the Ohio city on their honeymoon.

Walter K. Millar, formerly with Republic in Los Angeles, is now headquartering in Salt Lake. He is staterighting a forthcoming picture, "Child Bride" . . . Don Tibbs, local Monogram manager, returned this week from a trip to Idaho.

Local Paramount personnel is pointing to the company's 33rd anniversary, which will bring Cecil B. DeMille and Actress Gail Russell to Salt Lake, according to the local branch manager, Frank H. Smith.

M-G-M employes in Salt Lake held their annual summer picnic at Storm Mountain near Salt Lake last week . . . RKO workers frolicked at a beach party at Black Rock on Great Salt Lake last Tuesday.

Lucille Van Quill, contract clerk at RKO, was bursting with pride last week. She went to Clearfield, naval depot north of Salt Lake, where she watched her brother, Sgt. R. K. Thomas, receive a Silver Star, Purple Heart, Infantryman Combat Medal and numerous other awards. Sergeant Thomas, who escaped from the Nazis during fighting for Cherbourg, was instrumental in the capture of 326 Germans. He is recovering at Camp Carson, Colo., from wounds sustained during the fighting in Europe.

Jewel Reddy, Walt Disney representative, was in Salt Lake arranging advance publicity on "Pinocchio," scheduled for a return here to the Uptown on July 3.

Glad to report Ernest Van Pelt, M-G-M field representative, is at last up and working again after a serious illness which held him bedfast for two weeks.

The Lyric Theatre, manager by Warren D. Butler, has blossomed out with a new four-line marquee, second largest in the state; and indirect lighting, new mirrors, vitrolite glass, and redecorating job in the lobby.

Jay Jacoby has been introduced to the headaches of the motion picture business in his new job as treasurer at the Lyric. He had not been previously connected with any theatre.

Bill Vaughn, son-in-law of Carl Medley, local M-G-M manager, is now a booker for local Universal offices . . . Beginning of the fishing season in Utah recently took several bookers, sales managers and other workers on Filmrow to nearby canyon streams and lakes.

Bellevue, Wash., Theatre To Be Completed by Fall

BELLEVUE, WASH.—Construction work on the new Bellevue Theatre here is expected to be completed for a September opening of the 560-seat house, Miller Freeman jr., a partner in the new enterprize with Kemper Freeman, has announced. It is located at Lakeside Center here.

Gloria Holden to Play in "Limberlost"

Gloria Holden has been given a part in "Girl in the Limberlost" at Columbia.

"Clock" Ticks Top 200 In a Seattle Start

SEATTLE—Hot weather took its toll at the theatres. However, a couple of attractions, "The Clock" and "Where Do We Go From Here?" were strong and more than held their own. Racing was to open at Longacres this week as were home games of the Rainiers baseball team.

(Average is 100)

Blue Mouse—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 4th wk.....130
Fifth Avenue—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **Song for Miss Julie** (Rep) 200
Liberty—**Counter-Attack** (Col); **I Love a Mystery** (Col), 2nd wk. 130
Music Box—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 4th wk.....140
Music Hall—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **High Powered** (Para) 175
Orpheum—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd wk. 100
Palomar—**Identity Unknown** (Rep); **Lady Confesses** (PRC), plus stage show.....160
Paramount—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Forever Yours** (Mono), 2nd wk. 110

"Murder" Leads in Los Angeles With Score of 150 Points

LOS ANGELES — Paramount's comedy, "Murder, He Says," led the de luxe field with a score of 150 at the Hollywood Paramount but did not fare as well at the Downtown Paramount where it recorded a weak 113. Warner Bros. "Escape in the Desert," in its first week at the Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern, ran close with 140 at all three houses. Metro's "Valley of Decision," in its second week, held up well with 125 at the Fox Ritz, 120 at the Egyptian and 105 at the Los Angeles.

Chinese, State and Uptown—**Between Two Women** (M-G-M); **Main Street After Dark** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 100
Downtown Paramount—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep) 113
Egyptian—**The Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), 2nd wk. 120
Guild, United Artists and Wilshire—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Strange Illusion** (PRC).....100
Hillstreet and Pantages—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col), 2nd wk. 90
Hollywood Paramount—Same as D. T. Paramount..150
Los Angeles—Same as Egyptian 105
Ritz—Same as Egyptian and Los Angeles.....125
Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern—**Escape in the Desert** (WB).....140

"Nob Hill" Premiere Earns High San Francisco Score of 150

SAN FRANCISCO—The top percentage of the week went to the world premiere of "Nob Hill" at the Fox Theatre.

Esquire and Tivoli—**China's Little Devils** (Mono); **Swing in the Parade** (Col).....130
Fox—**Nob Hill** (20th-Fox) 150
Golden Gate—**The Brighton Strangler** (RKO), plus stage show 135
Orpheum—**That's the Spirit** (Univ); **Wildfire** (SGP) 110
Paramount—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **The Unseen** (Para), 2nd wk. 110
State—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **Eve Knew Her Apples** (Col), 2nd d. t. wk.....120
St. Francis—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....130
United Artists—**Blood on the Sun** (UA), 7th wk.....125
Warfield—**The Picture of Dorian Gray** (M-G-M); **The Phantom Speaks** (Rep) 130

"Love" and "Guy" Dual Cops High Percentage at Denver Orpheum

DENVER—Showing at the Orpheum, the largest theatre in Denver, "Without Love" and "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal" copped the top percentage and held over.

Aladdin—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk. 160
Denham—**Affairs of Susan** (Para), 4th wk.; **Dangerous Passage** (Para)..... 90
Denver and Webber—**Blood on the Sun** (UA); **Swing Out Sister** (Univ).....190
Esquire—Same as Denver and Webber.....165
Orpheum—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **A Guy, a Gal and a Pal** (Col) 200
Paramount—**Wuthering Heights** (FC); **Sons of the Desert** (FC) 140
Rialto—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Scarlet Clue** (Mono), 4th d. t. wk.....160

SEATTLE

Doc Alex Singelow received word from his sisters in Norway that they are safe. He had not heard from them since the German invasion.

Lieut. Buddy Ebsen who was master of ceremonies for the coast guard war bond show at the Fifth Avenue, was so elated at the 11 million dollars in sales that he broke down and did a dance routine that absolutely stopped the bond audience cold. They made him encore twice before he begged off.

Lieut. Bob Chesterfield of the air force returned from a visit with his brother in Anchorage, Alaska. He also made a flight to Attu . . . Ed Johnson of the Motor-In Theatre, the only outdoor theatre in the northwest, was in from Spokane. The Motor-In is located on the main highway between Seattle and Tacoma.

Bill Hudson of the Grand Theatre in Bellingham was a very busy man on Filmrow . . . Ollie Hartman, Coulee Dam, was in . . . Tom Shearer returned from the business trip to Chicago . . . Mr. and Mrs. Vic Gauntlett spent a weekend on Hood Canal as guests of Eve Peterson.

J. T. Sheffield is back after an extended trip during which he visited his brother in North Carolina and stopped in New York, and at his offices in Denver, Salt Lake and Portland.

Harry Moyer was here from Oregon. His theatres are in the cities of Gresham, Milwaukee, Selwood and Victory. He is now building a house in Sandy . . . Phil Phillips of the Universal publicity office returned to Hollywood after a few days here.

Spotted on the grounds of the official mansion in Olympia were Chalmers Sinkey, 20th-Fox; Ray Paulson, Paramount, and Earl Nelson, Universal, all newsreel cameramen who were busy grinding out pictures of President Truman awarding the Medal of Honor to Sergeant Hawk. Lou Hawk, the hero's father, stood in the background. He is the same Lou Hawk who handled most of the program printing for Filmrow here a few years ago. He, too, is a war hero—of the last war.

The 20th-Fox Family Club gave a special dinner at the Northwest Film Club . . . Rad Pratsch has gone to Massachusetts to spend three months on his new cruiser White Cloud II, which he bought a few months ago . . . Earl Keate, exploiteer for RKO, went to Vancouver, Canada.

Frank Jenkins of the 20th-Fox publicity department left for Chicago and a vacation which will be coupled with business . . . Lew Pressler, manager for Warners in Aberdeen, was in booking on the Row . . . Sammy Siegel, exploiteer for Columbia, returned from California duties and now is planning a vacation.

Foreign Language Versions Discussed by Engineers

LOS ANGELES—Loren L. Ryder of Paramount Pictures presided over a symposium on foreign language versions staged by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Erpi review room. Speakers included John Livadary, of Columbia; Jack Cutting, Disney; Ted Hoffman, Metro; J. G. Stewart, RKO Radio; L. Luraschi, Paramount; John Bodnar, 20th-Fox, and others. Sample reels were presented in various languages. Everyone in attendance was invited to participate in the discussion.

Utah Choses War Bond Queens at Premieres

SALT LAKE CITY—War bond queens for all counties in Utah having been chosen at bond premieres during the last two weeks, activities of the WAC for the "Mighty Seventh" are now pointing to state finals to be held in Salt Lake on July 4.

Robert Walker, M-G-M star, added considerable zest to the queen contest in Weber and Salt Lake counties by appearing at the war bond premiere at the Orpheum and Egyptian theatres in Weber and at the premiere at the Centre Theatre in Salt Lake.

Walker, a native of Salt Lake City, returned to his native state to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Walker of Ogden. He combined his homecoming visit with a view of assisting to put Utah's bond drive over the top. In fact, the Salt Lake premiere at the Centre, was almost a Walker family affair. Bob was master of ceremonies and crowned the Salt Lake County queen, and his father was one of the judges. Both this premiere and the Weber County double premiere were complete sellouts.

Citizens of other counties packed motion picture houses to witness the coronation of their queens. Mayors and other dignitaries attended and acted as judges. Local music groups and military bands also participated in many of the premieres.

Columbia Sales Heads Talk 1945-46 Product

LOS ANGELES—First of two huddles to be called by Jerry Safron, Columbia's western district sales head, for the purpose of discussing 1945-46 product, was held in Salt Lake City, with branch managers and salesmen from Seattle, Portland, Denver and Salt Lake City attending. Second meeting, for salesmen and branch managers of the San Francisco and Los Angeles exchanges, is scheduled for July 6-7-8 at the local Ambassador Hotel.

FWC Books "Dillinger"

LOS ANGELES—Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager of Monogram, revealed that "Dillinger" has been booked for the entire Fox West Coast circuit. Playing dates will start in July, opening for two weeks at the local Orpheum.

Altec Signs Two Renewals

LOS ANGELES—Stanley Pariseau, Altec district manager, reports the renewal of agreements for service and repair parts with the Vinnicof circuit of ten houses in various California locations, and the Loma, Fox West Coast house at San Diego.

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United Nations Theatre Now Open to Public

San Francisco — The United Nations Theatre opened a regular run of pictures for the public Wednesday (27) following the adjournment of the world security conference on Tuesday, FWC executive offices here announced. Previously the theatre had been reserved for delegates.

Arthur Caylor of the News wrote that the Hollywood was a mite jealous of San Francisco's bright spot in the sun brought about by the presence of the conference here. "It seems," said Caylor, "the state department simply wouldn't go for such movieisms as Kleig lights and even cancelled out an auditorium show to keep the delegates from meeting such Hollywood personalities as Robert Hope, William C. Fields and Harry L. Crosby."

Seal Beach House Rises

SEAL BEACH, CALIF.—Work is progressing rapidly on the new Beach Theatre here, a 700-seat structure being erected by O. C. Johnson at a cost of $35,000.

SAN FRANCISCO

Allen Cannon, recently was elected president of Bakersfield Community Theatre Co. to succeed Miss Bernice Braddon . . . Bill Brown, who has been manager of the Clovis Theatre two years, will open the Shaver Lake Theatre at Echert's resort Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evenings in the Eckert dance hall, where Brown has installed two portable 35mm projectors. The venture is a new one in the mountain district. Brown is a theatre manager of many years experience, at Corcoran.

Eugene Paul resigned as manager of the Carlos Theatre recently, saying he would rest a few weeks before starting anew. John Mattern, who was associated with the San Jose Amusement Corp., has been named manager of the Carlos to succeed Paul.

George M. Mann, executive president; William B. Davis, vice-president and general manager of the Redwood Theatres, Inc., and Lloyd Lamb, district manager of Klamath Falls, inspected five theatres in the Eureka area.

Row ramblings: A packed house of 800 attended Burlingame's first war bond premiere at Broadway Theatre . . . Wedding bells ring for Rotus V. Harvey's daughter Helen, who recently married Ensign Richard Converse, and for Jean Rilovich, Western Theatrical Equipment Co. secretary, who will wed Lieut. Richard Fairfax Wear, navy.

Sidney Toler, Monogram's Charlie Chan, was in entertaining wounded vets. His visit will include nearly all government hospitals in the Bay area, and in August goes on a European tour . . . After 38,000 miles of touring Pacific fronts, Joe E. Brown arrived in town. The traveled comedian visited the Philippine Islands, Guam, Iwo Jima, Saipan and Kwajalein during the past three months, doing shows under the auspices of the USO. In to meet her husband was Mrs. Brown, who beamed because Joe was back and because he brought back a box of chewing gum!

The world premiere of "Nob Hill" at the Fox Theatre brought from Hollywood Vivian Blaine and George Raft who appeared twice on the stage on the opening day. The premiere also fathered a jolly party sponsored by 20th-Fox at the Gay Nineties on Pacific St., the old Barbary Coast district.

City Ticket Tax Bill Called Levy on Poor

SAN FRANCISCO—The ordinance fixing new taxes and another providing general increases in existing business licenses met with stiff resistance at Tuesday night's (19) city council meeting in San Mateo when a group representing local theatres protested the proposed one-cent tax on amusement admission tickets.

C. V. Taylor voiced his objection and declared that the tax was "leveled at the theatre" and was wholly discriminatory. He said that while a one-cent raise in admission didn't mean much to the average person, it did mean something to the "poorer classes" who made up the majority of attendance.

Al Laurice, owner of the Menlo Theatre also appeared before the council. Also speaking in behalf of the theatres were John C. Healey, president of the Central Labor Council of San Mateo County; Edward Carrigan, representing the Bay area Building Service Employes Ass'n, and John Turturici of the projectionists.

Warners Sales Talk Held On "Rhapsody in Blue"

LOS ANGELES—Warner Bros. west coast sales and publicity representatives checked into the studio for confabs with Charles Einfeld on "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Conflict." Discussion was held on distribution of films and plans laid for exploiting openings in key city engagements.

Executives who sat in on meetings include Henry Herbel, west coast district manager; Fred Greenberg, Los Angeles exchange manager; Sam Clark, west coast exploitation representative, and Jack Leewood, Denver-Salt Lake exploiteer. Herbel reported that all six of his branches, which include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Denver and Salt Lake City, have exceeded their sales quota during the first eight weeks of the 17-week drive.

Frisco Industry Opposing Postwar Program Tax Plan

SAN FRANCISCO — Proposals to finance part of San Francisco's postwar program with revenues from amusement taxes and business licenses met with heavy criticism from representatives of labor unions, business men and the amusement industry. The plan suggested by Adrian Falk, chairman of the citizens' postwar planning committee, created by Mayor Lapham, involves a bond issue for postwar projects serviced by funds from a tax on entertainment admissions averaging four cents a ticket.

Edward Keil, attorney for the California Theatres Ass'n, said that the plan calls for an amusement tax providing for nearly half the revenue for the program. Keil feels the theatre industry was singled out unfairly.

"Thrill of a Romance" to Be Metro Anniversary Film

LOS ANGELES — Metro announced that "Thrill of a Romance" has been chosen as the anniversary picture to start the second year of the long-run showcase policy in the Los Angeles, Egyptian and Fox Ritz theatres.

It was a year ago that the policy was established, and since that time 13 M-G-M pictures have played the three houses.

Storey Draws Stellar Role in "Song"

June Storey will play the starring role in "Song of the Prairie," at Columbia.



$457,348 TO RED CROSS—Gurney Newlin, Los Angeles area head of American Red Cross, accepts from Charles P. Skouras, president National Theatres and chairman for theatres-Red Cross drive in California, a check for $457,348. George Bowser, general manager of Fox West Coast Theatres, and two Red Cross volunteer workers look on.

'Lake' Film Auxiliary Aids at Hospitals

SALT LAKE CITY—For their "valuable and unselfish services to hospitalized service men and unfortunate children, members of the auxiliary of the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club have been receiving wide commendation.

Their volunteer work consists in biweekly recreational programs and parties for patients at the Kearns Hospital and weekly programs and parties for patients at the Bountiful Children's Rheumatic Fever Hospital, both near here.

In both cases, wives of managers, salesmen, bookers and other personnel on Filmrow donate time, money and services in arranging the programs and recreation. In the case of Kearns, they have arranged for performances of several film stars and other professional and amateur entertainers. They also have arranged suppers in town for some of the patients.

This work brought them praise from the assistant field director at Kearns, who informed the local OPA that "Kearns considers the work of the ladies of the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club highly valuable . . . it is greatly appreciated." The message to the OPA was in response to a plea by club members for extra gasoline for driving the 30 miles between Salt Lake and Kearns.

The state department of public welfare praised club members in this way:

"Ladies of the Salt Lake Film Club have aided the morale of unfortunate children afflicted with rheumatic disease. This work has been of inestimable value in easing the burden of hospitalization for these children."

Local Red Cross offices also have praised the group's activities.

Mrs. Charles E. Walker, whose husband is Salt Lake 20th-Fox division manager, is chair-Neuf, wife of the assistant manager of Intermountain Theatre Supply, supervises the work of those arranging parties and recreation for Kearns.

Patron Coins Add Up to $457,348

LOS ANGELES—The American Red Cross moved $457,348 closer to its 1945 war fund goal with presentation of a check for that amount to Gurney Newlin, Los Angeles chapter chairman, by Charles P. Skouras, chairman of the motion picture theatres' branch of the recent campaign.

The total surpassed precampaign expectations and substantially topped last year's figure. Funds were donated by theatre patrons during the one-week drive in southern California's 600 film houses.

In accepting the funds in behalf of the Red Cross, Newlin declared:

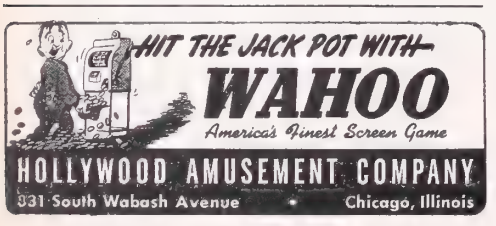
"This year's collections set an all-time record for contributions to the American Red Cross through any single agency during a seven-day period. In spite of the conclusion of European hostilities, the need this year is as great as ever.

"To the southern California moviegoers who contributed so generously and to the motion picture theatres, who under Mr. Skouras' leadership accepted this responsibility and organized for maximum results, the American Red Cross extends a heartfelt thanks."

Of the total amount, Skouras revealed, $227,156 was contributed by patrons at the 160 Fox West Coast theatres in this area, while an additional $32,225 gift to the war fund was made from campany funds. Other affiliated circuits and independent theatres in southern California, of which there were some 440 participating, accounted for the remaining $197,966 of patron donations.

Feature in "Adventure" to La Torre

Charles La Torre will have a featured spot in "This Strange Adventure" at Columbia.



Salt Lake's Filmrow At Golf Tournament

SALT LAKE CITY — Filmrow activities here last week centered on the third annual Filmrow golf tournament, which drew more than 50 exhibitors, salesmen and branch managers from Utah, Idaho and Montana.

Harry Swonson, Republic salesman in Montana, won top honors in the 18-hole meet, finishing with the best score and also taking driving and medalist prizes. Other winners in the championship bracket were Dick Iba, RKO; Dave Edwards, Lawrence Theatres; C. R. Wade, Universal; Joseph Lawrence, owner of Lawrence Theatres, and Ed Terhune of RKO. Consolation prizes went to Cy Sanders, Stan Ennis, Graham Sussman, Spencer Burkinshaw, who also won the putting award; Ed Montague and Frank Larsen jr.

Filmrow's auxiliary served luncheon after the first nine holes, and a buffet lunch was tendered at the Motion Picture later in the evening, with the auxiliary again doing the honors.

Bud Gore of Altadena Building 1,000-Seater

ALTADENA, CALIF. — Discharged after nearly three and one-half years in the army, Bud Gore, son of Abe Gore, co-owner of several theatres in Los Angeles, is building a 1,000-seat theatre in Altadena. The house, which is expected to open Labor Day, will be equipped with modern installations.

LOS ANGELES

Recently Discharged: Don Chiniquy, just out of the marines, is back in the shipping department at National Theatre Supply. Don's father, Oscar Chiniquy, is branch manager in Seattle for the same company . . . Grover Smith's Glendale Theatre welcomed home Harris "Andy" Anderson, back from the navy . . . Jimmy Rackin of the Exhibitors Service Co. is vacationing with his son, Lieut. Henry Rackin, who recently was discharged from the air corps.

Visiting in Taft and Bakersfield were J. L. Stephens and Harry Rackin . . . Murry O'Del, now associated with Jack and Issy Berman of the Eastland Theatres, is in town on special exploitation work . . . Nicky Goldhammer, general sales manager of Film Classics, is about to make his home and headquarters in our fair town.

Just back from a tour of the northwest for Republic's tenth anniversary bookings, Francis Bateman checked into the studio to confer with the powers that be.

Al Gorrell, manager of the Crystal and Jewel theatres, is introducing to his pals his son-in-law, Sgt. Irving Tatkin, just released from a German prison camp after 18 months. Tatkin is in Los Angeles for three weeks . . . After three years service in the army, Bill Little is back on the job as the L. A. Examiner's screen representative.

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Form Chicago Chapter Of the Tub Thumpers

CHICAGO—Chicago chapter, No. 8 of the Tub Thumpers of America, Inc., was formed Monday night, when 46 persons engaged in publicity or public relations, in the fields of motion pictures, newspaper and industry, responded to the first meeting of that fun group.

Elected as president or chief tub thumper was William H. "Bill" Green, M-G-M exploiteer, and for the assistant chief tub thumper or vice-president, Herb Elisburg, owner of the Studio Theatre. The following were named directors: William G. Bishop, M-G-M exploitation supervisor; Jack Hess, publicist; Harold "Chick" Evens, UA publicity man; Irving Mack, Filmack Trailer Co.; Jonas Perlberg, BOXOFFICE; Freddie Mindlin, National Screen Service; Morrie Rotman, Community Chest and War Fund; Frances Gray, Chicago Times, and Edna Adams, Essaness circuit.

Elected as billposter or secretary was Harriett Stone, Balaban & Katz Theatres; chief swindler or treasurer, Al Wineberg, Warner Bros. publicity and for scrivener or clerk, Norman Kassel, Essaness publicist. Drumbeater or organization publicist is Jack Hess.

Committees were formed to make arrangements for the next meeting, which will be preceded by a dinner at a loop hotel, at which time an important figure in newspaper life will be put on the "griddle." The Tub Thumpers, whose first chapter was organized in Boston this year, has already established associate "tubs" in a score of eastern cities and the Chicago chapter is the first in the middlewest.

Patterned much like the famed Gridiron Club of Washington, D. C., the Circus Saints and Sinners, and the Cheese and Banshee Clubs of New York, the fun side of the organization is foremost, only matched by its interest in events of civic and national importance, to which members give their talents without compensation.

It was voted at the inaugural meeting to leave the charter open until 100 members were enrolled and that subsequent applicants would be associate members only.

F. C. Olsen, a Stagehand Official, Dies in Chicago

CHICAGO—Frank C. Olsen, 50, business manager and secretary-treasurer of the Chicago Theatrical and Stage Employes Union No. 2, who for years fought Willie Bioff, George Browne and racketeers in the theatrical field, died last week at Hotel Continental.

He is survived by his wife Katherine.

The union's executive board appointed James T. Ryan to Olsen's office until next May.

James Coston Appointed On Police Pension Board

CHICAGO—James E. Coston, zone manager for the Warner circuit, has been appointed by Mayor Edward J. Kelly to the policemen's retirement and pension board. Coston is a well-known sportsman and fishing pal of the mayor.

"Conflict" and Stage Show For War Bond Premiere

INDIANAPOLIS—A war bond premiere of "Conflict" was held Tuesday (26) at the Indiana. The program was augmented by the stage show, "Hi Yank," given by 45 combat veterans from Wakeman Hospital, Camp Atterbury.

Hank Porter Named NSS Chicago Area Salesman

CHICAGO—Hank Porter, for six years in charge of the poster department of the National Screen Service here, has been appointed country salesman in this area. Hank has been on the Row for 23 years. He started with Movie Supply Co. and was with the Cinema Service before organizing his own company, the photoplay Advertising Co., which he discontinued to join the NSS. Hank's duties will be taken over by Lloyd Niger of the NSS trailer department.



HANK PORTER

Ben Brown Wisconsin Showman 54 Years

MILWAUKEE—B. C. "Ben" Brown, manager of the Temple and Vernon theatres in Viroqua who is reputed to be the oldest active showman in Wisconsin, was among those who attended the annual managers meeting of Eskin Theatres, Inc., held at Wisconsin Hotel here last week. He has been in the business in this state 54 years.

Theatre improvements, exploitation and remodeling were among the subjects discussed.

The meeting ended with a dinner in the evening.

Veterans Service Aides See 'Returning Veteran' Film

CHICAGO—Men and women responsible for aid to veterans in this city previewed the MOT film, "The Returning Veteran," prior to its opening at the State-Lake Theatre, as guests of William K. Hollander, B&K publicity chief.

Present were representatives of the veteran's administration. The veterans' division of the U.S. employment service, information center, rehabilitation center, the American Legion, Masonic returned veteran's program, radio stations, newspapers and large industrial organizations.

Truck Strike Halts Theatre Supplies

CHICAGO—The strike here of 10,000 truck drivers halted theatre deliveries of candy, popcorn supplies, soft drinks, etc. About 40 per cent of the theatres had to close down their candy and similar concessions. Managers had to go to the Row to pick up and carry back whatever candy bars are to be found and the supply has been very low. The army is manning trucks, but so far accord priority to the delivery of government goods and to perishables.

Hampton's Band Jive Fans In Near Riot in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE—Lionel Hampton came close to the house record when his band grossed $25,000 in a run at the Riverside Theatre here. Tommy Dorsey, with Gene Krupa on the drums, set a record of $35,000 gross some time back.

A near riot occurred on the final day when jitterbug Hampton jive fans invaded the stage to get in the groove with the rhythm and besiege the orchestra leader for autographs. Police aid was required to clear the stage and escort Hampton from the theatre before the show could continue with the feature picture presentation.

Eddie Weisfeldt, Riverside manager, said 800 seats were broken by Hampton's juvenile fans in the week in which the band appeared here.

Hodiak, Bobby-Socks Hero, At Stadium Bond Rally

CHICAGO—John Hodiak, an idol of the bobby-socks fans, was the main attraction at Chicago Stadium last Saturday when the treasury department staged a rally and program to entertain high school boys and girls who have piled up records in bond sales. Also on the bill were George Murphy, M-G-M star, and Jean Parker, currently at the Oriental Theatre, while Frankie Masters and his band from the Stevens, Vaughn Monroe from the Sherman, Sammy Kaye and Lou Breese from the B&K Chicago and the navy pier dance band furnished music on the three-hour bill.



CHICAGO LUNCHEON FOR WALSH—Christy Walsh was lauded at a luncheon tendered by 20th-Fox in Chicago to herald "Captain Eddie" of which Walsh is co-producer, along with Winfield Sheehan. Pictured l. to r. are: Jack Lorentz and Tom Gilliam of 20th-Fox; Walter Immerman of B&K; Walsh; Bill Hollander of B&K and Dr. Eben Carey, dean of medicine of Marquette University.

MILWAUKEE

Don Woods, Warner exchange manager, and Harold Wirthwein, Paramount manager, yelled themselves out at the Parham-Richardson fight . . . Capt. Joe Baisch of the air corps, a former Warner theatre manager, was here on leave from Europe . . . Russ Leddy, Green Bay showman, and Sam Miller, State at Rhinelander, batted things around on the Row . . . Jack Lenehan, Paramount booker vacationed in Indianapolis.

Martin Thomas, showman with situations at Ironwood, Stevens Point, Hancock and Menomonee, was in booking . . . Ray Smith of the Ray Smith Co., was hit by a drunken driver. He suffered spinal injuries and is in St. Joseph's Hospital . . . RKO's direct mail piece on "Back to Bataan" is a good lobby display . . . Al Goetz, Milwaukee Musician's Ass'n, reports the annual picnic at Heidelberg will be July 30. Did you know that Al toots sax with Max and his Merry-Makers at local ballrooms?

Jordis Wiken, that blond photographer we told you about a few pillars back, heads for Hollywood in July. This clever lens lass that does some terrific portrait stuff with a mere snapshot camera and no spots. She will set up a temporary shop in the film capital and do model instruction.

Metro's Pep Club picnic at Estabrook Park found plenty of sun in the early afternoon. Then the weather man went out to lunch, and Lou Orlove, Joe Malits and your scribe were drenched by rain. Festivities continued in Metro's recreation room.

Gay Schmidt, Metro switchboard girl, made another conquest at the picnic. And such food! And so much of it that all Metroites were amply supplied with noon lunches for a week. Walter Bennin was cracked on the nose with a ball. Orlove cooked his own hamburgers, but don't ask us where he snagged the meat. Janet Uibel, Edith Sosoff, Vivian Fried, Becky Hoffman, Gay Schmidt, that Perlman gal and others initiated eye-filling playsuits. Joe Malits, president, knocked himself out on all activities.

We wake up screaming each day since Lionel Hampton rioted things at Riverside Theatre with his "out of this world" jibe stuff, backed by ten brass blasting up through the roof . . . Incidently, that young dark trumpet man known in these parts as "Skeeter" left with the Hampton band.

The Palace staged a "last-ditch" bond pitch, enticing patrons with the WTMJ Radio Rumpus room on stage . . . And Jack Kaplan, Miller manager, also "last-ditched" on bonds with an all-colored "All Out for Victory" show, with Lionel Hampton, Lil Armstrong, Step Wharton and a 40-piece colored dance band from Great Lakes naval training school.

Volmar Dahlstrand, Milwaukee Musicians president, reports a series of 35 summer brass band concerts are set for opening July 1. This year, Hubbard Park, Shorewood, also gets a series of eight concerts. On Wednesday nights, 50 pieces will give forth with concert stuff, and 30 pieces on all other nights. Concerts will be rotated at different Milwaukee parks. And at this time, it looks as though Jimmie Howard, veteran marimba artist may guest star.

Eskin Theatres put on a summer managers meeting at Wisconsin Hotel, with managers and home office personnel attending. Exploitation, theatre remodeling and other plans for improvement kept the event fast moving. Then in the evening, managers were hosted at a dinner by Eskin biggies.

Gordon Koehler, son of Charles Koehler of Astor Pictures, was in town briefly, then returned to Traverse City where Gordon is an officer in the air transport command and he does plenty piloting these days . . . That "Royal Rumpus" staged by Marc Brazee, Warner circuit state executive at the Sheboygan Theatre, pulled heavy bond sales.

Hazel Ramthum's mother caught her first muskie up around Chippewa Flowage, and is she pleased. Hazel handles secretarial chores for Otto Trampe, IATSE official.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Barkers Donate $52,000 To Rabida Sanitarium

CHICAGO—A check for $52,000 was presented to La Rabida-Jackson Park Sanitarium by Variety Club at a luncheon Monday in the club's headquarters in Hotel Blackstone, the sum representing the net receipts of a benefit performance staged in the Civic Opera House last month, known as the Hal Halperin memorial. The check was received by Mrs. William Welsh, president of La Rabida women's auxiliary; Max Greigg, treasurer and Richard Finnigan, publisher of the Chicago Daily Times and chairman of the board of directors of the hospital which is devoted solely to treatment of children suffering with heart ailments.

Jack Kirsch, chief barker made the presentation and introduced Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Finnigan, who paid a glowing tribute to the organization and commended the committee in charge of the benefit and the club as a whole for its charity and enterprise.

With the contribution the sanitarium will construct a new wing, to be known as the Hal Halperin addition, when building is feasible.

The sum was realized through the sale of tickets for the benefit show and from outright donations, amounting to approximately $60,000, from which federal taxes had to be paid.

Incorporation to Three Illinois Theatre Firms

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Certificates of incorporation were issued by the secretary of state's office to the following corporations:

Bertha Theatre Corp., Chicago, with 200 shares of common stock of no par value to operate any kind of amusements or theatres. Incorporators: William S. Vaselopulos, Joseph B. Koppel, Sotirios E. Kalomiris.

Commercial Theatre, Inc., Chicago, with 2,000 shares of $5 par value stock. Incorporators: Harry Balaban, Elmer Balaban and M. G. Leonard.

Calumet Manufacturing Co., Chicago, with 1,000 shares of no par value common stock. Incorporators Kenneth E. Becker, Marguerite Becker and Francis J. Koch. To buy, sell, manufacture, fabricate, assemble and deal in cameras, camera supplies, motion picture equipment, etc.

"Song" Still Clicking In Tenth Loop Week

CHICAGO—A week that started cool with business tepid, met rising temperatures about midweek which made "air-conditioned" a welcome sign. This, plus the dismissal of schools for the summer and the continued bond shows in the loop upped business to a most satisfactory figure in every house. The surprise of the season is the long, prosperous run of "A Song to Remember" at the Apollo where, in its tenth week, this Columbia hit is still clicking. The Chicago was all to the merry with "Murder, He Says," plus Sammy Kaye on the stage; the United Artists opened big with "The Clock"; "Roughly Speaking" premiered well at the Roosevelt.

(Average is 100)

Apollo—**A Song to Remember** (Col), 9th wk.....110
Chicago—**Murder, He Says** (Para), Sammy Kaye orchestra on stage.....130
Garrick—**Counter-Attack** (Col), 4 days.....110
Grand—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **See My Lawyer** (Univ), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Oriental—**GI Honeymoon** (Mono), Ted Weems and band on stage.....125
Palace—**China Sky** (RKO); **Swing Out, Sister** (Univ), 2nd wk.....105
Roosevelt—**Roughly Speaking** (WB).....110
State Lake—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para), 3rd wk.....115
Studio—**Ecstasy** (PRC); **Human Passion** (PRC), 25th wk.....105
United Artists—**The Clock** (M-G-M).....120
Woods—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep), 3rd wk., 4 days.....100
World Playhouse—**Mr. Emmonuel** (UA), 2nd wk.....110

Hampton Band Narrowly Misses All-Time Record at Riverside

MILWAUKEE—The Lionel Hampton band came very close to the all-time gross set at the Riverside by Tommy Dorsey and Gene Krupa. Near rioting due to the antics of kid patrons kept the theatre management and police on the hot seat.

Alhambra—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep); **Sudan** (Univ), 2nd d. t. wk.....100
Palace—**Sign of the Cross** (Para reissue); **Black Swan** (reissue), 2nd wk.....100
Riverside—**The Chicago Kid** (Rep), plus stage show.....135
Strand—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox); **The Unseen** (Para), 3rd d. t. wk.....100
Warner—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **Three's a Crowd** (Rep).....100
Wisconsin—**Without Love** (M-G-M); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col), 2nd wk.....95

Rains Cease and Indianapolis Trade Is Almost Normal

INDIANAPOLIS — The rains ceased and theatre attendance improved to almost normal.

Alamo—**Saboteur** (Univ); **Dangerous Passage** (Para).....90
Circle—**Earl Carroll Vanities** (Rep), plus stage show.....120
Indiana—**Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox).....110
Loew's—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M).....170
Lyric—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO); **Escape in the Fog** (Col), 3rd d. t. wk.....100

Chicago Variety Tourney July 10 at Hickory Hills

CHICAGO—Variety Club members will tee off in their annual golf tournament at Hickory Hills Country Club Tuesday, July 10. The committee in charge of the arrangements includes Jack Kirsch, Jack Rose, Edward Brunell, Irving Mack and John Balaban.

Kill Coin Machine Bill

JEFFERSON CITY—The bill of Sen. William M. Quinn (Dem) of Maywood to impose a state tax of $5 to $25 on all vending, weighing and amusement machines operated by the use of coins, failed to receive perfection in the senate. The committee vote was six to nine against the measure.

CENTRAL 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



John L. Spalding began his career in the industry in 1917 in Taylorville, Ill. He now operates the 700-seat Florine Theatre in Flora and the Roxy in the same town in partnership with his brother. Spalding has always been interested in community affairs. The Spaldings have six children, Bernard, Lawrence and Mary, who live in Flora; Donna, residing in La Porte, Ind.; Ernest, who lives in Springfield, and John jr., studying at Notre Dame. Spalding, who is a Knight of Columbus, is also a bowling devotee. He is happy with the show business.



More than 35 years ago Exhibitor **Leo A. Burnstine** started in the industry as an operator at the Empire Theatre, Fort Dodge, and in 1910 managed the Quincy Theatre, Quincy, Ill. He operated the Star, Vogue and Empire theatres in Lincoln from 1911 until World War I. When demobilized, "Bernie" became the owner of the 880-seat State and later the 635-seat Southtown Theatre in Springfield, where he resides. He is a member of Shrine and a life member in the Elks. The Burnstines have a son Harold, ten. Burnstine finds pleasure in fishing and hunting.



William E. Horsefield of Morganfield, Ky., acquired his first motion picture theatre in 1923 in Owensville, Md. Later he bought other houses in Maryland. In 1932 he came to Morganfield and now owns the Kentucky, Marion; Victory, Sturgis; Morgan, Morganfield. He is a director of the Kentucky Ass'n of Motion Picture Exhibitors and is a member of various civic organizations, including the Sons of the American Revolution. An active outdoor sportsman, he enjoys equally well golf, fishing, bowling and swimming. He is married and has a daughter.

More Aid to Greeks Urged By Spyros P. Skouras

CHICAGO—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox and head of the Greek War Relief Ass'n, told film and newspaper men and other guests at a luncheon-meeting in the Blackstone Hotel Saturday (23) that the need in Greece is heart breaking. His appeal for help for the war sufferers of his native land which came after an extensive tour of the devastated area, was in the form of an eye-witness report on the appalling conditions.

That the Red Cross and UNRRA are both doing all they can to aid the starved and broken people of Greece is obvious and is commendable, Skouras said, but such agencies cannot hope to cope with the needs of the country.

"America has been generous," he asserted, "but we must do more. Greece needs 25,000 draft animals immediately for the Germans removed all animals from the country. Clothing, food and medicines are needed."

Packages weighing up to 15 pounds can now be shipped to individuals in Greece, he said, through Greek War Relief's offices in New York. He reported that plans are being made to supply artificial limbs and other rehabilitation equipment to Greek soldiers, 25,000 of whom are unable to return to civilian work because of inadequate help.

"One and a half million persons are homeless and many are entirely without clothing," he added. "We have done a lot to help but we must do more."

The luncheon, arranged on short notice, was hosted by John Manta, circuit head. Presiding was Van A. Nomikos. Among the guests were local 20th-Fox executives including Tom Gilliam, Jack Lorentz and others, as well as circuit heads; William Karzas, owner of Trianon-Aragon ballrooms, and Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Theatres.

Film Studios of Chicago Will Make One-Reelers

CHICAGO—H. A. Spanuth, veteran film man, and G. L. Reasor, a manufacturer, have organized Film Studios of Chicago and will produce a one-reeler every two months. The series will be known as "Woman Speaks." A newsreel style will be employed and Joan Merrill, a local radio personality of WJJD, will be featured in the first release, her short to be known as "Womanpower." Releasing facilities have not yet been set up.

Request Joliet City Council To Bar "Mom and Dad"

JOLIET, ILL.—Dr. Philip McGinnis, Joliet health officer, today appealed to the city council to force Ernest Overbey, police chief, to halt the showing of "Mom and Dad," a motion picture on sex education. McGinnis said he made the request after he had received many protests. Instead, Chief Overbey sent his police matron, Miss Margaret Odenthal, to see the picture. When she reported it was not objectionable the chief refused to act.

Police said approximately 2,000 women stormed the Mode last Wednesday night to see the picture.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

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CHICAGO

B&K warehouse and office employes were to have their annual picnic and funfest this Saturday (30) in McCaffrey's Grove. There will be games, eats, drinks and entertainment. Jimmie Shields of the accounting department and Jack Katz, Roosevelt Theatre manager, have charge of the arrangements.

Lowell E. "Eddie" Mason, member of Local 110 died last Thursday (21) . . . The Little Theatre, Lincoln Ave., one of the three German language cinemas in the country, may get pictures shortly, as the alien property custodian in Washington has released 50 films made in prewar Germany but held from release since Pearl Harbor.

Poppy Paleologos, Girl Friday to Van A. Nomikos and an executive in the Greek War Relief, was married Sunday to Lieut. Xenopleon W. Mitchell, co-owner of the Patio Theatre. The bridegroom had been overseas three years with the marines. After a honeymoon he will resume theatre operations. Van Nomikos gave the bride away, and a dinner and reception was held at Edgewater Beach Hotel.

Jack Shumow, Warner manager, is the most in-and-out-of-towner on the Row, for he's working double time to bring in bookings and big grosses for the heap big powwow drive . . . When Jack Kirsch was making an address at the luncheon for Arthur Rank he stressed the fact that Rank's main interests, theatres and flour mills, were excellent means of cementing interrelations between the U.S. and Britain, whereupon Morrie Rubens cracked: "Rank should produce a double feature called 'She Was Bread in Old Kentucky' plus 'Only a Crumb Over Here.'" Sounds like "rank" pictures all right.

Dick Greer, former manager of the RKO Grand and B&K Garrick was "discovered" by George Bressler of the B&K Chicago staff while vacationing in Florida. He reported that Dick is now managing Wometco's Lincoln in Miami Beach.

Maurice H. Goldberg, formerly a projectionist at the Glencoe and a charter member of Local 110, died June 21 following a long illness . . . Judy Garland and her new husband, Vincente Minnelli, a former Chicagoan, and Donna Reed and her new groom, Tony Owen, also a local boy, honeymooned here. The former couple left for the east and the Owens, after a few days here, left for their farm in Denison, Iowa.

Paramount is hanging out banners for the third of a century drive, extending from August to September . . . Jack Rose, Manta & Rose circuit head, and Ben Katz of Universal are taking well deserved bows for getting a great turnout at the J. Arthur Rank affair. There was meat on the menu, too!

Rapp & Rapp are readying plans for remodeling the Frolic, Metropolitan and Oakland theatres, both outside and within . . . Sammy Embers, rationed dude of the Row, who has been 12 years with National Screen, will take a two-week vacation and then go to Dallas for the company.

Saul Goldman of Variety Pictures is booking a stripper-oo short, "Cuties of Burlesque" . . . Charles Dyas, mayor of Earlville, who also operates the Lyric there, was in to visit Bill Dassow at NTS and looked over new equipment. Mrs. Dyas gave popcorn equipment the double-o. She grows her own corn. Bill said his company has just installed new sound equipment and lamp houses at the Calumet in Calumet, Mich., and a plastic screen at the Polo in Polo and added that the new plastic type of screen has been put into the 18 theatres of the Manta & Rose circuit.

Gene Atkinson, business manager of the Local 110, says his boys will reach their Seventh quota—just as he said. The figure is $300,000! . . . Mrs. J. George "Bertie" Feinberg, International Seating Co., Cleveland, came in to visit her mother who is hospitalized and was a visitor on the Row as was Dave Dewey of Chicago Theatre Supply . . . Andy Russell, a Frank Sinatra runnerup, Chiefed in. He just finished "Stork Club" for Paramount, with Betty Hutton and was on his way east.

E. G. Fitzgibbon, alias Elmer the Great, just got back from Minneapolis where he made the public aware of "A Medal for Benny" and "Out of This World," to have a first showing up there July 1 . . . Elmer C. Upton, general manager of television station WBKB, says the station will shut down from July 1-10 for repairs but will keep its pattern on the air for the convenience of manufacturers who depend on WBKB for a testing.

"A Voice of the People" scribe contended, once more, that Chicago theatres need crying rooms and points to the fact that little Pana, Ill., has a house so equipped . . . J. Arthur Rank and his retinue came in over the weekend from Minneapolis and headed for Hollywood where the board of directors of Motion Picture Producers Ass'n will have a luncheon for the Britishers.

Pvt. Lawrence Bosi, formerly of Essaness Woods staff, is on sick leave from Percy Jones Hospital in Battle Creek. He was overseas a year with the Seventh army and acquired three battle stars, the combat infantryman's badge and a Purple Heart.

Joseph M. Schenck, production head of 20th-Fox, came from the east with the Skouras party and thence coastward . . . Jesse Lasky, producer, and Anthony Quinn and John Wayne, film stars, were here briefly en route from Hollywood to Boston where they appeared Sunday before wounded veterans.

An invitational preview of Lester Cowan's production of "Story of GI Joe" was presented at the Surf June 28. Army and navy officers and Mayor Kelly were among the guests . . . Herb Elisburg, back from New York, is huddling with Larry Stein on a series of horror shows for local theatres . . . The RKO starlet, Barbara Hale, and Patricia Coffin of Look magazine were in last week doing a travelog of a glamor girl's trip from New York to Hollywood.

Charles Ryan Started As Usher 35 Yrs. Ago

The successful veteran theatre man knows exhibition like the back of his hand and for a good reason. In almost every instance he has climbed from the lowest rung in the ladder. Name any job in the house and Charles H. Ryan of Warner theatres in Chicago has held it. Usher, doorman, stage manager, stage fireman, projectionist, trap drummer and manager!



CHARLES H. RYAN

In the theatre business 35 years, Ryan started in 1909 as an usher in the Garfield Theatre in Chicago. He gained more than just a row-by-row knowledge of theatre work and became manager in 1912. He managed the Garfield ten years.

A year's stop at the managerial helm of three other Chicago houses, the Milford, the Irving and the Buckingham, all large houses, completed one phase of Ryan's career. In 1928 he became district supervisor of the Symphony, Julian and Buckingham theatres. Two years later he was district manager of four north side Warner theatres for two years; district manager of nine Warner south side houses three years and in 1935 he was made assistant zone manager of the Chicago area.

"Build your name on goodwill" is Ryan's motto and he advocates advancing employes within the organization. For several years he edited the Chicago and Wisconsin Manager, a weekly house organ that stimulated business.

Both the Ryan sons are army men, one with the forces in Italy and the other an aviator stationed near Chicago.

All-Negro Cast - *Boxoffice Attractions*

TOP STARS	TOP PRODUCTIONS
Ralph Cooper	"Gang War"
Joe Louis	"Spirit of Youth"
Henry Armstrong	"Keep Punching"
Edna Mae Harris	"Sunday Sinner"
Cora Green	"Murder on Lennox Avenue"
Nina Mae McKinney	"Devil's Daughter"
Laura Bowman	"Son of Ingagi"
Paul Robeson	"Swing"
Monte Hawley	"Double Deal"
Spencer Williams	"Lying Lips"
Clarence Muse	"Emperor Jones"
Dooley Wilson	"Dark Manhattan"

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Declines in Theatre Business in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—Boxoffices of local theatres and other public amusement places have every reason to feel damp, Harry F. Wahlgren, weather forecaster for these parts, has revealed. Dipping into the records of his office he came out with the depressing, but record-breaking, information that rain or snow has fallen here on all but 62 of the days of 1945.

The total precipitation in the first 166 days was 25.5 inches, the heaviest since 1929. Theatre attendance has been adversely affected by rain, especially in the neighborhood and suburban houses.

The bad weather, coupled with the operations of one or more as yet unarrested individuals who have been terrorizing the women after dark, and the sharp reduction in employment at a number of the local war industries has hit boxoffice receipts hard in these parts.

Harry C. Arthur jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, has stated that business at the 35 F&M operated houses is off 25 per cent. He has pointed out that the prospect of 12,000 additional workers losing their jobs through the closing of the local Curtiss-Wright plant on July 1 will not help the situation. However, it has since been announced that the war department contemplates keeping the plant in operation, but it has not revealed the use to which it will be put.

George C. Smith, president of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, asserted that the sudden loss of 11,000 or more jobs emphasizes the need for completion of postwar plans, so that slacks in employment can be quickly taken up with new construction and new job opportunities. He indicated at least 18 prominent companies are interested in the acquisition of the Curtiss-Wright plant from the Defense Plant Corp. He also has pointed out the St. Louis manufacturers are employing 200,000 more persons than were employed in the St. Louis area during 1939.

Real estate agents have indicated that there has been no great migration from the St. Louis area. This is clearly indicated by the very acute housing shortage that per-

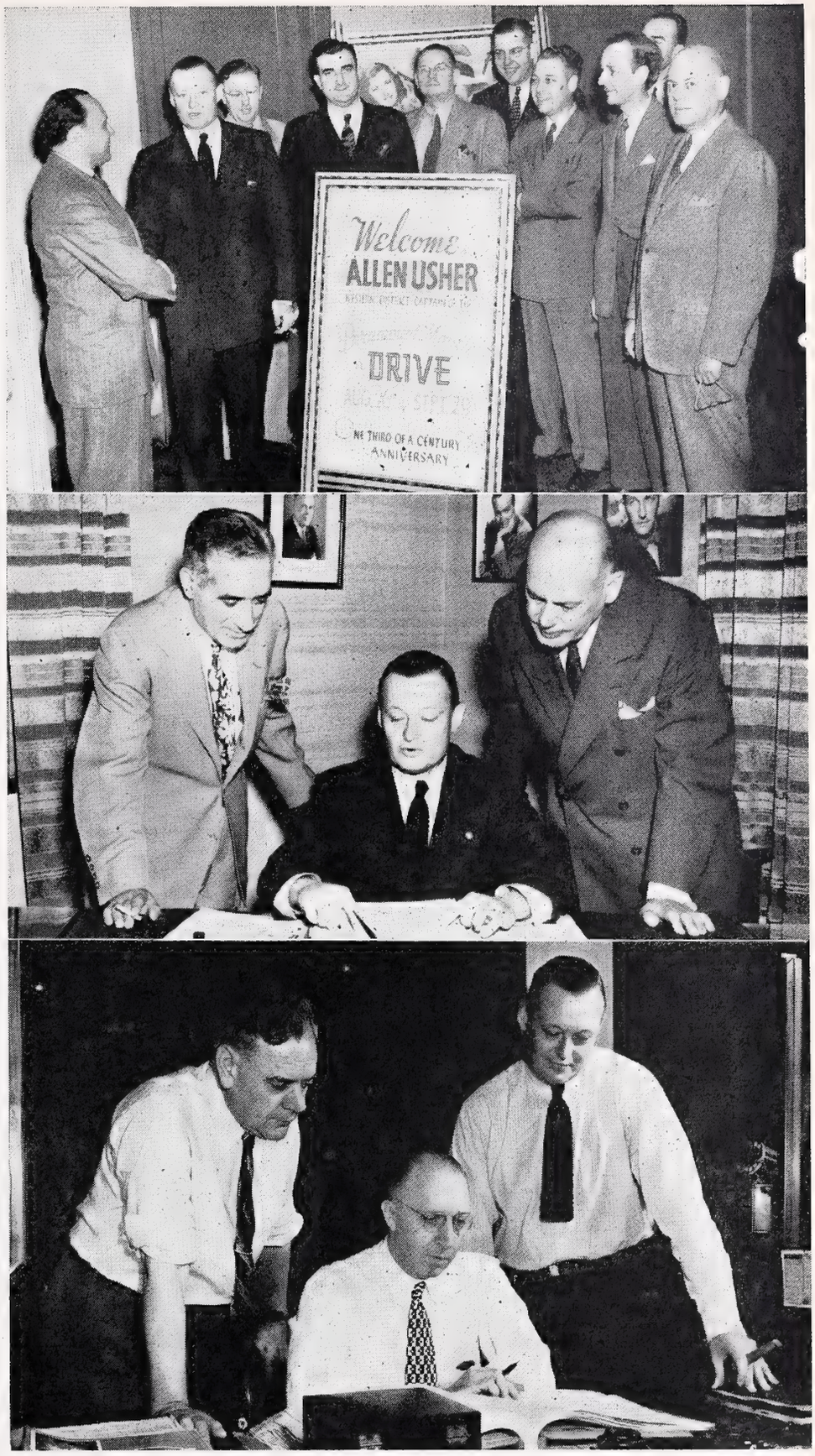
Circuit Conferees Stress Exploitation and Costs

CHICAGO—Exploitation, along with wartime economy, was the subject stressed at the special meeting here of the Indiana-Illinois Theatre Corp. The need for strong selling campaigns, carefully planned with an eye to getting the greatest results from the least expenditure, was discussed by officials of the circuit with their three district managers and more than 30 theatre managers.

Among those at the meeting were D. J. Chrissis, president; Jack Rose, secretary-treasurer; Alex Manta, vice-president, and Al Raymer, booker and buyer.

Electrical Engineer Joins Chicago Theatre Supply

CHICAGO—Robert S. Gardner has joined the Chicago Theatre Supply Co. He was associated with Claude Rubens, construction and maintenance chief of Publix Great-States Theatres here, until three years ago when he became chief engineer for George A. Fuller, builder of war plants. David Dewey, president of the Chicago Theatre Supply, announced "Mr. Gardner is a qualified electrical engineer. We want the theatre owners who have any electrical or engineering problems to contact Gardner and take full advantage of his valuable knowledge."



HOW THEY START IT—It takes a lot of preliminary work to get a Third of a Century Celebration under way. Every Paramount exchange has been the scene of meetings. Here three of them in the midwest are shown with Allen Usher, leader, in each.

Top—Des Moines: Left to right, Harry Hamburg, Allen Usher, Jim Castle, Bill Curry, Pearce Robbins, Ed Sandblom, Jim Foley, Harry Colburn, Hillis Carlton and R. C. LiBeau.

Middle—St. Louis: Left to right, Maurice L. Schweitzer, Allen Usher and R. C. LiBeau.

Bottom—Kansas City: Left to right, R. M. Copeland, branch manager; J. H. States, booking manager; Allen Usher.

Sees Quick Production Of Home Tele Outfits

CHICAGO—Sonora Radio & Television Corp. will introduce a line of television sets about 12 months after resumption of civilian manufacture, Joseph Gerl, president, said at a luncheon meeting of the Illinois committee of the Chicago Association of Commerce in the La Salle Hotel.

Two models will be introduced at first, he said. One will be a table model, with the image reflected on a seven or eight-inch mirror. This would sell at about $150. The other would be a console type with a 16 by 21-inch screen, selling at about $400. After production and sales volume is attained, the prices will probably be cut to about $100 and $300 respectively, Gerl indicated.

Gerl said Sonora's immediate postwar radio line would consist of amplitude modulation sets but that within a year combined amplitude and frequency modulation sets will be made. These would be distinct from the television unit, which would be a separate package, although containing a sound reception unit to supplement the picture.

The executive expressed the opinion the radio and electronics industry in the postwar period would employ at least four and one-half times as many persons as in the prewar era.

"Dizzy" Dean Loses Out On Award Presentation

ST. LOUIS—G. Jerome "Dizzy" Dean, who holds the distinction of being the first champion radio sportscaster to be dropped from his job after having been selected as the nation's best play-by-play baseball announcer, added another chapter to the story of his career when he failed to put in an appearance at a Hotel Jefferson luncheon to receive the Sporting News broadcasting award from the hands of Christy Walsh.

But it was not G. Jerome's fault this time. He was "bumped off" an airplane at Dalla while en route to St. Louis to participate in the program honoring Walsh, associate producer of 20th-Fox's film, "Captain Eddie." It seems that "Dizzy" lacked the necessary priorities to stay on the plane.

The luncheon was given by J. G. Taylor Spink, publisher of the sports newspaper. Among those in attendance were Senator "Happy" Chandler of Kentucky, baseball's newly appointed high commissioner; Sam Breadon, owner, and Billy Southworth, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals; Don Barnes, owner of the St. Louis Browns; Bill McKechnie, manager of the Cincinnati Reds; Rodney Coughlin, Milwaukee sports writer; Eddie Wray, sports editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch; Bob Hooey, Columbus sports writer; Postmaster Barney Dickmann, former mayor of St. Louis; Bucky Walters, star pitcher of the Cincinnati Reds, and Miquel Gonzales, coach of the Cardinals.

St. Louis Municipal Opera Featured on Radio Chain

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Municipal Opera is being featured in a weekly broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System via KMOX. Edwin McArthur, musical director at the municipal opera, which opened its 27th season at the Municipal Theatre in Forest Park the night of June 7, will direct an augmented concert orchestra, soloists and chorus in a series of radio musical programs featuring hit numbers from the current week's production at the opera. CBS will send the programs to South America and to armed forces overseas.

INDIANAPOLIS

Harry Katz, a partner with Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., Louisville, in the operation of the Circle, Indiana and Lyric here, was an Indianapolis visitor . . . Sam Roberts, of the partnership which operates Keith's, announced September 7 as the probable reopening date of that house.

Joe Smith, manager of the Amusement Enterprises, is spending his vacation on his Michigan farm . . . The Variety Club will hold its summer party at the clubrooms June 29 . . . Al Blocher, buyer and booker for the Y&W circuit, was in Chicago on business.

L. J. McGinley, Universal manager, and a versatile speaker, addressed the Rotary Club at Greenfield Monday . . . B. Curry has sold his Strand in Marshall, Ill., to H. H. Newman, former manager of the house . . . Max Page of Film Classics is planning to go to New York . . . H. E. Curry, who operates the Palace at Elkton, Ky., has remodeled the entire front of the house.

George Landis, 20th-Fox manager, and Joe Neger, office manager, went to Fort Wayne on a business trip . . . Bernie Kranze, RKO district manager, was at the local exchange Wednesday and Thursday last week . . . Sam Abrams of PRC visited his son Jerry at Great Lakes naval station.

H. C. Baker, operator of the Palace and Rex at Rensselaer; Mrs. Ora Meisner, who operates the Gibson, Batesville, and Miss Ann Holtrey, the Lyric at Waterloo, were Filmrow visitors . . . Peggy Lane is the new switchboard operator at 20th-Fox . . . Jane Gibson, assistant booker at Warners, is on vacation at Lake Wawasee.

The Universal staff is wearing broad smiles after winning third prize in the recently-completed Scully drive . . . Max Meadows, Universal salesman, was on vacation . . . Carl Anderson, Universal booker who was recently called to Portland, Me. by his father's illness, has returned to his desk.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dolle, Louisville, observed their 33rd wedding anniversary June 12 . . . Milton Ettinger, Universal salesman, vacationing with his wife, visiting relatives and friends in Terre Haute, Louisville and Cincinnati . . . Val Rosian, brother of Peter Rosian, Universal district manager, has been transferred from a Chicago military hospital to Ft. Harrison, for a special course in the finance school.

Disney Films Presented

CHICAGO—"Something You Didn't Eat," a new Walt Disney picture made for the war food administration, was shown in the Commonwealth Edison Co. assembly hall under the auspices of the Chicago nutrition committee. "Gulliver's Travels," the feature length animated cartoon, was shown at a benefit party sponsored by the Lake Bluff Infant Welfare Center at the clubrooms.

Film at Baby Clinic

CHICAGO—A baby clinic was held at the Hub store auditorium, offering commentary by a registered nurse and a full-color motion picture, "Babies Can Be Fun," which shows the care of little Susie from the time she is brought from the hospital to her first day at school. The nurse augmented the film with a running discussion and a demonstration doll and other equipment.

Coulouris to "Confidential Agent"

George Coulouris has checked into "Confidential Agent" at Warners.



ESKIN MANAGERS MEET IN MILWAUKEE—To Milwaukee headquarters of the Eskin circuit came managers and bookers from all over Wisconsin and adjoining states. New product was discussed, as well as wartime operation, and the meeting from several angles was a pronounced success.

In the photo, left to right, seated and standing in the row back of table: B. Feenberg, assistant to general manager, Milwaukee; Charles H. Braun, Hartford, Wis.; Jacob Eskin, secretary-treasurer, Milwaukee; Charles Nygaard, Sun Prairie, Wis.; Mark Morgan, president and supervisor of theatre operation, Cedarburg, Wis.; Jack L. Johnson, Whitehall, Wis.; Armin Wirth, Elroy, Wis.; Blanche Fries, Hartford, Wis.; Harry Melcher, circuit's general manager, Eskin, Milwaukee; Hazel Duecher, Kiel, Wis.; Elvira Kopling, Milwaukee; Ed S. Robinson, Dodgeville, Wis.

Middle row, all seated directly in front of back row: I. Levy, Boscobel, Wis.; Sid Scoville, Viroqua, Wis.; B. C. Brown, Viroqua, oldest active showman in state, with 54 years in service; Mary Schultz, Milwaukee; William Saeger, head booker, Milwaukee; Irene Reichert, Milwaukee; Harold Quatemont, manager, Black River Falls, Wis.

Front row seated: Ward Nordquist, Evansville, Ind.; Walter Holt, Kaukauna; Alden Pratt, Stevens Point, Wis.; J. W. Nordquist, Darlington, Wis.

President of SGP Has Had Much Theatre Experience

CHICAGO—Born, as it were, into the theatre, and trained in the primary and advanced duties that devolve upon an executive, John J. Jones has been through the mill of management, both of screen and vaudeville and supervision of stage productions for the legitimate theatre.



JOHN J. JONES

As head of the Jones, Linick and Schaefer circuit in Chicago, he expanded his operations into the World Wide Pictures, Inc., an independent exchange which serves Chicago and Milwaukee.

Jones was selected by National Variety to organize a Variety Club in Chicago. As first chief barker of the club he extended his relations and friendships nationally throughout the industry. He is scheduled for extensive Variety Club activities.

Upon formation of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., Jones was made president by unanimous choice, and he also heads the company's finance and production committee, the other members of the committee being Harry Arthur of St. Louis and John L. Franconi of Dallas. This committee concluded the deal with Robert L. Lippert, Action Pictures Co., San Francisco, for the industry's first series of outdoor action pictures in color. "Wildfire," the first of the series, is now in national distribution.

Firecracker Pranksters Cause Theatre Alarms

ST. LOUIS—Police are conducting a search for a gang of young hoodlums which has been exploding giant firecrackers in the vicinity of theatres, causing many of the patrons to leave in the middle of the show. The latest technique of the ruffians is to turn in calls for police cars, ambulances and fire apparatus.

An audience of some 450 persons at the Robin, 5479 Robin Ave., was watching "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" when a giant firecracker exploded against an exterior wall of the theatre. About the same time a "hysterical" call was sent to police headquarters of a "terrible explosion" at the theatre. Three ambulances, three police scout cars and a fire company were quickly dispatched to the scene. Meanwhile, alarmed by the explosion, many in the theatre left.

Francis Cather, assistant manager, who was in charge at the time, said no damage was done to the theatre and no one in the audience was injured.

A similar incident took place at one of the Grand Blvd. theatres.

Balaban Expansion Plans Include Chicago Drive-In

CHICAGO—Plans for the expansion of the H&E Balaban circuit were announced last week by Harry Balaban, who stated his organization has completed plans for a drive-in theatre for Chicago's west side, in Melrose Park, with construction to start immediately upon the release of materials. It will be the first drive-in for that district of the city.

Balaban added that his circuit soon would complete negotiations for the acquisition of the Howard Hughes Downtown Theatre in Detroit, giving the circuit two houses in the motor city.

Music in Color Makes Its Bow In Chicago Before Preview Group



FLORAL TRIBUTE TO NURSE'S MOTHER—Lieutenant Bighon of the AAF, himself a winner of the Aid Medal several times, is shown here presenting flowers to the mother of Flight Nurse Lieut. Ellen Richards of Gary, Ind. Lieutenant Richards, winner of an Air Medal and an Oak Leaf Cluster, was recently named the Service Heroine of the Week over the NBC radio program, Tin Pan Alley of the Air. With the heroine in India, the flowers were presented to her mother on the stage of the State Theatre, Gary. Emil Ruberti manages the theatre.

CHICAGO—The public is acquainted with the sound of Bing Crosby's voice. To see it projected in color on a screen is quite another thing.

The soothing effect of "music in color," trade-named Auroratone, was demonstrated a few nights ago at the first showing outside Hollywood, for a press and advertising audience in the Fair department store here.

"Auroratone" was the name coined by Father Hubbard, the Glacier priest, because he said the sensitized music projected in color, most nearly approached the aurora borealis. The priest is a sponsor of the Auroratone Foundation of America, a non-profit corporation which includes Bing Crosby, Ginny Simms, Col. Edward Dunstedter, members of the clergy and medical and nursing professions among its backers.

Though Auroratone affects everyone differently, it is used now only as an aid to rehabilitation of battle-weary veterans.

The film shown here lasted 30 minutes, and included "The Lost Chord," "Now the Day Is Over," and four songs sung by Crosby—"Going My Way," "Home on the Range," "I Dream of Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair" and "Ave Maria."

Each song opened with a pastoral scene which faded into a moving conglomeration of patternless colors, all taking shape and hue from the music.

The showing was preliminary to free public showings being given five times daily at the Fair store.

Tele Aids in Bond Sales In Chicago Campaign

CHICAGO—Television is selling bonds. In the Seventh War Loan drive, Station WBKB has been putting on bond programs each week for two months and as a result $145,000 in bonds have been sold, solely through this medium.

The televised programs, featuring stars from local theatres and night clubs, were put on Wednesday afternoons and picked up at treasury center, where several hundred witnessed each show. In addition, Marshall Field's store presented television, its program at WBKB being presented at the store's army exhibit. Last week the program consisted of a demonstration of the famous Norden bombsight, one of which is on display in Field's.

Correction



LOUIS LAMM

Because of an oversight by the makeup man, a photo of Charles H. Ryan, assistant zone manager for the Warner circuit, Chicago, appeared in an article last week about Louis Lamm, manager of the Fox Wisconsin Odeon Theatre in Beaver Dam, Wis.

Louis Lamm's photo appears herewith. Lamm is celebrating his 30th anniversary in theatre business this year.

Role in "Calcutta" to British Actor

Morton Lowry, young British actor, has been assigned a role in "Calcutta" at Paramount.

ST. LOUIS

X Marks the Spot," a film produced by the the New Jersey motor vehicle department, which is being currently shown in many theatres throughout New Jersey, has been judged the best motion picture on traffic safety produced during 1944 . . . Allied Theatres, with headquarters in the Arcade Bldg., recently added the Cozy, Girard, Kas., to its circuit, which also includes the Lynn, Lynn, Mo., and the Broadway, Poplar Bluff. It is understood that Mrs. Evelyn Bowers will continue as manager of the Girard house.

Mahlon R. Aldridge jr., KXOK news editor and commentator, recently was appointed acting station manager of KFRU at Columbia, Mo., replacing Foster Brown jr., inducted into the armed forces. Aldridge will continue as news editor for KXOK, commuting between St. Louis and Columbia weekly. Both radio stations are controlled by the Star-Times Publishing Co. . . . For the second time within eight days the roof of the Acme Bowling Alleys Bldg. in Alton was ripped off during a hail and windstorm.

Three Negro ushers who tried unsuccessfully to break open a safe in the office of the Carver Theatre recently, were fined $200 each on charges of making a false report of a crime to the police by George J. Grellner, city judge. They told the police they tried to open the safe with a hammer the night of June 11. The next morning they reported someone had broken into the theatre and attempted the robbery.



IN HONOR OF J. ARTHUR RANK—The Chicago film industry honored J. Arthur Rank on his visit to the Windy City. Left to right: John Davis, Arthur Schoenstadt, Jack Rose, Rank, Barrington Gain, Jack Kirsch, John Balaban, G. I. Woodham-Smith, James Coston.

Quick Sale Made With Classified Ad!

Phone call, plus telegram, gets popcorn machine!

✶

Having put a larger popcorn machine into service, O. C. Alexander of Kiowa, Kas., advertised his old machine for sale in BOXOFFICE Clearing House for classified ads. Numerous answers were received by mail very quickly, but all of these were too late!

A subscriber to BOXOFFICE called by telephone at once, accepted the offer, telegraphed the money. The machine was crated and being sent out to him before the mailed responses were received.

✶

BUY, SELL, TRADE—Find What You Want Quickly Through

BOXOFFICE Clearing House Ads

Big Results — Little Cost

War Bond Premieres Bring Advance Films

CHICAGO—Bond shows were sellouts last week. The entire B&K circuit staged shows with good results. Among the attractions brought to the neighborhood houses well in advance of regular releases for each locale were "Diamond Horseshoe," "Practically Yours," "National Velvet," "This Man's Navy," "Tonight and Every Night" and others. A second feature, "War Comes to America" was presented on each program.

Smoke From a $25 Fire Drives Out the Patrons

CHICAGO—There was a small fire but lots of smoke in the Royal Theatre, Wicker Park, the other night when crossed wires started a blaze on the canopy which has a wood trim. Harry Roshay, manager, estimated the damage at only $25, but the clouds of smoke which filled the theatre caused the 200 or more patrons to walk out. They were orderly as firemen showered praise on the cool customers—also a little water.

Sell Vogue and Chateau Building to Trust Co.

CHICAGO—The three-story building housing the Essaness Vogue Theatre and the Chateau ballroom was sold last week to the Trust Co. of Chicago, trustee, for $282,000. The property is at Grace St. and Broadway.

Owners were Thomas Henning and Samuel Mitchell, trustees, and Glenn R. Reed, successor trustee.

Chicago Sun's Film Ads Exceed Other Dailies

CHICAGO—Ted Weber, amusement ad executive of the Chicago Sun, reported that the paper's film advertising exceeded all other Chicago dailies, for the first five months of this year. The May lineage reached 65,878 and the total for the five months was 295,-139 lines or 21.9 per cent of the total film lineage in all five Chicago newspapers.

Stathis and Tulupan Buy The Fox Theatre Bldg.

CHICAGO—The partnership of Gust A. Stathis and Dr. Ansel H. Tulupan has purchased the property at 3161-75 Elston Ave., Chicago, housing the Fox Theatre. A story on the purchase in the June 16 issue of BOXOFFICE omitted the name of Stathis as a partner.

Collie Contest in Chicago

CHICAGO—To stir up interest in "The Son of Lassie," Bill Green, M-G-M press agent, and Dave Arlen of the B&K press staff, arranged a contest for the Herald-American's carrier boys, resulting in good pictures and stories in the daily. Lassie's son and six other valuable collies were given as prizes to winning newsboys. Three hundred carriers were also invited to a preview of the film.

"Old Bill" of Lyric Dies

INDIANAPOLIS—William James Eberhart, Negro, 75 years old, died recently in the Variety Club rooms. For 23 years "Old Bill," as he was known, had the job of taking care of the actors at the Lyric where he was employed as a porter and night watchman. During the days when the house had vaudeville he handled train connections, got food, sent out laundry and did various other tasks for the performers.

L. A. Kuhls Modernize Greenfield Grand

GREENFIELD, IOWA—Under the caption, "New Grand Is a Gem of Beauty," the Free Press last week devoted a full page of description and congratulation to the remodernized New Grand Theatre here.

The theatre, owned by Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Kuhl of Corning, was described in the paper as "one of the outstanding playhouses in southwest Iowa in modern design, convenience and beauty."

The seven-week remodeling job was done by the Modern Display Service of Fort Dodge under the supervision of E. C. Gunder.

Starting with the marquee in front of the theatre, the neon lighting was rearranged and the large canopy redecorated. The main entrance was revamped. Shadow boxes for display posters were constructed and indirect lighting installed. The under side of the canopy and the front of the entrance were done in white enamel.

Lobby Floor of Colored Tile

Multicolored tile has been set into the lobby floor. The boxoffice, constructed of glass brick, with neon lighting, is located in the center of the lobby. The foyer is carpeted. A modernistic confectionery is located at the right, painted in white enamel.

The auditorium has been enlarged by the addition of four rows of seats. A color scheme of sundown, with Spanish cedar scroll designs compose the decorative motif.

The acoustics of the theatre were improved by the use of paneling on the side walls, the rear of the auditorium, and ceiling. Modernistic scrolls in ultramarine blue highlight the panel effect.

A new screen has been installed and new lights have been put in the projection machines. The air conditioning system has been revamped with ducts pulling fresh air from the front of the building instead of at the rear. The vents into the auditorium are so arranged that theatregoers are not conscious of drafts, yet the air is constantly changed.

Automatic Curtain Lighting

The entire design of the auditorium works toward the proscenium arch of rounding design with gold curtain. As the curtain is parted, indirect lighting automatically flashes off, and comes on again when the curtain closes.

The New Grand was purchased in 1943 by Mr. and Mrs. Kuhl from George Morgan. It was bought for their son, Lieut. Robert Kuhl, then in training as an army air force pilot. He later was killed in a crash while on a training flight at Abilene, Tex. After his death, Mr. and Mrs. Kuhl considered selling the New Grand but for sentimental reasons decided to retain the property and to modernize it as a memorial to their son.

Enright Joins Republic

MINNEAPOLIS—Eddie Enright has joined the Republic sales staff. He succeeds Morrie Steinman, who resigned to become Monogram sales manager here. Enright is a newcomer in film business.

NSS Visitor From Omaha

DES MOINES—Izzy Sokolof, manager of National Screen Service's Omaha branch, was a visitor here last week.

E. G. Koenig Buys Theatre

IVANHOE, MINN.—The Gem Theatre here has been purchased by Edward G. Koenig. Former owner was Paul DeMarce.

Distribution and Production Experience Back of Wolf

MINNEAPOLIS—Paramount, M-G-M and Warners contributed to the development of Joseph Wolf. Immediately following World War I, Wolf became a Paramount salesman in Chicago and worked in the New York exchange. He transferred to M-G-M as home office representative. Two years later he was manager at Minneapolis for Warner Bros., after which he produced pictures for the state-right market. He returned to a sales capacity with Paramount in New York and Albany and was transferred to Minneapolis. He continued on this work for eight years, until 1944, when he acquired the Film Classics franchise for the Minneapolis area.



JOSEPH WOLF

Wolf has membership in the Film Classics franchise holders' committee and was a charter stock owner and franchise holder in Screen Guild Productions, Inc.

Siloam Theatre Opened

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MO.—The Siloam, formerly the Wood Theatre, reopened under its new name June 14 after being closed several years. It is the Fox Midwest second run house here. Matthew Bills, recently with the navy, is manager.

20th-Fox Officials Visit

DES MOINES—M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, and J. E. Scott, Omaha manager, were visitors at the exchange here last week.

Lead Role to Jane Frazee in "A Guy"

Jane Frazee was given the lead in "A Guy Could Change" at Republic.

Bonds at Air Show; Other Iowa Sales

DES MOINES—The motion picture industry, in cooperation with the aeronautics committee of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, set up a bond booth at the air show here last weekend, and during the two days totaled about $30,000 in sales.

Manning the booth were members of the Tri-States Theatre Corp. offices. Art Stolte, district manager, and Russ Fraser, advertising manager, were aided by Lucille Wesp, Madge Ward Clark, Virginia Kyle, Imogene Thomas and Mrs. Hubert Schrodt. As an added incentive, paratroopers appearing at the show, autographed bonds bought at the airport.

Several towns have sent in reports of their success in the Seventh War Loan. Eddie Forester, owner of the Cumberland and Massena theatres, reports a total of $13,000 sold on June 14 for the bond premiere at the Lux in Massena. The picture was "Heavenly Days."

Free Movie Day at the Earl in Carroll, netted $46,967 in war bonds, according to James Gray, owner of the theatre.

The Elite at Laurens used "Going My Way" for its premiere, and sold $16,485 worth.

A. H. Blank and D. C. Kennedy last week mailed cards to all Iowa exhibitors requesting complete report on the bond drive. They expressed the hope that all theatre owners and managers would cooperate in getting the necessary information to them so that the Iowa motion picture industry would make a good showing in the national picture.

Coach Host to Walsh

MINNEAPOLIS—Many northwest exhibitors and film men, prominent local leaders and sports followers were guests at a luncheon at the Hotel Nicollet here for Christy Walsh, coproducer of "Captain Eddie." The affair had Bernie Bierman, University of Minnesota football coach, as host.



ART MAKES AN APPEAL—One of the most attractive displays arranged anywhere for a bond premiere was that at the RKO Orpheum Theatre at Minneapolis, managed by Bill Sears. Chinese art treasures were borrowed to lend atmosphere to the lobby bond sales booth, which had two attractive Chinese girls as salesladies. The picture was "China Sky."

Hollywood Honeymooners on Farm Find Life and the Food Wonderful

DES MOINES—Actress Donna Reed has returned to Iowa to spend her honeymoon "down on the farm." Donna, 24, and her second husband, Tony Owen, 38, an actors' agent, are milking cows, feeding chickens and "eating plenty" at the 250-acre farm near Denison where Donna grew up.

The Owens were married June 15 in Hollywood and came to the farm of Donna's parents after the ceremony.

Donna and Tony's reaction to farm life was made available to Iowans last week when the Sunday Register sent a reporter and photographer to Denison for a day. The Register devoted nearly a page of pictures and type to the Hollywood couple.

In "They Were Expendable"

Donna, the former Donna Mullenger, is between pictures now. She had the part of Peggy, the nurse, in the war film, "They Were Expendable." She now is being tested for a major role in "The Green Years," a film adaptation of a best seller.

"It is going to be very beautiful and I would like very much to do it," she said.

Tony expressed confidence that she would land the role. She has one of the two feminine leads in the currently showing "Dorian Gray."

In speaking of cooking, Donna recalled for the reporter that eight or nine years ago she entered a pan of biscuits in the Iowa State Fair and won a blue ribbon. She has a 4H costume which is proof of her one-time proficiency with the needle.

The slender star believes she could regain her old skill at milking, baking or sewing, but she admits that she hasn't had much practice in the film colony. It seems that such people as W. C. Fields don't keep cows. Nor is there very much of culinary or agricultural learning over the back fence and exchanging recipes.

Tony, whose previous closest connection to things dairy was drinking malted milks, told of his first milking effort at the farm.

The honeymooners are enjoying another phase of farm life—big meals, built around such luxuries as bacon, pork chops, butter and thick cream.

"We haven't had any bacon for three months," declared Donna. Observed Tony: "That cream we have for breakfast! I haven't had any like that since before the war. Out on the coast you have to have a drag with the boss of a place to rate even half and half."

Owen, a dark-complexioned native of New Orleans who once played a little football at the University of Chicago, also was mightily impressed by the birth of a calf which took place in the Mullenger feed lot the morning the honeymooners arrived.

Alternately awed and worried for fear the prostrate calf was dead, he shouted excitedly when the little creature struggled to its feet.

"Ain't nature wonderful?" he said. He spent most of a morning looking at the calf.

Predicts Cycle of Musicals

Owen once was amusement editor of the Chicago Daily News and later was part owner of the Detroit Lions, a professional football team. He served several months in the army in 1942 until he was injured. The agency with which he is associated represents Donna in her business dealings. He is assigned to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, the studio which has Donna under contract.

You can look for a cycle of musicals out of Hollywood, Tony and Donna think.

"The movies are getting away from war," Tony said. "They are going back to entertainment. They've quit trying to teach. They still will produce all the best sellers and some of the good old dramas, of course."

The producing companies are intensely interested in television, he said, with Paramount owning one such firm. He believes television will have to get its actors from the films because "too often the present radio actors are horrible looking."

"The best actors in the business today are on the radio," he commented. "They have a tougher job. They have put it over by voice without being seen. But they usually aren't much to look at."

Donna entered the films four years ago. She was graduated from Denison High School in 1938, then went west to Los Angeles at the invitation of a California aunt for her higher education at Los Angeles City College.

She married William J. Tuttle, a Hollywood makeup man, early in 1943. They were divorced recently.

Geranium Thief Depletes Omaha Paramount Garden

OMAHA—Paramount could make a good comedy-mystery out of this one:

Every day for several weeks someone has been stealing one geranium plant out of the flower bed outside the Paramount office here.

At latest report the reward offered for a solution of the mystery was $25.



Film Trade Optimism In Minneapolis Area

MINNEAPOLIS — Monthly review of the Federal Reserve bank here provides reasons for film trade optimism in this territory. It reports good crop conditions and, exhibitor leaders point out, in this agricultural section good crop yields in the months ahead at the comparatively high price level sure to prevail spell probable boxoffice prosperity next fall and winter.

Despite the cold, backward spring, the crop outlook is above par because of excellent subsoil moisture and continuation of current weather conditions are optimistic factors for another large crop this year throughout the northwest, according to the review.

The review lists small grain crops as "thick and exceptionally well rooted," winter wheat acreage about the same as last year and corn, oats and flax acreage ranging from 104 to 105 per cent of last year.

Indicative of healthy trade conditions in the territory is the fact that, commensurate with the good agricultural situation, business conditions continued on a high level during the first phase of the industrial reconversion to peacetime production. The aggregate output volume has not declined appreciably and employment has remained stable, the review points out.

Minneapolis Experiencing Some Slump in Grosses

MINNEAPOLIS—Reduction of overtime, vacations and other war plant layoffs are considered by the trade here as important factors in slumping grosses now in evidence. Exhibitors say the drop is more than seasonal.

Some industry leaders here are hopeful that after a brief period of summer readjustment the boxoffice will resume its upward trend. They foresee rising purchasing power next fall and winter.

Even with the drop, business is better than normal in most situations, according to reports gathered by local film exchanges.

Naborhood Houses Frown On Extended First Runs

MINNEAPOLIS—Although there are seven first run and one holdover house in the loop for it to service, the Minnesota Amusement Co. so far hasn't been troubled by the decreased Hollywood film production that is causing shortages in some of the other larger centers. John J. Friedl, president, says he doesn't anticipate any trouble on this score.

Independent neighborhood exhibitors here have felt that product shortage might have had a great deal to do with the big circuit allegedly going overboard on loop extended runs. They charge that in a number of instances pictures are being held over when business does not warrant this. Friedl, however, asserts there has been no policy change and none is contemplated.

Loop holdovers are increasingly a pain for the independent neighborhood exhibitors, making for frequent product shortages in their houses and requiring them to buy more companies' product than otherwise would be the case, it's charged. There also is much complaint about increasing "milking" of pictures downtown.

City Spurns Theatre Offer

ST. PAUL, MINN.—The city of St. Paul has turned down another offer for the Palace Orpheum theatre property. Name of bidder was not disclosed. House now is under lease to the RKO circuit.

TRADE DIRECTORY

A Handy Guide for the Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY TERRITORY

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Missouri Theatre Supply Co.
Distributors for
RCA, Brenkert, U. S. Air, Heywood-Wakefield
115 West 18th St. — GR. 2864 Kansas City, Mo.
708 West Grand Ave. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

Stebbins Theatre Equipment Co.
1804 Wyandotte St.
C. H. Badger, Mgr. — Phone: GRand 0134

Southwest Theatre Equipment Co., Indp't
Wichita, Kas.
C. D. Peck, Mgr. — Phone 2-2153

EXHIBITOR ASSOCIATIONS

K. M. T. A.
Tom Edwards, President
Geo. W. Baker, Sec.-Treas.
128 W. 18th St.—Harrison 4825

MINNEAPOLIS

House record claimed for "A Song to Remember" at the Uptown, the Minnesota Amusement Co. ace local neighborhood house, which gets the first runs after the loop . . . Mannie Gottlieb, Universal district manager, was a visitor . . . M. A. Levy, back from a Des Moines business jaunt, leaving for a vacation. He'll visit his sister in Hamilton, Ont.

Al Putz, M-G-M sales manager, back from his home town, Cincinnati, where he vacationed . . . Ben Ash, former Minneapolitan, here from Los Angeles on vacation. He just was promoted to National Screen branch manager there.

Wife of Eph Rosen, M-G-M Twin City salesman, recovering at St. Mary's Hospital after a major operation . . . Ben Marcus, Columbia district manager, off to Des Moines after a visit here . . . Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiteer, will be absent from his office here for three weeks. He'll attend several "State Fair" premieres and then vacation with his relatives in New York. During his absence Cy Freedman will come from New York to pinch-hit for him.

Out-of-town exhibitors visiting Filmrow included Charles Kline of the Black Hills Amusement Co., Deadwood, S. D.; Leo Peterson of Rapid City, S. D., operating theatres at Pierre and Redfield, S. D.; Mrs. Alfred Ehlenz, Dodge Cty, Minn., and A. J. Troseth, Winthrop, Minn.

First industry picnic given by Reel Fellows' Club at Antlers Park was a huge success, with a large turnout of 125 and a good time had by all. It was an auspicious start for the annual industry outing planned by the organization.

Paramount's Third of a Century drive won't start until August 26, but the boys at the exchange here are already hard at work lining up bookings. Their goal is to make it the biggest month's business in the history of the Minneapolis branch.

Russell Pettingill, Universal's northern Minnesota salesman, recovering from a major operation at the Ashland, Wis., hospital . . . Monogram's "Forever Yours" has been spotted into the World here for a loop first run July 6. W. A. Frank's "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" also gets a loop first run in an MAC "A" house, the Century, currently.

Because the local exchange finished in fourth place nationally in the recent Bill Scully sales drive, each Universal employe is a week and a half extra pay richer—the prizes . . . J. Arthur Rank, British film and mill magnate, has come and gone. From here he went to Hollywood . . . One of the biggest single week's business here in recent months was chalked up by "The Clock" at Radio City.

Business generally was considerably off last weekend in the Twin Cities. The cool, pleasant weather was a factor.

Wayne Marx, Paramount booker, put over bookings in all three Jack Heywood houses, at New Richmond, Stanley and Cornell, Wis., for Paramount week, Aug. 26 to Sept. 29.

Two DM Fox Screenings

DES MOINES—Twentieth-Fox is having two tradescreenings early in July. Already shown was "Bell for Adano," screened in the 20th-Fox projection room June 27. "Junior Miss" is scheduled for its first Des Moines appearance on July 5 and "Captain Eddie" will be screened on July 11.

Julian King's Experience Spans Period of 23 Years

DES MOINES—A career as a film salesman for three major companies across a span of 23 years in the exchange centers of Kansas City, Chicago and Denver, laid the foundation for a venture into the franchise and independent distribution fields for Julian H. King.



JULIAN H. KING

He began as salesman for First National at Kansas City in 1921. In 1929 he went with M-G-M and remained with them for 15 years. Then he had two years with United Artists.

King obtained the Film Classics franchises for Des Moines and Omaha in 1944. He was co-organizer of the Film Classics franchise holders' committee.

As a charter subscriber to capitol stock he became the franchise holder in Des Moines and Omaha for the newly organized Screen Guild Productions, Inc.

Murphy to Play in "Up Goes Maisie"

George Murphy has been assigned the male stellar spot in George Haight's production "Up Goes Maisie," a Metro picture.

Twin Cities Complain On 'Top Group' Films

MINNEAPOLIS—Twin City independent exhibitors are complaining that, as a substitute for percentage, there's an increasing distributor tendency to put pictures in special higher price brackets and to include more releases in the top groups than quality warrants.

As much as percentage is disliked and resisted by these independents, the "substitute" for it isn't at all welcome and is almost as much of a "curse" and burden as the thing it replaces, leaders charge. It has raised film costs substantially at a time when grosses do not justify such tilts, according to the exhibitors.

When a picture is regarded as strong boxoffice, the distributor comes along too frequently now and demands one and a half times or more than the top bracket price, it is declared. The same is done frequently with "sleepers" or they're shoved up to the top group.

The result is, the boys complain, that the only pictures that exhibitors ever get at a reasonable price are "the duds"—and they're "unreasonable" at any price. There no longer are any "bargains"—pictures on which the independent subsequent-run exhibitor can make a killing, it's claimed.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



PATRONS were lined four city blocks, four abreast, in Indianapolis. Ten policemen controlled the crowds as "MOM AND DAD" shattered every house record, at Keith's. One, two, three, four, FIVE weeks it ran to profitable business!

Book It Now . .
PHONE • WIRE • WRITE

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WITH AN ALL-STAR HOLLYWOOD CAST

A new 1945 Release
with ELLIOT FORBES In Person
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CLEVELAND, OHIO

KANSAS CITY

Cpl. Leonard Abrams, former M-G-M booker who has been four years in the navy, is home on leave from Ft. Lewis, Wash. His wife is Bobbie Abrams, Metro inspector . . . Ed Hartman went fishing in the Ozarks last week and found it such hard work that he hurried back to get on his job for relaxation . . . Lois Lee Bander, golden haired Columbia receptionist, is on a vacation. Sue LaRue, brunet, is subbing.

Arnold Stone, who recently sold his interest in Screenland, visited his old "stand" Monday, reporting he's "helping the missus" around the house and resting.

Frank C. Hensler, M-G-M manager, has concluded his term as president of the Lion's Club. Members say his year was one of the most successful in the organization's history

Max P. Shelton and Ben R. Jones, his associate in Allied Theatres, Inc., St. Louis, were on Filmrow in the interest of their Cozy, Girard, Kas. . . . The two sons of "Doc" Cook of the Tivoli, Maryville, Mo., are on opposite ocean fronts. Ensign James E. Cook is fighter pilot with a bomber squadron based on a carrier along the Atlantic coast. Jack Cook is a pharmacist's mate in the marine hospital corps in amphibious training on the west coast.

Sam Sosna of the Sosna at Manhattan, Kas., and Louis Sosna, Sosna, Moberly, Mo., and their wives were here this week . . . Vernon Gelabert, Grand, Grandview, Mo., is being "kidded" over plans he should be making for spreading red plush carpets for President Truman and family. Some of the Trumans used to attend the Grand and counted Grandview their home town when Stanley Goldberg was operating the house.

Jim Castle, Paramount publicity representative in this district, is visiting his parents in California on a vacaton.

Metro Signs Former Powers Model

Dorothy Patrick, former Powers model, has signed a long-termer contract at Metro.



WELCOME TO WALSH—Senn Lawler of Fox Midwest Theatres extends a welcome to Christy Walsh, noted sports figure and associate producer of "Captain Eddie," a 20th-Fox picture based upon the life of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker. The occasion was a luncheon in Kansas City tendered Walsh with Marchie Schwartz as host, and attended by a number of Filmrow figures, as well as the Kaycee press. In the photograph, l. to r.: Harold Harris of Griffith Theatres; Lawler; Walsh; Schwartz.

Plan Community Film House As War Memorial

Des Moines — Blanchard, Iowa, is the first community in the state to make definite plans for erecting a memorial theatre to honor the war dead of the present conflict.

Following the last war, the community built a memorial school and dedicated the rooms to various men who had served. This time the town is figuring on opening a municipal motion picture house to be known as the Memorial Theatre.

"Clock" and "Pillow" Pace Sagging Week

MINNEAPOLIS—Grosses were down last week. Among the newcomers, "The Clock" and "Pillow to Post," were slightly out in front. "Son of Lassie" followed. Holdovers were "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "Murder, He Says" in their third weeks and "The Clock" in its second.

(Average is 100)

Aster—**Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col); **Her Lucky Night** (Univ) 90
Century—**The Clock** (M-G-M), 2nd wk 120
Gopher—**Tarzan and the Amazons** (RKO) 110
Lyric—**Murder, He Says** (Para), 3rd wk 100
Orpheum—**A Medal for Benny** (Para) 100
Radio City—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 110
State—**Pillow to Post** (WB) 120
World—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (M-G-M), 3rd wk 100

Kansas City Week Is Average; Eisenhower Cuts One Afternoon

KANSAS CITY—The General Eisenhower parade last week drew nearly everybody downtown and kept them on the streets, so business dragged a little at the theatres that day until evening. But in all it was an average week despite rather sluggish business at times. The Midland with "Blood on the Sun" and "Blonde From Brooklyn" managed to keep the meter above average. The Newman where "The Horn Blows at Midnight" was a little bit disappointing, held around average all week. At the Orpheum "Pillow to Post" and "The Crime Doctor's Courage" carried on for a second week with fair results. Esquire, Uptown and Fairway with "It's in the Bag" had good audiences.

Esquire—**It's in the Bag** (UA) 105
Fairway and Uptown—Same as Esquire 100
Midland—**Blood on the Sun** (UA); **Blonde From Brooklyn** (Col) 115
Newman—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB) 105
Orpheum—**Pillow to Post** (WB); **Crime Doctor's Courage** (Col), 2nd wk 100
Tower—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **Swing Out Sister** (Univ); stage show 100

"Young Charms" Is Des Moines Top Drawing Card With Even 100

DES MOINES—"Those Endearing Young Charms," running for eight days at the Orpheum Theatre, was the best audience drawer among downtown houses here last week. The picture was accompanied by "Betrayal From the East." Running slightly below par were the pictures at the two Tri-States houses. "God Is My Co-Pilot" was the feature at the Des Moines and a double bill, "Sudan" and "Destiny," showed at the Paramount. Tri-States officials attributed the light crowds to the air show which drew some 50,000 persons to the city airport over the weekend.

Des Moines—**God Is My Co-Pilot** (WB) 90
Orpheum—**Those Endearing Young Charms** (RKO); **Betrayal From the East** (RKO) 100
Paramount—**Sudan** (Univ); **Destiny** (Univ) 90

"Dangerous" With Ennis Is Omaha Leader; "Charms" Shows Strength

OMAHA—"Delightfully Dangerous," on the screen, dualed with Skinnay Ennis and his band on stage at the Orpheum romped ahead of the rest of the field in the weekly boxoffice derby. The Brandeis with "Those Endearing Young Charms" and "Betrayal From the East" was the only other first run house to go over par. Omaha's weather was a cooling mixture of alternate rain and sun.

Omaha—**Tomorrow the World** (UA); **Blonde Ransom** (Univ) 95
Orpheum—**Delightfully Dangerous** (UA), plus stage show 160
Paramount—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M) 95
RKO-Brandeis—**Those Endearing Young Charms** (RKO); **Betrayal From the East** (RKO) 125
State—**This Man's Navy** (M-G-M); **Hangover Square** (20th-Fox) 120
Town—**Jive Junction** (PRC); **Dark Waters** (UA); **The Big Show** (Rep), split with **Lost Canyon** (UA); **Three Is a Family** (Univ) .....

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Old Program on Annual Ball Etches A Happy Yesteryear at Kansas City

KANSAS CITY—Women are supposed to be the savers of sentimental souvenirs, such as dance programs, but Norris Cresswell, PRC booker, has one put out by the moving picture operators IATSE Local 170 for Nov. 17, 1914. This was for their annual ball—folks and organizations gave balls in those days instead of cocktail parties—and it was held at the New Casino Hall between Tenth and Eleventh on Broadway. This building is now used for a garage.

Maybe it wasn't sentimental interest in some one or several dancing partners that made Cresswell save the program, because the list of waltzes, two-steps, one-steps, jingles, hesitations, castle walks and schottisches on the "programme" didn't have any names of girls written in. At that time Norris was the manager of Bert's Studio in the Gayety Bldg., a theatrical studio, and he was also secretary of the Theatrical Mutual Ass'n. Maybe he just attended it for professional reasons. At any rate, the program would carry many an old-timer back to the early days of motion picture exhibition in Kansas City.

The advertising which made a booklet program possible is revealing in many respects. For instance, Grover Childers, president of the local, was evidently out to capitalize on the marital unrest of the time for he advertises, "A lawyer, too! Want a divorce?" Perhaps members got a rate.

James Bradley of the Troost Theatre and F. Lukin of the Bonaventure took space together and ended with "The Two Motorcycle Fiends," which was pretty descriptive of the motorcycles and their riders in those days.

Others who took space together were W. C. Kress at the Lyric and George E. Dighton "still running the pictures at the Orpheum." These two cut-ups ended their ad with this cryptic information: "Oh girls, look! These two are single this year." Which sounds as if they might have patronized Childers at some time in the past.

The Lyric, by the way, at the northwest corner of Seventh and Main streets, featured its organ in its advertisement thus: "Visit the Lyric and hear the finest musical instrument in the city, equal to an orchestra of 25 musicians. Also the latest moving pictures." The admission for everything, including the afterthought, pictures, was five cents. Them was the days!

Another duo that shared space listed themselves as "two real pals"—E. A. Zweig of the Globe and George M. Miller at the Theatre Royal. Informality predominated in most of the ads, such as: "Best regards from the two happy boys, George G. Roberts and W. H. Patterson, Manipulators of the Magic Lanterns at Willis Wood."

A. Bruce Campbell advertised himself as a "photo-playwright, picture pianist," possibly the early cinema version of a jack-of-all-trades. Such titles as "The Girl and the Gangster" (Kalem), "A Daughter's Sacrifice" (Kalem) and "The Estrangement" (Selig) are among those listed as authored by this versatile early-day Kansas Citian.

Among the Kansas City theatres listed with their owners or managers were: Frank Newman at the "Theatre Royal"—not Royal Theatre—at 1022-24 Main; the Warwick, Billy Andlauer (after his name is "certainly"—and you wonder why); Idle Hour Theatre, 114½ East 12th, W. D. Scoville, prop., George Scoville, manager; Pearl Theatre, 1205 Grand, C. O. Moore; St. John Theatre, Bert F. Townsley, and the Sapphire Theatre, 107 East 12th, A. E. Elliott.

Film companies advertising their wares included the Kansas City Feature Film Co. in the Gayety Theatre building, "home of Paramount Pictures"; C&A Film and Theatre Brokerage Co., 301 Gloyd building; General Film Co., Kansas City branch (no address listed); Universal Film Co., Empress Theatre building; Kansas City Slide Co., 1015-17 Central; World Film Corp. (controlling Shubert-Brady features); Box Office Attraction Co. of America, William Fox, president, Ozark building, 928 Main; Missouri Slide Co.; Ramo Films, Inc., 417-418 Gloyd Bldg., and Warners' Features.

As yet you see there was no Filmrow and much of the industry was very much in the egg stage—but to add zest to the party, personnel of the film exchanges listed had titles of current features printed under their names, such as General's M. R. Ward (Wood Be Wedd), Tom Dodd (The No-Account Count), Blanche Jameson (Lizzie the Life Saver), Universal's Herbert Thatcher (The Rock of Hope), Jack Patten (The Chicken Chaser), Helen Kennedy (A Much Wanted Baby), Mutual's M. E. Williams (A Fortune in Pants), Fred Burr (Cursed by His Beauty), Edna Thomas (Our Mutual Girl).

It all sounds like it might have been fun.



Burial of N. K. Burruss At St. Andre in France

KANSAS CITY—Services for Nelson K. Burruss, 30, flight officer with a glider division in France and former head booker at Warners here, were held June 10 in St. Andre, France. He was killed while on a routine practice flight June 8, his wife, Mrs. Florine Burruss of Kansas City, was informed by the war department. He had been overseas since February.

Burruss entered the film circle at Kansas City in October 1933, as assistant shipper at Paramount. In 1934 he was transferred to the ad sales department and became ad sales manager. Burruss was with Warners when he joined the air corps.

Surviving also are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David N. Burruss; a brother, Cpl. Harry L. Burruss, Chanute Field, Ill.

Showman and New Mayor Join to Pep Up Eldon, Mo.

KANSAS CITY—Tom Edwards of the Ozark, Eldon, Mo., and president of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Ass'n, has made his mark as exhibitor and organization trade leader. It is not so well known among exhibitors that he has been similarly effective as a leader in his community.

A recent article in the Star here, telling of the energetic promotional work of Bob Reed, mayor of Eldon, includes references to the invaluable support given to Mayor Reed by Edwards as president of the Eldon Chamber of Commerce and cites instances of prompt, effective action for town enterprises and the work of Edwards to obtain new industries. The big job the two now are tackling is that of putting the town on its toes so it will provide real opportunities for its veterans when "the boys come home."

Tri-States Folk Start Breakfast Series

Des Moines—Tri-States Theatre Corp. has inaugurated a series of Sunday morning breakfasts for employes during the summer months. The first was held June 24 at the Birdland Shelter House. Breakfast was served at 8:00 a. m., complete with bacon, ham and eggs. Employes brought their families, and enjoyed baseball, football and other games. The next breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, July 15.

Lieut. Abe Shafer III, 29, Dies at Great Lakes

EDGERTON, MO.—Lieut. Abe Shafer III, navy, 29, died Saturday (23) at the Great Lakes, Ill., naval hospital.

He had been home on leave two weeks and had just returned to Great Lakes. His mother, Mrs. Winnie Shafer, is the owner of the Shafer Theatre here. Last November while in the navy he was elected prosecuting attorney of Platte County and held the position at the time of his death. He entered the navy two years ago and served several months in the Aleutians.

The Shafer family of Edgerton is almost tradition among film men. Abe Shafer II, a doctor, operated a drug store in town and a score of years ago entered the exhibition field, operating the Shafer until his death five years ago. Mrs. Shafer continued the operation of the house and her son Abe became well known in film circles.

He also leaves his wife and a son, Abe Shafer IV, two years old, and his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Abe Shafer sr. of Edgerson.

Topeka Kaw Will Reopen On All-Spanish Policy

TOPEKA—The Kaw, a Dickinson theatre closed for three weeks for remodeling, will reopen July 1 featuring Spanish language pictures. Jess Alder, recently an assistant at the Glenn, Kansas City, will manage the house.

The service to Spanish-speaking patrons, which has proved successful in the Roanoke at Kansas City, has been tried out at the Kaw here with prospects of equal success. For several months Spanish language film has been featured the first three days of the week.

After July 1 Spanish-language films will be shown on a two-a-week change with American language shorts.

Sellout for Bond Show In Minneapolis Theatre

MINNEAPOLIS—Although results here, as elsewhere throughout the U.S. have been disappointing in the matter of sales, John J. Friedl, WAC chairman, is taking pride in the fact that this territory leads the entire country in the number of Seventh War Loan bond shows.

A capacity audience of 4,000 is assured for the children's war bond show at Radio City Theatre. Local talent will provide a stage show and there also will be a feature picture.

Shifts to Monogram

MINNEAPOLIS—Morrie Steinman has resigned from the Republic sales department to become sales manager under Tom Burke at Monogram. Bill Grant, Republic manager, has not yet filled the vacancy.

O M A H A

Howard Colon, owner and manager of the Colonial in Hamburg, Iowa, celebrated his 68th birthday June 28. And just for the record, A. F. Mohler reports that June 28 also was the 31st anniversary of the assassination of Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand of Austria . . . Esther Lynn, 20th-Fox contract clerk, is back at the job after a week in the hospital.

Frank Hannon, Warner manager, was out to the airport Monday to welcome his son Tommy in from Dallas. Tommy made several false starts, but got bumped in previous tries with Frank going as far as Kansas City once to meet him.

Reports on business from a number of small towns indicate some Sundays in which the gross is hitting four to five times pre-war Sundays. These cities are not necessarily war plant areas either . . . Doctor Jenkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Jenkins, David City, has set up his dentistry practice in Seattle.

With work being completed ahead of schedule, A. J. Chancry pulled a surprise and opened his Fairmont Theatre at Fairmont over the weekend . . . Among exhibitors picking Tuesday as their favorite day to come to Filmrow now are A. Burrus Crete. It could be that the horse races have something to do with it. They don't run on Mondays . . . Downtown managers report they can really feel the difference in their business with the races on.

Lieut. Richard Hintz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hintz, Tecumseh exhibitors, has been transferred from Sioux Falls, S. D., to his final base before being sent overseas . . . During vacation time, J. J. Klima of the Auditorium Theatre Corp., Milligan, has gone back to duties in the bank of which he is president.

Warners here is running 2-4 in the last lap of the company's national sales drive . . . A. Regan, Utica exhibitor, is back at work after being confined at home for several months due to illness . . . Mrs. Fred Schuler, Homboldt exhibitor, came to the Row for a visit following her return from a trip to the west coast.

John Kemptgen, M-G-M manager at Milwaukee, was back in town for a weekend visit. While here he also was presented a delayed goodby gift, a money clip. The first short snorter was in the clip, initialed by fellow managers here.

Paramount's air conditioning was down again Monday . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sam Epstein of the Epstein Theatres are back after a trip to Excelsior Springs . . . Then there was the fellow who told us Walter Kreal was making so much dough on the races that he ought to sell his two theatres here and buy two horses.

Don McLucas, manager, spent Monday in Des Moines . . . Lucille Bentz, assistant contract clerk at M-G-M, is taking a week's vacation here . . . Sid McArdle, UA office manager, has given up his tennis game now that he has moved further than a stone's throw from the Dewey courts. Golf and the garden are winning out.

Marie Cogswell, UA secretary, is vacationing . . . Shipper L. R. Von Dollen of the same office is spending his two weeks fishing.

Visitors along the Row: Arnold Mierendierks, Pender; Arthur Conklin, Griswold, Iowa; Arnold Johnson, Onawa, Iowa; Gene Lepovitz, Seward; Frank Good, Red Oak, Iowa; Frank Simek, Ashland; Jennie Wickman, Tekameh; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Craig, Plainview, and A. Burrus, Crete.

Melina DaGosta, contract clerk with Paramount, arrived back from her California trip and reported she liked it so well she almost stayed . . . One rumor has it that it was a United Artists plot to catch an exhibitor in the right frame of mind. At any rate, about a foot and one-half patch of plaster crashed on the floor in the office lobby last week, doing no more harm than to scare the office force out of their chairs.

Pvt. Donald Madsen, son of S. A. Madsen, Republic office manager-booker, has been reported at Le Havre, free after a stretch in a German prison camp . . . Sophie Volkert, Paramount inspector, is on vacation.

Jack Schwidelson, owner of the Cass Theatre here, made his annual trip to Sioux City Memorial Day . . . Last year officials at all the Omaha exchanges had that "empty" feeling when the valves were opened on the freon supply. This year it's different with apparently adequate supplies of freon to keep all the exchanges cool.

Mrs. Ada Evans of Hot Springs, S. D., mother of Colin Clements, former Omahan who wrote "Harriet," is in Omaha visiting relatives . . . Homer Hilton, general sales manager of Argus, Inc., who visited here last week, told snapshot and photograph fans they may be able to see a "perceptible increase" by September in supplies of standard film and paper.

"Lassie" Paper Show Brings In Over Ten Tons at Omaha

OMAHA—Waste paper came from all corners of Omaha last week and with it came hundreds of Omaha papertroopers to see the first showing here of "Son of Lassie" at the Paramount Theatre.

In all, more than ten tons was gathered. For the show each youngster brought 100 pounds of waste paper. Some paper arrived in wagons, others in home-made carts, by bicycle, by family car and by taxi. Paper collected for the special show also will count in a summer-long campaign in which the theatres are cooperating.

Donald Shane is manager of the Paramount, a Tri-States house.

Firecracker in Theatre

MINNEAPOLIS—A near panic was caused among patrons at the Highland, George Granstrom's de luxe St. Paul neighborhood house, when a firecracker exploded in the auditorium. The firecracker was believed to have been tossed through a pried-open back door by one of several boys who had been disorderly in front of the showhouse and had been ordered away.

Spot in "Limberlost" to Loren Tindall

Loren Tindall has been assigned an important spot in the Columbia production of "Girl of the Limberlost."



Para Drive Heads Will Visit Omaha

OMAHA—Gale Russell will be in Omaha July 16 as part of the Paramount month program, Branch Manager Jesse McBride announced Monday.

At the same time another big sales meeting will be held here, McBride said. Scheduled to be present are George Smith, western division manager from New York, and Duke Clark, district manager from Dallas and drive co-chairman.

Color Contest Stimulates Interest in "Velvet"

OMAHA—Jack Connor, M-G-M exploiteer, worked out a comparatively simple program with theatre managers in eight Nebraska and Iowa towns that paid good dividends on "National Velvet."

Gaining the cooperation of stores in each city, a small pamphlet was prepared and distributed to boy and girl theatre patrons. Inside was the outline of a race horse, with headlines something like this:

"The J. C. Penny Store Color Contest. Color Me and Win a FREE Ticket to See 'National Velvet,' the thrilling Technicolor story of a horse—starring Mickey Rooney at the New Moon Theatre."

Twenty-five tickets were given at each store. The theatres and managers working the exploitation included: Jimmy Redmond, Rivoli, Falls City, Neb.; Jim Pickett, Rivoli, Hastings, Neb.; Wally Kemp, Capitol, Grand Island, Neb.; Elton Benson, Grenada, Norfolk, Neb.; Bug Warrick, Rialto, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Art Farrell, Atlantic, Atlantic, Iowa; Jimmy Gray, Earle, Carroll, Iowa, and Walter Bradley, New Moon, Neligh, Neb.

War Cycle Complete, RKO Official Dozier Asserts

OMAHA — William Dozier, assistant production manager for RKO Pictures, was able to resume his hometown vacation here following a siege of influenza.

In his room at the Blackstone Hotel, Dozier said that his studio is now over the war cycle.

"We are, however, tackling the problem of veteran rehabilitation," he said. "Civilians must be taught how to cope with the veteran. The soldier knows his own problems. We hit this subject lightly with 'The Enchanted Cottage.' 'Tomorrow Is Here' will be more intimately concerned with the men who are trading khaki for civilian clothes."

The son of Mrs. Emma Dozier of Omaha, he has often been acclaimed "Creighton University's most brilliant debater." His wife, the former Katherine Foley, also is from Omaha.

Opens Early, Iowa, House

EARLY, IOWA—Ole Olson has opened a new theatre, the Community, here.

Double Anniversary For Jesse McBride

Omaha—This week is McBride week in Omaha.

The Paramount branch manager, Jesse McBride, is celebrating 25 years service with company June 28. On June 24 he and Mrs. McBride celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary.

Benjamin to Chicago; Owens Takes Place

DES MOINES—William Benjamin, RKO salesman the last three years, has left the exchange here to become Chicago branch manager of PRC. A farewell luncheon in honor of Benjamin was held at the RKO offices last week. Employes gave him a leather brief case.

Rhett Owens replaces Benjamin as salesman at RKO. Owens for the last year has been associated with his brother, Julian King, in Film Classics of Iowa and Nebraska. This association was his first venture into the industry. Owens will handle the northwestern Iowa territory for RKO.

State Fair Cancellation May Benefit Theatres

MINNEAPOLIS — Cancellation of the 1945 Minnesota state fair for the first time in its history, excepting a two-year break before the present century, is not expected to hurt theatre business here during the week the fair usually is held. Prior to the current decade, the fair used to bring into town many transients who remained several days or longer and helped swell theatre patronage, but in recent years most fair visitors have been driving in for a single day and confined their amusement-going to the exposition. If anything, it's felt, the fair hurt theatre business by diverting some local patronage.

Cancellation of the fair is due to the directive of the office of defense transportation prohibiting such regional and state shows. Fair officials announced the cancellation will prevent unnecessary use of transportation facilities needed for the war against Japan. However, it's known that Raymond Lee, fair board secretary, protested the ODT order because of the fair's educational features and encouragement it gives to 4-H clubs.

Omaha M-G-M Remodels

OMAHA — Extensive remodeling of the M-G-M office here, which may take most of the summer, is under way. Ceilings are being lowered; private offices are being built for Exploiteer Jack Connor; Office Manager Hazel Anderson and the manager's secretary, and the manager's office is also being remodeled and repainted. Similar repairs are being made in the inspection and shipping departments.

An Omaha Girl, 17, Wins "Miss California" Title

OMAHA—Barbara Lee Haynes, 17, of Omaha, has been chosen "Miss California" by the Screen Children's Guild in Hollywood. She is living with her sister, Mrs. Duane Anderson at Hunting Park, Calif., for the duration. She won the honor over 500 entrants in competition at the Hollywood Bowl.

Air Rides Given As Bond Premiums by Iowa House

Des Moines — The Capitol Theatre, Davenport, used a different idea for selling war bonds in the Seventh War Loan drive. Last weekend the theatre management worked with the civil air patrol of the city and sold a total of $21,525 worth of bonds.

Each person who bought a bond was given a free plane ride by the CAP. During the day, 209 E bonds, totaling $16,525, and five G bonds, totaling $5,000, were bought.

Russ Fraser Celebrates Father's Day in Reverse

Des Moines — Russ Fraser, advertising manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., has set an example of some sort for fathers in the motion picture business.

While other dads were being petted and pampered on Father's Day, Fraser was working his fingers to the bone slaving over a hot store in order that his wife might have a day of rest.

Confronted by associates later, Fraser explained: "On Mother's Day, my wife worked all day around the house. I felt the least I could do was to even the score on Father's Day."

What did Fraser do? He did all the cooking and housework and looked after his small daughter while Mrs. Fraser took it easy.

Fraser's associates at Tri-States hope their wives will not hear of his peculiar behavior.

Larger Minnesota Cities Retain National Time

MINNEAPOLIS—When the new state law returning Minnesota to central standard time becomes effective July 8, theatres in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth and several other of the larger municipalities will be unaffected. They'll continue under their present wartime daylight saving time schedules.

A state attorney general ruling has upheld the decision of Minneapolis and these other municipalities to disregard the law passed by the recent legislature and to continue on the present national time basis. However, the ruling also declares valid the new law which restores "sun time."

Exhibitors here would have been better satisfied if the city had decided to go along with the "sun time." They figured that the present wartime hurts business in the summer when daylight continues so late, keeping prospective patrons outdoors and away from showhouses.

Great Interest Manifested In Variety Golf Tourney

MINNEAPOLIS—Greater advance interest than ever before indicates that the forthcoming annual Variety Club golf tournament, at Oak Ridge Country Club July 27, will be the best attended and most successful in the organization's history, according to M. A. Levy, chairman.

Tickets at $6.50 each will include playing fee, luncheon and other refreshments and entertainment. The Calcutta sweepstakes is scheduled for the clubrooms the evening of July 23.

US. Projects for Nebraska

OMAHA—Forty-four federal buildings with an estimated total value of $11,815,000 will be listed for Nebraska in a revised compilation of projects eligible for congressional consideration. Three of the 44 are for Omaha including a $7,600,000 post office, a $270,000 federal garage site and building and a $140,000 branch post office.

View 'Out of This World'

DES MOINES—A tradescreening of Paramount's "Out of This World" was held last Monday night in the exchange projection room. Members of the industry, press and radio attended.

"Calcutta" Lead to Gail Russell

Gail Russell has been given the feminine lead in "Calcutta," a Columbia production.

DES MOINES

Several sunburned faces appeared on Filmrow. They resulted from witnessing the air show over the weekend. Mary Benjamin was so thrilled at the giders that she forgot to keep her umbrella over her, and a sore forehead and neck resulted. Russ Fraser was busy finding bond buyers, and got a bit too much sun on his face, too.

We understand that Art Stolte made a hit with his co-workers in the bond booth at the airport. Stolte came armed with cokes, cold milk, sandwiches, cake, etc. . . . Lucille Wesp, Tri-States advertising office, was limping around last Monday after a rough game of football at the Sunday breakfast. Her boss, Russ Fraser, calls her the Fredricksburg Flash since he observed her prowess at kicking the football around.

Ruby Dyer Zelcher writes from Alabama that it is hot, and that she is relaxing in a "lazy, little town" . . . Darwena Welsh, Columbia inspector, is on vacation. Esther Oppenheim Engman, formerly Mel Evidon's secretary, visited the Columbia office last week. Esther is now at Las Vegas where her husband is stationed. She was in Des Moines to see her brother, recently released prisoner of war.

Pat Brobst, Universal, is spending her vacation in Texas . . . John Murano, Paramount shipper, is on vacation this week . . . Alberta Collins, Paramount inspector, has a letter from her husband at Pearl Harbor. He had just had a chance meeting with his brother-in-law whom he had not seen for almost two years. Neither knew that the other was in Pearl Harbor.

June Douglas is a worry to her mother these days. June was advised by her doctor to take sun baths in the nude. So in the privacy of her back yard, June has been obeying his orders. Mrs. Douglas stands guard.

The Seidenfeld twins are sporting Mexican jackets, coats and leather purses brought to them by their mother when she returned from a recent trip south . . . Marion Kenyon is on vacation this week and will spend July 4 in Omaha . . . Larry Dunn, 20th-Fox shipping clerk, is back from his vacation and has a good tan to show for it. Larry says he got it riding the tractor and making hay!

Visitors on the Row: Mrs. Jean Nordyke, Richmond; Mrs. John R. Lewis, State Center; Mrs. C. F. Hoffman, Knoxville; Ray Baltzley, Bussey, and Ed Nordhus, McGregor.

To Rebuild at Steele, Mo.

STEELE, MO.—A new theatre to replace this community's only showhouse, which burned VE-Day, is expected to be completed here in a few months. A. D. Fielder has bought the site of the old Steele Theatre from T. C. Beasley and plans to construct a modern picture house upon it. Work was to start immediately.

Overhauling at Lewis

LEWIS, IOWA—Lou Krohn, owner of the Lewis Theatre here, recently had all the equipment overhauled. Ole Olson, operator of the new theatre at Early, Iowa, did the job.

Spaghetti (wonderful) and Chicken (great) dinners

"Where Filmrow Friends Meet"

HORKY'S CAFE 1202 High St. DES MOINES

J. J. McCarthy, Retired Film Salesman, Dies

KANSAS CITY—Word has been received here of the death of J. J. McCarthy of Parsons, Kas., June 26. He was an old-time film salesman well known on Filmrow and for a number of years represented First National and other major companies.

O. K. Mason, vice-president of Commonwealth Theatres, recalls his first meeting with McCarthy around 1908 in Grand Island, Neb., Mason's home town. At the time McCarthy was manager of the Jewell Theatre there, one of the earliest motion picture houses in this part of the country. McCarthy retired from the industry some years ago and settled down on a farm on the Neosho River northeast of Parsons, near which he had been born of an early Kansas pioneer family. He lived there ten years before his health failed, and the past few years of his life were spent in the state tuberculosis sanitarium at Norton, Kas., where death occurred.

The last time Mason saw McCarthy was out at Norton, and was touched by the fact that he had never lost interest in the industry after his retirement. The walls of his room at the hospital were checkered with pictures of old industry conventions, and he had BOXOFFICE and other trade publications around for reading matter. He was so well liked on the Dow that many of his friends kept in touch with him, and news of his death will release other reminiscences.

McCarthy's wife, who survives him, is living at 1729 Chess in Parsons. Burial was at Parsons. He was 62 years old.

A Six-Day Romance Leads To Altar for Carol Bruce

MINNEAPOLIS—Carol Bruce of the films, stage, radio and night clubs was united in marriage here last Sunday to Milton Nathanson, local tobacco company executive. The marriage took place six days after their introduction.

Miss Bruce has been playing an engagement in the Hotel Radisson Flame room and it was William Burgin, head waiter there, who introduced Nathanson to her. The latter was attracted to the singer the night she opened in the supper club and attended every show after that. The wedding took place in the home of the groom's brother, Gilbert Nathanson, theatre circuit owner.

It was the third marriage for Miss Bruce, the daughter of Harry Levy, New York jeweler, and the second for the groom. After her engagement ended here Thursday Miss Bruce left for New York to appear in a radio show. Her husband will join her there in two weeks.

'Flying Mayor Strowig' Has Big Week at Abilene, Kas.

ABILENE, KAS.—General Eisenhower was welcomed to his home town June 22 with cordial and wildly enthusiastic greetings from fellow townsmen and visitors—and a non-military parade. In the ceremonies at the stadium, Mayor Homer F. Strowig, exhibitor, introduced Governor Schoeppel, who extended the state's greetings to the general.

Strowig, "the flying mayor," had arranged with the district OPA office for additional points for feeding the crowd, and securing cooperation of filling stations, drug stores and restaurants in remaining open as a patriotic duty to facilitate feeding. There was not a complaint from anybody not getting something to eat.

Because he was mayor, Strowig avoided any specific tiein of the local theatres with the celebration, it was understood. He owns the two local theatres, Lyric and Plaza. There was hardly a handful of patrons the night the general arrived.

The only military item in the parade was a tank representing the general's command in the first world war.

Strowig flew to Kansas City Filmrow this week as usual to book. He has had a plane since last fall, the only plane personally owned in Abilene. A landing field has been set up, 160 acres obtained, and improvements will be begun here after harvest, but for the present, Mayor Strowig keeps his plane in a hangar at the Salina field. Sometimes he lands and takes off from some farmer's field near town.

Change at Lohrville, Iowa

LOHRVILLE, IOWA—The Royle Theatre here has been sold to Elmer A. Pearson of Washburn, Wis., who will take possession July 1. The sale also involves the theatre property.

Film Men Now Relax At a Prairie Waldorf

Norfolk, Neb.—This city has become a second headquarters for a group of film salesmen who cruise the surrounding area. And in Norfolk it's always been the Norfolk Hotel. But last week, all was different. The Norfolk Hotel became the Waldorf.

Some say it was because of the money spent by the film industry there; others say it was illusions of grandeur by the owner. But the real point of interest is whether the limit will have to be hiked in those friendly little games to keep up with the surroundings.

Film to Olathe, After Many Okays

KANSAS CITY—Beverly Miller, PRC franchise holder and veteran aviator, attained a secret ambition—he landed at the Olathe naval air base on business in behalf of the navy.

But he had to go through a complicated set of formalities and rules and regulations before he did so.

Miller had flown to Osage City Thursday, saving the day for a theatre there that needed a certain picture. The print was scheduled to be back in Kansas City Saturday morning so the navy truck from Olathe could pick it up. But the truck left without the print and with Miller's promise to get it there by evening. Then began the unwinding of procedure for Miller's landing with the print. The base WO said OK, but referred Miller to the OD. The OD said OK, so far as he was concerned, but stated that the OO should be consulted. (This was over the telephone from Kansas City). The OO raised no objections, but that wasn't final. There was still the OWO, to whom the OO directed BM. And the OWO, being the operations watch officer in the watchtower, gave the final approval, arranging with Miller the OO hour of arrival, the XX spot for him to land on and so forth. The flight and landing were simple matters, and the sailors saw the promised picture.

O yes, all this was to insure showing of "I'm From Arkansas."

Newman Bond Show To Million and Half

KANSAS CITY—The war bond premiere at the Newman Theatre last week, featuring Fred Allen in "It's in the Bag," accounted for sales of about $1,500,000.

M. D. "Babe" Cohn, Newman manager, welcomed the audience and paid tribute to the assistance of individuals and groups who made the premiere possible by their sale of bonds in the bond booths at all first run theatres.

Senn Lawler, co-chairman, representing Elmer C. Rhoden, area chairman, was introduced and told the patrons of the work of the motion picture industry in support of war activities.

Adding to the gala atmosphere of the theatre was the presence of 20 young women in formals who acted as honorary hostesses. They were members of the business and professional women's sorority, Beta Sigma Phi.

The city committee for the premiere consisted of Russell Bovim, chairman; H. D. Carroll, radio; Senn Lawler, publicity; Barney Joffee, tickets, and Lawrence Lehman, talent.

Janie Rehorn of KMTA Office Weds in South

KANSAS CITY—Miss Janie Rehorn, secretary to George F. Baker of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Ass'n, was married in Ocean Springs, Miss., last week to Lieut. Jack Kennedy Mann of army air force. Mann was overseas three years, two of which were spent as a prisoner at a prison camp at Moosburg, Germany, and was one of the first war prisoners to reach this country after release by advancing American troops. His home was in Laurel where Miss Rehorn spent several years in school.

A wedding reception was held at the home of the bride's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Trimble, at Ocean Springs. The newlyweds came to Kansas City after the ceremony for a brief visit at the home of the bride's mother. Lieutenant Mann and the bride will go to Miami, Fla., where he reports.

Mrs. Mann inducted her successor into the duties of secretary for the A. F. Baker Enterprises, the KMTA, and R. R. Biechele. The successor is Miss Ann Molander.

Germain to Managership W. R. Frank Productions

HOLLYWOOD—Independent Producer W. R. Frank has appointed G. R. Germain, Minneapolis exchange man, as general manager of W. R. Frank Productions, Inc.

Germain, who will headquarter in Minnesota for the time being, is concentrating on selling Frank's current release, which is being generally distributed by Film Classics.

Columbia Records Fall

MINNEAPOLIS—With the strongest lineup of pictures coming up, Columbia exchanges throughout the country, including the one here, are chalking up record sales, according to Rube Jackter, assistant sales manager. Accompanied here by Ben Marcus, district manager, Jackter expressed optimism over the outlook for the film industry for the balance of the current year.

Booth Damaged in Fire

SHAKOPEE, MINN.—Patrons at the Shakopee Theatre received an added thrill recently when a fire broke out in the projection booth. The blaze was confined there and shows were resumed the following night.

H. J. Hilling to Build New Ludlow House

CINCINNATI—Harry J. Hilling, operator of the Elm in Ludlow, Ky., Cincinnati suburb, announces a building site has been acquired and plans drawn for the construction of a 700-seat theatre, with all latest equipment and facilities in Ludlow.



HARRY J. HILLING

Hilling has been in the exhibitor field since 1912, in northern Kentucky. He was the first to open and operate an airdome in Covington. He at one time owned the Wilma, in Ludlow, and later built the Elm.

One of the most popular and well-known exhibitors in northern Kentucky, Hilling is married and has one daughter, Rose Mary. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Rotary Club.

Noise Charge on Drive-In Is Dismissed in Court

PITTSBURGH — Judge William H. McNaugher last week dismissed an injunction suit against the Drive-In Theatre, Bethel township, in which residents had charged excessive noise. Judge McNaugher made a personal inspection of the outdoor amusement enterprise before refusing the ban. The court was told that alterations had been made to the amplification system which greatly reduced the volume.

The action had been brought against Sophia Sorkrot, Jeanne Belback, George Davis, Norbert Stern and the South Park Drive-In Theatres, Inc., property owners and operators of the amusement enterprise. Property owners in the area had petitioned the court on several occasions during recent years, urging a "nuisance ban" on the Drive-in.

Rodney Jacobson Killed In German Aerial Action

DETROIT—Pfc. Rodney Edward Jacobson who served in the strategic air forces, was killed in action in Germany. He formerly was associated with his uncle, Mitchell Victor, owner of the Astor Theatre. He is survived by a brother, Lieut. Ivan Jacobson, formerly with National Screen Service, and former assistant manager of the Fox, Detroit.

First Five Rows Flooded But Show Carries On

CINCINNATI—When unprecedented rains swept back water under the stage and flooded five front rows of seats, the audience moved back and the show carried on at Elston Dodge's Mount Washington Theatre. Cincinnati was hit by an 80-mile wind.

Three UA Releases Shown

PITTSBURGH—Ernie Pyle's "G.I. Joe," which was previewed here June 28 at the Shadyside is the first of three United Artists releases to be seen by trade audiences on successive Thursday afternoons, William Shartin, manager, announced. On July 5 United Artists will screen "Guest Wife," and "Captain Kidd" will be offered July 12.

Galeton Main Street Sold To Lewis G. Hausser

GALETON, PA.—The Main Street Theatre has been acquired by Lewis G. Hausser of the Milroy, Milroy, Pa., it was announced this week. The theatre, long owned and operated by Al Nordquist, is unique in construction and is advertised and well established as "the only theatre in the world where you walk down two flights of stairs to get into the balcony."

A Floating Auction Obtains $275,000

CLEVELAND—The Variety Club-sponsored bond auction held Friday night (22) aboard the S. S. Theodore Roosevelt resulted in the sale of $275,000 in E bonds. Approximately 2,000 people participated in the bidding during the three-hour boat ride on Lake Erie.

This is said to be the first floating bond auction ever held. Tickets to attend were distributed through theatres and by the merchants who contributed the 319 prizes. These included a fox fur scarf that was knocked down to a $6,000 bidder, a pedigreed cocker spaniel that went for $5,200, nylon hose at $1,500 a pair, lamps, cartons of cigarets, boxes of chocolate bars, boxes of electric light batteries, liquor, wine, hats, dresses, two 14-pound hams, baskets of packaged food, sweaters, and other miscellaneous articles.

Jack Sogg, M-G-M manager, was one of the winners of the three $100 bond door prizes.

A corps of a dozen girls, equipped with typewriters were on hand to type the bonds and deliver them on the spot.

A perfect moonlight night favored the success of the floating auction. Use of the S.S. Roosevelt was donated by the Cleveland-Cedar Point Steamship Co.

Credit for the success goes to co-chief barkers, M. B. Horwitz and Meyer Fine, and to co-chairmen, Morrison B. Orr, United Artist manager and Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager.

Al Shane Named Manager Of Cincinnati Avenue

CINCINNATI — Al "Red" Shane, former emcee, vocalist and trailer salesman here, has been appointed manager of the Avenue Theatre, a local Frankel house.

Two Managers Quit Pittsburgh Row

PITTSBURGH—Lew Lefton resigned this week as PRC manager.

Withdrawal of the veteran film executive marks the resignation of two exchange managers from Filmrow within two weeks, Sydney Lehman having announced his resignation as Republic manager last week.

Lefton has been an independent distributor here for 16 years and prior to establishing an exchange in this city he had been in the film business at Cleveland. He was co-owner and manager of Monarch Pictures for a number of years and one of the first PRC franchise holders when this company organized five years ago. PRC purchased the local franchise late last year and Lefton remained as branch manager. His resignation came as a surprise to members of the industry here. It is understood that PRC has taken a long term lease on the PRC Exchange Bldg. at 415 Van Braam St. from Lefton.

Fred Rohrs, PRC district manager, who has devoted much of his time to business at the local branch for some weeks, states that Lefton's resignation is effective July 1, but he may remain on the job for an additional week or two, or until a new branch manager is appointed.

Republic's local branch also is without a manager as this goes to press. Syd Lehman's resignation is effective June 30 and no successor had been named. Sam Seplowin, district manager, has been here on business in recent weeks, and another Republic visitor was E. L. Walton, assistant to James Grainger, sales chief.

A number of friends of Lehman gave him a dinner at Al Rice's restaurant Monday evening. The Lehman family will move to California soon.

Ask Council for Tele Sites

PITTSBURGH—The city council is receiving requests from television companies for tower casting sites. In a communication, the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories Inc., of Passaic, N. J., requested a site near the Brashear reservoir. Two other companies, including WCAE, already have approached Pittsburgh's city fathers regarding sites. Completed arrangements for tower sites will enable the television companies to obtain priority rights for construction material, it was reported.



PARAMOUNT "OLD TIMERS"—These employes of the Pittsburgh Paramount exchange have an average of 23½ years of service with the company. With their years with the company they are, left to right, front row: Edward Stuve, 28; Margaret O'Connell, 20; Sabina Malatesta, 22, and Nellie Dunn, 27. Back row: Charles Mergen, 22; Jack Fontaine, 20; Harry Passarell, 23; Guy Peterson, 22; Bob Caskey, 26, and Branch Manager Dave Kimelman, 25.

CLEVELAND

Max and Sally Jacobs of Imperial Pictures had such a good time during their recent vacation at Martinsville, Ind., that they are leaving shortly for a trip up the lakes.

Seymour Amster, owner of the Amster circuit that operates theatres in Cleveland and Elyria, has increased his chest measurement several inches since his 17-year-old daughter Marilyn recently made a score of 94 at the Acacia Country Golf Club against 91 scored by the intercity champion, Miss Doran. Marilyn won the woman's championship last year at the Beechmont Country Club. Mrs. Edith Amster, her mother, is also an ardent golfer.

The Fine family, including Sam and Abbey who formerly were prominent local exhibitors, have acquired the Lieber Luggage Co., manufacturers of leather goods, and have incorporated as Lieber's Luggage, Inc. Also named as incorporators are Herbert D. Fine, Mildred Fine and Edward D. Wyner.

Jane Meisel Simon announces that she will sever her eight-year association with the Warner Theatres publicity department the middle of August to give her personal attention to a newly-acquired home. She joined the department as assistant to the late Sid Dannenberg and since his death has served as Publicity Director J. Knox Strachan's No. 1 man. Her successor has not yet been named . . . Some time this summer Marilyn Maher of Warner Theatres will marry Cpl. Jack Monreal, a local paratrooper back from three years' service in Europe. This will bring the year's total of Warner brides to nine.

Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, and Mrs. Wolf last Sunday held open house at their home in Shaker Heights to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary . . . A long boxoffice line formed for the opening of RKO's "Those Endearing Young Charms" at Warners' Hippodrome.

B. D. Zevin, president of the World Publishing Co., has acquired from Henry Holt & Co. the publishing rights to Bill Maudlin's latest cartoon book, "Up Front," which is scheduled to reach the motion picture screen. First edition of 300,000 copies will be out early in August.

J. Knox Strachan celebrated a birthday Thursday (21) on the receiving end of an array of modern, flashy ties . . . Ben Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, and Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager, were among the week's topflight visitors . . . Jerry Whitesell, former M-G-M booker, has arrived home on leave after 18 months of naval duty in the Pacific. He is married.

Betty Bluffstone, Universal booker, recently packed up her two daughters and her luggage and set forth on a vacation to Washington and Richmond, Va., where she formerly lived . . . Laura Zibell, secretary to Joe Krenitz, Universal manager, returned from her vacation.

Out-of-town exhibitors did most of their booking last week over the telephone. Among the few spotted along Filmrow were Harry Reinhart, Canton; Peter Ruffo, Niles; George Davis, Wellsville; Jack Armstrong, Bowling Green and Paul Pontius, Woodsville . . . Sam Schultz of Monogram and Mrs. Schultz have returned from a whirl around New York . . . George Shenker, who has sold all of his Lorain theatre interests except the Grove because of poor health, was a visitor.

August Ilg, Paramount partner in the Ohio Theatre at Lorain, and Mrs. Ilg are receiving congratulations on their 27th wedding anniversary . . . Joe Klynn, 20th-Fox projectionist is proud of his two boys. Herbert D. is a lieutenant in Hollywood with the First motion picture unit of the army air force as a director of training films. Sgt. Marvin L. is stationed at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., with the Fourth army headquarters intelligence.

Republic's reissuing of "Flying Tigers" at this time when the eyes of the world are centered on China and the air attacks on Japan is apropos. The picture won the critics' applause when shown in Canton, Akron, Toledo and in Cleveland, where it played at Keith's East 105th Street Theatre.

Loew's Esquire, Toledo, has booked "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors" for a week's engagement opening June 27. The show is being distributed by Film Classics in this area . . . Nate Schultz, Monogram franchise owner, reports that with the conclusion of the current first run showing of "Dillinger" at the RKO Palace, this picture will have played all of the key runs in the territory since May 3 when it was premiered at the Paramount in Youngstown.

Fred Scheuerman, former PRC office manager and now with Cooperative Theatres of Ohio, and Mrs. Scheuerman, celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary last week . . . Floyd Price, Newark theatre owner, was in last week to attend the marriage of his son, Sgt. Myron Price, to Nellie Margaret Sowle of Shaker Heights. Myron served two years in India and is now stationed at Barksdale Field.

Pvt. Howard Spiess, ex-Co-Op booker, is on furlough visiting his wife in Wauseon. He reports back for marine duty on July 3 . . . Bob Snyder, Film Classics sales representative, is pepped up over the distribution of a W. R. Frank production, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" featuring Sharyn Moffett, RKO juvenile star who won acclaim for her work in "My Pal Wolf" . . . Sam Seplowin, Republic district manager, dropped in for a one-day visit with Manager Sam P. Gorrel.

Mrs. Nezera Zegiob, owner of a chain of Lorain theatres, is back from a winter in Florida which improved her health . . . Stanley Hull of Amherst has gone back to the west coast, this time for good. After he sold his Mary Jane Theatre in Amherst, he went to California but returned a few weeks ago with the intention of buying a theatre and settling down in the Buckeye state. Unable to find a suitable theatre, he and Mrs. Hull finally decided to forsake Ohio.

Lou Ratener, Warner contact manager, is back from a business jaunt to the home office . . . Jerry Steel of the Apollo, Oberlin, was the only out-of-town exhibitor who attended the Variety Club-sponsored bond auction held last Friday aboard the S.S. Roosevelt. Jerry was disappointed his $5,000 bid didn't get the pedigreed cocker spaniel that Mrs. Morrison Orr secured through one of the leading pet shops.

GEORGE A. EBELING
Architect
MODERN THEATRES
1783 E. 11th St. Phone: MAin 0992
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

Jean Rogers Top Lead in "Gregory"

Jean Rogers will have the principal feminine role in "Gregory," a Monogram production.

'Love' Is Tops in Third Cleveland Week

CLEVELAND—In spite of continued cold weather, precluding any outdoor entertainment, theatre attendance is steadily falling off both at the first run and neighborhood theatres. It takes a big picture to attract big crowds these days. Last week, for the third successive week, "Without Love" was the top grosser. On a second move at the Ohio Theatre, it topped the house average by ten per cent. "Pillow to Post" in a second moveover week, also went over the line finishing with a 110 per cent take at the Allen.

(Average is 100)

Allen—**Pillow to Post** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk.....110
Hippodrome—**China Sky** (RKO) 85
Lake—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox), 2nd d. t. wk. 100
Ohio—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 3rd d. t. wk.....110
Palace—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ)..... 80
State—**Medal for Benny** (Para)..... 80
Stillman—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk., moveover 70

Lure of Warm Weather Pulls Detroit Grosses Downward

DETROIT—Business went down in nearly all theatres last week, largely as a result of the lure of warm weather, the first really good weather in months for any extended period. Picture grosses were decidedly uneven, as patrons began to pick their favorites with more caution than in the past. A year ago, the average patron would flock to any type of picture, so long as there was something on the screen, but a good film today, managers concede, may draw as large a gross as it formerly did, but the poorer attractions slump away down below par.

Adams—**The Power of the Whistler** (Col); **Diamond Horseshoe** (20th-Fox), 3rd d. t. wk.....115
Broadway-Capitol—**Body Snatcher** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO).....100
Cinema—**Pagliacci** (Audio Cinema); **Lips** (UA), reissues 105
Downtown—**The Great Flamarion** (Rep), plus stage show 100
Fox—**See My Lawyer** (Univ); **Patrick the Great** (Univ) 75
Michigan—**Salty O'Rourke** (Para); **Forever Yours** (Mono), 2nd wk. 120
Palms-State—**The Unseen** (Para); **A Medal for Benny** (Para) 110
United Artists—**Enchanted Cottage** (RKO); **Pan-Americana** (RKO), 2nd wk.....105

"Where From Here" Is Top Picture But All Pittsburgh Grosses Low

PITTSBURGH — Theatre grosses continue depressed at the first run deluxers and from the neighborhood and out-of-town theatres the reports are the same, "only more so." "Where Do We Go From Here?" was the week's leader in over average rating and was the only offering here to top the mark. Three of the theatres played holdover films and the Warner, for a change, presented a double bill.

Barry—**The Chicago Kid** (Rep); **End of the Road** (Rep) 90
Fulton—**Flame of the Barbary Coast** (Rep), 2nd wk. 70
Harris—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox)..125
Penn—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk..... 80
Ritz—**Pillow to Post** (WB), 2nd d. t. wk..... 75
Senator—**The Phantom Speaks** (Rep); **The Vampire's Ghost** (Rep) 80
Stanley—**It's a Pleasure** (RKO)..... 80
Warner—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB); **Betrayal From the East** (RKO)..... 70

"Bedside" Premiered in Cincinnati By Keith's; Rates 160 Per Cent

CINCINNATI — "Bedside Manner" premiered at Keith's, ran 60 above average and was held. "Blood on the Sun" was the second contender for top grosses.

Albee—**Blood on the Sun** (UA).....130
Capitol—**Valley of Decision** (M-G-M), 3rd wk.....120
Grand—**Don Juan Quilligan** (20th-Fox); **The Bullfighters** (20th-Fox) 80
Keith's—**Bedside Manner** (UA).....160
Lyric—**Salome, Where She Danced** (Univ), 2nd wk. 80
Palace—**Pillow to Post** (WB).....100
Shubert—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M), 2nd wk.....100

Decision on "Eddie" Big Columbus News

COLUMBUS — Announcement that the world premiere of "Captain Eddie," the story of Eddie Rickenbacker, will be held here Wednesday August 1, shared front-page space in the June 15 issue of the Evening Dispatch with the account of seizure of Nazi Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop. Hal Horne, 20th-Fox executive, made the announcement before a group of 75 civic and business leaders at the Columbus Club.

Horne said that the decision to open the picture in Columbus, former Rickenbacker home, was reached following an avalanche of requests from prominent Columbus leaders.

Several months ago, friends and admirers of Rickenbacker organized a committee to influence 20th-Fox to bring the world premiere to Columbus. Congressman John M. Vorys is chairman.

Accompanying Horne to Columbus were Jerome Pickman and Sid Blumenstock of the home office; James C. Keefe, publicity director in the Cincinnati area; Leavitt J. Bugie, Cincinnati branch manager; James J. Grady, district manager; I. J. Schmertz, Cleveland manager and Harry Weiss, publicity director out of the Cleveland office.

Premiere headquarters for "Captain Eddie" have been established at Broad and High.

Ohio Exhibitor, Circus Fan, Is a Foe of Carnivals

ALLIANCE, OHIO—Carnivals which cut heavily into theatre boxoffice receipts, especially at second run houses, no longer are permitted within the corporate limits of this city. Several such shows sought permits this spring but were refused. The city, however, is friendly to circus showings and these are encouraged.

Ray S. Wallace, directing executive of the Wallace Amusement Co., which operates all four film houses here, is a dyed-in-the-wool circus fan and travels far to visit circus executives and performers.

Last year Wallace leased the circus lot in order to halt the influx of carnivals. Often he has given the lot gratis to small circuses. Although a film man, he for years has aided agents of circuses and other shows in obtaining licenses and arranging other details to make showings here possible.

"Even though open air shows conflict with the film business, I have never opposed the showing here of a legitimate outfit," Wallace said. "They bring out the people and our business also profits, even if indirectly."

A Film Ad Threat Seen In Censorship of Signs

AKRON—What might become a serious problem to the motion picture industry has developed here with a proposal by Councilman George Aldrich that billboard advertising should be subject to censorship. Although Councilman Aldrich's objections are at present confined to bathing suit advertisements, any attempt to censorship of billboards displays would ultimately lead to motion pictures. No action has been taken as yet.

Citation to Geo. Tarassoff

CLEVELAND—Sgt. George Tarassoff, former local M-G-M booker who has been with the 422nd night fighter squadron operating in Europe, has added a Presidential citation to his three Bronze Stars, he writes local M-G-M friends. George now is living the life of Riley in Kessel, Germany, occupying a modern apartment, the former home of a German officer.

COLUMBUS

Red Cross collections for 1945 in the Cincinnati area amounted to $157,904 in 466 theatres, and in the Cleveland area $198,313 in 412 theatres, P. J. Wood, co-chairman for Ohio, announced . . . Cincinnati-born Irene Manning, stage and screen singing star, who was here recently for a stage appearance at the Palace, recalled that her uncle, Myers Y. Cooper, once served as governor. She is planning a tour of veterans' hospitals after appearing in the new screen version of "Rose Marie."

Revivals are the order of the day, not only in the neighborhood situations, but in downtown first runs. The Broad carded recently "The Sign of the Cross," "Call of the Wild," "Song of Bernadette" and will play "For Whom the Bell Tolls." The Grand is scheduling "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven."

Frank Smith, former Loew's Ohio service staff member, was in town on leave after boot training at Great Lakes naval training station. He's a seaman second class . . . Sgt. Al Block, member of the Variety Club, is back in civilian clothes after three years in the quartermaster section of the army. Al spent many months in Persia at the beginning of the work on the supply line to Russia.

The Variety Club has a handsome new members' directory, replacing the previous bulletin board in the clubrooms . . . Bernard McGraner, Ohio assistant, is acting as relief manager of the Broad while Manager Carl Rogers tours the vacation relief circuit for Loew's in Kansas City and St. Louis . . . Clyde Sells, known on the screen as Orn Huntington, is one of the 13 Harvey boys in Metro's "The Harvey Girls" starring Judy Garland, he revealed during his vacation with his family here. He also had a part in "The Thin Man Goes Home." Sells formerly was on the Broad service staff.

Bud Kissel, Citizen theatre editor, used a full page of pictures and interview with Gene Sheldon, local boy who plays Ali the Genie in 20th-Fox's "Where Do We Go From Here?" Sheldon and his wife Peggy are vacationing with his parents in Westgate here . . . Bill Castellini, UA exploiteer, was in town ballyhooing "Blood on the Sun," which had a war bond premiere attended by nearly 1,000 at the Ohio.

Canton Girl in Bond Show

CANTON—"Nob Hill" was presented at the premiere for war bond purchasers at the Palace. The film features Peggy Ann Garner, a Canton girl. Tickets to the event were distributed at the Iwo Jima bond booth on the public square to persons purchasing bonds.

. . . the CAMERA DOESN'T 'LIE'!!

Another BOX OFFICE RECORD SMASHED!

RECORD CROWDS Everywhere!



PATRONS were lined four city blocks, four abreast, in Indianapolis. Ten policemen controlled the crowds as "MOM AND DAD" shattered every house record at Keith's. One, two, three, four, FIVE weeks at ran to profitable business!

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DETROIT

Short Circuits: William B. Beckley, formerly with theatres in Dallas and Chicago, is the new manager of the Palmer Park in Highland Park for Ray Schreiber . . . Roger Secrest, former manager, is reported returning to Cincinnati . . . Clifford Roebuck is planning on a vacation up at Tawas City, starting August 1 . . . John Bubingham, former manager of the Liberty, has returned to his home at Duluth.

Oscar Gorelick reports that the federal court case between the Carmen and Cooperative theatres still awaits assignment to a judge . . . Edward Yarnell, manager of the Tuxedo in Highland Park, went to New York for a week's vacation. Howard Craven jr., relief manager for Wisper & Wetsman, is subbing . . . Arthur Frost, who was relief manager for the three Linwood Ave. houses, is now co-managing the Avalon Theatre with Albert Shook.

Lieut. Adolph Komer, son of Charles A. Komer, head of K&G Theatres, who was a prisoner in Germany, has returned to his home here . . . The Goldberg brothers, Komer partners, are traveling. Irving is due home from England and Adolph was here on leave from Pratt, Kas.

Faye Stone, former cashier at the Virginia who went into the Wacs and received a medical discharge, is now back in town after a siege in veterans' hospital . . . Julius D. London's Midtown was held up Tuesday evening by a "note bandit" who robbed Cashier Betty Dolney of $70.

Alice Gorham reports the women are selling war bonds better than the men in UDT houses, $1,700,000 to date . . . Victor Dodge of the Westown is doing a beautiful job on a memorial service to a neighborhood boy who was killed in action.

Theatrical Post Notes: Owen Blough, on a flying trip home, was the victim of a stray hound who removed part of Owen's pants.

Drug Store Stuff: George W. Carr, veteran representative of International Seating Corp. who recently celebrated his 83rd birthday on duty, is moving to his old home at Glen Ellen, Ill., because of his wife's health. He will commute here frequently on business trips . . . Leonard Schechter, representative here for Alexander Films in prewar days, was in to visit Max Blumenthal. He's now with GM's ad department . . . Frank Howard, former Co-Op booker, has moved from El Monte to Covina, Calif.

Exchanges: Detroiters were pleased to hear of the marriage of Lieut. John Howard, navy, former Paramount manager at Washington, to Lieut. Mary Beatrice Mattingly, AUS, also formerly of the Paramount staff . . . Harry Goldstein and Duke Clark, district managers, were Paramount visitors . . . Betty Hutton's "Incendiary Blonde" was given a tradescreening at the Fisher. She is a Detroit product and was featured on the front roto page of the Free Press Sunday as a Southeastern High School student.

Al Champagne, 20th-Fox booker, was off for a week's fishing trip . . . E. T. "Peck" Gomersall, Universal assistant sales manager, and District Manager Mannie Gottlieb, former manager here, were in town for several days . . . Milton Zimmerman, Universal office manager, was off to Chicago and Minneapolis for a vacation. Lou Forman back on the desk pinch-hitting for him.

George W. Sampson jr., Universal salesman, is trying to get his boat in the water to see if it still floats . . . Ben Kalmenson and Jules Lapidus of Warners were due . . . Arnold Monette, 20th-Fox salesman here, has been named to cover the Chicago suburban territory.

Mrs. Jack Saxe, wife of Monogram's silent treasurer, announces she will be "at home" for the summer at Belle River, Ont. . . . George Schlaifer, 20th-Fox division manager, and Jack Lorenz, district manager, were in last weekend.

Along the Rialto: Lieut. Eric Von Stroheim jr., son of the actor-director, is now stationed with the military police detachment at River Rouge . . . Lieut. Joseph B. King of naval intelligence, who plans to open his own theatre after the war, has been transferred to New York . . . Charles Dietz of M-G-M is working out a special campaign for the opening of "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Pfc. Helen Potter, a Wac who made international headlines when she was socked by a Paris gendarme as she tried to cross the Champs Elysee before a parade, causing a general riot between the French and hundreds of American troops, is the daughter of the late Lieut. Lester Potter who headed Detroit's censorship activities for a quarter century . . . Harold F. Murphy has been named art director for Florez, Phillips and Clark.

Under the Marquees: Maxwell M. Chetkin, former owner of the Joy, has been elected president of the Retail Beer Stores Ass'n of Wayne County . . . Sol Krim of the Krim Theatre in Highland Park made the first call from Detroit to Spain since the ban was lifted. He talked with his brother and partner Mac at the Embassy in Madrid . . . George McCall, managing director of the Downtown, was off to Chicago and Milwaukee for the weekend.

Harrison Beach, veteran 16mm operator, has left for Blaney Park in the upper peninsula for the summer . . . Gladys Kulish reports there's a nice cashier at the Norwood . . . Relief Manager Fred Sweet of the Telenews seen lunching on Filmrow en route to the sign shop . . . Shirley Fensch left to marry Emery Verhelle . . . Jean Masak, the other former feminine assistant, has left to become switchboard operator for an air corps canteen in Kansas City.

Edward Jacobson went to Chicago to check up on Al Dezel's exploitation films . . . Manager Arthur Leazenby of the Cinema held a special preview Tuesday for reporters and many civic leaders of the Hays-banned Film Classics release, "We Accuse" . . . Edward Robinson of the Robinson Bros. circuit became the papa of a son, named Jack Craig.

H. O. Cook of the Dox was seen busy popping corn for the big Saturday trade . . . Manager William Ahrens of the Annex was on the entertainment committee for his church picnic at Bob-Lo Island, attended by himself and family.

Up in the Booths: Pfc. S. J. Lambly jr. is now in the Fifth assault signal company of the marines. A long way from Ferndale . . . Maurice L. Rubin of the Cinema feels much "stabilized" there after his recent trek to the west coast . . . James Shore of the Virginia was off to Frankfort for a two-week vacation . . . Carroll F. Kemp, formerly of the Carlton and lately with Soundies, has moved to the Carmen in Dearborn.

Nick Tsoukalas, who shifted from the Carmen to the Highland Park Theatre, has opened his own dance studio in the north end . . . Gus Cohen of the Monroe is back after a three-week vacation in Miami with his wife . . . Harold Korn jr. is back at the Monroe after the army decided to let the men over 30 stay on their jobs.

Charles C. Ross of the Campau has moved to Ilene Ave. . . . Thomas T. Stephens of the Annex is enjoying connubial bliss and proud of it . . . J. C. Woodfin enjoys the easier working space in the Annex booth since that areaway has been covered in . . . Harold Stephens, son of Thomas T., is now in Manila.

Homer Dillenbeck of the Dox is taking a busman's holiday on his days off, making trips with William A. Rennie, service man . . . Joseph Gabel jr., formerly of the Dox, is still among those missing over Germany. No word since January.

United Detroit Notes: Clark Field, former manager of the Palms-State, has been discharged from the service after being wounded along the Moselle River and has been named manager of Cinderella Theatre . . . Kay Breihan who was at the Cinderella, goes to the Madison where she replaces Jean Schmidt, who moves to the Regent . . . Dale Young of the Regent moves clear out to the Bloomfield in Birmingham, replacing Marion Yeager who has left the UDT organization.

William Ahrens who left the Bloomfield some time ago, is now manager of the Annex . . . C. E. "Obie" O'Bryan is now at the Palms-State where he has taken the place of Malcolm Rose, who is now assistant to Jack Keegan.

Edward E. Gloss to WLB

AKRON—Edward E. Gloss, for years amusement and radio editor of the Beacon Journal, has resigned to become public relations and information director of the fifth regional WLB in Cleveland.

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Critic Views Recent Releases as "Sad Lot"

PITTSBURGH — A cinematic decline is noted by Karl Krug, Sun-Telegraph drama critic. Reports of declining business from the nation's film houses have been rumbling across the land for weeks, he reports, stating "such a sorry state of affairs is not surprising considering the quality, or lack of it, that has been shipped out of the studios in the last 60 days." After "a very creditable showing in January, February and March," Krug made a "sad analysis" for May releases, recommending only five of 11 pictures which were single billed here during that period.

Exhibitors coming into the film market deplore current product, naming companies and releases, he said. Many of them state that film offerings were never poorer, that there is practically no "quality" in recent film productions. Casts, directors, technicians and producers are "vacationing" or "underestimating the public's taste" with "cheap and unskiilful" films, they are quoted as saying. Most of the "de luxe, overlong" films could be improved very much by editing; only a few of the long-running time pictures are of merit and many of them are outright "stinkers," large capacity theatre exhibitors and neighborhood and smalltown theatre owners agree, according to Krug's consensus.

Krug, who published a film comment column on the cinematic decline, recently referred to film fan magazines as "slop." Other local film critics have commented in type regarding poor films and have poked fun at many of the spring and summer releases. The old stories of films "escaping," instead of being released, are making the rounds again.

Diversification the Motif In Career of Al Dezel

DETROIT—Pointing up the diversity of experience of the Screen Guild Productions stock and franchise holders personnel is the somewhat different career of Al Dezel of Detroit.



AL DEZEL

Dezel was an artist on Hearst publications, and did art work for a trailer and publicity business in Chicago. He did exploitation work for the former Hodkinson Co., Universal and Thomas H. Ince.

Following this, he roadshowed Freiburg's "The Passion Play" nationally and made a continental tour, including Mexico and Cuba, with exploitation roadshow pictures.

Dezel then established an advertising and exploitation service in Chicago and handled on a fee basis the work for a string of Chicago houses, and also handled personal publicity for Valentino.

These various experiences led Dezel to establish what has become a permanent business, Albert Dezel Roadshows, booking and exploiting attractions that have played in all important U.S. cities.

In addition to the roadshows, Dezel currently operates independent exchanges in Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati, in which he holds the Film Classics franchises. Also, he is one of the original organizers of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., and holds the franchise for Detroit. The Screen Guild Productions was organized some time ago.

Auctioneer Winn Nets Big Cincinnati Total

CINCINNATI—Cincinnati's bond premiere, staged at the Shubert June 22, realized $872,525 in bond sales to ticket purchasers. A total of $1,321,225 resulted from the auction, presented with the show before a packed audience. Ed Wynn was auctioneer. The genial comedian almost missed his train boosting an electric iron bid to $35,000. The highest bid was for a man's wrist watch which brought $100,000. Bottles of bourbon went for $2,000 to $5,000 in bonds.

Music was provided by the Ft. Thomas air force band. Toby Tuttle, WLW, was master of ceremonies. Joe Duncan, well known tobacco crier, Owenton, Ky., added the professional touch.

Col. Arthur Frudenfeld assisted by Maurice White, Allan Moritz and Nat Wise, promoted the premiere. "Conflict" was the feature shown.

Bond Show Nets $46,175

NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO—Five hundred and twelve persons attended the war bond show at the Bexley, purchasing $46,175 worth of bonds, D. G. Duty, manager, announced. "God Is My Co-Pilot" was on the screen.

Hike Music Box Tax

YOUNGSTOWN—Operators of 348 juke boxes here face a $10 tax per music box due on July 1. The city council recently enacted the $10 annual tax in addition to the $5 license fee in effect for several years.

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PITTSBURGH

George Elmo, former Paramounteer here who recently was appointed Paramount manager for Panama, Central America and Ecuador, was a local visitor . . . With Paul Krumenacker substituting for F. D. "Dinty" Moore, Warner manager who is ill, Howard G. Minskey, recently returned to Warner sales duties after several years in the SeaBees, is looking after Krumenacker's sales post.

N. W. Fredericks of the Garden, Lock Haven, who suffered a heart attack several weeks ago, is reported improved . . . Ben Brown, who has been in charge of Warner circuit's projection department here many years, has resigned, effective August 4, to devote his time to the Soisson, Connellsville, which he has owned several years.

Dr. A. L. Koontz, New Martinsville, W. Va., exhibitor, who entered the moving picture business about 35 years ago in partnership with the late B. E. Cupler, Washington, Pa., underwent a nasal operation . . . Following a wedding trip, Lieut. and Mrs. Walter G. Bender will reside in Fredericksburg, Va. The bride is the former Dora Virginia Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Newton Williams. "National Newt" Williams, who had been ill for a long period, now is able to walk with the use of a cane.

Filmrow visitors included Mrs. Freda Brog Nimitz and her baby and Lieut. and Mrs. Mildred Greenstone Frankston. Freda formerly was a sales representative for old Atlantic Film Service and she now resides in the south. Mildred was Art Levy's secretary at Columbia. She and her husband, a medical officer, now live in New England . . . George Jaffe, Casino proprietor, was in Atlantic City attending a meeting of burlesque impresarios.

Jim Alexander, Pennsylvania Enterprises executive, ill two weeks ago, has recovered and is back at the film buying-booking office in the Law & Finance Bldg. . . . Johnny Harris's "Ice-Capades of 1946" will open here in the Gardens, October 26, for three weeks . . . Variety Post 589, American Legion, had charge of the patriotic program which opened the Variety Club's Camp O'Connell for underprivileged children Sunday (24).

Marion Harris, UA telephone operator who underwent an appendectomy last week, is recuperating . . . Harry Myers, Wilmerding exhibitor, for the fifth season is employed at Forbes Field where he has charge of the press gate . . . Alan Barkley, Harris Family manager, was vacationing . . . Russ Zebra, Republic salesman, was scheduled for another screening test for the service this week . . . M. A. "Moe" Silver, Warner circuit zone manager, will observe his 30th anniversary in the theatre business in September.

Bridge score pads are being distributed by Republic . . . Charles W. Moore, son of B. F. Moore, Warner main line district manager, is attending maritime midshipman's school, Morrisville, Pa. . . . David Green's Beacon, Squirrel Hill, broke all records with Columbia's "A Song to Remember." The picture was booked for four days and it played 22.

Charles and Dale Warner, Carolina, W. Va., exhibitors, attended Buster Crabbe's water show at West View Park while here last week . . . Saul P. Brown, who purchased the Pastime, Herron Ave., from Manny Steinberg, returned from a Florida vacation. Manny is now connected with the A&S Steinberg Theatre Supply Co., formerly operated by his brothers Abe and Sam, deceased . . . The Variety Club golf tournament will be held at the Westmoreland Country Club Friday, July 6. Fee is $7.50 and proceeds go to the Camp O'Connell fund.

James L. Baker of Mode-Art Pictures was scheduled to fly to Hollywood June 29 where he will combine business with a vacation for several weeks. Recently he produced several shorts for the government. Mode-Art is a completely equipped production studio.

Miss Meercy Braff, M-G-M booker, has been re-elected president of the Pittsburgh Council of Jewish Juniors . . . Harold Redick, assistant to George Notopoulos, Butler, Pa., showman, underwent an operation in the Butler County Hospital . . . W. B. Jacoby, manager of the State, Altoona, has been vacationing . . . Pvt. Bob Shapiro, brother of Joe Shapiro, Mount Union and Six Mile Run exhibitor, is at Camp Lee. Joe and Bob are partners in the theatre and furniture business . . . Dom Mungello, Burgettstown exhibitor, has been drafted after having been given a pass when the "over 30" ruling was announced. There is hardly a chance for another turn-about. His brother and partner, Tony Mungello, will operate his Mary Ann.

Pvt. Morris Kaufman, former local exhibitor and Filmrow employe who has been in the marines for two years, was a visitor the other day, having returned from Iwo Jima. He was six months overseas as a member of the Fourth division. His brother Eli, former exhibitor partner and also formerly employed on Filmrow, is in the lumber business in California.

F. D. "Dinty" Moore, Warner manager who has been at the hospital in Everett, now is in the Presbyterian Hospital here and he is reported much improved, but is allowed no visitors. Paul Krumenacker, his assistant, is temporary manager at the film office . . . Frank Oglietti jr., 12, son of the Leechburg theatre man and nephew of Guy and John Oglietti, Leechburg theatre owners, drowned in the swimming pool at Griftlo Park Wednesday (20).

Sympathy is extended to Ben Stahl of the Steinberg Theatre Supply whose father died last week . . . Frederick Cook jr., Thomas Vates, Bob Higgins and Tom Schrader, all of the Beaver Falls Rialto Theatre Corp., were Filmrow visitors . . . Pvt. Jim Laux, formerly manager of the Melrose, is recuperating after an operation in Ft. Knox Hospital . . . Joe Mazzei, assistant manager of the Art Cinema, who has been awaiting induction into the armed forces, said that an increase in his family is anticipated in three months.

Sgt. John A. Scott, former NSS office manager here who has been in service for several years in Africa and Europe, is convalescing from wounds at a hospital in Chalons, France. John has been connected with Allied policing of occupied countries and wrote that he was shot by an Arabian in Germany, suffering wounds in the thigh and knee.

William B. Way, bookkeeper and assistant to Miss M. E. Shively at the office of Mid-State Theatres, Clearfield, was a Filmrow visitor . . . The Ralph Shadleys of the Academy, Meadville, were in Washington on a vacation visiting their son Fritz, who is in naval radar service . . . George Notopoulos, Butler manager of the Pennler-Notopoulos Theatres, received a high Masonic degree . . . The Harris managers were in charge of last Friday's family night party at the Variety Club.

Bill Zeilor, former manager of the J. P. Harris, was promoted to a captaincy in Halle, Germany . . . Sgt. Albert Katz, formerly of NSS here, has received a discharge after three months in the Pacific . . . Lou Fordan, manager of the Memorial, McKeesport, for a dozen years, vacationed in New York.

Tom Fordham, Warner circuit's Erie district manager, and wife will attend the wedding of their son, Lieut. Tom jr. of the air force and an army nurse in Arkansas July 5 . . . A Canadian CWAC kilty band was a special feature at the recent war bond premiere at the Manor, Squirrel Hill . . . John A. Reilly, Regent manager, whose theatre career dates back before the old Rowland & Clark circuit, vacationed last week.

George Seibel, Northside librarian, attended a preview of "The Valley of Decision" at M-G-M's Little Theatre in Loew's local exchange. He has furnished photos of old Pittsburgh for roto reproduction in the Press. The Bulletin Index will issue a special edition of the new magazine which will tell of old Pittsburgh and exploit the topnotch production.

All-Negro Cast - *Boxoffice Attractions*

TOP STARS	TOP PRODUCTIONS
Ralph Cooper	"Gang War"
Joe Louis	"Spirit of Youth"
Henry Armstrong	"Keep Punching"
Edna Mae Harris	"Sunday Sinner"
Cora Green	"Murder on Lennox Avenue"
Nina Mae McKinney	"Devil's Daughter"
Laure Bowman	"Son of Ingagi"
Paul Robeson	"Swing"
Monte Hawley	"Double Deal"
Spencer Williams	"Lying Lips"
Clarence Muse	"Emperor Jones"
Dooley Wilson	"Dark Manhattan"

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Survey on NSS Prices

COLUMBUS—P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, is gathering data from ITO members as to how much they are paying National Screen Service for trailer service.

Newcomer to "Girl of the Limberlost"

Dorinda Clifton, a newcomer, has been cast as the heroine in Columbia's "Girl of the Limberlost."

James G. Balmer Heads Legion Variety Post

PITTSBURGH—James G. Balmer, Harris Amusement Co. executive who has been with the company 40 years, has been elected commander of the Variety Post 589 of the American Legion, succeeding Dr. A. I. Wise. Other officers elected:

Joe Misrach, first vice-commander; John S. Stahl jr., second vice-commander; Perry Nathan, finance officer; C. C. Kellenberg, adjutant; Jackie Fields, service officer; Father James Garahan, chaplain; Max Cransfield, senior sergeant-at-arms; Harry MacCadden junior sergeant-at-arms; C. C. Kellenberg, chairman of veterans hospital shows; Joe Hiller, producer of veterans hospital shows. The new executive committee includes Bryan D. "Buck" Stoner, chairman; Dr. A. I. Wise, Joe Hiller, Leo Abernathy, Comdr. Francis Leahy, Col. James S. Ervin, Roy Clunk and C. C. Kellenberg, secretary.

The second annual dinner of the post will be held September 10, with time and place announced later. All profits will go to the Variety Club's Camp O'Connell fund.

Two of First Variety Club Members Died in Service

PITTSBURGH—Barkers of Variety Club Tent 1, whose names appear on an honor roll in the club rooms in the William Penn Hotel:

Harold C. Lund, Jerome Roth, Robert C. Fiske, John Stahl jr., Leo Cantor, John Morin, Harry D. Harris, Norman Mervis, Paul Kleinerman, Baron Elliott, Morris Berman, Eddie Hershberg, John B. Sutherland, William A. Irvine, Emanuel Feldman, David W. Jacobs, Robert Iversen, Milton Lefton, Dr. M. R. Goldman, John Conly, Joseph Freeman, William Zeilor, Gabriel Rubin, Morton Frank, John R. Russell, Nathan Rosen, Harry MacCadden, Max Silverman, John J. Vaughan, Max Adkins, Hon. M. A. Musmanno, David Hadburg, Godfrey Lefton, William Sands, Jack Swift, Saul Perilman, Allan Clark, Carl Dozer and William Hinds.

Ellis M. Covell and William Jackson have died in the service.

Bans Insurance Against Ohio Civic Rights Suits

COLUMBUS — Theatres, restaurants, night clubs and retail stores cannot obtain insurance to protect themselves against suits for violation of the "civil rights" statute, which prohibits discrimination against patrons because of race, color or creed. This was contained in an opinion handed down by Hugh S. Jenkins, Ohio attorney general.

Writing of such insurance would be contrary to public policy, said Jenkins, because it would encourage and permit persons to violate wilfully the civil rights law and that by such insurance the policyholder could avoid the penalty which the law now imposes.

The opinion was given at the request of Walter Dressel, state superintendent of insurance, who said a company had inquired if it could sell such insurance in Ohio.

"We Accuse" Showing

CLEVELAND—Bob Snyder of Film Classics reports that his office is now distributing the controversial picturization of the Kharkov trials, "We Accuse." This feature was originally banned by the Hays organization, but, by reason of its historic value, was later passed.

MIDEAST 20-YEAR SHOWMEN



Chosen the "20th year showman" gave **Charles A. Midelburg** of the Capitol Theatre, Charleston, W. Va., the time of his life in New York and Hollywood last year. It was in 1924 that Midelburg bought the Capitol, which was closed at the time, as an investment. Remodeling it into a motion picture house, he became an outstanding exhibitor nationally as well as locally. About his trip to Hollywood, Edith Leslie Graham of the Charleston Gazette wrote that he was photographed no less than 800 times with prominent screen stars and film dignitaries.



S. H. Griffith of Russellton, Pa., built the Nixon Theatre in that town back in 1920 and since then has continued to operate his 250-seat house successfully. When a vacation comes along, Griff likes to get out his gun or tackle and go off to enjoy the pleasures of the outdoors. He is married and has five children, four sons and a daughter. His twin sons are both serving in the army, one of them, an army lieutenant, is overseas. Two sons are with Republic Steel in Russellton. His daughter, Ruth, is married. Griff likes to hunt and fish.



Fred W. "Manager" Wheeler, Gallipolis, Ohio, owner of the Colony and Gallipolis theatres, saw his first projector in 1915. Interested in the machine, he bought it and soon afterward opened a show of his own. Since then, he has been in film exhibition in Gallipolis. He has three sons in the service; two in the navy and one in the army air force. He is a member of the Masons and Elks. Claiming golf as his favorite sport, much of his spare time is spent at the Golf Club, of which he is manager. After 30 years he still finds the industry a live one.



Ferd Midelburg has been in the business for more than 30 years. In 1912 he opened his first theatre, the Bennett, in Logan, W. Va. He has developed his interests until today he owns three houses in that community. They are the Midelburg, Logan and Rialto theatres. He is a member of the West Virginia Managers' Ass'n. He holds no public office but is well known in Logan and Charleston. Ferd is a Mason, a Shriner and Elk. He likes to hunt and fish and is an amateur photographer. The Midelburgs have one daughter, Mrs. Ruth Thalheimer.



Getting into the picture business was perfectly natural for **Walter Steuve** of Findlay, Ohio. His father had operated the first theatre in Akron in 1906 then several others in Canton. Walter joined his father's organization actively in 1919. He moved to Findlay in 1932 and bought the Royal and Lyceum theatres there. Today he operates in addition to his first two houses, the State and Lonet in Wellington, his latest purchase. He is a member of the ITO of Ohio and the Masons and Elks. His hobby is golf. Walt is a bachelor.



Charles R. Mitchell of Barbourville, Ky., owner of the Mitchell and Magic houses there, entered the business in 1922 and has learned the industry thoroughly. Director and vice-president of the Barbourville Chamber of Commerce, he is also connected with the coal, gas, oil and real estate business. Holder of a medal of honor of the war finance committee of the motion picture industry, he was chairman in the Knox County Sixth War Bond drive. Director of the Kentucky Motion Picture Ass'n, he is a member of the Elks. His only son manages both theatres.

Greek Orphan Beneft

CANTON—A benefit for the orphans of Greece was held at midnight recently at the Palace here under auspices of the Pan-Eleian Federation of America. The film was donated by 20th-Fox while George A. Delis, district manager of the A. G. Constant Theatres donated the use of the theatre. Projectionists and stagehands donated their services, according to Lloyd Hayes, manager.

Perry Named for Burgess

BELLE VERNON, PA.—John Perry owner of the Ritz, won the Republican nomination for burgess of this community. He has served as constable and high constable.

George Capps Brings News Of the Comuntzis Family

PITTSBURGH—George Communtzis, veteran Morgantown, W. Va., exhibitor, who had been very ill for a long period last year, is much improved, George Capps, his son-in-law reports. Here is a report on three of the veteran's sons in service: Lieutenant Peter, navy, has been in the Pacific but now is in New York; Lieutenant Gus, army, is somewhere in Germany; Captain Marcus, army, who contracted infantile paralysis while stationed at Camp Reynolds last year, now is at the army and navy hospital, Hot Springs. Capps, who resides in Morgantown, operates the Southern Theatre, Wheeling. He was a recent Filmrow visitor here.

CINCINNATI

Saul Greenberg is chairman of the Queen City Variety Club's annual picnic set for Monday, July 2, at Summit Hills Country Club. Arthur Mannheimer, Jack Finberg, Harris Dudelson and Irving Sochin are the assistants. The word is that Jim Abrose of Warners, captain of the Percentagers, and his team are practising daily to defeat Elston Dodge's Flat Raters.

Adeline Ward and Mrs. Kay Greathouse were here for several days arranging summer schedules for the War Elliott circuit situations . . . Al Kinzler, the Elite, Dayton, has recently accepted a post at Wright's Field. Kinzler, one of the old-timers in the exhibitor field, spent several days with his son at General Fletcher Hospital in Cambridge.

Chris Pfeister, the Colonial and Mayflower, Troy, is taking several weeks off for rest . . . Mrs. Pauline Corbett, the Idle Hour, is convalescing from an operation . . . Ezra Skirball returned with H. M. McHaffie, the Marmet, Marmet, W. Va.

J. Henry Davidson, Associated Theatres, is vacationing in Canada. Hank, accompanied by his old guide Saku and a seven-foot birch canoe went on a long trek to the best trout streams . . . Mr. and Mrs. Robert Epps, the Classic, Dayton, are installing the latest sound equipment and projection . . . Cincinnati filmites turned out for the Dayton Variety Club annual picnic July 19. Fred Krim was specially active in arranging festivities.

Ray Frisz, Chakeres circuit, was convalescing and showing improvement, according to word received here . . . Joe Candrea, Semelroth circuit, also was convalescing following an emergency appendectomy at St. Elizabeth's.

Eleanor Inkrot of Warners was in Colorado Springs . . . Mary Weller, secretary to Jim Abrose, was off for a ten-day trip to Texas . . . Aoelian Breen, Irene Waldbilig, Lois Vinson and Lucille Morand of Paramount were vacationing . . . Frank Schrieber of Universal took his second week and Helen Eberhardt of the same office was vacationing in Florida.

Capt. Bill Devaney, former M-G-M man now with the air transport command, has headquarters in Cincinnati, but is only at headquarters about two days each month . . . Rudy Mueller, Film Classics booker, was inducted into the service.

"The Corn Is Green," pleased a crowded audience of exhibitors at the Palace screening room June 25 . . . Eric C. Pelfrey has taken over the Jaxson, Jackson, Ky. from Charles Childers . . . Pete Niland and Charles Palmer, Columbia representatives, were expected to return to their desks this week following hospitalization . . . Bill Poppe was reported back in the States following service abroad.

Don Galvin is new head booker at Warners, succeeding George Daumeyer, now office manager. Jack Frisch, recently discharged from service, is salesman . . . Bill Lubel was in, also Saul Bragin, Warners.

Other vacationists include Florence Schomaker, Betty Dold, Ruth Kramer, Eleanor Inkrot and Jane Yinger. The last was visiting her mother in Portsmouth.

Horace R. Wersel and Joe W. Nordloh announce plans for a new theatre on Blue Ash Ave., Deer Park, Ohio, with staggered seats and all modern improvements.

Visitors included Bill Thalheimer, Logan, W. Va.; Paul Orebaugh, New Vienna; Harry Knight and Lee Hoffheimer, Columbus, Ohio . . . 20th-Fox drew an enthusiastic audience for the tradeview of "A Bell for Adano" at the exchange screening room.

Sidney Blumenstock and Hal Horne were here on the way to Columbus for the world premiere of "Captain Eddie," at the Ohio Theatre in the capital city August 1. Jim Keefe is handling the publicity campaign. Day and date bookings will open immediately in all key spots.

WB Books PRC Pictures

PITTSBURGH—PRC's Pittsburgh exchange, Lew Lefton, manager, has arranged for Warner Bros. to play "Crime, Inc. and "The Town Went Wild" throughout the Pittsburgh circuit.

On Vacation in South

CINCINNATI—Claude Kimbrell, head shipper at 20th-Fox here, and Mrs. Kimbrell, head inspector at Universal, vacationed in South Carolina and Florida recently.



BOOKER AT WAR—Sgt. Don Fill, former manager of theatres in the Detroit area, was booking pictures out of the central exchange in New Guinea for a South Pacific war area as large as the entire U.S. when this photo was taken. A story describing his experiences appeared in the May 5 issue of BOXOFFICE. His wife Betty lives in Detroit.

William Flemion Sells Michigan PRC Franchise

DETROIT—William Flemion, PRC franchise holder for Michigan, has disposed of his franchise to the company, he announced this week. Flemion has no future plans at the present.

He has been active on Filmrow here 27 years, starting as a salesman for Vitagraph in 1918, and transferring a year later to the old Standard Film Co. for which he worked about ten years, including a period at Cincinnati as branch manager. He became Detroit branch manager for Tiffany-Stahl when the Standard organization was dissolved. He went to Monogram as branch manager about 1930.

Flemion left Monogram in 1938 to form his own independent exchange. Excellent Pictures, in partnership with Anne O'Donnell. This organization soon became the nucleus of Producers' Releasing Corp., the parent organization, of which Flemion was a founder and director. In December, 1944, he sold his stock in the parent company, but retained his state franchise.

Ice Facilities a "Must" For Columbia War Hall

COLUMBUS—Ice hockey facilities in the proposed new multimillion dollar Franklin County war memorial auditorium are "practically a must," the committee declared after an inspection of auditoriums in St. Louis and Kansas City.

The auditorium would be erected in the downtown civic center, adjacent to the first run theatre district and hence ice hockey, ice carnivals and similar attractions would constitute a direct form of theatre competition.

Officials in St. Louis and Kansas City told the subcommittee that their "one big mistake" was their failure to provide for ice hockey and ice carnivals. George Ward, committee chairman, said such facilities can be provided during construction for about $25 - 000 but cost much more when installed after the building is finished.

Various Columbus civic and labor organizations have suggested a $4,500,000 auditorium be included in a proposed bond issue to be placed on the November ballot.

Fox-First Holds Picnic

CINCINNATI — The Fox-First Club will hold a picnic at Summit Hills Country Club June 30. Bob LaSance is chairman, with Jane Weber, Fumi Yoshida, Irving Sochin and Kay Hall arranging the details. Irene Sagel is president.

Brown, Projection Chief, Quits

PITTSBURGH—Ben Brown, Warner Bros. projection chief in this zone, has resigned his position, effective August 4. Personal business and private theatre ownership demands his full attention. Brown has been associated with the company for 18 years.

Zone Managers, Kalmenson Meet

PITTSBURGH—Zone executives met with Ben Kalmenson, Warner Bros. sales manager. Kalmenson outlined the release schedule and sales plans for the coming year. He said the company expects to release 25 pictures during 1945-46.

TRADE DIRECTORY

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Apollo Is Shuttered Under the Fire Code

NEW HAVEN—State police closed the 499-seat Apollo June 20 under recent strict enforcement of the state fire hazard regulations. John Pasho, operator of the house since August, 1942, reports it will be closed indefinitely. Enlargement of the booth required by the police appears to be impossible without priorities for critical materials, it is reported. It is not known at present when such alteration can be accomplished.

Since the Hartford Barnum & Bailey circus fire last summer, the state police theatre inspection department has closed several "upstairs" houses in the state and has required exit, driveway, lighting and other changes by almost every exhibitor in the state.

Central Massachusetts Has Three Summer Stocks

WORCESTER—With the reopening of the Westboro Red Barn on the Boston turnpike after a lapse of a year, central Massachusetts will have three summer stocks. The Playhouse in Worcester and the Whalom, outside Fitchburg, are the others. In a year of few stock companies, the trio makes a strong representation.

Bob Daggett will operate the Red Barn in Association with Robert Haag, New York radio actor. Mary Ann Dentler of New York will direct. The cast has been recruited from Broadway and Hollywood. The Barn will operate 11 weeks.

It was closed last summer, the first time since it was founded in 1938, because the wartime restrictions on travel proved too great a handicap.

Eviction of Garbose Bros. Ordered From Town Hall

WORCESTER—Eviction orders against the Garbose Bros., Inc., from use of the Orange Town Hall for motion pictures were received by Deputy Sheriff Thomas Geary from the superior court in Greenfield.

In the early part of the year, the Orange selectment voted to rent the hall to the P&O Theatres Corp. instead of renewing the lease to the Garbose organization. Court appeals had enabled the Garboses to retain possession of the premises until the eviction orders were issued.

The Garbose Bros. have indicated they will build their own theatre in the town.

Stage Shows Ignore Heat; "Oklahoma" to Return

BOSTON—The legitimate theatres continue merrily on despite the hot weather. "Snafu" is playing at the Colonial which has recently been air conditioned. At the Shubert is the new musical "Marinka" starring Joan Roberts and Harry Stockwell. At the Plymouth is "Good Night Ladies," at the Brattle Street, "The Cardboard Lover."

"Oklahoma," which opened in Boston three years ago as "Away We Go," will return for a ten-week engagement to the Colonial next fall.

Ramquist in North Africa

CAMDEN, ME.—Cpl. Elbert M. Ramquist, former projectionist at the New Camden Theatre, who has spent the last 14 months in Italy, is now stationed in North Africa as a photographic technician. He was inducted in February, 1943.

Hartford Colonial Will Operate Single Feature



MARRIED 20 YEARS—Barney Pitkin, RKO manager at New Haven, and Mrs. Pitkin recently observed their 20th wedding anniversary at the Colonial House in the presence of a large number of friends. He was presented an Iron Cross, a "purple heart" and a dinner gong. Among those present were Harry Shaw and Mrs. Shaw, Lou and Mrs. Brown, Dan and Mrs. Finn, Max and Mrs. Hoffman, Morey and Mrs. Goldstein and Henry and Mrs. Germaine.

Boston UA Previews Its "John L" to Sport Writers

BOSTON — Sports writers of Boston and suburban cities were guests of United Artists at a preview of "The Great John L." and a luncheon that followed at Hotel Statler. John Dervin, city manager, and Phil Engel publicist, acted as hosts. A nephew of the late John L. Sullivan, Arthur Lennan, talked briefly as did George Carens, columnist on the Boston Traveler. A representative of the governor's office delivered a greeting of the governor.

The sports writers expressed pleasure with the picture and voiced only one criticism—"too much tear jerking"—but agreed that this was necessary for the feminine angle.

On the following day Engel and Dervin were hosts to the dramatic critics at another preview of the picture and on the day following that a preview was given for exhibitors from all parts of New England.

Welch Twins One Year Old

PRESQUE ISLE, ME.—Richard C. Welch, projectionist at the Opera House, and Mrs. Welch celebrated the first birthday of Mary Ann and David Edward, twins. Robert, their older son, was six in April.

Janis Wilson Signed for "Snafu"

Janis Wilson has been signed for Columbia's "Snafu."

HARTFORD—Al Schuman, president and manager of the Hartford Theatre Operating circuit which takes over the Lenox, Colonial, Lyric, Rialto and Central theatres from the Warner circuit July 1 after 15 years, has announced that a single-feature policy will be inaugurated at the Colonial. It will be the only theatre here to follow a single feature policy. Sam Scheckter, present manager, will continue at the helm under the Schuman ownership.

Schuman personally has interviewed many film fans in the Colonial section of the city. "The sentiment is overwhelmingly for single features," he said. "The policy not only will permit two complete showings of even the longest pictures but will open the way for scores of short subjects and featurettes, many of which have never been presented before to the Hartford moviegoing public."

Concerning his new circuit, Schuman said: "We are anxious to protect and enhance the values of our properties in the postwar world. We want our theatres to keep immediate pace with every new development and we are anxious to provide personal, responsible supervision of the theatres in the best interests of our patrons and ourselves."

Scheckter and Dean Barrett, present Warner managers, will continue with Schuman. Barrett has managed the Rialto. Managers of the Lyric, Lenox and Central have not yet been appointed by Schuman.

Portland, Me., Children's Bond Show Nets $56,000

PORTLAND, ME.—A children's bond show was held at the M&P State Theatre here with an attendance of 1,283. A total of 183 bonds with a value of $46,875 were sold. During the show, a boy was sent out into the street to sell an $18 bond regardless of the price. He came back with sales totaling $9,000, bringing the total sales for the morning to nearly $56,000.

The show was a three-in-one attraction, featuring a WCSH radio program, using best features of the show; Recess Time, a talent program put on by a local school of the dance, and an all-Technicolor cartoon show. Recess Time, popular child's program held at the State Saturday mornings, has completed its seventh successful year.

Bob Wood Quits Sherman; Ted Thomas Into Place

NEW HAVEN—Robert Wood has resigned as assistant at the Roger Sherman. Theodore Thomas of New Haven succeeds him. With Manager Edgar Lynch on vacation in Asbury Park, N. J., Charles Patch, former assistant here, now manager of the Art in Springfield, has been called in to manage the New Haven house for the next few weeks, Allen Parmette, assistant, relieves in Springfield.

In Culver City

HARTFORD—Guy Hedlund, former director of the Hedlund Players which started Hartford's Michael O'Shea on the road to fame, has moved to Culver City, Calif. Letters received by local theatrical associates report that Hedlund has started building a new radio program at the Culver City Woman's Club on Monday and Wednesday nights.

EW BRITAIN

Peter Perakos of the Q&P circuit left to spend the summer at Indian Neck Beach near Branford. With him was his son, Steve, a captain who had 15 remaining days before reporting for reassignment in California with the marines, and Johnny, a lieutenant, who was in on leave from air force duties in New York.

Dennis Rich returned to the helm of the Cameo, Bristol, after a two-week vacation in Jacksonville, Fla., where he visited with his air corps son . . . Murray Howard is subbing at the Rialto helm in South Norwalk for Manager Craig until July 6 . . . Jack Glackin, New Britain exhibitor, proved that a good showman doesn't give up easily when he made rounds at Sound View in an attempt to find a house for his family there this summer. When everything else failed, Glackin hired a contractor and is having a house of his own built there! His Strand was due to open last weekend.

Manager Joe Borenstien, Embassy, here, will take his vacation July 20-27, and Assistant Joe Tanguay will handle relief . . . Al Michalski, Circle, Manchester, will leave July 20 with Mrs. Michalski to visit friends and relatives in Massachusetts. Henry Wittke, assistant at the State there, will move in on relief . . . John Scanlon, Warner, Torrington, and Joe Miklos, Palace, Norwich, also will vacation on those dates. George Harvey will sub at the Torrington spot.

Walter Murphy, Capitol, New London, staged a gala war bond show June 21, featuring the New London submarine base's coast guard band and local stage talent. He netted approximately $475,000 in war bonds . . . Assistant Sandrocha will relieve Randy Maller, local Strand, while on a vacation July 27-August 10 . . . Manager Jack O'Sullivan, Garde, New London, is also taking these dates but his relief manager has not yet been named.

Joe Borenstien, Embassy, staged a war bond kiddie show last Saturday morning, using film cartoons, westerns and stage talent . . . The Palace has started a Friday night giveaway of a set of Ambassador dinnerware to a lady patron . . . Manager Joe Spivak, Music Box, has inaugurated a new series of Friday amateur nights on his stage with war bond prizes.

Graduation exercises of the Manchester High School were held at the State Theatre . . . Leo Schapiro, former Guilford exhibitor, visited friends during his recent furlough from Stout Field, Indianapolis, where he serves as a projectionist and theatre manager.

The son of Jack Shields, Capitol, Ansonia, recently graduated from Annapolis . . . Warner theatres in Norwich, Danbury and New London have booked in "Clifford's Spook Show" as a special midnight attraction.

Bank and Post Office Help Sell War Bonds

NEW LONDON, CONN.—John O. Guthrie reported the sale of $7,000 in war bonds as the result of a bond premiere held in his 300-seat New Carolyn Theatre. It was accomplished by a tieup with the local bank and post office.

Guthrie issued strips of tickets to both the bank and the post office a week in advance of the premiere. Bond purchasers at either the bank or the post office during that week received a ticket to attend the premiere.

Racing Time Slashed By Governor Tobin

BOSTON—Good news to the motion picture industry was the cutting of the days allotted to dog racing, or nights rather since the greyhound race under the arcs. Gov. Maurice J. Tobin reduced the time allotted to Wonderland Park, in suburban Revere, to 50 from the former 100 nights, and cut Taunton and Raynham tracks to 25 nights each. Wonderland Park has a nightly average attendance of 20,000 and a pari-mutuel handle nightly of more than $500,000. Suffolk Downs, the horse racing tracks, had its days cut from 60 to 54 and is averaging better than $1,000,000 daily in the mutuels.

WTHT to Join ABC

HARTFORD—Francis S. Murphy, publisher of the Times, has announced WTHT will join the ABC network December 1.

SPRINGFIELD

The Court Square Monday amateur nights are continuing to draw well . . . Capitol's war bond premiere Tuesday night (26) featured "Back to Bataan" . . . Al Anders' Bijou clicked last week with a revival of Bing Crosby in "Pennies From Heaven."

War bond shows, featuring cartoons and westerns, were held at the Phillips, Strand, Liberty and Jefferson theatres last Saturday morning for all children who had purchased bonds or who had turned in their stamp books for a bond . . . Benny Goodman and band took the stand at Ed Carroll's Riverside Park June 19 at a $2 top . . . At his Park-In Theatre, Carroll has inaugurated a dish deal for the ladies Tuesday nights.

Charles Patch, Art, reports that at long last he has found and moved into a new apartment. "It's in West Springfield and big enough for our baby grand piano, which was our problem!" . . . Actress Ida Lupino, who was scheduled to make camp appearances in this area June 25-29 under the USO banner, has been confined to bed with stomach injuries sustained at her hotel in New York.

Herman Rifkin announced a complete recarpeting and refurbishing project for his Jefferson, Strand and Liberty theatres here. He already has installed new concession stands at the three and new screens at two . . . Local exhibitors were among the 300 present in Boston recently to protest the proposed ten per cent state tax on theatre admissions . . . Ed Harrison, Court Square manager, attended the semiannual E. M. Loew's circuit meeting in Boston.

Lew Breyer, manager of the Bijou, Holyoke, and WAC publicity director there, wrote a letter to Henry Morgenthau of the treasury, urging that the Eighth War Loan drive be called the "Franklin Delano Roosevelt Eighth War Loan Memorial drive," with the picture of the late President imprinted on all bonds. He had suggested this same title for the Seventh War Loan drive.

Charles Patch plans his vacation from July 15-27. Assistant Al Parmett will handle the relief stint . . . Andy Sette, Capitol, will vacation from July 27-August 10. Assistant Bill Kozak will sub . . . Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, Worcester, was in town en route to Holyoke to visit his fiance, Kathleen Ollson. Their wedding was set for June 30 in Holyoke.

WORCESTER

Cpl. Roger Kavanaugh, former Poli aide and son of Roger P. Kavanaugh of the Poli, who was wounded in Germany, has returned to this country. His father visited him at Camp Edwards . . . Benny Goodman, playing a dance date at the Auditorium for a $3,000 guarantee. He drew a disappointing crowd of 2,000.

Dominic Turturro, manager of the Elms in Millbury, arranged a children's bond show and drew a good house at the matinee . . . Ida Lupino came to nearby Ft. Devens to entertain . . . Jerry Finnegan, manager of the Plymouth, has spent a busy month hunting for a house for his soon-to-be bride.

The Better Films Council announces approval of "Son of Lassie" and "Where Do We Go From Here?" for the family; "Days of Glory," "The House of Fear," "The Keys of the Kingdom," "Mr. Emmanuel," "She Gets Her Man" and "It's a Pleasure" for mature-family audiences, and "Pillow to Post" and "Salty O'Rourke" for adults only.

Near the boxoffice, the Park in Spencer carries this warning: "No one will be allowed to leave this theatre to go shopping during the performance" . . . The Marlboro in that city was turned over to the high school for its graduation exercises . . . Lee Castle, the band leader, was in Fitchburg.

Frederick C. Joseph, assistant manager of the Olympia, died last week in Memorial Hospital after a brief illness. He had played in the orchestras at the Poli, Capitol, Elm Street and Plymouth . . . Louis Gregory, stage manager of the Plymouth, used to travel with Dockstader's Minstrels.

The Nipmuc in Mendon was reopened June 21 for the summer season with a policy of burlesque. The house draws some from this section, but most of the patronage comes from over the Rhode Island line . . . A double-column cut of Phyllis Meservey of the Capitol appeared in the paper, showing her with her four-legged chick.

The bond premiere at the State in Milford was held June 21 . . . Manager Tom Kilcoyne of the Strand in Clinton used a civic chorus of 50 to augment his films when he held his bond show . . . Five automobiles parked near the Playhouse were broken into and a variety of articles stolen.

A barrage of letters from readers flooded the Evening Gazette, discussing the merits and demerits of "The Picture of Dorian Gray." Never has a film come under such widespread scrutiny in print for some mysterious reason, and the only thing that broke the heart of Harold Maloney of the Poli is that it all happened after the picture had moved out of his house.

Because of the heavy sale of bonds, Manager Bernie Satz of the Casino in Ware had to give two performances of his bond show. A parade by an army band and equipment preceded the performances . . . D. Giouard has resigned from the Plymouth . . . Ding Melden of the Plymouth is an expert welder, too.

George Dumas is back at the Plymouth after traveling 35,000 miles as a stagehand with "Sing Out, Sweet Land" and "The Gypsy Baron" . . . A theatre in Whitinsville got itself attention by giving top billing in its ads to chocolate bars, mentioning the films only in small type.

Royle in "Night and Day"

Selena Royle has been cast as the mother of Cole Porter in the Warner picture, "Night and Day."

HARTFORD

Robert Wickwire of the Webb Playhouse has completed a parking lot . . . Michael Daly, Martin Kelleher, Al Sherman and Tom Grace were in New Haven booking . . . Chief Usherette Viola DeMarco, Princess, was vacationing at Old Orchard Beach, Me. . . . Jim McCarthy, Strand, will take his vacation the last two weeks in July. His assistant, Ben Lamo, will go to a dude ranch August 15-22.

Cashier Minnie Hecker, Strand, was still a patient at St. Francis Hospital. Chief of Service Charles Atamian also remained on the sick list . . . The roses are in full bloom along the picket fence bordering Webb Playhouse . . . Don Prince, RKO exploiteer from Boston, was here to confer with Manager McCarthy and set publicity over WTHT and WTIC, plus art work in the local press to boost "Back to Bataan."

Mrs. Florence Cambria, chief bookkeeper at the Daly circuit offices, has been at Chapman Beach with her family . . . Dot Smith is the new Webb Playhouse cashier . . . After three years with the navy in the Pacific, Jimmy Pappas, boatswain's mate, ex-Poli, is home on a leave. Jimmy has taken part in seven Pacific invasions, including Okinawa.

Frank Ramsey, Lenox, plans to leave for a WB studio job on the coast early in August. He will do circuit relief during July in this area after his house changes hands . . . The kiddie war bond show at the Eastwood netted $52,000 . . . Sam Scheckter, Colonial manager for Warner Bros., will remain at the Colonial under the new owners, the Hartford Theatre Operating Corp.

Fred Turner, a sergeant in the army engineers, has returned to civilian life and is now in charge of the air conditioning plant at the Allyn. Careene is proving highly successful in the operation of the plant . . . Edna Damoski is the new cashier at E. M. Loew's.

Dean Barrett, for two years with the Warner circuit at the Lenox, Regal and Rialto, has joined the Hartford Theatre Operating Corp. which takes over the Lenox, Rialto, Central, Colonial and Lyric from Warners on July 1. He will remain in charge of the Rialto . . . Judy O'Toole, daughter of Mrs. Estelle O'Toole, executive secretary to the WB district manager, underwent a tonsillectomy at Hartford Hospital and is still having a holiday with ice cream!

Sam and Mrs. Scheckter went to New York and took in the Sonja Henie ice show at Radio City . . . Pat O'Toole and John Mitchell, Colonial maintenance man and projectionist, respectively, were off sick . . . George Landers, E. M. Loew's, will go to Maine for a vacation the last two weeks of July, with his family.

Tommy Maller, Lyric manager with the WB circuit for the past 15 years in this area, was transferred last week to a New Jersey situation . . . Stanley Sutherland, former Regal assistant, is doing relief at the Lyric until July 1 when the spot will be turned over to Al Schuman's organization.

Fred Greenway, Palace, who is convalescing at home after an appendectomy, plans to return to his post next week . . . Cpl. Rocky Volope, former Regal assistant, is now with the army of occupation in Germany . . . Eastwood Cashier Elizabeth Brewer will vacation the first two weeks in July. Dotty Reynolds will handle relief.

Of interest to local theatre men was the appointment of Charles F. Coates as president of the Hartford Chamber of Commerce, succeeding Oliver R. Beckwith . . . Pfc. Merril Katz, ex-Strand, arrived in New York with the Black Hawk division from Europe and came home on furlough. He is en route to the Pacific.

Sgt. Bob Callahan, ex-Strand, is now at Ft. Knox, Ky. . . . Jim Gleason, former E. M. Loew's assistant, is now on staff of a New Bedford radio station . . . Bill Ferguson, Regal chief of service, will take his vacation the last week in July . . . Manager Robert Wickwire has received a projectionist's license. He started to learn the trade about two years ago at Schine's Palace in Oneonta, N. Y.

Mrs. Kelleher, Princess chief bookkeeper, will leave for a week at Madison Beach July 25 . . . George Landers, E. M. Loew's, reports a complete redecoration program will get under way within the next two weeks . . . Walter Silverman, Columbia salesman, was married to Ellen Rosenthal of New York recently . . . For a few minutes it appeared that the Regal was adopting a Russian or foreign film policy when the marquee read: "Chinasky." The theatre netted some publicity when a Times reporter spotted it. The copy was changed to "China Sky."

Projectionist Oliver "Whitey" Harris has returned to the trade after a medical discharge and overseas service . . . Max Finn, New England general manager for the E. M. Loew's, was confined to his home in Boston by illness . . . Sgt. Russell Ordway, former Allyn assistant, has written Manager Walter Lloyd that he has enough points for discharge and will be heading home as soon as shipping space is available. He served with the army engineers in England and France.

Usherettes at the Lenox present Manager Frank Ramsey a bouquet of fresh roses each morning . . . Earl Brannick, who served in the European war two and a half years, has returned home with a discharge. He reports he also met Hillmer Robinson, former E. M. Loew's assistant, while overseas and "Robey" also has enough points and soon will be home with a discharge . . . Robert Wickwire, Webb Playhouse, featured a two-hour-all-cartoon show Wednesday (27) for "kids from 6 to 60."

MAINE

The Star Theatre in Westbrook staged a bond show June 14 that netted $111,050 in sales. Arrangements were made by Fred M. Eugley, manager . . . The Empire presented a bond show that featured Judy Garland in "The Clock."

Nate Press, manager of the Opera House in Bath, conducted a successful bond contest tied in with the schools. The grand prize was an army jeep, presented by a veteran of World War II. It was pronounced outstanding by the chairman of the Sagadahoc County WFC. It is the first time a jeep was used in this area.

Free Movie Day was observed in all theatres on D-Day anniversary, and newspapers came through with outstanding support . . . The Cumberland Theatre in Brunswick reenacted the flag raising on Mount Suribachi, as a feature of the war bond show, staged by personnel from the Brunswick naval air station.

Flood of Amusement Magazines Has Boston Counting Its Fingers

BOSTON—This city literally is being flooded with new and highly localized magazines of the amusement and nightery type.

First was the Bostonian, published by Edward Leader and associates. This magazine entered the Boston area two years ago and was first published as a monthly, then briefly as a weekly and now is a biweekly.

Allan Reinhart, Barbara Pearson and others formerly associated with Leader then established Esplanade as a weekly, giving news of the theatres, the night clubs and amusements in general.

That brought John Donahue into the picture. After succeeding Barbara Pearson as editor of the Bostonian, Donahue took over the Brighton Item which Leader had formerly owned. Now Leader announces a new publication, Town Talk, which is being revived as weekly and is obviously intended as a competition for Esplanade. Geraldine Morse is the present editor of the Bostonian.

In connection with the publication of Town Talk Leader has arranged a weekly radio program over Station WCOP each Sunday at 5:30 o'clock. Art Moger is the man behind the guns on this one. Leader will give a complete resume of the theatres, legitimate and motion picture, and of the current night club offerings.

But wait—there is soon to appear Hub Spotlight, still another weekly of the same type. The publication date is presumed to be about June 20. Then there is to appear Bunker Hill, a pictorial magazine. And that is not all. Along with this influx of magazines comes the new Boston Airways magazine and Hub Nitery. It's all too, too confusing, at least to the advertisers, who might conceivably use one or even two media but hardly six or more.

Showmen Rush Out Their "Cool" Tricks

HARTFORD—Theatre patrons were invited by local showmen to cool off from the unexpected heat wave in this area through various means.

For example the Harris brothers, manager-owners of the State, brought to town last weekend a gala extravaganza, "Vanities on Ice," featuring a portable rink on the stage.

Main stem theatres put their air conditioning plants in full operation, utilizing electric fans, careene, or freon.

In nearby New Britain, Manager Jack Glackin, Arch Street, used lobby signs and press ads informing patrons that the theatre "is as cool and refreshing as the seashore—make this theatre your summer resort!"

In addition the managers have adapted the uniforms of their staffs to meet the weather with lightweight garments as the keynote. The showmen, themselves, changed to cool-looking, light-toned suits.

Outdoor Show Bill Passed

HARTFORD—The state legislature last week passed a bill requiring all outdoor shows to obtain permits from the state police and to file proof of financial responsibility with the insurance commissioner, a measure inspired by the circus fire last July.

Big Allyn Kid Show

HARTFORD—A gala kiddie war bond show, sponsored by the Hartford WAC, was presented at the Allyn last Saturday morning. The program included a 40-minute all-cartoon show plus eight acts provided by Jack Gordon's Talent Bureau.

NEW HAVEN

Warm weather seems to be a signal for freshening up here and there. The Millerton will emerge like new soon. At the Alhambra, where Henry Smith now operates solo, paint and other repairs are being administered. Ray Wiley is getting a new outlook on the UA office as a result of the redecoration job in progress. Amalgamated is putting up new partitions and rearranging things.

The 20th-Foxites are making plans for their second annual outing August 1. The place will be Ye Castle Inn, with a full day, including dinner, dancing and novelties . . . Some few assistants and ushers have been discharged from service and have found their way back to their former jobs . . . John McMahon, returned here after 36 months in Burma and India, take his first job in the film business as shipping clerk at Paramount, replacing Harold Garceau, now at Rosen Film Delivery.

Duke Clark, Paramount district manager from Dallas and captain for the anniversary drive starting August 26, came in to talk to the New Haven force. With him was Al Kane, Boston district manager . . . It is reported Grad Sears will be back in harness after July 2.

James Winn, UA executive, Boston, was ill . . . Herman L. Ripps, new M-G-M district manager, was in from Albany . . . Floyd Fitzsimmons was at the Metro office from Albany on publicity chores.

Vacations are tops in interest these days . . . Tim O'Toole's daughter, Dorothy, was down from Boston for a visit with her family . . . Dick Cohen, Monogram booker and office manager, was on his first vacation in years, showing his son Morton the sights for a fortnight . . . Bernard Levy of Amalgamated and Mrs. Levy were off for Berkshire Country Club June 29.

Johnny DeBenedetto will flash that Hollywood smile on the girls at the beach instead of the Loew Poli patron beginning June 30 . . . Dick Carroll, Paramount booker, and Mrs. Carroll will be heading for the Cape and Dennisport July 8 . . . Anne Caparossi of the Metro staff, is taking a two-month leave of absence because of illness in the family.

First Warner manager on the July vacation list is B. Gruber of the Waldorf, Lynn, who is leaving July 6 . . . M. Hamlin, cashier at the Loew Poli, is off July 1, and Ed Boppert, operator, July 2.

Sid Levine, Warner booker, was in New York with his family for the weekend . . . The Arch Street, New Britain, was doing big matinee business on dishes . . . For "Back to Bataan," opening June 27, Morris Rosenthal of the Poli featured Sergeant Mize, marine who made the Bataan "death march" and was a Jap prisoner for some time. The sergeant took part in rallies, visited factories, and appeared at the theatre at the evening break in the show.

Bob Schwartz of the Park Playhouse, Thomaston, is father of another boy . . . John Matthews of the Empress, Danbury, was out on sick leave for another four weeks, and Vincent Capuano of the Roger Sherman staff, is relieving . . . Jack Sanson of the State, Manchester, is out of the hospital after an operation. H. Wittke, assistant, is subbing.

Edward Maenza of RKO is on an extended leave because of illness and George Nuzzolillo is taking his place . . . Lillian Bowers is the new secretary to Barney Pitkin at RKO . . . J. Stanwood, manager of the Premier, Newburyport, has resigned and a series of changes will soon result on the Warner lists . . . Nick Bracates of the Commodore Hull, Derby, replaces J. O'Sullivan as manager of the Garde, New London, while Benjamin Beckman, former assistant at the Merritt, Bridgeport, takes on the Derby post.

Hot Weather Cuts New Haven Attendance

NEW HAVEN—None of the theatres, downtown or neighborhood, reported good business last week, as the sudden heat and humidity sent erstwhile patrons scurrying to beaches. "Where Do We Go From Here?" and "Rough, Tough and Ready" moved to the College from the Poli for a second week.

(Average is 100)

Bijou—**The Fighting Guardsman** (Col); **Blonde From Brooklyn** (Col) 80
College—**Son of Lassie** (M-G-M); **Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion** (Col), 2nd wk 86
Loew's Poli—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Rough, Tough and Ready** (Col) 90
Paramount—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **Secret Mission** (Eng) 90
Roger Sherman—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO); **I'll Tell the World** (Univ) 80

Heat Wilts Hartford Grosses, But "The Clock" Does 160

HARTFORD—A heat wave melted boxoffice grosses in this area. "The Clock" took top honors at Loew's Poli. Holdovers at the Regal and Palace did average business.

Allyn—**Murder, He Says** (Para); **The Chicago Kid** (Rep) 135
E. M. Loew's—**Patrick the Great** (Univ); **Under Western Skies** (Univ) 140
Palace—**Where Do We Go From Here?** (20th-Fox); **Sporting Chance** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk 120
Poli—**The Clock** (M-G-M); **The Phantom Speaks** (Rep) 160
Regal—**China Sky** (RKO); **Two O'Clock Courage** (RKO), 2nd wk 135
State—**Gangs of the Waterfront** (Rep); plus Vanities on Ice on stage 100
Strand—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO); **The Brighton Strangler** (RKO) 140

BOSTON

James Winn, UA district manager, has taken a temporary leave to recover from an illness . . . Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sullivan have returned from a honeymoon spent in New York, Bear Mountain and other points. He is the publicist of Filmrow night clubs. Local film notables were present at his wedding reception in the Lieut. Vernon A. Macauley post club house. His bride is the former Alice Lowther.

Johnnie Johnston, Newton boy who has made a name for himself on the radio and in the films, has signed a contract with M-G-M and will go at once to the Pacific coast. He recently concluded an engagement in the Hotel Statler here . . . Dan Hickey, executive secretary of the Tub Thumpers Club, spent several days in Lowell, Lawrence and Lynn organizing local "tubs."

Mr. and Mrs. Shepard Epstein motored to Lowell and Lawrence on business . . . Sam Haase has under negotiation several deals for new postwar theatre properties in this region . . . Bing Crosby was told in casual conversation here recently of a boy who had formerly been with local theatres and now is blind as a result of war wounds. Bing said nothing at the time but last week a sizable check for the boy arrived from Crosby.

Sherman Fulton is at the Avon convalescent farm in Connecticut where he is learning the Braille system. He is nine-tenths sightless as the result of a Nazi shell bursting near him in Germany.

N. HAMPSHIRE

Frank J. Gignac, 524-pound Franklin bakery firm partner who once played comedy roles in the films, is dead. He was a prominent Elk . . . WFEA in Manchester presented a big special program to mark the beginning of its new affiliation with the Columbia Broadcasting Co. . . . "It Happened in Springfield," was billed as an extra attraction at the State in Manchester.

A heavy rainstorm caused postponement of the army show, "Here's Your Infantry," in Keene . . . Deerfield Fair, started in 1877, will be held September 27-29, it has been announced by the Deerfield Fair Ass'n. Although the ODT has frowned on state and regional fairs officials said no attempt would be made to ban local and county fairs because of wartime transportation problems.

The April report, recently released by the state department of welfare, showed a decrease in direct relief and old age assistance and an increase in aid to needy blind and dependent children . . . Commenting on the resignation of William Stanton as veteran manager of the Scenic and Colonial in Rochester because of ill health, the Rochester Courier said: "Bill Stanton has succeeded in maintaining the individuality of the two theatres here despite the drift to chain bookings, and he has always maintained a high standard of entertainment."

"Salute to the Seventh," a musical revue with a cast of 24 and Johnny Howe's 14-piece band, was booked for the war bond premiere at the Scenic in Rochester. On the screen was Betty Grable in "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" . . . Lighting service was disrupted at the Plymouth Theatre when a severe electrical storm struck during the Plymouth Teachers' College graduation there.

Word has been received in Somersworth of the death of Azel N. Hurd, 71, former actor and producer, at Eau Clair, Wis. He was a native of Somersworth and for many years owned the Gladys Klark Co. which toured the eastern United States and Bermuda . . . Problems of enforcing the so-called "Cocoanut Grove" law, which protects theatres and other places of public assembly from fire hazards, were further discussed at a meeting of the New Hampshire Fire Chiefs' Ass'n in North Sutton.

Albert D. Jones has been named to succeed the late Harry T. Hayes as a director of the Rochester Fair Ass'n . . . Reports of 1945 legislature lobbyists, filed at the secretary of state's office, reveal that the highest paid was Attorney John H. Leahy of Claremont, representing the Rockingham Park race track, who received a single fee of $5,000 and expenses of $1,000.

Comdr. Leslie R. Corbin, navy, showed colored films of Hawaii and the Grand Canyon of the Colorado at a recent meeting of the Deerfield Women's Club.

Lane, Ford, "They Made Me a Killer"

Lola Lane and Wallace Ford were signed for roles in "They Made Me a Killer" at Paramount.



Hugh Marsh Solves His Help Problem

Hugh M. Marsh, Robb & Rowley manager in Muskogee, Okla., writes in a recent issue of the 24 Sheeter, R&R publication, on "Management Hardships" and how he and other managers in his territory have worked some of them out. He relates:

"The first great trouble that came up right after war was declared was the drafting of our doorboys. We had been in the habit of using boys aged 18 to 21 who were working their way through junior college here. We were able to get this excellent grade of help at $12 to $15 per week. These boys were glad to have the job and were old enough to take good care of it. Almost our entire staff of that time is now serving, and rank from lieutenants to majors. This is a fine showing and a compliment for our business. We first tried high school boys aged 16 and 17. We found that these boys would hold tickets to give out to their friends, sell them at reduced rates or do anything with them except the right thing. We now use these boys as ushers only and hire men who have disabilities that won't permit them to do hard labor as the ticket takers. Most of these men are ex-railroad men, grocers, salesmen, men with an excellent sense of honesty who can sit on the door and meet the public with a degree of courtesy. They know too what it means to the theatre to maintain order and can command respect. For their five-hour shifts they receive $18 a week and though this makes the cost of ticket-taking almost double, the saving in grief and worry makes up for it.

"Secondly, our problem was with the cashiers. The ones we had left, and we were forced to go into an older group of married women, wanted extra money and yet to keep house. To arrange that we split the shift from a 52-hour week at $18 for three cashiers to a 35-hour week at $14 for four women. This solved our problem very well as we are much better satisfied with these married women working the short hours, and, too, we aren't bothered as much with that ever present worry of cashiers carrying on too many conversations with too many people.

"Trying to keep the theatres clean during this period was another handicap that we have had to deal with in different ways. We have only three janitors now employed that were here when war was declared. At that time we managed fine with about eight janitors while now we have 17. Most of these are women who do a fair job of cleaning, but who after a few weeks work are "nigger rich" and say that they have enough money to do them for three months, and that's far enough ahead for them to not have to worry.

"For the last, but not least, we were very fortunate in securing the part time services of a bookkeeper from a local bank, and this took our bookkeeping trouble off our hands. Our roaming steno (?) Mrs. Margaret Proctor, wife of Cpl. Charles H. Proctor, who has reported at ORD, will now be on the job to earn her bread and butter. That is the only reason I'm able to write this letter for your paper now, for until yesterday I hadn't had a steno for about a year."

Lieut. Charles Weaver Bags 300 Nazi Prisoners

OKLAHOMA CITY—Word has been received by Carl "Buck" Weaver, Paramount manager here, that his son, Lieut. Charles Weaver, has been awarded a Bronze Star in Europe. After accidently walking into a German trap and being held captive for eight hours, Young Weaver emerged with 300 German prisoners who had surrendered to him.

Young Weaver was a student in the Pasadent Playhouse prior to his enlistment.

Franconi's Film Career Dates Back 30 Years

DALLAS—Born in Dallas, John L. Franconi began his film career in 1915 with World Film Corp. He has been an active film executive ever since with two exceptions. He was with the army in France during World War I and spent two years as owner and operator of theatres in Ennis, Tex.



JOHN L. FRANCONI

Although a native of Dallas, his early experience was in other film centers. He served successively as salesman, branch manager and district manager. With one organization for nine years, he was a member of its round table committee (now executive committee).

In 1937 he acquired a half interest in the Texas Monogram franchise, which he sold in August of 1944. During this period, he served as secretary-treasurer of the Monogram franchise holders committee.

In October of 1944, he acquired the Film Classics franchise for Texas. With John W. Mangham of Atlanta, he formulated plans for a new producing and distributing organization which was established in March, 1945, as Screen Guild Productions, Inc. He is secretary of this unit.

Franconi is engaged at present in organizing a $1,000,000 company to be called Motion Picture Finance Corp. of Texas. The purpose of this company is finance productions for the Screen Guild organization. This is said to be the first organized effort to finance picture productions with Texas capital.

A. J. Tilgman Enlarges

A. J. Tilgman of the New Theatre at Tchula, Miss., is extending the length of the house 25 feet to increase his seating capacity by 125 seats. He plans on installing new sound and will redecorate his house soon.

Limie Stillwell Visits

SAN ANTONIO—Limie Stillwell of the River Oak Theatre in Fort Worth was a visitor here.

Elisburg Will Build $300,000 Theatre

CHICAGO—Herb Elisburg, owner of the Studio Theatre in Chicago's loop and of national rights to several motion pictures, has just concluded a deal for a theatre site in Miami Beach, Fla. The property is on the east side of Washington St., between 15th St. and Lincoln Rd., known as the "Times Square" section of America's famous resort center. In the same area are three first run Paramount houses and two first run theatres operated by the Wometco circuit. In addition there are three other postwar theatres planned for construction within two blocks of Elisburg's project.

It is estimated that the completed project will represent an investment of upward of $300,000. The building is to contain a theatre auditorium to seat approximately 1,200, and will also include stores. The property is 75x175 feet.

Although Elisburg's entry into the exhibition and distribution fields is comparatively recent, he has been active in the motion picture industry for almost 25 years. He started as an assistant to William K. Hollander, advertising and publicity director for Balaban & Katz in Chicago, and has since been identified as a press agent, ad chief, theatre manager and supervisor with many of the major film companies and circuits. Elisburg insisted that his new Miami activity will not affect his future free-lance efforts.

Al Rothschild Appointed NSS Manager at Memphis

MEMPHIS—Al Rothschild, salesman for National Screen Service, has been named manager at the local branch to replace Robert Conway, who resigned to enter the poultry business at Atlanta.

Rothschild, formerly a New York attorney, joined NSS in 1943, soon after receiving a discharge from the army.

NSS services theatre advertising for all the motion picture companies in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi as well as part of Missouri.

Gleason to "Allotment Wives"

Pat Gleason has signed to play in Monogram's "Allotment Wives."



BARKERS MADE HAPPY—Because the children are happy, members of the Atlanta Variety Club are correspondingly joyous because of their contribution to the Salvation Army center. In the photo barkers and officials of the Salvation Army watch a game of badminton on the newly-paved court. Fifteen hundred dollars worth of new playground equipment has been purchased by Variety Club, to be delivered this summer.

ACCEPTING DATES NOW FOR

104

FEATURE ATTRACTIONS

52

WESTERNS

50

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DALLAS

Henry Reeve was in from Menard, voicing his gratification over a big bond sale which he conducted at his Mission Theatre. He sold $51,925 in bonds at the theatre during a weekend campaign, well over quota and the biggest bond sale he has had. Two wounded veterans from McCloskey Hospital assisted at the mission. One was Pvt. Benard McCoyle, who got his first job in the show business from Jay Emanuel in Philadelphia. Reeve is from Pennsylvania, a graduate from Yale and is president of Texas Theatre Owners.

The Roger Landers at Menard (she is a sister of Mrs. Henry Reeve) are making it a practice to invite wounded veterans to their home for weekends and longer periods. They have had two each week for the last 35 weeks . . . Lee Bell, here Tuesday from Clarendon, reported the WPB had finally given him priorities to rebuild the Cozy Theatre, destroyed two months ago by fire, and that construction would start immediately. He was here to buy equipment. Bell said he applied first to WPB in Oklahoma City which turned him down. He then enlisted the aid of a federal agency looking after small business and the necessary priority came through. Bell said the Cozy was only a Friday and Saturday proposition, necessary only in the fall, but if he didn't put the show back in somebody else would.

Elm Streeter Louis Charninsky gave a Seventh War Loan talk to United Artists personnel at the exchange in the Melba Theatre Bldg. The shipping and inspection staffs also were present from their quarters in one of those old film buildings near Union Terminal where three companies operated 15 years ago. Charninsky emphasized the E bond sales deficiency and asked the employes to buy stamps and go for the 10 per cent pay roll deductions.

Grover McDonnell is back again as representative of Republic. He will make the southern Texas run with headquarters in Austin. He had been in Oklahoma City . . . Walter Titus, vice-president of Republic in charge of branch operations, visited the local exchange a few days. He acted as host with Division Manager Colquhoun at a luncheon in the Variety Club given for the salesmen and bookers. After that both executives left for Oklahoma City.

William F. Bugie, sales manager at Republic, is still seriously ill in Baylor Hospital. He expresses his gratefulness to friends who have come to see him, and to the Variety Club which assured quick action in arranging blood transfusions.

M. Michell, owner of the Spann at Forney, the Altec Service Corp. here; Forrest Dunlap of the Fort Theatre in Fort Smith, Ark., and Ray L. Miller, projectionist in W. A. Stuckert's Simon Theatre at Brenham, all renewed their BOXOFFICE subscriptions.

C. B. "Brownie" Akers, vice-president of Griffith Amusement Co. in charge of operations, spent a few days at the R. E. Griffith offices here. He said he believes the help problem, although still bad, is looking up a bit . . . Miss Frances Holt, stenographer at the Chas. E. Darden & Co. office, is spending her vacation at her home in Gaveston.

J. W. Curley of the National at Bridgeport has recovered from a serious illness. Mrs. Curley and their son Steve, a former lieutenant in the army, who now is working for the government here, have been operating the theatre . . . P. G. Cameron was on the Row again. At each succeeding visit he shows marked improvement in health. He says his doctors will make the final operation in August, after which he expects "to be all new." He indicated he has another sizeable business deal under way.

Mart Cole, southern Texas circuit operator with headquarters in Rosenberg, was here on one of his bimonthy booking visits.

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Don't Write

Sonny Tufts Attends Drive Meetings of Paramount

DALLAS—Duke Clark, a Paramount month drive captain, announced through Fred Larned, Dallas manager, that the studio had assigned Sonny Tufts to represent the production department at the southwestern Paramount month drive meetings.

Tufts, star of "I Love a Soldier," "Bring On the Girls" and "Here Come the WAVES," arrived here from Hollywood June 28. Business meetings were to begin Friday and continue through Saturday under the direction of Clark and his drive cocaptain, Allen Usher, district manager at Chicago.

Tufts was to present the production department's point of view and indicate to the exchange personnel the cooperative measures taken to aid in the success of the drive. Tufts will visit with exhibitors but no public appearances are scheduled.

Tufts and Usher will leave for Oklahoma City July 1 for a similar meeting at the Paramount offices there.

Four Mono Exchanges Hold Meeting at New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—Monogram Southern exchange staffs from four cities met here June 19 for their annual sales meeting headed by Arthur Bromberg, president.

The meetings, held two days at the Jung Hotel, were attended by:

Atlanta—Manager W. E. Wiman, accompanied by O. B. Corley, Jack Barrett, H. H. Jordan and O. S. Barnett.

Charlotte—Manager Sam Hinson and J. E. McLeroy and A. L. Stout.

Memphis—Manager Bailey Pritchard and F. J. Kaiser and Henry Hammond.

New Orleans—Manager Henry Glover, George Nungesser and Joe Fabacher.

Satire on Army Life Forms Malco Theatre Bond Show

MEMPHIS — Satirizing army life with a musical war bond stage show all their own, a group of talented patients at Kennedy General Hospital presented "Kennedy Krust—a Musical Meatball With Bread" at Malco Theatre Wednesday night (27). Admission was by purchase of an E bond.

The show consisted of a series of fast-moving skits with musical background.

M. A. Lightman sr., president of Malco Theatres, made the facilities of Malco Theatre available to the cast without charge. Civic club teams were formed to sell tickets.

MEMPHIS



NEW MEMPHIS MANAGER—Herbert Sanderson, new Malco Theatre manager at Memphis, arrived on his new post last week. Sanderson has been with the Malco circuit for nine years, most recently at Jonesboro, Ark., as manager of three Malco theatres there. A native of Jonesboro, he graduated from State College in that city and was with Universal prior to joining Malco. He succeeds Myron Meyer, who has been ill several months.

Para Dinner for 30-Year Employe at New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Mrs. Pauline Taylor, chief accountant at Paramount, will be honored at a luncheon July 5 marking her 30th anniversary with Paramount. Guests will include exhibitors who have had Paramount accounts for as many years.

Sonny Tufts, the star, will attend with Hugh Owens, division sales manager; Allen Usher, district manager and cocaptain of Paramount's third of a century sales campaign; John Kirby, district manager; Jack Price, branch manager; E. E. Shinn, Sidney Otis and M. J. Artigues, salesmen; Mrs. Irma Rogers, booking manager, and others.

Sudekum Church Property A Possible Theatre Site

NASHVILLE—The site of the First Lutheran Church on Fifth Ave. between Union and Deadrick, recently purchased by Tony Sudekum of Crescent Amusement Co. for $100,000, may later be used for a theatre or recreation center, but the church congregation will continue to use the building for some months. Sudekum is a member of this church which is the oldest in continuous service in Nashville.

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Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager, returned from a sales meeting in Dallas. Young, WAC chairman here, immediately plunged into a mass of Seventh War Loan campaign business . . . Jimmie Gillespie, 20th-Fox publicist who has been in charge of war loan publicity in this territory, went to Atlanta for a few days before going to Columbus, Ohio, to direct publicity for the world premiere of "Captain Eddie," August 1. Columbus is the home town of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker.

Cliff Wilson, former Monogram manager here, now is in the army hospital at Ft. Sill, Tex., with an injured leg . . . John Crabtree jr., whose father died recently leaving the Merlu Theatre at Carendon, Ark., without an operator, has been granted a 30-day emergency furlough. Young Crabtree, who was on a ship in the Pacific, came home to straighten out the theatre's affairs. He was in here on business.

Andrew Hall is a new assistant shipper at Warners . . . Doak Hall, WB district manager for Warner, was in on business from his Dallas headquarters . . . E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager for Universal, New York, and H. D. Graham, southern district manager, Atlanta, visited the exchange here . . . Juanita Johnson, Universal cashier, and Sue McGill, biller, were on vacation in New Orleans.

Variety Club's annual picnic was held last weekend at nearby Ellendale . . . Republic hosted Walter L. Titus, vice-president in charge of maintenance . . . At RKO, Edward Porter, assistant booker, was vacationing in Fort Smith, with his family.

Sgt. Dennis Rainwater, Paris, Ark., who was a prisoner of war on Bataan, has been chosen to make a national tour with RKO's new picture, "Back to Bataan," which shortly will have its world premiere in Boston.

Visitors on Filmrow: Eugene Boggs, operator of theatres at Des Arc, Heber Springs and Jacksonville, Ark.; B. V. McDougal, Monticello, Ark.; J. A. Thornton, Bruce, Miss.; C. E. Eudy, Ackerman, Miss., and K. H. Kinney, Hughes, Ark.

Todd Ferguson, M-G-M publicity man, was back from an extensive tour of Arkansas in connection with "The Picture of Dorian Gray" . . . At Columbia Inspector Becky Williams was back from a vacation and Fay Verell, bookkeeper-typist, was leaving . . . District Manager J. B. Underwood, Dallas, was a visitor at Columbia.

Baily Prichard, Monogram manager and Henry Hammond and F. J. Kaiser, salesmen, returned from a sales meeting in New Orleans.

Malco Plans Drive-Ins

MEMPHIS—M. A. Lightman, head of Malco Theatres, has announced that he will meet drive-in theatre competition in Memphis and in Little Rock by constructing outdoor theatres of his own. He is seeking sites.

Basil Rathbone Visits

MEMPHIS—Basil Rathbone, star of the stage and screen, was here last week for two shows for wounded service men—one at Kennedy General Hospital and one at Naval Hospital. He was accompanied by his wife.

Season Opens July 2

MEMPHIS—Six weeks of shows in Overton Park's outdoor shell will get under way July 2 with "Desert Song." Charles Yearsley and Rosemarie Brancato are the stars.

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OKLA. CITY

H. O. Stark, head Griffith booker who has been seriously ill, now is sitting up in a wheel chair and showing apparent improvement . . . Don Hall, Griffith city manager in Chickasha, recently telegraphed C. B. Akers from New York that his operation there was a success. Don was suffering from otosclerosis (developing deafness) and went to New York to undergo a skull-drilling operation by a specialist. He now expects to be back on the job in a few weeks.

Don Tullius, RKO officer manager, is back on the job following a two-week vacation, most of which was spent in New York . . . Claire Benjamin, cashier for RKO prior to her retirement, called to place a subscription for BOXOFFICE, saying she thus keeps informed of what is going on in the show business.

Jake Watkins, eldest son James of the paratroopers, was in on leave from Ft. Benning, Ga. Watkins, who is with National Theatre Supply, declared calls for needed parts seem to run in spurts. There will be a period when calls are few and everything will go along calmly, then things will begin to happen—little and big emergency calls will come in from all over the state.

Patty Stevens of National Theatre Supply is back at work following her vacation . . . Frances Bloom was off a few days to attend an air force graduation ceremony in which her brother received his wings.

Visitors on the Row: Lieut. Paul Beckhelm of Norman, D. B. Swabb of Afton, J. H. Caldwell of Paris, Bill Allison of Norman, H. L. Boehm of Watonga, W. H. Martin of Oilton, H. T. Burns of Apache, Mrs. Ausherman of Wakita, J. C. Sanders of Cyril, John Gray of Chickasha, A. W. Phillips of Grandfield, Mrs. Dudley Tucker of Guthrie, J. Y. Greenwood of Boswell, C. M. Swabb of Fort Gibson, H. G. Waldron of Sentinel, Waite Kerr of Sulphur, L. D. Burns of Fletcher, R. R. Clark of Marlow, Verrol Johnson, Midwest City, T. N. Childress of Covington, Jim Rogers of Crescent, Jack Crooks of Norman, L. A. White of Weatherford, Jeff Guthrie of Mobeetie, Weslie Hodges of Anadarko, J. F. Spangler of Beaver, Watt Long of Hollis, Cliff Sanders of Cyril and A. L. Sigmund of Lexington.

A tradeshowing of Warners' new Bette Davis picture, "The Corn Is Green," was well received by the screening room gathering. Several exhibitors expressed the opinion that this picture might equal "How Green Was My Valley" if properly exploited . . . United Artists "G. I. Joe" was shown at the Uptown Theatre the morning of June 28 simultaneously with invitational screenings over the nation.

Cretors Going Ahead

DALLAS—C. Cretors, head of the popcorn machine manufacturing company in Chicago which bears his name, has informed his Dallas representative and southwestern distributor, namely, Chas. E. Darden & Co., that WPB has released restrictions on popcorn machine manufacture. Cretors said he had found necessary materials and that he is going ahead. A glass and metal machine will be made for lobby and outdoor use. A wooden model will be made for foyer and protected places. Ceiling prices will govern the sale of these models and will be set later by OPA.

Peter Lorre in "Confidential Agent"

Peter Lorre has been set for "Confidential Agent" at Warners.

Carr Scott's First Job: With Depinet in 1915

OKLAHOMA CITY—Thirty years ago, in 1915, Carr Scott went to work for Ned E. Depinet, then Universal manager in Dallas. He later was with the Mutual Film Co. and operated Negro theatres in Dallas, Fort Worth and Austin. Then, in 1922, he returned to Universal in Oklahoma City and later worked for some state rights distributors.



CARR SCOTT

In 1928 he established his own Square Deal Film Exchange. In 1937 this business was combined with the Monogram franchise for Oklahoma, which was sold to Monogram in 1944.

Scott acquired the Film Classics franchise for Oklahoma in 1944. He was an organizer of the Film Classics franchise holders' organization, and became a charter stock owner and franchise holder in the Screen Guild Productions, Inc.

Youth Takes Live Grenade To an Atlanta Theatre

ATLANTA—A live grenade, powerful enough to kill 75 or 100 people, was taken to a theatre at Little Five Points in Atlanta by a youthful patron. There was considerable excitement in the theatre and the youthful grenade bearer was detained by police.

Theatre officials told patrolmen they had dscovered the boy viewing a western thriller and at the same time playing with a grenade he held in his lap. At police headquarters the youth said the grenade was given him by a paratrooper who informed him it was harmless.

Military authorities reported it was far from dead and was one of the most deadly now in use. Technical charges of disorderly conduct were docketed against the youth pending further investigation.

Guard Corn Supplies From the Weevils

OKLAHOMA CITY—An Oklahoma popcorn distributor has reported that weevils have started in some of his shelled corn, and he would like to advise exhibitors who have large quantities of corn stored to guard against the weevils as this is the time of year for them. Those who are not familiar with the method of prevention should consult their nearest distributor.

The military report that some of the armed forces supplies would be diverted into retail channels has given local and state exhibitors a more optimistic outlook on the future candy supply.

Dallas Para Gives Party For 30-Year Customers

DALLAS—Paramount was ready to celebrate its third of a century anniversary with a cocktail party June 29 at the Dallas Athletic Club, in honor of all customers in the Dallas territory who have been doing business with them for 30 years or more.

Mrs. Willie Simmons, head inspector, who is the oldest employe in length of service here, was the honor guest. J. J. Donohue, division manager from New York, and Allen Usher, co-captain of the firm's celebration activities, and Sonny Tufts, actor, were present.

The Annual Polio Upsurge Mild in Texas This Year

DALLAS—The annual polio scare is now at its peak in southern Texas, particularly around Houston. The disease, however, is not expected to spread as much as in former years. Only a handful of cases were brought here from smaller towns and health authorities announced there was little danger of a spread. Swimming pools felt the scare most, although authorities were quoted in newspapers to the effect the pools were safe.

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Equipment and supplies for your theatre and booth are easier to get since VE-Day. With prospects for an early VJ-Day, you will be pleasingly surprised at how many needed items are available in our stock right now. Act now to avoid extra delays.

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More Dallas Items By Roving Reporter

By LESTER KETNER

BOXOFFICE correspondent for the last 15 years or so, who is still in Dallas although he is supposed to be on his way to California.

DALLAS—We were out at the Fair Park Casino to catch the Starlight operetta. We even took in the roller skating rink and almost got drunk watching the happy couples going 'round and 'round.

While we were on the spacious amusement midway this roving reporter (we'll get to California some day) stopped in at the old Globe Theatre. The Globe is now being used for rehearsals, tryouts, Sunday church services and the like.

Later we rode on the new streamlined trackless trolleys which were put into operation recently. These are the last word in safe and fast transportation.

We missed the Gary Cooper barbecue in Fort Worth, put on by Interstate officials for Dallas and Fort Worth newspaper men.

At "Pinups and Peanuts" Show

The "Pinups and Peanuts" war bond show staged by GIs from Camp Fannin at the Palace Theatre was most pleasing to the large audience. We met Richard "Dick" Foy, the house manager. He is a brother of Bryan and Eddie Foy of west coast fame.

One of the busiest of night spots in Dallas is the Embassy Club, operated by Jack Detzel of Cincinnati. Jack says there is no cover charge for the afternoon dine and dance sessions.

Some 2,000 Gary Cooper fans were turned away from the premiere of "Along Came Jones" at the Melba and Majestic. The police department and some of the staff from the Palace were drafted to help handle the huge crowd.

Joe Milnitzer, former operator of the Globe at Fair Park, is back in town and connected with the Dallas Theatre, Inc.

P. Cameron has taken over the Arcadia Theatre, the 900-seat house on Greenville Ave.

Frederick Dobbs presented us one of RCA's little black leather notebooks. We put it to good use right in Dallas.

Take a peek at the newly decorated Haskell Theatre; also the modernized Columbia exchange and the new clubroom.

Wally Langford in Dallas

Wally Langford (Frances' cousin) is here after serving with the marines. Wally lost an arm when he was caught in machine gun fire.

Mary Alice Brown of the Palace publicity staff is back from Farmersville where she saw Lieutenant "Andie." The Fox on Elm St. is Dallas' smallest downtown house. It only seats 600.

Met some old friends along S. Harwood St. —S. G. Howell of Film Classics, Lloyd Rust of Monogram, John Franconi, Film Classics, and Burl Lovelace of Universal. Howell was one of the first men with the old Motion Picture Journal and Times which later became BOXOFFICE.

We won't be getting to California this trip and this will be the last notes from Dallas for a while. We have been called back to San Antonio on orders from Mrs. P. "Mom" Ketner, who is ill.

Garfield to Star in "Humoresque"

John Garfield has been given the starring role in "Humoresque" at Warners.

Star of "Flaming Youth" To Sell Family Estate

CONYERS, GA.—Colleen Moore returned here to sell her farm, six miles from town. The famous silent film actress, now Mrs. Homer Hargrave, was accompanied by her 14-year-old daughter Judy.

The estate, known as the Morrison farm, was left Mrs. Hargrave by her father, Charles Morrison, at his death three years ago. Since her brother, Cleeve Morrison of Conyers, has decided to settle at the Morrison estate in California and since she is permanently located in Chicago, Miss Moore thought best to sell the Georgia home.

"It hurts me deeply to dispose of the farm my parents selected," she said.

The farm, about 1,000 acres, includes a Georgian house, swimming pool and guest house. It was described by Mrs. Hargrave, a former Atlantan, as "one of the loveliest places in existence."

Miss Moore, who was made famous by the movie, "Flaming Youth," entered silent films in 1917. Two of her other big hits were "The Perfect Flapper" and "Smiling Irish Eyes."

She has given her famed doll house to the Henry Ford Museum of Dearborn, Mich. The house, which is now on tour, will be delivered to the museum in two years.

"Discovered" in Exchange

NEW ORLEANS—Mary Healy became a motion picture starlet through her job in a local film exchange. A 20th-Fox scout found her when he called on the manager. She currently is playing the role of a film star touring the European war areas with a USO troupe in a picture titled, "Common Ground."



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The results are so unprecedented that Film Classics are selling the picture as a new release. It is undoubtedly Samuel Goldwyn's greatest achievement. Its memorable cast includes Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier, David Niven, Flora Robson, Donald Crisp, Geraldine Fitzgerald, and many others.

★ You can depend upon "Wuthering Heights" as great entertainment, and as a great box-office attraction. It is great theatrical property and must be handled accordingly. We know you will be glad to give us the kind of deals a picture of this type merits. Your audiences will thank you for putting this kind of entertainment on your screen and you will profit accordingly.

That's the lowdown from

FILM *Classics* EXCHANGES

in Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and Memphis.

ATLANTA

Charlie Lester, who is rated as one of the best dressed men on Filmrow here, experienced competition in New York with George Tarrant, also a salesman from Atlanta. Both Charlie and George were walking down Fifth Avenue on a recent Sunday with swallowtail coats, top hats, spats and grey gloves, topped off with carnation in their coats and it was a tossup on which one was best dressed.

Hugh Martin of the Martin Theatres, Columbus, Ga., was a Filmrow visitor . . . Allen Richardson, formerly manager of the Palace at Valdosta, Ga., has been transferred to the Dosta . . . R. E. Martin, Rufe Davis and Oscar Oldknow, visited Panama City on a vacation.

Charlie Karr, booker of the Martin Theatres, and his wife were at Dallas on a vacation . . . Betty Turner of RKO and Interne Corky of Grady Hospital, were married on June 13 . . . Arlie Wooten of RKO suffered an accident on a street here which necessitated her going to a hospital to have several stitches taken in her left eye.

N. H. Leach, Howard Theatre, Lake City, Tenn., was on the Row . . . E. R. Box jr. announces he has sold the De Soto, Valley Head, Ala., to Lester Morgan . . . Ralph Johnson, former owner of the Greenville in Greenville, Ala., spent a short vacation in Valley Head . . . Patricia Howell of Monogram returned from a brief stay at Valley Head.

Bernie Shapiro, Southern Poster Printing Co., went to Philadelphia to attend the funeral of his father . . . Thelma Dumas, Universal booker, is on vacation at Jacksonville Beach, Fla. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harlow Merryday of the New Theatre Palatka, Fla., were on the Row booking.

Betty Ann Leonard has been added to the force at Monogram Southern . . . Visitors on the Row included Joe Hackel of Jacksonville, Fla. . . . O. G. Gryder of the Florida State Theatres local office was on a vacation.

Mrs. Pearl Beasley of Universal reports that her husband suffered the loss of a leg in an accident . . . Elizabeth Benson of the UA inspection department suffered the loss of a finger in an accident with a patching machine . . . Anna Wiman has been added to the force at M-G-M.

Georgia McLaughlin, secretary to Division Manager R. J. Ingram of Columbia, has returned to her desk after a serious illness . . . Mrs. Raymond Edwards, booker for the Neeley circuit, has returned from a vacation in Marion, Ala. . . . Raymond Edwards, former booker for Warners, is now stationed in the Netherlands East Indies with the navy.

The Ritz at Centerville, Ala., recently damaged by fire, will reopen July 4 . . . Visitors on Filmrow: Nat Williams, Rose Theatre, Thomasville; Crip Harrison, Florida salesman for UA.

Joe Williams, former treasurer at the Fox Theatre, was among four out of 3,000 men at Camp Wheeler to qualify as an expert infantryman. He will go to Ft. Benning soon as an officer candidate . . . The Atlanta Philippine-American Club, composed of relatives of local boys who are prisoners of war of the Japs, pressured RKO to allow Atlanta to share in the premiere of "Back to Bataan." Fred Moon, motion picture editor of the Journal, gave the screening a great writeup



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CHARLOTTE, N. C. THEATRE SUPPLY, INC.

"Everything for the theatre except film"

and induced the club to request the film for a bond premiere.

Row visitors: Jay Soloman, Independent Theatres, and Mose Lebowitz, Grand Amusement Co., both of Chattanooga . . . The 20th-Fox Family Club at its annual election chose the following officers: Spence Pierce, president; Mrs. Christine Banks, vice-president; Doris Koppe, secretary; M. C. Simmons, treasurer. Pierce is the publicity director for Fox in this area.

Jack Barrett, Monogram representative for Florida, is visiting his family here . . . Max "Alibi" Terhune, Hollywood cowboy, visited at Monogram here on the way to Knoxville for a personal appearance. Max has been playing at army camps.

Paramount News: Clyde Goodson, sales manager, is strutting around with legs a bit "bowed." He "rode the goat" at Yarrah Temple. Clyde's wife has recovered after an operation . . . Mrs. Frankie English, Jack Kirby's secretary, was vacationing at Miami Beach. Gracie Bramblett is subbing . . . New in the Paramount family are Betty McAllister, PBX operator; Jacqueline Miller, stenographer; Bill Douglas and Pinkie McKellar, shipping room . . . Bob Wade, shipper, has another month before he takes his physical examination for service . . . Claudia Hutchinson, accounting department, left on a vacation at Jacksonville, Fla.

Harry Graham, Universal southern district manager flew to Miami. Manager R. L. Brauer was in Jacksonville . . . Your correspondent was the guest star of the Shell radio program June 13. We were interviewed regarding old-time movies.

Mrs. L. A. Rogers, formerly with the Ponce de Leon Theatre, has been added at Columbia . . . Tom Eubanks, general accountant for Wilby-Kincey theatres, was in New York on business.

Two natives of Grady County who have risen "from plow handles to radio fame" as string musicians have left Nashville, for Hollywood and a three-year contract to make pictures. They are "Curley" Joseph and Sanford Williams . . . Mrs. Grace Hammond of Monogram's booking department has resigned . . . Mrs. Leola DeLong, Monogram, off on a vacation.

Lois Moffett has been added at RKO . . . On the Row was Don Shaw, Skyways, Chattanooga . . . Bill Zoellner, M-G-M manager, returned from a Miami vacation.

Bond Purchase Entry Fee In the Thousand Club

Memphis—Leaders in the Memphis film industry have organized a Thousand Club which requires the purchase of an extra $1,000 bond personally in the Mighty Seventh.

The idea was originated by Col. Howard Waugh, district Warner manager, and Tom Young, 20th-Fox manager.

Within 12 hours they had almost every leading exhibitor lined up. At this writing membership in this club included: Abe Suzore, Tom Ballas, Augustine Cianciollo, Dave Liebovitz, Fred Suzore, James A. West, Howard Waugh, Joe Simon, Herbert Kohn, Hall Zerrilla, Joe Maceri, A. Z. Barraso, Tom Kirke, L. A. Weaver, Al Avery, B. A. Woolner, E. P. Sapingsly, M. A. Lightman sr., E. R. Gillette, Tom Young, J. A. Pritchard, Bailey Pritchard, Louis Ingram, Robert Bostick, Joe Pacini, Ed Williamson and Billy Evans, president of the Southern League.



MEMPHIS BOND CHAMPIONS—These are the men who worked day and night in behalf of the Seventh War Loan. Left to right: Ed Williamson, Warners branch manager; Tom W. Young, 20th-Fox branch manager and co-chairman of motion picture division; James Dunn, star of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," and James Gillespie, 20th-Fox, chairman of publicity.

C. L. Heffleman Injured

HUNTSVILLE, ALA.—C. L. Heffleman, veteran showman and owner-manager of the Princess here who has a record of 55 years service in the entertainment field, suffered a triple fracture of the left leg and a broken shoulder in a fall. He is recuperating in City Hospital.

Patty Sue Moore Is Killed When Bus Tank Explodes

NEW ORLEANS—Patty Sue Moore, young daughter of W. D. Moore, theatre owner in Georgetown, Miss., was fatally burned when a gas tank exploded in the bus in which she was riding. The accident occurred near Monticello, Miss.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

NEW ORLEANS

Frances Oden has taken Josie Chiarello's place as secretary to C. J. Briant, Metro manager. She has transferred to the office of Rudolph Berger, southern division manager . . . Marie Carr has replaced Shirley Calahan as bookkeeper for Joy Theatres, Inc., the latter having given up her position because of illness in her family . . . Another newcomer to Filmrow is Mrs. Jennie Stern, assistant inspector for Dixie Films.

Mrs. Josephine Albana, formerly of Film Classics of the Southeast, has given up her position to be with her husband in San Diego. E. A. McKenna, Film Classics manager, was doubling and tripling on typing and filing and answering calls when last seen, pending employment of a successor for Mrs. Albana.

Vacation schedules on Filmrow often depend this season on "what the army or navy or marines do." Claire Muhs, Joy Theatres cashier, awaited the arrival of Cpl. George Trudell and Elaine Favalora, Joy's bookkeeper, is awaiting the arrival of Charles Grady of the navy.

Reina Del Rio, boxoffice statement clerk at the M-G-M exchange, is currently vacationing on the Mississippi Gulf coast . . . Miss Lena Frosina, Monogram exchange booker, erroneously listed in this column previously as a member of Joy Theatres office, has returned from her vacation.

Mike Pisciotta of the Filmrow bar and grill has also been to the Mississippi Gulf coast for a rest . . . John Elzey of the Delta Supply Co. planned to board a plane here Saturday for San Francisco and a week's visit with his son at the naval station there.

L. D. "Toto" Guidry has been here completing arrangements to open the Platte Theatre in Ville Patte, La., which he will operate in association with Don George of Alexandria . . . The Lincoln in Laurel, Miss., has been purchased from A. H. Freeman by the Bijou Amusement Co., it was reported here.

C. M. Scroggins, RCA engineer, has been standing in for A. C. Holland while the latter has been on the sick list. Neil Blount of RCA was seen deep in a business discussion in the Delta's newly air-conditioned offices last week.

Philip Sliman of Producers Releasing Corp., who has just returned from a sales meeting in Chicago in July . . . Philip Murphey, Columbia salesman, who was discharged from the army early this year, expects to be reinducted . . . Henry Waguespack of Vacherie, A. Demharter and Lyall Shiell of New Orleans, all exhibitors, were recent Filmrow visitors.

John Lester, New Orleans Item columnist, who is good for a choice entertainment item almost every day, reports that the premiere of "Saratoga Trunk" may be arranged for New Orleans, which is the setting of the earlier part of the story. He also says he hears negotiations are underway to show Spanish language films here regularly.

A new Negro theatre, the Harlem, is scheduled to open in Texarkana within the next two weeks . . . D. B. Fiske of the Fiske, Oak Grove, recently underwent an appendectomy in Vicksburg and is recovering satisfactorily.

"Blood on the Sun" which has been showing here at Loew's, came in for some extra publicity in the newspapers, especially in Maud O'Bryan's New Orleans States column, because of the part William Lynch, a New Orleans importer, played in supplying background items for the film. Lynch is known chiefly for his shops at the famed French Market and on Royal St. where South American imports are featured. He has been an importer with world connections for all of his adult life and had such authentic pieces as Samurai swords, Japanese fans, lanterns and matting suitable for the Cagney production.

J. C. Rickett, former manager of the Allen in Oakdale, plans to open a theatre at Oberlin, La. . . . Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Foraldo of the Wayne in Colfax have a new baby girl . . . The Gibsland Theatre in Gibsland has closed.

The next meeting of the New Orleans column (chapter) of the Motion Picture Collosseum of America will be July 2 at the Jung Hotel at 7:30 p. m. The monthly meetings have been changed from the first Saturday of the month to the first Monday and from afternoon to evening.

Add Filmrow visitors: Billy Terrell, Joy Theatre, Roseland; G. H. Mercer, Grove, Shreveport; W. F. Straub, Palace, Wiggins, Miss.; Ernest Delahaye, Gouin, Maringouin; O. J. Gaudet, Magic, Port Allen; R. B. Dossett, Star, Hattiesburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cooper have a new son, Robert Lewis. Cooper formerly was a film salesman . . . Filmrowers are still talking about the magnificent flower display at the Fox Theatre opening which was attended by such a large crowd that the management had to stop selling tickets at 9 p. m.

Miss Fannye Levy, the friendly Monogram exchange cashier, laughs off the burn on her left arm from a phosphorus grenade spark which she received while attending a Seventh War Loan "Beachhead to Tokyo" show on Lake Pontchartrain. Through an accident which is being investigated, the phosphorus grenades were mixed in with harmless smoke bombs used by veterans who staged the show. Fortunately no one was fatally injured.

H. V. George, Hollywood producer, who spent several days here recently, expressed an interest in locating a studio in or near New Orleans. The variety of industries in Louisiana and the proximity of the city to the Gulf of Mexico make this an ideal site for the production of educational films, George said.

CHARLOTTE

Earle M. Holden, manager of the Center and Park theatres in Hickory, attended the funeral of his sister, Mrs. A. J. Bolin, in Milton, Del. . . . Ruth Hardin, assistant field director of the Red Cross at Camp Butner, N. C., spent a few days here visiting her sister, Mrs. Walter Griffith, en route to a new post at the southeastern area headquarters in Atlanta. Miss Hardin formerly was connected with National Theatre Supply.

E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager; Harry Graham, district manager, and F. T. Murray, manager of branch operations for Universal, were here for a three-day conference with Manager James V. Frew . . . Tommy Bachman, son of WB Manager John Bachman, was low ball winner of junior-senior match held in Greensboro last week during the state golf tournament.

Roy L. Smart, Wilby-Kincey, is on vacation . . . Byron Adams, manager, and Jim Blackmon, Harry Williams and Scott Lett, salesmen, left to attend the United Artists June 30-July 4 sales meeting at Aransas Pass, Tex. . . . Ernie Pyle's "Story of GI Joe" was screened by United Artists at the Carolina theatre Thursday (28).

Gary Cooper's Big Day On Oklahoma City Visit

OKLAHOMA CITY—Gary Cooper appeared at the State Theatre on the opening day of his latest picture, "Along Came Jones," before packed crowds. The day's full schedule started with a 9:30 a. m. breakfast given by RKO at the Skirvin Hotel for local film ad newspaper folk. Attending were Ralph Williams, Bob Hickey and Fred Ford, RKO; Rex Graham, State; Arthur Jeffrey and John LeRoy Johnston, International Pictures; Horace Falls, C. B. Akers, Roy Avey jr., C. R. Guthrie and Bob McGraw of Griffiths; Charlie Ferris and Robert Busch of the Uptown Theatre; Ed Kidwell, F. M. Swiger and Paul Townsend of Standard Theatres, and Maurice Loewenstein of the Majestic Theatre.

Crowds Throng Majestic Theatre In Antonio to See Gary Cooper

SAN ANTONIO—Crowds stood in line for hours outside of the Majestic Theatre here awaiting turns to see Gary Cooper at one of his five appearances. Each time the theatre was fully emptied and then completely filled to the very last of its nearly 4,000 seats. Charley Wolfe, Majestic treasurer, handled the crowds in the absence of Jack Mitchell on a vacation, assisted by Eric Brendler, manager of the Laurel. Cooper was here in connection with "Along Came Jones."

In Cooper's entourage were John LeRoy Johnston, International Pictures publicity director; Arthur Jeffrey, eastern publicity man; Frank Starz, Conrad Brady, Raymond Willie and Bob Hickey. At a breakfast given in the Tapestry room of the St. Anthony Hotel shortly after Cooper's arrival, were Mayor Mauermann, Frank G. Huntress, president of the Express Publishing Co.; William McIntosh, president of the Light Publishing Co., and members of the press and radio, in addition to the theatre men. As Gary had expressed a wish for some Mexican food he was taken to one of the best Mexican restaurants and regaled with Mexican cuisine. A pair of cowboy boots and a rattlesnake skin vest was given to him by an admirer. Since the handkerchiefs in his upper coat pocket are frequently stolen by fans Cooper has resorted to buying very cheap ones and writing across them "April Fool."

Managers "Bark" Stamps At Kid All-Cartoon Show

SAN ANTONIO — The Majestic Theatre gave the kids a treat with an all-cartoon show and at the same time sold nearly $2,000 worth of stamps. A stamp served as admission ticket.

Several long tables were placed just beyond the marquee and off the sidewalk behind which stood the managers of all the Interstate theatres in the city selling the stamps. Many of the children brought their year's savings of pennies to convert into stamps, the counting of which pleased the managers no end. It was noticed that some of the managers would have made good concession barkers as they vociferously urged the children to buy.

Jenkins-Bourgeois Add Memphis Area for Astor

DALLAS—John Jenkins and O. K. Bourgeois, who own and operate the Astor exchange here, have taken over distribution of the Astor line for the Memphis territory. They will handle the additional territory out of their Dallas exchange for the present. Jenkins was to go to Memphis for the next two weeks.

Odeon Architects Into New Offices

TORONTO — An indication that Odeon Theatres of Canada is preparing for early construction of new theatres in the Dominion is the opening of a suite of offices in the Film Exchange Bldg. here for the use of the circuit's architectural department, which is directed by Jay I. English, who not long ago made a tour of Odeon houses in England.

English has taken over the quarters formerly occupied by C. J. Appel, eastern division general manager who has removed to the 19th floor of the Royal Bank Bldg, King and Yonge Sts., with other Odeon staffs, including Frank Fisher, booking manager; Norman Allin, chief booker, and their staffs. President Paul Nathanson and Thomas J. Bragg, director, also have their offices in the bank building.

The Odeon accounting department, officials of which include George Beeston, a member of the board of directors, and A. E. Sanderson, controller, also have moved to the Film Exchange Bldg. The change places the operating departments of the Odeon chain in direct contact with Paul Nathanson.

The luxurious private office of Nathanson in the film building has been taken over by A. W. Perry, general manager of Empire-Universal Films who recently became president of that film company. Facilities are also being provided for the new Eagle Lion company which was organized during the conference here of Arthur Rank and Nathanson to distribute British and French pictures.

Henry Deveau to Savoy At Glace Bay for FPC

ST. JOHN—Assigned to the Savoy, Glace Bay, by Famous Players has been Henry Deveau, who had been assistant manager at the Halifax Capitol for about a year. He will assist John Connor jr. at the Savoy. Connor and his father combined the Savoy with FPC about four years ago after operating on their own for many years. The affiliation is also establishing a new theatre as a postwar project.

Deveau's transfer to Glace Bay is understood to be temporary. A temporary assignment to the Halifax Capitol to replace Deveau is Tiffany Cook, who started with FPC at the Toronto Imperial, managed by Tom Daley, born and reared at St. John, and an ex-manager of the Halifax Capitol. Cook joined FPC in 1938. He was two and a half years overseas as a navigator of bombers. When discharged in March 1945, he was a flight lieutenant. He was awarded a DFC in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace. After taking off the uniform he joined the Imperial at Halifax. He has a wife and three-year-old son at Toronto. Just before being shifted to Glace Bay, Deveau and Bob Roddick of Halifax, FPC district manager, completed a course in maintenance for the Savoy staff.

Former Church Property Bought by Crawley

OTTAWA—A former church property in Ottawa has been purchased for use as a moving picture studio to be operated by Crawley Films. The purchasers were Arthur A. Crawley, chartered accountant here, and F. Radford Crawley who is president of the National Film Society of Canada. The purchase price was not disclosed.

Among the officers of the Film Society are Graham McInnes and Ernst Borneman of the National Film Board.

Independents in Favor Of Film Trade Control

TORONTO—"The longer we have government control of the film business, the better," said Ben Freedman of Long Branch, Ont., president of the Ontario council of the Independent Exhibitors of Canada, when asked for an expression of opinion relative to a rumor that the government was moving to annual the restrictions on the film trade. He pointed out that the wartime prices and trade board was continuing to pass upon classifications of new product for next season and expressed the view that the government would continue to regulate rental contracts indefinitely.

At a government labor conference at London, Ont., representatives of 14 large labor unions in Ontario urged the government officials to maintain price controls in the Dominion "until a normal situation returned."

This recommendation indicated that organized labor is in more or less unanimous support of the regulation of prices in all fields, although there has been a plea for modification of priority and other strictures to permit the release of materials to meet civilian requirements in household equipment, wearing apparel, etc. This step would facilitate the conversion of factories from war to peace production and would avoid much unemployment.

Organized labor and independent theatre owners are two groups which have spoken up, however, for the continuation of price controls to avoid inflation and to protect the modest wage-earner.

Book on Famous Players' 25-Year Celebrations

TORONTO — James R. Nairn, advertising manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp., is publishing a book on the circuit's 25th anniversary, which was formally observed by the creation of the 25-Year Club for employes at dinners held here and in Vancouver last winter. The book contains a history of the company, along with a review of the birthday celebration including a statistical report on the wide publicity appearing in the press of Canada and elsewhere.

Buddy Goldin Plans Suburban Theatre

CALGARY—B. M. "Buddy" Goldin, local showman, is back in civilian clothes again following his release from the Canadian army after two and a half years of service.



B. M. GOLDIN

Goldin was attached to the directorate of military training at national defense headquarters in Ottawa. He was responsible for shipping the hundreds of training films to the army camps in Canada and overseas. In recent months he was a member of the Army Assets Corp. Goldin asserted the disposal branch now is supplying aid to liberated European countries.

As managing director of the popular west-end suburban houses, the Tivoli and the Kinema, Goldin was well known in theatrical circles. In a newspaper interview he disclosed his intention to start immediate construction of a new suburban theatre, which likely will displace the older Kinema, on a lot acquired last year from the city of Calgary.

Doreen Fisher, who carried on during Goldin's army service, will continue as his assistant at both houses.

Larry Stephens Is New UA Publicity Executive

MONTREAL—Larry Stephens, for many years manager of the Snowdon, United Amusement Corp. house, has been appointed publicity and advertising representative for United Artists in eastern Canada with headquarters in Toronto. Recently he visited Montreal in his new capacity, signalizing his arrival with a splurge of publicity in the local newspapers. He succeeds Howard Knevels who resigned some months ago. Larry started in show business in Michigan 20 years ago as exploitation man for W. S. Butterfield, became manager of His Majesty's, Montreal, in 1930 and after two seasons assumed a similar post with United Amusement. He was manager of the Snowdon eight years.

Dick Haymes Lead in "Bandwagon"

Dick Haymes will play the male lead in 20th-Fox's "Bandwagon."

Lorne Rothstein to Manage An Air Forces Theatre

TORONTO—After serving for two and one-half years overseas with the air force, Flt. Lieut. Lorne Rothstein is back in Canada where he is once more identified with the film business in the role of manager of an air force theatre.

Before enlistment for air crew, Rothstein was with the Montreal branch of Empire-Universal Films, Ltd. He is now in charge of the Victory Theatre at No. 16 service flying training school, Hagersville, Ont., which is equipped for the showing of 35mm films. This air station is expected to continue to operate for a considerable time, probably until the Japs are licked, although a number of other schools have closed. Equipment of the Victory, by the way, was formerly installed at the bombing and gunnery school at Jarvis, Ont., which is now closed.

Lieut. Rothstein has been getting a great welcome at the film company offices in Toronto when he scouts around for pictures.

Winnipeg Dramatist Dead

WINNIPEG—Mrs. Claude Sinclair, 62, formerly of Edmonton and winner of a Canadian drama award in 1937, died in a hospital here recently. She was an independent producer for many years here and a leading figure in theatrical circles of the city. She worked with the Winnipeg Little Theatre, the University of Manitoba Glee Club and the Dramatic Society. Among her productions were Sierra Martinez's "Cradle Song," Pirandello's "Henry IV" and "Sister Beatrice" by Maeterlinck.

FPC Busy Re-Employing Returned Service Men; Over 980 in Files

TORONTO—Famous Players Canadian Corp. is busy rehabiliting its staffs with thousands of Canadian troops being returned to the Dominion from Europe. More than 980 FPC employes joined the colors; 40 were reported killed in action or missing, and some will continue until Japan is beaten, but the assimilation procedure is well under way.

A card index system was established at head office here to keep track of the movement of former employes in the services. Now the cards are being transferred to the re-established file as the men and women return to civilian jobs. The cards bear information as to the former company status and comment as to where the ex-service man would like to be re-employed as well as brief reports from theatre managers as to qualifications of the soldier.

One former head usher has been promoted to theatre manager in the reinstatement process. This is F/O Fred A. Levitt, an air force flyer who served a considerable time with the Middle East forces. He was head usher at the Capitol, Lethbridge, Alta., when he enlisted, and has now become manager of that same theatre on the recommendation of the FPC supervisor in that district. E. E. Newman, formerly in the air force, is back as manager of the Metropolitan at Winnipeg and several managers in that city have shuffled back to their original theatres.

Maj. F. E. Justin, a member of the Royal Flying Corps in the first world war who enlisted in 1940 and became deputy assistant adjutant general at headquarters of military district No. 2, has returned to the head office here. Another due to arrive anytime is Lieut. Norman J. "Bud" Barker of the air force, who was the second FPC man to win a Distinguished Flying Cross. He has returned on the Ile de France after serving with 103rd squadron in the British air force with which he completed a tour of operations over Germany. He is rejoining the head office art department.

Lloyd G. Christmas was a FPC manager at Hamilton when he enlisted early in the war. He was captured by the Germans after a crash landing and was on the missing list for a considerable period. He now is on his way back, and his wife Neva has resigned as an assistant manager to make room for his re-establishment in FPC ranks. These are examples of the changes which are being made throughout the circuit.

NFB Book on Arts and Film Is a Work of Art Itself

OTTAWA—The National Film Board has published a highly attractive 16-page booklet, much of it in multicolor, entitled "The Arts in Canada and the Film," which deals with animated subjects, folk music and handicrafts, paintings and museum collections. It contains a brief analysis of art in relation to the screen, as seen in recent productions of the National Film Board. The critical comment was supervised by John Grierson, NFB commissioner.

Reference is made to the fact that the board's films on art appreciation were made in cooperation with H. O. McCurry, director of the National Gallery of Canada, and officials of the Ontario Museum, Toronto. The booklet, in itself, is an example of typographical art.

Bickford and Bennett in "None So"

Charles Bickford has been cast in a top role with Joan Bennett in RKO's "None So Blind."

The Friendship for Russia Week Observed in Toronto

TORONTO—To inaugurate the Canadian observance of Friendship for Russia week, the Soviet feature, "Zoya," opened an engagement at Eaton's Auditorium June 22 under special auspices with Soviet government and civic representatives making speeches on opening night.

The local council for Canadian-Soviet friendship, which includes many prominent local citizens, prepared an autograph book to be forwarded as a memento to the mother in Russia of the heroic girl whose guerrilla life is portrayed in the film.

An admission price of $1 was charged for the engagement.

Audience Vandalism Gains in Maritimes

ST. JOHN—After a decrease lasting several months, the throwing of missiles at theatre screens and curtains has increased in the maritimes. High priced stage equipment has been severely damaged at a number of locations, necessitating emergency repairs. Gaping holes have been torn in screens, curtains, scenery, accessories and lighting fixtures and sound apparatus damaged by such missiles as iron bars, spikes, nails, pieces of metal and wood, raw potatoes, empty beer and liquor bottles, etc.

The throwing is done mostly while the dimout is on, but sometimes openly. Checking up on the vandals is difficult in the dark, and very few have been caught. Enough junk and refuse to fill a large basket have been picked up on some theatre stages within a few days after the stage has been cleared of such debris.

N. B. Former Exhibitor A Man of Many Parts

St. John, N. B.—Chauncey Coleman of Fredericton, N. B., is a man of diversified activities and talents. As a picture exhibitor, he pioneered in Fredericton and operated theatres in San Diego, Calif., and Kamloops, B. C. Currently, he has been working on inventions and has 50 patents ranging from projection machines to motor vehicles. He now is testing a rotary air compressor.

Coleman owns and manages a Fredericton hotel which was established by his father. Mechanically, he is talented in carpentry, electrical work, steamfitting and stationary engineer. As a civil engineer, he worked on the McAdoo tunnel under the Hudson River. He studied engineering at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, for three years. In sports, he was a bicyclist, hockeyist, footballer, yachtsman, swimmer, cricketer, hunter and angler. He won a number of bike races, and was captain and center of the UNB hockey team. Afterward he played with the New York A. C. amateur hockey team for a season.

Although now 65, he joined the English home guard while on a trip to Britain, in the present war and became its champion rifle shot and bomb tosser, on the strength of which he was advanced to staff sergeant.

Alberta Boxoffice Levies Total 30%

CALGARY—While not unexpected, some disappointment was felt by Calgary and Alberta exhibitors that the Dominion amusement tax was not reduced with other items announced at Ottawa recently.

The Dominion tax of 20 per cent falls heavily on Alberta exhibitors as they also have to impose a ten per cent provincial tax on their cash customers. Despite this heavy levy, the theatrical business during the war years reached an all-time high, chiefly because of the presence of airmen training under the commonwealth air training plan and the many army camps. Both have been practically disbanded with some camps occupied only by regular troops, skeleton crews in the others and country points entirely dismantled.

A Spot in "Meet the Navy" Leads to Hollywood

MONTREAL—Lieut. A. Cameron Grant, naval reserves, has moved from behind the footlights of "Meet the Navy" to in front of the cameras of Hollywood. A Montrealer, Grant was spotted in the Canadian navy show by Metro scouts when the show played here and was signed up for a screen contract.

After playing in the show during its smash hit performances in London, Grant was given a discharge and headed for California and the film world. He now has been assigned his first film role in the melodrama screen version of James Cain's book, "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

Montrealers, to whom "Cammie" Grant was a familiar figure, knew him for his comedy. He was accounted one of the most popular raconteurs in the city. But in Hollywood the chubby comedian is likely to be seen in a different role. In "The Postman Always Rings Twice" he'll play a villain.

He was educated at the Montreal High School and before joining the navy was with a number of local firms, including the Citadel Merchandising. His brother, Reg Grant, is also living in California.

A few days ago Grant celebrated his film contract by getting married to Betty McLachlen of Washington.

Odeon Director Appointed To Royal Bank Board

TORONTO — R. V. LeSueur, director of Odeon Theatres of Canada, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Royal Bank of Canada here. He is president and chairman of Imperial Oil, Ltd., president of International Petroleum Co., vice-president of Kirkland Lake Gold Mines, a director of Confederation Life, the Montreal Trust Co. and other large enterprises.

LeSueur is president of the Ontario branch of the St. John Ambulance Ass'n and is vice-chairman of the war finance committee for Ontario.

Gangsters Galore Here

TORONTO—When J. Arthur Rank of England was here he professed to newspaper reporters he did not know what a gangster picture was. The British film man should have stayed over to take in a recent program at the Community, Welland, Ont., which was advertised as "Triple Gangster Show." The bill was made up of "Dead End," "Gangs of the City" and a chapter of "Crime Does Not Pay" called "Patrolling the Ether."

Disney Feature Scores At Toronto's Imperial

TORONTO—Hot weather at last put a dent in first run grosses and, in addition, high school students were absorbed in final examinations while other people were hitting the summer places. "The Three Caballeros" made the Imperial the top theatre for the week against fairly good second weeks of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" at Shea's and "Without Love" at Loew's Yonge Street. "The Horn Blows at Midnight" brought fair crowds to both the Tivoli and Eglinton.

(Average is 100)

Eglinton—**The Horn Blows at Midnight** (WB)..... 90
Imperial—**The Three Caballeros** (RKO).....100
Loew's—**Without Love** (M-G-M), 2nd wk..... 90
Shea's—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (20th-Fox), 2nd wk. 90
Tivoli—Same as Eglinton..... 90
Uptown—**Keep Your Powder Dry** (M-G-M)..... 85

Most Films Find Poor Reception At Vancouver First Runs

VANCOUVER—There was nothing outstanding last week in the theatre business. Grosses were off all down the line. Neither "Practically Yours" at Capitol, or "Belle of the Yukon" at Orpheum went anywhere. The only film to show any life was "Adventure in Music" at the Dominion which held over.

Beacon—**The Scarlet Clue** (Mono); **In Old New Mexico** (Mono), plus stage show.....Moderate
Capitol—**Practically Yours** (Para).....Below average
Dominion—**Adventure in Music** (Col); **Between Two Women** (M-G-M), moveover.....Good
Orpheum—**Belle of the Yukon** (RKO).....Average
Paradise—**Zoya** (Russian); **Went the Day Well** (British) .....Not bad
Plaza—**Frisco Sal** (Univ); **The Power of the Whistler** (Col).....Fair
Strand—**Molly and Me** (20th-Fox); **High Powered** (Para) .....Average
Vogue—**Patrick the Great** (Univ).....Below average

Calgary Grosses Are Fair But Soften in the Heat

CALGARY—While the theatre business held fairly steady here, there has been a tendency to slip into prewar warm weather averages. Whether theatres will revert to the old-time summer slump is not certain as gasoline rationing still exists and train travel is more restricted and Rocky Mountain spots, such as Banff, with transportation by bus. Meantime boxoffice averages were fair with no capacity reports.

Capitol—**The Woman in the Window** (RKO).....Good
Grand—**The Way Ahead** (20th-Fox).....Good
Palace—**Roughly Speaking** (WB).....Good
Palace—**Experiment Perilous** (RKO); **My Buddy** (Rep) .....Fair

Three Bills Good for Holdovers Despite Races at Winnipeg

WINNIPEG—In spite of thousands turning out daily at Polo Park for the annual racing season, three first run houses ran up holdovers last week. At the Capitol, Bill Novak ushered in his new tenure in fitting fashion with a second week of "National Velvet." Sim Rost found "Sudan" good enough for a second week, while at the Lyceum Harry Gray playing two old-timers, the Jeanette MacDonald-Nelson Eddy musical, "Maytime," and the Laurel and Hardy comedy, "Their First Mistake," found the double good enough at the boxoffice for a holdover.

Song Features Broadcast

MONTREAL—A new lyric, "When the Maple Leaves Are Red Again," by Freddie Grant, was featured vocally and orchestrally in the broadcast of Contrasts in Rhythm recently over the CBC network. Songstress Pat Berry did the vocalizing, and supporting her were the rhythm orchestra directed by Lou Snider.

World Bookings for "La Pere Chopin"

MONTREAL—The assistance unofficially contributed by Canadian Broadcasting Corp. to the successful production of "Le Pere Chopin," Canada's first full length motion picture, is described by Jean Saint-Georges, in the CBC's staff magazine Radio.

April 19, 1945, Saint-Georges says, may well stand out in the history of Canadian art. For on that evening in Montreal, 2,500 persons paid $1 each to see the world premiere of a French-Canadian homespun film, "Le Pere Chopin," filmed in its entirety in Montreal and district. The picture runs two hours.

Montreal audiences have the reputation of being a little more than discriminating; and for their own actors, they're even a bit exacting. But, right at the start of the film, the enthusiasm was complete, spontaneous. And, at the end, the applause was unusually long and vibrant. The next day, English and French newspaper critics joined in the chorus.

First Product of Quebec

The picture is the first full-length film ever produced in the province of Quebec. Work started on it just about a year ago. Country scenes were taken in the Laurentians, 70 miles north of Montreal. The arena of Ville St. Laurent in the suburbs of Montreal, served as a studio.

The plot is not very complicated. It deals with the story of two brothers, the Duponts, who came from France to Canada years ago and lost track of each other. One of them, a bachelor, became a rich industrialist in Montreal. The other, a widower and father of a large family, became a poor music teacher (hence the nickname Pere Chopin) in the fictitious village of St. Valentin, in the Chicoutimi district, below Quebec City. Through radio spot announcements the brothers are reunited and they both find out that money alone cannot secure happiness. And, of course, there's the unavoidable love angle.

Sound Good, Acting Superb

From a technical standpoint, some scenes could compare favorably with any average motion picture. The sound part is also very good. The acting is superb.

That's where the CBC comes in.

One of the reasons why the acting is so good is that the parts are played by actors who have been known to the Quebec audience through the radio these last few years. Their names and voices are familiar to everyone. They are still on the air, every day of the week, laughing and crying, practically through every soap opera the French network carries.

Furthermore, there are several nicely-timed Radio-Canada cues here and there.

And finally, the scenario has been written by a French-Canadian radio author also known throughout Quebec, Jean Desprez.

One would imagine that Mme. Desprez would have found it rather an easy job to write for the cinema. But it turned out to be just the opposite. A motion picture show, she explained, is just the contrary of a radio play. In radio, one must use the greatest possible wordage for a minimum of ideas. Whereas, on the screen, one has to express the maximum amount of thought in the minimum of words.

Produced Against Odds

The producer, at times, had to work against terrible odds, and he had also to deal with minor problems. For instance the studios at Ville St. Laurent were located a short distance from an airport, and every so often the scenes had to be re-enacted because the sound track was disturbed by the plane noises. Or sometimes it was the nearby trains, or even the singing of the birds. They found 2,000 nests in the arena roofs.

Some of the outside scenes, taken in the mountains, are typically Quebec. The critics thought rightly that we should have had more of them. As one put it: " 'LePere Chopin' might be held as a minor masterpiece of the French film, capturing the particular quality of the one part of the world that Canada alone can show to the rest of the world which is Quebec."

Well maybe not all the world will be interested in that film. But it's already booked for a tour of the U.S., South America, France, Sweden and Australia.—Roy Carmichael.

Canada Sees Little Chance For Lifting Price Controls

OTTAWA—Canada's wartime restrictions on theatres and film distributors are being removed gradually, but it has been stated price controls are not likely to be modified until the relationship of supply and demand for ordinary commodities and supplies has returned to a normal condition because of the danger of inflation.

One of the latest steps has been the abolishment of the prohibition against the use of motor vehicles by theatres or film companies for street advertising purposes and the removal of the 35-mile limit for the operation of delivery trucks. The latter restriction did not affect the motor delivery services of the film business because the transportation of films by highway transport to theatres over wide areas had been allowed under a special government permit. Chief argument had been that highway delivery served to relieve railway congestion.

The government has also abolished the required use of national selective service facilities for the hiring of female employes, with the result that the film trade can now engage women workers without priority considerations and without red tape. Men still come under war manpower regulations, although compulsory transfers to essential occupations have been abolished.

It has been pointed out that groupings of 1945-46 film product of film distributing companies are still being dealt with by the administrator of services in the wartime board. Several of the release listings for the coming year have been approved by the administrator and the classification of films for rental purposes will have to be submitted by other companies before the start of the new season. Approval orders specify how pictures may be sold under basic contract arrangements with exhibitors and, if no basic contract applies in the case of new product, what conditions are to be observed in the marketing of films in the next 12 months.

Rental contract procedure and fixed admission prices are to be maintained indefinitely under the government's anti-inflation policy.

Sales Contest to Mark Monogram 3rd Year

TORONTO—Harry A. Kaufman, general manager of Monogram, has announced preparations have been made for the observance of the third anniversary of the founding of the Canadian company.

The six branch offices will compete in an anniversary sales drive for appropriate awards in a contest based on quotas, the results to be known early next fall. Kaufman revealed that Monogram's two top specials, "Dillinger" and "Divorce," have been booked into Loew's Uptown for Toronto first run engagements.

TORONTO

Newspaper people were more than ready to attend a private screening when the National Film Board presented "Headline Hunters" in the Columbia exchange theatre prior to its premiere in the Tivoli and Eglinton. The picture revealed the place of newspaper men in the war, and included combat scenes and the handling of cable stores by the Canadian press. The scribes had only one complaint for Graham McInnes, official of the board, and that was the film was "too short." The picture carries a real punch.

With the fighting over in Europe, there was particular sadness in the report that Pvt. R. C. Bithrey of the First Canadian paratroop battalion had been killed in action March 24. He was a member of the Capitol staff, Fort William . . . William Weiss, Central Ontario district manager for Odeon Theatres, has moved his office from the Film Exchange Bldg. to the Odeon head office on the 19th floor of the Royal Bank Bldg.

Here for the annual meeting of the Ontario Mayors Ass'n, Mayor Floyd Rumford, proprietor of the Kineto at Forest, was accompanied by his oldest son, W/O Ted Rumford who is on his last leave from the air force before his discharge in July. After his travels over several years, Ted asserted he wanted to get back to Forest to settle down. Another son, Bombardier Grant Rumford, is with the army in north Germany.

The Board of Trade at Elmira has made it known that it wants a theatre in that village after a lapse of some 15 years. An original theatre there closed when silent films were superseded by sound pictures . . . Ernie Moule, veteran manager of the Capitol at Brantford, is reported to be seriously ill.

Charlie Mavety's prize pinto Kopo is starting to clean up the awards again this season in the horse show competitions for best performance. Last year Kopo captured seven first prizes in demonstrating its many tricks.

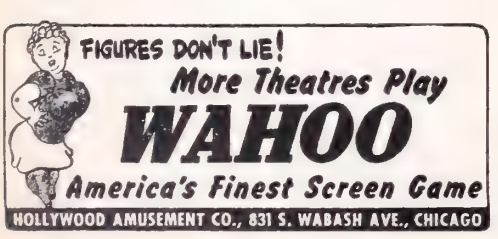
Signalman John Douglas Cronk, in the Canadian navy for four years, has arrived at Halifax on the HMCS Algonquin, and expects a leave in August when he will see his father, B. J. Cronk, promotion manager of Empire-Universal here. Another son of Cronk, who is an officer of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, was killed in action while serving with the air force.

Carl Egan Back at Palace

CALGARY—Carl Egan is back at the Palace again as house manager, having been returned from the Winnipeg suburban Tivoli, because of changes in the Manitoba Famous Players Canadian management. Carl is in full charge during the illness of his father, Pete Egan, the manager.

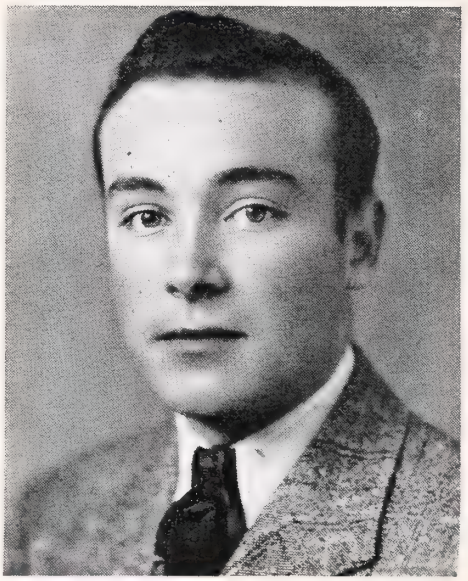
Still on Service Job

TORONTO—The Nathanson Employes War Services Ass'n continues in operation, shipping parcels regularly to former staff members still overseas and to those on duty with the forces in scattered parts of the Dominion. Newsy letters are also mailed.



Lajeunesse Is Manager Of Montreal Fairyland

MONTREAL—Just recently returned from the Canadian armed forces, Eugene Lajeunesse has been named managed of the Fairyland Theatre here, owned by the Operating Amusement Co.



EUGENE LAJEUNESSE

Only 23, Lajeunesse prior to joining the army was connected with the Capitol Theatre in Brownsburg, Que.

Toronto Film Men Turn Out For Annual Golf Tourney

TORONTO—After being postponed indefinitely because of weather and travel conditions, the second annual Canadian motion picture championship golf tournament sponsored by the Canadian Film Weekly went ahead as scheduled June 26 at the Oakdale Golf and Country Club after a quick consultation of the tournament committee. The event proved so popular that the SRO sign was hung out after some 250 tickets had been sold. About one-third of the buyers were golfing enthusiasts.

The clubhouse dinner featured beefsteaks. The various trophies and 30 other prizes were presented following this repast. The cup list comprised the Film Weekly trophy for low net score; Nathanson trophy for team foursomes; Famous Players trophy, first prize for low gross, and the IATSE trophy, donated by the projectionists' union for a hidden-hole contest.

Among the hard-working officials were the members of the ticket committee which comprized Dick Main, Ralph Dale, Tom Daley, Paul Maynard, Len Bishop, Archie Laurie, Jack Arthur and Frank Vaughan in Toronto and Ken Craig, manager of the Tivoli in Hamilton.

The grounds and dinner committee was made up of Martin Bloom, Al Troyer, Harvey Harnick, Harry Lester and Arthur Milligan, while the prize committee had Ralph Dale, Archie Laurie, Walter Kennedy, Harry Lester, Len Bishop, Jay Smith and Clare Appel. The entertainment was arranged by Hye Bossin, Archie Laurie and Walter Kennedy, and the starter and handicapper for golf play was Al Troyer, chief of the statistical department at Famous Players head office.

MONTREAL

Charlie Chaplin (not the comedian but the newly-appointed Canadian general manager of United Artists) received a cheering sendoff from local Filmrow staffs and exhibitors at a luncheon at Ruby Foos, latest of the entertainment places on Decarie Blvd. He left for Toronto wearing a new gold wrist watch presented to him by his confreres at the party. His successor as Montreal branch manager is George Heiber, who succeeded Chaplin at St. John when the latter came to Montreal. Sam Kunitzky, salesman at the Montreal office, was appointed branch manager at St. John. Chaplin joined United Artists in 1930 in the Toronto office, from which he is now supervising the company's six Canadian branches.

The film industry joined in mourning Michael Lightstone who died at the age of 91 after an active business career. He was father of Mme. Pauline Donalda, operatic singer and president of the Montreal Opera Guild, and of Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager of Paramount. Another of his nine sons was the late Joseph Lightstone, for many years manager and director of the Orpheum.

Sean Edwin of the Herald recalls that the once famous sports center, Westmount Arena, which was destroyed by fire many years ago, was the scene of the premiere of the silent film masterpiece, "The Birth of a Nation," which skyrocketed ill-fated Wallace Reid to stardom.

His Majesty's has been chosen as scene of the first Canadian presentation of the dramatic Russian film, "Zoya," produced by the Soviet with English text and sponsored by the Council for Canadian-Soviet Friendship, Quebec division . . . Ernest S. Roberts, publicity director of Associated Screen News, will present at the summer meeting of the Montreal Technical Advertisers Ass'n, a slide film portraying in satirical vein some of the associations members. Roberts is a member of the program committee . . . Verdun Palace gave a midnight show featuring George Bain and his band, vaudeville acts and a "jam session."

Montreal Votes a Ban On Use of the Chalet

MONTREAL—The Chalet on the Mount Royal, public property, no longer will be available for concerts or any other functions, except those given by the city of Montreal or by organizations subsidized by the city. Even then, a special resolution of the executive committee of the city council will be required.

A resolution to this effect has been adopted by the council. A concert by Lawrence Tibbet in the Chalet was the last event of the sort to me held on the mountain.

"Charging up to $3 to hear Tibbett is definitely commercial," the committee chairman said, "and we are decided to prevent the Chalet and the mountain in general from becoming commercialized."

It has been confirmed that concerts of La Societe des Concerts Symphoniques will be held at the Chalet as usual this summer. The symphonic organization fulfills all the requirements required to continue its annual noncommercial summer season under the direction of noted guest conductors.

Spots in "The Kid From Brooklyn"

Lionel Stander and Walter Abel were engaged for spots in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

WLB Allows Appeal In 20th-Fox Case

OTTAWA—Continued control of film trade in the Dominion was exemplified in the handing down of a decision by the National War Labor Board that allows the appeal of 20th-Fox Corp. of Canada in an occupational classification case involving the salary to be paid to a promotion manager, who was unnamed.

Appeal was entered by the film exchange from an order of the Ontario regional labor board which decided the rate of pay should be $60 per week. The national board, in allowing the appeal, directed that a rate of $75 a week should be paid.

In its written judgment, the national board ruled: "On the basis of what this board has found to be the rate being paid by comparable firms, we conclude that the appeal should be allowed and the rate of $75 approved, effective from the date of the original application, namely, Oct. 17, 1944."

Sam Glazier was appointed director of exploitation by 20th-Fox last year after holding another position with the Toronto film exchange for some years.

Television History Traced By Kurt Swinton, Ottawa

MONTREAL—Television was described as a "major factor" for home entertainment and mass education by Lieut. Col. Kurt R. Swinton, technical staff officer and assistant to the director of electrical communications design at national defense headquarters, in a talk given to the Rotary Club in Ottawa.

Swinton traced the discoveries from which television developed up to the beginning of the war, at which time he said the British Broadcasting Corp. led the world in technical and programming achievements. Daily programs were transmitted from Alexandra Palace and picked up on 20,000 receivers in greater London.

During the war the technique of handling ultra high frequencies, one of the principal problems that differentiate television from radio broadcasting, has been learned as well as the technique of manufacturing a variety of complicated "gadgets" relatively cheap. The war had resulted also in a vast increase in the number of highly trained technical personnel.

Thus at the end of the war black and white television of excellent quality can be offered to the public, he said, but color television is still "quite a long way off." The chief obstacles are the production of receivers within the public's means and the presentation of programs that would induce the public to buy receivers, he asserted.

Cold Spring Eats Into Maritime Coal Supplies

ST. JOHN—With March and April weather prevailing during May and June there was little or no competition for theatres from outdoor sports and pastimes. However, there has been an unfavorable side, too—heat has been essential and involving use of coal, which is scarce and high priced here. Theatre men have been warned repeatedly to conserve on both hard and soft coal on the ground both will be far short of normal next winter.

Some exhibitors are planning on converting their theatre heating plants to oil for next winter, and work at several houses has already been started. It will be reconversion in many cases to the oil that was used before wartime exigencies forced the shift to coal.

VANCOUVER

Ivan Ackery, manager, has started work on the premiere of "Son of Lassie," at the Orpheum July 20. The film was made in and around Victoria on Vancouver Island. It is a successor to "Lassie Come Home" . . . Len Chatwin, British Columbia supervisor for National Film Board, attended the Dominion convention of the NFB at Winnipeg.

Joe Altimore, owner of the Palace at Natal, B. C., received a discharge from the army here last week. He will return to Natal to run the theatre. Natal is in the Crow's Nest Pass district . . . Jack Armstrong, who recently left Victoria where he was the manager of the Plaza to take charge of the Lux here, is beginning to like Vancouver in spite of the fact that he is on the "skid road" for Odeon.

Harold Warren, who controls the three theatres in the Alberni district of British Columbia, was here booking for his three theatres. He reports that business is off 25 per cent in Port Alberni and 10 per cent in the old town of Alberni from what it was a year ago. This zone had a big military camp but now the soldiers have left . . . Dorothy Scott, former employe of Empire-Universal, gave birth to a son at St. Paul's Hospital, Vancover. Her husband is a returned soldier.

Frank Gow, Famous Players district manager, announced FPC will reopen both the Capitol in Nelson and the Strand in Kamloops. This will give FPC two houses in each situation . . . Mamie Lucas, secretary to Ivan Ackery at the Orpheum, was home sick and Alma Morris, cashier at the Victoria Road Theatre, was pinch-hitting for her at the Orpheum . . . Yvonne McEwan of Warner Bros. was married here to Ernest Kirkpatrick, local cameraman. They will spend their honeymoon at Rainbow Lodge, B. C.

After five years and six months with the Canadian army in England and Belgium, Jack Droy jr., formerly in the film business here, has returned home on a 30-day leave after which time he will return to the army on a new assignment. He is the son of the Vancouver correspondent for BOXOFFICE.

The York at Victoria is cashing in on the present fad for musical films. In bringing back "One Night of Love," the house is mailing out letters to 2,000 music lovers in the city. This theatre is working up quite a clientele for the musical films . . . "Adventures in Music," Alliance film, led the town by a big margin after a swell exploitation campaign put on by Dave Borland of the Dominion, who tied in with all music socities, department and music stores.

Ronald Sheppard, formerly on the Plaza staff, has moved to the Capitol as doorman. Sheppard received front-page publicity recently for catching a holdup man whom he chased down main street and captured with $360 stolen from the FPC Dominion Theatre. In the scuffle the thug was shot by his own gun and died.

Film Youth Congress

MONTREAL — Announcement that the opening mass of the Catholic students' congress would be filmed by the National Film Board was announced here by La Jeunesse Ouvriere Catholique, organizer of the event in the Delorimiere St. Stadium. Some 25,000 youths were expected to meet Monday (25). The congress was to open with a pontifical mass, followed by a parade, and it was to close with a special scenic open air drama, planned by Lee Compagnons de St. Laurent.

"Second Honeymoon" Now "Double"

"Double Honeymoon" is the final title for "Second Honeymoon," an RKO production.

A New Cartoon Field in Canada

MONTREAL—That the special development and use of the animated cartoon film in Canada is unique is shown in a brochure now issued by the National Film Board reviewed in Montreal Gazette. Cartoon films had been widely used in Europe and in the United States (climaxing in the work of Disney) for many years, but the line taken was one of entertainment, the manner that of fantasy and humor. Canada's contribution is the popular cartoon film for educational purposes.

"Since 1940," the National Film Board states, "Canadian film makers have taken this technique of animation and while retaining the basic appeal of comedy have begun to use it for wider more social purposes. Some of these purposes are educational; others are linked with the need to arouse quick interest in various national campaigns and war policies."

To do this the National Film Board has had to simplify the processes of cartoon films, to simplify and speed up the means whereby these pictures get their message to the public. Norman McLaren developed the technique of painting directly on film to meet this need. His animated drawings are only about three-quarters of an inch high by five-eights of an inch wide. A different approach is that of Philip Ragan, another film board man. He has invented and developed the small robot figures which have clarified so many national messages. Another group of Canadian artists have produced the series called "Chants Populaires" which picturize the famous folk songs of French Canada. These films are reported very popular as regular attractions on all the rural circuit and citizenship programs presented in French Canada by the board's traveling projectionists.

The musical scores of these animated cartoons are as varied as they are original. The Allouette quartet supplies the sound track for the "Chants Populaires." Lou Applebaum, a young composer with Hollywood experience, wrote the tunes for the short called "Dollar Dance," a MacLaren-drawn fantasy on the evils of inflation. A group of swing artists play Pinetop's Boogie as accompaniment to a message about the advisability of paying $4 today for a war savings certificate worth $5 in maturity. To a swing version of "Jingle Bells" by Benny Goodman, in 1941, the board made a short on avoiding the Christmas mailing rush.

Artistic efforts in a different capacity are the board's films on folk music and handicrafts—these running through the contributions of such national groups as the Polish, Ukrainian, Scottish and West Coast Indian. There is also a series of films on Canadian painting and one on the Chinese collection in the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. The painting films deal with the careers and work of such men as A. Y. Jackson, Tom Thomson, and Quebec painters like Alfred Pellan and Andre Bieler.

The publication of the National Film Board describing the work it has done in these fields has just been released until the title of "The Arts in Canada and the Film."

OTTAWA

"God Is My Co-Pilot" was held over for a second week at the Capitol, largest theatre here . . . Word has been received of the marriage in California of Lieut. Cameron Grant of Ottawa to Betty McLachlan of Washington, D. C., a member of the British petroleum mission to the United States. They met at Calgary when Grant was a member of "Meet the Navy" on a tour of the Dominion. Grant was signed by M-G-M on the strength of his work with that stage show and is now appearing in his first screen role in "Two Sisters from Boston." On completion of the picture the young couple will take a honeymoon in Canada.

Here for a meeting with District Manager T. R. Tubman was Les Mitchell, recently appointed manager of the Famous Players' Regent at Brockville, Ont. . . . Graham McInnes, information editor of the National Film Board, feels he has been hard hit by the cancellation of Pullman car services on Canadian railways to provide equipment for returning troops. McInnes isn't complaining at all but he pointed out that, in recent necessary trips, he has had to sit up in day coaches and carry his own lunch because there are no dining cars. Then when he gets to a hotel he finds there isn't even a cot left "and I have to go to the homes of friends."

Formerly with the Regent until he went into the federal department of munitions and supply, Ken Smith is back with the theatres as assistant manager of the Rideau which, in the meantime, had been switched from Famous Players to the 20th Century circuit.

Ed Harris, formerly with Odeon Theatres and previously with Famous Players, has been promoted from captain to major while attached to the Canadian army for the organization of entertainment units.

Howard Hughes Sells Downtown, Detroit

From Mideast Edition

DETROIT—A major switch in Detroit downtown theatre operations saw policy or management changes in three houses. The Shubert Lafayette Theatre switched from legitimate to a vaudeville policy, running two shows on week days and three on Sunday. It is the second house to present a permanent stage show policy.

The Wilson Theatre, formerly a legitimate house also, was taken over by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra to be used for orchestra concerts, broadcasting and ultimately for television purposes as well. This will leave only one legitimate theatre, the Cass, under the Shubert banner but owned by E. D. Stair.

The most outstanding change was in a deal by which the 2,800-seat Downtown Theatre goes from Howard Hughes to Harry and Elmer Balaban June 15. The house was opened May 19, 1944, by Hughes.

The new owners also operate the Adams Theatre in the next block, a 1,770-seat first run house under the management of Charles C. Perry. The latter will take over direction of both houses. No change in operating policies is expected, despite early reports that the house would drop stage shows in favor of straight pictures.

Top Roles in "Song of the Prairie"

Ken Curtis and Robert Scott have been assigned the top male roles in "Song of the Prairie" at Columbia.

Quebec's Ban on Children Still the Most Stringent

MONTREAL—Quebec legislators, who frequently have been urged to abandon the restrictions on juveniles visiting motion picture theatres, were interested to learn from the London Daily Mail that the Middlesex (England) county council has decided to ban children under 16 from Sunday cinema shows unless accompanied by parent or guardian.

In February Surrey county council took similar action, but excluded children whether accompanied or not. At that time the Cinematograph Exhibitors Ass'n instituted legal proceedings to test the legality of the decision, and the council modified the regulations so that children accompanied by parents or guardians could be admitted. The high court has still to rule on the legal question.

The Middlesex and Surrey bans are still less severe than that of Quebec, as in this province children under 16, whether or not their elders accompany them, are absolutely banned from theatres, on weekdays as well as Sundays.

David Coplan to Toronto; Starting Another Rumor

TORONTO—The return here of David H. Coplan, managing director of United Artists Corp. in the United Kingdom, has started the rumor that he will be the representative of Arthur Rank in a new setup in the United States involving Rank, David O. Selznick and Sam Goldwyn for distribution of product under the name of Vanguard Films. Neil F. Agnew recently left Paramount Pictures to become general sales manager of Vanguard.

To this writer Coplan declared he was in Canada for a holiday after a long spell of strenuous work involving considerable travel. It is known, however, that Coplan was in New York at the time of Rank's visit there. The rumor, moreover, may explain the report that Selznick visited Rank in Toronto, a report that was denied by a Rank spokesman, however.

Eye Worcester Poli For a Library Site

From New England Edition

WORCESTER—One of the largest theatres in the city will disappear if the library trustees go through with their present plans. Having been defeated in their attempt to obtain the K. of C. property on Elm St. for the new library building, they are now considering a site across the street. This includes the Elm Street, operated by Loew-Poli, and the Workman block on Main St. The Elm Street is a 2,500-seater and formerly was the ace Poli house of the city.

Newsreels Film New Acts Of St. Louis Zoo Performers

From Central Edition

ST. LOUIS—Cameramen for several motion picture companies have been here recently to film performances of trained animals at this city's famous zoo. For several years now the zoo shows have been a favored subject for the newsreels and short subject men.

Zoo visitors were given an unexpected treat the other day when they were permitted to witness the first full dress rehearsals of three animal acts in preparation for the 1945 opening. A new star performer is Blanquita, one-year-old polar bear. The act will be featured in newsreels of an early release.

WINNIPEG

Dave Rosemond is playing the latest Artkino release, "We Accuse," at his Beacon. Banned by the Hays office, the film opened here to a laudatory review by the Tribune reviewer, who took a slap in passing at the Hays organization. This is what he said: "The Hays office has refused its permit to 'We Accuse' because in one of the scenes a Nazi officer says, 'Let them bury their dead and be damned.' It also objects to some of the film's atrocity shots being shown more than once. The attitude taken by the Hays office seems the best possible reason for immediately doing away with it and its farcical efforts at governing the morals of moviegoers."

The National Film Board has filmed a centenary pageant of the arrival in the west of the Oblate missionaries. Presented at the auditorium in English and French, the pageant was filmed by Angelo, local film maker, under the direction of George LeBeau, acting regional supervisor of the board. The film will be shown throughout the board's French-Canadian circuits.

Playing the Warner short, "It Happened in Springfield," Eddie Newman, Met manager, invited leaders in educational, social and civic organizations to view the picture. A sudden booking date did not permit a screening.

Stanley Rands, Winnipeg supervisor for the National Film Board, and Len Chatwin, who fills the same post at Vancouver, have traded jobs during the summer months to permit more varied experience. Rands has been on leave from the board while serving as director of the adult education department of the University of Manitoba.

Fewer Projectionists Now Are Registered in Canada

TORONTO—There are fewer licensed projectionists and apprentices for Ontario's 415 theatres than there were a year ago, according to the annual statement of O. J. Silverthorne, director of the theatres inspection branch in the provincial government, Toronto. The number of licenses in the year ending March 31 was 788 for projectionists, with 170 apprentices also registered, against 877 in the previous 12 months and 210 apprentices. The figures for 1943 were 808 and 228, respectively.

The reduction during the year was partly due to enlistments in the armed forces and another factor was the increasing manpower shortage throughout the Dominion, with the war labor board granting no priority for the moving picture operator classification so that employed males were unable to switch to theatre booths in changing jobs. The number of theatres remained constant through wartime restrictions on construction or the reopening of theatres.

Police Aid Asked to Curb St. John Seat Cutters

ST. JOHN—Cutting seat covers in local theatres has reached such volume that all the theatres have united in an appeal to the police to check it. Every theatre here has been affected.

The slashing first started on a serious scale with the beginning of the war. In recent months managers have become alarmed. Staffs have been unable to detect the slashers at work and police aid has been asked. Leatherette is scarce and patching with substitutes is necessary. Knives of various kinds are being used while the auditoriums are dark. Not only are covers damaged, but also the wood and metal parts. Initials are carved on the wood, screws removed and parts bent and broken.

Showman Plans Large Amusement Center

From Southern Edition

NEW YORK—R. Lewis Barton of Oklahoma City, an exhibitor for almost 25 years, is planning the construction of a large scale amusement center in the city's suburbs. He came east to discuss with the WPB the problem of obtaining material.

This proposed unit will include a theatre and entertainment facilities such as a roller skating rink and bowling alleys. In his plans, Barton is placing special emphasis on the parking problem, with an extensive area allotted for parking space to comply with the demands of a center that will prove the hub of community life. As a special feature he will include a variety of retail stores, which will offer convenient shopping for patrons.

Barton, featured in BOXOFFICE's 20-Year Showmen series, has been an exhibitor since 1921. He owns the Castle and Pryor theatres in Pryor, Okla., the latter built of solid stone with business structures forming a street front.

He also owns the Redskin in Oklahoma City, the Skytrain in nearby Midwest City and the Cozy in Stroud. The Redskin Theatre interior was featured on the cover of the March 3 issue of The Modern Theatre section of BOXOFFICE. Life magazine snapped 700 photographs of the theatre in line with an article planned for current publication.

One of Oklahoma City's most prominent citizens, Barton has an unassuming manner that is most ingratiating. He is a member of the MPTOA and the chambers of commerce of Pryor, Stroud, Oklahoma City, Capitol Hill and Midwest City. He is actively interested in civic affairs, and has served as mayor of Stroud, president of the chamber of commerce and chairman of the Democratic party.

Three New Theatres Planned in Denver

From Western Edition

DENVER—With the announcement by Harry Huffman, Fox Intermountain city manager, that Fox will build a theatre after the war, three new houses now are in prospect for Denver as soon as materials are available.

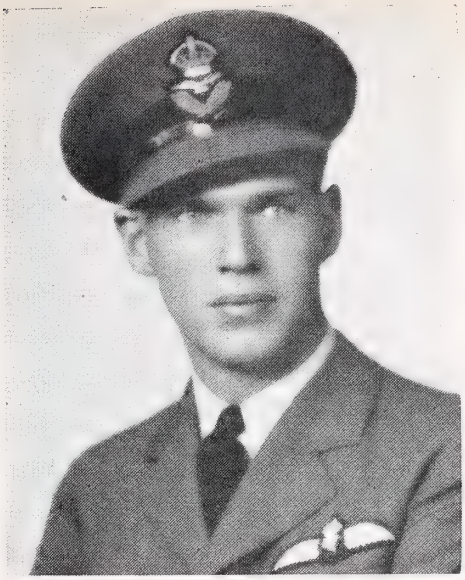
Fox will build a theatre to seat about 1,200 on East Colfax, the house to be a part of a retail neighborhood development with stores and possibly some apartments as part of the plan. The house will be equipped for both films and television. Plans are now being drawn.

P. G. Dikeou, wholesale candy and tobacco distributor, plans to erect a theatre on Welton St. with the total investment running in the neighborhood of $250,000.

A third theatre is tentatively planned to be included in the two or three million dollar building proposed for the old courthouse block in downtown Denver. The block has been bought by a New York group which intends to develop it after the war. It plans a "Radio City" in the buildings which will also include a department store, specialty shops and probably a hotel.

Name Is Changed

OTTAWA — Under an amendment to its charter, the name of the Canadian Performing Right Society, Ltd., has been changed to Composers, Authors and Publishers Ass'n of Canada, Ltd., while the number of directors has been increased from nine to 12.



WINS FLYING CROSS—Lieut. Bill DeMille, booker at the Paramount in Toronto when he joined the air force, has been awarded the DFC, his wife has been informed. Bill, pilot of a Lancaster bomber, went overseas in the fall of 1943.

ST. JOHN

The Capitol, Halifax, was chosen for the Nova Scotian premiere of a wild life and sports film photographed in Nova Scotia in 1944, by 20th-Fox in a cooperation with the provincial government. The government paid for the camera and studio work on the short.

A number of farewell parties have been held in St. John and vicinity for Mrs. Cecil Doyle, nee Alice Dever, film exchange staffer, who is going to England for VAD work with the Canadian army hospitals. Hostesses at some of the au revoiring groups have been employes of various distribution units at St. John.

Indications are that the heating equipment at the Mayfair and Regent will be converted to oil use this summer . . . The take of the Lynch carnival for the first fortnight of its month's stay at Halifax Commons was reported about 60 per cent under the gross for the opening two weeks of 1944 at the same lot, owned by the city. Very unfavorable weather was responsible.

A drunken sailor climbed to the roof of the Mayfair and did a balancing act at the brink. He inflicted some damage but did not fall.

Archie Mason, owner of the Springhill Capitol was behind Percy Black of Amherst about 2,400 votes in the civilian voting in Cumberland County. Mason was the Liberal nominee for the commons seat. In 1940 Black won from another Liberal candidate by only a dozen votes. Mason has long been active in Cumberland politics as a Liberal and was a defeated candidate at the last provincial elections.

The United Artists exchange is a factor in a treble promotional move by UA, and involving three men all related by marriage. Charlie Chaplin, new Canadian sales manager, is a former booker and manager of the local branch. George Heiber, transferred to Montreal to succeed Chaplin as branch manager, goes direct from the managership of the local exchange on the same route taken by Chaplin. Sammy Kunitzky succeeding Heiber here formerly was a salesman out of the St. John and Montreal and Winnipeg branches. Chaplin and Heiber married sisters of Kunitzky while located in St. John.

Claims Films Hurt U.S. in Argentina

OMAHA—Motion pictures can be blamed for much of the ill feeling Argentines have for the United States, Prof. Asher N. Christenson of the University of Minnesota, who served in the United States embassy in Argentina, told Rotarians here.

Professor Christenson said the Argentines do not know how we live. They get their ideas of Americans from motion pictures and do not realize we look upon these pictures as a means of escape and entertainment, he declared.

Reviews Extol the Music Of "Song," Deride Story

WINNIPEG—Not for many months has a picture received as much newspaper notice as was given "A Song to Remember" in the Tribune on its opening at the Capitol last week.

Praising the picture in extravagant terms for its music, color and acting, Ben Lepkin, film editor, had this to say:

"Hollywood's recording and reproducing facilities, the skill of its craftsmen and its ability to obtain the services of the highest paid musicians are unrivalled . . . Exquisite taste and infinite care went into the selection and blending of colors which make this a beautiful one to watch, and probably the loveliest ever made.

"But there is nothing at all commendable about the way in which history has been butchered to make a Technicolor holiday. Nothing could be more remote from the facts of Chopin's life or his liaison with George Sand that the events described in "A Song to Remember.'

"Sometimes tampering with the factual is necessary for film continuity. Sometimes it is desirable in a medium like the movies, especially when the originals have been homely or unshapely.

"But when a film character is named Chopin, the spectator has a right to expect some discernible relationship to the facts about the historical persons, and similarly in the case of George Sand and Liszt and others."

A similar line was taken in the same issue of paper by S. Roy Maley, its music editor and reviewer, whose criticisms are based on a solid background of musical training. In a lengthy piece, Maley explained that Jose Iturbi plays the Chopin music and voiced high praise for Iturbi's interpretation. However, he, too, attacked the liberty which Hollywood has taken with the facts.

Listing some of the distortions, Maley finds fault with the picture's characterization of Chopin as a revolutionary. "Though deeply patriotic, he was never a member of any Polish secret society, fighting against the Russian oppressors.

"There is no warranty for representing, as in the film, that George Sand was responsible for the beautiful lyrical music which flowed from his pen. Nor is there any excuse for the absurdly untrue representation of George Sand in a contest for Chopin's artistic soul. Chopin did not bring Elsner to Paris to bolster up his conscience.

"Finally, when tuberculosis had made great inroads, he felt impelled to try and raise some much-needed money, so he made a trip to England for that purpose, not for Poland. That concert tour of European capitals to raise money for Poland's liberation took place only as a figment in the imagination of the scenario writer."

However, Maley concluded: "Despite all these incredible alleged facts, the film is a musical masterpiece. Every piano student especially, should see it."

"Gas" Boost a Boon to Salesmen

From Eastern Edition

ALBANY — The increased allotment of gasoline to holders of B cards will prove a boon to film salesman of the exchanges here. The former gas limits made motor travel difficult because of the extent of the Albany territory. The district runs north and northwest 200 miles or more and calls for long jumps into Vermont. Many of the hops are almost impossible to make by regular trains and buses.

The new quotas still will keep the picture peddlers on the tight side. Before gas rationing, it was estimated that the local boys averaged 600 miles weekly. Telephone and mail have been partial substitutes, but they can not replace personal contact.

Salesmen here were allowed 35 gallons extra for travels in connection with the Seventh War Loan. Each man was given a number of calls. He was expected to obtain pledges for war bond premieres or juvenile shows, and to assist in obtaining free pictures, as well as arranging other details. Every account, regardless of its size, was contacted.

Merle R. Blair, 22 Years At Cedar Falls Houses

From Midwest Edition

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA—It was while traveling for Enterprise and Universal Film Co. in Iowa and Nebraska through 1919 to 1921 that Merle R. Blair, decided to settle in that state. He operated several theatres in western Iowa and in 1923 came to Cedar Falls to operate the two houses, the Empress and the Regent. The move was a happy one for he has remained to raise a family and become an integral part of the town's civic life.

Blair was vice-president of Iowa Theatre Owners Ass'n before joining Tri-States as a partner in January of 1939. For two years he was president of the Cedar Falls Chamber of Commerce and for six years chairman of the park commission. He is a Shriner, an Elk, and an active member of the Lions—he was state district governor of that organization.

Hobbies are golf and travel and principally his two sons. The oldest has been in the South Pacific nearly two years.

QUICK RESULTS

on Darden's Advertising

The Charles E. Darden ad for popcorn bags in the issue of May 19 reached South Carolina on Monday, May 21. That same day Darden received a telegram——

RUSH CASE PRINTED POPCORN BAGS 3/4 LBS.
RITZ THEATRE, SPARTANBURG, S. C.

Use BOXOFFICE Advertising

To Sell Quickest at Lowest Cost

Ask for Rate Card

Shea Interests Buy Great Lakes Bldg.

From Eastern Edition

BUFFALO—In its second big real estate transaction since January 1944 Buffalo Theatres, which operates the Shea houses here, has acquired all the property on the northwest corner of Main and Chippewa streets, in the heart of the downtown theatre district. The property includes the Great Lakes Theatre and nearly a score of stores on Main and Chippewa.

The property was purchased by the newly-formed Great Lakes Theatre Corp., a subsidiary of Buffalo Theatres, from J. & D. H. Coplon.

Vincent R. McFaul, president of Buffalo Theatres, and the new subsidiary, and David H. Coplon, treasurer of J. & D. H. Coplon, confirmed the purchase and sale of the property last week.

$2,000,000 Figure Involved

Neither McFaul nor Coplon would divulge the amount of money involved, but other sources reported it was more than $2,000,000.

In the first big realty transaction announced Jan. 7, 1944, the Shea interests purchased for about $2,000,000 the properties including Shea's Buffalo Theatre, the Hippodrome and the site of the Old Court St. Theatre, now a parking lot, from the McNaughton Realty Co.

Purchase of the Great Lakes represents the latest and most ambitious move in the expansion plans of the Shea theatrical interests, which already are the largest in New York state outside of New York City.

Papers on file in the county clerk's office, showing the sale of the properties, have tax stamps costing $55 attached. This would indicate a cash consideration of about $50,000.

The warranty deed points out the property is subject to four mortgages held by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. for $525,000, $450,000, $700,000 and $100,000, which have been consolidated into one first mortgage; two mortgages held by the Marine Trust Co. for $285,000 and $140,862, and two mortgages in the amounts of $150,000 and $74,137, held by the Liberty Bank of Buffalo.

Also, the sale is subject to the leases held by the tenants now occupying the properties involved.

Until this latest realty deal by Shea, its interests operated the Great Lakes Theatre under lease.

Mitchell Theatres Donate Total Proceeds in Drives

From Mideast Edition

BARBOURVILLE, KY.—Few if any firms here or in the nation can equal the record of the Mitchell Theatre for participation in various war bond drives and, in fact, all worthwhile organizations. Since the beginning of the war they have donated 100 per cent of proceeds for an extended period during each relief or war bond drive, according to the Barbourville Advocate.

In every Red Cross drive the theatres have made donations of two full days of showing for the cause. In the war fund drives as much as $570 at one time has been given through the proceeds at the shows.

A recent Crippled Children drive benefited under this plan and in 1942, the managers, Paul T. Mitchell and Charles R. Mitchell, received special recognition for their assistance in the army and navy relief drive. They have also contributed heavily to civic groups.

"Sunbonnet Sue" Now "Gay Nineties"

"The Gay Nineties" is the new title for the Monogram production, "Sunbonnet Sue."

SELLING SEATS

Practical Ideas by Practical Showmen On Merchandising the Motion Picture

Edited by HUGH E. FRAZE

BOXOFFICE Showmandiser SECTION

A GUIDE TO BETTER BOOKING AND BUSINESS-BUILDING

"Susan" Gives Prizes In Garden Contest

ALBANY—A Joan Fontaine Victory Garden contest, run by Manager Alex Sayles of the Palace for "The Affairs of Susan," paid off in publicity and goodwill. Prizes totaling $85 in war bonds and stamps were offered on behalf of the star. A three-column photograph printed by the Knickerbocker News showed three girls and two boys from local schools signing as entrants with Herbert A. Steinke, director of art in the public school system.

Signs reading "Can for Victory" and "Conserve Food" were pictured on a wall back of the youngsters.

Advertising for "Susan" included not only copy on the theatrical pages of Albany papers but insertions in the society pages. The latter had a cut of Miss Fontaine, with type below simulating that used for news stories. It told of "Joan Fontaine's Fourth Engagement" in a Hall Wallis production coming to the Palace.

Mexican "Sinatra" Scores In Van Nuys, Calif., Show

VAN NUYS, CALIF.—In an effort to attract patronage of the Mexican population, of which this community has a sizable percentage, Manager James Moran recently booked for a four days of personal appearances Pedro Infante, known as the "Frank Sinatra of Mexico."

Capacity business, virtually all Mexican, was enjoyed which Manager Moran attributes to a simple but intense advance campaign which included spot announcements on Mexican programs over local radio stations, ads in Mexican language newspapers and other standard means.

"Hotel Berlin" Match Books Plug Film in Milwaukee

A Railway Express Co. platform truck bearing a huge packing case addressed from Vicki Baum to Hotel Berlin, Madison, Wis., formed an unusual promotion stunt for the picture when it played the Capitol Theatre in the Wisconsin capital. The house is managed by Marlowe Conner.

The platform truck was towed about the city before being delivered to take a prominent place in front of the theatre. Conner also distributed several thousands of book matches bearing the compliments of "Hotel Berlin."

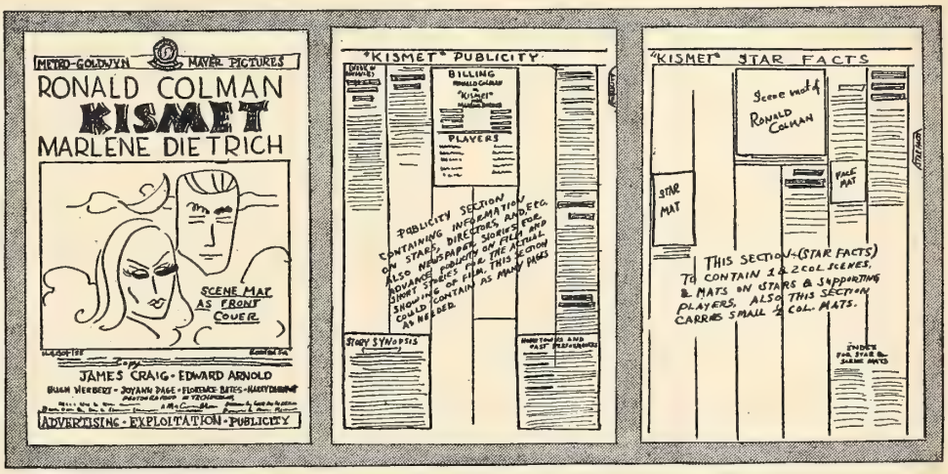
"Lover or Murderer?" Asks Eye Arresting Display

A simple design in stencil letters on a panel board surrounded by enlargements from the picture, chosen for their weird effect, proved to be an attention arrester at the Lichtman Lincoln Theatre in Washington in a lobby advance display for "The Man in Half Moon Street."

Above the title, in big letters, was the question: "Was He Lover or Murderer?"

What's Your Opinion?—

Small City Showman Asks Uniform Size Press Book, Other Changes



INDIANA EXHIBITOR SUGGESTS—Here are reproductions of three pages of the standardized press book Arnold Schneeberger of the Ritz at Tipton, Ind., "would like to see" published by the producers. He invites other exhibitors to forward their opinions on his proposals.

* * *

Arnold Schneeberger, manager of the Ritz at Tipton, Ind., for the Maller Bros. circuit of 11 theatres in the east central Indiana-Ohio area, voices an opinion of many exhibitors when he suggests a general revamping of the press books published by the producers, not so much in content but mostly in size and makeup.

Schneeberger, in explaining his suggestions to Selling Seats, relates he has discussed them with exhibitor friends during his decade and more in the show business, and all have agreed on these points:

1. Some of the press sheets are "outlandish in size."

2. And that "the ads in the press books evidently are written for the few theatres which have a huge sum to spend on advertising and not for the small town or suburban exhibitor whose ad budget is limited."

The Hoosier showman declares that standardization of the press books would not only be appreciated by the exhibitors but would be good for the whole industry.

"Adoption of a standard size press sheet," he asserts, "would save a lot of paper and money. And if all the studios agreed on a uniform size, one that could be handled without covering the entire top of the manager's desk and could easily be put into an ordinary drawer, exhibitors would be pleased. For example currently in my office are these press books:

Warners—11x17 inches, "The Very Thought of You." 15¼x21½, "Hollywood Canteen."
Paramount—12¼x15, "Here Come the WAVES."
RKO—14x21, "Princess and the Pirate."
Twentieth-Fox—15½x21½, "Keys of the Kingdom."

Schneeberger suggests a standard size of about 11x14¾ inches. In addition he favors departmentalizing the press book and finger-indexing each department to save time.

The Ritz manager gives a detailed description with a sample (three pages of which are reproduced herewith) of the press book he would like to see published. His other suggestions are:

1. Print all mat proofs on only one side of the paper.

2. Set ad mats up with a vacant space left for insertion of copy on shorts and the extra features, such as M-G-M now does.

3. Keep all ad copy down to as little as possible, "as the scenes will do more to tell the story than crowded copy, which most people won't read anyway."

4. Leave plenty of white space in ads on all roadshows. This most effectively creates the feeling that the picture really is outstanding.

5. Eliminate the large four and five-column ads since they are not used much by small town exhibitors and the first runs in the large cities usually carry their own ad department, or have skilled ad and art men available. "Most small towns use one or two-column mats and I would like to see a bigger variety of these size mats in the press books."

6. If possible set up a composite mat on all films, which would sell for about 60 cents and contain enough art, cuts of stars, etc., for the layout of at least two or three fair sized ads.

Schneeberger points out the above are only his opinions, and emphasizes he would like to obtain the views of other exhibitors on the suggestions, and see at least a part of them adopted by the studios.

Summer Is the Season for Beauty Contest; There Are Several Types

Beauty may be only skin deep but its lure never diminishes. And its pulling power in the theatre is a sure means of packing your house for at least one night during the summer.

The beauty contest has become an annual event in some theatres as thoroughly planned and carefully arranged as any affair staged during the year. It may be a bathing beauty affair, a pinup girl contest or a popularity race, whichever is judged most desirable in light of local conditions, but the general rules and procedure remain the same.

An Outline of Procedure

The following suggested procedure is almost standard in the lexicon of showmanship.

1. Entries should be signed up well in advance. The more candidates you have the more profitable the tieup will be. It has been found practical to limit the contestants to girls between the ages of 17 and 25.

2. Added interest, and increased admissions, can be obtained by having one or two elimination tryouts on the stage in advance of the final judging. Enough contestants should be selected from these eliminations to give six or eight girls for the finals.

3. Winners should be determined by audience applause. Arrange to have three local business men on the stage to act as judges, their decision to be final in case applause is almost the same for several contestants.

4. Local merchants who sell beach clothing and accessories should cooperate by giving prizes of bathing suits and beach lounging outfits in return for publicity they will receive.

5. Undoubtedly a number of your contestants will have some special talent. You might discover a harmony trio, a torch singer or pianist, possibly enough talent to provide an added bill of stage entertainment for the evening.

6. Worthwhile but not absolutely necessary is to book a "bathing beauty" film for the contest and tieup all your publicity with the selling of the picture.

Looking through our files descriptions of a few contests held last year are noteworthy.

Built Around Pinup Idea

Warren Faust of the Fox at Phoenix, Ariz., conducted a Pinup Girl beauty contest and it was so good it played to a repeat performance. His plan can be adapted to any type of girl show and put on in any theatre that has a stage.

Girls were recruited locally through merchants, each of whom sponsored a girl as his entry. Each girl was given a number for stage and merchant identification. The staging had much to do with its success. A Betty Grable giant cutout was sold as the nation's No. 1 pinup girl, thus furnishing a theme around which the contest was built. The musical background and music for girl routines was supplied by an organist.

A large Grable pinup cutout stood on an elevation in the center of the stage. Girls appeared from behind the curtain, walked to a platform in the center for posing and judging. From there the girls, 32 in all, proceeded to a short ramp over the pit, followed with a pin spot from the booth.

The main selling job was entrusted to the newspapers.

Fairness in selection of the judges and care to name popular personages helped contribute to the success.

At Albany, N. Y., a juvenile bathing beauty contest was very successful at the Palace. Manager Alec Sayles, with the cooperation of the Albany Times Union, staged a contest to pick Miss Albany of 1961. It was open to all children between four and eight. Nearly 200 filed applications through the newspaper or theatre.

The Sayles contest was held on a Saturday afternoon at Lincoln Park pool there, and more than 3,000 attended. As a special feature was a diving contest for girls over the juvenile age, in which a $50 bond went to the winner.

Old Days Photos Will Form "Decision" Lobby

Pittsburgh—Photographs of "Old Pittsburgh" will be exhibited on the mezzanine floor of Loew's Penn as a special exploitation in advance of the showing of M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision." Harry Greenman, manager, announced that the photo exhibit for two weeks will be covered by a blanket insurance against loss or damage and that contributors will be protected by a receipt. The owner's name and descriptions will identify each picture and other data will be printed in a catalog.

The "Valley of Decision," which opens here the latter part of July, tells a story of Pittsburgh and its pioneering steel families. Greenman has the cooperation of local newspapers in announcing the "Old Pittsburgh" exhibit.

A Collie for Trash Paper

SIOUX CITY, IOWA—L. E. Davidson, Tri-States district manager here, worked a good tiein on wastepaper collecting with the picture, "Son of Lassie," at the Capitol Theatre. A purebred collie was obtained to award to the boy or girl collecting the most paper in a three-month period. The Sioux City Journal and the war salvage committee are sponsoring the event.



JULY 4, 1944—A feeling of nearness of peace (at least, the war is half won) will distinguish this July 4 from last year. Above is a two-column ad ran by Fox Midwest at Kansas City one day before the holiday in 1944.

Shorts Are Integral Part of MAC Shows

MINNEAPOLIS—Under a policy inaugurated by John J. Friedl, president of the Minnesota Amusement Co., a complete supporting show of shorts is built about the feature in its theatres to provide the utmost possible in color, contrast, diversity of entertainment, etc. Such bills have been found by house managers to provide the utmost in customer enjoyment and satisfaction.

When the features are moved from one house to another for an extension of their loop first run, the shorts go along with them. The same is true as far as the neighborhood theatres are concerned.

At the present time the "well-rounded show" is more difficult of attainment because of the necessity of running at least one OWI or other war two or three-reeler on every program, Friedl points out.

When the war ends and there is a return to normalcy, Friedl says, the aim again will be to frame shows as ideal as possible from the standpoint of well-rounded entertainment.

"Rhapsody" Music Is Used For Store Bond Concert

NEW YORK—A Gershwin jubilee bond concert in the lobby and windows of the Bonwit Teller store on Fifth Ave. does a double job of boosting bond sales and promoting the premiere of "Rhapsody in Blue." Bond sales girls circulate in the crowd as the music comes over a public address system from the orchestra in the windows. The girls wear "rhapsody blue gowns" and give bond purchasers corsages and boutonnieres.

The School of Industrial Art auctioned off a portrait of Gershwin, autographed by Paul Whiteman, to the highest bidder in war bonds.

Thirty Liggett drug stores will carry window displays dealing with Gershwin and his music.

Siege of Berlin Gives Ohio Exhibitor a Break

The siege of Berlin gave the Liberty Theatre at Zanesville, Ohio, a front-page break on its special outside frame for Warners' "Hotel Berlin," then showing there.

Utilizing newspaper headlines as the central part of the display, the top of the panel carried the lettering "In the Headlines Today!" In the center were placed editions of the city's three daily newspapers, the banners prominently displayed, telling the progress of the Berlin fighting.

The newspapers in the display were changed daily during the run of the picture.

The Zanesville Signal thought well enough of the idea to run a front page photograph of the frame.

'Ernie Pyle Day' for Bonds

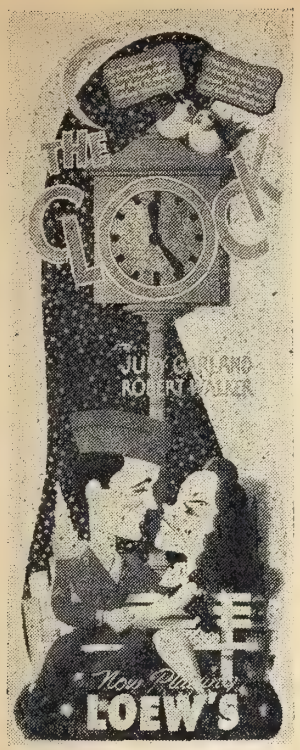
As a sale stimulant for bond sales, Harold J. Fitzgerald of the Fox first run Wisconsin Theatre in Milwaukee initiated "Ernie Pyle Day," with bond purchasers being admitted free.

Lobby signs proclaiming the day were enhanced by the presence of a pretty girl holding three attractive collies on leash.

Play Gershwin Tunes

NEW YORK—As part of George Gershwin jubilee week, Warner Bros. has made a tiein with two legitimate houses, the Henry Miller and Morosco theatres. The orchestras of these theatres have scheduled Gershwin music as overture and intermission selections.

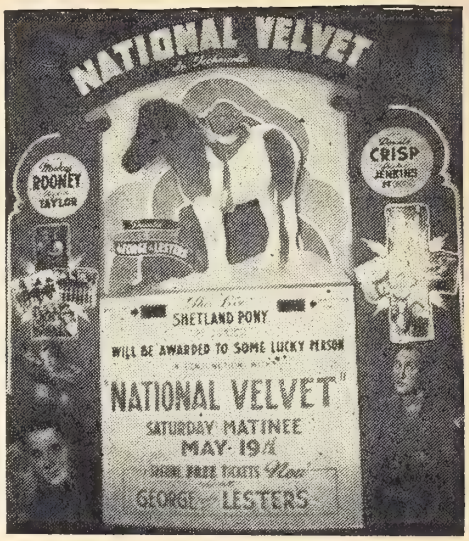
Among the Best Displays of the Week



← **TRADE AD BLOWUP—Dewey Bloom, of Canadian M-G-M, converted Si Seadler's trade magazine insert on "The Clock" into a special display. Blowups of the art work with playdates on the bottom were placed in department stores.**



EASILY MADE — A liberal use of wallboard, some cutous and a minimum of art work produced the above front for D. J. Meininger of the Strand, Cincinnati.



GIVEAWAY DISPLAY—This tells of the pony lucky number promotion put on at the Venetian, Racine, Wis., by Marc Brazee, WB circuit. He got a haberdasher to give a pony to the winning stub number at a Saturday matinee drawing. Display had openings for insertion of stubs.



JUNGLE ATMOSPHERE—This front, made with bamboo and other easily obtainable materials, was constructed by Howard Hisley, RKO Allen, Cleveland.

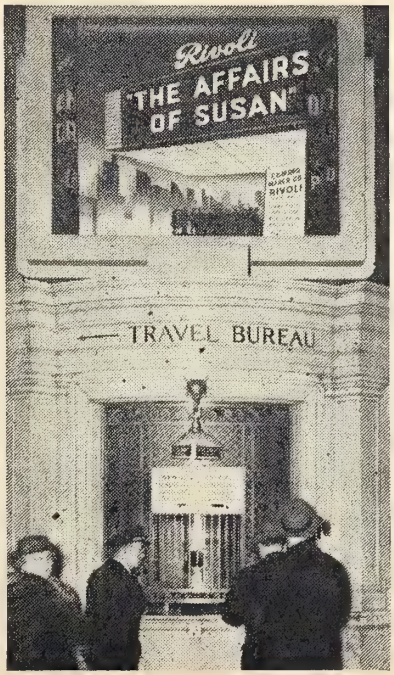


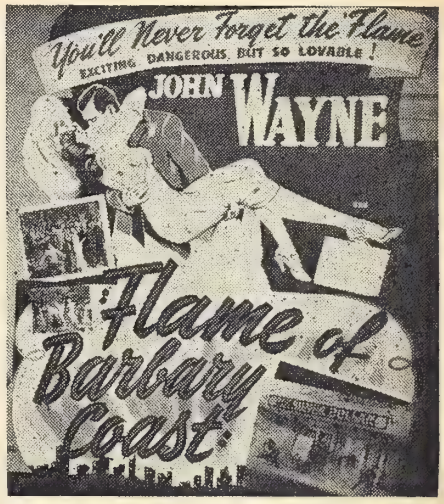
ALONG STAIRCASE—Jeff Sullivan, manager of the State, Boston, and George Kraska, Loew's publicist, used the wall along the staircase for this advance on "Without Love."



← **GRAPHIC—This special advance display in the Lincoln lobby, Washington, was set against a black drop with red flasher lighting title atop hotel enlargement. Swastika was stenciled red with red drops of blood.**

→ **TRY THIS—Paramount has a display right in the middle of Grand Central Station in New York. The curtains part and there it is in bright lights.**





ON THE WALL—Norman Kassel of Essaness Theatres, Chicago, thus heralds "Flame" in a display on the wall of the Woods.

Current Theatre Ads



B&K STYLE—This is a three-column layout from the advertising department of Balaban & Katz, Chicago.



WEEK-LONG REVUE — Edgar Goth, Fabian ex-Staten Island exploitation man, heralded his shift to Richmond, Va., Wilmer & Vincent houses with the week-long jitterbug contest, cosponsored by WRVA. Ads like above and heralds in school promoted event.



REFLECTS HEADLINES—The Riverside, Milwaukee, took advantage of the current news stories on the Nazi werewolves in this ad (3x11).



DETROIT STYLE—Detroit showmen strongly believe in the value of short, provocative catchlines as illustrated by the three above examples.



MIDWEST — Russ Fraser, Tri-States' new advertising director, Des Moines, is a master of ad layout as witness this fine example (2x7).



UTAH—Novel cartoons like the two above titillated Salt Lake Citizens. Charles Pincus of the Utah Theatre played on the name of "Fleagles" hillbilly family in the film.

The Girl in Red Sent Out for "Dillinger"

HARTFORD—For "Dillinger," the State here selected a local girl, who resembles Ann Jeffries, the "lady in red" featured in the film, and outfitted her with appropriate clothes and hair styling. The mysterious girl visited department stores, night clubs, places of amusement, and service men's canteens. The first person who walked up to the young lady and identified her was awarded a $100 war bond. The pass word was: "I know you; you're the girl who trapped Dillinger." When so identified, she was to fling open her coat and reveal a red ribbon heralding the film, pinned across the front of her frock. The winner was presented with the $100 war bond by Actress Jean Parker on the State stage on a Friday evening to climax a week-long advance campaign which netted a big box-office gross here.

A Heavy "Dillinger" Campaign Is Profitable at the Fulton

PITTSBURGH—A heavy campaign on Monogram's "Dillinger" proved profitable for the Fulton Theatre, managed by John D. Walsh jr. A smashing newspaper display stepped up interest two days prior to the opening, all ads featuring a cut of Lawrence Tierney, who plays the notorious bandit. Five radio stations carried a three-day campaign, with one announcement scheduled each hour on one of the stations. The transcriptions used were specially prepared dramatizations and are available. Tabloid newspaper heralds, numbering 30,000, were distributed house-to-house, and 200 two-sheets and 300 window cards were posted.

Novelty angles were references to "The Woman in Red," and window displays of various types of guns and tools used by Dillinger. This led to feature articles of the unusual truth in the picture that Dillinger's first holdup netted him $7.20 and when the FBI shot him and his body was searched, all the money he had was exactly $7.20.

Dick Tracy Program Tieup Ups Junior Matinees

CHEYENNE, WYO.—Fox Intermountain City Manager Les Newkirk and Don Hay, manager of the Princess Theatre here, are mighty proud of their popular Saturday Dick Tracy Club, organized last year. Since the Dick Tracy radio program is broadcast over a local station, Manager Hay "sold" the program sponsor on a cooperative tieup that paid big dividends in juvenile patronage.

From time to time special matinees are run with Dick Tracy Club members being admitted at a special juvenile rate if they wear the famous Dick Tracy badge. The badge can be obtained only from the store of the program sponsor.

"It's a Pleasure to Serve" Idea Wins Good Tieup

When "It's a Pleasure" played the Kansas City Orpheum, Manager Lawrence Lehman and Gil Canfield, RKO field man, effected an arrangement with the large John Taylor Dry Goods Co. whereby the store turned its entire window space to the picture.

All windows had a small card headed "It's a Pleasure to Serve You . . ." and then mentioning the style or product displayed. An asterisk after the title referred the observer to the bottom of the card where copy read, "See It at the Orpheum." This same style of copy was used in the store's regular newspaper ad—half-page layout on the day before the opening.

Feature productions, listed by company, in order of release. Number in square is national release date. Production number is at right. Number in parenthesis is running time, as furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchanges is recommended. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ◎ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ◎ indicates color photography.

BOOKING CHART

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C
1944	17 (63) Horror 5027 CRY OF THE WEREWOLF R—Aug. 26—PG-560 17 (61) Horror 5026 SOUL OF A MONSTER R—Aug. 26—PG-559		19 (60) Melodrama 333 CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush John Davidson R—Sept. 2—PG-564	GROUP 5—1943-44:	16 (72) Musical 505 DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford R—July 15—PG-548 18 (67) Melodrama 421 MACHINE GUN MAMA R—Aug. 19—PG-558
AUG. 19		AUGUST RELEASE:			
AUG. 26	24 (72) Musical 5012 KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee		26 (61) Comedy 325 LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn Wanda McKay R—Sept. 23—PG-569	(98) Mus.-Com. 4321 AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton Diana Lynn Mimi Chandler R—Apr. 29—PG-527	2 (62) Western 466 RUSTLER'S HIDEOUT Buster Crabbe Al St. John Patti McCarty R—Nov. 11—PG-581
SEPT. 2	31 (69) Western 5221 SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee Red River Dave Quinn Williams	SPECIAL: (145) Drama 500 DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston Aline MacMahon R—July 22—PG-550	2 (71) Mystery 306 OH, WHAT A NIGHT Edmund Lowe Marjorie Rambeau R—Aug. 19—PG-558	(65) Comedy 4322 HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith R—Apr. 29—PG-527	8 (76) Musical 509 SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian Charles Collins R—Nov. 11—PG-582
SEPT. 9	7 (91) Drama 5002 THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman R—Aug. 26—PG-559	GROUP 9: SEPT. RELEASES: (112) M'drama 501 ◎THE SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso Hume Cronyn R—July 29—PG-552	9 (64) Mystery 317 BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Frances Chan R—Sept. 9—PG-565 16 (60) M'drama 313 BLOCK BUSTERS R—Aug. 19—PG-557 16 (56) Western 357 LAND OF THE OUTLAWS	(66) Melodrama 4324 GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Russell Hayden R—Apr. 29—PG-528	
SEPT. 16	14 (74) Musical 5025 EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton & Orch. R—Sept. 23—PG-567	(87) Comedy 502 BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes John Carradine R—Aug. 5—PG-553		(106) M'drama 4325 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson R—Apr. 29—PG-528	
SEPT. 23	19 (61) Mystery 5033 ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT 21 (55) Western 5231 COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER	(90) Comedy 504 MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak R—Aug. 12—PG-555 Reissue: (108) Drama 503 WATERLOO BRIDGE Vivien Leigh Robert Taylor	30 (54) Western TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele	GROUP 6—1943-44:	4 (68) M'drama 512 I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell R—Oct. 28—PG-577
SEPT. 30	26 (81) Musical 5011 CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore R—Sept. 30—PG-571			(101) Comedy 4326 HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines Raymond Walburn William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	
OCT. 7	5 (78) Com.-Mys. 6016 STRANGE AFFAIR Evelyn Keyes Allyn Joslyn Marguerite Chapman R—Oct. 14—PG-573			(76) Musical 4327 TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard Mary Beth Hughes Ozzie Nelson & Orch. R—June 10—PG-539	
OCT. 14	12 (68) Musical 6028 MEET MISS BOBBY SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick R—Oct. 21—PG-575	OCTOBER RELEASES: (117) Drama 505 MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak (100) Rom.-Fan. 506 ◎KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich R—Aug. 26—PG-556		(74) Comedy 4328 HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith Joan Mortimer John Litel R—June 17—PG-542	
OCT. 21	19 (67) Mystery 6021 SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch R—Oct. 21—PG-575			(104) Com-Dr. 4329 I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts Beulah Bondi Barry Fitzgerald R—June 10—PG-539	23 (74) M'drama 41PS WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN R—Sept. 23—PG-576 28 (56) Western 555 WILD HORSE PHANTOM
OCT. 28	26 (61) M'drama 6035 THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal R—Nov. 11—PG-582			(83) Drama 4330 THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field Harry Carey William Demarest R—June 17—PG-541	31 (70) Comedy 510 I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville El Brendel Iris Adrian R—Oct. 28—PG-579
NOV. 4	2 (61) Mystery 6022 THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Janis Carter R—Oct. 14—PG-574		3 (70) Comedy A WAVE, A WAC, AND A MARINE Elyse Knox R—Aug. 5—PG-553 4 (59) Western LAW OF THE VALLEY		

WEEK ENDING	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
1944	GROUP 6—1943-44:	13 (58) Melodrama 324 PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor R—July 1—PG-545 16 (56) Western 3313 SAN ANTONIO KID Wild Bill Elliott			18 (74) Comedy 6001 IN SOCIETY Bud Abbott Lou Costello Arthur Treacher R—Aug. 19—PG-558	
AUG. 19		Reissue: 1 (60) Mus. Wst. 3306 RIDE, RANGER, RIDE Gene Autry Smiley Burnette Kay Hughes	AUGUST RELEASES:			2 (102) Comedy 401 JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold R—July 29—PG-551
AUG. 26	(65) Adventure 428 A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long Edward Brophy R—June 3—PG-538	12 (56) Drama 326 STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT	(70) Musical 501 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow Edward Ryan Stanley Prager R—July 15—PG-548		1 (86) Drama 9005 ◎GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall Peter Coe R—Aug. 12—PG-556	9 (72) Mys.-Dr. 407 CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson R—Aug. 5—PG-553
SEPT. 2	(88) Musical 429 STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy Adolphe Menjou Gloria DeHaven Walter Slezak Eugene Pallette R—July 1—PG-545	14 (68) Com.-Mus. 328 THAT'S MY BABY R—Sept. 23—PG-569 15 (55) Western 462 STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY	(97) War Drama 502 WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews William Eythe Charles Bickford R—July 22—PG-550		8 (60) Musical 9022 MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 9	(67) Drama 430 YOUTH RUNS WILD Bonita Granville Kent Smith Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon Tessa Brind R—July 1—PG-546	15 (87) Musical 327 ATLANTIC CITY R—Aug. 12—PG-555 16 (74) Musical 345 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY R—Sept. 2—PG-562	SEPTEMBER RELEASES:		16 (90) Comedy 9008 THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan R—Aug. 26—PG-559	
SEPT. 16	(91) Drama 427 MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey Robert Ryan R—June 24—PG-543		(75) Musical 503 SWEET AND LOWDOWN Benny Goodman & Band Linda Darnell Lynn Bari R—Aug. 5—PG-554		22 (69) Mystery 9019 PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Evelyn Ankers R—Sept. 2—PG-561	28 (118) Mys-Farce 405 ◎ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant Raymond Massey R—Sept. 2—PG-563
SEPT. 23	(70) Mystery 431 THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris Martha MacVicar R—Aug. 5—PG-554	30 (56) Western 3314 CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake	(73) Adventure 504 DANGEROUS JOURNEY R—Aug. 19—PG-557 (82) Musical 505 ◎GREENWICH VILLAGE Carmen Miranda Don Ameche William Bendix R—Aug. 12—PG-555		29 (83) Comedy 9017 SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton R—Sept. 9—PG-566	
SEPT. 30	(81) Musical 432 MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day Phillip Terry R—July 29—PG-552	6 (50) Western 452 CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson			6 (63) Musical 9030 THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris R—Sept. 23—PG-570	7 (56) Action-Dr. 404 THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Charles Lang Eleanor Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-567
OCT. 7	(69) Drama 433 MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon John Emery Kurt Kreuger R—July 29—PG-551	12 (69) Drama 403 MY BUDDY Donald Barry Ruth Terry Lynne Roberts R—Oct. 21—PG-576	BLOCK 3: OCTOBER RELEASES:		13 (70) Musical 9024 BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Leon Errol R—Sept. 30—PG-572	
OCT. 14	(81) Comedy 434 BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshal Marsha Hunt R—July 29—PG-552	15 (67) Mus. Wst. 3307 GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES Gene Autry	(74) Comedy 506 THE BIG NOISE Laurel & Hardy Helene Reynolds Doris Merrick R—Sept. 23—PG-568		20 (86) Dr.-Mus. 9009 ◎THE CLIMAX Susanna Foster Turhan Bey Boris Karloff R—Sept. 30—PG-571	21 (101) Rom.-Dr. 405 THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid Sydney Greenstreet R—Oct. 14—PG-574
OCT. 21	(72) Comedy 435 HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly Barbara Hale Gordon Oliver R—July 29—PG-551	16 (86) M'drama 323 STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Richard Arlen Erich Von Stroheim R—Sept. 9—PG-562	(72) Rom.-Com. 507 IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Eugene Pallette Frank Latimore R—Sept. 23—PG-567			
OCT. 28	SPECIAL: (92) Comedy 581 CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright R—Aug. 5—PG-554	6 (78) O'tdr.-Mus. 346 LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers R—Nov. 11—PG-581 7 (56) Western 463 SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN	(90) Mus.-Rom. 508 ◎IRISH EYES ARE SMILING June Haver Dick Haymes Monty Woolley R—Oct. 14—PG-573		3 (94) Musical 9072 BOWERY TO BROADWAY Turhan Bey Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster R—Oct. 28—PG-578	
NOV. 4						

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
NOV. 11	[9] (60) M'drama 6033 SERGEANT MIKE R—Nov. 18—PG-584 [9] (56) Western 6202 CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS R—Nov. 18—PG-583		[10] (86) Drama ENEMY OF WOMEN Claudia Drake Donald Woods Paul Andor R—Sept. 2—PG-561 [17] (60) Western GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	SPECIAL: (125) Com.-Dr. 4335 GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Rise Stevens Barry Fitzgerald R—Mar. 4—PG-511	[9] (56) Western 552 DEAD OR ALIVE [11] (73) M'drama 506 BLUEBEARD R—Oct. 28—PG-578	GROUP 1—1944-45:	[10] (51) M'drama 402 END OF THE ROAD	BLOCK 4: NOVEMBER RELEASES:	[10] (89) Mys.-Dr. DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone Thomas Mitchell R—Nov. 18—PG-583	[10] (64) Hor. Mys. 9026 DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker R—Sept. 23—PG-569 [17] (63) Drama 9029 RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford R—Sept. 9—PG-566	[11] (99) Rom.-Dr. 406 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Eleanor Parker R—Oct. 14—PG-573
NOV. 18	[16] (66) Mystery 6040 THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon George Macready R—Nov. 18—PG-584	NOVEMBER RELEASES (122) Drama 510 AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards Walter Abel R—July 1—PG-568 (124) Drama 507 MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon R—Sept. 23—PG-568 Reissue: (104) Musical 501 NAUGHTY MARIETTA Jeanette MacDonald Nelson Eddy	[24] (67) Drama WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Dean Jagger Kim Hunter R—Aug. 19—PG-557 [1] (56) Western SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore Lee White	GROUP 1—1944-45: (97) Comedy 4401 RAINBOW ISLAND Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb Barry Sullivan R—Sept. 9—PG-565 (88) Drama 4402 TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton R—Sept. 9—PG-565 (76) Com-Mus. 4403 THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather Charles Quigley Robert Benchley R—Sept. 9—PG-566	[6] (60) Com.-Mys. 514 ROGUES' GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond R—Feb. 17—PG-605	(113) Drama 501 NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore Jane Wyatt June Duprez Barry Fitzgerald R—Sept. 30—PG-572 (87) Western 503 TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines Audrey Long R—Sept. 30—PG-572	[30] (91) Musical 405 BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce R—Oct. 28—PG-577	(88) Mys. Melo. 509 LAURA Gene Tierney Dana Andrews Vincent Price Clifton Webb Judith Anderson R—Oct. 21—PG-576 (87) Musical 510 SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Perry Como Michael O'Shea Vivian Blaine Phil Silvers R—Nov. 11—PG-582	[23] (81) Drama THREE IS A FAMILY Marjorie Reynolds Charlie Ruggles Fay Bainter R—Dec. 2—PG-585	[24] (72) Mystery 9018 ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Ella Raines Charles Korvin J. Carrol Naish R—Dec. 2—PG-585 [1] (61) Mystery 9034 MURDER IN THE BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook R—Nov. 18—PG-583	[26] (102) Comedy 407 THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Alexis Smith Jane Wyman R—Sept. 2—PG-561
DEC. 2											
DEC. 9	[7] (69) M'drama 6032 SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks R—Dec. 9—PG-587	DECEMBER RELEASE: (89) Comedy 509 LOST IN A HAREM Abbott & Costello Marilyn Maxwell John Conte R—Sept. 2—PG-561	[15] (68) Mys-Com. 416 SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson R—Oct 21—PG-575		[9] (60) Western 556 OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe [15] (79) Comedy 501 THE TOWN WENT WILD R—Nov 11—PG-581		[8] (120) Drama GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy Ruth Warrick R—Dec. 16—PG-589	[8] (64) Comedy 9031 HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. Walter Catlett R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
DEC. 16	[14] (60) Musical 6038 DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell R—Dec. 30—PG-594		[22] (76) Melodrama ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay John Carradine R—Oct. 14—PG-573	(56) Drama 4405 DARK MOUNTAIN Robert Lowery Ellen Drew Regis Toomey Eddie Quillan R—Sept. 9—PG-566	[22] (60) Mys.-Dr. 513 CASTLE OF CRIMES Kenneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall				[16] (63) Musical 9037 MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Bob Crosby Grace McDonald Walter Catlett R—Dec. 2—PG-586	
DEC. 23	[21] (55) Western 6203 SADDLE LEATHER LAW R—Dec. 30—PG-593 [22] (100) Drama 6003 TOGETHER AGAIN R—Nov. 11—PG-581						[23] (85) Musical 406 LAKE PLACID SERENADE Vera Hruba Ralston Eugene Pallette Vera Vague R—Dec. 30—PG-593 [23] (55) Melodrama 408 THOROUGHBREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara Roger Pryor		[22] (65) Mus.-Dr. 9023 DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald R—Dec. 9—PG-587	
DEC. 30	[28] (63) Romance 6205 TAHITI NIGHTS Jinx Falkenburg David O'Brien Carole Mathews R—Dec. 30—PG-593		[29] (62) Com.-Dr. BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids	GROUP 2—1944-45:	[29] (55) Western 553 THE WHISPERING SKULL Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson				[29] (87) Drama TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field R—Dec. 23—PG-591	[29] (89) Mus.-Rm. 9071 CAN'T HELP SINGING Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff R—Dec. 16—PG-589	[30] (124) Musical 409 HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN Bette Davis Jack Benny Multi-Star Cast R—Dec. 9—PG-588
1945											
JAN. 6	[4] (60) Comedy 6039 LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser R—Jan. 20—PG-598	JANUARY RELEASE: SPECIAL: (138) Drama 511 THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson Phyllis Thaxter R—Nov. 18—PG-584	[5] (56) Western NAVAJO TRAIL Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	(85) Drama 4406 AND NOW TOMORROW Alan Ladd Loretta Young Susan Hayward Barry Sullivan R—Oct. 21—PG-575					[5] (86) Drama I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple R—Dec. 23—PG-592	[5] (60) Musical 9035 NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris Delta Rhythm Boys R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
JAN. 13	[11] (59) M'drama 6041 YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair R—Jan. 13—PG-595		[12] (68) Comedy ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(92) Drama 4407 THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker Reinhold Schunzel R—Oct. 28—PG-578		GROUP 2—1944-45: (65) Musical 506 GIRL RUSH Frances Langford Wally Brown R—Oct. 28—PG-577	[30] (60) Melodrama 407 THE BIG BONANZA R—Jan. 13—PG-596 [31] (55) Western 3316 SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS			[12] (74) Comedy 9020 SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol R—Jan. 13—PG-596	
JAN. 20	[23] (67) Musical 6014 EADIE WAS A LADY Ann Miller Joe Besser William Wright R—Feb. 10—PG-602	JANUARY RELEASES (101) Com.-Dr. 513 THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy Gloria DeHaven R—Dec. 9—PG-587 (56) Drama 514 MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Helena Royle Lume Cronyn R—Dec. 2—PG-585	[19] (63) Mys.-Com. ADVENTURES OF KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker Peter Cookson	(113) Romance 4408 FRENCHMAN'S CREEK Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce R—Sept. 23—PG-567	[3] (54) Western 557 HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe Al St. John Charlie King	(67) Mystery 507 FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD Tom Conway Barbara Hale R—Dec. 9—PG-588	[16] (71) M'drama 409 GRISSLY'S MILLIONS Paul Kelly Virginia Grey Don Douglas R—Jan. 20—PG-597 [22] (69) Comedy 410 THE BIG SHOW-OFF R—Jan. 20—PG-597		[19] (92) Drama MR. EMMANUEL Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt Walter Rilla R—Jan. 13—PG-596	[19] (57) Western 9039 UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery jr. R—Jan. 20—PG-597	[20] (100) Drama 410 TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Walter Brennan R—Oct. 14—PG-574
JAN. 27	[25] (69) Mystery 6024 I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Nina Foch George Macready R—Feb. 10—PG-601		[26] (83) Drama FOREVER YOURS Gale Storm Johnny Mack Brown Sir C. Aubrey Smith R—Dec. 16—PG-589	(76) Mys.-Com. 4409 ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker Bela Lugosi Blanche Yurka R—Oct. 28—PG-577	[6] (60) Com.-Dr. 521 KID SISTER [8] (58) Western 554 MARKED FOR MURDER	(62) Western 509 NEVADA Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys R—Dec. 16—PG-590	[26] (55) Western 464 THE TOPEKA TERROR Allan Lane Linda Stirling			[26] (85) Mys.-Mel. 9010 THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens R—Dec. 30—PG-594	
FEB. 3	[1] (54) Western 6204 SAGEBRUSH HEROES Charles Starrett Constance Worth Walter "Dub" Taylor R—Jan. 20—PG-598		[2] (66) Mystery THE JADE MASK Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland	(84) Mys.-Dr. 4410 MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds Carl Esmond R—Oct. 21—PG-567		(91) Drama 510 EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr George Brent		(61) Doc.-Dr. 515 THE FIGHTING LADY U.S. Navy Carrier Ship R—Jan. 13—PG-595		[2] (88) Mus-Com. 9002 HERE COME THE CO-EDS Abbott & Costello Phil Spitalny & Orch. R—Feb. 3—PG-600	
FEB. 10	[8] (66) Western 6221 SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS Rosemary Lane Tom Tyler Guinn "Big Boy"	SPECIAL: (113) Dr./Mus. 512 MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien Mary Astor	[9] (64) Melodrama CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo Martin Garralaga					JANUARY SPECIAL RELEASE: (137) Drama 514 THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell Vincent Price Rosa Stradner Roddy McDowall Edmund Gwenn Sir Cedric Hardwicke R—Dec. 23—PG-592		[9] (63) Musical 9021 HER LUCKY NIGHT Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll	

	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
FEB. 17	22 (72) Comedy 6019 LEAVE IT TO BLONDIE R—Feb. 17—PG-605 22 (92) Mus.-Dr. 6002 TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT Rita Hayworth Janet Blair Lee Bowman R—Feb. 3—PG-600	FEBRUARY RELEASES:	16 (59) Western GUNSMOKE Johnny Mack Brown 16 (61) Com.-Mys. THERE GOES KELLY Jackie Moran R—Mar. 3—PG-617	BLOCK 3—1944-45:	10 (63) Mdr.-Mys. 523 THE SPELL OF AMY NUGENT R—Mar. 3—PG-610 15 (72) Drama 516 FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco R—Feb. 17—PG-606		15 (56) Western 3317 GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake Alice Fleming			16 (71) Mystery 9013 HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN R—Dec. 30—PG-593 16 (60) Mystery 9036 THE MUMMY'S CURSE R—Jan. 20—PG-598	17 (142) Drama 411 OBJECTIVE, BURMA! Errol Flynn William Prince James Brown R—Feb. 3—PG-600
FEB. 24	27 (70) Mystery 6017 THE CRIME DOCTOR'S COURAGE R—Feb. 10—PG-602	(117) Musical 515 MUSIC FOR MILLIONS Margaret O'Brien Jimmy Durante June Allyson R—Dec. 16—PG-590 (69) Drama 516 BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor Gloria Grahame R—Dec. 2—PG-586	2 (61) Com.-Mys. FASHION MODEL Robert Lowery Marjorie Weaver	(62) Drama 4412 DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Charles Arnt R—Dec. 23—PG-591		(84) Musical 583 BELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Dinah Shore Charles Winninger Bob Burns R—Dec. 2—PG-586	19 (69) Musical 411 A SONG FOR MISS JULIE Shirley Ross Roger Clark R—Feb. 24—PG-607			23 (94) Musical 9012 FRISCO SAL Susanna Foster Turhan Bey R—Feb. 27—PG-606	
MAR. 3	1 (112) Drama A SONG TO REMEMBER Paul Muni Merle Oberon Cornel Wilde R—Feb. 3—PG-599	(100) Drama 517 THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery Tom Drake Selena Royle R—Jan. 13—PG-595	9 (62) Com.-Mys. DOCKS OF NEW YORK East Side Kids R—Mar. 10—PG-611	(158) Drama 4413 FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Gary Cooper Ingrid Bergman Akim Tamiroff Arturo de Cordova Joseph Calleia Katina Paxinou R—July 24, '43-PG-454		SPECIAL: (71) Disney 591 THE THREE CABALLEROS Panchito Joe Carioca Donald Duck Aurora Miranda Carmen Molina R—Dec. 16—PG-590	28 (55) Western 454 SHERIFF OF CIMARRON Sunset Carson Linda Stirling Riley Hill			2 (76) Drama 9006 SUDAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey R—Mar. 10—PG-612	3 (117) Drama 412 ROUGHLY SPEAKING Rosalind Russell Jack Carson Robert Hutton R—Feb. 3 PG-600
MAR. 10	8 (63) Rom.-Com. 6034 A GUY, A GAL AND A PAL Ross Hunter Lynn Merrick R—Feb. 10—PG-601	MARCH RELEASES:	22 (74) Drama DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney R—Mar. 17—PG-614 23 (..) Western (UNTITLED) John Mack Brown	(90) Com.-Rom. 4414 PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Gil Lamb Cecil Kellaway Robert Benchley R—Dec. 23—PG-592	15 (60) Com.-Dr. 507 THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge R—Feb. 3—PG-599	GROUP 3—1944-45	12 (78) O'td r Mu. 441 UTAH George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans Roy Rogers R-Mar. 17—PG-613	MARCH RELEASES:			
MAR. 17	15 (58) Western 6205 ROUGH RIDIN' JUSTICE Charles Starrett "Dub" Taylor Betty Jane Graham R—Feb. 17—PG-606	9 (81) Drama 518 BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore Marilyn Maxwell Gloria DeHaven R—Jan. 13—PG-596	7 (..) Comedy GI HONEYMOON R—Mar. 10—PG-612	(64) Mys.-Dr. 4415 DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly Jane Farrar Phillip Terry R—Dec. 23—PG-592	31 (87) Drama OUT OF THE NIGHT (Formerly Strange Illusion) Jimmy Lydon Warren William Sally Eilers R—Feb. 17—PG-603	(71) Comedy 511 WHAT A BLONDE Leon Errol Elaine Riley R—Feb. 10—PG-602	30 (78) Melodrama 412 THE GREAT FLAMARION Erich Von Stroheim Mary Beth Hughes R—Apr. 21—PG-624	(78) Drama 518 THUNDERHEAD—SON OF FLICKA Roddy McDowall Preston Foster Rita Johnson James Bell Diana Hale R—Feb. 3—PG-599	31 (93) Com.-Mus. DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS Jane Powell Ralph Bellamy Constance Moore R—Mar. 3—PG-610	16 (69) Mystery 9025 THE HOUSE OF FEAR Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Paul Cavanagh R—Mar. 24—PG-615	17 (98) Drama 413 HOTEL BERLIN Faye Emerson Helmut Dantine Raymond Massey Peter Lorre R—Mar. 10—PG-612
MAR. 24	22 (66) Melodrama 6018 ROUGH, TOUGH AND READY Chester Morris Victor McLaglen Jean Rogers R—Mar. 3—PG-609	16 (69) Comedy 519 NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel & Hardy Mary Boland Philip Merivale R—Dec. 2—PG-585	13 (62) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom	BLOCK 4—1944-45:	15 (76) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (61) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(84) Musical 513 PAN-AMERICANA Phillip Terry Audrey Long Robert Benchley Eve Arden R—Feb. 17—PG-604	2 (71) Melodrama 414 IDENTITY UNKNOWN R—Mar. 31—PG-618 5 (91) Musical 413 EARL CARROLL VANITIES Dennis O'Keefe R—Mar. 10—PG-611 Reissue: 15 (86) Mus.-Wst. 5301 MELODY RANCH Gene Autry	(67) Melodrama 519 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE Lloyd Nolan Michael O'Shea Trudy Marshall Billy Cummings Ruth Ford R—Feb. 17—PG-603	7 (79) Melodrama BREWSTER'S MILLIONS Dennis O'Keefe Helen Walker R—Mar. 17—PG-614	13 (64) Musical 9207 I'LL REMEMBER APRIL Gloria Jean Kirby Grant R—Apr. 21—PG-624	7 (89) Drama 414 GOD IS MY CO-PILOT Dennis Morgan Dane Clark Raymond Massey R—Feb. 24—PG-608
APR. 7	12 (64) Musical 6026 EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright R—Mar. 10—PG-611	30 (93) Drama 520 KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY Lana Turner Laraine Day Susan Peters R—Feb. 17—PG-604	20 (54) Western SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely Lee "Lasses" White Dennis Moore	(92) Mus. Com. 4416 BRING ON THE GIRLS Veronica Lake Sonny Tufts Eddie Bracken Marjorie Reynolds Grant Mitchell Johnnie Coy R—Feb. 17—PG-603	15 (76) Drama 502 CRIME, INC. Leo Carrillo Martha Tilton R—Feb. 10—PG-601 19 (61) Western 558 SHADOWS OF DEATH Buster Crabbe	(70) Com.-Mys. 514 HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME Pat O'Brien Carole Landis George Murphy R—Feb. 17—PG-604					
APR. 14	17 (67) Western 6222 ROCKIN' IN THE ROCKIES R—Apr. 21—PG-623		20 (54) Western STRANGER FROM SANTA FE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Beatrice Grey	(81) Mystery 4417 THE UNSEEN Joel McCrea Gail Russell Herbert Marshall Phyllis Brooks R—Feb. 24—PG-608		(92) Drama 515 THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE Dorothy McGuire Robert Young Herbert Marshall R—Feb. 17—PG-603					
APR. 21	19 (66) Mystery 6023 THE POWER OF THE WHISTLER 19 (58) Western 6206 RETURN OF THE DURANGO KID R—May 5—PG-628	APRIL RELEASE:	5 (65) Mystery THE SCARLET CLUE Sidney Toler Mantan Moreland Ben Carter R—April 28—PG-626	(100) Drama 4418 SALTY O'ROURKE Alan Ladd Gail Russell William Demarest Bruce Cabot Spring Byington R—Feb. 24—PG-608		SPECIAL: (90) Mus.-Com. 584 IT'S A PLEASURE Sonja Henie Michael O'Shea Marie McDonald Bill Johnson R—Mar. 3—PG-610			21 (87) Comedy IT'S IN THE BAG Fred Allen Jack Benny Robert Benchley R—Feb. 17—PG-605		
APR. 28	26 (89) Drama 6006 COUNTER-ATTACK Paul Muni Marguerite Chapman Larry Parks R—April 7—PG-619	SPECIAL: (123) Drama NATIONAL VELVET Mickey Rooney Elizabeth Taylor R—Dec. 12—PG-590	12 (70) War Drama CHINA'S LITTLE DEVIL'S Harry Carey Paul Kelly R—May 5—PG-628	(62) Drama 4419 HIGH POWERED Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks Mary Treen Joe Sawyer Robert Pryor R—Feb. 24—PG-607	2 (60) Mystery PHANTOM OF 42ND STREET Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge Alan Mowbray 7 (63) Western ENEMY OF THE LAW Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	SPECIAL: (90) Western 681 ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young R—June 16—PG-636 SPECIAL: (98) Comedy 552 WONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—April 28—PG-626	10 (69) Horror 433 PHANTOM SPEAKS Richard Arlen Stanley Ridges R—April 28—PG-626	(76) Comedy 522 MOLLY AND ME Gracie Fields Monty Woolley Roddy McDowall Reginald Gardiner R—Mar. 17—PG-613	4 (147) Comedy COLONEL BLIMP Anton Walbrook Deborah Kerr R—April 7—PG-620	27 (90) Western 9073 SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED R—Apr. 21—PG-621 27 (..) Western 9083 BEYOND THE PECOS Rod Cameron 4 (89) Mus-Com. 9011 PATRICK THE GREAT Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Frances Dee Donald Cook R—Apr. 21—PG-621 11 (59) Musical 9028 HONEYMOON AHEAD Allan Jones Grace McDonald Vivian Austin Murray Alper R—May 5—PG-627	28 (78) Comedy 415 THE HORN BLOWS AT MIDNIGHT Jack Benny Alexis Smith R—April 7—PG-620
MAY 5	10 (67) Mystery 6031 BOSTON BLACKIE BOOKED ON SUSPICION Chester Morris Lynn Merrick Steve Cochran R—May 26—PG-629										
AUG. 12											

OOKING CHART

Number in square is national release date. Number in parenthesis is running time furnished by home office of distributor; checkup with local exchange is recommended. Production number is at right. R—is review date. PG—is Picture Guide page number. Symbol ⓑ indicates BOXOFFICE Blue Ribbon Award Winner. Symbol ⓒ indicates color photography

WEEK ENDING	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONOGRAM	PARAMOUNT	P-R-C	RKO RADIO	REPUBLIC	20TH-FOX	UNITED ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL	WARNER-F. N.
MAY 19	17 (57) Western BOTH BARRELS BLAZING Charles Starrett Pat Parrish Tex Harding Walter "Dub" Taylor	MAY RELEASES: (111) Com.-Dr. 522 WITHOUT LOVE Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn R—Mar. 24—PG-616	19 (64) Western IN OLD NEW MEXICO Dunean Renaldo	BLOCK 5—1944-45: (113) Rom-Com. 4421 THE AFFAIRS OF SUSAN Joan Fontaine George Brent Dennis O'Keefe Don DeFore Walter Abel R—Apr. 7—PG-620	16 (64) Mystery THE LADY CONFESSES Hugh Beaumont Mary Beth Hughes R—Mar. 31—PG-618	GROUP 4—1944-45 (68) Comedy 516 ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY Wally Brown Alan Carney Bela Lugosi Anne Jeffreys R—Apr. 21—PG-623	20 (56) Western 3318 LONE TEXAS RANGER Wild Bill Elliott 21 (59) Horror 434 THE VAMPIRE'S GHOST John Abbott R—Apr. 28—PG-625	MAY RELEASES: (104 Musical 524 ⓒDIAMOND HORSESHOE Betty Grable Dick Haymes Phil Silvers William Gaxton Beatrice Kay Carmen Cavallaro Willie Solar Margaret Dumont R—Apr. 21—PG-622	18 (91) Drama THE SOUTHERNER Zachary Scott Betty Field R—May 5—PG-628	18 (60) Musical 9033 SWING OUT SISTER Rod Cameron Billie Burke Arthur Treacher R—June 9—PG-634	19 (79) Melodrama 416 ESCAPE IN THE DESERT Jean Sullivan Philip Dorn Irene Manning R—Apr. 28—PG-625
MAY 26	24 (84) M'drama 6010 THE FIGHTING GUARDSMAN Willard Parker Anita Louise Janis Carter R—May 26—PG-629	(80) Drama 523 GENTLE ANNIE James Craig Donna Reed Marjorie Main R—Dec. 23—PG-591	2 (..) West.-Mus. SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS Jimmy Wakely 2 (..) Comedy TROUBLE CHASERS Billy Gilbert	(95) Mys.-Com. 4422 MURDER, HE SAYS Fred MacMurray Helen Walker Marjorie Main Jean Heather Porter Hall R—Apr. 7—PG-619	1 (62) Mystery THE MISSING CORPSE J. Edward Bromberg Isabel Randolph R—Apr. 28—PG-625	(78) Melodrama 517 THE BODY SNATCHER Boris Karloff Bela Lugosi Henry Daniell R—Mar. 3—PG-610	23 (58) Melodrama 416 THREE'S A CROWD Pamela Blake 23 (91) M'drama 415 FLAME OF THE BARBARY COAST John Wayne Ann Dvorak	(61) Comedy 525 THE BULLFIGHTERS Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy Margo Woods Richard Lane Carol Andrews Diosa Costello R—Apr. 21—PG-622	25 (96) Drama THE GREAT JOHN L. Greg McClure Linda Darnell R—May 26—PG-630	25 (69) Comedy 9016 SEE MY LAWYER Olsen & Johnson Grace McDonald Alan Curtis R—Feb. 10—PG-602	
JUNE 2	7 (60) Comedy 6029 TEN CENTS A DANCE Jane Frazee Jimmy Lloyd R—June 2—PG-631	JUNE RELEASES:	9 (70) Western FLAME OF THE WEST Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton Joan Woodbury	(80) Rom.-Dr. 4424 A MEDAL FOR BENNY Dorothy Lamour Arturo de Cordova J. Carrol Naish Mikhail Rasumny Fernando Alvarado R—Apr. 7—PG-619	14 (..) Mys.-West. GANGSTER'S DEN Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John	(76) Adventure 518 TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce Johnny Sheffield R—Mar. 24—PG-616	2 (56) Western 455 SANTA FE SADDLEMATES 4 (55) M'drama 420 A SPORTING CHANCE J. Randolph J. O'Malley			1 (92) Comedy THAT'S THE SPIRIT Jack Oakie R—June 2—PG-632 1 (57) Western 9084 RENEGADES OF THE RIO GRANDE Rod Cameron	9 (92) Comedy 417 PILLOW TO POST Ida Lupino Sydney Greenstreet William Prince R—May 5—PG-627
JUNE 9	7 (66) Mus-West 6222 RHYTHM ROUND-UP Ken Curtis Cheryl Walker R—June 2—PG-631	(110) Drama 525 THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY Hurd Hatfield George Sanders Donna Reed R—Feb. 24—PG-607	16 (..) Com.-Dr. MR. MUGGS RIDES AGAIN Leo Gorcey East Side Kids	BLOCK 6—1944-45:	15 (77) Melodrama THE SILVER FLEET Ralph Richardson Googie Withers Esmond Knight R—Mar. 31—PG-617	(78) Drama 519 CHINA SKY Randolph Scott Ruth Warrick Ellen Drew R—Apr. 21—PG-622	19 (68) Outdr. Mus. 442 BELLS OF ROSARITA Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes R—May 26—PG-629	JUNE RELEASES:		8 (61) 9041 I'LL TELL THE WORLD Lee Tracy Brenda Joyce June Preisser R—June 2—PG-632	
JUNE 16				(96) Mus.-Com. 4426 OUT OF THIS WORLD Eddie Bracken Veronica Lake Diana Lynn Cass Daley Parkyarkarkus R—June 9—PG-633	29 (..) Western THREE IN THE SADDLE Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter Guy Wilkerson	(81) Com-Drama 520 THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS Robert Young Laraine Day Ann Harding Bill Williams R—Apr. 21—PG-621	29 (68) M'drama 417 THE CHICAGO KID Donald Barry Otto Kruger R—Feb. 17—PG-603	(77) Comedy 526 ⓒWHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE Fred MacMurray June Haver Joan Leslie Gene Sheldon Alan Mowbray Otto Preminger Anthony Quinn R—May 26—PG-630		15 (68) 9042 BLONDE RANSOM Virginia Grey Donald Cook R—June 9—PG-634	
JUNE 23	21 (65) Comedy 6036 BLONDE FROM BROOKLYN Robert Stanton Lynn Merrick Thurston Hall R—June 23—PG-638	(102) M'drama 526 ⓑSON OF LASSIE Peter Lawford Donald Crisp June Lockhart R—Apr. 21—PG-622		(64) Mystery 4427 ONE EXCITING NIGHT William Gargan Ann Savage Leo Gorcey Don Beddoe R—June 9—PG-633		GROUP 5: (66) Mystery 521 TWO O'CLOCK COURAGE Tom Conway Ann Rutherford	3 (55) M'drama 422 GANGS OF THE WATERFRONT Robert Armstrong Stephanie Bachelor	(76) Comedy 527 DON JUAN QUILLIGAN William Bendix Joan Blondell Phil Silvers Mary Treen Anne Revere B. S. Pulley R—June 9—PG-633		22 (60) Mus-Com. 9043 PENTHOUSE RHYTHM Lois Collier Kirby Grant Judy Clark R—June 16—PG-635	30 (86) Drama 418 CONFLICT Humphrey Bogart Alexis Smith Sydney Greenstreet R—June 16—PG-636
JUNE 30		SPECIAL: (119) Drama 527 THE VALLEY OF DECISION Greer Garson Gregory Peck R—Apr. 21—PG-621		(..) 4428 YOU CAME ALONG Robert Cummings Lizabeth Scott Don DeFore Charles Drake		(67) Drama 552 THE BRIGHTON STRANGLER John Loder June Duprez R—May 5—PG-627	10 (60) M'drama 423 ROAD TO ALCATRAZ 11 (56) Western 466 TRAIL OF KIT CARSON 14 (56) Western 456 OREGON TRAIL			29 (61) Mystery 9032 THE FROZEN GHOST Lon Chaney R—June 23—PG-638 29 (63) M'drama 9038 JUNGLE CAPTIVE Otto Kruger	
JULY 7	5 (64) Mystery 6030 BOSTON BLACKIE'S RENDEZVOUS Chester Morris Nina Foch Steve Cochran Richard Lane			SPECIAL: (113) Comedy 4431 ⓑINCENDIARY BLONDE Betty Hutton Arturo de Cordova Charlie Ruggles Albert Dekker Barry Fitzgerald	28 (..) Western STAGE COACH OUTLAWS Buster Crabbe Al St. John	(95) Drama 523 BACK TO BATAAN John Wayne Anthony Quinn Beulah Bondi Fely Franquelli R—June 2—PG-631	16 (72) Musical 419 HITCHHIKE TO HAPPINESS Al Pearce Dale Evans			6 (76) Mus-Com. 9003 THE NAUGHTY NINETIES Abbott & Costello Rita Johnson Alan Curtis	
JULY 14	12 (93) M'drama 6005 ⓑA THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS Cornel Wilde Evelyn Keyes Adele Jergens R—June 16—PG-635			REISSUES: (126) M'drama 4433 ⓑNORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE Gary Cooper Madeleine Carroll Paulette Goddard Preston Foster	1 (..) Melodrama ARSON SQUAD Frank Albertson Robert Armstrong Grace Gillern	(66) Western 524 WEST OF THE PECOS Robert Mitchum Barbara Hale Richard Martin R—June 16—PG-635	28 (72) Comedy 418 STEPPIN' IN SOCIETY Edward Everett Horton Gladys George Ruth Terry R—June 16—PG-636	JULY RELEASES:		13 (..) Mus-Com. ON STAGE EVERYBODY Jack Oakie Peggy Ryan Otto Kruger	
JULY 21	21 (..) Drama YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT LOVE Vera Lynn Donald Stewart Frederick Leister Mary Clare	JULY RELEASES:		(81) M'drama 4434 THIS GUN FOR HIRE Alan Ladd Veronica Lake Robert Preston Laird Cregar	8 (..) Western FRONTIER FUGITIVES Tex Ritter Dave O'Brien Guy Wilkerson	(..) Mus.-Com. 525 GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS Joan Davis Jack Haley Phillip Terry Martha Holliday	1 (68) O'td'r-Mus. 443 MAN FROM OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers George "Gabby" Hayes Dale Evans	(71) Drama 528 WITHIN THESE WALLS Thomas Mitchell Mary Anderson Edward Ryan Mark Stevens B. S. Pully R—June 16—PG-636		20 (59) THE BEAUTIFUL CHEAT Bonita Granville Noah Berry jr. Milburn Stone	21 (114) Drama 419 THE CORN IS GREEN Bette Davis John Dall Joan Lorring R—Apr. 7—PG-619
JULY 28		(76) Comedy TWICE BLESSED Wilde Twins Preston Foster				SPECIAL: (90) Western 681 ALONG CAME JONES Gary Cooper Loretta Young R—June 16—PG-636		(95) Drama 529 ⓑNOB HILL George Raft Joan Bennett Vivian Blaine Peggy Ann Garner Alan Reed R—June 2—PG-632		27 (68) Mystery THE WOMAN IN GREEN Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Hillary Brooke R—June 23—PG-637	
AUG. 4						(98) Comedy 552 ⓑWONDER MAN Danny Kaye Virginia Mayo Vera-Ellen R—Apr. 28—PG-626				3 (..) Melodrama UNCLE HARRY George Sanders Geraldine Fitzgerald Ella Raines	
AUG. 11											

PRODUCTION INDEX

Looking Ahead at Forthcoming Pictures
Now in the Final Production Stages

Columbia

Some Call It Love

CAST: Rosalind Russell, Lee Bowman, Adele Jergens, Charles Winninger, Lewis Russell, Harry Davenport, Sara Haden. PRODUCER: Virginia Van Upp. DIRECTOR: Alexander Hall. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

As a brilliant and accomplished psychiatrist, Rosalind Russell observes a stern code of ethics, precluding romance of any sort for herself. Trying to cure a woman patient who has a penchant for other women's men, Rosalind agrees to what she believes is a mock marriage with Lee Bowman, who loves her. The nuptials are followed by a quarrel when she learns the ceremony was legal; but after a psychiatric treatment, Rosalind realizes that she, too, is a victim of love.

The Kansan

CAST: Evelyn Keyes, Willard Parker, Larry Parks, Edgar Buchanan, Jim Bannon, Forrest Tucker, Ludwig Donath. PRODUCER: Michel Kraike. DIRECTOR: George Sherman. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Evelyn Keyes is on her way home to marry a young doctor, Willard Parker. Her trip is interrupted by an attempted holdup by the Dembrow gang. Larry Parks, a mysterious young rider, forces the bandits to return the loot. Evelyn falls in love with Larry, who turns out to be a son of Edgar Buchanan, leader of the gang. Her fiance stands by while the couple marry and Evelyn joins the gang. Finally Willard becomes desperate and brings Evelyn home, in doing so he shoots her husband.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

A Letter for Evie

CAST: Marsha Hunt, John Carroll, Hume Cronyn, Pamela Britton, Therese Lyon, Donald Curtis, Robin Raymond. PRODUCER: William Wright. DIRECTOR: Jules Dassin. ORIGINAL: Blanche Brace. SCREENPLAY: DeVallon Scott and Alan Friedman.

Marsha Hunt, a New York shirt-factory employe, starts a mail-order romance with John Carroll, a service man whom she has never seen. John ignores the letter, but his buddy, Hume Cronyn—a little lonesome guy—corresponds with her, posing as John. Impressed with Hume's beautiful letters, Marcia thinks herself in love with John, who is actually a jerk. After meeting Marcia, the boys go overseas. John marries a French gal, and Marcia, upon discovering the truth, finds that she has loved Hume all the while and accepts his proposal of marriage.

She Went to the Races

CAST: James Craig, Frances Gifford, Edmund Gwenn, Reginald Owen, Ava Gardner, Charles Halton, Sig Ruman. PRODUCER: Frederick Stephani. DIRECTOR: Willis Goldbeck. ORIGINAL: Alan Friedman and DeVallon Scott. SCREENPLAY: Lawrence Hazard.

Frances Gifford, a young scientist accompanied by her three elderly colleagues, becomes interested in horse racing to raise funds for a research institute. In addition to outwitting the horses, Frances finds herself involved in a race against a glamorous rival, Ava Gardner, for the affections of Turfman James Craig. After overcoming these and similar tangy situations, Frances and Craig join hands and canter through life as a willing entry.

This Strange Adventure

CAST: Clark Gable, Greer Garson, Joan Blondell, Thomas Mitchell, John Qualen, Larry Burke, Esther Howard. DIRECTOR: Victor Fleming. PRODUCER: Sam Zimbalist. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Vincent Lawrence and William Hazlitt Brennan.

Two merchant marine men, Gable and Thomas Mitchell, arrive in San Francisco after their ship has been torpedoed. The pair bump into straight-laced Librarian Greer Garson, who is a little leery of them. Gable meets Greer's roommate, Joan Blondell, and becomes interested. The three of them go out together often. Gable and Garson fight continually; however Greer falls in love with him and they marry. She soon realizes that he married her for a lark and they become divorced. Gable ships out. Just before the fade out Gable finds that he loves her.

Monogram

The Gay Nineties

CAST: Phil Regan, Gale Storm, George Cleveland, Alan Mowbray, Charles D. Brown, Minna Gombell, Raymond Hatton. PRODUCER: Scott R. Dunlap. DIRECTOR: Ralph Murphy. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Set in the colorful era at the turn of the century, story deals with the experiences of a young girl, Gale Storm, whose social-climbing aunt disapproves of her singing in her father's (George Cleveland) Bowery saloon. To get her away, she contributes enough money for a Tammany Hall candidate to win the current election and has him close the beer parlor. The saloon reopens after Gale moves to her aunt's Murray Hill home where, at a party, it is discovered that Cleveland and the governor's wife grew up in the same neighborhood, thus helping the aunt's social position.

The Shanghai Cobra

CAST: Sidney Toler, Benson Fong, Mantan Moreland, Joan Barclay, James Flavin, Addison Richards Fletcher, Walter Fenner. PRODUCER: James S. Burkett. DIRECTOR: Phil Karlson. ORIGINAL: George Callahan. SCREENPLAY: George Callahan and George Wallace Sayre.

In this Charlie Chan whodunit, Sidney Toler, having covered a similar case in Shanghai where poison victims had been marked with cobra fangs, is called to investigate the murders of three employes of a bank having a large deposit of radium. Tracing the crimes to a chemical engineer who wants the radium, Toler and the police arrive a short time before robot bombs, aimed at the vault, are set to go off and capture the engineer, who had used a television juke box as a death device.

Republic

Woman Who Came Back

CAST: John Loder, Nancy Kelly, Otto Kruger, Ruth Ford, Harry Tyler, Jeanne Gail. PRODUCER: Walter Colmes. DIRECTOR: Walter Colmes. ORIGINAL: John Kafka. SCREENPLAY: Dennis Cooper, Lee Willis.

Returning to her ancestral home in a New England village, Nancy Kelly believes herself under the curse of a witch who was burned at the stake by her clerical ancestor. Events bearing out the theory unfold soon after she arrives at her old home. John Loder, a young doctor with whom she is in love, tries to solve the mystery. Evidence supporting the idea that Nancy is a witch arouses the townspeople to take matters in their own hands. Nancy finds an old document that explains all the mystery and prevents the villagers from killing her. She and Loder are then free to wed.

RKO Radio

Deadline at Dawn

CAST: Susan Hayward, Bill Williams, Paul Lukas, Osa Massen, Joseph Calleia, Marvin Miller, Joseph Sawyer. PRODUCER: Adrian Scott. DIRECTOR: Harold Clurman. ORIGINAL: William Irish. SCREENPLAY: Clifford Odet.

This mystery story concerns a young sailor, Bill Williams, who, while in town on leave, meets Susan Hayward and is overcome by the old romantic urge. When a body is found in Susan's room, their friend, Paul Lucas, a cab driver, lends a helping hand in finding the murderer. Since all evidence points toward one of the trio, they have until dawn to prove their innocence.

Dick Tracy

CAST: Morgan Conway, Anne Jeffreys, Mike Mazurki, Jane Greer, Mickey Kuhn, Edmund Glove. PRODUCER: Herman Schlom. DIRECTOR: William Berke. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Eric Taylor.

An action picture taken from the fast moving comic strip "Dicy Tracy." Picture stays close to the characters established in the comic strip including a new character called "Split Face," played by Mike Mazurki. Morgan Conway, as Dick Tracy, is involved in trying to track down the killer of his adopted son's teacher. An extortion note is found on the body and from there a couple or more murders are thrown in finally leading to the real killer. The plot is very complicated.

Radio Stars on Parade

CAST: Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Frances Langford, Robert Clarke, Sheldon Leonard, Ray Walker, Max Wagner. PRODUCER: Ben Stoloff. DIRECTOR: Leslie Goodwins. ORIGINAL: Net set. SCREENPLAY: Robert Kent and Monte Brice.

Songstress Frances Langford avoids Chicago night club owner, Sheldon Leonard, by trying her luck in Hollywood. She contacts Agents Wally Brown and Alan Carney who arrange an audition for her with Skinnay Ennis and his band, but Sheldon and his gang form a vicious plot to stop her. The plot backfires, leaving Wally and Alan up to their necks in trouble. In a hilarious chase, the two become involved in the Truth or Consequences show and are finally caught by the gangsters. The police arrive to save the day, and Frances, in the arms of her sweetheart, Robert Clarke, is a hit.

The Bells of St. Mary's

CAST: Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman, Henry Travers, Ruth Donnelly, Joan Carroll, William Gargan, Martha Sleeper. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: Leo McCarey. ORIGINAL: Leo McCarey. SCREENPLAY: Leo McCarey and Dudley Nichols.

Again cast as Father O'Malley, Bing Crosby is spiritual father, and Ingrid Bergman, as Sister Benedic, mother to the children in St. Mary's parochial school. Both have individual notions—which do not always coincide—as to how their big family should be reared. Conceived as a comedy-drama, picture aims to dispel many misconceptions of convent life, and depicts the nuns as human, richly-humorous members of a great professin, which fills them with true happiness drawn from a life of service to God and mankind.

20th Century-Fox

Fallen Angel

CAST: Alice Faye, Dana Andrews, Linda Darnell, Charles Bickford, Bruce Cabot, Anne Revere, Percy Kilbride. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: Otto Preminger. ORIGINAL: Marty Holland. SCREENPLAY: Harry Kleiner.

This tale of murder and intrigue takes place in a small town in California where Dana Andrews meets a little hash-slinger, Linda Darnell. The two plot to get $10,000 that Alice Faye, a local girl, has inherited. Dana marries Alice and Linda is murdered. Suspected of the murder, Dana and his faithful wife flee town, but when he discovers that it is Alice that he really loves, he returns to his home, finds the murderer, reforms and finds eternal happiness with his bride.

Kitten on the Keys

CAST: Maureen O'Hara, Dick Haymes, Harry James, Reginald Gardiner, Stanley Prager, B. S. Pully, Richard Gaines. PRODUCER: George Jessel. DIRECTOR: Gregory Ratoff. ORIGINAL: Bert Granet. SCREENPLAY: Robert Ellis and Helen Logan.

Maureen O'Hara, tailored, low-heeled, and drier-than-dust dean of a dignified Philadelphia school of music, goes to New York to arrange for the school's summer symphony. Through a series of amusing incidents Maureen is transformed into an attractive little eyeful, going to night clubs with Dick Haymes and listening to his songs and the music of Harry James' orchestra. When she returns to Philadelphia, Maureen is promptly expelled; but the applause accorded the symphony

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when it includes a number by Harry's band melts the hearts of the trustees.

Leave Her to Heaven

CAST: Gene Tierney, Jeanne Crain, Cornel Wilde, Chill Wills, Darryl Hickman, Ruth Nelson, Ray Collins. PRODUCER: William A. Bacher. DIRECTOR: John M. Stahl. ORIGINAL: Ben Ames Williams. SCREENPLAY: Jo Swerling.

Adapted from the novel, this psychological drama concerns a beautiful girl, Gene Tierney, whose viciousness effects many lives. She marries Author Cornel Wilde and, in a jealous rage, is responsible for the death of his crippled brother, Darryl Hickman. Cornel is the only witness. When Gene discovers that her husband is in love with her sister, Jeanne Crain, she commits suicide, leaving evidence pointing toward Jeanne as her murderess. There is a trial. Jeanne is acquitted, but Cornel is convicted for not having revealed his wife's crime.

United Artists

Duel in the Sun

CAST: Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Gregory Peck, Lionel Barrymore, Lillian Gish, Scott McKay, Butterfly McQueen. PRODUCER: David O. Selznick. DIRECTOR: King Vidor. ORIGINAL: Nivien Busch. SCREENPLAY: Oliver H. P. Garrett.

All through Texas, in the early nineties, gun fights between the railroad companies and the cattlemen shook the west. John Barrymore, a Texas senator and cattleman, owns a ranch that the railroad men need in order to expand. Climax of the picture is the mob fight over Barrymore's land with the railroad representatives. Joseph Cotten and Gregory Peck, Barrymore's sons, are both involved emotionally with the half-breed girl, Jennifer Jones. Cotten becomes a prominent lawyer with the railroad company. The high-spirited half-breed finally realizes what a heel Peck is. She follows him across the desert and kills him. But before he dies he shoots and kills her.

Young Widow

CAST: Jane Russell, Louis Hayward, Faith Domergue, Penny Singleton, Marie Wilson, Kent Taylor, Connie Gilchrest. PRODUCER: Hunt Stromberg. DIRECTOR: Edwin L. Marin. ORIGINAL: Clarissa Fairchild Cushman. SCREENPLAY: Richard Macauley.

This story deals with a timely, sociological problem with which many young women of today are faced—that of a widow whose husband has been killed overseas. Bewildered, Jane Russell goes to live with her aunt in Virginia, but familiar surroundings serve only to intensify her loss. En route to New York, she meets Louis Hayward, who offers an entirely different philosophy to her situation. He believes she should make a new life for herself, and that it is quite possible to love a second time. This association results in a romance between the two which culminates in marriage.

Universal

Alibi in Ermine

CAST: Ginny Simms, Charles Coburn, Robert Paige, Martha O'Driscoll, James Burke, Kathleen Howard, Jess Barker. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR: George Waggner. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

Robert Paige, deputy state's attorney, falls for Ginny Simms, singer at Chicago's Bay Shore Club and niece of "Colonel" Charles Coburn, card sharp. The club owner and racketeer, Jess Barker, using a damaging photograph of Robert's sister, Martha O'Driscoll, as a weapon against arrest. The colonel wins the photo from Jess at poker, the racketeer's records are confiscated, and happiness is assured for Ginny with Robert, and the colonel with Robert's aunt.

Frontier Gal

CAST: Yvonne De Carlo, Rod Cameron, Andy Devine, Fuzzy Knight, Sheldon Leonard, Betty Sue Simmons, Andrew Tombes. PRODUCERS: Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. DIRECTOR: Charles Lamont. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano.

In 1890, Cowboy Rod Cameron shoots one of his partner's slayers, and fleeing from the law, seeks the other in a western village where he meets Yvonne De Carlo, saloon operator. She interprets his attention as a proposal of marriage and forces him to go through with the ceremony, although he is already engaged to Jane Wiley, a school teacher. Next day, the bailiffs catch Rod and he goes to prison for six years. Upon his return, he finds that they have a five-year-old daughter who in time wins her father's affection and reunites her parents.

Once Upon a Dream

CAST: Franchot Tone, Susanna Foster, Louise Allbritton, David Bruce, Buster Keaton, Irene Ryan, Jacqueline de Wit. PRODUCERS: Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. DIRECTOR: William Seiter. ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano.

Susanna Foster works in David Bruce's diner and dreams of becoming a singing star. David dreams of marrying Susanna and raising a family of six children. Hoping to advance her dreams, Susanna pretends that she is Produced Franchot Tone's dqughter. He knows that she is an impostor but falls in love with her. Louise Allbritton has staked out Franchot for herself and resents the intrusion. On Christmas Eve, Susanna is reunited with David, while Franchot and Louise make up. The producer then stars Susanna in his new show to grand success.

Warner Bros.

Confidential Agent

CAST: Charles Boyer, Lauren Bacall, Dan Seymour, Peter Lorre, Katina Paxinou, George Coulouris, Victor Francen. PRODUCER: Robert Buckner. DIRECTOR: Herman Shumlin. ORIGINAL: Graham Greene. SCREENPLAY: Robert Buckner.

The story centers around the Spanish revolution in the year 1937. Charles Boyer, a concert pianist turned soldier, is commissioned by the Loyalists to buy coal in England to prevent it from getting into the hands of the Fascists. On his journey Boyer meets Bacall, daughter of an English coal magnate. She is aloof and believes Boyer is putting on an act with all his intrigues. However, after a couple of murders, deliberately pinned on Boyer by the Fascists, involving the British police, and various attempts on his life, she becomes sympathetic and dreamy eyed.

Stolen Life

CAST: Bette Davis, Glenn Ford, Walter Brennan, Charlie Ruggles, Dane Clark, Esther Dale, Peggy Knudsen. PRODUCER: Bette Davis. DIRECTOR: Curtis Bernhardt. ORIGINAL: Not set. SCREENPLAY: Not set.

In a duel role, Betty Davis plays the part of twin sisters, Kate, the "good" sister, and Pat, who is just the opposite. After stealing the affections of, and marrying Kate's fiance, Glenn Ford, Pat is faithless, and Glenn goes to South America. On a boating party the girls fall overboard and when Kate is rescued, she is believed to be Pat, who really drowned. How Kate, posing as the dead girl, finally wins Glenn's love concerns the rest of the plot.

IN THE NEWSREELS

Movietone News, No. 84: General "Ike" in London, Paris and Washington.

News of the Day, No. 282: Eisenhower in London, Paris and Washington, D. C.

Paramount News, No. 85: Eisenhower reception in London, Paris and Washington.

Pathe News, No. 87: Eisenhower comes home.

Universal News, No. 408: General "Ike"—man of the hour.

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Movietone News, No. 85: Millions honor Eisenhower in New York—West Point; Queen Mary bring 14,526 vets back from Europe; king and queen see running of English Derby.

News of the Day, No. 283: Greatest tribute on record for General Ike; Germans clean up ruins in Berlin under Russian rule; 14,526 American GIs home on liner Queen Mary.

Paramount News, No. 86: World's biggest boat load; big town's big day—New York welcomes General Ike.

Pathe News, No. 88: Eisenhower takes New York.

Universal News, No. 409: Gotham roars welcome to Eisenhower; 14,000 vets home on Queen Mary; thrills in the air—Palisade Park.

•

All-American News, Vol. 3, No. 140: Name Cleveland attorney head of Negro ball league; Washington, D. C., girl wins sorority scholarship; Pittsburgh man raises prize collies; armless Chicago Negro wins national acclaim; all Negro hospital on Ledo-Burma road.

SHORTS REVIEWS

Opinions on the Current Short Subjects

The Last Installment

M-G-M (Crime-Does-Not-Pay) 19 Mins.

Very good. At his approaching release from prison, a young lawbreaker is tempted by the promise of lush living and easy money awaiting the clever opportunist beyond the prison gates. A detective magazine serial detailing the accomplishments of Bull Moose Brannigan, notorious gang lord of the roaring twenties, confirms his decision to follow a life of crime. He is interviewed by the warden who has discovered the pulp fiction in his cell, and is introduced to the last installment of the story. The sight of Brannigan, old and beaten, destined to serve the remainder of his life in prison, dispels the lad's visions of the rewards of lawlessness.

Battle of Supply

RKO (This Is America) 17 Mins.

Good. A behind the scenes film that shows the desk battle of logistics and the training of the men preceding an amphibious operation. Starting with a request for "a lump of sugar," the code phrase for a complete amphibious repair unit, the picture shows the intricate preparations and enormous amount of material needed for a small operation by the navy. Training of the repair corps, simulated battle scenes, the tremendous task of supplying and repair small invasion craft, and finally the loaded transport with supplies and personnel, makes this a most timely and interesting film.

Tee Tricks

RKO (Sportscope) 8 Mins.

Fair. Joe Kirkwood, trick golfer, plays a round of the game with two girl amateurs. Kirkwood plays shots from a lake, off a tree, out of traps and with a backspin. The lays of the ball might actually occur, but the presentation leaves the viewer with the feeling that it is all planned, despite the fact that Kirkwood actually performs the tricks shown in the film.

West Point Winners

RKO (Sportscope) 8 Mins.

Interesting. The training of the cadets in the academy at West Point isn't all military and this film shows the physical education side, shows why our generals are able to stand the mental and physical strain of modern warfare. Shots of the baseball, soccer, lacrosse teams in action, scenes from the last army-navy football game, gymnastics, swimming, fencing, every phase of West Point sports make this an absorbing sport short.

Opinions on Current Productions, and Exploitips for Selling to the Public

FEATURE REVIEWS

Bewitched

F — Drama

M-G-M (530) — **65 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

Although shy in production value, boxoffice names, action and interest, "Bewitched" may have an appeal for avid followers of Director Arch Oboler's radio programs. Exploited along this line, it should prove satisfactory support on a double bill or midweek single. Its plot tells of a girl whose split personality drives her mad, finally impelling her to murder her fiance. At her trial she is defended by a young lawyer who loves her. Unable to get the listless girl to cooperate in her defense, as a last resort he dramatically tells the jury she killed in self defense. About to be acquitted, she leaps up and screams she is guilty. Convicted and sentenced to die, she is saved from the chair when a psychiatrist friend of the youthful lawyer hynotizes her and effects a last-minute "cure."

Edmund Gwenn, Phyllis Thaxter, Henry H. Daniels jr., Addison Richards, Kathleen Lockhart, Gladys Blake.

Jungle Captive

F — Melodrama

Universal (9038) — **63 Minutes** — **Rel. June 29, '45**

This is a horror film replete with enough spine-tingling occurrences to induce a bumper crop of goosepimples. Otto Kruger conscientiously portrays a scientist obsessed with a theory he can restore life to the corpse of an "ape woman" his ghoulish handyman has stolen from the morgue. To accomplish this end he drains blood from his young female assistant. The body is revivified in the person of a beautiful, but brainless, woman. Not content with such minor success, Kruger proceeds to transplant his assistant's brain in the skull of the newly born "ape woman." However, his creation reverts to her original more virile personality and chokes the scientist. The police arrive as the situation portends a strangling spree, and the assistant and her fiance are reunited. This should round out duals and provide enough chills to be satisfactory hot weather fare. Harold Young directed.

Otto Kruger, Amelita Ward, Phil Brown, Jerome Cowan, Rondo Hatton, Eddie Acuff, Ernie Adams.

Boston Blackie's Rendezvous

F — Mystery

Columbia (6030) — **64 Minutes** — **Rel. July 5, '45**

Audiences which like to watch the antics of Boston Blackie and the Runt in their inspector-baiting dramas, where they always turn up with the right solution of the crime—to the discomfort of Inspector Farraday—will accept this. It is fast moving and has comedy situations in spite of two corpses before the maniac strangler is carried away. A neat bit of acting is done by Steve Cochran as the sadistic young criminal but the story is routinish and lacks even one original touch. However, enough of these Blackie pictures have been made that the exhibitor knows whether his situation will welcome it or not. Unlike the whodunits, the who'll-be-the-next-victim type of plot depends on that element alone for the suspense. For the lower half of a double bill, this should fit in—in all but de luxe houses. Arthur Dreifuss directed.

Chester Morris, Nina Foch, Steve Cochran, Richard Lane, George E. Stone, Frank Sully, Iris Adrian.

The Last Hill

F — War Drama

Artkino — **84 Minutes** — **Rel. June 23, '45**

Slow in starting, the production soon gathers momentum, proceeds at increasing pace to a thunderous climax. A well-chosen cast, containing new and attractive personalities, gives convincing performances. The story is that of a group of Red sailors, survivors of a destroyer's crew, engaging in the heroic and apparently hopeless defense of Sevastopol, a city of historic beauty. Their commander places them in a shattered tower overlooking the Nazis' approach to the city, orders them never to surrender or retreat. Sailor-like, they regard their station as a ship, operate on naval lines with sea-going discipline. The Germans advance, each sailor destroys a Nazi tank and subsequently in suicidal heroism helps turn the tide of battle. Directed by Zarkhi and Heifitz, makers of "Baltic Deputy" and "The Great Beginning," Russian film classics.

Nikolai Kriuchkov, Marina Pastukhova, Boris Andreyev, Anton Khorava, Nikolai Dorokhin, Feodor Ischenko, Nikolai Gorlov.

The Naughty Nineties

F — Comedy With Music

Universal (9003) — **76 Minutes** — **Rel. July 6, '45**

"The Naughty Nineties" provides a perfect setting for the kind of zany shenanigans of which Abbott and Costello are masters. In addition, pleasing tunes lend the proper touch of nostalgia to counterbalance the duo's antics. The cavorting couple run through some tried and true routines and others more original with their usual boundless energy. Gangsters cheat their way into part ownership of the showboat, River Queen, and convert it into a floating gambling den. Costello, as a rotund roustabout, cuts capers with Abbott, the leading man, in his attempt to thwart the gamblers. All ends happily when the more handsome gentleman gambler, motivated by love for the captain's daughter, doublecrosses his comrades in a card game that is to settle the complete ownership of the River Queen. Jean Yarbrough directed.

Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Alan Curtis, Rita Johnson, Henry Travers, Lois Collier, Joe Sawyer, Joe Kirk.

Why Girls Leave Home

F — Melodrama

PRC (——) — **69 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

A noble exploitation title which garnered plenty of shekels a couple of decades ago herein is hung on a picture which fits it like a $12.50 hand-me-down suit, leaving completely unanswered the burning question as to why damsels desert the parental domicile. In truth, it is just another cops and robbers melodrama, produced, directed and enacted satisfactorily, which is qualified to serve as support in situations normally booking PRC product. If the title is heavily exploited—and such possibility is the picture's best asset—other bookings and additional cash probably can result. But also there will be unhappy customers when they discover that the sex angles which the tag indicates are entirely lacking. It's about a gal who leaves home to sing in a nitery and gets into complications with mobsters. Directed by William Berke.

Pamela Blake, Sheldon Leonard, Lola Lane, Elisha Cook jr., Paul Guilfoyle, Constance Worth, Claudia Drake.

Mr. Muggs Rides Again

F — Comedy Drama

Monogram (411) — **64 Minutes** — **Rel. ————**

One of the best East Side Kid pictures to date, this entry in the series being produced by Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz should have a much wider appeal in both bookings and audience satisfaction than the average predecessor. A sounder, better-written screenplay, specializing in plot rather than shenanigans affords the film its additional scope. Another noteworthy improvement is furnished by Nancy Brinckman, a cute, curvaceous blonde—once a performer in Our Gang comedies—grown up to be a promising miss who contributes to the offering's Thespic stature. It's a race track story which has Muggs a jockey, who is disqualified after he is framed by crooked gamblers. How he and his gang stage a comeback, performing varied good deeds en route, is the plot. Race scenes, albeit stock shots, are exciting. Directed by Wallace Fox.

Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Billy Benedict, Nancy Brinckman, Bernerd Thomas, George Meeker, Minerva Urecal.

Write—

YOUR REPORT OF THE PICTURE YOU HAVE JUST PLAYED FOR THE GUIDANCE OF FELLOW EXHIBITORS.

—Right Now

USE THE BLANK ON REVERSE SIDE

Just Paste It on a 1c Government Postcard and Mail

EXPLOITIPS

Suggestions for Selling the Picture; Adlines for Newspaper and Programs

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Naughty Nineties"**

If your audiences are A&C enthusiasts, you can plug the film through newspaper ads, lobby displays and posters as the kind of rollicking fun that makes them forget their woes. Large cutouts of Rita Johnson, a luscious lady of lawlessness, flanked by Abbott and Costello, should convince patrons the title is justified. Have an attractive girl in a period costume carry a sign that reads: "It's Abbott and Costello, Naughtier in 'The Naughty Nineties.'"

CATCHLINES:

Hysterical Hijinks With Abbott and Costello . . . Showboat Shenanigans That Leave You Laughing . . . Matchless Mischief for Merry Moments . . . Gambling Queen vs. The Droll Duo . . . Naughty Nonsense in "The Naughty Nineties" . . . Melodies, the Mississippi, Mirthful Minutes.

Join the Fun Seekers in "The Naughty Nineties" . . . Enjoy Mississippi Magic on a Showboat . . . Relax and Relive Showboat Days on the River Queen . . . Abbott and Costello, Plus Songs and Romance . . . An "E" for Entertainment.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Why Girls Leave Home"**

Sponsor series of newspaper stories to be written by social service workers, based on cases from their files and bearing on this subject. Forum to discuss the influence of uncongenial home life and suggesting remedial measures could be arranged with local broadcasting station. Arrange for an "All-Girl Night" to feature local talent or beauty contest, to be presented in conjunction with film.

CATCHLINES:

An Innocent Girl Becomes Entangled With After-Dark Criminals . . . Jealousy Motivates Night Club Singer to Murderous Attacks . . . Smashing Drama of Girls on the Loose . . . Crime Claims Its Price.

Pathetic in Its Appeal, Powerful in Its Warning—the Truth About Girls Who Leave Home . . . Murder, A Sequence to Night-Time Gayety . . . Unforgettable!

SELLING ANGLES: **"Mr. Muggs Rides Again"**

Arrange free screening for underprivileged youngsters in your community in cooperation with organizations interested in juvenile welfare. Make a play for the sporting gentry, which normally would not be interested in East Side Kid pictures by stressing that this is, additionally, a racing film. Spot stills in places frequented by those interested in horse-racing and plant heralds in turf publications.

CATCHLINES:

Those Irrepressible Ragamuffins Enter the Sport of Kings . . . And Make a Picture Fit for a Queen . . . See How the East Side Kids Outwit a Gang of Crooked Gamblers . . . Laughs! Suspense! Action!

Thundering Hooves and Thundering Laughter as Muggs Organizes His Gang to Rescue a Grand Old Gal in Distress . . . The Kids in Their Latest and Most Exciting Adventure . . . Faster and Funnier Than Ever Before.

To:

The Exhibitor Has His Say

BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

Title..... **Company**.....

Comment .....

.....

Exhibitor.....

Theatre..... **Seating Capacity**.....

Type Patronage..... **Admission Scale**.....

Town..... **State**.....

SELLING ANGLES: **"Bewitched"**

Arrange bookstore tieups stressing books on the supernatural, and newsstand displays featuring Spooky Stories type of magazine. Street ballyhoo of girl who occasionally stops walking and cups a hand to her ear; she wears a placard: "I hear voices! They say: 'See "Bewitched!" Blank Theatre Now.'" An amusing window card for a confectioner's display of nuts might read: "We're Not Going to See 'Bewitched' at Blank Theatre. Know Why? We're Nuts!"

CATCHLINES:

Two Souls Within a Single Body . . . She Had a Dual Personality, Until One Nearly Got Away—With Murder . . . A Human Mind, Haunted by the Ghost of a Girl Who Never Lived . . . A Saintly Heart Ruled by a Murderer's Soul!

The Law Said She Must Die, Science Said She Should Live . . . She Left the Man She Loved to Silence a Woman Who Never Existed . . . She Killed Her Lover to Placate a Ghostly Rival.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Jungle Captive"**

Place blowups of the "ape woman" and her alter ego side by side on the marquee. Green light bulbs placed in the eye sockets of the gorilla-like physiognomy should produce a sufficiently eerie effect. Lobby displays of horrifying laboratory scenes will pique interest. Provided the local mammas and papas are sympathetic, aim your newspaper ads at children with iron nerves. Dare them to see the picture. Angle at kids who can read current comic books without becoming squeamish.

CATCHLINES:

Madman or Scientist? . . . Ape Woman or Beauty? . . . Can the Dead Return to Life? . . . Can Your Nerves Withstand the Shock? . . . Can Your Spine Withstand the Chills? . . . Can You Take It?

A Scientific Madman With a Mad Plan . . . A Beautiful Girl Caught in a Weird Web . . . It Will Leave You Breathless . . . It Will Numb Your Senses . . . It Will Freeze You to Your Seat.

SELLING ANGLES: **"Boston Blackie's Rendezvous"**

Since this is one of a series, offer a prize to the person who can name all the other Blackie pictures, giving brief synopses of the stories of them. And as the plot of this one is built around a homicidal maniac, talk with local police and find out what per cent of the killers they deal with fall in that category. There is also a taxi-dancer who is killed and one who would have been the next victim. Dramatize this somewhat glamorous profession in writing up your newspaper advertising of the picture.

CATCHLINES:

Boston Blackie's Rendezvous With a Strangler . . . In Trying to Prevent Murder He Was Mistaken for the Killer . . . Helping Others Always Gets Him Into Trouble.

The Taxi-Dancer's Life Was Hanging in the Balance . . . The Strangler Liked to Mold Heads From Clay and Then . . . A Killer on the Loose Put Blackie in a Tight Spot.

SELLING ANGLES: **"The Last Hill"**

Dress lobby to represent destroyer deck or bomb-wrecked watch tower. Attire usherettes and doorman in Red army garb. Schools and libraries should cooperate on display stressing beauty and legendary history of Sevastopol. If copies are available, "The Last Days of Sevastopol," translation by N. Y. Times Correspondent Ralph Parker of Russian best-seller, could furnish basis of bookshop tieups. Military and veteran groups should be invited to attend en masse.

CATCHLINES:

Heroic as History . . . The Saga of Sevastopol . . . Five Against an Army . . . Blinded in Battle, a Girl's Love Helped Him to See . . . Simple, Stalwart Seamon Facing the Might of a Dozen Thundering Tanks . . . Mortal Men Against Mighty Machines.

"If I Order Retreat, Kill Me!" . . . A Dying Sailor Taught Her Semaphore . . . "Shoot at Me," the Signal Flags Pleaded . . . She Became a Living Target of Her Navy's Thundering Cannon—and Saved a City From Destruction.

CLEARING HOUSE

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—NEW

POSTER CASES—Stainless steel, 40x65 glass size, equipped with cold cathode tube illumination around entire case. Immediate delivery. All other sizes, delivery in 10 days. Literature upon request. BEN B. POBLOCKI & SONS, 2159 South Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 7, Wis.

TWO SUPER Simplex Mechanisms, four star sound, complete. Everything for booth except lights. VAN SADLER, Rison, Ark.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT—USED

FOR SALE—Portable 35mm sound projectors, 2,000 ft. film magazines, $390; 1-year guarantee; STINSON PROJECTOR SALES, 521 South Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

1,000 BRASS, USED SPRAY NOZZLES—Capacity 2½ gallons per minute. These cost $1.25 to make—while they last, $1 each. G. A. PETERSON, R 2, Clinton, Mo.

ALL YOU NEED to open a theatre—Booth outfits consisting of rebuilt Simplex projectors, lamphouses, lens, new soundheads, motors, amplifier, new speakers and sound screen. Guaranteed one year, $1,500. Why pay more? S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

COMPLETE STAGE SETTING for 15x20-ft. proscenium, dark red velour, 50% fullness, $135; Simplex two unit electric ticket machine, $108.75; Army surplus 40/80A generators, $95; Autocash coin changers, $13.95; rebuilt Simplex mechanisms, $250; Footlights, $3.50 ft.; Commercial vacuum cleaner, $119.50; Water cooler, DC only, $77.50. Summer catalog now ready. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

RECONDITIONED—Powers heads, $75 each. Superior front shutter heads, $100 each. Superior rear shutter heads, $125 each. Motiograph heads, $125 each. New Jensen permanent magnet 20-watt 12-inch auditorium speakers, $22 each. Brenkert Hi-Low lamp houses with new mirrors, $200 pair. Westinghouse double 55 generator complete with panel and rheostats, perfect condition, $250. RCA sound heads and drives for Simplex. All other booth equipment and supplies furnished on request. SANCO ELECTRIC CO., Film Bldg. Phones: CHerry 5573. FAirmount 4958, Cleveland, Ohio.

SIX PAIR Powers Projectors with reserve mechanisms, lenses, Arc or Mazda, rheostats. Complete, $398 pair. NIELSEN, 617-80 St., Brooklyn 9, N. Y.

FOR SALE—One Burch Gold Medal popcorn machine; two Garver rectifiers; one large Western Electric horn. NORTHRUP THEATRES, Syracuse, Kas.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

BURCH, MANLEY, CRETORS, ADVANCE poppers. All electric machines. French fry type. KRISPY KIST KORN MACHINE CO., 20 S. Halsted, Chicago 6.

WHATCHA GOT? Can use almost anything—Highest prices paid. B-2215, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

SOUND EQUIPMENT

NICE SINGLE CASE PA SYSTEM, $77.50; Western Electric double ramshorn for wide theatres, $75; Plenty 16mm sound projectors from $295; Permanent phonograph needles, $1.50; Soundman's testing outfits available on AA2 MRO (Theatres may issue this priority), $28.40; Sound opticals, $15.95; Tubes, exciters, photocells, ceiling prices. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

POPCORN MACHINES

POPCORN MACHINES FOR SALE. Manleys, Burch, Cretors, Advance and Stars. CONSOLIDATED CONFECTIONS, 1116 South Michigan, Chicago 5, Ill.

BURCH — MANLEY — CRETORS — ADVANCES—All electric french fry types. KARMELKORN EQUIPMENT, 120 S. Halsted, Chicago 6, Ill.

NEW COMMERCIAL POPPER, 2 lbs. per batch, 30 batches per hour. One girl readily operates four poppers and produces 1,600 to 2,000 lbs. per day. This is a gas heated wet popper and not for theatre lobby use. Made of the finest materials such as brass and stainless steel with back-geared motors, silent ball-bearing drive, cast aluminum alloy nonwarping kettle and an all welded steel frame. They are not only beautiful but built to give efficient service for many years. Buy as many as you need. You don't need a priority, but get your orders in soon, as we must fill them in the order received. Send for photos, installation plans and copies of letters from enthusiastic users. We plan and build complete plants with capacities to 15,000 or more pounds per day. PAGE ENGINEERING CO., 1101 East 12th St., Los Angeles 21, Calif. Telephone FEderal 0652.

ADVANCE Profit King model 3; like new, $165 Will ship for one third deposit. BAYARD THEATRE, Bayard, New Mexico.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT

BLUE SEAL CINEGLOW soundfilm recording amplifier with Jenkins Adair condenser microphone, cables and trunks, $125; Newman Sinclair 35mm camera, three lenses, 6 magazines, tripod, 16V motor, leather cases, all accessories, $1,250; Akeley Western Electric newsreel sound camera, $6,995; Continuous contact 16mm printers, picture, track or both, $1,375; Miles 16mm recorder reproducer, $195. Send for summer catalog. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

THEATRES WANTED

WANTED TO BUY OR LEASE—Theatre in Ohio, Indiana or Illinois. Town around 10,000 population. Cash for quick deal or can supply A-1 reference if leased. B-2206, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

EXPERIENCED MANAGER DESIRES TO PURCHASE THEATRE in Louisiana, Texas or Arkansas. Write: H. Black, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WILL BUY OR LEASE—Paying theatre, middle west. CHARLES MEANS, Box 995, South Bend, Ind.

EXPERIENCED, INDEPENDENT THEATRE MAN—Wants to buy or lease theatre in town up to 5,000 population, no nearby opposition. Send pictures, complete details. Reason for selling first letter. A. HOLLAND, P. O. Box 703, Marion, Ind.

WILL BUY OR LEASE—Small town theatre, preferably New York or Pennsylvania. P. PAUL DEWES, 759 Ellicott St., Buffalo 3. N. Y.

PRIVATE PARTY desires buy or lease small theatre Michigan or Wisconsin. B-2212, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGER AND OPERATOR WILL BUY or lease paying theatre or building suitable for theatre—east or middlewest. V. TARGIN, 32 Ward St., West Haven, Conn.

WANTED TO BUY—One or more theatres located in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia or Michigan. Nothing under 5,000 population. Have cash for right proposition. B-2218, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRE—In town of 1,800 to 5,000. No competition, county seat town in Kansas City exchange preferred. Must stand inspection and correspondence confidential. B-2223, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRES FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Going, new theatre in southeast Missouri Other business interests, reason for selling. Address: P. S. c/o B-2209, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRE—450 seats, good business, western town, 6,000; no opposition. Photophone equipment. Your own lease, $15,000. THEATRE BUILDING FOR SALE—Good tenants and income, $25,000. TWO SMALL THEATRES—with buildings, $7,000 and $13,000. B-2205, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

FOR SALE—the EMORY: Atlanta's finest suburban theatre. 500 seats. Should be seen to be appreciated. Part cash and terms to responsible party. LIONEL KEENE, owner, 1216 South Oxford Rd., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.

THEATRE BUILDING and equipment; going business. Will give reason for selling. R. R. ROBINSON, Lowry City, Mo.

FOR SALE—250-seat theatre. Now operating seven days per week. Bargain, $9,500. Write BOX 88, Plymouth, Ind.

ONLY THEATRE IN west Texas town. 1,500 population. Will pay for itself in 18 months or less. B-2219, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1. Mo.

FOR SALE—Fine little 400-seat, second and third run house, Texas city of about 17,000. Seven-year lease, reasonable rental. Plenty business. Real proposition for man and wife operation. Good help, net over $200 weekly as this is written. Inspection of records and tax deposits allowed. Substantiated reason for selling. Price $22,500 with terms as desired by responsible buyer. Shown by appointment only by owner. Write, wire or phone VICTORY THEATRE, Del Rio, Texas. Telephone 620.

FOR SALE—Theatre located in western Pennsylvania. 450 seats, good equipment, only theatre in town; will lease or sell building. Have other interests. B-2217, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

THEATRE SEATING

THEATRE CHAIR PARTS — Standards, hinges, clamps, seats, backs, bolts, screws, cup washers, for all makes of chairs. Leatherette—send samples of your required replacements. CHICAGO USED CHAIR MART, 844 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

SEVERAL SELECTIONS beautiful chairs for large houses—1,100 American rebuilt metal lined reupholstered red striped velour padded backs, dark green plastic leatherette box spring cushions, $9.50; 900 Irwin rebuilt, reupholstered panel back, box spring cushions, $6.95; 242 American ball-bearing (in two lots) heavy reupholstered panel back, reupholstered box spring cushion chairs, $6.50; 300 solid oak auditorium chairs, refinished, $3.95. Wire now for stock list. 600 pieces heavy green Pullman velour, 22x36-inch, dry-cleaned, $1.25. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

CONFECTIONS

ASSORTED CANDIES—5c and 10c items in cellophane bags. Also bars and peanuts. Popcorn, $11.90 per hundred. Ten bags smallest order. CINEPHONE DISTRIBUTING CO., 1233 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

SIGN PAINTING

EASY WAY TO PAINT SIGNS. Use letter patterns. Avoid sloppy work and wasted time. No experience needed for expert work. Write for free samples. JOHN RAHN, B-1329 Central Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.

HELP WANTED

PROJECTIONIST and managers needed for permanent position with circuit. Good possibilities for the right man. BOX 1431, Bay City, Texas.

WANTED—PERMANENT MANAGERS, assistant managers, house managers by southern circuit. Give full information first letter and inclose kodak picture. Address: BOX 431. North Little Rock, Ark.

MANAGER—Theatre in small town, Adirondack Mountains, New York state. Year round job. State salary and full particulars. Write: B-2211, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

ASSISTANT MANAGER WANTED—Southern Indiana city. Draft exempt. State salary, age and references. B-2214, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—Theatre manager, must be draft exempt, sober, experienced and have A-1 references all. K. LEE WILLIAMS, 179 DeQueen, Ark.

SMALL TOWN projectionist for congenial, permanent affiliation. Address giving details, A. M. DeHAVEN, Waterville, Ohio.

MANAGER—Theatre in Illinois. Year-round job. State salary and full particulars. B-2222, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED—Experienced Theatre Manager, door man for B House 15 miles from downtown Los Angeles. Man must be capable of ballyhoo, exploitation, and handling giveaways. Postwar future and opportunity for advancement, draft exempt. Give reference and salary expected. B-2224, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

WANTED—Two Managers. Permanent position, small town, rapid promotion to experienced, energetic and aggressive men. State draft status, qualifications, experience, references, salary expected. Boozers, drifters, chasers and malcontents need not reply. CHEROKEE AMUSEMENTS, INC., Erwin, Tenn.

WANTED—Three theatre managers. Only those of proven ability and character need apply. We have splendid situations to offer. If you qualify write MR. JACK ARMSTRONG, c/o Clazel Theatre, Bowling-green, Ohio, giving complete information regarding experience, salary, etc.

MANAGER—Downtown theatre. Starting salary $60.00, advancement proper party. Permanent position with well known circuit. State age, references, send photograph—KENTUCKY THEATRE, Louisville, Ky.

POSITIONS WANTED

A-1 OPERATOR—Ten years experience. Repair all types equipment. Desire postwar position. No liquor; age 31. State full details. B-2203, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

PROJECTIONIST—At present employed; held Pennsylvania projectionist license 21 years. Want permanent position. Wire or write PROJECTIONIST, Chavez Theatre, Roswell, N. M. Pennsylvania, let me hear from you!

MANAGER—Advertising, exploitation. 15 years experience, capable handling any situation or chain. Age 39, married, one child. Available 30 days—What have you? BOX 3288, Portland 8, Ore.

MANAGER, Assistant manager. 14 years experience in theatre exhibition. Veteran, single, age 32. Prefer south, southeast. Available August 5, B-2221, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

MANAGER—Thorough knowledge every phase independent and major circuit operations. Years of experience, city manager plus enviable reputation in the field of exploitation. References to prove I can produce anywhere. 14 years present position speaks for ability and stability. B-2220, BOXOFFICE, 825 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Mo.

AIR COOLING EQUIPMENT

FOR SALE—BARGAIN: Washed air cooling system; everything but blower. 120 nozzle unit. L. B. BROWN, Gatesville, Texas.

IMMEDIATE DELIVERIES some size blowers—Maybe yours among them. New air washers, Rotary spray mat type, work with any blower—easily installed. 5,000 cfm, $115; 7,000 cfm, $140; 10,000 cfm, $170; 15,000 cfm, $200; 20,000 cfm, $230. Diffuser Grilles, from $21.80. AA-5 MRO priority required. Send for Air Conditioning Bulletins. S.O.S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., New York 18.

POPCORN SUPPLIES

POPCORN SEASONING—Bags—Boxes—Salt—popcorn machines. What do you need? POPCORN TRADING POST, 1116 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

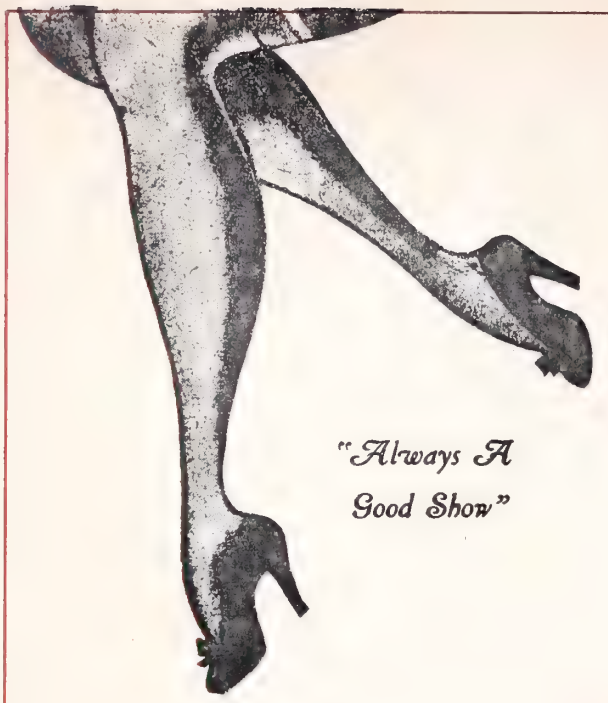
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POPCORN—10c cartons, seasoning, ¾ pound bags, salt—IMMEDIATE DELIVERY. Our popcorn is of the South American variety in excellent popping condition, $11.10 per 100 pounds. F.O.B. Chicago. POPPERS BOY PRODUCTS CO., 60 East 13th St., Chicago 5, Ill.

BEST QUALITY S. A. PROCESSED POPCORN and popcorn supplies. CORN POPPERS SUPPLY, 1722 Berkshire Road, Columbus 8 Ohio.

BUSINESS STIMULATORS

BINGO CARDS—Die-cut, 75 or 100 numbers, $20 lots of 10,000. Smaller quantities, $2.25 per thousand. S. KLOUS, c/o BOXOFFICE, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.



"Always A Good Show"

PLYMOUTH THEATRE

ED. RAMSEY, Mgr.

PLYMOUTH, OHIO

April 3rd. 1945

Boxoffice
Kansas City 1, Mo.

Gentlemen:-

Find enclosed check to cover two years to Boxoffice.

I wish to take this opportunity to compliment you for your fine trade paper.

The reviews covering Features match very closely the likes and dislikes of our audience.

The Booking Chart alone is well worth the price of Boxoffice.

I make sure that each month the operators have the opportunity to read The Modern Theatre. This is a very valuable section and I believe should be read by managers as well as projectionists.

It's a pleasure to read the Quiz Pot. Often times the ideas will enable one to put on a better show and I know that is or should be everyones goal.

Yours very truly,

Ed Ramsey

Ed Ramsey

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